Trial excavations on the site of a seventeenth-century clay tobacco pipe kiln near Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, 2001

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Summary *In about 1948 a patch of dark soil containing a dense scatter of clay pipes was noted during the levelling and ploughing of a field on Barnslands Farm, about 1.5km to the south-west of Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, at SO 663 744. A preliminary site visit on 27 September 2001 identified a clearly defined building platform and three trial trenches were excavated to examine the associated deposits. These showed that stone wall footings survive beneath the earthworks and that clay tobacco pipe kiln waste is present in large quantities. The finds all date from between 1640 and 1720 with the pipe kiln waste dating from around 1680-1710. This suggests a site with limited occupation, and one that has survived in a relatively undisturbed condition. Some of the pipes are stamped IN and it seems almost certain that this site can be identified as the house and workshop of John Newall, a documented pipemaker who died in 1719. It is hoped that a more detailed programme of documentary research, fieldwork and excavation can be carried out to investigate this important and well preserved site.*

Introduction Shropshire has long been famous for its clay tobacco pipes, particularly those produced in the area around Broseley, which lies about 27km (16 miles) to the north of Cleobury Mortimer. During the 1980s Cleobury Mortimer was identified as a potentially important pipe making centre, with five or six manufacturers being documented between 1655 and 1718 (Higgins 1987, 353 & 503). Despite this, virtually no pipes had been recovered from the area and only one mark could tentatively be attributed to a Cleobury maker (*ibid*, 354). Since then a few more pipes have come to light, including one or two possible wasters (Higgins 1997 and 1999), but no more local marks have been identified and no kiln sites located.

During the course of 2001 a possible kiln site was brought to the author's attention. This had been noted in a field at Barnslands Farm, about 1.5km to the south-west of Cleobury. The field was last ploughed in about 1948 as part of a post-war land improvement scheme when the farmer, Mr Williams, was trying to level an area of uneven ground. It was his son John, born in 1927, who actually horse ploughed the field. During the ploughing he exposed a dense concentration of pipes, lying in a patch of dark soil. Some stones were also turned up at this time, perhaps suggesting that there had been a building on this site. John Williams collected a few of the pipes, which he still retains. These are of a local form with a round heel and date from c1680-1710. Given the evidence for some sort of structure associated with a mass of pipes, permission to obtained from the present farmer, Mr A. Swancott, to excavate some trial trenches on the site. The three principal aims of this work were to try and relocate the site of the 1948 finds; to assess the nature, date and extent of the deposits from which they derived and to assess the potential of the site for further work. John Williams kindly identified the general area from which the pipes were collected and three trial trenches were excavated on 27 September 2001.

The Site The site itself lies at approximately 150m above O.D. on a steep, south facing slope overlooking a small tributary of the River Rea at SO 663 744. The soil is a fine-grained red earth, of a clayey nature. The 1846 Cleobury Mortimer Tithe Map names the field as Rowhills Meadow (Plot 531), an arable field owned by Charles Wicksted and rented out to Joseph Wainwright. Mr Williams became the tenant farmer at Barnslands in about March 1927 and continued to rent the farm, including this field, until about March 1948 when he was able to purchase the farm from the Shakenhurst Estate. Apart from the single ploughing episode in about 1948 the field has always been pasture within living memory. John Williams noted that there had been old stone quarries in the field to the east of the site, which had been filled in during the twentieth century. The 1903 25" O.S. map shows a lime kiln about 80m to the south-east of the site.

When the site was examined, it immediately became apparent that good earthworks survive in the field (Figure 1). The pipes themselves had been found in the vicinity of a clearly defined building platform, which runs east / west along contours of the hillside. The main platform is about 15m long and 7m wide (Figure 2). At its western end, and set at a slightly higher level, is a smaller platform, about 5-6m square. The main platform is slightly domed in the centre but drops at the eastern end, where a slightly lower strip runs back into the hillside. This lower area is, however, still contained within the main cut running back into the hillside. To the north east

Figure 1: Plan showing the location of the earthworks within the modern field boundaries. The dotted lines show field boundaries that were extant in 1846 but which had been realigned or removed by 1903.

of the main platform are some less well defined earthworks, while to the north west is a large hollow area, which runs under the present field boundary. To the south of the site is a clearly defined former field boundary, following a break in the slope.

Comparison of the 1846 Tithe Map and the 1903 25" map make it clear that the field boundaries were significantly modified during this period. In 1846 the boundary to the north of the site was made up of a series of curved sections, the westernmost of which appears to respect the hollow observed in the field (Figure 1). The second curve comes in close to the surviving building platforms, perhaps marking the boundary of the land formerly associated with them. This unusually curved section of field boundary had been straightened by 1903 to give the straight hedge line to the north of the site, that survives today. To the south of the site, the 1846 map clearly shows a boundary on the break of slope but this had been removed by 1903.

In order to examine the building platforms, and to search for the source of the pipes noted in *c*1948, three trial trenches were excavated (A-C). These three trenches are described below. Trenches A and C were located at either end of the main platform, since Mr Williams could not remember at which end the pipes had been exposed during ploughing. Trench B was located to examine the main platform and to look for any evidence of surviving walls. The site code used for this work was CM 01.

Trench A Trench A was located on the small platform at the western end of the site and measured 2m by 1m (Figure 2). Although this area is known to have been pasture for the last 50 years, there was very little sign of humic topsoil formation. Beneath the turf was a fine, very hard reddish brown soil with very few inclusions in it. This was excavated to a depth of 30cm from the surface without any significant change in colour or texture (Context 1). The soil in this layer looked very 'clean' and produced very few finds, just 8 fragments of pipe, 1 fragment of muffle and 1 small piece of burnt bone. The pipes are all of seventeenth century type and comprise 3 very small bowl fragments and 5 pieces of stem.

At a depth of 30cm the soil in the eastern half of the trench seemed a slightly yellower brown and was very hard and clean. It was not clear if this was as a result of trampling in the past or no more than a natural gradation into the undisturbed subsoil. Across the centre of the trench, however, was a line of stone slabs (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Plan and section showing the stone wall footing and stake hole in Trench A.

These measured up to 50cm in length and 30cm in width and formed a band about 50cm wide overall. The slabs were only a few centimetres deep and several had fractured where they lay. They had uneven surfaces and appeared to be made of quite a soft grey or yellowish coloured sandstone. The stones were left in situ, but probing beneath them suggested that they generally only survived one layer deep. To the west of the stone line the soil surface at 30cm seemed very slightly softer and more mottled than that to the east. There were also a few stones in this half of the trench, including one quite large chunk, which sat at an odd angle in the ground. The only fragment of kiln muffle from this trench was found at about 30cm deep, amongst these stones. Also in this area was a soft area of slightly darker soil which filled a hole of *c.*6cm in diameter. This extended about 8cm into the underlying deposits where it appeared to taper towards a point. This feature is interpreted as a stake hole, preserving the form of a wooden post, which had been driven into the ground (Figure 3).

The line of stones running north / south across this trench clearly marks the foundation of a wall. The stones appear to represent the very lowest course and were not mortared. The lack of mortar and the thin nature of the slabs make it likely that they were intended as a 'damp proof' foundation for a timber wall with wattle panels rather than for a solid a masonry construction. If this was the case, the hard packed clay to the east of the wall may have been a floor surface, although it was not possible to be certain given the generally hard and clayey nature of the soil at this site anyway. The tumbled stones to the west of the wall line were probably displaced by ploughing and are not considered to be significant. The level at which the stake hole was identified confirms that undisturbed deposits survive below c30cm of the present surface. The stake hole, together with the muffle fragment, also suggest that this level was contemporary with the late seventeenth century use of the building. The very low level of finds in this area make any interpretation of function difficult although the central position of this wall across this small western platform might suggest that it is an internal partition rather than an external wall. The small size of this platform suggests an ancillary building, such as a store or animal house, rather than a domestic one. Although the trench was not excavated to natural, the sparsity of finds and

homogeneous nature of the deposits did not suggest that significant additional information would be gleaned. The stone wall footing was left in place so as to enable complete recovery of the building plan at a future date.

Trench B Trench B was positioned across the southern side of the main platform to search for the wall line (Figure 2). This side was chosen so as to avoid any deep hillwash deposits that might have accumulated on the northern side of the platform. This trench was 1m wide (east/west) and 2.5m in length (north/south). After removal of the turf a very hard packed, fine-grained reddish soil was revealed, which appeared to be slightly lighter in colour to that in Trench A. A spit (B1) was taken off the whole trench to a depth of about 15-20cm at the northern side and 10cm in the south. This was very clean, containing just a few pieces of reddish sandstone and very few finds. The only larger pieces of stone, three or four pieces, were found at the southern end of the trench. Although no difference in the soil could be discerned a second spit (B2) was kept separate to see if any stratigraphy was evident from the finds. This was excavated to a total of some 20-25cm from the surface in the north and 15cm in the south. Once again there were few finds but rather more pieces of stone, all of which were once again concentrated in the southern meter of the trench. These appeared to be randomly orientated in the ground. Probing with a fork along the full centreline of the trench failed to reveal any further stones below this level. Although not fully natural, the base of the trench was looking much cleaner than the layers above with flecks of natural iron or manganese rather than coal in the exposed surface. This trench had the appearance of coming down onto natural. It was extremely hard to dig and, given the poor prospect and limited time available, the trench was finished at this depth.

Despite the clearly defined platform, no features or stratigraphy were evident within the excavated section. Context 1 produced about a dozen small fragments of seventeenth century style pipe, a tiny sherd of fine red earthenware with a good, glossy and slightly streaky black glaze, four small sherds of thin pale green window glass (1mm thick) and 11 pieces of coal. The black glazed sherd is probably from a Staffordshire type tankard of seventeenth or eighteenth century date. The window glass is of a mid-seventeenth century type. The finds from this context are very similar to those from Context 2, which produced 12 pieces of pipe (up to 5.3cm long), an iron link from a chain, 7 pieces of thin pale green window glass and 25-30 pieces of coal. The window glass from both contexts is identical in form and must have come from a common source. Likewise, the range and quantities of the other finds are almost identical. The only real difference is that the finds from B2 tend to be slightly larger, suggesting that they have been less disturbed since original deposition.

The deposits in the excavated platform section were much more uniform and earthy than expected. If they are typical of the platform as a whole, then it is primarily formed of earth with no apparent stratigraphy surviving within it. The northern side, which is more likely to have been covered by hill wash may contain better preserved evidence for any walls or floor levels. The stone scatter at the southern end of the trench is interpreted as the ploughed out remains of a wall footing. No kiln debris was found in this trench but the sherd of fine tableware and the fragments of window glass both suggest domestic occupation. The large platform is therefore interpreted as the remains of a domestic house, probably of timber framed construction on stone foundations and with glazed windows.

Trench C Trench C was a 1m square test pit, positioned near the south-east corner of the main building platform (Figure 2). The trench lay just within the main cut into the hillside and was one of the areas where Mr Williams thought the pipes may have been exposed. As soon as the turf was removed it became apparent that there were a great number of pipe fragments in this area. More importantly, it was evident that these were associated with numerous fragments of muffle debris from a pipe kiln. The soil here was still hard packed and generally reddish brown in colour, but it tended to be rather a richer brown and the texture more friable than in the other trenches. An arbitrary spit of between 15 and 20cm was excavated across this trench, this being the minimum depth to which ploughing was likely to have disturbed the site. The concentration of finds in this area can be seen from the fact that this spit produced some 527 artefacts, of which 186 were pipe fragments and 272 muffle or kiln debris. The layer also contained some 69 stone fragments, almost all of which were small pieces of fine-grained brown sandstone. Details of all the finds recovered from Trench C are given in Appendix 1. Within this top spit, there appeared to be a slight concentration of larger stones and muffle fragments a few centimetres below the surface. This may reflect the gradual formation of a worm-sorted topsoil over the last 50 years since the site was last ploughed.

Context 2 was a spit of *c*5cm in depth, which was kept separate in the hope that it might represent a less disturbed layer below the ploughsoil. The soil matrix at this level was the same as in C1 and it contained a similar range of artefacts, including a sherd from the same iron streaked vessel as that

found in C1. This suggests that these two contexts are essentially the same. The main difference lies in the fact that the finds from C2 tend to be a little larger in size suggesting that they have been less disturbed since deposition, which accords with the known ploughing episode. What is different is that C2 produced a virtually complete bowl that had been crushed in situ (Figure 4.2). This shows that this layer has not been recently disturbed. Furthermore, it also suggests that it has been subject to quite heavy compaction at some point in its past.

Context 3 was another arbitrary spit of about 5cm in depth that was excavated below C2. Once again, a similar range of finds was present, the main difference being that much larger chunks of pottery were present. The most significant finds from this trench were a complete pipe bowl of c1680-1710 (Figure 4.1), a piece of stem with a band of milled decoration (Figure 4.6) and a piece of muffle rim with a rounded profile. The pottery from this context has an overall range of *c*1640-1720 with the latest forms present probably dating from *c*1680-1720. This spit was finished at about 28cm from the modern surface but is was clear that deposits containing kiln debris continued deeper. The exposed surface at that depth had larger chunks of stone evident within it, but there was insufficient time to excavate further and the trench was back-filled, leaving a layer of plastic covering the unexcavated surface.

The substantial quantity of finds from this small test pit make it clear that a pipe kiln was operating in the immediate vicinity. The small size of the fragments in the top 20cm may be partly due to plough disturbance although the evidence for crushing from C2 and the density of hard waste and small stones may indicate that this was dumped material that was being used to create a surface. This would make sense given the location of this

Figure 4: Pipe fragments of c1680-1710 recovered from the site; 1 and 6 from C3; 2 and 4 from C2; 3 by John Williams in 1948 and 5 from C1

trench at the south-east corner of the main building platform. The obvious position for an entrance to this structure would have been on the south side and a path would have been needed along the outside of the house to either the east or the west to provide access. The readily available kiln waste would have been ideal for surfacing such a path or for providing hard standing around the buildings.

Furthermore, Mr Williams recalled that the kiln dump he noticed was in very black soil and that there were masses of complete bowls, many with long stems. This description sounds more like a dump of waste pipes and ashy material and is unlike anything located in Trench C during this trial work.

Although the finds from this trench are very fragmentary, they do provide valuable information about the nature of the kiln and the dating of this site. The kiln muffle itself has unusually little evidence for the use of pipe stem reinforcement in it. The use of waste pipe stems to provide a framework for the construction of the muffle had become standard practice by the second half of the seventeenth century and ought to have been clearly visible amongst the fragments collected. None of the muffle fragments showed signs of reinforcement and the only possible evidence is a pipe stem with fired clay adhering to it from C2. The muffle was tempered with organic material and seems to have employed both white and red firing clays, which is unusual. It clearly had a rounded rim and was internally coated with washes of white clay, which is normal practice. The numerous fragments of coal from the site suggest that that was the fuel used to fire the kiln, while vitrified fragments of sandstone suggest that this may nave been employed in the construction of the supports or outer shell.

In terms of production and dating the pipes are all of late seventeenth century forms with milled rims. A few pieces are burnished, for example Figure 4.3, but this was clearly not standard practice. The bowls are, however, well designed and executed in a distinctive local style of c1680-1710 and several different moulds were clearly in use. The low set milling and is characteristic of the Broseley forms, while the round, flared heels are more typical of North Herefordshire products. Very similar forms were being produced at Pipe Aston about 20km (13 miles) to the west. What is unusual at the Cleobury kiln site is the total absence of any tailed heels. These had become the distinctive trade-mark of the Broseley industry at this period and they were widely copied across into the Midlands and as far south as South Wales. The Cleobury makers appear to have developed their own distinctive style and shunned the popular tailed form being used in neighbouring areas. This assertion is supported by stray finds from around the village and is in marked contrast to nearby Ludlow, where tailed forms are found.

The most exciting evidence from the trial trenches, however, is the stamped pipe (Figure 4.4). This appears to read NI but the mark may well have been placed upside down since one of the pipes collected by Mr Williams in *c*1948 clearly has the mark as IN (Figure 4.3). These initials would match John Newall, a maker who was only

previously only known from documentary sources. The two marks are from different dies, suggesting that he used a variety of marks, and this may become apparent if more substantial tips of waste pipes can be found. No other pipes marked IN (or NI) have been documented from the surrounding area and yet two have now been found associated with this kiln waste. These marked pipes provide compelling evidence that the pipe kiln was operated by Newall, who died in 1719. Both his will and inventory are already known, transcriptions of which can be found in Appendix 2. These provide some family connections for Newall and show that he had a fairly modest number of possessions, including "The Tooles for Pipemaking, & the Boards thereto belonging". He also had a pack horse, presumably used for distributing his pipes, and a pig. His entire inventory only came to £6 13s 10d, suggesting that he was not particularly wealthy. His only surviving child appears to have been a married daughter so that, on his death, there may well have been no-one to continue pipe production on this site.

Summary and Conclusions The initial assessment of this site has shown it to have outstanding potential. It is rare enough to be able to actually locate a seventeenth century kiln site on the ground, let alone link it to a named maker and contemporary documents. Furthermore, such sites are usually in urban areas where they have been extensively disturbed by later activity. The pipe and pottery dates from this site fit exactly with the period when Newall would have been working, suggesting that this is a single phase site with very little later disturbance. As if this were not enough, a house platform and associated earthworks survive to show the layout of the buildings in this single complex. Despite extensive recent research by Peacey (1996) it has never been possible to properly identify, let alone examine, a seventeenth century kiln site in relation to its associated house and workshops. Peacey's current project at nearby Pipe Aston has started to identify some buildings associated with a kiln of similar date, but the full plan and nature of these remain uncertain.

The evidence from this site comes together to show that Newall had an isolated workshop some way out of the Cleobury itself. This adds yet another example to a growing number of rural workshops, dispelling the idea that pipemaking was necessarily an urban trade. The steeply sloping location suggests that Newall lived on marginal land with grazing for his horse and a pigsty. He may even have had a smallholding and supplemented his pipemaking income with farming, a combination frequently seen in the Rainford area of South Lancashire. The main dwelling appears to have been south facing with a small animal house or store at its western end and the pipe kiln at its eastern end. The steeply sloping hillside would have provided an ideal draft for the kiln, which may well have been set into the hillside at the north-eastern corner of the house, where there is a hollow in the earthworks. The pottery from the site suggests an overall occupation ranging from *c*1640-1720 but with the pipe kiln material dating from *c*1680-1710.

Newall was not a wealthy man and he may well have operated the workshop with just help from his wife and daughter. Despite this, he was clearly able to make good quality pipes and he had a number of different moulds that he used. He also had at least two stamps with which he marked some of his products. The fact that only a proportion of the pipes are stamped is interesting in itself, since there has long been debate over the consistency with which pipemakers marked their products. Analysis of a larger assemblage from the site may well shed light on this issue. The pipes from this site provide the first firm evidence for production at Cleobury as well as providing evidence for the emergence of a distinctive local style there during the late seventeenth century. It is hoped that further work can be done at this important site to examine the form and layout of the buildings in more detail and to provide better evidence for the kiln technology and for the pipes that were produced here.

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Appendix 1 – Finds from Trench C

Trench C, a 1m square test pit, produced important and firm evidence for late seventeenth century clay tobacco pipe production on this site. The finds from the three layers in this trench have been counted (No), weighed in grams (Wt) and are described below: -

Context 1 (Top spit of 15-20cm in depth, known to have been disturbed by ploughing)

No	*Wt*	*Description*
186	212	Clay Pipes: 38 bowl fragments and 148 stem or mouthpiece fragments ranging in size from small chips to 5cm in length. A few fragments show evidence of burnishing, but this is generally absent. No complete bowls but all diagnostic fragments are from milled bowls of the type used from *c*1680-1710 (the most complete example is shown in Figure 4.5). Nine slightly flared heels present, representing several different moulds. All the heels are round or slightly tear drop shaped and none are marked.
*c*272	1,240	Muffle Debris: 172 fragments ranging in size from *c*2-7cm (maximum) and about another 100 small pieces of less than 2cm in size. Mainly white or greyish fabric with evidence of vegetable temper. A few pieces of similarly tempered reddish or greyish brown fabric. Quite a number of light weight amorphous grey lumps, which appear to have become vitrified with numerous small bubbles in them. Probably vitrified sandstone fragments from the kiln structure itself. None of the muffle fragments show any sign of pipe stem reinforcement, which is usually a characteristic of these structures.
20	264	Brick: Twenty pieces of brick, one piece being 7cm maximum but the majority of 3cm or less in size. Six pieces have a fairly hard fabric, generally coarse and / or poorly mixed. These tend to be the larger fragments. Many of the smaller pieces have a finer, rather soft orange fabric, and may be represent stray pieces of fired clay from the kiln rather than actual brick fragments.
14	38	Pottery: Eight sherds of assorted black glazed wares, generally with fairly fine red or pinkish fabrics. Two joining sherds of a pinkish bodied vessel with a clear lead glaze giving a brown appearance. Staffordshire type earthenware of late seventeenth or early eighteenth century type. Two joining sherds of a fine buff-bodied vessel with a brown, iron or manganese streaked glaze. This vessel has been well used since the internal surface is badly scratched. Probably early eighteenth century. One sherd of a white-bodied vessel with a clear lead glaze giving a yellow appearance. Mid seventeenth century type. One sherd with a fine red body, coated with a light slip and then trailed with red slip, to which jewelled dots of white slip have been added. This is the finest and most elaborately decorated sherd recovered from the trial excavations and it probably dates from *c*1680-1720. The overall range of the pottery is c1640-1720, with the latest forms present suggesting a deposition date of *c*1680-1720 for the group as a whole.
1	1	Glass: One small sherd of pale green vessel glass. Probably seventeenth or early eighteenth century.
3	10	Nails: Three small iron nails, all broken, but surviving to lengths of 4.0cm, 3.6cm and 2.6cm.
1	1	Burnt Bone: 1 small piece.
30	22	Coal and Cinder: 29 small fragments of coal, all less than 3cm maximum, and a piece of coke or cinder.
69	498	Stone: Five larger pieces of 3.5-8cm were present, the rest were all small pieces of 3cm or less in size. Almost all the stone consisted of sub-angular lumps of a fine-grained sandstone. This was usually a dull reddish-brown although a few greyish or yellowish pieces were also present. The largest piece was had been broken from a natural slab of 2.4cm in depth. It was 8cm long and 4.2cm wide and had rounded corners, suggesting that it had not been broken recently. There was one small (3cm) piece of a soft conglomerate ('pudding stone'). All the stone has now been discarded.

Context 2 (Arbitrary spit below C1 of *c*5cm in depth, upper part possibly disturbed by ploughing)

No	*Wt*	*Description*
82	108	Clay Pipes: *c*26 bowl fragments and 56 stem or mouthpiece fragments ranging in size from small chips to 5.3cm in length were recovered. One virtually complete bowl was found crushed in situ (Figure 4.2), suggesting that this layer had been compacted but then not disturbed by the *c*1948 ploughing. One stem has clay encrustation fired

onto it, suggesting that it had probably been built into the kiln muffle. This is the only evidence recovered for the use of pipe stems in this way. Three heels were present, one of which is stamped with a circular mark reading NI with a dot above and below the initials (Figure 4.4). This dates from *c*1680-1710 and has probably been applied upside down so that it should read IN (*cf* Figure 4.3).

51 373 Muffle Debris: 51 fragments of up to 8.7cm in size (maximum). The range of material is very similar to C1 except that there is one piece that appears to have been pushed against a surface and another that appears to be partly vitrified sandstone, one surface of which has become quite grey and bubbly. None of the muffle fragments show any sign of pipe stem reinforcement.

1 21 Brick: One piece of brick was recovered, with a maximum dimension of 3.2cm. It is made of quite a sandy, dark red fabric.

3 4 Pottery: Three pot sherds were recovered, all of 1.5cm or less in size. There is one sherd from the same brown streaked vessel as represented in C1, probably early eighteenth century, and two small chips of pink or red earthenware without any surface glaze surviving. One of these has a plain red exterior, typical of the wares produced in the Forest of Lingen (west of Wigmore) during the mid to late seventeenth century (probably no later than 1690).

1 7 Copper Alloy Ferrule: One copper alloy ferrule was found. This has a worn end of c1.2cm in diameter and tapering sides of 2.1cm in length. The open end is 1.5cm in diameter and there is a clear seam down the side of the object. The weight of 7g includes the dry soil filling.

3 10 Burnt Bone: Three pieces were recovered; 1 small chip and two large fitting pieces, making up a sliver 7.4cm in length. One end of this larger fragment has a rounded edge where it has been rubbed against a surface.

4 21 Coal: 4 fragments of coal were recovered; one large piece 5.7cm in length and three smaller pieces of less than 2.4cm maximum.

9 375 Pudding Stone: One large piece (13.5cm) and eight smaller pieces of pudding stone (all less than 4cm) were recovered. These had a soft, sandy matrix and are of irregular shape. They have been discarded.

4 69 Sandstone: Four pieces of sandstone of up to 6.5cm in size were recovered. These were fairly fine grained and ranged from brown to greyish or yellowish in colour. They have been discarded.

Context 3 (Arbitrary spit below C2 of *c*5cm in depth, probably not disturbed by ploughing)

No ***Wt*** ***Description***

32 56 Clay Pipes: 6 bowl fragments and 26 stem or mouthpiece fragments ranging in size from small chips to 5.4cm in length were recovered. One complete bowl was found (Figure 4.1), as well as a stem with a band of milled decoration surviving on it (Figure 4.6). Two heels were represented, both of which were slightly flared and without marks.

36 356 Kiln & Muffle Debris: 36 fragments of up to 6.5cm in size (maximum), including one rim sherd with a rounded profile.

5 67 Brick: One large fragment with a soft, orange fabric and a maximum dimension of 5.5cm was recovered. This clearly looks like part of a brick. Four smaller fragments (all less than 2.5cm) in a similar fragment were also found, but two of these joined and had an irregular surface with a coating of pipeclay. This suggests that some of this soft orange coloured material (including that from C1 and C2) could be some sort of fired debris from the kiln itself rather than just being brick fragments.

9 181 Pottery: Six black glazed fragments were found, three of which joined to form part of the body of a large vessel such as a pancheon. There was the substantial fragment (1.4cm thick) from the base of a storage jar, probably of late seventeenth or early eighteenth century date, and two sherds from a hollow ware form (or forms) with a dense but dull and slightly metallic looking glaze – probably around 1640-1700. Both of these sherds are very highly fired giving a hard, purpleish fabric. Two joining sherds of a soft pinkish fabric with a translucent glaze, appearing brown, dating from *c*1640-1700. One sherd of a buff bodied fabric with a yellow glaze (with

		greenish tints in places), dating from *c*1640-60.
4	41	Iron Objects: Part of an iron plate or sheet was found; irregular form of up to 3.0cm across. Three nails were also found, one of which was broken into two during excavation. Two are complete. Lengths are 7cm, 3.0cm (broken) and 2.3cm.
3	8	Bones and Teeth: One small fragment of burnt bone and a larger fragment (5.2cm) of unburnt bone were found. There is also the enamel section of a molar tooth, probably from a pig.
3	167	Pudding Stone: Three fragments, similar to those in C1 and C2, and of up to 9.0cm maximum extent were recovered. They have been discarded.
2	77	Sandstone: Two pieces of sandstone of up to 7.0cm in size were recovered. These were rather more angular than those in C1 and C2, but still with rounded corners. They have been discarded.

Appendix 2 – Will and Inventory of John Newall of Cleobury Mortimer

The following is a transcription of the Will (2.3.1718/19) and Inventory (11.5.1719) of John Newall of Cleobury Mortimer, Proved at Ludlow on 12.5.1719.

In the name of God Amen I John Newall of ye parish of Cleobury Mortimer in ye county of Salop Pipemaker being sick & weak in body but of perfect mind & memory thanks be to God for ye same do make this my last Will & Testament in maner & form following. First I commit my soul into ye hands of Almighty God my creator; And my Body to ye earth from whence it was taken, to be buryed at ye discretion of my Executrix hereafter named; And as for my worldly Goods I thus dispose of them.

Item I give & bequeath unto Joyce ye daughter of Peter Stringer ye younger ye sum of twenty shillings & to ye other five children of ye said Peter Stringr five shillings a piece which forty five shillings shall be paid within a year after my wifes decease; by my son in law John Gower & my neece Elizabeth Davis.

Item I give & bequeath unto my loving wife Jone all that Messuage & Tenement wherein I live during her natural life & after my wifes life to be equally divided between ye said John Gower & Elizabeth Davis to them & their heirs for ever.

Item As to all my housell goods whatsoever & my cattle I give & bequeath ye same to my said wife Jone she paying my debts & Funeral expenses & do make and appoint her to be ye sole Executrix of this my last Will & Testament revokeing all former Wills by me made witness my hand & seal this second day of March:1718/9.

Signed sealed & declared to be ye last Will & Testament of ye said John Newall in ye presence of
Richard harper [signed]
William Palmar [signed]
Wm Edwards clerk

The mark of John (X) Newall.

A True and perfect Inv:ry of the Goods & Chattell of John Newall Pipemaker in the p[ar]ish of Cleobury Mortimer late deced made the 11th:day of May 1719.

	L	s	d
Imprs: one Bed and Clothing	01	00	00
One Pott and one Kettle	00	06	08
Two Pewter dishes and three Spoons	00	02	06
One Broach, One Dripping Pann, & one Basting Spoon	00	03	04
A fire shovell, a Paire of Tongues, & a Paire of Bellows	00	01	08
One Table Board, One Barrell, and three Stooles	00	03	00
The Tooles for Pipemaking, & the Boards thereto belonging	00	13	04
A Horse, a Pack Saddle, & 2 Paire of Chrales	03	15	00
A Store Pigg	00	05	00
Wearing Apparrell	00	03	04
Tot	**06**	**13**	**10**

Asseassed by Peter Stringer Senr &
Edward Steadman