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Archaeological Field Evaluation

On behalf of

**Orchard Select Developments
and Cobra Properties Ltd**

Concerning

**Former Antique Showrooms
Pepper Lane
Ludlow
Shropshire
SY8 1PX**

September 2004



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1 Executive Summary

Border Archaeology was instructed by Bryden Wood Associates on behalf of Orchard Select Developments and Cobra Properties Ltd to undertake Archaeological Field Evaluation on the site of the former Antiques Showroom Pepper Lane Ludlow.

Pepper Lane and the immediate vicinity was the chief focus of the tailors' trade in Ludlow from the 13th to the 17th Century. Documentary evidence shows that the area to the south of Pepper Lane, which includes the site, was called 'Tailor's Yard' in the mid-13th Century.

The evaluation results reflected the significance of Pepper Lane during the medieval period. The substantial building remains uncovered suggested that a property of some importance once stood on the site, possibly comprising a dwelling and warehouse.

A series of 19th Century demolition deposits observed in much of the evaluation trenching, together with a paucity of earlier pottery, appear to reflect major redevelopment of the area at that time, sealing beneath them earlier layers of potential medieval date.

2 Introduction

Border Archaeology (BA) was requested by Bryden Wood Associates on behalf of Orchard Select Developments and Cobra Properties Ltd to carry out a programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation (AFE) on the site of the former Antiques Showroom Pepper Lane Ludlow.

2.1 Site Description

The site lies on the S side of Pepper Lane and at a height of some 104m AOD (*fig. 1*).

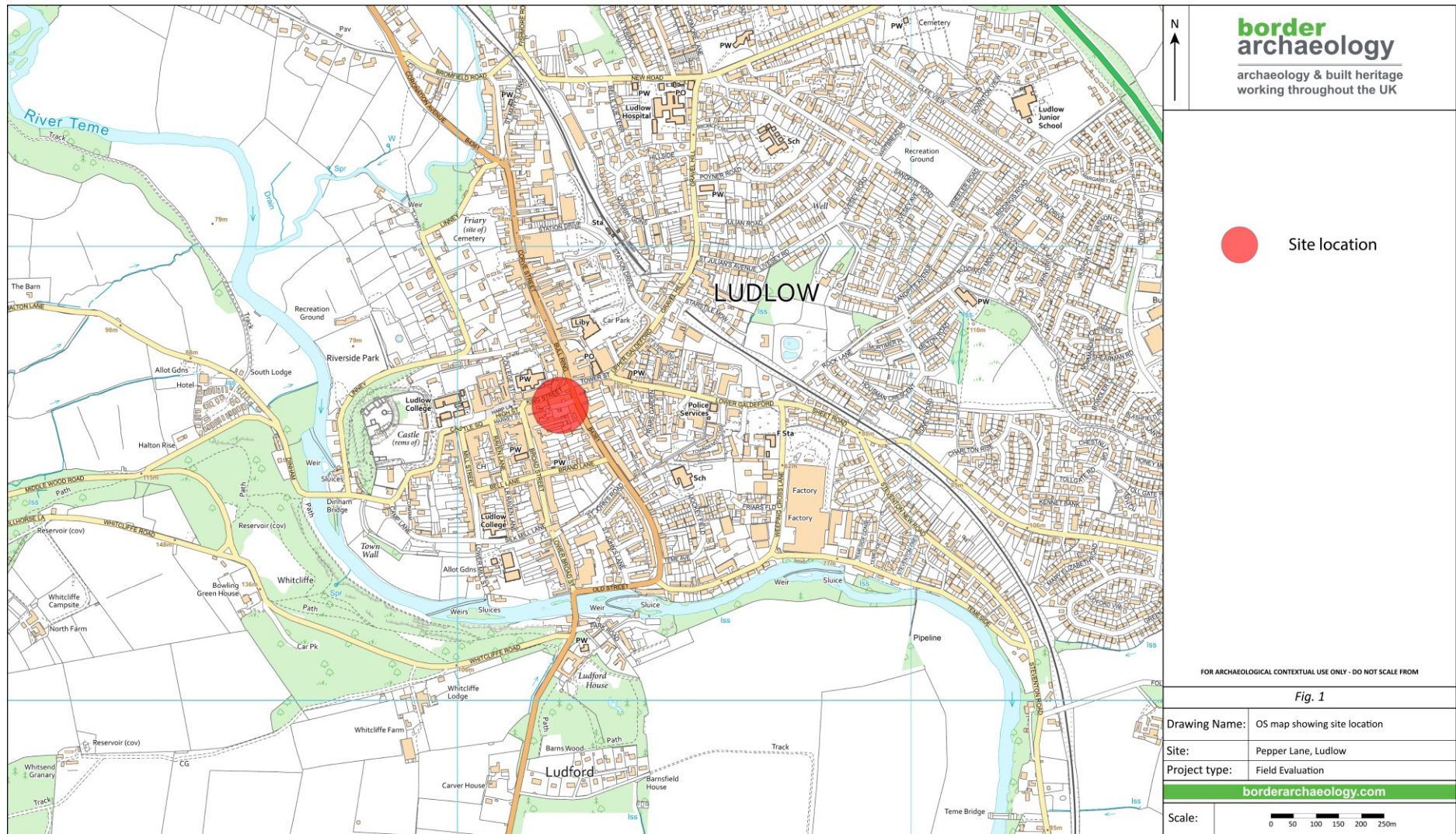
2.1.1 Soils and Geology

Ludlow is classified as an unsurveyed urban area by the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW 1983). Bands of brown alluvial soils of the LUGWARDINE (561d) and TEME (561b) series immediately N and W of the town consist of deep stoneless permeable silty soils over river alluvium. Argillic brown earths of the BROMYARD series (571b) lie to the NE, E and SE and consist of well-drained reddish fine silty soils over Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone, with MUNSLOW series (541i) brown earths composed of well-drained coarse silty soils over Silurian siltstone immediately SW of the town (SSEW 1983).

3 Brief Historical and Archaeological Background

It is suggested (Lloyd & Klein 1984, 13) that the site of the later town marks the intersection of two important prehistoric route-ways, one of which followed the N-S alignment of Old Street/Corve Street towards a fording point across the River Teme whilst the second, the 'Clun-Clee ridgeway', ran E-W to intersect with it at Corve Bridge. It is possible that the N-S route extending along the line of Old Street was reused during the Roman period (Watson 1989).

Evidence for early occupation is sparse and indications of possible prehistoric activity derive largely from circumstantial evidence concerning the discovery of a Neolithic greenstone axe (PRN: 03511) at Leys Meadow (NGR: SO 518 748), together with occasional flint finds, including an un-retouched flake found in 1982 in alluvial gravel approximately 60m S of Dinham Bridge (PRN: 02964) (NGR: SO 5075 7440) and a second flake found in 1983 in a garden at No 10 Sandpits Road (PRN: 03775) (NGR: SO 5188 7519).



A possible Bronze Age barrow site near the church (PRN: 01263) has been inferred from place-name evidence and a documentary source of 1199 (Gelling 1990, 186) recording the levelling of a large tumulus in the churchyard (NGR: SO 512 748) containing three skeletons in three cists; an iron spearhead (PRN: 01762) found nearby (NGR: SO 511 747) may be associated. Bronze Age funerary activity is attested in the wider landscape by a cemetery site recorded at Bromfield (PRN: 03060; NGR: SO 4804 7768) (PRN: 02327; NGR: SO 4808 7770) (PRN: 03956; NGR: SO 4772 7797).

The evaluation site is located immediately W of Old Street, which, as stated, is believed to have formed part of a Roman road running NNW-SSE between Ashton (Herefordshire) and its junction with Watling Street West at Marshbrook, to the S of Church Stretton (PRN: 02613). This would appear to be a continuation of the route (Route 613) between Weston-under-Penyard (*Ariconium*) and Ashton (Margary 1973). Excavations in the River Teme at the S end of Old Street revealed a ford believed to be of Romano-British date whilst a complex of enclosures recorded during excavations at Rock Green in advance of the A49 bypass in 1975 were assigned a similar date (Carver & Hummler, 1991, 84-97).

However, whilst there are indications of an earlier presence, no firm evidence of settlement occurs prior to the late 11th Century, the Domesday survey of 1086 ascribing the area now occupied by the town to the de Lacy family as part of the Stanton Lacy estate. Domesday also records a mill at Ludford (Thorn & Thorn 1983, 186d) and it is probable that there was an early settlement focus in this area on the S side of the river, close to the church.

No conclusive evidence concerning the emergence of the town is currently available due to the poor survival of documentary evidence and standing remains (Dalwood 1996). It is argued that the town emerged in the mid-12th Century as a linear settlement based on the Old Street/Corve Street axis (Hindle 1984, 5-6, *fig 1*). However, the argument has also been made that Dinham to the S of the castle (built 1086-95) (PRN: 01176) represents the earliest component of the medieval settlement (Conzen 1988) prior to its expansion along Corve Street, Old Street and Upper and Lower Galdeford in the later 12th Century as a series of 'plan units' inside the town wall (SA 1177), the N-S line of which runs to the E of Pepper Lane.

A block of unusually long tenement plots defined by Broad Street, Brand Lane, Old Street & Pepper Lane (PRN: 06191) may have formed part of this supposed 12th Century expansion, which was subsequently curtailed by plots established in Broad Street (Conzen 1988). From 1261, the land on Pepper lane was held by Geoffrey de Genevile.

A weekly market was established in the 13th Century and was chiefly known for the sale of wool throughout the 15th Century. Wool produced locally in the Shropshire and Herefordshire borderlands was considered to be of particularly high quality but sources in Wales were also linked to Ludlow by a network of drove roads. The wool trade enriched local merchants, such as Laurence of Ludlow, who built Stokesay Castle on the proceeds of his involvement in the wool trade. His wealth and political influence were exceptional but traders of more modest standing also became established locally and wool sales and cloth manufacture remained the primary source of the town's wealth until the 17th Century.

Ludlow Castle served as the presidential seat of the Council of Wales and the Marches, established in 1472 by Edward IV for the whole of modern Wales, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. The Council continued to sit until its abolition in 1689 and the town's central role promoted its regional standing still further.

Population stood at around 1,725 by 1377 and remained stable at roughly 2,000 inhabitants for several centuries thereafter. Ludlow supported 12 trade guilds in 1372, including metalworkers, shoemakers, butchers, drapers, mercers, tailors, cooks and bakers. The Palmer's Guild founded in 1284 by a group of burgesses assigned rent-charges on their property to endow three guild chaplains (Angold *et al.* 1973, 134-40).

With cloth production a key local industry, Pepper Lane became a focus of tailoring from the 13th to the 17th Century. Documentary evidence records the area to the S of Pepper Lane as 'Tailor's Yard' in the mid-13th Century and it was known by this name at least until the early 17th Century. A deed of 1267 mentions a grant to Aconbury Nunnery of a burgage plot to the S of 'the lane leading to the Tailor's Gate', which has been identified with Pepper Lane.

Previous archaeological work carried out at the Antiques Centre on the S side of Pepper Lane revealed significant archaeological potential. Evaluation trenching opened in 2003 immediately W of the current development (Event No. ESA5880) found part of the original street frontage had been removed by 19th Century cellarge and an alleyway or courtyard and brick building of 19th Century date were recorded to the E of the existing warehouse.

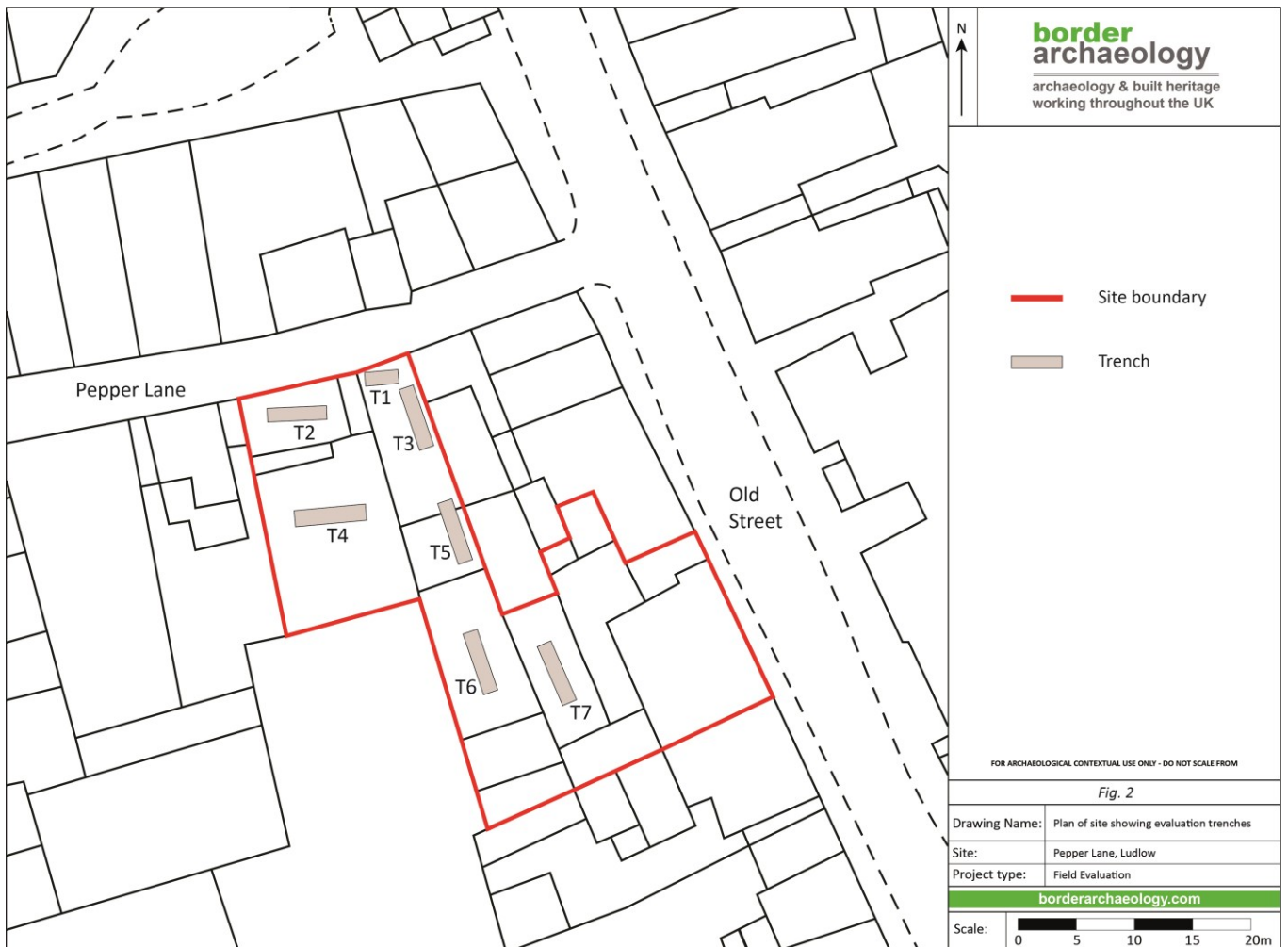
Structures of the late 16th or early 17th Century towards the rear of the property were found to have been erected on medieval made-ground, which was also seen in the trench to the E. Due to the slope of the ground and subsequent build-up, medieval deposits lay at a depth 1.3m below the modern ground surface; however, it is considered likely that, along the northern frontage, any surviving archaeological remains would be closer to modern ground surface. The existence of medieval made-ground suggests that structural remains of this date may survive elsewhere on the site, although none were found in the evaluation trenches (Kenney 2004)

4 Methodology

The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with *Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd Edition), commonly known as *MAP2* (English Heritage 1991).

4.1 Scheme of works

Seven evaluation trenches were opened (*fig. 2*) and undifferentiated topsoil and overburden of recent origin was removed by machine and untoothed ditching blade under archaeological supervision to the first significant archaeological horizon and thereafter by hand.



4.2 Recording

A written record was compiled using numbered pro-forma recording sheets with a drawn record produced on gridded, archive stable polyester film, trench plans and sections being drawn scales of 1:20 or 1:10, as appropriate.

Temporary benchmarks (TBM) were established at appropriate locations and plans and sections contain grid and level information relative to OS data. All drawings were numbered and listed in a drawing register, these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to the written record.

A photographic record of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures was made in black-and-white, colour print and slide formats. Photographs include an appropriate scale and are indexed and cross-referenced to the written record, with details concerning subject and direction of view maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame-number.

4.3 Recovery, processing and curation of archaeological data

In accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 2001), recovered artefacts were bagged and labelled with the site code and context number before being removed off-site and into storage pending specialist assessment.

4.4 Palaeoenvironmental and Palaeoeconomic sampling

No samples for palaeoenvironmental or palaeoeconomic purposes were taken.

5 Results

5.1 Trench 1

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	100		Structure	Existing concrete surface.	Indurated concrete; measures 0.12m thick, trench-wide. Overlies (101).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	101		Deposit	Layer of red clay.	Compact red clay; frequent building debris; measures <0.20m thick trench wide. Underlies (100). Overlies (102). Cut by [106].	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	102		Deposit	Rubble layer.	Moderately compacted mid grey-brown silty clay; frequent rubble, post-medieval CBM, charcoal, mortar & garden soil; measures 0.2m thick. Underlies (101). Cut by (107). Overlies (103).	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	103		Fill	Mixed layer.	Layer of mixed mid red clay & rubble, frequent CBM, mortar & silt; measures 0.12m thick. Overlies (104) (at W side of trench). Underlies (102). Overlies (104).	-	✓	-	-	-	C18 pottery.
5	104		Structure	Stone wall.	Masonry; stone; aligned NE-SW; roughly squared & split s/stone; 3 courses; green to yellow earth bonding; size of materials: c.0.35m × 0.2m × 0.1m; measures >2m × >1.4m × >0.3m. Underlies (103) (at W side of trench). Overlies (105).	-	-	-	-	-	Possibly medieval.
6	105		Deposit	Layer in base of trench - possibly disturbed natural.	Moderately compacted mid grey-green gritty clay silty; charcoal, CBM & mortar; measures 1.8m E-W × 1.4m N-S. Underlies (104).	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	106		Cut	Service trench filled by ceramic	Linear in plan; aligned NNE-SSW; measures 1.4m × >0.2m × 0.8m. Cuts (101).	-	-	-	-	-	-

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
				pipe.							
7	107		Structure	Post-medieval masonry structure	Masonry; s/stone blocks; randomly coursed; lime mortar bonding; measures >0.0m x >0.4m x 0.45m. Cuts (102).	-	-	-	-	-	Located in NE corner of trench.

5.2 Trench 2

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	201		Structure	Modern wall associated with inspection chamber.	Square in plan; brick; unfrogged; stretcher bond; measures 0.4m x 0.4m x 0.3m. Fill of [205]. Underlies (213).	-	-	-	-	-	Evidently part of a C19/C20 toilet.
2	202		Fill	Services (drainage).	Drainage pipe; tile & yellow clay. Underlies (201). Fill of [205]. Abutted by (207)	-	✓	-	-	-	C19 pottery.
3	203		Structure	Brick/stone wall.	Masonry; roughly coursed, greenish mortar bonding; measures >2m x 0.3m x 0.6m. Overlies (204). Cut by [205]. Abutted by (207).	-	✓	-	-	-	C18 pottery.
4	204		Deposit	Layer.	Firm mixed mid red clay; frequent CBM & subangular stone rubble; measures >2m (width) x 0.3m (thickness). Underlies (203). Overlies (206), (216), (218).	-	✓	-	-	-	Seen in section. C18 pottery.
5	205		Cut	Drainage cut.	Break of slope top sharp, sides irregular, base flat; measures 0.4m (width) x 0.6m (depth). Filled by (201), (202). Cuts (203), (208).	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	206		Layer	Redeposited	Firm mid yellow-green clay; measures >0.2m (width) x >0.5m	-	-	-	-	-	In base at E end

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
				natural? Possible surface.	(thickness). Underlies (204), (220).						of trench.
7	207		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; aligned E/W; measures >1.3m × 0.6m × 0.3m. Abuts (203). Abutted by (208). Overlies (209), (210).	-	-	-	-	-	Set at 90° to (103).
8	208		Structure	Surface.	Masonry; cobbles; measures >2.2m × 1m × 0.2m. Overlies (209). Abuts (207). Cut by [205].	-	-	-	-	-	Cobbling on W side of wall (211) & N of (207)
9	209		Deposit	Layer.	Firm dark brown organic clay; charcoal & CBM; measures >2.6m E/W × >0.7m. Underlies (207), (208).	-	✓	-	-	-	Not excavated. C16-C18 pottery.
10	210		Deposit	Layer.	Firm mid orange-brown loam; frequent CBM; measures >2.6m × >0.3m. Underlies (207).	-	-	-	-	-	Not excavated.
11	211		Deposit	Possible demolition deposit.	Moderately compacted rubble masonry; measures 1.4m E/W × 0.7m N/S × 0.4. Underlies (219). Abuts (212). Overlies (220).	-	-	-	-	-	Located at E end of trench.
12	212		Structure	Surface.	Masonry; squared stones, kerbing on N & W sides; measures >0.5m × >0.5m. Abutted by (211).	-	-	-	-	-	In base of trench - extended outside trench on S & E sides.
13	213		Deposit	Consolidation for (222).	Loose aggregate of crushed brick rubble; c.80mm thick. Underlies (222). Overlies (201), (214).	-	-	-	-	-	Associated with surface (222).
14	214		Deposit	Layer - possible levelling.	Moderately compacted mid brown sandy clay; measures >2m (width) × 0.3m (thickness). Overlies (217). Underlies (213).	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	215		Deposit	Layer.	Mortar; white; measures >1.4m (length) × <0.1m (thickness). Cut by [221]. Overlies (216).	-	-	-	-	-	One of a series of demolition & levelling dumps.
16	216		Deposit	Layer/lens.	Firm mid yellow-green clay; measures >1.6m (length) × <80mm (thickness). Underlies (204), (215).	-	-	-	-	-	Seen in section; possibly redeposited

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
											natural.
17	217		Deposit	Fill.	Moderately compacted dark grey silt; charcoal; measures >2m (width) × <1m (depth). Fill of [221]. Underlies (214).	-	-	-	-	-	Formed layer where overflowed cut to E.
18	218		Deposit	Layer.	Firm mid yellow-green clay; charcoal; measures >1.7m (length) × 0.1m (thickness). Underlies (204). Overlies (219).	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	219		Deposit	Layer.	Firm mid orange-brown sandy clay; measures >2m (width) × 0.1m (thickness). Underlies (218). Overlies (211).	-	-	-	-	-	Seen in section.
20	220		Deposit	Layer.	Firm dark brown silty organic clay; CBM & burnt clay flecks; measures >1m (width) × >0.3m (thickness). Underlies (211). Overlies (206).	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	221		Cut	Post-medieval pit.	Not visible in plan; break of slope top gradual, sides near-vertical, base not seen; measures >0.8m E-W × >1m (depth). Cuts (215). Filled by (217).	-	-	-	-	-	Fill (217) appeared to overflow feature.
22	222		Structure	Modern surface.	Indurated concrete; measures 5m × 1.8m × 0.2m. Overlies (213).	-	-	-	-	-	-

5.3 Trench 3

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	301		Structure	Existing concrete surface.	Indurated concrete; measures >5m N-S × >2m × 0.08m. Overlies (302).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	302		Deposit	Demolition layer below concrete.	Loose brick, stone & mortar; measures 0.2m thick trench-wide. Underlies (301). Overlies (303), (312).	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	303		Deposit	Fill.	Loose mid brown silty rubble; measures 2m N-S × >0.6m × 0.8m; Underlies (302). Fill of [305].	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	304		Deposit	Fill.	Moderately compacted mid brown silty clay; measures 1m N-S × >0.6m E-W × 0.5m. Underlies (302). Fill of [306]. Cut by [305].	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	305		Cut	Pit.	Irregular in plan; break of slope top moderate, sides (as visible) steeply (N), base undulating. Filled by (303). Cuts (304).	-	-	-	-	-	Possibly two intercutting features.
6	306		Cut	Pit.	Irregular in plan; break of slope top moderate, sides gradual, base concave; Cuts (310). Filled by (304). Truncated by [305].	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	307		Structure	Surface.	Masonry; brick; measures 0.1m thick. Underlies (302). Abuts (309), (312). Overlies (310).	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	308		Cut	Construction cut for (309).	Not seen; measures >2m (length), width not established. Cuts (310). Filled by (309).	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	309		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; brick; running bond (2 courses); measures >2m (length) × 0.2m (height). Abutted by (307). Fill of [308].	-	-	-	-	-	Width unknown. C20.
10	310		Deposit	Consolidation for (307).	Moderately compacted dark grey-brown/black silt clay; frequent charcoal & mortar; measures 0.16m thick. Underlies (307). Overlies (311). Cut by [306], [308].	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	311		Structure	Surface.	Masonry; cobbling; measures >1.4m E-W × 3.5m N-S. Underlies (310).	-	-	-	-	-	Not excavated.

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
12	312		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; stone. Abutted by (307). Underlies (302).	-	-	-	-	-	Possibly reused stone. Possible association with (311).

5.4 Trench 4

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	400		Structure	Surface.	Indurated concrete; measures >5m × >1.2m × 0.1m. Overlies (401).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	401		Deposit	Topsoil.	Friable dark grey-brown humic loam; frequent modern debris; measures >5m × > 2m × 0.06–0.1m. Underlies (400). Overlies (402).	-	✓	-	-	-	C18 pottery.
3	402		Deposit	Garden soil.	Friable mid brown humic silty clay; modern debris & gravel lenses, frequent charcoal & CBM flecking; measures >5m E-W × >2m N-S × 0.4m. Overlies (403), (405), (407), (409). Underlies (401).	-	-	-	-	-	LC18-C19. Thicker to S.
4	403		Deposit	Fill.	Friable mid grey-brown humic silty clay; frequent charcoal & modern debris; measures 0.7m × 0.5m × 0.45m. Underlies (402).	-	✓	-	-	-	C19 pottery.
5	404		Cut	Modern rubbish pit.	Square in plan; sides vertical, base flattish; measures 0.75m × 0.75m × 0.45m. Filled by (403). Cuts (411).	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	405		Deposit	Fill.	Moderately compact mid grey brown soil measuring measures 0.2m deep × 0.2m wide. Fills [406]. Underlies (402).	-	-	-	-	-	-

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
7	406		Cut	Posthole.	Circular in plan; sides steeply sloping, base concave; measures 0.2m (diameter) × 0.32m (depth). Filled by (405). Cuts (411).	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	407		Deposit	Fill.	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay; animal bone; measures 0.5m (diameter) × 0.2m (depth). Fills [408]. Underlies (402).	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	408		Cut	Pet burial.	Sub-circular in plan; break of slope top sharp, sides near-vertical, base flat; measures 0.5m (diameter) × 0.2m (depth). Filled by (407). Cuts (411).	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	409		Deposit	Fill of recent garden/boundary feature [410].	Moderately compact brown silt clay; modern debris; measures >2m × 0.45m × 0.25m. Underlies (402). Fills [410].	-	-	-	-	-	Modern debris includes newspaper dated 1983.
11	410		Cut	Garden/boundary feature.	Linear; aligned N-S; sides gradual, base concave; measures >2m × 0.45m × 0.25m. Filled by (409). Cuts (411).	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	411		Deposit	Levelling dump of garden soil.	Friable mixed mid grey-brown humic silty clay & yellow silt; measures >5m × >2m × 0.4m. Cut by [404], [406], [408] & [410]. Overlies (412).	-	✓	-	-	-	C18-C19 pottery. C13-C14 CBM (rooftile).
13	412		Deposit	Rubble layer.	Moderately compacted/friable crushed rubble & mortar; measures 0.30m (max thickness) to E &. Underlies (411). Overlies (413), (417), (421), (422).	-	✓	-	-	-	Shallower to W. C14-C15 CBM (rooftile) & MC18 pottery.
14	413		Deposit	Demolition layer.	Loose grey-brown clay gravel; frequent medium angular to subangular stones; measures >2m × >1.5m × <0.3m. Abuts (415). Underlies (412). Overlies (414).	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	414		Deposit	Layer.	Loose mid grey-brown sandy clay; moderate gravel, very frequent angular to sub-angular medium stones; measures >1.5m × > 2m. Underlies (413) (422)(?). Abuts (415).	-	-	-	-	-	Not excavated but possibly associated with

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
											demolition of (415).
16	415		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; stone; aligned N-S (faces E & W); roughly squared & split, randomly coursed; 7 courses; greenish (possibly earth) mortar bonding; size of materials: av. 300 × 400 × 100mm; measures >1.2m × 0.8m × >0.45m. Underlies (419). Fills [418]. Abutted by (413), (414). Cut by [416]. Fills [418].	-	-	-	-	-	Robbed at N end.
17	416		Cut	Robber cut.	Subcircular in plan; sides steeply sloping, base concave; measures 0.4m (diameter) × 0.3m (depth). Cuts (415). Filled by (417).	-	-	-	-	-	Extended outside trench.
18	417		Deposit	Fill.	Friable mid grey-brown gravel clay; occasional medium flat subangular stone & CBM. measures >4m (diameter) × 0.3m (depth). Fill of [416]. Underlies (412).	-	-	-	-	-	CBM probably derived from (412) above
19	418		Cut	Construction cut.	Linear in plan (as seen); aligned N-S; break of slope top sharp, sides near-vertical, base not seen (presumed flat); measures >0.4m (length) × >0.85m (width). Filled by (415), (419). Cuts (420).	-	-	-	-	-	Seen in <i>sondage</i> only.
20	419		Deposit	Backfill of construction cut.	Firm dark brown sandy silt; occasional black & fired clay flecks. 0.85m wide; Fills [418].	-	-	-	-	-	Later than (415).
21	420		Deposit	Natural?	Firm yellow-green clay; moderate small stones & manganese flecks. Cut by [418].	-	-	-	-	-	Not excavated- seen in sides of [418].
22	421		Structure	Surface.	Masonry; cobbling; size of materials: av. 170mm × 70mm × 90mm. Underlies (412). Overlies (422).	-	-	-	-	-	Included flat stones at E end, possibly forming a gully.
23	422		Deposit	Layer.	Firm pink brown clay with sandstone fragments; measures	-	-	-	-	-	Relationship

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
					c.0.5m × 0.6m × >0.1m. Underlies (412). Overlies (414)(?).						unclear

5.5 Trench 5

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	501		Structure	Existing surface.	Indurated concrete; measures 5m × >1.8m × 0.14m trench-wide. Overlies (502).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	502		Structure	Possible surface.	Masonry; brick; measures > 5m (length) × > 1.8m (width). Underlies (501). Cut by (507). Overlies (503).	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	503		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compacted mid brown humic silty clay; measures 0.2m (max thickness) trench-wide. Underlies (502). Overlies (504).	-	-	-	-	-	One of a series of garden soil dumps.
4	504		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compacted mid grey-brown humic silty clay; measures 0.2m thick. Underlies (503). Overlies (505).	-	-	-	-	-	To S of wall (508).
5	505		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compacted mid grey-brown humic silty clay; moderate stones & CBM; measures 5m × 1.8m × 0.5m thick. Underlies (504). Overlies (506).	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	506		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compacted mid brown humic silt clay; frequent large charcoal flecks; >0.3m thick. Underlies (505). Overlies (510).	-	-	-	-	-	In base of trench.
7	507		Cut	Cut filled by (508), (509).	Linear in plan; break of slope top sharp. Sides vertical, base presumed flat; measures 0.9m N-S × 1m (depth). Filled by (508), (509). Cuts (502).	-	-	-	-	-	Base not seen.

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
8	508		Deposit	Fill of [507].	Moderately compacted mid brown silty clay; moderate small-medium stones; measures 0.9m N/S × 1.1m (depth). Fills [507]. Overlies (509).	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	509		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; brick; grey/white mortar; 0.2m (width) × 0.0m (height). Fills [507]. Underlies (508).	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	510		Deposit	Dump of stones, demolition deposit.	Stone; measures 1.50m E/W × 3m N/S. Underlies (506). Overlies (511).	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	511		Deposit	Layer.	Firm pink clay; frequent black flecks; measures 5m N-S × 1.8m E-W. Underlies (510).	-	-	-	-	-	-

5.6 Trench 6

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	600		Structure	Existing surface.	Indurated concrete; measures >5m N-S × >1m × 0.14m. Overlies (601).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	601		Deposit	Layer.	Loose mixed rubble; frequent CBM, stone, concrete, sand, gravel, soil & coal; measures 0.4m (max thickness) trench-wide. Underlies (600). Overlies (602).	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	602		Deposit	Layer – garden soil.	Moderately compacted mid brown humic silty clay; occasional CBM, charcoal & coal; 0.2m (thickness) trench-wide. Underlies (601). Overlies (603), (604), (605).	-	✓	-	-	-	-
4	603		Structure	Retaining wall.	Masonry; brick (single skin); measures c. 0.1m (width) × 0.4m (height). Same as (604). Abuts (606). Underlies (602).	-	-	-	-	-	Brick wall at N end of concrete

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
											pad. Associated with (604) & (605) - earlier than (605).
5	604		Structure	Retaining wall.	Masonry; brick (single skin). Same as (603). Abuts (606). Underlies (602).	-	-	-	-	-	Brick wall at N end of concrete pad. Associated with (603) & (605).
6	605		Deposit	Consolidation.	Loose sand & mortar; frequent rubble, CBM, iron, coal, charcoal. Underlies (602).	-	-	-	-	-	Edges defined by walls (603) & (604).
7	606		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compact mid brown humic loam; measures >5m (length) x >1m (width). Overlies (607). Abutted by (604).	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	607		Deposit	Layer - garden soil.	Moderately compact dark brown humic loam; frequent charcoal; measures <3m x >1m x 0.4m. Underlies (606). Overlies (608).	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	608		Deposit	Layer.	Moderately compacted mid green-brown silt; moderate CBM/burnt clay, charcoal, mortar flecks & angular stones; >0.1m (thickness). Underlies (607).	-	✓	-	-	-	-

5.7 Trench 7

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
1	701		Structure	Existing surface.	Indurated concrete; measures >5m N-S x >1.4m x 0.2m. Overlies (702).	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	702		Deposit	Levelling for (701).	Moderately compacted mixed red sand/humic silty clay; moderate gravel & rubble; measures >5m x >1.4m x 0.34m (max thickness). Underlies (701). Overlies (703)	-	✓	-	-	-	C19 pottery.
3	703		Deposit	Layer - garden type soil.	Moderately compacted mid grey-brown humic silt clay; moderate charcoal, gravel & rubble. measures <0.3m thick trench-wide. Overlies (705), (706), (710). Underlies (702).	-	✓	-	-	-	LC17-C18 pottery.
4	704		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; stone; rough-hewn, red clay bonding; aligned E-W. measures >2m x 0.3m x >0.2m. Abutted by (705).	-	-	-	-	-	Located at S end of trench.
5	705		Structure	Surface.	Masonry, cobbling; rough-hewn sandstone; measures 1m N-S x >1.4m (depth unknown). Abuts (704). Underlies (703).	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	706		Deposit	Layer.	Moderately compacted mid grey-green silty clay gravel; moderate medium stone rubble; measures 2m N-S x >1.4m x 0.5m. Underlies (703). Overlies (708).	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	707		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; stone; aligned E-W; 3 courses rough-hewn; measures >0.9m x 0.3m x 0.2m. Underlies (703). Overlies (706).	-	-	-	-	-	Located at N end of trench.
8	708		Deposit	Layer.	Firm mid red clay; moderate small stones; >2m x >1.4m x 0.1m. Underlies (706). Overlies (709).	-	-	-	-	-	Shallower at S end of trench where peters out. C16/C17 & C18 pottery.

Item	Context No.	Matrix Phase	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
						Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
9	709		Deposit	Layer.	Moderately compacted mid red-grey loam; frequent gravel, stone, charcoal, mortar & coal; measures >2m N-S x >1.40m x >0.2m. Underlies (708).	-	-	-	-	-	Seen in base of trench.
10	710		Structure	Wall.	Masonry; stone; aligned N-S; rough-hewn; size of materials: av. >0.20m x 0.20m; measures >0.7m (length) x >0.2m (width). Underlies (703).	-	-	-	-		Possible return of (707).

6 Discussion

6.1 Trench 1

The trench (*fig. 3*) was oriented E-W and measured 2m × 1.5m. The existing surface (100) consisted of a 0.12m thick layer of concrete, which was present trench-wide. Beneath it, a layer of red clay with building debris (101) may have formed consolidation for the surface. Underlying (101), (102) was a further layer of silty clay containing rubble. It overlay rubble layer (103), which contained 18th Century pottery.

In the E and W section of the trench, c.0.35m below existing ground level, was the corner of a lime-mortared sandstone block wall (107) randomly coursed and standing to a height of 0.45m. Its shallow depth suggests a post-medieval date.

Wall (104) (*fig. 4*) lay c.0.65m below existing ground level. It was located at the W side of the trench and formed part of the section. Oriented NE-SW, it was constructed of roughly-squared and split sandstone, bonded by a green to yellow earth mortar. The upper portions of the wall stood to a height of three courses (c.0.30m). It was not possible to ascertain whether the exposed side of the wall was the internal or the external elevation owing to the position of the wall within the trench section.

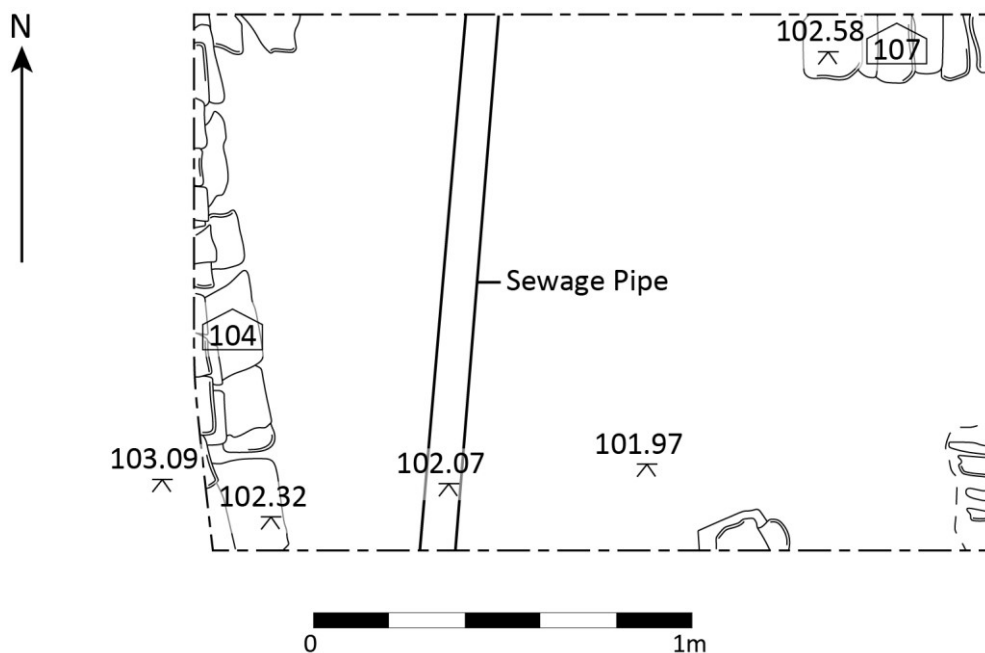


Fig 3 Trench 1 Plan

Although there was a general paucity of finds within the sealing deposits and around the walls, the fairly deep

position of wall (104) within the stratified sequence suggested a medieval provisional date. The greenish silt (105) identified in the base of the trench may have been a disturbed natural or naturally derived deposit.

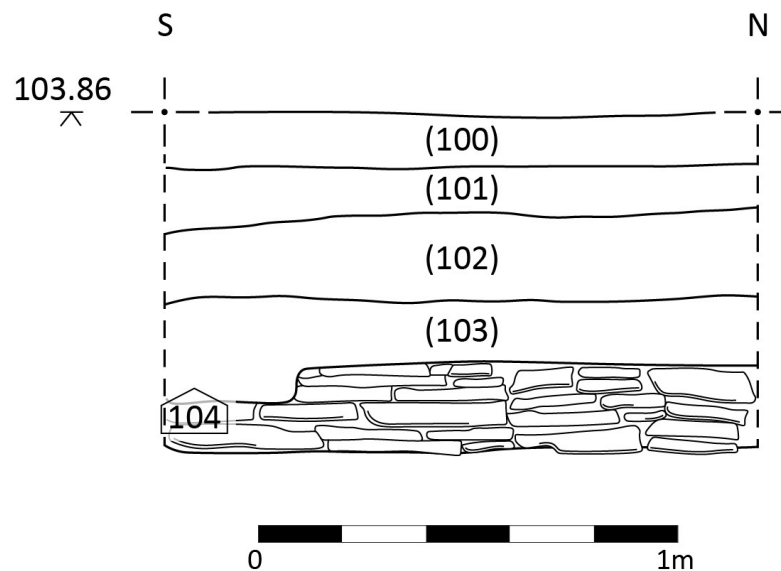


Fig. 4: Trench 1 E-facing section

6.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 (*Plate 1; figs. 5 & 6*) was oriented E-W and measured 5.00m × 2.00m. Underlying the concrete surface (222) was a consolidation deposit (213) of crushed brick rubble; in turn this overlay a levelling deposit of brown sand (214). Also underlying (213) was a modern brick structure (201) constructed of stretcher bonded unfrosted red brick, apparently part of a 19th or 20th Century toilet. The structure measured 0.40m square and appeared to have been inserted (cut [205]) into an earlier structure, wall (203). Also filling cut [205] was yellow clay (202) the packing for the drainpipe.

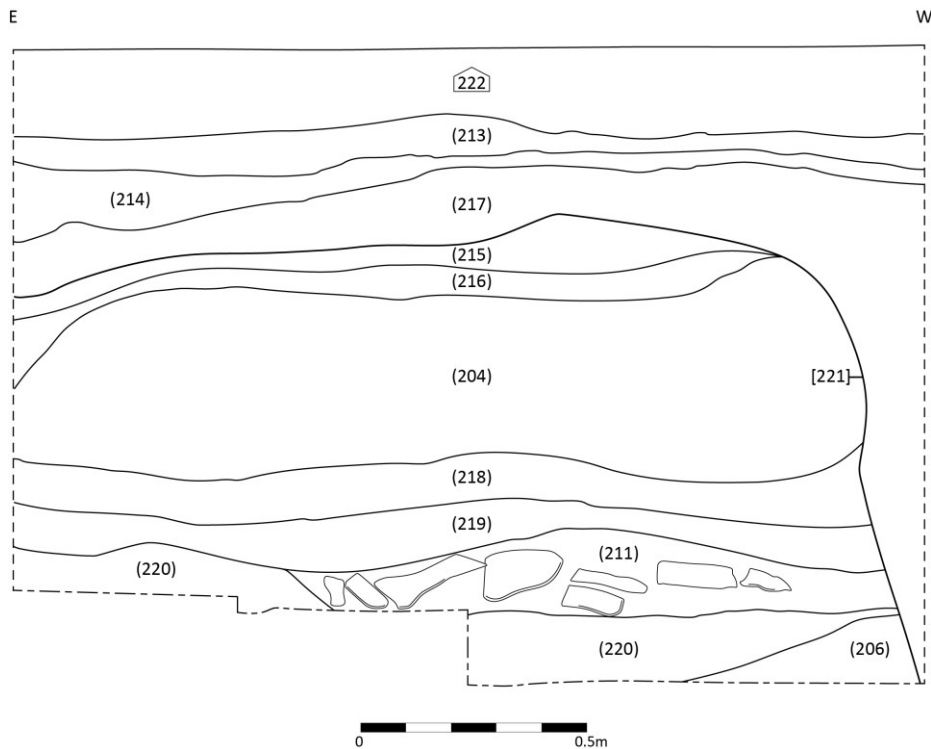


Fig 5 Trench 2: N-facing section at E end of trench

The removal of the 18th Century levelling and demolition layers to the N of this surface exposed a spread of stone fragments (211). No structural form was observed within the spread which may have been a further layer of demolition debris or a damaged surface. It abutted (212), the corner of a kerbed structure which extended outside the trench on its S and E sides. It was well constructed, of squared sandstone and lay 1.13m beneath the existing surface suggesting a comparatively early date.

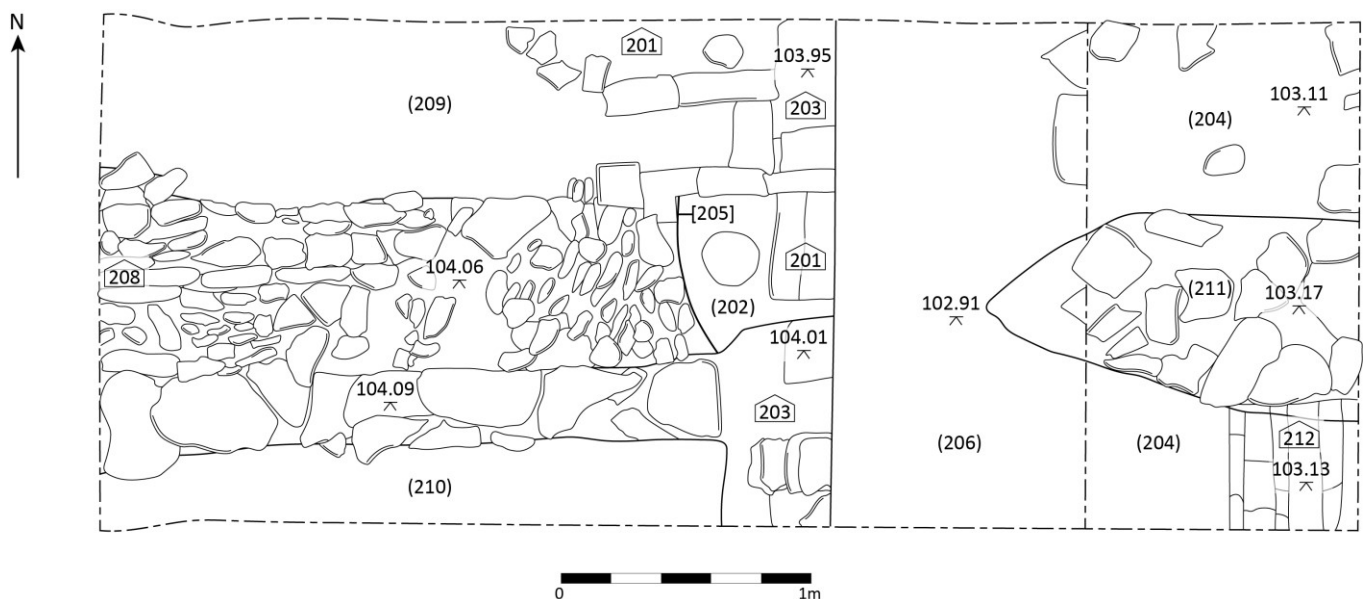


Fig 6: Trench 2 plan with S extent of (211) removed

In the base of the trench was (206) a yellow green clay, possibly naturally derived. It may have been the latest of the series of surfaces and occupation horizons of redeposited natural material recorded during the subsequent excavation.



Plate 1: Trench 2; view W showing wall (203) and inserted modern features (210) etc.

6.3 Trench 3

Oriented NW-SE, Trench 3 was located within the northern part of the development and measured 5m × 2m. Removal of a concrete surface (301) and demolition deposit (302) revealed two surfaces separated by a 20th Century dividing wall (309). Both surfaces were observed at c.0.3m below the existing ground surface. The more northerly of the two (307) was constructed of red brick and appeared to abut the remains of stone walling (312). The southern area was made up of cobbling of comparable size to red bricks. Both floors probably dated from the early 20th Century. Given its position within the upper section of the stratigraphic sequence, the sandstone walling abutted by the red-brick floor surface probably attests to the reuse of materials from an earlier structure near to or on the site. Lying directly beneath these floors was a uniform stone cobbled surface (311). Cutting into this surface were post-medieval pits [305] and [306] of mid-to-late 19th Century date.

All pottery from this trench was unstratified: it comprised material of late 18th to 19th Century date.

6.4 Trench 4

A single stepped trench (*fig. 8*), oriented E-W and measuring 8.0m × 3.50m, was excavated within the western part of the development.

Beneath the existing concrete surface was a dark grey brown humic topsoil with frequent modern debris, it was present over the surface of the trench and overlay (402) a mid-brown disturbed garden soil containing modern debris and also spreads of gravel.

Sealed by (402) were the fills (403), (405) (407) and (409) of four cut features [404], [406], [408] and [410]. Of these [4004] appeared to have been a rubbish pit while linear [410] was probably a garden feature. Its fill (409) contained newspaper dated to 1st March 1983 and it seems likely that the remaining features at this level were of similar date. Cut [406] was an isolated posthole, possibly also a garden feature, while [408] contained a pet burial.

The deposit (411) into which these features were cut was a mixed levelling dump of garden soil, yellow silt containing pottery dating to the middle of the 18th Century. Two fragments of medieval roof tile were also present in this deposit. Underlying (411) was a layer (412) of crushed rubble and mortar some 0.30m thick at the E end of the trench but rather shallower to the W, where it overlay an apparent demolition dump (413). Pottery from (412) was very mixed and included mid-18th Century types such as Staffordshire manganese-mottled slipware and redwares together with five sherds of 14th to 15th Century redware and a fragment of ceramic building material of similar date. Underlying (413) was a loose grey brown clay with some gravel and very frequent angular to sub-angular medium sized stones. It may have been associated with the demolition of wall (415) or associated structures. It overlay a layer of firm grey brown sandy clay from which no finds were recovered, and which abutted wall (415). It may have been a floor or yard surface.

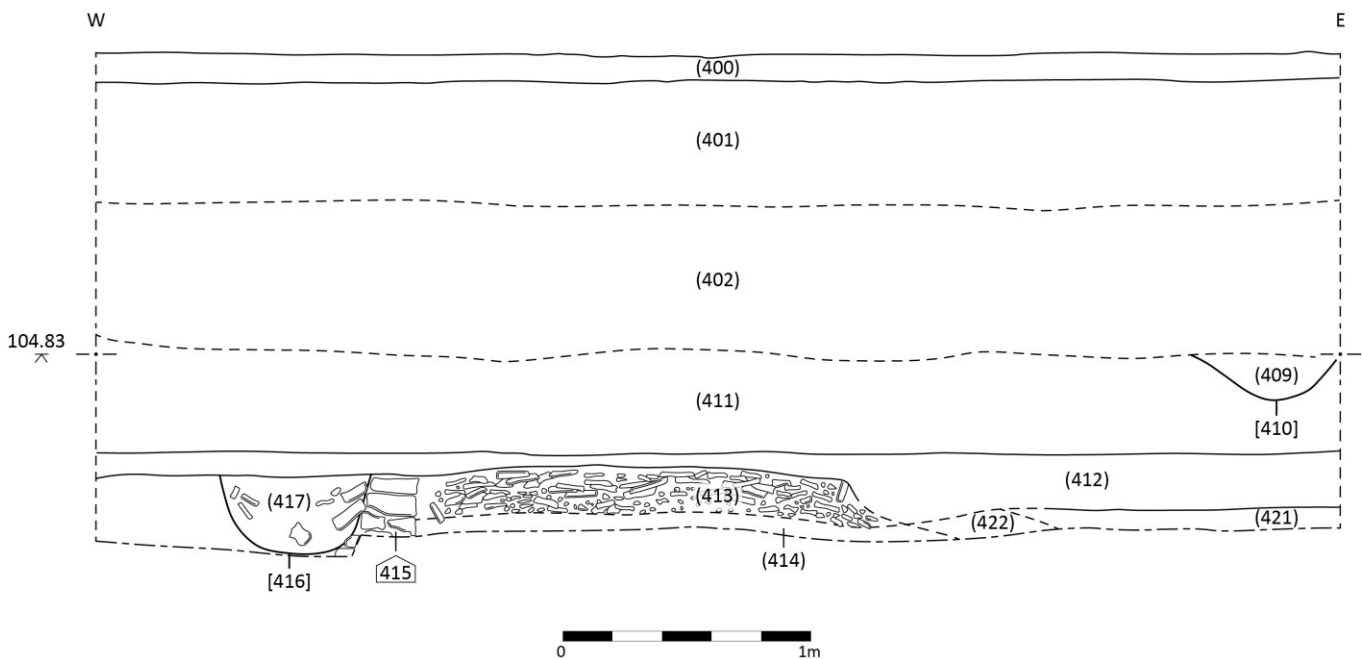


Fig. 7: S-facing section of Trench 4

The wall (415) lay at the W end of the trench. It was oriented N-S and was constructed of randomly coursed and roughly squared and split sandstone bonded by a yellow-green lime or possibly earth mortar. If the bonding material was an earth mortar it is possible that its decay had led to the apparently random coursing of the stonework. The wall was 0.80m wide and comprised seven courses standing to a height of c.0.45m. The construction cut [418] for this structure was observed within a slot trench positioned on its western side. The fill (419) may have been the same as that of similar deposits encountered during the subsequent excavation – a dark brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks and flecks of burnt clay.

A pit [416] probably circular in form but extending outside the trench was cut into the upper part of the wall. It is possible that it was a robber cut. The fill (417) was a mid-brown gravel clay containing fragments of CBM. It may have derived from (412) above.

It is likely that the cobbling (421) at the E end of the trench was associated with the wall but had been truncated on its W side prior to the deposition of an 18th Century demolition spread. The surface extended outside the evaluation trench to the E where a series of larger flat stones in the cobbling may have formed a gully or drain. The cobbles were set into a red clay (422).



Fig. 8: Trench 4 plan

Seen in the section of construction cut [418] was a firm yellow green clay (420) which seems likely to be the natural deposit on the site.

6.5 Trench 5

Oriented NW-SE, the trench was excavated within the central area of the development; it measured 5m × 2m and was excavated to a depth of 1.3m beneath the existing ground surface. After the initial break-up of the concrete surface (501), a further surface (502), of brick, was revealed beneath which lay a sequence of successive garden soil deposits (503) to (506). There was some variation in deposits to the N and S side of cut [507] for wall (509) etc. with deposit (504) not recorded to the S. At irregular intervals within the garden deposits were 18th Century demolition spreads containing fragments of Staffordshire slipware and stoneware pottery types. Underlying (506), in the base of the trench, was a demolition deposit (510) which overlay (511) a layer of pink clay with frequent charcoal flecks. No deposits of archaeological significance were encountered in Trench 5.

6.6 Trench 6

Oriented NW-SE, Trench 6 trench was located within the southern area and measured 5m × 2m. Only a small percentage of the trench was excavated due to a concrete pad - (603), (604), (605) - filling the majority of the trench. A small slot trench positioned in the SE corner was excavated to a depth of 1.1m below the existing ground surface. A number of homogenous 19th Century garden deposits, (602), (606), (607), were seen in all the four visible sections of the slot trench. Pottery of 18th Century date was recovered from the trench but no significant archaeology was encountered.

6.7 Trench 7

Oriented NW-SE, the trench was excavated within the SE corner of the development area to the rear of No 12 Old Street and measured 5m × 2m. Beneath the concrete floor (701), was a mixed layer (702) of red sand, together with garden soil, charcoal and rubble. It was probably a levelling deposit for surface (701) above. A

further rubbly layer (703) of garden-type soil sealed a cobbled surface (705). The corner of a structure (704) was revealed at a depth of c.0.45m below the existing floor surface. The southernmost portion of the cobbled surface appeared to slump towards the central part of the trench, which may attest to the existence of sealed medieval deposits beneath, possibly a refuse pit.

Two walls aligned E-W ran across the trench; (704) was of irregular but roughly-shaped stone bonded with red clay Cobbled surface (705), of roughly-shaped stone, abutted the first of these. It was considered likely that the stones were reused from an earlier structure. At the W end of the trench, wall (707) survived to three courses (0.2m) high and was also of roughly-shaped stones. The wall may have returned (710) to the N.

No finds were recovered from layer (706), a greenish silty clay with rubble, but (708) beneath it contained three sherds of Staffordshire -type ware dated to the 18th Century, together with a sherd of a black-glazed cup, which may be of 16th or 17th Century date.

The pottery from context (709) seen in the base of the trench was all of medieval date and included the substantial decorated handle of a jug or pitcher dating to the 13th -14th Century. together with other later medieval wares. The presence of five sherds of medieval pottery from (709) may suggest that wall (707) was of medieval date.

7 Conclusions

The evaluation revealed structural remains of medieval date located within an area known since the mid-13th Century as 'Tailor's Yard'. The substantial wall discovered in Trench 4 (aligned true N) clearly represents a possibly high-status dwelling attesting to the importance of Pepper Lane and its immediate locality during the medieval period. Insufficient evidence was recovered at evaluation to confirm the purpose of this building but the substantial wall could have been part of either a dwelling or a warehouse dating to the time when Pepper Lane was known as being the centre of tailoring in the town.

Evaluation ceased at a point where the presence of deposits and structures of medieval date on the site was proven and their depth beneath the existing ground surface established. The fact that excavation ceased at this point meant that little pottery of early date was recovered during the course of the work although six fragments of later medieval pottery was recovered from context (412).

The series of demolition deposits observed in the majority of the evaluation trenches, together with the paucity of pottery, indicates a major redevelopment of the area, which, according to the cartographic evidence, appears to have taken place during the early 19th Century.

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10 Appendix 1: Pottery Assessment

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10.1 Summary

A total of 382 sherds (11317g) of pottery was recovered during the evaluation at Pepper Lane. The majority was of post-medieval date, predominantly from the middle to later part of the 18th Century. The excavated contexts provided a wide range of mainly coarse wares sourced in Staffordshire/Bristol. It was noticeable that only a single sherd of locally-produced post-medieval coarse ware, from the Welsh Borderland kilns, was present.

Given that the prominent position of the site in the centre of Ludlow means it would almost certainly have remained in occupation from the medieval period until recent times, the comparative lack of earlier post-medieval pottery is surprising. This could be accounted for by excavation bias (as excavation ceased once archaeological levels had been established); however, it was assumed at the time of the evaluation that site clearance must have taken place in the later post-medieval period.

The sourcing of the later post-medieval material contrasts to that of the medieval pottery examined, which was predominantly from the local area. The change in supply was no doubt a response to the improved transport of the post-medieval period, including the construction of canals and the turnpike road system, allowing imported wares into the town.

The range of fabrics of later post-medieval date might reflect Ludlow's importance as a social and economic centre during the 18th and earlier part of the 19th Century.

10.2 Method

The pottery was sorted according to fabric and form using work by Draper (2001) and Laing (2003) and the results were entered on an Excel spreadsheet, available as part of the site archive. Although flower pots were present and were included in the catalogue, they are not included in the tables below.

10.3 The pottery

10.3.1 The medieval pottery

Eleven sherds of pottery from the evaluation excavation were of medieval date. One of these, a sherd which may have been of Coarse Border ware (CBW), and was much abraded, came from context (411) where it was found with a large number of later types.

Five sherds of a quartzitic fabric (LuB4) similar to Malvern Chase wares but lacking the igneous rock characteristic of Malvernian fabrics (Vince 1985, 48) were found in context (412). This type was almost certainly manufactured locally and has previously been found on Corve Street (BA 2014). One of the remaining sherds from the same context (412) had an internal glaze; it may have been of 13th or 14th Century date and was possibly produced in

Worcester. A base sherd of a sandy white ware with an internal green glaze, may also have been of Coarse Border Ware; the internal glaze, in any case, suggesting a later medieval date. Ceramic building material of medieval date was also present in this context (10.3.4).

Context (709) contained only pottery of medieval date. The handle of a large jug or tripod pitcher in Herefordshire fabric A4 (Vince 1985, 41) was highly decorated with knife-cut grooves and slashes, together with possible applied decoration (*Plate 1*). The decoration and manufacture suggest a date at the beginning of the range for this fabric, probably in the middle part of the 13th Century (*Plate 1*). The sherd appeared to be better-made than the majority of pottery of this fabric. From the same context came a sherd of a jug in a highly micaceous redware, thumbled at the base. The base was worn, suggesting that the vessel had been in use for some time before it was eventually broken. It is likely to be of similar date to the pitcher handle. Also present in the same context were two sherds of LuB4 of medieval or later medieval date, including a small rod handle which had been luted onto the body of the vessel.

Fabric	Context	No. Sh	Wt. g	Comments
CBW?	411	1	8.5	Internal bright green glaze. Much abraded.
C2?	412	1	6.4	Sandy reduced fabric; internal glaze; C13-C14.
LuB4	412	5	58.7	Clear green speckled glaze; Malvern Chase type C14-C16.
LuB4?	709	1	41.4	Thumbled base, splash of clear glaze inside C13-C14. Evidence for wear on the base of the vessel. Very micaceous.
LuB4	709	1	14.9	Small rod handle with clear green speckled glaze; had been luted onto the vessel.
LuB4	709	1	12.6	External clear green speckled glaze. Uneven firing.
Silts	709	1	138.1	Large strap handle with applied and knife-cut decoration. Dark green glaze.

Table 1: Medieval fabrics from the site



Plate 1: Handle of a jug or pitcher in siltstone-tempered ware from (709)

10.3.2 The post-medieval pottery (16th-18th Century)

- *Cistercian type wares (Table 2)*

Pottery of 16th or early 17th Century date accounted for only eight sherds of the evaluation pottery (2.8% of the total). The seven sherds of 16th Century Cistercian type ware (CIST) were residual in the contexts from which they were recovered, all of which also contained pottery of 18th Century and later date.

A single sherd with a yellow green glaze from context (204) may have been 17th Century Midlands Yellow or Ticknall type ware (MIDSY). The context also contained 18th Century Staffordshire -type mottled slipware.

- *Vitrified coarse earthenware*

Vitrified coarse earthenware is part of the Midlands Purple ware tradition and it may have been made at Ticknall in S Derbyshire; it dates to the 17th -18th Century. Although not usually classed as stoneware, the high temperature firing of vitrified coarse earthenware (VCE-eight sherds) gave it stoneware qualities that made it particularly suitable for utilitarian uses, particularly for containing fluids. A sherd from (703) is thought to be from a chamber pot. The comparative paucity of this fabric on the site may be a result of its earlier date in the post-medieval sequence.

A single unstratified sherd of late 17th to 18th Century Westerwald stoneware (WEST) was recovered from Trench 5, where it was found with Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire stoneware. The paucity Rhenish stoneware on the site when it is relatively common elsewhere may be a result not only from the postulated clearance of the site in the later medieval period but the comparatively isolated position of Ludlow until the later post-medieval period.

Fabric	Context	No.Sh.	Wt. g	Comments
MIDSY	204	1	12.4	Possible Ticknall ware C17.
CIST	209	2	24.8	Internal/external black gl.
CIST	411	1	20.2	Cup; internal/external black gl.; C15-C16.
CIST	412	1	3.5	Internal/external black gl.; C15-C16.
CIST	702	1	7.2	Cup; internal/external black glaze.
CIST	708	2	18.9	Internal/external black glaze. 1(?) overfired redware.
COAR	411	1	11.4	Welsh Border ware. Redware C17.
VCE	411	1	67.5	Black glaze C17-C18.
VCE	411?	3	63.3	Internal/external black glaze.
VCE	412	1	26.6	Internal and external black glaze.
VCE	702	1	29.4	Black internal & external glaze.
VCE	703	1	20.8	-
VCE	U/S	1	14.3	-
West	TR5	1	4.7	Cobalt decoration.

Table 2: Earlier post-medieval wares by context

- *Staffordshire type wares (Tables 3 & 4)*

Approximately 53% of the pottery recovered was a product of the Staffordshire/North Midlands industry (202 sherds). Either red (73 sherds) or white (37 sherds) bodied coarse ware was present to the almost complete exclusion of local coarse wares, with only a single sherd of the latter type recovered. This is likely that to be a function of the late date of the majority of the evaluation contexts. The majority of the Staffordshire coarse wares were large items of kitchenware, such as mixing bowls or pancheons.

Staffordshire mottled slipware (STMO), which dates to the middle to later part of the 18th Century (Vince 2002, 87), accounted for 49 sherds, 24% of the North Midlands-type pottery and 12.8% of the total pottery from the site. A variety of forms were present, including tankards and coarse wares such as jars.

Examples of slipwares (STSL) with trailed and combed or a marbled slip decoration were present, although there were no examples of the elaborately decorated 'jewelled' slipware which dates to the late 17th or early 18th Century. Marbled decoration (two examples), one in context (412) and the other in the unstratified pottery from the site, dates to the early to mid-18th Century.

Two examples of press-moulded decoration were present. An unstratified example from Trench 5 was painted in brown and white slip and was of a type similar to that made by Samuel Malkin (1668-1741) (Cooper 1968, 108), although the sherd was too small to identify the design. With the exception of the utilitarian kitchen and baking ware mentioned above, the most common slipware form was the dish or charger. These were normally intended for display rather than for use.

Fabric	Context	No.Sh	Wt. g	Comments
STRE	202	1	11.5	Wiped, no external slip.
STRE	TR3	1	5.3	-
STRE	401	2	27.6	-
STRE	409	1	28.8	Internal black glaze; very coarse.
STRE	411	19	866.5	Internal black/brown glaze.
STRE	411?	9	407	Both black and white internal slip.
STRE	412	4	62.8	Internal black gl.
STRE	TR5	1	12.2	-
STRE	602	2	273.9	-
STRE	606	1	8.9	-
STRE	607	12	203.9	-
STRE	608	5	114.3	-
STRE	708	2	18.1	-
STRE	U/S	12	602.6	-
STW	402	1	10.4	Black internal slip/glaze.
STW	411	6	279.7	-
STW	411?	2	99.5	Internal slip & glaze; external red brown slip.
STW	412	1	29.1	Mottled manganese brown glaze; STMO type.
STW	TR5	5	101.7	Black internal slip/gl.
STW	602	1	94.1	Internal black slip/gl.
STW	606	1	24.9	-
STW	607	11	165.3	-
STW	608	5	130.3	-
STW	708	1	45.8	-
STW	U/S	3	187.7	-

Table 3: Staffordshire coarse-wares by context

Fabric	Context	No.Sh.	Wt. g	Comments
STMO	103	1	18.3	-
STMO	204	2	30.9	Jar.
STMO	402	1	3.9	-
STMO	411	9	147.3	Various forms.
STMO	411?	4	183.2	-
STMO	412	2		-

Fabric	Context	No.Sh.	Wt. g	Comments
STMO	TR5	6	67.3	Various forms.
STMO	606	3	48.5	-
STMO	607	9	115.8	(?)tankards with turned grooves.
STMO	608	5	51.3	-
STMO	U/S	7	484.8	-
STSL	TR3	1	10.8	Combed slip.
STSL	403	1	9.8	Black internal slip/glaze – white spots at rim.
STSL	411	7	170.5	Combed and trailed slip.
STSL	411?	8	134	2 trailed slip; 1 moulded, S. Malkin type.
STSL	412	2	29.3	1 × trailed, 1 × marbled slip.
STSL	TR5	2	20.2	Press moulded decoration.
STSL	606	1	25.3	Trailed slip.
STSL	607	11	226.1	Highly decorated mug, dishes trailed & combed slip.
STSL	703	1	38.7	Trailed white slip on red body.
STSL	608	4	59.9	Combed slip.
STSL	U/S	4	136.2	Marbled, trailed & combed slip.

Table 4: Staffordshire manganese mottled wares and slipware by context

- *Tin-glazed wares*

Of similar date to the Staffordshire wares, 20 sherds of tin-glazed wares (Ting; 5.2% of the pottery from the site) were found in Trenches 2, 4 and 6, with the majority from Trench 6. A sherd decorated with an inscription within a wreath is of a style dating to between 1670 and 1754. The glaze on two sherds from (202) was blueish in colour suggesting a date between 1687 and 1703. Sponging of the type seen on a sherd from (411) was at its most popular between 1730 and 1780. Tin-glazed wares were made at a number of centres, including Bristol (Laing 2003, 115), but were superseded by the more robust creamware around 1770.

- *Nottinghamshire stoneware (Notts)*

Of slightly later date were six sherds of Nottinghamshire stoneware with lathe-turned decoration. This material dates to the 18th Century.

All seven sherds of white salt-glazed stoneware (WSGSW) came from (411)/(411)? and included a plate with a gadrooned edge. White salt-glazed stoneware was used mainly for tableware; like tin-glazed ware, it was superseded by creamware from the last quarter of the 18th Century. A sherd of a plate with a royal rim was recovered from (411), but apart from a possible cup, the remaining sherds in this fabric could not be identified as to form. White salt-glazed stoneware was superseded by creamware (CRM-16 sherds) around the middle of the 18th Century (Draper 2001, 39).

Fabric	Context	No.Sh.	Wt. g	Comments
EBS	204	1	144.3	V. large vessel – cistern?
EBS	TR3	2	24.9	1 sherd burnt.
EBS	411	8	203.1	1 × mottled, remainder brown gl.
EBS	U/S	2	165.3	1 salt gl.
Porcelain	411	1	6.3	Hand painted.
Ting	202	4	23.2	1 × painted decoration.
Ting	401	1	8.3	-
Ting	411	6	129.7	1 × sponged; c.1730-1760.
Ting	607	2	46.3	1x painted wreath, 1 × blue tint to gl.
Ting	608	5		Sponged decoration; 1700s -1780s.
Ting	U/S	2	32.9	Painted decoration. One tile?
Notts	103	2	5.9	Machine turned grooves.
Notts	204	1	7.6	Machine turned grooves.
Notts	411	1	5.5	Rouletting. Fabric declines by 1775.
Notts	TR5	1	16.3	-
Notts	607	1	7.3	-
WSGSW	411	6	60	Most popular MC18. 1 sherd burnt.
WSGSW	411?	1	10.5	Cup?

Table 5: Other post-medieval fabrics by context

10.3.3 The later post-medieval pottery

Pottery of modern date accounted for 13.9% of the total from the site (53 sherds). Additionally, 10 fragments of flowerpot were present but are not included in the total above – at least one of these was manufactured by Sankey's so a post-1855 date is assured. Just over a third of the modern pottery was transfer-printed (TPW) or pearlware but modern stoneware, fragments of flagons or jars were also present. This material was probably made in Bristol and was manufactured up until around the time of the Second World War. Four fragments of this type from context (411) advertised 'W. Howson, Wine & Sp...', a company based at Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire, which was also a licensed victualler, tea-merchant and grocer and dealt in china and earthenware. The company ceased trading in 1904 (<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/27764/page/1137/data.pdf>).

Although transfer-printed ware came into use in the later part of the 18th Century, the decorative schemes on the material from Pepper Lane all suggested a 19th Century date. Recent decorated wares included seven sherds of Mocha ware, three from context (411) and the remainder unstratified in Trench 3. This type dates to the end of the 18th Century through the 19th into the 20th Century.

Pearlware resulted from attempts to produce a whiteware similar in appearance to Chinese and English porcelain without the yellowish colour of creamware and was introduced at the end of the 18th Century, continuing to be produced through the 19th Century. A sherd with a feathered edge was found in context (411) and further examples of this type were found in the pottery from Trench 3.

A further 10 sherds of plain utilitarian machine-made white ware were found, four of which were present in the fill of a Victorian pipe-trench. From (202), the backfill of a trench, for the insertion of a sewer, came four sherds of machine-made white glazed ware of 19th Century or later date confirming the date for the insertion of the toilet and drainage.

Fabric	Context	No. Sh	Wt. g	Comments
Pearl	U/S	2	32	Painted dish signed on base.
Pearl	TR3	2	20.5	1 × TPW.
Pearl	411	3	32.1	1 × embossed edged ware, green; 1820s to 30s.
BRSTN	411	9	147.3	Cup; internal/external black gl.; C15-C16.
BRSTN	411?	4	171.3	Includes flagon from 'Howson's Wine & Spirit Merchants'; pre-1904.
BRSTN	U/S	7	1305	Flagon.
BRSTN	401	3	102.5	Two sherds from modern flagons.
BRSTN	602	1	356.94	Flagon.
TPW	TR3	11	106.6	Willow pattern; one sherd burnt.
TPW	601	2	11.6	-
TPW	411	2	29.8	1 with turquoise transfer.
TPW	702	1	22.7	Rose-briar – sheet transfer. Jug.
TPW	411?	1	12.4	-
REFE	202	4	67.9	Plain white refined earthenware.
REFE	403	1	9.5	-
REFE	702	1	47.8	-
Mocha	TR3	4	20.3	Various designs and colours, LC18+.
Mocha	402	1	8.9	Machine turned grooves LC18+.
Mocha	411	3	18	One dendritic dec.; remainder turned grooves.
China	TR3	2	18.1	White, ribbed; LC19.
China	411?	1	18.1	Plain white; C19.

Table 6: The later 19th to 20th Century pottery by context

10.3.4 The ceramic building material

Modern and later post-medieval ceramic building material was not retained. Ceramic building material of medieval date was recovered from contexts (411) and (412). Two fabrics were present. One, fabric LudB4, was similar to the pottery and was almost certainly a product of the same industry. The other was a fragment of siltstone-tempered ware thought to have been manufactured in the N Herefordshire or S Shropshire region. This fabric is also found in Hereford (Vince 1985, 40) where it is dated 13th-14th Century, although roof tiles have not so far been found there.

10.3.5 Conclusions

The mid to late 18th Century date for the majority of the pottery from the site is a period when improved transport links meant that a quantity of pottery from outside the immediate area was brought into Ludlow.

The lack of pottery from the early post-medieval period is almost certainly a result of demolition and site clearance processes taking place probably in the 19th Century. It was apparent that medieval surfaces and deposits over much of the site lay immediately beneath later post-medieval material.

Given the prominent position of the site, it is unlikely that it lay unoccupied between the 15th and 17th Century and therefore material relating to this period must have been removed at some point. Subsequently, it seems likely that parts of the site may have been levelled-up prior to the laying of cobbled surfaces and the erection of minor structures, such as those represented by wall (203). In this case, some of the post-medieval pottery on the site may derive from middens or dumps elsewhere in the town.

10.3.6 Recommendations

All pottery from the evaluation has been catalogued. While the medieval and early post-medieval material should be retained as part of the site archive, a considerable amount of the pottery from the site was of later post-medieval and modern date. In addition to unstratified material from the site, all pottery from Trenches 3 and 5 is unstratified and material assumed to be from (411) but which also could not be assigned to a secure context could be disposed of in accordance with Ludlow Museum's *Standards and Guidelines for the Deposition of Archives* (p.5). This recommendation takes into account the late date of this material.

10.3.7 References

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11 Appendix 2: Clay Tobacco Pipe Assessment

Graham Berlyn

Clay tobacco pipe (CTP) from Trenches 4 and 5 was examined in August 2004.

A single fragment of a stem of a pipe with a medium outside diameter and an inside diameter of 4/64 inch marked across the axis was recovered from Trench 4 (411). The letters and the bars between them were in relief, the letters serif. Some of the letters were difficult to identify making it impossible to say for certain who the maker was. However, the pipe dates to later than 1720.

The remaining CTP was from all from Trench 5.

1. Pipe bowl of Broseley type 1b (1640-1660), marked under the flat round heel with initials in relief sans serif. Some decoration within circle around initials. Maker's name could not be determined as a result of damage to the left-hand letter. The lip of the bowl was damaged. Clay possibly of local origin.

Some evidence for milling & bottered.

Stem - Large outside diameter, inside diameter 7/64 inch. May have been burnished. Had been smoked.

2. Clay pipe bowl, local type of Broseley 1d, 1660-1680, marked under the round heel 'WV'. Initials in relief sans serif. Product of Ludlow pipe-maker William Underwood senior. Clay may have been imported from Devon.

Milled 4/4 & bottered 4/4.

Stem - Large outside diameter, inside diameter 6/64 inch. Burnished. Had been smoked.

3. Pipe bowl, local type of Broseley 5a 1680-1730, marked under the tailed heel with wheel symbol in relief, typical of many found at Pipe Aston N. Herefordshire, but not exclusively so. Maker's name not known. Clay imported from Devon. Milled 4/4 and bottered.

Stem - Large outside diameter, inside diameter 6/64 inch. May have been burnished. Possibly unsmoked.

4. Pipe bowl, local type of Broseley 1b, 1640-1660, unmarked flat round heel. Possibly imported clay.

Milled 3/4 & bottered.

Stem - Large outside diameter, inside diameter 7/64 inch. Fair finish. Had been smoked.

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5. Pipe bowl, local type of Broseley 1d, 1660 – 1680, unmarked flat round heel. Clay possibly imported.

Milled 4/4 & bottered.

Stem - Large outside diameter, inside diameter 7/64 inch. Good finish, possibly burnished. Had been smoked.

Two pipe clay items from the same trench may have been kiln-plugs used for supporting goods being fired in a pipe kiln. It was thought possible that the two pieces could have been part of the same item and were of 17th and 18th Century date. They were of imported clay and were well-finished.

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