

Wroughton Mead Archive

The B1 Complex - Cutting 2 - General Finds and Features

Building 1 (House 1)

B1 is divided into two; B1 North (B1N) and B1 South (B1S). This list of GF numbers is not exhaustive, but a selection of the most noteworthy: see matrices & original records for full information.

B1 North

Pre occupation phase of B1 North

Under walls

NB: early references to walls to E and W possibly inaccurate as not established as different from recesses. This is especially so in A/B/C/D and P/Q. Similarly, in 2R there is much confusion as to what constitutes the wall.

GF50, sherds, 13th C. 2D. Under wall footing - chalky soil therefore floor!

Occupation of B1 North

Floor

GF39, sherds, 13th C. 2C (NE) Chalk and flint layer - Entrance 2 and possibly area of Recess 2.

GF60, sherds, 13th C. 2J.

GF176, bone (?) 2A.

GF183, sherds, 13th C. Nail, Type 6. 2C.

GF198, sherds, 13th C. 2J/Q.

Recess 1

GF84, between stones, sherds, 13th C. Nail, not in TWA Report. 2P. Chalk wall packing and cobbling. Recess 1?

GF85, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2P.

GF136, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2P. Xfit 8; **GF158**, cooking-pot. Recess 1?

GF158, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2P & Q. Xfit 8; **GF136**, cooking-pot. Iron knife fragment. Horseshoe nail Type 2.

Recess 2

GF95, 2B. To flinty layer IN wall (Recess 2) and NW flinty chalky layer.

GF167, sherds, 13th C. 2A/B baulk. Recess 2.

GF155, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2B. Recess 2.

GF200, sherds, 13th C. Horseshoe nail Type 4, undateable. In and under chalk rubble, Recess 2.

Recess 3

GF57, 13th C sherds. 2D. NE corner = S of Recess 3.

GF59, 13th C sherds. 2D. Type 26 nail in dark clay. Recess 3.

GF73, 13th C sherds. 2D. Nail 10. Dark humus below flinty chalk layer.

GF78, 13th C sherd. 2D. Xfit 3, with **GF606**, cooking pot. Black soil on hard packed flinty layer. Recess 3.

GF79, sherds, 13th C. 2D (SE) black soil "packed flint floor".

GF112, between stones, 13th C sherd. 2Z. W = Recess 3.

Chimney?

GF166, 13th C sherd. 2S.

GF174, 13th C sherd. 2S.

Walls

GF30, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2A. Outside N wall.

GF31, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2A. Iron knife blade fragment. Horseshoe nail Type 4.

GF77, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2A. Removal of stones and tidy 'wall' NB NOT YET KNOWN

GF150, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2R ext. Entrance 1.

GF164, under tumble. Xfit 31, curfew. 2Y/Z. Another sherd from this curfew came from the outside or on the wall of B2 (**GF520**). B1 & B2 would appear to have been in use at the same time for a period. NB outside Recess 3.

Occupation material ?

GF5, sherds, 13th C. 2C. Entrance 2 - brown soil and chalk nodule and flint.
GF28, sherds, 13th C. 2C. Above 'floor'.
GF55, sherds, 13th C. 2J. Above flinty layer 8-10".
GF69, sherds, 13th C. 2C. Dark clay soil over flints Entrance 2. (**Possible decayed gate of sorts**).
GF70, sherds, 13th C. 2Y. Dark brown humus around stones and above flints. Entrance 2.
GF74, sherds, 13th C. 2Y. Entrance 2.
GF75, sherds, 13th C. 2C. SW corner above flint and chalk layer = Recess 3/Entrance 2
GF96, 13th C sherd. 2R. Horseshoe nail type 2. E flinty layer.
GF148, sherds, 13th C. One prehistoric. 2Q. Down to flinty house floor.
GF149, 13th C sherd. 2L. Floor and int. wall 'fall' stones = PARTITION?
GF160, 2 iron knives, iron tapering wedge. 2K.
GF175, sherds, 13th C. Awl with mineral-preserved wood handle traces. 2I/P. Under tumble.
GF181, sherds, 13th C. 2J/K.
GF184, sherds, 13th C. Xfit 4 with **GF109**, a jug, see B1 South below. 2R on flints in Entrance 1.

Pit 3

The packed chalk over this pit was at first believed to be a post-footing (called PF1), which it may have been. Underneath was a rectangular pit, c.75cm in length (E-W) by 30cm in width (N-S) placed up against what appeared to be a one-course high stone kerb at the northern edge of Cutting 2J. This pit was numbered (3) during the Fyfod project in 1996.

GF83, charcoal from 'hearth' later labelled PF1. 2J.
GF102, sherd, on top of 'hearth' level with burnt chalk. 2I/J.
GF116, sherd, level with burnt chalk. 2I/J.

Post-footing 2 (PF2)

GF215, 2M. Sample.

Hearth (Fire-pit) in B1 North

GF178, soil sample
GF179, soil sample
GF180, C13th sherds, 1 MG. Charcoal
GF191, Norman horseshoe (on side of pit), on original plan, 15cm deep.

Tumble

GF27, sherds between stones. 2A. SE above stones.
GF157, between stones, sherds, 13th C. 2X. Outside tumble.
GF199, sherds, 13th C. Under tumble in N & NW areas, outside B1. Iron sliding bolt, iron binding, iron heckle tooth, iron arrowhead.
GF201, Transitional horseshoe. 2W/X, under rubble.

Topsoil over B1 North

GF89, complete pair of shears C13-late C14, (TWA, 5).
GF122, later med horseshoe (TWA, 8)

Possible occupation, B1N or B1S

?GF126, ?GF129, ?GF192, GF213

B1 South

Pre-Utilisation phase

The pre-utilisation phase of B1 South was possibly contemporary with the early phase (B1 North): Double Pit in 2F & 2N (Pits 1 & 2): see photos 31 & 32.

Pit 1

Pit 1 cut into Pit 2. Pit 1 was predominantly excavated in quadrant 2N and Baulk 2N/F. The E lip of this pit covered Pit 2, which mostly lay under the E wall of B1 south. Three large sarsens were uncovered on the NE corner of this ovaloid pit. A bone came from this pit (GF99). It had a clayey fill with flints, which was brownish rather than reddish. There was much charcoal. The Norman horseshoe fragment (TWA, 8; GF187) in the pit filling gives a date of 11th-mid 13th century date [& a pre-mid 14th century date for the filling of this pit].

Pit 2

Pit 2 was clearly situated under the E. wall of the southern half of Cutting 2 in quadrant 2F. All GFs are recorded as being 'under wall'. The stones noted in the Finds Report are stones from the filling of this pit. The wall stones are shown in the humic layer 1 and they clearly lie on the humus and small flint layer 2, which is probably the **OGS??** associated with B1 North (**see Fig. 216 Archive**) and is thus a pre-occupation phase of the B1 south. As the southern half is later than the northern one, this older pit (Pit2) may be contemporary with the earlier occupation phase of B1 (i.e. B1 North). [Possible, but what about the humic layer above pit suggesting some time passing. Do the large sarsens mark the deposit of Pit 2 content for the inhabitants of Wroughton Mead, or were they removed from on top of 'chest', when the contents stolen through Pit 1?]

The site book describes the intersection of the two pits, verbatim: 'Pit to S. excavated; went under wall, which [is] lying on soil over pit and later than it. Probably pit inside house (the inside, W. edge of Pit 1) cut into another one which lower than it (Pit 2 - **see Fig. 216 Archive**). 2nd one (Pit 2) cut down into chalk, the fill falling off the almost vertical sides. Many stones, some large in pit, loosely packed and lying at angles, as if dumped in when filling had reached certain stage. Filling damper towards bottom, so much so that wood preserved in it. Fill of humus & charcoal frags - at top, becoming dark round stones, & light-coloured towards bottom. Many finds including metal & glazed sherds. Obviously deliberately & carefully cut, but why uncertain. Storage, of food or water. Seems unconnected with house & unlikely to have been a sump as thought at first. No trace of pit lining.'

Pit 1 in B1 South - near or over pit

GF56, topsoil to 18cm. 2N.

GF66, C13th sherds and teeth, humus above flinty layer. 2N.

GF68, C13th sherds and metal, humus above hard flinty 'floor'. 2N.

GF81, C13th sherd. On top of packed flint floor. 2N (SW corner).

GF82, C13th sherds and one MG. 2N (N side).

GF86, C13th sherds. The removal of the flint layer in southern half of quadrant.

GF99, bone, 2N (E Baulk).

GF187 & **GF190** were presumably from this pit, although the latter could be from Pit 2 (2N/F inside of inner face).

GF190 produced an iron sheet fragment and an iron shank. All had C13th sherds, one EG from **GF187**.

GF194, C13th sherds. 3' 9" under inner face of wall. [cutting through Pit 1 into Pit 2]

Pit 2 in B1 South

GFs & sequence:

GF190 & **GF187**, top filling of Pit 1 and 2. C13th sherds and one EG sherd.

GF208. C13th sherds. Above pit edge, but in red rim under stones. Iron lock mechanism frags.?

GF195. C13th sherds and bone. Top 12" under wall. 2F (E half - possibly from exterior).

GF196. C13th sherds. Lower 2' under wall 2F (ditto).

GF204. C13th sherds. One MG. To 2'. Tapering iron strip. Nail, Type 9. 2F (E end).

GF205. Bottom. An iron 'bloom'? not in TWA Report.

GF206. C13th sherds. Centre of pit filling. Immediately above stones. Below 2'. Curving strip object, chain fittings?

GF207. C13th sherds. Bottom. Under stones. (probably not the bottom but just into stone layer).

GF202. C13th sherds. 2'3" deep. One MG sherd. Also 2' 8" deep coarse sherds. IN STONES?

GF203. soil sample 2' 9" deep on the bottom(?). IN STONES?

GF194, C13th sherds. 3' 9" under inner face of wall. (W end).

GF209. 4' 2" in pit filling 2F (E end). Amongst stones. Iron lumps, unidentified and wood.

GF210. 1" from pit bottom light brown damp, clayey soil (W end). Figure-of-eight hasp. Iron Axe. Tapering iron bar.

GF211. Pit bottom. See GF823 (Cutting 2Y).

Under walls in B1 South

GF212, 'Transitional' horseshoe fragment. 2U. Late 13th- early 14th C.

Below PF4

GF197, 13th C sherds, 2O.

Construction/ walls

- GF37**, 13th C sherds. 2D. "Inside" sarsen wall.
- GF42**, 13th C sherds. 2G. SW.
- GF52**, 13th C sherds. 2G. NW brown soil between stones.
- GF71**, 13th C sherds. 2G. (N and NE).
- GF88**, 13th C sherds. 2G. Awl. Tapering iron object ?broken whittle tang from knife. (S between stones).
- GF107**, 1 MG. 13th C sherds. 2F. (SW). Earlier than B1S?
- GF117**, 13th C sherd. 2F. In centre of wall. Possibly among tumble/ earlier than B1S?

Utilisation of B1 South - inside B1 South

- GF6**, 13th C sherd. 2E just inside entrance.
- GF8**, 1MG. 13th C sherd. 2E just outside entrance.
- GF66**, 13th C sherds. Dark humus above flinty layer, 2N.
- GF26**, 13th C sherd. 2E.
- GF68**, 13th C sherd. 2N. On hard flinty layer 10-11".
- GF81**, 13th C sherds. On packed flint, 2N.
- GF82**, 1 MG. 13th C sherd. 2N.
- GF86**, 13th C sherds. Removal of flint layer, 2N.
- GF113**, 13th C sherds. 2T. Inside wall face.
- GF131**, 13th C sherds and bone, 2O. Around PF4.
- GF139**, 13th C sherds. One RB sherd. 2O. Around PF4.
- GF147**, 13th C sherds. 2U. Awl (TWA, 4). Inside between tumble.
- GF152**, 3 MG. 13th C sherd. 2N/U.
- GF172**, 3 MG. 13th C sherd. 2U. Horseshoe nail type 1.
- GF173**, 1 MG. 13th C sherd. 2S.
- GF186**, 1 MG. 13th C sherd. 2U/V.
- GF188**, 8 MG. 13th C sherds. Inside, under tumble. Iron nail shank.
- GF189**, 13th C sherd, coarse-sandy (7 & 15), one early glaze (20); contaminant? 2M.
- GF191**, 2L metal shy on side of fireplace.
- ? **GF841**, 13th C sherd. 2T/U. Fill above clay-with-flints.
- ? **GF867**, 2 MG. 13th C sherd. 2f/e buried pot and contents.
- ? **GF876**, 13th C sherd. Soil sample from pot interior.

Under tumble of exterior/Possible utilisation phase

- GF16**, 13th C sherds. 2G. E in tumble.
- GF17**, 13th C sherds. 2G. W in tumble.
- GF18**, 13th C sherds. 2G. W in tumble.
- GF19**, 13th C sherds. 2G. E in tumble.
- GF25**, 13th C sherds. 2E. S in tumble and central stone feature.
- GF43**, 1 MG. 13th C sherds. 2G. Tumble.
- GF47**, 1 MG. 13th C sherds. 2G. Tumble E.
- GF51**, 13th C sherds. 2G. Tumble E of centre.
- GF76**, 4 MG. 13th C sherd. 2H. Iron ?pinned hinge. Nail type 8; nail type 12. Outside B1S.
- GF91**, sherds, 13th C. 2G (E 2' of quadrant) under tumble.
- GF98**, 13th C sherds and handle in humus around stones in NE. 2F.
- GF105**, 13th C sherd. 2V. Horseshoe nail type 10. Outside.
- GF109**, 1 MG. 13th C sherd. 2G (E side). [Xfit 4, with GF184]. Heavy sheet fragment, iron. Under tumble outside.
- GF138**, 13th C sherds. 2V. Outside SW tumble.
- GF151**, 13th C sherds. 2U. Horseshoe nail Type 1. Tumble outside.
- GF171**, 13th C sherd. 2U. On top and between exterior stones.
- GF193**, 21 MG sherds. 13th C sherd. 2L. Iron 'U' shaped staple. Outside 2S/T/U.

Post-Utilisation/ Topsoil over B1 South

- GF7**, a post-medieval horseshoe (mid C14th onwards). 6", 2E.
- GF63**, 2 MG. 13th C sherd. 2H. Above stones in topsoil.
- GF128**, cu alloy button, comparable to Faccombe Netherton, c.1418-1434 (TWA, 1).