

Abingdon West Central Redevelopment Area

NGR SU 4962 9702

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Oxford Archaeological Unit

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ABINGDON, WEST CENTRAL AREA

Report on Archaeological Evaluation carried out in 1996-7

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(NOTE: Figs. 3, 4, 5 & 10 are large drawings in the folder at the back of the report)

1 Introduction and Archaeological Background

1.1 The area of proposed development is located in the centre of Abingdon at SU 4961 9698, and lies on first terrace gravel deposits at a height of approximately 54 m OD just N of the junction of the rivers Ock and Thames. It covers approximately 9300 sq m, and runs north-south for nearly 250 m from Ock Street to the river Ock behind the properties on the west side of West St. Helen Street.

1.2 The proposed development area was previously the site of the Regal Cinema, the Southern Electricity Board Depot and the municipal car park south of St. Edmund's Lane. The site is now owned by the Vale of White Horse District Council, who asked the Oxford Archaeological Unit to carry out an evaluation of the site.

1.3 The site lies within the core of historic Abingdon. Development in the vicinity has revealed archaeological features or artefactual evidence dating from the Mesolithic to the medieval period.

1.4 A Desktop Survey of previous archaeological work in the area and of the Documentary Evidence was prepared and submitted to Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services on behalf of the client (OAU October 1996). This demonstrated that finds of the Iron Age and Roman periods were common close to the site, and highlighted the published evidence that the chapel of St. Edmund had stood on the site, and the documentary evidence for the presence of medieval 'town ditches' on the site, which may have followed the line of the prehistoric defences of Abingdon.

2 Aims

2.1 The evaluation aimed to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, and date of any archaeological deposits within the area affected by invasive development. This evidence will form the basis of any proposals for appropriate mitigation measures that may seek to limit the damage to significant archaeological deposits, and will aim to define the research priorities that may be relevant should further investigation be required.

2.2 Specific aims were to include the following:

2.2.1 to establish whether the chapel of St. Edmund lies within the development area, and if so, to establish its position and state of preservation. The associated medieval buildings mentioned in documents (Desktop Study section 4.2) were also to be sought, and if present their extent, character and preservation was to be established.

2.2.2 to establish whether the medieval cemetery attached to St. Edmund's chapel lies within the development area, and if so, to define its extent and the depth and complexity of burials.

2.2.3 to establish whether the medieval 'town ditches' run through the development area, and if so, establish their extent, depth, date, character and the state of preservation of waterlogged and other deposits within them.

2.2.4 to establish whether the prehistoric defensive ditches of Abingdon also lie within the development area, and if so, to establish their extent, depth, character and the state of preservation of waterlogged and other deposits within them

3 Strategy and Methods

3.1 A Desktop Survey had already been prepared and submitted to the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services (OAU October 1996).

3.2 Since the proposed development area is in a built-up area other forms of non-invasive investigation such as fieldwalking were clearly not appropriate. Because of the depth of build-up geophysical survey was considered very unlikely to prove effective, and any results were also thought likely to be uninterpretable because of the multi-period occupation of the site. Ground radar has been used in some urban situations, but the technology is still in its infancy, and was judged unlikely to prove cost-effective at the evaluation stage.

3.3 A field evaluation by trenching equivalent to 4% of the development area at the level of significant archaeology was requested by the Deputy County Archaeologist, and Trenches 1-8 were dug to fulfil this requirement. The layout of the evaluation trenches is shown in Figure 1. In the event supplementary trenches 9-12 were dug when a major medieval building was found in the middle of the site in order to establish more clearly the extent, state of preservation and date of the building. The area stripped during evaluation has amounted to over 6.5% of the site, though by no means all of this has been investigated by hand.

3.4 Two areas of the site have not yet been evaluated. It was not possible to demolish the Regal Cinema or to obtain safe working conditions within the standing building, although the latter option was investigated, and this area was therefore not evaluated. In addition, the north-eastern part of the municipal car park was not evaluated because of the severe inconvenience this would have caused to shoppers.

3.5 The detailed methodology for the evaluation was laid down in the Written Scheme of Investigations, and will not be repeated here. This section is concerned with the strategic approaches to evaluation.

3.6 Because one of the main aims of the evaluation was to establish whether large defensive ditches ran N-S through the site as expected, Trenches 3, 5 and 7 were laid out parallel to one another on an E-W axis, and were designed as long trenches in order to achieve the most complete sections through the stratigraphy possible.

3.7 The trenches were designed to be stepped, as it was anticipated that a considerable depth of recent build-up would be found overlying the medieval and earlier deposits, and this proved to be the case. Previous experience had shown that the defensive ditches were likely to involve digging to a depth of 3.6 m or more, and stepping therefore necessitated trenches over 7 m wide at modern ground level. While more invasive than narrow shored trenches, this approach was clearly preferable to the use of shoring at such depths; experience had also shown that within deep and complex urban stratigraphy narrow shored trenches are impossible to record completely and very difficult to understand and interpret correctly.

3.8 Because large and deep linear features were anticipated, which would have been very time-consuming and costly to excavate by hand, it was agreed that once the overlying features had been planned and recorded the evaluation trenches through the defensive ditches could be excavated by machine, although limited hand-excavation adjacent to the machine-dug trench was also to be carried out. In practice hand-excavation was supplemented by provenancing finds seen in the sections and thus increasing the potential for dating the deposit sequences.

3.9 Within the constraints of the need for several east-west long trenches the trench layout was designed to investigate as many different parts of the site as possible, in particular the areas that came close to the frontages on West St. Helen Street and Winsmore Lane. The likely presence of north-south ditches of defensive proportions divided the site into zones east of (or inside) and west of (or outside) these settlement boundaries. In addition, it was felt to be important to investigate the low-lying area at the south end of the site close to the river Ock, in case well-preserved occupation deposits were sealed and protected by alluvium.

3.10 One further consideration was the documented dimensions of the Chapel of St. Edmund, which were used to position trenches in the middle part of the site so that, should the chapel be contained within the site, it could not be missed by the evaluation.

3.11 The evaluation layout was also constrained by major live services running approximately ENE-WSW through the former SEB yard. Services also prevented Trench 1 from reaching the frontage on Winsmore Lane, and it is thus uncertain whether this was built up before the 19th century, and if so, at what date. The presence of standing buildings either side of Trench 2 limited both the width and depth to which this trench could be excavated, but did not prevent reaching the natural gravel at one point.

4 Description of the archaeological deposits

4.1 Summary (see Figs 2 and 4 for principal archaeological features)

4.1.1 Apart from stray flints the earliest feature found was Middle Iron Age. On the west side of the site the terminal of a possible large N-S ditch may indicate either an enclosure or a boundary to the settlement which underlies the town. In the Late Iron Age two N-S defensive ditches were dug, which ran parallel through the site, and these were recut on several occasions before the western (outer) ditch was backfilled in the 2nd century AD. The eastern (inner) ditch however remained open, and was recut in the medieval period, when it formed the rear boundary to properties fronting onto West St. Helen Street, and a succession of stone walls were built along its eastern edge to mark this. In the southern part of the site this ditch remained open into the 19th century, and at some stage may have had a wood-lined channel within it.

4.1.2 A large medieval building occupied the middle of the site. This building may have been built as early as the late 12th/early 13th century, and continued in use until the 17th century when it was demolished. Documentary evidence shows that from AD1554 until the English Civil Wars (when it was destroyed) it was the vicarage of St. Helen's, and probably performed the same role in the medieval period. The preservation of the building is variable, but on the

east in particular the walls and floors are well-preserved, and good stratigraphic sequences survive in all parts of the building. There is no proof that this was the site of the chapel of St. Edmund, though this cannot be ruled out.

4.1.3 South of the building complex a cemetery was found, which appears to be of limited extent and contains only one layer of burials, of whom 20 were examined. This cemetery is dated to the English Civil Wars.

4.1.4 Along the west side of the site are pits of medieval and post-medieval date, relating either to the medieval buildings referred to above, or alternatively to activity in the backyards of tenements on Winsmore Lane and St. Edmund's Lane. Further groups of pits occur west of the medieval ditch both at the south end of the site and north of the medieval buildings. At the south-west edge of the site a palaeochannel has been identified which was later used by the brewery in the 19th century.

4.1.5 Little has been seen on the east side of the site (east of the defensive ditches). In the evaluation trenches cellars and large post-medieval pits have destroyed much of any earlier deposits.

4.2 Presentation of the results

4.2.1 Because the discoveries include major ditches that run right through the site, and buildings that span several trenches, it was not felt appropriate to describe the results trench by trench. Instead the *prehistoric and Roman features*, which in the main consist of linear ditches crossing trenches 3, 5 and 7, are described first, and the main sections of these trenches are illustrated together for comparison of these major features. The evidence for *medieval and post-medieval reuse of the eastern ditch* and its role as a boundary is then described, and after this follows the account of *the medieval building complex* and associated features. The *garden soils* around the building and *the cemetery* cut into them are then described. The description then reverts to dealing with individual trenches, but those on *Trenches 1, 4 and 6* are grouped together as they constitute activity adjacent to Winsmore Lane and St. Edmund's Lane, mainly pits, and pits in other trenches are referred to at the same time. *The palaeochannel* in Trenches 7 and 8 is described next, and lastly activity *east of the ditches*, dealing with Trench 2 and the east end of Trench 5.

4.2.2 Not all features or deposits are mentioned in the text, which aims to characterise the archaeology rather than describe it exhaustively. A Table of Contexts provides the basic information for all deposits excavated or recorded.

4.3 Topography (Figure 1)

4.3.1 The site lies on calcareous gravel terrace deposits just north of the junction of the river Thames with its tributary the Ock. The gravel was generally overlain by a light brownish-yellow sandy silt, whose maximum depth was seen at the south end of the site in Trench 7, where it was up to 1.2 m thick. Here the silt was progressively more heavily mineral-stained towards the base, and the gravel itself was heavily stained with ferrous mineral deposits in Trenches 1, 5 and 6. The silt overlying the gravel is believed to be of Pleistocene origin, and was itself overlain by a more orange-brown clayey silt in places, which elsewhere in central

Abingdon appears to represent the development of a soil during the earlier part of the Holocene.

4.3.2 The maximum height to which gravel or the overlying natural subsoil survived in each trench is given on Figure 1, and a drop from 52.82 m O.D in Trench 2 to 50.92 m O.D. in Trench 7 shows that the terrace slopes gently southwards towards the river.

4.4 The Prehistoric and Roman features. (Figures 2 and 3)

Early Iron Age

4.4.1 The earliest activity on site was a probable ditch (233) found at the northern end of Trench 6 (see Fig.7 for detail). The western edge of 233 ran north-south for 5.5m; the eastern edge lay outside the excavated area. To the south the ditch was cut through by a later wall, beyond which the edge of 233 turned abruptly east (240), indicating either a change in direction or a terminus. Two slots were dug through 233, which survived to a depth of 0.90m and was steep-sided with a flat base. The width of the feature is estimated to have been more than 2 m. Two sherds of Iron Age pottery (one from the very bottom) came from the fills of the ditch (layers 253 and 254), and probably date the feature. Also found were a flint knife and core (see 5.8 below) and a piece of worked bone.

4.4.2 At the north end of 233 was a crouched inhumation 236 within a very poorly defined grave 235 apparently cut into the upper fills of the ditch. The inhumation was aligned north-south following the line of the ditch, and lay on its right side with the skull to the south (see 5.9 Human bone report).

4.4.3 It is possible that 233 extended northward as far as trenches 4 and 5, where a ditch of similar character and dimensions on a north-south alignment was found (934/687). No finds were recovered from the ditch in Trenches 4 or 5 but the upper fills were similar to those of 233 (see 4.9, Trench 4 below).

4.4.4 Figure 2 also shows the location of a grave (2016) containing the remains of an inhumation (948) at the east end of Trench 5. 2016 was cut into the natural subsoil 2023 and was mostly obliterated by a pit to the east and by 854, a Roman defensive ditch (or just possibly a medieval recut of the same), to the west. Of the inhumation only the ends of the left and right femur and tibia, and the right patella, survived, with the left leg lying over the right, suggesting that the body lay on its right side. No finds were recovered from the fill of 2016, but its position strongly suggests a pre-Christian date, and both the stratigraphic relationship to the Roman ditch and the suggested position of the body may indicate a prehistoric date.

Late Iron Age/Early Roman

4.4.5 Two very large ditches were found in Trenches 3, 5 and 7 running on an approximately NNE alignment. In all three trenches these ditches were approximately 8.00m apart and appear to have run parallel. There was no direct stratigraphic relationship between the two in any of the trenches, but the finds from both are of Early Roman date, and they are likely to have been

contemporary. They are interpreted as continuations of the defensive ditches of Late Iron Age/Early Roman excavated in the Vineyard, Abingdon (Allen 1991; Allen 1993; Allen 1994).

4.4.6 The eastern (or inner) defensive ditch was numbered 133 (recut as 120 and again as 118) in Trench 7, 978 (recut as 941) in trench 5 and 1006 (recut as 1080) in Trench 3. In Trench 5 there were not only several recuts but also a series of large cuts including a possible third ditch (906) lying between the two. The latest recuts of the ditch appear to have been medieval, and in Trench 7 there was a further, post-medieval, recut.

4.4.7 In Trench 7 the earliest cut 133 lay on the west side of the ditch complex, and was obliterated on the east by cut 120. The surviving part was 1.3 m deep with a steeply sloping side and a flat base. Like the succeeding ditch cuts it appeared to run NNE-SSW. There were no waterlogged fills, and from the level of waterlogging in the recuts, ditch-digging appears to have stopped at the water table. Four sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from the interface between this ditch and the recut 120, and may indicate an Iron Age origin for the defensive ditch. It is however possible that 133 continued into Trench 5 as ditch 906, which was of Early Roman date (see Fig. 2 and below).

4.4.8 Ditch 133 was recut by ditch 120, which was slightly deeper. Again only the west part of the ditch survived, the remainder having been removed by recutting. The surviving west side was sloping with a flat base, and was 1.50m deep. The bottom fill of 120 (context 13) was waterlogged, and was sampled for waterlogged plant remains (see 5.11, S4 below), which indicated natural silting in shallow water. Ditch 120 was itself recut by 118, again with a sloping western edge and a flat base; the eastern edge was seen in plan but was not excavated. 118 appears to have been approximately 12.00m wide and 1.50m deep. The lowest fill of the recut, context 4, again contained organic material preserved by waterlogging. Only the lowest fills of the ditch survived, as the ditch was recut on the east side in the medieval and post-medieval periods (cuts 124 and 150). No pottery was recovered from ditch 120, but fill 8 contained late 2nd century pottery, as did fills 25 and 26 of the medieval recut.

4.4.9 In Trench 5 the corresponding ditch was 978 recut as 941. The earliest cut 978 was almost entirely removed by 941 on the north side of the trench, but nearly 2 m of fill survived in section on the south. 978 survived 1 m deep, and had very gravelly fills. No hand-excavation was carried out, but one sherd of mid-1st century pottery was recovered from the section. Recut 941 was severely truncated to the west by ditch 979, and its upper fills were removed by recutting in the medieval period. Only the westernmost 4 m was excavated: its western edge sloped to a gently rounded base, and the surviving depth was 1.00m. The bottom 0.7 m was waterlogged, preserving organic material in fills 898 and 938, the latter being sampled for waterlogged plant remains (see 5.11, S9 below). Roman pottery was recovered from fills 864, 896, 898, 899, 936 and 937, all of which were dated 1st - 2nd century.

4.4.10 In Trench 3 only the western 3.5 m of the defensive ditch 1006 lay within the excavation. This had a sloping side and survived 2 m deep; the base was flat but appeared to be dipping deeper on the east when obliterated by recut 1080, possibly indicating a step. The fills of 1006 were not waterlogged, the level of the ditch bottom corresponding to the top of waterlogging in the deeper recut 1080. Ditch 1080 had a sloping western edge and survived at least 1.5 m deep, but was not bottomed for reasons of safety. As with 1006 the eastern edge lay outside the trench. The lowest fills were waterlogged, and fill 1065 was sampled for waterlogged plant remains (see 5.11, S10 below). The majority of the ditch fills (nos 1009, 1010, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1060, 1061, 1062, 1063 and 1083) contained 1st-2nd century AD

Roman pottery. A series of upper ditch fills (1060, 1061, 1082 and 1092) have high percentages of gravel inclusions, which may indicate a phase of deliberate backfilling.

4.4.11 The western defensive ditch was numbered 1039 in trench 3, 905 in trench 5 and 54 in trench 7. In Trench 7 it was 6.50m wide and survived 1.80m deep, with a sloping western edge, a flat base and a steep eastern edge. The ditch was cut 0.7 m below the water table, and waterlogging has preserved organic material in fills 52, 53, 75, 77 and 129. Layer 53 was sampled for waterlogged plant remains (see 5.11, SS6 and 8 below). The lower fills accumulated by natural silting, but the high gravel content of fill 34 towards the top of the ditch may indicate a phase of deliberate infilling. Only fill 34 contained pottery, dated early-mid second century AD.

4.4.12 In Trench 5 only the eastern edge of 905 was excavated; the western edge was observed in plan. The ditch was not bottomed, but had a flat step on the east and a sloping edge which was severely truncated by a later feature 2005. At this point the ditch is 7.00 m wide and survived 0.70 m deep to the bottom of the step. No waterlogged fills were present in the excavated part of the ditch. Pottery from fills 944, 945 and 947 all dates to the 1st - early 2nd century AD. The high gravel content of the uppermost surviving fill 945 may indicate deliberate infilling.

4.4.13 In Trench 3 only the eastern half of 1039 was seen, the western edge lying beyond the western limit of this trench. A slot was excavated across the ditch, but was interrupted where a later wall (1041) ran over the ditch. The eastern side appears to slope gradually to a flat base. Here the ditch survived 1.30m deep and was at least 5.50m wide, with an estimated total width of at least 7 m. There were no waterlogged fills in the ditch; comparison of the level of waterlogging in the eastern ditch in this trench suggests that ditch 1039 bottomed above the level of permanent waterlogging. Basal fill 1104 had a high gravel content and finds dating to the first half of the second century AD.

4.4.14 Although the survival of the ditches varied considerably from trench to trench, and the eastern ditch was not bottomed in Trench 3 nor the western ditch in Trench 5, it appears from the base levels that they were dug with a slight fall to the south (from 50.25 to 49.36 m O.D. for the western ditch, and from c. 49.50 to 49.10 m O.D. for the eastern ditch). Comparing the base levels with the level of natural across the site, it appears that the eastern (inner) ditch would originally have been 2.5 m deep in Trench 3, shallowing to 2.3 m in Trench 5 and only around 2 m in Trench 7, while the western (outer) ditch would have been shallower, around 2.1 m deep in Trench 3, at least 1.8 m in Trench 5 and around 1.75 m deep in Trench 7.

Other ditches

4.4.15 In Trench 5 the sequence of the two defensive ditches was complicated by a series of cuts, also apparently Roman, between the two. The earliest and most easily interpretable of these was 906, which survived in plan as a linear feature on a NNE alignment. On the south side of the trench it was 4 m wide and 0.50m deep, with a gently rounded base and a steeper side on the east than the west, but the ditch shallowed towards the north. This, and the fact that it has not been identified further north in Trench 3, suggests that it may terminate just to the north of Trench 5. 906 was severely truncated by later features, and only the bottom fills 901 overlain by 902 survived. These were loose and very gravelly. Layer 901 contained a human skull vault (see 5.9, Human bone report) and layer 902 a near complete late 1st - 2nd century jar

placed upright on layer 901 and a paste 'melon' bead. It is possible that 906 continued south into Trench 7 as ditch 133 (see Figure 2), though it may instead have been a large pit.

4.4.16 Ditch 906 was cut on the east side by another large feature 979, which also cut the inner defensive ditch (978 and 941). This had a steeply sloping east side and a flat bottom, and survived 0.8 m deep and 2.5 m wide, but on the south the western side was removed by another cut overlying 906. The fill of 979 were almost clean gravel, suggesting that it was deliberately backfilled. In the north section of the trench 979 was also cut away on the west, this time by a medieval pit, but west of this feature 2005 was very similar in character to 979, and may have been part of the same feature. 2005 ran west for more than 5 m, cutting the fills of the outer defensive ditch 905. Both 979 and 2005 contained Roman pottery.

4.4.17 In Trench 7 and west of the defensive ditches already described was another large feature of Roman date, 57, running on a north-west-south-east alignment. It had a flattish base, with a steep eastern edge and a more gently sloping western side. It was 3.00m wide and 0.70m deep, and appeared to have been recut at least twice, one of the later recuts containing waterlogged organic material in layer 66, its lowest fill. This was sampled for waterlogged plant remains and proved to contain much crop processing debris from spelt wheat (see 5.11, S2 below). Fills 59 and 60, on the eastern edge of 57, contained late 1st - 2nd century pottery. The uppermost fill of 57 was a thick layer of silt 130, which overlay a probable palaeochannel immediately to the west (see Figures 3 and 8).

4.4.18 Running E-W along the northern edge of Trench 3 was ditch 1128 (recut as 1132). Only the southern edge of both were seen, their northern limits lying beyond the edge of the trench at this level (see fill 1099 = 1155 on Fig. 3 Trench 3 section). 1128 is at least 0.60m wide and 3.00m long, with a maximum recorded depth of 0.75m. It has steep sides and a flat base. Recut 1132 is at least 0.60m wide and 2.00m long, with a depth of 0.50m. Neither of these ditches produced any finds, but 1128 cut the upper fills of the outer defensive ditch 1039, and is therefore late Roman or later. Ditch 1128 was not traced westwards beyond the wall overlying 1039, and on the east the ditch was removed by later pits and did not reach the eastern defensive ditch within the exposed trench.

4.5 Medieval and Post-Medieval reuse of the eastern defensive ditch

4.5.1 Also seen in Trenches 5 and 7 and possibly in Trench 3, was a substantial and apparently much later recut of the inner defensive ditch. Numbered 124 in trench 7, its full width is uncertain, but it is at least 4.50m wide and survived 0.70m deep. The eastern side was steep, and the base was flat. The lowest 0.4 m of fill on the east side layer 22, was a waterlogged black clayey silt, and within this were found 5 upright wooden stakes and a sixth fallen one associated with fifteen rods probably from wattling (see 5.7, Worked Wood below). Three of the stakes lay along the line of the ditch spaced 0.4-0.5 m apart at the bottom of the east side, the remaining uprights being at right angles in line with the middle stake, and the rods lay adjacent to the stakes on either side. This may have been the remains of a revetment along the east side of the ditch. 4 m to the west however two further wooden upright stakes and a bundle of wattle rods were found at a similar level, and may have been associated (see below). No pottery was recovered from layer 22, but a sample was taken for waterlogged plant remains, and this included rye, suggesting a medieval date (see 5.11, S3 below).

4.5.2 Layer 22 was cut away on the west side by later black silts of similar character (deposits 5, 135, 6, 10 and 107), which accumulated to a depth of nearly 0.7 m. Part at least of this ditch is shown on the Christ's Hospital map of 1844 (see Figure 10), when it was known as the Shitebourne. For convenience the later black silts were described as lying within a recut of ditch 124 numbered 150, but more likely the ditch simply broadened as water eroded the earlier Roman sediments on the west side, and thus a series of intercutting sediments was laid down. Very few artefacts were found within these deposits; several sherds of medieval pottery were found in layer 10, one of the uppermost black fills, but these may have been eroded out of layer 22 beneath.

4.5.3 Two upright wooden stakes had been driven through the lowest layer 135 and layer 4 of ditch 118 beneath, though they hardly penetrated the underlying gravel. Just west of the stakes the black silt (here numbered 135) contained a large number of limestones, perhaps thrown in behind the stakes to embank the ditch on this side. The stakes survived 0.6 m high, showing that the ditch bottom was waterlogged to a considerable depth. These stakes were probably associated with those found in layer 22 to the east, and may indicate that there was a revetted channel along the ditch bottom at some stage.

4.5.4 Towards the top of this ditch was a layer of large limestones which formed the foundation for a limestone wall 18 bonded with yellow mortar, which ran approximately north-south following the line of the ditch. The construction trench fill 17 contained a large group of later 19th century pottery, and this wall is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1874 as the boundary of a nursery garden. By this time the Shitebourne ditch had been infilled and does not appear on the map. The deep deposits of loam found abutting the wall on either side, which truncated the medieval pits and overlay the Roman ditches further west, are the result of cultivation within the 19th century nursery.

4.5.5 In Trench 5 the medieval phase of ditch has been numbered 854. Here the ditch was 10.00m wide and 2.20m deep with sides sloping to a gently rounded base. On the eastern edge the ditch may have been revetted, as a stone wall (2010) lay within the fills and ran parallel to the line of the ditch. It is not certain that the medieval fills represent a deliberate recutting rather than the gradual filling of a partly open ditch, but no turf lines or slow silting horizons were recognised at the top of the Roman ditch, and in the south section of the trench the western edge of 854 appeared to be too steep for natural silting. The revetting wall on the east side of the ditch also marked the boundary of properties to the east along West St. Helen Street, as is clear from the succession of later walls and a brick culvert found along much the same line over 2010, the latest of which is visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1874 (see Figures 2, 3 and 10).

4.5.6 Although it was not the purpose of Trench 12 to investigate the defensive ditches further, the continuation of the eastern ditch between Trenches 3 and 5 was evident from the absence of natural throughout the length of the trench. At several points excavation was carried down to the level at which natural should have appeared (see Figures 3 and 4 and section 4.6 below), but it was not found. Throughout the southern part of Trench 12 the lowest stratigraphy observed was a series of thick deposits containing early medieval pottery and residual Roman sherds, similar to the fills of the medieval recut 854 in Trench 5. A similar succession of walls along the east edge of the ditch was found in Trench 12, where wall 2300 was found below, parallel to and just west of the existing stone wall at the rear of St. Helen's Mews (see Figure 4).

4.5.7 In Trench 3 fills containing only Roman pottery survived to a greater height in the eastern defensive ditch, and there was no large medieval recut. The upper Roman fills were instead cut both by early medieval pits 1000 and 1002 (see Figure 3 and 4.6.26 below) and by a much smaller ditch (1087) only 2.00m wide and 0.90m deep, the pottery from which is medieval. Just east of 1087 and slightly earlier than it was a foundation of limestones without apparent bonding 1088 aligned NNE-SSW, perhaps another example of the construction of boundary walls at the rear of properties on West St. Helen Street on the east side of the medieval ditch. Since however only the western part of the Roman defensive ditch lay within the trench, it is possible that another medieval recut similar to those seen in Trenches 5 and 7 lies further east beyond the limit of excavation.

4.6 The medieval building complex. Figures 4 and 5 .

4.6.1 The remains of a substantial medieval building were seen in trenches 3, 10, 11 and 12. Its long axis appeared to be WNW-ESE, and it may have been wider at its west end. To the south in Trench 9 two walls of similarly substantial walls forming a corner were seen, which may also belong to this building. Internally mortar floors were present in places, and externally cobbled surfaces, paths and the base of an oven were found. The building appears to have been long-lived, and a variety of less substantial walls representing later alterations and additions were found.

The north-west corner

4.6.2 The north-west corner of the building was found at the west end of Trench 3. The north wall (1076) was 0.85 m wide (with foundations 1 m wide), the west wall 1199 was 1.2 m wide, and both were constructed of roughly hewn blocks of limestone of varying sizes bonded by a compact yellowish mortar. The facing stones of both walls had been carefully laid to provide even vertical and horizontal planes. The west wall 1199 was robbed to greater depth than the north wall except for 0.2m at the corner, from which the width of the wall was ascertained. The north wall was traced for 7.00m, and was robbed progressively deeper as the wall ran ESE, being cut away just before the eastern edge of the trench by a post-medieval pit (1121). Just before 1076 was cut away wall 2123 returned parallel to 1199 and 5 m from it. Wall 2123 was at least 0.75 m wide, but like 1076 wall 2123 was cut away by the post-medieval pit on the east, and to the south ran into the edge of the excavation, so its full width was not ascertained, and it is not clear whether wall 1076 continued beyond this.

4.6.3 Wall 1076 was built within a substantial construction cut 1111 visible on the north (external) side, 0.60m wide and 1.00m deep. Pottery dated 1075-1200 AD was found in fills 1097 and 1098. Wall 1076 survives 0.37m high above the top of the construction trench, and thus above contemporary ground level. South of 1076 within the room formed by 1076, 1199 and 2123 limited excavation revealed the surviving depth of both 1076 and 1199 to be 1.75m. The walls appeared to have been constructed upon a layer of silt 1040, probably a fill of the western Roman defensive ditch. Whereas wall 1076 stepped out on the north face just below the top of the construction cut, and was more roughly faced below this, the interior faces of both 1076 and 1199 were faced in the same even manner to their full depth, and were abutted by layers of fill right to the bottom. The absence of a construction cut indicates that this was a partly cellared room.

4.6.4 There was no sign within the small excavated trench of a laid floor or even of a trampled surface at the base of the walls. The lowest deposits abutting the walls were dark and contained stones, tile and pottery of probable 15th Century date (layers 1139 and 1137). Layer 1137 also contained a fragment of an attached shaft from a door or window, probably of 13th or 14th century origin (see 5.5 Worked Stone below). These deposits had a combined depth of 0.5 m, and may themselves represent a partial infilling of the cellar. Above this the cellar was backfilled with thick deposits of sandy loam (layers 1141-5) containing fragments of wall plaster, tile and pottery. A fragment of a mortar of Purbeck marble came from layer 1141 (see 5.4 Worked Stone below). These were mainly manufactured in the 13th and 14th centuries, but the pottery from the backfill is of 17th century date, the same date as the pottery in 1119, the fill of the robber trench of wall 1076. Only the northernmost 1 m of the cellar deposits survived, as the remainder was cut away by a brick-lined cellar 1106 (Figure 4). A brick-lined service duct 1054 also cut across the surviving northern part of the cellar, but this had only removed the uppermost cellar fills (see Figure 5).

4.6.5 Two rectangular recesses were also found in the southern side of 1076, approximately 0.15 x 0.18 m across and extending 0.6 m into the body of the wall. One of these was only 0.15 m from the corner, the other c. 1.5 m further east. The recesses were not at exactly the same height, the bottom of one being 0.1 m above contemporary ground level outside, the other level with it, but both are interpreted as putlog holes for joists supporting a suspended floor.

4.6.6 Approximately midway between walls 1199 and 2123 was a third parallel wall 1115, also bonded into 1076 and constructed in the same manner. This was only exposed to a depth of 0.7 m, but the backfill layers of the cellar abutted 1115, and it was probably as deep as wall 1076. The full width of 1115 only survived at the junction with 1076, where it was 0.75 m wide; south of this the east side was overlain or cut away by a series of later walls. On the west side of 1115 the top of a narrow return or projection 2120 was found sealed by backfill layer 1142, but was destroyed after only 0.2 m by the brick cellar 1106. This was bonded into 1115 and was clearly contemporary. In total wall 1115 was traced south for 3.00m, where later robbing had removed it.

4.6.7 The surviving southern edge of 1115 was in line with that of a narrow east-west wall 1116 seen to the east of the walls overlying 1115. 1116 was 0.45 m wide and was faced with better-dressed limestone blocks than 1115, and was bonded with yellow mortar. Only three courses of the wall were exposed (a depth of 0.25 m), and on the south side the wall was abutted by a sandy gravel surfaced with a yellowish brown mortar, possibly a floor. The surface of the floor was scorched in places. North of the wall the trench was only cleared to the level of the destruction rubble from wall 1116. No dating was recovered from the wall or adjacent floor. It is possible that 1116 was contemporary with 1115, but its alignment was not parallel to that of the main wall 1076, and the overlying walls 1077 and 1123 were not removed to clarify the relationship.

4.6.8 Three later walls overlay the medieval walls and their later additions. All ran N-S. Wall 1123, which only appeared south of 1076, only survived one course deep, and was constructed of rough-hewn limestone blocks bonded with clay loam. 1123 was overlain by the west edge of another wall 1077, which was constructed of rough-hewn limestone blocks bonded with yellow mortar. 1077 also survived only one course deep; it was cut through by brick service duct 1054 and overlay wall 1076 at the north end. North of this both walls were robbed. The brick service duct 1054 also turned north just beyond these walls and ran north adjacent to them. The duct

and the robber trenches were removed by machine, but are visible in the north section of Trench 3 (see Figure 3).

4.6.9 Just west of these walls was another wall 1041, which survived three courses high all the way across Trench 3, and was constructed of rough-hewn limestone blocks bonded with clay loam. This wall abutted and overlaid wall 1076 at its south end, but did not continue south of the wall. Walls 1077 and 1041 were contiguous overlying wall 1076, but no relationship was established between them. It is possible that wall 1123, which was offset slightly to the east, was a continuation of 1041. Wall 1041 appears on the 1874 1st edition O.S. map (see Figure 10) as the western boundary wall to the Vicarage Garden; the corresponding eastern boundary wall was 1028, which ran N-S across Trench 3 and was of similar construction to 1041 (see Figure 10).

The east side of the building: Trenches 12 and 11

4.6.10 The east end of the building was found towards the northern end of trench 12. The east wall 2219 lay on a SSE alignment, and was approximately 6.8 m long externally. At the north end the return wall was 2200, which ran into the west edge of the excavation after 3.5 m; at the south end the return was defined by its robber trench 2263, of which only 0.6 m lay within the trench. Wall 2219, which was 1.2 m wide, had been robbed down to contemporary ground level or below throughout, but the northern return wall 2200 survived nearly 0.9 m above contemporary ground level to within 0.35 m of the modern ground surface, and was 1.0 m wide above ground with foundations 1.1 m wide. Both 2200 and 2219 were constructed of rough-hewn limestone blocks with irregular coursing but even faces bonded with clay loam. Wall 2200 was not in line with the north wall 1076 seen further west, but ran parallel to it.

4.6.11 No dimensions were established for the southern return of 2219, as it was largely concealed under the baulk. Further west however Trench 11 revealed a robber trench 1905 running ENE -WSW in line with 2263, and probably representing a continuation of it. 1905 was 1.40m wide with steeply sloping sides and was excavated to a depth of 1.05m. No dating evidence was recovered from its fills. At the bottom of the excavated depth was a short length of masonry consisting of rough-hewn limestones, which appeared to be faced on its eastern side, suggesting a N-S orientation. It was 0.30m wide and 0.60m of its length was exposed. This may represent an earlier wall, but since the exposed masonry was confined within the robber trench it may have been an architectural feature such as a drain opening within the wall. North of the robber trench were deep deposits of sand and mortar, possibly indicating backfilling similar to that seen in the cellar in Trench 3 just to the north. South of the robber trench was a pit 1903.

4.6.12 In Trench 12 two western extensions were dug by machine to expose a little of the interior of the building. In the northern of these an area was cleared down through a destruction layer of tile, plaster and glass to the latest, pink mortar floor, and a trench was excavated through the floor up against the inside of wall 2200. Inside the building the lowest layers observed abutted the wall, which was at this point 1.3 m deep, but was not bottomed. A little way south of the wall and aligned NE-SW was a band of limestones separating a clayey occupation layer 2276 to the south from a hard yellow sandy layer, possibly a decayed mortar floor, up against the wall to the north. 12th century pottery was found in 2276, which was also sampled for charred plant remains, and produced small assemblages of cereal grains (see 5.11, S16 below). The stones appeared to be running into the corner of the building, and may represent an internal structure in the corner. A probable posthole was cut into the occupation

layer 2 m south of the wall, and this was filled with a sandy make-up layer upon which a well-preserved mortar floor 2226 was laid. 2226 consisted of a hard whitish mortar up to 0.10m thick. Floor 2226 was absent up against wall 2200, where another make-up layer 2274 was dumped and the floor patched with flat limestones. Twelfth century pottery was recovered from layer 2274, and this layer also produced a small assemblage of charred cereal grains (see 5.11, S15 below).

4.6.13 Below the level of floors 2272 and patching 2273 the facing of wall 2200 was roughly finished, but above this the face was even. The floor and its patching were overlain by occupation layer 2225, which in turn was overlain by a second floor 2224, a compact yellowish mortar 0.02m thick. There was very little occupation upon this floor, which was almost directly overlain by 2203, a laminated layer containing sections of plaster up to 0.40 x 0.40 m across as well as fragments of painted and moulded plaster. This probably indicates the abandonment and decay of the room prior to demolition, which resulted in layer 2202, a thick deposit with limestone roof slates and architectural masonry at its base. The architectural fragments included part of a flat lintel for a fireplace (see 5.4, Worked Stone below). Pottery and window glass showed that this collapse and demolition took place in the later 16-17th centuries (see 5.6 below).

4.6.14 A rectangular area of very similar flooring 2228 at the same level was found in the second western extension, surrounded on the east and south by a single course of limestone blocks 2251 no more than 0.2 m wide. Both the floor and the surrounding kerb ran north beyond the area of excavation, and on the west were cut away by a pit. On the east side 2251 was abutted by a cobbled path 2214/2247, and the floor, kerb and path were all overlain by a layer of plaster 2289 identical to layer 2203, the decay overlying floor 2224 further north. 2251 lay south of the main building, but is interpreted as the footing for a wooden porch providing access to the building in its latest phase

4.6.15 A small area was excavated up against the outside of the east wall 2219 at the south-east corner, and the external face of the wall was followed down for 1 m but was not bottomed. The face of the wall was well-made and even, except at the south-east corner, which was ragged. No construction cut for 2219 was seen; the wall was abutted by a series of extensive horizontal soil layers, the lowest excavated context being 2283. No finds were recovered from 2283, but the overlying layer 2245 contained a little 12th century pottery.

4.6.16 All of the soils abutting the wall were cut by a robbing cut surrounding the south-east corner of the wall, and at the bottom of this an area of pitched limestone slabs was found. The slabs were surrounded by layer 2245, and a second layer of slabs, also on edge, was seen below on the north side where 2283 was excavated. The area covered by the pitched slabs was rectangular, extending 0.65 m from the wall and at least 1.5 m long, and this is interpreted as the foundation of a buttress 2258 constructed to support the corner. There was no construction cut around the stones of the buttress, but the fact that they were laid on edge suggests that the buttress was built within a pit cut through layers 2283 and 2245 at a later date. The depth of the east wall and of the abutting layers suggests that it was built into the west side of the hollow left by the eastern Roman defensive ditch or its early medieval recut.

4.6.17 Just south of the corner of the building, and overlying layer 2245 was a series of dump layers forming a possible causeway leading east from the building across the hollow towards West St. Helen Street. This causeway consists of a layer of packed limestone rubble in a yellowish sandy silt matrix 2260, overlain by a similar layer 2217 which possibly had a

metalled surface. The causeway is cut through by a probable drain 2261 capped with limestone slabs running on a NE-SW alignment, and this itself is overlain by a limestone cobbled path 2214. Immediately south of 2214 no trace of the causeway dump layers was found, suggesting that the causeway did not extend this far south, and was on a slightly different alignment from the path. The relationship of the causeway to the corner buttress 2258 was removed by the robbing of the buttress, but the line of the causeway on the north side suggests that it was aligned along the south edge of the building.

4.6.18 Path 2214 is 1.05m wide and was traced for 3.20m running due east-west. It was built of pitched limestones with a well-defined line of stones forming a kerb along each edge and another down its centre at the apex of a slight camber. Towards the west end 2214 was later repaired or altered, the cobbling widening to 1.30m wide. This widening (2247) was distinct from 2214 in containing a high proportion of quartzite pebbles amongst the limestones. The widened section was 2.10m long but was largely concealed under the baulk. At the west end the path abutted the stone kerb 2251, and was overlain by the fallen plaster from the building, so the path was clearly leading to it. To the east the path heads straight for an alleyway (now blocked) leading to West St Helen Street (Figure 4).

4.6.19 On the north side wall 2200 was excavated to a depth of 1.00m. The uppermost 0.35m of the wall had a very even face, but below this the wall stepped out, widening from 0.90m to 1.10m, and below this the face was less even and where excavated was supported upon a pitched limestone relieving arch, 2234. The arch was formed of limestone slabs averaging 0.40m long and 0.06m wide, whose original bonding had fallen out, and was at least 0.6 m high. The total span of the arch is estimated to have been at least 2 m wide. Below it there was a void 0.25 m high.

4.6.20 Abutting arch 2234 and at right angles to it a short length of wall was found. This is numbered 2296. It consists of rough-hewn limestones bonded with mortar, and four rough courses were exposed, but the wall was continuing down and was not bottomed. Behind the east face there is soil between the stones, and it is unclear whether the full width of the wall lies within the excavated area. A vertical cut (2250) beyond the north limit of the stones may indicate that the feature originally carried on upwards, but was later robbed. This may have been a buttress for wall 2200, but while the lower courses underlie the edge of the arch there was no attempt to fill the void below, and no sign of mortar or keying on the outer face of wall 2200.

4.6.21 Another short length of mortared stonework (2298) was seen to the north of wall 2200, running parallel to it for a length of 1.5m (and in line with wall 1076 further west). This was 0.60m wide, again formed of roughly hewn limestone blocks, but only the top was seen and even its full extent was unclear. On the north and west sides 2298 was butted by a gravel floor 2294, measuring 1.00m E-W and 0.70m N-S but extending outside the limits of the trench to the west and north. The floor and stonework were overlain by soil 2248, the lowest of a series of grey sandy silts containing ash, charcoal and occasional artefacts. These layers were interspersed with layers containing dumps of limestone. All of these layers were later than walls 2200 and 2296.

4.6.22 The latest of these layers, 2256, was overlain by make-up for successive gravel floors 2290 and 2254. These floors were preserved below a post-medieval wall 2239, and extended further north beneath wall 2227 almost as far as Trench 3, but did not appear in the south section of that trench. The presence of a large feature underlying these layers is shown by the

settling of the gravel floors and the overlying wall 2239 (see Figure 5). The character of some of the silts is similar to cess-pit fills. Between walls 2298, 2200 and 2239 most of these soils were cut away by a sub-rectangular post-medieval pit 2265, which had left only a thin skin of stratigraphy up against the surrounding walls. This was completely removed during the evaluation, but there was not time to excavate the underlying deposits.

4.6.23 Walls 2242 and 2239 both abutted the north-east corner of the medieval building, and at the north end 2239 returned east as wall 2280, the three walls possibly forming a building of some sort. The construction cut for 2242 cut layer 2202, the 17th century demolition layer of the medieval building, and the survival of wall 2200 to a higher level than the other walls of the medieval building presumably indicates that this wall was reused together with the later walls, and indeed the line of 2200 is visible on the Christ's Hospital map of 1844 (see Figure 10). Walls 2242, 2239 and 2280 were all formed of roughly hewn blocks of limestone with no surviving mortar, and were not bonded together but simply butted against each other. The purpose of these walls remains unclear.

4.6.24 Another wall, 2281, abutted the northern edge of walls 2239 and 2280, running NNE into the edge of Trench 12. This wall was constructed of a mixture of limestones, brick and pebbles, and was only bonded with clay loam. While the east face was straight, the west side was irregular, suggesting that this was part of the stone lining of a large pit. The uppermost fill contained a number of 18th-19th century wig-curlers.

4.6.25 Wall 2227 began within Trench 12 and ran WNW into the western baulk and continued across the machine-dug slot south of Trench 3 some 2.5 m further west, but did not reappear in the wide extension at the west end of Trench 3. It was 0.4 m wide and was constructed of limestone and mortar with occasional bricks, and appears to be significantly later than the other walls in this area, being cut from near present ground level.

4.6.26 North of the building within Trench 3 a number of early medieval pits and burnt spreads were found (Figure 4). Two pits 1151 and 1152 were partly excavated, and the fills of both contained sherds of 11th-12th century pottery. Over the top of these infilled pits burning took place, and one of the burnt layers (1185) was sampled for charred plant remains and produced a small assemblage of cereal grains (see 5.11, S14 below). This was overlain by a small limestone hearth 1186 covered by burning, and this in turn was succeeded by a larger, oval, limestone platform 1066 covered with charcoal and reddened burnt soil. This feature is interpreted as the base for an external oven or hearth and is believed to be contemporary with the use of the building. East of 1066 were further pits, among which pits 1000 and 1002 also contained 12th century pottery. Pit 1002 was cut into the upper fills of the defensive Roman ditch just west of medieval ditch 1087, showing that there was no large medieval recut or hollow left at this point by the 12th century.

The South Western Corner.

4.6.27 At the north end of Trench 9 an area of stone walls, slots, cobbled surfaces and hearths was found at a depth of only 0.8 m from the modern ground level. Since the stratigraphy was complex and preservation was clearly excellent, effort was concentrated simply on cleaning the revealed archaeology, and very little hand-digging was undertaken.

4.6.28 On the east side of the trench the corner of a substantial building was found, consisting of N-S wall 1627 and E-W wall 1626. At the northern edge of the trench 1627 was 1.20m wide, but tapered slightly as it ran south to the corner; the eastern return 1626 was 0.7 m wide.

Both 1626 and 1627 were constructed of roughly hewn limestone blocks with larger edging stones forming straight faces, but only the top course of the walls was exposed, and no bonding material was observed. Within the building at this level was a layer of sandy loam and small stones 1633, probably post-demolition build-up. Abutting the outside of the corner was a well-preserved limestone surface 1625. South of this was an area of cobbling 1618, with a pitched limestone kerb running E-W between the two stone surfaces. The surface of 1618 was slightly higher than that of 1625, and 1625 may have been laid first, but the two were clearly in use contemporarily.

4.6.29 Overlying the corner formed by 1626 and 1627 and running west was a short length of wall 1628. This was constructed of rough-hewn limestones with straight edging stones bonded with clay, and was 0.60m wide. Continuing its line after a gap of 0.70m was a similar wall 1629, only 0.5 m wide, which continued west beyond the edge of the trench. Filling the gap between these walls and abutting both was a raised area of cobbling 1632 surrounded by a kerb of pitched lime stones, sloping down slightly southwards, which is interpreted as a threshold.

4.6.30 Walls 1628 and 1629 appear to represent an addition to the original building. North of these walls (inside the building) the same post-demolition layer 1633 was visible as within the corner formed by the larger walls. Cobbling 1625 stopped just short of wall 1628, so no direct relationship was established, but both walls 1628-9 and 1626-7 were abutted on the south side by a demolition layer 1616 directly overlying the cobbled surfaces, which suggests that the cobbling continued in use contemporary with the addition to the building. Layer 1616 contained late medieval pottery, stone roofing slates and ceramic roof tiles, post-medieval pins and lace tags and window glass of the 17th century (see 5.3, 5.5 and 5.6 below).

4.6.31 Further south another short length of N-S wall 1606 was found on the edge of the trench. This was constructed of rough-hewn limestones bonded with yellow sandy mortar; the width was not established as the east edge lay outside the trench. The west and southern edges were well-faced, the north edge was not fully exposed. At right angles to 1606 at its north end was wall 1607, of which a short length was exposed, but not the full width of the wall. Wall 1607 was at least 0.45 m deep on the southern side, where a construction cut 1608 was found common to both walls.

4.6.32 This structure was not the earliest phase of medieval activity, as the construction cut a crushed limestone surface 1605 which in turn overlay an area of flat limestone 1642, which was not fully exposed. The limestones were burnt on the surface, and this structure may have been a hearth. Surface 1605 was also cut by a pit, 1603. No relationships were established between this area and the walls at the north end of Trench 9, as the two were separated by an E-W cut 1612 which ran right across the trench, and which was itself cut by another gully or slot 1600, which lay just south of 1612, cutting through 1606 and turning a right angle northwards on the west side of the trench, to end just short of wall threshold 1632. Although it ended just outside the building and the fills of gully 1600 contained 17th century finds, both 1612 and 1600 cut the destruction layer 1616, and are thus likely to postdate the building.

4.6.33 Trench 10 lay just to the north of Tr. 9 and below recent deposits was crossed by a substantial robber trench running NNE-SSW (1804). Only the eastern edge of 1804 was visible, as it had been truncated to the west by a large pit. The robber trench was at least 1.60m wide and was dug to a depth of 0.50m. Robber trench 1804 has 17th century pottery in its fill, and is in line with wall 1627 in Trench 9, so probably represents robbing of the continuation of this wall. Its eastern edge had removed the western end and part of the uppermost course of an

E-W wall 1805 which continued beyond the east end of the trench. Only the southern edge of this wall (0.15 m) was visible. 1805 overlay layer 1806 which contained pottery dated to the 14th century, and below this were further surfaces and occupation deposits containing 11th or 12th century pottery. 1805 was presumably an internal wall within the building defined by 1626 and 1627.

4.7 The garden soils

4.7.1 South of the buildings and their associated surfaces in Trench 9 and throughout Trench 5 there was an extensive spread of garden soil (numbered variously 1623, 1641 and 1631 in Trench 9 and 897, 2011 and 2013 in Trench 5). This was a build-up nearly 1 m deep, and it was evident in section that several successive deposits were involved. The lowest part of the sequence, which directly overlay the fills of the Roman defensive ditches, consisted of 2013 overlain by 2011 in Trench 5. Above this there were slight changes as the accumulation progressed, but there were very few features cut from within this sequence to suggest significant occupation horizons. In Trench 9 the lower part of the sequence, numbered 1631, had a compact surface upon which the hearth and cobbled spreads associated with the buildings were laid. The upper part, numbered 1641 and 1623, overlay limestone surface 1605 and abutted wall 1606. This is equivalent to the excavated sample of 897, from which post-medieval lace tags and a buckle were recovered (see 5.5 below).

4.7.2 This accumulation continued to the south end of Trench 5, but west of the limits of the former western defensive ditch it shallowed considerably. The same accumulation was also observed south and east of the building in Trench 12, where a sondage was dug by machine to establish that no further medieval buildings were present, but no detailed recording was carried out. Here again the garden soils formed a gradual accumulation that filled the hollow left by the eastern Roman defensive ditch south of the causeway.

4.8 The cemetery

4.8.1 Cut into the top of 897 some 10 m south of the hearth and surfaces associated with the building in Trench 9 was a cemetery of west-east inhumations buried in graves surviving 0.2-0.35 m deep. The shallow depth of the graves suggests that they were originally dug into a greater depth of garden soil, but were later severely truncated, presumably by the cultivation of the upper part of the soil accumulation (layer 966=2000).

4.8.2 All the graves within the excavated trenches were investigated and the bodies cleaned and recorded in situ. None were lifted, though four of the most easterly graves were disturbed by the machining before the presence of the cemetery was recognised. Extension trenches were dug to the south, west and north to establish the limits of the cemetery, but few additional graves were found. A total of twenty skeletons were found in 18 graves. The burials represent a mixture of men, women and children of all ages (see 5.9, Human bone report). There was no indication of more than one layer of burials, and the cemetery was therefore presumably shortlived.

4.8.3 Of the 18 graves, only 6 (816, 822, 825, 828, 831, 834) contained iron nails indicating that the skeleton had been placed in a coffin. Copper alloy pins were also found with some of the skeletons, and in a number of cases a small green stain on the skull indicated the location of

a corroded shroud pin. Evidence from the lay cemetery of Abingdon Abbey suggests that coffins do not appear until the 13th century, and shroud pins do not appear until the 14th century, becoming much more common in the post-medieval period (Allen 1990; Allen in prep.). Animal bone, tile and pottery was found in reasonable quantities in the fills of the graves, along with a medieval coin (805), a lace tag (973) and fragments of disarticulated human bone (820, 832, 985). Dates provided by analysis of the pottery ranged from 12th to early 17th Century; but the earlier pottery is likely to be residual and derived from the soil accumulation into which the graves were cut.

4.8.4 Possible ditches to the south (996 running E-W) and east (999 running N-S) may delineate the limits of the cemetery in those directions, although these are not on precisely the same orientation as the graves, and no finds were recovered from the ditches. No such features were seen to the north or west. It is unlikely that graves were destroyed by the pits west of the excavated cemetery, as the majority of these pits were of medieval date, and to the east the hollow left by 854, the large medieval ditch, must have discouraged further burials. This would appear to have been a small cemetery. The date of the latest finds from the graves suggests that the burials took place at much the same time as the demolition of the building in the mid-17th century, that is during the English Civil War, and this may be an unrecorded cemetery dating from that time, similar to that found in the Vineyard (Allen 1989; Allen 1990)

4.9 Trenches 1, 4 and 6: activity close to Winsmore and St. Edmund's Lane (Figures 6 and 7)

Trench 1 (Figure 6).

4.9.1 This trench was located just to the east of Winsmore Lane in the north-western corner of the site. Beneath two tarmac surfaces and make-up deposits was a road or yard surface of granite sets bedded on further make-up deposits. These recent deposits had truncated the stratigraphy to the surface of the gravel. Below this a total of 18 pits were found in this trench of which 7 were identified as medieval (1423, 1425, 1439, 1445, 1446, 1447 and 1461). Of these 1445 contained only 11th century sherds, 1425 contained 14th century sherds and pit 1439 a group of late medieval pottery. One pit (1414) was 19th century and the rest are undated.

4.9.2 The largest medieval pits (1446) was 3.00m across and was excavated to a depth of 0.60m but was not bottomed. The pits generally intercut with one another and were clustered in the centre and the west of Trench 1, as would be expected of a zone of rubbish pits to the rear of properties fronting on the Winsmore Lane. Pit 1439 contained sheep foot bone which showed evidence of slaughter/ skinning processes (see 5.10, Animal bone report).

4.9.3 The post medieval pit 1414, located at the east end of the trench, was subrectangular in the shape 2.80m long and 0.80m wide, and at least 0.64m deep. Its long axis lay parallel to 1437, a wall on a WSW-ENE alignment which was traced for 15 m along the northern edge of Trench 1. It is possible that the two were related. 1437, of which only the top course was visible, was at least 0.85 m wide, and consisted of undressed limestones bonded with sandy clay. It was associated with a red tile floor seen in section, and appears on the 1st edition O.S. map of 1874 (see Figure 10).

Trench 4 (Figure 7)

4.9.4 Trench 4 was aligned NW-SE, and lay just to the east of Winsmore Lane within the former SEB yard. The uppermost 0.8 m of deposits consisted of the modern concrete and its make-up layers. Below this three zones of activity were identified within the trench: a series of undated ditches at its southern end, modern disturbance in the form of a soakaway in the centre and a dense cluster of pits and possible ditches to the north.

4.9.5 Due to the density and intercutting nature of the features at the NE end and the limited hand-excavation carried out, only 5 of the features have been positively identified as pits (651, 664, 679, 685). Machining revealed other deposits (646, 647, 648 and 649) which were not excavated but were probably the upper fills of pits. Three other features (669, 670 and 684) were excavated and described as ditches. 669, for example, was 5.5m wide, 1.50m deep and appeared aligned E-W. Its width was not consistent however, tapering to the east where it was only 2.00m wide. The small area investigated makes it equally possible that these features were large pits. All pottery recovered from this series of features was Saxon or medieval, the majority coming from the fills of 669, and suggesting a 14th century date. The uppermost fill 663 however contained a post medieval coin. One sherd of mid-Saxon date was found in an occupation layer at the south end of this area. The zone of pits and possible boundary ditches is consistent with the type of activity to be expected to the rear of medieval properties fronting onto Winsmore Lane.

4.9.6 In contrast the features at the south east end of Trench 4 were 3 ditches, all aligned NNE-SSW. Although a trench was excavated across two of the three, there were no finds and all are undated. 714 was approximately 2 m wide and 0.5 m deep with a V-profile. 687 has a similar profile but with a rounded base and is approximately 4 m wide and 1.35m deep. 687 appears to be a recut of 688, which has a similar profile. Both phases of ditch were filled with a succession of silty clay layers containing varying proportions of gravel and sand, indicating natural silting. The top fills also contained small stones, whose origin is less clear. A continuation of one of these ditches was partly excavated at the west end of Trench 5 (ditch 934).

4.9.7 Between Trenches 4 and 6 lies Trench 5, the medieval evidence for which is illustrated on Figure 4. Another zone of medieval pits was found at the west end, including pits 924, 926, 928 and 930 (which were partly excavated) and pit 997 (which was not), all of which contained pottery suggesting dates in the 12th-13th centuries. How far this pit zone continued east was not established, as the burials were not lifted, and thus the underlying deposits were not investigated. However, further medieval pits were found just east of the cemetery, two of which (983 and 912) were partly excavated. Pit 983 also produced pottery of 13th century date from fill 949; no finds were recovered from pit 912, but this was cut from within the garden soil build-up collectively called 897, so is clearly medieval. Both features were sampled for waterlogged plant remains (see 5.11, S11 and SS 12 and 13 below). The sample from pit 983 contained a predominance of arable weeds, while the sample from 912 indicated that this was a cess pit containing plum stones, apple pips and the puparia of sewage flies. Also present were charred cereal grains and associated weeds, flax capsules and bean beetles suggesting crop processing and storage. The western pits may have belonged to properties on Winsmore Lane or St Edmund's Lane, but more likely the group as a whole was associated with the medieval buildings in Trenches 3 and 9-12..

4.9.8 The eastern side of a large ditch 934 was partially excavated at the western limit of Trench 5 and appears to be the same as ditch 687 in Trench 4. Again no dating evidence was

recovered. The alignment of this ditch makes it possible that this is the same feature as ditch 233 excavated at the north end of Trench 6 (see 4.4.1 above).

Trench 6 (Figure 7)

4.9.8 Trench 6 is aligned NNE-SSW and lies just to the east of the Morlands brewery building in the Municipal Car Park. The uppermost 0.8 m of deposit consisted of the make-up for the car park or of post-medieval wall and associated features or soils belonging to the 19th century Brewery. Below this medieval activity in the form of a ditch, well and group of pits was observed cut into the natural gravel, as was an Iron Age ditch. The latter has already been described (see 4.4.1 above).

4.9.9. A well lay in the middle of the trench. 261 was the unexcavated construction cut for a well, and had a diameter of 2.3 m. The masonry of the well itself (217) was formed of roughly hewn blocks of limestone forming a lining 0.25m thick and the diameter of the well-shaft was 1.40m. The deposit filling this shaft contained pottery dated 1075-1200AD.

4.9.10 Four pits were excavated (215, 237, 242, 297) evenly spaced through the trench, with 215 cutting the fill of 261. Pottery found in these pits was all early medieval (1050-1200AD). The medieval pits and well are consistent with activity at the rear of properties fronting onto St. Edmund's Lane.

4.9.11 Most of the southern part of the trench was taken up with a large feature cut into the gravel. Its eastern edge was seen in section and had a steep profile. This feature was not fully excavated, and may have been either a large, curvilinear ditch aligned roughly N-S or alternatively a gravel pit. Pottery recovered from fill 270 was Late Saxon, dated 900-1050 AD.

4.9.12 A single skeleton (266) was found aligned N-S in the south-western corner of Trench 6 overlying the large feature described above. It was prone, with its skull to the north, and the elbows were bent outwards from the sides (see 5.9, Human bone report for further details). No grave cut was seen, suggesting that it had been placed or thrown into this position and subsequently covered with a layer of soil (267). This soil contained early 15th Century pottery. The isolated position of this skeleton and the manner of burial suggests that this burial was illicit.

4.9.13 A series of walls (202 a and b, 203 and 204) run across the trench, and can be matched to walls on the 1st edition O.S. map of 1874 (Figure 10) where they appear to be part of a once much larger brewery building. Constructed of roughly hewn limestone blocks and bonded with grey mortar, they averaged 0.70m thick. A tiled cellar floor appeared to accompany wall 203.

4.10 The palaeochannel: Trench 8 and the west end of Trench 7 (Figure 8)

4.10.1 Trench 8 was aligned N-S at the south-western corner of the site. Excavation by machine revealed a succession of thick post-medieval deposits dumped into a linear feature running N-S, only the eastern edge of which lay within the trench. This edge (421) sloped gently downwards, and was not bottomed. The water table was very high in this trench, appearing at a depth of only 1 m. 421 cut 413, a waterlogged deposit with good organic preservation, which was undated but may have been the fill of an earlier channel. A sample of

layer 413 was taken for molluscs and waterlogged plant remains, which showed that it was either the fill of a palaeochannel or of a ditch carrying flowing water (see 5.11, S5 below).

4.10.2 The trench lay immediately to the south of the former Morland's brewery building shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1874, and also shown on this map is a water course running south from the brewery to the river Ock (see Figure 10). This water course appears in canalised form on the 1874 map and as a waterfilled ditch in the Christ's Hospital map of 1844. The excavation in Trench 8 would appear to have recovered phases of this ditch or palaeochannel shown on the 19th century maps.

4.10.3 At the extreme west end of Trench 7 the eastern edge of a large linear feature 96 was investigated (see also Figure 3). It was aligned N-S and was at least 17m wide, with a flat base and very gently sloping edge, and a depth of 0.40m. Two waterlogged peaty fills 91 and 92 lay either side of a laminated sand and silt deposit 95 at its base. No finds were recovered from this feature but stratigraphically it was probably prehistoric, being overlain by layer 130, a fill of Roman ditch 57. A sample of layer 91 was examined for waterlogged plant remains, and this showed that the feature held stagnant water, and also that settlement lay in the vicinity (see 5.11, S1 below). Layer 95 had the appearance of redeposited material, and may have been waterborne, suggesting that 96 may have been a palaeochannel. This may be a much earlier phase of the N-S watercourse identified in Trench 8.

4.10.4 Also identified in Trench 7 were two more groups of pits, one in the centre and one at the east end. Three of those in the middle part of the trench were excavated and dated as medieval (40, 42 and 48), with pottery dating to 1075-1200 AD for 48 and 14th-15th century for 40 and 42. These pits lie west of the Shitebourne, and perhaps belonged to the late medieval Banbury Court, which ran from West St. Helen Street south of St. Edmund's Lane down to the river Ock (Amyce 1554, 10). The pits at the east end of the trench were not excavated by hand, though post-medieval pottery was recovered from pit 23.

4.11 East of the ditches: Trench 2, Trench 13 and the east end of Trench 5 (Figure 9)

4.11.1 Trench 2, aligned WNW-ESE, was located immediately to the west of and at right angles to West St Helens Street in a gap between existing properties. Because of the proximity of standing buildings the trench could not be excavated below a depth of 1.5 m, and was shored rather than stepped. The excavation was also hampered by the presence of live services, which meant that a complete section was not obtained. In the eastern part of Trench 3 and in Trench 13 closest to Trench 2 the depth of recent soils was greater than usual across the site, and as expected the bottom of the stratigraphy was not seen in Trench 2 except in one place, where the natural subsoil (1233) appeared at a height of 72.72m O.D. East of this were the remains of a former cellared building on West St. Helen Street, and to the west a series of undated deep features were identified in section which may have been large pits or ditches. One of these features cut into the natural subsoil. West of this a layer of packed limestone fragments (1241) extended 4.5m across the base of the trench (at 52.63m O.D) and may have been a cobbled surface. This layer represented the bottom of the excavation at this end of the trench.

4.11.2 At the eastern end of Trench 2 a wall (1240) protruded into the trench from the south for a distance of 0.90m. It was 0.50m wide; its full depth was not ascertained but it was excavated to a depth of 0.95m. It was constructed of rough hewn limestone blocks becoming larger towards the base, and there was no regular coursing. No bonding material had survived

and no construction cut was seen. To the west of this wall successive layers of rubble and soil accumulated against it, one of which (1245) contained pottery dated 1075-1200AD. To the east 1240 was abutted by a post-medieval dump at least 1.10m thick. Two further walls ran into the trench from the north and ended in line with the north end of 1240; both were parallel to 1240 but were offset 0.50m to the west. Wall 1238 was built of limestone blocks bonded with a grey mortar, and this was abutted by wall 1255, which was made of frogged bricks and which overlapped with 1240.

4.11.3 Wall 1240 was possibly medieval, and appears to have been the back wall of a room which later became a cellar. Walls 1238 and 1255 were later additions, possibly representing blocking of a doorway, and 1239 represents the final filling in of the cellar. Wall 1240 is in line with the rear of the standing building to the south, and was probably the back wall of a similar tenement fronting onto West St. Helen Street.

4.11.4 Running N-S across the centre of Trench 2 was a large robber trench (1223) 1.20m wide and 0.70m deep. A small section of E-W masonry 1227 had survived to a length of 1.30m and a width of 0.30m. It was constructed of limestone blocks with a decayed sandy silt mortar, and was observed to a depth of 0.35m. This wall and robbing correspond to the corner of a building shown on the 1st edition O.S. map of 1874 (see Figure 10).

4.11.5 Trench 13 was a foundation trench cut for the construction of a new rear wall to the Co-op store, and was visited by T Allen before the evaluation proper began. The trench had been machined to a depth of 1.8 m throughout, revealing a very deep accumulation of homogeneous silty loam resembling garden soil containing finds dating from the 17th to the 19th centuries below the 0.5 m of modern make-up. There was no trace of natural subsoil in the base of the trench, which was the same homogeneous soil as the sides. Two sondages 0.3 m square were dug by hand to a depth of 2.7 m, but although the character of the soil became stiffer the soil was not bottomed. This soil accumulation can be matched at the east end of Trench 3 where an accumulation of 2.6 m of thick layers of similar soils was recorded overlying the medieval ditch 1087 and the uppermost fills of the Roman defensive ditch.

4.11.6 Trench 5 continued east 5 m beyond the defensive ditches. A thin band of natural gravel overlain by subsoil 2023 was seen immediately east of ditch 854, within which the probable prehistoric burial 948 was found (see 4.4.4 above), but the rest of the trench was occupied by a very large post-medieval pit or cellar, which was not bottomed.

5 Finds and environmental reports

5.1 Iron Age and Roman pottery

by Paul Booth

5.1.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced 10 sherds (225 g) of Iron Age and 481 sherds (14,654 g) of Roman pottery. The Roman pottery was very largely of 1st-2nd century date. The material came from some 78 contexts, of which 49 contained only Roman and three (21, 253 and 254) only Iron Age pottery. Medieval and post-medieval pottery was common on the site but while some mixed

groups were present the extent of mixing was relatively slight. Some 83 Roman sherds (17.3%) occurred in contexts dated ceramically to the medieval or post-medieval periods.

The pottery was scanned briefly to provide context spot-dates, and post-Roman pottery was separated at this stage. The Iron Age and Roman material was then re-examined to provide more information on fabrics, forms and chronology, but was not comprehensively recorded at this stage of the project. The material was generally in good condition and the average sherd weight (over 25 g for the Iron Age sherds and just over 30 g for the Roman) was noticeably large. Even if amphora and large storage jar sherds, which skew such figures, are excluded, the average Roman sherd size was still a fairly substantial 17.5 g.

5.1.2 Iron Age

The Iron Age sherds were recorded using standard codes indicating the two principal inclusion types and the degree of coarseness of the inclusions, on a scale from 1 (very fine) to 5 (very coarse). Inclusion types present in this group were A (quartz sand), C (calcareous grit), S (shell) and V (organic material). N indicates an absence of a second major inclusion. The following fabrics were present:

AC3 (1 sherd, 88 g); AS3 (4 sherds, 97 g); AV3 (1 sherd, 27 g); CA3 (1 sherd, 26g); SA5 (2 sherds, 10 g) and SN5 (1 sherd, 7 g).

The principally sand-tempered sherds are most commonly of middle Iron Age date though they can occur earlier. All the present examples were middle Iron Age. The sand-tempered sherds were significantly larger than the shell-tempered ones, for which an early Iron Age date is more likely. The latter were clearly residual, whereas the sand-tempered sherds may indicate a little middle Iron Age activity within the site. Sand-tempered sherds came from 21 and 254, two of the three contexts which contained only Iron Age material; the third context contained the single sherd of fabric CA3, a base sherd from context 253 at the bottom of ditch 233. Since ditch 233 contained both fill 253 and 254, and produced only Iron Age pottery, a middle Iron Age date seems very likely for the ditch and its associated burial 236. A single vessel rim, from a barrel shaped jar of characteristic middle Iron Age form, occurred in fabric AV3.

5.1.3 Roman

For convenience of reference the term Roman includes pottery in fabrics (E wares, see below) which are of late Iron Age character but which continued in use after the Roman conquest. In the present assemblage it is not possible to determine which, if any, of these are likely to have been in use before the conquest, but the balance of the assemblage suggests (subjectively) that the majority of not all of the E wares present are likely to have been of post-conquest date.

5.1.3.1 Fabrics

The pottery was divided into major ware groups, defined on the basis of significant common characteristics. These ware groups can be combined to constitute two main classes of material,

fine and specialist wares on the one hand, and on the other the rest of the coarse wares. The fine and specialist ware groups (identified by the initial letter of the fabric code) are: samian ware (S), fine wares - colour-coated, lead glazed, mica coated etc - (F), amphorae (A), mortaria (M), white wares - other than mortaria - (W), and white slipped wares (Q), the last group was not represented in this assemblage. The remaining ware groups are: 'Belgic type' (in the sense of Thompson 1982, 4-5, see above), usually grog-tempered, fabrics (E), 'Romanised' oxidised coarse wares (O), 'Romanised' reduced coarse wares (R), black-burnished ware (B) and calcareous (particularly shell) tempered wares (C).

Within these classes are hierarchically arranged subgroups, usually defined on the basis of inclusion type, and individual fabrics/wares are then indicated at a third level of precision, both levels of subdivision being expressed by numeric codes. Thus R20 is a general code for sandy reduced coarse wares, while R21 is a specific sandy reduced Oxfordshire product. For the bulk of the present assemblage fabric identification was at the intermediate level of precision. The following Roman wares were recorded:

- S20. South Gaulish samian ware. 5 sherds, 35 g.
- S30. Central Gaulish samian ware. 4 sherds, 41 g.
- F35. ?Oxfordshire mica-dusted ware. 1 sherd, 5 g.
- F51. Oxfordshire colour-coated ware. 5 sherds, 93 g.
- F52. Nene Valley colour-coated ware. 1 sherds, 8 g.
- A11. South Spanish amphorä fabric (Dressel 20 etc). 4 sherds, 1168 g.
- A13. ?South Gaulish amphora fabric. 1 sherd, 5 g.
- M22. Oxfordshire white mortarium fabric. 4 sherds, 391 g.
- W10. General ?Oxfordshire white ware, fairly fine. 12 sherds, 181 g.
- W12. Oxfordshire white ware. 4 sherds, 142 g.
- W20. Oxfordshire coarse sandy white ware. 15 sherds, 400 g.
- E20. Fine sandy 'Belgic type' ware. 13 sherds, 563 g.
- E30. Coarse sandy 'Belgic type' ware. 32 sherds, 887 g.
- E60. Flint-tempered 'Belgic type' ware. 3 sherds, 55 g.
- E80. Grog-tempered 'Belgic type' ware. 30 sherds, 1115 g.
- O10. Oxfordshire fine oxidised ware. 16 sherds, 350 g.
- O20. Oxfordshire coarse sandy oxidised ware. 4 sherds, 113 g.
- R10. Oxfordshire fine reduced ware. 44 sherds, 808 g.
- R20. Oxfordshire coarse sandy reduced ware. 64 sherds, 1273 g.
- R30. Oxfordshire medium sandy reduced ware. 132 sherds, 2771 g.
- R60. Organic-tempered reduced ware. 1 sherd, 28 g.
- R90. Oxfordshire coarse-tempered reduced fabrics. 74 sherds, 4052 g.
- B11. Black-burnished ware (BB1). 4 sherds, 15 g.
- C10. Shell-tempered ware. 1 sherd, 4 g.

The bulk of the assemblage consisted of reduced coarse wares (66.9% of the total sherds), supplemented by the Belgic type fabrics (16.2% of sherds). The 'fine and specialist' wares together constituted 11.6% of the sherd total, white wares comprising the bulk of this material. A notable feature of the fine and specialist wares was the occurrence of a sherd in a mica dusted fabric (F35), perhaps an early 2nd century product of the kilns at Lower Farm, Nuneham Courtenay. Other aspects of the assemblage were as expected, but the early Roman fine ware fabrics noted at The Vineyard, Abingdon, where they occurred particularly as butt beakers and related forms, were largely absent here. The sherds of Oxford colour-coated ware (F51) were among the very few indicators of a late Roman component in the assemblage. Four of these five

sherds, however, occurred residually in contexts of medieval date. The amphora sherds, mainly of South Spanish Dressel 20, are characteristic of other Abingdon assemblages though rare on rural sites in the region. Mortaria were entirely Oxford products and occurred exclusively as 2nd century forms.

It is notable that the majority of the E ware group was composed of sand-tempered sherds rather than the usually more common grog-tempered (E80) fabrics. This probably suggests that the chronological emphasis of these wares is in the later part of their range. The sand-tempered fabrics of the E20 and E30 groups comprise the direct antecedents of the more 'Romanised' R10-R30 wares, which dominated the assemblage, while the tradition of the technologically more conservative E80 wares continued in the primarily grog-tempered R90 ware group, used mainly for large storage jars in the Roman period, a use which accounts for the very high average sherd weight of this group. A relatively local origin seems likely for most if not all the sherds of these groups. A few sherds were assigned to fabric R95, probable Savernake ware, almost the only non-local coarse fabric. A few sherds of Dorset black-burnished ware (BB1) also occurred. These were probably all of 2nd century date, their scarcity being a consequence of the restricted chronological range of the assemblage. The single shell-tempered sherd was probably an early Roman product of regional origin rather than of the common late Roman fabric.

5.1.3.2 *Vessel types*

Vessels were assigned to generalised classes at this stage, though specific individual types were noted where appropriate. Seventy-five vessels were represented by rim sherds and were assigned to the following classes (with their class codes in brackets):

Flagons (B), 1
Jars (C), 40
Jars/bowls (uncertain type), 8
Beakers (E), 5
Cups (F), 1
Bowls (H), 3
Bowls/dishes (uncertain type), 6
Dishes (J), 7
Mortaria (K), 2
Lids (L), 1

The range of vessel types was thus fairly wide, although only jars were particularly common. They comprised 53.3% of all rims, 64.9% if all examples of the uncertain jar/bowl category are included. Jars occurred in reduced and E wares and also in coarse white ware (W20) fabrics. A single black-burnished ware cooking pot also falls into this category. Bowls and dishes were found in a number of different fabrics, but apart from a single example in E20 did not occur in 'Belgic type' fabrics, which usually had a heavy emphasis on jars. The only lid from the site was in such a fabric, however.

Beakers also occurred in a variety of fabrics, including sandy white ware and reduced coarse wares. A rim of a Nene Valley ware 'hunt cup' (beaker) was a slightly unexpected find, dating as it does to the late 2nd century, a period not otherwise well-represented in this assemblage. The only cup from the site was a South Gaulish Drag 27, itself the only samian ware rim: forms 37 and possibly 18 and 31 were recognisable from samian body sherds.

5.1.4.3 Chronology and discussion

The small quantity of pre-Roman pottery suggests low level activity in the middle Iron Age with the likelihood that early Iron Age occupation had also been present somewhere in the area. The question of continuity of activity from the middle to 'late' Iron Age on this site must remain open. The Roman assemblage contains material dating from the conquest period up to the late 3rd-4th centuries. As already indicated it is not possible to determine which E ware products are certainly pre or post conquest, but the balance of the fabrics suggests a later rather than an earlier date. These must, however, have been largely if not entirely residual by the last quarter of the 1st century.

The nature of the Romanised fabrics, the earliest of which (particularly R20) may have appeared shortly after the middle of the 1st century is such as to suggest that they belong mostly to the 1st and 2nd centuries rather than later, the characteristic later Roman reduced wares being largely absent. It must be admitted, however, that this is a subjective and unquantifiable impression. The general absence of late Roman material is supported by the evidence of other fabrics, eg in the general paucity of typical late Oxford products such as fabric F51 and the total absence of late white ware mortarium forms, usually much more common than the earlier types (Young 1977, M1 and M2) represented here. The relative absence of black-burnished ware and of typical late Antonine samian ware also suggest that the great bulk of the assemblage dates from before the later 2nd century. This chronological pattern is broadly reminiscent of The Vineyard, which also had a substantial early Roman phase apparently terminating by about the middle of the 2nd century AD. The distinction between mid-late 1st century and late 1st-early 2nd century phases, which appeared to be fairly clear at The Vineyard, was less apparent here, though pottery of both these date brackets was present on this site. The fine reduced wares (R10 fabrics), for example, are typical of the latter phase. Occasional R10 sherds were noted with the fine rouletting or barbotine decoration characteristic of this period.

The pottery generally correlated well with the stratigraphic sequence. For example the eastern defensive ditch 1080 in Trench 3 contained groups dated mid-late 1st century in its lower fills, with 2nd century material thereafter, and the corresponding ditch cut 941 in Trench 5 also produced early (ie mid-late 1st century) pottery. The basal fill of the western defensive ditch in Trench 3, however, layer 1039, was dated to the 1st half of the 2nd century.

A later Roman phase may have been present, although as already indicated, the total quantity of probable late Roman material was small and much of what there was occurred residually in medieval contexts. The extent of medieval activity was such that scattered late Roman features were probably largely truncated by medieval ones. The overall quantity of late Roman pottery does not indicate large scale activity here at this time, even allowing for later disturbance. The late Roman phase observable at The Vineyard is much more substantial in ceramic terms, though there again a good deal of the material occurred residually in later deposits.

5.2 Post-Roman Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

5.2.1 *Assessment*

The post-Roman pottery assemblage from this site comprised 742 sherds with a total weight of 18,535g. The majority of context-specific assemblages were of early medieval or later date, although a few smaller groups may be late Saxon or Saxo-Norman. Four redeposited early/middle Saxon sherds also occurred.

All the Saxon fabrics are types which are known from excavations from both Abingdon and the surrounding region (eg Parrington 1975; Mellor 1994), such as St Neots ware, south-west Oxfordshire ware, Oxford Shelly ware and calcareous gravel-tempered wares of the Cotswolds tradition. A single Stamford ware handle with and inlaid plait in the thumb-groove is worthy of comment, as such wares appear scarce in the region, although finds have been made in Abingdon itself (Parrington 1975, 33). Of these fabrics, only St. Neots ware can be taken as a certain indicator of late Saxon activity, as the other fabrics continue in use into the earlier medieval period. Only five sherds of St. Neots ware occurred at this site.

The ceramic evidence for early medieval activity is more convincing. Significant quantities of Saxo-Norman/early medieval wares such as Oxford ware, both glazed and unglazed, were present, along with sherds from vessels which appear to be part of the Abingdon ware tradition, although this will need confirmation by more detailed fabric analysis. There are also significant quantities (71 sherds, 1329g) of an early medieval sandy ironstone ware which may be of local origin, as it cannot, at this early stage of analysis, easily be paralleled at other sites in the vicinity.

The later medieval pottery is mostly typical of the region. The Brill/Boarstall wares can all be paralleled at other sites, although a bunghole cistern fragment and a hollow handle from a puzzle- or knight-jug/aquamanile are worthy of comment for their rarity value. However, the quantity of the ware at this site, when compared with the other medieval pottery types, is rather low when compared with other sites in the area (see Mellor 1994). This would suggest that activity at the site, in terms of ceramic deposition, had all but ceased by c. AD1300, as Brill/Boarstall wares usually form the overwhelming majority in pottery assemblages of the 14th and 15th centuries in the region.

The site also produced a relatively large quantity (35 sherds, 860gm) of Surrey Whitewares, which do not occur in significant numbers at places such as Oxford or Eynsham Abbey. It may be that Abingdon represents the limit of the northern distribution of the ware, with competition from the already established Brill/Boarstall industries being the reason. This certainly deserves further consideration.

The post-medieval wares are largely unremarkable, and consist predominantly of well-documented types. However, mentioned should be made of a single sherd of Dutch Slipware, which is an extremely unusual find at inland sites. Some of the local red earthenwares cannot be paralleled at this time, and may be from a local source. Certainly, the production of such wares took place at numerous sources, usually with a localized market, and the evidence from Eynsham

and the Gloucestershire Road Scheme sites indicates that there are numerous, unprovenanced types which require detailed analysis and publication.

Generally, in chronological terms, the pottery assemblage indicates that there was domestic activity at the site between the later part of the 11th century (at the earliest) and the mid to late 13th century. After that there appears to be something of a hiatus, until the later 16th century, when ceramic is again deposited at the site in quantity.

5.2.2 *Statement of potential for further analysis*

The majority of the pottery assemblage so far recovered from the Abingdon Cinema site comprises types which are well known in the region, and would require minimal publication other than number and weight of sherds, fragmentation, vessel types etc, along with a few illustrations of sherds which are considered worthy. Very little pottery of the period from the town has received analysis and publication in recent years, even at such a basic level as that suggested here. However, the following topics are considered to be significant enough to warrant detailed analysis:

- i) The quartz and ironstone tempered coarseware which appears to be unique to the town.
- ii) The Surrey whitewares. Abingdon may represent the most northerly distribution of the ware in the region, and may provide some insights into the distribution and market areas of the pottery type and others such as Brill/Boarstall ware.
- iii) The late/post medieval Red Earthenwares at the site appear to be from several, as yet unidentified, sources. The detailed analysis of these will help clarify what appears to be a major problem in the analysis of the pottery of the period in the region.
- iv) The Dutch Slipware sherd, which is a very unusual find at inland sites, and may be unique in Oxfordshire, although confirmation of this is required.

5.2.3 *Bibliography*

Mellor, M, 1994 A Synthesis of Middle and Late Saxon, Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Pottery in the Oxford Region Oxoniensia, 59, 17-218

Parrington, M, 1975 'Excavations at Broad Street, Abingdon' Oxoniensia 40, 5-58

5.3.1 Five decorated floor-tiles and approximately 370 roof-tile fragments were recovered from the evaluation. These were examined in order to gauge the potential of the tile on the site. Questions addressed were: the number, character and proportions of the fabrics, the proportion and form of the ridge-tile (and other pieces of interest), and the possibility for dating and sourcing.

5.3.2 *Technology*

Of the five floor-tiles, at least four were decorated with white clay inlay and three of these still retain their clear glaze. They all belong to the 'Stabbed Wessex' tradition (being of fabric 8, which is equivalent to fabric IIIB in the Oxford tile series) and having stabbed keying on their undersides. The fifth tile was identified as a floor tile by its thickness, fabric and stabbed keying on the underside; this is very worn and may have been a plain tile. One of these tiles has been scored and snapped diagonally for use as a half tile at the edge of a floor or floor panel.

The vast majority of the assemblage comprises flat, plain, unglazed roof-tile fragments, with just over 10% showing one or two peg-holes for their suspension. A few gently curving tiles were noted which may have been plain ridge-tiles, but only 3 certain ridge-tiles with spurs are present. Two of these are in fabric 10 (Oxford fabric IB) with a flaky light green glaze. Both thumbbed and knife-cut ridge spurs were noted in this fabric, and the combination of both styles in the same fabric is also known at The Hamel and St. Ebbe's in Oxford (S. Robinson, in N. Palmer 1980, 196 and Fiche 2.D.12; Mellor in Hassall et al. 1989, 248-250), at The Mount House in Witney (Duncan unpublished) and at Dean Court, a grange of Abingdon Abbey in Cumnor parish (Duncan in Allen 1994, 354-7), if Dean Court fabric 2 is indeed Oxford IB. The same flaky light green glaze was noted at all these sites. Some tiles, certainly in fabric 14, were glazed only on the part that would be visible once in place on the roof.

Two patterned tiles are Roman: one is a small fragment showing a chevron keying pattern 4mm deep, the other tile is part of a box-flue tile with a broken ridge along one of its edges and a rolled or stamped keying pattern on the opposite side (identification by Leigh Allen).

5.3.3 *Fabric*

An independent fabric series was created for the tiles as recording proceeded. 15 fabrics were identified (including fabric 5 which is not ceramic but limestone). Of the 14 ceramic fabrics numbers 1 and 9 may be the same, and fabric 2 is likely to be a higher-fired version of fabric 4. Fabric 4 dominates the assemblage, comprising just over 50% of all the tiles.

The fabric series was compared with the Oxford tile fabric series originally established by S. Robinson for excavations at The Hamel. Four fabrics correspond closely with those of the established Oxford series, and fabric 10 can certainly be matched with fabric 4 of the fabric series from The Mount House, Witney (abbreviated WMH). Only those considered to be a perfect match are related in the table below:

Table 2 Tile fabric frequency

Fabric	Equivalent Fabric	No. of Sherds	No. of Contexts Represented	Ridge-tile
1		34	10	1
2		32	9	
3		22	7	
4	Oxford IVB	182	39	
5		3	3	
6		9	7	
7		9	6	
8	Oxford IIIB	3	3	
9	Oxford IVA	11	2	
10	Oxford IB and WMH 4	7	6	2
11		14	11	
12		1	1	
13		1	1	
14		10	4	
15		1	1	

Less certain are correlations between fabric 6 and Oxford fabric IIIA, between fabric 3 and WMH 1; and between fabric 6 and WMH 3, which appears to be a partially vitrified version. (In the WMH fabric series held at the OAU two tiles of apparently different fabric are kept as being representative of WMH fabric 7, and they appear to correspond to fabrics 4 and 8 in the present study). Further analysis might confirm all of these matches, providing important further clues as to source and date.

One of the Roman tiles is in fabric 3, the other in fabric 13; neither fabric has been successfully related to other sites, and neither can be closely dated.

5.3.4 The source of the tiles

Three of the fabrics matched with the Oxford series have been assigned a source: Fabric 8, (Oxford IIIB), which includes here both roof-tile and the 'Stabbed Wessex' inlaid floor-tiles, is widely accepted as originating from the Newbury/Reading area, (Lambrick 1985, 186); Fabric 9, (Oxford IVa), is considered to be from S.E. Oxfordshire, possibly Nettlebed, (Lambrick 1985, 186), while the calcareous gravel of fabric 10 (Oxford IB) suggests an origin to the N.W. of Oxford, (Sharpe 1985, 118).

5.3.5 Dating

Only two of the five 'Stabbed Wessex' floor-tiles have surfaces sufficiently intact to enable comparison with other sites. One of these is Loyd Haberly design XXIV or XXV while the other is best paralleled at Eynsham Abbey, Eames catalogue number 11390. Eames dates the latter as being 13th century although it is not recorded as being of the 'Stabbed Wessex' school, often dated as being 1280-1330. This date range is likely to apply to all five of the floor-tiles and may also be the date of the three fragments of roof-tile in this fabric 8.

The best dating evidence from the roof-tile is gained by making local comparison with ridge-tile form, glaze and fabric of fabric 10 tiles. This is a distinctive fabric (Oxford fabric IB) that has been noted at several sites across Oxford in both tile and pottery, and is generally considered to be an early medieval ware (Lambrick 1985, 186). However, in tile form, with similar ridge tile forms well represented and with the distinctive flaky, green glaze, it is seen at The Hamel in 13th century contexts, at both Osney Abbey and St. Ebbe's from the 14th century onwards, at St. Aldate's only in later medieval phases and at Blackfriars in post-medieval contexts.

5.3.6 *Conclusions and statement of potential*

The presence of at least 12 fabric groups amongst the material so far collected suggests either a long tradition of ceramic roofing on the site or a tradition of regular refurbishment of roofing. In either case the considerable sequence is to be valued for its potential to trace, in combination with other dating material from these contexts, the chronological development of both roof-tile style and supply in the area. It may for instance be possible to demonstrate that the near ubiquity of fabric 4 throughout the contexts represents the longevity of use of a single production centre.

The tiles show at least two different regions of manufacture, to the north-west and to the south-east of Oxford. Whether this reflects a change in choice of production centres over time is a question that merits study of a larger assemblage from the site. The dating evidence indicates the possibility of tiled roofs from the late 12th/early 13th centuries, (fabric 8), on through to likely later medieval fabric 10 with its distinctive ridge-tile forms and glaze.

5.3.7 **Bibliography**

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5.4 The Moulded Stone

by Julian Munby

5.4.1 Nine pieces of moulded stone were examined. All but one were limestone, shelly limestone or oolitic limestone. The three moulded pieces are probably medieval, mostly likely 13th or 14th-century in date. The attached shafts (Context Nos. 1137 & 1250) are most probably from a door or window, but possibly from a stone vault. An angled piece (7) may be a voussoir. One piece of interest (3) is a romanesque shaft, decorated with spiral or zig-zag and pellets, which is perhaps of the 12th century but deserves further investigation. A sizable fragment of figured sculpture (5), with drapes painted in purple decorated with red and gold is probably from the figure of a saint, perhaps of 14th-century date. A fragment of a stone mortar in Purbeck marble (12) is an interesting example of a 'luxury' item which was traded throughout England from its Dorset origin, and is likely also to be of 14th-century date; examples of these have also been found in Oxford at sites in St. Thomas' Hamel, and St. Ebbe's.

5.4.2 CATALOGUE (see sketch attached)

- 14 Roll moulding in shelly limestone. [Context 1803]
- 5 Fragment of figured sculpture in oolitic limestone: drapes on lower part of body, with decorated hem lines and ?belt with damaged item at end. Coloured with chocolate/purple ground, marked with black fringes, and bands of edging in ochre decorated with gold and red (black lines are perhaps base for gold). Unstratified.
- 12 Rim fragment of mortar in Purbeck marble (see G.C. Dunning 'Stone mortars' in *Med. Archaeol.* 5 (1961), 279-84). [Context 2241]
- 15 Chamfered block in shelly limestone with square hollowed centre. [Context 22]
- 7 Trapezoid shaped stone in oolitic limestone, possible voussoir from flat arch. [Context 2202]
- 3 Decorated romanesque shaft (spirals or zig-zag, and pellets) in oolitic limestone. [Context 1807]
- 13 Ashlar fragment in limestone. [Context 1145]
- 1 Attached shaft (door or window) in limestone. [Context 1137]
- 2 Hollows of attached shaft (shaft missing) in limestone. [Context 1250]
- 6, 9-11 Stone slates (various fragments). [Contexts 1616 & 2202]

5.5 Assessment report upon the metal and worked bone artefacts
Allen

by Leigh

5.5.1 Factual Data

Quantification

The following material categories have been assessed in this report: copper alloy(39), iron(26), lead(13), worked bone(1), shale(1) and paste(1). The preliminary identification, phase and site details are summarized in the following tables.

Table 3: Copper Alloy

Object	SF No	Ctx	Description	Date
Coin	3	128		RB
Coin	6	128		RB
Coin	21	805		Med
Coin	32	1122		Med
Coin	43	1172		Med
Coin	18	633		PM
Coin	48	1160		PM
Buckle frame	11	55	Double oval buckle with an ornate outside edge, lobes at junctions of bar and frame and at four symmetrical points on the frame. The pin is missing.	PM
Buckle frame	4	128	Double oval buckle with an ornate decoration consisting of three openwork lobes along the outside edge. The pin is iron.	PM
Buckle frame	39	1616	Oval buckle frame with offset narrowed bar. The pin is missing.	PM
Finger ring	25	897	Fragment from a finger ring with a circular hoop and a setting(now missing) in a circular bezel. The position of the original setting is surrounded by an incised circle and radiating grooves.	PM
Button	24	897	Plain, circular discoidal button with looped attachment. The button is tin plated.	PM

Object	SF No	Ctx	Description	Date
Bar mount	44	1160	A rectangular bar mount with circular terminal lobes each with a rivet through it. The bar has a D-shaped section.	Med
Mount	46	1160	Shield shaped sheet plate with a bar mount at the attachment end. The bar mount is missing, but the two rivets that would have secured it are present, as is the rivet through the plate.	Med
Fitting	26	897	Decorated sheet fragment with a circular perforation in one corner. An archer with his bow is depicted on the sheet. The bow stands out against a border of tiny punched dots. The crude outline of the archer is also picked out in punched dots.	Med?
Lace tags	34 29 28 42 41	1116 1803 973 1616 1616	Fragments from 5 lace tags were recovered. They are two types represented. The first type has edges that meet with the lace secured by a transverse rivet. The second type has both edges folding	Late Med- PM
Pins	30 27 -	1602 1248 1126	Fragments from three very fine pin shanks were recovered, in each case the head was missing.	PM
Pin	40 38 58 60 65	1616 1616 2212 2211 2241	Eleven pins with spherical wire wound heads were recovered.	Late Med- PM
Strap loop	47	1160	A D-shaped strap loop with a transverse rivet through the straight side.	Late Med- PM
Ring	7	102	Strip with circular section, tapering at either end and curled round itself to form a ring.	?
Disc	57	2201	Disc with a lipped edge and a circular central perforation	?
Socket from a skimmer	54	2225	The socket is formed by riveting a flanged plate of tapering semi-circular section to a flat plate. Eight flat headed rivets survive and holes for two more. The socket would have held a wooden handle.	Med/P M

Object	SF No	Ctx	Description	Date
Object	61	2285	Cast object with a lozenge shaped section, curved in profile possible handle or foot from a vessel.	?
Miscellaneous	- 12 - - 5 45 59	1001 Tr.7 17 1413 128 1160 2253	Irregularly shaped strip and sheet fragments(x-radiography may assist identification)	

Table 4: Iron

Object	SF No	Ctx	Description	Date
Knife	-	1005	Whittle tang knife with tang and back of blade running straight. The blade edge runs parallel. The tip of the blade and the end of the tang are missing.	Med-PM
Key	1	221	Large key with a looped head for a mounted lock. The teeth of the bit are obscured by corrosion product.	Med-PM
Staple	-	1803	Rectangular staple, the tips of both arms are missing.	
Strip	52	2266	Iron strip, rectangular section with a perforation through it.	?
Miscellaneous	- 13 - 17	1806 - 1097 45	Four fragments of irregularly shaped strip or sheet.	
Nails	- - - - - - - - - 64 - 62 56 - - 63	41 1616 1616 1015 1184 985 847 835 634 2203 2211 2203 2266 2248 2243 2212		
Slag	-	213	Two fragments of iron slag were recovered from the excavation.	

Table 5: Lead

Object	SF No	Ctx	Description	Date
Musket balls	49 20 - 2 55	1160 2007 1616 141 2240	There were 6 musket balls recovered	PM
Die	33	1135	Roughly shaped cubical die. The numbers are rather obscured and but they are not paired in the conventional pattern.	
Fitting	19	665	Fragment from a fitting, cast in delicate openwork tracery, possible decoration from a casket.	
Ring	10	139	Small very roughly formed lead ring with a sub-circular section.	
Strip	-	2211	Fragment from a lead strip curved along it's length.	?
Miscellaneous	9 - 8	139 1616 Tr.7	Fragments of irregularly shaped strips or sheet.	

Table 6: Other

Object	SF.No	Ctx	Description	Date
Melon bead	22		Three fragments from light blue paste melon bead.	RB
Worked bone object	15	254	Fragment of animal bone smoothed and polished.	?
Ceramic wig curlers	37	2113	Four complete wig curlers.	MP
Shale bracelet fragment	31	1139	Fragment from a simple undecorated shale bracelet.	RB

Means of collecting data

The objects have only been visually examined at this stage, the metalwork will need to be x-rayed.

5.5.2 *Statement of potential*

5.5.2.1 There are only 4 objects dating to the Roman period. These comprise two Roman coins which will need cleaning in order to be accurately identified, a paste melon bead and a fragment from a shale bracelet.

5.5.2.2 The number of Medieval objects recovered from the excavations is also small and apart from 3 coins or tokens and an iron knife, consists mostly of strap fittings. The coins and tokens have not yet been identified. There is a shield-shaped bar mount similar to examples recovered from late 14th-15th century contexts in London (G Egan and F Pritchard 1991, 156-157, fig.103, Nos.732-738) and at Norwich (S Margeson 1993, 40-41, Fig.23, No.271). There is also a simple bar mount paralleled at London (G Egan and F Pritchard 1991, 213-214, fig.134, No.1150), a 'D-shaped' strap loop with the remains of a transverse rivet in the straight side (G Egan and F Pritchard 1991, 230-233, Fig.147, Nos.1247-1252), various lace tags and pins which could date to the late Medieval period, but are more common in the Post-Medieval period, and the fragment of copper alloy sheet depicting an archer with a bow. A parallel has not been found on metalwork but similar depictions are found on Medieval painted floor tiles.

5.5.2.3 There are a total of 52 Post-Medieval objects, of which 40 (excluding the nails) are identifiable. There are 11 drawn pins with wire wound heads; drawn pins are known to have been in use in the Medieval period but smaller, finer examples such as these are more common in the 16th and 17th centuries (M Biddle and L Barclay 1990, 560-561). There is a socket from a skimmer (none of the skimmer remains), which would originally have been attached to a wooden handle. A similar example was found in a 14th-16th century context at Winchester (D A Hinton 1990, 1122,1123, fig.365, No.4317). There are also 5 complete lead musket balls.

5.5.3 *Storage, curation and conservation requirements*

5.5.3.1 These are the maintenance of desiccated conditions for the metal artifacts and cool wet conditions for the shale. The metalwork will require long-term desiccated storage.

5.5.3.2 Immediate conservation requirements are that the coins should be cleaned in order to be identified. Medium-term requirements will probably involve the stabilization of the shale.

5.5.4 *Statement of potential*

The assemblage collected so far is small, and no category is of outstanding significance. However, if no further excavation were to be undertaken then despite the small size of the assemblage there are several pieces of intrinsic interest, and as a group this collection is worthy of a more detailed report. The further work can be broken down as follows:

X-raying of the metalwork

Production of a computerized catalogue

Identification of coins and tokens

Identification of local parallels, particularly from the Vineyard
consultation with specialists and conservation officer.

5.5.5 *Bibliography*

D A Hinton 1990, in M Biddle 'Object and Economy in Medieval Winchester'.

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5.6 **The Glass**

by Cecily Cropper

5.6.1 The glass assemblage consisted of a total of 75 fragments. Of these, 23 are bottle fragments, 48 are window, 3 are vessel fragments, and the remaining one is indeterminate. Overall, the date of the assemblage is Post Medieval, apart from one slightly earlier fragment.

5.6.2 *Window Glass*

Only plain glazing is represented by the window glass assemblage, all fragments coming from diamond leaded panels; that is diamond shaped panes or quarries incorporating triangular half-quarries around the edges to fit the casement or opening. Average pane thickness is 1.5 mm. All the glass appears to be manufactured by the crown technique (glass spun to form a disc), and of a colourless, green-tinted metal. Most edges are cut and only grozed at quarry corners, rounding off the point of the pane and ensuring a neater fit into the lead calme matrix. The grozing is fine; all in all, the window glass, apart from one earlier fragment (context 2241), is of a probable late 16th/17th century date. It seems likely that the windows were glazed quite soon before the demise/destruction of the building in the same period.

There is no Medieval glass. However, one fragment from context 2241 may be of a Late Medieval/Transitional date.

5.6.3 *Bottle Glass*

Only one bottle body fragment (context 41) was of a possible late 17th century date; this heel fragment is part of a free-blown 'onion' shaped wine bottle typical of the last quarter of the 17th century and first quarter of the 18th. (Hume 1961).

The rest however are of a later date. The majority of the assemblage comprises cylindrical wine bottles. Bar the modern fragments (produced by mechanised means), all are mould-blown, showing the slightly pocked external surface resulting from the mould, and hand-finished giving slightly asymmetrical bases and showing remnants of the pontil on the external surface of the kick. The kicks are relatively high, and dome-shaped or slightly conical. The glass is of a rich, but not opaque, green or yellow colour. All in all a probable date of the the mid-late 18th and early 19th century seems likely (Hume 1961). Included in this date range is a semi-complete, flat-based, octagonal bottle (context 17), mould-blown and hand finished and of a rich green metal. Context 17 produced the greatest number of bottles of this date, with other fragments from contexts 2201 and 2266 also.

The rest of the bottle assemblage was of a modern date.

5.6.4 Vessel Glass/Tableware

This comprised one undiagnostic body fragment and, of more potential, two fragments of the stems of drinking goblets.

A knopped stem from context 1413 is of good quality lead crystal. This fact in itself presents a rough terminus post quem of the turn of the 18th century, before which a relatively young lead crystal industry was still experiencing teething problems regarding durability of its glass. The type of knop again indicates a rough date range; this solid, drawn, stem is comprised of a baluster knop, though whether true or inverted is uncertain, and an annular knop above or below, whichever is appropriate. A date of the first quarter of the 18th century is suggested (Charleston 1984).

A second goblet is represented from context 1602. This consists of the lower portion of a hollow stem that sits on an undiagnostic 'knop', that itself sits upon the foot fragment. The foot appears to be more conical than any other form. The metal is not lead crystal. This indicates three possibilities; it is either imported (possibly Venetian), or is of an earlier date than the lead crystal industry, or it is just a product of an indigenous glass house that was not producing lead crystal at the time. The glass is colourless but with a pale yellow reamy effect. A date range of the 17/18th centuries is suggested.

Table 7 : Glass Catalogue

<i>Context</i>	<i>Cxt Date</i>	<i>No. of frags</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
112	Modern	1	Bottle base	L18/19th
112	Modern	1	Window fragment	18/19th
17	?PM Wall	1	Bottle body frag	L19/20th
17	?PM Wall	1	Hex. bottle frag	L19/20th
17	?PM Wall	1	Opq blue chip	Modern
17	?PM Wall	5	Bottle base & frags	L18/19th
17	?PM Wall	1	Bottle base	L18/19th
17	?PM Wall	1	Bottle base frag	L18/19th
17	?PM Wall	1	Oct. bottle base	18/19th
17	?PM Wall	1	Bottle body frag	Modern
17	?PM Wall	2	Inscr. bottle frags	Modern
41	?	1	Bottle fragment	1700+
1413	?Georgian	1	Knopped stem	?17/18th
1602	?PM	1	Knop & base frag	1700+?
1602	?PM	1	Window fragment	c.17th
1616	?Med	5	Quarry fragments	c.17th
1616	?Med	3	Quarry fragments	c.17th
1616	?Med	6	Triangular quarry	c.17th
1616	?Med	3	Diamond quarry	c.17th
1616	?Med	3	Quarry fragments	c.17th

<i>Context</i>	<i>Cxt Date</i>	<i>No. of frags</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date</i>
1616	?Med	3	Quarry fragments	c.17th
1616	?Med	5	Quarry fragments	c.17th
1616	?Med	1	Quarry fragment	c.17th
1803	?	1	Quarry fragment	c.17th
1806	?Med	1	Window fragment	Modern
2201		4	Bottle base frags	?L18th
2201		1	Bottle fragment	Modern
2201		1	Bottle fragment	Modern
2201		1	Bottle fragment	18 th
2203		2	Window fragments	?18 th
2211		1	Vessel fragment	18/19th
2211		5	Window fragments	c.17th
2212		4	Window fragments	c.17th
2225		1	Window fragment	c.17th
2241		1	Window fragment	?L16th
2243		1	Window fragment	c.17th
2266		1	Window fragment	18th+
2266		1	Bottle base frag	E18th

5.7 Assessment of worked wood

by Nick Mitchell

5.7.1 Group 1, context 22. Condition: good.

This is a group from the east side of medieval ditch [124] running N-S. It consists of 5 upright stakes and a sixth fallen upright. Rods, perhaps from wattling, were also noted. Two of the *in situ* uprights and the fallen upright were retrieved for examination, as were 4 of the rods.

Although the scale of the plan of the posts *in situ* does not show it (plan 1), the 3 stakes examined are all of different sizes and were worked to a point using an axe in different ways; the varying diameter of the 3 stakes may have necessitated different techniques of axing. To the naked eye the 3 stakes appear to be of 3 different species, none of which are oak. These differences may indicate different phases/repairs.

There are no tooled joints but in association with these uprights were 15 horizontal lengths of rod which were orientated N-S in line with the ditch. The sample of 4 rods examined are of similar diameter and appear to be of the same species, and although no actual weaving was found intact it is likely that these rods were originally from wattling.

5.7.2 Group 2, context 6. Condition: variable, poor-good.

This group is 4 metres to the west of group 1 within the same ditch. It consists of 2 upright stakes and 12 rods; one of the stakes (context [32]) and all of the rods were retrieved for examination.

Although it is not clear on plan, the excavators believe that the uprights are on a north-south alignment similar to group 1. Stake [32] is in poor condition but is similar in size and axing

style to stake [30] of group 1, although they are of different species. Stake [32] had a section of wattle still attached to it containing 12 rods lying together and aligned at angles to one another typical of woven wattle work.

5.7.3 *Statement of potential*

5.7.3.1 The sample of wood examined contained a wide variety of species, none of which was oak. The criteria for the selection of different woods for different purposes in the medieval period is not well-understood, and the identification of the wood species is therefore important.

5.7.3.2 A variety of woodworking techniques was evident even on the small sample of wood retrieved. This has considerable potential for woodworking studies, and a photographic record of the stakes([30], [32], [28] and [29]) would be informative.

5.7.3.3 The sample retrieved from evaluation is insufficient to establish conclusively the function(s) of these 2 groups of wood, or patterning through species, dimensions etc. that might reveal different phases of construction or repairs.

GROUP 1 structure is consistent with a revetment on the side of ditch [124], but unanswered questions are whether:

- i) this is a structure of 2 or even 3 rows;
- ii) the small horizontal rods are, as suspected, wattle, and whether each row and uprights has this wattling;
- iii) if there is more than one row of stakes, whether there are sufficient dissimilarities to identify different phases/repairs.
- iv) the upright stakes are from coppice stools. Stake [30] has a subtle curve that may reflect coppicing, but a larger sample of 'complete' uprights (at least 5-10) would be needed to substantiate this.

GROUP 2 has far less material and interpretation is therefore less clear. Further excavation would be needed to reveal:

- i) its alignment;
- ii) extent of wattling and species of all rods;
- iii) whether this really is contemporary with group 1 - the appearance and species of the 2 'wattles' would suggest they are not contemporary.

If the two groups of wood prove to be contemporary this would represent a very important find, as it would suggest a wood-lined channel rather than a revetment as suggested for Group [1]. Clarification of the relationship of these two groups of wood is therefore important.

Table 8: Catalogue of Wood

TIMBER CONTEXT NO						
	[28]	[29]	[30]	[31]	[32]	[33]
CONVERSION	Roundwood	Roundwood	Roundwood	Roundwood	Roundwood	Roundwood
BARK	/	/	/	/	/	/
TOOLMARKS	/	/	/	x	/	x
FUNCTION	Stake	Stake	Stake	poss - Wattle	Stake	Wattle
SPECIES	Non-oak	Non-oak	Non-oak	Non-oak	Non-oak	Non-oak
CONDITION	Good	Good	Fair-good	Good	Poor	Good
DIMENSIONS, mm's (length x diameter)	220 x 30	160 x 44	560 x 80	DIAM. 13-22	584-78	DIAM. 4-18

5.8 The struck flint

by Theresa Durden

5.8.1 A total of 10 pieces of struck flint and three pieces of burnt unworked flint was recovered from this site. The flint is in fresh condition and the majority of pieces are speckled grey or dark grey in colour, with little or no cortication. The cortex where present is chalky white though worn in appearance, suggesting a derived source. A possible source is the clay with flints deposits capping the Berkshire Downs and the Chilterns. Two pieces of flint appear to be of different origin. The first is a flake of Bullhead flint. This is a distinctive flint recognisable by a thin orange band present under a dark grey or greenish cortex. This flint is often found in Sussex and Kent in the Bullhead Bed (Rayner 1981, 357; Shepherd 1972, 114), but it also occurs at the base of the Reading Beds (Dewey and Bromehead 1915, 2), which outcrop in East Berkshire. It may also occur in a derived state in the river gravels of the Kennet (Healy et al. 1992, 48). The second piece is a flake of beige-coloured flint with a small area of grinding remaining on the dorsal surface. This would indicate it is a flake from a larger ground implement such as an axe and hence a non-local origin for the material is a possibility.

5.8.2 The 10 pieces of struck flint consist of seven flakes, one possible scraper made on a thermal flake, one multi-platformed flake core and one flake knife. The flakes are undiagnostic as regards dating, although the flake with the ground surface will have come from an implement almost certainly of Neolithic date. The flake core is small, weighing only 24g, and has been reasonably well worked down, although a number of hinge fractures are present. A later Neolithic/early Bronze Age date is suggested and the small size of the core may be an indicator that the flint is non-local and therefore used as efficiently as possible. A similar date is likely for the flake knife, recovered from the same context (254). The knife is invasively retouched along the left hand side, with cortex remaining along the right. As the knife and the core were found in probable association with a burial, they may have been deposited as grave goods.

5.8.3 References

- Dewey, H and Bromehead, C E N. 1915 The Geology of the Country around Windsor and Chertsey. London, Mem. Geol. Survey, HMSO.
- Healy, F Heaton, M and Lobb, S J, 1992 Excavations of a Mesolithic site at Thatcham, Berkshire, Proc Prehist Soc 58, 41-76
- Rayner, D H, 1981 The stratigraphy of the British Isles, second edition, Cambridge University Press
- Shepherd, W 1972 Flint. Its origin, properties and uses, London, Faber and Faber.

5.9 The human skeletal assemblage

by A Boyle

5.9.1 All of the remains were uncovered during evaluation and were consequently not excavated. This summary report is based on assessment of the material only.

5.9.2 A single skeleton of probable Iron Age date (236) was located in Trench 6 in the upper fill of ditch 233. It lay on its left side in a tightly flexed position. The arms were crossed on the chest. It was oriented south-north with head to the south. The skeleton was largely complete and preservation was fair. The remains appeared to be those of an adult male.

5.9.3 The skull of an adult individual of indeterminate sex was located in layer 901 at the bottom of an early Roman ditch 906 in Trench 5.

5.9.4 An incomplete adult mandible was recovered from context 945 within the western Roman defensive ditch in Trench 5.

5.9.5 An adult male individual (948) was represented by distal femora and proximal tibiae only. The bones were located at the east end of Trench 5 within a severely truncated grave.

5.9.6 A second skeleton (266) in Trench 6 appeared to have been placed (or thrown) face down into the top of a large medieval pit. It was buried in a prone position (ie face down) with legs extended; the left arm was bent underneath the body while the right was flexed and bent back. The skeleton was oriented north-south with head to the north. The skeleton was complete and the preservation of the bone was excellent. The remains appeared to be those of a young adult (?) female who measured approximately 1.67 m (5' 5") in height.

5.9.7 The remaining skeletons formed a coherent group of post-medieval date which was located in Trench 5. They were all oriented west-east and buried in a supine extended position with minor variations in the disposition of arms, hands and feet. The group of 21 individuals comprised 7 males, 4 females and 10 subadults who were aged between 8 and 16 years. The height of the male individuals ranged from 1.63 to 1.77 m with an average of 1.7 m (5' 5") The height of the females ranged from 1.53 to 1.64 m with an average of 1.59 m (5' 2").

5.9.8 Pathology has been noted where seen although it should be emphasised that this is unlikely to represent the true incidence as none of the skeletons were examined in any detail. Slight bowing of the femora and tibiae of skeleton (809) may be indicative of rickets which occurs as a result of vitamin D deficiency. Skeleton (812) had a dental abscess. Skeleton (821) exhibited a healed fracture of the right fibula at the midshaft. This had led to the formation of a bony bridge between the left distal fibula and tibia which was an attempt to ensure stability. A swelling noted on the upper left femur shaft of skeleton (842) is likely to be an ossified haematoma. Skeleton (986) had cribra orbitalia which is believed to be indicative of iron deficiency anaemia.

5.9.9 Preservation of the bone was excellent and should excavation proceed it would be feasible to carry out full and detailed analysis of the group. Although the group is not in itself a

large one it can be readily compared with the mass of material from the post-medieval cemetery excavated in the Vineyard.

Table 9: Summary of skeletal data

Skeleton no.	Date	Preservation and completeness	Age	Sex	Stature	Pathology
236	prehistoric	complete, preservation fair	adult	male	?	
266	medieval	complete, preservation good	young adult	female	1.67 m	
806	medieval	complete, preservation good	16-18 y	male	1.67 m	antemortem loss of all first molars
809	medieval	complete, preservation good	early 20s	female	1.58 m	slight bowing of femora and tibiae
812	medieval	complete, preservation good	25+	male	1.7 m	
815	medieval	complete, preservation good	14-15 y	-	-	
818	medieval	complete, preservation good	9-11 y	-	-	
821	medieval	complete, preservation good	25+	male	1.7 m	healed fracture at midshaft of fibula, subsequent bony bridging of distal tibia and fibula, calculus
824	medieval	complete, preservation good	17-19 y	male	1.77 m	
827	medieval	missing lower legs, preservation good	12-14 y	-	-	
830	medieval	complete, preservation good	12-16 y	-	-	
833	medieval	missing lower legs, preservation good	c 20 y	male	1.78 m	
836	medieval	complete, preservation good	17-19 y	male	1.65 m	
839	medieval	missing lower legs, preservation fair	17-21 y	male?	1.63 m	mild calculus
842	medieval	missing feet,	20-25 y	female	1.64	swelling on left

Skeleton no.	Date	Preservation and completeness	Age	Sex	Stature	Pathology
	al	preservation good		e	m	femur, probable ossified haematoma
845	medieval	complete, preservation good	c 8 y	-	-	
848	medieval	complete, preservation good	8-9 y	-	-	
849	medieval	complete, preservation good	10-12 y	-	-	
901	?Iron Age	skull only	adult	?	?	dental abscess, lambdoid wormian bones
945	?	incomplete mandible	adult	?	?	
948		knees only, preservation good	adult	male	?	
974	medieval	upper body exposed, preservation good	25-35 y	female?	1.53 m	
975	medieval	lower legs only, preservation good	12-13 y	-	-	
976	medieval	upper body exposed, preservation good	7-8 y	-	-	
986	medieval	complete, preservation good	25-30 y	female	1.61 m	cribra orbitalia, dental abscess, caries
989	medieval	skull and right upper body exposed, preservation poor	12-14 y	-	-	

Table 10: Disarticulated human bone recovered from a variety of contexts

Context No.	Context type	Date	Identification
123	void?		right third metatarsal, adult
223	cut for pit		right third metacarpal, adult
226	fill of construction cut for wall 204	?Georgian	midshaft of right adult radius right second adult metacarpal left subadult acromion
230	fill of ditch		distal end of adult left humerus
246	?garden soil	?Georgian	midshaft of adult ulna
820	fill of grave 819	late medieval	third adult molar
832	fill of grave 831	late medieval	right adult patella right fifth metatarsal, adult ?right femoral condyles, adult
985	fill of grave 984	late medieval	right adult acromion

5.10 The animal bone

by Bob Wilson

With thanks to Alison Locker for identifying some of the bird bones.

5.10.1 Over 807 bones from the site were identified. Preservation of the bones was generally good. The bones were recorded context by context and grouped in the results according to trench number and period. Since bone group numbers were mostly small, results have been summarised according to period for the whole site in Table 1.

5.10.2 None of the period groups contain sufficient bones for detailed comment. The three main domesticates are present in all site periods, sheep/goat and cattle predominating.

5.10.3 Bones of the Roman period are mainly coarse debris, as might be expected from ditches at the periphery of the settlement, while bones of the medieval group consist of somewhat finer debris typical of external features associated with the dumping of domestic refuse, chiefly pit groups. The coarser bones of the early Post-Medieval group mainly come from the destruction levels of the house and from debris associated with the graveyard. A theoretical discussion of interpreting bones from such depositional types has been published recently (Wilson 1996, 70-73).

5.10.4 These tentative interpretations of the results may be affected by variable recovery of smaller bones. For example, no fish bones were found, though some frog bones were, and 13 intact 15th century sheep metapodial bones from F1438 lacked both the small epiphyses and phalanges.

5.10.5 The latter collection is of further interest since the metapodials made up 93% of the sheep bones from this pit in Trench 1. Trench 1 is close to the position of a previous trench dug by the Abingdon Archaeological and Historical Society (Anon. 1990, 90-91), within which a similar small collection of sheep metapodials occurred in a well and a pit dated respectively to the 13th to 15th centuries. Such debris is interpreted as slaughterhouse or skimmers' debris and, in the absence of similar material in other trenches of this site, suggests that the source of the waste debris lay either in properties on Winsmore Lane or on Ock Street, and not in the backyards of West St. Helens Street properties. Further excavation might usefully obtain more metapodial debris for more detailed investigation.

5.10.6 Bibliography:

- R. Wilson 1996 *Spatial patterning among animal bones in settlement archaeology*, BAR (British series) 251, 70-73.
Anon. 1990 Abingdon Winsmore Lane, *South Midlands Archaeology* 20, 90-91.

Table 11: Overall fragment frequency of bones at the Regal Cinema site, Abingdon, Oxfordshire

Period	Roman	Late Saxon	Medieval	Early Post-Med.
Cattle	30	9	73	54
Sheep/Goat	27	5	82	36
Pig	5	7	16	6
Horse	9	-	1	2
Dog	1	1	-	-
Cat	-	-	-	1
Subtotal	72	22	172	99
Unidentified	93	21	168	131
Total	165	43	340	230
Burnt bones	-	-	-	1
Domestic fowl	1	-	9	2
Goose	-	-	2	1
Other bird	1 ¹	-	3 ²	-
Frog	10	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Rook/Crow (*Corvus sp.*)1.
2. Rook/Crow 2 and Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*) 1.
3. Humerus of a Coot (*Fulica atra*) found in Medieval layer 6 (not included above).
4. No fish bones identified

5.11 Assessment of Macroscopic Plant and Invertebrate Remains by Mark Robinson

5.11.1 Introduction

The evaluation revealed a possible middle Iron Age ditch, some late Iron Age or early Roman ditches including two possible oppidum defensive ditches, some medieval pits and some floor layers within a medieval building. Some of these deposits were waterlogged and charred plant remains were observed in others. A total of 16 bulk samples were taken from these contexts. Where waterlogged remains were suspected, a sub-sample of 1 kg was washed over onto a 0.2mm sieve to extract the organic remains. Where charred plant remains were to be investigated, a sub-sample of between 1 and 16 litres was machine floated onto a 0.25 mm sieve.

5.11.2 Data Collection and Results

The wash-over and flots were scanned at magnifications of up to x20 magnification under a binocular microscope. Some of the wash-overs / flots are very bulky and only a fraction was scanned. The plant remains observed were identified and the species present are listed in Tables

1-3. Only samples containing the particular categories of remains are listed in each table. In addition, the flint from 6 litres of Sample 13 (Context 909) from a late 11th -12th century pit contains about 500 g of *Quercus* (oak) charcoal. Macroscopic invertebrate remains are few although a shell of the gastropod *Gyraulus acronicus* was noted from Sample 5. Insect remains were observed in three of the samples and these are mentioned in the interpretation.

5.11.3 Interpretation and Potential

SS 4 (Cxt 13) possible late Iron Age ditch 120. This sample comprised organic sediment from the bottom of the earliest waterlogged cut of the eastern defensive ditch. It contains well-preserved waterlogged seeds mostly from plants of shallow and marginal mud including *Nasturtium officinale* (water-cress), *Apium nodiflorum* (fool's watercress) and *Rumex maritimus* (golden dock). There are also a few seeds from weeds of arable or disturbed ground including *Valerianella locusta* (lamb's lettuce).

SS 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (Cxt 53, 129, 75, 938, 1065) from the late Iron Age or early Roman defensive ditches. Samples 6, 7 and 8 come from the western or outer ditch 54 in Trench 7, samples 9 and 10 from the eastern or inner ditch 941/1080 in Trenches 5 and 3 respectively. These samples are of sequences of organic sediments in the Roman fills of the ditches. The preservation of organic remains in them is only mediocre but a wide range of waterlogged seeds survives. They again largely comprise species of shallow water and marginal habitats including *Apium nodiflorum* (fool's watercress) and *Lycopus europaeus* (gypsy wort). However, deeper and perhaps more permanent water is suggested by *Sparganium* sp. (bur-reed) in SS 8. There are also seeds of grassland plants such as *Ranunculus* cf. *acris* (meadow buttercup) and *Potentilla anserina* (silverweed). Sample 10 contains remains of grassland Coleoptera including *Phyllopertha horticola*, *Agriotes* sp. and *Apion* sp. The samples do not, however, give any evidence of human activity (other than the maintenance of an open landscape) and there is no evidence for flowing water in the ditch.

SS 1 (Cxt 91) Palaeochannel 96 in Trench 7. The organic sediments from this ditch contains many well-preserved waterlogged seeds and a few charred seeds. The most numerous are again from *Apium nodiflorum*. Other aquatic plants represented by seeds include *Callitriche* sp. (starwort) and *Nasturtium officinale* (water-cress). Insects from this sample largely reflect aquatic habitats, with *Helophorus* cf. *brevipalpis*, a small water beetle that tends to occur in stagnant water, and beetles which feed on water plants. The host-specific phytophagous Coleoptera include *Prasocuris phellandrii*, which feeds on aquatic Umbelliferae, in this instance presumably the *A. nodiflorum*, and *Tanysphyrus lemnae*, which feeds on *Lemna* sp. (duckweed), a small floating plant that can carpet stagnant water. The other waterlogged seeds are mostly from plants of waste or disturbed ground as occurs around a settlement, such as *Coronopus squamatus* (swine cress) and *Hyoscyamus niger* (henbane). A charred seed of *Vicia* or *Lathyrus* sp. (vetch or tare) had perhaps been derived from crop processing.

SS 2 (Cxt 66) from cut 65, one of several recuts within Roman ditch 57 in Trench 7. The organic sediments from the base of this Roman ditch contain some badly preserved waterlogged seeds but much very well preserved charred crop processing remains. The waterlogged seeds include grassland species such as *Ranunculus* cf. *acris* (meadow buttercup) and *Linum catharticum* (fairy flax). There are also some waterlogged frond fragments of *Pteridium aquilinum* (bracken), which had perhaps been imported to the site as bedding for domestic animals. The charred remains from the sample comprise numerous glumes of *Triticum spelta* (spelt wheat) along with a few rachis fragments of *Hordeum vulgare* (six-row barley) and grains

of *T. spelta*. The waterlogging had prevented the usual damage to charred remains that results from wetting and drying.

SS 3 (Cxt 22) from recut 124 of defensive ditch 118 in Trench 7. A sample of organic sediment from above a wooden structure in a ditch was assumed to be Roman in date. However, the occurrence of charred rachis fragments of *Secale cereale* (rye) and the presence of short free-threshing grains of wheat in the absence of any remains of spelt wheat make a medieval date seem more plausible. Waterlogged remains from the sample include many seeds of *Anthemis cotula* (stinking mayweed) but the assemblage shows some similarity to that from Sample 12 from a medieval cess pit (see below), with the presence of fragments of *Agrostemma githago* (corn cockle) seeds and *Malus sp. endocarp* (apple core).

SS 11 (Cxt 950) medieval pit 983 in Trench 5. Rather badly preserved waterlogged seeds were recovered from a lower fill in this medieval pit. They are mostly of species which grow as arable weeds such as *Papaver argemone* (long prickly-headed poppy) and *Agrostemma githago* (corn cockle) but curiously, there is also a seed of *Caltha palustris* (kingcup), a plant of marshy grassland.

SS 12, 13 (Cxt 903, 909) from late 11th - 12th century pit 912 in Trench 5. The lower fill of this early medieval pit (SS 12) contains a rich waterlogged cess pit assemblage whereas the upper fill (SS 13) just yielded a large quantity of oak charcoal. The most abundant remains from the lower sample are fragments of *Agrostemma githago* (corn cockle) seeds, which are likely to have been a contaminant of flour. Another likely flour impurity are seeds of *Centaurea cyanus* (cornflower). Other remains likely to have been derived from sewage are stones of *Prunus domestica* (plum) and core fragments of *Malus sp.* (apple). *Linum catharticum* (flax) capsule fragments were perhaps the result of crop processing on the site while several seeds of *Leucanthemum vulgare* (ox-eye daisy) could have been imported to the site amongst hay. This sample contains a few charred glumes of spelt wheat as well as some charred free-threshing wheat grains. The former had perhaps been re-worked from the Roman deposits on the site. By far the most numerous insect remains in the sample are puparia of *Thoracochaeta zosteræ*, which was formerly a major sewage fly. However, there is also an example of *Bruchus rufimanus* (bean beetle) which emerges from stored *Vicia faba* (field / broad beans).

SS 14 (Cxt 1185) layer under late 11th - 12th century hearth 1188 in Trench 3. A small mixed assemblage of charred crop remains, mostly grain of free-threshing wheat, was recovered from this early medieval layer.

SS 15, 16 (Cxt 2274, 2276) occupation layers from the interior of the medieval building, adjacent to late 11th-12th century wall 2200 in Trench 12. Similar small assemblages of charred cereals, mostly grain of free-threshing wheat, are present in these two samples.

SS 5 (Cxt 413) possible medieval or post-medieval ditch fill in Trench 8. The character of this organic sample is very different from the other ditch samples from the site. The presence of the mollusc *Gyraulus acronicus* would suggest that the deposit was either a palaeochannel bed or was from a ditch which carried flowing water. *G. acronicus* is a rare mollusc which in Britain is restricted to part of the Thames drainage system. The presence of woody debris along with buds of *Populus sp.* (poplar) and capsules of *Salix sp.* (willow) would suggest that the deposit was overhung by these trees.

5.11.4 Implications for Further Work

The assessment has revealed that most of the samples have the potential to provide details of the conditions in and around the deposits or to show activities associated with them. The results for conditions in the oppidum ditch are of particular interest because this feature is very significant for the archaeology of Abingdon. SS 2 provides the best evidence for some of the Roman agricultural activities which occurred on the site, even though some of the other Roman samples contain better preserved waterlogged remains. SS 12 has the potential to provide good dietary evidence for early medieval Abingdon. The results from this sample would be of particular interest because the remains have been preserved by waterlogging rather than calcium phosphate replacement, the usual means of preservation in urban cess pits on the gravels of the Upper Thames.

If no further excavation is undertaken on the site, it is recommended that as a minimum, a waterlogged sample from the oppidum ditch, SS 2 and SS 12 are analysed in detail for macroscopic plant and invertebrate remains. Should further excavation occur, it is recommended that the sampling programme used for the evaluation excavation be continued. 10 litre bulk samples should be taken from all waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant and invertebrate remains, and 10 - 20 litre samples should be taken from a selection of non-waterlogged deposits for charred plant remains. (Some of the waterlogged deposits ought also be sampled for pollen, which is likely to be preserved in them and will provide evidence to complement that from the macroscopic remains). It is possible that many of the waterlogged samples from any further excavation would only yield duplicate information so it is recommended that a vigorous assessment be undertaken of them to identify samples worthy of full-scale analysis.

Table 12: Waterlogged Seeds

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
	Context	9	6	2	1	4	5	1	7	9	10	95	90	11
		1	6	2	3	1	3	2	5	3	65	0	3	85
<i>Caltha palustris</i> L.	kingcup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Ranunculus</i> cf. <i>acris</i> L.	meadow buttercup	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>R.</i> cf. <i>repens</i> L.	creeping buttercup	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>R. sardous</i> Crantz.	hairy buttercup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Thalictrum flavum</i> L.	meadow rue	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i> tp.	field poppy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>P. argemone</i> L.	long prickly-headed poppy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Chelidonium majus</i> L.	greater celandine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Brassica</i> or <i>Sinapis</i> sp.	charlock, cabbage etc	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Coronopus squamatus</i> (Forst.) Asch.	swine-cress	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i> R. Br.	water-cress	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	corn cockle	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Stellaria media</i> sp.	chickweed	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	fat hen	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.	orache	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Linum catharticum</i> L.	fairy flax	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	blackberry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Potentilla anserina</i> L.	silverweed	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Crataegus</i> cf. <i>monogyna</i> Jac.	hawthorn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Prunus domestica</i> L.	plum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
	Context	9 1	6 6	2 2	1 3	4 1 3	5 3	1 2 9	7 5	9 3 8	10 65	95 0	90 3	11 85
Callitriche sp.	starwort	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oenanthe pimpinelloides gp.	dropwort	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conium maculatum L.	hemlock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Apium nodiflorum (L.) Lag.	fool's watercress	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-
Torilis sp.	hedge-parsley	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polygonum aviculare agg.	knotgrass	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P. persicaria L.	red shank	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P. lapathifolium L.	pale persicaria	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rumex conglomeratus Mur.	sharp dock	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R. maritimus L.	golden dock	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rumex spp.	dock	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urtica dioica L.	stinging nettle	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-
Corylus avellana L.	hazel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Hyoscyamus niger L.	henbane	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Odontites verna (Bell.) Dum.	red bartsia	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mentha cf. aquatica L.	water mint	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lycopus europaeus L.	gipsywort	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
Prunella vulgaris L.	selfheal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Plantago major L.	great plantain	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Valerianella locusta (L.) Lat.	lamb's lettuce	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
V. dentata (L.) Pol.	corn salad	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthemis cotula L.	stinking mayweed	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-

	Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14
	Context	9 1	6 6	2 2	1 3	4 1 3	5 3	1 2 9	7 5	9 3 8	10 65	95 0	90 3	11 85
Leucanthemum vulgare Lam.	ox-eye daisy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Carduus or Cirsium sp.	thistle	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Centaurea cyanus L.	cornflower	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Leontodon sp.	hawkbit	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Sonchus asper (L.) Hill	sow-thistle	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alisma sp.	water plantain	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iris pseudacorus L.	yellow flag	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sparganium sp.	bur-reed	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Eleocharis (L.) R. & B. or uniglumis (Lin.) Sch.	spike-rush	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Carex spp.	sedge	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-

Table 13: Other Waterlogged Plant Remains

		Sample	1	2	3	5	12
		Context	91	66	22	413	903
Pteridium aquilinum (L.) Kuhn	- frond frag	bracken	-	+	-	-	-
Linum usitatissimum L.	- capsule frag	flax	-	-	+	-	+
Malus sp.	- endocarp	apple	-	-	+	-	+
Populus sp.	- bud scale	poplar	-	-	-	+	-
Salix sp.	- capsule / bud	willow	+	-	-	+	-

Table 14: Charred Plant Remains (excluding charcoal)

		Sample	1	2	3	12	14	15	16
		Context	91	66	22	90 3	118 5	227 4	227 6
Triticum spelta L.	- grain	spelt wheat	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
T. spelta L.	- glume	spelt wheat	-	+	-	+	-	-	-
Triticum sp.	- free threshing grain	bread or rivet wheat	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Triticum sp.	- grain	wheat	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Secale cereale L.	- rachis	rye	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Hordeum vulgare L.	- rachis	six-row barley	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Hordeum sp.	- grain	barley	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Avena sp.	- grain	oats	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
cereal indet.	- grain		-	+	-	-	+	+	+
Vicia or Lathyrus sp.	- seed	vetch or tare	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Medicago lupulina L.	- seed	black medick	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Anthemis cotula L.	- seed	stinking mayweed	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Bromus cf. secalinus	- seed	brome grass	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Gramineae indet.	- seed	grass	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
weed seed indet.	- seed		-	-	-	-	+	-	+

6 Review of Aims

6.1 The Late Iron Age/Early Roman defensive ditches and the medieval town ditches.

6.1.1 The evaluation has confirmed that the Late Iron Age or Early Roman defensive ditches around Abingdon run through the site. Their approximate dimensions and alignment have been established, and sampling has shown reasonable preservation of waterlogged deposits within them.

6.1.2 Their N-S alignment and course divides the site into three parts in the Roman period, the eastern edge lying within the defended town, the centre being occupied by the defences themselves, and the western part lying outside the town. Only small areas of the site lie within the defended area, but the external area on the west is larger and potentially more informative.

6.1.3 While the size and character of the defensive ditches is generally similar to that from excavations in the Vineyard (Allen 1991; Allen 1993; Allen 1995), evidence of a more complex history involving recutting on more than one occasion has been found on this site. Only Iron Age pottery has been recovered from one of the earliest cuts, and there appears to be good potential for elucidating the original construction date of the defences and the sequence of development.

6.1.4 A probable Middle Iron Age ditch was found on a similar N-S alignment west of the main defences, which may represent either a yet earlier stage in the defences or may complement the other ditches.

6.2 The 'Town Ditches'

6.2.1 The western or outer ditch appears to have been partially backfilled in the 2nd century AD, though settling or incomplete backfilling meant that there was still a substantial hollow present in the early medieval period.

6.2.2 The eastern or inner ditch only has tentative evidence for backfilling in the northernmost trench (Trench 3), and further south certainly remained open into the medieval period. West St. Helen Street, whose curve runs almost parallel to it, may have been laid out with respect to this ditch, which became the rear boundary to properties on the west side of the street.

6.2.3 This ditch may well be one of the 'town ditches' known from documentary evidence which the evaluation aimed to find. However, the post-Roman development of the ditch was not closely investigated during the evaluation, whose main aim was to establish the depth and extent of the ditches as a whole, and to date the lowest deposits. Machine-excavation of the ditches meant that few finds were retrieved from the post-Roman cuts or deposits, and the post-Roman state and status of the ditch, particularly in the Saxon period, was not clearly established.

6.2.4 Within this ditch in Trench 7 preserved waterlogged wooden structures were found, whose preservation and potential is good. It is uncertain whether the wooden structures are medieval or early post-medieval, but the former is more likely. The southernmost part of the ditch remained open into the 19th century, and is shown on the Christ's Hospital map of 1844, though the part within the site had been infilled by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1874.

6.3 The medieval building complex.

6.3.1 The evaluation confirmed that a large medieval building (or buildings) lay within the site. The extent of this has broadly been established by the trenching, though the eastern limit of the building found in Trench 9 has not been located. Insufficient work has been carried out to establish an overall plan, but the main stone buildings cover an area 17.5 m east-west by 22.5 m north-south, with an additional 4 m of associated lesser structures to the south of that. The limits of the buildings appear to lie conveniently within the confines of the site. To the east the building was approached by a causeway and later path leading from an alley that formerly gave access to West St. Helen Street.

6.3.2 The evaluation showed that the preservation of the building(s) is variable, with areas where the walls have been heavily robbed, but that in places the walls survive above contemporary ground level, notably at the north-east corner. Because the building was constructed over or adjacent to the former defensive ditches, the walls were very deeply founded, and a cellar was included on the north-west, so that the walls are also well-preserved below contemporary ground level. There is no evidence of high-quality ashlar masonry on the preserved north-east and north-west corners, but a number of fragments of moulded masonry were found in the destruction layers of the building, and architectural features may survive *in situ* outside the areas evaluated.

6.3.3 On the east side the latest internal mortar floors survive intact, preserving a considerable depth of earlier stratigraphy beneath them, and a part of the original fills of the cellar also survives. Outside the north-east corner there is a deep sequence of deposits which may indicate a garderobe pit. To the south no excavation took place below the latest levels, but the preservation of destruction deposits over and around the building in Trench 9 suggests that floors and a good stratigraphic sequence of deposits will also be preserved here.

6.3.4 The date of construction. Sherds of 12th century character came from the construction trench outside the north-west corner of the building, from the earliest deposits abutting wall 2200 inside the north-east corner, from the earliest layers exposed within the building in Trench 10 and from the earliest excavated layers abutting the east wall on the outside. In all these cases the number of sherds was small, but while it is possible that they were residual the available evidence gives a consistent date. The date of these assemblages rests upon the absence of demonstrably later pottery types, and the types that were present may have continued in use in the 13th or even possibly the 14th century, but not later. A late 12th or 13th century date for the construction of the building(s) seems most likely.

6.3.5 Use of the building. Very little excavation was carried out within the interior below the latest floors or destruction layers, and there is very little relating to the use of the building. The post-Roman pottery report (see 5.2 above) even speaks of a hiatus in pottery deposition, though this is a slight exaggeration, as a little pottery of the later medieval period was found

in pits on the periphery of the site. The absence of pottery of this period is most likely a result of the limited hand-excavation carried out in and around the building, and the concentration upon the earliest pits in any sequence. However, several pieces of moulded stone found in the destruction layers date to the 13th or 14th centuries, and some if not all of these are likely to have come from the building itself.

6.3.6 Date of demolition. This is clearly established from robber trenches and destruction layers all around the building. The cellar in the north-west corner contained 15th century or later material at the bottom, but the major infilling occurred in the 17th century, as did the robbing of the north wall 1076. On the east side layer 2202, an extensive destruction layer in the interior, was dated later 16th or 17th century, and layer 1616, the destruction overlying the cobbled surfaces outside the building in Trench 9, was dated to the 17th century.

6.3.7 *Documentary evidence.*

6.3.7.1 Post-medieval documents clearly show that the building discovered was the Vicarage of St. Helens from the Dissolution until the mid-17th century.

6.3.7.2 Amyce's survey of Abingdon, AD 1554, page 11. This survey, carried out shortly after the Dissolution of the Monasteries, records all the properties along the west side of West St. Helen Street. Two-thirds of the way up from the south end there is an entry for the vicarage of St. Helen's. The layout of this entry suggests that it was set back from the street frontage.

6.3.7.3 Terrier of lands etc. belonging to the Vicarage of St. Helen (Preston Papers D/EP/7/61 Vol. 2). 'A vicarage house in West St. Helen's with orchard, and a garden mounted round with a stone wall compassed with a lane on south and west'. This shows that the vicarage property lay within the angle of St. Edmund's Lane and Winsmore Lane, and that the property extended south and west as far as these lanes. The wall may be that still existing along the north side of St. Edmund's Lane and along the east side of Winsmore Lane south of Neave House.

6.3.7.4 Presentment of William Cheyney and William Rawlins, Churchwardens of St. Helen's, 21st September 1666. 'Our vicaridge house and all other outhouses thereto belonging were demolished in the time of warr and not again built for the use of the minister.' From 1654 the churchwardens paid the vicar £3 15s for half a year's rent in lieu of a house. This shows that the house was demolished during the English Civil War, between 1642 and 1654, which fits well with the excavated dating evidence.

6.3.7.5 There are no surviving medieval references as to the whereabouts of the Vicarage. Documents show that the church of St. Helen was appropriated by Abingdon Abbey in AD 1270, and that the vicar was given the houses in Abingdon formerly belonging to the independent rectors of the church (Lambrick and Slade 1991, C74, 99-101).

6.4 The cemetery.

6.4.1 The evaluation established the presence of a small cemetery of west-east burials 10 m south of the building complex. A probable boundary to the cemetery was found on the south

and east sides, and evaluation trenches to the west and north established the limit of burials in these directions. There was only one layer of burials surviving, cut into the deep accumulation of garden soils south of the buildings; eighteen graves were investigated, from an estimated total of around thirty.

6.4.2 The graves were very shallow, and had presumably been cut from higher up, but had then been truncated by cultivation of the garden soils. Truncation of the graves had however stopped just above the level of the burials, which were in general very well-preserved. Finds were few, as would be expected with Christian burials. No trace of any further disturbed skeletons was found during machining, and there is no indication that shallower burials had ever existed.

6.4.3 Dating evidence from the graves. The majority of the graves contained one or two sherds of medieval pottery, ranging in date from the 12th to the 15th century. Some bodies had been buried with shroud-pins, which are not found before the 14th century. One grave however contained a larger assemblage of late 16th/17th century pottery, and another grave included a post-medieval lace tag. In addition, the soil into which the graves were cut also contained post-medieval finds.

6.4.4 The date of the cemetery. The stratigraphic evidence from layer 897, into which the graves were cut, is that the burials are all of post-medieval date, and if so, they are buried in the garden of the Vicarage of St. Helen, which was not a registered burial ground. The most likely context for this would be the Civil War, when the vicarage was destroyed, and the garden therefore available for burials in the short term. A shortlived cemetery is in accord with the presence of only one layer of burials, and the very similar depth of all the graves.

6.5 The chapel of St. Edmund.

6.5.1 One of the principal aims of the evaluation was to discover the whereabouts of this chapel, which the Historic Towns Survey (Rodwell 1975, 35 and Map 2) placed within the development site. The dimensions of the chapel are given in a document of 1288 AD (Lambrick and Slade 1991, C94, 119-121), and these were used in positioning the trenches to ensure that the chapel could not be missed by the evaluation.

6.5.2 While a major medieval stone building has been located where the Survey indicated, it is not clear whether this is the chapel. The evidence can be summarised as follows:

6.5.2.1 The recovered plan does not correspond to the dimensions given for the chapel, but these may have referred to the plot on which the chapel was built rather than the building itself (Liversidge 1989, 3). The plan could indicate a building with a wider nave on the west and a narrower chancel on the east, but lacks the buttresses usually associated with chapels, and is too incomplete to substantiate this.

6.5.2.2 The 'cellar' on the west might in fact be a crypt, later reused for domestic purposes. but the deposits outside the north-east corner suggest rather a domestic purpose.

6.5.2.3 No fragments of ecclesiastical stonework were found in situ; the only piece that can confidently be attributed to a church or chapel, the fragment of painted statuary (see 5.4

above) was reused in a post-medieval wall in Trench 5. One or two fragments (such as the fireplace lintel) suggest rather a domestic function.

6.5.2.4 No burials were found within the building, as might have been expected inside a chapel, but very little of the interior was excavated, and those areas that were exposed rarely went below the post-medieval deposits. Although a cemetery was found close by, the date of this appears to be post-Dissolution, and thus not the medieval cemetery attached to the chapel of St. Edmund.

6.5.2.5 The date of construction given by the pottery would appear to be earlier than AD 1288, when construction of the chapel began (Lambrick and Slade 1991, C94, 119-121). However, the pottery assemblages are small, and a date as late as this is not impossible.

6.5.2.6 The post-Roman pottery report does indicate something of an hiatus in pottery deposition between the end of the 13th century and the mid-16th century, which might appear to fit well with the conversion of a domestic property belonging to the family of St. Edmund to a chapel in 1288 or thereabouts, which remained in use at least 1479 AD (Kirk 1892, 139-141, the last documented reference) and possibly until the Dissolution in AD 1540. However, the chapel is known to have been surrounded by a series of domestic buildings, which would have generated domestic refuse, and the reason for the shortage of late medieval pottery from the evaluation is more likely to be a result of the excavation sample (see also 6.2.5 above).

6.5.3 *Alternative locations for the Chapel of St. Edmund.*

6.5.3.1 The recent publication of *Two Cartularies of Abingdon Abbey* (Lambrick and Slade 1991, vol. 2 Fig. 5) located the chapel just to the north-west of the site, below Nos 2-6 Ock Street. The recorded dimensions of the chapel (or its plot) would allow the chapel to lie within the area outside the current redevelopment site. It is however unlikely that all of the attached properties would also have been contained within this area, and some trace of these would have been expected within the development area.

6.5.3.2 Amyce's Survey of Abingdon (Amyce 1544, 26) places the site of the chapel of St. Edmund in a close 800 yards further west down Ock Street. By the time of his survey the chapel (last recorded in 1479) had been demolished. This is the nearest account in time of the whereabouts of the chapel, but more recent historians have doubted Amyce. The arguments are summarised in an article by the late W. Liversidge (Liversidge 1989, 1-13).

6.6 Limitations of the evaluation

6.6.1 While the main aims of the evaluation have been achieved, two areas were not evaluated due to problems of access. These were: the area beneath the Regal Cinema and the north-east part of the Municipal Car Park, to the rear of the large medieval property known as Banbury Court.

6.6.2 It is known that the Lamb Inn occupied the site now covered by the Regal Cinema from at least 1553 until 1851 (Amyce 1554, 29; Smith and Carter 1989, 50-51). There may also be earlier, medieval buildings preserved beneath the Lamb Inn on the frontage on The Square.

6.5.3 The north-eastern part of the Municipal Car Park overlies the rear of the property known as Banbury Court, which lay just south of St. Edmund's Lane and extended right down to a mill on the river Ock (Amyce 1554, 10). This had barns and a dovecote attached, the remains of which may well lie within the development area west of the eastern defensive ditch.

7 Conclusions

7.1 As indicated by the Desktop Study, archaeological deposits of significance occur in most parts of the site, and range in date from the Iron Age to the post-medieval period.

7.2 On present evidence the most sensitive archaeological area appears to be the central part of the site (within the former SEB yard and the car park south of the Regal Cinema), where a substantial medieval building has been found. A small part of this building lies only 0.35 m below modern ground level, and over much of the building undisturbed deposits are found less than 1 m below ground level. The former existence of the defensive ditches in the area of the building has resulted in the presence of at least one cellar or crypt and of walls surviving to considerable height below this level.

7.3 A small cemetery has also been found, which again lies less than 1 m below ground level. The number of burials however appears to be small and only one layer deep.

7.4 The defensive ditches also represent a zone of significant archaeology running down the centre of the site. From an engineering point of view these represent areas where gravel is only found at a depth of 3.5-4 m below modern ground level, and the lowest deposits within the ditches are waterlogged. Archaeologically, the fact that the ditches are recut within this site provides information not obtained from previous excavations in the Vineyard, and may indicate potential for elucidating the date at which the defences were first created and their subsequent development and modification.

7.5 Evaluation suggested that the western ditch was partly backfilled in the Roman period, but that the eastern ditch remained open into the medieval period and beyond, and was probably recut during the post-Roman period. The post-Roman development of the ditch was not however closely investigated, and its state and status in the Saxon and early medieval period is still unclear.

7.6 West of the defensive ditches another ditch of probable Iron Age date has been found, which may represent yet another phase in the defence of the town, and certainly demonstrates the spread of Iron Age activity to the western edge of the site. In contrast little evidence of Roman activity has been found in this area, except for one large ditch towards the south end of the site. Activity west of the defences appears to recommence in the early medieval period, and pits continue to be dug thereafter into the post-medieval period.

7.7 A palaeochannel has been identified at the south-west corner of the site which may represent the unmodified course of a long-lived north-south stream later channeled beneath the Brewery. This may have potential for providing an environmental pollen sequence for the development of the site, but no dating evidence was recovered from the evaluation.

7.8 Within the eastern ditch at the south end of the site evidence of waterlogged wooden structures survives, which are likely to be of medieval date.

7.9 Overlying the southern part of the site (Trench 7) was a considerable depth of garden soil, which had truncated earlier archaeological deposits severely. Preservation in this part of the site appears to be less good than further north.

7.10 East of the defensive ditches evaluation was limited, but there appeared to be very considerable post-medieval disturbance, and only pockets of intact archaeology were found.

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The pottery periods are abbreviated as follows:

Iron Age - IA
 Roman - R
 Saxon - S
 Medieval - M
 Post-medieval - PM

Environmental samples are listed S1, S2 etc

Categories of 'Other finds' are abbreviated as follows:

Iron - fe; Copper Alloy - Cu; Ceramic Building Material (brick and tile) - CBM; Bottle glass - GIB;
 Vessel glass - GIV; Window glass - GIW; Clay Pipe - CP; Architectural fragment - Arch frag; Lead - Pb

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
TRENCH 7									
1	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 133		0.20					?Iron Age
2	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 3		0.46	1M?/22R	Y			Roman
3	Pit cut	Pit	0.80 x 1.0 ⁺	0.46					Roman
4	Dark green black clay silt	Waterlogged fill of 120		0.20					Roman
5	Grey silt sand	Fill of 150		0.25					
6	Black clay silt	Fill of 150		0.43	2R	Y			
7	Orange brown sand	Fill of 150		0.22					
8	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 118		0.65	1R				Roman
9	Brown orange sand	Fill of 118		0.30					Roman
10	Black sand silt	Fill of 150		0.30	2M?	Y			
11	Grey orange yellow silt sand	Fill of 133		1.0					?Iron Age
12	Brown silt clay	Fill of 120		0.60		Y			Roman
13	Dark grey brown silt sand	Waterlogged fill of 120		0.15		Y	S4		Roman
14	Grey brown silt clay	Imported garden soil		1.0		Y			Post Medieval
15	Green grey brown silt clay	Make-up/ Dump		0.30					
16	White red grey silt sand	Fill of 117		0.34	16R	Y			
17	Orange grey clay silt	Fill of 115		1.05	30PM			Cu strip	Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
18	Wall	N-S wall	0.65 x 5.50 ⁺	1.70					Post Medieval
19	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 118		0.28	1R				Roman
20	Orange brown silt clay	Same as 27			1PM				
21	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 120		0.70	2I				Roman
22	Dark orange black clay silt	Part waterlogged fill of 124		0.70			S3		
23	Pit cut	Unexcavated pit	3.5 ⁺ x 2.75 ⁺	0.44 ⁺					
24	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 23		0.44 ⁺					
25	Brown silt sand	Fill of 118		?	1R	Y			Roman
26	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of 118		?	4R	Y			Roman
27	Dark orange brown sand silt	Fill of 127		0.60					
28	Wood	Stake ? Part of 137							
29	Wood	Stake tip. part of 137							
30	Wood	Stake. Part of 137							
31	Wood	Wattle? Part of 137							
32	Wood	Stake within 150							
33	Wood	Wattle attached to 32 within 150							
34	Orange brown gravel silt	Fill of 54		0.34	16R	Y			Roman
35	Not used								
36	Not used								
37	Orange grey clay silt	Fill of 54		0.20					Roman
38	Absent	VOID							
39	Absent	VOID							
40	Pit cut	Pit	1.50 x 3.0	0.40					Medieval
41	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 40		0.40	17M/1R			Fe nail, GIB	Medieval
42	Pit cut	Pit	1.70 x 2.0 ⁺	0.80					Medieval
43	Dark grey brown silt clay	Fill of 42		0.40	6M/1R	Y			Medieval
44	Yellow grey brown silt clay	Fill of 42		0.10					Medieval
45	Dark grey brown silt clay	Fill of 42		0.35	3M	Y		Fe frag	Medieval
46	Not used								
47	Not used								
48	Pit cut	Unexcavated pit	3.0 ⁺ x 2.5 ⁺	0.42 ⁺					Medieval
49	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 48		0.42 ⁺	1M	Y			Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
50	Not used								
51	Not used								
52	Orange brown gravel clay	Waterlogged fill of 54		0.20 ⁺					Roman
53	Grey brown gravel clay	Waterlogged fill of 54		0.26			S6		Roman
54	Ditch cut	N-S ditch	6.5 x 3.0 ⁺	1.80					Roman
55	Grey brown clay loam	Fill of 56		0.60				Cu buckle frame	
56	Pit cut	Pit	2.80 x 2.50 ⁺	1.10					
57	Ditch cut	NW-SE ditch	5.20 x 2.0 ⁺	0.70					Roman
58	Dark brown clay silt	Fill of 57		0.50					Roman
59	Dark brown clay silt	Fill of 57		0.15	3R				Roman
60	Brown grey clay silt	Fill of 57		0.35	3R				Roman
61	Cut	?N-S ditch (recut of 57)	2.0 x 2.0 ⁺	0.55					Roman
62	Dark brown clay silt	Fill of 61		0.20					Roman
63	Grey clay silt	Fill of 61		0.22					Roman
64	Grey clay silt	Fill of 61		0.24					Roman
65	Ditch cut	?N-S ditch (recut of 61)	2.20 x 2.0 ⁺	0.45					Roman
66	Dark brown sand	Waterlogged fill of 65		0.24			S2		Roman
67	Grey sand	Fill of 65		0.20					Roman
68	Brown grey silt sand	Fill of 65		0.15					Roman
69	Cut	?Ditch/Pit	0.70 x ? long	0.32					Roman
70	Brown grey silt sand	Fill of 69		0.32					Roman
71	Cut	?Gully/Pit	0.55 x ?long	0.20					
72	Black sand silt	Fill of 71		0.20					
73	Cut	?Ditch/Pit	1.50 x ? long	0.60					
74	Grey silt sand	Fill of 73		0.60					
75	Dark grey black clay silt	Waterlogged fill of 54		0.15			S8		Roman
76	Grey brown clay silt	Fill of 56		0.50	1R				
77	Orange brown sand gravel	Fill of 54		0.30					Roman
78	Orange brown silt	Fill of 54		0.25					Roman
79	Cut	?Ditch/Pit	1.20 x	0.32					
80	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 79		0.32					
81	Cut	?Gully/P-hole	0.50 x ?long	0.26					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
82	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 81		0.26					
83	Brown grey sand	Fill of 57		0.20					Roman
84	Green grey silt sand	Natural silting?		0.60					
85	Brown grey sand	Fill of 96		0.34					Prehistoric
86	Not used								
87	Not used								
88	Gully cut	?Gully	0.65 x ?long	0.35					Roman
89	Grey brown silt loam	Imported/orchard/ garden soil		1.15					Post Medieval
90	Grey brown sand	Fill of 96		0.15					Roman
91	Dark brown black peat	Fill of 96		0.40 ⁺			S1		Prehistoric
92	Dark brown sand clay	Fill of 96		0.20					Prehistoric
93	Light brown grey sand silt	Fill of 96		0.35					Roman
94	Green grey sand silt	Fill of 88		0.35					Roman
95	Orange brown sand	Fill of 96		0.42					Prehistoric
96	Paleochannel?	N-S paleochannel?	8.0 ⁺ x ?long	0.90					Prehistoric
97	Dark brown black sand silt	Imported garden soil?		0.30	7PM				Post Medieval
98	Brown grey silt sand	Dump		0.40					Post Medieval
99	Light brown sand	Make up		0.30					Post Medieval
100	Tarmac	Current tarmac surface		0.10					
101	Cut	Truncated ? Ditch/Pit	1.90 x ?long	0.40					
102	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 101		0.40				Curing	
103	Orange brown sand loam	Fill of 150		0.30					
104	Grey silt clay	Fill of 150		0.30					
105	Dark black clay silt	Fill of 145		0.20					
106	Dark grey silt clay	Fill of 144		0.25					
107	Black silt clay	Fill of 150		0.46					
108	Orange brown sand loam	Fill of 145		0.30					
109	Not used								
110	Orange brown sand loam	Fill of 145		0.12 ⁺					
111	Brown sand clay loam	Garden soil dump		1.10					
112	Brown silt clay	Garden soil dump		0.94	15PM			GIW;GIB	Post Medieval
113	Orange brown silt clay	Fill of 115		1.30					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
114	Brown silt clay	Fill of 115		0.45					Post Medieval
115	Wall cut	Construction cut for 18	2.70 x 5.5 ⁺	1.75					Post Medieval
116	Wall cut	Construction cut for wall 119	0.60 ⁺ x 5.50 ⁺	1.05					
117	Cut	?Ditch	5.0 x ?long	0.40					
118	Ditch cut	Ditch (N-S)	12.0 x	1.50					Roman
119	Wall	N-S wall	0.60 x ?long	1.05					
120	Ditch cut	N-S Ditch	3.60 ⁺ x	1.50					Roman
121	Pit cut	Pit	1.80 x ?long	0.62					Roman
122	Cut	?Gully/P-hole	0.40 x ?long	0.20					
123	Not used								
124	?Ditch cut	?Construction cut for 137 (N-S)	?wide x 1.75 ⁺	0.35					
125	Brown silt clay	Fill of 122		0.20					
126	Brown sand loam	Dump		0.40					
127	Pit cut	Pit	2.50 ⁺ x 3.0 ⁺	1.04 ⁺					
128	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 54		0.40				Cu (2) Cu buckle frame	
129	Dark grey brown clay silt	Fill of 54		0.35			S7		Roman
130	Brown grey clay silt	Natural silting		0.60					Roman
131	Pit cut	Unexcavated pit	0.35 x 0.50 ⁺	?					
132	Grey brown sand loam	Unexcavated fill of 131		?					
133	Ditch cut	N-S Ditch	3.0 ⁺ x 3.0 ⁺	1.40					?Iron Age
134		Fill of 121		0.65					Roman
135	Dark grey black clay silt	Waterlogged fill of 150		0.26					
136	Grey sand loam	Dump		0.40					
137	Waterlogged wood	Post and wattle fence comprising 28, 29, 30, 31	-wide x 1.0 ⁺	?					
138	Pit cut	Unexcavated pit	1.25 x 2.25 ⁺	0.20 ⁺					
139	Dark grey sand loam	Unexcavated fill of 138		0.20 ⁺				Pb ring ???	
140	Posthole cut	Unexcavated p-hole	0.35 diameter	?					Post Medieval
141	Dark grey loam	Unexcavated fill of 140		?				(Pb) musket ball	Post Medieval
142	Green grey silt sand	Natural silting?							

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
143	Green grey silt sand	Natural silting?							
144	Burrow	Animal burrow	0.60 x ?long	1.20					
145	Cut	?Pit	2.80 ⁺ x?long	0.40					
146	Brown sand clay silt	Unexcavated fill of 147		?					
147	Pit cut	?Pit	2.50 ⁺ x 2.0 ⁺	?					
148	Orange brown sand	Fill of 118		0.36					Roman
149		Fill of 127		0.95					
150	Cut	N-S ditch?? ?Re-cut to 118?	4.30 x ?long	1.0					
TRENCH 6									
200	Tarmac	Tarmac		0.15					Post Medieval
201	Yellow red orange gravel	Make up for tarmac		0.30					Post Medieval
202a/b	Walls	South west corner of building							Post Medieval
203	Wall	North wall of 315	0.70 wide	1.08					Post Medieval
204	Wall	South wall of 315	0.68 wide	1.06					Post Medieval
205	Dark green black sand silt	Dump?		0.17					Post Medieval
206	Dark brown grey sand silt	Orchard soil	7.70 long	0.25					
207	Light brown mortar	Demolition layer	6.20 wide	0.14					Post Medieval
208	Brown grey silt sand	Dump?		0.15					Post Medieval
209	Floor	Concrete floor		0.10					Post Medieval
210	Structure	Brick floor of 315	6.20 across	0.12				CBM	Post Medieval
211	Black silt	Fill of 215	1.00 x 0.88	0.10					Medieval
212	Grey sand silt	Fill of 215	0.70 N-S	0.08					Medieval
213	Black peat	Fill of 215		0.09	1M	Y		Fe slag	Medieval
214	Red brown silt clay	Fill of 215	0.80 N-S	0.14					Medieval
215	Ditch cut	Ditch? E-W	0.98 N-S 0.88 E-W	0.41					Medieval
216	Grey silt	Fill of 217	1.50 E-W	?					Medieval
217	Well	Well shaft	1.80 Diam.	?					Medieval
218	Grey sand silt	Fill of 219		?					
219	Pit cut	Pit		0.80					
220	Dark grey brown silt sand	Dump/Build-up		0.26	14M	Y		CBM	Medieval
221	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 242		0.30	20M	Y		Fe key	Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
222	Dark brown silt sand	Fill of 302		0.30	4M?	Y		Burnt stone CBM	
223	Pit cut	Pit	Where seen: 1.60 M wide	0.30					
224	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 223		0.30					
225	Wall cut	Construction cut for 204	1.20 wide	1.00					Post Medieval
226	Yellow grey brown silt sand	Fill of 225		0.80	2S?	Y			Post Medieval
227	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 225		0.12					Post Medieval
228	Linear cut	Linear feature E-W	2.20 wide	0.60					
229	Light brown yellow sand silt	Fill of 228		0.40					
230	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 231		0.33		Y			Medieval
231	Ditch cut	Same as 232 + 269 ?ditch?	Min. 1.80 m wide	0.33					Medieval
232	Ditch cut	Same as 231 + 269 ?ditch?	Min. 1.80 m wide	0.33					Medieval
233	Ditch cut	Ditch N-S	?	0.95					Prehistoric
234	Light brown sand silt	Fill of 235		0.14					Prehistoric
235	Very poorly defined void cut	Poss. grave cut	1.02 N-S 0.85 E-W	Min 0.14					Prehistoric
236	Skeleton	Crouched Burial							Prehistoric
237	Sub-circular cut	Pit	Min 1.50 E-W 3.50 N-S	0.72					Medieval
238	Dark grey brown sand loam	Fill of 237		0.56	18M	Y		CBM	Medieval
239	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 240		0.50					Prehistoric
240	Linear cut	Terminus of N-S linear	?	0.50					Prehistoric
241	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 242		0.08					Medieval
242	Sub-circular cut	Pit	1.60 Diam.	0.32					Medieval
243	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 245		0.25					
244	Yellow grey sand silt	Fill of 245		0.08					
245	Sub-circular cut	Pit	0.40 Diam.	0.30					
246	Dark brown grey clay silt	Build up against wall?	0.70 wide	0.40		Y		Shell CBM	
247	Dark red brown sand gravel	Fill of 249 unexcavated? pit		?					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
248	Cut	Unexcavated feature		?					
249	Pit cut	Unexcavated feature		?					
250	Wall/brick arch	Wall capped by brick arch culvert?	?	?					Post Medieval
251	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of 233		0.15					Prehistoric
252	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of 233		0.15					Prehistoric
253	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 233		0.14				Flint CBM	Prehistoric
254	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 233		0.70	11A	Y		Worked bone	Prehistoric
255	Grey brown sand gravel	Unexcavated fill of 256		?					
256	Sub-square cut	Large pit/cellar	0.40 N-S 0.50 wide	Min 0.45					
257	Dark green brown silt loam	Garden soil?		Min 0.40					
258	Grey brown sand loam	Garden soil?	2.00 N-S	0.30					
259	Not used								
260	Grey brown silt sand	Not excavated Fill of 261		?	1M				
261	Circular cut	Construction cut for 216 (Well)	2.50Ø	?					Medieval
262	Not used								
263	Grey brown sand gravel	Make up for 210		0.12					Post Medieval
264	Dark grey sand loam	Occupation layer on 286		0.10					
265	Yellow brown sand silt	Part of 304		0.43					
266	Skeleton	Prone - N-S skull to N							Medieval
267	Grey brown clay silt	Layer containing 266		?	2M				Medieval
268	Exc. box around skeleton 266	Cut given to box dug around 266	-	-					
269	?Curvilinear cut	Ditch - same as 232 231	Min 1.60	Min 0.40					Medieval
270	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of 269	Min. 1.60 x 0.50	Min 0.35	11A/2R/2S				Medieval
271	Light yellow brown sand gravel	Fill of 269	Min 2.00 x 1.50	0.20					Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
272	Linear cut	E-W ditch	2.1 wide	Min. 0.60					
273	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 272	2.1 wide	0.60					
274	Brown sand gravel	Fill of 237		0.20					Medieval
275	Grey brown sand silt and limestone	Rubble (tumble?)		0.18					
276	Yellow brown mortar clay	Infilling of cellar 313		0.26				CBM	Post Medieval
277	Dark brown silt clay	Fill of 313		0.22					Post Medieval
278	Red brown clay	Fill of 313		0.16					Post Medieval
279	Dark brown silt clay	Fill of 302		0.30	4M?	Y		Burnt stone CBM	
280	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 240		0.50					Pre Hist
281	Dark brown grey silt clay	Fill of 219		0.32					
282	Single brick layer	Brick floor	0.90 N-S	0.10					Post Medieval
283	Plaster	Fill of 313	0.80 N-S	0.24					Post Medieval
284	Circular cut	Circular pit?		0.97					
285	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 284		0.97					
286	Pitched limestones	Pitched Limestone floor	3.20 N-S	0.12					
287	Brown silt clay with limestone	Rubble dump? Fill of 256	3.20 N-S	0.15					
288	Dark red brown silt clay	Fill of 289		0.20					
289	Circular cut	Post hole	0.15 N-S	0.20					
290		Not used							
291		Not used							
292		Not used							
293		Not used							
294		Not used							
295		Not used							
296	Grey brown sand loam	Build up?		0.18					
297	Sub-circular cut	Pit re-cut by 284?		0.70?					Medieval
298	Grey brown clay silt	Fill of 297		Min 0.20	2S				Medieval
299	Orange brown sand clay	Fill of 297		0.35					Medieval
300	Brown silt clay	Fill of 297		0.20					Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
301	Interface	Division between 278 and 283							
302	Linear cut	Construction cut for 203?		0.80					Post Medieval
303	Sand silt gravel	Fill of 272		0.67					
304	Family No.	Series of pits							
305	Natural sand and gravel	Natural		?					
306		Not used							
307	Grey brown sand gravel	Unexcavated fill of 248							
308	Linear cut	Construction cut	3.0 N-S						Post Medieval
309	Cut	Unexcavated pit?							
310	Dark red brown sand gravel	Unexcavated fill of 309							
311	Sub-circular cut	Pit	1.80 wide	0.30					
312	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 311		0.30					
313	Linear cut	Part of 302?							Post Medieval
314	Limestone masonry	E-W wall		0.40					Post Medieval
315	Family No.	Building 204, 203, 314 etc							Post Medieval
TRENCH 8									
400	Tarmac	Tarmac car park surface		0.10					Post Medieval
401	Yellow brown rubble	Hardcore make up for 400		0.44					Post Medieval
402	Dark grey black clay silt	Dump/make-up		0.36					Post Medieval
403	Grey clay	Dumped clay lense		0.22					Post Medieval
404	Dark brown clay loam	Make-up/dumped soil		0.60					Post Medieval
405	Dark brown clay loam	Fill of ?channel 412		0.60				CBM	Post Medieval
406	Grey clay	Dumped clay lense		0.08					Post Medieval
407	Yellow brown clay gravel	Fill of 411		0.30					Post Medieval
408	Brown grey clay loam	Fill of 412		0.10				CBM	Post Medieval
409	Grey clay	Fill of 412		0.30					Post Medieval
410	Dark brown clay loam	Fill of 412		0.70				CBM	Post Medieval
411	Circular cut	Pit/ditch		0.30					Post Medieval
412	Linear cut	?Channel		?					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
413	Dark brown black clay silt	Waterlogged layer		?			S5		
TRENCH 4									
600	Dark brown clay loam	Turf and top soil		0.06					Post Medieval
601	Tarmac	Tarmac		0.06					Post Medieval
602	Orange brown sand gravel	Make-up for 601		0.06					Post Medieval
603	Brown black loam	Fill of 604		0.31					Post Medieval
604	Cut	Shallow feature	1.10m ⁺	0.31					Post Medieval
605	Dark brown clay loam	Garden soil?		0.14					
606	Yellow brown loam and limestone	Rubble tip		0.18					Post Medieval
607	Yellow brown loam	Fill of 668		0.32					Post Medieval
608	Dark brown clay loam	Fill of 668		0.81					Post Medieval
609	Dark brown loam	Dump?		0.26					Post Medieval
610	Yellow brown loam	Dump?		0.28					Post Medieval
611	Dark brown clay loam	Garden soil		0.50					Post Medieval
612	Dark brown grey silt	Fill of 691		1.00 ⁺					Post Medieval
613	Dark brown clay silt	Garden soil?		0.24					
614	Orange sand	Fill of 667 = soak away		1.80 ⁺					Post Medieval
615	Brown clay silt	Fill of 618		0.45					Post Medieval
616	Brown silt	Fill of 617		0.45 ⁺					
617	Pit cut	Pit not excavated	2.00 ⁺	0.45 ⁺					
618	Linear cut	?Ditch	0.90	0.45					
619	Yellow brown silt	Fill of 714		0.50					Post Medieval
620	Dark brown clay loam	Fill of 625		0.24					
621	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 625		0.28					
622	Cut	Unexcavated pit							
623	Yellow brown sand gravel	Fill of 699		0.14					
624	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 625		0.60					
625	Circular cut	Pit	1.10m ⁺	0.50 ⁺					
626	Grey sand silt	Fill of 699		0.30					
627	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 685		0.24					Medieval
628	Light grey brown sand silt	Fill of 699		0.26					
629	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 622		0.44					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
630	Orange brown sand	Fill of 622		0.06					
631	Brown sand silt	Fill of 622		0.38					
632	Brown sand silt	Fill of 684		0.24					Medieval
633	Brown sand silt	Fill of 669		0.44				Cu coin	Post Medieval
634	Brown sand silt	Fill of 669		0.50	4M			Fe nail	Medieval
635	Dark grey brown sand loam	Fill of 669		0.30	2M	Y			Medieval
636	Green brown sand loam	Fill of 669		0.22	1M	Y			Medieval
637	Dark grey gravel loam	Fill of 669		0.20		Y			Medieval
638	Grey brown silt loam	Fill of 724		0.40					Medieval
639	Light yellow brown gravel sand	Fill of 715		0.50	1S	Y			Medieval
640	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 664		0.90 ⁺					Medieval
641	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 684		0.20					Medieval
642	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 684		0.36					Medieval
643	Brown sand loam	Fill of 685		0.50					Medieval
644	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 664		0.90 ⁺	1M				Medieval
645	Dark grey brown sand silt	Fill of 684		0.24					Medieval
646	Orange brown sand	Unexcavated layer?/fill							Medieval
647	Dark grey brown sand silt	Unexcavated layer/fill			1S			CBM	Medieval
648	Brown sand silt	Unexcavated layer/fill							Medieval
649	Orange brown sand	Unexcavated layer/fill							Medieval
650	Grey brown sand silt	Unexcavated. Fill of 684?							Medieval
651	Circular cut	Pit							Medieval
652	Light brown silt sand	Fill of 651		0.20					Medieval
653	Circular cut	Post hole?	0.30 diameter	0.05					
654	Light brown gravel sand	Fill of 653		0.05					
655	Circular cut	Post hole	0.40 N-S	0.25					
656	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 655		0.16					
657	Circular cut	Unexcavated post hole	0.30 diameter						
658	Dark grey sand loam	Fill of 657							
659	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 688							
660	Orange brown silt sand	Unexcavated fill of 688							
661		Unexcavated fill of 687							

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
662	Not used								
663	Yellow brown sand	Fill of 685		0.28					Medieval
664	Pit cut	Pit		1.00					Medieval
665	Dark grey brown sand loam	Fill of unexcavated?						Pb casket frag	
666	Yellow brown sand loam	Fill of unexcavated?							
667	Linear cut	Soak away	2.40	2.00 ⁺					Post Medieval
668	Circular cut	Modern? pit	1.20	1.00					Post Medieval
669	Linear cut	NW-SE ditch	5.60	1.40					Medieval
670	Linear cut	E-W ditch	1.70 ⁺	1.00					Medieval
671		Pit unexcavated	1.40 diameter						
672	Dark grey clay loam	Fill of 671							
673	Orange brown sand	Fill of 670		0.22					Medieval
674	Grey brown sand	Fill of 670		0.12					Medieval
675	Brown grey sand	Fill of 670		0.18					Medieval
676	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 670		0.20					Medieval
677	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 670		0.28					Medieval
678	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 670?		0.20					Medieval
679	Pit cut	Pit??	1.00 ⁺ E-W	0.50 ⁺					Medieval
680	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 679		0.30		Y			Medieval
681	Orange brown sand	Fill of 655		0.06					
682	Sand and gravel	NATURAL							
683		Animal disturbance			1M	Y			
684	Circular cut	Ditch E-W	1.60 ⁺	1.00 ⁺					Medieval
685	Circular cut	Pit	1.40 ⁺	1.00					Medieval
686	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 669		0.10	1S				Medieval
687	Linear cut	NE-SW ditch	4.60 ⁺	1.35					
688	Linear cut	NE-SW ditch	2.40 ⁺	0.90					
689	Not used								
690	Dark grey clay loam	Fill of 691		0.28					Post Medieval
691	Rectangular cut	Rectangular service pit	2.00 x 1.00	1.60 ⁺					Post Medieval
692	Grey brown clay loam	Fill of 688		0.26					
693	Yellow grey sand loam	Fill of 713		0.40					
694	Orange brown silt	Fill of 688		0.20					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
695	Orange grey sand	Fill of 688		0.20					
696	Yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 688		0.30					
697	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 688		0.30					
698		Fill of 688		0.14					
699	Sub-circular cut	Pit	1.60	0.70					
700	Brown silt clay	Fill of 711		0.44					
701	Yellow brown clay loam	Fill of 687		0.70					
702	Brown clay loam	Fill of 687		0.38					
703	Yellow brown sand loam	Fill of 687		0.08					
704	Grey silt clay	Fill of 687		0.06					
705	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 687		0.22					
706	Yellow brown silt clay	Fill of 687		0.48					
707	Yellow brown clay loam	Fill of 687		0.20					
708	Yellow grey sand	Fill of 687		0.10					
709	Grey clay	Fill of 687		0.20					
710	Yellow brown sand loam	Fill of 687		0.18					
711	Linear cut	NE-SW ditch?	2.30 ⁺	0.44					
712	Dark grey clay loam	?Garden soil		0.20					
713	Post hole cut	Post hole	0.40 diameter	0.40					
714	Linear cut	NE-SW ditch	2.50	0.46					
715	Linear cut	Pit/ditch?	1.80	0.80					Medieval
716		Fill of 715		0.30					Medieval
717		Fill of 715		0.48					Medieval
718	Cut	Unexcavated pit	0.80 diameter						
719		Fill of 718							
720	Cut	Unexcavated pit	1.10 diameter						Medieval
721		Fill of 720			2M	Y			Medieval
722	Grey brown silt loam	?Sub soil		0.22					
723		Fill of 688		0.40					
TRENCH 5									
800	Brown black burnt silt sand	Fill of 941	0.45 E-W	0.10					Roman
801	Orange grey silt gravel	Fill of 941	1.10 E-W	0.25					Roman
802	Dark brown silt	Fill of 854		0.15					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
803	Dark grey silt	Fill of 854		0.11					Post Medieval
804	Grave cut	Grave E-W	2.00 x 0.50	0.35					Post Medieval
805	Brown silt clay	Fill of grave 804	2.00 x 0.50	0.35	1M			Medieval coin Cu alloy	Post Medieval
806	Skeleton	Skeleton in 804							Post Medieval
807	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.50 x 0.35 x 1.80	0.18					Post Medieval
808	Brown silt clay	Fill of 807	0.50 x 0.35 x 1.80	0.18	2M	Y			Post Medieval
809	Skeleton	Skeleton in 807							Post Medieval
810	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.50 x 0.40 x 1.90	0.20					Post Medieval
811	Brown silt clay	Fill of 810	0.50 x 0.40 x 1.90	0.20	3PM?	Y			Post Medieval
812	Skeleton	Skeleton in 810							Post Medieval
813	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.55 x 0.40 x 1.80	0.25					Post Medieval
814	Brown silt clay	Fill of 813	0.55 x 0.40 x 1.80	0.25	6M	Y			Post Medieval
815	Skeleton	Skeleton in 813							Post Medieval
816	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.58 x 0.46 x 1.80	0.28					Post Medieval
817	Brown silt clay	Fill of 816	0.58 x 0.46 x 1.80	0.28	13PM + 5R	Y			Post Medieval
818	Skeleton	Skeleton in 816							Post Medieval
819	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.70 x 0.40 x 2.30	0.30					Post Medieval
820	Brown silt clay	Fill of 819	0.70 x 0.40 x 2.30	0.30	3M				Post Medieval
821	Skeleton	Skeleton in 819							Post Medieval
822	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.70 x 0.50 x 1.90	0.25					Post Medieval
823	Brown silt clay	Fill of 822	0.70 x 0.50 x 1.90	0.25	8PM	Y			Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
824	Skeleton	Skeleton in 822							Post Medieval
825	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.35 x 0.55 x 0.80	0.20					Post Medieval
826	Brown silt clay	Fill of 825	0.35 x 0.55 x 0.80	0.20		Y			Post Medieval
827	Skeleton	Skeleton in 825							Post Medieval
828	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.40 x 0.45 x 2.20	0.20					Post Medieval
829	Brown silt clay	Fill of 828	0.40 x 0.45 x 2.20	0.20	4M	Y			Post Medieval
830	Skeleton	Skeleton in 828							Post Medieval
831	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.60 x 1.20	0.25					Post Medieval
832	Brown silt clay	Fill of 831	0.60 x 1.20	0.25	4M	Y			Post Medieval
833	Skeleton	Skeleton in 831							Post Medieval
834	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.50 x 2.20	0.23					Post Medieval
835	Brown silt clay		0.50 x 2.20	0.23	7M	Y			Post Medieval
836	Skeleton	Skeleton in 834							Post Medieval
837	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.50 x 1.00	?					Post Medieval
838	Brown silt clay	Fill of 837	0.50 x 1.00	?		Y			Post Medieval
839	Skeleton	Skeleton in 837							Post Medieval
840	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.50 x 1.50	0.15					Post Medieval
841	Brown silt clay	Fill of 840	0.50 x 1.50	0.15	1M	Y			Post Medieval
842	Skeleton	Skeleton in 840							Post Medieval
843	Grave cut	Grave E-W	1.50 x 0.55	0.40					Post Medieval
844	Brown silt clay	Fill of 843	1.50 x 0.55	0.40	5M	Y			Post Medieval
845	Skeleton	Skeleton in 843							Post Medieval
846	Grave cut	Grave E-W	0.80 x 0.70 x 1.50	0.28					Post Medieval
847	Brown silt clay	Fill of 846	0.80 x 0.70 x 1.50	0.28	3M	Y			Post Medieval
848	Skeleton	Skeleton in 846							Post Medieval
849	Skeleton	Skeleton in 846							Post Medieval
850	Dark grey silt	Fill of 854		0.14					
851	Yellow brown sand	Fill of 854		0.28					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
852	Dark red brown sand	Fill of 854		0.10					
853	Grey sand silt	Fill of 854		0.35					
854	Linear cut	Large NNE-SSW ditch	10.00 wide	1.60					
855	Green grey clay	Fill of 941	0.53 E-W	0.15					Roman
856	Light brown sand and gravel	Fill of 854		0.10					
857	Orange brown sand	Fill of 854	0.45 E-W	0.10					
858	Brown sand	Fill of 854	0.50 E-W	0.40					
859	Grey silt	Fill of 941		0.20					Roman
860	Yellow orange silt sand	Fill of 941	1.05 E-W	0.13					Roman
861	Dark black brown silt clay	Fill of 854	1.00 E-W	0.20					
862	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 854	0.60 E-W	0.25	1R				
863	Dark grey sand silt	Fill of pit 886		0.22	2M	Y			Medieval
864	Grey sand silt	Fill of 941		0.28	6R				Roman
865	Grey silt clay	Fill of 941		0.20					Roman
866	Cut same as 854	Large NNE-SSW ditch	10.00 wide	1.60					
867	Cut same as 941	Large ditch NE-SW?	4.00 ⁺ wide	1.00 ⁺					
868	Grey sand silt	Fill of 941		0.22					Roman
869	Green brown silt sand	Fill of 941		0.18					Roman
870	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 941		0.30					Roman
871	Orange brown sand	Fill of 941		0.26					Roman
872	Yellow brown sand silt	Fill of 2005		0.23	3R				Roman
873	Brown sand	Fill of 979		0.20					Roman
874	Grey silt clay	Fill of 979		0.32					Roman
875	Brown sand silt	Fill of 979		0.36	1R				Roman
876	Orange brown sand	Fill of 979		0.55	13R	Y			Roman
877	Red grey sand silt	Fill of 979		0.32					Roman
878	Brown grey silt	Fill of 941		0.08	1R				Roman
879		Fill of 979		0.04					Roman
880	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 854		0.11					
881	Orange brown silt clay	Fill of 912	1.44 E-W	0.22					Medieval
882	Circular cut	Post-hole	0.40Ø	0.30					Post Medieval
883	Dark grey brown sand loam	Fill of 882		0.08					Post Medieval
884	Limestone blocks	Post packing 882		0.30					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
885	Dark grey brown sand silt	Post-pipe fill in 882	0.22 N-S 0.10E-W	0.30					Post Medieval
886	Sub-rectangular cut	Pit	0.50 N-E 3.10 E-W	0.22					Medieval
887	Brown silt	Fill of 886		0.14					Medieval
888	Orange brown sand gravel	Natural		?					
889	Sand and gravel	Natural		?					
890	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of ditch 2005		0.25					Roman
891	Orange brown sand	Fill of 2005		0.08					Roman
892	Brown grey sand	Fill of 2005 (backfill?)		0.25					Roman
893	Light grey brown silt sand	Fill of 2005		0.15	1R				Roman
894	Grey silt clay	Fill of 2005		0.36					Roman
895	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 2005	5.00 E-W	0.30					Roman
896		Fill of 941		?	1R				Roman
897	Brown silt clay	Layer into which graves cut		0.70	10M/9R				Post Medieval
898	Dark grey peat	Fill of 941 organic pres.		0.20	18R	Y			Roman
899		Fill of 941		?	2R				Roman
900	Orange brown sand gravel	Fill of 979		0.25	9R				Roman
901	Grey brown sand and gravel	Fill of 981 with skull 2002		0.25	11A/6R				Roman
902	Red brown sand and gravel	Back fill? of ditch 906		0.30	11A/28R				Roman
903	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of pit 912	0.40m E-W	0.10	38M				Medieval
904	Orange brown silt clay	Ashy fill of 912	0.46m E-W	0.12	12S				Medieval
905	Linear cut	Large NE-SW ditch	7.00 wide	1.00					Roman
906	Linear cut	Large NE-SW ditch	4.00 wide	0.50					Roman
907	Dark brown silt clay	Fill of 912	1.50 E-W	0.56					Medieval
908	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 912	1.10 E-W	0.08					Medieval
909	Black silt clay	Burnt fill of 912	1.00 E-W	0.24					Medieval
910	Grey black silt clay	Fill of 912	1.50 E-W	0.20					Medieval
911	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 912	0.86 E-W	0.08					Medieval
912	Circular cut	Large rubbish pit	Approx 1.60 Diam.	1.06					Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
913	Orange brown sand	Backfill? of ditch 906		0.20					Roman
914	Orange brown sand	Backfill? of ditch 906		0.20					Roman
915	Orange brown sand	Backfill? of 906		0.20					Roman
916	Dark orange brown sand	Backfill of ditch 2005		0.26					Roman
917	Grey sand silt	Fill of 2005		0.10					Roman
918	Light brown silt sand	Backfill of 2005		0.20	1R				Roman
919	Grey green silt sand	Backfill (cess) of 2005		0.22					Roman
920	Light brown silt sand	Backfill of 2005		0.15					Roman
921	Yellow brown sand and gravel	Fill of 2005		0.30					Roman
922	Not used								
923	Not used								
924	Circular cut	Rubbish pit?	2.00 ⁺ wide	0.50 ⁺					Medieval
925	Orange grey brown sand clay	Fill of 924		0.50	1S				Medieval
926	Circular cut	Large rubbish? pit	2.40 wide	0.70					Medieval
927	Grey brown clay sand	Fill of 926		0.70	7M/2R				Medieval
928	Circular cut	Poss. large pit	2.00 ⁺ wide	0.60					Medieval
929	Yellow grey brown sand clay	Fill of 928		0.60	4M/1R				Medieval
930	Circular cut	Large rubbish pit	4.00m ⁺ wide	0.70					Medieval
931	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 930		0.70	5M				Medieval
932	Linear cut	Small N-S gully	0.25 wide	0.10					
933	Light grey brown sand clay	Fill of 932		0.10					
934	Linear cut	Large N-S ditch	5.00 ⁺ wide	1.50 ⁺					
935	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 934		1.50 ⁺					
936	Grey brown sand silt	Backfill of 941		0.20	9R				Roman
937	Red brown sand gravel	Backfill of 941		0.10	11A/14R				Roman
938	Dark grey black brown clay silt	Organic fill of 941	2.50m ⁺ E-W	0.30					Roman
939	Light yellow brown silt sand	Fill of 941	2.00 ⁺ E-W	0.01					Roman
940	Grey silt clay	Fill of 941	0.70 E-W	0.25					Roman
941	Linear cut	Large ditch NE-SW?	4.00 ⁺ wide	1.00 ⁺					Roman
942	Grey silt sand	Fill of ditch 2025		0.30	1M/1R				Medieval
943	Grey silt clay	Fill of 2025		0.20	1M/2R				Medieval
944	Brown silt clay	Fill of ditch 905		0.08	2R				Roman
945	Light brown sand	Backfilling of 905		0.50	10R				Roman

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2002	Absent	Disarticulated human skull in 901							Roman
2003	Not used								
2004	Not used								
2005	Linear cut	Large N-S ditch	6.00 wide	0.90 ⁺					Roman
2006	Sub-square cut	Pit	0.70 x 0.70	0.90					Post Medieval
2007	Dark grey brown silt loam	Fill of 2006		0.90					Post Medieval
2008	Circular cut	Large circular? rubbish pit	2.40 E-W	0.80					
2009	Circular cut	Large circular/ Rubbish pit	2.60 E-W	0.80					
2010	Limestone masonry	N-S revetting wall in 854	1.00	?					
2011	Grey brown silt loam	Layer overlying fills of 2005, 905	5.30 E-W	0.35					
2012	Grey clay silt	Fill of 2025		0.30					
2013	Green grey silt clay	Layer over fills of ditch 2005	9.70 E-W	0.40					
2014	Grey silt sand	Fill of 2025		0.25					
2015	Yellow grey sand	Fill of 2025		0.20					
2016	Grave cut	Very badly truncated prehistoric? grave	0.50 diameter	0.20					Prehistoric ?
2017	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 2016		0.20					Prehistoric ?
2018	Linear cut	Construction cut for wall 970 N-S	0.60m wide	0.40					
2019		Layer sealing cut 951		0.40					
2020	Linear cut	N-S construction cut for brick drain	1.60 wide	0.80					Post Medieval
2021	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.80 wide	0.40					Post Medieval
2022	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.60 wide	0.40					Post Medieval
2023	Orange brown silt clay	Natural subsoil		0.,20					
2024	Circular cut	Very large rubbish? pit	2.80 ⁺ E-W	1.40 ⁺					Post Medieval
2025	Linear cut	N-S ditch?	2.20 ⁺ wide	0.80					Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
TRENCH 3									
1000	Circular cut	Excavated pit	0.90 x 1.30	2.20					Medieval
1001	Dark brown grey sand silt	Excavated fill of 1000		2.20	16M	Y	Cu strip		Medieval
1002	Linear cut	?Ditch N-S	0.90 x 1.92 ⁺	1.20					Medieval
1003	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1002		0.20	4M	Y			Medieval
1004	Dark black grey sand silt	Fill of 1002		0.06	5M/1R	Y			Medieval
1005	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1002		0.15	8M/5R	Y		Fe knife	Medieval
1006	Linear cut	Very big N-S ditch	6.0 ⁺ (E-W) x 4.0 ⁺ (N-S)	2.30 ⁺					Roman
1007	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1000		0.48					Medieval
1008	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 1006		0.21					Roman
1009	Red grey sand gravel	Fill of 1080		0.18	19R	Y			Roman
1010	White grey gravel sand	Fill of 1080		0.25	7R	Y			Roman
1011	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1087		0.20	7S/13R	Y		Shell	Medieval
1012	Dark black grey sand silt	Fill of 1080		0.36	50R	Y		Stone flint CBM	Roman
1013	N/A	Unstrat from 1080			3R	Y			Roman
1014	N/A	Unstrat from 1080			3R	Y		Flint	Roman
1015	White grey ash	Fill of 1016		0.25	11M	Y		Fe nail	Medieval
1016	Circular cut	Pit	0.70 x 0.80	0.55					Medieval
1017	Yellow brown sand silt	Fill of 1016		c.0.40	2M	Y			
1018	Circular cut	Unexcavated ? pit	c. 1.60 diameter	0.60 ⁺					
1019	Dark grey silt clay	Imported dump soil		0.20 ⁺					
1020	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit?		0.40					
1021	Dark grey brown clay silt	Unexcavated fill of 1020		0.40					
1022	Grey brown sand silt	Unexcavated fill of 1018		0.45					
1023	Dark grey brown sand silt	Unexcavated fill of 1018		0.15 ⁺					
1024	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit	2.40 E-W x ? N-S	1.60					Post Medieval
1025	Dark grey black clay silt	Fill of 1024		1.40					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1026	Circular cut	Unexcavated ? pit	1.90 E-W x 1.2 ⁺ N-S	0.40 ⁺					
1027	Grey brown sand silt	Unexcavated fill of 1026		0.40 ⁺					
1028	Limestone masonry	Fill of 1068	0.65 x 6.2 ⁺ N- S	0.40 ⁺					Post Medieval
1029	Robber trench cut	Construction cut	0.80 x? long	0.90					
1030	Grey brown clay silt	Fill of 1029		0.70					
1031	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit	2.0 x 1.6	0.30 ⁺					
1032	Dark brown silt	Unexcavated fill of 1031		0.30 ⁺					
1033	Linear cut	Unexcavated gully?	0.65 x 2.30 ⁺	0.20 ⁺					
1034	Light brown sand silt	Fill of 1033		0.20 ⁺					
1035	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit	1.50 x 1.50	0.35 ⁺					
1036	Dark brown silt	Fill of 1035		0.35 ⁺					
1037	Linear cut	Unexcavated gully?	2.70 x 0.35	0.28 ⁺					
1038	Light brown silt	Fill of 1037		0.28 ⁺					
1039	Linear cut	Very big N-S ditch	5.2 ⁺ E-W x 3.3 ⁺ N-S	1.30					Roman
1040	Brown silt sand	Fill of 1039		0.32 ⁺					Roman
1041	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	5.0 x 0.50	0.35					
1042	Linear cut	Construction cut	0.70 x? long	0.44					
1043	Light brown silt sand	Fill of 1042	0.70 x? long	0.44					
1044	Linear cut	Robber trench?	2.50 x? long	0.45					
1045	Dark brown silt	Fill of 1044		0.30					
1046	Light orange brown sand	Fill of 1044		0.15					
1047	Tarmac	Tarmac & make-up		0.30					Post Medieval
1048	Circular cut	?Pit	1.30 x?	0.50					
1049	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 1048		0.50					
1050	Cut	?Pit/ditch	3.8 x ?long	0.55 ⁺					
1051	Dark brown sand silt	Fill of 1050		0.30 ⁺					
1052	Dark grey black clay silt	Fill of 1050		0.40 ⁺					
1053	Linear cut	Service trench	0.80 x 14.30 ⁺	0.20					Post Medieval
1054	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 1053		0.20					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1055	Linear cut	Robber trench?	1.4 x 14.30 ⁺	0.75					Post Medieval
1056	Dark black brown clay silt	Fill of 1055		0.75					Post Medieval
1057	Robber trench cut	Robber trench?	0.60 x ?long	0.80					
1058	Light brown silt sand	Fill of 1058		0.80					
1059	Limestone masonry	N-s wall = 1077							
1060	Light red grey sand gravel	Fill of 1080		0.15 ⁺					Roman
1061	Red brown sand gravel	Fill of 1080		0.25	11R	Y			Roman
1062	Dark green sand silt	Fill of 1080		0.15	4R	Y			Roman
1063	Dark black grey sand silt	Fill of 1080		0.28	10R	Y			Roman
1064	Grey red sand gravel	Fill of 1080	1.60 x ?long	0.10		Y			Roman
1065	Dark blue black orange an. mat.	Peaty/waterlogged fill of 1080		0.20 ⁺			S10		Roman
1066	Layer of limestones	Hearth final (stone based) phase	1.20 x 1.90	0.06					Medieval
1067	Brown grey sand clay	Layer		0.04					
1068	Linear cut	Construction cut N-S	0.65 x ?long	0.40					Post Medieval
1069	Orange grey gravel silt	Fill of 1006		0.35	1S	Y			Roman
1070	Dark brown silt	Fill of 1164		0.40					Post Medieval
1071	Orange brown clay sand	Fill of 1006		?					Roman
1072	Circular cut	Pit	1.70 ⁺ x 1.50 ⁺	0.80 ⁺					
1073	Dark brown silt clay	Fill of 1072		0.80 ⁺					
1074	Circular cut	Pit	0.50 ⁺ x 1.60 ⁺	1.50 ⁺					
1075	Dark grey silt clay	Fill of 1074		1.50 ⁺					
1076	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	1.0 x 7.0 ⁺	1.75					Medieval
1077	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.75 x 3.5 ⁺	0.20					
1078	Circular cut	?Pit	3.0 x ?long	1.30					Post Medieval
1079	Orange sand	Fill of 1087		0.20					Medieval
1080	Linear cut	N-S ditch	4.4 ⁺ x ?long	1.30 ⁺					Roman
1081	Not used								
1082	Orange red sand	Fill of 1080		0.25					Roman
1083	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 1080		0.30	11R				Roman
1084	Yellow orange silt sand	Fill of 1006		0.15					Roman
1085	Brown yellow silt sand	Fill of 1006		0.10					Roman
1086	Brown orange sand	Fill of 1006		0.30					Roman

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1087	Linear cut	N-S Ditch	2.0 x ?long	1.0					Medieval
1088	Limestone masonry	Revetting? N-S wall	0.55 x 2.0 ⁺	0.20 ⁺	3R				
1089	Light grey clay silt	Fill of 1039		0.10					Roman
1090	Brown silt clay	Fill of 1039		0.20					Roman
1091	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 1087		0.40					Medieval
1092	Green yellow sand silt	Fill of 1080		0.26					Roman
1093	Grey brown sand silt	Imported make-up/dump		0.25					Medieval
1094	Brown yellow sand silt	Possible fill of pit		0.30					
1095	White grey sand silt	Layer		0.29					
1096	Brown silt clay	?Imported garden soil		0.30	2M/1R	Y		Stone	Medieval
1097	Brown silt clay	Fill of 1111		0.12	3M/4R	Y		Fe strip	Medieval
1098	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1111		0.24	5M/1R	Y			Medieval
1099	Light brown silt clay	Make-up		0.50	2R	Y			Roman?
1100	Dark brown silt	Buried garden soil?		0.50					
1101	Grey brown clay loam	Fill of 1039		0.40					Roman
1102	Grey brown clay loam	Fill of 1039		0.26					Roman
1103	Light grey clay silt	Fill of 1039		0.12					Roman
1104	Orange grey silt clay	Fill of 1039		0.46	37R	Y			Roman
1105	Light grey brown mortar and brick	Fill of 1106	3.0 ⁺ x 2.5 ⁺	0.60 ⁺					Post Medieval
1106	Brick masonry	Brick walled cellar	3.20 ⁺ x 2.60 ⁺	0.60 ⁺					Post Medieval
1107		Fill of 1053		0.20					Post Medieval
1108	Yellow brown sand	Fill of 1055		0.70					Post Medieval
1109	Grey clay silt	Fill of 1148		0.25	1R				Roman?
1110		Robber trench?	1.4 x 14.30 ⁺	0.75					
1111	Construction cut	Construction cut for wall 1076	0.60 x ?long	1.0					Medieval
1112	Linear cut	Service trench	0.80 x 14.30 ⁺	0.20					Post Medieval
1113	Linear cut	Robber trench	1.25 x 1.25 ⁺	?					
1114	Light yellow brown mortar	Unexcavated fill of 1113		?	1M/1R				
1115	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.75 x 3.0	?					Post Medieval
1116	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	0.50 x 2.25 ⁺	?				Cu lace tag	Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1117	Limestone rubble	Collapse of 1116	0.75 x ?	?					Post Medieval
1118	Linear cut	Robbing cut	0.80 x 1.50 ⁺	0.30 ⁺					Post Medieval
1119	Brown sand loam	Fill of 1118		0.30 ⁺	11PM			CBM stone	Post Medieval
1120	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1002		0.90					Medieval
1121	Circular cut	?Pit	0.25 ⁺ x 1.50 ⁺	?					
1122	Brown silt clay	Dumping		0.13				Cu coin	Post Medieval
1123	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.75 x 2.0	?					Post Medieval
1124	Circular cut	Unexcavated post hole	0.45 diameter	?					Post Medieval
1125	Dark loam	Fill of 1124		?					Post Medieval
1126	Light grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1111		0.20	2R	Y		Cu. pin	Medieval?
1127	Brown silt clay	Humic build up		0.10					Post Medieval
1128	Linear cut	E-W ditch?	0.50 ⁺ x 2.50 ⁺	0.75 ⁺					
1129	Orange sand	Fill of 1128		0.10					
1130	Brown grey sand clay	Fill of 1128		0.18					
1131	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 1128		0.45					
1132	Linear cut	E-W ditch?	0.60 ⁺ x 2.00 ⁺	0.50 ⁺					
1133	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 1132		0.12					
1134	Orange grey sand clay	Fill of 1132		0.10					
1135	Brown grey sand clay	Fill of 1132		0.28					
1136	Orange brown sand	Fill of 1128		0.31					
1137	Brown clay loam	Back fill/dump in 2124		0.26	1M	Y		Arch frag. CBM	Medieval
1138	Orange brown silt clay	Dump? in 2124		0.20				CBM	Medieval
1139	Dark grey brown clay loam	Dump in 2124		0.20	2M	Y		Shale bracelet	Medieval
1140	Light grey clay silt	?Fill of 1039		0.10 ⁺	2R				Roman
1141	Grey brown clay loam	Dump?/backfill in 2124		0.07	3M	Y		CBM	Post Medieval
1142	Grey brown clay loam	Dump/backfill in 2124		0.15	2PM	Y		CBM	Post Medieval
1143	Light orange brown sand loam	Dump/backfill in 2124		0.16					Medieval?
1144	Light orange brown sand loam	Dump/backfill in 2124		0.14					Medieval?
1145	Light orange brown sand loam	Demo dump/backfill in 2124		0.56	1S			Arch frag. CBM	Medieval
1146	Recess	Recess in wall 1076	0.15 x 0.18	0.60 ⁺					Medieval
1147	Brown sand silt	Fill of 1146		0.60 ⁺		Y			Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1148	Circular cut	Pit	2.0 ⁺ x 1.0 ⁺	0.20/ 0.70					Roman?
1149	Dark brown clay slit	Garden soil (import)		1.0					
1150	Brown orange sand silt	Make-up/dump		0.40					
1151	Circular cut	Pit	0.50 ⁺ x 2.80 ⁺	0.96					
1152	Circular cut	Pit	0.54 ⁺ x 1.65 ⁺	0.99					
1153	Dark brown sand silt	Garden soil?		0.36					
1154	Not used								
1155	Grey brown silt sand	Layer		0.45					
1156	Not used								
1157	Dark grey brown sand silt	Dump		0.32					
1158	Dark brown sand silt	Imported garden soil?		0.30					
1159	Brown silt	Dump		0.36					
1160	Dark brown clay silt	Imported garden soil/dump		0.20 ⁺				Cu coin, mounts etc. Pb musket ball	Post Medieval
1161	Dark brown black silt	Fill of 1168		0.26					Post Medieval
1162	Brown silt	Fill of 1078		0.60					Post Medieval
1163	Yellow brown silt	Fill of 1078		0.60					Post Medieval
1164	'Scoop' cut	?scoop	3.60 x ?long	0.50					Post Medieval
1165	Dark brown silt	Imported garden soil?		0.80					Post Medieval
1166	Dark brown silt	Fill of 1024		0.20					Post Medieval
1167	Dark brown silt	Dump?		0.12					Post Medieval
1168	Circular cut	?Pit	0.70 x ?long	0.26					Post Medieval
1169	Dark grey brown clay silt	Fill of 1029		0.25					
1170	Grey brown sand silt	?Fill of 1002		0.30					Medieval
1171	Dark grey brown clay silt	Imported garden soil?		0.24					Medieval
1172	Grey brown silt sand	Dump?		0.44				Cu coin (Med)	Medieval
1173	Brown clay silt	Dump?		0.40					Medieval
1174	Brown silt clay	Fill of 1111		0.18					Medieval
1175	Linear cut	Ditch/gully?	1.08 ⁺ x 2.94 ⁺	0.30					
1176	Yellow sand	Fill of 1175		0.14					
1177	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1175		0.22					
1178	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1151		0.16					
1179	Brown yellow sand	Fill of 1151		0.20					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1180	Yellow sand	Fill of 1151		0.14					
1181	Yellow sand	Fill of 1151		0.32					
1182	Brown clay sand	Fill of 1151		0.27					
1183	Brown yellow clay sand	Partly waterlogged fill of 1151		0.16					
1184	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1151		0.41	13M	Y			
1185	Black clay sand	Dirt based hearth (1st phase)		0.05	1S		S14		Medieval
1186	Layer of limestones	Stone based hearth (2nd phase)	0.45 ⁺ x 0.20 ⁺	0.06					Medieval
1187	Black grey sand clay	Burning deposit with 1066		0.10					Medieval
1188	Dark red black sand clay	Final burning deposit with 1066		0.02					Medieval
1189	Red yellow sand	Fill of 1152		0.07					Medieval
1190	Dark brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.32		Y			Medieval
1191	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.28					Medieval
1192	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.12	1S				Medieval
1193	Green brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.23	3S	Y			Medieval
1194	Brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.04	3M/1R	Y			Medieval
1195	Yellow clay sand	Fill of 1152		0.02					Medieval
1196	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 1152		0.08					Medieval
1197	Not used								
1198	Yellow sand	Sand layer over burning 1187		0.09		Y			Medieval
1199	Limestone masonry	N-S wall forms corner N. 1076	1.20 x 0.50 ⁺	1.0					Medieval
2100	Linear cut	Robber trench N-S /robbing 1123	1.0 ⁺ x ?long	0.40					Post Medieval
2101	Light brown sand	Fill of 2100		0.20					Post Medieval
2102	Brown silt	Fill of 2100		0.20					Post Medieval
2103	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 2255		?					
2104	Yellow gravel	Unexcavated floor		-					Medieval?
2105	Brown silt loam	Unexcavated dump		-					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2106	Limestone masonry	N-S wall 2281 (of stone lined pit)							Post Medieval
2107	Limestone masonry	N-S wall = 2289							Post Medieval
2108	Limestone masonry	E-W wall = 2280							Post Medieval
2109	Not used								Post Medieval
2110	Brown sand loam	Backfill (unex) = 2201							Medieval?
2111		Fill of 2114			3S				Post Medieval
2112	Cut	Unexcavated pit	0.30 ⁺ x 0.20 ⁺	-				Wig curlers	Post Medieval
2113	Grey brown sand loam	Part excavated fill of 2108							Medieval?
2114	Cut	Unexcavated pit	0.40 x 0.50	-					
2115	Not used								Post Medieval
2116	Grey brown sand loam	Unexcavated fill of 2112							
2117	Not used								Post Medieval
2118	Linear cut	Construction cut for 2106 (un ex)	1.25 x ?long	-					
2119	Linear cut	Construction cut for wall 1115	0.85 x ?long	-					
2120	Limestone masonry	Unexcavated E-W wall	0.40 x 0.25 ⁺	-					Post Medieval
2121	Brown sand gravel	Unexcavated floor (associated with 1116)	0.75 ⁺ x 0.25 ⁺	-					Post Medieval
2122	Limestone masonry	E-W wall unexcavated	0.50 x 1.0 ⁺						Medieval
2123	Limestone masonry	N-S wall joins 1076 unexcavated							Medieval
2124	Linear cut	Cellar construction cut	0.65 x ?long	-					
2125	Linear cut	Construction cut for 1088	0.60 x 2.0 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					
TRENCH 2									Post Medieval
1200	Grey brown loam	Dump	-	0.50					Post Medieval
1201	Brick masonry	Wall, floor fill of 1202	-						Post Medieval
1202	Linear cut	Construction trench	1.30 x ?	0.30					Post Medieval
1203	Brick masonry	N-S wall	0.60 x ?	0.40					Post Medieval
1204	Linear cut	Construction trench	0.60 x ?	0.40					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1205	Cut	Unexcavated pit	5.10 x ?	0.80 ⁺					
1206	Rubble layer	Dump	-	0.30					Post Medieval
1207	Yard surface	Rubble surface	3.70m x ?	0.10					Post Medieval
1208	Brick masonry	Wall	0.23 ⁺ x 0.23 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					Post Medieval
1209	Red grey silt sand	Fill of 1210	-	0.22					
1210	Cut	Unexcavated ?pit	1.40 ⁺ x ?	0.60					
1211	Grey red brown silt sand	Fill of 1210	-	0.50		Y		CBM	
1212	Wall	E-W wall	1.20 ⁺ x 0.30	0.50 ⁺					
1213	Green brown sand silt	Fill of 1205	-	0.80					
1214	Brown grey sand silt	Fill of 1205	-	0.70					
1215	Cut	?Pit	0.60 ⁺ x 0.50 ⁺	0.26 ⁺					
1216	Orange brown sand silt	Fill of 1215	-	0.26 ⁺					
1217	Dark grey brown sand silt	?Dump	-	0.10 ⁺					
1218	Linear cut	Construction trench	0.23 ⁺ x 0.23 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					
1219	Grey brown sand clay	Fill of 1205	-	0.60 ⁺					
1220	Grey brown sand clay	?Dump	-	0.45					
1221	Yellow brown sand silt	Occupation layer	-	0.10					
1222	Dark red brown silt sand	?Dump	-	0.10					
1223	Linear cut	Construction trench	1.60 x ?	0.70					
1224	Cut	?Pit	2.50 x ?	1.10 ⁺					
1225	Yellow brown clay loam	Fill of 1223	-	0.45					
1226	Brown clay loam	Fill of 1224	-	0.74 ⁺					
1227	Limestone masonry	Fill of 1223	1.30 ⁺ x 0.30	?					
1228	Dark grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1230	-	0.75 ⁺					
1229	Dark brown silt clay	Fill of 1230	-	0.60 ⁺					
1230	Cut	?Pit	2.50 x ?	1.10 ⁺					
1231	Green grey clay loam	Possible floors and occupation layer	-	0.20					
1232	Dark grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1234	-	0.20 ⁺					
1233	Orange brown clay loam	Natural sub soil?	-	0.10 ⁺					
1234	Cut	?Pit (trunc but unex)	1.0 ⁺ x 1.3 ⁺	0.20 ⁺					
1235	Grey brown clay loam	Dump	-	0.20					
1236	Dark brown silt clay	?Original top soil	-	0.20					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1237	Linear cut	Modern service/sewer	1.0 x 1.5 ⁺	0.80 ⁺					Post Medieval
1238	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	0.33 x 0.7 ⁺	-					
1239	Dump	Demolition dumping	-	1.10					Post Medieval
1240	Limestone masonry	Wall	1.0 ⁺ x 0.5	0.95 ⁺					
1241	Green grey clay loam with limestones	Cobbling	4.3 ⁺ x 1.3 ⁺	?					
1242	Not used								
1243	Orange brown clay loam	Occupation layer	1.80 ⁺ x 1.0 ⁺	-					
1244	Limestone rubble	Demo layer (collapsed wall?)	-	0.40					
1245	Brown silt clay	Imported soil?	-	0.50	2M	Y		CBM	Medieval
1246	Limestone layer	?Make-up/demo	-	0.05 ⁺					
1247	Dark brown silt clay	Dumping	-	0.40					
1248	Dump	Levelling dump	-	0.30				Cu Pin	
1249	Grey brown silt clay	Abandonment soil/build up	-	0.10					
1250	Orange yellow silt clay	Fill of 1223	-	0.26				Arch frag	
1251	Light brown silt clay	Occupation layer	0.50 ⁺ x 0.50 ⁺	-					
1252	Linear cut	Construction trench	1.20 ⁺ x 0.30 ⁺	0.50 ⁺					
1253	Grey brown sand loam	?Dump	-	0.40					
1254	Cut	Modern pit	0.60 ⁺ x ?	0.30					Post Medieval
1255	Brick masonry	Foundation	0.30 ⁺ x 1.0 ⁺	-					Post Medieval
1256	Brick masonry	Wall	0.30 ⁺ x 0.30 ⁺	?					
1257	Linear cut	Demolition cut	1.0 ⁺ x 2.0 ⁺	1.0 ⁺					Post Medieval
TRENCH 1									
1400	Tarmac	Tarmac	-	0.06					Post Medieval
1401	Light brown yellow sand gravel	Make-up	-	0.40					Post Medieval
1402	Tarmac	Tarmac	-	0.05					Post Medieval
1403	Light brown yellow sand gravel	Make-up	-	0.44					Post Medieval
1404	Light grey stone blocks	Cobbled surface/road?	-	0.10 0.15					
1405	Brown grey silt loam	Fill of 1406	-	0.24					
1406	Circular cut	Unexcavated post hole	0.20 diameter	0.24					
1407	Yellow grey brown silt sand	Bedding for 1404	-	0.20					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1408	Grey brown silt clay	Make-up	-	0.30					
1409	Grey brown silt clay	?Make-up	-	0.40					
1410	Green grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1411	-	0.30					
1411	Circular cut	(Unexcavated/ truncated) ?Pit/post hole	5.0 ⁺ x 2.5 ⁺	0.60 ⁺					
1412	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1414	-	0.38					Post Medieval
1413	Grey brown silt clay	Part excavated fill of 1414	-	0.28 ⁺	47PM	Y		Cu strip CP:GIV	Post Medieval
1414	Circular cut	Part excavated pit	2.60 x 0.75	0.64 ⁺					Post Medieval
1415	Light grey silt clay	Excavated fill of 1411	-	0.30					
1416	Grey brown silt clay	Part excavated fill of 1411	-	0.32 ⁺					
1417	Brown grey silt clay	Fill of 1418	-	0.32 ⁺					
1418	Cut	?Pit	0.70 ⁺ x 0.50 ⁺	0.32 ⁺					
1419	Brown silt clay	Original insitu top soil?	-	0.10					
1420	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1423	-	0.20					Medieval
1421	Brown silt clay	Fill of 1423	-	0.40 ⁺					Medieval
1422	Red brown sand silt	Fill of 1423	-	0.06 ⁺					Medieval
1423	Cut	Pit (not excavated) ?	0.90 x 1.25	0.66 ⁺					Medieval
1424	Dark grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1425	-	0.40 ⁺	5M	Y			Medieval
1425	Circular cut	Pit (not excavated)	2.25 ⁺ x 2.0	0.40 ⁺					Medieval
1426	Grey brown silt clay	Fill of 1427	-	-					
1427	Circular cut	Pit (not excavated)	2.80 x 1.0	0.22 ⁺					
1428	Brown silt clay	Fill of 1429	-	0.40 ⁺					
1429	Circular cut	Pit (not excavated)	1.30 x 1.0	0.40 ⁺					
1430	Red brown sand gravel	Fill of 1431	-	0.55 ⁺					
1431	Linear cut	Modern service pipe	11.0 ⁺ x 0.35	0.55 ⁺					Post Medieval
1432	Grey brown silty clay	Fill of 1433	2.60 x 1.50 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					
1433	Circular cut	Pit	2.60 x 1.50 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					
1434	Rubble	Unexcavated fill of 1435	2.10 diameter	-					
1435	Circular cut	Pit (unexcavated)	2.10 diameter	-					
1436	Brown yellow clay	Fill of 1443	2.0 x 0.5 ⁺	0.40					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1437	Limestone masonry	Fill of 1464	15m ⁺ x 0.85	?	2S				
1438	Dark brown grey silt clay	Excavated fill of 1439	-	0.40	7M	Y			Medieval
1439	Circular cut	Pit	2.10 ⁺ x 1.36	0.40					Medieval
1440	Brown grey silt clay	Unexcavated fill of 1441	-	0.14 ⁺					
1441	Cut	Unexcavated pit	1.0 diameter	0.14 ⁺					
1442	Light grey brown silt clay	Excavated fill of 1448	-	0.50					Medieval
1443	Circular cut	Modern (unexcavated) pit	2.0 x 0.5 ⁺	0.40 ⁺					Post Medieval
1444	Dark grey brown silt clay	Unexcavated fill of post hole	0.40 x 0.50	-					
1445	Circular cut	Excavated pit	0.60 ⁺ x 1.0	0.34					Medieval
1446	Circular cut	Part excavated pit	?3.0m diameter	0.60 ⁺					Medieval
1447	Circular cut	Excavated pit	2.80 x 1.60 ⁺	0.66 ⁺					Medieval
1448	Circular cut	Excavated pit	1.0 x 2.20 ⁺	0.50					Medieval
1449	Green grey sand silt	Part excavated fill of 1446	-	0.50 ⁺					Medieval
1450	Green grey silt clay	Excavated fill of 1445	-	0.34	5S				Medieval
1451	Dark grey brown clay	Fill of 1452	-	0.35		Y			
1452	Circular cut	Excavated pit	2.15 x 1.10 ⁺	0.35					
1453	Sand and gravel	Natural	-	-					
1454	Green grey sand silt	(not fully excavated) fill of 1446	-	0.60 ⁺					Medieval
1455	Grey silt clay	Part excavated fill of 1446	-	0.45 ⁺					Medieval
1456	Green brown grey silt clay	Excavated fill of 1447	-	0.65					Medieval
1457	Red brown silt clay	Excavated fill of 1447	-	0.30					Medieval
1458	Dark grey silt clay	Shallow spread (truncated)	3.50 ⁺ x 1.10 ⁺	0.06 ⁺	32M				Medieval
1459	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit	2.50 x 2.0	-					
1460	Brown grey clay	Unexcavated fill of 1461	-	0.20 ⁺					Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1461	Circular cut	Unexcavated pit	2.50m diameter	0.20 ⁺					Medieval
1462	Grey brown clay	Truncated fill of 1459	-	-					
1463	Light grey brown silt clay	Truncated fill of 1459	-	-					
1464	Linear cut	Construction trench	15.0 x 1.0	?					
1465	Dark brown grey clay	Truncated fill of 1459	-	?					
1466	Yellow brown grey silt clay	Make-up	-	0.20					
TRENCH 9									
1600	Linear cut	Garden feature?	0.65m wide	0.20					Post Medieval
1601	Brown clay silt	Fill of 1600		0.10	2M/1R				Post Medieval
1602	Grey brown clay silt	Fill of 1600		0.12	6PM	Y		Cu pin; GIV/GIW	Post Medieval
1603	Sub-rectangular	Pit (same as 1634)	1.50m N-S	0.30					
1604	Brown clay silt	Fill of 1603		0.10					
1605	Limestone layer	Crushed lime-stone surface		0.04					
1606	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	1.40 x 0.38	0.12					
1607	Limestone masonry	E-W wall?	1.12 x 0.50	0.45					
1608	Linear cut (turns 90°)	Construction cut for 1606, 1607	0.58 wide	0.32					
1609	Dark brown silt loam	Fill of 1608		0.32					
1610	Dark brown clay loam	Layer		0.20					
1611	Yellow brown clay silt	Fill of 1612		0.57					Post Medieval
1612	Linear cut	Robber trench?	Min. 0.50m wide	0.57					Post Medieval
1613	Dark grey brown clay	Dumped make-up layer		0.80					Post Medieval
1614	Grey brown clay silt	Dump/build up layer		0.25					Post Medieval
1615	Brown silt loam	Packed chalk surface?		Min. 0.15					
1616	Yellow brown sand silt	Demolition/dump layer		0.35	7M?	Y		GL; Cu buckle frame etc. Fe nails Pb musket ball	Post Medieval
1617	Grey brown clay silt	Rubbly demolition? layer		0.35					
1618	Limestone layer	Cobbled surface		0.10					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
1619	Not used								
1620	Not used								
1621	Cut	Pit/intrusion into 1625	0.40m wide	?					
1622	Yellow clay silt	Fill of 1621 not excavated		?					
1623	Grey brown clay silt	Layer		0.30					
1624	Grey brown clay silt	Layer onto which 1618 is laid		?					Medieval?
1625	Limestone layer	Stone yard/floor surface		?					Medieval?
1626	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	0.75m wide	?					Medieval?
1627	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	1.05m wide	?					Medieval?
1628	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	1.50m long 0.55m wide	?					
1629	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	0.55m wide	?					
1630	Brown orange silt sand	Make-up for 1605		0.04					
1631	Brown clay loam	Compacted layer		0.40					
1632	Limestone masonry	Possible threshold between 1628, 1629	0.75m E-W	?					
1633	Grey brown clay silt	Demolition/ dump layer		?					
1634	Cut	Same as 1603							
1635	Grey green sand silt	Fill of 1603		0.22					
1636	Grey brown clay silt	Layer filling large ditch?		?					
1637	Brown sand silt	Layer filling large ditch?		?					
1638	Brown grey silt sand	Layer filling large ditch?		?					
1639	Grey brown silt loam	Fill of 1640		?					
1640	Sub-oval cut	Pit	0.20m N-S	?					
1641	Orange brown clay silt	Layer							
1642	Limestone layer	Possible hearth: Burned stones		?					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
TRENCH 10									
1800	Light brown orange silt sand	Car park surface	-	0.40					Post Medieval
1801	Dark black brown sand silt	Layer		0.50					Post Medieval
1802	Dark grey brown sand silt	Layer		0.40					Post Medieval
1803	Red brown silt sand	Fill of 1804		0.60	4PM	Y		GIW;CBM; Cu lace tag; Fe staple	Post Medieval
1804	Linear cut	N-S robber trench	1.10m	0.60					Post Medieval
1805	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	0.20m ⁺ wide 1.40m long	0.15					Medieval?
1806	Dark grey brown silt sand			0.20	6M?			Fe strip GIW	Medieval
1807	Dark black brown clay sand			0.20	2S				Medieval
1808	Limestone masonry	?Buttress? foundation	0.30 x 0.30	0.06					Medieval?
1809	Dark black grey clay silt	Unexcavated layer							Medieval?
1810	Dark brown grey sand silt	Fill of 1811		0.30 ⁺					Post Medieval
1811	Cut	Pit	0.30m	0.30 ⁺					Post Medieval
TRENCH 11									
1900	Tarmac	Tarmac make-up	-	0.20					Post Medieval
1901	Yellow orange red silt sand	Make-up	-	0.20					Post Medieval
1902	Dark brown silt clay	Garden soil?	-	0.50					
1903	Dark brown black silt clay	Fill of unexcavated pit	-	0.10					
1904	Layer not recorded	-							
1905	Linear cut	Robber trench	1.00m	1.00 m ⁺					
1906	Light brown sand silt	Fill of 1905	1.00m	1.20 ⁺					
1907	Yellow white mortar sand	?Floor?	-	0.30					
1908	Green brown sand silt	Pit fill unexcavated	-	0.30 ⁺					
1909	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	-	0.30					
1910	Sand and gravel	NAT geology	-	-					
TRENCH 12									
2200	Limestone masonry	Large E-W wall part of 2282	3.30 ⁺ long 1.10 wide	1.30 ⁺					Medieval
2201	Dark brown sand loam	Garden soil?		0.35	16PM	Y		Cu disc	Post Medieval
2202	Orange brown silt loam	Layer of demolition of 2282		0.45		Y			Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2203	Yellow brown clay silt	Layer of collapse of 2282		0.04	3M	Y		Fe nails	Post Medieval
2204	Tarmac	Tarmac		0.13					Post Medieval
2205	Dark grey brown clay loam	Layer beneath tarmac: make-up		0.18					Post Medieval
2206	Brown loam	Fill of 2207		0.30					Post Medieval
2207	Linear cut	Construction cut for wall 2208	1.30 wide	0.30					Post Medieval
2208	Brick masonry	Small brick structure	0.20 wide	0.20					Post Medieval
2209	Dark grey brown loam	Backfill of well cut		1.30					Post Medieval
2210	Circular cut	Cut for well	1.60 ⁺ diameter	1.30 ⁺					Post Medieval
2211	Grey brown sand loam	Build up over floor 2224		0.10	2PM	Y		3Cu pins; Fe nails; Pb strip	Post Medieval
2212	Orange brown silt loam	Layer of demolition of 2282		0.45	5PM	Y		5Cu pins; Fe nails	Post Medieval
2213	Grey sand silt	Dumped deposit for levelling		0.50	14M	Y			Post Medieval
2214	Limestone path	Pitched limestone path E-W	1.05 wide 3.20 E-W	?					
2215	Grey sand silt	Layer of destruction?		0.13	-				
2216	Grey sand silt	Dumped deposit for levelling		0.50	3PM	Y			Post Medieval
2217	Yellow brown sand silt	Possible surface of causeway		?					Medieval?
2218	Grey sand silt	Fill of robbing cut 2252		0.50	-				Medieval?
2219	Wall	Large N-S wall part of 2282	1.20m wide 5.50 long	0.90 ⁺					Medieval
2220	Grey brown sand silt	Robber cut fill of 2221		0.50					
2221	Cut	Late robbing of corner of 2219	0.40 N-S	0.60					
2222	Yellow brown mortar floor	Mortar floor butting 2219							

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2243	Mid brown loam	Layer bonding wall 2242		0.10 ⁺	40PM			Fe nail	Post Medieval
2244	Dark grey sand silt	Upper fill of large ditch?		0.22	8M	Y			Medieval
2245	Dark grey sand silt	Upper fill of large ditch		0.22	4M	Y			Medieval
2246	Not used								
2247	Layer pitched limestone	Layer to repair path 2214	1.40 x 1.80	?					
2248	Grey green sand silt gravel	Layer north of 2234		?		Y		Fe nail	
2249	Brown sand silt	Fill of 2250		0.24					
2250	Cut	Robbing of wall 2296		0.24					
2251	Limestone masonry	Foundation stones for structure?	1.10 N-S 0.85 E-W 0.20 wide	?					
2252	Linear cut	Robbing of buttress 2258	0.60 wide	0.40					Medieval
2253	Grey brown sand silt	Fill of 2252 and 2257		0.40	9M	Y		Ca sheet	Medieval
2254	Orange brown gravel floor	Gravel floor north of 2234		0.10					
2255	Linear cut	N-S linear feature	?	0.30					
2256	Light grey silt and ash	Layer north of wall 2234		0.30					
2257	Linear cut	Robbing of buttress 2258	0.60 wide	0.40					Medieval
2258	Limestone masonry	Buttress on external corner 2219	0.55 wide	0.38					Medieval
2259	Grey brown sand silt	Layer dumped to form causeway?		0.30					Medieval
2260	Light yellow brown sand silt	Bonded limestones causeway deposit?		0.16					Medieval
2261	Linear cut	Unexcavated pos stone drain	0.58 wide	?					
2262	Grey sand silt and limestone blocks	Fill of 2261		?					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2263	Linear cut	Robbing of 2219	1.10 ⁺ E-W 0.30 ⁺ N-S	0.25 ⁺					Post Medieval
2264	Grey brown silt sand	Fill of 2263		0.25 ⁺		Y			Post Medieval
2265	Sub-rectangular cut	Large shallow pit	2.20 long 0.80 wide	0.30					Post Medieval
2266	Grey green brown silt and ash	Fill of 2265		0.26	18PM	Y		Fe strip Fe nail	Post Medieval
2267	Dark grey brown sand loam	Fill of construction cut 2268	1.00 NW-SE	0.24 ⁺					Post Medieval
2268	Linear cut	Construction cut for wall 2242	1.2 wide	0.30					Post Medieval
2269	Yellow grey brown mortar sand loam	Fill of 2268		0.10 ⁺					Post Medieval
2270	Cut	Possible later robbing of 2219	?	0.40					Post Medieval
2271	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 2270		0.40					Post Medieval
2272	Light yellow brown gravel sand	Repair of floor 2226	1.50 N-S	0.06					
2273	Light grey brown sand loam	Make-up for floor repair 2272	0.60 N-S	0.06					
2274	Grey brown sand loam	Occupation layer within 2282?		0.20 ⁺	6M	Y			Medieval
2275	Yellow brown sand	Gravel make-up filling P-H 2293		0.20					Medieval
2276	Dark grey brown silt loam	Poss. make-up layer in 2282		0.04 ⁺	17M	Y			Medieval
2277	Limestone masonry	Pos. wall, or stone dump in 2282	0.60 ⁺ E-W 0.35 wide	?					
2278	Cut	Robbing/demo cut of 2208	0.50 wide	0.08					Post Medieval
2279	Grey brown sand loam	Fill of 2278		0.08					Post Medieval
2280	Limestone masonry	E-W wall	0.58 N-S 0.53 E-W	?					Post Medieval
2281	Limestone masonry	E-W wall lining pit?	1.35 long 0.30 ⁺ E-W	?					Post Medieval

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2282	Family No.	Building comprising 2200, 2234, 2219, 2234							Medieval
2283	Dark grey sand silt	Possible ditch fill overlain by 2258		?					Medieval
2284	Linear cut	Robbing of 2219	5.00 N-S 1.25 wide	0.25 ⁺					Post Medieval
2285	Brown sand silt	Fill of 2284		0.25 ⁺	1PM			Cu object	Post Medieval
2286	Dark brown sand loam	Fill of 2287		0.14 ⁺					Post Medieval
2287	Circular cut	Possible small rubbish pit	0.90 diameter	0.14 ⁺					Post Medieval
2288	Dark grey brown sand loam	Mortar floor possibly same as 2224		?					
2289	Orange brown clay silt	Layer of collapse same as 2203?		0.13					Post Medieval
2290	Light yellow brown gravel	Gravel floor?		0.12					
2291	Light grey brown sand silt	Layer of rubble - make-up?		0.14					
2292	Grey brown sand silt and limestones	Rubble layer		0.20					
2293	Grey green brown sand silt	Compact layer same as 2248?		?					
2294	Sandy gravel	Possible gravel floor	1.10 x 0.70	?					
2295	Dark grey brown sand silt	Compact layer same as 2238?		0.34					
2296	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	1.00 N-S 0.50 E-W	?					
2297	Circular cut	Gravel filled post hole scaffold?	0.17 diameter	?					Medieval
2298	Limestone masonry	Poorly defined E-W wall	2.00 long 0.60 wide	?					
2299	Finds ref.	Possible ditch fill		?	10M				Medieval
2300	Limestone masonry	N-S wall	1.30 ⁺ long 0.70 wide	0.50 ⁺					

Context	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions	Depth	FINDS				Date
					Pots	Bone	Enviro	Others	
2301	Limestone layer	Fill of 2250		0.15					
2302	Gravel	Fill of 2250		0.08					
2303	Grey silt	Fill of 2250		0.09					
2304	Dark grey clay silt	Fill of 2250		0.12					

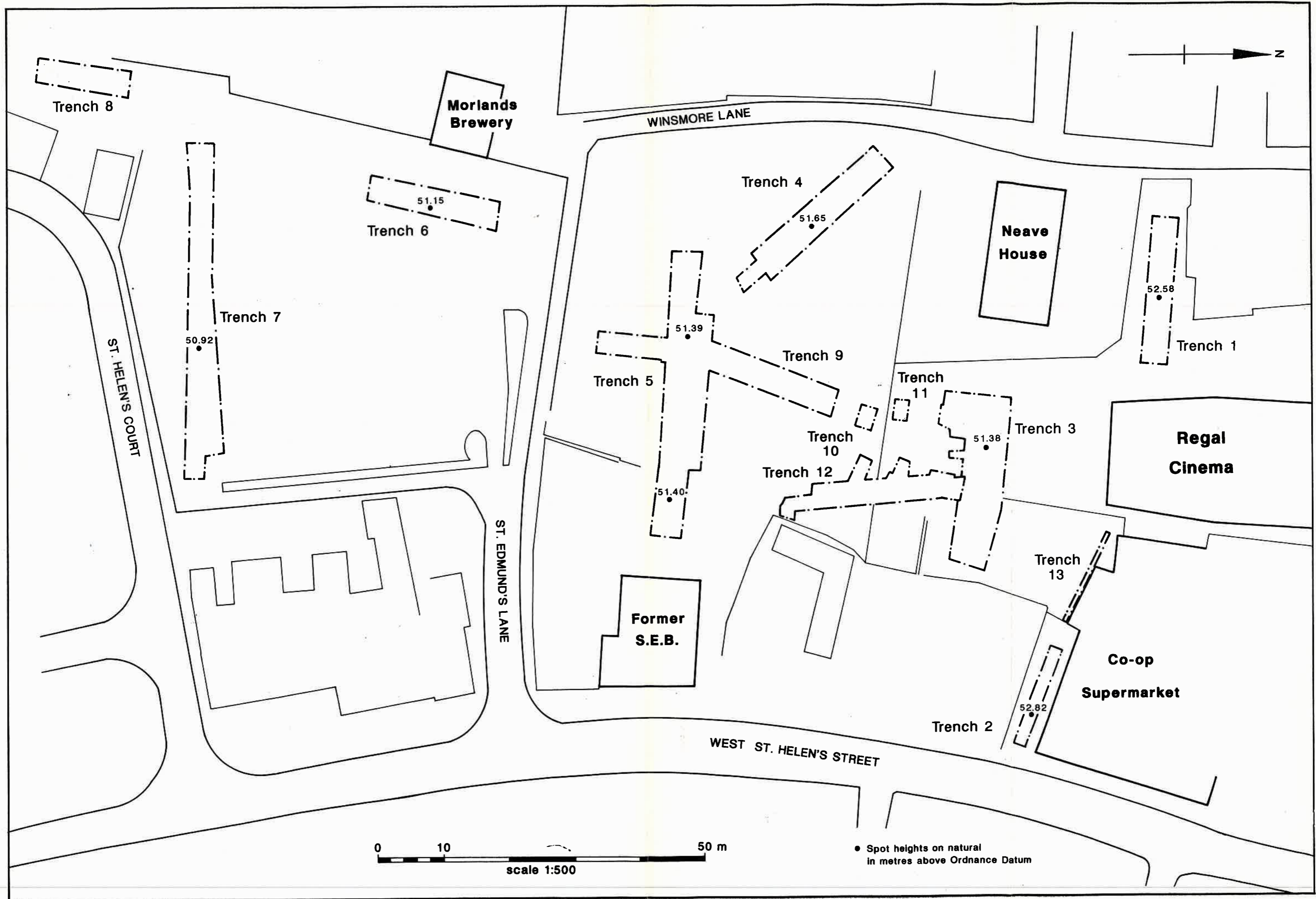


Figure 1

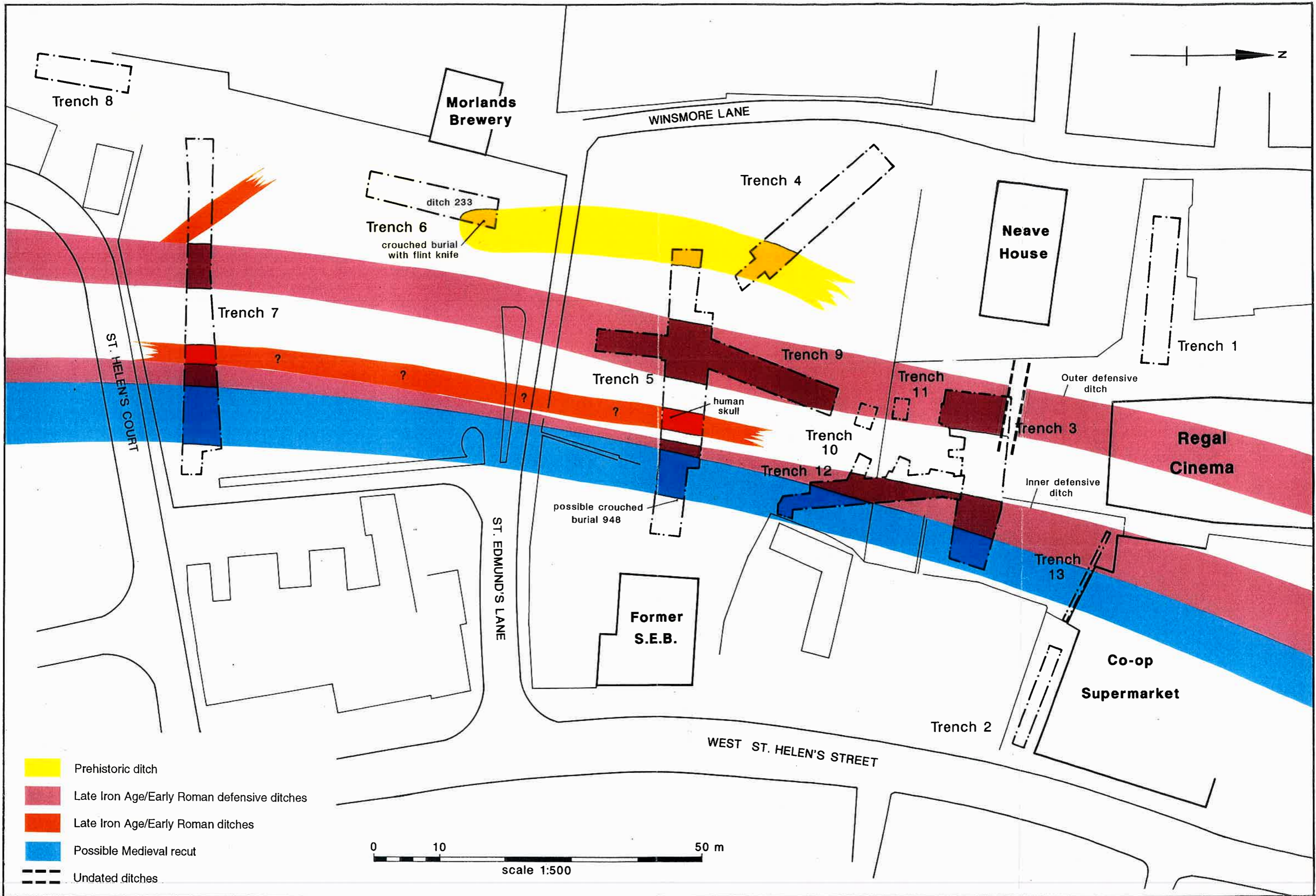


Figure 2

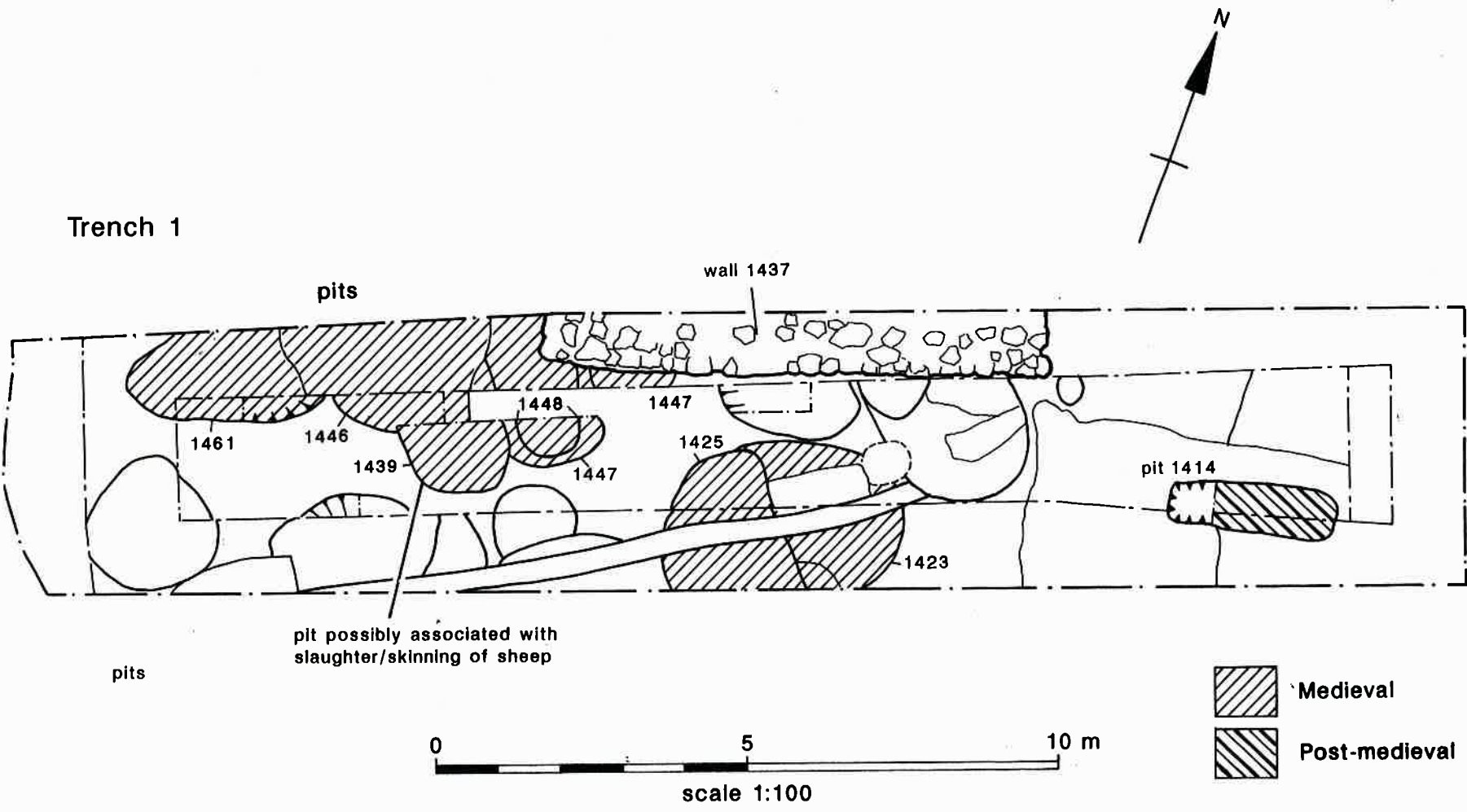


Figure 6

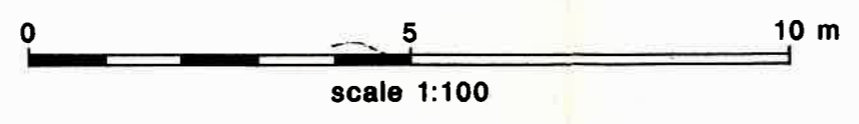
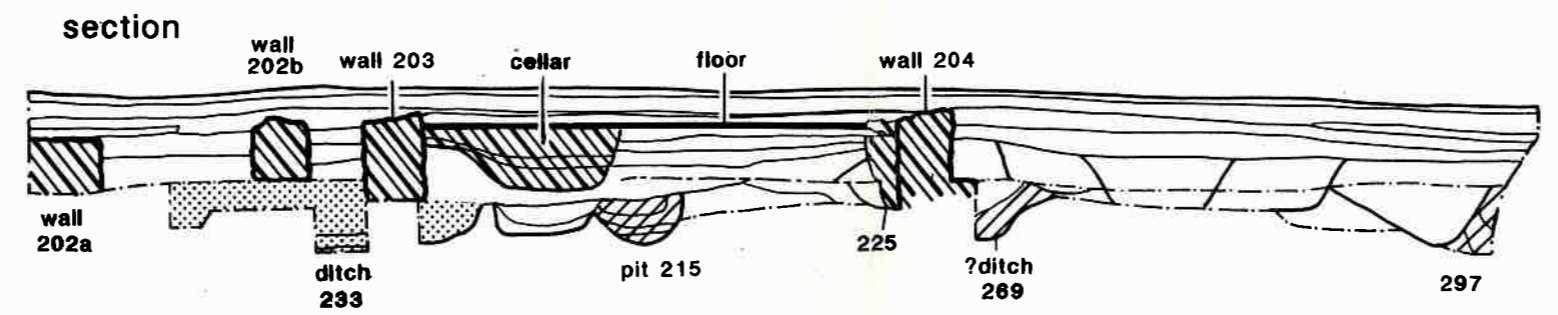
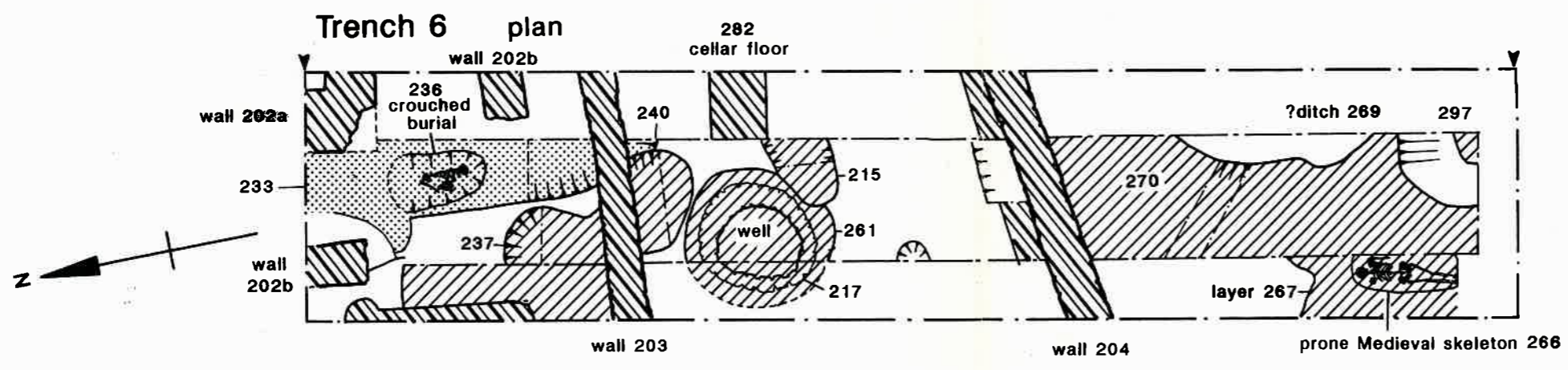
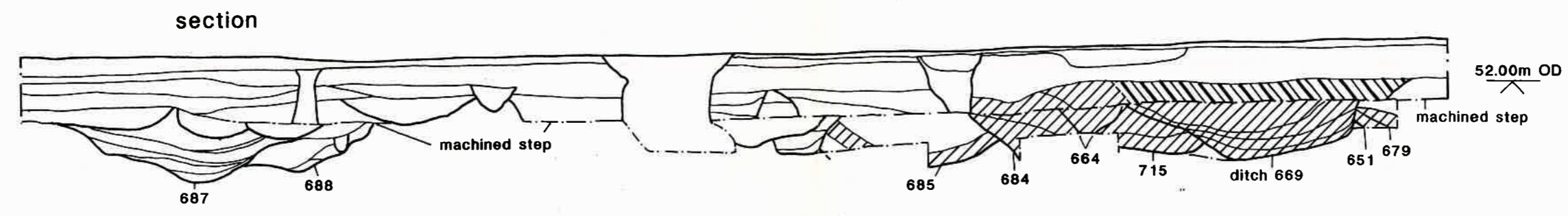
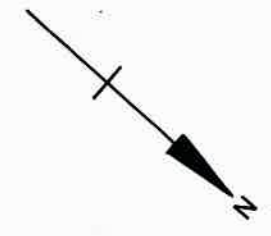
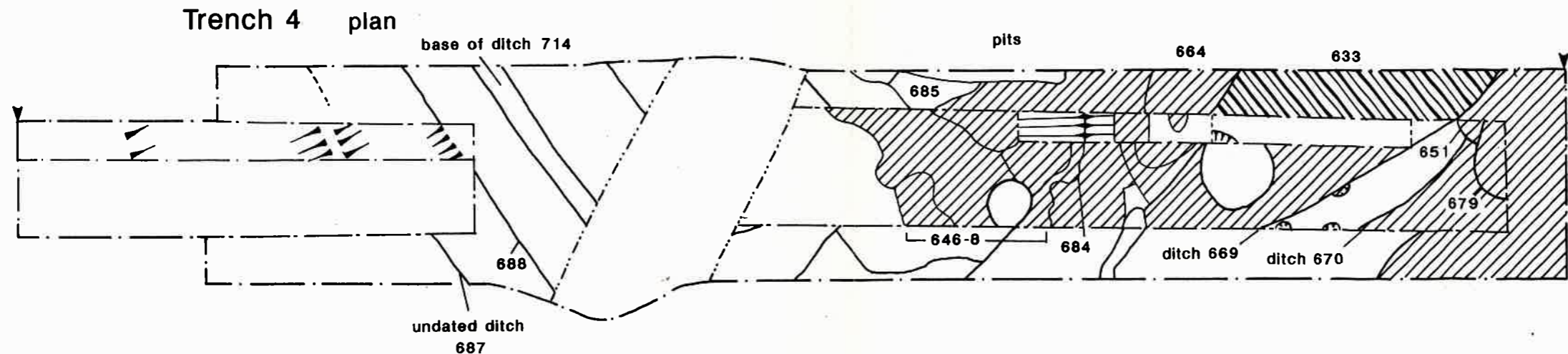


Figure 7

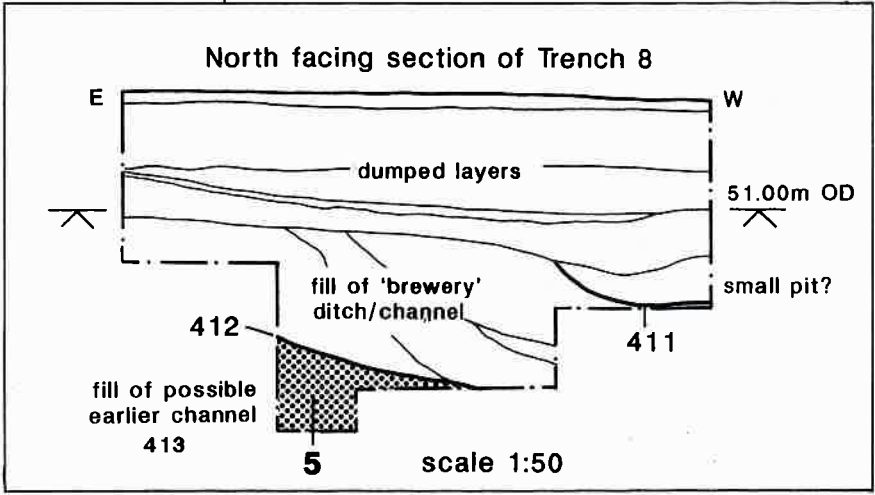


Trench 8

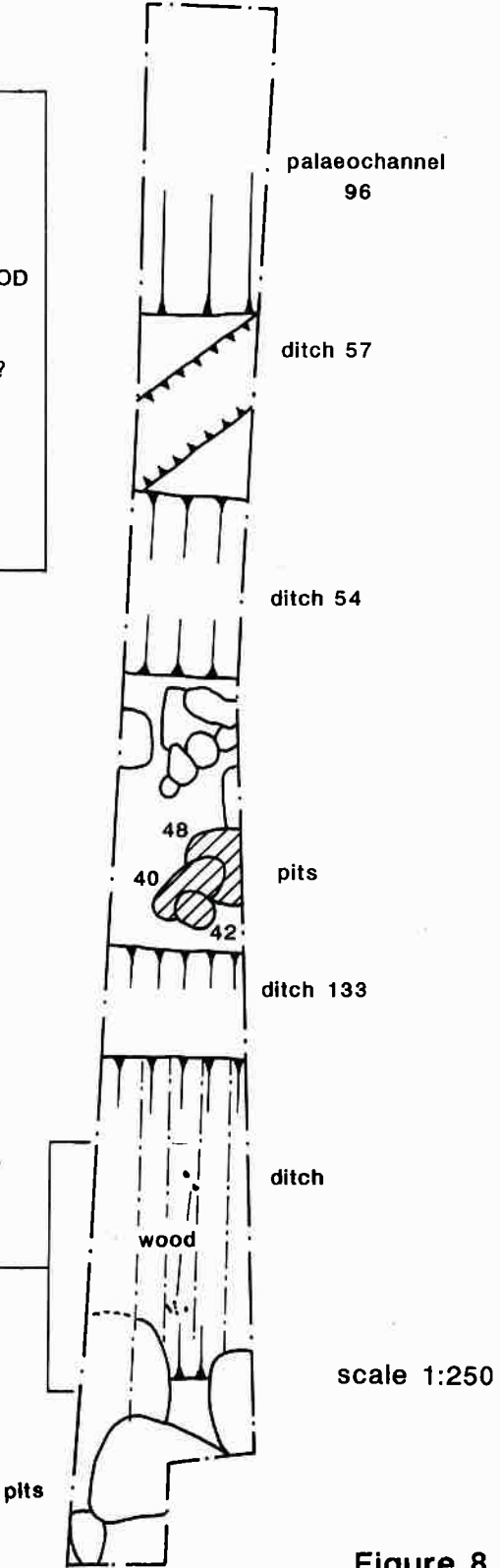
waterlogged deposits with organic preservation

Medieval pits

North facing section of Trench 8



Trench 7



detail plan of
Trench 7
showing
wooden stakes
scale 1:50

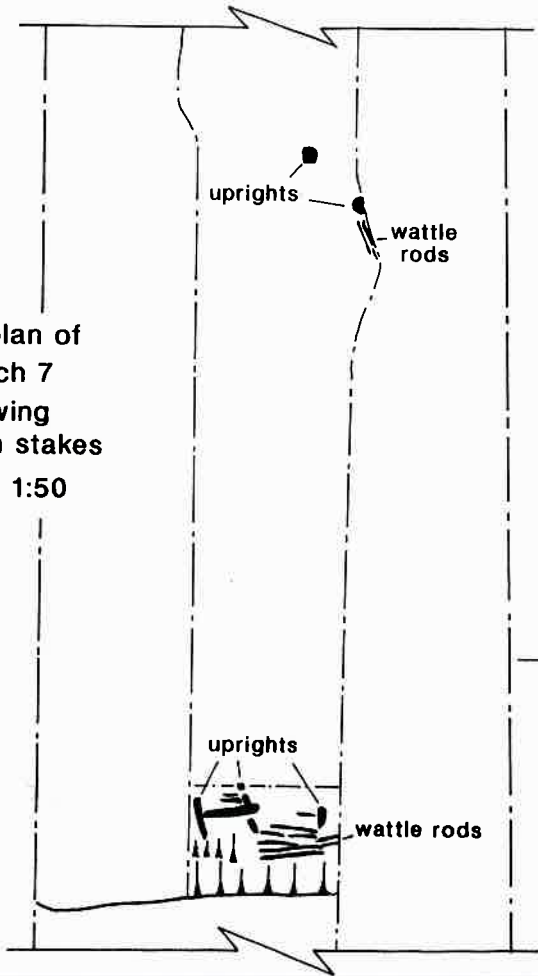
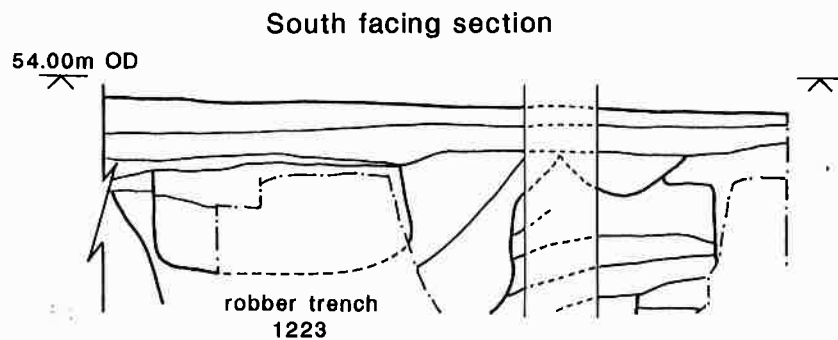
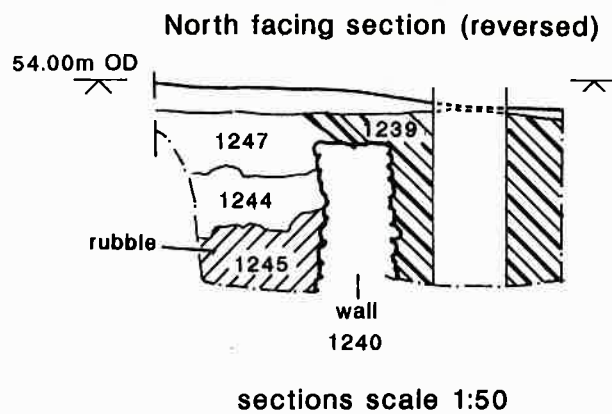
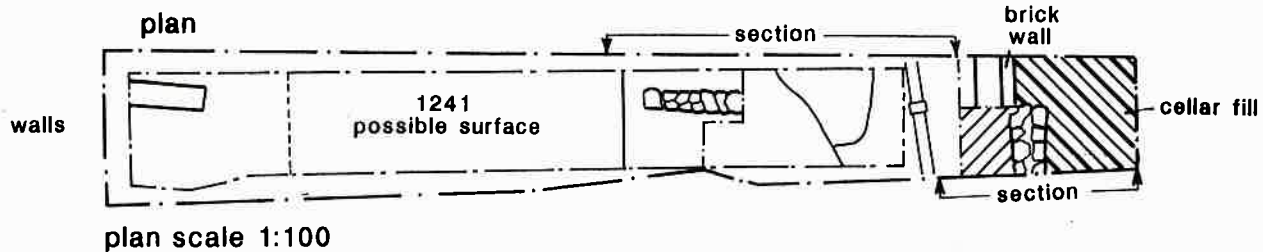


Figure 8



Trench 2



Co-op

WEST ST. HELEN'S STREET

Figure 9



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