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**The Old Feathers Public House,
Lordsmill Street,
Chesterfield**

An Archaeological Excavation

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Contents

<i>Summary</i>	2
<i>1. Introduction</i>	3
<i>2. Archaeological setting</i>	4
<i>3. Methodology</i>	10
<i>4. Results</i>	12
<i>5. Interpretation</i>	20
<i>6. Conclusion</i>	26
<i>7. Sources</i>	28
<i>8. Acknowledgments</i>	29
<i>Appendix 1: Summary of Prehistoric Flints</i>	30
<i>Appendix 2: Romano-British Pottery</i>	31
<i>Appendix 3: Medieval and later Pottery</i>	36
<i>Appendix 4: Environmental Assessment</i>	39
<i>Appendix 5: Figures 7-11</i>	43
<i>Appendix 6: Artefact Tables</i>	46

Summary

The University of Manchester Archaeological Unit conducted an archaeological excavation at the site of The Old Feathers public house, Lordsmill Street, Chesterfield. Archaeological activity was uncovered dating from the 1st century AD to the present day. Tentative evidence for Late Mesolithic activity was recovered, though this may indicate a residual scatter of artefacts of this date within the area of excavation.

Evidence for the establishment of the Roman vicus in the late 1st century AD was discovered, confirming the areas involvement within the vicus' first development in Chesterfield. This original development consisted of a north-south boundary to a division of land facing Rykniel Street to the west. The area then underwent a redevelopment during the early 2nd century, with a re-cut of the north-south boundary realigning the boundary to the north-west, and an east-west boundary replacing a temporary structure associated with the first development. The vicus appears to have contracted from the area during the mid second century, with features of this date slighting the previous vicus lay-out.

Medieval activity on the site began in the 13th century, with a series of pits throughout the mid-late medieval confirming the areas continuity. At least one of these pits was used for the deposition of cess. Environmental evidence suggests that the area was grassland/wasteland during the medieval period, and that the nearby occupants were refining cereals.

Documented post-medieval occupational structures had been removed by a number of large 18th and 19th century cut features. A redevelopment of the area during the 19th century occurred with some terracing of the land surface taking place.

1. Introduction

The University of Manchester Archaeological Unit (UMAU) was commissioned by Bolsterstone (Balborough) Ltd. to carry out an archaeological excavation prior to the proposed retail development of The Old Feathers public house, Lordsmill Street, Chesterfield (centered at National Grid Reference SK3858 7088. Fig. 1). The work was carried out from 25th September to 10th October 2003 as a condition of planning by Chesterfield Borough Council.

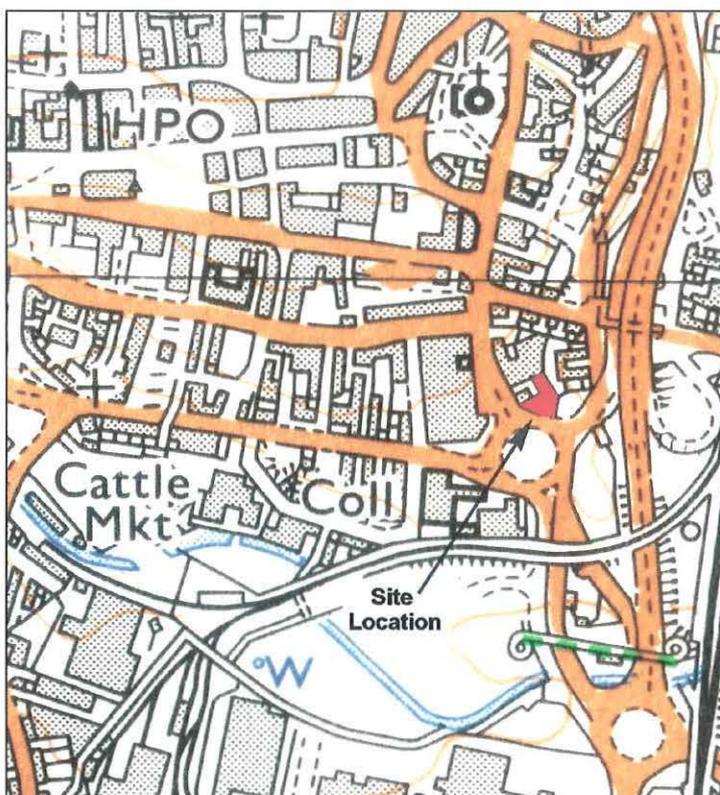


Figure 1: Site location plan (based on OS Pathfinder 761 Chesterfield. 1:25 000 Crown Copyright Reserved)

The excavation was instigated after an initial evaluation phase of work (25th to 30th September) had revealed that numerous Roman and Medieval archaeological features and deposits remained *in-situ* on the development site. The aim of the subsequent excavation was to determine the nature and extent of the archaeological remains within the area of the development and to make a record of those which may have been adversely affected by the development.

The project design for the excavation was approved by Dr Andrew Myers Development Control Archaeologist as part of the fulfilment of the planning condition prior to the undertaking of the excavation.

The evaluation phase of the work consisted of three trenches (1, 2 and 3) within the confines of The Old Feathers car park. Trenches 1 and 2 subsequently formed part of the larger area of excavation (1st October to 10th October) and will be discussed as part of the open-area excavation phase (Area 1). Trench 3 was not incorporated within the later excavation and will be discussed separately.

2. The Archaeological Setting

2.1 Location

The excavation was undertaken within the confines of the car park to the rear of The Old Feathers public house. This is located on the southern side of Chesterfield town centre (SK 3858 7088) and lies on the east side of Lordsmill Street and north side of the roundabout at the Markham Road junction.

2.2 Geology

The underlying geology of the study area, as mapped by the OS Geological Survey comprises outcropping sandstone forming part of the Lower Coal Measures of the Carboniferous period.

2.3 Land-use

The site contains The Old Feathers public house, built c 1916 with later alterations and additions on the south and south-east, and its car park.

2.4 Topography

Chesterfield town centre occupies a promontory of land, running roughly east-west and overlooking the River Rother on the east and River Hipper on south. Lordsmill Street lies on the southern slope at the eastern end of this promontory.

Along the Lordsmill Street frontage of the study area, ground level slopes down by c 1m from north to south. However, this slope is not repeated across the site. In the southern half of the study area, the ground level in the car park slopes down from west to east by c 0.5-1.0m, perhaps reflecting the natural slope towards the Rother. In the north of the study area there appears to have been some terracing to accommodate the pub. Thus the enclosed area to the rear of the pub is flattish and lies c 0.7m below the level of the car park to its south. The vehicle delivery area adjoining that enclosed area is also flattish, with the ground level on its south sloping up to kerb which defines the edge of the car park here. On the north side of the pub, the eastern half of the passageway leading from Lordsmill Street slopes down sharply by c 1m to meet with the rear enclosure.

2.5 Overview of previous archaeological work

2.5.1 Prehistoric

The local geology of light well-drained soils and the natural topography, comprising elevated ground above the confluence of the rivers Hipper and Rother, provided the site of the town with conditions favorable to prehistoric activity.

The earliest evidence for such activity was provided by excavations carried out in 1998 on the site of the Ibis Hotel, on the east side of Lordsmill Street c 100m to the south of the present study area. The southern

end of that site produced an assemblage of 391 lithic artefacts, most being of chert, with others of flint. Diagnostic pieces indicate a Late Mesolithic date for the assemblage (i.e. c 7000-4000BC), which appears to have been dominated by material associated with the use of scrapers rather than the more usual microliths. The majority of the lithics were derived from the fill of two pit-like features, and the site also included several other hollows of probable prehistoric date including three parallel gullies. Any cut features of Mesolithic date are rare. It is possible that the remains at Lordsmill Street represented a seasonal hunting camp, strategically placed above the confluence of the rivers (Foundations Archaeology 1999; SMR 3990).

Evidence for later prehistoric activity is at present more sporadic. A small flint knife or scraper of Neolithic or Bronze Age date was found during excavations in the 1970s at Spa Lane, c 150m to the north of the study area (SMR 3942). Further afield, a Bronze Age stone battle axe has been found on Dunston Hall Farm, c 4 km to the north-west of the town centre (SMR 3913), and a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age polished stone axe at Somersall Hall Farm, c 3 km to the south-west (SMR 3934).

Several sites within the town to the north of the study area have produced tentative evidence of Iron Age activity. Excavation in the 1970s in the Alpine Gardens on the north side of Church Lane revealed deposits which were interpreted as the fill of an Iron Age ditch (SMR 3966). Evidence of pit-cutting found during excavations at Station Road may also possibly be of pre-Roman date (Ellis 1989, 55-7). More recently excavations in the Old Vicarage Gardens, between Church Lane and Vicar Lane, produced a single sherd of pottery of possible Iron Age date (Connelly & Walker 2001, 29).

2.5.2 Roman

The existence of a Roman military site at Chesterfield (SMR 3970) is recalled in the place-name of the town, probably attested in 955 AD and certainly in 1086 (see below), and meaning 'the field by, or within, the fort'. Roman occupation in Chesterfield, previously suspected from the chance discovery of coins and pottery, has been confirmed by a succession of excavations, beginning in the early 1970s.

The cumulative results of those excavations indicate that a Roman fort was established in the AD 60s or slightly later at the eastern end of the ridge of the high ground above the two rivers. Excavations within the interior of the fort would appear to have been confined to the area of the modern Alpine Gardens. Evidence for the fort's southern defences has been identified in successive investigations on the south side of Church Lane (Connelly & Walker 2001), while the general line of its western and northern defences may be indicated by elements within the street pattern of the medieval town.

Roman Chesterfield was served by the north-south road known as Rykniel Street. The line of that road within the area of the town centre has yet to be confirmed. Remains of old roads are reported to have been found at the bottom of Lordsmill Street in 1932 but a Roman date for these is not certain (SMR 3939). However, the general view seems to be that Rykniel Street followed much the same course as Lordsmill Street and St Mary's Gate. Recent assessment of the position of the fort also has Rykniel Street/St Mary's Gate running outside its eastern defences (Connelly & Walker 2001, 28-9).

The evidence for Roman activity at Chesterfield extends beyond the postulated area of the fort. To the west pottery and coinage have been recovered from the Market Place area. Two Roman 'urns' are reported to have been found in 1790 in excavating for the foundations of buildings on the south side of the Market Place (SMR 3960) and sherds of three Romano-British vessels were found on this same side during excavations in the 1970s at the Peacock Inn; on the north side a coin of Trajan has been found in High Street (SMR 3908). A Bronze coin of Claudius unearthed in 1720 may also have been found in the Market Place (SMR 3906).

The majority of excavations within the town which have produced evidence of Roman activity have been

located largely or wholly outside the southern and eastern sides of the fort. Indeed the fullest chronological sequence for the development of Roman Chesterfield is provided by the excavations carried out in these areas at Station Road and Spa Lane in the 1970s (Ellis 1989; SMR 3961, 3968) and at the Old Vicarage Garden in the 1990s (Connelly & Walker 2001).

The results from those particular excavations indicate that associated with the initial construction of the fort was the establishment of an extra-mural settlement or *vicus*, straddling St Mary's Gate/Ryknield Street and incorporating wooden-built structures which probably served as workshops, stables, granaries and various domestic dwellings. In the early 2nd century AD the *vicus* buildings on the south were demolished and extra-mural activity was now concentrated on the east. In the second quarter or so of the 2nd century the fort itself was either abandoned or reduced in size, presumably as part of the reorganization of the province's northern frontier; during that period there appears to have been continuing occupation of the eastern *vicus*, albeit on a reduced scale. In the mid 2nd century, the southern *vicus* area saw a brief phase of industrial activity associated with charcoal production, possibly for a refitting of the fort, followed by the construction of military annexe or temporary camp, also evidently short-lived. By the late 2nd century the reduction in activity was such as to suggest a complete military withdrawal from the area. In its place, in the southern *vicus* there is evidence of a more domestic nature suggestive of a civilian settlement (Connelly & Walker 2001, 44-5).

Recent excavations on the site of the new Magistrates Court on Durrant Road have also revealed evidence for extra-mural activity to the north of the fort. This site contained two ditches, of which the more substantial, running east-west along the side of the promontory, was interpreted as marking a boundary. Pottery from these ditches dated from 70-110 AD, suggesting that they belonged to the initial phase of the *vicus* (Crooks 2002).

The results from previous archaeological excavations demonstrate a spread of Roman activity on the east side of the fort, presumably extending back from the line of Ryknield Street but the southern extent of that activity is unknown.

Excavations by UMAU in 2001 to the rear of the Spa Lane Vaults, on the east side of St Mary's Gate, revealed two slight gulleys of possible Roman date and a substantial ditch-like feature, cut into bedrock and over 3m deep, containing Roman pottery and building material and running west and then south (Mottershead 2001). It cannot be ruled out that this last feature is post-Roman in date.

On the east side of St Mary's Gate and Lordsmill Street no site is known to have been archaeologically investigated between Spa Lane Vaults, c 150m to the north of the study area, and the Ibis Hotel to the south. The last site produced a few sherds of Roman pottery deposited in the fill of medieval pits but does not appear to have contained any features which could be assigned a Roman date (Foundations Archaeology 1998; SMR 3989).

On the west side of St Mary's Gate and Lordsmill Street a series of trial trenches were excavated in 1989 on the former omnibus station site between Vicar Lane and Beetwell Street, c150-200m to the north-west of the study area. Two of these revealed two ditches cut into the natural bedrock, sealed by post-medieval deposits and containing Roman roof tile (TPAT 1989; SMR 3984). One of these ditches appeared to define the western extent of the mid-2nd century military annexe also noted during the excavations in the 1990's at the Old Vicarage Gardens (P Connelly, UMAU. pers. comm.).

In terms of Roman archaeology, therefore, on present evidence The Old Feathers site lies within a grey area. To the north is the broad town centre area in which excavations since the 1970's have encountered Roman archaeology associated with the fort and its peripheral settlement. To the south is the Ibis Hotel site which, from the excavation in 1999, would seem to have been located beyond the area of settlement.

2.5.3 Medieval

As with the Roman period, archaeological evidence for the medieval town has continually increased through the series of excavations beginning in the 1970s. These have included several investigations on the east side of Lordsmill Street and St Mary's Gate. At Swan Yard in the 1970s excavation was undertaken on part of a plot of land which fronted St Mary's Gate opposite the parish church and which is documented from 1360 when it was owned by the Guild of the Blessed Mary and was leased to William Aleyn of Chesterfield. The earliest medieval features uncovered here were pits containing 11th century pottery, and the site also contained the footings of the stone walls of later buildings. One of these had formed the stone wall of a building fronting St Mary's Gate and possibly of 13th-14th century date. The other walling belonged to a range of 15th century date, running east-west and extending further back from the street; this building included a stone-built garderobe or privy (Courtney 1975 9-12; SMR 3903).

The excavation in 2001 on the south side of Spa Lane at the Spa Lane Vaults was undertaken just behind the street frontage of another medieval plot on St Mary's Gate, in this case documented from 1419 when it formed part of the rectory manor. Here the upper part of the substantial ditch of Roman or possibly Anglo-Saxon date had remained open into the 13th/14th century when it was infilled and sealed by compact stoney material to create a possible working surface. This was cut by a pit also containing 13th/14th century pottery, and with an upper fill comprised of loose unburnt coal. An early phase of walling on the western side of the site may also have been of medieval date (Mottershead 2001).

To the south of The Old Feathers car park, the excavation at the site of the Ibis Hotel revealed a series of pits, which were possibly cess pits or associated with an industrial activity. Several were substantial and contained clay or stone linings; some had evidence to suggest that they had been emptied, while others showed signs of recutting. Apart from a single pit with material dating from the 15th/16th century, the pottery assemblage points to a 12th/13th century date for their use. Environmental samples revealed charred grain indicating food preparation in the area (Foundations Archaeology 1999; SMR 3989). Comparison with the historical and cartographic sources shows that these pits lay to either side of a medieval property boundary. Those in the southern half of the site (roughly corresponding with the excavation Area 1) were situated within Deans Croft, the plot which contained the manor house of the rectory manor. Those in the north (roughly corresponding with Areas 2 and 3) were situated in the plot belonging to the Guild of the Blessed Mary which also included the southernmost part of the study area.

To the north of St Mary's Gate, the excavation at the site of the new Magistrates Court revealed medieval features, containing 13th/14th century pottery, which appeared to be associated with the backplots of buildings situated on Holywell Street. They included a series of pits, probably cesspits, one of which contained a stone structure, and a further structure, square in form, which is believed to have been a malt-kiln and had itself been reused as a cesspit in the early post-medieval period. The site also included a large area of burning, possibly associated with metal working, which was cut by a feature containing 14th/15th century pottery.

The kiln uncovered at the Magistrates Court is one of three malting or corn-drying kilns known from Chesterfield. A circular kiln was excavated at Station Road in 1975 and is said to have been of 14th century date. A second circular kiln was excavated as South Street. In this case radiocarbon-dating indicated that the kiln was in use in the mid-17th century when it may have been located within a substantial building, probably a barn, shown on Senior's map of the town (Wilson 2002).

2.5.4 Post-Medieval

The earliest known map of the town, drawn by William Senior in the 1630s, shows a continuous range of buildings running along the northern part of the east side of Lordsmill Street, terminating at a point to the south of The Old Feathers car park. This range of properties is shown as backing onto a field named as the Croft. On the south both the properties and the Croft terminated at the northern boundary of a field named on Senior's map as Maister Ralf Clark's Close but formerly known as Dean's Croft. This field was the site of the medieval manor house attached to the rectory manor, an estate granted to the dean of Lincoln in 1093 along with the parish church. Riden suggests that the manor house went out of use by the late 15th century, from which time the manor was leased out. In the 19th century the corruption of the name Dean's Croft to Dane's Croft gave rise to a belief that a battle had taken place here between Saxons and Danes (SMR 3929).

Mapping of the early to mid-19th century shows the area of the Croft divided by property divisions, extending back from the street ranges along Lordsmill Street. Indeed, Senior's map is somewhat misleading in that other evidence indicates that from the medieval period the Croft was divided into separate plots.

The Chesterfield tithe map of 1849 shows the area divided between three landowners. A narrow strip in the north formed part of a plot belonging to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England. To the south of this, the greater part of the study area belonged to Sir Gilbert Heathcote. His property also included a linear plot to the rear, which bordered the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' land, suggesting that at one time these had all belonged to a single property. To the south of Heathcote's land, the southern corner of the study area formed part of a plot then held by the executors of Samuel Dixon.

On Senior's map of the 1630s the street frontage of the plot is shown as part of the continuous range of buildings extending along this side of the Lordsmill Street as far as Dean's Croft. However, Riden notes that both the documentary evidence and the 19th century mapping show a lack of burgage divisions within the property and concludes that it was not among the oldest pieces of street frontage on Soutergate but was more in the nature of a medieval suburb, perhaps containing cottages without well-defined plots to their rear. Part of this medieval property was recently examined during the excavation at the Ibis Hotel site (see below).

In 1849 the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' plot was described as comprising two houses, a garden, yard and outbuildings, occupied by Henry Hall and another. The part within The Old Feathers' environs contained the southern half of the garden associated with the more southerly of those two houses. On maps of 1826 and 1837 a building is shown standing against the eastern boundary of that garden and appears to have encroached within the north-east corner of the area. It had been removed by 1849 and its function is unknown.

The 1876 OS map shows little alteration from the picture in 1849. On the north, a small building had been erected to the rear of the house on the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' land and intruded into the area of discussion. On the east, an extension had been added to the soot house and straddled the excavation area boundary. On the south a group of small buildings had been erected against the northern boundary of Samuel Dixon's plot; the 1896 auction plan suggests that these were of a fairly insubstantial nature and they may possibly have been no more than sheds associated with the use of this area as a garden.

The 1897-8 map indicates that in the south, following the 1896 auction, houses fronting Dixon's Road had been built on part of the garden area, with the rear of those buildings encroaching into the study area. To the north of the excavation area, further new building had taken place on the garden area of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' land and again intruded into the area of excavation.

The Old Feathers was rebuilt in 1916/17 after magistrates threatened to close it down because of its dilapidated condition. This must refer to the construction of the present public house which in the auction catalogue of 1921 was described as of recent erection and was then tenanted under a lease for eleven years from 25 March 1916. The new public house was set back from the former street frontage and to the north of its predecessor, on the site formerly occupied by the row of three cottages and adjoining yard. The L-shaped building which had stood to the rear of The Old Feathers was now demolished, for in the 1921 auction catalogue its site is listed as vacant. Possibly at this same time the remaining small buildings at the rear of the Heathcote plot were also swept away, with this area appearing vacant on mapping of 1962.

On the above evidence, therefore, the area of excavation would have comprised parts of two medieval landholdings, one an extensive plot owned by one of the town's guilds, the other a burgage which formed part of the rectory manor and part of which at some date prior to 1743 came into possession of the Heathcote family. By the 1630s these properties formed part of continuous row of building extending along the east side of Lordsmill Street to Dean's Croft. The guild property is known to have contained buildings in 1335. If we assume that the line and width of Lordsmill Street in the medieval and post-medieval periods was as shown on 19th century mapping, then the area of excavation encompasses an area just to the rear of the frontages of those early properties.

3. Methodology

The programme of works was split into two separate phases covering a period of 12 days. Phase 1 covered the period 25th to 30th September and was that part of the programme concerned with the initial evaluation of the site. Three trial trenches were machine excavated (Trenches 1, 2 and 3) in order to ascertain the level of archaeological evidence still *in-situ* on the site. Two of these trenches (1 and 2) later formed part of an open-area excavation (Area 1) during the subsequent phase. Trench 3 was backfilled by machine excavator after being recorded. Phase 2 covered the period 1st to 10th October and this period was concerned with the excavation and recording of the archaeological remains found within Area 1.

Trenches 1 and 2 were excavated running approximately north-south and formed the eastern and western edges of excavation for Area 1 respectively (Fig. 2). Trench 3 measured 6m by 2m and was aligned east-west through the car park of The Old Feathers public house 2-4 metres south of Area 1. The trench was positioned in order to evaluate the archaeological potential to the south of Trenches 1 and 2 and was opened during the evaluation stage of works. The area of excavation was in part determined by the limited available space within the confines of the car park at The Old Feathers and also due to upstanding walls to the north and west which necessitated a safe working distance being left in place. Extensive cellars within the public house had removed the archaeological necessity of evaluating this area.

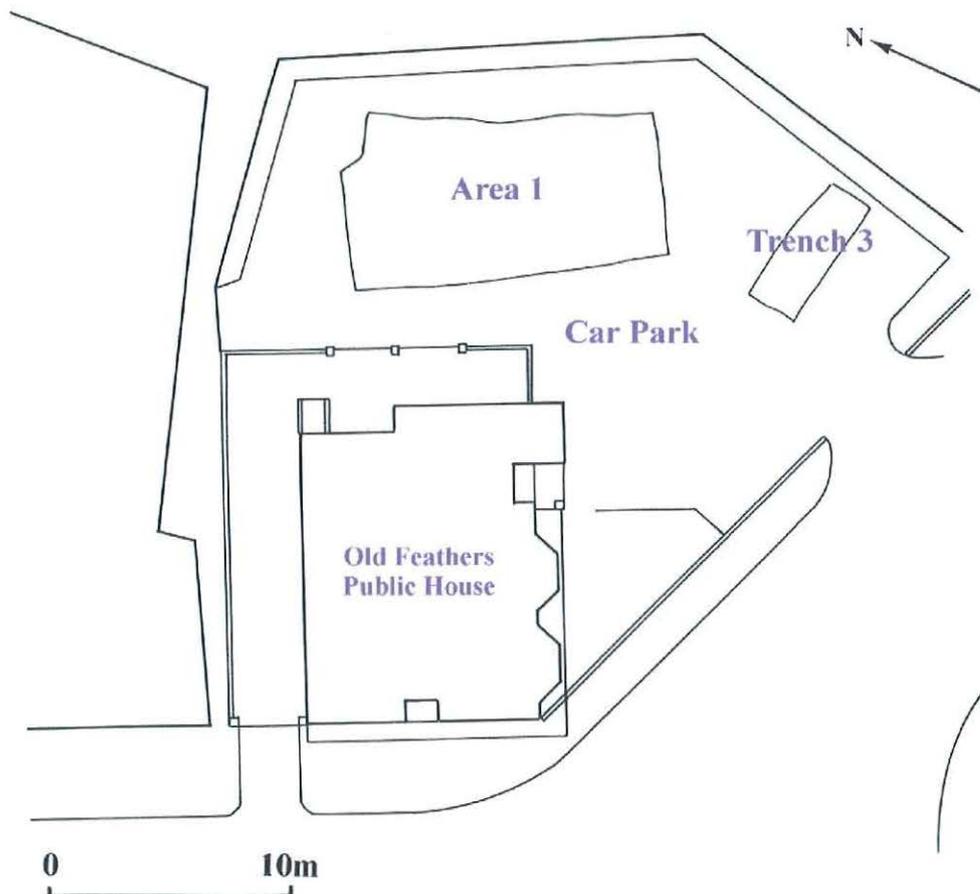


Figure 2: Trench location plan

All trenches during the excavations were opened using a JCB Sitemaster Plus wheeled machine excavator equipped with a 1.5m wide ditching bucket, which was supervised at all times by a qualified archaeologist. Machine stripping halted at a depth where the recovery of the first *in-situ* pre-Industrial Age deposits were discovered.

After machine stripping had taken place, all excavation proceeded by hand to UMAU and best practice professional standards. All stake and post-holes were half-sectioned, as were all pits. Linear features had several sections placed through them wherever possible, so that a minimum 20% was excavated. As well as recording each of these sections the east and north-facing sections of Area 1 and the south facing section of Trench 3 were drawn.

Due to the depth of excavations within Area 1 often being substantially deeper than the proposed foundations for the upcoming development on the site, several large features were part-excavated only and the remaining un-excavated portion left *in-situ*. These features were recorded and then covered and protected by matting prior to backfilling. Assistance was also forthcoming from the developers, and part-excavated features were bridged during groundworks so as to avoid damaging these *in-situ* remains.

Trenches and features were recorded by measured plan at 1:20 scale and section drawing at 1:10 scale. These drawings were annotated with context numbers which were individually recorded on pro-forma UMAU context record sheets, along with surveyed level information. All features were photographed in slide format. Any finds recovered were bagged, recorded and processed according to standard archaeological finds procedure and samples of important deposits were taken and recorded as required.

4. Results

4.1 Fill/layer Morphology

The various soils have been influenced by their relative ages, which appears to have a correlation with the leaching out of the humid content within the various fills, the major component within the fill such as clay rather than silt, the sub-surface chemistry of the soils and surrounding geology.

In this report all fills and layers are in rounded brackets (***) and features/cuts are in square brackets [***]. Features will be named and denoted by their principal cut number.

4.1.1 18th/19th Century Fills/Layers Morphology

Due to the relatively young age of the 19th and 20th century deposits they had retained their humic and organic content and had been little affected by below ground conditions. Fills and layers from this period were very similar in their matrix, with the vast majority being friable humic dark brown/grey silty clays.

4.1.2 Medieval Fills/Layers Morphology

Unlike those from the 18th/19th centuries, fills from the medieval had begun to be adversely affected by underground conditions with the resulting loss of most of their humic content. For those deposited in features which were deeper than the water table however, survival was good-very good, most notably within pit [69] where fill (65) provided well preserved environmental data. Generally, fills from the medieval were noticeably paler in colour than those from the 18th/19th centuries and considerably darker than those from the Roman periods, being a light-mid grey silt clay, although mid-dark reddish brown silty clays were also prevalent.

4.1.3 Roman Fills/Layers Morphology

The fills from the two Roman phases were noticeably different from the medieval and post-medieval periods being both substantially lighter in hue and humic content. There also existed a notable difference between fills from Phases 1 and 2, although as the only securely dated feature from Phase 2 [10] is both different in form and depth (being waterlogged) any interpretations gathered from this must be limited. Phase 2 fills were principally a mid yellow/brown silty clay, very similar to layer (15) (see below).

4.1.4 Geological Morphology

Area 1 was effectively divided by two distinct geological layers (94) and (95). The eastern half of the area contained (95) a friable very light brown/yellow clay with frequent fractured sandstone bedrock, whilst the western half was dominated by (94) a compact orange/brown clay sand with frequent rounded stone. It is interesting to note that all the deep and waterlogged features excavated within Area 1 were cut through (94) and may suggest that this was through design.

4.2 20th/21st Century (Figure 11)

Layer (01) was the context number given for both the tarmac surface and associated hardcore fills of the

present (and previous) car park for The Old Feathers public house. This layer extended across the entire excavated area, was between 0.5-0.85m deep, and contained frequent loose red bricks within its matrix. This 20th/21st century surface and associated hardcore layer lay over layer (14), and fill (81).

Feature [80] was a rectangular cut, (possibly a modern trial trench or sounding) orientated north-south, measuring 1.65m by 0.3m east-west, with vertical sides, a flat base, and a total depth of 1.45m. [80] cut feature [28], layers (15) and (14), and lay under (81). (81) filled feature [80] and was a very mixed dark grey/brown sand clay with very frequent inclusions of red brick, glass, and clinker. (81) lay under layer (01). Sherds of medieval and 20th century pottery were recovered from (81) during excavation.

4.3 19th Century (Figure 11)

Layer (14) (Figs. 9 and 10) was a friable very dark brown/grey humid clay silt, with regular red brick fragments, glass, and assorted small-medium stone inclusions. (14) extended over the entire excavated area, and had a maximum depth of 0.55m, thinning to 0.02m at the northern edge of excavation. Layer (14) was cut by the 20th century feature [80], and lay over all upper fills of those features which cut layer (15). (14) contained frequent sherds of 18th and 19th century pottery.

4.4 18th/19th Century (Figure 11)

Feature [03] (Fig.3) was a large rectangular linear cut extending east west across Area 1 from the west facing section for 5.4m, and measuring 2m north south (Fig. 3). Cut [03] maintained its square profile throughout its length, though its depth varied between 0.33m and 0.68m deep in its recorded sections. Feature [03] contained two fills-(102) and (04). Context (102) was a very mixed and compact, mottled light brown/grey silt clay with regular charcoal flecking and red brick inclusions. This fill lay under layer (14) and over fill (04). Context (04) was a friable humid mid-dark grey silt clay with regular charcoal flecking, red brick and assorted stone inclusions. Large amounts of 18th and 19th century pottery sherds were recovered from (04) during excavation, as well as one sherd of 13th to 14th century date. Feature [03] cut five other features; [08], [78], [99], [20] and [22] and also cut layer (15).

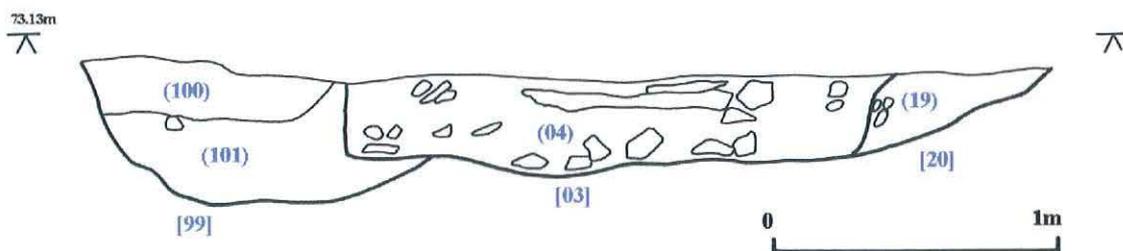


Figure 3: West facing section of features [03], [20] and [99]

Feature [43] was only visible in the north facing section of Area 1 (Fig. 8), where it lay under layer (14), cut layer (15), and appeared to truncate (10) the uppermost fill of feature [11]. Cut [43] had a flat base and concave sides, and measured 2.06m east west, with a maximum depth of 0.55m. [43] contained one fill (42), which was a humid mid-dark grey/brown silt clay with occasional red brick and charcoal inclusions.

Feature [6] was an east-west linear cut, running west for 1.25m from the eastern edge of excavation, and cutting layer (15). [6] had a V-shaped profile and a maximum width of 0.9m, and was filled with (7), a dark brown/grey humid silt clay, with regular red brick inclusions. Fill (7) lay under layer (14), and contained sherds of late medieval and 18th/19th century pottery.

4.5 Mid-Late Medieval 13th-16th Century (Figure 11)

Feature [36] was a linear gully running north for 1.36m from the southern edge of excavation, with a width of 0.32-0.42m. [36] had a square profile, a depth of 0.35m, and cut layer (15) and feature [40]. Fill (35) was the only deposit within [36] and was a wet light-mid grey silt clay. (35) lay under layer (14), over [36], and contained a single sherd of late 1st-early 2nd century A.D mortarium and three sherds of mid-late medieval pottery.

Feature [108]/[69] (Fig.4) was a large (1.92m north south by 2.5m east west) sub-square/irregular pit with a near vertical eastern and southern edge and a stepped northern edge, that was only part-excavated due to its being substantially deeper than the maximum depth of the foundations required for the upcoming development on site (see methodology section). A depth of 0.68m was reached before work was halted (a total of 1.98m below the existing ground level of the car park at The Old Feathers public house) and recording took place. The original pit [69] had been re-cut at a later date after being substantially in-filled prior to this.

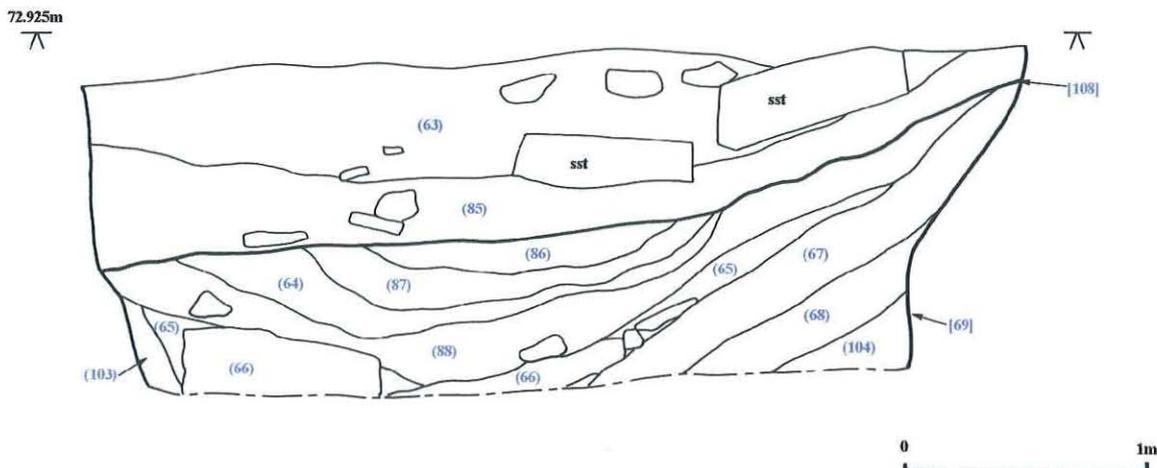


Figure 4: East facing section of pits [108]/[69]

Feature [108] had truncated the original fills of [69] to a depth of 0.38m, and contained two fills; (63) a light grey/brown wet clay silt with an orange/red fibrous residue, and two unworked large sandstone blocks; and (85), a dark grey wet clay silt with similar fibrous residue. The orange/red residue within both of these fills is a by-product of post-depositional floralturbation within pit [69]. Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from (63) during excavation. Cut [108] respected the original cut dimensions of pit [69], and had a flat base, a vertical southern and eastern edge and a gently sloping northern edge. [108] cut contexts (86), (87), (64), (88) and (67) within pit [69].

Feature [69] contained nine fills, one of which (65) contained substantial amounts of wood within its matrix. Both (65) and the wood (66) were sampled (see environmental report). The uppermost fill of [69], (86), was a deposit of redeposited natural, context (94), and was a compact mid orange/brown sand clay

with approximately 60% small sub-rounded stone within its matrix. Below this, fill (87) was a very light grey wet silt clay. Fill (87) lay over another band of redeposited natural (context (64)). This in turn lay over a wet, very light grey clay silt (context (88)). Fill (88) lay over three fills: contexts (65), (67) and (103). Fill (65) (sample number 1) was a thin deposit of very dark grey wet organic clay silt, with approximately 40-50% of its matrix containing a very dark brown waterlogged wood (context (66)). No tool marks or evidence of working could be seen on the wood, and its overall condition was extremely poor. A sample was taken from (66) (sample number 2) with a view to gaining its species (and possible function therefore), though there existed no possibility in gaining a date for the wood either through C14 dating or tree ring calibration due to its very poor survival condition. The wood (66) clearly became deposited within pit [69] along with context (65) and did not represent an internal structure *in-situ* within the pit. Context (65) lay over two fills: (67) and (103). Fill (67) was an infill of compact redeposited natural (context (94)), that lay over fill (68). Fill (68) was a light grey clay silt, lying over fill (104), a very compact redeposited natural (context (94)). Under context (65) on the southern edge lay another band of redeposited natural. Contexts (103), (65)/(66), (67), (68) and (104) were not fully excavated and all continued at a greater depth than that reached by the limit of excavation. Pit [108]/[69] was cut by the 20th century feature [80]. All fills within pit [69] were below the water table and were all waterlogged.

Feature [71] was a large sub-circular pit measuring 1.8m east-west by 1.9m north-south, with near vertical sides, an irregular/concave base, and a depth of 0.55m. Pit [71] cut features [08], [28] and [48], and contained five fills. Fill (74) was a compact mid-dark grey/brown silt clay with frequent small-medium sub-angular sandstone, and occasional coal and charcoal inclusions. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from (74) during excavation. Fill (74) lay over fills (73) and (76). Fill (76) was a dark reddish brown silt clay with regular small-medium sandstone, and occasional charcoal flecking. (76) lay under fill (74), over fills (73) and (75). Fill (75) was a fine and friable dark grey/brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecking. (75) lay under (76), and over fill (72). Fill (73) was a mid-dark reddish brown/grey silt clay with regular small-medium sandstone, and occasional charcoal flecking. (73) lay under (74) and (76), and over fill (72). Fill (72) was a fine and friable mid yellow/brown silt clay. (72) lay under (73) and (75), and over cut [71].

Feature [46] was only partially intact after having been largely cut away by pit [45], but it appeared to be a shallow (0.11m deep) sub-circular pit, measuring 1.5m east west by 0.35-0.8m north south, with a concave southern edge and flat base. Pit [46] was filled with (47)-a mid brown/grey sand silt clay with very occasional small stone inclusions.

Feature [48] was a surviving small (0.38m by 0.24m) rectangular segment of what may originally have been a shallow pit orientated northeast southwest, but which had been cut away by the large pit [71]. The surviving segment of [48] had a concave edge and flat base, a depth of 0.1m, and a dark grey/brown silt clay fill, (49).

Feature [45] was a large sub-rectangular pit orientated roughly east west, measuring 1m north south by 1.5m east west. [45] had concave sides and base, a depth of 0.35-0.43m, and cut features [20], [08] and [46]. Fill (44) was the sole deposit within the pit, and was a mid-dark brown/grey sand silt clay with very occasional small stone inclusions. Pottery sherds from the mid 2nd century A.D and medieval period were recovered from (44) during excavation.

Feature [24] was a small irregular pit with irregular sides and base, measuring 0.3-0.5m north-south by 0.82m east from the western edge of excavation. [24] was 0.12m deep, and was filled with (23), a light-mid grey/brown silt clay with frequent small sub-rounded pebbles and occasional small pieces of coal. A sherd of undated Samian Ware Roman pottery and a sherd of medieval pottery were recovered from (23) during excavation.

4.6 Non Phased Post-Late 2nd Century/ Pre-19th Century (Figure 11)

Feature [84] (Fig.10) was a square cut (possibly a pit) running east for 1.3m (1.3m north-south) from the western edge of excavation. [84] cut layer (15), and had near vertical sides and a part-excavated depth of 1m (see methodology 3.1.4). Fill (82) was the uppermost deposit within [84], lying under layer (14), over (83), and was a wet light-mid grey clay silt. (83) lay under (82), and over fill (107), and was a deposit of the natural geological layer (94) redeposited within [84]. (107) lay under (83) and was a wet mid grey clay silt. The water table was reached at an approximate depth of 0.6m and all fills within feature [84] were waterlogged.

Feature [40] (Fig.9) was a sub-circular cut for a probable pit which extended to the south of Area 1, measuring 0.72m east-west by 0.4m north-south. [40] had a U-shaped profile and a depth of 0.52m. This feature cut layer (15) and was cut by feature [38]. Fill (98) was the uppermost deposit within [40], and was a mixed mid grey/brown silt clay with occasional charcoal flecking. (98) lay under layer (14) and over fill (39). Fill (39) was a mid yellow/brown silt clay with occasional charcoal flecking. (39) lay under (98), and over fills (96) and (97). Fill (96) was a deposit of the natural geological layer (95) redeposited within [40]. (96) lay under (39), and over (97). Fill (97) was a wet mid brown/grey silt clay, lying under (96) and over [40].

Feature [38] (Fig.9) was a linear gully running north for 0.78m from the southern edge of excavation, with a width of 0.3-0.38m. [38] had a U-shape profile, a depth of 0.49m, and cut layer (15). Fill (37) was the only deposit within [38], and was a wet light-mid grey silt clay. (37) lay under layer (14) and over [38].

4.7 Post-Late 2nd Century/Pre-13th Century Medieval (Figure 11)

Layer (15) (Figs.9 and 10) was a friable light-mid yellow/brown silt clay with very occasional small sandstone and charcoal inclusions. (15) extended over the entire excavated area, and had a depth between 0.08-0.5m. Layer (15) was cut by all medieval and post-medieval features, and lay over all upper fills of earlier features. No dating evidence was recovered from (15).

4.8 Roman

4.8.1 Phase 1, Late 1st-early 2nd Century (Figure 11)

Feature [99] (Fig.3) was a half-circular in plan, cut on its southern side by the large linear [03] and would probably have formed a discreet circular pit originally. The surviving portion of [99] measured 0.9m north south by 1.3m east west, had concave sides, a flat base and a depth of 0.5m. Context (100) was the uppermost fill of pit [99], and was a mottled mid yellow/brown/grey sand clay with frequent small sub-angular stone, regular charcoal flecking and very occasional small pieces of burnt bone. This lay over fill (101), a fine and friable mid reddish brown sand clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Pottery from the late 1st- early 2nd century was recovered from fill (100).

Feature [08] (Fig.5) was a linear gully (width 0.8-0.95m, depth 0.18-0.34m, with concave sides and a flat base) running north south through the entire eastern half of Area 1 (a total of 11.6m) before being cut by pit [11] as it approached the southern limit of excavation. The gully was filled throughout with a light-mid yellow/brown silt clay, (09), which contained occasional small sub-angular stone and charcoal flecking. Numerous sherds of late 1st-early 2nd Century A.D Roman pottery were recovered from (09) throughout its length. [08] had been cut by several features: [11], [71], [45] and [03], and had itself cut [32], [33] and

[78].

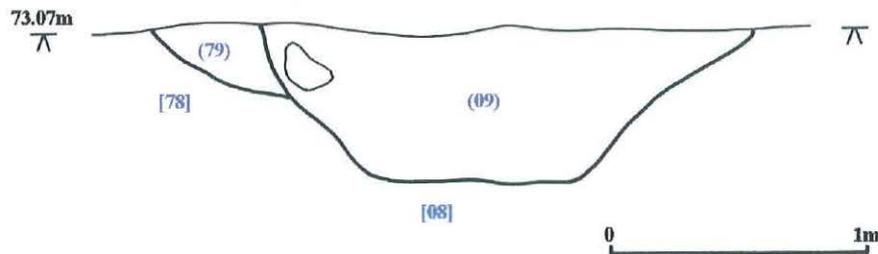


Figure 5: North facing section [08] and [78]

Feature [32] measured 0.7m east west by 0.45m north south and appeared to be a small oval pit, which cut pit [33] and was in turn cut by [08] on its western side. Pit [32] had a square profile, a depth of 0.16m, and was filled with a friable mid brown/grey clay silt (31). A small sherd of undated Samian Ware Roman pottery was recovered from (31) during excavation. This sherd however, would have a date somewhere between the 1st-early 2nd Century A.D due to the stratigraphic relationship between [32] and gully [08] (above). Feature [32] therefore, is the earliest Roman feature securely dated by artefact retrieval on site.

4.8.2 Phase 2, Mid 2nd century (Figure 11)

Feature [11] (Fig.9) was a large sub-circular cut (possibly a pit), which extended to the south of Area 1. [11] had near vertical sides and a part-excavated (see methodology) depth of 0.62m, and measured 1.8m east-west and 1.2m north-south. The uppermost fill of feature [11] was a friable light-mid brown clay silt, (10), with frequent orange/red fibrous mottling and occasional charcoal flecking. The orange/red residue within both of these fills is a by-product of post-depositional floralturbation. Sherds of mid 2nd century A.D Roman pottery were recovered from (10) during excavation. Fill 10 was cut by feature [43], lay under layer (15), and over fill (89). Fill (89) was a wet light-mid grey clay silt with regular charcoal flecking. (89) lay under (10), and over fill (90). Fill (90) was a deposit of the natural geological layer (95) redeposited within [11]. Both fill (89) and fill (90) were below the watertable and were waterlogged.

4.9 Non Phased Pre-13th Century Medieval (Figure 11)

Feature [26] was a discreet sub-circular post-hole with irregular sides and base, measuring 0.4m north-south by 0.3m east-west, and a depth of 0.1m. [26] was filled with (25), a light mid yellow/brown sand clay. Fill (25) lay under layer (15).

Feature [20] (Fig.3) was a thin linear gully (0.55m wide, 0.24m deep, with concave sides and base) running northwest southeast for 1.5m before being cut by [03] for 2.6m of its length, then continuing to run southeast for a further 2.1m before finally being cut by pit [45]. In all, gully [20] may have had an original length somewhere in the region of 6m. A light-mid yellow/brown silt clay (19) filled the gully.

Feature [28] was a thin linear gully (0.4m wide, 0.19m deep, with irregular sides and base) running east west for 2.5m before being cut by pit [71], after having been cut for 0.3m of its length by the modern cut [80]. [28] was filled with (27), a light-mid yellow/brown silt clay. A flint blade was recovered from fill (27) dating from either the Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period (pers. comm. Andrew Myers). There exists a possibility that this flint has been redeposited within (27) during its in-filling and is part of a residual flint scatter in the area (see below).

Feature [92] was a discreet oval post-hole measuring 0.54m by 0.4m, with concave sides and an irregular base. Post-hole [92] contained one fill of mid brown/grey silt clay (93). Fill (93) lay under layer (15).

Feature [22] (Fig.10) was a linear gully running east for 1.95m from the western edge of excavation (0.6-0.7m north-south) before being cut by [03]. This cut had irregular sides, a flat base, and a depth of 0.18m. [22] was filled with (21), a light-mid yellow/brown clay silt, with occasional small stone inclusions.

Feature [13] (Fig.9) was the western edge of an unidentifiable cut, measuring 1.6m north-south by 0.18m east-west, that extended to the south and east of the area of excavation. [13] had an excavated depth of 0.17m, and a concave western edge, and cut post-hole [62]. This feature was filled with (12), a friable light-mid grey/brown clay silt. Fill (12) lay under layer (15).

4.10 Non Phased Pre-Late 2nd Century (Figure 11)

Feature [62] (Fig.9) was a small (possibly sub-circular) post-hole, measuring 0.1m north-south by 0.1m east, that extended to the south of Area 1. [62] had a U-shaped profile, a depth of 0.16m, and was cut by features [13] and [11]. This feature was filled with (61), a friable light-mid grey clay silt. Fill (61) lay under layer (15).

4.11 Non Phased Pre-Early 2nd Century (Figure 11)

Feature [78] (Fig.5) was a 1.6m segment of a probable linear gully running northeast-south from the northern section of Area 1 before being cut by both [03] and [08]. Only the eastern edge of [78] remained extant (0.4m wide) due to the gully [08] following the orientation of [78] closely. (79), a mottled light yellow/brown sand clay, filled [78], which had a concave side and a depth of 0.14m.

Feature [33] was of indeterminate shape due to its having been cut on its western side by the linear feature [08], and on its southern side by pit [32]. The surviving portion of this probable small pit measured 0.45m north south by 0.48m east west and had irregular sides, a rounded base, and a depth of 0.25m. [33] contained one fill (34), which was a friable mid grey/brown clay silt. A small broken and burnt flint blade was recovered from (34) dating from either the Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period (pers. comm. Andrew Myers). There exists a possibility that this flint has been redeposited within (34) during its infilling and is part of a residual flint scatter in the area (see below).

4.12 Trench 3 Results

Trench 3 contained three layers (Fig.6) all found within Area 1 to the north: layers (01), (14) and (15) (for full descriptions see Area 1 above). Layer (01) extended across Trench 3 and had a depth of 0.5m. (01) lay over (14), which similarly extended across Trench 3 and had a depth of 0.55m. Layer (14) was over layer

(15) and fills (17) and (18) of cut [16]. Layer (15) extended for 2.35m from west-east before being cut by [16], and had a depth of 0.6m lying over the natural geological layer (94). Judging from the depth of layer (15) within Area 1, it would appear that (15) gains in depth as it proceeds from north-south through the car park of The Old Feathers public house, with the deepest deposit being within Trench 3.

Beneath layer (14), and cutting (15) and (94), was a large ditch like cut [16] running north northeast-south southwest, of which only the western edge had been discovered by excavation (the remaining eastern edge being outside the limit of excavation). Cut [16] measured >2.2m north northeast-south southwest, with a width greater than 3m, a depth of 0.9m, and a stepped western edge and flat base. This cut was filled with two deposits: (17) and (18). Fill (17) was the larger of the two deposits, and was a mixed dark yellow/brown humid clay silt with occasional small-medium stone inclusions. Sherds of 15th/16th century and 18th/19th century pottery were recovered from this fill. Fill (18) was a thin lens of charcoal within fill (17) which ran along the western edge of cut [16].

Feature [16] would appear to be a large cut for a ditch like feature. Due to it lying under layer (14) (a 19th century layer) and to the recovery of 18th/19th century pottery from within fill (17), a date in the 18th to early 19th century is envisaged for this feature. The recovery of 15th/16th century pottery from (17) is likely to be a re-internment of either residual pottery in the area, or more likely due to [16] cutting a feature of this date and re-depositing its material within (17). Cut [16] was not recorded within Area 1 and thus may either lie to the east of this, or terminate prior to this point.

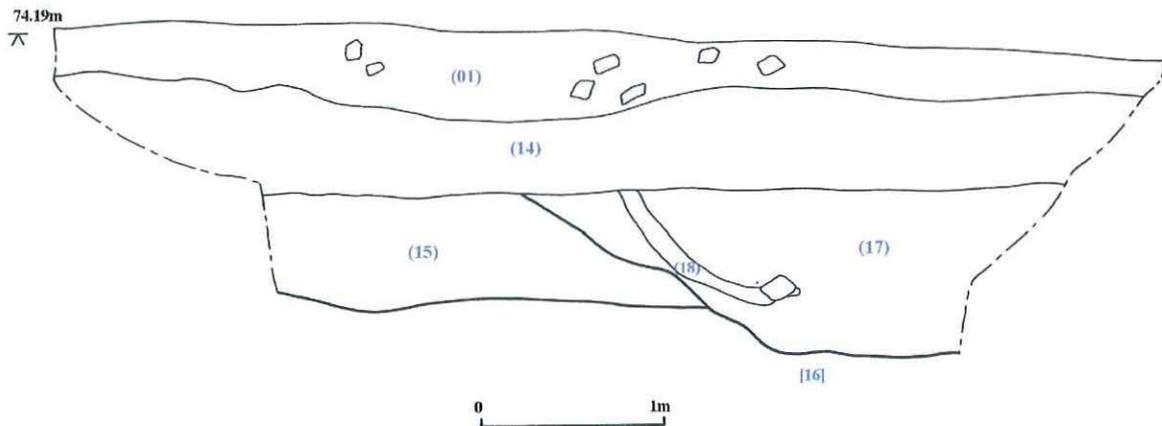


Figure 6: South facing section of Trench 3

5. Interpretation

For the purposes of this report each of the following periods has been divided into several individual group phases. Where a possible further sub-division exists within these group phases (as is the case for Roman phase 1 and mid-late medieval) this is commented on. These individual group phases were principally dated through the recovery of diagnostic pottery sherds from their various fills. Phasing of a less precise nature was possible through the various stratigraphic relationships that existed between dated features and layers and those where no diagnostic artefacts were recovered. Due to the limited amount of features securely dated through artefact retrieval many features remain unphased other than within rather wide pre and post age brackets.

The importance of layer (15) cannot be overstated in attempting to understand the various phasing within the excavation area. (15) has been cut by all medieval features on site, and so pre-dates them, and lies over all 1st to 2nd century features, therefore post-dating these. Unfortunately, no datable evidence was recovered from (15) with which to assign a date, and so it has been given a post-2nd century-pre middle medieval date range. It is the authors view however, that this layer dates from a narrower time-scale, possibly the period immediately following the latest Roman feature. It would therefore, provide a *terminus-post-quem* for Roman occupation/activity within the area of excavation and help date features and fills which pre-date (in stratigraphic terms) layer (15). This view is principally based on the striking similarity between (15)'s soil matrix and those from the 1st/2nd centuries, in total contrast to the still partly humic fills of the medieval features which cut (15). Due to the lack of evidence for this supposition however, the widely dated phasing groups have been adhered to though the possibilities of layer (15)'s dating have been commented on.

5.1 Prehistoric

Tentative evidence for late Mesolithic-Neolithic activity within the excavation area was recovered from the fills of two features, [28] and [33]. The interpretation of feature [28] (see below) would preclude its dating to this period and the recovery of a flint blade from its fill (27) is due to its being redeposited within [28] during the cutting or in-filling of this feature.

It is possible that feature [33] may be contemporary with the flint recovered from its fill and date from the Late Mesolithic-Neolithic period. Not only does its fill (34) differ from the prevalent Roman matrix on site, but [33] pre-dates (and is not respected by) the early 2nd century feature [08], and [32] the earliest Roman feature securely dated by artefact retrieval on site. It would seem probable due to the frequency of artefact redeposition upon the site however, that the flint blade within (34) has been redeposited and that [33] is not of prehistoric date. [33] is the earliest feature excavated and its date is uncertain.

5.2 Roman

5.2.1 Non Phased Pre-Early 2nd Century

The features within this group have been assigned the above date due to their stratigraphic relationship with feature [08], an early 2nd century gully. All of the features below had been cut by [08] and so pre-dated it. Feature [33] had also been cut by pit [32], the earliest Roman feature on site securely dated through artefact retrieval.

As mentioned above, feature [32] is the earliest securely dated feature within the excavation area. No contemporary relationship with any other features was observable and it appears that this is an isolated small pit. The recovery of a small undated sherd of Samian Ware pottery from (31) combined with the stratigraphic relationship with the early 2nd century feature [08] would suggest a date within the 1st century AD. It is probable that [32] belongs within the early phase 1 grouping (see below) though this feature may be evidence of a sporadic and ill-defined pre-vicus occupation within the excavation area.

Feature [78] had been largely truncated by the linear gully [08] and only its eastern edge remained extant (for a length of 1.6m). The surviving portion of [78] bore great similarities to [08], both in its orientation and design, and it is possible that [08] represents a re-cutting (with a slight re-alignment to the west) of feature [78] during the early 2nd century. If this is the case, then [78] represents a boundary division (see [08] below) within the vicus associated with the Roman fort at Chesterfield, possibly to the rear of structures fronting onto Rykniel Street to the west (see overview of archaeological work above for the possible location of Rykniel Street). No datable evidence was recovered from (79)/[78], though it seems probable that this feature belongs within the early Phase 1 (below) and denotes the first vicus settlement this far south of the fort.

5.2.2 Phase 1

Feature [99] was an isolated pit within the northern third of Area 1 containing a partially complete late 1st-early 2nd century jar or beaker. As with feature [78] above, [99] represents early Phase 1 activity within the excavation area and appears to be a rubbish pit containing broken pottery and cooking/food debris (as evidenced by the burnt bone and charcoal flecking within fill (100)).

Feature [08] is a late Phase 1 feature dating from the early 2nd century. As raised during the discussion above, [08] may well represent a re-cut of the linear gully [78]. The provisional interpretation of [08] is that it marked a boundary division, possibly to the rear of structures fronting Rykniel Street. No evidence for post or stake-holes were discovered within [08], and it is possible that it may not have contained any superstructure such as panelling but instead formed a relatively simple gully boundary (possibly with an upcast bank) which also served to drain the area.

Due to the later medieval and 18th/19th century impact within the area of excavation, no possible relationships to any of the non phased Roman gully's (other than [78]) were observable on site. It is possible that feature [22] (which bore similarities to [08] in its width and depth) is associated with [08] and may have formed an east west division of the area, though this had been cut well before any possible junction by [03]. This possibility is strengthened by the perpendicular orientation of [22] to [08] which aligns the division to the west-northwest. This orientation is consistent with the general alignment of the Roman features on site (in particular the possible structure 1 below).

Evidence from this group's stratigraphic relationship would suggest that this phase could in fact represent two separate phases of activity within the area of excavation. Both of these phases of activity were associated with the extra-mural settlement or vicus of the Flavian fort at Chesterfield. As discussed above, feature [78] may represent a late 1st century land/property boundary division, a predecessor of the early 2nd century re-cut [08], and so be contemporary with the initial building of the fort and the first vicus development (equivalent to Phase 1 Vicar Lane, and Ellis' Period 3. See sources below). Features [99] and [32] may also belong to this period. This would be of importance in attempting to understand vicus development through the 1st and 2nd centuries. It would appear that the area of The Old Feathers was incorporated within the first growth of the vicus, rather than a later expansion, and was of enough practical import to require further development (as evidenced by the re-cutting and slight re-alignment of the boundary division, and possibly further east west divisions, [22]) in the early 2nd century. The timescale

for a sub-division of Phase 1 is tight, but the evidence would suggest that development of the area continued into the early 2nd century after an initial late 1st century usage.

5.2.3 Phase 2

Due to feature [11] being part excavated only it has proved impossible to assign a definitive interpretation as to its function. Its size and shape would suggest that [11] was a pit. Though its specific function is not known, its stratigraphic relationships are revealing and may have a bearing on its design.

Pit [11] fails to respect the vicus boundary feature [08] and this strongly suggests that a major re-organisation and change in function occurred within the excavation area within the mid 2nd century. It is possible that this re-organisation is connected to the contraction (and possible abandonment) through the mid 2nd century of the fort at Chesterfield and the consequent diminishing of the vicus. By slighting the early 2nd century vicus layout in cutting [08], feature [11] would suggest that the vicus development had substantially altered and possibly ceased within the area of excavation. If this is the case, feature [11] may be contemporary with Phase 2 Vicar Lane, (Phase 4b Ellis) and the infilling of the major fort ditch connected to a major re-fitting of the fort, and have a function designed to facilitate this.

5.2.4 Non Phased Pre-Mid-Medieval. Possible Late 1st-Late 2nd Century

The features listed within this group have been assigned a date within the above range due to their stratigraphic relationship with layer (15) (post-late 2nd century/pre middle-medieval). All of the features listed here lay under layer (15) and so pre-dated its deposition. No dating evidence was recovered from any of their fills, and no stratigraphic relationship (other than [13]) existed between these features and any other. It is the authors view that these features date from the late 1st-late 2nd century. The possible exception being post-hole [92], for which no other than that above date is offered. Feature [13] may date from towards the end of the date range suggested above and possibly later, due to its cutting of feature [62] which had also been cut by (and so pre-dated) the mid 2nd century feature [11].

As discussed in the introduction to the interpretation chapter, layer (15) may provide a much narrower date range than this sub-group's heading, sealing the 2nd century activity within the excavation area. If this were the case, then layer (15) would provide a date for numerous undated features. Of particular interest would be the two gully's [28] and [20] for it would suggest that they are contemporary features from the late 1st-2nd century. This would be of importance, for [28] and [20] appear to form the northern and southern wings respectively of an open-ended structure (structure 1) facing west. No evidence of internal post or stake holes were discovered during their excavation, but both features had irregularities in their bases which may hint that they housed a post and panel designed structure. This possibility is strengthened by the citing of post-hole [26], which is situated almost equidistantly between the two features' western termini (3.15m north of [28], 2.9m south of [20]). This would appear to provide a central post within the western arms of the two features, possibly creating a wide, informal (probably open) entrance to the structure. If [26] is associated with the structure then this would necessitate a rigidity of wall support similar to the post and panel design postulated above. Feature [48] to the east, may represent another post-hole connected to the structure above and helped to form the rear eastern wall. The darker, more humid fill of [48] may be due to its mixing with nearby medieval fills through bio and floralturbation.

No relationship was observable (due to 18th/19th century disturbance) between this possible structure and the linear gully [22] (see above) though their differing orientations would suggest that they are not contemporary. If [22] is an early 2nd century boundary division as postulated, then it is possible that structure 1 is contemporary with the early phase 1 activity on site and was a temporary structure (possibly for storage) associated with late 1st century development within the excavation area. It is therefore possible

that this structure was removed during the redevelopment of the area during the early 2nd century.

Feature [92] is an isolated posthole, seemingly un-related with other features on site.

Feature [13] is similarly difficult to interpret, being located principally outside the area of excavation. It is possibly related to [11] and may represent another large pit.

5.2.5 Pre Phase 2, Possible Phase 1

Feature [62] is possibly related to the linear [08] (or [78]), but due to it being largely cut away by the later features [11] and [13] no interpretation is possible.

5.3 Post Late 2nd Century Pre-Medieval

Layer (15), as discussed above, is of crucial importance in any attempt at interpreting features undated through artefact retrieval and stratigraphic relationship. This layer represents a build-up of agricultural soil over the area, effectively sealing earlier deposits beneath. The build-up of this layer denotes a distinct change in land-usage within the area possibly from the end of the 2nd century.

5.4 Medieval

5.4.1 Mid-Late Medieval 13th to 16th Century

Ascribing and interpreting the features within this and the following phase has proved to be problematic. Many of the features within these groups are discrete and bare no obvious relationship with their fellows and contain little evidence within their fills as to their function (other than pit [69]). The pottery recovered from many of their fills is unfortunately poorly dated particularly the prevalent Brackenfield and Burly Hill types (see Cumberpatch below) and this has adversely affected the ability to precisely phase this period.

Feature [36] was one of three features (including [38] and [40]) located in the southwestern corner of Area 1 that extended south beyond the area of excavation. A sherd of 15th-16th century pottery would date this feature to the late medieval period, though other sherds from the 13th-15th century were recovered from its fill (35). It is possible that these sherds were originally from within the fills of feature [40], which lay to the east of [36] and were redeposited within [36] after [40] had been cut by it. [36] is similar in form to the non-phased feature [38] to its west and may be associated with it. It is possible that both [36] and [38] are related to an unseen feature to the south of the excavation area though from the evidence uncovered within Area 1 their function/s remain uncertain.

Feature [40] represents an earlier phase of medieval activity than the 15th/16th century feature [36] and possibly dates from the 13th-15th century. [40] does not appear to have a comparative relationship with any other feature on site and is an isolated pit.

Several large medieval pits (including [71], [108]/[69] and [45]) dominate the central area of excavation. Pottery recovered from fills within these features would suggest that they may be closely dated and some may be contemporary (features [108] and [45] both contained sherds of Brackenfield ware, whilst [71] and [108] both contained similar sherds of locally produced medieval pottery).

Feature [46] definitely pre-dates the pit [45] by which it is cut and therefore does not belong to this possible

phase of activity. It does however, conform to the general citing and general shape of the other pits and denotes a repeated use of the area for pitting throughout the mid-late medieval.

Feature [45] conformed to the prevalent east west orientation of medieval pits within Area 1 and had very similar dimensions to pit [46] which it cut. No evidence for industrial or domestic use (other than the recovery of Brackenfield ware) was discovered during its excavation, though it possibly functioned as a refuse pit. The Brackenfield ware however, may have been redeposited within [45] and originally come from within pit [46].

Feature [24] was the furthest north of the features within this group and did not appear to relate to its fellows either in form or location. Its sides and base were highly irregular and though two sherds of pottery (1 undated Samian ware, and 1 Brackenfield ware) were recovered from its fill, it is possible that [24] is not an archaeological feature but a product of root or animal disturbance.

Feature [71] was a large circular pit within the central grouping of medieval pits. Three of its fills, (74), (76) and (73) contained frequent small-medium fractured sandstone within them, a relatively rare occurrence within the excavation area where most fills were stone free. It is possible that [71] is a waste pit, at least partly backfilled with previously excavated sandstone bedrock and waste from domestic or industrial fires (as evidenced by the charcoal flecking within these fills). Sherds of 13th-14th century pottery dates this feature to the middle medieval period, making this pit amongst the earliest medieval features securely dated by artefact retrieval on site.

Feature [108] would appear to be a middle medieval re-cut of pit [69] as three sherds of pottery dating from this period were recovered from its fill (63), though these sherds could have originally been within an upper truncated fill of [69] subsequently redeposited within (63). These finds however, do help in dating pit [69] as they provide a *terminus-anti-quem* for the feature. Due to the later re-cut [108] respecting the original cut dimensions of [69] it is probable that these two features are comparatively close in date, though due to the nature of [69]'s deposition (below) a distinct break between them is envisaged.

Feature [69] is a re-used pit for the deposition of cess and waste deposits, including burnt material from domestic or industrial fires. Environmental data (*Appendix 4*) recovered from fill (65) contained an abundance of waterlogged plant remains allowing further interpretations on diet, habitation and the environment. [69]'s principal function appears to have been as a cess pit, though this was not its sole purpose. Along with cess, fill (65) contained pot, coal, charcoal and metal fragments intimating that [69] functioned as a multi-used pit for the disposal of waste. Unfortunately, the wood (66) recovered and sampled from alongside (65) was not of a condition to provide any environmental data. A species sample was taken, which may have provided information as to (66)'s function, though due to its degraded condition no species was assigned.

Charred cereal plant remains were recovered from (65) suggesting processing of the cereal crop within the immediate vicinity, though the limited amount of charred fragments recovered would suggest that the initial processing of the crop was undertaken off-site, and only the final preparation into food products occurred on site. The utilisation of corn cockle and corn marigold would suggest a desire (or need) to maximise the sources of available arable crops.

The recovery of nettles, worts and thistles would suggest that the immediate vicinity was dominated by grassland/waste land habitats during [69]'s infilling. This would conform to the documented evidence of the area listing informal rear gardens/plots where domestic duties could be carried out.

Fill (63) contained two large sandstone blocks within its matrix and it is possible that [108] served a similar purpose to pit [71].

5.4.2 Non Phased Post-Late 2nd Century/ Pre-19th Century, Possible Medieval

The features listed within this group have been assigned a date range between the above dates due to their stratigraphic relationship with layers (14) and (15). All of these features were cut prior to the existence of the 19th century layer (14) and post the deposition of layer (15) (post-late 2nd century/pre mid-medieval). No dating evidence was recovered from any of their fills, and they bore no stratigraphic relationship to other features. It is the authors view however, that these features date from the mid-late medieval period.

Feature [84] was part excavated only (see methodology) and any interpretation as to this pits' function is limited. No artefacts were recovered from any of its fills. The square/rectangular plan of [84] may suggest that this was a specific requirement in this features' function, though as [84] continues to the west of Area 1 it is uncertain whether this feature is a pit or a ditch.

Feature [38] was an indeterminate feature, possibly a gully that continued south of the excavation area. As discussed above, both its size and form are closely comparable to feature [36] situated to the east, and though no datable evidence was recovered from its fill it is possible that these two cuts are contemporary 15th/16th century features.

5.5 18th/19th Century

Features [3] and [6] are both early 19th century features and may be related/contemporary. There exists a possibility that [16] (Trench 3) is also related (at least in function) to the similarly dated features within Area 1. The absence of any *in-situ* structures (walls, etc) relating to any of the post-medieval occupation on the site (see section 2 above) may indicate that features [03], [06] and [16] served as robber trenches designed to remove useful building materials (stone, and possibly red brick) for re-use elsewhere prior to the area being levelled (as shown by layer (14)) sometime in the mid-19th century.

Feature [43] lies under layer (14) and so pre-dates this 19th century layer and would appear through its humid fill matrix to be contemporary with the features listed above and could possibly have fulfilled a similar function.

Layer (14) appears to represent a major levelling and remodelling event that took place during the 19th century, possibly connected to the work undertaken just prior to 1849 (see section 2 above). Context (14)s matrix contained frequent building and rubbish debris and may in part be the demolished remnants of 18th/19th century structures upon the site, including the structure listed within the overview section. Layer (14) appears to have been used to level the natural north-south slope of the ground surface. At the northern edge of excavation (the highest point within Area 1) layer (14) is 0.02m deep and rapidly gains in depth as it proceeds southwards to a depth of 0.55m. This remodelling of the land reflects the specific areas changing functions as the varying occupants requirements dictated.

5.6 20th/21st Century

Feature [80] is a modern trial trench or sondage, possibly cut this century.

6. Conclusion

A total of 29 features were excavated during the archaeological works undertaken at The Old Feathers public house, ranging in date from the 1st century AD to the present day. No evidence of site continuity between the 2nd century AD and the middle medieval period was discovered during the excavations. Three principal periods of archaeological impact were discovered at the site: Roman 1st to 2nd century, mid-late medieval, and 18th/19th century.

Two flint blades were recovered during excavations within Area 1. Both flints belong to the core and blade technology prevalent during both the Late Mesolithic and Neolithic periods (pers. comm. Andrew Myers). Based on the evidence uncovered during excavations at The Ibis Hotel site by Foundations Archaeology (1999; SMR 3989) there was substantial Mesolithic activity within the specific locale and both of the flints described below may well belong to this period. Their deposition within features [33] and [28] may be circumstance, and due to their being redeposited. A residual flint scatter (emanating from the Ibis Hotel area) over the area of The Old Feathers car park is envisaged.

From the evidence uncovered during excavations at The Old Feathers, the vicus associated with the Roman fort at Chesterfield extended further to the south than was previously known. As discussed within the overview section, The Old Feathers site occupied an area sandwiched between known and unknown areas of vicus settlement. Excavations within Chesterfield had previously located the vicus to the north of The Old Feathers (conducted by UMAU, NDAT, etc. See section 2 above), though no evidence for the vicus was discovered during excavations conducted at the Ibis Hotel site to the south of The Old Feathers.

The excavations within the confines of The Old Feathers car park have enabled a greater understanding of the southern extent of the Chesterfield vicus. Vicus development within the area of excavation began in the late 1st century AD with a north south boundary, possibly associated with structures fronting Ryknield Street to the west. A temporary structure to the west of this boundary was removed prior to or during an early 2nd century redevelopment of the area. This involved a slight re-alignment of the existing rear boundary and the introduction of east-west property divisions. This situation existed until the mid 2nd century when the vicus contracted (and possibly ended) due to the changing function of the Roman fort.

The continuance of several 1st/2nd century features to the south of Area 1 would suggest a further southerly expanse of the vicus. If the boundary feature [08] is a rear boundary to structures fronting Ryknield Street, then its orientation may suggest that any further vicus occupation to the south of The Old Feathers would be to the west of the Ibis Hotel. This may explain the lack of evidence from that site for the vicus in the area, and have implications on further work to the south of Lordsmill Street.

There is a substantial medieval impact within the area of excavation, beginning in the 13th century and continuing into the 15/16th century, principally in the form of large discrete pits. Two of these pits were partly excavated and interpretation of these features must remain limited. Due to an environmental sample taken from one of these [69] a greater understanding of the immediate area was possible.

It would appear that the vicinity of The Old Feathers was dominated by grassland and waste ground habitats during the middle-late medieval period. It is probable that this represents informal rear gardens/plots where domestic activities were carried out. Evidence for food preparation and disposal on site suggests that the domestic occupation was situated close by. Fruits and cereals dominated the plant remains discovered within pit [69] and these probably formed a large part of the diet for the local inhabitants.

No evidence for medieval structures was discovered and it would appear that the area of excavation was

not utilised for habitation during the medieval period, though it seems highly likely to have been within a short distance of a dwelling/s. Instead, it would appear that the area was used mainly for domestic rubbish/cess disposal. The recovery of 13th to 16th century pottery denotes a long and repeated usage throughout the mid-late medieval period.

There was also a substantial 18th and 19th century impact upon the excavation area, providing evidence of a large scale redevelopment of the area within the mid-19th century. No evidence for any of the post-medieval structures recorded in maps of the period were discovered during the excavations and several of the features from the 18-19th century may have been intended to remove the building materials for re-use elsewhere.

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Appendix 1: Summary of Flint Artefacts

By P. Noble

Flint 1: measured 14mm long and 8mm wide, and was rectangular in shape with a tri-faceted upper surface and a concave reverse. The flint was heavily burnt and was broken at both ends, some detrimental flaking and cracking of the external surface has taken place due to the overall poor condition of the flint. Some fine re-touching of one edge may have taken place, though due to condition described above this was uncertain.

Flint 2: measured 54mm long and 12mm wide, and was concave in shape, with a surviving very light brown cortex on one surface. The flint was light-mid brown and partly translucent. Rings of percussion are visible along the flint's length, as is evidence for fine retouching along one edge.

Appendix 2: Romano-British Pottery

The pottery has been recorded according to the study group for Roman Pottery guidelines, using codes currently in use at Trent & Peak Archaeological Trust for sites in the East Midlands. Catalogue tables use sherd count and weight and rim percentages. The ceramics are catalogued in Excel spreadsheets (*Appendix 6*).

A Factual data

93 sherds (1284g.) of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the excavations dating to the late first to mid-second century AD. As is typical of Chesterfield the pottery was eroded by soil conditions and many of the sherds had lost their original surfaces, presenting soft and friable conditions. The average sherd weight, 13.7g, is typical of Chesterfield pottery groups, previous excavations having averaged a sherd weight of 11.9g (Connelly and Walker 2001).

Fabrics

The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into fabric groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. A sample of the sherds was further examined under a x30 binocular microscope to verify these divisions. The size of the sample was as large as was felt necessary for each fabric group.

Colour: narrative description only

Hardness: after Peacock 1977
soft - can be scratched by finger nail
hard - can be scratched with penknife blade
very hard - cannot be scratched

Feel: tactile qualities
smooth - no irregularities
rough - irregularities can be felt
sandy - grains can be felt across the surface
leathery - smoothed surface like polished leather
soapy - smooth feel like soap

Fracture: visual texture of fresh break, after Orton 1980.
smooth - flat or slightly curved with no visible irregularities
irregular - medium, fairly widely spaced irregularities
finely irregular - small, fairly closely spaced irregularities
laminar - stepped effect
hackly - large and generally angular irregularities

Inclusions:

Type: after Peacock 1977

Frequency: indicated on a 4-point scale - abundant, moderate, sparse and rare where abundant is a break packed with an inclusion and rare is a break with only one or two of an inclusion.

Sorting: after Orton 1980

Shape: angular - convex shape, sharp corners
subangular - convex shape, rounded corners
rounded - convex shape no corners
platey - flat

Size: subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure
fine - 0.1-0.25mm
medium - 0.25-0.5
coarse - 0.5-1mm
very coarse - over 1mm

Fabrics

AMP: amphora

BB1: black or dark grey. Hard with smooth feel and granular fracture. Abundant, well-sorted, medium-sized, subangular quartz. Black burnished ware category 1 (Williams 1977, Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, South western BB1 unless otherwise stated).

CT: shell- or calcite-gritted wares

FLA1: pale yellow. cream or sometimes pink sometimes with grey core. Slipped, sometimes firing to darker yellow or greyish hue. Often hard and smooth but sometimes softer with powdery feel and very finely irregular fracture. Rare, ill-sorted, fine, subangular quartz; moderate, ill-sorted, rounded, red, brown and black inclusions (possibly clay pellets and some oxides).

GRB1: grey wares. A group of grey fabrics tempered with moderate quantities of medium-sized quartz not otherwise subdivided due to the endless variations in the attributes and impossibility of either consistently identifying subgroups or identifying their sources. Distinctive fabrics are given their own code once recognised.

OA/B: oxidised wares

OAA5: orange to brownish orange sometimes with darker? self-slip. Hard to fairly soft (affected by soil conditions) with sandy feel and finely irregular fracture. Moderate to abundant, well-sorted, fine/medium borderline, subrounded quartz; rare, fine/medium borderline. subrounded black inclusions (iron oxides). Chesterfield fine oxidised fabric. Differs texturally from Derby products in having more abundant quartz and no red/brown inclusions.

OAA7: pale orange with grey core. Hard with smooth feel and fracture. Sparse, ill-sorted, fine to medium, rounded quartz, sparse, ill-sorted, medium to coarse, rounded, black/brown inclusions.

OAA8: orange. Soft with powdery feel and finely irregular fracture. Sparse to moderate, well-sorted, fine to medium, subangular quartz and sparse, ill-sorted, fine to medium, rounded, brown to orange inclusions.

OBA5: pale orange, sometimes nearly buff, with greyish buff core and internal surfaces. Soft with sandy feel and irregular fracture. Abundant, well-sorted, fine, subrounded quartz, moderate, ill-sorted, fine to coarse, rounded, brown to orange inclusions.

OBA7: pale buff. Very soft with powdery feel and finely irregular fracture. Sparse, ill-sorted, fine to medium, subrounded quartz and rare, ill-sorted, fine to medium, rounded, red/brown inclusions. Possibly a white, flagon fabric with abraded cream surfaces.

OBA8: cream with grey core. Hard with smooth feel and conchoidal fracture. Abundant, well-sorted, subvisible quartz and rare, ill-sorted, fine to coarse, rounded, red/brown inclusions. Similar to Derby white ware products.

OBA9: buff. Soft with sandy feel and fairly smooth fracture. Moderate, well-sorted, fine, subangular quartz and moderate, ill-sorted, fine to medium, rounded brown/orange inclusions.

OBA13: buff with grey core and light brown slip or colour coat. Soft with powdery feel and irregular fracture. Rare, coarse, subangular quartzite, moderate, ill-sorted, fine to coarse, rounded, brown inclusions.

Chronology

The assemblage came from five contexts, the largest group from fill 09. 09 contained a Hadrianic-Antonine bowl form: an everted rim bowl with stubby flange, so can be dated to the second century. The lack of BB1 may indicate an early date in that period. Fill 10 contained undiagnostic bodysherds apart from a BB1 jar rim of mid-second century date. Fill 100 contained much of a small jar or beaker of Flavian-Trajanic type and no other diagnostic sherds and fill 4 yielded small, abraded sherds of a flanged hemi-spherical bowl of Hadrianic to Antonine date. A local mortarium rim sherd from 35 dates to the late first or early second century. The absence of any Derbyshire ware sherds suggests a date range in the Hadrianic and very early Antonine period prior to the arrival of Derbyshire ware in any quantity.

Sources of pottery

The pottery was predominantly locally produced wares with a small amount of traded wares such as BB1, samian and amphora.

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Appendix 3: Medieval and later Pottery

Introduction

The pottery assemblage from the excavations at The Old Feathers public house in Chesterfield was examined by the author on 19th November 2003. It consisted of 160 sherds of pottery weighing 4870 grams and represented a maximum of 145 vessels. The details of the assemblage are summarised in Table 1 (*Appendix 6*).

Type series

Recent work on pottery from north-east and central Derbyshire has resulted in a number of papers which cover the medieval wares of the area, including the majority of types recovered from The Old Feathers. In view of this a full type series has been deemed unnecessary in this report and the notes which follow cover the material with reference to the published sources.

The site of Brackenfield, the source of the majority of the sherds of medieval pottery, lies to the south of Chesterfield and appears to have been the source of much of the pottery used in the town (Cumberpatch 2003a). The dating of the site is extremely poorly understood as excavations were limited to two of the kilns and produced little independently datable material. In addition the loss of virtually all of the site records means that the remaining assemblage is effectively unstratified and the conventionally ascribed date of c. 1400 should be treated with caution until it can be verified with reference to a substantial stratified and independently dated group of material.

The sherds of Coal Measures Whiteware and Coal Measures Purple ware appear to originate in South Yorkshire and their presence amongst the assemblage is somewhat surprising, given the existence of a strong local pottery industry. The dating of these sherds is more secure than that of Brackenfield wares as the types are known from a variety of sites in Yorkshire which has allowed the date range of the two types to be determined with reasonable reliability (Cumberpatch 2003b).

The presence of sherds from the Burley Hill potteries is also of interest in that the site lies between Derby and Nottingham, some considerable distance from Chesterfield. The date range, like that for Brackenfield, must be treated with a degree of caution, for the reasons set out elsewhere (Cumberpatch, in press 1). In the case of both the South Yorkshire and Burley Hill material, it is presumably Chesterfield's role as an important market place that led to their appearance in the town, either as containers of some more valuable product or accompanying visitors to the town. The same may apply to the unidentified fine Whiteware (context 63) which does not appear to be a local type.

Other medieval wares are of unknown, but probably local, origin. The question of the location of potteries in Derbyshire is one that requires further attention, as outlined at greater length elsewhere (Cumberpatch, in press 2).

The 18th and 19th century pottery was of well recognised types and included both tablewares and utilitarian wares. The types and date ranges are summarised in Table 1.

The origin of the tablewares (Creamware type, Pearlware, Whiteware, Cane Coloured wares, Mocha ware and slip banded wares) is unknown, but such wares were widely manufactured both in Derbyshire and in neighbouring counties and evidence from Sheffield and Durham suggests that in the later 18th and 19th centuries such pottery is likely to have been produced within the local region. Full market penetration by Staffordshire wares (at least in north-east England) seems to have been delayed until the later 19th and early 20th centuries.

The utilitarian wares are dominated by two groups of material; Brown Salt Glazed Stonewares and Brown Glazed Coarsewares. The former type was manufactured widely in north-east Derbyshire and north Nottinghamshire, most notable for the present case at Brampton near Chesterfield. It seems likely that this is the source for the vessels from The Old Feathers, but a full study of the industry has yet to be carried out and, at present, it is difficult to distinguish Brampton wares from those of potteries in Bolsover, Alfreton, Nottingham, Derby and other places.

Brown Glazed Coarsewares are ubiquitous in assemblages dating to the period between the 17th and early 20th centuries. The range of vessel forms is well known and the organisation of production relatively well understood, at least in outline but there have been few detailed studies of the typology of the vessels or of distinctions between the fabrics. Chronology is thus based largely on an intuitive knowledge of the material and dates are assigned according to poorly defined technological characteristics.

Discussion

The small amount of pottery from the site means that conclusions pertaining to its significance are of limited validity, but a number of observations can be made. The relationships between the pottery and other aspects of the site are dealt with in the body of the report.

The range of medieval wares tends to support the importance of Brackenfield as a supplier of pottery to the town. Lacking a clear date for activity at this site, it is not possible to determine when this began or how long it lasted. Comparison with other medieval market towns such as Doncaster suggest that an early phase of production within the town was followed by a move out to the countryside during the 13th century, but how far this model can be applied to Chesterfield is unclear at present.

Although the assemblage is small in size and generally late in date, it is of significance in that it represents an additional body of data that can be compared with other, larger, groups from the town. There are indications, for example, of considerable differences between The Old Feathers material and that from the excavations at Durrant Road (Cumberpatch, unpublished), but whether these are the result of chronological differences or some other factor or factors is unclear. Such questions, although critical to the understanding of urban archaeology, are not of a type that can be addressed in the context of a contract-tender system of organisation in which research is not permitted.

The 18th and 19th century pottery assemblage, although larger than that of medieval date is similarly of greatest significance when considered in relation to groups of comparable date and equal or greater size which have the potential to contribute information on subjects such as the relationship of local potteries to those of Staffordshire, to patterns of procurement and the chronology of change within different spheres of consumption (domestic tablewares, utilitarian and coarsewares etc). Significant bodies of material exist which relate to such questions but these are, at present, unpublished.

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Appendix 4: Environmental Assessment

Summary

The project background

Excavations at The Old Feathers public house have revealed several features dating to the Roman and medieval periods. These include thin shallow gullies from the 1st-2nd centuries and medieval pits. The fill (context 65) of one of the medieval pits [69] consisted of an organic silt clay. This report presents the results of plant macrofossil assessment carried out on context 65.

Methods

Material from context 65 was floated and sieved with each residue and flot retained and described. The flots were scanned for waterlogged and charred plant macrofossils, which were counted and identified by comparison with modern reference material.

Results

Waterlogged plant remains were abundant and well preserved. Seeds and fruitstones of berries dominated the assemblage and these, in combination with the large amounts of faecal concretions in the residue, indicate that pit [69] was a cess pit. Few charred remains were present.

Project background

Location

The site is located at The Old Feathers public house, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

Objective

The objective was to carry out a plant macrofossil assessment of context 65 in order to determine the nature, extent and potential of the macrofossil evidence.

Dates

Plant macrofossil analysis was carried out between 29th November and 8th December 2003. This report was prepared on the 10th December 2003.

Personnel

The plant macrofossil assessment and report preparation were undertaken by Dr Charlotte O'Brien.

Methods statement

Five litres of sediment from context 65 were manually floated and sieved through a 500 µm mesh. The residues were retained, described and scanned using a magnet for ferrous fragments. The flots were dried slowly and scanned at x 40 magnification for waterlogged and charred botanical remains. Identification of these was undertaken by comparison with modern reference material held in the Environmental Laboratory at Archaeological Services, University of Durham. Total numbers of remains per species were logged and the results were interpreted in their archaeological and palaeoecological contexts. Plant taxonomic nomenclature follows Stace (1997).

Results

Waterlogged plant remains were abundant and well preserved in context 65. Fruitstones of blackberries and raspberries dominated, with nettle and cinquefoil/wild strawberry achenes also abundant. Arable weed seeds were frequent, particularly those of corn marigold which occurred both charred and uncharred. The few other charred remains which were present included a grain of oat and barley and a corn cockle seed.

The residue was dominated by faecal concretions, but smaller amounts of charcoal, metal fragments, pot and bone were also present. Some modern roots occurred in the flot matrix and insect remains were frequent and well preserved. The contents of the residue and flot are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Contents of the residue and flot from context 65

Context	65
<i>Volume processed (ml)</i>	5000
<i>Volume of flot (ml)</i>	400
<i>Volume of flot assessed (ml)</i>	200
<i>Residue contents (relative abundance)</i>	
Charcoal	1
Metal fragments	1
Pot	1
Bone	2
Faecal concretions	4
<i>Flot matrix (relative abundance)</i>	
Charcoal	2
Coal	1
Modern roots	2
Insect remains	2
<i>Charred remains (total counts)</i>	
(a) <i>Agrostemma githago</i> (Corn cockle)	1
(a) <i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> (Corn marigold)	2
(c) <i>Avena</i> sp grain (Oat species)	1
(c) <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> (Barley)	1
<i>Waterlogged remains (relative abundance)</i>	
(a) <i>Chenopodium album</i> (Fathen)	2
(a) <i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> (Corn marigold)	5
(a) <i>Valerianella dentata</i> (Narrow-fruited cornsalad)	2
(g) <i>Stellaria</i> sp (Stichwort)	1
(r) <i>Lapsana communis</i> (Nipplewort)	2
(r) <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> (Knotweed)	1
(r) <i>Sonchus</i> c.f. <i>oleraceus</i> (Smooth sow-thistle)	1
(r) <i>Urtica dioica</i> (Common nettle)	4
(r) <i>Viola</i> sp (Pansy)	1
(t) <i>Prunus spinosa</i> (Sloe)	3
(t) <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. (Bramble)	5
(t) <i>Rubus idaeus</i> (Wild raspberry)	5
(t) <i>Sambucus nigra</i> (Elder)	1
(w) <i>Conium maculatum</i> (Hemlock)	1
(x) Lamiaceae sp. (Mint family)	1
(x) <i>Potentilla/Fragaria</i> sp (Cinquefoil)	4

(a: arable weed; c: cultivated plant; g: grassland; r: ruderal;
t: trees/shrubs; w: wetland; x: wide niche)

Relative abundance is based on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

Discussion

The clay, waterlogged nature of the sediment has allowed the preservation of a large assemblage of uncharred plant remains. These are dominated by seeds and fruitstones of many edible plants including blackberries, raspberries, elderberries and sloes. These remains in combination with the large amount of faecal concretions present in the residue indicate the main function of feature [69] was as a cess pit. Charcoal, coal, pot, bone and small amounts of metal fragments also occurred in the

residue and flot which may suggest that the pit was less frequently used for the disposal of waste including that from domestic fires.

The few charred plant remains which occurred included a grain of oat and barley and seeds of the arable weeds corn cockle and corn marigold. Although low in number, these macrofossils indicate the cultivation of cereal crops in the area and the large number of waterlogged arable weeds may suggest that processing of the crop occurred on site. However, crop processing produces large numbers of chaff fragments (Hillman, 1981) and none was recovered from context 65. This may indicate that the crop was brought to the site in a part-processed condition and the absence of chaff also confirms that the pit was not used for the disposal of waste from agricultural processes. The occurrence of barley and oats would be consistent with a medieval date for the pits as these were common cereals in northern England during that period (Huntley & Stallibrass, 1995).

A number of waterlogged plant remains which indicate the presence of nearby grassland and wasteground also occurred. These include an abundance of nettles and lesser amounts of stichwort, nipplewort, knotweed, pansies and sow-thistles. The occurrence of hemlock may indicate the presence of damp ground, however this taxon also has strong associations with cultivated and disturbed ground habitats (Godwin, 1975).

Conclusions

The dominance of faecal concretions and macrofossil remains of edible plants indicates that the main function of pit [69] was as a cess pit. It may also occasionally have been used for the disposal of domestic waste.

Oat and barley appear to have been cultivated in the area and some processing may have occurred at the site. The natural local environment would have been dominated by grassland and waste ground habitats.

References

Godwin, H.(1975). *History of the British Flora - a factual basis for phytogeography*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press. pp 541.

Hillman, G. C. (1981) Reconstructing crop processing from the charred remains of crops. In: Mercer, R. (ed) *Farming practice in British Prehistory*. p123-62.

Huntley, J. P. & Stallibrass, S. (1995) *Plant and vertebrate remains from archaeological sites in northern England: data reviews and future directions*. Research Report No. 4. Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland, Durham. pp259.

Stace, C. (1997) *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press. pp1130.

Appendix 5: Figures



Figure 7: General shot of Area 1 facing north showing [03] with scale



Figure 8: General shot of Area 1 facing south

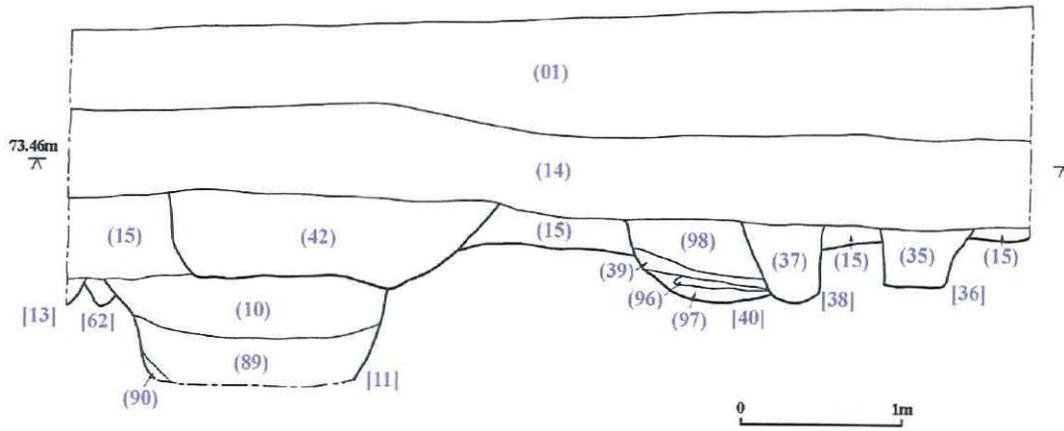


Figure 9: North facing section of Area 1

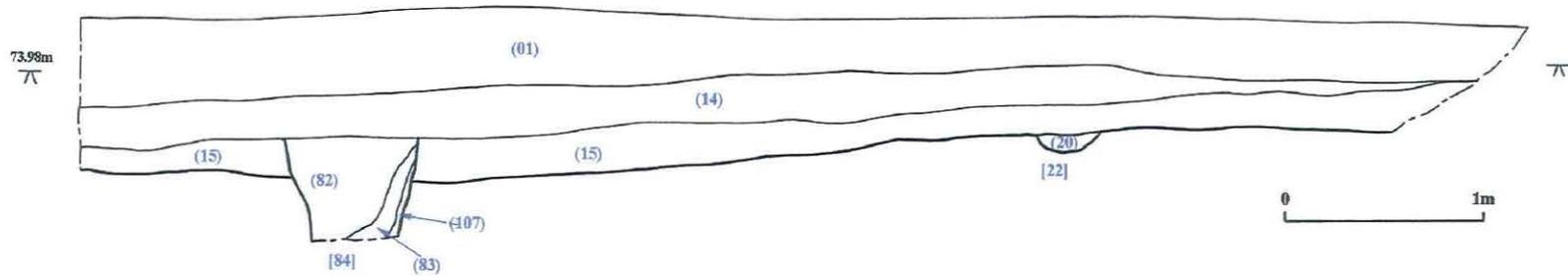


Figure 10: East facing section of Area 1

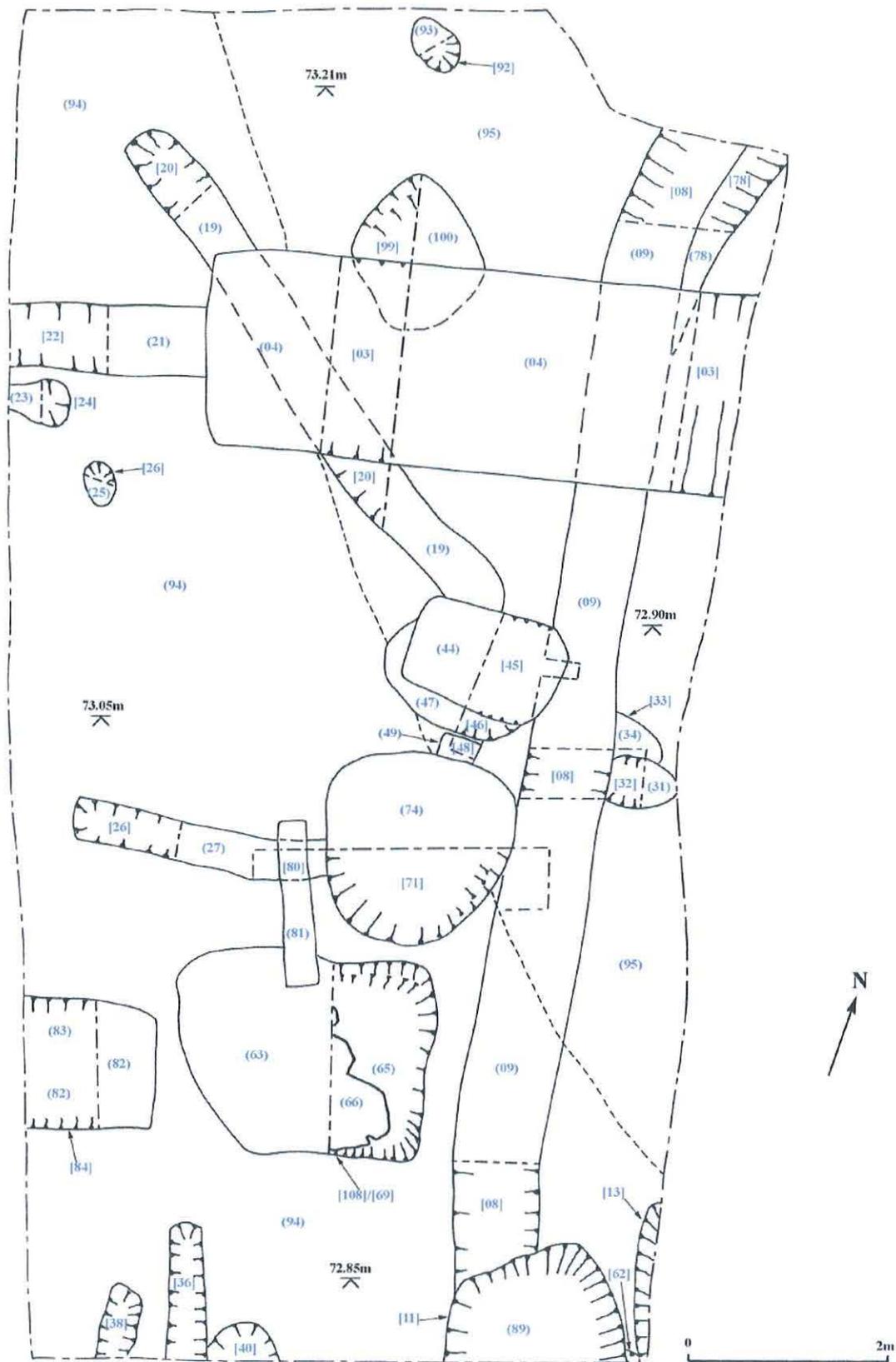


Figure 11: Area 1 site plan

Appendix 6: Artefact Tables

Fill	Fabric	Sherd count	Sherd weight	Part	Form	Rim diam	Rim %	Decoration	Comments
9	OBA5	11	72	rim sherd and body sherd	Everted rim bowl with stubby cordon outside lower body	15	2		bowl with short, stubby flange/cordon outside lower body. This is represent by a body sherd only invites comparison with a form of bowl made at Derby and dated to the Hadrianic to early Antonine period (Brassington 1980, 383-4, Dool <i>et al.</i> 1985, table 6 nos. 28 and 31).
9	OBA5	1	9	rim sherd	Plain-rim platter	22	2		Late first to early second century type
9	AMP	7	212	bodysherd	Amphora				
9	OAA5	1	26	rim sherd	Flat-rim bowl	24	7	Single groove inside edge of rim	t Derby this form occurred in the Flavian - rajanic kiln and also in similarly dated eposits at Wall (Brassington 1971, no.17; ound 1983, fig. 12 no. 61).
9	FLA	11	46	bodysherd	Closed vessel				Prob beaker
9	OBA9	2	96	base sherd and bodysherd					
9	OAA8	1	28	Simple base sherd and bodysherd					
9	OBA13	2	27	bodysherd	Narrow-necked jar				Narrow necked vessel

9	OAA	1	16	bodysherd					
9	GRB1	1	181	Simple base sherd					
9	GRB1	1	14	bodysherd					
9	GRB1	3	228	Turned base sherd					
9	GRB1	1	17	rim sherd	Everted rim	12	16		
10	FLA1	1	10	Bodysherd					
10	OAA5	2	7	Bodysherd	Closed vessel			Single groove outside body	
10	GRB1	1	16	Bodysherd					
10	GRB1	1	15	base sherd and bodysherd					
10	OBA8	2	14	bodysherd					
10	BB1	1	23	rim sherd and body sherd	Necked jar	20	8	burnished wavy line outside neck	BB1 jar Gillam 1976 no.3 mid- to late second century but wavy line decoration less common after mid-second century
23	TS	1		scrap tiny					
31	FLA1	1	1	bodysherd					
35	M	1	31	rim sherd	Bead and flange mortarium	18	2		
44	OBA5	5	11	bodysherd+flange	Flanged hemi-spherical bowl				flanged, hemi-spherical bowl. Present at Rossington Bridge with painted decoration and dated A.D. 140-200 (Buckland et al

									1980, 156). Made at Derby Racecourse and at the Derbyshire ware kilns of Holbrook and Lumb brook (Kay 1962, fig. 12 nos 10-12; Brassington and Webster 1988, fig. 4 no. 35). Dated Hadrianic to Antonine (Dool <i>et al</i> 1985, 95 no. 36).
63	OAA8	1	21	Simple base sherd and bodysherd					Base rough
63	CT MED?			Simple base sherd		1	30		c34cm diam.? Mediaeval.
72	TS	1	11	bodysherd	Bowl			Decorated	
73	OBA5	3	13	bodysherd					
100	OBA7	26	126	rim sherd and body sherd	Jar or beaker with everted rim	12	60		
100	FLA1	1	6	bodysherd					Burnt
100	GRB1	1	6	bodysherd					
100	OAA7?	1	1	scrap					

Area / Trench	Context	Feature	Type	Number	Weight	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
Area 1	4	3	Slip banded ware	1	15	1	Recessed base	Jar	Rilled body with blue and brown slip decoration	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Stoneware	1	8	1	Rim	?Mug	Brown glaze blobs on green background	C19th - C20th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	55	1	Ring foot base	Bowl	Rural scene with two sheep and a shepherd	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	23	1	Ring foot base	Bowl	Island' pattern internally, possibly Two Temples externally	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	10	1	Footring base	U/ID	Farmyard scene with a cow	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	2	1	Recessed base	Flatware	?Two Temples	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	3	1	Rim	Bowl	Geometric frieze	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	2	1	BS	U/ID	Unidentifiable design	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	6	1	Rim	Bowl	Floral group	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	14	1	Ring foot base	U/ID	Brown transfer printed floral group	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	2	1	Handle	Cup	Very pale blue frieze internally and on handle	LC18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Whiteware	1	4	1	BS	U/ID	Unidentifiable design	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Whiteware	1	22	1	Rim	Plate	Willow III border	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Whiteware	1	3	1	BS	Flatware	Small part of blue transfer printed design	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Transfer Printed Whiteware	1	3	1	Handle	Cup	Transfer printed frieze down handle	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Unglazed Red earthenware	1	142	1	BS	?Jar	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	Unglazed red earthenware
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	2	99	2	Ring foot base	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	Possibly from the same vessel
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	1	10	1	Ring foot base	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	1	46	1	Ring foot base	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	1	16	1	Rim	Dish	Undecorated	C19th	Narrow flat rim
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	2	31	2	Rim	Bowl	Moulded blobs on top of everted rim	C19th	Smoothly curved

Area 1	4	3	Mocha ware	1	10	1	Rim	Bowl	Green chevron rouletted band below rim, black mocha tree on a red-brown band with thin brown slip line	C19th	White ware with mocha design
Area 1	4	3	Porcelain	1	2	1	Rim	Saucer	Hand painted red line and curves with blue dots internally	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Porcelain	1	12	1	Recessed base	Flatware	Hand painted blue design; too small to determine design	C18th - C19th	Possibly a Chinese import
Area 1	4	3	Slip banded ware	2	6	1	BS	U/ID	Salmon-brown and dark-brown lines around vessel	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Slip banded ware	1	1	1	BS	U/ID	Brown slip lines and pale blue bands	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Slip banded ware	1	12	1	BS	U/ID	Red-brown and dark-brown slip lines	C19th	

Area / Trench	Context	Feature	Type	Number	Weight	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	2	1	Rim	U/ID	Double impressed grooves	C18th - C19th	Everted rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	18	1	Base	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Cane coloured slip banded ware	1	22	1	Rim	Bowl	White band and brown lines around vessel	C19th	Sharply everted flat rim
Area 1	4	3	Cane Coloured ware	1	24	1	Recessed base	Jar	Undecorated	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	19	1	Rim	Jar	Undecorated	C13th - C14th	Possibly local, but may be a Don Valley product
Area 1	4	3	Creamware type	1	38	1	Rim	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	Cream finish, but a Whiteware form; everted rounded rim
Area 1	4	3	Creamware type	1	34	1	Rim	Plate	Undecorated	C19th	Cream finish but a Whiteware form; wide flat rim
Area 1	4	3	Creamware type	1	7	1	Rim	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	Cream finish but resembles whiteware; plain rim
Area 1	4	3	Creamware type	4	25	4	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	EC19th	Very pale cream colour
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	15	1	Plate	Plate	Wavy, moulded edge with blue feathered paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	8	1	Plate	Plate	Wavy edge, sharp moulding and blue feather-edged paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	7	1	Plate	Plate	Wavy edge, sharp moulding, blue feather-edged paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	2	8	1	Plate	Plate	Wavy edge, moulded rim and blue feathered paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	4	1	Plate	Plate	Wavy edge, moulded rim and blue feathered paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	6	1	Plate	Plate	Low relief moulding and blue feather-edge paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Edged ware	1	5	1	Plate	Dish	Smooth rim with blue feather-edged paint	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Green stoneware	1	57	1	BS	Bottle	Undecorated	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Green stoneware	1	21	1	Base	U/ID	Undecorated	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Mocha ware	1	9	1	Rim	Bowl	Blue mocha tree on white band, flanked by brown slip lines	C19th	Cane coloured ware body

			Glazed Stoneware							C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	18	1	BS	U/ID	Stamped designs; a line of circles and stylised vegetation	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	8	1	BS	U/ID	Stamped designs; a line of circles and stylised vegetation	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	14	1	BS	U/ID	Groups of stamped dots	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	14	1	BS/Handle	U/ID	Strap handle with linear grooves	C18th - C19th	

Area / Trench	Context	Feature	Type	Number	Weight	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
Area 1	4	3	?Transfer Printed ware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Diffuse purple design; too small to determine motif	C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Glazed Coarseware	8	1056	7	Base	Pancheon	Brown glaze internally	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Glazed Coarseware	8	344	8	BS	?Pancheon	Brown glaze internally	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Glazed Coarseware	4	452	4	Rim	Pancheon	Brown glaze internally	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	418	1	Base	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	Blistered where linear voids exist in the walls and base
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	129	1	Base	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	188	1	Profile	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	Flat base and walls that curve inwards, ending in a rounded inturned rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	129	1	Rim	Bowl	Stamped geometric designs around vessel	C18th - C19th	Sharply everted rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	23	1	Rim	Bowl	Undecorated with groove on outer edge of rim	C18th - C19th	Sharply everted rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	14	1	Rim	Bowl	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	Small everted rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	85	1	Rim	Handled bowl	Stamped designs around bowl; stylised vegetation	C18th - C19th	Sharp everted rim with narrow strap handle
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	28	1	Base	Open vessel	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	12	1	Base	Open vessel	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	16	1	Base	?Mug/jug	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	14	1	Base	?Mug/jug	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	40	2	Rim	Bowl	Incised double groove and low-relief rouletting around rim	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	59	2	Rim	Bowl	Incised double groove around vessel	C18th - C19th	Rounded, slightly overhanging rim
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	24	1	Rim	Bowl	Stamped designs around vessel	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	5	1	Rim	U/ID	Grooves below rim	C18th - C19th	
Area 1	4	3	Brown Salt	13	93	13	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th -	

											everted rim
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	1	4	1	Rim	Bowl	Undecorated	C19th	Plain rim
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	3	13	1	Recessed base	Flatware	Undecorated	C19th	Heavily crazed
Area 1	4	3	Whiteware	1	22	1	Base	Flatware	Undecorated	C19th	

Area / Trench	Context	Feature	Type	Number	Weight	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
Area 1	4	3	Derbyshire Soft Orange Sandy ware type	1	12	1	Rim	Jar	Undecorated	?C13th - C14th	Sharply everted rim
Area 1	23	24	Brackenfield 001	1	2	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	c. 1400 (?)	Date not certain; see Cumberpatch 2003a
Area 1	35	36	Brackenfield 001	1	5	1	BS	U/ID	Green glazed externally	c. 1400 (?)	
Area 1	35	36	Brackenfield 001 type	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Green glazed externally	c. 1400 (?)	
Area 1	35	36	Coal Measures Purple ware	1	27	1	BS	Jar/cistern	Five parallel incised grooves around vessel with thick purple glaze externally	C15th - C16th	Rawmarsh (Rotherham) type
Area 1	35	36	Reduced Sandy ware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Green glazed externally	C13th - C15th	
Area 1	44	45	Brackenfield 001	1	1	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	c. 1400 (?)	
Area 1	63	108	Brackenfield 001	1	9	1	BS	U/ID	Bright green streaky glaze externally	c. 1400 (?)	
Area 1	63	108	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	11	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	Medieval	
Area 1	63	108	Unidentified fine whiteware	1	5	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	Medieval	Bears a superficial resemblance to Stamford ware but is sandier in texture
Area 1	81	80	?Sanitary ceramic ware	1	21	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C20th	
Area 1	81	80	Brackenfield 001	5	38	5	BS	U/ID	Bright green streaky glaze externally	c. 1400 (?)	Date not certain; see Cumberpatch 2003a
Area 1	81	80	Tile	1	9	1	BS	Wall tile	Undecorated	C20th	
Trench 1	7	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	32	1	Base	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Trench 1	7	6	Later Medieval Sandy ware	1	11	1	Base	U/ID	Dull brown glaze internally	C15th - C16th	A local buff sandy ware containing quartz grit and black, non-crystalline grit
Trench 2	14		Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	104	1	Rim	Pancheon	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Trench 2	14		Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	51	1	BS	?Pancheon	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Trench 2	14		Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	70	1	Base	Bowl	Undecorated	C18th - C19th	
Trench	14		Brown Salt Glazed	1	7	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th -	

2			Stoneware							C19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	42	1	Base	?Mug	Groove defined foot	C18th - EC19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	24	2	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C18th - EC19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	16	1	Rim	Dish	Undecorated	C18th - EC19th	Flat everted rim
Trench 3	17	16	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	57	1	Base	U/ID	Groove defined foot	C18th - EC19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Coal Measures Purple type	3	44	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C15th - C16th	?Local
Trench 3	17	16	Creamware	2	14	1	Rim	Plate	Undecorated	LC18th - C19th	Flat everted rim; very pale Creamware
Trench 3	17	16	Edged ware	1	22	1	Rim	Plate	Wavy edge, low-relief moulding, blue feather-edged paint	LC18th - EC19th	

Area / Trench	Context	Feature	Type	Number	Weight	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
Trench 3	17	16	Pearlware	1	8	1	BS	Plate	Part of Willow III border	LC18th - C19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Pearlware (?)	3	49	1	Ring foot base	Bowl	Stylised floral design internally, stylised oriental landscape externally	LC18th - C19th	No mark, but an impressed circle in the centre of the underside of the base
Trench 3	17	16	Whiteware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	C19th	
Trench 3	17	16	Whiteware	1	6	1	BS	U/ID	Stylised insect design (?) internally	C19th	
	74	71	Burley Hill 001	4	48	1	BS	U/ID	Green glaze externally with pitting	C13th - C14th	see Cumberpatch 2003c
	74	71	Oxidised Sandy ware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	Undecorated	Medieval	Very soft and heavily abraded
			Total	160	4870	145					

Table 1. Pottery from excavations at The Old Feathers, Chesterfield