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Land to the Rear of
Draper's Hall,
Coventry

Archaeological
Evaluation
2008

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**LAND TO THE REAR OF DRAPER'S HALL, COVENTRY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2008**

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LAND TO THE REAR OF DRAPER'S HALL, ST MARY'S STREET, COVENTRY
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2008

CONTENTS

SUMMARY.....	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
1.1. BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT.....	4
1.2. LOCATION AND GEOLOGY.....	4
2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	5
4. METHODOLOGY.....	6
5. RESULTS.....	7
5.1. INTRODUCTION.....	7
5.2. NATURAL GEOLOGY.....	7
5.3. RESULTS NARRATIVE.....	7
6. THE FINDS.....	9
6.1. THE POTTERY <i>BY STEPHANIE RATKAI</i>	9
6.2. CLAY PIPE BY DAVID HIGGINS.....	12
6.3. THE ANIMAL BONE.....	16
6.4. OTHER FINDS.....	18
6.4.1. Glass.....	18
6.4.2. Iron.....	18
6.4.3. Copper alloy.....	18
6.4.4. Worked stone.....	19
6.4.5. Worked bone.....	19
6.4.6. Shell.....	19
6.4.7. Other finds.....	19
6.5. ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS.....	19
7. DISCUSSION.....	20
8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	21
9. REFERENCES.....	21
APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT SUMMARY.....	22

Figures

Figure 1: Clay pipe bowl typology

Figure 2: Site location plan

Figure 3: Area of archaeological excavation

Figure 4: Overview of archaeological features and deposits

Figure 5: Detailed plan of archaeological features and deposits

Figure 6: Wall elevations

Plates

Plates 1 to 7: Photographs of the archaeological excavation

Plates 8 to 11: The clay pipe group from context 1015

Plate 12: The probable Crimean War civilian commemorative medal

Plate 13: Stone molding from 1022

Tables

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by sherd count

Table 2: Quantification of building material by count

Table 3: Summary of clay pipe fragments recovered from the site

Table 4: Summary of clay pipe group recovered from 1015

Table 5: Summary of animal bone assemblage

SUMMARY

Between February 25th and March 7th 2008 Birmingham Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of the Draper's Hall, St Mary's Street in Coventry, (centred on NGR: SP 3362 7892). The fieldwork was carried out on instruction from the Coventry City Planning Archaeologist. The evaluation work took place after a Written Scheme of Investigation and followed a planning application to develop the site as part of a scheme to refurbish the Draper's Hall.

The evaluation successfully highlighted the survival of a substantial sandstone building apparently dating to the fourteenth century. Part of the eastern and southern walls of the structure were uncovered although the depth of the sandstone foundations meant that it was not possible to reach the base of the walls due to health and safety considerations. The sandstone walls measured approximately one metre in width and represented the earliest archaeological remains unearthed, they were abutted by a number of later brick walls extending to the east and south which were probably indicative of cellaring activity in the post-medieval period. Interestingly the lower courses of the sandstone walls appeared to bow out and one of the brick 'cellar' walls slumped markedly to the south perhaps suggesting that the structures were built on unstable ground, possibly indicating the presence of a deep ditch. Environmental samples which were taken towards the southern edge of the evaluation area appeared to confirm the presence of an organic deposit perhaps supporting the theory of a moat. A dome shaped brick built structure situated towards the northern edge of the area of excavation which had truncated the upper course of one of the sandstone walls, may suggest a capped well or a water tank, probably dating to the nineteenth century.

Without doubt the most important element of the finds assemblage is the group of fragmented 18th century clay pipes. With pipes of this date being sparse within the archaeological record, this group forms an important dataset that is significant both on a regional and national context.

Land to the rear of Draper's Hall, St Mary's Street, Coventry

An Archaeological Evaluation, 2008.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background to the project

Birmingham Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on recommendation from the City Archaeologist, Coventry City Council ahead of the proposed development of land to the rear of the Draper's Hall on Bayley Lane in Coventry and conformed to a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2008) in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DOE 1990).

Birmingham Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on recommendation from the City Archaeologist, Coventry City Council ahead of the proposed development of land to the rear of the Draper's Hall on Bayley Lane in Coventry (hereinafter referred to as the site).

This report outlines the results of a field evaluation carried out between February 25th and March 7th 2008, and has been prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations (IFA 2001).

The evaluation conformed to a brief produced by the City Archaeologist of Coventry City Council and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2008) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

1.2. Location and geology

The site is located near to Coventry City centre, and is centred on NGR: SP 3362 7892 (Fig. 2). The site is currently a landscaped public garden and is bounded to the east by Bayley Lane, by Brown's restaurant to the south, by St. Mary's Street to the west and Draper's Hall to the north (Fig.3).

The underlying geology of the area is Keuper Marl, a stiff red clay of the Triassic Enville Beds with an underlying course grained red sandstone (British geological survey 1955).

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The principle aim of the evaluation is to determine the character, extent, date, state of preservation and the potential significance of any buried remains in order to produce data to assist in the design of a suitable mitigation strategy for the proposed new construction.

More specific objectives were to:

- Establish whether the extensive remains identified within the excavation area to the east, including the putative castle ditch (CARP 1988, COVE99) extend into the footprint of the proposed building.

- Assess the thickness of the 'hard' structural remains that may exist overlying the soft, infill material of the ditch /quarry.
- Establish what work may have been undertaken in the area, specifically industrial or manufacturing activities, in the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- Gain an understanding of the social status, layout and function of the site from the earliest occupation.
- Provide comparative material to contribute to an understanding of the site as a whole to contribute to an understanding of the site within the context of the city as a whole.
- Allow access to the results to the people of Coventry and the wider public through publication and presentation.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric and Roman activity of a limited nature has been recorded in what is now the City but no settlements dating to these periods have been identified. Coventry was probably first settled in the Anglo-Saxon period although the evidence concerning this is very sparse. A convent was supposedly founded by the Abbess Osburga in the 900's and destroyed in 1016 although no archaeological evidence has been found that supports this. There is very little documentary evidence prior to 1043 when Leofric, Earl of Mercia, founded a monastery, later The Priory of St. Mary's. By the time of Domesday in 1086, sixty households were recorded, although perhaps not all existed within what is now the city. At that time Coventry was the centre of a large estate which the households were probably spread across. The Earls of Chester founded a castle in the town sometime between 1088 when they took control of the Coventry estates and 1147 when the castle was first mentioned in documentary sources. During the civil war between Stephen and the Empress Matilda in the 1140's, Coventry castle was held by Robert Marmion on behalf of Stephen. In 1147 Ranulf, Earl of Chester attempted to regain the city, constructing a siege castle close to the original castle. The castles fell into ruin and had disappeared before the earliest surviving map of the city was produced in 1610 (Speed's map 1610, VCH 1969).

The evaluation site lies in the area of the former backplots of the properties that originally fronted Bayley Lane to the north and east and Earl Street to the south. St. Mary's Street is located to the west and dates to the late 19th century and was previously the site of the medieval Drapery, forming the core of Coventry's cloth trade. The back plots would probably have been used for industrial purposes associated with the cloth trade and metalworking. Coventry's medieval castle was located in the area of Bayley Lane and is believed to have been abandoned and demolished in the 12th century.

The eastern half of the application site was the subject of an archaeological investigation as an Manpower Services Commission (MSC) scheme in 1988-1989. The excavation revealed extensive medieval and post-medieval remains. A series of stone buildings, cellars and stone lined pits were present on the site, all of which appeared to sit in the fill of a very large feature which was interpreted as being a quarry or possibly the moat of Coventry Castle. The feature was excavated to a depth of 7m at which point excavation was stopped for safety reasons. However the fill of the cut contained large quantities of well preserved organic remains dating from the 11th and 12th centuries.

During groundworks for the construction of the Tourist Information Centre off Bayley Lane (now dismantled) in 1990, an archaeological watching brief was maintained. The walls of a sandstone built undercroft, probably dating to the 14th century and the remains of several other sandstone cellars, possibly of medieval date, were uncovered (Patrick 2005).

A watching brief was carried out in 2003 within Priory Street and Priory Square during landscaping works (Hewitson 2004, COVE188). Evidence of an 18th century graveyard and 19th century buildings fronting onto New Street and Priory Street was recorded. Layers of 20th century demolition rubble were recorded to a depth of 0.50m where excavation stopped, indicating the potential for deposits sealed by the substantial depth of overburden.

In 2003 geo-technical test pits and boreholes were excavated to the west of the excavation area. These were monitored by a watching brief carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology (Flavell and Thorne 2003). The test pits and boreholes indicated that medieval or post-medieval archaeological remains might be preserved, albeit truncated by 19th-20th century buildings, below up to 2m of 19th-20th century deposits.

Recent excavations located on the east side of Bayley Lane identified multi-phase activity dating from the 12th century to the present, including medieval building foundations and structures, and pits and ditches probably associated with industrial processes of the textile industry (Colls and Hancox 2008; Halstead 2008).

4. METHODOLOGY

One trial trench was excavated measuring 7m by 7m in accordance with a layout specified by the Planning Archaeologist, Coventry City Council. The trench occupied approximately 14 % of the footprint of the proposed building (Fig. 3).

All topsoil and modern overburden was removed using a JCB mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, working under direct archaeological supervision, down to the top of the uppermost archaeological horizon or the subsoil. Subsequent cleaning and excavation was by hand.

All stratigraphic sequences were recorded, including those where no archaeology was present. Features were planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and sections were drawn through all cut features and significant vertical stratigraphy at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. A comprehensive written record was maintained using a continuous numbered context system on *pro-forma* context and feature cards. Written records and scale plans were supplemented by photographs using monochrome, colour slide and digital photography.

Twenty litre soil samples were taken from datable archaeological features for the recovery of charred plant remains. The environmental sampling policy followed the guidelines contained in the Birmingham Archaeology Guide to On-Site Environmental Sampling. Recovered finds were cleaned, marked and remedial conservation work was undertaken as necessary. Treatment of all finds conformed to guidance contained within 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' published by English Heritage.

The full site archive includes all artefactual and environmental remains recovered from the site. The site archive will be prepared according to guidelines set down in Appendix 3 of the Management of Archaeology Projects (English Heritage, 1991), the Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990) and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (Museum and Art Galleries Commission, 1992).

Finds and the paper archive will be deposited with Herbert Art Gallery and Museum subject to permission from the Coventry City Council.

5. RESULTS

5.1. Introduction

This section provides a summary narrative of the results of the trial trench. The full details of the context measurements and descriptions can be found in the project database. In the following sections both feature (cut) and context numbers are highlighted in bold. A representative selection of trench plans and sections are illustrated.

5.2. Natural Geology

One trial trench was excavated measuring 7m by 7m, occupying 14 % of the proposed building footprint. The natural red sandstone subsoil was reached towards the central area of the site at a height of 84.86m AOD.

5.3. Results Narrative

The earliest archaeological evidence was uncovered at a depth of 84.78m AOD. The natural red sandstone **1034** (Figs. 4 and 5) had been truncated by the foundation cut **1038** for two vast sandstone walls **1040** (Fig. 5, Plate 1) which formed part of the southern and eastern sides of a medieval building. The foundation cut **1038** had been filled with compacted red clay (**1037**) which contained flecks of mortar and charcoal and a sherd of medieval pottery, possibly a cooking pot. It was not possible to ascertain the depth of the base of the cut for health and safety reasons.

The length of the southern wall which was exposed measured 4.50m, the wall had probably survived to the west beyond the edge of the excavation. It was comprised of large sandstone blocks, the most substantial measuring 1.10-1.40m in length by 0.26m high. The length of the exposed eastern wall was approximately 3.20m and probably survived further to the north outside the limit of the evaluation trench. The sandstone blocks forming the eastern side of the structure measured between 0.30-0.50m in length by 0.26m and the stones of the east facing side were noticeably well faced (Plate 7).

Both the southern and eastern walls (**1040**) measured approximately 0.90- 1.00m in width and the stones were clay bonded. Interestingly a number of glazed medieval floor tiles had been laid horizontally in between some of the most substantial sandstones. This had perhaps been done for levelling purposes. There was evidence of the southern wall bowing and both walls had an additional phase of build (**1006**) (Fig. 5, Plate 2). The later wall (**1006**) was made up of red sandstone with a rubble core and lime mortar. The south facing side of the southern wall had lime rendering and a white wash.

The foundation cut (**1038**) (Fig. 5, Plate 1) for the sandstone building was sealed by a thin layer of clay sand, largely comprised of mortar (**1033**) which measured 0.05-0.10m in depth and contained a beautifully worked bone pin. The layer of mortar was overlain by grey-brown silty sandy clay **1032** which was predominantly made up of coal and was sealed by a similar layer (**1025**) which measured approximately 0.70m in depth and also contained a notable amount of coal. The layer was largely made up of sandstone building demolition material. It produced a fairly high quantity of well preserved animal bones also pieces of brown and yellow glazed post-medieval pottery and a small number of possibly high status pottery sherds.

Another layer of sandstone building rubble (**1014**) overlay layer **1025** and produced brown glazed pottery and a large amount of tile. It measured 0.55m in depth and represented the latest in the sequence of building rubble layers which had accumulated up against the medieval sandstone walls **1040** and **1006** (Plate 3).

A second phase of building activity was evident, as the southern side of the aforementioned building had been abutted by two north-south aligned sandstone walls (**1023** and **1007**) (Figs. 4 and 5, Plate 6). One of the sandstone walls (**1023**), which perhaps represented the east side of a second structure, had been rendered on the probable inner, west facing side with lime mortar. Five courses of the wall were visible and it measured 0.60m in width and apparently continued beyond the south edge of the evaluation area. The other parallel sandstone wall (**1007**) may have been the west side of the same structure and was seen in the extreme southwestern corner of the trench. Similarly five courses of the faced wall were exposed, it was bonded with a lime mortar. Both walls ran at a right angle to St. Mary's Street, probably relating to building development in the late 19th century. They were on a slightly different alignment to the earlier building. A third sandstone wall (**1041**) which appeared to be contemporary with **1023** and **1007** was only partially uncovered, also abutting the uppermost wall **1006** which formed part of the earlier medieval building. Three courses of the east west aligned wall (**1041**) were exposed consisting of rough cut sandstone blocks bonded with clay **1042**.

The stones comprising wall **1041** (Fig. 6, Plate 7) were abutted by a layer of mid grey-brown silty clay sand **1036**. In order to determine the earliest stratigraphic sequence in the southern most area of the site, an auger was used. It was apparent that layer **1036** and possibly sandstone wall **1041** were overlying a dark grey organic deposit (**1043**). The deposit appeared to be between 0.70-0.90m in depth and was overlying reddish clay **1044** which may represent lining of a water filled feature, perhaps a ditch or moat. The possible base of the organic deposit was detected at a depth of approximately 4.05m below the level of the topsoil. The aforementioned layer (**1036**) overlay the waterlogged deposit (**1043**) and was between 0.20 and 0.38m in depth. Layer **1036** was overlain by a very thin layer of yellow sand **1035** which an east-west aligned brick floor surface (**1031**) had been set onto. The surface was two bricks wide with two other rows of bricks slumping sharply to the south that suggests disturbed underlying ground conditions. The hand made red bricks measured 10 x 4.25 x 2.50 inches in size and may indicate post-medieval cellaring activity. The floor surface was sealed by a levelling layer (**1015**), which was comprised mainly of mortar and contained a large number of clay pipe bowls and stems probably dating to the late 18th century and fragments of an onion bottle dating to the late 17th century.

A dog-leg shaped brick wall (**1009**) situated on the eastern side of the evaluated area, provided further evidence of possible post-medieval cellar structures. The wall ran parallel to, and at a right angle to, St. Mary's Street and was made up of six courses of hand-made rough cut bricks which had a lime mortar bond. An intriguing small find was recovered from the mortar bonding **1016**; a medallion commemorating the Crimean War. The wall was abutted by a possible surface (**1013**) comprised of a mixture of sandstone and red brick and overlain by a layer of brick and mortar (**1010**), which also sealed the aforementioned layer **1015**. Layer **1010** was sealed by a levelling layer of modern demolition rubble **1001** which measured 0.60-0.85m in depth and was overlain by 0.20m of topsoil **1000**.

Further evidence of post-medieval and modern structures was encountered towards the north end of the area of investigation. Five courses of a brick built wall (**1008**) running east-west, were visible in the east facing section of the trench. The wall was contemporary with the latest layer of brick rubble demolition material **1001**. The upper course (**1006**) of the east side of the medieval sandstone building had been cut to the north by a domed structure made up of

eight courses of small red bricks (**1029**), each measuring 0.15m in length by 0.07m wide. The cut **1030** measured 1.15 in length by 1.10m in diameter and the feature possibly represented a capped well or water tank perhaps dating to the late 18th/19th century. A red brick structure (**1012**) which was partially exposed in the north-eastern corner of the evaluated area may be part of a culvert which fed into the 'water tank' (**1029**). The building rubble (**1011**) overlying the possible culvert, contained pieces of asbestos, therefore for reasons of health and safety further excavation in that corner of the site was stopped at a depth of approximately 1.10m below the current ground level.

6. THE FINDS

6.1. The pottery and building materials *by Stephanie Rátkai*

The medieval and post-medieval pottery

The pottery was divided into ware/fabric groups and quantified by sherd and rim count (Table 1). Vessel form was recorded where determinable.

The greater part of the pottery was post-medieval in date. The earliest sherds were a Coventry ware cooking pot base sherd from **1037**, the fill of a construction cut for walls **1040**, and two sherds from **1001**, a modern demolition layer. The sherds date from the 12th or 13th century and are probably residual.

Layer **1025** which abutted walls **1040/1006** contained probable Chilvers Coton C sherds. On the evidence of their form and firing, these were likely to be of 15th- or 16th-century date. Of particular interest in this group was a blackware waster, suggesting the possible manufacture of this ware in Coventry itself. The group also contained a large, probably 17th-century Cologne stoneware jug with an heraldic device on the neck, a mid-17th-century tin-glazed earthenware porringer, a trailed slipware bowl sherd of mid-17th- to early 18th-century date and several sherds from a glazed Martincamp flask of 16th- or possibly 17th-century date. The pottery in this layer is likely to have been deposited somewhere around the mid-17th century, although there is clearly quite a large residual component in the group. Layer **1032** which lay immediately below **1025** appeared to contain sherds from the same vessels as those in **1025** and both layers must have been deposited at more or less the same time.

Building rubble **1014** which overlay **1025** contained a large rim-body sherd from a coarseware jar, which typologically is unlikely to post-date the later 17th century.

Layer **1036** abutted wall **1041** and was beneath brick floor **1031**. It contained only two sherds; an undatable coarseware sherd and a tin-glazed earthenware sherd. The latter sherd, possibly from a cup or small jar had a dark blue exterior glaze and a clear lead glaze on the interior. The latter might suggest a 17th-century date. The sherd was small and it was therefore impossible to ascertain the vessel form and the decorative scheme. Layer **1015**, which overlay **1031** contained a second very similar sherd, this time with a dark blue glaze on the internal and external surfaces. There was also white painted decoration on the external surface. To date, it has not been possible to find a parallel for these two sherds and further work on them would be useful, especially in view of the good collection of clay pipe, also, as yet, not closely datable, from **1015**.

Fabric/ware	Date	1001	1004	1010	1014	1015	1022	1025	1026	1027	1032	1036	1037	u/s	Total
Blackware	mid 16th-18th c	1						4							5
Brown salt-glazed stoneware	later 17th-19th c					1									1
Chilvers Coton A	mid 13th-early 14th c							1							1
Chilvers Coton A/C	14th c?						2								2
Chilvers Coton C	late 13th-15th/16th c			1					7		1			1	10
Chilvers Coton C?	15th-16th c			1			1	5							7
Cistercian ware	late 15th-mid 16th c							1							1
Coarseware	late 16th-18th/19th c		1	3	6			21			5	1		1	38
Cologne stoneware	16th-17th c							3							3
Coventry ware	12th-13th c	2											1		3
Creamware	c 1750-1800		1												1
Martincamp type II?	16th-17th c			1				11			1				13
Midlands Purple	15th-16th c								4						4
Mottled ware	later 17th-mid 18th c									1					1
Pearlware	late 18th-19th c	1													1
Slip-coated ware	later 17th-18th c	1													1
Slip-coated ware?	18th c		1												1
Slipware (feathered)	late 17th-mid 18th c	1													1
Slipware (trailed)	mid 17th-early 18th c			1				1							2
Tin-glazed earthenware	17th-18th c					1		8				1			10
Tudor Green	15th-16th c							2			1				3
Yellow ware	late 16th-early 18th c			1				5						1	7
Total		6	3	8	6	2	3	62	11	1	8	2	1	3	116

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by sherd count

Layer **1010** abutted wall **1009**. The Crimean War medallion embedded in the mortar of the wall would seem to indicate a late date for **1009**. If so, the pottery in **1010** is all residual since it was unlikely to be later than the early 18th century. A sherd from a tripod pipkin was found in this layer, which is of interest, since it is a comparatively uncommon form.

The post-medieval pottery contained a mixture of utilitarian kitchen or storage vessel and table wares and is fairly typical of a middle/merchant class urban assemblage.

Building Materials

A small collection of mainly ceramic building materials was examined (Table 2). Flat rooftile of medieval date was recovered from most contexts. Several fabrics seem to be present, the most common being an orange-brown micaceous fabric. Five of the tiles with a central nib were in this fabric. None of the tiles with a central nib were complete so it is unclear whether they also had peg or nail holes. None of the flat rooftiles was glazed. There were only two, small fragments of ridge tile, both of which were glazed. One was a product of the Chilvers Coton industry and the other was more likely to have been manufactured in the environs of Coventry. A single Stockingford shale tile fragment indicates that stone rooftiles were also being used. Given the substantial nature of the buildings uncovered during evaluation, their roofs seem to have been rather plain and devoid of the glazed tiles, finials and louvers so often encountered in the city.

Description	1010	1014	1015	1019	1022	1025	1026	1027	1032	1033	1036	1037	1040	Total
Burnt clay/daub				1										1
Flat rooftile		3	2	3	1	1	4	2	4	3	3	1	2	29
Flat rooftile, central nib				3		1	2				2			8
Flat rooftile, nib and peg hole	1													1
Flat rooftile peg hole					1			1						2
Floor tile						5						1	1	7
Ridge tile	1						1				1			3
Window moulding					1									1
Total	2	3	2	7	3	7	7	3	4	3	6	2	3	52

Table 2: Quantification of building material by count

The floortiles were, with one exception, undecorated. The green glaze on these tiles was heavily worn indicating that they had seen considerable use before their discard. A burnt, unglazed tile from **1025** may have been a hearth tile. The tile from **1037** had been scored diagonally ready to be broken into two triangular 'half-tiles', although this had apparently never happened. The one decorated tile came from **1025**. The white slip decoration was evidently part of a nine- or possibly sixteen-tile pattern of 15th-century date.

A burnt section of window moulding or tracery in a fine, light-coloured micaceous sandstone, possibly of 15th-century date, was found in **1022**.

6.2. Clay pipe by David Higgins

A total of 38 fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the site, comprising 10 bowl fragments, 26 stem fragments and two mouthpieces. These were recovered from four different contexts (**1001**, **1010**, **1015** and **1025**) and all of the material dates from the 17th century or first half of the 18th century. Three of the contexts contained just small numbers of stem or mouthpiece fragments (4 pieces or less) with the bulk of the finds (29 fragments) coming from just one context (**1015**). This context produced a particularly good group of early 18th century pipes, a detailed discussion of which forms the larger part of this report. 18th century pipes are poorly represented in the archaeological record and so this group will provide an important bench mark for future work in the region. All of the fragments from this site have been examined and the details of each context group are shown in Table 3.

Context	Bowl	Stem	Mouth piece	Total	Range	Deposit date range	Figs	Comments
1001		2		2	1640-1750	1690-1750		Two pieces of plain stem, both of which are burnished. The first probably dates from around c1640-1710 and is made of quite a coarse local fabric. The other is likely to date from c1690-1750 and is made of a finer fabric with a granular fracture.
1010		4		4	1610-1740	1680-1740		Four plain stems, three of which are burnished. Three of the stems are likely to be of C17th or very early C18th date. These include two of the burnished pieces, one of which is made of a fairly coarse local fabric. The final piece is also burnished but looks a little later in date - most likely around 1680-1740.
1015	10	18	1	29	1640-1740	1720-1740	1- 4	This group contains one residual stem that probably dates from c1640-1710 but all of the other pieces form a very fresh and coherent group with many cross joins between the fragments. At least 10 pipes are represented, which are discussed in detail in the accompanying report.
1025		2	1	3	1610-1710	1610-1710		Three unburnished fragments, all of which are made of fine fabrics with very fine mica flecks visible under a lens.
Total	10	26	2	38				

Table 3: Summary of clay pipe fragments recovered from the site

Clay tobacco pipes provide one of the most accurate and sensitive means of dating post-medieval deposits, particularly if they are present in some numbers. Unfortunately most of the pipe groups recovered from this site are rather small and so the reliability of the dating evidence they offer is not as great as if larger assemblages had been present. Despite this, the pipe fragments still offer some useful information with regard to the date and nature of the excavated deposits.

There were two pieces of residual 17th and 18th century pipe stem from the modern demolition **1001**. Context **1010** was layer of brick and mortar that contained four stem fragments of 17th or 18th century date. Once again, these must be residual because **1010** sealed **1015**, a mortar layer that contained the large group of pipes dating from c1720-40. Almost all of the stems from **1010** appear earlier in date than those from 1015, suggesting that the brick and mortar that was being dumped (**1010**) comprised earlier material that was simply being re-deposited.

Context **1015** clearly contained a good contemporary group of complete or near complete pipes. The numerous joins and coherent nature of this group suggests that they were freshly discarded at the time the mortar was being laid down. As such, their dating is crucial to establishing a fixed chronology for this sequence of deposits, and it appears that this group can be dated to c1720-40, with a date in the 1720s seeming most likely. The final few pieces of pipe, two stems and a mouthpiece, were recovered from **1025**, a layer of sandstone demolition material and coal abutting the early sandstone walls on the site. These pipe fragments date from somewhere between about 1610 and 1710 and may well represent the date at which the sandstone building was being modified or demolished.

Context 1015 (Fig. 1 and Plates 8 to 11)

As noted above, by far the most significant group of pipes from this site was recovered from 1015, a mortar layer sealing brick floor **1031**. This group is important for two reasons. First, the pipes form a very coherent contemporary looking group and it is clear that they were being freshly discarded at the time the mortar layer was being laid down. There are numerous cross joins between the fragments and the larger parts of two pipes have been recovered. Secondly, the group dates from the 18th century, a period when pipes tend to be poorly represented in the archaeological record. This may be partly due to a downturn in smoking at this period in favour of snuff and partly because the bowls became much larger and thinner, so that they are less easy to recover archaeologically. The discovery of this group therefore provides a rare opportunity to characterise the types of pipe that were being produced and used during the early eighteenth century as well as providing a valuable group of bowl forms to use as a reference point for future studies.

The context produced a total of 29 pipe fragments comprising 10 bowls, 18 stems and one mouthpiece. One of the stems is clearly residual, being of an earlier type, and will not be discussed further. All of the bowl forms are of contemporary types and each of them represents a different pipe, although one example is represented by a fragment only and three have their heels or spurs missing. This leaves six examples with a complete profile surviving. None of the bowls are marked or decorated and none of them has milling at the rim or an internal bowl cross. All of them, however, have burnished surfaces. Burnishing can be taken as a sign of quality since it was an additional task in the production process and it is known from contemporary records that burnished pipes cost more to purchase. Burnishing can be graded by quality into fine, good, average or poor according to the degree of care used in its application.

In order to characterise this group with more precision the burnishing, and other attributes, have been studied and logged in detail. The results of this analysis are given in Table 4. In this table, the bowls have been given a reference letter from A-J (with the residual stem being X) so that they can be cross-referred to the record. The numbers of bowl (B), stem (S) and mouthpiece (M) recorded on each line are then given, followed by the total. The stem bore is given in 64ths of an inch (64) followed by the grade for the burnishing (A = average; 0 = no burnishing). The rim finish is noted (I = internally trimmed; B = bottered; W = wiped; T = trimmed rim) and then the figure number and any relevant comments are given for the fragments listed on each line.

Ref	B	S	M	Tot	64	Bur	Rim	Fig	Comments
A	1	3		4	6	A	IB	1	Bowl and three joining stem fragments - good straight stem with 185mm surviving.
B	1	2		3	6	A	IB		Bowl very similar to and possibly the same mould as Fig 1. Two stem fragments join giving 81mm of straight stem.
C	1			1	5	A	IB		Bowl very similar to and possibly the same mould as Fig 1. No surviving stem.
D	1	2		3	6	A	I	2	Bowl and two joining stem fragments giving 223mm surviving. Appears to be a slight curve on the stem.
E	1			1	5	A	IB	3	Bowl with 38mm of surviving stem.
F	1			1	4	A	T	4	Bowl with 17mm of surviving stem. One part of the bowl rim has been roughly trimmed down where it has not moulded properly and smoothed into shape. Stem bore is nearly 5/65".
G	1			1	6	A	IB		Bowl form similar to Fig 3 but with spur damaged. 4mm of surviving stem.
H	1			1	6	A	I		Bowl form similar to Fig 3 but with spur missing - no surviving stem.
I	1			1	6	A	IW		Bowl form similar to Fig 3 but with spur missing - no surviving stem.
J	1			1	-	A	IB		Bowl fragment only.
X		1		1	7	A			Residual stem fragment or earlier style and with a discoloured, possibly burnt, surface.
		2		2	6	0			Two joining fragments making a 187mm long fragment. These come from a pipe that, unusually for this group, is not burnished. There are a few very fine gritty inclusions in the fabric visible with a lens.
		3	1	4	6	A			Two of the stem fragments join to give a length of 77mm.
		4		4	5	A			Two pieces join to give a piece of 69mm in length.
		1		1	4	A			Bore is just under 5/64".
TOT	10	18	1	29					

Table 4: Summary of clay pipe group recovered from 1015

Almost all of the bowls and stems are burnished, although the burnish is only of average quality. In many cases it is lightly applied so that it is bordering on poor quality in places. It is, however, a consistent feature of the pipes and clearly extends up to the mouthpiece. Just two joining fragments of stem are unburnished, and so there must have been occasional pipes in circulation that were not fully burnished (although the bowl could have been burnished with just the stem unburnished).

Table 4 demonstrates that the stem bores of this group (with the exception of the one residual stem - X), range from 4/64" to 6/64". Furthermore, the two pieces with a stem bore of 4/64" are only just under 5/64", so the overall range is quite restricted with 5/64" or 6/64" being the norm. Similarly, the rim finish is very uniform. None of the rims are milled but most are internally trimmed to give a thin and uniform lip to the bowl and most of them also seem to have been wiped or bottered (smoothed with a button like tool) to give a neat finish. These features all help with the dating of this group, which is one of the most problematic aspects of this group, since there are so few comparable assemblages of an 18th century date.

In broad terms, the general forms, the absence of milling and the small size of the stem bores all point to a period after about 1710-20, before which at least some of these features might

be expected. However, many of the bowls are still bottered, a finishing technique that phased out relatively early in the 18th century on English pipes. This would suggest that the group does not date from too far into the century. Likewise, the forms are probably earlier than the types of c1760-80 excavated at Mancetter (Melton 1997, 303) and so a date of c1720-40 seems the best guess for this group at present, with the 1720s being perhaps most likely based on the high percentage of bottered rims present. Unfortunately the pottery from this context is limited in that only a couple of sherds were present and it has not been possible to date these with any accuracy. The glass, however, provides supporting evidence for the date suggested in that it includes part of an onion bottle of late 17th or very early 18th century date.

There are clearly a number of slightly different bowl forms represented in the group, thus providing a sample of the range of styles that were in contemporary use. Figure 1.1 shows a fairly cylindrical form with a upright bowl and a small rather short spur. There are two other examples (fragments B and C) that are so similar to this form that they could all have been made in the same mould. In contrast, Figure 1.2 shows a form with a much more forward leaning and curvaceous bowl and a longer spur. Figure 1.4 is somewhat similar to this except that it has a much thinner spur and the rim appears to angle back towards the stem. The only problem with this piece is that the rim has clearly not moulded properly during the manufacturing process and so it has been cleaned up with a dished knife cut and then smoothed. This is the first time that the author has ever seen a bowl salvaged in this way during the manufacturing process and it has resulted in an oddly shaped rim. It seems surprising that this was done, particularly when the pipe has subsequently been burnished, supposedly to make it into a better quality product. Figure 1.3 shows a form somewhere between 1 and 2, and three of the other forms are similar to this (fragments G-I).

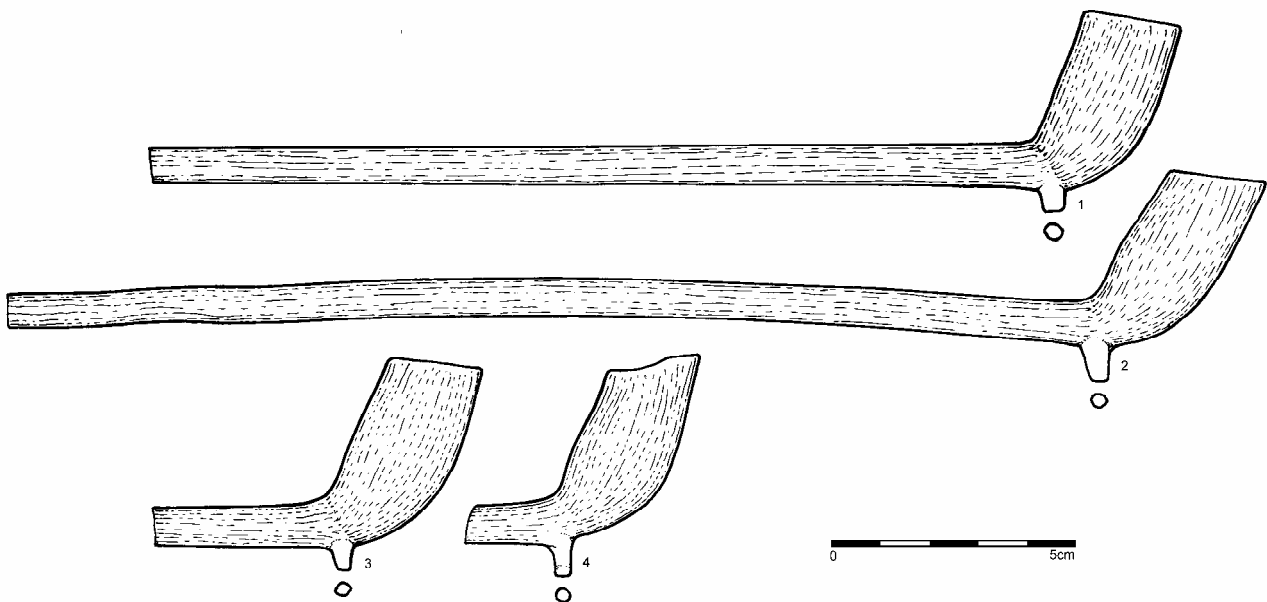


Figure 1: Clay pipe bowl typology

In terms of the style of these pipes, it is a little hard to place them within their regional or national context because of the lack of comparable assemblages. A study of Coventry pipes

(Muldoon 1979) does not provide any useful comparisons because it focussed on marked pipes, which these are not. This in itself is a noteworthy feature, since many of the products from pipemaking industries to the north and west at this time were frequently marking their products. At the important pipemaking industry centred on Broseley in Shropshire, marking was commonplace and similar bowl forms were being made (Higgins 1987), although these tend to be a little later in date, with heel forms dominating the early 18th century assemblages. This may indicate that the Coventry styles were evolving more quickly than the Broseley ones at this time. The Broseley forms are, however, similar in that burnishing was widely employed and so the local makers may well have had to use this type and quality of finish in order to be able to compete. Although they are not marked, these pipes were almost certainly made locally in Coventry and suggest that the local makers were able to develop their own styles and to produce very neat and competent pipes.

All of these pipes appear to have been made of a fine fabric but one that gives a slightly granular fracture. There are also fine mica particles visible in most of the fragments under a lens. Once again, this contrasts with Broseley where local coal-measure clays with quite a coarse body were being used until well into the eighteenth century. The source of the Coventry clay is not known, although good quality pipe clays were certainly available in Northamptonshire and the local coal-measure deposits may well have been exploited as well.

Summary

This site only produced a small number of pipes but one group from layer **1015** provides an important reference point for future studies. The pipes appear to have been freshly discarded, probably as complete items, in a single deposit of dumped material. They may well have been discarded by builders. It is suggested that the group dates from c1720-40 (and most likely the 1720s) and that the pipes in it were produced locally in Coventry. At least four different patterns of pipe are represented and these have been very uniformly made to a good quality. They are neatly finished and almost all have burnished bowls and stems, although the burnish is only of average quality. The pipes are characterised by a lack of milling at the rim, which is often internally knife trimmed and bottered and none of the pipes is marked. The bowl forms reflect new styles that were spreading across the country during the eighteenth century and show that Coventry makers were making good quality products in the latest fashions. This group will make an important reference point for future studies right across the Midlands.

6.3. The animal bone *by David Brown*

The assemblage comprised of a total of 222 fragments (3731g) with 80 fragments identifiable to element and/or species. This assessment was conducted using an NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens/Skeletal Parts) quantification methodology meaning each individual fragment of bone was counted regardless of identification.

Of the 80 fragments which were identifiable to species, the groups represented were cattle, sheep/goat, pig, birds and wild. The assemblage was hand-collected which creates a bias in recovery toward specimens immediately visible in the ground. Preservation of the remains was very mixed and ranged from very good to poor. Fragmentation was noted as being satisfactory to poor.

The assemblage was dominated by cattle, domestic birds and sheep/goat remains (Table 5). Most of the remains appear to be those of 'backyard' species; species which people can breed and maintain in their back gardens for their own usage; such as chickens (*Gallus gallus*),

domestic geese (*Anser anser*) and pigs (*Sus domestica*). The frequency of other species such as cattle, sheep/goat and wild species such as Roe Deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*), Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) and Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) is likely to be the result of the consumption of purchased goods. The site is located within the centre of Coventry city and thus it is a certainty that merchants would have been operating in the near vicinity. Indeed, the site is located near the medieval merchant centre on Earl Street (Parry and Chapman 2003, 3). The patterns of butchery observed on some of the remains testify to primary processing of animals and carcase dressing.

Context	Fragment Count	Weight (g)	Condition	Fragmentation	Measurable Bones	Ageable Epiphyses	Ageable Mandibles	Gnawing	Burnt bones	Butchery	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	Birds	Wild	Indeterminate	Notes	Pathology and Taphonomy
1019	1	26	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		
1032	12	98	6	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	5	indeterminate small/med mammal pubis bone; indet med/large mammal mttsl, dog gnawed	
1037	3	455	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	adult radius dist chopped at angle (dismembered); adult femur smashed open for marrow extraction; juv unfused prox femur artic chopped at angle (dismembered) & parallel chop marks on opposite sides of diaphysis above fracture show preparation for smashing	number of fresh chops on artic surface=exc damage
1022	8	103	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	7	suspected Galliforme (poss Pheasant [<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>] prox ulna, artic chopped away	rib frag Cu alloy stained
1010	35	270	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	5	0	26	suspected dog tibia shaft; suspected dist pig tibia unfused (<2yo); suspected foetal/neonatal pig metapodial	
1026	7	188	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	juv cattle calcaneum unfused – much less robust than ref coll specimen	
1004	1	130	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	juv prox humerus unfused	
1001	6	12	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	indet medium mammal ilium frag	
1006	1	38	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	sheep/goat mtcp, cut mark and tooth punctures below prox articulation	Abnormality in bone surface, early arthritis
1033	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	domestic goose [<i>Anser anser</i>] scapula frag and dist radius frag, series of parallel microcuts below prox articulation	
U/S	1	62	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	sheep/goat horncore	
1015	5	7	6	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>) carpometacarpal whole; ?Galliforme dist radius frag	Cu alloy staining
1035	1	8	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	indet sheep-sized mammal ilium fragment, dog gnawed	
1027	2	31	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	indet med/large mammal pelvis fragment	
1025	137	2300	6	5	8	4	2	2	0	9	1	1	4	13	4	88	indet med mamm dist tibia unfused ageable; A. anser humerus&dist carpomtcs; 2 ?Anseriforme mand frags; Rabbit femur; Brown Hare femur, dist artic chopped off; poss Roe Deer radius frag; ?Cervid mttsl split; numerous neont cow elements	Cu alloy staining

Table 5: Summary of animal bone assemblage

6.4. Other finds *by Erica Macey-Bracken*

Other finds recovered from the site included glass, iron, copper alloy, worked bone, shell, mortar and charcoal. The assemblage was fragmentary, although the individual fragments were largely unabraded. The assemblage is stable, and should present no long-term storage problems once deposited with the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum.

6.4.1. Glass

A total of 34 fragments of glass were recovered. Most of the assemblage comprises of bottle glass, with two fragments of window glass (**1015**) and two fragments of decorated vessel glass with red and blue stripes on a white background (**1001**, **1015**).

The earliest glass recovered was from mortar layer **1015** overlying floor surface **1031**. This layer produced 21 fragments of green bottle glass, possibly all from the same bottle. A neck and part of a base were identified as remains of an Onion bottle dating to the late 17th or possibly very early 18th century - the position of the string rim, relatively low on the neck, and the slight outward flare of the mouth points more towards a late 17th century date, probably around 1680–90 (Cecily Cropper, pers. comm.). Four other fragments of green glass wine bottles were also noted (**1010** x 3, **1025** x 1), although these fragments were not diagnostic.

Three fragments of clear vessel glass were also recovered (**1010** x 2, **1015** x 1). One of these fragments (**1010**) was part of a base and was embossed with the number '232', whilst another sherd from the same rubble layer was splashed with flecks of green paint.

Two complete bottles were recovered. A clear glass mould-made milk bottle with the name Coventry Farmers Dairies Limited embossed on the shoulder was recovered from a layer of building demolition rubble **1001**, and is like to date to the early – mid 20th century. A small cobalt blue phial of early 20th century date was also recovered from a layer of demolition rubble in the south-eastern area of the site (**1028**). This is likely to have been a poison bottle.

6.4.2. Iron

Five iron items were recovered, including two small nails from demolition layers **1010** and **1025**, and a large nail from the fill of the foundation cut for the medieval building (**1037**), an iron pin with a small hook at one end (**1010**) and a corroded lump of iron (**1001**).

6.4.3. Copper alloy

A copper alloy object was recovered from the modern demolition rubble (**1001**). This item was spherical in the centre, tapering to a point at one end and to a circular socket at the other end, and was 135mm in length and 65mm wide. This item may be a bed knob.

Two copper alloy pins were also recovered (**1004**, **1006**), along with two fragments of copper wire (**1010**).

Possibly the most interesting copper alloy item was a circular medal (Plate 12), 35mm in diameter (**1016**, SF 3), which was recovered from the lime mortar bonding a dog-legged brick wall (**1009**). The medal shows Britannia on one side and a cannon with stacked balls on the other. A possible palm branch can also be seen, along with a 56, presumably designating 1856; the end of the Crimean War. There are also the words Between and Russia on the top

right. The form is likely to be archaic, especially when compared to the official decorations of the period – the War medal and Victoria Cross. This again suggests domestic manufacture, and as the official medal has Queen Victoria on the obverse whereas this piece does not, it seems likely that this is a civilian commemorative piece (Martin Brown, Defence Estates Historic Environment Group, M.O.D. pers. comm.)

6.4.4. Worked stone

One fragment of stone molding (Plate 13) was recovered from the mortar bonding material (**1022**) for the red brick wall (**1009**) on the eastern side of the site. This piece of moulding is made from sandstone, and may be part of a decorative moulding or a monumental piece, such as a tabletop tomb (Dr. M. Hislop, pers. comm.).

6.4.5. Worked bone

A thin bone stylus was recovered from a layer of sand and mortar **1033**. This item had been squared off at one end, and then tapered towards a point at the other, although the item was broken before the end. "Pens" of this type, made from bird bones, have also been found elsewhere in Coventry (Mould 2007, 26).

6.4.6. Shell

Nine fragments of oyster shell were found. Most of the shell came from a demolition layer **1025** (8) with a further piece coming from a drain fill **1004**. The shell was unworked, and is likely to be food waste.

6.4.7. Other finds

The remainder of the assemblage from the site consisted of eleven fragments of mortar (**1015** x 3, **1025** x 7, **1037** x 1), four fragments of metallic slag (**1025** x 3, **1027** x 1) and four pieces of charcoal (**1033**).

6.5. Environmental remains by Tom Hill

Given the possibility of organic remains being present beyond the limit of this evaluation, a programme of hand-auger coring was undertaken to assess the presence and palaeoenvironmental potential of such deposits.

Due to the restricted size of the area, two cores, approximately 1m apart, were extracted (Fig. 5). Both cores revealed the presence of organic-rich remains underlying the medieval structures. Coring commenced at 1.85m below ground level (BGL). Red-brown sands, silts and clays were then encountered to a depth of 3.05 m BGL, after which dark brown herbaceous and well humified peats were encountered to 4.05m BGL. It was noted that the level of organic humification decreased with depth through the peat unit, with herbaceous organic remains becoming visible towards the unit base. In addition, the minerogenic content reduced with depth. Below the organic unit, red-brown clays were encountered, at which point the coring was suspended.

The abundance of herbaceous organic remains encountered at the base of the cores indicates that a waterlogged depositional environment had been present in the past. In addition, the low minerogenic content could be interpreted to suggest the presence of a standing body of water and not an active fluvial system such as a river or stream. When combining the known presence of organic remains to the east of the site revealed in the late 1980s with those identified during coring, it is clear that a substantial feature must be present to account for such a spatial distribution. There is a strong possibility that the evaluation provides further weight to the theory that the Coventry Castle moat underlies the site. The red-brown clay unit found underlying the organic material may in fact be the clay lining used on the marl/sandstone bedrock to ensure water was retained in the moat, although this interpretation must be seen as provisional.

During coring, the organic deposits encountered in core 2 were sub-sampled for palaeoenvironmental consideration. A total of nine spot samples were taken from the organic deposit, all of which demonstrate potential for pollen preservation. If present, the pollen assemblages will provide palaeoenvironmental information relating to the landscape conditions present around the site during organic accumulation. Samples were taken at 3.10m, 3.20m, 3.30m, 3.40m, 3.50m, 3.60m, 3.85m, 3.95m and 4.05m. Sediment saturation prevented sampling from being achieved between 3.60m and 3.85m depth BGL.

7. DISCUSSION

The archaeological evaluation successfully exposed part of the eastern and southern sides of a substantial sandstone building. The structure was well preserved and had survived at a depth of 0.50m below the current ground surface. Interestingly a number of glazed medieval floor tiles had been incorporated into the make-up of the walls, perhaps for levelling purposes; the tiles indicated a date of the 14th or 15th century. The findings of the evaluation suggested that the eastern wall may survive further to the north within the footprint of the proposed new building. The southern side of the medieval building extended beyond the western edge of excavation. A second sequence of sandstone walling had been built on top of the enormous stones which formed the foundations. However the walls appeared to bow and the exaggerated slumping of a brick floor which was probably part of a later period of post-medieval cellaring, possibly indicated surviving archaeological remains below the sandstone and brick wall foundations. In the southernmost area of the evaluation, the use of an auger provided evidence of an organic deposit at a depth of between 3.20 and 4.05m below the current ground level, perhaps suggesting the presence of a large cut, possibly a waterlogged ditch relating to the former castle.

Some of the original sandstone building material appeared to have been re-used during the 18th century in the construction of possible cellar walls which abutted the medieval walls to the south. The extreme eastern area of the evaluation was occupied by further brick structures, including a large domed feature, perhaps a well or water tank, exposed towards the northern edge of the evaluation area. Interestingly the alignments of the later buildings suggested a date of the late 19th century as they ran parallel or at right angles to St. Mary's Street situated immediately to the west.

Without doubt the most important element of the finds assemblage is the group of fragmented clay pipes recovered from 1015. With pipes of this date being sparse within the archaeological record, this group forms an important dataset that is significant both on a regional and national context.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT SUMMARY

Strat No	Context Type	Feature type	Description	Provisional date	Width/diameter	Length	Depth
1000	Layer		Topsoil Layer.	Modern			0.20-0.25m
1001	Layer		A layer of building demolition rubble	Modern			0.60-0.85m
1002		Drain		Post-medieval	0.25		0.20
1003		Drain cut	A drain cut, aligned northeast-southwest, cut through thin layer 1005	Post-medieval	0.30m		0.30m
1004	Drain fill		The fill of a drain, contained pottery and mortar				0.25m
1005	Layer		A thin layer of rubble and sand overlying wall 1006	Post-medieval			0.06m
1006	Sandstone	Wall	The eastern and southern sides of a sandstone building, apparently medieval in date. Lime rendering and white-wash on the south facing side.1006 represents additional build directly on top of wall 1040	Medieval	0.90m		1.12m
1007	Sandstone	Wall	A lime mortar bonded re-used sandstone wall, 5 courses, aligned north-south, perhaps relating to 19th century development along frontage of St. Mary's Street, abuts wall 1006.	Post-medieval	1.00m		1.00m
1008	Brick	Wall	A red brick wall aligned east-west, seen in east facing section.Probably relating to 19th century cellaring.	Post-medieval			1.00
1009	Brick	Wall	A red brick dog-leg shaped wall on east side of trench,perhaps relating to 19th century cellar activity	Post-medieval			
1010	Layer		A rubble layer of demolition material seen across the southern area of the trench. Glass and pottery found.	Post-medieval			0.25m
1011	Layer		A layer of modern demolition rubble in the north-east area of the trench	Modern			0.35m
1012		Drain	A possible brick culvert in north-east area of trench only partly seen due to asbestos contamination, possibly feeding 'capped well' 1030.	Post-medieval			
1013	Layer		A layer of red brick abutting wall 1009	Post-			0.15

				medieval			
1014	Layer		A rubble layer which is the latest of a sequence of layers of sandstone demolition rubble seen immediately to the north and west of Medieval Sandstone building (1006 /1041).	Post-medieval			0.50m
1015	Layer		A layer largely comprised of mortar, overlying floor surface 1031. Contained glass, clay pipes, animal bone and pottery.	Post-medieval			0.26m
1016	Mortar		A lime mortar bonding dog-legged shaped brick wall 1009. A medallion commemorating Crimean war was found.	Post-medieval			
1017	Layer		A thin layer of sand partially exposed in south-east corner of trench	Post-medieval			0.11m
1018	Layer		A pinkish-brown silty sand layer of demolition material, in south-east area of trench. Pottery retrieved. Apparently overlies 1036.	Post-medieval			0.26m
1019	Fill	Drain	The fill of a possible drain cut, partially exposed running east-west in south -east area of trench.	Post-medieval	0.25m		0.25m
1020		Drain cut	A shallow undated feature, possibly a drain cut, partially seen in south-east area of trench.		0.25		0.25
1021	Layer		Layer of light greenish-brown silty sand abutting wall 1009. Cut by 1020.	Post-medieval			0.12m
1022	Mortar		Mortar bonding material for red brick wall 1009	Post-medieval			
1023	Sandstone	Wall	A north-south aligned wall, 5 courses, probably relating to wall 1007 both made of re-used sandstone and abutting wall 1006. May well be structure relating to 19th century development of St.Mary,s Street.		0.58m		0.90m
1024			Unused context				
1025	Layer		Layer of dark grey silty clay sand and sandstone demolition rubble. Frequent tile and animal bone.	Post-medieval			0.50-0.70m
1026	Layer		A light pinkish-brown silty sand with charcoal flecks, contained pottery and animal bone. Seen in south-east corner of trench.	Post-medieval			0.22
1027	Layer		A layer of mid brown silty clay with brick fragments. Seen in south-west area of trench. Pottery and animal bone found.	Post-medieval			0.20-0.30m

1028	Layer		A grey-brown layer of silty clay sand containing tarmac and demolition rubble. Located in south-east area of trench overlying brick wall 1009.	Modern			0.35-0.50m
1029	Sandstone,brick	Well	Sandstone and brick domed structure possibly representing a capped well or water tank towards north edge of trench.Made up of 8 courses of small red bricks.	Post-medieval	0.90m	0.95m	
1030		'Well cut'	The cut for a possible 'capped well or water tank' (1029) possibly fed into by 'brick culvert' (1012) partially exposed in north-east area of trench. Cuts the edge of sandstone wall 1006.	Post-medieval	1.10m	1.15	
1031	Brick	Floor	A red brick floor surface,aligned east-west apparently slumping quite sharply towards the extreme south edge of the trench	Post-medieval	0.90m	3.00m	
1032	Layer		A dark grey layer of silty clay sand with frequent coal,also sandstone and mortar. One of a sequence of layers abutting sandstone building (1006/1040) to the north and west.	Post-medieval			0.24m
1033	Layer		A thin layer of greyish white silty sand predominantly made up of mortar. Notably contained a worked bone pin.	Post-medieval			0.10-0.15m
1034	Natural subsoil		A reddish orange degraded sandstone, auger sampled and interpreted as the natural subsoil. Cut by the foundation cut (1038) for sandstone building (1040/1006).				
1035	Layer		A very thin layer of yellow sand providing surface for brick floor 1031. Contained animal bone.	Post-medieval			0.05
1036	Layer		A mid brown silty clay sand with charcoal flecks, tile and brick fragments. Partially exposed underlying floor 1035 in the southern area of the trench. Animal bone was recovered.Appeared to overly organic deposit 1043.	Undated			?
1037	Fill		The fill of the foundation cut (1038) for the medieval sandstone building (1006/1040). Pottery and animal bone were recovered from the reddish orange sandy clay with charcoal flecks.	Medieval			>0.12m
1038		Wall cut	The wall cut for medieval sandstone building(1040). Seen to the north and west of the walling.	Medieval	>0.50m.		>0.12m
1039	Bonding clay		Reddish orange sandy clay bonding material in between sandstones making up wall 1006.	Medieval			

1040	Sandstone	Wall	The vast foundation stones of a medieval sandstone building. The stones have pieces of 14th century tile in between them, possibly for levelling.	Medieval	0.20-0.40m	0.60-1.40m	
1041	Sandstone	Wall	Sandstone walling aligned east-west, abutting wall 1006 in southern area of trench. 3 courses were exposed. The stones were clay bonded (1042) and probably re-used.	Post-medieval	0.44m		
1042	bonding material		pinkish-red sandy clay bonding material for sandstone wall 1041	Post-medieval			
1043	deposit		A dark grey sandy silt which had a high organic content uncovered at a depth of between 3.20-4.05m below the current ground level. The waterlogged deposit was sampled by means of augering and may relate to standing water perhaps in a ditch or moat?	?			approx 0.80m
1044	Layer		Possibly a layer of clay infilling a large cut, only partially seen through augering. Apparently underlying deposit 1043 across the south of the trench. Seen at a depth of 4.10m below the current ground level.				



Fig.2

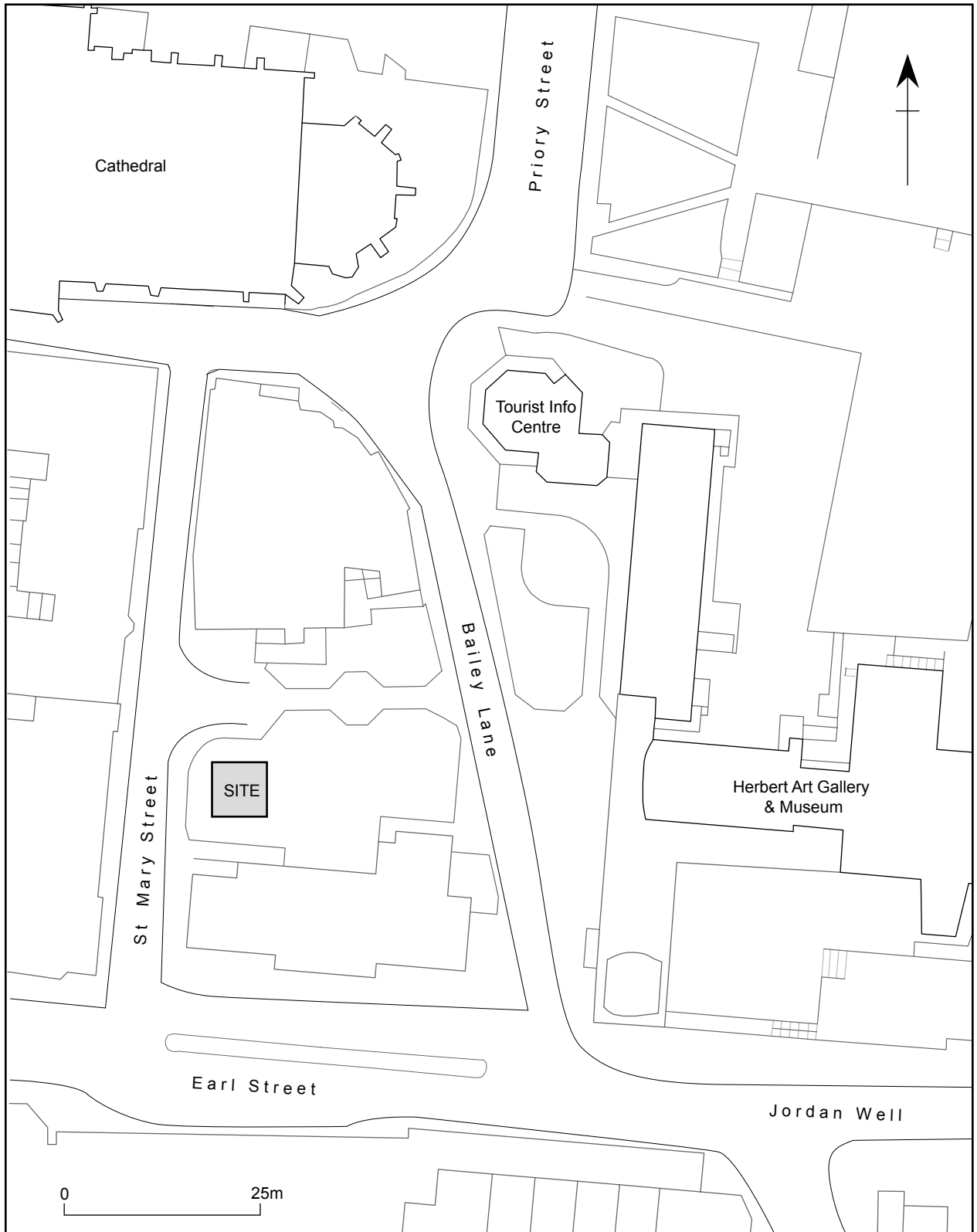


Fig.3

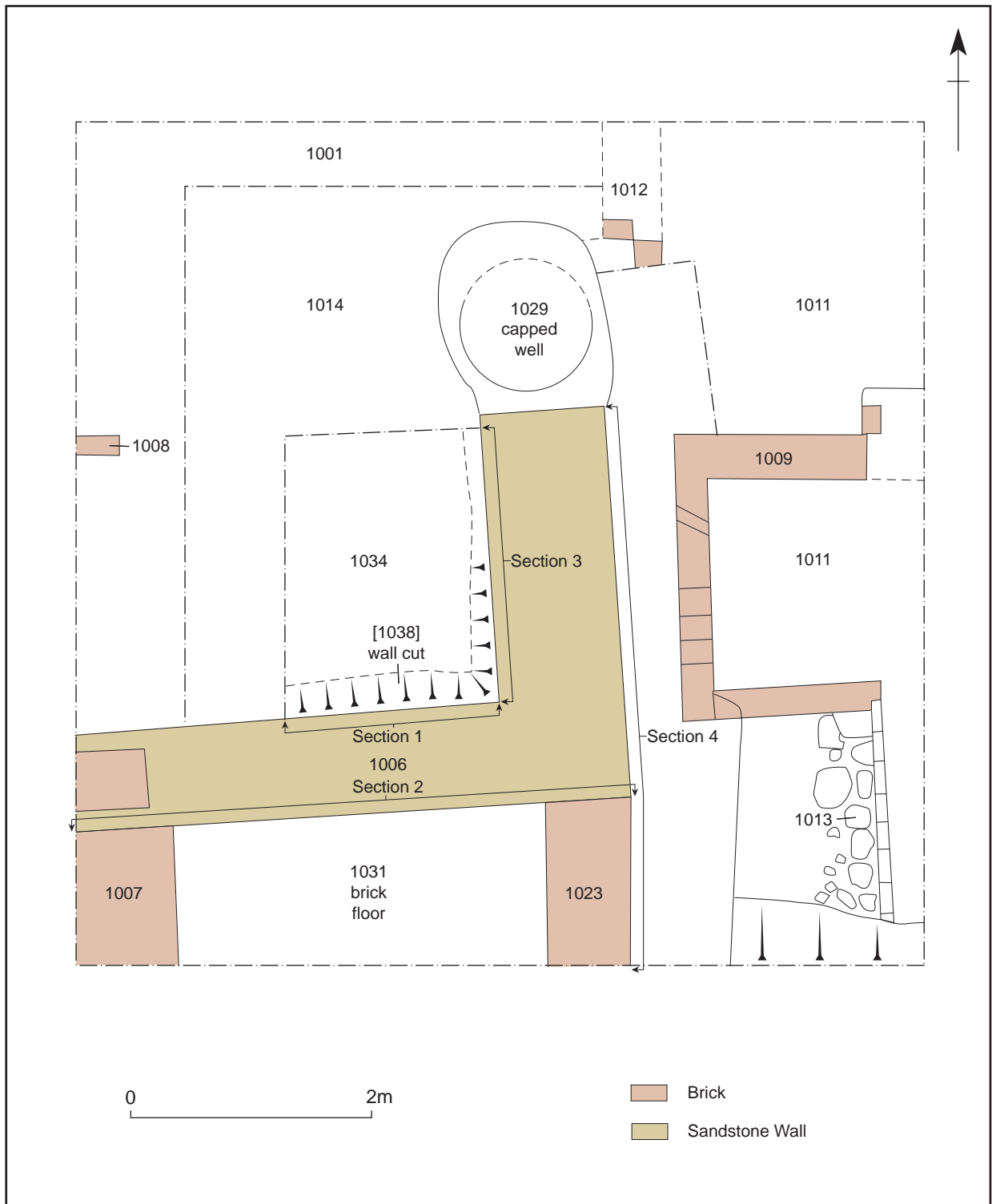
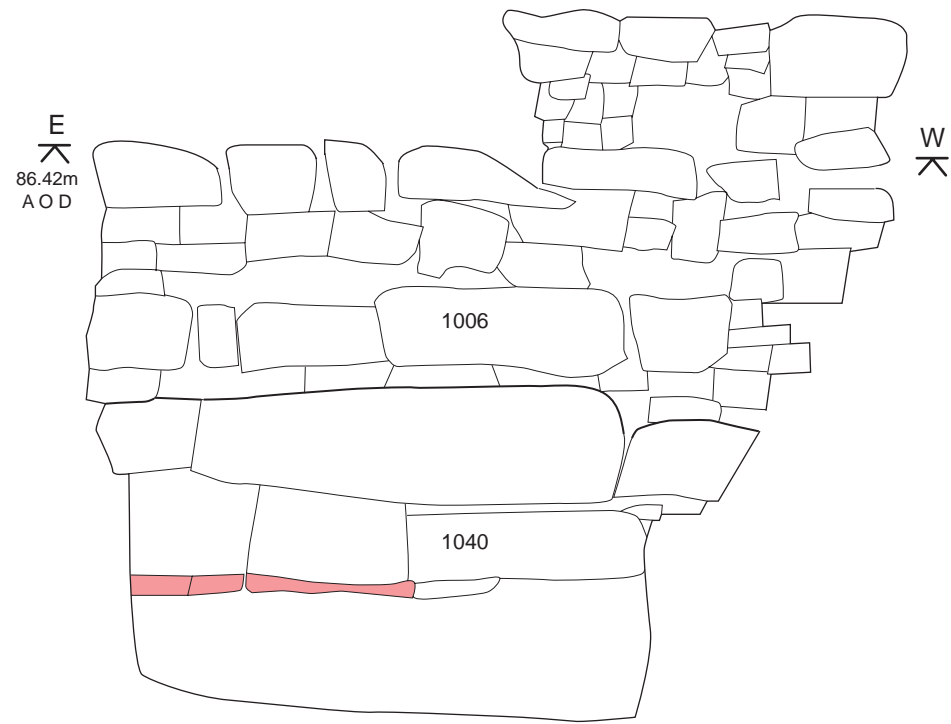
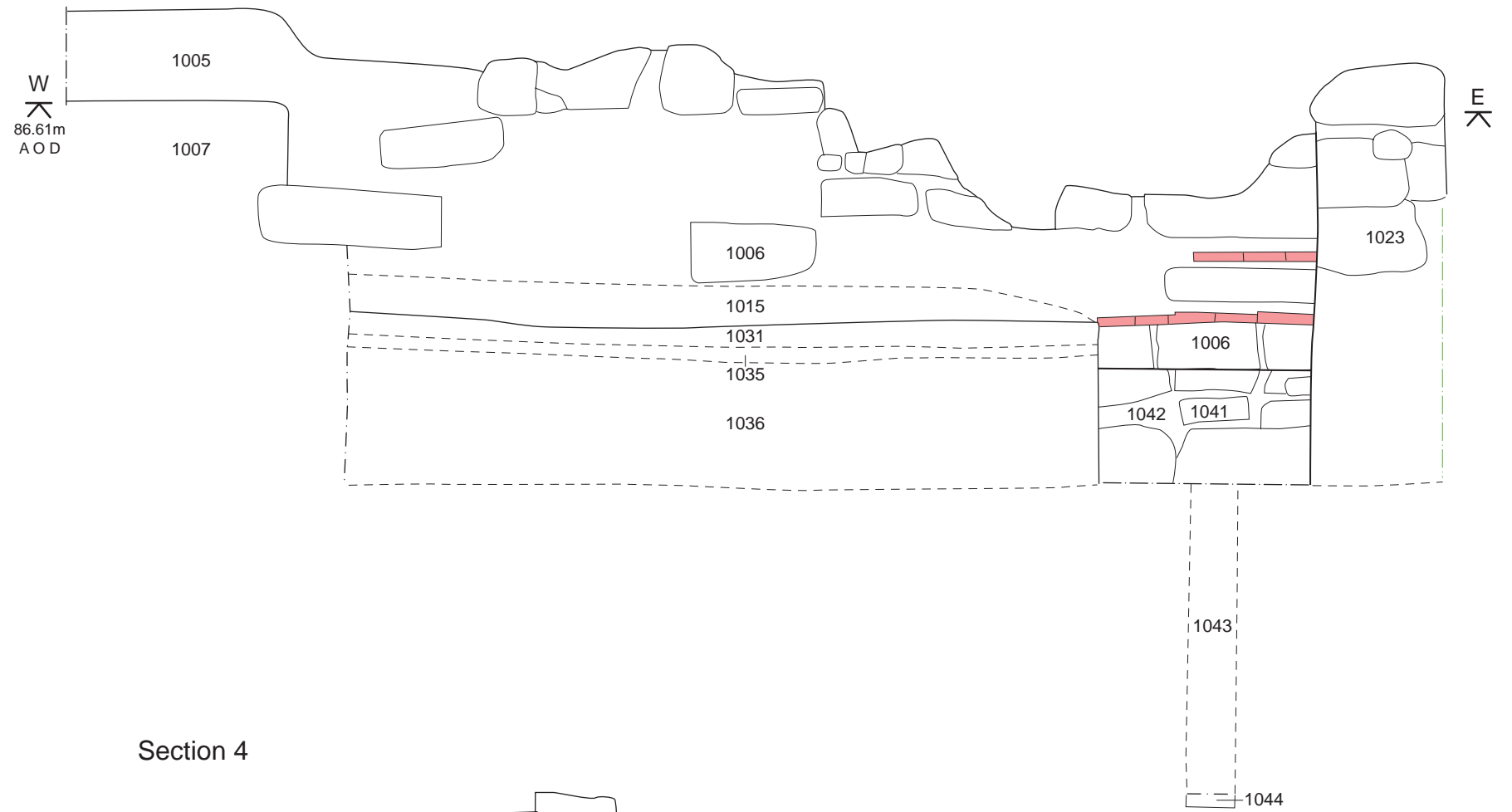


Fig.4

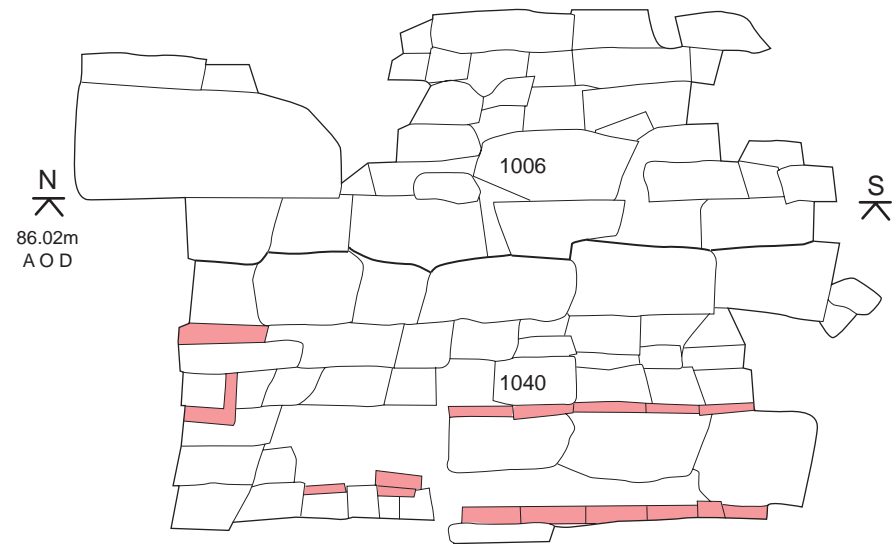
Section 1



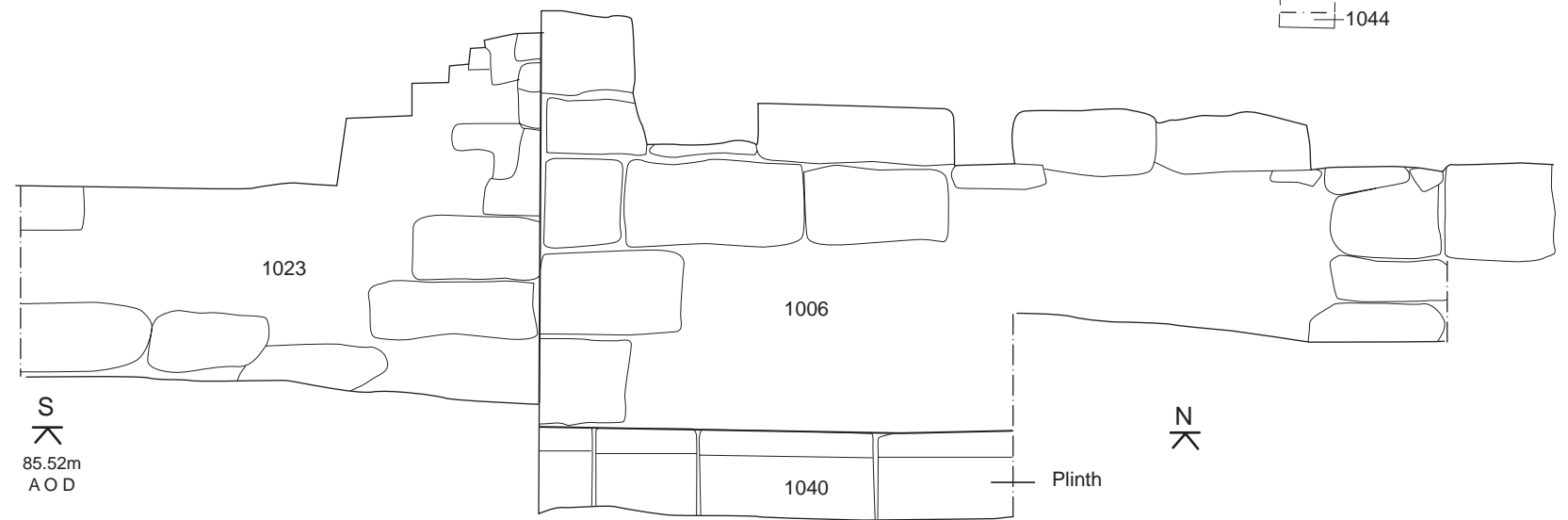
Section 2



Section 3



Section 4



Tile

0 1m

Fig.6



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5



Plate 6



Plate 7



Plate 8



Plate 9



Plate 10



Plate 11



Plate 12



Plate 13