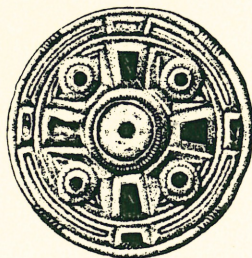


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Medieval quarrying and post-medieval rubbish at
St. Clement's Passage, Huntingdon

Judith Roberts

1999

Cambridgeshire County Council

Report No. 162

Commissioned by Huntingdonshire District Council Architectural Services

Medieval quarrying and post-medieval rubbish at St. Clement's Passage, Huntingdon

Judith Roberts

July 1999

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SUMMARY

Between 19th February and 5th March 1998 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council undertook an excavation at St. Clement's Passage, Huntingdon. The work was commissioned by Huntingdonshire District Council Architectural Services, on behalf of the Cambridge Housing Society Ltd., in advance of residential development on the site. Excavation revealed quarry pits, rubbish pits and deposits dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods. A clay and wood lined pit was found in a group of similar features in the northern part of the site. The considerable build up of a garden type soil suggest this area was open land to the rear of properties along the High Street until the nineteenth century.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION		1
GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY		1
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND		1
METHODOLOGY		3
RESULTS		5
DISCUSSION		12
CONCLUSION		13
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS		14
REFERENCES		14
APPENDIX I	Context list	15
APPENDIX II	Animal bone assessment	17
APPENDIX III	Pottery assessment	20

FIGURES

Figure 1	Site location plan	2
Figure 2	Trench plan showing recorded archaeological features	4
Figure 3	Section drawing of Area A	6
Figure 4	Photograph of pit 20 with its <i>in situ</i> tub	7
Figure 5	Section drawing of Area B	8
Figure 6	Photograph of quarry pit 61 with stakeholes	10
Figure 7	Section drawing of Area C	11

**Medieval quarrying and post-medieval rubbish at
St. Clement's Passage, Huntingdon
(TL 2413 7162)**

INTRODUCTION

Between the 19th February and 5th March 1998 a team from the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an excavation on the site of the proposed residential development at St. Clement's Passage, Huntingdon. The work was commissioned by Huntingdonshire District Council Architectural Services on behalf of the Cambridge Housing Society Ltd.

The site lies along the frontage of a minor medieval lane and to the rear of historic properties on the medieval High Street, occupying an area approximately 336 sq.m. at a height of approximately 13mOD. Three test pits were dug to establish the depth and position of surviving remains. This was followed by machine stripping of an area approximately 14m long and 4m wide. Within this trench further small areas (A – C) were opened by mini-digger. It was concluded that the southern part of the site had not experienced dense occupation in the medieval period: the test pitting revealing garden soil above natural. In the northern part of the site evidence for earlier activity appeared to exist on the lane frontage but behind this a larger area of Victorian ash pits had removed any former evidence entirely.

The test pits revealed 1.2m of nineteenth and twentieth century overburden and suggested surviving deposits 4m to 5m wide along the lane front into which medieval and early post-medieval features had been cut.

The excavation revealed quarry pits close to the presumed location of the medieval lane with areas of rubbish pits and dumps. This area appears to have been open land to the rear of properties fronting onto the High Street which was used for cultivation, quarrying and refuse disposal until it was built on in the nineteenth century.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The underlying geology of the site is 1st and 2nd terrace river gravels overlying grey mudstones (BGS Sheet 187, 1975). The area slopes from approximately 14m on the High Street, to the south-west of the site, down to approximately 11m near the river, 120m to the east.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historic core of Huntingdon lies on 1st terrace river gravels on the north bank of the River Great Ouse. The first evidence for settlement in this area dates from the Romano-British period when occupation was subsidiary to Godmanchester on the southern bank of the river and probably lined Ermine Street for several hundred metres.

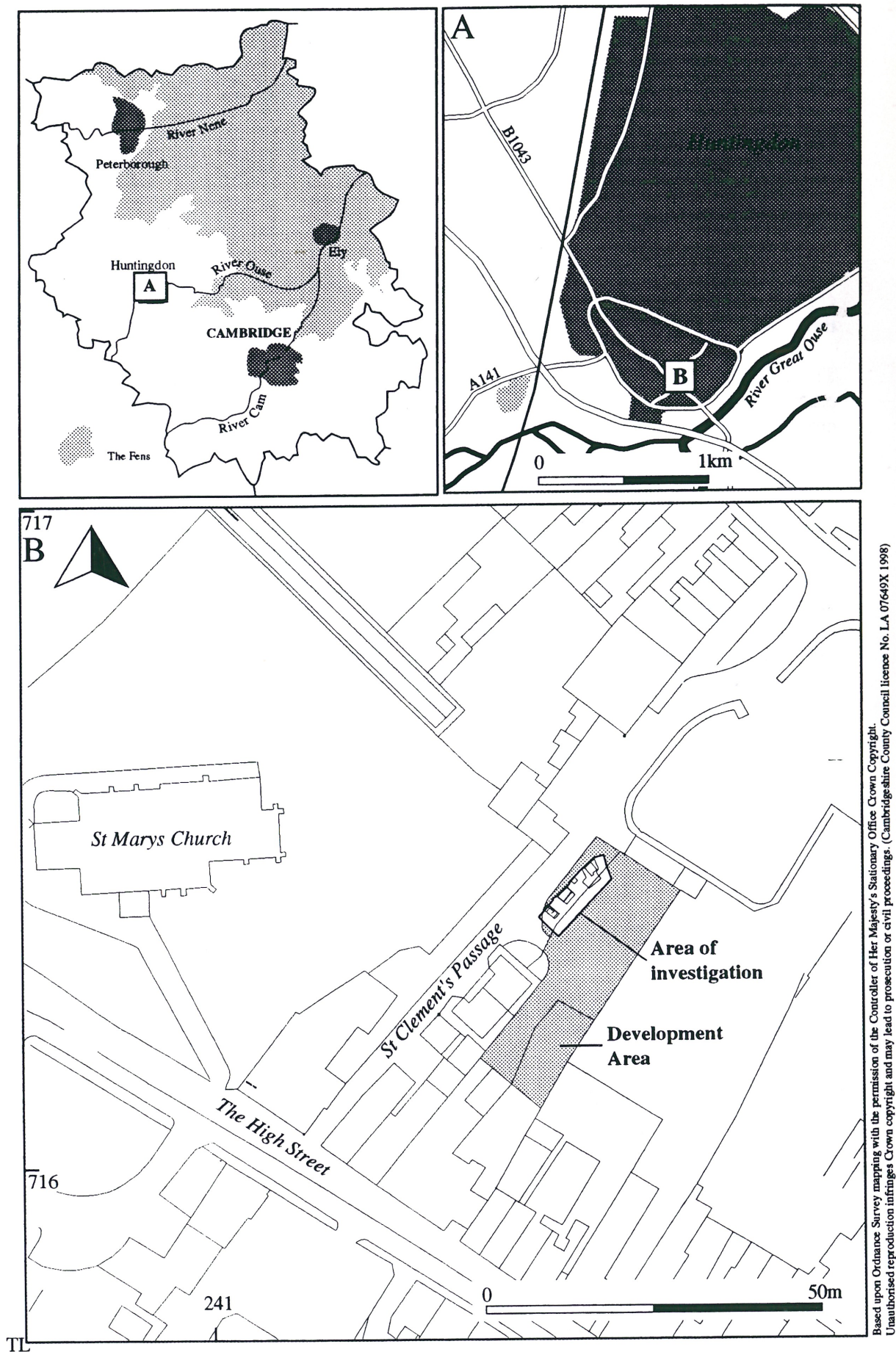


Figure 1 Site location plan

A limited amount of Roman pottery and building material from excavations off Orchard Lane (Oakey 1997) support this interpretation for the area immediately north of the bridgehead.

Huntingdon is referred to in Manuscript A of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle which states that in 917 Edward the Elder captured the 'burh' of Huntingdon from the Danes, repaired and restored it (Earle and Plummer, 1892, referenced in Oakey 1997). It is probable that the old line of Ermine Street was perpetuated (150m upstream of the current bridge) and that Saxon and later settlements were located near the area now occupied by the earthworks of the Norman castle (Oakey, *ibid*).

Huntingdon prospered with 256 burgesses and at least 100 freemen mentioned in the Domesday survey. The construction of the Norman castle may have caused the movement of the bridging point to its current location. The timber bridge was replaced by the existing stone structure c.1332 which leads onto the present High Street. This formed the focus of medieval Huntingdon which spread north-westwards, past St. Mary's church. From the fourteenth century Huntingdon declined as a result of epidemics, the interruption of river communications to the sea at Lynn and the decline of the income from tolls on items traded at St. Ives fair.

By the seventeenth century the town began to recover due in part to its location on the route north from London but this prosperity was damaged by the arrival of the railway in 1850 which drew trade away from Huntingdon. Since that time Huntingdon functioned as a local administrative, social and market centre with a little light industry.

St. Clement's Passage is a nineteenth century name which may preserve a memory of this lane providing access to St. Clement's parish and church. St. Clement's parish was between St. Mary's and the river before being absorbed into St. Mary's in the late medieval period. It was suggested by Oakey (*ibid*.) that the medieval burial ground partially excavated at Orchard Lane was in fact that attached to St. Clement's church. Historically the passage was Mutton Lane or Alley (maps showing this include Speed, 1610, Thong 1752 and Jeffery 1768). None of these historic maps show houses along the lane leading off the High Street. The Ordnance Survey map of 1885 shows cottages along both sides of the passage but most of these were demolished during the 1950s or 1960s.

Archaeological investigations have been carried out behind 90/91 High Street (Heawood 1994), at 112 High Street (Richmond 1996), at the corner of High Street and Hartford Road (Welsh 1994), at 12 Hartford Road (Connor 1996) and Orchard Lane (Oakey 1997). This recent work suggests activity in the vicinity of the High Street and Market Place from the eleventh century onwards with small scale Roman and Late Saxon occupation nearby.

METHODOLOGY

The primary objective of the project, following preliminary assessment, was to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt to reconstruct the history and use of the site. Site specific research questions were framed as follows in the specification for the excavation.

- Identify the deposit and structural sequence present on the frontage

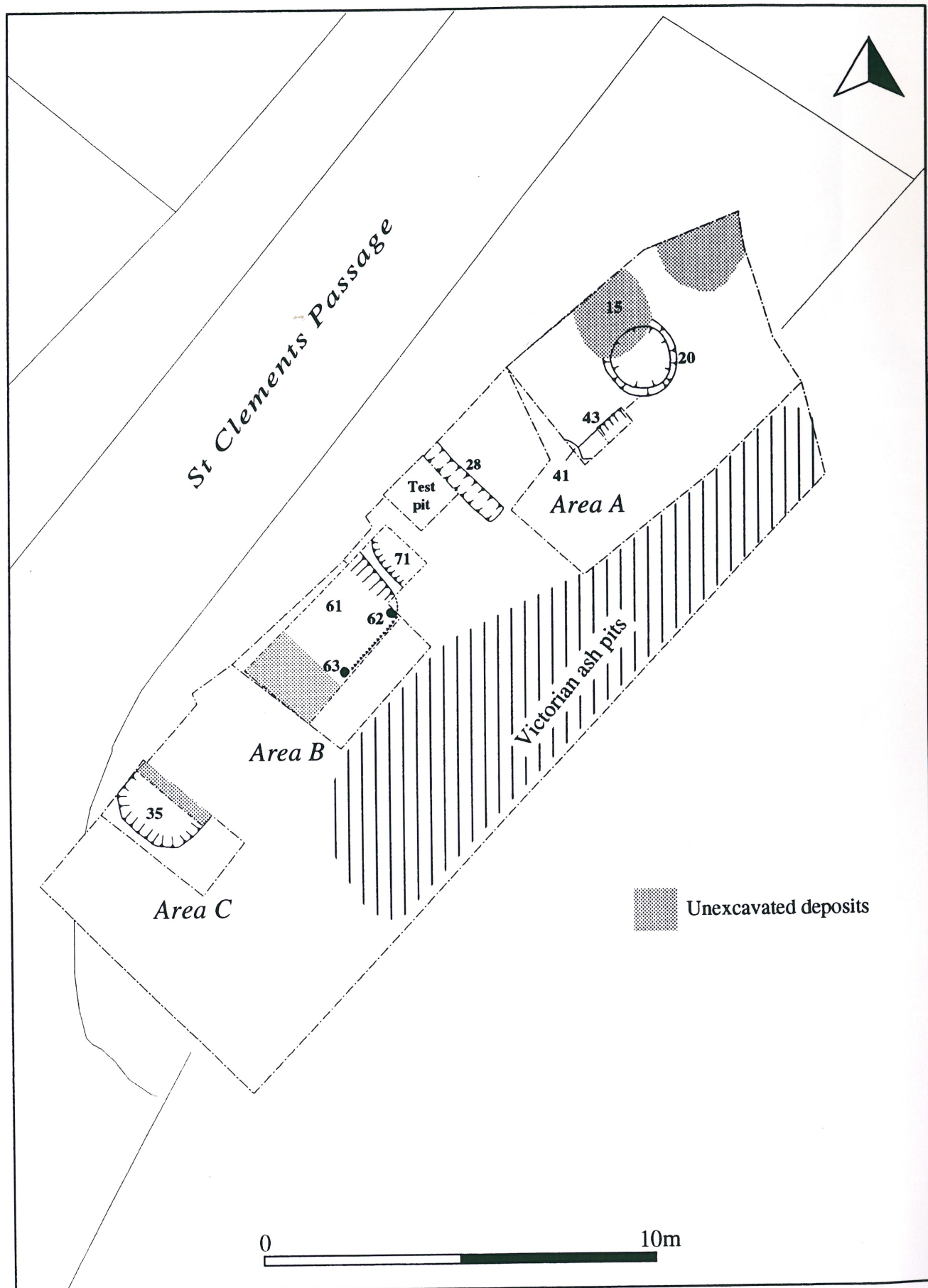


Figure 2 Trench plan showing recorded archaeological features.

- Date all remains
- Provide an explanation of activities that may have taken place on or close to the site
- Place the site in its urban context for analysis alongside urban development models and alongside artefactual and environmental data from elsewhere in Huntingdon.

The modern, made, ground surface and footings of the nineteenth century cottages were removed by machine to a depth where ashy deposits and early post-medieval deposits were noted. This area was cleaned and planned and selected areas were then opened by mini-digger and features excavated by hand.

Archaeological areas and features were recorded using a Zeiss RecElta 15 Total Station, and a digital base plan of the site was produced with Prosurveyor mapping software. Archaeological features were partially excavated and recorded using the pro-forma recording sheets of the Archaeological Field Unit. Features were hand excavated and planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections and profiles across excavated features were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate. A written record of all excavated features was made on single context recording sheets and the drawn and written record was supplemented by monochrome and colour photographs. Site records and artefacts are currently held at the AFU offices in Fulbourn under the site code HUNSCP98. In this report fill numbers are shown in plain text and cut numbers in bold. All site levels are above Ordnance Datum, taken from the 12.99m benchmark on St. Mary's Church. Conditions for excavation and recording were variable, being for the most part dry and bright. Wet weather prevented excavation on two days.

RESULTS

Area A

The most recent feature underlying the modern road surface in this area was the brick footing of one of the cottages that are known to have existed along St. Clement's Passage during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The wall was composed of red and yellow brick with thick layers of coarse mortar. The backfill, 49, of the foundation trench, **50**, was a loose, dark brown, slightly clay silt containing modern pottery, coal, brick fragments, tile and glass.

The foundation wall for the cottage had cut layer 48, a more compact clay silt with a small quantity of gravel. This deposit was 0.23m thick and had been cut at other places along the trench by modern drain pipes and other wall foundations (23 and **11** respectively, see below). Below layer 48 was a further compact layer, 51 (0.14m thick), a dark brown slightly clay silt with fragments of post-medieval pottery, tile, brick fragments, corroded iron fragments and coal. This layer sealed, at the southern part of Area A, a 0.1m thick spread of strong brown sandy clay (26) which extended 1.6m south-east from the trench edge and was a maximum of 3.3m wide. There were no finds from this material and it appears to be re-deposited natural.

Beneath layer 51 to the north was a dark brown clay silt with moderate gravels, 39. It was 0.88m deep and extended across the whole of Area A, continuing beneath spread 26. Material from this deposit include pottery (dated 1200-1400), brick, tile, animal bone and iron fragments. This deposit was mixed, possibly through horticulture and rubbish dumping to level the site.

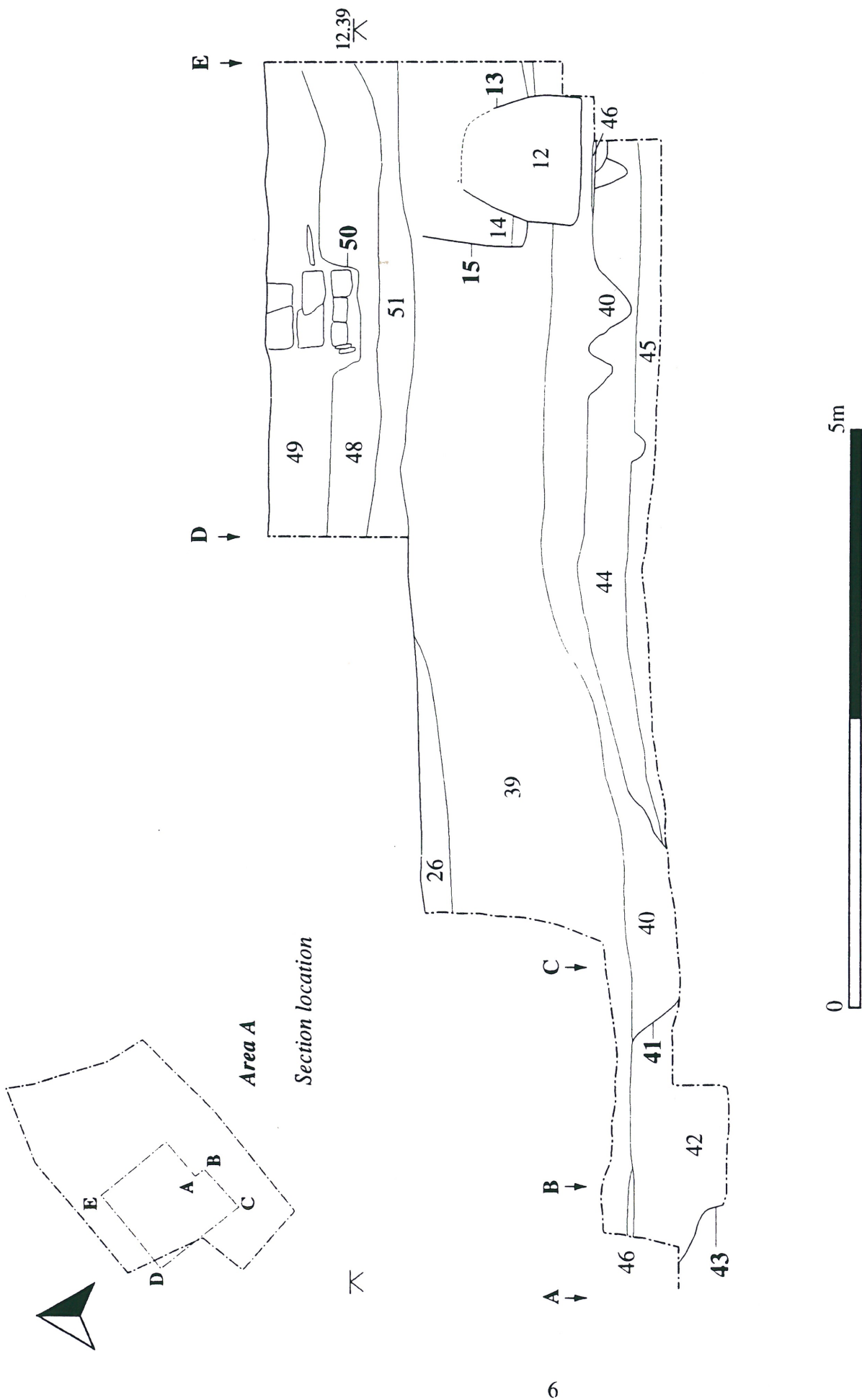


Figure 3 Area A section

Underlying 39, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt deposit (40) with medium sized stones and mottles of a yellowish brown clay. This was 0.5m thick and fairly compact with flecks of charcoal and fragments of pottery (dating between the tenth and sixteenth century) and animal bone. Deposit 40 appeared to fill pit or quarry, 41 and seal deposit 44. Not enough of pit 41 was visible to give dimensions, although it exceeded 1.5m in width and 0.3m in depth. It was cut from 11.41mOD through a light olive brown clayey silt subsoil, 44 (containing pottery dated between 900-1150) which overlay a dark yellowish brown silty clay natural (45). In the north-western part of Area A, overlying deposit 44, a 0.05m thick black and dark red ashy lens, 46, was noted. A similar lens was also seen overlying 44, in the southern part of Area A. Deposit 46 seals the medieval layer 44 and is sealed by a further, probably medieval layer, 40. This layer may represent cleaning from a fire or a fire base itself. In the north-western section several possible stakeholes were found in deposit 44. These were noted during machining. All were filled with deposit 40. These features correspond with features cut through deposit 44 and cut into natural. Several were excavated and one, 47, was certainly identified as a posthole (see below).

In the north-eastern part of Area A pits were noted, cut through deposit 39 from 12.15mOD. The level from which they had been cut was sealed by layer 51. The most recent of these, pit 13, was largely removed during machining but was visible in the section. The pit was over 1.08m long, 1.06m wide and 0.72m deep, its base was at 11.37mOD. The fill, 12, was a very mixed deposit containing lumps of clay and lime, brick, tile, animal bone, and pottery (dated between 1600-1700). Pit 13, cut the south-eastern part of a similar pit, 15, the fill of which (14) included a layer of mottled clay at the base with clay lumps throughout the fill, together with lime, mortar, brick fragments, tile and bone. The pit was approximately 1.1m wide and 0.56m deep. Pit 13, also cut pit 20 to the south-east but the stratigraphic relationship between 15 and 20 was not clear. Pit 20 was circular with steep, almost vertical sides (1.05m diameter, 0.46m remaining depth). The base and sides were lined with grey clay (18) 0.1m-0.12m thick into which had been placed a nailed wooden, possibly oak, tub (Wall, pers. comm.). The lower fill (17) of the tub was a pale yellow material (diameter 0.84m, 0.25m thick), possibly a lime or mortar with small fragments of bone throughout and two sherds of pottery dated 1150-1450. The upper part of this fill contained large fragments of bone, glass and clay pipe. The upper fill, 16, of the tub (0.92m diameter, 0.15m thick) was very mixed with clay lumps, lime/mortar, brick and tile fragments, pottery dated between 1550-1700, animal bone, glass and clay pipe.



Figure 4 Photograph of pit 20 with half section of in situ tub and clay lining

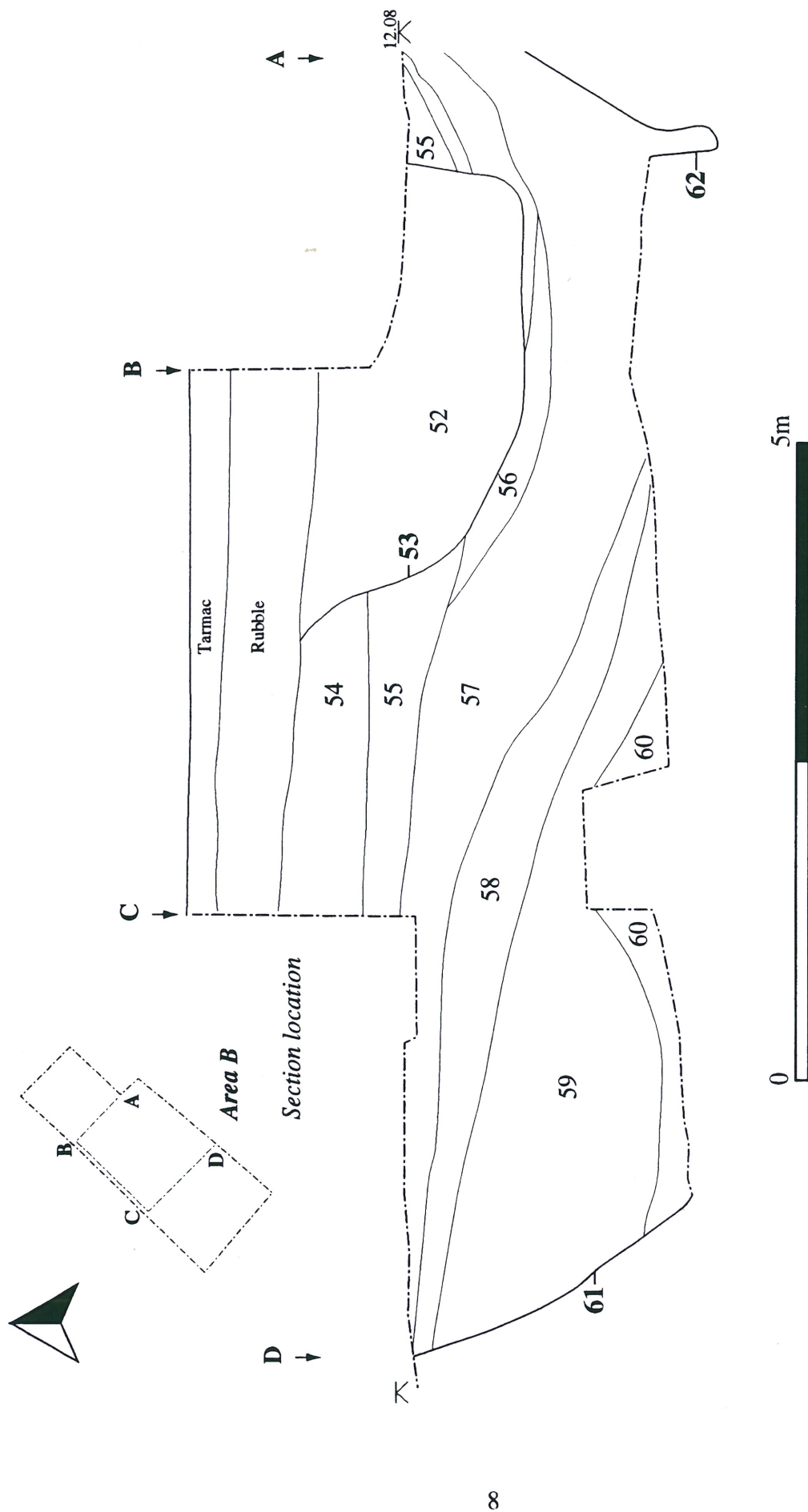


Figure 5 Area B section

In the south-eastern part of Area A the edge of a feature, 43, cut into the underlying natural, was noted. Less than 1.4m length and 0.37m width was exposed. This feature was excavated to a depth of 0.4m and a shallowly sloping upper part with a sharp break of slope to almost vertical sides was revealed. The base was not reached. The fill, 42, was a very compact dark yellowish brown silt (with flecks of charcoal and occasional small stones) containing pottery dated between 1100-1200, bone and flint. The fill had been cut in the western section by pit 41.

The base of Area A was cleaned by hand down to deposit 44 which contained pottery dating from 900-1150. Several small, almost circular, features were noted cut into deposit 44. The small area exposed made it impossible to discern a pattern or alignment in these features. One contained a fill, 47, similar to 40 (see above) and it was noted in the section that several post/stakeholes were cut into deposit 44 from the same level as layer 40. Other features were excavated but these appeared to have been created by burrowing animals. or tree roots.

Area B

The most recent feature in Area B, sealed by the present road surface, was a further brick wall (10, foundation cut 11) from the cottages which fronted onto the passage in the nineteenth century. The foundation trench for the wall was backfilled with post-medieval rubbish in a clayey silt matrix, 23 (0.4m deep). The foundation cut a very dark grey ash layer, 22 (0.08m thick) with a high proportion of charcoal. This layer (0.36m thick) sealed a dark grey slightly sandy clay silt (21) with occasional small stones which contained pottery dating from 1500-1550 and animal bone.

During the preliminary stage of work on the site a small test-pit was dug by hand (not illustrated). This followed the edge of a linear feature, 28, which had a concave base and sides and was 0.45m wide and 0.12m deep which contained a single fill, 27. This was a very dark brown slightly sandy silt which contained small fragments of pottery (dating from 1500-1600), glass and animal bone. The depth of the test pit was extended during the excavation and revealed a layer 24, (0.5m thick) of dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional small stones. This contained fragments of pottery (dating from 1470-1550) and animal bone (including horse, cattle and sheep). Beneath layer 24 was a layer of very compact dark greyish brown silty clay, 25, again containing fragments of pottery (dating from 1150-1250) and animal bone. Layers 24 and 25 appear to correspond with layer 54 and 55, below.

An irregular pit, 53 (2.5m long, over 1m wide and approximately 0.9m deep), containing a very dark grey sandy clay silt (52) with ashy lenses and pottery (dating from 1470-1550), animal bone, brick and tile, was cut into the upper deposits of two quarry pits (Fig. 5). These pits 61 and 71 (see below) extended south-westwards in Area B and north-eastwards beyond the edge of the test-pit.

Pit 53 cut deposit 54 (0.3m thick) which was a very dark grey clay silt with ashy lenses with charcoal. This sealed deposit 55 (0.38m thick) which was a dark greyish brown slightly sandy clay silt with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. Beneath deposit 55 was a further ashy fill, 56 (0.18m thick) a brown clay silt with charcoal flecks. Beneath this ashy layer was a very dark grey brown compact sandy silty clay, 57 (0.58m thick) containing pottery dated mainly to 1200-1400 but with one sherd dated 1550-1700. Deposit 58, 0.26m deep, was a yellowish brown sandy clay silt (equivalent to fill 32 in Area C). Beneath this was a further layer, 59 (0.78m thick, equivalent to 33 in Area C) which was a very dark grey firm sandy silty clay.

Deposit 60 (equivalent to 34 in Area C) was a very dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small stones and flecks of charcoal. This deposit was approximately 0.32m thick and sealed a layer of slumped material, 66, on the edge of the quarry pit 61 (equivalent to 64). The shallow upper edge of the quarry dipped steeply at this point, 10.94mOD, and the side sloped steeply. Fill 65, beneath 60/67 was a very dark greyish brown silty clay over 0.3m deep containing pottery dated 1200-1400. The base of quarry pit 61/64 was not reached in Area B but was revealed in Area C.

The quarry pit 61 was cut through deposit, 69 (equivalent to deposit 39), a very dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small stones, into an undisturbed sandy clay natural deposit to a depth of at least 2.26m below the present ground surface. This pit was over 2m long and 1m wide. Its south-eastern and north-eastern edges were exposed. These sloped shallowly at the top and then had almost vertical sides.

Two stakeholes (62 and 63) were noted cutting the eastern edge of quarry pit 61 (Fig. 6). Stakehole 62 had a diameter of 0.12m and was over 0.28m deep with straight sides and an irregular V-shaped base and was inclined 15° from vertical. Stakehole 63 had a diameter of 0.14m, was over 0.35m deep with straight, vertical sides. Both these stakeholes had survived as voids, suggesting the stakes had rotted *in situ* rather than the stakes having been pulled out.

At the northern end of Area B pit 53 was fully excavated and the deposits below removed. A further probable quarry pit, 71, was noted cut into natural. Only a small part of this feature was exposed but it seemed to be sub-rectangular with steeply sloping sides. The fill, 70, was a dark greyish brown clay silt with occasional stones and pottery dated 1350-1600 but with residual material from the ninth and tenth centuries.



Figure 6 Photograph of pit 61 with stakeholes

Area C

Area C contained two cut features. The lower of which (72) appeared to be over 1.4m wide with vertical sides, cut into the sandy clay natural to a depth of 0.8m. It was 2.35m below the present ground surface and the base was not exposed. The lower fill of this pit, 36, was a firm olive brown clay silt with very occasional large stones, occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. Fill 68, an olive brown, clay silt with occasional small stones, charcoal flecks and sherds of pottery, spot-dated to between 900-1400, appeared to seal fill 36.

Pit 72 was cut on its north-western edge by a further pit, 35, 1.2m wide and butt-ending approximately 1m from the north-eastern edge of Area C. This pit contained identical fills to that noted in Area B and is assumed to be the southern end of the quarry identified there. Pit 35 is thus equivalent to 61 (also equivalent to 64) and the fills 60=34/67, 59=33, 58=32, 57=31. The depth to which this pit was excavated was extended in Area C and revealed two further fills – 37 and 38. Fill 37 is equivalent to 65 (discussed above) whilst the basal fill of pit 35/61, 38, was a very dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional stones.

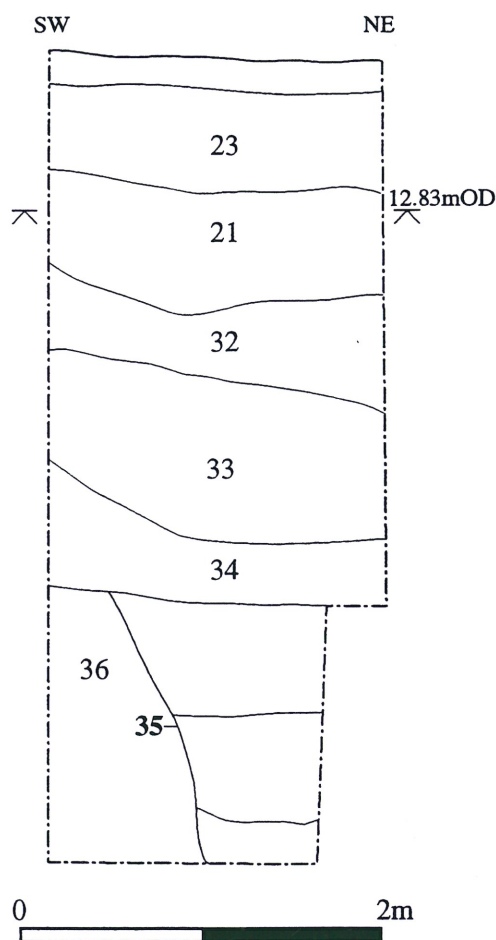


Figure 7 Section drawing of Area C

DISCUSSION

Phase 1

The earliest evidence of occupation of the site is a garden-type soil, 44, in Area A. This contained tenth-twelfth century pottery, suggesting the area to the rear of the High Street had been open land, possibly under cultivation with small scale rubbish dumping (including ashy material, 46) or manuring. Pit 43 may have been dug during the twelfth century.

Phase 2

The earliest features cut into, and probably exploiting, the sandy clay natural, were a series of quarry pits, 41, 64, 35, 61 (and possibly 72), which appear to be dug at close intervals extending north-eastwards along the line of St. Clement's Passage during the thirteenth to fifteenth century. Alternatively it may be that the pits extended across the whole area and our view is skewed by the size and shape of the available area. The presence of stakeholes in Area B and possibly Area A suggests possible structures connected with quarrying or demarcation within or around the quarried areas. Pottery from the quarry fills indicates the earliest episodes of quarrying took place in Area A during the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries. The quarry pits in Area B appeared to be still being backfilled during the sixteenth century.

Phase 3

Following extraction of the sandy clay the pits appear to have been back-filled fairly rapidly. Settling of the backfilled material would have left a pitted, uneven ground surface. Subsequent rubbish dumping during the sixteenth and seventeenth century may have been a convenient way of levelling the surface. Three circular pits (20, 15 and 13), the lowest of which could still be seen to have contained a wooden tub, were dug in the northern most part of the site. The function of these pits is unclear although they contained a limey material with minute fragments of bone. It would appear that these were dug during the seventeenth century and back-filled fairly rapidly as they contain earlier material, presumably from the surrounding topsoil but very little later material. Pits 71 and 53 may have been dug as rubbish pits at this time.

Phase 4

No features which could be securely dated to the eighteenth century were found and it seems as if this was an open area, either garden or yard, where small quantities of domestic rubbish were disposed of. Nineteenth century maps show cottages along both sides of St. Clement's passage suggesting it was a well established route to the north of the High Street by this period.

Faunal remains summary (see Appendix II)

Animal bones were recovered from 25 contexts. Cattle and unidentified large mammal bones predominated (46% of the total) with sheep (and medium sized, unidentified, mammal bone) being a similar proportion (44%). A small quantity of red deer was

only found in the deposits from the sixteenth century and later and a similarly small quantity of fallow deer bone was recovered from the preceding phase. Pig and horse bone represented 3% and 2% of the total assemblage respectively with horse bones being found in all phases and pig in phases 2 to 4. Very small quantities of cat, dog, fowl and fish bone were found. It is impossible from the small sample size to determine any relationship between phases and species of animal represented on site. The presence of butchered and burnt bone and the predominance of cattle and sheep suggest domestic refuse.

Pottery summary (see Appendix III)

Pottery was recovered from 26 contexts and spans the period from the late Saxon to modern with pottery from the thirteenth to fourteenth and sixteenth centuries most common. Almost a quarter of the assemblage was residual but provided an aid to dating and phasing of the site. Pottery from Fenland kilns (at Colne and Ely) is a major component in all phases and predominates in Phase 4. In Phases 2 and 3 the most common pottery type comes from the Middle Ouse valley and Northamptonshire. Pottery from medieval kilns in Northamptonshire, south Lincolnshire, Norfolk and north Essex are all present in Phase 2 but are replaced by Fenland pottery and post-medieval earthenwares from various areas (including south Essex) by Phase 4. The assemblage is made up mainly of table wares and cooking wares with little evidence for storage vessels.

CONCLUSION

Excavations less than 100m to the south-east, at Orchard Lane in 1994 (Oakey and Spoerry 1997), revealed quarry-type features with vertical sides and flat bases presumed to be in use before the sixteenth century. These have also been interpreted as quarry pits to extract sands and clays. The proximity of the two sites suggests small scale extraction and industrial activity in the area, possibly for over a hundred years. The full extent of quarrying is not clear at this stage. Considerable quantities of ash were evident in later deposits on the present site. As in the St. Clement's Passage examples the Orchard Lane quarry pits appear to have filled quite rapidly, perhaps as a result of backfilling with spoil from the excavation of an adjacent pit.

The sequence of activity suggested for the site is early medieval cultivation/gardens, followed by extractive industry during the fourteenth to sixteenth century. Soon after there was use of part of the site for a process using lime and animal products. The site then appears to have reverted to being yard or garden with small scale domestic rubbish dumping, possibly from properties along the High Street. During the nineteenth century rows of cottages lined both sides of the passage. These are shown on nineteenth and early twentieth century maps but most were demolished during the 1950s.

The area of investigation is currently less than 50m from the present High Street. It has been suggested, however, that before the fourteenth century the High Street ran down to a crossing point to the south of the present bridge, and closer to the castle (Spoerry, pers. comm.). The implication is that the High Street was 15-20m to the south-west and thus the development area would be beyond the messuage of the High Street

houses. There is no cartographic evidence for properties along the passage until the nineteenth century.

The absence of evidence for Roman or Saxon occupation may be a result of the limited area available for excavation. Future work in this part of Huntingdon will help to clarify landuse in the area during these periods. It is, perhaps, surprising that there is evidence for only small-scale industrial activity on the land rather than the more dense urban use that might be expected this close to the High Street. Again, only with more extensive investigation can the medieval occupation of this part of Huntingdon be understood.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The author would also like to thank Rebecca Casa Hatton, Carole Fletcher, Bob Hatton, Scott Kenney and Chris Montague who worked on site and Jon Cane, for his illustrations. Paul Spoerry was the Project Manager, carried out the initial field-work and advised during the excavation. Louise Austin and Simon Kaner of the Cambridgeshire County Council Development Control Office monitored work on site.

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APPENDIX I

Context list

Con text	Category	Type	Description	Phase	Pot dates	Date range
1	deposit			4	1150-mod.	modern
2	deposit			4	1250-1800	1800+
3	deposit			3	1500-1600	1550-1650
4	deposit			3	900-1500	1200+
5	not used			-	-	
6	not used			-	-	
7	not used			-	-	
8	not used			-	-	
9	not used			-	-	
10	deposit	wall	red/yellow brick and mortar	4	-	
11	cut	foundation	>1.4m long, 0.47m wide	4	-	
12	deposit		clay, lime, brick, tile	3	1200-1800	1600-1700
13	cut	pit	>1.8m long, 1.06 wide	3	-	
14	deposit		clay, lime, mortar, brick, tile	3	-	
15	cut	pit	1.1m wide	3	-	
16	deposit		clay, lime, mortar, brick	3	1200-1600	1550-1700
17	deposit		pale yellow sandy silt with lime/bone	3	1150-1450	1150-1450
18	deposit	lining	grey clay	3	-	
19	deposit	lining	wooden tub/barrel	3	1200-1800	1600-1700
20	cut	pit	1.1m long, 1.05m wide	3	-	
21	deposit		dark grey clay sandy silt	3	900-1700	1500-1550
22	deposit		dark grey silty clay with ash/charcoal	4	-	
23	deposit		modern rubble build-up	4	-	
24	deposit		dark grey clay sandy silt	3	900-1600	1470-1550
25	deposit		dark grey brown silty clay	2	900-1450	1150-1250
26	deposit		strong brown clay silty sand	3	-	
27	deposit		very dark brown silty sand	3	1150-1600	1500-1600
28	cut	gully	0.45m wide, 0.12m deep, SE-NW	3	-	
29	deposit		equivalent to 24	3	1150-1600	1350-1500
30	deposit		dark grey clay sandy silt	3	1350-1600	1470-1600
31	deposit		very dark grey brown sandy silty clay	2	-	
32	deposit		yellowish brown sandy clay silt (=58)	2	-	
33	deposit		very dark grey sandy silty clay (=59)	2	900-1550	1300-1400
34	deposit		very dark brown silty clay(=60)	2	-	
35	cut	quarry		2	-	
36	deposit		very dark grey silty clay	2	900-1450	1150-1250
37	deposit		very dark grey silty clay	2	-	
38	deposit		very dark grey brown silty clay	2	-	
39	deposit		dark brown clay silt	2	875-1450	1200-1400
40	deposit		dark greyish brown clay silt	2	875-1550	1380-1500
41	cut	quarry/pit	>1.4m x >0.37m deep	2	-	
42	deposit		dark yellowish brown silt	2	900-1350	1100-1200
43	cut	pit	>1.4 x 0.37m, >0.4m deep	2	-	
44	deposit		light olive brown clay silt	1	900-1200	900-1150
45	deposit	natural	dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil	-		
46	deposit		dark red/black sandy silt	2		
47	deposit		dark greyish brown silty clay	2		
48	deposit		olive brown clay silt	4		
49	deposit		dark brown slightly sandy clay silt	4		
50	cut	foundation	0.49m wide, 0.16m deep	4	-	
51	deposit		dark brown slightly clay silt	4		
52	deposit		very dark grey sandy clay silt	3	1150-1700	1470-1550
53	cut	pit	irregular, approx 2.5m x 1m	3	-	
54	deposit		very dark grey clay silt	3		
55	deposit		dark greyish brown sandy clay silt	3		
56	deposit		brown clay silt	3		

57	deposit	very dark greyish brown sandy silty clay	3	875-1700	1550-1700
58	deposit	greyish brown sandy clay silt	2		
59	deposit	very dark grey sandy silty clay	2		
60	deposit	very dark greyish brown silty clay	2		
61	cut	quarry >2.5m x >1.7m	2		
62	cut	stakehole 0.12m diam, >0.28m deep	2		
63	cut	stakehole 0.14m diam, 0.35m deep	2		
64	cut	quarry same as 61	2		
65	deposit	same as 60	2	1150-1450	1200-1400
66	deposit	dark yellowish brown silty clay	2		
67	deposit	same as 59	2		
68	deposit	olive brown clay silt	2	900-1400	1200-1400
69	deposit	very dark greyish brown silty clay	2	1250-1400	1250-1400
70	deposit		3	875-1600	1350-1600
71		pit	3		
72		quarry	2		

APPENDIX II

Animal bone assessment by Ian Baxter

Introduction

A total of 368 identified fragments of animal bone were recovered from 25 contexts at the site dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods. As no dating or phasing was available fragments per taxon are presented for each context in Table 1.

Species representation

The following species were represented at the site:

		Context
Horse	<i>Equus caballus</i> L.	3, 24, 37, 44, 57
Cattle	<i>Bos</i> f. domestic	1, 2, 3, 16, 21, 24, 36, 39, 40, 42, 44, 52, 55, 65
Red deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i> L.	2, 3, 27
Fallow deer	<i>Dama dama</i> L.	3, 55
Pig	<i>Sus</i> f. domestic	2, 3, 33, 52, 65
Sheep/goat	<i>Ovis/Capra</i> f. domestic	2, 3, 4, 12, 16, 17, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 44, 52, 53, 55, 69
Dog	<i>Canis familiaris</i> L.	36
Cat	<i>Felis catus</i> L.	3, 33, 40
Fowl	<i>Gallus</i> f. domestic	33, 36, 40, 52
Fish	gen. et sp. indet.	3, 40

Domestic mammal bone too fragmented to be identified to species, ribs and vertebrae are classified as large and medium mammal (l.m. and m.m.).

Notes on the species

Cattle

Cattle and large mammal bones account for 169 of the total or 46%. The only measurable bone was an Mc III+IV from 44 which came from an animal 1.1m high at the shoulder based on the factors of Foch (1966). The bones of calves were found in contexts 2, 3, and 52.

Deer

Bones attributable to red deer were recovered from contexts 2, 3, and 27. Fallow deer remains were less common and occurred in contexts 3 and 55.

Pig

Pig bones are only twice as common as deer and account for only just over 3% of the total.

Sheep/Goat

No remains attributable to goat were identified in the assemblage which is, therefore, tabulated as sheep. Sheep was positively identified in contexts 2, 3, 12, 16, and 52. Both horned and polled sheep were present. Calculations from complete bones indicate that the sheep ranged from 0.53m to 0.656m high at the shoulder (n=13) with a mean height of 0.59m (Teichert 1975). Sheep and medium mammal account for 162 of the bones recovered or 44%.

Horse, Dog and Cat

Horse remains account for 2% of the total and were found in contexts 3, 24, 37, 44 and 57. The only dog bone was the cervical vertebra of a medium sized animal from 36. Sporadic cat postcrania occur in 3, 33 and 40, mostly belonging to young animals.

Fowl

Bones of domestic fowl are quite rare, accounting for only 1% of the total and occurring in contexts 3, 36, 40 and 52.

Fish

Bones from the head of a large fish were found in contexts 3 and 30.

References

- Foch, J. 1966 Metrische Untersuchungen an Metapodien einiger europäischer Rinderrassen. Diss. München.
- Teichert, M. 1975 Osteometrische Untersuchungen zur Berechnung der Widerristhöhe bei Schafen. In Clason, A.T. (ed.) *Archaeozoological Studies*: 51-69.

TABLE 1

Context	Taxa											Total
	Horse	Cattle	Deer	Pig	Sheep	Dog	Cat	Fowl	Fish	LM	MM	
1		2										2
2		11	1	3	11				7	1		34
3	3	25	3	3	22		1	1	9	1		68
4					1							1
12					4					1		5
16		3			3							6
17					1				2			3
18									2	1		3
21		2			5					5		12
24	1	15			17				16	6		55
27			1		5							6
30					1					1		2
33				3	13		1	1	3	11		32
36		8			6	1		1	3	2		21
37	1				1							2
39		1			1				1	1		4
40		3			4		1	1	2	3	4	18
42		2							1	2		5
44	1	2			3				2	2		10
52		19		2	15			1	15	2		54
53					1				1			2
55		3	1		1				6	4		15
57	2											2
65		1		1								2
69					1				1	2		4
Total	8	97	6	12	116	1	3	4	3	72	46	368

Some fragments showed evidence of burning (mainly from contexts 2, 36, 40 and 57).

Butchery/chop marks were noted on some fragments from contexts 2, 24, 52, 55.

APPENDIX III

Pottery Analysis

The Assemblage

Excluding unstratified material a total of 529 sherds, 7121g of pottery, were recovered from 26 contexts. The types represented span the period from late Saxon to Modern, but with pottery from the thirteenth to fourteenth and sixteenth centuries most common.

Spot-dating of context groups provided the context dates given in Table 1. These are brackets that represent the date range of, either the latest material, or the dominant material, in the context assemblage. They do not indicate deposition throughout the period of the bracket, but suggest that deposition occurred at some point during that time.

The point at which an 'archaic' component in an assemblage becomes 'residual' is never easy to define; however, for most contexts the balance of probability is skewed recognisably towards one way or the other. Very few remain insoluble. At St Clement's Passage large residual Saxo-Norman or medieval components appear to be present in Contexts 21, 24, 33, 39 and 57; whilst Context 2 has both residual medieval sherds (25) and perhaps intrusive post-medieval and modern sherds (33). It may well be that this context's last disturbance and deposition was in the period since 1780; however, the great majority of material within the soil matrix dates to the period 1500-1600 which probably indicates that the deposit was formed at this time, but in a different location, and was subsequently dumped onto the site.

Phase Groups

Initially the pottery was grouped into ceramic phases, divisions based on changes in the pottery assemblage along, and this information was used as an aid to the construction of site Phases. The pottery assemblage was then analysed more fully using these Phase groupings.

The assemblage of only a few hundred sherds, of which almost a quarter are residual, does not on its own represent a valuable analytical tool. In the case of St. Clement's Passage, the data for fabric type has been analysed by Phase, but no other intra-assemblage analysis was deemed worthwhile.

Phase 1 contains only two sherds, thus the analysis must be comparison of the types present in Phases 2 to 4. The key data used are shown in Table 2. This shows the pottery broken down into rough regional types. With so few sherds, a comparison of the amount of pottery of different fabrics was not deemed valid, but by grouping the fabrics in this looser manner the data appears to have both statistical validity and archaeological significance. Even then, however, it must be noted that the figures from Phase 3 are heavily biased through the presence of 26 sherds (698g) of one early post-medieval redware tripod pipkin in context 16. This constitutes over 20% of the phase assemblage by weight and therefore provides unacceptable bias in comparison to the size of the assemblage and the mean weight of other data points (sherds). Nonetheless, there are points worth making on the bias of the values and trends exhibited in Table 2.

The key trend evident in the phase data is the fact that the pottery from 'the Fenland', which is actually material from kiln sites at Colne and Ely, is a major component in all phases, and the dominant supplier in Phase 4. Pottery from the Middle Ouse valley and Northamptonshire is the most common regional group in Phase 2, and probably also in Phase 3 if we account for the bias from the redware pipkin, but declines in importance by Phase 4. This is symptomatic of a general decline in the importance of most types from other counties in the region, between Phases 2 and 4. The pottery from medieval kiln sites in Northamptonshire, south Lincolnshire, Norfolk and north Essex, which are all present in Phase 2, are replaced by more of the Fenland pottery and by post-medieval earthenwares made in a variety of centres further afield (but including south Essex) by Phase 4. This echoes trends seen elsewhere at the end of the medieval period, for example at Peterborough (Spoerry and Hinman 1998), where the wider range of regional medieval producers present before 1450 is replaced by fewer, larger-scale, concerns with larger catchment areas. In both cases, however, the most important supplier in the early post-medieval period is the most local of those producers that do survive, in the case of Peterborough this is Bourne, but here in Huntingdon it is Ely and/or Colne. Minor suppliers in the later period tend to come from a much wider area than was the case before.

The St Clement's Passage assemblage is mostly composed of small sherds, which supports the interpretation that the site was under cultivation or used for quarrying throughout much of its lifetime. The research potential for understanding the functional assemblage is, however, minimal and it can only be said that it appears generally domestic and includes both table wares and cooking wares, with little evidence for storage vessels.

This assemblage will have greater potential, however, if analysed in conjunction with a number of other groups from this and other parts of Huntingdon. Where stratified groups of any size are recovered they can contribute to the corpus of information on the town's ceramic assemblage and this is the research avenue that will ultimately prove of most worth.

Paul Spoerry

Spoerry P, and Hinman M, 1998, *The Still, Peterborough: medieval remains between Cumbergate and Westgate*, CCC AFU Monograph No. 1.

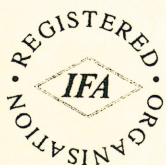
Table 1 Pottery quantification summary data

Context	Date range	No. of sherds	Weight	No. residual sherds	Phase
1		20	345	n/a	n/a
2	1550-1600	19	357	2	4
3	1780+	191	3374	25	4
4	1150-1250	2	16	0	3
12	1600-1700	10	229	1	3
16	1550-1700	31	690	2	3
17	1150-1450	2	7	0	3
18	1600-1700	7	63	4	3
21	1500-1550	22	154	12	3
24	1470-1550	65	729	34	3
25	1150-1250	22	216	0	2
27	1500-1600	3	13	2	3
29	1350-1500	9	107	0	3
30	1470-1600	18	175	0	3
33	1300-1400	24	209	11	2
36	1150-1250	35	469	0	2
39	1200-1400	17	126	7	2
40	1380-1500	8	51	4	2
42	1100-1200	12	51	0	2
44	900-1150	3	13	0	1
52	1470-1550	30	424	4	3
53	1500-1550	2	35	0	3
57	1550-1700	17	169	13	5
65	1200-1400	2	19	0	2
68	1200-1400	2	17	1	2
69	1250-1400	1	11	0	2
70	1350-1600	6	30	5	3
	Total	549	7466	127	

Table 2 Pottery by Phase and regional provenance (percentage by weight)

Provenance	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Ely and Fenland	36.1	26.5	74.1
Ouse valley/Northants	39.5	29.2	8.7
Lincolnshire	6.5	2.1	1.2
Essex	3	3	0
Norfolk	12.4	1.4	0
General post-med. earthenwares	0	33.3*	6.4
General post-med. finewares	0	3.2	9.5
Other	2.5	1	0

* Bias from one PMR vessel has greatly increased this value at the expense of the others in this phase assemblage



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