

Witham Archaeology

A Report to Robert Hodder

August 2020



LAND TO REAR OF 87a HIGHSTREET, RAMSEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Archaeological Trial Trenching

Filipe Santos

LAND TO REAR OF 87a HIGH STREET, RAMSEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

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LAND TO REAR OF 87a HIGH STREET, RAMSEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

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Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

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APPENDIX C – ANIMAL BONE REPORT by James Rackham, Environmental
Archaeology Consultancy

APPENDIX D – OTHER FINDS REPORT by Gary Taylor, Pre-Construct Archaeology
(Newark)

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LAND TO THE REAR OF 87a HIGHSTREET, RAMSEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

SUMMARY

This report outlines the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation undertaken by Witham Archaeology on land to the rear of 87a High Street, Ramsey. The project was commissioned by Mr. Robert Hodder in compliance with a condition of planning permission relating to the proposed demolition of existing buildings and the construction of a three bedroom dwelling.

Information provided in the county's Historic Environment Record indicates that the site lies in an area of significant archaeological potential, within the historic core of Ramsey and 120m to the west of the site of Ramsey Abbey which is protected as a Scheduled Monument. Nearby investigations have identified stratified deposits of medieval and post-medieval date.

The trial trenching revealed two made ground layers, one very recent and the other likely related to 19th century development on the site, which sealed the original topsoil. A mortar and stone surface was exposed in the northern part of site, truncated by a possible medieval or post medieval pit. A sequence of peat and clay was also exposed in a sondage excavated in the southern part of the site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench evaluation undertaken by Witham Archaeology on the site of a proposed housing development comprising of the construction of a three bedroom dwelling on land to the rear of 87a High Street, Ramsey. The project was commissioned by Mr. Robert Hodder in response to a condition of planning permission issued by Huntingdonshire District Council. Archaeological fieldwork was completed during the period of 21 of November 2019 to 22 of November 2019.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists.

2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (see Figs. 1 and 2)

The small market town of Ramsey, in the parish of Ramsey and in the administrative district of Huntingdonshire, lies c.17km south-east of Peterborough, and 30km north-west of Cambridge. The proposed development is located in the historic core of Ramsey (NGR: TL 2889 8504), on the south side of High Street approximately 70m west of the gatehouse to the site of Ramsey Abbey.

Topographically, the site is located on drift geology of an alluvial clays, silts, sand and gravels of mudstone Oxford Clay formation (British Geological Survey website).

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Like many place-names in the Fenland the 'ey' suffix in Ramsey refers to an island protruding from the surrounding flooded landscape. The meaning of the name is uncertain but may mean 'Wild Garlic island'

with the ram element deriving from the Old English *hramsa* for the plant (<http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/map/place/Huntingdonshire/Ramsey>).

Ramsey is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1089, probably because it was held as part of the estates of Ramsey Abbey and formed part of a larger estate headed by another manor (Barlow, G. 2010).

The site of Ramsey Abbey which is protected as a Scheduled Monument (NHL 1006838) lies approximately 120m to the east of the proposed development. A gatehouse survives within a short section of the enclosing wall of the Abbey on the east side of Hollow Lane. The structure is a Grade 1 listed building and is thought to be of late 15th century date (NHL 1130258).

Ramsey Abbey was a Benedictine Order founded in 969 AD. Of the fabric of the abbey only a rectangular building of 13th century date and the gatehouse survive. Following dissolution of the Abbey in 1539 most of the Abbey buildings were demolished for re-use of the stone. However, the church of St. Thomas of Canterbury which lies just outside the abbey walls may have started life as an infirmary, hospital or guesthouse of the abbey before being converted to the parish church in the 13th century. The church lies approximately 200m to the east of the proposed development on the south side of High Street. According to a 1926 survey conducted by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, the proposed area of development appears to be located adjacent to the western precinct boundary ditch of the abbey (RCHME 1926). Although it has also been suggested that there might have not been any defined boundary west of Hollow Lane, and the precinct would only extend to the contour of the fen island where the abbey stood (Cambridgeshire Extensive Urban Survey 2015).

The closest archaeological fieldwork to the proposed development site was an archaeological evaluation (HER ECB3520) undertaken in 2011 directly to the north of the proposed development on land to the rear of 86 High Street. Within the two evaluation trenches two post-medieval features, a brick culvert and a modern foul drain were recorded on the north side of the site. To the north-east of the proposed development at 102 High Street an evaluation in 2015 (ECB 4440) recovered pottery dating from medieval to post-medieval date. Waterlogged and carbonised plant remains were present in environmental sample.

To the north-west of the proposed development four trial trenches excavated in advance of development at 50/52 High Street recorded medieval features across the site. Four ditches and a post hole were recorded, all of which contained domestic pottery of 11th to 15th century date.

4.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND

In line with guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF (2012) and the Cambridgeshire Core Strategy (2011) a Desk Based Assessment was commissioned by Mr. Robert Hodder (Taylor-Sutton 2018).

Outline planning permission (18/02504/FUL) was granted for a three bedroom dwelling development at the site subject to a programme of archaeological works.

Witham Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. Robert Hodder to carry out an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation, required in advance of construction at the site. The scope of this work is set out in a brief issued by the Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council. The results of the trial trenching will provide the planning archaeologist with appropriate information on any archaeological remains which may be present on site, with a view to developing a mitigation strategy to ensure their continuing preservation or recording in advance of the proposed development.

5.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification of 12th of November 2019, were to:

- *provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival of archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site, at the depth of proposed construction disturbance, and to assess the importance of such remains in terms of their local, regional and national context.*
- *assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.*
- *provide information that will allow the local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on a planning application.*
- *provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.*
- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum and from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.*
- *provide information for accession to the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER).*

6.0 METHODOLOGY

Prior to the commencement of fieldwork, provisional trench locations were agreed with the Cambridgeshire County Council Historic Environment Team (CHET) focussing upon those areas most likely to be affected by development groundworks. Two trenches were excavated, each measuring c.1.6m wide and totalling c.10m in length.

Topsoil and other recent deposits were removed by a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. Trench bases and representative samples of the trench sides were subsequently cleaned by hand, prior to the part-excavation of features and deposits of potential archaeological origin, to ascertain character, extent and date. Both trenches were excavated to a depth of 1.2m. Trench 1 was excavated on the location of a recently demolished workshop building and Trench 2 was excavated through the doorway of another workshop building which was still standing (Fig. 3). A sondage on the west part of Trench 2 was machined excavated to a depth of 2.1m to expose the deposition sequence of alluvium in the area

Excavated features were recorded through drawn plans and sections at a scale of 1: 20. This record was augmented by colour photographs and written context records on *pro forma* recording sheets. All trenches and the reference points used in planning were located by survey grade GPS.

7.0 RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6; Plates 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Trench 1 was located in the northern half of site, north-west to south-east aligned and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m. A raised step was left in place to allow the investigation of an area of reddish clay at first interpreted as a possible feature, and which further investigation confirmed as an inclusion in layer (102).

At the north-west corner of the trench, a friable orangey brown peaty silty clay (110) produced a possible 16th century lead alloy staff ferrule or scabbard chape (Appendix D) and animal bone fragments (Appendix C) recovered during cleaning. A dark greyish black peaty silty clay layer (103), which was not fully exposed and which was not excavated due to health and safety restrictions probably represents a continuation of (110). Deposit (110), was also left unexcavated for this reason.

An unexcavated deposit of firm dark grey silt containing charcoal flecks and patches of dark greyish yellow silty clay (112) extended through most of the base of the trench and overlain (110). At the northern end of the trench (112) was overlain by a greyish white stone and mortar containing chalk (104), measuring 2m by 1.68m, and extending beyond the east and west limits of excavation. The deposit interpreted as a probable surface appears to have been laid in a construction cut [113].

Layer (112) was probably cut by [113], the cutting feature which contained surface (104), from where a single 15th to the 17th Century Bourne/Colne pottery (Appendix B) was recovered. Possible surface (104) was truncated by a partially exposed feature [108] which was sub-circular in shape and extended beyond eastern LOE in Trench 1, measuring over 0.9m long, 1.06m wide and 0.22m deep. The feature contained a single fill of dark grey silty clay (109) with occasional charcoal flecks and shell fragments from which two fragments of Peterborough Shelly Ware, a fragment of Bourne Area Handmade Shell Tempered pottery, one unidentified pottery fragment, a fragment of late 12th to 15th century Ceramic Building Material (CBM), and animal bone fragments were recovered. Although possible medieval pit [108] produced earlier finds than those produced in (110) and (106), it seems certain that the pit was stratigraphically later than both layers and that the finds from these were intrusive.

Pit [108] was sealed by a loose greyish white silty clay (107) at least 0.1m thick. Could have been the same deposit as buried subsoil (111), a firm dark grey silty clay at least 0.4m thick. The difference in colour might be explained by intermixing between (107) and (104) below. Layer (107) produced 13th to mid 15th century Bourne Area Handmade Shell Tempered, Hunts Fen Sandy and St Neots-type pottery fragments and a possible post medieval lead mount.

Deposits (107) and (111) were sealed by (102), a dark greyish brown, containing occasional CBM and very small pottery fragments and charcoal flecks, measuring 0.32m thick and with the characteristics of topsoil. Topsoil (102) produced Bourne/Colne Type ware, Dutch Red Earthenware, French Stoneware and unspecified English Stoneware pottery fragments, CBM fragments and a glass bottle fragment dated to the 17th Century. Above topsoil (102) was layer of made ground (101), comprising a mix of rubble including CBM and concrete, and measuring up to 0.46m thick in parts. It was probably a deliberate deposit made in preparation for the concrete plinth (100). The concrete plinth was 0.2m thick.

Trench 2 (Figs. 3, 6 and 7; Plate 7, 8, 9 and 10)

Trench 2 was located in the southern half of site aligned south-west to north-east. The easternmost three metres of the trench fell within a stone building that extended alongside the boundary of the site (Fig.3).

The earliest deposit identified was a dark brownish black sandy clay with waterlogged wood inclusions (220), recorded in the base of the sondage at an elevation of 2.25m OD. Overlying (220) was a peat layer (219) measuring 0.14m thick, which was in turn sealed by light grey clay (218). The clay was overlain by a dark grey clayey silt (217) 0.12m thick which was sealed by a second peat layer (216) measuring 0.16m thick at an elevation of 2.65m OD. This sequence indicates waterlogged conditions on site and a flood event. None of these contexts provided dating evidence.

A dark grey silty clay layer with frequent amounts of charcoal flecks (207), measuring up to 0.46m thick, sealed (216) and extended throughout the remainder of the base of Trench 2. Layer (207) contained Bourne/Colne and Thetford Ware pottery, as well as CBM, and oyster shell. The finds assemblage was dated to the mid 15th to 17th century. Both (216) and (207) appear to have been truncated by possible feature [213]. Recorded in section only (section 2.1), it was over 2.2m long, over 1.6m wide and 0.58m deep. The feature contained a primary fill of fine mid grey sandy silt (215) measuring 0.22m thick, overlain by similar mid grey sandy silt (214), 0.36m thick, with frequent orange inclusions, likely related with natural processes of mineralization. Both fills are probably part of the same deposition event. Fill (214) contained CBM fragments dated from the 13th to the 15th Century.

A dark grey sandy silt (206) in the south-west part of Trench 2, had and occasional charcoal flecks frequent orange flecks inclusions, likely formed by the same process as the similar inclusions from fill (214) below. This deposit sealed feature [213]. It measured from 0.24m thick at the south-west end of trench to 1.02m thick at its other end below the workshop building. Layer (206) probably formed the topsoil on the site prior to the deposition of made ground layer (205), a mixed dark grey and dark/mid

brown silty sand containing frequent amounts of CBM and small and medium stones. Finds from (206) included fragments of Bourne/Colne Type Ware, Dutch Red Earthenware and Raeren Stoneware pottery, as well CBM fragments. These finds date the layer to between the mid 16th to 17th century. Animal bone fragments were also recovered from the layer. Layer (205) produced a single shred of brown glazed earthenware dated mid 16th to 17th century. Above the made ground was a loose black sandy silt (204) containing charcoal flecks. A friable/loose red clayey silt layer (203), measuring c.0.06m thick extended over deposit (204).

A north-west to south-east aligned linear cut [210] extended across the south-west corner of the trench, truncating layer (203). Cut [210], measuring over 1.6m long, 0.42m wide and 0.76m deep, contained modern brick culvert (211) and was backfilled with a loose, mixed dark brownish grey silty sand and dark grey sandy silt which contained occasional CBM fragments and stone (212).

A mid/light greyish yellow gravelly sand, 0.26m thick, containing occasional amounts of modern CBM and stone sealed cut [210]. A north to south aligned linear cut [208] exposed in the south-west part of Trench 2 contained a modern plastic water pipe, which supplied the shed adjacent to the south wall of site. Linear Cut [208] was backfilled with (209) a mixed dark grey silty sand and a light greyish yellow gravelly sand.

Cut [208] was sealed by (201), a loose dark greyish brown sandy silt layer, containing occasional amounts of gravel, CBM and small stone. This was the latest deposit recorded and formed existing the ground level.

Towards the north-east end of the trench, a construction trench [221] containing the workshop building foundations was exposed. It contained the mortar, brick and stone foundations (222) and a backfill of dark grey silty clay mixed with lighter materials, including occasional amounts of brick fragments and stone (223). It is not clear if [221] truncated made ground (205) or if the layer formed against the edge of the cut. A cement plinth (200) which forms the surface level of the workshop building, sealed the foundation which was from a part of the west elevation wall demolished to open a doorway to the building.

Building Recording (Plate 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21)

The brick walling surrounding the site, possibly dated to the 17th Century and the workshop building were photographically recorded (Fig.3).

The boundary wall was built with red brick set in English bond, and formed the south, west and north boundaries of the site. The western elevation shows evidence for repair works (Plate 12) and its north-western corner was of curved construction (Plate 13). Further east the north wall ended in a column (Plate. 14) adjacent to which was a 20th century wall.

The extant workshop was constructed in red brick set in English bond. The building is arranged into a large space open to the roof on the south end and a smaller area with two storeys at the north end. The roof covering is not original having been replaced with corrugated asbestos sheets.

The west elevation of the main space appears to have had a large door subsequently infilled to form a smaller doorway that was infilled too (Plates 17 and 20). A small window was also infilled with bricks (Plates 17 and 21). The opening at ground floor of the two storey element on the north end has a substantial wooden lintel which appears to be original, despite modern door, as is the small window in the loft above (Plate 16). The large door in between the original doors is clearly modern with steel beams and metal sliding door, as it is the large door in the south elevation, also with a sliding door.

Internally the reinforcing brick work and wooden lintel appear indicate that the bricked up door was original, but the external brickwork over the opening for the original door probably replaced the original wooden lintel or brick arch at the time of infilling of the door. Vertical repairs to brickwork in section between existing door and bricked up door suggests that was formerly a dividing wall at this point (Plate.

20). It also coincides with a split in the concrete floor and termination of rendering on the wall opposing the doors.

Existing north end wall does not extend to the full height of external walls. Area above where there might have been an access to 'loft' space through a mezzanine appears to have been boarded-up with plywood (Plate 18). The original roof was completely removed and replaced with a lower pitch arrangement.

This building shown a number of characteristics which became common in the second half of the 19th Century and suggest a different use through time. The main part of the structure originally opened to roof with a large door in the west wall and single window, this suggest it had an agricultural function, possibly for crop storage as a chaff house. The concrete rendering along the inner wall of the main space in the chaff house was installed to convert the structure into a cattle housing unit, probably during the early 20th century (Harvey 1984). The two storey element was probably used as a cart shed or implement store at ground story, similarly to the Gedney farm complex (Trimble 2016). The first-floor area above it was probably used as a granary or hayloft.

8.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

Trial trenching at land rear of 87a High Street revealed a possible surface (104), truncated by a medieval pit [108] in the northern part of trench 1. Owing to health and safety considerations it was not possible to expose these two features. The site is located in the historic core of Ramsey and possibly to the west of the precinct ditch boundary of Ramsey Abbey (RCHME 1926), and medieval activity on the site is not unexpected. Pit [108] was the earliest dated feature with finds dating from the late 12th Century to the 14th Century. In the western part of Trench 2 possible medieval or early post medieval Feature [213], sealed by relict topsoil (206), was also excavated, although dating for was not as certain as for Pit [108].

The remaining contexts dated from the post medieval period. Some were very modern, such as the possible 19th century culvert (221), the foundation (222) possibly mid 19th Century building which is still standing on the south-eastern part of site and currently used as a workshop, and trench [208] for a water cable to supply a small modern shed in the south-west corner of site. The building recorded in the south-eastern part of site is present on the 1st Edition 25 inch OS map from 1888-1889.

The presence of the two peat layers (216) and (219) observed in trench 2 is probably explained by the low lying location of the site, as shown by the Fenland Project survey (Hall 1992, pp. 41-49), and a publication on the excavations at Ramsey Abbey (Spoerry et al. 2008, fig. 4).

Despite the largely negative results of trial trenching the potential for archaeological remains elsewhere on the site cannot be completely discounted.

9.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author of this report would like to thank Mr. Robert Hodder for his interest and support in ensuring the successful completion of this project. Thanks are also due, to Chris Ayres for the field work to Russell Tribble and Dale Trimble for guidance in the building recording results section and for the editing of this report, to Dr. Anne Irving for the Ceramic report, James Rackham for the Animal Bone report and to Gary Taylor for the Other Finds report, and to staff at the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record office, for assistance in locating background information for the site.

10.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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11.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS

11.1 Project Information

EVENT NUMBER: ECB 6049

PLANNING APPLICATION No.: 18/02504/FUL

FIELD OFFICER: Filipe Santos

NGR: TL 2889 8504

CIVIL PARISH: Ramsey

DATE OF INTERVENTION: 21/11/2019 and 22/11/2019

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Archaeological Trial Trenching

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Robert Hodder

11.2 Archive Details

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology Ltd, 2 High Street, Ruskington, Lincolnshire, NG34 9DT

FINAL LOCATION: Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.: ECB6049

ACCESSION DATE: TBC

The Site Archive Comprises:

Context Records	34
Plans	GPS
Section Drawings at Scales 1:20	6
Black and White photographs	18 shots
Digital Photographs	18 shots plus various working shots
Set of Site Notes	1

It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.

COLOUR PLATES



Plate 1: General view of site prior to excavation, looking north-west



Plate 2: General view of site prior to excavation, looking north-east



Plate 3: Overall view of Trench 1, 2x1m scales, looking north-west



Plate 4: East south-east facing section of Trench 1, looking west north-west, 2x1m scales



Plate 5: Pre-excavation of Pit [108] and Surface (104), looking from above facing west north-west (north arrow on board incorrect), 2x1m scales



Plate 6: West north-west facing section of Pit [108], looking east south-east, 1x1m scale



Plate 7: Overall view of Trench 2, looking west north-west, 2x1m scales



Plate 8: South-east facing section of Trench 2 (test slot), looking north-west, 2x1m scales



Plate 9: South-east facing section of Trench 2 (to the east of test slot shown above), looking north-west, 1x1m scale



Plate 10: South-east facing section of Trench 2 (just west of foundation Cut [221]), looking north-west, 1x1m scale



Plate 11: View of segment of west section of surrounding wall of site, looking south-west, 2x1m scales



Plate 12: Broader view of west wall surrounding site, looking west



Plate 13: View of segment of north facing section of wall surrounding site (by north-west corner of wall), looking north, 2x1m scales



Plate 14: View of segment of north facing section of wall surrounding site, looking north-west, 2x1m scales



Plate 15: View south face of workshop building, located on the south-east corner of site, looking north



Plate 16: View of west elevation of workshop building, looking south-east



Plate 17: View of west face segment of workshop building, looking east



Plate 18: View of inside of workshop building facing north



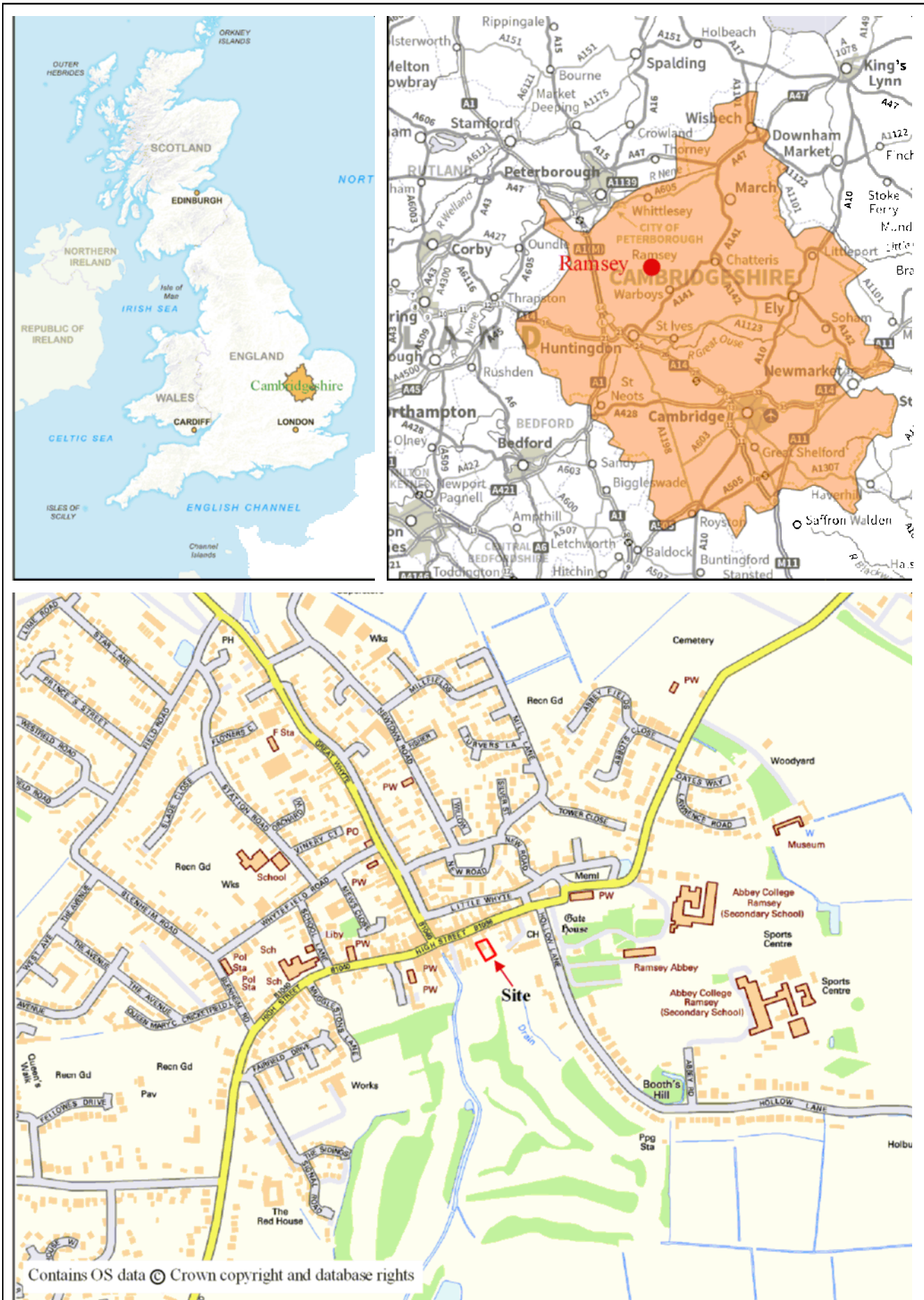
Plate 19: View of east inner wall detail of workshop building, looking east

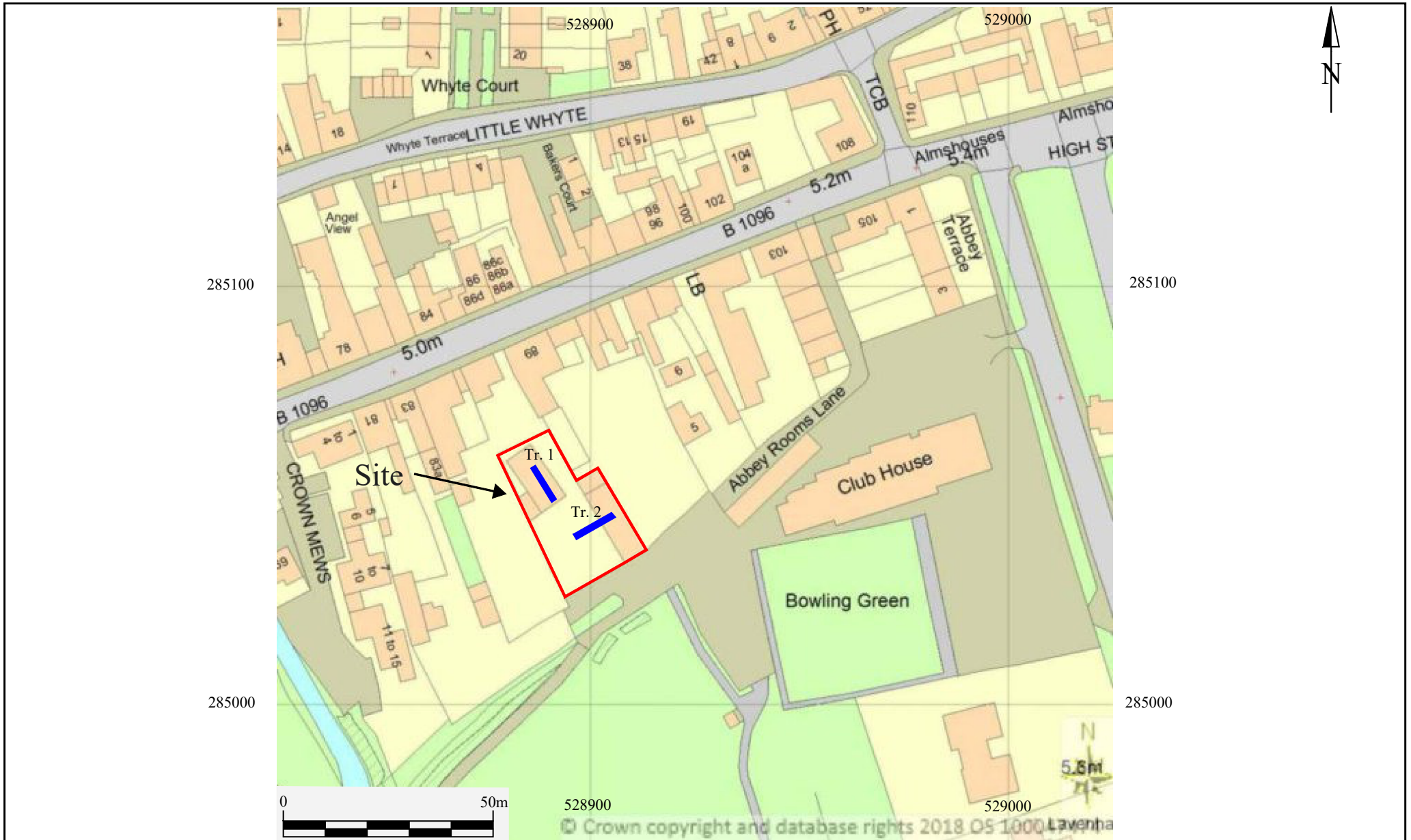


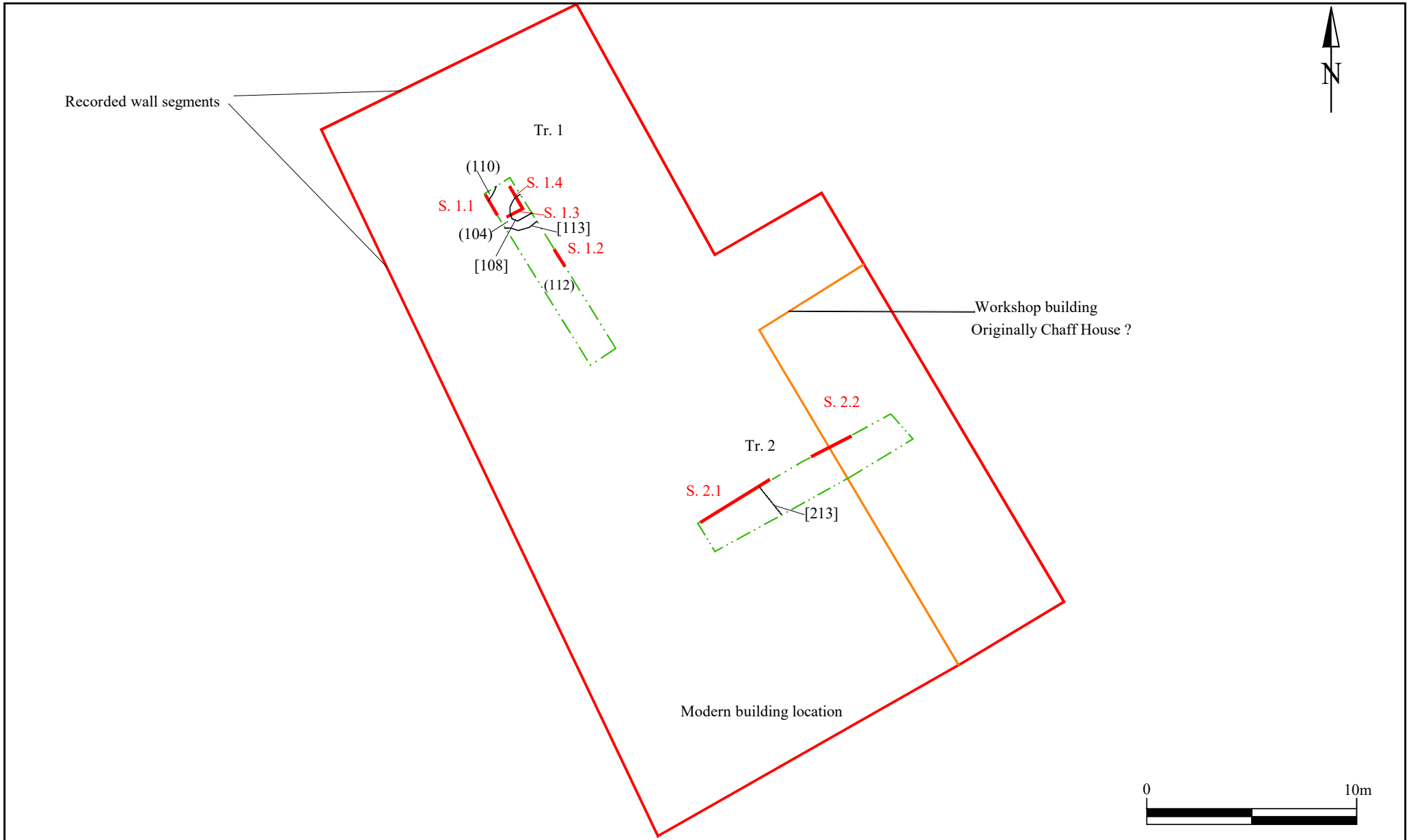
Plate 20: View of west inner wall detail of workshop building, looking west, 2x1m scales



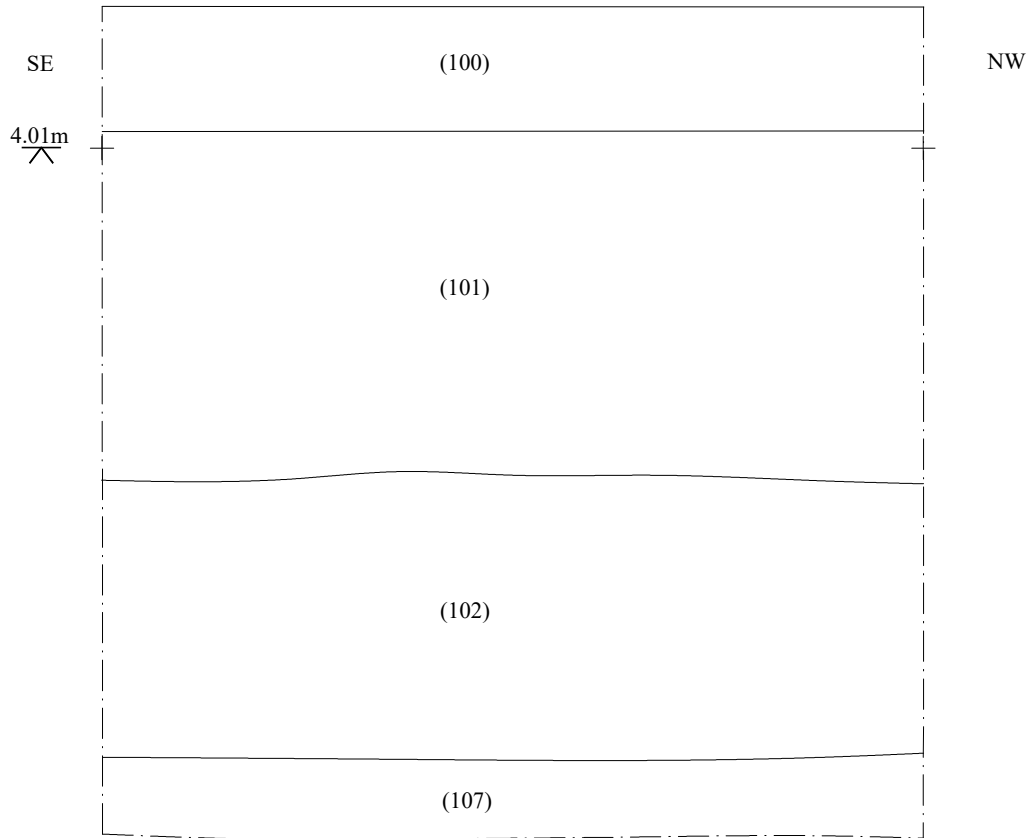
Plate 21: View of west inner wall rendering coat of workshop building, 1x1m scale



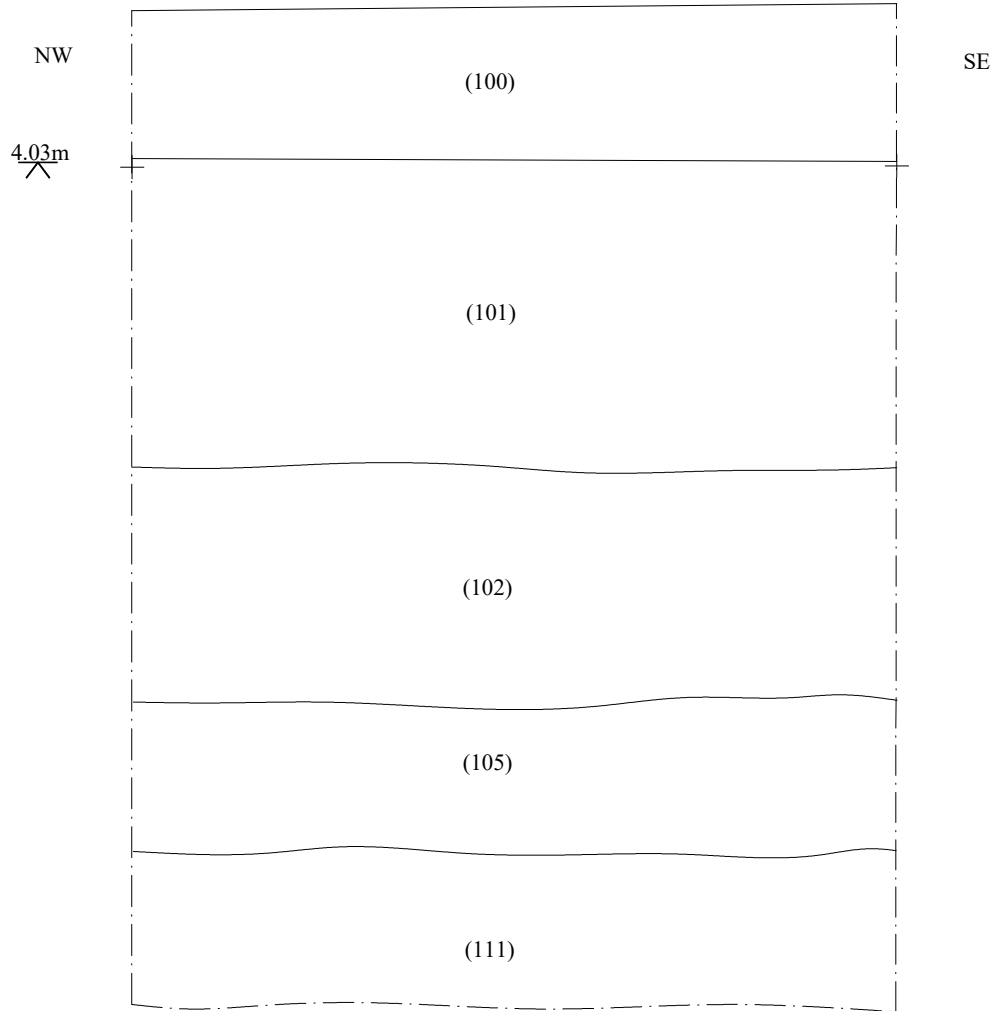




S. 1.1



S. 1.2

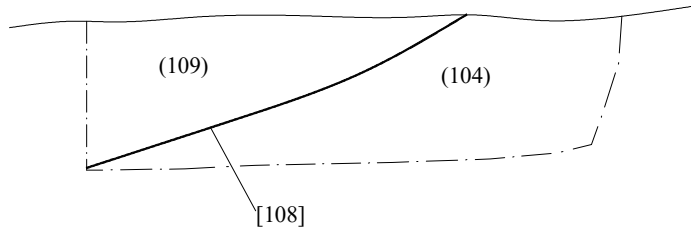


S. 1.3

NE

SW

3.11m

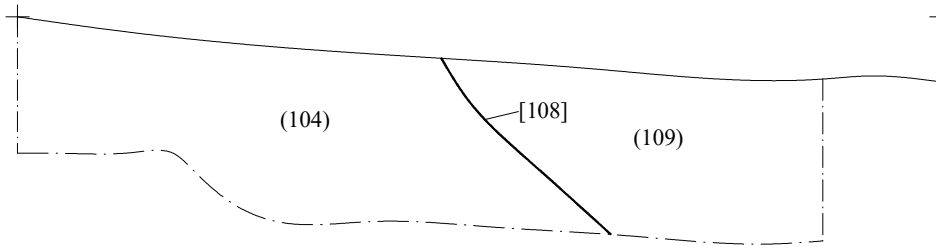


S. 1.4

NW

SE

3.18m

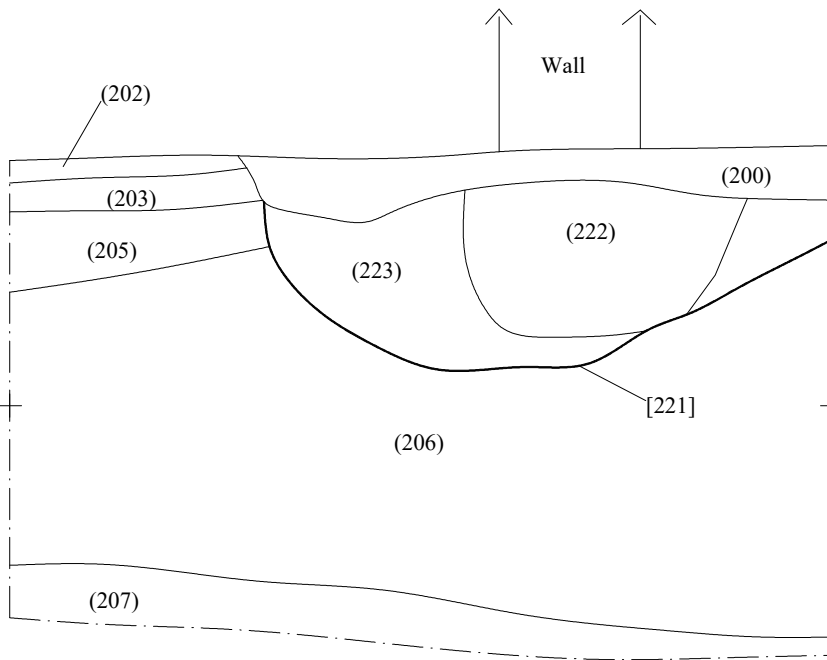


S. 2.2

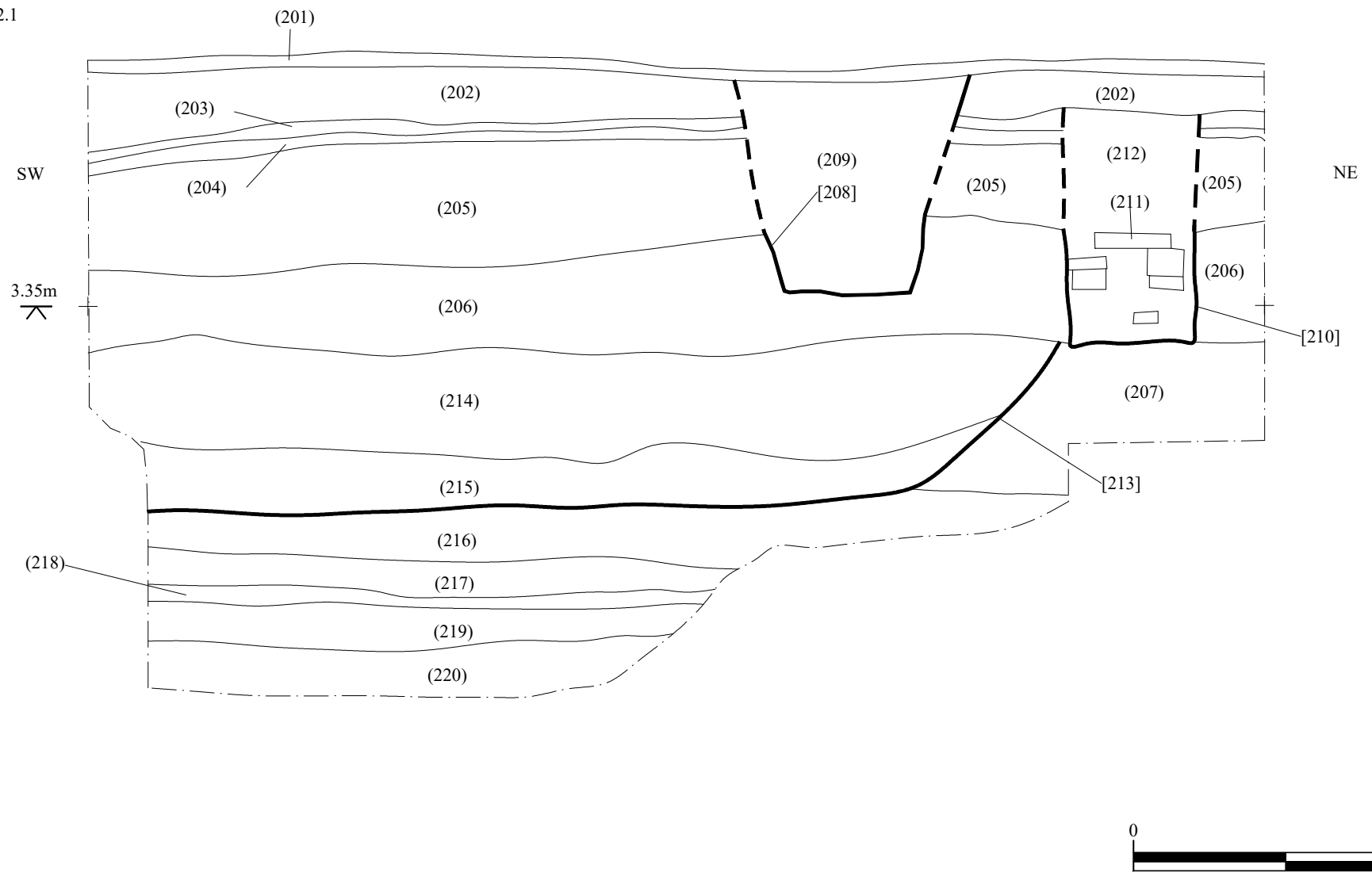
SW

NE

3.62m



S. 2.1



APPENDIX A
Context Summary

APPENDIX B
Ceramic Report

Excavation at Ramsey, Cambridgeshire (ECB6049)

THE CERAMIC FINDS

Dr Anne Irving

POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). A total of 31 sherds from a maximum 28 vessels, weighing 1088g was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive of the pottery is included in Table 1.

Results

Table 1, Archive of the Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description
102	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jar/ bowl	2	2	58	BS	
102	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Straight sided bowl	1	1	136	Rim	
102	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jug	1	1	11	BS	Smearred yellow strip
102	DUTR	Dutch Red Earthenware	Jar/ bowl	1	1	17	BS	
102	ENGS	Unspecified English Stoneware	Jar/bottle	1	1	136	Base	
102	FREC	Frechen stoneware	Bottle	2	1	38	BS	
102	FREC	Frechen stoneware	Bottle	1	1	16	BS	
102	FREC	Frechen stoneware	Bottle	1	1	25	Rim	
105	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jug/ jar	3	1	94	BS	Handmade; combed lines
106	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jug/ jar	1	1	21	Base	?ID or TOY
107	BAHST	Bourne Area Handmade Shell Tempered	Jar/ bowl	2	2	34	BS	?ID
107	HFSW	Hunts Fen Sandy Ware	Jar/ bowl	2	2	5	BS	
107	SNEOT	St Neots-type ware	Jar/ bowl	1	1	4	BS	
109	BAHST	Bourne Area Handmade Shell Tempered	Bowl	1	1	92	Rim	Square everted rim; stabbed rim with combing
109	MISC	Unidentified types	?	1	1	2	BS	Flake
109	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	Jar	1	1	45	BS	External soot
109	PSHW	Peterborough Shelly Ware	Jar/ bowl	1	1	8	BS	Soot
205	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	Lid	1	1	15	Rim	Soot on edge
206	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jug/ jar	1	1	14	BS	
206	DUTRT	Dutch Red Earthenware-types	Jar/ bowl	1	1	16	BS	
206	DUTRT	Dutch Red Earthenware-types	Bowl	1	1	74	Rim	External soot
206	RAER	Raeren stoneware	Drinking jug	1	1	16	BS	
207	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Pancheon	1	1	131	Rim	Flared rim

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description
207	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	Jug	1	1	37	Handle	Strap handle with central hollow
207	THETT	Thetford-type fabrics	Jar/ pitcher	1	1	43	Handle	Strap handle with central hollow; ?ID
			TOTAL	31	28	1088		

The assemblage comprises medieval and post-medieval types spanning the 13th to 17th century. The range of wares is typical of those found in Cambridgeshire. Much of the pottery is in fresh condition and comprises large sherds, suggesting the material has undergone limited redeposition.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2002). A total of 26 fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2977g was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2.

Result

Table 2, Archive of the Ceramic Building Material

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
102	BRK	Calcareous	1	14	Handmade	16th to 18th
102	BRK	Calcareous	1	249	Handmade; corner; coarsely bedded	16th to 18th
102	PNR	Reduced sandy	1	136	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
102	PNR	Reduced sandy	1	100	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
109	PNR	Reduced sandy	3	283	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
110	PNR	Sandy	1	48	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
205	BRK	Calcareous	3	314	Handmade	16th to 18th
206	BRK	Calcareous	1	87	Handmade	16th to 18th
206	PEG	Sandy	1	55	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
206	PNR	Light firing sandy	1	49	Flat roofer?; abraded; ?ID	13th to 15th?
206	PNR	Sandy	2	163	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
207	BRK	Gault	1	273	Handmade; sunken aris	16th to 18th
207	PANT	Gault	1	50		16th to 18th
207	PEG	Sandy	1	127	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
207	PNR	Sandy	2	321	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
214	PNR	Sandy	5	708	Flat roofer	13th to 15th
		TOTAL	26	2977		

Brick (BRK) and roofing tile (PANT, PNR, PEG) is present in the assemblage; all the material dates from the medieval and post-medieval period.

CONTEXT DATES

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comment
102	17th	
105	15th to 17th	Date on a single vessel
106	15th to 17th	Date on a single sherd
107	13th to mid 15th	Possibly 13th
109	13th to 14th	
109	Late 12th to 14th	
110	13th to 15th	Date on CBM
205	Mid 16th to 17th	Date on a single sherd
206	Mid 16th to 17th	
207	Mid 15th to mid 17th	
214	13th to 15th	Date on CBM

ABBREVIATIONS

BRK	Brick
BS	Body sherd
CXT	Context
LHJ	Lower Handle Join
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
PANT	Pantile
PEG	Peg Tile
PNR	Peg, Nib or Ridge Tile
TR	Trench
W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

~ 2002, *Ceramic Building Material Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Curation, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from https://www.archaeologicalceramics.com/uploads/1/1/9/3/11935072/ceramic_building_material_guidelines.pdf

Slowikowski, A. M., Nenck, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

APPENDIX C
Animal Bone Report

Ramsey – ECB6049
Hand Collected animal bone and shell

A small collection of twenty four hand collected animal bones and shells from six contexts was made during evaluation excavations at Ramsey. The fragments have been identified and catalogued (see below) using the standard procedures of the Environmental Archaeology Consultancy (see recording key and Archive catalogue).

The assemblage included fragments of horse, cattle, sheep/goat, goat, chicken, jackdaw, oyster, mussel and a single shell of the 'garden snail' *Helix aspersa*.

The bone is in good condition and it is very unlikely that any bone will have been lost from the deposits through corrosion.

The assemblage is too small for any detailed analysis but appears largely to reflect food waste.

James Rackham
Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

January 2020

Archive Catalogue of Hand Collected Animal bone from Ramsey – ECB6049

site	context	species	bone	No.	wt	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preservation
ECB6049	102	CSZ	LBF	1	13	F								MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT- POSS FEM	4
ECB6049	102	BOS	ATL	1	41	R								RIGHT SIDE OF ATLAS - 2 PIECES	4
ECB6049	108	CAP	HC	1	48	R		1				MAXBDIAM-42.8 MINBDIAM-29.5		BASAL HALF CORE- 2 PIECES-MALE	4
ECB6049	108	JKDAW	HUM	1	1	L								DISTAL END & SHAFT	4
ECB6049	109	UNI	SKL	2	6	F								INDET CRANIAL FRAGS	4
ECB6049	109	SSZ	TIB	1	4	R								ANT MIDSHAFT FRAGMENT-OVCA?	4
ECB6049	109	CHIK	TMT	1	2	R								PART PROX & DISTAL END- SPUR PAD-JUV?	4
ECB6049	110	CSZ	UNI	1	3	F								PROX FRAG SCAPULA BLADE	4
ECB6049	110	OVCA	RAD	1	11	L	PF	137		DG				PART PROX END & MOST SHAFT-DISTAL END CHEWED	4
ECB6049	110	BOS	SCP	1	35	L		5	CH	DG?				DISTAL FRAG BLADE & SMALL PART COLUMN- CHOPPED VENTRALLY- WITH TOOTH MARKS	4
ECB6049	110	BOS	SCP	1	61	L		23	CH					PART NECK WITH PART GLENOID & BASE SPINE- CHOPPED VENTRALLY THRU DISTAL BLADE	4

site	context	species	bone	No.	wt	side	fusion	zone	butchery	gnawing	toothwear	measurement	path	comment	preservation
ECB6049	110	BOS	MAN	1	16	R		2						DIASTEMAL FRAGMENT	4
ECB6049	110	BOS	TIB	1	39	L								POST-DISTAL SHAFT FRAGMENT	4
ECB6049	110	OVCA	HUM	1	35	L	PNDJ	567890				L1-124 SD 14.2 BT-33.4 HT-20.5		DISTAL END AND SHAFT-PROX UNFUSED	4
ECB6049	110	EQU	SKL	1	73	L		0						MAXILLA FRAGMENT WITH PM4 - 10 PIECES	4
ECB6049	110	EQU	HUM	1	114	L		50				SD-30.7		SHAFT WITH 3RD TROCHANTER AND DISTAL SHAFT- 2 PIECES	
ECB6049	206	BOS	RIB	1	42	R			CH					2 THIRDS SHAFT- 2 PIECES-DISTAL END CHOPPED	4
ECB6049	206	BOS	TRV	1	18	F								ANT FRAGMENT NEURAL ARCH	4
ECB6049	108	HELIX	SHELL	1	0	W								ERODED SHELL <i>Helix aspersa</i>	4
ECB6049	110	MUSS	VALVE	1	3	F								VALVE FRAG - 60%	4
ECB6049	207	OYS	UV	2	14	W								UPPER VALVES	4
ECB6049	207	OYS	LV	1	12	W								LOWER VALVE	4

APPENDIX - THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTANCY

Key to codes used in the cataloguing of animal bones and marine shells

SPECIES:

SPECIES CODE			SPECIES CODE	
MAN	human		DOVE	Dove species
EQU	Horse		FER	Feral dove
EQSZ	Horse size		PART	Partridge
BOS	Cattle		SWAN?	Swan?
BOSL	Cattle-large		WOOD	Woodcock
CSZ	cattle size		CURL	Curlew
SUS	Pig		WADE	wader
OVCA	sheep or goat		CROK	Crow or rook
OVI	Sheep		CORV	Crow or rook
CRA	Goat		JACK	Jackdaw
SSZ	sheep size		OWL	Owl indet.
FEL	Cat		BUZZ	Buzzard
CAN	Dog		GULL	Gull sp.
AUR	Aurochs			
AUR?	Aurochs?		TURD	Turdidae
CER	red deer		BIRD	Identifiable but not id'd
DAM	Fallow deer		PASS	Passerine
CLS	roe deer		LBIRD	Large bird
LEP	Hare		UNIB	Bird indet
ORC	Rabbit			
LAG	Lagomorph		FROG	Frog
CARN	Carnivore		FRTO	Frog or toad
FOX	Fox			
POLE	Polecat/ferret			
WEA	weasel		GAD	Gadid, cod family
BADG	Badger		LING	Ling
SEAL	seal		HADD	Haddock
SQU?	Squirrel?		RAY	ray
BEAV	Beaver		FISH	Fish
ROD	Rodent		UNIF	Fish indet
RAT	Rat			
AGR	Field vole		OYS	oyster
ARV	Water vole		COK	Cockle
MUS	House mouse		MUSS	Common Mussel
SORA	Common shrew		WHELK	Common whelk
MOLE	Mole		HEL	Helix aspersa
SMA	Small mammal		HELIX	Helix sp.
UNI	Unknown		HELN	Helix nemoralis
			SNAIL	snail
CHIK	Chicken			
CHKZ	Chicken size		FOSS	Fossil bone
GOOS	Goose, dom			
GOOS?	Goose, dom.?			
GSSZ	Goose size			
GSSP	Goose species			
GOSZ	Goose, poss. Wild			
DUCK	Duck, domestic sp.			
DUCK?	Duck?			
DKSP	Duck species			
DSP	Duck species indet			
MALL	Duck, dom.			
TURK	Turkey			

BONE ELEMENT:

BONE CODE		BONE CODE	
SKEL	skeleton	SCP	scapula
SKL	skull	HUM	humerus
ANT	antler	RAD	radius
ANT?	antler?	ULN	ulna
ATT	antler tine	RUL	radius and ulna
HC	horn core	C/T	carpus/tarsus
TEMP	temporal	C23	carpus 2+3
FRNT	frontal	CAR	carpus
PET	petrous	CPA	accessory carpal
PAR	parietal	CPI	intermediate carpal
OCIP	occipital	CPR	radial carpal
ZYG	zygomatic	CPU	ulnal carpal
NAS	nasal	MTC	metacarpus
PMX	premaxilla	MC1-5	metacarpus 1-5
MAN	mandible	MTP	metapodial
MNT	mandibular tooth	MPL	lateral metapodial
DLI	deciduous lower incisor	INN	innominate
DLPM1-4	deciduous lower premolar 1-4	ILM	ilium
LI	lower incisor (and 1-3)	PUB	pubis
LC	lower canine	ISH	ischium
LPM1-LPM4	lower premolar 1-4	FEM	femur
LM1-LM3	lower molar 1 - molar 3	PAT	patella
MAX	maxilla	TIB	tibia
DUI	deciduous upper incisor	FIB	fibula
UI	upper incisor (1-3)	LML	lateral malleolus
UC	upper canine	AST	astragalus
DUPM	deciduous upper premolar	CAL	calcaneum
DUPM1-4	deciduous upper premolar 1-4	CQ	centroquartal
UPM1-UPM4	upper premolar 1-4	TAR3	tarsus 3
UM1-UM3	upper molar 1 - molar 3	T4	tarsus 4
MXT	maxillary tooth	TAR	tarsus
TTH	indeterminate tooth	MTT	metatarsus
INC	incisor	MT1-5	metatarsus 1-5
HYD	hyoid	MTL	lateral metatarsus
ATL	atlas	SES	sesamoid
AXI	axis	PH1	1st phalanx
CEV	cervical vertebra (and 3-7)	PH2	2nd phalanx
TRV	thoracic vertebra (and 1-13)	PH3	3rd phalanx
LMV	lumbar vertebra	PHL	lateral phalanx
SAC	sacrum	LBF	long bone
CDV	caudal vertebra	UNI	unidentified
VER	vertebra		
STN	sternum	CLV	clavicle
CC	costal cartilage	COR	coracoid
RIB1	first rib (2 etc)	CMP	carpo-metacarpus
RIB	rib	CMC	carpo-metacarpus
		WPH1-3	wing phalanges 1-3
URO	urostyle	WPH	wing phalanx
		LSA	lumbosacrale
DENT	dentary		
CLEI	cleithrum		
RAY	fin ray		
SHELL	shell		
UV	upper valve		
VAL	valve		

NUMBER: number of fragments in the entry

SIDE: W - whole L - left side R - right side F - fragment

FUSION: records the fused/unfused condition of the epiphyses
P - proximal; D - distal; E - acetabulum; N - unfused; F - fused; C - cranial; A - posterior

ZONES: records the part of the bone present.
The key to each zone on each bone is on page 4

BUTCHERY: records whether a bone has been chopped (CH), cut (KN), worked (W), burnt (C)

GNAWING: records if a bone has been gnawed by dogs (DG), cats (FEL) or rodents (RG)

TOOTH WEAR - Codes are those used in Grant, A. 1982 The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B.Wilson, C.Grigson and S.Payne (eds) *Ageing and sexing animal bones from Archaeological sites*, 91-108.

Teeth are labelled as follows in the tooth wear column:

Deciduous	Permanent
f ldpm2/dupm2	F lpm2/upm2
g ldpm3/dupm3	G lpm3/upm4
h ldpm4/dupm4	H lpm4/upm4
	I lm1/um1
	J lm2/um2
	K lm3/um3

MEASUREMENTS :Any measurements are those listed in A.Von den Driesch (1976) *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*, Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum, Harvard, USA

Some measurements have been taken on juveniles. Measurements marked L1 are the greatest length of long bones lacking one unfused epiphysis – the measurement being taken from the epiphyseal junction. Measurements marked L2 are the greatest length of the long bones between epiphyseal junctions when both epiphyses are unfused.

PATHOLOGICAL: A 'P' indicates that the bone fragment carries a pathology

COMMENTS: This may include a short description of the fragments, any pathologies, butchery or gnawing evidence

PRESERVATION: records the condition of the bone in the following manner

- 1- enamel only surviving
- 2- bone very severely pitted and thinned, tending to break up; teeth with surface erosion and loss of cementum and dentine
- 3- surface pitting and erosion of bone, some loss of cementum and dentine on teeth
- 4- surface of bone intact, loss of organic component, material chalky, calcined or burnt
- 5- bone in good condition, probably with some organic component

ZONES - codes used to define the zones on each bone

SKULL	1. paroccipital process	METACARPUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MC3	
	2. occipal condyle		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MC4	
	3. intercornual protuberance		3. medial distal condyle, MC3	
	4. external acoustic meatus		4. lateral distal condyle, MC4	
	5. frontal sinus		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	6. ectorbitale		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	7. entorbitale			
	8. temporal articular facet		FIRST PHALANX	1. proximal epiphysis
	9. facial tuber			2. distal articular facet
	0. infraorbital foramen			
MANDIBLE	1. Symphyseal surface	INNOMINATE	1. tuber coxae	
	2. diastema		2. tuber sacrale + scar	
	3. lateral diastemal foramen		3. body of illium with dorso-medial foramen	
	4. coronoid process		4. iliopubic eminence	
	5. condylar process		5. acetabular fossa	
	6. angle		6. symphyseal branch of pubis	
	7. anterior dorsal ascending ramus posterior M3		7. body of ischium	
	8. mandibular foramen		8. ischial tuberosity	
		9. depression for medial tendon of rectus femoris		
VERTEBRA	1. spine	FEMUR	1. head	
	2. anterior central epiphysis		2. trochanter major	
	3. posterior central epiphysis		3. trochanter minor	
	4. centrum		4. supracondyloid fossa	
	5. neural arch		5. distal medial condyle	
SCAPULA	1. supraglenoid tubercle		6. lateral distal condyle	
	2. glenoid cavity		7. distal trochlea	
	3. origin of the distal spine			
	4. tuber of spine	TIBIA	1. proximal medial condyle	
	5. posterior of neck with foramen		2. proximal lateral condyle	
	6. cranial angle of blade		3. intercondylar eminence	
	7. caudal angle of blade		4. proximal posterior nutrient foramen	
	5. medial malleolus			
	6. lateral aspect of distal articulation			
	7. distal pre-epiphyseal portion of the diaphysis			
HUMERUS	1. head	CALCANEUM	1. calcaneal tuber	
	2. greater tubercle		2. sustentaculum tali	
	3. lesser tubercle		3. processus anterior	
	4. intertuberal groove			
	5. deltoid tuberosity			
	6. dorsal angle of olecranon fossa			
	7. capitulum			
	8. trochlea	METATARSUS	1. medial facet of proximal articulation, MT3.	
	9. coronoid fossa		2. lateral facet of proximal articulation, MT4	
	0. teres tubercle		3. medial distal condyle, MT3	
			4. lateral distal condyle, MT4	
RADIUS	1. medial half of proximal epiphysis		5. anterior distal groove and foramen	
	2. lateral half of proximal epiphysis		6. medial or lateral distal condyle	
	3. posterior proximal ulna scar and foramen			
	4. medial half of distal epiphysis			
	5. lateral half of distal epiphysis			
	6. distal shaft immediately above distal epiphysis			
ULNA	1. olecranon tuberosity			
	2. trochlear notch- semilunaris			
	3. lateral coronoid process			
	4. distal epiphysis			

APPENDIX D
Other Finds Report

Appendix D

The Finds

By Gary Taylor

Artefacts recovered during investigations at High Street, Ramsey, Cambridgeshire (ECB6049), are reported, below.

The finds were examined and reported in accordance with ClfA guidelines (2014).

The Glass

Introduction

Two pieces of glass weighing a total of 148g were recovered.

Condition

Although naturally fragile, the glass is in good condition. Both pieces exhibit significant iridescent decay.

Results

Context	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context date
102	Green bottle, moderate kick-up, heavy iridescence	2	148	18 th century

Provenance

The glass was recovered from a probable buried topsoil (102).

Discussion

Two fragments of bottle, not connecting but probably from the same vessel, were recovered. This is probably from an 18th century wine bottle.

Potential and Recommendations

Other than providing some limited dating evidence the glass is of limited potential and can be discarded.

Metal Finds

Introduction

Three metal finds weighing a total of 64g were recovered.

Results

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt(g)	Context date
107	Lead alloy?	Mount. Sub-rectangular sheet, 16mm x 17mm x 3mm, slightly concave sides, 5 rivet sockets in one face	1	7	Post-medieval?
110	lead alloy?	Possible ferrule or chape. Conical item of sheet, folded over at narrow terminal. Joining edges of sheet fastened with green, cuprous-looking, material. Squashed, in 2 linking pieces	2	57	Post-medieval? Perhaps 16 th century?
Totals			3	64	

Provenance

The metal items were recovered from a possible interface deposit between a potential surface and subsoil (107), and a possible layer at the edge of a surface (110).

Discussion

A lead mount from (107) is likely to be late post-medieval. One face bears sockets for 5 rivets – the rivets do not pass through the sheet. Its function, however, is unclear.

A possible staff ferrule or perhaps a scabbard chape was also recovered. Tapering, this was perhaps originally conical (if a ferrule) though is now squashed flat, the object is made of lead sheet. Ferrules are used to protect the ends of shafts, handles or other items and the use of the soft metal, lead alloy, is unusual for this protective purpose. However, scabbard chapes of lead-tin alloys are known, with examples dating from the early post-medieval period, the late 15th and 16th centuries, though the fashion for chapes seems to have ended by about 1600 (Egan 2005, 192-3). However, the function and identification of the object is uncertain.

Potential and Recommendations

The metal items are of limited-moderate potential. Both are of uncertain specific function and identity but are likely to be post-medieval in date.

No further work is required. The material should be retained for archive storage.

Context Date Summary

The dating in the following table is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Spot dates

Cxt	Date (Century AD)	Comments
102	18 th century	Based on glass
107	post-medieval?	Based on 1 metal
110	post-medieval?	Based on 1 metal

References

CIfA, 2014 *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*

Egan, G, 2005 *Material culture in London in an age of transition Tudor and Stuart period finds c1450-c1700 from excavations at riverside sites in Southwark*, MoLAS Monograph 19

Abbreviations

CIfA Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

No. Number

Wt(g) Weight (grams)

APPENDIX E
OASIS SUMMARY FORM

Appendix A. Context Summary

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
100	1	Very hard white concrete surface. 0.20m thick.	Concrete plinth for building previously demolished
101	1	Firm red, yellow, white mix rubble with brick and concrete. 0.46m thick	Made ground, likely deposited for construction of concrete plinth (100)
102	1	Friable dark greyish brown silty clay mix with some peat, containing occasional charcoal flecks and pottery fragments. 0.32m thick	Possible original site topsoil, now buried
103	1	Somewhat friable dark greyish black peaty silty clay, containing occasional charcoal flecks. Not excavated	Layer with some peat character to it
104	1	Hard light grey white limestone (?) with gritty mortar. Over 2m long, over 1.68m wide and over 0.05m thick	Possible mortar and stone surface
105	1	Friable mid orangey yellow gritty silty clay, containing occasional amounts of small stone. 0.2m thick	Lens of lighter material between (102) and (111)
106 (Voided)	1	Voided.	Voided context.
107	1	Loose mid greyish white silty clay mix with chalk. 0.1m thick	Possible interface material above (104) mixing with subsoil. Possibly same as (111)
108	1	Subcircular, over 0.9m long, 1.06m wide and 0.22m deep, with somewhat steep sides and possibly a concave base? Not fully exposed	Cut of pit
109	1	Loose dark grey silty clay containing occasional charcoal flecks and shell fragments, over 0.9m long, 1.06m wide and 0.22m thick.	Fill of pit [108]
110	1	Loose dark orangey brown peaty silty clay. Unexcavated	Possible layer on edge of surface (104), located on north-west corner of Trench 1
111	1	Firm dark grey silty clay. Unexcavated	Possibly buried subsoil layer ? Same as (107) ?
112	1	Firm dark grey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks and patches of dark greyish yellow silt clay	Garden soil/Subsoil. Layer exposed through most of the base of Trench 1. Possibly formed by similar process to (107) and (111)
113	1	Cut of feature	Cut containing surface (104)
200	2	Very hard white concrete surface. C.0.2m thick	Concrete plinth for building still standing at time of evaluation on the south-east part of site
201	2	Loose dark greyish brown sandy silt, containing occasional amounts of gravel, CBM fragments and small stone. C.0.04m thick	Layer forming ground surface of site
202	2	Friable mid to light greyish yellow gravelly sand, containing occasional amounts of CBM fragments, and stone. 0.26m thick	Modern made ground layer
203	2	Friable red clay. C.0.06m thick	Red clay deposit? Surface?
204	2	Loose black silty sand containing rare amounts of charcoal flecks. C.0.04m thick	Layer sealed by (203)

Appendix A. Context Summary

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
205	2	Friable dark grey silty sand, containing frequent amounts of CBM and pottery fragments and stone. 0.38m thick	Modern made ground layer. Possibly dating from c.19 th , the same as development on site
206	2	Soft dark grey sandy silt, containing rare amounts of charcoal flecks and frequent amounts of orange fleck inclusions, mostly located towards the south-west corner of Trench 2, possibly formed during mineralization processes. 0.38m thick	Possibly original topsoil layer of site, now buried
207	2	Moderate somewhat soft in parts dark grey silty clay, containing occasional to frequent charcoal flecks. 0.46m thick	Possible buried subsoil?
208	2	Linear ditch, over 1.6m long, 0.76m wide and 0.72m deep, with steep sides and flat base	Modern cut for water supply pipe to building on the south-west corner of site
209	2	Friable, somewhat loose in parts, dark grey silty sand mix with light greyish yellow gravelly sand, containing occasional CBM and pottery fragments. Over 1.6m long, 0.76m wide and 0.72m thick	Fill of modern cut [208]
210	2	Linear ditch, over 1.6m long, c.0.42m wide and 0.76m deep. With vertical sides and flat base	Cut for placement of a brick culvert
211	2	Brick culvert, built with reddish brick, over 1.6m long, c.0.4m wide and c. 0.38m thick	Culvert contained in cut [210]
212	2	Loose mix dark brownish grey silty sand and dark grey sandy silt, containing occasional amounts of CBM fragments and stone. C. 0.38m thick	Filled of Cut [210]. Backfilled after culvert placement
213	2	Partially exposed cut feature, over 2.2m long, 1.6m wide, 0.36m deep. Possible gradual sides and flat base	Possible feature located at south-west corner of Trench 2
214	2	Soft mid grey sandy silt, containing very rare amounts of charcoal flecks and frequent amounts of orange fleck inclusions, possibly produced during natural processes of mineralization. 0.58m thick. Very similar to (206), and the orange fleck inclusions present in both features were either the result of the same or very similar processes	Possible fill of feature [213]
215	2	Soft mid grey fine sandy silt. 0.22m thick. Very similar to fill (114), apart from being finer sandy silt and the absence of any inclusions	Possible fill of feature [213]
216	2	Peat layer, 0.16m thick and located at an elevation of 2.65m OD	Latest peat layer exposed on Trench 2
217	2	Firm to moderate dark grey clayey silt, 0.12m thick	Natural deposit, possibly the interface between peat (216) and clay (218)
218	2	Firm light grey clay. 0.08m thick	Natural deposit, possibly produced by a period of marine transgression?
219	2	Peat layer, 0.14m thick and located at an elevation 2.32m OD	Earliest peat layer exposed on Trench 2, sealed by clay layer (218)
220	2	Friable, somewhat firm in parts, dark brownish black sandy clay, containing natural waterlogged wood. At least 0.14m thick	Natural deposit. Earliest layer exposed on Trench 2

Appendix A. Context Summary

Context	Trench	Description	Interpretation
221	2	Linear in trench, over 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep. With gradual sides and concave base	Foundation cut for building present on east part of site
222	2	Hard mortar, brick and stone foundation	Foundation present on cut [221]
223	2	Friable dark grey silty clay mixed with lighter materials, containing occasional brick fragments and stone	Fill of foundation cut [221]. Backfill after building of foundation

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OASIS ID: withamar1-383822

Project details

Project name	Land to Rear of 87a High Street, Ramsey, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	This report outlines the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation undertaken by Witham Archaeology on land to the rear of 87a High Street, Ramsey. The project was commissioned by Mr. Robert Hodder in compliance with a condition of planning permission relating to the proposed demolition of existing buildings and the construction of a three bedroom dwelling. Information provided in the county's Historic Environment Record indicates that the site lies in an area of significant archaeological potential, within the historic core of Ramsey and 120m to the west of the site of Ramsey Abbey which is protected as a Scheduled Monument. Nearby investigations have identified stratified deposits of medieval and post-medieval date. The trial trenching revealed two made ground layers, one very recent and the other likely related to 19th century development on the site, which sealed the original topsoil. A mortar and stone surface was exposed in the northern part of site, truncated by a possible medieval or post medieval pit. A sequence of peat and clay was also exposed in a sondage excavated in the southern part of the site.
Project dates	Start: 21-11-2019 End: 22-11-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB6049 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	18/02504/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Site status (other)	N/a
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH None
Monument type	CONSTRUCTION TRENCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METAL OBJECT Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors", "Photographic Survey", "Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure", "Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)

Prompt Planning condition
 Position in the planning process After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country England
 Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE RAMSEY Land to the Rear of 87a High Street, Ramsey, Cambridgeshire
 Postcode PE26 1BZ
 Study area 700 Square metres
 Site coordinates TL 2889 8504 52.447707793949 -0.103270693897 52 26 51 N 000 06 11 W Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 2.25m Max: 3.1m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Witham Archaeology Ltd
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator Dale Trimble
 Project director/manager Dale Trimble
 Project supervisor Filipe Santos
 Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner
 Name of sponsor/funding body Mr. Robbert Hodder

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store
 Physical Archive ID ECB 6049
 Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal"
 Digital Archive recipient Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Store
 Digital Archive ID ECB6049
 Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey"
 Digital Media available "Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
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 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Report","Section"

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