

Wroughton Mead Archive

The B2 Complex - Cutting 4 - General Finds and Features

For GF numbers & sequence, refer to analysis and matrix undertaken by South Shields. The Building 2 (also called House 2) matrix is under Archive XXX. All baulks were removed (see Fig. XXX).

Pit 4: south of N wall of B2 (cutting 4NWd & h)

Excavated in 1962. This pit was numbered (4) during the Fyfod project in 1996. Pit 4 was c.3' in depth, 7' across top. Filling of yellow clay.

GF392, C13 sherds. Filling of depression in SW corner of 4NEh, corresponds to pit/ PH1E.

GF714, 'Sherd'. NE corner, in clay & chalk mix in apparent hole. C13 sherd.

GF731, 'Sherds'. Chalk infill of pit. 2" below top of chalk at pit edge. 13thC sherd, MCP sherd & EMOD.

GF737, 'Sherd'. Top of pit fill.

GF763, 'Sherd'. 1' below level of chalk in pit filling.

Building 2

Trench/ timber phase construction

GF356, 13th sherd, Norman horseshoe, CU alloy rod frag.

GF376, 13th sherd, **XFit 1**.

GF393

GF423, 13th sherd

GF438, 13th sherd

GF477, 13th sherd

GF547, Norman horseshoe

GF548, 13th sherds, Norman horseshoe

GF671, 13th sherd

GF701, 13th sherds

GF704, 13th sherd

Under wall/ timber phase construction/ occupation

GF531, 13th sherd

GF702, 13th sherds

GF736, 13th sherd, one EG late 12th - early 13th

Under floor/ timber phase occupation

GF359, 13th sherd, iron nail shank

Possible Pre-stone Phase

GF282, **GF458**, **GF526**, **GF550**

Postholes - ?timber phase

Two more or less parallel rows of at least twelve post-holes, 5' apart (N-S), 10-12' apart in the centre (E-W), 5' from walls. See Fig. XXX & Archive XXX.

GF375, fill of 'post-footing', probably PH marked on plan. In SEf.

GF403, fill of 'post-footing', probably PH marked on plan. In NEg.

GF395, filling of unspecified PH in NWc (?either 2W or 3W)

GF463, filling of PH in south east corner of NWc (probably PH3W). 13thC sherd.

PH1E GF530 13thC sherd & MCP. **GF564** in NWh. 3 X 13thC sherds, 1 MCP.

PH2E GF496 (RB sherd) & **GF563**(?2nd PH 2E, means double PH). In NEg. 13thC sherd

PH3E - section, but no GF

PH4E GF478, In SEf. 13thC sherd

PH4W GF497; 1 piece of elder charcoal (TWA, Table 27) & **GF562** in NWc.

B2: Stone phase utilisation

Xfit 1. C13 bowl: **GF293** (inside house in SEf, 10", with a Norman horseshoe nail pre-mid 14th), **GF318** (outside wall in SEf, 10"), **GF376** (in filling of trench in chalk along inside of wall in SEf, 9"-18") and **GF512** (flinty soil over top of ditch in Cutting 10/O5, 16"). Ditch in Cutting 10 is therefore filled in by this time. See Cutting 10.

Xfit 5. C13 jug. **GF332** (3 sherds), NWd outside B2 & B3 amongst stones, immediately above floor level, with **GF314** (16 sherds), in wall foundation of MN3 Cutting 10, see Cutting 10 for discussion.

Xfit 11 shows late C15 activity, is the northern end visible and re-used? or is this when stone robbing takes place for Cutting 10 ?

GF293 type 1 nail, from humic layer inside house down to 10", indicates activity before mid-C14 on site. **GFs 296 & 320**, activity late 13th - early 14th, possibly its demise?

Xfit 24, C13 cooking-pot, with GFs 459 & 544. GF459 (4Y, topsoil. To 6". 1 sherd), GF544 (balk U/Y, V/Z. 16"-17". 2 sherds. With latch rest, iron ?binding & horseshoe nail type 4). Also see below.

Xfit 25, C13 jug, with **GFs 454, 459, 544 & 546**, all Cutting 4. **GF454**, (balk NWc/d, on & outside wall, 8". 1 sherd), & **GF546** (GH, N. end. 6"-16". 3 sherds).

Xfit 31, see Discussion in B1.

Wall construction

GF260, C13 sherd, cooking pot, inside wall, 9", SWa

GF361

GF382, EG jug sherd.

GF592, section through wall in N corner, between wall stones. 14". Horseshoe nail type 4.

Floor

GF252, bone cluster, NEg.

GF540, sherds, not in TWA Report

GF561, iron U shaped staple (TWA, 5)

Pit 7 (cuttings SWb & NWc, balk b/c)

West half excavated 1961; east half, 1962. See Fig XXX Archive. This pit was numbered (7) during the Fyfod project in 1996. Charcoal lumps & clay with charcoal flecks at bottom, c. 6" in thickness, top of layer is level (?therefore deliberate). Stiff or sticky brown clay with small flints & a few sarsens over, with top fill of dark humus with large flints & stones. Xfit 10; **GF551** (depth 1'2") and **GF629** (2'1"), cooking-pot, may indicate pit used as dump or filled by sweepings. Pit cut into chalk. Rectangular pit Edge of pit 3' 2" at top, 2'9" at bottom. Depth; 2'. This is unlikely to have been a sump.

Pottery evidence says C13. NB **Xfit 10**; **GFs 551, 560, 629 & 641**. **GF641** is from clay with flints & chalk floor at 23".

Xfit **606 & 78** is interesting; **GF78** is from Cutting 2 (B1 north), 2D, SE corner, from black soil overlying hard-packed flint layer, indicates sherd brought in by mucky shoes?; ?black soil is earth which built up during occupation. The thimble (**GF606**) is a contaminant, and must have been uncovered amongst the earlier sherds and stones at the top of the pit. Interestingly, though, it shows the site was used, possibly as a rest stop and could one dare to associate the post-medieval button (**GF273**) with this thimble?.

GF529, floor level to 2". Above stones in pit.

GF537, C13 sherds. Bone'. Between stones in pit. Humus & clay. 7"-1'2" SWb/NWc

GF606, C13 sherds. 11" & over. E half. **Xfit 3** with **GF78** of B4. Post-medieval thimble also found (TWA, 2).

GF607, same as 606

GF551, C13 sherds. Charcoal. Teeth. C&f. 1'2". Pit under balk b/e (c?). Xfit (10) with **GFs 560, 629 & 641**.

GF630, C13 sherds. E half of pit. 11½"- 2'

GF629, C13 sherds. E. half. 2'1"

GF560, C13 sherds. Filling of pit in centre of building 'near bottom'. 1 hazel & 4 sapwood oak charcoal pieces.

Possible utilisation

GF259, GF310, GF509, GF549, GF368, GF455

Humic layer over B2 / utilisation & post- utilisation of B2 stone phase

Many GFs (see matrix), all C13 sherds. Selection detailed below.

- GF236**, entire animal (lamb?) inside & E of West entrance.
- GF241**, post-med (17th/18th C) sandy ware. Horseshoe nail type 4.
- GF243**, MCP sherd **Xfit 11**. Interior of NW corner in d.
- GF246**, 59 13thC sherds. Post-med (17th/18th C) sandy ware. E of entrance, humus amongst stones.
- GF248**, early modern sherd.
- GF251**, 12/C13 nut.
- GF254**, pipe stem, not in TWA report.
- GF258**, nail shank.
- GF261**, pipe stem, not in TWA report.
- GF264**, heap of bones in SE corner of SWb on floor.
- GF267**, nail type 20
- GF269**, MCP sherd. Xfit 11.
- GF270**, EG sherd, NEg
- GF286**, inside house wall. SEe. 1 'rosaceæ' charcoal.
- GF287**, EG sherd, in NWd
- GF289**, 13thC & EMOD sherds,
- GF293**, **Xfit 1**, C13 sherds of a bowl; with GFs 318, 376 & 512. Horseshoe nail, type 1, iron nail shank. Large iron nail, type 29?
- GF294**, MCP sherd, **Xfit 11**.
- GF296**, horseshoe nail type 2; 'Transitional', second half 13th - early 14th.
- GF298**, CU alloy dome ?button cover & ?button. Not closely dateable.
- GF301**, iron nail type 5. Above floor. NEg.
- GF303**, cluster of pottery in SW corner of B2.
- GF320**, horseshoe nail type 2; Transitional, second half 13th - early 14th, nail type 19. In SWa, 13", above floor.
- GF332**, **Xfit 5**. see discussion below.
- GF417**, knife frag, not in TWA Report.
- GF428**, clay pipe stem (not in TWA Report), EG jug sherd.
- GF434**, whetstone, on floor
- GF453**, iron rod not in Report
- GF514**, CU alloy small annular brooch with pin (TWA, 1)
- GF523**, 2 C13 sherds, one MCP **Xfit 11**, 2 early modern (18th/19th). Pipe stem, not in TWA report.
- GF525**, 1 RB, C13 sherds, one MCP **Xfit 11**.
- GF556**, iron hook-like object (TWA, 7, Fig 5, 41).

Humic layer outside B2 / utilisation & post- utilisation?stone phase

NB: Many GFs, all C13 sherds. Selection detailed below.

- GF234**, iron oxshoe? frag. (TWA, 9) comparable to ones from Faccombe Netherton date??
- GF263**, MCP **Xfit 11**, spout?
- GF295**, Large nail type 29? 2 hazel nuts, 12-C13 (TWA, Finds 28).
- GF454**, **Xfit 25**, C13 jug, with **GFs 459, 544 & 546**
- GF520**, **Xfit 31**, curfew, see Discussion in B1.
- GF713**, MG jug sherd

Humic / flint / chalk layer outside B2 / utilisation & post- utilisation ?stone phase

Many GFs (see matrix), all C13 sherds. Selection detailed below.

- GF274**, iron perforated strap frag.
- GF284**, CU alloy button with integral loop, ?barrel padlock key, spiked and rivetted fitting, iron rivetted strap with white metal plating and groved decoration - binding frag.
- GF309**, horseshoe nail, type 4. LMED Raeren-type stoneware mug sherd, Fab no. 57.
- GF312**, outside SEe corner, over 350 sherds.
- GF313**, outside SWa corner, c. 350 sherds. Both 312 & 313 manly cooking-pots, also bowls and jug.
- GF316**, MCP **Xfit 11** sherd. Perforated iron strap frag. Nail type 11, nail shank
- GF317**, ? iron strap loop or fastener from a harness, possibly c.1085. 1 RB sherd.
- GF318**, whetstone, SEf, **Xfit 1**.
- GF338**, NEh,

Dump to SW (made in 1960, excavated in '61)

- GF570**, CU alloy ?belt fitting (TWA, 1). Early C13 to early C15, possibly later.
- GF764**, MCP sherd, **Xfit 11**

Post- utilisation phase

B2 appears to have been abandoned at a similar time to B1 (north & south), B3 and the oven, *i.e.* the early to mid C14.

GF221, a copper alloy broken buckle compared to Sandal Castle c.1400-1450 (TWA, 1). This was found on the topsoil over the wall in NWd at 9". Could this be associated with MCP flask? PH1E?

GF223, PMed Sandy (17th-18th C), bottom of topsoil over stones in NWd.

GF273, a CU alloy button, is the one considered post-medieval in date (TWA, 1) does it go with MCP or thimble ? CHECK this is correct button with TWA!!

GF284, although producing several finds of interest, gives us no firm dating evidence. Button (TWA, 1/2), Key (TWA, 7), iron fitting (TWA, 10 CHECK comparison to E&P 1991) & binding fragment X-rayed (TWA, 6). The close proximity of these objects needs further discussion.

GF317, (TWA, 9), possibly harness fastener, from a little after 1085. With RB sherd, chalk and area (NWd), could this be where some of the material from the pit/loo in NWd have been dumped and/or dropped? This would explain early sherd, late 11th C ironwork and chalk (natural chalk).

GF382, EG sherd, possibly from *in situ* wall stones, hints at a little early C13 material here, possibly items brought over from B4 after its demise??

GF514, CU alloy small annular brooch with pin (TWA, 1), from 12th to 14th C.
CHECK quantity of sherds **GF312** & **GF313**.

GF309, LMED Raeren-type stoneware mug sherd. CHECK FABNO 57 for others.

GF570, the bronze ?belt fitting, early 13th to early 15th C, could be 16th, although evidence points to late 14th C to early 15th (TWA, 1).

Hearth

The circular patch of darker soil uncovered up against the wall in the NE corner, was flecked with charcoal and red earth. When sectioned it was clear it did not rest on the house floor and that there was a possible cupboard in the wall behind it (whether these two features are related is not clear). Several pieces of glass were also found in this area, under the tumble from the wall stones down to the floor level. Charcoal was also found under a stone 12" to the E, 6" N., of this spot (**GF367**) and **GF468** was black soil, glass, bone & sherd from same area. Seems to indicate that fire is later than collapse of B2 (not on floor level) and could be associated with glass. Clearly, it is unlikely that B2 was occupied as it did not have a hearth contemporary with its occupancy phase.

The Martincamp sherds from this area and PH1E, which are plotted on Fig. XX, shows later activity, possibly associated with the fire in the NE corner of B2. This posthole may have supported a temporary shelter, constructed in the late 14th century. This also indicates that B2 was in a state of ruin by then. Is there any association between buttons (**GF273**, **284** & **298**) and MCP flask, late 15thC, with posthole 1E?

GF468, charcoal, in extreme NE curve of building.