

Stoney Croft, East Street (Plots 1-3), Pembridge, Herefordshire

to include:
Archaeological Observation

NGR SO 393 581

SMR No. 32825

Report No. 2002-11-12



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Cover: Medieval/Post-Medieval well uncovered in Plots II and III

Archaeological Observation at Stoney Croft, East Street (Plots 1-3), Pembridge, Herefordshire

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Border Archaeology was commissioned by Border Oak Ltd to carry out archaeological observation on land at East Street, Pembridge, Herefordshire (NGR SO 393 581). The archaeological observation was in response to a planning application (NW01/3359/F) and subsequent development of the site. The site lies close to the northern boundary of the village and was divided into three plots - referred to as Plots 1 to 3.
- 1.2 Herefordshire Archaeology, the monitoring authority, issued a method statement outlining an archaeological programme of work. The purpose of the work was to assess the nature of any archaeological remains and to indicate possible measures to mitigate the impact of development. The programme of work included archaeological observation of all footing trenches. Herefordshire Archaeology anticipated the survival of significant Medieval and Post-Medieval remains on or near the site. Pembridge was a town during the Medieval period and, according to the RCHME inventory of 1934, has a number of unique 14th century buildings.
- 1.3 This archaeological programme of work, incorporated into the planning proposal, is set within the guidelines of Planning Policy Guidance 16 (PPG 16). The proposed development of the site included construction (by Border Oak) of three detached dwellings.
- 1.4 All archaeological work complied with standards set by the Health and Safety Executive. Potential hazards were outlined prior to excavation within a pre-works risk assessment.
- 1.5 A copy of this report will be submitted to Border Oak, the owners of the plots of land at Stoney Croft, East Street, Pembridge, and Herefordshire Archaeology. A further copy will be submitted to the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), Herefordshire Council.
- 1.6 The archaeological observation was undertaken during the spring and autumn of 2002 by project archaeologists Paul Jones, Stuart Whatley, George Children and Thomas Wellicome.

2.0 BRIEF HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Pembridge is situated in west Herefordshire and is regarded as one of the most historically important 'black-and-white' villages in this part of England. A number of important 13th century (or earlier) buildings lie within the village boundary.
- 2.2 The place-name evidence dates to 1086 (if not earlier). The village is referred to in Domesday Book as *Penebrug(g)e* (Coplestone-Crow 1989:156). The first element *Pene* probably denotes a personal name, whilst the second element *brug* means 'bridge'; thus *Pena's bridge*. Later spellings include *Pena Burga* (1096), *Penbrugge* (c. 1148), *Pembrug* (1317), *Penbregg* (1327) and *Pennebrugge* (1406). Assuming the original name refers to a bridge crossing, possibly a few hundred metres to the north of the main street, the settlement [Medieval borough] has apparently shifted south onto slightly higher ground, perhaps as a result of ribbon development along an established road between Leominster and Kington.

- 2.3 Domesday Book lists Pembridge under the ownership of Alfred of Marlborough and it was probably within the Elsdon Hundred (Thorn & Thorn 1986). Although the lands are within the ownership of Alfred, the survey states:

PEMBRIDGE. Earl Harold held it. 11 hides, less 1 virgate; they pay tax. In lordship 3 ploughs; 20 villagers, 7 smallholders and 1 riding man with 12 ploughs. 3 slaves; a mill at 10s (50p). There was woodland there for 160 pigs, if it had produced (mast). The Canons of St Guthric's claim this manor of Pembridge; they state that Earl Godwin and his son Harold wrongfully took it from St Guthlac's.¹ Value before 1066 16 pounds; later it was waste; value now 10 pounds and 10 shillings.

- 2.4 Many of the Medieval buildings that stand within a series of burgage plots along Church Street, East Street, Market Place and West Street date from the 13th and 14th centuries. It appears that the settlement - like others in the area (e.g. Eardisland, Eardisley and Weobley) - developed the characteristics of a (borough) town around this time. Prior to this phase, the settlement moved to its present location.
- 2.5 Pevsner (1962:269) mentions a well preserved 13th century border castle (NGR SO 391 580). This comprises a round tower, that may be earlier than 1200, and a curtain wall and gatehouse (with semi-circular towers), added during the 13th century. A 16th century chapel lies close to the north tower. The site appears to have been defensive during the early Medieval period, probably in response to border tensions. However, by the 17th century the defensive features had been incorporated into a manor house. A large hall was constructed during this period. Shoemith (1996:186) refers to a moated site in Pembridge as the Court House moated site.² It is not clear whether this site is the same as that described by Pevsner.
- 2.5 The parish church of St Mary, located south of the Market Place, dates to the Norman period and has an unusual 14th century detached bell tower. Much of the fabric of the church is 13th and 14th century. According to Pevsner, the original church must have been larger than the present building (1962:267).
- 2.6 Concerning the history of East Street, Pevsner describes a number of 16th century buildings. As the town grew, plots (with associated buildings) probably began to multiply eastwards from the town centre (around the Market Place). This pattern of ribbon development extended beyond the site on either side of the road. It should be noted, however, that several buildings in East Street, including Pig Cottage, date to the 14th century. The site itself was probably occupied by a domestic structure (or structures) during the Late Medieval/Early Post-Medieval period. Although there appears to be no supporting documentary evidence, the archaeological findings - including a well, several ditches and a makeshift hearth - corroborate this observation. The lack of structural evidence may be due either to the shallowness of the excavations or to the fact that these particular soils were not cut by foundations.

¹ note that many personal names appear to be Saxon. This might explain why the settlement was de-valued after 1066 by 5 pounds and 10 shillings.

² Shoemith (1996:186-88) also lists a further four moated sites which are sited within the vicinity of Pembridge. However, these are earthworks rather than standing structures.

3.0 GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The soil association around Pembridge is a ROWTON 571A and consists of well-drained fine silty and fine loamy soils. These soils overlie locally lain glaciofluvial and/or river terrace gravels and till. There are, in places some fine silty soils which overlie clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils; these are sometimes prone to waterlogging.
- 3.2 The soils from the site derive from the underlying parent bedrock, namely Old Red Sandstone. In several instances rounded stone was recorded which indicateterrace gravels. However, the majority of stone found within natural deposited soils was angular and sub-angular in form suggesting soil/bedrock interfacefragmentationandlateral movement.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The site comprised three plots, each occupied by a newly constructed timber-framed dwelling. The aim of the programme of archaeological work was to locate and record any archaeological remains revealed during the ground works phase of development. Herefordshire Archaeology considered that significant sub-surface remains, in form of deposits, features and structures, maysurvive.
- 4.2 After an initial inspection, the development area was excavated mechanically under strict archaeological supervision. Plots were excavated individually in order to satisfy client requirements. Following the removal of topsoil from each of the three plots, a series of foundation (or footing) trenches were excavated to a depth of up to 1.0m below existing ground level.
- 4.3 All spoil was scanned for artefacts, recorded as un-stratified.
- 4.4 The depth and complexity of deposits across the site was assessed. Written and photographic records of all machine-excavated areas were made in accordance with best archaeological practice. Records included an overall trench and site plan (**Figure 1**).

5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION

5.1 The site is located on East Street, at the eastern end of the village (**Figure 1**), and lies with an area which has significant Medieval standing buildings. It was considered by Herefordshire Archaeology that significant sub-surface remains may exist on the site, in particular the foundations of buildings that may have been constructed along the northern frontage of the site, facing East Street. Ground levelling and excavation were phased rather than continuous. Archaeological observation began at the western end of the site in early spring 2002 (Plot III) and resumed in the central (Plot II) and eastern (Plot I) areas during late September and October 2002.

5.2 Plot III

5.3 This was the first area to be excavated. A mechanical excavator reduced the ground level by approximately 0.5m across the plot. The deposit removed consisted of a medium to dark brown, moderately compacted Old Red Sandstone derived topsoil (001), containing mainly 19th and 20th century pottery sherds, including locally made glazed Staffordshire-type earthen wares. Located within the far western corner was a hearth feature with a total of 11 contexts. This feature was recorded in plan and section.

5.4 The stratified remains of the hearth (or shallow burnt pit) were recorded in two sections (**Figure 2**). The feature was located approximately 7.0m south of the East Street kerb line. It was half-sectioned in order to maximise the potential stratified information. Two continuous gullies, a hearth and the western section of a well were also revealed in this area.

5.5 The first hearth deposit encountered was a top soil (001). This extended across the site. The deposit contained numerous 19th and 20th century glazed and unglazed pottery wares. Underlying (001) was a moderately compacted, dark brown coarse silty soil with occasional Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery (002). Both assemblages were glazed; the Medieval wares were coated with a green galena glaze. The deposit formed a semi-circular feature radiating eastward from the east-facing section. Directly underlying this deposit was a tightly compacted orange to brown clayey soil with occasional Medieval glazed pottery sherds (003). Underlying this deposit and also extending beneath (002) was a tightly compacted pinkish-red sandy soil with occasional sandstone fragments. This deposit appeared to form a fill associated with [005]. Abutting context (004) and forming part of the fill of [005] was a moderately compacted, black silty sandy soil (006). This deposit contained frequent charcoal flecking and occasional sandstone and limestone fragments (but no pottery). The deposit also contained visible yellow to brown streaking that appeared to be bowling.

5.6 Partially exposed in the northern and southern extents of this feature was an ephemeral cut [005] that was either sub-circular or irregular in shape. This feature appeared to measure 0.80m wide and extended only within the eastern section of the feature. Both fills and associated cut [005] overlay natural soils and extended to a maximum depth of c.0.75m below existing (pre-development) ground level.

5.7 Recorded in the east-facing section was a series of deposits showing the stratigraphic hearth sequence. The first context recorded in section was a moderately compacted, pinkish-brown coarse sandy soil with occasional sandstone fragments (007). Underlying this was context (006) - see above. Underlying (006) was a lightly colloidal, blackish-grey silty soil with moderate quantities of charcoal flecking (008). Underlying (008) and forming the base of the hearth was a tightly compacted, orange to brown coarse clay (009). This deposit contained occasional Medieval galena glazed

pottery, domestic animal bone and charcoal flecking. The bone, although fragmentary, appeared to be *Ovis*. Located within the northern part of this feature and underlying (009) was a tightly compacted, reddish-brown coarse clay with occasional charcoal flecking (010). Underlying this deposit and extending beneath the feature were natural soils (011).

- 5.8 This substantial and well-stratified feature probably represents an exposed bonfire hearth to rear of a domestic building. The feature stands around 6.0m south of the East Street frontage.

5.9 Driveway

- 5.10 The driveway extended across Plots II and III; running from the East Street pavement and frontage to a newly constructed dwelling on Plot III. After an initial topsoil strip that removed up to 0.30m of topsoil, the ground was landscaped to create a sloping driveway and entrance for the three properties. Underlying the clayey, orange to brown top soil (001) was a moderately compacted reddish-brown clayey soil (002). During the excavation of what is now the driveway for the western dwelling, two significant structures were revealed that cut into (002). The first of these was a sandstone-lined well located immediately adjacent to the entrance and approximately 8.0m from the East Street kerb (**Figure 3**).³

- 5.11 The well was constructed of roughly worked sandstone [now weathered] blocks measuring 0.10–0.20m wide and 0.20–0.30m long. In plan, the well was slightly ovate, measuring 0.60m x 0.50m (**Plate 1**). The mechanical excavator had, unfortunately, removed a single course of blocking. The well was excavated to a depth of 0.90m below the reduced ground level. Several fragments of Late Post-Medieval unglazed red earthenware were found within the well, suggesting that it was in use or being backfilled at this time. However, the style and construction suggest the structure is much earlier. Limited excavation around the upper section of the stone lining (102) revealed a clay deposit which appeared to encase the whole structure (104). This deposit probably formed a watertight lining. Beyond the clay deposit were natural soils (101). The lining was probably laid as the well was being excavated. The water table possibly stands between 5.0m and 7.0m in this area. Embedded in the natural deposits was an extensive, formless sandstone rubble spread (103). This rubble may represent further well coursing. However, the greatest concentration was located immediately to the north and west of the well and appeared to extend towards East Street. It may therefore form the remains of a dwelling.

- 5.12 In order to protect this structure from further damage, the civil engineering contractor agreed not to reduce the ground levels in this area. The well was subsequently covered with a scree lining and is now protected by the driveway that leads to the house in Plot III.

- 5.13 Approximately 4.0m to the west of the well, the removal of the topsoil revealed a section of a drainage gully running roughly north-west/south-east (SO 39316 58182). The exposed gully section measured 6.4m in length and appeared to extend beyond the area of excavation (**Figure 4**). The gully was approximately 0.60m wide and maintained a depth of 0.30m below the reduced ground level (**Plate 2**). The cut of the gully [204], linear in form, was filled with a loosely compacted, dark brown silty soil (205) that contained moderate quantities of charcoal flecking. This fill, the only deposit within the gully, also contained moderate quantities of early Post-Medieval glazed and unglazed pottery dating mainly to the late 17th century/early 18th century.

³and 33.70m east of a gate line located between the site and Stoney Croft.

Among these pottery sherds was an almost complete pottery vessel (see Appendix 1). Also within this fill deposit was a quantity of clay pipe fragments, much of which was early and included both bowls and stems. The gully appeared to run from the rear of the property to the north-west of the site towards East Street.

5.14 **Plot II**

5.15 Plot II occupied the central area of the site, running from the rear of the orchard to the East Street frontage. In this area, 0.20-0.30m of topsoil (301) was removed. Underlying the top soil (301) was a moderately to tightly compacted reddish-brown clayey soil (302) which overlaid a tightly compacted yellowy-brown clay soil (306). These soils extended across the site and may be regarded as naturally accumulated soils. The upper stratigraphy, consisting of (301) and (302), was probably formed as a result of plough activity.

5.16 Uncovered within the southern section of the plot was a further gully [304] (**Figure 5**). The feature was underlying context (301) and cut through underlying contexts (302) and (303). The gully measured c. 21.50m long and was oriented roughly north-west/south-east (**Plate 3**). At its widest point, the gully was 0.75m wide and filled with a dark brown silty clayey soil with a moderate amount of charcoal flecking (307). The depth varied from north-west to south-east, with the gully at its shallowest at the south-east (< 0.05m). The deepest section was at the north-western end, where it measured 0.40m. The gully gradually sloped down towards East Street. Several fragments of early Post-Medieval glazed pottery (c. 17th/ 18th centuries) were located within (307) including one fragment with evidence of burning. Within the same context were several small burnt sandstone fragments.

5.17 The gully was located at the western end of the plot, where a garage will be constructed. The gully appeared to continue under a bank in Plot III, where a timber-framed dwelling is under construction.

5.18 Following the recording of the gully, the foundations for a dwelling in Plot II were excavated to a depth of 0.80m below the reduced ground level. The foundations consisted of a series of trenches 0.60m wide and covering an area of approximately 16.10m x 5.70m. Underlying (302) on the eastern side of this area and (306) on the western side was a reddish clay soil that became increasingly gravelly towards the bottom of the trench (303). This context was considered to be a natural deposit. No further archaeology was revealed during excavation of the foundation trenches.

5.19 **Plot I**

5.20 Plot I was located on the eastern side of the site, adjacent to Plot II. Up to 0.35m of topsoil (401) was removed prior to excavation of foundation trenches. The soils consisted of a moderately compacted, brown silty clay topsoil with frequent small to medium sub angular stones, charcoal flecking and fragments. Finds within (401) included occasional fragments of glazed cream ware and early Post-Medieval pottery sherds, possibly the result of ploughing and/or gardening activity. Following the topsoil strip, the civil engineering contractor excavated the foundation trenches for the dwelling. These were excavated to between 0.60m and 0.80m below the reduced ground level. Underlying (401) was a reddish clayey soil that became increasingly gravelly towards the base of the trenches (403). This deposit was considered to be natural deposition. No archaeological deposits, features or structures were identified within the plot.

6.0 SUMMARY

- 6.1 The archaeological observation in Stoney Croft, East Street, Pembridge revealed a number of important deposits, features and structures. These included two early Post-Medieval gullies (or ditches), a late Medieval/early Post-Medieval stone-lined well and two Post-Medieval pit features, probably dating to around 1650 (based on an *insitu* pottery and clay pipe assemblage). These features and structures were located in Plots II and III. Most of the archaeological activity on the site was concentrated within the western and central areas of the site. No archaeology was found at the eastern end of the site (Plot I).
- 6.2 The historical evidence is limited. A map regression has shown that the site has been an orchard since before the publication of the 1838 Tithe and Apportionment. Development in this area occurs from the 16th century. A series of formal burgage plots at the western end of East Street are probably Medieval in date. Farther east, there appear to be no gaps along the street frontage, except for the site. It is highly likely, therefore, that a dwelling (or dwellings) fronting on to East Street once stood in this location. Certainly, the presence of a well, ditches/gullies and a makeshift hearth suggests intense domestic activity. Associated with these features and structures was a pottery and clay pipe assemblage dating to the Late Medieval period.
- 6.3 Further Medieval and early Post-Medieval remains probably exist in areas of the site where development did not take place. These may lie along the East Street frontage, well below the level of any future impact.

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8.0 COPYRIGHT

- 8.1 Border Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION

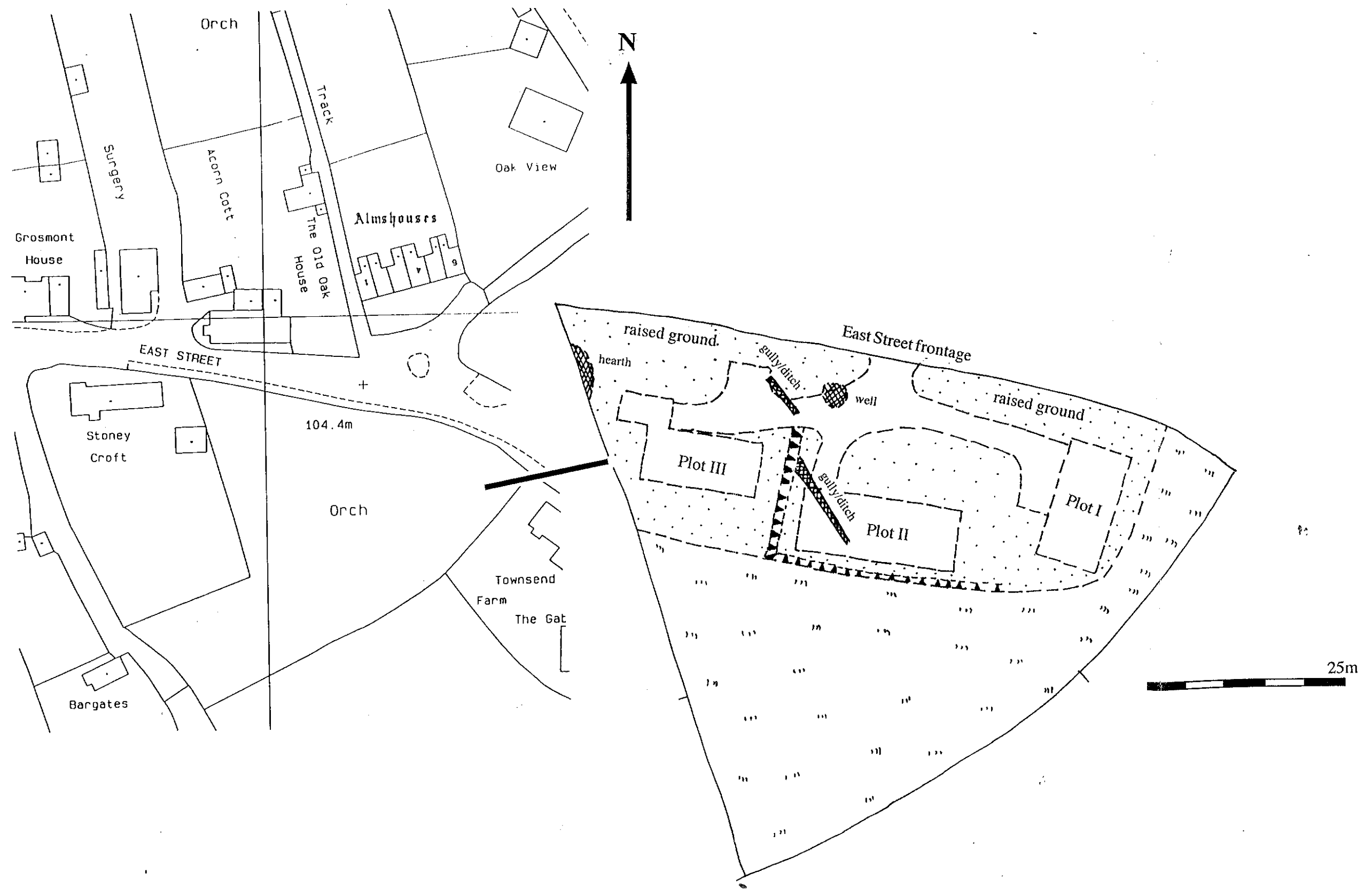


FIGURE 2 SHALLOW HEARTH FOUND IN PHASE III

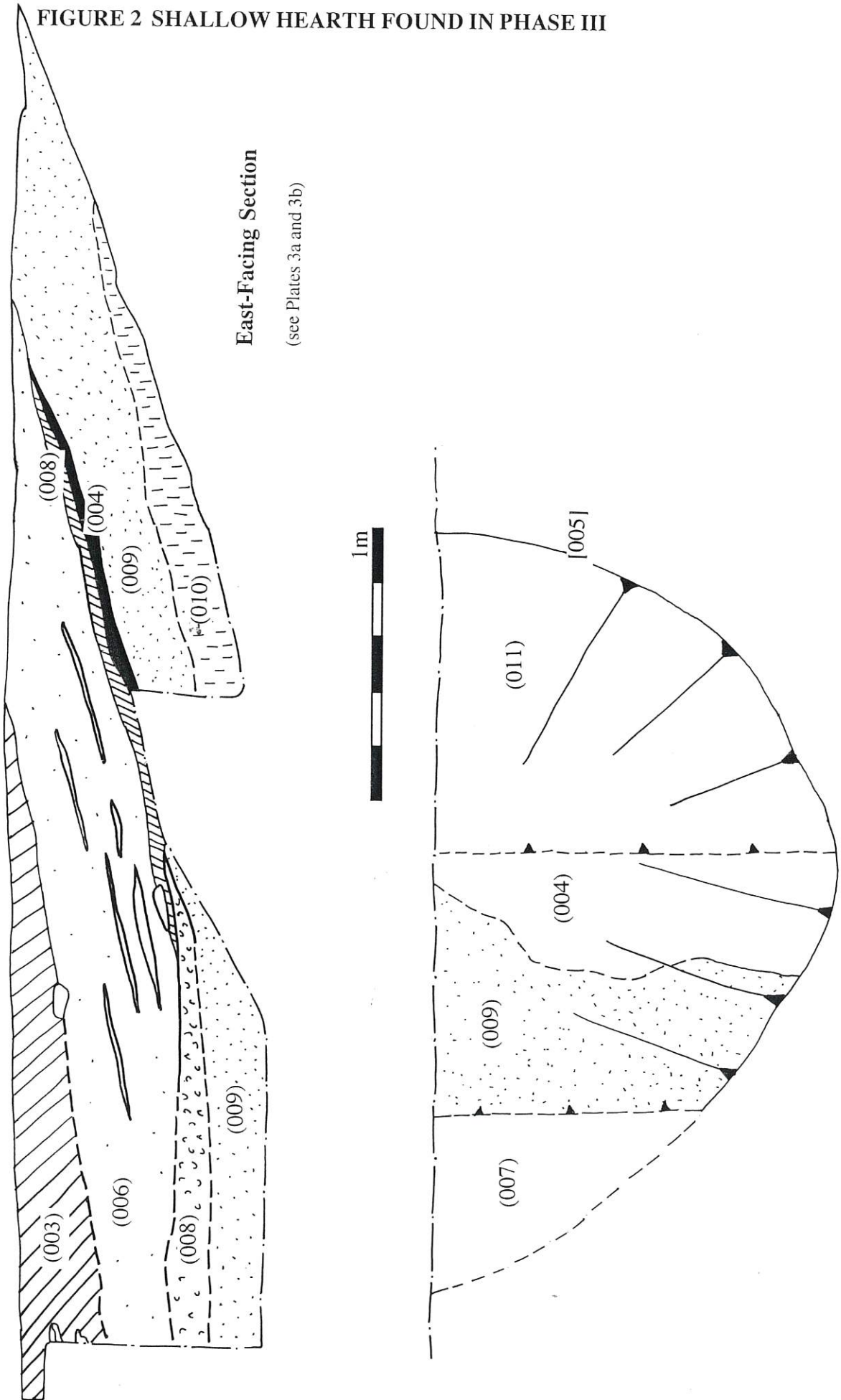


FIGURE 3 LATE MEDIEVAL WELL FOUND BETWEEN PHASES II & III

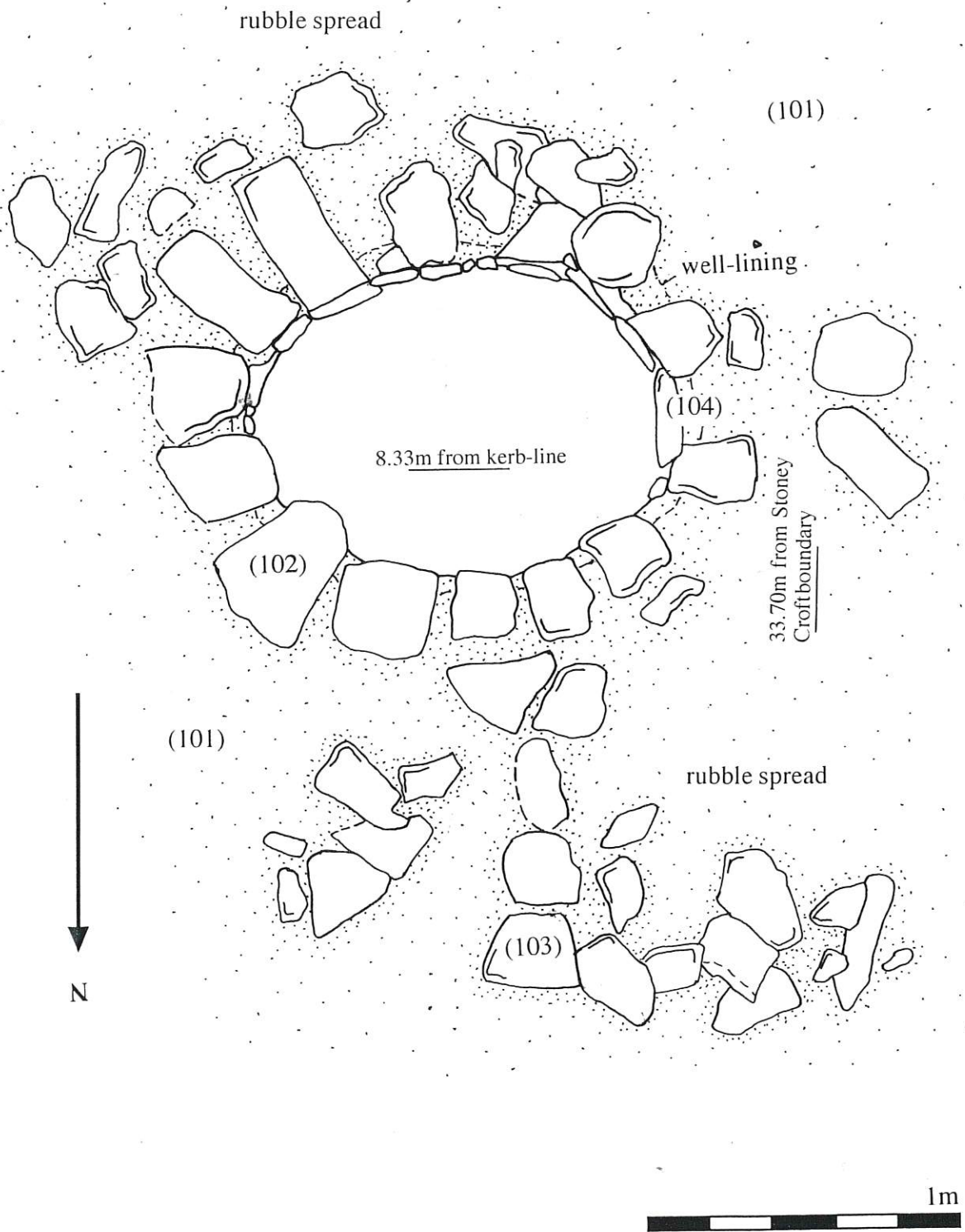


FIGURE 4 SHALLOW DITCH FOUND BETWEEN PHASES II & III

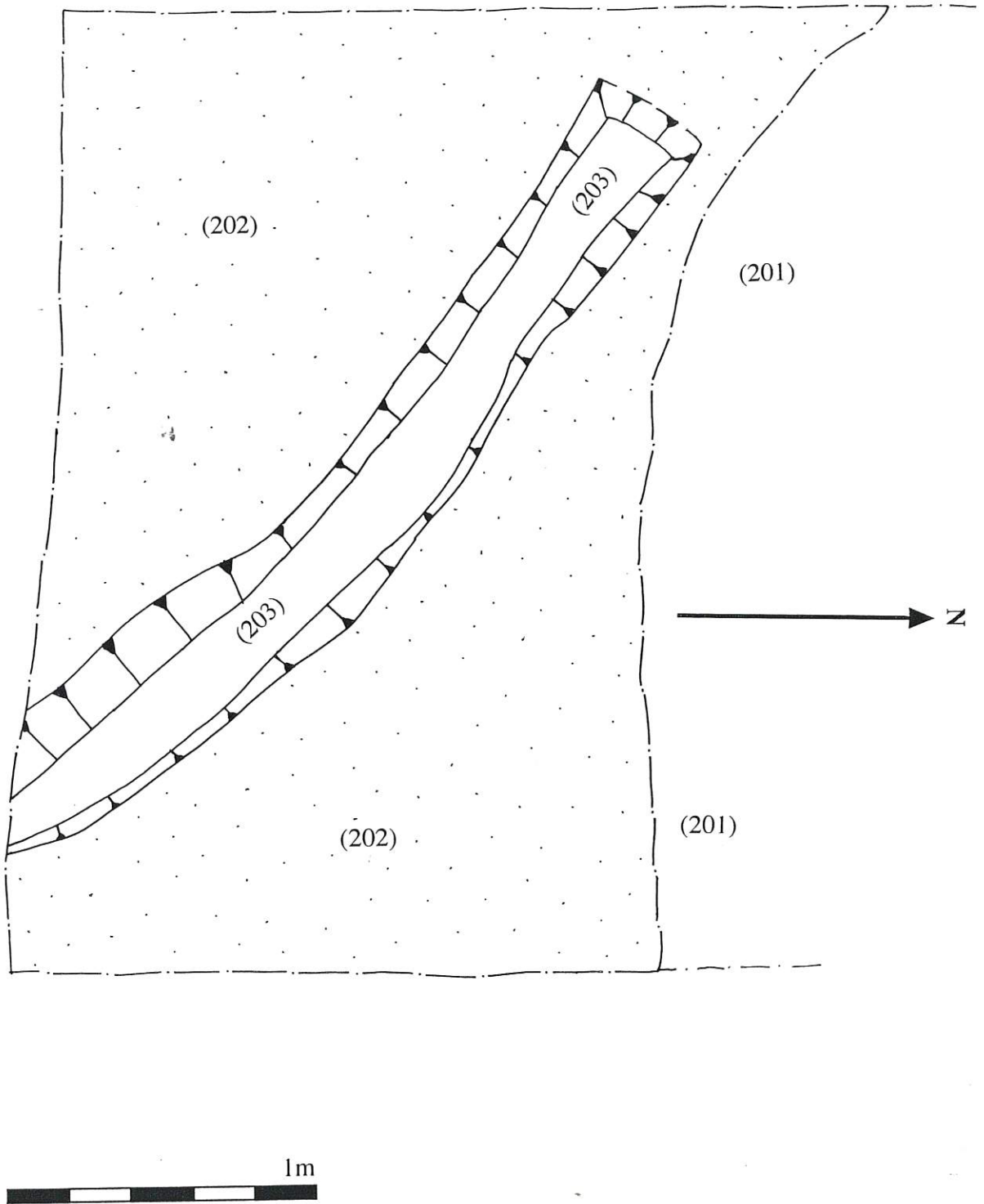


FIGURE 5 NARROW DITCH FOUND IN PHASE II

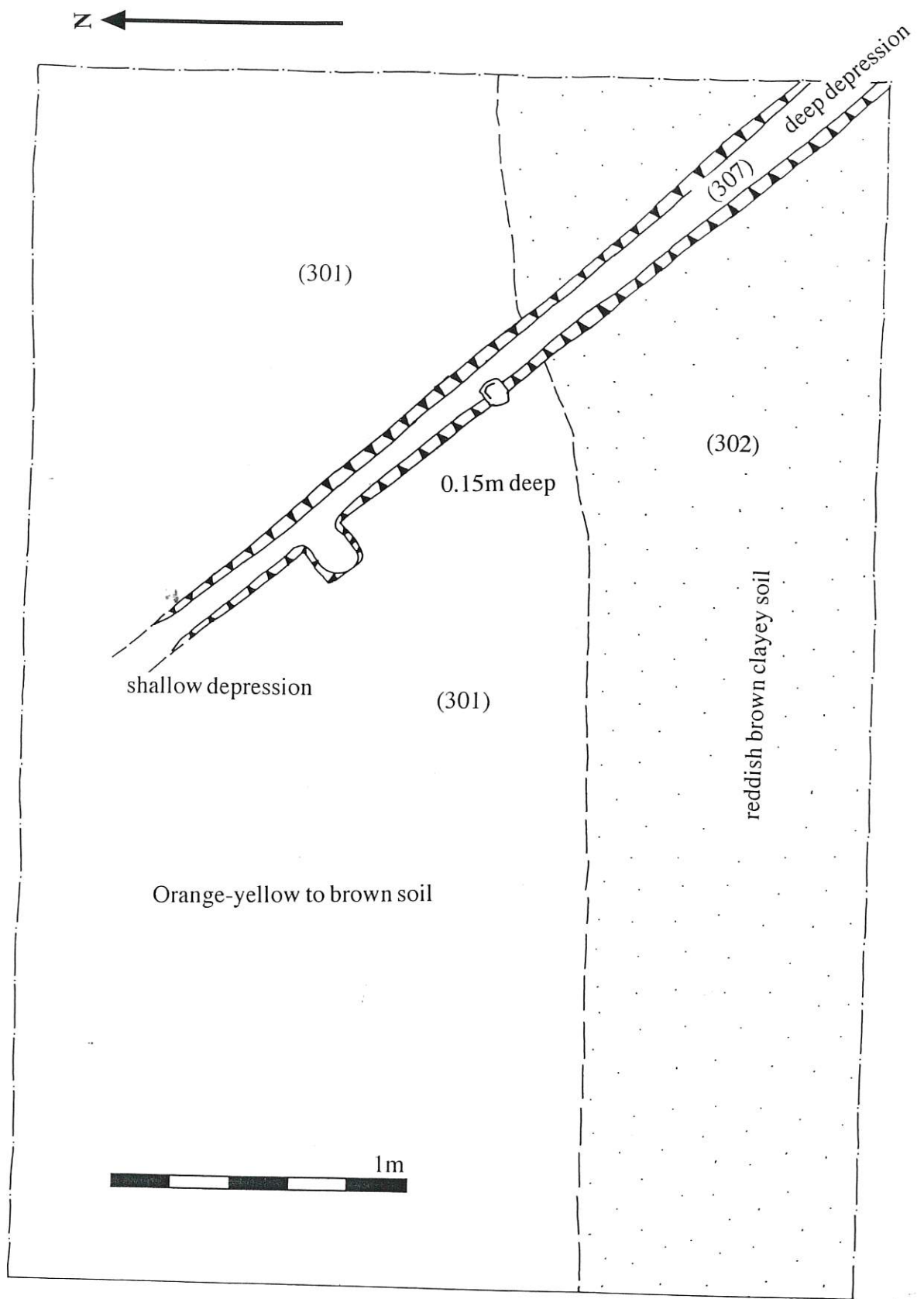


PLATE 1 LATE MEDIEVAL WELL FOUND BETWEEN PHASES II & III



PLATE 2 SHALLOW DITCH FOUND BETWEEN PHASES II & III



PLATE 3 SHALLOW HEARTH FOUND WITHIN PHASE III



APPENDIX 1 SUMMARY OF FINDS FROM PEMBRIDGE

1.0 CERAMIC FINDS

1.1 POTTERY

- 1.2 The pottery was analysed using x 20 magnification. The assemblage was then split into a fabric type series based upon colour, firing technique, production (wheel-thrown or handmade), glazed or unglazed and inclusions. The sherds were then quantified by weight and number within each fabric series and then totalled.

Fabric type 1

Oxidised fabric containing quartz sand and large rare igneous rock fragments. Olive/green glaze and copper flecked. A rim sherd with thumb-print decoration. Coarse earthenware. Hard. 14th-16th century. (Vince. 1984. chapter 2). Malvern Chase Ware. (One rim sherd from a plate/dish weighing 9gm).

Fabric type 2

Oxidised fabric containing medium amounts of mica inclusions and voiding. Coarse earthenware in the form of storage vessels and jugs. Light brown to green glazed. Hard. Wheel-thrown. Probably dating from the 16th century onwards. (One near complete jug weighing 662gm; other 16 sherds weighing 250gm)

Fabric type 3

Red fabric with shell inclusions. Brown metallic glaze on interior and exterior. Wheel-thrown. Hard. In the forms of cups and jugs. Possibly Cistercian ware 16th-17th century. (Goode & Russett. 1987. 37) (Seven sherds weighing 282gm).

Fabric type 4

Oxidised red fabric with brown slip and white-trailed sgraffito slip patterns. Vessels in the forms of plates and dishes. Hard. Coarse earthenware. Wheel-thrown. Dating from the late 17th-18th centuries. (11 sherds weighing 566gm. From 2 vessels: Plate/dish 1 containing yellow sgraffito decoration. Six sherds weighing 182gm; Plate/dish 2 consisting of a diamond pattern on the rim with concentric dot decorations in the centre of the bowl. Five sherds weighing 384gm).

Fabric type 5

Oxidised red fabric with a reduced grey core containing mica and limestone pellets. Green glaze. Hard. Wheel-thrown. Probably from a large coarse earthenware vessel. (Three sherds weighing 168gm).

Fabric type 6

Red oxidised fabric with mica and very infrequent shell inclusions. Unglazed. Wheel-thrown. Storage vessel and jug forms. Wheel thrown. Soft, probably a result of poor firing. Dating from the 17th century onwards. (Two sherds weighing 23gm.).

TABLE SHOWING FABRIC SERIES IN CONTEXT REGISTER

Fabric Type	Context (002)	Context (009)	Context (104)	Fabric Totals
1		1 x 9gm		
2	1 x 662gm (near complete vessel)		16 x 250gm	17 x 912gm
3			7 x 282gm	7 x 282gm
4			11 x 566gm	11 x 566gm
5			3 x 168gm	3 x 168gm
6			2 x 23gm	2 x 23gm
Context Totals	1 x 662gm	1 x 9gm	39 x 1289gm	41 x 1960gm

Dating the contexts: Context (002) - One fabric type 2 vessel probably dating the context to the 17th century.

Context (009) - One fabric type 1 rim probably dating the context to the late Medieval period (14-16th centuries).

Context (104) Ditch fill - The ditch fill contained 40 coarse earthenware pottery sherds and 80 clay-pipe fragments probably dating to the 17th century.

Post Medieval jar from context (002): Retrieved from context(002) was a near-complete dark green glazed jar. The fabric was oxidised orange with mica inclusions and rare voiding, and was very hard. The exterior of the vessel was decorated with four horizontal lines along the bulbous middle section. The jar was probably dumped because the rim and handle were broken off, possibly after dropping. This is suggested, as the break-points are not recent. The jar measured 145mm high x 140mm in circumference, around the bulbous middle section. The jar weighs 662gm. The jar probably dates to the 17th century.

1.2 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Retrieved from the ditch fill. Includes six pieces of very soft and worn oxidised fired clay that may have been from roof tiles or bricks. Also includes a worn piece of tile containing fragmentary remnants of yellow glaze, suggesting it was a glazed roof tile or very worn floor tile.

Context (104), Ditch fill - Six soft, very worn pieces of orange oxidised micaceous fired clay, possibly from roof tiles or bricks. Weight 142gm.

Context (104) Ditch fill - One small oxidised micaceous red tile with very patchy yellow glaze. Weight 24gm.

2.0 NON-CERAMIC FINDS

2.1 CLAY PIPE

2.2 A total of 80 clay pipe fragments were retrieved, weighing 415gm. The assemblage consisted of 65 plain stems, weighing 273gm and 15 bowls, weighing 142gm. The bowls will be described in detail below. They are split into five categories:

1. Plain bowls
2. Bowls marked with a crown maker's mark
3. Bowls with a flower maker's mark
4. A single bowl with a star maker's mark
5. A single bowl with the letters TR as a maker's mark.

2.3 The bowls were all very similar in design and can probably be typologically dated to the 17th century. The bowls were all small, bulbous with incised rouletting decoration under the rim. The pipe fragments were all from context (104), the ditch fill.

1. Plain bowls. A total of four bowls weighing 35gm were retrieved from the ditch fill (context 104). The bowls did not contain any maker's mark on the bowl or foot.

2. Bowls marked with a crown maker's mark.
A total of six bowls weighing 57gm were retrieved. There were four bowls containing the crown maker's mark on the base of the bowls and two with the mark on the bodies of the bowls. The crown mark was incised.

3. Bowls marked with a flower maker's mark.
Three bowls were retrieved weighing 21gm. The flower contained eight petals in the design and was incised on two bowls on their bases, and on the body of the remaining bowl.

4. Bowl with a star maker's mark design.
One bowl weighing 12gm. The incised star design on the base of the bowl contained 11 points and was smudged.

5. Bowl with the maker's mark containing the letters TR in a circle.

6. One bowl weighing 17gm. The letters were within a circle on the base of the bowl.

2.2 ANIMAL BONE

Context (104) Ditch fill: One (cow?) tooth weighing 1gm .

2.3 FERROUS OBJECTS

1. IRON NAIL Context (104) - One iron nail with a curved stem and a round head measuring 67mm x 4mm x 7mm. Corroded, with some orange discoloration and weighs 6gm.

2. MISCELLANEOUS IRON OBJECT Context (104): Slightly corroded flat iron object consisting of a concentric terminus 36mm in diameter and a curved stem. The artefact is 58mm long and 4mm thick, and weighs 17gm.

3. COPPER ALLOY PIN Context (104): One slightly curved copper alloy pin measuring 43mm long x 1mm wide. The head of the pin is 3mm long with a coiled decoration. The pin is slightly corroded with green discoloration and weighs 1gm.

3.0 DISCUSSION

3.1 The finds assemblage consists mainly of early Post-Medieval pottery and clay-pipe fragments, and a few non-ceramic finds dated relatively by the clay-pipe and pottery dates. The ceramic assemblage consists mainly of glazed

earthenwares manufactured locally, with a few imported vessels, such as Cistercian wares. The vessels are mainly domestic in form, i.e. cups, jars and jugs. There were also fragments of two slip-trailed plates in the assemblage. The tableware would probably have been used for special occasions. The clay pipes were typologically dated to the 17th century and were also probably manufactured locally. They represent the new social habit of tobacco smoking from clay pipes, which began in the late 16th century. There was also one late Medieval pottery rim sherd, probably from a dish manufactured in the Malvern Chase potteries. The potsherd is the earliest find from the site.

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SUMMARY

Report Name and Title	Stoney Croft, East Street (Plots 1-3), Pembridge, Herefordshire To include: Archaeological Observation
Contractors Name and Address	Border Archaeology, PO Box 36, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 OYQ
Site Name	Stoney Croft, East Street (Plots 1-3), Pembridge, Herefordshire
Grid Reference (8 fig)	NGR SO 393 581 Planning Application Number: NW01/3359/F
SMR number/s of site	SMR No. 32825
Date of Field Work	November 2002
Date of Report	December 2002
NUMBER AND TYPE OF FINDS	
Pottery	Period: Medieval Number of sherds: 12
Other	Period: Post-Medieval Quantity: 70
NUMBER AND TYPE OF SAMPLES COLLECTED	
Sieving for charred plant remains	<i>No of Features sampled N/A</i> <i>No of buckets N/A</i>
C14/scientific dates	<i>No and Type N/A</i> <i>Result N/A</i>
Pollen	<i>No of Columns/spot samples N/A</i> <i>Name of pollen specialist N/A</i>
Bone	<i>Number of buckets sieved for bone N/A</i> <i>Quantity Recovered N/A</i> <i>Period N/A</i>
Insect	<i>No of Columns/spot samples N/A</i> <i>Name of pollen specialist N/A</i>
Other	Type and specialist N/A
Summary of the report	The archaeological observation in Stoney Croft, East Street, Pembridge revealed a number of important features and structures. These included two Early Post-Medieval gullies (or ditches), a Late Medieval/Early Post-Medieval stone-lined well and two Post-Medieval pit features, probably dating to around 1650 (based on an <i>insitu</i> pottery and clay pipe assemblage). These features and structures were located in Plots II and III. Most of the archaeological activity on the site was concentrated within the western and central areas of the site. No archaeology was found at the eastern end of the site (Plot I). The historical evidence is limited. A map regression has shown that the site has been an orchard since before the publication of the 1838 Tithe and Apportionment. Development in this area occurs from the 16th century. A series of formal burgage plots at the western end of East Street are probably Medieval in date. Farther east, there appear to be no gaps along the street frontage, except for the site. It is highly likely, therefore, that a dwelling (or dwellings) fronting on to East Street once stood in this location. Certainly, the presence of a well, ditches/gullies and a makeshift hearth suggest intense domestic activity. Associated with these features and structures was a pottery and clay pipe assemblage which date from the late Medieval period.

Context Descriptions

Context No.	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
				Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
001	Deposit	Topsoil	Moderately compact brown silt clay with rooting and occasional small stones. Fairly clean and fairly low organic component. Overlying (002) c.0.20m thick	-	✓	-	-	-	Not retained-
002	Deposit	Subsoil	Moderately compact dark brown coarse silty soil. Underlying (001) and overlying (003). <0.50m thick	-	✓	-	-	-	Late medieval to post-medieval -
003	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Tightly compacted orange brown to mid brown clay soil; underlying (002); fill of [005] and overlying (006). Probably the same as (007)	-	✓	-	-	-	Medieval and post-medieval
004	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Lens of tightly compacted (burnt) red pink sandy soil filling [005], underlying (008) and overlying (009). 30mm thick and >0.70m long	-	-	-	-	-	-
005	Cut	Cut for pit/burnt area	Probably sub circular in form (E half only excavated) >1.40m E/W & 1.80m N/S. 0.50 m deep with gently sloping sides; probable shallow bowl-shaped profile. Filled by (003) – (010); cut (011)						
006	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Moderately compacted black silty sand with frequent charcoal flecking, occasional yellow flecks and streaks and occasional sandstone fragments. Underlying						
007	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Moderately compacted pink brown sandy silt with occasional sandstone fragments. Underlying (002) and overlying (006). May be the same as (003)						
008	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Lightly compacted blackish grey silt with moderate charcoal flecking. Underlying (006) and overlying (004). Maximum 0.11m thick and >1.50m long. >1.40m wide?						
009	Deposit	Fill of [005]	Tightly compacted coarse orange brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Pottery 14 th -15 th c. Underlying (004); overlying (010); 0.12m (max) thick, >1.50m N/S. Width not measured		✓	✓			
010	Deposit	Basal fill of [005]	Tightly compacted reddish-brown sandy clay – with occasional charcoal flecking. Underlying (010) and overlying (011). Max 0.17m thick and >0.80m long. Width not recorded.						

Driveway

Context No.	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
				Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
001	Deposit	Topsoil	Moderately compact red brown silt clay with rooting and occasional small stones. Fairly clean and fairly low organic component. Overlying (002) c.0.30m thick	-	-	-	-	-	
002	Deposit	Subsoil	Moderately compact orange brown clay silt. Underlying (001) and cut by (102)/(104)	-	-	-	-	-	
101	Deposit	Natural	Tightly compacted orange brown to mid brown clay; underlying (002)	-	-	-	-	-	
102	Structure	Small well	Lining of roughly worked sandstone blocks 100mm – 200mm x 200-300mm. Structure oval, internal dimensions c0.60m E/W x 0.40m N/S. total 0.95m x0.75m. >0.90m deep. Stone set into clay lining (104)		✓				
103	Deposit	Rubble spread	Spread of sandstone rubble – stones e.g.200mm x 200mm, 100mm x 50mm. Deposit >1.50m x >1.30m. May have derived from upper courses of well (102) or from another structure in vicinity. Underlay (002) and overlay (101)						
104	Deposit	Lining of (102)	Red clay surrounding well (102) and probably forming a watertight lining. Inserted before (102) but probably contemporary with it.						
204	Cut	Gully	Linear cut aligned NW/SE. C. 0.60m wide x 0.30m deep x >6.40m long. Extending beyond excavation limit. Gently sloping sides and rounded base. Cut (002), filled by (205)						
205	Deposit	Fill	Loose dark brown silty soil with moderate charcoal flecking. Fill of [204] and underlying (001). Pottery 17 th to 18 th c		✓				Pottery & CTP not present in archive

Plot 2

Context No.	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
				Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
301	Deposit	Topsoil	Moderately compact red brown silt clay with rooting and occasional small stones. Fairly clean. Overlying (002) c.0.20m – 0.30m thick	-	-	-	-	-	
302	Deposit	Subsoil	Moderately compact reddish- brown clay silt. Underlying (301) and cut by (102)/(104); possible ploughsoil	-	-	-	-	-	
303	Deposit	Natural	Very compact red clay becoming increasingly gravelly with depth. Underlying (302) and (306).	-	-	-	-	-	
304	Cut	Gully	Linear cut, oriented NW/SE; 21.50m long x 0.75m wide (max). 0.40m deep to NW, petering out to SE. Cut (302) and filled by (307).						
305			Not recorded. Same as (307)?						
306	Deposit	Subsoil	Very compact yellow brown clay underlying (302) and overlying (303). Possibly undisturbed naturally accumulated subsoil.						
307	Deposit	Fill of [304]	Dark brown silty clay with moderate charcoal flecking. Underlying (301), filled [304]. Pottery 17 th century.		✓				

Plot 1

Context No.	Type	Interpretation	Discussion	Finds					Comments
				Small Find	Pot	Bone	Misc.	Sample No.	
401	Deposit	Topsoil	Moderately compact brown silt clay with frequent small to medium sub-angular stones, charcoal flecking and larger fragments of charcoal. Max 0.35m thick. Overlying (402)	-	✓	-	-	-	Pottery not retained
402	Deposit	Subsoil	Moderately compact orange brown clay silt. Underlying (401) and overlying (403)	-	-	-	-	-	
403	Deposit	Natural	Tightly compacted orange brown to mid brown clay; underlying (402). Became stonier towards the base.	-	-	-	-	-	