

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
in the
Gardener's Compound
of
Glastonbury Abbey

GAG 08**

Carried out for The Trustees of Glastonbury Abbey
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Containing a report by Dr. Elaine Morris on the
Iron Age pottery sherds recovered during the project

Report Number 423

**Archaeological Watching Brief in the Gardeners' Compound,
Glastonbury Abbey – November 2008 / January 2009**

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An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Gardeners' Compound, Glastonbury Abbey

Summary

Proposals to strip topsoil from the gardeners' compound, located in the NW corner of the orchard in the southern part of the precinct, in order to create an area of hard-standing for the gardener's vehicles, resulted in an archaeological watching brief during soil stripping. Removal of the topsoil exposed a mixed, sandy, mortary deposit. Dumped on top of this deposit, and banked up against the north wall of the compound, were many hundreds of fragments of medieval, encaustic floor tiles.

The top layer of the mortary deposit was removed by machine in order to obtain a firmer surface for hard-core. Within this layer were further fragments of medieval, encaustic floor tiles and roof tiles, numerous pottery sherds ranging from the Iron Age through to the present day, and modern ephemera.

A total of 47 Middle Iron Age sherds have been examined by Dr. Elaine Morris from the University of Southampton. The sherds are in good condition with sharp edges and probably derive from a pit or ditch. Several fabrics were present, suggesting trading contacts, and the collection suggests Iron Age settlement within the abbey precinct. These sherds are the first prehistoric finds recovered from the abbey precinct and by far the largest quantity of Iron Age pottery from Glastonbury outside of the Lake Villages.

The deposit containing these finds is obviously re-deposited; probably spoil deriving from archaeological excavations. A small sondage through this deposit proved that it had been dumped onto a buried soil that contained late-19th or early-20th century pottery.

A 1971 halfpenny from the top of this deposit indicates the time after which the present gardener's building was constructed.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Proposals to strip topsoil from inside the gardeners' compound prior to laying down scalpings and hard-core to provide a firm surface for the groundsmans' vehicles – tractors, trailers and etc. - prompted Mr. John Allen, Archaeological Consultant for Glastonbury Abbey, to request an archaeological watching brief during soil stripping operations. Mr. Mathew Clements, abbey custodian, duly commissioned archaeological consultants C. and N. Hollinrake Ltd. to undertake the watching brief when the soil stripping was carried out.

1.2 Scheduled Monument Consent was obtained prior to soil stripping – **Permission Number:** DCMS reference HSD 9/2/9965 dated 25th February 2008.

1.3 The archaeological monitoring, and the subsequent finds retrieval, was carried out in several phases as work progressed. The watching brief was carried out between the 4th and 7th November and on the 11th and the 12th November 2008, and on the 9th and the 13th January 2009.

The watching brief during soil stripping was undertaken by Arthur Hollinrake assisted by Charles Hollinrake. The sondage through the deposits within the compound was started by Charles Hollinrake and finished by Arthur Hollinrake and the finds recovery from spoil heaps was carried out by Arthur Hollinrake assisted by Charles Hollinrake.

1.4 The **grid reference** for the gardeners' compound centres on ST 4897 3875.

2.0 Topography and Geology

2.1 The Gardeners' Compound is situated in the NW corner of the cider orchard that occupies the southern part of the abbey precinct. The compound is separated from the orchard, to the east, by a hedge and fence and from the Abbots Kitchen area, to the north, by a post-medieval, stone wall. The west wall of the compound is formed by the western wall of the precinct

2.2 The compound or compartment enclosed by this wall has been extant for a considerable period and was depicted on the 1930s Ordnance Survey map.

The gardeners' building consists of a ca.6m wide, 15m long, N-S oriented structure, divided into sheds and store rooms, that stands slightly to the east of a substantial, stone boundary wall forming the eastern edge of the gardens of private houses fronting onto Magdalene Street. In front of the gardener's building, to the east, is an open area, previously under grass, where the gardener's vehicles – tractors, trailers and etc - are parked. This open area is now covered by hardcore and tarmac.

The gardeners' building was constructed during the second half of the 1970s.

2.3 The orchard, to the east of the gardener's compound, has been expanded in recent decades. This area has been used as an orchard for a long period and was formerly much larger, extending, in the 19th century and the earlier part of the 20th century, as far north as the main abbey church area (depicted on the 1844 Tithe Map and the 1930s Ordnance Survey Map).

2.4 "The grounds of the abbey underwent a dramatic change in the 1970s. In 1973 the Trustees resolved to extend the area of the visited monument by incorporating the orchard and pasture on the S side of the precinct. This had previously been rented out to tenants and part [at the southern extremity of the precinct] had been used as the town football club. This scheme effectively doubled the area accessible to visitors to the monument.

The project was undertaken in two stages. Firstly, in 1975, the old orchard was inter-planted with 70 new cider apple trees and opened to the public. In 1980, the remainder of the land, the former pasture, was also opened to the public as an extension of the park.....The orchard was managed by a commercial cider firm...."¹

2.5 The orchard slopes gently down from east to west and the resultant drainage tends to create areas of softer ground at the west end of the orchard, particularly after spells of wet weather.

¹ Glastonbury Abbey Conservation Plan, 2004, Keystone Historic Buildings Consultants, pp149-150.

2.6 In recent years, the eastern edge of the orchard, north of the large, oval, fish pond, has been used by the grounds staff as an area for dumped soil, spoil and vegetation.

2.7 **Geologically**, the whole of the abbey enclosure lies above Lower Lias Clay with Limestone of the Jurassic period.²

3.0 **Archaeological and Historical Background**

3.1 The general, historical background to Glastonbury Abbey is well-known and will not be repeated here.

3.2 The exact date at which the Gardener's Compound was created is not known exactly but it was built in the middle or latter part of the 1970s, presumably when the orchard was brought into the area of the visited monument, as discussed above.

3.3 Archaeological investigations and recording projects within the orchard have concentrated on the area to the west of the circular pond (and south of the present gardeners' compound) that was constructed as a header pond for Chaingate Mill in the mid-19th century.

3.3.1 Two archaeological projects have relevance for the watching brief on the Gardener's Compound:

In 1981, Ian Burrow, then Somerset County Archaeologist, undertook a survey of earthworks in the south and south-east areas of the precinct.³ The resulting plan showed a series of long, NNE-SSE oriented, earthwork terraces running through the south and east areas of the precinct, linked with some shorter W-E banks to form relatively small, square and rectangular enclosures. Burrow suggested that these plots might have been used by the abbey to grow herbs and vegetables for the convent and for the infirmary.

In the southern area of the precinct he recorded a series of medieval fishponds, oriented roughly W-E that were fed by water directed into the precinct from springs on

² British Geological Survey, Solid and Drift edition, 1:50,000 series, Sheet 296.

³ Burrow, 1982, p41.

Chalice Hill and from Chalice Well. The modern, oval fish pond, in the SW corner of the orchard, overlies these earlier, medieval features..

Burrow also included a series of maps, all to scale, ranging from the 17th through to the 20th century, illustrating various boundary changes within the precinct.

Peter Ellis carried out a series of excavations in the SW part of the orchard, to the west of the fish pond, when Chaingate Mill was demolished in 1978. He recorded a series of early medieval millponds, possibly pre-dating the 12th century.⁴

3.3.2 In the summer of 1989, C. and N. Hollinrake carried out a survey of parchmarks showing in the grass of the abbey precinct during a prolonged drought. The resulting, overall plan included the Burrow earthwork survey, above⁵. Various parchmarks were recorded in the orchard. These are undated and some might be linked to modern dumping, although others might define a road line running from the Abbey Barn on Bere Lane down to the Abbot's Kitchen.⁶

3.3.3 In 2004, the Abbey Trustees commissioned an extensive survey and study of the conservation and archaeological issues within the precinct including the standing remains and the need to publish old excavations, plus an historic and cultural background study of the site.

Burrow's 1981 precinct maps were reproduced in colour in the Conservation Plan volume of that study and the reproductions of the 1844 Tithe Map and the 1930s Ordnance Survey map have also been reproduced from that volume⁷.

3.4 Mr. David Trott, who was a groundsman in the abbey during the 1970s, has stated that the mixed, mortary deposit (context [02], discussed below) was already there when the gardeners' building was constructed and the deposit was simply leveled prior to construction. He also said that archaeological excavation spoil was frequently dumped just inside the orchard; inside the NW entrance way, just SE of the Abbot's Kitchen, and

⁴ Ellis, Peter, 1982, Excavations in Glastonbury, 1978 and 1979, *PSANHS* vol 126.

⁵ Published in Rahtz, 1993, fig 67. p97.

⁶⁶ Shown in Rahtz, P.A.R., 1993, figure 67, p97, *Glastonbury*, English Heritage

⁷ pp 108 and 141

that much of that part of the orchard probably contains similar deposits to that recorded within the gardener's compound.

Mr. Trott also recalled that the large collection of encaustic tile fragments [that was recovered during the 2008 works] was dumped against the north wall of the gardener's compound, above the existing deposit of mixed, mortary clay – context [02].

He believed that the tile came from the old stores in the abbey museum when they were deemed surplus to requirements⁸.

4.0 The Watching Brief - Methods and Results

4.1 The topsoil stripping operation was monitored continuously. The topsoil and overburden was removed using a small tractor – a McCormick G x 45 – operated by groundsman Mark King, using a straight-edged, 1.0m wide, grading bucket. The stripped soil was placed into a trailer and then taken to the eastern end of the orchard where each trailer load was dumped individually, for ease of examination.

The compound was stripped from north to south.

4.2 The topsoil was removed first. Removal of the topsoil, generally around 0.30m thick, exposed a mixed deposit of mortary clay with occasional fragments of pottery, modern roof tile fragments and medieval tile fragments visible within its surface.

4.3 Below the topsoil, and above this mixed deposit, was an extensive spread of encaustic tile fragments that had been dumped above the mixed clay deposit and against the stone wall marking the north edge of the compound.

4.4 The tile fragments, probably numbering over 1,000, were then removed by the machine and at a later stage were placed within the southern compartment of the gardeners' compound, containing the potting sheds and greenhouses, where they were spread out on a plastic sheet.

⁸ Questioned by C. Hollinrake on 20th December 2008.

4.5 The upper layer of the mixed deposit was removed by machine in order to remove all pockets of soft topsoil in order to form a more compact surface for hardcore. This material was dumped separately, in small heaps.

4.6 Permission was received from Mr. Mathew Clements to excavate a small sondage through the mixed clay deposit in order to obtain dating evidence for its deposition and to determine the depth of the medieval horizon. Permission was granted and a sondage measuring approximately 1.0m x 0.5m was excavated, by hand, in the NE corner of the compound, whilst topsoil stripping continued. This operation is described below.

4.7 The mixed, mortary clay deposit tended to fade out approximately halfway along the north-south strip of soil that was being removed to the east of the gardeners' building. The south half of this strip had progressively less mortary clay below the topsoil and more soft, mixed, loamy clays. The material removed from the south half of the strip, and from the entrance way into the compound, was deposited to the south of the compound, near to the west boundary of the orchard, in order to differentiate between finds from the north and south parts of the compound.

4.8 The spoil heaps at the eastern end of the orchard were then examined, as artefacts and finds, mainly small fragments of encaustic floor tile, were visible. The dumps were examined by removing and moving soil with either a hand-trowel or with a rake. Finds recovered in this manner were separated into groups of tile fragments, pottery sherds, miscellaneous items and modern ephemera.

4.9 The encaustic tile fragments were not retained or quantified and were placed with the large collection of tile fragments that had been recovered during the soil stripping operation and which were stored adjacent to the potting shed.

4.10 At a later stage, during January 2009, the spoil heaps at the eastern end of the orchard were removed, by machine, and this operation was also monitored continuously. The spoil was only moved a few meters to the east, out of the orchard and along the west side of the small copse used for dumping soil, grass clippings and vegetation by the grounds staff. The removal of the spoil was monitored and the base of the spoil heaps

was loosened and examined by hand. All finds and artefacts recovered during this operation were listed separately to those recovered during the November soil stripping.

4.11 The spoil heaps along the western edge of the orchard, south of the gardeners' compound, were examined; by inspecting the surfaces of the heaps with a trowel and a rake. Finds recovered from these heaps were bagged separately to those recovered from the heaps at the eastern end of the orchard.

5.0 The Sondage in the Gardeners' Compound see figures 3 and 4

5.1 When the mixed, mortary clay deposit had been exposed after removal of the topsoil, and was seen to extend over the northern part of the compound, permission was requested to cut a sondage through that deposit in order to determine its depth and, if possible, the period at which it was laid down and the depth of the medieval horizon.

Permission was given by the custodian, Mr. Mathew Clements, and the sondage, measuring approximately 1.0m x 0.5m, was excavated within the NE corner of the compound. The topsoil had been removed but its depth was measured where it had butted up to the perimeter walls and its upper surface, where it remained against the walls, was leveled in to Ordnance Datum.

5.2 Context Numbers were assigned to all deposits with the topsoil being numbered [01]. Most of the mixed clay layer, context [02], was removed by machine and the spoil inspected, after which the sondage was hand-excavated.

Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and the north section of the sondage was drawn at a scale of 1:10. All deposits were leveled in to Ordnance Datum.

The Ordnance Survey benchmark used is situated on the SW corner of the public toilets on Magdalene Street which has a value of 15.89m above mean Ordnance Datum (aOD). The sondage was also recorded photographically.

5.3 Mixed clay deposit [02] was ca. 30cms to 40cms thick. Deposit [02] lay above context [03], a dark grey, humic clay approximately 0.10m thick containing small fragments of angular, Lias stone. Within [03] were several sherds of early 20th century

pottery, brick fragments and nails. [03] is a buried soil or turf, which was not removed when [02] was dumped in this area.

5.4 Buried soil [03] lay above context [04], a thin, soft, sandy deposit, around 5cms thick, consisting of light grey to light brown silty clay with frequent small chips of Lias stone, modern brick and tile fragments and other modern ephemera. [04] appears to be either a working surface, or buried soil, possibly the former, sealed below later buried soil deposit [03]. Finds indicate that [04] is also a 20th century layer. [04] lay above [05].

5.5 Context [05] also resembles a buried soil deposit. It was a soft, sandy, light grayish brown silty clay, around 8 cms thick, easily distinguished from [04], above, by the lack of small, Lias chips and it contained 19th or 20th century brick and tile fragments, coal and a clay pipe stem.

5.6 Below [05] was a further, thin deposit, 6 cms thick – context [06] – a grey-brown sandy clay with frequent lenses of re-deposited, natural, yellow Lias clay. The few pottery sherds recovered ranged from the late-medieval period through to the 19th century and [06] also contained numerous brick fragments, roof slate, bone, nails, clay pipe stems, coal and cinder and small fragments of iron. A prehistoric flint flake, probably deriving from the re-deposited natural clay, was also found within this layer. [06] resembles a dump deposit. Context [06] sealed deposit [07].

5.7 Deposit [07] was up to 20cms thick and consisted of a soft, grey-brown, humic clay. Only one sherd of pottery was recovered which was dateable to the 18th or 19th century, but the deposit also contained numerous roof slate and brick fragments, wall plaster, animal bone, iron nails and a clay pipe stem. Layer [07] also resembles a buried soil deposit. [07] lay above [08].

5.8 Context [08] was approximately 8cms thick and consisted of a grey brown, sandy, gritty, clay matrix containing many fragments of Lias, Doultong and Tor Burr stone, and other limestone fragments, with small fragments of roof slate (which were not collected). [08] is a rubble spread, presumably arising from demolition work.

5.9 Below [08] was deposit [09], 10cms – 15cms thick. This was a friable, dark grey, humic clay containing numerous roof slate fragments, stone fragments, many animal bones and some oyster shell fragments and mortar or plaster fragments. All of this material, like [08] above, would appear to derive from destruction or demolition of structures or buildings. Pottery within [09] was dateable to the late-medieval or early-post medieval period.

5.10 [09] lay above deposit [010], which was not fully investigated. Context [010] was a hard, yellow, sandy, mortary layer mixed with frequent Lias stone chips and lumps of lime and lime mortar. It seems likely that [010] is either a medieval or late-medieval context, possibly a construction or, more likely, a destruction deposit. This layer was not examined further as one of the aims of the sondage was to establish the depth of medieval deposits in this area and not to disturb them unduly.

6.0 Discussion of the Sondage and The Watching Brief

6.1 The depth of the medieval horizon within the Gardeners' Compound (assuming that context [010] represents the medieval horizon) is now approximately 1.0m below the present surface and was around 1.20m before the topsoil was removed during this present operation.

The depth of late-medieval deposit [010], and the description above of the various layers and deposits lying above the medieval horizon, indicate very clearly that this area has been used for the dumping and spreading of spoil and waste for a very long period of time, and that the upper, mixed clay and mortar deposit – context [02] - is merely the latest dumping episode.

6.2 Deposit [02] was dumped directly upon the existing turf – context [03] – and pottery within [03] demonstrates that this layer of turf and topsoil was extant in the early 20th century. Although this does not provide a definite date when deposit [02] was spread here, it would appear to be during the first half of the 20th century (although a slightly later date is possible).

6.3 Information provided by Mr. David Trott, formerly a groundsman at the abbey during the 1970s and 1980s, confirms that the mixed, mortary clay deposit [02] was already *in-situ* when the new gardeners' building was constructed. Mr. Trott also clearly remembered the dumping of the encaustic floor tile fragments against the north wall of the compound at that time, and believed that they came from the old museum stores.

6.4 The remainder of the finds recovered came from the surface of mixed clay deposit [02]. Within these finds there were a number of modern artefacts – a coin of 1972, a Golden Wonder crisp packet, various pieces of electrical or mechanical equipment including electric flex, plastic, and etc. Some of these might derive from the base of the topsoil or they could have been trampled into the surface of [02]. These items provide a date after which the gardeners' building was constructed and must originate from the abbey.

6.5 The spoil heaps were split into two parts, those consisting of the topsoil, including old scalpings, and those removed from the surface of [02].

From the latter, from context [02 U/S], a very large quantity of finds were recovered and these are shown on the two accompanying Finds Lists – prepared after the 2008 and the 2009 monitoring operations.

The largest group of finds consist of post-medieval to modern pottery sherds and other ephemera, as would be expected.

6.6 Many fragments of medieval pottery were recovered. These cover the whole of the medieval period, from the 10th century through to the 16th century, and include numerous glazed sherds and coarseware sherds.

A few fragments of medieval glass were recovered from [02] as well as a large number of encaustic tile fragments. Although these latter derive from a separate context to the large dump of encaustic tile fragments deposited above [02], the fragments within [02] were placed with the large heap of tiles adjacent to the potting shed.

6.7 Earlier pottery was found: 14 Romano-British sherds were recovered, virtually all being Burnished Wares (BBW) or Greywares. These sherds are a further indication of

Roman settlement within the abbey precinct. It should, perhaps, be noted that no Samian ware sherds, easily recognised and normally saved by early excavators, were recovered during the watching brief.

6.8 The 47 Iron Age sherds, most or all dateable to the Middle Iron Age period (ca.400BC-200BC), form a very important group of pottery, both for the earlier history of the precinct and for Glastonbury in general. For the latter, only two sherds of Iron Age pottery have been recovered, both by Philip Rahtz in his excavations at Chalice Well and at Beckery and there has been much discussion over the years regarding the lack of Iron Age finds from the higher ground of Glastonbury parish.

6.9 That Iron Age sherds should be recovered from the abbey precinct should occasion no surprise for it is obvious that the early monastery was founded on the most favourable settlement area in Glastonbury, with its gentle slope, streams running off St. Edmund's Hill and Chalice Hill, sheltered from the north and east winds by higher ground and situated relatively near to the river and to the moors.

6.9.1 It is common for Romano-British settlement sites in Somerset to succeed Iron Age sites, and the Roman finds recovered from the precinct, over many years, should perhaps have suggested that possibility before now. Furthermore, the small, square fields recorded by Ian Burrow in the eastern part of the precinct during the 1980s, whilst they might well have been used for medieval gardens, might also be a survival of a small, Iron Age and Romano-British field system.

6.9.2 In his study of Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery held in Glastonbury Abbey Museum in 1991, Oliver Kent noted the ubiquity of Roman pottery on the abbey site, commenting that Glastonbury Abbey is a site "on which Roman coarsewares salt every level."⁹

6.10 It cannot be known from which part of the abbey the Iron Age sherds derive, nor can it be known where any of the roman or medieval pottery sherds, and other finds, were

⁹ Kent, Oliver, 1997, PSANHS, Ceramic Finds from Archaeological Excavations at Glastonbury Abbey, 1901-199, PSANHS Vol 140, pp73-104. (reference p82).

found. It is not certain whether these finds were simply shoveled onto spoil heaps during excavations, whether they were collected and then discarded by some early excavators or workmen or whether they were discarded from the collection held in the museum.

6.11 If, as Mr. Trott states, deposit [02] was in place before the 1970s, then it is likely that the excavators (assuming that this is excavation spoil) must have worked before that time. Dr. Raleigh Radford, who excavated during the 1950s and 1960s would have been able to identify the Iron Age and Roman pottery, and would also have been familiar with the medieval glazed wares, but he was often absent from site, with a foreman, often Mr. Bill Wedlake, left in charge.

6.12 Mr. Wedlake, who excavated the Abbot's Hall in the later 1970s, and who worked as a foreman for all excavators between the 1920s and the 1960s, would also have recognised the Roman pottery and, probably, the Iron Age pottery, and he is unlikely to have ignored these finds or to have removed them from Iron Age features without mentioning or recording that fact.

6.13 It is possible that the finds came either from one of Bligh Bond's excavations in the early decades of the century or of St. John Hope's excavations in the first decade, or might even result from late -19th century investigations.

Any of the 1920s and 1930s archaeological excavations is a possible source if the workmen did not inform Mr. Wedlake of any early features that had been cut through, assuming that they were capable of recognising early pits or ditches. The excavators responsible for the 1920s and 1930s excavation projects, mainly within and around the abbey church, might not have been capable of identifying any of the pottery as none were archaeologists.

6.14 Dr. Raleigh Radford commenting upon the paucity of coarsewares in the abbey museum, stated that "in his experience of archaeology at Glastonbury in the thirties, coarsewares were not infrequently thrown aside..."¹⁰ It is possible, therefore, that all of these sherds might have come from excavations during that period.

¹⁰ Oliver Kent, *op cit*, p85.

6.15 With all of the above caveats taken into account, the most likely period when all of the pottery sherds and other finds were recovered is probably either the late-19th century, when the ruins were consolidated and the grounds began to be landscaped, or the first three decades of the 20th century, when the main excavators were not archaeologists and when identification of pottery sherds was in its infancy.

6.16 The other possibility, when the dumping of the large quantity of tile fragments in the 1970s is considered, is that all of the pottery sherds recovered during the watching brief had been stored within the abbey museum, possibly without provenance, and that at some time prior to the 1960s or 1970s it was decided to discard them and they were then thrown out into the area where dumping of spoil and other unwanted material had always taken place. The fact that all of the finds came from the upper surface of mixed deposit [02] might suggest that they were deposited or dumped at a relatively late date.

6.17 One further possibility is that some or all of mixed clay deposit [02] might be the spoil resulted from landscaping operations, before and after WWII. When this occurred, many trees had to be uprooted, as the orchard extended almost to the main church and the Lady Chapel, and this will have disturbed a lot of ground and many archaeological deposits and layers must have been destroyed.

6.18 It should be noted, however, that all of the Iron Age sherds were found within a relatively restricted area of the spoil heaps, most being recovered from one small area at the base of the heaps, suggesting that they might have been deposited as a group. The small number of sherds, less than 50, means that they could have been stored in one small box and might, therefore, have been recovered during one operation and stored together in one container.

6.19 The prehistoric finds are all Middle Iron Age and are possibly slightly earlier (in date) than the Iron Age pottery found during the excavation of the Glastonbury Lake Village, which broadly dates to between ca.300BC and 50AD. No Late Iron Age pottery was recovered during the watching brief and there is, therefore, a gap in the evidence relating to settlement activity within the precinct between the Middle Iron Age and the

Roman period. If, as is assumed, the Middle Iron Age sherds recovered during the watching brief were from a pit or a ditch, then it should be presumed that further prehistoric features are present within the precinct.

6.20 When the analysis of the Iron Age pottery by Dr. Elaine Morris is completed and available, that information will be added to a subsequent publication.

7.0 The Finds

The pottery and other finds have been washed, sorted, listed and bagged as groups; Iron Age, Romano-British, Saxo-Norman and etc.

The finds bags have been marked with the month or year when they were recovered – 2008, Jan 2009 etc. - and the finds recovered from the spoil heaps have been bagged separately as [02 U/S] to those recovered from the excavated sondage in the compound. The finds recovered from the western spoil heaps, taken from the south side of the gardeners' compound, have been marked as such.

The finds from the excavation sondage have been bagged by [context].

All bags have been marked with the C. and N. Hollinrake **Site Code: GAG 08** (Glastonbury Abbey Gardeners 2008) and with the

Glastonbury Abbey Museum Accession Number: GLSGA: 2008/12.

Acknowledgements

We would like to offer our gratitude to Mr. Mathew Clements, curator of Glastonbury Abbey, for commissioning the watching brief, for permission to excavate the sondage within the gardeners' compound and for funding the analysis of the Iron Age sherds by Dr. Elaine Morris.

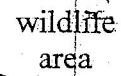
We would also like to thank groundsman Mark King for his co-operation and for his help during the soil stripping operation and during the subsequent removal of the spoil heaps.

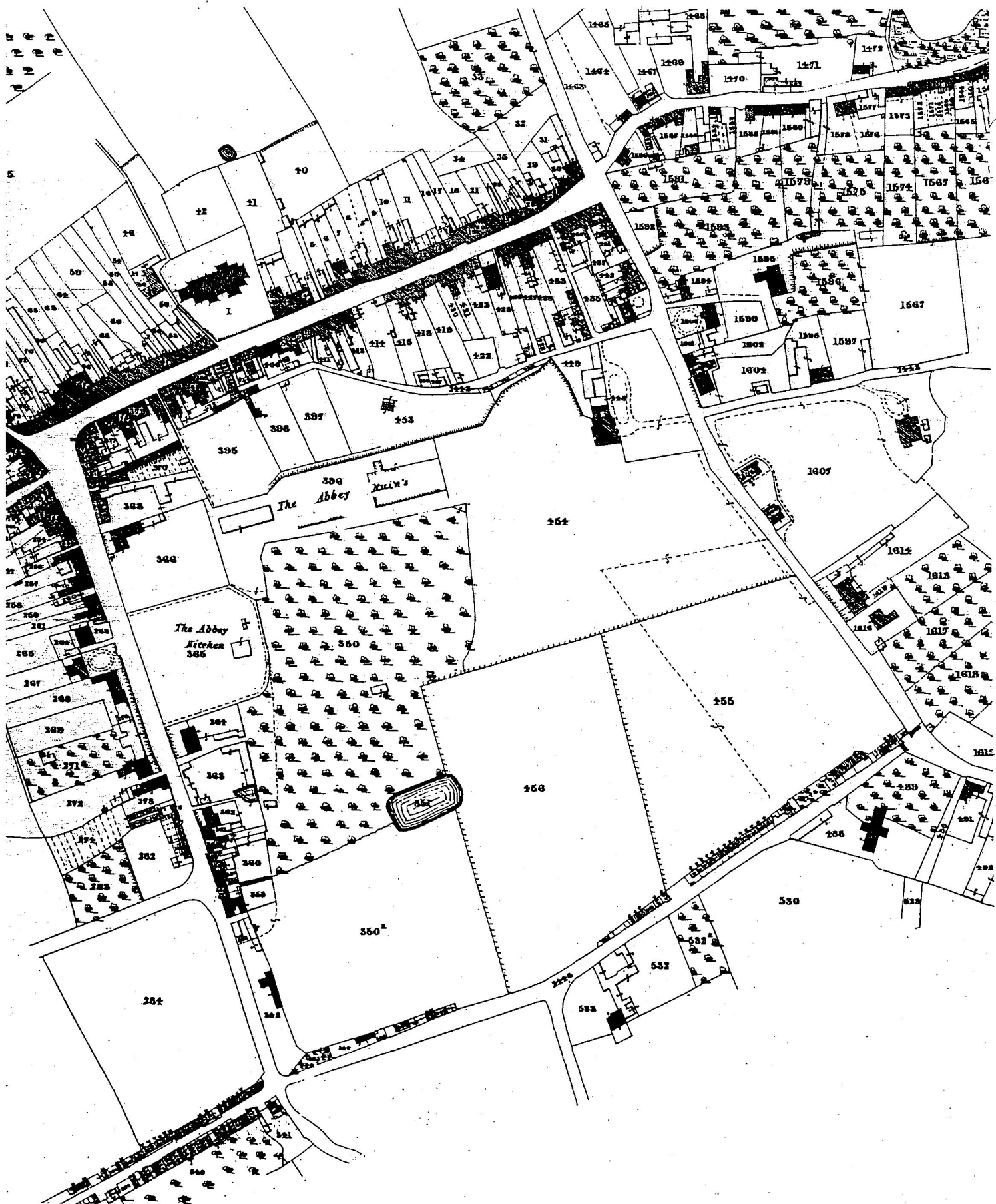
Mr. Francis Thyer, assistant custodian, is thanked for arranging the dates of the soil stripping and for his help during the watching brief.

Dr. Elaine Morris, of the University of Southampton, is presently describing, dating and identifying the forms and fabrics of the Iron Age pottery and we would like to thank her for her work and her interest.

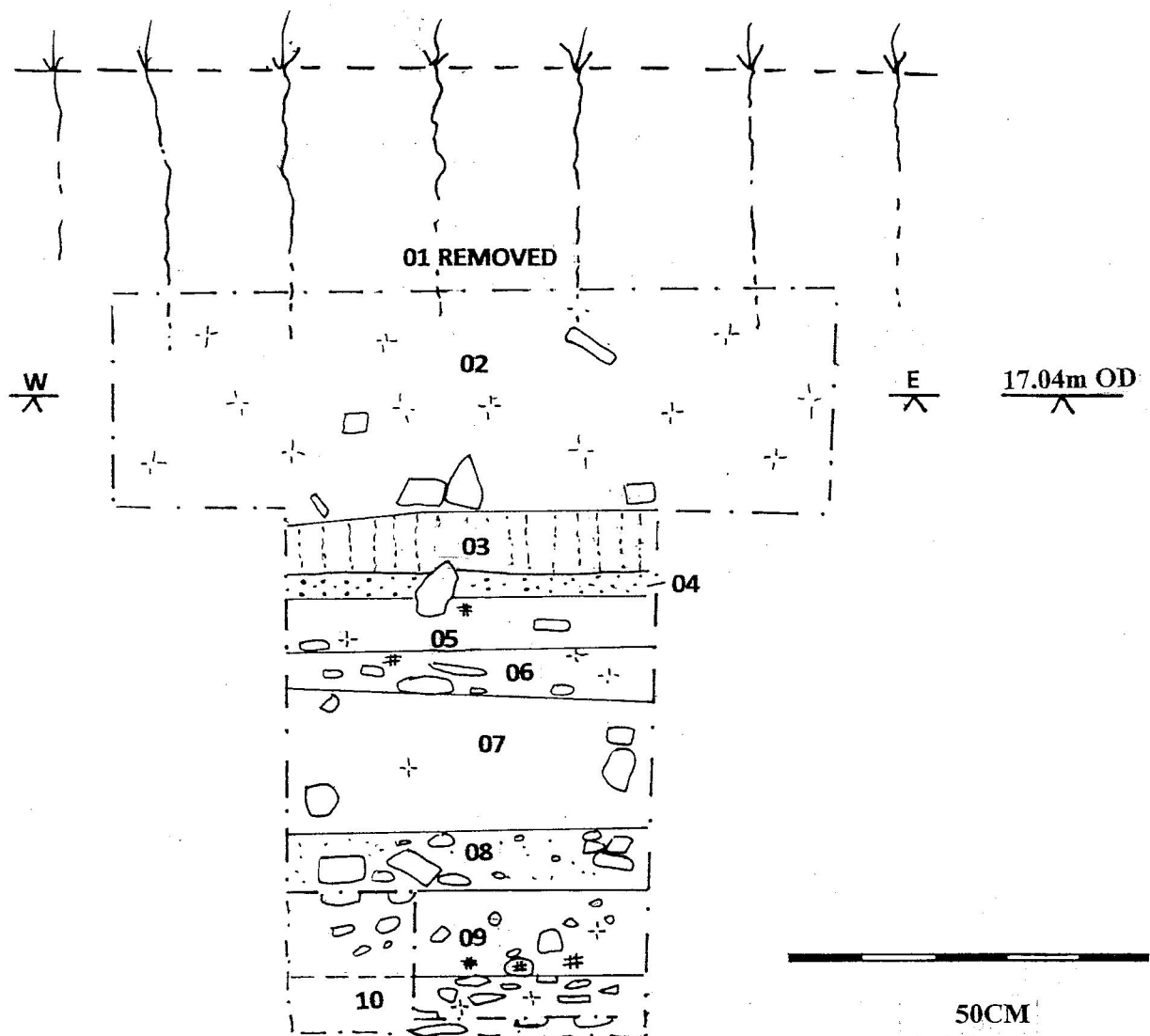
Finally our thanks to Mr. Dave Trott for all of his information and for his recollections regarding the site from his time as a groundsman at the abbey.

The finds were washed by Val Stevens and Arthur Hollinrake and the Finds Lists were prepared by Arthur Hollinrake. Charles Hollinrake 19th January 2009





[92] The precinct shown on the 1844 tithe map, Somerset RO, DD/SAS C/212.



GAG 08

SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH SONDAGE