

# Medieval Britain and Ireland in 1996

By BEVERLEY S. NENK  
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The compilers are grateful to those secretaries of specialist groups and contributors who provided reports on excavations and survey work. For Scotland the C.B.A. Scotland publication, *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*, was also consulted.

With the increasing quantity of reports submitted, it is essential that summaries are provided in correct house style. Style sheets are distributed to field units and other bodies every year, and are available direct from the compilers. In view of the time involved in abstracting from longer reports, it is unacceptable to submit annual unit interims. This annual national survey has a strict publication deadline and contributors are reminded to submit their entries on excavation, survey and antiquities for 1997 by the end of May 1998 at the latest.

In certain cases the National Grid Reference number has been deliberately omitted to protect the site. Please notify the compilers if this information is to be withheld.

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## SPECIALIST GROUP REPORTS

### CASTLE STUDIES GROUP

Hon. Secretary: Dr. Robert A. Higham, Department of History and Archaeology, The University, Queen's Building, Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QH.

The ninth annual conference and A.G.M. were held at the University of East Anglia (Norwich) in April 1995. Lectures were given on the castles of the region as well as on their political and military context. Site visits over three days encompassed a dozen sites in Norfolk and Suffolk, where on-site talks by specialists were given.

Details of members' activities and of recent publications on castle studies will be found in *Newsletter* No. 9 (1995-96).

## FINDS RESEARCH GROUP 700-1700

Hon. Secretary: Jane Cowgill, 25 Main Street, South Rauceby, Sleaford, Lincs NG34 8QG.

The aim of the group is to promote the study of finds from sites dating principally from 700-1700, by holding meetings to discuss, view and identify finds and by encouraging research on finds from that period. Datasheets on particular categories of objects are produced regularly, giving up-to-the minute accounts of current research. Membership costs only £3.00 a year; details are available from the membership secretary Katey Banks, City Museum and Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 3DW.

The first meeting of 1996 was held in January and was organized with the Historical Metallurgy Society by Geoff Egan and Justine Bayley. The theme of the two-day meeting was 'Medieval Urban Metalworking' and the second day included a large display of metalworking finds from London. It is our intention to publish the proceedings.

The next meeting was held in June and was organized by Katey Banks in Stoke-on-Trent. A range of talks arranged on the theme of 'Christian Grave Goods' and a buffet lunch was provided to allow members to meet other members and discuss problem artefacts that had been brought to the meeting.

Our third meeting and A.G.M. was held in London in October. The subject was 'Women and Objects' and the day was organized by Judy Stevenson. A wide range of topics was discussed, including women associated with various industries, testimonial and burial evidence, symbolism, womens' personal seals and the evidence from toys, which encouraged some lively debate.

Datasheet produced in 1996: *Medieval high-lead glass table vessels* by Rachael Tyson.

## MEDIEVAL POTTERY RESEARCH GROUP

Secretary: Duncan H. Brown, c/o Dept. Medieval and Later Antiquities, British Museum, London, WC1B 3DG.

The A.G.M. was held in Hull in May as part of a one-day meeting on Yorkshire finewares. The A.G.M. saw the retirement of the President, Charlie Murray. The Group as a whole, and especially those Council members who worked with him, cannot overstate their appreciation of what he has done, and his successor, Alan Vince, has a hard act to follow.

The work of Council progresses: the *Guide to the Classification of Medieval Pottery Forms* is nearing a final draft; *Medieval Ceramics 19* was published; and as usual, three issues of the M.P.R.G. Newsletter were produced; we have also begun to consider ways of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Group's foundation in the year 2000. Regional Group meetings were held in London, the SE. Midlands and SW. England.

## MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT RESEARCH GROUP

Hon. Secretary: Stephen Coleman, Heritage and Environment Group, D.E.E.D. (Environmental Services), Bedfordshire County Council, County Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AP (Tel. 01234 228072).

At the reconvened A.G.M. in April at Shapwick in Somerset, Professor Chris Dyer of Birmingham University and Stephen Coleman of Bedfordshire County Council were elected to the posts of President and Secretary of the Group respectively, in place of Professor Brian Roberts and Bob Croft. Following a lecture by Professor Mick Aston and Chris Gerrard explaining the multidisciplinary Shapwick Project's investigation of settlement history in the parish, more than 50 members enjoyed a guided tour of significant features in the village. A variety of evidence for its changing plan was seen. Next day a smaller group undertook a more exacting visit to the University of Bristol's excavations of medieval farmsteads on the steep slope of the Mendip Hills at Carscliffe near Cheddar. An added bonus were the magnificent views over the Somerset Levels to the S.

The Group's autumn conference held at Birmingham University in September took 'Villages and their Territories' as its theme. Professor Dyer introduced the day by exploring

the question 'What is territory?' and later contributed a paper on 'Village Territories and Commercialism', suggesting that urbanization, village formation and commercial pressures were closely interlinked in the 10th and 11th centuries. Dr Della Hooke's contribution on 'Early Settlement Studies' examined the formation of rural settlements within the context of their estate frameworks, in particular focusing on settlement changes associated with the sub-divisions of estates. Dr Paul Bowman's paper, 'The Langton Hundred: a study in settlement, territory and land-use in South-East Leicestershire', concentrated on the evolution of townships, settlement and the organization of open-field land during the pre-Conquest period. Township patterns and field systems were also the focus of David Hall's contribution on Northamptonshire. A broader, national, view of territories was then explored in Stuart Wrathmell's paper based on an English Heritage-supported project on settlement diversity mapping undertaken with Brian Roberts for the Monuments Protection Programme. Areas of nucleated or dispersed settlement patterns were highlighted and the importance of investigating locations where the two patterns mix was stressed. A summary of the well-attended day, which resulted in some stimulating discussion, was provided by Professor Aston who emphasized the need for both local and national studies. A fuller report of the proceedings can be found in the Group's *Annual Report* No. 11 for 1996.

In December the A.G.M. was followed by a seminar concentrating on the 'Environmental Archaeology of Medieval Settlement'. Contributions from Dr Umberto Albarella on animal bones, Dr Mike Allen providing a general overview, and Vivienne Metcalfe on the Wood Hall Moated Manor Project, gave rise to some interesting questions and lively discussion.

During the year a major item of business for the Group's committee was the drafting of a new policy statement to replace various statements produced in the 1980s. The new 'Policy on Research, Survey, Conservation and Excavation of Medieval Rural Settlement' is available from the Honorary Secretary.

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## ENGLAND

### BATH AND NORTH-EAST SOMERSET

1. BATH, LOWER BOROUGH WALLS (ST 750 646). Excavations by M. Lewcun and D. Cater for Bath Archaeological Trust were carried out in the cellars of an early 19th-century property. The face of the ancient City Wall, certainly medieval and possibly Roman, was discovered still standing almost to current road level, incorporated in the structure of the N. cellar. Medieval horizons on the berm were virtually non-existent. The uppermost stratigraphy relating to the city ditch was recovered in a trench below the house itself.

2. CHEW MAGNA, APPLGARTH (ST 577 632). Two small evaluation trenches were excavated in the garden of a 1960s bungalow, adjacent to the churchyard boundary wall on the W. side of St Andrew's Church, in connection with a planning application for a new house. The known Roman road from the Mendips to the R. Avon, over the Dundry Hills, was thought to have passed through Chew Magna, crossing the R. Chew near the site of the present (medieval) Tun Bridge, but its precise route had never been located. However, in one of the trenches, only 2 m from the W. wall of the churchyard, a very solid worn cobbled layer was found. It sealed a Roman sherd and was almost certainly part of the road. It appeared to follow the same alignment as the churchyard wall which ran along its E. side. The presence of a Roman glass bottle base in the second trench suggests that there may be Roman occupation in the area, or even a roadside settlement. This is an important discovery and might help to explain the location of the church (a mid Saxon minster) only 30 m E. of the road. Pottery dating from the late 11th/12th century and a wall were also found, indicating the likelihood of early medieval occupation, which may pre-date the laying-out of the medieval market place. There were no signs of any later buildings. The site was within the grounds of the vicarage from the early 17th century (at the latest) and formed part of the vicarage vegetable garden until 1962.

3. HALLATROW, HARTS LANE (ST 636 572). An evaluation by P. Davenport of Bath Archaeological Trust, prior to a housing development application in paddocks and

orchards just off the main road through the village, showed that this part of the village had never been developed, but had been subjected to an 11th/12th-century ploughing episode which had left a scatter of abraded potsherds and some small lynchets.

#### BRISTOL, CITY AND COUNTY

4. AVONMOUTH, BRISTOL, SEABANK (ST 534 826). An excavation at Seabank, situated N. of Avonmouth on the North Avon Levels, took place during the summer of 1996. Work was undertaken by P. Insole of Bristol and Region Archaeological Services. Two trenches were excavated and an auger survey of the area was undertaken to examine the underlying organic peat deposits.

Trench 2 revealed six phases of archaeological deposits including five successive ditches on a SE.-NW. alignment running parallel with the coastline, and features associated with the post-medieval farm of Seabank. The ditches were found to date from the 11th century to the 18th century.

The archaeological work at Seabank suggested a late Saxon date for the earliest period of drainage and reclamation of the saltmarsh.

5. BRISTOL, TEMPLE GATE, PORTWALL LANE EAST (ST 594 724). Three trial trenches were excavated by S. Cox of Bristol and Region Archaeological Services as part of an evaluation of land between the Grosvenor Hotel and the George and Railway public house. A trench N. of the hotel produced 14th-century Bristol/Redcliffe ware pottery within a robber trench, indicating the possible presence of the Austin friary in this area. A trench beneath the arches of the former Victoria Street rail bridge revealed a possible medieval pathway and traces of the Portwall ditch. A trench in Portwall Lane East revealed the N. face of the Portwall beneath the pavement on the S. side of the lane. Surfaces abutting the wall produced finds as early as 13th-century Bristol/Redcliffe ware pottery, suggesting several phases of an intramural lane.

6. BRISTOL, ROSE STREET/PIPE LANE/TEMPLE BACK (ST 595 726). An on-going evaluation in this area by S. Cox of Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 241) has so far revealed traces of the Portwall in Rose Street and at Temple Back. In Rose Street a blocked entrance through the wall led to a bastion found during the 1994 evaluation. At Temple Back a chamber with an arched roof was found within the wall, just S. of the site of Tower Harratz. Within the chamber and looking onto the outside of the medieval city was an arrow loop with chamfered sides. Elsewhere at Temple Back the Portwall was found to have survived at various levels, with a Civil War wall above. About 50 m S. of Tower Harratz is a square tower with a possible sally-port to the outside.

7. BIERTON, CHURCH FARM (SP 835 153). Trial trenching was undertaken for Banner Homes in advance of development, in an area close to the site of excavations carried out in 1979 which had revealed a continuous sequence of occupation from the late Iron Age to early Saxon periods. The evaluation produced evidence for several phases of activity, that from the 11th and 12th centuries being associated with a roughly rectangular earthwork 'platform' c. 22 m by 70 m. Excavation subsequently undertaken by *Tempus Reparatum* revealed, *inter alia*, evidence for early Saxon activity (sunken-featured buildings and pits) and further medieval features associated with the platform.

8. LITTLE KIMBLE (SP 827 063). A survey of the medieval earthworks was undertaken by B. Thorn and I. Gethin on behalf of the County Planning and Transportation Department for monument management purposes. None of the earthworks surveyed could be assigned to the considerable Romano-British villa which is known to have stood on this site. The earthworks are interpreted as the remains of a motte with one definite bailey and

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a possible second. The motte was later superseded by a moated site. Extensive landscaping took place during the 19th century.

9. MARLOW, WHITBREAD BREWERY, 80–86 HIGH STREET (SU 8499 8637). Investigation of a small area of the frontage of the High Street was undertaken under the direction of D. Bonner in advance of development for Turner Woolford Sharp (Chartered Architects) and Whitbread Development Ltd. This work, the first excavation within the medieval town, revealed evidence of a timber-framed building of possibly 13th-century date, close to the High Street. At the rear of the building were numerous pits and a possible well, dug between the late 12th and 14th/15th centuries.

10. SOULBURY, RISLIP FARM (SP 888 276). The remains of a small and badly damaged inhumation cemetery were discovered and investigated, after inspection of the topsoil dumps from a sand quarry were found to contain human skeletal material together with Saxon artefacts (pot-sherds, two knives and bone comb fragments). A small quantity of unstratified prehistoric ceramic and lithic material was also found. Parts of four extended inhumations were recovered. It is possible that further burials had been removed in their entirety, but it is thought unlikely that the cemetery had been extensive.

## CUMBRIA

11. CARLISLE CATHEDRAL, CARLISLE (NY 340 556). A survey of Prior Slec's Gatehouse, Carlisle Cathedral, was undertaken by Carlisle Archaeological Unit on behalf of the Dean and Chapter, in tandem with remedial works. The survey has shed light on the structural history of the building. The Gatehouse is dated by an inscription to 1528 and the survey confirmed that no traces of earlier buildings can be identified in the masonry, although drainage works revealed a wall antedating the Gatehouse. The attached building on the N. side of the Gatehouse can also be shown to belong to the early 16th century, albeit with later modifications. Roof timbers surviving in this building are reused and probably belong with a medieval structure.

## DEVON

12. DARTINGTON HALL (SX 798 628). Three further trenches were excavated under the direction of C. K. Currie for C.K.C. Archaeology (Gardens Archaeology Project) (cf. *Medieval Archaeol.* 40 (1996), 251). These included two trenches on the main lawn to further explore the area around a square-planned structure called the 'tower' by Colin Platt, following his discovery of it in 1962. A third trench continued work on the E. end of the Bowling Green, where a stone wall had been found in 1994.

The excavation continued to make discoveries regarding the phasing of the late medieval southern courtyard buildings, and has suggested that conclusions drawn in previous years may need revising. It was not possible to find the edge of a conjectured ditch suggested by Platt in his 1962 excavations. This raises the possibility that the 'ditch' may not exist, and that the original ground level was much lower here than elsewhere, although it still has to be considered that the 'ditch' may have been wider than the extent of this year's excavation.

The demolition of the southern courtyard still seems to have occurred c. 1700–20, but it is possible that there may have been other levelling episodes before this. The only dating evidence for building fragments and materials continues to suggest a later 15th or early 16th-century date, based on a large fragment of square-headed Perpendicular Gothic window found in trench 14.

EXETER. Excavation and survey by Exeter Archaeology.

13. DARTMOUTH, MAYORS AVENUE (SX 878 515). Excavation by M. A. Watts, P. M. Stead, M. E. P. Hall and A. J. Sage of Exeter Archaeology for the Plymouth and South Devon Cooperative Society took place prior to the erection of a supermarket on the c. 0.206 ha former bus depot site. This site occupies an area of reclaimed foreshore between Mayors Avenue on the S. and a narrow lane called Undercliff 40 m to the N. that marks the edge of the medieval shoreline. The site lies in Townstal parish in the area known as Hardness, which formed the N. part of the medieval borough of Dartmouth–Clifton–Hardness. The township of Hardness developed in the 12th century opposite the recently established port town of Dartmouth, from which it was separated by an E.–W. tidal creek on the W. side of the Dart estuary. The inhabitants were principally engaged in fishing and shipbuilding. The Mayors Avenue site lies 50 m E. of Foss Street, which runs along a tide-mill dam established by the early 13th century. Sixteenth-century reclamation deposits from the site contain a proportion of residual medieval pottery, dating from the 12th century onwards, suggesting that tenements N. of Undercliff were probably occupied from that period. The first stage of reclamation seems to have involved the seaward extension of existing medieval properties by excavating or enlarging building terraces cutting into the steep slope on the N. side of Undercliff and dumping the spoil onto the foreshore in front of them, to be retained by stone waterfront walls. The quays and wharfs thus created were usually referred to as ‘palaces’ in early modern deeds, equivalent to the term *palacium* (palisaded or revetted place) employed in late medieval Dartmouth deeds to denote ground reclaimed from the foreshore. Within the present site, a quay built out in front of 45–47 Clarence Street (which runs parallel to Undercliff c. 16 m to its N.) can be shown from documentary evidence to have been built c. 1441. It extended c. 10 m S. from Undercliff and was up to c. 11 m wide; a group of 115 pottery sherds from its fill comprises over 95 per cent Totnes-type coarse wares, with two Saintonge sherds and three sherds from a Merida-type ware costrel — a surprisingly low proportion of imported wares.

14. At 51 *Bartholomew Street West* (SX 917 924) excavation by M. E. P. Hall and P. M. Stead was carried out for City Screen Ltd in advance of the construction of a cinema foyer annexe. The site lies on the NE. side of the street, c. 10 m to the rear of the City Wall. Bartholomew Street, an intra-mural lane of late Saxon origin, was widened considerably in the 19th century. A ?late Saxon boundary ditch, running at right angles to the street, c. 75 m behind the frontage of Fore Street to the SE., produced residual Roman finds only. The ditch had been cut through post-Roman ‘dark soils’ and was cut in turn by medieval pits, dating mainly from the late 12th and 13th centuries, including a lime-burning pit.

15. At 2 *Broadgate* (SX 919 926) small-scale excavation by M. E. P. Hall and J. B. Bedford was carried out in the cellars of these premises during their conversion to a Pizza Express restaurant. The building stands on the NW. side of the Cathedral Close; to the SW. it formerly abutted the medieval Broadgate, the principal entrance to the Close from the High Street on the NW. The boundary of the medieval Close ran SW.–NE. through the middle of the building, whose NW. half was constructed in the early 16th century within the rear part of a tenement fronting on the High Street. No trace remained of a medieval chapel dedicated to St Simon and St Jude which is documented c. 1200 as standing on the Close frontage in a location probably within the N. corner of the present site. The SE. half of the site formed part of the Cathedral cemetery until the frontage was advanced by the erection of single-storey shops from c. 1600. A small undated charnel pit was partially exposed in this area.

16. At *Palace Gate Convent School* (SX 921 924) an archaeological and historical survey of the school buildings and grounds by C. G. Henderson, R. W. Parker and A. J. Matthews was commissioned by the governors. The school lies on the SE. side of Palace Gate, with

(EXETER)

the Bishop's Palace to the NW., the City Wall to the SE. and tenements fronting on South Street to the SW. The site was occupied in the medieval period by a large tenement (average dimensions *c.* 70 m by 50 m), presumably of late Saxon origin, which from at least the mid 12th century was held by successive canons of Exeter Cathedral; it was acquired by the Dean and Chapter in the 13th century as the residence of the Archdeacon of Exeter. It is probable that the building at the core of the central block is the hall recorded as being built by Walter, Archdeacon of Cornwall *c.* 1190 × 1210. It measures 16 m by 10 m externally and is 8.3 m wide internally, suggesting that it would originally have been provided with an aisled roof. The elaborate six-bay base-cruck roof over the hall, which incorporates the base of a large louvre at the NE. end, is thought to date from the last quarter of the 15th century. A deed of *c.* 1220 describes the chapel of St Radegunde as standing at the SW. end of the hall.

17. At *Smythen Street/Market Street/Preston Street* (SX 919 924) evaluation trenches were excavated by M. E. P. Hall, P. M. Stead, A. J. Sage and M. A. Watts for Summerfield Developments (SW.) Ltd. This 0.36 ha site lies in the S. quarter of the city; its W. half is in St George's parish, its E. half in St Mary Major. Smythen Street and Preston Street were both in existence by 1200; Smythen Street, known as Butcher Row from late medieval times, probably originated in the late Saxon period as a back lane to the SE. of Fore Street. Medieval pits sampled in the evaluation date from 1200 onwards, whilst the earliest structures to survive belong to the 15th century and later. A notable find was a Caen stone mortar with a lion-head handle.

PLYMOUTH. Excavation by Exeter Archaeology.

18. At *153 Vauxhall Street* (SX 482 544) a watching brief by M. A. Watts was undertaken for Westcom Ltd during refurbishment of a 19th-century building on the corner of How Street (to the S.) and Vauxhall Street (to the E.); the latter roughly follows the natural W. shoreline of Sutton Pool. The earliest finds retrieved from contractor's trenches were Lostwithiel-type cooking-pot sherds of 14th- or 15th-century date.

19. At *130 Vauxhall Street* (SX 483 544) evaluation excavations were carried out by P. M. Stead for North Quay Ltd. The *c.* 0.11 ha site extends from Vauxhall Street on the W. for 45 m to a frontage on Sutton Wharf to the E., with Looe Street, which originated as a slip between tenements, forming its S. boundary. The whole site occupies ground reclaimed from the W. foreshore of Sutton Pool. The earliest reclamation deposits, of late 14th- or early 15th-century date, were retained by a substantial stone waterfront wall 2 m to the E. of the present Vauxhall Street frontage (widened in the 19th century) and *c.* 73 m W. of the present Sutton Wharf quay wall. A second medieval reclamation phase advanced the waterfront by an estimated 15 m in the late 15th century. Finds from deposits of this period include Valencian lustrewares.

20. TORQUAY, TORRE ABBEY (SX 907 639). Excavation and recording by A. J. Sage of Exeter Archaeology carried out for Torbay Borough Council during sewer replacement works. The *c.* 1 m wide foundation for the W. wall of the E. cloister walk was observed, and a drainage culvert was recorded running N.-S. along the W. side of the W. range (see *Medieval Archaeol.*, 32 (1988), 239, and 33 (1989), 175-76 for earlier work on the site).

TOTNES. Excavation by Exeter Archaeology.

21. At *Church Close* (SX 802 605) partial excavation of a 0.029 ha site in a former school playground on the W. side of Church Close was carried out by P. M. Stead for the

Wakefield Trust, prior to the erection of sheltered housing. Church Close runs along the W. side of St Mary's Churchyard, formerly the precinct of Totnes Priory. A narrow lane on the N. side of the site may overlie the late Saxon town rampart, although it was not possible to confirm this in the excavation owing to the presence of later disturbance in the relevant area. The earliest deposit overlying the natural subsoil contains 11th-/12th-century pottery and is interpreted as a cultivation soil that accumulated to a depth of up to 0.5 m at the foot of the slope behind the rampart. The site originally occupied the N. end of a long tenement that extended back from the High Street. A late medieval N.-S. clay-bonded wall foundation c. 0.8 m wide is thought to represent the W. wall of a building fronting on Church Close; this had been demolished by the time a large quarry pit, which extended beyond the site boundary to the N., was excavated in the early 16th century.

22. At 21-25 *Fore Street* (SX 805 604) a watching brief on the construction of a retail unit was carried out by S. J. Reed and S. A. Sage for London Regional Associates Ltd. The site lies in the E. suburb on the N. side of Fore Street c. 190 m from the East Gate. Preservation of medieval deposits was poor, but some features were recorded and 13th-century pottery was recovered which perhaps dates from the earliest period of occupation.

23. At *South Street* (SX 801 604) evaluation of a 5 m wide tenement at the rear of 54 High Street was undertaken by P. M. Stead and A. J. Matthews for Lloyds Bank Plc. It has long been assumed that South Street follows the external face of the town wall. The medieval wall and the late Saxon rampart were observed for the first time elsewhere on the circuit in excavations at the East Gate in 1991 (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 36 (1992), 220). On the present site the rampart had been entirely removed by post-medieval terracing to accommodate a building on the South Street frontage, although the alignments of late medieval walls suggest that it had a width of c. 6 m. A clay-bonded wall foundation more than 1.05 m wide cuts into the subsoil on the South Street frontage and is thought to be the base of the medieval wall at the front of the Saxon rampart.

24. WEMBWORTHY, EGGESFORD, HEYWOOD MOTTE AND BAILEY (SS 679 125). A measured survey of this scheduled monument was made by T. Dawson and J. Hambley of Exeter Archaeology for Devon County Council following clearance of trees from the site by Forrest Enterprise.

25. WIDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR, HUTHOLES (SX 702 758). Re-excavation of House 3 was undertaken in 1994 by T. H. Gent and P. M. Stead of Exeter Archaeology for the Dartmoor National Park Authority. This is one of the Dartmoor deserted medieval settlements excavated in the 1960s by Mrs E. M. Minter (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 23 (1979), 98-158), who interpreted House 3 as a Domesday 'manor house', the last in a long series of buildings to have occupied the site. Mrs Minter identified large numbers of small features penetrating the earliest excavated levels in the building and the immediately surrounding area. As at Houndtor, these were interpreted as stake-holes and post-holes associated with putative turf-walled buildings. Two sections of stone walling on the N. and W. sides of the stone longhouse were regarded as belonging to a transitional period in which turf walls were faced with stone revetments instead of wattlework. In the 1994 excavation many small rounded features were found cutting into the subsoil. Some of these proved to be stake-holes associated with the stone longhouse; the great majority, however, could be shown by excavation and sectioning probably to have been created by the stems and spreading root systems of shrubs growing on the site at some time prior to the foundation of the medieval settlement. No man-made features were found that could be interpreted unequivocally as belonging to a building or structure predating the medieval longhouse. The two lengths of wall thought by the original excavator to belong to an intermediate period of turf-walled construction proved to be secondary additions to the

(TOTNES)

stone longhouse. The W. wall formed an upper-end external outshut, probably an animal house; that on the N. was found to be a repair made to the exterior of the N. wall of the house after a partial collapse. No trace was found of a S. porch. Re-examination of the entire pottery assemblage from Hutholes by J. P. Allan suggests initial colonization in the 13th century and abandonment of the settlement by the late 14th century.

## DORSET

26. BRIDPORT, SOUTH STREET, THE OLD FIRE STATION (SY 466 927). An excavation was conducted by Wessex Archaeology within the interior of the Old Fire Station. The excavation was preceded by an evaluation of the site, both stages of work being commissioned by the Building Standards Division of Dorset County Council ahead of redevelopment of the site as a Public Library. Two test-pits near the rear of the property had recorded the remains of former late medieval and post-medieval buildings. Various archaeological features were identified, including pits, post-holes and walls. Several groups of intensively intercut, amorphous, late medieval/post-medieval pits were revealed beneath modern walls. These seem to represent *ad hoc* quarrying pits for clay. A substantial wall footing was indicated by the presence of a broad, L-shaped feature in the W. end of the trench, square to the South Street frontage, which appeared to have been robbed of any masonry during the post-medieval period. Some smaller features containing late medieval pottery included post-settings, stone-lined drains and hearths of probable domestic origin.

27. BOREHAM, AIRFIELD (TL 745 121). Excavation by R. Clarke investigated the remains of a probable post-mill of late 12th- or early 13th-century date, with a crude base construction, comprising a central large pit (5 m diameter and 1 m depth) surrounded by a ring-ditch and possible bank or mound (18 m total diameter), and two associated buildings. One was a possible granary to the immediate SE. of the windmill, and the other a large (14 m by 7.4 m) rectangular building with a central internal partition and several possible extensions to the NE. of the windmill and granary, possibly representing a domestic residence with attached barns or storage rooms. These are set within a large enclosure, probably a moat. This moat or enclosure ditch was 5 m wide and *c.* 2 m deep, enclosing a projected area of *c.* 100 sq. m. The ditches close to the windmill and granary produced the greatest quantity of artefacts, especially pottery, daub and animal bone, probably relating to the disuse of the site. Other finds include lava quern, shell, antler, iron and copper objects.

28. CRESSING, CRESSING TEMPLE (TL 799 187). Excavation by T. Robey centred on a re-excavation of the medieval chapel, the subject of an earlier investigation in 1980 by the Brain Valley Archaeology Society. Unfortunately, that work left certain questions unanswered, while related evidence from more recent work, for example in the walled garden, needs to be incorporated before the results can be published. This part of the monument has been heavily landscaped, reducing the surface around the chapel by as much as 0.5 m and removing all traces of the walls and floors of the building. A number of graves cut by the foundation of the chapel are all that remain to show that this structure was preceded by an earlier building. This was probably constructed of timber incorporating an apse at the E. end.

ESSEX. Work by Essex County Council Field Archaeology Group, unless otherwise stated.

29. HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL, CORNER OF HIGH ROAD AND MILL LANE (TQ 6697 8335). An evaluation by trenching was carried out by S. Godbold in advance of construction of a new village hall, in an area adjacent to the medieval market. The main aims were to determine

the date and character of medieval activity in the market area, and whether there is any evidence of earlier settlement related to the known late Saxon mint and postulated *burh*.

Apart from a single pit and a few sherds of Saxon pottery residual in later features, there is no evidence which can be related to the late Saxon mint and *burh*, and the earliest large-scale activity occurred in the 12th/early 13th century. At the High Road frontage, the ground was levelled off at this date, and a sequence of ditches running E.-W., back from the High Road frontage and parallel to Mill Lane, was recorded in all trenches. The earliest of these probably represents a roadside ditch alongside a forerunner of Mill Lane, but later ditches represent a boundary related to the laying out of building plots at the edge of the market area. Most features of this date were rubbish pits.

The latest boundary ditch had become filled by the end of the 13th century, although large quantities of domestic rubbish continued to be dumped in the top of the ditches in the mid 13th/14th centuries. By the 14th/15th centuries the ditch area had been levelled. The wall trenches and post-holes of the S. side of a timber building, extending back from the High Road, were recorded N. of the ditch sequence. This building post-dates the infilling of the ditches and is broadly dated to the 13th to 15th centuries. A hearth or oven cut the S. wall of the building, and appears to be part of a later, less well-defined structure. In many areas the latest medieval stratigraphy was truncated by post-medieval building levels.

The medieval levels, especially the 12th- to 13th-century ditch sequence and the dumping of rubbish in the ditch area in the 13th and 14th centuries, produced large quantities of finds. The medieval pottery is the best group recovered from Horndon so far, while the large amounts of animal bone and marine shell from some levels provide evidence of medieval diet. The lava quernstones and metalworking slag suggest that milling of grain and smithing were taking place around the market area. Although wet ground conditions were encountered in some parts of site, the potential for survival of plant and other organic remains is limited.

30. ———, VILLAGE HALL (TQ 6699 8335). An excavation was carried out by D. Boden in advance of construction of a new village hall, after a trenching evaluation had identified medieval stratification surviving adjacent to the medieval market area. The excavation investigated a wider area around the two main evaluation trenches in the centre and E. of the site, and covered the entire footprint of the new building. Because of constraints on time and funding a policy of sample excavation was adopted, with a bias towards recording the better-preserved sequences at the street frontages, and linking the sequences recorded in the evaluation trenches. As a result the excavation was extended right up to the High Road frontage to the E. and the Mill Lane frontage to the S.

No evidence was found of an earlier Saxon settlement or the postulated late Saxon *burh*, the earliest activity occurring in the 12th century. The sequence of ditches along the Mill Road frontage along the S. of the site can be dated to the 12th to mid 14th centuries, with the sequence of recuts pushing the frontage southwards, although the late medieval frontage line still lay a little to the N. of the modern frontage. A further sequence of ditches recorded in the NW. of the site was dated to the 13th century, and crossed the site on a NE.-SW. alignment. If these ditches represent plot boundaries, the layout at the rear of the plots must have been quite irregular.

At the High Road frontage along the E. side of the site at least four building phases were recorded, dating from the early 13th to 16th centuries. The initial phases consisted of post-hole structures. A late medieval building, dated to the 15th to 16th centuries, is defined by beam-slots. The latest in the sequence, dated to the 16th century, was constructed on very large posts, and appears to be open-fronted with the gravels of the market area extending across the frontage line. In the later medieval period the Mill Road frontage ditches were levelled over with dirty gravel, and the frontage was marked by a fence line. The area immediately behind the buildings was investigated in detail during the evaluation, when a complex of intercutting pits was recorded, dating from the 12th century

onwards. The excavation recorded further pits in backland areas, but also further post-hole structures.

31. PLESHEY, HILL HOUSE, BACK LANE (TL 664 146). Resistivity survey by P. J. Cott revealed the plan of the original medieval church, showing as a rectangular building on an E.-W. alignment. The building stops short at the edge of the survey area and may continue further to the E. The lines showing are probably masonry foundations which have not been completely robbed in antiquity. The building dimensions are *c.* 18 m E.-W. and 15 m N.-S. There appear to be two aisles, the northern being 3 m wide, the southern 4 m wide. There are suggestions of possible buttresses at the W. end and in the SE. corner.

32. WIMBISH, TIPTOFTS MANOR, SEWARDS END (TL 569 374). An earthwork survey was carried out at the request of English Heritage by M. Brown, Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England. The medieval landscape at Tiptofts centres around the moat surrounding the Manor House. Several ponds, five of which still contain water, are preserved in the pasture fields surrounding the moat, and a brick dovecote also survives nearby; the remains of an 18th/19th-century farm lie to the N. Other features present in the landscape include a possible pillow mound, the remains of field boundaries, some prominent ditches, as well as some less easily categorized earthworks.

The surviving remains and the documentary evidence reveal that this was a manor of moderate size and status throughout its history. The moat is probably contemporary with the earliest phase of the present manor house. This is itself poorly dated, but in broad terms, a construction date between the late 12th and mid 14th century would be likely.

The moat, enclosing 0.16 ha, is typical of Essex examples. It has undergone minor alterations over time but is essentially in its original form. Garden compartments and other buildings are known to have existed in the 18th century from documentary evidence, and it is likely that the farm replaced an earlier one, perhaps on the same site. The fishponds (eight in total, though in 1746 there were eleven) are located mostly along the edges of the fields surrounding the moat. Most are rectangular and located in pairs. This elaborate system of fishponds represents a considerable investment in construction and upkeep, and may hint at a greater degree of prosperity and status than is otherwise evident from the surviving field and documentary evidence.

#### GLOUCESTERSHIRE

33. ARLINGHAM, WICK COURT (SO 736 105). Bath Archaeological Trust (R. Bell) was commissioned by Farms for City Children to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Wick Court, a medieval moated manor house substantially altered in the mid 17th century, which was a working farm until the late 1980s. The work demonstrated the existence of archaeological features both within and outside the house. The mitigation excavations which followed revealed a sequence of medieval buildings. As at Acton Court, the below-ground excavations were done in conjunction with a detailed architectural analysis of the standing building by K. Rodwell. The earliest house on the site was a timber-framed hall with a stone camera block to the E. and a timber kitchen to the W., which produced a valuable group of stratified 12th-century pottery. In the 13th century a new stone hall (with a possible detached tower to the E.) was built immediately S. of the earlier house. This in turn was replaced in the late 14th century by a slightly narrower hall, much of which is still standing. In the 17th century the house was extended northwards. The new work, in brick, directly overlay the original house. In the early 19th century the interior of the house was refitted and there were major alterations to the farm buildings.

34. EBLEY, WESTWARD ROAD (SO 831 047). Excavation by A. Barber and G. Walker for Cotswold Archaeological Trust revealed a previously unknown focus of medieval

occupation away from the main recorded settlement at Ebley, possibly a small farmstead or roadside occupation. The earliest definable activity consisted of 11th/13th-century gravel quarrying. During the 12th to 15th centuries a fenced boundary was established, recut and subsequently combined with a ditch. The latest boundary was associated with post-holes and wall footings of two structures, one of which contained a hearth.

35. KINGSWOOD (ST 747 920). English Heritage commissioned Bath Archaeological Trust (R. Bell) to carry out a watching brief during drainage works adjacent to the lodgings range on the E. side of the early Tudor gatehouse. The lodgings range and the gatehouse (together with a similar range to the W. of the gatehouse) are virtually the only parts of the medieval Cistercian abbey which remain standing. The new drain was connected to an existing concrete pipe, laid in a deep trench which ran parallel to the S. wall of the lodgings. A short stretch of the trench was reopened, revealing the previously unrecorded foundation trench of a wall which had been demolished and robbed out shortly after the dissolution of the abbey. It projected southwards from the E. end of the range and appears to have formed one side of a demolished lateral range, related to an outer court. In conjunction with the documentary evidence, it strongly suggests that the standing gatehouse was not the main entrance to the abbey complex, but was instead a feature within the complex separating the outer and inner precincts.

36. ———, ABBEY GATEHOUSE (ST 747 920). A watching brief was carried out by Gloucestershire County Archaeology Service on the replacement of a gas main that runs along Kingswood High Street, passing under the 16th-century gatehouse. Roughly 18 m N. of the gatehouse the trench was cut through a wall-robbing trench aligned approx. NW.–SE., and 9 m to the S. the trench was crossed by a second wall. The alignment of this wall was unclear due to damage caused by earlier service trenches but it is probably the same wall recorded by Bath Archaeological Trust in 1991 on a NW.–SE. alignment. The area between the two walls contained large amounts of masonry rubble and other demolition-related materials. If the walls do represent an abbey building its position only 6 m directly in front of the arch of the main gatehouse is intriguing. Below the gatehouse itself the trench was cut through natural clay. To the S. of the gatehouse the trench was cut through further rubble deposits which were seen to continue as far S. as the junction with Abbey Street.

37. ———, CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL ROOM, THE WALK (ST 748 921). Salvage recording was carried out by Gloucestershire County Archaeology Service on deposits exposed by the removal of rotten floor joists. The short W. wall of the building is not at right angles to the N. and S. walls and is clearly earlier than the N. wall. Both long sides of the 19th-century schoolroom had been built on the foundations of earlier structures. At least two building phases pre-dated the school room. The base of a fireplace and reused chamfered edge stones were recorded. No dating evidence was retrieved. A third wall ran E.–W. under the centre of the schoolroom. This wall was sealed under the floor of the building that pre-dated the schoolroom. Unfortunately any further stratigraphic relationships were lost to local enthusiasm. Whilst the date of the earlier walls could not be established, the recording provides further evidence of extensive survival of well-preserved structural deposits in the area of Kingswood Abbey.

38. ———, KINGSWOOD-WOTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL (ST 747 921). The foundations for an extension to Kingswood Primary School were archaeologically excavated by staff of Gloucestershire County Archaeology Service. The site is located 30 m NW. of the surviving 16th-century gatehouse of Kingswood Abbey. Whilst the method of excavation precluded identification of building plans and development, it was demonstrated that medieval stone buildings are well preserved on the site. Stone features included walls up to eleven courses

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in height, floor and exterior surfaces, collapsed masonry and roofing materials. At least two medieval building phases were identified. Work by A. Vince on the pottery from the site indicates that 40 per cent is of previously unidentified local manufacture, and therefore accurate dating of the deposits has proved difficult.

39. MORETON-IN-MARSH, TINKER'S CLOSE (SP 206 320). Excavation directed by B. Langton and G. Walker for Cotswold Archaeological Trust on land N. of, and adjacent to, the 1995 excavations revealed further traces of 11th/13th-century arable cultivation and a small number of pits. The excavation confirms that there was medieval activity prior to the founding of the plantation settlement in the early 13th century. This earlier activity seems to be focused to the W. of the later settlement, and astride the Fosse Way. Activity at Tinker's Close ceased at the time the plantation settlement was founded.

40. STROUD, DUDBRIDGE (SO 835 046). An assessment was undertaken by Gloucestershire County Archaeology Service in advance of a proposal to demolish the bridge during development of a new superstore. The medieval lower part of the present bridge, crossing the R. Frome, consisting of a small hump-backed stone bridge supported on three arches, was recorded as early as 1368. Following repair after floods in 1750, the bridge was widened, and its hump-backed profile flattened. The bridge was preserved, although the R. Frome was diverted, during the construction of the Ebley Bypass in the early 1990s. Recommendations were made to ensure the preservation and display the medieval part of the bridge, although it was necessary to demolish much of the southern part of the post-medieval superstructure in order to relocate electricity services. A watching brief was maintained on this operation and associated groundworks. Dismantling was undertaken by qualified stonemasons. Each stone was numbered on removal to enable the parapet to be rebuilt as closely as possible to its previous appearance.

## SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

41. ACTON COURT, IRON ACTON (ST 677 842). A watching brief was carried out by R. Bell of Bath Archaeological Trust during the excavation of service trenches, to the S. and SE. of the house. An outer ditch or moat was found, running along the E. side of the site and cut through the natural clay. It was 6.5 m wide and at least 1.5 m deep, with Pennant sandstone retaining walls on either side. It was probably contemporary with the mid 13th-century rock-cut moat surrounding the house, and was filled in during the mid 16th century. It could be traced over a distance of 70 m and may have originally been considerably longer. No evidence of this important feature had been found during the main excavations, because with the exception of a short length beneath the SE. corner of the E. court, it was outside the area formerly owned by English Heritage. Previously it had been thought that only the house itself had been enclosed by a moat, but it is now clear that the medieval agricultural complex was also protected by this feature.

## GREATER LONDON

CAMDEN. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

42. At *Mount Vernon, Frogna Rise* (TQ 262 859) an excavation by P. Hutchings for Weatherstar Ltd revealed the remains of a medieval field system and associated fence lines, represented by post-holes, gullies and a pit which contained pottery dating to 1150–1500. They suggest an agricultural use of the land during this period. On the W. side of the site, at the bottom of the slope, a platform was terraced into the hillside and a structure, initially of timber and later of brick, was built in the c. late 15th/early 16th centuries. A cess-pit was associated with the earlier structure.

43. At *Kingsway Hall, 66–68 Great Queen Street* (TQ 306 813) an evaluation by K. Pitt for Renoport Ltd revealed mid Saxon features consisting of rubbish pits and different phases of structures; a possibly contemporary soil horizon was also recorded.

CITY. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

44. At *Bull Wharf, Bull Wharf Lane, 16–21 Queenhithe, 66 Upper Thames Street* (TQ 323 808) final work was undertaken by J. Ayre and R. Wroe-Brown for Markborough Properties UK Ltd on ground works in the area of the proposed scheduled ancient monument (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 256–57). Medieval and post-medieval foundations were recorded cutting through earlier reclamation dumps; from the pattern of medieval chalk foundations, it seems that the medieval properties were subdivided in the post-medieval period. (Pl. XII, A).

45. At *All Hallows by the Tower, Byward Street* (TQ 334 807) a watching brief by D. Lakin, for The All Hallows Development Trust, recorded disturbed graveyard deposits, including human remains. In the SE. corner of the church offset chalk footings were exposed: presumably these are medieval in date.

46. At *Gateway House, 25 Cannon Street* (TQ 322 811) an evaluation by D. Bowsher for Scottish Amicable Investment Managers established the line of medieval Friday Street, the earliest surface being dated to the late 11th/12th centuries, and similarly dated pits were recorded in the W. and E. of the site. Fronting onto the W. side of Friday Street was a medieval building, represented by a chalk and ragstone cellar wall; the cellar appears to have continued in use into the 17th or 18th centuries.

47. At *77 Carter Lane, 1 Carter Court* (TQ 318 811) a survey of the standing building by N. Holder and T. Smith for Dencora Homes Ltd recorded medieval deposits above the natural gravels, and a brick wall that almost certainly pre-dates the Great Fire, and might have been associated with Blackfriars Priory (founded 1275), though it could have been part of a building post-dating the Dissolution.

48. At *4, 6, 8 Creechurch Lane* (TQ 344 812) a watching brief by P. Miller for Southern Properties (Kensington) Ltd located a number of medieval pits dating to the late 11th/early 12th centuries. These were sealed by deposits of the cemetery of St Katherine Cree and St Michael, both of which were chapels from 1201, and St Katherine Cree was rebuilt as a parish church in 1222–48. Thirteen graves were recorded.

49. At *Creechurch Lane/Creechurch Place* (TQ 334 812) a watching brief was carried out by L. Dunwoodie for the Corporation of London. The site lies within the Great Court of the precinct of the 12th-century Holy Trinity Priory. A series of demolition dumps, which appeared to have been medieval in origin, were recorded; they were cut by pits containing late medieval or early post-medieval material.

50. At *Garrard House, Haberdshers Hall, 31–45 Gresham Street* (TQ 323 814) an excavation by L. Howe for Wates City of London Properties revealed a number of medieval features, including pits — one of which contained several near complete vessels — and a chalk and ragstone foundation.

51. At *Guildhall Art Gallery, Guildhall Yard* (TQ 325 814) excavations by N. Bateman and G. Porter for the Corporation of London continued (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 258) in the area immediately S. of the Guildhall and underneath Guildhall Yard. Here a sequence of thick organic spreads and dumps was cut by pits and, in particular, a huge wattle-lined

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ditch several metres wide and about 1.5 m deep. Interpretation of the latter as a drainage and boundary ditch corroborates previous suggestions (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 39 (1995), 203–04) that early 11th-century reoccupation of the amphitheatre arena area encountered considerable problems with water. The site was then bisected by a N.–S. road provisionally dated to the 11th century; it was later to be enlarged as Guildhall Yard. In the Saxo-Norman period the road was flanked by buildings on both sides: several phases of two buildings on the W., and at least one large 11th/12th-century post-and-wattle building, with internal partitions, hearths and doorways, on the E. Underpinning of Dance's Guildhall Porch continued and many more moulded stones from the original medieval porch frontage were recovered, having been reused in Dance's new foundations. The stones include parts of the decorated blind panelling of the frontage, canopies and plinths for recessed statues, and at least one ogival hood mould from the decorated screen which connected the porch to Guildhall Chapel. During monitoring of underpinning to the E., two ashlar blocks were found at the base of the 15th-century Guildhall Chapel N. aisle wall: each had an inscription, painted in black letter Gothic script characteristic of the 15th century (Pl. XII, B). The names of Thomas Knollys and Henry Frowyk can be identified, both of whom are figures of importance in the history of the Guildhall and, in particular, in the rebuilding of Guildhall Chapel. The stones appear to have been laid as 'invisible' dedicatory stones.

52. At *Suffolk House, 5 Laurence Pountney Hill, 154–56 Upper Thames Street* (TQ 327 808) an excavation and watching brief were carried out by A. Woodger for Argent Real Estate (Knightsbridge) Ltd. To the E. of the site the brick-earth floor of a Saxo-Norman building was recorded, cut through by later 12th-century rubbish pits. To the N. an 11th-century cess-pit contained disarticulated, slumped human remains, possibly from the pre-Fire burial ground of St Laurence Pountney church. Medieval chalk walls and foundations were recorded in the E. along the Laurence Pountney Lane frontage and S. of Rectory House and in the W. on the site of the Manor of the Rose or Pountney's Inn. To the SE. a N.–S. chalk and gravel foundation on cleft beech piles is of a type found from the late 11th or 12th centuries. A 15th- or 16th-century chalk-lined well and a chalk-lined cess-pit may have been infilled following the Great Fire.

53. At *Shelley House, Noble Street* (TQ 323 815) excavations were carried out by D. Lakin and T. Thomas for London Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. This site lies within the bounds of the Roman Cripplegate fort in which, documentary records suggest, a Saxon palace was established. The Roman remains were, in places, sealed by an accumulation of grey silts dated to the 4th–11th centuries. In c. 1050 a number of burgrave plots were laid out on the site and until c. 1200 the area was subject to quite intensive activity: four buildings dating to this period have been identified, one of which incorporated a cellar of considerable size. Numerous crucibles containing metalworking residues were recovered. In the 13th or 14th centuries the area seems to have undergone a change in use and a reduction in the intensity of settlement, evidenced by the infilling of the cellar.

54. At *1–19 Poultry, 2–38 Queen Victoria Street, 3–9, 35–40 Bucklersbury* (TQ 326 811) earlier excavations were followed by a main phase of excavation by M. Burch, J. Hill, S. Jones, D. Lees, P. Rowsome and P. Treveil, for Altstadtbau Ltd representing Advanta Management AG and City Acre Property and Investment Trust (Figs. 1, 2). On the W. part of the site a possible late Saxon sunken-featured building was recorded cutting into the surface of the disused main E.–W. Roman road, and a NW.–SE.-aligned late Saxon or early medieval roadway was located next to, and parallel with, a NW.-aligned Roman road. The road, whose make-up layers and metallings contained large amounts of

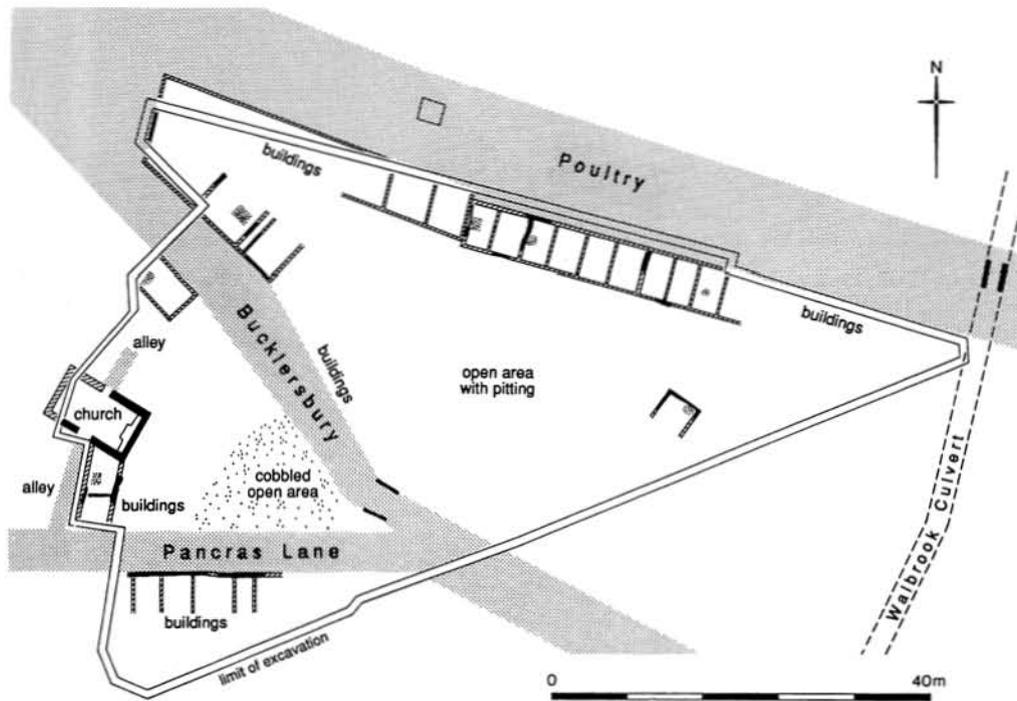


FIG. 1

City of London, 1 Poultry: early medieval and Saxo-Norman development to c. 1150

butchered animal bone, was slightly sunken through use. The road led SE. to a large open area whose metallings also contained butchered animal bone. The full extent of the open space was uncertain, but it appeared to be centred on the area of a former Roman road junction. A number of refuse pits to the W. contained embroidered and decoratively stitched shoes of the 10th or 11th centuries. Early medieval buildings may have been constructed around the sides of the open area and along the NW. approach to it. By the 12th century the NW. approach and part of the open area had become the medieval street of Bucklersbury, and the S. side of the space had become the line of Pancras Lane. Timber buildings along the S. side of Poultry and the NE. side of Bucklersbury contained evidence of ironworking. They were superseded by larger buildings with chalk foundations, but whose floors and contemporary ground-surfaces did not survive.

55. At 14-20, 2 St Mary Axe, 24-28 St Mary Axe/22-25 Bury Street (Baltic Mercantile and Shipping Exchange), 30-32 St Mary Axe/1-6 Bury Court, 19-21, 26-28 Bury Street (TQ 332 813) a watching brief by L. Howe and R. Nielsen for Trafalgar House followed earlier excavations (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 259). Pits of possible 11th/12th-century date were located towards St Mary Axe, and in the S. of the site several medieval pits contained fragments of possible bell moulds, bronze metal waste and stone crucible fragments. Also in the S. were the remains of truncated chalk foundations, two chalk cellars and several wells (Pl. XV, A), the latter two probably associated with buildings fronting St Mary Axe and Brown's Buildings. A substantial medieval cellar to the W. had been reused after disuse or demolition of the superstructure as a cess-pit; it contained three complete or near-complete late medieval pottery vessels.

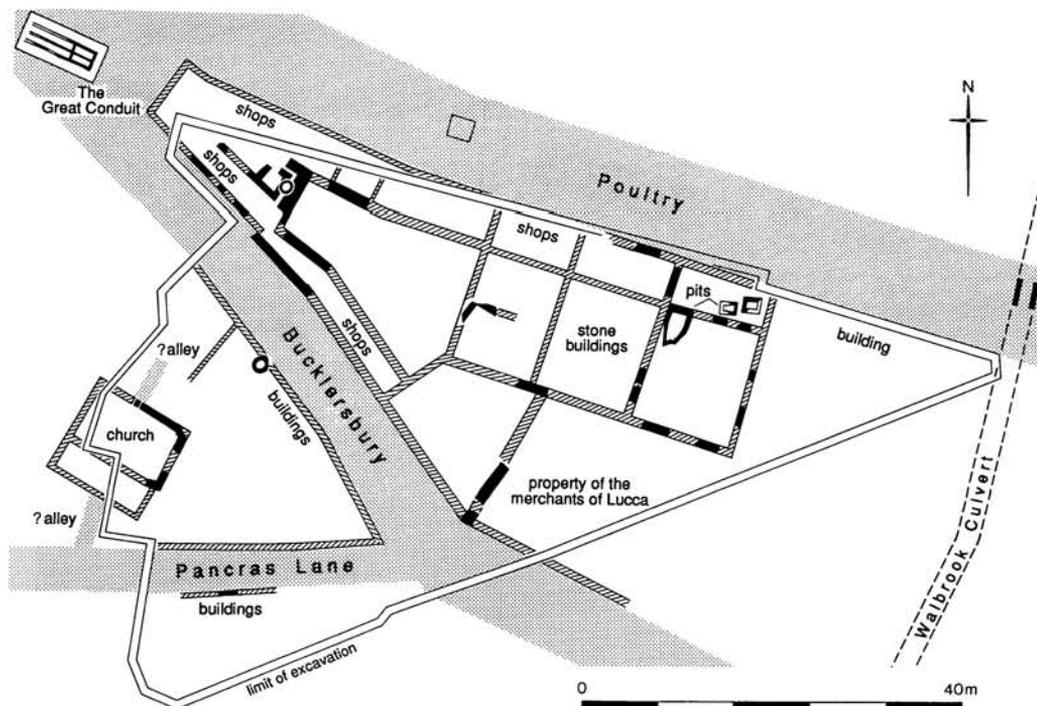


FIG. 2  
City of London, 1 Poultry: later medieval development to c. 1500

56. At *St Paul's Cathedral West Crypt, W. end and SW. area and the North Corridor (W. of West Transept)*, *St Paul's Churchyard* (TQ 320 812) watching briefs were undertaken by J. Schofield and T. Thomas for the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral. Further refurbishment followed that of 1994 (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 39 (1995), 206), and at the W. end of the cathedral a medieval foundation, which was probably situated outside the S. wall of the medieval cathedral, was revealed. The North Corridor consisted of a trench just outside the N. external wall of the cathedral, leading from the N. transept. Medieval cemetery deposits were recorded, truncated by early burials. The burials of at least 27 individuals and two possible charnel pits were recovered; they may form part of the Pardon churchyard or its precursor which was situated N. of the medieval cathedral. At the E. end of the trench the burials were cut by a large N.-S. chalk foundation which could have been associated with the E. range of the Pardon cloister (first observed as a series of pile foundations in excavations in 1914), with the medieval cathedral, or with a building on this part of the churchyard. Contractor excavations through the NW. wall of the N. transept of the cathedral produced a wide range of moulded and worked stone from the medieval cathedral, one of which bore traces of paint.

57. At *2 Wardrobe Place* (TQ 319 811) a watching brief by M. Wiggins for the Corporation of London recorded the backfill of a robbing trench which may have been associated with the buildings of the medieval King's Wardrobe complex.

58. At *Daiwa House, 84–89 Wood Street* (TQ 323 815) an excavation and watching brief was carried out by P. Miller for Kajima UK following an earlier evaluation. It revealed 11th to 12th-century and later medieval features which consisted of rubbish and cess-pits, including chalk-lined cess-pits, and a chalk footing. The presence of the 11th to 12th-century pits confirms that the area within the Roman Cripplegate fort was occupied at this time, documentary records suggesting that a Saxon palace was established in the area.

CROYDON. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

59. At *68–74 Park Lane, Croydon* (TQ 326 651) an excavation by R. Nielsen for Croydon Properties Ltd located a medieval gravel extraction pit.

60. At *3–7 Park Street, Croydon* (TQ 324 654) an evaluation by S. Tucker, and an excavation and watching brief by P. Miller for Bass Taverns Ltd, found several pits cutting into ploughsoil, from which medieval or early post-medieval material was recovered. One at least of these may have been for gravel extraction.

HAVERING

61. NOAK HILL, PATERNOSTER ROW (TQ 534 941). During excavations for a garden pond in 1995, M. White discovered large amounts of pottery. This material was subsequently identified as Mill Green-type ware and the Rochford Hundred Field Archaeological Group carried out an excavation at the site, with advice from F. Meddens. Approximately 5–6 sq. m were excavated.

A review of the Sites and Monuments Record for a 500 m search area identified 12th to 13th-century pottery, found at an unspecified location on Noak Hill prior to 1960. Widdrington Farm, immediately SW. of the site, was formerly known as Wolves and Joyes Farm and, according to documentary sources, dates at least to the 15th century. This farm appears to have had a medieval predecessor. The buildings retain a 17th-century cross wing. A tile production kiln referred to in documentary sources dating to 1558 appears to have been attached to Widdrington. Other known find-spots of Mill Green pottery close to Noak Hill are at Beredens farm and Pyrgo Park, both within the London Borough of Havering.

At a depth of *c.* 0.3 m a *c.* 0.3 m thick dump of broken tile was found; a further 0.1 m down a compacted layer consisting of broken pottery set in a matrix of fired clay was uncovered. The pottery consisted of kiln waste of Mill Green-type pottery, including jugs, bowls, cooking pots, skillets and one fragment of a culinary stamp. Formerly the only other production site from which these stamps were known was the waster mounds at Mill Green, Ingatestone in Essex. Fragments of kiln floor and kiln lining were incorporated in the layer of compacted kiln waste. On further excavation it proved to consist of two roughly oval-shaped compact deposits at least 0.3 m in depth, measuring *c.* 0.4 m by 0.8 m. The features were not fully excavated although they were sampled, including one sample which was lifted intact. No *in situ* kiln lining was identified. If the features represent kiln remains then they were clearly heavily truncated and may possibly be similar to a Musty's Type 1b single-flue horseshoe or pear-shaped kiln. If this is the case the flue and stokepit clearly remain unexcavated. The excavation produced a total of 3211 potsherds, almost exclusively of Mill Green fabrics and shapes, 1364 fragments of tile and 352 fragments of kiln structure, lining and props.

HILLINGDON. Work by the Museum of London Archaeological Service.

62. At *St Martin's Church, Church Road, West Drayton* (TQ 062 796) J. Partridge carried out a watching brief for the Parochial Church Council of St Martin's Church. This church has a medieval or earlier foundation date and was incorporated within a manorial holding until the late 18th century; brick enclosure walls and a gatehouse still mark the site of the

manor. An E.-W. Tudor brick wall was located in the watching brief and identified as the wall enclosing a 'brew house yard'.

63. At *Colham Mill Road, West Drayton* (TQ 057 801) an excavation by H. Knight for Acton Housing Association revealed two wattle-lined pits, separated by a line of wattlework; they are dated to the late Saxon to early medieval periods. Above lay an organic deposit, indicative of marshy ground, which is dated to the 10th or 11th centuries. A gravel track was laid on this but was sealed by an alluvial deposit, suggesting that flooding led to its disuse. The alluvium was covered by a buried topsoil.

64. At the rear of *High St, Uxbridge* (TQ 174 772) an excavation by H. Knight for Sun Alliance Group Properties found evidence for a range of activities taking place behind properties fronting the High Street in the medieval period. Three burgrave plots have been identified, laid out in the 12th-13th centuries and apparently from W.-E. The central plot contained the remains of what appears to have been the base of a 13th-century updraught kiln which was dismantled, possibly in the 14th century.

HOUNSLOW. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

65. At *Hounslow Police Station, Montague Road, Hounslow* (TQ 137 757) excavations by R. Cowie for the Metropolitan Police Service followed an evaluation (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 39 (1995), 207). Deposits dating to the 14th or 15th centuries and a ditch infilled in the late 15th century were revealed; these were probably related to Hounslow Priory (founded c. 1200). A clay hearth and an overlying pitched tile hearth also appear to have been contemporaneous, although the latter may date to after the Dissolution.

ISLINGTON. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

66. At *Northampton Hall, 25-32 Chiswell Street* (TQ 3257 8199) an evaluation by I. Grainger for City University recorded gravel extraction pits dated to the 15th century, the lower fills of which contained large amounts of waste from leather, bone, antler and horn working. One of these pits was sealed by levelling of 15th/16th-century date.

67. At *94-100 Clerkenwell Road* (TQ 316 821) an evaluation was carried out by K. Pitt for Texaco Ltd. The area to the E. of the site appears to have lain within the inner precinct of the mid-12th century Priory of St John. Activity in the early medieval period seems to have been confined to dumping and pit-digging; by the late medieval period a structure had been built which was not demolished until the late 17th century at the earliest. In another area quarry pits were succeeded by domestic rubbish pits of late medieval date.

68. At *99 St John Street* (TQ 318 821) a watching brief by G. Malcolm for Harbutt Paul was undertaken during the refurbishment of the basement of this building, which lay in the Outer Precinct of the mid 12th-century St John's Priory. A brick-lined well of 16th-century date was excavated to a depth of 3 m and some fills from a medieval cess-pit were sampled. The well was probably in the garden of a property that once belonged to Thomas Docwra, Prior of the Order of St John in England and responsible for much rebuilding work in the priory.

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

69. At *61-62 Cheyne Walk* (TQ 271 776) an evaluation, excavation and watching brief by J. Partridge for Berkeley Homes (Thames Valley) Ltd revealed early medieval deposits and

cut features, including pits, post-holes, a ditch, possible bedding trenches, and a beam-slot. Most of these are dated to the late 11th/12th centuries, with some dated to the 13th/14th centuries. The central part of the site was then truncated for the insertion of a cellar, constructed of roughly squared chalk blocks and dated to the 15th century or later. Contemporary and later rubbish and sand extraction pits were recorded.

LAMBETH. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

70. At *Oxo Tower, Old Barge House Alley* (TQ 313 805) a watching brief by G. Potter for Harvey Nicols Restaurant Ltd recorded an infill, containing 16th-century material, of a large drainage channel which flowed into the Thames. Apparently of medieval origin, this drainage channel is shown on a number of 16th- and early 17th-century plans; thereafter it appears to have gone out of use, although until recently its approximate line was marked by Old Barge House Alley. The site was then substantially truncated by 19th-century and subsequent development.

RICHMOND. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

71. At *29 and 31 King Street, Twickenham* (TQ 162 732) an evaluation by R. Cowie for Hill Samuel Property Services Ltd revealed a late medieval rubbish pit containing 15th-century pottery.

72. At *107 Mortlake High Street* (TQ 208 766) an evaluation by N. Roycroft for Telstar Holdings Ltd revealed two sunken-featured buildings constructed in c. 500, one with an external oven, though attached and accessible from the inside. At the top of the oven was a small exit flue. Subsequent alluvial deposition covered the site up to the end of the 16th century.

SOUTHWARK. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

73. At *Jacob's Island, Bermondsey Wall West* (TQ 341 798) an evaluation and excavation by D. Saxby for Berkeley Homes Ltd revealed the chalk foundation walls of two buildings which were located within the vicinity of the medieval St Saviour's Mill and near the R. Neckinger. These buildings are likely to have been associated with the miller's house or storage buildings. The mill continued in use until the 18th century.

SUTTON. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

74. At *43 The Crescent, Belmont* (TQ 254 618) a watching brief by J. Partridge for Sutton Heritage Centre revealed a possible Saxon crouched inhumation cutting into the natural chalk. The head lay at the N. end of the grave, the body lay on its left side with the left cheek resting on the left upper arm (which was raised) and facing E. The right arm lay across the body and rested on the left arm; the legs were bent at the knees which were raised and pointed towards the E.

TOWER HAMLETS. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service, unless stated otherwise.

75. At *250 Bishopsgate, Steward St* (TQ 334 818) excavations by L. Dunwoodie and C. Thomas for A.B.N. Amro Bank/Spitalfields Development Group followed an evaluation in 1995 (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 262). They revealed a number of wells dating from the 12th to 14th centuries, including three with timber sides still complete at the base. Two complete late 12th- or early 13th-century pots were recovered, buried in pits. The wells and pits were probably located in the backs of properties which are known to have fronted onto Bishopsgate in the 12th and early 13th centuries. From 1235 onwards much of the site formed part of the outer precinct to the Priory and Hospital of St Mary

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Spital; associated with this were several wooden structures, represented by large numbers of post-holes, two stone buildings and a substantial boundary wall. Areas of the site were clearly set aside for different uses: large rubbish pits dating to the 13th to 16th centuries, some quarry pits of 13th-century date, and ploughing. Ditches seem to have been dug as boundaries defining different activities. Two skeletons dating to the late medieval period were also excavated.

76. At *Hermitage Riverside, Wapping High Street* (TQ 342 802) an evaluation by K. Pitt for the London Docklands Development Corporation found that waterlaid deposits were cut by a linear slot, possibly structural, which was sealed by late medieval reclamation dumps.

77. At *Spitalfields Market, Steward Street* (TQ 336 819) an evaluation by C. Thomas for Spitalfields Development Group located parts of at least 33 human skeletons from the NW corner of the market; some graves contained single, others multiple burials. The dating evidence suggests that these skeletons were part of the medieval Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital (founded in 1197), in whose outer precinct the site lies. The skeletons were not removed.

78. H.M. TOWER OF LONDON (TQ 336 806). Extensive archaeological work has been directed by G. D. Keevill of Oxford Archaeological Unit on behalf of the Historic Royal Palaces during 1995 to April 1997. Several small projects are noted at the end of this report, but the majority of effort has been expended on the Tower Environs Scheme, and especially the moat. The work has provided important information regarding the history of the Tower and its development. This phased chronological summary represents an interim statement, and fieldwork continues.

*Phase 1: early to mid 13th century*

The most important discovery of the excavations so far occurred in the western arm of the moat, where one of the 1995 trial trenches uncovered high-quality masonry at the bottom of the moat. No buildings were known or suspected in this position, but the character of the stonework suggested that it belonged to Henry III's reign (1216–72), and that it therefore belonged to an earlier stage in the Tower's development than Edward I's moat (Pl. XIII, A,B). A much larger excavation was undertaken during 1996.

The main part of the building was square, with 6.85 m long sides, and the five courses survived to a maximum height of 1.02 m. There had been extensions to the NE. and SE. corners of the structure as part of the original build, creating a 'T' shape with the bar running N.–S. The top of the structure lay at 0.24 m above O.D. The core of the masonry consisted of Kentish ragstone faced with ashlar. The bottom three courses consisted of Purbeck marble, with a chamfer to the base course. The upper two courses were from the Reigate quarries in Surrey. The fourth course was chamfered, like the bottom one. No Reigate blocks were found on the extensions, but the chamfer itself turned through 90 degrees and would have been continuous onto them. All of the blocks were cramped together; the cramps have not survived on the visible surfaces, but the holes they were sunk into are very clear. Lead was used in the bonding, suggesting that part of the masonry was below water. Further blocks of Purbeck and Reigate ashlar were found in the later moat fills around the building. One piece shows that the upper portion of the structure was polygonal.

The structure was connected to timbers forming part of a timber bridge running westwards across the contemporary moat. The oak beams which ran along the N. and S. faces were seated under the two extensions, thus proving that the masonry and the bridge were not only built at the same time but also that they had been planned as a single entity.

The beams were jointed into a whole oak running along the W. face of the building. This N.-S. beam was attached to five more oaks spaced at 1.8 m intervals and running westwards into a second beam. All the timbers were jointed with pegged mortises and tenons. A third 9.5 m long N.-S. timber was found a further 2.4 m to the W. Two diagonal raking oak shores with damaged pegged tenons were found at the N. end of these beams. All the oak timbers were in remarkably good condition, with a fairly consistent scantling of around 0.3 m square.

The existence of a timber bridge obviously implies the presence of a moat at this point before Edward I's reign. Parts of this were found to the W. and S. of the structure, where it was much deeper than the later moat. At least seven unconverted beech trunks were found in the W. portion, while more than a dozen unconverted beeches were found in a trench 65 m S. of the masonry, associated with what appears to be a rubble dam revetted with beech piles. Dendrochronology samples have been taken from some of these timbers.

The masonry and oak timbers showed clear signs of massive structural stress which ultimately must have led to collapse and abandonment. Most obviously, the masonry tilted from W. to E. by 0.3 m in little more than 4 m, with diagonal movement from N.W. to S.E. as well. This can be explained by the poor quality of the rubble foundations, the lack of piling under them, and the tendency of the London Clay to develop unstable fissures which can cause ground movement. Approximately 100 beech piles had been driven in at raking angles against the E. end of the masonry to shore it up. The stresses suffered by the oaks were equally dramatic, with the beams around the masonry tilting at even greater angles than the stonework.

A possible historical context for the masonry is provided by the 13th-century chronicler Matthew Paris. He recorded two major collapses of masonry at the Tower in successive years, 1240 and 1241. In the first event, Paris describes collapse of the 'stonework of a noble gate which the king had built at great expense' during the night of 23 April 1240, 'as if struck by an earthquake'. Exactly one year later a new wall also collapsed, apparently due to the ethereal intervention of the ghost of St Thomas Becket. Dendrochronology samples from 19 of the beech piles along the E. edge of the masonry have all been dated to the winter of 1240/1, providing an excellent match with the record of Matthew Paris. Hopefully the other dendrochronology samples will allow us to refine our understanding of these events and subsequent developments.

*Phase 2: Edward I's defences, 1275-1281 (Pl. XIV, A,B)*

Edward I's moat encompassed a 540 m circuit joining the Thames at the SW. and SE. corners. The outer curtain wall was therefore open to the Thames on the S. side. The moat currently varies from 30 m to 38 m wide, but this represents a substantial narrowing from its original width of up to 45 m. The excavations show that the moat sloped fairly gently to its deepest point in the centre. The base level varied from around 0.0 m. O.D. to 0.6 m. O.D. on the inner edge (i.e. against the outer curtain wall). The moat had been dug through Thames gravels into the London Clay. The base was usually the impermeable London Clay itself, although a thin lens of gravel did survive over this in some places.

The foundations of the outer curtain wall have been examined on all sides of its circuit. The construction is essentially the same on the N., W. and E. sides. Firstly, a c. 3.5 m deep foundation trench was dug down into the natural London Clay. The edge of this trench lay c. 1.5 m in front of the wall, and the foundations comprised stone rubble in concreted mortar. Two ashlar blocks from the fallen Henry III structure were found in the upper part of the western foundation. The wall on the foundations largely comprises Kentish Rag freestone, generally well built with careful coursing. Ashlar blocks of Bembridge limestone from the Isle of Wight were also used occasionally. The face of the wall was battered to a height of at least 3 m from foundation level, and this has been identified as the primary stage in the construction of the curtain wall. It was raised to its

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current height in the late 1320s with a new, much less steeply faced wall rising from the earlier batter.

A film of concreted calcitic material was found on the masonry. This seems to represent leaching either from the masonry itself or from its mortar bonding, perhaps because of tidal variation in water levels. Certainly the concretion was not present in the lowest courses of masonry which must have been in permanent contact with water. The top and bottom levels of the calcitic layer may be equated with high and low tides, but the data must be treated with some care because the tidal levels changed substantially during the moat's 560 year life as a water-filled feature. The salinity of the water may also have had an effect.

The S. outer curtain wall was very different in its foundations. This reflected the different needs here, for the wall was originally open to the Thames and had been built on Thames foreshore deposits. The wall was partially supported on oak piles with oak beams linking between the caps. The foundations themselves comprised compacted river gravel and stone rubble dug directly into the foreshore silts. The timbers were generally in good condition, although the beams had rotted badly in places.

Trenches on either side of the western causeway produced a great deal of information about its development, including traces of the earliest construction. A raft of beech piles driven into foreshore deposits was found on both sides of the causeway. Nineteen samples were taken for dendrochronology dating; results give a felling date of winter 1275/6 for two samples and spring 1277 for the remaining 17 piles. A Chancery document records the felling of 600 beeches in the King's Forest at Langley during 1275/6 for piling beneath the mill on the western side of the Tower. This accords well with the dating of the piles, although the later dates presumably show that the campaign of felling carried on unremarked in the accounts.

The piles to the N. of the causeway were capped by stone rubble in concreted mortar. This supported a wide plinth surmounted by a chamfered Kentish Rag ashlar course. Several further courses of the original late 13th-century ashlar survive above the chamfer. Large Purbeck marble blocks which probably derived from the Henry III structure were used in the plinth. A different construction was found against the Byward Tower on the N. side of the causeway. The tower itself is supported on a massive offset Purbeck marble plinth similar to that found along the causeway and, like that plinth, it sits on concreted rubble over piles. Massive Purbeck marble ashlar masonry overlies the rubble and the Byward plinth, and abuts the tower itself. The ashlar stands to a height of 1.6 m and runs for *c.* 3 m eastwards before returning to the S., where the masonry disappears behind later refacing.

A dam was required at the SE. corner of the moat to control its water level relative to the tidal flow of the Thames. The documentary record strongly suggests that Edward's architects and engineers took the opportunity to construct a mill here as well, taking advantage of the daily tidal flows. The Pipe Rolls refer to the purchase of 660 beeches for the mill's foundations during 1275–76. Excavation down the N. face of the later stone causeway encountered more than a dozen beech piles and a large beech timber over them. The timber was a sole-plate containing six mortises; its scantling was 0.4 m. square, and the top surface sat at *c.* -0.75 m. Four mortises were found on the upper surface, and fragments of broken oak tenons were found in two of these. Dendrochronology has shown that all the piles came from beeches felled in summer 1276, while the beam was felled after 1266 and can be regarded as contemporary with the piles.

*Phase 3: the late medieval period (14th and early/mid 15th century)*

A timber mill and dam at the SE. corner of Edward I's moat ran from the Develin Tower to the outer edge of the moat. Masonry may have been incorporated here before the end

of the 13th century; a stone wall was built 'in place of the mills towards St Katherine's' during 1292-97. A new defensive tower known as the Iron Gate was built on the outer edge during the 14th century, and a stone causeway between the Develin Tower and the new gate soon followed. The rebuilding was manifest in the excavations. Stone rubble foundations were built directly onto the beach piles, and the sole-plate marked the northern edge of the new foundation. This was built up vertically for *c.* 1.15 m, with a 0.1 m offset approximately two-thirds of the way up the masonry. Three courses of Kentish Rag ashlar survived over the foundations to a height of 1.03 m. The core behind the facing comprised rubble in concreted mortar.

The 14th century witnessed an important episode in the history of the Tower: the construction of the wharf, thereby creating a moat which fully enclosed the castle and separated the Thames from the defensive circuits for the first time. The initial stage of construction involved driving oak piles into the Thames foreshore silts; oak beams were then laid between the pile caps, forming a continuous sill along the front of the wall. Excavations around St Thomas's Tower by P. Curnow in 1958-59 showed that further piles had been driven into the foreshore silts parallel to and behind (i.e. S. of) those under the wall face with more beams between the two rows lacing the foundation together. Rubble and earth was laid in the lacing and was continuous with the rubble core of the wall itself. The latter has been rebuilt on several occasions since the 14th century, and this has obscured much of the original work. The lower parts of the wall revealed in the test-pits appeared to be the original build, however, and consisted entirely of stonework. Parts of the masonry display severe bulging caused by root growth behind the wall from trees on the wharf.

*Phase 4: the later medieval and early post-medieval periods*

The excavations showed that the western causeway had been extensively altered. The E. end of the N. face had been rebuilt from plinth level upwards using a mixture of coarse sandstone and Kentish Rag, with some reused architectural pieces. The new work butted directly against the early ashlar masonry at the E. end of the causeway and the ashlar courses surmounting the chamfered plinth to the W. The new masonry may be infilling an arch or drawbridge position, although no such feature is known here in the medieval period. There was some evidence for rebuilding on the S. side of the causeway as well, although here the limited extent of deeper excavation because of important 18th-century timberwork meant that new masonry could only be identified tentatively. On the W. side of the central arch, for instance, an 18th-century rebuild was set back on earlier core work but it was impossible to determine whether this was original medieval work or part of a later rebuild. A late medieval or early post-medieval date is suggested for these works.

Moat fills of late 13th- to late 17th-century date have been identified in the S. moat, the SE. corner, underneath de Gomme's revetment wall along the outer edge of the moat, and throughout the western arm. These fills contain variable quantities of artefacts, with the largest assemblages coming from the S. moat and the western causeway. The W. moat provides the best potential for environmental archaeology. The discovery of a complete late medieval fish trap towards the outer edge of the W. moat is not only the most spectacular find from the excavations so far, but also an important indicator of the contemporary base of the moat here. The complex basketry trap was *in situ*, weighed down with flint nodules and pegged into the clay.

*The Bowling Green wall (TQ 33485 80495).* An excavation took place in January 1996 on the Tower wharf behind the Bowling Green wall immediately to the W. of the Byward Postern drawbridge. The work was necessary to counter significant structural stresses evident from cracking and movement in the stone facing. The excavation was undertaken by Oxford Archaeological Unit so that a building contractor could then secure the foundations of the masonry. A medieval stone wall was found under the northern segment

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of the wharf wall, overlain by the brick masonry of a post-medieval cellar. Buildings are shown on this site (sometimes called the Byward Postern guard) on plans from 1597 (Haiward and Gascoyne) to the mid 19th century. There are also a number of drawings and paintings which show the buildings. They were evidently demolished in the mid 19th century as part of a general clearance of the wharf. The cellar had been backfilled with rubble.

*The White Tower* (TQ 3362 8055). A watching brief took place on cabling work to the N. of the doorway from the E. basement to the sub-crypt of the Chapel of St John. The excavation exposed a foundation block of roughly broken stones set in a generous amount of mortar. All the stones appeared to be Kentish Rag of the Maidstone vicinity in Kent. The small scale of the excavation makes interpretation difficult, but it is possible that the foundation is of Roman date. Roman buildings were found on the E. side of the White Tower during excavations in the 1950s.

*The White Tower* (TQ 3361 8057). A watching brief on the construction of a new external staircase against the N. side of the White Tower revealed chalk foundations and associated deposits of medieval date. Not enough of the foundations survived for any interpretation to be made, but they appeared to run parallel to the N. face of the Tower. The associated soil layers contained a significant amount of late 12th to late 13th-century pottery, while residual medieval pottery was found in the fill of services and other modern contexts. Information about the original form of the White Tower and later refacing was also recorded.

79. At *Spital Square, Lamb Street* (TQ 3350 8197) an excavation was carried out by N. Holder and C. Thomas for St George's plc. The western half of the site lay within the Priory and Hospital of St Mary Spital (founded in 1197) and areas excavated so far lie on the very E. of the built-up area of the priory. Parts of timber and brick buildings, dating to before and after the Dissolution, have been recorded but it is in the area of the Prior's garden that most of the excavation took place. A series of horticultural soils above the natural brick-earth was cut by nearly 50 'bedding trenches' and a 13th-century probable pond; a drainage channel and a late medieval cess-pit with numerous pottery vessels were also recorded. The E. boundary of the Priory was defined by a bank.

WESTMINSTER. Work by the Museum of London Archaeology Service.

80. At *St Paul's Church Yard, Covent Garden* (TQ 303 808) a watching brief by N. Holder and A. Miles for Westminster City Council found two mid Saxon pits and Saxon deposits beneath the Covent Garden plaza, including a probable building with a hearth exposed in section.

81. At *Royal Opera House, Covent Garden* (TQ 3042 8098) the main excavation, by D. Bowsher, R. Cowie and G. Malcolm for Royal Opera House Developments Ltd, took place in the former car park, E. of the Covent Garden Piazza, following a watching brief in 1995. Natural brick-earth was cut by a number of undated features including stake-holes, post-holes, curving gullies and a ditch, and the fragmentary remains of an inhumation burial. The site was cleared during the late 7th century and a N.-S. road laid out which was c. 3 m wide (a 26 m length survived) and flanked by narrow gullies and drains. It was metalled with very compact gravel and was completely resurfaced ten times. A number of alleys were joined to both sides of the road. Seven or eight building plots were identified between the road and the alleys, and appear to have been continuously occupied by successive rectangular post-built and sill-beam structures. Most buildings were aligned

E.-W., parallel to the alleys. The buildings were made of various materials including planks, earth-fast posts and wattle and daub. Internal partitions were represented by lines of stake-holes and, in one building, the position of a vertical loom was indicated by a row of loomweights which had fallen to the floor when the building burnt down. Brick-earth floors had been frequently patched and resurfaced and two buildings had gravelled thresholds on their S. sides. Hearths inside the buildings consisted of rectangular or circular areas of scorched brick-earth, sometimes incorporating Roman tile (Pl. XVb). The buildings seem to have been used both for domestic occupation and also for craft activities, with numerous artefacts associated with spinning and weaving recovered. Most of the buildings had been destroyed by fire.

Numerous large circular rubbish pits and cess-pits were found, some of which predated the earliest buildings. A midden of animal bone, oyster shell and other domestic debris accumulated above two backfilled pits in a narrow open area between a building and an alley. Timber-lined wells were found along a conjectured spring-line close to the S. edge of the site. On the E. side of the site at least six large pits, possibly used in the fulling or tanning process, were found.

The site appears to have been abandoned during the mid 9th century. At about this time a large V-shaped defensive ditch (2 m deep by 4.5 m wide by at least 57 m in length), strengthened by an array of stakes, was dug along the N. side of the site. Above the mid Saxon sequence was a thick deposit of dark earth within which a hoard of Northumbrian coins of the 840s was found. The dark earth included the latest phases of occupation and all subsequent activity until the construction of buildings in the 17th century.

82. At *Somerset House, Strand* (TQ 308 808) a watching brief by S. Chew for the Department of National Heritage and The Commissioners for the Inland Revenue found evidence of the Saxon foreshore, and Tudor and post-medieval deposits behind the Tudor river wall.

83. At *Globe House, Temple Place* (TQ 311 809) an evaluation by J. Bowsher for Hammerson UK Properties Plc recovered Roman and Saxon material, including a Saxon bronze alloy strap-end, from the foreshore.

HAMPSHIRE. Work by Winchester Museums Service.

84. NEAR BASINGSTOKE, MONK SHERBORNE, MANOR FARM, (SU 607 555). A salvage excavation was carried out for Hampshire County Council in advance of chalk quarrying at Manor Farm. Prior field walking, carried out by staff of the Archaeology Section, Hampshire County Council, and an initial watching brief, indicated the presence of features and deposits of late prehistoric and, mainly, Roman date.

The excavation revealed the foundation plan of a Roman winged corridor house. A notable assemblage of iron work was recovered from the upper levels of one pit close to the Roman building. The assemblage contained two belt-set elements, a buckle-plate and back-plate, both decorated with inlaid silver wire. They have been identified as 'Frankish' in origin, dating from the late 6th to early 7th centuries.

85. HYDE, HYDE ABBEY GATEWAY (SU 481 301). Five evaluation trenches were excavated to assess archaeological deposits related to the Abbey. Two trenches against Hyde Abbey Gateway, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, demonstrated considerable truncation of medieval deposits in the area of the gate. Two other trenches were excavated on the sites of the Abbey Church and Mill and a further trench against a standing, but unidentified, wall next to Abbey Mill stream.

## WINCHESTER

86. At the *Site of St Thomas' F.E. Centre, Mews Lane* (SU 475 294) an excavation carried out prior to development of this site, which lies *c.* 140 m outside the western City defences, recorded limited evidence of Saxon occupation, a ditch containing 13th-century pottery, and subsequent use of the site as a cemetery in the medieval period. A total of 89 E.-W. aligned graves were recorded showing no significant intercutting. The burials had all been in coffins and were laid with heads to the W. except for one neonatal burial, perhaps misplaced. From the 89 graves it has been possible to determine the age at death of 72 of the buried individuals. A majority of 54 burials were of infants while only nine adolescents and six adults have been identified.

The 89 graves may be added to six burials recorded to the N. along Crowder terrace. This extensive cemetery is within an area identified in documentary evidence to have been a Jewish burial ground in the late 12th and 13th centuries.

87. At '*Chapel Gate*', *Palm Hall Close, Winchester* (SU 490 293) three inhumation burials were revealed during the construction of a pond in the garden of 'Chapel Gate'. The site lies 10 m W. of the boundary wall of St Giles' Cemetery, formerly the site of medieval St Giles' Chapel. Two of the burials, an infant and an adult, had been in coffins while the third was of an infant contained by chalk blocks at the head end and beside the legs. The burials, close together and apparently isolated, probably belong to a cemetery established around St Giles' Chapel in the medieval period.

88. At *Peninsula Barracks, Winchester* (SU 477 294) evaluation excavation for Try Homes Ltd revealed elements of the defences and interior of Winchester Castle. Beneath the former Junior Ranks' Canteen, the NW. corner of the castle wall, and well-preserved structural remains inside the wall, were revealed in an area previously identified as the site of the Royal Chambers. On the sites of the former Sergeants' Mess and Weapons Training Shed two round towers of the Upper Ward were exposed in plan along with short stretches of the Upper Ward and City walls.

89. At the *Rear of former 'Southwestern' public house, Station Hill* (SU 477 299) a watching brief carried out during conversion of the property recorded two pits containing late Saxon pottery. This extra-mural site extends information recovered on adjacent excavations concerning late Saxon activity in the area.

## CITY OF KINGSTON-UPON-HULL

90. At *Kingswood* (TA 089 344) trial excavations were carried out by D. Atkinson and K. Steedman for the Humber Archaeology Partnership on behalf of the Kingswood Development Company Ltd. The work was part of a staged scheme of evaluation, desk-based assessment and geophysical survey. Ten trenches were excavated, targeted on specific anomalies shown in the geophysical survey. Those positioned N. of the Ennerdale Link Road — Trenches 7, 8, 9 and 10 — failed to detect any traces of the possible ditches or channels indicated by the survey, within a metre of the current ground surface. It is likely that these anomalies represented buried palaeochannels beneath a thick layer of alluvial clay.

In the other survey area, next to the R. Hull, the excavations tended to confirm the results of the geophysics. Trenches 1 and 2, the largest trenches examined, produced extensive evidence for medieval occupation of the site. Trench 1, in particular, contained a well-preserved sequence of deposits, surviving up to 0.2 m below the present ground surface, enough of which were sampled to confirm that a site of some significance was represented. Stone wall foundations, flagged yard surfaces and ditches were recorded, with finds including large quantities of pottery, brick, tile and animal bone, window glass, a

copper-alloy spur, a trading token, and numerous pieces of ironwork such as nails, clench-bolts, scissors and fragments of padlocks. Few of the finds indicate a date later than the 16th century, and one of the earliest ditches recorded contained pottery of early 14th-century date. Medieval documentary sources pertaining to Meaux Abbey, within whose lands this lay, describe a fishery and watermill in this position by the 13th century, and it is likely that the remains discovered form part of a complex of buildings which would have included a fish-house and mill.

In Trench 2, a substantial medieval ditch ran NW.–SE. the full width of the trench, and is believed to have connected with the boundary and/or drainage ditches seen in Trench 1. Trench 4, some distance E. of Trenches 1 and 2, was positioned to investigate a linear anomaly on the geophysical survey and an area which may well have contained fishponds in the medieval period. A number of driven stakes were located at the base of a ditch, having been used to anchor a structure such as a sluice gate, and this overlay a fine alluvial silt, possibly within a fishpond or channel; analysis of soil samples indicated shallow, brackish standing water.

91. At *Hull Magistrates Courts site* (TA 101 285) one of the largest excavations undertaken in the Old Town of Hull was prompted by the proposal to build a new complex of court rooms over the greater part of the Augustinian Friary. The work was carried out by D. H. Evans for the Humberside Archaeology Unit

The earliest remains located on the site date to *c.* 1260, and are amongst the earliest yet encountered in the Old Town, pre-dating the foundation of the King's town by *c.* 30 years. Soil profiles and samples taken from a large natural watercourse should shed light on the early topography and environment of this part of the town. An important discovery was the evidence for early intensive occupation along the Market Place frontage; all of the buildings associated with this phase were cleared away to make room for the friary which was founded in 1316–17.

The excavation succeeded in recovering the plan of the greater part of the friary buildings: three of its four ranges were investigated. During the 223 years of its use this religious house saw a great number of changes. The plans of three successive churches were recovered, whilst most of the rooms investigated in the E. and W. ranges had at least two phases of occupation present. Evidence was recovered about everyday life within the friary, the use of different areas, and about the nature and types of burial practices in use on this site. This last aspect of the site has been particularly rewarding: a total of 244 burials were excavated, 44 of which were in oak coffins, and nearly 50 of which have provided evidence for textile remains. All but one of the coffins had been made from imported Baltic timber: it will have major implications for dendrochronological studies throughout Northern Europe. Of particular interest were the temporary timber buildings which were erected on this site during the earliest years of the friary's occupation, as this type of evidence is rarely recovered from monastic sites.

Two of the six main periods of activity are medieval. Period 1, pre-1316/17, comprises all the pre-friary activity on the site. The main findings of the excavation are summarized by area and by period.

A large natural depression or channel was located beneath the nave of the friary church; the bottom two-thirds of this feature appeared to have silted up naturally, after which it had been deliberately infilled with waste tipped in from the direction of the Market Place. Finds incorporated in the upper fills suggested that this episode of land reclamation can be dated to the later 13th century.

Subsequently a row of tenements was established along the Market Place frontage; the rear parts of two tenements were investigated. The plot boundaries were demarcated by shallow gullies, whilst the buildings were of post-and-wattle construction. At least two levels of superimposed buildings were defined, and each of these had clearly been refloored on a number of occasions. At least two tile hearths were associated with the occupation of these buildings. Occupation on the Market Place frontage was established early in the life

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of the town and lasted for some time; the buildings appear to have been cleared from the site to make way for the friary.

Period 2, 1316/17 to *c.* 1600, comprises the entire occupation of the Augustinian friary and its subsequent dissolution.

The Austin Friary formal gardens were investigated in 1976, and three sides of its cloister lay within the current excavations. The structural sequence is best discussed in terms of individual ranges of buildings.

#### *The church*

This formed the N. side of the cloister. Three major phases of structures are apparent.

Phase 1. The earliest church was a narrow timber structure on low brick sills. The chancel and most of the nave lay within the excavation — the two parts of the building being separated by a clearly defined step.

Phase 2. The chancel (or choir) of the early church was soon replaced by the stone footings of a larger building; however, initially, the timber nave continued in use. Subsequently this too was replaced by the stone footings of a large nave with both N. and S. aisles. There were no transepts and no central tower; however, antiquarian sources suggest that this structure had a W. tower projecting into Market Place. Towards the end of the Middle Ages, side chapels were added on either side of the choir.

Although the footings of this building were of stone, its superstructure, like that of nearby Holy Trinity church, would have been largely of brick — stone being reserved above ground for details such as quoins and buttresses, and for the jambs of windows and doors.

Phase 3. In its final form, the church was extended some 6 m. to the E., and a new E. end was constructed on massive brick foundations. As this was the structure which was standing at the Dissolution, it is this part of the building which has suffered most from later robbing and clearance.

#### *The cloister and cloister walk*

This was a large rectangular area, with proportions *c.* 2:3. In its final form this had an external arcade along its northern and eastern sides; the W. walk was set inside the W. range, whilst the S. walk is unknown, as it lay outside the area of excavation. At the midpoint of the northern and eastern walks, a brick-paved setting indicates the existence of a probable path leading into the centre of the cloister; this in turn suggests the former existence of a central feature (e.g. a fountain or spring head, or perhaps a *lavatory*). Extensive late disturbances had removed all trace of any such feature.

Prior to the laying out of this formal cloister, at least six buildings existed adjacent to its edges. Most of these were timber structures set on narrow brick sills, and incorporating occasional pad-stones. These are probably the remains of temporary buildings which were occupied whilst work proceeded on the construction of the main complex; the similarity in construction with that of the timber church is notable. Three of the buildings were associated with small internal ovens which were perhaps used for baking or brewing. An early brick-lined well belongs to this period of occupation.

In the NE. corner of the future cloister were the remains of two successive stone buildings, one of which was later incorporated in the W. wall of the E. range.

Two successive mortar floors were identified within the northern and eastern cloister walks. Both had burials cut from these levels through the floor of the walks. Burials within the northern walk were relatively sparse; in contrast, those in the eastern walk were packed closely together, reflecting the proximity to the chapter house.

*The W. range*

Two phases of building are evident within the W. range. The first of these was set on shallow limestone foundations. A thin brick partition wall separated an internal cloister walk from the main rooms of the range; access into the range was clearly gained from Market Place. At least two distinct floor levels were recognized within the range.

In the later Middle Ages this range was clearly suffering from subsidence. As a result a major rebuilding took place. The new E. wall of the range encroached on the cloister, and was set on massive brick foundations on top of a wide stone raft. The floor levels which go with this building effectively sealed the earlier wall footings.

*The E. range*

Almost the full length of this range was available for excavation. As with the other parts of the friary, several different phases of building and occupation are apparent, and sections of this range were built individually, rather than being planned as a unitary whole.

In its final form the range comprised four separate rooms, most of which had brick bench positions lining the internal faces of the walls. The most northerly room appears to have been contemporary with the building of the first stone and brick church, with which it is bonded. The second room saw a phase of industrial use, with the remains of a chalk-paved furnace base and a tile-lined fizz tank set within it. The external walls for both these rooms have substantial stone foundations; the W. wall incorporates part of a stone wall of an earlier building.

The range originally terminated at the end of a third room, with substantial angle buttresses at this southern end of the range. The eastern wall of this third room was set on brick foundations, unlike the rest of the range. The area to the S. (i.e. in the gap between this range and the start of the S. range) was originally left open; a number of organic deposits accumulated here, and were cut through by a series of pits. Towards the end of the Middle Ages this gap was closed with a southwards extension of the E. range of buildings. These new structures were far less substantial than their predecessors, and were built on narrower stone foundations. At the southern end of this extension, an internal doorway gave access into the S. range.

## KENT

92. DOVER, TOWNWALL STREET (TR 322 414). Funded by B.P. Oils U.K. Ltd, extensive excavations ahead of the construction of a new petrol filling station off Townwall Street were undertaken by K. Parfitt for the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. Situated on the eastern side of the medieval town below the outer defences of Dover Castle, the work failed to reveal any evidence for the town wall which is believed to lie in this area. A highly complex sequence of more than 30 timber buildings with rammed chalk and clay floors was discovered. These all date from between the mid 12th and late 13th centuries and appear to represent dwellings lying adjacent to the Norman parish church of St James. Finds of numerous iron fish-hooks and fish-bones, together with the close proximity of the sea, suggest that these buildings relate to the fishermen's quarter of the town. Large quantities of pottery, including significant numbers of imports, were recovered and this material provides an important new assemblage for E. Kent medieval ceramic studies. Later medieval and post-medieval structures were also recorded, although there appears to be a definite hiatus in the intensity of occupation from the end of the 13th until the mid 16th century. This may be due in part to coastal erosion.

LEICESTERSHIRE. Work undertaken by Archaeological Project Services (Heritage Lincolnshire).

93. PEATLING MAGNA, ARNESBY LANE (SP 594 926). An assessment was undertaken by G. Taylor to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development in the

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centre of Peatling Magna village. The place-name 'Peatling Magna' has been thought of as indicating a settlement of early Anglo-Saxon date. This theory is now largely rejected and, furthermore, there is virtually no physical evidence for an early Anglo-Saxon presence in the parish. Medieval pottery has been found just N. of the site, and settlement earthworks of probable medieval date occur extensively around the E. side of the modern village, though the church and manor house are located in the SE. corner of the village. Most of the site has been a garden for the last century and, as a result, any archaeological deposits present in the area are likely to be well preserved.

## LINCOLNSHIRE

94. BARROWBY, CASTHORPE PIPELINE (SK 873 358–SK 857 359). G. Taylor of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief for Anglian Water during excavation of a water pipe trench. Several stone walls and surfaces were revealed. These probably represent remains of the deserted medieval settlement of West Casthorpe. Pottery of 13th/14th-century date was also retrieved.

95. BICKER, DONINGTON ROAD (TF 225 373). M. Dymond of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation, for Broadgate Builders Ltd, in advance of proposed development at Bicker. Numerous medieval and later salt production sites, and 16th/17th-century buildings are located close by. Pits and ditches were recorded by geophysical survey and the excavations revealed several ditches of medieval and later date. A pit probably associated with salt extraction was also revealed.

96. BOSTON, HIGH STREET (TF 327 439). An evaluation, supervised by N. Herbert of Archaeological Project Services, investigated beneath the floors of recent 2 m deep cellars. Well-preserved, highly organic deposits of 13th/14th-century date were revealed. Additionally, the corner of a brick building of medieval date and birchwood stakes, perhaps representing fences and also dating to the 13th/14th centuries, were identified.

97. COVENHAM ST MARY'S (TF 340 943). A watching brief by staff of Archaeological Project Services on foundation trenches for a new S. porch to the 14th-century church of St Mary revealed the foundations for a possible early buttress. A small amount of medieval and later pottery was also recovered.

98. KIRTON, HIGH STREET (TF 305 386). In the centre of the medieval town an evaluation, supervised by P. Cope-Faulkner of Archaeological Project Services for Kirton Youth Challenge, revealed a creek or a pond that was gradually filled during the late Saxon and early medieval period by a mixture of dumping and natural silting. A large late Saxon pit filled with animal manure and charred crop-processing residues suggested that the investigation area was in or close to a farmyard. Medieval horn working waste was recovered, though flooding, perhaps in the 13th/14th centuries, led to the virtual abandonment of the area during this period.

## LINCOLN. Work by City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit.

99. Recording of the remains of the *Close Wall* between Priory Gate and Winnowsty Lane (SK 979 719) was completed during a major repair programme funded jointly by Lincoln Cathedral and English Heritage. As well as more details of the above-ground structure, information was also obtained on the foundations from a series of test-trenches dug for engineering purposes.

100. On *Pennell Street* (SK 973 702) off Lower High Street, the construction of a new pipeline by Anglian Water revealed part of the cemetery of St Michael in Wigford. Funding was provided by Anglian Water.

101. At 269 *High Street*, at its junction with *Grantham Street* (SK 976 715) construction work within the existing building and to its rear revealed parts of a 13th-century stone building with a late medieval addition to its rear (cf. the discoveries further E. along Grantham Street: R. H. Jones, *Medieval Houses at Flaxengate* (1980)). Funding was provided by Metrobrook on behalf of Pizza Express.

102. STAMFORD, MALTING YARD (TF 032 067). P. Cope-Faulkner of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation adjacent to the 12th-century church of St Martin. A limestone quarry, backfilled with 13th/14th-century pottery and other debris, was revealed. The quarry also contained iron slag, suggesting nearby smelting during the medieval period.

103. SWINESHEAD, BOSTON ROAD (TF 232 416). A watching brief by C. Moulis of Archaeological Project Services on foundation trenches revealed a late Saxon refuse pit containing pottery and animal bone. This complements previous discoveries of late Saxon pottery in the vicinity and suggests a focus of settlement of the period in the area, well away from the medieval village core.

#### NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

104. BARTON ON HUMBER, BARROW ROAD (TA 034 218). An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken by D. Atkinson for the Humber Archaeology Partnership on land to the rear of Kookies public house, on behalf of Mr B. Kent, the proprietor. Three trenches were excavated to ascertain the nature and depth of any archaeological features which might be affected by the development.

The earliest recorded phase of activity was probably medieval pits cut into the natural boulder clay, suggesting small-scale extraction of clay within the backyard of a property which fronted onto Whitecross Street (the medieval *Southgate*). Occupation of the Barrow Road frontage followed later in the medieval period, when the quarry pits were sealed beneath dumps of clay and gravel, raising and levelling the ground prior to the construction of one, or possibly two, buildings on foundations of chalk rubble, bonded with clay. Such was the extent of subsequent ground clearance that all ground surfaces contemporary with these probable medieval buildings had been removed.

105. WATERTON (SE 852 181). Excavations were undertaken by M. Foreman for the Humber Archaeology Partnership at Waterton, in Garthorpe and Fockerby parish, during the removal and reinstatement of temporary access roads for the construction of pylons by The National Grid Company Plc, who funded the archaeological work. Monitoring of the laying of the roads had resulted in the discovery of archaeological features and finds presumed to be associated with the deserted medieval village at Waterton, and further work was proposed to record a sample of deposits due to be significantly disturbed in the process of the reinstatement of the land to arable use. Two trenches were excavated, in locations determined by the previous observations and by the approximate positions of the crop-marks of ditches seen on air photographs.

Traces of settlement were recorded, dating from the 11th century to the present day. In the earliest phase of occupation, from the 11th to 12th centuries, boundary and/or drainage ditches were established along the edge of an area of slightly higher ground. Gullies, slots, stake-holes and pits represent occupation within the enclosed area, and the close proximity of buildings is implied. In the 13th or 14th centuries the boundary ditches were recut as wide features — visible as crop-marks on aerial photographs — and further

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evidence of occupation within the area defined by the ditches was recorded, including intercutting slots and pits containing fragments of burnt clay and charred arable plant remains. The boundary ditches remained open for a protracted period — well into the post-medieval period.

## NORTH-EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

106. AYLESBY, HUMBER BANK STRATEGIC WORKS (TA 204 071). Excavations were carried out by K. Steedman and M. Foreman, for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, on behalf of Anglian Water in 1994, close to the village of Aylesby, South Humberside. Trial excavations to refine the results of an earlier geophysical survey were followed by the more detailed excavation of two larger excavation areas, totalling *c.* 1200 sq. m.

The foundation trenches and post-holes of two adjacent timber buildings of 10th- or 11th-century date were recorded. A few pottery sherds were found associated with these buildings or in later features in the area, as well as an iron bridle-mount. Finds of similar date have been found in the surrounding area, particularly towards the modern village, and the two timber buildings were presumably part of a larger settlement. The site may well have been abandoned for a further period until, in the 13th or 14th centuries, a complex series of property divisions, ditches, hedges and fences was introduced and subsequently elaborated. A scatter of pottery fragments was recovered from the ditch fills. These fields and enclosures formed outlying parts of the medieval village of Aylesby, which was significantly larger than it is today.

107. GRIMSBY, CARTERGATE (TA 265 092). An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in 1994 by J. Tibbles and K. Steedman, for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, on behalf of Topcon (Builders and Contractors) Ltd, on an area of land adjacent to Cartergate. Five trenches were excavated, and archaeological features were shown to survive in all sampled areas. Given the site's position on the western edge of the known limits of medieval Grimsby, the bulk of the features were of medieval date, though a few earlier features were recorded. In addition, a few sherds of late Saxon pottery were recovered from later contexts.

Trenches either side of Chantry Lane recorded evidence of occupation commencing in the 13th or early 14th centuries. On the N. side, remains of timber buildings fronting Cartergate were replaced by substantial boundary or drainage ditches and clay quarries. These were sealed beneath extensive clay dumps in the late 14th/15th centuries, but the area did not appear to have been built upon, subsequent activity being restricted to the digging of a few pits. Further dumping sealed these; sporadic pit-digging followed, and the land was apparently open ground until the construction of brick terraced houses in the late 19th century. On the S. side of the lane, water-laid silts were overlain by clay dumps of 13th- or early 14th-century date, upon which were set elements of one or more timber buildings. These were sealed beneath further dumping in the late 14th century, and buildings founded on pad-stones and brick sill walls were constructed on the clay platform. Parts of two buildings (or ranges of one) flanked a yard. The main elements continued in use through to the mid 17th century, although no deposits of 15th-/16th-century date were recorded, suggesting extensive clearance prior to laying of new yard surfaces in the early 17th century. A brick-lined well was constructed in the centre of the yard, though it was in use for only a short time, and was sealed beneath the final yard surfacing. Following disuse of the building(s) and yard, the area remained open ground until renewed development in the 19th century.

Further trenches to the S. recorded evidence of medieval field boundaries and tracks, and parts of a 17th-century building, possibly a workshop, were discovered close to Deansgate.

108. HEALING (TA 213 107). Trial excavations were carried out by J. Tibbles for the Humberside Archaeology Unit in 1995, on behalf of Mr M. McGarry. This work followed on from earlier earthwork survey and geophysical survey, on land proposed for residential development. Six trenches were excavated; three lay within the earthwork enclosure previously surveyed, while the remainder were positioned to further investigate a series of geophysical anomalies of suspected archaeological origin.

There was more than one phase of occupation on the site. Ditches, pits and possible structural features — traces of timber buildings or fences — adjacent to a track with flanking ditches, appear to represent an early medieval farm or hamlet in the northern part of the site, perhaps in use from the 12th to the 14th centuries. At a later date, perhaps in the early part of the 14th century, a large ditched enclosure was dug, the upcast from the ditches being used to form clay platforms within. A building and other settlement features, including chalk paths or tracks, were constructed on this raised ground, and these saw use into the 16th century. This enclosure is tentatively interpreted as a moated residence of the owner of one of the two medieval estates known at Healing.

There was a small residual element of Romano-British and late Saxon/Saxo-Norman material amongst the predominantly medieval pottery assemblage, indicating occupation of these dates in the vicinity.

109. STALLINGBOROUGH, STATION ROAD (TA 200 116). An evaluation was undertaken on land adjacent to The Forge on the N. side of Station Road in 1993 by D. Atkinson, for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, on behalf of Chartdale Homes. The only features to be located were two ditches, which may well have been old enclosure or field boundaries. One of these contained a residual mid/late Saxon sherd and a fragment of late medieval Humberware; the other contained a number of sherds of 19th- or early 20th-century factory-produced wares, and would appear to represent a hedge which had been grubbed out, and deliberately infilled at that date.

NORFOLK. Work by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit, unless otherwise stated.

110. ALBY WITH THWAITE, ST ETHELBERT'S CHURCH, ALBY (TG 202 336). Re-flooring works to the church were carried out under the supervision of E. J. Rose for Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. The datable features of the present church belong to the Decorated and Perpendicular styles, but the N. walls of the nave and chancel have herringbone flintwork and lumps of ironbound conglomerate, suggesting a possible earlier origin. Removal of the floor revealed a wall footing towards the S. side of the nave, 3.7 m S. of the N. wall. This contained an apparent doorway, to the E. of the present S. door but in line with a blocked opening revealed by stripping of plaster from the present S. wall, and also in line with a patch of rebuilt masonry in the N. wall. The evidence indicates that the original, ?Norman church was widened to the S. before the 14th century, then extended to the W. when the present Decorated-style doorways were constructed.

111. BLO NORTON, CHURCH FARM (TM 011 798). Examination of this Grade II\* Listed house was carried out by E. J. Rose of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology at the request of Breckland Council. It is a T-shaped building, the main block consisting of a former first-floor hall and chamber with crown-post roof, above a large ground-floor room with elaborately moulded ceiling, and a smaller room and original corridor connecting with the cross-wing. This section is dated in the Listed Building description to the 15th century, but the mouldings are similar to other Norfolk buildings of *c.* 1520 rather than the 1480s. The cross-wing seems similarly to have had a first-floor hall, but here with a room divided off at each end; the roof has been replaced. The ground floor consists of one large room, and two service rooms set in line, opening off a corridor to one side, rather than side by side in the usual Norfolk pattern. This plan has only been noted in one other house in the area.

(NORFOLK)

The elaboration of the mouldings and carvings, and the presence of an open hall in both wings, suggests a building of considerable importance, and this may well be Seamere Hall Manor, which significantly is recorded as changing ownership in 1521.

112. DERSINGHAM, GELHAM HALL (TF 681 302). A watching brief at the moated site, carried out by A. Crowson on behalf of A.R.C., recorded the line of the E. and W. arms of the infilled moat and other possible linear features within the moated area.

113. FORNCETT, CHESTNUT FARM, FORNCETT END (TM 145 937). This Listed Grade II building was examined by E. Rose for Norfolk Landscape Archaeology. It is timber-framed and stands within an older moated site. The present building is a hall-house with inserted upper floor; the original frame probably dates to *c.* 1500. The details of the beams of the inserted floor, and ovolo-moulded windows cut into the upper framing, suggest an early 17th-century date for the flooring.

114. GREAT YARMOUTH, TOWN WALL (TG 526 067). Observation of construction work on the quay wall in the S. part of the medieval town recorded the lowest part of the town wall at this point and details of its construction. The base of the wall was built upon a wooden frame, infilled with mortared rubble and flint. The work was undertaken by A. Crowson for Mayer Parry Recycling Ltd.

115. GRIMSTON, CHAPEL ROAD, POTT ROW (TG 703 218). A watching brief, carried out by S. Percival and N. Donald for E. Thompson Esq. during the excavation of eleven stanchion pits, observed no features, but sherds of 13th-/14th-century Grimston Ware were found.

Further observations *c.* 30 m to the N. recorded a discrete and extensive layer of medieval pottery, doubtless waste material from a nearby kiln.

116. NEW BUCKENHAM, DICKEN COTTAGE, MARSH LANE (TM 088 904). Evaluation trenching, by N. Donald for K. Gee Esq., on a site close to the limit of the medieval planned town, revealed a large ditch interpreted as part of the S. defences, originally up to 9 m wide. An archaeologically sterile area to the immediate N. of the ditch may indicate the position of an associated defensive bank. The evidence suggests that the site was levelled in the 15th/16th centuries.

117. NORWICH, WENSUM LODGE, KING STREET (TG 237 080). Observation of cable trenches by N. Donald revealed medieval masonry, possibly part of Jurnet's House (Music House) and brick walls.

118. ———, WENSUM STREET/TOMBLAND (TG 233 089 – 233 088). Observations, by N. Donald, of cable trenches recorded human burials adjacent to the church of SS Simon and Jude, within its former churchyard.

119. ———, PALACE STREET/PIGG LANE (TG 234 090). Evaluation for Bidwell Chartered Surveyors involved a single trench S. of the R. Wensum in an area thought to lie across a riparian way, along the edge of the former river terrace. At the S. end cutting into the river terrace evidence of mid to late Saxon occupation was recorded. At the N. end, remains of medieval buildings and yards and other medieval deposits were encountered (including two medieval or later walls). The mid Saxon Ipswich Ware sherds found were residual but indicated nearby mid Saxon activity. The late Saxon material was mostly levelling deposits, probably representing floor/yard surfaces.

120. ———, CATHEDRAL CLOISTER, SOUTH AND WEST RANGES (TG 235 088). Evaluation and survey, by A. Shelley for the Dean and Chapter, involving 27 handcores and two test-pits revealed evidence of deposits associated with the demolition of the refectory and subsequent post-medieval foundation levels. Plans of the Library stairs were drawn.

121. ———, COSLANY STREET (TG 228 089). Excavation of a riverside site for Harvey and Leech Ltd by H. Wallis revealed evidence of activity on the site dating from the 10th to 12th centuries. Three trenches were excavated, two to investigate a small arm of the R. Wensum which was known to run here, creating a minor 'island'. Three main phases of timber revetment were recorded, the earliest dating to the 10th to 12th centuries, while the latest may be 12th-/14th-century. This provisional dating may be refined by dendrochronological analysis. Pits, possibly of 12th-century date, contained metalworking debris, primarily from smelting, pointing to industrial use of this area.

Across the rest of the site there was a considerable deposit of dark material, up to 1 m deep, which was probably formed by the dumping of waste materials in the low areas next to the river.

122. ———, ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, MAGDALEN STREET (TG 232 093). Observations, by A. Shelley for Norwich Community Church, of conversion work recorded several brick vaults below the floor of the former chancel and its attached vestry.

123. OLD BUCKENHAM, ABBEY FARM (TM 070 925). Observations of a cable trench for Eastern Electricity recorded a wall close to the present farmhouse, perhaps part of the medieval priory.

124. ORMESBY, BYPASS (TG 488 148). The discovery of human bones during construction works led to the excavation, by H. Wallis for Engineering Services, Norfolk County Council, of part of a closely spaced cemetery, including its probable southern boundary. Sixty graves were excavated, all aligned approximately W.-E., and containing unaccompanied burials. Some small and abraded potsherds of medieval date were recovered.

The articulated remains represent a minimum of 45 adults (eighteen male and 27 female) and seventeen children, with other remains representing a further four adults and six children. Observed pathologies include leprosy and possibly tuberculosis.

This may be an example of a Christian burial ground of the Anglo-Saxon period, belonging to a time before burial next to a church had become universal. However, interpretation must await the results of radiocarbon dating.

125. THETFORD, THE OLD GASWORKS (TL 869 825). A watching brief, by H. Wallis during the digging of trial pits, revealed Saxo-Norman occupation and burials associated with the site of St Edmund's Church. Work was funded by W. S. Atkins Environmental.

126. WEST DEREHAM, ABBEY (TF 661 006). A watching brief, by K. Penn for Purcell Miller Tritton (Architects) on behalf of G. Shropshire Esq., during building work recorded further details of the abbey buildings and the Renaissance mansion. Ongoing excavation and recording work at the post-medieval stable block has revealed details of its probable medieval function (as part of a guest block) and layout.

127. WIMBOTSHAM, MOATED SITE (TF 616 053). Excavation of a shallow earthwork, thought to be a moated site, by A. Shelley for Anglian Water Services during cutting of a pipe-trench, demonstrated that the moat was dug in the 12th century to enclose a building platform, in which a large building was erected in the 13th/14th centuries, when the moat was evidently extended. The building collapsed in the 15th or 16th century and the moat

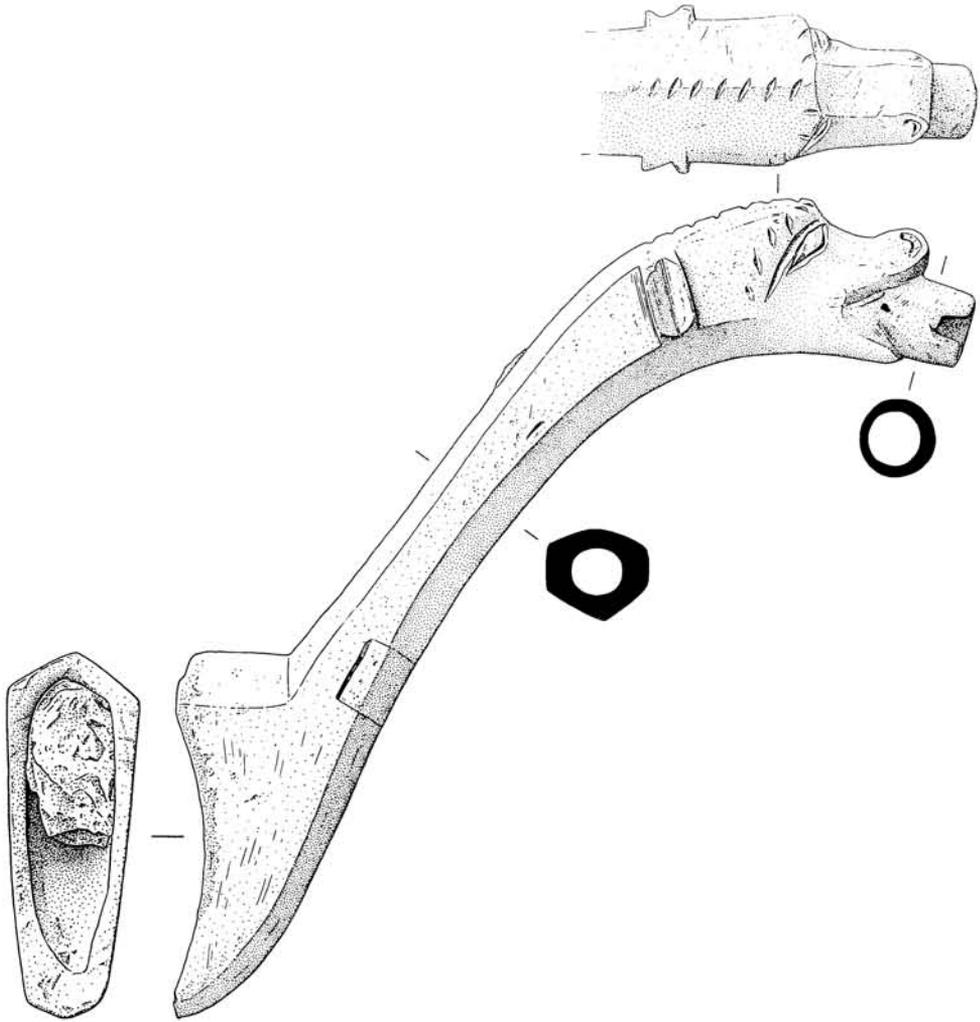


FIG. 3

15th-century dog's head spout, separated in antiquity from the body of a ewer, which was recovered from a drainage ditch within a moated site at Wimbotsham, Norfolk. Drawn by Steven Ashley

then fell out of use. A notable find was a 15th-century dog's head ewer spout, recovered from a drainage ditch (Fig. 3).

#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

128. BRACKLEY, THE ELMS, HIGH STREET (SP 588 375). Evaluation by A. Barber for Cotswold Archaeological Trust revealed stone quarry-pits and structural remains dating to the late 13th/14th centuries. The status of the building is uncertain although the imprecisely located leper hospital of St Leonard is now thought most likely to have lain on the other side of High Street.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

129. CORBRIDGE, TRINITY TERRACE (NY 987 647). An archaeological watching brief was carried out by The Archaeological Practice, University of Newcastle, whilst a new mains water supply was installed to the rear of Trinity Terrace. The terrace occupies the site of a medieval graveyard associated with Trinity Church, itself ruinous *c.* 1710 and demolished by 1778. A pipe trench (65 m long by 0.3 m wide by 0.8 m deep) was excavated and three human skeletons were encountered in its central portion at between 0.5 m and 0.8 m deep; the trench was extended to the S. to allow their full excavation. All three burials had suffered damage during excavation of the original pipe trench but one skeleton was examined in detail. This provided a profile of the build, health and nutrition of an adult male aged 40–50 years.

SOMERSET. Work by Somerset County Council unless otherwise stated.

130. CARHAMPTON, EASTBURY FARM (ST 011 427). It has now been confirmed that five sherds of 6th-century imported Mediterranean wares of amphora groups Bi and Bii were recovered from the site, plus one sherd of 6th/7th-century Gaulish 'E' ware; the latter is the only sherd of this group found so far in Somerset.

Analysis of the iron slag confirms that local ores were being smelted and worked into billets. Carhampton appears to be the only known iron-working site of the post Roman/early medieval period W. of the R. Parrett. Work was carried out by C. and N. Hollinrake.

131. EAST LYNG, BALTMOOR WALL (ST 336 291). A watching brief was undertaken by Exeter Archaeology, during investigative excavations by the Environment Agency, on the alignment of the stone-faced earthwork known as Baltmoor Wall. The wall is described in the Somerset Sites and Monuments Record as 'a bridge or causeway connecting Athelney and the burh of Lyng'. This feature acted as a dam, preventing the flooding of the countryside to the S. during the winter. Both faces of the Wall had been reinforced with stone revetting. Documentary sources suggest that this took place in two episodes, undertaken in the 17th and 19th centuries. The southern face of the Wall was beneath later dumps of soil, which reinforced the earthwork.

Excavations through the Wall revealed the presence of an early earth bank, *c.* 1.75 m high and just under 5 m wide at its base. A buried soil was sealed beneath the bank. Sherds of pottery recovered from just above the buried soil were dated to the 14th/15th centuries and indicated a possible medieval date for the construction of the bank. In order to confirm this date, samples from an underlying peat deposit were taken for the purposes of radiocarbon dating. Work was carried out by S. J. Reed.

132. EAST PENNARD, ALL SAINTS' CHURCH (ST 597 375). The present church dates largely to the earlier 15th century, but the existing nave and aisles are known to have been a rebuilding and expansion of an earlier church, probably Norman. The proposed renewal of the floor throughout the church therefore necessitated archaeological investigations prior to any potentially destructive building work.

Three sub-floor areas in the church were exposed: the NW. quarter of the nave, up to the base of the tower; the NE. quarter of the nave/E. end of the N. aisle/N. side of the chancel; and the SE. quarter of the nave, extending into the S. side of the chancel. The archaeological work consisted of the removal of the layer of timber debris and accumulated dust in the sub-floor voids, followed by the careful cleaning of the revealed structures and archaeological deposits. No deposits were excavated; the investigative cleaning alone revealed the nature and sequence of the extant layers.

Significant archaeological deposits included parts of the foundations of the earlier medieval church, probably Norman; the sequence of floor deposits within the nave and chancel of that church; the foundations of the 15th-century chancel arch and arcades; and the post-medieval vaults of the Martin and Napier families.

(SOMERSET)

Further archaeological work will probably be undertaken during the replacement of the floors, though every attempt is to be made to minimise the disturbance of these well-preserved strata. Work was carried out by A. Graham.

133. GLASTONBURY, 2 CHURCH LANE (ST 499 390). An archaeological watching brief took place when 2 Church Lane was extended and partly rebuilt to provide a new hall for St John's church. The earliest feature was a burial which was sealed by 12th-century occupation deposits. The burial must originally have been within the graveyard of the parish church which lies immediately E. of the site. A few loose bones recovered from ground works during the watching brief also proved to be human, thus supporting the belief that the original extent of the churchyard extended further W. than is shown on the earliest 19th-century maps of the town. A ditch examined in the SW. portion of the construction site, and with a different orientation from the present, and presumably medieval, plot boundaries, contained pottery dating from the 11th/12th centuries. This ditch may represent an early property boundary, or it might be the original western boundary of the churchyard. The ditch was not totally excavated and its original construction date is not certain, but is likely to be late 11th-century at the latest. Deposits within the development site suggested that occupation was established in the early to mid 12th century, a date which accords with previous archaeological investigations in the centre of Glastonbury. Work was carried out by C. and N. Hollinrake.

134. ———, 12 BOVE TOWN (ST 502 390). During the construction of a new boundary wall between numbers 10 and 12 Bove Town a ditch sealed by post-medieval garden deposits was noted towards the rear of the back garden. The ditch was running E.-W. down the slope of the hill, and pottery recovered from the grey silts filling the feature dates to the 12th and 13th centuries. The ditch may be a medieval property boundary and drainage ditch. Work was carried out by C. and N. Hollinrake.

135. LANGPORT, HANGING CHAPEL (ST 423 268). The Hanging Chapel is located on the eastern edge of the medieval town, astride the road to Huish Episcopi. The excavations took place along the line of a proposed footpath around the N. side of the late medieval arched gateway upon which the Hanging Chapel stands. The trench revealed the presence of a natural scarp sloping down to the E, on the crest of which the base of a denuded clay bank was found, probably the late 9th- or early 10th-century defensive bank around the E. side of the town. E. of the bank there was no clear evidence of a ditch; rather the natural scarp seemed to have been cut back and steepened, thus providing clay for the bank. The medieval gateway had been built across the line of the extant bank, which had been dug away for this purpose. At least two periods of repair and underpinning of the gateway wall were apparent. Work was carried out by A. Graham.

136. MILBORNE PORT, ST JOHN'S CHURCH (ST 676 185). Observation during the replacement of floor slabs beneath the central tower recorded elements of the foundations of the SW. pier of the crossing, and contemporary levelling deposits. Work was carried out by A. Graham.

137. MUCHELNEY, ALMONRY FARM (ST 428 249). Observation of a drain trench at the NE. corner of the late medieval almonry of Muchelney Abbey recorded a substantial stone footing on the line of the building's E. wall. This showed that the building had originally extended further N., its present N. gable wall being a rebuild following a partial demolition. The observation of trenches further to the N. and E. revealed no archaeological remains, though an area of riverine clay was exposed, presumably filling a hollow in the underlying

Lias clay strata on this, the western edge of the Isle of Muchelney. Work was carried out by A. Graham.

138. PUXTON, NEAR WESTON-SUPER-MARE (ST 407 633). As part of the continuing investigation of Roman and medieval landscape exploitation and management on the North Somerset Levels, work has begun at Puxton. Earthwork, resistivity and soil chemistry surveys were carried out, along with trial excavations in an area of possible settlement-related earthworks immediately S. of the church. Several boundary ditches were sectioned which contained dumps of midden debris, dating from the late Saxon period to the mid 13th century. The possible footings of a building were also located, which appears to have been abandoned at approximately the same time as the present church was constructed. A wide range of palaeoenvironmental samples were taken to determine whether the settlement was founded before or after the reclamation of this area of former saltmarsh. Work was carried out by S. Rippon.

139. SHAPWICK, LAWN FARM (ST 417 380). An archaeological watching brief on a paddock immediately W. of Lawn Farm, within the village of Shapwick, produced large quantities of medieval pottery and a few features of the medieval and post-medieval period. Controlled field walking identified areas of late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval occupation, the latter including the site of the 17th/18th-century village poor-house. The ratio of late Saxon to medieval pottery sherds was similar to recent excavations in the northern part of the village directed by Dr Chris Gerrard, suggesting that there was little difference in the date in which the various parts of this planned settlement were first occupied.

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the site of Lawn Farm after the farm buildings were demolished prior to redevelopment. The archaeological horizons suggested that the ground had been severely truncated when the farm was built in the first half of the 19th century. One archaeological feature was an artificial water-channel, containing three narrow leats, which was probably constructed in the 10th/11th centuries. This feature will be fully excavated prior to building works in early 1997. Work was carried out by C. and N. Hollinrake.

140. SOUTH PETHERTON, INFANTS SCHOOL (ST 433 168). A watching brief was undertaken when building works, connected with an extension to South Petherton Infants School, off Hele Lane, disturbed human burials. The site lies immediately E. of the eastern boundary of the churchyard of the parish church of SS Peter and Paul. One burial was removed by the contractors, as was part of a second burial. Pottery within one of the grave fills suggested that both inhumations dated to the medieval period. The foundation trenches of the new building cut through medieval ditches and pits, from which pottery dating from the 11th/12th centuries to the 14th century was recovered. Work was carried out by C. and N. Hollinrake.

141. TEMPLECOMBE (ST 709 222). Members of the South East Somerset Archaeological and Historical Society (S.E.S.A.S.) took part in an excavation in the village of Templecombe, on a house construction site. Hillside Developments, the builders, were extremely co-operative. The area had already been cleared of most of the topsoil to a depth of c. 0.35 m, revealing irregular patches of rubble and various disturbed areas. Down one side of the site the topsoil was undisturbed beside an electricity pylon, and this area reflected the previous use of the site as an engineering works. This side of the site was bounded by a well-built drystone wall, low on the side of the excavation but up to 2 m high towards the pasture land beyond. This seems excessive for a simple agricultural boundary and may possibly be a surviving monastic structure.

Examination of the cleaned area produced a quantity of medieval potsherds. Cleaning of the site produced some concentrations of tumbled rubble, and a few areas where stone appeared to be laid in some order, suggesting walls or the edges of paths. Some areas of not very robust slabs suggested floors, but no coherent pattern could be demonstrated, and pursuing the 'walls' down to lower strata always showed that the lines of stones were laid on disturbed organic-looking soil mixed with rubble or tumbled building stone.

Two test-pits revealed more deeply placed lines of stones. Extension of these pits, and further pits in line with the stones, showed them to have been laid edge-to-edge along a length of *c.* 20 m. Only a single course of stones was found over most of this length, and part of the length was over cultivated soil. However, part of this line of possible wall footings was directly on the original natural subsoil and consisted of three courses of stones with sherds within and beneath.

These 'wall footings' mainly lay beneath a linear area of loose rubble, which could have constituted the rubble core of a wall from which the better building stone had been robbed. They are in line with a wall located by resistivity and trial trenching during the investigation by 'The Time Team' in 1995. Work was supervised by M. Pallister.

142. WEDMORE, ST MARY'S CHURCH (ST 435 479). A fresh examination of the architectural history of the parish church for a new church guide brought out the close architectural connections between Wedmore and Wells. The Dean of Wells owned Wedmore and was patron of the parish church, and it would seem that much of the workmanship of the sophisticated 13th-century church which preceded the present 15th-century building was probably carried out by Wells masons.

The well-known S. doorway at Wedmore church — reset in a 15th-century wall — is flanked by compound shafts with stiff-leaf capitals, exactly like those in the part of Wells Cathedral nave that was built in the early 1200s. The present nave and aisles at Wedmore were built in the 1400s; but among the varied stone corbels supporting the roof are two at the W. end of the S. aisle which, unlike all the rest, are of blue Lias carved with naturalistic foliage. One has long, oak-type leaves and the other has ivy leaves with conspicuous long stems. Both prove to be former pillar capitals later reused as corbels. The collar around the pillar top is still visible, and surplus carving has been crudely hacked away where the stone has been reset as a corbel. Both foliage carvings can be very closely matched with the blue Lias capitals on the upper part of the Chapter House stairs and in the Chapter House entry at Wells, which were built *c.* 1270–90. Not only do these reused fragments of the previous Wedmore church reinforce the close connection between Wedmore and Wells in the 13th century, but they also serve to suggest definite dates at both the beginning and the end of the 1200s when Wedmore church was being improved to the highest standards. Work was carried out by H. Hudson and F. Neale.

SUFFOLK. Work by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service.

143. BURY ST EDMUNDS, ST SAVIOUR'S HOSPITAL (TL 85 65). A record was made of the elevations of the standing ruin of the chapel, prior to renovation work. An additional minor excavation was undertaken around the footings exposed during previous excavations. The new excavation produced a large quantity of medieval stained glass, presumably from one of the chapel windows, and it is hoped that some reconstruction of the designs may be possible. Work was carried out by J. Caruth for Suffolk County Council, St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Tesco Stores Ltd.

144. ———, ST EDMUND'S HOSPITAL (TL 85 63). Excavations in advance of building work provided evidence for activity at the site in the early Saxon period, but occupation only intensified during the mid Saxon period, when a boundary ditch was dug across the

S. of the excavated area. Most of the mid Saxon features were close to the ditch, and it seems likely that any major occupation in the area would have been concentrated to the S. of this ditch. Some late Saxon pottery was found, and one large rubbish pit could date from the end of this period. However, the suggestion that this area formed the main focus of settlement in the pre-Abbey town of *Bedericsworth* has not been substantiated.

The site seems to have flourished during the medieval period, although most of the features, which include a possible structure and a grain-dryer, were probably of late 12th- or 13th-century date. Later medieval features suggest that the area formed back gardens and allotments for the houses fronting Southgate Street. Their distance from this road was probably the cause of a decline in use by the 15th century, although other factors, such as a shift in population away from the centre of town, may also be involved. Work was carried out by S. Anderson for Suffolk County Council and St Edmund's Hospital and Nursing Home Ltd.

145. ———, POWKE HOUSE, ANGEL LANE (TL 85 64). Archaeological excavation and monitoring work was carried at the rear of Powke House. Two trenches revealed 12th- to 14th-century features, including pits and a well, which were set back from the Angel Lane frontage. There were many later features in the same area. Work was carried out by A. Tester for Suffolk County Council and Baker Construction.

146. ———, TOWN DITCH, TAYFEN ROAD (TL 85 64). Three trial trenches were machine-dug in the yard of the former Pickford's Depot. Combined evidence from these suggests that the town ditch may have been over 10 m wide at the top and up to 3 m deep at this point. The presence of a natural slope in the gravel at the base of the ditch fills may suggest that it was cut on the line of a natural watercourse. The upper fills were clearly of 17th- to 18th-century date, but the lack of finds from the lowest fills makes dating the original cut impossible at present. One sherd of Early Medieval Ware from the 'outer slope' suggests that it is probably 11th-century or earlier, but further work is required to confirm this. Work was carried out by S. Anderson for Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Council.

147. ———, 47 RAINGATE STREET (TL 85 63). Excavations were carried out on the street frontage in advance of housing construction. Evidence was found for activity on the site in the late Saxon period, in the form of linear ditches running parallel with the street front. Occupation intensified during the later medieval period when a building was constructed on the street front, over one of the earlier ditches. The full extent of this building was not determined, but it probably survived for two to three hundred years.

The excavation provided evidence for the narrowing of the street, as successive phases of boundary and then construction encroached on the road. It also confirmed that the alignment of the street has been unaltered since at least the 10th century, suggesting that Raingate Street was part of the original town layout. Work was carried out by S. Anderson for Suffolk County Council and Baker Construction Ltd.

148. ———, CINEMA GARAGE (TL 85 64). Evaluation and excavation work in the plot adjacent to Powke House (above, 145) showed that much of it had been destroyed, but that a small area of medieval occupation survived at the rear of the plot, in the form of pits and an oven. No additional evidence was found for the Angel Lane frontage. Work was carried out by J. Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Mothersole Builders Ltd.

149 *Breckland Archaeological Survey*. Field survey work in the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area, as part of the two-year Breckland Archaeological Survey, was completed in early 1996. The final stages of the project concentrated on the production of a report containing the results of the survey, a characterisation of the archaeology and historic

(SUFFOLK)

landscape, and recommendations for the management of archaeological sites within the area.

The total number of new sites found by the survey was 164, including: 90 new earthwork sites; 18 archaeological crop-marks; 20 20th-century military sites; 30 sites identified solely from documentary sources; and six 'meaningful' artefact scatters recovered through field walking. The main periods represented were: 'undated' (primarily earthworks) 40%; post-medieval 34%; medieval 14%; and Bronze Age 8%. Broken down into categories of sites, the earthworks included: 5 barrows; 23 enclosures; 36 linear banks; 2 deserted/shrunken villages; 8 moats; 3 floated water meadows; 2 areas of ridge-and-furrow; 3 groups of flint mines; and 8 miscellaneous sites. Compared to the number of earthworks in the county Sites and Monuments Records at the start of the survey, the largest increase was in the number of linear banks and earthwork enclosures, many of which appear to be linked with 18th- and 19th-century rabbit warrens and agricultural improvements.

Thetford Forest emerged as one of the areas of highest potential for the survival of earthworks. These had been preserved in the forest mainly because of the minimal ground disturbance that took place when the original heathland was planted up with coniferous trees. Over 20 *per cent* of the total number of new earthworks recorded in the whole of Breckland were located in the forest. Taking into consideration the comparatively small area surveyed, the potential for many more features to yet be discovered is high. The Stanford Training Area is another area of great potential for the survival of earthworks due to the lack of modern farming operations in a substantial part of the area.

Access to water was a crucial factor in the determining the location and distribution of domestic sites in this dry and sandy environment. A very high proportion of settlements in all periods were located within 1 km of a principal watercourse, an isolated mere or the fen-edge. The areas with good water resources show a long and rich history of settlement from Neolithic times through to the present day. Most of the existing villages in Breckland are in the river valleys, on the sites of Saxon and probably earlier settlements. In the prehistoric and Roman periods, these areas were also a focus for religious/ritual activity.

The drier parts of the central plateau of 'High Breckland' were the core areas of heathland and were always marginal in strict agricultural terms. However, specialized farming strategies were developed to exploit them, based on sheep-pasturing supplemented, from early medieval times onwards, by extensive rabbit warrens. Areas of short-term arable intake from the heaths were known as 'brecks', hence the name of the region. Work was carried out by K. Sussams for English Heritage, Norfolk Landscape Archaeology and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service.

150. GREAT BRADLEY (TL 67 53–67 55). Between 1991 and 1993 the following pieces of fieldwork were undertaken: surveys of a moated site and other linear earthworks on the margins of Ever Green and field walking around the margins of the former Long Acre Green, which produced several scatters of medieval pottery. The results of these surveys are given in B. B. Charge, 'Field survey at a proposed reservoir site in the upper Stour valley', *J. Haverhill & Dist. Archaeol. Group*, Vol. 6 Pt. 2 (1996), 76–88.

151. CHILTON, COUNTY FARM (TL 88 42). Four phases of archaeological work were carried out in advance of a development proposal. Documentary research showed that the basis of the present field system was likely to be medieval in origin, with some of the elements now only showing as crop-marks. Two phases of trial-trenching with a machine revealed the presence of some medieval field boundary ditches and trackways. Also found were features containing late Saxon/early medieval pottery, suggesting that the settlement around Chilton Church once extended into this area. Work was carried out by C. Abbott for Suffolk County Council.

152. DUNWICH, DUNWICH CLIFFS (TM 47 70). Recording work was carried out following notification by Mr Baker of Colchester of a pit in the cliff face. A total of three pits and two road surfaces were identified, all sealed beneath a *c.* 1 m layer of topsoil. In addition, a large ditch was recorded in the cliff immediately behind the fishermen's huts. This was orientated approx. NE.-SW. and almost certainly represents a part of the defensive ditch around the medieval town, which elsewhere is known as Pales Dyke. Work was carried out by S. Boulter and T. Loader for Suffolk County Council.

153. ELLOUGH, ELLOUGH AIRFIELD (TM 45 87). An area of *c.* 9.5 ha was evaluated prior to development. Documentary research indicated that the site straddled the former edge of Ellough Moor (enclosed under an Act of 1797) and included the sites of Warrens Lane and Potters Farm, both in existence prior to 1797.

Trial-trenching showed that the southern half of the site had been truncated during the construction of the airfield, with the material being dumped to the S. of the southernmost taxi-way. The majority of the features identified were ditches or field-drains associated with the layout of Potters Farm, as shown on the 1845 Tithe Map. A water feature immediately to the N. of the farm site, initially suspected to be a vestigial part of a moat, was shown not to extend beyond the outline shown on Ordnance Survey maps. However, 13th and 14th-century pottery sherds were recovered from a series of shallow ditch-like features and a brick kiln W. of Potters Farm, on the other side of Warrens Lane. Further excavations are planned to deduce the nature of this medieval occupation. Work was carried out by S. Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Bernard Matthews Plc.

154. EYE, EYE CASTLE (TM 14 73). A small excavation was carried out on the motte of the castle to deduce the relationship between the curtain walls and the motte and keep. Removal of vegetation and topsoil revealed the ends of both the internal and the external walls at a point 0.4 m short of the western side of the cutting which provides access to the 19th-century folly 'keep'. Further excavation into the fabric of the motte confirmed that the curtain walls ended at this point, were not truncated and did not appear, at this level, to have adjoined any other structure than the motte. It seems likely, therefore, that the curtain walls were connected to the keep at a higher level by some form of bridge structure. A further possibility is that the height of the western side of the motte has been reduced, perhaps in conjunction with the excavation of the cutting. Prior to this the curtain walls would have adjoined the motte at the point recorded in the excavation, and access would have been gained via a continuous walkway running above the chambers in the walls and onto the motte itself. Work was carried out by S. Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council.

155. FELIXSTOWE, FELIXSTOWE COLLEGE (TM 31 35). An evaluation was carried out as part of a planning brief for future development. Archaeological features were found in two discrete areas: in the gardens behind Tyndale House and the SW. corner of the playing fields. In the second area, a rubbish pit containing medieval pottery and a ditch interpreted as part of a medieval strip-field system were recorded, together with two parallel ditches that may represent a pre-medieval field layout. Work was carried out by C. Abbott for Suffolk County Council and Felixstowe College Ltd.

156. HESSETT, ST ETHELBERT'S CHURCH (TL 93 61). An archaeological investigation was carried out when the chancel stalls were removed for restoration. Study of the architectural details showed that the nave was later than the chancel and that the rood screen was of a different date to the chancel and chancel stall. The excavation revealed that the chancel floor had been lowered and that the rood screen and stalls had been reset at this time. At the base of the chancel arch, the moulded stops had been hacked away to insert the screen. This had been done crudely, suggesting that it was done later than the nave rebuilding,

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when skilled masons would have been on site. Work was carried out by D. Gill for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage.

157. IPSWICH, 19 QUEEN STREET (TM 16 44). During underpinning, as a part of a refurbishment of a cellar, a short length of medieval mortared-flint walling was found preserved behind the later brickwork. A maximum length of only 1.2 m of the wall was exposed and examination of it suggested that it either comprised the outside face of the wall of a cellar, lying directly to the S., or the outside face of a well. An attempt by the builders to establish the thickness of the wall by excavating a small hole through the fabric had been abandoned after 0.5 m. The composition of the wall changed with depth, revealing a rendered face down to c. 2 m below the present ground level. Below this, a 0.3 m layer of coursed flints and peg-tile fragments gave way to rough flints in a creamy mortar matrix. The wall was traceable to c. 3.1 m below the present street level and continued downwards below the depth of the adjacent underpinning trench.

Associated with the underpinning of the cellar was a reduction in floor level. At the eastern end of the cellar a quantity of Saxo-Norman Thetford Ware pottery sherds were recovered, and adjacent to the street frontage the bases of four pits were excavated which produced late Saxon and early medieval pottery assemblages. Work was carried out by T. Loader for Suffolk County Council.

158. LAKENHEATH and ERISWELL, R.A.F. Lakenheath, Heating main replacement project. During the laying of high-pressure water pipes a number of archaeological finds were made.

TL 73 81: The construction of a new road 150 m N. of Caudle Head uncovered a ditch and a scatter of features although the site was badly disturbed. The ditch was aligned on a NNW.–SSE. axis and contained a concentration of animal bone and hand-made Saxon pottery.

TL 73 80: A series of trenches 350 m SSE. of Caudle Head exposed sixteen features, many contained large quantities of charcoal, and there were small amounts of Roman and hand-made pottery which could be Iron Age or Saxon. The most substantial features were two ditches which were aligned NNE.–SSW. Fragments of an articulated skeleton were also recovered from a disturbed context. Work was carried out by A. Tester, J. Caruth and S. Anderson for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence.

159. MILDENHALL, R.A.F. MILDENHALL (TL 68 77). An evaluation was undertaken on an area c. 300 m S. of an extensive Iron Age and Roman site excavated last year. This revealed dispersed ditches, pits and post-holes, indicating Iron Age and, possibly, Roman and Saxon occupation. A single burial, probably Roman, was also found. The subsoil surface was uneven and ploughing had destroyed the archaeology on the higher ground, but it survived in the lower-lying areas. Work was carried out by J. Caruth for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence.

160. NEWMARKET, PALACE HOUSE MANSION (TL 64 63). A small excavation in advance of construction work, in connection with the restoration of Charles II's palace, identified the remains of a late medieval timber-framed house, apparently destroyed by fire in the 16th or 17th centuries, prior to the construction of the palace in the 1680s. Work was carried out by J. Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Forest Heath District Council.

161. RICKINGHALL INFERIOR, WEST STREET (TM 02 73). A late medieval pottery kiln and associated building remains were excavated during water-mains replacement. A large quantity of pottery was recovered from the kiln and a nearby pit. This belongs to the late

medieval and transitional tradition which has been recognized at other sites in the Waveney and Little Ouse valleys, and the products identified in Norwich. Earlier medieval ditches were also found, which appeared to indicate an enclosure pre-dating the road-line of West Street. Work was carried out by J. Caruth and S. Anderson for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water Ltd.

162. ROUGHAM, LAYERS FARMHOUSE (TL 90 15). An evaluation was carried out as a result of an application to extend this early 15th-century timber-framed 'Wealden' house (listed 2\*). The proposed extension was on the site of the missing upper end of the main range. Three hand-dug trenches located the foundations of the original front and back walls, but the end wall was not found, nor were any internal floor surfaces. Work was carried out by D. Gill for Suffolk County Council and Mr Starr.

163. TRIMLEY ST MARY, PARKER AVENUE (TM 27 34). An evaluation of a 6 ha development site revealed medieval deposits towards its SW. end. An area of 2500 sq. m was subsequently stripped under archaeological supervision and more detailed excavation was carried out on 500 sq. m within that area. This revealed three main phases of activity, dating from the 12th to the 14th centuries. Significant quantities of pottery were recovered from shallow ditches which appeared to respect the edges of a 10 m by 14 m sub-rectangular gravelled surface, with a gravel pathway leading off to the NW. and a gap in surrounding ditch. The gravelled surface was curbed with septaria blocks on one side and had been re-metalled in the 14th century. There was no structural evidence for any buildings on the site and it seems likely that the surface formed a storage area on the edge of the Byle Fleet, a tidal water-course which would have been periodically navigable by small vessels. Work was carried out by S. Boulter for Suffolk County Council, Jackson Civil Engineering Ltd and Trinity College, Cambridge.

164. WASHBROOK, COPDOCK MILL INTERCHANGE (TM 12 42). An evaluation was carried out in advance of extensive development. Documentary research had indicated that the fields in this area had remained remarkably intact since at least the end of the 16th century through to the mid 20th century, but there had been no buildings there until the construction of Hill House Farm at the beginning of this century. A field evaluation and subsequent excavation confirmed an agricultural use for the area since medieval times, but indicated occupation in the mid and late Saxon periods. The NE. corner of an enclosure ditch was located, containing sherds of both Ipswich and Thetford-type Wares, animal bones and lava quern fragments. A number of post-holes were also found, but these had been badly damaged by ploughing and no structures were identified. Overall, the artefacts indicated small-scale occupation in the 9th-11th centuries, with perhaps a peak in the 10th century. Work was carried out by C. Abbott for Suffolk County Council and Equity Estates.

#### SURREY

165. ASH, SOUTH LANE (SU 897 502). Evaluation of this development site was carried out by G. Hayman of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit for Charles Church South East. A large quantity of late 14th- to 15th-century pottery wasters was recovered, although no related features were identified.

166. CHERTSEY, REVITALIZATION SCHEME: PHASE 6 (TQ 039 666). Evaluation of a site proposed for redevelopment was carried out by J. Robertson of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit for Countryside Commercial. This revealed well-preserved stratification indicating occupation of the site from the late 13th century onwards. The majority of the pottery recovered was of late 13th/early 14th-century date, suggesting that the

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occupation may relate to the medieval suburb of Styvington, previously only known from documents.

167. ———, WINDSOR STREET/COLONEL'S LANE (TQ 041 671). Evaluation and subsequent excavation of this site, proposed for redevelopment, was carried out by G. Hayman of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit for A. E. Genet Holdings Ltd. In the 13th century, or earlier, the site had been quarried for gravel. The resulting holes were filled in the 13th and 14th centuries, and in the 15th century a building was erected on the street frontage. (The site lies outside the previously suggested limits of medieval Chertsey.) This building remained in use for at least 200 years. Subsequent building works on site led to the recovery of a number of Chertsey tiles, including at least one design not represented in the British Museum's collection and catalogue.

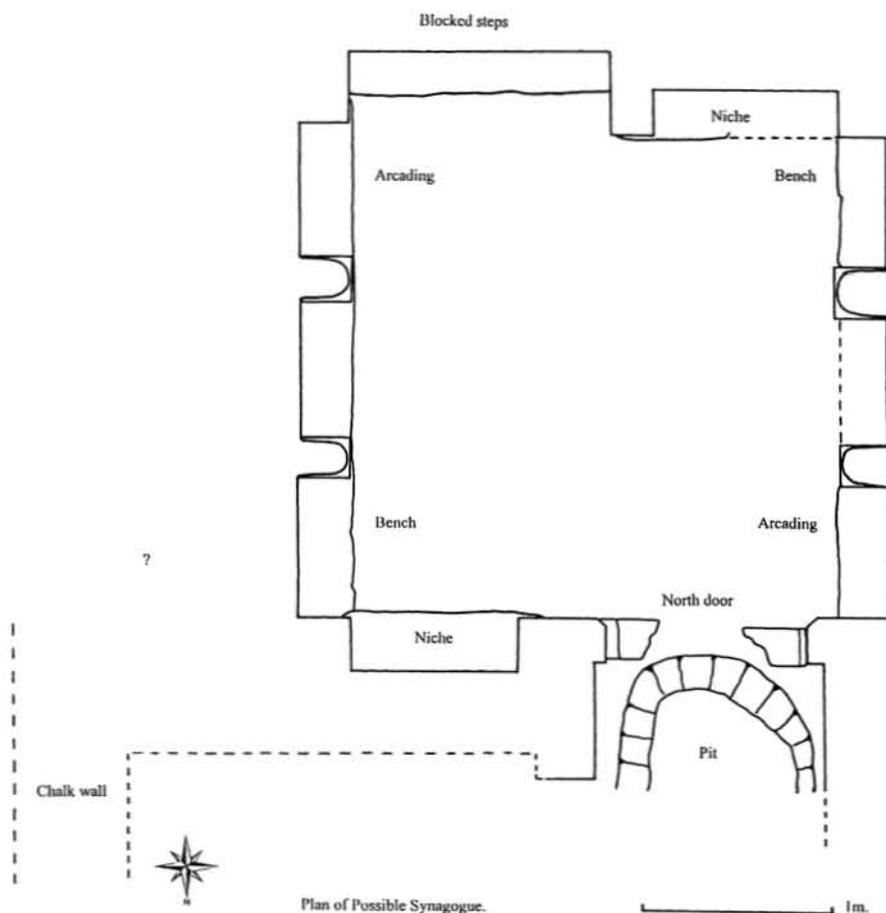
168. DORKING, LAND REAR OF 29-55 HIGH STREET (TQ 164 494). Excavation of a redevelopment site within the historic centre of Dorking, for Fairclough Homes, by J. Pine of Thames Valley Archaeological Services continued in 1996. A few late Saxon/early medieval sherds were recovered, as was a bone pinbeater of Saxon date. Medieval pits, post-holes and gullies were recorded. The pottery from these features has been dated to the 12th/14th centuries. A late medieval well was also recorded.

169. ARMY AND NAVY STORE, GUILDFORD (SU 996 495). A watching brief was carried out by J. Robertson and G. Pattison of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit on extensions to the store, which lies within the historic centre of Guildford, for the House of Fraser. Extensive modern disturbance was revealed, but some archaeological levels survived. Three pits were recorded, which contained 13th-century and later medieval material, suggesting this area had formed part of the backlands of properties fronting the High Street.

170. ———, HIGH STREET (SU 99 49). In 1995 the remains of a stone-built chamber (Fig. 4) were found behind a property in the High Street in Guildford, by Guildford Museum Excavation Unit. The work was done at the request of the developers of the property to discover whether there were any archaeological remains on the site. Work was directed by M. Alexander, J. Boas and K. Fryer.

The room is *c.* 3 m square, and had been demolished down to *c.* 1.20 m above floor level. The room was apparently in good condition when it was demolished. The lower part of the room was filled with demolition rubble and had apparently been sealed over. Pottery within the rubble dates it to the late 13th century but there are no later artefacts and no evidence for any activity until the late 19th or early 20th century. At this time a brick rubble layer was laid over the stone demolition rubble as part of a concrete floor for the shop above. At a similar date a brick wall running E.-W. was built in the cellar immediately in front of the N. wall of the medieval structure, causing a medieval chalk wall running N. to be cut off to accommodate the brick wall. The W. and N. brick walls of the cellar are of even more recent construction, but the E. wall is of chalk and is probably medieval.

The medieval chamber is square, of local chalk construction, with blind arcading on the E. and W. walls. A stone bench runs round all four walls, except where the main doorway and another opening interrupt it, at the NW. and SE. corners. The northern doorway was approached by a very short passage. The door had a stone threshold and had chamfers on either side within the chamber. The southern doorway is less elaborate and may not be original. A stone stairway led up from it, and was blocked off during the life of the chamber. The bottom step, which projected into the room, was removed, presumably at the time of the blocking. The only object associated with the room itself is a silver penny



High Street  
 ↓  
 Fig. 4  
 High Street, Guildford, Surrey. Plan of stone-built chamber (?synagogue)

of Henry III found in a crack in the eastern ledge. It is of a type minted 1251-72 and withdrawn from circulation in 1279.

The chamber has been dated by the bases of the columns to *c.* 1180. The blind arcading consists of two U-sectioned columns on either side, with square-sectioned corner pieces at either end. The room was cut off at the top of the columns, but a fragment of one capital remains. The walls between the ashlar of the arcading and doorways are of chalk rubble, originally plastered over. The stonework is of very good quality, though with some surprising features such as flints left very obviously in the chalk ashlar. The walls were painted. There are traces of a black and red decorative scheme on the columns, and a small area of paint on a wall contains the pigment indigo. According to the Courtauld Institute this was the first time indigo had been found in a Romanesque wall painting in this country, though it has since been recognized at York and Lincoln.

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The chamber may have been part of a larger stone building on the site, perhaps with an undercroft. It is clearly an important building, and it might have been a Jewish synagogue, though so far no parallel has been found for it nationally. There is similar architecture in Guildford Castle keep.

The precise location of the site has been deliberately withheld.

171. 80-82 HIGH STREET (SU 996 494). Excavation and a subsequent watching brief were carried out by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, for Characin Developments, on this redevelopment site within the historic centre of Guildford. This revealed evidence for backlands activity, especially of 12th- to 13th-century date. The virtual absence of material between the 14th and 17th centuries suggests that the plot was being used for non-domestic purposes; one suggestion is that it was the yard for an Inn.

172. MANOR HOUSE, PIRBRIGHT (SU 942 556). Evaluation of the site of a proposed extension to the manor house, which is of late 15th- or early 16th-century date, was carried out by R. Poulton of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit for Mr and Mrs Lees. No trace of the expected E. wing of the manor house was revealed, suggesting that it had not been based upon substantial foundations and that its demolition in the 18th century was thorough. Only two features of medieval date were found.

173. DUNCROFT SCHOOL, STAINES (TQ 032 720). Evaluation and subsequent excavation of this site was carried out by J. Robertson of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, for Nicholas King Homes, before residential development. The site lies outside the Roman and medieval settlement of Staines but in close proximity to the parish church. Numerous features of mid to late Saxon date were revealed, confirming that there had been a shift of settlement during that period.

174. STAINES, KINGSTON ROAD, POLICE STATION (TQ 040 716). Excavation by J. Robertson of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, for the Metropolitan Police Service, followed evaluation in 1995; the site for the proposed new police station lies on the fringes of the Roman and later settlement of Staines. The excavation revealed a number of ditches that had been cut parallel to the roadline. The ceramic sequence suggests that in the 13th/14th centuries the roadside ditch was infilled by flood deposits. A new ditch was cut further E., filling up in the late 15th/early 16th centuries. This ditch was in turn replaced by one further E., that must have encroached upon the Kingston Road; it too was infilled and sealed by a layer containing 16th-century material. The quantity of finds recovered suggests that the ditches served a dual purpose of roadside drain and property boundary.

175. WEY AND GODALMING NAVIGATIONS (SU 974 441-TQ 073 656). A detailed survey of the archaeology and landscape evolution of the corridor of these navigations was carried out by C. K. Currie of C.K.C. Archaeology (Gardens Archaeology Project) for the National Trust.

The survey included a study of the Saxon and medieval river valley, and demonstrated that some short-distance trade on the river may have been possible before the Navigations were built. A number of Saxon and medieval sites were identified. Mills were amongst the most common.

## WARWICKSHIRE

176. KENILWORTH, 15 CLINTON LANE, CASTLE GREEN (SP 278 724). An evaluation by G. C. Jones of the Warwickshire Museum on a site on the W. side of Castle Green, just N.

of Kenilworth Castle, involved five trial trenches. These revealed scattered medieval occupation, dating probably to the 12th/13th to early 14th centuries, including remains of a timber building fronting Clinton Lane. The occupation had probably ceased by the mid 14th century, after which the site remained an open space until the building of the present house in the 1930s.

177. PILLERTON PRIORS, SANDPIT FARM (SP 294 476). An evaluation involving three trial trenches on land NW. of Sandpit Farm within the medieval village was carried out by G. C. Jones of the Warwickshire Museum. The work revealed evidence for 10th- to 12th-century occupation in the form of boundaries across the area and a timber structure to the W. A few later medieval and post-medieval boundary features dating to the 13th, 14th/15th and 17th/18th centuries were also recorded.

178. POLESWORTH, ST EDITH'S ABBEY (SK 264 024). A detailed survey was made by N. Palmer of the Warwickshire Museum of a wall along the N. and part of the E. sides of the former cloister of Polesworth Abbey. Five main building periods were identified. At the W. end of the N. side there was the former abbey W. processional doorway dating to the mid 12th century (now set against the Victorian chancel of the parish church). At the N. end of the E. side there was a late 14th-century doorway that would have led into the S. transept of the abbey church. After the Dissolution the cloister and the E. part of the abbey church were demolished and the area incorporated into the garden of a new manor house on the site of the Abbess's Lodging. The W. processional door, the door into the transept and a 12th-century chapter house façade (shown on 18th-century views) were retained as gateways, and a rougher garden wall was built in sections along the N. side of the former cloister. In 1859 the abbey church area was incorporated into the churchyard, and probably at this time the processional doorway was blocked and a new section of wall containing two 13th-century grave-slabs was built to the E., replacing the chapter house façade. The final building period represented modern repairs.

179. UFTON, HARBURY LANE (SP 377 617). Evaluation by C. Bateman for Cotswold Archaeological Trust close to the medieval focus of Ufton revealed wall footings and demolition debris associated with a 12th- to late 14th-century building. A ditch, recut in the early post-medieval period, delineated the area of domestic occupation from an extant ridge-and-furrow field system.

180. WARWICK CASTLE (SP 284 647). Two surveys were carried out by N. Palmer and G. M. D. Booth of the Warwickshire Museum on behalf of Warwick Castle Ltd.

The first, a mainly documentary survey of the Watergate Tower, suggested that the tower was built in the first half of the 14th century with two floors of lodgings above a gate passage. Its construction probably came between those of the Great Hall and Chapel range and the Gatehouse. By 1590 it appears to have been ruinous and it was substantially altered in the 17th century, probably by Sir Fulke Greville, although it was not at this date an important residential part of the castle. Further major alterations occurred in the 18th century, including the insertion of a very fine vaulted basement in Gothic style in the 1740s, and the upgrading of the accommodation to provide apartments for members of the family. In the 19th century the tower housed a billiard room and a sitting room, and in 1859-60 it was partially rebuilt and remodelled by Anthony Salvin in a late 13th-century style.

A second study considered the state of the castle in 1604, when it was acquired by the courtier and poet, Sir Fulke Greville, and the building work subsequently carried out by Greville. According to Dugdale, he spent prodigious sums, but so little trace remains that it has been suggested that his activity has been exaggerated. In fact, as recent studies of the castle fabric have shown, most of his activity has been hidden by later developments. Apart

## (WARWICKSHIRE)

from the path up the castle mound his extensive formal gardens, shown on a plan of 1711, were re-landscaped by Capability Brown; his main new building at the SW. end of the domestic range was refenestrated in the 18th century; and his grand two-storey entrance loggia by the Spy Tower was buried when Brown raised the castle courtyard. Major refurbishment and rebuilding in this period can also be identified in the Gatehouse and Barbican, the Watergate Tower and the great chamber block of the Domestic Range. Work was carried out in almost all the areas identified as in need of repair in a Survey of 1590.

181. WARWICK, PARK HOUSE, BRIDGE END (SP 286 646). An evaluation carried out by G. C. Jones of the Warwickshire Museum involved trial trenches either side of the former London Road close to the medieval Avon bridge. The trench to the E. lay just S. of an area excavated in 1983–84, which had revealed a series of timber-framed buildings occupied from the 13th century to the early 19th century. Similar complex stratification, including the continuation of a number of the previously excavated structures, was evident in the evaluation trench, surviving just below the modern surface. The second trench to the W. of the road revealed some probably 13th-century pits.

182. WOLFHAMCOTE, HUNTER'S MOON, FLECKNOE (SP 515 634). An evaluation of a site in the centre of the medieval village involving four trial trenches was carried out by G. C. Jones of the Warwickshire Museum. The trenching revealed medieval boundary gullies dating from the 11th to the 15th centuries in the NE. part of the site. There was no evidence for structures.

## WILTSHIRE

183. BRADFORD-ON-AVON (ST 823 604). Bath Archaeological Trust was commissioned by English Heritage to conduct a watching brief during works at the mid 14th-century tith barn. These involved, externally, the re-laying of a stone drainage run-off alongside part of the S. wall, and internally, the digging up and re-laying of the rammed earth floor within the western third of the barn. Mainly as a result of successive campaigns of repair to the fabric of the building by English Heritage and its predecessors, virtually all medieval horizons within and in the immediate vicinity of the barn appear to have been destroyed. Within the barn the surface of the earth floor was 0.10 m below the level of the medieval floor, as indicated by offsets on the N. and S. walls. The earth itself contained very modern material and directly overlay the natural clay/limestone brash. The lower parts of the truncated rubble-filled medieval construction trenches survived, though even these had been disturbed during previous repairs. Externally, part of the S. wall had been underpinned with concrete, while elsewhere concrete retaining walls had been laid next to the foundations. This had not been recorded but was probably carried out during repairs to the buttresses in 1960. The stone drainage run-off was preceded by a rubble-filled soakaway, but this also appeared to be 20th-century in date.

184. PEWSEY, BUS STATION (SU 165 600). An excavation by Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by R. J. Leighfield Ltd prior to redevelopment. The site is situated SE. of the junction between River Street (A345) and High Street (B3087), with the R. Avon flowing N.–S. through it. Two trenches, 16.5 by 8 m and 22 by 5 m, revealed pits, a ditch, a slot, and a possible trackway of 12th/13th-century date, with further pits and post-holes of post-medieval date. These remains probably represent backland activity associated with burgages fronting the High Street, with associated flanking boundary ditches.

## EAST YORKSHIRE

185. BEVERLEY, 8 HENGATE (TA 032 398). An evaluation was undertaken by J. Tibbles and C. Loveluck for the Humber Archaeology Partnership, at the site of the former Crown Brushworks. The work was carried out for Render Richardson and Co., acting on behalf of the Beverley Consolidated Charity, as a result of an application to alter the existing buildings at No. 8 Hengate, with a view to converting them into a house and flats.

The cartilage of No. 8 Hengate was probably laid out between the mid 12th and the mid 13th century, and lies relatively close to the mid 12th-century church of St Mary. It was thus likely that a medieval and later sequence of remains would be recovered from the present site.

Three trenches were placed within the evaluation area: two were located in the standing buildings, consisting of the mid to late 18th-century coach-house and stables, and the third trench was situated in the yard/garden of the property. An occupation sequence from at least the 13th century was uncovered. This sequence comprised six major phases of activity, characterized by building walls, floors and occupation deposits, separated by demolition and levelling dumps. Occupation of the site was most intensive between the late 13th century and the mid 14th century, with four buildings represented within the small trial trenches alone. The density of occupation decreased over time, with the coalescing of small medieval tenements into larger properties. This tendency towards amalgamation of plots is also recorded for the neighbouring property of No. 7 Hengate, during the past three centuries.

The occupants of the medieval and post-medieval tenements, fronting on to Hengate, seem to have enjoyed above-average status, as seen in the range of imported pottery and a silver bell. Some of the medieval inhabitants were also literate — as suggested by a goose-bone pen from the site.

186. ———, HOLME CHURCH LANE (TA 048 395). Trial excavations were carried out by J. Tibbles and C. Loveluck for the Humber Archaeology Partnership in September 1996, on behalf of Bridon Plc, on land on the S. side of Holme Church Lane, Beverley, East Riding of Yorkshire. Ten trenches were excavated.

The two trenches close to the Holme Church Lane frontage were found to contain surviving archaeological remains of medieval date. Earliest of these was a N.-S. boundary ditch defining plots of land running back from the lane; fragments of pottery — mostly local 12th-century Beverley kiln products — were recovered from this feature, as well as roof tile fragments, and pieces of iron slag. At a later date, the ditch was backfilled and sealed beneath extensive clay dumps, which were in turn cut by a ditch which ran parallel to Holme Church Lane. The datable pottery from this feature extended from the 12th century to the 17th century, and included at least one sherd from an East Anglian kiln. A contemporary gully led into the ditch from the S. The ditch and gully were themselves eventually backfilled, and only modern topsoil and overburden overlay them.

187. KELDGATE (TA 037 391). Trial excavations were carried out by J. Tibbles and K. Steedman for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, over a two-week period in November and December 1994, on land E. of Keldgate Manor on behalf of S. J. W. Developments Ltd. Three trenches were excavated to evaluate the site in advance of development. An unbroken sequence of archaeological deposits was recorded, dating from the 11th century to the 15th century. Preservation of organic remains on the site was excellent, leading to the survival of leather and wood, as well as significant assemblages of plant and insect remains. The archaeological deposits were at their deepest towards the rear of the site, where at c. 6.2 m O.D. they overlay undated wetland deposits of peats and clays, formed in alder carr. Near the front of the site, natural sand was found at a higher level, and archaeological deposits survived to 8.1 m O.D.

Large-scale dumping of occupation refuse over the site (Phase 1) commenced in the 11th century, but ceased in the 12th century when two buildings of sill-beam and earth-fast post construction were constructed fronting onto Kelgate (Phase 2). The buildings were set within two adjacent tenements. Pits to the rear contained numerous leather off-cuts from shoe-making. The buildings were disused by the late 12th century, perhaps as a result of the Beverley fire of 1188, and the tenements remained open ground for some time, with only sporadic pit-digging and the robbing of structural elements from the buildings (Phase 3). The westernmost tenement was not built upon again until the early 14th century. A new building, of earth-fast post construction, was constructed on the eastern tenement in the 13th century (Phase 4). A doorway led W. from the building into the neighbouring tenement, where a large tanning pit was situated. The pit was later backfilled with refuse, including leather off-cuts, and burnt material derived from disturbance of pre-1188 fire deposits from nearby. There is no evidence that tanning or shoe manufacture continued on the site beyond this phase.

A new building, founded on post-pads and rubble sills, was constructed on the eastern tenements in the late 13th century (Phase 5). Analysis of plant and insect remains from the floors of this building suggests domestic occupation. The floors were resurfaced on many occasions, and internal modifications included a well-built tile hearth. On the W. side of the building was a metallised yard and a path which extended to the rear of the site, into a possible third tenement which may have run back from Long Lane to the E. In the early 14th century, extensive dumping of clay prepared the ground for buildings on a different alignment, with re-aligned tenement boundaries (Phase 6). The buildings had continuous foundation walls of chalk and internal post-pads, though few floor surfaces survived, and a metallised track ran between them. The replanning may have been connected with defensive arrangements on the nearby Archbishops' Residence at Hall Garth, but it was short-lived. In the later 14th century, the buildings were cleared and sealed beneath thick dumps of clay, and the earlier alignment, roughly perpendicular to Kelgate, was re-established; buildings with chalk foundations followed on the two neighbouring tenements, and perhaps also on that to the rear. Modern truncation removed their contemporary ground surfaces, but occupation on the site appears to have ceased sometime in the 15th century, and it was not built on again until recent times.

188. LANDRESS LANE (TA 033 395). An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken on land between Nos. 6 and 8 Landress Lane, Beverley, by J. Tibbles for the Humber Archaeology Partnership, over two weeks in April 1996. The work followed granting of permission on a full planning application for the erection of three dwellings. Two trenches were excavated, positioned so as to provide an understanding of the site sequence over the development area. Natural gravel subsoils were recorded at depths of up to 2 m below present ground levels.

The earliest phase of occupation (late 12th to mid 13th century) comprised the digging of a rubbish pit and the accumulation of a trampled surface adjacent to Landress Lane. Dumping to raise ground levels, and the digging of another pit, followed. In Phase 2 (late 13th century) a substantial deposit of chalk rubble was dumped to raise and level the ground prior to construction of Building 1. Only one corner of this building was seen, c. 5.5 m from the present edge of Landress Lane; its walls may have been set on post-pads or low sill walls based on the chalk dumps, while a number of floors were recorded inside. In Phase 3 (14th century), the area of the building reverted to open ground, while further E., large pits were dug for gravel extraction. Digging of pits continued in the area of the gravel quarries in Phase 4 (14th or early 15th centuries), and Building 2 was constructed directly adjacent to Landress Lane. Internal floor surfaces were recorded, and a step, constructed from reused floor slabs, led from higher ground adjacent to the lane to an entrance in the building's W. wall. A yard of compacted chalk rubble lay to the N.

Following disuse of the building, and the final infilling of the pits, the whole site was raised by the deposition of thick dumps of clay (Phase 5; 15th/16th centuries). Activity on this made ground was restricted to the digging of rubbish pits.

A varied finds assemblage includes the first clear evidence for the working of copper alloy in Beverley: crucible fragments, slag and scrap bronze sheet fragments were recovered from the fills of 14th- or early 15th-century pits.

189. ———, LAND E. OF 8 BECKSIDE NORTH (TA 045 394). In August 1994, M. Foreman for the Humberside Archaeology Unit undertook a two-week evaluation here in advance of a proposal by John Thompson Developments to develop this site for light industrial use. Four trenches were positioned in order to evaluate the survival of archaeological remains over the whole development area. Up to six phases of activity were recorded, dating from the 12th century to the present day.

The most productive trench was that sited nearest to the Beck (i.e. on the frontage), and here at least 1.3 m of stratification was recorded; safety reasons precluded excavation to a greater depth. The earliest recorded features were pits, sealed beneath clay platforms, with slots indicating the positions of timber sill walls; these formed parts of a building (or two adjacent buildings) dated to the late 12th or early 13th centuries. Further clay platforms sealed these features and were capped by floors contemporary with another wall sill, set upon fragments of millstones; pottery from these layers indicated a late 13th- or early 14th-century date for this activity. The pattern was repeated during the early 14th century, when a timber building (based on earth-fast posts) was constructed on the same alignment, and later in the same century when brick-built sills were laid, to support yet another timber building. The occupation sequence was truncated at this point by later activity, including a brick drain dated to the 18th or early 19th centuries. Two of the trenches further back from the Beck revealed evidence for pit digging and dumping contemporary with the buildings described above. Between them, these three trenches indicate the occupation of a tenement (or adjacent tenements) with buildings on the frontage, and pits in the rear area.

In contrast, the trench furthest from the Beck contained evidence of further buildings which would seem to relate to the development of a distinct property. A 13th- or early 14th-century building containing two hearths, one of which was built of tiles set on edge, was replaced later in the 14th century by another building. Only a small part of the interior of this building lay within the excavation, though a small area of brick flooring was recognized; the substantial external wall of this building had been removed by a post-medieval robber trench. The robbing of the wall was followed by the dumping of large quantities of tile wasters into the robber trench, testifying to its proximity to Beverley's medieval industrial suburbs. It is tempting to see this substantial structure as having been somehow associated with the church of St Nicholas, the site of which lies a short distance to the W. and appears to share the same alignment. The church, as may be the case with this building, saw extensive reconstruction in the mid to late 14th century, and declined after the Reformation; it was robbed of stone at the time of the Civil War, and was used as a quarry thereafter.

190. ———, NORTH BAR WITHIN (TA 030 398). Trial excavations were carried out on land to the rear of No. 37 North Bar Within, Beverley in September 1995, by J. Tibbles for the Humberside Archaeology Unit. The work was carried out at the request of The Health Scheme, to provide information in support of a planning application for construction of a number of dwellings. Four trenches were excavated, positioned so as to provide an understanding of the site sequence over the whole development area.

The earliest deposits encountered were silty gravel layers overlying the clean natural gravel, which was found to lie over 3 m below present ground levels. Sealing these gravel layers were traces of late 12th- or early 13th-century buildings, comprising wall foundations

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of chalk and post-pads, with associated clay floors and external metallised yard surfaces; a number of rubbish pits lay to the N. It would appear that these buildings lay within properties which fronted Waltham Lane to the S. In the 13th or 14th centuries dumping of substantial amounts of clay followed, raising the ground level over most of the site. One building from the previous phase may have remained in use, while elsewhere new buildings were established, based on chalk pier foundations; some of these buildings may have fronted Vicar Lane, to the N., though Waltham Lane remained the main frontage. Further dumping raised the ground level and, in perhaps the 14th or 15th centuries, new buildings were constructed; these included a range of buildings fronting Vicar Lane, one of which was the earliest on the site to use brick in its foundations. Despite at least one more episode of dumping, the site appeared to be largely vacant of buildings in the 16th and 17th centuries. The latest buildings recorded would have been contemporary with the 18th-century building which still stands on the site next to Waltham Lane, while foundations were also recorded of cottages which stood along both lanes until earlier this century prior to demolition to create the present car park.

Finds included relatively large quantities of pottery, animal bone, brick and tile, as well as two coins, a lead *ampulla*, a pewter spoon with cast decoration, and several pieces of worked masonry, one of which was a fragment of a grave cover.

191. ———, ST MARY'S CHURCH (TA 032 398). A watching brief was undertaken in 1993 by J. Tibbles, for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, within the northern graveyard of St Mary's parish church, during the initial stages of the construction of a new church hall.

Substantial 14th-century limestone wall foundations and a number of padstones, together with associated hearths and mortar/clay floors were observed. A large dump of Humberware pottery sherds and a layer of partially crushed limestone fragments sealed these structural remains, and were themselves covered by the accumulated make-up of the later (largely post-medieval) graveyard.

192. COTTINGHAM, BAYNARDS CASTLE (TA 0407 3297). As a result of the findings of an earlier evaluation of a site within the southern outer bailey (see *Medieval Archaeol.*, 36 (1992) 243), trial excavations were undertaken in March 1995 by D. Atkinson for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, in advance of the construction of an extension to The Old Manor House (a building of later 16th- or 17th-century date) on this site.

This investigation showed that over 1.4 m of archaeological deposits of medieval date overlay the natural boulder clay and survived to within 0.45 m of the present ground level. The earliest deposits, of late 12th-century date, infilled a large pit or hollow, later overlain by a massive chalk and limestone wall, with associated floor surfaces to the S., and yard surfaces to the N. The wall was 1.9 m wide, set on foundations 2.6 m wide, and a stone-lined drain was built along its external edge. Construction of the wall may have taken place in the 13th century, and the building continued in use into the 14th century. It was probably part of a complex of buildings associated with the manor house of the de Sutevilles and later the le Wake family: it is known to have been fortified in the early years of the 14th century, but was recorded as ruined by the middle of that century. Following robbing of stonework, the wall was buried beneath demolition deposits and refuse, over which garden soils accumulated during the post-medieval period.

193. DRIFFIELD, THE OUT GANG (TA 031 572). A programme of archaeological survey and excavation was carried out by D. Atkinson for the Humber Archaeology Partnership on behalf of Yorkshire Water Services Ltd, on land known as the Out Gang, on the S. side of Driffield. The fieldwork was undertaken in advance of the construction of various

elements of a re-sewerage scheme in an area of pasture which contained a series of undated earthworks, including a large banked enclosure, possible house platforms and surviving ridge-and-furrow. A survey of the full extent of the earthworks was carried out, and this allowed tentative interpretations to be drawn as to the origin and/or function of the various features. This was followed by geophysical survey (by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford) along the route of the outfall culvert; a number of linear anomalies of potential archaeological origin were identified, and certain earthwork features, such as the ridge-and-furrow, were detected.

Following the survey work, ten trenches were excavated in the area affected by the re-sewerage works. No archaeological features were identified at the northern end of the site; two mounds were of natural origin, and a third was relatively recent. The bulk of the excavation work, along the line of the outfall culvert, was more productive, and evidence of land use was identified dating from the 12th or 13th century to the present day. In addition, a possible meander of the former Driffield Beck was identified in two trenches.

The earliest phase of land use, of 12th- or 13th-century date, comprised the laying out of at least one boundary feature, probably a hedge, and the digging of one, or possibly two, boundary and/or drainage ditches, part of a system of enclosures likely to have been connected with the control of livestock; they were replaced by the extensive earthworks of the succeeding phases. The ditches are also presumed to represent attempts at improving drainage of land which was damp and liable to periodic flooding. In the 13th or 14th centuries, perhaps as a result of a rising water-table or an increase in the incidence of flooding, clays and gravels were imported to create platforms and mounds, bringing with them residual prehistoric flints, Romano-British roof tiles and medieval pottery. Some mounds are likely to have been surmounted by agricultural buildings — such as sheds, byres or storage barns — probably based on post-pads. The prominent earthwork enclosure which dominated the western part of the site was also created at around this time, presumably as a stock compound enclosing an area of drier ground, though the surviving earthwork represents only a portion of a much larger enclosure, set against a bend in the Driffield Beck, which was truncated by construction of the canal in the late 18th century.

A number of probable hedge boundaries defining tracks and gateways were erected in the years following formation of the mounds and/or platforms; dating evidence suggests that this commenced during the 14th century and that use of the trackways, and presumably also the structures upon the adjacent platforms, continued into the 16th or 17th centuries, after which the site became wholly pastureland, and remains so today.

194. FLAMBOROUGH, FLAMBOROUGH CASTLE (TA 227 704). Trial excavations were undertaken by D. Atkinson for the Humberside Archaeology Unit in November 1995, on behalf of Mr P. Beattie, to ascertain the survival of the perimeter wall and associated archaeological deposits pertaining to the castle, adjacent to Tower Street, Flamborough, prior to the construction of a new perimeter fence.

A single trench was excavated. The investigation showed that the wall, which was constructed of squared chalk blocks, survived at a depth of 0.86 m below the present earth bank, and extended E. below the modern pavement; however, it had been extensively robbed. A clay bank which pre-dated the wall was identified; associated pottery suggested a 14th-century or later date for the construction of the wall. A small quantity of medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from deposits which post-dated the robbing of the wall.

195. HEDON, OLD HALL, FLETCHERGATE (TA 191 286). An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was undertaken on land N. of the Old Hall, Fletchergate, Hedon, by M. Foreman for the Humberside Archaeology Unit, on behalf of Mr George Head, landowner, through his agents the Hurd Rolland Partnership. The work followed an

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outline planning proposal for residential development. Four trenches were excavated, positioned so as to sample archaeological remains across the site. Significant remains were recorded in all trenches, dating from the 12th century to the present day. The Fleet, a watercourse first mentioned in the 13th century, is known to have run across the site, though its course is no longer visible; three trenches lay E. of it and one, close to the present Baxtergate frontage, lay to its W.

The land to the E. of the Fleet saw activity from the later 12th century. Part of at least one building of earth-fast post construction was recorded along with rectangular pits of near-identical form in two trenches; the pits may have been used for water supply or management. To the W. of the Fleet, 12th-century activity was attested mainly by residual material. There was little evidence for 13th-century occupation; for the most part, finds of this date occurred only as a residual component of later deposits. This evidence suggests neglect of the area, and may imply its diminished importance at this time. The 13th-century historical record of a weakened mercantile community in Hedon may correlate with this apparent stagnation.

Recovery from this slump is testified by the scale of clay dumping dating to the early 14th century. In the area just E. of the Fleet, fences or light buildings were erected over this reclaimed land, while on the Baxtergate frontage a flagged stone surface was recorded, with occupation debris having accumulated over it. The scarcity of material clearly datable to the later 14th century, however, hints at a slackening of activity in the eastern part of Hedon; other than the possible continuation of building activity on Baxtergate into the 15th century (a possible smithy), much of the remainder of the site had reverted to agricultural use by the end of the 14th century. In the trench closest to the rear of the 18th-century Old Hall, however, brick surfaces of post-medieval date were recorded, presumably parts of yards and outbuildings associated with the Old Hall or its predecessor, and these had removed all traces of earlier agricultural activity, having been set directly on the 14th-century dumps.

196. ———, TWYERS HILL (TA 184 289). Following a survey of the surviving earthworks (see *Medieval Archaeol.*, 36 (1992), 197), the Humberside Archaeology Unit undertook trial excavations in 1995 (under the supervision of J. Tibbles), on behalf of the Planning and Design Department of Hull City Council, in advance of a proposed residential development. The site of the evaluation lay N. of the scheduled moated enclosure, which is surrounded by a field system. The earlier surveys had highlighted the existence of an outlying earthwork feature which may have been the site of a medieval building, and trial trenching of this, and its surrounding ditches, was proposed to determine the importance of the remains and whether they warranted preservation *in situ*.

Three trenches were excavated, targeted on earthwork features and a linear anomaly on the geophysical survey. While the anomaly represented a geological feature, a number of archaeological features were recorded beneath the medieval ridge-and-furrow and other earthworks. These early ditches and gullies contained small fragments of prehistoric and Romano-British pottery in their fills, and are probably indicative of more extensive occupation of that date in the vicinity. An early watercourse, probably of natural origin, was also located.

The earthworks themselves were sampled, and a boundary ditch was found to contain pottery dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods. There was, however, no evidence of surviving structural features on the clay platform.

## NORTH YORKSHIRE

197. KIRKDALE (SE 677 857). L. Watts and P. Rahtz continued work at this putative Anglo-Saxon monastery. In the field N. of the church a cemetery was succeeded by a

timber building with associated craft-working in iron and other material. Scrap lead includes a plate inscribed in 8th to 10th-century Anglo Saxon letters, referring probably to a 'bone-chest' (see this journal pp. 51 ff). The W. wall of the church is founded on a massive two-stepped foundation. A limestone sarcophagus has been located.

198. RIEVAULX ABBEY, RIEVAULX (SE 577 849). A programme of standing building recording in the transepts and E. end of the Abbey church in advance of repair was undertaken by J. Lilley of York Archaeological Trust for English Heritage. A watching brief over the installation of a new telephone cable and connection chamber adjacent to the Abbey Visitor Centre revealed dumps of masonry resulting from the clearance of the abbey in the 1920s, which in turn sealed dumps of mortar and stone dating to the period of the Dissolution.

#### YORK

199. MERCHANT ADVENTURERS' HALL, FOSSGATE (SE 605 516). An interdisciplinary study of the 14th-century guildhall hospital and chapel by York Archaeological Trust on behalf of the York Merchant Adventurers Company, begun in 1995, continued under K. Hunter-Mann's direction. Limited excavations and analysis of boreholes produced much new information. Two major land-raising episodes, in the 17th/18th and 19th centuries, had concealed the lower external 2.5 m of the undercroft and chapel. Within the Undercroft there was evidence of original timber partitions; later, the floor level had been raised by 0.6 m, and windows in the undercroft were re-positioned. A cobbled street was found immediately SW. of the building.

The Merchants' Hall had been built, at least partially, on the remains of a Norman stone hall, which survived to a height of 1.7 m, flanked by a cobbled street. Curved and flanged roofing tile, presumably from the building, lay on the cobbled surface. The remains of the Norman hall had been concealed by massive 14th-century dumps, which contained well-preserved environmental material. The dumps had formed a higher ground level on which to construct the Merchants' Hall, and the lower part of the Norman building had been utilized as the foundations of the later hall.

#### NORTHERN IRELAND

##### CO. ANTRIM

200. MUCKAMORE (J 166 854). Excavations were carried out by E. Halpin and M. MacDonagh in advance of housing development on the site of the Augustinian Priory, founded shortly after 1183. The remains of a wall incorporating decorative features were discovered as well as a shallow ditch, *c.* 4 m wide and 1.2 m deep. The base of the ditch was square-cut into bedrock. The basal fills were sterile but they were sealed by a later, medieval, layer deposited to provide a level surface for the laying down of cobbles. A geophysical survey conducted by A. McCleary succeeded in identifying the outline of the S. and E. cloisters as well as the position of the S. ambulatory.

##### CO. DOWN

201. DOWNPATRICK, SCOTCH STREET/CHURCH STREET (J 487 448). Excavations by A. Gahan, on behalf of the D.o.E. Roads Service, uncovered several features within this medieval town. The earliest features consisted of four pits, all of which were *c.* 1 m wide and 1 m deep; these contained locally produced and imported French pottery sherds, metal artefacts and animal bone, of 13th-century date. A metalled surface was also uncovered measuring 3.5 m by 3 m. Several stake-holes and a shallow pit were cut into it. A depression yielded a large quantity of charcoal-rich material, along with pieces of iron slag and nails. It is probable that this was an area of metalworking.

(CO. DOWN)

202. STRANGFORD LOUGH. An intertidal archaeological survey carried out on this large sea-lough by A. O'Sullivan, T. McErlean, R. McConkey, and P. McCooey revealed features ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval period. Sixteen medieval wooden and stone fishtraps were identified, mostly around the NE. part of the lough near Chapel Island and in Grey Abbey Bay. All take the form of stone or wooden 'head-weirs', V-shaped, sickle-shaped or tick-shaped structures, oriented to trap fish moving down with the ebbing tide. The traps were located on the freshwater channels and creeks that drain the flats, and sometimes incorporated natural 'pladdies' or rocky reefs in their make-up. The significance of the Grey Abbey Bay fishtraps lies in their size, complexity and evidence for repair. The wooden traps have converging post-and-wattle fences, 40–200 m in length, leading to various types of trap structure at the eye, while the stone traps consist of long (50–300 m), low (0.5 m), double kerb-and-fill walls. The chronological range of the structures has been established by means of radiocarbon dating, combined with historical and cartographic research. The wooden traps have provided calibrated dates of A.D. 711–889, A.D. 1046–1218, and A.D. 1037–1188, while one trap has provided two dates of A.D. 1023–1161 and A.D. 1250–73, suggesting a phase of reconstruction. The Grey Abbey Bay stone traps were probably first built in the 13th century and were out of use by the early 17th century. It is likely that these fishtraps were managed by the Cistercian monks of Grey Abbey.

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CO. CARLOW

203. CARLOW CASTLE (S 715 771). Excavations carried out by K. O'Connor concentrated on the interior of this towered keep. The keep was pre-dated by a series of post-holes (probably part of a palisade) placed inside a curving ditch, as well as the remains of a corn-drying kiln. These features are probably the remains of the first timber castle, built in the early 1180s by Hugh de Lacy for John de Clahull. The next phase of activity was the erection of the towered keep, commenced by William Marshall about 1210. This destroyed most of the defences and buildings of the earlier timber castle. The keep had no foundations but was constructed directly on an artificially created flat surface. It had internal measurements of 15.8 m (N.–S.) by 8.85 m (E.–W.). Very little occupation evidence was uncovered and much disturbance had been caused by the collapse of the E. half of the keep in 1814. The castle well was discovered in the NE. corner of the keep.

CO. CLARE

204. BUNRATTY (R 145 161). Further work on the intertidal survey at Bunratty and Cratloe, on the Shannon estuary, was carried out by A. O'Sullivan on behalf of the Discovery Programme (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 295). A concentration of fifteen medieval fishtraps was recorded adjacent to the site of the Anglo-Norman borough of Bunratty. Bunratty 3 is situated on a steeply sloping bank of clays and comprises a row of roundwood posts c. 5 m in length running down the foreshore towards two horizontal fish baskets. Basket A is conical in shape and measures at least 1.2 m in length, 0.8 m in diameter at the mouth and 0.3 m at the narrow end. Basket B is situated 1.2 m further N. It is funnel-shaped and measures 2.6 m in length, narrowing from a diameter of 1.4 m at the mouth to 0.6 m at the narrow end. Bunratty 4 is a complex wooden structure, V-shaped in plan, with a narrow opening at the apex where it appears a basket may have been pinned onto the mudflats. It has been radiocarbon dated to  $960 \pm 20$  B.P. (Cal. 1017–1155 A.D.; GrN-21933). Bunratty 6 is easily the best preserved and most complete fishtrap known from medieval Ireland. A hazel rod from its basket has been radiocarbon dated to  $820 \pm 35$  B.P. (Cal. 1162–1268 A.D.; GrN-21934). The remains consist of a large woven

basket, a post-and-wattle fence leading diagonally away from it, and a cluster of vertical roundwood posts. The basket lies intact in the clays to a depth of 0.7 m. It is conical in shape and measures at least 4.2 m, narrowing from 0.7 m at the mouth to 0.2 m at the end. Several stones were placed in the base of the basket to provide stability, and the end was bunged with wood and moss.

## CO. CORK

205. **BALLYNOE** (W 934 896). Excavations by E. Cotter were carried out to the N. of the medieval parish church. The remains of a mortared stone wall, probably the original boundary wall of the site, were revealed in one of the four trenches. Removal of ivy from the NW. corner showed that the boundary wall had been built into the N. wall of the vestry from a height of 2 m upwards and was topped by a wall-walk, part of which still survives. The boundary wall was built on soft deposits which proved to be the fill on a earlier, U-shaped ditch. The ditch was 3.3 m wide at the top, 0.8 m wide at the base and 1.6 m deep. It extended in an arc under the wall of the vestry. Taken together with the previous discovery of the foundations of an earlier structure under the wall of the nave, and the finding of a cross fragment of possible 12th-century date, it suggests that this ditch is the enclosing element of a pre-Norman ecclesiastical site.

206. **BARRYS COURT CASTLE, CARRIGTWOHILL** (W 821 724). Excavations carried out on this late medieval tower house by D. Pollock revealed no evidence for the existence of a structure earlier than the tower house itself although sherds of 13th/14th-century pottery were recovered in disturbed contexts. The bawn appears to have been designed in conjunction with the tower house but it was erected a short time later. Traces of a mortared wall to the E. probably represent a free-standing building within the bawn while kerbing and isolated small foundations suggest the existence of a formalized garden inside the bawn.

## CORK CITY

207. At *Grattan Street/Adelaide Street Car Park* (W 669 719) M. F. Hurley carried out excavations on a 16 m by 12 m area adjoining the city wall. Parts of two medieval burgage plots were uncovered. The evidence consisted mainly of organic refuse which accumulated in the late 13th and 14th centuries as well as several refuse pits. One large pit contained a large number of cattle horn-cores. The first domestic dwelling erected in this area was a stone house of late 17th-century date.

208. At *North Main Street/Castle Street* (W 670 720) excavations by C. Power uncovered part of the medieval city defences adjoining Queen's Castle. Portions of the medieval quay wall were also found. The finds included 13th/14th-century ceramics, including Redcliffe, Saintonge and Cork local wares. Some organic debris was associated with medieval road-metalling and street surfaces. The remains of the medieval drainage system were also investigated.

209. At 2 *Washington Street* (W 681 702) the line of the medieval city wall was exposed by R. Cleary, between 0.2 m and 0.6 m below the present ground level. The external wall face was relatively straight to the maximum excavated depth of 2 m. The internal face was not excavated, however, because it lay outside the development area. It is likely that a foundation plinth exists below this level. Medieval dumping outside the wall was covered over by a 1.8 m depth of modern fill.

210. **KILCOLMAN CASTLE** (R 581 113). Excavation by E. Klingelhofer uncovered the 15th-century bawn wall associated with the tower house which was later lived in by the

## (CORK CITY)

poet Edmund Spenser. The Spenser family occupancy of the castle (c. 1587–1617) marked an extensive period of construction, with new masonry of clay bonding being erected, often upon older, mortared walls or foundations.

211. SHERKIN ISLAND, FARRANCOUSH (W 103 025). Excavations by J. O'Sullivan in the N. range of the Franciscan Observantine Friary, founded c. 1460, discovered that it was erected on natural subsoils consisting of sandy glacial tills with extensive areas of concreted iron pan (Phase 1). The tills had been scarped or quarried to create a level site for the construction of the friary (Phase 2) and primary features included the walls of the N. range, redeposited subfloor soil layers, and a major lintelled stone drain.

## CO. DONEGAL

212. GREENCASTLE (C 653 403). Excavations by R. Ó Baoill and E. Halpin were carried out close to the early 14th-century castle built by the earls of Ulster. These uncovered the remains of a severely truncated and disturbed medieval ditch with a maximum width of 8.4 m across the top and 7.2 m at the base, which was tracked for 10 m. The fills were mostly silty organic gravels, out of which were recovered sherds of both glazed and unglazed, locally produced medieval pottery, along with fragments of tile, iron, worked stone and slag, all probably dating to the 13th/14th centuries. A layer of cobbles, c. 15 m NW. of the castle, appears to represent a formalized routeway into the castle, and the findings suggest that the castle gatehouse was approached from the N.

## CO. DUBLIN

213. DALKEY, 59 CASTLE STREET (O 263 269). Excavations by D. Murtagh uncovered the remains of a U-shaped fosse which measured 2 m at its greatest width but may have been larger originally. This appears to form part of a burgage plot boundary. The organic deposits from the ditch fill contained 13th to 14th-century pottery, animal bone and seashell fragments.

## DUBLIN CITY

214. At *Back Lane/Lamb Alley* (O 149 338) excavations by T. Coughlan exposed a 6 m wide trench running E.-W. for 32 m between Back Lane and Lamb Alley. A number of 12th-century post-and-wattle structures were recovered. These were overlaid by a stave-built house, measuring 9 m by c. 4.5 m, of probable 13th-century date; heavy oak base-plates supported upright posts which held thin plank walls; the house was divided into three areas, a large front room containing a hearth, a smaller back room, and a passageway which linked up with a pathway leading to a cess-pit at the rear of the house. A contemporary sunken structure, measuring 6 m by 7 m, was identified W. of the house. This structure was also built using large oak base-plates, posts and planks. There were three centrally-placed pad-stones which would have held the internal roof supports. In the W. of the trench two well-constructed timber-lined pits (measuring 2.4 m by 2 m by 1.7 m deep and 2 m by 1.8 m by 1.7 m deep) were discovered. These were of 14th-century date.

215. At 5–6 *Cecilia Street West* (O 156 341) excavations by L. Simpson revealed the remains of the Augustinian Friary, founded c. 1260 (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 297). The best-preserved portion was a large limestone wall, 1.2 m wide and 2 m high which appeared to form part of the precinct wall; it was supported by a series of large arches and external buttresses. The remains of a medieval lime-kiln were found W. of the wall. Despite the substantial stone remains, no associated habitation or floor levels remained *in situ*, but

an organic infill deposit produced medieval floor tiles and a quantity of medieval pottery, including local Dublin wares.

216. At 145–150 *Church Street* (O 149 344) excavations by D. Murtagh uncovered a cobbled surface with associated drainage channel and a stone-lined lime-pit which are of possible mid to late 13th-century date. The other medieval features consisted of nineteen rubbish pits of 13th/14th-century date. The medieval finds consisted of domestic refuse, pottery (both local and imported), roofing slates, and ridge and floor tiles.

217. At *Digges Lane* (O 160 334) excavations by C. McConway revealed a series of medieval pits and gullies of varying depths dated, on the pottery evidence, to the 12th century. These features were sealed by a substantial deposit of cultivation soils cut through by a large fosse, probably of medieval date.

218. At 1 *Essex Gate/10 Exchange Street Upper* (O 147 344) eight test trenches were opened by G. Scally. The internal face of the medieval town wall, revealed in two trenches was well faced with large limestone blocks, c. 0.2 m by 0.3 m in size. The core of the wall appeared to be made up of smaller, uncut limestone, bonded together with charcoal-flecked mortar. The wall in this area is c. 2.4 m wide. Shell-flecked soil was banked up against the face of the wall but no finds were recovered from this deposit.

219. At *Fyffes Yard, Mary's Lane* (O 152 347) excavations by N. O'Flanagan revealed several pits and gullies containing clay fills with animal bones. One of these pits produced a large quantity of butchered deer bones associated with sherds of 13th-century Saintonge and Leinster cooking ware. The assemblage of evidence suggests that the area was characterized by butchery and the preparation of food.

220. At *The National College of Art and Design, Thomas Street* (O 340 148) excavations were carried out by L. Simpson on the documented site of three watermills. Much of the archaeology had been destroyed by the construction of deep Georgian cellars but the truncated remains of a U-shaped medieval watercourse were located. The watercourse was cut into the natural boulder clay and, at the S. end, was 3 m wide at the upper level, narrowing to 0.8 m at the base. It had silted up over time and contained a large amount of Anglo-Norman pottery. A second, very badly damaged, watercourse which ran into the first was also identified. Part of both watercourses had been replaced c. 1600 by well-faced limestone-lined channels, although in the case of the second one, the course had been slightly realigned. Both watercourses are presumed to be related to the 'mills' marked on Speed's map of Dublin in 1610.

221. At 119–121 *Thomas Street* (O 146 337) excavations by E. O'Donovan discovered a large number of medieval pits. The pits were sealed by a spread of medieval clay which was associated with areas of burning. These features are likely to relate to industrial activity outside the town wall, tentatively dated to the 13th or 14th centuries. The finds included a substantial quantity of medieval pottery, a ring-brooch, a belt buckle and a decorated leather scabbard.

#### CO. GALWAY

222. HIGH ISLAND MONASTERY (L 501 572). Excavations by G. Scally continued (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 298). Three of the eight stone-lined graves exposed in 1995 were excavated. Two graves contained the remains of extended skeletons while no skeletal remains were uncovered in the third grave. All three were marked by decorated stone foot-markers, while two were also marked by decorated headstones. The full extent of the

(CO. GALWAY)

paving surrounding the graves was uncovered. It was composed of large schist flags which covered the entire area around the exterior of the church. The interior of the church was completely excavated. The earliest level exposed to date is a deposit of orange ash which extends beneath the N. and S. walls. The remains of a stone-paved surface, contemporary with the external paving, overlay the ash deposit. The remains of a burial, located on the N. side of the church interior, were fully removed; two stone grave-goods were buried with the body, one on each shoulder.

## CO. KERRY

223. SKELLIG MICHAEL (MONKS' GARDEN), GREAT SKELLIG (V 245 604). Excavation, in advance of conservation work, carried out by E. Bourke on behalf of the National Monuments Service, commenced on the steps between the entrance to the Lower Monks' Garden and the entrance to the inner enclosure. The 'souterrain' W. of the cells in the inner enclosure was excavated and it was discovered to be a cistern similar to those beneath the cells of the inner enclosure. This feature, however, contained only modern material.

## CO. KILDARE

224. CASTLEDERMOT, MAIN STREET (S 708 856). Excavations by E. O'Donovan within the medieval walled town uncovered 26 medieval pits, varying in size from 0.75 m in diameter and 0.35 m in depth to 3.95 m in diameter and 2.8 m in depth. A substantial quantity of animal bone and pottery was recovered from the silty/loamy backfill of many of the pits. The pottery included a range of 13th/14th-century glazed and unglazed domestic wares and was mainly Irish with very few sherds of English or French material. A large assemblage of Leinster cooking ware, a large plate and some glazed jugs were also identified. Although the precise function of the pits remains unclear, it is likely that most of them were used for the disposal of domestic rubbish. Others, however, may have been dug in order to extract clay for use in building and in the manufacture of pottery. The pits were located in a line 7–8 m back from the present street front and it is possible that they reflect the rear line of the houses in an earlier, narrower street. The absence of any late medieval or post-medieval material suggests that the site was abandoned during this period.

225. MAYNOOTH CASTLE (N 934 375). Archaeological assessment by A. Hayden was carried out for the National Monuments Service in advance of the proposed redevelopment of this late 12th-century site. Excavation demonstrated that the castle was built close to the edge of a rock outcrop overlooking the R. Lyreen. Inside the keep a medieval well and evidence of medieval and post-medieval flooring were found. The ground floor had originally been divided in two by an arcade resting on rectangular stepped stone piers. The lower parts of these piers were visible on both sides of a secondary, 13th-century internal division built to support the barrel vaults which roof this floor.

226. NAAS, CORBAN'S LANE/SOUTH MAIN STREET (N 890 190). Trial trenching by F. O'Carroll in advance of development established that there was a U-shaped ditch running E.–W. parallel to Corban's Lane. The ditch had a surviving width of 2.7 m and a depth of 0.7 m. Almost all of the pottery (51 sherds) recovered from the undisturbed ditch fills dated to the 12th–14th centuries. Dublin-type wares, South Leinster cooking pottery and temper-free ware were represented.

227. 'NEWBRIDGE', PARSONSTOWN, ST WOLSTAN'S AND CONEYBURROW (N 989 343). Underwater excavations supervised by M. Fitzpatrick located the remains of the central pier and cutwater of the three-arched bridge constructed in 1308. The stepped foundations of the bridge were also discovered.

## CO. KILKENNY

228. KILKENNY, ABBEY STREET (S 510 560). Excavations by M. Reid uncovered 250 medieval burials within the precinct wall of the Dominican Priory, founded *c.* 1225. The precinct wall measured 1.2 m in width and it had an external batter rising to a height of 1.35 m. Medieval deposits, including several fragments of line-impressed floor tiles of 14th-century date, had accumulated against the external face.

229. KILKENNY, WILLIAM STREET (S 505 558). Excavations by J. Moran uncovered part of a ditch, 6 m wide, containing 13th-century pottery. This ditch would have been a substantial land division. A smaller pair of ditches, *c.* 1 m wide, on the same alignment, 9 m apart, probably represent plot divisions of a slightly later date.

230. KELLS PRIORY (S 499 434). Excavations were carried out by M. Clyne, in advance of conservation, for the National Monuments Service, in the 15th-century tower house known as the Prior's Tower. The tower was built against the 13th-century choir of this Augustinian Priory, founded *c.* 1193. It is likely that the prior lived in the tower house but the ground floor, which has a doorway to the choir, was probably used as a sacristy. Excavation of the ground floor revealed that a deposit of roofing slate fragments pre-dated the tower house. Above this was a layer of compacted clay mixed with sand which formed the foundation for the mortared floor of the chamber.

## CO. LAOIS

231. ROCK OF DUNAMASE (S 530 981). Excavations by B. Hodkinson continued on the 12th-century hall of this Anglo-Norman castle (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 300). The building measured 35.5 m by 20 m externally with internal dimensions of 21 m by 14.4 m. It appears to have been abandoned in the mid 14th century and was not reoccupied again until the 18th century.

## CO. LIMERICK

232. LIMERICK, FRANCISCAN FRIARY, KING'S ISLAND (R 578 575). Excavations on this friary site, founded *c.* 1267, were carried out by F. Hurley in advance of road construction. The initial activity consisted of a series of organic deposits 1.5 m deep. This was followed by the deposition of a silty clay layer 0.25 m thick on which the friary church was constructed. The W. end of the nave and part of the S. aisle were investigated. These were constructed predominantly of brown sandstone. A 13 m stretch of the S. aisle wall was found, consisting of five blind arches, each *c.* 1.5 m wide. The aisle was 4.5 m wide while the nave itself was 8.5 m in width. A column base for a compound pier on its plinth was discovered *in situ*; it had survived by being buried within a later wall. Very little remained of the floor levels within the building because of the disturbance caused by burials. No evidence was found for the location of a domestic range N. of the site despite the opening of several trenches. A total of 465 articulated human burials were uncovered but the bulk of these appear to date to the 16th century and later.

## CO. LOUTH

## DROGHEDA

233. At *Baker Building, Harpurs Lane* (O 089 751) excavations were carried out by D. Murphy in advance of developing an apartment building. Medieval deposits existed directly below the concrete surface and for the most part have not been disturbed. Part of a probable burgage wall was uncovered sealed beneath a layer of dark brown clay containing sherds of 13th-century pottery.

(CO. LOUTH, DROGHEDA)

234. At *Bessexwell Lane* (O 090 750) K. Campbell uncovered archaeological deposits at an average depth of 0.5 m below ground surface. The material consisted of stone walls, evidence for wooden structures, dumped layers of roof slate, shells and general habitation refuse. Below this level, organic deposits, probably of late 12th/13th-century date, extended to a depth of over 1.6 m. Medieval pottery, leather scraps and three plain wooden pins or skewers were recovered from these deposits. In view of the soft ground conditions the new development was constructed on a concrete slab foundation which sealed the archaeological deposits.

235. At *Dyer Street* (O 088 749) excavations by D. Murphy, carried out in advance of laying a sewer pipe for the Drogheda Main Drainage and Waste Water Disposal Scheme, revealed the foundations of several medieval houses. One of these was substantial and was located at the E. end of the street close to its junction with Shop St. The walls of this building were 1.35 m wide and survived to a height of 0.9 m. Two original doorways were revealed leading to Dyer Street, each measuring 1.5 m in width and framed by cut sandstone jambs. Three successive cobble floors and a stone-lined well existed within the building. Both the house and the stone well were constructed in the mid 13th century. The house was divided internally with timber partitions. The presence of hearths, spindle-whorls, bone needles and a linen smoother indicate industrial activity, perhaps connected with the processes of textile manufacture and dyeing. Sherds of local pottery, stone crucibles, small rings and pins, and ornately carved gaming pieces of deer antler were also found.

236. Beside the *Peace Bridge* (O 088 750) excavations by D. Murphy revealed that the 13th-century town wall was built on a foundation of loose boulders *c.* 2 m wide at the base. The wall stood to a height of over 7 m and had an external base batter.

## CO. MEATH

237. MOYNAGH LOUGH, BRITTAS (N 818 860). J. Bradley reports that the excavation of this crannog site continued (*J. Roy. Soc. Antiqs. Ire.*, 121 (1991), 5–26). Three open-air hearths, a furnace and two pits were uncovered in what appears to be the lowest level of crannog activity. Beneath this, however, evidence came to light for 7th-century occupation which seems to pre-date the construction of the palisades. The remains consisted of a round, post-and-wattle hut just over 3 m in diameter. No hearth was present within it and it is likely to have functioned as a workshop or store. Associated with the hut and running away from it towards the W. was a pathway of flat timbers, 2.8 m long and just over 1 m in width. Both the hut and the pathway were cut through by the earliest of the crannog's timber palisades. The finds from the immediate vicinity of the hut included sherds of E-ware, an iron shield boss, and a rectangular bronze mount, decorated with rilling and lentoid bosses, resembling the ornament of the well-known escutcheon on the hanging-bowl from Sutton Hoo. On the E. side of the site the earliest crannog feature was a gravel platform which had several post-holes cut through it. This was replaced, after it had gone out of use, by a second similar platform. Underneath these platforms, at a level contemporary with the hut and pathway, two Merovingian glass flasks and a bronze spatula were discovered.

238. TRIM. A sewage and water supply scheme resulted in the monitoring and excavation of continuous trenches by R. Meenan in most of the major streets in the town. A medieval street surface of cobbling was exposed along most of the length of Market St. *c.* 1 m below the present street level. Near the site of Athboy Gate a mortared limestone

wall was discovered running N.-S. and was interpreted as a possible boundary wall for St Patrick's churchyard.

239. TRIM, TRIM CASTLE (N 202 564). Excavations by A. Hayden on the S. side of the keep revealed a large oval post-and-wattle walled animal corral which is likely to be pre-Norman in date. Overlying this were the remains of an Anglo-Norman stone-footed structure, a stone hearth and a layer of burnt grain dating to the first phase of Anglo-Norman occupation. Large numbers of horseshoes, arrowheads and harness mounts suggest that the site was used as a cavalry base. The interior of the keep's S. tower was excavated. This uncovered post-holes and a slot trench used to hold timbers to support the ground floor of the tower. The large embrasures of the ground floor were also fully exposed.

The interior of the undercroft beneath the E. end of the great hall was fully excavated revealing a flight of steps leading down to it from the S. A second and smaller hall with four internal piers was added to the S. end of the great hall range in the 14th or 15th centuries. This was demolished and replaced by a larger stone building which functioned as a mint in the later 15th century. The remains of a small kiln, work-benches, elaborate stone floors and large amounts of ash were also found in the structure. Part of the curtain wall was uncovered to the SW. of the W. gatehouse.

#### CO. OFFALY

240. CLONMACNOISE MONASTERY, NEW GRAVEYARD (N 011 308). Excavations by H. A. King revealed that the stratified deposits can be roughly divided into four levels. The upper levels, probably dating to the period after 1000, consist of a number of pits, roughly cobbled surfaces and spreads of refuse. The underlying level, probably 8th to 10th-century, contained the remains of Round House 2 and a rectangular structure which appear to have been surrounded by a gravelled yard with a wooden gate, walls and a large hearth. The lowest early Christian level has evidence of stake-holes, burnt spreads and pits. Sealed under an alluvial deposit of peat and probably dating to the Iron Age are a number of trenches and pits.

The main surviving evidence is of the structures and features of the 8th to 10th centuries. Round House 2 consisted of a platform of yellow esker-sand retained by large boulders with an internal diameter of *c.* 7 m and a central hearth. Many of the revetting stones on the NE. section of the circumference, however, had been pulled out or removed during the construction of the 'Pope's road' in 1979, and only some small traces of burnt ash and charcoal remained of the central hearth. Adjacent to this house on the E. were the foundations of a rectangular structure *c.* 10.5 m long and *c.* 4 m wide, while to the NW. were traces of an enclosed yard. N. of these features, an area of burnt earth and charcoal surrounded a large hearth, *c.* 3.5 m by 4 m. This appears to have had an enclosing timber structure, partly of planks and partly of posts bedded in a dauby clay. A timber-lined pit was found W. of this feature and a number of possible enclosure walls were also excavated. Among the stratified artefacts were bronze stick and ringed pins, beads of blue and green glass, a blue enamel bracelet with white inlay, a wide range of iron objects including several knives, fish-hooks, door fittings, an axe, decorative mounts, and a penannular brooch; in addition lignite bracelet fragments, bone motif-pieces, and a bone handle with an ogham inscription were recovered.

241. LEABEG, CASTLEARMSTRONG, CORNAFURRISH AND CORRABEG (N 229 110 and N 229 436). Excavations by N. Bermingham on behalf of the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit revealed the remains of a wooden trackway or togher running for a distance of 384 m across Lemanaghan Bog. The construction varied from place to place but in general the substructure consisted of a series of closely set, short roundwoods and split timbers held in position with pegs, while the superstructure was composed of longitudinally laid planks.

## (CO. OFFALY)

The planks were radially and tangentially split oaks with a minimum length of 3 m. Three dendrochronological dates were obtained: A.D. 665  $\pm$  9 (Q9253), A.D. 667  $\pm$  9 (Q9280) and A.D. 684  $\pm$  9 (Q9279). These dates indicate that the site may be considered a single-phase construction belonging to the second half of the 7th century.

242. LEMANAGHAN. Excavations were carried out by E. O'Carroll on behalf of the Irish Archaeological Wetland Unit on a wooden trackway or togher in Derrynagun Bog. The togher ran for 750 m from the island at Lemanaghan across the bog. Excavation revealed five phases of construction. The earliest phase was a longitudinal plank walkway composed of split oaks, dated dendrochronologically to A.D. 653  $\pm$  9 (Q9281). Phase 2 consisted of a layer of redeposited boulder clay placed directly on top of the planks. It was 3.4 m wide and measured 0.4 m at its deepest point. Phase 3 was constructed of three layers of wood forming a substructure and a superstructure. The total width of this structure was 4.2 m and the depth varied from 0.25 m to 0.3 m. This phase has been dendrochronologically dated to A.D. 1158  $\pm$  9 (Q9282). Directly above Phase 3 was a layer of *Sphagnum* peat up to 0.17 m in depth. The development of this peat may indicate the abandonment of the site although the presence of heather in the peat indicates that the surface was relatively dry. Phase 4, which lay on top of this, consisted of another layer of redeposited boulder clay. It was up to 2.6 m. wide and 0.12 m deep. The final phase of construction, Phase 5, consisted of a layer of large, flat sandstone flags up to 2.16 m wide and 0.2 m deep. The first phase of construction, the plank walkway, is broadly contemporary with the establishment of the monastery by Manchan *c.* 645, but as the site expanded and developed it probably became part of a network of routeways across the large expanses of midland bog.

## CO. SLIGO

243. BALLYADARE (G 673 290). Excavation of this early Christian burial ground was conducted by H. Opie, prior to the development of the Ballyadare–Collooney Road Bypass. The remains of at least 83 burials were recovered in addition to 28 bone scatters representing disturbed burials. All appear to have been extended inhumations aligned roughly E.–W., with the head to the W. except for one individual who was buried with the head to the E.; this may have been a priest. The majority of the burials were confined within a roughly oval mound which utilised a naturally occurring gravel ridge, but a number of burials lay to the S. and off the mound itself. These may have been deliberately excluded from burial on the mound or may have been later burials not directly associated with this later tradition. Most graves consisted of simple, shallow cuts into the gravel, too constricted for a coffin. There were also two well-constructed stone-lined lintel graves. One of these contained a single skeleton while the other contained two burials, one of which was clearly later because it had disturbed and partly cut away the earlier burial.

## CO. TIPPERARY

244. CASHEL, FRIAR STREET (S 076 402). An archaeological assessment was carried out by E. O'Donovan immediately N. of the site of the Franciscan friary founded *c.* 1265. Two trenches were opened fronting onto Friar St. These revealed organic deposits, possible clay floors and burning together with medieval pottery.

245. CHANCELLORSLAND (R 758 358). A complex of archaeological monuments ranging in date from the Bronze Age to the Middle Ages has been the focus of research work by M. Doody for the Discovery Programme. Excavations concentrated on a circular enclosure situated on a natural rise. It is surrounded by a ditch, 2.9 m wide and 0.55 m deep, but there is no bank. The remains of at least five structures were uncovered in the interior of the site, not all of which were in contemporary use. The small quantity of artefacts and

domestic refuse suggests short-term occupation spread over a number of years. Two radiocarbon dates have been obtained:  $1205 \pm 82$  B.P. (Cal. 660–1000 A.D.; U.B. 3625) and  $1460 \pm 165$  B.P. (Cal. 230–890 A.D.; A.A. 10277).

246. CLONMEL, 35–36 O'CONNELL STREET (S 220 223). Excavations carried out by M. Henry uncovered part of the medieval town wall close to the R. Suir. It was 0.95 m wide and stood to a maximum height of 1.2 m. The wall was built of uncut blocks of sandstone, randomly coursed, with a solid core of rubble and mortar; it was well faced and had a slight batter along both faces; it had been built upon a foundation plinth set upon compact riverine gravels. The remains of a sally-port, 0.9 m wide, were also found. Medieval deposits were found within the wall. These consisted of domestic refuse together with dark grey silty sand. Within the refuse were animal and fish bones, weeds of disturbed ground, shell fragments, charcoal, wood chippings, twigs and some 14th-century pottery. The deposits may be part of an infill which raised the ground level after the town wall had been built in the 14th century.

247. CLONMEL, ST MARY'S CHURCH (S 200 225). Excavations by D. Pollock were carried out beside the tower of this medieval parish church. A 13th- to 14th-century sarcophagus was found protruding from the base of the tower, apparently used as a bench. The tower has no foundations but rests directly on the old ground level, some 0.8 m below the present surface. The relationship of the tower fabric to the rest of the building suggests that it was constructed against a pre-standing chancel some time before the aisle was added to the nave.

248. NENAGH CASTLE (R 865 790). Excavations carried out by B. Hodkinson revealed that the gatehouse of the castle consists of two phases, an original twin-towered gatehouse of early 13th-century date, and a rectangular first-floor hall built later in the same century across the back of this structure. At ground level the gate passage continued through the hall building, with chambers flanking it on either side, both of which had central pillars. An English silver short-cross penny, minted between 1205 and 1218, was recovered at the base of the foundation trench next to one of the walls of the earlier phase.

#### CO. WATERFORD

249. ARDMORE (X 188 773). Excavations were carried out by A. Lynch, on behalf of the National Monuments Service, at the base of Ardmore round tower. The tower was discovered to stand on a plinth, consisting of a single course of cut stone, projecting 0.7–0.8 m beyond the tower wall and averaging 0.2 m in height. The plinth sits on a footing of uncut sandstone slabs which extends 0.5–0.7 m from under the base of the plinth and rests on a deposit of stony clay. The ground level at the time of tower construction must have been little different to that of today.

250. DUNGARVAN CASTLE (X 262 930). Excavations by D. Pollock on behalf of the National Monuments Service continued (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 304). These indicated that there was a substantial ditch around the shell keep, potentially flooded at high-tide, which survived into the 16th century. A single drawbridge pit was uncovered below a 1.8 m wide opening in the E. wall. The main building inside the keep was originally two storeys high, but it was extended in length and by one storey c. 1260. The S. and E. curtain-walls were built with the round tower and gatehouse, probably in the late 13th century. The remains of a contemporary N. curtain wall underlie the current, post-medieval wall. At an early stage buildings with stone footings were constructed against the inside faces of the N., S. and E. curtains.

(CO. WATERFORD)

251. WATERFORD, PALACE LANE (S 603 118). Excavations by O. Scully took place in advance of the proposed extension W. of the Theatre Royal, The Mall. A portion of the city wall was excavated, and an adjoining cellar at the N. An entrance to the cellar had left an arched doorway broken through the wall. A medieval stone-lined cess-pit was excavated. Of particular interest was a stone revetting 2 m in front of the city wall, built on the old marsh that existed prior to the infilling which created The Mall. This was a possible landing stage or early quay wall.

CO. WESTMEATH

252. MULLINGAR, 25 PEARSE STREET (N 441 530). Excavations by N. O'Flanagan revealed the presence of medieval deposits up to 2 m in depth at the rear of this property. Part of a limestone mortared wall was present on the boulder clay. Finds included a bone dice, a stud-headed stick pin, as well as sherds of locally manufactured medieval pottery.

## SCOTLAND

ABERDEEN CITY

253. ST CLEMENT'S STREET (NJ 952 063). An assessment by A. Cameron for The City of Aberdeen Archaeological Unit, took place in advance of a commercial development in an area adjacent to the known location of the 'town' of Futtie or Footdee, which was from early times regarded as distinct and separate from the adjacent Burgh of Aberdeen. The earliest written reference to a church at Futtie comes from the late 15th century, but it is probable that one existed there, dedicated to St Clement, from the early Middle Ages. The earliest map showing this area was drawn by Parson Gordon of Rothiemay in 1661 and shows a ribbon development of houses to the SE. of the church. The present church on this site dates to 1828. The exact position of previous church buildings and associated graveyards is unknown, but it is assumed that they were approximately in the same location.

No structural evidence of any sort was noted in these trenches. However, up to 2 m of water-laid and wind-blown sands and soil layers were recorded. The top c. 1 m probably represented garden or cultivation soils, which were homogeneous and contained large amounts of fragmented shell, possibly added to increase the fertility of the soil. Below these cultivation soils, alternate layers of clean sands and organic material indicated that the area was once duneland. It was possible to determine the areas of more stable dune, and those which were constantly in flux. In the top of one of the more substantial organic layers were plough marks suggesting that an attempt had been made to cultivate more stable areas of the dunes. The lack of homogeneity in the layers above the plough marks, suggests that these attempts at cultivation were been short-lived. Pottery sherds from these layers suggest that they date to the 13th to 14th centuries. This project was funded by Langstane Press Ltd.

ABERDEENSHIRE

254. FETTERNEAR (NJ 723 170). The second season of excavation, directed by P. Z. Dransart and N. Q. Bogdan, continued recording the standing building and the exposed parts of Charles Leslie's late 19th-century excavation (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 308). A start was also made on recording the environs of the site.

Clearance of trees and undergrowth allowed the examination of the N. wall of the mansion and tower-house. From this it appears that parts of the pre-Reformation bishops' palace underlay and extended to the N. as well as to the S. of the standing structure. Two

externally splayed gun-loops of 16th-century date were also detected. They had been inserted into two of the upper floor windows of the late 16th-century tower-house, probably in the 1640s when Fetternear was twice besieged by the Covenanters. Amongst the finds recovered was a cannon-ball which probably also dates from this period.

Finds include pottery (both medieval and post-medieval), animal bone, metalwork and glass, including window glass (also window leading). As yet no trace has been found of the 'perfect pieces of advanced first-pointed mouldings and tracery' that Leslie detected during his late 19th-century excavation (*Transactions of the Aberdeen Philosophical Society*, 4 (1910), 172-73).

The excavation was extended to include an area, 19 by 42 m. The undisturbed pre 18th-century deposits appear to be at least 1.2 m. deep. The contour survey was extended to include the western sector of the site, and a resistivity survey of twenty-two 20 by 20 m squares was carried out of the site and its immediate environs. As a result of additional processing of the smaller 1995 resistivity survey, it had become clear that although there are now no surface indications, the major structures that Charles Leslie detected about a century ago survive.

Work was sponsored by University of Wales, Lampeter, Society of Antiquaries of London, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Aberdeenshire Council, University of Aberdeen, the Scottish Castle Survey, W. Strachan and Sir Archibald Grant Bt.

255. HUNTLY CASTLE (NJ 532 407). A watching brief was kept by A. Barlow of Scotia Archaeology Ltd for Historic Scotland during the demolition of a stone stairway and the excavation of a trench for a concrete ramp to replace it. The trench, measuring 18 m E.-W., 1.5 m wide and 1.0 m deep, was located at the W. end of an artificial terrace outside the palace block on the S. side of the castle. Below a gravel path, 0.18 m deep, was a uniform layer of sandy loam which continued beyond the depth of excavation. No features or finds of archaeological interest were encountered within the trench.

256. TOLQUHON CASTLE (NJ 872 286). A. Barlow of Scotia Archaeology Ltd carried out a watching brief for Historic Scotland during the excavation of two trenches, each 0.3 m wide and 0.6 m deep, for a new electricity supply on the N. and S. sides of the road leading from the B999 to the castle. Trench A ran NE.-SW. for a length of 8.7 m, about 30 m E. of Historic Scotland's office and workshop block. Cutting across the trench, towards its N. end, were the remnants of a drystone wall, the probable predecessor of the N. boundary wall of the castle forecourt. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered in Trench B, which was 43 m long, aligned E.-W. and located to the N. of the road.

#### ANGUS

257. MELGUND CASTLE (NO 545 564). Investigations by J. Lewis of Scotia Archaeology Ltd, for Historic Scotland and Martyn Gregory Esq., were concentrated within three principal areas: the vaulted cellars in the hall range; the terrace to the immediate S. of the castle which was partially excavated in 1994; and the field to the N. and W. of the castle where exploratory trenches were opened in several locations (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 39 (1995), 279).

The easternmost of the cellars (the kitchen) below the collapsed hall was cleared of debris in 1994; the remaining two cellars were excavated in 1996. Nothing of archaeological interest was found above the floors of these rooms which were of glacial till, a pink, clayey silt. Both walls dividing the three chambers were only 0.8 m wide and had been robbed down to foundation level.

This area, measuring c. 20 m E.-W. by 13 m N.-S., was defined on its N. by the castle, on its SE. by the slope leading down to the Melgund Burn and on its W. by a drystone field wall. In the eastern part of the trench post-abandonment debris lay directly on glacial deposits and bedrock; further W. several structures were uncovered. The most

(ANGUS)

interesting of these was a circular masonry building located near the edge of the slope and measuring 5.4 m in diameter over walls c. 1.1 m thick. Its rubble masonry, bonded with pink, clayey silt, was completely robbed on its S. side; it stood to a maximum height of 0.80 m on its N. side wherein there was a narrow (0.55 m) doorway. About 1.5 m to the E. of the entrance was another ground-level opening which was evident only on the inside of the building; this had been completely blocked at some stage. Two sockets, presumably for timbers, were set into the N. wall, c. 0.5 m above the floor of crude sandstone flags.

The field wall at the W. side of the trench overlay the remains of an earlier wall which ran 31 m southwards from the castle to return westwards before petering out after about 50 m. Running slightly E. of S. from the castle was another, presumably earlier, wall whose remains were too fragmentary to interpret properly.

Trenching to the N. of the castle revealed fragmentary, but definite, evidence of a boundary wall running E.-W. c. 80 m from the building. About 22 m from the NE. corner of the castle were traces of the ?barmkin wall partially revealed in 1991. Ploughing had removed most of the evidence of these structures in each case.

## CLACKMANNANSHIRE

258. ALLOA TOWER (NS 889 925). A comprehensive survey was made by G. Ewart of the interior of the multi-period tower house at Alloa, in advance of refurbishment for its use as an interpretative centre. The development of the tower, from its initial foundation through hall and tower house forms, was elucidated. Previous excavation had revealed traces of the 18th-century mansion, and the survey of the standing building revealed features linked with the use of the tower as an annexe to the mansion. The mansion was destroyed by fire in 1800, and today only the tower house remains. The survey revealed the following sequence of construction and development:

- Period I Early 14th century — fortified residence with cellar/pit prison: form unknown.
- Period II Mid 14th century — hall house: three levels plus cellar/pit prison, first floor access.
- Period III 15th century — developed hall house: four/five levels plus cellar/pit prison, first floor access.
- Period IV Late 15th century — tower house A: five levels plus cellar/pit prison, first floor access.
- Period V Late 16th century — tower house B: five levels plus cellar/pit prison, probably ground and first floor access.
- Period VI 1710–1800 — annexe to 18th-century mansion.
- Period VII 1800–38 — partial reoccupation while new mansion was built.

The developments at Alloa Tower represent the changing role of the castle from a stronghold (as part of a defensive line along the N. banks of the Forth — Clackmannan Tower, visible from Alloa, also forms part of this defensive line), to its role as an 18th-century mansion house, at the centre of an extensive designed landscape.

Work was sponsored by Alloa Tower Building Preservation Trust, N.T.S.

## DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

259. BUITTLE (BOTEL) CASTLE BAILEY (NX 819 616). Excavation, carried out by A. Penman and a team of volunteers, continued on this motte and bailey site for a fourth season (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 305–06).

Existing trenches were extended to yield further evidence relating to the Royal Burgh of Botel (1323/24) in the form of the post-holes of a rectangular timber building and a double concentric roundhouse.

Timber defences of the 12th century were further examined and proved to have been built in two phases. The earliest phase comprised massive timber towers joined by a palisade and the later phase indicated that some construction fault had necessitated the removal of the timber towers — probably the fact that their legs had been sunk into a sandy glacial till which may have contributed to a disaster — and replacement by additional timber palisading. A number of pits, the deepest just under 2 m in depth, were excavated and yielded dating evidence in the form of 13th/14th-century ceramics and a bronze beehive thimble. The pits had been backfilled to allow the construction of a mud-packed floor of a building of the Royal Burgh.

Archaeological assessment was carried out in the NW. corner of the S. bailey in advance of the construction of a riverside walk. Two trenches were opened in what had previously been assumed to have been a moat and was known to have been a mill-lade within living memory. Excavation soon proved that the moat had been a dry ditch of considerable depth dug from ground level down into an area of greywacke bedrock and glacial till. Dating evidence of the 13th and 14th centuries was obtained from the recovery of a number of sherds of yellow/green glazed pottery. From further excavation it may be speculated that the random rubble fill of stone walling has been collapsed into this ditch. There is written evidence that, during the Bruce-Balliol Wars, Robert Bruce (King Robert I) demolished the castle and defences of Botel in 1313.

Excavation continues next season, aided by additional funding gained when the dig was a runner-up in the Pitt Rivers Awards at Cardiff.

260. WHITHORN PRIORY, GALLOWAY (NX 444 403). A. Clarke, of York Archaeological Trust, on behalf of The Whithorn Trust, completed the excavation of a trench in the Fey Field, running down towards the Ket Burn from a point *c.* 25 m W of the ruins of the priory church (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 306). The earliest features, comprising post-holes and gullies, were covered by a cemetery provisionally dated *c.* 550–650. There was also some evidence for non-ferrous metalworking and B Ware pottery. A later 'Northumbrian' phase of over 100 burials was identified, many in iron-bound chests; then the area was levelled up, and small-scale iron-smithing took place. In the 11th/12th centuries a graveyard was re-established.

261. DUNDEE CITY, 106–10 NETHERGATE (NO 4019 2996). An evaluation was carried out by J. R. Mackenzie and D. Hall (S.U.A.T.) in advance of redevelopment at the former Green's Playhouse. This revealed surviving medieval deposits. An excavation followed and revealed evidence spanning *c.* 600–700 years to the present day, representing six phases of activity.

Cut into an undisturbed raised beach deposit, the earliest evidence comprised a heavily disturbed stone-built well and four rubbish pits. Pottery sherds indicate a date of *c.* late 13th/early 14th century for this activity. The well and pits were sealed by a buried garden soil from which a significant assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered. The pottery implies a high status for the occupants of the nearby Nethergate (formerly Flukergate) frontage. Included are a number of high-quality imported pottery wares from the Low Countries, France and Germany. Most notably, one sherd of Saintonge Ware and two sherds of Valencian Lustreware were found, both of which are rare finds in Scotland. The pottery indicates that the site was clearly being utilized *c.* 100–200 years earlier than previously thought for this part of the burgh. Animal bone and finds were also recovered, and samples were taken of suitable deposits for environmental analysis.

Cut through the medieval garden soil was a second well, of similar build to the first. This feature was sealed below a second garden soil, dated by pottery and finds to the 17th/18th centuries.

The evidence from these excavations has clearly demonstrated that more of Dundee's archaeology survives than was previously thought.

Work was sponsored by Top Rank Mecca Ltd.

FIFE

262. BALMERINO ABBEY (NO 358 246). The Cistercian abbey of Balmerino dates from c. 1229 and, like its mother house of Melrose, had its claustral ranges to the N. of the church. In the mid 19th century a farm-steading was erected on the N. side of the abbey, probably over some of its demolished buildings and incorporating at least one of the monastic buildings. It is the intention to convert the farm buildings into residential units. As the first stage of that development, service trenches for water and sewage pipes were machine-excavated around the perimeter of the steading, the excavations being carried out under the supervision of J. Lewis of Scotia Archaeology Ltd for RonCal Developments. A large number of structures and features of probable medieval dates were uncovered, the most significant of which are described here.

At the S. end of the farm buildings were several walls of probable monastic origin. Two were aligned with the E. and W. walls of the monastic E. range and also with those of a farm building further N. What appeared to be a corner of a substantial structure — perhaps the N. claustral range or a building associated with it — lay to the W. of these walls. Further E. a stretch of the great drain was uncovered, running slightly E. of N. from the E. range of the abbey. Only the top of the drain (large, roughly worked sandstone flags) was uncovered although it was possible to measure its internal width as c. 0.65 m; its height was estimated at 1 m. Another smaller drain led into the great drain from a building beyond the E. range of the abbey. One wall of this building was exposed in the extreme SE. corner of the site.

At the N. end of the farm was a well-constructed cobbled road, thought to be monastic and probably linking the abbey with a jetty on the shore of the Tay estuary c. 200 m to the N. The road had pronounced cambers and was 9 m wide, more than sufficient to accommodate two-way traffic.

263. INCHCOLM ABBEY (NT 189 826). A watching brief was kept by R. Murdoch of Scotia Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Historic Scotland during the excavation of two pits to house bioplus treatment tanks: one (Trench 1) adjacent to the visitor centre; the other (Trench 2) against the custodian's house.

In Trench 1, 0.4 m of modern materials overlay a deposit of massive boulders, some of them cement-bonded, which formed the rear of the modern sea wall. Below 0.3 m of topsoil in Trench 2 was a thick layer of clayey soil containing animal bones and winkle shells but no oyster shells which had been numerous in the topsoil. The lower deposit may have been midden material associated with the nearby abbey although more extensive investigation would be needed to confirm this.

264. ISLE OF MAY (NT 659 990). Excavations by H. James and P. Yeoman at the priory on the Isle of May continued for a fifth and final season (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 306–07). Further excavation work took place within all the ranges of the priory, the cemetery trench begun in 1995 was excavated further, a trench further to the N. was opened in the cemetery, and various small trial trenches were dug out with the immediate monastery area in an attempt to locate the post-medieval village. A coin found in the cemetery during the 1995 excavations has been identified as an Anglo-Saxon penny of King Burgred of Mercia (852–74).

The cemetery trench begun in 1995 was reopened. As in previous years, multiple burials within long cists were encountered, and also some dug graves. One substantial cist beneath a large marker stone contained an extended female inhumation. Fragments of a neonate were also found. No graves were found beneath the roadway which skirted the

cemetery on the W. side, and it appears that the road is contemporary with the long cist graves.

A trench further to the N. within the cemetery was opened. The N. extent of the cairn material was not found, but the continuation of the revetment to the E. was. There was no cairn material to the E. of this, suggesting that this truly was the edge of the cairn. There was evidence for some structural remodelling within the cairn, consisting of curving wall-like structures, up to three courses deep. In the SW. corner of the trench the cairn was found to seal a dark brown loam, which overlay natural pebbles. Two disturbed burials were found over these stones, with all the evidence reinforcing the view that the cairn was formed from a raised beach, greatly modified by human activity.

Excavation below the monastic levels within the ranges has also revealed cairn material in several places. Investigation below the level of the Benedictine foundations showed that the cairn or raised beach extended into this area. Three burials were found near the top of the cairn; all were fairly disturbed, presumably due to the building activity associated with the remodelling of the church that had gone on in subsequent centuries. A charnel pit was also found, which may represent reburial of bodies found during building work.

The burial cairn was also seen immediately below the chapter house floor, this being the furthest S. on the site that it has been seen to extend. The cairn here was neither a single entity nor a natural feature; rather it appears to have been constantly restructured and enlarged, primarily shown by two rough revetments running N.-S. through the area. Four extended burials were excavated in this area, on the same early Christian NE.-SW. alignment as seen elsewhere on the site. There were also several areas of disturbed and disarticulated bone, which had probably been displaced by remodelling of the cairn.

Limited further excavation took place within the cloister. A burial was found on a similar alignment to those in the long cist cemetery, as well as a small charnel pit. In the N. part of the cloister, rounded stones were found, which could be the top of the burial cairn, while bedrock outcropped in the S.

In the W. end of the Benedictine church, the post-medieval walls were removed. Excavation revealed at least four phases of structure to the E. The earliest structure had drystone foundations, and was roughly 6 m square, suggesting a mortuary chapel or oratory (possibly to house the bones of St Ethernan and other early monks). At a later date the building was extended by 1.6 m to the E., forming a rectangular chapel evidenced by mortared foundations. This Phase 2 building was further extended in the late 11th century by the addition of a square-ended apse, which was revealed during the 1995 excavations. This is dated by a silver penny of William the Conqueror — the first found in Scotland. This is probably the church that stood on the site when the monks from Reading Abbey arrived in the mid 12th century, and would have been used by them until *c.* 1250, when they constructed their own, much larger church.

A trench was dug between the church and the W. range removing the 16th-century path and layers of demolition material which contained much tile and pottery. A wall linking the N. and W. ranges was found. This was removed, revealing the foundations of the W. range and some substantial slabs which could be paving, or perhaps foundations for an early structure. Inside the W. range, in the NE. corner, a sondage was dug, primarily to see whether this possible paving continued. It did not, but a layer of rounded beach pebbles was found, presumably a continuation of the cairn, although this was not investigated.

The E. range undercroft, to the S. of the chapter house, had been excavated to floor level in 1995. It was shown that the pillar bases found in 1994 were not a primary structural feature, but that several phases of remodelling took place before they were built, as a compacted floor surface survived beneath them. This surface ran under the internal dividing wall, suggesting that it may have been inserted at a later date than the original construction of the range, to form the smaller chapter house. A drain was found running

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SW.–NE. through the undercroft, also below the pillar bases, running out of the room at the E. doorway.

The S. range had previously been excavated to floor level. The excavations this year revealed the infilling material levelling up the bedrock and several pits cut into it.

A latrine block was found at the SE. corner of the E. range. This was a substantial structure, with a triple arch in the E. wall, at the base of a 6 m long garderobe chute, the S. arch having been truncated by a later post-medieval building. Each arch is likely to have corresponded with a rock-cut sewer channel, although only the N. one was excavated. This was flushed from above by a drain and contained preserved organic deposits.

As mentioned, a later building was found to the S. of the toilet area, abutting the arched structure. This may be considerably later in date than the monastery, and is possibly contemporary with the industrial reuse of the site in the 16th century.

A number of small trial trenches were dug in the area where the post-medieval village was thought to be, and to test geophysical anomalies, but no trace of any structures was found. A small trench was also dug through the midden deposits to the S. of the S. range, yielding much mammal, fish and bird bone.

In addition, a well in Pilgrim's Haven, on the W. side of the island, was excavated. Known as Pilgrim's Well, it was thought to be of a medieval date. It was in fact a cistern, and would have collected run-off from the surrounding slopes. Coins found in it suggest that it had been cleared out during the 20th century.

The project was jointly led by Fife Council and Scottish Natural Heritage. The archaeological team and post-excavation facilities was provided by GUARD. Work was sponsored by Fife Council, S.N.H. Historic Scotland, Russell Trust and Hunter Archaeological Trust.

## GLASGOW CITY

265. GOVAN OLD PARISH CHURCH AND WATER ROW (NS 553 659). In February 1996 a series of trial excavations were undertaken by S. T. Driscoll and R. S. Will of GUARD, Department of Archaeology, The University of Glasgow, to the E. of the churchyard of Govan Old Parish Church. This was the second in a series of investigations at Govan (the first was conducted in 1994). Most of the area investigated is waste ground, but a smaller portion is occupied by temporary dwellings, which limited the location of some trenches. Prior to the construction of shipyards at the turn of the century, the area fell within the grounds of the manse (immediately adjacent to the E. boundary of the churchyard). Further E. the street Water Row led down to the ferry crossing along which the early village of Govan grew up. Further to the E. behind Water Row was the site of the Doomster Hill, a large artificial mound which has been thought to be variously a prehistoric barrow, a motte or an open-air court site.

A contaminated land survey was undertaken by Thorburn Colqhoun, which provided additional information about the subsoils and guided the location of the trenches. The excavations target specific structures: the eastern boundary of the churchyard; the manse and manse grounds; the Water Row frontages on both E. and W. sides; the Doomster Hill.

Trench 1 was located immediately E. of the present eastern boundary wall of the churchyard. The concave line of the current churchyard wall suggested some modification to the line of the boundary perhaps indicating that the churchyard had originally extended further E. enclosing the area occupied by the later manse. The aim was to confirm the eastern extent to the churchyard by locating the boundary ditch or vallum, which had been excavated just outside the southern boundary in 1994.

A stretch of almost 10 m was examined. A massive ditch was discovered running close to the modern churchyard wall which was of a scale similar to that interpreted as the vallum ditch in the 1994 trench. It was investigated in detail in two places and the

orientations and profiles did not correspond, which suggests that they relate to different configurations of the churchyard. Both ditch sections showed signs of frequent recuts. The deepest fill of the earliest ditch produced a perforated shale disk. Shale working debris was also found in the primary deposits of the 1994 ditch. These ditches are almost certainly of early medieval date.

Outside of the ditch traces of a drystone structure were discovered built over part of the infilled ditch. They probably represent the footings for a shed or slight building, perhaps of post-medieval date.

A series of machine dug trenches were opened in the area occupied by the former manse, demolished in the later 19th century. Extensive trenching revealed no traces of any structure, not even demolition. It is likely that the manse stood on a slight hillock which was levelled when the shipyard was built, removing all trace of it.

Trench 3 — Water Row West — was opened to investigate the survival of archaeological deposits in the area of the street frontage extending into the backlands. In the event this area had suffered the same fate as the manse.

A machine dug trench was dug in several stages in the area where early map evidence suggested that the Doomster Hill had stood. Over 2 m of made ground had to be removed before encountering medieval levels. The only medieval feature was a small portion of what appears to be a massive ditch. The fill of this ditch produced late medieval pottery. The scale of the feature was such that within the confines of the trench it was impossible to determine its orientation or its full size, but it represents the quarry ditch for the Doomster Hill which stood open until the early 19th century.

Trench 5 — Water Row East — was dug along the E. frontage to see whether pre-industrial remains had survive on the E. side of Water Row. No traces of earlier structures were noted here. The 1994 trench was re-excavated and extended to the E. (closer to the church) and to the N. principally in order to re-examine the massive drystone foundations exposed in the original excavation. As expected there were a number of modern (18th/19th-century) graves present in the trench.

Apart from the burials the main modern feature was a massive robber trench running E.-W. It seems likely that this represents the 19th-century demolition of the medieval church.

A high medieval phase of burial was represented by a single grave, which contained a substantial portion of a 15th-century face-mask jug, and which cut into the foundations of what are thought to be part of an early church.

The foundations consisted of large boulders set into a trench, which perhaps supported a timber-built structure. These foundations were massive, being cut over 0.5 m into the natural sand, apparently the SW. corner of the structure. In this trench the W. edge of the foundation trench was recovered and in 1994 the S. edge. Despite the extended scale of this season's excavation we were unable to recover the full width of the structure. Although it remains substantially intact, it has been disturbed by modern and medieval burials and by the demolition of the later church. Consequently the precise orientation of the building is in some doubt, although there can be little question that it is aligned E.-W.

The earliest features in this trench were two burials which were discovered under the foundations. Only portions of the burials, in dug graves with no coffins, were exposed, but they were clearly oriented E.-W. The date of these bones will be eagerly awaited.

Trench G was located in the SE. extreme of the churchyard where the curving walls come to a slight point. It was thought that this might indicate the location of an entrance which pre-dated the 19th-century reorganization of the churchyard. Initial investigations in this area were begun in 1994, but little progress was made during that season. The original trench was reopened and the excavation extended mechanically towards the E. and the N. The excavations exposed the foundations of a 19th-century burial vault but did not extend into it. A deep layer of top soil (0.4 m) covered the whole area into which a number of modern rubbish pits had been dug. These seem to represent the activity of tidying the churchyard and included temporary funerary materials such as vases. At a

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depth of *c.* 1.0 m a hard compacted gravel surface was exposed which was *c.* 2.5 m wide and 0.3 m thick. This surface rose to a crown, and vestigial drainage channels were present on both sides.

A section through the road surface revealed that it was composed of layers of clay and gravel. Some of this material overlay deposits of charcoal, which may provide a date for one phase of repair of the road. Below the road surface were *in situ* remains of a masonry structure. This may be part of a gatehouse or other entrance. The gravel road appears to be on the same alignment as Pearce Lane (formerly Manse Lane), which may be the original approach to the church.

Trench H (3 m by 2 m) was located along the interior of the W. perimeter of the churchyard, where hitherto there had been no investigation. Deposits of rubbish associated with the tidying up of rubbish from the graveyard were found to extend to approximately 0.5 m deep.

At a depth of *c.* 1 m the root damage was less noticeable and evidence for archaeological activity was apparent. This consisted of substantial deposits of charcoal and scorched earth with indicate that intense fires were repeatedly built in the area. This was similar in character to the deposits excavated in Trench C in 1994. Because of the presence of fragments of worked shale, the Trench C burning was regarded as evidence for a workshop. In Trench H there were no shale fragments, so this may simply represent a domestic hearth. However, these burnt deposits in Trench H were not fully excavated (only a sample was excavated to provide a radiocarbon date).

At Doomster Hill, Water Row a trench 12 m by 7 m was excavated by machine under archaeological supervision; it was reduced in area by two 1 m steps to create a trench 8 m by 3 m at a depth of 2 m below the existing ground surface. Further excavation was conducted by hand. This brown soil was recognized (from the February 1996 investigations) as ditch fill. This fill produced quantities of post-medieval and medieval pottery. The natural subsoil here is a soft, pale riverine sand which provided a clear edge to the ditch, but not its full width. The best estimate for the scale of the ditch is 8 m–10 m wide. The exposed depth of the ditch was 1.5 m (or 3.5 m below the existing ground surface). It was originally 2 m–3 m deep with a broad flat base.

It is thought that this ditch represents the quarry from which the Doomster Hill was constructed. Most of the material within the ditch fill appears to have been placed there in a single event, around the 16th century judging from the pottery in the fill. The uniformity of the infill and the richness of the soil suggests that it was undertaken to expand the gardens in the backlands of the dwellings on Govan Road and Water Row.

Work was sponsored by City of Glasgow Planning Department.

#### HIGHLAND

266. INVERLOCHY CASTLE (NN 120 754). A trench, measuring *c.* 8 m N.–S. by 3 m wide, was excavated by H. Smith of Scotia Archaeology Ltd for Historic Scotland within and adjacent to the N. entrance (the seagate) to the castle. This revealed what may have been a metallated surface through the gateway; and, abutting the outer face of the N. curtain, the fragmentary foundations of a substantial wall, perhaps an element of a structure similar to the barbican at the S. entrance to the castle.

In addition a watching brief was undertaken during the excavation, by Historic Scotland's D.E.L. squad, of drainage trenches from the W. curtain wall and NW. (donjon) tower, through the seagate and beyond the northern limits of the castle. In one of those trenches was found the lower part of an articulated human skeleton, perhaps dating from the Second Battle of Inverlochy in 1644. In another drainage trench the foundations of what appeared to be the S. wall of a range, built against the W. side of the N. curtain, were exposed.

## MORAY

267. **ELGIN CATHEDRAL** (NJ 222 630). The decision to introduce an electricity supply into the octagonal chapter house, through its SE. wall, was preceded by an excavation by J. Lewis of Scotia Archaeology Ltd, for Historic Scotland, between that building and the Brodie Aisle to its E. Just below topsoil were two modern pits, one a sump to take rainwater from the roof of the chapter house, the other containing numerous disarticulated human remains probably derived from burials disturbed during earlier work within the cathedral. At a lower level were two undisturbed burials (probably medieval) which were not excavated.

The remains of two E.-W. walls, each only 0.55 m wide, extended below the N. and S. walls of the Brodie Aisle which were separated by a distance of 8.5 m. They had been truncated by the foundations of the NE. and SE. buttresses of the chapter house and clearly pre-dated that building. Thus far, it has proved impossible to date them more closely or to offer an interpretation of their function. Exploratory trenches were opened within the Brodie Aisle in an unsuccessful effort to trace the eastward courses of these two early walls.

In addition, a watching brief was maintained during the excavation of cable trenches, by Historic Scotland's D.E.L. squad, to the N. of the cathedral. Nothing of archaeological interest was uncovered within those trenches.

268. **ELGIN HIGH STREET** (NJ 216 629). Following an excavation and watching brief by J. Terry of Scotia Archaeology Ltd for Moray District and Grampian Regional Councils, during the pedestrianization of the High Street, Elgin in March 1995, three further trenches were opened on the S. side of the High St., to the SE. of St Giles' Church. No trace of the pre 19th-century graveyard encountered in 1995 or its boundary wall were uncovered within the area investigated. However, traces of medieval street levels were found just below the modern road: these early levels had been badly disturbed by developments in 1826 (when St Giles' Church was rebuilt) and in more recent times.

## BORDERS

269. **MELROSE ABBEY** (NT 547 342). A large-scale area excavation was undertaken by G. Ewart and A. Dunn of Kirkdale Archaeology to define the area and extent of the chapter house, to the N. of the N. transept and sacristy. Previous excavation in the 1920s had uncovered elements of masonry foundations belonging to the E. range, in which the chapter house was located, and a geophysical survey had revealed possible wall lines beneath the presently grassed area. The excavation revealed a sequence of three successive chapter houses, from the initial 12th-century example, through a 13th-century rebuilding and culminating in the 14th-century building. The latter two saw the extension of the chapter house eastwards, whereas the initial chapter house probably sat within the E. range, and extended no further E. than the E. edge of the N. transept of the 12th-century church.

Rebuilding work within the church nave in 1610 may have seen the total clearance of the chapter house remains, since very little masonry evidence was recorded. This is also due, in part, to the lack of deep foundations — the chapter house was founded on a level platform of redeposited river clay, on shallow founds. Further, the presence of a series of modern land drains had disturbed and truncated the monastic remains considerably. The successive plans of the chapter house were defined by the remains of floor deposits and masonry pillar bases, alongside eaves-drip drains to the exterior of the later two buildings. Evidence for an elaborate tiled floor was recovered, and it would appear that the latter two chapter houses were both furnished with such a floor. Tentative evidence for the form and dimensions of the decorated tiled floor relating to the third and final chapter house was also revealed.

## (BORDERS)

In addition, a number of graves were uncovered, relating to all three of the chapter houses. The sequence of burials and floor levels was extremely difficult to perceive, not least due to the fact that later graves had been interred over the robbed-out remains of earlier inhumations. The *Chronica de Mailros* reveals that a number of burials were relocated from the W. to the E. end of the chapter house in 1240. Most of the graves had been disturbed, either by the 1921 excavation or previously, and the human remains were poorly preserved. No skeletal material was removed.

Of much public interest (but of less archaeological significance) was the find of a lead cylinder, containing a medieval, cone-shaped lead casket. Originally uncovered in 1921, this was thought to be the casket containing the heart of King Robert I, whose dying wish was that his heart be taken on Crusade, and thence returned to Scotland, to be buried at Melrose. It is likely that the heart was moved from a more suitable location (at the high altar) to the chapter house during the substantial rebuilding works of the 14th century. Work was sponsored by Historic Scotland.

## SHETLAND ISLANDS

270. BELMONT (HP 568 007). Investigations by A.-C. Larsen on a Norse farmstead (N.M.R.S. HP 50 SE. 29) were initiated on a slope near Belmont (Wadbister) at the S. tip of Unst.

A Norse longhouse c. 22 by 5 m (internally) was uncovered. The house, which is suspected to be of 9th- to 10th-century date, had curved walls of c. 1 m in thickness and was aligned downslope. A smaller late Norse house with a length of c. 12 m was later built on top of the Viking structure. There are traces of other buildings in the vicinity and a stone dyke surrounding the farmyard is still preserved. Approximately 100 m S. another house structure of presumed pre-Norse date was discovered.

Most finds are of stone, especially steatite and schist. They include a number of sherds of steatite vessels, sinkers, spindle whorls, a hanging lamp and a miniature millstone. Work was sponsored by Shetland Amenity Trust, Copenhagen University.

## WEST DUMBARTONSHIRE

271. ROSSDHU CASTLE (NS 361 895). The standing remains of Rossdhu Castle stand at the edge of the Loch Lomond golf course and comprise the S. gable and short stretches of the E. and W. walls of a tower, thought to date from the 16th century. To prevent the collapse of the surviving remains, the walls were underpinned with concrete. An archaeological investigation, by J. Lewis and R. Murdoch of Scotia Archaeology Ltd for Loch Lomond Golf Club, of the areas immediately adjacent to the castle walls preceded this work.

Following exploratory excavations, a trench extending 1 m from the wall faces was opened. The only features of archaeological interest comprised two post-pits (perhaps associated with scaffolding) at the inside angle of the E. and S. walls; traces of what may have been a flagged floor in the SW. corner of the tower; and remnants of a building running southwards from the W. side of the tower's S. gable. The latter consisted of a door jamb and part of an associated threshold. Two roof raggles cut one above the other into the wall of the tower indicated that this building had been raised at some stage.

## WESTERN ISLES

272. SITHEAN BIORACH ('FAIRY POINT'), CILLE PHEADAIR (NF 729 198). A 40 m strip of midden is eroding into the sea. The S. half of this length, within which buildings could be seen, was machine stripped to a width of 10 m from the cliff edge. A minimum of nine complete or near-complete houses have been identified in this area. Five of them form a

stratified sequence which probably spans the entire Norse period. All were constructed as sunken-floored buildings with internal walls revetted into the sand. There was no trace of any external walls.

Of the nine buildings, four were wholly or partially excavated. Work was directed by H. Smith, M. Parker Pearson and M. Brennand. The earliest of these (House 326/337), only partially excavated, was straight-walled, orientated N.-S., and its associated fills contained a large comb with incised interlace design (late 9th- early 10th-century), metalworking slag, a steatite line stretcher, a miniature bone spearhead and a variety of ironwork, bone tools and ceramics. The next in the sequence was House 312, an E.-W. longhouse 8.36 m long and 3.92 m wide in the middle. Its bowed long walls were 3.4 m at either end. There was a single entrance towards the E. end of the N. wall. Although the floor levels have not yet been fully excavated, the central hearth appears to have been 4 m long. Finds from the windblown fill include a large portion of Udal platter and a piece of roughly worked ivory, possibly narwhal tusk. The E. end of this house had thicker floor layers than the W. end. There were traces of a disturbed stone surface along its S. side. However, there were no indications of any animal stalling within the building. Its E. end was later damaged by the construction of a N.-S. longhouse, House 007.

House 007's dimensions were 6.9 m N.-S. and 3.15 m E.-W., and the walls were relatively straight. Part of its E. wall was constructed out of the previous building's end wall. The central hearth was of similar dimensions and the doorway was towards the N. end of the W. side. The floor deposits were thicker in the N. end but there was no evidence for an internal byre in the S. end. A doorway adjacent to the W. door was blocked off during the use of the house but opens into a passage which disappears under the section. We assume that this led to an ancillary building or byre. A soakaway was dug around most of the house and we think that this marked the limit of the roof. In the absence of external walls the roof may have come down to ground level so that only the roof would have been visible from outside the building. This house was later occupied in its SW. and NE. corners by two small stone and turf or midden walled buildings. The S. structure had a corner entrance with a small hearth in one corner. Their floors had largely destroyed the longhouse floor beneath them. In a destruction deposit sealing all this occupation there was a short-cross penny (cut in half) of King John (1199-1216) which provides a late Norse date for the end of occupation.

The other fully excavated house was a sub-rectangular building, probably an outhouse, which was twice remodelled. In its first phase there was a hearth in its centre, with parts of a broken platter left on top. Later the building was made smaller, with a small entrance on its N. side by the E. end. These later phases of the 'outhouse' may have been contemporary with the last longhouse and that its earliest phase was contemporary with the earlier E.-W. house. Work was sponsored by Historic Scotland.

## WALES

### DENBIGHSHIRE

273. LLANDRILLO, CWM PENNANT (SO 028 349). In 1995, the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (C.P.A.T.) carried out a desk-top study of the valley known as Cwm Pennant, situated to the S. Llandrillo in Denbighshire. A total of 90 sites were identified within the area of the study, of which 12 were already recorded in the S.M.R. The medieval period was found to be of particular interest due to widespread evidence relating to the agricultural activity of the period. This includes strip fields, ridge-and-furrow cultivation, houses, farm buildings and a mill; it suggests that the valley was an area of importance in this period.

Work was carried out by R. Hankinson.

## GLAMORGAN

## VALE OF GLAMORGAN

274. COWBRIDGE, WESTGATE, THE NOOK (SS 992 748). An archaeological field evaluation by The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (Contracts Division) for Mr R. C. Wrinstone identified a gully, 0.5 m wide by 0.5 m deep (unestablished length within the parameters of the work), containing medieval coarse pottery. The alignment of the gully suggests that it may represent the boundary between two burgages in the W. suburb of the medieval town. The foundations of the proposed building will not affect the remains.

## GWENT

275. MONMOUTH, MONNOW STREET, BOROUGH ARMS (SO 595 126). A watching brief was carried out by The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (Contracts Division) staff during groundworks for the construction of a new pharmacy for Howard and Palmer Ltd. The watching brief recorded deposits affected by the excavation of two foundation trenches hand-dug under archaeological supervision. Medieval deposits were found in one of the trenches and included two stone walls dating from the present to the 13th century, representing occupation of a single burgage plot on the Monnow Street frontage. Finds included fragments of two jugs, one with a girth groove, of probable 14th/15th-century date, several joining sherds from two later medieval crested ridge tiles, with brownish-green glaze — one has a single partial piercing through the base of each crest, the other a raised thumbed decorative strip, running diagonally across the face of the tile. Also present were sherds from at least four glazed jugs of 13th/15th-century date, including a fragment with decoration of applied pellets.

276. ———, 22–24 MONNOW STREET (SO 507 128). Planning permission and Conservation Area Consent were renewed for the arcade of twelve shops planned on this large covered site where rescue and research excavations have continued for six years (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996)). Excavations were concentrated to the rear of the premises just inside the Norman town ditch and outside the Punic ditch of the Pre-Flavian Roman Fort. A pit 2 m across and 1.8 m deep was found to be cut through ancient alluvial deposits into natural. This feature had been rapidly backfilled with redeposited natural red clay interspersed with lenses of charcoal. The lenses contained a pottery assemblage (over 100 sherds) that seems to constitute an early part of Monmouth's first medieval ceramic phase: Norman Cotswold ware (Monmouth D2); some early Malvernian ware (B1) and Local ware (A1), there being a notable absence of Local ware Monmouth A2 that occurs with the other wares in all the earliest Norman floor levels in Monnow Street. A single small sherd of black cooking pottery containing a flint temper in this assemblage has yet to be positively identified, but may be residual and could be earlier than the Norman pottery group. The pit, which is just inside the Norman town ditch, may have been filled with boulder clay during the digging of the ditch. Work was carried out by S. Clarke, A. Leaver and A. L. Sockett of Monmouth Archaeological Society.

277. ———, NAILER'S LANE HANCOCK'S YARD, (SO 506 128). A series of research excavations exploring the medieval defences off Monnow Street and below Monmouth Castle was concluded with trenches across the yard which continues the line of Nailer's Lane (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 314–15). This was the only remaining area where the ditch was found at the junction of Monnow Street and Nailer's Lane could have continued to the R. Monnow. Natural was reached in two trenches across the yard and in the adjoining gully to the river. No ditch was found and it is concluded that the ditch recorded at the end of the Lane did curve under the houses on the E. side of the lane to join the pond and shallow Castle Moat that was encountered in previous research excavations from 1993–95. A metalled surface with 13th-century pottery and an iron horseshoe was found

at 1.60 m below present ground level, and is believed to be the medieval road to the Priory Mill. Work was carried out by S. Clarke and J. Wilson of Monmouth Archaeological Society.

278. NEWPORT, CALDICOT CASTLE (ST 487 885). A field evaluation in respect of an application for Scheduled Monument Consent to demolish existing buildings and construct extended public lavatories in an area within the castle abutting the SE. curtain wall was carried out by The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (Contracts Division) for Monmouthshire County Council. The majority of the evaluation area (2.4 m by 2.4 m) had been disturbed by recent construction and services, including the footings of the standing buildings and associated services. The only horizon not recently disturbed, in the depth of trench required (0.5 m), lay within a cut for the castle wall foundations, but no dating evidence was retrieved from this feature.

279. SKENFRITH CASTLE (SO 457 202). A watching brief was carried out by The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (Contracts Division) in respect of the construction of new visitor cycle stands for Monmouthshire County Borough Council. The stands were located at a point approximately two-thirds of the way along the raised plateau S. of the southern section of the castle ditch (moat). No evidence for previous activity was recovered. The stands were sited on what is a levelled plateau on the southern side of the S. section of the moat. The moat is proven on the W. side of the castle, where it was stone-lined, and is suspected to continue on the N. and S. sides. In the latter case it can be traced as an irregular but marked wide shallow depression. No evidence has been recovered for the form of any outworks beyond the moat, but the generally raised level of the ground beyond the S. section is indicative of the former presence of an embankment, either simply the levelled upcast from the moat or a deliberately constructed counterscarp.

280. TRELLECH, ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH (SO 499 054). Excavations for a toilet installation in the NW. corner of the church continued in 1996. The extent of the earlier foundations was revealed. These had been robbed out in places and followed a slightly different line to the building that exists today. There was at least one burial associated with the early foundations. Above this were two later interments, one of which appeared to have been inserted on top of the old foundations and tight against the later N. wall. The lower extremities of both these later burials had been disturbed by the construction of a brick structure which is thought to be some form of base for a heating system. Work was carried out by F. Taylor of Monmouth Archaeological Society.

281. UNDY, ST MARY'S CHURCH (ST 440 868). A watching brief was carried out during drainage excavations around the E. and S. walls of the church where the digging produced large quantities of disarticulated human bone. Trenches dug from the walls out to soakaways contained very little bone. Two burials were recorded in a soakaway dug off the SE corner of the church. Roman pottery was also recovered from this pit. Trenches and soakaways on the S. side of the church disturbed quantities of buried stone. Work was carried out by F. Taylor of Monmouth Archaeological Society.

#### POWYS

282. BRECON, CHRIST COLLEGE (SO 042 285). An archaeological evaluation was carried out by W. G. Owen of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in advance of an extension to college buildings to the N. of the church. This was in an area which documentary and cartographic sources implied formed a part of the cemetery of the Dominican friary founded in the mid 13th century. No graves were identified but a 2 m length of a well-constructed wall was exposed, which may have been a part of the churchyard boundary wall. Other features and finds were of post-medieval origin. Two previous excavations

(POWYS)

carried out by D. Morgan in the immediate vicinity of the evaluation trenches had also failed to locate inhumation burials. It seems probable, therefore, that the cemetery did not extend to this area.

283. DOLFORWYN CASTLE (SO 152 950). The sixteenth season of excavations was conducted for CADW and directed by L. Butler (*Medieval Archaeol.*, 40 (1996), 316–18). This concentrated upon the hall or NW. room, upon adjacent courtyard areas and upon the NE. room and its immediate vicinity. The N. end of the N. Ditch was established at a quarry cut and the W. wall of the D-shaped N. Tower was exposed, standing at least 2 m high, with a centrally placed window.

The Hall was placed on ground made up by the English masons filling up the quarry pits of the Welsh construction period. A trench was cut to investigate these levels beneath the cobbling and hearth area. This revealed a substantial wall running diagonally between the N. Tower and the Keep with a flight of steps leading to the W. doorway in the N. tower.

The N.E. room was cleared of a 2 m depth of rubble, down to the latest occupation layer. The N. curtain wall was exposed throughout its length, usually 2 m high. The E. curtain wall (2–3 m high) was revealed as secondary (English) work, and the S. wall, also 2 m high, contained two doorways and three splayed window openings. Towards the E. end of the room was a masonry pillar, clay bonded and of 2.1 m diameter. Its probable function was to support a fireplace at first-floor level. This pillar was robbed during the castle's abandonment; two dwarf walls N. and S. of the pillar cut off the E. end of the room. Another post-abandonment wall blocked one of the doorways, which had its lower hinge pin set in lead within a red sandstone block. The W. wall has not yet been located, but an internal cross wall near the W. end was uncovered as was a plinth added to the inner face of the N. curtain wall.

The S. wall of the NE. room butted against the external (N.) wall of the curving stair outside the Round Tower. However careful investigation showed that the stair had a northern buttress; this is best interpreted as the support for the timber structure of a draw-bridge which protected the upper floor entrances to the Round Tower and (later) to the NE. Room. The inner recess of the buttress was later filled with rubble walling, giving the false impression of a blocked doorway.

Excavation has continued along the northern edge of the E. courtyard between the revetting wall 424 and the NE. room. In the primary work the Welsh had created a terrace by cutting back the bedrock and the natural clay overlying it; then they laid down a cobbled surface. The English constructed the S. wall of the NE. room in a foundation trench which cut through this surface and through the low N.–S. wall 336 near the Round Tower. The terrace was then protected by the revetting wall 424 and any quarry pits encroaching on the terrace were back-filled.

The N. Tower survived far better than anticipated. The back (S.) wall of the N. Tower was exposed and was still standing to at least 2 m high. There was a splayed window opening centrally placed in this wall; it might be a doorway, by analogy with Dinas Bran, but its base has yet to be reached. The survival of pitched stones in both E. and W. walls suggests that arched heads for doorways will be revealed next year.

The major discovery is that between the S. wall of the N. Tower and the N. end of the N. ditch lies a stone-built vaulted cellar, probably still standing 4 m high from the rock floor to the crown of the vault. This occupies the quarry cut across the northern part of the castle. Whereas the adjacent rooms (NE. and NW.) were filled with dumped material to provide high-level floors, the space at the back of the N. tower was utilized for storage and the quarry had not been backfilled by the English. The external limits of this vaulted room have yet to be established and its relationship to the adjacent rooms will be established next year. Preliminary indications suggest that the vault was open to the elements and to stone robbers well into the 18th century; it only gradually filled with soil.

Apart from animal, bird and fish bone, there were few medieval finds: coarse and fine glazed pottery; oyster, whelk and mussel shell; lead used for roofing sheets and window came; iron studs, nails, a ring and a hinge pin; two buckles and a binding strip of copper alloy; a carved bone rod (?an awl handle); and a fragment of window glass. Painted plaster was found in a small area SE. of the Hall and near the doorway of the NE. room. Two catapult balls of dolerite were found in the make-up clay beneath the Hall and a Niedermendig lava quern fragment was used in its cobbling. The limited amount of post-medieval pottery, clay tobacco pipe stems and a child's clay marble or alley indicated brief episodes of casual use or visitors' discards spread over two centuries.

284. LLANELWEDD, LLANELWEDD ROCKS (SO 050 521). A field survey of a S.-facing hillside on the opposite side of the R. Wye to Builth Wells, which is earmarked for a quarry extension, was undertaken by B. Silvester of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust on behalf of CADW. A complex of buildings showing only as low foundations, and associated with enclosure banks, was interpreted as a medieval or early post-medieval farm. Cultivation terraces and clearance heaps were recognizable on parts of the hillside but their origin cannot be determined from fieldwork.

285. LLANWYDDYN: THE *HOSPITIUM* (SH 998 193). The site of a structure associated with the Knights Hospitaller in the hills above the upper reaches of the Vyrnwy valley in western Montgomeryshire was surveyed as part of an on-going programme of works in the Lake Vyrnwy catchment area funded by Severn-Trent Water. Traces of a rectangular stone building, c. 15 m long by 7 m wide overall, lie on a terraced platform above a stream. Adjacent features include several small enclosed plots, two further terraced platforms, a tract of low ridge-and-furrow, and a spring known since the 19th century if not earlier as Ffynnon y Mynaich. These are enclosed on three sides by a bank and ditch and on the fourth by a stream, together defining a rectangular area of c. 3.4 ha. There are few documentary references to the Llanwyddyn *hospitium*, the earliest being in 1338, by which time the Hospitallers had already leased the estate to a tenant. There can be little doubt, however, that the site was a grange established in a natural hollow on a S. facing hillside of what is otherwise a particular exposed and bleak upland ridge. Work was carried out by B. Silvester of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

286. MONTGOMERY, BACK LANE (SO 223 964). A pre-planning evaluation was carried out by D. Murphy and N. Jones of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeologist Trust on a vacant plot within the medieval town. Evidence for medieval activity on this site consisted of a yard surface with stone-lined drainage gullies, a substantial well-built faced stone wall and a large pit containing medieval pottery and animal bone.

A watching brief during the excavation of foundation trenches revealed a continuation of the wall and large pit, with further finds of medieval pottery. The evidence available from these limited investigations would suggest occupation during the later medieval period, continuing into the early post-medieval period, after which the plot was apparently abandoned. Although there was little structural evidence, the likelihood is that there was a street frontage dwelling, possibly with the street front further to the S. than at present, and a yard area with rubbish pits to the rear.

#### CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA (FORMERLY GLAMORGAN)

287. CEFN DRUM, PONTARDULAIS (SN 608 040). A house platform was excavated by students from University of Wales College, Newport and members of local history societies, under the direction of J. Kissock. This work was funded by the Cambrian Archaeological Association and the Royal Archaeological Institute. The site selected for excavation was a well-preserved, typical example of one of the nineteen house platforms on the hillside.

These platforms are usually assigned a medieval date and are thought to be linked to the seasonal exploitation of the area as pasture.

The platform was 12 m wide (E.-W.) and 13.5 m deep (N.-S.); the rear bank rose to a height of 0.6 m, whilst the front was higher at 0.8 m. Platforms of this nature are generally constructed by cutting into the hill slope and throwing the debris forwards so as to construct a level surface on which to build. The principal discovery consisted of a small (externally 3.7 m by 6 m), crudely built house with rubble walls. This was located in a central position on the northern half of the platform. The walls were of an ephemeral nature, consisting of small, fist-sized, stones set into banks made up largely of the natural clay. There was some trace of a clay bonding within the wall. Traces of tumble from the walls were limited. A floor of beaten red earth was found in parts of the structure. The door, in the eastern corner of the S. wall, was flanked by two small post-holes which probably supported the roof either side of the doorway. Two post-holes of different nature were found cut into the floor of the building. The northernmost of the pair was packed by two large, square slabs. A few small stones had been packed in amongst these larger stones and a pad-stone utilized to support the post from below. The second post-hole had been packed with numerous small stones. A group of features in the SW. corner of the building are tentatively interpreted as a hearth. The shape and position of this set of features all argue for the interpretation, yet the absence of any signs of even limited burning on the sides and base of the construction or the walls of the building would seem to argue against the likelihood of a hearth. Most of the platform surface was featureless. An extensive programme of environmental sample collection was integrated into the excavation. No datable material was found, and the only find was of a whetstone; however sufficient material is available for a radiocarbon determination.