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Issue	Prepared by	Edited by	Approved for Issue by	Signature
1	Kate Brady Project Officer	Leo Webley (Head of Post- Excavation)	Richard Brown Project manager	

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Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263800

e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

f: +44 (0) 1865 793496

w: oxfordarchaeology.com

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BRASENOSE COLLEGE, OXFORD

NGR SP 515 063

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

Oxford Archaeology

November 2016

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Summary

In February and November 2015 Oxford Archaeology carried out an excavation and watching brief prior to and during the refurbishment of the Old Cloisters of Brasenose College, Oxford. The works were carried out to provide information on the location of known burials beneath the Cloister and enable the protection of these from impact by the development. The excavation took place within a single trench within the cloisters and the watching brief monitored drainage trenches in the Deer Park Quadrangle and the Stocker Room.

The excavation and watching brief revealed a boundary wall of probable medieval date that once divided the medieval properties of St Mary's Entry and Little St Edmunds Hall. A well of probable late medieval date was revealed within the 'Deer Park' Quad. This is almost certainly associated with the medieval kitchen at Brasenose which is still present within the college site.

Early 17th century evidence suggests that the area north of the medieval boundary wall was a garden space and then a yard used for dumping. Evidence for two areas of cobbled surface may represent walkways on the southern side of the boundaries and related to the continued observance of these medieval plot divisions in the early 17th century. Dumps of waste included material typical of a college site, including a significant assemblage of Frechen drinking vessel sherds and animal bone with a higher proportion of game than would be found in a domestic context. Demolition material and residual medieval pottery to the south of the boundary wall probably derives from the demolition of the medieval frontage building on Little St Edmund's plot. Later deposits attest to ground levelling prior to cloister construction and the later insertion of a drainage system.

BRASENOSE COLLEGE, OXFORD

Archaeological Investigation Report

By Kate Brady, Robin Bashford, Vix Hughes, and Helen Webb

with contributions by

Sheila Boardman, John Cotter, Ian Scott, Lena Strid and Rebecca Nicholson

1 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 In February and November 2015 Oxford Archaeology (OA) undertook an excavation and watching brief at the Old Cloisters, Stocker Room and Deer Park Quad, Brasenose College, Oxford.

1.1.2 The excavation work was carried out in February 2015 in order to inform a proposed design for the refurbishment of the Old Cloisters which includes the re-use of a flagstone floor underlying the existing wooden flooring and the insertion of ducts below the historic flagstone floor level. The aim of the investigation was to characterise the depth of inhumations known to be interred beneath the level of the earlier flagstone floor. The investigation was within a consecrated burial ground and consequently was subject to the approval of the Consistory Court as advised by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) and Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (Julian Munby).

1.1.3 In November 2015 a watching brief took place during the laying of air vents in Deer Park Quadrangle and in the Stocker Room, to the north of the Old Cloisters.

1.1.4 Brasenose College is located on the northern side of High Street c 230m east of Carfax, the historic crossroads at the centre of Oxford (Figs 1 and 2). St Mary's Passage and Radcliffe Square run along its east side, where the Old Cloisters (until recently a reading room with the college library above) is located (centred on SP 515 063). To the north of the college is Brasenose Lane and adjoining it to the west is Lincoln College. Historically the site lies within the city parish of St Mary the Virgin.

- 1.1.5 The site is located on the Summertown/Radley (Second) Gravel Terrace of the River Thames, which has its highest point of this terrace (65.5m OD) at Carfax. From this centrally placed crossroads the ground slopes downwards in all directions. Brasenose College itself slopes slightly from west to east, with New Quad at c 63.1m OD and the east side at c 62.5m OD.
- 1.1.6 The library was constructed to the north of the chapel, initially with an open cloister below, which was used for the college burial ground. The Old Cloister was filled in to provide additional library accommodation in the early 19th century. The archives store is located in the Stocker Room, in the block extending north from the Library, with Library stacks stored in the basement. The development proposed to expose the original stonework of the walls and the original floor of the Old Cloister, which had been covered by a wooden floor since the 19th century conversion. The original floor incorporated burial slabs and these would be removed to allow the lowering of the floor level (OA 2013b).

1.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.2.1 The later medieval history of the site can be traced to some extent through the documentary record. Salter's detailed analysis and survey of the documentary records for the city (Salter 1960) allows us to trace the history of the site from the early 13th century onwards (*ibid.* Vol 1, 65-76). Until the land was acquired by Brasenose College in the 16th century, it was subdivided into a number of plots under different ownership (Fig. 5). The College occupies the site of former medieval properties that fronted School Street (now Radcliffe Square).
- 1.2.2 Brasenose College was founded in 1508, and effectively consisted of the establishment of a college on the site of an existing group of halls with medieval origins, which included Brasenose Hall. Building operations on the main quadrangle commenced in 1509 and consisted of hall, chapel, library and chambers in one square of buildings, depicted on Agas's pictorial plan of Oxford of 1578 (Fig. 6). By 1736 Brasenose College had acquired the whole of the High Street frontage.
- 1.2.3 The Second Quadrangle (now called 'Deer Park') was built in 1650-66. The present Chapel and Library were constructed as part of the work. At that time the Old Cloisters, below the Library, were open and used as a covered walkway and for

college burials. As the college grew, more library space was needed and the Old Cloisters were closed off and converted into several study rooms in 1807 (Alfrey 1909, 35). The New Quadrangle, west of the Chapel, was completed in 1886. A plan of the college in 1939 shows extant elements from the 15th century onwards (Fig. 8).

Background to 17th to 18th century burial practices

By Helen Webb

- 1.2.4 Burials took place both intramurally (underneath a church) and in a churchyard during the 17th and 18th centuries. The proportions of burials in each of these locations, and the social acceptability of burial in the churchyard, largely depended upon the space available (Houlbrooke 1999, 193). The custom of burying in and next to churches had been promoted by superstition, social emulation and the greed of the clergy, but by this time, there was fairly strong disapproval of intramural burial, both on the grounds of indecency and danger to health (*ibid.*). That said, it was not for another century that extra-parochial, suburban cemeteries became common and in towns burials under the church continued on a large scale (*ibid.*).
- 1.2.5 It became common in this period for well-off families to pay for private burial spaces, in the form of vaults, or brick or stone-lined shaft graves (Houlebrooke 1999, 193; Litten 1991, 197). In short, a burial vault is a subterranean chamber of stone or brick capable of housing a minimum of two coffins side by side, and with an internal height of at least 1.74 metres. Anything narrower is a brick or stone-lined grave (Litten 1991, 207). Optional extras for vault construction included rendering, lime-washing, shelves of loculi for holding coffins, and charnel cisterns to house the remains of the most decrepit coffins, which would have to be periodically cleared. All of these could be provided at extra cost (*ibid.*, 217). Commonly utilised burial structures for the professional classes were single-width brick-lined graves, capped with a ledger stone. Earth cut graves were also commonly used and would perhaps be chosen where space was at a premium or when cost was prohibitive. Intramural shaft graves and earth-cut graves were commonly capped with ledger stones, which were often inscribed. Whilst the capping stones may have formed floor level memorials, it was not uncommon for memorial slabs to be located further away from the grave itself. ‘In a vault near this place....’ is a common preamble to funerary inscriptions on memorials in both town and country churches (*ibid.*, 196). It is also not uncommon to see stone ledgers that

have been moved from their original position, elsewhere within church floors. This often occurred with 19th – 20th century church alterations and restorations. The use of the word ‘vault’ on a memorial stone can sometimes be misleading, if not deliberately untruthful for the purpose of pretentiousness; these memorials frequently refer to shaft graves (Litten 1991, 207). Another important point is that there was no compunction for any grave, either vault, shaft or earth-cut, to be identified in the floor of the church or within a churchyard (ibid). Where vaults or graves were not marked, it was necessary for the church’s register to hold detailed notes on their locations (ibid.).

Brasenose College Cloister Burials

- 1.2.6 The Old Cloisters were used as the Brasenose College burial ground from *c* 1669 to 1754. Some burials records have been preserved in the college archives. There is also a plan showing the position of grave markers (Fig. 9). The Vice Principal’s Register (record of the Governing Body) has occasional entries recording that a person ‘sepultus est’ (was buried). This register may have been the source of information for the list of individuals interred in Brasenose Cloister, printed in the Brasenose Quatercentenary Monograph (1909, Monograph III, 65). The Brasenose College website states that following the last recorded burial in 1754, the tombs fell into disrepair. In 1786 the college paid for them to be cleaned, repainted and engraved where required.... “All of which splendour lasted only twenty years, for in 1807 the epitaphs were removed when the cloisters were turned into college rooms at a cost of £582” (Brasenose College Archives, no date).

The historic fabric of The Old Cloister

- 1.2.7 The Old Cloister was a single-phase addition to the 16th-century college buildings, comprising a Chapel and Library, with the Cloister beneath the Library providing all-weather access from the front quad. The southern return provided a separate ‘porch’ for the Chapel that could be entered directly from the second quad.
- 1.2.8 The open Cloister was closed in 1807 and converted to four sets of rooms (as shown on the 1939 RCHM plan: Fig. 8), with fireplaces in the west wall and numerous divisions. These were in turn removed, and the space now consists of a main central room with WCs and domestic facilities at the north end, and an archive store and music room at the south end, while a war memorial to the dead of 1939-45 separates the music room from the three-bay Chapel porch.

1.2.9 The 1650s building overall is a mixture of Gothic and Classical design and detailing (while the Chapel famously includes Wolsey's roof from St Mary's College). The cloister has a motif of pairs of oval windows (Fig. 10) between pilasters on the west side, and more conventional two-light windows to the street. The 'external' character of the Cloister walk is indicated by the heavy moulded plinths on both internal walls, while the oval windows were not glazed until the space was converted to rooms. The internal plinths carry flat pilasters, running up to a cornice and continuing across the soffit of the low curved vaults, which are presumably all of stone (Fig. 11). These flat arches are supported by pairs of possibly steel posts at various points, probably added (or left *in situ*) when the internal walls were removed. None of the early 19th-century work remains (unless in partitions at the north and south ends), while the walls of the WCs and archive store are not shown on the 1939 plan and are modern.

Previous works

1.2.10 Excavations were undertaken in 2012 prior to changes to the college kitchen. Test pits were dug at the proposed location of a lift pit and within the footprint of a proposed cellar extension. These uncovered the remains of buildings thought to predate the construction of the college and pits containing 11th-13th century pottery. The modern ground level was c 61.4m OD and the pits lay c 2.5m below that, at c 58.9m OD (OA 2012).

1.3 Methodology

1.3.1 The excavation to impact level meant that only the upper fills of the graves were removed and no burials or coffins were exposed by the work and these remain *in situ* and undisturbed. Although the grave markers were recorded and the outlines of the graves planned and surveyed the focus of the interpretation is on the deposits and features predating the construction of the cloisters as the cloister floor and burials remain unaffected by the development.

1.3.2 The initial task undertaken by the excavation team was the recording of the flagstone floor prior to lifting. The locations of grave markers were surveyed and transcribed on a sketch plan. Levels were taken across the floor. Photographs were also taken of all the grave markers (Fig. 12). Excavation was undertaken in two phases, following the lifting of the floor slabs in the southern and northern parts of the cloister respectively.

The floor slabs were moved by Knowles contractors and following this the ground underneath was hand cleaned by the excavation team to define the edges of the grave cuts (Fig. 13). The ground surface was then photographed and planned with the outlines of the grave cuts drawn and allocated context numbers.

- 1.3.3 The fills of the graves were excavated to the impact level of the refurbishment (63.06 m OD). This exposed the layers of stratigraphy underlying the cloisters, surviving in the baulks left between the graves (Fig. 14) and in an almost continuous N-S line through the centre of the site (Fig. 15). This section was recorded after the recording and removal of the E-W aligned baulks between the graves in both east and west facing drawings. The section was stepped back in places to avoid places that had been truncated by graves and enable a complete section to be recorded. These sections are shown in Figures 16, 17 and 18.
- 1.3.4 The watching brief in Deer Park Quadrangle and Stocker Room (Figs 2 and 3) took place during the laying of air vents. The revealed remains were cleaned and recorded and the vent channels were subsequently re-routed around the revealed structures to avoid disturbance.

2. RESULTS

- 2.1.1 The results of the excavation are presented below, beginning with a stratigraphic description, finds summaries and a discussion. Full finds reports are contained within the appendices.

2.2 Stratigraphic Narrative

- 2.2.1 Five main phases of activity were identified by the excavation by a combination of stratigraphic analysis, finds analysis and the examination of historical records. The sequence is as follows.
- 2.2.2 The depth of excavation was dictated by the impact level of the development of 63.06m OD, which was *c* 2m below the level of the old cloister floor. At this level the earliest recorded deposits were encountered. The pottery assemblage was fairly large, particularly allowing that much of the site has been truncated by grave cuts and finds were recovered from the islands of stratigraphy that remained between the grave cuts and within the central baulk. The material recovered from these earliest deposits was

characterised by the absence of material common from the early 17th century onwards such as English tin-glazed Earthenware and a complete absence of clay pipe bowls, which were less common in Oxford before 1620/30 (Cotter, this report).

Phase 0 – Medieval

Boundary Wall (Figs 16, 19 and 20)

- 2.2.3 A single wall divided the site (687) and was the earliest feature identified by the cloister excavation. It was aligned E-W and was truncated on the east side by grave cuts so that only 0.8m of the length remained. The wall measured 0.82m in width and survived to a height of three courses (0.4m high). It was constructed of roughly hewn limestone blocks measuring an average of 0.18m x 0.14m x 0.12m. All deposits on the site abutted this wall, which divides the site into two areas, corresponding to the division of the area during the medieval period. The wall was not dated by *in situ* finds but its alignment follows that of medieval plot divisions (see discussion, below).

Garden Soil

- 2.2.4 The watching Brief in Deer Park Quad revealed a layer of mid reddish brown clay silt, (possibly garden soil) from which a single sherd of Brill/Boarstall ware was recovered, dating to the 15th-16th century. This was overlain by a layer of mortar with limestone rubble throughout, which appeared to slope from west to east as it was not present in the eastern arm of the trenching.

Well (Fig 3)

- 2.2.5 The garden soil and mortar-rich layer were truncated by the construction cut (7) for a stone-lined well (6). The well was constructed of alternate courses of squared limestone blocks and roughly hewn stones. The internal diameter was 0.75m and it was more than 5m deep. A single sherd of Saxo-Norman pottery (1075-1300) was recovered from the fill of the construction cut. A lead pipe ran from the surface to the base of the well and was secured to the internal elevation with iron fixings. This could be seen extending from the south-west of the well, towards the medieval kitchen. A circular silt trap was observed at the base of the well, from which the lead pipe was fed. Graffiti on the stone towards the top of the shaft appeared to read 'H Coat' and on the course below '18...?'

- 2.2.6 It is possible that the well was associated with the use of the medieval kitchen. Its date is not clear but may have been medieval in origin and continued in use after being capped (perhaps when the Deer Park Quadrangle was constructed in 1656/66) and the lead pipe added to access water and pipe it to the kitchen.

Phase 1 – 1580-1600

Phase 1a - Garden Soils (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.7 The earliest deposits encountered were visible in the sections revealed by the grave cuts as a series of garden soil layers and dumps of domestic debris within these. This sequence was thickest in the north-western sections, sloping down to the south and east. These deposits (655/675/645/672/673/674/753/779/780/791/792/793/840/845/846/839/841/844/875/876/877) were up to 0.35m thick in the north, 0.45m thick in the central area and sloped down to beneath the limit of excavation in the south. The soils were loosely compacted mid to dark greyish brown sandy silts, sandier in some areas than others, with inclusions of domestic waste, including pottery, ceramic building material (cbm), animal bone, charcoal, stone fragments and oyster shell. The pottery from these deposits numbered 282 sherds (4186g), of which 116 sherds were from Frechen Stoneware jugs in a style which spanned the period 1580-1630. The sherds were well worn and some appeared crushed, suggesting they been moved around a significant amount prior to final deposition. A small amount of late medieval Raeren Stoneware, also from Germany, was present in these soils, suggesting a presence of residual material, common in garden soils which would have been continually worked, incorporating material originating in earlier deposits.

Phase 1b - Mortar layers and occupation debris (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.8 Directly above the garden soils was the earliest in a sequence of mortar deposits. The first of these layers (799/819) was at c 63.40m OD and was a dark brownish orange silty sand, firmly compacted, c 20mm in thickness. It extended for c 6.6m across the northern part of the site. It was only seen in the part of the western baulk section and sloped to the south. Material recovered from this layer included 18 sherds (460g) from Frechen Stoneware drinking vessels and sherds from two chafing dishes in late medieval Brill ware (the date of which spans the late medieval to early post-medieval transition). This compacted sandy gravel appears to represent an informal trampled surface over the garden soils within which debris had accumulated. Directly above

this was a siltier occupation debris layer (800/803), a fine-grained mid brownish grey sandy silt, with frequent charcoal inclusions and a small amount of pottery

- 2.2.9 The upper layer of this phase was another surface layer (799/838), which extended a further 6m to the south and was again confined to the north-western part of the site. This surface was richer in mortar than the lower surface. Laminations within it may suggest it was thicker here to level the surface and correct the earlier sloping to the south. This surface was at *c* 63.25mOD and more level than the underlying layers, although a slight slope to the south was still evident. No evidence of structural remains was identified in this phase.

Phase 2 – 1600-1630

Phase 2a (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.10 To the south of wall 687, a small area of stone surface laid in a herringbone pattern (665) and bedding layer (570) extended for 1m to the south where they were truncated by later drain 509. This surface did not continue to the south of the drain. It is possible that this was the remains of a pathway alongside the wall.
- 2.2.11 The area to the south of the boundary was characterised by a sequence of layers of garden soil overlain by surfaces 678/645/605/674. The soils varied in thickness, from 0.2m in the east, to a maximum of 0.6m in the south west. The garden soils were mid brownish grey sandy silts with inclusions of mortar flecks and charcoal. Mixed in with the garden soils was domestic debris including pottery, CBM and animal bone. This indicates a continuation of the use of the area as an outside yard/garden area. The pottery assemblage continued to be unusually rich in Frechen ware drinking vessel sherds suggesting a continuity of function of this space, probably as a yard where waste from a nearby kitchen or dining hall was deposited.
- 2.2.12 The area to the north of wall 687 also contained a layer of occupation debris (797), extending for *c* 11.5m to the north, at which point it abutted a cobbled surface. Layer 797 contained 34 sherds of pottery (648g), again with a notable Frechen ware drinking vessel component. The assemblage dated to 1580-1650 and suggests the continued deposition of possible kitchen/ dining waste here.
- 2.2.13 Two pits belonged to this phase (688 and 686), contemporary with the occupation debris/garden soil on either side of wall 687. Pit 688 was located immediately to the

north of the wall and possible pathway 665. It was sub-circular in shape and contained a small finds assemblage that was typical of domestic debris, including animal bone, charcoal and pottery dated to 1580-1650 (11 sherds, 125g). Pit 686 was situated in the southern central area of the site and was largely truncated by a later pit. What remained appeared to be sub-circular in shape. It was not possible to measure the size of the feature, and the base was not seen as it was below impact level, but it was at least 0.32m in depth. The fill was a mid grey-brown sandy silt with mortar and charcoal flecks, similar to the surrounding garden soils and occupation debris. No finds were recovered from the feature.

- 2.2.14 A cobbled surface (778) (Figs 17, 21 and 22) sat on a bedding layer (859) of orangish grey stony clay, 0.1m thick, into which the cobblestones had been pushed. The surface extended for *c* 5.5m to the north and was truncated by a modern sewer pipe adjacent to the north cloister wall. It also extended to the site limits in the east and west, traced between the truncations of later grave cuts. The layer of stones was 1.5m thick. The stones were laid in a regular arrangement and were generally uniform in size. The surfaces of some of the stones were worn, presumably from heavy use of the surface.
- 2.2.15 A layer (855) directly above the cobbled surface was particularly rich in charcoal and probably represents activity related to the use of the surface. This layer measured *c* 15mm in thickness and was spread over and between the cobbles. A sample <4> did not contain charred food/plant remains but the charcoal was mainly derived from beech wood (Boardman, this report).

Phase 2b (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.16 The cobbled surface, possible footpath and wall 687 clearly marked an activity horizon within this period, but subsequently they were overlain by a sequence of deposits across the area.
- 2.2.17 Directly above the cobbled surface and extending across the occupation debris and garden soils to the south was a compacted yellowish white mortar layer (677/650/805). It measured 10-30mm in thickness in most areas but was slightly thicker just south of wall 687, to compensate for a dip in the layer below. It extended up to wall 687 and continued over the possible pathway on the southern side of it. It

then extended nearly to the southern limit of site excavation, over pit 686. It was then truncated by a later feature. A small amount of pottery including Frechen ware and late medieval Brill ware was recovered from this small layer, dated by one sherd to 1600-1650. Again a lack of tin-glazed wares suggests that this deposit does not post-date 1630, although because the assemblage is small this is not certain. However, an occupation layer (804) composed of brownish grey silty sand with inclusions of pottery (20 sherds, 212g), animal bone and oyster shell fragments directly above this possible mortar surface suggests that its use was confined to the period 1600-1630.

Phase 3 – 1630-1656/7 (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.18 Above this floor layer was a sequence of alternating layers of made ground, three further mortar layers and associated occupation debris layers. This sequence extended from the northern edge of the site up to wall 687 but did not continue beyond it, suggesting a different use for the area south of the boundary in this period. The first mortar layer in this sequence (790/834) was a firm, hard, yellowish, fine-grained mortar up to 20mm in thickness from which a small assemblage of pottery was recovered (four sherds, 62g) including a probable mid-17th century style Bellarmine Jug sherd dating to 1640-1700. This is the first layer which conclusively dates to the mid-17th century onwards.
- 2.2.19 Above this, a layer of occupation debris (811/801/580) measured 0.1m in thickness and was composed of a mid yellowish brown silty sand with inclusions of pottery, animal bone, CBM and clay pipe fragments. The layer extended from the northern limit of excavation to almost up to wall 687. The large pottery assemblage from this substantial layer consisted of 68 sherds in poor condition (300g) from mainly Frechen ware drinking vessels (including from three Bellarmine bottles), but also some from a chafing dish. The assemblage dated from 1630-1700.
- 2.2.20 Another mortar layer (833/576/785) was over this, measuring 10-20mm in thickness. This layer was a light creamy brown firmly compacted mortar, extending across a smaller part of the site, from almost up to wall 687 up to the northern limit of excavation, where it was truncated by a pipe trench. A significant assemblage (54 sherds, 507g) of pottery was recovered from this layer, including fragments of two Bellarmine drinking vessels (again very abraded and some crushed) in mid-17th century style (1630-1700). A similar assemblage was recovered from the occupation

debris overlying this floor (810/749) with Frechen tankards and cups represented by 14 sherds (83g). This friable dark grey-brown sandy silt again extended over the same area covered by the floor.

- 2.2.21 The uppermost surviving layer of this sequence (809) was a firmly compacted mortar-rich layer, 30mm thick, probably the last surviving mortar surface in the sequence. Five abraded sherds of pottery (31g) were recovered from it, again from drinking vessels (cups or tankards). The extent of this layer was not as widespread as the floors below, covering an area *c* 4m in length, from just north of wall 647 in a northerly direction. It was only identified in the west-facing central baulk section and may have been truncated or worn away in other areas of the site.

Phase 4 – 1656/7 (Figs 16-18)

- 2.2.22 The upper layers of the stratigraphic sequence were made up of deposits of very mixed silty clays with a high proportion of mortar, limestone fragments and sand. Together, these layers measured up to 0.12m in thickness and were spread across most of the site. These deposits were laid as make-up layers to level the ground for the construction of the cloisters and the pottery assemblage reflects this, with material recovered including similar material to that recovered from the earlier sequence and not post-dating 1650 in manufacture.
- 2.2.23 The cuts for the foundations of the cloister walls were cut through the earlier deposits and were revealed by the excavation. The upper parts of the wall were rendered in plaster and painted and where exposed below the level of the cloister floor the original stonework was visible (Figs 23 and 24). The southern cloister wall foundation (577) was aligned E-W and abuts the N-S eastern cloister wall at the east end. The western end was overlain by a partition wall. Three courses of the foundation were visible above impact level and consisted of roughly hewn limestone blocks in a regular coursing. The eastern cloister wall foundation (646) was constructed of roughly hewn limestone.
- 2.2.24 The N-S aligned western cloister wall (647) was also not seen to full depth, with six courses visible below the plastered and painted portion of the wall. The foundation is constructed of roughly hewn limestone with occasional squared/dressed blocks built in a large squared stone formed the corner (Fig. 24).

2.2.25 One context (788), the fill of the foundation cut for wall 647, produced a large and surprisingly fresh assemblage of peg tile, all apparently medieval (61 pieces, 4kg). It also produced a large fairly fresh fragment of crested ridge tile and several quite fresh pieces of medieval pottery. The wall trench may perhaps have been backfilled with rubble from a recently demolished medieval building in the vicinity.

Phase 5 – 1669-1754 (Fig. 4)

2.2.26 Soon after construction, burial began to take place within the cloisters. Documentary evidence records the first burial as taking place in 1669 and the last in 1754 (See Appendix C).

2.2.27 A total of 53 grave cuts were revealed by the excavation, directly underneath the flagstone cloister floor, which were lifted and re-laid when a burial was inserted.

2.2.28 The graves were all aligned E-W and varied in length between 1.4m and 2.95m and in width between 0.45m and 0.95m, although most measured around 2.1m in length and 0.6m in width. The depth to impact level within most of the graves was between 0.6m and 0.7m. No coffins or human remains were encountered at this depth (63.06m OD).

2.2.29 The graves were backfilled with very loose, mixed mid brownish grey sandy silt with limestone fragments and pebbles. Pottery was recovered from these fills, derived from the layers that the graves were cut through. Its value for dating was obviously limited, as it was redeposited and the date range of the burials was already known, but the material was considered along with the pottery assemblage as a whole to provide general information on pottery use and general activity on the site (Cotter, this report).

Phase 6 – 19th century

2.2.30 During the watching brief in Deer Park Quadrangle a curvilinear drain was recorded to the south of the well (Fig. 3). It was constructed of limestone, and capped with flat slabs of limestone. The internal channel was 0.3m wide and the watching brief revealed 2.75m of its length. The drain continued to the east of the trench where it was connected to a large stone- and brick-lined chamber (8) which may have been a soakaway or cistern (this was not clear as it lay beyond the limit of the trench). The cement-based mortar bonding the fabric of the drain suggests a relatively late date for the structure.

- 2.2.31 A second stone and brick vaulted chamber (9) lay in the south-east corner of the quad. The chamber measured approximately 1.5m in width (N-S) and 2m in length and more than 2m in depth with a possible batter on the western wall, which also had a drain running into it.
- 2.2.32 A stone-lined cistern (Fig. 25) was revealed in the Stocker Room during reduction of its floor. The construction of this feature appears to have been referred to in College records now compiled in the Brasenose College Quatercentenary Monographs (Madan 1909).
- 2.2.33 A drain (589) also traversed the excavation area on an E-W alignment (Figs 4 and 16). It was located *c* 1m to the south of wall 687 and extended through the cloister walls on either side. The drain was brick sided and capped with slabs of limestone. The channel measured *c* 0.3m wide and was within a construction cut *c* 2m in width. The construction cut truncated the make-up layer for the cloister floor and was the latest feature in the excavation area.

2.3 Finds Summaries (see Appendix B)

2.3.1 Introduction

- 2.3.1.1 Finds reports are summarised below. Full specialist reports and tables can be found in the appendices.

2.3.2 Pottery

- 2.3.2.1 The pottery assemblage comprises a total of 2329 sherds of pottery weighing 35.948kg. Overall the pottery assemblage is in a very fragmentary and fairly worn condition. A small number of vessels are well preserved, however. The assemblage is notable for its exceptionally large quantity of imported German (Frechen) stoneware drinking vessels, probably the largest quantity recovered from a single site in Oxford to date. A range of pottery representing occupation or activity on the site from 1580-1650 was present, including the drinking ware vessels as well as chafing dishes, perhaps from college dining rooms or refectories. A few small sherds of later 18th and early 19th century pottery came from a layer above the flagstones and were probably deposited after the cloisters were converted into study rooms in 1807.

2.3.3 Ceramic Building Material

2.3.1 A total of 1167 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered, weighing 71.084kg. The assemblage is very fragmentary and abraded and there are no complete examples of any category of CBM. The material appears to range in date from the 13th to 19th century, but the bulk is 15th to 17th century in date and broadly confirms the more accurate dating supplied by the pottery and clay pipes. Some of the material may derive from buildings that once stood near the site, such as a large quantity of medieval peg tile recovered from a construction cut for one of the cloister walls. The condition of the assemblage suggests that most of it was brought to the site as building rubble.

2.3.4 Clay tobacco pipes

2.3.4.1 A total of 324 pieces of clay pipe weighing 1332g were recovered from the site, deposited in layers and the backfills of graves. A high degree of redeposition was clear from the dating, but despite this the assemblage is remarkably consistent in date with nearly all bowls dated to the period c 1630-1660. The clay pipes aided in the phasing of the site along with the pottery assemblage, more clearly defining the periods before and after 1630.

2.3.5 Jetons

2.3.5.1 Three jetons were recovered from the excavations. Two of the jetons were from the Phase 1 garden soil layers dated by pottery to 1580-1650. One was a France and the Dauphine jeton with a fleur de lys/dolphin design and dated to the first quarter of the 16th century, and so was clearly residual. The other dated to the late 16th to early 17th century and was a Nuremberg 'Rose and Orb' type jeton, consistent with the pottery dates. Another Nuremberg 'Rose and Orb' jeton (also of late 16th to early 17th century date) was recovered from a Phase 3 occupation layer that has been dated to 1600-1630.

2.3.6 Glass

2.3.6.1 The assemblage is a relatively small, totalling 305 pieces of glass, including 178 pieces of window glass (58.4% of the assemblage by number) and 119 pieces of medieval and post-medieval vessel glass (39% by number). The earliest vessel glass includes six urinal bases, all de-vitrified and probably medieval in date. Other vessel glass includes 29 sherds from wine bottles. These include eight sherds from cylindrical bottles of late 18th or 19th century date, 16 sherds from thick-walled

bottles of early 18th century date and five sherds probably from late 17th century 'globe and shaft' bottles. The window glass comprises mostly plain glass of post-medieval date, but there were two pieces of window with painted decoration and three refitting sherds with evidence for grozing and leading.

2.4 Environmental Summaries (see Appendix C)

2.4.1 Animal Bone

2.4.1.1 The animal bone assemblage comprised 2839 fragments from layers and features dated to the late 16th – mid 17th centuries. A total of 2636 fragments (92.8%) came from sieved soil samples. These were particularly rich in small bones from birds and rabbits, a common feature of post-medieval college deposits. The remaining fauna represented was typical of any kitchen waste of this period.

2.4.2 Fish Bone

2.4.2.1 A small collection of fish remains (35g) was recovered from the site. Most of the bones were from the phase 1 garden soils (793, 839 and 844). A few bones were also recovered from samples <4> and <5>. The fish remains from the garden soils were mostly vertebrae from small- to medium-sized fish with similar species represented to those identified in medieval and late medieval assemblages from other Oxford Colleges, notably Queen's College, Merton College and New College (Nicholson 2006; 2010; 2016) and indicates that a variety of freshwater and sea fish were regularly eaten.

2.4.3 Marine Shell

2.4.3.1 A total of 2871 fragments of marine shell weighing 21.74 kg was recovered from 114 contexts. All were hand collected on site during the excavation.

2.4.3.2 Shells occurred in many excavated contexts and were abundant in a few. Apart from a single whelk *Buccinum undatum* in context (505) and a fragment of mussel shell (*Mytilus* sp.), the entire assemblage was of the native European flat oyster *Ostrea edulis*, with approximately similar numbers of left and right valves, indicating the deposition of the remains of complete shellfish rather than the remains of oysters served in the shell.

2.4.3.3 Measurements taken on the shells from the late 16th century garden soil suggest

careful size selection with a marked difference in sizes seen between this and later assemblages (which were less uniform). The oysters in the slightly later deposits may have come from native, wild beds or less well managed beds, and were either purchased without pre-grading or purchased as several graded sizes and later mixed in refuse deposits.

2.4.4 Charcoal

2.4.4.1 Five bulk soil samples were submitted for assessment, together with hand-collected charcoal from nine contexts. No plant remains other than the wood charcoal fragments were present.

2.4.4.3 A consistent range of tree and shrub taxa was present in the bulk samples, including beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), oak (*Quercus*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*), Pomoideae (hawthorn group), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). Single fragments of blackthorn/cherry (*Prunus*) and birch (*Betula*) were also present in single samples.

2.4.4.4 Beech charcoal dominated three of the four samples investigated, and co-dominated with oak in the fourth. Oak was the second most common taxon overall and there were only small to moderate quantities of fragments from the other taxa. This is comparable to other college sites in Oxford and consistent with the transition from oak to beech as the most commonly used wood for fuel by the late 15th to early 16th centuries.

3 DISCUSSION

By Kate Brady

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The history of the site now occupied by the Old Cloister at Brasenose College is not well documented, in contrast to the immediate surrounding area. The excavation and watching brief and map regression undertaken for this report have provided some clue to the reason for this anomaly and has also contributed to the understanding of the development of the college in general.

3.1.2 Because the excavation was limited vertically by the impact of the development as well as horizontally, the period examined was confined to deposits laid down at a level of 63.06m OD and above. The upper horizon was capped by the laying of the flagstone cloister floor, documented as taking place when the cloister was constructed in 1655/6. We therefore know that no deposits could have been laid down after this date. Consequently, pottery with date ranges spanning the 17th century, or for example the Frechen Stoneware with a general date of 1525-1750, must predate 1656 on this site. Occasionally this date-range can be refined further.

3.2 Halls and plots - later medieval

3.2.1 The use of the site can be traced through the changing rentals and ownerships, summarised in the 'history of the colleges' (Wood 1786). This document discusses plot-by-plot what is known of the ownership of plots later incorporated into Brasenose College from the medieval period up to their full incorporation into the college site.

3.2.2 As discussed in the background section of this report, Salter has suggested that the Cloister is built on the site of two medieval halls, St Mary's Entry (north) and Little St Edmund's (south). The first map depicting this is Agas's drawing of 1578, showing the site before the lower levels uncovered by the excavation were deposited (dated by pottery recovered from these garden soils to 1580-1630). The map shows two similarly sized plots south of the existing Brasenose College Quad, which had been founded in 1508 soon after the lease of two halls: Little University Hall and Brasenose Hall.

3.2.3 In 1509 Salissary and St Mary's Entry were procured 'with their gardens' (Madan

1909). It is tempting to suggest that these gardens must relate to frontage buildings but this is not made clear. Little St Edmund's, to the south, was also being rented by the college from Oseney Abbey by 1510. Agas's drawing shows the completed quad with St Mary's Entry and Little St Edmund's to the south. A building is shown on Little St Edmund's frontage and may have been the original medieval 'hall', but no building is shown within St Mary's Entry. The assemblage of relatively fresh medieval roof tile (Cotter, this report) recovered from the cloister wall construction trench was south of the proposed plot dividing wall (687) and may have originated from the medieval frontage building within Little St Edmund's.

3.2.4 The absence of a building depicted on the plot of St Mary's Entry suggests that if one had previously been present it had been demolished by the time the map was produced, and indeed the name suggests that the function of this piece of land had been as an access route rather than the location of a hall for a while before the 16th century. No specific reference to a medieval hall building has been found in the documentary sources and it is likely that the site was a passage or yard back during the medieval period. It was described in *Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs* (Madan 1909) as bearing the name of *Intorius Julianae Glasier*. In 1451 it was nameless and described as a 'hortus' (garden) between Salissary and Little St Edmund's. By 1457 it was an academic hall, named *Introitus Beatae Mariae in vico*. Principals associated with the hall were then recorded until 1469 (Madan 1909). It appears that the presence of a hall building was short-lived, with no mention of it subsequently and no depiction on Agas's drawing of 1578 where the space appears to have returned to use as a garden.

3.2.5 The medieval kitchen (still extant as part of Brasenose College and functioning as a servery) is within the boundary of St Mary's Entry and thought to date to at least the late 15th century (OA 2012). This was probably the kitchen serving the academic hall and is the only physical evidence of occupation by a hall, albeit indirectly. The plot was granted to the founder of Brasenose in 1509-10, and subsequently the kitchen became the Brasenose College kitchen (Madan 1909).

3.3 Gardens - c 1580-1600

3.3.1 Limestone wall 687 extended on an E-W alignment back from the frontage in the southern part of the site and predated the earliest layers recorded, continuing

vertically below the limit of excavation level. Although only a small part of the wall remained, having been heavily truncated by grave cuts, it is highly likely that this is the wall depicted on Agas's Map dividing the plots of St Mary's Entry and Little St Edmund's, and that it was constructed in the medieval period.

- 3.3.2 By the time the earliest deposits encountered during the excavation were laid down (in the late 16th century) the area right up to the frontage on both sides of the wall was garden. Medieval sherds were also recovered from the garden soil (more from the area south of the wall) and most likely represent the reworking of the kitchen garden and its extension up to the frontage after the medieval building to the south of the wall was gone. On Agas's drawing (1578) the plot behind Little St Edmund's is depicted as a garden with trees, probably a small orchard, and St Mary's Entry is empty but may have functioned as a kitchen garden into which kitchen refuse was added and incorporated as it was worked over. The frontage building shown within Little St Edmund's was gone by the time the earliest deposits were laid down at the southern end of the site, suggesting that it was demolished soon after Agas's drawing was made. It is likely that the frontage building was demolished as the lease from Osenev Abbey became more permanent (it was first recorded as leased in 1510 and was renewed in 1530) and it became more fully a part of Brasenose College grounds, functioning as garden areas to the south of the quad.
- 3.3.3 The lack of information relating to the plot of St Mary's Entry includes the absence of the kitchen from Agas's 1578 drawing, when it was certainly present at that time. The Old Quad of Brasenose College was built right up to its northern side in 1508, partially obstructing an original window, and it subsequently became the college kitchen. The material collected from the garden soils was typical of late medieval to early post-medieval kitchen deposits in some respects, with frequent charcoal from hearths and broken pottery. The animal and fish bone assemblages demonstrated the consumption of the usual range of meat (cattle, pig, sheep/goat) and fish, but also more game birds and rabbit than was typical for the period, though this is consistent with evidence from other college sites such as Merton (Poore *et al.* 2006) where college records also show that rabbit was commonly eaten on formal occasions. Oyster shell was also abundant, in common with the deposits at Merton College (*ibid.*). An unusual aspect of the assemblage was the very high proportion of Frechen drinking ware vessel sherds, which may also indicate waste from the college dining

hall. The sherds were abraded and in some instances appeared crushed, probably due to the reworking of the soils over a sustained period.

3.4 Trampled surfaces and rubbish dumping - c 1600-1630

3.4.1 To the south of the dividing wall the earliest revealed surfaces were recorded. A make-up layer under a firm laminated mortar layer suggest the transformation of the frontage of Little St Edmund's from garden to an area that was trampled and possibly used as an uncultivated yard space. The two shallow pits found in this area may represent hollows in the ground infilled with rubbish to keep the surface somewhat level. There was no evidence of a structure.

3.4.2 To the north of the wall, within St Mary's Entry, similar dumping of refuse continued and this became trampled, forming more compacted laminated layers including trampled spreads of mortar. It is not clear whether these were formal surfaces or more informal spreads of mortar (originating from nearby construction) to firm the ground. There continued to be a strong Frechen drinking ware component to the pottery assemblage, suggesting that this material may have continued to come from the college dining hall.

3.5 Cobbled surfaces - c 1600-1630

3.5.1 During this period the area was still divided by wall 687 and two areas of limestone cobbled surface were laid. Surface 778 within St Mary's Entry covered an area c 5.5m N-S extending south from the northern site limit of excavation. This was clearly a deliberately lain surface with regularly sized cobbles pushed into an underlying layer of bedding material. Wear was identified on some areas of the surface suggesting fairly prolonged use. The southern boundary of the surface appeared to be deliberate, with the surface laid in a shallow construction cut (861) through earlier layers that could be seen to the south and presumably once continued up to the northern limit of excavation. Immediately to the southern side of wall 687 was another area of cobbled surface (665), and this would have been located within the area previously occupied by Little St Edmund's. It was truncated to the south by a modern drain but did not continue to the other side of this, suggesting it was originally a pathway or passage floor alongside the wall. The surface here was in a herringbone pattern and was present right up to the street frontage. It is not clear whether this was an external or internal surface but no contemporary structural elements were identified. The use of

both surfaces was fairly closely dated, with the underlying deposits dated to 1620-1650 and the overlying to a similar date confining its use to within this period. The space between the cobbled areas appeared to remain mainly garden/yard areas where waste continued to be dumped and occasional thin layers of mortar (perhaps debris from nearby construction) was deposited.

- 3.5.2 The cloister was originally open on the western side and extended around the edges of what is now Deer Park and across the eastern side of the medieval kitchen. Loggan's drawing (1675) shows the college, looking west (Fig. 5). This drawing dates to around 20 years after the construction of the cloister and part of the Deer Park Quad can also be seen. The cloister return alongside the chapel can be glimpsed and in front of the medieval kitchen at the back of the quad there appears to be an open roofed walkway with an entrance in the north-western corner. Although not shown, this entrance may have correlated with a pre-existing walkway along this boundary, of which cobbled surface 778 was a remnant.

3.6 Dumping and levelling - c 1630-1655

- 3.6.1 From around 1630 the whole area north of wall 687 was again overlain by dumps of material alternating with layers of compacted mortar. This activity has been assigned to Phase 3. Although these mortar layers were very firm, it is not clear if they were formal surfaces or trampled debris from nearby construction activity. Having said this, the sequence is consistent with the pattern of a floor layer (mortar) followed by occupation debris, and this pattern is repeated at least twice (Fig. 16). The pottery from these layers contained sherds with a date range beginning at c 1630 and therefore the deposits were made after this date and have been in the period immediately before the construction of the cloisters. No structural evidence for a frontage building was identified by the excavation and on balance it is likely that this was still an outside area. A test pit excavated just outside the southern wall of the kitchen (OA 2012) and the watching brief trenches (this report) did not identify any similar mortar surfaces. This suggests that deposits were concentrated in the frontage area, although whether this was because there was a structure here or was for deliberate ground raising for the cloisters is not certain.
- 3.6.2 Wall 687 was still present and continued to divide the area into two plots. In the area to the south of the wall the deposits were characterised by thicker layers of more

mixed material, including lumps of limestone, mortar and CBM. This may represent the demolition of the building occupying Little St Edmund's. The recovery of an assemblage of unworn medieval tile from the backfill of a construction cut for one of the cloister walls does suggest that a nearby medieval building was demolished not too long before the new cloister was built.

- 3.6.3 The last deposits before the construction of the cloister levelled the ground again (which tended to slope from east to south), and then a layer of mortar was deposited as the bedding for the cloister floor. The floor slabs appear to have been removed and replaced when a burial was inserted and material from the excavated void (through the earlier layers) was used as backfill.

APPENDIX A. QUANTIFICATION OF SITE ARCHIVE**Stratigraphic***Table 1: Stratigraphic records*

Record type	No of Records
Context registers	12
Context records	364
Plan registers	1
Plans A4	12
Plans A1	4
Section registers	2
Sections A4	51
Sections A1	4
Level registers	6
B and W sheets/Films	14
Digital photo sheets	14
Digital photos	1176
Small find registers	1
Sample registers	1
Daily Journal Sheets	29
Watching Brief Sheets	0
Matrices	2

Table 2: Artefactual and ecofactual material (as in OA Finds Database)

Material	No of boxes	No of Contexts	No of Objs	Weight (g)	Box Sizes	Box Numbers
Animal Bone	1	37	221	916	1 x Size 2	B.01
Burnt Flint, unworked sieved		4	36	65	In 1 x Size 3 mixed box	Misc.02 Mixed box
CBM	13	144	1167	71,084	13 x Size 2	BM.01, BM.02, BM.03, BM.04, BM.05, BM.06, BM.07, BM.08, BM.09, BM.11, BM.12 Misc.02 Mixed box
Clay Pipe	1	72	324	1335	1 x Size 2	CP.01
Copper Alloy	1	16	52	0	1 x Plastic size 4	CA.01
Egg Shell		2	81	7	In 1 x Size 3 mixed box	Misc.02 Mixed box
Fish Bone		4	578	16		B.02
Flint		4	4	33		Misc.01 Mixed box
Glass	1	63	282	1623	1 x Size 2	GL.01, Misc.02 Mixed box
Iron	2	49	146	0	2 x Plastic size 8	FE.01, FE.02
Lead	1	1	1	0	1 x Plastic size 4	PB.01
Mortar		12	86	922	In mixed box	Misc.01 Mixed box, Misc.02 Mixed box
Plastic		1	3	5	In mixed box	Misc.01 Mixed box

Material	No of boxes	No of Contexts	No of Objs	Weight (g)	Box Sizes	Box Numbers
Pottery	6	164	2441	37,525	5 x Size 1 1 x Size 2	Misc.02 Mixed box P.01, P.02, P.03, P.04, P.05, P.06
Shell	7	114	2883	21770	7 x Size 2	Misc.02 Mixed box. SH.01, SH.01, SH.03, SH.04 SH.05, SH.06, SH.07
Stone	2	50	82	11388	2 x Size 2	ST.01, ST.02

APPENDIX B. ASSESSMENT OF FINDS

Pottery

By John Cotter

Introduction

A total of 2329 sherds of pottery weighing 35.948kg were excavated. Of this at least 6% by sherd count is medieval and 94% post-medieval (c 1480+). The precise division is, in this case, difficult to determine as the currency of late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (c 1400-1625), which is common here, spans the traditional divide between medieval and post-medieval; all the indications are however that nearly all this fabric is of early post-medieval date, although a few earlier sherds are bound to be present. The pottery is generally in a very fragmentary and fairly worn condition with an average sherd weight of 15g. Most of the largest context assemblages (up to 154 sherds) are from occupation/soil layers, which partly explains the poor condition of most of the material, much of which is clearly redeposited. Cross-joining sherds between many contexts were noted. A small number of vessels however are well-preserved. Despite the fairly poor condition of many sherds the assemblage is notable for its exceptionally large quantity of imported German (Frechen) stoneware drinking vessels - probably the largest quantity of German stoneware vessels recovered from a single site in Oxford. These include many high-quality decorative pieces and occur in almost every context, thus providing a core dating of c 1580-1650 for most of the pottery deposition on the site. The clay tobacco pipes from many of these contexts also allow this dating to be refined to c 1630-1655 (see clay pipe report, below). This dating agrees well with the known construction date of 1656-1666 for the Second Quadrangle and Old Cloisters - an event which sealed the deposits from which most of this material comes. Burials in the Old Cloisters, cutting into these earlier deposits, date from c 1669 to 1754. Apart from these interruptions the flagstone paving and grave markers effectively prevented the deposition of any later material. However, a few small sherds of later 18th- and early 19th-century pottery (SWSG, CREA DEV, CHPO) came from a layer above the flagstones (Context 500) which presumably accumulated after the cloisters were converted into study rooms in 1807. A single piece of 19th-century pottery (REFW) was recovered from a modern pipe trench along with brown stoneware drainpipe of this date.

As usual, the pottery appears to be entirely domestic in nature and, apart from the exceptionally large quantity of German stoneware, the range of fabrics and vessel forms present is fairly typical of sites along or near the main thoroughfares of central Oxford. Even the presence of a single small (residual) sherd of Roman pottery is not unusual. The single sherds of Italian tin-glazed ware (LIGU BER) and Beauvais yellow-glazed ware (BEAY), both very rare types from Oxford, hint at elements of luxury within the early post-medieval assemblage. The unusually high number of drinking vessels (local and imported) also highlight an assemblage largely derived from social drinking activities - perhaps from the college dining rooms or refectories, and perhaps local taverns? Sherds from at least 15 post-medieval chafing dishes (plate-warmers or portable stoves) were also identified. The relatively small amount of medieval and late medieval pottery present appears to entirely residual in post-medieval contexts. Nearly all the pottery types present here also occur in a larger assemblage of medieval and post-medieval pottery recently studied from the 2011 Pembroke College (Brewer Street) site where these types are described in more detail (Cotter forthcoming). A good range of post-medieval pottery has been published from the St Ebbe's area of Oxford (Mellor and Oakley 1984) and a good summary (with photographs) has also been published (Mellor 1997). Given the availability of good published local parallels for most of these types, coupled with the variable condition of the material here, what follows is a simply a quantified table of the various fabrics present and a summary report focusing on the more significant or interesting aspects of the assemblage.

Fabric	Common Name	Date	Sherds	Weight
ROM	Roman pottery (residual)	43-410AD	1	*
OXR	St Neots-type ware (SE Midlands)	900-1100	6	*
OXBF	SW Oxon ware (Kennet Valley A)	875-1250	1	*
OXAC	Cotswold-type ware	1050-1250	36	*
OXY	Medieval Oxford ware	1075-1300	48	*
OXAQ	East Wilts ware (Kennet Valley B)	1150-1350	15	*
OXCG	Olney Hyde-type shelly ware (Bucks)	1150-1400	2	*

OXAG	Ashampstead-type ware (Berks)	1175-1400	2	*
OXAW	Early Brill ware (Bucks)	1175-1400	2	*
OXBB	Minety ware (Wilts)	1225-1525	1	*
OXAM	Brill/Boarstall ware (Bucks)	1225-1625	15	*
TUDG	Tudor Green ware (Surrey/Hants)	1375-1550	1	*
OXBX	Late med Brill ware (Bucks)	1400-1625	662	*
RAER	Raeren stoneware (Germany)	1475-1550	98	*
MISC PM	Misc unsourced post-med pottery	1480-1900	1	*
BEAY	Beauvais yellow glazed ware (France)	1500-1600	1	*
LIGU BER	Ligurian berettino tin-glazed ware	1520-1700	1	*
FREC	Frechen stoneware (Germany)	1525-1750	906	15583
BORD	Border ware, unglazed	1550-1700	5	*
BORDG	Border ware, green glazed (Surrey/Hants)	1550-1700	50	*
BORDY	Border ware, yellow glazed (Surrey/Hants)	1550-1700	98	*
PMR	Post-medieval red earthenwares	1550-1900	128	*
TGW	English tin-glazed earthenware	1575-1825	134	*
PMBL	Post-medieval black-glazed redwares	1580-1750	82	*
BORDB	Border ware, brown glazed (Surrey/Hants)	1600-1700	8	*
CHPO	Chinese porcelain	1600-1900	4	*
BRSL	Brill post-med slipware	1650-1800	11	*
LONS	London (salt-glazed) stoneware	1670-1850	1	*
SWSG	Staffs white salt-glazed stoneware	1720-1780	7	*
CREA DEV	Developed Creamware (Staffs/Yorks)	1760-1830	1	*
REFW	Refined whiteware (Staffs etc)	1805-1900	1	*

TOTAL			2329	35948
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Table 1: Pottery types and quantities in roughly chronological order (* = weight not recorded, except Frechen stoneware = estimated weight)

Methodology

All the pottery was catalogued in some detail (on an Excel spreadsheet). The method of quantification was generally limited to sherd counts per fabric per context, but the overall context weight was also recorded. Exceptions to this comprise a sample of the larger contexts where fabric weights, as well as sherds counts, were also recorded - thus allowing the global weight of German stonewares to be estimated. Vessel forms were not systematically noted in any quantifiable way but the range of vessel forms per context was noted in a comments field and rare or significant items described in more detail where appropriate. Full catalogue details and spot-dates may be consulted in the site archive. As better parallels exist elsewhere, only a small number of the more interesting or unusual pieces has been illustrated.

Descriptions of the illustrated pieces are provided in the illustration catalogue below.

Pottery fabrics

Medieval pottery fabrics were recorded using the system of codes developed for the Oxfordshire County type series (Mellor 1994). Post-medieval fabrics were recorded using the codes of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014), which can be applied to most post-medieval types in south-east England. A breakdown of the fabrics present is given in Table 1.

Summary by phase

All the layers at the base of the sequence - except one - produced post-medieval pottery or pottery and clay pipes. The single exception is context (660), in the south area, which produced two fairly small medieval sherds of *c* 1075-1300 (Fabric OXY); however, this also produced two pieces of post-medieval red roof tile (possibly 16th or 17th century?) thus suggesting that all the medieval pottery from the site must be residual. Three other contexts at the base of the southern sequence (673, 672 and 663) produced pottery of *c* 1580-1650 including Frechen stoneware (FREC) but no clay pipe. As clay pipe is fairly rare in Oxford before *c* 1620/30 it could be argued that these lowest layers date from *c* 1580-1630. The layers between these and the graves (which cut into them) can almost certainly be dated to between *c* 1630 and the construction of the Old Cloisters in 1656-1666. This is suggested by the relative abundance of clay pipe bowls of *c* 1630-1655 (and a few of *c* 1640-1660) and the

frequent presence of sherds of English tin-glazed ware drinking vessels with a characteristic purple-speckled glaze datable to c 1630-1680 (Fabric TGW, Orton Type B). Other pottery types, including the abundant Frechen stoneware jugs, broadly confirm this. Although most of the Frechen stoneware drinking jugs and ‘Bellarmine’ bottles have characteristics suggesting production during the period c 1580-1630 (including moulded pad bases and early styles of applied facemask and medallions), a small number of Bellarmines higher up in the sequence have definite mid 17th-century characteristics (including plain flat bases and simpler geometric medallions). The presence of two late 16th- or early 17th-century Nuremburg jetons (Brady and Scott, this report) in this sequence of deposits (contexts 791 and 804) broadly confirms the dating provided by the pottery and clay pipes. Most pottery-bearing contexts cut by the graves have been spot-dated (on the basis of pottery alone) either to c 1580-1650, or to c 1630-1700; in several cases the clay pipe dates refine this.

Pottery from the grave fills (c 1669-1754) totals 387 sherds (8703g). These mostly produced 17th-century material (including clay pipes) derived from the layers they were cut into. Two grave fills (533 and 539) however produced large cross-joining sherds from the same post-medieval Brill slipware dish datable c 1730-1780/1800, which also occurs in mortar layer (504), and grave fill (529) produced clay pipe bowls datable to c 1750-1790. The rare pieces of late 18th- or early 19th-century pottery from the site are from layers deposited above the graves and the flagstone floor.

Summary of the more significant pottery types

Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM, c 1225-1625)

A few residual sherds of 13th-14th century strip jugs were noted and a rim sherd from a Tudor Green-style lobed cup (c 1375-1500). The only other piece of interest is described here:

Context (851). Fig. 26, OXAM.1. Rim from cylindrical ‘Green Man’ mug with applied face with incised details. Mottled green glaze all over int and ext. Plain vertical rim (diam 85mm). Remarkably fresh condition. Late 14th/early 15th century (Mellor 1994, fig. 53.14-15).

Late medieval Brill/Boarstall ware (OXBX, 1400-1625)

The second most common fabric from the site. Mainly 16th- and early 17th-century forms. The large quantity of this in contexts associated with German stonewares of c 1580-1630 and clay pipes of c 1630-1655 is unlikely to significantly residual. Its occurrence here as late as

this supports earlier suggestions that the industry may have remained in production as late as c 1640 before it was replaced by the ubiquitous post-medieval red earthenwares (PMR; Mellor 1997, 40). The difference between the latest products of the late medieval industry and the earliest local PMR products (mostly perhaps from Brill too) is not always easy to establish as some OXBX products have quite a buff or orange fabric (although the PMR fabric is generally coarser). Late Brill/Boarstall ware is mainly present as small plain jugs - probably drinking jugs. Several of these have an internal limescale-like deposit - possibly the residue of drinks? Also 'Cistercian'-style globular mugs or cups. Bowls with flanged rims are also common and may have served as tablewares. A few jars and pipkins are also present. Rarer forms include the pierced base of a water-sprinkler (Mellor 1997, fig. 41) and sherds from around ten chafing dishes (plate warmers or portable stoves). A possible example of the latter described below:

Context (747). Fig. 26, OXBX.1. Green-glazed dish or chafing dish with flanged rim (diam 240mm). Incised wavy line decoration on flange. Cloudy greenish-yellow glaze all over int and ext.

Raeren stoneware (RAER, c 1475-1550)

Raeren, near Aachen, is now in east Belgium. Pale grey- or brown-glazed stoneware drinking mugs with a distinctive frilled base were commonly imported into England during the period c 1475-1550 (Hurst *et al.* 1986, fig. 94.300-301). These are fairly common from Oxford sites, although the 98 sherds here is an unusually high number and probably represents a few dozen vessels. These are of standard frilled-based form, but sherds of at least two rarer flat-based jugs with narrower collared rims are also represented (*ibid.*, fig. 94.304-5). A complete frilled base from one mug is notable for having traces of a bright red pigment (red lead?) internally, suggesting it was possibly used as a paint-pot; it also appears to have been heated (context 793). Although Raeren stoneware mugs were generally replaced on British sites by Frechen stoneware around 1550, the high number of Raeren sherds here (some quite large) might suggest that some vessels remained in use into the second half of the 16th century.

Beauvais yellow glazed ware (BEAY, c 1500-1600)

Context (793, not illus). Vertical rim sherd (diam 55mm) from small globe and shaft drinking jug with plain upright rim with cordon externally below rim. Fine white fabric with all over external yellow glaze with fine brown streaking or mottling. The form is similar to Beauvais

jugs decorated with the Tudor royal arms known from a number of sites in England (Hurst *et al.* 1986, fig. 50.157). Date *c* 1500-1550. The fabric is very rare from Oxford.

Ligurian berettino tin-glazed ware (LIGU BER, c 1520-1700)

Context (752). Fig. 26, LIGU.1. A single small sherd (3g) from the (damaged) rim and wall of a smallish bowl. Yellowish fabric with all over purple-blue 'berettino' tin glaze.

Decoration in darker cobalt blue comprising a frieze of stylised foliage internally and traces of large intersecting arcs externally - standard decoration on bowls of this sort. Identical decoration on a 'rosette' dish of *c* 1575-1625 (Hurst *et al.* 1986, fig. 11.20). Probably produced in Genoa or Savona. Ligurian imports are very rare from inland sites such as Oxford, and this is only the fourth example identified from the town in over 40 years of urban excavations. Mellor illustrates a small complete bowl from the site of the Fleur-de-Luce Inn, St Aldates, Oxford (Mellor 1997, fig. 46, front centre). Another dish rim was identified from the 2007 'Buttery' site, University College.

Frechen stoneware (FREC, c 1525-1750)

The pottery-making town of Frechen is located on the Rhine, near Cologne, in north-west Germany. It is generally accepted that the commoner brown salt-glazed stoneware products of Frechen and Cologne are visually indistinguishable and the collection here may include the products of both. As mentioned above, the 906 sherds of Frechen stoneware represent the largest assemblage of this ware from any site in Oxford. Despite the innate robustness and durability of vessels in this very hard fabric it is clear that the assemblage is unusually fragmentary and perhaps in some cases crushed, although there are a fair number of large fresh sherds as well. Why this should be so is a matter for speculation. It could be that most vessels were already very smashed-up by the time they ended up on the present site - perhaps, in some cases, little more than hardcore for construction deposits or accidentally contained in soil brought to the site from outside the future cloisters area. It is not impossible that some of the very broken stoneware vessels here represent debris left over from some catastrophe - perhaps from damage caused to nearby buildings during the siege of Oxford in 1644-46? More prosaically they might have been smashed on the floor of a tavern or college refectory and then additionally trampled underfoot - especially so perhaps if swept out onto the surface of a yard. 16th-17th century Frechen drinking vessels are common in central Oxford and many have been found on college sites. They are also common from the sites of inns or taverns. Mellor illustrates a large group of complete stoneware vessels dating to *c* 1600

collected in the early 20th century from the site of the Civet Cat Inn on Cornmarket in the centre of the town (Mellor 1997, fig. 71, photograph). This group is remarkably similar to the Brasenose College assemblage. Other complete stoneware vessels of similar date are illustrated from the site of the Fleur-de-Luce Inn in St Aldates (*ibid.*, fig. 46), and a group of four mid/late 17th-century Bellarmine is illustrated from a pit in the garden of No. 47 Broad Street (*ibid.*, fig. 48).

Despite its condition the assemblage here undoubtedly represents at least several dozen vessels and perhaps as many as a hundred. These mainly comprise plain drinking jugs of 'globe and shaft' form but also a considerable number of 'Bellarmine' (or *Bartmann*) jugs with an applied moulded bearded face on the neck and usually an applied medallion on the body. The wider-mouthed Bellarmine may also have been used as drinking jugs but narrower ones were often used in the manner of wine bottles for fetching smaller quantities of wine or ale from taverns. All the plain drinking jugs here and all but half a dozen of the Bellarmine have moulded pad bases - a feature which generally disappears on Bellarmine jugs after *c.* 1630 to be replaced by plain flat bases with no external moulding. Most of the Bellarmine have early styles of applied facemask with flowing beards and finer detailing than the increasingly debased types produced after *c.* 1640/50. Likewise the applied medallions - these contain quite elaborate late Renaissance ornament, while the heraldic medallions appear to represent genuine coats of arms rather than the debased and often geometric designs of the second half of the 17th century (Gaimster 1997).

Sherds from at least three 'girth-band' jugs of *c.* 1550-1580 have been identified. These, as the name suggests, had a decorative band around the girth containing either a pious inscription or a floral frieze; above and below this the body of the jug was normally decorated with small applied portrait medallions containing profile heads or busts of classical or mythological figures or of contemporary rulers and aristocracy. Sherds from a minimum of fifteen Bellarmine jugs with heraldic medallions have also been identified - mostly very fragmentary. These mainly date to *c.* 1580-1630 and three bear dates: one dated 1569 (or 1596?) and two dated 1594. Vessels bearing the date 1594 are fairly common from English sites, including Oxford, although the significance of this date is unknown (Mellor 1997, 37). Only a few of the fancier (and more complete) heraldic medallions can be positively identified either to aristocratic families or famous cities. These include the arms of Cologne, the arms of the House of Orange-Nassau (Princes of Orange), the portcullis badge of England and possibly the German family of Hasfurder. Some of these coats of arms also occur on

stoneware jugs from other sites in England, particularly London; the arms of Cologne, for example, are known from several English sites. There is no particular reason therefore to suppose a special connection between these Continental families/cities and Oxford - although the frequency of some badges might eventually shed light on the trade routes by which imported stonewares reached the city, or on political affiliations. Potters in Frechen (or Cologne) may have produced hundreds or thousands of vessels from the same armorial moulds. The higher-quality or fancier vessels were mainly intended for the Continental market but a small proportion of these found their way to English ports and thence inland to the larger town and cities of southern England. The fancier vessels with ornate medallions would have been fairly expensive and affordable mainly by the fairly well-to-do; they were both functional and used for ostentatious display. The plainer drinking jugs were imported in greater numbers and were much more affordable. These robust stoneware vessels may in some cases have been several decades old by the time of breakage and disposal, particularly the more decorative items which may have been curated.

Catalogue of decorated Frechen stoneware vessels (including illustration catalogue, Figs 26-28)

The more decorative vessels are described in more detail in the catalogue below in context order. Where more than one item occurs in the same context a letter of the alphabet has been assigned to give each piece a unique identifier (e.g. context 511.A, 511.B, etc.). Some are illustrated by photograph and/or referenced to published parallels. Most pieces have been sketched (details in site archive). Unless stated otherwise the following abbreviations are used: G = Gaimster 1997 (*German stoneware*); M = Mellor 1997 (*Pots and People* - ie of Oxford).

Girth-band jugs

Context 672.A (Fig. 26, 672.A). Worn body sherd from jug of c 1550-1580? Girth-band terminal with a frieze of very small portrait medallions including Christ-like face. Renaissance ornament in-between.

Context 703.A (Fig. 26, 703.A). Shoulder sherd from jug of c 1550-1580. Portrait medallion (damaged) with ?male figure - possibly wearing turban? Girth-band frieze of running foliage below.

Context 745.A (Fig. 26, 745.A). Circular body sherd - probably chipped-down for use as a gaming counter? From jug of c 1550-1580. Complete portrait medallion (diam 41mm)

showing profile of Elizabethan-style gentleman in a pointed 'bobble' hat (or helmet?) with a neck ruff and pointed beard. A very similar example with an inscription for 'Graf [count] Federich' known from the Civet Cat, Oxford (M, fig. 71.b).

Bellarmino (Bartmann) jugs with heraldic medallions (mainly c 1580-1630 or earlier)

Context 511.A (Fig. 26, 511.A). Three body sherds (including 2 from context 551) from a jug with three identical heraldic medallions around the body showing the upper part of the arms of Cologne. The largest of these shows a fan-shaped crest or headpiece on a knightly helmet bearing three small crowns. Beneath the fan is the date '1594' (on all three sherds). The missing shield below would have had a larger version of the three crowns of Cologne. An almost identical coat of arms occurs on a jug, also dated 1594, from the Civet Cat, Oxford (M, fig. 71.c) and on another from the Fleur-de-Luce Inn (M, fig. 46, centre).

Context 511.B (Fig. 26, 511.B). Body sherd from good-quality jug with lower part of finely detailed bearded mask and most of quartered coat of arms showing horizontal billets and florid crosses. The arms have not been identified. Above the shield are the numerals of a date possibly arranged to simulate a crown - possibly '1569' although the '69' is reversed (perhaps for artistic licence, or due to an illiterate potter?). Alternatively the date could be a garbled version of '1596'?

Context 511.C (Fig. 27, 511.C). Body sherd with the date '1594' and the top part of the portcullis badge of England. An identical and more complete example known from London (G, No.60).

Context 511.D (Fig. 27, 511.D). Body sherd. Upper part of medallion with crowned knightly helmet with very elaborate head-dress and star above. Part of shield below. Probably c 1600?

Context 549.A. (Fig. 27, 549.A). Body sherd with top part of heraldic medallion. Large crown above quartered shield. Top right quarter partially extant showing crowned rampant lion. Lion supporter to right of shield. Possibly the arms of Nassau or Orange-Nassau as in context (753) below. Probably c 1600?

Context 551.A (Fig. 27, 551A). Body sherd. Heraldic medallion with leaping hare standing on grassy hillock. Knightly helmet above (looking left) with very flamboyant plumage crest. Possibly the coat of arms of the German family of Hasfurder. Very similar shown on a Cruessen stoneware tankard dated c 1620 in the British Museum (G, No.137, detail, see also p367 and 378). It was also the crest of the Haes family.

Context 700A. (Fig. 27, 700.A). Joining sherds from top-left part of a large heraldic medallion. Large stylised crown above fragmentary shield with horizontal ?lion or mythical beast. Possible trace of inscription above beast beginning with 'C'? Arms unidentified. Glossy dark brown glaze. Probably *c* 1620?

Context 709.A. (Fig. 27, 709.A). Body sherd with right-hand side of Renaissance-style oval medallion. Central portrait of a long haired figure holding a bow and arrow - possibly Diana the Huntress (or Amazon/Centaur?). Border of geometric cabochons or trophies with satyr-like head in uppermost roundel. Probably *c* 1600?

Context 709.B. (Not illus). Body sherd with top part of heraldic medallion. Large fancy crown above shield (trace of). Probably *c* 1600? See context (751.A) for similar.

Context 751.A. (Not illus). Smallish body sherd with top-right fragment of heraldic medallion. Large fancy crown above shield (corner of). Part of ?date to right of crown ('6?'). This appears to be the same design as the medallion in context (709.B) above, but from a separate jug with very glossy brown glaze. Probably *c* 1600?

Context 751.B. (Not illus). Smallish body sherd with top-left fragment of heraldic medallion with trace of very stylised ?crown or ?knightly helmet above shield (trace of). Probably *c* 1600?

Context 753.A (Fig. 28, 753.A). Several joining sherds from a single jug with complete moulded base and lower part of bearded mask with broad grin (*c* 1600). Includes most of a large oval medallion (*c* 90mm tall x 75mm wide). Complex quartered coat of arms with three nested shields including rampant lions and post-horns. Part of stylised crown above shield and lion supporter to left. This is almost certainly one of the many variants of the arms of House of Orange-Nassau, but is closest to the arms used by the Princes of Orange during the second half of the 16th century (source Wikipedia); all include the post-horn symbol of Orange. A Bellarmine of *c* 1580-90 with a similar coat of arms, ascribed to the Princes of Orange, is in the British Museum (G, No.52, Col. Pl. 12, left). The same arms are incorporated into the quarters of a very elaborate Frechen pitcher dated 1607 (G, No.57; see also p371).

Context 754.A. (Not illus). Small body sherd decorated with horizontal belt-like device with studs or eyelets. Small ?ribbon or ?feather-like device attached to side of belt. Possibly from central part of a coat of arms? Or possibly a girth-band jug?

Context 755.A. (Not illus). Body sherd with right-hand side of Renaissance-style oval medallion with border of cabochons or stylised trophies (shields? and military standard with cross in circle?). Probably *c* 1600? Similar to context (709.A).

Context 763.A (Fig. 28, 763.A). Body sherd. Lower part of heraldic medallion, almost certainly the arms of Cologne. Often shown as a shield with the three crowns of Cologne in the upper half and a field of scrolling decoration in the lower half, as here. A jug of *c* 1550 in the British Museum provides a good match (G, No.47) A simpler variant of this scrollwork occurs on the '1594' dated jug from the Civet Cat, Oxford (M, fig. 71.c).

Context 855. (Not illus). Small body sherd with fragment of heraldic medallion. From lower left-hand quarter of shield showing parts of two horizontal lions. Possibly the Tudor royal arms? (see G, No.51, with Tudor arms, dated 1594).

Surrey/Hampshire Border whitewares (BORD, BORDG, BORDY, c 1550-1700 and BORDB, c 1600-1700)

A typical range of jars, tripod pipkins and bowls were recovered and four chafing dishes. Less common forms include small sherds from a single globular cup with encrusted decoration (703) - typical of the mid 17th century (Pearce 1992, pl. 3, top right). There are also sherds from a couple of moneyboxes with knife-cut slits, and one or two small costrels. A collared rim from a brown-glazed Border ware 'bottle' or jug may be an attempt to copy Frechen stoneware forms (604).

English tin-glazed wares (TGW, 1575-1825)

The collection is very fragmentary but includes a high proportion of drinking vessels: mainly globular mugs and a few cylindrical mugs with purple-speckled glaze datable *c* 1630-1680 (Orton Type B), also plain white examples. A few sherds from cylindrical 17th-century drug jars with blue and yellow painted decoration and sherds from a least one 'charger' dish and a plain white dish were also noted. Nothing definitely earlier than *c* 1620 was noted.

Post-medieval black-glazed redwares (PMBL, c 1580-1750)

A fragmentary collection, nearly all conical mugs or 'tygs' with one or more handles. Also a few globular mugs and sherds from a few fairly large jugs with pad bases. Probably made at the post-medieval Brill kilns. Some jugs have a very hard-fired fabric with a high-quality glossy black glaze resembling that of 18th-century 'Jackfield' ware or Staffordshire black-glazed wares (STBL), but the examples here are from secure mid 17th-century contexts.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

By John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

A total of 1167 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 71.084kg were recovered from 144 contexts. This appears to range in date from the 13th to the 19th century but the bulk is probably of late medieval to early post-medieval date, or roughly 15th to 17th century. Like the pottery assemblage, only a handful of pieces can be dated as late as the 18th and 19th centuries and these come from the backfills of later 17th- and 18th-century graves and from a 19th-century pipe trench. Apart from these latest pieces the CBM provides little in the way of dating evidence but broadly confirms the more accurate dating provided by pottery and clay tobacco pipes. These demonstrate that the earliest levels excavated date from the late 16th or early 17th century and that most of the pottery and pipes date to the 17th century (see pot and pipe reports). In general the assemblage is similar to many other mixed medieval to post-medieval CBM assemblages from Oxford (Cotter 2006; 2008). None has been illustrated.

The condition of the assemblage is very fragmentary and generally very abraded although some fresh pieces occur here and there. There are no complete examples of any category of CBM and no roof or floor tile fragments preserve anything like a complete width. Most of the material comes from occupation/soil layers and perhaps make-up layers for the construction of the Old Cloisters and some from the later grave fills cut into these. While some material may be derived from buildings that once stood on or near the site it is difficult to distinguish this with any certainty whereas - given the history of the site and the poor condition of the assemblage - it seems very likely that most of it arrived here as building rubble.

In view of the poor condition, examination of the assemblage was limited to a visual scan of the material from each context to highlight anything unusual or significant and to provide additional spot-dates for selected contexts. The number of pieces of CBM from each context and an overall context weight has however been recorded but individual categories of CBM (brick, tile etc) were not quantified. Exceptions to this include one or two rarer categories (decorated floor tile and ridge tile). These records are available in the site archive. Most of the assemblage, as usual, comprises fragments of flat roof tile (medieval and later) but at least one third of the assemblage comprises fragments of post-medieval brick. Other categories present are relatively minor. Despite the poor condition, the relatively close (mainly 17th

century) associated dating provided both by historical dates, and the pottery and pipe assemblages, provides some useful insights into the composition of a local early post-medieval CBM assemblage and the transition from late medieval to post-medieval fabrics. A few samples have been added to the Oxford medieval tile fabric series to extend the range into this later period. A brief summary of the more interesting elements of the Brasenose assemblage is given below.

Flat roof tile

As usual the bulk of the CBM assemblage comprises plain or flat rectangular roof tile with a pair of circular nailholes near the upper end (peg tiles). The assemblage is mostly very fragmentary and worn although some pieces (medieval and post-medieval) are fairly large and fresh - but no complete lengths or widths survive. A mix of medieval and post-medieval tiles is evident with the proportion estimated at roughly 50% each. As most of the deposits here are demonstrably 17th century it is perhaps not too surprising that so much earlier material was still lying around. Roof tiles could remain in use (or re-use) for several centuries and some of the assemblage here might derive from medieval buildings demolished or re-roofed in the 16th or 17th centuries. Most fairly definite medieval tiles occur in the usual orange-red sandy fabric (Fabric IIIB) commonly found on medieval sites in Oxford. These usually have a grey core and some are partially glazed. The presence of a few pieces in rarer 13th-14th century cream or pink-buff fabrics is not unusual either. A considerable number of tile fragments occur in a sandy 'late medieval' fabric first noted at the Classics Centre site in St Giles, which probably dates from the 15th to the 17th century (Cotter 2008). These normally have an oxidised orange-brown fabric with swirls and pellets of white clay and coarse iron-rich inclusions (see plain floor tile below). A few tiles are in a paler orange-buff variant of this fabric - both probably from fairly local sources. Many other tiles have a characteristically post-medieval appearance with a smoother, dense, orange-red fabric and a generally neater appearance. These probably appeared in the 16th century and became commoner in the following century and remained the main type of ceramic roof tile in Oxford until at least the 19th century. There is nothing to indicate that any of the tiles here are later than the 17th century. A single tile had square nailholes (usually considered a post-medieval feature) rather than circular ones.

One context (788), the fill of a wall foundation cut in the Cloisters, produced a large and surprisingly fresh assemblage of peg tile - all apparently medieval (61 pieces, c 4kg). It also produced a large fairly fresh fragment of crested ridge tile and several quite fresh pieces of

medieval pottery, but the presence of two sherds of c 1550-1650 and its stratigraphic position suggest a post-medieval date. The wall trench may perhaps have been backfilled with rubble from a recently demolished medieval building.

Ridge tile

A total of 22 pieces of medieval ridge tile were noted from 16 contexts, including seven pieces of crested ridge tile. These are mostly fairly small and abraded although a few larger pieces (up to 200g) occur. Like the medieval pottery from the site these are clearly residual. These mostly occur in similar orange-red fabrics to the roof tiles but show evidence of curvature and usually fairly extensive glaze coverage. Most are apex fragments. Several, mostly very worn, pieces occur in a distinctive early brown fabric tempered with oolitic limestone (Fabric IB, c 1175-1325?) probably from north-west Oxfordshire. Four tiles (including crested pieces) occur in a green-glazed cream coloured fabric probably from Brill (Fabric IIIA, c 1200-1400?). Some thicker pieces in the reddish St Giles-type fabric (15th to 17th century) are probably of late medieval or early post-medieval date.

Brick

Roughly a third of the CBM assemblage (by fragment count) comprises early post-medieval brick, although the assemblage is generally very scrappy and fragmentary and all redeposited. These of fairly crude handmade unfrogged type. They generally occur in a soft red fabric or a lighter orange fabric with very coarse inclusions and streaks of cream clay, similar to that seen in the plain floor tile assemblage (see below). Some have an accidental ash glaze along the sides or the header end. Numerous bricks have a thickness of 45-50mm, consistent with a Tudor date. A few are up to 60mm thick suggesting a later date but the crude appearance and context associations indicate a 17th-century dating. The side of one ?Tudor brick fragment (context 758) appears to have been roughly carved with a knife or chisel - possibly to form an architectural moulding or decorative feature? A handful of 19th-century pieces were recovered from the fills of a modern drain (contexts 851 and 857, see below).

Plain floor tile or 'quarry' tile

A total of 49 pieces of plain floor tile were noted from 25 contexts - all redeposited. These are mostly smallish abraded fragments but a few fairly large pieces also occur - none with a measurable width. This category comprises plain late medieval or early post-medieval 'quarry' tiles resembling imported Flemish tiles of the period. The imported tiles date from the late 14th century to around the mid 16th century, but definite imports are rare in Oxford

and most quarry tiles found in the city are probably from local or fairly local sources. The examples from Brasenose College probably date from the 15th to the early 17th century, and plain unglazed tiles could be even later. These are typically thick (c 30-35mm) and often quite large, with vertical or slightly bevelled edges. Many examples here have a clear brown glaze and occasionally a dark green almost black glaze. Elsewhere they can have an overall white slip under a clear or green glaze - but no definite slipped examples were noted here. Several examples are heavily worn-down from lifetime use and have completely lost their surface glaze or retain only traces on the edges. A few examples were probably never glazed or are too worn to tell. The highest number of pieces from a single context is the ten pieces from occupation layer (753). These include two unusually thick tiles (35mm and 46mm thick) in an identical burnt dark grey fabric with bevelled edges and traces of glaze. The upper surfaces of both are scorched and their edges are heavily soot-encrusted suggesting they were used as hearth tiles. Similar examples (up to 55mm thick) are known from excavations at Lincoln College (2012). Three large fragments from a single unglazed tile were recovered from an occupation/soil layer (793). Most of the Brasenose tiles (if unburnt) have a fairly soft fine orange-brown fabric with coarse rounded inclusions (and streaks) of cream clay up to 10-20mm across and some coarse iron-rich clay inclusions of similar size. This fabric is very similar to many of the 'Tudor' bricks from the site - and one or two late ridge tiles - and is strong evidence for local production. It may also be related to the local 'St Giles' fabric used for 15th-17th century roof tile.

Medieval decorated floor tile

Fragments from three separate tiles were recovered. These are of late medieval type with shallow 'printed' decoration in white slip under a clear glaze on orange-red fabrics. The most diagnostic piece (from Grave fill Ctx 734) is from the corner of a Penn floor tile of c 1330-1380 with a common four-tile scheme with a quadrant (circle) in the corner enclosing a fleurry quatrefoil motif. Occupation layer (829), with pottery of c 1630-1700, produced parts of two floor tiles. One of these is a corner fragment (20mm thick) with traces of a radial/floral decorative scheme - possibly a Penn/Chiltern tile? The other tile (comprising 22 small scraps) is unusually thick (30mm) and has a softer red fabric with traces of linear white decoration. Its poorer quality might suggest a 15th or even 16th century date.

Tin-glazed floor and wall tile

Two pieces of late 16th- or early 17th-century 'Anglo-Netherlands' tin-glazed floor tile were identified - both fairly small and worn. On balance they are probably London products of the early 17th century. Both are quite thick with a yellow/cream fabric and a white tin glaze on the upper surface with polychrome decoration. The larger piece from context (769) (102g) is from the corner of a tile with traces of floral/fruit decoration in yellow, green and blue within concentric blue circles or a large quatrefoil - probably part of a four-tile design. Very similar (Dutch) tiles are illustrated by Korf (1963, nos. 60-62). The smaller piece from context (843) (42g) is from the edge of a tile with traces of geometric decoration in blue and green. Tiles of this sort are known from several sites in Oxford but are not very common. Two small pieces of late 17th- or 18th-century tin-glazed wall tile with a slight blue tint were recovered from a grave fill (541).

Late 19th- or 20th-century CBM

Very little material of this date was found. The little there is from the fills of a 'modern drain' (Context 853). Two of the fills (851 and 857) produced a combined total of 19 pieces of modern CBM (c 4.5kg) including three pieces of brown salt-glazed stoneware drain pipe, about half of a very hard grey paving brick and several fragments of 19th-century red brick.

Clay Tobacco Pipes

By John Cotter

Introduction and methodology

A total of 324 pieces of clay pipe weighing 1332g were recovered from 72 contexts. These have been catalogued and recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. The catalogue records, per context, the spot-date, the quantity of stem, bowl and mouth fragments, the overall fragment count, weight, and comments on condition and any makers' marks or decoration present. The minimum number of bowls per context was also recorded. Most of the pipe bowls and some of the marks can be paralleled with those published from excavations in St Ebbe's, Oxford (Oswald 1984) and to a slightly lesser extent with those published in Oswald's simplified national typology (Oswald 1975). The St Ebbe's pipe dates have been used in preference to the more general national dating. Other bowls are identified in the catalogue according to a series of codes based on Atkinson and Oswald's (1969) London pipes typology with bowl types assigned to an abbreviated code (eg. AO22).

Summary of the assemblage

In total there are 66 pieces of pipe bowl from a minimum of 56 bowls, 253 stem fragments and five mouth-pieces. Five pieces have makers' marks. A summary of the pipe bowl assemblage is shown below in Table 1. The pipes are in a mixed condition. While there is a high proportion of complete or nearly complete bowls, these are likely to have survived so well because of their small size and robust manufacture - factors linked, in turn, to their predominantly early date. Very few bowls have more than a centimetre or two of stem still attached and the majority of stem fragments are also quite short and several display abrasion. The longest surviving piece of stem is 120mm but most are much shorter than this. In contrast many bowls are quite fresh but the very fragmentary condition of the stems suggests a high degree of redeposition. Few if any pipes therefore are likely to be from primary contexts. The nature of the contexts also confirms this: most pieces are from make-up layers and a few surfaces while the remaining 62 pieces (19%) are from grave fills. Layer (829) produced the largest assemblage of pipes (39 pieces/130g, including seven bowls); most other contexts produced just a few pieces each. Despite the fairly obvious evidence for residuality/redeposition the assemblage is remarkably consistent in date with nearly all bowls datable to the period c 1630-1660. The stems too are of 17th-century appearance. This agrees very well with the historical date of 1656-1666 for the construction of the Old Cloisters - an

event which sealed the layers of make-up from which the majority of pipes are derived. A couple of bowls are probably earlier than this, while only two bowls are as late as *c* 1750-1790 (grave fill 529). Burials in the Old Cloisters date from *c* 1669-1754 and this may explain the intrusion of the two latest bowls. Graves, most likely, would have been rapidly backfilled with soil containing material from the 17th-century layers into which they were cut, thus leaving little opportunity for contemporary material to find its way in. Evidently the cloister floor slabs and grave markers prevented the deposition of any material later than *c* 1754.

Bowl Type	Date	No. Bowls
London: AO3	1580-1610	1
Oxford: A (large circular/oval heel)	1630-1655	39
London: AO9 (stubby spur)	1640-1660	11
Oxford: D	1750-1790	2
Fragmentary heel-type	Early-mid 17C	3
Total Bowls		56

Table 1. Number of pipe bowls by type and date

Makers' marks (Fig. 29)

Only five pieces have makers' marks: three on the heel and two on the stem. None of the marks can be positively identified although parallels are known for some. They are described below by type and context:

Context (539): Large incuse 'H' stamped on the oval heel of a worn but complete Oxford Type A-related bowl. This is exactly the same as an example from St Ebbe's, Oxford, which Atkinson dates *c* 1630-1650 (1984, fig. 51.2). He lists other similar marks from London, Salisbury, Winchester and Poole (for Poole see Oswald 1975, fig. 16.2).

Context (754): Bowl back fragment, possibly Type A (*c* 1630-1655) with 40mm of stem attached with a good burnish. Surviving (lower left) part of a circular heel with a trace of a deep stamp - possibly the rays of a fiery star or sunburst? Maker unknown. This was a fairly common motif on pipes of the first half of the 17th century.

Context (784) (Fig. 29 upper): Broken bowl profile missing rim tip, burnished. Very similar to Type A (c 1630-1655) but bowl more forward-leaning (as Oswald 1984, fig. 51.6). On circular heel fairly crude relief 'TI' in sunken circle with a border of spaced pellets in relief. Mark diam c 6mm. No pipemaker with these initials known in the list of Oxfordshire makers (Oswald 1984, 261-2). Possibly non-local? Unrelated to 'IT' marked stems below.

Contexts (783) and (833) (Fig. 29 lower): Identical mark occurring on the upper side of two separate stem fragments. Both stems with good quality burnish and fine clay. The stem from (783) has a stubby spur fragment at one end similar to a London-style AO9 bowl (c 1640-1660) while that from (833) also has a trace of a possible spur. The latter stem is associated with two AO9 bowls. Small circular mark (diam 6.5mm) lightly but clearly impressed, set back c 20mm from bowl area. Finely executed details. Relief 'IT' with small fleur de lys fillers above and below and two small adjoined full stops/pellets in centre. The mark has not been paralleled locally but stem marking is characteristic of local and West Country pipes - but not exclusively. A possible contender is the Oxford maker John Tayler/Taylor (active c 1640-1684) who also used a circular stem mark on stubby spurred pipes from his early and later career (AO9 and AO15) but with his name spelled in full (Cotter 2014, fig. 11; Oswald 1975, Pl. 5.D). It seems unlikely however that Tayler would have had two styles of stem mark running concurrently in the earlier part of his career. Another local contender is John Thorneton of Abingdon (also died 1684; Oswald 1984, 261) but no mark can definitely be attributed to him. A heeled bowl of Oxford Type A (c 1630-1655) from recent excavations at Oriel College, Oxford, also has a large simple incuse 'IT' on the heel, and might be by Thorneton, or perhaps another unknown local maker of this period (Site code OXOCK 15 (9)).

Other pieces of interest

Early pipes: Heeled bowl of London-type AO3 (c 1580-1610) but slightly bigger than normal; associated with bowls of c 1630-1655. A fragmentary bowl from (500) has a burnished stem with a teardrop-shaped heel - possibly a local Type A/ London AO5 hybrid (c 1610-40), or possibly another Type 3 (c 1580-1610)?

Contexts (727): Complete local Type A bowl. This has a small perforation at the front where the stem-wire was pushed too far in and accidentally pierced the bowl wall. It appears to have been roughly smoothed-over, but unsuccessfully, nevertheless it appears to have been smoked.

Context (833): Short stem fragment (see above). This has red-brown streaks along the stem which probably represent deliberate decoration applied during the burnishing process. Other stems with this feature have been noted from previous Oxford excavations - notably the 2006 Ashmolean Museum extension site (OXASHE 06).

Contexts (628) and (829): 17th-century stems with traces of milled decoration in a spiral around the stem.

Jetons*By Ian Scott*

Three jetons were recovered from the excavations at Brasenose College Cloister. The assemblage has been catalogued and is recorded in Table 1.

Context	SF No.	Comments	Date	Diameter (mm)
758	1	French jeton. Quartered for France and the Dauphiné. Quartered field, 1st and 3rd quarters: 3 fleur de lys; 2nd and 4th: dolphins bowing, inscription Lombardic lettering 'CETTES.ENTENDES.AV. COMPTES' // Field of fleur de lys, inscription Lombardic lettering 'GARDES.VOVS.DE. MESCOMPTE'.	c. 1500-1525	29mm
791	3	Nuremburg jeton of Hans Krauwinckel II. Late 16th or early 17th century. 'Rose and orb' jeton. Reichsapfel, inscription: 'HANNS KRAUVWINCKEL IN NVRMB' // Rosette surrounded by three crowns and three lys, inscription: 'DAS WORT GOTES BLEIB EWICK' (The word of God remains eternal). D:	Late 16 th to early 17 th century	25mm x 26mm.
804	2	Nuremburg jeton of Hans Krauwinckel II 'Rose and orb' jeton. Reichsapfel, inscription: 'HANNS. KRAUVWINCKEL : IN . NVR' // Rosette surrounded by three crowns and three lys, inscription: 'GOTT ALLEIN EERE SEI' (To God alone the glory).	Late 16 th to early 17 th century	25mm x 26mm.

Provenance

All three of the jetons are from phased contexts. A French jeton (Sf 1) (Mernick and Algar 2008) is from a layer of garden soil, early in the sequence (Phase 1) dated by pottery to 1580-1650. This suggests that the jeton is redeposited along with a small assemblage of late medieval pottery sherds from these layers, attesting to activity of late medieval date on the site. Another jeton (Sf 3), was recovered from these early garden layers, and this Nuremberg 'Rose and Orb' type (*ibid.*) was broadly contemporary with the period occupation and use of

the site as represented by the pottery dates. Another similar Nuremberg 'Rose and Orb' type jeton (Sf 2) was recovered from an occupation layer directly above a floor surface, dated to Phase 3 (1600-1630).

Discussion

Jetons came into wide use in Europe in the 14th century and were used as tokens or reckoning counters by merchants and officials (Van Beek 1986). Most of the jetons found on Oxford sites were made in France (14th - 15th century) or Germany (Nuremberg) in the 16th and 17th centuries. They are almost always made of copper alloy, with rare silver examples sometimes found. Decorations included religious and heraldic symbols, the name of the maker, and sayings and warnings related to their use. Those found at Brasenose College were of two types, the French with Fleur de Lys and bowing dolphins, and the two Nuremberg jetons were both of Rose and Orb type with three crowns and three rosettes with inscriptions

Glass

By Ian Scott

Introduction

The glass has been fully recorded onto an MS Access database. The assemblage is relatively small, totalling 305 pieces of glass, including 178 pieces of window glass (58.4% of the assemblage by number) and 119 pieces of vessel glass (39% by number).

Composition of the glass assemblage

The vessel glass includes 29 sherds from wine bottles. These include eight sherds from cylindrical bottles of late 18th or 19th century date, 16 sherds from thick-walled bottles of early 18th century date and five sherds probably from late 17th century 'globe and shaft' bottles. The remaining vessel glass includes 48 mainly late medieval and early post medieval vessel sherds, and 42 sherds, mainly small, that cannot be identified to form or date.

The earliest vessel glass includes six urinal bases (Cat. Nos 19-24) all de-vitrified and probably medieval in date. Two examples (Cat. Nos 19-20) come from fill of graves 510 and 625 respectively. The other examples come from layers or deposits. The urinal fragment from layer 700 (Cat No. 21; Fig. 31, 21)) was re-deposited in a layer sealing graves and sealed by the flag floor of the cloister (702) and its bedding layer. The other fragments (Cat. Nos 22-24) were from layers and deposits that seem to be early in the archaeological sequence.

The early post-medieval glass includes a body sherd from a cylindrical beaker with thin cut horizontal trails (context 791, Cat. No. 1, Fig. 30, 1), dated to the 16th or 17th century, and a small body sherd from a beaker with optic blown trellis pattern, probably early 17th century in date (Cat. No. 2). There are also fragments of pedestal vessels (Cat. Nos 3-5) of 16th or early 17th century date. There is a small ribbed optic blown ball knob from a stemmed glass of the 16th- or early 17th century (Cat. No. 6; Fig. 30, 6)), and a fragment from an optic blown lion mask baluster of Venetian type (Cat. No. 7; Fig. 30, 7). There is a part of the neck and rim of a narrow-necked flask with wrythen ribs dating to the mid-16th or early 17th century, but possibly of earlier date (Cat. No. 8; Fig. 30, 8). There are also small body sherds and rim sherds from a number flasks or bottles (Cat. No. 9-15). There is a part of a case bottle (Cat. No. 16) and some very thin walled sherds from a possible flask with a near-horizontal rim (Cat. No. 17, Fig. 30, 17).

The window glass comprises mostly plain glass of post-medieval date, but there were two pieces of window with painted decoration (Cat. Nos 25-26). There also three refitting sherds forming an incomplete irregular polygon, with evidence for grozing and leading.

Provenance

The glass (222 pieces) came from layers and grave fills. These comprise 94 pieces of vessel glass, 123 pieces of window glass, two pieces of uncertain identity, and three very small annular black glass beads, the latter from charcoal (context 855) found between cobbles.

Glass was recovered from 19 graves, but only totalled 55 pieces. Fifteen graves produced 20 pieces of vessel glass, although except for Grave 550 no grave produced more than one or two sherds. Seven pieces of vessel glass were from wine bottles mainly of early 18th-century date. Six graves produced 31 pieces of window glass, but 21 sherds of these were from grave 530. Included amongst the glass from grave fills are fragments of 18th century wine bottles.

Other than graves only three features produced glass. Pit 612 produced a single piece of window glass, and cut 777, possibly a foundation cut, produced one piece of window glass and a small piece that may be window or vessel glass. Fill 600 of drain 599 produced two pieces of vessel glass and 20 pieces of window glass.

Catalogue of selected glass (Fig. 30)

Drinking vessels

- 1 **Beaker.** Body sherd from a (cylindrical) beaker with thin cut horizontal trails. Colourless glass. Façon de Venise. OXBZ 14 Layer 791.
From a beaker of 16th- to 17th-century date (Willmott 2002, 14, fig. 14). Beakers such as this could be made in Britain, see for example sherds from production site at Rosedale, North Yorkshire (Charleston 1972, 132, nos 18-22 & fig .60) or imported from the Germany or the Low Countries.
- 2 **Beaker.** (*not illustrated*) Small body sherd decorated with optic blown diamond trellice or facets. Colourless with a hint of green. OXBZ 14, Occupation layer 829
Beaker with optic blown diamond facets. Probably early 17th century (Willmott 2002, 38-9, fig. 9; cf. Haslam 1983, 109, fig. 73, no. 702; Willmott 2011, 194, fig. 5.38, no. 52).
- 3 **Pedestal vessel.** (*not illustrated*) Fragment of tubular foot ring possibly from a pedestal beaker. Glass colour uncertain because of opaque surface weathering. D of foot ring: c 70mm. OXBZ 14 Layer 855, charcoal between pebbles. Soil sample <4>
Pedestal beaker probably plain and dating to 16th or early 17th century (Willmott 2002, 46, fig. 28b)

- 4 **Pedestal vessel.** (*not illustrated*) Fragment of tubular foot ring probably from pedestal beaker. Possibly colourless glass, but surface weathering precludes certainty. D of foot ring: c 75-80mm OXBZ 14 Occupation layer 751
Possibly similar vessel to the preceding example
- 5 **Pedestal goblet.** (*not illustrated*) Two non-refitting sherds. One sherd from pushup of a vessel within pedestal base of goblet. The second small body sherd maybe from the undecorated body of same vessel. Both sherds probably colourless but with heavy iridescent weathering. Post-medieval vessel. OXBZ 14 Occupation layer 751.
Compare catalogue No. 4.
- 6 **Stemmed glass.** Lower part of stem with a small ribbed optic blown ball knop. The stem is joined to the knop and to foot by a merese. The foot is largely missing. Colourless glass. Ht extant: 36mm. OXBZ 14 Context 485 ??
In the absence of bowl and foot it is difficult to date this vessel more closely than the 16th or 17th century.
- 7 **Lion mask baluster.** Upper portion of an optic blown lion mask baluster. Venetian or façon de Venise. Pale yellow glass. D: 27mm. OXBZ 14 Make-up layer 570.
This fragment is from the top of an optic blown lion mask baluster. Mid 16th to mid-17th century (Willmott 2002, 63-4, fig. 64 & 67; see also Willmott 2000).

Flasks

- 8 **Narrow-necked flask** with wrythen optic blown ribs. Sherd from neck and horizontal rim of a narrow necked flask. Pale green glass. Ht extant: 51mm. OXBZ 14 Fill 721 of grave 722
There is a flask very similar in form dated mid-16th to mid-17th century from Nonsuch Palace (Charleston 2005, 251, fig. 118, no. 81; see also Haslam 1993, 99, fig. 66, no. 620; cf. Willmott 2002, 80, no. 20.3, fig. 98). Flasks with similar ribbing and dated to the 14th century are known from Exeter (Charleston 1984, 258, 265, fig.146, nos 14-15; see generally Tyson 2000, 158-60, fig. 33, g593).
- 9 **Oval flask with wrythen optic blown ribs** (*not illustrated*). Two non-refitting sherds from neck/shoulder junction of a small flask, or flasks, with wrythen ribbing on body and a plain neck. Possibly pale green glass, but opaque surface weathering precludes certainty. OXBZ 14 Layer 839
See Cat. Nos 10 and 11 also from context 839 for sherds from similar flasks. There is another small sherd with wrythen ribs probably from a similar flask from context 834. Oval flasks with wrythen ribs are a 16th-century form and they are generally quite small (Willmot, 2002, 82, no. 21.2, fig. 102; see also Haslam 1993).
- 10 **Oval flask with wrythen optic blown ribs.** (*not illustrated*) Two small non-refitting sherds from the neck shoulder junction of a flask or flasks. The optic wrythen blown ribs on the body of the flask(s) are clearly visible. Surface weathering and some devitrification evident. Very pale green glass. OXBZ 14 Layer 839 sample <2>
Similar to Cat. No. 9. Possibly from same vessel as Cat. No. 11.
- 11 **Oval flask with wrythen optic blown ribs.** (*not illustrated*) Body sherd from a flask with optic blown ribs. Very pale green glass. See ID 157, also context 839. Cf ID 152,

context 834 for similar vessel. OXBZ 14 Layer 839 sample <2>
Possibly from same vessel as Cat. No. 10.

- 12 **Flask or bottle.** (*not illustrated*) Everted fire polished rim above a tapering neck or body. Pale green glass. Ht extant: 28mm. OXBZ 14 Debris layer 700
Flask or bottle, probably of 16th- or 17th-century date.
- 13 **Flask or bottle.** (*not illustrated*) Everted fire polished rim above a short vertical neck. Pale green glass. Iridescent weathering. Ht extant: 28mm. OXBZ 14 Fill 709 of grave 710.
Similar to Cat. No. 12.
- 14 **Flask or pharmaceutical vessel.** (*not illustrated*) Short tapered neck with everted fire polished rim from a flask with near horizontal shoulders. Heavy iridescent weathering. Glass near colourless or very pale green? Ht extant: 40mm. OXBZ 14 Surface 750
Neck and finish from a small flask or pharmaceutical bottle. Probably of 16th- or 17th-century date.
- 15 **Flask or bottle.** (*not illustrated*) Eleven sherds. One sherd comprises short neck with everted rim, which has a tooled finish, in green glass; nine small body sherds in same glass; and one sherd from base with low domed kick in same colour glass. OXBZ 14 Layer 811
Probably 17th- or 18th-century date.
- 16 **Case bottle.** (*not illustrated*) Base of optic blown octagonal case bottle in pale green glass with pontil mark and slight kick. Extant base 60mm x 56mm. OXBZ 14 Fill 734 of grave 733
Late 16th to first of the 17th-century (Willmott 2002, 87-8, fig.113; cf. Haslam 1984, 237, fig. 42, 4-5).
- 17 **Probable flask.** Three very thin-walled sherds. Two refitting, from near horizontal rim with thickened fire polished edge. The glass is very thin. The small diameter of the rim suggests that it is from a flask rather than a dish or plate. Colourless glass with iridescent weathering. D: 80mm. OXBZ 14 Layer 844
Thin-walled vessel with horizontal rim. Cat. No. 18 may be part of the same vessel.
- 18 **Possible flask.** (*not illustrated*) Neck sherd from vessel with very thin walls. Colourless glass. OXBZ 14 Layer 844, sample <1>
[ID180 GL 01]
Possibly the same vessel as Cat. No. 17 also context 844

Urinals

A number of bases from urinals or possibly lamps were recovered. All were either devitrified or heavily weathered and probably late medieval or early post-medieval in date (Tyson 2000, 149-56, figs 29-310; Willmott 2002, 103-04, fig. 145). Cat. Nos 19 and 20 are clearly residual in later graves, as is the example from layer 700 which overlies the latest graves and is sealed beneath the flagstone floor (702) and its bedding.

- 19 **Urinal.** (*not illustrated*) Round base of a urinal. Partially de-vitrified with opaque weathering. Colour of glass uncertain. OXBZ 14 Fill 511 of grave 510

- 20 **Urinal.** (*not illustrated*) Round base of urinal with pontil mark. Pale green glass partly de-vitrified with opaque weathering. OXBZ 14 Fill 626 of grave 625 [ID46 GL 01]
- 21 **Urinal.** Round base of urinal with pontil mark. Appears to be made of very pale green glass partly de-vitrified with opaque iridescent weathering. OXBZ 14 Debris layer 700 [ID55 GL 01]
- 22 **Urinal.** (*not illustrated*) Round base of urinal with pontil mark. Partly de-vitrified the colour of glass unclear because of opaque weathering. OXBZ 14 occupation layer 751 [ID81 GL 01]
- 23 **Urinal.** (*not illustrated*) Small sherd from base of a probable urinal, partly de-vitrified. OXBZ 14 Layer 793 sample <3> [ID168 GL 01]
- 24 **Urinal.** (*not illustrated*) Sherd comprising round base of urinal with pontil mark. Partially de-vitrified with opaque weathering. OXBZ 14 Layer 844 [ID161 GL 01]

Window glass

The plain window glass is probably of post-medieval date. There are just two pieces of painted glass.

- 25 **Painted window glass.** (*not illustrated*) Sherd with red-brown paint. Pale green glass. 59mm x 40mm. OXBZ 14 Surface/cobbles 779
- 26 **Painted window glass.** (*not illustrated*) Sherd with decoration in red-brown paint. Opaque weathering. Glass colour uncertain. OXBZ 14 Layer 793
- 27 **Window glass.** (*not illustrated*) Three refitting sherds forming part of an incomplete irregular polygon. Three edges showing signs of leading/glazing. There is one grozed edge. Green glass. 58mm x 56mm. OXBZ 14 Debris layer 700
- 28 **Part-melted strip of glass** (*not illustrated*) Strip with longitudinal fold or thickening. Possibly offcut or waste window glass. Pale green with iridescent weathering. L: 82mm; W: 33mm. OXBZ 14 Fill 551 of grave 550. [ID33 GL 01]
- 29 **Small decorated sherd.** (*not illustrated*) Sherd with possible optic blown (or cut) decoration on one face. Possibly vessel glass but too small for identification of form or function. OXBZ 14 Surface 750. [ID69 GL 01]
- 30 **Beads.** (*not illustrated*) Three tiny annular beads in black glass. L: 1.2mm - 1.3mm; D: 2.3mm - 2.5mm. OXBZ 14 Layer 855, charcoal between pebbles. Soil sample <4> [ID181 GL 01]

APPENDIX C. ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bones

By Lena Strid

Introduction

The animal bone assemblage comprised 2839 fragments from layers and features dated to the late 16th – late 17th centuries. A total of 2636 fragments (92.8%) came from sieved soil samples. These were particularly rich in small bones from birds and rabbits. A full record of the assemblage, documented in a Microsoft Access database, can be found in the site archive.

Methodology

The bones were identified at Oxford Archaeology using a comparative skeletal reference collection, in addition to standard osteological identification manuals. All animal remains were counted and weighed, and were possible identified to species, element, side and zone. For zoning, Serjeantson (1996) and the mandible zoning system by Worley (Strid 2012) were used. Sheep and goat were identified to species where possible, using Boessneck *et al.* (1964) and Prummel and Frisch (1986). They were otherwise classified as 'sheep/goat'. Long bone fragments, ribs and vertebrae, with the exception for atlas and axis, were classified by size: 'large mammal' representing cattle, horse and deer, 'medium mammal' representing sheep/goat, pig and large dog, 'small mammal' representing small dog, cat and rabbit, and 'microfauna' representing animals such as frog, rat and mice.

The general condition of the bones was graded on a 6-point system: Grade 0 equating to very well preserved bone, and grade 5 indicating that the bone had suffered such structural and attritional damage as to make it unrecognisable (Table 1).

For ageing, Habermehl's (1975) data on epiphyseal fusion and tooth eruption were used. Sexable elements, i.e. sheep/goat pelves, pig canine teeth, spurs on fowl tarsometatarsi and presence of medullary bone in bird bones were recorded using data from Boessneck *et al.* (1964) and Schmid (1972). Measurements were taken according to von den Driesch (1976), using digital callipers with an accuracy of 0.01mm.

Overview of assemblage

The bone condition was generally good, with only five bones classified as “poor” or “very poor”. A total of seven bones had been gnawed by carnivores, probably dogs. Traces of burning, ranging from partially charred to calcination, were found on 75 bones.

Of the 2839 bones included in the analysis, 279 (9.8%) could be determined to taxon (Table 2). The identified animals included cattle, sheep/goat, pig, rabbit, domestic fowl, goose, duck, ?pheasant and mouse. A small number of bones from passerines (perching birds) were also found.

The assemblage is dominated by bones from rabbit, sheep and bird. Most of the indeterminate bird bones are fowl-sized and they probably come from fowl, as this is the most common bird in medieval and post-medieval Oxford assemblages (cf. Poole 2009; Rielly 2015; Strid 2010; Strid 2014a; Strid 2014b; Strid forthcoming a; Strid forthcoming b; Wilson 1984; Wilson 2003; Wilson and Bramwell 1980; Wilson and Locker 2003; Worley and Evans 2006). Due to the high proportion of bones from sieved samples, the species abundance from Brasenose Old Cloisters is very different from those found in other early post-medieval Oxford assemblages. The urban assemblages are dominated by bones from cattle and sheep/goat. Pig and domestic fowl are relatively common whereas rabbit and game are scarce (Poole 2009; Rielly 2015; Strid 2014a; Strid forthcoming a; Wilson and Bramwell 1980; Wilson 1984). Late medieval/early post-medieval college assemblages are somewhat different: while cattle and sheep/goat are still the most numerous animals, there is an abundance of bones from fowl and rabbit (Charles 2002; Ingrem 2002; Strid 2010; Worley and Evans 2006). Bursary records from Merton College from 1488-1489 show that rabbit was served seasonally late September to early January, mostly on Sundays and feast days (Fletcher and Upton 1996), suggesting that they were relatively expensive. Fowl was likewise mainly served on the occasional Sunday (Fletcher and Upton 1996). It's uncertain whether fowl were expensive *per se*, but if they were primarily kept for eggs and feathers, fewer birds would have been available for slaughter than if they were raised for meat.

The species representation suggests that the faunal remains from Brasenose Old Cloisters represent food waste from the college kitchens, probably used for floor levelling prior to construction of the new building. The skeletal element representation (Table 3) indicates that rabbits and birds were brought whole to the kitchens whereas sheep would mostly have

arrived as dressed carcasses or as selected cuts. The absence of mandibles and skulls from any bird in the assemblage suggests that beheading was the normal slaughter method for birds.

Ageing data are limited, but suggest that most sheep/goats and domestic fowl were killed as sub-adults or adults, whereas almost a third of the ageable rabbit bones came from skeletally immature animals (Table 4). Juvenile livestock is represented by one calf skull fragment and one large mammal vertebra.

Butchery marks were observed on bones from pig, sheep/goat, fowl, indeterminate bird, large and medium mammal. They mostly derive from dismemberment and portioning of the carcass, including removal of feet on birds, axial division of livestock carcasses, severing the hind leg of sheep/goat and then further disarticulating this joint by chopping off the meat-poor lower leg bones and severing the femur from the hip joint. A fragment from a pig skull had chop marks suggesting that head had been chopped off. Filleting is indicated by cut marks on a bird furcula (wishbone), one radius and two humeri from sheep/goat. The absence of butchery marks on rabbit bones is not unusual; only a single cut mark on a rabbit femur was noted from Merton College and none from Lincoln College or Queen's College (Ingrem 2002; Strid 2010; Worley and Evans 2006). Perhaps the small rabbit bones splintered on impact from the cleaver and thus rendered any evidence of butchery invisible?

Pathological bones were very rare, only comprising one large mammal rib and one medium mammal rib that displayed evidence of healed fractures. Rib fractures on livestock are not unusual, although it is not possible to ascertain whether they derived from animal interaction, accidents or from abuse by humans.

Grade 0	Excellent preservation. Entire bone surface complete.
Grade 1	Good preservation. Almost all bone surface complete.
Grade 2	Fair preservation
Grade 3	Poor preservation. Most bone surface destroyed.
Grade 4	Very poor preservation. No surface structure remaining.
Grade 5	Extremely poor preservation. Unlikely to be able to identify element.

Table 1: Bone preservation grading methodology

	Total fragments
Cattle	7
Sheep/goat	71
Sheep	1
Pig	13
Rabbit	163
Domestic fowl	14
Goose	4
Duck	4
?Pheasant	1
Passerine	7
Indet. bird	115
Mouse sp.	1
Micromammal	3
Small mammal	2
Medium mammal	335
Large mammal	65
Indeterminate	2033
TOTAL	2839
Total weight (g)	1680

Table 2: Number of identified fragments per species.

	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Sheep	Pig	Rabbit	Domestic fowl	Goose	Duck	?Pheasant	Passerine	Indet. Bird	Mouse	Micro-mammal	Small mammal	Medium mammal	Large mammal	Indeterminate
Skull	1			1	3												
Mandible					2							1					
Loose teeth	4	2		11	18								1				
Hyoid		1															
Atlas					1												
Axis		1															
Vertebra					27						11		1		171	14	
Neck cartilage											1						
Rib					27						23			1	107	41	
Sternum						3									2	1	
Sacrum															1		
Furcula						1					2						
Coracoid						1	1	1	1		4						
Scapula		4			7	1	1										
Humerus		4			2												
Radius		8			3	2	1										
Ulna		5			2						3		1				
Carpals		4			1						2						
Metacarpal					3												
Carpometacarpus						1		1			1						
Pelvis		12			9						3				4		
Femur		8			6	1					1						
Patella		3															
Tibia		5			6												
Tibiotarsus						3	1	2			2						
Fibula				1							1						
Calcaneus		1			4										1		

Astragalus		4			2												
Tarsals		7			3												
Metatarsal		1			8												
Tarsometatarsus						1					3						
Metapodial	1	2			7												
Phalanx 1					7						15						
Phalanx 2					4						3						
Phalanx 3					9						17						
Long bone					2						28			1	47	5	42
Indeterminate											1					4	199
TOTAL	7	71	1	13	163	14	4	4	1	7	115	1		2	335	65	2033
Weight (g)																	

Table 3: Identifiable bones per species.

		Unfused	Fusing	Fused
Sheep/goat	Early fusion	0	0	9
	Mid fusion	2	0	2
	Late fusion	8	0	8
Rabbit		14	0	33
Domestic fowl		1	0	8
Duck		1	0	2
Goose		0	0	1
Indet.bird		13	0	13

Table 4: Epiphyseal fusion of sheep/goat, following Habermehl (1975) and Serjeantson (1996). Rabbit, fowl, duck, goose and indeterminate bird bones are noted per taxon. For birds, “unfused” indicates a porous surface at the end of the bone.

Fish Bones

By Rebecca Nicholson

A small collection of fish remains, weighing 35g, was largely recovered from the >2mm residues of three 40 litre soil samples (samples <1>, <2> and <3>) taken from garden soil layers 793, 839 and 844. The flots from these samples also contain fish bones and scales. A few bones were also recovered from sample <4> (855) and <5> (872) and by hand collection on site. Given limited resources, the assemblages have been scanned rather than fully recorded and fish remains have not been extracted from the flots.

The fish remains from the garden soils, all dated to Phase 1, c 1580-1600, are in good condition and include scale and otolith fragments as well as bones. As is frequently the case, most bones are vertebrae from small and medium-sized fish (ie fish of <40cm long). These include cyprinids (Cyprinidae), eel (*Anguilla anguilla*), herring (*Clupea harengus*), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*), right eyed flatfish (Pleuronectidae, probably plaice, flounder or dab), and less frequently perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), pike (*Esox lucius*), gurnard(s) (Triglidae) and indeterminate small gadid(s) (Gadidae). Bones from larger fish include a precaudal vertebra from turbot or brill (Scophthalmidae) of c. 40-45cm, fragments of pharyngeal bone from large cyprinid and several fragments from large gadid vertebrae. A cyprinid dentary from trample deposit 754 is from a chub (*Leuciscus cephalus*) of over 40cm long, and the larger pharyngeal fragments may also be from this species. An incomplete cleithrum from Phase 1 occupation deposit 755 is from a large eel.

Generally, the range of fish in these samples is similar to those identified in medieval and late medieval deposits associated with other Oxford Colleges, notably Queen's College, Merton College and New College (Nicholson 2006; 2010; 2016) and indicates that a variety of freshwater and seafish were regularly eaten.

Charcoal

By Sheila Boardman

Introduction

Five bulk soil samples were submitted for assessment, together with hand-collected charcoal from nine contexts. Four bulk samples from phased contexts were assessed for plant remains and other material types. Details of the samples, features and phases, with the assessment results can be found in Table 1. Wood charcoal remains from two bulk samples were fully analysed, and two further samples were assessed. The hand-collected charcoal was rapidly identified to see whether additional taxa or any worked wood fragments were present.

Methods

The soil samples were processed using a modified Siraf-type machine. Flots were collected on 250µm meshes and the residues, on a 500µm mesh. All fractions were dried slowly prior to assessment and sorting. The flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x10-20 magnifications, and the quantities of wood charcoal, animal bones, fish scales, land snails, artefacts and other remains, were recorded. Fractions of sample residues were scanned by eye and any ecofactual or artefactual remains were also noted. Based on the assessment results, the wood charcoal remains from four samples were assessed and two samples (3 and 4) were examined in detail.

For the charcoal analyses: individual fragments were extracted from the greater than 2mm flot fractions and fractured by hand. The fragments were sorted into groups based on features observed in the transverse sections, at magnifications of x10-40. Individual fragments were then fractured along their radial and tangential planes, and examined at magnifications of up to x400, using a Brunel SP400 metallurgical microscope with brightfield/darkfield illumination. Identifications were made using keys in Hather (2000), Gale and Cutler (2000) and Schweingruber (1990), and by comparison with modern slide reference material. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010).

Results

Table 1 summarises the results from the bulk sample assessments. No plant remains other than the wood charcoal fragments were present. Estimates of charcoal fragments are for the potentially identifiable (i.e. greater than 2mm) fragments. Charcoal identifications are listed in Table 2 (for the bulk samples) and Table 3 (the hand-collected charcoal). The charcoal

remains from the bulk samples are also summarised in Figures 1 and 2. Non-plant remains (see Table 1) included mammal bones (mostly unidentifiable fragments), a few fish bones (largely vertebrae), moderate quantities of fish scales, occasional land snails, and very occasional marine shell and eggshell fragments. There were also a few glass fragments. Only wood charcoal fragments were extracted from the samples, and discussions below are confined to this material type.

Discussion

A consistent range of tree and shrub taxa was apparently present in the bulk samples, including beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), oak (*Quercus*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*), Pomoideae (hawthorn group), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). As well as hawthorn (*Crataegus*) species, Pomoideae charcoal may include apple (*Malus*), pear (*Pyrus*) and rowan/ whitebeam/service (*Sorbus*) species. Single fragments of blackthorn/cherry (*Prunus*) and birch (*Betula*) were also present in single samples (4 & 3). Beech charcoal dominated three of the four samples investigated (samples 1, 3 & 4), and co-dominated with oak in the fourth (sample 2). Oak was the second most common taxon overall and there were only small to moderate quantities of fragments from the other taxa.

The results of work on the wood charcoal from a number of sites in Medieval Oxford, including those at Merton College (Druce 2006) and Queen's College (Challinor 2010), point to a transition from oak to beech as the primary domestic fuel, by the late 15th to early 16th centuries. Beech wood in this period seems to be predominantly from larger roundwood, with 15-20+ growth rings (Challinor 2002, 2010). At Lincoln College, beech dominated samples (with both timber and roundwood) came from deposits dating from the 13th century onwards (Boardman unpublished/in press b). Meanwhile, at Pembroke College/Brewer Street, in an industrial part of medieval Oxford, samples examined from 11th to early 16th century deposits, were mostly oak dominated, suggesting this wood continued to play an important role in industrial processes (Boardman unpublished/in press a), as is seen elsewhere in Britain (Gale 2003).

The range of charcoal taxa in the hand-collected charcoal samples was very similar to that from the bulk samples, although willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*) were absent from the former. One hand-collected sample (from context 758) had

a single fragment of alder/hazel (*Alnus/Corylus*), which may represent an additional taxon (alder).

Sample No	1	2	3	4
Context No	844	839	793	855
Phase	1a	1a	1a	2a
Phase/Date	AD 1580-1650	AD 1580-1650	AD 1580-1650	AD 1600-1630
Feature Type	Garden soil/ dump	Garden soil/ dump	Garden soil/ dump	Cobbled surface/ debris
Mesh size (mm)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Wood charcoal (>2 mm frags)	250+	250+	0	0
Charred plant remains	0	0	0	0
Mineralised plant remains	0	0	0	0
Mammal bone (>2 mm frags)	150	120	80	c 100
Fish bones/frags (mostly vertebrae)	10+	0	20	0
Fish scale (frags)	20+	80+	c 80	3F
Land snails	15+	<5	5	0
Marine Shell	0	0	5F	0
Eggshell (>2 mm frags).		1-2	0	0
Glass Frags.	5+	2-3	2-3	1

Table 1: Sample assessments

Sample No.		3	1	2	4
Context No.		793	844	839	855
Phase		1a	1a	1a	1a
Period		AD 1580-1630	AD 1580-1630	AD 1580-1630	AD 1600-1630
Description		Garden soil/dump	Garden soil/dump	Garden soil/dump	Cobbled surface/debris
Rosaceae					
<i>Prunus</i>	Blackthorn/cherry	0	0	0	1r
Pomoideae (*)	Hawthorn group	1	2r	1	3r
cf.Pomoideae	cf. hawthorn group	1	0	0	1r
Fagaceae					
<i>Fagus Sylvatica</i>	beech	54r	18r	11r	82r
<i>Quercus</i>	oak	23hsr	3h	11hs	3s
Betulaceae					
<i>Betula</i>	birch	1r	0	0	0
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	hazel	2r	1	0	4r
Salicaceae					
<i>Salix/Populus</i>	Willow/poplar	7	0	1	2
Sapindaceae					
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field maple	3r	1r	0	1

Oleaceae					
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	ash	9r	0	1	3r
Total fragments		101	25	25	100
KEY: h – heartwood; s – sapwood; r – roundwood. *Pomoideae inc. Pyrus (pear), Malus (apple), Crataegus (hawthorn) & Sorbus (rowan, service, whitebeam).					

Table 2: Bulk samples for charcoal

Context No.	Context/Feature type	Phase	Date	Material present	Total frags.
660	Layer	1a	AD 1580- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> (beech) – timber frag.	1
700	Debris	3	1655+	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> – roundwood (RW) frag.	1
751	Occupation Layer	1b	AD 1580- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> – timber frag.	1
755	Occupation Layer	1b	AD 1580- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> – timber frag.	1
758	Garden soil Layer	1a	AD 1580- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> (beech) – roundwood (RW) & timber x 7 frags; <i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel) RW x 1 frag; <i>Alnus/Corylus</i> (alder/hazel) RW x 1 frag; <i>Betula</i> (birch) timber & RW x 7 frags; Pomodideae (hawthorn group) RW x 4 frags.	20
763	Fill of construction cut	3	1655+	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> – large RW frag.	1
768	Fill	3	1655+	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> – frag.	1

779	Layer	2a	AD 1600- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> timber & RW – 9 frags.	9
797	Occupation debris	2a	AD 1600- 1630	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> - RW & timber x 9 frags; <i>Quercus</i> (oak) RW/sapwood x 2 frags; <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (ash) timber & RW x 2 frags; <i>Betula</i> x 1 frag; Pomoideae RW x 1 frag.	15

Table 3: Hand-collected charcoal

Marine Shell

By Rebecca Nicholson

Introduction and Methodology

A total of 2871 fragments of marine shell weighing 21.74 kg was recovered from 114 contexts, all were hand collected on site during the excavation. These have been scanned and catalogued by context (Table 1). Left and right bivalves have been quantified separately and shell condition and any evidence of infestations and encrustations by epibont organisms noted for the oyster shells from four contexts containing well preserved and largely measurable shells (700, 753, 754 and 758). For these groups, maximum length and width of left oyster valves has been measured following Winder (1992; 2011). Various descriptive characters were also recorded on a presence or absence basis for each shell (ibid.). The data will be stored as a Libre Office spreadsheet in the archive.

Summary of the assemblage

Shells occurred in a large number of excavated contexts and were abundant in a few. Apart from a single whelk *Buccinum undatum* in context (505) and a fragment of mussel shell (*Mytilus* sp.) the entire assemblage was of the native European flat oyster *Ostrea edulis*, with approximately similar numbers of left and right valves, indicating the deposition of the remains of complete shellfish rather than the remains of oysters served in the shell.

The oysters are of variable size, but mostly of the traditional rounded form for the species, with rounded or triangular hinges, some of which are angled. Very few valves have any evidence of infestation with polychaete worms or other organisms, and the shells appear to have been well cleaned, as evidence of encrusting organisms such as barnacles or sponges was also minimal. Several valves, particularly from context 754, are of oval shape with long, straight-sided hinges typical of the genus *Crassostrea*, in some cases with clear evidence for disturbed growth possibly resulting from the moving of oysters part-way through their life (see Campbell 2010). Although three valves are extremely similar to the Portuguese oyster *Crassostrea angulata*, since this oyster is a 20th century introduction in British waters it is likely that these are irregularly shaped *O. edulis*. A small number of valves exhibit the characteristic perforations left by carnivorous gastropods such as the dog whelk *Nucella lapillus* and sting winkle *Ocenebra erinacea*. Opening notches are evident on a small proportion of left and right valves, usually close to the margin opposite the hinge.

Measurements taken on the shells from ‘garden soil’ (758) suggest careful size selection (Table 2). Over 100 well preserved left valves from this deposit, which has been dated to AD 1580-1650, are fairly small and of regular shape and size while those from occupation soil (753), underlying surface/trample deposit (754) and layer (700) which overlay the burials, are more variable in size, shape and significantly larger on average than those from (758). It is not clear why the assemblages differ, but the variation suggests that the purchased shellfish perhaps were harvested from different oyster beds, those in (758) managed and the shellfish graded, as also suggested by the lack of infestations and encrustations. A small number of valves in each of the four recorded contexts are of the thin ‘frilly edged’ type typical of harbour oysters (Campbell 2010), while the largely and thicker shells with more substantial hinges are likely to have been harvested from deeper water with stronger currents (*ibid.*). Chalky deposits in around 14% of valves from (758) may be an indication that these shellfish were harvested from water of changing salinity such as may be found in shallow creeks or tidal inlets, although breeding activity can have a similar effect (Winder 2015). The oysters in the slightly later deposits may have come from native, wild beds or less well managed beds, and either purchased without pre-grading or purchased as several graded sizes and later mixed in refuse deposits.

Context	No of Objects	Weight (g)	Notes
485	3	48	

500	4	201	
501	3	25	
505	9	89	Incl 1 whelk and 1 mussel
506	3	25	
508	1	21	
511	15	152	
513	6	83	
515	2	15	
517	3	7	
519	1	10	
521	1	11	
523	11	58	
527	1	10	
529	11	101	
531	12	179	
533	3	62	
534	5	7	
535	4	51	
537	3	30	
539	4	40	
541	4	40	
543	1	24	
545	10	147	
549	1	7	
567	8	62	
568	3	8	
569	1	15	
573	1	28	

584	4	8	
592	8	48	
600	6	34	
604	21	124	
605	6	15	
613	2	19	
624	6	49	
626	1	19	
627	3	34	
632	4	33	
645	2	19	
656	12	99	
657	3	18	
660	1	7	
661	1	11	
662	7	20	
663	4	66	
664	3	17	
666	2	22	
667	4	35	
672	3	16	
673	30	285	
700	110	1017	44 left, 42 right valves
703	9	76	
709	9	79	
726	6	111	
727	8	84	
734	24	215	

736	2	38	
745	1	9	
749	2	11	
750	1	14	
751	120	687	
752	23	170	
753	127	1071	53 left, 39 right valves
Context	No of Objects	Weight (g)	Notes
754	252	2157	120 left, 110 right valves
755	343	2785	124 left, 121 right valves
756	14	55	
757	5	15	
758	550	3487	212 left, 251 right valves
759	6	27	
763	6	63	
764	10	118	
766	3	12	
771	2	19	
775	3	40	
776	7	39	
778	1	16	
779	57	308	
783	5	53	
784	1	10	
788	3	26	
789	1	13	

790	2	13	
791	172	1421	
792	8	28	
793	198	1231	
794	3	41	
797	80	584	
799	13	108	
801	30	221	
803	7	54	
804	132	1020	
805	6	32	
808	18	102	
809	2	30	
810	3	28	
811	6	38	
814	15	119	
815	1	12	
818	2	20	
829	68	276	
831	13	95	
833	3	43	
834	1	7	
836	2	37	
839	11	117	
840	12	105	
843	28	186	
844	35	226	
849	12	105	

851	2	13	
857	4	27	
870	3	12	
872	1	9	

Table 1: Shell Counts and Weights

Date	No	Context	Mean width	St. deviation	Mean length	St. deviation
1580-1650	108	758	55	7.5	48	7.5
1600-1650	35	753	63	9.7	58	11
1640-1675	92	754	61	10.6	53	10
1640-1700	25	700	64	8.4	57	10

Table 2: Oyster Shell Measurements

APPENDIX C: BURIALS

Date	Name	Details	Inscription found in Excavation
1669	Richard Rogers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1664 • Died 10 May 1669 	•
1670	Thomas Ashton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1666 • Died 9 August 1670 	•
1671	John Middleton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1670 • Buried 1 January 1671 	•
1671	Robert Twyford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1669 	•
1674	Edward Rishton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1672 	• ER 1675
1676	John Caldecot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellow 1675 • Died 26 Nov 1676 	• JC 1676
1677	Thomas Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1634 • Fellow 1642-1648, 1660-1677 • Died 19 February 1677 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC 1676? • TC 1678?
1676	Edward Warren	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1663 • Fellow 1668 • Died 3 June 1676 	• ?W ??76
1677	John Houghton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1626 • Fellow 1631-1663 • Died 7 August 1677 	•
1677	Robert Norman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1656 • Fellow 1663 • Died 26 August 1677 	• RN 1677
1678	Thomas Gamull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1676 • Died 17 June 1678 	•
1679	William Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1676 	• WW 1679
1679	William Yate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1662 • Fellow 1667 • Died 8 November 1679 	• WY 1679
1680	Moses Greenwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1659 • Died 1 Mar 1680 (buried 2 March) 	• ?
1681	Jeremiah Yate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk of Accounts 1677 • Died 31 January 1681 • Brother of Thomas Yate, Principal 	• JY 1681
1681	Lady Katherine Boteler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katherine Butler née Bartlet, widow of Sir Allen Butler. • Sister of Principal Thomas Yate's wife 	•

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Died in the Principal's Lodgings 22 February 1681 	
1681	Thomas Yate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1619 • Fellow 1623 • Principal 1648, 1660-1681 • Died 22 April 1681 	•
1681	Humphrey Shaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1675 • Died 1 October 1681 	• HS 1681
1681	John Tomlinson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1680 	• JT 1681
1683	Gilbert Sherington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1670 • Fellow 1677 • Died 9 November 1683 	•
1684	Thomas Hatton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1671 • Fellow 1677 • Died 26 December 1684 	•
1687	Thomas Prescott	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated Hart Hall 1677 • Brasenose Scholar 1680 • Fellow 1681 • Died 30 July 1687 	•
1689	Thomas Millington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1673 • Fellow 1677 • Died 9 Apr 1689 	•
1689	John Skeate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1687 • Died (drowned) 8 July 1689 	• JS 1689
1689	John Warburton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1667 • Died 11 August 1689 	• JW 1689
1692	Francis Acton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1675 • Fellow 1691 • Died 1 March 1693 	• FA 1692
1694	John Meare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1691 • Died 31 July 1694 	• JM 1694
1694	Nicholas Birch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1670 • Died 15 October 1694 	•
1694	Charles Walters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1675 • Fellow 1679 • Died 29 December 1694 	• CW dec 29 169?
1697	Richard Worrall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1691 • Died 2 May 1697 	•
1700	James Buerdsell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1685 • Fellow 1692 • Died 2 October 1700 	• JB 1700

1702	James Hamer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1649 • Fellow 1655 • Died 26 April 1702 	• JH 1702
1702	Brian Nevile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1700 • Died 10 July 1702 	•
1702	Richard Fielden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1673 • Fellow 1677 • Died 27 February 1703 	• RF ??
1704	Samuel Fielden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1700 	•
1708	James Smethurst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1690 • Fellow 1699 • Died 5 March 1709 	•
1710	Charles Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1706 • Died (smallpox) 14 August 1710 	• CW 1710
1710	Thomas Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1708 • Died 8 July 1710 	• Thomas Wrighte
1712	William Rode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1707 • Died 24 May 1712 	• WR 1712
1713	William Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1686 • Fellow 1690 • Died 4 April 1713 	•
1714	Moses Tipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1712 • Died 25 June 1714 	•
1714	William Hichcocke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1711 • Died 5 July 1714 	•
1714	Lady Letitia Mules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daughter of Katherine and Allen Butler (see 1681) • Died in the Principal's Lodgings 	•
1715	Roger Davies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1713 • Died 5 Mar 1715 	• RD 1715
1716	John France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1713 • Died 15 September 1716 	• JF 1716
1717	Thomas Clayton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1716 • Died 17 June 1717 	•
1718	James Finch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1699 • Fellow 1704 • Died 8 Dec 1718 in London 	•
1718	Samuel Gouldborne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1704 • Fellow 1709 • Died 27 April 1718 	• SC 1718
1720	John Hughson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1709 • Fellow 1715 	•

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Died 9 Feb 1720 	
1721	Henry Bagshaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1721 • Died 19 June 1721 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 1721
1725	Adam Gartsid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1699 • Fellow 1708 • Died 1 January 1726 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AG 1725
1727	(?) Marsh	?William Marsh [matriculated 1722]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WM 1727
1727	Randle Hopley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1703 • Fellow 1713 • Died 18 July 1727 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RH 1727
1728	Frances Clarke ^{1*}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wife of Principal Robert Shippen • Died in Bath 29 September 1728 (buried 2 October) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1728	Benjamin Randolph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1727 • Died 11 December 1728 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benjamin Randolph 1728
1729	Sylvester Richmond*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1724 • Died 23 June 1729 (buried 24 June) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1731	JG	?John Greenwood [matriculated 1727]	
1740	Thomas Lloyd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1736 • Died 11 May 1740 (buried 13 May) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T:IL 1740
1741	George Polley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1721 • Fellow 1727 • Died 12 March 1741 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP 1740
1754	Elias Hann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matriculated 1754 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. HANN

Table 1: Listed Burials and Recorded Inscriptions (Listed burials from Brasenose College Archives)

¹ Not listed in *Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs* (1909): Monograph III p.65* A few entries in the 1720s have been checked against the Vice Principal's Register and these two both record burial 'in pannis laneis'. Thomas Hearne says that Frances Clarke was buried in the Chapel.

APPENDIX D. REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E. SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Old Cloisters, Brasenose College, Oxford

Site Code: OXBZ14, OXBZ15

Grid reference: SP 515 063

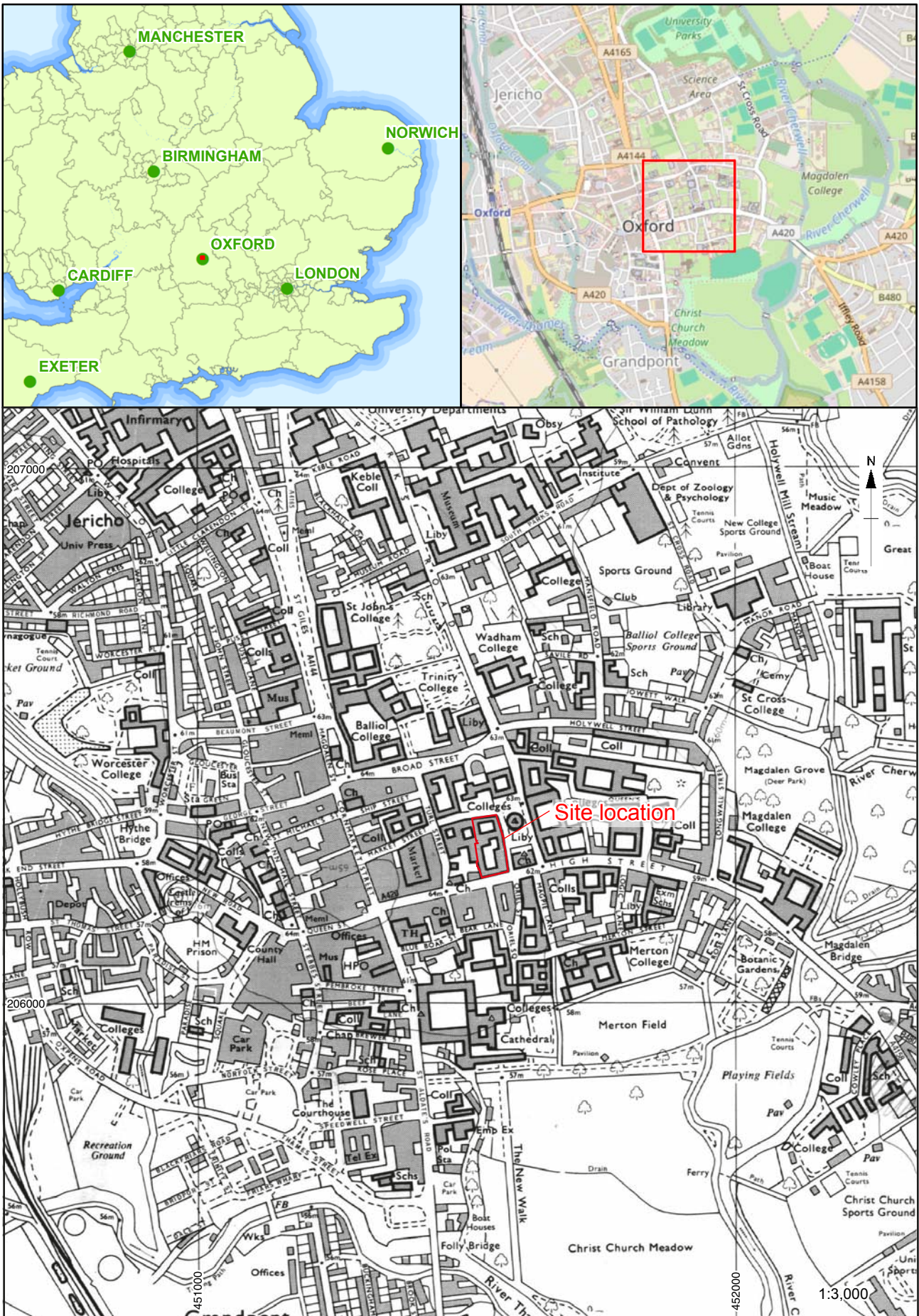
Type: Excavation and Watching Brief

Date and Duration: 1st December 2014 to 2nd March 2015 and November 2015

Summary of results: Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by Lee/Fitzgerald Architects on behalf of Brasenose College to undertake an excavation and watching brief on the site of proposed refurbishment of the Old Cloisters, Brasenose College, Oxford. The excavation took place within a single trench within the cloisters and the watching brief monitored drainage trenches in the Deer Park Quadrangle and the Stocker Room.

The excavation and watching brief revealed a boundary wall of probable medieval date that once divided the medieval properties of St Mary's Entry and Little St Edmunds Hall. A well of probable late medieval date was revealed within the 'Deer Park' Quad. This is almost certainly associated with the medieval kitchen at Brasenose which is still present within the college site.

Early 17th century evidence suggests that the area north of the medieval boundary wall was a garden space and then a yard used for dumping. Evidence for two areas of cobbled surface may represent walkways on the southern side of the boundaries and related to the continued observance of these medieval plot divisions in the early 17th century. Dumps of waste included material typical of a college site, including a significant assemblage of Frechen drinking vessel sherds and animal bone with a higher proportion of game than would be found in a domestic context. Demolition material and residual medieval pottery to the south of the boundary wall probably derives from the demolition of the medieval frontage building on Little St Edmund's plot. Later deposits attest to ground levelling prior to cloister construction and the later insertion of a drainage system.



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Figure 1: Site location

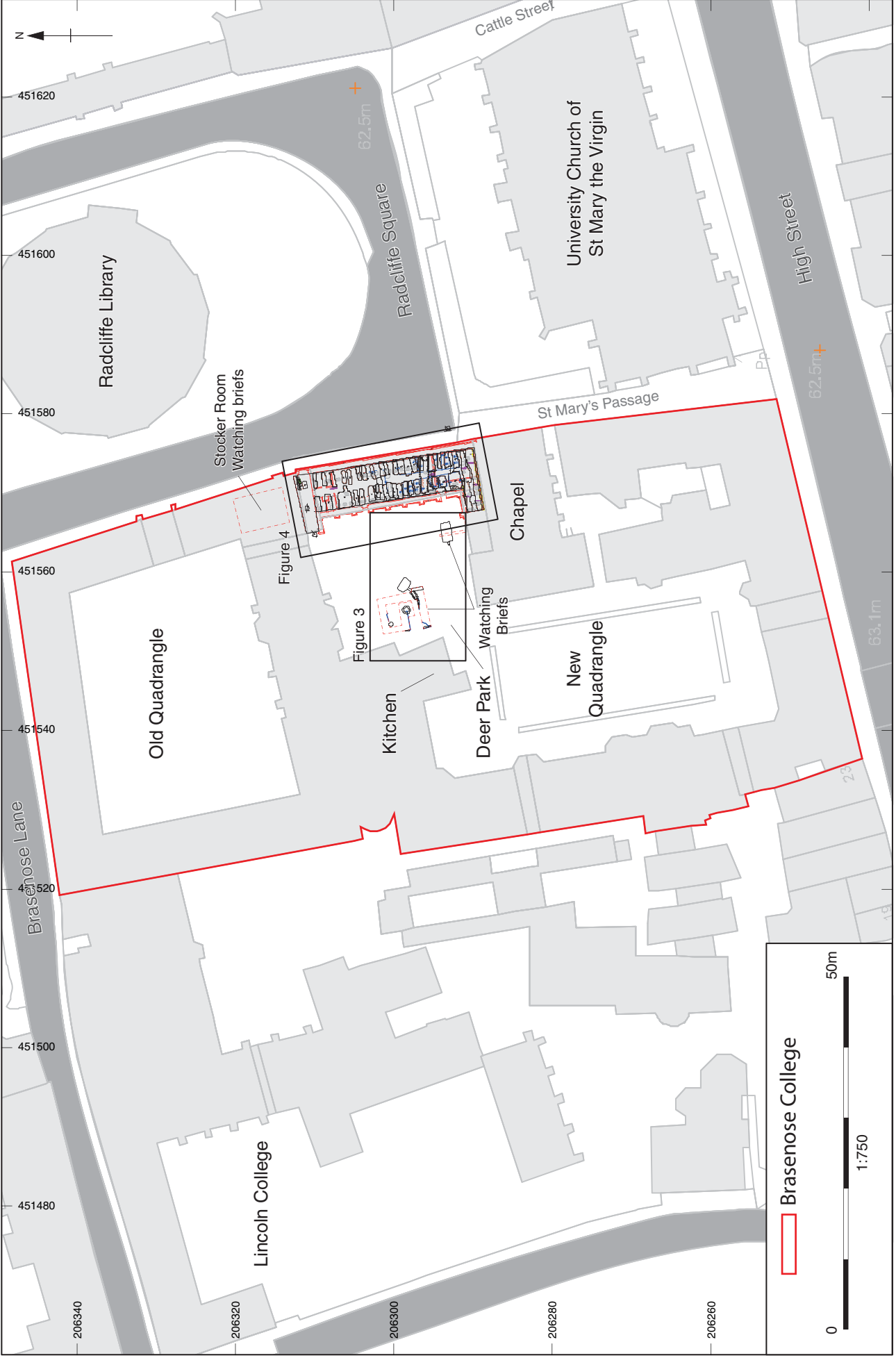


Figure 2: Trench location

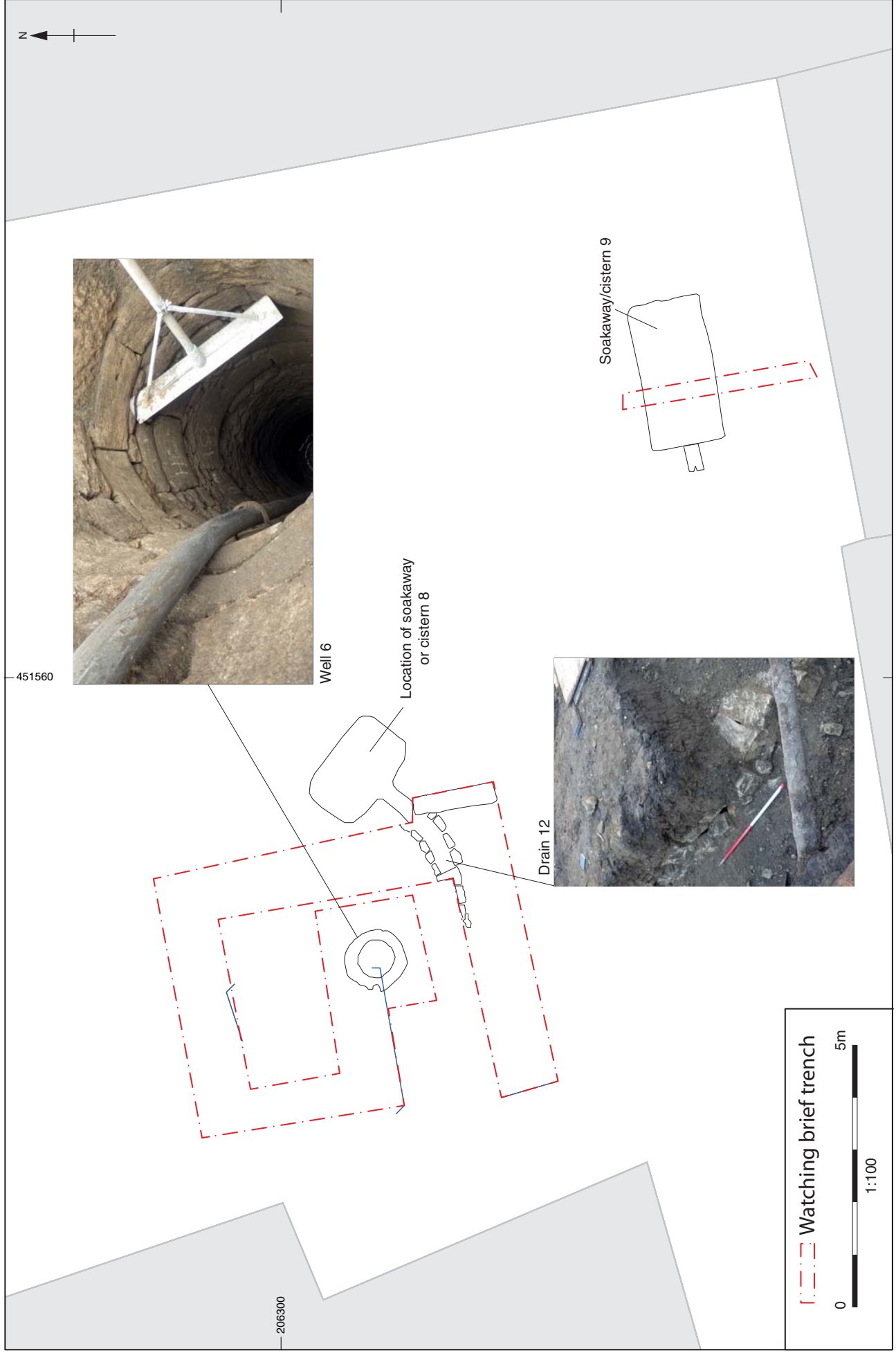


Figure 3: Watching brief trenches and features

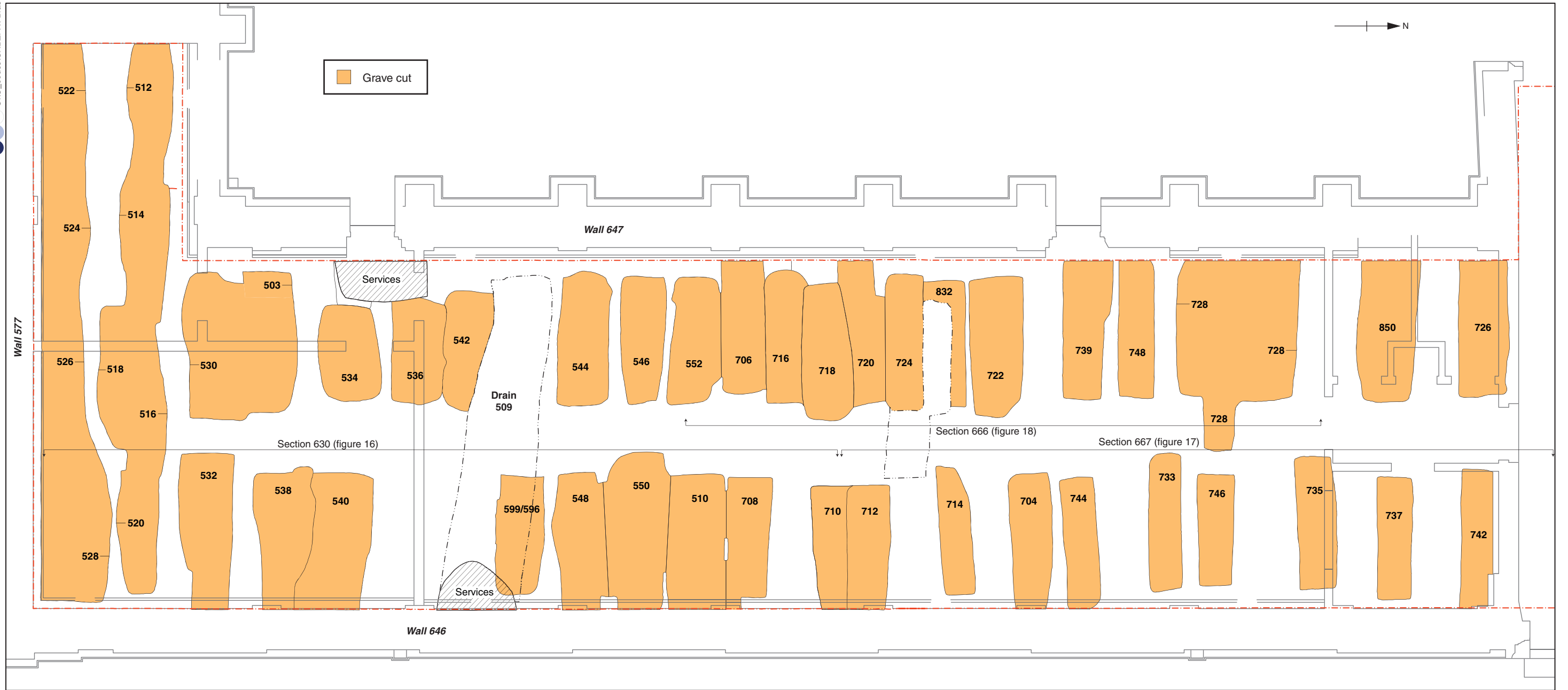


Figure 4: Cloisters excavation trench



Figure 5: Site of Brasenose College Old Cloister on Salter's reconstruction of 13th century Oxford

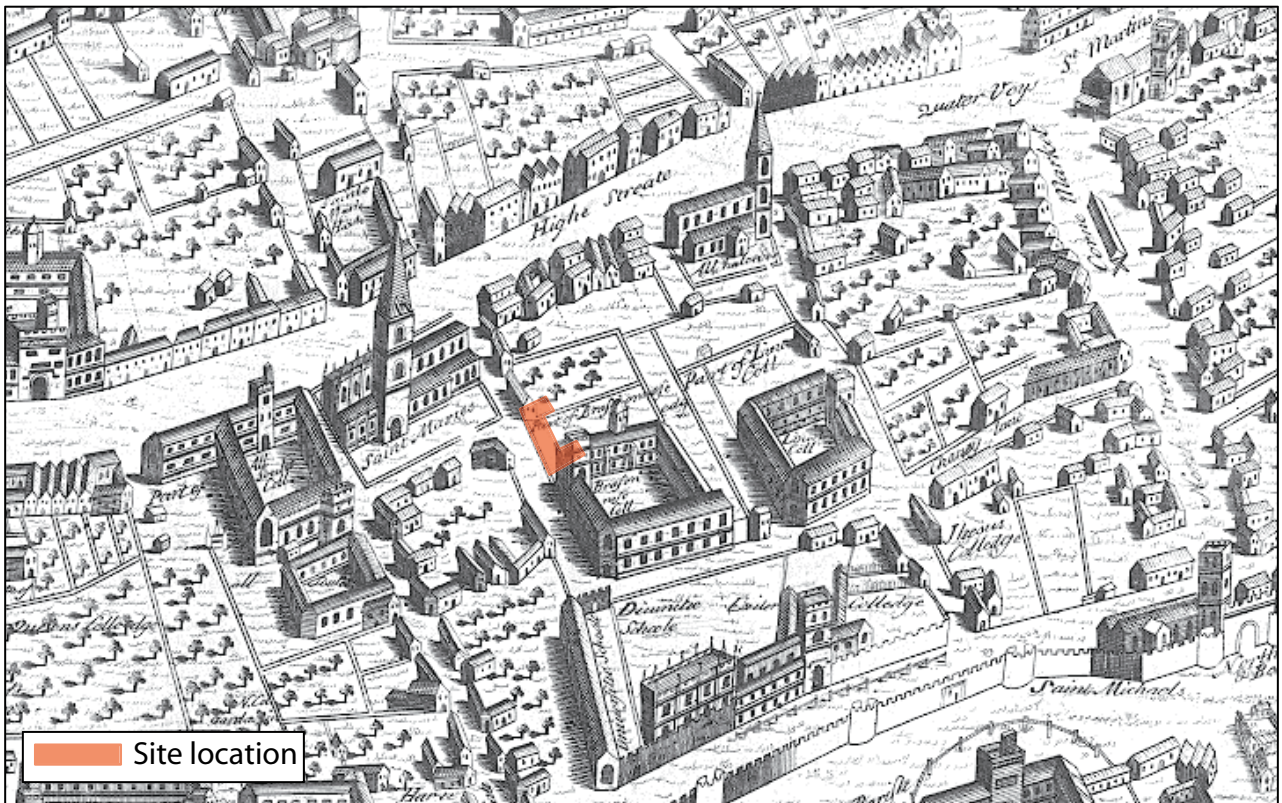


Figure 6: Site of Brasenose College Old Cloister on extract from Agas pictorial plan of Oxford (1578)

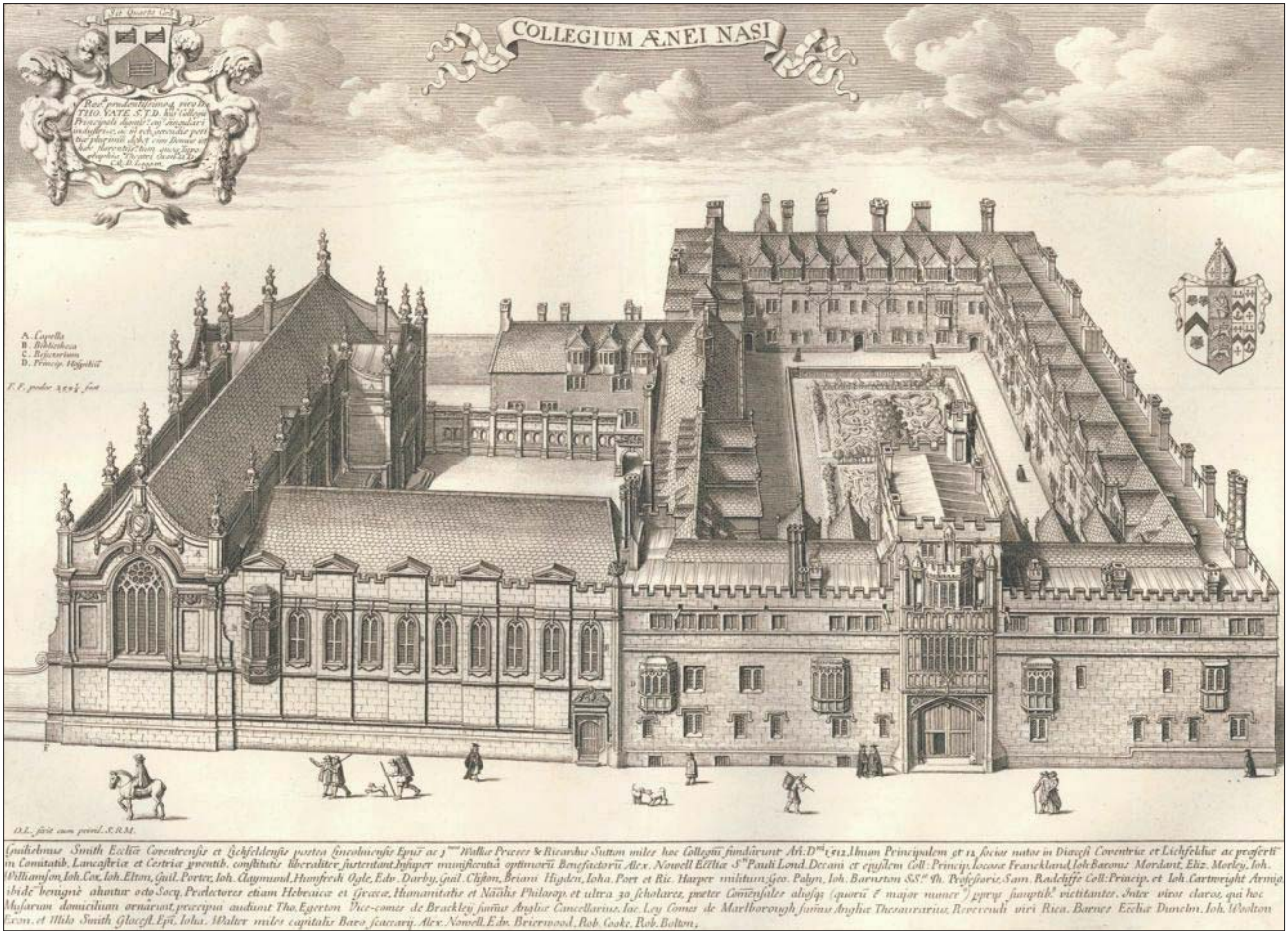
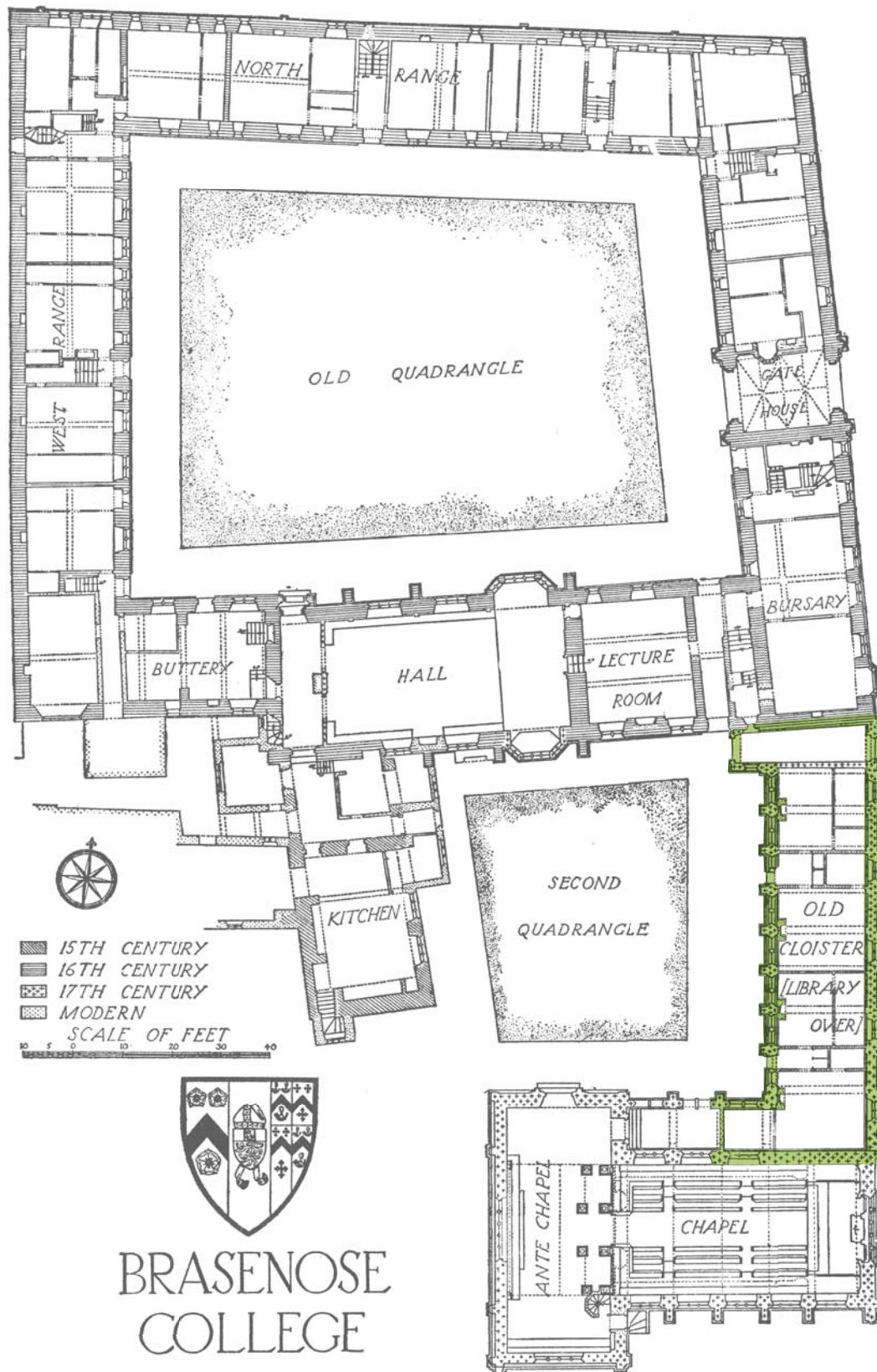
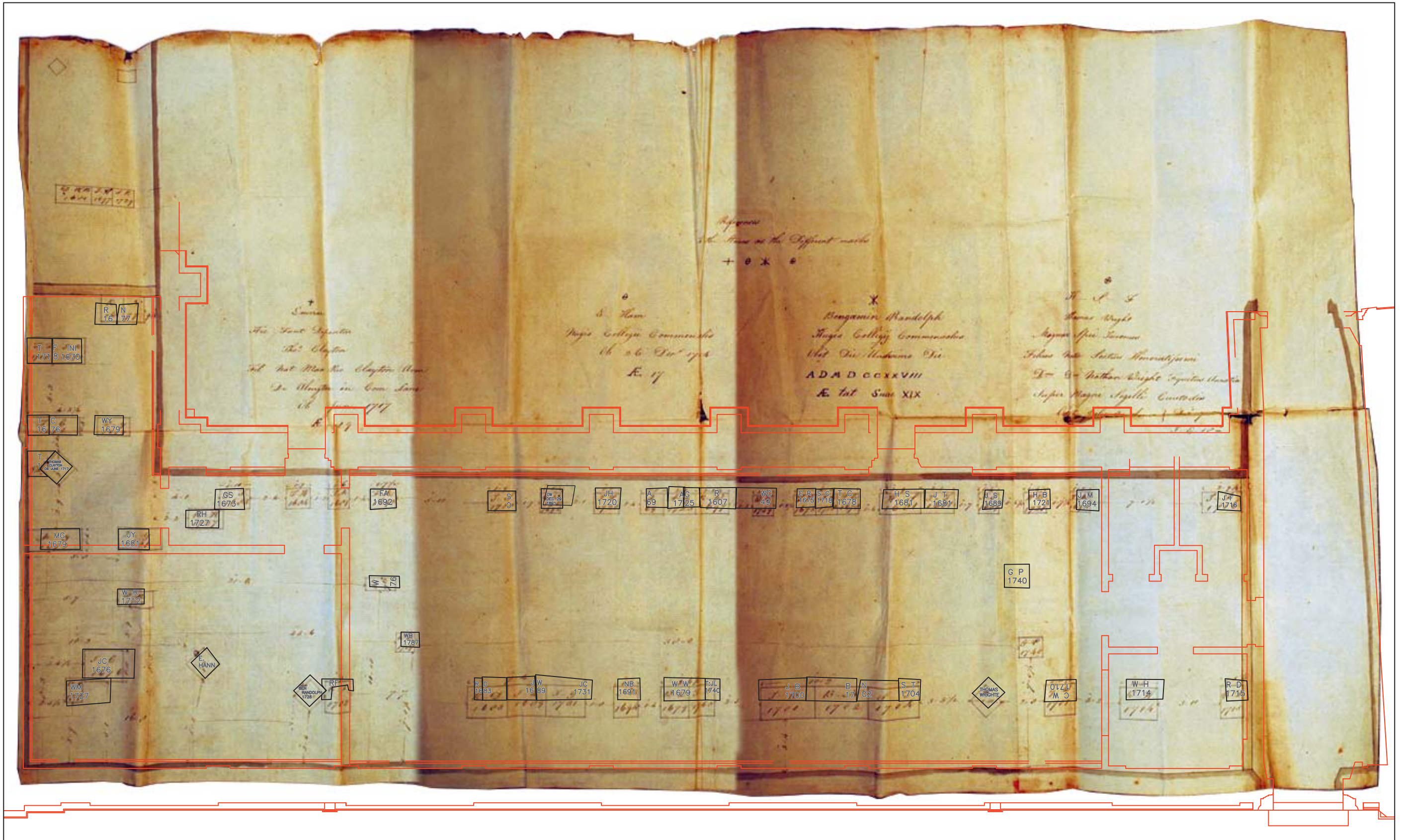


Figure 7: Loggan's drawing of Brasenose College, Oxonia Illustrata (1675)



Old Cloisters

Figure 8: Plan of the College in 1939 (RCHME)



0 5m

— Client basemap

Figure 9: Plan of cloister floor slabs with grave markers overlain on college burial plan



Figure 10: Working shot of recording, showing oval cloister window



Figure 11: Excavation within the cloister, view to south



Figure 12: Grave marker I. W. 1689



Figure 13: Cleaning back after removal of floor slabs



Figure 14: Graves excavated to impact level showing surviving stratigraphy in the baulks



Figure 15: Layers in the central baulk

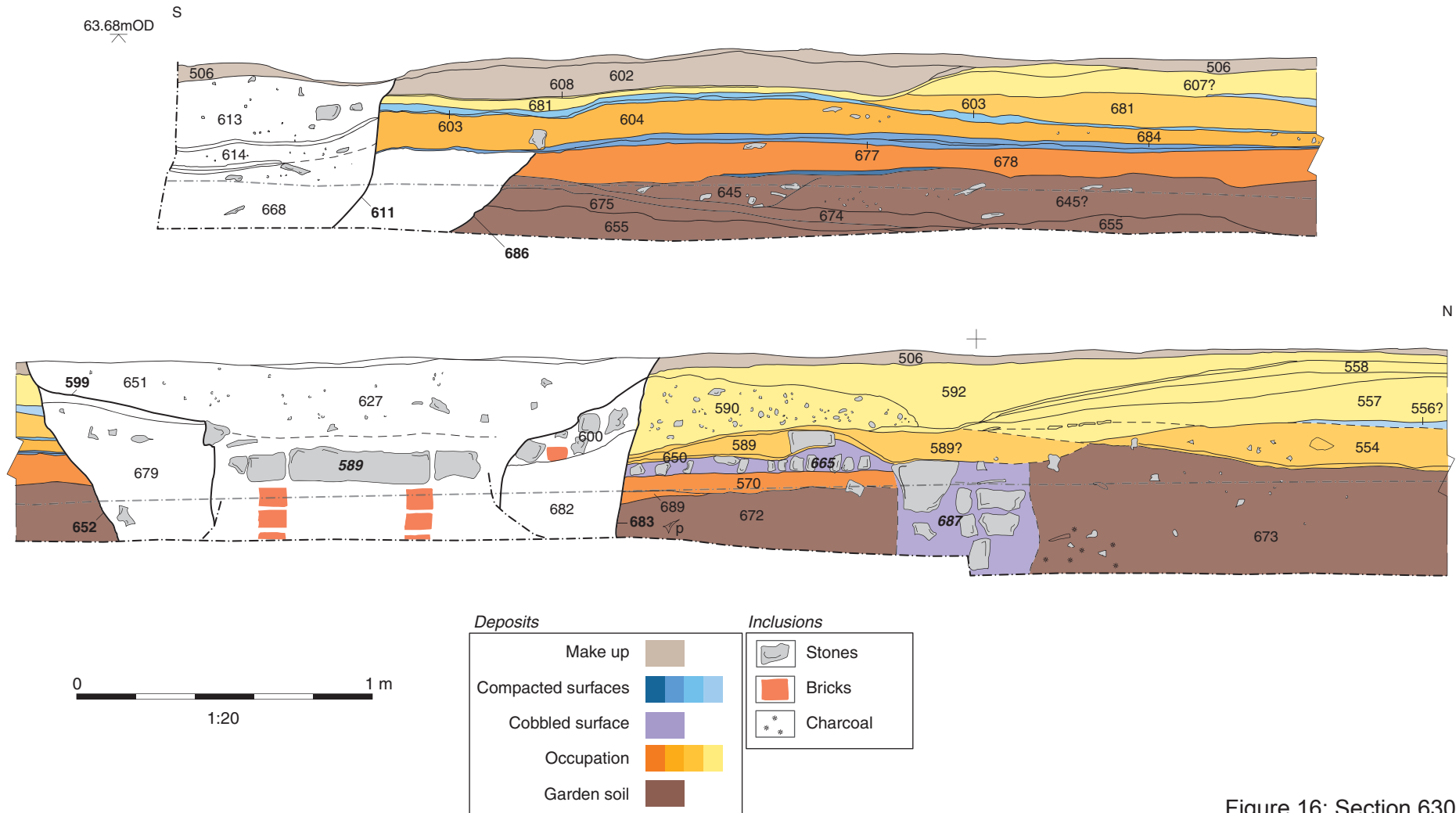


Figure 16: Section 630

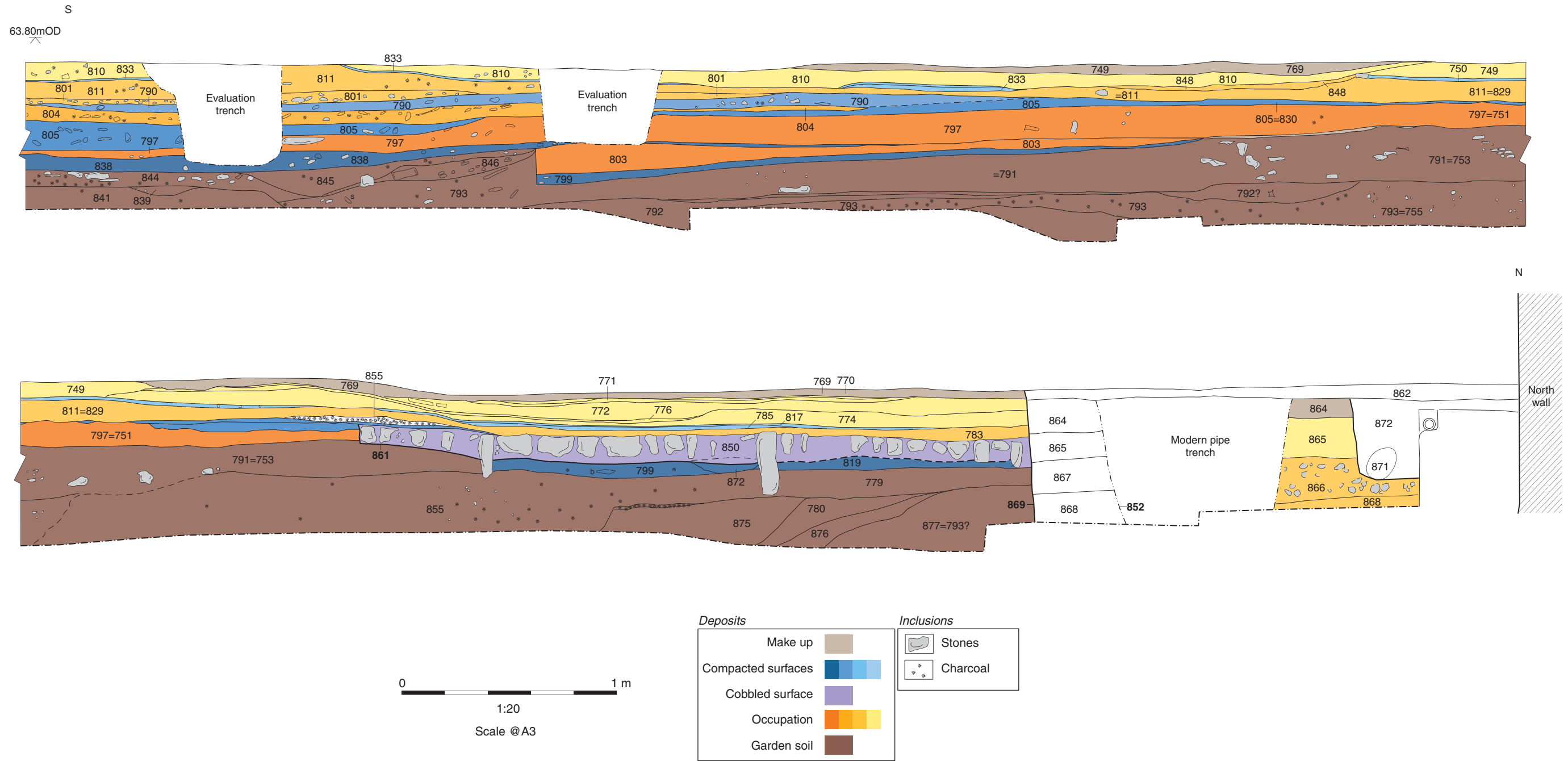


Figure 17: Section 667

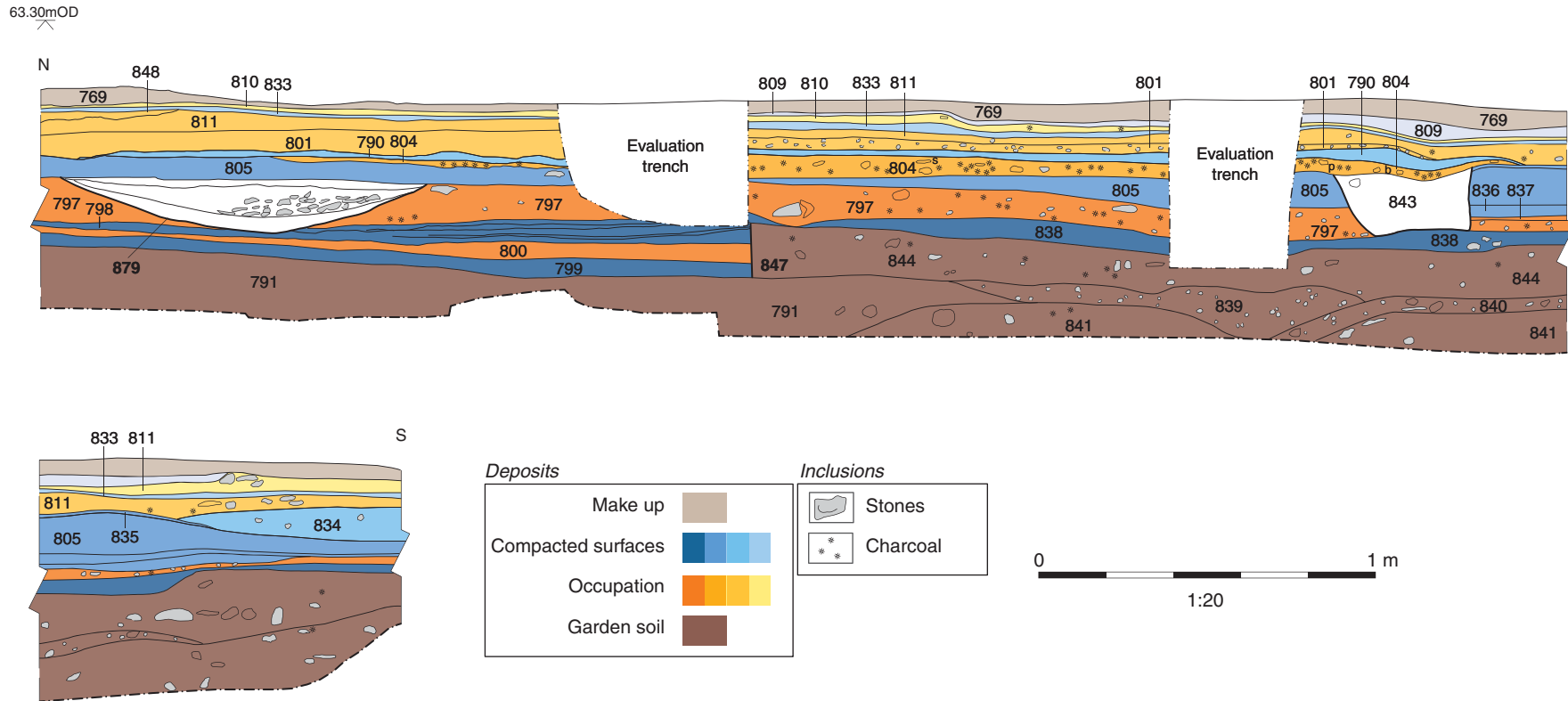


Figure 18: Section 666



Figure 19: Wall 687 and possible pathway 665. View to south



Figure 20: Wall 687 in section 630



Figure 21: Cobbled surface 778



Figure 22: Cobbled surface 778



Figure 23: Wall 646



Figure 24: Wall 647



Figure 25: Stocker Room, Cistern



OXAM.1



OXBX.1



LIGU.1



672.A



703.A



745.A



511.A



511.B



1:1

Figure 26: Pottery



511.C



511.D



549.A



551.A



700.A



709.A



Figure 27: Pottery



753.A



763.A

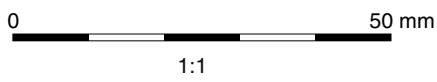


Figure 28: Pottery

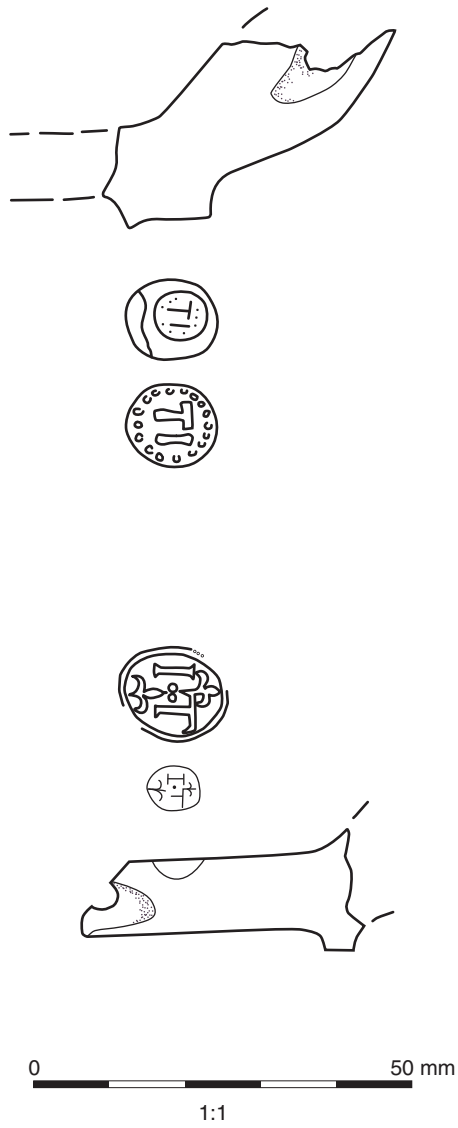


Figure 29: Clay pipes

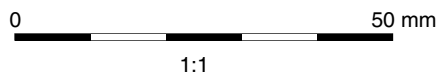
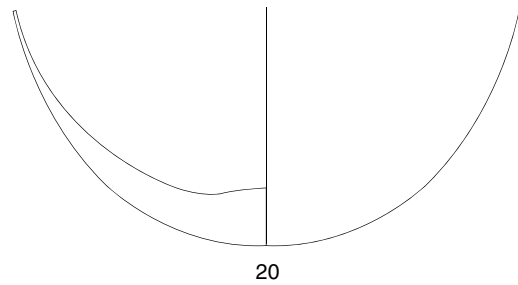
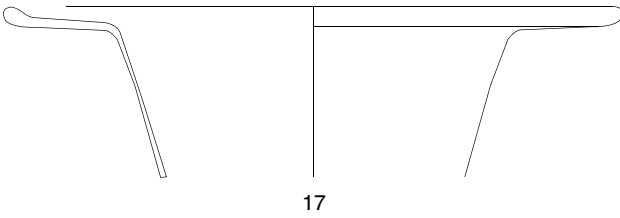
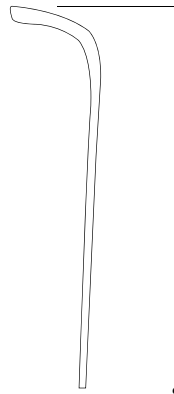
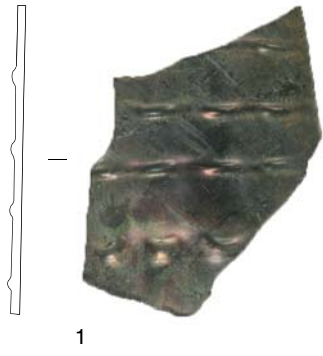


Figure 30: Glass



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCifA
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