Excavation of the medieval settlement of 'Raddun', Wroughton Mead, Fyfield Down, Wiltshire

> *... I ascended the hill to a piece of down ...by the name of Rowden Mead, upon which we again meet the undoubted vestiges of an extensive British settlement.* Hoare 1821, 45

Introduction

Background

Fieldwork and excavation between April 1959 and August 1963 identified and investigated a complex of well-preserved earthworks in an old enclosure, Wroughton Mead, in the middle of Fyfield Down. Central to the complex were two earthwork enclosures, photographed from the air by Dr St Joseph (Plate FWP65.I) but actually discovered early in the nineteenth century by Sir Richard Colt Hoare:

> *Steering my course (from Devil's Den) westward towards Abury,* ***I ascended the hill to a piece of down*** *designated in the Wiltshire map* ***by the name of Rowden Mead, upon which we again meet the undoubted vestiges of an extensive British settlement.*** *On digging into one of the many excavations, the first stroke of our pick-axe brought up one half of a quern, or hand mill-stone, with its perforation in the centre, the tip of a deer's horn, and various fragments both of British and Roman pottery*. Hoare 1821, 45

Within the context of the Fyfod Project (Fowler 1997; *LPP*, Chapter 7) (Map 1 and Map 2), the enclosures were chosen for excavation because they appeared to overlie the lynchets of what at the time were commonly called 'Celtic' fields. This observation proved to be correct, not surprisingly when excavation and documents subsequently showed the site to span the four centuries between *c*1200 and 1600 AD. A plan of the excavated areas is provided as Figure FWP65.5 (see also Plate FWP65.II).

The complex (Map 1, Map 2 and Figure FWP65.1) lies on a gentle south-facing slope which catches all the sun and the prevailing south west wind, though protected from the north west now, and perhaps in medieval times, by Wroughton Copse. Its main component was a farm, firmly tied into the administration of the Wiltshire estate of St Swithun's Priory, Winchester, increasingly through the Prior's neighbouring manor of East Overton. The farm, primarily for sheep, also served other functions, notably in arable cultivation, and is well-documented. Archaeologically it passed through at least three main phases of structural change. Timber-based buildings were succeeded by buildings with stone-based walls; an all-purpose long-house was succeeded by a farmstead with specialist buildings, though there was never more than one house in occupation at the same time. Figures FWP65.28 and Figure FWP65.29 summarise the development of the settlement at *Raddun* and of Wroughton Mead.

Wroughton Copse, Wroughton Mead and Raddun

At present the wood north of the excavated areas is called 'Wroughton Copse' which, as the nearest feature with a name on OS maps, was initially used both to identify the site and to provide the initials of its excavation identifier (WC). This was a mistake for, although we did not realise this at first, the enclosed field within which the site exists has for long had its own name: 'Wroughton Mead'. We shall, however, try to avoid confusion by referring to the site and its excavation as *Raddun*, while endeavouring to keep 'Wroughton Copse' in full for the Wood and 'Wroughton Mead' for the enclosure around both *Raddun* and the Copse (though note that other FWPs refer

throughout to the excavation as 'WC').

The word 'Wroughton' has been associated with this area for no more than a century, and the Mead's ascription actually goes back 600 years. It acquired this 'Wroughton' name, not from the village of Wroughton situated about six miles to the north, nor by the fact that the Copse was used as a shooting ground for Colonel Wroughton early in the twentieth century, but from its medieval name of *Raddun*. The Inclosure Map of 1815/16 calls this area 'Rodden', the Andrews and Dury map of 1773 calls it 'Rowden' and the Pembroke Survey of 1567 refers to 'Rodden'. In the manuscripts at Winchester Cathedral for the period 1267 to 1318, the reference is to 'Raddon', but it is from the earliest documented evidence from 1247–48 that *Raddun* emerges.

Whatever its origins, a place called *Raddun* or 'Raddon' certainly existed before 1248, as in that year there is a reference to land held by a Richard of Raddun.

Early history

Human activity in that place was clearly attested on two occasions before the thirteenth century. The earliest phase so far recognised within the Mead is represented by the remains of enclosed prehistoric fields, fragmented by subsequent activity but present in sufficient amount and form to enable a reconstitution of their earlier pattern (Figures FWP65.3 and FWP65.4). Although these form part of the far wider, earlier field systems on Fyfield Down (Fowler 1997), this account is concerned with one such field in particular, a field which remained an integral part of medieval settlement at *Raddun*.

Its nodal role probably began in post-Roman times but well before the Norman Conquest. Etymologically, *Raddun* is certainly Old English in origin, perhaps very early English. *Raddun* is likely to mean a 'red hill', possibly offering a suitable site for settlement (Gelling 1993, 140–9), with the 'red' element deriving from the colour of the Clay-with-flints here overlying the Chalk, so 'Red Down' may well have come to be its name during a phase of downland cultivation hereabouts before AD 800 (*ibid*, 141). In fact, evidence for activity here in the early to mid-Saxon period was suggested archaeologically by four organic-tempered pottery sherds (GF413) excavated from the occupation level inside Building 4, the long-house (see *Building 4*). The tenth-century East Overton charter (S449 of AD 939) also provides a hint from documentary evidence of both cultivation on Fyfield Down (*suth heafod*) and a cow farm hereabouts. When, therefore, excavation too indicates activity on the site, post-Conquest but well before the 1248 reference, it becomes apparent that Richard of Raddun's farm was, certainly in place and perhaps by nature, pre-conditioned by its history and not merely the free choice of an individual pioneer.

?Late twelfth–early thirteenth centuries AD: the earliest medieval activity

Why this rather indistinct field was chosen as the place to settle is, nevertheless, unclear, but no doubt the slight south-westerly slope of the area within the field is as good a position as one would hope for sunshine and shelter on the Downs. The lynchets would be useful as a land boundary or stock barrier. Moreover, here the Clay-with-flints provides a basis for a soil which is significantly more fertile than that directly over Chalk. Whatever the reason behind this first decision, this field remained throughout the medieval period as the centre of the settlement called *Raddun* (Figures FWP65.3, FWP65.4).

Pit 6

An ovoid pit was dug near the east corner of the field, just north of where Building 4 (B4) was later placed (Figure FWP65.6). This pit (Pit 6; Figure FWP65.13), some 3m in depth, was by far the deepest feature excavated throughout the whole Project. It had been cut with almost vertical sides

into the chalk. In diameter it measured *c* 6m (north–south) by 7.8m (east–west) across a flat bottom. It was probably dug to abstract chalk which would subsequently be spread on the fields as a dressing (marling). If so, its presence indicates that the adjacent area was coming under the plough again. Another possibility is that the chalk was dug and mixed with hair and dung to make clunch, a well-known local building material, or that in fact large chalk blocks were dug from the pit to make the walls of a nearby building, presumably Building 2 (see *Phase 1*).

The date for the digging of this marling pit, and consequently this period of cultivation, was at first unclear. Although a single sherd of thirteenth-century coarseware pottery (CFTC fabric38; GF719), of a type found in abundance throughout the excavation, was recovered from near the bottom of the pit (Layer 31/33), this layer otherwise produced a concentration of eleven Romano-British sherds (GFs 717–8). With comparatively so many Romano-British sherds, in fact a third of the total recovered at *Raddun*, the pit could well have been dug during the first century AD as part of the widespread 'Roman-induced' reorganisation of the land in the study area (Fowler 1997; *LPP*, Chapter 2).

This seems unlikely, however, given the relatively slight depth of the fill at the bottom of the pit which certainly had not been accumulating for over 1000 years. As such, the pit seems to have been dug in the twelfth or early thirteenth century, with the Romano-British sherds falling in from the topsoil, formerly the Romano-British ploughsoil, exposed in section around its perimeter. Such a process is now well-attested on the nearby Overton Down experimental earthwork (Bell *et al* 1996, 46–52, 78–9).

The occurrence of weathering and 'silt' at the side and bottom of the pit was slight (Layers 14, 16a and 16c; Figure FWP65.13), indicating the pit was only open to the elements for a brief period. As soon as enough Chalk had been excavated, its function subsequently changed and it may have become a water reservoir, shown by the homogeneous, flintless red clay lining over its sides and bottom (Layers 28 and 34; see *Cutting 9*).

Above this clay lining, various soils built up (Layers 31 and 33). This represents a phase of natural infilling, when the reservoir, which would have remained poorly-drained and was presumably full of weeds, was a hollow some 2m in depth. During a phase of increased activity in the vicinity, the hollow became the obvious place to dump stones being cleared from adjacent land. These stones landed in the topsoil of the hollow, and some, due to their immense weight, sank into it. That the sarsens lay in and under a layer of weathered chalk lumps and chalk silt suggests chalk was also dumped into the hollow about the same time (Layer 32), and an animal, probably a dog (GF697) fell or was thrown in. This dumping of stones and chalk could be related to the clearance of Enclosure D and the ploughing of the lynchet to the south west of the hollow, as well as ploughing elsewhere in the Mead.

This field clearance seems to have occurred at the same time as permanent occupation within the Mead, as charcoal and thirteenth-century sherds were recovered from the layers below and around the sarsens (Layers 30, 31, 32, 35, 37, 38). The layer above the sarsens, particularly in the southern half, contained a mass of burnt material, iron objects, animal remains and pottery, clearly demonstrating the pit, once the field clearance had finished, had taken on a new role: the ideal place for the occupants of Building 4 to dump their rubbish (see *Building 4*, *cf* Meyrick 1950).

The uppermost layers of Pit 6 were referred to as a 'midden' during excavation due to the dark soils and large quantity of finds. Being the uppermost fill of the pit and containing cob, this midden represents a phase spanning the abandonment of B4 to the collapse of the oven. It thus contained rubbish thrown during the occupation of B4, material dumped in the pit when the fire-pit was dug and debris from the oven. As the digging of the fire-pit and building of the oven necessitated the digging up of the north end of B4, then material from the occupation phase of B4 would have again been dumped into the upper layers of the pit. Furthermore, the pit would have been a substantial hollow at this time up to *c* 0.75m deep, so the layers above Layer 35 are also likely to represent the midden for the occupants at B1. Such a diversity of users makes it impossible to assign finds to activities, especially as finds from the upper 0.5m of the pit ranged from a tenth–twelfth-century knife blade (GF591**;** Figure FWP65.32, 12) and a 'Norman' horseshoe (GF547) to a later thirteenth-century sherd (GF591, Fabric 12, Newbury Group C (Fabric 12MG), 'transitional' horseshoe nails (GF591) and an eleventh–fourteenth-century arrowhead (GF599; Figure FWP65.36, 62).

AD 1200–1220: the first stock enclosure

Enclosure B

Two enclosures, both very similar in area, shape and make-up, meet at *Raddun* to form a figure-of-eight in plan: Enclosure B lies to the east, the other, Enclosure A, to the west. Building 4 sat between them (Figures FWP65.5, FWP65.6and FWP65.28). This amalgam of two enclosures, coupled with the presence of B4 and its associated later activity, has made the sequence of events a little difficult to determine, though the preferred sequence here sees Enclosure B as part of the earliest medieval activity in this area with Enclosure A as a later addition.

Enclosure B was originally formed, on the south and east, out of the corner of the early field. To the north lay a bank and ditch and the entrance. To the west the bank had been much disturbed by Building 4 (see *Building 4).* The length for the east and south side of the bank of Enclosure B, including the 9m stretch of ditch to the north, was *c* 79m, approximately 48m of which was made of medieval bank on top of early field bank (see *Cutting 6Ai*). The west bank measured *c* 31m in length. The total perimeter length of Enclosure B would thus have been originally 110m (363ft), about the same as Enclosure A.

The bank

The bank itself was consistently found on excavation to be made of a brown, clayey soil with many small flints. In the east (Cutting 1; Figure FWP65.9), stones visible along the external edge of the bank appeared to have been dumped, probably during field clearance. Investigation also showed the bank consisted of two phases – one bank on top of another. This occurrence was also noted at the junction of Enclosures A and B, south of B4, but here the earlier bank clearly formed part of the early field system, which was not demonstrated in Cutting 1. What was clear, however, was that the earlier bank excavated in Cutting 1 had a well-built stone wall at its base, unlike the stones of the later bank above. Ceramic evidence showed that the upper bank was constructed in the thirteenth century. The lower bank, set upon an old ground surface containing much carbon, has not been datable, though it probably represents an earlier medieval bank (?twelfth century) possibly built with clearance stones from inside Enclosures B and D.

Ditches

Investigation of the west side of the enclosure uncovered part of a ditch, 0.83m deep, inside the slight west bank of Enclosure B (Cutting 6Y; Figure FWP65.11). As it curved south, however, the ditch became less evident (6Hiii) and, eventually, was not noted at all in excavation (6Hii). The

presence of small, rounded redeposited clay and chalk nodules at the bottom of the ditch, as well as much rotten chalk and a deep solution hollow on the east side, suggested waterlogged conditions. This problem appears to have been countered in places by a clay lining (Layers 28 and 33), or a layer of flints (Figure FWP65.11). Interpretation thus points to the trenches acting as the drainage system within the enclosure, helping to drain the banks, the enclosed land and the farm buildings to the north.

A further length of ditch, similar in size and fill to the one in the west, continued from the north east corner of Enclosure B and ran directly west, *c* 4m from the south wall of B2. The trench was found to have three large sarsens and several smaller ones set on edge in the subsoil in a line east–west across the centre of the cutting, seemingly acting as some sort of revetment to the ditch or forming part of a feature which lay immediately to its south (Cuttings 4P; Figure FWP65.12). Here it was apparent that the trench had gradually filled with rubbish (Layers 33a, 33b and 40a), presumably from the activities going on in B2 and had not, unlike with the trench in the west, been lined.

Entrances

As no gaps in the east, west nor south banks of Enclosure B were evident, the entrance almost certainly from the north, no doubt between B1 and B2 (Figure FWP65.5). As the ditch to the west (Cuttings 2y, 2t/u, 2f/e) was found coming to an end *c* 4.8m from the west wall of B1 South, presumably the bank ended about there too, thus giving us the west end of the entrance (see *Trench under B1 South*). In the area to the south of B2 (Cuttings 4P; Figure FWP65.12), a paving of sarsen chips, along with the indication of a low wall joining the south west corner of B2 with the ditch, could have been the remains of the east end of the entrance. The original entrance to Enclosure B was thus a gap of about 15m between the bank and ditch to the west, and a shorter ditch, but with no bank to the east – no bank was necessary in the east because of the low wall between ditch and yard to the north. The entrance to Enclosure B remained in the same place, even with the later construction of B1. As such, this area would have experienced a great deal of traffic, which could explain the presence of the paving of sarsen chips and the possible sarsen revetment to the trench, both of which would alleviate the erosion problem caused by decades of wear.

Date and possible function of Enclosure B

Evidence from the bank showed it to have been constructed in the thirteenth century, with some evidence of an earlier bank on the east side. As Enclosure B was constructed in conjunction with B2 Phase 1, then it is likely to have been built in the early, rather than the late thirteenth century. This interpretation is supported by the material evidence recovered from the cuttings across the banks and to the south of B2. The diversity of material, especially to the south of B2, indicates the trench gradually filled in, deliberately or otherwise, between the mid to late thirteenth and the early fourteenth century.

But what was Enclosure B? Having a ditch on the inside suggests (unlike Enclosure A) that it was to keep animals in, rather than out. It is possible that sheep (and some cattle) entered Enclosure B from the north and west, and were kept in the enclosure, perhaps while waiting to be milked in B2, from where they were sent into Enclosure D to graze (Figure FWP65.5).

Enclosure B continued to serve a purpose at *Raddun* throughout the thirteenth century, even after the main occupation moved from B4 to B1. At first the ditch was kept clear, suggested by redigging in the west, presumably by the inhabitants of B4. However with the move to the new farm, the ditch in the east became filled with rubbish from the new settlement. In the west the bank was gradually flattened as it was used as trackway to and from the fire-pit and oven at B4, and consequently the ditch there filled up too. The construction of B1 South, which cut off the entrance to the enclosure from the west and created a much narrower entrance from the north, suggests a change in function

for Enclosure B: what had been a well-manured penning, may have become the toft for the farmstead, with the livestock it once housed perhaps then moved to the recently built Enclosure A.

Building 2 and the Mound

The agricultural viability of the Downs which was enough to require the building of Enclosure B, also led to a permanent shelter being built at the enclosure's entrance. An area *c* 14.5m (48ft) by 19m (64ft) was levelled off as a building stance, just north of enclosure's entrance, about 25m north east of the marling pit (*Pit 6*; Figure FWP65.28). Before being levelled this area seems to have been scrub, with hazel, hawthorn and blackthorn growing, which may have been burnt off (see *Charcoal*). Indeed, perhaps the black layer (24) under the bank of Enclosure B, investigated in Cutting 1 (see *The Bank*, Figure FWP65.9) also represents scrub clearance.

The mound

During the levelling, the excavated soil was carted off and dumped 13m to the east, creating a low mound, *c* 6.3m in diameter (Figure FWP65.17). When excavated, this mound was described as having a 'reverse stratigraphy', meaning that under the topsoil and a hard packed layer of flints and brown loam (Layer 23), a core of chalk lumps was uncovered (Layer 16). This lumpy chalk layer lay over redeposited clay-with-flints (Layer 44) on top of a black humic layer (Layer 37), which in turn was lying on a light brown clayey soil (Layer 39), the old ground surface of the pre-mound phase. The chalk lumps at the core of this mound were found to continue away from the centre of the cutting in a north west direction, that is to say towards B2, as did the majority of the iron and copper alloy artefacts recovered from the mound.

This reverse stratigraphy is due to the levelling process in the B2 area. Firstly, the old ground surface was dug up (the black humic layer), which included the burnt remains of the scrub burning (or earlier structure). This was dumped on to the ground surface, the brown clayey soil, a little to the east to form the base of the mound. Then the underlying Clay-with-flints was reached by the diggers in the B2 area and this was subsequently dumped on the growing mound. As the natural Chalk was the last layer to be reached, it was the last layer to be dumped, and thus formed the core of the mound.

The black humic layer at the bottom of the mound gives a *terminus ante quem* for the mound and, therefore, for B2 Phase 1 (and the B1/2/3 complex). Apart from the pieces of charcoal noted above, this layer and the old ground surface on to which it had been unloaded, also contained finds suggesting the mound was constructed in the earlier half of the thirteenth century, placing the construction of Enclosure B, as argued above, at a similar date.

Construction of Building 2

Once the ground had been levelled, a timber structure was erected (Building 2). This (Phase 1) structure was inferred from the position of two trenches, partially filled with about 150mm of chalky silt (site notebook) and a gingery loam (Layer 11a). These two trenches are taken to be foundation trenches for a timber structure. The stone walls of B2 (Phase 2) were built over the filled-in trenches in the west and east (Figure FWP65.16). Both west and east trenches ended to the south at the same point, *c* 1.3m from the internal edge of the south stone wall. To the north, the east trench was found to end 1.8m short of the north east corner of the later stone building, the end of the west trench in the north was not determined. As the east trench probably represents the full length of the first building, this gives a structure 4.2m in width (14ft) by 8.4m in length (28ft), an internal floor area of approximately 35m².

In the east trench three ‘notches’, of unknown size but equidistant from one another, were uncovered under the wall stones. These notches suggest post-holes were sunk in the east trench, and presumably somewhere along the west one as well, presenting a construction with fixed distances between timber uprights which held the wall frame and supported the roof, set in a trench which was subsequently filled in around the posts to give support. In the west, the southern half of the trench was interrupted by a series of holes along its centre (Figure FWP65.16). These are interpreted as the regular placing and removal of a hurdle across the entrance to the timber building, though the presence of solution hollows confused any definite interpretation here (Figure FWP65.18).

Two more or less parallel rows of at least twelve holes, *c* 1.5m apart (north–south), 0.25m to 0.3m apart (east–west), and centred 1.5m from the walls, had been cut through the floor level of the building (Figure FWP65.16). Some are interpreted as post-holes for timber roof supports, though considering the position of others, their fairly shallow depth and relatively narrow diameter, these post-holes probably represent tethering posts or the end posts for stalls rather than the foundation pits of large roof supports.

As the pottery from the holes was predominantly thirteenth century in date, it is unclear whether these post-holes can be associated with Phase 1, Phase 2 or even both phases of B2. However, ignoring PH1E, which is from a later phase, very few post-holes were evident north and south of the ends of the pre-stone trenches, an indication the post-holes went with Phase 1. If correct, this would make B1 Phase 1 an aisled building with timber posts in the centre of the building to support the ridge with further timber uprights in the trenches to support the walls. Internally, the building appears to have been divided up into stalls (Figure FWP65.16).

Dating evidence and sequence

An early to mid thirteenth-century date was inferred from the material associated with the timber building. With the replacement of the timber building with a larger stone-footed one, further levelling was required and it seems that the material dug up was dumped on the pre-existing chalky mound. This second phase of levelling was reflected in the mound as the hard packed flinty layer which overlay the redeposited Chalk. This flinty layer thus represents the old floor surface of the timber building and, as such, many of the finds from this layer above the chalk core are likely to be from that earlier phase. This old floor surface layer included several broken iron fragments, staples and fittings, a chain link, horseshoe and structural nails, a twelfth–fourteenth century copper alloy annular brooch, (GF275; Figure FWP65.30, 1) and a thirteenth-century century bronze finger-ring (GF232; Figure FWP65.30, 3). Thirty-three early thirteenth-century sherds (Fabrics EG20, EG36 and EG51) came from this area, from the pre-stone, silted-up foundation trenches.

The cross-joining sherds of a thirteenth-century shallow dish were in the trench-filling under the east wall of B2, inside the east wall of B2, outside B2 and over the top of the ditch at the east entrance to Enclosure C (GF293/318/376/512; Figure FWP65.38, 23). This implies that the ditch in Cutting 10 (Figure FWP65.26) was substantially filled before the construction of the timber B2 (*ie* by the mid-thirteenth century). In addition, this occurrence suggests that B2 Phase 1 and the first phase of Enclosure C were contemporary.

The nails, staples and fittings also reinforce the interpretation that Phase 1 was a substantial wooden structure, presumably with wattled walls and a thatched roof, and dates from the thirteenth century. With its internal stalls and lying as it did at the entrance to Enclosure B, it may have been a shelter where sheep and goats were tethered to be milked or to give birth. It is unlikely the wooden building was for cattle, as a drain would have been essential, though the various pieces of horse equipment from the building suggest it could have doubled up as a stable.

According to Kempson (1962, 114), the documents refer to walls (*muri*) at Fyfield and Overton, but only to partitions (*parietes*) at *Raddun* (= sheepcote), perhaps a reference to the timber-framed B2. The sheepcotes appear to have had ‘three entrances (*hostia*) and one door (*porta*) and were regularly lined with wattle and straw'. If B2 can be interpreted as such a sheepcote with three entrances, then the timber building, with its removable hurdle towards its south west corner, may also have been open at both ends, again with removable hurdled gates.

The pond

A circular depression some 9m in diameter situated *c* 9m east of the south east corner of the fence around Wroughton Copse, was partially excavated and is interpreted as a pond (Figures FWP65.3 and FWP65.23). Some 1m below the topsoil was a layer of silty clay with flint chips (Layer 45) which sloped gradually towards the centre of the hollow. Into this silty layer were embedded numerous sarsens stones of considerable weight forming a dense packing (as noted in Pit 6), and lying in a rough line north east–south west. When a few of these sarsens were finally removed with mechanical aid, a layer of knapped flints was revealed at the bottom. It was also evident that the sides of the hollow had been cut in steps.

This feature was probably a reservoir, constructed with a clay lining and a layer of knapped flints to help retain water. A layer of silt built up, as expected, during its use, although at a later date it was filled with sarsens from field clearance. The ceramic evidence shows the reservoir was open during a similar period to the main occupation phases of the site; that is to say the thirteenth century. The deliberate filling of this reservoir in Wroughton Mead reflects the need to clear land, no doubt for cultivation. Such in-filling does not necessarily indicate an abundance of water in the Mead or a diminishing need for it, as the reservoir may have become contaminated, perhaps by a lamb (the skeleton of one was found) which had fallen, or been thrown, into it.

AD 1220–1260: the first settlement

Building 4

The earliest house in the settlement was Building 4 (B4) (Figures FWP65.6, FWP65.14; FWP65.15; Plate FWP65.III). It measured 11.4m (38ft) in length by 4.2m (14ft) in width internally, giving a floor area of *c* 48m². The walls, where extant, were built of broken and unbroken sarsen stones (Figure FWP65.14). The east wall, to the north of the entrance, was in the best state of preservation, probably because some reconstruction of this area had been undertaken when an oven was built after the abandonment of B4. In the southern half of the building, on the other hand, few stones existed on either east or west sides, probably because they were later removed for other building nearby. There had been walls there, however, as their former line was clearly marked by a slight scarp in the Clay-with-flints. This was a characteristic feature of Buildings 1, 2 and 3 and is presumably the result of wear and sweeping within the building (this domestic chore may well also explain the concentration of metal objects around the entrance to B4 and in its south east corner).

The north wall of B4 was difficult to locate precisely due to the insertion of the oven (Figure FWP65.14), although a slight step in the floor level in this area, into which the lowest courses of the oven were placed, indicated its likely position. B4's stone revetment at the west was at most two courses high, and since there was little tumble from it, this may represent its original height. If this were the case, it is likely that the rafters would have been embedded in the bank immediately behind the revetment, rather than on the stones themselves, though no evidence of this was found, nor any evidence of the roofing technique. It is suggested here that the bank into which the west wall of B4 was built was constructed specifically to take that wall. The floor of B4 consisted of a red clay with many flints. No evidence of a partition between the north and south ends of B4 was found.

Interior features

A post-hole, of unrecorded depth or filling, was noted in the north west corner of B4, *c* 1m from the north wall and partially underlying the west wall (Figure FWP65.14). Being so close and partially under the wall of B4, it was presumably associated with the roof or wall of the occupation phase of B4.

A trench and pit had been cut down the centre of B4 into the Clay-with-flints and chalk floor, and, under the southernmost wall of the building, a second trench was found dug through the enclosure bank. These three features acted correspondingly as drain, sump and sump outlet or overflow and were clearly part of a drainage system for the south end of B4 (Figure FWP65.14 and Figure FWP65.15). This system, starting as it did in the exact centre of the building, is fairly conclusive evidence for the stabling of cattle at the south end of B4, presumably the oxen attested to in the documentary evidence.

The infilling and capping of the drain with various size sarsen stones was deliberate, judging by the fact that the stones continued along the length of the drain and under the south wall of B4. A stone packing would have acted both as a safeguard against animals stumbling in and as a filter for the urine and excrement. It would have been essential to contain the solids and to stop them washing away as they were primary fertiliser. Without a filter system, solids would also rapidly fill the sump and block the outlet. Indeed, a drain full of stones would contain the solids far better than a drain with a covering spanning its width and the latter would also allow for the filtration of the liquid through the stones, down the slightly sloping drain and into the sump. This system suggests that solids were collected from the drain and the liquid from the sump. Any excess was presumably collected outside the south west side of Enclosure B via the outlet through the bank. This drainage system bears similarities to several previously excavated long-houses, such as the ones on Dartmoor, especially Houndtor 1, houses 1 (Period 1–2) and 7, and Hutholes, house 3 (Beresford 1979, 98–158) and at Treworld (Dudley and Minter 1966, 39–43).

Entrance and entrance track

There was no entrance to B4 from the west through the enclosure bank, but a 3.6m wide entrance was clearly defined in the east wall, north of centre (Figure FWP65.14). A large sarsen stone lay on either side of this entrance and a very irregular, roughly cobbled track led up to it, stopping level with the inside face of the wall and forming a slight step down into the interior of B4.

The entrance as excavated was not contemporary with the occupation of B4, however, but was associated with a later period of activity when the fire-pit or oven, or both, were being used. In comparison with the south and west walls of B4, the well-constructed nature of the entrance, its width and the walling directly to its north and south clearly suggest that this entrance was rebuilt after the occupation phase of B4. This no doubt necessitated the destruction of the remnant east wall of B4, and, subsequently, the original entrance. This modified entrance was constructed in the latter half of the thirteenth or early fourteenth century. An indication of an earlier entrance is given by a pit (Pit 5; Figure FWP65.14), under the remains of the stone wall in the east of B4, 1.2m to the south of the entrance. Two deeper holes were apparent within this pit, one just inside, the other outside the east wall and both were partially covered by the large sarsens of the later entrance. These holes may have held uprights associated with an earlier entrance structure, with one post inside and the other outside the original, narrower, east wall of B4.

The entrance track was undoubtedly laid at the same time as the original entrance to B4, that is to say in the mid thirteenth century, though it continued in use later.

The ditch under BI South

Part of a ditch, *c* 2.4m in width across the top, was investigated under the floor level of B1 South (Cuttings 2Y, 2T/U and 2F/E; Figure FWP65.5), with the trench ending, it appeared, just before Pit 1. This ditch was aligned south west–north east, as was Pit 1, and therefore lay, not at a right-angle to the wall of B1 South, but at 35º to it. The ditch was filled in before the construction of B1 South at the end of the thirteenth century (see *Building 1*), a date which was borne out by the evidence from the ditch itself. The function of this ditch is uncertain. As it would have been outside the bank of Enclosure B, it was not a continuation of the enclosure's internal drainage trench. Its width, depth and position indicate it may have been a hollow-way to and from B2 or, as it ran parallel to, though *c* 3m from, the south wall of B1 North perhaps a trench helping to drain that building.

Enclosure B and B4

The bank directly west of B4, which consisted of a clayey soil with flints (Layers 4, 39) and chalk lumps (site notebook), had been dug into so that the west wall of the building could be inserted, although only a single line of stones remained *in situ*. As this bank was not found to continue below the floor level of B4, it is possible that it was constructed specifically to take the west wall of B4, thus allowing B4 to sit between two banks, perhaps to make roof construction of the byre end simpler. This section of bank may have also been constructed to extend Enclosure B. So, not only was the bank built to take the west wall of B4, it was continued further north and curved around the north edge of Pit 6 (Cutting 6M) giving an additional bank measuring some 32.6m (109ft) in length (Figure FWP65.6). A gap of about 3.4m (11ft) was left in the bank, however, west of the pit (Pit 6). Perhaps what was then a shallow hollow was being used as a watering-hole for livestock outside Enclosure B.

Discussion and dating

The northern half of B4 is assumed to be the occupation area, although there was no firm evidence of an occupation hearth. This is not, however, unsurprising considering the amount of activity which took place in this northern end after the abandonment of B4. On the other hand, the southern end with its drain and sump was where animals, presumably cattle and oxen, were stalled. B4 was, therefore, a long-house, with habitation to the north and stabling to the south, with an entrance about half way down the east wall, but no counterpart on the west side. The absence of a partition wall between the two ends, as would be expected in a typical long-house, remains unexplained. That B4 was kept free of debris is shown by the small quantity of domestic and agricultural equipment and broken pottery on the floor area within the building. Their sheer quantity, in contrast, in the midden (top of Pit 6) and along the edges of the wall outside B4, especially in the north east corner by the entrance, indicates regular sweepings and clearings out – though this concentration may also be due to the clearing out of the internal area of B4 to build the fire-pit and oven and/or the debris from their use.

The layers immediately in and above the clayey filling of the pit north of B4 (Pit 6; *c* 1.3m in depth, Layers 3 and 29) contained few metal objects but many bones. This layer is believed to be contemporary with the occupation phase of B4 when Pit 6 was being used as a rubbish dump by the inhabitants of the long-house. The material from this associated layer in Pit 6 and from within B4 indicates that B4 was constructed, and in use, in the thirteenth century, probably for a period spanning the middle decades of that century. That B4 went out of permanent use as a long-house in the mid to latter part of the thirteenth century is evident from the material, such as a 'Norman' horseshoe nail (GF596), from the drain fill below the south wall and finds from the post-occupation phase (eg Table FWP65.9, X-fit 13).

This interpretation can further be demonstrated by the near total absence of early and later thirteenth-century sherds, the construction of another house (B1) in the mid to late thirteenth century and by the fact that the occupation phase of B4was prior to both the fire-pit and the oven, both of which are late thirteenth–early fourteenth century in date. Of further note are the sherds from a cooking-pot found at floor level within B4 and on the platform in the area of Cutting 10. Though the platform in Cutting 10 was constructed in the post-medieval period (see *Cutting 10*), this indicates movement by the occupiers of B4 in the Enclosure C area in the thirteenth century (fabric Newbury B coarseware 38 (CW38), X–fit 16).

Enclosure C

A triangular enclosed area in the north west corner of Wroughton Mead, named Enclosure C (Figure FWP65.3), was investigated during July and August 1961. Excavation examined the Enclosure's west bank (G1 W ext), its east bank (Cutting 11) and a raised area within the north part of the enclosure (Cutting 10; Plate FWP65.XI). Cutting 10 revealed the raised area, discussed below, had been constructed prior to the erection of a large, rectangular building (see *Building 10*).

The north bank of Enclosure C measured 67m (221ft) in length, the east bank 40m (135ft) and the south one 46.5m (155ft); a total length of 146.5m (490ft). The enclosure banks were not an uninterrupted length, however. The north and east banks did not join in the north, where a gap some 12m (40ft) was evident, in the east a 2.7m (9ft) gap between the east and south banks was noted and the south and north banks had a gap of approximately 6m (20ft) between them (Figure FWP65.3). These no doubt represent the entrances to Enclosure C; the northern one led out to the cultivated lands to the east of Wroughton Mead, the smaller one to the east led into Enclosure D and the third led towards the settlement area and the grazing land to the west.

The banks of Enclosure C

Excavations across the east side of Enclosure C were begun in early July 1961 to obtain dating evidence for the enclosure (Cutting 11; Figure FWP65.24, FWP65.27). The bank consisted of flinty brown soil (Layer 2), over a thinner layer of flints with brown soil (Layer 5), which overlay Clay-with-flints. A ditch, 0.37m in depth, with a fill of dark humus with flints and chalk lumps (Layer 29), and a small area of chalky humus (Layer 29a: ‘primary silt’) at its bottom, was investigated on the east side of the bank (outside the enclosure). Presumably the bank had been constructed from the ditch material. A smaller round-bottomed trench, filled with brown soil in contrast to the flinty make-up of the bank, was uncovered on the west side. A depression, observable in section on both sides, had been dug into the top of the bank (Layer 1a; Figure FWP65.27).

Pottery evidence from the bank shows it to have been constructed in the thirteenth century. Of interest are the sherds from a thirteenth-century micaceous coarseware bowl, probably with origins to the west (fabric 65; GFs 730 and 733). It is notable that no other sherds of this type were found on the site. A possible Romano-British or Iron Age sherd from the Clay-with-flints demonstrates this medieval activity sits upon an area of Downland which here too experienced cultivation at an earlier period (*cf* FWP 68, FL excavation).

Excavation across the west side of Enclosure C (Cutting 10, G1 West; Figure FWP65.25), showed that this bank, unlike the bank to the east, comprised two phases: one bank on top of another. The lower bank of ginger loam with flints (Layer 11a) and a sarsen revetment on its downhill side, lay on an old ground surface (Layer 11), while the upper bank consisted of brown loam with flints (Layer 2). The latter had experienced some disturbance at its crest, indicated by an area of ginger loam with flints (Layer 11a), similar to Cutting 11. To the west, outside the enclosure, a shallow ditch was noted (Layer 11b) which cut through the earlier bank and into the Clay-with-flints.

Although no dating evidence is available from this cutting, the composition and positioning of both banks indicate the lower one formed part of the 'Celtic' field system within Wroughton Mead, whilst the upper one, judging by its similarities with the bank to the east (Cutting 11) and across Enclosure B (Cutting 1), is medieval in date. It seems that the upper one was constructed to heighten the 'Celtic' field lynchet as part of the construction of Enclosure C, so it ought to be thirteenth century in date. Again like the bank to the east, it was formed by spoil from the ditch being heaped on to the earlier bank, while the shallow depressions along the top of both banks suggest that all three banks of Enclosure C were hedged along their top.

The ditches

Investigation across the gap between the north and east banks of Enclosure C uncovered a ditch stretching between the two banks. The main ditch (Ditch 1), 0.75m in depth, was cut into the natural Chalk, whilst a second, slightly narrower and shallower ditch (Ditch 2), was discovered cutting into Ditch 1 in Areas O3 and O4 (Figure FWP65.26). Further work established that Ditch 1 was a shallow depression in the old ground surface when Ditch 2 had been partly dug into it.

Ditch 2 can, therefore, be regarded as a redigging of Ditch 1. However, only the north edge of Ditch 1 was disturbed by Ditch 2 in Area O3, whereas Ditch 2 sat neatly in Ditch 1 in O4, being narrower by about 0.3m either side. Furthermore, only one ditch was observed in the other cuttings (O1, O2, O5; Figure FWP65.26), indicating no redigging there. What is clear is that the ditch ran from the west bank of Enclosure C, from where the heightened lynchet ended, and continued for some 12m before turning almost 90° to run parallel with, though outside, the east arm of the triangular enclosure.

The bottom of Ditch 1 contained a mass of chalk lumps and loosely packed flint rubble which had not gradually eroded into the ditch but had, therefore, probably been shoved in. Perhaps a bank which had stood at the lip of the ditch, either to the south or north, had been subsequently used partially to fill the pit. This mass at the bottom was covered by a light brown, clayey soil with chalk lumps; evidently natural weathering from the sides of the ditch. Ditch 2 was filled with a similar clay and chalk material to the one it cut, although it was darker in colour. A possible stake-hole, filled with brown–red clay, was apparent at the lip of Ditch 2 to the north.

Discussion and dating

As one of the ditches (if not both) joined the end of the medieval bank on top of the 'Celtic' field lynchet in the north with the bank to the east, the ditch can be regarded as an integral part of Enclosure C. Though it is uncertain whether a bank can be associated with the ditch(es), Ditch 2 appears to have had a fence to its north (outside the enclosure). A ditched enclosure with an external fence suggests Enclosure C was to keep animals in, rather than out, rather like Enclosure B. It may be that the fence was a removable barrier, blocking off the entrance to the north part of Enclosure C when necessary, with the ditch acting as a further 'stop-gap' once livestock were within the enclosure. As *Raddun* was predominantly a sheep farm, Enclosure C was no doubt used as a penning for sheep (see also *Building MN*), though other animals could also have been kept there.

A 'Norman' horseshoe (GF299) from the loamy filling of Ditch 1, coupled with the CFTC fabric 38 ceramic evidence, gives an early to mid thirteenth-century date for Ditch 1 and allows us a *terminus ante quem* for Ditch 2. As Ditch 2 cut the fill of Ditch 1, then several decades may have elapsed before the redigging. The occurrence of cross-fitting sherds from the timber phase of B2 and Ditch 1 strongly suggest B2 (Phase 1), and consequently Enclosure B, and Ditch 1, and consequently Enclosure C, were all contemporary (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 1). In addition, with sherds from the same cooking-pot in B4 and inside Enclosure C (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 16), it is probable that B4 was occupied at the same time as Enclosure C was being used.

As the three banks and ditch of Enclosure C were no doubt contemporary, the construction of this enclosure can be dated to the thirteenth century. Moreover, if, as argued here, Enclosure C was also contemporary with the earlier phase of B2, the occupation of B4 and Enclosure B, then one is inclined to view its construction date in the early to mid thirteenth century, rather than the later 1200s. The enclosure was certainly in use throughout the thirteenth century, however, probably up until the abandonment of the Wroughton Mead settlement in the early fourteenth century.

Interpretation 1200–1260

The picture which emerges of *Raddun* in the late twelfth to mid thirteenth century is thus one of a simple stock enclosure (Enclosure B) for over-nighting animals, predominantly sheep, though goats and horses were also kept, with a watering-hole (Pit 6) outside it to the north west. At the entrance to Enclosure B, a timber-framed building was erected (B2), a decision which was later to determine the positioning of the subsequent farm buildings in that area. This building, probably a shelter for milking and lambing, sat on a levelled ground surface whose scrub covering had at first to be burnt off. The spoil from the levelling formed a mound a little to its east. Further east, a larger enclosed area (Enclosure D) was cleared of stones, many of which were placed along the banks of the enclosure into cairns or into some of the pits and ponds within the Mead. A further enclosure (Enclosure C), with a ditch at its entrance and a hedge along its banks, was constructed in the northernmost corner of Enclosure D.

With the construction of a permanent timber structure (B2, Phase 1), along with three enclosures, sheep farming had clearly became viable enough to necessitate a permanent dwelling at *Raddun*. Thus Enclosure B was extended in the west and a long-house (B4), with a well-drained byre end, was constructed up against the enclosure bank. People were now living at *Raddun* and the oxen they tended were ploughing the Downs.

AD 1260–1300: investment, expansion and prosperity

Building 1

Situated some 20m north east of B4 were three further buildings. Building 1 (B1; Figures FWP65.20; FWP65.21; Plates FWP65.VII, FWP65.VIII), found to be of two phases, lay about 6m away from Buildings 2 and 3 (B2 and B3), across what is thought to have been a farmyard (Figure FWP65.6). B1 and B2/3 were not, however, set parallel to each other; whereas B2/3 lay in a more or less exact north–south alignment, B1 sat at an angle of 70° left of the north–south axis.

A 0.28m thick brown clayey humus overlay an artificial floor level marked by a surface of chalk or small flint nodules, both perforated by numerous, shallow clay-filled holes. The floor surface was cut into the natural Clay-with-flints or Chalk. These layers had been dug through, especially at the northern end, to produce a level area on the 3° slope, rather like B2. B1 was thus found to be set lengthways on to the slight south-falling slope and was, in its latest form, 17.4m long with a width of 6m in the north and 4.2m in the south, giving a total internal floor area of approximately 88m² (Figure FWP65.20).

At the edges of this floor lay stone footings, the remains of low walls, most with their straight sides exposed, where possible, towards the inside of the building. The walls were in an advanced stage of collapse, being covered by an agglomeration of sarsens stretching 1–2m either side of the wall proper. The extant walls were some 0.6m thick and approximately 0.3m high on the north and west. To the east and south, however, there was no walling at all, only a spread of sarsens on the east and a single course sarsen kerb (Figure FWP65.20). The south lacked even a kerb, although large sarsens lay in the south west and south east corners. The building, like B4, had undoubtedly been robbed, and all that excavation could uncover was the bottom course or, in places, two of the

footings engulfed in rubble filling from more substantial structures.

B1 was of two phases. The original B1 was altered when a southern extension was added. That the original building underwent substantial improvements is suggested by the slightly skewed plan of the building overall, the occurrence of a set of post-footings *and* post-holes, the existence of a blocked entrance in the northern part and the material evidence. As such, Building 1 is thus discussed under two separate headings: 'Phase 1', being the earlier building consisting of the northern section of B1 (B1 North), and 'Phase 2', being the later, longer structure, consisting of both B1 North and B1 South.

Phase 1: the new farmhouse

B1 in Phase 1 was a building 8.7m (29ft) long by 6m (20ft) wide, giving an internal floor area of 52m² (Figure FWP65.20). The presence of one, possibly two, post-holes set into the floor level of B1 North indicates the centre of the original building. As the southern post-hole lies 3m from the outer east and west walls of B1 North and 1.8m from the south wall, the roof could have been hipped, with diagonal beams reaching down to four corner stones, though both south east and south west corners of Phase 1 were destroyed when the southern extension was added.

Two lines of sarsens leading up to the centre of the west wall (Entrance 1) suggest it had once been possible to enter B1 at this point. However, this entrance, originally *c* 2m in width, was subsequently blocked, probably when the chimney for the hearth was constructed. In the east, another opposing entrance (Entrance 2; Plate FWP65.IX) was some 1.8m in width. Here a line of sarsens did not block the entrance but acted as kerb to the rough flint cobbling, thus forming a slight step down into B1. Two small patches of chalk in the north west and south east corners of Entrance 2 appear to have been post-footings (Plate FWP65.X), showing where a door or gate pivoted or where small timbers held up a porch. One similar post-footing was noted inside the south wall of Entrance 1, mirroring the example at the south east of Entrance 2. Perhaps the construction of Entrance 3 in B1 South made Entrance 1 redundant. The blocking of Entrance 1 suggests a shift from looking towards B4 and Enclosure A, to looking towards B2 and B3 across the farmyard and Enclosure D beyond.

Interior

Two areas inside the east wall were interpreted as recesses (Recesses 2 and 3), with another possible one in the north west corner (Recess 1). Recess 2 measured approximately 3.5m in length (north–south) by 1.5m in width, with Recess 3 measuring 1.8m in length by 1.65m (Figure FWP65.20). Patches of charcoal in the centre of Recess 2 and associated ceramic evidence suggest this area was used for cooking, with a patch of dark humic material in Recess 3 which might suggest that this one may have been used for storage. The walls of Recess 3 created an enclosed space, with a gap 0.75m in width in its south west corner. To the south of Recess 3, a small area of black soil and cooking-pot sherds, from the same vessel as found in Pit 7 inside B2 (Pit 7; Table FWP65.9, X-fit 3), also indicate a cooking function here, possibly related to the two large sarsens of the inner wall. Such recesses, technically analogous to 'outshots', could conveniently be interpreted as cupboards or bed alcoves.

Recess 2 was built into the north east corner, and Recess 3 into the south east corner of B1 North, after, though not long after, the completion of the building. If indeed these recesses were inside B1, the construction and angle of the roof would have had to have differed substantially over the recesses to allow enough room to stand up inside the recesses. If they represent sleeping, cooking or storage areas, however, a 0.5–1m high roof would have been sufficient and no difference in the roof pitch would have been necessary.

Only 33 sherds were recovered from the floor of B1 North, as opposed to around 230 from the amongst the wall stones. These indicate thorough cleaning of the floor with rubbish accumulating along the edges of the wall and outside the building. Of these 230 sherds, the majority came from Recess 1 (98 sherds: 43%) and Recess 2 (87 sherds: 38%), with a further 35 sherds (15%) coming from the floor level of Recess 3 (see *Pottery*). The rest (10 sherds: 4%) came from the area around Entrance 1. This accumulation of ceramic material show that the recesses, with their low stone walls on the internal sides, were more difficult to sweep out or, being for storage or sleeping, were swept less frequently. It is more likely, however, that the sherds formed part of the rubbish which accumulated outside the building on the lower edges of the roof, so that when the roof rotted and collapsed, the sherds fell into the recesses. Other possibilities, such as a hen-house or wood store, neither requiring regular cleaning, cannot be ruled out. Clearly such outshuts, whatever their precise function, would have increased the space available and may well have served a variety of purposes (*cf* Beresford 1989, 80 and 115, fig 20A, 109).

A rectangular pit (Pit 3), *c* 0.75m in length (east–west) by 0.3m in width, was uncovered against what appeared to be a one-course high stone kerb at the north edge of Cutting 2J, just inside the north wall of B1 (Figure FWP65.20). A patch of burnt chalk lay at the top of the pit (PF1), which in turn lay on a pit fill of burnt clay over humus, chalk and flints, with most of the lower section of the pit being clay with flints (not natural). Ceramic evidence dates this pit to the thirteenth century (CFTC fabric 38; GFs 102 and 116). The function of the pit is uncertain. It had clearly experienced burning and the possibility of a low platform between it and the inner kerb of the north wall suggests it was for cooking, with the platform acting as a bench or shelf. The near absence of sherds does not preclude this interpretation, as B1 was regularly and thoroughly swept. As such, it is probable that Pit 3 and the low platform formed the cooking area of B1 Phase 1.

It remains unclear why the north west corner of B1 North cut the low bank at the edge of the level area on which the B1/2/3 complex sat instead of lying square on to it, parallel to B2 and B3. Perhaps B1 had not been envisaged as part of the complex when the level area was dug. On the other hand, perhaps the alignment of B1 North can be explained by the presence of the hollow-way (see *Ditch under B1 South*) which ran parallel to the south wall of B1 North. Indeed B1 North's angle of alignment, coupled with the hollow-way to its south, could have funnelled animals towards B2, creating a staggered, gated entrance into Enclosure B.

Phase 2: remodelling and extension

Some time in the later thirteenth century B1 was extended southwards by 9m.

Possible foundation deposit

The east wall of B1 South was built on soil which sealed a filled-in pit (Pit 2; Figures FWP65.20, FWP65.22). This had been deliberately and carefully cut into the Chalk with almost vertical sides and was unlined. The fill consisted of a humic material and charcoal fragments at the top, with a darker humic fill around the numerous stones also uncovered in the filling, though towards the bottom it became lighter. The filling became damper towards the bottom, so much so that pieces of wood survived in a good state of preservation. Many sarsens, some large, were uncovered, loosely packed and lying at angles in Pit 2, as if dumped in when filling had reached a certain stage.

An iron axe (GF210; Figure FWP65.30, 1), found 0.25m from the bottom of this pit in the damp, clayey soil, seems to be a wood-working axe for dressing timber. An ‘unravelled’ iron staple (GF204) may well have been used to attach fittings to masonry and/or to attach wood to wood, a thin iron object (GF208) may represent part of a lock mechanism, possibly a padlock hasp, and the figure-of-eight hasp (GF210; Figure FWP65.34, 39) could have been used in conjunction with a padlock to secure a chest.

We suggest that Pit 2 was dug to hold a chest as part of a foundation deposit for Enclosure B or the new building. Indeed it is possible that a chest was initially a deposit at the entrance of Enclosure B and later had ceramic goods added to it before it was re-interred prior to the construction of B1 South. After the padlocked chest was positioned in the bottom of the pit with the axe, glazed jug and cooking pot, large stones were carefully placed on the chest and the pit filled with earth. The east wall of B1 South was then built over the buried chest. As the wall showed no signs at all of sinking into the pit, the 50mm layer of humic material uncovered between the upper layers of the pit and the base of the wall indicate that it is likely that this was part of a well effected, deliberate in-filling. The 'Norman' horseshoe fragment in the pit filling (GF187; Figure FWP65.35, 45), although a possible contaminant, suggests a date range from the mid eleventh to the mid thirteenth century, with the ceramic evidence indicating a thirteenth-century date for the filling of this pit.

Another pit (Pit 1; Figures FWP65.20, FWP65.22), with a brownish clayey fill with flints and much charcoal, was cut into Pit 2. Its shape and fill strongly suggested it is in fact a 'robber's pit', dug to retrieve the goods buried in Pit 2. Maybe the occupants of *Raddun* were leaving and the items which they had buried years previously were of sentimental, monetary or ancestral value. They therefore dug down from inside their house, smashed, or took the lid off, the chest (breaking the pots and leaving the remainder of the chest, its hinges and lock; suggesting they were in a rush) and took the contents they sought. The axe (GF210; Figure FWP65.30, 1) was perhaps left by accident as they scrabbled in the soil and dark.

Two later thirteenth-century glazed pottery sherds (fabric 4MG, GF66; fabric 27MG, GF82) lay on the floor above Pit 1. Among Fabric 38 sherds from Pit 2 came two glazed sherds dating from the latter part of the thirteenth century (fabric 19MG, GF202; fabric 53MG, GF204). This is clear evidence of B1 South having been built towards the end of the thirteenth or into the fourteenth century. These two pits (Pits 1 and 2), which underlay the east wall of B1 South and are thus earlier, allow a *terminus post quem* for B1 South ('Phase 2').

Southern extension

The southern extension to B1, judging by the stonework of the walls, was carried out by a well-trained mason. This extension was 9m in length by 4.2m in width, that is 1.8m narrower than the north part, giving an internal floor area of 36.5m². Like B1 North, a floor surface of flints seems to have been regularly swept, with rubbish piling up along the edges of the interior and exterior walls. The similarities between the walling techniques in the north wall of B1 and those of the Phase 2 extension, suggest that the former wall was altered, possibly even completely rebuilt, during Phase 2.

Although the remains of the west wall of B1 South, and to a lesser extent the east wall, were clearly well constructed, the reason for the lack of a substantial S wall suggests that it was periodically removed to clean the building out. The presence of over 250 sherds in the south east and south west corners of B1 South (GF139, GF188) is due to accumulation against the large corner sarsens which were too heavy to move and were, presumably, where roof timbers sat. Evidence of similar quantities of sherds found outside B1 around, and south of, Entrances 1 and 2 (eg GF154), are also the result of cleaning inside the building, with rubbish being thrown out doorways.

Interior

Three post-footings (PF2, PF3, PF4) consisting of slightly raised, packed grey chalk, show a new roof was constructed along the length of Building 1 in Phase 2 (Figure FWP65.20). Although PF4 was found to be 2.1m from the east and west walls, that is to say at the centre of the axis of B1 South, PFs 2 and 3 were both 1.5m from the west wall and 2.7m from the east wall. Moreover, PF1 was 1.8m from the west wall yet 3.9m from the east. This positioning meant that the roof of B1

would have had a much steeper pitch in the west than in the east and been off-centre. Why these post-footings were set back from the east wall in the south is perhaps explained by the proximity of Entrance 3; any closer to the east wall and the posts would have hampered access for livestock. To the north, on the other hand, the roof must have had an extremely obtuse pitched roof to the east with additional uprights to hold up a roof over Recesses 2 and 3 (given the lack of any substantial walling at the west edges of these recesses, the east wall of B1 was also the east wall of the recesses). The roof of B1 in its second phase was thus held up by central posts, but appears to have had a peculiarly angled roof.

In the north east corner of B1 South was an entrance (Entrance 3) 1.5m in width (Figure FWP65.20). A rough layer of flints, presumably a coarse cobbling, ran up to this entrance. The remains of a partition wall dividing the north and south ends of B1 was hinted at, with a gap in the line of partition stones near the east wall, suggesting where access between the two ends may have been possible. A complete cooking-pot was found inside B1 South (GF867), at the southern end of Entrance 3, buried absolutely firmly in the Clay-with-flints, with its rim at floor level. Its function is unclear, though it is unlikely to have been for cooking as no carbon was associated with it. Perhaps it was a piss-pot, with the collected urine used for tanning the hides being worked in the building.

A hearth, cut 0.23m into the floor and situated 1.2m from the west wall of B1 North, was full of a dark humic material with much charcoal. The hearth, 0.67m in width (north west–south east) and *c* 0.9m in length, consisted of two pits, one dug into an earlier, larger one. A semi-circular recess in the wall of B1 directly to the west was interpreted as being where the chimney to this hearth had been situated (Figure FWP65.20). A certain amount of rebuilding had taken place in the south west corner of B1 North to construct a chimney and hearth area and to block off Entrance 1. As Entrance 1 was part of B1 Phase 1, this hearth and chimney probably represent the cooking area for Phase 2.

Discussion and dating Phases 1 and 2

A few later thirteenth-century sherds (eg fabric 4MG, GF167), coupled with horseshoe nails from between the collapsed wall stones dated to the second half of the thirteenth or the early fourteenth century (GF96, GF110, GF158, GF201), indicate B1 North was built in the mid to late 1200s. The evidence from the trench under B1 South, as well as from Pits 1 and 2, all of which pre-date the southern extension and were possibly contemporary with B1 North, also produced some late thirteenth-century items (eg, GF823; Figure FWP65, 4, 29).

Of the 148 later thirteenth-century glazed sherds (eg, fabrics 4MG, 27MG, 62MG) from the excavation, 89 come from B1 (60%). Of those, 83 came from B1 South (56% of the total), mostly from the occupation layer (see *Pottery*). This evidence, coupled with that from the ditch under B1 South and Pits 1 and 2, demonstrate that B1 South was built and in use in the latter part of the thirteenth century: the 'transitional' horseshoe fragment uncovered under the west wall of B1 South (GF212) supplements this date. That B1 South was in use at the same time as B1 North is shown by the pieces of the same jug found in the occupation layers of both ends (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 4). In conclusion, B1 North was therefore built and occupied from the later part of the thirteenth century, with its southern extension added only a decade or two later.

The hearths, chimney, deep humic layer over the floor level, ceramic evidence, bones and recesses clearly indicate B1 North was the domestic end (during both phases). That no evidence of a sump, drain or stalling was found in the floor of B1 South, coupled with the number of sherds and metal items related to agriculture, leather-working and horses (eg, GF31, GF149, GF158, GF175; Figure FWP65.30, 5, GF237, GF328), implies B1 South was not a byre, but a barn and work area.

Building 2: the stone phase

Construction

Across the yard from B1, the timber building at B2 was replaced by a stone-footed building (B2, Phase 2) at about the same time as the building of the new farmhouse (B1, Phase 1). This, the second building on this site, used the filled trenches of the previous one as an outline, next to and over which low stone walls were built (Figure FWP65.16; Plate FWP65.VI). As the walls did not slump into the trenches, the trenches must have already been substantially filled in prior to the walls being built. The walls were probably no more than three or four courses high when complete, suggesting the roof of B2 Phase 2 was held up by crucked bays based on sleeper beams upon the low walls. Although the builders were constrained by the levelled area and the enclosure entrance nearby, the ground was no doubt levelled further north, south and west of the previous structure to allow the construction of a building 11.4m (38ft) in length by 5.1m (17ft) in width; a floor area of about 58m². As noted above, this newly dug material, which contained the old floor surface of Phase 1, was dumped on the mound to the east (see *Mound* and *Pit 4*).

Two post-holes were uncovered in the trench at the east side of B2, sitting either side of the 1.2m wide east entrance to the stone-footed building. The remains of a possible door jamb were revealed when clearing the flinty layer at the north side of the 1.5m wide west entrance and a large nail of a type used for doors (GF293) was found just outside this entrance. B2 Phase 2 thus had two, not quite opposite, entrances, one leading to and from the farmyard, the other out into Enclosure D.

Interior

A rectangular pit (Pit 4), 0.9m deep and 2.4m in diameter (east–west), was found *c* 0.30m inside of, and parallel to, the north wall (Phase 2) of B2. In it was an homogeneous (deliberate) fill of large, mostly smooth, rounded chalk lumps in light brown/yellow clayey soil (Layer 13a). The south end of this pit extended beyond the northernmost end of the trenches – the timber phase of B2. However, it did appear that the inside face of the north wall of the *stone*-phase respected the lip of Pit 4. So, if Pit 4 and B2 (Phase 2) were contemporary, the pit would have been just inside the north end of the stone building. If Pit 4 and B2 (Phase 1) were contemporary, the pit would have been just outside the north end of the timber building. Given the size of Pit 4, its function remains unclear, but a tentative suggestion would be that it was a used to extract and/or mix daubing or liming material (*cf WAM* 64, 126). This pit was uncovered under the floor level of the second phase of Building 2 and had thus not been cut down through the upper layers (the late medieval and early modern sherds recorded from the top 60mm of the pit fill are the remnants of the previous year's excavation when this area was covered by spoil from the initial B2 excavation).

Another pit (Pit 7), sub-rectangular in shape and cut with straight sides, was uncovered at floor level in B2 (Figures FWP65.16, FWP65.18). The clay, chalk and charcoal fill at the bottom of this pit (Layer 32a) had been deliberately levelled; towards the lip were several large flints and stones. Although the precise function of this pit is also unclear, the presence of numerous sherds from cooking pots (eg X-fit 10) coupled with the presence of charcoal, suggest it was a cooking or storage pit, possibly having had a cover of stones at one time. A sherd from a cooking-pot (GF606) uncovered in this pit came from the same vessel as one from the black soil overlying the hard-packed flint occupation layer in Recess 3 of B1 (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 3). This indicates that B1 North and South (as this southern part of Recess 3 is part of the south wall of the partition), Pit 7 and B2 were in use at the same time. Furthermore, as B1 South was constructed in the later years of the 1200s, Pit 7 is therefore likely to be of a similar date and, consequently, associated with the stone phase of B2, as the earlier, timber Building 2 dates from the early 1200s.

Discussion and dating

The relatively few thirteenth-century sherds recovered from the humic layer inside B2 (45 sherds) as opposed to the large quantity of sherds outside the south east and south west corners (GF312, GF313), indicates that B2 was kept fairly well-swept. With no hearth, but a possible cooking-pit (Pit 7) and such a large quantity of pottery, it is possible that B2 (Phase 2) was inhabited. However, the animal bones (GF252, GF264), including whole skeletons of sheep found inside B2 (eg GF236), suggest the building was more likely to have been used for stalling animals. Perhaps the sherds, mixed with grass or straw, were laid on the ground inside the building as bedding to form a drier surface.

Although (judging by the bone evidence), sheep and goats had been housed here, sheep do not require such a substantial building nor a roofed structure. As such this second building is more likely than the first to have been built to house horses as well. That B2 (Phase 2) was a stable is reflected in the finds such as a thirteenth–fourteenth-century prick spur (GF559**;** Figure FWP65.35, 55), an arrowhead (eleventh–fourteenth century, GF506**;** Figure FWP65.36, 61), horseshoe fragments (GFs 501 and 510**;** Figure FWP65.35, 48) and numerous horseshoe nails (GF445, GF475, GF544), as well as a copper alloy piece which may be a decorative fitting, possibly a harness ornament for a horse (GF482**;** Figure FWP65.30, 9). B2 is interpreted, therefore, as a probable stable.

These objects, coupled with the ceramic evidence, points to a date ranging from the second half of the thirteenth to the early fourteenth century for the construction and use of the stone-footed Building 2, a date supported by the sherds from a late thirteenth-century decorated glazed jug (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 5) found amongst the tumbled wall stones of B2 (area NWd). Other pieces of the same jug were uncovered amongst the wall stones of Building MN, indicating a connection between the second B2 and the structure in MN (see *Building MN*).

The sequence at B2 was thus: in the late twelfth century or early in the thirteenth century, a timber-framed building was built on a levelled area at the entrance to Enclosure B. This was replaced by a stone-footed building in the latter half of the thirteenth or early in the fourteenth century. As the second structure was larger than the first, further levelling was required. Both the structures seem to have been animal shelters; the earlier one may have had stalls for sheep and goats, whereas the later one appears also to have been a stable. This second building also experienced an activity associated with burning, possibly cooking (*cf* Huish, *WAM* 67, 112–31; Gomeldon, *WAM* 80, 127–69).

Building 3

Construction

A further building (Figures FWP65.6, FWP65.16, FWP65.19; Plate FWP65.VI), Building 3 (B3), was situated *c* 8.4m to the east of B1. In the west, the wall was found to be one or two courses high and 0.6m in thickness. In comparison, very little remained of the east wall, if ever there had been one, though a wall-line was observable by the dished effect at floor level and a marked edge to the sticky brown soil over the interior. The line of the east wall was also suggested by several flat sarsens resting on a step cut back into the clay subsoil, which had been subsequently covered by flinty humus from above. That this building was also robbed has to be concluded, possibly for another building within the settlement (see *Building MN*).

The west and middle sections of the southern wall of B3 joined the north wall of B2, which explains the peculiar thickening observed at the north end of B2. However, due to the curvature of the south east corner of B3, this corner was not integral with the rest of the north wall of B2. It deviated from the line of the north wall of B2 to a width of *c* 0.6m at the far south east end (Figure FWP65.16). Thus only two wall corners, north west and south east, remained in anything like completeness. On the other hand, the scarp cut into the Chalk in the east may have formed sufficient revetment

without necessitating stone courses.

As a result of this curvature in the south east corner of B3, the building was trapezoidal in plan with an internal width of 3.3m (11ft), though in length it measured 7.8m (26ft) from internal wall to internal wall in the west and 6.6m (22ft) in the east, giving a total internal floor area of approximately 24m². Given the conjunction of the walls of B2 and B3, B3 is likely to be a later addition to the stone phase of B2, not *vice versa*.

The entrance to B3 was probably through the southern half of the west wall, where two large sarsens may have provided a form of door jamb. As the stone walls were possibly only two or three courses high originally, the rest of the wall may well have consisted of turf. The decomposition of such a turf wall (along with the assumed thatch roof) would explain why a thick layer of brown, clayey humus covered the flinty floor level. This thick humic layer could also be the result of stabling animals here. This idea is supported by the fact that the floor sloped on both sides towards the centre of the building, indicating a single drain to the building. No evidence of a sump or outflow to this drain was found. B3 would have been too small for cattle, so maybe it was for pigs (see *Environmental evidence*).

Pit 8: a garde-robe?

Approximately 1.8m west of the south west corner of B3 was an oval pit 1.5m (east–west) by 1.2m, dug some 0.45m deep into the Clay-with-flints (Pit 8; Figure FWP65.16). Some of the stones from the north west wall of B2 had fallen into the south side of this pit and a large patch of charcoal was found in the black, sticky pit filling (GF444). Holes, filled with an orange clay were uncovered to the east and west of Pit 8. These holes were probably stake-holes, suggesting some sort of wooden structure over the pit (*WAM* 58, 111) possibly made, judging by the charcoal analysed from this area, of hazel and ash (see *Charcoal*). The pit has been interpreted as a garde-robe, with the stake-holes supporting a seat or a wind-break made of hazel panels on an ash frame. This structure may subsequently have burnt down.

Discussion and dating

The precise function of B3 is uncertain, although it seems to have been a fairly secure building with a latched door and shutters (GF390, GF484, GF485, GF492 (Figure FWP65.33, 28), GF506 (Figure FWP65.33, 26), GF544 (Figure FWP65.34, 31), GF552). Perhaps it was a store though the drain suggests animals were kept here. Pottery and metal analyses indicate a utilisation phase similar to that of Buildings 1 and 2 (Phase 2), that is to say thirteenth century. The remains of a thirteenth-century cooking-pot were found in the utilisation layer of B3, to the south of B2 and on top of the wall tumble of B4 (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 7)

Evidence of a relationship between the B2/3 area and Area MN was demonstrated the cross-fitting sherds of a later thirteenth-century lead glazed jug (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 5) found at the north west corner of B2 (3 sherds) and in the wall foundations in MN (16 sherds). As the majority of the sherds came from the wall foundation of MN, it is therefore likely the jug was broken in this area with a few sherds transported to the B2/3 area. Perhaps Building MN was constructed using stone from B3.

Enclosure A

After the abandonment of B4 and the move a little to the north east to the new farmhouse (B1 North), out-buildings (B2 and B3) and yard, another enclosure was constructed. This second enclosure (Enclosure A; Figure FWP65.6) used the west bank of the existing enclosure (Enclosure B) as its east bank to create a square enclosure on all but one side (Figures FWP65.8). The north bank measured *c* 14.5m (48ft) in length, with the west and south banks measuring approximately 29m (96ft) each. The east bank, already in existence, had a 3.3m (11ft) gap by Pit 6, and thus measured *c* 40m (133ft). The total perimeter length for the banks of Enclosure A was therefore about 112.5m (374ft), 72.3m (241ft) of which had been newly created.

Excavation across the north bank of Enclosure A (Cuttings 3 and 3a; Figure FWP65.8) established the composition and nature of the bank and the existence of an entrance. The enclosure bank, 0.9m in height from crest to the natural Clay-with-flints subsoil, consisted of a slightly clayey soil with flints with, on the south slope of the bank, a large sarsen boulder with three more to the east. These three stones sat at the end of the bank defining the west side of an obvious gap in the north bank of the enclosure. Smaller sarsens, possibly tumble, lay towards the south end of the bank and a ditch, *c* 0.6m in depth, had been dug outside the enclosure (north) at the foot of the bank.

The earthwork evidence alone indicated fairly certainly that the gap in Enclosure A at this north east corner was the entrance. The bank came to an end here, as did the shallow depression to its north where the ditch had been. The entrance gap measured 3m across, from bank foot to bank foot, narrower than the supposed entrance to Enclosure B. Excavation showed stones lying on the old turf-line of the bank, with some poking through the topsoil, seem to have been laid as a simple embankment to the entrance or to demarcate it. The entrance way into the enclosure itself was not represented by a well-defined layer or paving, although a shallow depression at the centre of the entrance (Cutting 3a, section d–c) may be from wear. It is also possible the heavy flinty material noted in section (Layer 5) formed part of a loose cobbling, similar to the one found around the entrance to B4 and south of B2. Perhaps the large (complete) iron spike from the entrance area (GF61**;** Figure FWP65.36, 70) was part of a gate.

Discussion and dating

Unlike Enclosure B where a ditch was apparent on the inside of the enclosure, the ditch around the north bank of Enclosure A was on the outside. If the bank was in the region of 1.5m high and the ditch 0.6m in depth, as the evidence suggested, this would have given a combined rise from ditch bottom to bank top of around 2m. This fairly substantial undertaking suggests that the trench was dug to drain the enclosure and to provide extra protection from incursions by livestock or predators from the north, ie, it was to keep certain animals *out*, whilst, naturally, keeping others safely *in* (see *the documentary evidence*). Like Enclosure B, it may have been a penning for sheep, although the height of bank and ditch suggests horses or cattle were kept in this enclosure, an interpretation endorsed by the material evidence.

Possibly the most striking feature of Enclosure A, however, is how it straddles the ‘celtic field’ lynchet. The ‘celtic field’ bank runs under Enclosure A west–east, leaving about a third of the area of Enclosure A south of it. The reasoning behind this placement is perhaps due to the constraints imposed by the already existing Enclosure B, to which Enclosure A apparently had to be attached. The significant point about the lynchet, however, is its flattened and smoothed profile, indicating either that it had been over-ploughed before Enclosure A or it was affected by use of Enclosure A.

The material recovered from the investigation of the thin layer of brown soil above the flinty bank of Enclosure A (Layer 1, Cuttings 3 and 3a) included Romano-British, medieval (thirteenth century) and post-medieval (fifteenth/sixteenth century) pottery, as well as a ‘Norman’ horseshoe fragment (GF13) and a late twelfth–thirteenth-century iron prick spur (GF44**;** Figure FWP65.35, 53). Evidence from the bottom of the external ditch, on the other hand, produced thirteenth-century

sherds and late thirteenth-century glazed sherds (GF45; fabrics 4MG, 17MG). The latter suggest a late thirteenth-century date for the construction of Enclosure A, as does the belief that Enclosure A post-dates the mid thirteenth-century B4 and replaced Enclosure B as the paddock for the inhabitants of *Raddun*.

The fire-pit

Structure

A U-shaped pit, referred to as a 'fire-pit' at the time of excavation (Fowler 1963, 345), was uncovered in the north east corner of B4 (Figures FWP65.14, 15; Plate FWP65.IV), dug slightly more than 0.6m below the floor level of the building. This pit was 3.3m long, with a square, almost vertical north end cutting through both Clay-with-flints and Chalk. The sides had been carefully lined with knapped flint blocks and small sarsen stones which formed vertical faces. Their line at floor level was continued for a short distance to the south before the lip of the pit curved round in a regular U-shape. The north end of the pit was only a few centimetres away from the north end of B4 in its long-house phase. Its north west corner was built over by part of the 'oven' (Figure FWP65.14).

The fire-pit was filled up to floor level with various sorts of burnt material. At its lowest level, burnt chalk, cob, and flints and charcoal were uncovered (Layers 24, 14a, 20, 19, 25), on the whole of a similar nature to the material below the oven wall in Pit 6 at between 0.76m and 1.07m depth (Layers 35, 31, 38). This was covered by a layer of burnt soil, stones and charcoal (Layer 18), presumably material associated with the oven, and then by cob and chalk rubble (Layers 16 and 17), the debris from the collapse of the oven. This evidence shows that the pit was in use after the occupation of B4 but before the oven.

A patch of burnt chalk rock was uncovered, partially sealed by the oven (see *The oven*), up against the inside of the north wall. This slightly sloping feature lay on 25mm of dark earth and charcoal (the occupation layer of B4) and is possibly the last domestic hearth of the occupiers of B4 (Figure FWP65.15). It may, however, be the hearth to cook the food of whoever was working at the fire-pit, indeed a 'post-occupation' date for this hearth would more readily explain its position right up against the wall of the building; that is to say it was built against a collapsed wall to serve the immediate needs of those working the fire-pit and not just underneath the thatch of the building.

Function

The exact function of the 'fire-pit' is unclear. Judging by its shape, design, filling and the large quantity of burnt material surrounding it, and presumably associated with it, it is clear the fire-pit was designed for some sort of small-scale industrial purpose. However, the flints revetting the sides the fire-pit showed few signs of thermal fracture and the sarsens little burning, indicating that high temperatures were not necessary or that its was only in use for a short period. There was a brief mention in the site notes of 'ten stake-holes, which appeared in the Chalk to the south of the fire-pit', which suggests the fire-pit may have had a wind-break on its south side; the direction of the predominant prevailing wind.

The near total absence of wasters (one recovered) makes it unlikely that the pit was part of a pottery kiln, but it could have stored ash or been used for baking (Beresford 1989, 98). Perhaps the fire-pit was part of an earlier structure, possibly a flue, evidence of which has totally disappeared with the insertion of the oven; or perhaps the fire-pit was used in some way to dry crops during the poor weather of the early 1300s. A further interpretation is that localised smithing had taken place here, possibly producing the white metal plating which is unusually high in quantity on the metal objects from *Raddun*. A comparable feature to the fire-pit was excavated at Bullock Down, Kiln Combe, East Sussex, where a flat-bottomed scoop was lined with burnt stone and was partially sealed by a later, circular feature. At Bullock Down both features were considered to be corn-drying ovens (Freke 1982, fig 78, 153, contexts 256 and 162, 154).

Relationship with Pit 6

The amount of burnt debris, including pieces of hazel, oak and *prunus* noted at floor level within B4, under the oven and under the wall tumble outside the building, could, as noted above, indicate that B4 burnt down. Equally this detritus could be from the activities associated with the fire-pit. If so, the amount of burnt material to the south east of the fire-pit over the tumble wall stones of B4, with noticeably little to the south and south west, show that raking took place predominantly in a south easterly direction.

Indeed, the proximity of the fire-pit to Pit 6 and the burnt material apparent in the upper part of that pit, suggest Pit 6 was used firstly as a midden by the occupants of B4 and subsequently as a dump for the soils dug up to create the fire-pit. If B4 burnt down, then perhaps the debris was cleared from the north end of B4 and dumped into Pit 6 when the fire-pit was dug.

Dating evidence

The ceramic evidence does not distinguish the fire-pit from B4 in chronological terms, as both have a predominance of thirteenth-century coarseware sherds (fabric 38CFTC). However, it is clearly of a post-occupation date. Not only is this obvious by its fill and the fact that it had been dug through the occupation level; it also obstructed the entrance, and, if it had been in use at the same time as the building, it would have been perilously close to the walls and roof. However, seeing that its northern edge respected the original north end of B4, it seems probable that this determined the positioning of the fire-pit; the north wall of B4 was a visible, albeit tumbled, length of walling when the fire-pit was inserted.

Whatever the function of this feature, the sequence appears clear: after the abandonment of B4, a return to this area was made and a well-built, flint and sarsen lined pit was constructed for corn-drying or smithying purposes towards the end of the thirteenth century. It respected the existing but collapsed north wall of B4. No longer necessary, or perhaps to improve the execution of the pit's function, this fire-pit was replaced by the oven, which neither respected the fire-pit, north wall of B4 nor Pit 6. Pit 6, which remained a shallow depression, was used as a dump for material being dug up from the fire-pit and for rubbish from the B1/2/3 area in the late thirteenth century and the first two decades of the fourteenth.

The oven

Structure

The walls of a sub-circular structure had been inserted between the extant east and west walls at the north end of B4 (Figure FWP65.14; Plate FWP65.V). Much charcoal, reddened sarsens, burnt chalk rock slabs and flints with thermal fractures indicated that some process involving heat, this time extreme, had been undertaken. Amongst the tumble and within the upper layers of Pit 6, much

chalky material was observed, as well as what was interpreted as cob, more of which was still *in situ* on the south-facing, lower courses of the circular feature.

This substantial circular feature was eventually completely excavated (Figure FWP65.15) and all the stones removed. It was clearly the stone base of a structure, which had been carefully filled with alternate layers of mortar-like chalk powder and knapped flints. These lay on top of an initial layer of chalk lumps, on top of the lowest layer of flints which rested directly on the red Clay-with-flints.

The site notes describe the removal of an overlying dark humic layer followed by a layer of small chalk nodules and soil, interpreted as washed down cob, at a depth of 0.12–0.18m (from topsoil), then chalk rock slabs between 0.18m and 0.23m, cob at 0.23–0.29m, then large flints exhibiting thermal fracture at 0.29–0.4m, followed by chalk lumps down to an unknown depth. The section drawing shows a cob with brown humus from 0.15–0.28m, then a layer of flints 75mm in thickness, then a layer of cob with carbon from 0.36m to 0.46m, then another 75mm layer of flints, then chalk from 0.54m to 0.58m, then a layer of flints from 0.58m to a red clay bottom at 0.69m.

The base of the structure was slightly oval in shape, with a diameter of 1.15m north west–south east and 1.8m south west–north east. The eighteen stones forming the base were lying on a thin soil layer directly above the Clay-with-flints and were not actually touching one another in most cases, nor were they bonded in any way with other stones. It seemed that they were the marking-out feature and base for the rest of the structure which was then built around and above them.

The upper courses of the feature were found to be 1.37m thick in the north, whereas on all other sides they measured 0.76–0.92m. Its external diameter was *c* 4.2m, though, with the varying thicknesses of the walls, when measured from north west to south east this increased to 4.8m. This gave the finished structure a deliberate curve along all its sides apart from the northern edge, which was equally deliberately almost straight (Figure FWP65.14). The maximum height of its walls was about 0.6m, though originally it would have been higher on the south side at least, judging by the amount of tumbled stones at the north end of B4. There was some tumble on the east and a little into Pit 6 to the north. At the south west corner of Cutting 6K, some 0.6m in depth, a quernstone (GF602) was found bedded in the black soil of Pit 6 and apparently acting as part of the foundation for the circular base.

Relationship with Pit 6, B4, the fire-pit and the enclosure bank

To the north, and predominantly in the north east, the external lower courses of this feature were found to lie over the filling of Pit 6 by some 0.6–0.9m. They lay on layers of black and brown soils, chalk lumps and charcoal, (interpreted as material associated with the fire-pit and occupation at B4), which in turn lay on the sarsen dump some 2.4m below. Structurally it was sheer folly to build the stone base so that its north wall sailed out over a filled-in pit some 3.3m deep. Although the builders were aware of the soft upper layers of the pit, as they dug through them to reach the chalk side of Pit 6 so that some of the inner stones of the base could be placed on a firmer bedding, they were clearly unaware of the pit's actual depth. Even though the straight north wall may have been a further attempt to ensure the base was somehow strengthened, this did not prevent the whole of the north half of the base from canting over from east to west as the wall gradually sank into the soft material filling the top of Pit 6.

At the north end of B4, the southern curved side of the structure sailed over the scarped line marking the original end of the house, part of the hearth and the north west corner of the fire-pit. Other alterations included, to the west, the digging away of the inner (east) edge of the bank of Enclosure B to insert the west side of the ovoid base and the rebuilding of the entrance in the east. The latter also included the addition of several stones to the north end of the east wall of B4, so that it now continued up to the east side of the base. These stones lay on a 75mm thick occupation layer. The base and structure were probably built using wall stones from the long-house (B4).

In Pit 6, the phase associated with the use of this circular feature was represented by various layers, such as the chalk (Layer 16), cob (Layer 17), larger sarsens and flints in dark brown soil with chalk lumps (Layer 29).

Cutting 6L, which sectioned part of the bank just west of this feature, found the bank was made up of brown soil, flints and some chalk, with a line of sarsens and a 'step' cut on its east side through part of the fill of Pit 6. Indeed, the bank here was found to be sitting on the edge of the pit filling. This indicates that, firstly, this bank was built after the sarsen dump but before the midden period and, secondly, that when the north section of the original wall of B4 was removed to take the circular wall, the bank was cut through. So as to prevent the bank collapsing into the hollow or against the side of the oval feature, the sides of the bank had a step cut into them to take a revetment of sarsens. Towards the top of the bank, the whole length was covered with *c* 75mm of black soil, perhaps from the clearing out of the oval structure.

Function

This circular structure was not a kiln, pottery or otherwise, not only because no wasters were recovered from the area but because it was not connected to a flue nor to any other subterranean feature, so there was no way of heating it from below. It was not a chimney breast or base since no fire place or building was identified with it, nor was it the base of an external staircase. Certainly the structure had been associated with much burning, considering the extensive covering of wood ash across the north end of B4 and burnt red outer south face, as well as the burnt topmost layer of the chalk 'mortar', the flecks of charcoal throughout the central filling beneath and the many burnt slabs of chalk rock which had tumbled over the structure from a position at and above its uppermost, surviving face.

The carefully laid core is the key to interpretation. The alternate layers of chalk mortar and knapped flints were used not only because they would withstand considerable temperatures from above, but, moreover, because they would retain the heat for several hours. It is suggested, therefore, that the structure was the base for an oven. The base, as noted above, thus consisted of a circle of sarsens, flints and chalk mortar, with the dome of the oven being built up of slabs of Chalk rock, with a covering of clay for further insulation and to fill gaps. Regular Chalk slabs such as these appear to be particularly suitable for an oven as the material does not crack or splinter when heated. In addition, once the dome had finally succumbed to the heat, another could be quickly rebuilt with such readily available substances. If so, then the base is likely to have been the permanent site for numerous ovens of this type.

When complete, a fire would have been lit inside the oven. The fire would subsequently be raked out and be replaced by the material requiring baking or warming. Considering the burnt debris on the floor in the north end of B4, the walls and position of Pit 6, the raking clearly took place to the south; the south side of the base can thus be regarded as the front of the oven. It is possible that the extension to the east wall was carried out to take a low wooden wind break, with the southerly winds stopped by the bank of Enclosure B. At the same time, the entrance was redesigned and the trackway repaved, enabling easier access to the oven. Its position away from the settlement area of B1/2/3 is to reduce the risk of fire. That no grains of corn were recovered either from inside or around the oven, even after careful sifting, argues against this being a corn-drying oven. It seems most likely to have been a bread oven (see *The documentary evidence*).

Date

Clearly this structure had been inserted into the width of B4 at a time when B4 was no longer occupied and the fire-pit and hearth were no longer in use. Considering the dating evidence from these three features means the oven was almost certainly built towards the end of the thirteenth

century or in the first two decades of the fourteenth. The ceramic evidence is inconclusive, however, as the majority of the sherds are thirteenth-century in date (fabric 38CFTC) and little other material, such as metalwork, was recovered. Of interest are the remains of a Newbury C sandy ware (fabric 7CS; GFs 664 and 669) cooking-pot found 0.3m from the bottom of the interior of the oven (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 30) and, pre-dating the oven, the remains of one West Wiltshire (fabric 41WWSC; GF715) and more than one curfew (fabrics 28CFTC and 38CFTC; eg GF558, GF574, GF616).

Enclosure D

To the east of B2 and B3 and to the south of Enclosure C lay a large enclosed area (Enclosure D; Figure FWP65.3). This enclosure measures *c* 375m (1240ft) with an entrance (15m/50ft) in the north east and another (7m/23ft) in the south east corner. A third entrance (14m/46ft) lies on the enclosure's eastern side, marked by piles of sarsens. Enclosures C and D were obviously integral parts of the sheep farming activities within the Mead, with Enclosure C incorporating the sheepcote (Building MN) and Enclosure D being grazing land for the flock either overnight or whilst they waited to be sheared and milked. This area has also experienced cultivation. It is suggested that Enclosure D was also part of the *Raddun* toft, to be cultivated as the inhabitants wished.

Enclosure E

Enclosure E forms the largest enclosed space within the Mead (Figure FWP65.3), covering the area south of the main settlements and Enclosures A, B and D. Its banks measured approximately 800m (2640ft). Cutting 7X (Figure FWP65.5) investigated the bank and ditch of Enclosure E in its far north west corner where it joins the south west corner of Enclosure A. Here a ditch was found on the external side of the larger enclosure (with a maximum depth of 0.5m), similar to the bank and ditch of Enclosure A. Indeed, at this junction of Enclosures A and E it was noted that 'the bank [had been] broken down and thrown into the ditch', perhaps to create an entrance from the west. Although the site records refer to 'IA sherds' from this cutting, it has not been possible to corroborated this and the only diagnostic sherds from this area are from thirteenth-century vessels (CFTC fabric 38). Enclosure E is clearly an addition to Enclosure A, and as Enclosure A is thought to have been constructed in the mid to late thirteenth century, Enclosure E is believed, therefore, to date from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth centuries.

A narrow entrance into Enclosure E is visible towards its south west corner, formed by two low banks, both some 15m (50ft) in length, protruding into the enclosure. The banks have sarsens sitting on (and in) them, with particularly large ones at both southern ends. Another entrance lies along the southern edge of Enclosure E, just west of a sarsen dump.

Wroughton Mead

The medieval limits of *Raddon* or Rowden Mead are taken as an amalgamation of Enclosures A, B, C, D and E, giving an approximate length of 875m (2888ft) (Figure FWP65.3). Together, it is believed, they form the 'enclosure called Roddons Close containing 25 acres' of 1567 (Straton 1909, 258–9). The existing fenced enclosure of Wroughton Mead closely mirrors that of the medieval shape and area of the Mead, a distinctive feature on all post-medieval maps of the area.

AD 1310–1320: abandonment of the farmstead

Building 1

On structural grounds Building 1, in its 'long' phase, had probably been abandoned before the mid-fourteenth century and certainly by the early fifteenth. This is suggested by the 'later medieval' horseshoes above the wall tumble in B1 South (GF7) and near Entrance 2 (GF122) and a button of early fifteenth-century date (GF128) found in the lower level of the humic material covering the site. Such items are, in effect, exotica compared with the mass of characteristic thirteenth-century material which, quite simply, ceases. It is very difficult to be certain of dating any habitative material after 1320 on the farmstead which, it is inferred, had been abandoned before, or about, that date. The last documented date is 1318.

Building 2

The material overlying B2, especially the ceramic evidence and metal finds which are surprisingly varied in comparison to Buildings 1 and 4, show that B2 appears to have been abandoned at a similar time to B1 (North and South), B3 and the oven, ie, the early to mid fourteenth century. The presence of a buckle, thimble and buttons (GF221 (Figure FWP65.30, 4), GF273, GF284, GF298, GF606 (Figure FWP65.30, 7)) suggests that the area received visitors later in the fourteenth century, after B2's abandonment. Someone broke a Martincamp stoneware flask here in the late fifteenth century (see *Pottery*) and its pieces were subsequently spread across the remains of B2 (Table FWP65.9, X-fit 11). Other finds include remains of a fifteenth–sixteenth-century beer mug, originally from the Rhineland (GF309), and various post-medieval artefacts (GF241, GF246, GF248, GF289).

A circular patch of darker soil uncovered up against the wall in the north east corner of B2, flecked with charcoal and red earth, showed the position of a small fire. When sectioned, it was clear the burnt patch did not rest on the floor level of the building and therefore could not be a hearth associated with the stone-footed B2. On the other hand, as several stones from the wall of B2 lay on top of the burnt area, the fire had burnt while much of the wall in the north east corner of B2 remained standing. Further investigation uncovered a recess, possibly some sort of storage space, in the north wall, though whether this was related to B2 or the building of the fire is not clear.

Numerous pieces of glass were also found in the B2 area, under the tumble from the wall stones but not down to the floor level, as were the sherds of the Martincamp flask. Sherds from the latter were also recovered from post-hole 1E. Clearly a fire had been lit in the remains of the north east corner of B2 and, perhaps, post-hole 1E was sunk or reused to support a temporary shelter. Indeed, there may be a link between the three later medieval buttons found in the 'cupboard' and around the north east corner of B2 (GF273, GF284, GF298), The post-hole and the broken remains of the flask which, although spread across the B2 area, were found in a concentration in the north east corner. Perhaps an itinerant tailor(!) stopped off for the night in the corner of the ruined B2 in the late 1400s.

Building 3

Fifteenth-century objects associated with horses and harnessing were recovered from the post-utilisation phase of Building 3. These include an early fifteenth-century copper alloy buckle plate (GF507), an iron buckle (GF363) and a ?post-medieval rectangular copper alloy collar (GF347**;** Figure FWP65.30, 10). As the platform in Enclosure C was being constructed towards the end of the fifteenth century, perhaps these objects were lost or discarded by builders taking the stones from B3 to create the revetment and grange to the east.

The medieval sheepcote in Enclosure C: Building MN

An increase in the number of finds was noted in areas MN2 and MN3, towards the east of Cutting 10, during the investigation of Enclosure C. Two lines of stones, revealed at right-angles to one another, and specifically mentioned in the finds note-book as being a 'wall' set in a 'wall foundation' were also noted. These walls were probably part of a further building in Wroughton Mead; Building MN (Figure FWP65.24). Indeed, the site notes mention close parallels to 'house 2' [B2], with similarities in construction techniques and the presence of a foundation trench under the walls containing 'chalk silt'. This link between the two features appears to have been in the late thirteenth century, shown by the cross-fitting sherds of an unusual later copper-green glazed jug (fabric 24MG; Figures FWP63.9, X-fit 5, FWP63.39) from the wall stones of Building MN and the utilisation or collapse stone phase of Building 2.

The whole area had been greatly disturbed, however, when the later platform was constructed, which partially explains why the layers above and even around the walls of Building MN contained material from the thirteenth century, as well as the post-medieval period. Nonetheless, it is believed these low stone walls, with their silted foundation trenches beneath, are the remains of a structure which would have been similar in construction, and possibly also in function and size, to B2 in its stone phase. As such, Building MN is interpreted as a *bercaria*, or sheepcote. Perhaps MN took over the 'sheep-shelter' function of the farmstead after its abandonment, thus ensuring some intermittent presence at *Raddun* during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

AD 1490–1650: the grange

The platform

A raised area 60m (200ft) in length (north–south), 8m (26ft) in width and 0.15m high, lay within Enclosure C. The western edge of this platform backed up to the west bank of the triangular enclosure, Enclosure C (Figure FWP65.24; Plate FWP65.XI). Excavation across this raised area revealed it to be of a light brown loam with a flint surface (Layer 5a), referred to at the time as a 'flint terrace'. Sarsens, many of them large enough to protrude through the topsoil, were uncovered on and below this flinty layer. Further stones at the eastern edge of the platform, many with a flat surface facing upwards, had been deliberately positioned so as to have the terrace laid backing up to them. A second, very similar line of sarsens was uncovered 4.2m (14ft) to 4.8m (16ft) to the west, at the foot of the enclosure bank.

The stones to the east, along the outside (eastern) edge of the platform, were not, however, positioned only to act as a revetment to the raised area. As they appeared in obvious concentrations approximately 4.8m (16ft) from one another, they have been interpreted as the stone-footings for timber uprights (although nothing was recovered of these posts). In addition it soon became clear that the line 4.2m to 4.8m to the west had corresponding concentrations of sarsens. This evidence is cautiously interpreted as indicating the trusses between the bays of a long, timber-framed building.

This spacing between the two lines of post-footings gives a structure with a width of between 4.2m and 4.8m. The north end of this building (Building 10; Figures FWP65.24, FWP65.26) was evidently close to the end of the platform by the ditch (see *Enclosure C*). However its south end was less obvious, though the revetment stones visible through the turf ended some 16.5m (50ft) from the curved southern end of the platform. If this absence of an obvious line of large sarsens can be taken as the south end of the building, then it would have measured about 38.4m (128ft) to 43.2m (144ft) in length. Given that the post-footings were 4.8m apart, this building (B10) would therefore have had ten or eleven trusses, giving a nine or ten bay structure. This structure could well have been an open-sided building, like a large Dutch barn. If correct, about a third of the raised platform would have remained outside such a structure, which raises the question of why such a long platform was built if only part of it was for building purposes.

Dating evidence

A few fragments of roof-tile were recovered (GF242, GF255, GF279), but no stone slates, suggesting the roof to this building was thatched with tiles to protect the ridge. The north bank of Enclosure C may well have acted as further support for the roof, with the sloping rafters resting on the earlier, thirteenth-century bank (itself on a 'Celtic' field lynchet).

The flinty platform was scattered with sherds and metal objects with dates over several centuries. Though a few thirteenth-century sherds were recovered from the flinty floor surface, these are considered contaminants from the ground surface which would have been dug up to create the platform. The earliest evidence associated with the utilisation of Building 10 included horse equipment (eg GF216 (Figure FWP65.35, 50), GF229, GF277, GF379) and a sherd from a rare, Normandy jar (fabric 54, GF239), showing the platform and a building were in use by the late fifteenth century. Other finds on the flint terrace, such as numerous structural and large door nails or studs, point above all, considering its size, to a well-constructed, nine or ten-bay shelter, probably open-fronted, and almost certainly the documented late fifteenth-century grange at *Raddun* (see *The documentary evidence*). The platform, with no doubt an associated building or buildings on it, though not necessarily the original late grange, continued in use until the late 1600s (eg, GF258, GF297, GF379, GF490) and even beyond (eg, GF253, GF307). Its function may have been replaced in the seventeenth century by the structure and enclosure to the west at the Delling (Figure FWP65.2), though that lies in Lockeridge, or, more likely, by the mid-nineteenth century barn which stood on the east edge of the Mead just north of the square pond until the late 1950s (SU 141706; FWP65.2).

The economy of *Raddun*

The faunal evidence indicates that the economy of the Wroughton Mead settlement was based on sheep husbandry, though other animals, corn, exchange/barter and a marked element of self-sufficiency were also important. Assuming that this farmstead was the documented *Raddun*/'Raddon', it housed the lord's oxen and presumably stored much of the corn harvested from the fields under cultivation to the east; its status is also implied by the possible small-scale metal-working undertaken in the ruins of the longhouse and the bread oven. Moreover, although the variety and types of the metal objects recovered from the farm complex is unremarkable, being mainly structural with some personal and functional pieces, the quantity from such a short-lived, rural settlement is noteworthy. In addition, although the pottery is of a common type, much of it relatively coarse and less well-fired than the Newbury-type wares, again its sheer quantity and some oddities (eg fabric 65) imply access to a wider trading network and a degree of wealth. This evidence, coupled with the armour-piercing arrowheads, the number of first class meat joints consumed and large financial investment by the Winchester estate (although not one coin was recovered), all imply an above average standard of living at *Raddun* from the mid thirteenth to the first decades of the fourteenth century.

The buildings

The finds from B1 illustrate well the types of activities pursued by the occupants of the settlement. The number of metal objects associated with binding wood shows that substantially built furniture was used in the house, along with storage chests. The buildings had shutters and doors, both requiring catches, hinges, locks and bolts (GF199**;** Figure FWP65.34, 30) and the leather-working tools, such as the awls, show they were working cattle hides. In addition, the knives and wood-working tools point, *inter alia*, to the building and repair of hurdles, predominantly for the penning of sheep.

Building 2, in all it phases, appears to have been an animal shelter. The first construction was a timber structure, possibly with aisles. The skeletal remains and inference of stalls strongly suggest B2 was where sheep, cows and goats were tethered to be housed, milked and tupped, and where they could give birth. This was later replaced by a building with sarsen stone walls, though, as with all the buildings at *Raddun*, these were only a few courses high; the superstructure would also have been timber, probably with wattle and daub panels. This second building was probably for horses, with Building 3 for storage or possibly for pigs or hens.

Economic evidence

On the whole sheep were of a type kept primarily for wool and, though some sheep were consumed at *Raddun*, the main source of meat was cattle and pig, with some chickens and ducks (see *Animal bones*). It is therefore likely that the majority of the sheep, their fleeces and skins, were taken off site to markets or central stores. In addition, the equipment associated with the preparation and spinning of wool, such as the pair of shears (GF89**;** Figure FWP65.32, 17; Plate FWP65.XIV), also indicate use on a domestic, rather than an industrial scale, although being expensive, as much of this equipment as possible would have been taken off the site when it was abandoned.

Though *Raddun* was above all an important sheep centre, the documentary references to cows, oxen and chickens, supported by the environmental evidence for these animals and for pigs, horses and dogs, demonstrate a varied and flexible husbandry. Goats were also common, and no doubt kept for their milk and meat, and pigs were kept and consumed at the farm. Horses were present at the farmstead and though their age range is fairly constant through the medieval and post-medieval period, there was an indication of more young animals in the thirteenth century, which may indicate horse breeding as opposed to keeping. Dogs were more frequent and it seems likely they were sheep dogs. That nearly 70% of the cattle and 60% of the sheep bones can be classified as first class joints, whereas pig is represented by almost equal amounts of first and second class, not only supports the idea that cattle, and to a slightly lesser extent sheep, were kept for meat, but it reveals that the inhabitants maintained a quality diet. Moreover, it is interesting to note that they were allowed to eat such joints, which one would expect to have been claimed by the manor.

The three hunting arrowheads from Enclosure B (GF2F/G (Figure FWP65.35, 64), GF818 (Figure FWP65.35, 59), GF837 (Figure FWP65.35, 65)) are not particularly rare finds on rural medieval farms and the presence of partridge, fallow, roe and red deer remains point to hunting on the surrounding downland, perhaps complemented by occasional forays into Savernake Forest to the south. The three armour-piercing arrowheads from the site (GF199, GF506, GF599; Figure FWP65.35, 60–2) on the other hand, are of particular interest as they point to some sort of military activity within the vicinity. The proximity of the Knights Templar at Rockley and their tenanted estate in adjacent Lockeridge (*LPP*, Chapter 10), the boundary of which is believed to have been only some 500m to the south west of the Mead, may explain these unusual finds. On the other hand, these objects could have been picked up by the inhabitants of Wroughton Mead whilst out shepherding or used by the occupants of *Raddun*, or its ecclesiastical officials, for hunting (*cf* Bond 1994, 127).

Raddun: the documentary evidence (*cf* FWP 7)

J N Hare

Raddun lies in the tithing and modern parish of Fyfield, held at *Domesday* by the Bishops of Winchester, and subsequently from about the mid-thirteenth century by the monks of the cathedral priory of St Swithuns, Winchester as part of their share of the bishopric property (see *LPP*, Chapter 9). From the middle of the thirteenth century, at least, the monks were operating their neighbouring manors of Fyfield and East Overton together under the general name of Overton. A group of

manorial account rolls and a *custumal* survive. These shed much light on agriculture and land use within the manor as a whole. In an important contribution to Bowen and Fowler (1962), Kempson reviewed the evidence of the account rolls and showed their considerable potential. This study has reviewed these documents and developed that early work.

Place names are infrequently used within manorial accounts, and this is true of *Raddun*/Raddon, yet enough survives to establish it as a key centre of a major sheep farming enterprise. The history of *Raddun* can be further unravelled by studying the custumal, a document which lists the terms by which the manorial tenants held their land, of the tenant Richard of Raddon. Richard has a distinct entry unlike the standard entries which were the same for most of the other virgators and half virgators, suggesting that his was a holding established at a distinct time to perform particular functions. The custumal records his holding and tasks as follows.

> *Richard of Raddon holds ½ a virgate of arable for which he must look after his lord's two ox-teams at his own expense from devastation by wolves and from theft of thieves and robbers. He must drive the said teams to ploughing and bring them back when the ploughing work is done. And whatever damage the said ox-team commits, the said Richard is responsible. Moreover he will look after the field under corn between Hill and Aist. If any damage is done there, he shall pay sheaf for sheaf, until it is safely stored in the barn. And daily in autumn he shall supervise the reapers and hand over them a sheaf, which they shall receive if the land is properly reaped. And when he carries the corn he shall himself collect the remains of the ears with a rake; and in carrying the lord's hay, he shall have a rake to help. He must concern himself with the ploughing for the field of the oxen, in seeing that it is properly ploughed. In the ploughing taskwork he shall himself help with the ploughing and sowing. He ought too to keep safe the two downs of Hackpen and Raddon, when they are hedged off from the cattle and to answer for the damage from outside. He must give the seventeenth hen as Cherchsett at Christmas and 200 eggs at Easter. He is to help at the lord's sheep-shearing in packing up the fleeces and shall receive one fleece and one lamb when they are separated from their mothers. And he is to have one cheese and one acre of corn at his free choice from the cornlands, except for the one plot set aside for the lord's choice.*
>
> Translation by E. G. H. Kempson (FWP 7)

Richard, the shepherd, can probably be linked with the farmstead at *Raddun*. The name is not decisive, however, for there was also a 'Richard of 'Raddon'' at nearby Alton Priors, though these two may be one and the same person. For our purposes there are a number of significant features, apart from his name, which indicate the excavated settlement was the documented 'Raddon'. For instance, his holding was in the vicinity of 'Raddon' and Hackpen and his responsibilities included ploughing and looking after some of the ox-teams, evidence for the stalling of which was found. In addition, the expansion of cultivation on the manor of Overton on to the downlands made it sensible to arrange for the oxen to be kept away from the centre of the manor (and nearer the fields) during the ploughing period. So the creation of the 'Raddon' farmstead and with its accompanying half virgate tenement can perhaps be seen as a means by which the lord reacted to the initial thirteenth-century expansion of agriculture on the downland. Such a tenant, serving the lord on the periphery of its farming activities, seemed the natural way for this to be done.

The continued expansion of agriculture and development of the great sheep flock which had initially required this investment in the farmstead, led to the need for further reorganisation. By 1248, Richard's rent was not paid, neither in the required cash nor in the hen's eggs, and by the next account the reason is explicit; the tenement was no longer in the hands of the 'late Richard of 'Raddon'', but in the lord's hand. At this same date the flocks had reached their largest level known to us (2256), so clearly shepherding at 'Raddon' was not failing. A likely explanation of this change in managerial policy would be to see 'Raddon' as being taken in hand to be run as the centre of the lord's flocks by directly employed labour, possibly following the death of the shepherd. It is certainly important to emphasise that 'Raddon' was not an obscure or insignificant downland farmstead, but a vital and core element in the mass sheep farming that was such an important part of the commercial activity of this particular manor. Indeed, with cultivation nearby, it was also a key element in the arable activities of the manor of Overton. As such, the visiting estate stockmen and officials, including, no doubt, those monks who were active in estate administration, would have been keen to see the farm succeed and were prepared to invest to ensure that success continued.

Something of 'Raddon's role in the sheep farming of Fyfield Down can be seen from the accounts. 'Raddon' was one of three *berceriae* on the manor, along with *Attele* and *Hacan penne* (Kempson's notes, Archive FWP 7). In the case of 'Raddon' and Hackpen, these provided permanent winter housing for the large sheep flocks: stone and timber-framed structures within a ditched and hedged enclosure. For example, in 1311, 1500 cuttings (*planti*) were bought at a penny a hundred to make enclosure-hurdles at the croft at *Raddun*. In the same year, 14 perches of ditch were dug and then a hedge of 700 thorns was planted, while another ditch at the sheephouse was renewed and mended and 800 thorns planted – suggesting, if 14 perches of ditch requires 700 thorns, then 800 thorns would cover about 16 perches of bank.

Though a perch can vary from 15 to 24 feet (*c* 4.5–7.3m; Coleman and Wood 1988, 45), the mid-sixteenth century perch on the manor of East Overton measured 18 feet (*c* 5.4m; Straton 1909, 259). If this measurement had remained unchanged for 250 years, the two ditches dug at *Raddun* in 1311 would have been 252ft (76m) and 288ft (86m) in length respectively. Interestingly, the bank and ditch of Enclosure A (excluding the already existing section to the east by B4) measured 72.5m. Perhaps the redigging relates to the construction of Enclosure A or to the ditch and banks at Enclosure C where the remains of a hedge were noted along the tops of the banks.

The roof at 'Raddon' was thatched and probably repaired in every year for which the documentation survives. In 1309, for instance, more than the usual amount of thatching was required to rethatch the *Raddun* sheepcote after a great storm. In 1318 a carpenter (*carpentarius*) was paid a salary for his work at *Raddun*, which would probably have included making and mending wooden ploughs and other agricultural instruments, as well as repairing buildings. In 1282 some of the internal partitions at the sheep house at *Raddun* and Hackpen were rebuilt. There are also references to internal fittings, repairs to doors and walls and purchases of new locks.

According to the accounts of 1316, the ewes were kept at 'Raddon'; the shepherd of the ewes' grain livery being increased because he had a boy helping him for four weeks there. The situation was, however, more flexible so that in 1307, the wethers were divided up amongst the shepherds, presumably at 'Raddon', Hackpen and Attley. In 1309, £9 2s 3¾d was spent on an ointment to cure or prevent murrain, a disease which killed many sheep. This ointment was made from pigs' fat, fortified with equal parts of quicksilver, verdigris (?copper acetate) and copperas (?copper sulphate). Although smaller sums were spent on this treatment in other years, £9 is the most mentioned.

The maintenance of such a large flock in permanent winter housing also meant the need for hay for indoor feeding. Some would have been imported, particularly from the nearby manorial estates of Wroughton and Patney (£10 was spent on getting hay for sheep from Patney in 1309 because of the bad winter), though from 1307, at least, 'Raddon' was also producing its own hay: 11 acres (*c* 4.5ha) in 1309, 6 acres (*c* 2.4ha) in 1311 and 1312, and 17 acres (*c* 6.9ha) in 1316. This was

presumably grown in Wroughton Mead, hence the name, and would no doubt have meant enclosing the area (see Enclosure E, above). Enclosures D and E together cover an area of about 13 acres (*c* 5.3ha).

In 1248 and 1283 the target of chickens and eggs the prior had demanded was not reached, though it seems the reeve was to blame. That Richard of Raddun had to give every seventeenth hen to the Prior as *cherset*, seemingly at Christmas, as well as 200 eggs at Easter, indicates a large number of hens were kept at *Raddun* – though clearly they were not always productive layers.

The shepherd was employed by the lord and like other full-time servants, or *famuli*, he received part payment in kind. In 1307, for example, the shepherd at Raddun received a gift of a bushel of peas as 'an extra' on top of the annual wage of four shillings and five years later, four bushels of barley were provided from store to improve the feed of 'some old cattle' then being kept at *Raddun*. In 1267 three bushels of wheat from the holding at *Raddun* were paid as tithe that year, but later references are to the shepherd at 'Raddon' being sent flour because the *berceriae* was so far away from the manor court and so exempted the shepherd from coming to collect it (though not exempting him from manorial restrictions). Presumably, the flour was used to make dough which would then be baked in the oven built from the remains of the abandoned longhouse.

In 1309 a livery of grain was given to the keeper of cows and young cattle for a two week spell and cows and oxen were also being kept there, as noted in the custumal and again in 1312. Such references clearly demonstrate the other aspects of pastoral farming 'Raddon' was engaged in and it may be a result of such pastoral provision, or with the oxen of the ploughteams, that we should link the enclosure of the croft of 'Raddon' in 1248.

The account rolls give us little indication of arable farming in the immediate area. The presence of arable is suggested by the archaeology, by the details of Richard of Raddon's responsibilities, such as the 'field under corn between Hill and Aist', and by the possibility of making good use of the manuring capacity of the sheep flocks. The absence of clear documentation is understandable. If any arable was regarded as part of the adjacent open fields of the villages, they would not have been referred to independently. As suggested earlier, there need not have been distinct and permanent fields, rather a shift of location from one year to the next in order to avoid overstraining the poor soils. All that we have is the reminder from the custumal that at some time before 1248, arable expansion had expanded far enough away from the main settlement to make it worthwhile for some of the plough teams to be kept at 'Raddon'.

The documents are thus more useful in giving us an impression of the role of *Raddun* in the late thirteenth century, at a time when the excavated farmstead was in existence, than in charting its earlier developments. A few points may, however, be made.

Excavation and documentary evidence clearly show that *Raddun* was a major centre of pastoral farming, as well as a satellite outstation for the arable farming of the manor. *Raddun* emerged as a great flock centre between 1210 and 1248 in response to the transformation of the sheep farming activities on the manor of Overton, though the question remains as to whether *Raddun* was created amidst deserted downland or whether it grew from a pre-existing, small downland settlement, such as existed at Shaw and Rockley. Either way, it is important to emphasise that it should not be seen as an obscure, unimportant downland farmstead but as a vital and core element in the mass sheep farming that was such an important part of the commercial activity of this particular manor. Indeed, its emergence to this important role would make *Raddun* one of, if not *the* most important sheep centre on the Winchester estates.

The end of *Raddun* as a permanent home is unknown. Certainly the year in which the documentary sources come to a halt should not be taken as the moment for abandonment, though in this particular case, especially after careful consideration of the excavated evidence, it is tempting. Already by the beginning of the fourteenth century there are clear indications that the farmstead was facing difficulties. The period from 1309 to 1312 was a particularly expensive period at *Raddun*, with thatching work, the purchase of hay costing nearly £10, the ditching and fencing work, costing a minimum of 15d, and the £9 spent on the murrain ointment. In 1318, the last documented date for *Raddun* before 1492, the carpenter would also have needed paying. The cause of many of these financial burdens was probably due to the well-documented poor weather conditions of the early fourteenth century. The autumn of 1308 was 'wet and long', the Winchester Custumal Records tell of a great storm in 1309 which damaged buildings at *Raddun* and flooding was reported in the winter of 1309/10 (Titow 1960, 383). From 1312 to 1319 flooding was again reported every year, and *throughout* the years of 1315, 1316 and 1319 (*ibid*, 384), with a hard winter in 1314 and a very wet and long autumn in 1313 (*ibid*, 364). Correspondingly, the average price of wheat rose by over 250% between 1314 and 1317 (*ibid*, 383–87).

As elsewhere in Wessex, the combination of a string of poor harvests, unusual weather conditions and the subsequent price increases in all goods and services, may have led to the abandonment of *Raddun*. As an outlying manorial holding, for all its importance in the management of the great priory flocks and housing the oxen, its existence depended on its sustainability. A shift in climatic conditions followed by the inevitable dire economic conditions, meant *Raddun*, albeit a key element in the manorial economy and agrarian growth of the estate of St Swithuns throughout the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, was no longer a viable financial investment. Although the sheep and cattle continued to graze the downland pastures around *Raddun*, the excavated farm as the centre of the arable cultivation hereabouts was left to the elements.

It must be stressed, however, that although there may have been a reduction in arable role of *Raddun* in the fourteenth century, a base hereabouts would still have been required by large-scale sheep farming. Indeed, shepherding continued here and an outlying part of the farm, already used in the thirteenth century, was almost certainly the site of a grange attested documentarily in the late fifteenth century (Greatrex 1972, 189–90) and archaeologically by contemporary material. Indeed, the continued cultivation of the high downland is demonstrated by the existence of a grange which could supply ten cartloads of hay in 1496 (*ibid*) and, in 1567, by wheat being grown on the northern part of the 'mons de Raddon' (60 acres (*c* 24.3ha); Straton 1909, 261). Clearly, 'Raddon' continued as a permanent element in the landscape and, presumably, in the life of at least one family.

The site may well have been finally abandoned when its functions were taken over by a new enclosed farmstead at the Delling Enclosure to the west in the seventeenth century, though visitors, including Sir Richard Colt Hoare, are attested by eighteenth–nineteenth-century written and archaeological evidence. A last 'event' deposited over the site a scatter of shrapnel from a military explosion, presumably that attested orally as having occurred *c* 1947 among the 'Celtic' fields on Fyfield Down. Barely a dozen years passed before, in 1959, archaeologists moved in. Among their first finds were fragments of shrapnel, now archaeological evidence!

Finds

Abbreviations used in the finds reports

LMMC = London Museum Medieval Catalogue

Copper alloy objects

by R Montague

Twenty-one copper alloy objects were present in the analysed assemblage (Table FWP65, 1 and FWP65.2). Detailed descriptions of all these objects are presented in FWP 40. None of the copper alloy objects had been conserved. Accordingly, all the objects were X-Radiographed and a selection was also conserved. This work was carried out by Margaret Brooks of Salisbury Conservation Laboratory.

Dress accessories

Two plain annular copper alloy brooches (Figure FWP65.30, 1 and 2; GFs 275, 514) can be dated to the twelfth–fourteenth centuries (Margeson 1993, 15). The single finger ring (Figure FWP65.30, 3; GF232) has decorated shoulders but has lost its stone (probably originally glass or, less likely, a semi-precious stone). It compares with a thirteenth-century example from Salisbury (Cherry 1991, 41, fig 10, 7).

Two buckles are present. One (Figure FWP65.30, 4; GF221) is a large annular buckle with an iron pin similar to one from London dated *c* 1350– *c*1400 (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 57, fig 36.38). The second (GF545) is a double-loop buckle with a (broken) central copper alloy pin axle bar. It may be a shoe buckle (*cf* an eighteenth-century example from Battle Abbey; Geddes 1985, 156, fig 49.22). GF507 is likely to be small broken buckle plate with a single rivet hole comparable to examples from Sandal Castle dated *c* 1400–1450 (Goodall 1983, 231).

The decorated sheet fitting, with a perforation at one end, is likely to be part of a strap-end, buckle plate or most likely a belt mount (Figure FWP65.30, 5; GF570). The zig-zag decoration is used on belt fittings from at least the early thirteenth to the early fifteenth centuries (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 31), eg, examples from Norwich (Margeson 1993, 38, fig 22.264, dated 1400–1600) and London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 195, fig 123.1050, dated *c* 1350–*c*1400).

Three buttons and a button cover were found. One (GF128) may be compared with an example from Faccombe Netherton, Hampshire (A Goodall, 1990, 429, fig 9.14/126) from a context dated 1418–1434. GF284A is probably post-medieval while button GF273 and button cover GF298 may belong to the same object and cannot be closely dated.

Domestic objects

The tweezers (Figure FWP65.30, 6; GF804) are probably of Egan and Pritchard's Type II (1991, 380–1), made of a strip of copper alloy folded over and twisted, with the folded end forming an earscoop and the strips widening out into the tweezer arms at the other end. An example was recovered from an early-13th century context in London (*ibid,* 381, cat no 1774).

Medieval thimbles were handmade, usually with a conical profile and unevenly hand-punched spirals of dots on the body (Margeson 1993, 187). The thimble (Figure FWP65.30, 7; GF606) has straight sides, a rounded top and bands rather than spirals of fine and evenly spaced dots. It is machine made and post-medieval in date.

The small key (Figure FWP65.30, 8; GF852) is probably a twelfth–thirteenth-century casket key (Ward Perkins 1940, figs 43.3 and 4).

Other objects include a ?decorative fitting, possibly horse harness (Figure FWP65.30, 9; GF482); a rectangular collar (Figure FWP65.30, 10; GF347A) of unknown function, similar both to objects dated 1100–1400 at Norwich (Margeson 1993, 139, fig 104.939A and B, 942) and post-medieval objects; and three fragments of copper alloy rod (GFs 356A, 542 and 853).

List of illustrated objects

(Figure FWP65.30)

1. Annular brooch; roughly facetted wire, recesses for attachment of (missing) pin. Diam 21mm. GF275 (A), Cutting 5, topsoil/humus.
2. Annular brooch; in two fragments; wire ring with recesses for pin and circular-sectioned pin, broken at tip end with other end expanded and looped over with small collar. Diam 19mm. GF514, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation or post-occ.
3. Finger ring, distorted. Slender rectangular-sectioned hoop rising to empty setting in circular bezel. Incised grooves across both shoulders, other incised nicks further down loop. Shoulders asymmetrical. Max diam (distorted) 21mm. GF232, Cutting 5, flints.
4. Annular buckle; sub-circular section, 5mm diam; broken iron rectangular-sectioned pin. Diam frame 46mm. GF221, Cutting 4, Building 2, topsoil.
5. Strip decorative fitting; expanded and perforated terminal. Main area broken, zig-zag (rocker-arm) decoration around edges with plain interior. Length 30mm. GF570, Cutting 4, Building 2, post-occupation.
6. Tweezers, formed from two tapering strips of copper alloy twisted together. Both ends broken; probably originally a single strip, looped over at top of handle. Length 78mm. GF804, Cutting 1B, topsoil.
7. Thimble. Straight sided, domed top, bands of tiny regularly punched dots round side and in grid pattern on top; incised border just above base. Length19mm. GF606, Cutting 4, Building 2, top of Pit 7.
8. Small key; circular bow, hollow stem. Length 35mm. GF852, Cutting 4P(iii), south of Building 2, flinty soil.
9. Object, broken at both ends. One end forking (?perforated), below short semicircular-sectioned shank, leading into expanded and flattened area with scalloped edges. ?Edge of perforation on break. Length 25mm. GF482, Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints/?occupation.
10. Rectangular collar, formed from strip of sheet copper alloy 7.5mm wide, tapering to both arms, which are bent round to enclose an internal trapezoidal area of *c* 36 x 26 x 9mm. Upper surface 27mm long. GF347 (A), Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.

Iron objects

by R. Montague

A total of 493 pieces of ironwork is dealt with in this report, of which 490 are present in the assemblage and working drawings from *c* 1961 exist of another three objects which have since been mislaid. Of these 493 iron objects, 312 are nails.

The condition of the ironwork on examination varied. Some pieces had already been fully conserved and stored in waxed paper bags. A few had been laquered and some of these objects were showing signs of active corrosion. Other objects and all the nails had received no treatment and were mostly mixed together in cardboard boxes, albeit the majority with their individual labels still attached. These were in very poor condition and large amounts of detached corroded iron flakes and fragments which could not be assigned to their original object had to be discarded. All the ironwork was X-radiographed and a further selection of ironwork was subsequently conserved by Margaret Brooks of the Salisbury Conservation Laboratory.

Tools

Woodworking tools

A single axe was recovered from the Phase 1 occupation of Building 1 (Figure FWP65.31, 1; GF210). This is of unusual type, with projections both on the socket and on the lower part of the blade itself. It is similar in appearance, though much smaller than the LMMC 'battle-axes' (Ward Perkins 1940, 63–5, fig 15) and is likely to be a wood-working axe. Ward Perkins suggests that 'battle-axes' may not have been exclusively for warfare and cites an illuminated manuscript example showing such an battle-axe being used for carpentry (*ibid*, 65). Goodall suggests elsewhere that the axe from *Raddun* may have been used for dressing timber (Goodall 1981, 53, fig 51.5). A second axe (GF571), now missing, referred to in the Finds Book as 'a small bearded axe', was recovered from the black soil in the Building 4 area, east of the oven.

Textile manufacturing tools

Six heckle teeth are present (Figure FWP65.31, 2 and 3; GFs 199, 220); the complete examples being 105–118mm long. All have a square section, often tapering to a circular section near the tip.

Leather-working tools

All but one of 10 awls have square or diamond cross-sections. One large awl (*Figure* FWP65.31, 8; GF824) has sub-square sections at either end and a circular section in the central area and may not have been used for leather-working. Two (Figure FWP65.31, 5 and 6; GFs 175, 526) bear traces of mineral-preserved wooden handles.

Agricultural tools

An unstratified broken spade-iron was identified (Figure FWP65.31, 9; GF909). Spade-irons are common throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Knives and shears

A total of thirteen knives, seven with their tangs and six represented by blade fragments are present. In addition, two possible broken knife tangs were identified. Another knife with a tang, now lost, is represented by an archive drawing. All seven of the extant tanged knives bear whittle tangs, four set centrally on the blade (Figure FWP65.32, 11–14; GFs 271, 591, 656, 712), one set just below the back (Figure FWP65.32, 10; GF160A), one with the tang in line with the back of the blade (Figure FWP65.32, 15; GF824B) and one with a bolster between the blade and the tang and is probably seventeenth century (Figure FWP65.32, 16; GF490A).

One knife (Figure FWP65.32, 12; GF 591) has a badly corroded pattern welded blade. This technique has a relatively short period of use on knives, from the tenth–twelfth centuries (Cowgill *et al* 1987, 15). The five other tanged knives and the blade fragments are not diagnostic though none would be out of place in an assemblage of twelfth- or thirteenth-century date.

A single, complete pair of shears of Ward Perkins' Type II was recovered (Figure FWP65.32, 17; GF89; Plate FWP65.XIV). The marked semicircular recess at the junction between the blade and handle dates the shears to the thirteenth or fourteenth centuries (Ward Perkins 1940, 155; Cowgill *et al* 1987, 106–12). Another possible shear blade (GF297) has a straight back parallel to the blade edge and is unlikely to be medieval in date.

Structural ironwork

Six rectangular staples (Figure FWP65.33, 18–21; GFs 226, 427, 450A, 908) and three 'U'-shaped staples (Figure FWP65.33, 22; GF193) used for attaching other fittings to masonry and timber and for binding pieces of wood were found together with a variety of other structural pieces such as a spike (Figure FWP65.33, 25; 638A), a single hinge pivot (Figure FWP65.33, 26; GF506), and a latch rest (Figure FWP65.34, 31; GF544A). One object (Figure FWP65.33, 27;230A) is part of a strap hinge with a perforated, decorative terminal. A number of broken, perforated iron straps and bits of binding were also recovered.

A total of 105 nails are present, plus a further 107 nail shanks, some of which may well come from horseshoe rather than structural nails. Of note are the large nails with large heads (Figure FWP65.33, 23 and 24; GFs 217, 218), two of which have flat, sub-rectangular shaped heads and the other two pyramidal heads. These may be compared with an example dated *c* 1180–1280 at Faccombe Netherton (I Goodall 1990, 411, fig 9.5/273). It is likely that these large nails were used both to strengthen and to decorate doors.

Lock furniture

Lock furniture is represented by a fragment of medieval barrel padlock case with applied strap decoration and copper alloy plating was recovered (Figure FWP65.34, 32; GF616); an incomplete curved object (GF208) which bears a resemblance both to parts of U-shaped barrel padlock bolts (I Goodall 1990, 415, fig 9.7/354) and to a pivoting stapled hasp also from a padlock (*ibid*, fig 9.7/362); three padlock keys (Figure FWP65.34, 34–6; GFs 595, 284B, 644A); and two sliding lock bolts (Figure FWP65.34, 37 and 38; GF s 199A, 411A) similar to examples from tenth–twelfth century contexts at Faccombe Netherton (*ibid*, 376, fig 9.7/365, 376) and from eleventh-century contexts at Goltho (Goodall 1987, 183, fig 158.117–8). The figure-of-eight hasp (Figure FWP65.34, 39; GF210B) could have been used in conjunction with a padlock to secure a chest.

Household ironwork

Fragments of sheet iron with a rim may represent fragments of a sheet vessel, although not enough survives to suggest its original form. Chain fittings include the long hook with an S-shaped hook or loop through its perforated head (Figure FWP65.34, 40; GF144) , one or more chain links and various hooks and a washer.

Buckles

Three iron buckles were identified. One (Figure FWP65.34, 43; GF 363A) is small and oval with a narrowed, offset bar, with traces of white metal plating. It is of a long-lived medieval type which appears to have fallen from use at the end of the fifteenth century (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 70). The smaller of the two rectangular buckles also has a narrowed bar, with the pin corroded to it, although the loop of the pin is broken (Figure FWP65.34, 42; GF283). The other (Figure FWP65.34, 44; GF710B) may have been used with harness straps.

Horse furniture

Two complete and 23 horseshoe fragments are present, with a further fragment illustrated in the working drawings prepared in 1961 but now missing (Figure FWP65.35, 45–50; GFs 187, 356B, 276, 510A, 122, 216). The horseshoes have been dated according to criteria set out by Clark (1986). The presence and shape of the calkins was noted. The collection comprises seven 'Norman' with a 'wavy' outer edge and countersunk nail-holes (mid–late eleventh to mid thirteenth century: 26.9%;

Figure FWP65.35, 45 and 46; GFs 187, 356B), four 'transitional', with countersunk holes but a smooth outer edge (second half of the thirteenth to early fourteenth century; 15.4%; Figure FWP65.35, 47 and 48; GF276, 510A), five 'later medieval', having nail holes with a tapering profile and a smooth outer edge (mid fourteenth to sixteenth century; 19.2%; Figure FWP65.35, 49 and 50; GFs 122, 216) and eight chronologically undiagnostic fragments (30.8%). The two complete horseshoes (7.7%) both bear toe clips, a post-medieval innovation (Clark 1986, 1).

Clark notes that the webs of the 'Norman' horseshoes are generally narrow, with the 'transitional' forms becoming wider and the 'later medieval' types wider still (*ibid*, 2–3, figs 4, 6 and 8). The three groups of horseshoes from *Raddun* fits this general pattern – the Norman webs average 18.6mm, transitional 27mm and later medieval 32.2mm.

Five of the seven 'Norman' types were recovered from construction and occupation layers within Buildings 1, 2 and 4 (GF187: Building 1, Pit 1/2; GFs191 and 548(A): Building 2: timber phase occupation; Building 4: GF547(C), black midden soil over Pit 6). Another of this type (GF299B) was from t Enclosure C ditch in Cutting 10 and the seventh from the topsoil in Cutting 3 (GF13: entrance to Enclosure A).

A total of 100 horseshoe nails were identified. These have been assigned to the three main types identified (29 Type 1 ('fiddle key' or 'Norman'); 17 Type 2 ('transitional'); 25 Type 3 ('later medieval). An additional two types occur (16 examples), one with distorted, elongated and pointed heads which may represent pulled nails and there are 13 unclassifiable, corroded fragments. A fairly high proportion (27% of the horseshoes and 25% of the horseshoe nails) date from the mid fourteenth-century onwards, with most coming from Cutting 10 or post-occupation contexts.

The small looped and riveted fitting (Figure FWP65.35, 51; GF317) may be a strap loop or fastener from a harness. It compares well with an example from Castle Acre Castle from contexts dating from a few years after 1085 (Goodall 1982, 230, fig 41.122).

Ox-shoes

A single possible ox-shoe fragment (Figure FWP65.35, 52; GF234) has a very wide web and is slightly dished in section, with a broken nail-hole near the edge of the shoe (cf Faccombe Netherton, I Goodall 1990, 421, fig 910/545–8).

Spurs

Five spurs or parts of spurs were recovered (Figure FWP65.35, 53–7; GFs 44, 422, 559, 345, 229) and a small fitting (Figure FWP65.35, 58; GF835A) which may have come from a spur. The three prick spurs all have bi-pyramidal goads. The earliest is possibly a now missing object (Figure FWP65.35, 53; GF44), with its short neck, a type common in the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries. One spur has a bi-pyramidal goad with concave upper surfaces, curving arms and simple terminals pierced by two rivets (Figure FWP65.35, 54; GF422), similar to thirteenth–fourteenth-century examples from London (Ward Perkins 1940, fig 31.3) and Portchester Castle (Hinton 1977, 196, fig 104.14), although similar examples from Goltho come from contexts dated to *c*1080–1150 (Ellis 1987, 186, fig 160.167, 169). Another fragmentary prick spur (Figure FWP65.35, 55; GF559) has a long tubular neck and a plain bi-pyramidal goad (*cf* Portchester Castle; Hinton 1977, 196, fig 104.13, 15, thirteenth–fourteenth centuries). The spur arm, probably from a prick spur (Figure FWP65.35, 56; GF345) has a LMMC Type Bii terminal, a type which probably did not survive the fourteenth century (Ward Perkins 1940, 96). There is a trace of white metal plating on this piece.

The single rowel spurs (Figure FWP65.35, 57; GF229). has a 'figure of eight' terminal with a shouldered body of LMMC Type A2. The straight tubular neck is bent sharply downwards at the rowel box. This spur is likely be post-medieval.

The small fitting (Figure FWP65.35, 58; GF835A) has a broken loop and a bevelled plate with a decorative terminal and was white metal-plated. The plate bears two rivets, only one of which goes all the way through the plate. It is probably a spur buckle with integral bevelled plate (*cf* London examples dated *c*1270–1380; Egan and Pritchard 1991, 106–8, figs 68.483–486, 69.487).

Arrowheads

The seven arrowheads have been classified using both the LMMC and Jessop (1993) typologies. The large socketed arrowhead (Figure FWP65.36, 63; GF688) is a hunting type of probable mid thirteenth-century date (Jessop 1993, type H3, LMMC type 15). Figure FWP65.36, 64 (GF2A) is of Jessop's 'multi-purpose' type MP3 and a third is either MP5 or MP3 (LMMC Type 1). Such arrowheads had a long period of currency and date from the tenth–sixteenth century and later (Jessop 1993, 31). Three others are armour-piercing military arrowheads (Figure FWP65.36, 60–62; GFs 199D, 506A, 599) of Jessop's Type M7 (LMMC Type 7) and date from the eleventh–fourteenth centuries. The seventh arrowhead (Figure FWP65.36, 65; GF837A) cannot be classified.

Miscellaneous

Various other fittings and corroded objects were recovered including a fitting (Figure FWP65.36, 66; GF284C) with terminal lobes pierced by a nail and by a rivet which may be a bar mount for a belt (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 213, fig 134); a broken fitting (Figure FWP65.36, 67; GF411B) of uncertain function which had been white metal plated; several possible furniture fittings (Figure FWP65.36, 68 and 69; GFs 638B, 660A); several spikes (Figure FWP65.37, 70; GF61); and various fragments of sheet and tube.

Discussion of the metalwork

The distribution of the metalwork by Cutting is shown in Tables FWP65.1 and FWP65.2.

The assemblage is domestic, with indications that wood-working, leather-working and textile preparation, as well as agricultural activities were taking place, all activities that would be expected on a small rural settlement. It is noticeable that a large proportion of the metalwork from Cutting 10 is diagnostically post-medieval and modern, including a knife with a bolster (Figure FWP65.32, 16; GF490A) and another knife or shear blade fragment (GF297), a rowel spur (Figure FWP65.35, 57; GF229), three of the five 'later medieval' horseshoes and seven of the 25 'later medieval' horseshoe nails.

List of illustrated objects

(Figure FWP65.30)

1. Axe; tubular socket on axis of blade, slight projections above and pronounced ones below; upper edge of blade inclined sharply upwards, lower edge concave and curves sharply downwards with pronounced bevel into projection, small concave area between this and bottom edge of blade. Length blade 93mm, width blade 95mm. GF210A, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2/Phase 1 occupation.
2. Heckle tooth, square section. Length 107mm. GF199 (C), Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble outside B1, ?Phase 2.
3. Heckle tooth, square section. Length 111mm. GF220A, Cutting 10, Clay-with-flints.
4. Awl, flattened diamond section, broken. L 93mm. GF147, Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble/occupation of B1 South.

5. Awl, flattened diamond section, traces of mineral-preserved wooden tang. Length 66mm. GF175, Cutting 2, Building 1, Phase 1 occupation.

6. Awl, sub-square section, mineral-preserved wood and twine traces. Twine wound round awl between handle and working end, ?to secure handle. Length 83mm. GF526A, Cutting 5, black layer.

7. Awl, sub-square section, distinct central swelling. Length 66mm. GF707A, Cutting 6Y, Enclosure B.

8. Large awl, circular section. Length 111mm. GF824A, Cutting 4P, south of Building 2, flinty soil.

(Figure FWP65.32)

9. Side arm of spade iron, grooved profile to accommodate wooden blade, below rectangular-sectioned arm which expands into lug pierced by single flat round-headed nail for attachment. Length 237mm. GF909, Unstratified.

10. Knife; whittle tang set just below back, broken. Length 107mm. GF160A, Cutting 2, Building 1, Phase 1 occupation.

11. Knife; whittle tang set central to blade. Length 155mm. GF271, Cutting 6, Building 4, topsoil/collapse.

12. Knife; pattern welded blade and whittle tang set central to blade with pronounced shoulder. Length 155mm. GF591A, Cutting 6, topsoil over Pit 6.

13. Knife; very short whittle tang set central on blade, separate iron shoulder plate between tang and blade. Length 66mm. GF656, Cutting 6, clay and chalk in Pit 6.

14. Knife; whittle tang set central to blade. Length 95mm. GF712, Cutting 8, chalky soil.

15. Knife; whittle tang in line with back of blade. Length 171mm. GF824 B, Cutting 4P(i), south of Building 2, flinty soil.

16. Knife; oval bolster between blade and tang. Post-medieval. L 178mm. GF490A, Cutting 10, topsoil/on flints.

17. Complete pair of shears. Blade length 93mm, width 23mm, single recess, tapering tips. Arm with square–rectangular section, bow with rectangular section. Length 202mm. GF89, Cutting 2, Building 1, humus over Phases 1 and 2 (Plate FWP65.XIIV).

(Figure FWP65.33)

18. Large rectangular staple. Length 143mm. GF226, Cutting 10, on and over Clay-with-flints.

19. Rectangular staple, bound round and enclosing internal area *c* 70 x 18mm. GF427, Cutting 6, Building 4, outside building/possible occupation.

20. Rectangular staple, one arm split longitudinally to form two spikes. Length of head 35mm. GF450A, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus/occupation material.

21. Rectangular staple, expanded head. Length of broken head c 40mm. GF908, Unstratified.

22. 'U'-shaped staple. L 70mm. GF193, Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble/exterior of B1.

23. Large nail, pyramidal head and tapering rectangular sectioned shank. Length 134mm. GF217. Cutting 10, G2.

24. Large nail, slightly domed rectangular head, tapering rectangular sectioned shank. Length 110mm. GF218. Cutting 10, G2.

25. Spike, circular hole in head, tapering rectangular-sectioned shank. Length 114mm. GF638A, Cutting 6, Pit 6.

26. Hinge pivot. Length 93mm. GF506B, Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints.

27. Strap hinge frag, decorative, perforated terminal – part of the nailed U-shaped area of hinge would have rotated around hinge pivot. Length 85mm. GF230A, Cutting 10, on or over clay-with-flints.

28. Strap hinge frag, with sub-circular sectioned bar expanded into broken flat perforated straps at both ends, bent into U-shape. Length 37mm. GF492, Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.

29. Binding with broken expanded perforated terminal, broken at other end. Curved. Length 126mm. GF823, Cutting 2Y, Building 1, stony soil, pre-B1 South construction.

(Figure FWP65.34)

30. Binding; two expanded perforated terminals. Frag nail or rivet *in situ*. Length 67mm. GF199B, Cutting 2, Building 1, under tumble/outside building.

31. Latch rest. Length 104mm. GF544A, Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil/humus.

32. Barrel padlock case frag, decorated with applied longitudinally-running straight and wavy iron straps. Copper alloy plated. Part of keyhole survives. Length 82mm. GF616, Cutting 6, top of Pit 6/Midden.

33. T-shaped padlock bolt. Length 61mm. GF710A, Cutting 6, Building 4, occupation.

34. Padlock key, looped and scrolled terminal at back of shank, bit broken, set at 90° to shank. Length 193mm. GF595, Cutting 6, topsoil over Pit 6.

35. Padlock key, looped terminal at front of shank, bit set in same plane as shank. Length 101mm. GF284B, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation/post-occ.

36. Padlock key, broken perforated terminal, bit broken, set at 90° to shank and possibly set centrally on shank. Shank very corroded but appears to be flaring in thickness as well as width below head. Length 119mm. GF644A, Cutting 6, Building 4, burnt soil East of B4.

37. Sliding bolt with single projection. Length 103mm. GF199A, Cutting 2, Building 1, under tumble/outside building.

38. Sliding bolt, bent at one end, single projection. Length 58mm. GF411A , Cutting 5, flinty layer over chalk mound.

39. Figure-of-eight hasp of twisted rectangular-sectioned bar. Convex profile. Length 127mm. GF210B, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2.

40. Chain fitting comprising hook with perforated head (length 68mm), through which is mounted ‘S’-loop. Length 82mm. GF144, Cutting 2, baulk K/L, humus over Building 1 interior.

41. Hook-like object, tapering shank. Length 57mm. GF556, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.

42. Rectangular buckle; narrowed bar, pin with broken loop corroded to bar. Length 39mm. GF283, Cutting 5, burnt soil with flints.

43. Small oval buckle frame; narrowed offset bar and ‘pinching’ of frame near both ends. GF363A, Cutting 4, Building 3, occupation/post-occ.

44. Large rectangular buckle frame. Length 66mm. GF710B, Cutting 6, Building 4, probable occupation.

(Figure FWP65.35)

(NB Horsehoes illustrated showing underside with calkins and nail-heads if present)

45. Right horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘Norman’ type. Length 101mm. GF187, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 6/Phase 1 occupation.

46. Right horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘Norman’ type. Length 108mm. GF356(B), Cutting 4, Building 2, timber phase/stone construction.

47. Left horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘transitional’ type. Length 96mm. GF276, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over building.

48. Right horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘transitional’ type. Length 79mm. GF510(A), Cutting 4, Building 3, construction/occupation.

49. Left horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘later medieval’ type. Length 95mm. GF122, Cutting 2, Building 1, humus over Phases 1 and 2.

50. Right horseshoe arm. Clark's ‘later medieval’ type. L 94mm. GF216, Cutting 10, on flinty terrace.

51. Strip, looped over with expanded terminals originally riveted together. Length 42mm. GF317, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.

52. Right ox-shoe arm, slightly dished profile. Length 66mm. GF234, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.

53. Prick spur, now missing, described from drawing. LMMC Type 7. Length 63mm. GF44, Cutting 3, humus over bank of Enc. A.

54. Prick spur. LMMC Type BB(ii)8. Length130mm. GF422, Cutting 4, Building 2, pre-stone phase.

55. Prick spur. LMMC Type 7. Length 61mm. GF559, Cutting 4, Building 3, Pit 8/garde-robe.

56. Spur arm and terminal frag. Trace of white metal plating. LMMC Type Bii. Length 66mm. GF345, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over building.

57. Rowel spur. Terminal LMMC Type F; spur body LMMC Type A2. Length 120mm. GF229, Cutting 10, on flinty terrace.

58. Small fitting; broken oval loop with integral plate and decorative terminal. Plate has bevelled edges and bears two rivets, one pierces plate, other only visible on underside. Traces of white metal plating. Length 24mm. GF835A, Cutting 1B, topsoil to flints.

(Figure FWP65. 36)

59. Arrowhead. Jessop's Type MP5/MP3, LMMC Type 1. Length 97mm. GF818A, Cutting 4P(i), under sarsen chips.

60. Arrowhead, military, possible traces of mineral-preserved wood inside socket. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. Length 92mm. GF199 (D), Cutting 2, Building 1, wall tumble outside building.

61. Short arrowhead, military. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. Length 49mm. GF506A, Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints.

62. Arrowhead, military. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. Length 62mm. GF599, Cutting 6, Building 4/Pit 6, topsoil. ?Oven construction.

63. Large socketed hunting arrowhead. Jessop's Type H3, LMMC Type 15, Length 121mm. GF688, Cutting 8, clay over deposited chalk.

64. Small arrowhead. Jessop's Type MP3, LMMC Type 1. Length 52mm. GF2A, Cutting 2F/E, trench under Building 1 South, clay-with-flints.

65. Arrowhead, tapering conical socket and lenticular section. Length 72mm. GF837A, Cutting 4P(i), flinty soil.

66. Fitting; bar with terminal lobes, pierced by nail and rivet, possible remains of rove or another strip at end of rivet. Length 46mm. GF284 (C), Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.

67. Fitting, originally white metal-plated. Flat back, slightly curved upper area, one terminal bent upwards with small perforation; central area originally perforated. Function uncertain. Length 51mm. GF411B, Cutting 5, flinty soil.

68. Strip fitting, one terminal bent to form loop; strip bent into convex curve and expanding in width towards other, broken end. Function uncertain. Length 66m. GF638B, Cutting 6, black soil in Pit 6.

69. Fitting; circular sectioned rod with one (broken) end bent to *c* 100° to axis and split longitudinally; other terminal bent to form loop bearing iron ring (diam 34mm) of circular-sectioned bar/wire. Function uncertain. Length 98mm. GF660A, Cutting 8, flinty layer below topsoil.

70. Spike, rectangular section. Length 123mm. GF61, Cutting 3A, entrance to Enc. A, humus with small flints over bank.

Worked Stone

by Nicholas A. Wells, with geological identifications by Adrian Murray

Six whetstones were recovered. All are either square or rectangular in section and have two, three or four smooth sides/faces. None shows any further working or wear marks, although one (GF189) has a deep (5mm) groove worn into one face. No concentration of finds was noticed.

The stone types are sandstone (two examples), micaceous quartzite, basalt and altered basalt and rhyolite. These types indicate a wide area of source location, unlike the worked and utilised stone from the Early Iron Age and Romano-British settlements (ODXI, FWP 63; OD XII, FWP 64).

Medieval pottery

by R G Thomson and D H Brown

The assemblage comprises 7441 sherds, weighing 88,782g. Each sherd has been classified by fabric and form. The ceramic character of each stratigraphic unit has been determined by quantifying the presence of each type of fabric and form by rim per cent, weight in grams and number of sherds.

Fabrics and forms

Fabrics have been classified using a hierarchical system which identifies *fabric* as a specific fabric type and *ware* as a generic term. Each fabric is given a unique number in a series beginning at one. Fabrics were identified by macroscopic analysis through the use of a binocular microscope,

following guidelines laid down by Peacock (1977). Type sherds were retained to create a fabric type series. Wares are given names which reflect their origins, such as Martincamp ware, or their defining characteristics, such as chalk- and flint-tempered coarseware. Also recorded as part of the process of characterising a ware, are area and period of origin. Fabrics may be grouped together as variants of the same ware; for example, fabrics 9, 30, 35, 42, 47, 48, 55 and 59 have all been identified as local post-medieval earthenwares. The fabric type series was compared with those compiled by Wessex Archaeology for other sites in Wiltshire and west Berkshire, which has established the origins of many of the medieval wares identified, allowing the grouping together of fabrics into known ware traditions. It should be noted, however, that the fabric numbers used here are unique to *Raddun* and do not correspond to any other published type series such as that for Newbury (Vince *et al* 1997)

Forms were classified by vessel type and by the shapes of the component parts. The latter system identified a range of rim, handle, spout and base forms within each ware. Each form type was given a numeric code preceded by a letter denoting the relevant component; for example R1 is a specific rim form. Also recorded as part of the form corpus were decorative technique and motif, and the extent and location of any slip or glaze.

The assemblage can be divided into five chronologically distinct groups of wares; prehistoric; Romano-British; medieval; late medieval; post-medieval. Prehistoric and Romano-British wares are considered to be residual here and, although they have been quantified, they have not been fully characterised and are not described in detail.

Medieval wares

The medieval pottery was initially divided into two groups: coarsewares and sandy wares. Medieval coarsewares are the most common type in the entire assemblage and consist principally of chalk- and flint-tempered cooking pots and bowls in the Newbury Group A/B tradition (Vince *et al* 1997). The sandy wares comprise a much smaller proportion of the medieval assemblage. All the medieval wares are considered to be thirteenth-century in date.

Chalk- and flint-tempered coarsewares: CFTC (Newbury Group B)

Fabrics 1, 2, 11, 14, 22, 28, 37, 38

Fifteen fabrics were originally identified within this group. Several of these have now been grouped together, leaving seven types. As recording progressed it soon became clear that all these are related so they were all brought together and recorded under a single fabric number (38). This grouping took place after approximately one quarter of the assemblage had been recorded. The type series demonstrates the range of fabric types present within this group, but it should be emphasised that most of the sherds have been recorded under the general fabric number 38. These chalk- and flint-tempered coarsewares belong within the ceramic traditions of Newbury Groups A and B (Vince *et al* 1997). The material corresponds most closely with Newbury Group B in terms of form and technique and is hereafter referred to by its ware name.

This ware is characterised by abundant inclusions of chalk and flint, with quartz and iron also present. Organics also frequently occur. The chalk has often leached out of sherd surfaces, leaving vesiculations. All inclusions are ill-sorted, ranging in size from fine–medium to coarse. Some examples, such as Fabric 28, contain very large flint fragments. The colour range varies from dark grey or black to brown or dark red. Newbury Group A and B wares are described as being similarly diverse in terms of the size and quantities of inclusions, but these variations do not appear to be related to chronology or distribution. In Berkshire this ware appears to occur mainly in the west and a source in the Kennet Valley has been suggested, with the Forest of Savernake specifically

identified (Vince *et al* 1997). This is acceptably close to *Raddun* and such a production area seems likely.

In common with the Newbury Group B products, it is not always clear whether vessels were handbuilt or wheelthrown, although the complexity of the rim forms certainly suggests the turning of vessels during manufacture.

The most common form in this ware is the cooking pot, which takes the form of a round-shouldered jar with an everted rim. A typical example is illustrated here as Figure FWP65.37, 1 (GF350). A wide range of rim types has been identified. Initially some 60 rim forms were characterised, most of which were found to be single vessels. The individual rim forms have been grouped together into the series illustrated here as Figure FWP65.37, 2–15 (GFs 202, 88, 543/547, 100, 278, 524, 669/664, 168, 213, 8, 208, 573, 543, 305/348/845/459), with further examples shown in FWP65.37, 16–18 (GFs 196, 524, 702/707). They range from simple types (FWP65.37, 2), through thickened forms (eg, Figure FWP65.37, 3–7). More complex rims include Figure FWP65.37, 8–11. Several rims have a slightly hollowed internal profile, as shown in Figure FWP65.37, 7 and 11. This may be evidence for the use of a wheel or turntable during manufacture. Wipe-marks around the rim/neck join may also result from the same method. The range of decorative techniques on cooking pots is limited and is shown in Figure FWP65.37, 12–18. Thumbing occurs on the rim of Figure FWP65.37, 12 and on the shoulder and girth in Figure FWP65.37, 1, 13 and 14. Combed decoration is shown as Figure FWP65.37, 15, while Figure FWP65.37, 16–18 are stabbed in a variety of motifs. Combed and stabbed decoration is very rare on cooking pots, while the use of thumbing is much more common. Out of 933 cooking pot fragments, a total of 216 were decorated. There are 64 thumbed rims, 122 thumbed body sherds, 21 stabbed and 9 combed sherds.

Parallels for the range of rim forms and the thumbed decoration may be found at Newbury and at Faccombe Netherton in Hampshire. Both sites have produced rims with a concave profile (Fairbrother 1990, eg fig 8.49, no 381; Vince *et al* 1994, fig 44). Fairbrother has identified his coarsewares as Newbury types and there are certainly similarities between the Faccombe Netherton pottery and the *Raddun* assemblage. This may confirm the identification of the *Raddun* coarsewares as Newbury Group B wares. However, certain differences may be observed. Neither combed nor stab-decorated cooking pots have been published for Newbury or Faccombe Netherton. Newbury Group B-type cooking pot sherds with combed decoration have been identified among unpublished finds from the 1939 excavations at Avebury (eg south east sector, cutting 12, layer 1; Avebury Archive, Alexander Keiller Museum, Avebury).

The vessels illustrated as Figure FWP65.37, 19 (GF616) and Figure FWP65.38, 20–22 (GFs 657, 657, 616), together with the curfew, Figure FWP65.39, 40 (GF616), were recovered from the pre-oven pit associated with Building 4 (Cutting 6, Pit 6). Two of these (Figure FWP65.37, 19 and Figure FWP65.38, 20) conform with the typical cooking pot types described above. However, Figure FWP65.38, 21 and 22 are quite different. They are likely to be handbuilt and have the appearance of being earlier. Moreover, they do occur with typical examples Figure FWP65.37, 19 and Figure FWP65.38, 20 and the curfew (Figure FWP65.39, 40), for which there is no suggestion of an early date. The fabric is identical to the other Newbury Group B types and it seems unlikely that these two vessels are residual. They may therefore represent the products of a different kiln site to those which usually supplied the settlement at *Raddun*.

Bowls occur mainly as shallow dishes. These have simple or inturned rims and are commonly over 400mm in diameter. Simple rims are illustrated as Figure FWP65.38, 23 and 24 (GFs 293/318/376/512, 639). Inturned rims occur more frequently and in a variety of forms, as shown in Figure FWP65.38, 25–7 (GFs 167/200/156/193, 841, 317). A similar range of shallow dishes is parallels at Newbury (Vince *et al* 1994, fig 29) and Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, fig 8.47). Other rim forms, represented within the assemblage by single sherds, are illustrated here as Figure FWP65.38, 28 and 29 (GFs 856, 614). The latter type is the only thumbed rim among the shallow dishes. There is only one deep bowl (Figure FWP65.38, 30; GF341/504) in the whole

assemblage. This is decorated with combed and stabbed lines and has a thumbed rim. This vessel also has a pouring lip and may be a small pipkin, although not enough of the vessel has survived to confirm the presence of a handle. There is a single sherd from a pan (Figure FWP65.38, 31; GF543). The hammer-head rim profile and the sharp angle at the neck is paralleled at Newbury (Vince *et al* 1994, fig 37) and at Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, no 368). In a total of 182 bowl sherds, 13 are decorated, 7 are combed, 5 thumbed and one stabbed. Decoration is almost always confined to the rim or just below. Comb-decorated bowls occur at Newbury (Vince *et al* 1994, fig 57) and are also paralleled at Avebury (eg, south west sector, cutting 6, layer 1).

Jugs are comparatively rare. They are not glazed but are decorated. The range of rim forms and decorative styles is shown in Figure FWP65.38, 32–9 (GFs 324/322/346/353/726, 100, 158, 548, 696/276/386, 546/544/459, 109/184, 837). Decorative techniques, in common with the cooking pots, include thumbing, stabbing and combing. Out of a total of 45 jug sherds, 31 are decorated, 21 are incised, 4 stabbed, 4 thumbed and 2 (handles) slashed. Incised decoration is mainly around the rim and neck. The style of the incised lines shown on Figure FWP65.38, 32, 36 and 38 is not paralleled at Newbury or Faccombe Netherton and appears to be a local technique. A type of triangular stabbing similar to that shown as Figure FWP65.38, 33 has been observed at Avebury (south east sector, cutting 42, layer 1). Two examples, Figure FWP65.38, 32 and 33, have pulled lips. The remaining vessels do not survive in sufficient amounts to determine whether they also had pouring lips. In all cases handles were joined at the rim by riveting. Two rims (Figure FWP65.38, 37, 38) are more sophisticated types and may be wheelthrown.

Two curfew rims are illustrated here (Figure FWP65.39, 40, 41; GFs 837, 616, 606). Fourteen other curfew sherds were identified. Many had combed or thumbed applied strip decoration and one has part of the ventilation hole. Both the notched decoration at the rim, shown on Figure FWP65.39, 40 and the combed decoration shown on Figure FWP65.39, 41 are paralleled among the Newbury Group B wares at Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, nos 11 and 407) and at Avebury (south east sector, cutting 54, layer 1).

The *Raddun* chalk- and flint-tempered coarseware sits happily within the Newbury Group B tradition. Similarities with material from Newbury and Faccombe Netherton confirm this. However, there are also significant differences of form and decoration that suggest an alternative kiln source. Comparison with the pottery at Avebury, much closer to *Raddun*, suggests that a very local production site may have been supplying both these settlements.

West Wiltshire sandy coarseware: WWSC

Fabrics 25, 41, 71

The second largest group of coarsewares were originally identified as Fabrics 25 and 71. During processing these were grouped together under the general fabric code 41. This ware is finer than the Newbury-type wares, containing sparse inclusions of chalk, flint and quartz in a fine sandy matrix. The surfaces appear smooth in comparison with the Newbury types and are usually free of vesiculations. Colours range from dark grey to buff. Everted-rim cooking pots appear to be the principal vessel type and two examples are shown here (Figure FWP65.39, 42, 43; GFs 204, 551/629/560/641).

Comparison with other fabric type series from Wiltshire has identified this as a type which is widespread in west Wiltshire, occurring, for example, at Knook (Mepham 1993a, fabric Q400) and Trowbridge (Mepham 1993b, 84). One possible source for this ware is the putative kiln-site at Crockerton near Warminster, identified from documentary evidence (Le Patourel 1968; see also Smith 1997). However, no production centre has been identified with any certainty and the term west Wiltshire is used here in recognition of its distribution and likely source area.

Micaceous coarseware

Fabric 65

There are three base sherds of this fabric. The sandy matrix contains abundant quartz inclusions with red and black iron and moderate/sparse medium white mica. The presence of mica suggests a non-local source, probably to the west.

Newbury Group C sandy ware

Fabrics 4, 7, 10, 12, 17, 19, 23, 52, 68, 70, 73

Newbury Group C includes a wide range of fabrics all characterised as having medium or fine-grained sandy clay (Vince *et al* 1994, 55). The sources for Newbury Group C wares are unclear, but the variety of fabrics suggests that a number of different production sites are represented. Enough perhaps to suggest that the classification of these products as a single group is misleading. They are distributed over a similar area to the Newbury Group B wares, around the Kennet valley and comfortably encompassing Fyfield Down and Wroughton Copse. One source possibly represented among these fabrics is the kiln site at Ashampstead. The breadth of this group is reflected in the *Raddun* assemblage by the number of sandy fabrics that have been identified here. The range of vessel types represented here includes bowls, cooking pots, jugs and tripod pitchers. Jugs are the most common form, some of which are highly decorated. The degree of fragmentation is high and no vessel profiles can be reconstructed. Only one example is illustrated here, a bowl in fabric 7 (Figure FWP65.39, 44; GF154), which is paralleled at Newbury (Vince *et al* 1994, fig 73).

The Newbury fabric types series has not been examined for parallels and the fabric numbers given here are specific to the *Raddun* assemblage so they do not correspond to those published for Newbury (*ibid*)

Fabric 4 is the most common type an has abundant medium-sized quartz in a red-firing clay matrix. It occurs mainly as unglazed cooking pots and glazed jugs.

Fabrics 23 and 52 are coarse, unglazed variants of Fabric 4.

Fabrics 7 and 70 have coarse-medium quartz with occasional fragments of flint and chalk.

Fabric 70 also contains organic inclusions. These fabrics occur as bowls and cooking pots.

Fabrics 10, 17, 19 and 68 are fine sandy with quartz inclusions. Diagnostic sherds are rare but the common vessel type appears to be glazed jugs.

Fabric 12 contains fine quartz and has an overall white slip and green lead glaze. There are no diagnostic sherds. It is possible that all the body sherds recovered represent a single vessel, probably a jug.

Fabric 73 is a sandy ware with occasional chalk fragments.

Laverstock-type sandy wares

Fabrics 20, 27, 34

Three fabrics have been identified as belonging within the Laverstock tradition.

Fabric 34 is a Laverstock-type coarseware. This has a red-firing, smooth clay matrix containing abundant coarse-medium subangular quartz. There are two everted cooking pot rims in a group that consists mainly of plain body sherds.

Fabric 20 has abundant well-sorted medium–fine quartz in a similar matrix. This fabric occurs in the form of tripod pitchers. One applied tubular spout (Figure FWP65.39, 45; GF736) is present and has combed decoration. There is also a single foot from a tripod pitcher.

Fabric 27 is the typical glazed Laverstock-type sandy ware. It is a white ware, occasionally off-white in reduced examples. The smooth matrix contains abundant fine quartz. Diagnostic sherds are rare, but there are a number of jug rims. Several sherds came from a single jug decorated with applied triangular-shaped pellets. The example shown here (Figure FWP65.39, 46; GF713) has a collared spout and an applied stamped roundel. A similar technique may be seen among the Laverstock kiln material (Musty *et al* 1969, no 68).

Minety-type glazed ware

Fabric 53

There are twelve sherds of a fabric that has abundant chalk inclusions. The chalk has leached out leaving vesiculations. This is a common occurrence in the pottery recovered from Minety, north Wiltshire (Musty 1973, 82). Illustrated here is a jug handle with slashed decoration (Figure FWP65.39, 47; GF285).

Other medieval sandy wares

Fabrics 21, 24, 26, 66

A number of fabrics have not been related to any known production centres or ceramic traditions.

Fabric 21 is a hard, fine, white ware that contains sparse inclusions of clear quartz. Sherds have a pale green lead glaze.

Fabric 24 is buff-coloured with a fine sandy matrix with no larger inclusions. All the sherds represent a single vessel, a jug decorated with horizontal incised lines and with a bright copper-green lead glaze (Figure FWP65.39, 48; GF314; X-fit 5). The square impressions at the base, probably made with a stick rather than by thumbing, are very distinctive.

Fabric 26 fires pink or grey. It has a moderate/fine quartz sandy matrix with sparse coarse inclusions of red iron. The lead glaze is thin and usually pale green over grey surfaces. The sherds present here probably came from tripod pitchers and this may represent an early glazed product.

Fabric 66 is a glazed pink ware with abundant well-sorted, white and clear quartz and red iron in a fine clay matrix.

Late medieval wares

Late medieval here signifies the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, some way later than the high medieval types described above. Five fabrics have been identified as late medieval, three of which are Continental imports.

Fabric 64 is a sandy ware, hard-fired, grey and with splashes of a dark green glaze. The sandy matrix has sparse/moderate inclusions of ill-sorted quartz. A local source is suggested.

Tudor Green ware Fabric 58 (Pearce 1992) is represented by a single sherd (GF285).

Martincamp-type stoneware, in the common form of a bottle or flask, is present as several sherds. These comprise the typical form of a bottle or flask, identified as Hurst's Type 2 (Hurst 1986, 102). This is a surprising find in a rural location.

Fabric 54 has also been identified as a late medieval North French ware (GF239) and is more unusual still. It is a sandy ware, brown in colour, represented by a single base sherd. The fabric is common on the Channel Island of Guernsey and is considered to be an earthenware relative of Normandy stoneware (R Burns *pers comm*; Barton 1984, 514). The same fabric has also been

observed at Poole (Barton *et al* 1992, nos 882 and 883) from which this vessel and the Martincamp flask came to *Raddun*.

Raeren-type stoneware (Fabric 57; GF309) from the Rhineland is represented by a few sherds in the typical beer mug form, including a frilled base (Hurst 1986, 194). Raeren stoneware is a common find in the south of England and its presence at *Raddun* is not unexpected.

Post-medieval wares

Pottery of the seventeenth–twentieth centuries has been classified as one group that is represented by 106 sherds. This is evidence that debris continued to accumulate in the area of *Raddun* accidentally rather than as the result of intensive adjacent occupation. The post-medieval fabrics are therefore not considered to be of great significance by the author of this report and none of the fabrics that comprise this group is described in detail.

Fabrics 9, 30, 35, 42, 46, 47, 48, 55, 59 are all red-firing earthenwares in the typical southern English post-medieval tradition that extends from the seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries. Vessel forms include jugs, bowls and platters. Fabric 46 is probably a fragment of a terracotta flower pot. Fabric 42 has an overall white slip and is probably eighteenth-century in date.

There are two vessels of Frechen stoneware (Fabric 61). These are the typical *Bartmann*-style bottles of the seventeenth century. One example bears a heraldic medallion. Frechen stoneware is widely distributed at this period and is often found in rural locations.

Fabrics 44, 45, 56 and 60 are mass-produced wares. Fabric 44 is Staffordshire refined earthenware; Fabric 45 is Bristol stoneware; Fabric 56 is English white salt-glazed stoneware; Fabric 60 is English brown salt-glazed stoneware.

Quantification

The quantities of pottery for each period are shown in Table FWP65.3. Medieval wares account for over 90% of the total assemblage by weight and sherd count. Late and post-medieval pottery is, comparatively, a negligible presence. The assemblage must therefore be regarded as essentially representative of a single period of activity, associated with the medieval wares. These are all considered to be thirteenth century in date and subsequent discussion centres on this material.

The quantities of the medieval wares is shown in Table FWP65.4. Newbury Group B wares dominate the assemblage. West Wiltshire type coarsewares are the second most common type. Sandy wares are a far less significant presence and, of these, Newbury Group C wares occur most frequently. These figures demonstrate the homogeneous nature of the pottery. The overwhelming quantities of Newbury group B wares make it difficult to establish any pattern of ceramic consumption or chronology. There is an obvious dependence on coarsewares which is not surprising in the context of a rural medieval farmstead.

The range of vessel types is shown in Table FWP65.5. Cooking pots are the most common vessel, followed by bowls, jugs, tripod pitchers and curfews. It was not possible to classify plain body sherds and undiagnostic rims and bases. This accounts for the high number of unidentified sherds.

Table FWP65.6 quantifies the vessel types identified within each ware. This clearly demonstrates that coarsewares principally took the form of cooking pots and bowls, while the sandy wares are represented mainly by jugs.

Site distribution

The pottery was received and recorded by GF (bag) number so in some instances several bags, each with a different number, came from a single deposit. Further work on the stratigraphic identity of the pottery assemblage is required. Given the homogeneous nature of the assemblage, attempts at building a sequence for the consumption and deposition of pottery over the site as a whole, or within particular cuttings, have proved to be inconclusive. The character of this assemblage is essentially single-period and relates to a single site.

Table FWP65.7 gives the overall quantities of pottery for each cutting, while Table FWP65.8 shows how pottery of each period is distributed among them. Several cuttings (1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12) produced very small amounts of pottery and therefore have little significance here. The remaining, more productive cuttings (2, 4, 6 and 10), are the most interesting. Cuttings 2, 4 and 6 are the most significant in terms of quantity, probably because they covered much larger areas than the other cuttings. Cutting 10 produced just 100 sherds, but 65 of these are post-medieval, a higher proportion than is observed for any other cutting.

These figures do little to aid the interpretation of any individual cutting, nor the site as a whole. However, the identification of a set of vessels which cross-fit within and between cuttings helps to elucidate the process of deposition. Table FWP65.9 lists these vessels and shows how they are distributed within and between cuttings. A number of other cross-fitting vessels were identified on the basis of occurring in different bags, but these bags were related to the same stratigraphic unit. These vessels are not listed in Table FWP65.9. Eight vessels (X-fit nos 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 16, 28 and 31) all occur in more than one cutting. They are also all medieval wares, probably deposited at the same period as the main component of the assemblage. There are links between the three major cuttings 2, 4 and 6, but sherds of three vessels link these with Cutting 10.

The other cross-fit vessels are confined to the same individual cutting and link different stratigraphic units. It is likely that deposits both within and outside the structures revealed by these cross-fits are linked. However, if this assemblage represents refuse created during the occupancy of these buildings, one would expect to find most of it accumulated outside them rather than inside. All this information leads to the conclusion that much of this material may have been deposited after the buildings went out of use. It is therefore possible that each building succeeded the other. Table FWP65.9 shows that there are cross-fits between Cuttings 2 and 4, and 4 and 6, but none between 2 and 6. On this very tenuous evidence it may be postulated that the buildings in Cuttings 2 and 6 were not contemporary. A suggested sequence might be the building in Cutting 2, followed by the building in Cutting 4, followed by the building in Cutting 6. Alternatively, the reverse might be true. The relationship of these structures with the deposits in Cutting 10, as expressed by cross-fitting sherds, remains unexplained. The homogeneity of this assemblage suggests that this sequence of events must have taken place within a short period.

Discussion

Chronology

The frequent absence of clear stratigraphy on this site has made it difficult to establish much ceramic chronology. It has already been stated that this assemblage is largely contemporaneous and must represent a single, possibly short, period of activity. The earliest vessel types represented here are the tripod pitchers. These are conventionally dated between the late twelfth and mid-thirteenth centuries (Brown 1992, 102–6). Newbury group B wares also appear to have originated in the late twelfth or early thirteenth centuries (Vince *et al* 1994, 55). Newbury group C is a wide-ranging class of pottery and has been given a date range of the twelfth–fourteenth centuries (*ibid*, 59–60). The wheelthrown glazed sandy wares of Newbury type that occur at *Raddun* must be thirteenth century, as are the later Laverstock products, Fabrics 27 and 34. The combination of these known products suggests a thirteenth-century date for the medieval assemblage and it is probably later than the first quarter of the century. This is not contradicted by any of the minor fabrics that are present.

Sources

The bulk of this assemblage is drawn from a very local source Some of the Newbury Group B types are different from other published examples. This may indicate that they were produced at centres operating within the area of the Newbury tradition, but sited further from Newbury and closer to Fyfield Down. This is a large assemblage and the fact that such a large proportion of it is represented by Newbury B coarsewares also suggests a nearby source.

A variety of fabrics have been classified as Newbury group C. It is likely that these were produced at some distance from *Raddun* and this is emphasised by the low quantities present. Laverstock and Minety are both located further from *Raddun* than the likely source of the Newbury Group B type coarsewares. All the glazed finer wares may therefore be considered non-local. However, they are all drawn from within a relatively small area, demonstrating the limited economic significance of the settlement at *Raddun*.

Among the late medieval wares are three types of Continental imports. Two are from northern France and it is most unexpected to find these so far inland as they are considered usually to be related to maritime trade and have coastal distribution. Martincamp flasks are relatively common in England, albeit not on rural sites. However, late medieval Normandy sandy wares are exceedingly rare throughout the country. Unfortunately, the absence of any meaningful quantity of late medieval pottery means that the significance of these finds cannot be fully assessed. Raeren stoneware is less unexpected find as beermugs of this type were widely distributed inland. The means of their arrival at this site is unknown. Indeed, they may not even be associated with any settlement activity.

Ceramic use

It is the thirteenth-century pottery only that can be associated with settlement activity and discussion of ceramic use therefore applies solely to that material. The relative proportions of vessels shown in Table FWP65.5 indicates that cooking pots were the most commonly used type. These are essentially high-shouldered jars and may have been used for a variety of purposes other than heating food, for example storage or mixing. Vessels range considerably in size, which may also suggest that they were used in a variety of ways. It has not been possible adequately to assess actual vessel numbers. The rim percentage figure gives an estimated vessel equivalent of 38, but this is unrealistic given that many sherds represent a single vessel. The total number of cooking pots must be in the hundreds. It has been stated that its assemblage may result from a fairly short period of activity. The quantity of material therefore suggests a high degree of pottery consumption. This is more in keeping with the use of pottery for cooking rather than storage. However, few cooking pot sherds exhibit evidence of sooting, although this may result from the conditions of deposition or even archaeological processing.

Bowls were used in food preparation. The wide, shallow types are often associated with the making of dairy products (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 109). The type with incurved profile is often referred to as a 'West Country' dish and these often had a hole at the base to drain liquid (*ibid*, 110). No sherds from *Raddun* have this feature. Some of the dishes are sooted on the inside and these may have been used as lanterns or in cooking.

Jugs, including tripod pitchers, were also used for a variety of purposes, including the storage and carrying of liquids. However, these vessels are not well represented and they were clearly not widely used. The few highly decorated examples at *Raddun* may have been regarded as fine table ware.

It is unusual to find curfews in a rural context. The custom of covering the embers at night to contain them and prevent sparks from causing a conflagration was adopted mainly in medieval towns. The parallels from Faccombe Netherton are associated with a manorial site of somewhat

different status. There is no sooting inside the *Raddun* examples, but it is difficult to see these vessels being used in any other way.

The narrow range of vessel types is perhaps typical of a rural assemblage and it is likely that the variety of functions was similarly limited. The consumption of pottery must be considered in relation to vessels of other materials, such as basketry, wood and perhaps metal, that have not survived. Pottery would have played a fairly well-defined role within the household. It was cheap, however, and would not have been regarded as anything other than utilitarian.

Conclusion

The medieval assemblage is surprisingly large and probably has a narrow date-range. Unfortunately the stratigraphical information has not allowed a more detailed examination of the sequence of consumption or disposal. This remains an important site, however, in providing a significant quantity of material from a location rarely studied heretofore. The establishment of a type series, albeit in rudimentary form, should benefit future students of the ceramics of north Wiltshire. The recorded data remains as a useful comparative resource.

List of illustrated vessels

(Figure FWP65.37)

1. Cooking pot, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF350, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over B4.
2. Cooking pot, simple rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF202, Cutting 2, Building 1 South, Pit 2, fill under East wall (?phase 1 occ.).
3. Cooking pot, thickened and everted rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF88, Cutting 2, Building 1 South, construction phase/ walls.
4. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF543/547, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
5. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF100, Cutting 2, Building 1 North and South, humus over stones.
6. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF278, Cutting 6, Building 4, topsoil.
7. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF524, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
8. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF669/664, Cutting 6, oven construction.
9. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF168, Cutting 2, Building 1 North, outside wall.
10. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); GF213, Building 1 North, under tumble outside wall face.
11. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, convex neck profile, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF8, Cutting 2, Building 1, phase 2 occupation.
12. Cooking pot, clubbed rim, thumbed, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF208, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.
13. Cooking pot, triangular rim, grooved on top, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder and on girth. GF573, Cutting 6, oven construction/ midden over Pit 6.

14. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF543, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.

15. Cooking pot, hooked rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); combing on shoulder. GF305/348/845/459, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over B4/Cutting 4P (iii), flinty soil/Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.

16. Cooking pot, simple rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on rim and shoulder. GF 196, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.

17. Cooking pot, thickened rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on neck. GF524, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.

18. Cooking pot, thickened rim, convex neck profile, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on rim, neck and shoulder. GF702/707, ?Cutting 4, Building 2, under wall (pre-stone phase)/Cutting 6Y, Enclosure B, brown soil and flints.

19. Cooking pot, internally thickened rim, thumbed, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6/ midden.

(Figure FWP65.38)

20. Cooking pot, internally and externally thickened, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF657, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.

21. Cooking pot, everted rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF657, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.

22. Cooking pot, thickened, everted rim and sharply defined shoulder, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6/ midden.

23. Shallow dish, externally thickened rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF293/318/376/512, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus in B2/humus outside wall/B2 phase 1 trench fill/ Cutting 10, O5, top of ditch.

24. Shallow dish, externally thickened rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF639, Cutting 6L, across Pit 6.

25. Shallow dish, thickened and inturned rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF167/200/156/193, Cutting 2, topsoil/?occ. layer (phase 1).

26. Shallow dish, slightly convex profile and inturned rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF841, Cutting 2, Building 1, phase 2 occupation.

27. Shallow dish, simple inturned rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC); rim diameter 290mm. GF317, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus outside B2.

28. Shallow dish, hammer-headed rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF856, Cutting 4P(iii), flinty soil.

29. Dish, carinated profile, externally thickened, slightly inturned rim, thumbed; fabric 39 (CFTC). GF614, Cutting 6, Building 4, black soil on oven foundation stones.

30. Deep bowl, possibly a pipkin; rounded profile, simple everted rim, stabbed and combed decoration on body and on top of rim, lightly pulled lip; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF341/504, Cutting 6, humus outside Building 4/Cutting 4, Building 3, clay/flints.

31. Deep bowl or pan, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF543, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.

32. Jug, externally thickened rim, impressed decoration on rim, vertical combing on neck; simple pulled lip, stump of strap handle; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF 324/322/346/353/726, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus in B4/humus over B4/?occupation layer.

33. Jug, thickened rim, simple pinched lip, stabbed decoration on neck, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF100, Cutting 2, Building 1 North and South, humus over stones.

34. Jug, externally thickened rim, impressed ring motifs under rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF158, Cutting 2, Building 1, between stones in Recess 1.

35. Jug, externally thickened and flattened rim, applied strap handle, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF548, Cutting 4, Building 2, trench of timber phase.

36. Neck of jug, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF696/276/386, Cutting 6, Building 4, enclosure bank B/humus over B4/under B4 walls.

37. Jug, externally thickened and collared rim, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC); ?wheelthrown. GF546/544/459, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus/topsoil.

38. Jug, thickened and flattened rim, collared below, fabric 38 (CFTC); ?wheelthrown. GF 109/184, Cutting 2, Building 1, ?occupation layer (phase 2)/?occupation layer (phase 1).

39. Strap handle, slashed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF837, Cutting 4P(i), flinty soil.

(Figure FWP65.39)

40. Curfew, hammer-headed rim, notched decoration at rim; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.

41. Curfew, externally thickened and flattened rim, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF606, Cutting 4, Building 2, Pit 7.

42. Cooking pot, thickened rim, fabric 41 (West Wiltshire Sandy Coarseware: WWSC). GF204, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.

43. Cooking pot, internally thickened rim, convex neck profile, fabric 41 (WWSC). GF551/629/560/641, Cutting 4, Building 2, Pit 7/ clay over chalk (pre-stone phase).

44. Shallow bowl, hammer-headed rim, fabric 7 (Newbury C sandy ware). GF 154, Cutting 2, Building 1, topsoil to flint/chalk layer.

45. Spouted pitcher, applied tubular spout, combed decoration, fabric 20 (Laverstock-type coarseware). GF736, Cutting 4SE, Building 2, under wall.

46. Jug, collared rim, applied stamped roundel on rim, glazed; fabric 27 (Laverstock-type fine sandy ware). GF713, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus outside B2, occ/post-occupation.

47. Strap handle from jug, slashed decoration, glazed, fabric 53 (Minety-type ware). GF285, Cutting 10 M/N3, topsoil/flint terrace.

48. Lower part of jug, horizontal incised decoration, squared impressions at base, glazed; fabric 24 (Medieval Sandy Ware). GF314, Cutting 10, wall foundation of M/N3.

Environmental evidence

Edited by Michael J Allen

Animal bones

by the late Barbara Noddle

Introductory note

by Michael J. Allen

The following report is extracted from an archive report prepared by Barbara Noddle in the early 1970s (FWP 29). This was only a summary of the faunal remains from the Overton Down sites and *Raddun*. The information for *Raddun* has been extracted largely from this report which unfortunately does not record the fragment numbers of all species. Some further bone that may not have been reported upon was found and assessed (FWP 29) but does not significantly add to the overall interpretation provided by Noddle except for three fish bones which are included here. The aim of her reports was to assess agricultural practices and dietary habits over time, rather than provide detailed information about the disposal patterns and spatial variation on each site. The detailed information of material by context does not survive in the current archive.

Introduction

A total of 2536 animal bones were identified from the various periods (mainly medieval) represented at *Raddun* of which the main domestic animals comprise 2297 (Table FWP65.10).

After the initial identification analysis included the calculation of the proportion of fragments per species, the minimum number of individuals (MNI) and percentage of species and the age of those individuals in which it could be determined. The bones were also measured where appropriate, to determine both the size and weight of the animals and to compare populations at different periods. Because of the multiplicity of different layers and periods represented at *Raddun*, some of the material was analysed in different ways. To enable comparison between phases, the discussion below relies upon the proportions as assessed by numbers of individuals rather than bone fragments.

The animal bone assemblage has been separated into broad phases from prehistoric to seventeenth century. This report will however, concentrate upon the medieval (twelfth–thirteenth-century) material and only comment on the prehistoric and later material.

Results

Proportions of species (common domestic animals)

The sheep is the most frequently occurring animal at all periods, whether it is assessed from fragment numbers or as individuals. However, in the twelfth–thirteenth century assemblage over 65% are sheep when assessed as MNI and goat also seems common even though it is probably underestimated (note that goat bones were not quantified by fragment). A skull from the prehistoric layers is typical of the scurred type of Soay ewe. Cattle represent only 15% in the twelfth–thirteenth-century assemblage and both pig and horse seem to be unimportant. The sheep seem slightly larger than those in the Iron Age (ODXI; FWP 64) and Romano-British (ODXII; FWP 65) contexts on Overton Down and there is a suggestion of change of type of sheep in the medieval period.

At *Raddun* pig is constantly 8–10% throughout the medieval and post-medieval period. In the prehistoric contexts it is considerably higher (19%), but there are few bones from this phase so this cannot be treated with any great significance.

Horse is present in most periods and represents 6% of the animals in the twelfth–thirteenth century. Dog is most frequent in the twelfth–thirteenth century assemblage (MNI = 14), the only three other individuals represented being from post-medieval contexts; it seems likely that these animals were sheep dogs. Deer are present in very low numbers in the twelfth–thirteenth-century assemblage where one individual each of fallow, red and roe deer were identified. Red (MNI = 2) and roe (MNI = 1) deer also occur in post-thirteenth century contexts.

Only 21 individuals are represented from the prehistoric contexts and the proportions of the species recovered are similar to that from the Iron Age (ODXI; FWP 63) site at Overton Down.

The presence of hare was noted in both the twelfth–thirteenth-century and post-thirteenth-century contexts (MNI = 2 in each case). Twenty-five individuals are represented by rabbit bones of which 22 are from twelfth–thirteenth-century contexts.

Birds

A few bird bones were identified by Mr D Bramwell: The domestic and game birds included domestic fowl including a very small cock, duck, a young goose and a partridge. The other birds included crow or rook, starling and skylark. It appears from the above that either few birds were kept and eaten, or that the majority of these small bones were not recovered.

Fish

Three fish vertebrae were found all from seventeenth-century contexts, which have been identified by A Wheeler as probably gadoid (Gadidae)

Age of animals at death

Ageing of animals by dental and epiphysial closure followed the methods given by Silver (1953). Mature cattle remain at about 25% throughout medieval period and thus herds were predominantly kept for meat rather than kept for traction or dairy products. For sheep the percentage of mature animals fluctuates, being *c* 30–55% in the twelfth–thirteenth century assemblage but drops to 44% and then 33% in the post-thirteenth and seventeenth centuries respectively. Because of the fluctuation in age groups during the medieval period, no clear impression can be gained, but it seems that wool production was important in the thirteenth century, with meat production perhaps rising in importance later, but the numbers in the medieval period are not very large and the date thus might not be very reliable. For goats, the trend is similar to sheep though with a larger proportion (50–70%) mature animals in twelfth–thirteenth-century contexts. The proportion of mature pigs remains fairly constant at around 20%. Horse is also fairly constant, except for the twelfth century where there were more young animals which may indicate horse breeding as opposed to horse keeping, but the area remains very suitable for the rearing of horses to this day and it might be expected that horses were bred throughout.

Anatomical distribution

There were very few large groups of bone at *Raddun*, unlike the Overton Down sites (ODXI and ODXII; FWP 63, FWP 64) where large groups of bones were recovered from pits. Instead the remains were widely distributed throughout the site. The material was separated into First class bones or trunk and upper limb and Second class bones of head and feet and loose teeth. In the medieval period it is noticeable that nearly 70% of the cattle and 60% of the sheep bones can be classified as First class joints, whereas the pig is represented by almost equal proportions of both. This supports the idea that cattle were kept for meat and indicates that although the sheep may have been primarily for wool, some may have been consumed locally.

Conclusions

Sheep farming predominates in the medieval period and are largely kept for their wool. A hint of the change in sheep type might be related to this (*cf* Ryder 1964). Cattle were kept for beef and a

wider range of animals are represented including chickens and duck which were presumably consumed or kept for eggs.

Charcoal

by Rowena Gale

The identification of charcoal fragments was undertaken on 17 samples from *Raddun*, all deriving from feature fills. The charcoal was prepared and identified using standard techniques. Where possible the presence of stem, sapwood or heartwood was noted. Results are summarised in Table FWP65.11. Sample 1045 included insufficient material to identify. Sample 1032, from the fill of Pit 8, included a quantity of sooty-looking aggregate ?mixed with soil, in addition to charcoal.

The following taxa were identified:

Corylus sp, hazel; *Fraxinus* sp, ash; Pomoideae, subfamily of the Rosaceae which includes *Crataegus* sp, hawthorn, *Malus* sp, apples, *Pyrus* sp, pear and *Sorbus* sp, rowan, whitebeam and wild service (these genera are anatomically similar); *Prunus* sp, which includes *P avium*, wild cherry, *P padus*, bird cherry, *P spinosa*, blackthorn (it is not usually possible to separate the members of this genus using anatomical methods); *Quercus* sp, oak; Rosaceae, which includes the Pomoideae and *Prunus* (samples in poor condition (as in this instance) may not be identifiable beyond family level); *Sambucus* sp, elder; *Ulmus* sp, elm

Charred hazelnuts

by Michael J Allen

During the excavation a number of hand picked charcoal fragments were retrieved, among which was a number of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana)* fragments and one complete nut. The fragments were not quantified as no context contained enough remains to consider the presence of more than one nut. These all came from medieval contexts, with the exception of one fragment from a pre-medieval and possibly prehistoric context. Hazel is likely to have been a local shrub growing on the open downland and the presence of hazelnuts either for human or animal consumption is not surprising. Although there is no reason for the single nut fragment from GF299 (possibly prehistoric) to indicate the use of this in prehistory, it is more likely here that it is either a contaminant, or that this layer too, belongs to the medieval occupation.