

Excavations at a medieval and early post-medieval site at Sutton Park, near Guildford, 1978–86

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An annual training excavation was carried out at Sutton Park over the nine years 1978–86. It produced a small amount of evidence for prehistoric activity across a number of periods, especially the Bronze Age, but no certain early features. The site was probably that of the medieval manor of Sutton and early to mid-Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery was found, but again with no certainly related features. A 13th century or earlier ditch complex was discovered, succeeded by three buildings, two probably 14th century in origin (one with a sequence of at least three tile-on-edge hearths) and one early 16th century. The latter may have been a small tower constructed as part of landscape gardening associated with the great house at Sutton Place.

Introduction

Excavations near the Roman Catholic church of St Edward in Sutton Park (fig 1), north of Guildford, began in 1978 and continued as an annual excavation for a total of nine years. The site, in part a scheduled monument, was selected on the basis that it was the location of the original manor house of Sutton, a predecessor to Sutton Place, which had been constructed on a new site about 1km to the east in the early 16th century. The identification of the old site was based on the field name ‘Manor Field, and traces of foundations, old encaustic tiles, and an old well’ (*VCH* 3, 384). A survey of scheduled monuments in the county, undertaken with the aid of the Society’s local secretaries, led Nancy Hawkins (then Nancy Cox) to discover that the site was to be used for burials in the medium to long term. As this was before the introduction of the need for scheduled monument consent, it became a rescue matter. Very little money was available from the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, then part of the Department of the Environment, but the Society was seeking the opportunity for a training excavation which the author, then in the employment of the Society, was asked to undertake. The project was continued after the Society’s professional staff (those working in the administrative county) were transferred to Surrey County Council in 1979.

The excavation relied throughout on a backbone of Mayford History Society members. Seasons were of either two or three weeks, which amounted to a grand total of twenty weeks over the nine years. The core team was also able to carry out some fieldwork at Sutton Place when major landscaping was undertaken in 1981 (Bird in prep), and a programme of fieldwalking in the area of the field around the graveyard in 1982 (Bird *et al* 1984, 269). Subsequent excavation there demonstrated that ploughing was damaging the surviving archaeological remains and therefore the excavation programme was extended. More recently, in 2001, a contour survey of the site was carried out (fig 2), and a small amount of extra work was undertaken in the grounds of Vine Cottage in 2004 to search, without success, for a wall reportedly found in 1832.

The first trenches were laid out to test the results of a resistivity survey. Work in subsequent years was extended on the basis of the results of the previous excavations and of the fieldwalking survey. Excavation was entirely by hand in a series of trenches, although an area strip would have been more helpful, especially for tracing the ditch systems. There was, however, a positive result of having many small trenches, in that distribution of pottery and other finds could be examined by area and this proved to have some value. The excavation methods were constrained by the resources available, by the training aspect, and by the nature

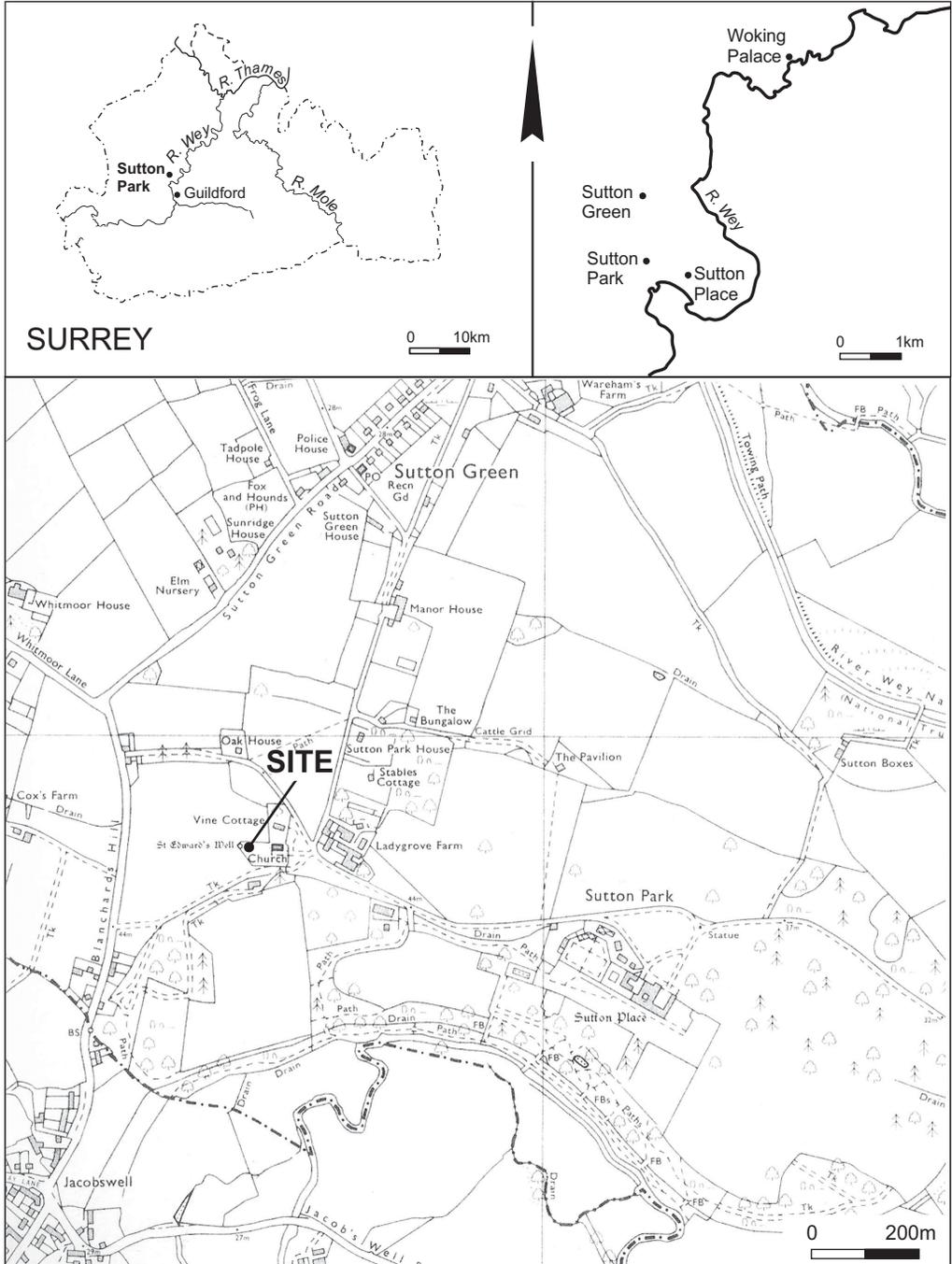


Fig 1 Sutton Park. Site location and setting. (© Crown copyright Ordnance Survey. All rights reserved).

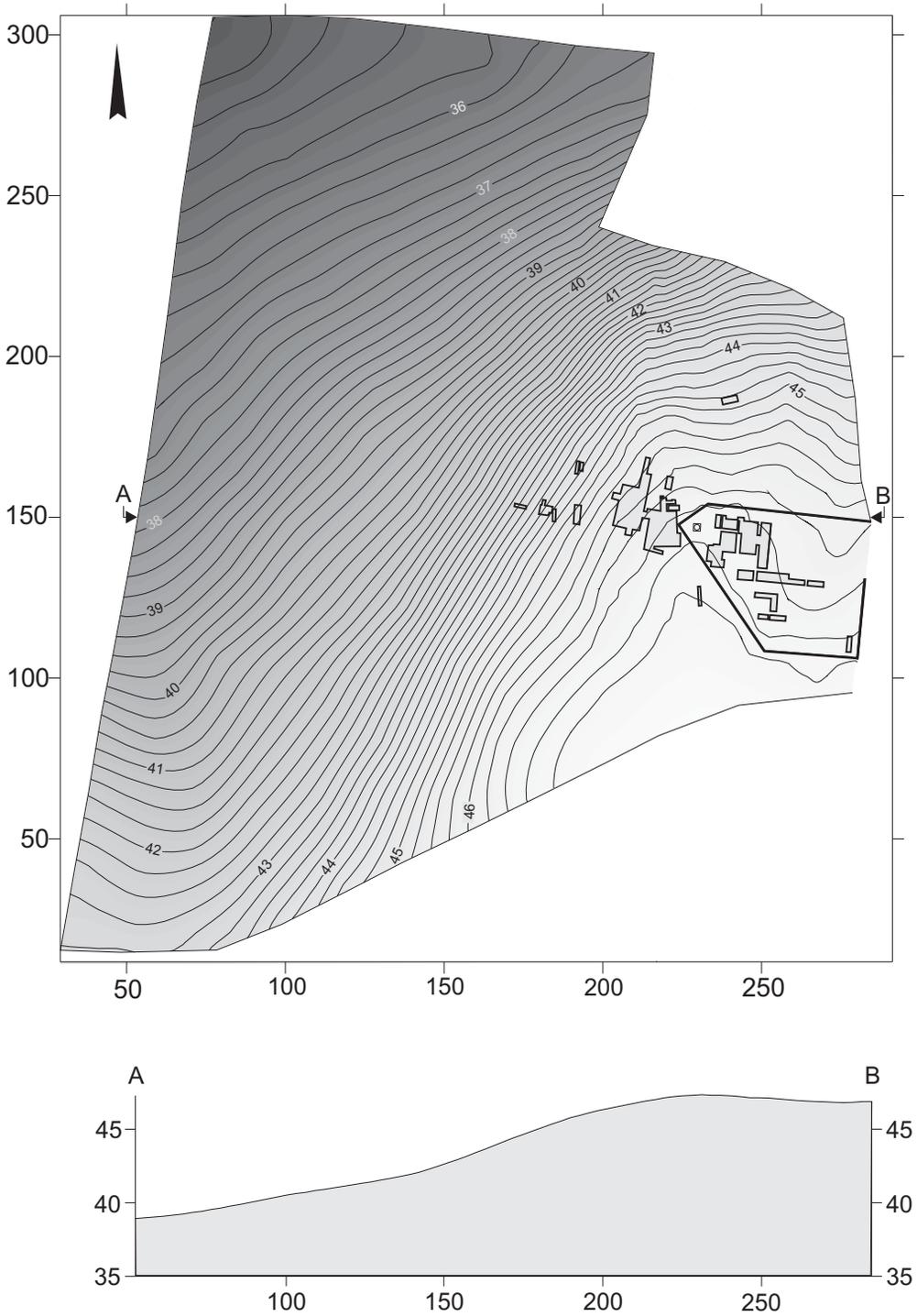


Fig 2 Sutton Park. Shaded contour survey of the site. Horizontal scales in 50m units; contour and profile heights in metres OD. (Survey and illustration by Audrey and David Graham).

of the site, which had quite deep topsoil and sand and gravel subsoils disturbed by burrowing animals. The sand in particular made it difficult to recognise features; for example, when a corner of trench 2 was re-excavated in trench 6 a year later it was hard to see the backfill. A spit technique was therefore used in several of the ditches in order to provide some measure of vertical differentiation.

Most of the site had been severely damaged by ploughing and possibly also by bulldozing associated with the creation of the new graveyard, outside which only deeper features were noted north of the northern end of trench 19 or the southern end of trench 27. This suggests that either a greater depth of stratigraphy associated with Buildings 1 and 2 had offered some protection to the lowest levels here or that ploughing depth was affected by the corner of the new graveyard. Stratigraphy was therefore generally limited across the site, although it could be shown to be present in special circumstances, as with the tile hearths in trench 19. Here, a sequence of at least three hearths must surely mean quite a passage of time, yet matching occupation levels could not be found.

Geographical and historical background

Sutton Park (TQ 0050 5380) is just over 4km north of Guildford and sited on higher ground that is encircled by a great loop of the river Wey (fig 1). The underlying geology is London Clay, but at the excavation site this is capped by sands and gravels – part of an old river terrace – and the site is very well drained. The position chosen for Sutton Place is similar, and it seems likely that these two locations will have attracted early settlement. The ground rises quite steeply to the excavation site from the west (fig 2) and there is a less marked slope up from Sutton Green to the north.

The excavation site (fig 3) was in the new walled graveyard and the field beyond it to the west of the 19th century church. The wall was laid out to include the ‘old well’ (Taylor 2005, 75–6) of which the original date of construction is not known. According to Taylor (*in litt* 21 April 2001), ‘George Wilson the grave-digger has been down into it with his son in about 1981, but shows no inclination for doing it again. He says that it is about twenty-six feet deep [approx 8m], and very narrow at the bottom’. Two nearby buildings (fig 1) have dates that overlap with activity on the excavation site: Vine Cottage, now the church presbytery, and Ladygrove Farmhouse. Both probably have origins in the 16th century, with later alterations.

It seems that much of the documentary history of the manor of Sutton has been lost (Cooper 1994, 33; Taylor 2005, 43), although some information is available, including the descent of the manor (Manning & Bray 1804, 130–7; Harrison 1893; *VCH* 3, 384). The information that follows has been selected for its likely relevance to the results of the excavation. The manor was in existence by the time of Domesday, and had previously been held directly from King Edward ‘the Confessor’ (which is why the well has come to be known as St Edward’s Well). It was presumably named the ‘south *tūn*’ as a southern dependency of Woking. The latter was a royal holding before and after Domesday, and up to the early 14th century Sutton alternated between being held jointly with Woking and being granted away by the crown. It was then held with Woking for nearly 200 years until in 1521 it was granted to Sir Richard Weston by Henry VIII.

It has been suggested that as a result of this joint holding the Sutton manor was neglected (*VCH* 3, 384). Certainly there are references to a ‘ruinous messuage’ in 1329 and 1353 (Manning & Bray 1804, 132); at the later date a dovecote ‘intirely ruined’ is also mentioned. Sutton, however, had been one of the manors of Hugh le Despenser the elder that he claimed had been attacked by his enemies (*CalCR*: 15 Edw II (1322) m 13d). On the other hand, a document dated 1382 (SHC: G65/1/8) suggests that at least the farm aspect of the manor was being kept well in hand later in the 14th century. It lists buildings including a tiled grange with two porches and doors; a byre; a cowshed; a house for straw covered with straw; a dairy house; a granary or storehouse with tiled stable; a chapel, and a tiled dovecote. The latter

had presumably been repaired since 1353 and is of interest, as it would have been a mark of prestige (Williamson 1997, 96). The references to tiled buildings are noteworthy in view of the considerable quantity of roof tiles found in the course of the excavations.

The 1382 document also refers to a land parcel called Chapelhaugh and there are a few other references to a chapel at Sutton serviced from Woking (Manning & Bray 1804, 137). A clerical subsidy list of between 1530 and 1535 refers to ‘Wockyng cum capellis de Sutton’ (SHC: Loseley MS 1500), but this does not prove the continued existence of a building. Taylor considers it more likely that the chapel of 1382 had soon afterwards fallen into ruin and disuse, and that burial rights claimed for it actually refer to another site (Taylor 2005, 44; 55 n3). Around 1800 Manning and Bray (1804, 137) knew of no evidence to suggest the location of the chapel (the information was apparently provided by John Webbe-Weston, who inherited Sutton in 1782). A ‘massive stone foundation wall running east and west beneath the garden of Vine Cottage’ was supposedly discovered in about 1832 by Joseph Sidden, the resident priest (Williamson & Kelly 1929, 30). It is sometimes thought to indicate the site of the chapel but nothing further is known about it.

It is generally accepted that after Sir Richard Weston was given Sutton in 1521 he set about building himself a grand new mansion at Sutton Place, on a new site a short distance to the east of the excavation site. Eight days after the grant of the manor, Weston was also granted licence to impark over 1000 acres in Merrow and West Clandon (Manning & Bray 1804, 133), away to the south and east on the other side of the Wey. He was clearly marking himself out as a great courtier (Cooper 1994, 40), and it must be likely that the new great house was surrounded by appropriate landscaping: nearby gardens with platforms, vistas, mounts and banqueting houses and extensive prospects over and within the new park, although there is no surviving evidence (Williamson 1997, 94; Woodhouse 1999, 17).

A major fire at Sutton Place in 1561 may have led to its abandonment for a while (Cooper 1994, 37), which could explain why the then owner, Sir Henry Weston (Richard Weston’s grandson), was probably living at West Clandon when his sons were baptised there in 1561 and 1564 (Manning & Bray 1804, 134). It may be that some elements of the household went back to the old manor site at this time if there were surviving buildings there. That some buildings may have remained at the site is hinted at by the story of seven French Catholic priests, refugees from the Revolution, who were given hospitality by Webbe-Weston, and ‘some of them were lodged in a building close to the well, now known as St Edward’s well. Whether this was the remains of an older structure or something put up for the purpose is not clear. It was demolished in about 1802’ (Taylor 2005, 54). Taylor gives as his authority Joseph Sidden, who would only have been about six years old at the time, but as he was born at Vine Cottage and was later the resident priest it is likely that his own memory had been reinforced by his local acquaintance (*ibid*, 57–8). At some point the field around the well became known as Manor Field (*VCH* 3, 384) and this area seems to have been clear of buildings at least by 1729 if absence on the maps of Senex (1729) and Rocque (published 1768) is to be trusted. It should be noted that both maps probably show Vine Cottage and Ladygrove Farm, the latter by name in the case of Senex (the road from Sutton Place evidently ran north of the farmhouse in the 18th century). If any buildings still existed near the well perhaps they were deemed too insignificant to be shown.

Some confusion is caused by the continued existence of a ‘manor house’. Thus Manning and Bray (1804, 136) refer to Sutton Place as ‘the mansion house’, ‘to distinguish it from the Maner House, at a little distance from it, and called Sutton-House, [*the whole of which is now pulled down*]’ (spelling, punctuation, etc, as in original; the passage between asterisks is a late addition to the text attributed to John Webbe-Weston). A ‘Sutton House’, presumably this building, is marked on the maps of both Senex and Rocque some way to the north of Ladygrove Farm, near what is now Whitmoor House. The latter itself became the manor holder’s house in 1865, when Captain Francis Salvin moved there not long after he inherited Sutton; later he moved to what has become known as the Manor House in Sutton Green (Taylor 2005, 63; 81 n7).

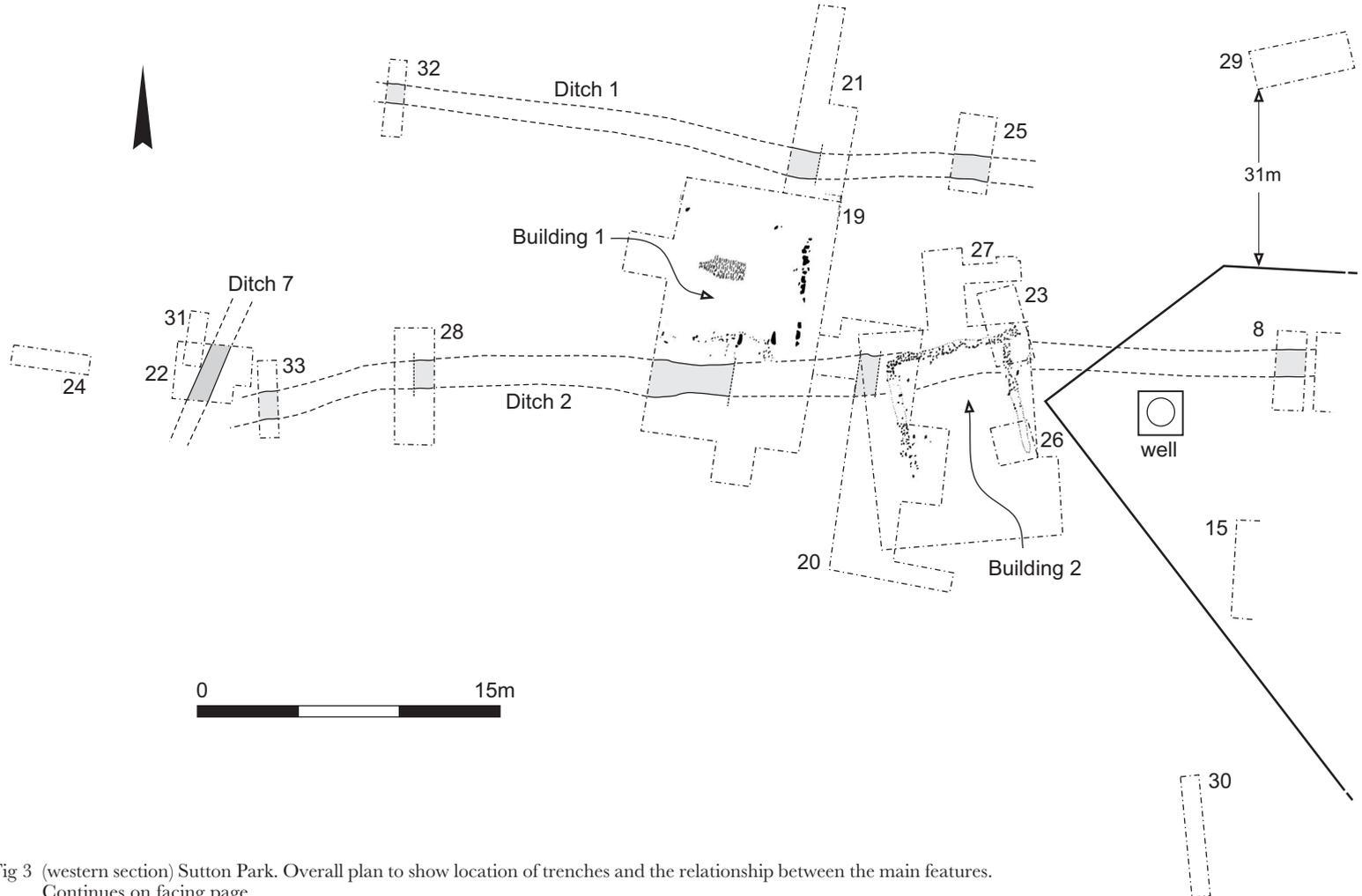


Fig 3 (western section) Sutton Park. Overall plan to show location of trenches and the relationship between the main features.
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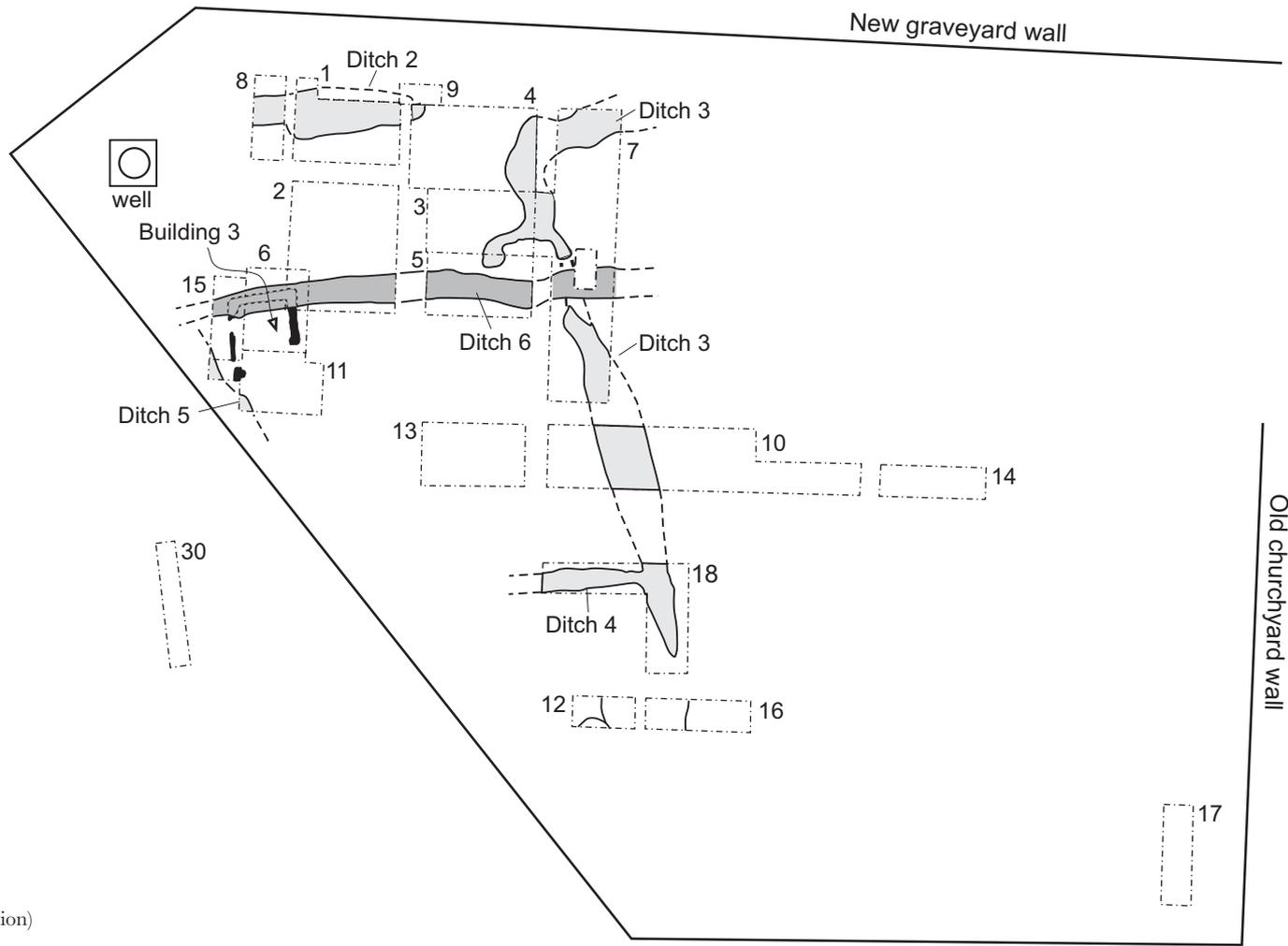


Fig 3 (eastern section)

Successive holders of Sutton maintained an unbroken Roman Catholic tradition from Henry VIII onwards, culminating in Salvin's time with the building of a church at Sutton Park in 1875–6 (Taylor 2005, 66–7). This had a small graveyard to the south. Salvin died in 1904 and by 1919 the manor was owned by the Duke of Sutherland, who donated the well and land for a graveyard extension to the church in 1959 before he sold the estate (*ibid.*, 75–8; 80). '[Canon] G[ordon] A[lbion] was required to tidy the site and enclose it by the terms of the gift. He commissioned the Martlands to do this. According to Francis Martland (conversation in 1989) they bulldozed nine feet off the area of the new churchyard to level the ground, depositing the soil across the Manor field. In the process they discovered "swords, pots, cannon balls and huge coins"'. This information comes from a note by Father Jerome Bertram, who is sensibly dubious about the 'nine feet'. The well and the 19th century churchyard wall must mark the original ground level, and Bertram notes that old views of the church 'do not give the impression that the ground rose significantly between church and well'; there was also surviving archaeological evidence in the centre of the new churchyard. It is likely, therefore, that the area was scraped and levelled, but not actually lowered by much. This disturbance will certainly have revealed large pieces of pottery and perhaps some of the large 18th century 'cartwheel' pennies, but clearly swords and cannon balls are most unlikely. Following a contour survey in 2001, it was noted independently (D Graham, *in litt*) 'that the ground within the cemetery walls was slightly lower than that outside and, if I had to guess, somebody has moved the top of the hill and pushed the spoil out to the NNW'.

The excavation

It is difficult to present the results of the excavation by phases with any degree of certainty because of the limited stratigraphy. It is therefore proposed first to provide a summary of the discoveries, which is most easily achieved by following the progress of the excavation year by year, except where it is appropriate to gather the results from more than one year together, as for example in describing the evidence for the buildings. An attempt is then made to interpret the discoveries (see *Discussion*, below) before this interpretation is married to the documentary evidence to propose a sequence for the site (see *Conclusions*, below). Context numbers are given here in the form of trench number plus context (eg 19.123 = trench 19, context 123), which gives unique context numbers across the site. Topsoil was always referred to as \pm . For the location of individual trenches see figure 3. Only selected context numbers are shown on the figures; others are included in the stratigraphic report to aid discussion and because they are referred to in the finds reports. Individual buildings and ditches were often excavated in several different trenches, and for convenience in discussion they are here numbered Building 1, Ditch 1, etc. The numbers have been allocated in a sequence across the site, which is also mostly the probable chronological order, and is not the order in which they were excavated.

1978

In the first year of excavation, trenches 1–3 were positioned to test anomalies suggested by the resistivity survey. In the event, no features were found to match the anomalies and it seems most likely that they were caused by changes in the subsoil from sand to gravel patches. Archaeological features were however present (colour pl 2; figs 4–6), although it was clear from the start that they were difficult to recognise and that there was limited stratigraphy. Trench 2 had a number of possibly medieval features, some of which were tentatively interpreted as evidence for a post-built structure (Bird *et al* 1980, 243–4), but this is now thought to be unlikely. In trench 1, a reddened area on the top of the natural gravel (1.006) was associated with a concentration of medieval shell-tempered pottery; more such pottery in the topsoil had probably come from the same feature which had been largely ploughed away. Trench 1 also contained a medieval ditch (1.004; 1.008) with a greenish sandy fill

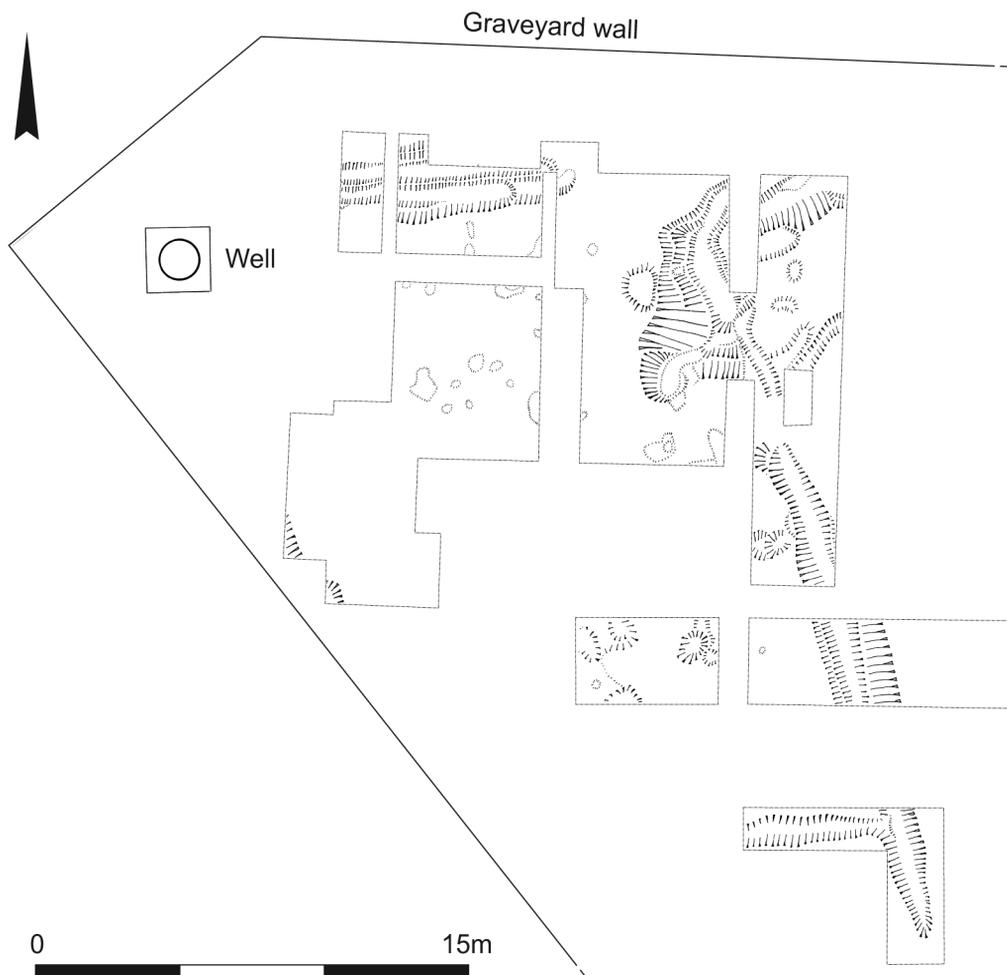


Fig 4 Sutton Park. Plan of medieval ditch complex and other possibly early features on the hilltop in the area of the new graveyard.

running east-west (Ditch 2). A pronounced ridge along the bottom of the ditch (colour pl 2; fig 6, trench 1) suggested that it might have been recut, but no evidence for differential fills could be identified. There was also a ditch-like feature in trench 3 (3.005: probably part of the Ditch 3 complex), again thought to be medieval in origin. Trench 2 also had a ditch (2.009: Ditch 6), running parallel to Ditch 2, but this had a dark fill and finds showed that it was relatively recent. It was found to cut across the robber trench of a brick-walled structure (2.011: Building 3) in the south-west corner of the trench.

1979

Trenches 4-6 were opened to explore further the ditches and the possible building (colour pl 5; figs 4 and 7). Trench 4 extended trench 3 to the north and was expected to cut Ditch 2 again, but eventually only a probable butt end of this ditch was found (4.007). A different ditch (4.014: Ditch 3), again probably medieval in origin, was however located. Trench 5 extended trench 3 to the south and produced further evidence for the late Ditch 6 (5.001). Its northern edge was difficult to trace because some of the fill (5.004) had been spread across

the adjacent general level (5.003) that overlay the natural subsoil. This fill included rubble and other material that was probably derived from the demolished Building 3, but it also contained more modern rubbish. Most of Building 3 lay in trench 6, although this was not apparent at the time. More of the building was later exposed in trenches 11 and 15 (see *1981*, below).

1980

Trenches 7–9 were excavated. Trench 8 exposed a further section of Ditch 2 towards the well (8.005; 8.007), while the small trench 9 confirmed that Ditch 2 did not swing away to the north and that the butt end seen in trench 4 was genuine (9.002). Trench 9 was noteworthy for a concentration of clay pipe fragments in a small area. Trench 7 provided further evidence for the course of Ditch 3 (7.12, 7.16–17, 7.23–24) and the way it related to the medieval features in trench 3 (figs 6 and 8). At the northern end of the trench, Ditch 3 seemed to turn back towards the east, as though continuing the line of Ditch 2. This could not be tested further as the area beyond was already used for infant burials. Most of the earlier features across the centre of the trench had been destroyed by later features. These included the continuation of Ditch 6 (as 7.001), which apparently cut another late amorphous feature or group of features (7.008, 7.010; 7.014) that were difficult to excavate because the area had suffered extensive disturbance, probably animal in origin.

1981 (and summary of all evidence for Building 3)

Trenches 10–16 were excavated in this year. Ditch 3 was found in trench 10 (10.006; 10.010; 10.011) (figs 4, 6 and 9) but could not be traced further south in either of trenches 12 or 16. The line of trench 10 was extended to the east and west by trenches 13 and 14 respectively, neither of which produced much information. Trench 13 yielded a little pottery from a few probably medieval and later features of which little sense could be made; trench 14 had even less in the way of finds and no features. The eastern extension of trench 10 was very similar.



Fig 5 Sutton Park. Ditch 2 in trench 1, partly excavated, seen from the west.

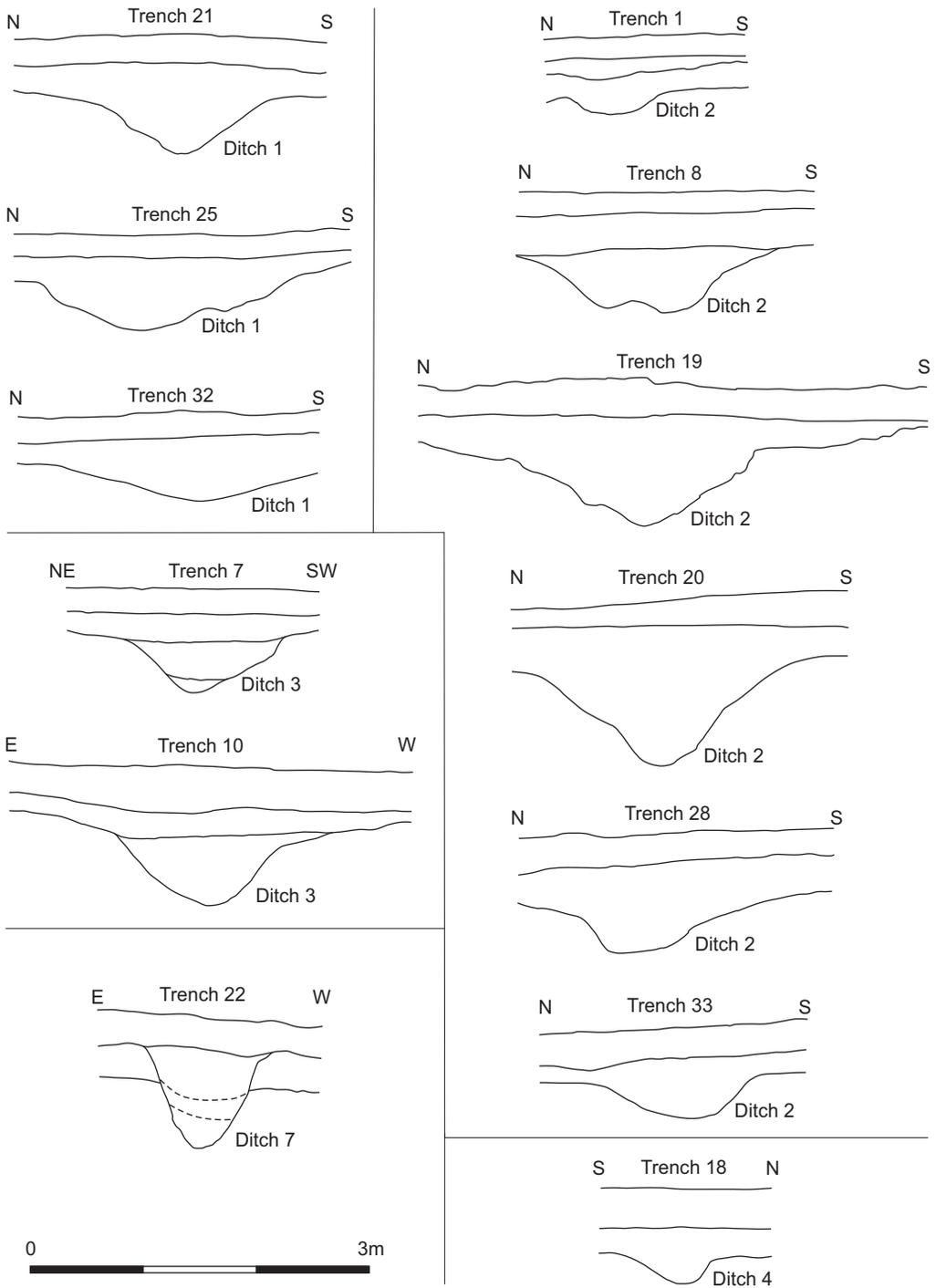


Fig 6 Sutton Park. Ditch profiles: modern ground level is shown in each case. All but one of the sections taken along a trench edge (but more or less at right angles); some sections are reversed to provide consistency of view along a ditch.

Although trenches 12 and 16 did not locate Ditch 3, they did provide evidence for an area of large later pits (figs 7, 10 and 11). Trench 12 revealed part of a shallow pit-like feature (Pit 1) about 0.4m deep and over 1.7m long in the only direction where an edge was found. It was packed with roof tile and some floor tile rubble and brick. The main fill (12.001) was a grey green/yellowy fine earth with patches of burning; the basal fill (12.003) was yellow/grey sticky earth with burnt patches. It was probably filled in the 16th century, and the similarity of the rubble to that found in the Building 3 demolition levels suggests that it was contemporary with the building and its use was terminated at the same time. There were two pits in trench 16, one (Pit 3: 16.003) cutting the other (Pit 2: 16.004). Pit 2 was about 1.45m deep (ie below plough-soil level) and over 1.4m wide in the only dimension available. It was more regular (more rectangular and straight-sided) than Pit 1 and had a sticky black/brown fill, interspersed with occasional layers of yellow/brown sandy soil. Pit 3 was less regular, more oval but still with relatively clean cut straightish sides and a fill of dark black/brown earth. It lay mostly outside the trench and was about 1m deep and over 1.6m long in the only available dimensions. Both pits are probably to be dated 16th/17th century; Pit 2 was earlier than Pit 3 and had some roof and floor tile rubble but was not as packed as Pit 1, perhaps implying that it continued in use after the demolition of Building 3.

Trenches 11 and 15 were placed to trace the extent of Building 3, partly examined in 1979, to the south and west respectively. It was found that most of the building, and the best preserved part, had already been excavated in trench 6 (colour pl 5; figs 12 and 13). A small area was left untouched between the three trenches but was excavated in 1982 and numbered within the trench 11 sequence. The whole area is considered together here. The most recent

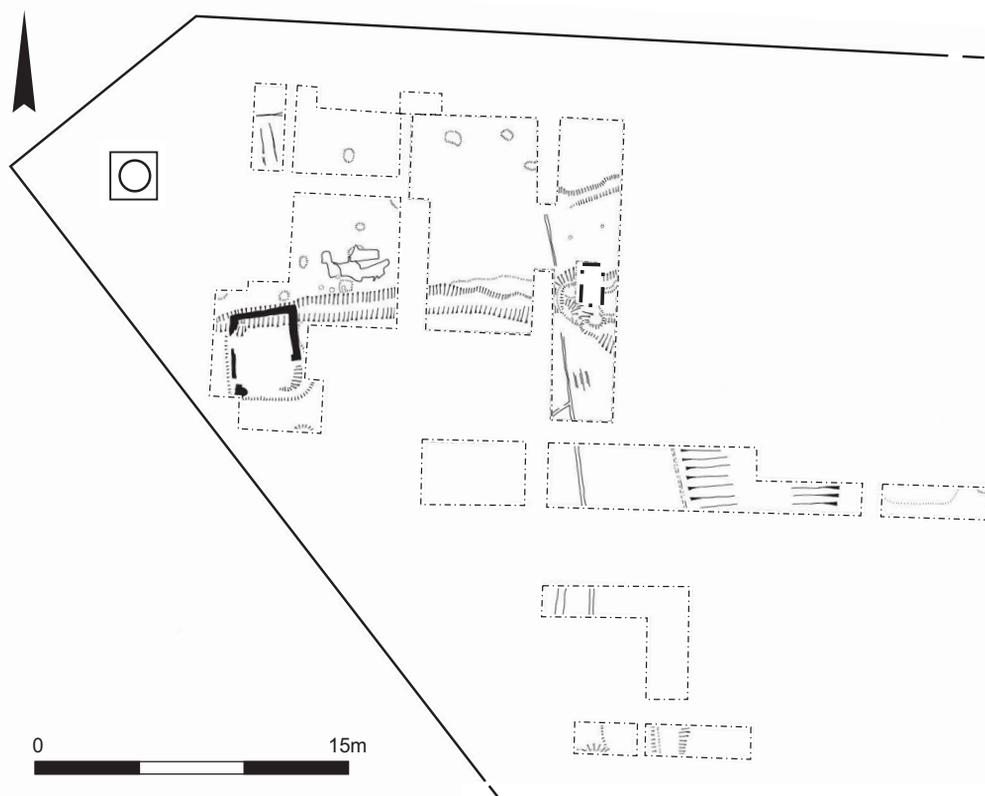


Fig 7 Sutton Park. Plan of later features on the hilltop in the area of the new graveyard.



Fig 8 Sutton Park. Ditch 3 in trench 7 from the north-west.

feature in the trenches was the late Ditch 6 (6.001 and 15.001). This ran along the line of the northern wall of the building, apparently by coincidence (fig 7). It cut into a feature interpreted as a robber trench, also seen following the other walls (6.003; 11.005; 15.002); in places the southern and western walls had been completely removed. The robber trenches were seen to cut in their turn into the general demolition layers that filled the building. These layers and features are all dated to the late 16th/early 17th centuries, but there was much less dating material from the robber trenches.

Building 3 itself had been formed by digging a rectangular pit into the natural subsoil and lining it with mortared brick walls. This pit was subsequently filled with demolition material (especially 6.005, 6.007, 6.013): brick and tile rubble with mortar, and a considerable amount of discarded rubbish, principally pottery, glass, metalwork and animal bone. It was noted that there was more roof tile higher in the fill and a great deal of broken brick lower down, also that some of the brick and tile (and occasionally flint) was burnt and ashy material was present. Floor tiles glazed yellow or green were present throughout, but were seen to be better preserved (larger fragments with the glaze in a fresher condition) in a level with more mortar near the base of the pit (6.013). None seemed to be *in situ*. Only a few sherds of pottery were found in the two shallow lowest levels of the fill, just above the natural sand (6.013, 6.015), but these are dated as late 15th/early 16th century. It is possible therefore that they date the construction period of the building rather than its demolition. The walls of Building 3 did

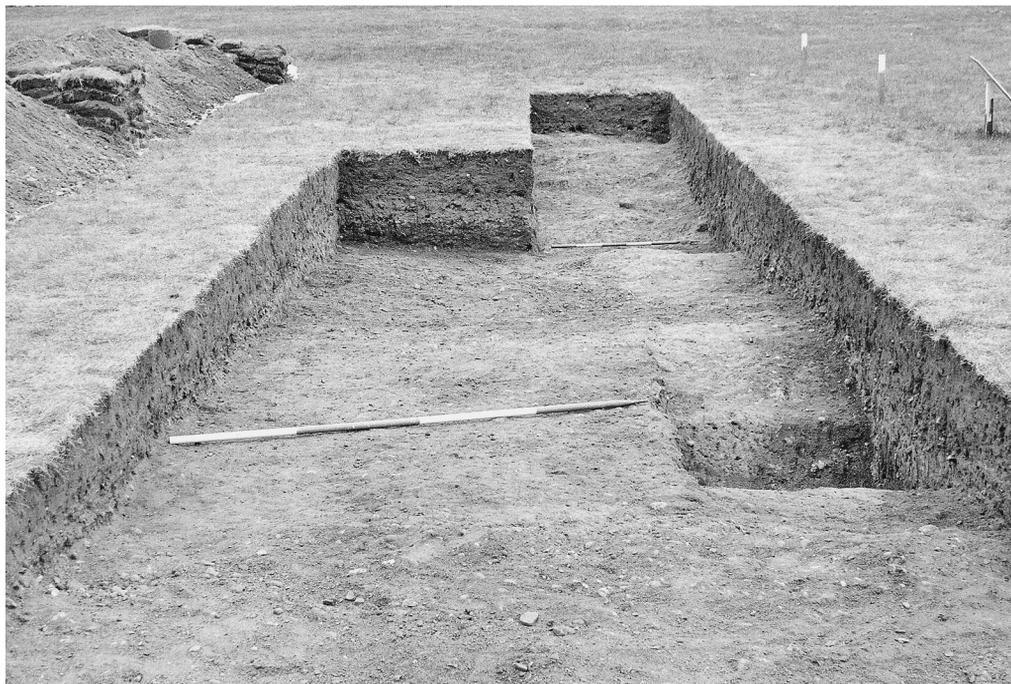


Fig 9 Sutton Park. Ditch 3 in trench 10 (ranging pole along centre line), partly sectioned, from the west.

not survive above contemporary ground level. They had been made simply by lining the pit with unfroged bricks, so that the walls became thicker as they went higher, at least as seen in a section of the northern wall in trench 6 (colour pl 6). The lowest course here was only one brick thick. The mortar on the inside had been finished off neatly but on the outside it had just squeezed through the joints and set against the edge of the pit. Where sufficient of the wall survived it could be seen to be laid in English Bond (colour pl 5).

Both trenches 11 and 15 had some evidence for earlier features that could have been pits or ditches. In particular, a probable ditch (Ditch 5: 11.011) was seen in the western extension of trench 11 running approximately parallel to Ditch 3. A feature in the south-west corner of the original trench 11 may have been part of the same ditch (11.010). Unfortunately, there were no finds from either context, although it may be noted that this would be consistent with the lowest fills of the medieval ditches elsewhere on the site.

1982

Trenches 17–19 were excavated in 1982. Trench 17 was placed to explore as far to the east as possible within the new graveyard. It produced a late roughly linear feature (not shown on figs 3 or 7) cutting a generally disturbed level over natural and no medieval or early post-medieval pottery. As Ditch 3 had not been located in trenches 12 and 16, trench 18 was placed to cut the postulated line south of trench 10. In this it was successful (18.006, 18.008), while also finding another ditch (18.007: Ditch 4) running west from a T-junction with Ditch 3. An extension of the trench to the south showed that the latter seemed to peter out in a butt end (fig 4).

The main excavation was in trench 19, the first to be placed outside the new graveyard. It was set at the centre of the main concentration of medieval pottery found in the programme of fieldwalking carried out earlier in the year (Bird *et al* 1984, 269). Evidence for a building (Building 1) was found; this received further work in 1983 and 1984 and the results are



Fig 10 (left) Sutton Park. Trench 16: Pit 2 in foreground to left, Pit 3 to right.

Fig 11 (above) Sutton Park. Trench 16: Pit 2, with part of oval cut of Pit 3 to left.

gathered together below. This work clearly demonstrated that cultivation of the field had damaged, and was continuing to damage, archaeological remains and therefore further work was needed.

1983

Trench 19 was re-opened and enlarged in an attempt to examine the known extent of Building 1. A new trench (20) was set out to the east to test the possibility of a continuation of one of the wall lines, and was in due course extended back to join trench 19 without finding any more evidence for Building 1. A different structure on a different alignment (Building 2) was, however, located, and a continuation of Ditch 2 (20.017). Building 2 was further examined in 1984–6 (see *1986*, below).

1984 (and summary of all evidence for Building 1)

Work on trench 19 was concluded with more detailed examination of the area around the tile hearths. There was also further work on Building 2 in an extended trench 20 (including the diagonal trench beyond the southern end of the later trench 27, which found no evidence for the eastern or the western wall lines). Trenches 23 and 26 were designed to test other aspects of this building and were left unfinished so that they could be subsumed into one larger trench (trench 27) in due course (see *1986*, below). There was further work on ditches in a number of areas (figs 3, 6 and 14). Trench 21 was an extension of trench 19 intended to confirm that no further trace of Building 1 could be found to the north. This proved to be the case, but a ditch running parallel to Ditch 2 was located (Ditch 1: 21.002, 21.003). Trench 25 was therefore positioned to the east to test the continuation of this ditch, which was found (25.002), but with a ragged outline, possibly the result of collapse or animal action. Trench 22 was positioned well to the west to test a pronounced line of vegetation that was noted crossing the slope. This was at first thought to result from a change in the natural subsoil, but it proved to be a buried ditch with a fill of mixed layers of white sand and



Fig 12 Sutton Park. Building 3 from the east showing also Ditch 6 over and section of backfill.

black soil with orange, yellow and white clay lumps (Ditch 7: 22.003, 22.004). It was clearly much more recent than the others (except Ditch 6); one 16th/17th century sherd may hint at its date. Trench 24 was placed further down the slope on the postulated line of Ditch 2 but produced no features; it was however of interest in that it demonstrated the presence of the natural yellow clay subsoil (London Clay) at this lower level with no capping of sand or gravel.

Trench 19 as extended in 1983 contained all that could be identified of Building 1 (colour pls 1 and 3; fig 15). The building was marked out by evidence for walls to the east and south, with a slight hint at a northern line and no evidence to the west, which had probably long since been lost to the plough and downslope erosion. The eastern wall had been cut by two drains and there were a few other later features of no obvious purpose. Some could have been created by the plough pushing rubble (eg, one had two bricks mortared together which must have come from one of the drains). Inside the angle of the walls was a large tile-built hearth (figs 15 and 16) with the long axis east–west and clear signs of plough damage across the top. It proved to be the latest in a sequence of hearths (figs 17 and 18). To the south and east of the building were two burnt features that probably represent some ‘industrial’ activity linked to the use of Building 1 or Building 2. One of these burnt features (fig 19: 19.126) was set above the filled-in Ditch 2, the line of which ran parallel to the southern building wall. There was also a great deal of pottery and other rubbish along this line especially nearer the top of the fill. A few other possibly pre-building features were noted, but none where their significance could be identified.

The two drains (1 and 2) ran down the slope from east to west. Drain 1 (19.013) had a roof tile base with Tudor brick side walls having one or two surviving courses, while Drain 2 (19.005) was similar but more roughly built entirely with bricks (colour pl 3; fig 15). In both cases there were traces that suggested they had been laid on a thin mortar base. Half bricks were often used and both drains were clearly built from re-used material. Drain 2 joined Drain 1 at a higher level, after they had been cut through the east wall of Building 1. These drains



Fig 13 Sutton Park. Remains of Building 3 west wall seen from the north, and possible Ditch 5.

must therefore post-date the building; otherwise they would surely have been made to join at a right angle before breaching the wall so as to lessen the effect of any weakness. There was also no sign that the cuts through the walls had been repacked in any way. Stratigraphic evidence however was inconclusive.

The eastern wall of Building 1 (19.003) was about 0.25–0.3m wide and consisted of one or two courses of rough chalk blocks and occasional flints, cut in two places by the drain channels. It had also suffered plough damage, with some blocks being dragged out downhill. The south wall was quite different, being marked out by several rough sandstone blocks, some notably large (19.007; 19.002; 19.008; 19.009; 19.010; 19.136) forming a line, with some smaller debris between them and nearby (including a scatter of small flints to the south). One of these blocks (19.007) formed the southern end of the chalk wall; its northern end is unknown. A single sandstone block (19.093) in the north-west corner of the trench may be all that survived of a northern equivalent of the southern wall line. If this block is significant then the building would have been about 5.6m north–south with the late hearth (19.004) roughly central; about 7m is known of the east–west dimension and if the hearth was again central then this would have been originally about 8.4m. No evidence was seen to make it

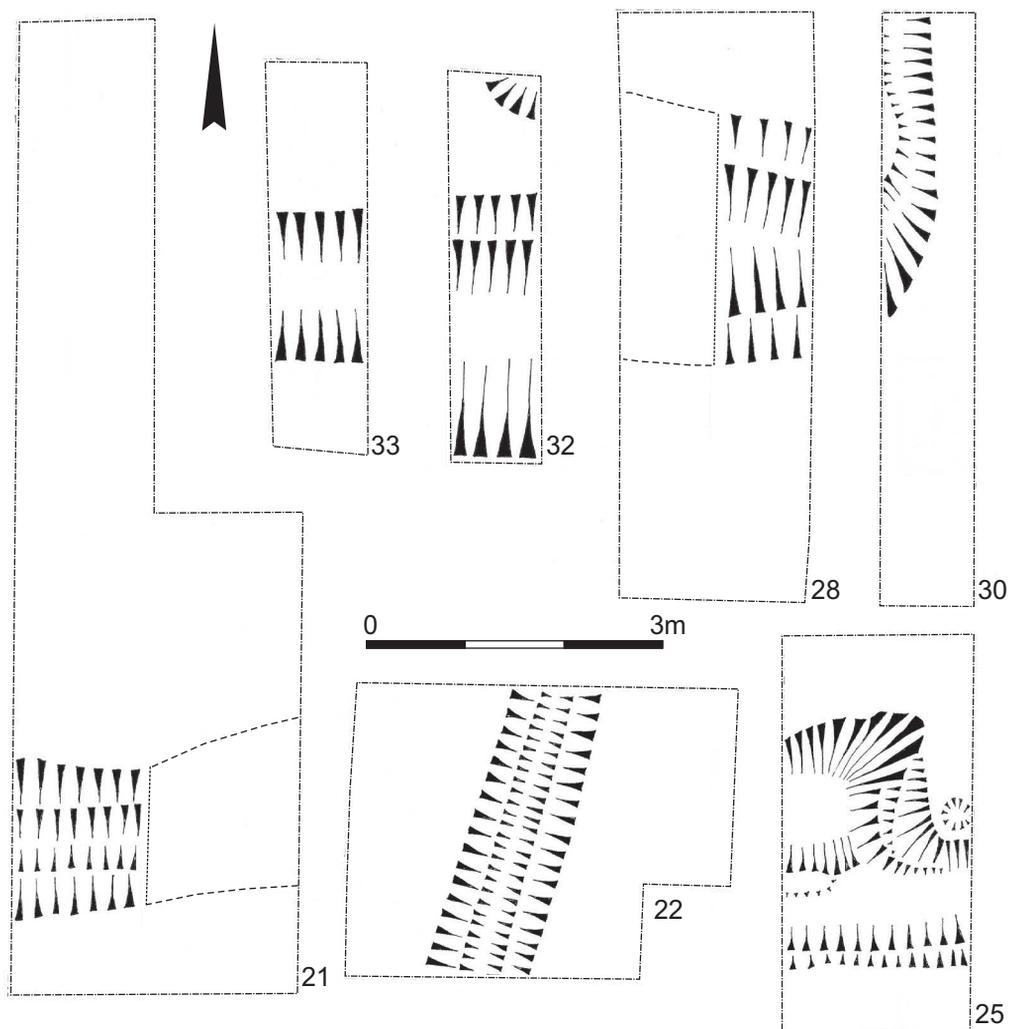


Fig 14 Sutton Park. Plans of ditches as excavated in trenches outside the new graveyard. The relative position of these trenches is shown on figure 3.

possible to say whether there had ever been more than one room, which together with the succession of hearths might suggest a freestanding kitchen (see *Discussion*, below).

The whole of the area associated with Building 1 was scattered with roof tile debris. There were signs that the building had had a yellow clay floor or sub-floor (19.006) surviving only in limited areas particularly near the chalk wall and the latest hearth (19.004). Where the clay did not survive the area was excavated as general levels at increasing depth (19.012, 19.065, 19.121), but although some differentiation seemed to be possible, they cannot be regarded as very reliable. It was difficult to identify with certainty later features cut into them; in places they were probably reached by the plough, and animal action was indicated by holes that were still open (generally around 100mm in diameter). In some cases it was clear that more than one level must have existed although it could not be seen – for instance above and below one of the burnt features (19.126). A sequence of at least three hearths also indicates that there should have been different occupation levels. At the topmost level (19.012) the area was trowelled in metre-square units (19.014–19.061). This had some value as it produced just ten post-medieval sherds, evenly distributed, and 185 medieval sherds of which most (114)

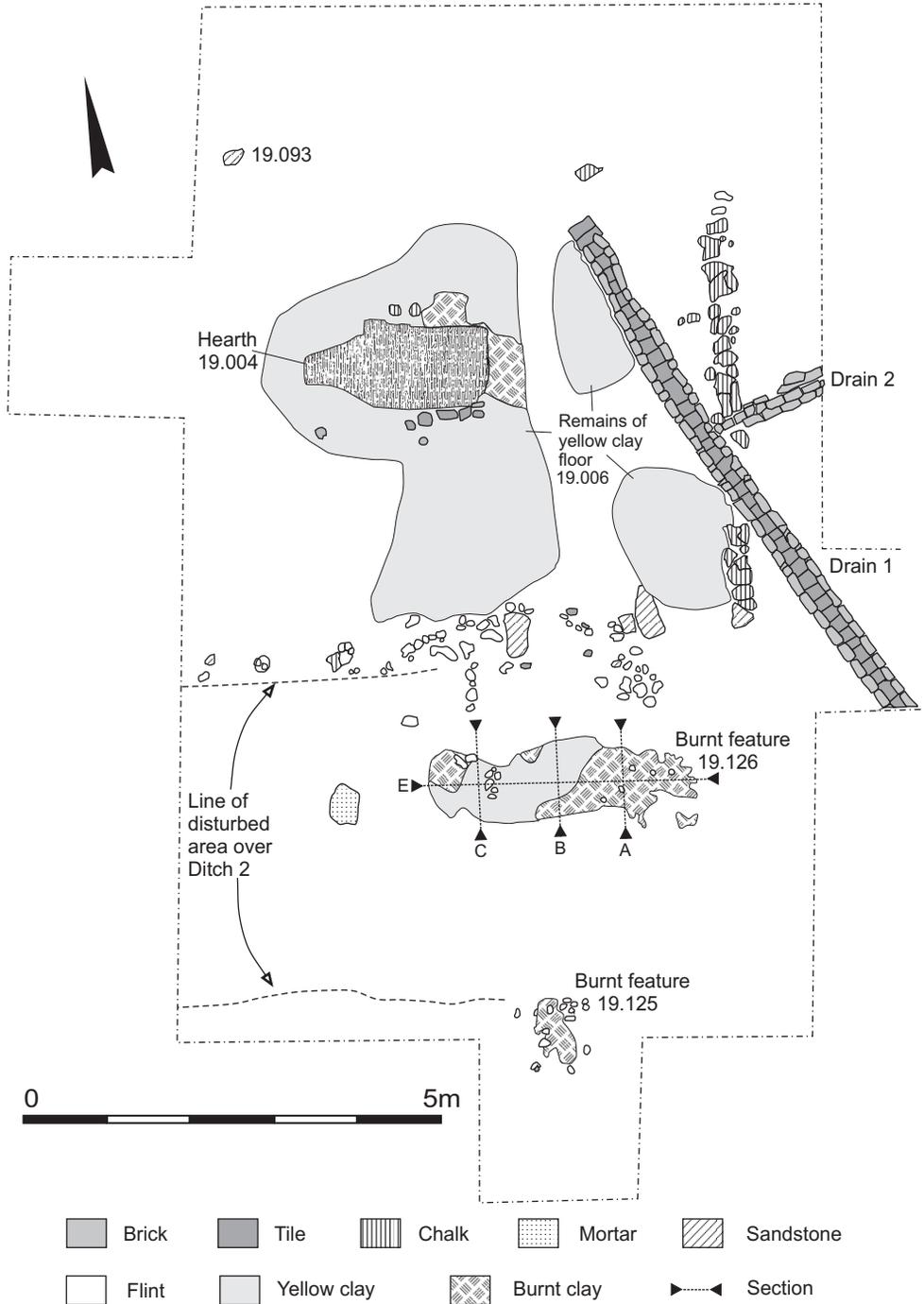


Fig 15 Sutton Park. Plan of Building 1, later features.

came from along or near the line of Ditch 2, with the largest group outside the south-east corner of the building, where there were also two large concentrations of roof tiles. Apart from a square over the hearth (19.004), the majority of the roof tile came from along and outside the wall lines. This was even more marked if it is correct to assume, as is likely, that large amounts of tile from squares near the hearth were associated with the probable earlier hearth (19.118). There were also some brick fragments but these are likely to have been dragged downhill by the plough from the drains as the largest fragments were nearest to them.

The large tile-built hearth (19.004) was revealed in trench 19 as soon as the plough-soil was removed in 1982 (colour pl 1). It gradually became apparent in this and the following year that the hearth was the latest in a sequence, with at least two earlier hearths, including another complete example (19.133) (figs 16–18).

The area around the hearths was re-opened in 1984 so that Tony Clark could attempt archaeomagnetic dating; an early use of the technique (colour pl 4). Further work was then carried out including the complete removal of 19.004 in order to examine the full extent of the lower hearth, 19.133, and to explore the interrelationship with the other possible hearth or hearths.

The area around the hearths was a complex mix of red burnt clay, yellow clay, ashy material, tile fragments on edge and laid flat, red burnt sandy material and blackish sandy material. It was not possible to be sure how these related to one another or with the hearths, although in some cases it could be said that a context was certainly earlier or later than another. The mix of materials made it difficult to be certain that related pottery could be regarded as securely pre-dating some of these features, but certain key pieces could be reliably placed, for example those from 19.154, a layer that undoubtedly pre-dated hearth 19.133 as it was underneath it. As well as the two well-preserved hearths, at least one more was represented by several tiles on edge (19.092, 19.118), and probably also by the many tile fragments (19.120, 19.122) lying flat to south and east of hearth 19.004. The metre grid square 19.039 also overlay this area and produced approximately 300 fragments of tile, several nearly complete and lying flat. Just sufficient remained of the tiles on edge, in particular, several set apparently in the remnants of a yellow clay matrix (19.118), to indicate a pattern that could

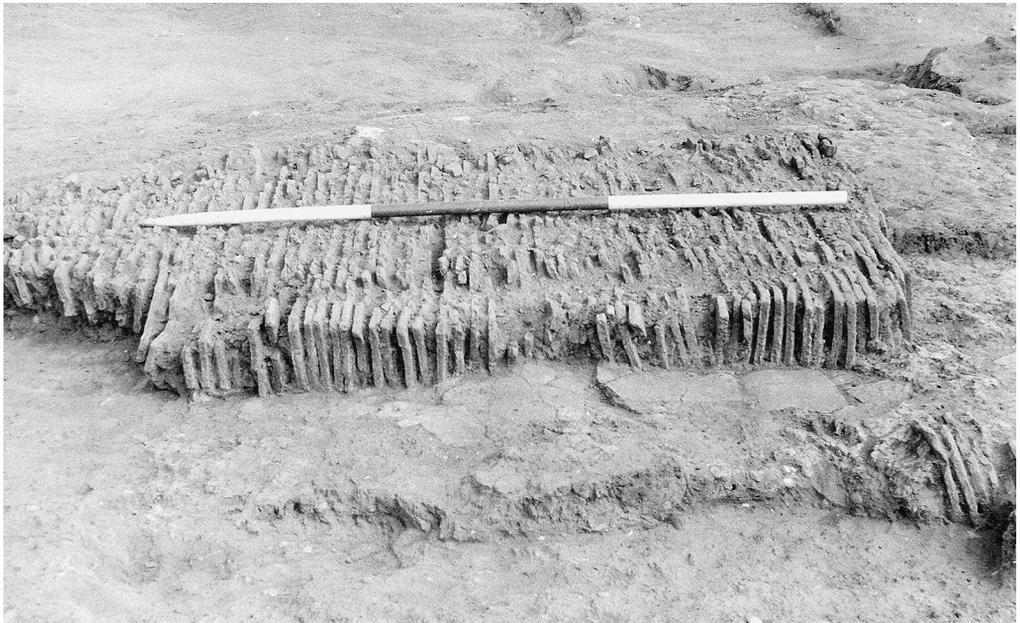


Fig 16 Sutton Park. Hearth 19.004 from the south, after removal of surrounding clay, soil, etc, with traces of earlier hearth 19.118 in right foreground.

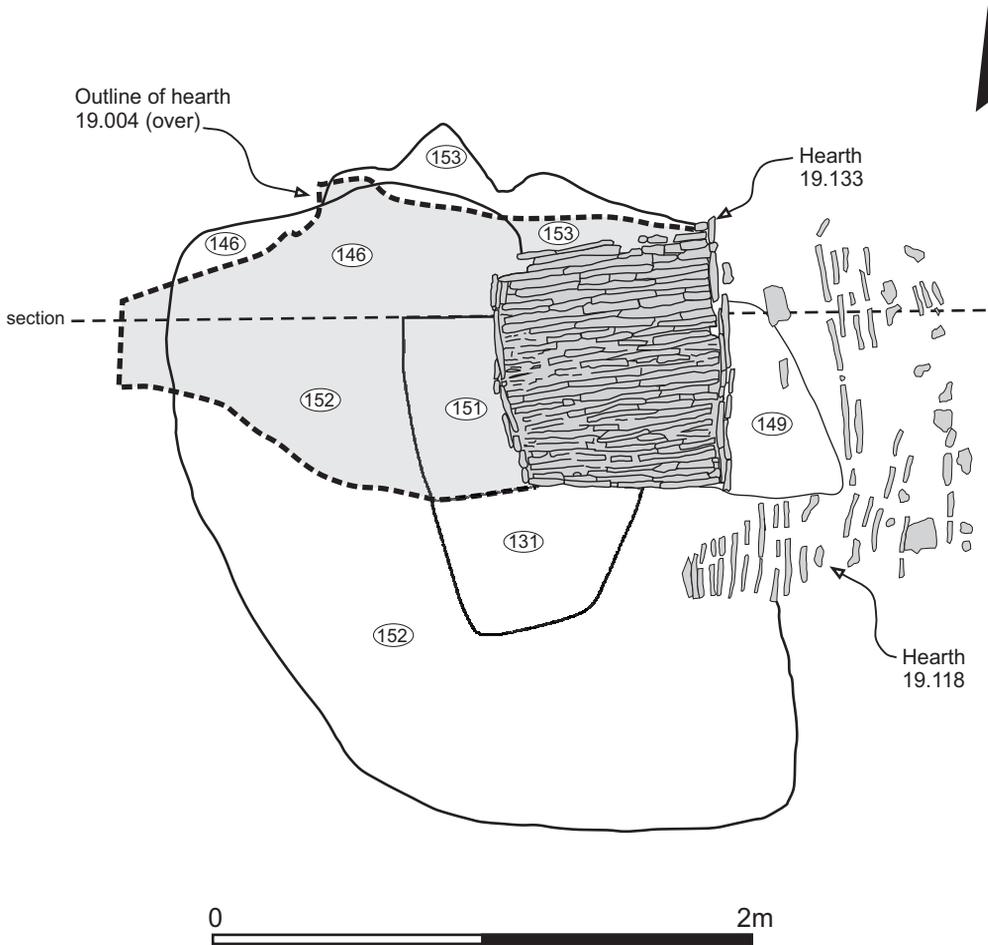


Fig 17 Sutton Park. Plan of area of earlier hearths in Building 1.

not reasonably be explained other than as the surviving part of a hearth that had mostly been removed in constructing one of the others (figs 17 and 18). The tiles lying flat near hearth 19.004 were perhaps ones that had been disturbed from hearth 19.118 and were laid as part of the creation of a higher sub-floor; it was noted that several fragments could be pieced together, but they were not placed in their correct relationship and so are unlikely to have been part of a structure.

Hearth 19.118 must obviously have been earlier than 19.004; careful attention was paid to its likely relationship with the lower hearth 19.133 but this could not be established with certainty; even a section was inconclusive. The tiles set on edge would have created a surface somewhat higher than the top of 19.133, but not sufficiently higher to have overridden that hearth unless only partial tiles were used. Earlier contexts associated with the hearths are shown on figure 17. Context 19.146 is the yellow clay base for hearth 19.004, partially sectioned to the south; 19.153 (dark and ashy sand) probably, and 19.152 (dark sand) certainly, were earlier and are assumed to have been associated with use of hearth 19.133; 19.149 (ashy and red sand) was probably also linked to 19.133, but 19.151 (reddish hard-fired clay) and 19.131 (red hard burnt clay) might perhaps have been linked to hearth 19.118. It is noticeable that in plan they can be matched against the layout of 19.118 to make a hearth area similar to that of 19.004, but on a slightly different alignment. It is thought most likely



Fig 18 Sutton Park. Hearth 19.133, with traces of earlier hearth 19.118 in foreground, from the east.

that the sequence was 19.118, 19.133 and finally 19.004, which was set directly on top of 19.133 where the two coincided in plan.

Originally, hearth 19.004 was probably about 2.20 x 1.10m; the western corners had no doubt been removed by the plough. It was made of roof tiles laid on their sides, on edge, set in yellow clay up to about a third of the way up the tiles. Seventy-nine surviving rows of tiles were counted; they were laid in regular rows, with joints overlapping; half tiles were used to start alternate rows to get this effect (there were three and a half tiles per row; the halves were not well cut). At least some of the tiles seem to have been used broken. Hearth 19.133 was about 0.9m square and was set immediately below the yellow clay setting for the tiles of 19.004, more or less exactly underlying the eastern end of that hearth. It had about 42 rows of tiles on edge set in a white mortar but without an obvious pattern. Some of the rows merged and the tiles varied, most having the peg holes to one side but some having them at the top.

Samples for archaeomagnetic dating were taken from the hearths 19.004 and 19.133 as well as the lower of two burnt surfaces (19.130) in the burnt feature 19.126. Only those from 19.133 were of use and dated to AD 1270–1310. Research since 1984 has led to some refinements in dating, and revised dates have been provided:

Either: AD 1395–1435 at 95% confidence

Or: AD 1270–1315 at 95% confidence

The comment was made that independent archaeological evidence could suggest which of the two date ranges was likely to be correct (Paul Linford, pers comm). In the light of this comment, it may be noted that six sherds of pottery were recovered from context 19.154, which was certainly below the hearth 19.133. Two of those sherds cannot be as early as AD 1310, but could be later 14th century (Phil Jones, pers comm), which would be consistent with the later date given above: ie between AD 1395 and 1435.

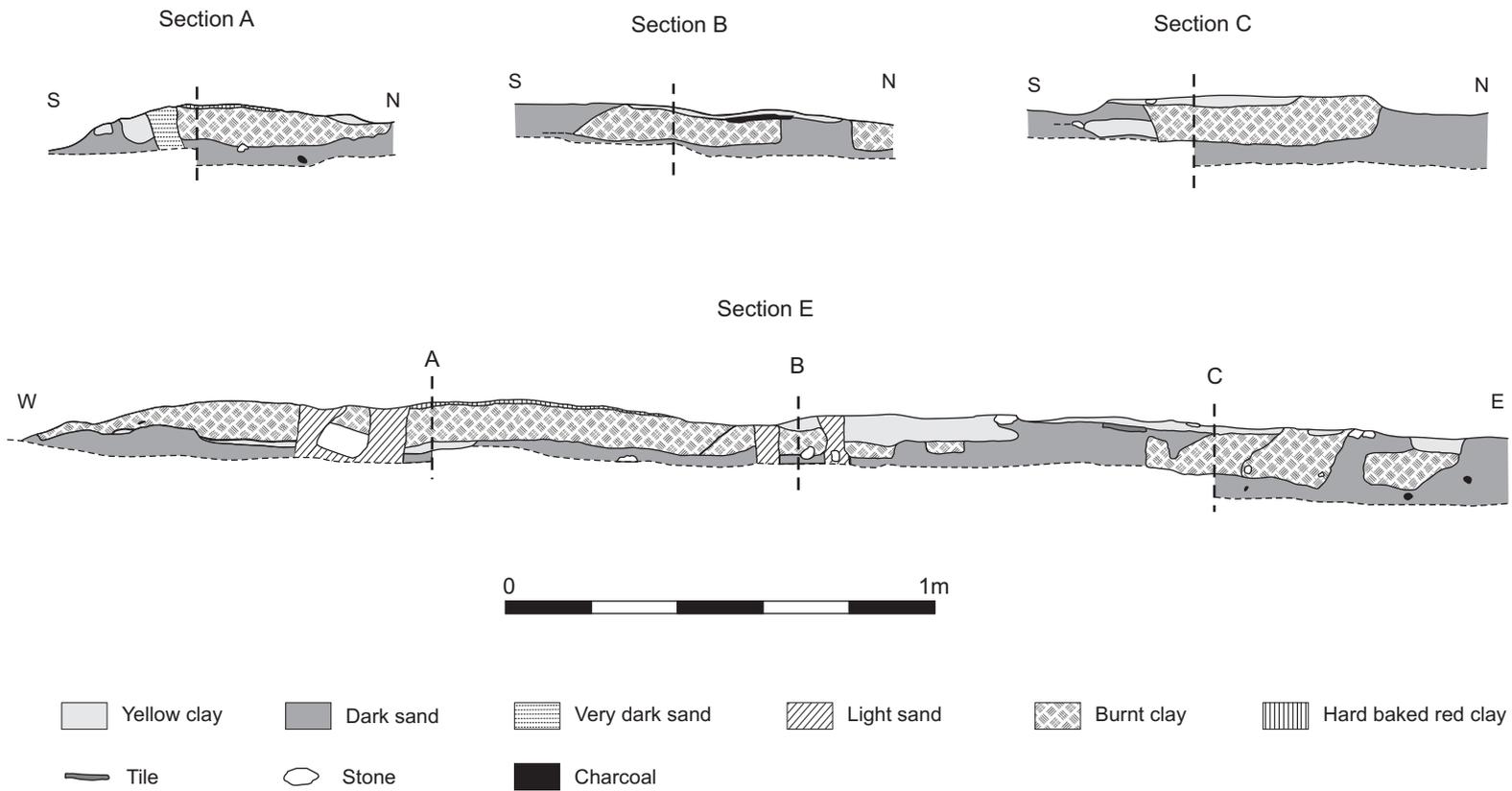


Fig 19 Sutton Park. Sections of burnt feature 19.126.

In the area to the south and east of Building 1 and west of Building 2, two areas of burning were noted, with some pinkish ash-like material. They were examined as carefully as possible, and eventually excavated by removing alternate segments. Context 19.126 was an area of burnt clay: a very hard-fired dark red skin over crumbly red and then softer red clay. This in turn was seen as over yellow clay (19.129) over more fired clay (19.130), but in fact the feature was a complex mix of different clays and other burnt and unburnt material (fig 19). Feature 19.126 actually covered a larger area than the largest tile-built hearth (19.004), being about 3.10m x 1m as it survived. The other burnt feature (19.125) – an area of burnt clay containing several burnt stones – was smaller; it seemed to be fired harder than 19.126 and no yellow clay was seen. A silver coin (SF300), a medieval long cross penny, was found below 19.125, which is probably roughly contemporary with 19.126. The latter overlay the later fills of Ditch 2 and was directly over material dated by Phil Jones as 14th/15th century. The two features were presumably therefore late medieval or early post-medieval hearths. No evidence was recovered to indicate their purpose; analysis of nearby finds of material thought to be slag was inconclusive, and these finds were in any case not certainly associated with the hearths.

It was obvious from early in the excavation of trench 19 that there was a great deal of medieval pottery and roof tiles and some other rubbish in an area to the south of the southern wall line of Building 1. This was seen at first (1982) as being within the fill of a pit-like feature with a grey/green sandy fill (19.062), just outside the building and especially on the western side of the trench. It was difficult to define and therefore in 1983 the area was divided into squares and dug in spits (19.070–089 and 19.097–116). Eventually it became clear that the ‘pit’ was a linear depression over the line of a continuation of Ditch 2 (19.134, 19.140) (figs 6 and 15). The bulk of the pottery and tile came from the levels above the ditch proper, presumably filling a depression along the top of its line. In excavation it was considered that the ditch was too close to the southern wall line of Building 2 for comfort, and that it was likely that it had gone out of use and been at least partially filled before the building was constructed. The large amount of pottery from 19.062 and related contexts was no doubt the origin of the large concentration of medieval pottery found in this area during fieldwalking in 1982.

There were few features on the northern side of trench 19; the way in which the drain and the eastern wall of Building 1 both stopped at the same east–west line suggested that almost everything beyond this point had been ploughed out. One or two very amorphous features were however noted that could have been early. In particular there was part of a possible circular gully (19.095), which could have been the remnants of a ditch round a small barrow. This theory was developed before it was known that there was Bronze Age pottery from nearby in trench 27, and the position on the edge of the crest of the slope would be a good one, but the evidence must be regarded as extremely weak.

1985–6 (and summary of all evidence for Building 2)

Excavation in 1985 was devoted to trench 27, which was designed to examine the whole of the surviving area of Building 2. Work on this building and its possibly related drains was completed in 1986, when six new trenches were also opened, mostly to test aspects of the ditch system (figs 3, 6 and 9) but also to sample the area well to the north of the new graveyard (trench 29). Unexpected entertainment was provided by the use of the church as the backdrop of a scene in a film *The Two Mrs Grenvilles* (made for television), involving polystyrene gravestones and a fake grave dug in the area east of the old churchyard. The ‘grave’ was quickly checked and found to have a considerable depth of a grey sandy soil with a few tile fragments and no pottery.

Trench 28 was located about 30m west from the westernmost point of the new graveyard to check the line of Ditch 2 beyond trench 19. Two different directions of plough marks (at 90° to each other) were noted at the base of the plough-soil. The ditch was found, with a

large amount of pottery in its fill (around 400 sherds in this small trench). It was noted that in the top of the fill large fragments of roof tiles and pottery were lying apparently where they had broken, as though they had been thrown in as big pieces that broke further on impact. A half section of the ditch was dug in spits in an attempt to provide some stratigraphic information but without noticeable result (the pottery was generally late 13th/14th century) except that by far the majority of the pottery came from the top of the fill (109 sherds from the top spit and 34 from the five spits below; note also that there were 94 sherds in the topsoil and 129 in the next level, most of which came from the line of the ditch – only nine of these 223 sherds were early post-medieval). Careful attention was paid to the level from which the ditch had been cut (as this had been unclear in other trenches), and it was concluded that below the topsoil there were two separate sandy layers overlying the natural subsoil. The ditch line could be roughly identified in the lower of these two layers. They may represent different levels of ploughing and other disturbance and it is likely that the top of the ditch had been ploughed over, leaving some of its contents more or less still on the original line. The fill also produced two Bronze Age sherds and a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead, but without any original context.

The line of Ditch 2 as seen in trench 28 suggested that it should have been seen in trench 22. Trench 31 was therefore set out to see whether it had continued to the north, but did not locate it. Ditch 2 was however found in trench 33, which extended knowledge of it a further 5m down the slope from trench 28, nearly as far as trench 22. The line of Ditch 2 was thus traced for a total distance of over 60m. It is just possible that the ditch swung away south of trench 22, but it is more likely that it was not recognised in the excavation of that trench because of the disturbance caused by the later Ditch 7 crossing it at right angles and because it was shallower than elsewhere (to judge by the trench 33 results). As previously noted, it was often difficult to recognise the ditches during excavation. Ditch 2 was also found in trench 27 underlying Building 2 and its related features. It was mostly left unexcavated (having been sectioned in trench 20), but its course was checked across the trench.

Ditch 1 was traced down the slope to about the same level as trench 28 by the excavation of trench 32. This suggested that Ditches 1 and 2 seemed to be gradually becoming further apart as they progressed down the slope. Trench 30 was positioned to cross the line of Ditch 4 outside the new graveyard by extension of the line from trench 18, but only a shallow undated feature on a quite different alignment was found (not shown on fig 3).

A concentration of post-medieval pottery was found in the 1982 fieldwalking about 30m to the north of the new graveyard and this was tested by trench 29. No features were found although there was quite a depth of disturbed soil (about 0.6m) in two general levels (brownish sandy soil over yellow/brown sandy soil) over the natural subsoil, which was yellow sand. Only a few medieval sherds were found with much more post-medieval pottery, suggesting a 17th–18th century date range. Apart from one large piece of brick, roof tiles and bricks were present only in small abraded fragments.

Building 2 (figs 20–22) was first found in 1983 as a wall corner (20.005) about 5m to the east of Building 1 (colour pl 1 and fig 3) and set at an oblique angle to that building. Further work in subsequent years located only the northern and parts of the eastern and western wall lines of the building; as in the case of Building 1 ploughing had evidently taken its toll outside the ‘shadow’ of the new graveyard wall. The newly discovered building proved to be associated with the drains first seen in trench 19. Drain 2 was found running to the north of Building 2; it apparently turned through a right angle from Drain 3, which may have started about 3.5m along the eastern wall line. The course of Drain 1 was traced in a curving line starting from the western wall line of Building 2 at a point where unfortunately all evidence of the wall petered out. Thus it seems clear that the drains came from that building but it is not possible to show how they related to it. The impression gained was that the drains were a later addition. It is assumed that they were set below contemporary ground level, which has implications for the level at which Building 2 is known – in short, most of it must have been lost, including the occupation levels. As with Building 1, a few late features were noted,



Fig 20 Sutton Park. Ditch 2 in section with north-west corner of Building 2 over.

some with brick and signs of burning in the fill. A small gully-like feature (27.013) parallel with an extension of the line of the eastern wall of Building 2 south of the point of the new graveyard was probably also late. Its purpose is unclear and it may post-date the building. A notable find in this area, although not in a contemporary context (20.022), was the discovery of twenty sherds of a Bronze Age bucket urn. As these were joining sherds, they were probably more or less in their original location although presumably disturbed by later activity.

There was some evidence for the collapse or demolition of Building 2 in the area around its north-west corner. Survival was better here, perhaps because of the slope and perhaps also because of some slumping into the top fill of Ditch 2. A key point is that it was clear that an overall level with dark soil and a considerable amount of mostly tile rubble (20.003) overlay a spread of yellow clay (20.002), which itself was overlying the flints of the wall corner (20.005). Interpretation of the yellow clay presents a problem; it was at first seen as a floor level, but as it overlay the wall and spread further to the north (ie outside the building), the possibility that it was collapsed wall material was also considered. Other patches of yellow clay were seen along and on both sides of the northern wall line (23.001, 23.005, 27.002) and it occurred

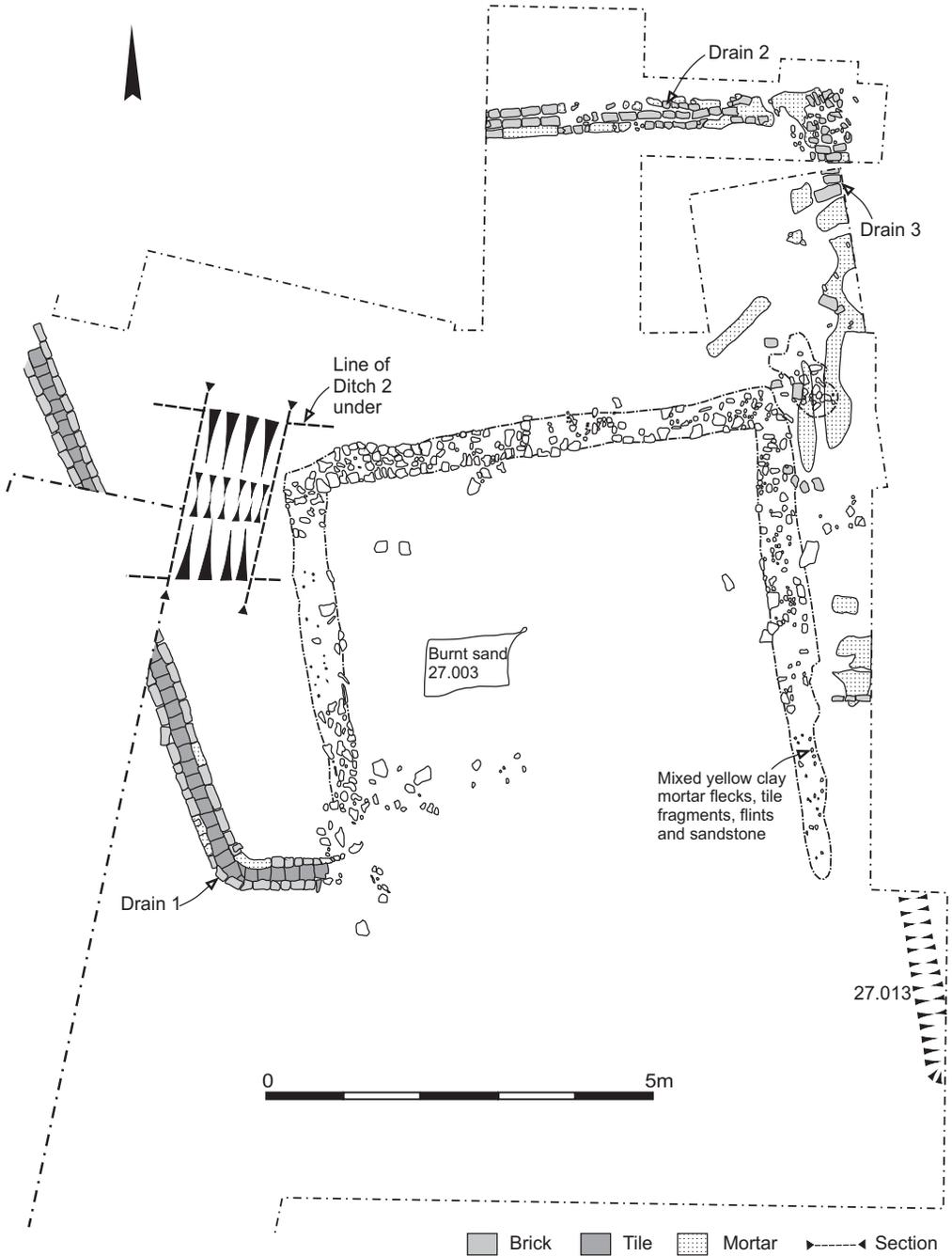


Fig 21 Sutton Park. Plan of Building 2 and its drains.



Fig 22 Sutton Park. Building 2 from the east.

also within the lines of material that marked out the wall lines (eg 26.001, 27.006). The yellow clay near the north-west wall corner (20.003) in its turn overlay a dark sandy layer (20.006) that was probably over the top fill of the underlying Ditch 2 (20.007), but at the opposite side of the building a yellow clay layer (27.002) had white mortar in it which became more concentrated and associated with large – more or less complete – roof tile fragments as it was excavated. This overlay a dark silty soil (27.026) that was certainly within the ditch fill. It is probable that there were different episodes of deposition of the clay and tile and mortar debris, all probably occurring at more or less the same time as the building collapsed or was demolished. Within the rubble 20.003 it was noted that there were some large pieces of roof tiles that appear to have been smashed *in situ*. Little brick was present and it was notably either crumbly or burnt purple. This (mostly) tile spread was seen along the outside of the northern and the beginning of the western wall lines; another tile spread was noted along the outside of the line of the eastern wall of Building 2. The main tile spreads in trench 27 (and its related trenches) were thus in the same relative position to the building as was the case with Building 1. There were also, as usual, roof tile fragments in the fills of Ditch 2, including the earlier levels.

The relationship between the drains and Building 2 could not be established with certainty (see *Discussion* below), partly because evidence for them was usually found immediately after removal of topsoil. No construction cuts were noted and therefore it is not possible to date the drains relative to the demolition/collapse levels, but they could be later. Drain 1 (20.011, 27.005) was built throughout in the manner observed in trench 19; that is, a roof tile base with mortared brick sides, sometimes surviving as two courses. Its junction with the western wall line of Building 2 (27.006) was not clear. There was no sign of the drain beyond the line of the wall, but although it more or less reached the wall, there was no indication that it altered its character when it did so. Two long flints (27.017) across the wall line were thought to be possibly continuing the drain line through the wall but this was probably fortuitous. Drain 3 was mostly marked by lines of white mortar with occasionally some brick fragments still attached (23.002, 23.009) running north of and parallel to the eastern wall line of the building.

Some bricks on edge (27.008) and an area of white mortar (27.007) may mark a turn through a right angle to join the wall but they cannot be associated with certainty with either the drain or the wall. It is likely, however, that they do mark the point where Drain 3 started. This drain was better preserved towards the north (27.031), where the bricks that formed its base were still *in situ*; the sides were lost but were indicated by white mortar traces on top of the base bricks, which were placed at right angles to the channel. Trench 27 was extended slightly to confirm that Drain 3 did not continue to the north but turned to the west to become Drain 2. This drain was better preserved than most of Drain 3; it was entirely brick built, with white mortar (as already seen in trench 19) and was formed of three bricks side by side with the outside two taken upwards by more bricks to form the channel. Drains 2 and 3 were no doubt all one build, although the base bricks were laid in the former following the direction of the flow and in the latter were across the flow. The angle where the two drains joined was much disturbed and it was not possible to be sure how it was constructed although it seems probable that it was reinforced.

The walls of the north-western corner of Building 2 were its only well-preserved part (fig 22). They either survived better here because of the location or had been deliberately made more substantial because it was the weakest point: the lowest corner, over the ditch (fig 20). Here the wall (20.005) was mostly flint-built, with some sandstone and tile, and was apparently laid on a mortary base with yellow clay bonding. It was about 400mm wide. Its continuation to the east (ie the northern wall of Building 2) was reasonably well marked by a line of flint, sandstone and tile with white mortar and yellow clay bonding (27.006); there were signs of a larger flint lining to the inside of the wall line. The other walls were much less well preserved. The western wall soon petered out south of the corner, and was mostly only seen as a linear spread of tile, mortar and small flint until it vanished altogether at about the point at which it would have met Drain 1. The eastern wall was also marked only by a line of small flints, some roof tile fragments and yellow clay (23.003, 26.001) until it became only scraps of dirty yellow clay with flecks of mortar and tiny pieces of tile, before vanishing altogether. Outside the north-east corner a shallow, roughly oval, flint-packed feature with roof tile and white clay (23.006, 27.009), within a wider spread of white clay (27.010), might perhaps have been the base for a corner support.

The wall lines indicated Building 2 as about 6m across from east to west, with a surviving north-south length also of about 6m. There is no evidence on which to assess the original length. No occupation levels survived, although there was a general spread of sandy material (27.011) across the area within the building that seemed to be later than the top of the Ditch 2 fill. Set on this level, within the angle of the north-west corner, a burnt area was noted with some red clay mixed with reddish sandy material (27.003). It proved to be very shallow but covered a roughly rectangular area and might have been the lowermost base of a hearth position. It measured about 1.1 x 0.6m (compare the small hearth 19.133 in Building 1, at about 0.9m square). Another burnt area was noted outside the building, near the western wall line and north of its junction with Drain 1. This was a spread of pinkish-grey ashy material with a great deal of charcoal and several large pieces of roof tiles lying flat, but they did not form any pattern (27.013). Little could be made of it, but its location over the line of Ditch 2 and its proximity to the burnt features 19.125 and 19.126 may suggest that it had a similar date and origin.

2004

A small-scale trial excavation was carried out in the garden to the north-west of Vine Cottage, to test the results of a geophysical survey to locate the wall supposedly found in 1832 (see *Geographical and historical background*, above). Unfortunately, the excavation demonstrated that a promising anomaly was probably to be linked with a former garden path of close-packed gravel. No other features were noted but the results of mole activity were very apparent. There were frequent finds of tile and some brick, with pottery, glass, clay pipe fragments, iron objects

and a few pieces of bone. The earliest dated find was a small sherd of 16th/17th century green-glazed pottery, but most finds were much more recent, and reflect the period of occupation, from about 1600, associated with Vine Cottage.

Finds

Basic finds work was carried out during and soon after each season of excavation, and led by Irene Atherstone. In 1996 Suzanne Huson was able to work with a small team to prepare summary catalogues. References in the main body of the text to aspects of the finds are based on all the available finds information (which forms part of the archive), in particular the Huson catalogues. In view of the general lack of stratigraphy, only summary reports on worked flint, pottery, small finds and animal bones are published here. The site archive will be deposited in Guildford Museum (acc no AG 24248). For explanation of the phases see *Conclusions*, below.

THE FLINTWORK, by Nick Marples

Eleven items of flintwork from a slightly larger body of material submitted for identification have been classed as humanly struck and of prehistoric date. Categories present are listed below in table 1.

Table 1 Flintwork composition

Flakes	7
Blades	2
Barbed-and-tanged arrowhead (Conygar Hill type)	1
Piercer	1
Total	11

More than one period of activity is represented. The two blades are likely to be Mesolithic or early Neolithic. The barbed-and-tanged arrowhead is of Early Bronze Age date. In funerary contexts, Conygar Hill types are generally absent from Beaker graves but commonly occur with food vessels (Green 1980, 130, 136). Some of the flakes are thick and squat with hinged terminations, attributes characteristic of later (Middle–Late) Bronze Age flintworking. A possible piercer may also date to the Bronze Age.

The raw material is pale to mid-grey or black flint. One flake retains thin water-worn cortex usually associated with gravel pebbles. Many of the pieces collected exhibit slight rolling and edge damage, which is likely to be due to post-depositional factors such as ploughing, although one blade and one flake may have been utilised. The barbed-and-tanged arrowhead is undamaged apart from a slight nick on one edge, towards the tip.

THE POTTERY: A SUMMARY REPORT, by Phil Jones

The collection is of 12,908 sherds (165.3kg), of which 54% are medieval and 45% post-medieval by count. There are also several sherds of prehistoric pottery, mostly of Bronze Age fabrics, but with at least two sherds from Early Iron Age vessels, as well as some from a small Bronze Age bucket urn. Other pottery that probably pre-dates the earliest occupation includes two Roman sherds, two from early to mid-Saxon vessels, and over 30 of late Saxon or early medieval types.

All sherds were sorted by period and fabric type, and quantified by count, weight and Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) for each context assemblage. For about a quarter of the collection, this involved the separation of joined feature or layer assemblages, and the re-allocation of exhibition pieces and fabric/ware collections, back into their original context groups. All rims and other important featured sherds were sketched to enable any future studies on vessel forms and their relative importance through the sequence of the occupation.



Colour pl 1 Sutton Park. View of trench 19 from the west showing also part of Building 2 in the background and beyond that the new graveyard and the church. Vine Cottage is in the trees to the left (photograph: Ian Wakeford)



Colour pl 2 Sutton Park. Ditch 2 in trench 1 cleared to the natural subsoil, from the east



Colour pl 3 Sutton Park. Building 1 from the north, showing east and south wall lines, drains and hearth 19.004



Colour pl 4 Sutton Park. View from the east of Tony Clark taking samples for archaeomagnetic dating from hearth 19.133 (seen below a part-sectioned hearth 19.004)



Colour pl 5 Sutton Park. Detail of Building 3 from the south



Colour pl 6 Sutton Park. Close-up of Building 3 north wall sectioned and part of the backfill, cut by Ditch 6



Colour pl 7 Sutton Park. Selected small finds

70a



70b



64



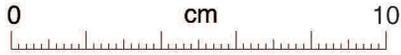
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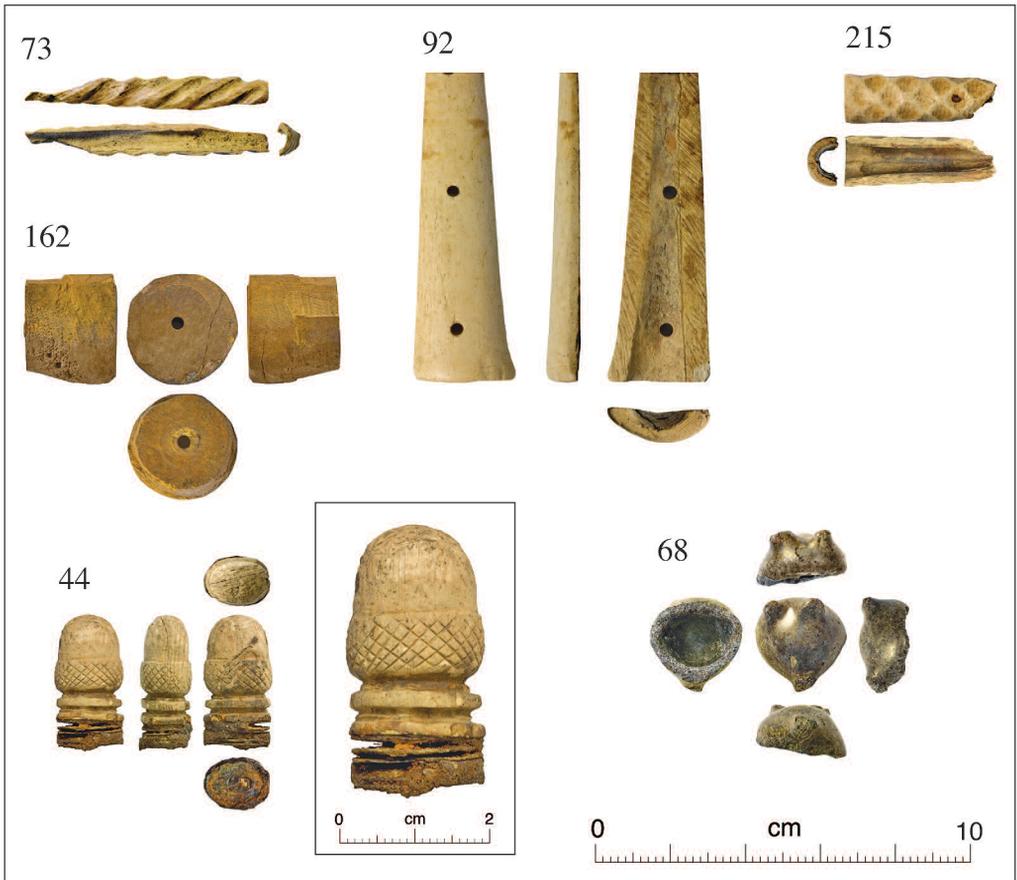
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175



Colour pl 8 Sutton Park. Selected small finds



Colour pl 9 Sutton Park. Selected small finds

On the basis of fabrics and forms and their relative proportions, the earliest direct occupation of the site was probably during the early to mid-13th century when the dominant coarseware was Q2 grey/brown sandy ware. The absence of IQ ware, the earliest of the medieval sandy types in west Surrey during the later 11th and early 12th centuries, also tends to confirm a 13th century beginning of settlement.

Grey/brown sandy ware fabrics (GQ2, Q2, FQ2) are relatively common in the collection, especially among sherds from trenches associated with medieval buildings 1 and 2. The few assemblages in which such sherds are not accompanied by whiteware, however, are too small to be certain that they had not been contemporary with the latter, and since whiteware is thought to have begun production during the second quarter of the 13th century, on balance it is probable that occupation did not begin before that (but see *Discussion*, below).

Whiteware sherds dominate in nearly all medieval assemblages, and they were separated and quantified according to the mean grain sizes of their quartz sand temper and certain other characteristics thought to have some bearing on dating. The earliest, WW1A, is also the coarsest and survived the longest, down to the early 16th century. Its common name in London is 'Coarse Border Ware' (Pearce & Vince 1988, 9), although not all need have been made in the Surrey/Hants border district. WW1B is less coarse and its use in west Surrey began later, perhaps during the 14th century. It too survived into the early post-medieval period, and its closest London equivalent is Kingston-type Ware (*ibid*), although the Sutton Park sample is likely to have been made closer to the site.

Fine whiteware in the Tudor Green style (WW3TG) is most often found in later 15th and early 16th century contexts at Sutton Park (phase 10), as elsewhere in the region, although earlier dated examples are known from London, making it an unreliable type-fossil for the late medieval period.

Much of the later medieval pottery from the site has surface colours like those of whiteware, but with salmon pink to red cores and margins. As elsewhere in west Surrey, sherds have been classified as RWW1A or RWW1B fabrics in accordance with the distinctions of the whiteware types. They can sometimes be confused with the earliest sherds of RW redware from the site, and there is also little to distinguish the earliest of the latter, thought to have begun *c* 1480 (Orton 1982, 82), from early post-medieval examples.

The apparently unbroken sequence of medieval ceramics from the 13th century continues down to the 18th century. This is especially so for the red and whitewares, most of which belong to the Border Ware tradition (Pearce 1992), though, again, without necessarily having been made in the Hampshire/Surrey border district. Stonewares are also well represented, most especially by drinking-mugs, with most of the main German and southern English factories represented from the late 15th century onwards. There is less of some finewares than at most other post-medieval sites of the region, however, in that the collections of tin-glazed wares and porcelain are meagre and there is a complete absence of Martincamp and similar flasks.

Later post-medieval assemblages are supplemented by Staffordshire white salt-glazed tableware, and then creamware; but other common types, such as Staffordshire feather-slipped earthenware and butter-pot ware, are represented by very few sherds. Although the presence of refined sherds of 'china' attest to a 19th century usage of the site, a broad impression is that the main occupation sequence had ended in the last decades of the 18th century.

Summary catalogue

Key to the abbreviations used in the summary catalogue and tables:

MEDIEVAL

S2	Shelly ware
Q2	Grey/brown sandy ware
GQ2	As above, but coarser.
WW1A	Coarse whiteware
WW1B	Finer whiteware
WW3TG	Tudor Green
RWW1A/B	Red/Whitewares
BQ	Buff ware

POST-MEDIEVAL

RW	Redware
WW3	Whiteware
Tingl	Tin-glazed
Stone	Stoneware
SWSS	Staffs salt-glazed tableware
Porc	Porcelain
Cream	Creamware
China	

Phase 1: Bronze Age

A few prehistoric sherds were found widely dispersed across the site in medieval or later contexts, and among them are some of Bronze Age types. Six are of CALC calcined flint-gritted ware (7.00+, 7.006, 7.011, 27.028, 28.002 x 2), including a plain, simple rim and one sherd that is burnished inside and out; and four of CALC/Q with some additional (or inherent) sand (7.007, 18.006, 33.002), including a similar simple rim.

Another Bronze Age vessel is represented by *c* twenty joining sherds marked as having been found in late medieval layer 27.022. Since this directly overlay natural, however, the sherds could have lain *in situ* at its base, or within a shallow, undetected feature dug to accommodate it, and its contents might have been a cremation burial. The vessel is in CALC coarse calcined flint-gritted ware, and has a simple, upright and gently rounded rim. It must have been relatively small, since the diameter of its base angle is *c* 12cm.

Phase 2: Iron Age

Of two positively identified sherds, one includes the sharply-angled shoulder of a fineware bowl in CALC calcined flint-tempered ware that is burnished inside and out and has a row of diagonal slashes below the carination (7.00+). The other is a body sherd with a temper of glauconitic grains, like many others of Iron Age date from the region (2.009).

Phase 3: Roman

The two Roman sherds from the site, as well as those of early to mid-Saxon date (see below) cannot be taken as proof of settlement, although it is noteworthy that they are from trenches 19, 20 and 21, where most of the late Saxon and early medieval sherds were also found. One of the Roman body sherds is of sandy greyware (19.023) Alice Holt/Farnham greyware, and the other is from a *Verulamium*-type mortarium (20.007).

Phase 4: Early to mid-Saxon

Two body sherds of grass/chaff-tempered ware (20.018, 21.001) are likely to be from handmade vessels of Saxon style.

Phase 5: Late Saxon and early medieval

Later Saxon and early post-Conquest material includes nine sherds of chalky, flinty and poly-tempered fabrics likely to be of 11th and early 12th century date, and eighteen of the coarse sand-gritted GQ2 fabric thought to be as early, and precursal, within the series of the Q2 grey/brown sandy ware tradition (see below). No context assemblages were found, however, in which any of these sherds were not accompanied by those of later types.

Only one sherd of SNC 'Saxo-Norman Chalky' ware was recovered (19.012): a sherd, probably from a cooking pot, with roughly equal proportions of chalk or tufa, crushed flint and quartz sand. There is also a single sherd of FLQ ware with flint and some sand that is part of a simple everted rim from a hand-formed cooking pot (12.001). Other poly-tempered fabrics predominantly tempered with standard-sized quartz sand grains are represented by two sherds of QFL, with moderate amounts of flint (19.102, 21.001), including another simple everted rim of a cooking pot; and three of QFL2 with some chalk or tufa inclusions (25.002, 27.022), including the rims of two more simple, everted cooking pot rims.

Twenty other sherds are predominantly tempered with relatively large quartz sand grains (*c* 10–30mm) of which two, of type GQ1, also include sparse flint and chalk/tufa (19.121). The remainder, of fabric GQ2, includes the simple everted or end-thickened rims of five cooking pots (19.154, 20.011, 21.001, 21.003, 25.002, 19.121) and body sherds from similar vessels (15.001, 19.091, 20.00+, 25.001, 6.013).

Phase 7: 13th century

Early fills of Ditch 3 (7.023, 18.008, 19.140, 20.017, 27.035, 28.009): 41 sherds including seven of S2, 23 of Q2 and eleven of WW1A. The sherds of S2 include a club-beaded rim of a cooking pot. Those of whiteware include a combed and green-glazed sherd and another with part of a vertical raised strip.

Phase 9: Later 14th/first half of 15th century

Pottery pre-dating hearth 19.133 comprises an odd mix of six sherds from layer 19.154 immediately below the tiles of the hearth. It includes a late medieval-type RWW1B sherd and part of a late medieval bifid rim in

WW1B, but also two sherds of Q2 including the rim of a cooking pot, the rim of another, more crudely made, cooking pot in GQ2 and a sherd of S2 shelly ware. All but the two of later types are almost certainly residual.

Phase 10: Later 15th/early 16th century

Pottery related to the latest tile-on-edge hearth (19.004, 19.006, 19.065, 19.069, 19.121, 19.126, 19.145): 561 sherds (5.59kg; 5.05 EVEs), of which 80% is of whiteware fabrics and 5% of 'red/whiteware' (by count). Most of the remaining 15% represent a residual mix of wares that were most common during the 12th–14th centuries, but the exceptions are eight sherds of transitional RQ redware from 19.065 including part of the everted rim of an unglazed cooking pot or cauldron. Featured sherds among the residual material include everted rim sherds from three cooking pots in S2, seven in Q2 and part of another in GQ2; and at least seven 'early-type' cooking pot rims (everted, and with round or club-beaded terminals) in WW1A coarse whiteware (19.065, 19.069, 19.121, 19.126). The Q2 greyware also includes eight base sherds with internal green-glazing, two glazed jug sherds including one rilled and part of a stabbed strap handle. A fine sherd with white slip and clear glaze from 19.065 may derive from a residual jug.

As well as the 'early types', WW1A and B whiteware from the larger context assemblages of 19.065 and 19.121 also include parts of the flanged rims from at least five, later medieval-style, larger (*c* 25/30–40+cm diameter), pancheon-type cooking pots with splash-glazing, and the rims of two bowls: one flanged and the other beaded. Jugs are also represented by four rim sherds, a vertically combed sherd in Farnborough Hill-style, a slashed strap handle and other glazed body sherds; from 19.006 there is part of another slashed strap handle as well as one from a skillet. This same floor context also contained a body sherd with a red slip stripe in WW1B, which is from a jug or cistern. Part of the bunghole of such a late medieval form was found in 19.121, but in WW1A fabric. All but one of the 21 sherds of Tudor Green whiteware mugs/cups also came from floor contexts 19.065 and 19.121, including three handle fragments and part of a rim; as did 21 of the 27 sherds of the hybrid RWW1B fabric. The latter included part of a slashed and punctured strap handle.

Pottery from Pit 1 (12.001): 36 sherds (0.29kg; 0.20 EVEs) including two of Raeren stoneware and the rest of late medieval/transitional white or red/whiteware. There are also six sherds of redware and seven of whiteware, however, that are more likely to be of post-medieval than earlier manufacture. Featured sherds include the rims of a cooking pot and a jug in WW1A and WW1B fabrics and an unglazed, everted rim sherd in RWW1B. The transitional or early post-medieval redware includes the everted rim of a small vessel (11cm diameter) with splash glaze, and the simple, unglazed rim of a lid. Both may be of 16th century date, as could most of the other sherds in the assemblage.

Pottery from Ditch 2 (1.004, 1.008, 8.005, 19.062, 19.070–089, 19.097–116, 19.132, 19.138, 20.007, 27.024, 27.026, 27.033, 27.034, 28.002–10, 33.002): 1917 sherds (31.98kg; 18.23 EVEs), of which 66% (C)

and 63% (W, E) are of WW1A and B together, and another 2% (C, E) of RWW1B. Most sherds of coarse whiteware, and perhaps all of the 598 sherds of 'earlier' fabrics (largely of S2 and Q2), are residual. They include ten rim sherds of S2, including seven from cooking pots (1.004, 19.062, 19.108, 27.026, 28.004), two from bowls (19.109, 19.110) and a possible fire cover (19.107).

Between 27% (C) and 32% (W) of the assemblage is of Q2, including 43 rim sherds of cooking pots and thirteen of larger storage jars. Two of the latter have single incised wavy lines along their everted necks (19.076, 19.103); two cooking pots and a storage jar carry horizontal, finger-impressed applied strips along their shoulders (19.062 x 2, 19.103, 28.002). One of these storage jars also has finger-impressed rim edges, as do another storage jar and a cooking pot, (19.062, 19.103 x 2). A body sherd with scratch-marked decoration is the only such example identified from the site (27.026), which, at Guildford, is usually found on later 12th–13th century cooking pots. Bowls are represented by two examples with beaded rim sherds (19.087, 19.107) and another with an incised wavy line running round the upper interior of the body wall (19.062). Shallower bowl forms, probably those of handled skillets and/or frying-pans, are represented by two full profile sherds that are internally glazed and have beaded rims (19.076, 20.007). Four other internally glazed base sherds and part of a spout or handle (10.008) are probably also from such forms. There is only one rim from a glazed jug (28.002), and only fourteen other body sherds of Q2 are glazed, although some jugs might have been left plain. There are also fragments from two handles, both slashed, of which one is of rod section (19.132, 20.007); and a base angle has intermittent 'pie-crust' finger impressions (27.024).

One thousand two hundred and fifty-nine sherds of coarse whiteware fabrics were recovered from the ditch (20.08kg; 11.45 EVEs). Those of one context, 19.062, were not separated into WW1A and 1B fabrics (354 sherds), but in the rest WW1A was in the majority, although with a variable ratio. Thus, the relative percentages of the two fabrics among the 330 sherds (4.8kg) from contexts 19.070–089 is 95% to 5% (C) or 98% to 2% (W), and that among the 72 sherds from 28.03–10 is 64% to 36% (C) or 76% to 24% (W). There is little difference in the forms made in the two fabrics, other than that larger forms were predominantly of the coarser WW1A variant, and finer forms such as jugs were most often made in the finer WW1B type. For that reason they have been summarised together below. Pots with everted rims are classified as cooking pots where the rim diameter is less than 30cm, and storage jars where they are of greater size. Many of the later examples with rims of larger circumference than their bases are more properly classified as bowls or pancheons. There are 29 rim fragments from standard-type 'early' cooking pots (everted, and with beaded or square-beaded terminations) and thirteen larger storage jars with the same type of rims. Later examples are typified by their flanged rims and include those from eleven cooking pots and 40 storage jars, many of which are splash-glazed, mostly on the inside of the rim. Two

examples of the flanged type from 19.062 – one a cooking pot and the other a storage jar – have post-firing circular piercings below their rims; applied finger-impressed strips were noted running vertically from the neck of a cooking pot and a storage jar. Other such strips on body sherds are rare.

The third most common form after cooking pots and storage jars was the jug, even though only eleven examples are represented by rim sherds (19.062 x 5, 19.077, 19.107, 19.113 x 2, 27.024 x 2, 28.002), three by upper springs and three by lower springs (all from 19.062) of handles. Some, but not all, of the rims were glazed, though most were either splashed or covered on the exterior. Two bore parts of applied vertical strips down the neck (19.062, 19.113) and there are two body sherds with Farnborough Hill-type combed decoration (27.024, 28.003), but other modifications are largely absent. ‘Pie-crust’ base angles, for example, are uncommon. All but one of the above jug handle springs, as well as two other segments of strap type, have slashed and stabbed modification, and the only exception is a flattened rod (19.062). One other rod fragment in WW1A/B (of 1.5cm diameter) may be from a skillet (19.062), as also two other examples (19.113, 27.024). Some of the smaller cooking pots may have belonged to such a form, even, perhaps, a small bead-rimmed vessel with external glaze and a rim diameter of 8cm (19.073).

Cisterns are a typical late medieval and transitional vessel type, and are represented by two bifid rims (19.062, 19.085), both with external green glaze, parts of two bungholes (19.062 x 2), and a large part of a single green-glazed vessel (1.51kg) complete with bunghole (19.032).

Coarse whiteware bowls are represented by five flanged rims (19.077, 19.085, 19.132 x 2, 28.010), of which three display internal splash-glazing. Also in whiteware are thirteen sherds from Tudor Green cups/mugs, including part of a handle (19.081), a rim (19.081) and a body sherd decorated with a ‘blob’ (19.102); among the 35 sherds of hybrid RWW1B fabric are the rims of a cooking pot (20.007) and a splash-glazed, but otherwise unglazed, jug rim (19.087).

Other wares are represented by a sherd of Raeren stoneware (19.090) and six sherds of transitional or early post-medieval RW redware. The latter includes three flanged cooking pot rims (19.075, 19.080) and a body sherd with a reduced black surface (19.073).

Pottery from Ditch 1 (21.002–4, 25.002, 32.002): 40 sherds (0.42kg; 0.81 EVEs), of which twelve are of WW1A and 1B and five of RWW1B. Among some clearly residual material are four simple, everted rims of cooking pots in QFL and GQ2 (both from 25.002) and Q2 (21.002, 25.002). There are also two ‘standard’-type cooking pot rims in Q2, including one that is finger-impressed, and the flanged rim of another cooking pot in WW1A fabric. The only other featured sherds include a rim sherd from a TG mug/cup and a sherd of early post-medieval redware. The ditch could have been filled as late as the early 16th century.

Pottery from Ditch 3 (3.005, 4.010, 7.022, 7.025, 10.006): 64 sherds (0.80kg; 0.48 EVEs), including 50 of whiteware and five of RWW1B. Among three sherds

of S2 is the everted rim of a cooking pot (7.025), and two flanged rims in WW1A and 1B are from cooking pots (4.010, 7.022). There is also a ‘pie-crust’ base in WW1A (3.005), the full profile of a corrugated cup in TG fine whiteware (5.002), a body sherd of early post-medieval redware and six sherds of post-medieval WW3 whiteware including two handles (7.022). There is also a small sherd of Raeren stoneware. Infilling of the ditch is likely to have occurred during the 16th century.

Dark sandy layer 20.006 probably related to late use of Building 2 before a period of abandonment; over Ditch 2 levels: 164 sherds (0.88kg; 0.64 EVEs), including 120 of whiteware and another seven of RWW1B. Among 33 sherds of Q2 are four everted cooking pot rims of ‘early’ type, and seven others of WW1A and 1B. There are also five flanged rims of cooking pots in WW1A and in the same fabric are four vertically combed sherds, one with a red slip stripe and a bunghole from a cistern. The accretion of the layer probably ceased in the late 15th or early 16th century.

Pottery from general levels within the area of building 2 (27.022, 27.025): 62 sherds (0.88kg; 0.64 EVEs), including 35 of whiteware and five of RWW1B. Residual material included the everted rim of a cooking pot in QFL fabric, and among the 21 sherds of Q2 are the rims of three ‘early’ type cooking pots including one finger-impressed, another pierced through the collar. Another rim of Q2 and another in WW1A are from storage jars, of which the latter is flanged. There is also the rim of a jug in WW1B and part of a flanged bowl in RWW1B. A rim of ‘Metropolitan’-style slipped redware is almost certainly an 18th century intrusion. The layer is probably of later medieval or early post-medieval date.

Featured sherds from other phase 10 contexts: these include the rims of cooking pots in S2 (1.006) and Q2 (19.123), and the body wall of a bowl in the latter fabric with a horizontal finger-impressed strip (5.003). In WW1A are the rims of two ‘early’-type cooking pots (19.123, 20.002) and a flanged storage jar with a neck piercing and splashed glaze (19.117); the rim of a mug/cup in TG (19.117) and a body sherd from a closed form (19.123). There is also the everted rim of a cooking pot or cauldron in RWW1B (27.020), a bifid rim in the same fabric (20.002) and several sherds of a fine whiteware Saintonge jug with canary yellow glaze (27.020).

Phase 12: 17th century

Earliest levels within Building 3 (6.013–015, 11.021): fourteen sherds (0.29kg; 0.36 EVEs), including eleven sherds of transitional RW redware and three other residual sherds of GQ2. The redware includes the everted rims of two cauldron-type vessels, both with internally splashed clear glaze (6.014, 11.021). Probably of 16th century date.

Building 3 demolition levels (6.005, 6.007, 11.020, 15.002): 1218 sherds (28.68kg), of which 77% (C) and 80% (W) are of post-medieval redware fabrics and 13% (C) and 10% (EVEs) are of WW3 whiteware.

THE SMALL FINDS, by Kathryn Ayres

Securely dated finds were recovered from phases 10 and 12, the majority from the latter period being retrieved from Building 3. The assemblage from phase 10 was small and contained few personal/domestic items: only one buckle/strap end and one knife tang. A possible spear ferrule was also identified as was a pewter spoon fragment and hasp/hinge strap, but the remainder of the finds consisted of plate and strip fragments and a lump of copper alloy.

Phase 12 produced a larger assemblage of finds, both in quantity and range. Building 3 produced a small assemblage that included pins, a thimble, a decorated strip fragment which is thought to have been a book clasp, together with a hooked tag on which fragments of textile survived, and a key. Items from contexts other than those within Building 3 include pins, purse bars, a belt slider and buckles. Two pewter spoons and five knives were recorded, with both whittle and scale tangs (some of which were made of bone and also survived). Two other fittings were recorded that may also have been originally parts of knives or other utensils. A small number of strip and hook fittings were identified, the functions of which are discussed below. Finally, among those items for which no function could be identified was a small glass animal head.

Finds that are comparable to varying degrees have been recovered from various post-medieval sites in London (Ward-Perkins 1940), Winchester (Biddle 1990) and Norwich (Margeson 1993), with the closest site being the manor of Hextalls, Little Pickle in Bletchingley, Surrey (Huson 1998).

Dress accessories

Dress accessories recorded from Sutton Park include buckles and strap-ends as well as a possible decorative belt slider. Three double loop buckle frames were recorded: two with flat backs and one that was angled. These are common forms and the majority of those found have been of post-medieval date (Cunningham & Drury 1985, fig 26, nos 11, 12 & 15; Margeson 1993, fig 16, no 172), having appeared in the last years of the 15th century (Ward-Perkins 1940, 278). Although many were undecorated, others are decorated with cast rosettes or simpler lobes at the junction of the bar and frame as seen at Sutton Park. Strap-end buckles had a number of uses, from belt-buckles to the fastening of plate-armour (Ward-Perkins 1940, 271). No parallel has yet been found for the belt slider.

Metal purse frames such as the two identified at Sutton Park were also popular from the 15th century onwards (Margeson 1993, 40). The bag would have hung from these bars, which themselves would have been attached to a belt by the central loop. Following the terminology of the London Museum Medieval Catalogue, the purses identified here are of type A, subtype A4 (Ward-Perkins 1940, 162), which have integral attachment holes in the bar with frames to keep the purse expanded. The majority of surviving metal purse-frames in London are thought to belong to the period *c* 1475–1550 (Ward-Perkins 1940, 160), but those at Norwich were found within a 17th century context.

Pins

Two basic types of copper-alloy pin have been found at medieval and post-medieval sites – those with solid heads and those with wound wire heads. Both of these were introduced in London at a similar period (Egan & Pritchard 1991, 299). Those with larger, solid heads and thicker shanks would have been more suited to fastening outer garments, whereas the finer, wire-wound pins may have been used to secure veils and hair (Egan & Pritchard 1991, 297) and were used in dressmaking and tailoring (Biddle 1990, 560, 564). During the 16th and 17th centuries there was an increased demand for smaller, finer pins (Margeson 1993, 11), when they were needed in large numbers for ruffs, pleated and finely-folded head-dresses

and with finer fabrics in general (Woodfield 1981, 91, cat 35d). [Additional note by David Bird: several pieces of bronze wire were found at Sutton Park, which were probably used as stiffeners for various items of clothing. A good example is SF60 (from 6.005, Building 3), two long pieces of thick wire looped back on themselves in a manner very reminiscent of the strengthening wire used for 16th century female head-dresses (Staniland 1998, 74–5)].

Knives and handles

Both scale and whittle-tang knife blades were recorded, as well as fragments of handles. In a few cases, traces of wooden scales still attached to the tang were identified during X-ray and cleaning, while three examples of bone handles (one scale, two whittle) were also present. Within the Little Pickle report (Huson 1998, 111–37), knives were placed between the ‘personal possessions’ and ‘household equipment’ sections because of their changing status during this period. Instead of being carried about by their owners in scabbards, knives were now being stored where they were needed (Grew 1987). As with those at Little Pickle, most of the blades were made of iron and had single cutting edges.

Domestic items

A variety of other domestic articles were present. The thimble would have been used in conjunction with the pins noted above. They were common items, and similar examples with punched oval pits have been found in London (Egan 1998, 265), Winchester (Biddle 1990, 811) and Norwich (Margeson 1993, 187–8), all dated to the 17th century.

The key is of type III (Ward-Perkins 1940, 136) and would have been used in a mounted or cased lock, and from its size it was most likely used on a chest or similar secure item. It is an indication of expensive/highly valued possessions on the site during this period.

Pewter spoons were used throughout the medieval period. The hexagonal stem, a common feature of spoons dated to the 14th–16th centuries, usually terminated in a decorative knob, although none of the spoons at Sutton Park survived to this length. Where bowl shape could be determined, they appeared to be round, a form which emerged in the late medieval period (Biddle 1990, 832). Makers’ marks, as seen on the bowls of two of the spoons, were common although the preservation of the spoons does not allow the marks to be identified clearly.

Glass vessels were recorded (together with fragments of wine bottles) but unfortunately no forms could be determined.

Fittings/strip fragments

An assortment of fittings and mounts were identified, the most decorative recovered from phase 12. These would have been used for a variety of purposes including book clasps and mounts for chests/caskets. Such mounts could be used purely as decoration or to cover unsightly joints, and are found widely on castle sites (Brenan 1998, 69). Gilding seems to be characteristic, and elaborate engraved scroll/foliate designs appear on three sheet mounts from London (Brenan 1998, 65–87), and were probably from caskets or other small boxes.

It is thought that strip fragment SF189 may have been a book clasp, an object common from the late Middle Ages onwards. Of the four recorded from Winchester (Biddle 1990, 755), three were from the 16th century or later. Those of the early post-medieval period were riveted in position on the cover to keep the book closed, with a sprung backplate on the reverse and a hook at the other end. They are often decorated with engraved lines forming herring-bone patterns, with rocker-arm ornament or with stamped concentric circles.

Hooked tag (SF96) is unusual as it retained a small fragment of silvered textile. This type of tag was well known in the Late Anglo-Saxon period and had a revival in the 16th century when they were cast and highly decorated (Margeson 1993, 17). Similar ones were found in 17th century contexts in Norwich and are thought to have been used for many purposes associated with clothes fastening and accessories (Margeson 1993, 17, fig 8, nos 72 and 73).

A number of other fittings and fastenings were recovered for which no exact purpose could be determined but are likely to have been associated with small pieces of furniture, chests etc.

Other items

No comparanda have been found for the glass animal head (SF68). The closest example found was a hollow body of a quadruped made of glass and excavated in London (Egan 1998, 237, fig 186 no 703), but no parallels had been found for this either. Drinking glasses with the fore-parts of pig-like animals are known on the Continent in the 16th century (Egan 1998, 237) but it cannot be said that either of the English fragments came from vessels. Other finds such as the ring and file are common objects that would have had a number of uses.

Small finds catalogue

For each entry in the catalogue a description of the item is followed by measurements, context number and phase. Some of the entries also contain references for comparative items; those with numbers in bold italics are illustrated (colour pls 7-9).

Abbreviations:

ave	average	d	diameter
ht	height	L	length
max	maximum	min	minimum
surv	surviving	th	thickness
w	width		

COINS

Four coins and a jetton were recovered in the excavation and are listed in table 2.

COPPER ALLOY (colour pl 7)

Dress accessories

- SF46** Decorative belt slider. Design appeared to be a fleur-de-lis within a decorative diamond border, with the whole of the front of the fitting gilded. L 24mm; w 14mm; ht of 'arms' 16mm. 6.007. Phase 12.
- SF59** Double loop buckle frame. Oval loops, with angled frame. Pin present. L 50mm; w 37mm; bar 1 36.5mm; pin L 25.5mm (cf Margeson 1993, fig 16, no 172). 6.005. Phase 12.

SF130 Double loop buckle frame. Oval loops, with flat frame. Considerable areas of the loop, particularly on the back were covered with what appeared to be black paint (gloss). L 49.5mm; bar L 28.5mm, bar w 2.5mm (cf Margeson 1993, fig 16, no 172). 6.005. Phase 12.

SF205 Double loop buckle frame. Oval loops, with bent frame. Three fragments of iron pin are present. Similar shape to SF130, and also appeared to have a layer of black paint on the loop. File marks are present on most of the edges. L 42mm; loop d 28mm. 11.020. Phase 12.

SF290 Buckle/strap end with plates. Rectangular frame, with plate folded back over itself and secured with rivet. Frame has parallel grooved line decoration. Pin missing. Total L 44mm; Frame 19.5mm x 17mm, th 2.5mm. 19.083. Phase 10.

Pins

- SF34 Pin with head made from a piece of wire twisted and smoothed round one end of the shaft. L 38mm; head d 2.5mm. 6.003. Building 3.
- SF35 Pin with large spherical head. L shaft when straight 47mm; d head 5mm. 6.003. Building 3.
- SF192 Pin. Long shaft with a small head made from a short piece of wire wound round the shaft. Total L pin 109mm; ave shaft d 1mm; ave head d 2.5mm. 11.020. Phase 12.

Table 2 Coins and jetton

Material	Trench	Context	SF No	Date	Comments
Silver	7	019	124	Medieval	Longcross halfpenny of Henry VII
Silver	19	121	300	Medieval	Longcross penny
Copper alloy	7	001	105	1636-44	'Rose farthing' of Charles I
Copper alloy	7	021	127	1636-44	'Rose farthing' of Charles I
Brass	19	00+	220	Later C15/C16	Nuremberg jetton

Domestic items

- SF95** Thimble, with spiral-applied rectangular punched dots above a single incised line border. White metal plating present over much of its surface. Base d 16mm; top d 12mm; ht 17mm; metal th 0.5mm (cf Biddle 1990, fig 235, no 2489, dated to late 17th century). 6.00+. Building 3.
- SF110** Brass thimble, copper alloy probably brass. The upper zone carries impressed dots arranged in a spiral pattern; the lower zone has three bands of decoration defined by plain cordons. The shallow upper and lower bands are filled with pairs of horizontal crescents set back to back, with dots in the concavities. The wider central band has beaded medallions with chevrons set in the spandrels between them; each medallion has a plain inner circle containing a vine-like leaf. The shape and decoration are characteristic of brass thimbles made at Nuremberg in the mid-later 16th century. [This entry: text by Joanna Bird, based only on a photograph and therefore measurements not possible. The object was lost not long after excavation in an unlit car park while being taken to an exhibition]. 7.008.

Strip fragments

- SF43** Gilded brass strip fragment, possibly part of a tomb inscription (but see *Discussion*, below). Decorated with a holly leaf and three letters, perhaps BRA, after which the strip was broken. The letter 'R' had a hole crudely punched through it from behind. Dated by John Blair (1984) to the first quarter of the 16th century. 6.007. Phase 12.
- SF189 Decorated strip fragment, possibly book clasp. Two incised circles contained a hole each, and X-ray showed the presence of third, possibly rivet hole, without the surrounding circle. Parallel lines were incised either side of the third hole, with two zig-zag lines across the strip between the third hole and the end of the object. L 51.5mm; w 18mm; ave th 0.6mm (cf Biddle 1990, fig 215, no 2326; dated to the 15th–16th centuries). 11.00+. Building 3.
- SF298 Perforated plate fragment. The one edge of the fragment that was not a break edge appeared to have a slight curve, indicating that the fragment was from a perforated disc. Three perforations present. L 37.5mm; max w 10mm; th 2.5mm; ave d perforations 3.5mm. 20.007. Phase 10.

Hooked tag

- SF96** Hooked tag with silvered textile fragments. The tag was perforated with ten small holes, presumably for decorative purposes only. L 38.5mm; max w 18.5mm; th 4mm. Two fragments of textile were recovered, one

attached through the rectangular slot of the tag, the other loose. Some of the threads of the fragments could be seen to have traces of white metal foil strips wound around them, probably silver. When the fibres of the thread were closely examined at x300, it was identified as silk. Both textile fragments were simple tabby weave (compact warp, widely spaced weft), S-spun thread in both systems (medium twist). Traces of ?silver foil were present round warp and weft threads of both. *Attached fragment*: warp 38–40 threads/cm; thread d 0.1–0.2mm; weft 6–7 threads/cm, thread d 0.3–0.4mm. *Loose textile fragment* was a piece of ribbon or tape. L c 5mm; w c 8mm (original width). Warp 36 threads/cm, d 0.2mm; weft 6 threads/cm, d < 0.5mm (cf Biddle 1990, fig 149, no 1428; Margeson 1993, fig 8, nos 72 & 73, dated to the 17th century). 6.00+. Building 3.

Other items

- SF93** Decorative fitting/handle. Hollow and hexagonal in cross-section, with two opposite faces being wider than the other four, and remains of gilding on some. Each of the six sides displayed incised decoration; two of the smaller ones were decorated with incised chevrons; the other two with diagonal parallel lines. The two larger faces had abstract designs cut in them. A line of white metal solder was revealed showing that the object was made from a single sheet of copper alloy, with the edge of solder flaring out at one end of the object. L 26mm; cross section l 10.5mm–15mm, w 7mm. 6.005. Phase 12. [Additional note by David Bird: further research suggests that this is a knife handle and that the decoration on the larger faces represents standing figures. A very close parallel was recently found with a metal detector near Effingham and identified by Geoff Egan of the Museum of London as a 15th century Dutch product (SUR-592F76 in the Portable Antiquities Scheme database; David Williams kindly supplied this information)].
- SF203 Ring. Hexagonal cross-section, with file marks round the ring on the outermost surfaces. D min 29mm, max 31mm. 11.020. Phase 12.
- SF294 Lump. X-ray revealed no detail. L 17.5mm; w 17.5mm. 19.132. Phase 10.

COPPER ALLOY AND IRON

- SF314 Knife scale tang made of iron, with end cap (identified through XRF as brass with a trace of lead present) and three copper-alloy rivets. Substantial traces of mineral-preserved organic material which may have been wood were present on the scale plates. 6.005. Phase 12.

IRON (colour pl 8)

Personal items

- SF70** Iron purse bars, with swivelling loops. X-ray showed presence of four holes through each mount (two either side of the central loop fitting) through which the fabric or leather purse would have been attached. At each end of the main bar mounts were looped fittings that presumably were originally able to move around the bar. Purse bar 1: L bar 155mm; d bar 10mm; ave d holes 2.5-3mm. Purse bar 2: L bar 146mm; d bar 8mm; ave d holes 2mm. Are of type A (Ward-Perkins 1940, 159), dated to the late 15th/early 16th century. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF132 Buckle, with rectangular single loop frame. Loop folded back over the plates, which were pierced with a nail. L 49.5mm; w 18mm; nail l 26mm. 6.005. Phase 12.

Knives

- SF64** Knife, with tip of the blade missing. X-ray revealed a number of features including the presence of a copper-alloy inlaid maker's mark (illegible) on the blade. The handle had a decorative finial with three circular 'plates', and terminated in a circular knob. Four panels of wood were riveted further towards the blade, each pair held by two rivets. The panels were attached like scale plates, with the second pair set at right angles to the first. Overall L 153mm; L handle 73mm. Wooden panels: ave L 22mm, ave w 6mm. 6.007. Phase 12.
- SF74** Knife, with scale tang. X-ray showed presence of shoulder plate, either non-ferrous or attached by non-ferrous solder (appeared to be made of white metal), as well as presence of three rivet holes through the scale tang. Overall L 215mm; surv L handle 76.5mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF195 Knife blade and scale tang (incomplete). X-ray indicated the possible presence of maker's mark on the blade (not inlaid). Edge of a rivet present on the scale tang break edge. Surv L 126mm. 11.020. Phase 12.
- SF317 Knife scale tang (very small) fragment. X-ray showed presence of two rivets, which appeared to be iron, and considerable traces of mineral-replaced horn present on both sides of the fragment, probably fragments of scale. Surv L 41mm; w 15.5mm. 6.007. Phase 12.
- SF345 Knife scale tang. Two copper-alloy rivets were present, and traces of mineral-replaced wood were observed in several areas on both sides of the tang. X-ray also revealed an end cap that extended down the edges of the tang. L 60mm; w 15mm. 12.001. Phase 10.

Fittings

- SF55** Decorative hook fitting. Opposite end to hook are two shaped terminals, each with two rivets. Traces of what may have been leather were found on the back in several areas, indicating that the object may originally have been attached to a leather strap. L 53mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF175** Decorative fitting. One end looped over to secure free-moving ring, and secured with rivet. Triangular terminal present at other end, also with rivet. Possible mineral-replaced organic material present. L 87mm; loop d 13mm. 15.002. Phase 12.
- SF252 Three strip fragments, slightly curved. One of the fragments had a nail through it (although only the head and part of the shaft were present), with a small fragment of copper-alloy sheet present between the nail head and the strip. L 69mm, 85mm, 26mm. 19.062. Phase 10.
- SF389 Hasp/hinge strap. Twisted and misshapen. Small traces of what may have been tinning were present in several areas on the object. 25.002. Phase 10.

Other items

- SF23 Key with oval bow. Hollow shank and separately applied bit. Small traces of plating present on the ward. Junction of shaft and bow thicker than rest of shaft. L 52mm; bow d 24mm; bit 13mm x 12.5mm. 6.00+. Building 3.
- SF41 File. Scale tang with four rivet holes and traces of what may have been very degraded mineral-replaced organic material. Some of the teeth (irregularly spaced) were visible after cleaning, particularly on one edge. File had a rectangular cross-section and there was a possible bolster between the handle and blade. L 195mm; w handle 11-17mm, tapering to 7mm at end of blade (broken); bolster 11mm x 5mm. 6.017. Phase 12.
- SF172 Iron ?spear ferrule. X-ray revealed traces of copper-alloy plating both on the inside and outside of the ferrule around the upper end. Surv L 42mm; max w 16mm. 12.001. Phase 10.

LEAD (colour pl 9)

- SF40 Window came fragments. Five fragments of lead window comes, found in a very squashed and distorted condition. Few corrosion products present on the comes, with the surfaces in good condition beneath the soil. 6.017. Phase 12.
- SF193** Unidentified lead object. Circular shaft, developing into four thinner/smaller 'stems' at one end. All are broken, and two are curled over. 11.020. Phase 12.

PEWTER (colour pl 9)

- SF42** Pewter spoon fragment. Only small portion of bowl and stem remain, with the stem bent almost at right angles near the end of the fragment. 6.007. Phase 12.
- SF56 Pewter spoon fragment. Maker's stamp in the form of a spoked wheel present on the small remaining part of the bowl. Stem is hexagonal in cross-section. Total surv L 83mm; d stem 6mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF65 Pewter spoon fragment. Surviving part of the bowl suggests it was round in shape. Maker's stamp present, but difficult to read or identify. Stem is hexagonal in cross-section. Surv L 122mm; d stem 6mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF404 Pewter spoon stem fragment, hexagonal in cross-section. D stem 6mm. 27.026. Phase 10.

BONE (colour pl 9)

Knife handles

- SF73** Decorative knife handle fragment, with carved spiral pattern. Surv L 65mm; th of bone 1–2mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF92** Knife handle scale plate, with three rivet holes drilled through. The inside surface of the scale retained patches of iron staining, with saw marks clearly visible along the edges and on both ends. L 92mm; th 9mm; w at min 14.5mm; w at max 28mm; d rivet holes 3mm. 6.005. Phase 12.
- SF215** Decorative knife handle fragment, whittletang. Carved diamond decoration; diamonds carved deeper into the bone, leaving ridges outlining them. Made of sheep metapodial. Surv L 41mm; d 14mm; max th of bone 3mm. 11.020. Phase 12.

Bung

- SF162** Bone bung. Hole was present through the centre of the bung and circular marks on the top and bottom surfaces appeared to indicate that the object had been held in a turning machine of some sort during shaping. Sides of the bung were not rounded but consisted of many small facets, showing that the sides had been cut or sawn. H 24mm; max d at top 29mm; d hole 7mm. 10.010. Phase 10.

IVORY (colour pl 9)

- SF44** Acorn-shaped decorative finial made of ivory, possibly knife handle? Five plates present at the base of the finial, four of copper alloy with the one closest to the ivory made of iron. Conservation showed that mineral-preserved horn was present between the plates. Ht incl plates 35mm; d acorn 18.5mm x 14mm.

GLASS (colour pl 9)

A total of 1474 fragments of glass were initially collected from the excavations (134 vessel, 777 bottle, 525 window and 38 modern fragments). Those recovered from features dated to phases 9, 10 and 12 were 48 fragments of bottles, six fragments of other vessels and 39 sherds of window glass.

Glass object

- SF68** Glass animal head, possibly representing a bear. Appeared to have been made of poorly fused, opaque, light blue glass but with a smooth, slightly lustrous surface that was very dark. Head was hollowed out at the back, and was probably made in a mould. D head min 24mm, max 25mm; th of glass min 2mm, max 7mm. 6.005. Phase 12.

Window glass

The 39 fragments of window glass were recovered from six contexts, with the majority (24 fragments) from context 6.005. They ranged in thickness from 1.5 to 3mm and were generally in a stable state, and although the glass had been weathered, there was little flaking. None was decorated, but on one fragment a fine line was scored parallel and approximately 2mm in from the edge. Lead came was also identified (eg SF40) which would have kept the panes of glass in place.

Bottle glass

Twenty-nine fragments of bottle glass were retrieved from 6.005 and a further nine from 11.020. The size, shape and glass thickness of the bottles varied widely, as did the relative weathering of the sherds. A small number of wide-rimmed bottles/jars were identified. Joining parts of one were found within contexts 6.005 and 11.020, and although weathered dark brown/green, were fairly stable in composition. The glass was 3mm thick and the vessel had a rim diameter of 110mm. Part of the shoulder was present under the short rim, although no body diameter could be determined. Another smaller, wide-mouthed jar was present, with thinner glass and smaller diameters. Two rims of thinner-necked bottles were identified, together with two straight neck fragments. Three bases were recorded, two with kicks (one from 6.007, the other from 11.020). The remaining 29 were body fragments from a number of different bottles; some were clear with silver/white/gold iridescent weathering, others were olive or had green tints and were weathered to a much darker colour.

Other vessel glass

Six sherds of glass from vessels other than bottles were identified. Unfortunately, all were very small and the shape and type of the vessels could not be determined. These were generally of thinner glass than the bottles and were of colourless or green tinted glass.

THE ANIMAL BONE, by Kathryn Ayres

Introduction

A total of 3763 fragments of animal bone were collected from the excavations. However, as many of the features had been disturbed and could not be securely dated, a large number were excluded from this analysis. A reduced number of 1721 fragments were recorded from dated contexts from phases 7, 9, 10 and 12, with the largest number from phase 12, the demolition layers of Building 3 (table 3). In this phase there was a large quantity of fallow deer antler as well as bones of wild and domestic animals.

Condition of the bone

The condition of the bone was graded on a scale of 1 to 5 for each context, the grade system being from 1 (excellent/very good, little post-depositional damage) to 5 (identified only as bone). The majority of the bone was in medium to good condition with many diagnostic elements identified to species, and data such as butchery and gnawing being retained. The bone from phase 12 was in particularly good condition with little graded as 3 or below.

Methodology

Fragments were recorded using a zoning method following Serjeantson (1991), zones being recorded when over 50% was present. Sheep and goat fragments could not be distinguished from one another, apart from the mandibles, and although both species may have been present they have been referred to below as sheep. Those fragments that could not be identified to species level were classified as 'cattle-size', 'sheep-size' or 'unidentified'. The total number of fragments (NISP) was calculated for all species and minimum number of individuals (MNI) calculated for the more frequent domestic species, apart from in phase 12 when it was also calculated for fallow deer. Wear stages were recorded for the permanent lower molars of cattle, sheep and pig (Grant 1982) and grouped into age stages following the methods of Halstead (1985), Payne (1973) and O'Connor (1988). The fusion stage of post-cranial bones was recorded and related age ranges taken from Getty (1975).

The assemblage (tables 4 and 5)

The small numbers of bone fragments recovered from the earlier two phases (phases 7 and 9) provide very little information and are only discussed briefly here. The report concentrates on the larger assemblages recovered from features dating to the late 15th/early 16th century (phase 10) and the demolition layers of Building 3 in the 17th century (phase 12).

Phase 7 (13th century)

Nineteen fragments were recovered, seven of which could be identified. Two were of cattle, three of 'cattle-size' mammals, one pig and one bird (possibly domestic fowl). Two of the bones were gnawed and a cattle mandible displayed a cut mark.

Table 3 Total number of animal bone fragments in each phase

Phase	Date	No
7	13th century	19
9	Later 14th century	8
10	Late 15th /early 16th century	441
12	17th century	1253
Total		1721

Table 4 Number of Identified Species (NISP)

Species	Phase				Total
	7	9	10	12	
Cattle	2	2	78	114	196
Sheep/goat	—	1	28	84	113
Pig	1	2	19	44	66
Horse	—	—	6	10	16
Red deer	—	—	—	1	1
Fallow deer	—	1	5	321	327
Roe deer	—	—	—	1	1
Hare	—	—	1	11	12
Rodent	—	—	1	2	3
Domestic fowl	—	—	1	3	4
Bird	1	—	6	4	11
Fish	—	—	1	3	4
Cattle size	3	—	124	239	366
Sheep size	—	—	50	118	168
Unidentified	12	2	121	298	433
Total	19	8	441	1253	1721

Table 5 Minimum Numbers of Individuals (MNI) for selected species

Phase	Cattle	Sheep	Pig	Horse	Fallow deer
10	5	2	2	1	1
12	5	11	5	1	14

Phase 9 (later 14th century)

Two cattle, one sheep and two pig bones were identified, the latter being mandibles, one containing a female canine, the other aged as mature. A single fallow deer metacarpal was also recorded. No butchery or other taphonomic data were present on any of the bones.

Phase 10 (later 15th to early 16th century)

The assemblage from phase 10 consisted of 441 bone fragments, recovered from ditches. The condition of the bones varied from grades 1 through to 5, with the majority graded as 3. A total of 146 fragments could be identified to species and element, with a further 174 identified as bones from cattle- or sheep-sized mammals. Domestic species dominated, with cattle totalling 53% of the identified fragments, sheep 19%, pig 13% and horse 4%. When minimum numbers were calculated cattle were still the most frequent, but there was only a small difference between all the species quantified. Other species identified include fallow deer (five fragments), hare and rodent (one fragment each). Seven bird bones were recorded, one of which was identified as domestic fowl, the other remaining unidentified, and one fish bone.

The five cattle mandibles recorded were aged from young adult through to senile, with no very young animals represented. Fusion data also indicated the slaughter of young adult animals. Although all parts of the body were present (including parts of the head such as mandibles and teeth), the majority of the bones recorded were the meatier limb bones.

The sheep assemblage consisted of only 28 bones, and ageing data were therefore limited. Two mandibles were recorded, one from an animal under the age of one year, the other from one killed between the ages of 3–4 years. Head fragments and teeth were the most numerous, although meatier limb bones were also present, with a small number of extremities.

The nineteen bones of pig included one subadult animal, and two canine teeth that could be identified as female.

Six fragments of horse were recorded, consisting of three metapodials, a radius, incisor and a first phalanx. All bones were fused, indicating adult animal(s).

The only deer present in this period was fallow: two pieces of antler and three limb bones. A single hare bone was identified, as was a rodent humerus (of unidentified species).

Discussion of phase 10

This phase is thought to represent the revival of the manor, and it is therefore disappointing that the quantity of securely stratified animal bone is so low. The bones from these ditch contexts cannot provide a complete view of husbandry or diet during this period, but can give an idea of the general refuse from around the manor-house and its grounds. Documentary evidence shows that the estate functioned as a working farm and mentions the presence of cowsheds and a dairy barn in earlier periods. The animal bone did not produce any direct evidence for dairying during the late 15th–16th centuries; rather, the age of slaughter of cattle and the frequency of the better meat-producing bones suggests meat production was important. The presence of older animals suggests that some cattle would also have been used as working animals for traction, before being killed. The numbers of sheep and pig are too small for any conclusions to be drawn about husbandry practices. Butchery marks were infrequent on the bones, but again the predominance of animals of prime meat-producing age, and of the meatier bones of the body, suggests that meals would consist of tender meat which included beef, lamb, mutton and pork, with chicken and fish supplementing these. Although few bones of deer were recorded, it is also likely that venison was eaten.

Phase 12 (17th century)

This phase produced the greatest quantity of bone, all from the demolition layers of Building 3. In total, 1253 fragments were collected from secure contexts, of which 598 (48% of the assemblage) could be identified to species. A further 357 (28%) were identified as cattle- or sheep-sized mammals, leaving 298 unidentified fragments (24%). The bone from this phase was in better condition than earlier phases, with the majority graded as 2. The assemblage was particularly interesting as it was dominated by fallow deer (321 fragments), which included both antler and other body parts. The second most frequent species was cattle, with the bone count equalling approximately one-third of the fallow deer. Sheep and pig were represented with 84 and 44 bones respectively. The change in the frequency of the domestic species when MNI were examined relates to how the different species were dealt with at Sutton Park. Fallow deer remained the highest with fourteen (from mandibles) or eighteen (from antlers), but the larger number of complete sheep mandibles (all identified as sheep rather than goat) meant that this species dominated in MNI counts with eleven. While the bone fragment count for pig was much lower than cattle, they were equal in MNI totals.

Cattle

The ageing of the mandibles indicated the presence of cattle from the age of 18 months to young adult, with no jaws present from older animals. The fusion data pointed to animals slaughtered between the ages of 2–4 years and over 4 years, with only one very young animal indicated, by a neonatal femur. A distinct predominance of the meat-producing limb bones was seen in the assemblage, and although parts of the head were present, the majority were loose teeth that may have come from a small number of individual animals, and extremities were present in far smaller quantities.

Table 6 Dental data for sheep – number of jaws representing each age group

Age	2–3 years	3–4 years	4–6 years	6–8 years	8–10 years	Total
No	1	2	8	1	9	21

Sheep

An interesting aspect of the sheep assemblage was the large number of mandibles in relation to the total number of fragments, which suggests that sheep were slaughtered close to the site. Of the 84 fragments recorded, exactly one-third were mandibles, the vast majority of which could be aged. Table 6, which shows the number of jaws present in each age group, clearly indicates two peaks in the ages of slaughter, one at 4–6 years and one at 8–10 years. The total absence of mandibles from very young animals cannot merely be related to taphonomy, considering the good condition of the rest of the assemblage. The fusion data from limb bones are far more limited and there is no evidence for the slaughter of animals under the age of 3 years, few between 3–4 years and the presence of at least one animal over the age of 4 years. Although mandibles and teeth predominated, there was a significant number of the meatier limb bones present, but only a very few metapodials or phalanges.

Pig

The 44 fragments of pig included six adult mandibles. Fusion data produced no evidence of the slaughter of animals under the age of one year, but the majority of animals were killed before they reached the age of 4 years. Nine canines could be sexed with four male and five females recorded. A far larger number of head and limb bones were recorded than extremities, again suggesting they were slaughtered locally.

Horse

Ten fragments of horse bone were recovered from two contexts. The upper demolition layer of the building contained atlas, axis, pelvis and right and left scapula fragments, and the fill contained fragments of pelvis.

Deer

The vast majority of the deer were fallow, with only one antler each of red and roe deer identified. A total of 321 fragments of fallow deer skeleton were recorded, of which 155 were antler. When MNIs of antler and other body parts were compared, the antler gave a total of eighteen (from shed antlers) while mandibles gave a total of twelve, and the highest limb bone count was scapula with only five.

The antlers were highly fragmented, with the preponderance of the breaks being recent and probably occurring during excavation. Many of the fragments could be matched and a number of the antlers were reconstructed, and by means of this it was found that there were twice as many shed (36) as unshed (18) antler. Table 7 shows the number of various parts of the antler identified – in some cases the antler was complete with beam, and tines present, in other cases only the palm or tine were recorded and could not be matched to a specific antler. Eight pieces of antler had been chopped, one displayed both chop and cut marks and two had been sawn. In addition, one fragment of beam had been cut longitudinally and had been sawn at each end and smoothed over all of the outer surface. The presence of so much antler and the butchery marks indicate that antler was collected and worked at Sutton Park at this time.

Table 7 Parts of the antler present

Beam only	Beam and brow tine	Beam, brow and trez tine	Palm and spellers	Tine only
39	43	2	23	33

Sixty fallow deer mandibles were present, 23 of which contained complete sets of adult teeth, all of which were fully erupted and indicate animals over the age of 30 months (Chapman & Chapman 1970, 91) and two of which could be identified as a pair. In addition to the mandibles, 40 loose teeth were recorded. The most frequent limb bones were the scapula and radius, as well as calcanea and a small number of metacarpals and metatarsals. It is interesting to note that the limb bones were predominantly from the front legs (humerus, radius, ulna) and that there was a conspicuous absence of femurs.

Other species

Eleven fragments of hare were recovered, the majority from the upper demolition level, and they consisted purely of limb bones.

A rodent mandible and radius were also recovered from the upper demolition level, neither of which could be identified to species.

A small number of domestic fowl limb bones was recorded, with four limb bones from birds of unidentified species. Three fish bones were recovered from the upper demolition level.

Taphonomy

The bones were in a better condition than those from the previous phases, and therefore retain a greater amount of taphonomic information. Evidence of butchery was identified on 59 bones, and included both chop and cut marks. Three bones had been sawn. The highest frequency was on the bones of cattle and fallow deer. Both species displayed a predominance of chop rather than cut marks, which were found mainly on the limb bones on cattle, although they did include a chopped mandible and cut marks on two cattle phalanges. Gnawing was identified on 68 bones, the majority again on cattle and fallow deer bones. All were canid, and mostly from contexts 6.005 and 11.020. As in phase 10, few bones showed signs of burning.

Pathological bones

The cattle mandible from context 20.007 (phase 10) is not strictly pathological but it displayed an abnormality that is worthy of mention. At the very front of the mandible is the nutrient foramen, a perforation through which blood vessels enter and leave the bone. Occasionally, extra (and usually smaller) foramina are observed but in this case there are two extra, both the same size as the original. Although little research has been undertaken into this condition it is probably congenital in origin (Levitan 1985, 49).

There were three other bones from phase 12 that displayed fairly common pathologies. A cattle rib had suffered a simple fracture and had healed itself, indicated by the remodelling of the bone in the fracture area. This is one of the most common bones to be fractured in bovids (Baker & Brothwell 1980, 92, table 1), with one of the suggested causes being overcrowding (*ibid*, 94). Two pelves displayed pathologies in the acetabulum. One was a horse that displayed slight exostosis (extra bony growth), and the other was of a fallow deer and was eburnated. Such joint abnormalities are common (Siegel 1976). They are often attributed to osteoarthritis but this is not necessarily the only cause. In these two cases not all of the four indicators required to diagnose the disease were present. The condition is thought to

indicate that animals were used for draught purposes, although it is also likely that walking on the hard surfaces of cobbled streets may have been a primary cause (Baker & Brothwell 1980, 115). These are possibilities for that of the horse, but the cause of the disease/incidence on the fallow deer pelvis is unknown.

Discussion of phase 12

Building 3 had been demolished by this phase and was backfilled with rubble and other general rubbish. Its original function is not certain, but it may have been a garden building, placed at a distance from the house and used as a base for banquets in the ground. This theory is supported by the large number of drinking vessels collected from the building. Some of the animal bone within the building may have been the remains of meals which were scattered around the building, while the remains that derive from primary butchery and craft suggest a final use of the building or the area close to it for more mundane purposes. It is also thought that at this time the manor may no longer have been an active farm.

The majority of cattle bones present were from animals of prime meat-producing age, with no indication of the older animals kept for traction, which were noted in the earlier phase. The lack of evidence for the slaughter of very young animals again suggests the absence of dairying on site. This, together with the distinct predominance of the meat-producing limb bones, suggests that animals were selected for consumption. It is likely therefore that beef was brought in from outside the manor – as well as joints of beef, the presence of heads and extremities suggests that some animals were brought to the site on the hoof. If cattle were slaughtered on site the butchery debris was deposited in areas not examined in these excavations.

The high proportion of sheep mandibles shows that animals were brought to the site whole and may mean that sheep continued to be kept on the site. The two peaks in the age of slaughter of the sheep (4–6 years and 8–10 years) and the absence of very young animals suggests animals on site were kept for the exploitation of their secondary products as long as possible before eating, ie for the production of wool, which was a large export commodity at this time, English wool being exported to Europe on vast scale (Davis 1987). The pig assemblage also reflects consumption rather than production, with the presence of limb and head bones from animals that had reached their full size.

The presence of fallow deer mandibles and teeth as well as unshed antler indicates that whole heads of deer were present on the site, but not all other parts of the body were present. This may suggest that the deer were not brought whole to the site. There were few metapodials and other foot bones and few femurs. The scarcity of foot bones may be because they were left attached to the skin and removed with it, but the lack of femur bones is more interesting. This absence of the haunch, a prime cut of venison, could be an indication of a lower status site and it is possible that venison was still eaten, but the better cuts were sold or traded elsewhere. The dearth of certain parts of the deer carcass have been discussed in other reports – haunches of venison are thought to have been selectively imported to high-status sites (Albarella & David 1996, 32) and may explain their absence at other sites of lesser or declining status. At Guildford Castle Palace, the absence of certain parts of the carcass is attributed to hunting practices (Sykes 2005), with certain parts being gifted to particular individuals.

The large quantity of shed as well as unshed antlers and the lesser quantity of post-cranial bones suggests that antler itself was an important resource. The collection of antler for working usually takes place soon after the antler has been cast, which for fallow deer is approximately April and May (Chapman & Chapman 1970, 106), when the antler is in a far better condition for tool manufacture than if it had been left exposed to the elements (Grant 1988, 210). It was considered uneconomical for those involved in manufacture to collect their own raw materials, as wide areas of parkland needed to be searched to gather sufficient quantities. It was more usual therefore for antlers to have been picked up by those whose everyday life

took them into such areas and they would later have been exchanged or sold (MacGregor 1991, 356). This antler assemblage therefore probably represents a stockpile of raw material for bone working, which was then traded elsewhere. It appears that at the end of its life Building 3 or the area around it had a functional or even industrial use for butchery and for collecting antler.

Comparisons with other sites

There are four other sites in southern England, approximately contemporary with Sutton Park, which have assemblages that are comparable in some respects. These include the 16th century demolition contexts of the Tudor country house of Hextalls, at Little Pickle, Bletchingley (Bourdillon 1988); the 17th century assemblage from the manor house of the bishops of Winchester at Mount House, Witney, Oxfordshire (Ayres & Serjeantson 2002); contexts from the post-Dissolution occupation and the late medieval Eynsham Abbey, Oxfordshire (Ayres *et al* 2003), and the intermittent high-status residential use of Launceston Castle (Albarella & Davis 1996). Each of these assemblages represents the demolition contexts of their respective sites at a time when the buildings fell out of use and were being used to dump waste. As the high standards of living that characterised these sites in their earlier phases began to decline, the organisation of the households began to break down and patterns of husbandry and consumption and also the disposal of waste changed.

At Eynsham, as at Sutton Park, there was no evidence for dairying in this period, and prime meat production was considered important, with no evidence for the older animals kept for traction and as breeding stock. Wool was also important, with a considerable proportion of the sheep being kept past the age of 4 years. A high proportion of pigs, which are kept primarily for meat, is a characteristic of high-status sites. This was seen at Eynsham, and also at Cogges Priory (Wilson 1982), and Middleton Stoney (Levitan 1984). The few pigs at Sutton Park, as at Launceston Castle, probably reflect the declining status of the site.

Fallow was the most numerous of the deer species identified at Witney, Eynsham and Hextalls. It was a Mediterranean species introduced by the Normans that needed to be given both food and shelter in the harder English winters (Roberts 1988, 78–9), while the native species (red and roe) remained wild and were allowed to range beyond the park pale (Grant 1988). This meant that fallow deer thrived and became the most common deer from the later Middle Ages (Grant 1988). The hunting of deer within parks was prohibited to everyone except the king and nobility, so it is not surprising to find evidence for a park stocked with fallow deer at Sutton Place.

The demolition contexts at Hextalls produced seven whole or largely whole fallow deer skeletons. No conclusive argument is presented for what this represents. Fragments of fallow deer were also found in some abundance from other contexts on the site. Although not an identical bone assemblage to Sutton Park, both were from demolition layers laid down when the high status and organisation of the respective sites was in decline.

Conclusion

The animal bone assemblage from Sutton Park has much in common with other sites of the period, with mixed husbandry being practised in the earlier, more prosperous years, followed by less systematic practices when the residences were declining in status. At Sutton Park the scanty evidence supports the theory that the manor was a working farm in phase 10 as compared with the less certain status of phase 12, where sheep may still have been kept on site for their meat and wool, but beef was probably brought onto the site already jointed. Part of the site also appears to have been used for the stockpiling of antler. However, these conclusions must be taken with caution as the assemblage is a small proportion of what would originally have been deposited at the site.

Discussion

This section attempts to pull together the results of the excavation and discuss them together with information derived from study of the finds (it should be noted that in places it corrects Bird (2005)).

A few finds date before the medieval period proper, and suggest activity of some sort on the site in all periods from the Mesolithic or Neolithic onwards. No features can be securely associated with any of these periods.

Probably the earliest surviving features on the site were Ditches 1–5. No dating material was recovered from Ditches 4 and 5, but the former joined Ditch 3 and the latter was certainly earlier than Building 3. Both had fills of similar type to the known early ditches. Where earlier levels were noted in Ditches 1–3 or where they were dug using a spit system they consistently produced little material. In several cases no pottery or tile was found, but others had just a few sherds that could be dated to the 13th century, and sometimes tile fragments. The earliest levels positively identified were 28.009, 19.140, 20.017, 27.035, 8.007, 9.002 and 4.007 in Ditch 2 and 7.027, 4.014, 7.023, 7.024, 10.010, 10.011 and 18.008 in Ditch 3. Between them they produced just 41 sherds of pottery of which 30 were of S2 shelly ware or Q2 grey/brown sandy ware, the rest being WW1A, coarser whiteware. The latter may date as early as the second quarter of the 13th century (see Jones, above), with the others being potentially earlier. The ditches could therefore have been dug in the middle of the 13th century or even earlier. The double base effect in the section of Ditch 2 in trenches 1 and 8 (colour pl 2) might suggest that the ditches were cleared out and recut in places and this could have affected the dating, but there was no other evidence to suggest that this had happened.

The other levels of the medieval ditches, higher levels or where the fill was not differentiated, usually contained material of 13th/15th century date. Where there was some differentiation of a middle level or where something intervened, such as Building 2, the fill was usually dated to the 13th/14th, often late 13th/early 14th century. The highest levels of the fill, especially in the area nearest Building 3, might contain material dated up to the early 16th century. It was notable that only one of the ditch fill contexts contained any floor tile fragments, and in this case only 10g in a feature that may have been disturbed. There were also no clay pipe fragments from any of these contexts. Probably the ditches had gone out of use by the early 14th century and were perhaps deliberately filled and used for rubbish disposal, with some extra later material along the ditch lines being the result of settlement of the fill. The ditches were probably scarcely visible when Building 3 was constructed (if this was, as seems likely, in the early 16th century).

The plan suggests that the early ditches formed an enclosure with an approach trackway up the slope (fig 3). There seems to have been an entrance in the gap between the end of Ditch 2 and the angled turn of Ditch 3. The evidence for the sides formed by Ditches 4 and 5, particularly the latter, is hardly strong, but if there was an enclosure at the top (Ditches 2, 3, 4 and 5) then it would have been about 15 x 25m. The known buildings are all probably later than the ditch system: Building 3 is clearly much later, Building 2 certainly overlies Ditch 2, and the location of Building 1 and other evidence suggests that it too is later than that ditch (see further below). There is no good evidence for an earlier building within the postulated enclosure, but the pottery distribution may hint that this area was a centre of earlier occupation. Phil Jones notes above that the pottery evidence suggests that 'the earliest direct occupation of the site was probably during the early to mid-13th century when the dominant coarseware was Q2 grey/brown sandy ware'. This is partly based on the absence of IQ sandy ware of the later 11th and early 12th centuries. S2 shelly ware occurs across the site in association with Q2 pottery but it can date to as early as the 12th century (Phil Jones pers comm). In terms of their distribution on the site, S2 and Q2 are very similar, except that the fieldwalking data show very little S2 north of a line taken through the northern churchyard wall. In terms of sherd count, however, the S2:Q2 ratio is approximately 1:6, with S2 evenly distributed east and west of the well whereas Q2 is about eighteen times more prevalent to

the west: totals for trenches 1–18 are (S2) 110:62 (Q2) and for trenches 19–33 are (S2) 91:1131 (Q2). If the S2 count is multiplied by 6 to allow for the ratio, then the figures appear as 660:62 against 546:1131, emphasising the differences. Perhaps this difference suggests a change in the main centre of occupation from one associated with the ditch system to one placed firmly to the west of the well. It may also point to a later 12th century occupation with associated ditches.

It is likely that the three known buildings are 14th century or later. Their dating is discussed below. Some aspects of the distribution of the finds are of interest in respect of the buildings, for instance the roof tile. Not all the tile was kept but a consistent selection process should mean that overall percentages are meaningful. The total of roof tile kept from the site was 588,254g, of which no less than 479,762g came from those trenches closely associated with the three buildings. Trench 19 (Building 1) had 336,051g (140,801g excluding the hearths); trenches 20 + 23 + 27 (Building 2) had 87,043g; trenches 6 + 11 + 15 (Building 3) had 56,668g. Similarly, most of the nails recorded from the site came from near the buildings. As already noted, there were tile concentrations forming lines along the outside of the walls of Buildings 1 and 2 and most of the tile associated with Building 3 was within the demolition rubble. It is likely therefore that most of the tile came from these buildings, but tile fragments from the earlier ditch fills indicate that there must have been some earlier tiled buildings. Pieces of lead and fragments of window glass from most of the trenches indicate that probably all of the later buildings had some glazed windows.

The overall pottery distribution is of interest, especially when related to the buildings. Totals from the trenches associated with the buildings are as follows (numbers of sherds, medieval (M): post-medieval (PM)). Building 1: (M) 2921:169 (PM); Building 2: (M) 1835:729 (PM); Building 3: (M) 108:2235 (PM). There was also a clear increase in stoneware vessel fragments moving from west to east: 25 sherds in trench 19; 66 in the Building 2 trenches; 123 in the Building 3 trenches (plus 32 from trench 10 and 48 from trench 7). It should be noted, however, that a fair proportion of the post-medieval pottery (613) from the Building 2 trenches was from the topsoil and base of the plough-soil; without this the Building 1 and Building 2 ratios are much closer. The vast majority of buckles from the site came from the Building 3-related trenches, with iron examples coming only from there or close by. Lace tags and dress pins showed a wider distribution, with concentrations associated with the Building 1 and Building 3 trenches, with markedly fewer from Building 2. Similarly, stone fragments identified as from querns or mortars came only from Building 1 and Building 3 trenches, and shell, almost all oyster, had marked concentrations in the building areas, but again especially from Buildings 1 and 3. The evidence for knives is strongly related to Building 3 with a lesser concentration associated with the other two buildings, while spoon fragments are also mostly from building-related trenches but more generally spread.

Clay pipe distribution is also of interest. Where dated, the pipes seem to be 1640–60 or 1660–80. A small, squared four-sided flint (SF116) from the topsoil of trench 7 was probably a strike-a-light and may be relevant here. Pipe fragments related to the buildings were as follows: Building 1, ten stems and two bowls; Building 2, 28 stems; Building 3, 63 stems and ten bowls. These were almost all from the topsoil or definitely late deposits and this was generally true across the site. It was noticeable that there were no clay pipe fragments in the ditch fills, even the late top fills. The bowls were strongly concentrated in the area near and east of the well. Just two came from the field west of the well as against 65 to the east (with no less than ten from the very small trench 9) and a further five in the field north of the churchyard. Fragments of stem showed a similar pattern, and almost all clay pipe fragments outside the churchyard were unstratified. It is interesting that trench 6 produced nine bowls, but otherwise the main concentration was ten in the very small trench 9, eight in trench 4 and 21 in trench 7. The bowls from trench 6 were all in topsoil or the first disturbed layer; only a few stem fragments came from the rubble, which they could easily have penetrated through voids in the jumbled brick and tile. If these stems are of the same date as the bowls, which seems most likely, then they would be later than any of the extensive pottery evidence

for these layers. The pipes thus suggest mid–late 17th century smoking activity across a relatively restricted area from trench 6 to trench 7, some time after the demolition of Building 3. Perhaps it became the custom to gather near the well for an evening smoke.

There is a large amount of medieval pottery from trench 19, mostly 13th century onwards, but the bulk of the earlier material is to be associated with the lower levels of Ditch 2. Although evidence that can be specifically associated with occupation of Building 1 is limited, what there is (including from the hearths) suggests that its initial construction should be dated to the 14th century. This accords with the building's location between Ditches 1 and 2, as these had probably gone out of use by then, and in particular with the close proximity of Ditch 2 to its southern wall line. The large amount of material from the middle levels of the ditch in this area includes pottery dated to the late 13th/early 14th centuries and probably indicates the clearance of an earlier building or buildings the location of which is not known but was presumably in the immediate area (but including the area of trench 28 where the Ditch 2 fill had a large amount of pottery of this date). The most likely sequence of hearths is 19.118 followed by 19.133 and 19.004. The first was thought to overlie 19.149, which contained a few sherds probably of 14th century date; 19.133 is most likely to be between AD 1395 and 1435 and 19.004 probably follows it closely as it is built directly on top of 19.133. Hearth 19.004 certainly post-dates 19.122 and 19.144, both of which included 15th/early 16th century sherds. This accords with the date of the pottery from the adjacent dump in the hollow at the top of Ditch 2.

Although they differ in character, it is assumed that both the surviving walls of Building 1 were intended to support beams for timber buildings. The large blocks in the southern wall line could have been intended as post pads, but they are not regularly spaced and not well suited to this purpose, having irregular top surfaces. The difference in wall construction is not easily explained but it should be noted that the chalk east wall ends in a sandstone block that marks the start of the south wall line. It seems unlikely that either of these walls was internal. The ground level slopes up east of the chalk wall and therefore evidence for further walls is likely to have survived in this area. The large dump of pottery and tile along the hollow left at the top of Ditch 2 immediately south of the southern wall line is likely to have been outside, and the survival of the burnt feature 19.126 also suggests that it is unlikely that all trace of evidence for a continuation of Building 1 to the south would have been lost. It is not possible to say whether Building 1 could have continued to the north.

If the dump of pottery south of Building 1 in the hollow at the top of Ditch 2 is associated with use of the building, it may suggest that it was a kitchen. A large hearth and tiled roof would also be appropriate for this function. Large detached medieval kitchens are still extant (Martin 2001), and a useful excavated parallel is the square kitchen at Hextalls, which was around 8m internally (Poulton 1998, 37–42). The proximity to the well might also be significant (cf at Cuddington *c* 1537: 'and the well for water whiche is very goode and clere standyth at the Kechyne dore ageynste the west with the gardene and woodyerde for the Coke' Dent 1970, 282).

On the other hand, such a kitchen would imply an adjacent hall, for which there is no evidence. As there is also no evidence for the ends of both Building 1 and Building 2 it is possible that other buildings have been completely lost to the plough. The distribution of roof tile recovered in fieldwalking might be relevant; heavy concentrations were noted over what were later found to be the locations of Buildings 1 and 2, but there were also concentrations about 15m to the north and south, and these coincided with slightly raised concentrations of medieval pottery (see Bird *et al* 1984, fig 2). This is unfortunately insufficient to prove the existence of a hall. It should also be noted that Building 2 is closer to the well.

Building 2 certainly post-dates Ditch 2 as its northern wall overlies the ditch. The sequence at the north-west corner also provides evidence of what seems to be a demolition or collapse level that overlies a level that overlies the wall. Taken together, these 'facts' suggest that the building was constructed at some time after the late 13th/early 14th century and was either demolished or in a state of considerable disrepair by or soon after the late 15th/early 16th

century. The general levels associated with the building contained pottery that suggested 15th/16th century occupation (but if so, with a little intrusive 18th century material). There were, however, no floor levels and it is likely that most of the occupation levels were lost to the plough. It is noticeable that the level of the drains implies a higher contemporary ground surface and that all levels associated with this phase have been lost; nevertheless it is difficult to see how the drains can be understood in any way other than that they served the building. They were made of brick and tile that was probably re-used and is most likely to have come from the demolished Building 3. This suggests a 17th century date or later. The different construction of Drain 1 and Drains 2/3 may suggest a minor chronological difference, but could be merely a matter of logical use of available material. Location and size suggests a domestic purpose for the drains, perhaps taking water from a valley gutter on a roof, which again suggests a relatively late date. Material associated with the area of the building includes 18th century pottery so perhaps whatever was left of the building was refurbished or rebuilt then.

It seems likely that Building 2 was more or less contemporary with Building 1 and was also timber framed with a tiled roof, the 'walls' being little more than an accumulation of material under timber beams. The better survival in the north-west corner may have been partly intended to make up for the slope of the ground. There are no clues as to the purpose of the building (except perhaps the differences in associated finds as compared with Building 1 that have been noted above). Possibly it was associated with the activity implied by the burnt features nearby although these are essentially undated and their purpose is unclear. It may be relevant that 19.126 was set over the filled-in Ditch 2, just like Building 2 itself, and that material under it was dated to the 14th/15th century. Of course, the burnt features may equally have been associated with Building 1.

There is no specific evidence to date the construction of Building 3, although around 1520–30 seems most probable. Measurements were taken from a few bricks in trench 11 (11.020) that presumably came from the building, but none was complete (measurement of bricks *in situ* is regarded as unreliable (Richardson 2010, 20)). The width and depth figures best match those of Oatlands Palace Group 3, suggesting a date around 1530 (Richardson 2010, 18, table 1, and 23), but this cannot be regarded as in any way conclusive. This date is, however, supported by the possible use of terracotta decoration (see below). The material from the rubble levels in the backfill of the building suggests that it was demolished in the 17th century. The probable absence of clay pipes from the rubble levels already noted suggests that this will have been at some time before the middle of the century, and those levels (6.005, 6.007) contain pottery of late 16th/early 17th century date. The two lowest levels in the fill (6.013, 6.015) were thought to be part of the demolition backfill, but the few sherds contained within them date to the late 15th/early 16th century so they could perhaps relate to a construction phase. It is assumed that the material that backfilled Building 3 came from the building itself, either as part of its construction or as rubbish that had been associated with its use, but this is not capable of proof. There is, however, little doubt that relevant material found elsewhere on the site had come from the area of the building, from which it was probably spread by the bulldozer in 1959. The effect is well illustrated by the spread of sherds from a particularly distinctive Cologne stoneware vessel, found in 6.005, 7.00+, 7.003, 1.00+ and 10.001. Other joining fragments from stoneware vessels came from 6.005 and 4.009; 6.005, 3.001, 5.004 and 7.001; 6.005 and 5.005; 15.002 and 2.00+; 2.009 and 5.005; 6.005 and 4.009 (see also the effect on Ditch 6, above, and the terracotta distribution, below). In theory, the material backfilling Building 3 could have been demolition material from Sutton Place itself, for example from the gatehouse wing. The main objections to this argument are that the finds at Sutton Park could hardly represent more than a few cart loads, which would not have made the exercise worthwhile; there is good evidence around Sutton Place itself that the rubble was spread out there and probably also used as the base for an approach drive (Bird *in prep*); and finally the material makes good sense in terms of what remains *in situ* of Building 3 itself.

Consideration of the origin of the fill is of relevance to any discussion of the significance of the brass strip probably carrying the letters 'Bra..' which John Blair suggests dates to 1500–30 and perhaps comes from a monument to a member of the Bray family (Blair 1984; SF43 above). He further suggests that 'for want of a better explanation, it can perhaps be interpreted as post-Dissolution spoil from the Guildford Friary'. A Joan Bray was buried in the chapel of the Friary around 1500 (information from Rob Poulton, citing Manning & Bray 1804, 514, and the Friary's Obituary Kalendar: Purvis 1934, 91). Joan's son, Sir Reginald, was 'a special benefactor' of the Friary (Purvis 1934, 95), but he was a favourite of Henry VII after 1485 and was buried in Windsor. He did have a link to Sutton, as receiver general to Lady Margaret Beaufort and her third and fourth husbands, from 1467 to 1499, throughout which time she held the manors of Woking and Sutton (Jones & Underwood 1992, esp 97, 139, 140 and 269). There is, however, nothing to suggest that demolition materials from the Friary would have gone to Sutton. The only relevant reference seems to be an agreement in May 1606 for Sir George More to carry away building materials within a year (to Loseley presumably), although Corke and Poulton suggest that there was probably a rapid deterioration in the Friary buildings around 1600, and note that in 1605 'no-one knew [...] who had carried away timber and tile from the buildings' (Corke & Poulton 1984, 10–12). Nothing at Sutton Place or the Sutton Park site indicates re-use of Friary material. If the brass was taken because of some family link (though none has been noted), or because of the continuing Catholic tradition at Sutton, it is unlikely that it would have been thrown away. It therefore seems most likely that it had a domestic use, on a casket for instance.

The Building 3 trenches were the centre of concentrations of fragments of shaped terracotta and floor tiles from the site. Of the twenty terracotta fragments, either red or straw coloured, all but six came from trench 6, two more from trenches 11 and 15 and the others from trenches 10, 5, 7 and 19. The three from nearby trenches had probably been spread there by the bulldozer, while the trench 19 example was in the topsoil and may have been re-used in one of the drains. One of the figured fragments (from 7.007) appeared to be identical with ornament used at Sutton Place (see Harrison 1893, 82). Most of the pieces were from mouldings that would have framed an opening such as a door or a window, as in the surviving garden structures at Sutton Place. It seems reasonable to suggest that they were used on Building 3. Cooper (1999, 64) notes that 'terracotta ornament [...] was a short-lived fashion of the 1520s'.

Many fragments of floor tiles were found associated with Building 3. There were two colours, glazed either yellow or green over cream fabric. The distribution across the site is of interest: of the total of 74,601g, no less than 51,817g came from trenches 6, 11 and 15, ie from the area of Building 3, and mostly within the rubble. This strongly suggests that the tiles were used in Building 3 or a larger structure to which it was attached. It was also noticeable that over 3000g came from trench 12 and over 4500g from trench 16. These are some distance from Building 3 but both contained pits that may have served as convenient receptacles for some of the rubble from the building. Most of the rest of the tiles came from the trenches close to Building 3, but there was also a limited spread downslope as far as trench 19. It is probable that this is to be associated with re-use of some of the material in the drains from Building 2, but it may also be part of the general spread of later material along this line. In keeping with the general distribution, very little floor tile was found in fieldwalking.

The rubble infill of Building 3 contained a great deal of pottery, metalwork and animal bone. Some aspects of this assemblage suggest prestige; there was a high proportion of fallow deer bones and a noticeable collection of semi-complete stoneware drinking vessels for instance, and the metalwork included purse fittings. The animal bone as a whole also suggested less emphasis on a working farm environment (see Ayres, above). On the other hand, there was also a great deal of standard domestic pottery and when studied in detail the deer bone evidence is not consistent with that found on the most elite sites. Of the 321

fallow deer fragments, there were 60 mandibles and 155 antler fragments with some evidence of working (and many were shed antlers). Of the limbs, most frequent were scapula and radius; front legs were predominant and there was a 'conspicuous absence of femurs'. It appears that the back leg is characteristic of later medieval elite sites (Sykes 2006, 174, fig 11.6; 2007, 152, fig 11.1), while front legs and mandibles are more representative of keepers' residences (Sykes 2007, 154, fig 11.4). Note, however, that scapula and mandible are especially linked to lower status rural sites (*ibid*, 155, fig 11.5). Overall, it seems that the deer bone from the Building 3 demolition deposits should not be seen as an elite assemblage, but one that might be related to keepers' activities. As some of the pottery and metalwork does seem to have more of a prestige element perhaps the material from the demolition levels should be seen as a mixture, thrown in from nearby rubbish heaps.

There is little evidence to suggest the appearance of Building 3 above ground level, but it is most likely to have been freestanding. If, for example, it had been part of a larger structure, then it would be necessary to argue that the evidence had been removed, for example by the bulldozer. If this were the case then the structure would most likely have been an addition to an earlier timber building, which is unlikely in view of the general absence of earlier dated finds in the immediate vicinity. A freestanding brick structure measuring about 4 x 3m is most likely to have been part of wider landscape arrangements, an idea supported by the likelihood that it had some terracotta decoration. Its location at the top of the slope is also suggestive and a small tower seems the most probable interpretation. If the more prestigious finds go with the use of the building then rather sumptuous picnics are implied, with the benefit of good views from the tower perhaps in all directions including back to Sutton Place. Possibly servants and keepers were responsible for the less prestigious rubbish, perhaps implying a different, even quasi-industrial, use of the building at a somewhat later date, when it was no longer a focus for banquets (see Ayres above, discussion of phase 12). Although Weston's main park was presumably in Merrow and West Clandon, it may be relevant to note that according to Dix (1994, 23) there were much more recent hunting meets that started from 'The Fox' in Sutton Green (demolished 1904), with foxes, hares, stags and badgers among the animals hunted.

Ditch 7 was unlike any of the other ditches on the site, and it had a quite different fill. The later of the two sherds recovered from the ditch can be dated as 16th/17th century. Its course was clearly marked by a vegetation change which showed that it followed the contours. Drainage can be ruled out (the land above drains very readily) and no other evidence indicates a field boundary in this location. It is just possible therefore that the ditch was in some way connected with the activities of a 17th century Weston, the third Sir Richard, who inherited in 1613 and died in 1652. As well as being responsible for the Wey Navigation, Sir Richard introduced agricultural improvements that included the cultivation of the 'Great [red] Clover' (Nash 1969, 37), supposedly in the Manor Field (Williamson & Kelly [1929], 16 – the source of their information is not made clear but note Aubrey 1718, 229).

Ditch 6 is certainly the latest feature on the site, dated 18th into early 19th century by a large amount of pottery and other rubbish. It is noticeable that china was present in topsoil on the site but none was found in the ditch. It was however probably the origin of creamware from the site except that some came from a late gully probably associated with the final phase of Building 2. The purpose of Ditch 6 is not clear but if there was a link with Building 2 then possibly it might be seen as flanking a path to the building.

It is possible to summarise the evidence for buildings near the site as follows:

- Building 1: probably later 14th century, ending late 15th/early 16th century
- Building 2: 14th/15th century start with demolition or collapse late 15th/early 16th century but re-use of the site in some way in the 18th or 17th/18th century
- Building 3: perhaps early 16th century start and demolition before the mid-17th century
- Vine Cottage: probably later 16th century start with additions early and late 17th, 18th and later 19th centuries

- Ladygrove Farm: 16th century start with 17th and 19th century additions (and very recent work)
- A possible building near the well demolished in about 1802

Finally, the overall distribution of material should be considered. Finds of pottery were scarce in trench 10 east of the Ditch 3 line. Trench 14, which extended the line of trench 10 further to the east, had very few finds or features. Trench 17, immediately adjacent to the old churchyard, produced no medieval or early post-medieval pottery, and this was also true of new graves dug there and the fake grave dug for the film, still further to the east. A similar picture was found in the limited work in the garden of Vine Cottage and in trench 29 well to the north of the new graveyard, and was borne out by the finds made in fieldwalking. Everything indicates that the centre of medieval and early post-medieval activity was close to the well. This in turn supports an early date for the well itself, the location of which at the top of the hill surely indicates that it must have been dug originally for an occupation site. All of the evidence is consistent with the tradition that the site was that of the original manor of Sutton.

Conclusions

This section attempts to marry information from the excavation with the documentary evidence to suggest phases for the site. An initial phasing list was prepared before proper study of the finds and did not take account of the worked flints. In order to avoid confusion in the archive, the numbering that has become enshrined in the finds reports and their associated databases has not been revised. The earliest phase has therefore been numbered here as 1A.

PHASE 1A: EARLIER PREHISTORIC

A few worked flints were found, some of Mesolithic or Neolithic date. It is interesting that their distribution largely matches that of the main periods of occupation of the site. None were found east of trench 7 in the excavation and this pattern was repeated in the fieldwalking.

PHASE 1: BRONZE AGE

Represented by pottery and a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead (and perhaps some of the worked flint). The few pottery sherds represent a number of vessels that were scattered from trenches 7 and 18 right down to trenches 28 (which also produced the arrowhead) and 33. There seems to be enough evidence to suggest that at least some of this material could be associated with a disturbed funerary context. It may be relevant that the site is only about 1km east of a Bronze Age barrow on Whitmoor Common, also located on higher ground that is part of a minor ridge extending across to the west from the Sutton Park site.

PHASE 2: IRON AGE

Although only two sherds, two different Early Iron Age vessels are represented and they are likely to indicate nearby settlement.

PHASE 3: ROMAN

Again, two sherds of pottery representing two different vessels. Being from the Roman period these are clearly not sufficient to indicate occupation close by, as they could be related to manuring scatters. It is however interesting that one of the sherds is from a mortarium, and that the two were found on the slope in trenches 19 and 20, whereas the two Iron Age sherds came from the hilltop in trenches 2 and 7.

PHASE 4: EARLY TO MID-SAXON

Once again only two sherds, but such material is not common in Surrey and is likely to indicate a nearby occupation site. That they came from trenches 20 and 21 in the same area as the Late Saxon material is perhaps significant.

PHASE 5: LATE SAXON/EARLY MEDIEVAL

A small amount of 11th/early 12th century pottery was found, but in later contexts. Although few (a total of 27 sherds, but representing probably at least ten different vessels), the distribution of these sherds is notably biased to the area outside the point of the new graveyard, in trenches around Buildings 1 and 2 and somewhat to the north, in trenches 21 and 25. Curiously, the only exceptions are two sherds from the Building 3 trenches. There is a strong implication therefore that the later occupation sites also had some use at an earlier date, even though no features can be related to phase 5. The manor was in existence in 1066, and it seems reasonable to conclude that its buildings were not far from the sites of the later structures.

PHASE 6: LATE 12TH/EARLY 13TH CENTURY

There are some grounds for thinking that there might have been occupation of the site in this period, perhaps as early as the second half of the 12th century (see *Discussion*, above). It is therefore of interest to note that in this period (from 1159) the manor was held by Urric ‘the Engineer’ and then his son (Manning & Bray 1804, 131). It may have been of greater significance to them than to most of the manor’s owners, who were usually very important people. Ditches 1–5 might have been dug at this time, but perhaps belong in the next phase.

PHASE 7: 13TH CENTURY

The second quarter of the 13th century is Phil Jones’ preferred starting date for the main on-site settlement, based on consideration of the pottery as a whole. This is also likely to be the date for the earliest levels of the fills of Ditches 1–5 (see *Discussion*, above). The few pieces of roof tile in these levels could presumably relate to a construction phase, from making tile hearths if not from a roof. There is documentary evidence for a tenement worth one shilling in 1272 (Manning & Bray 1804, 131).

PHASE 8: FIRST HALF OF THE 14TH CENTURY

Decline or destruction? A ruinous message is recorded in 1329 and again in 1353, when a ruined dovecote is also mentioned. It may well be that the state of Sutton in 1329 is to be linked to the reported attacks on manors held by Hugh le Despenser the elder, and perhaps the 1353 record indicates that no repairs had been undertaken in the interim. The main ditch fills contain large amounts of later 13th/early 14th century pottery and roof tile, which presumably originated from clearance in advance of new building or refurbishment at some time before 1382, when the buildings seem to be in good condition.

PHASE 9: LATER 14TH/FIRST HALF OF 15TH CENTURY

Revival? A variety of buildings is mentioned in 1382, including a tiled dovecote – possibly the old one repaired. This is one of three buildings specifically mentioned as being tiled. Probably Building 1 dates to this period, which is also the most likely time for hearth 19.118, as part of some new building before 1382. Hearth 19.133 would then have replaced it at some point within the period 1395–1435. Building 2 should also date to this period, perhaps constructed a little later than Building 1. Both of these buildings are likely to have been tiled,

but they cannot be readily equated with the tiled grange, stable or dovecote of the documentary evidence. There should also have been a chapel in the vicinity.

PHASE 10: LATER 15TH/EARLY 16TH CENTURY

Renewal? Lady Margaret Beaufort held Woking and Sutton for most of the period from 1467 to 1509, when Henry VIII, her grandson, inherited. Her son, Henry VII, made her give them up in 1503, but ‘reluctant to lose one of her favourite residences [Woking]’ she fought back, extracted some concessions, and made sure she recovered the manors when Henry died – not long before her own death (Jones & Underwood 1992, 82–3). Her estate administration has been described as ‘one of the most efficient in the entire late middle ages’ (*ibid.*, 252), calling to mind the new large hearth 19.004 at Sutton, which could be dated to the late 15th century. The animal bone evidence may support the idea of good-class meals and the proximity of a park stocked with fallow deer (which in this phase was perhaps at Woking: cf Jones & Underwood 1992, 146).

PHASE 11: 16TH CENTURY

Where separately identified, the top fill of Ditches 1–3 contained pottery of 15th/early 16th century date, and a similar date is given to the Building 2 demolition or collapse level 20.003 in trench 20. Related levels contained noticeably large pieces of roof tile. It seems reasonable to conclude that this material represents the final use of Buildings 1 and 2 (and related activity) and their clearance in the early 16th century. Sutton was given to Sir Richard Weston in 1521 and work on Sutton Place began soon after. It is probable, therefore, that the old site was cleared at this time. The apparent later re-use of Building 2 and the presence of some later pottery on this part of the site may suggest that parts of this building survived in some way. Building 3 was probably constructed as part of the grand design for Weston’s new estate – a garden building offering a focus for a walk or short ride from Sutton Place – with perhaps a banqueting aspect and an implied nearby deer park. It is possible that Pits 1–3 nearby are to be related to this phase, perhaps serving as cesspits. Vine Cottage and Ladygrove Farmhouse were both probably built later in the 16th century and may therefore be linked in some way to the use of Building 3.

PHASE 12: 17TH CENTURY

Building 3 was probably demolished before the middle of the 17th century. Phil Jones notes that later finewares are not well represented on the site, which was probably given over just to animal-related activities. Earlier in the period these may have included sheep-farming and the processing of parts of fallow deer including antlers. Ditch 7 in the field (22.003) may have been dug at this time, perhaps in connection with the introduction of the ‘Great Clover’ by the third Sir Richard Weston. Ladygrove Farmhouse was extended, probably towards the end of the century: ‘engraved in the brickwork above the porch are the initials I W or J W, which could refer to John Weston, and the date 1693’ (Dix 1994, 26), while Vine Cottage was extended twice, probably in the early and late 17th century. Taylor (2005, 179) postulates the re-use of early bricks from Building 3 for the second extension. The clay pipe distribution and dating suggests activity near the well in the later 17th century.

PHASE 13: LATER 18TH/EARLY 19TH CENTURY

The maps of Senex and Rocque show no buildings on the site, but perhaps some aspect of Building 2 survived as a ruin or with an agricultural use until it was refurbished with drains, possibly for the use of the refugee French priests. The small ditch or gully, Ditch 6, is dated to this period and might have lined one side of a track to this building from the main route

that passed Vine Cottage and Ladygrove Farm. Some of the Building 3 material was probably robbed for use in the drains. ‘A broad impression gained is that the main occupation sequence had ended in the 18th century’ (Phil Jones, pers comm).

PHASE 14: 19TH CENTURY

Extensions at Vine Cottage and at Ladygrove Farm. Construction of the church 1875–6.

PHASE 15: 1950s

Area to be the new graveyard levelled by bulldozer and walled.

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