

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OF GROUNDWORKS AT REMENHAM PARK PLACE TENNIS COURTS, REMENHAM, BERKSHIRE (RMTC 09)

Work Undertaken For Spink Property

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Quality Control Remenham Park Place Tennis Courts, Remenham, Berkshire (RMTC 09)

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1. SUMMARY

A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at Remenham Park Place, Remenham, Berkshire. The watching brief monitored the reduction of ground in the area that formerly comprised the formal flower gardens and late 20th century tennis courts, located to the west of the house.

The investigation revealed the former layout of the formal flower gardens, including the flower beds and an ornate arrangement of chalk paths.

A construction cut and related deposits associated with the late 19th century tennis courts were also revealed.

Finds retrieved during the investigation included two fragments of post-medieval roofing tile and a sherd of mid to late 19th century pottery.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of a Watching Brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined as "a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for nonarchaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits maybe disturbed or destroyed." (IFA 1999).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Spink Property Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the removal of the late 20th century tennis courts and 20th century additions within the formal flower gardens west of the mansion. The investigation also monitored the reduction of ground in this area prior to the construction and planting of a new contemporary styled garden within the area (defined by a low retaining wall) of the former formal flower gardens at Remenham Park Place. Remenham. Berkshire. Approval for the development was sought through the submission of planning application 0/2008/1353 to Wokingham Borough Council. The watching brief was carried out between the 22^{nd} and 30^{th} of September 2009.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Remenham is located 12km northeast of Reading and 12km west of Maidenhead in the administrative district of Wokingham, Berkshire (Fig 1).

Park Place Estate is located towards the southern end of the Chiltern Hills within a loop of the River Thames (Fig 2). Henley upon Thames lies at the base of Remenham Hill 1km west of the site and marks the county boundary between Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The highest part of the estate lies adjacent to Park Place at a height of c.105m OD. The land drops sharply from the west down towards the River Thames, which lies at c. 35m OD. The ground slopes more gently towards the east. The current area of investigation centres on the tennis courts former formal gardens located and adjacent to the west facade of the house at National Grid Reference SU 7766 8210

Local soils are of the Frilsham Association, typically composed of argillic brown earths. These soils overlie solid geology of Cretaceous Upper Chalk, although outcrops of Older River Gravels above clay with flints occur along the northern edge of the application area (Hodge *et al* 1984).

2.4 Archaeological Setting

The development site lies within the Thames Valley, an area rich in well documented archaeological remains ranging in date from the Palaeolithic to the present day. Palaeolithic finds, including hand-axes, have been found at Harpsden, Remenham Hill and gravel quarries near Remenham village, all close to the development area (Wymer 1968, 202).

Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts are known from the local area, including early Neolithic pottery and flints from a pit excavated in advance of a gas pipeline at Remenham (Holgate and Start 1985, 6). Numerous Bronze Age find spots in the area probably derive from the River Thames and may represent votive deposition. Furthermore, two Bronze Age barrows and a boundary ditch lie to the north of the development site.

Ritual deposition into the Thames appears to have continued well into the Iron Age, although the number of sites is reduced from that of the preceding period. Two occupation sites are known of this period, one in the river valley south of Henley-on-Thames and the second within the development area itself. This latter site was revealed during an evaluation of the Aspect Golf course east of Parkplace Farm (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1995), as was evidence of Early Roman occupation.

Remenham is mentioned in the Domesday Book c. 1086 as *Rameham*, derived from the Old English meaning settlement '*ham*' by the '*rima*' meaning bank; indicating its position by the River Thames (Ekwall 1974, 384). The King held Remenham from Queen Edith at the time of the Domesday survey when it contained a mill, 52 acres of meadow and woodland for fencing.

The manor of Remenham was granted to the Earls of Warwick in 1090 with whom it remained until the end of the 15th century when it once again became royal property (Page and Ditchfield 1923, 160). Remenham parish formerly lay within the Forest of Windsor and was kept largely as park and hunting grounds throughout the medieval period (APS 2004, 3).

The Park Place estate was formerly known as Strowdes Place and Vyne's Place. The Strode family held land in Remenham as early as 1257 and a Thomas Vyne is recorded as holding land in 1479 (Page and Ditchfield 1923, 162). In the 16th century, the land was owned by William Marriott and a Roger Draper held the estate in 1676 when it was called Perkes Place alias Strowdes (Page and Ditchfield 1923, 162).

Lord Archibald Hamilton built a villa at Park Place shortly after he acquired the estate in 1719. A painting by John Wootton in the Royal Collection at Windsor, dated 1742-3, shows a square, two storey villa of seven bays with the central five bays breaking forward under a steep pediment and hipped roofs. The main front was to the west with a central entrance on that side from a raised cross terrace that in part covered basement rooms.

The first major alterations to the house appear to have been made in the 1750s after the property was acquired by General Conway. The work was probably under the direction of the architect Sanderson Mille, a pioneer of Gothic revival architecture, and a landscape designer who often added follies or other picturesque garden buildings and features to the grounds of an estate (Heward 2004, 3). During this period of work, substantial new blocks were added at each side of the front which rose to form corner pavilions and a new full third floor was constructed, replacing the earlier attic rooms in the roof. From 1760 through to the 1780s Conway enlarged the parkland and embellished the estate with various ornamental structures and buildings (Anon 2005).

Lord Malmesbury purchased the property in 1797 and a sketch plan of this date shows a lane or drive ending in a U-shaped turning area at the north front of the house. The plan also shows a porch at the centre of the north front which by this stage was the principle entrance to the house.

The estate was sold to Spurling in 1816 who exchanged it in 1824 with his cousin, E Fuller-Maitland. It was sold again in 1867 to Charles Easton who made extensive alterations to the house (Page and Ditchfield 1923, 162), including the demolishment and replacement of the south part of the house, adding a new south-facing semi-circular bay, rising through all three stories, at the western corner of the south front. The alterations were completed by 1869 and shown on a photograph which was taken of the remodelled house (Plate 1). As part of the alterations, the rooms on the main floor were raised in height, the windows on the west front were all remodelled, a steeper roof with a mansard at the centre was added and the pediment at the centre of the west front was removed.

The estate passed to Mr J. Noble between 1867 and 1870, the grounds being subjected to extensive 'landscape gardening' by Robert Marnock around 1869.

This house was partially destroyed by fire in 1870 and as a result, was extensively remodelled and reorganised by Thomas Cundy, architect to the Grosvenor estate in London and the third generation of the family to hold that position. The house was re-built of rendered brick in the French Renaissance style (English Heritage 1999). Some alterations of note include an even steeper mansard roof with ornate dormers and a new tower added at the north end of the west front, a north-east service block which was possibly completely rebuilt and a new portecochere added on the north front with a new entrance hall and steps to make the original first-floor level the principal floor (Heward 2004).

At the west front of the house, an 18th century terrace with a plain retaining wall (shown on a photograph in a family album dated 1868) was replaced. The new wall incorporates symmetrically placed pavilions with seating areas set back under the terrace. This wall forms the present raised stone terrace and was constructed just after the remodelling of the house between 1871 and 1874. An elaborate arrangement of steps, with a double flight at the centre, and stone balustrades, leads down from the terrace to the formal gardens to the west of the house. Presumably the gardens were created as part of the same project; photographic evidence shows they did not exist prior to 1874. The gardens are defined by an ornate-shaped low retaining wall and have a rectangular shape with circular elements at either end.

New work in the late 19th century included a conservatory or winter gardens added on the east side of the main range with a grotto at garden level

The estate was sold off in 1947 as a number of separate lots. The principal Lot, including the mansion house was bought by Middlesex County Council and used as a residential school. Ownership passed to Hillingdon Council in 1965 who maintained the school until its closure in 1988. The asphalt tennis courts, located in the centre of what was once the formal gardens, were a late 20th century addition associated with the school.

An archaeological evaluation prior to redevelopment and extension of Park Place golf course in 2005 revealed deposits of Middle Iron Age to 4th century AD date 1km southeast of the laundry. Evidence for malting, grain storage and rubbish disposal probably associated with settlement was recorded. A medieval gully and postmedieval trackway were also identified (Wood 2005). A recent evaluation at the laundry (Peachey 2009) revealed a sequence of layers of made up ground, two fragments of redeposited Roman and medieval tile, along with two sherds of 16th to 17th century pottery, which represent activity at the site prior to the construction of the original house in 1719.

3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological investigation was to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during the groundworks were recorded and, if present, their date, function and origin determined.

4. METHODS

The 20th century additions to the formal flower gardens to the west of the mansion, including the tennis courts and any other hardstanding, were broken up and removed. The ground surface within the ornately-shaped area of the gardens, as defined by the 19th century low retaining wall, was then reduced to the level required by the developers. This was done by machine using a ditching bucket in order to achieve a clean surface where changes in deposits could be readily identified. The reduction of ground took place over a large area covering approximately 2442 square metres. Selected deposits were investigated in order to retrieve artefactual material and to determine their function. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20. Recording was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 1). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was assigned based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. **RESULTS**

Following post-excavation analysis three phases were identified;

| Phase 1 | Natural deposits |
|---------|---|
| Phase 2 | Formal garden features and |
| | deposits (1874-1905) |
| Phase 3 | Late 20 th century additions |

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits at the site consisted of loose to hard white chalk (001) and fragments of chalk, containing a moderate amount of flint modules (Fig 3)(Plates 7-8), and hard white chalk (broken into framents from machining) with some brown sand (007) (Fig 3).

Phase 2 Formal garden features and deposits (1874-1905)

Cut [016] is circular in plan with a diameter of 15.72m and occurs at the northern end of the site cut through natural chalk (001) (Fig 3) (Plates 7-8). A concrete and brick foundation (012) for a rendered brick pedestal lies in the centre of this circular cut. The pedestal is surrounded by a firm mid brown and white deposit of clayey sand and chalk fragments (005), containing occasional charcoal flecks and frequent fragments of CBM. This deposit fills the remainder of the circular cut [016].

An identical arrangement occurs at the southern end of the site. A second circular feature [015] with a diameter of 15.72m, cuts through natural deposit (001). (Fig 3) (Plates 7-8). A concrete and brick foundation for a rendered brick pedestal (011) lies in the centre of the cut. The pedestal is surrounded by a firm mid brown and white fill of clayey sand and fragments (002),chalk containing occasional charcoal flecks and frequent pieces of CBM. A second deposit of firm light yellowish orangey brown sandy clay (003), with frequent chalk and CBM fragments, also fills [015] (Fig 3). however, no stratigraphic relationship between these two deposits was identified.

A largely rectangular feature with semicircular elements at the northern and southern ends, cuts through natural deposit (001). This cut follows the line of the low retaining wall and creates an approximately 1.5m wide space between the retaining wall and the outer edge of the chalk path (Fig 3) (Plates 7-8). Its fill consists of firm dark greyish brown silty sand (013) with frequent chalk and CBM fragments.

A second rectangular cut with semicircular elements [018] at the northern and southern ends (Fig 3) (Plates 7-8) forms a large feature in the centre of the former flower gardens. Cut [018] was filled with deposit (004) and consisted of firm yet friable, mid brown and white speckled, sandy clay and chalk with frequent fragments of CBM. Two fragments of 16th to 18th century roofing tile were recovered from this deposit.

Cut number [020] (Fig 3) represents an amalgamation of cut numbers [015], [016], [018] and [019], but does not refer to them as separate features with individual fills. Rather, it is representative of the inner and outer cut edges of the chalk path that these features, taken together, also form. As such, the chalk path is formed through these features together cutting through chalk deposit (001). As the path itself is made from the natural chalk (001) the cut [020] does not contain a fill in the conventional sense, rather the path (the material of which would conventionally be thought of as the fill) is sculpted from reducing the already existing natural around it. In this sense what we would think of as 'the fill' exists prior to the cut. a sort of negative feature. Context number (021) is assigned to the material of the chalk path and represents the temporal relationship of the formation of the path with regards to the action [021] of cutting the path, rather than the geological provenance of the chalk which is represented by context number (001). Deposit (021) refers to deposit (001) in its use as a surface after the path is constructed.

Late 20th *century additions* Phase 3 Deposit (004) was truncated by a large rectangular construction cut [017] measuring 36.34 in length x 18.80m in width and occurring in the centre of the gardens (Fig 3) (Plate 8). Four different fills (006), (008), (009), (010) were identified within this cut. Deposit (008) consisted of firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent ash, charcoal, chalk and CBM fragments. Deposit (009) was a firm mid yellowish brown and white speckled sandy clay with frequent chalk and CBM fragments. A single sherd of mid to late 19th century pottery was retrieved from this deposit. A firm mid brown to mid greyish brown sandy clay with white chalk speckles and frequent CBM fragments formed deposit (010). These three deposits were recorded in plan and therefore no stratigraphic relationship between them was identified. A pale red sand and gravel (006) deposit of variable thickness (Plate 6), but no thicker than c. 0.25m sealed these three lower fills. This was overlain by a c. 0.10m thick deposit of indurated black tarmac. Over the rest of the site where this feature did not occur, all deposits and features from Phase 2 were overlain by a firm, yet friable, dark greyish

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brown sandy clay (014), up to 0.20m thick and containing frequent chalk flecks and fragments.

6. **DISCUSSION**

The natural deposits encountered during the investigation represent the underlying natural geology of Cretaceous Upper Chalk.

The area of the formal gardens, which is defined by a low retaining wall, lies on the lower terrace to the west of the mansion. The area is accessible from the west front of the house by an elaborate arrangement of steps, with a double flight at the centre and stone balustrades. This connects the upper terrace to the lower. The stone terrace wall over which the steps descend incorporates symmetrically placed pavilions looking out over the gardens, with seating areas set back under the terrace.

The creation of the lower terrace has led to the truncation of the area, lowering the level of the ground surface significantly. As a result the gardens were constructed on a flat plain of natural chalk. A number of cuts though the chalk define both the chalk path, which runs through the gardens, and the shape of the former flower beds. At the northern and southern ends of the gardens, cuts [015] and [016] define two circular shaped flower beds as well as the inside edges of the circular elements of the chalk path. At the centre of these flower beds are rendered brick pedestals which supported stone plinths upon which two large stone or coade urns of classical form were placed (Plates 5). The urns were removed prior to the present works.

Cut [019] follows the line of the low retaining wall which demarcates the garden area (Fig 3). This cut defines the outer edge of the chalk path and the bedding that existed between the retaining wall and the path.

Cut [018] defines the inside edge of the chalk path and the central bedding of the flower gardens. This is a large rectangular space with semi-circular elements at the northern and southern ends which form the outside edge of the path around the circular flower beds. There are also smaller semi-circular elements which embellish the eastern entrance to the gardens from the steps at the west front of the house and the western entrance to the gardens.

The formal gardens were presumably constructed at the same time as the current terrace wall. The wall is thought to have been constructed just after the remodelling of the house which took place from 1871 to 1874. A photo from 1905 (Plate 2) shows both the terrace wall and the low retaining wall (although it is somewhat difficult to see unless compared with Plate 1) that defines the formal gardens. The northern urn can also just be made out in the distance.

The large rectangular feature at the centre of the gardens is the construction cut for a late 20th century tennis court. The cut was filled with deposits of made ground and a final levelling deposit of sand and gravel hardcore before being overlain by an asphalt playing surface of dubious quality. The tennis courts were constructed by the school that used the property until its closure in 1988. Outside of the area of the tennis courts a layer of topsoil overlay all other features and deposits.

7. CONCLUSION

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Park Place, Remenham, Berkshire. The investigation monitored the removal of late 20th century tennis courts and the reduction of ground over the area that in the past comprised the formal flower gardens.

The investigation revealed the layout of the formal flower gardens cut into the natural chalk, including both the flower beds and an ornate arrangement of chalk paths.

A construction cut and related deposits associated with the late 19th century tennis courts were also revealed.

Finds retrieved during the investigation included two fragments of post-medieval roofing tile and a sherd of mid to late 19th century pottery.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of John Bateman of Spink Property Ltd for commissioning the fieldwork and postexcavation analysis, as well as his cooperation and assistance throughout the process.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Tom Lane Site Supervisors: Andrew Failes Finds processing: Denise Buckley Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth Illustration: Andrew Failes Post-excavation analysis: Andrew Failes

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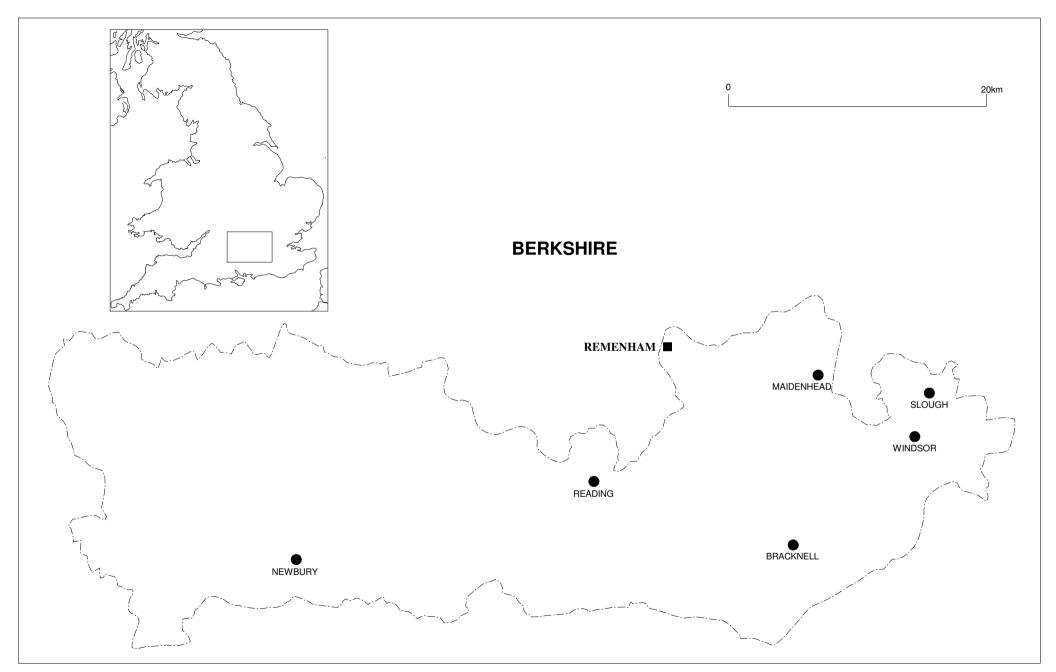
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11. ABBREVIATIONS

- APS Archaeological Project Services
- IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists
- CBM Ceramic Building Material





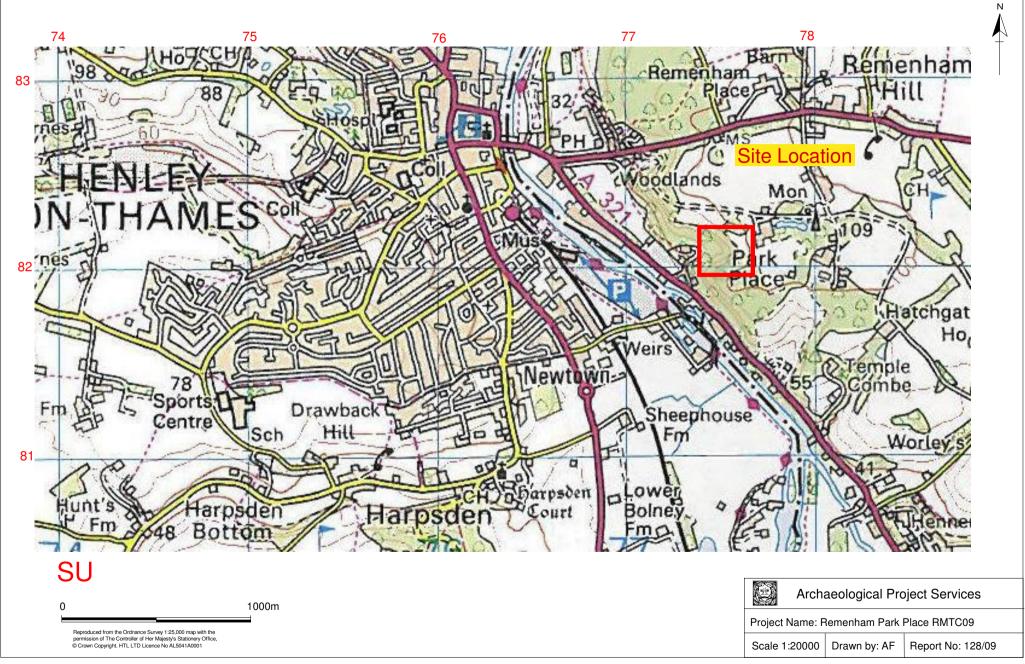


Figure 2 Site Location

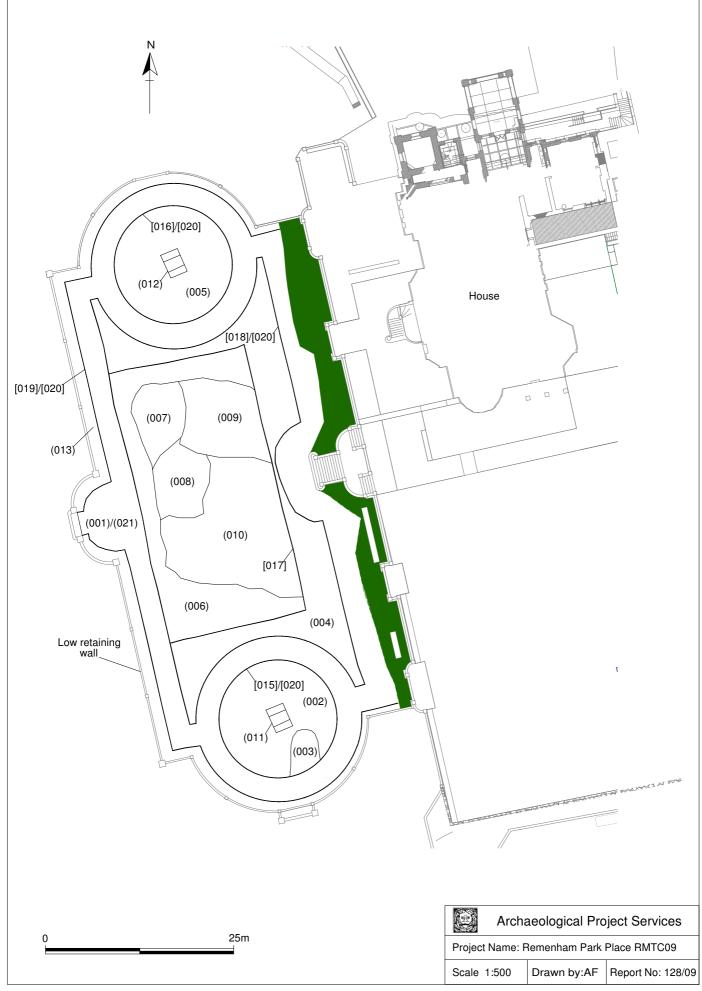
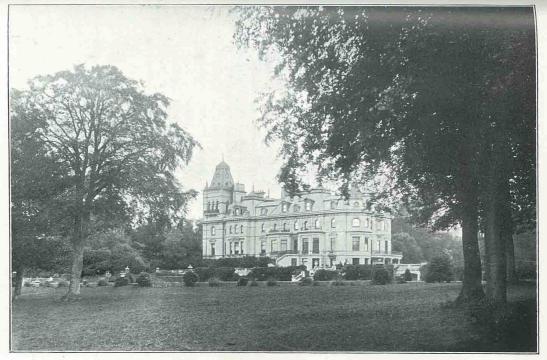


Figure 3 - Plan of formal garden area after removal of tennis courts and ground reduction



Plate 1 - View of the west front of the house from 1869 showing the previous terrace wall prior to the construction of the formal gardens



PARK PLACE, 1905.

Plate 2 - View of the west front of house from 1905 showing the new terrace wall and low retaining wall surrounding the formal gardens



Plate 3 - View of the south front of the house, showing the layout of chalk paths in the formal gardens on the lower terrace to the west



Plate 4 – View of the west front of the house prior to the present works, showing the terrace wall and late 20th century tennis courts which were built within the area of the formal gardens



Plate 5 – View of the formal garden area (prior to the present works) looking north, the two urns are located at the centre of the circular elements of the former garden layout



Plate 6 – Removal of topsoil and tennis courts in progress



Plate 7 – Southern end of formal gardens after ground reduction



Plate 8 – Area of formal gardens after ground reduction

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

| No. | Description | Interpretation |
|-----|---|--|
| 001 | Mix of loose and hard white chalk fragments, composed mainly of small pieces but including some more substantial pieces, with moderate flint nodules | Chalk path, utilizing the natural chalk |
| 002 | Firm mid brown and white speckled clayey sand and chalk fragments, containing occasional charcoal flecks and frequent CBM fragments | Former bed in garden (southern circular enclosure) |
| 003 | Firm light yellowish orangey brown sandy clay with frequent chalk and CBM fragments | Former bed in garden (southern circular enclosure) |
| 004 | Firm yet friable mid brown and white speckled clayey sand and chalk fragments with frequent CBM fragments. | Former bed within chalk boundary |
| 005 | Firm mid brown and white speckled clayey sand and chalk fragments with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent fragments of CBM. | Former bed in garden (northern circular enclosure) |
| 006 | Loose pale red/pink sand and gravel | Made up ground for tennis court |
| 007 | Loose mix of white chalk fragments mixed with brown sand | Chalky re-deposited natural (possibly made up ground) |
| 008 | Firm mid yellowish greyish brown sandy clay containing frequent ash, charcoal, chalk and CBM fragments | Layer underneath tennis courts (possibly made up ground) |
| 009 | Firm mid yellowish brown and white speckled sandy clay and chalk fragments containing frequent fragments of CBM | Layer underneath tennis courts (possibly made up ground) |
| 010 | Firm mid brown to mid greyish yellowish brown and white speckled sandy clay and chalk fragments with frequent fragments of CBM | Layer underneath tennis courts (possibly made up ground) |
| 011 | Hard grey and red concrete and brick slab | Base for urn (southern circle) |
| 012 | Hard grey and red concrete and brick slab | Base for urn (northern circle) |
| 013 | Firm dark greyish brown silty sand with frequent chalk, brick and CBM fragments | Deposit between the chalk paths and low retaining wall |

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005). A single sherd, weighing two grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1.

Results

Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

| Cxt | Cname | Full name | Form | NoS | NoV | W (g) | Decoration | Part | Description | Date |
|-----|-------|-----------|------------|-----|-----|-------|---------------|------|-------------|---------------|
| 009 | PEARL | Pearlware | Dish/ bowl | 1 | 1 | 2 | Blue transfer | BS | Abraded | Mid/late 18th |
| | | | | | | | print | | | to 19th |

Provenance

An early modern sherd came from context (009).

Potential

The pottery is suitable for discard. No further work is required.

Summary

A single sherd of mid/late 18th to 19th century pottery was retrieved from a single context.

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Anne Boyle

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001). A total of two fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 81 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

| Cxt | Cname | Full name | Fabric | NoF | W (g) | Description | Date |
|-----|-------|-------------------|-----------------|-----|-------|------------------------|---------------|
| 004 | PNR | Peg, nib or ridge | OX/R/OX; coarse | 2 | 81 | Same tile; flat roofer | Post medieval |
| | | tile | sandy + ca | | | | |

Provenance

Flat roofing tile was recovered from context (004).

Potential

The tile is stable and poses no problems for long-term storage. No further work is required.

Summary

Two fragments from a post-medieval flat roofing tile were recovered from a single context.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

| Cxt | Date | Comments |
|-----|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 004 | 16th to 18th | Date on CBM |
| 009 | Mid/late 18th to 19th | Date on a single sherd |

ABBREVIATIONS

| ACBMG | Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group |
|-------|---|
| BS | Body sherd |
| CBM | Ceramic Building Material |
| CXT | Context |
| NoF | Number of Fragments |
| NoS | Number of sherds |
| NoV | Number of vessels |
| W (g) | Weight (grams) |
| | |

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GLOSSARY

| Context | An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, e.g. [004]. |
|-----------------|---|
| Cut | A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded. |
| Domesday Survey | A survey of property ownership in England compiled on the instruction of William I for taxation purposes in 1086 AD. |
| Fill | Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s). |
| Iron Age | A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50. |
| Layer | A layer is a term used to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut. |
| Medieval | The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500. |
| Mesolithic | The 'Middle Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 11000 - 4500 BC. |
| Natural | Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity |
| Neolithic | The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500 - 2250 BC. |
| Palaeolithic | The 'Old Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 500000 - 11000 BC in Britain. |
| Post-medieval | The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800. |
| Prehistoric | The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD. |
| Romano-British | Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain. |

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

- 21 Context records
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 6 Daily record sheet
- 2 Sheets of scale drawings
- 1 Stratigraphic matrix
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Museum of Reading, Town Hall, Blagrave St, Reading Berkshire RG1 1QH

Accession Number:

Archaeological Project Services Site Code:

TBC.

RMTC09

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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