

THE CLAUSTRAL RANGE EXCAVATIONS OF GLASTONBURY ABBEY

BACKGROUND

The excavated buildings of the claustral range covered in this report include the chapter house, dormitory, reredorter, refectory, monks' kitchen and a few fragmentary remains which were attributed to an infirmary range. The cloisters are dealt with in a separate report [D:1790]. In 1957 Radford identified the Saxon bank and ditch, which became known as the vallum monasterii, extending from north-south beneath the medieval chapter house (Radford 1981, 114). This is thought to have formed the eastern enclosure of the pre-Conquest monastery, with no pre-12th century remains found outside (to the east of) the ditch. Consisting of a substantial ditch with internal bank to the west, Radford had established in the previous year that this feature ran through the north transept. The vallum was thought to date to before c 700 on the basis of stratigraphic relationships with the supposed late Saxon glass furnaces (Radford 1958, 166), although no dating evidence was retrieved from the bank. To the north of the abbey precinct, the 1978 excavations in Silver Street located a bank and ditch on the same alignment with a western return and a possible entranceway in the north-east corner (Eliis 1983). Calibrated radiocarbon dates for stakes and twigs in these ditches produced a 7th century date, only slightly later than Radford's original suggestion. A large ditch measuring 2m deep and defined by a bank was investigated during the new visitor centre excavations between 1987 and 1993 (Woods 1995, 64-5). It was suggested that this may represent the northern element of the early monastic enclosure, and although a construction date was not shown the ditch was backfilled during the late 12th to mid 13th century (ibid). The eastern third of the medieval chapter was located outside of the ditch and the western area lay within the early monastic enclosure.

According to B's Life of St Dunstan, Abbot Dunstan (c 944 -57+) instigated building works adapting the claustral layout in accordance with the Rule of St Benedict. The only evidence concerning the location of the pre-Romanesque chapter house is found in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, which records that in 1083 Abbot Turstin's men attacked the monks in the chapter house, some of whom then fled into the church (Radford 1981, 110 and 121). This suggests that the Saxon chapter house was close to the church, although none of the pre-Conquest remains have as yet been equated with this building. Neither has the chapter house for the first Romanesque church been identified (begun by Abbot Turstin, 1078-1100), if indeed it was ever built. Turstin's incomplete work was swept away by a larger church begun by his successor, Herlewin (1101-20). This was completed by Henry de Blois, abbot from 1126-71, who added claustral and ancillary buildings including the chapter house, cloister, refectory, dormitory, lavatory and a bell-tower (ibid, 125). The west wall of the 12th century chapter house was coterminous with the contemporary east wall of the east cloister walk and was aligned with the west wall of the dormitory to the south. The 12th century refectory was located on the south side of the contemporary cloister, although the north wall ran along the later south cloister walk and therefore was positioned further north than the later building (see South Cloister report). Beneath the medieval dormitory was evidence of metal working said to superficially resemble the Saxon glass furnaces (Radford 1960, 251).

A recent survey has confirmed that as a result of the 1184 fire the cloisters and lower parts of the nave wall were re-built between 1184 and 1189, although the first replacement cloister appears to have been wooden (Sampson 2004, 16). Although the north and west walks of this cloister were in the same location as the 12th-century phase, the east and south walks were slightly further out resulting in a larger cloister (Radford 1981, 131). As noted by Radford, this new arrangement would have required the chapter house and consequently also the dormitory to have been repositioned slightly to the east, while the refectory would be further south and east. The monks' kitchen was located to the south of the west end of the refectory. While these buildings are not specifically mentioned, Adam of Domesday records that Abbot Ralph Fitzstephen (1184-1189) repaired all the offices of the monastery.

Re-building work ceased following the death of the principal patron, Henry II, in 1189 and the subsequent death of Ralph (Carley 1996, 24). The energies of the new king, Richard I, were directed towards the Crusades, and conflict within the monastery during the early 13th century caused considerable disruption. Consequently, building work became sporadic to the extent that the western five bays of the nave were not completed and consecrated until the early 14th century (Sampson 2004, 12). There is no documentary record of any building works on the chapter house until Abbot Monington (1342-1374) and subsequently Abbot Chinnock (1374-1420), who also renewed the earlier (wooden?) cloister with an elaborate stone structure (Sampson 2004, 31).

This report covers the scope of the historic excavations within the buildings of the claustral range outlined at the start of this report, including research objectives where specified, preceding detailed analysis of Radford's excavation records in relation to the earlier excavations. The archaeological records for the early monastic enclosure, the vallum monasterii, are considered in detail together with a reassessment of the evidence for industrial activity previously attributed to the late Saxon period. The layout of the 12th century range is presented in relation to the post-fire buildings, including indications of internal arrangements where present. The extent of the 1184 fire will be evaluated followed by archaeological evidence for episodes of repair, re-building, enhancement and ultimately post-Dissolution destruction.

Historical Excavations

Bond

Chapter House

The chapter house area was partially excavated by Bond in 1910 resulting in the identification of most of the plan, including the central western entranceway (see A on Claustral Report plan) and the slype (see B on Claustral Report plan) between the north wall and the south transept (Bond 1910, 72-5). Two building phases were recorded, with the foundation trenches of side walls of an older and smaller building (first phase) located just within the later walls (second phase). With little evidence available regarding the layout of Herlewin's church, Bond thought it unlikely that Henry de Blois's chapter house corresponded with the location of the post-fire chapter house (ibid, 74). On this basis, it was suggested that the remains observed of the first phase chapter house were those of a late 12th century building, post-dating the fire. The second phase was proposed to be a 14th century rebuild, consisting of a western half built by Monington, followed by an eastern half built by Chinnock.

The eastern wall of the chapter house was not identified. However, 20.8m from the east cloister wall (from the face of the stone bench), was a foundation projecting southwards from the north wall by 0.61m, with the remains of ashlar work above measuring 1.09m wide (see C on Claustral Report plan). To the east of this projection were ragged remnants of a stone foundation "covering a wide and at present indefinite area" (ibid). Also, at 23.67m from the west there was a slight indication of a 2.44m wide cross wall, identified as the eastern wall of the first phase chapter house (see D on Claustral Report plan) although this was reinterpreted in 1935 (see below). The foundation cut of the north wall was seen to continue beyond this at c 26.11m east of the cloister. A trench was also excavated longitudinally from east-west, and at 20.27m from the face of the cloister wall a foundation was noted. This coincides with the eastern edge of the Saxon ditch recorded by Radford in trench CH1.

Bond suggested that the 14th century rebuilding executed by the two successive abbots may imply an actual structural division, perhaps consisting of a lobby or antechamber (ibid). On this basis it was thought probable that the dormitory extended beyond both the eastern side of the cloister and the western side of the chapter house, providing an ante-chamber to the actual chapter house to the east (the location of the dormitory was not known at the time). Bond was consequently inclined to believe that the remains of the cross wall at 20.80m from the face of the stone bench was a 14th century partition wall between vestibule and chapter house. Traces of another, possibly earlier, vestibule of smaller dimensions were found in the east-west longitudinal trench, the foundation of which lay 5.49m east of the cloister wall. Finds consisted of a sculpted fragment of a gloved, life-sized hand and a few fragments of floor tile, although it was noted that the latter was incomparable to the tiles recovered from the cloister which were remarkable in number and variety (ibid, 75).

Dormitory and possible Infirmary site

A drain aligned east-west and a watercourse were discovered during the 1910 explorations. Located beneath the floor level of the dormitory vestibule at the north end of the dormitory (see E on Claustral Report plan), this continued eastwards where it connected with a drain. The adjacent fragments of masonry (see F on Claustral Report plan) were attributed to the infirmary, although the site has never been securely identified, and the east wall of the dormitory was also exposed together with other foundations on the east side of the refectory (Excavation Committee's report for 1914. Part i, 76-80).

Refectory and Monks' Kitchen

Bond's investigations reached the traditionally accepted site of the refectory in 1910-11 (Bond 1911, 74). From Hollar's description of the ruins, Bond surmised that a portion of the south wall had remained upstanding with a range of tall windows (see PID [I:18989]). The sub-vault was also still intact until the early 18th century when contemporary accounts describe a large vault from the abbey being demolished and re-used as a local market-house (ibid, 75), although the market has never been identified. The foundations clearly remained visible for a long time as depicted on a rather inaccurate 18th century plan by Stukely and Phelps (ibid).

Bond first uncovered stonework in the north-east corner of the vault. The north wall measured c 2.44m thick at a level of between 0.61-0.91m below the horizon of the medieval cloister floor (ibid). The vault was mostly excavated in 1910 and completed in 1911 (Bond 1911, pl 2) exposing in situ

masonry and numerous fragments of architectural stone (see PID [I:18987] and [I:18988]). The ashlar face of the vault wall remained predominantly intact on the south side and the east wall was well preserved (see PID [I:18989]) measuring about 1.22m high with plaster on the ashlar face. Bond's detailed observations noted the presence of re-used 12th century stonework and a lead pipe in the south-west corner of the vault course which Bond thought supplied drinking water for the abbot (ibid, 82-3). Bond suggested that the thickness of the north-west corner of the refectory vault indicated a tower possibly containing a flight of stairs connecting the vault and the refectory above (ibid).

The plan of the monks' kitchen was also recovered in 1911. Traces of another building were found on the south side with evidence of an old kitchen midden with fragments of chicken-bones, eggshells, pikes' bones and oyster shells indicating the presence of a kitchen midden (ibid, 82).

Peers, Clapham and Horne

Dormitory and Reredorter

With the excavations of the church supposedly completed, the object of the 1932 excavations was to discover further remains of the monastic buildings. With only the refectory undercroft and a few pieces of wall and the foundation of a central pillar indicating the site of the dormitory, very little was known about these structures. Bond had identified the north end of the dormitory allowing the side walls to be followed southwards. Limited funds meant that the interior of the dormitory was not explored, with the exception of the first 9m, in favour of exposing the footprint, although this was recognised as being an unsatisfactory methodology (Peers et al 1932, 109). The side walls were exposed for a distance of 31.7m, and a longitudinal trench along the centre of the dormitory exposed the bases (or the robber trenches) of the central pillars. The re-use of Norman stone was noted in later walls, including a fairly perfect capital of plain design (ibid, 110).

In 1933 the side walls were uncovered for a further 21.36m where the southern wall of the dormitory was reached. To the south of this the reredorter foundations became apparent. This comprised a large open sewer which was fairly intact in places, measuring 1.22m wide and with high sloping sides made of stone slabs. This was thought to have channelled water brought down from Chalice Well (Peers et al 1933, 30).

The 1934 season saw the completion of the dormitory and reredorter excavations, although the north wall of the dormitory remained uncertain due to significant disturbance which it was hoped would be clarified by the chapter house excavations. The dormitory foundations were 1.83m thick with external buttresses every 3.05m and central piers at 4.27m intervals with corresponding internal buttresses (Peers et al 1934, 32). It was noted that this was an identical arrangement to the refectory, with the exception that there was no trace of vaulting ribs found in the dormitory area or tufa for filling in the ribs. This was thought to perhaps indicate a wooden roof as opposed to a stone one. The presence of stone foundations for undercroft partitions was also noted (ibid).

Further explorations of the reredorter in the same year established a rectangular building measuring 24.38m by 12.19m externally (ibid, 33). The lower level was filled with solid clay within a retaining wall with a rough internal face, while the floor of the reredorter would have been located at the same level as the dormitory floor. The stone-lined open channel or sewer ran around the outside of

the inner retaining wall; to the east the stone channel was intact for about 12.19m, beyond which considerable ground disturbance indicated the removal of stone. The channels on either side of the reredorter reunited to the west as a single stone-covered sewer which was intact for c 9.14m, subsequently passing near the abbots' lodgings and the abbots' kitchen, leading eventually to the mill-stream and the River Brue (ibid, 34). Finds retrieved from the clay filling of the low level of the reredorter included sherds of Roman pottery, a Roman ear-scoop, and two undefined iron implements. Other finds recovered from the reredorter included a half-groat of Henry VIII, an imitation of an English penny of Henry VIII, a crowbar (interpreted as relating to the demolition of the building), a small pair of brass compasses found in 1933, and numerous tile fragments, some of which enabled the reconstruction of fragmentary patterns (ibid, 35).

Chapter House

The published account (Peers et al 1935, 258) of the short excavation overseen by Wedlake consists of one paragraph, although further investigations were planned with publication to follow (Peers et al 1935, 258). Interestingly, the justification for this season of excavation was based upon a misinterpretation of Bond's report. It was believed that Bond had only found the vestibule for the chapter house. In fact, Bond clearly states that he found the chapter house to the east of the vestibule. A letter of 1935 reveals that Bond was disgruntled by this mistake, stating that he had certainly found the chapter house (GLSGA:1998/66/1 A898). Fortunately, a detailed plan of Wedlake's excavations survives, with stone-by-stone drawings of the eastern end, although this was at least partly conjectural as an elevated photograph of the excavations shows very little surviving masonry (see PID [I:18973]). The photograph confirms there were trenches following the south and east walls of the chapter house (the north wall is not in the photograph), and also shows a wide trench running from north-south across the centre of the chapter house seemingly down to the level of the mortar bedding for the floor. There is a complete set of unpublished notes from the excavations of 1928-1939 (GLSGA:1995/103/115 A500), which are an important source of evidence and form the basis of the summary below. These notes confirm that the stone-by-stone plan is partly conjectural, as they record both the chasing of foundation cuts and actual masonry.

The excavations began where the east wall of the dormitory vestibule met the supposed south wall of the chapter house (see G on Claustal Report plan). The buttressed south wall was chased eastwards, with one buttress and a few separate pieces of masonry c 1m to the south, thought to represent additional supports to the south wall. The east side of the east wall foundation was revealed, with eastward projecting buttresses at both corners and a further northward projecting buttress of the north-east corner. A line of walling ran north from the eastern side of this buttress. The north wall was found to have one buttress corresponding to that on the south wall. Part of the interior space was cleared down to clay, at what appeared to be floor level. A trench 1.07m wide and 11.58m long was excavated eastwards from the centre of the east wall of the chapter house, although nothing was found. A drain was discovered at the north-east corner of the chapter house. A small chamber built of dressed Douling stone was found in close proximity to the south-east corner, thought to have been for water storage during construction work. The only statement concerning artefacts was that there was very little found.

By comparing the 1935 plan with the location of Bond's excavations it is clear that, ironically, Bond had almost reached the eastern termination of the later chapter house. His cross wall at 23.67m is

now confirmed as the inner face of the eastern wall of the later chapter house (see D on Claustral Report plan), and the north face he was chasing was most likely that of the north-east buttress. It is also apparent that the cross wall at 20.8m was the southern projection from the north wall shown on Wedlake's plan (see C on Claustral Report plan). This was identified by Radford as belonging to the earlier chapter house (Radford 1981, fig 7).

South of refectory and monks' kitchen

The 1937 excavations to the south of the refectory began near the eastern end of the building. Earlier explorations indicated the presence of two walls 3.05m apart running south from the refectory undercroft for a distance of 7.62m. In between was a solid slope 1.83m wide leading up to ground level (see H on Claustral Report plan), which appears to have been one of the entrances to the undercroft. The easternmost excavation trench continued for 33.53m to the south, but the only discoveries comprised a small and apparently unimportant lean-to building abutting against the west side of the dormitory at its southern end.

A 61m trench aligned east-west was excavated at a distance of 21m from the south side of the refectory (Peers et al 1937, 153). The monks' kitchen was discovered and thoroughly explored near the western end of the trench where it was traced to within 11m of the refectory. The plan had an external measurement of 15m, enclosing an inner wall measuring 3m square; the latter was situated beneath the kitchen floor and was thought to have been the sleeper for piers supporting a vaulted roof comparable to Ely (ibid, 154). A wall running towards the refectory may have been part of the corridor connecting the two buildings and may have formed part of the abbots' lodging and guest house (see I on Claustral Report plan), an interpretation confirmed by subsequent excavations.

Radford

In 1957 Radford embarked upon a short season of excavations in the chapter house with a total of eight trenches, briefly recorded in a short yearly report (Radford 1958, 165-169). The purpose of the main east-west trench through the centre of the chapter house was to find more of the enclosure ditch and bank surrounding the early settlement (A508). The pre-1184 features within the main chapter house trench ('CH1') were discussed in the 1981 Interim Report, including a reproduction of part of the section drawing focussing on the bank and ditch (Radford 1981, fig 7). The two phases of the chapter house were also evident, as identified by Bond. However, the partially recovered plan of the Romanesque church (not available to Bond) enabled Radford to identify the first phase as belonging to the 12th century (Henry de Blois) as opposed to the post-fire date envisaged by Bond. The second phase was dated to the 13th century (ibid), with no mention of a 14th-century phase, although this is documented historically. Owing to uncertainty over dating of the later phase, during the course of this report Radford's 12th-century phase will be referred to as the earlier chapter house, and the 13th century as the later chapter house.

In 1959 Radford opened nine trenches and four test-holes across the dormitory. These explorations established the dimensions of the 12th century dormitory, which were found to be the same as the post-fire structure (Radford 1960, 263). It was hoped that the southward course of the Saxon bank and ditch would be recovered together with dating evidence, and that during the work information on the 12th century dormitory would be forthcoming (A508). A substantial water channel was discovered running from north-east to south-west and cutting through the foundations of the

dormitory. This was thought to have flushed the reredorter and therefore dated from the 13th century when the abbey obtained a more ample water supply by tapping springs further south towards, and probably including, chalice well (ibid, 264).

METHODOLOGY

The Results section of this report provides a technical stratigraphic account based on the sections, plans, photographs, sketches and notes for each trench.. All contexts have been included on a stratigraphic matrices [M:457] [M:476]; however it was not possible to deduce relationships for all contexts. The individual sections, plans and the overall site plan (see pdf) should be referred to particularly during the Discussion section where the evidence from the trenches is synthesized. Stratified finds are included per context and unstratified finds are summarised per trench, although finds numbers are only provided where there is no context (finds with contexts can be accessed through the context record).

The official photographic record for these trenches consists of eight images; these are incorporated within the Discussion. The 1957 CH1, CH2, CH3, CH4 and CH7 trenches together with the 1959 D1 and D7 trenches were recorded in section and as single multi-context plans. The 1957 CH5 and CH6 trenches together with the 1959 D1 Extension and D2 trenches were recorded only as single multi-context plans. Only the outlines of the 1959 trenches D3, D3 Extension, D4, D5, D6 and D8 were planned, together with four test-pits TH1, TH2, TH3 & TH4. Details of these trenches appear in both Radford's and the volunteers' site notebooks with sketches and in detailed trench write-ups; these notes, sketches and write-ups have been used critically to construct this report. Some of the results of these excavations were summarised in Radford's published reports of 1958 and 1960 while the 1981 interim report added further descriptions and interpretation. The north side of the CH1 trench has been published in a simplified and shortened form by Radford (1981, fig 7) and later by Rahtz and Watts (2003, fig 62).

As far as possible, the interpretative element of these records have been removed, although original labels have been left on the drawings primarily to retain terms of reference between the drawings and the notes. The phased Discussion section provides a critical appraisal of the archaeology from a modern perspective incorporating new dating and spatial evidence from specialist finds reports, the recent geophysical survey (GSB Prospection) and the parchmark survey (Hollinrake & Hollinrake 1989). Together with a re-evaluation of both the original recorded and published interpretations, features have been attributed to the earliest possible phase. The Conclusion provides an overview of the archaeology, an assessment of the success of the historic excavations and suggestions for future areas of research.

RESULTS

1957 Chapter House

CH1

[L:1662] [E:78]. The uppermost layer consisted of deep rubble, mortar and soil [C:100] containing 172g of iron ?smithing slag; one sherd of prehistoric pottery; three sherds of Roman pottery; one sherd of pottery dated to after 950; a sculpture possibly showing the fingers of a hand and a stone croquet possibly with foliage. Towards the east a narrow excavation trench [C:101] was shown in

section with clay tip lines [C:149] to the east. Beneath the uppermost layer [C:100] was a further layer [C:105] sealing a robber trench [C:106] [C:107] containing a sherd of Roman pottery. The uppermost layer [C:100] filled a robber trench [C:104] above a step [C:122] in the western end of the chapter house (see below).

The uppermost layer [C:100] sealed the mortar bedding layers and structural remains of the later chapter house. At the western end of the trench was a robber trench [C:102] [C:103] although remnants of the rubble foundations [C:116] remained. The construction cut [C:117] for this foundation [C:116] was 0.98m deep and cut the undisturbed clay [C:129] by 0.08m. The foundation cut was also drawn in plan crossing the south side of the trench.

Immediately above the surviving foundations [C:116] was a soft yellow mortar layer [C:115] beneath a slab [C:108]. This continued eastwards ([C:109] and [C:110]), albeit at a slightly higher level. This mortar [C:109] is described as being associated with a step [C:111] and an adjacent paving slab [C:112]. The eastern extremity of the mortar layer [C:110] was overlain by a clay deposit [C:113] and a further layer of soft yellow mortar bedding [C:114]. This is the only occurrence of three layers of alternating mortar and clay.

The eastern wall of the later chapter house was largely robbed [C:106] [C:107] with the exception of one in situ blue lias block [C:118]. The construction trench [C:155] had cut the natural undisturbed clay [C:154] which formed a 0.69m wide barrier between the chapter house foundation [C:118] and a more substantial Tor burr foundation [C:138] to the west (see below).

Beneath the lower mortar layer [C:110] near the western end of the chapter house was a pit [C:123] measuring between 5.64m and 7.54m. The western side of the cut is not shown on the section and the records state that the base was not reached. The notes clearly describe the pit cutting through the lower mortar bedding [C:120] and the disturbed clay ([C:121] [C:128]) containing two pieces of glass furnace debris [F:SF100]. The tightly packed soil, clay and stone fill [C:125] included three sherds of pottery dated 950-1200, some discarded building stones and mortar debris. The pit presumably also cut through a layer of clay soil with rubbish and burnt material [C:119] and containing one sherd of pottery dated to after 950; this overlay the lower mortar bedding [C:120] and underlay the upper mortar layers ([C:115] [C:109] [C:110]).

On the eastern side of the lower mortar bedding [C:120] was a firmly bedded flat stone slab [C:122] at the base of a robber trench [C:104]. In plan, the slab [C:122] is recorded as a step which extended from the north section to the trench centre. On the south side of the trench a further east-west orientated step remained in situ, the eastern end linking up with the north-south orientated element. In plan, the rubble foundation [C:153] on which this step was laid continued westward for another 1.8m [C:152]. The trench was extended southwards by 0.60m and showed that the foundation was at least 0.76m wide, implying to Radford the existence of two further steps. The slab [C:122] was not lifted, but on either side the trench was carried down to undisturbed clay, leaving a baulk. The section on either side of the baulk showed that there was no foundation for the slab [C:122] and that it directly overlaid a clay layer [C:126] (see below).

To the east of slab [C:122] there was no mortar bedding until 10.05m, where a soft, fine, yellow mortar bedding [C:132] extended almost continuously as far as the earlier east wall, where it covered the dais foundation [C:137] and overlapped the edge of the wall foundation [C:138] by

0.30m. The base of the mortar bedding was irregular from sagging, particularly between 18.29m and 18.90m, approximately above grave [C:124]/[C:136]. The grave was at the base of a clay make-up layer [C:135] containing an iron nail and two sherds of pottery dated 950-1100, which sealed the vallum monasterii ditch fill [C:139] (see below). The grave measured c 0.76m by c 0.31m and the bones were jumbled and incomplete within black clay from which four iron nails were recovered. A crozier and part of a lead bowl thought to have been a chalice were found in this grave however neither items remain within the abbey finds assemblage.

The foundation of the earlier chapter house east wall [C:138] was of Tor burrs with some blue lias blocks regularly laid in a yellow sandy mortar, although the edges of the trench and stonework were irregular. A dais foundation [C:137] survived on the western side of the wall foundation, consisting of stones set in clay.

The clay layer [C:126] beneath the slab [C:122] is probably a continuation of the disturbed clay [C:121] on the other side of the pit [123], which is also overlain by mortar layer [C:120]. This is similar to [C:133] to the east, consisting of disturbed clay with some soil, although a line of stones ran through the centre of this deposit sloping down from the top of the Saxon bank towards the west. Finds comprised 172g of Fe smithing slag, one fragment of animal bone and one sherd of Roman pottery. Layer [C:133] lay against the truncated bank (see below) and also was directly below mortar bedding [C:132].

The bank consisted of a top layer of dark clay [C:134], above light clay with dark patches [C:140], overlying dark iron flecked clay in the centre [C:141], above a small area of dark clay [C:142] to the east. The back of the bank rose at an angle of c 45 degrees with, according to Radford, a substantial turf revetment and occasional inclusions of turf. The ditch [C:143] to the east of the bank was 4.25m wide, 2.13m deep, and was filled with a dark, soft, clayey silt [C:139] which yielded a sherd of medieval pottery (not reassessed) and 200g of fuel ash slag / vitrified clay. The fill also contained occasional lines of yellow clay, a few small stones and an area of black wet clayey mud with animal bones. There were no tip lines, no intermediate surface, and the fill was almost level with the outer lip of the ditch, leaving a shallow hollow with no turf line. The west side of the ditch [C:143] was regular and sloped at a c 45 degree angle, while the east side sloped more gently but apparently was distorted by slips (not shown on the section). The base was narrow and pointed.

Traces of a feature with a flat base [C:130] were recorded on the eastern side of foundation [C:117], cut into the deep, undisturbed clay [C:129] by 0.06m. Discovered during the excavation of a sondage, between 3.35m and 3.96m, only the base was recorded in section and therefore nothing of the form can be deduced. This feature appears to have been filled by light clay [C:148] and covered by disturbed clay [C:121].

The disturbed clay covered a dark clay layer [C:127], which probably continued eastwards since the dark clay layers [C:144] and [C:150] were recorded throughout much of the trench. The dark clay covered the clay with iron flecks ([C:128], [C:146] and [C:151]). At the eastern end of the section, layers [C:150] and [C:151] sloped gradually upwards. Finally, the deep excavation of the ditch [C:143] showed that layer [C:146] overlay very deep light clay [C:147].

[L:1659] [E:79]. A disturbed destruction layer [C:200] covered the entire width of the trench, filling a trench [C:206], and a trench [C:202] containing drain [C:201] which ran east-west as drawn by Wedlake in 1935. To the north of this trench [C:202] was a sequence consisting of a light mortar and soil layer [C:203], overlapping a light grey clay layer [C:204], covering a burnt layer [C:205] which butted a stone possibly in situ. The burnt layer [C:205] overlay a redeposited yellow clay [C:228] containing flecks of charcoal and tile, and a thin lens of burnt material [C:229].

To the south of the drainage trench [C:202] the uppermost layers ([C:211], [C:207] and [C:209]) are from modern disturbance, with the lowest of these [C:208] containing fragments of pipe stem and a sherd of modern pottery. This sealed the fill [C:214] of a robber trench [C:220]. Within this fill were two tips of dark soil ([C:215] and [C:218]), a lens of clay [C:217] and two tips of light mortar ([C:216] and [C:219]) from the back filling, the latter extending across the width of the trench (recorded as a sketch plan). The section shows the northern edge of the robber trench cut by two additional, irregular features ([C:221] [C:222]) and [C:213]).

An alternating series of five burnt and clay layers ([C:223], [C:224], [C:225], [C:226] and [C:227]) were cut by one of these irregular features [222] and the drainage trench [202]. The lower of these layers overlay the redeposited yellow clay [C:228] and was thought to be from the fire of 1184. This was also identified at the southern end of the trench [C:230] where it is overlain by a thin layer of brown clay [C:212] extending westwards into the centre of the trench floor (recorded on a sketch plan). At this point it is cut by a north-south robber trench [C:232] for the west wall of the chapter house, the eastern edge of which ran south from the south-eastern corner of the buttress [C:210] (see below). The masonry had been entirely robbed leaving only a loose fill [C:233] of rubble, clay and soil covering the buttress [C:210] of the south transept. This buttress is described as an in situ ashlar quoin marking the south-east corner of the angle buttress of the transept at a depth of 0.53m below the level of the paving of the cloister walk.

Blue clay [C:231] underlay the redeposited yellow clay [C:228] and the lower burnt layer [C:230] at the southern end of the trench.

CH3

[L:1663] [E:80].

North-south trench.

An earlier excavation trench [C:301] was above two phases of foundation ([C:306] [C:307]) and cut through two layers ([C:302] [C:303]) to the north of the foundation. The uppermost layer, described as modern mortar [C:302], overlay a clay layer with a few stones [C:303], the lower part of which abutted the foundation.

The uppermost part of the foundation [C:306] survived from the inner (north) face for a width of 2.23m towards the south, although the south side was disturbed. This consisted of mixed stones set in a hard, creamy white mortar. The lower foundation [C:307] was 2.27m wide and consisted of Tor burrs set in a soft, fine orange-yellow mortar.

Below the clay layer [C:303] were two deposits, a disturbed clay [C:304] and at the same level a dark clay [C:305]. Radford describes a pre-Conquest cut into Basal clays on the north side of the trench,

cutting the bank and leaving a small section of dark clay belonging to the bank, with the deep sloping back of the bank showing in the drawn section. This latter must relate to the layer [C:305] shown at the north end of the trench, with the straight, vertical line [C:308] possibly representing the cut. In this case, the disturbed clay [C:304] would be the fill of cut [308].

East-west trench

There are several unrecorded features shown on the CH3 extension plan. A line of four circular features were roughly aligned and orientated east-west, each measuring c 0.30m in diameter. There is also a 2.87m wide north-south foundation [C:309] to the south of the chapter house south wall [C:306]/[C:307]. The west face of a further more substantial 3.58m wide north-south foundation [C:310] is planned 1.33m to the east, with the west face of a 2.76m wide wall [C:311] on top (the east sides of this foundation and wall are in CH6).

CH4

[L:1660] [E:81]. The uppermost deposit [C:400], described as 'loose soil' from Wedlake's excavations, covered almost the entire length of the section. This included the 'loose soil' fill [C:402] of feature [C:403] and the edge of a rubble layer [C:401], thought to be demolition material from the south transept. At the north end of the trench the ground sloped downwards and a layer [C:406] sloped away towards the north, overlying a thin 0.04m layer of mortar [C:408] at the northern end of the trench.

An earlier excavation trench [C:403] cut the rubble fill [C:404] of a broader feature [C:405] thought to be the robber trench for the north wall. Measuring c 1.68m wide and 0.44m deep, this feature truncated the foundation [C:409] of the chapter house north wall, and from the original annotation on the section drawing is likely to have cut the buttress foundation [C:407]. The latter consisted of masonry set in yellow mortar, and is described as irregular in shape with a rough projection of 1.52m and 0.91m wide (although it extends further west). Radford states the buttress foundation was added to the wall. The north wall foundation [C:409], where surviving, consisted largely of Tor burrs, and was approximately 2.57m wide and 0.82m+ deep.

Radford states that while there is no clear indication of the chapter house floor at the south end of the trench, between 4.19m and 4.88m the floor [C:410] had been raised. This had a slight outer retaining wall of Tor burrs [C:414] forming a dais of which the surface had been entirely destroyed. The dais retaining wall [C:414] lay within a foundation cut [C:411], only the south side of which was tentatively identified on the section. Radford describes it cutting through the redeposited dark clay [C:412] with iron flecks. This covered a dark clay layer [C:413] at the base of the trench, which Radford thought was the natural surface.

Finds that were either unstratified or could not be linked to a context with reasonable confidence consisted of one sherd of pottery dated to after 950 [F:BF108] and a fragment of lead window came [F:SF400].

CH5

[L:1661]. The strata within this trench was heavily disturbed and thought to be of no value, therefore it was recorded only in plan albeit at a very basic level. A 19th century drain [C:500] is described in

the original site notebook as running westwards from the north-east corner of the trench at surface level; this was planned by Wedlake in 1935. This wall drain was constructed of paving and was lined on the upper (east) side by a row of squared re-used lias slabs, before discharging into a 19th century pipe.

The western edge of a north-south linear feature [C:501]/[C:502] extended through the centre of the trench between 2.74m and 6.88m north of the median line, described by Radford as the robbed foundation of the east wall of the chapter house. A single in situ facing stone of lias ashlar [C:503], located 0.61m to the west was recorded against the north face of the north chapter house wall [C:504]. Radford describes that within this wall [C:504], although separate from [C:503] by 0.61m, were two Tor burrs [C:505] thought to be the remains of an earlier foundation.

CH6

[L:1663]. The main part of the trench was badly robbed, and therefore was recorded only in plan albeit at a very basic level. A post-Dissolution drain [C:600] is described in the original site notebook as crossing the trench from north-north-east to south-south-west. This feature is on the excavation plan to the south of the trench, but it is not shown crossing the trench.

The south face of a buttress [C:601], constructed largely of Tor burrs in yellow mortar, was recorded as overlying a foundation [C:603]. While the buttress belonged to the chapter house, the foundation [C:603] ran north-south from the south wall of the chapter house. Overlying the foundation was the disturbed east face [C:602] of the east wall of the east range, constructed mainly of Tor burrs in white mortar. Directly to the east of the foundations was a layer of redeposited clay [C:604] with iron flecks.

The plan shows the western side of the foundation [C:603] in CH3 to the west [C:310]. A wall face [C:311] is recorded in CH3 although no masonry remained in situ; however, it is probable that this belonged to the same wall as described for the east face [C:602].

CH7

[L:1664] [E:82]. A narrow excavation trench [C:702] crossed from east-west, cutting a thin layer of mortar [C:705], and the clay, soil and refuse make-up layer [C:706] beneath. Both these layers were located north of the south wall and within the chapter house. A further trench [C:704] lay above the south wall and was filled with loose mortar, rubble and soil [C:703]. This cut through a layer of redeposited clay and mortar [C:707] to the south of the chapter house, above the dark clay [C:712].

Where the foundations of the south wall foundation survive [C:708] they are described as containing some lias set in a whiter mortar than that used in the earlier foundations. Both sides of the foundation cut [C:709] were seen in plan cutting the dark clay [C:712]; however in section, the northern edge was truncated by a trench [C:702].

A foundation cut [C:711] extended to the north from the south wall foundation, recorded in plan near the eastern edge of CH7. The masonry within this cut, where preserved, consisted largely of Tor burrs set in yellow mortar [C:710]; although where robbed, the fill is of soil with a small amount of mortar. This fill/ foundation was cut by the later foundation trench [C:709] for the south wall.

Near the base of the trench, as depicted on the plan, the dark clay [C:712] with iron flecks was reached on either side of the later foundation trench. On the southern side it is covered by the redeposited clay and mortar [C:707] and covers the light clay [C:713]. On the northern side it is covered by a make-up layer [C:706].

CH8

[L:1658]. The trench was recorded only in plan albeit at a very basic level. A robber trench [C:801] with a loose fill [C:800] crossed the trench from east-west, with the irregular north edge at 4.01m south of the median line. The robber trench appears in plan to cut the deposit to the north [C:802].

1959 Dormitory

D1 and D1 Ext

[L:1670] [E:65]. A debris layer overlay the eastern half of the trench, sloping upwards and becoming thicker towards the east. This was cut through by a foundation [C:5207] which rose above the topsoil, constructed of randomly set unmortared stones including lias, with the lowest course set in the surface of the latest mortar bedding [C:5226]. The west dormitory wall had been predominantly robbed [C:5252] and backfilled [C:5201] with loose earth and mortar. The backfill was more mortary [C:5202] above the in situ buttress foundation and contained a rectangular copper alloy sheet.

To the west of the robber trench [C:5252] was a buttress [C:5218] comprising courses of lias slabs above thin lias levelling courses of lias. This was constructed above a trench-built blue lias wall [C:5242] measuring 1.35m wide and extending from north-south across the trench. The lower part of the foundation was constructed of uncoursed lias, with some Tor burrs and other stones set in soft brown mortar above and the highest surviving course scarcely showing above the contemporary clay ground level [C:5220]. The dirty clay backfill [C:5223] within the construction trench [C:5253] contained two sherds of pottery dated after 950 and three sherds dated 950-1200.

On the eastern side of the robber trench [C:5252] was the remnant of a Tor burr foundation [C:5226] and to the east of this was the pitched lias foundation of the internal buttress [C:5224] described on the finds envelopes as 'fallen stones'. The finds comprised twenty-six sherds of pottery dated 1100-1250 and four sherds dated after 950. To the east was a foundation [C:5217] running along the surface of the trench for a distance of 1.38m and comprising one course of squared stones. This cut into the edge of a mortar bedding layer [C:5228] which covered a yellow clay make-up layer [C:5229]; the latter extended beneath the late foundation [C:5217] as far as the buttress foundation [C:5224]. This sealed an earlier white mortar band [C:5230] which sloped upwards from west to east. The white mortar overlay a thick dark clay layer [C:5231] [C:5233], with tip lines sloping up from west to east and with a lias block in the base, above the natural clay [C:5248]. Inbetween the two areas of dark clay was the robber trench [C:5205] [C:5206] above the remains of the central pier foundation. To the east of the pier the dark clay [C:5233] directly underlay the supposed 13th century mortar bedding [C:5228], although a thin layer of 'bluer' clay [C:5232] separated the two deposits at their eastern extent.

The deep layer of dark clay [C:5233] sealed a robber trench [C:5247] backfilled with clay [C:5246] containing a few stones and larger fragments of lias, scraps of mortar and a little burnt material. Finds comprised one vitrified sherd of pottery dated after 950, 89g of Fe smithing slag?, burnt

mortar fragments and a fragment of tile. In plan the robber trench [C:5247] ran from north-south through the trench. Immediately to the east, but higher in the section, was an inner buttress foundation [C:5215] (labelled 14th century) cut into the natural clay [C:5248]. In plan the buttress projected by 1.07m from the north side of the trench. Radford described the buttress as being constructed entirely of large lias slabs and reusing one large Romanesque blue lias block. The lower courses were pitched on edge and driven in to the clay [C:5248] while the upper courses were laid flat. The construction trench [C:5254] cut through the earlier mortar bedding [C:5228], while the soil make-up [C:5227] and the latest mortar bedding [C:5226] post-dated the buttress.

To the east of the buttress foundation [C:5215] was a large robber trench [C:5208] [C:5209] for the east wall of the dormitory. This contained fired clay from a foundry mould (bell/cauldron) and one sherd of pottery dated after 950, with three sherds dated after 1400 [F:BF5219] recovered from the area of the dormitory wall. To the east of the robber trench [C:5209] was the remains of the external buttress comprising a Tor burr [C:5236] and a lias slab [C:5261]. This was described by Radford as coursed with a thick slurry of hard white mortar topped by a 0.2m course of lias, cutting through an earlier mortar mixing layer [C:5239] to the east (mostly unexcavated). However, the section shows a small rubble deposit [C:5238] to the east of the buttress, possibly within a construction cut [C:5237] which appears to cut the mortar layer [C:5239]. This was overlain by a soil and clay layer [C:5213] containing two sherds of pottery dated after 950 which underlay two stone-lined drains.

The drains were located adjacent to each other on the eastern side of the dormitory. When the blue lias cover stones and fill of drain A [C:5211] were removed, the drain was found to curve westwards into the south section, while on its western side the earlier drain B [C:5210] was aligned more precisely north-south. The construction trench for the earlier drain [C:5210] contained three sherds of pottery dated 1250-1500 and three sherds dated 1300-1450. In the construction trench of one of these drains was one sherd [F:BF5250] dated after 950 and a further eleven sherds of pottery [F:BF5222] dated 14th to 15th century came from one of the drains. The plan shows a rubble wall [C:5262] comprising roughly built Tor burrs running eastwards from the later drain [C:5211] along the southern side of the trench. The wall cut through the earlier drain however the relationship with the later drain is uncertain.

Both drains were covered by the extensive debris layer [C:5200]. At the eastern end of the trench this layer covered a deep layer of redeposited clay [C:5214] labelled as 13th century and containing five nail fragments and two sherds of pottery dated after 950. This covered a deep clay layer [C:5241] labelled 12th century, with a line of stones at the base thought to represent an old surface. The western edge of the latter was defined by the mortar layer [C:5239] above a clay layer [C:5240] overlying a natural stone [C:5250]. Two test-holes excavated beneath the supposed 12th century clay [C:5241] revealed soft grey clay [C:5249] described as 'soft, grey, squashy, peaty clay'. This contained three sherds of pottery dated 950-1200 and a fragment of animal bone (not reassessed).

The foundation for the central pier of the dormitory was represented by a robber trench [C:5205] [C:5206]; Radford identified three possible phases of masonry in the base comprising two lias blocks [C:5235] labelled as ?12th century, one large Tor burr [C:5234] labelled as 13th century and three lias blocks [C:5216] labelled as 14th century. In plan, the foundation was square and projected from the north side of the trench by 0.81m. The construction cut [C:5265] for the pier foundation cut through the natural clay [C:5248]. Opposite the pier a post-pit [C:5259] [C:5260] was recorded in

plan extending northwards from the south section by 0.13m and measuring 0.60m wide. Radford noted that this post-pit was traceable to 0.30m from the surface of the old clay [C:5248] and that the base was not reached. There was also a circular 'jumble of lias' stones [C:5258] recorded in plan extending 0.64m from the south side of the trench and measuring 0.98m wide.

At the western end of the trench a deep destruction level [C:5203] beneath the topsoil extended westwards from the supposedly 14th century buttress [C:5218] and covered the mid 12th century west dormitory wall [C:5242]. This layer was described as containing mortar spalls and rubble which gradually thinned out to soil as the distance from the wall increased. A lead pipe [C:5257] ran through this layer from north-north-east to south-south-west. The destruction layer [C:5203] overlay a soil layer with some rubble [C:5204] which extended westwards from the mid 12th century wall [C:5242]. This yielded pottery dated to after 950 and to after 1200.

The soil layer [C:5204] overlay a short and undulating mortar spread [C:5251] which sealed a deposit of fairly clean clay [C:5220] and a stone deposit [C:5221]. The clay [C:5220] contained two sherds of pottery dated after 950 (UGSD) and appeared to have been cut to the east by the construction trench [C:5253] for the 12th century west dormitory wall [C:5242]. The clay also overlapped the stone deposit [C:5221], which was said to have filled a small trench and appears to have contained Roman and prehistoric pottery, although this has not been identified in the assemblage. This was abutted to the west by a thin mortar layer [C:5219] above another deposit of fairly clean clay [C:5222] containing a sherd of Roman pottery. This overlay a floor [C:5243] of stone with some mortar inclining slightly from west to east; in section this is labelled as a furnace floor. Beneath was a deep layer of dirty clay [C:5244] containing a copper alloy ?balance arm (medieval), ten nail fragments and one sherd of pottery dated after 950. A mortar lens was [C:5245] was located within the centre of this layer. The dirty clay [C:5244] covered the natural clay [C:5248]; Radford described how the top c 0.20m of the natural clay was weathered from water penetration as evidenced by iron staining.

The plan shows two furnace deposits in the extension trench to the south comprising a large deposit of industrial material [C:5256] labelled as 'lower industrial floor' and a smaller area labelled as burnt clay [C:5255] extending into the western baulk. Radford's notes describe irregular pits and hollows cut into the natural clay [C:5248] and filled with dirty clay [C:5244] and rubbish producing pre-conquest artefacts and containing furnace floors with traces of lias structures. A charcoal and ash layer [C:5263] was located to the south of the upper furnace, probably in the south-west corner of the trench (see sketch [I:18817]). Charcoal from this layer has produced a calibrated radiocarbon date of 1020-1190. Other finds comprised three fragments of burnt bone [F:BF5204] (not reassessed) and a nail fragment with mineralised wood [F:SF5216].

In the D1 Extension trench were a number of finds in the layers overlying the furnace. Inbetween some 12th century cobbles charcoal [F:BF5202] [F:BF5203] was recovered and two sherds dated after 950 [F:BF5246] were recovered from the clay at the edge of a cobbled floor (possibly the same cobbled floor). In an ash layer below the cobbles was one sherd [F:BF5247] dated after 950. In a clay layer above an ash layer was one pottery sherd [F:BF5248] dated after 950 and one Roman pottery sherd [F:BF5249], while in the ashy layer below the clay were two pottery sherds [F:BF5234] dated after 950; one pottery sherd [F:BF5242] dated after 1250 and a clay mould for founding [F:BF5241]. In a black layer at sufficient depth to be associated with the furnace was one prehistoric pottery

sherd [F:BF5233]; mineralised wood [F:BF5200] and forty-three nail fragments [F:SF5208]. Also in a black layer under a mortar layer was one pottery sherd [F:BF5240] dated after 950. In the clay above the furnace was a small rotary key [F:SF5204] probably of late 14th to 16th century date. Finally, from the mixed clay near the supposed industrial surface was a small fragment of blue Saxon glass [F:SF5213].

Finds from other unidentified contexts comprised one sherd [F:BF5230] dated after 1250 and one sherd [F:BF5231] dated 16th to 17th century from an earth and rubble layer. In a mortar scatter below the clay were six sherds [F:BF5243] dated 950-1200 and twelve sherds [F:BF5244] dated 1100-1250. In a ditch fill (possibly associated with the soft grey clay [C:5249] tentatively linked to the vallum monasterii) a 151g copper alloy ingot fragment / slag [F:SF5201] was recovered. A fragment of animal skull [F:BF5205] (not reassessed) was found in and around fallen stones.

Finds that were either unstratified or could not be linked to a context with reasonable confidence comprised one sherd [F:BF5225] dated after 950; two sherds [F:BF5245] dated after 950; twenty-eight sherds [F:BF5239] dated 950-1200; two sherds [F:BF5224] dated 1250-1450; one roof tile [F:BF5226] dated after 1250; animal bone [F:BF5206] (not reassessed); one large nail [F:SF5209]; a nail fragment and a bent whittle tang and ?blade fragment [F:SF5210]; one fragment of fired clay [F:BF5251]; eight lumps of burnt clay [F:BF5252]; and a rim or base sherd of a glass making crucible with turquoise glass adhering [F:SF5212].

D2

[L:1671]. This trench disclosed the base of a well-built partition wall [C:5027] aligned north-south and measuring 0.54m wide. In plan, this is shown extending northwards from the southern central pier of the dormitory undercroft for a distance of 2.73m. Radford's notes describe the wall as being constructed of roughly squared stones and separated by 0.03m of soil from the 13th century mortar bedding [C:5002], also recorded in D7 immediately to the west. The only finds from this trench comprised 566g of conglomerated iron slag and burnt stone representing Fe slag and hearth or furnace lining [F:SF5004].

D3 & D3 Extension

[L:1669]. No features were recorded for this trench, even though D3 crossed the north wall of the dormitory and the D3 Extension ran eastwards along the northern edge of the dormitory. The only finds consisted of 110g of ?Fe smithing slag [F:SF5006].

D4

[L:1669]. This L-shaped trench enclosed the north-east angle of the dormitory and buttress, with fragments of the masonry possibly shown in plan. A note records that the dormitory wall was broken through and a spread of closely packed stone rubble filled the south-western half of the trench.

D5

[L:1669]. Located to the north of the dormitory, no features were officially recorded for this trench although two sketch plans show an east-west aligned drain. To the north of the drain [I:18765] were two rubble walls (also aligned east-west) and white mortar layers. To the south of the drain [I:18764]

was a black clay fill, a white mortar floor and a dirty mortar fill. Finds comprised 168g of Fe smithing slag? [F:SF5005], an iron object [F:SF5211] and a fragment of clear glass [F:SF5214] in the north wall of a post-Dissolution drain (this must refer to the drain shown in the sketch plan).

D6

[L:1671]. The west wall [C:5242] of the mid 12th century dormitory was observed in this trench. A 16th to 17th century Nuremburg jetton [F:SF5000], mostly illegible due to corrosion, was recovered.

D7 & D7 East

[L:1671] [E:64] [E:66]. The modern topsoil [C:5000], containing a late 14th to early 15th centuries book clasp [F:SF5001] extended throughout both trenches becoming much deeper to the south of the post-fire dormitory. Beneath was the rubble fill [C:5011] of a robber trench [C:5012] above the in situ remains of the southern foundation [C:5020] of the dormitory. The modern topsoil also covered a mortar layer [C:5001] towards the northern end of D7 and throughout most of D7 East. In the latter, this directly overlay another mortar bedding layer [C:5002] which sloped gradually downwards from east to west.

The upper mortar [C:5001] overlay a small robber trench [C:5013] [C:5014]; this cut through the clay layer [C:5015] which underlay the mortar. In plan, the robber trench was aligned with the central pier to the east, with some in situ masonry indicated on the eastern side of the trench. The foundation [C:5026] and square base [C:5025] of the fifth central pier from the south was also planned in D7 East.

In D7 the clay layer [C:5015] covered a thick deposit of debris, mortar and burnt material [C:5016] while in D7 East the lower mortar bedding [C:5002] overlay a rubble layer [C:5003]. In D7, the burnt debris [C:5016] overlay a thin remnant of white mortar bedding [C:5017] which is described as lining-up with the top of the supposed 12th century drain [C:5018] (see below). A robber trench [C:5023] measuring 1.68m wide filled with stones, rubbish and redeposited clay [C:5022] was also sealed by the burnt debris layer [C:5016].

Running northwards from the robber trench [C:5012] for the south wall of the 13th century dormitory was a substantial stone built water channel [C:5018] approximately aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and constructed of irregular stones set in a hard white mortar. The section shows the drain above a deep clay layer [C:5024] labelled 'west side channel not removed'; this contained two sherds of medieval pottery (not reassessed) and a fragment of furnace debris. A layer of rubble [C:5019] partially covered the drain. To the south of the 13th century foundation [C:5020] was a further foundation [C:5021] with a yellow mortar characteristic of other 12th century foundations.

In D7 East the upper mortar bedding [C:5001] sealed a robber trench [C:5005] containing clay with burnt rubbish [C:5004]. The robber trench cut into a thick layer of redeposited clay [C:5006] which also underlay the rubble layer [C:5003]. This clay sealed the furnace floors at the western end of D7 East and appears to have filled the two disturbances immediately to the east described by Radford as cutting the natural clay [C:5010]. The furnace floors comprised an upper thin layer of red burnt clay [C:5007], above a layer of red burnt and grey clay [C:5008], overlying a lower layer of red burnt and grey clay [C:5009].

Finds that were either unstratified or could not be linked to a context with reasonable confidence comprised a tiny glass fragment [F:SF5003] found to the west of the furnace and a fragment of window glass [F:SF5007].

D8

[L:1671]. This excavation trench was approximately located to the east of the dormitory from a sketch plan [I:18657]. The robber trench [C:5209] for the east dormitory wall was noted extending for a width of 2.29m from the modern concrete marker at 0.51m below the turf.

TH1, TH2, TH3 & TH4

[L:1669] [L:1670] Three small test-holes were located against the inside wall of the dormitory east wall and a further test-hole was located in the centre of the dormitory near the northern end. An east-west foundation [C:5029] was recorded in plan in TH2; measuring 0.6m wide and comprising 'lias pitched on end' the foundation was located on the south side and flush with an internal buttress, extending a further c 1.5m to the west of the buttress. No further archaeological remains were recorded in the test-holes.