

# Channel Tunnel Rail Link

## Area 430 Parsonage Farm (ARC PFM 98) Post-excavation Assessment Report

October 2001



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*Front Cover: Detail of buttress, Building 2 room 2*

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## SUMMARY

As part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) the Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to undertake two phases of fieldwork at West of Parsonage Farm near Westwell in Kent (event code ARC PFM98). The works were an evaluation in 1997 followed by a detailed excavation and programme of preservation *in situ* in 1998 - 1999. A Watching Brief on the construction works was subsequently undertaken at the site by Oxford Archaeological Unit in 1999.

### *Neolithic-Bronze Age (c 2,000 – 600BC)*

A background presence of struck and burnt flint flakes shows general activity from this period CTRL Research strategy time period *Farming Communities (2,000 – 100BC)*.

### *Iron Age (c 50BC – AD50)*

On the western side of the site a stream was associated with a brushwood platform containing Iron Age pottery dating from 50BC to AD50. This platform was associated with a peaty deposit but, as this area was preserved *in situ*, it was only exposed in a trial trench of very limited extent. CTRL Research strategy time period *Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC – AD1700)*.

### *Roman (c AD50 – AD410)*

A background presence of Roman pottery shows general activity from this period.

### *Medieval (1050 – early 13<sup>th</sup> century)*

Two phases are seen during this period. The first is evidence for occupation/landuse in the form of a large ditch and pottery. Most of this level was sealed below later deposits, which were left unexcavated, preserved *in situ*.

The second phase involved the construction of a mound/building platform, revetment of the stream and the construction of a substantial masonry hall and associated timber buildings. The excavated features form the upper level of the preserved remains. It is possible the area of buildings was surrounded by a moat at this time, but the evidence was obscured by a later, enlarged, moat cut.

### *Medieval (13<sup>th</sup> century)*

The timber buildings were subsequently demolished and replaced with major (probably kitchen and domestic) ranges and a large hall. These buildings fronted the streams on the eastern and western streams with masonry walls, evidence points to the other waterfronts being of timber. The large moat was (re)excavated so as to be square in plan. A crossing point was located on the northern arm of the moat, consisting of a cobbled surface that descended into and ascended out of, the moat creating a fording point. A bridged crossing may have been located on the Station Road side but the evidence for this was not conclusive. Documentary evidence indicates a manor farm at Westwell was probably being dismantled around 1290 and this may be a reference to Parsonage Farm, as occupation on the site appears to be limited to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Evidence for deliberate and careful demolition of the site was seen in the almost total lack of demolition material (stone, plaster or timber). The only demolition deposit was a layer of broken pegtile that had been tipped into many parts of the moat. The earlier crossing points were replaced by causeways across the moat ditch.

*Later medieval and Post-medieval*

The site reverted to agricultural use and is marked as an orchard on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps. The farmer confirmed that he had, during the 1960's, filled in the still substantial moat ditch using a bulldozer. Much of the material used to fill the moat came from inside the moated area causing a general truncation in the northern zone. The field was also laid with drains of terracotta and plastic.

*General Potential*

Although moated manors are not uncommon in Kent Parsonage Farm represents one that has been excavated to high modern standards and is therefore a rare example of the type. Although the potential is limited by the extensive preservation of the earliest deposits and the general truncation of the northern part of the moated zone, the site has excellent potential to inform on the growth, development and decline of a substantial moated manor of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Documentary sources have been shown to augment the archaeological record and further work in this field is recommended to see if further links can be found. The finds and environmental assemblages will give an excellent snapshot into the nature and use of this fairly high status and relatively briefly occupied site.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 The Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS) was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Limited (URS) to undertake detailed excavation at Parsonage Farm (Figures 1, 2 and 3). This work formed part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL).

1.1.2 Following an archaeological evaluation (ARC PFM 97) the site was designated to further detailed archaeological investigation. The area of excavation was 110m by 130m overall (0.9 hectares), to the west of Station Road near Westwell, Kent. The approximate centre of this area was at URL grid point 78020 26040, corresponding approximately to Ordnance Survey national grid reference (NGR) 598050 146050. The ground sloped down from north to south. The excavation was assigned the site code ARC PFM 98.

1.1.3 The method of investigation was specified as ‘detailed excavation’. This method entailed machine stripping of topsoil and other deposits to expose the archaeological horizon followed by full hand excavation and recording of stratigraphic layers and archaeological features. In addition there was sufficient hand excavation and sampling of other features to fulfil the project aims (2.2 below). This methodology was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation, prepared by Rail Link Engineering (RLE) detailing the scope and methods of excavation and agreed by Kent County Council (KCC) and English Heritage (EH) on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. The work was undertaken from September to December 1998 with further fieldwork in February and March 1999.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The natural solid geology in the area of the site consists of Gault Clay to the north and Folkestone Beds to the south (Figure 2). Drift deposits of sandy silt are capped on higher ground to the north of the site by colluvial ‘head’ deposits of clayey silt and clay-with-flints. The drift geology of the site was fairly simple with yellow sands being exposed in the base of the deeper testpits and trenches. These sands had sometimes been stained blue-grey by water action. Capping these sands was a very thick deposit of unsorted orange brown silty clay containing occasional gravels.

1.2.2 Essentially the site lies on the side of a low knoll which has been cut by two streams. The streams flow from the north-west and the north-east and join together just to the south of the site. These streams were originally much broader than at present and their beds have been mostly deliberately infilled. In recent years the area has been prone to severe flooding from these streams (Station Road is known as Watery Lane further to the west).

1.2.3 Presently the site is bounded by Station Road to the east, and the London to Folkestone railway to the north. Ripple Court occupies the land to the south.



### 1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The site (Figures 1 and 3) lies in an area of significant archaeological and historical importance. To the east of the site a prehistoric flint scatter has been identified and *c* 800m to the north, at Tutt Hill, the remains of a Bronze Age cemetery have been found. A little further to the east (*c* 500m) are the field systems and occupation landscape around Beechbrook Wood, where extensive activity from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods have been recorded.
- 1.3.2 The village of Westwell is a parish of some 5,200 acres extending from the crest of the North Downs down to a region of level ground on the edge of the Weald. It is bounded to the south by the manor of Ripple.
- 1.3.3 To the east of the village of Westwell the ancient trackway, now known as the Pilgrim's Way is located at the base of the escarpment for the North Downs. The site of Parsonage Farm lies on a lane (Station Road/Watery Lane) that passes between the Pilgrims Way and the A20. It is likely that the A20 is roughly on the line of the Roman London to Dover Road at this point. The A20 is certainly on the line of the medieval and post-medieval Dover Road.
- 1.3.4 Westwell is a pre-conquest settlement. In Domesday Book there is reference to a mill, and a church is mentioned in Domesday Monachorum. It appears that the manor and church were 'sold' into lay hands and were occupied by a family calling themselves 'de Welle' through whom it came into the possession the de Bending Kentish family. It was confirmed back to the church again in 1240.
- 1.3.5 A preliminary desk-top assessment, conducted for URL by Oxford Archaeological Unit (URL 1994), identified the site as having possible archaeological interest. The vicinity of the site includes ancient woodland, now coppiced, medieval villages, isolated farmsteads, a 19<sup>th</sup> century railway line and Second World War pillboxes. Aerial photography had revealed linear and penannular cropmarks in an area roughly encompassing the subsequent area of excavation (URL 1994, gazetteer 1320, drawing 3081).
- 1.3.6 A surface collection (or fieldwalking) survey was commissioned by URL and carried out in 1990 (URL 1995). This survey was confined to the north of the area subsequently excavated, and identified a background scatter of struck flint with a possible concentration near the area of cropmarks (URL 1994, gazetteer 1352, drawing 3081; 1995, maps 15a & 15b). The small amounts of Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery recovered were not considered especially significant.
- 1.3.7 An evaluation of this site was commissioned by URL and undertaken by MoLAS in 1997 (URL 1997). A total of 19 trenches were opened over both the area eventually excavated and an area to the north. A trench in the former area revealed the stone foundations of a rectangular building, close to a relict bank of the eastern stream; pottery and roof tiles dated this structure to the medieval period. A large artificial channel, a moat, was identified to the north of the building, the backfill of which included large quantities of medieval roof tiles. Further to the north-east, outside the area later excavated, pits and ditches containing unabraded medieval pottery were excavated. Some pottery was dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century but most was dated to the mid 12<sup>th</sup> to the mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. The medieval building or buildings indicated by the evaluation, tentatively identified as a moated manor or a mill, were apparently undocumented and previously unknown.

## **2. ORIGINAL PRIORITIES, AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Research Objectives**

2.1.1 The was seen as a key area for studying the following CTRL Research Objectives:

*Farming communities (2,000-100BC)*

- Determine spatial organisation of the landscape in terms of settlement location in relation to fields, pasture, woodland, enclosed areas and ways of moving between these
- Consider environmental change resulting from landscape organisation and re-organisation
- Determine how settlements were arranged and functioned over time

*Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC - AD1700)*

- What was the effect of the development of towns (eg London, Ashford) on the organisation of the landscape?
- Did population increase and concentration effect natural resource exploitation and accelerate environmental change?
- How were settlements and rural landscapes organised and how did they function?
- How did the organisation of the landscape change through time?
- Consider the effect on the landscape of known historical events, e.g. the arrival of Roman administration

### **2.2 Landscape Zone Priorities**

2.2.1 In the light of discoveries made during the evaluation work, combined with the existing extent of knowledge within this area of Kent and the CTRL Research Strategy, the primary archaeological functions of the area were as follows:

*A reconstruction of the changing palaeo-environment for all time periods present, through 'on-site' and 'off-site' studies and the interaction with past economies:*

- The interaction with hunter-foragers;
- Changes arising from the adoption of agricultural economies
- The effects of and extent of clearance of the 'Wealden Wild Wood';
- Changes arising from early industrial economies;
- Woodland management for Roman, medieval and post-medieval iron working.

*Establish the basis of the rural economy for the area for all time periods, but especially through the recovery of material and environmental remains:*

- Changes to the organisation of the landscape through time;
- Prehistoric landscape division;
- The effects of the Roman administration
- Settlement morphology and function;
- Reliance on pastoralism versus arable farming;
- The importance of early industrialisation, e.g. medieval and later iron working and fulling;
- Utilisation of natural resources, e.g. woodland management/ utilisation of riverine and coastal resources;

- The effects of the rise and decline of the Roman administration on existing economies;
- Local, regional and international trade.

*Ritual and ceremonial use of the landscape:*

- Evidence for community in the area of the Medway Megaliths;
- The landscape setting of the Medway Megaliths;
- Evidence for change and continuity of burial practices between the late Iron Age and Romano-British period in east Kent.

## 2.3 Fieldwork Event Aims

2.3.1 On the basis of the evaluation the site was deemed to have a high potential for examining the organisation and function of a medieval rural occupation site and the medieval landscape, and possible accelerated environmental change due to population increase and concentration.

2.3.2 The primary excavation aims (taken from URL 1998) were:

- Determine the function and economic basis of the site;
- Establish the full extent and morphology of any structures or other archaeological remains;
- Establish the presence/absence, extent and morphology of any moat or other water course;
- Establish a dated sequence of occupation/use;
- Establish a snap-shot profile of a 'domestic assemblage' through the recovery of dated pottery assemblages;
- Investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation through the recovery of economic indicators such as faunal and charred plant remains;
- Determine the landscape setting of the site and interaction with the contemporary local environment;
- Recover palaeo-environmental indicators from well-dated sequences, including ditches, the 'moat' and any other palaeochannels.

## 2.4 Fieldwork Methodology and Summary of Excavation Results

(Figure 3)

2.4.1 The site limits were marked out by MoLAS surveyors based on information supplied by RLE. Within this area a metal detector survey was undertaken on the freshly cropped field. Finds were given special numbers (prefixed by MD) and their locations plotted by hand, measuring from a baseline laid from north to south across the area of detailed excavation.

2.4.2 The site was then stripped of all topsoil and subsoil down to the upper archaeological deposits. Once this was completed the site was hand cleaned. As the site was due to be covered with an embankment for the CTRL it was proposed that the moat and deepest stratigraphic deposits were to remain *in situ*. However, a number of limited investigation trenches were sunk into the site to address research objectives.

*Investigation Trenches (Figure 4)*

- 2.4.3 The first was a trench to investigate the natural geological formation processes (Figure 4, A). This trench identified a possible brushwood platform and peat deposits. A second trench was excavated across the western arm of the moat (Figure 4, B). The third was excavated to establish the nature of the deposits in the southern area of the site (Figure 4, C). After the completion of the majority of the hand excavation a series of testpits were excavated through the mound to establish the extent to which it was natural and man-made (Figure 4, D to K).
- 2.4.4 Three other test trenches (Figure 4, L to M) were dug during the investigation. Trench L was to examine the nature of potential quarry pits; Trench M was to expose and record the face of a masonry wall; Trench N was dug to examine the relationship between the southern stream channel and the mound.
- 2.4.5 Subsequently it was realised by RLE that a culvert would cut through the site and an additional two trenches were sunk. The northern trench (Figure 4, O) was to investigate the moat crossing, and the eastern (Figure 4, P) was to record the eastern buildings and revetments of the eastern moat arm.

*Area of Detailed Excavation (Figure 3)*

- 2.4.6 In the south-eastern area, after the archaeological surface was uncovered, the masonry and other archaeological features were excavated and recorded fully by hand. Individual features were excavated in accordance with the specifications for Detailed Excavation laid out in the Scope of Works (Appendix B, 2.4.2).
- 2.4.7 On exposure, all features were planned on pre-printed gridded permatrace and related to the site grid and individual contexts were recorded on pro-forma context sheets. Sections were drawn on pre-printed, gridded sheets of draughting film and the section positions accurately plotted using the site grid. The site grid was tied into the URL project grid. A photographic record was kept of individual archaeological features and sections, appropriate groups of features and structures. All structural timbers which survived in the waterlogged conditions were recorded by a wood specialist both *in situ* and after removal. Environmental samples, both bulk and column, were taken where necessary from features and deposits.

*Watching Brief*

- 2.4.8 The south-western and eastern parts of the area of detailed excavation were subject to a watching brief on construction works (contract 430), undertaken by the Oxford Archaeological Unit. This monitoring did not record any detail or new evidence; records being confined to a further description of moat deposits in the north east corner.

*Preservation in situ (Figure 4)*

- 2.4.9 Much of the lower levels of the site were preserved *in situ*. Except for the investigation trenches through the moat arms, southern and eastern streams, these deposits were sealed beneath a layer of protective, masking soils. The excavations through the mound (Figure 4, C, D to K) confirmed that an artificial layer, through which the features illustrated on Figure 5 were cut, potentially sealing earlier deposits. All the features illustrated on Figure 5 were carefully filled and sealed beneath a layer of protective, masking deposits.
- 2.4.10 The masonry walls not removed during the excavation (limited to the southern face of Building 2 Rooms 4/5, Figure 6) were sealed under geotextile, sand and fill for preservation.

- 2.4.11 The southern and north-eastern parts of the site were subject to CTRL construction works.
- 2.4.12 Summary of Results:  
*Neolithic-Bronze Age (c 2,000 – 600BC)*
- 2.4.13 A background presence of struck and burnt flint flakes shows general activity from this period. CTRL Research strategy time period Farming Communities (2,000 – 100BC).  
*Iron Age (c 50BC – AD50)*
- 2.4.14 On the western side of the site a stream was associated with a brushwood platform containing Iron Age pottery dating from 50BC to AD50. This platform was associated with a peaty deposit but, as this area was preserved *in situ*, it was only exposed in a trial trench of very limited extent. CTRL Research strategy time period Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC – 1700AD).  
*Roman (c AD50 – AD410)*
- 2.4.15 A background presence of Roman pottery shows general activity from this period.  
*Medieval (1050 – early 13<sup>th</sup> century)*
- 2.4.16 Two phases are seen during this period. The first is evidence for occupation/landuse in the form of a large ditch and pottery. Most of this level was sealed below later deposits which were left unexcavated, preserved *in situ*.
- 2.4.17 The second phase involved the construction of a mound/building platform (evidence from testpits through these deposits), revetment of the stream and the construction of a substantial masonry hall and associated timber buildings. The excavated features form the upper level of the preserved remains. It is possible the area of buildings was surrounded by a moat at this time, but the evidence was obscured by a later, enlarged, moat cut.  
*Medieval (13<sup>th</sup> century)*
- 2.4.18 The timber buildings were subsequently demolished and replaced with major (probably kitchen and domestic) ranges and a large hall. These buildings fronted the streams on the eastern and western streams with masonry walls, evidence points to the other waterfronts being of timber. The large moat was (re)excavated so as to be square in plan. A crossing point was located on the northern arm of the moat, consisting of a cobbled surface that descended into and ascended out of, the moat creating a fording point. A bridged crossing may have been located on the Station Road side but the evidence for this was not conclusive. Documentary evidence indicates a manor farm at Westwell was probably being dismantled around 1290 and this may be a reference to Parsonage Farm, as occupation on the site appears to be limited to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.
- 2.4.19 Evidence for deliberate and careful demolition of the site was seen in the almost total lack of demolition material (stone, plaster or timber). The only demolition deposit was a layer of broken pegtile that had been tipped into many parts of the moat. The earlier crossing points were replaced by causeways across the moat ditch.  
*Later medieval and Post-medieval*
- 2.4.20 The site reverted to agricultural use and is marked as an orchard on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps.

- 2.4.21 The farmer confirmed that he had, during the 1960's, filled in the still substantial moat ditch using a bulldozer. Much of the material used to fill the moat came from inside the moated area causing a general truncation in the northern zone. The field was also laid with drains of terracotta and plastic.

## **2.5 Assessment Methodology**

- 2.5.1 This assessment report was commissioned by URS to the specification for assessment reports produced by RLE (CTRL Section 1 Archaeology: Post excavation Assessment Instruction no. 000-RMA-RLEVC-00030-AB), as discussed with English Heritage and Kent County Council. The production of this report was managed MoLAS and specialist advice was provided by the Museum of London Specialist Services.
- 2.5.2 All of the context sheets, plans and sections have been checked and cross referencing completed. The hand drawn plans have been digitised using an AutoCAD system. A Harris Matrix of contexts has been compiled for the site and input into the Bonn Archaeological Seriation Programme. Sub-groups and groups have been defined by examining the Harris Matrix and the plans and sections of the site. The matrix has been annotated with the sub-group and groups. The groups have been assigned to preliminary land uses and phases of activity.
- 2.5.3 The pottery and ceramic building material has been washed and dated. The 'spot' dates have been entered into the MoLAS ORACLE database, subsequently transferred to RLE Datasets. An assessment of the prehistoric pottery has been included as Appendix 1; medieval pottery is included in Appendix 2. Ceramic building material assessment forms Appendix 3.
- 2.5.4 Worked, struck and burnt flints have been cleaned and assessed, the details of which are contained within the prehistoric flint assessment (Appendix 4) within this report.
- 2.5.5 Registered finds have been cleaned and given preliminary conservation where necessary and accessioned. The registered finds have been entered into the Oracle database. The assessment of the registered finds is contained within Appendices 5 to 8 and 11 in this report.
- 2.5.6 The animal bone assessment is contained within Appendix 9 in this report. All the bone, both hand collected and that contained within environmental samples, has been washed and sorted. The bones were recorded using the Oracle database. This involved the description and summation of each context assemblage with regards to species-representation, skeletal part distributions, and age and size data.
- 2.5.7 The bulk soil samples were processed by flotation and wet sieving. The resulting flots and residues have been scanned and sorted and identified environmental remains catalogued within the Oracle database. The assessment of the remains has been undertaken and is described as Appendix 10 in this report. The monolith samples have been analysed and an assessment has been included as Appendix 12.
- 2.5.8 A thorough documentary assessment, by an external researcher, was undertaken of sources in Canterbury and Maidstone (Appendix 13).

### 3. FACTUAL DATA AND QUANTIFICATION

#### 3.1 The Stratigraphic Record

- 3.1.1 Dating evidence suggests that the following periods were represented in the archaeological data.

*Neolithic/Bronze Age (c 2,000 – 600BC)*

*CTRL Research strategy time period: Farming Communities (2,000 – 100BC).*

- 3.1.2 The site is located at the confluence of two streams. Evidence for prehistoric land surfaces and occupation was limited to a background presence of struck and burnt flint flakes. Late Iron Age/ early Roman (100 BC - AD100)

*Late Iron Age/ early Roman (100BC - AD100)*

*CTRL Research strategy time period: Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC – AD1700).*

- 3.1.3 Evidence for this period was confined to an investigation trench, excavated adjacent to the western stream (Figure 3 – 227 Area of Brushwood). Timber and brushwood exposed in this trench has been dated by associated pottery to between 50BC and AD50, although this may be redeposited, and by the character of tool marks on the timber and by its stratigraphic position. The wood was found within a deposit of peat adjacent to the stream, sealed by colluvial deposits of silty clay. The timber appeared to be part of a platform constructed on the edge of this stream but its function is unclear due to the limited excavation area. This limitation was due to the area remaining largely unaffected by CTRL works (Figure 4).

- 3.1.4 In the northern end of investigation trench C (Figure 4) a thin deposit of peat containing flecks of a red substance, possibly burnt daub, was also noted sealed beneath medieval make-up material which formed the mound of the medieval manor.

- 3.1.5 A background presence of Roman material was also noted.

*Medieval -general*

- 3.1.6 The medieval use of the site has been divided into three phases (medieval phases I to III). For the purposes of the discussion below the medieval manor has been labelled Building 1 (rooms 1 to 7) for medieval Phase II and Building 2 (rooms 1 to 6) for medieval phase III. It should be noted that Building 1 room 1 is retained to be Building 2 room 1.

*Medieval Phase I: (c AD1050–early 13<sup>th</sup> century) (Figure 4)*

- 3.1.7 During the Late Anglo-Saxon or Early Norman period the site was an un-enclosed area bounded by the two streams. A ditch (Figure 3) was recorded in a trench of limited extent on the south-eastern side of the site. The ditch was up to 1m wide and survived to a depth of 0.9m. It was oriented parallel with, but at a higher level than, the eastern stream. This feature was traced for a length of at least 17m within the area of excavation and a single smashed vessel dating 1050 to 1150 was found in the waterlain fill.

3.1.8 The ditch, which had an unusual shape in plan (narrow to wide), has been interpreted as a possible leet or race for a watermill although could also be part of a high water management scheme. The interpretation of the former is partly based on the ditch plan/profile and the amount of pottery dating 1050-1150 located on the site, which appears to indicate a degree of occupation, rather than simply agricultural activity.

3.1.9 No other features of this period were exposed as these levels were preserved under later deposits left *in situ*.

*Medieval Phase II: (AD c1225–1250 by pottery) (Figure 5)*

3.1.10 In the early 13<sup>th</sup> century a major construction phase was undertaken. Evidence from the investigation trenches dug through the mound (Figure 4, D to K) indicated a substantial layer of redeposited material had been used to level the zone within the moated area. The side of the hill to the north was perhaps partly cut away and a large platform, around 50m across appears to have been constructed. Due to a later re-cut it can not be stated that there was definitely a moat dug at this stage but one is very likely (partly as a source for dump material). The edges of the mound were probably initially revetted with wood (a 'beam slot' was recorded on the western side, Figure 4) but, although the limits of the mound were visible on the east and south sides, these areas remained largely un-excavated. On top of the mound a complex of masonry and wooden buildings were constructed which form the layout of a classic Norman Hall and associated buildings/manor house (Building 1).

*Building 1 Room 1*

3.1.11 A large masonry hall (Building 1 room 1) was constructed on the eastern side of the mound, to take advantage of the imposing aspect of this part of the site as seen from 'Station Road' (the route from the A20 London-Dover road to the village of Westwell). The remains of the foundations for the masonry walls and the posthole alignments suggest that this was a classic Norman construction with a first floor hall (Plate 1 & Figure 4). Internally the building measured 18.5m in length and was up to 6m wide. The first floor was supported on posts (three of which survived and another two are implied spatially) and a possible stairway, situated at the south-east corner of the hall may have led from the ground floor to the upper storey. The ground floor had no evidence for hearths and was probably a storage area.

3.1.12 A probable stream crossing point (bridge) was likely to have been located to the east of this hall. From the postulated arrangement of the rooms the bridge would have had to have been in the area to the north-east, beyond the zone of detailed archaeological works.

*Western and northern ranges*

3.1.13 To the west and north of the hall groups of postholes indicate wall lines, hearths (scorched areas) indicate internal spaces and areas of cobbling appear to represent thresholds and paths. The structural elements, comprising a combination of beam slots and postholes, appear to represent a group of timber rooms of one and two storeys.

*Building 1 Room 2*

3.1.14 Room 2 comprised a hall like structure roughly 14m x 7m with centrally placed hearths. There were probably four entrances and it is likely that there were two storeys.



*Building 1 Room 3*

- 3.1.15 Room 3 was very truncated but has been conjectured to include the pit and sluice arrangement that fed into the western stream/moat. This room may have been roughly 12m x 6m and connected to the Hall room 1 via an external path. There were two gravel thresholds placed opposite each other in the north-western and south-eastern walls. There was a presumed threshold in the north-east wall. It is thought, from its location within the manor complex, that room 3 forms a kitchen unit.

*Building 1 Room 4*

- 3.1.16 Room 4 is positioned between rooms 2 and 3 and appears to have contained a large pit. It is possible this pit was for refuse from the hall/kitchen.

*Building 1 Room 5*

- 3.1.17 Room 5 has been identified on the basis of postholes located adjacent to the hall room 1, its situation next to the external pathway and the location of two gravel thresholds. Room 5, roughly 2m x 10m, was probably a store.

*Building 1 Room 6*

- 3.1.18 Room 6, roughly 20m x 6m, forms a range on the northern side of the complex. It has been proposed due to the location of a series of storage pits, alignments of postholes and a potential gravel threshold. Five pits have been identified, all approximately the same size and roughly equally spaced within the room. It is likely that these were for grain store, although the samples could not determine this. There was an entrance to room 2 in the north-west corner and an exit to outside on the north-eastern wall. It is also likely that there was a connection, via a short corridor, to room 7.

*Building 1 Room 7*

- 3.1.19 Room 7, measuring c 13m x 5m, appears to have been divided onto two halves. The eastern half measured 7.5m x 5m, was floored with a gravel surface with a circular pit located in the south-west corner. The other section had some shallow structural elements in the floor, which could represent the baseplates for animal stalls. It is therefore suggested that this was a stable for horses, surfaced with gravel and tile with a sump for ease of cleaning. Room 7 appears to have been connected to room 2 via room 4; the north-west wall appears to have been largely open.
- 3.1.20 Occupation debris associated with this phase of building contained pottery dating between 1125 and 1250. Debris from the demolition of these buildings contained a considerable amount of roof tile, probably indicating that many rooms had tile roofs. Floor levels, in general, did not survive.
- 3.1.21 Further to the east was a large quarry pit, which had been filled with a considerable quantity of pottery (possibly a clearance deposit). This pit had been cut by the (enlarged?) moat cut of Medieval Phase III.

*Medieval Phase III: (c 1250 – 1350 by pottery)(Figure 6)*

- 3.1.22 A new construction campaign appears to have commenced around 1250.

*Moat*

- 3.1.23 The main moat was excavated to form a central area, roughly square in plan, measuring c 49m by 45m. The moat cut was a minimum of 7m wide by up to 3m deep on the northern and western arms. The northern arm appeared to have been partially revetted with wooden stakes on the internal face. To the east, west and south the moat was formed from the two stream channels, the full widths of which were not recorded as they were beyond the limits of excavation. The eastern stream 'arm' is estimated to be a minimum 15m wide. The northern and western 'artificial' arms of the moat may have remained mostly dry, or contained water only during the winter months. The fill of the moat was marked by a lack of domestic waste possibly indicating a fairly short duration of Phase III or that it was deliberately kept clean.

*Potential eastern crossing point(s)*

- 3.1.24 Attached to northern side of the solar wing (Building 2 room 2 below) was a 5m length of masonry waterfront. This could well be connected with a bridged crossing of the eastern stream at this point. Immediately upstream from the masonry a potential metalling of gravel and tiles could possibly have formed a 'slipway' ford (for animals) across the stream (located directly beneath the later causeway, Figure 6).

*Northern crossing point*

- 3.1.25 A metalled track was recorded to the north of the moat, the surfacing of which descended into the moat cut. A large area of erosion on the north side of the moat was also noted, and this could be evidence for animals milling before fording the moat cut. Pottery dates this erosion as contemporary with the use of the manor. Inside the moated area the evidence for the track was more truncated but a linear area of staining and grit probably formed a continuation.

*Building 2: Room 1*

- 3.1.26 Building 1 room 1 (the masonry hall) is retained for Building 2 room 1. There is substantial evidence for the buttressing up of the north-eastern wall of this room. There are also a number of repairs to the north-western wall.

*Building 2 Room 2*

- 3.1.27 The main masonry hall, room 1 was retained. To the east of this the development took the form of a masonry extension to form a 'solar' wing (room 2), which formed a masonry waterfront for part of this side of the moat. The location of this building, extending from the north-eastern corner of the two storey stone hall is typical construction for a first floor chapel. The wing building was 7.5m long and 4m wide and is on the same alignment and of similar proportions to the 13<sup>th</sup> century chapel attached to the first floor solar at Old Soar, near Plaxtol, Kent (Wood, M, 1965).

- 3.1.28 A further possibility is that this wing was associated with a mill, the wheel of which would have been placed on the massive stone waterfront. A large stone buttress with a cutwater base was added to the south-west corner of this waterfront, presumably due to structural weaknesses.

*Building 2 Rooms 3, 4, 5 and 6*

- 3.1.29 The western and northern ranges of Building 1 rooms 2 to 7 were demolished and the area levelled for re-construction (with layer [382]).

### *Room 3*

- 3.1.30 Room 3 appears to represent an enlargement and re-construction of the timber hall Building 1 room 2. Building 2 room 3 measured approximately 20m x 12m (although the north-western limit was not obvious). Room 3 involved a partial re-facing of the north-east wall of the masonry hall room 1. Room 3 forms a classic medieval aisled hall.
- 3.1.31 The external walls appear to have been constructed using wooden base plates and low sill walls of tiles and clay rather than postholes. Internally the irregular position of the pier bases can be explained by the possibility of large stone flags being used as pads in places, which have since been removed. There appear to have been five bays, incorporating a narrow central bay. Building 2 room 3 is on a slightly different alignment from the connected rooms 4 and 5 (below) and the gap in between seems to have been deliberately filled in with clay, tile and flint, to preserve the straight internal lines (of room 3). The north-west corner of room 3 appears to have been heavily buttressed. Internally a number of floor preparation layers were recorded.
- 3.1.32 Occupation debris that built up in the timber hall has produced a significant finds assemblage including two small decorated buckle frames and household fittings such as a hooked fitting or tool and a bolt or pin. Pottery recovered from this layer-included fragments from cooking pots, cauldrons and dishes. The pottery dates from between 1125 and 1250.
- 3.1.33 Room 3 was connected with room 4 to the west via what appears to have been a dog-leg corridor c 1m wide (although additions of postholes in this area have probably obscured the evidence).

### *Building 2 Rooms 4 and 5*

- 3.1.34 Rooms 4 and 5 form the western range and share a length of masonry river wall, fronting the western stream. Rooms 4 and 5 have been separated due to the different constructions used in the wall elements. Room 4 was connected to room 3 to the north, room 5 to the north-west and led to an external area to the south-east. Room 4 probably measured 17m x 6m and an internal post-pad was recorded.
- 3.1.35 Room 5 probably measured 16m x 7m. Two post-pads were evident, along with an internal flint lined storage pit. It is envisaged that the external wall passed close to the western side of this pit. There could, potentially, have been a westward extension to this room which placed the storage pit more centrally in the room.
- 3.1.36 In the area of rooms 4 and 5 the metal detector survey collected all the tripod feet from cooking cauldrons. It is likely that these rooms comprised kitchens and probably domestic quarters.
- 3.1.37 To the south-east of room 4 the masonry waterfront appeared to continue with wooden posts (and possibly planks). Some posts were partially exposed in investigation trenches N and C (Figure 4) but were left *in situ*.

### *Building 2 Room 6*

- 3.1.38 At the north-western end of room 3, a flint lined garderobe was set inside a timber structure; room 6. The cesspit was connected to a pit further down-slope to the west.

*Other areas*

- 3.1.39 To the north of Building 2 room 6 was a series of intercutting pits containing potential evidence for some form of ‘industrial’ activity. The pits were scorched red at depth and contained possible ‘kiln lining material’. The function of these pits remains uncertain but they could be connected with smithing, as such an activity could be expected on this site (no hammerscale or slag was, however recovered).

*Demolition of the Manor (1300 to 1350 by pottery, possibly around 1290 by documentary evidence)*

- 3.1.40 It appears that the buildings were deliberately dismantled, with building stone and timbers being fairly carefully removed, within the period 1300–1350 (by pottery). The lack of worked stone (or much stone at all) in the demolition debris suggests that this was also reused elsewhere. There is no evidence that the site was allowed to decay, with wall/roof collapses and timbers rotting *in situ*. Broken roof tiles and some cobbles were tipped along the inner edge of the moat, which also perhaps indicates a form of organised clearance (as little other material was associated with these dumps). Documentary sources appear to state that a manor or farm was being dismantled in Westwell in 1290; it is possible that Parsonage Farm was that site.

*Post-medieval and modern*

- 3.1.41 At least two ‘causewayed’ crossings were built with earth, brushwood (Figure 4, trench O), stone cobbles and kerb stones; one situated in the centre of the north-eastern arm of the moat, the other towards the middle of the eastern arm. In all cases the postholes of the causeways cut through the filled-in moat/stream deposits, indicating a post-medieval date. Concerning the eastern crossing, this must have lead to a small bridge as the stream was still active; any remains were beyond the limit of the detail works. These crossings appear to reflect earlier crossing points (see Medieval Phase III). A line of postholes marked the northern crossing. A third possible crossing (defined by intermittent postholes) was noted to the south of the moated area (Figure 6).
- 3.1.42 A number of land drains were found which indicate that the area had been drained from the beginning of the post-medieval period until the 20th century. A few isolated cut features inside and outside the moat variously contained medieval roof tiles and later materials.
- 3.1.43 The farmer confirmed that the still extant moat cut, where not causewayed, and which appears on early 20<sup>th</sup> century Ordnance Survey maps, was substantially filled in around 1960 by bulldozing the areas of the mound adjacent to the moat (both within the moated area and without) into the moat cut. This caused extensive truncation to the limits of the mound (as seen by the blank areas on Figure 6). This material was investigated in trenches P and B (Figure 4) and was found to be free of demolition material.

### 3.2 The Artefactual Record

#### *Pottery*

3.2.1 A small assemblage (31 sherds, 230g) of Late Iron Age – early Roman and Late Roman pottery was recovered. The Late Iron Age-early Roman material is associated with a timber brushwood platform that appears to pre-date the medieval activity separated by a layer of peat. The pottery is mainly grog-tempered and ‘Belgic’ style and has been dated *c* 50 BC – AD 50/60. The late Roman sherds are residual but suggest activity during the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century in this area.

3.2.2 A large group of domestic pottery (3,949 sherds, 59.438kg) dating to the mid 12<sup>th</sup> to later 13<sup>th</sup> century was found which was used by the inhabitants of the manor. The majority comprises kitchen equipment made in local wares, but a number of jugs are also present, both in local wares and imported from further afield. These include several examples from London and at least two from France.

#### *Ceramic Building Material*

3.2.3 A total of 239.605 kg of building material, including 1.15 kg of stone, 0.63 kg of daub and 0.61 kg of painted wall plaster, was examined. A single fragment of moulded stone was also examined. A total of 120 contexts contained building material, of which 83 were small, fourteen medium, eight large and fifteen very large. The majority of the identifiable material was of medieval date, although one context contained a very abraded probable Roman fragment, two contexts contained material of early post-medieval date and four contained 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century material. Six contexts, which contained only daub or stone, were undated.

3.2.4 The ceramic building material from the site is largely early medieval roof tile. The range of fabric types represented indicates that the material must have come from three main sources, probably all of which were local, with small quantities of other types also present. A number of tiles are almost complete, and their typology should provide a useful comparison for similar sites in the region.

#### *Stone Objects*

3.2.5 Five stone artefacts were recovered. Four are domestic implements dating to the medieval period, fragments from three mortars and part of a hone. The remaining object is an incomplete pencil, probably dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### *Glass*

3.2.6 Two fragments of glass were recovered. Both are unstratified and date to the post-medieval period and are from table wares, probably drinking vessels.

#### *Metal Objects*

3.2.7 A total of 50 metal objects were recovered. Of these 19 are medieval in date and almost certainly derive from the moated site and its inhabitants. They include both domestic objects, such as the vessel feet and rim fragments, candleholders, and various structural and household fittings. Of particular interest are the dress accessories and possible horse harness pendants, which indicate a degree of wealth and importance. Some of these pieces can be paralleled in urban assemblages, such as London and Norwich. The remaining 31 metal objects are all post-medieval in date.

### *Coins*

- 3.2.8 Six coins were recovered from the site, of which four are unstratified (but from the topsoil above the archaeological remains). Only one of the coins (from context [607]) is medieval in date. All of the others date to the post-medieval period.

### *Shell Objects*

- 3.2.9 Only one shell object was found, an oyster shell palette containing traces of a red pigment. It was recovered from a structural cut possibly associated with a wall. Shell palettes are known from London, where they have been found in contexts dating to the 12th century and later (Pritchard 1991, 170); they are thought to have been used for wall painting.

## **3.3 The Environmental Record**

### *Animal Bone*

- 3.3.1 A total of 9.01kg, approximately 791 fragments, of animal bones were recovered from 77 contexts, including seven soil samples. Of the total fragment count, 430 fragments were identifiable to species and body part. This included 79 bones with potential for ageing data, 33 that can be measured and 60 with butchery marks. No worked bones were recovered and one bone showed evidence of pathology.

### *Plant Remains*

- 3.3.2 Thirty-seven samples have been assessed for charred and waterlogged plant remains. Occasional charred cereal grains were found in many of the samples, and seven contained larger charred assemblages, including weed seeds and probably cultivated pulses, as well as cereal grains. These samples were all taken from medieval ditch fills (the moat). A further three samples, from stream channel fills and a peat layer, contained well-preserved waterlogged plant remains.

### *Monolith Samples*

- 3.3.3 Five monolith sequences were cut from exposed sections:
- one monolith sequence was recovered from the channel on the western side of the site (Figure 6)
  - one sequence came from a ditch interpreted as a possible mill-race or leet, on the south-eastern side of the site (Figure 4)
  - one sequence came from the eastern stream channel (Figure 6)
  - one sequence came from the first phase of the (eastern) medieval moat arm (Figure 5)
  - one sequence came from the fills in the northern medieval moat arm (Figure 6)
- 3.3.4 The sediments sampled in each tin were cleaned and described using standard sedimentary criteria. This attempts to characterise the visible properties of each deposit, in particular relating to its colour, compaction, texture, structure, bedding, inclusions, clast-size and dip.
- 3.3.5 The various parts of many of the sequences are quite well dated through pottery and most of the layers relate to the medieval and post-medieval character of the site and all end with a period of hillwash and erosion.

### **3.4 Dating**

- 3.4.1 None of the timbers so far examined (small sticks recovered from the peat deposit in the eastern corner of the site (Figure 6) have enough tree-rings for dendrochronological analysis.
- 3.4.2 The pottery assemblage provides the basis for the dated sequence of occupation and use.
- 3.4.3 There is also potential for dating the changing nature of the local environment and the impact of human activity by the radiocarbon dating of organic deposits recovered from the monolith samples.
- 3.4.4 There is potential for radiocarbon dating for the peat deposits, but these are all well dated by pottery.

### **3.5 Archive Storage and Curation**

- 3.5.1 The ceramic building material is well preserved and should not deteriorate significantly as long as it is stored in clean, stable conditions with careful handling.
- 3.5.2 The six coins are stable. The Museum of London's policy for archive preparation of these coins would be to repack them in crystal boxes with acid free tissue backing.
- 3.5.3 All conserved objects are packed in archive quality materials and stored in suitable environmental conditions. Records of all conservation work are prepared on paper and on the Museum of London collections management system (Multi MIMSY) and are currently stored at the Museum of London subject to final archive deposition.
- 3.5.4 Some consolidation of the shell palette and secure re-packaging is required for long term stability.
- 3.5.5 The glass and stone artefacts are relatively stable and are packed appropriately for archive.

### **3.6 Parsonage Farm Documentary Assessment**

#### *Historical background.*

- 3.6.1 Westwell is a pre-conquest settlement. In Domesday Book there is reference to a mill (worth 30 pence) and a church is mentioned in Domesday Monachorum. The manor and church were confirmed to Christ Church Priory in Canterbury in 1070 for the use of the priory table.
- 3.6.2 Subsequently it appears that the manor and church were 'sold' into lay hands and were occupied by a family calling themselves 'de Welle' through whom it came into the possession 'at farm' of a Peter de Bending, a member of a leading Kentish family.

- 3.6.3 Peter, having fallen into financial straits, sold it back to Christ Church.<sup>1</sup> Following an appeal from his widow, who claimed the manor as her property in gavelkind, it was confirmed to Christ Church again in 1240.
- 3.6.4 It is after Christ Church resumed possession of the manor that various developments took place. Around 1250 (according to architectural dating) a new church was built in what is now the village of Westwell.
- 3.6.5 Henry Eastry became Prior of Christ Church in 1285 and set himself the task of reorganising and improving the buildings, and working of the demesne farms. Westwell was the scene of major alterations. Probably it was under his auspices that a tile factory was established<sup>2</sup> and was making great numbers of tiles for both local building work and for sale to other manors. Lime burning was also carried out.
- 3.6.6 The 1291-1292 bedel roll that gives the most detailed account of work here.<sup>3</sup> This year both the cider mill and a stable were removed and set up in a new place. A great barn was taken down and rebuilt on a new 'barton' or farm - clearly present-day Westwell. A new ox-house was also built here; but an old ox-house and an old barn were de-roofed and taken down completely - presumably on the site from which the Great Barn was removed. Prior Eastry's memorandum Book records a lot of work at Westwell at this time, including the building of a new water mill.<sup>4</sup> There were also a number of small new buildings being erected at various places including the park, which was enlarged.<sup>5</sup> This was a deer park<sup>6</sup> undoubtedly designed to provide venison for the monks 'table' at Canterbury. It was situated just north of the Parsonage Farm (ARC PFM 98) site. There are also references to a 'vinarium' in the park and a later document mentions land called the 'Vyneyarde'.
- 3.6.7 There is an inescapable impression that the demesne farm, or manor, was being moved from its original site to a more suitable site close to the new church. The interesting question is from where was the barn, stable and cider mill being moved?

#### *Glossary*

- **Bedel roll:** The accounts kept by the 'serviente' or sergeant, who served as farm manager, were recorded twice yearly when Monk Wardens from Christ Church Priory visited the demesne farms. A 'visus' was taken in the spring, and the final accounts were written up at Michaelmas and it is these that form most of the bedel rolls.
- **At farm:** medieval term meaning the holding was rented.
- **Gavelkind:** a form of land tenure common in Kent, whereby land was partible in equal portions among sons and/or daughters, after allowance for a widow's dower of half the property, when the owner died intestate.
- **Rector:** Incumbent of a parish with an entitlement to the tithe.

<sup>1</sup> Archaeologia Cantiana Vol 6 p. 305

<sup>2</sup> Arch Cant. Vol 116 p.35

<sup>3</sup> Bedel Roll No 2

<sup>4</sup> Prior Eastry's Memorandum Book

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Hasted History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent Vol 7



### 3.7 Archive index

Table 1: Archive Index

#### ARCHIVE INDEX

Item	Number Of Items or boxes or other	No of Fragments or litres or weight	Condition (No. of items) (W=washed; UW=unwashed; M=marked; P=processed; UP=unprocessed; D=digitised; I=indexed)
<b>Parsonage Farm ARC PFM 98</b>			
Contexts records	1188		I
A1 plans	-		
A4 plans	650		D, I
A1 sections	-		
A4 sections	50		D, I
Small finds	2 boxes size 1; 2 size 3	112	W, M, P, I
Films (monochrome) S=slide; PR=print	209 PR		I
Films (Colour) S=slide; PR=print	209 S		I
Lithics (boxes)	1 box size 1	57	W, I
Burnt flint (boxes)	See lithics	1.24kg	W, I
Pottery (boxes)	25 size 1	3980	W, I
Fired clay (boxes)	1 size 1	0.63kg	W, I
CBM (boxes)	9 size 7; 9 size 8	237kg	W, I
Stone (boxes)	6 size 1; 4 size 9	35.72kg	W, I
Metalwork (boxes)	2 size 1		W
Glass (boxes)	n/a		
Slag & metalwork debris (boxes)	1 size 1		W
Human Bone (boxes)	n/a		
Animal Bone (boxes)	7 size 1	791	W, I
Molluscs	n/a		
Flora	1 size 1		P, I
Flots	2 size 1		P, I
Misc.	1 size 1		
Soil Samples (10lit. buckets)	75		P – 100%
Soil Samples (no. of contexts)	37		P, I
Soil Samples (Monolith/kubiena tin)	3		P, I
Samples absolute dating	2		

## Quantification of Finds by volume (ARC PFM 98)

<b>Description</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Total Volume</b>
Shoe box (size 1)	0.0108m <sup>3</sup>	49	0.5292m <sup>3</sup>
Large 'Stewart box' (size 3)	0.0154m <sup>3</sup>	2	0.0308m <sup>3</sup>
Medium crate (size 7)	0.0365m <sup>3</sup>	9	0.3285m <sup>3</sup>
Large crate (size 8)	0.05191m <sup>3</sup>	9	0.4672m <sup>3</sup>
Skull box (size 9)	0.00856m <sup>3</sup>	4	0.0342m <sup>3</sup>
Total			1.3899m <sup>3</sup>

## 4. STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

### 4.1 Stratigraphy

*CTRL Time Period: Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC – AD1700).*

*Late Iron Age/Early Roman*

- 4.1.1 The Late Iron Age or Early Roman activity is indicative of land management and the exploitation of local resources during this period. No evidence for landscape divisions was found but the limited evidence for occupation at or near the site can be added to the wider body of knowledge that already exists for the area. This material has no further potential

*Medieval*

- 4.1.2 Other moated medieval sites similar to the Parsonage Farm site have been studied and a gazetteer compiled (Tatton-Brown 1977; Champion & Overy 1989). Most of the 130 and more sites known in Kent, where sites are comparatively common, are located in the Weald and occupation of many of them began in the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Few such sites have been excavated to modern standards and this site is especially notable for having been apparently dismantled in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, with the consequent benefit that its early history, function and economic basis have not been obscured by later phases. This site has considerable potential for comparative analysis with other moated sites. However, it should be noted that the site was not fully excavated to the earliest levels (being preserved *in situ*) and there had been some modern truncation of much of the mound beyond the central core area .
- 4.1.3 The remains of the foundations for the masonry walls suggest that the main, masonry, building was a classic ‘Norman’ construction with the a first floor hall adjoined to a smaller (first floor) solar/chapel. The site has also helped address the issues of ancillary rooms, often overlooked in the archaeological and antiquarian record. These other rooms indicate the scale, size, function and importance of the site. It should be noted that, apart from the moat itself, no particular elements for defence were recorded. There is no evidence for a defensive bank, indeed there is no room for one inside the moat, or a palisade or other defensive wall. It can therefore be argued that this moated manor was more of a status symbol/working farm, rather than an element of occupation in a hostile area.
- 4.1.4 The question of the potential mill keeps appearing. If this is the site referred to in documentary records (and the comparisons are extensive) it seems likely that there was a mill on this site. The medieval phase I ditch (Figure 4) could be a mill leet or associated with water flood management. However, the medieval Building 1 room 6 (Figure 5) storage area seems to indicate a series of grain silos, possibly associated with a mill (the absence of chaff indicating crops were processed elsewhere). It is possible that this mill was re-built as medieval Building 2 room 2 (Figure 6), at least on the ground floor, with its associated masonry waterfront. However, it should be noted that no positive remains of any mill structures or buildings were found.

#### 4.1.5 Local Importance

- The stratigraphic evidence is of local importance as it contributes to the establishment of a chronology for the occupation of the moated site. An understanding of the form and development of the manor can be used to enhance interpretation of future archaeological works in the area.
- It can establish the functions and status of the occupation on the island and any changes in these over time.

#### 4.1.6 Regional Importance

- The site is of regional importance as it one of the few to have been excavated using modern techniques and this is supported by good dating of the material and detailed documentary evidence.
- This site is comparable with other known examples such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar and Wilmington Manor.

#### 4.1.7 Additional Research Questions

- Was the industrial activity to the north of Building 2 room 3 contemporary with the domestic activity and if so how did the two relate?
- Is it possible to differentiate the functions of individual buildings/rooms on the site? The documentary research could lead to a review of the material from the various rooms to see if the functions match those described as being demolished in 1290. The documentary sources indicate a series of barns and a mill were demolished – is there any evidence from the stratified layers to indicate that these buildings, perhaps only in their latest phases, were used as such?
- Why did the manor fail?

### 4.2 Artefacts

#### *Pottery*

4.2.1 The size and condition of the prehistoric and Roman assemblages limits the potential to contribute to research aims. Clearly the material will contribute to the dating of the archaeological sequence and provide evidence for activity at different periods but little can be inferred from the pottery on the nature or character of this activity.

4.2.2 The relative proportion of different medieval wares on the site is of interest, both as an indicator of the status of the site and in terms of pottery distribution. The number of imported London ware jugs were found, together with hints of continental imported wares used on the site suggests a relatively high standard of living at Parsonage Farm. Some forms in the local ware, such as the two cauldron rims with triangular lug handles from [382], are unique in Kent and thus may indicate special commissions. Spatial analysis of the pottery may help determine the function of individual buildings within the moated enclosure.

4.2.3 The medieval pottery assemblage is of importance as it has the potential to refine the dating and interpretation of the site. Of particular interest is the possibility of some activity before the construction of the moated manor house, which must be investigated further. The main assemblage appears to coincide with the peak production period of the possible industry at Potter's Corner, Ashford during the medieval period. The interaction between the two sites needs to be investigated, in terms of a production and client relationship, both in the literature and in terms of the pottery.

- 4.2.4 Comparison with other contemporary sites will help understand the economy of the property at Parsonage Farm, its interaction with the local community, and patterns of trade. Although there are few published comparable collections in the county, the assemblage differs both from the moated site at Pivington, where no London wares were identified (Rigold 1962), and from sites closer to Dover, where Wealden and Tyler Hill wares are more equally balanced (Cotter in prep). The distribution of continental imports in Kent is not yet well understood. Those from Parsonage Farm probably reached the site via Dover; although few in number they will help in future studies of marketing and trade in Kent. Research into unpublished collections is required to ascertain the real status of the Parsonage Farm finds and their place in the Kentish sequence. At present it may be stated that, as the finds are from one of the few moated manor sites actually excavated in Kent, the pottery potentially holds a very important position in the county.
- 4.2.5 The pottery has the potential to address all but one of the original fieldwork event aims; it suggests that the period of occupation and the date when the site was vacated can be quite closely defined. Some wares appear to date to before c.1125, and this suggests there may be earlier occupation on or near the site.
- 4.2.6 All the larger groups can be used to help to determine the activity areas, function and economic basis of the site. Other contexts with low quantities of pottery may be less significant for the pottery analysis, but they will to help address the extent and morphology of structures/features in which they were found and to interpret the function of these areas. The fact that little pottery was found in the moat suggests that may have been regularly cleaned out, but could equally reflect the location of the moat section that was examined (concentrations of rubbish might be expected near the bridge and under windows, but not necessarily elsewhere).
- 4.2.7 Analysis of the distribution of different forms may help determine activity areas and interpret the function of the different rooms excavated. The range of material suggests that most of the pottery is from a kitchen or food preparation area, although the curfews may have been used in other rooms. The number of cooking pots and their general homogeneity suggest that either catering was in bulk or that the pots were not long-lived, thus requiring regular replacement. Study of the typology of the rim forms (in relation to the stratigraphy and finds from other sites) and the distribution of the pottery by form/volume on the site will help to establish the spatial and chronological relationship of the main pottery concentrations.
- 4.2.8 Points to be considered include: whether the larger groups of finds represent the clearance of the property, the number of vessels present at different times and how the pottery reached the site. The rarity of forms such as the cauldrons, dripping dish and spouted bowl suggest that some items may have been commissioned. Some of these finds are photogenic (eg decorated sherds, cauldron fragments, dripping dish) and/or suitable for illustration; they will offer an excellent snapshot of the range of wares in use in an upper class kitchen in mid 13<sup>th</sup> century Kent.
- 4.2.9 Local Importance
- The prehistoric pottery is of limited local importance as the assemblage is rather small.
  - The medieval pottery assemblage is of local importance as it will contribute to our understanding of local pottery production in the Ashford area.

- The pottery will aid the understanding of the development of occupation and economy in the Parsonage Farm area

#### 4.2.10 Regional importance

- Archaeological evidence for medieval pottery production in Kent is more scarce than in other counties. The Parsonage Farm medieval pottery assemblage is of regional importance as it will contribute to our understanding of pottery production and trade.

#### 4.2.11 Additional Research Questions

- What can this pottery tell about the trade and distribution of pottery in the Ashford area prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> century?
- How does the excavated assemblage compare with material excavated from the 13<sup>th</sup> century kiln in Ashford?
- Are the stylistically earlier pieces in EM.M5 and the later sandy wares (M40A-C) all from the Potter's Corner kiln? If not where were they produced and what is the chronological and economic relationship between the different industries?

#### *Building materials*

4.2.12 Evidence of the ceramic building materials can complement the pottery evidence to demonstrate the exploitation pattern of local clay resources through time. It can thus provide a chronological framework in which to assess the effects of clay extraction on the physical landscape and to relate manufacturing activity to the ownership of land. The area is covered with modern clay pits and documentary evidence states that a tile kiln was in operation in Westwell in 1280. There were probably earlier ones.

4.2.13 The ceramic building material has similar potential to indicate the patterns of trading and procurement within the region. The presence of high-status material such as, for example, glazed floor tile and good building stone, is an indicator of prosperity and can provide evidence of the status of settlements or buildings.

#### 4.2.14 Local Importance

- Identification of the types of tile present has the potential to indicate the social and economic status of the site; tile would only have been used on buildings of some importance in the early medieval period.
- The quality of the ceramic building materials assemblage from Parsonage Farm, its early date and probable lack of later contamination would allow the establishment of both a chronology and typology for the three main types of tile noted.
- The quantity, quality and dating of the tiles will permit the sourcing of tile fabrics with reference to known kiln material and ceramic reference collections.
- The tile types that are associated with the different phases or parts of the building can provide information on the extent and date of the structure of those buildings.

#### 4.2.15 Additional Research Aims

- What do the tiles tell us about the style and appearance of the roof in terms of structural and decorative elements?
- Do the tile types relate to different phases of the moated site's existence?

- Can the spatial distribution of the higher status building material such as the painted plaster contribute to the understanding of the function of various buildings which make up the manor complex?

#### *Stone artefacts*

- 4.2.16 The stone artefacts can help to determine the function and economic basis of the site. By understanding what sort of domestic activities these artefacts indicate, questions regarding the function of the site can be addressed and by assessing the quality of the materials used, for example Purbeck 'marble', the degree of wealth can be assessed. These objects can help in building up a picture of the types of activities that were taking place on the site in the medieval period. They can also indicate the types of trading patterns that existed.
- 4.2.17 The artefacts, as stated above, may be of use in trying to determine what types of activities took place at the site.
- 4.2.18 Local Importance
- The stone artefacts can help in understanding the types of settlements that existed in the local rural landscape in the medieval period.
  - The stone artefacts can contribute to an understanding of trade on a local level and regional level.
- 4.2.19 Additional Research Aims
- Are there any differences between the material recovered from Parsonage Farm and assemblages from similar sites Kent?

#### *Glass*

- 4.2.20 All the glass is unstratified and adds little to our understanding of the site.
- 4.2.21 Local Importance
- The glass has very limited local significance
- 4.2.22 Additional Research Questions
- No additional research aims have been developed as a result of the analysis of the glass recovered from this site.

#### *Metalwork*

- 4.2.23 The site produced a number of medieval metal artefacts. Relatively few of these could be directly stratigraphically linked to the moated site and a few were unstratified (from the topsoil over the archaeological area). The unstratified objects are of limited potential, except in general terms of what their presence at this site can infer. The medieval artefacts are almost certainly all associated with the moated site and the people who lived and worked there. Therefore the assemblage should be examined for its potential to add to our understanding of the function and economic status of the site. A number of the decorative objects indicate a degree of wealth and affluence, which, when added to some of the other types of artefacts found (for example, the shell palette), suggest a building or settlement of some social standing and wealth.

4.2.24 The stratified accessioned metalwork helps to build up a picture of what a rural moated site was like in the medieval period. A number of pieces are decorated and indicative of a degree of wealth. The material recovered from metal-detecting of the topsoil is of more limited potential, however, it includes a number of interesting pieces which almost certainly came from the moated site. For example, the vessel feet from the topsoil over the site are probably from tripod cauldrons or similar vessels, which are also indicative of a degree of wealth in a medieval household.

4.2.25 A number of quite modern objects were also recovered, largely from metal detection. These, similar to the late coinage, are almost certainly due to accidental loss or loss during agricultural work and have little potential for further study.

4.2.26 Local Importance

- The metalwork from this site is of local importance as it provides evidence for the sites economic, social status and spatial analysis will help pinpoint areas of activity within the site.

4.2.27 Additional Research Questions

- The medieval metalwork is indicative of a degree of wealth and social status at the site. Is this reflected in the other material types found? What comparisons can be made between this site and other moated sites, such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar near Plaxtol and Wilmington Manor, Broughton, in terms of high status objects?

#### *Shell*

4.2.28 The shell palette probably dates to the early medieval period, possibly the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is an extremely interesting find on this site as it correlates with the 0.61 kg of painted wall plaster (Appendix 3) that was recovered from the site. The pigment is possibly vermillion, whose use increased during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, although it would still have been an expensive commodity (Pritchard 1991, 71). Shell palettes are more usually found associated with important buildings (the Guildhall in London and Clarendon Palace, Wiltshire) or churches (Boyton Parish church, Wiltshire). Therefore, the discovery of one associated with a rural moated site in Kent is of great interest, in terms of what it potentially infers about the appearance and use of the building, as well as the wealth and status of those who lived and worked there.

4.2.29 Local Importance

- The shell palette is of local significance because it can give an insight into the appearance of the building as well as its economic and social status.

4.2.30 Additional Research Aims

- Comparison should be made with assemblages from other moated sites to see if any have produced shell palettes and did any produce evidence for painted plaster or stonework.



### 4.3 Environmental

#### *Animal bone*

- 4.3.1 Most of the faunal remains recovered from excavations at Parsonage Farm are in good preservation. Approximately half of the assemblage was identifiable to species and body part, with many of the remaining bones identifiable to cattle- or sheep-sized elements, namely vertebrae and ribs. Many features contained only small quantities of bones; these features have only limited potential for further work.
- 4.3.2 The bone assemblage has some potential for addressing the fieldwork event aims. The study of species present will provide evidence that can be used to investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation, and will provide an indication of the social status of the inhabitants of the moated manor. The enclosed nature of the site means that the evidence is all associated with a specific residence, therefore all information is related directly to the inhabitants. The ageing of the domesticates will provide evidence of the quality of the meat and give an indication of the exploitation of the animals for other uses such as milk production, traction or wool production. The quantification of game species will also provide an indication of the level of exploitation of the area surrounding the farmstead. Species such as rabbit provide evidence of possible high-status food consumption.
- 4.3.3 The game species recovered provide some indication of the local environment within the vicinity of the manor. The presence of species such as woodcock and partridge indicate that the environment around the manor was a mixture of damp woodland and pasture. Deer are also likely to have been hunted in woodland or hunting parks. Documentary evidence shows there was a deer park situated just north of the manor site.
- 4.3.4 Unfortunately no small mammal remains were recovered to give any evidence for the habitat within the immediate vicinity of the manor. Their absence may be due to small mammals not being present within the area, but perhaps more likely the bones were not recovered due to preservation. As a result there is no potential for establishing through the presence of species preferring certain habitats, for example damp or grassland conditions, the local environment and ecology within the manor grounds.
- 4.3.5 Local Importance
- The faunal remains from this site can contribute to our understanding of the social and economic conditions that prevailed during the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century.
  - The faunal record can also give an insight into the local environment and natural resource exploitation strategies employed during the medieval period.
- 4.3.6 Additional Research Questions
- Does the spatial distribution of the animal bone help to clarify building function by identifying areas of food consumption, preparation or disposal?
  - What comparisons are there, in terms of similarities or differences in species present, between this site and other moated sites such as Darenth, Fawkhams, Otford, Old Soar near Plaxtol and Wilmington Manor, Broughton. How do the assemblages compare in terms of status and preferred food types, and what evidence is there for the comparable social standing of the residents of the Parsonage Farm manor, with similar manors within the area?

*Charred and waterlogged plant remains and charcoal*

- 4.3.7 Plant-macro remains are both charred and waterlogged and should provide information on economic activities, such as crop husbandry, exploitation of natural resources and the local contemporary environment. Samples were taken from the moat fills and ditches specifically for molluscs, indicative of water conditions.
- 4.3.8 Despite the rather limited range of plant materials recovered from this site, there is potential for several of the project aims to be addressed. The seven large charred assemblages of cereal grains, cultivated pulses, occasional other food plant remains, and weed seeds, will provide evidence on the diet of the medieval inhabitants. The very low incidence of cereal chaff in these samples suggests that this was a consumer site, importing cereals grown and processed elsewhere. This aspect of the economy can be investigated more thoroughly with full analysis of the samples. Documentary research indicates that there may have been a mill on the site and the charred cereal grains may imply malting.
- 4.3.9 Identification of the arable weeds from these samples, and study of their habitat requirements and preferences, may provide evidence for the type of soils on which the cereals were grown, enabling suggestions to be made about their area of origin. Study of the spatial distribution of charred cereals, along with other artefactual and faunal waste materials, will contribute information on the organisation of the site.
- 4.3.10 **Local Importance**
- On a local level the plant remains can provide dietary and economic evidence as well as offer an insight into the local environmental conditions.
- 4.3.11 **Additional Research Questions**
- Does the spatial distribution of the plant remains help clarify building function?
  - What comparisons are there, in terms of palaeo-economy, between this site and other moated sites in the area?

*Monoliths*

- 4.3.12 The samples span the prehistoric to medieval periods. They are likely to provide good material for further analysis, in particular for pollen, diatoms, soil micromorphology and radiocarbon dating.
- 4.3.13 There is good potential for reconstruction of the changing landscape, vegetation and land-use within the catchments of the eastern and western streams and on the site itself for the prehistoric, early historic and medieval periods. In particular it should be possible to examine the role of human activity and its intensification, in causing increased run-off, colluviation and the silting up of the stream channels and the moat.
- 4.3.14 These changes are likely to have had knock-on effects on the subsequent patterns of land use and occupation. They are also likely to have had an impact on the natural resources available (water quality, the Wealden Wild Wood etc) to the occupants of the site.

- 4.3.15 Local importance: the monolith samples have potential to address the following landscape zone and fieldwork aims:
- Establish the presence/absence extent and morphology of any moat or other water course
  - Determine the landscape setting of the site and interaction with the contemporary local environment
- 4.3.16 The samples from the relict stream channel have potential to provide information with which the impact of prehistoric and early historic human activity on the surrounding landscape might be reconstructed and dated. Radiocarbon, pollen, diatom and soil micromorphological analysis would enable these activities to be compared to and placed within the chronological framework of the site and the region.
- 4.3.17 The monoliths from the medieval moat have very good potential for the reconstruction of:
- the changing landscape and environment during the medieval period
  - the possible role of human activities in initiating accelerated environmental change, in particular in causing increased run-off and sediment erosion, which may have led to increased silt deposition in the moat
  - the possible effects of rapid silting on the use and function of the moat
  - changes in the quality of surface water (which was possibly utilised as a water supply) as a result of human activities during the medieval period.
- 4.3.18 The samples from the possible mill race, together with those from the palaeochannel and moat, have potential to reconstruct the local environment, the impact of human activity on the landscape and changes in surface water quality throughout the prehistoric and historic period of site occupation.
- 4.3.19 Additional research questions:
- Are the fine silty clay deposits that form the upper fills of the moat a result of human activities, causing accelerated soil erosion?
  - Is there any evidence that population pressure and more intensive land-use may have initiated changing human activities at this time?
  - How did the quality of surface water on the site change from the prehistoric to medieval periods? (ie: comparison between the relict stream, mill-race and moat)
  - Is there any indication that changes in water quality may have been a result of the intensification of human activities?
  - Can radiocarbon dating of the peat in the relict stream channel refine the ceramic dating evidence for the construction, use and decay of the possible timber structure?

#### **4.4 Dating**

- 4.4.1 None of the timbers removed from the peat deposits from the western corner of the site have enough tree-rings for dendrochronological analysis.
- 4.4.2 The pottery assemblage provides the basis for the dated sequence of occupation and use.

- 4.4.3 A date for organic remains including the brushwood may be obtained by using radiocarbon dating. This would ascertain whether the wood was, indeed Iron Age, or whether it was medieval with redeposited Iron Age pottery.

## 4.5 Conservation

### *Pottery*

- 4.5.1 Up to ten pieces of pottery are worthy of reconstruction for display, but there are no other conservation requirements. The need for restoration work can not be ascertained until the pottery has been laid out and studied in relation to the stratigraphic sequence, which may yield more sherd links.

### *Ceramic building material*

- 4.5.2 The temporary fabric type series should be accessible to enable comparisons to be made with examples of tiles from known kilns and other sites in Kent, London and East Sussex. This should not necessarily conflict with long-term storage for the remainder of the assemblage. The material is well-preserved and should not deteriorate significantly as long as it is stored in clean, stable conditions with careful handling.

- 4.5.3 It is recommended that samples of all the tile fabrics should be retained, as well as good examples of each tile type. The painted wall plaster, daub, including potential kiln linings from the pits to the north of Building 2 room 6, and stone should be retained. This should amount to approximately 25% of the assemblage, and it should thus be possible to discard the more abraded material, which comprises approximately 75% of the assemblage.

### *Metalwork*

- 4.5.4 The metalwork assessment details the aims of conservation of metal finds and an overview of their treatment. One copper alloy coin <70>[851] was identified for further cleaning to aid dating and for post cleaning treatment.

- 4.5.5 The six coins are stable. Museum of London's policy for archive preparation of these coins would be to repack them in crystal boxes with acid free tissue backing.

- 4.5.6 The assessment of the metalwork details the requirements for finds analysis, illustration and investigative conservation. Treatments are carried out under the guiding principles of minimum intervention and reversibility. Whenever possible preventative rather than interventive conservation strategies are implemented. Procedures aim to obtain and retain the maximum archaeological potential of each object.

- 4.5.7 Most conservation work on metal artefacts begins with visual examination under a binocular microscope followed by mechanical cleaning using scalpel and other hand tools. Occasionally other mechanical devices such as air abrasive and ultrasonic devices are used. Mechanical cleaning will reveal detail and a conservation surface beneath often voluminous corrosion products enabling the true shape and purpose of the artefact to be understood. After cleaning to reveal detail, copper alloys are stabilised with a corrosion inhibitor (benzotriazole) and coated with a protective lacquer (Incralac).

- 4.5.8 All conserved objects are packed in archive quality materials and stored in suitable environmental conditions. Records of all conservation work are prepared on paper and on the Museum of London collections management system (Multi MIMSY) and stored at the Museum of London.
- 4.5.9 The accessioned metal finds were assessed by visual examination of the objects using a binocular microscope where necessary, and by examining their related X-radiographs.
- 4.5.10 Following examination of the X-radiographs of the metalwork, it was decided that further investigative cleaning is recommended for 9 metal accessioned items to enhance features noted on the X-radiographs, examine their form or identify metal elements present on their surfaces:
- <26> [585] iron knife(?): to clean a section of 'blade' to see if this is a knife and if there are traces of tinning.
  - <15> [MD11] and <16> [MD12] copper alloy and iron candle holder(?): to check metal types and method of manufacture; clean to reveal detail.
  - <1> [MD2] copper alloy pendant: clean – to check for gilding & enamel and treat to stabilise post cleaning.
  - <19> [MD16] copper alloy pendant: to clean, stabilise and establish decoration details.
- 4.5.11 Four copper alloy vessel feet and a rim fragment: some local cleaning and chemical spot tests to check the metal – whether this is a leaded copper alloy.
- 4.5.12 The ironwork is very corroded and fragmentary but now relatively stable, enclosed in dry silica gel. The copper alloy is in varying stages of corrosion, but none of it appears active and a number of the objects have been treated by the conservation department at the excavation stage. The metal accessions are packed appropriately for archive. The metalwork assessment details the aims of conservation work on finds from this site.
- Shell*
- 4.5.13 The pigment on the shell palette will require analysis by the conservation department to identify it. Some consolidation of the shell and secure re-packaging are also required for long term stability.
- Stone and glass*
- 4.5.14 There are no analysis or illustration requirements for the stone or glass accessioned finds. They are stable and are packed appropriately for archive

## 4.6 Documentary

- 4.6.1 Further documentary research should complement the results of excavation. It will be able to provide additional information not available from the archaeological record including refining the function and economic basis of the site. An index into the sources that are known to exist, and a brief summary of the information already recovered is given in Appendix 13. It is very likely much more information can be recovered from these sources.
- 4.6.2 Additional Research Questions
- Is this the site referred to in documentary evidence as being dismantled in 1290?

- In the period 1050–1150 was there a mill on the site? If so who owned it or to which manor was it connected?
- When, by whom and why was a moated domestic site established here?
- Was this a manor with demesne lands, a deer park and vineyard?
- Was spending unusually lavish?
- When, by whom and why were the buildings dismantled and the site apparently abandoned for habitation?
- Especially after the moated site was dismantled, what connection did the site have with neighbouring places to Christ Church Canterbury, Parsonage Farm proper (formerly known as The Rectory), or Ripple Court?

#### 4.7 Overall Potential

4.7.1 The potential contributions of the results of the excavation of this site to the research aims above are of regional or local importance. The earliest phases of the site were preserved *in situ* and therefore have little potential at present. The site lay relatively undisturbed from the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. During the 1960s the site was partially truncated but this was limited to the areas adjacent to the moat and stream arms, which allowed the central, core area to survive. This lack of disturbance to the core area allowed for a reasonably good level of survival of the archaeological remains. This site has the potential to draw together evidence to show the origins of an 11<sup>th</sup> century moated manor, how the manor developed and how and why it was final abandoned. The site also has the potential to reveal how a manor of this type related to the local and regional economy.

4.7.2 There is good potential, given the number of existing references to the site, for extending the documentary research to establish if the Parsonage Farm site is that which was dismantled in 1290. This documentary research, combined with stratigraphic, finds and environmental study may indicate the detailed history and functions of the buildings on the site. At present it appears that further documentary study would probably allow further insights into the following points:

- The ditch and pottery of medieval Phase 1: could this be linked with the documentary evidence for a mill in Domesday (for example by establishing that a later mill was situated here)?
- There is a substantial building erected in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. This may tie in with the possession of the Manor and church by Peter de Bending
- There is a substantial rebuilding of the manor around 1250. This may tie in with the repossession of the manor and church by Christ Church, Canterbury and the subsequent re-building of the Westwell Church (and perhaps, therefore, the manor as well) around 1250
- There is considerable archaeological evidence that the manor was deliberately dismantled at the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century (latest 1350 by pottery). This may tie in with the recorded possible dismantling of a farm around 1290 near Westwell.

## 4.8 Realisation of Priorities and Aims

- 4.8.1 The investigations on this site were designed to provide specific information with regard to a number of research questions presented in the Project Design which have been outlined above (2.2). The potential contribution of this site towards answering the research aims together with the CTRL *Archaeological Research Strategy* (URL 1998) is described below.

*Determine the function and economic basis of the site:*

- 4.8.2 A medieval moated manor was established in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and survived until the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century when it was abandoned/demolished. The site has produced numerous social indicators that suggest that this site had a high social and economic status. These include:

- The stratigraphic remains of a multi-phase medieval moated manor
- a number of possible grain storage pits in Building 1 room 6
- evidence for kilns and burning, potentially associated with smithing
- A range of finds and environmental evidence indicating the fairly high status of the site.

*Establish the full extent and morphology of any structures or other archaeological remains:*

- 4.8.3 The site has the potential to fully realise this aim. The preservation *in situ* and lack of thorough investigation of the earliest deposits (prehistoric to 11<sup>th</sup> century) does tend to limit the potential of the earliest phases of the sequence. The later (12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century) phases are relatively complete in the core zone of the moated area, and stratigraphic links appear to form a series of well defined phases.

*Establish the presence/absence, extent and morphology of any moat or other water course:*

- 4.8.4 The artificial moat was excavated on two sides of the site; the north-western and the north-eastern. To the south-west and south-east the site made use of two existing streams. The internal space was roughly square, c 50m across. The monolith samples have indicated a succession of palaeo-climatic episodes that have contributed to the progressive silting-up of the ditch.

- 4.8.5 Revetments of the streams appear to have been timber post and probably planks (as seen in investigation trenches C and N Figure 4); revetting of the moat ditch simply stakes. Masonry waterfronts were incorporated only where buildings actually fronted the streams. An apparent masonry bridge abutment was located in the middle of the south-eastern stream. A fording point possibly immediately to the north of this. A second fording point was located in the middle of the north-eastern arm.

*Establish a dated sequence of occupation/use:*

- 4.8.6 A dated sequence has been established for the occupation of the site. The pottery and stratigraphic relationships have provided the basis of this dating.

*Establish a snap-shot profile of a 'domestic assemblage' though the recovery of dated pottery assemblages:*

- 4.8.7 A large group of domestic pottery dating to the mid 12<sup>th</sup> to later 13<sup>th</sup> century was found which was used within the moated site. The majority of the pottery would have been used in a kitchen and was produced locally with some imports from further afield. The assemblage also includes a figurine of a horse, probably a toy, some possible industrial vessels and a large dish-shaped vessel, possibly associated with bee-keeping, dairying or distillation. The number and range of vessels indicates a degree of wealth.

*Investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation through the recovery of economic indicators such as faunal and charred plant remains:*

- 4.8.8 The faunal and floral remains from both hand collection and environmental sampling has highlighted patterns of natural resource exploitation. These include domesticated and game animals, wild and domesticated seeds/grain. A series of grain stores may imply the location of a mill exploiting the flowing water of the streams.

*Determine the landscape setting of the site and interaction with the contemporary local environment:*

- 4.8.9 The monolith samples have identified a fluctuating pattern of water flow and sedimentation in the relict stream, moat and possible mill-race, which would have both influenced and been influenced by the activities on the site from the prehistoric to medieval periods. There is good potential that further work (on pollen and diatom assemblages from the monolith samples and on soil micromorphological thin sections taken from these samples) will enable reconstructions of the changing landscape setting of the site for this period to be made.

- 4.8.10 Identification of the arable weeds from samples and study of their habitat requirements and preferences can provide evidence for the type of soils on which the cereals were grown. The animal bones highlight patterns of natural resource exploitation and thereby pinpoint habitats that existed during the medieval period in the vicinity of the site. The faunal record would indicate that the environment around the manor consisted of a mixture of damp woodland and pasture.

*Recover palaeo-environmental indicators from well-dated sequences, including ditches, the 'moat' and any other palaeochannels.*

- 4.8.11 Monolith samples obtained from the moat, relict palaeochannel and mill-race / ditch have indicated that pollen, diatom and soil micromorphological evidence is likely to be extractable. This evidence could provide information about changing vegetation, episodes of fluctuating stream flow, episodes of erosion both on-site and within the stream catchment (causing colluvial and alluvial silts to be deposited) and the changing quality of surface water. There is also potential for radiocarbon of the organic relict stream fills.

#### **4.9 Additional Research Potential**

- 4.9.1 The post-excavation assessment of the site has not only answered the original research aims but has highlighted a new set of additional research questions. The large number of additional research questions resulting from each of the specialist assessments has been synthesised into seven principle aims. These are as follows:



- Was there a mill on the site in the late 11<sup>th</sup> – early 12<sup>th</sup> century? Do the grain stores in medieval Building 1 room 6 indicate the continuing presence of this mill? Does the ‘solar wing’ (medieval Building 2 room 2) indicate the further presence of this mill?
- When, by whom and why was the moated manor established and is it possible to differentiate the functions of individual buildings on the site?
- How did the manor develop and how did it function in the local and regional economy?
- What comparisons are there between this site and other moated sites such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar near Plaxtol and Wilmington Manor, Broughton?
- How does the medieval finds assemblage contribute to our understanding of local production, typologies and trade?
- When, by whom and why was the site abandoned?
- Is there evidence on the site for accelerated environmental change due to human activities, resulting from population increase and land-use intensification in the medieval period? What were the implications of this change for the occupants of the site?

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## APPENDIX 1: ASSESSMENT OF PREHISTORIC POTTERY

Louise Rayner

### 1. Introduction

1.1 A small assemblage of Late Iron Age-early Roman and late Roman pottery was recovered from the excavation phase of Parsonage Farm. The sherds were recovered by hand collection during excavation predominately from deposits associated with the timber and brushwood structure identified in the evaluation phase.

1.2 The following fieldwork event aims are relevant to the study of this material:

- *To determine the function and economic basis of the site*
- *To establish a dated sequence of occupation and use*

### 2. Methodology

2.1 All of the sherds recovered were recorded using standard MoLSS recording methods but utilised fabric codes as outlined in The Canterbury Fabric Reference Collection. The material is recorded on a context by context basis using fabric, form and decoration as unique identifiers. The material was quantified by count and weight and aspects of condition were also noted. The sherds were recorded using CAT fabric codes to indicate broad chronological and fabric groups and should not be considered as an indicator of defined fabric types.

### 3. Quantifications

3.1 A total of 31 sherds (230g) of Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery and late Roman were recovered from the excavation phase of Parsonage Farm.

### 4. Provenance

4.1 The most important material from this assemblage are the sherds associated with the timber and brushwood platform: [183], [242]. Although many of these sherds were recorded as individual finds on the timber surface, many of the sherds clearly relate to the same vessels. All of the sherds from these deposits are grog-tempered (CAT fabric B2) and represent two or three jars. Where rims survive these are all simple everted types. Some of the sherds also show signs of wiped or combed surfaces and two have incised horizontal lines, which may have formed part of some decoration. One very small sherd appears to derive from a cordoned or corrugated vessel. However the condition of the sherds is relatively poor with abraded surfaces and edges, probably a result of the waterlogged depositional conditions softening the grog-tempered fabric.

- 4.2 The presence of grog-tempered fabrics suggests a date from the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC, when the use of grog-temper appears in the south-east alongside the introduction of wheel-made 'Belgic' style pottery. The forms identified are extremely long-lived and therefore are of little value as chronological indicators within the 'Belgic' period. Only one small sherd has evidence of a cordon or corrugation, which are characteristic traits of 'Belgic' vessels.
- 4.3 The absence of vessels closely imitating Gallo-Belgic imported wares and of any obviously wheel-made vessels may be of chronological significance although in a group as small as this such absences must be treated with caution. With this in mind, it may be suggested that the assemblage dates to the earlier part of the proposed date range, but could equally be a wholly 'native' style assemblage of slightly later date. The absence of Romanised material makes a post-conquest date less likely but potentially vessels of this type do persist into the conquest period. Work on the Canterbury assemblage demonstrated that a wide variety of 'Belgic' pottery survived in use into the half century following the Roman conquest (Pollard 1995, 592).
- 4.4 The grog-tempered fabric is unsourced at present, as is commonly the case with material of this sort. The vessels are probably locally manufactured; the products of a relatively short-lived and/or small-scale production. In National terms the fabric should be grouped as Southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered ware (SOB GT) (Tomber & Dore 1998, 214).
- 4.5 The remainder of the assemblage, much of it residual with later material is of little potential. Much of this pottery is also in poor condition, which has hindered identification. The shell-tempered and grog-tempered sherds could be contemporary with the assemblage associated with the platform, but equally could be slightly later.
- 4.6 The further group of grog-tempered sherds from a series of pits, although likely to be contemporary with the platform assemblage, is very small and contribute little to the characterisation and dating of the assemblage as a whole.
- 4.7 The late Roman material was recovered solely as residual material with medieval pottery. The most diagnostic sherd is from an Oxfordshire red colour-coated ware flanged bowl (LR10; Young form 51), dated 240-400+ (Young 1977, 160). The sherd is very abraded. The other Roman sherds are a shell-tempered sherd, probably from North Kent (R69) and an unsourced reduced sandy ware sherd (R101).
- 4.8 Two sherds were recovered from chainage sites ARC430/85+100-85+350/99. These were a single grog-tempered body sherd and a sandy grey ware rim sherd.

## 5. Conservation

- 5.1 There are no conservation requirements for this assemblage.

## 6. Comparative material

- 6.1 The use of grog-tempered vessels is widespread across, not only Kent, but the south-east of England in general. Grog-tempered wares are common in pre-conquest and early Roman levels in Canterbury, where they remain an important component even in groups dated as late as mid 1<sup>st</sup> – mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century (Pollard 1988, 32).
- 6.2 The lack of diagnostic forms limits the potential to compare this assemblage to others from the locality. However the fabrics should be compared with contemporary assemblages to ascertain whether any occur elsewhere in the region.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The condition and size of this assemblage does limit its potential to contribute to further work. Clearly the identification of a timber platform is important as a landscape feature and evidence for human activity. Unfortunately, the lack of clarity over the date of this structure at present makes it difficult to place this activity within a chronological framework. However the stratigraphic position of the platform and association with late Iron Age pottery does suggest it pre-dates the medieval activity also evidenced on this site and a Late Iron Age date or earlier is likely.
- 7.2 The late Roman assemblage is of little potential as it is only a small, residual assemblage. The pottery will require little further work as there is limited potential for refining the dating due to the condition and small number of sherds, and indeed vessels present.
- 7.3 The assemblage has the potential to address the following Fieldwork Event Aims:
- *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use – this assemblage will be able to contribute broadly to the dating of the sequence.*
- 7.4 Any further work would be limited to the preparation of text for the publication of the assemblage. This would include the preparation of fabric descriptions, which would form the basis of a site fabric series that could contribute to a regional fabric series.

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Table 2: Assessment of Pottery, quantifications and attributes

Context	Count	Weight	Period (Spot date)	Comments (i.e. fabric groups/ form/ type/ presence of decoration)
166	1	1	RO	R101: Residual; misc. reduced body sherd <i>c</i> AD 50-400
183	12	86	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered necked, everted rim jar; cordoned sherd. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70 AD
242	3	38	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered jar <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70 AD
300	1	6	LIA	B9: Glauconite, organics, iron-rich incl. Open vessel sherd. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60 AD
382	1	3	LIA	Residual; B6: Shell-tempered sherd <i>c</i> 50 BC – 70 AD
471	1	33	LIA	Residual; B6: Shell-tempered flaring rim, probably from storage jar. <i>c</i> BC 50 – 70 AD
480	2	4	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered small everted rim jar. <i>c</i> 50BC – 60/70 AD
505	1	5	LIA	Residual; B2: Grog-tempered sherd. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70AD
601	1	2	LIA/ER	B9: Sandy reduced ware.
1001	1	10	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered sherd with incised lines. <i>c</i> 50 BC- 60/70 AD
1002	1	8	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered jar sherd. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70 AD
1003	1	8	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered jar sherd. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70 AD
1004	2	4	LIA	B2: Grog-tempered jar with everted rim. <i>c</i> 50 BC – 60/70 AD
1060	2	3	LPR	FLIN: Fine flint-tempered
1069	2	19	RO	LR10 flanged bowl (Young form 51); R69 shell-tempered body sherd <i>c</i> AD240 –400+
Total	26	207		

Fabric codes are from the Canterbury Archaeological Trust series:

R101 CAT: HARD FIRED GREY/BLACK SANDY WARE (FINE)  
 B2 CAT: BELGIC COARSE GROG-TEMPERED  
 B6 CAT: BELGIC SHELL-TEMPERED (?N KENT)  
 B9 CAT: BELGIC COARSE SANDY  
 LR10 OXFORDSHIRE RED/BROWN COLOURCOATED  
 FLIN FLINT TEMPERED

## APPENDIX 2: ASSESSMENT OF MEDIEVAL POTTERY

Lyn Blackmore

Conservation by Liz Barham

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This assessment refers only to material from the 1998 phase of excavation; finds from the work in 1997 have been reported on elsewhere (URL 1997). The 1998 assemblage comprises a large collection of domestic pottery; most was recovered by hand, but some was recovered from the sieved samples. From the ceramic dating used by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, the bulk of the collection can be related to occupation between *c.*1125-1250/1300.
- 1.2 The study of the material should assist the following fieldwork aims:
  - *to determine the function and economic basis of the site;*
  - *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use;*
  - *through snapshot profiles of the main groups, it can inform on the interaction of the site with the local area (in terms of pottery supply and use (see below).*

### 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The pottery was recorded on a context-by context basis using standard Museum of London proforma sheets. The different fabrics were isolated using a binocular microscope (x20) and compared with samples from the Canterbury Archaeological Trust reference collection, in conjunction with John Cotter (CAT). Once the identifications had been agreed, sherds of the same fabric types were recorded and bagged together, where possible by vessel or by form. For the Ashford ware, fabric code M39 is not used here as it is being phased out in Canterbury. The data was entered on the MoLAS Oracle database and the records converted to an Excel file in the CTRL standard tabulated format. More detail is, therefore, available, if required.

### 3. Quantification

#### *Totals*

- 3.1 Including sieved material, a total of 3,949 sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from 172 contexts (total weight 59.438 Kg). Only seven sherds are of post-medieval date (weight 16g). After sorting and reboxing the pottery fills 26 standard boxes. The distribution of the pottery by context is shown in Table 3, which shows that the finds from pit fills [166], [164] and the general occupation surface [382] amount to over half the assemblage by sherd count (47% by weight). Pit [918] and the primary moat fill [190] contained 110 and 91 sherds, but all other contexts contained less than 65 sherds. Of the other contexts, 124 have less than ten sherds, and most of the others have less than 50 sherds; the same pattern applies to weight, with 104 contexts having less than 100g.



### *Fabrics*

- 3.2 In all 25 different medieval fabrics were identified, but the assemblage is overwhelmingly dominated by the local Ashford-type ware (Grove and Warhust 1952). The most common type, which contains abundant fossil shell (fabric EM.M5), amounts to c 80% of the total medieval assemblage by sherd count. The later Ashford fabrics M40A (which contains sparse shell), and fabric M40B (which contains no shell) each amount to c 5% of the material by sherd count. Fabric M40C amounts to 21 sherds, most from a jug with ring-and-dot stamps. These three fabrics grade into one another, and it is not always easy to draw clear distinctions between them. These totals must, therefore, be treated with caution, but give a good guide the overall composition of the group.
- 3.3 All other fabrics are very much in the minority. The most common types are the reduced greywares M38A and M38B (c.2.5% of the assemblage by count and weight) and Tyler Hill ware (fabric M1; Blackmore 1988, 252; 261-2), which amounts to 69 sherds (c 2% by count and weight). Other regional wares comprise a range of other sand-and-shell-tempered fabrics, with a few gritty wares which are probably from Kent. London finewares (M5) are quite well represented (36 sherds from up to 21 different jugs). Five sherds of green-glazed whiteware (M19G) are probably from France, but could be from Surrey, while other imports are limited to one sherd each of Saintonge polychrome ware, North French Monochrome ware, Langerwehe stoneware and Valencian lustreware.

### *Forms*

- 3.4 Over 80% of the assemblage comprises locally made jars and cooking pots (the latter defined by external sooting); several of these have applied strips or dimples around the shoulder. The range of forms present in fabric EM.M5 is shown in Table 4. A range of different rim profiles was noted (including flat-topped, bevelled, inverted; rounded, hooked, squared). Locally made jugs and dishes are also well represented; many have incised decoration. A few jugs in fabric M40B are slip-decorated while one in fabric M40C has ring-and-dot stamped decoration ([166][190]). Also present are up to five cauldrons, a number of curfews, dishes and spouted bowls and a dripping dish. Several of these are decorated with incised lines or thumbing.
- 3.5 Two unusual straight-sided 'jars' inverted rims (or perforated bases) are identified as industrial vessels ([166][190]). Of special interest are part a model horse, possibly a toy ([335]) and a large flat-based dish (diameter c 350mm) with external flange and slot cut for drainage; the latter may be beehive base or a press used in a dairy or similar situation (see below)

### *Date*

- 3.6 Almost all contexts are dated to after 1125, but four are broadly dated to 1075-1225/1350. Some finds from the evaluation and a few sherds from other contexts also appear to be typologically earlier than the main occupation and are possibly of Late Saxon date; the real amount of residual material needs to be confirmed. The end date for most groups is placed at 1250, but many could run to 1270-1300, while nine definitely date to after 1270; two of the latter are post-medieval.

### *Scanned pottery.*

- 3.7 This would seem to comprise a range of similar wares as the above, with Ashford wares being by far the most common; some pottery was dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. One sherd of Saintonge ware was also found.

#### 4. Provenance

4.1 Taken by sub-group, the most significant clusters are shown in Table 3.

*Table 3: The larger pottery clusters by sub -group (over 1 kg)*

Subgroup	Feature	Contexts	Total sherds	ENV	Weight
481	Destruction debris	480	56	11	1028
207	Rubbish pit	589	20	7	1032
272	Pit	560	23	6	1047
88	Non-structural cut	558	45	13	1110
156	Ditch/drain/gully?	190	922	60	1678
396	Rubbish pit	918	110	63	2396
81	Pit	280,600, 601,602	211	40	3050
359	Occupation	382	528	363	7271
179	Pit	164	527	391	8108
180	Pit	166	1081	467	12871

ENV Estimated number of vessels

4.2 The pottery from the 17 deposits below the general occupation surface in the central area of the site [382] was considered to see if there was any difference between the fabrics and forms between these and those in or above ([382] the large dumped layer). On the whole these groups are very similar to those on the rest of the site ([582], [593], [657], [825], [839], [887], [934], [935], [937], [946]). Two layers on different sides of building 3 could possibly be earlier in the sequence ([581], [847]) but these can only be broadly dated to 1075-1350. Three layers contain material dating to after 1225 ([361], [577] and [809]), suggesting that most of the occupation dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, or that the finds relate to the abandonment of the property.

4.3 A large amount of pottery (528 sherds) was found in the general occupation surface [382] around the buildings, but as this covered a large area the density of sherds is perhaps not that great. The date of this group is uncertain. The most notable finds are two decorated lugged handles from cauldrons which appear quite early in style, but the finds are dominated by local wares identical to those seen in the other contexts, notably [164] and [166]. There are, however, sufficient later sherds of Tyler Hill ware and M40C, to indicate that this group dates to after 1250, even if the Langerwehe stoneware and late medieval Tyler Hill ware are intrusive.

4.4 The most important concentration of pottery was in two large dumps of pottery in pits located well outside the area of the building, in pits cut by the moat of medieval phase III. Of these, pit fill [164] contained 527 sherds, while [166] contained 1081 sherds from up to 465 vessels. Both include fragments from several London ware jugs and numerous large sherds.

- 4.5 The presence of sherds from the same pots in pit groups [164] and [166] shows that they are contemporary. Pit fill [166] and the primary moat fill [190] are also linked by sherds from an M40C jug with ring-and-dot stamps. Context [190] can also be linked to the general occupation surface [382]. Contexts [308], [349], [361] and [375] are linked by the presence of sherds from the same north French whiteware jug.
- 4.6 Of the 136 sherds from the moat, 91 are from the primary fill [190], which contains other wares indicating that it relates to the general dumping in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. All the other wares also appear to be contemporary with the main occupation.
- 4.7 Only two sherds of Ashford ware EM.M5 from the possible mill leet were examined in this assessment, but more pottery, thought to be of 11<sup>th</sup> century date, was noted in the evaluation report. The real amount of this earlier material must be established (see 7.1).
- 4.8 The industrial vessels were found in [166] (pit) and [190] (moat). The beehive base or dairy press was found in [767] and [769], with a similar sherd from [822].

#### *Condition*

- 4.9 Much of the pottery is abraded and comprises quite small pieces, but some contexts, notably [164] and [918] include some quite large and relatively unabraded sherds which cannot have travelled far. Most of the shell-tempered wares are leached, but this reflects the nature of the fossil shell rather than the conditions on the site, as the shell in other shell-tempered wares appears quite fresh.

## **5. Conservation**

- 5.1 Up to ten pieces are worthy of reconstruction for display, but there are no other conservation requirements. The need for restoration work cannot be ascertained until the pottery has been laid out and studied in relation to the stratigraphic sequence, which may yield more sherd links.
- 5.2 A time estimate for conservation work on these items cannot be made until the chosen pieces are identified and examined.

## **6. Comparative material**

### *General parallels for Ashford ware*

- 6.1 The most relevant site is that of the supposed kiln at Potter's Corner, Ashford (Grove and Warhurst 1952; Streeten 1982, 87). Here a rather narrower range of very similar forms was found, including the same distinctive curfew form (published as a bowl: Grove and Warhurst 1952, Figs.4, 5). Many features of the Ashford wares are also seen on Tyler Hill wares.

*Relevant sites*

- 6.2 The closest comparable domestic site is the 13<sup>th</sup> century moated manor at Pivington (Rigold 1962). Finds from as Eynsford Castle (Rigold 1971; 1973) and other excavated moated properties in Kent are also relevant to the study of the material from Parsonage Farm.
- 6.3 Other assemblages to be considered include finds from the nearby site of Mersham (excavations of 1998). To the south, Ashford-type wares have been noted at the hospital of SS Stephen, New Romney, which spans the period 1190-1320 or later (Rigold 1964), at Westwood, Lyminge, just to the north of Hythe and at the Manor House, Hythe. At both the latter sites decorated M40C jugs similar to that from ARC PFM 98 have been found (J Cotter pers comm; Philp 1996, 137-41; Fig.4). In Dover, useful comparative material has been found at Townwall Street (Cotter in prep) and in 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century levels at Dover Castle (Rigold 1967, 92). Fabrics EM.M5 and M40B have also been found at Church Hougham, near Folkestone (Cotter forthcoming). To the east of Ashford, a jug in fabric M40B has been found with pottery dated to 1125-1250 near the site of a probable ford across the Great Stour between Kennington and Wye, not far from Ashford (Cotter *et al* 1993, Fig.25). Canterbury was mainly supplied by the Tyler Hill kilns and offers fewer parallels.

*Jug with ring-and-dot decoration*

- 6.4 Parallels include a jug from Fordwich in fabric M40B or M40C (J Cotter pers comm). A Tyler Hill jug with similar ring and dot stamps was found in Canterbury in a context broadly dated to 1225-1300 at St John's Hospital, Northgate (unpublished, J Cotter pers comm).

*Tyler Hill face jug*

- 6.5 Jugs of this type have been found in Canterbury (eg. Wilson 1983, Fig.85, No.140; Fig.101, No.397; Fig.125, no.773).

*London wares*

- 6.6 These can be paralleled in the City of London (Pearce et al 1985).

*'Industrial' forms*

- 6.7 No parallels have been found for the two jars with inverted rims/perforated bases or the dish-shaped vessel with flanged base from [767][769]. Jars with unusual bases found at Laverstock were interpreted as beehive bases (Musty *et al* 1969, 107) but this is only one of the possible uses for the present find.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The study of the material will assist the following Fieldwork Event Aims:
- *To establish a dated sequence of occupation and use.*
- 7.2 The finds show that most pottery is of much the same period and gives a good guide to the main period of occupation. Some pieces, however, appear to be stylistically earlier and suggest that there may have been earlier occupation in another part of the site which remains to be found. It should be a primary aim of the research to establish the date and quantity of the earlier finds (by stratigraphic, typological and comparative analysis) in order to gain a better understanding of the development of the site.

- 7.3 It would seem that the large groups from pit groups [164] and [166] were discarded at one time and that most finds from them should be contemporary. Closer analysis may reveal areas with greater or lesser amounts of residual or later pottery, which will help interpret the site and determine whether the larger groups of finds represent the clearance of the property.
- *To determine the function and economic basis of the site.*
- 7.4 Spatial analysis of the pottery may help determine the organisation of the building complex within the moat and the function of the different rooms. All the larger groups can be used to help to determine the function and economic basis of the site. Contexts with few sherds may be less significant for the pottery analysis, but they will help define the extent and morphology of structures/features in which they were found and to interpret the function of these areas. The general lack of pottery in the moat, for example, suggests that it was regularly cleaned out (see above, 4.2.6).
- 7.5 The range of material suggests that most of the pottery is from a kitchen or food preparation area, although the jugs and curfews may have been used in other rooms. The number of cooking pots and their general homogeneity suggest that either catering was in bulk or that the pots were not long-lived and were regularly replaced (see below). The presence of jugs from London and the continent indicates the wide connections of the house and suggest a degree of luxury in the main apartments. Residue analysis of the beehive base/dairy or distillation vessel may help clarify its function.
- 7.6 The following Landscape Zone aims (Towns and their rural landscapes 100 BC-AD 1700) may be addressed:
- *Did population increase and concentration effect natural resource exploitation and accelerate environmental change?*
- 7.7 The Parsonage Farm site appears to coincide with the peak of the production period of the possible industry at Potter's Corner, Ashford, which probably exploited local clay resources and woodland. As an important client, it may have prompted the development of the local pottery, and the abandonment of the Parsonage Farm site may have contributed to the closure of the pottery. It is therefore important to establish that the pottery from the site is the same as that from the 'kiln' and the provenance of the clay. Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometry of ware EM.M5 from PFM98, sherds from Potter's Corner and clay from local deposits would help to determine whether the pottery exploited local clay deposits.
- *How were settlements and rural landscapes organised and how did they function?*
- 7.8 Comparison of the assemblage with others in the area will help understand the wider economy of the property at Parsonage Farm, and patterns of trade and communication. The relative proportion of different wares on the site is of interest, both as an indicator of the status of the site and in terms of pottery distribution. The number of imported London ware jugs were found, together with hints of continental imported wares used on the site suggests a relatively high standard of living at Parsonage Farm. Some forms in the local ware, such as the two cauldron rims with triangular lug handles from [382], appear to be unique in Kent and may indicate special commissions. Analysis of the distribution of the pottery on the site may help to show how it functioned.

- 7.9 The relationship of the pottery and tile industries, as reflected in this assemblage, should also be studied to better understand the interaction of the site with the local community.
- 7.10 The assemblage differs both from the moated site at Pivington, where no London wares were identified, and from sites closer to Dover, where Wealden and Tyler Hill wares are more equally balanced (Cotter in prep). ). Special finds, such as the decorated M40C jug, are particularly suitable for plotting trade networks and distribution patterns that extend beyond normal consumerism. The distribution of continental imports in Kent is not yet well understood. Those from Parsonage Farm probably reached the site via Dover; although few in number they will help in future studies of marketing and trade in Kent (see also additional research aims).
- 7.11 The following wider research aim is important to this study:
- *How can the pottery contribute to the development of Kentish Pottery studies?*
- 7.12 If the pottery is fully analysed and published as a standard pottery report within the context of the site, the local landscape and other CTRL projects, the results would be of local and regional importance (see 1.2). The following seeks to demonstrate the value of the collection to pottery specialists, and the possible by-products of its publication. As noted by Streeten (1982, 87), archaeological evidence for medieval pottery production in Kent is more scarce than in other counties, the only definite kilns being at Tyler Hill and in Canterbury. The site at Potter's Corner, only a short distance from Parsonage Farm is one of only two other known earlier medieval production centres in the county; it was not properly excavated and the finds have never been fully published. The need to understand the site and the industry has been long recognised, and most recently highlighted by Cotter (in prep).
- 7.13 At present information on Ashford-type fabrics and forms is limited. The 'kiln' site was not properly excavated, the interim note contains nothing which hints at the presence of shell inclusions in the ware, and the forms are presented somewhat randomly (Grove and Warhust 1952). The textural analysis carried out by Streeten (1982) concentrated on sandy, rather than shell-tempered wares, and is based on the 1952 finds, which may not be fully representative. Most of his work is in an unpublished thesis, and only two fabric graphs of Potter's Corner ware have been published (*ibid*, 92; Fig.38B; Fig.41B). The descriptions by Cotter (forthcoming; in prep) are based on finds from Folkestone and Dover where, again, the full range of wares and forms is lacking. Comparison of the wares is required to ensure that they are the same.

- 7.14 Stratigraphic and typological analysis of the pottery from Parsonage Farm will also help refine the dating of the Ashford industry. The finds from the 'kiln' site were first dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Grove and Warhust 1952), but the Parsonage Farm group and finds from other sites (J Cotter pers comm) suggest that it was active in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and that some sherds are even older than this. Fabric analysis and illustration, therefore, will be of great importance in helping to define the output of the Ashford pottery industry. The assessment of the pottery from Parsonage Farm has already shown that a form published as a bowl in the interim report on the Ashford 'kiln' (Grove and Warhust 1952), is in fact a curfew. New questions to be addressed include whether it can be shown that the stylistically earlier pieces in EM.M5 are genuinely older and if they are from the same source as the more sandy wares. Are the later sandy wares (M40A-C) all from the same source, or was the industry dispersed in a number of workshops? Until such time as a kiln is discovered, the report on the Parsonage Farm assemblage, if comprehensive, will become a standard reference for students of Kentish medieval pottery.
- 7.15 At present there are few well-stratified medieval assemblages from Kent which have been classified and quantified in an accessible manner, and pottery use and supply in rural south-east Kent is poorly understood. The data from the Parsonage Farm excavation will form a foundation block for the development of Kentish pottery studies. It will be an essential tool for comparing the site with other contemporary domestic assemblages such as finds from Dover (Cotter in prep; Cotter forthcoming), and for addressing questions such as the distribution of pottery and the relationship of the medieval markets to their hinterland (Streeten 1982, 87)
- Further work*
- 7.16 For the interpretation of the site, further quantification and stratigraphic analysis will help number of vessels present at different times, and determine the chronology of the different rim forms. Some of these finds are photogenic (eg decorated sherds, cauldron fragments, dripping dish) and many are suitable for illustration; they will offer an excellent snapshot of the range of wares in use in an upper class kitchen in mid-13<sup>th</sup> century Kent. Comparative studies (to include visits to other collections) will help show more clearly how the site compares to others in the region.
- 7.17 Thin section analysis and Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometry (ICPS) are recommended in order to identify the types of shell in fabrics EM.M5, and in M40A, M40B and M40C. It was formerly thought that the shell was of fossil origin, but some sherds identified as EM.M5 appear contain gastropods, which suggest that the clay was taken from more recent deposits which are adjacent to a lake or river. This needs to be verified and explained by analysing the clay and its inclusions. These fabrics should also be compared with the finds from other sites, such as Pivington, where Rigold thought that the pottery sufficiently different in colour from the Ashford wares to suggest that it came from a more local source, Mersham and Newchurch (Streeten 1982).

Table 4: The distribution of the forms in Ashford fabric EM.M5

Form	Count	Weight	Maximum vessels
Bowl	10	327	6
Socketed bowl	1	25	1
Cauldron	7	828	5
Cooking pot	2809	35777	1604
Curfew	126	3772	23
Dish	38	1092	20
Dripping dish	2	311	1
Industrial vessel	2	76	2
Jar	1	4	1
Jug	160	2410	25
Miscellaneous	3	3	2
Pipkin	2	95	1
Unidentified	40	495	19

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Table 5: Assessment of pottery, quantifications and attributes

Con text	Count	Weight	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (Fabrics, forms, decoration: see below for key)
0	1	13	1500	1600	PM	PM5 JUG MEDL
101	10	171	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG; M40A CP; M5 JUG (NFR, BAL APST)
114	2	5	1075	1225	MD	EM33 CP
152	3	44	1200	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40B JUG WSD
153	1	17	1175	1400	MD	M40B JUG
164	527	8108	1250	1270	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH, DIMP), JUG LATT, CURF, DISH; links with 166, 382 and 190
166	1075	12850	1225	1270	MD	EM.M5 CP (APST, DIMP, INCH), CURF (APD,THD), DISH (DIMP/INCW, INCW), DRIP STAB/INCW, INDV, JUG (LATT, INCD, STAB), PIP DIMP; EM3 CP; M1 CP, JAR, JUG (RILL); M38A JUG; M40A JUG (STAB); LOND JUG (BAL, NFR, SQU, WPEAR); links with 164, 190, 382
167	3	21	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
168	2	43	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (RILL)
169	2	17	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
170	1	8	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
171	2	24	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 BOWL (IMP), CP
172	27	403	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 BOWL, CP; M1 JUG THBC
176	3	35	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG
179	2	16	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40B CP
181	1	4	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
186	7	88	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40B JAR, JUG THM
189	1	11	1175	1350	MD	M38A CP
190	91	1622	1250	1270	MD	EM.M5 BOWL, CP (APST, DIMP), DISH, JUG, INDV; M1 JUG
197	3	19	1175	1250	MD	M40A CP, DISH
201	4	93	1200	1250	MD	EM3 CP; M100 JUG; M40A DISH
206	0	2	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JAR
207	12	132	1270	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP; M5 JUG CON
207	1	5	1550	1700	PM	PM1 PIP
208	3	42	1225	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG; M100 JUG BAL
213	11	204	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APST, DIMP)
225	2	8	1175	1350	MD	M38A JUG INCD M40A JAR
228	21	138	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 BOWL, CP; M40A CP
231	31	440	1225	1350	MD	EM3A CP; M1 CP; M100 JUG THD; M19G JUG; M38A CP (RILL, STAB), DISH RILL; M40A CP; M40B JAR, JUG
233	2	13	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP

Con text	Count	Weight	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (Fabrics, forms, decoration: see below for key)
234	9	50	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
235	1	128	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CURF APST
236	0	9	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
237	3	84	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
245	1	3	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
253	54	830	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH,DIMP, INCH , RILL), CURF INCW, INDV; M1 JUG; M40A CP (RILL), JUG COMB; M40B CP, JUG BAL
255	3	14	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 CP; M40A JAR
262	1	7	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
279	21	323	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, DISH, JUG RILL; EM3 DISH; M1 JUG (ANTH, INCW) ; M5 JUG (BAL, BAL WS)
280	46	1423	1380	1400	MD	EM.M5 BOWL, CAUL APTH, CP; EM1 CP; EM3 CP, DISH GRGL; M1 CP APTH
306	8	56	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
307	5	82	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
308	19	307	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP), CURF, DISH; M5 JUG; M19G? JUG
310	23	437	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH); EM3 CP; M38A CP
311	12	307	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH), DISH INCW; M40B JUG STAB
312	11	330	1250	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP CURF APTH, DISH, JUG; M38A CP; M53 JUG THM
318	3	43	1200	1350	MD	M40A CP; M40B JUG HD
327	25	636	1175	1350	MD	M40A CP
335	1	55	1350	1500	MD	M10 Figurine (toy horse)
344	2	209	1350	1550	MD	M10 JAR
349	4	27	1170	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; EM3A CP; M19G JUG
350	10	97	1250	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP DISH INCW; M38A JUG; M53 JUG; M5 JUG BAL
351	1	39	1475	1550	MD	CLM32 JUG STAB
356	1	13	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
359	2	29	1125	1225	MD	EM.M5 CP; EM3A CP
361	62	992	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 BOWL IMP, CP (APTH); EM3A CP; M1 CP; M19G JUG RILL
375	5	19	1170	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M19G JUG RILL
376	4	70	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG THBC; M40B CP
380	27	311	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG (GRGL); LOND JUG BAL WHSL

Con text	Count	Weight	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (Fabrics, forms, decoration: see below for key)
382	528	7271	1375	1400	MD	EM.M5 CAUL (APTH) ,CP (APTH, DIMP), CURF, DISH, JUG (STAB); EM3 CP; EM36 BOWL STAB; LM1 JUG; M1 JUG; M19G JUG; M38A CP, JUG INCD; M40A CP (STAB), CURF, DISH, JUG (LATT, INCD, RILL); M40C JUG RLD; M5 JUG NFR; LM8 JAR . Links with 166 and 190
383	2	64	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40B CP
390	27	740	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CAUL, CP (APTH, DIMP)
394	18	469	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JAR; M38A JUG INCH
396	3	12	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
400	9	235	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP
405	1	23	1175	1250	MD	M40A CP
406	1	9	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
409	1	6	1175	1250	MD	M40B CP
417	2	6	1200	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; LOND JUG BAL WHSL
419	4	159	1200	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M100 JUG; M40B JUG
426	2	73	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
429	1	16	1125	1350	MD	M38A JAR
431	1	3	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
435	1	7	1175	1250	MD	M40A CP
452	1	10	1075	1350	MD	M38A JAR
454	3	19	1175	1225	MD	EM3A CP; M40B CP
458	7	69	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP; M40A JAR
461	19	202	1200	1350	MD	M40B JUG RSD
467	2	6	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
468	9	127	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP)
469	4	27	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
471	11	211	1150	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP), JUG
474	47	682	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APST, DIMP), DISH
480	56	1028	1225	1300	MD	EM.M5 CAUL INCW, CP; EM3 CP; M1 JUG; M38A JUG INCH; M40A CP (APST), DISH; CM40B JUG (BAL, WHSL)
481	2	20	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
487	1	8	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
489	1	13	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 DISH
492	1	14	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
496	3	22	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP APTH; M40B CP
499	3	34	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP DISH; M1 JAR
501	7	98	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP
503	3	51	1280	1350	MD	EM.M5 CP; M38A JUG NFR; M22P JUG
505	3	40	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
508	5	60	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP
513	1	31	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP APTH

Con text	Count	Weight	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (Fabrics, forms, decoration: see below for key)
515	15	144	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 JUG RILL
517	14	134	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; EM3 CP, DISH; M38A CP DISH M38A
521	1	4	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
527	63	825	1175	1225	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP), CURF APTH; EM3A CP; M40A JUG INCH; M40B JUG
540	1	13	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
546	1	24	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
558	45	1110	1250	1400	MD	EM.M5 CP, CURF, JUG COMH; M38B JAR; M53 JUG
560	23	1047	1225	1250	MD	EM3 CP; M1 JAR; M40A CP
565	1	16	1100	1200	MD	EM31 CP
567	3	15	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
569	1	30	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
570	1	43	1250	1300	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40C MISC
577	1	14	1225	1375	MD	M1 CP
581	1	10	1075	1350	MD	M40B CP RILL
582	6	72	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
584	3	27	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
585	16	283	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; EM31 CP; M38A CP; M40B JUG (RILL, THBC), MISC
589	17	1032	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP)
593	6	101	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP
600	4	37	1125	1250	MD	EM3 CP
601	75	1453	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH); EM3 CP (DIMP, RILL); EM36 CP DIMP; M1 JAR; M38A CP; M40B JUG RILL
602	7	137	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP); M40A CP APTH; LOND JUG SQU
603	5	64	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
607	8	47	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M38A JUG INCD
610	5	36	1175	1250	MD	M1 JUG; M38A JUG
612	14	209	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M38A JUG COMB
613	1	4	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 JAR
614	1	23	1100	1250	MD	EM3 CP
615	4	43	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40B JUG
626	1	11	1225	1350	MD	M1 JAR
628	2	27	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
648	8	30	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
657	10	171	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH, IMP); M40B JAR
673	5	109	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP)
697	1	1	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
712	3	98	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M38A CP
743	6	11	1807	1900	PM	LPM7BJ SAUC
767	19	1232	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M40A CP APTH; M40B CP APTH, INDV
769	11	352	1250	1400	MD	EM.M5 CP M40B CP, INDV; M53 JUG

Con text	Count	Weight	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (Fabrics, forms, decoration: see below for key)
771	11	139	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
788	4	208	1175	1400	MD	M40B JAR
800	2	31	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, M40A CP
809	20	159	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH); M1 JUG; M38A CP RILL; M40A CP
811	1	7	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
822	35	1037	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M1 CP; M40B CP (APTH, STAB), INDV
824	13	323	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH)
825	12	142	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH); M38A CP
836	2	26	1225	1375	MD	M1 JUG RILL
838	2	29	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
839	16	200	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 BOWL SP STAB, CP, CURF; EM3 CP; M38A CP, JUG
842	3	23	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP)
844	3	40	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (DIMP); M40B JAR
847	1	8	1075	1350	MD	M38A CP
854	1	23	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
887	1	21	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
905	3	9	1125	1250	MD	EM22 CP
913	1	8	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
918	110	2396	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APTH, DIMP, INCW), CURF
923	1	13	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
928	1	59	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
933	11	231	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CURF, MISC; M40A JUG INCH
934	7	53	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
935	1	10	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
937	8	124	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; M38A CP
946	5	57	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP; EM3 CP
980	2	19	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, CURF APD
985	15	323	1225	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, DISH INCW; M38B JUG (SLSH, STAB); M40A JAR
988	6	262	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
1042	1	5	1175	1400	MD	M40B JUG
1053	1	16	1175	1400	MD	M40A CP APST
1066	2	45	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APST)
1069	92	683	1175	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, JUG; EM3 CP; EM31 CP; M38A CP
1082	1	52	1175	1400	MD	M40A JUG
1100	5	18	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP (APST); M38B JAR ; M40B JAR
1113	3	58	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP, CURF
1114	2	18	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
1148	2	49	1125	1250	MD	EM.M5 CP
1165	2	15	1175	1250	MD	EM28 CP; EM31 CP
1177	1	42	1175	1400	MD	M40B JAR

The comments field lists each Canterbury Archaeological Trust fabric code, followed by the forms present. The use of a decoration code beside the form code shows that this is the only type present in the context; the use of decoration codes in brackets shows that some, but not all sherds are decorated. Fabric codes are separated by semi-colons. This field also includes the date assigned to the pottery in the context.

*Expansions for Canterbury Archaeological Trust fabric codes*

Fabric	Expansion	Range
EM.M5	Ashford Potter's Corner Sandy Ware with fossil shell	1125-1250
EM1	Canterbury Sandy Ware	1050-1225
EM22	N/W Kent Fine Sandy with Sparse Shell And Sparse grits	1125-1250
EM28	Kentish Sandy Ware With Shell +Sparse Flint	1175-1225
EM3	Misc Shelly Ware	1050-1250
EM31	?Kentish Coarse Sandy Ware With moderate shell	1100-1200
EM33	?E.Sussex Shell+ Flint-Tempered Coarse Sandy ware	1075-1225
EM36	N/W Kent Sandy And Shell-Tempered	1100-1250
EM3A	Misc Shelly-Sandy Ware	850-1225
LM1	Late Med Tyler Hill Ware	1375-1550
LM32	Wealden Orange-Buff Sandy with reduced Streaks	1475-1550
M1	Medieval Tyler Hill Ware	1225-1375
M5	Fine London-Type Ware	1080-1350
M10	Wealden-Type Pink-Buff Sandy Ware	1350-1550
M19G	N. French/Rouen Green-Glazed	1170-1350
M22P	Saintonge Polychrome Ware	1280-1350
M38A	N/W Kent Sandy Ware (Mainly Reduced)	1175-1350
M38B	N/W Kent Fine Sandy Ware (Reduced)	1175-1400
M40A	Ashford/Wealden Sandy with Sparse Chalk/Shell	1175-1400
M40B	Ashford/Wealden Sandy with V Rare Shell	1175-1400
M40C	Ashford/Wealden Fine Ware with Chalk, Shell+Flint	1250-1450
M53	Surrey/Wealden Ware	1250-1450
M100	Misc Unidentified Medieval	1200-1400
LM8	Langerwehe Stoneware	1350-1500
LM11	Early Valencian Lustreware	1380-1450
PM1	Local Post-Medieval Redware	1550-1700
PM5	Frechen Stoneware	1550-1700
LPM7BJ	Transfer-printed ware	1807-1900

*Expansions for form codes*

Form	Expansion
-----	
BOWL	Bowl
BOWL SP	Spouted Bowl
CAUL	Cauldron
CP	Cooking Pot
CURF	Curfew
DISH	Dish
DRIP	Dripping Dish
FIGU	Figurine
INDV	Industrial Vessel
JAR	Jar
JUG	Jug
JUG ANTH	Anthropomorphic Jug
JUG BAL	Baluster Jug
JUG CON	Conical Jug
JUG SQU	Squat Jug
JUG WPEAR	Waisted Pear-Shape Jug
MISC	Misc
PIP	Pipkin
SAUC	Saucer



*Expansions for decoration*

Code	Expansion
APD	Applied
APST	Applied Strip
APTH	Applied Thumbled Strip
ARC	Arcaded Slip Or Decorative Arcs (Eg Dutsd Tgw)
COMB	Combed
COMH	Horizontal Combing
COMW	Combed Wavy Or Curvilinear Decoration
DIMP	Dimpled (Finger Tip) Decoration
GRGL	Green Glaze
HD	Highly Decorated Style (Lond King)
IMP	Impressed
INCD	Incised Decoration
INCH	Incised Horizontal Decoration
INCW	Incised Wavy Or Curvilinear Decoration
LATT	Lattice
NFR	North French Style (Lond King)
PELL	Pellet Decoration (Lond King)
POLY	Polychrome
RDS	Ring And Dot Stamp
RILL	Rilled Decoration
RLD	Diamond Rouletting
RSD	Red Slip Decoration
SCAL	Scalloped
SLSH	Slashed
STAB	Stabbed
THBC	Continuous Thumbing (Basal)
THD	Thumbled Body Decoration (Not Applied)
THM	Thumbled
WHS�	White Slip
WSD	White Slip Decoration (Lond Chear)
WSGR	White Slip Green Glaze

## APPENDIX 3: ASSESSMENT OF CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND FIRED CLAY

Susan Pringle

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 All the building material from the site, a total of 239.605 kg, including 1.15 kg of stone, 0.63 kg of daub and 0.61 kg of painted wall plaster, was examined. A single fragment of moulded stone (registered find <60>) was also examined.
- 1.2 The material was hand collected and material from two contexts, 186 and 1048, was labelled as a sample.
- 1.3 The study of the material should assist with the following field event aims:
  - *to determine the function and economic basis of the site;*
  - *to establish the full extent and morphology of structures and other archaeological remains;*
  - *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use.*

### 2. Methodology

- 2.1 All the material was examined and recorded for the purposes of assessment.
- 2.2 The material in each context was scanned and weighed by form. Fabrics were noted using either the Museum of London type series or a site-specific temporary fabric type number. The data were entered on an ORACLE database. All the material has been retained.

### 3. Quantification

- 3.1 All the building material from the site, a total of 239.605 kg was examined. Ceramic building material accounts for 99% of the assemblage, and building stone, daub or fired clay and painted wall plaster for the remaining 1%. A single fragment of moulded stone (registered find <60>) was also examined although its original form and function could not be determined at present. The amounts and weights of each type are set out in table below. It should be noted that the MCBM (medieval ceramic building material) category may include some later roof tile, as for the purposes of this report fabrics with no known date range were assumed to be medieval, perhaps continuing into the post-medieval period.

Table 6: Quantification of the materials assessed, by count and weight

Material	Number of fragments	Count as % of total	Weight (g)	Weight as % of total
RCBM	1	0	10	0
MCBM	2904	95	230145	96.1
PCBM	60	2	7060	3
Stone	12	0	1150	0.5
Daub/fired clay	26	1	630	0.3
Painted wall plaster	52	2	610	0.3
Total	3054	100	239595	100.2

RCBM – Roman ceramic building material

MCBM – medieval ceramic building material

PCBM – post-medieval ceramic building material

- 3.2 A total of 120 contexts contain building material, of which 83 are small, fourteen medium, eight large and fifteen very large. The majority of the identifiable material is of medieval date, although one context ([310]) contains probable Roman tile, two contexts ([749] and [763]) contain material of early post-medieval date and four ([311], [312], [709] and [746]) contain 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century material. Six contexts, which contain only daub or stone, are undated ([221], [361], [394], [1114], [1115], [1148]).
- 3.3 The Roman period is represented by a single fragment of very abraded tile. The fabric is fine-textured and light brown with common, very fine, dark red and sparse, coarse, calcareous inclusions. It is not unlike fabric PFM8, so there is an element of doubt over the dating.
- 3.4 Medieval ceramic building material accounts for 96.1% of the assemblage by weight. The tile forms present are set out below. It should be noted that hip and other curved tiles are probably under-represented, as small fragments cannot always be differentiated from peg tiles.

Table 7: Medieval tile types, by count and weight

Form	Number of fragments	Count as % of total	Weight (g)	Weight as % of total
Peg tile	2769	95	218405	94.9
Curved tile	60	2	4985	2.2
Unknown	30	1	420	0.2
Hip tile	25	1	2880	1.3
Ridge tile	19	1	3375	1.5
Floor tile	1	0	80	0
Total	2904	100	230145	100.1

- 3.5 Nine provisional roof tile fabrics have been identified during the assessment, and these can be divided into three groups: red-firing sandy clays; red-firing calcareous clays; white- and pale orange-firing clays. It is likely that some of the fabrics are from the same or very similar clays, and some may represent opposite ends of a continuum rather than different fabrics, but, because of the possibility that slight differences in otherwise similar fabrics may have chronological or typological implications, the original temporary fabric groups, identified with the prefix PFM, have been retained in this report. The provisional fabrics are described below. Museum of London fabric codes 2586 (London sandy, red-firing roofing tile), 3201 (calcium carbonate roofing tile), and 3498 (unidentified vitrified or reduced fabric), have also been used. The quantities of each fabric present on the site are set out in Table 8.

*Red-firing sandy clays*

- 3.6 PFM1: orange to red fabric with moderate amounts of medium to coarse quartz and occasional dark orange iron-rich inclusions. The clay is poorly mixed, and some streaks and lumps lack quartz sand inclusions. The fabric occurs as peg, ridge and hip tile. The peg tiles have round nail holes c.13mm diameter and medium grade moulding sand. Some tiles have splashed glaze.
- 3.7 PFM9: orange-red to red fabric with common to frequent, medium to coarse, quartz sand and sparse white shell. The matrix is often 'corky' and there are some iron-rich inclusions. The fabric occurs as peg and hip tile, and curved tile which could be hip or ridge tile. Peg tiles have round nail holes and a glazed strip c.40mm broad at the base.

*Red-firing calcareous clays*

- 3.8 PFM3: pale orange or pink with grey core. Fine fabric with calcareous mottle and streaking. Inclusions, sometimes in lenses, of medium to coarse quartz, and moulding sand is also medium to coarse. Often has a cream to light brown surface. The fabric is well-fired and splintery fabric; it is probably made from identical clays to PFM4, but the tiles are thinner and more highly-fired. Peg tiles are produced in this fabric, and some curved fragments are also present. Nail holes are usually square, set diagonally. This fabric resembles the products of the Naccolt kiln, Wye, north-east of Ashford, which was owned by Battle Abbey (pers. comm. John Cotter).

- 3.9 PFM4: orange or pale mauve with calcareous speckling; sometimes deep pink to maroon, or grey reduced. Poorly mixed clays, with medium to common very coarse calcareous inclusions or voids and occasional coarse or very coarse quartz grains. Some are light orange with calcareous speckle. The surfaces are usually cream to light brown in colour. Types present are peg, ridge and hip tile. The peg tiles are relatively thick with either round or angular nail holes (often square holes set diagonally). The tiles have fine to medium moulding sand, but usually have a distinctive chaffy appearance. The fabric is similar to PFM3, but softer and less splintery; probably also produced at Naccolt.
- 3.10 PFM6: highly-fired red fabric with calcareous inclusions; sometimes with grey core; sparse quartz; fairly fine moulding sand. Probably a less calcareous version of PFM3 and 4. Types present are peg and curved tiles; they are fairly thin-bodied.
- 3.11 PFM7: orange fabric with common dark orange, platy or blocky, clay inclusions, most 1-1.5mm, but some up to 5mm. Also fine to medium quartz and occasional silty streaks and/or lumps. Occurs as peg tiles.
- Light brown to white-firing clays*
- 3.12 PFM2: light brown matrix with abundant fine quartz, often with grey core; sparse white, calcareous inclusions up to c. 3mm, and dark red iron-rich inclusions; sparse, very coarse, white mica flakes visible on surface of some tiles. Patches of yellow or green glaze. Similar to Ashford/Wealden sandy ware pottery fabric (CAT fabric M40B), (pers. comm. John Cotter). Present as peg, hip and curved tile, which are glazed with round nail holes.
- 3.13 PFM5: colour green to yellow; very fine quartz with sparse very coarse grains; some iron-rich clay inclusions; very coarse rounded calcareous inclusions. Moulding sand fine, but poorly sorted. Present as peg and curved tile.
- 3.14 PFM8: fine-grained off-white to light orange matrix with fine red mottle; medium pale pink moulding sand. Occurs as peg tile.

Table 8: Medieval tile fabrics, by count and weight

Fabric number	Number of fragments	Count as % of total	Weight (g)	Weight as % of total
PFM1	464	16	54950	23.9
PFM2	540	19	20790	9
PFM3	220	8	21175	9.2
PFM4	994	34	89385	38.8
PFM5	67	2	1530	0.7
PFM6	23	1	2490	1.1
PFM7	18	1	1975	0.9
PFM8	42	1	2760	1.2
PFM9	503	17	33690	14.6
2586	2	0	180	0.1
3201	7	0	135	0.1
3498	24	1	1085	0.5
Total	2904	100	230145	100.1

- 3.15 Five peg tiles with complete dimensions were noted, in fabrics PFM1, PFM3 and PFM4, complete lengths in fabrics PFM1 (2), and complete breadths in fabrics PFM1 (30), PFM2 (3), PFM3 (19), PFM 4 (55), PFM6 (3), PFM8 (2) and PFM9 (9). These data will provide the basis for a typology of the tiles used on the site.
- 3.16 Other typological features of interest on peg tiles were noted which relate to their shape, the presence or absence of glaze, and the shape of nail or peg holes, and further analysis of the material when phasing is available for the site should help to ascertain whether there is chronological significance in these features:
- a small but distinct tapering of the breadth from the base of the tile to the top was noted in PMF fabrics 1, 2 and 9;
  - exceptionally narrow tiles, some with a single nail hole, were noted in fabric PMF1. These are likely to be purpose-made verge tiles, for use on the gable edge of a roof;
  - glaze is present on peg tiles in PFM fabrics 1, 2 and 9;
  - there is some variation in the shapes of nail holes in the assemblage; round holes are present in tiles in PFM fabrics 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, square holes, often rounded, and set diagonally are noted in PFM fabrics 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and polygonal holes in PFM fabrics 3, 4, and 9. Diagonal square and polygonal holes are usually considered to be a feature of post-medieval tiles; if, however, further analysis confirms that their use on the site pre-dates the 15th century, this would have implications for their value as a dating tool.
- 3.17 Hip tiles are present in PFM fabrics 1, 2, 4, and 9; all have areas of glaze except those in PFM4 which are unglazed.
- 3.18 Ridge tiles are present in PFM fabrics 1, 4 and 9, of which those in PFM 9 are glazed.
- 3.19 All other non-flat roof material is included as curved tile, and occurs in PFM fabrics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9. Glaze is used on fabrics 1, 2 and 9.

- 3.20 Vitrified peg tile is present in 34 contexts in PFM fabrics 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 9. The number of different fabrics makes it unlikely that much, if any, of this material is tile wasters; it is more likely to represent the remains of tiles used in the construction of kilns or hearths for some kind of manufacturing process, possibly smithing.
- 3.21 A fragment of undecorated yellow-glazed floor tile in fabric PFM9 was noted in context 480; no slip is present under the glaze. The edge has a knife-cut bevel. The base is missing, but still visible are stabbed holes made apparently with a narrow-bladed knife. This is a very unusual feature in medieval floor tiles, and was presumably done to assist the firing process.
- 3.22 The post-medieval assemblage consists entirely of bricks (although, as mentioned above, it is possible that post-medieval roof tile is also present). Two provisional fabrics were identified, as well as Museum of London fabric type 3033, one of the red 'Tudor' brick fabrics commonly used in London. The provisional fabrics are described below, and the relative quantities set out in Table 9:
- PFM10: brick red, very fine texture; fine moulding sand and sharp arrisses. Machine-made – Victorian or later;
  - PFM11: orange-red sandy fabric with medium to coarse quartz and frequent dark red iron-rich inclusions. Indented borders – probably early post-medieval.

*Table 9: Post-medieval brick, by count and weight*

<b>Fabric number</b>	<b>Number of fragments</b>	<b>Count as % of total</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Weight as % of total</b>
PFM10	26	43	1950	27.6
PFM11	32	53	4210	59.6
3033	2	3	900	12.8
Total	60	99	7060	100

- 3.23 Daub was recorded from four contexts; the twenty-six fragments have a total weight of 0.63 kg. Most are abraded pieces of fine white-firing clay or daub (context 361) or sandy orange-firing daub (contexts 382 and 394); from context 1148 comes a fragment of kiln-lining, lump of textured daub which appears to be iron-rich clay mixed with white marly clay, and including a burnt flint.
- 3.24 Plain white wall plaster comes from two contexts. From context 307 there are over 50 mainly small fragments of plain white plaster on a fine, sandy, mortar backing, and from context 585 a single fragment of smooth, but not really flat, plaster, probably unpainted, on sandy lime mortar with large inclusions of white lime. It is not possible to date these without further stratigraphical and dating evidence.
- 3.25 A small amount of building stone was noted. Medium-grained laminated sandstone (MoL fabric 3108) and ferruginous sandstone (MoL fabric 3111) are present, as well as a variety of other sandstones which are likely to have been used as building rubble, and possibly roofing slate. A fragment of shelly limestone is present; the source is not known, but may be the Bethersden area a few miles south of the site, from where coarse shelly limestones are known to have been quarried in the medieval period and later. The building stone from the site is listed in Table 10.

Table 10: Building stone by count and weight (g)

Fabric	Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments
3108	375	1	45	Scrap; dark yellow-brown colour.
3108	382	1	220	Curved bit of stone, ?form; burnt laminated sandstone.
3108	521	1	70	Frag dk brown medium-grained laminated sandstone.
3111	221	3	20	Very fine-grained ferruginous sandstone.
3111	1115	1	105	Lump ferruginous sandstone.
3120	189	1	60	Flake of iron-rich sandstone, fine-grained.
3120	266	1	150	Med to coarse sandstone, banded, with rounded grains. Blackish colour - burnt?
3120	376	1	20	Fragment of very decayed shelly limestone, coarser than Purbeck - Bethersden?
3120	382	1	310	Thin slab laminated sandstone, unusual rounded grains.
3120	1114	1	150	Frag of coarse laminated sandstone (ill sorted rounded grains), c.10-20mm thick.
	Total	12	1150	

- 3.26 A single fragment of moulded stone was noted in context 788 <60>. This is in a cream-coloured detrital limestone which strongly resembles Caen Stone, and is probably part of a larger moulding, such as a door arch. It is likely to date from the 13<sup>th</sup> century or early 14<sup>th</sup> century, but this should be confirmed during analysis.
- 3.27 A small quantity of ceramic building material, 3.17 kg, from chainage sites, ARC 430/ 85+100 – 85 + 350/99, was scanned. This consisted of medieval and post-medieval roofing tile and post-medieval brick, and the forms and fabrics noted were consistent with those from ARC PFM 98.

#### 4. Provenance

- 4.1 All of the material was excavated from features such as pits, the moat, ditches and demolition dumps which are closely related to the early medieval buildings on the site. In view of this, the material should be regarded as a single large group which has the potential to answer research objectives relating to the appearance of the buildings, and the economy of the site and its relationship with the various sources of supply of building materials in the surrounding area.

#### 5. Conservation

- 5.1 The temporary fabric type series should be compared with examples of tiles from known kilns and other sites in Kent, London and East Sussex. This should not necessarily conflict with long-term storage for the remainder of the assemblage.
- 5.2 The material is well-preserved and should not deteriorate as long as it is stored in clean, dry conditions.



- 5.3 It is recommended that samples of all the tile fabrics should be retained, as well as good examples of each tile type. The painted wall plaster, daub, including kiln linings, and stone should be retained. This should amount to approximately 25% of the assemblage, and it should thus be possible to discard the more abraded material, which comprises approximately 75% of the assemblage.

## 6. Comparative material

- 6.1 The Parsonage Farm building material appears to be the largest early medieval domestic tile assemblage in the CTRL project, although smaller quantities of tile have been recovered from other sites. Comparisons should be made with the medieval ceramic fabric type series used by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and the Museum of London, as well as from museum collections in Kent and East Sussex, in order to try to source and date the tiles.
- 6.2 Documentary sources (Appendix 13) state that tiles were being manufactured locally at Westwell during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The assemblage largely comprises the roofing tile used on a 13<sup>th</sup> century moated domestic site and has the potential to provide information on the following original Landscape Zone aims within the category *Towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC-AD 1700)*:
- *Did population increase and concentration effect natural resource exploitation and accelerate environmental change?*
- 7.2 Evidence of the ceramic building materials can complement the pottery evidence to demonstrate the pattern of exploitation of local clay resources through time, thus providing a chronological framework in which to assess the effects of clay extraction on the physical landscape and to relate manufacturing activity to the ownership of land. The area has been frequently used as a source of clay in recent times and documentary evidence suggests that tile making was an important part of the local industry in medieval times (at least from 1285).
- *How were settlements and rural landscapes organised and how did they function?*
- 7.3 The ceramic building material, may have been produced at some of the same kilns as the pottery from the site, has similar potential to indicate the patterns of trading and procurement within the region. The presence of high-status material such as, for example, glazed floor tile and good building stone, is an indicator of prosperity and can provide evidence of the status of settlements or buildings.
- 7.4 The assemblage has the potential, when all the stratigraphic and pottery dating evidence is considered, to address the following Fieldwork Event Aims:

- *To determine the function and economic basis of the site*
- 7.5 Analysis of the building materials has the potential to indicate the social and economic status of the site. Specifically, further analysis should confirm whether any of the roofing tile used on the buildings was made on site, or if it all came in from kilns elsewhere. Burnt tile was noted in the assessment, but it occurred in several fabrics which suggests that the tiles were not kiln wasters but may have been used to construct a kiln for some other purpose.
- *to establish the full extent and morphology of structures and other archaeological remains*
- 7.6 Analysis of the tile types that are associated with the different phases or parts of the building can provide information on the extent of the structure and in particular on the style and appearance of the roof.
- *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use*
- 7.7 Analysis of the tile types that are associated with the different phases or parts of the building can provide information on the relative dates of the structures or parts of the building.
- 7.8 The quality of the ceramic building materials assemblage from Parsonage Farm, its early date and probable lack of later contamination suggests the following research aims, which are of local and regional interest.
- the establishment of a chronology for the tile fabrics
  - the establishment of a typology for the tile forms
  - the sourcing of tile fabrics with reference to known kiln material and ceramic reference collections.

## 8. Bibliography

None

Table 11: Assessment of Ceramic Building Material / Assessment of Fired Clay

Cont ext	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
120	1	80	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM8
162	4	160	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM9
166	1	50	TILE	1100	1800	MD	PFM9
168	3	290	HIP	1100	1800	MD	PFM9
168	36	1740	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
172	1	5	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
177	1	40	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM3
177	3	120	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3
179	4	480	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM9
186	3	190	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM4
188	4	255	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM9
189	20	1320	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM6 PFM9
189	1	60	STON	1100	1800	MD	3120
190	2	180	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM9
190	5	645	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM4 PFM6
190	1	60	TILE	1100	1800	MD	PFM9
197	2	260	CURV	1135	1800	MD	PFM4
197	31	3990	PEG	1135	1800	MD	3498 PFM3 PFM4 PFM8
206	2	30	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM4
206	15	330	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
207	3	350	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM4 PFM9
207	32	3980	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
207	2	265	RIDG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4
208	1	40	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
208	56	2410	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
208	7	70	TILE	1100	1500	MD	PFM4 PFM8
221	3	20	STON	0	0	MD	3111
231	1	60	CURV	1135	1500	MD	PFM4
231	104	6250	PEG	1135	1500	MD	3498 PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
231	2	400	RIDG	1135	1500	MD	PFM4
231	1	5	TILE	1135	1500	MD	PFM4
233	1	30	CURV	1135	1500	MD	PFM9
233	160	6460	PEG	1135	1500	MD	3498 PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
233	1	20	TILE	1135	1500	MD	PFM8
234	2	110	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM3 PFM4
234	86	3410	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM7 PFM9
245	2	10	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM2
253	3	140	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM2
253	82	4650	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9

Cont ext	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
253	1	5	TILE	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
255	209	9885	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
255	1	10	TILE	1100	1500	MD	PFM7
256	4	170	CURV	1135	1500	MD	PFM2
256	194	7690	PEG	1135	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM6 PFM7 PFM9
256	1	5	TILE	1135	1500	MD	3498
262	22	600	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM4
264	22	685	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
266	6	360	CURV	1135	1500	MD	PFM2
266	446	21330	PEG	1135	1500	MD	3498 PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM7 PFM9
266	1	150	STON	1135	1500	MD	3120
279	3	200	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM2 PFM6 PFM9
280	43	2520	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM6 PFM9
280	1	170	RIDG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
307	1	280	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
307	51	550	PWP	1100	1800	MD	3100
310	1	10	TILE	45	410?	MD	
311	2	660	BRIC	1830	1950	MD	PFM10 PFM11
311	2	180	CURV	1830	1950	MD	2586
311	2	55	PEG	1830	1950	MD	PFM1
312	2	780	BRIC	1830	1900	MD	PFM10 PFM11
312	7	730	CURV	1830	1900	MD	PFM4 PFM5 PFM6
312	89	15230	PEG	1830	1900	MD	3498 PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM5 PFM7 PFM8 PFM9
312	1	10	TILE	1830	1900	MD	PFM8
313	3	300	HIP	1100	1500	MD	PFM2
313	13	17930	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM9
318	1	80	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
318	22	1785	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
344	2	330	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM9
344	2	440	HIP	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
344	23	3765	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM5
361	16	160	DAUB	0	0	MD	3102
375	5	290	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
375	1	45	STON	1100	1500	MD	3108
376	1	80	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM1
376	20	1465	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
376	1	20	STON	1100	1800	MD	3120
382	2	140	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
382	1	20	DAUB	1100	1500	MD	3102
				1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM7 PFM9
				1100	1100	MD	3120

Cont ext	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
382	48	4020	PEG	1100	1500	MD	3108
382	1	310	ROOF	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
382	1	220	STON	1100	1800	MD	PFM1
383	4	640	PEG	0	0	MD	3102
383	1	5	TILE	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM4
394	8	30	DAUB	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM4
405	4	385	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM5 PFM9
405	5	1110	HIP	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
405	117	14630	PEG	1100-1800	1100-1800	MD	PFM4 PFM9
405	1	780	RIDG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM9
406	6	245	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
417	7	470	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM5
419	1	5	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM6
424	27	4730	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM9
444	9	1390	PEG	1135	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
454	2	50	PEG	1135	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
456	3	240	HIP	1135	1500	MD	3498
456	31	5795	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
456	1	140	TILE	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
458	4	840	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM9
461	8	400	HIP	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
461	10	210	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3 PFM9
461	8	730	RIDG	1100	1800	MD	PFM9
467	5	380	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM9
467	1	20	TILE	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM9
480	1	80	FLOR	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
480	5	550	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM9
481	2	500	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1 PFM9
487	8	250	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM1
489	24	1155	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4 PFM9
492	1	60	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
495	4	290	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM2 PFM4 PFM9
496	2	60	PEG	1135	1800	MD	3498 PFM5
498	5	240	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
501	2	100	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
503	7	880	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
508	1	10	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM8
517	21	690	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM8
517	1	5	TILE	1100	1500	MD	3108
521	25	2280	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM3
521	1	70	STON	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
527	1	20	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
528	7	980	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM8

Cont ext	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
540	1	240	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
542	3	110	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
558	4	620	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4 PFM9
566	5	1170	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4
569	12	1340	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
569	1	260	RIDG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
570	18	1300	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM8 PFM9
572	1	60	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4
577	2	70	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
577	1	230	RIDG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
578	1	35	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4 PFM8 PFM9
578	1	10	TILE	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM6 PFM9
581	13	350	PEG	1100	1500	MD	3100
585	7	550	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
585	1	60	PWP	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
587	2	420	RIDG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
593	2	80	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
597	3	220	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
600	3	270	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
601	4	475	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
602	1	140	CURV	1100	1800	MD	PFM4 PFM5
602	4	90	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM3 PFM9
610	15	1830	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM2 PFM3
613	5	360	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM7 PFM9
615	12	325	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
622	8	620	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
626	1	10	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
632	1	20	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
673	1	10	PEG	1830	1950	MD	3033 PFM10 PFM11
697	1	120	RIDG	1830	1950	MD	PFM4
709	49	4990	BRIC	1830	1950	PM	PFM4 PFM6 PFM9
709	1	70	CURV	1100	1500	PM	PFM1
709	57	1535	PEG	1100	1500	PM	PFM4
711	3	330	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
712	1	100	HIP	1830	1950	MD	PFM10
712	1	400	PEG	1830	1950	MD	PFM1
746	3	510	BRIC	1475	1800	PM	PFM11
746	1	10	CURV	1475	1800	PM	3201
749	2	100	BRIC	1475	1500	MD	PFM11
749	1	15	PEG	1475	1500	MD	PFM9
763	2	20	BRIC	1475	1500	MD	3201
763	1	20	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM2 PFM3 PFM9
763	6	120	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM3 PFM4 PFM9
767	6	330	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM9

Cont ext	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Early date	Late date	Period	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
769	8	1000	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3 PFM4 PFM5 PFM7 PFM8 PFM9
769	86	12195	PEG	1150	1350	MD	<60> Caen(?) stone moulding
771	201	14615	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM3
788	1	240	MOLD	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4
800	3	90	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
853	3	160	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM4
854	2	730	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4 PFM5 PFM6 PFM7
883	1	50	CURV	1100	1500	MD	PFM3 PFM9
883	71	13070	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM9
897	2	180	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM4
918	1	60	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM2
920	2	225	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM8 PFM9
936	1	10	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1 PFM9
937	5	170	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM5
937	10	45	TILE	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
1042	1	20	PEG	1100	1500	MD	PFM1
1042	1	20	TILE	1135	1800	MD	3498 PFM4 PFM5
1045	1	260	PEG	1135	1800	MD	3498 PFM5
1048	16	725	PEG	1135	1800	MD	3498 PFM4 PFM5 PFM8
1097	7	95	PEG	1100	1800	MD	PFM4
1100	11	250	PEG	0	0	MD	3120
1104	7	1000	PEG	0	0	MD	3111
1114	1	150	STON	0	0		3102

## **APPENDIX 4: ASSESSMENT OF WORKED FLINT**

Philippa Bradley

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 A small group of worked flint and an assemblage of burnt unworked flint was recovered from the excavations. All elements of the reduction sequence were recovered, but some biases are evident (eg only one chip was recovered). This may reflect depositional practices as well as on site sampling policies. A relatively wide range of retouched forms was recovered including scrapers, retouched flakes and blades, serrated flakes and a piercer. The debitage included flakes, blades, blade-like flakes, a chip and three cores. The burnt unworked flint consists of small to medium sized fragments of heavily calcined flint.

### **2. Methodology**

- 2.1 The worked and burnt unworked flint was recorded onto the Oracle database using standard MoLSS methods. The material was recorded by typological group, where appropriate notes were made on pertinent technological attributes. Brief notes were also made on the general condition of the material. The burnt unworked flint was briefly scanned and quantified, a general note of the condition of the material was also made.

### **3. Quantifications**

- 3.1 A total of 57 pieces of worked flint and 128 pieces of burnt unworked flint (weighing 1242 g) were recovered from the excavations at Parsonage Farm (ARC PFM 98 and ARC 430 85+100-85+350 (OAU watching brief of Parsonage Farm)). The flint is summarised in the tables below.

### **4. Provenance**

- 4.1 Flint was recovered from 37 contexts and therefore there were few concentrations of material; most contexts produced only one or two flints. The flint came from a variety of context types including pit fills [175], [601], an occupation layer [382] and a timber brushwood platform [183]. Many of these contexts produced post-Roman pottery and thus the flint is clearly redeposited.

### **5. Conservation**

- 5.1 The flint is appropriately bagged and boxed for long-term storage. Some of the burnt unworked flint is beginning to disintegrate; however, there is little that can be done to prevent this. No conservation is required.



## **6. Comparative material**

- 6.1 The flint compares well with other Neolithic and Bronze Age material recovered from the CTRL route. It can contribute to the Landscape Zone priorities in a limited way given its small size and the composition of the assemblage.

## **7. Potential for further work**

- 7.1 Although all elements of the reduction sequence were recovered this group of flint has limited potential given its size and overall composition. The retouched forms present provide evidence for small-scale domestic activity (food and hide preparation, knapping). However, it is likely that this material is of Neolithic-Bronze Age date; the small size of the assemblage and its composition preclude any refinement of the dating. A single opposed platform blade core may indicate a Mesolithic presence. The dating is based on technological attributes (eg mostly hard-hammer struck) of the material and its general appearance. The material recovered indicates some form of prehistoric small-scale activity in the vicinity, although its extent is unknown. Lithics were recovered from the surface survey collection undertaken across the site (URL 1994). Given this limited potential no further analytical work is required. If a summary is required for publication it can be drawn from this assessment report.
- 7.2 Although the lithics recovered from Parsonage Farm can contribute to some of the Landscape Zone priorities, they are not relevant for the specific fieldwork event aims for the site.

## **8. Bibliography**

None

Table 12: Worked Flint

Context	Count	Period	Comments [presence of diagnostic material/ dominance tool/flakes etc.]
33	3		1 slightly blade-like flake
33	1		1 end scraper
33	1		1 blade
33	1	ME?	1 burnt opposed platform blade core
U/S	8		6 flakes, 1 multi-platform flake core, 1 double end scraper
164	1		1 retouched flake
179	1		1 blade with used edges
188	1		1 flake
279	1		1 flake
312	1		1 flake some incipient cones of percussion
361	1		1 flake
375			1 natural flint discarded
382	14		9 flakes, 1 flake core with 2 platforms, 2 retouched flakes (1 is possibly a knife), 1 piercer with worn point, 1 small end and side scraper with some wear
471	4		4 flakes, one is on very cherty flint
498	2		2 flakes
743	1		1 serrated flake fragment
771	4		4 flakes
854	1		1 small chip
923	1		1 flake
933	1		1 heavily corticated flake
1021			1 natural flint discarded
1049	3		1 minimally retouched blade, 2 flakes
1053	1		1 small serrated flake fragment
1066	1		1 retouched flake, on an irregular flake, some post depositional damage
1069	1		1 flake
1100			2 natural flints discarded
1137	1		1 flake, also 2 natural
1138	1		1 flake
1148	1		1 single platform flake core irregularly worked
	Total 57		

*Table 13: Burnt Flint*

Context	Count	Weight	Comments
101	14	334	Burnt unworked flint calcined red
175	1	28	Burnt unworked flint calcined grey
183	1	13	Burnt unworked flint calcined grey
208	1	11	Burnt unworked flint calcined grey
243	38	364	Burnt unworked flint calcined grey
280	1	244	Burnt unworked flint heavily calcined
601	12	49	Burnt unworked flint calcined red
862	12	9	Burnt unworked flint calcined red, also 11 natural
883	2	67	Burnt unworked flint calcined grey
966	38	111	Burnt unworked flint calcined red
967	5	7	Burnt unworked flint calcined red
1049	3	5	
	128	1242	

**APPENDIX 5: ASSESSMENT OF STONE ARTEFACTS**

Jackie Keily

Conservation by Liz Barham

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Five stone artefacts were recovered by means of hand excavation during site works.

1.2 The stone accessions may assist the following fieldwork event aim:

- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*

**2. Methodology**

2.1 All the finds were examined. Each find was given an individual accession number, and the data was recorded on accession cards and on the Oracle database.

**3. Quantification**

*Table 14: Assessment of stone artefacts*

Context	Special Number	Material	Count	Period	Comments (Description)
600	64	Stone	1	MD	Large rim fragment from a round bodied mortar, possibly from Bethesden in Kent.
231	92	Stone	1	MD	Part of the square base of a round bodied mortar; the corners of the base forming the lugs on the body. Possibly from Bethesden in Kent.
280	81	Stone	1	MD	Flat base of a round bodied mortar with two lug handles remaining. Purbeck 'marble', from Dorset; 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup> century.
190	42	Stone	1	MD	Part of a fine-grained sandstone hone.
709	49	Stone	1	PM	Part of a pencil; 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> century.

**4. Provenance**

4.1 The four medieval stone accessions all came from contexts associated with the moated site. Stone mortar <92> came from demolition debris filling the drain and mortars <81> and <64> came from pit fills. The hone was recovered from the primary moat fill. The post-medieval pencil fragment was found in a dump associated with smithing.

- 4.2 The medieval stone accessions form a small but interesting group of domestic objects, at least one of which is imported from Dorset. The stone of the other three requires further work to identify the sources.

## 5. Conservation

- 5.1 There are no analysis or illustration requirements for the stone accessioned finds. They are stable and are packed appropriately for archive.

## 6. Comparative material

- 6.1 The medieval stone objects are of interest as evidence of the trade in stone domestic articles. The production of mortars from Purbeck 'marble' in Dorset occurred largely in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries and they are found throughout southern Britain. The stone of the other mortars will require identification; it is thought to possibly be a local Kentish stone but this will need to be confirmed. Comparative work should be done with other, surrounding sites of a similar period to see what evidence they produced for similar objects and whether there are any differences between the material recovered from Parsonage Farm and their assemblages.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The only Fieldwork Event Aim that this material may assist is:
- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*
- 7.2 What sort of domestic activities do these artefacts indicate; does the presence of the Purbeck 'marble' mortar indicate a degree of wealth? These objects can help in building up a picture of the types of activities that were taking place on the site in the medieval period. They can also indicate the types of trading patterns that existed.
- 7.3 The only Landscape Zone Aim that this material can assist is as follows:
- *Towns and their rural landscapes (100BC-AD1700)*
- 7.4 The artefacts, as stated above, may be of use in trying to determine what types of activities took place at the moated site and, therefore, help in understanding the types of settlements that existed in the rural landscape in the medieval period in this area. They may also be of use in terms of determining the types of trade that went on and the distances that material travelled as part of that trade.

## 8. Bibliography

None

**APPENDIX 6: ASSESSMENT OF METALWORK**

Richenda Goffin, Lyn Blackmore and Jackie Keily  
Conservation by Liz Barham

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Forty-eight metal objects, found by hand excavation and metal detecting were recovered during the excavation works. The material has potential both for informing about the wealth and status of the site itself and also its place in the surrounding landscape.

1.2 The study of the material should assist the following fieldwork aims:

- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*
- *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use*

**2. Methodology**

2.1 All the finds were examined. Each find was given an individual accession number, and the data was recorded on accession cards and on the Oracle database.

**3. Quantification**

3.1 Sixteen copper alloy accessions, sixteen iron, fourteen lead and two composite objects were recovered. Only identifiable objects are included in the table below.

*Table 15: Assessment of metalwork*

Context	Special Number	Material	Count	Period	Comments (Description)
480	5	Copper alloy	1	MD	Small buckle with intact buckle plate and oval frame with ornate outer edge; 13 <sup>th</sup> century
382	103	Copper alloy	1	MD	Approximately half of an ornately moulded circular buckle frame.
382	4	Copper alloy	1	MD	Decorated square buckle frame; partly divided; equestrian?
622	20	Copper alloy	1	MD	Strap-end or binding fragment; decorated; 15 <sup>th</sup> -early 16 <sup>th</sup> century.
966	28	Copper alloy	14	UN	Small fragments of possible mounts or studs.
0	66	Copper alloy	1	PM	Eyelet; probably used on canvas or leather.

Context	Special Number	Material	Count	Period	Comments (Description)
MD5	9	Copper alloy	1	MD	Double oval buckle frame with simple moulded decoration and remains of iron pin; late 13 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century.
MD13	17	Copper alloy	1	MD	Small circular shoe buckle frame.
MD1	7	Copper alloy	1	MD/P M	Cup and part of shaft of a socketed candleholder; late medieval/early post-medieval.
MD11	15	Copper alloy	1	MD?	Decorated fragment, possibly from an elaborate candleholder; joins <16> [MD12].
MD2	1	Copper alloy	1	MD	Shield-shaped pendant; probably for horse harness; decorated with <i>lion rampant/passant</i> .
MD4	101	Copper alloy	1	MD	Circular pendant with cartwheel design in relief.
MD16	19	Copper alloy	1	MD	Diamond-shaped heraldic pendant; enamelled decoration of a ?lion; 13 <sup>th</sup> century.
MD3	8	Copper alloy	1	MD?	Cast vessel foot; probably from cauldron; leaded copper alloy?
MD6	10	Copper alloy	1	MD?	Cast vessel foot; probably from cauldron; leaded copper alloy? From same vessel as [MD17] <27>?
MD8	12	Copper alloy	1	MD?	Cast vessel foot; probably from cauldron; leaded copper alloy?
MD17	27	Copper alloy	1	MD?	Cast vessel foot; probably from cauldron; leaded copper alloy? From same vessel as [MD6] <10>?
MD7	11	Copper alloy	1	UN	Small fragment of vessel rim.
MD0	<112>	Copper alloy	1	UN	Waste.
MD0	56	Copper alloy	1	PM	Bullet; leaded copper alloy?
MD0	58	Copper alloy	4	PM	Buttons; undecorated.
MD14	<111>	Copper alloy	1	UN	Plain, thin ring; similar size to but possibly too thin , for a drape ring.
207	24	Iron	8	UN	Fragments of sheet; possibly scrap?
307	21	Iron	3	MD	Socketed tool or implement, such as a flesh hook.
308	23	Iron	1	UN	Strap fragment.
312	63	Iron	2	MD	Two complete pintles.
382	31	Iron	1	MD	Hooked fitting or tool fragment.
382	32	Iron	1	MD	Pintle.
585	26	Iron	3	MD?	Knife? Possible traces of tinning(?); very corroded.
709	38	Iron	1	UN	Curved fragment; fitting?

Context	Special Number	Material	Count	Period	Comments (Description)
958	30	Iron	2	MD	Horseshoe; complete.
1045	100	Iron	1	UN	Shot/waste.
1053	29	Iron	1	MD	Horseshoe; complete.
MD0	54	Iron	1	MD	Horseshoe; near complete.
MD0	55	Iron	1	PM	Horseshoe; complete; large – for a shire horse?
MD0	46	Iron & Lead	1	PM	Bullet.
MD12	16	Iron & copper alloy	1	MD	Joins [MD11] <15>. Copper alloy decorative fragment with a small rectangular iron mount.
207	6	Lead	2	UN	Runnel and molten waste.
MD9	13	Lead	1	PM	Buckle with simple moulded decoration (gun metal?); 18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> century.
MD14	18	Lead	2	UN	Washers.
MD10	14	Lead	1	UN	Circular disc weight; perforated.
MD0	57	Lead	3	UN	Sheet waste.
MD0	<110>	Lead	1	UN	Possible weight.
MD0	<109>	Lead	2	UN	Rolled sheet; weights?
MD0	<108>	Lead	1	UN	Small patch with nail hole; structural?

MD in Context column refers to metal detector numbers

#### 4. Provenance

##### *Metal-detected finds*

- 4.1 Thirty-two accessions were recovered by metal detection and from the topsoil over the site and include a number of interesting objects.

##### *Moated domestic site*

- 4.2 A number of the accessioned finds can be related to the medieval manor house and its use. Context [382] (occupation layer) contained both items of a more personal nature (the two small decorated buckle frames <4> and <103>) and probable household fittings (the hooked fitting or tool <31> and a pintle <32>).

#### 5. Conservation

- 5.1 This assessment considers requirements for finds analysis, illustration and investigative conservation of the metal finds from Parsonage Farm. It also includes work necessary to produce a stable archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1992), and to the level required by the Museum of London's standards for archive preparation. (Museum of London 1999).
- 5.2 Treatments are carried out under the guiding principles of minimum intervention and reversibility. Whenever possible preventative rather than interventive conservation strategies are implemented. Procedures aim to obtain and retain the maximum archaeological potential of each object.



5.3 Most conservation work on metal artefacts begins with visual examination under a binocular microscope followed by mechanical cleaning using scalpel and other hand tools. Occasionally other mechanical devices such as air abrasive and ultrasonic devices are used. Mechanical cleaning will reveal detail and a conservation surface beneath often voluminous corrosion products enabling the true shape and purpose of the artefact to be understood. After cleaning to reveal detail copper alloys are stabilised with a corrosion inhibitor (benzotriazole) and coated with a protective lacquer (Incralac).

5.4 All conserved objects are packed in archive quality materials and stored in suitable environmental conditions. Records of all conservation work are prepared on paper and on the Museum of London collections management system (Multi MIMSY) and are currently stored at the Museum of London.

5.5 The accessioned metal finds were assessed by visual examination of the objects using a binocular microscope where necessary, and by examining their related X-radiographs. The finds were reviewed with reference to the above assessment by Jackie Keily.

*Analysis/Investigative cleaning.*

5.6 Further investigative cleaning is recommended for 9 metal accessioned items to examine their form or identify metal elements present on their surfaces:

- <26> [585] iron knife(?): to clean a section of 'blade' to see if this is a knife and if there are traces of tinning.
- <15> [MD11] and <16> [MD12] copper alloy and iron candle holder(?): to check metal types and method of manufacture; clean to reveal detail.
- <1> [MD2] copper alloy pendant: clean – to check for gilding & enamel and treat to stabilise post cleaning.
- <19> [MD16] copper alloy pendant: to clean, stabilise and establish decoration details.
- Four copper alloy vessel feet and a rim fragment: some local cleaning and chemical spot tests to check the metal – whether this is a leaded copper alloy.

*Preparation for archive deposition.*

5.7 The ironwork is very corroded and fragmentary but now relatively stable, enclosed in dry silica gel. The copper alloy is in varying stages of corrosion, but none of it appears active and a number of the objects have been treated by the conservation department at the excavation stage. The metal accessions are packed appropriately for archive.

## 6. Comparative material

6.1 It is recommended that similar assemblages from other rural moated sites be examined for comparative purposes. In particular other moated sites such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar and Wilmington Manor.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The study of the material should assist the following Fieldwork Event Aims:
- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*
- 7.2 The site produced a number of medieval metal artefacts. Relatively few of these could be directly stratigraphically linked to the moated site and a few were unstratified (from the topsoil over the archaeological area). The unstratified objects are of limited potential, except in general terms of what their presence at this site can infer.
- 7.3 The medieval artefacts are almost certainly all associated with the moated site and the people who lived and worked there. Therefore the assemblage should be examined for its potential to add to our understanding of the function and economic status of the site. A number of the decorative objects indicate a degree of wealth and affluence, which, when added to some of the other types of artefacts found (for example, the shell palette), suggest a building or settlement of some social standing and wealth. More mundane, domestic objects such as the vessel feet, probably from tripod cauldrons or similar vessels, also indicate a degree of wealth (all of these feet are unstratified but it is likely that they were associated with the moated site, being recovered from above the main area of occupation).
- 7.4 A number of the dress accessories are comparable with urban assemblages, such as at Norwich and London, which is interesting to find with a group of artefacts recovered from a site in rural Kent and indicates a degree of wealth and social importance. Three small pendants may have been used in conjunction with a horse harness. Two of these are heraldic and further work is required to try and identify the heraldic schemes.
- *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use;*
- 7.5 A number of the finds may also be of use for dating purposes.
- 7.6 The following Landscape Zone aims may be addressed:
- *towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC-AD 1700)*
- 7.7 The accessioned metalwork helps to build up a picture of what life in a rural moated site was like in the medieval period. A number of pieces are decorated and indicative of a degree of wealth. As pointed out above, a number of the pieces are comparable to pieces found in urban centres such as London and Norwich, indicating that rural settlements were not isolated from urban fashions and trends. Comparison can also be made between this site and other moated sites such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar and Wilmington Manor.
- *recent landscape (1700-1945)*
- 7.8 A number of quite modern objects were also recovered, largely from metal detection, including a number of bullets. These, similar to the late coinage, are almost certainly due to accidental loss or loss during agricultural work.

## 8. Bibliography

Museum of London, 1999, 'General standards for the preparation of archaeological archives to be deposited with the Museum of London'

**APPENDIX 7: ASSESSMENT OF COINS**

Jackie Keily

Conservation by Liz Barham

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Six coins were recovered by a combination of by hand excavation and metal detecting from the excavations works.

1.2 The coins may be able to assist the following fieldwork event aim:

- *to establish a dated sequence of occupation and use*

**2. Methodology**

2.1 All the coins were examined. Each coin was given an individual accession number, and the data was recorded on accession cards and on the Oracle database.

**3. Quantifications***Table 16: Assessment of Coins*

Context	Special Number	Count	Period	Comments
607	104	1	MD	Silver clipped coin quadrant (to date)
851	70	1	PM	Large copper alloy coin of George III (requires cleaning)
MD15	102	1	PM	Copper alloy half penny of George III; 1770-1807
MD0	39	1	PM	Copper alloy penny of George V; 1919
MD0	52	1	PM	Copper alloy half penny of Victoria; 1866
MD0	53	1	PM	Copper alloy three pence of George VI; 1944

MD in Context column refers to metal detector number

**4. Provenance**

4.1 Four of the six coins recovered, were found with the aid of a metal detector and are unstratified. The remaining two coins are a coin of George III, which came from [851], a stakehole, and a clipped silver coin, which came from [607] a levelling layer.

## 5. Conservation

### *Investigative cleaning*

- 5.1 Please refer to the metalwork assessment for details of the aims of conservation of metal finds and an overview of their treatment. One copper alloy coin <70>[851] was identified for further cleaning to aid dating and for post cleaning treatment.

### *Preparation for archive deposition*

- 5.2 The six coins are stable. Museum of London's policy for archive preparation of these coins would be to repack them in crystal boxes with acid free tissue backing.

## 6. Comparative material

- 6.1 The coin assemblage from ARC PFM 98 is rather limited, however, it may be of use to compare it with coin assemblages from nearby sites, and even with rural sites from elsewhere to see if the low loss rate is unusual.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The potential of the coins is low given that only six coins were recovered and that four of them are unstratified, however, the coins may assist the following Landscape Zone aims;

- *towns and their rural landscape (100 BC-AD 1700)*

- 7.2 Only one of the coins may be of use for dating purposes within this period and that is the medieval silver coin <104> [607].

- *recent landscapes (1700-1945)*

- 7.3 Five of the six coins recovered date to this period, four of them unstratified. They are all thought to be due to accidental loss, almost certainly during agricultural use.

## 8. Bibliography

None.

**APPENDIX 8: ASSESSMENT OF GLASS**

Jackie Keily

Conservation by Liz Barham

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Two sherds of glass were recorded during the excavation works.

1.2 It is not thought that the glass accessions can aid the interpretation of any of the fieldwork event aims. It is of interest, however, in that both accessions are from finer table wares.

**2. Methodology**

2.1 All the finds were examined. Each find was given an individual accession number, and the data was recorded on accession cards and on the Oracle database

**3. Quantification***Table 17: Assessment of Glass*

<b>Context</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Comments (Description)</b>
0	1	Vessel	PM	<40> Colourless with dark blue applied decorative trail; possibly 17th century
0	2	Vessel	PM	<41> Colourless.

**4. Provenance**

4.1 The provenance of the glass is unknown as it is unstratified.

**5. Conservation**

5.1 There are no analysis or illustration requirements for the glass accessioned finds. They are relatively stable and are packed appropriately for archive.

**6. Comparative material**

6.1 The glass may be comparable with other glass finds recovered from surrounding sites.

**7. Potential for further work**

7.1 Given that the glass is unstratified there is no potential for further work.

**8. Bibliography**

None

## APPENDIX 9: ASSESSMENT OF ANIMAL BONE

Jane Liddle

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Animal bones were recovered during excavation works at Parsonage Farm (ARC PFM 98).
- 1.2 Animal bones were recovered by hand-collection on site and through wet-sieving bulk samples taken in the field. All hand-collected animal bones were washed and air-dried, then bagged and labelled as context groups. Bulk samples were washed using a modified Siraf tank fitted with 1.0mm and 0.25mm flexible nylon mesh to retain the residue and flot fractions respectively. These fractions were visually sorted for floral and faunal remains and labelled as individual sample groups.
- 1.3 The material was analysed to study the following fieldwork event aims,
  - *to investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation through the recovery of economic indicators such as faunal and charred plant remains.*
  - *to determine the landscape setting of the site and its interaction with the contemporary local environment, and recover palaeo-economic indicators from a well-dated sequence, including ditches and the moat.*

### 2. Methodology

- 2.1 All contexts containing faunal remains were analysed and recorded onto the MoLAS ORACLE CTRL animal bone database. No sub-sampling of contexts was carried out.

### 3. Quantification

- 3.1 A total of 9.01kg, approximately 791 fragments, of animal bones were recovered from 77 contexts, including seven soil samples. Of the total fragment count, 430 fragments were identifiable to species and body part. This included 79 bones with potential for ageing data, 33 that can be measured and 60 with butchery marks. No worked bones were recovered and one bone showed evidence of pathology. The tables show this information by main feature type, including the number of contexts for each, along with a selection of the larger contexts containing useful analysis data. The tables also show the percentage of identifiable fragments represented by all of the specified species groups.
- 3.2 All contexts are recorded in the tables, including material from environmental samples. It is evident that cattle represent the most consistently high percentage of identifiable fragments, with sheep/goat then pig containing the next highest percentages.

#### 4. Provenance

- 4.1 Most of the material is generally in good preservation, with 64 of the 82 hand-collected and wet-sieved contexts and samples containing material in good condition. Fifteen of the contexts were recorded as being in moderate condition, with some surface abrasion, and only three contexts containing material in poor preservation with considerable surface abrasion. This indicates that there was minimal disturbance to the faunal material from most contexts after deposition. Mixing of preservation types was only observed in one context; this indicates that only one feature showed clear evidence of redeposition. The remaining contexts are likely to have been undisturbed after discard. Fragmentation of the bones indicates that they were mainly over 75mm in size and therefore are unlikely to have resulted from scatters of residual material, which is usually fragmented over time when exposed to the elements.
- 4.2 Most of the animal bones were recovered from medieval contexts, mainly associated with the moated manor dating to *c* 1150-1350. Only one context containing animal bones, from the moat fill, was dated to the post-medieval period.
- 4.3 The largest number of identifiable bones were recovered from pits. Over half of these bones were from pit sub-group 81, including a large number from sampled and hand-collected bones from fill [601]. The pit group contained a large range of species with emphasis on fish and birds, possibly indicating good quality food waste. The remainder of the pits contained moderate assemblages with emphasis on cattle bones. Exceptions include sub-group 387 where sheep/goat was most common and a small number of deer species remains were recovered. Pit sub-group 114 contained a context dominated by the partial remains of a piglet. Butchery marks indicate that the infant was eaten, and the stocky bones may suggest an improved breed.
- 4.4 A number of features associated with the moated manor, including occupation debris, postholes and destruction debris, contained faunal remains. The three main domestic species, cattle, sheep/goat and pig, dominated all of the features. A large accumulation of bones from occupation layer sub-group 359 contained a dominance of cattle bones, interpreted as possibly deriving from cattle butchery waste. A number of the bones showed evidence of ageing which could provide data relating to the use of the animals, for example whether they were bred primarily for meat or whether they were eaten after their use for by-products such as milk production. Further evidence of food consumption was recovered from sub-group 116, a structural cut associated with a wall, where the presence of fallow deer remains indicates the addition of game to the diet, possibly indicating high status food consumption. The remainder of the demolition layers and robber trenches also contained a mix of mainly domestic species, dominated by cattle. The backfill within a robber cut (sub-group 95) contained the redeposited remains of domestic birds including fowl and duck, suggesting some diversity of diet.



- 4.5 Animal bones were recovered from demolition debris in a drain (sub-group 270). The fill contained a mixed assemblage including domesticates as well as fish, bird including dove, and fallow deer. These bones are indicative of some high status food consumption. The moat contained some post-medieval pottery, indicating that the infill was carried out over a long period of time. Gnawing and some burning on the few fragments of bone within the moat fill indicate that it was also probably residual material and therefore has no archaeological value. The small quantity of bones may indicate that the moat was cleaned out at intervals to stop it from silting up. This would also remove the faunal remains that would no doubt have accumulated over time.

## **5. Conservation**

- 5.1 It is recommended that all material be retained for the next stage of analysis and for any future comparative work.

## **6. Comparative material**

- 6.1 A number of moated farmsteads and manors dating from the medieval period have been excavated within Britain. Comparison with sites such as Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar and Wilmington Manor would be valuable in ascertaining whether the food consumption, and status indicated by the wild animal remains, at Parsonage Farm were similar to the local region. Very little faunal material was recovered from the moat, indicating that it was probably cleaned at regular intervals.
- 6.2 Wood Hall in North Yorkshire has been systematically excavated over a number of years and would provide a valuable comparative faunal assemblage from another part of England.

## **7. Potential for further work**

- 7.1 Most of the faunal remains recovered from excavations at Parsonage Farm are in good preservation. Approximately half of the assemblage was identifiable to species and body part, with many of the remaining bones identifiable to cattle- or sheep-sized elements, namely vertebrae and ribs. Many features contained only small quantities of bones; these features have only limited potential for further work.
- 7.2 The bone assemblage has some potential for addressing the fieldwork event aims. The study of species present will provide evidence that can be used to investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation, and will provide an indication of the social status of the inhabitants of the moated farmstead. The enclosed nature of the farm means that the evidence is all associated with a specific residence, therefore all information is related directly to the inhabitants.

- 7.3 The ageing of the domesticates will provide evidence of the quality of the meat and give an indication of the exploitation of the animals for other uses such as milk production, traction or wool production. The quantification of game species will also provide an indication of the level of exploitation of the area surrounding the farmstead. Species such as rabbit, from pit sub-group 81, provide evidence of possible high-status food consumption.
- 7.4 The game species recovered provide some indication of the local environment within the vicinity of the farmstead. The presence of species such as woodcock and partridge indicate that the environment around the manor would have consisted of a mixture of damp woodland and pasture. Deer are also likely to have been hunted in woodland or hunting parks. Documentary evidence shows there was a deer park situated just north of the manor site (Documentary Assessment). Unfortunately no small mammal remains were recovered to give an indication of the habitat within the immediate vicinity of the manor.
- 7.5 Further work on this material would require the full analysis and recording of all bones from dateable contexts with interpretation of feature type. This would require bone by bone recording of species and body part, including measurements, evidence of butchery, ageing data and cases of modification such as pathology or burning. It is recommended that bones unidentifiable to species should be weighed and recorded by species group i.e. sheep-size, cattle-size, chicken-size, and body part where possible. This would mean that ribs and vertebrae would be ignored, as these bones are rarely identifiable to species.

## 8. Bibliography

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*Table 18: Assessment of animal bone – quantity of identifiable bones, age, measurements and butchery from each main feature type.*

(All material derived from medieval features, except one ageable bone and one bone with butchery from a later, post-medieval moat fill)

<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>N. contexts</b>	<b>N. ident.</b>	<b>N. Ageable</b>	<b>N. Meas.</b>	<b>N. Butch.</b>	<b>N. Worked</b>
Ditches	8	44	8	2	11	0
Dumped material	6	14	4	1	2	0
Occupation debris	1	42	10	5	3	0
Pits	22	202	23	9	17	0
Robber trenches	11	43	11	6	7	0
Structures/destruction	22	68	19	10	16	0
Unspecified features	7	17	4	0	4	0

N. – number

*Table 19: A selection of contexts with moderately high numbers of identifiable bones and useful analysis*

<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Origin</b>	<b>N. ident.</b>	<b>N. Ageable</b>	<b>N. Meas.</b>	<b>N. Butch.</b>	<b>N. Worked</b>
Ditch	231	Mixed	24	3	2	3	0
Ditch	1053	Mixed	10	2	0	4	0
Ditch	1069	Mixed	5	1	0	2	0
Occupation debris	382	Mixed, cattle butchery	42	10	5	3	0
Pit	280	Mixed	47	1	3	3	0
Pit	569	Mixed	14	8	0	1	0
Pit	601	Mixed	91	3	1	3	0
Pit	883	Mixed	7	3	1	3	0
Rubbish pit	918	Mixed	18	5	1	3	0
Robber cut fill	361	Mixed	7	2	1	1	0
Robber cut	558	Mixed	20	8	3	5	0
Destruction debris	207	Mixed	15	5	4	2	0
Destruction debris	480	Mixed	8	1	0	2	0
Posthole	517	Mixed	5	2	1	1	0
Posthole	585	Mixed	18	4	3	6	0
Posthole	935	Mixed	4	2	1	4	0

Origin - source of the material, eg food, butchery, working waste. 'Mixed' indicates that the material may have derived from more than one source.

Table 20: Assessment of animal bone - species, quantity and interpretation

Context	Sample	Interp	Period	% identified fragments								Count	Weight
				S/G	Cattle	Pig	Horse	Dog	S. mam	Bird	Fish	Other	
114	0	WA	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
176	0	SP	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
197	0	D	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
207	0	DS	MD	33	20	33	0	0	0	14	0	0	30
208	0	PC	MD	0	50	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	4
225	0	#N/A	MD	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
231	0	D	MD	10	30	10	0	0	0	25	10	15	40
231	17	D	MD	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	6
255	0	P	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
279	0	ED	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
280	0	P	MD	11	6	29	0	0	0	35	6	13	40
280	19	P	MD	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	91	3	70
306	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
307	0	SN	MD	0	25	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	10
310	0	WA	MD	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
311	0	D	PM	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
312	0	D	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
345	0	ED	UN	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
346	0	DS	UN	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
350	0	SN	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
356	0	WA	MD	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
358	0	SN	UN	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
361	0	SN	MD	14	71	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	11

Context	Sample	Interp	Period	% identified fragments								Count	Weight
				S/G	Cattle	Pig	Horse	Dog	S. mam	Bird	Fish	Other	
380	0	EM	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
382	0	OC	MD	19	62	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	70
383	0	PS	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
390	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
394	0	SN	MD	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
451	18	D	MD	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
467	0	MU	MD	50	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	2
468	0	SN	MD	0	66	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	3
471	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
474	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
480	0	DS	MD	0	25	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
481	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
495	0	D	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
508	0	SP	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
514	0	SP	UN	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
517	0	SP	MD	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
521	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
540	0	SP	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
558	0	SN	MD	5	40	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
569	0	P	MD	7	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
577	0	WA	MD	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
578	0	SN	MD/PM	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
585	0	SP	MD	12	38	18	0	0	0	31	0	1	35
585	21	SP	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	5
600	0	P	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
601	0	P	MD	18	10	18	0	0	0	44	0	10	25
601	24	P	MD	6	0	6	0	0	0	4	84	0	140

Context	Sample	Interp	Period	% identified fragments								Count	Weight
				S/G	Cattle	Pig	Horse	Dog	S. mam	Bird	Fish	Other	
602	0	P	MD	0	0	50	0	0	0	50	0	0	4
608	0	SN	UN	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
610	0	SN	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
617	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
657	0	WA	MD	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
697	0	#N/A	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
767	0	#N/A	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
769	0	#N/A	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
771	0	P	MD	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
822	0	#N/A	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
824	0	XX	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
836	0	SP	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
839	0	DS	MD	0	66	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
842	0	SP	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
854	0	P	MD	66	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
862	30	P	UN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
883	0	P	MD	43	29	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	8
913	0	S	UN	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
914	0	S	UN	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	1
918	0	PR	MD	0	94	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
933	0	ES	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
934	0	P	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
935	0	SP	UN	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
946	0	SP	MD	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1048	0	SN	UN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
1050	0	#N/A	UN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
1053	0	D	UN	0	60	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	15

Context	Sample	Interp	Period	% identified fragments								Count	Weight
				S/G	Cattle	Pig	Horse	Dog	S. mam	Bird	Fish	Other	
1069	0	D	MD	40	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
1069	47	D	MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1113	0	P	UN	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1114	0	P	UN	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1148	0	MU	MD/PM	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

Key to interpretation of deposits:

- D ditch
- DS destruction debris
- EM external metalling
- ES external surface
- MU make-up
- NA naturally deposited
- P Pit
- PR refuse pit
- SN non-structural cut
- SP structural cut
- Wa wall

## APPENDIX 10: ASSESSMENT OF CHARRED AND WATERLOGGED PLANT REMAINS, & CHARCOAL

Anne Davis

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Thirty seven bulk samples were recovered during the excavation, for environmental analysis. Sample sizes ranged from 10 to 30 litres.
- 1.2 The study of botanical material from this site will assist two of the fieldwork event aims:
  - *to investigate patterns of natural resource exploitation.*
  - *to determine the landscape setting of the site, its interaction with the contemporary local environment, and recover palaeo-economic indicators from features including ditches and the moat.*

### 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The samples were processed by flotation, using a Siraf flotation tank, with meshes of 0.25mm and 1.0mm to catch the flot and residue respectively. Flots which appeared to contain organic material, were stored in industrial methylated spirits, while the remaining flots, and all residues, were dried. The residues were fully sorted by eye for artefacts and biological material, except in a few cases, where substantial numbers of charred seeds and grains remained in the residue after processing. In these samples, the larger residue fraction (>2mm) was fully sorted, and the smaller retained for sorting at the post-assessment stage of the project. The flots were briefly scanned using a low-powered microscope, and the abundance, and general nature of plant macrofossils and any faunal remains were recorded, using the following scale for the number of charred items per sample:  
 + = 1-10, ++ = 11-50, +++ = 51-100, ++++ = 101-1000, 1000+ = >1000.  
 Waterlogged plant remains were recorded as follows:  
 + = present (0-5 items), ++ some (6-10 items), +++ many (11+).
- 2.2 Results were recorded on the MoLAS ORACLE CTRL botany database. Assessment data for the more productive samples is shown below.
- 2.3 Most flots were less than 100ml in volume, but where they exceeded this, 100ml sub-samples were assessed. All processed samples were included in the assessment, including four which had been assessed at the earlier evaluation stage.

### 3. Quantification

- 3.1 Charred material was recovered from most of the assessed samples. Charcoal was present in the majority, usually in the form of small fragments, although pieces large enough for species identification were recovered from six samples.



- 3.2 Charred cereal grains were also widespread, but in most cases there were fewer than ten grains per sample. In seven samples (from contexts [101], [166], [236], [237], [426], [589], and [601]) larger quantities, ranging from approximately 60 to over 500 grains, were found. Wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum sativum*), rye (*Secale cereale*) and oat (*Avena* sp.) grains were all seen, but wheat generally seemed to be the most abundant cereal.
- 3.3 Cereal chaff was very rare, although a few rachis fragments were seen in two samples. Relatively few charred weed seeds were seen in most samples, but all those with abundant grain also contained seeds of leguminous plants (Fabaceae), some of which were comparable to cultivated peas (*Pisum sativum*) and beans (*Vicia faba*), while others were smaller, and more likely to be wild vetches or vetchlings (*Vicia/Lathyrus* spp.). Several small weed seeds were also present in most of these samples. Occasional fragments of hazelnut shell were also preserved by charring.
- 3.4 Waterlogged preservation of plant remains was rare, but three samples (from contexts [191], [210], and [242]) included many seeds preserved in this way, as well as abundant remains of roots, bark, moss, bud scales, and in some cases alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) catkins and complete hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana*). The majority of seeds from these samples were from wetland plants such as alder, sedges (*Carex* spp.), (*Potamogeton* sp.), (*Ranunculus* subgenus *Batrachium*), and *Polygonum hydropiper*, although a few taxa from drier, disturbed ground were also present. One more sample (from [1050]) had quite abundant seeds, but their condition was poor, and a further three contained occasional waterlogged seeds and other plant remains.
- 3.5 The majority of samples included variable amounts of rootlets, presumably of modern origin, and the waterlogged assemblages contained occasional seeds, and in one case wheat rachis, of obviously recent vintage. It is therefore quite likely that some of the uncharred plant remains, and possibly also some of the charred material, are in fact intrusive. Further investigations into the relevant stratigraphy is necessary to assess the integrity of these deposits.

#### 4. Provenance

- 4.1 Nearly half the samples came from pitfills, mostly of medieval date. The remaining samples were from a variety of features, including ditch and drain fills, hearths and ovens, and dumped deposits. Of those with spot-dating available, the majority of deposits were of 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century date, with two peat layers dated to the mid 1<sup>st</sup> century, and an external dump dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century. The seven best assemblages of charred material came exclusively from pitfills dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries (groups 43, 64, 65, 96, and 216). The three samples with well-preserved waterlogged assemblages were recovered from a peat layer and two channel fills in the western part of the site (groups 52 and 53), while less well preserved remains came from a ditch fill and modern moat fill (groups 101 and 102). Other samples, from a variety of features contained too few surviving plant remains to contribute to the research objectives.

- 4.2 The condition of the charred material was generally poor, with many of the cereal grains distorted and/or fragmented. It may not be possible to identify all grains to species, but in the richer assemblages there should be sufficiently large numbers of identifiable grains. Charcoal was generally broken into fragments too small for species identification, but larger pieces were retrieved from a few samples. Waterlogged preservation was very poor in the majority of samples, but good in the three peat and channel samples mentioned above, and moderate in the ditch and moat fills. There is however, as mentioned above, a potential problem with distinguishing contemporary plant remains from intrusive material.

## **5. Conservation**

- 5.1 The dried flots, and plant material from the residues, have no particular conservation requirements, but the flots stored in Industrial Methylated Spirit will need regular inspection and topping up of the fluid.

## **6. Comparative material**

- 6.1 Medieval charred grain assemblages from the London area, for example those from St Mary Clerkenwell (Davis forthcoming) and 1 Poultry (Davis in prep), tend to be similar to those recovered at Parsonage Farm. Grains of free-threshing wheat were common on these sites, along with smaller quantities of barley, oats and rye. Charred seeds of wild and cultivated leguminous plants are also commonly found in this period, when they were grown for animal fodder as well as food for humans. Comparative examples from sites in Kent may also include assemblages from Darenth, Fawkham, Otford, Old Soar and Wilmington Manor.

## **7. Potential for further work**

- 7.1 Despite the rather limited range of plant materials recovered from this site, there is potential for several of the project aims to be addressed. The seven large charred assemblages (identified in 4.1) of cereal grains, cultivated pulses, occasional other food plant remains, and weed seeds, will provide evidence on the diet of the medieval inhabitants. The very low incidence of cereal chaff in these samples suggests that this was a consumer site, importing cereals grown and processed elsewhere. This aspect of the economy can be investigated more thoroughly with full analysis of the samples. Identification of the arable weeds from these samples, and study of their habitat requirements and preferences, may provide evidence for the type of soils on which the cereals were grown, enabling suggestions to be made about their area of origin. Study of the spatial distribution of charred cereals, along with other artefactual and faunal waste materials, will contribute information on the organisation of the site.
- 7.2 The three samples with good waterlogged preservation will provide information about the palaeo-environment. This material has very little potential to contribute to questions on the economy of the site.

- 7.3 All the samples which produced identifiable charcoal were from medieval pitfills, and it is not thought that their identification would contribute to the research aims of the site.
- 7.4 Flots from the samples selected for analysis of charred remains will be sorted, and macrofossils from flots and residues identified and counted, using a low-powered microscope. Large flots will be sub-sampled, and sufficient sub-samples sorted to produce approximately 500 grains. The remaining flot will then be rapidly scanned for any new species not seen in the sub-samples. Where partially sorted residues containing charred remains have been retained, these too will be sub-sampled if necessary, and the same proportions of flot and residue sorted. Analysis of the results will include calculating the relative abundance of each cereal, and of grains, chaff and weed seeds, in each sample and within features and areas. The environmental preferences and soil requirements of weed species will also be investigated. Waterlogged seeds will also be grouped according to habitat preference.
- 7.5 The resources required to complete the recording and analysis of the ten selected samples, and preparation of a publication report, are as follows:
- Sorting and identification of charred remains from 7 flots and retained residues
  - sorting and identification of waterlogged remains from 3 samples
  - data entry
  - analysis of the assemblages, including comparison of wild and cultivated taxa within and between the samples, and interpretation of the assemblages with reference to the project aims.
  - preparation of publication report.

## 8. Bibliography

- Davis A. forthcoming 'The plant remains.' In B. Sloane *Excavations at the Nunnery of St Mary de fonte clericorum, Clerkenwell, London* (MoLAS Monograph series).
- Davis A. in prep 'The plant remains from post-Roman deposits at 1 Poultry' (MoLAS Monograph series).

Table 21: Assessment of Charred and Uncharred Plant Remains, &amp; Charcoal

Sample details				flot and residue details						residue		
Con-text	Con-text type	Samp no.	samp size (l)	flot size (ml)	grain	chaff	Charred seeds	Un-charred seeds	Charcoal	Comments	Size (ml)	% checked
101	Pit	1	20	100	++++	+	+++		1000+	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + weeds. Some unsorted residue. Rootlets	1000ml	70%
166	Pit	8	20	10	+++		+++	+	1000+	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + weeds. Few rootlets.	200ml	100%
183	Marsh deposit	11	30	250				++		Flot in IMS. Mostly rootlets. Many fine indet frags.	500ml	100%
184	Structural cut	4	20	350				+		Many roots, wood. Few hazelnut, alder catkins, weed seeds.	1000ml	100%
191	Ditch	5	15	400				+++		Flot & residue mainly plant material. Roots, moss etc. Some modern e.g. wheat rachis.	1500ml	100%
210	Ditch	6	20	200				+++		Flot & residue mainly plant material. Roots, moss etc. Some unsorted residue.	500ml	60%
236	Pit	16	20	30	++++		++	+	++++	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + a few weeds. Some unsorted res. Rootlets, moss etc.	300ml	60%
237	Pit	13	30	50	+++	+	+++		++++	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + a weeds. Few rootlets.	1000ml	100%
242	Marsh deposit	9	20	200				+++		Flot in IMS. Flot & residue mainly plant material. Roots, moss etc. Some unsorted res.	800ml	70%
253	Pit	23	30	20	++		+		1000+	c.10 grains, few pulses. Few rootlets.	1000ml	100%

sample details				flot and residue details						residue		
426	Pit	15	30	20	++++		++		1000+	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + a few other weeds. Few rootlets.	200ml	100%
589	Pit	22	30	20	++++		+++		1000+	Grain mostly wheat. Pulses + a few other weeds. Few rootlets.	500ml	100%
601	Pit	24	30	20	+++		++		1000+	c.60 grains. Pulses + a few other weeds. Few rootlets.	2500ml	100%
1049	Ditch	40	10	30	+			++	++	Flot mostly rootlets. Some uncharred weed seeds.	500ml	100%
1050	Ditch	41	20	50				+++		Flot in IMS. Poor condition (mould). Weed seeds, many rootlets.	700ml	80%

**APPENDIX 11: ASSESSMENT OF SHELL**

Jackie Keily

Conservation by Liz Barham

**1. Introduction**

1.1 A single shell artefact was recovered by hand excavation from the excavation works.

1.2 The artefact may be of use in answering the following fieldwork event aims:

- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*

**2. Methodology**

2.1 The shell object has been examined and given an individual accession number, and the data was recorded on an accession card and on the Oracle database.

**3. Quantification***Table 22: Assessment of shell*

Context	Special Number	Material	Count	Period	Comments (Description)
585	65	Shell	1	MD	Oyster shell palette with traces of a bright red pigment – vermilion?

**4. Provenance**

4.1 The shell palette was recovered from context [585] (the fill of a structural cut, possibly associated with a wall), Group 198, sub-group 116, which also produced pottery dating to *c* 1175-1250.

4.2 The shell is in a reasonable condition with traces of pigment attached to its inner surface.

**5. Conservation**

*Analysis & preparation for archive deposition.*

5.1 Please refer to the metalwork assessment for details of the aims of conservation work on finds from this site. The pigment on [585]<65> will require analysis by the conservation department to identify it. Some consolidation of the shell and secure re-packaging are also required for long term stability.

## **6. Comparative material**

- 6.1 Comparison should be made with other sites in the area such as Old Soar, Plaxtol to see if shell palettes are common and whether they have been found on other rural sites. A number have been found on sites in London, some with vermilion and comparison may also be made with these.

## **7. Potential for further work**

- 7.1 The only fieldwork event aim that this find may apply to is:

- *to determine the function and economic basis of the site*

- 7.2 The shell palette probably dates to the early medieval period, possibly the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. It is an extremely interesting find on this site as it indicates the possible existence of painted walls in the building. The pigment is possibly vermilion, whose use increased during the 12<sup>th</sup> century, although it would still have been an expensive commodity (Pritchard 1991, 71). Shell palettes are more usually found associated with important buildings (the Guildhall in London and Clarendon Palace, Wiltshire) or churches (Boyton Parish church, Wiltshire). Therefore, the discovery of one associated with a rural moated site in Kent is of great interest, in terms of what it potentially infers about the appearance and use of the building, as well as the wealth and status of those who lived and worked there.

- 7.3 The only Landscape Zone aim that the palette can be applied to is:

- *towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC-AD 1700)*

- 7.4 Comparison should be made with assemblages from other moated sites to see if any have produced shell palettes and did any produced evidence for painted plaster or stonework.

## **8. Bibliography**

Pritchard, F, 1991 Small Finds, in *Aspects of Saxo-Norman London: 2 Finds and Environmental Evidence* (ed A Vince), London and Middlesex Archaeol Soc Spec Pap 12

## APPENDIX 12: ASSESSMENT OF GEO-ARCHAEOLOGY

Jane Corcoran & Jim Collins

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Monolith samples were taken from five features on the site:
  - through peat deposits associated with Iron Age or Roman timber and brushwood, within a relict western stream channel
  - from the ditch that was sealed by make up deposit for the moated site.
  - from the eastern moat arm (first phase moat fill/mound extension)
  - from the northern moat arm
  - from the eastern stream deposits
- 1.2 The aim of the monolith assessment was to determine the potential of the samples to reconstruct the changing environment and landscape, especially in relation to agricultural activities and the clearance of the 'Wealden Wild Wood'. It also aimed to examine the potential for studying the impact of the Medieval occupation and abandonment of the moated site on the surrounding landscape and the nature of the moat and its landscape setting when the site was in use.
- 1.3 The monolith tins (each 50x50x500mm) were hammered into cleaned section faces. The sediments and stratigraphy visible in section were described and drawn by the excavators on site. The monolith samples were marked on the section drawing and a level, relating to ordnance datum was taken on the top of each tin. Each tin was wrapped in cling film and plastic bags, labelled and stored in the MoLAS fridge prior to assessment.

### 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The sediments sampled in each tin were cleaned and described using standard sedimentary criteria. This attempts to characterise the visible properties of each deposit, in particular relating to its colour, compaction, texture, structure, bedding, inclusions, clast-size and dip.
- 2.2 For each profile, every distinct unit was given a separate number and the nature of the contact between each unit was noted. Where several units appeared to belong to the same depositional episode or event they were grouped together into a zone, designated by a letter. The characteristics of the units identified during monolith description are set out below. These tables also relate the geo-archaeological sequence to the contexts described on site and to any environmental samples taken from them. Where possible, the discussion in section 4 refers to the deposits by their context numbers, to allow comparison with the data from other specialist appendices.
- 2.3 With the exception of sample <54> the monoliths are well preserved and any pollen or diatom remains that exist within them are likely to survive.



### 3. Quantification

#### *Western relict stream channel*

3.1 Monolith sample <1> section 5 and monolith sample <2> section 7.

3.2 These samples were taken from the north-west part of the site, in the valley of the western stream. They were taken from different profiles, but together characterise the sequence of deposits associated with the timber, brushwood and peat of contexts [227 and 247].

#### *Eastern stream channel*

3.3 Samples <38 & 39>: two monoliths from section 11; pre to post medieval levels

#### *Ditch or water mill race*

3.4 This feature was parallel to the eastern stream and pre-dated the moated site. Samples <53 & 54>: two monoliths from section 25.

3.5 These samples were taken about 1m apart through the fills of the possible mill-race or ditch. It was not possible within the time constraints of the assessment to securely relate these samples to their precise location within the sequence of recuts and deposits that are associated with this feature. This must be done before any further work is carried out on the monolith samples.

#### *Eastern moat arm (first phase moat fill/mound extension)*

3.6 Sample <43>: two monoliths through deposits on the eastern side of the mound. These deposits are probably associated with the filling of a primary moat cut (associated with medieval Building 1) in advance of the construction of medieval Building 2.

#### *Medieval moat – northern arm*

3.7 Sample <42> one monolith through primary fill of moat in the northern arm, section 23.

### 4. Provenance

#### *Western relict stream channel (Figure 6): Dated prehistoric to medieval*

- Samples <1> and <2>

Table 23: Assessment of Geo-Archaeology: relict stream channel <1> and <2>

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
		58.92	Top of sequence sampled		
292	A1	[0.16m thick]	Brown 10YR4/3 very compact and hard sandy silt. The unit coarsens upwards to a medium sand at the top, from a silty fine sand at the base. Frequent iron staining of the matrix in the upper part of the unit. Occasional flint pebbles, also towards the top. Distinct irregular contact to:	1	

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
183	A2	0.08m thick]	Dark brown 10YR3/3 compact and moderately hard sandy humic silt. Occasional flint and charcoal granules. Possible increase in sand content downwards.	1	<11>
		58.68	Distinct horizontal contact		
227	B1	[c.0.08m thick]	Greyish brown 10YR5/2 loose humic sand with frequent twigs and inclusions of humic silt and peat. Diffuse contact (less sand downwards) to:	1	
	B2	[c.0.10m thick]	Very dark brown 10YR2/2 soft moderately sandy peat. Well humified, with frequent twiggy plant remains and fine roots. Occasional pebbles. Clear contact to	1	
	B3	[c.0.08m thick]	Greyish brown 10YR5/2 loose humic sand with frequent twigs, wood and inclusions of humic silt and peat (ie: similar to B1).	1	
		58.42	In monolith 1, slightly further downstream than monolith 2, context [227] overlies fine gravel (mostly granule-sized) which may be part of [270] ie: correspond with unit C.		
?227	B1-3	[>0.20m thick]	In monolith 2, context [227] is more compact with slightly less sand than B3 and a more reddish colour (Very dark brown 7.5YR3/1) with more wood fragments. Clear sloping contact to:	2	
?242	B4	[0.09m thick]	Black, 7.5YR2.5/1 soft, very slightly sandy peat. Very well humified: matrix is almost a humic silt. Frequent wood and plant remains.	2	<9>
?247	B5	[0.06m thick]	Very dark brown mottled with greyish brown 2.5Y5/2 and dark yellowish brown 10YR4/6 humic silty sand. Frequent wood and plant remains. Frequent flint granules and occasional pebbles.	2	
		c.58.15	Distinct, irregular contact		
270	C		Greyish brown 2.5YR5/2 slightly silty sand. Frequent iron-stained root channels and occasional orange mottling of the matrix. Some channels still contain woody roots, others are humic filled.	2	
		58.41	Base of profile sampled		

- 4.1 The sediments sampled in the palaeochannel, together with the morphology of the contexts, as recorded in the sections, suggests that the western valley floor is likely to have contained a meandering river or stream(s) in the later prehistoric period. These appear to have migrated across the valley floor. This has caused deposits characteristic of flowing-water, standing-water and vegetated, relatively dry land surfaces to be interspersed through the profiles.
- 4.2 The samples can be sub-divided into three main episodes.  
Lowest fluvial sand and gravels, dated prehistoric to Late Iron Age
- 4.3 The lowest deposits are fluvial sand and gravels (context [270]). These are of unknown age but are likely to represent fast flowing water carrying a coarse bed-load, derived from the Greensand, Gault Clay and Clay with Flints deposits of the North Downs. The uppermost part of this context appears to be gravelly, implying that a lag deposit exists, from which fines have been winnowed, during an episode of faster water flow. It is therefore likely that during the early part of the sequence this part of the site lay within the channel of the western stream. It is likely that the sand was deposited as sand-banks (in-channel bars or as point bars, on the inside of meander bends).
- 4.4 There is evidence for rooting in the sand and gravel of context [270]. This, together with the humic content and gradual transition to the inter-bedded peat of Zone B (context [247]) implies a stable period of plant growth and a cessation of water flow, at least in this part of the valley floor. This may be because the level of water flow fell and the channel bars became dry surfaces above the water flow. Or it might suggest that the main channel flow migrated away from the monolith location, to another part of the valley floor. This level is associated with the lower cut timbers dated by pottery c 50BC to AD 50.  
Peat deposits, dated Late Iron Age to medieval
- 4.5 The overlying peat suggests that the valley floor was damp, or becoming wetter. Lenses of humic clay-silt within the lowest peat deposits (B4: [242]) indicate that flooding, or pools of standing water, may have existed within a possibly wooded valley floor at this time.
- 4.6 The higher incidence of sandy lenses within the peat in context [227] implies that (possibly in episodic events) water was flowing across the wooded or vegetated valley floor. This may indicate that the main water flow was migrating back towards the sample location, or else that increased water was flowing down the valley at this time. This level is associated with the upper cut timber and appeared to be cut by a medieval wicker-lined 'drain'.
- 4.7 It is not entirely clear, however whether the peat represents *in-situ* plant growth and decay, or an accumulation of wood, carried to this location by human and water transport. A combination of both is possible, as rooting certainly extended from or through [247] into the underlying sand, but the disturbed nature of the sandy units B1 and B3, within [227] suggest localised water flow possibly in a channel-edge location.

- 4.8 The context descriptions suggest that there is some lateral variation within context [227] and the morphology of the contexts, represented in section, indicate that they merge laterally into one another. These characteristics imply that different deposits were accumulating at the same time in different places as a result of the same event (ie: facies variation). This would be likely to result from slight differences in distance to the main water channel and in elevation. This suggests that [227], [242], [247] and [183] (zone B in the monolith descriptions) all accumulated above a former sand and gravel channel bar.
- 4.9 The cut timber in contexts [247] & [227] appear to correspond to the initial period of plant growth in this sand bar [247] and to a renewed period of water flow across the vegetated sand bar [227]. However, the time period between these two events is not known. They could be almost contemporary, or be separated by decades or centuries. It is also possible that the two timber layers represent the construction [247] and later abandonment [227] of a riverine structure. This, or associated activities may have influenced the pattern of water flow. Dating of these events (ie: the bottom and top of the peaty deposits) perhaps by radiocarbon should be attempted. This could be related to the date of the pottery in context [183] and indicate the timespan during which the peat accumulated and during which the activity in this location occurred.
- 4.10 Context [183] was described as peaty on-site but would appear to be a humic silt. It is likely to represent the gradual inundation of the vegetated peat surface by minerogenic sediment derived either from sluggish floodwater (ie: from the river) or else from surface wash and slope processes, given its valley edge location. This process appears to have subsumed the vegetated surface and buried it by further, increasingly coarse grained sedimentation [292].
- Hillwash deposits, dated medieval to post-medieval
- 4.11 The upper part of the profile sampled (zone A) may be interpreted as accumulation from hillwash processes. Slope deposits can be transported by water or gravity and rills and gulleys flowing into the valley might also have eroded the peat and accumulated fans of gravel. The period of this activity can be dated fairly well due to the presence of the underlying medieval wicker drain and overlying topsoil (removed by mechanical excavator). It is likely this hillwash material accumulated as a direct result of tree clearance and agricultural activities on the nearby slopes.

***Ditch or water mill race (Figure 4), dated 11<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> century***

- Samples <53 & 54>

Table 24: Assessment of geo-archaeology: samples <53 & 54>: section 25

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
			Sample <53>		
		c.58.5	Top of sequence sampled	53	none
1145	A1	[0.06m thick]	Olive brown 2.5Y4/3 silty sand. Hard and compact. Frequent iron stained root channels. One larger humic stained root channel extends through this unit and to the base of A2. Diffuse contact (becomes finer and darker downwards) to:		

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
?1145	A2	[0.12m thick]	Darker olive brown 2.5Y4/3 sandy clay-silt. Hard and compact. Moderately frequent iron stained speckles. A humic stained root channel extends from A1 to the base of this unit. Occasional charcoal flecks. Diffuse contact (marked by more clay and darker colour downwards) to:		
?1137	A3	[0.06m thick]	Still darker olive brownish grey silty clay. Frequent angular and sub-angular granule and pebble sized flint gravel.		
[1136]			Distinct contact		
1139	B		Soft, friable interdigitating lenses of pale brown 10YR6/3 fine sand and dark yellowish brown 10YR4/4 more clayey silty sand.		
		c.58.0	Base of sample <53>		
			Sample <54> This sample had dried out very badly and had become very hard and cracked. This made accurate description very difficult.		
		c.58.75	Top of sample <54>	54	none
1145	A1	[0.16m thick]	Dark greyish brown 2.5Y4/3 compact and hard sandy clay-silt. Moderate iron concretions along fine root channels. Fine angular blocky structure riddled with fine holes <1mm (root holes?). Occasional granular and grit sized flint gravel. Contact appears to follow crack associated with a humic, soil-like lens.		
?1145 ?1158	A2	[0.24m thick]	Dark greyish brown 2.5Y4/3 compact and hard sandy clay-silt. Slightly less sandy than overlying unit. Frequent and larger iron concretions than in A1. Similar fine angular blocky structure riddled with fine holes <1mm (root holes?). Occasional granular and grit sized flint gravel. Possible crushed snail shells.		
		c.58.25	Base of profile sampled		

4.12 These samples were taken about 1m apart through the fills of one or several of the (re)cuts of the ditch or mill-race feature. Unfortunately sample <54> had dried out very badly and any surviving pollen and diatom assemblages are unlikely to have remained well preserved. This also prevented accurate description of the sediments.

- 4.13 Both samples <53> and <54> appear to represent the fills of a primary cut, and then fills of a subsequent re-cut
- 4.14 Initial observations suggest that the earliest fill sampled <53: unit B> was the result of episodic water flow through the feature with periods of faster flow and periods of still, standing or draining water. Diatoms assemblages examined from the finer lenses may provide information about the nature of the water flowing through the cut. Pollen from the same lenses may suggest the nature of the local environment at this time and perhaps the source of the water.
- 4.15 The later fills are finer grained and indicate more sluggish flow, or silting up. It would appear that plant growth and soil formation eventually occurred within the damp conditions of the ditch.
- 4.16 Samples for pollen and diatoms from the base and top of sample <53> would provide material with which to examine landscape and environmental change within the catchment of the site from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. This should be undertaken in conjunction with similar information from the western and eastern stream channels.

***Eastern stream channel: samples <38 & 39> two monoliths from section 11 (Figure 6), dated pre- 13<sup>th</sup> century to modern***

*Table 25: Assessment of Geo-Archaeology: Sample <38 & 39> Section 11*

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
		57.65	Top of sequence sampled		
716	A1	[0.04m thick]	Hard and compact, light yellowish brown 2.5Y6/3 sandy silt. Diffuse contact (over 30mm) to:	38	
719	A2	[0.10m thick]	Greyer sandy silt with manganese flecks	38	
720	A3	[0.02m thick]	Flint gravel rich band, forms contact of A2 and A4.	38	
741	A4	[0.06m thick]	Greyish brown 10YR5/3 sandy silt. Frequent angular granule and pebble sized flint clasts.	38	
?721	A5	[c.0.04m thick]	Darker greyish brown sandy silt with frequent flint pebbles.	38	
			(There is probably a gradual increase in humic content down the profile through Zone A)		
		57.43	Sharp slanting contact		

Context	Zone & unit	Elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
830	B		Interbedded yellowish green sand with blue-grey silty clay. Beds / laminations are slanting, sub-parallel and mostly about 10mm thick. The upper 0.20m is very iron stained, especially along root channels. Iron concretions occur throughout the unit. The sandy beds contain frequent (green) glauconite clasts, probably derived from the Greensand of the Weald. The unit is penetrated by frequent woody roots (> c.10mm diam.) and a larger stake-like wood fragment.	38 / 39	<28>
		56.89	Base of profile sampled		

- 4.17 This sequence was divided into three main zones.  
Undated lowest deposits (pre-13<sup>th</sup> century):
- 4.18 The lowest, zone C (context [830] pre-dates the moat cut [726] and is undated. Context records indicate that it pre-dates all the cut features within the eastern stream valley. It therefore probably accumulated prior to the Saxo-Norman period and may be of prehistoric age.
- 4.19 It probably represents overbank flood events: interspersed episodes of water washing more rapidly from the river during fast flood flow and then standing or draining more slowly away (when the silty clay was deposited) and may have formed a raised levee adjacent to the river channel.
- 4.20 It is expected that there will be good preservation of diatoms and pollen within the silty clay overbank bands, due to their waterlain nature. These microfossils are good indicators of water quality and local ecology and hold potential for various avenues of further research on the site (section 7).
- 4.21 The iron-staining at the top of the fluvial sediments [830] and especially associated with large root channels suggests that the earlier river sediments were vegetated immediately prior to a clearance episode, probably associated with the manor construction. The lack of bedding in this upper part of context [830] is also indicative of bioturbation and implies that the ground surface was not far above.  
Faster flowing water, gravelly deposits, dated medieval to post-medieval:
- 4.22 The gravelly contexts of Zone B (contexts [720], [741] & [721]) may represent a period when shallow faster flowing channels were flowing, eroding the earlier, finer fills.  
Upper hillwash deposits, dated post-medieval to modern
- 4.23 Zone A [contexts [716] & [719] appears to represent flood or hillwash events or the dumping of a brickearth type material into the stream channel (perhaps culminating with recent agricultural activity or the bulldozing of parts of the site in the 1960s).

***Sample <42> one monolith through fill of northern moat arm, section 23(Figure 6), dated 13<sup>th</sup> century***

*Table 26: Assessment of Geo-Archaeology: sample <42> primary fill of moat*

Assoc. with context	Zone & unit	Thickness of unit as sampled (m)	Description and contacts (Elevations and correlation with the site matrix to be done at analysis stage)	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
1049 +			Top of profile sampled: to obtain from S.23	42	<40+41>
1050	A	0.10	Very dark greyish brown sandy humic clay-silt (loam). Moderately soft, occasional gravel and iron concretions.		
			<i>Clear irregular contact following root channels</i>		
	B1	0.15	Brown 10YR4/3 very sandy clay silt, but becomes less sandy downwards. Occasional iron concretions and staining along root channels. Occasional diffuse, humic stained root channels. Diffuse contact over 0.10m to:		
	B2	0.15	Greyish brown 2.5T5/2 compact, moderately soft silty clay. Strong iron staining within the lowest 20-30mm of unit.		
			<i>Diffuse contact (marked by an increase in sand) to:</i>		
	C	0.10	Dark yellowish brown 10YR3/4 medium to coarse sand. Very iron stained matrix. Friable. Angular flint and ironstone clasts.		
			Base of profile sampled		

- 4.24 The lowest sediment sampled (zone C) was an iron stained gravelly sand. It was probably deposited through erosion of the sandy natural deposits into the moat. The iron staining is likely to be the result of ground water fluctuations and the precipitation of ferric iron at the contact of the permeable sands of the former river channel and the less permeable overlying clay (unit B2) of the moat.
- 4.25 The clayey (B2) sediment is likely to represent still and deep water and is probably the main primary moat fill in this location. The increase in sand within the matrix upwards suggests that water flow became swifter and probably shallower through time (B1). Perhaps the eastern stream was partly re-directed through the moat arm during this period and the arm was starting to silt up.
- 4.26 Zone A represents plant growth and soil formation at the surface of / into the moat sediments. This soil formation and rooting appears to have extended into unit B1, as indicated by the humic and iron-stained root channels in this zone, but not into the lower part of zone B (B2). This shows that the moat arm had ceased to contain flowing, or standing water.



- 4.27 The shallowness of the moat deposits seen in this tin appears to suggest that the silting up and soil formation was a fairly rapid process. Above this level stratigraphic descriptions indicate a collection of brushwood had been dumped into the moat arm.

***Sample <43> two monoliths through section 20 at edge of the first moat on the eastern side of the site (Figure 5), dated 13<sup>th</sup> century***

*Table 27: Assessment of geo-archaeology: sample <43> section 20 (at edge of moat)*

Context	Zone & unit	elevation of contact (m OD)	Description and contacts	Tin	Assoc. enviro samples
		58.76	Top of profile sampled		none
1065	A1	[0.14m thick]	Light olive brown 2.5Y5/4 compact sandy silt. Frequent iron staining as concentrations associated with root channels. Occasional charcoal flecks. Diffuse contact to:	1	
1065	A2	[0.06m thick]	Light olive brown 2.5Y5/4 compact slightly sandy silt. Occasional iron staining and becomes greyer (less oxidised) downwards. This unit is marked by distinctly less sand and more clay-silt than A1 & A3.	1	
1065	A3	[0.12m thick]	Light olive brown 2.5Y5/4 moderately compact sandy silt. Frequent iron staining. Occasional charcoal flecks. Occasional flint gravel.	1/2	
		58.44	Diffuse contact (marked by a decrease in sand downwards)		
1066	A4		Greyish brown 2.5Y5/2 slightly sandy silt. Compact and hard. Occasional iron concretions, possibly associated with root channels.	1/2	
		58.16	Diffuse contact (marked by an increase in sand downwards)		
1093	B1	[0.14m thick]	Brownish grey, compact, silty gravelly sand. Occasional iron staining possibly following moderately large root channels. Occasional charcoal. Distinct contact to:	2	
1093	B2	[0.05m to base of profile]	Pale whitish grey medium to coarse sand occasional flint clasts of granule to pebble size. Non compacted.	2	
		57.97	Base of profile sampled		

- 4.28 These monoliths were taken from the inner side of the first moat cut.

- 4.29 Context [1093] was sub-divided in the monolith sample description into a lower, 'clean' whitish grey gravelly sand (B2) and an upper, 'dirtier' and darker coloured silty gravelly sand (B1). The upper surface of [1093] appeared to be irregular and undulating on the section drawing. It is possible that the upper part of the gravel (B1) represents the reworking of the former stream bed or channel-edge bar during moat construction. However the iron stained root channels within B1 and its greyer more humic appearance and the concentration of gravel at its surface, point towards former plant growth within it. It is therefore possible that [1093] represents an abandoned bedform or gravelly sand bar associated with the earlier stream. It is quite possible that a considerable expanse of sand and gravel accumulated at the confluence of the eastern and western streams. It would appear that, by the time the moat was constructed, this area had been abandoned by the streams and had become vegetated.
- 4.30 As a result of moat construction (and stream channel manipulation) the formerly vegetated confluence zone was flooded. Zone A: contexts [1066] and 1065] are sandy clay-silts. They represent fluctuating water flow within the eastern stream. It is likely that the flow was predominantly slow or sluggish, but sandier lenses (such as A3, within [1065]) indicate that occasional more turbulent episodes occurred.
- 4.31 Pollen and diatom analysis of these sediments should be able to provide information with which the changing medieval landscape can be reconstructed and the role of human activities in accelerating this change.
- 4.32 Evidence of rooting and oxidation at the top of the profile, especially in context ([1065]: zone A1) indicate that the moat sediments have become weathered, aerated and bioturbated in their upper parts. This probably indicates that pollen and diatom preservation will become worse towards the top of the profile, where differential preservation might be expected, with only the more robust species surviving.

## 5. Conservation

- 5.1 If thin sections are made of the monolith blocks they will take up less storage space, stand a better chance of long term preservation and be amenable to a similar method of archiving to that for finds and environmental samples. As monoliths the samples are not easily stored, need to be kept in a cool to cold and dark environment and will be likely to deteriorate with time. In addition thin sections are easily available for further research and can be examined frequently without loss of information. Stored monoliths are less accessible and will gradually lose their potential for preserving information, especially as each time they are examined further cleaning will wear away the surface.
- 5.2 In the same way, processed sub-samples taken from the monoliths will be easier to store and less likely to deteriorate than the original soil material.
- 5.3 Long term storage as monolith samples is likely to be costly and is not an efficient use of space or archive material. After analysis, for those monoliths not impregnated with resin and converted to thin sections, what remains of the samples should be discarded. Sample <54> should also be discarded

## 6. Comparative material

- 6.1 Valley sediments have been recorded and sampled from several of the CTRL sites. As such they record sequences and chronologies for periods of landscape stability and instability that might be compared with each other and to other evidence for human settlement and activity across the Wealdon landscape. In terms of the present site the main periods of interest focus on Iron Age and Roman activity and medieval expansion and abandonment.
- 6.2 This data should be compared to published research on the impact of human activities and the resulting accumulation of valley sediments, derived from both slope and river processes (Bell & Walker, 1992; Bell & Boardman 1991; Needham & Macklin 1992).
- 6.3 It should also be compared to more local evidence for human impact and abandonment on the environment recorded on other sites in south-east England. In particular, the silting up of the Walbrook in London, in the Iron-Age Roman. Also to evidence for prehistoric deforestation and agriculture (Bell 1983). Also comparison might be made to geoarchaeological samples taken by MoLAS during excavation of the moated medieval site at Low Hall, Walthamstow and Finsbury Manor, just north of the City of London.

## 7. Potential for further work

- 7.1 The monolith samples have potential to address the following landscape zone and fieldwork aims:
- *Establish the presence/absence extent and morphology of any moat or other water course*
  - *Determine the landscape setting of the site and interaction with the contemporary local environment*
- 7.2 As no wells were found on site it is probable that the inhabitants of the moated settlement drew their water from the streams themselves. Diatoms (algae) are sensitive to salinity, nutrient levels and acidity (amongst other things) and are best preserved in silt and clay sediments. It is possible that examination of diatom assemblages from the moat and pre-moat waterlain sediments will provide data with which the changing water quality in the valley can be reconstructed. Changes in the quality of the water supply and the likely effect of occupation on the water passing on downstream might then be investigated.
- 7.3 The recommendations for further work are outlined below, with respect to the feature they relate to.
- Western relict stream channel*
- 7.4 These monoliths have potential to provide information with which the impact of prehistoric and early historic human activity on the surrounding landscape might be reconstructed. Pottery from [183] together with radiocarbon dating of the peat sequence would enable these activities to be placed within a more secure chronological framework for the site and the region.

- 7.5 Thin sections for soil micromorphology will enable the interpretation of the sediment sequence discussed in section 4 to be tested. This technique should also be able to determine the process by which context [183] & [292] accumulated (fluvial or colluvial) and suggest whether agricultural activity on the slopes may have been responsible (Macphail *et al* 1990, Macphail 1992). Or whether this disturbance was taking place within the stream catchment but not on the site itself.
- 7.6 Pollen analysis through the fine-grained organic sediments of contexts [247], [242], [227], [183] should enable the nature of the surrounding landscape to be reconstructed. It may suggest the extent to which the woodland had been cleared by this time and indicate the role of human activities subsequent to clearance (ie: whether for arable or grazing).
- 7.7 Further work on the monoliths from the palaeochannel would therefore have potential to determine the landscape setting of the site and human interaction with the contemporary local environment.
- Ditch or water mill race*
- 7.8 Samples for pollen and diatoms from the base and top of sample <53>, especially as these contexts are roughly dateable (almost certainly the latest fills are soon before the construction of the medieval manor in the 13th century), would provide material with which to examine landscape and environmental change within the catchment of the site prior to development. This should be undertaken in conjunction with similar information from the stratigraphically later moat and eastern channel fills.
- Medieval moat: northern and eastern arms, eastern stream channel*
- 7.9 The monoliths from the moat have very good potential for the reconstruction of:
- the changing landscape and environment during the medieval period
  - the possible role of human activities in this change
  - changes in the quality of water supply as a result of human activities during the medieval period and also (together with samples from the palaeochannel and mill race) throughout the prehistoric and historic period of site occupation.
- 7.10 The data on which to base these reconstructions might be obtained from pollen, diatom and limited sedimentological and soil micromorphological analysis of the samples.
- 7.11 Initial assessment indicated that the samples were taken through both pre-moat construction fluvial deposits (eastern arm and eastern stream channel) and also through overlying moat fills. It is initially thought that sample <43> pre-dates sample <42> by perhaps half a century and the comparison between the pollen and diatom remains could reveal differing environmental indicators.

## 7.12 Recommendations for further work:

<b>Western relict stream channel</b>
<b>Radiocarbon</b> Radiocarbon dates from the top and bottom of the peat
<b>Pollen</b> Analysis of 16 pollen sub samples
<b>Soil micromorphology</b>
<i>a) Supporting sedimentary techniques:</i> Carry out x-ray and loop sensor magnetic susceptibility determination on the monolith inserts. Sub-sample the 2 monoliths at 2cm intervals for LOI / particle size / phosphates prior to stage (b) and carry out this analysis as appropriate (in discussion with the soil micromorphologist) Provide data (but not report text) for stage (c).
<i>b) thin section preparation</i> Set what remains of the 2 monoliths in resin Manufacture 4 thin sections to cover the 292/183; 183/227; 227/242/247 and 247/270 interfaces.
<i>c) Description and interpretation of 4 thin sections</i> Use supporting data obtained in (a) as required Prepare report text
<b>Geoarchaeological synthesis</b> Integrate the results of the dating, pollen and sedimentary / soil micromorphological techniques in the light of data obtained from the stratigraphic record and other specialist reports, to attempt to reconstruct the sequence of events represented by the palaeochannel sediments; and the likely impact of human activity on landscape change.
<b>Ditch or water mill race</b>
<b>Pollen</b> Analysis of 12 samples from <53> at c.40mm intervals
<b>Diatoms</b> Analysis of 12 samples from <53> at c.40mm intervals
<b>Geoarchaeological synthesis</b> Integrate the results of the pollen, diatoms, monolith assessment and stratigraphic data from the mill-race samples with similar evidence from the relict channel and moat in order to reconstruct changes in the quality of water supply and environmental change, for the period of site occupation.

<b>Medieval moat: northern and eastern arms, eastern channel</b>
<p><b>Pollen</b>  <i>Subsamples to be taken from the monoliths before they are set in resin!</i>  Analysis of 24 pollen sub samples (at c.40mm intervals):  4 from the 'primary fill' &lt;42&gt;  12 from &lt;43&gt;  4 from the upper part of &lt;38&gt;  and 4 from the clayey laminations of the pre-moat deposit &lt;39&gt;</p>
<p><b>Diatoms</b>  <i>Subsamples to be taken from the monoliths before they are set in resin!</i>  Analysis of 24 diatom sub-samples from (at c.40mm intervals):  4 from the 'primary fill' &lt;42&gt;  12 from &lt;43&gt;  4 from the upper part of &lt;38&gt;  and 4 from the clayey laminations of the pre-moat deposit &lt;39&gt;</p>
<p><b>Soil micromorphology</b>  <i>a) Supporting sedimentary techniques:</i>  Carry out x-ray and loop sensor magnetic susceptibility determination on the monolith inserts of samples &lt;42, 43, 38+39&gt; (6 monoliths).  Sub-sample monoliths:  &lt;38&gt;: top half (8)  &lt;39&gt;: selected sand &amp; silt laminae from top / middle / base (6) &lt;42&gt;: lower 0.30m (15)  &lt;43&gt;: entire 0.80m profile (40)  (Total: 69 sub-samples)  at 20mm intervals for LOI / particle size / phosphates prior to stage (b) and carry out this analysis only as appropriate (in discussion with the soil micromorphologist and see (b) below.  Provide data (but not report text) for stage (c).</p>
<p><i>b) thin section preparation</i>  Set all monoliths in resin  Manufacture the following thin sections (c.40mm x 100mm):  &lt;38&gt;: top half (2)  &lt;39&gt;: (1)  &lt;42&gt;: unit C, lower B, B/C contact (3)  &lt;43&gt;: A1/A2 contact, A3/A4 contact, A4/B1 contact, B1/B2 contact (4)  Total thin sections manufactured: 10  The samples will be stored as thin sections as this is likely to be the best way of preserving the geoarchaeological record of these deposits.</p>
<p><i>c) Description and interpretation of 10 thin sections</i>  Use supporting data obtained in (a) as required  Prepare report text</p>
<p><b>Geoarchaeological synthesis</b>  Integrate the results of the dating, pollen and sedimentary / soil micromorphological techniques to attempt to reconstruct the sequence of events and geoarchaeological implications of the moat sediments; and the likely impact of local medieval activity on landscape change.</p>

## 8. Bibliography

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## APPENDIX 13: DOCUMENTARY ASSESSMENT

Mary Adams

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Whilst moated medieval manors are fairly common in Kent, very few have been excavated, and of those almost none have been so fully excavated to modern standards. It was known that there was a quantity of documentary evidence for medieval Westwell and Parsonage Farm as a brief research exercise was undertaken during the time of the archaeological excavations. This initial work has been followed up with the documentary assessment 3.6.

*Historical background.*

- 1.2 Westwell, known in medieval times as Welles, is a parish of some 5,200 acres extending from the crest of the North Downs down to a region of level ground on the edge of the Weald. It is bounded on the south by the manor of Ripple, and there are a number of small independent holdings or manors also in the parish. An ancient track-way, known now as the Pilgrim's Way, runs along close to the foot of the escarpment.
- 1.3 The site of the archaeological exploration is on land now part of Parsonage Farm, once called the Old Rectory. Parsonage Farm itself is situated to the east of Station Road, opposite the site of the old manor. This 'Rectoria' is mentioned in documents of the early 15th century<sup>7</sup> and it is, therefore, the history of this rectory and its relation to Westwell Manor that needs to be studied.
- 1.4 Westwell is a pre-conquest settlement. In Domesday Book there is reference to a mill (worth 30 pence) and a church is mentioned in Domesday Monachorum. The manor and church were confirmed to Christ Church Priory in Canterbury in 1070 for the use of the priory table, but subsequently the ownership of the manor was called into question.
- 1.5 It appears that the manor and church of Westwell were 'sold' into lay hands and were occupied by a family calling themselves 'de Welle' through whom it came into the possession 'at farm' of a Peter de Bending, a member of a leading Kentish family. Peter, having fallen into financial straits, sold it back to Christ Church.<sup>8</sup> Following an appeal from his widow, who claimed the manor as her property in gavelkind, it was confirmed to Christ Church again in 1240. It seems likely that it was prior to this date that the church living became the gift of a lay rector, for the church was not appropriated to Christ Church again until 1397 and, in 1237, the rector was a Henry de Welle.

<sup>7</sup> *Bedel Roll Nos 41, 50 and 59 also MA6*

<sup>8</sup> *Archaeologia Cantiana Vol 6 p. 305*



- 1.6 It is after Christ Church resumed possession of the manor that various developments took place. Around 1250 (according to architectural dating) a new church was built in what is now the village of Westwell. There is no sign of the earlier church, but as it was probably of timber construction, this cannot confirm or deny that this was the site of the Saxon building. A small part of Court Lodge, which stands just south of the church, is built of materials similar to that of the church and appears to have been built at the same time. Since mason's engaged on church building usually erected a dwelling for themselves it must be possible that this is the remains of the mason's house although rather more substantial than usual.
- 1.7 Henry Eastry became Prior of Christ Church in 1285 and set himself the task of reorganising and improving the buildings and working of the demesne farms. Westwell was the scene of major alterations. Probably it was under his auspices that a tile factory was established <sup>9</sup>and was making great numbers of tiles for both local building work and for sale to other manors. Lime burning was also carried out.
- 1.8 It is the 1291-1292 bedel roll that gives the most detailed account of work here.<sup>10</sup> This year both the cider mill and a stable were removed and set up in a new place. A great barn was taken down and rebuilt on a new 'barton' or farm - clearly present-day Westwell. A new ox-house was also built here; but an old ox-house and an old barn were de-roofed and taken down completely - presumably on the site from which the Great Barn was removed. Prior Eastry's memorandum Book records a lot of work at Westwell at this time, including the building of a new water mill.<sup>11</sup> There were also a number of small new buildings being erected at various places including the park, which was enlarged.<sup>12</sup> This was a deer park<sup>13</sup> undoubtedly designed to provide venison for the monks 'table' at Canterbury. It was situated just north of the moated manor site. There are also references to a 'vinarium' in the park and a later document mentions land called the 'Vyneyarde'.
- 1.9 There is an inescapable impression that the demesne farm, or manor, was being moved from its original site to a more suitable site close to the new church. The interesting question is from where was the barn, stable and cider mill being moved?
- 1.10 The archaeological investigation shows that the moated manor was abandoned as a dwelling at some time during the 13th century, and that buildings were taken down and moved from the site, possibly between 1300 and 1350. This agrees pretty well with the documentary evidence so that it would, at least, seem possible that this was the original Westwell manor site. The finding of 11th century pottery suggests that it was an early settlement; the ditch, which has been identified as a probable mill leet, could belong to the mill recorded in the Domesday Book.

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<sup>9</sup> *Arch Cant. Vol 116 p.35*

<sup>10</sup> *Bedel Roll No 2*

<sup>11</sup> *Prior Eastry's Memorandum Book*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>13</sup> *Hasted History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent Vol 7*

- 1.11 Until the appropriation of the church and rectory by Christ Church in 1397<sup>14</sup>, there are few references to the rector, although the 1328 visitation states that the rector is not resident in the village. It is after the appropriation that the bedel rolls refer to Westwell Rectory. In 1402-1403 thirty-four cart loads of old timber were carried from the Rectory to the manor and 11,000 tiles were bought for repairing the rectory buildings.<sup>15</sup> There is no mention of an 'aula' or hall. Subsequent to this the Rectory and Manor were sometimes leased out as separate holdings, sometimes leased to the same farmer.<sup>16</sup> Parsonage farm house was built very close to the site of the moated manor, and appears to be of 16th century construction. A barn and other buildings were also built near to the farm house.
- 1.12 Following the Dissolution, the manor and rectory were settled briefly on the Archbishop of Canterbury, but were taken under royal patronage again by Queen Elizabeth.<sup>17</sup> With the abolition of the Priory there was no longer a demand for food from Westwell and the park became Park Farm - an ordinary manor farm. The manor was leased out to various tenants for a number of years, during which time Park Farm, the Manor or Court Lodge, and the Rectory were recognised as separate holdings. The manor went to the Earl of Thanet in 1665.<sup>18</sup>
- 1.13 Since then Westwell has been a quiet backwater used for the mixed farming common in this part of Kent. After the war, as became common, Parsonage farmhouse came into purely residential use, the associated land being let to a farmer. The moat was then filled.
- 1.14 In 1884 the London, Chatham and Dover Railway built a line running just north of Parsonage Farm with a small station called Hothfield Halt on land adjoining Parsonage Wood.<sup>19</sup> A century later the M20 motorway was constructed north of this railway track, work beginning on this development in 1989. Between these two thoroughfares Tarmac Roadstone set up a large depot which is still in use today.

#### *Glossary*

- **Bedel roll:** The accounts kept by the 'serviente' or sergeant, who served as farm manager, were recorded twice yearly when Monk Wardens from Christ Church Priory visited the demesne farms. A 'visus' was taken in the spring, and the final accounts were written up at Michaelmas and it is these that form most of the bedel rolls.
- **At farm:** medieval term meaning the holding was rented.
- **Gavelkind:** a form of land tenure common in Kent, whereby land was partible in equal portions among sons and/or daughters, after allowance for a widow's dower of half the property, when the owner died intestate.
- **Rector:** Incumbent of a parish with an entitlement to the tithe.

<sup>14</sup> *The Church of St Mary, Westwell. A Short History and Guide also Hasted's history etc*

<sup>15</sup> *Bedel Roll No 41*

<sup>16</sup> *MA 6*

<sup>17</sup> *U455 T 68 and T69*

<sup>18</sup> *U455 T 68*

<sup>19</sup> *Vic Mitchell and Keith Smith Ashford's Main Line – Swanley to Ashford.*

## 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The following sources were consulted or referenced in preparing the documentary assessment summary. It has been shown that a considerable body of evidence exists for Westwell and some of this can be related to the site at Parsonage Farm.
- 2.2 Not all the sources were actually read, but they were scanned and are known to contain references.

## 3. Quantifications

The Church of St Mary, Westwell [1988] *History and Guide*  
Domesday Book  
Domesday Monachorum  
Victoria County History [1932 Vol. 3]  
Hasted: [1797-1801] *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent* [Vol: 7]  
Furley: [1874] *The History of the Weald of Kent* [Vol: 2]  
Igglesden: [1920] *A Saunter through Kent with Pen and Pencil* [Vol: 14]  
Arthur Mee: [1936] *Kent*  
Pevsner: [1969] North East and East Kent  
Harris: [1719] *History of Kent*

Archaeologica Cantiana  
*Vol: 6 - 1866,*  
*Vol: 10 – 1876*  
*Vol: 14 – 1882*  
*Vol: 29 – 1911*  
*Vol: 93 – 1977*  
*Vol: 116 - 1996*  
FRH Du Boulay [1966] *The Lordship of Canterbury*  
Vic Mitchell and Keith Smith [1990] *Ashford's Main Line - Swanley to Ashford*

### ***Sources at Canterbury Cathedral Archives***

Archbishop's Registers:  
John Pechan [(1) p159 & 194 (2) p17]  
Robert Winchelsey [(2) p923-925]  
Sudbury [(2) p65 & 94]  
Morton [(1) p139 & 152]  
Archbishop Simon Langton *Acta* [Vol 50 p99]  
*Literae Cantuariensis* [(3) p1117 & 121]

### ***Manuscript Sources***

Prior Eastry's Memorandum Book  
Westwell Bedel Rolls  
No 2 - 1290-1291  
No 41 – 1402-1403  
No 59 – 1464-1465

#### Miscellaneous Accounts:

##### Westwell:

1348-1365 – MA20  
 1432-1433 – MA 136  
 1434-1435 – MA 138  
 1439-1440 – MA 139  
 1448-1449 – MA 143  
 1452-1453 – MA 147  
 1471-1472 – MA 159  
 1478-1485 – Ma 169

##### Westwell Rectory:

1443-1444 – MA 140  
 1449-1450 – MA 144

##### Westwell, bedel

1422-1424  
 1485-1492  
 MA: 7, 9, 10, 11, 30, 14, 15, 16

##### Westwell Manor:

1478-1483 – MA 6  
 1490-1494 – MA 8  
 1519-1522 – MA 13

##### Westwell Rectory 1207-1822

1478-1483 – MA 6  
 1490-1494 – MA 8  
 1519-1522 – MA13

Manuscript *DCC Prior 2*

Ditto *DCC RegK f225*

#### ***Sources at the Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone***

##### Census Returns

#### ***Manuscript Sources***

U991 E27A Improvements to Court Lodge  
 U991 T99 land near parsonage and church [with plan] 1884 Purchase of Rectory and farm by Lord Hothfield from Ecclesiastical Commissioners  
 U455 T44 68-70 Indentures regarding leases of Westwell Manor 1546 – 1670  
 U455 T44 58-59, 61-62 includes Westwell Manor 1356 – 1540  
 U455 M19-20 Survey of Manor of Westwell  
 U47/22 T157 includes Parsonage House 1697, 1795  
 U991 T104 Rent on Westwell Manor and two Watermills 1919  
 TR2804/1 Sale Particulars for Rectory, glebe and farm 1832  
 BX 88106471 Sale Particulars for Park House Farm and plan 1969

#### ***Maps***

Extract from Phil Symonson's Map of Kent 1596  
 Extract from Map of the Hundreds of Calehill, Chart, and Longbridge taken from Hasted's History of Kent [this map was probably based on Andrew's and Drury's '*Atlas of Kent*' 1769]  
 Plan from U991 T99  
 Extracts from First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1871  
 Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1908 showing site of moat on parsonage Farm.

Extract from Ordnance Survey map of 1914  
Extract from Tithe Map 1840  
Extract from Altered tithe apportionment map 1931  
Plan from BX 88106471

### ***Illustrations***

Photographs of Hothfield Halt beside Parsonage Wood.

## **4. Potential**

- 4.1 There appears to be a considerable quantity of material containing references to Westwell and Westwell manor. Further research into the actual contents of these documents should be undertaken to ascertain the detail contents and find any further specific references to the site.
- 4.2 Further work may identify the detail history of the site, potentially with references to building types and uses, dates and further names of the occupants. It may also allow the actual moated site to be located within its setting/estate, as there are already references to Parsonage Wood, a deer park and a vineyard. The connection with Christ Church, Canterbury is important and further research would help to expand on the knowledge of the workings and organisation of this extremely important land owner and religious centre.



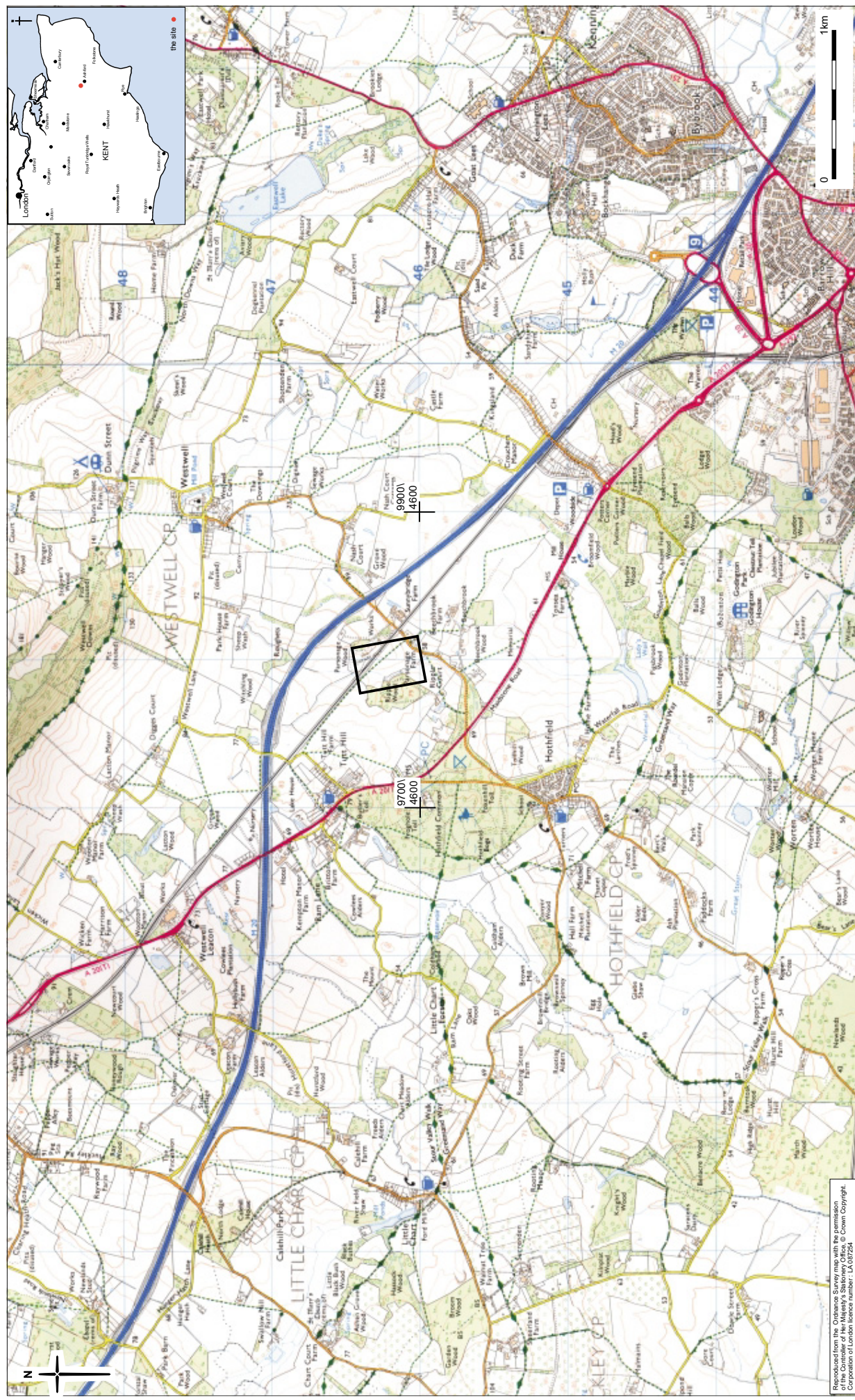


Figure 1. Site location



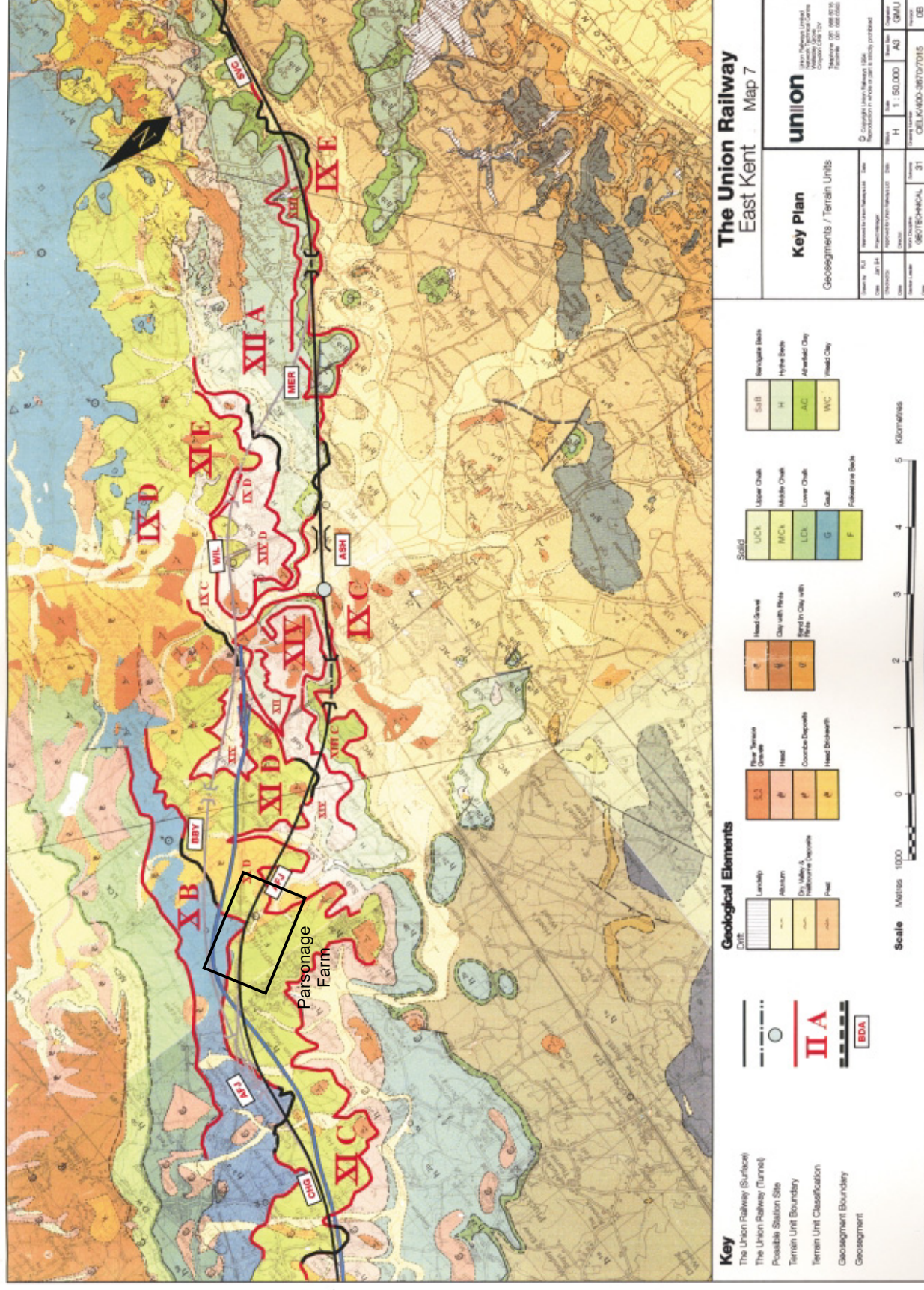
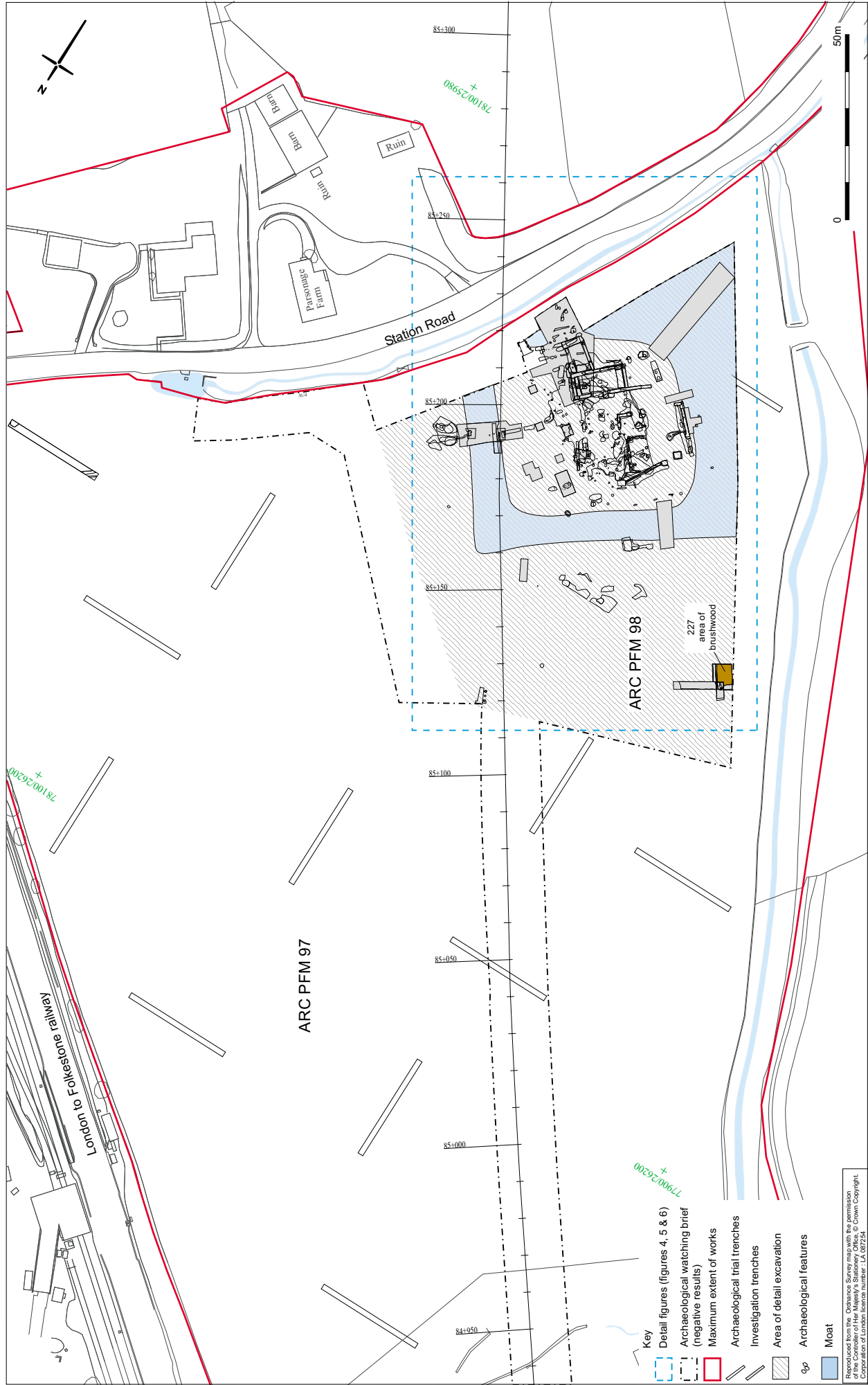


Figure 2. Geological survey of Area 430 Parsonage Farm



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Figure 3. Area of excavation



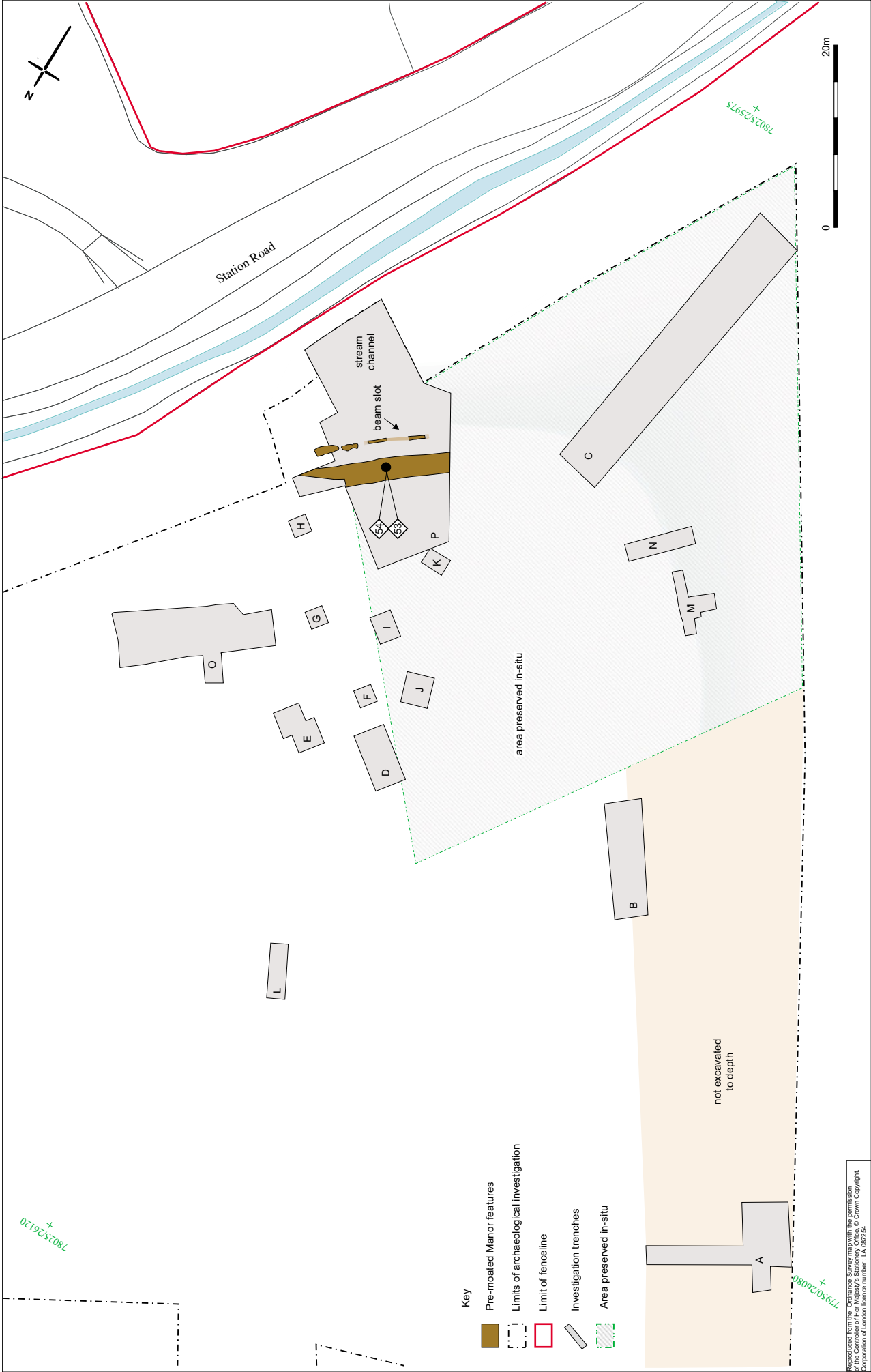


Figure 4. Medieval Phase I - Ditch and 'Beam Slot'

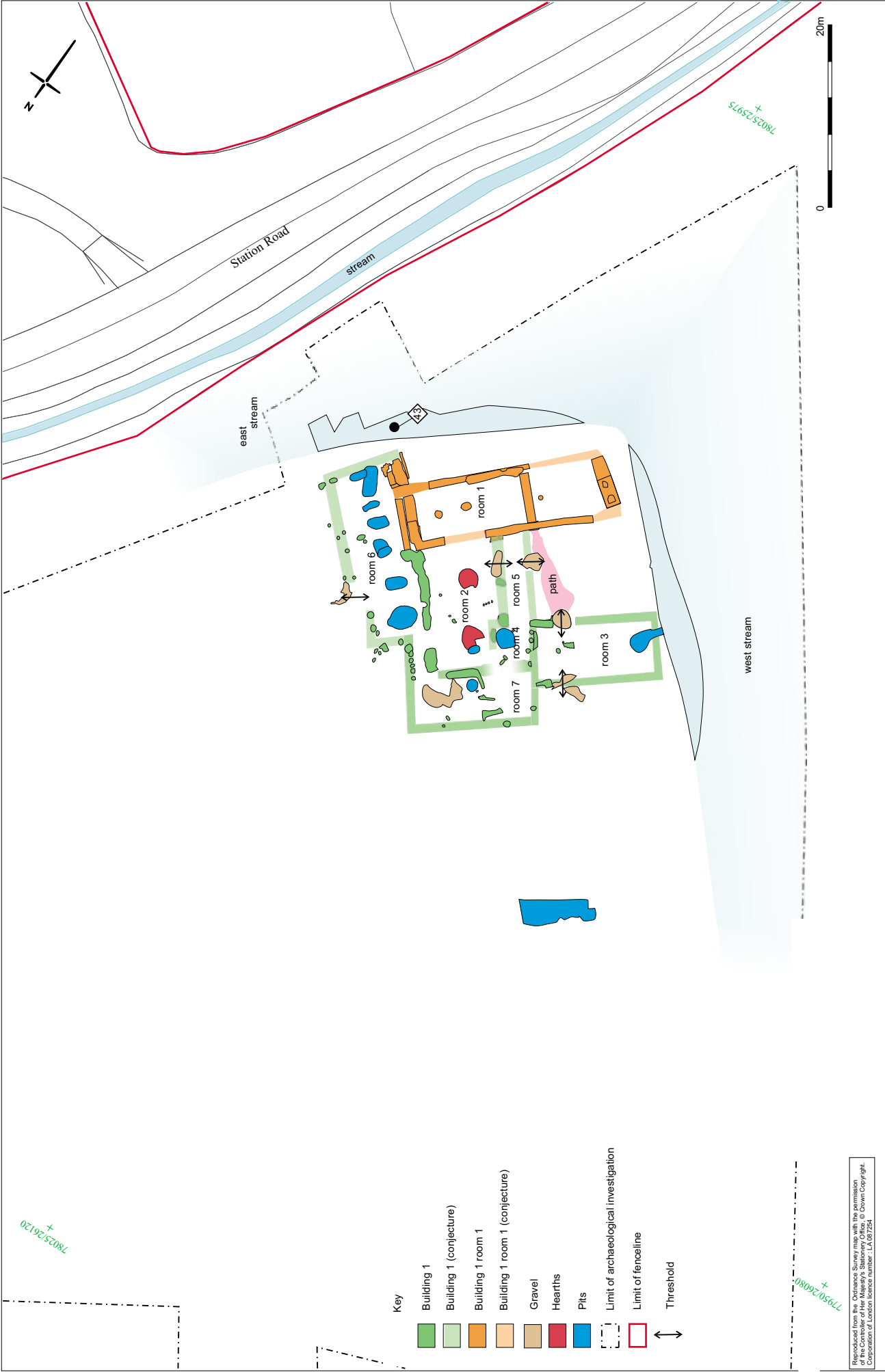


Figure 5. Medieval phase II: Building 1 rooms 1 to 7

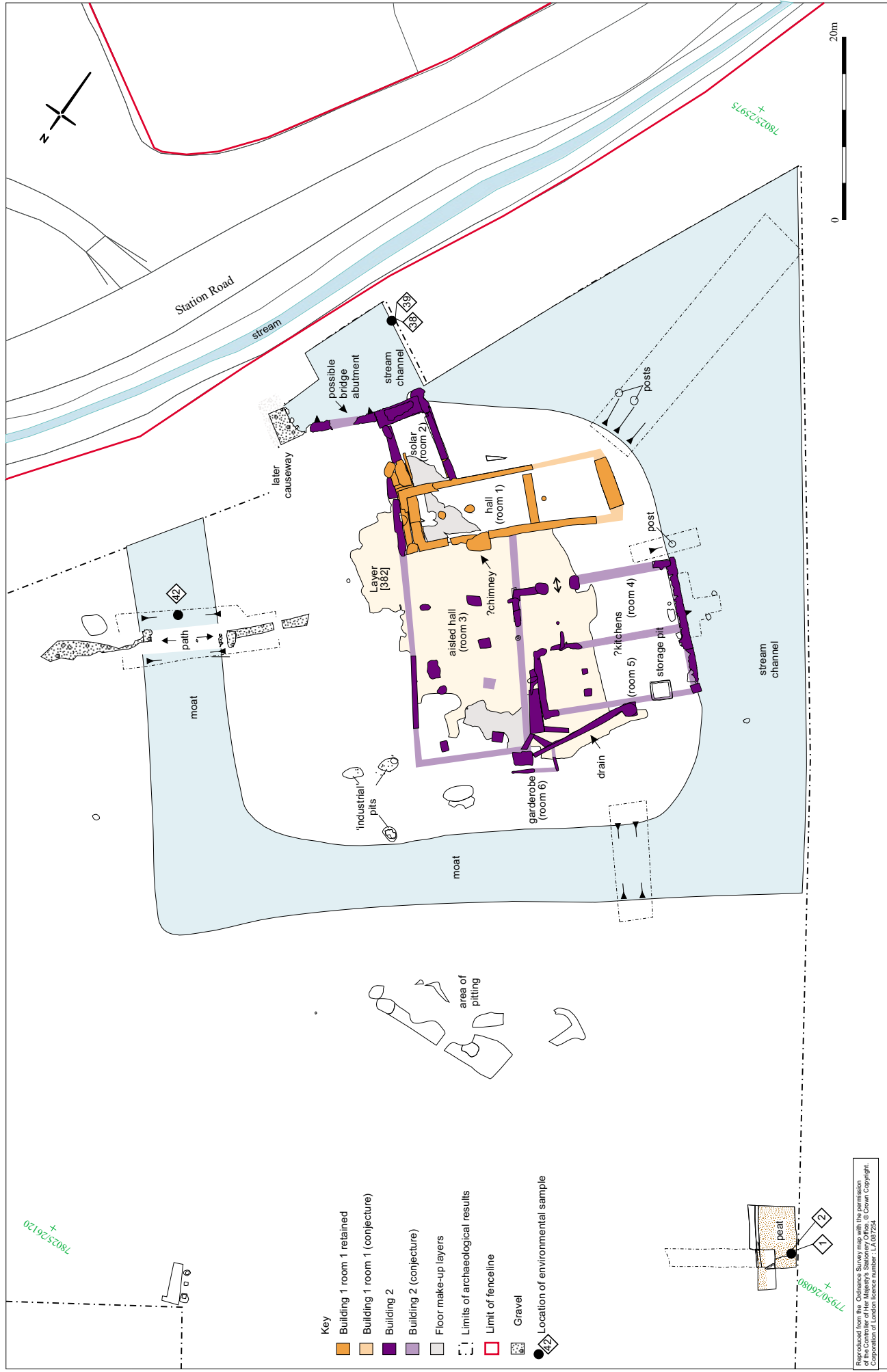


Figure 6. Medieval phase III - Moat, Building 2: Building 1 room 1 retained and rooms 2 to 6





Plate 1. Masonry hall: Building 1 room 1 from the north-east





Plate 3. Building 2 room 2: Stream frontage and possible bridge abutment





Plate 4. Detail of buttress, Building 2 room 2



Plate 2. Stream frontage of Building 2 rooms 4 and 5