

**BENTLEY CAIRN,
WALSALL, BLACK
COUNTRY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL
TRENCHING
2006**

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Project No. 1438

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SUMMARY

Archaeological trial trenching on land at Bentley Cairn, Walsall, Black Country (NGR SO 9855 9899) was commissioned by the Bentley Cairn Restoration Group and Walsall MBC. The work was undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology in May 2006. A total of three trenches were excavated to locate and identify any archaeological remains associated with the three Halls known to have been present in the area.

The earliest archaeological feature identified on the site was a ditch, which contained a large fragment of late Medieval pottery. Other undated features were identified that may also be of a similar date. The site of the Jacobean Hall was not identified, although brick and pottery likely to be associated with this phase was recovered.

Despite the area being subjected to extensive mining, archaeological structures, deposits and artefacts associated with the last phase of the hall were identified in all three trenches excavated. This phase of the hall was probably constructed around 1800 at the height of the agricultural revolution, and the hall and its associated buildings are indicative of the trend of model farms of this period. The extent of survival of below-ground archaeological remains was impressive, and demonstrated that further work in the area would be likely to locate the Jacobean phase of the hall and enhance the archaeological record of the later phase.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the project

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by the Bentley Cairn Restoration Group and Walsall MBC to undertake a programme of trial trenching as part of a community project at Bentley Cairn (hereinafter referred to as the site).

This report outlines the results of a programme of trial trenching carried out during September 2006, and has been prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 2001).

Previous work includes geophysical survey, which was undertaken in May 2006 by Birmingham Archaeology, with the help of the local community.

The evaluation conformed to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation, in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

1.2 Location and geology

The site is located in open space around Bentley Cairn, which is believed to occupy the site of the former Bentley Hall (Black Country SMR 2642), which is centred on NGR SO 9855 9899 (Fig. 1). The present use of the site is as a community green space, and the western side of the hill is occupied by Bentley's Emmanuel Church.

The underlying bedrock in the region is composed of shales, sandstone and mudstone, primarily from the Upper Carboniferous Coal Measures of the South Staffordshire Coalfield.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

At least two halls are known to have occupied the site in the historic period. The site itself is located at the summit of a hill, which affords great views of the surrounding hinterland, and would have been a most impressive location for a manorial residence. There is also a documentary reference for a moated manor house in Bentley during the medieval period. However there is no surviving evidence for this either on the ground or in the cartographic record, and it is unlikely to have been situated atop the hill as there would have been a problem with water supply in this location.

A manorial residence dating to the Jacobean period (early 17th century) is known to have been located within the bounds of the site (Plate 1), and there are several etchings of the building surviving in the archives. This building is significant in that it is believed that Charles II hid here following his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651, eventually escaping dressed as the serving maid of Jane Lane, daughter of Colonel Lane the then owner. However, the exact location of this structure as well as its ancillary buildings (also depicted in the etchings) remains unknown.

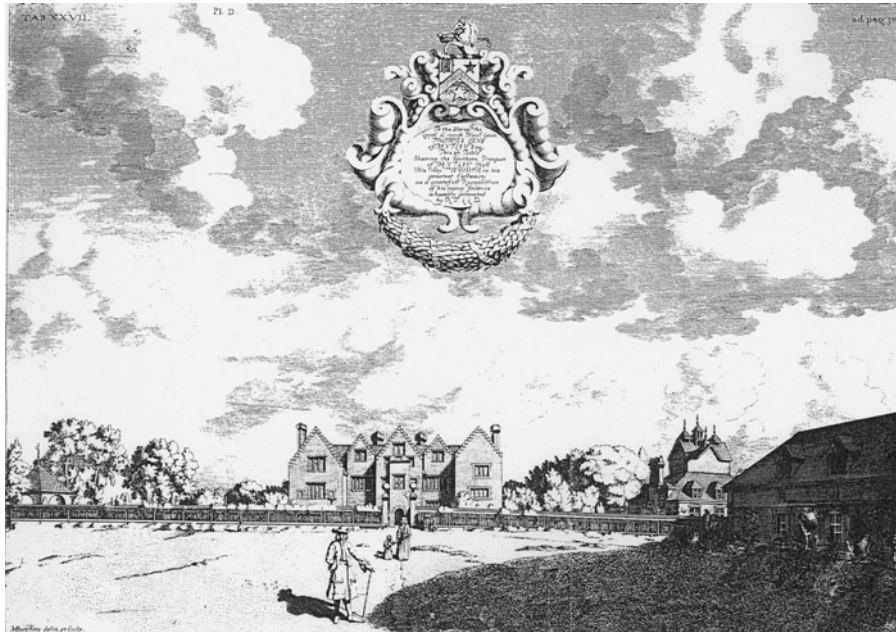


Plate 1 The Jacobean Hall (From Stebbing Shaw)

The Lanes held the manor until 1748 when it was sold to Joseph Turton of Wolverhampton. The Turtons were a family of some wealth and status, with Joseph Turton being an ironmaster (Shaw, M. in Cuttler et al 2006). He had previously let the Old Hall in Wolverhampton, another very prestigious Black Country residence. The Turtons were also known to have made significant changes to Wolverhampton Old Hall (*ibid.*), and by the end of the 18th century Bentley Hall was said to have been 'entirely mutilated' and converted into a modern farm house (BCSMR 2642). Little of the Jacobean building was said to have remained apart from the stables and a summer house in the garden. In *The Wanderings of a Pen and Pencil* by F. P. Palmer and A. Crowquill writing in 1846, Bentley is described thus:

"The ancient seat of Bentley has been sadly mutilated. The right wing of the present mansion is deficient. The stables to the right, sheltered by trees, and the summer-house in the garden to the left, were of the old structure. The hall of Charles the Second's time presented a front with many windows, adorned with stone-work in the prevailing style. In the centre was a projection of building, viz. the entrance porch and a turret or chamber, square, and of moderate relief; the wings projected boldly, and were surmounted by gables of ziz-zag outline. It had a high pitched roof, and the chimneys were clustered in the plain fashion subsequent to the domestic Gothic. Wide extent of outbuilding there would be – kennels, offices, and mews for well-trained hawks;..."

(Palmer, F. P. and Crowquill, A. 1846, 6)

The last hall known to have occupied the site dated to the 1800s (Plate 2), and an account of 1846 talks of the hall undergoing 'thorough repairs'. The area around Bentley Hall was mined for ironstone in the 1850s to 1860s and for coal in the early 20th century (BCSMR 2642). The Slater family was known to have been in residence during this time (Plate 3), and the Hall was

subsequently demolished in 1929 following subsidence from the nearby mining activity (Plate 4).



Plate 2 – The Last Hall



Plate 3 – John Slater c.1920s (*photo supplied by Sally Birch*)



Plate 4 – Demolition c.1929

A stone cairn, erected in the 1930s by the Local History Society, is believed to mark the location of this last hall. The cairn has recently been relocated slightly to the north of its original site and refurbished by the local community group.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the archaeological trial trenching was to determine the extent, survival and significance of archaeological remains associated with the halls, as well as identifying possible locations for further work which the community could be involved with, and requirements for any in situ preservation of archaeological remains.

More specific aims were to:

- Test anomalies identified by geophysical survey.
- Identify whether the hill was a natural geological feature or created by mining activity.
- Identify the extent of quarrying and landscaping in the area and ascertain what impact this had had on any surviving archaeological deposits.

4 METHODOLOGY

Trenches were located over anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, specifically targeting possible buildings in order to identify which phases of hall they belonged to (Fig. 2). A total of three trenches were excavated, totalling 50mX2m of trenching opened during the course of the evaluation.

Trench 1 was 22m long, and located to test a horseshoe-shaped anomaly to the east of the location of the last hall. It was also targeted at identifying the northern range of ancillary buildings associated with the last hall which are depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 3).

Trench 2 was 14m long and was located immediately to the south west of the cairn to test high resistance anomalies possibly relating to buried walls or foundations within the area of the hall itself.

Trench 3 was 11m long and located to the south of the site to test anomalies believed to be associated with farm buildings associated with the last hall.

Additional work during the open day on Saturday 30th September included augering to test for the presence of archaeological deposits that had not been exposed.

All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand. For health and safety reasons all trenches were backfilled at the end of each day.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, even where no archaeology was present. Trenches were planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sketch sections were drawn through all significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:20. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* trench cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using colour print, colour slide and digital photography.

The full site archive includes all artefactual remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992). Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with an appropriate repository subject to permission from the landowner.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

Detailed summaries of the individual trenches are presented in Appendix 1 and full details are available in the project archive. In the following sections both feature (cut) and context numbers are highlighted in bold. The results are presented in chronological, and trench order. The plans of each trench are illustrated (Fig. 4).

5.2 Subsoil (natural)

The natural subsoil was exposed in two out of three trenches (Trenches 1 and 3, **1004** and **3011** respectively). It comprised a light yellow/orange silty sand. The natural subsoil was not encountered in Trench 2 due to significant depths of deposits relating both to archaeological features, and subsequent landscaping.

5.3 Summary of archaeological features and deposits.

Archaeological features, structures and deposits were found in all of the trenches. The archaeological remains identified included:

- A ditch dating to the 16th century.
- Two walls and an internal flagstone floor from the last hall.
- Three walls, a cobbled surface and a brick surface from part of the stable block related to the last hall.
- Undated but possibly late-medieval features and layers.

5.4 Late Medieval - Early post-medieval

A ditch aligned roughly east-west (**1007** Fig. 4 and Plate 5) was identified in Trench 1. This ditch was approximately 1m wide and 0.4m deep, with a shallow V-shaped profile. A large piece of unabraded pottery dating to the 16th century was recovered from its fill (Plate 6). A second ditch/gully (**1009** Fig. 4) was identified in the centre of the trench, aligned roughly northeast-southwest, and, on the basis of stratigraphy and form, is likely to be of a similar date. Sealing both these features was a light brown layer of sandy silt with rounded stones (**1003**), which was undated, but may also relate to this period (this layer was only present in the northern part of the trench where it had not been truncated by deposits relating to the Victorian farm buildings).



Plate 5 – **1007**



Plate 6 – Pottery from **1007**

In trench 3, a second ditch feature was identified (**3005** Plate 7), aligned approximately north-south. This feature was also sealed by a layer of light grey-brown clay silt with rounded stones (**3007**), similar to layer **1003** identified in Trench 1.



Plate 7 - **3005**

5.5 17th- Century

No structures relating to the Jacobean Hall were identified during this phase of archaeological work. A post-hole (**1008** Plate 8) identified in Trench 1, however, contained two large brick fragments of this date.



Plate 8 - **1008**

Pottery of this date was also recovered from some of the overlying layers (**1000** and **2003**), which may also have been associated with the Jacobean phase of the Hall (see below).

5.6 19th- Century

The evaluation identified walls, floors and surfaces associated with both the main building (the hall) and the ancillary building.

THE LATER HALL – Two walls at right angles to each other were identified at the southeastern end of Trench 2 (**2004** and **2006** Fig 4, Plates 9 and 10). Wall **2006** was aligned north-south and was constructed from large, machine sawn sandstone blocks, and had the remains of brick steps (**2007**) constructed above it. It appeared to abut wall **2004**, which was aligned east-west, which was also constructed from large rectangular stone foundations with several courses of brick wall above.



Plate 9 - **2004, 2005, 2006**



Plate 10 - **2004, 2005, 2010**

On either side of wall **2004**, a deposit of black-grey silt-sand containing rubble fragments and charcoal was identified (**2011**). There was no evidence for a cut for wall **2004** through this layer, and the full depth could not be ascertained. Overlying layer **2011** was a deep layer of pink mortar and orange sand (**2010**). This layer was also present to the north and south of wall **2004**, though it was deeper on the southern side (Plate 10).

A grey flagstone floor (**2005** Plates 9 and 10) was identified to the north of wall **2004**. This floor surface abutted wall **2006**, and partly abutted and partly overlaid wall **2004**. This floor was set into the levelling deposits of pink mortar and orange sand **2010**.

ANCILLARY BUILDINGS - At the northern end of Trench 1 (Fig. 4) a substantial east-west aligned wall (**1005** Plates 11 and 12) was identified. It was constructed by a course of thin red bricks laid on top of a stepped foundation formed by large rectangular stone blocks, rubble and mortar. It was approximately 0.5m wide and 0.5m deep with the foundation course sitting directly on the natural subsoil. Parallel to this wall (to the south) was a second wall (**1006** Plates 11 and 12), which was less substantial, and comprised one course of bricks and pinkish white mortar.



Plate 11 - **1005/1006**



Plate 12 - **1005/1006**

At the southern end of Trench 1, a second substantial wall similar to **1005** was observed (**1013**, Fig. 4 and Plate 13). This wall (**1013**) was 4-5 courses deep and also contained rubble in its foundations. It was abutted by a flagstone surface (**1012** Plate 13) which was damaged and uneven in places. This was defined to the north by a fourth brick wall (**1011**, Fig. 4).



Plate 13 - **1011/1012/1013**

Although much of Trench 3 was truncated by the cut for a modern service, archaeological deposits were present on its southern edge. At the western end of Trench 3, a brick floor was identified (**3003**, Fig. 4 and Plate 14).



Plate 14 - **3003**



Plate 15 - **3004**

A brick and sandstone wall (**3004** Plate 15), aligned north-south was also identified at the eastern end of the trench. It comprised a foundation course of large faced sandstone blocks and rubble, with four courses of bricks constructed above it. A possible cut for wall **3004** was identified on the western side.

OTHER FEATURES AND DEPOSITS - In the centre of Trench 1 a shallow pit was identified (**1010**, Fig. 4 and Plate 16). This pit (**1010**) truncated the earlier ditch **1009** and layer **1003**, and contained late Post-medieval building rubble including brick fragments, tile and charcoal/coal.



Plate 16 – **1010**

Sealing the features **1008**, **1010** and the earlier layer **1007** at the northern end of Trench 1 was a levelling layer comprising coke/charcoal, brick and tile (**1002**). Sealing this layer was a deposit of re-deposited natural (**1001**), which in turn was sealed by the topsoil (**1000**). The walls and surface at the southern end of the trench were present immediately below the topsoil.

Overlying the brick surface in Trench 3 was a discrete dump of building rubble predominantly comprising tile (**3008**). Sealing this, and present throughout the trench were further deposits of building rubble including brick and tile (**3002**), which in turn were sealed by a layer of redeposited natural (**3001**) and the topsoil (**3000**).

At the northwestern end of Trench 2, deep stratigraphy was encountered, with both demolition phases and subsequent phases of landscaping identified. A sondage was machine excavated to a depth of 1.5m to test this stratigraphy, but this deposit could not be bottomed for health and safety reasons.

At the base of the sondage, a demolition deposit comprising black sand silt containing rounded stones and rubble was identified (**2009**). This deposit was present throughout the base of the trench, though it was not fully excavated.

Overlying this deposit were layers of grey sand silt with mortar and tile (**2008**) and a deep layer of mixed yellow grey silty sand with large amounts of modern demolition debris (**2003**). This layer sealed the structures identified at the southeastern end of the trench, and in turn was sealed by a layer of redeposited natural (**2002**), and topsoil (**2000**).

6 THE FINDS

6.1 The pottery by Stephanie Rátkai (Appendix 2)

The cooking pot or pipkin recovered from **1007** (Plate 6 above) was in good condition and unabraded. The wheel-thrown, oxidised vessel appeared to date to the late medieval period (15th-16th centuries) on typological grounds. The heavy sooting on the exterior suggests that it was used for cooking. Although a post-medieval sherd was also found in **1007**, it was small and somewhat abraded, in contrast to the cooking pot/pipkin sherd which weighed 180g and

was in good condition. This suggests that the post-medieval coarseware sherd was intrusive and that the backfilling of the ditch probably took place in the 16th century.

The remainder of the pottery was of post-medieval date. It consisted primarily of dark brown or black glazed coarsewares (Plate 17). Bowls were the commonest form with storage jars much less well represented. These rather basic utilitarian wares were used throughout the post-medieval period and are associated with food preparation and storage. A few better quality wares are represented by single sherds of slip-coated ware, tin-glazed earthenware, yellow ware and three sherds (two vessels) of blackware. Formal dining and/or tea wares were represented by white salt-glazed stoneware and creamware sherds (Plate 18). However, the overall impression of the pottery is that it is mainly utilitarian in nature and may have derived from kitchens or storage areas.



Plate 17 – Coursewares



Plate 18 – Formal dining/tea wares

6.2 Other finds by Erica Macey-Bracken

Context	Tile	Brick	Bottle Glass	Window Glass	Vessel Glass	Animal Bone	Bottle Stopper	Coal
1000	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1002	3	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1007	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1008	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1012	-	-	6	45	-	-	-	-
2003	22	-	75	1	1	-	1	-
2010	2	-	-	1	-	2g	-	-
3004	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
3008	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Only a small quantity of finds was recovered from the site, however the assemblage can still be used to glimpse the everyday lives of the occupants as well as shedding light on the structures that may have surrounded them as well as the objects that they handled on a daily

basis. Further excavation of additional material would give a more comprehensive picture of life on the site through different key historical periods.

As well as the pottery (Rátkai above), the site also contained ceramic tile and brick, glass, animal bone, coal and a bottle stopper from a local company.

The bulk of the finds assemblage was made up of ceramic roof tile. The tile was made from dense, hard fired clay, with most of the tile having a similar appearance to engineering brick. The remainder of the tile was made from a hard orange sandy fabric. The tile was all very functional – no glazed or decorated pieces were recovered, although one piece had the letters 'ARY' stamped on one surface. This may be part of the name of the company that manufactured the tile.

Two brick fragments were from traditionally-made bricks, which had been made in sand-lined moulds. Traces of the sand from the mould were seen on the surfaces of the bricks, whilst the surface which was at the top of the mould shows brushmarks made during the manufacturing process, when the raw clay was pressed into shape in the mould. The relatively small size of the bricks (2¼ inches x 4¼ inches x ca 8¾ inches) and their location in the posthole in Trench 1 (**1008**) suggests these bricks may have come from the Jacobean Hall that stood on the site (Steve Litherland, pers. comm.).

The majority of the glass recovered from the site was from wine bottles. The bottle glass was all dark green, and most of the fragments were covered with the patina characteristic of aged glass. The glass was very fragmentary, but base fragments from eleven separate bottles were recovered, as were parts of the neck and the rim of two other bottles. Other types of glass objects recovered from the site included 47 small fragments of clear window glass, which were recovered from Trenches 1 and 2, and part of the base of a clear glass wine glass from Trench 2.

The remainder of the assemblage from the site consisted of a single fragment of animal rib of an indeterminate medium sized mammal, most probably a sheep (David Brown, pers. comm.), a piece of coal and a metal frame for a bottle stopper, with the white ceramic stopper still attached. The stopper was printed with the name E.M.ALLEN & SON, WALSALL in red ink. The company's telephone number, 976, was also printed in red.

7 DISCUSSION

The history of Bentley Hall, as with all similar buildings, is not merely defined by its architectural structures, but that of its place within the landscape and its significance to the people living and working there. Despite there being little in the way of information regarding the specific history of the Hall, much can be inferred by its existence in the wider context of social history.

The archaeological evaluation of the site of Bentley Hall identified that although the area had been subject to extensive coal mining and subsequent landscaping during its history, the survival of below-ground archaeological remains was very good. Not only wall foundations, but both internal and external floor surfaces survived in all the areas evaluated.

The moated site at Bentley is known only by records, as no physical or cartographic evidence survives to indicate its precise location. The location of the later phases of the Hall on the summit of a hill suggests that they were not constructed over the medieval structures.

The earliest archaeology on site was represented by cut features, including a ditch (**1007**) which contained 15th – 16th century pottery, and undated gullies. However, although the gullies were undated, they were all sealed by a layer of light brown silt and gravel, present in both Trench 1 and 3, and therefore stratigraphically similar to the dated ditch section. It is possible that these features are either contemporary with, or even pre-dated the Jacobean phase of the Hall.

The location of the Jacobean Hall on top of the hill can be inferred from etchings (Plate 1) and from its depiction on Yate's map of Staffordshire 1775 (Fig. 5). On this map, Bentley Hall is shown as a comparatively large building, with woodland to the north, and a long tree lined avenue to the south. Unlike other halls and substantial buildings on this map, it is highlighted with a shaded circle, indicating its prominence and importance in the landscape.

This current phase of work did not locate the site of the Jacobean Hall, though the brick used as post packing in the posthole in Trench 1 was of this date, and is likely to originate from the Hall. Also some of the pottery recovered from Trenches 1 and 2, dates from the late 17th-early 18th century, and may therefore be associated with the demolition of the Jacobean Hall.

The structures that were excavated during the evaluation were associated with the later Hall on the site. Within Trench 2, the north-south wall identified (**2006**) has been interpreted as the external wall of the building, with the east-west wall (**2004**) abutting it. The floor levelling deposits on either side of the east-west wall were similar and suggesting that this wall was an internal wall, with the opening between them representing a doorway. The grey slate floor **2005** was laid partially over the east-west wall **2004**, further suggesting that this was an internal doorway. The deep deposits to the west of the north-south wall are indicative of substantial amounts of landscaping in this area, perhaps levelling up a garden terrace on this side of the house. This terrace is possibly evident on the Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 3) as a dotted line against the west side of the building.

Trenches 1 and 3 contained structural evidence relating to the stables and yard surfaces. The pottery recovered from Trench 1 was predominantly functional, utilitarian and low status, which is inkeeping with its location within auxiliary buildings.

Historically it is known that the hall and the auxiliary buildings underwent changes during the 19th century, and most likely became a 'model farm'.

The Victorian Hall, as well as occupying a similar position in the landscape to that of the Jacobean Hall, also occupies a position within the overall development of this period. The traditional period of the agricultural revolution (c.1740-1870) was the period of most rapid agricultural change prior to the late 20th century (Wade Martins 2002, 2).

The period was characterised by a desire for both beauty and utility, and change, development and productivity along with a social conscience to improve the lot of the workers and animals, were aspired to by some, if not all, landowners of the time. The result was model farmsteads; with new buildings designed and built expressly to achieve these aims. Not everyone of the time was convinced they were a good thing, as Wade Martins (2002, 4) says 'The agricultural engineer, George Andrews, wrote that farmers were generally against model farmsteads as they associated them with *'the practices of those gentlemen who, having pockets which overflow with wealth derived from other sources, erect the most costly places imaginable, and carry on their agricultural operation regardless of the great question whether it will pay or not.'* Bentley Hall, with Joseph Turton as landowner, might very well have fallen into this category.

However, these building types as a whole and the innovative spirit that they represent are of significant historical importance, and the monumental, flamboyant and optimistic designs of the Victorians attest to the triumph of this new industrial age (*ibid.* 5). The increase in mechanisation and other labour-saving techniques, as well as the scientific understanding of livestock and fertilisers, can all be seen in the changing design of planned and model farmsteads (*ibid.*). Even where standing buildings are no longer present, the archaeological record may preserve important information regarding the changes that were the result of these new agricultural innovations.

The archaeological deposits correlate well with the results of the geophysical survey, and have served to enhance and aid interpretation of this evidence. The structures that have been identified also correlate well with the cartographic evidence. The walls in Trenches 1 and 2 can be plotted against walls shown on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, as can the flagstone surface in Trench 1. The wall and surfaces in Trench 3 are slightly more problematic, though it is likely that the wall and surface identified in this trench are related to the structures depicted on this map in this area, and it is difficulties in overlaying the older maps onto the modern ones, similar to the problems encountered during the geophysical survey, that has resulted in the mis-alignment of the structures and maps.

The significance of the archaeological results should not be underestimated. The success of the evaluation in determining the presence, date and level of survival of archaeological remains from the latest phase of the Hall, is indicative of the potential survival of remains from earlier phases of the hall elsewhere on the site.

Further work could therefore include geophysical survey and evaluation to attempt to locate the position of the Jacobean Hall. The level of survival of the archaeological remains is also important, as it is possible that enough below-ground remains are present in order to identify specific rooms, as well as interpreting room functions, for both the Jacobean and Victorian Hall.

The importance of the site to the local community, and the significance of the site within the community should also be taken into consideration when assessing the requirements for further work in the area. The involvement of the local community with all or any further archaeological work at Bentley Cairn should be encouraged.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Fig.1



Fig.2

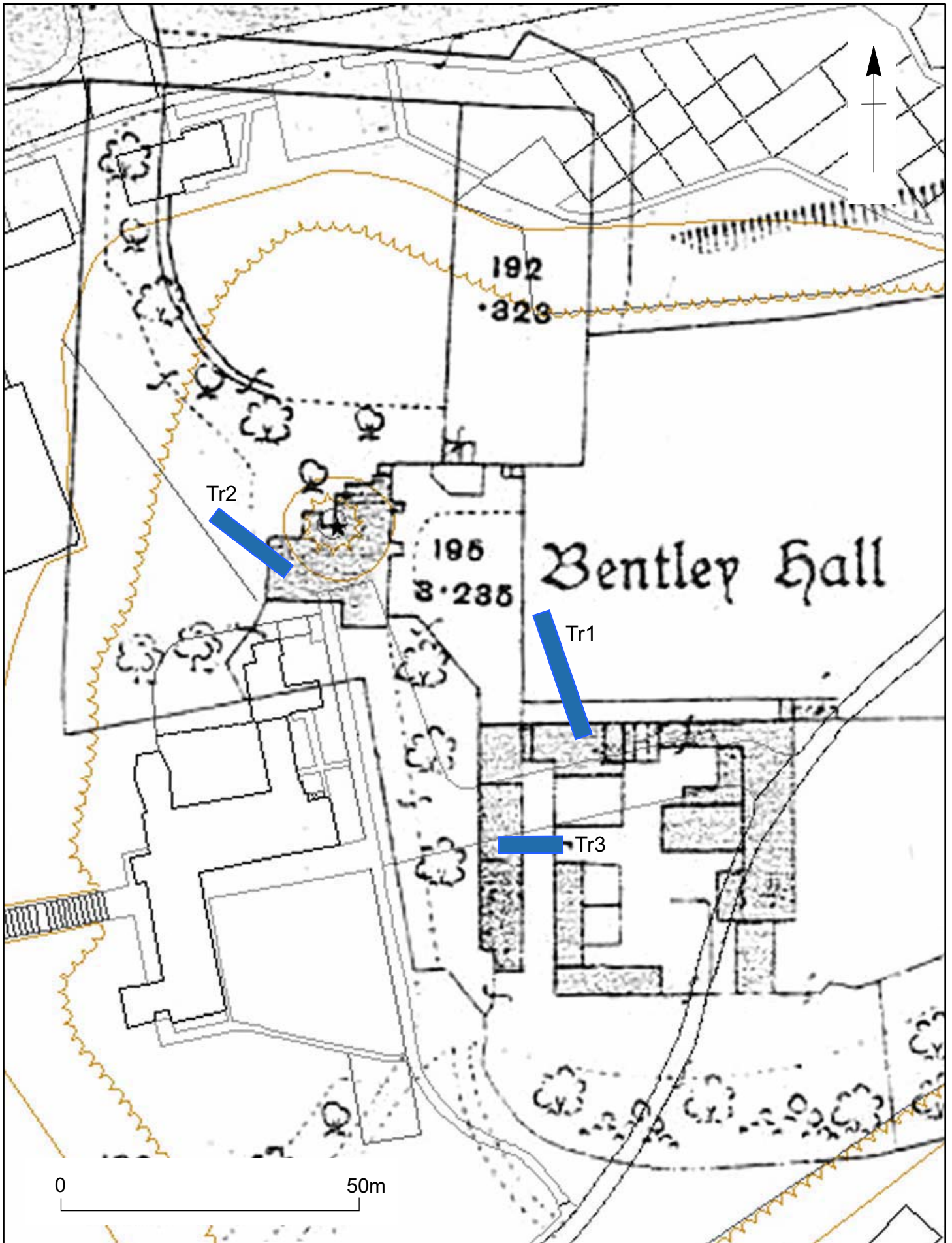


Fig.3

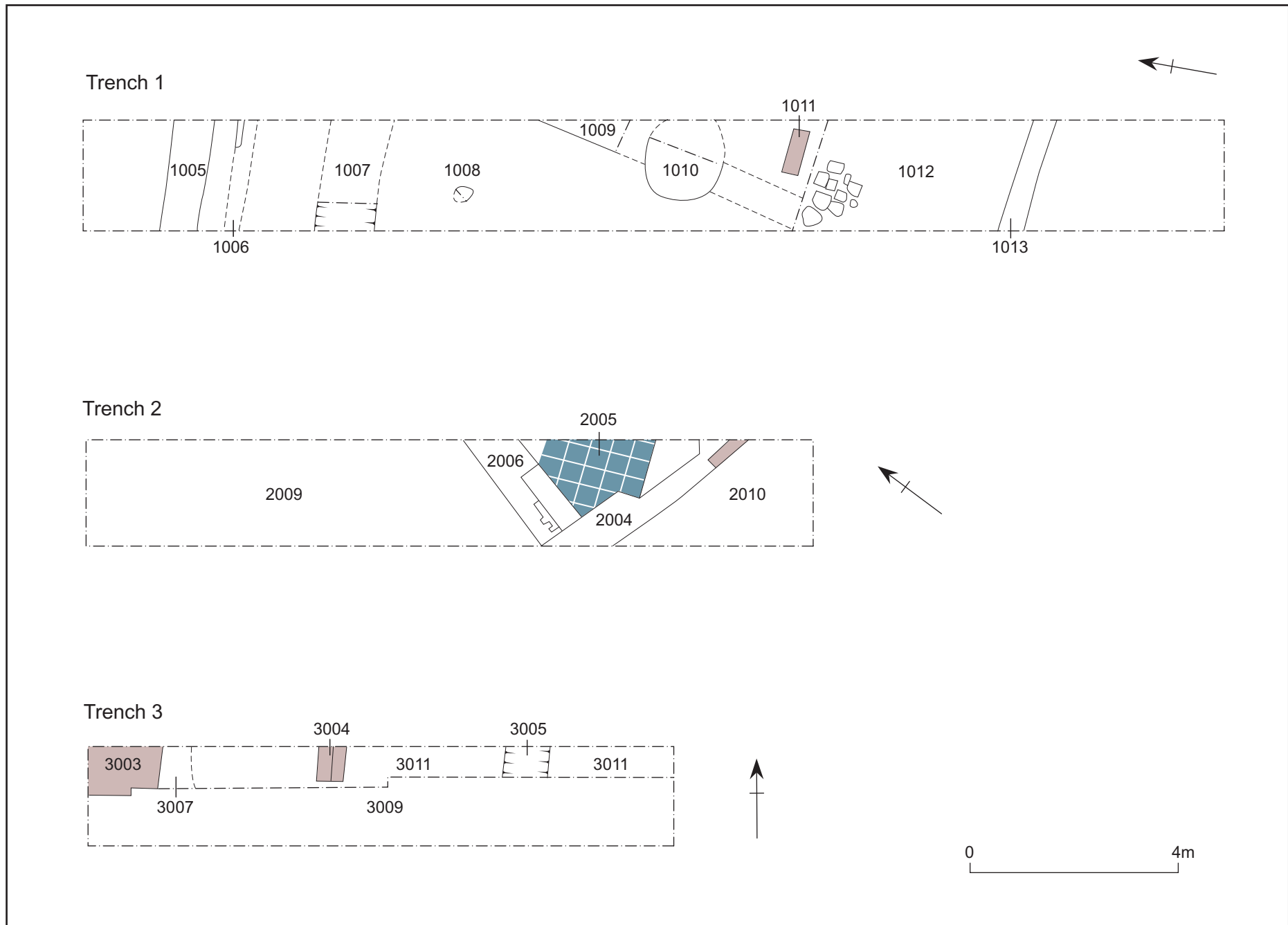


Fig.4



Fig.5

Trench Number	Strat. Number	Type	Assoc. Strat No.	Description	Width/Length/Depth	Findings
1 Summary – 22m x 2m aligned north-south,						
1	1000	Layer		Topsoil –sand silt loam	D-0.1m – 0.2m	Post-medieval pottery, tile and brick etc
1	1001	Layer		Re-deposited natural, yellow orange sand silt clay not continuous throughout trench	D-0m – 0.25m	
1	1002	Layer		Black silt sand with much coke/charcoal, brick and tile	D-0.2m – 0.3m	Post-medieval pottery, glass
1	1003	Layer		Light brown sand silt with rounded stones	D-0.2m – 0.3m	
1	1004	Natural		Yellow/orange sand silt		
1	1005	Wall		Wall, aligned east-west, constructed from 1 course bricks on top of faced stone and rubble foundation	W-0.5m D-0.5m	
1	1006	Wall		Wall, aligned east-west, constructed from one course bricks on top of thin layer of mortar	W-0.3m D-0.1m	
1	1007	Ditch		East-west aligned ditch, V-shaped section, filled with light brown silt with large fragments of charcoal/coke	W-1.0m D-0.4m	16 th century pottery fragment, tile
1	1008	Post-hole		Small round post-hole	Diam-0.4m D-0.3m	Brick, tile
1	1009	Ditch/gully		Northwest-southeast aligned ditch/gully	W-1.2m D-0.25m	
1	1010	Pit		Circular pit, cut through 1003 and 1009	Diam-1.2m D-0.3m	
1	1011	Wall		Partial remains of wall aligned east-west, 1 course deep, at edge of surface 1012	W-0.4m D – 0.1m	
1	1012	Surface		Well worn cobble and flagstone surface, 1 course deep, disturbed in places	W-4m D-0.1m	Post-medieval pottery, glass
1	1013	Wall		Wall, aligned east-west, constructed from 4-5 courses of bricks, on top of faced stone and rubble foundation	W-0.35m D-0.5m	

Trench Number	Strat. Number	Type	Assoc. Strat No.	Description	Width/Length/Depth	Finds
2 Summary – 14x 2m aligned northwest-southeast						
2	2000	Layer		Topsoil – grey brown silty clay	D-0.17m	
2	2001	Layer		Thin layer beneath topsoil	D – 0.05m	
2	2002	Layer		Redeposited natural, depth varies widely throughout trench	D – 0.15m – 0.4m	
2	2003	Layer		Demolition debris, brick, mortar, tile mixed with yellow grey silt sand	D – 0.8m	Post-medieval pottery, tile, glass
2	2004	Wall		Brick and sandstone wall, aligned east-west, not bottomed	W – 0.5m	
2	2005	Surface		Grey flagstone surface, likely an internal floor, roughly square blocks 45cm ² , 1 course deep	D – 0.05m	
2	2006	Wall		Sandstone foundations for north-south aligned wall and possible steps 2007		
2	2007	Wall/steps		Possible truncated wall or steps, constructed from 2 courses of bricks	D – 0.15m each	
2	2008	Layer		Grey sand silt with mortar, tile fragments and coke/charcoal, under 2003	D – 0.17m	
2	2009	Layer		Black sand silt with rounded stones, and demolition rubble including brick, tile and mortar	Not fully excavated	
2	2010	Layer		Levelling layer of orange sand with pink mortar, identified both sides of wall 2004 and beneath 2005	D – 0.2m to north of 2004 D – 0.4m to south of 2004	Tile, animal bone
2	2011	Layer		Black silt sand with much charcoal beneath levelling deposit 2010	Not excavated	

Trench Number	Strat. Number	Type	Assoc. Strat No.	Description	Width/Length/Depth	Finds
3 Summary – 11m x 2m aligned east west						
3	3000	Layer		Topsoil, dark grey brown sand silt with small stones	D – 0.2m – 0.3m	
3	3001	Layer		Loose yellow sand with rubble, possibly associated with cut 3009, varies in depth	D – 0.1m – 0.3m	
3	3002	Layer		Demolition rubble with lenses of charcoal, ash, mortar, brick and tile fragments and orange sand	D – 0.3m – 0.4m	
3	3003	Surface		Brick floor surface, bricks laid side by side on edge, red bricks with large inclusions, very worn, 1 course deep over 3007	D – 0.15m	
3	3004	Wall		Brick and stone wall, four courses of bricks, red orange with small inclusions, on 1 course of stone foundations with rubble	W – 0.6m, not fully excavated	Post-medieval pottery, tile
3	3005	Fill	3006	Light brown grey clay silt with a few small stones fill of ditch	D – 0.35m W – 1.0m	
3	3006	Ditch	3005	North south aligned ditch, with a bowl shaped profile	W – 1m D – 0.35m	
3	3007	Layer		Light grey brown clay silt with small to medium rounded stones	D – 0.3m – 0.4m	
3	3008	Layer		Demolition layer over surface 3003, comprising mainly tile	D – 0.15m	Tile
3	3009	Cut	3010	Large, modern cut, truncates the whole northern side of the trench, and all archaeological features and deposits. Possibly associated with a sewer or services	Not excavated	
3	3010	Fill	3009	Fill of modern service cut, dirty	Not excavated	

				redeposited natural with rubble		
3	3011	Natural		Light yellow orange silty sand, very compact		

Appendix 2

1000

1. coarseware rim sherd from large sloping sided bowl, thick underglaze purple slip on interior, internal 'metallic' dark brown glaze. Late 17th - or 18th - century.
2. coarseware rim sherd from a large sloping sided bowl , heavily abraded, some internal black glaze. 18th century
3. coarseware base sherd from a bowl, very heavily abraded. 18th - century?
4. coarseware body sherd, probably from a storage jar. 18th - century
5. blackware body sherd, vessel form unknown. 17th-18th -century

1002

1. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal black glaze, under-glaze slip, similar form to bowls from the Brierly Hill Potworks (Rátkai 2004) 18th – or possibly 19th - century
2. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal black glaze. 18th - century
3. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal black glaze. 18th - century
4. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal black glaze, under-glaze slip 18th – century
5. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, heavily abraded, internal dark brown glaze, under-glaze slip 18th - century
6. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, abraded, internal dark brown glaze, under-glaze slip 18th - century
7. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal dark brown glaze, under-glaze slip 18th - century
8. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, internal dark red-brown glaze. 18th -century
9. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, purplish slip. 18th - century
10. very heavily abraded coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, small patch of thick purple underglaze slip remains and small speck of black glaze. 18th - century
11. two hard-fired coarseware rim sherds from the same storage jar, red-brown underglaze slip, internal black glaze. 18th - century
12. four hard-fired coarseware body sherds, three probably the same vessel as 11 above 18th -century
13. 17 coarseware body sherds with internal black of dark brown glaze. 18th - century
14. white salt-glazed stoneware foot-ring base sherd from a hemispherical bowl. c. 1720-1770
15. tin-glazed earthenware sherd, undecorated, from a large hollow ware. 18th - century
16. slipcoated ware body sherd, possibly from a bowl. late 17th - or 18th - century
17. two base-body sherds from a blackware cup. 18th - century
18. blackware body sherd from unknown form. 18th century
19. small fragment from a yellow ware handle. 17th- early 18th - century
20. small fragment of roof tile

1007

1. coarseware rim sherd from sloping-sided bowl, abraded, some red-brown glaze
2. large rim-body sherd from late medieval cooking pot or pipkin, heavy external soot. The sherd joins with 1007.30 below

3. medieval cooking pot or pipkin sherd, wheel-thrown, external glaze spots. 15th-16th - century

1012

1. coarseware body sherd probably from a large storage jar, internal black glaze. ?18th -century

2003

1. coarseware rim sherd from a large diameter sloping-sided bowl, probably 18th - century

2. coarseware rim sherd from bowl with stubby flange rim, purple-brown slip on interior and exterior 17th-18th - century

3. two flower pot sherds

4. white stoneware jar sherd, later 19th - century

5. three white salt-glazed stoneware sherds from a plate, 18th - century (c. 1720-1770)

6. heavily abraded ?industrial ceramic with heavy internal soot on surviving surface.

3004

1. blue transfer-printed body sherd from a hollow ware eg bowl, mug, jug etc 19th c