

HSDB13/04



ORWELL PASSAGE, HIGH STREET, DIGBETH, BIRMINGHAM

Archaeological Watching Brief

commissioned by BAM Construction Ltd

2013/02433/PA

October 2013

ORWELL PASSAGE, HIGH STREET, DIGBETH, BIRMINGHAM

Archaeological Watching Brief

commissioned by BAM Construction Ltd

2013/02433/PA

October 2013

HA Job no.: HSDB13/04

HAS no.: 1000

NGR: SP 07498 86530

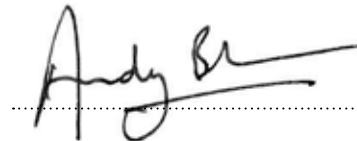
Parish: Birmingham

Local authority: Birmingham City Council

OASIS ref.: headland3-157796

Archive will be deposited with Birmingham City Museum

Project Manager	Andy Boucher
Author	Luke Craddock-Bennett & Jason Murphy
Fieldwork	Jason Murphy
Graphics	Caroline Norrman & Anna Sztromwasser
Specialists	Tim Holden – Environmental Julie Lochrie & Stephanie Ratkai – Finds
Approved by	Andy Boucher – Project Manager



© 2013 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

**Headland Archaeology
Midlands & West**

Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Faraday Road
Hereford HR4 9NZ

01432 364 901
midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com



CONTENTS

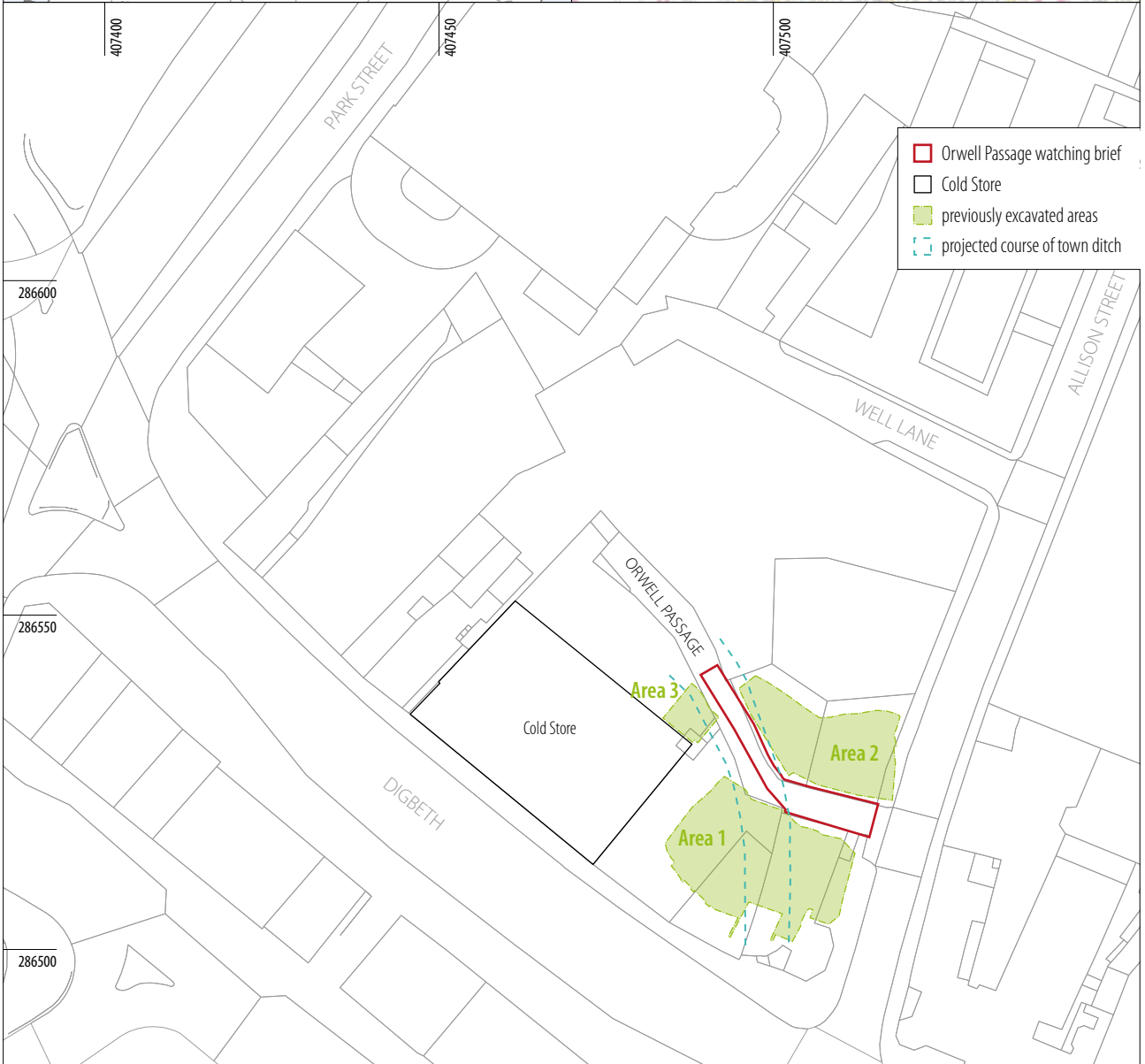
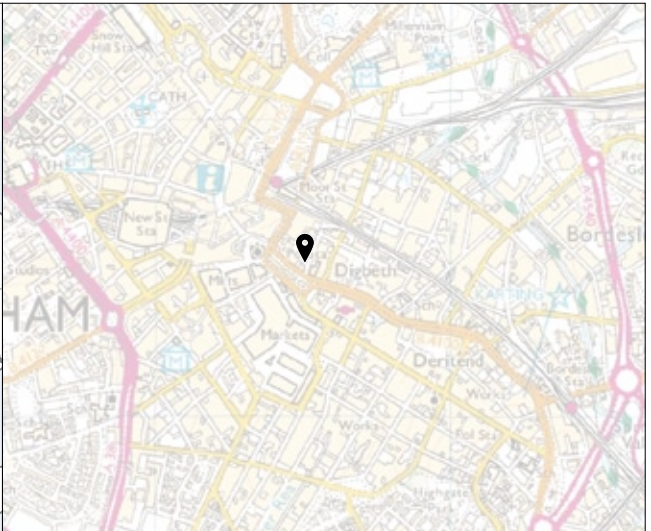
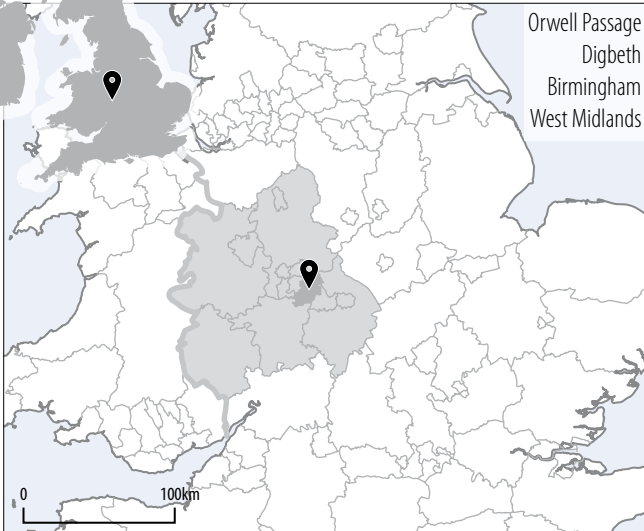
1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE	1
3	GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
4	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	1
5	OBJECTIVES	2
6	METHOD	2
7	RESULTS	2
8	DISCUSSION	4
9	CONCLUSION	5
10	REFERENCES	5
	10.1 Bibliographic sources	5
	10.2 Online sources	5
	APPENDICES	6
	Appendix 1 Finds assessment	6
	<i>Dating</i>	6
	<i>Discussion</i>	6
	Appendix 2 Environmental assessment	8
	<i>Method</i>	8
	<i>Results</i>	8
	Appendix 3 Site registers	10
	<i>Appendix 3.1 Context register</i>	10
	<i>Appendix 3.2 Photographic register</i>	10
	<i>Appendix 3.3 Drawing register</i>	10
	Appendix 4 Timber assessment	11

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Illus 1		viii
	<i>Site location</i>	
Illus 2		2
	<i>General shot of Orwell Passage looking W</i>	
Illus 3		3
	<i>Plan of Orwell Passage with excavated areas (Kipling 2012)</i>	
Illus 4		4
	<i>[416] cut by [422]</i>	
Illus 5		4
	<i>[415] cut by [413]</i>	
Illus 6		5
	<i>NE facing section</i>	
Illus 7		7
	<i>NE facing section with (406) at base</i>	
Illus 8		7
	<i>SW facing section showing accumulation of deposits over (406)</i>	

LIST OF TABLES

Table A1.1		6
	<i>Fabric codes and descriptions</i>	
Table A1.2		6
	<i>Pottery and CBM quantification</i>	
Table A1.3		6
	<i>Spot dating</i>	
Table A2.1		8
	<i>Flotation sample results</i>	
Table A2.2		8
	<i>Retent sample results</i>	
Table A2.3		8
	<i>Hand collected animal bone</i>	



Reproduced using 2012 OS 1:25,000 Explorer Series no. 220 and digital data.
Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2013. All rights reserved. Licence no. AL
100013329

scale 1:1,000 @ A4



Illus 1

Site location

ORWELL PASSAGE, HIGH STREET, DIGBETH, BIRMINGHAM

Archaeological Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Headland Archaeology along the extent of Orwell Passage, Digbeth, Birmingham as part of the Phase 1 Hotel Development of the Beorma Quarter.

The proposed development involved the reduction of the ground level for the creation of a piling mat.

The upper deposits of the medieval town ditch were identified at a depth of 1.4m below ground level. Post-medieval pottery was recovered from the ditch, along with environmental indicators suggesting that the ditch occupied an area of waste ground before being filled in or leveled during the early post-medieval period.

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology carried out a watching brief during the lowering of ground levels along a length of Orwell Passage, Digbeth, Birmingham (NGR: SP 07498 86530).

The works were undertaken as part of the redevelopment of the Beorma Quarter. A number of archaeological monitoring exercises are due to take place in relation to the development. Each will be reported on separately.

Birmingham City Council granted planning permission for the development on condition that the applicant secured the implementation of a program of archaeological monitoring of the reduction of ground levels, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved in writing by the local planning authority, which was duly submitted by Headland Archaeology (Boucher 2013).

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The site is located within the historic core of Birmingham and previous archaeological investigations have highlighted that the area contains important information relating to the historic development of the city.

The development site is bounded on the southeast by Allison Street and Well Lane; on the northeast and on the northwest by Park Street; and on the southwest by the B4100 Digbeth road (Fig 1). The site contains the grade II listed Digbeth Cold Store building, constructed in red brick with a slate roof, and four storeys in height.

Orwell Passage passes through the development site on a north-west to south-east orientation before adjoining Alison Street on the eastern boundary of the site. The passage falls from a height of 107.75mOD in the north-west to a height of approximately 106mOD in the south-east.

3 GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The solid geology below the site consists of a Keuper Sandstone ridge that runs below Birmingham from the southwest to the northwest (BGS website), a geological fault in this has resulted in a sharp ridge falling away from the centre of the city (north of the site) towards the River Rae valley floor (south of the site).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies close to the centre of the medieval town of Birmingham, immediately east of the Parish Church of St Martins.



Illus 2

General shot of Orwell Passage looking W

Within the site itself, cartographic evidence (OS maps) suggests that burgage plot boundaries were present on the site until the 19th century. A burgage plot was a rental property consisting of a house on a long and narrow plot of land with a narrow street frontage.

Previous archaeological excavations in the south-west of the site conducted by Birmingham Archaeology in 2007 identified evidence for settlement activity dating to the Middle Ages. The area may have been occupied as early as the foundation of the town in AD1166 (Duncan 2008, p4).

Excavations undertaken immediately to the north of the cold store building identified surviving archaeological deposits of medieval to post-medieval date, including evidence of late medieval tanning (Duncan 2008).

The projected line of the medieval town boundary ditch runs along the line of Orwell Passage on a north-south orientation. Previous excavations were carried out immediately to the east of Orwell Passage by the University of Leicester Archaeology Unit (ULAS) (Kipling 2012). The excavations comprised of three areas of archaeological investigation within the site limits. There was considerable disturbance due to the presence of building foundations, which in places were present to a depth of 2m. Despite the disturbance, the well preserved remains of the medieval town boundary ditch, up to c.2.4m deep, were uncovered in Area 1 (Kipling 2012), containing environmentally rich deposits dating to the 12th century. The ditch was also observed in the north-west corner of Area 2 and the north-east corner of Area 3. Various other features dating to the post-medieval period were encountered within these areas.

5 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the project were to ascertain whether any archaeological remains were present within the area of the

proposed development, characterise them by date, extent, preservation, and significance, produce a report and deposit the archive with a local repository.

6 METHOD

The area subject to archaeological monitoring comprised 157.5m² along the length of Orwell Passage (Illus 1). The proposed development involved the reduction of the ground level for the creation of a piling mat in the areas previously excavated by ULAS and along the extent of Orwell Passage.

Excavation was undertaken by the main contractor using a mechanical excavator with the use of a toothless bucket (Illus 2). A toothed bucket was utilised when hard modern surfaces or concrete were encountered.

Excavation continued until suitable ground conditions were reached to provide a solid base for the creation of a piling mat. Mechanical excavation was halted at the first significant archaeological horizon.

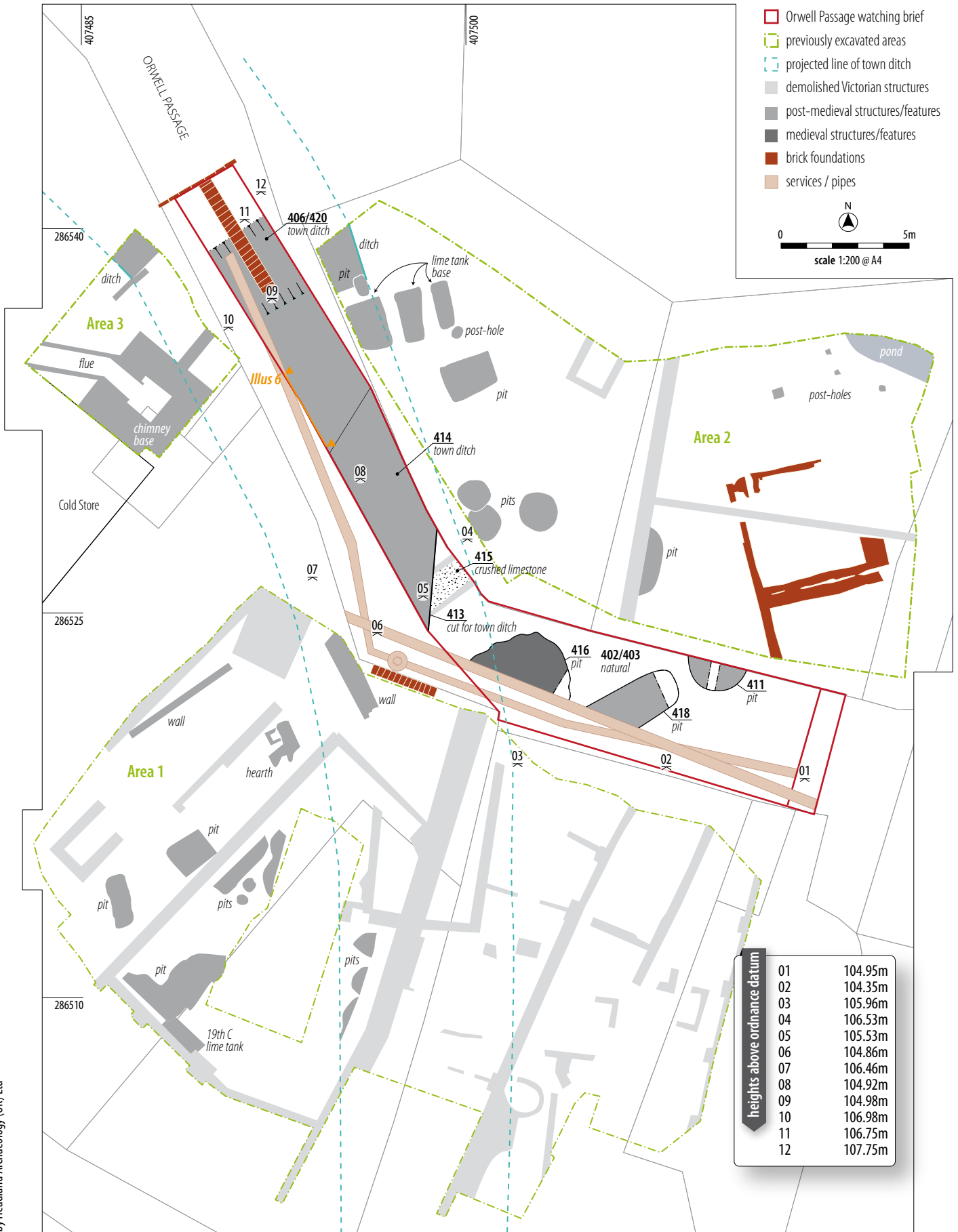
All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological norms. All plans of excavations were drawn at 1:100 and were tied into developer site plans. Photographs of the excavated areas were taken using 35mm monochrome and colour slide film. Digital photographs on a 7.2mp digital camera were taken for illustrative purposes. Registers were kept for context records, photographs and drawings.

7 RESULTS

Please refer to Illus 2 for the location of features.

The upper deposit (400) along the extent of the excavated area was comprised of a tarmac surface. Beneath this was a modern deposit (401) of roadway makeup. In the eastern half of Orwell Passage natural deposits of silty clay (402) were encountered at a depth of c.0.25m below ground level. Excavation continued to a maximum depth of 0.6m within this area. The natural deposits varied in colour between a light yellow grey (402) and a mid brown pink (403).

In the east of the excavated area, and cutting into the natural deposits were two features which have subsequently been dated to the medieval period. Pit [416] measured 4m by 2m and was truncated by services to the south (Illus 4). Its fill [417] contained a single piece of tile dated to the medieval period. Immediately to the north-west of pit [416] was a crushed limestone deposit bounded by timber planks [415]. The linear feature [415] was 1.5m wide and orientated north-east to south-west. The feature was truncated by a later feature to the south-



Illus 3
 Plan of Orwell Passage with excavated areas (Kipling 2012)



Illus 4

[416] cut by [422]



Illus 5

[415] cut by [413]

west [413] and continued beyond the limits of the excavation to the north-east (**Illus 5**). A medieval tile fragment was recovered from beneath the timber.

Truncating the southwestern extent of feature [415] was a feature [413] spanning the full width of the excavated area and extending for 17m along the length of Orwell Passage. The nature of the feature could not be confirmed within the limited excavation area, but its location broadly equates to the projected line of the medieval town ditch proposed by Kipling (2012). The earliest deposit encountered within the ditch [406/420] at a depth of 1.4m below ground level (**Illus 6, 7 & 8**) had a distinct smell of decaying organic matter and contained pottery and CBM dated to the post-medieval period. Environmental samples recovered from this deposit contained a plant assemblage common to areas of waste ground.

The upper fill [414] of the ditch [413] contained animal bone and pottery ranging in date from the 13th to the 15th / 16th centuries.

Where excavations ceased at the north-western end of Orwell Passage, the area was bounded by a brick wall which extended to a depth of over 2m below ground level. The wall foundations cut in to the lower organic deposits [406/420] of the town ditch [413] beyond the limit of excavation.

Two further pit features [411, 418] identified in the east of the excavated area contained material dating to the 15th / 16th centuries. Both features appear to have been truncated by later structures as no continuation of the features was observed during adjacent excavations previously undertaken.

A single plank of timber was recovered during the watching brief, measuring 48 x 4 x 1.75inch. The sample was recovered in the interface between a post-medieval / modern debris deposit [405], present across the site, and the town ditch fill [420] (same as [406]). The timber was partially damaged during machining therefore causing one edge to split. A significant amount of the timber remained in good condition to allow observations to be made. Due to its squared nature and straight edges it suggests the timber is modern. It is a radially cut plank of timber. Circular saw marks observed on the timber surface reaffirms this claim placing the timber in a post-medieval or later context. The dimensions of the timber suggest it was cut using imperial measurements and conforms to a standard 2 x 4inch timber measurement.

Evidence suggests that the origin of the timber is post-medieval or later.

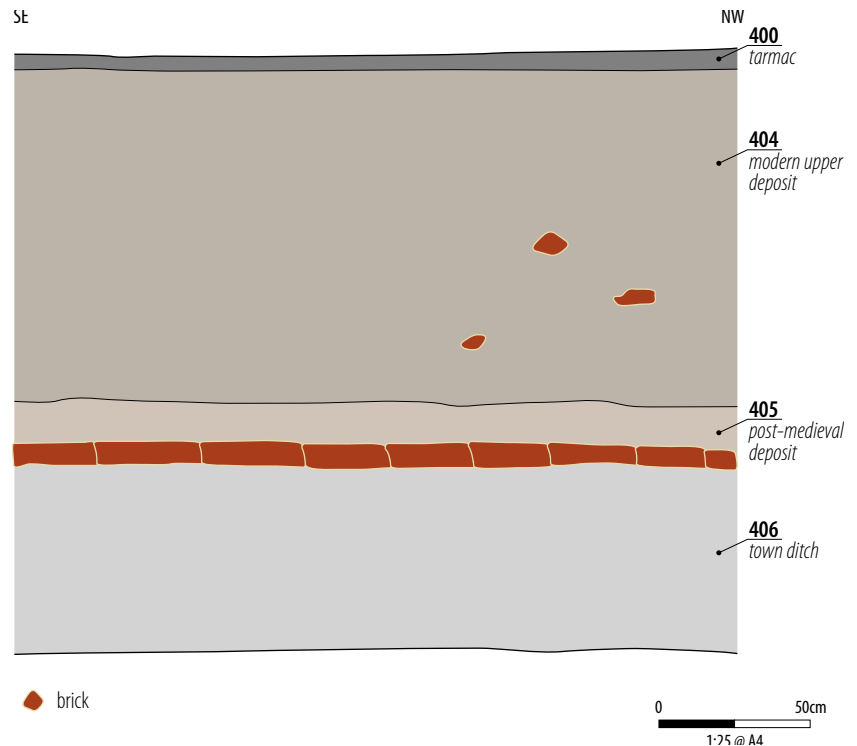
8 DISCUSSION

The area within Orwell Passage seems to have been void of any intensive construction activity in contrast to the adjacent excavated areas.

The pottery recovered during the watching brief suggests occupation of the site from the 12th century through to the early post-medieval period.

A crushed limestone deposit bounded by timber boards [415] may represent the bottom of a timber-lined lime pit, and would be in-keeping with the discovery of similar features identified approximately 8m to the north during previous excavations (Kipling 2012).

Evidence for the medieval town ditch was identified. The eastern edge of the feature was identified approximately 2m to the west of the projected line (Kipling 2012). Some medieval pottery was recovered from the feature, but post-medieval wares predominate. Due to the limited depth of the excavation it is probable that only the upper deposits of the ditch were encountered and may represent rubbish disposal and attempts at leveling the ditch after it had fallen out of use. The environmental evidence supports this suggestion as material recovered was found to be indicative of plants that proliferate on waste ground. The presence of medieval and post-medieval pottery out of chronological sequence may be the result of the re-deposition of material with the intention of leveling the ditch, or the result of contextual mixing caused by the later excavation of service and foundation trenches. Kipling's excavations (2012) recorded ditch deposits to a total depth of c.2.4m, whereas during the current works only the upper 0.6m of deposits was identified.



Illus 6

NE facing section

The presence of horn-cores within the upper ditch deposits is consistent with the area being the site of a post-medieval tannery.

9 CONCLUSION

The watching brief has identified archaeological activity directly comparable to previous excavations on the site.

The eastern edge of the medieval ditch has been identified and pottery and environmental evidence recovered from the upper fills.

The nature and extent of the archaeological resource within the watching brief area has been.

10 REFERENCES

10.1 Bibliographic sources

Boucher, A 2013 *Cold Store, High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, Works Associated with Groud Reduction or Other Stages of Development. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief*, Headland Archaeology.

Duncan, M 2008 *Digbeth Cold Store, Birmingham. An Archaeological Evaluation 2007*, Birmingham Archaeology Report Project no. 1703.01

Kipling, R 2012 *Archaeological Excavations at the Beorma Quarter, Digbeth, Birmingham (Phase 1)*, University of Leicester Archaeological Service.

Patrick, C & Rátkai, S 2009 *The Bull Ring Uncovered: Excavations at Edgbaston Street, Moor Street, Park Street and The Row, Birmingham City Centre 1997–2001*, Oxbow, Oxford.

Rátkai, S 2009 'The Pottery' in Patrick, C & Rátkai, S *The Bull Ring Uncovered: Excavations at Edgbaston Street, Moor Street, Park Street and The Row, Birmingham City Centre 1997–2001*, pp55–102, Oxbow, Oxford.

10.2 Online sources

BGS 2012a 'Geological Map of Great Britain' in *The British Geological Survey*, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> [accessed 9 May 2013]

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Finds assessment

By Stephanie Ratkai & Julie Lochrie

A small assemblage of pottery and ceramic building materials were recovered from the site. The pottery was matched to the Birmingham Pottery Type Series (Rátkai 2009). The fabric codes and descriptions are shown in **Table A1.1**. The ceramics were quantified by

Table A1.1

Fabric codes and descriptions

Code	Description
CBM	Ceramic Building Materials
CPJ12-14	Medieval Gritty Ware
CW	Post-Medieval Coarseware
Deritendcpj	Deritend Cooking Pot ware
Deritend	Deritend Glazed Ware
DeritR	Reduced Deritend Ware
IP04	Medieval iron poor ware
LOX03	Late medieval oxidised ware
MP	Midlands Purple Ware

Table A1.2

Pottery and CBM quantification

Context		CBM	CPJ12-14	CW	Deritend	Deritend cpj	DeritR	IP04	LOX03	MP	Total
406	count	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
	weight	31	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	31
412	count	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
	weight	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	13
413	count	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	1	–	4
	weight	–	–	–	–	25	–	42	24	–	91
414	count	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
	weight	414	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	414
415	count	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
	weight	180	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	180
417	count	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
	weight	160	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	160
419	count	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	3
	weight	–	5	–	3	–	–	–	3	–	11
420	count	–	–	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	3
	weight	–	–	288	–	–	20	–	–	–	308
Total	count	5	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	16
	weight	785	5	288	3	25	20	42	27	13	1208

Table A1.3

Spot dating

Context / Feature	Date
(406/420) / 413	Early post-medieval
412/411	15th–16th C
414/413	15th–16th C
415	Medieval
417/416	Medieval
419/418	15th–16th C

sherd weight and sherd count (**Table A1.2**). The pottery was in good condition with little evidence of wear. Each context was spot dated (**Table A1.3**).

Retent finds in very small quantities were retrieved from deposits [406] and [420]. These included a total of 2g of hammerscale and 2g of brick, with 1g of each found in each context. The retent finds are not included in the tables below but have been retained for archive.

Dating

The pottery suggests occupation from possibly as early as the 12th century. Potentially early pottery, the Medieval Gritty Ware, was also found in the ULAS excavations (Rátkai, in archive). The remaining pottery dates from the 13th and possibly early 14th centuries, the 15th–16th centuries and the early post-medieval period. Again this was paralleled in the ULAS excavations.

Discussion

Despite the small size of the assemblage, the pottery is not without significance. The north-western section of Orwell Passage appears to overlie a significant boundary ditch, the line of which has been traced in previous excavations (Patrick and Rátkai 2009). The ditch must have separated the burgage plots lower down Digbeth from the deer park or Over Park to the north-east.

Two deposits were identified within feature [413] (believed to be the town ditch) Deposit [414] contained medieval pottery of 13th century date, including two sherds of a green-glazed jug with bands of square roller-stamping, but also a late medieval bowl sherd and a possibly late medieval roof tile. It is likely that the earlier medieval sherds were disturbed from [406/420], given that the sherds were large and unabraded, suggesting disturbance from a primary feature fill.

Feature fill [406/420] contained very little material. Small brick fragments were found in (406), which appeared to be early post-

medieval in date unless they were small fragments of an oven or similar and earlier in date. However, (420) contained two large sherds from a post-medieval coarseware jar base which would seem to put the fill into the 17th century or indicate some contamination by later material at the upper levels. The character of these fills and fill [413] is certainly very different from that seen at Moor Street and Park Street, where medieval pottery proliferated (Rátkai 2009) within the main town-park boundary ditch and organic matter was absent.

Feature [413] cut [415] which contained only a single medieval tile fragment. This was heavily encrusted with lime-like deposits. It seems likely that feature [415] is the remains of the bottom of a timber-lined lime pit. This would make sense in the context of the tanning that was taking place in this area identified by Duncan (2008) and Kipling (2012) and the presence in the latter's excavation of a number of lime tanks, a little to the north-west of the current site. In theory [415] should pre-date the 15th–16th centuries (ie feature 413).



Illus 7

NE facing section with (406) at base



Illus 8

SW facing section showing accumulation of deposits over (406)

Appendix 2 Environmental assessment

By Tim Holden

Method

Two bulk samples were received for flotation and wet sieving (Table A2.1 & 2) together with 2 samples of hand collected bone (Table A2.3).

The bulk samples taken from ditch fill deposits [406/420] were subjected to flotation and wet sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250µm sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. This was then sorted and any material of archaeological significance removed.

Results

Flots

The flots are characterised by excellent preservation of organic remains. Insect and other invertebrate remains are common and

Table A2.1

Flotation sample results

Context	Total flot Vol (ml)	Un-charred insect remains	Un-charred plant remains	Enough for AMS	Comments
406	50	xx	xxxx	Y	Seeds, epidermal fragments, buds, wood (inc. Sambucus, Rubus, Chenopodium, Umbelliferae, Urtica, Stellaria, Polygonum)
420	50	xx	xxxx	Y	Seeds, epidermal fragments, buds, wood (inc. Sambucus, Rubus, Chenopodium, Umbelliferae, Urtica, Stellaria, Polygonum)

Key: x = rare (0–5), xx = occasional (6–15), xxx = common (15–50) and xxxx = abundant (>50)

Table A2.2

Retent sample results

Context	Unburnt bone	Unburnt plant remains	Unburnt wood	Charcoal		Material available for AMS Dating	Cinders	Coal	Comments
	Mammal			Qty	Max size (cm)				
406	xx	2 x Prunus spinosa sloe stones	10g	2g	2cm	yes	xx	xx	Fragments of medium sized animal (cf. skull fragments) and small mammal long bone
420	xx	–	10g	9g	5cm	yes	xx	xx	Fragments of medium sized animal (cf. skull fragments) and small mammal long bone

Key: x = rare (0–5), xx = occasional (6–15), xxx = common (15–50) and xxxx = abundant (>50)

the plant remains are represented by numerous seeds, epidermal fragments, wood fragments and bud scales.

Retents

The retents are primarily dominated by un-charred wood fragments, coal and cinder. Of some significance were two stones (drupes) of Prunus spinosa (sloe) from context [406].

The animal bone from the retents was restricted to small fragments of what appear to be skull fragments of a medium-sized animal (cat/dog/rabbit?) and several very small mammal bones.

Hand collected

Animal bone

The hand collected bones were all from a large mammal. Two horn cores were present suggesting that most fragments were probably cattle bones.

Discussion

The quantity of animal bone present is very low and would not offer any scope for detailed analysis of the contexts from which they were recovered. The composition of the remains would not be inconsistent with low-level debris from domestic settlements or the tannery that is known to have existed close to the site.

The character of the plant assemblage, in so far as can be determined at this stage, is essentially ruderal (of waste ground) – nitrogen-loving plants (nettles, elderberry, brambles, the hogweed family, chickweed) that proliferate on waste ground. Some are particularly common around muddy areas, ditches, rivers and close to where animals are penned. Some of the seeds are potentially edible fruits (brambles, elderberry and sloe) but there was no evidence for the most common indicators of

Table A2.3

Hand collected animal bone

Context	No. of bags	Condition	Weight	Large mammal frag. no.	Comments
406	1	Good	0.09kg	1	Phalange/tarsal?
414	2	Good	0.84kg	4	Horn cores x 2 (one large, one v. small); 3 long bone fragments 7 1 pelvis fragment

human faecal material (figs and grape seeds). The presence of cereal bran fragments could not however be discounted at this assessment stage.

As with the plant remains the '*insect*' remains from the samples could potentially offer a more detailed insight into site conditions around the ditch if this was appropriate at this stage.

Appendix 3 Site registers

Appendix 3.1 Context register

Context	Description	Dimensions (L x W x D)
400	Tarmac deposit	37m x 5m x 0.2m
401	Modern road make-up	37m x 5m x 0.2m
402	Natural	16m x 3m x 0.3m+
403	Variation in natural	16m x 3m x 0.3m+
404	Modern upper deposit	10m x 3m x 1.1m
405	Post-medieval deposit	10m x 3m x 0.2m
406	Town ditch fill?	9m x 3m x 0.6m
407	Road make-up	6m x 3m x 0.9m
408	Post medieval soil build up	4m x 3m x 1.3m
409	Variation in natural	10m x 3m x 0.05m
410	Natural	10m x 3m x 0.5m+
411	Cut of pit –filled by [412]	2.2m x 0.7m+ x 1m
412	Fill of pit [411]	2.2m x 0.7m+ x 1m
413	Cut of town ditch –fill [414]	18m x 3m x 0.6m
414	Upper fill of [413]	8m x 3m x 0.5m
415	Crushed limestone deposit	2.5m+ x 1.5m x 0.1m+
416	Cut of pit-fill [417]	4m x 2m+ x 0.5m
417	Fill of pit [416]	4m x 2m+ x 0.5m
418	Cut of pit [419]	3.2m+ x 1.8m x 0.5m
419	Fill of pit [418]	3.2m+ x 1.8m x 0.5m
420	Same as [406]-fill of town ditch?	9m x 3m x 0.6m
421	Services-cable and abandoned pipe	10m x 0.5m x unknown
422	Service-drain-ceramic glazed pipe	37m x 0.5m x unknown

Appendix 3.2 Photographic register

Photo	C/S # 791	B/W # 789	Digital	Direction facing	Description
1	01	07	01	E	ID Shot
2	–	–	02	W	Shot of tarmac being broken
3	–	–	03	W	Shot along Orwell Passage
4	02	08	04	N	S. facing section at E. of passageway
5	03	09	05	SW	Passage excavated close to E. gateway-pipes visible
6	04	10	06	S	Passage excavated close to E. gateway-pipes visible
7	05	11	07	W	General shot

Photo	C/S # 791	B/W # 789	Digital	Direction facing	Description
8	06	12	08	W	Excavated area
9	07	13	09	E	Excavated area
10	08	14	10	SW	Foundation at S edge of Orwell Passage
11	09	15	11	N	Feature [411]
12	10	16	12	NE	SW facing section near ditch?
13	11	17	13	SW	NE facing section of ditch?
14	12	18	14	N	Slot in [411]
15	13	19	15	NW	[413] and [415]
16	14	20	16	SE	[413] and [415]
17	15	21	17	NW	[413] and [415]
18	16	22	18	N	[416]
19	17	23	19	SW	[418]
20	18	24	20	W	Services runs E-W
21	19	25	21	SE	Foundation above [420]
22	–	–	22	N	SW facing section
23	20	26	23	N	SW facing section with timber relationship
24	21	27	24	N	Timbers in situ-within [420]
25	22	28	25	W	[418] E facing section
26	23	29	26	E	Backfilling of excavated area
27	24	30	27	SE	Backfilling of excavated area

Appendix 3.3 Drawing register

Dwg	Scale	Plan / Section	Description
1	1:100	Plan	Plan of Orwell passage – excavated area

Appendix 4 Timber assessment

By Andy Boucher

A single plank of timber was recovered during the watching brief, measuring 48 x 4 x 1.75inch. The sample was recovered in the interface between a post-medieval / modern debris deposit [405] which spread across the whole site area inspected, and the town ditch fill [420] (same as [406]). The timber was partially damaged during machining therefore causing one edge to split. A significant amount of the timber remained in good enough condition to allow accurate measurements and observations to be made. It is a sawn plank of timber, possible circular saw marks observed on the timber surface suggesting it was milled placing the timber in the late Post-medieval or later. The dimensions of the timber suggest it was cut using imperial measurements and conforms to a standard 1.75 x 4inch timber measurement.

The assessment of the artifact suggests that the timber is of late post-medieval or later in date, it is not worthy of retention.



© 2013 by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

**Headland Archaeology
North East**

13 Jane Street
Edinburgh EH6 5HE

0131 467 7705
northeast@headlandarchaeology.com

**Headland Archaeology
North West**

10 Payne Street
Glasgow G4 0LF

0141 354 8100
northwest@headlandarchaeology.com

**Headland Archaeology
Midlands & West**

Unit 1, Premier Business Park, Faraday Road
Hereford HR4 9NZ

01432 364 901
midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

**Headland Archaeology
South & East**

Building 68A, Wrest Park, Silsoe
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS

01525 861 578
southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com