

## Section 30 Subsidiary structures in S23-S103

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Cross-references to Digital Supplement in red  
Cross-references to Printed Synthesis in brown

See Section 29 for general description and introduction

### STRUCTURE 23

Sub-structures 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 28, 41

5.5		41		
5.4	23		28	
5.3	19	15	16	19
	21			
	14			
5.2	11	6		
	9	10		
5.1, S86	3			

**S23** specialised in a variety of heating apparatus concerned with processing food and drink. The constant rebuilding and resurfacing produced a number of burnt and ashy spreads not fully understood, and not reproduced here. This report covers the principal features that are considered to be part of **S23** rather than the similar spreads in **S86** immediately below. See apparatus location plan [30.01].

### SS6 & SS10 Hearths

**S23** context T23/209.4  
Phase constructed P5.2  
Phase destroyed P5.3  
Materials clay BA2, BM3, BA3  
[4.21=21.04, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01]

A complex hearth series was built at the junction between the eastern and western chambers, at the mouth of the failed east end. Overall they covered an area 4.40m by 3.40m, and some could not be separated out with any degree of certainty. The first hearth in the sequence was represented by a deposit of burnt clay-loam and ash, sealed by a further ash layer. The area was relaid with **SS10**.

The replacement hearth **SS10** took the form of a 1m square of scorched and burnt clunch and clay tile in a clay loam matrix. The whole area of the hearth, especially to the west, was surrounded by an extensive deposit of clearance debris from the hearths, comprising purple and red ash and loam. A second area of burnt clunch and tile suggests that at least two sites were in use at the same time.

### SS9 Hearth

S23 context T23/172.3

Phase constructed P5.2

Phase destroyed P5.3

Materials mortar BA5 with clunch BM3 and carstone BM2

[4.21=21.04, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 30.01, 30.02]

The first in a complex sequence of hearths in the same area comprised a spread of burnt mortar with clunch and carstone rubble 2.50m by 2m. This remnant hearth was sealed beneath the clunch flagstones of SS11.

### SS11 ?Kiln or fish tank

S23 context T23/82

Phase constructed P5.2

Phase destroyed P5.3 but reused later

**Independent dating** pre-1200

[Stratigraphic date late 12th-century masonry]

Materials clunch BM3 with some carstone BM1

Tile sandy glazed, blue-grey (later modification)

[4.21=21.04, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 31.01]

A rectilinear tank-like feature made in two parts measuring 2.40m by 1.20m and 1.90m by 0.60m and 0.20m deep was sunk into the contemporary ground surface, and cut into the remnant of SS9. The southern and narrower end was lined with carstone. The top of the structure was slightly sunk, and was later roofed with carstone over a bed of mortar seated on the fill of the structure. The feature was used as a rake-out pit in phase 5.3 which may account for its burnt floor, and the reason it is discussed here.

The most significant feature for the dating of SS11 was the presence of diagonal tooling on most of the ashlar blocks, [39], and the absence of later forms of tooling. A date prior to 1200 seems to be confirmed by the close-set marks which are normally indicative of a 12th-century type. The pattern of laying-out lines for placing a superstructure which survived on intact surfaces of the floor indicates that the blocks were purpose-cut for the feature and not reused. The associated tile debris belongs to modifications of phases 5.3-5.4.

### SS14 Oven

S23 context T23/172

Phase constructed P5.3

Phase destroyed P5.3

Materials clunch BM3 with clay tile bonded in mortar RM3 BA5.

[4.26=21.05, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.02]

A circular depression measuring 2.70m by 2.80m was cut around the southern part of SS11. Into this was constructed an oven with a floor comprising heavily-burnt clunch and tile bonded in mortar. It seemed to have a stokehole which may have been a replacement for the stokehole with SS11. The floor and its surrounds were sealed by an ashy spread. It was used in conjunction with the rake-out pit for SS21.

### SS21 Rake-out pit for SS14

S23 context T23/124

Phase constructed P5.3

Phase destroyed P5.3

Archaeomagnetic dating probably 13th century

[Stratigraphic date early/mid-13th century]

Materials clunch reused from previous SS11 BM3; tile RM4

Tile sandy glazed, white gault

[4.26=21.05, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01]

The floor of this feature reused the floor of SS11, and showed signs of intense burning. It was roughly semicircular, and measured 1.20m by 1.90m. Extensively burnt, it contained quantities of ash and charcoal. The depression which contained the floor was filled with rubble. The western edge of SS11 was eroded but relatively intact. SS21 cut and removed most of the northern side of SS11.

### SS16 Smoking kiln

S23 context T23/87

Phase constructed P5.3

Phase destroyed P5.3

Materials carstone BM1, 2 and timber BM6

[4.26=21.05, 4.27, 21.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.02]

A horseshoe-shaped annexe was attached to the east end of the structure by means of two substantial buttress-like wall stubs. The internal space measured 3.70m by 4.80m, defined by a shallow robber trench 1m wide filled with burning and masonry. Around the outer circumference, about 0.30m away from the wall line, was a series of post pads and a posthole at intervals of 2m and 1.50m. These were matched by at least five similar opposing features attached to the inside. These probably supported a canopy through which smoke could escape. The floor of the chamber comprised a thick, around 0.30m, layer of very clean yellow sand mixed with clay; it is possible that this may represent a renewal since there was no sign of burning or discolouration on the floor itself. The mouth of the kiln was to the west, where the entrance was 2.50m wide; completely blocking the only entrance was hearth SS15. The nearest parallel is probably the Leacroft kiln at Glapthorpe near Oundle (Johnston 1997).

### SS15 Hearth

S23 context T23/99

Phase constructed P5.3

Phase destroyed P5.3

Materials clay BA2

[4.26=21.05, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01]

An extensive area of burnt clays and ash was laid over SS6 and SS10. It was surrounded by an extensive area of burnt debris, ash, and charcoal; this was mostly contiguous with a similar area of debris associated with a rubble-filled depression which cut SS11. It covered an area about 5m by 4m, providing heat and smoke for SS16.

### SS19 Malting kiln

**S23A** context T23/136

Phase constructed P5.3

Phase destroyed P5.4

**Archaeomagnetic dating** 1330–1380

[Stratigraphic date mid-13th to mid-14th century]

Materials carstone blocks BM1 set in clay BA2

[4.26=21.05, 4.27, 10.08, 10.10, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.02, 69.07]

A sub-circular kiln with a flue to the east was located to the north-east of **S23**. The kiln was constructed within a pit cut 0.55m deep into natural sandy clays. The excavated void was lined with at least twelve courses of rough carstone blocks set within a gritty clay. The profile inclined like a funnel, the floor having an area considerably smaller than the extant upper dimensions. The bowl of the kiln measured 1.60m across, the sandy clay floor only 0.90m; the base narrowed to form a flue channel. At the mouth of the oven were two small postholes, associated with an area of carstone set on edge which helped to define the form, and presumably were the supports for a closing mechanism. The flue showed indications of stone lining which had been robbed. It continued east for some 1.50m before it was cut away by quarrying, thus forming a feature in excess of 3m long. An area of burning was observed close to the mouth of the flue. There was no indication of superstructure.

Several distinct layers of infill were recorded. The lowest fill lay directly upon the floor of the feature, and sealed the site of the fire; it consisted of a substantial deposit of black ash and charcoal, mixed with quantities of carbonised grain and macroscopic silica remains of plants and weed seeds. Sprouted barley grains and bread wheat were reported [64]. This deposit was seen to butt to the stone lining of the sides. Upon this was deposited an orange sandy mortar with lenses and patches of clay. After deliberate infilling the kiln was cut by an east–west aligned gully.

### SS23 Pair of Ovens

**S23** context T23/89

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.5

**Archaeomagnetic dating** 1270–1320 or 1380–1440

[Stratigraphic date mid-/late 13th to mid-/late 14th century]

Materials clunch ashlar BM3, tile RM3, BA5

[4.64=21.07, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.03, 30.04=9.19]

This structure, measuring overall 3m by 3m, was constructed over and through **SS11** and **SS21**. It was built in an irregularly-shaped pit backfilled with rubble and faced with clunch ashlar blocks. The paved floor included clunch blocks, tile, and mortar, and was subsequently repaved with clunch; good quality clunch blocks measuring 0.40m by 0.40m were laid over a mortar spread which sealed **SS11**, **SS14**, and **SS21**. Two sub-circular ovens, constructed as one build, and measuring 1.50m by 1.20m and 1.1m by 0.90m, were constructed over this level base. There were indications of a patchy reflooring, probably in phase 5.5, laid over accumulated debris.

### SS28 Oven complex

**S23 context T23/76**

**Phase constructed P5.4**

**Phase destroyed P5.6**

**Materials carstone BM1, 2 with clunch BM3, BA4**

**[4.64=21.07, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.03]**

An extension was added to the south-eastern corner of the main chamber, utilising some of the space in the south-east corner of the room, and butting onto the stub walls of the circular chamber to the east. It is possible that the latter had been removed, and a blocking wall put in place. This would have facilitated construction of the right-angled wall within which the oven structure was built. Badly robbed, this comprised an inner skin containing a carstone floor with a horseshoe-shaped superstructure in carstone and clunch. Its maximum inner dimension was 1.50m wide at its mouth.

Associated with this new chamber was a concentration of carstone rubble and burning, integral with the walling, which may represent the remnant of a further hearth or oven in the main chamber.

### SS41 Brazier

**S23 context T23/80**

**Phase constructed P5.5**

**Phase destroyed P5.6**

**Materials n/a**

**[21.08, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.01, 30.03]**

A vivid circular scorch mark on the gravel floor of the northern annexe denoted an area of burning, perhaps without permanent structure. However, the scorching was situated close to the steps leading to the fishpond, within a scattered area of carstone and tile, and could have been incorporated into an area of hard standing.

**STRUCTURE 28**  
**Sub-structures 17, 18, 27, 38, 50, 56, 57**

6.1	50	
5.6		
5.5	57	38
5.4		56
		27
5.2-5.3	17	18
5.2, S96	8	

Most of the chamber was covered with hearths and ovens at different times, forming a complex patchwork quilt of surfaces. See apparatus location plan [30.05]. Each successive hearth or oven within S28 was not necessarily a direct replacement, and while some fell out of use it was likely that some sub-structures built at different times functioned together, were extensions to existing features, or were subdivided into more complex features. Some of these were raised above the floor. The building had a carstone gully draining out from the north side; this was replaced by one made of clay tile.

**SS17 Oven**

S28 context T13/1041  
 Phase constructed P5.2-P5.3  
 Phase destroyed P5.6-P6.1  
 Materials carstone BM1, BA4  
 [4.32=21.13, 4.35, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

A circular carstone foundation was an integral component of the main structural elements of the building. Integrated into the south-west corner of the structure and extruding to the west, it was nearly freestanding, and had no visible means of access from the interior or exterior. The footing was robbed to its bottom two courses; the external diameter of 2m and an internal space only 1m diameter, does not preclude it being a staircase turret, but the nature of the building's function makes an external oven more probable than an upper room.

**SS18 Oven**

S28 context T13/278, 279  
 Phase constructed P5.2-P5.3  
 Phase destroyed ?P5.4  
 Materials clay tile RM3, 4 with some carstone BM2  
 Tile sandy pimply, sandy glazed  
 [4.32=21.13, 4.35, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

Contemporary with SS17 was a central hearth which measured about 2m by 2.80m; comprising edge-laid tile sunk into the floor surface. There was sufficient associated burnt carstone and loose tile to suggest a superstructure of some kind. This comprised flat tiles laid to the west of the circular burning area, and a rectangular clay surround punctuated by postholes to the north-west. A second hearth SS27 was contiguous to the south.

### SS27 Oven

S28 context T13/276

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed ?P5.6

Materials clunch ashlar BM3 and carstone blocks BM1

[4.63, 21.14, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

The south wall of the building was relocated; constructed integrally with this modification was a circular oven base with internal diameter of 1.30m, extruding into the chamber. It comprised carstone blocks and clunch ashlar, associated with large quantities of carstone and clunch rubble mixed with mortar, possibly suggesting that the floor of the oven was raised above the level of the general floor of the building. It was attached to existing hearth SS18 to the north.

### SS56 Hearth

S28 context T13/279/453

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.6

Materials clay tiles RM3 and clunch BM3, BA5

[21.14, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

A major extension was added to the west of SS18. It comprised edge-set clay tiles incrementally added in apparently random blocks, and set in yellow mortar. It had an irregular shape, but was roughly 1.50m by 1.50m. A mortar scar some 1m to 1.80m wide was seen to the west, which may have been a part of this hearth's setting. A large clunch block was let into the western part.

### SS38 Hearth

S28 context T13/453,454

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase destroyed P6.2

Materials clay tiles RM3 and clunch BM3

Tiles sandy unglazed hip

[21.15, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

The edges of SS27, SS18, and SS56 were cut by a large hearth 2.20m by 1m which consisted of inclined tiles set within a shallow pit. The tiles projected slightly above the ground surface, and were laid in three blocks. A small amount clunch set above the tiled surface suggests that the hearth was resurfaced.

### SS50 Hearth

S28 context T13/939

Phase constructed P6.1

Phase destroyed P6.2

Materials clay tile BM3

[5.07=21.16, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

It is likely that most of the cooking areas were destroyed and covered with rubble which accumulated very little ash. A new tile hearth with a flat tile border measuring 1.40m by 1.10m was set against the face of the west wall, covering much less of the internal space than hearths and ovens had in earlier phases. It may indicate a change of cooking methods with the heating apparatus against walls instead of placed centrally.

### SS57 Chimney base

S28 context T13/1050

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase destroyed ?P6.1

Materials carstone BM1 and clay tile RM3

[5.07=21.16, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 30.06]

A rectangular emplacement of carstone measuring 1.40m by 1.10m was set against the north wall of the building. It was associated with a remnant area of edge-set tiles and burning, probably the scar for the robbed out remainder of the hearth or chimney base which would have extended to 3.30m by 1.10m.



## STRUCTURE 29 Sub-structures 20, 24

### SS20 Hearth

S29 context T13/1283  
Phase constructed P5.3  
Phase destroyed P5.4  
Materials carstone BM1 and clay tile  
[29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05]

Constructed in a shallow pit of about 1.70m diameter cut into the sealing deposits over SS13 was an area 1.90m by 1.30m laid with the remnants of carstone and clay tile, most of which was set on edge. The hearth area accumulated quantities of ash and loam which were built over by SS24 before it was turned.

### SS24 Hearth

S29 context T13/1077  
Phase constructed P5.4  
Phase destroyed P5.6  
Archaeomagnetic dating 1370-1420  
[Stratigraphic dating late 14th to mid-15th centuries]  
Materials pitched clay tile with flat surround RM3, BA2  
Tiles sandy pimply, sandy harsh, blue-grey  
[4.37=21.17, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 29.13, 30.05, 30.07]

The material built up over SS20 comprised a near-circular hearth which was in fact the third hearth on the spot. The hearth measured 1.20m diameter, and was made of closely packed edge-set clay tile laid in a series of concentric rings built out from the centre. The tiles were reused, having been reversed, and the former buried surface used as the new burning area (Clarke, pers comm). It showed evidence of a hearth surround comprising a rectangular area of flat roof tile paving 2.20m by 2.50m, let into clay. This was overlain by and intermixed with charcoal and ash debris. The hearth appeared to have been incorporated into a later earth floor.

## STRUCTURE 30 Sub-structure 51

### SS51 Hearth

**S30** context T13/22

Phase constructed P6.1

Phase destroyed P6.1/2

Materials carstone BM2, clunch BM3, limestone coffin lid BM4; tile RM3

[5.04, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.05, 39.06/AF Cat 18]

Contemporary with the building of **S64** was the construction of a hearth within the eastern wall of **S30**. This was a rectangular feature 0.45m by 0.42m, projecting into the room from the east wall. Its eastern part was made of part of an ornate coffin lid which had been broken and turned upside-down; the western part was a mixture of clunch, carstone, and tile set on edge.

## STRUCTURE 36 Sub-structures 42, 43

### SS42 Kiln

**S36** context T30/629

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase destroyed P6.1

Materials carstone BM1

Tile sandy unglazed (associated)

[22.11, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.08]

A sub-rectangular pit measuring approximately 0.70m by 0.55m was cut to a depth of 0.80m through the floor levels. Despite severe robbing, it could be seen to have been lined with carstone blocks, and had been subjected to intense burning.

### SS43 Kiln

**S36** context T30/396

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase destroyed P6.1

Materials carstone BM1, BA2

[22.11, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.08]

Butting up to the south-west corner of the building, and partially blocking the entrance was an irregularly-shaped pit approximately 4.30m long by 2.40m wide. A large quantity of carstone rubble mixed with charcoal filled the void; large blocks of stone along its western edge appeared to be lining or base of structure. It was associated with quantities of burnt clay which may have formed a superstructure.

## STRUCTURE 38 Sub-structures 44, 45

### SS44 Kiln or furnace

S38 context T30/266

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase in disuse later P5.5

Phase destroyed P6.2

Archaeomagnetic dating 14th century

[Stratigraphic date mid/late 14th]

Materials carstone BM1, BA2

[22.18, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.08, 30.09]

A sub-rectangular pit, slightly enlarged in the south corner, was cut into the floor of the building. The pit, around 0.40m square internally and 1m deep, was lined with carstone; the floor was lined with stiff blue clay which was sealed by a layer of charcoal apparently derived from oak. Part of the clay base was heavily scorched and hollowed, and the sides showed patchy areas of intense burning. Several broken copper alloy objects (misaid) were recorded in the later fill.

There were at least two distinct phases of fill. Arable weed seeds, field bean, and pea were present, along with two knives (Sf 2791, and [43.05/249]. The burning episodes, apparently at varying temperatures, need not have continued after phase 5.5 [Section 31].

### SS45 Kiln

S38 context T30/360

Phase constructed P6.2

Phase destroyed P6.2

Materials carstone BM2

[22.17, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.08]

To the east of SS44 and slightly overlapping the north-east corner of the rectangle of rammed clunch was an irregular deposit of carstone rubble set in a shallow depression. It was distinct in character from the parent structure walls which were made largely from large erratics, and was similar in form to SS43. The deposit was 4.50m long, 0.50m wide at its narrowest point, and swelled to 1.61m wide towards the south. The rubble showed indications of burning and was mixed with quantities of charcoal.

**STRUCTURE 41 A & B**  
**Sub-structures 30, 35, 40**

**SS30 Hearth**

**S41** context T30/804  
Phase constructed P5.4  
Phase destroyed P5.6  
Materials clay tile RM3  
[4.68=23.02, 4.76=23.03, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.10]

A clay tile hearth measuring 1.30m by 1.41m was placed centrally towards the eastern end of the original western room of **S41B**. Its edge-set tiles cut into the mixed, shallow loam floor surfaces. These were partly sealed when the hearth was modified and slightly extended in phase 5.5 when floor deposits overlapped its new edges.

**SS35 Hearth**

**S41** context T30/727  
Phase constructed P5.5  
Phase destroyed P6.1  
Materials clay tile RM3  
[4.76=23.03, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.10]

The truncated remnants of a tile hearth measuring about 1.20m by 1.20m were seen at the western end of the backfilled drainage gully in the extended building.

**SS40 Hearth**

**S41** context T30/700  
Phase constructed P5.5  
Phase destroyed P5.6  
Materials clay tile RM3  
[4.76=23.03, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.10]

A clay tile hearth was built over the east end of the backfilled gully **CF50** running down the centre of the western room. Made of edge-set tiles with the remains of a border set at right angles, it measured about 2.10m by 0.90m. It had been disturbed by later activity.

**STRUCTURE 43**  
**Sub-structures 22, 25, 26, 34, 37, 39, 46**

5.6			46	
5.5	34	39		37
5.4			25	26
5.3	22			

This structure was characterised by the number and variety of hearths and ovens used in the building over a period of time. Substantial areas of the structure were either not available for excavation or had been destroyed. There was no heating apparatus or burning visible in the southern portion that was excavated, and it is possible that the whole building did not function as a kitchen. The southern three rooms made way for the stable S42 in phase 4.3. For location plan of apparatus see [30.11].

**SS22 Oven**

S43 context T30/127

Phase constructed P5.3?

Phase destroyed P5.5

Archaeomagnetic dating negative

[Stratigraphic date ?early/mid-13th to mid/late 14th centuries]

Materials carstone BM2 and clunch rubble BM3 on rammed clunch and clay BA2; tile RM3

[4.42=23.06, 23.02, 23.03, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11, 30.13, 30.14]

This feature was badly truncated by the phase 6.1 quarry CF15 which had removed its northern part and destroyed its relationship with the northern room. It is likely that the oven was located in the north-west angle of the room. It comprised a sub-rectangular frame approximately 2m by 2m made of rubble carstone with some clunch. The floor of the feature, which measured 1m by about 1.50m comprised clunch, limestone, carstone, and clay tile seated on a rammed chalk and clay lining; the fire, evidenced by ash and charcoal, lay upon this 'lining'. This deposit also contained wheat grain and other carbonised plant remains Robinson [64].

The whole sub-structure was sealed by demolition debris comprising burnt rubble carstone which probably represented the remains of the collapsed superstructure.

### SS25 Hearth/Oven

S43 context T30/148

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.4

Archaeomagnetic dating 1260–1300

[Stratigraphic date mid/late 13th century]

Materials clay tile RM3 and carstone BM2; some clunch rubble BM3; sealed by BA5

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11, 30.12, 30.13]

A double hearth (SS25 and SS37) crossed a gap in the partition wall south of oven SS22. A sub-circular hearth comprising edge-set clay tiles was placed to the south of the wall. The tile floor measured about 1.30 m across; the carstone rubble surround featured mainly in the southern room, and was between 0.20m and 0.30m wide except for the western part which was 0.05m. It was partly sealed by a tiled extension eastwards of the party wall, and probably cut by SS37 to the north. The relationship was obscured by disturbance by SS27. The whole was sealed by a substantial layer of yellow mortar.

### SS26 Oven

S43 context T30/147.2

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.4

Archaeomagnetic dating 1310–1340

[Stratigraphic date mid-14th century]

Materials clunch ashlar BM3 with clunch and carstone rubble BM2 set in yellow mortar BA5

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11, 30.12]

SS37 was replaced by a well-built clunch oven SS26. Its southern part overlapped the line of the party wall and coincided with the southern limit. The mouth of the oven may have been fed from the southern room since the robbed superstructure seen in the northern room appeared to be continuous. The floor of the oven comprised clunch ashlar blocks, with an opening to the south 0.60m wide, where it abutted the repaired tile hearth SS25. The cooking area had a diameter of 1m and was partly defined by a drop in ground level. The floor of the feature was surrounded by a clear deposit of yellow mortar with a concentric area of clunch, carstone, and tile fragments. It was similar to SS23 in S23.

### SS34 Hearth

S43 context T30/170

Phase constructed ?P5.5

Phase destroyed ?P5.6

Materials carstone BM2 and clay BA2

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11]

Attached to the south side of the party wall, and to the west of SS25, was a sub-circular concentration of carstone rubble measuring around 1.50m by 0.80m. Severely truncated, its western part was best preserved, comprising close set carstone rubble walling about 0.50m wide. It surrounded a roughly circular area of burnt clay 0.61m diameter.

### SS37 Hearth

**S43** context T30/200

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.4

Materials clay tiles RM3 and carstone BM2

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11, 30.13]

An oval hearth comprising an edge-set floor of clay tiles was surrounded by a border of flat tiles. The feature was in a slight hollow with traces of carstone rubble which may have been a border similar to SS25. Its maximum dimensions were 1.71m by 1.42m, with the pitched tile floor 0.80m diameter. It appeared to cut SS25 to the south, but the two cooking areas may have been used together. It was replaced by SS26.

### SS39 Hearth

**S43** context T30/113

Phase constructed ?P5.5

Phase destroyed P5.6

Materials clay tile RM3, clunch BM3 and carstone BM2

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11]

In the south-east corner of the room to the south of the one housing SS25 was a fragment of edge-set tiled hearth which probably butted the wall to the south. The tile floor measured 1.20m by 1.15m. What remained was well made with close-set tiles interspersed with a few pieces of clunch and tile rubble. A concentration of stone to the north suggested a carstone surround. Associated with it was a dense pebble spread crossing a gap in the east wall which may have represented a threshold leading to a carstone and pebble track on the earthwork slope.

### SS46 Oven

**S43** context T30/21

Phase constructed P5.6

Phase destroyed P5.6

Materials clay tile RM3 and carstone BM2

[4.42=23.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11]

The fragmentary remains of a hearth with similar characteristics to SS25 were seen late in the sequence. Appearing to postdate SS22 and SS26, it lay to the north of the party wall east of SS26/37, cutting SS37. It comprised a cooking floor in excess of 1.30m by 0.70m, made of edge-set tile which probably butted the wall. It had a carstone rubble surround to the north.

## STRUCTURE 54 Sub-structures 29, 36

### SS29 Hearth within wall

S54 context T7/441.1

Phase constructed P5.4

Phase destroyed P5.5

Materials pitched tile RM3 and clunch blocks BM3, BA5

[4.56=24.05, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11]

A small rectangular hearth measuring approximately 0.72m by 0.40m was constructed within the depth of the eastern wall of the northern chamber of S54. It comprised edge-set clay tile and clunch blocks set within a void within the wall. A rectangular surround of clunch blocks 1.20m wide projected into the room by 0.30m. This was decorated with an incised line which followed the dimensions of the surround. The chimney flue would have been above the level of the excavated remains. It was replaced by SS36.

### SS36 Chimney base and hearth

S54 context T7/441

Phase constructed P5.5

Phase destroyed P5.6

Materials pitched tile RM3 with reused clunch surround BM3, BA5

[24.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.11]

The modification of the eastern side of the northern chamber of S54 saw the insertion of a chimney and hearth complex. This replaced a smaller tile hearth SS29. Inside the room, the east wall contained a void 1.31m wide at the mouth and 0.72m deep, nearly, but not completely taking up the depth of the wall whose superstructure was only 0.80m wide.

The hearth void was slightly rounded and lined with plaster at the back. It was floored with edge-set clay tiles bonded in mortar, perpendicular to the hearth front, but laid concentrically around the back. It reused the clunch hearth surround belonging to SS29: this was offset to the south, overlapping at the south and falling short by 0.22m at the north. Some edge-set tile cut into it. The surround was clearly complete, since the decorative border was intact. The excavator noted that there were four, possibly more, stakeholes representing a fireguard cut through the floor level.

The eastern wall was largely rebuilt and a massive chimney base constructed to the east of the room, projecting 0.40m outside. The chimney base comprised carstone with some clunch set in yellow sandy mortar; its construction trench contained quantities of worked clunch. It lay upon the foundations of CF19, a cistern serving nearby accommodation.



## STRUCTURE 57 Sub-structure 58

### SS58 Chimney base

**S57** context T23/ 123  
Phase constructed P5.5  
Phase destroyed P5.5  
Materials masonry footing BM1, 2, BA1  
[4.82=24.09, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.15]

An H-shaped, back-to-back chimney base filled the centre of the northern chamber of the structure. It measured 5m north-south, and had a probable maximum east-west dimension of 4m: the eastern part of the chamber was badly truncated. The western portion had a fireplace measuring approximately 1m<sup>2</sup>, centrally placed within the chimney.

## STRUCTURE 63 Sub-structures 47, 59

### SS47 Chimney base

**S63** context T13/12  
Phase constructed P6.1  
Phase destroyed P6.1-6.2  
Materials carstone blocks BM1, 2 set in mortar BA5  
[5.08=25.04, 5.11, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.15, 30.16]

A rectangular chimney base was set in a construction trench 0.36m deep. The structure was solidly built of large carstone blocks and rubble infill measuring 1.30m by 2.10m. The burning area had been robbed, and it appeared to be sited outside and to the west of the room it served.

### SS59 Hearth

**S63** context T13/202,203  
Phase constructed P6.1  
Phase destroyed P6.1-6.2  
Materials mortar BA5 and clay tiles RM3  
[5.08=25.04, 5.10, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.15]

A square hearth measuring 1.71m by 1.72m was seated directly over **SS33** of **S17**. A timber framework cut into the earlier hearth, supporting the plank floor into which was set a mortar base for the edge-set tiles that were mostly robbed. The hearth had a border of squared clunch. It was set centrally to the main part of the room which must have been open to the roof.

## STRUCTURE 65 Sub-structure 48

### SS48 Hearth

**S65** context T13/135

Phase constructed P6.1

Phase destroyed P6.1

Materials clay tile RM3, BM2

[5.12=25.05, 5.14, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05, 30.15, 30.17, 30.18, 49.04]

The middle part of **S65** had a dwarf partition wall opposite the western door. On either side of this partition was a rectangular area of edge-set clay tiles. The southern hearth was better preserved, and was clearly integral with the construction of the wall. It comprised rows of tiles set to run parallel with the wall, forming a burning floor 1.20m by 0.85m. It had indications of a carstone and tile surround.

The northern hearth was disturbed but appeared to be a mirror image of the other. Each hearth dominated a small rectangular chamber, and was probably too large for domestic use. Part of a possible iron fireguard [49.04/583] was found in the building.

## STRUCTURE 86 Sub-structures 3, 55

### SS3 Smithing hearth base?

**S86** contexts T23/178, 203-206

Phase constructed P5.1

Phase destroyed P5.2

Materials timber supports BM6

[27.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05]

An alternative function is suggested for a grouping of features on the northern edge of **S18**. They formed a rectangle of posts covering an area 1.40m square which enclosed a distinctive oval area of burning; this could represent the remains of a temporary industrial (smithing) hearth.

### SS55 Hearth

**S86** contexts T23/286-288

Phase constructed P5.1

Phase destroyed P5.2

Materials burnt clay loam BA3 and clunch blocks BM3

[27.06, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05]

In the smaller eastern part of the structure lay a burnt area which appeared to be associated with clunch hearthstones. This was repaired by the laying of a further clunch slab. The whole area was surrounded by burnt loams which were probably the contemporary floor levels. Two postholes might indicate the remnant of a smoke canopy or cooking apparatus.

## STRUCTURE 96 Sub-structure 8

### SS8 Industrial Feature/Hearth

**S21** context T13/1232  
Phase constructed P5.2  
Phase destroyed P5.2  
Materials mortar ?BA5, FM4, BM2  
Tiles blue-grey (associated with destruction)  
[28.02, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05]

A feature of indeterminate function was cut into the platform constructed for **S21**, and was probably broadly contemporary with, or just preceding, **S28**. A pit measuring 2m by 1.31m and about 0.30m deep appears to have been lined with mortar comprising fine sand, crushed chalk, and pebble with an occasional small fragment of carstone. A number of arcs of stakeholes and larger cut features were seen as voids in its mortar base. Several possible phases were recognised.

Within this, deposited in a sequence of distinct yet intermixed and interleaving deposits were lenses of mortar, charcoal, sand, and loam which may represent periods of use. The upper layers contained clunch and carstone mixed with mortar and sand. **S28** was built over these; the clay tile associated with **SS8** belongs to phase 5.3 construction. The feature has affinities with the mortar mixers from Northampton.

## STRUCTURE 103 Sub-structure 60

### SS60 Hearth base

**S103** contexts WB  
Phase constructed ?P5.2  
Phase destroyed P5.4  
Materials clay BA2 then tile RM3  
[28.08, 29.01, 29.02, 29.03, 29.05]

Circular patch of burnt clay about 0.45m diameter had indications of being refloored with edge-set clay tiles, probably in phase 5.3.