

**Old Barn, High Street, Dronfield, Derbyshire**

**Report on an  
Archaeological Evaluation.**



View of The Old Barn facing north from the site entrance off High Street

**ARS Ltd Report No. 2009/54/75**  
March 2009

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## ***Executive Summary***

*Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Mitchell and Proctor Chartered Architects acting on behalf of The Peel Centre Charitable Trust to undertake an evaluation on land surrounding and within an existing structure upon High Street, Dronfield, Derbyshire, known locally as the Old Barn. This was made necessary as part of a pre-determination phase of evaluation required to inform the planning application for the renovation and conversion of the building together with the construction of a single storey ancillary structure to the rear collectively intended to provide a commercially viable community space. This condition was imposed by The Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council because Old Barn is a Grade II listed building and is believed to have originated from a Medieval Manor House. There was therefore the possibility that archaeological remains of a medieval date may have been encountered both inside and out of the building and as such a programme of field evaluation was ordered.*

*A series of four 2m and twelve 1m square test pits were located in and around the building, seven internally and nine externally. Deposits within the pits were excavated and recorded systematically to a variable depth determined by the Development Control Archaeologist and based upon the proposed depth of ground penetration during development of the site. Externally only one feature of archaeological significance was encountered, this being an isolated post hole that produced no dating evidence, while other deposits encountered related entirely to attempts to build up the ground level during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century. A series of different floor surfaces were encountered within several internal test pits but, with the exception of a potentially late Medieval beaten surface in test pit 6, again related to development of the site from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.*

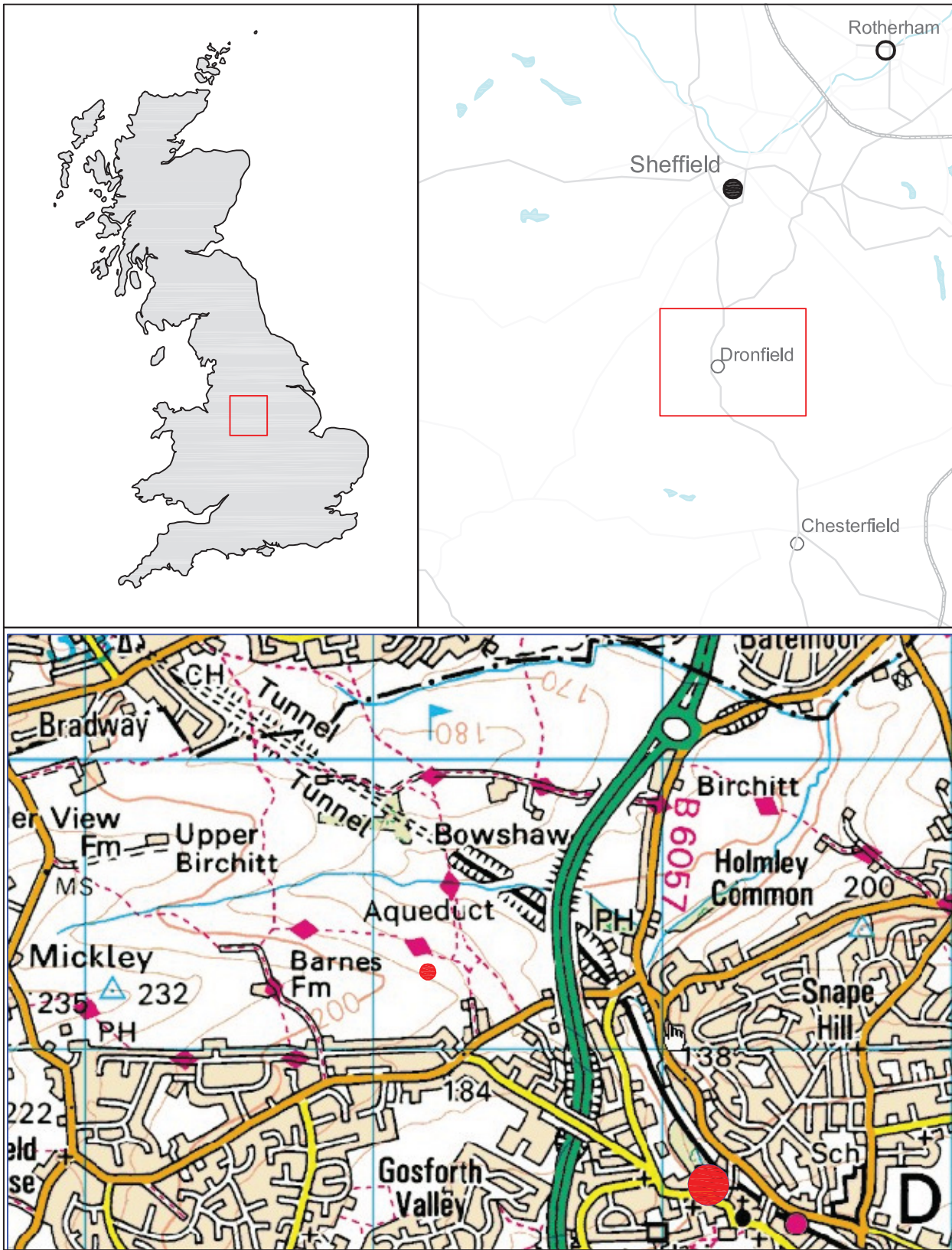


Figure 1. Site Location

## **1. Introduction**

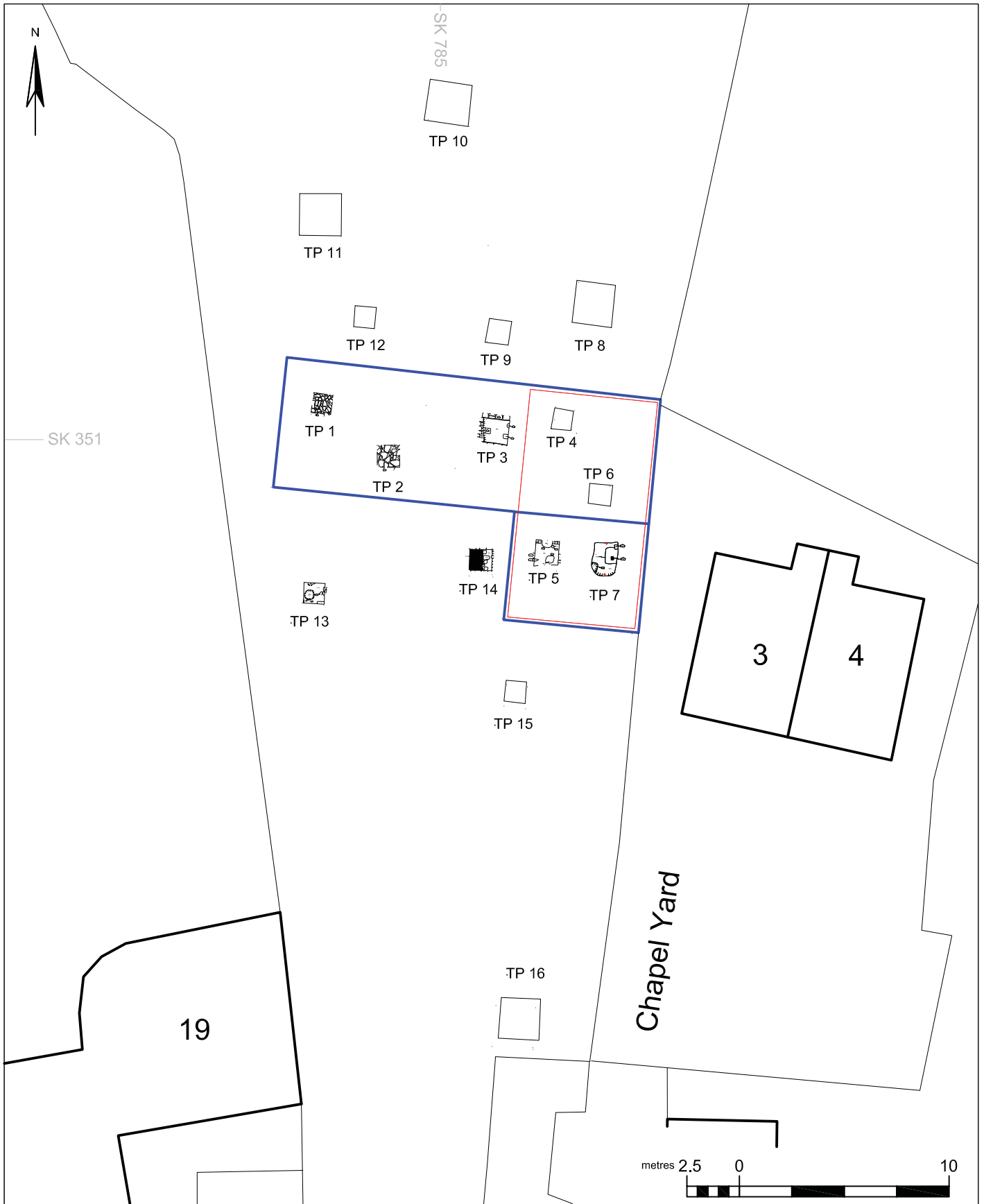
- 1.1 This report details the findings of an archaeological evaluation by test pitting on the site of The Old Barn, High Street, Dronfield, Derbyshire. The work was undertaken by Adam Tinsley, Simon Johnson and Brian Marshall of Archaeological Research Services Ltd on behalf of Mitchell and Proctor Chartered Architects in advance of the renovation and conversion of this Grade II listed building to provide a commercially viable community space for The Peel Centre Charitable Trust and the people of Dronfield.
- 1.2 The work was carried out between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2009.

## **2. Location and geology**

- 2.1 The site is located off High Street, Dronfield, Derbyshire, Grid Reference SK 3512 7855 (centred). (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The local geology comprises a bedrock of Westphalian Coal Measures with overlying boulder clay deposits.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 No archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out prior to the commencement of field work.
- 3.2 The Old Barn is a Grade II listed building and appears on the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER 4749). The building is a timber framed four bay two-storey structure thought to date from c1450. The quality of the earliest surviving timberwork as well as the location of the site on the edge of a steep slope commanding views of the river valley suggest that it represents the remains of an important house, possibly a medieval hall.
- 3.3 The building was remodelled in stone and extended during the early 18<sup>th</sup> century for use as a hay barn and threshing site.
- 3.4 The building was extensively restored during the 1970's at which time a concrete floor and breeze block partition was also inserted in part of the western extension.
- 3.5 The internal floor surface therefore varies between a concrete surface to the west, a sandstone block surface set in concrete through the centre and extending to the front and rear of the building, a beaten earth surface towards the east and a combination of concrete and sandstone to the south east where the section of the barn has been partitioned, at an unknown point but probably again during the 1970's, with a red brick wall to create a stable block with a feed trough.



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Figure 2  
 Site Plan of Test Pits  
 The Old Barn, Dronfield

Key:  
 TP = Test Pit  
 [Blue Outline] The Old Barn building  
 [Red Outline] Postulated position of the medieval barn

Site Code: OLD 09  
 Drawing Ref:  
 Date: 23-03-09  
 Drawn: BM  
 Scale: 1:250 at A4

Notes:

Copyright/Licencing:  
 This drawing  
 © A.R.S. Ltd  
 Ordnance Survey data if applicable  
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- 3.6 Externally much of the area has been laid to grass although an area to the east, in the vicinity of the proposed ancillary building, had a concrete surface in place. The ground level, particularly to the north and rear of the building appeared to have been substantially raised during recent times compared to that evident associated with a row of cottages immediately to the east of the site.

#### **4. Aims and Objectives**

- 4.1 The objective of the field evaluation phase is to establish the presence/absence, character, state of preservation, date and significance of archaeological deposits within the site, and to provide an assessment of their importance against the Secretary of State's criteria as set out in Annex 4 of PPG16 (1990).

#### **5. Methodology**

- 5.1 A total of sixteen trial pits were excavated both inside and outside of the existing building, the position of which were located by the Development Control Archaeologist (Figure 2).
- 5.2 The maximum depth of each test pit varied according to the criteria set out by the Development Control Archaeologist. This was determined by the level of ground penetration intended during subsequent development of the site and is set out below.
- 5.3 Excavation in each case continued to the maximum depth unless a) natural deposits were met, b) archaeological deposits of known medieval date were encountered.
- 5.4 Internal test pits, numbered 1-7, were all 1m x 1m and extended to a maximum depth of 0.6m although this varied in each case dependent upon the conditions outlined above.
- 5.5 Test pit 8 was located north east of the current building within the area of the proposed ancillary building. It was 2m x 2m and extended to a maximum depth of 0.6m.
- 5.6 Test pit 9 was located over the sandstone block surface to the north of the building and was 1m x 1m with a maximum depth of 0.4m.
- 5.7 Test pits 10 and 11 were located to the north of the building and were each 2m x 2m with a maximum depth of 1.5m although that attained varied as set out above.
- 5.8 Test pit 12 was located to the north west of the building and was 1m x 1m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.
- 5.9 Test pit 13 was located to the west of the building and was 1m x 1m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.



- 5.10 Test pit 14 was located over the sandstone block surface to the south of the building and was 1m x 1m with a maximum depth of 0.4m.
- 5.11 Test pit 15 was located to the south east of the building and was 1m x 1m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.
- 5.12 Test pit 16 was located at a greater distance to the south east of the building and was 2m x 2m with a maximum depth of 0.6m.
- 5.13 All test pits were to be excavated by hand, however, due to the nature of deposits encountered external to the building and their potential depth the use of a machine was authorised by the Development Control Archaeologist.
- 5.14 In all cases excavation by machine was undertaken methodically using a toothless bucket and supervised at all times by an appropriately experienced archaeologist.
- 5.15 Where necessary, concrete and other discernibly modern fixed surfaces were broken and removed by a hand operated pneumatic breaker and disc-cutter saw.
- 5.16 Excavation and recording in all test pits was carried out according to normal archaeological principles of stratigraphic excavation.
- 5.17 A representative section of each test pit was photographically recorded and drawn at an appropriate scale. Where necessary to capture discrete or variable features further sections were similarly recorded and a plan generated.
- 5.18 All deposits and structures were recorded using pro-forma recording sheets.
- 5.19 The location of each test pit was recorded by EDM/Total Station, with sufficient spatial control to enable the location of every feature to be accurately determined.

## **6. Assessment Results**

### **6.1 Test Pit 1.**

- 6.1.1 Test pit was located over the concrete floor inserted during the 1970's in the western extension of the barn. As a result context 100 represents the modern concrete layer and was laid upon a levelling deposit of sand (101). This extended for a maximum depth of 0.14m although the sand penetrated lower within gaps in the underlying deposit.
- 6.1.2 Immediately below deposit 101 a surface (102) was encountered comprising of sections of sandstone flags. These were of irregular size and shape and were placed in an irregular and uneven fashion resulting in large gaps in-between into which the sand of 101 had penetrated. (Figure 20.1). The fractured slabs appeared relatively fresh although probably reused. The appearance and depth

of the surface suggested a post medieval origin, probably 20<sup>th</sup> century, but no dating evidence was recovered (Figure 3).



Figure 3. The sandstone floor in test pit 1, context 102, facing west.

- 6.1.3 Context 102 lay immediately upon a black clay deposit not more than 0.07m thick in section (Figure 20.3). No dating evidence was recovered from this deposit and it was unclear if this represented a levelling deposit for the creation of context 102 or an earlier floor surface, perhaps relating to the initial construction of the barn extension.
- 6.1.4 Deposit 103 in turn lay immediately over the natural boulder clay. Excavation was therefore stopped at a total depth of approximately 0.28m below the current ground level.
- 6.2 Test Pit 2**
- 6.2.1 Test pit 2 was located approximately 2m south east of test pit 1 and over the same concrete deposit.
- 6.2.2 The contextual and stratigraphic sequence encountered was identical to that of test pit 1 and is represented by contexts 200-204 (see Figure 20.4). The sandstone floor was represented by context 202 and comprised of the same variable fragments of sandstone flag laid in an irregular manner (Figure 4)
- 6.2.3 Natural deposits were encountered at the same level as in test pit 1 although the total depth of the test pit reached a comparative maximum of 0.32m.

- 6.2.4 Again no cultural material was retrieved and consequently no firm date can be assigned to any feature.



Figure 4. The sandstone floor in test pit 2, context 202, facing south.

### 6.3 Test Pit 3

- 6.3.1 Test pit 3 was located above the sandstone block surface extending between the two central barn doors and continuing externally both north and south where test pits 9 and 14 were located respectively.
- 6.3.2 The sandstone surface was recorded as context 300 and comprised of multiple courses of well dressed blocks of variable size, approximately 0.23m long by 0.2m wide and 0.15m thick.
- 6.3.3 The sandstone blocks of context 300 were set within a substantial concrete cement bedding deposit (301), approximately 0.2m thick. This extended under the sandstone floor in all directions but was built up against the edge of surface 300 towards the east where the floor terminated.
- 6.3.4 Deposits 300 and 301 represented an obvious modern addition to the barn.
- 6.3.5 Immediately below the cement bedding, but confined to the western half of the test pit, was a very compact deposit of sandstone blocks within a clay matrix (302). This extended north to south continuing in both directions beyond the limit of excavation as well as continuing west.

- 6.3.6 The deposit substantially increased in thickness from 0.01m in the east to 0.35m in the west and appeared to sit within a cut, context 303, of which only the eastern return was visible (see Figure 20.6). The cut and deposit may be associated with a modern drainage channel that currently runs through the centre of the barn from a man-hole to the north to one near the site entrance from High Street, although the line and appearance of the feature differs from that taken to represent the same utility line in test pit 14 further south (Figure 5).



Figure 5. The south facing section of test pit 3

- 6.3.7 Within the west facing section of the test pit multiple courses of a single skin red brick structure laid horizontally (306) were observed below the concrete. The structure did not appear to extend further west into the test pit but it was encountered in the east facing section of test pit 4 as context 401, approximately 2m further to the east (see Figure 20.6 and Figure 6).
- 6.3.8 Individual bricks appeared to be none-frogged and hand made with an approximate dimension of 0.22m by 0.1m and 0.07m thick.
- 6.3.9 The structure was held within a black ash mortar with little or no lime inclusions.



Figure 6. The west facing section of test pit 3.

- 6.3.10 On the basis of the presence in section of context 306 and 401 in test pit 4 it would appear that a brick floor extended north south between the two test pits and east of the current barn doors.
- 6.3.11 Below the red brick floor 306 two deposits were encountered the upper most of which consisted of a soft silty clay up to 0.15m thick in the east but reducing in thickness and depth further west. Below this was a clinker layer up to 0.3m thick and containing abundant inclusions of slag and vitrified silica.
- 6.3.12 The deposits 304 and 305 almost certainly relate to levelling deposits created for floor 306 and their presence further west of the surface may suggest 304 originally extended in this direction. The nature of the clinker deposit 305 would suggest a mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century origin. Given that the barn was at one point owned by a local industrialist family with iron works and other industrial sites located along the valley bottom immediately below the barn (*Ken Ward pers com*), it would not be unreasonable to assume that any one of these sites was the source of the deposit.
- 6.3.13 Removal of the clinker deposit 305 revealed a number of apparently isolated sandstone blocks which were, due to the presence of similar inclusions within 305, at first taken as part of the levelling deposit. These features relate to context 309 and 310 to the east and 308 to the west (see Figure 20.5 and Figure 6). Their relative isolation, however, may be explained by the presence of deposits 307 to the east and 312 to the west of test pit 3. Each consisted of a soft reddish brown deposit within the overlying clinker deposit extending across the upper surface of all three sandstone blocks in a north south

direction. In section they became clearly visible as the rotted out remains of two wooden beams. This suggests that the sandstone blocks acted as a base for several wooden beams perhaps supporting a wooden floor. If this were the case it would appear that the clinker deposit 305 was inserted after the removal of the floor surface but leaving the supporting beams in situ as clinker elements extend around the sandstone blocks.

- 6.3.13 As this section of the barn was a later addition to the original probable medieval building it is unlikely to be of a medieval date but instead relates to a post-medieval episode of remodelling.
- 6.3.14 Excavation ceased at the maximum depth of 0.6m at which point context 311 had been exposed and partially removed. This appeared to have built up around the sandstone blocks 308-10 and probably represented the accumulation of material filtering between the beams of the wooden floor.
- 6.3.15 It is possible that further floor surfaces survive below the current level of excavation although the difference in depth already perceptible between test pit 3 and those to the west (pits 1 and 2) may argue against this.

#### **6.4 Test Pit 4**

- 6.4.1 Test pit 4 was located approximately 2m east of test pit 3. Excavation revealed an accumulation of modern deposits to have formed above a concrete surface, context 400. Removal of the concrete revealed it to be approximately 0.1m thick.
- 6.4.2 Immediately below the concrete surface but only visible in the east facing section of the test pit was a red brick structure (401), equivalent to context 306 in test pit 3 and believed to be a continuation of the same.
- 6.4.3 The red brick structure extended slightly into test pit 4 by approximately 0.1m but otherwise did not continue further east. It is possible that the structure was removed in this area, perhaps during the formation of deposit 400, but its survival elsewhere under the same circumstances would argue against this (see figure 20.7).
- 6.4.4 Below the red brick surface but separated by a fine silty deposit, context 403, was a compact dark grey clay layer. The firmness and definition of the upper face of this deposit would suggest that it represents a beaten earth floor surface. No dateable evidence was retrieved from this context or any of those below it and consequently the chronology is uncertain.
- 6.4.5 Three further deposits (404-406) were encountered below the beaten floor surface and while man made in nature it was unclear if they represented levelling deposits for the creation of surface 402 or differential floor surfaces in their own right.
- 6.4.6 At the full extent of excavation deposit 407 was encountered, which appeared as a relatively clean light brown silty clay similar to that found at the base of test pits 5-7. While a single piece of bone and a single piece of bone was

observed to extend out of this deposit it was unclear if this represented a further archaeological deposit or a preserved soil. It is possible that the items described above were actually pressed down into the deposit and do not necessarily derive from it. On this basis and on the evidence of the other test pits it is suggested that 407 represents the latter.

## 6.5 Test Pit 5

- 6.5.1 Test pit 5 was located within the footprint of the original building in a section that has relatively recently been walled off to create a stable block. An animal feeding trough extends from east to west across the area and north of the test pit. Extending south of this feature, as far as the main southern wall of the Old Barn, are a series of concrete and sandstone block surfaces. At a point approximately midway in this area, just south of the test pit, the floor surface lowers to create a drainage channel before rising back to an equivalent level.
- 6.5.2 Contexts 500, 501 and 502 represent the modern concrete and sandstone surfaces of the stable floor within test pit 5 (see Figure 20.8) and extend to an approximate depth of 0.2m.
- 6.5.3 Below the concrete was deposit 507, an apparent levelling deposit for the modern surfaces extending for a depth of up to 0.1m.



Figure 7. Red brick structures 505 (north) and 506 (south), facing north.

- 6.5.4 Deposit 507 covered two red brick structural features, context 505 and to the south 506, which ran parallel on an east west axis and were observed to extend

into test pit 7, located to the east, as contexts 704 and 705 respectively (Figure 7).

- 6.5.5 Structure 505 ran along the north edge of the test pit and consisted of a series of none frogged hand made bricks set side by side with the header facing south and north. There was no visible bonding agent. The mid section of the single skin structure had been removed by the insertion of a cut, context 509, described below.
- 6.5.6 Structure 506 remained intact and consisted of a single skin and single course of the same none frogged red bricks set end on end. A black ash mortar was visible with no obvious lime inclusions.
- 6.5.7 Given the limited evidence available it is difficult to offer an interpretation for the red brick structures 505 and 506. They may have supported a floor surface, perhaps a wooden one as encountered in test pit 3. They are of post medieval date and probably relate to a phase of remodelling during the 19<sup>th</sup> century based upon the presence of the black ash mortar.



Figure 8. The south facing section of test pit 5 featuring cut 509.

- 6.5.8 As mentioned above, structure 505 had been truncated mid section by a cut, context 509, which in plan extended partially from the south facing section of the test pit and was square in shape with slightly rounded corners. In section it possessed near vertical edges extending for 0.2m with a sharp break of slope at the bottom and a flat base. It contained deposit 508 which featured elements of probable demolition debris. The cut almost certainly relates to the presence of a posthole of late post medieval 19<sup>th</sup> century date although its



presence does not seem to tie in with any of the structural elements in the first floor or other upstanding levels of the barn. It may therefore relate to an internal dividing wall since removed (Figure 20.10 and figure 8).

- 6.5.9 A second slightly smaller cut feature, represented by cut 513 and containing fill 512, was very similar in shape to that of 509 and was located to the south west of structure 506. The fill 512 was identical to that of 508 and on this basis can be assigned to a similar chronological phase (Figure 20.11).
- 6.5.10 A much smaller circular cut feature was present in the form of cut 511 and fill 510. This was located immediately south east of cut 509 in plan and may also belong to the same phase.
- 6.5.11 Stratigraphically below the red brick structures 505 and 506 was a clinker rich deposit, context 504. This deposit was up to 0.15m thick and probably relates to a further levelling deposit, probably for the construction of 505 and 506.
- 6.5.12 At a maximum depth of 0.35m a final deposit was encountered in the form of context 514. As visible in the section featuring cut 509 this deposit extended down to the maximum depth of excavation at 0.6m and probably represented a buried soil deposit. This may therefore represent the original ground upon which the medieval building was constructed although it would appear therefore that any floor surfaces relating to this initial phase of activity on the site have been removed at least in terms of the vicinity of test pit 5.

## **6.6 Test Pit 6**

- 6.6.1 Test pit 6 was located to the north of test pits 5 and 7 and just beyond the dividing wall that defines the northern edge of the stable block.
- 6.6.2 The area was covered by a thick deposit of decomposing wood chips up to 0.05m thick, context 600.
- 6.6.3 Clearance of this deposit revealed a dark brown compact surface with white flecks across the surface, context 601. This was approximately 0.1m thick and probably represented a beaten earth floor surface. A single sherd of post medieval pottery was recovered from the context and according to the specialist report is of a late medieval date and relates to the late 14<sup>th</sup> or early 15<sup>th</sup> century. (see Figure 21.1 and Figure 9) The presence of this sherd indicates that the beaten surface 601 has a terminus anti quem of the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century..
- 6.6.4 Below 601 was a soft light brown silty clay deposit, context 602, which was excavated to the full depth of the test pit at 0.6m below the current ground level. It was found to be clean and entirely devoid of cultural material and interpreted as a buried soil, probably the same as that encountered in test pit 5 and others, and believed to have been fossilised with the construction of the building.
- 6.6.5 It is unclear if the beaten floor surface represents the original surface of the building. Certainly the stratigraphic position directly above a fossilised soil or

subsoil may indicate so. However, there is some considerable disparity between the level of this surface and the base of a structural wooden upright beam located in close proximity to test pit 6 and believed to possibly relate to the original construction. The difference in height between the two is somewhere between 1 and 2 feet. The beam may have originally been constructed upon a stone base and consequently raised above the original ground surface and this may account for the variation in height.

- 6.6.6 Alternatively the ground level within the building may have been lowered at some point and the beaten floor surface may then represent a subsequent addition. Unfortunately the general chronology assigned to the pottery sherd recovered from the deposit does not allow a more precise estimation of the date of the surface beyond the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century.



Figure 9. East facing section of test pit 6.

## 6.7 Test pit 7

- 6.7.1 Test pit 7 was located south of test pit 6 and east of test pit 5 within the same area developed as a stable block.
- 6.7.2 As in test pit 5 the upper most deposits, contexts 700 and 701, consisted of a concrete and a sandstone and concrete floor surface, defined to the south by the formation of a drainage channel. The deposits extended for a depth of approximately 0.2m.
- 6.7.3 Below the initial concrete layers was a levelling deposit, context 702, which was up to 0.2m thick and extended across much of the northern half of the

test pit. Towards the south this was replaced by a much looser deposit, context 703, extending in an east-west direction along the southern edge of the test pit and also up to 0.2m thick (see Figure 21.4).

- 6.7.4 As in test pit 5, immediately below the levelling deposits were two red brick structures running parallel to each other in an east west direction. Structure 704 ran across the entire width of the test pit along the northern limit of excavation and consisted of none frogged handmade red bricks set side by side within a black ash mortar. This represents an easterly extension of structure 505 in test pit 5. Approximately 0.4m to the south structure 705 consisted of several none frogged handmade red bricks set end on end with a black ash mortar. It extended east from the western limit of excavation for approximately 0.7m at which point it terminated in contact with deposit 709. A red brick structure extended north from 705, approximately mid way along its east west axis, and consisted of a two none frogged red bricks set in two courses extending vertically. This ancillary feature was assigned the same context number and suggests that the red brick structures may relate to an upstanding feature now removed. Structure 705 can be equated with 506 in test pit 5 (see Figure 21.2 and Figure 10).



Figure 10. Test pit 7 featuring red brick structures 704 and 705.

- 6.7.5 Context 709, encountered at the eastern terminus of structure 705 (see figure 10), consisted of a concreted deposit containing fragments of red brick and sandstone. Its removal initially exposed a clay deposit, however, further examination of this feature revealed a more extensive deposit in the form of 710 that also contained mortared sandstone blocks at one level along its northern limit, compacted clay elements, as well as further concreted pockets.

The feature was roughly square in shape and extended down to the maximum depth of excavation and beyond. It encased a much smaller *in situ* vertical wooden post, structure 308, approximately 0.23m high (as excavated) and 0.11m long and 0.07m wide in profile. It is suggested that contexts 709 and 710 be amalgamated and represent a substantial packing deposit supporting the wooden upright structure 308. It is probable that the cut features encountered elsewhere as cut 712, 715 and indeed 509 and 513, represent similar structures for which the wooden post and surrounding packing has subsequently been removed. Again, however, such features do not appear to relate well with any of the visible upstanding structural elements above the test pits and probably relate instead to internal divisions rather than structural elements of the main barn frame. In any case the features relate to a phase of activity late in the history of the building and do not appear to relate to the medieval occupation of the site (see Figure 21.3 and Figure 11).

- 6.7.6 Two cut features appear to extend down from a point below deposit 702, cut 712 and fill 711, only partially evident in plan and the east facing section of the test pit, and cut 715 and fill 714, recorded only in profile within the west facing section of the test pit. Both features appear identical in form and content to those encountered in test pit 5 and therefore probably represent further square shaped, vertical sided and flat bottomed post holes in which the wooden upright and any packing material has since been entirely removed (Figure 21.4).



Figure 13. Test pit 7 with deposits 710 and 708 (centre) and cut 712 and fill 711 (bottom left corner).

- 6.7.7 Context 706 was located below the red brick structures 704 and 705 and represented a probable levelling deposit up to 0.2m thick.

6.7.8 Context 707 was partially removed by excavation to the maximum depth of 0.6m but was largely left intact. As with deposits 602 and 514 this was found to be relatively clean and devoid of cultural material and was interpreted as a buried soil. Excavation of the posthole cut, context 712, revealed it to be up to 0.25m thick and to directly lay upon a deposit of natural boulder clay evident at the base of cut 712 as context 716.

## 6.8 Test pit 8

6.8.1 Test pit 8 was located in the footprint of the proposed ancillary building to the north east of the barn and over a raft of concrete (context 800) extending north from the barn for approximately 7m along the edge of a hedgerow defining the current eastern land boundary.

6.8.2 The pit was excavated by machine to the maximum depth of 0.6m but encountered only modern levelling deposits of sand and gravels supporting the concrete raft. The deposits included contexts 801 to 803 (see Figure 21.6).

6.8.3 Excavation to the maximum depth had removed approximately 0.2m of an underlying deposit that continued further to an unknown depth. This consisted of a clinker rich deposit and consequently may relate to an earlier, probably 19<sup>th</sup> century, phase of landscaping raising the ground level towards its current height (Figure 12).

6.8.4 No other features of archaeological interest were therefore encountered in this area.



Figure 12. Test pit 8, east facing section.

## **6.9 Test Pit 9**

- 6.9.1 Test pit 9 was located over the same sandstone surface that was removed in test pit 3, further to the south, and extended through the barn and north beyond the main barn doors for approximately 3m externally.
- 6.9.2 The sandstone blocks, context 900, comprised the same well dressed rectangular blocks of variable size as context 300 but were more easily removed from their concrete bedding, context 901.
- 6.9.3 The concrete bedding of 901, however, had to be broken and removed using a pneumatic hammer. The total depth of the two deposits reached approximately 0.2m (see Figure 21.7).
- 6.9.4 Below the concrete bedding layer was a further levelling deposit of grey sand, context 902. The deposit extended more or less to maximum depth of excavation at 0.4m where a final deposit of sandstone blocks set within a very firm matrix was encountered, context 903. It was unclear if this deposit was associated with the construction of the sandstone surface or an earlier phase. No features of archaeological significance were therefore encountered.

## **6.10 Test Pit 10**

- 6.10.1 Test pit 10 was the most northerly of the test pits and was located at the top of a steeply inclined bank within an area of scrub just north of the grassed area to the rear of the barn.
- 6.10.2 Excavation was begun by hand but due to the compact nature of the upper deposits and the potential maximum depth of the test pit at 1.5m a machine was used for the remainder.
- 6.10.3 The test pit was excavated to the maximum depth of 1.5m at which point a distinct natural boulder clay was encountered, context 1006 (see Figure 21.8).
- 6.10.4 The overlying deposits, contexts 1000 to 1005, consisted of variable layers of predominantly clinker elements with sandstone blocks of variable size, some up to 1m in length, randomly arranged from top to bottom. The deposits can therefore be seen to derive from a phase of landscaping, probably during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in which the ground level was substantially raised to the current level (Figure 13).
- 6.10.5 No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.



Figure 13. Test pit 10 south facing section.

## 6.11 Test Pit 11

- 6.11.1 Test pit 11 was located to the south west of test pit 12 on the grassed area to the rear of the barn.
- 6.11.2 Again excavation began by hand but was continued and finished by machine for the same reasons as with test pit 10.
- 6.11.3 Excavations reached a maximum depth of just under 1m at which point the natural boulder clay was encountered in the form of context 1108.
- 6.11.4 The overlying deposits were similar in nature to those encountered in test pit 10 and relate to the same phase of landscaping. However, the uppermost layers of contexts 1100 to 1105 obviously derived from a 20<sup>th</sup> century phase of landscaping as a layer of plastic sheeting was encountered towards the base of 1105 (see Figure 21.9 and Figure 14).
- 6.11.5 The first 0.4m of made ground in test pit 10 were therefore 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin and while a substantial amount of late post medieval pottery was recovered from these contexts they should be regarded as entirely residual.
- 6.11.6 No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.



Figure 14. Test pit 11 south facing section (note the plastic sheeting protruding from the west facing section)

## 6.12 Test Pit 12

- 6.12.1 Test pit 12 was located over the grassed area to the rear of the barn, south of test pit 10 and approximately 1m north of the barn wall west of the main barn door.
- 6.12.2 Excavations extended to the maximum depth of 0.6m at which point the natural boulder clay was encountered (context 1204).
- 6.12.3 Contexts 1200 to 1202 extended to an approximate depth of 0.5m and constituted a series of made ground deposits. They produced several sherds of late post medieval pottery but it was unclear if they related to the upper sequence in test pit 10 and were therefore 20<sup>th</sup> century in date or the earlier phase of landscaping evident in the lower deposits of test pit 10 and those encountered in test pit 11 (Figure 15).
- 6.12.4 Context 1203 represented the final deposit before reaching the level of clear natural boulder clay and was less than 0.1m thick. The deposit did not appear to represent made ground but may be the remnant of a buried soil or subsoil. No dating evidence was obtained from this deposit which could confirm or deny this (see Figure 22.1).
- 6.12.5 No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.





Figure 15. Test pit 12 east facing section.

### 6.13 Test Pit 13

- 6.13.1 Test pit 13 was located over a grassed and slightly embanked area to the south west of the barn.
- 6.13.2 Excavation was undertaken entirely by hand and reached a maximum depth of 0.2m at which point a natural deposit of boulder clay was identified, context 1302 (see Figure 22.2).
- 6.13.3 The overlying deposits of 1300 and 1301 represented shallow layers of made ground containing red brick fragments towards the base.
- 6.13.4 Below deposit 1301 and cut into the natural was a sub-circular feature represented by cut 1304 and fill 1303. The feature was half sectioned and the profile recorded before being fully emptied of the fill. No dateable finds were recovered from the fill. The profile of the cut was relatively shallow at 0.13m but had vertical sides to the south and a more gradual incline to the north. The break of slope at the bottom was rounded and the base flat (see Figure 22.5 and Figure 16).
- 6.13.5 The chronological sequence of this posthole is unknown. Given that the original structure is represented by the north south extension of the barn located approximately 10m further east, it is unlikely to have any structural relationship with the original building.



Figure 16. Test pit 13, posthole cut 1304 and fill 1303 in plan.

#### 6.14 Test Pit 14

- 6.14.1 Test pit 14 was located over the same sandstone surface as removed in test pit 3 and 9 further north and extending south beyond the main barn doors for approximately 5m.
- 6.14.2 The content of the sandstone deposit, context 1400 and the underlying cement bedding, context 1401, was identical to that encountered in the previously mentioned test pits and extended to a combined depth of approximately 0.3m (see Figure 22.7).
- 6.14.3 Deposits 1402 and 1403 represented probable levelling deposits for the construction of the sandstone floor and cement bedding layer and extended in the case of the later beyond the maximum depth of excavation at 0.4m (Figure 17).
- 6.14.4 At the maximum level of excavation a linear feature, cut 1406 and fill 1405, was immediately obvious extending north south along the western edge of the test pit and approximately 0.6m wide. This undoubtedly represented the line of a modern drainage pipe extending north south through the centre of the barn as discussed in relation to test pit 3.
- 6.14.5 No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.



Figure 17. Test pit 14, west facing section and cut 1406 (foreground)

## 6.15 Test pit 15

- 6.15.1 Test pit 15 was located south of the southern most wall of the old barn over a grassed area.
- 6.15.2 Excavations reached a maximum depth of 0.45m before exposing a natural deposit of boulder clay in the form of context 1503 (see Figure 22.8).
- 6.15.3 Overlying deposits consisted almost entirely of made ground deposits, contexts 1500 and 1501, extending to a combined depth of 0.3m. As with deposits in test pit 12 to the rear of the barn it was unclear if the deposits related to 20<sup>th</sup> century landscaping of the site or a slightly earlier phase (Figure 18).
- 6.15.4 Similarly context 1502 may represent a further buried soil level or simply the natural formation of a subsoil after the laying of made ground. No dateable evidence was recovered to substantiate either case.
- 6.15.5 No other features of archaeological interest were encountered.



Figure 18. Test pit 15 south facing section.

## 6.16 Test pit 16

- 6.16.1 Test pit 16 was located to the south of the barn and immediately north of where the current boundary wall extends west into the plot over a grassed area.
- 6.16.2 Excavations were undertaken by machine and reached a maximum depth of approximately 0.3m at which point the natural boulder clay was encountered in the form of context 1602 (see Figure 22.9).
- 6.16.3 The overlying layers of context 1600 and 1601 were found to represent modern made ground deposits as a section of rubber pipe was observed protruding out of the west facing section at the juncture with the natural. No cut was observed to contain this feature and it must be concluded that the overlying deposits were therefore 20<sup>th</sup> century in origin (Figure 19)
- 6.16.4 No other features of archaeological significance were encountered.



Figure 19. Test pit 16 west facing section (note the rubber pipe upon the natural at the right of the section)

## 7. Discussion

- 7.1 Test pits located external to the existing building encountered no archaeological features of any real significance apart from the posthole in test pit 13. The relative isolation of this feature and the lack of dating evidence from the fill does not allow it to be assigned unequivocally to any particular phase in the development of the site. Given its distance west from the postulated site of the original medieval hall, it would seem unlikely to have been associated with the building in any structural sense.
- 7.2 All other deposits encountered external to the barn relate to two or more separate phases of landscaping. The first, indicated by the presence of clinker rich deposits to the rear of the barn, probably dates to sometime in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and would appear in certain cases, i.e. test pits 10, 11 and probably 8, to have substantially raised the ground level from an original point perhaps visible near the cottages to the east of the site to that of the current ground surface. The second phase occurred at some time during the 20<sup>th</sup> century as indicated by the presence of the plastic sheeting part way down the section of test pit 10, to the rear of the site, and the presence of rubber pipe upon the surface of natural deposits to the front of the building.
- 7.3 The possibility that development of the site in these areas would interfere with any archaeological remains of a medieval date therefore remains low. With this said it may be advantageous to monitor any further ground work to the south west of the building in an attempt to identify any further features that may

then be aligned with and elaborate upon the single posthole encountered in test pit 13.

- 7.4 The test pits located internal to the building produced a variety of results. However, only test pit 6 contained any features that may be generally aligned with the medieval origin of the building.
- 7.5 Test pits 1 and 2 did encounter a sandstone flag surface, however, based upon the nature and relative height of this surface it appears to be a modern feature. The underlying deposit indicated by contexts 103 and 203 may suggest the presence of a beaten earth surface yet it must be born in mind that this westerly extension of the barn represented a post medieval addition to the original structure when the building was remodelled in stone and converted into a barn at some point in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. If a beaten surface is therefore present it would relate to this phase of development and not a medieval one.
- 7.6 The sequences within test pit 3 and to a lesser extent test pit 4 suggest that several floor levels were raised from a depth of 0.6m or more. This included a possible wooden floor supported upon sandstone blocks which may then have been replaced by a substantially higher red brick surface. This, in turn, appears to have been replaced by the current modern sandstone and concrete level. While there remains the possibility that further floor levels exist beyond the point of excavation it must be noted, at least in relation to test pit 3, that as with test pit 1 and 2 the sequence lies largely external to the original footprint of the medieval building and any floor surfaces probably relate rather to the post medieval extension and subsequent development.
- 7.7 Test pit 6 revealed a beaten earth surface largely at the current ground level. This appeared to rest upon a deposit interpreted as a buried soil and as it resides within the footprint of the original building it may be that the buried soil was fossilised by its construction. However, to the south west of the test pit a substantial structural post is still visible and is thought to represent one of the earliest timbers on the site and part of the original medieval building (Ken Ward pers com). The base of the post however does not extend as far as the current ground surface but terminates approximately 0.5m above the current ground surface and rests upon a makeshift support of sandstone. While the post may well have been constructed over a stone base possibly even that which it resides upon now, the disparity in heights between its base and the floor surface would seem considerable. It is therefore possible that the ground level within the footprint of the original building has been substantially lowered at some point in its history and that consequently the beaten earth level encountered in test pit 6 may be a slightly latter addition. The single sherd of pottery recovered from the deposit does confirm a late medieval date for the creation of the surface, however, the rather general chronology available for the pottery type does not allow any greater precision in dating (Appendix 2).
- 7.8 Test pits 5 and 7 revealed that the southern most section of the building had been converted into a stable or other animal pen at some point in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Below this level were a number of structural features including several large square postholes, one of which still possessed in situ a wooden post and

associated packing material, as well as two red brick constructed features running parallel to each other in an east west direction. The nature of the building materials and surrounding deposits would suggest a late post medieval date for these features but no material culture was recovered to corroborate this. The features indicated a phase of internal remodelling but did not appear to be associated with or alter the main structural elements of the building. As in test pit 6 and possibly 3 and 4 a buried soil was present in each case which could be observed within the section of at least cut 712 to overlie a deposit of natural boulder clay.

- 7.9 On the present evidence it would appear that the ground level within the footprint of the original building had been substantially lowered at some point only to be built up again with the addition of new floor levels. As such it seems likely that any original floor surfaces of medieval date have been substantially if not entirely removed by subsequent development of the site.

## 8. Conclusions

- 8.1 Based upon current evidence the large proportion of deposition external to the old barn appears to relate to two or more phases of landscaping that has, in some areas, substantially raised the ground level. An initial phase probably occurred during the 19<sup>th</sup> century while further deposits appear to have been added to the rear and front during the 20<sup>th</sup> century probably when the building was substantially renovated during the 1970's. A single posthole was the only other feature to be identified and on present evidence cannot be assigned unequivocally to any particular phase in the development of the site.
- 8.2 Internally the building has evidently undergone several and substantial phases of redevelopment. On present evidence this has not only included the remodelling of the building in stone and the creation of a western extension during the 18<sup>th</sup> century but has also the possible lowering of the original ground level. Remodelling of the subsequent interior has then seen the addition of several different floor surfaces including a wooden floor, a brick floor and the current sandstone and concrete levels, at least in relation to the western and central areas.
- 8.3 The southern section of the building has also been subject to a process of internal remodelling with the addition of levelling deposits, a series of wooden uprights, perhaps relating to internal dividing walls, as well as the addition of several red brick structures and more recently a concrete and sandstone floor surface indicating its use as a stable.
- 8.4 The area that appears to have been subjected to the least redevelopment, in terms of additional floor surfaces, relates to the east central area around test pit 6 where a beaten earth floor remains largely exposed at the current ground level. On the basis of the presence of a single sherd, identified as deriving from a vessel of Late Medieval date, this floor surface may relate to the ground level of the original building. The relative level of the floor surface in comparison to the base of a primary structural beam, located in close proximity to test pit 6, may alternatively indicate that any original floor surface has been removed and the floor level perhaps substantially lowered.

Alternatively the structural beam may have been originally constructed over a base deposit and consequently has always been raised above the floor surface. In either scenario the beaten floor surface encountered in test pit 6 remains the earliest floor surface encountered during excavation and potentially relates to the late medieval period. It would also appear to overly a fossilised soil level and consequently no further surfaces are likely to be encountered below this point, at least in the area of test pit 6 but also 5, 7 and perhaps 4.

- 8.5 The main area of interest remains therefore in the composition of the upstanding structure which reportedly still contains elements that may be associated with the original medieval occupation of the site. No further features of early medieval date were identified during the evaluation and it appears that there has been significant remodelling of the interior of the barn which has probably removed most relevant floor surfaces pertaining to the original manor house..

## **9. Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright**

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## **11 Acknowledgements**

- 11.1 Thanks may be extended to Steve Baker, the Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire county Council. I would also like to thank Mike Slinn and Ken Ward of the Peel Centre Charitable Trust for their patience and discussion relating to the history of the building. I am also grateful to Simon Johnson, formerly of ARS. Ltd for insight into the fabric of the Old Barn as well as Mrs Ann Brown of the Old Dronfield Society for her insight and provision of the reconstruction drawings created by Stanley Jones.

## **12 Archive Details**

- 12.1 The site archive, both paper and material, will be deposited with Sheffield Western Park Museum.
- 12.2 An accession number for the archive is awaited.



## Appendix One

### Plans and section drawings

Site Code: OLD 09  
 Drawing Ref: 23-03-09  
 Date: BM  
 Drawn: 1:20 at A3  
 Scale:

**Figure 20:**  
 Plans and sections  
 of test pits 1 to 5

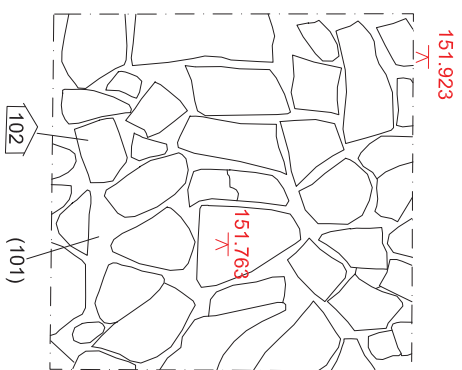


Fig 20.1: Plan TP1

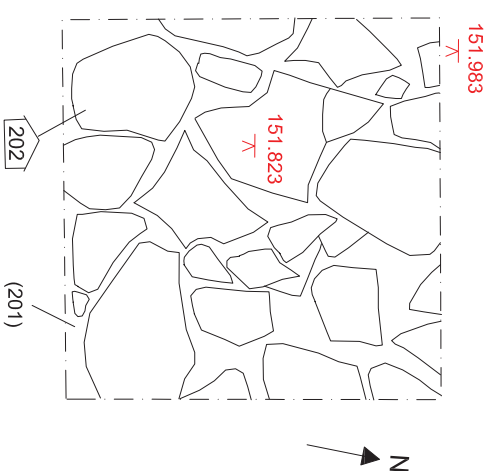


Fig 20.2: Plan TP2

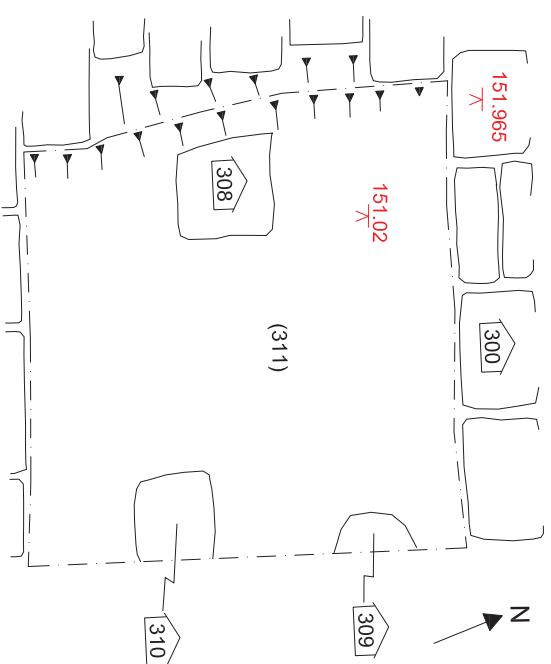


Fig 20.5: Plan TP3

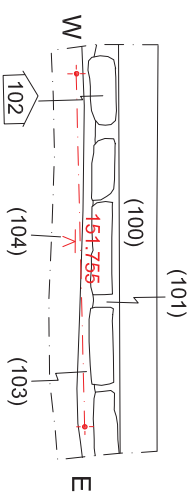


Fig 20.3: South facing section TP1

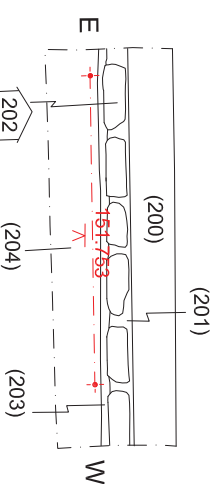


Fig 20.4: South facing section TP1

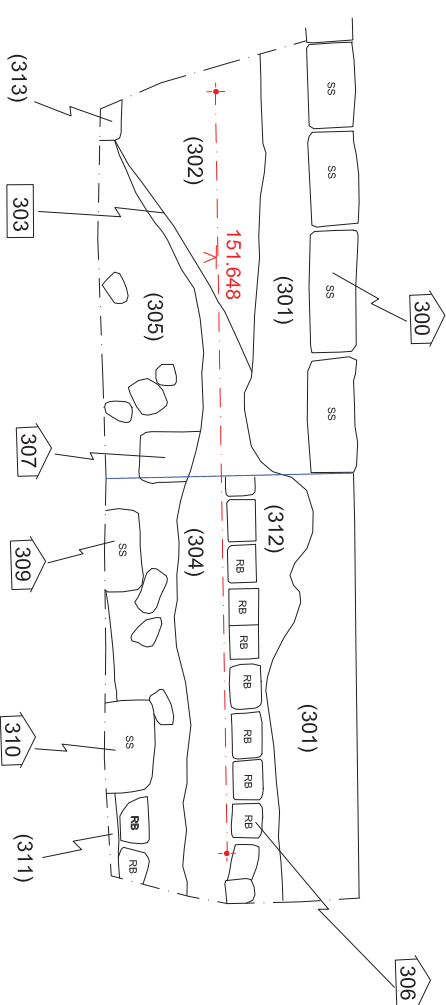


Fig 20.6: South facing section and west facing section of TP3

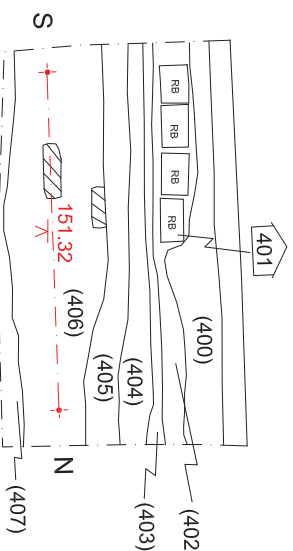


Fig 20.7: East facing section TP4

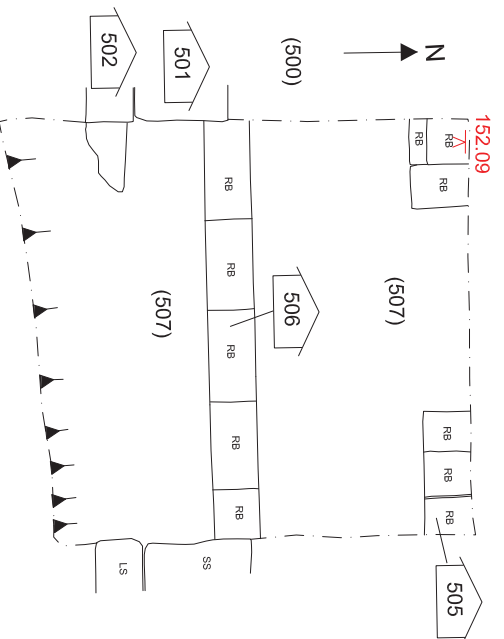


Fig 20.8: Layer 1 Plan TP5

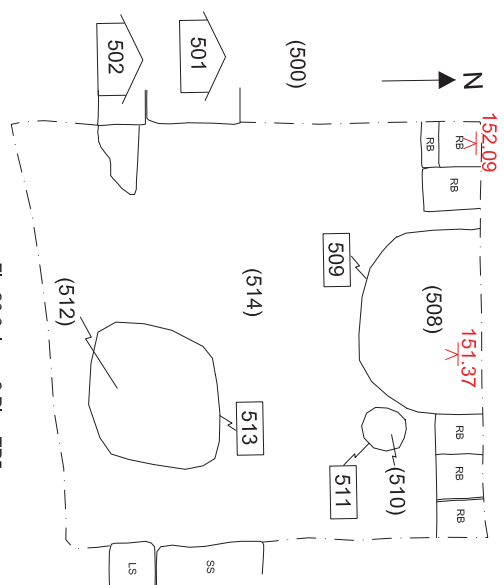


Fig 20.9: layer 2 Plan TP5

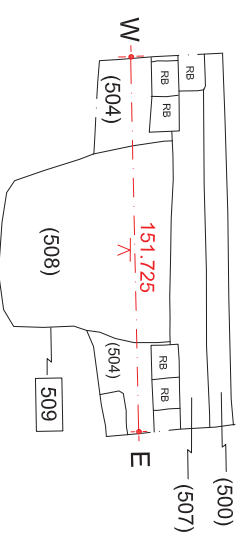


Fig 20.10: South facing section TP5, 508-509

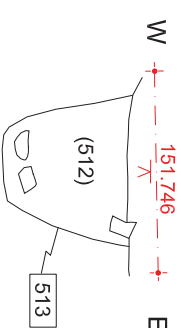


Fig 20.11: South facing section TP5, 512-513

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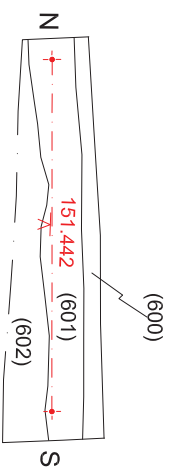


Fig 21.1: West facing section TP6

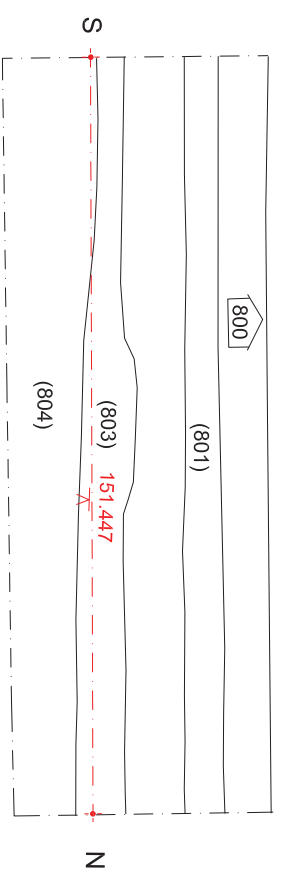


Fig 21.6: East facing section TP8

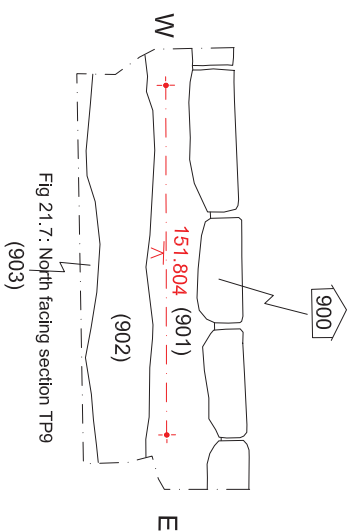


Fig 21.7: North facing section TP9

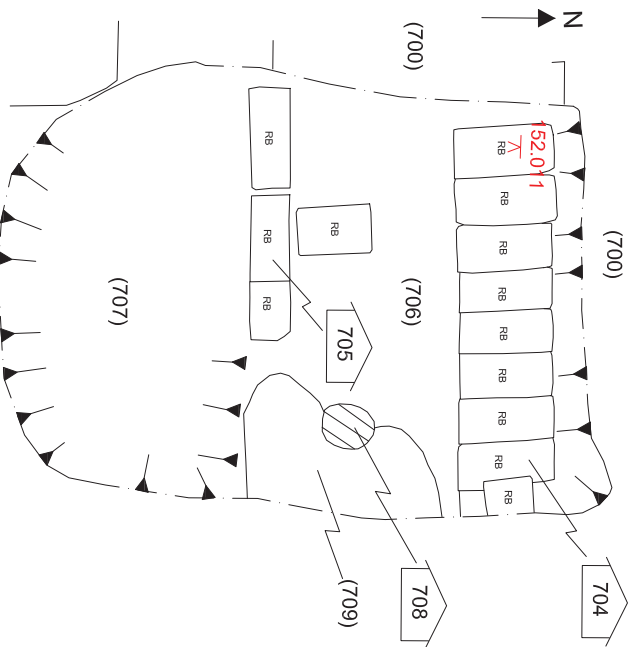


Fig 21.2: Layer 1 Plan TP7

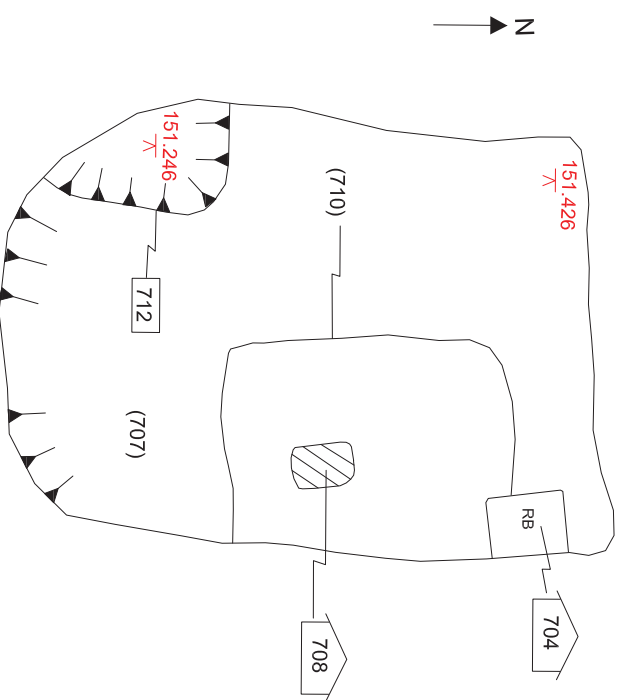


Fig 21.3: Layer 1 Plan TP7

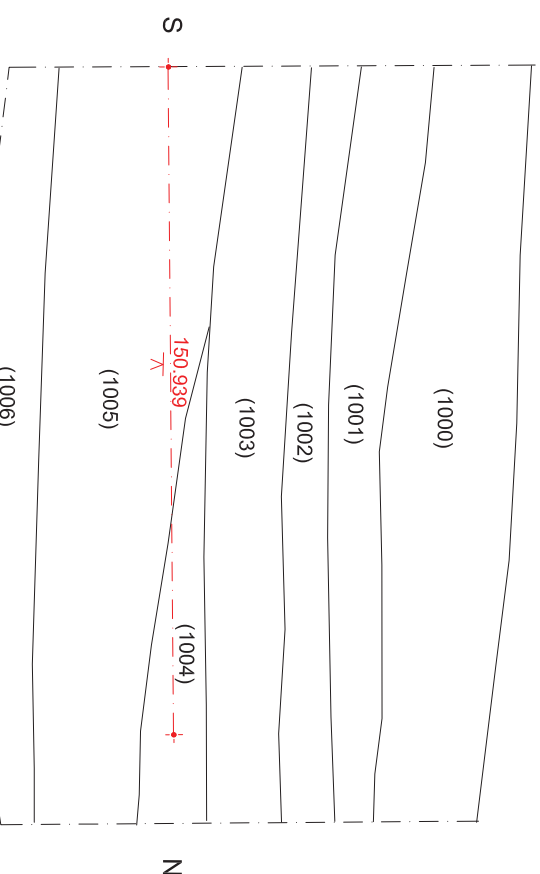


Fig 21.8: East facing section TP10

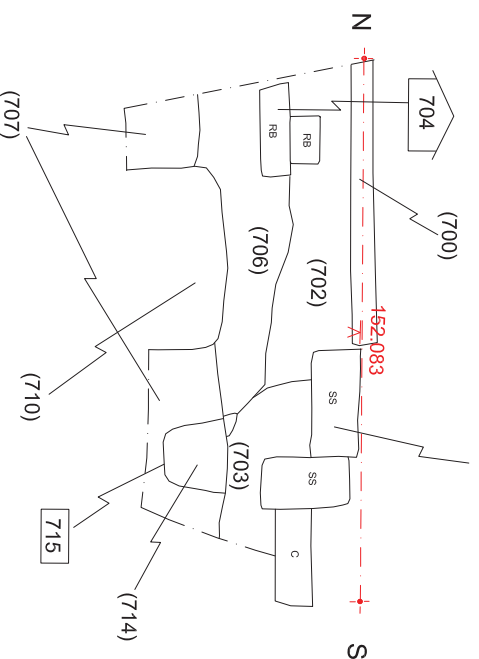


Fig 21.4: West facing section TP7

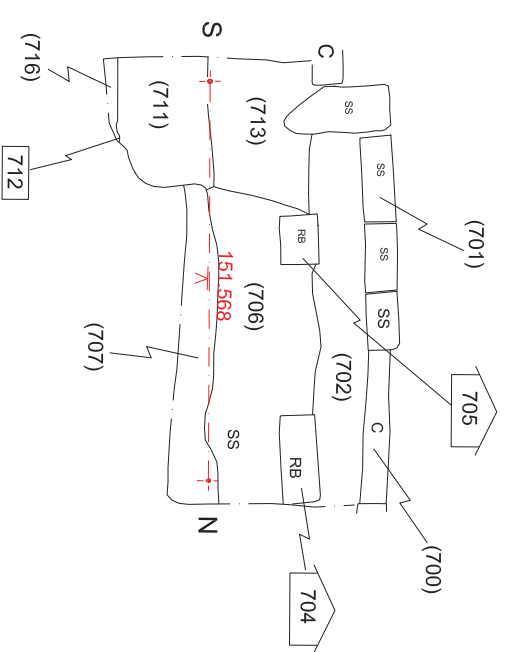


Fig 21.5: East facing section TP7

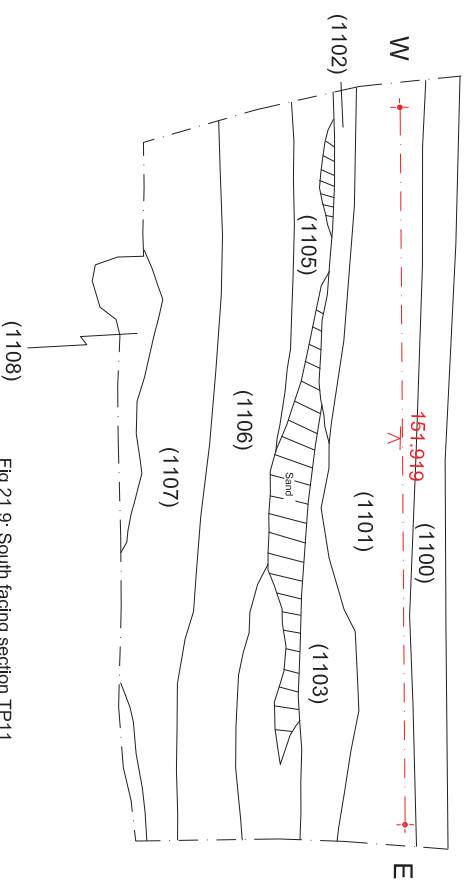


Fig 21.9: South facing section TP11



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**Figure 21:**  
 Plans and sections  
 of test pits 6 to 11

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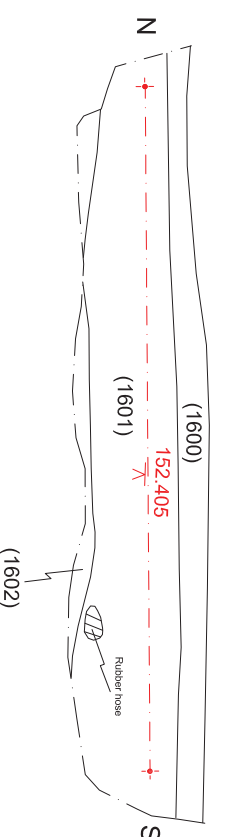
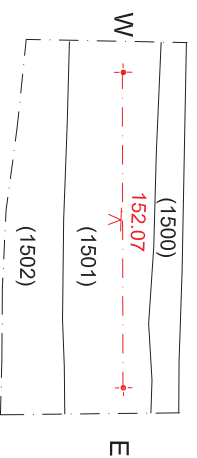
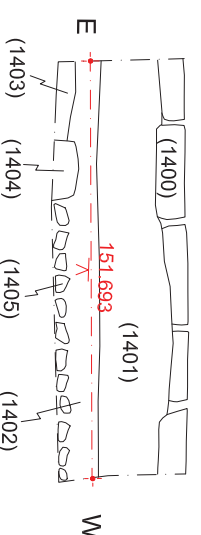
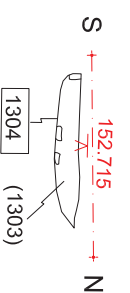
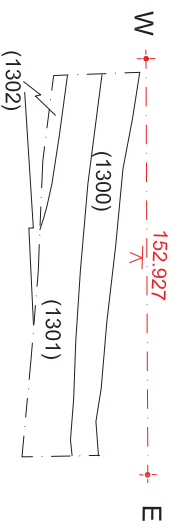
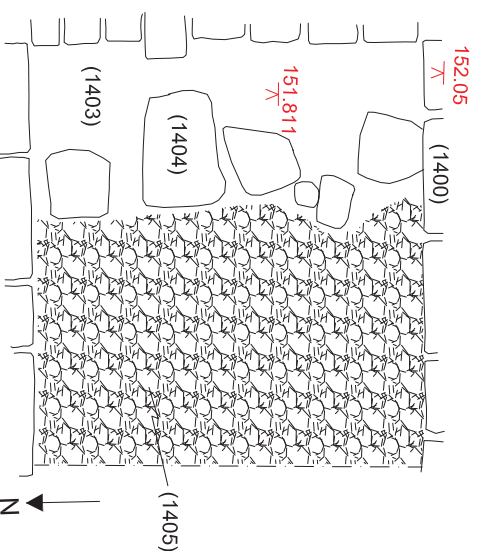
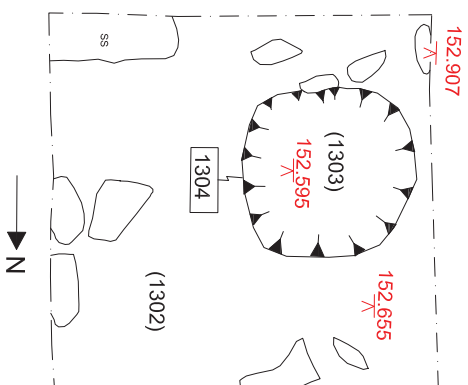
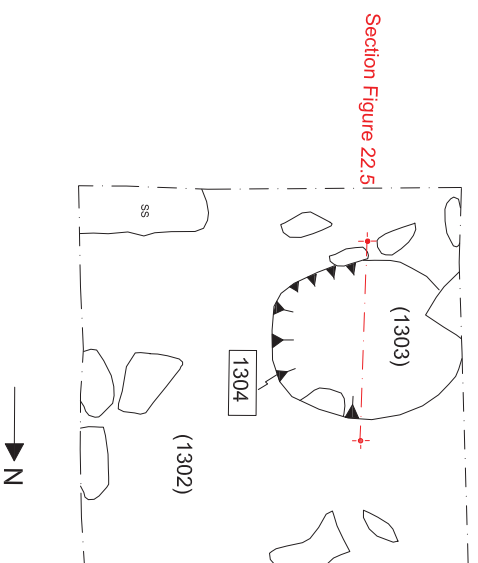
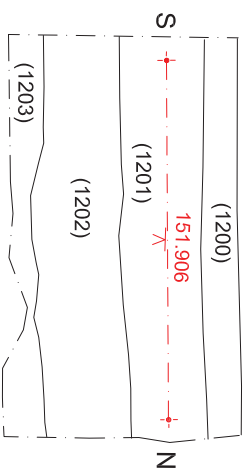
**Figure 22:**  
 Plans and sections  
 of test pits 12 to 16

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## **Appendix Two: Specialist Report on the ceramic assemblage**

### **Pottery from Dronfield Old Barn (OLD09)**

C.G. Cumberpatch BS PhD  
Freelance archaeologist

#### **Introduction**

The pottery assemblage from a test pitting survey in Dronfield (OLD09) was examined by the author on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The assemblage consisted of seventy-five sherds of pottery weighing 924 grams and represented a maximum of sixty-five vessels. The remainder of the assemblage was made up of a mixed group of ceramic building material, glass and other objects. The data are summarised in Table 1 and 2.

#### **Discussion**

The earliest sherd from the site was a piece of later medieval sandy ware from Test Pit 6, context 601. Although not identifiable to a specific type the general characteristics of this sherd indicated that it dated to the later 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century. The sherd was unabraded and was the only piece of pottery from Test Pit 6. Somewhat later in date was a heavily abraded sherd of Slipware from Test Pit 10, context 1000. This was clearly residual in a later context but presumably indicates the presence of activity on or close to the site in the 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The remainder of the pottery was of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century date and consisted of a mixture of horticultural wares (particularly common in Test Pit 10), utilitarian wares (Brown Glazed Coarseware and Stoneware) and tablewares. The latter group included one sherd from an 18<sup>th</sup> century Mottled ware mug which forms part of the early modern vernacular ware tradition while the remainder consisted of a mixture of later 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century Creamwares and mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century Whiteware, the latter both plain and transfer printed. One small group of sherds from Test Pit 11 (context 1106) included sherds from an Edged ware plate, the only examples of Pearlware from the site. Bone China was limited to later examples of the type and was generally undecorated.

The range of identifiable transfer printed designs was limited to Willow, Asiatic Pheasants and Barker's Gem with a small number of later unidentified designs as described in Table 1.

#### **Conclusion**

Although small in size, the assemblage is not without interest, indicating as it does a long history of activity in the area of the test pit survey. Only further and more extensive excavation will reveal the nature of this activity.

#### **Conservation and storage**

The assemblage requires thorough drying (many of the sherds were still wet when examined) before marking and deposition in an appropriate publicly funded and accessible archive where it will be available for examination by future researchers.

T Pit	Context	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
3	304	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	3	1	Lid-seated rim	Jar	Groove below rim	C19th - EC20th	
5	507	TP Whiteware	1	2	1	Rim	Saucer	Chinese landscape border	M - LC19th	
5	507	TP Whiteware	1	1	1	Rim	Saucer	Chinese landscape border	M - LC19th	
6	601	Late Medieval Sandy ware	1	13	1	BS	Hollow ware	Dark green glaze int & ext	LC14th - C15th	A hard, fine sandy reduced fabric of later medieval type
10	1000	Bone China	2	3	1	Rim	Saucer/plate	U/Dec	MC19th - EC19th	
10	1000	Bone China	1	2	1	Flatware	Flatware	U/Dec	LC19th - EC20th	
10	1000	Bone China	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	M - LC19th	
10	1000	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	134	1	Rim	Pancheon	Brown glaze int only	LC18th - C19th	Square-sectioned flat topped rim
10	1000	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	4	1	BS	Dish/bowl	Brown glaze int only	C18th - C19th	
10	1000	Creamware	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	c.1740 - c.1820	
10	1000	Creamware	1	1	1	Footring base	Plate	U/Dec	c.1740 - c.1820	
10	1000	Slipware	2	4	2	BS	U/ID	Clear glaze on soft white body; possible slip decoration	C17th - EC18th	Heavily abraded
10	1000	Stoneware	2	17	1	BS	Jar/flagon	Green int & ext	M - LC19th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	1	3	1	Rim	Plate	Fine blue printed scroll and leaf decoration int	M - LC19th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	1	1	1	BS	Flatware	U/ID design int	M - LC19th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	2	11	2	Rim & BS	Plate	Barker's Gem	1839 - 1893	Don Pottery; see Griffin 2001

10	1000	TP Whiteware	4	18	4	BS	Plate	Asiatic Pheasants	M - LC19th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	1	9	1	Base	Flatware	Willow	M - LC19th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	6	48	1	Rim & BS	Pedestal base	Celtic Knot style design printed blue-grey frieze	LC19th - EC20th	
10	1000	TP Whiteware	2	10	2	BS	Hollow ware	Celtic Knot style design printed blue-grey frieze	LC19th - EC20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	4	1	BS	Flowerpot	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	5	1	Rim	?Flowerpot	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	3	105	1	Base	Horticultural vessel	U/Dec	C19th - EC20th	Large thick-walled vessel
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	5	34	5	BS	Horticultural vessel	U/Dec	C19th - EC20th	Probably conventional flowerpots
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	18	1	BS	Horticultural vessel	U/Dec	C19th - EC20th	Micaceous fabric
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	2	23	2	Rim	Flowerpot	Clubbed rims	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	19	1	BS	Flowerpot	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	10	1	BS	Flowerpot	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Unglazed Red Earthenware	1	10	1	Base	Flowerpot	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	
10	1000	Whiteware	1	3	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	MC19th - EC20th	
10	1000	Whiteware	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	M - LC19th	
10	1000	Whiteware	1	15	1	Recessed base	Jar/bowl	Cream glaze int & ext	C19th	Unusual finish; crazed and discoloured
10	1000	Whiteware	1	8	1	BS	U/ID	U/Dec	M - LC19th	Odd sherd from an identified type of vessel
10	1000	Whiteware	1	3	1	BS	U/ID	U/Dec	M - LC19th	

10	1000	Whiteware	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	M - LC19th	
10	1005	Bone China	1	1	1	Rim & handle	Mug	U/Dec	C19th - EC20th	
10	1005	Whiteware	1	1	1	Rim	Dish/bowl	U/Dec	LC19th - EC20th	
11	1106	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	14	1	BS	Hollow ware	Two shallow incised line ext	C19th	
11	1106	Edged ware	8	34	7	Rim & BS	Plate	Blue painted edge, no moulding	EC19th	
11	1106	Stoneware	1	18	1	BS	Hollow ware	Green mottled ext, whitish int	C19th	
12	1201	Creamware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	c.1740 - c.1820	
12	1201	Whiteware	1	6	1	Base	Hollow ware	U/Dec	M - LC19th	
12	1203	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	131	1	BS	Pancheon	Brown glaze int only	LC18th - C19th	
12	1203	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	121	1	Rim	Pancheon/jar	Brown glaze int only	LC18th - C19th	Sharply everted rim w/ lateral handle below rim
13	1301	Mottled ware	1	4	1	Handle	Mug	Mottled brown glaze int & ext	C18th	
13	1301	TP Whiteware	1	16	1	Base	Flatware	Willow	M - LC19th	
13	1303	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C19th	
15	1501	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	18	1	Base	Pancheon/bowl	Brown glaze int only	C18th - C19th	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>65</b>					

Figure 22. Pottery from a test pit survey in Dronfield (OLD09)



T Pit	Context	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
10	1000	CBM	1	9	1	Fragment	Air-brick	N/A	Undated	
10	1000	CBM	1	22	1	Fragment	Brick/tile	N/A	Undated	
10	1000	CBM	1	335	1	Fragment	U/ID	U/Dec	C19th - C20th	Moulded corner fragment
10	1000	Concrete	1	12	1	Fragment	U/ID	N/A	Undated	Moulded concrete
10	1000	Glass	1	9	1	BS	Hollow ware	Cream matte finish	Undated	Requires separate report
10	1000	Stone	1	55	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	Undated	Requires separate report
10	1000	Stone	1	6	1	Fragment	N/A	N/A	Undated	
10	1000	Vitreous slag	2	3	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	Undated	Requires separate report
13	1301	Sewer pipe	1	19	1	Fragment	Sewer pipe	N/A	MC19th - C20th	Salt glazed sewer pipe
13	1303	CBM	4	15	4	Fragments	Brick/tile	N/A	Undated	
13	1303	Stone	1	2	1	Fragment	N/A	N/A	Undated	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>14</b>					

Figure 23. Ceramic building material (CBM) and other items from OLD 09

### Appendix Three: Context Register

Context / feature No.	Context Description	Max Dimensions (mm.)	Depth (m)	Colour of fill	Texture of fill	Small Finds
100	Concrete floor level					
101	Sand levelling layer					
102	Fractured angular sandstone slabs					
103	Black silty clay layer					
104	Natural boulder clay					
200	Concrete floor level					
201	Sand leveling layer					
202	Fractured angular sandstone slabs					
203	Black silty clay layer					
204	Natural boulder clay					
300	Sandstone block floor					
301	Cement bed for 300					
302	Compact clay & gravel fill of cut 303					
303	Cut feature N-S, possible utility					
304	Silty clay layer			Medium-dark brown		Pot
305	Clinker like deposit below 304					
306	Red brick layer between 301 & 304					
307	Rotted out wooden beam					
308	Sandstone support for 307					
309	Sandstone support for 307					
310	Sandstone support for 307					
311	Clay floor layer			Medium brown		
312	Silty sand between 301 & 306			Medium brown		
400	Concrete layer					
401	Red brick floor surface					
402	Levelling deposit for 401					
403	Beaten floor surface					
404	Levelling deposit					
405	Possible floor surface					
406	Made ground					
407	Made ground					
500	Concrete raft					
501	Sandstone blocks					
502	Limestone kerb					
503	Sandstone flag					
504	Levelling layer					
505	Red brick floor level					
506	Red brick wall					
507	Levelling layer					Pot
508	Fill of post hole 509					
509	Post hole cut					
510	Fill of post hole 511					
511	Post hole cut					
512	Post hole fill of 513					
513	Post hole cut					
514	Natural ground					

600	Compressed layer of sawdust & wood shavings				
601	Beaten floor surface				Pot
602	Natural				
700	Concrete surface				
701	Sandstone block surface				
702	Levelling deposit for 700 & 701				
703	Soft silty sand deposit				
704	Red brick structure E-W (N)				
705	Red brick structure E-W (S)				
706	Deposit between 704 & 705				
707	Silty clay surface		Light brown		
708	Wooden vertical post				
709	VOID				
710	Sandston & clay feature				
711	Fill of cut 712				
712	Square cut in SW corner				
713	VOID				
714	Fill of 715				
715	Square cut in W facing section				
716	Clay natural				
800	Concrete landscaping blocks				
801	Limestone gravel, made ground				
802	Limestone hardcore, made ground				
803	Compacted limestone hardcore, made ground				
804	Clinker layer				
805	Natural boulder clay				
900	Sandstone block surface				
901	Concrete bed for 900				
902	Sand levelling deposit for 901		Grey		
903	Compct deposit of small sandstone blocks				
1000	Topsoil supporting rough vegetation				Pot , clay pipe, glass,
1001	Made up ground of possible clinker				
1002	Thins lens of made up ground				
1003	Clinker layer, made up ground				
1004	Clayey sand, made up ground		Yellowish brown		
1005	Sandy clay, made ground		Dark brown		Pot , clay pipe
1006	Natural boulder clay				
1100	Turf line				
1101	Modern made ground				
1102	Sandy mortar/cement like deposit				
1103	Pea gravel fill				
1104	VOID				
1105	Made ground				
1106	Sandy clay deposit		Dark brown		Pot
1107	Subsoil				
1108	Natural boulder clay				

1200	Turf line					
1201	Silty clay made ground			Dark brown		Pot
1202	Silty clay			Black		
1203	Subsoil					Pot
1204	Natural boulder clay					
1300	Topsoil supporting turf					
1301	Subsoil layer					Pot, glass
1302	Natural boulder clay					
1303	Fill of 1304					Pot
1304	Circular cut at E					
1400	Sandston cobbled courtyard					
1401	Mortar/cement bedding layer for 1400					
1402	Levelling layer					
1403	Fine sand deposit					
1404	Sandstone blocks					
1405	Limestone hardcore					
1406	Cut of drainage channel					
1500	Topsoil & turf					
1501	Made ground			Brown		Pot
1502	Subsoil					
1503	Natural boulder clay					
1600	Modern topsoil & turf					
1601	Made ground					
1602	Natural boulder clay					