

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological watching brief at Canonry Cottage 14b Minster Precincts, Peterborough February-July 2009



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QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS						
Project name	Archaeological wa	atching brief at Canonry Cottage, 14b Minster				
1 Toject name	Precincts, Peterb					
Short description		Archaeology conducted an archaeological				
(250 words maximum)		Canonry Cottage, 14b Minster Precincts,				
		g February and March and also July 2009. The				
		over 70m of linear service trenches and the				
	reduction of the inte	erior of the cottage garage, by 1m over an area				
		was observed. The reduction of the floor				
		f make-up layers underlying the foundations of				
	post dissolution leve	e service trenches were entirely excavated in				
Project type	Watching brief	515.				
(eg DBA, evaluation etc)	vvatoring brief					
Site status	None					
(none, NT, SAM etc)	110110					
Previous work	Yes					
(SMR numbers etc)						
Current Land use	Drive and garden	S				
Future work	No					
(yes, no, unknown)						
Monument type/ period		ildings and garden features				
Significant finds	Worked stone					
(artefact type and period)						
PROJECT LOCATION	Cambridgeshire					
County Site address	Cambridgeshire					
(including postcode)	14b Minster Precincts, Peterborough					
Study area (sq.m or ha)						
OS Easting & Northing	TL 19515 98560					
(use grid sq. letters)	12 100 10 00000					
Height OD	8m OD					
PROJECT CREATORS						
Organisation	Northamptonshire	e Archaeology				
Project brief originator	PCCAS					
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire	•				
Director/Supervisor		ısan Stratton, Jim Burke				
Project Manager	I Meadows					
Sponsor or funding body	Peterborough Ca	thedral				
PROJECT DATE	Fabruary 2000					
Start date End date	February 2009					
ARCHIVES	July 2009 Location	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)				
ARCHIVES	(Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)				
Physical						
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Title	Archaeological watching brief at Canonry Cottage 14b Minster					
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF AT CANONRY COTTAGE, 14B MINSTER PRECINCTS, PETERBOROUGH FEBRUARY- JULY 2009

ABSTRACT

Northamptonshire Archaeology conducted an archaeological watching brief at Canonry Cottage, 14b Minster Precincts, Peterborough during February to March and also July 2009. The excavation of just over 70m of linear service trenches and the reduction of the interior of the cottage garage, by 1m over an area of 5.4m x 3.2m, was observed. The reduction of the floor revealed a series of make-up layers underlying the foundations of the cottage and the service trenches were entirely excavated in post dissolution levels.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) was commissioned in February 2009 by The Dean and Chapter to conduct an Archaeological Watching Brief at the site of Canonry Cottage, 14b Minster Precincts, Peterborough, TL 19515 98560 (Fig 1) during work to convert the garage into living accommodation (Fig 2). The development required the lowering of the garage floor and excavation of new service trenches for conversion to a kitchen and shower. The Watching Brief aimed to identify, excavate and record any archaeology levels affected by the development, and to establish the development of the Cottage and this area of the precinct. Work proceeded following a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by NA to meet a brief issued by Peterborough City Council Archaeology Service (NA 2009; PCCAS 2009).

The material archive has been prepared according to the *Guidelines for the preparation* of excavation archives for long term storage (Walker 1990), Standards in the care of archaeological collections (MGC 1994) and the standards of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2001, revised 2008), The fieldwork was carried out to the standards required by English Heritage, the Institute for Archaeologists and the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EH 1991, 2006; IFA 1994 revised 2008; Gurney 2003).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and geology

The site is situated to the south-east of Peterborough Cathedral, 30m within the current precinct boundary. To the south side of the Cottage is the boundary of the Scheduled Monument PE140, which covers the majority of the cathedral precincts. Canonry Cottage is a small building adjoining the east side of the Grade 1 Listed Canonry House.

The Cottage lies at about 8m above OD, with the ground sloping gently to the south. The underlying geology of the site consists of sand and gravel River Terrace deposits (www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex).

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

Canonry Cottage is situated less than 100m to the south-east of Peterborough Cathedral. The building adjoins Canonry House, which incorporates the remains of the 13th-century Infirmarer's Hall, remodelled in the 18th and 19th centuries. The Cottage itself is believed to have had at least two major building phases, identified by Cathedral Archaeologist Dr. Jackie Hall. The initial building was probably an out-building, and this was later converted into servants' quarters sometime in the 19th century, probably contemporaneously with the building of an extension to Canonry House. Other modifications to the building include an 18th-century extension to the east, which was later turned into a garage and is the location of the reduction in floor level.

Archaeological excavation had previously been carried out relatively close to the site, with two separate investigations within 50m of the area uncovering cemeteries. One of these was to the east of Canonry Cottage during excavation in 1910 for the construction of Vineyard Road (PCCAS 2009). The other excavation took place in 2001 in the former Mason's Yard, to the north-west. A charnel pit dating to the late Saxon period or earlier was discovered, along with two phases of late medieval burial (Meadows 2001). Additionally some small trenches were excavated about 50m to the south-east that revealed extensive late Saxon occupation sealed beneath substantial depths of post dissolution garden deposits (Mackreth forthcoming).

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- To examine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of surviving archaeological remains by considering the nature of deposits and identifying those with the potential to provide useful and informative research data.
- To examine artefactual and ecofactual content of the site by sampling significant features and deposits using both hand collection and, if appropriate, sieved samples to detect fine residues, small faunal remains (fish, amphibian bones etc) and charred micro plant remains.
- To use illustrated records and level heights related to Ordnance Datum to compose a deposit model for the site and identify zones of importance.
- To define the presence or absence of archaeological or environmental deposits within the application area to inform the planning decision regarding the proposals for development.

3.2 Methodology

The groundworks comprised five discrete areas. Trench 1 a,b,c, which comprised the excavation of three short converging service trenches from the cottage to a manhole; Trench 2, a single trench from the cottage across the drive; Trench 3, a trench down the drive from the first manhole to a second; Trench 4, the excavation of a foundation trench across the access to the present garage and the general reduction of the interior of the

garage (Fig 3); and Trench 5, a long trench from the south of the cottage to the infirmary (Fig 6). The trenches were excavated by mini digger working under direct archaeological supervision with a narrow bucket producing on average a trench with a width of about 0.3m.

4 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

4.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 consisted of three short lengths: 1a - 4m long, 1b - 5m long and 1c - 2m long, extending from the eastern elevation of the cottage and converging in a larger opening for a drain cover (Figs 3 and 4). The trenches uncovered the foundations of a stone wall (109) aligned north-south to the east of the cottage and a series of post-medieval layers. In the modern period the area has been disturbed by a number of service trenches, the creation of garden borders and a gravel trackway.

Trench 1a

Trench 1a was excavated to 0.50m deep entirely within a series of post-medieval deposits cut by recent service and foundation trenches (Fig 4, section 2).

Earlier driveway

A rubble layer (108) to the south-east comprised small to medium-sized rubble, probably derived from demolition. Layers (110) and (103), overlying (108), derived from the construction and resurfacing of the gravel driveway, layer (103) contained two sherds of 19th/20th-century pottery. Another sequence of layers related to the driveway, (115), (114) and (113), survived in the middle of the trench. Near the garage, layer (118) contained coke and one sherd of late 18th-century pottery.

Services and garage wall

Service trench [112] cut through the driveway deposits and rubble layer (108). A linear feature [116], possibly a service trench, separated the driveway deposits from layer (118). The foundation trench [119] for the garage wall of Canonry Cottage was 0.75m wide.

Flowerbed and final driveway

The rest of the trench was overlain by a flower bed topsoil [101], 0.35m thick, which extended up to the edge of the service trench [112]. The final surface of the gravel driveway (102) overlay service trench [112] and layer (103) and may be a repair after the insertion of that service. and, like the flowerbed, may owe its origin to the 'tidying up' after the insertion of the service.

Trench 1b

Trench 1b, as with Trench 1a, it was excavated entirely within post -medieval levels to a depth of 0.50m (Fig 4, section 1).

Earlier driveway

The gravel and rubble horizons from the driveway, (108) overlain by (110) and (107), and both overlain by (103) and (102), were similar to those in Trench 1a.

Wall [109]

The foundation trench [105] for a limestone wall [109] aligned north to south, cut through the driveway surfaces. Two pottery sherds in the fill of the foundation trench (104) dated to the 17th-20th centuries. The wall was built from reused monastic masonry including one of late 13th or early 14th-century date.

The wall clearly post-dated the earlier phases of the driveway, but it does not appear on any of the maps examined as part of this project. However, its alignment continued the line of the garden fence that at the time of the work defined the eastern side of the property, perhaps suggesting the wall may have defined the garden prior to the construction of the garage.

Garage wall

The foundation trench for the garage wall [122] truncated the fill of the construction trench for wall [109].

Flowerbed and final driveway

Flowerbed (101) overlay all the deposits except for the final gravel surface [102] at the eastern end of the trench.

Trench 1c

This showed the same sequence of wall [109], garage wall [122] and flowerbed deposits as seen in trench 1b.

4.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was 6.5m long and extended across the gravel drive between Canonry Cottage and garage block (Fig 3). It was excavated to a depth of about 0.5m.

Earlier driveway (144)

The earliest horizon (144) equated to rubble layer (108) in Trench 1a. This extensive horizon contained post-medieval pottery of 17th-19th century date and quantities of stone, and was in excess of 0.35m thick, but was not fully excavated. To the west of wall [138] the rubble layer (144) was overlain by a thin, 0.04m thick layer of charcoal. This was covered by a rubble and mortar horizon (142), probably part of the make up for the drive, which also overlay a hollow infilled with clean orange gravel.

Wall [138]

Foundation trench [139] of wall [138] at the eastern end of the trench cut the rubble layer. On the east side of the wall a thin 0.1m gravel horizon, probably part of a path, was partially exposed. This path was sealed beneath a dark loamy garden soil (136) 0.17m thick.

Wall [109] and garage wall

At the western end of the trench the rubble layer was cut by the foundation trench [105] for wall [109]. The foundation trench [119] cut wall [109].

Flowerbed and final driveway

The garden soil [101] which formed the flower bed, seen in the other trenches, overlay walls [109] and [122]. Garden soil [137] formed a 0.9m wide flowerbed which partially overlay (142) in the eastern part of the trench. Overlying these deposits was the 4m wide gravel drive surface (102) which was up to 0.18m thick.

4.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 ran for 13m down the line of the drive linking the drain cover that Trenches 1a, 1b and 1c joined with a further drain (Figs 3 and 5; Fig 4, section 3). The excavation was about 0.50m deep and was filled entirely with post-medieval levels. Because of the narrow exposure and the truncated nature of the deposits it was not possible to observe a single basal horizon and for much of the length it was not possible to see deposits extending for more than a few metres.

The earliest layers were dark grey-brown clays. In the northern part of the trench (131) was at least 0.24m thick and contained some rubble, and seen further south as (130) and (126). Layer (130) included two fragments of worked stone, one 13th or 14th century in date, and layer (126) contained one sherd of residual abraded medieval pottery. Layer (130) was overlain by sandy clay (129), 0.16m thick and containing frequent mortar fragments and two sherds of post-medieval pottery. Above this, layer (128) was a dark grey silty clay, 0.14m thick. These layers and (131) were cut by robber trench [133].

Robber trench [133]

The robber trench was filled with building rubble (132), including pieces of dressed stone, probably the remains of a wall between the south-east corner of Canonry Cottage and the garage block (Fig 3).

Feature [134]

This feature cut through layers (130-128) with an almost vertical edge. However, the southern extent of [134] could not be determined. The fill (125) was an extensive layer of mixed clay and rubble containing residual medieval sherds as well as 17th and 18th-century pottery.

Garden paths

A deposit of rubble and sand (127), 0.12m thick and 0.75m wide, and overlying (128) may have been a garden path that ran alongside the wall of which only robber trench [133] remains. In the south, gravel deposit (124), 0.15m thick, which overlay (125), the fill of feature [134], may have been a garden path. This had been cut by a brick-lined manhole cover [137].

Driveway and services

Gravel drive horizon (123) overlay all these features. A thin layer of gravel, (135), overlay (123) in the north. Service trench [122] cut the gravel drive horizon (123) towards the south. The final gravel layer (103) for the driveway and seen in the other trenches overlay everything.

The sequence of activity in this trench was, to the south of the robber trench [133], probably garden activity overlying and cut into various rubble-rich clay deposits which may have been dumps of material from construction elsewhere in the precincts. The large cut feature [134] is difficult to characterise from such a small exposure but it could be an infilled sunken garden feature. Given the amounts of rubble it contained it is perhaps unlikely to have been cultivation soils. The suggestion of a sunken garden feature is perhaps supported by the presence of a probable path both to its north [127] and south [124].

4.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 comprised the lowering of the interior of the former garage (see below) and the excavation of a deeper new foundation trench 2.9m long, aligned east-west excavated along the line of the north wall of the garage (Fig 3, Fig 4, section 4).

The earliest deposits extended the length and breadth of the foundation trench, [210], was firm dark bluish-grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional small stones, was excavated to 0.18m and produced occasional animal bone. This was overlain by a layer of firm brownish-blue-grey clay (209) with rare small angular stones and charcoal, 0.33m thick. Overlying this was another make-up layer (204) of firm midbrown clayey sand with darker charcoal rich patches containing frequent medium-size angular building stone. This layer contained the majority of the pottery, 186 sherds, dated from the late 17th to the 20th centuries.

Cottage wall [211]

At the west end of the trench was foundation cut [212] for the cottage wall [211], aligned with the northern elevation of the cottage. The foundation was 0.82m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base and filled by firm dark brownish-grey clay (218), 0.10m thick, with rare small stones. The wall [211] was constructed with reused Barnack building stone, both large dressed stones and smaller rough finished pieces, set within a lime mortar bond. The interior wall of the cottage (221) consisting mostly of roughly-shaped limestone with some larger finished blocks was also laid on top of this foundation.

Garden walls [206] and [205]

Across much of the eastern part of the trench were foundations for a previous cottage wall [206] extending on an east-west alignment (Fig 3 and Fig 4, section 4). The foundation was 0.40m wide and 0.38m deep in section. The stones were faced on both sides of the wall, and set within a lime mortar. This wall could perhaps have formed a garden wall demolished prior to the erection of the garage.

At the rear of the garage was a limestone wall foundation [205] that was only partially exposed. The foundation comprised stones up to 0.2m across roughly coursed but without any bonding material. The foundation may have been an existing garden wall that was reused as the base for the garage.

Cottage wall [215]

A linear foundation cut [217] aligned north-south with steep sides and a flat even base, 0.13m deep, extended north from the front of the cottage. It contained a friable mid grey-brown sandy clay (216), 0.12m thick, with 80% small rough-shaped limestone rubble on which wall (215) was erected. The wall was composed of red handmade brick similar to garage wall (219) which it abuts. This wall was shown on the 1886 Ordnance Survey as a northern extension of the cottage which was subsequently demolished.

Garage wall [219] and floor

Overlying wall [206], the brick garage wall (219) made use of the previous foundations and was made of red handmade bricks, measuring 225mm by 110mm by 60mm. The bricks were arranged in English bond and set in lime mortar.

In addition to the excavation of the foundation trench the entire interior of the garage was lowered to a depth of about 1m, entirely removing the floor which overlay make up layers [204] and [209] as described above. A bed of sand [203] lay beneath a floor comprising a single thickness of brick [202] which was covered by a thin concrete surface [201].

Services

In the north-west corner of the garage a trench for a water pipe [214] cut the brick floor (202) and foundations (211). The trench had steep sides and a concave rounded base, 0.36m deep. It was filled by a friable mid yellowish-brown sandy clay with frequent small angular building stone and occasional brick.

Driven into [204] was a vertical-sided posthole with a roughly triangular section [208]. It was 0.53m deep, 0.13m long and 0.10m wide and filled by an upright timber (207) of the same dimensions. The wood was beginning to decay, meaning no tool marks survived, but it was probably quartered.

4.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was, at about 40m long, the longest service run for Canonry Cottage, and was dug for a new gas main (Fig 6). Its course ran from the interior of the infirmary across gardens to the south of Canonry House and into Canonry Cottage. Because of its location, it was felt the trench could impact on levels within the infirmary and might entail excavation through the infirmary wall as well as passing through areas that are now gardens. Two walls and the garden gate threshold comprised the main features.

Wall [403]

The upper course of an east-west wall foundation [403], on the same alignment as the most southerly wall of Canonry House, was formed of two courses of roughly-dressed limestone blocks 0.10-0.30m across with no bonding material. It was presumed this wall had been part of a post-medieval outbuilding. The wall was overlain by a garden soil [402] 0.30-0.40m thick, and a thin turf [401] 0.10m thick.

Limestone wall [404]

At about 5m from the gate a deposit of limestone [404], apparently laid on edge, was observed (Fig 7). The stones formed a narrow, 0.30-0.40m wide, deposit running approximately north to south and were interpreted as a possible stone-filled drain. However, their limited exposure made interpretation difficult and they could be the base of a robbed-out wall shown on Eyres map of 1721. The stones were within a garden soil [407] which, in this area, was sealed beneath a mixed horizon [405], 0.35m thick, of mid yellowish-brown loam containing post-medieval brick and tile overlain in turn by 0.15m of gravel, which formed a path [406]. The whole was sealed beneath a fine loamy turf horizon, 0.15m thick [401].

Gate threshold

At the garden gate threshold the garden soil [405] was overlain by two courses of irregular limestone blocks covered by two courses of bricks [408], arranged in English bond, finally overlain by a limestone slab [409].

Services

Cutting through the garden soil at several points were a number of recent services, comprising both ceramic pipes and plastic coated cables. At its eastern end, adjacent to Canonry Cottage, the trench was excavated to about 0.40m deep, revealing a thick garden soil [412] sealed beneath recent slabs [410] on a bed of sand [411] and a gas pipe. An iron pipe, a plastic pipe and a plastic coated cable lay further west.

The trench extended for 3m beyond the gateway to locate the existing gas main which had been bedded in sand [504]. Here, the stratigraphy comprised a rubble limestone

horizon [505] cut into by the various services. This was overlain by a mixed horizon [503] of dark grey sandy loam containing brick and stone fragments and pieces of recent plastic which was in turn sealed by an aggregate sub-base [502] covered in tarmac [501].

5 THE POTTERY

The watching brief produced 273 sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery, with a combined weight of 11.81kg (Table 1). The pottery was recovered from 17 individual deposits in Trenches 1, 2 and 4. The majority of the pottery (96% by weight) was located in an extensive soil horizon beneath the garage [204, 209], while smaller quantities were recovered from garden soils (101, 118, 125, 126, 129, 131, 144, 401, 402, 412), the makeup for the gravel drive (103, 125, 142) and foundation trenches (104, 106, 120).

With the exception of a small number of medieval sherds (11) located as residual finds in post-medieval deposits, post-medieval ceramics form the major part of the pottery recovered. The sherds of medieval pottery are generally small, undiagnostic and display signs of abrasion, suggesting that they had been lying around for sometime prior to deposition.

There are a small number of abraded post-medieval sherds, but the majority are in a good condition and there is a large number of joining sherds (particularly in context 204) suggesting that much of the assemblage may have been deposited as partially complete vessels; this is reflected by an overall average sherd weight of 45g. It has been suggested that the large sherd size may reflect the deliberate importing of midden material to seal the dissolution rubble horizons to create garden soils (Mackreth pers comm). Such material once deposited would not have been repeatedly cultivated in such a way to break or abrade the sherds. This 'landscaping' was perhaps associated with the establishment of residences in the precincts for married clergy.

With the exception of a small number of sherds relating to garden ceramics (flower pots and drip tray), the entire assemblage is represented by domestic wares dating from the late 17th century to the late 19th/early 20th centuries. Identifiable diagnostic forms in chronologically early fabrics appear to be kitchens wares in coarseware fabrics, this includes a posset pot in Blackware and bowls/dishes in trailed slipware fabrics. Later wares are dominated by mass produced tableswares in earthenware and stoneware, most probably originating from the Staffordshire potteries. Tablewares are represented by large serving platters, possible tureen lids, plates and bowls in Creamware and plates, dishes, cups etc in Underglazed transfer printed wares.

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by number, weight (g), context and fabric type

	Contexts									
Fabric type	101		103		104		106		118	
	No/v	vt (g)	No/\	vt (g)	No/wt (g)		No/wt (g)		No/wt (g)	
Medieval pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-medieval pottery	_	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	-
Blackware (late 17th century)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slipware -feathered (c 1680-1740)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Slipware-trailed (late 17th/early 18th)	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-
Salt glazed stoneware (c 1720-1780)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Manganese mottled ware (c 1680-1740)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Scratch blue (c 1740-1780)	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-
Pearlware (c 1775-1840s)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	9
Black stoneware - Etruria type (c 1770)	1	17	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Tin glazed earthenware (17th/18th c)	_	_	_	_	1	5	_	_	_	_
Nottingham Stoneware (1700-1800)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	144	_	-
Glazed red earthenware (late 17th/19th)	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	92	_	-
Creamware (1740s-1820s)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Underglaze transfer printed (late 18th -20th)	9	30	-	-	1	3	1	5	_	-
Mocha ware (c 1830-1850)	1	6	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Utilitarian Whiteware (19th /20th)	3	42	2	34			6	64	_	_
Unglazed red earthenwares (19th/20th)	_	_	_	_	-	_	3	31	_	_
Misc. wares (19th/20th centuries)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	14	-	-
Totals	14	95	2	34	2	8	16	350	1	9

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by number, weight (g), context and fabric type (cont'd)

	Contexts										
Fabric type	120 No/wt (g)		125 No/wt (g)		126 No/wt (g)		129 No/wt (g)		131 No/wt (g)		
Medieval pottery	-	-	5	12	1	19	-	-	-	-	
Post-medieval pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Blackware (late 17th century)	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	_	-	_	
Slipware -feathered (c 1680-1740)	-	-	1	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Slipware-trailed (late 17th/early 18th)	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	
Salt glazed stoneware (c 1720-1780)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Manganese mottled ware (c 1680-1740)	_	-	1	3	-	-	_	_	1	7	
Scratch blue (c 1740-1780)	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	
Pearlware (c 1775-1840s)	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	
Black stoneware - Etruria type (c 1770)	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	
Tin glazed earthenware (17th/18th c)	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	1	6	
Nottingham Stoneware (1700-1800)	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	
Glazed red earthenware (late 17th/19th)	_	-	_	_	_	-	1	17	3	50	
Creamware (1740s-1820s)	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	25	
Underglaze transfer printed (late 18th -20th)	1	5	-	-	-	-	1	5	_	-	
Mocha ware (c 1830-1850)	_	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Utilitarian Whiteware (19th /20th)	3	16	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Unglazed red earthenwares (19th/20th)	1	9	_	_	_	-	_	_	1	7	
Misc. wares (19th/20th centuries)	-	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	
Totals	5	30	7	34	1	19	2	22	7	95	

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by number, weight (g), context and fabric type (cont'd)

Fabric type	Contexts									
	142		144		2	204	209		401	
	No/wt (g)		No/v	vt (g)	No/	wt (g)	No/wt (g)		No/wt (g)	
Medieval pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	1	2
Post-medieval pottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blackware (late 17th century)	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slipware -feathered (c 1680-1740)	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
Slipware-trailed (late 17th/early 18th)	_	_	20	43	20	4316	-	-	_	-
Salt glazed stoneware (c 1720-1780)	-	-	-	-	8	200	-	-	-	-
Manganese mottled ware (c 1680-1740)	-	-	-	-	5	118	-	-	-	-
Scratch blue (c 1740-1780)	-	-	-	-	2	32	-	-	-	-
Pearlware (c 1775-1840s)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Black stoneware - Etruria type (c 1770)	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
Tin glazed earthenware (17th/18th c)	-	-	-	-	9	75	-	-	3	49
Nottingham Stoneware (1700-1800)	_	_	_	_	10	802	_	_	_	_
Glazed red earthenware (late 17th/19th)	-	-	3	50	21	1136	-	-	1	11
Creamware (1740s-1820s)	-	-	-	-	10	1622	-	-	1	2
Underglaze transfer printed (late 18th -20th)	_	_	_	_	94	2086	_	_	5	16
Mocha ware (c 1830-1850)	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
Utilitarian Whiteware (19th /20th)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	2	8
Unglazed red earthenwares (19th/20th)	_	_	-	_	5	233	-	_	1	24
Misc. wares (19th/20th centuries)	4	49		_	2	71			_	
Totals	4	49	4	54	186	10691	1	10	14	112

Table 1: Quantification of pottery by number, weight (g), context and fabric type (cont'd)

Fabric type	Contexts				
	4	02	412		
	No/wt (g)		No/v	vt (g)	
Medieval pottery	3	56	-	-	
Post-medieval pottery	-	-	-	-	
Blackware (late 17th century)	_	-	-	-	
Slipware -feathered (c 1680-1740)	_	-	-	-	
Slipware-trailed (late 17th/early 18th)	_	-	-	-	
Salt glazed stoneware (c 1720-1780)	_	-	-	-	
Manganese mottled ware (c 1680-1740)	_	-	-	-	
Scratch blue (c 1740-1780)	_	_	_	_	
Pearlware (c 1775-1840s)	_	_	_	_	
Black stoneware - Etruria type (c 1770)	_	-	-	-	
Tin glazed earthenware (17th/18th c)	_	-	-	-	
Nottingham Stoneware (1700-1800)	_	_	_	_	
Glazed red earthenware (late 17th/19th)	2	124	-	-	
Creamware (1740s-1820s)	_	_	_	_	
Underglaze transfer printed (late 18th -20th)	_	_	_	_	
Mocha ware (c 1830-1850)	_	_	_	_	
Utilitarian Whiteware (19th /20th)	_	_	_	_	
Unglazed red earthenwares (19th/20th)	_	_	2	21	
Misc. wares (19th/20th centuries)	-	-	-	-	
Totals	5	180	2	21	

6 WORKED STONE

Four fragments of dressed stone, all of Barnack type limestone were recovered during the observations. None were very large and some had presumably been re-used in post dissolution structures, for example, SF5 had bonding mortar adhering to the dressed face. That at least two of the pieces came from window or vault mouldings is perhaps not unsurprising since such awkward shaped masonry could only be easily reused as rubble core material.

Part of a rectangular ashlar block preserving only part of one long edge. The preserved surface was slightly concave in the shorter axis. SF1 context 130.

Part of a moulding, possibly a springer from an arcade of 13th or 14th century-style. SF2 context 130.

A fragment of Barnack-type limestone that had been reused as demonstrated by the presence of coarse gritty mortar on parts of the flat dressed surface. SF5 context 206.

A piece of moulding perhaps from a window of late 13th or early 14th-century style. SF6 context 109

7 OTHER FINDS

Following discussion with the Cathedral Archaeologist, animal bone and other recent materials were discarded without further analysis since they were recovered from post-medieval levels that were generally possible imported dumps of soil or garden soils.

8 DISCUSSION

The archaeological watching brief recorded a number of features relating to the development of Canonry Cottage, but did not go stratigraphically deep enough to uncover any features that could inform on the area's relationship to the monastic precincts.

The earliest feature was probably the foundation of the south wall of the cottage, which appears to have originally been the foundation of an earlier wall aligned east-west. Foundations for the northern side of the cottage were cut into an ashy make-up layer dating to the 17th -18th centuries. Remains of a later brick extension were also uncovered, including part of the northern elevation which was later demolished for access to the garage and part of the northern extension which is visible on the 1886 Ordnance Survey map but has also been demolished.

The exterior of the cottage has been subjected to disturbance by post-medieval and modern activity related largely to the provision of services or access. An east-west garden wall was in part demolished to allow access, and the foundations were robbed for building stone [132]. The track has several layers of gravel surface, indicating it has been resurfaced a number of times.

Further from the cottage, in Trench 3, elements of garden features were revealed that might relate to 'tidying' of the precinct to make it more acceptable for the occupation of the precinct by married clergy. The importing of soil containing large sherds of pottery, may denote the large-scale re-landscaping of this part of the precinct. If the area had been cultivated for vegetables it seems unlikely that such large sherds would have survived without further breakage or abrasion. Unfortunately even examination of the historic maps gives no indication of the character of these original garden features although the Eyres map of 1721 shows the area to the south of Canonry House largely planted as presumably an orchard while the 1886 Ordnance Survey shows the area as crossed by paths such as in a formal lawned garden.

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Northamptonshire Archaeology A service of Northamptonshire County Council

30 March 2010

APPENDIX 1: CERAMIC FABRICS AND FORM TYPE

Blackware

Date: c 1580-1700

Fabric: Hard, smooth texture and fracture with reddish core. The surfaces are covered in a

dark brown to black glaze.

Form: Posset pot

Glazed red earthenware

Date: *c* 1600-1750 (+19th century)

Fabric: Oxidized sandy fabric, highly fired and glazed internally and externally with tan,

brown, green or yellow glazes. Later wares with dark brown iron rich glaze.

Forms: Dish, bowls

Tin-glazed earthenware

Date: 17th to 18th centuries

Fabric: Fine earthenware, buff firing with yellow tinge. Thickly applied white tin glaze, which

is inclined to splinter and flake.

Forms: Non diagnostic

Feathered slipware

Date: c 1680-1730

Fabric: Buff coloured sandy fabric, with pinkish tinge. Brown slip with clear glaze.

Form: Non diagnostic

Trailed slipware Date: 17th century

Fabric: Hard fired, orange with blue core. Cream coloured trailed motif, brown glaze.

Form: Bowl/dish, rectangular dish.

Nottingham stoneware Date: *c* 1700-1800

Fabric: Buff to dark grey fabric with lustrous bronze like sheen.

Form: Bowl, jar

Salt glazed stoneware,

Date: *c* 1720-1780

Fabric: Fine white stone ware with a hard, slightly pitted salt glaze.

Form: Bowl, chamber pot?

Scratch blue

Date: c 1740-1780

Fabric: Fine white stone ware with a hard, slightly pitted salt glaze, incised decoration.

Form: Bowl

Manganese mottled ware

Date: c 1690-1760

Fabric: Pale buff earthenware fabric with streaky brown lead glaze.

Form: Posset pot

Creamware

Date: c 1740-1820

Fabric: Hard fired, pale cream earthenware with a white lead glaze.

Form: Oval platter, tureen lid, pates, bowls etc

Pearlware

Date: c 1750-1820

Fabric: The body is off-white and the lead glaze contains traces of cobalt, giving a bluish

tone.

Form: non-diagnostic

Black stoneware (Etruria, Staffordshire)

Date: c 1770

Fabric: Fine black stoneware, unglazed. Ornamented with press-moulded decoration.

Form: jar

Mocha ware Date: *c* 1820-140

Fabric: Earthenware with off-white to dark cream glaze with blue lines and characteristic

feathery blue mocha decoration.

Form: Non diagnostic

Under glazed transfer (printed)

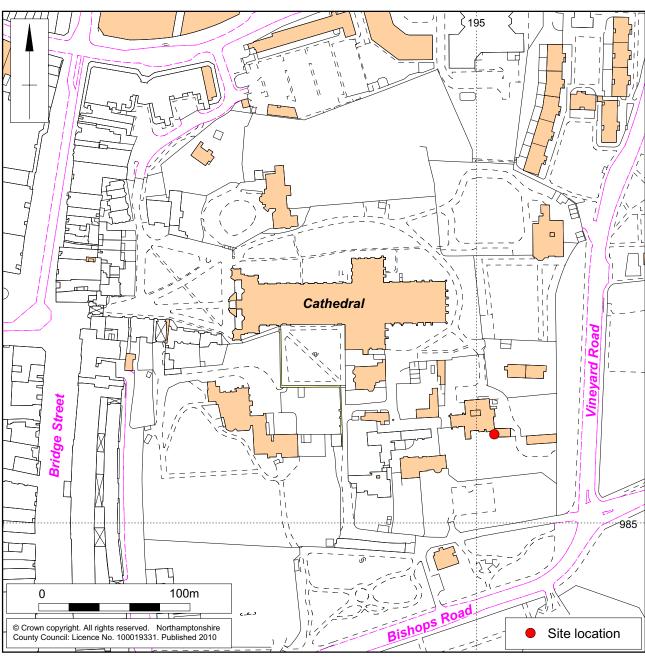
Date: Late 18th century

Fabric: Fine greyish white earthenware with a blue white motif either under or over glaze.

Form: Bowls, flatwares





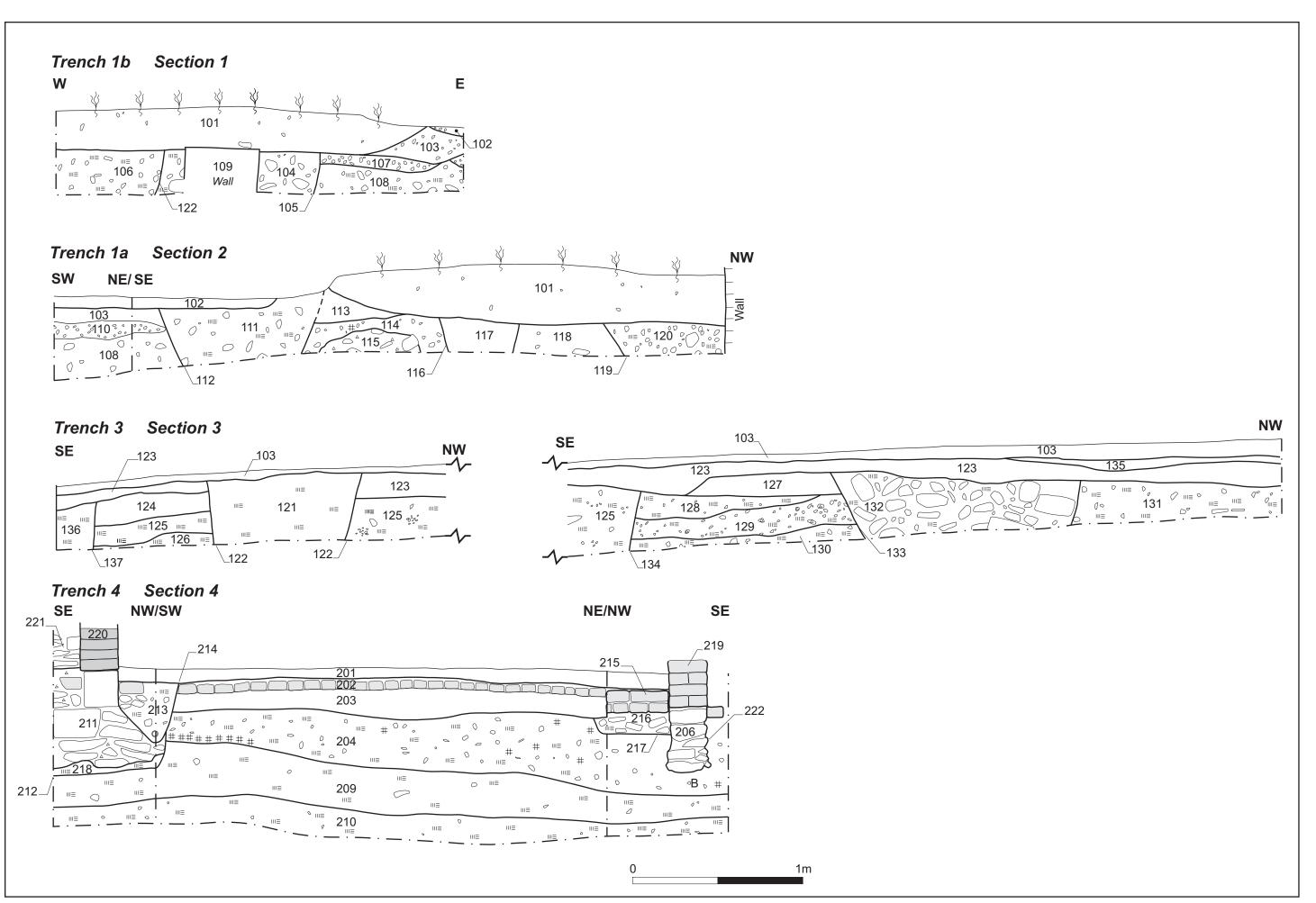


Scale 1:2500 Site Location Fig 1



General view of the site, looking south

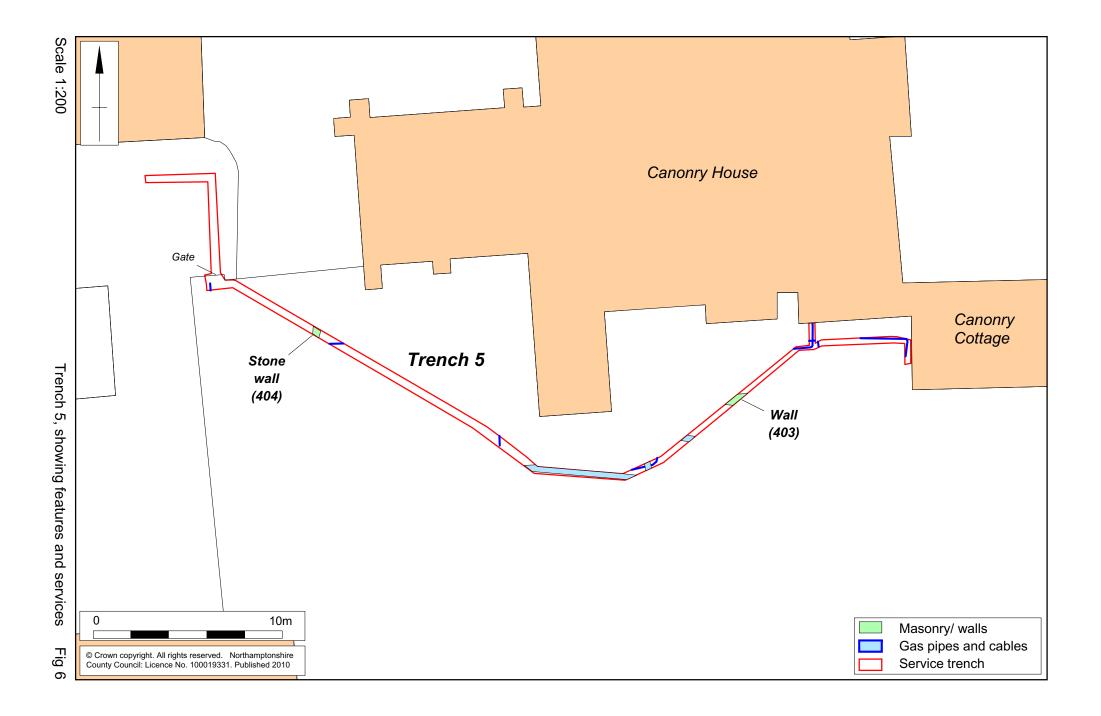
Fig 2





General view of trench 3, looking north-west

Fig 5





Trench 5, view of stonework [404]

Fig 7



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