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PATERNOSTER HOUSE, CIRENCESTER GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

BY

CLIFFORD BATEMAN

FOR

COVERAGE CARE LTD



Cotswold Archaeological Trust

PATERNOSTER HOUSE,
CIRENCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

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GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ARCHAEOLOGY

For the purposes of this project, archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains, from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

CAT

Cotswold Archaeological Trust

CONTEXT

The simplest level of excavated archaeological data, ie a context could be the cut of a ditch (shown as [1]), or its fill (shown as (2)).

MEDIEVAL

Taken here as the period from the Norman invasion in AD 1066 to approximately AD 1500.

MONUMENT

The expression *monument* is statutorily defined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as follows:

(a) any building, structure, or work whether above or below the surface of the land, and any cave or excavation; (b) any site comprising the remains of, any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or other movable structure or part thereof, which neither constitutes nor forms part of any work which is a monument within paragraph (a) above. The site of a monument includes not only the land in or on which it is situated, but also any land comprising or adjoining it which is essential for its support and preservation.

NATURAL

Defined in archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site, eg. Lower Lias clay, river terrace gravels etc.

NGR

National Grid Reference given from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD

Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above mean sea level.

POT-SHERD

A fragment of a pottery vessel.

ROMANO-BRITISH

The period from the Roman invasion of AD 43 to a date generally agreed to be AD 410, by which time there had been a fusion of indigenous late Iron Age traditions with Roman culture.

SITE

Sites may be defined as 'windows' onto the archaeological resource, eg an excavation, aerial photograph, or an old map. Any of these may reveal certain archaeological features (pits, ditches, etc) which can be classed as components, but not monuments.

SMR

Sites and Monument Register.

SUMMARY

Cotswold Archaeological Trust was commissioned by Coverage Care Ltd to undertake archaeological excavations in advance of intrusive drainage works during redevelopment of Paternoster House, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

The excavation established that archaeological deposits have survived within the study area despite the large scale modern disturbance. A strong correlation was noted within the southern part of the study area between the findings of the present excavation and the 1959 archaeological investigation. In particular a number of component walls of the Roman buildings, now preserved beneath the current building, were further examined.

To the north of the present building, the excavation revealed previously unidentified archaeological deposits surviving 0.30m below the existing ground surface. Evidence of wall footings, stone-lined drains and a well were revealed, suggesting domestic activity may not have been restricted to the southern limit of the study area.

Domestic occupation of the site appears to have ceased by the mid 4th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 In June 1995, Cotswold Archaeological Trust was commissioned by Coverage Care Ltd to undertake archaeological excavations in advance of intrusive drainage works at Paternoster House, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (NGR SP 01500250) (figure 1).

1.1.2 The study area is largely contained within one of the notification areas of the Scheduled Ancient Monument, *Corinium Roman Town* (Glos 361)(figure 2). Scheduled Monument Consent was requested and subsequently granted in December 1994 (HSD 9/2/94 Pt96). Amendments to the original Scheduled Monument Consent were granted on 12th July 1995.

1.1.3 This report presents the findings of the excavation undertaken between August and September 1995.

1.2 The Study Area

1.2.1 Paternoster House was built in 1966 and is currently used as an elderly persons home.

1.2.2 The study area lies to the south-east of the present urban centre of Cirencester. The site is bordered to the south-west by the former workhouse (currently CDC offices), to the south-east by the County Health Clinic, to the north-east by Watermoor Road and to the north-west by garden frontages.

1.2.3 The geology of the study area is dominated by Quaternary alluvial deposits associated with the River Churn. These deposits are of variable character, consisting of pre-Holocene limestone gravels and later alluvial silts.

1.2.4 Topographically the study area lies at approximately 108.2m OD and is of a generally flat nature.

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 The study area lies within the Roman town of *Corinium Dobunnorum*, the *civitas* or tribal capital of the *Dobunni* (figure 3). Within Cirencester there is further evidence of late Saxon and medieval settlement. The study area lies within *Insula IV* of the Roman town, in close proximity to the suggested limits of the preceding Roman fort.

1.3.2 Due to the contraction in the size of the post-Roman settlement, the study area lay outside of the medieval township boundary. The area was thus protected from development until the present building was constructed during the 1960's.

1.3.3 A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in *Insula IV*, both within

and adjacent to the study area (figure 4).

1.3.4 Of prime consideration are the excavations undertaken within the study area during 1958 and 1959 (Rennie and Richardson respectively) which located Roman domestic buildings and associated yard surfacing (Building IV.3, McWhirr 1986). These are now preserved beneath the present building.

1.3.5 Richardson identified two Roman buildings and four phases of construction between the mid 2nd and mid 4th centuries.

1.3.6 The earliest structure identified consisted of at least two rooms, and dated to the mid to late 2nd century (building 1, phase 1). In the early 3rd century, part of this building was demolished and a new structure erected on a slightly different alignment (building 2, phase 1). Subsequent enlargement of the structure (building 2, phase 2) is likely to have occurred before the mid 3rd century, and appears to have been occupied until the late 3rd century. The southern end of building 1, possibly continued to be occupied until the mid 4th century (building 1, phase 2) (Richardson 1962).

1.3.7 Prior to the construction of the County Health Clinic (immediately to the south-east of Paternoster House), archaeological excavations revealed a pattern of walls and foundations of at least two Roman buildings (these buildings are termed IV.1 and IV.2 by McWhirr 1986, 245-6). The southern-most building (IV.1) contained a room with a mosaic, whilst the northern-most building (IV.2) was constructed with oolitic limestone walls on a pitched-stone foundation. Material retrieved from building IV.2 suggests occupation during the 3rd and 4th centuries, with rebuilding having occurred after AD 338 (McWhirr 1986).

1.3.8 Further archaeological investigations undertaken within the study area in 1963 provided evidence of Roman buildings fronting Watermoor Road. Building IV.4 consisted of a timber structure dating to the early 2nd century which was replaced by a stone building later in the same century. This building was in turn replaced by a new stone structure possibly of 4th century origin (*ibid*).

1.3.9 An archaeological assessment (Salvatore 1994) and subsequent evaluation (Manning 1995) were undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application for the present works. The evaluation revealed stratified Roman deposits surviving 0.60m below the present ground surface.

1.4 Project Brief and Methodology

1.4.1 The principal aim of the excavation was to mitigate the potential loss of archaeological deposits throughout the scheduled area during all ground-workings.

1.4.2 The ground-works comprised the excavation of eight man-holes and associated drain runs. Two test-pits were also excavated to the south-east of the present building to investigate the condition of the concrete foundation raft (see figure 2 for exact location).

1.4.2 All manholes were excavated by hand. The initial excavation of the associated drainage runs was undertaken by machine under archaeological supervision to an depth of 0.60m (the

evaluation suggested that this was above the archaeological deposits) or to the top of the first significant archaeological deposit, whichever was encountered first.

1.4.3 All artefacts recovered were catalogued and analysed in accordance with the CAT *Finds Recording Manual*. Particular emphasis was given to potentially datable artefacts such as pottery and coins. Animal bone was not systematically analysed as sample quantities were too small to make any significant contribution to describing the paleoeconomy of the study area.

1.4.4 A full written, drawn and photographic record was kept throughout the excavation in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* and CAT *Field Recording Manual*.

1.4.4 All finds, along with the site archive, will be deposited, with the landowners consent, at Corinium Museum, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

1.5 Report Structure

1.5.1 The remaining sections of the report are arranged in the following order. The main results of the excavation appear in section 2. Section 3 provides a discussion of the results, with section 4 the overall conclusions. Appendix A lists the principal artefacts from the site. Appendix B contains the pottery report.

1.5.2 The results and assessment of the excavation have been sub-divided into the individual drainage runs, the manholes and the test-pits.

1.5.3 Throughout this report, correlations are drawn to the findings of the 1959 excavation undertaken within the study area (Richardson 1962). The phasing of the Roman buildings identified in 1959 has largely been employed during the phasing of the features revealed during the current investigations.

2 EXCAVATION RESULTS

2.1 General

2.1.1 Brief descriptions of all significant features are presented within this section from the earliest deposits encountered to the latest.

2.1.2 The groundworks were located according to the plan shown as figure 2.

2.1.3 The natural substrate was not encountered during the excavation.

2.1.4 During the course of the groundworks the excavations were monitored by Mr Andrew Davison, English Heritage and Mr J.P.C. Hunter, Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council.

2.2 Drainage Run 1 (figure 5)

2.2.1 Drainage run 1 was orientated north-west to south-east and was 24m in length.

2.2.2 The earliest archaeological deposit identified was (1622), revealed 10.2m from the southern limit of excavation. The deposit measured 2.6m in length and consisted of compact and irregular limestone blocks within a gravel matrix. It was fully excavated to a depth of 0.26m. No artefactual material was recovered from the deposit. The deposit was cut to the south-west by feature [1623].

2.2.3 Feature [1623] was at least 3.5m wide. It was excavated to a depth of 0.26m and had a gradually sloping side. It containing a single fill (1627) of limestone blocks within a gritty clay matrix from which a small ceramic assemblage dating from the mid to late 2nd century was recovered.

2.2.4 Wall (1618) was encountered 8m from man-hole 14c. The wall was orientated north-east to south-west and measured 0.52m in width. The wall consisted of five courses of well dressed limestone blocks bonded by a gritty mortar. The wall sat on a crushed limestone and mortar foundation (1626). No artefactual material was recovered from the wall or footings. Due to the limitations of the trenching, any potential relationship between deposit (1627) and wall (1618) was not observed.

2.2.5 A spread of small limestone chippings within a gravelly clay matrix (1635) abutted the southern face of wall (1618). The deposit extended southwards for 3.5m. No artefactual material was recovered from this deposit.

2.2.6 Wall (1619) abutted the northern face of wall (1618). The wall was orientated north-west to south-east and measured 1.5m in length and 0.48m in width. It comprised a single course of roughly faced limestone. The wall had been constructed over a thin (0.11m) gravel levelling horizon (1625). It was cut by modern feature [1633].

2.2.7 Deposit (1611) overlay the northern limits of (1627) and deposit (1622). It measured 1.70m in length and was fully excavated to a depth of 0.22m. It comprised a grey-green gritty clay from which one sherd of 2nd-4th century pottery was recovered. The deposit had been cut to the north and south by modern features [1612] and [1616].

2.2.8 Wall (1615) was encountered 16m north of manhole 14c. The wall was orientated north-east to south-west and consisted largely of pitched limestone footings overlain by consolidated rubble (1628). One course of faced stonework (1615) had survived modern truncation. Pottery dating to the 2nd century was recovered from the rubble footings.

2.2.9 A layer of 1959 archaeological backfill (1606) sealed the archaeological deposits. This was in turn overlain by modern gravel levelling (1603) and concrete paving slabs (1601).

2.3 Drainage Run 2 (figure 6)

2.3.1 Drainage run 2 was sited to the north of the present building and was 35m in length.

2.3.2 At the north-west end of the trench, a sequence of rough angular footings and a roughly dressed limestone wall were revealed. The two sets of footings, (1406) and (1416), were orientated north-west to south-east, some 2m apart and each measured 0.70m in width. The footings consisted of large limestone blocks within a gritty clay bonding matrix. No artefactual material was recovered from either footing. Within the limited confines of the trench, the footings appeared parallel. No evidence of the respective walls were identified above the footings.

2.3.3 A limestone wall (1404), consisting of roughly dressed stonework on a consolidated rubble footing (1405), lay 0.50m east of footing (1406). The wall was 0.42m wide. Pottery retrieved from the wall matrix dates to the early to mid 2nd century.

2.3.4 Abutting the east face of footings (1416), a sequence of horizontal deposits was encountered. The deposits ((1410) to (1414) inclusive) contained a quantity of cess material from which no artefactual material was recovered.

2.3.5 South-east of manhole 12a, two stone -lined drains were revealed. The earliest phase was represented by drain [1457], which had subsequently been replaced by drain [1454]. Both drains were orientated approximately east to west and were of similar construction. One sherd of samian pottery dating to the 2nd century was recovered from the fill of second phase drain [1454].

2.3.6 The remains of a well [1435] was identified 1.5m north-west of manhole 12. The well was 1.1m in diameter. The surviving upper lining of the well was constructed of crudely dressed, unbonded limestone. At lower depths no lining was evident. Pottery dating to mid 2nd century was retrieved from primary fill (1438). The well had been truncated along its south-eastern quadrant by modern drainage channel [1440].

2.3.7 Any stratigraphic relationship between the stone-lined drains and the well had been removed by later Roman pitting.

2.3.8 Pit [1449] cut the eastern limits of the stone-lined drains. The feature was at least 1.5m in diameter, although its full dimension was not revealed due to subsequent truncation by pit [1469]. The feature contained three distinct; primary fill (1448) was a grey-brown gritty clay from which a large assemblage of late 2nd to late 4th century pottery was recovered. The secondary fill (1447), a mid grey-brown gritty clay contained a small 2nd to 4th century ceramic collection. No artefactual material was recovered from the grey-brown silty clay tertiary fill (1446).

2.3.9 Pit [1469] truncated the eastern limits of pit [1449]. It measured 0.52m in depth and at least 2.1m in diameter. It contained two grey-brown loamy clay fills (1470) and (1471). No artefactual material was recovered from the feature.

2.3.10 Cutting the western limits of the stone-lined drains was a large sub-rectangular pit [1424]. The feature was at least 2.2m in length and was excavated to a depth of 0.40m. It contained a single fill (1423) of masonry rubble within a mortar/clay matrix. An assemblage of 2nd century pottery was recovered from the rubble fill. The pit had been partially cut by pit [1468].

2.3.11 Pit [1468] measured 1.2m in diameter and 0.80m deep and was irregular in shape. The feature contained a uniform black humic fill (1422) from which pottery dating to the late 3rd to 4th century was recovered.

2.3.12 Modern gravel levelling horizons (1402) and (1403) sealed the archaeological deposits. They were in turn overlaid by the modern tarmacadam surface (1401).

2.4 Drainage Run 3

2.4.1 Foul drainage run 3 was 12m in length and was hand excavated to a maximum depth of 0.98m (some 0.40m above the proposed depth). No archaeological stratigraphy was revealed during the ground-workings.

2.4.2 The earliest deposit encountered was a dark grey-brown clay-loam (1704) which extended the full length of the trench and was at least 0.58m in depth. A small assemblage of modern ceramics were recovered from the deposit. Modern paving and associated levelling horizons overlay deposit (1704).

2.5 The Manholes

2.5.1 Archaeological deposits were encountered in three of the manholes excavated. Of the five remaining manholes included within the Scheduled Monument Consent, only four were excavated; the enlargement to manhole 10 subsequently being deemed unnecessary.

2.5.2 Within manhole 2a, Roman deposits were encountered at a depth of 0.80m below the modern ground surface (figure 6). A limestone wall (1516), some 0.50m in width and orientated north-east to south-west was revealed. The wall consisted of well faced stonework bonded by a gritty mortar but had been truncated by modern foul drainage run [1515].

2.5.3 Abutting the south-east face of wall (1516) two courses of a north-west to south-east orientated wall (1517) were noted. However the limited nature of the excavations prevented further investigation of the feature.

2.5.4 Within manhole 7a, Roman demolition debris (1207) was revealed at a depth of 0.30m below the existing ground surface. Large fragments of *tegula* and pottery datable to the early to mid 2nd century were recovered from the deposit.

2.5.5 Within manhole 12a, pit [1424] which had previously been identified truncating stone-lined drains [1454] and [1457] within pipe run 2, was again revealed.

2.6 The Test-pits

2.6.1 Two test-pits were excavated to examine the condition of the concrete foundation raft. The test-pits were hand excavated at the south-east corner of the building to a depth of 1.5m below the existing ground surface.

2.6.2 No archaeological stratigraphy was identified within either of the test-pits.

3 DISCUSSION

3.1 General

3.1.1 The limited nature of the groundworks precludes detailed interpretation of the archaeological stratigraphy revealed and places reliance upon the accuracy of the 1959 excavation results (Richardson 1962) to further clarify the archaeological resource encountered.

3.1.2 A loose loam horizon containing Roman, medieval and modern material was evident across the study area, with the exception of drainage run 2. The deposit had previously been encountered during the Stage 2 evaluation works (Manning 1995). The deposit is interpreted as the backfill of the previous archaeological investigations undertaken prior to construction of the present building.

3.2 Drainage Run 1

3.2.1 Intrusive modern deposits from previous archaeological excavation and the construction of the present building had truncated and/or damaged the archaeological stratigraphy revealed within drainage run 1. However, a strong correlation was noted between the results of the present excavation and the 1959 archaeological investigation.

3.2.2 The earliest stratigraphy encountered was a deposit of compacted limestone within a gravel matrix (1622). The deposit may represent exterior yard surfacing associated with the first phase of Roman building construction in the mid 2nd century (building 1, phase 1 Richardson 1962).

3.2.3 The limestone rubble fill (1627) associated with feature [1623], noted cutting surface (1622), contained mid to late 2nd century pottery and may represent debris from the demolition of the original domestic building prior to the construction of the new structure in the early 3rd century.

3.2.4 Of particular importance was the excavation of walls (1615), (1618) and (1619). It was evident that the walls had been observed during the 1959 excavation. Walls (1618) and (1619) were overlain by loam horizon (1606), the levelled 1959 excavation backfill; while wall (1615) was revealed within modern feature [1612], presumed to be of archaeological rather than constructional origin.

3.2.5 No artefactual material was retrieved from wall (1618), although its possible association with feature [1623] would indicate that it was constructed from the early 3rd century onwards. It was abutted by wall (1619) to the north and by limestone deposit (1635) to the south.

3.2.6 A strong correlation was noted between this sequence of walls and the results of the 1959 excavation. Wall (1618) and limestone deposit (1635) are likely to represent the north-eastern limits of Richardson's building 2, phase 1, with wall (1619), which abuts (1618), representing the later second phase addition to the north.

3.2.7 A sequence of modern disturbance [1633] and [1616] had cut wall (1619) and is likely to have removed the northern return (previously observed by Richardson) of the mid 3rd century structure.

3.2.8 Wall (1615) remains isolated from all surviving archaeological deposits as a result of the intrusive nature of the 1959 excavation. However its orientation (north-east to south-west) and the construction techniques employed, suggest a correlation with a fourth century boundary wall revealed by Richardson. This interpretation would suggest that the ?2nd century pottery retrieved from pitched footings (1628) is residual.

3.3 Drainage Run 2

3.3.1 The location of drainage run 2 to the north of the present building was within an area of little modern disturbance. As a consequence, archaeological deposits were revealed at a depth of 0.30m below the current ground surface.

3.3.2 The two parallel wall footings (1406) and (1416), although of Roman origin, cannot be firmly dated. The limited width of 2m between the footings suggests they formed a connecting passageway rather than an actual room.

3.3.3 The walls appear to have been demolished and a single wall (1404) built between them. Pottery retrieved from this wall suggests construction may have occurred in the early to mid 2nd century and may be contemporary with Richardson's first phase building. However, this interpretation would suggest that walls (1406) and (1416) predate any structures previously identified within the study area. While this may be possible, it is probable that the pottery recovered from wall (1404) is residual, and that the surviving wall is of 3rd or 4th century origin.

3.3.4 Two phases of stone-lined drain [1454] and [1457] were revealed 7m east of the walls. Drain [1454] represented the latest phase of construction, overlying [1457]. One sherd of 2nd century samian ware was retrieved from the associated silts of drain [1454], although little reliance should be placed upon this as dating evidence. The reason for constructing a second drain on exactly the same alignment as the earlier one remains unresolved.

3.3.5 Pottery retrieved from the stone-lined sub-circular well [1435], east of the stone-lined drains, suggests construction during the late 2nd century.

3.3.6 Large scale pitting, represented by features [1423], [1449], [1468] and [1469], was undertaken during the 4th century; following disuse of the stone-lined drains and the well. This interpretation accords with Richardson's conclusion that domestic occupation of the site had ceased by the mid 4th century.

3.4 Drainage Run 3

3.4.1 No archaeological deposits were encountered within drainage run 3. The clay-loam horizon (1704) revealed during the ground-workings is likely to represent a post-medieval or early modern cultivation soil.

3.5 The Manholes

3.5.1 Significant archaeological deposits were identified within manholes 2a and 7a.

3.5.2 Within manhole 2a, limestone wall (1516) was noted orientated north-east to south-west. The wall was on the same alignment and of similar construction technique to wall (1615) identified within drainage run 1 and is therefore interpreted as a continuation of the same mid 4th century boundary wall. Wall (1516) had previously been identified during the 1959 excavation (Richardson 1962) and the 1995 evaluation (Manning 1995). Wall (1517) was noted abutting wall (1516), but its limited nature precludes interpretation.

3.5.3 The demolition rubble (1207), revealed within manhole 7a may represent the destruction of the original mid 2nd century domestic structure.

4 CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The excavation has successfully mitigated the loss of the archaeological resource. Furthermore, it has established that previously unidentified archaeological deposits have survived despite large scale modern disturbance within the study area.

4.2 Within the southern part of the study area, (drainage run 1 and test-pit 2a), a strong correlation was noted between the findings of the present excavation and the 1959 archaeological investigation. Of particular note was the further examination of the component walls of the domestic structures identified by Richardson.

4.4 To the north of the present building, the excavation revealed previously unidentified archaeological deposits surviving 0.30m below the existing ground surface. The parallel wall footings (1406) and (1416) suggest that domestic activity may not be restricted to the southern limit of the study area. The large scale pitting noted cutting presumably redundant domestic feature, reinforces Richardson's conclusion that domestic occupation of the site had ceased by the mid 4th century.

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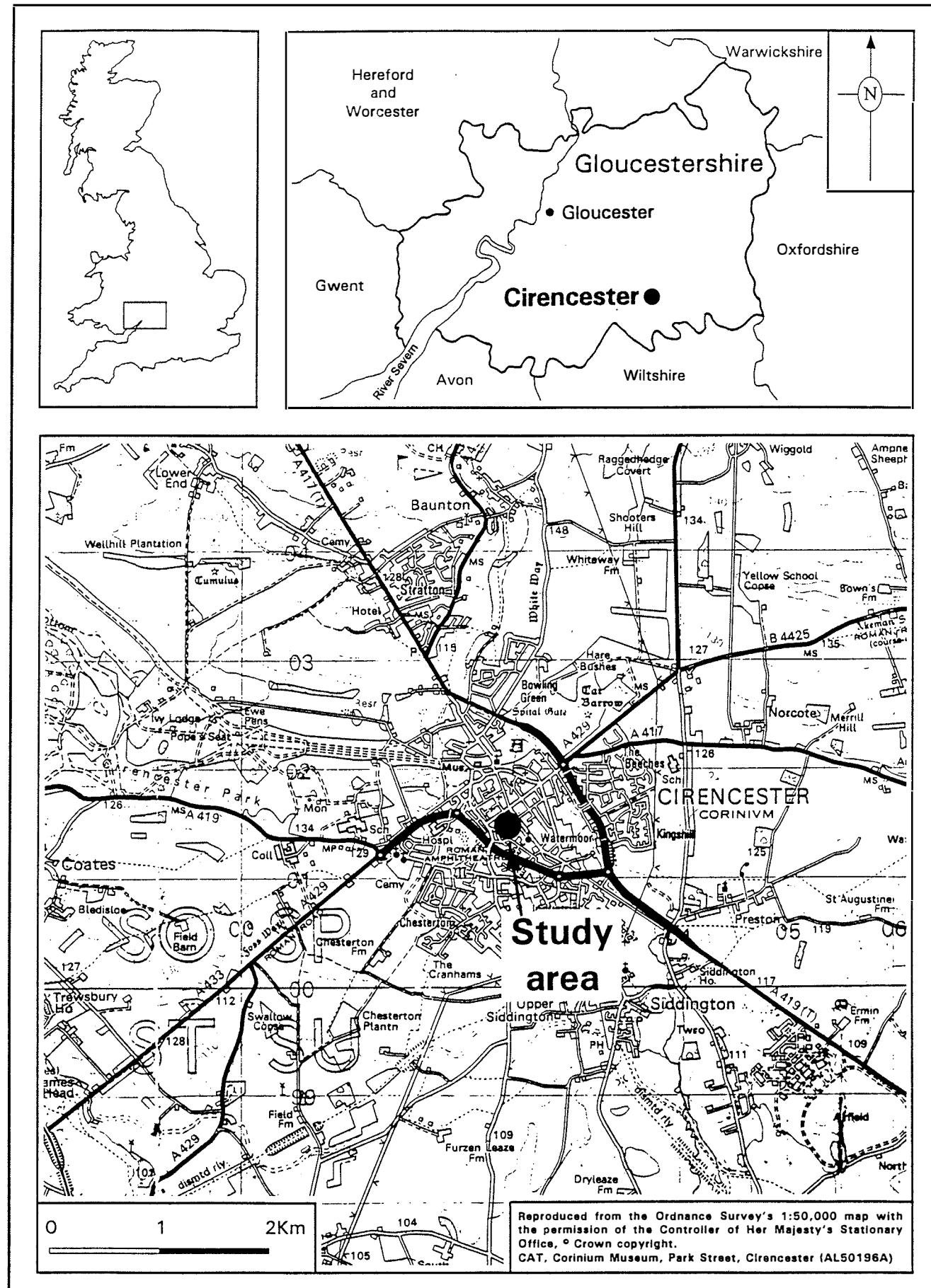


Fig. 1 Location plan

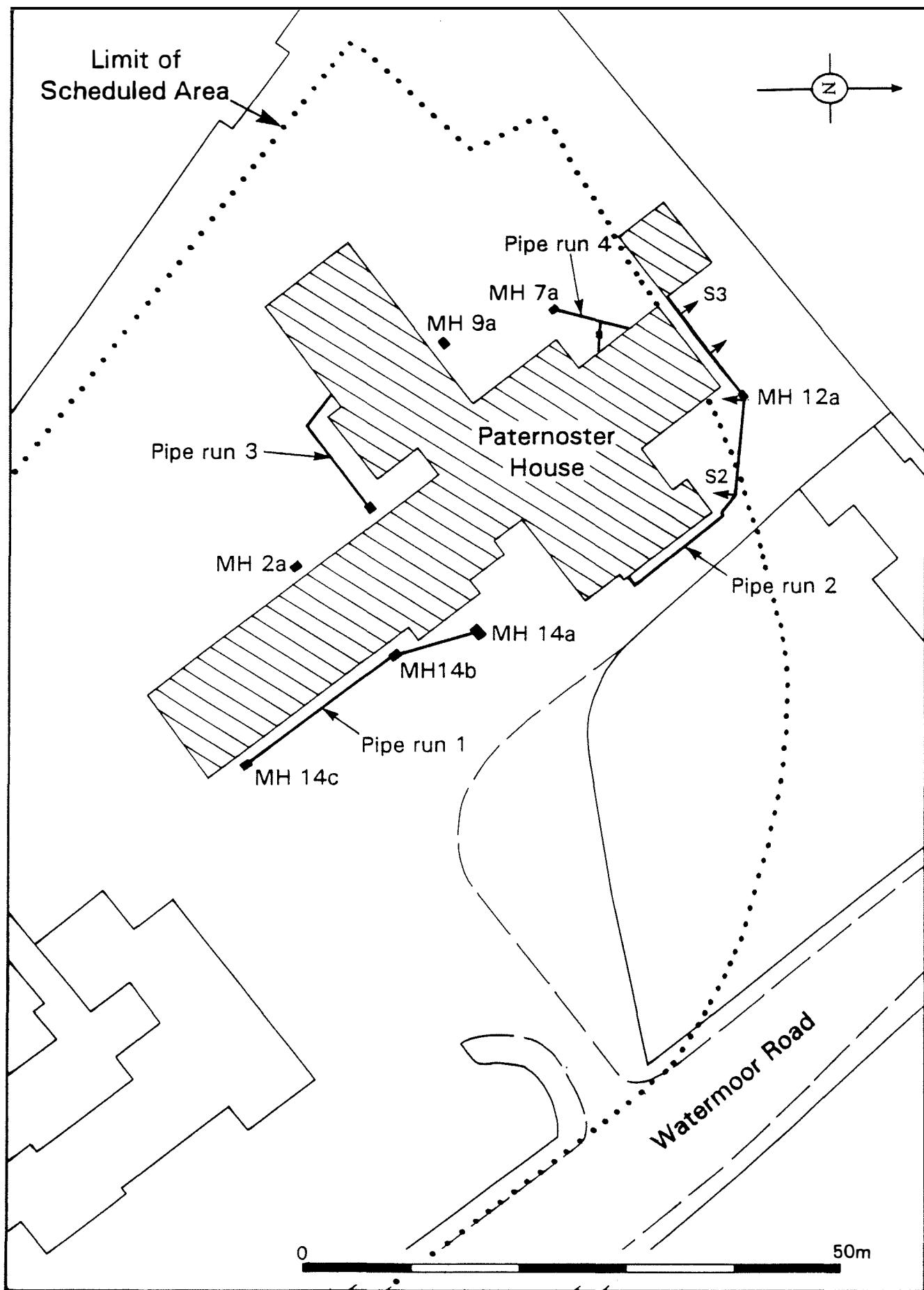


Fig. 2 Trench Location

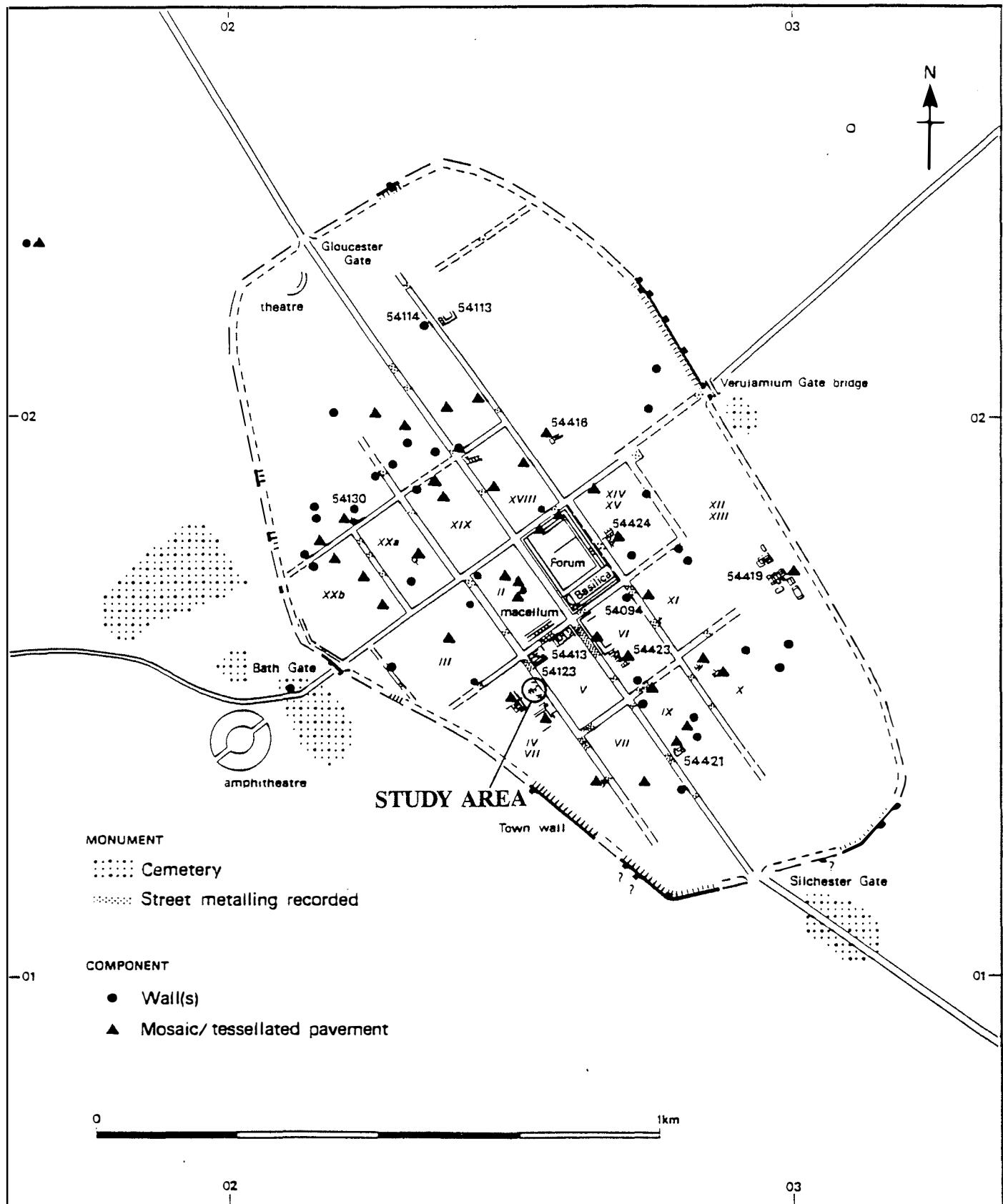


Fig. 3 Roman Cirencester

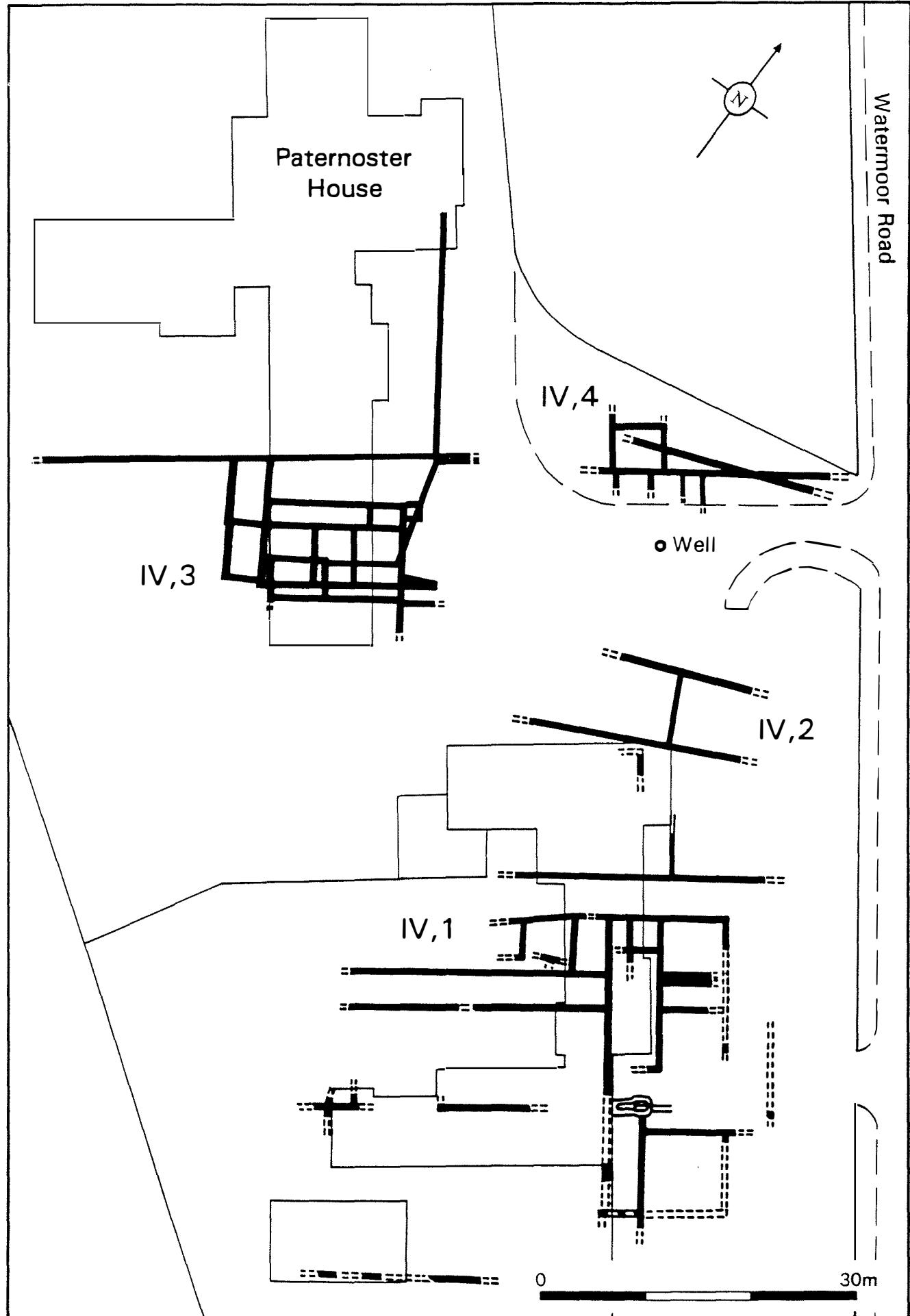


Fig. 4 Known archaeology in study area (after McWhirr 1986)

Pipe run 1

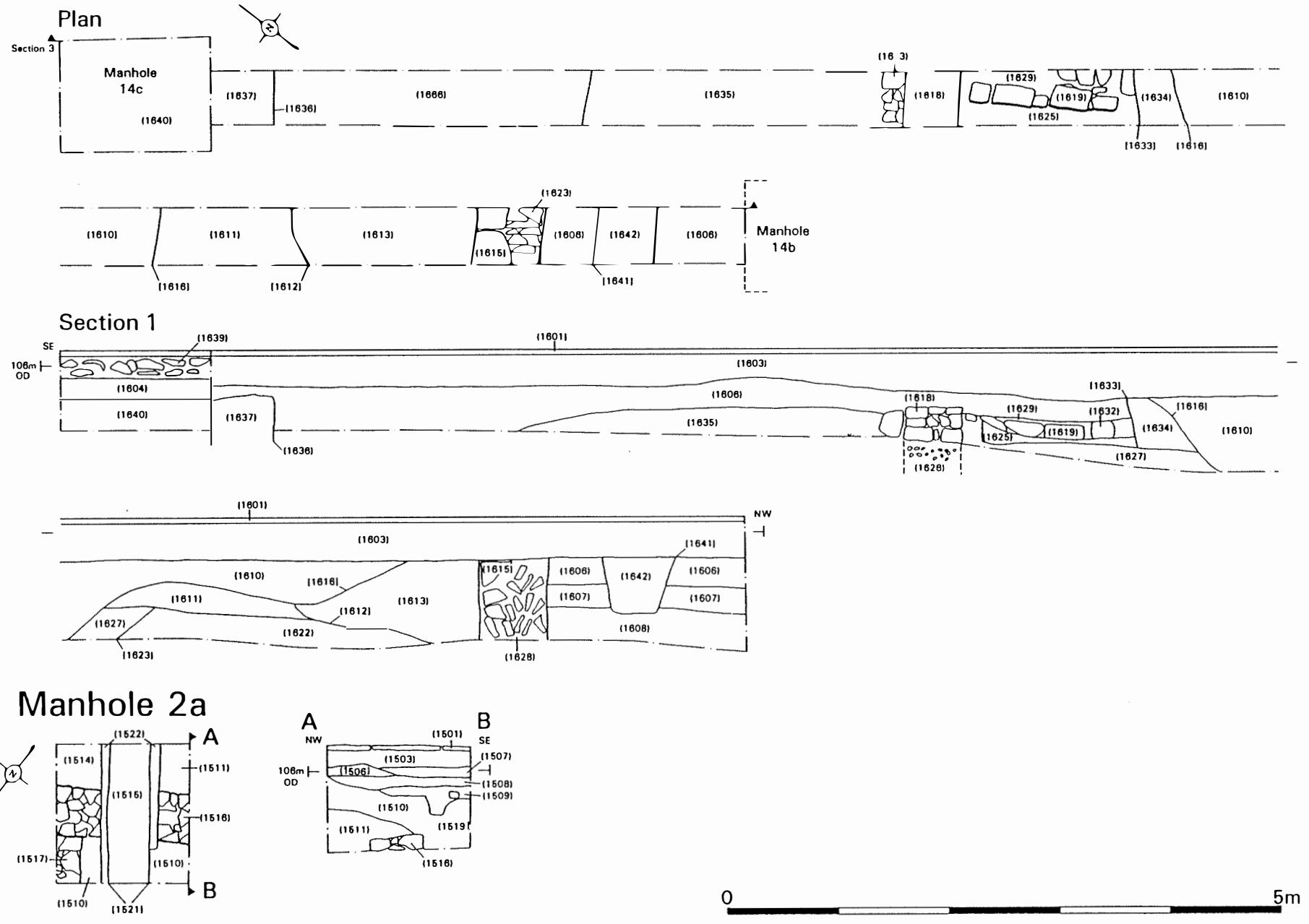
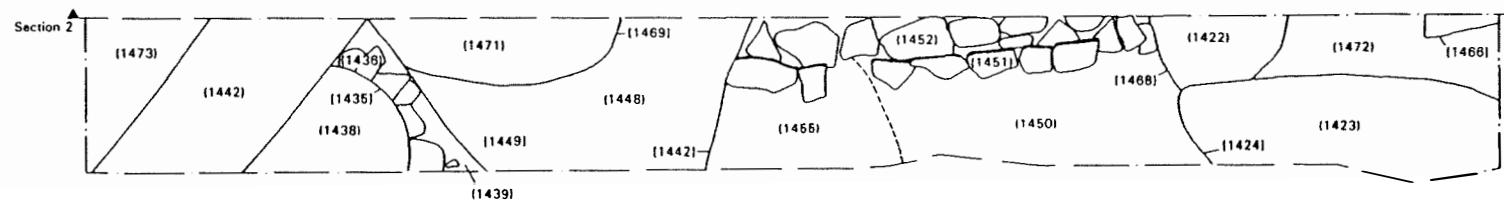


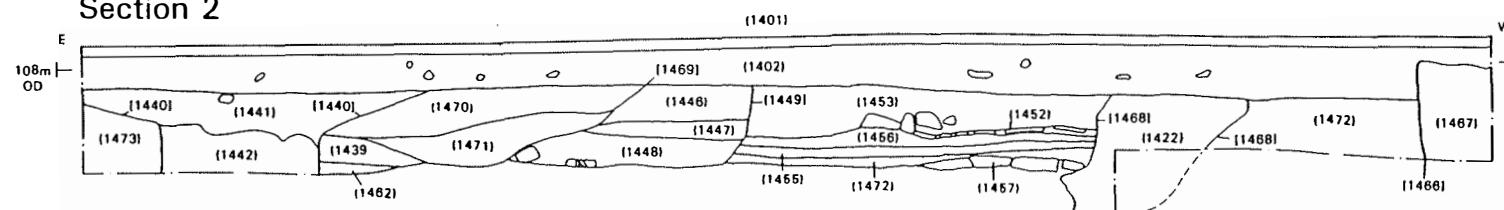
Fig. 5 Pipe run 1, Manhole 2a, plans and sections

Pipe run 2

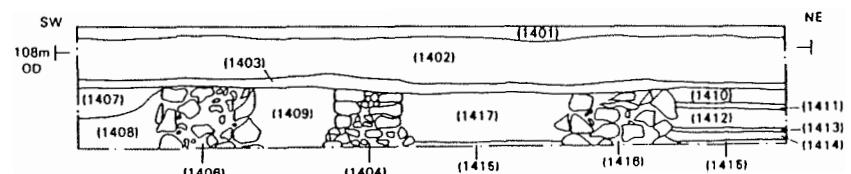
Plan



Section 2



Section 3 (See Fig. 2 for section location)



A horizontal scale bar with numerical markings at 0 and 5m.

Fig. 6 Pipe run 2, plan and sections

APPENDIX A

Paternoster House, Cirencester

Job No. 0424 PAT 95

Context

- U / S 2 tegular tile fragments
 1 imbrex tile fragment
- (1207) 1 rim sherd (Samian)
 1 base sherd (Samian)
 2 body sherds (Samian)
 3 rim sherds (Roman)
 14 body sherds (Roman)
 2 animal teeth (sheep)
 2 oyster shells
 1 plaster fragment
 1 stone fragment
 1 flat tile fragment
 3 imbrex tile fragments
 2 tegular tile fragments
 3 box tile fragments
 23 tile fragments
- (1305) 4 rim sherds (Roman)
 3 base sherds (Roman)
 6 body sherds (Roman)
 1 oyster shell
 1 oyster shell fragment
 1 box tile fragment
 2 animal bone frags
- (1307) 4 rim sherds (Roman)
 1 base sherd (Roman)
 7 body sherds (Roman)
 3 box tiles
 1 stone fragment
 1 glass vessel fragment
 1 Fe nail
- (1404) 3 body sherds - same pot (Roman)
 1 daub / fired clay fragment
 1 ? small green fabric piece
- (1409) 1 rim sherd (Roman)
 1 spout sherd (Roman)
 20 body sherds (Roman)

- 1 amphorae sherd
9 animal bone fragments
1 flat tile fragment
1 imbrex tile fragment
1 tile fragment
- (1418) 1 Roman coin (330 - 335AD) ?Copy
1 body sherd (Samian)
5 body sherds (Roman)
1 box tile fragment
3 amphorae sherds
- (1419) 4 body sherds (Roman)
2 amphorae sherds
1 animal bone fragment
4 oyster shell fragments
1 tile fragment
- (1420) 1 Roman coin - illegible ?Copy
5 rim sherds (Roman)
14 body sherds (Roman)
1 ?burnt limestone fragment
1 plaster fragment
6 tile fragments
14 animal bone fragments
1 Fe nail fragment
- (1422) 3 body sherds (Roman)
3 base sherds (Roman)
5 rim sherds (Roman)
1 amphorae sherd
1 oyster shell
1 imbrex tile fragment
4 tile fragments
13 animal bone fragments
1 Cu fragment with rivet marks
- (1423) 3 decorated body sherds (Samian)
6 rim sherds (Roman)
34 body sherds (Roman)
1 flat tile fragment
1 tegula tile fragment
13 tile fragments
11 animal bone fragments
2 Fe nails
- (1427) 2 base sherds (Samian)
2 rim sherds (Samian)
1 base sherd (Roman)

- (1437) 7 body sherds (Roman)
 1 rim sherd (Samian)
 1 rim sherd (Roman)
 1 body sherd (Roman)
- (1438) 1 decorated body sherd (Samian)
 2 body sherds (Roman)
 4 tile fragments
 2 animal bone fragments
 1 Cu disc
 1 Cu strip
- (1447) 1 rim sherd (Roman)
 4 body sherds (Roman)
 1 tile fragment
- (1448) 1 base sherd (Samian)
 2 rim sherds (Samian)
 3 body sherds (Samian)
 2 base sherds (Roman)
 1 rim sherd (Roman)
 46 body sherds (Roman)
 1 ?worked stone fragment
 1 burnt flint fragment
 9 amphorae sherds
 3 stone fragments
 3 box tile fragments
 1 flat tile fragments
 1 tegular tile fragment
 1 imbrex tile fragment
 12 tile fragments
 19 animal bone fragments
 2 sheep teeth
 1 ?worked bone
- (1453) 1 rim sherd - repair work (Samian)
- (1510) 15 animal bone fragments
 1 tooth fragment (cow)
 4 oyster shell fragment
 1 tile fragment
 2 plaster fragments
 3 glass vessel fragments
 1 rim sherd (Samian)
 1 body sherd (Samian)
 1 rim sherd (Roman)
 7 body sherds (Roman)

- (1516 / 1 oyster shell
1517) 2 oyster shell fragments
4 animal bone fragments
6 body sherds (Roman)
- (1606) 10 oyster shell fragments
21 animal bone fragments
1 Fe nail
2 amphorae sherds
1 rim sherd (Samian)
5 rim sherds (Roman)
3 base sherds (Roman)
37 body sherds (Roman)
4 tegular tiles
3 imbrex tiles
4 tile fragments
- (1607) 1 glass vessel fragment
8 animal bone fragment
5 rim sherds (Samian)
1 body sherd (Samian)
4 rim sherds (Roman)
10 body sherds (Roman)
3 imbrex tiles
5 tegular tiles
1 box tile
- (1608) 3 animal bone fragments
1 rim sherd (Samian)
4 rim sherds (Roman)
2 base sherds (Roman)
1 handle sherd (Roman)
5 body sherds (Roman)
- (1610) 3 imbrex tile fragments
5 tegular tile fragments
1 box tile fragment
1 amphorae sherd
1 piece metal tubing
2 animal bone fragments
1 body sherd (Modern)
2 body sherds (Roman)
- (1611) 6 tegular tile fragments
2 imbrex tile fragments
1 tile fragment

- (1613) 1 animal bone fragment
 4 tile fragments
 2 Fe nails
 5 pieces charcoal
 5 glass fragments
 2 body sherds (Roman)
- (1614) 3 tile fragments
 1 animal tooth (cow)
 1 oyster shell fragment
 1 body sherd (Roman)
- (1615) 1 Fe nail
- (1617) 2 imbrex tile fragments
 1 tile fragment
 1 body sherd (Roman)
 1 rim sherd (Roman)
- (1621) 1 tile fragment
 1 glass vessel fragment
 1 body sherd
- (1627) 1 animal bone
 1 base sherd (Samian)
 3 rim sherds (Roman)
 2 base sherds (Roman)
 12 body sherds (Roman)
 2 imbrex tile fragments
 5 tegular tile fragments
 1 box tile fragment
 4 tile fragments
- (1628) 1 body sherd (Samian)
 7 body sherds (Roman)
- (1629) 2 tegular tile fragments
 1 box tile fragment
 2 base sherds (Roman)

Appendix B

Pottery Assessment By Jane Timby

Summary

Approximately 350 sherds of pottery were recovered including material of Roman, medieval and recent date. Generally speaking the sherds were in good condition with several examples of more than one sherd from one vessel. Most of the assemblage dates to the Roman period, in particular to the 2nd-4th centuries. The wares included quite a high proportion of imported samian tableware (8% by count) suggesting a domestic assemblage from a moderately well-appointed establishment. Other imports include a single Central Gaulish beaker and two sherds from Gallic wine amphorae. Many of the wares were local oxidised and reduced wares from the North Wiltshire industries. Regional imports include products from the Dorset black-burnished industry (BB1) and Oxfordshire industries.

The group was briefly scanned to assess its likely chronology. A short catalogue is given below arranged in context order identifying the main wares present and the date range.

Catalogue

Abbreviations: OXCC Oxford colour-coated ware; OXMO Oxford mortaria; SAV Savernake ware; SWWS South-west white-slipped ware; BB1 Dorset black-burnished ware; SAM samian; Drag Dragendorf form types; SVW Severn Valley ware; misc miscellaneous.

No in square brackets [] denotes total number of sherds from that context.

(1207):[21]SAM (Drag 31), BB1, Savernake variant, white-slipped ware, misc reduced and oxidised wares. Date: early-mid 2nd century

(1305):[12]OXCC, OXMO, late shelly ware, misc reduced and oxidised wares, Minety ware, glazed foul.pipe. Date range: late 4th century/medieval (12-14th)/modern.

(1307):[12]BB1, OXCC, SWWS, whiteware grooved rim jar. Date: late 3rd-4th

(1404):[3] Misc reduced ware including cornice rim beaker. Date: early-mid 2nd century

(1409):[22]Savernake type,Wilts oxidised ware, North Wilts white-slipped flagon, reduced wares. Date: 2nd century

(1418):[6] BB1,reduced wares. Date; ?3rd century.

(1419):[4] White slipped ware, OXCC, reduced ware. Date: late 3rd-4th century

- (1420):[18] SWWS mortarium, BB1, OXCC, Savernake type, reduced and oxidised wares
Date: 2nd/late 3rd/4th century.
- (1422):[8] OXCC, OXMO, BB1, reduced wares. Date late 3rd-4th century.
- (1423):[40] Local mortarium, SAM (Drag 37, 27), SWWS, BB1, local reduced/oxidised wares. Date: 2nd century.
- (1427):[12] SAM (Drag 31, 33), BB1, oxidised/reduced wares. Date: mid 2nd century.
- (1437):[3] SAM., reduced ware, Minety. Date: Roman/medieval.
- (1438):[3] SAM (drag 37), misc oxidised/reduced ware. Date: mid 2nd century.
- (1447):[5] BB1, reduced wares. Date: ?3rd century.
- (1448):[54] SAM (Drag 37, 33), OXCC, OXMO, BB1, misc reduced and oxidised wares, late shelly ware, SWWS, fine local roughcast ware. Date: late 2nd-late 4th.
- (1453):[1] SAM ?Curle 11 with rivet hole. Date: 2nd century.
- (1510):[10] Savernake type, SAV, OXMO, OXCC, BB1, SAM (Drag 18/31), SWWS, reduced wares. Date: 2nd-late 3rd/4th century.
- (1516/17):[6] BB1, reduced wares, Minety ware. Date: Roman/medieval.
- (1606):[44] SAM ?Curle 11, Gallic amphora, Central Gaulish colour-coat, SVW, SAV, BB1, oxidised and reduced wares. Date: early-mid 3rd century.
- (1607):[20] SAM (Drag 31, 37, Curle 36), OXCC, BB1, BB1 imitations, reduced and oxidised wares. Date: late 2nd-late 3rd century.
- (1608):[13] SAM (Drag 31), BB1, SWWS, reduced wares. Date: 2nd century.
- (1610):[2] BB1, Gallic amphora. Date: 2nd-3rd century.
- (1611):[1] BB1. Date: 2nd-4th century.
- (1613):[2] Late shelly ware, Minety ware. Date: late 4th century/medieval.
- (1614):[1] SWWS. Date: 2nd-3rd century.
- (1617):[2] Local grey and oxidised wares. Date: ?2nd century +.
- (1621):[1] SWWS. Date: 2nd-3rd century.
- (1627):[17] SAM (Drag 18/31R or 31R), SWWS, BB1, misc oxidised and reduced wares. Date: mid-late 2nd century.

(1628):[8] SAM, BB1, SAV, reduced wares. Date: ?2nd century.

(1629):[2] Wiltshire oxidised and mica-slipped ware. Date: first half 2nd century.