

Archaeological Investigation  
at No.39 High Street, Olney  
Buckinghamshire, MK46 5QN  
(NGR SP 888 515)

Planning Application Ref. 12/01359/FUL



December 2012

Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd

for

Abbeymill Homes Ltd

# Souterrain

Archaeological Services Ltd



**Archaeological Investigation  
at 39 High Street, Olney  
Buckinghamshire  
(NGR SP 888 5154)**

Application Reference 12/01359/FUL

Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record Event No. 1325

Souterrain Project: SOU12-260

December 2012

Produced for:

Abbeymill Homes  
Olney, Buckinghamshire MK46 4BY  
on behalf of  
Mr T. Monnikendam Esq.

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**Preface**

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

**Fieldwork & Report:**

Martin Wilson BA Hons, MifA, MIEEnvSc, MEAGE, FSASc

**SUMMARY**

*In October 2012, Souterrain Archaeological Services Limited undertook archaeological investigation and recording during ground preparation for a new extension at the rear of No.39 High Street, Olney, Buckinghamshire. The objective was to ensure that the archaeological interest of the site was safeguarded.*

*The development took place in one of the former medieval burgage plots on the west side of High Street. The plots are understood to have been created in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Three intercutting pits were exposed which are broadly dated by pottery to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. One of the pits was clay-lined and may have been storage pit, possibly for foodstuffs.*

## 1. SCOPE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report documents the results of archaeological observation and investigation carried out by Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) during ground preparation for a rear extension at No. 39 High Street, Olney, Buckinghamshire, MK46 4EB (NGR SP 8889 5154) (Fig. 1) on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2012.
- 1.2 The archaeological work was undertaken in compliance with a condition attached to the planning consent. The work was commissioned by Abbeymill Homes Olney, Buckinghamshire MK46 4BY on behalf of the planning applicant, Mr Tony Monnikendam.
- 1.3 The report provides an appraisal of the fieldwork results in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation<sup>1</sup> which was approved prior to the commencement of groundwork by Nick Crank, the Archaeological Officer for Milton Keynes Council (hereafter AOMKC).

## 2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (Application Reference 12/01359/FUL) has been granted subject to conditions, by Milton Keynes Council, on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2012 for a single storey rear extension.
- 2.2 In view of the archaeological potential of the site a Condition (No.3) has been attached to the grant of planning permission for the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. This is in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The purpose of the Condition is to ensure that features of archaeological interest encountered during groundwork are properly recorded.

## 3. SITE LOCATION AND ASPECT

- 3.1 The property is located on the west side of the High Street, Olney, within the designated Conservation Area. The development area is at the rear.
- 3.2 The property is within a Milton Keynes Council Archaeological Notification Area which defines the historic core of the town. It is also in Zone 4 of English Heritage's Historic Town Assessment of Olney<sup>2</sup>. The zone is characterised by a near-continuous row of historic buildings on either side of the High Street, the majority of which are limestone-built in a vernacular or Georgian style. The existing dwelling is of local vernacular style in characteristic local limestone and dates to the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was Grade II listed in 1952<sup>3</sup>.
- 3.3 The underlying geology consists of undifferentiated River Terrace deposits above Great Oolitic Limestone.

### *Historic location*

- 3.4 Archaeological evidence suggests that settlement originated at Olney during the Saxon period at two locations. This was at the south end of the present town at the river crossing, in the area of the mill, church and market place, and at the north end of the town at Castle End. In the medieval period the township underwent planned expansion northwards from the market place area, which is evidenced by the characteristic long narrow burgage plots at right angles on either side of the High Street. The origin of this expansion and layout is thought to be sometime in the thirteenth century; by 1237 there were fifty-six burgesses reported to be in the township.

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<sup>1</sup> Souterrain Archaeological Services Limited. 2012. Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief: 39 High Street Olney, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 888 515) (App. Ref. 12/01359/FUL)

<sup>2</sup> English Heritage n.d. (post.2008), Olney Historic Town Assessment (OHTA) Draft

<sup>3</sup> English Heritage Building ID: 4570

- 3.5 Significantly, the property is located within an identifiable former burgage plot on the west side of the High Street<sup>4</sup>.

#### 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

##### *Archaeological Investigations*

- 4.1 The application site is located about 245m to the northwest of the market place and historic core of the town. At the time of the fieldwork there had been fifteen other archaeological investigations made within the former burgage plots; between 2001 and 2012. These were largely watching briefs initiated by private development, such as building extensions. The results have been variable, although some have confirmed occupation during the High Medieval (11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries) and Late Medieval (14<sup>th</sup> to late 15<sup>th</sup> centuries) periods. However, structural evidence has been limited and there has rarely been sufficient evidence to help confirm when the burgage plots were established.
- 4.2 Six of the investigations took place on the west side of High Street<sup>5</sup>, though only four proved positive in terms of medieval remains. The closest discovery to the application site was at No. 33 High Street<sup>6</sup> (c.18m south) in 2003, where a medieval rubbish pit was uncovered along with some undated features, the latter which included two parallel ditches, a robber trench and a gravelled surface. Extension works at the rear of No.28 West Street<sup>7</sup> (c.105m to the northwest) in 2004 exposed the foundations of an ancient stone boundary wall; also undated. The following year, at rear of The Old Manse, No.51 High Street<sup>8</sup> (about 60m to the south), a pit was exposed which contained a large quantity of 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery. In contrast, a watching brief at the west end of the former burgage plot at No. 16 West Street (c.85m southwest) revealed only a single sherd of probable medieval pottery<sup>9</sup>, whilst farther south, at the rear of Nos.13-17 High Street (c.110m distance from the site), two trial trenches dug in 2006 revealed nothing earlier than 19<sup>th</sup> century remains<sup>10</sup>.
- 4.3 The most recent investigation on the west side of High Street was a watching brief in March 2012 during building extension work at the rear of Nos. 85 to 91<sup>11</sup> (c.170m north of the site). This revealed that the site was previously occupied by medieval tenements in two discrete phases. The first phase consisted of a 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> century timber building with cellar storage areas<sup>12</sup>. A fence appears to have been erected along burgage plot boundary line at this time. The faunal remains and environmental data were indicative of domestic occupancy and economy, with diet including wheat, cattle, sheep or goat, pigs and eels. Primary butchery of livestock was carried out either at the site or nearby. The timber building was demolished in the late 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> century to make way for a timber-framed structure (denoted by stone sill beam pads) and a stone-lined cellar.

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<sup>4</sup> See OHTA, p.40-41, Fig 15.

<sup>5</sup> Milton Keynes intelligence Observatory (Heritage), <http://www.mkiobservatory.org.uk/> [accessed 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012]; British & Irish Archaeological Bibliography (BIAB) [www.biab.ac.uk](http://www.biab.ac.uk), [accessed 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012]

<sup>6</sup> Lisboa, I. 2003 "33 High Street, Olney, Milton Keynes" Archaeologica HER Event No. 779

<sup>7</sup> Wilson, N. 2004. "Watching brief: 28 West Street, Olney, Milton Keynes", Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd, HER No.923

<sup>8</sup> Lisboa, I. 2005. 'Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at The Old Manse, 51 High Street South, Olney', Archaeologica, HER Event No. 992

<sup>9</sup> Woodfield, P.2006. 'Proposed Extension, 16 West Street, Olney', Watching brief on extension', HER Event No.1060 Archaeologica

<sup>10</sup> Ivens, R.J. 2006 'An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at Land to the rear of 13-17 High Street, Olney, Milton, HER No.737800000; HER Event No.968, Archaeologica

<sup>11</sup> Wilson, M.D. 2012. 'Archaeological Investigation at No.1 Cobbs Court, Olney, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 888 517)', Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd. HER Event No.1305

<sup>12</sup> Comparable to pits discovered at Rose Court, Olney in 1998. C.f. Lisboa, I. 1999. 'Report on an archaeological watching brief at 8/9 Rose Court, Olney, Milton Keynes', Archaeologia



4.4 Archaeological investigations within the former burgage plots on the east side of High Street have been clustered in two areas, again with mixed results. The first area is located about 150m northeast of the present application site, where two watching briefs took place in close proximity - at No.64 High Street<sup>13</sup> and at the site of The Old Barn, East Street, the latter where the corner of a stone building and a medieval rubbish pit were exposed<sup>14</sup>. The second area is located between c.215 and c.290m northwest of the present application site. Investigations at the rear of Nos.100/102 High Street<sup>15</sup> (c.245m northeast of the site) in 2001, recorded a 13<sup>th</sup> century cesspit, a 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century surface beneath a post-medieval barn, and the remains of possible medieval wall. In 2004, a watching brief took place at No.96 High Street, (c.215 northeast of the site) with negative results<sup>16</sup>. In that same year, an evaluation at No. 106 High Street<sup>17</sup> uncovered a medieval cess pit and scatter of medieval pottery, whilst trenching for a gas pipeline in East Street<sup>18</sup> revealed a possible track-way path and a medieval boundary ditch. The following year archaeological remains of various periods were recorded during a watching brief at No.27 East Street<sup>19</sup> (c.290m northeast of the application site). These included a possible Roman corn drying kiln and a series of medieval and post-medieval pits and ditches. A tentatively-dated medieval pit was then found during a watching brief at No.23a East Street in 2008<sup>20</sup>.

### **Research Agenda**

4.5 In view of the historic character of the locality, the Written Scheme of Investigation considered that the site has potential to recover information to help address specific research questions raised by the Olney Historic Town Assessment<sup>21</sup>:

- i. Is there evidence for prehistoric settlement in the area of the historic town?
- ii. Is there evidence for Romano-British occupation in the area of the historic town?
- iii. Is there evidence for the extent and layout of Anglo Saxon Olney beyond that has been hypothesised from cartographic and documentary studies?
- iv. Is it possible to establish the date when the burgage type plots were laid out?
- v. What do activities at the rear of the burgage plots reveal about the economy of medieval Olney?

## **5 FIELD PROCEDURE**

5.1 The investigation was conducted with due consideration to Health and Safety and in accordance with the requirements of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and Standard Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2001). Ground reduction and trenching was monitored throughout by an archaeologist and recording was carried out in accordance with the WSI. Archaeological features were surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and height datum by RTK GPS.

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<sup>13</sup> Archaeologica HER 741500000, HER.No.859;

<sup>14</sup> 'The Old Barn, East Street, Olney, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire' Oxford Archaeology,2005, HER No. 580

<sup>15</sup> Ivens, R. 2001. 'Report on an Excavation of an Archaeological test pit at 100/102 High St, Olney;' Archaeologica, HER Event No. 550; Lisboa, I. 2003. "100/102 High Street, Olney, Milton Keynes' Archaeologica, HER Event No.881

<sup>16</sup> Fell, D. 2004. "Watching Brief: 96 High Street, Olney" Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd. HER No. 863.

<sup>17</sup> HER Event No. 855, *South Midlands Archaeology* 34 (2004), 31

<sup>18</sup> Byard, A. 2005 'Olney East Street, High Pressure Gas Pipeline - Archaeological Watching Brief'. Network Archaeology, HER Event No.862

<sup>19</sup> Lisboa, I. 2005. 'Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief at Land adjacent to 27 East Street, Olney', Archaeologica, HER Event No. 966.

<sup>20</sup> Ivens, R. 2008. 'Archaeological Watching Brief at 23a East Street, Olney, Archaeologica, HER Event 1139

<sup>21</sup> Olney Historic Towns Assessment, English Heritage, n.d., (post 2008),pp.73-74

## 6. INVESTIGATION RESULTS

- 6.1 In the descriptions which follow, context numbers in square brackets denote 'cuts' (i.e. dug features), whilst those in round brackets denote layers, deposits, fills or structures.
- 6.2 The areas of investigation measured approximately 2.4m x 3m (Figs. 2 and 3). A modern patio/yard (001) had been removed in advance, exposing a layer of modern sand and hardcore (002). Excavation of the wall foundation trench for the new extension first exposed a layer of limestone rubble in sandy clayey soil matrix (011), between 0.06m and 0.2m in thickness. There were no finds present. Beneath layer (011) were three pits of medieval date: [004], [007] and [009]. The first significant archaeological horizon was encountered at approximately 50.22m AOD (c.0.29m below the present day ground level of the back yard).
- 6.3 The earliest features were **pit [009]** and **pit [007]** which may have been contemporary. These had been cut into the geology (008), the latter which was comprised of dark yellowish-brown sandy clay. **Pit [009]** was partially exposed in plan (Figs. 3 and 7). It continued to the east beneath the existing house extension (Fig. 4, Section 3) and to the south beneath the patio (Fig. 4, Section 1, contexts [005]/(015)). It was at least 2m in length and 0.4m in width and more than 0.6m in depth. Only its west side was visible in section, which was inclined at c.50°. Its fill comprised mid to dark brown sandy soil (010). Two sherds of locally-produced coarse pottery were recovered (Table 1), suggesting a date of 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> century for the pit. The function of the pit is uncertain. **Pit [007]** was visible only in the north-facing section (Fig.4 Section 1 and Fig.5). Its east side was stepped down at 60° and 15° whilst its west side was steeply inclined at c.70°. It had a flattish base and an overall depth of 0.38m. The fill (006) consisted of mid to dark brown gritty sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecks. It merged with the fill of pit [009]. There were no artefacts present.
- 6.4 Dug into pits [007] and [009] was a large (c.1.9m - 2m dia.) sub-circular **pit [004]** (Fig. 3; Fig.4 Sections 2 and 3). This was fairly shallow, c.0.2m to 0.26m, with sides sloping at 60° and 70° to a flattish base. Its fill (003) consisted of limestone rubble (c.60%) and gritty dark brown sandy soil. Sherds of pottery suggest that the pit was in-filled in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Stacked at east side of the pit were four burnt/oxidised limestone fragments (016) (Fig.4, Section 3; Fig.7). At the bottom of the pit there was a very thin (0.01m) lining of dark reddish-brown (?oxidised) greasy ashy clay (014) (Fig. 3, Sections 2 and 3; Fig.8). Immediately above this was an equally thin band of dark bluish-grey mineralised sandy clay.

## 7. THE FINDS

### **The Medieval Pottery** by Martin Wilson

- 7.1 The medieval pottery identification and dating was done by Martin Wilson with confirmation by Jackie Wells MA. The sherds in the catalogue (Table 1) are arranged by Context Number. A total of seven medieval pottery sherds (80 grams) were recovered during the investigations from stratified contexts (Table 1). The pottery broadly dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. There is an overall minimum vessel count (MNV) of four (Table 2).
- 7.2 The assemblage consists of fragments of coarse ware cooking pots and dishes, a sandy medium grained ware which was produced locally at Olney Hyde<sup>22</sup>, Buckinghamshire and a single sherd from a jug or baluster from Brill in Buckinghamshire. The vessels represent household waste deposits. Specific sherds are shown at Figure 9.

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<sup>22</sup> Mynard, D.C. 1984. 'A Medieval Pottery Industry at Olney Hyde', *Record of Buckinghamshire*, 26 pp.56 - 85

7.3 **Table 1. Pottery: Types and chronology**

(Note: Fabric codes used in descriptions refer to those of the Bedfordshire Ceramic Type Series Concordance with common name and the Milton Keynes Post-Roman Type Series is given where possible).

Context No.	Description	Period
003	3 body sherds, cooking pots. Beds fabric B05/ Olney Hyde 'A' ware/ MK fabric MC 3. Locally produced. c.f Mynard, 1984	C12-13
	1 rim sherd, cooking pot. Non-specific medieval sandy ware.	C13
	1 body sherd, green lead glaze, jug or baluster. Beds fabric C09 / MK fabric MS9	C13
010	2 body sherds, cooking pots. Beds fabric B05 / Olney Hyde 'A' ware/ MK fabric MC 3, one with very degraded surfaces due to depositional context.	C12-13

7.4 **Table 2. Pottery: Quantification** (MNV= minimum number of vessels)

Context	No. of sherds	Weight (grams)	MNV
003	5	50	2
010	2	30	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>4</b>

**8. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

- 8.1 The investigation revealed that this part of the former burgage plot contains a series of pits that may be broadly dated by pottery to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Significantly, the evidence helps to shed light on an aspect of the medieval economy in Olney during the 13<sup>th</sup> century (*ante*. 4.9,v).
- 8.2 Three intercutting pits were partially revealed. The earliest of these were pits [007] and [009]. Two sherds of locally-produced (Olney Hyde) cooking ware provide a 12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> century date for pit [009]. One of the sherds had very degraded surfaces, most likely as a result of being in contact with a caustic substance (Fig.9, top). The sandy clay fills of these pits suggest that they were not dug for the disposal of rubbish.
- 8.3 The uppermost pit [004] was almost completely revealed in plan. It was sub-circular, and shallow (c.0.28m) with fairly steep sides and a flattish base. A small assemblage of 13<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds give a date for the infilling of the pit. However, since it had been largely backfilled with limestone rubble it is unlikely to have been dug for rubbish-disposal. Notably, the pit had a very thin basal lining of dark reddish brown greasy ash-like clay, above which was an equally thin band of dark bluish-grey mineralised sandy clay. It is possible that the mineralised band was either a residue of a substance stored in the pit, or else had resulted from a craft production process of some kind. The most likely interpretation is that of a cellar-pit. Sunken features of comparable dimension and date are known from two other sites at the rear of burgage plots in Olney (i.e. Nos. 85 to 91 High Street and 8-9 Rose Court; *ante*. 4.3). This type of medieval structure is particularly well-attested in Oxfordshire<sup>23</sup>, where, sometimes lined with clay, they are believed to have been used for cool storage of food such as meat and dairy products.

23 c.f. Sturdy, D. & Munby, J. 1985. Excavations in Cornmarket and Queen Street, 1959-62, *Oxoniensia*, v.I, 93

Another possible comparison is a possible clay-lined pit found at the site of a medieval tenement at Midland Road, Bedford in 1974<sup>24</sup>.

- 8.4 Turning to the other research questions raised (*ante*. 4.9, i to iv): there were no pre-medieval remains and no evidence to help establish date of the laying out of the burgage plots.

## 9. ARCHIVE

- 9.1 The Buckinghamshire County Museum's Accessions Number for the project is **AYBCM 2012.89**. The paper archive comprises field drawing sheets, monochrome photographs and digital photographs with photographic index. All artefacts will remain the property of the landowner.
- 9.2 The English Heritage OASIS Data Collection Form ID for this project is **souterra1- 139916**
- 9.3 The Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record Event Number is **1325**.

## 10. COPYRIGHT AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- 10.1 Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it will provide an exclusive licence to the Owner in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the WSI. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as defined in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. A licence is to be also granted to Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record for the use of all reports arising from projects for planning purposes and *bona fide* research requests.
- 10.2 Souterrain undertakes to respect all requirements for confidentiality about the Applicant's proposals provided that these are clearly stated. It is expected that owners respect Souterrain's and the Institute for Archaeologists' general ethical obligations not to suppress significant archaeological data for an unreasonable period.

V2. 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013

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<sup>24</sup> Hassal, J. 1974. Midland Road, Site BMR73, Period 1, Phase E, in Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal, Excavations in Bedford 1967-1977, Vol.13, 1979, pp.81-82



**Figure.1. Location of Site** (© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100015565)



**Figure 2. Overviews of the area of investigation. Facing northeast**

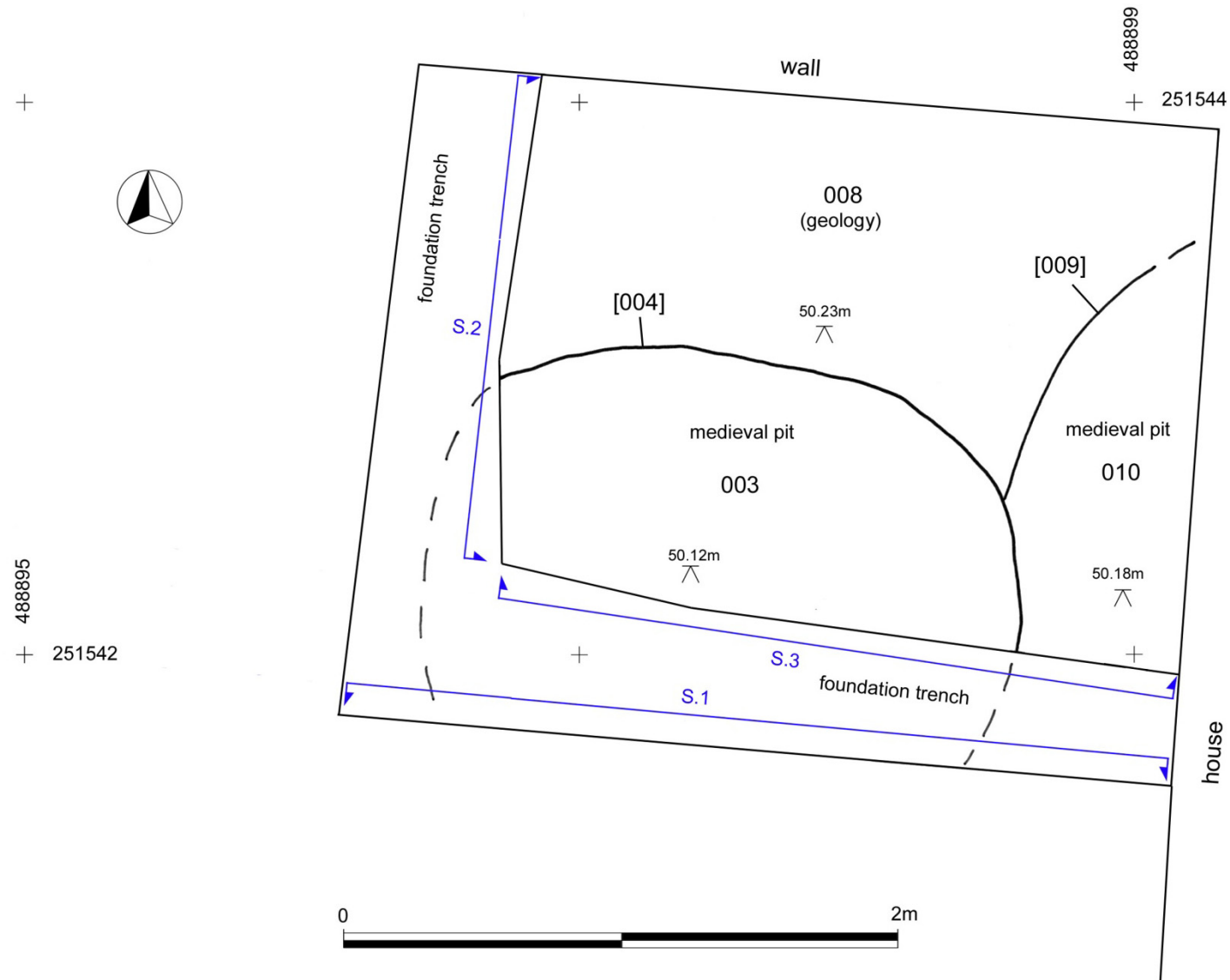


Figure 3. Plan of archaeological features

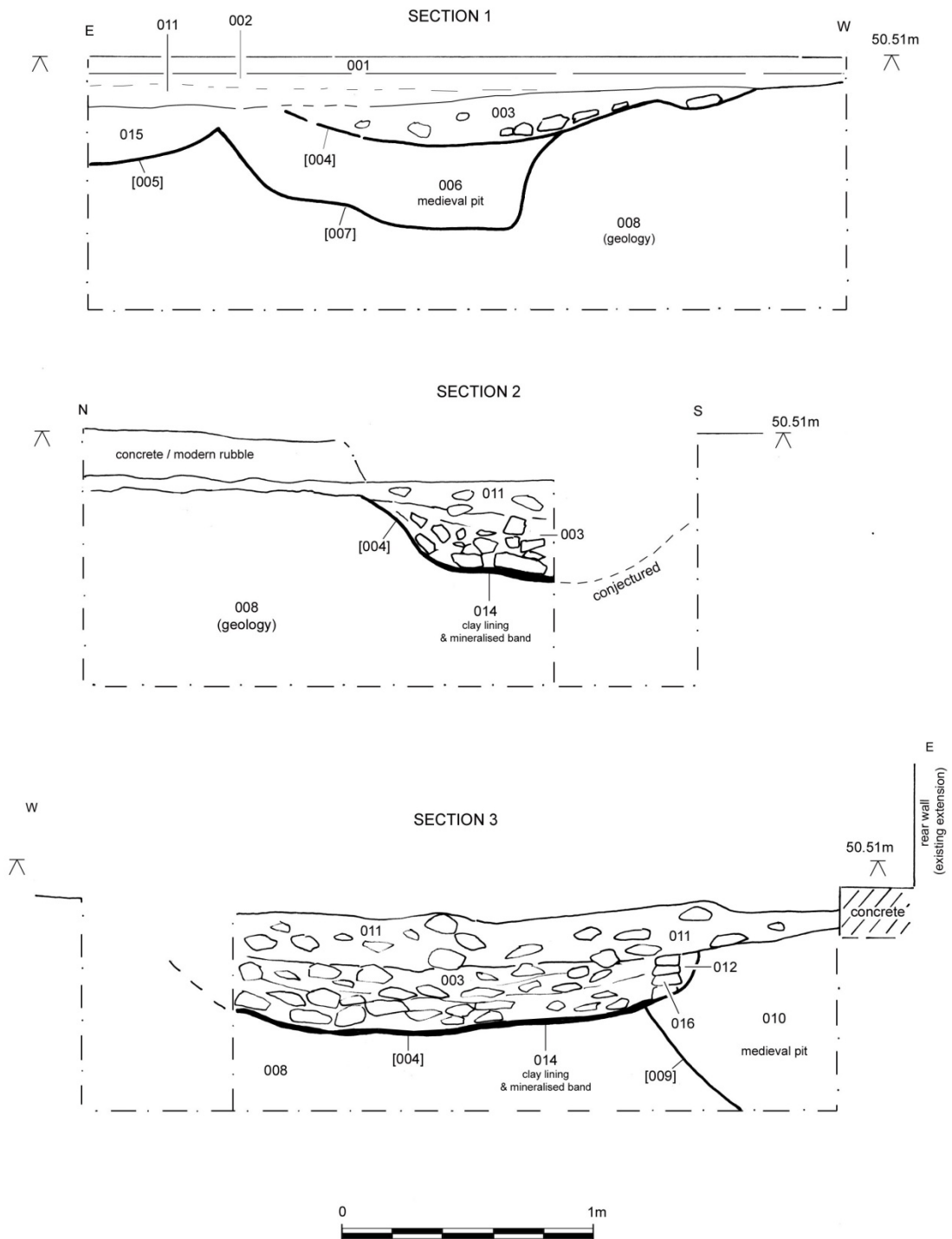


Figure 4. Sections through medieval pits





**Figure 5. Section 1, facing southwest**



**Figure 6. Section 3, facing north**



Figure 7. Reduced ground level, revealing medieval pits [004] and [009]. Facing north

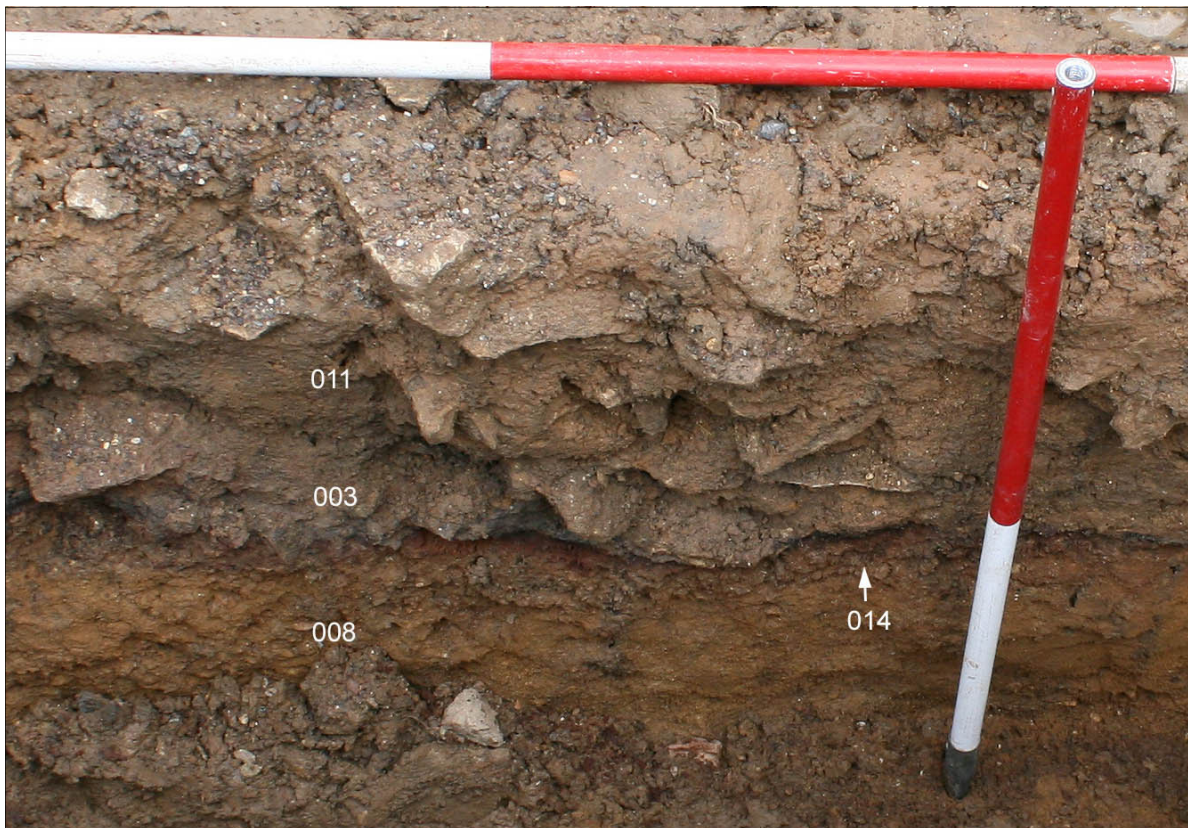


Figure 8. Close-up of oxidised deposit (014) at the base of pit [004]



**Figure 9. Pottery.**

Top. Context (010). Sherd of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century cooking ware with very degraded surfaces context (left: exterior, right: interior). This is a locally-produced ware from at Olney Hyde, Bucks (Beds B05; OH 'A'; / MK MC 3).

Bottom. Context (003). Nos. 1 to 3: 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century cooking ware in Olney Hyde 'A' fabric (Beds B05; MK MC 3). No.4.; piece of 13<sup>th</sup> century lead-glazed, jug or baluster from Brill, Bucks (Beds C09 / MK MS9). No. 5: rim of 13<sup>th</sup> century sandy ware cooking pot.

## APPENDIX 1 List of Contexts

**KEY:** Relationships: **a.** above; **abt.** abuts; **b.** below; **c.** cuts; **cub.** cut by; **co.** contains; **wi** within  
 Dimensions: **le.** length; **wid.** width; **de.** depth; **th.** thickness; **ht.** height

Context No.	TYPE	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
001	LAYER	Block paving, patio	a.(002)	th.c.0.1m	Section 1; Plan	20 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
002	LAYER	Modern rubble hardcore	b.(001), a.[004], (003), (015), (016)	th.0.1m-0.14m	Section 1; Plan	20 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
003	FILL	Gritty dark brown sandy soil with limestone rubble. Contains medieval pottery. Fill of pit.	b.(011); a.(014); wi.[004]	th.c.0.2m- c.0.26m	Sections 1 2 & 3: Plan	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
004	CUT	A large and wide, fairly shallow pit. Sub-circular. Sides inclined between 70° (E) and 60° (N and W). Four limestone fragments stacked on the east side (016). It is doubtful whether this was just a rubbish pit. Backfilled with limestone rubble and earth.  The bottom of the pit had a notable thin band of grey to dark red-brown soft and slimy ash-like stain/ oxidised deposit (014)	cu.[007], (006), (008) geology.	de. c.0.4m dia.c.1.9m - 2m	Sections 1 2 & 3: Plan	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
005	CUT	Medieval pit. Same feature as [009].	cu.(008); co.(015)	de.up to 0.21m	Section 1	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
006	FILL	Dark brown gritty sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of pit. No artefacts.	wi.[007]	th.0.28m-0.34m	Section 1	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
007	CUT	Pit. West side inclined c.70°, east side stepped c.60° to c.15° to flattish base.	cu.(008); cub.[004]; co.(006)	de.up to c.0.38m	Section 1	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
008	GEOLOGY	Dark yellowish-brown sandy clay.	cub.[004], [007] &[010]	-	Sections 1 2 & 3: Plan	-	15/16:10:2012
009	CUT	Pit. Same feature as [005]	co.(010); cub.[004]	de. >0.6m; wid.>0.4m; le.>2m	Section & 3: Plan	12 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
010	FILL	Mid to dark brown sandy soil Fill of large pit. Same fill as (005)	cu.(008); cub.[009]; cub. [004]	th. >0.6m		12 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
011	LAYER	Covered the hollow above pit [004]. Predominantly limestone rubble in sandy clayey soil matrix.	wi.[004], a.(003), b.(002)	th. between 0.06m and 0.2m	Sections 2 & 3	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012

Context No.	TYPE	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
012	FILL	Narrow deposit of dark brown gritty sandy soil back-filled between fragments of stacked limestone fragments (016) and the east side of pit [004].	wi.[004]; a.(016); b.(011)	wid. between 0.04m and 0.06m	Section 3	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
013	Not used	-	-	-	-	-	15/16:10:2012
014	LAYER	A thin band of blue grey, mineralised sandy clay ( generally 0.01m thick, below which there is dark red-brown slimy ash-like oxidised deposit, staining soil and limestone fragments, also generally 0.01m thick.	wi.[004]; b.(003)	th. generally 0.01m-0.02m but up to 0.03m	Sections 1, 2 & 3	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
015	FILL	Fill of medieval pit. Same fill as (010). Same in composition to (006). Dark brown gritty sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecks. There is no discernible division between this and fill (006).	wi.[005], b.(002)	th.up to 0.21m where visible in Section 1		13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012
016	DEPOSIT/ ?STRUCTURE	Four stacked fragments of limestone visible in the section only, on the east side of pit [004]. These were deliberately placed, although their function is unknown. They could not be clearly defined in plan due to limited depth of ground reduction.	wi.[004]; ?a.(016); b.(011)	ht. c.0.16m; wid.c.0.1m	Section 3	13 <sup>th</sup> century	15/16:10:2012