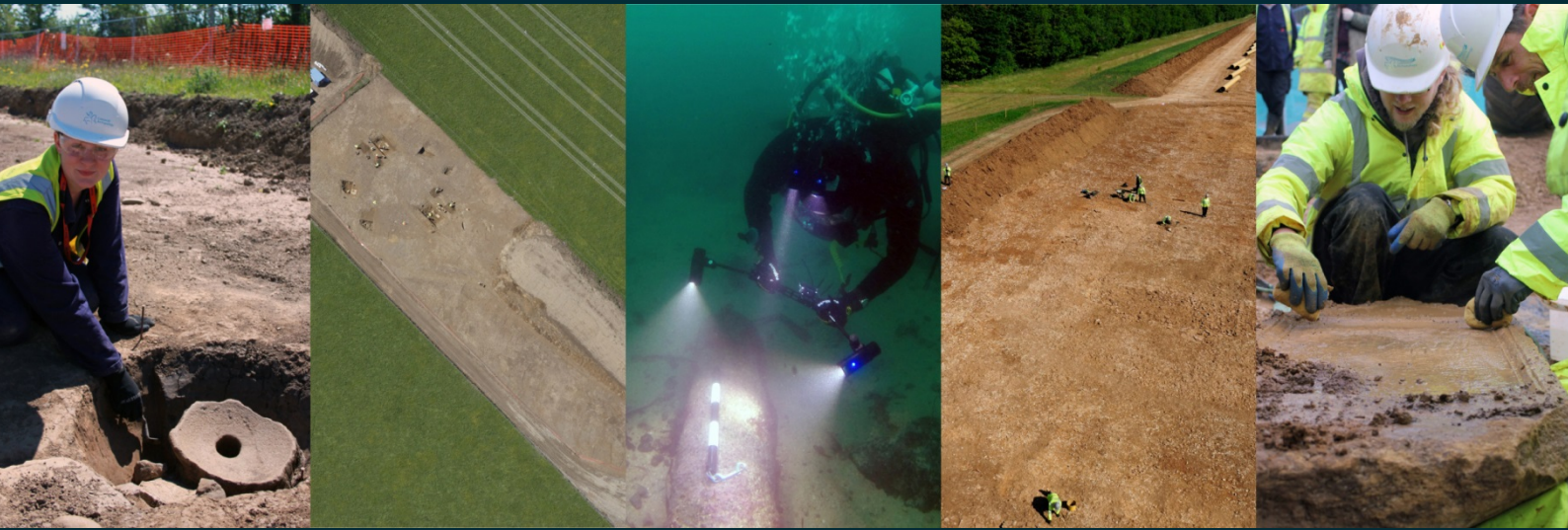


Glebe House Shrewsbury Shropshire

Archaeological Excavation



for
Morris Property Ltd.

CA Project: 9199
CA Report: 16212

June 2016



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Shrewsbury
Shropshire

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Glebe House
Location:	Shrewsbury, Shropshire
NGR:	SJ 4980 1259
Type:	Excavation
Date:	16 April to 7 May 2015
Planning Reference:	13/03670/FUL
Location of Archive:	Cotswold Archaeology
Accession Number:	E.00584 (2014)
Site Code:	HCAS15

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during April and May 2015 at Glebe House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The excavation area was located in the south-eastern part of the development area, targeted on concentrations of features identified in a previous evaluation of the site.

The excavation identified four broad phases of activity between the 11th and 20th centuries AD. Although residual Late Saxon material was recovered, the earliest phase of activity (Period 1 medieval) was associated with a ditched trackway at the south of the site with extensive quarry features to the north and dated to the 11th to 13th centuries. Period 2 later medieval activity saw extensive pitting activity towards the eastern edge of the site, possibly associated with domestic occupation further east, and dated to the 13th to 15th centuries. Period 3, post-medieval activity comprised pitting which continued through the 16th to 18th centuries and still appeared to be associated with domestic activity, though a large boundary ditch was also established sometime during this period. This post-medieval activity also saw the construction of a small number of likely timber structures on the site. Period 4 features dated from the later 18th into the 20th centuries and included further pit digging but also more extensive structural development with the foundations of some buildings and a brick culvert surviving towards the south of the site.

A moderate assemblage of pottery was recovered dating from the medieval to early modern periods comprising medieval cooking pots, pitchers and jugs alongside a small number of floor tile fragments. Other finds included iron nails/nail fragments, a rectangular ?container which may have been used to store needles, a small quantity of clay tobacco pipe and fragments of wine/spirits bottle glass.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April and May 2015, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological investigation at the request of Morris Property Limited at Glebe House, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (centred on NGR: SJ 4980 1259; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission (ref: 13/03670/FUL) for the construction of 25 sheltered apartments and 27 affordable apartments together with associated roadways, car parking, landscaping and drainage was granted by Shropshire Council (SC) conditional (Condition 7) on a programme of archaeological work focused on the areas of moderate and high archaeological potential to the east of the site, as outlined in the development's Heritage Impact Assessment (Morriss 2013). The work initially entailed a trial trench evaluation, which was followed by more extensive excavation to the south-east of the development area, where concentrations of archaeological features were identified. The archaeological condition was recommended by Dr Andy Wigley, Historic Environment Manager, Historic Environment Team, archaeological advisor to SC.
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by SC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014); the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (HE 2015). The excavation work was monitored by Dr Wigley.

The site

- 1.4 The development site was approximately 1.1ha in size and the excavation area, located in the eastern part of the site, comprised an area of approximately 0.2ha. The site was located to the east of Shrewsbury town centre and the River Severn, approximately 50m north of Abbey Foregate, which itself lay immediately to the north of the medieval Shrewsbury Abbey. The site was bounded by Horsefair directly to the south, railway lines to the north and west and commercial premises to the east (Figs 1 and 2). It lies at approximately 51m AOD, the modern surface sloping gently downwards from north to south.
- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Salop Formation mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate of the Permian and Carboniferous Periods.

Superficial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel alluvium dating to the Quaternary Period are noted in this area (BGS 2016).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site has been the subject of a Desk-based Assessment (DBA) and Heritage Impact Assessment (Morriss 2013), which identified areas of high, medium and low archaeological potential, the results of which are summarised below. The area once occupied by buildings on the northern and western side of Horsefair, was considered as having high archaeological potential. The area behind buildings on the northern side of Horsefair was considered an area of medium potential. The remainder of the development area to the north and north-west was considered as having low potential, having been open fields until the mid-19th century (ibid., 24–5).

Roman

2.2 There is potential for archaeological remains in the area immediately adjacent to the Abbey Foregate, which marks the historical entrance to Shrewsbury from the east. The origins of the street and related development are unknown; however there is some evidence for Roman activity such as a villa in this area (Morriss 2013, 6).

Medieval

2.3 The site lies immediately north-west of Shrewsbury Abbey, a Scheduled Monument, that was established c. 1083–90 (National Monument no. 1003718). Shortly after the establishment of the Abbey, a mill race was built to the south of the Abbey to power a series of water mills, one of which was sited close to the abbey precinct (Morriss 2013, 6; Fig. 9). The property boundaries to the south of Abbey Foregate respect the line of the mill race and are likely to be contemporary. The south-eastern extent of the site extends over the area occupied by the medieval street frontage on Horsefair; this area was shown to contain significant depths of stratified deposits including the remains of buildings and industrial features during trial excavations in 1991 (ibid., 24).

2.4 Excavations in Abbey Foregate, to the west of the abbey, at the Peach Tree restaurant, encountered metallised surfaces approximately 0.4m below the present ground level (Morriss 2013, 24).

Post-medieval

- 2.5 Available map evidence suggests relatively limited activity during the post-medieval period with most of the north and north-western areas of the site comprising open fields in the early 17th century. Houses were located along Abbey Foregate and to the north side of Horsefair. By the mid-1800s when the tithe map had been produced all the houses, with the exception of the end houses, on the north side of Horsefair had been demolished and the former pair of semi-detached houses at the north-western corner had become a single property (Morriss 2013, 7; Fig. 9). Abbey Foregate and Horsefair streets did not significantly change after the late 19th century. The pair of semi-detached houses were still visible on the 1927 Ordnance Survey Map (*ibid.*, 9) and were believed to have been demolished prior to the construction of the modern-day car park on the site.

Evaluation

- 2.6 Archaeological evaluation was undertaken in January 2014 (CA 2014) and comprised the excavation of five trenches (Figs 2 to 4) targeted on areas of high and moderate archaeological potential. A summary of the results is provided below. No archaeological features were uncovered in Trench 5.

Medieval (Fig. 3)

- 2.7 Medieval activity was represented by a series of pits and a well in Trench 4, which are typical of the type of features which would be expected to survive at the rear of the medieval burgage plots fronting onto the Horsefair. Further medieval activity comprised metallised surfaces 2011 (from which 13th to 15th-century pottery was recovered) and 2017, both in Trench 2. Sandstone wall making up Structure 6017, directly overlying surface 2017, was post-medieval in date.

Post-medieval (Fig. 4)

- 2.8 Wall footing 3005, dating to no earlier than the 17th to 18th-century, was in the right location to represent one of the buildings shown fronting the north-western corner of the Horsefair on Rocque's 1746 map of Shrewsbury (Morriss 2013, 8). However, it is equally possible that it may have represented an altered building shown in the same location on Wood's 1838 plan of Shrewsbury (*ibid.*, 8), with the demolition rubble deposits identified deriving from demolition of structures depicted on the earlier map.

Post-medieval/modern (Fig. 4)

- 2.9 The large possible robber cut 2021 (Trench 2), was on a similar alignment to a glasshouse first depicted on the 1882 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Morriss 2013, 10), but appeared to be too far south to represent this structure. Its derivation therefore was uncertain. Robber cut 2004/6007 was located immediately to the south of foundation trench 2021.
- 2.10 Wall footing 1002 (Trench 1) was likely to represent the footing of the glasshouse first depicted on an 1882 town plan of Shrewsbury (Morriss 2013, 10).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation were to:
- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered
 - assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains
 - assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains
- 3.2 The specific aims of the work were to:
- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use
 - recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified
 - sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2015). The location of the excavation area was agreed with Dr Andy Wigley (SC), informed by the results of the archaeological evaluation. An irregular-shaped excavation area measuring approximately 44m by 33m was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 5.1 *Survey Manual* (CA 2012a). The excavation area was scanned for live services

by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*.

- 4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of upper tarmac, associated with the modern car park and a series of modern demolition rubble and levelling deposits from the excavation area by mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision. The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2013).
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential with reference to CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (CA 2012b), though no features were considered to have sufficient potential to justify sampling.
- 4.4 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation* (CA 1995).

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 The excavation revealed the remains of a medieval trackway, metalled surfaces, quarry pits, pits, cesspits and a well; and post-medieval quarry pits, pits, structures, a wall, a foundation trench, robber cuts and ditches. Features excavated during the evaluation (CA 2014) have been included within the results with the exception of Trenches 1 and 5, which lay outside the excavation area. This section provides an account of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and biological evidence are to be found in Appendices 1–7.
- 5.2 Features have been assigned to periods on the basis of spot dates available from recovered artefacts, feature morphology and spatial/stratigraphic relationships to those features containing dated artefacts. Stratigraphic analysis of the features has indicated four broad archaeological phases of activity, though there were evidently a number of sub-phases within each of these:

- Geology
- Period 1: Medieval (11th – 13th century)
- Period 2: Later medieval (13th – 15th century)
- Period 3: Post-medieval (16th – mid-18th century)
- Period 4: Later post-medieval to early modern (mid-18th – mid-19th century)
- Modern (mid-19th – 20th century)

5.3 The definition of the periods assigned varies slightly from those outlined in the pottery report (Appendix 2), although the period boundaries remain largely consistent.

Period (Results Section 5)	Pottery period (Appendix 2)
Period 1: Medieval (11th – 13th century)	Early medieval (c. 1100 – c. 1225/1250)
Period 2: Later medieval (13th – 15th century)	High medieval (c. 1250 – 1450)
	Late medieval (1400 – 1550/1600)
Period 3: Post-medieval (16th – 18th century)	Post-medieval (1600 – 1800)
Period 4: Later post-medieval to early modern (mid-18th – mid-19th century)	Modern (1800 – 2000)
Modern: Modern (mid-19th – 20th century)	

Geology

5.4 The natural geological substrate (4001 and 6002) comprised variably compacted, light yellow-brown sandy gravel with some rounded cobbles, representing river terrace deposits. The surface of the terrace sloped downwards towards the south-west and in the western part of the site was overlain by up to 1.4m of firm, mid yellow-brown, fine clayey silt alluvium (6003), most likely laid down as a flood deposit by a channel of the Severn.

5.5 Across the excavation area, the natural was sealed by discontinuous evidence of soil development with both buried subsoil (6060), and buried topsoil (2013, 3009, 6090, 6105) deposits being recorded, most likely formed during the later medieval and post-medieval periods. The subsoil comprised brown clayey silts and was up to 0.16m thick, whilst buried topsoil, where extant, comprised a friable, dark brown, clayey sand up to 0.5m thick. The topsoil, where still present, was sealed by modern levelling deposits and tarmac.

Period 1: Medieval (11th – 13th century) (Fig. 3)

- 5.6 Although residual late Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from ditch 6184, the earliest phase of activity on the site commenced in the years following the Norman Conquest and extended into the 13th century. This period was characterised towards the south of the site by two broadly parallel linear ditches (6052 and 6184/6102) on an approximate east/west-alignment. The ditches lay between c. 2.5m and 3m apart and could be traced for at least 17m.
- 5.7 The northern ditch 6184/6102 was in two segments separated by a gap c. 1m wide. The western segment (ditch 6102) exhibited steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a concave base. It was 0.46m wide and 0.23m deep, having silted up naturally with a single deposit of firm, dark yellow-brown silty clay producing two sherds of 13th-century pottery, a lead-alloy object and a small quantity of animal bone. The eastern segment 6184 was 0.32m wide and 0.24m deep with steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a concave base. It had naturally infilled with a firm, dark orangey-brown silty clay that contained a single small sherd of possible Staffordshire ware pottery dating to the Late Anglo-Saxon period. Given the small size of this sherd and other evidence for 13th-century pottery, this sherd is considered to be residual.
- 5.8 The southern ditch 6052, was 0.47m wide and 0.16m deep, with moderately sloping but straight sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of friable, dark grey-brown silty clay, which appeared to have accumulated naturally and yielded just a single animal bone fragment and a sherd of 17th-century pottery. The pottery is considered to be intrusive due to its small size, and evidence from other stratigraphic relationships which indicate this ditch was one of the earlier features on site.
- 5.9 The nature and spacing of the ditches suggests that they demarcated a narrow, east/west-aligned trackway which lay on an orientation broadly parallel with the current route of Horsefair to the south of the site.
- 5.10 In addition to the ditched trackway there were a number of other features dating to the Period 1 medieval phase of occupation. In the gap between the northern two ditch segments was a sub-circular posthole 6161, 0.39m in diameter but just 70mm deep. Another similar feature, posthole 6159, lay approximately 1.5m to the north. This measured 0.5m across and was 0.1m deep. Neither of the features produced any finds but they may have been associated with the trackway; it is possible that

they formed the southern end of a fence line that extended north from the ditch segments on a perpendicular alignment to these.

- 5.11 Approximately 7m north was evidence of quarrying broadly contemporary with utilisation of the trackway and possible fence line. Quarry pit 6073 was a large, sub-rectangular feature measuring up to 5m across and was more than 1m deep (health and safety considerations meant excavation to its base was not possible) with steeply sloping, slightly variable sides (Fig. 5, Section AA). It appeared to have been excavated to extract gravel. A number of backfill deposits were recorded, the 0.37m-thick lower fill 6074 representing natural silting. This was overlain by a 0.22m-thick deposit of friable, light grey-brown sandy silt 6075 that appeared to have been deliberately deposited and contained a small assemblage of 13th-century pottery. Above this was a 0.16m-thick layer of soft, grey-brown silt 6076, which appeared to have been a topsoil deposit that had formed on the underlying material suggesting a hiatus in infilling of the feature. The depression was then levelled with the deliberate deposition of two further layers of material (6077 and 6078), neither of which produced any dateable finds.
- 5.12 Just over 2m to the north-east lay oval quarry pit 6207, which similarly appeared to have been excavated to quarry the natural gravel. It measured up to 4m across and was 0.9m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. This pit also contained a number of infill deposits but unlike the feature to the south-west, it appeared to have been deliberately backfilled over a short period. The 0.2m-thick primary fill 6206 was a compact, dark grey-brown silty sand that produced two sherds of 12th to 13th-century pottery along with an assemblage of animal bone, whilst the more extensive overlying deposit of friable, grey-brown clayey silt 6205 produced a larger assemblage of 13th-century pottery along with animal bone. Further materials overlay this including an extensive upper deposit 6203 that comprised a friable, grey-brown silty clay and produced a moderate pottery assemblage dated c. AD 1175–1225. A topsoil deposit 6202 developed on this suggesting a hiatus in activity following pit infilling.
- 5.13 Approximately 3m to the north-east of quarry pit 6207, lay sub-square quarry pit 6171 measuring 2.18m across and 0.49m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. This appears to have been another quarry pit and was deliberately backfilled, the more extensive plastic, dark yellowish brown, silty clay lower fill 6172 containing animal bone and a small assemblage of 13th-century pottery, whilst a fragment of

clay tobacco pipe was intrusive. The 0.16m-thick, friable, light greyish brown, silty clay upper fill 6173 produced no finds.

- 5.14 A final possible quarry pit 6174 lay towards the south-east corner of the excavation area. This was smaller than the features to the north-west, measuring only 1.3m across but was 0.77m deep, sub-circular in plan with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 5, Section BB). A 60mm-thick layer of loose, grey-brown, sandy gravel 6175 on the base of the pit suggested the deposition of material naturally weathered from the sides, whilst a more extensive secondary deposit 6176 was a friable, mid-grey silty clay that represented natural silting up of the feature. A single sherd of 12th to 13th-century pottery was recovered from this material. Three further deposits (6177, 6178 and 6179) indicated deliberate backfilling of the pit but none of these produced any dateable artefacts.
- 5.15 At a slightly later date, probably towards the end of this medieval phase, well 6079 was built, which partly truncated the north-eastern edge of quarry pit 6073 (Fig. 5, Section AA). This was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping sides at the top, breaking to a vertical shaft. It measured up to 2.8m across and was 2.1m deep, appearing to have originally been timber-lined, as evidenced by a dark smear around the edges. The earliest deposit within the well appears to have been the fill of the construction cut, which comprised a friable, grey-brown, silty sand 6081 that produced a small quantity of 13th-century pottery. The well had been backfilled both by internal collapse and deliberate dumping, with a number of deposits recorded, the earliest of which (deposits 6193 and 6193) lay at some depth and below the water table. For practical and health and safety reasons this was excavated by machine but a moderate pottery assemblage was recovered, which suggested a 12th to 13th-century date. Moderate finds assemblages were retrieved from most of the backfilling deposits (6082–6086), the pottery consistently suggesting an early 13th-century date of deposition. Of note was a small rectangular iron container (Ra. 7501) from fill 6084 (Fig. 8) which is thought may have been used to store needles. Although the trackway and quarry pits suggested activities some distance from areas of occupation, the construction of a well towards the end of this phase suggests that by this time there was some domestic settlement nearby.

Period 2: Later medieval (13th – 15th century) (Fig. 3)

- 5.16 There was a continuation of activity into the later medieval period, which has been assigned a broad 13th to 15th-century date, though similar to Period 1 this probably amounted to a number of sub-phases. Evidence for activity at this time was most extensively preserved towards the eastern edge of the site, in an area where there had been less truncation during later periods of occupation. The archaeological record here was dominated by a series of pits and a well, which indicated domestic activity in the near vicinity. The southernmost cesspit 4006 was circular in plan with straight, slightly undercutting sides breaking to an irregular base. It measured 0.97m across, was 0.67m deep and contained a number of deposits, the 0.12m thick basal material 4005 comprised an organic element and interpreted as possible human waste, suggesting a cesspit. Above this was a 0.23m-thick layer of friable, grey-brown, sandy silt (4004), which appeared to have accumulated naturally after the pit had gone out of use. The remaining two upper fills of the pit appeared to have been deliberately dumped to backfill the feature and create a level land surface. The lower deposits did not yield any artefactual remains but small assemblages of 12th to 15th-century pottery were retrieved from the upper fills. Less than 1m to the north, pit 4029 was of a similar shape and size and contained a similar upper fill. Although not fully excavated and no finds were recovered, it has tentatively been dated to the same phase.
- 5.17 Approximately 5m north of pit 4029 was a larger feature, cesspit 4014, which was sub-rectangular in plan with steeply sloping, slightly undercutting sides and a concave base. It measured more than 1.3m across and was 0.8m deep, containing a number of infilling deposits. The 0.5m-thick basal material was a compact, green-grey sandy silt 4013, interpreted as cess material, suggesting another cesspit. It was overlain by a 0.2m-thick layer of compact, light orange-brown sandy silt, which appeared to represent natural silting up and partial collapse of the sides of the feature after it had gone out of use. Above this was a layer of deliberately dumped material 4011 with a final infilling deposit 4010 representing further natural silting. All of the backfilling deposits contained pottery assemblages, which suggest a broad 12th to 15th-century date of deposition. A much smaller pit 6154 was located approximately 2m to the west. This was sub-circular in plan with moderately sloping, concave sides and a flat base. It measured up to 1m across, was 0.3m deep and had been infilled with a single deposit of firm, brown-grey, sandy clayey silt 6153,

which had probably been deliberately dumped. This contained no dateable finds evidence and the function of the pit was unclear.

- 5.18 Another sub-rectangular feature, well 4017, was located a little more than 2m to the north of cesspit 4014. This had near vertical, straight sides though the base could not be safely reached by hand excavation. It measured 1.2m across and was at least 1.3m deep, extending below the water table. Evidence of a heavily decayed former timber lining was observed and the feature contained a single friable, yellow-brown, clayey silt fill 4016, which was interpreted as continual natural silting over a period of time, though a small assemblage of 13th to 14th-century pottery was recovered along a quantity of animal bone. Given the depth of the feature and the apparent timber lining, it is interpreted as a well. Another pit 4021 lay less than 2m to the north and although not fully excavated and producing no dateable finds, the similarity of its upper fill to that in other features nearby led to this tentatively being dated to the later medieval period.
- 5.19 Approximately 1m north of pit 4021 was small, sub-circular feature, pit 6146, which measured 0.94m across and was just 0.15m deep, exhibiting moderately sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The single fill 6147 comprised a firm, dark grey-brown, silty clay that yielded a small quantity of 13th-century pottery along with animal bone, though the function of the pit was unclear.
- 5.20 There was very limited evidence of later medieval activity further to the west. Two small areas of compacted stony material (2011 and 2017) may have been remnants of a former metalled surface. Neither of the areas measured more than 1.2m across though the former produced pottery of 13th to 15th-century date. To the west of the fragmentary former surface was an irregular feature, tree-hole 6110, measuring approximately 1.2m across but just 0.12m deep. It was interpreted as a possible tree-hole with its soft, mixed silty clay fill producing a small pottery assemblage of later 14th to 15th-century date. Approximately 3m south-east was pit 6049, a sub-rectangular feature with straight, vertical sides and a flat base. It measured almost 1m across and was 0.41m deep, its single fill 6050 comprised a friable, black silty clay that produced floor tile, pottery and an architectural fragment spot dated to the late medieval, alongside three iron nails.
- 5.21 To the north, earlier Period 1 infilled features including quarry pit 6073 were sealed by subsoil deposits 2007, 2012 and, above which was a buried topsoil deposit 2006,

indicating a hiatus in activity in this area for sufficient time to permit soil development. A little to the west another topsoil deposit (6090) was recorded that had been buried by alluvium 6089, and was subsequently truncated by Period 3 post-medieval quarry pit 6088 (see below). None of these deposits are shown on Figure 3.

Period 3: Post-medieval (16th – mid-18th century) (Fig. 4)

- 5.22 There was a continuity of activity from the later medieval into the earlier post-medieval period within a broad period covering the 16th to the mid-18th century. Towards the east of the site there was intensification of pitting activity continuing on from that recorded in Period 1 and 2. The south-easternmost feature, pit 6208, was rectangular in plan with steeply sloping sides and an irregular base. It measured 1.3m by 0.55m and was in excess of 0.45m deep. No dateable finds were recovered from its soft, mixed silty clay fill 6209 but there were a number of similarities with nearby 17th and 18th-century features. A short distance to the north was partly exposed pit 6182, which had partly truncated Period 1 medieval quarry pit 6174 (Fig. 5; Section BB). The pit could not be fully excavated but produced a single sherd of later medieval pottery. Approximately 1.5m west of pit 6182 was small, shallow pit 6189. It did not contain any finds, but it had similar form and fill consistency to other nearby post-medieval features. North-west of this was the more extensive, sub-rectangular pit 6190, measuring at least 1.3m across and extending beyond the limit of excavation. It could only be partly excavated but the single friable, black silty clay fill 6191 produced a pottery assemblage and a wine/spirits bottle glass fragment dating to the late 17th to mid-18th century. The function of the pit however, was not entirely clear.
- 5.23 Large rectangular pit 6170 was located just over 2m north-west of pit 6190. It measured 2.3m north/south by 1.47m east/west and was in excess of 0.43m deep, though was not excavated to the base, but had near vertical straight sides. The single recorded fill 6169 was a compact, grey/yellow-brown, sandy clay silt, which had been deliberately dumped and produced a moderate finds assemblage, including a moderate quantity of pottery dating to the 15th to 16th century alongside an iron nail shaft and a fragment of glass. The feature had evidently seen secondary use as a rubbish pit but as it was not bottomed the primary function was not clear; given its regular form it bore some resemblance to medieval cesspits a short distance to the north-east and may have been a later, similar feature. Immediately to

the west was another sub-rectangular feature, pit 6156, though this had been extensively truncated by more recent activity to the west.

- 5.24 Just under 2m north-east of pit 6170, Period 2 pit 4014 was slightly truncated by smaller feature pit 4009, which was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping, straight sides and a flat base. It measured 0.94m across and was 0.31m deep and had initially naturally infilled with a 0.15m-thick layer of firm, dark brown-grey, silty clay 4008 and had then been deliberately backfilled with predominantly waste material 4007, which included finds of late 17th to 18th-century date. The primary function of the pit was unclear but had clearly seen secondary utilisation for rubbish disposal. Pits 4019, 4023 and 4025, a short distance to the north, were not fully excavated and did not produce any accurate dating evidence but their upper fills were very similar to 4007 and have been tentatively dated to the same phase.
- 5.25 To the west of pit 4025 was oval feature, quarry pit 6101, which had concave sides and a flat base, measured 1.2m across and was 0.37m deep. It contained a single fill of soft, mid to dark red/grey-brown clayey silt 6100 that had been deliberately dumped and contained artefactual material including animal bone, clay tobacco pipe, an iron nail and a moderate pottery assemblage dating to the mid-17th to early 18th century. The feature was interpreted as a possible quarry pit but clearly seen secondary use as a rubbish pit.
- 5.26 Towards the far north-eastern corner of the excavation area was a small sub-rectangular pit 6140 with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It measured up to 0.8m across and was just 0.19m deep, containing a single firm, grey-brown, silty clay fill 6141. It was not clear whether this derived from natural silting or had been deliberately deposited. Animal bone was present but no dateable artefactual material recovered. The function of the pit remains unclear.
- 5.27 In addition to the pitting in the eastern area of the site there were other features. Towards the north and central part of the area, postholes 6113, 6114, 6119, 6130 and 6143 were recorded. Posthole 6113 formed an approximate north/south alignment with postholes 6119 and 6130 and coincides with a gap between pits 6156 and 6170 and suggesting a possible fence line. Posthole 6113 contained a clay tobacco pipe bowl dated to the late 17th or 18th centuries. Isolated posthole 6180 was located at the south-east corner of the excavation area, cutting backfilled quarry pit 6174 (Fig. 5, Section BB), though no associated features were exposed

and as such its function uncertain. Towards the centre of the eastern area were also two possible tree-hole features 6145 and 6149. Tree-hole 6145 contained a single sherd of pottery dating to the 17th or 18th centuries.

- 5.28 Extending westwards from the eastern area was a linear feature, ditch 6121, which had been recut as ditch 6123. A boundary ditch appears in this location on early 1912 Ordnance Survey maps and it was initially assumed that the feature dated to the 19th century. However, excavation of a slot across the ditch revealed a sherd of 17th-century pottery from ditch recut 6123 suggesting an earlier date for the ditch. It is possible this pottery is residual, although since the ditch and recut were cut by later Period 4 pit 6037 (discussed below), the ditch is assumed to be earlier in date.
- 5.29 The area north of the ditch was dominated by a large quarry pit 6088, which partly truncated Period 1 quarry pit 6073 and Period 2 medieval alluvium 6089. Pit 6088 was oval in plan with steeply sloping, near vertical sides and a flat base. It measured in excess of 9m across and was 0.68m deep. It was backfilled with mixed material which comprised a friable yellow-brown clayey silt 6087. A small 15th to 16th-century pottery assemblage was recovered from this deposit, giving an indication of the date of infilling, though the date of excavation was not entirely clear. The backfilled quarry pit was truncated by a smaller, oval pit 6063 with gently sloping, concave sides and a flat base. It measured more than 1.13m across and was 0.26m deep and had initially silted up with a moderately compacted, grey-brown, silty clay 6064, the limited finds assemblage from which suggested a late 17th to early 18th-century date. Secondary infilling with a moderately compacted, light yellow-brown silty clay 6065 was probably also a natural process. This deposit contained no finds and the function of the pit was unclear. East of the quarry pit was a single posthole 6210, though no further associated features were apparent and this feature was of limited value in interpreting the site.
- 5.30 There were further features to the south of east/west boundary ditch 6121/6123, the most striking of which was stave-lined pit 6219, which comprised a circular cut, 1.42m in diameter and 0.75m deep with straight vertical sides and a flat base. It was lined with clay 6217, within which was a stave-built wooden tub 6215, almost certainly representing the base of a barrel measuring 1.05m in diameter and 0.2m deep, strengthened with wooden hoops 6216 (Fig. 6, Section CC). Within the barrel was a deposit of light grey lime material 6214 (Fig. 6, photograph). The remaining upper part of the feature was backfilled with a mixed rubble deposit 6072 that

contained two sherds of pottery dating to the late 17th to 18th century. The feature was interpreted in the field as a mortar-mixing pit, deposit 6214 being the last batch of material that was mixed in the barrel before it was abandoned. However, a more likely function associated with the leather tanning industry has subsequently been proposed (see Discussion and Appendix 8 below).

- 5.31 South of stave-lined pit 6219, were three postholes 6054, 6056 and 6058, which may have been associated elements of a single structure though any further related features are likely to have been lost to extensive recent truncation to the south-west. A further two, larger postholes 6157 and 6186 to the east may also have been associated with structures but again, no related features were evident.

Period 4: Later post-medieval to early modern (mid-18th – mid-19th century)
(Fig. 4)

- 5.32 Activity continued and intensified on the site from the second half of the 18th century, through to the mid-19th century. At the western edge of the excavation area, north-east/south-west-aligned ditch 6135 and associated recut 6137 was recorded cutting through post-medieval flood deposit 6139 (not illustrated). This ditch appears to correlate with a boundary feature visible on the Tithe Map (Fig. 9) and early 1912 Ordnance Survey maps.
- 5.33 There was a continuation of pitting, mostly in the north and north-western areas of the site, during this period. Pit 6004 towards the centre of the western site area was sub-circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, measuring up to 1.45m across and 0.33m deep. A deposit of loose, light grey-brown, silty gravel 6005 on the east side of the feature appears to have derived from collapse of the pit edge with the pit then deliberately infilled with a deposit of friable, black silt 6006, that yielded a small finds assemblage of 19th-century date. Pit 6125, c. 11.5m to the north-east, was also sub-circular in plan with straight, gently sloping sides and a flat base. It measured up to 1.5m across but was just 0.11m deep, having been deliberately infilled with a deposit of friable, light brown-grey silt 6126 that contained two sherds of 19th-century pottery. Approximately 5m south-east was posthole 6129 that contained a spongy, dark grey-brown, silty clay fill 6127, within which were the remains of a decayed post. A layer of firm grey-brown, silty clay was also recorded and interpreted as possible post-packing. No dateable finds were recovered but given the preservation of wood, the fills appeared to be of relatively recent origin.

- 5.34 There was also evidence of structural activity during this phase, some of this being very short-lived. Robber trenches 2021 and 6007 indicated possible robbed out foundations of a structure that cut through earlier infilled quarry pits, whilst the latter was also truncated by a shallow foundation trench 6009. Robber trench 2021 was cut by a series of small pits (6039, 6041, 6043 and 6045), though the functions of these were unclear. Ditch 6015 located 1m south of foundation trench 6009 may have been another robbed-out foundation although its location, at the limit of excavation, prevents further interpretation. Approximately 13m east of ditch 6015 remnants of another possible robber cut 6201, cut through Period 1 medieval pit 6207.
- 5.35 There was some pitting activity that evidently post-dated the earlier structural developments. Pit 6037, which cut through ditch recut 6123, was sub-rectangular in plan with gently sloping sides and a base that sloped gently down to the south. It measured up to 0.79m across but was just 0.11m deep, having been filled with a friable, dark brown clayey silt, which yielded a small amount of pottery and a sheet fragment of copper alloy.
- 5.36 A large pit, 6199, located towards the south-west of the excavation area, was possibly a quarry for the extraction of materials associated with 19th-century structural development. Although undated, this pit truncated a layer of dumped material 6138 (not illustrated) that produced 18th-century finds. This pit was truncated by both culvert 6220 and wall 3005, and overlain by levelling deposit 3012.
- 5.37 Still surviving structural remains included 1.2m-wide north-west/south-east-aligned culvert 6220, which had vertical side walls and an arched roof located at the south-west side of the site. It was constructed from red bricks bonded with light pinkish lime mortar. Aligned perpendicular to the culvert was brick and sandstone wall foundation 3005, which was 0.62m wide and stood to at least four courses high, the masonry having been bonded with a light yellow-grey, lime mortar. No associated structural remains were evident and it was not clear what type of structure was represented.
- 5.38 Approximately 7m north-east of wall 3005 were the extensive remains of foundations of a structure 6017. This was a pair of semi-detached houses that lay on the north side of Horsefair and are visible on early Ordnance Survey maps, having been

constructed some time before 1882. A further structure, foundation 6152, lay to the east. This was rectangular, built from irregularly coursed, pink sandstone blocks with occasional brick fragments and bonded with light yellow-grey mortar and red clay. The structure measured 1.54m by 0.88m and appeared to be the foundation for a pillar or column, though it was unclear what other structures it may have been associated with.

Modern

- 5.39 The site continued to be utilised into the 20th century with extensive service trenches truncating many earlier features. Additionally towards the centre of the excavation area, sub-rectangular pit 6012 (Fig. 4), which measured up to 1.65m across and was more than 0.16m deep, was a modern feature cut into backfilled Period 1 quarry pit 6073. The deliberately deposited, friable, very dark grey-brown, clayey silt fill 6011 included concrete and corrugated iron fragments (not retained). It was not fully excavated because of a contaminated fill. The latest deposits on the site were the dumping, levelling and bedding layers that formed the base for the modern car park surface.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices 2 to 6.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Early medieval	1	5
	Medieval	299	6273
	Post-medieval	29	468
Tile	Medieval	9	3457
	Post-medieval	2	547
	<i>Total</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>10,750</i>
Metalwork	Cu alloy ring	1	-
	Cu alloy sheet fragment	1	-
	Fe nails	6	-
	Fe other	2	-
	Pb objects	2	-
CBM		23	1545
Clay tobacco pipe		12	31
Vessel glass		3	96
Worked stone	Architectural fragment	1	-

- 6.2 A moderate assemblage of pottery was recovered dating from the medieval to early modern periods. The pottery assemblage comprises medieval cooking pots, pitchers and jugs alongside a small number of floor tile fragments. Interesting metal finds include a number of iron nails/nail fragments and a rectangular ?container which may have been used to store needles. Other finds include an architectural fragment of unknown form/function, a small quantity of clay tobacco pipe and fragments of wine/spirits bottle glass.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1 Biological evidence recovered is listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendix 7.

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments (ID to species)	91

- 7.2 A small assemblage of poorly preserved animal bone was recovered identified as cattle, sheep/goat, dog and unidentifiable large mammal.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The results from the excavation, supported by those from the previous evaluation, demonstrated occupation of at least part of the site from at least as early as the 11th century, with activity continuing throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. The interventions have thus enabled the investigation of a number of themes concerning the development of the site, and its significance within the wider Shrewsbury area.

Environmental Setting

- 8.2 The underlying natural geology of the site sloped gently downwards from north-east to south-west but significantly the lower-lying parts of the site had been inundated by alluvial flood deposits, which would have had implications for subsequent human exploitation of the area. The eastern arm of the bend of the River Severn, within which the core of Shrewsbury lies, is situated some distance to the west of the site though a small tributary, the Rea Brook, runs much closer to the south of the site. Extensive flooding of these channels may have been a factor in there being sparse

evidence of occupation west of the area excavated with this area left as open fields for pasture, or even used as water-meadows. Early maps e.g. John Speed 1610, indicate a vast open area between the western edge of the site and the River Severn, though the Rea Brook had been extensively modified and a mill race constructed in association with the development of Shrewsbury Abbey in the medieval period. The site therefore lay at the edge of a river terrace, immediately adjacent to the wider Severn floodplain and in an area that was susceptible to flooding at various times in the past.

Early Development

- 8.3 Of significance, the finds evidence indicates activity in the vicinity of the site during the late Anglo-Saxon period and there may indeed have been a presence nearby at this time; it is believed that the late 11th-century Shrewsbury Abbey, a relatively short distance to the south, lay on the site of an earlier Anglo-Saxon church, which itself would have lain adjacent to the main route into Shrewsbury (now Abbey Foregate). However, the archaeological features investigated suggest there was not significant activity until the years immediately following the Norman Conquest. This early activity was dominated by the excavation of a series of quarry pits, mostly in the western half of the excavation area and to the north of the southern site frontage. The quarries were dug into river terrace deposits, which largely comprise coarse sand and gravel aggregates, and it is likely that it was this material that was being extracted.
- 8.4 South of the quarry pits, two parallel ditches may have delineated either side of a trackway and it is not unreasonable to suggest that excavated materials were transported along this trackway, either westwards to the River Severn or eastwards to some other destination. In addition, Baker (Appendix 8 below) suggests this may have been a driveway along which cattle could be moved to and from floodplain pasture areas to the west. It has been suggested that given that the trackway lay approximately parallel with Horsefair, it may have been an early forerunner of this thoroughfare. However, Baker (Appendix 8) suggests this is unlikely as it does not fit with other documented evidence associated with the rectangular open space.
- 8.5 The establishment of Horsefair (previously known as The Green) was approximately contemporarily with the Abbey in the 1080s and may have involved expansion onto plots that previously fronted Abbey Foregate, and extended north towards the

droveway (Baker, Appendix 8; Baker 2010). It is also possible that material excavated from the quarries may have been used to form the surface of Horsefair. A number of quarry backfilling deposits have been dated to the 11th to 13th centuries, suggesting a broad contemporaneity between early activity on the site and the development of Horsefair a short distance to the south. An early association between the site and the abbey is therefore implied.

- 8.5 In the 13th century a well was excavated partly through the edge of one of the backfilled quarry pits, suggesting that by this time there had been some domestic settlement in the vicinity of the site, possibly associated with light industrial activity (see below). No evidence of contemporary domestic occupation or industrial activity was found at the south of the site, adjacent to Horsefair, but this may be because of extensive later development in this area and truncation of earlier deposits. However, a number of slightly later medieval domestic features comprising a further well, cesspits and general pits, were recorded towards the east of the site, suggesting maybe that there was medieval activity here, within one or more burgage plots, that extended north from Horsefair and lay adjacent to similar, contemporary plots and features exposed during excavations in 1991 (Hannaford 1991 and see below).

Later Medieval Development

- 8.6 Although much of the early post-Conquest activity on the site concerned activities carried out in areas periphery to foci of settlement, the later medieval evidence indicates nearby domestic and/or light industrial activity to the east as outlined above. It has been suggested (Morriss 2013, 6) that the area around the abbey may have been divided into burgage plots during the medieval period, the narrow plots extending on perpendicular alignments away from the main streets and thoroughfares. The later medieval features at the east of the site include at least two cesspits and other pits/postholes all along a north/south-alignment and were possibly within the same burgage plot. Approximately north/south plots were extrapolated from the features excavated during the 1991 investigations (Hannaford 1991), which revealed evidence for buildings, metalled surfaces and possible bronze-working. Documentary evidence also records that industrial activity was taking place in this area of Shrewsbury from the early post-medieval period onwards, which was partly borne out by the 1991 and current investigations (see below and Appendix 8).

Dissolution of the Abbey and The Site in the post-medieval period

- 8.5 Following the Dissolution of Shrewsbury Abbey in 1540 there were changes within this area of the town, though it is difficult to detect the extent of influence this had on activity within the study site. Much of the abbey fabric was destroyed in the decades following the dissolution and Speed's map shows that by the early 17th century, the only significant survival was the abbey church at the west of the precinct. Speed's map also indicates a row of houses at the southern edge of the study site, fronting onto the north side of Horsefair. Some ephemeral remains (mostly postholes) of earlier post-medieval timber structures were identified during the archaeological investigations but it was difficult to define their nature and extent, and furthermore, they were generally not located at the southern edge of the site. The archaeological evidence for early post-medieval buildings along the north of Horsefair is therefore largely absent, probably because of extensive truncation here during later developments on the site. Significantly however, documentary evidence indicates the industrial nature of the Foregate suburb in the post-medieval period with metal and leather-working being recorded from the 16th century, particularly in the area south of Abbey Foregate within the former abbey precinct. One of the most distinct features dating to the earlier post-medieval period and recorded during the current investigations was a stave-lined pit that is likely to have been associated with the leather industry and dateable to the 17th to 18th century; a deposit of lime material remaining in the pit probably having been associated with liming of animal hides as part of the tanning process. It is possible that other contemporary ephemeral features and building remains were also associated with industrial activity on the site.

Later Post-medieval Development and The Site in the Modern Period

- 8.6 Although buildings are shown on the southern site frontage on Speed's 1610 map and also that produced by John Rocque in 1746, these structures appear to have been largely removed by the end of the 18th century and little development is shown on Wood's 1838 plan of Shrewsbury. Ordnance Survey maps from the later 19th century however, indicate redevelopment on the southern frontage and elsewhere on the site, with further developments taking place in the modern period. The archaeological evidence from the site indicates further pitting from the later 18th century, probably at the time when late medieval/early post-medieval structures had been demolished and prior to 19th-century urban expansion. However, increased

structural development from the 19th century onwards was apparent in the archaeological record, including the surviving foundations of a semi-detached residential building evident on the 1882 and subsequent Ordnance Survey maps and a broadly contemporary culvert to the south-west. Later developments included demolition of the semi-detached building and dumping and levelling prior to establishment of the car park that occupied the site at the time of the archaeological investigations.

Conclusion

- 8.7 Overall the archaeological investigations at Glebe House have revealed evidence of a long continuity of occupation in this area of Shrewsbury that has significantly complemented what was previously known about the town in the medieval and post-medieval periods. Although residual early medieval pottery indicated a pre-Conquest presence in the area, significant activity did not take place until the post-Conquest era when there was quarrying and the establishment of a trackway or driveway, followed by possible domestic/industrial development in the area immediately north of the abbey precinct. The site continued to develop through the later medieval and into the post-medieval periods, when industrial activity appears to have become dominant. There was possibly a hiatus in activity in the later 18th century prior to further residential development in the 19th century, which was replaced more recently by a car park, which is to be replaced by further residential development.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, assisted by Matthew Coman, Jenny Giddins, Alison Roberts, Tom Slater and Christopher Watts. The report was written by Peter Boyer. The pottery and ceramic building materials reports were written by Stephanie Rátkai, the architectural fragment report was written by Ed McSloy with information provided by Peter Davenport, the metal, clay tobacco pipe and vessel glass reports were also written by Ed McSloy, the faunal remains report was written by Matilda Holmes and Nigel Baker carried out the documentary research. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley, Aleksandra Osinska and Lucy Martin. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Jess Cook. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Richard Young and the post-excavation was managed by Sarah Cobain.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

- 10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Kemble whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited at Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery, which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix 9, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Period	Feature Label
2000	Layer		Tarmac	Modern	
2001	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
2002	Fill		Manhole backfill	Modern	
2003	Fill	2004	Robber cut fill	4	Robber cut 6007
2004	Cut		Robber cut	4	Robber cut 6007
2005	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
2006	Layer		Buried topsoil	2	
2007	Layer		Buried subsoil	2	
2008	Fill	2009	Soakaway backfill	Modern	
2009	Cut		Soakaway	Modern	
2010	Layer		Buried subsoil (same as 2007)	2	
2011	Layer		Metalled surface	2	Surface 2011
2012	Layer		Disturbed buried subsoil	2	
2013	Layer		Disturbed buried topsoil	Modern	
2014	Fill	2015	Service trench backfill	Modern	
2015	Cut		Service trench cut	Modern	
2016	Cut		Manhole cut	Modern	
2017	Layer		Metalled surface	2	Surface 2017
2018	Masonry		Sandstone blocks sealing metalled surface 2017	4	Structure 6017
2019	Fill	2016	Manhole backfill	Modern	
2020	Fill	2021	Robber cut fill	4	Robber cut 2021
2021	Cut		Robber cut	4	Robber cut 2021
2022	Fill	2023	Service trench backfill	Modern	
2023	Cut		Service trench cut	Modern	
2024	Fill	2025	Soakaway backfill	Modern	
2025	Cut		Soakaway cut	Modern	
2026	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
3000	Layer		Tarmac	Modern	
3001	Layer		Levelling deposit	Modern	
3002	Fill	3003	Culvert trench backfill	4	Culvert 6220
3003	Cut		Culvert trench cut	4	Culvert 6220
3004	Layer		Buried topsoil (same as 3009)	4	
3005	Masonry	3014	Sandstone wall	4	Wall 3005
3006	Cut		Robber cut (for wall 3005)	4	
3007	Fill	3006	Robber cut fill	4	
3008	Fill	6199	Pit fill (same as 6198)	4	Pit 6199
3009	Layer		Buried topsoil (same as 3004)	4	
3010	Masonry		Brick culvert (same as 6220)	4	Culvert 6220
3011	Fill	3003	Culvert trench backfill (same as 3002)	4	Culvert 6220
3012	Layer		Levelling layer	4	
3013			Void		
3014	Cut		Wall trench cut	4	Wall 3005
4000	Layer		Tarmac	Modern	
4001	Layer		Natural	Geology	
4002	Fill	4006	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4006
4003	Fill	4006	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4006
4004	Fill	4006	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4006

4005	Fill	4006	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4006
4006	Cut		Cess pit cut	2	Cess pit 4006
4007	Fill	4009	Pit fill	3	Pit 4009
4008	Fill	4009	Pit fill	3	Pit 4009
4009	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 4009
4010	Fill	4014	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4014
4011	Fill	4014	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4014
4012	Fill	4014	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4014
4013	Fill	4014	Cess pit fill	2	Cess pit 4014
4014	Cut		Cess pit cut	2	Cess pit 4014
4015			Void		
4016	Fill	4017	Well fill	2	Well 4017
4017	Cut		Well cut	2	Well 4017
4018	Fill	4019	Pit fill (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4019
4019	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4019
4020	Fill	4021	Pit fill (unexcavated)	2	Pit 4021
4021	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	2	Pit 4021
4022	Fill	4023	Pit fill (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4023
4023	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4023
4024	Fill	4025	Pit fill (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4025
4025	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	3	Pit 4025
4026	Fill	4027	Pit fill (unexcavated)	3	Pit 6190
4027	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	3	Pit 6190
4028	Fill	4029	Pit fill (unexcavated)	2	Pit 4029
4029	Cut		Pit cut (unexcavated)	2	Pit 4029
6000	Layer		Tarmac	Modern	
6001	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
6002	Layer		Natural	Geology	
6003	Layer		Alluvium	Geology	
6004	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6004
6005	Fill	6004	Pit fill	4	Pit 6004
6006	Fill	6004	Pit fill	4	Pit 6004
6007	Cut		Robber cut	4	Robber cut 6007
6008	Fill	6007	Robber cut fill	4	Robber cut 6007
6009	Cut		Foundation trench cut	4	Foundation trench 6009
6010	Fill	6009	Foundation trench fill	4	Foundation trench 6009
6011	Fill	6012	Pit fill	Modern	Pit 6012
6012	Cut		Pit cut	Modern	Pit 6012
6013	Cut		Foundation trench cut	4	Foundation trench 6009
6014	Fill	6013	Foundation trench fill	4	Foundation trench 6009
6015	Cut		Ditch cut	4	Ditch 6015
6016	Fill	6015	Ditch fill	4	Ditch 6015
6017	Masonry		Wall	4	Structure 6017
6018	Masonry		Internal wall	4	Structure 6017
6019	Masonry		Internal flue foundation	4	Structure 6017
6020	Masonry		Internal flue foundation	4	Structure 6017
6021	Masonry		Fire box foundation	4	Structure 6017
6022	Masonry		Fire box foundation	4	Structure 6017
6023	Masonry		External wall west	4	Structure 6017
6024	Masonry		External wall north	4	Structure 6017
6025	Masonry		External wall east	4	Structure 6017
6026	Layer		Concrete path/floor	4	Structure 6017
6027	Masonry		Kerb or beam pad	4	Structure 6017

6028	Layer		Cobble floor	4	Structure 6017
6029	Masonry		Stone foundation, west external wall, annexe	4	Structure 6017
6030	Masonry		Stone foundation, north external wall, annexe	4	Structure 6017
6031	Masonry		Stone foundation, internal dividing wall, annexe	4	Structure 6017
6032	Masonry		Stone foundation, east external wall, annexe	4	Structure 6017
6033	Masonry		External wall	4	Structure 6017
6034	Masonry		External wall	4	Structure 6017
6035	Masonry		External wall	4	Structure 6017
6036	Masonry		Internal wall	4	Structure 6017
6037	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6037
6038	Fill	6037	Pit fill	4	Pit 6037
6039	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6039
6040	Fill	6039	Pit fill	4	Pit 6039
6041	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6041
6042	Fill	6041	Pit fill	4	Pit 6041
6043	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6043
6044	Fill	6043	Pit fill	4	Pit 6043
6045	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6045
6046	Fill	6045	Pit fill	4	Pit 6045
6047	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
6048	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
6049	Cut		Pit cut	2	Pit 6049
6050	Fill	6049	Pit fill	2	Pit 6049
6051	Masonry		Brick floor	4	Structure 6017
6052	Cut		Ditch cut	1	Ditch 6052
6053	Fill	6052	Ditch fill	1	Ditch 6052
6054	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6054
6055	Fill	6054	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6054
6056	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6056
6057	Fill	6056	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6056
6058	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6058
6059	Fill	6058	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6058
6060	Layer		Buried subsoil	3	
6061			Void		
6062			Void		
6063	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6063
6064	Fill	6063	Pit fill	3	Pit 6063
6065	Fill	6063	Pit fill	3	Pit 6063
6066			Void		
6067			Void		
6068	Cut		Stave-lined pit cut (same as 6219)	3	Pit 6219
6069	Fill	6068	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6070	Fill	6219	Stave-lined pit fill (same as 6214)	3	Pit 6219
6071			Void		
6072	Fill	6068	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6073	Cut		Quarry pit cut	1	Quarry pit 6073
6074	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6075	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6076	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6077	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6078	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6079	Cut		Well cut	1	Well 6079
6080	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079

6081	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6082	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6083	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6084	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6085	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6086	Fill	6079	Well fill	1	Well 6079
6087	Fill	6088	Quarry pit fill	3	Quarry pit 6088
6088	Cut		Quarry pit cut	3	Quarry pit 6088
6089	Layer		Alluvium	2	
6090	Layer		Buried topsoil	2	
6091			Void		
6092			Void		
6093			Void		
6094			Void		
6095			Void		
6096	Cut		Stave-lined pit cut (same as 6219)	3	Pit 6219
6097	Fill	6096	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6098	Fill	6219	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6099	Fill	6096	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6100	Fill	6101	Quarry pit fill	3	Quarry pit 6101
6101	Cut		Quarry pit cut	3	Quarry pit 6101
6102	Cut		Ditch cut	1	Ditch 6102
6103	Fill	6102	Ditch fill	1	Ditch 6102
6104	Layer		Levelling layer	Modern	
6105			Void		
6106			Void		
6107			Void		
6108			Void		
6109			Void		
6110	Cut		Tree-hole cut	2	Tree-hole 6110
6111	Fill	6110	Tree-hole fill	2	Tree-hole 6110
6112	Fill	6113	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6113
6113	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6113
6114	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6114
6115	Fill	6114	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6114
6116	Masonry		Wall	4	Wall 3005
6117			Void		
6118			Void		
6119	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6119
6120	Fill	6119	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6119
6121	Cut		Ditch cut	3	Ditch 6121
6122	Fill	6121	Ditch fill	3	Ditch 6121
6123	Cut		Ditch recut	3	Ditch recut 6123
6124	Fill	6123	Ditch recut fill	3	Ditch recut 6123
6125	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6125
6126	Fill	6125	Pit fill	4	Pit 6125
6127	Fill	6129	Decayed wood	4	Posthole 6129
6128	Fill	6129	Posthole packing fill	4	Posthole 6129
6129	Cut		Posthole cut	4	Posthole 6129
6130	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6130
6131	Fill	6130	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6130
6132	Fill	6133	Service trench backfill	Modern	
6133	Cut		Service trench cut	Modern	

6134	Fill	6135	Ditch fill	4	Ditch 6133
6135	Cut		Ditch cut	4	Ditch 6133
6136	Fill	6137	Ditch fill	4	Ditch 6137
6137	Cut		Ditch cut	4	Ditch 6137
6138	Layer		Levelling layer	4	
6139	Layer		Alluvium	3	
6140	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6140
6141	Fill	6140	Pit fill	3	Pit 6140
6142	Fill	6143	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6143
6143	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6143
6144	Fill	6145	Tree-hole fill	3	Tree-hole 6145
6145	Cut		Tree-hole cut	3	Tree-hole 6145
6146	Cut		Pit cut	2	Pit 6146
6147	Fill	6146	Pit fill	2	Pit 6146
6148	Fill	6149	Tree-hole fill	3	Tree-hole 6149
6149	Cut		Tree-hole cut	3	Tree-hole 6149
6150	Cut		Foundation cut	4	Foundation 6152
6151	Fill	6150	Foundation fill	4	Foundation 6152
6152	Masonry	6150	Wall (foundation)	4	Foundation 6152
6153	Fill	6154	Pit fill	2	Pit 6154
6154	Cut		Pit cut	2	Pit 6154
6155	Fill	6156	Pit fill	3	Pit 6156
6156	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6156
6157	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6157
6158	Fill	6157	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6157
6159	Cut		Posthole cut	1	Posthole 6159
6160	Fill	6159	Posthole fill	1	Posthole 6159
6161	Cut		Posthole cut	1	Posthole 6161
6162	Fill	6161	Posthole fill	1	Posthole 6161
6163	Cut		Ditch cut	1	Ditch 6102
6164	Fill	6163	Ditch fill	1	Ditch 6102
6165			Void		
6166			Void		
6167			Void		
6168			Void		
6169	Fill	6170	Pit fill	3	Pit 6170
6170	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6170
6171	Cut		Quarry pit cut	1	Quarry pit 6171
6172	Fill	6171	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6171
6173	Fill	6171	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6171
6174	Cut		Quarry pit cut	1	Quarry pit 6174
6175	Fill	6174	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6174
6176	Fill	6174	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6174
6177	Fill	6174	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6174
6178	Fill	6174	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6174
6179	Fill	6174	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6174
6180	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6180
6181	Fill	6180	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6180
6182	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6182
6183	Fill	6182	Pit fill	3	Pit 6182
6184	Cut		Ditch cut	1	Ditch 6184
6185	Fill	6184	Ditch fill	1	Ditch 6184
6186	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6186

6187	Fill	6186	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6186
6188	Fill	6189	Pit fill	3	Pit 6189
6189	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6189
6190	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6190
6191	Fill	6190	Pit fill	3	Pit 6190
6192	Fill	6079	Well fill (machine excavated)	1	Well 6079
6193	Fill	6079	Well fill (machine excavated)	1	Well 6079
6194			Void		
6195			Void		
6196			Void		
6197			Void		
6198	Fill	6199	Pit fill	4	Pit 6199
6199	Cut		Pit cut	4	Pit 6199
6200	Fill	6201	Robber cut fill	4	Robber cut 6201
6201	Cut		Robber cut	4	Robber cut 6201
6202	Fill	6207	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6207
6203	Fill	6207	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6207
6204	Fill	6207	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6207
6205	Fill	6207	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6207
6206	Fill	6207	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6207
6207	Cut		Quarry pit cut	1	Quarry pit 6207
6208	Cut		Pit cut	3	Pit 6208
6209	Fill	6208	Pit fill	3	Pit 6208
6210	Cut		Posthole cut	3	Posthole 6210
6211	Fill	6210	Posthole fill	3	Posthole 6210
6212	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6213	Fill	6073	Quarry pit fill	1	Quarry pit 6073
6214	Fill	6219	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6215	Timber	6217	Stave-lined pit fill (decayed timber)	3	Pit 6219
6216	Timber	6219	Stave-lined pit fill (decayed timber hoops)	3	Pit 6219
6217	Fill	6219	Stave-lined pit fill (clay lining)	3	Pit 6219
6218	Fill	6219	Stave-lined pit fill	3	Pit 6219
6219	Cut		Stave-lined pit cut	3	Pit 6219
6220	Masonry		Brick culvert	4	Culvert 6220

APPENDIX 2: POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Stephanie Rátkai

Introduction

Thus far only one substantial group of medieval pottery from Shrewsbury has been published. This was from the Queen Anne House site, Shrewsbury Abbey (Bryant 2002), drawing largely on examples from Bryant's work in the later 1980s and early 1990s. A second assemblage, recently published (although also the result of work from the later 1980s), was excavated at Haughmond Abbey, some 5.5km from the centre of Shrewsbury (Rátkai 2014). The two assemblages are complementary, since Haughmond Abbey contained a higher proportion of Early Medieval wares, whereas the Queen Anne House site had more High to Late Medieval pottery. However the main drawback with the latter assemblage was that it was largely composed of redeposited material, with much evidence of residuality and intrusion identified. At Haughmond Abbey, the early pottery could be closely tied to a phase of construction in the late 12th century. In addition to these volumes, mention must also be made of Philip Barker's pioneering work on the medieval ceramic of Shropshire (Barker 1970).

The pottery has been matched where possible to a pottery type series compiled by the author, many years after the work on the Haughmond pottery, and used for a number of sites in Shrewsbury excavated by Marches Archaeology (eg Frankwell, Jeffery and Tavener 2002; St Julian's Friars, Tavener 2004a; 2004b; Town Walls Garage, Appleton-Fox 2001). To date, most of these assemblages have been relatively small and fragmentary and largely lacking secure closed groups. However it has been possible to observe broad trends in the pottery. The majority of the pottery is almost certainly of local manufacture and one of the characteristics of the pottery is that there does not appear to have been a consistency in the preparation of the clay and it is sometimes difficult to determine whether degrees of sandiness or difference in the size of quartz particles is significant as to source and date. Bryant (2002, 88) also notes this problem. As a result, vessel form, method of manufacture and glaze become the more important chronological indicators. Where form sherds are absent, as is often the case here, some of the decisions on the date of a sherd can be more subjective than usual. The nature of the features in which the pottery was found also gives rise to some apprehensions about the likelihood of intrusion and/or residuality.

Methodology

The medieval pottery was examined under x20 magnification, assigned a fabric type and quantified by sherd count and weight. Details of glaze, decoration, sooting and residues/deposits were also recorded. The fabrics and suggested date ranges are shown in Table 1.

The pottery fabrics were plotted using date ranges suggested for the St Julian's Friars assemblage excavated by Marches Archaeology between 2001 and 2004 with reference to other excavated sites in the town as outlined above. The results were rather more consistent than expected with groups of medieval fabrics observable and largely confirming the dates that had been previously suggested.

Following on from this, the pottery has been divided into five main periods. The definition of the period assigned varies slightly to those outlined in the main body of the report (Section 5), although the period boundaries remain largely consistent :

Period (Section 5)	Pottery period (Appendix 2)
Period 1: Medieval (11th – 13th century)	Early medieval (c. 1100 – c. 1225/1250)

Period 2: Later medieval (13th – 15th century)	High medieval (c. 1250 – 1450)
	Late medieval (1400 – 1550/1600)
Period 3: Post-medieval (16th – 18th century)	Post-medieval (1600 – 1800)
Period 4: Later post-medieval to early modern (mid-18th – mid-19th century)	Modern (1800 – 2000)
Modern: Modern (mid-19th – 20th century)	

Most of the pottery belongs to the early medieval period. The feature fills could be seriated (Table 2a-c) and produced the following results.

Chronology

Early Medieval to High Medieval c. 1100 – 1400

Four features clearly belonged to this group; ditch 6102, quarry pits 6174 and 6207 and well 6079. Quarry Pit 6170 may also belong in this group but the pottery from the fill was rather mixed in date and may be later with a large residual component (see below). Posthole 6180, whilst contained Early Medieval pottery, was stratigraphically phased as post-medieval and as such the pottery considered to be residual.

The two local cooking pot sherds in ditch 6102 may date to the 12th century or possibly early 13th century. Two sherds of Worcester-type cooking pot, from the primary fill of quarry pit 6207 are of a similar date. Subsequent fills in this quarry pit contained further local and Worcester-type cooking pot sherds; cross-joins were noted between fills 6203 and 6205, and several fragments of decorated glazed pitchers, suggesting a date range of c.1150–1225. However, sherds of Malvernian cooking pot were also present, including a rim-body sherd more likely to date to the mid-13th century. A small (5g) wheel-thrown jug sherd, that must post-date c. 1250, may be intrusive here, given that much of the earlier material consists of large sherds. A deeply 'u'-shaped strap handle in a fine whiteware may be a North French import. If so, it could date to the early 13th century, but if not it is also more likely to post-date c. 1250. However, the overall look of the pottery from quarry pit 6207 favours a date before 1250.

Well 6079 contained one of the largest groups of pottery from the site. Pottery recovered from the construction fill (6081) and lower fill (6193) (Fig. 7, no. 4) of the well contained early medieval cooking pot sherds of local type, like those found in quarry pit 6207. There was one glazed sherd, a very thin-walled base-body sherd, with a yellowish external glaze, heavy external soot and an internal deposit. The vessel appears to have been quite small and cannot be easily placed within the normal range of ceramics of this date from Shrewsbury. Well fill 6083 contained local cooking pot, a sherd of Malvernian cooking pot and this fill, along with 6084 contained a large quantity of pitcher sherds, often highly decorated (Fig. 7, nos 1–3 and 5). A sherd from another anomalous vessel form was found in this fill. This rim-shoulder sherd was from a small jar or possibly a pipkin and had a trace of clear glaze and patches of heavy soot on the exterior, glaze dribbles on the interior and patchy limey deposits overall. A similar range of pottery fabrics and forms was found in the upper fills (6086 and 6192) of the well. A Malvernian cooking pot rim sherd from the latter suggests a date before c. 1250, possibly the second quarter of the 13th century. A third unusual sherd was found in upper fill 6086. This was a distorted rim-body sherd with internal pale olive glaze dribbles, very heavy external soot and some internal soot.

All the features discussed above appear to have fills which are more or less contemporary. The greater part of the pottery on stylistic grounds and methods of manufacture appears to belong to the mid/late 12th to early 13th centuries but with a small admixture of pottery which could date to c.1250. Whether the later pottery is intrusive is difficult to say; the earlier pottery was often abraded which could indicate redeposited material but nevertheless there were sizeable sections of vessels or large individual sherds which favour a primary deposition.

The sandy cooking pot fabric found in posthole 6180 belongs in this period, possibly to the 13th century but a whiteware sherd also found in the fill probably indicates a date later than c. 1250. Further sherds were found in Quarry Pits 6073 and 6171 where they are probably residual.

Quarry Pit 6170 also contained a large group of pottery. Most of the sherds date to the 13th to 14th centuries. There are also examples of sherds that seem to belong in the early medieval period which are presumably residual. However, there are sherds that belong in the late medieval period including a 56g lid-seated jar sherd with tan glaze. A flat roof-tile fragment also looks late. A single small, post-medieval, mottled ware sherd is likely to be intrusive.

Late Medieval 1400 – 1600

Most of the features that belonged to this period contained very little pottery apart from pit 6049. The pit contained a sizeable section of a large jug or jar/bung-hole jar and sherds from two bowls with heavy external soot. There were two small, residual Malvernian cooking pot sherds which were black throughout and possibly date to the 12th century. The fill also contained the remains of seven floor tile fragments, the latest of which indicates that the pit is unlikely to have been back-filled before the 15th century.

Ditch 6121 contained a sherd datable to the 15th to 16th century but this is scant evidence to establish the date of the ditch or its disuse. A single sherd of the same fabric was also found in pit 6146. Single sherds of 15th to 16th-century date were also found in pits 6182 and 6037. A Cistercian ware sherd (c. 1480–1550) was found in the lining of mortar mixing pit 6219. The fills of quarry pits 6073 and 6171 contained more than single sherds; the latest pottery dates to the late medieval period but most of the pottery is residual, so it is difficult to be certain of the backfill date, especially given that the earlier material constitutes much more by weight than the late medieval pottery.

Post-medieval to modern 1600 – 1900

Ditches 6052 and 6184, pits 6125, 6190, 6004, 6063, postholes 6113 and 6056 and mortar mixing pit 6219, all contain post-medieval or modern pottery, generally in small quantities. As with other features on the site that only contained small amounts of pottery, it is difficult to be certain how likely intrusive material is, although the fill of pit 6190 undoubtedly dates to the later 17th or early 18th centuries. Ditch 6123 contains a mix of pottery from all periods, the latest sherd being a post-medieval slipware. Quarry pit 6101 also contained a mix of pottery, mainly early medieval but with all periods represented. The latest pottery was a slipware sherd and a yellow ware sherd, suggesting a date of c. 1650–1725. Given that all the pottery was very fragmentary the latest pottery probably does indicate the backfill date.

Overview of the pottery

The Early Medieval wares (Bryant's (2002) Early Glazed Sandy Wares) are largely paralleled by pottery from Haughmond Abbey found in a demolition deposit dated to c. 1180 and in the Phase 1 group at the Queen Anne's House site (Shrewsbury Abbey) where they are residual. The early wares appear to be predominantly local and comprise cooking pots and glazed pitchers. The glazed pitchers are notable for the various decorative motifs used on them (Table 3). The pitchers share other characteristics; they are often quite thick-walled (sometimes up to 10mm), have olive glazes often with brownish 'decay' on the surface, possibly a result of soil conditions or prolonged contact with water or cess, and the glaze usually extends onto the inside of the rim and as splashes and dribbles on the interior of the vessels.

The cooking pots (all the sherds are sooted) are of rounded form. Non-local cooking pots are in Worcester-type ware and Malvernian cooking pot ware. Two sherds were in two different siltstone fabrics. One was similar to Hereford fabric A4 (Vince 1985), the other akin to siltstone-tempered fabrics from North Herefordshire/South Shropshire (Rátkai 2015a).

Documentary references to potters on Coleham Island, Shrewsbury are known from the 14th century but it is likely that most of the High Medieval jugs, excepting the whitewares, were made in Shrewsbury by the 13th century. The High Medieval pottery from Glebe House can be matched by the pottery from the Queen Anne House (Bryant's (2002) Local Sandy Ware). From the late 14th century locally-produced pottery appears to have been augmented by Malvern Chase ware, a well-potted wheel-thrown ware which came to dominate much of the West Midlands in the 15th and 16th centuries but at Glebe House there were only two sherds of this ware. This reinforces the impression that most of the medieval pottery from the site pre-dates the late 14th century.

In terms of vessel function, most of the medieval pottery consisted of jugs and cooking pots with preponderance by weight of cooking pots over pitchers and jugs. This is partly a result of the presence of a substantial section of a cooking pot from well fill 6193.

A limited number of post-medieval sherds were present such as yellow ware, blackware, slip-decorated ware and slip-coated ware. Again these wares are common in the West Midlands and are primarily associated with production sites in Staffordshire. However, the examples from Shrewsbury suggest manufacture within the county, possibly in the Ironbridge Gorge/Coalbrookdale area but it is also possible that some of the slip-decorated wares were made at Buckley, North Wales.

Illustration catalogue (Fig. 7)

1. Pitcher rim with stamped ring and dot motif. Fabric Cb2. Well 6079 (fill 6083)
2. Pitcher with incised and combed decoration. Fabric Cb2. Well 6079 (fill 6084)
3. Decorated pitcher. Fabric Bb3. Well 6079 (fill 6084)
4. Fabric Cb8.1. Well 6079 (fill 6193)
5. Pitcher, incised lines on shoulder. Fabric Bb2. Well 6079 (fill 6083)

The Ceramic Building Materials (CBM)

The most interesting group of CBM were the floor tiles (Table 4) a group of which were found in fill 6050 within pit 6049, the fabrics of which are consistent with them being made locally. It was hoped at the assessment stage that it would be possible to find comparanda for the decorated floor tiles. Unfortunately it was not possible to find the records of the floor tile recovered from the Shrewsbury Abbey excavations (Baker 2002) and at the time of writing the museum collections in Shrewsbury are unavailable for study.

The design of two peacocks flanking a stylised tree is associated with the Wessex School and as such is well outside its normal distribution zone. No exact parallel for the impressed tile with cross and fleurs-de-lys could be found but similar tiles, unfortunately very fragmentary, are known from Wigmore Castle (Mills 2015, plate 8; Rátkai 2015b, 199–202 and plates 10–11) and seem to be part of a north-west Midlands and Welsh group of designs. A second impressed design tile from levelling layer 6001, was too worn for identification as was a possible encaustic tile from fill 6050 within pit 6049. The remaining CBM is shown in Table 5 and all appears to have been of local manufacture.

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Table 1 Pottery codes, descriptions and dates (with quantification - excluding pottery from over-burden)

Code	Common Name / Description	Date	Total Count	Total Weight (g)
STAFF?	Stafford ware?	Late Saxon	1	5
WORCS	Worcester-type cooking pot	Early Medieval	16	335
Cb8	Sandy Cooking Pot	Early Medieval	2	60
Cb8.1	Sandy Cooking Pot	Early Medieval	33	970
Cb9	Sandy Cooking Pot	Early Medieval	17	280
Cc2	Sandy Cooking Pot	Early Medieval	10	186
Ab4	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	10	239
Bb3	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	21	753
Ca3	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	3	9
Ca7	Early Glazed Sandy Ware (very gritty)	Early Medieval	4	50
Ca7.1	Early Glazed Sandy Ware (gritty)	Early Medieval	8	134
Cb2	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	14	248
Cb2.1	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	18	460
Cb3	Early Glazed Sandy ware	Early Medieval	2	35
Bb2	Medieval Sandy Glazed ware	Early Medieval- High Medieval	34	392
IMP	Import (North French?)	Early Medieval- High Medieval	1	21
MCP	Malvernian cooking pot	Early Medieval- High Medieval	22	349
SILT.2	Siltstone-tempered ware	Early Medieval- High Medieval	1	16
SILT.1	Siltstone-tempered ware	High Medieval	1	13
Ab3	Iron-poor sandy ware	High Medieval	5	43
Ca4.1	Sandy Whiteware	High Medieval	5	68
Ca6	Sandy White -Pale Pink Ware	High Medieval	7	35
Cb5	Local Sandy Glazed Ware	High Medieval	17	1051
Dc1	Sandy Whiteware	High Medieval	1	31
Cb5.1	Medieval Sandy Glazed ware	?High Medieval	1	18
Bd1	Sandy Ware with fe oxide	High Medieval - ?Late Medieval	2	24
Bc2	Iron-poor sandy ware	High Medieval - ?Late Medieval	3	24
Ca1	Medieval Sandy Glazed Ware	High Medieval - ?Late Medieval	5	84
Cb4.1	Sandy Whiteware	High Medieval - ?Late Medieval	1	13
Aa1	Late Medieval Ware (few inclusions)	Late Medieval	6	81
Aa2	Late Medieval Ware (few inclusions)	Late Medieval	2	25
Ab1	Late Medieval Ware (few inclusions)	Late Medieval	3	15
Bd2	Sandy Ware with fe oxide	Late Medieval	1	6
Bd3	Clean with iron oxide	?Late medieval	2	17
Ca5	Late Medieval Reduced Glazed Ware	Late Medieval	4	37
Cb1	Late Medieval	Late Medieval	7	28
LMT	Late Medieval (?Wednesbury ware)	Late Medieval	1	10
LMW	Later Malvernian ware	Late Medieval	5	72
MP	Midlands Purple ware	Late Medieval	3	39
CIST	Cistercian ware	Late Medieval	1	2
BLW	Blackware	17th-18th c	2	10
CW	Coarseware	17th-19th c	6	238
CW/MP	Hard-fired coarseware	17th c	5	59
YW	Yellow ware	late 16th-early18th c	1	4
MOT	Motted ware	later 17th-18th c	2	8
SLPW	Slipware	mid 17th c - 18th c	8	91
SLIPCO	Slip-coated ware	later 17th-18th c	2	35
MOD	Modern	19th c or later	2	21
Total			328	6744

Table 2a Probable Early Medieval to High Medieval pottery groups (Fabrics arranged chronologically)

FABRIC CODE	Posthole 6180	Quarry pit 6174	Quarry pit 6207	Quarry pit 6207	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079	FABRIC CODE	Posthole 6180	Quarry pit 6174	Quarry pit 6207	Quarry pit 6207	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079	Well 6079
WORCS			2	14						WORCS			15	320					
Cb8				1						Cb8				7					
Cb8.1				1	1	16	9		4	Cb8.1				26	8	686	153		92
Cb9	1			9	4		1			Cb9	7			138	92		19		
Cc2	2	1								Cc2	22	40							
Ab4				1			1	1		Ab4				16			7	17	
Bb3				14			2	1	1	Bb3				381			197	50	21
Ca3									1	Ca3									5
Ca7.1				2			6			Ca7.1				53			81		
Cb2				1			5			Cb2				11			147		
Cb2.1				1	1	6	1			Cb2.1				69	12	120	7		
Cb3								1	1	Cb3								13	22
Bb2							16	2	1	Bb2							159	13	13
IMP				1						IMP				21					
MCP				5			1	1	1	MCP				114			29	11	33
Ca6				1			4			Ca6				6			25		
Bc2				3						Bc2				24					
Ca1										Ca1									
Cb4.1	1			1						Cb4.1	4			9					
Aa1				1						Aa1				5					
Aa2				1						Aa2				20					
Total Count	4	1	2	57	5	17	51	7	9	Total Weight (g)	33	40	15	1220	100	698	937	111	186

Table 2b Probable Late Medieval pottery groups (Fabrics arranged chronologically)

FABRIC CODE	Pit 6050	Quarry pit 6170	Ditch 6121	Pit 6146	Pit 6182	Stave-lined pit 6219	Quarry pit 6073	Quarry pit 6171	Quarry pit 6088	FABRIC CODE	Pit 6050	Quarry pit 6170	Ditch 6121	Pit 6146	Pit 6182	Stave-lined pit 6219	Quarry pit 6073	Quarry pit 6171	Quarry pit 6088
Cb8							1			Cb8							53		
Cb9							1			Cb9							15		
Cc2		1					2	2		Cc2		6					27	75	
Ab4		1								Ab4		100							
Bb3		1								Bb3		31							
Ca7		1								Ca7		11							
Cb2		6					1	1		Cb2		54					7	29	
Cb2.1	8								1	Cb2.1	241								11
Bb2		15								Bb2		207							
MCP	2	10								MCP	8	147							
SILT.2							1			SILT.2							16		
SILT.1									1	SILT.1									13
Ab3		5								Ab3		43							
Ca4.1		5								Ca4.1		68							
Cb5	16	1								Cb5	1042	9							
Dc1		1								Dc1		31							
Cb5.1		1								Cb5.1		18							
Ca1		2					1			Ca1		61					5		
Aa1		5								Aa1		76							
Aa2		1								Aa2		5							
Ab1					1					Ab1					10				
Bd3	1	1								Bd3	5	12							
Ca5		1	1	1			1			Ca5		10	15	6			6		
Cb1		5						1		Cb1		19						6	
LMW		3								LMW		65							
MP		2							1	MP		28							11
CIST						1				CIST						2			
MOT		1								MOT		3							
Total Count	27	69	1	1	1	1	8	4	3	Total Weight (g)	1296	1004	15	6	10	2	129	110	35

Table 2c Probable Post-medieval pottery groups (Fabrics arranged chronologically)

FABRIC CODE	Quarry pit 6101	Ditch recut 6123	Ditch 6052	Ditch 6102	Stave-lined pit 6219	Ditch 6184	Pit 6190	Posthole 6113	Pit 6125	Quarry pit 6004	Quarry pit 6063	Posthole 6056	Tree-hole 6110	Tree-hole 6145	Unstratified	Pit 6012	FABRIC CODE	Quarry pit 6101	Ditch recut 6123	Ditch 6052	Ditch 6102	Stave-lined pit 6219	Ditch 6184	Pit 6190	Posthole 6113	Pit 6125	Quarry pit 6004	Quarry pit 6063	Posthole 6056	Tree-hole 6110	Tree-hole 6145	Unstratified	Pit 6012			
STAFF?						1											STAFF?						5													
Cb8.1				2													Cb8.1				5															
Cb9	1																Cb9	9																		
Cc2		2															Cc2		16																	
Ab4	5												1				Ab4	12											87							
Bb3		1													1		Bb3		55														18			
Ca3	2																Ca3	4																		
Ca7	1												1		1		Ca7	3											6		36					
MCP													2				MCP												7							
Ca6	2																Ca6	4																		
Bd1															2		Bd1															24				
Ca1	1	1															Ca1	1	17																	
Ab1		2															Ab1		15																	
Bd2	1																Bd2	6																		
Cb1	1																Cb1	3																		
LMT																1	LMT																		10	
LMW													2				LMW												7							
BLW			1											1			BLW			5												5				
CW							5	1									CW							233	5											
CW/MP							5										CW/MP							59												
YW	1																YW	4																		
MOT							1										MOT							5												
SLPW	1	1					1	1		1	1				2		SLPW	7	17					8	4		6	24				25				
SLIPCO					2												SLIPCO					35														
MOD									1	1							MOD								11	10										
Total Count	16	7	1	2	2	1	12	1	2	1	1	1	6	1	6	1	Total Weight (g)	53	120	5	5	35	5	305	5	15	10	6	24	107	5	103	10			

Table 3 Decorative and other elements by fabric

Fabric	Vessel Form	Decoration
Ab3	jug	Thumbed base
Ab3	pitcher/jug	Incised wavy and horizontal line
Ab3	pitcher/jug	Applied strip with fe oxide
Ab4	jug	Rim-handle, small slashes at handle-rim junction, larger central slashes
Ab4	jug	Small base diameter, spaced roughly circular, finger impressions
Ab4	pitcher/jug	Wide spaced horizontal rows of square roller-stamping
Bb2	pitcher/jug	Horizontal combing or incised lines on shoulder
Bb2	jug	Finger-impressed base
Bb2	pitcher/jug	Lines of horizontal wide-spaced rectangular roller stamping
Bb3	jug	Strap handle, deep, central elliptical stabbing
Bb3	pitcher	Rim-handle; rod handle has deep vertical groove and oblique slashing on either side, two doughnut shaped applied clay decoration at top of handle
Bb3	pitcher/jug	Horizontal combing above incised wavy line, possibly more horizontal combing below
Bb3	pitcher/jug	Elliptical rod handle, deep incised central line, oblique incisions either side - 'herring-bone'
Bb3	pitcher	Frilled cordon below rim
Bc2	pitcher/jug	Incised wavy line
Bd1	jug	Trace of roller stamping, rather faint and obscured by the glaze
Ca1	jug	Slight rilling
Ca3	pitcher/jug	Broad, wide-spaced combed or incised horizontal lines
Ca6	jug	Wide-spaced incised horizontal lines
Ca7	jug	Gutter spout
Ca7.1	pitcher/jug	Applied thumbed strip with ?comb impressions, horizontal wide-space rows of roughly rectangular roller stamping
Ca7.1	pitcher/jug	Broad, wide-spaced horizontal lines
Cb2	pitcher/jug	Outer face of rim decorated with stamped ring and dot-type motifs
Cb2	pitcher	Oblique combing on neck, incised lines on upper part of shoulder, possible rivet hole on shoulder
Cb2	jug	Strap handle, deep oblique slashes
Cb2.1	pitcher	Incised horizontal lines on upper part of the shoulder
Cb2.1	pitcher/jug	Slight horizontal rilling
Cb2.1	pitcher/jug	Wide-spaced incised horizontal lines
Cb2.1	pitcher/jug	Horizontal combing,
Cb2.1	pitcher/jug	Rod handle, heavy vertical scoring
Cb5	jug	Deep incised intersecting lines (or possibly outline of triangle)
Cb5.1	pitcher/jug	Applied strips, with oblique incised lines on either side

Table 4 Floor tile

Context	Context type	CBM type	Description	qty	wght	depth	width	length	Date
6001	Overburden	Floor tile, chamfered	Impressed floor tile, very worn, dark green/black glaze, hard-fired, past-like dark red fabric with few inclusions (local)	1	316	25mm	110mm	x	15th c
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Complete encaustic tile, design of peacocks flanking a tree, fine micaceous sandy orange-brown fabric (local?)	1	467	28mm	100mm	100mm	late 13th-early 14th c
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Impressed floor tile, very worn, diagonal cross and fleurs-de-lys, almost complete, small patch of sooting, fine sandy orange-brown fabric (local)	1	378	28mm	100mm	100mm	15th c (possibly late 14th c)
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Very worn, dark green/black glaze, fine sandy brown fabric (local), partly reduced	1	290	27mm	x	x	later medieval?
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Plain tile, white underglaze slip, yellow glaze, worn, almost complete, fine sandy brown fabric (local)	1	673	28mm	125mm	125mm	medieval
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Complete plain unglazed tile, fine micaceous sandy brown fabric	1	490	28mm	100mm	100mm	medieval
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Very worn tile, possibly originally encaustic, but upper surface all but obliterated, almost complete, fine sandy brown fabric (local)	1	627	28mm	122mm	122mm	medieval
6050	Pit fill	Floor tile, chamfered	Two joining plain glazed floor tile fragments, very worn, trace of dark green/black glaze, fine sandy brown fabric (local)	2	216	28mm	120mm	x	medieval
6059	Posthole fill	Floor tile	Unglazed, sandy orange fabric (local)	1	383	28mm	x	x	post-medieval
6124	Ditch fill	Floor tile	Unglazed, slightly distorted, sandy orange fabric (local)	1	164	28mm	x	x	post-medieval

Table 5 CBM other than floor tile

Context	Context type	CBM type	Description	qty	wght	depth	width	length	Date
6006	Quarry pit 6004 upper fill	Brick		1	49	20mm	x	x	19th c
6064	Quarry pit 6063 lower fill	Brick	Hard-fired, dark red fabric, few inclusions	1	217	c65mm	x	x	post-medieval
6124	Ditch 6123 fill	Brick	hard, orange-brown sandy fabric	1	240				Post-medieval (17th c?)
6124	Ditch 6123 fill	Brick	burnt	1	36				Post-medieval (17th c?)
6169	Quarry pit 6170 fill	Brick	mortar adhesions, sandy dark red fabric	1	374				post-medieval
6169	Quarry pit 6170 fill	Brick	Burnt surface and one edge, sandy orange fabric, few inclusions	1	97				late medieval/post-medieval
6209	Quarry pit 6208 fill	Brick	small fragments	2	35				post-medieval
6038	Pit fill	Brick/tile	not closely datable	1	3				not closely datable
6124	Ditch 6123 fill	Brick/tile	not closely datable	1	23				not closely datable
6100	Quarry pit 6101 fill	Brick/tile	not closely datable	5	15				not closely datable
6185	Ditch 6184 fill	Brick/tile	one sanded surface remains	1	<1				not closely datable
6217	Mortar mixing pit 6219 clay lining	Brick/tile	not closely datable	1	12				Post-medieval?
6169	Quarry pit 6170 fill	Ridge tile	mortar adhesions to upper surface, burnt at end, fine, sandy dark red fabric	1	175	20mm	x	x	late medieval/post-medieval
6169	Quarry pit 6170 fill	Roof tile	Part of central nib, hard, dark red past-like fabric with few inclusions	1	203	15mm	c190mm?	x	late medieval/post-medieval
6169	Quarry pit 6170 fill	Roof tile	Distorted, hard-fired, clean dark red fabric with few inclusions	1	46	12mm			late medieval/post-medieval
6191	Pit 6190 fill	Roof tile		1	8				Post-medieval?
6217	Mortar mixing pit 6219 clay lining	Uncertain	Highly micaceous	1	3				medieval (highly micaceous)
6191	Pit 6190 fill	Wall tile	Kitchen/bathroom wall tile	1	8				modern

APPENDIX 3: ARCHITECTURAL FRAGMENT

By E.R. McSloy (information provided by P. Davenport)

A single architectural fragment was recorded, from Period 3 post-medieval pit 6049 (fill 6050). It consists of a small moulding fragment (measuring 135mm by 92mm by 63mm), cut from red-coloured sandstone almost certainly of local origin. The fragment is L-shaped, the 'lower' arm well-rounded, and with a shallow groove hinting at further elaboration. A flat (sawn?) surface cutting the rounded moulding and a deep wheel cut groove are the result of secondary working.

The original form and function/location of this small fragment piece cannot be known. The manner of working suggests dating no earlier than the Late medieval period.

APPENDIX 4: CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

By E.R. McSloy

Small quantities (12 fragments weighing 31g) were recorded from five deposits, mostly Period 3/4 pit fills located in Trench 6. Almost the entire group comprises stem fragments for which only broad dating across the late 16th to 19th centuries is possible. A single fragmentary bowl from Period 3 posthole 6113 (fill 6112) is of a larger, spurred form. It is unmarked and dateable to the late 17th or 18th centuries.

APPENDIX 5: METAL FINDS

By E.R. McSloy

A small group of 12 metal objects was recorded. Objects have been described/listed by context, the details added to an Access database (summary in Table 6). The condition of the group is variable, though typically the iron items exhibit the greatest levels of corrosion and soil coverage, which has obscured some details of form. X-radiography (Plates XRK16/234) has been undertaken for all items to clarify form and reveal constructional details, plating or decoration. The metal finds are stored appropriately in sealable plastic containers with humidity controlled and monitored to as to minimise deterioration.

The metal finds were derived from deposits dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods (Table 6). Aside from the carpentry nails, the certain functional attribution is not possible. The most notable object is small container Ra. 7501 which was recovered from Period 1 medieval well 6079 (fill 6084). The surfaces of this object are heavily encrusted with mineralised organic deposits. The x-ray (Fig. 8, positive x-radiograph image) shows this item to be hollow and of rectangular box-like in construction. The x-ray also reveals the presence of three rivets to one longer face, probably to secure an overlapping joint. Use as a container, possibly for needles is suggested.

Table 6 Metal finds summary

Material	Period	Context	Ra.	Type	Ct.	Comments
Cu. alloy	4	3002	0	ring	1	Plain, D-section wire hoop (32mm diam). Butted ends have separated
	4	6038	0	sheet frag/ vessel repair	1	fragment with bent-up edge and 1 x square rivet hole
Fe	1	6084	7501	object	1	Rectangular ?container from sheet; 3 x cu alloy rivets visible from x-ray. L 77mm; W 28mm; Th. 17mm
	3	6050	0	nail	1	Flat head; L 62mm
	3	6050	0	nail	1	Flat head; L 120mm
	3	6050	0	nail/bar	1	Bar or nail shaft fragments
	3	6100	0	nail	1	Shaft
	3	6169	0	nail	1	Shaft
	4	2013	0	object	1	Strip or blade frag. X-ray shows terminal curving to tip
	4	2013	0	nail	1	Flat head
	Pb	4	2013	0	object	1
1		6103	7502	object	1	plano-convex slab of lead waste/spill?
Totals					12	

APPENDIX 6: VESSEL GLASS

By E.R. McSloy

The small assemblage of glass (3 fragments weighing 96g) was recovered from Period 3 (post-medieval) pit fills. All consists of fragments of green-coloured wine/spirits bottle glass of the kind in common use across the later 17th and 19th centuries. The largest fragment, from pit fill 6191 (fill of 6190), is a portion from a round-bodied and wide-based vessel unlikely to date after c. 1730 (Noël Hume 1969, 63–64).

Reference

Noël Hume, I. 1969 *A Guide to Artifacts of Colonial America* Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press

APPENDIX 7: ANIMAL BONE

By Matilda Holmes

Introduction

A very small assemblage of animal bones totalling 91 fragments were recovered from a series of ditches, layers, pits and a well (Table 7). The sample was not large enough for detailed analysis to be worthwhile but a summary of the assemblage is presented below.

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection. Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/goat', unless a definite identification (Zeder and Lapham 2010;

Zeder and Pilaar 2010) could be made. Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (small - cat/rabbit sized; medium - sheep/pig/dog size; or large - cattle/horse size). Ribs were identified to size category where the head was present, vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments.

Tooth wear and eruption were recorded using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Payne (1973), as were bone fusion, metrical data (von den Driesch 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996) and any evidence of pathological changes, butchery (Lauwerier 1988; Sykes 2007) and working. Condition was noted on a scale of 0 to 5, where 0 is fresh bone and 5, the bone is falling apart (Lyman 1994, 355). Other taphonomic factors were also recorded, including the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. All fragments were recorded.

Discussion

Bones were generally in poor condition, and examples of heavily weathered bones were recovered from all phases (Table 8). This suggests that many bones were not buried immediately, but were left on the surface, exposed to the elements for some considerable time. Furthermore, the homogenous condition of the assemblage in all but one context indicates that there is a high likelihood that residual material was present in many features. The only exception to this were the bones from Period 3 post-medieval stove-lined 6219, all of which were in good condition, and were most likely buried quickly following discard, with no evidence for residuality.

The high number of fresh breaks observed on the bones is testament to the poor preservation affecting the assemblage, and this is also probably the reason for a high incidence of loose teeth to teeth in mandibles, as the enamel of teeth will survive better than bone. Perhaps because of the friability and poor surface condition of the bones, very few incidences of gnawing or butchery were observed.

Given the poor condition of the assemblage, few fragments were identified to taxa and anatomical element (Table 9). The densest bones are those most likely to survive, and this may account for the high proportions of teeth and metapodials recorded, rather than being a reflection of redistribution of carcass parts. For the reasons outlined above, no further information can be gleaned from this assemblage.

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Serjeantson, D. 1996 'The animal bones', in Needham, S. and Spence, T. (eds) 1996 *Refuse and disposal at area 16* Runnymede Bridge Research Excavations **2**

Sykes, N. 2007 *The Norman Conquest: A zooarchaeological perspective* Oxford, British Archaeological Reports International Series **1656**

von den Driesch, A. 1976 *A guide to the measurement of animal bones from archaeological sites* Cambridge, Massachusettes, Harvard University Press

Zeder, M. and Lapham, H. 2010 'Assessing the reliability of criteria used to identify post-cranial bones in sheep, Ovis, and goats, Capra', *Journal of Archaeological Science* **37**, 2887–2905

Zeder, M.A. and Pilaar, S. 2010 'Assessing the reliability of criteria used to identify mandibles and mandibular teeth in sheep, Ovis and goats, Capra', *Journal of Archaeological Science* **37**, 225–242

Table 7 Total number of fragments by feature and period

Feature	Period 1	Period 2	Periods 3 and 4	Modern
Ditch	5		31	
Layer				3
Manhole construction				1
Stave-lined pit			8	
Pit			9	
Quarry pit	20		2	
Well	11	1		
Total	36	1	50	4

Table 8: Condition and taphonomic factors affecting fragments identified to taxa and/or anatomy. NB Teeth not included unless specified.

Condition	Period 1	Period 2	Periods 3 and 4	Modern
Fresh				
Very good				
Good	1		6	2
Fair	1		2	
Poor	8		6	
Very poor	4	1	2	
Total	14	1	16	7
Weathering	7	1	6	
Fresh break	9		6	2
Refit	2=1		2=1	4=2
Loose teeth	3		6	1
Teeth in mandibles	1		2	
Butchery			1	
Gnawing	1		3	
Burning	1			

Table 9: Species represented by anatomy

Element	Period 1			Period 2	Periods 3 and 4				Modern	
	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Large mammal	Cattle	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Sheep	Dog	Cattle	Sheep/goat
Occipital						1				
Zygomatic	1									
Maxilla								1		
Mandible with teeth		1			1	1				
Loose maxillary tooth	4				1	1			1	
Loose mandibular teeth	2	1			1	5			1	
Cervical vertebra		1			1					
Sacrum			1							
Vertebrae			1			1				
Scapula	1									
Humerus			1							
Radius					1	1				1
Pelvis	1									
Femur						2				
Calcaneus	1				1					
Metacarpal					1	1				
Metapodial	4									
Metatarsal	2					2				
1st Phalange					2					
2nd Phalange									1	
Total	16	3	2	1	9	14	1	1	3	1

APPENDIX 8: DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

By Nigel Baker

The Foregate suburb

The excavated site lies on the northern edge of the medieval Abbey Foregate suburb of Shrewsbury, separated from the pre-Conquest shire town by (originally) two channels of the River Severn. The suburb is a bridgehead suburb, its spine is the main road to Shrewsbury from London and the Midlands, following a gravel peninsula which projects into the Severn floodplain; traffic crossed the river on the medieval Stone Bridge, the predecessor of the present English Bridge. Although the Stone Bridge was not recorded until 1121, a pre-Conquest bridge on the same line is a distinct possibility, and historical and archaeological sources are consistent in showing that the suburb too was of pre-Conquest origin.

Shrewsbury Abbey, the Benedictine Abbey of St Peter and St Paul, was founded by Earl Roger of Montgomery between 1083 and 1087. Domesday Book records its building in progress, and the monk and chronicler Orderic Vitalis, born locally, gives further details of its foundation. At its foundation the abbey was granted the whole of the Foregate suburb, as well as rural properties, the suburb including 39 tax-paying burgesses and a substantial income from milling. The site

on which the abbey was founded had, before the Conquest, belonged to Siward, one of the two wealthiest landowners in the county, and it included his hall, the church of St Peter (a proprietary minster probably founded by Siward) and its cemetery, and the lowest in a chain of water-mills that were amongst the most profitable urban mills anywhere in the country (Baker 2002, 15–17). The mills lay along the edge of the Rea Brook floodplain and were connected by an artificial leet which bounded the south side of the Foregate peninsula. The early medieval (11th to 12th century) suburb and its 39 tax-paying households are likely to have been confined to the western end of Abbey Foregate, around (and perhaps under) the abbey; it is suggested that the suburb later extended further east, where the curving boundaries of the plots fairly certainly perpetuate former agricultural strips (Baker 2002, 210–211).

Horsefair, also known as the Green

The excavated site lies on the old northern frontage of what was formerly a public open space known as Horsefair (Fig. 8) since the 17th century when an annual horse fair was moved there from the Frankwell suburb by 1677 (Hobbs 1954, 63). Its form earlier in the 17th century is shown on John Speed's map of 1610. There it is labelled simply 'Abbey Foregate' and is shown as a rectangular open space with a solid block of five buildings in its centre resembling a market-place encroachment. This block is now represented by 31–38 Abbey Foregate and the former Park Social Club buildings; although all are later in date than Speed's map and represent a subsequent generation of building. The Horsefair northern frontage (including the excavation area) was then built up with a number of buildings, deliberately shown with a mixture of alignments, indicative perhaps of a less urban appearance than other streets, with plots (three shown; Fig. 9) extending northwards behind them; the eastern Horsefair frontage too is shown built up. Opposite the north-east corner of the abbey precinct, there was a standing cross. At 0.6 hectares (c.1.5 acres), before the central encroachments, Horsefair was larger than the town's 13th-century market place.

Before the 17th century Horsefair was known as the Green, and a rental of ex-abbey property of c. 1540–41 lists a number of tenements there. Thomas Smyth held a tenement with appurtenances and other parcels of land, the tenement pertaining to (i.e. its rental income was dedicated to) the monastic infirmary. Another tenement and garden held by Richard Caly in 1539 on 'le grene' lay between a tenement pertaining to the 'ffermers office' (the infirmary again) on one side and a tenement pertaining to the kitchener's office on the other, 'next to the common lane' (Underdale Road?); the garden stretched back to the 'gey hege'; presumably bounding the Gay Meadow to the north-west. In 1520 Thomas Addyrton, a smith, held a tenement with a forge and a garden and other appurtenances 'upon the green beside the walls of the monastery' (NA LR2/184, fos.199r, 205v; 205r NA E303/14/Salop/208; all refs courtesy Bill Champion). These references to plots on the Green dedicated to the running of the various departments of the Benedictine abbey demonstrates that it was at least in part built up in the medieval period, as the archaeology shows, and was part of the abbey's immediate estate, contributing to its economic support.

The earlier history of the Green is not recorded, at least not with that place-name attached, but it has traditionally been regarded as the abbey's fair ground: the site of their annual three-day fair of St Peter, perhaps since the abbey's foundation in the 1080s, but certainly by the late 1130s when their right to hold the fair was confirmed by King Stephen (Baker 2002, 220). The rectangular form of the open space strongly suggests that it was a 'designed' space, rather than, say, open ground at a road junction; but whether it came into existence as an act of town planning early in the life of the abbey, or whether it was part of the landscape of the pre-Conquest Foregate suburb, or, in fact, whether it represents a later re-organisation of the landscape, has been uncertain, though the excavated evidence now offers a clue.

The excavated site in its landscape context

The discovery of pre-Conquest Stafford-type ware by the excavation, even in a residual context, is significant. It adds to the evidence of two sherds (also in residual contexts) and four sherds of Stamford Ware from the abbey excavations in the 1980s (Bryant 2002, 89-90) to show that the eastern suburb has pre-Conquest origins, and suggests that, as predicted, Horsefair, earlier the Green, lay within or in very close proximity to the pre-Conquest built-up area (Baker 2002, 207).

However, whether the rectangular open space known to us as Horsefair was definitely, and in that form, a pre-Conquest feature, is another question. Its morphology clearly relates to the known northern perimeter of the monastic precinct and the course of Abbey Foregate bending around the walls, but whether that was entirely new in the 1080s imposed by the Benedictines over some unknown suburban geography, or whether it was a layout inherited from the previous high-status secular site, is unknown. But it is difficult to see how the excavated east-west trackway, dated to the 11th–13th centuries, could have co-existed with Horsefair/the Green in its present/known form. Ditched on both sides, about three metres north of and parallel to the Horsefair northern frontage, its presence suggests strongly that Horsefair did not then exist or that its northern frontage has shifted, presumably at a time before it was fixed by being built up. The widening of the trackway as it heads west is suggestive of a form of driveway found in the local rural landscape known as a 'slang'; a funnel-shaped trackway for driving cattle onto and off riverside grazing. Access to floodplain grazing to the north and west of the Foregate is the trackway's most likely rationale, and would not be inconsistent with the presence of an early medieval fair site, where livestock may well have featured strongly and would have needed access to grazing and to water. Immediately west and north of the excavated area, down slope in the floodplain, lay the Lower Gay Meadow, subdivided into a number of smaller fields running down to the river on a north-west/south-east-alignment; this is also the alignment of the excavated trackway, suggesting that it too was part of this landscape of terrace-edge riverside grazing (Fig. 8).

However, although the trackway's orientation is the same as Horsefair's, its presence simply does not fit the historically-known rectangular open space. Quite possibly, Horsefair/the Green as we know it was an inserted element in the suburban landscape in exactly the same way that The Square in Shrewsbury town centre was created as a new corn market in 1261 by clearing plots and infilling a natural water-filled depression (Baker 2010, 138–139), a process replicated in other towns (Worcester, Leominster) in the late 12th and 13th centuries. If this was the case here, it may be that Horsefair/the Green was created by clearing a series of plots fronting Abbey Foregate and establishing a new frontage for them 40 metres back from the old one, close to the line of what had previously been a back lane along their rear boundary. This proposition can in the future be tested archaeologically, though probably only in one place: under the floors of the listed buildings fronting Abbey Foregate. If they originated as market-place style encroachments, their depositional history should reflect that; if their history extends further back to include a phase of frontage development before Horsefair/the Green was inserted, that should be apparent too.

Quarry pitting to the north of the trackway is consistent with a local demand for building material and road metalling in the built-up suburb and the abbey itself. From towards the end of Period 1 medieval activity, the more extensive pitting, wells and cess-pits are clearly indicative of occupation in the immediate vicinity, and it may have been then that Horsefair was laid out and the present northern frontage established and built up. Evaluation trenches excavated in 1991 on the frontage of the property immediately to the east found structural features of medieval date: metalled yard surfaces, floor surfaces, and the sandstone walls, post-holes and stone roof-tiles of one or more medieval buildings, with evidence of bronze working in the form of burnt ceramic mould fragments (Hannaford 1991). While it is tempting to directly associate this site with that of the forge documented on the Green in 1520 (see above), that would be stretching the evidence too

far, but the archaeology and the historical record both point to an industrial, metal-working, aspect of this part of the Foregate suburb.

Similarly, the historical sources for the Abbey Foregate suburb in the 16th century and later reflect the strong presence there of the gloving industry; the production of fine leather goods (VCH Shropshire 6, 177; Champion, 'Notes on Abbey Foregate'). This was exemplified by the abbey excavations of the 1980s where the bases of a series of square stone and clay-lined tanks was found cut into the floor of a former monastic building; at least one of the tanks had the remains of a deposit of lime in the bottom. In this case, the site could be identified as that of a tannery established by Richard Langley (d.1587), son of the abbey's first lay owner, who had four journeyman tanners working for him at the time of his death (Baker 2002, 83-5). Some of the post-medieval pits on the excavated site, particularly the stave-lined pit 6219 backfilled with 17th to 18th-century material, may well fall into this category and point to leatherworking having been a feature of the Horsefair plots as well as those on the south side of Abbey Foregate which were more obviously provided with a nearby source of running water.

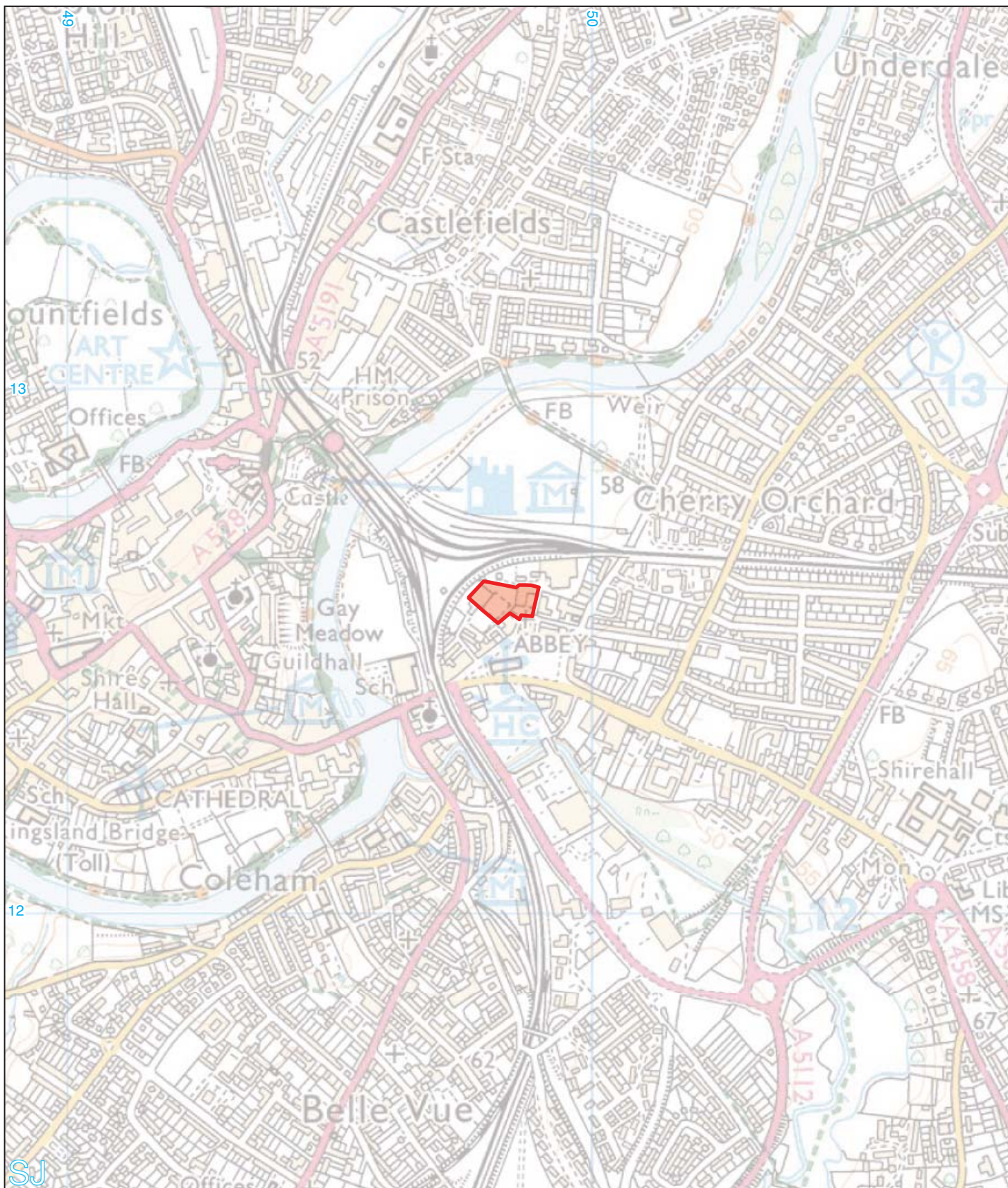
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APPENDIX 9: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Glebe House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during April and May 2015 at Glebe House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The excavation area was located at the south of the development area, targeted on concentrations of features identified in a previous evaluation of the site.</p> <p>The excavation identified four broad phases of activity between the 11th and 20th centuries AD. Although residual Late Saxon material was recovered, the earliest phase of activity (Period 1 medieval) was associated with a ditched trackway at the south of the site with extensive quarry features to the north and dated to the 11th to 13th centuries. Period 2 later medieval activity saw extensive pitting activity towards the eastern edge of the site, possibly associated with domestic occupation further east, and dated to the 13th to 15th centuries. Period 3, post-medieval activity comprised pitting which continued through the 16th to 18th centuries and still appeared to be associated with domestic activity, though a large boundary ditch was also established sometime during this period. This post-medieval activity also saw the construction of a small number of likely timber structures on the site. Period 4 features dated from the later 18th into the 20th centuries and included further pit digging but also more extensive structural development with the foundations of some buildings and a brick culvert surviving towards the south of the site.</p> <p>A moderate assemblage of pottery was recovered dating from the medieval to early modern periods comprising medieval cooking pots, pitchers and jugs alongside a small number of floor tile fragments. Other finds included iron nails/nail fragments, a rectangular ?container which may have been used to store needles, a small quantity of clay tobacco pipe and fragments of wine/spirits bottle glass.</p>	
Project dates	16 April 2015 to 07 May 2015	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Heritage statement (Morris 2013) Field evaluation (CA 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Glebe House, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.2ha	
Site co-ordinates	SJ 4980 1259	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Shropshire Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE	Ditch: medieval; Pit: medieval; Cess pit: medieval; Quarry: medieval; Well: medieval; Posthole: medieval; Ditch: post-medieval; Pit: post-medieval; Posthole: post-medieval; Wall: post-medieval; Pit: modern; Wall: modern	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Pottery: medieval; Building material: medieval; Animal bone: medieval; Pottery: post-medieval; Building material: post-medieval Metal: post-medieval; Animal bone: post-medieval	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Shrewsbury Art Gallery and Museum	Pottery, CBM, building stone, metal, glass, clay

		tobacco pipe, animal bone
Paper	Shrewsbury Art Gallery and Museum	Context sheets, registers (context, drawing, photograph), section drawings and plans, matrices
Digital	Shrewsbury Art Gallery and Museum	Reports, database, digital photos, site survey
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Glebe House, Shrewsbury, Shropshire: Archaeological Excavation</i> CA Report 16212		



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

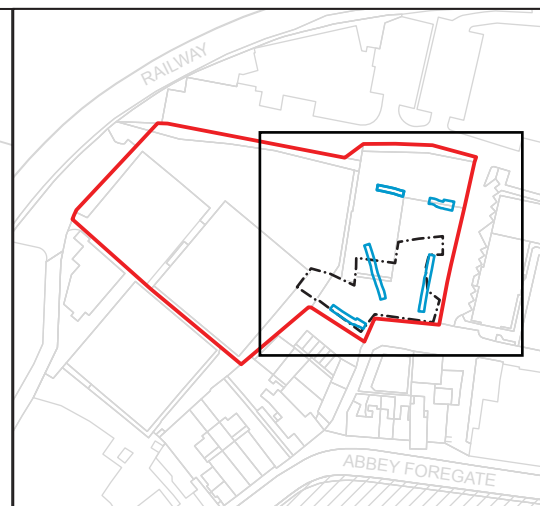
PROJECT TITLE
 Glebe House, Abbey Foregate
 Shrewsbury, Shropshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan



DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	9199	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	03-06-2016	
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- site boundary
- excavation area
- previous evaluation trench (CA 2014)
- archaeological feature excavated / unexcavated
- modern
- structural feature



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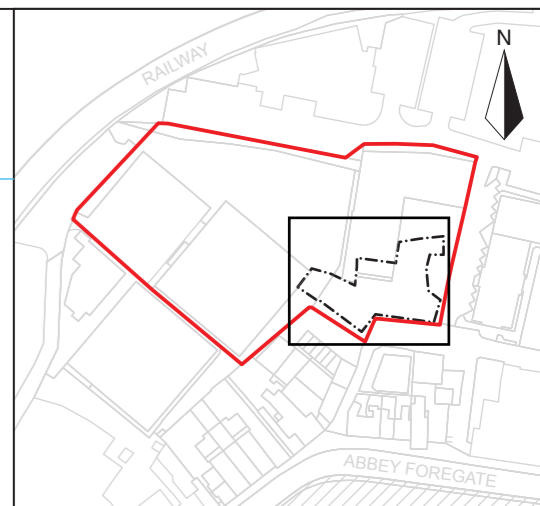
Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Glebe House, Abbey Foregate
 Shrewsbury, Shropshire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing excavation area,
 archaeological features excavated and
 evaluation trench locations

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- site boundary
- excavation area
- previous evaluation trench
- archaeological feature excavated / unexcavated
- Period 1: early medieval excavated / unexcavated
- Period 2: later medieval excavated / unexcavated
- modern
- Ⓐ Ⓑ section location



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Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Glebe House, Abbey Foregate
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FIGURE TITLE
 Excavation area showing Period 1 and
 Period 2 features

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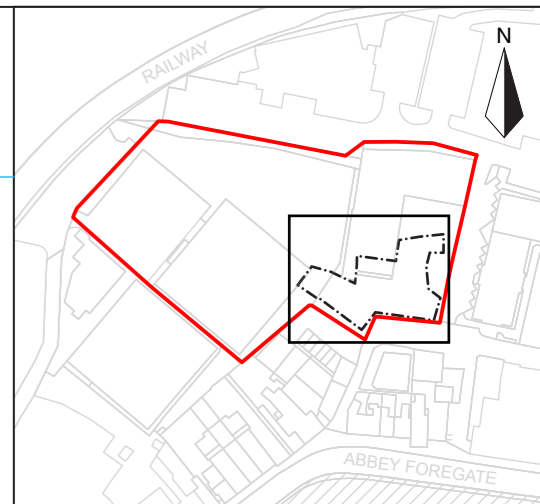
4986

4988

1258

SJ

HORSEFAIR: THE GREEN



- site boundary
- excavation area
- previous evaluation trench
- archaeological feature excavated / unexcavated
- Period 3: post-medieval excavated / unexcavated
- Period 4: post-medieval / early modern excavated / unexcavated
- modern
- structural feature
- ⓑ section location



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Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Glebe House, Abbey Foregate
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FIGURE TITLE
 Excavation area showing Period 3 and
 Period 4 features

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APPROVED BY SC **SCALE@A3** 1:150

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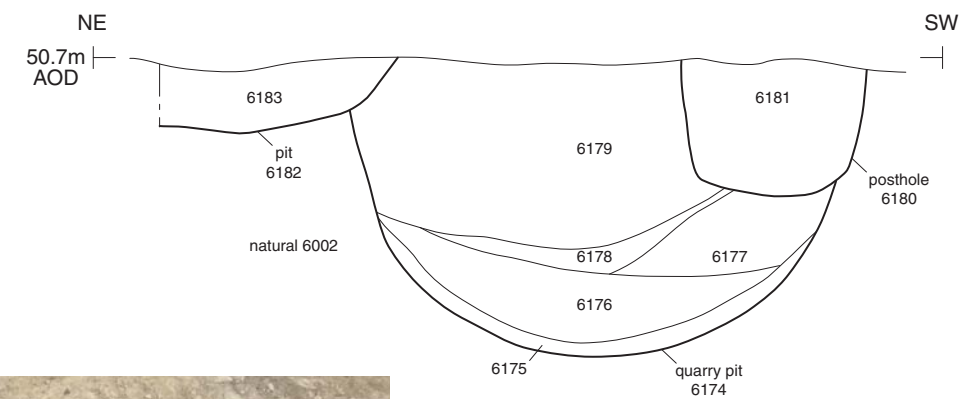
HORSEFAIR: THE GREEN

Section AA



Section through quarry pit 6073 and well 6079, looking north-west (1m scale)

Section BB



Section through pit 6182, quarry pit 6174 and posthole 6180, looking south-east (0.3m & 1m scales)



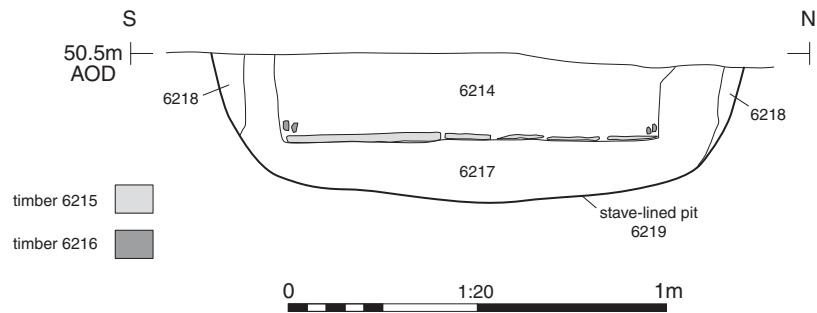

Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
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 Shrewsbury, Shropshire**

FIGURE TITLE
Sections and photographs

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Section CC



Section through stave-lined pit 6219, looking west (1m scale)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

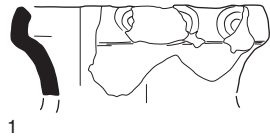
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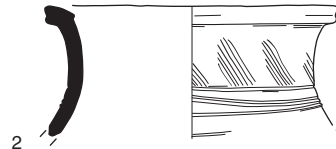
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Stave-lined pit 6219: section and photograph

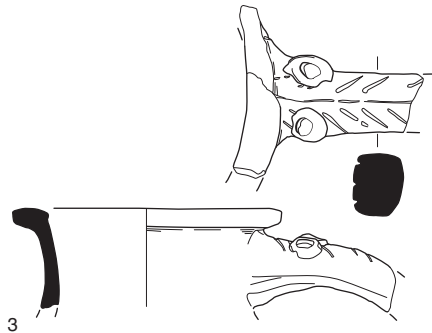
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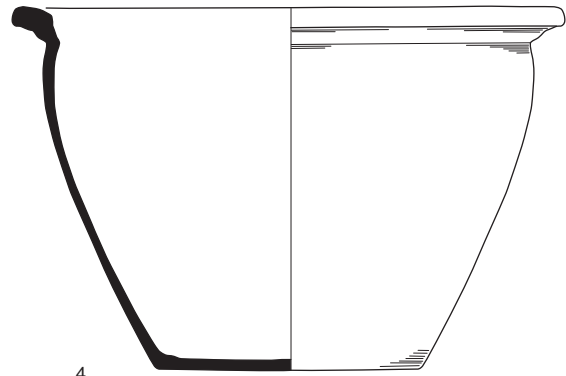
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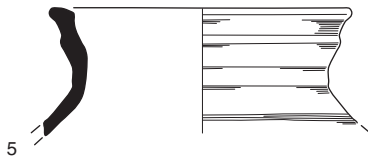
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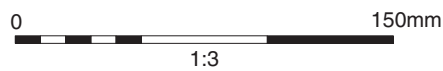
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Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

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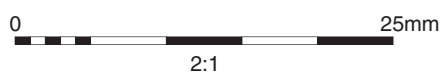
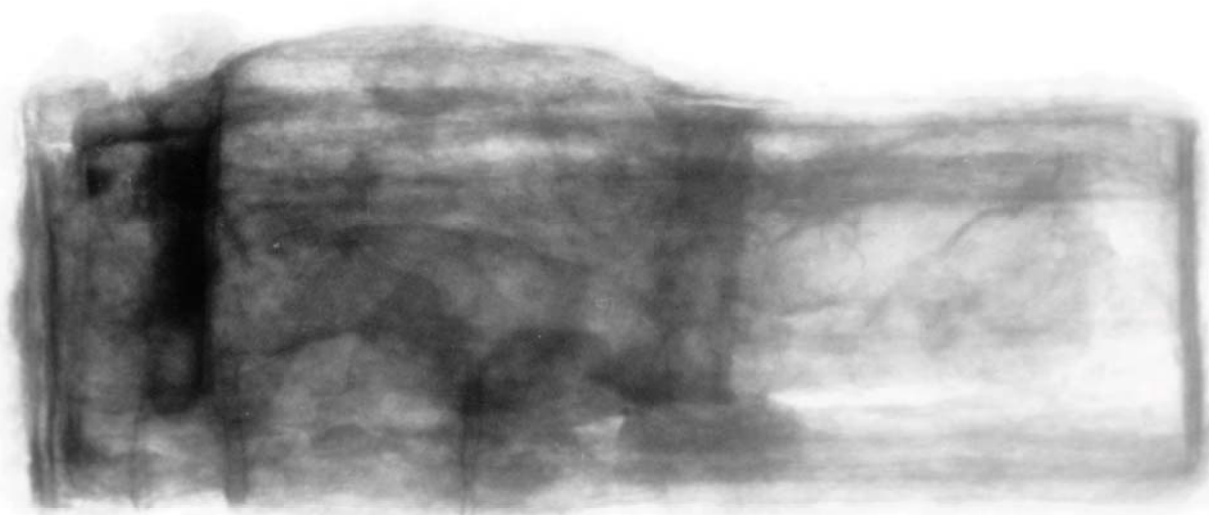
FIGURE TITLE

Pottery illustrations

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FIGURE NO.

7



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Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

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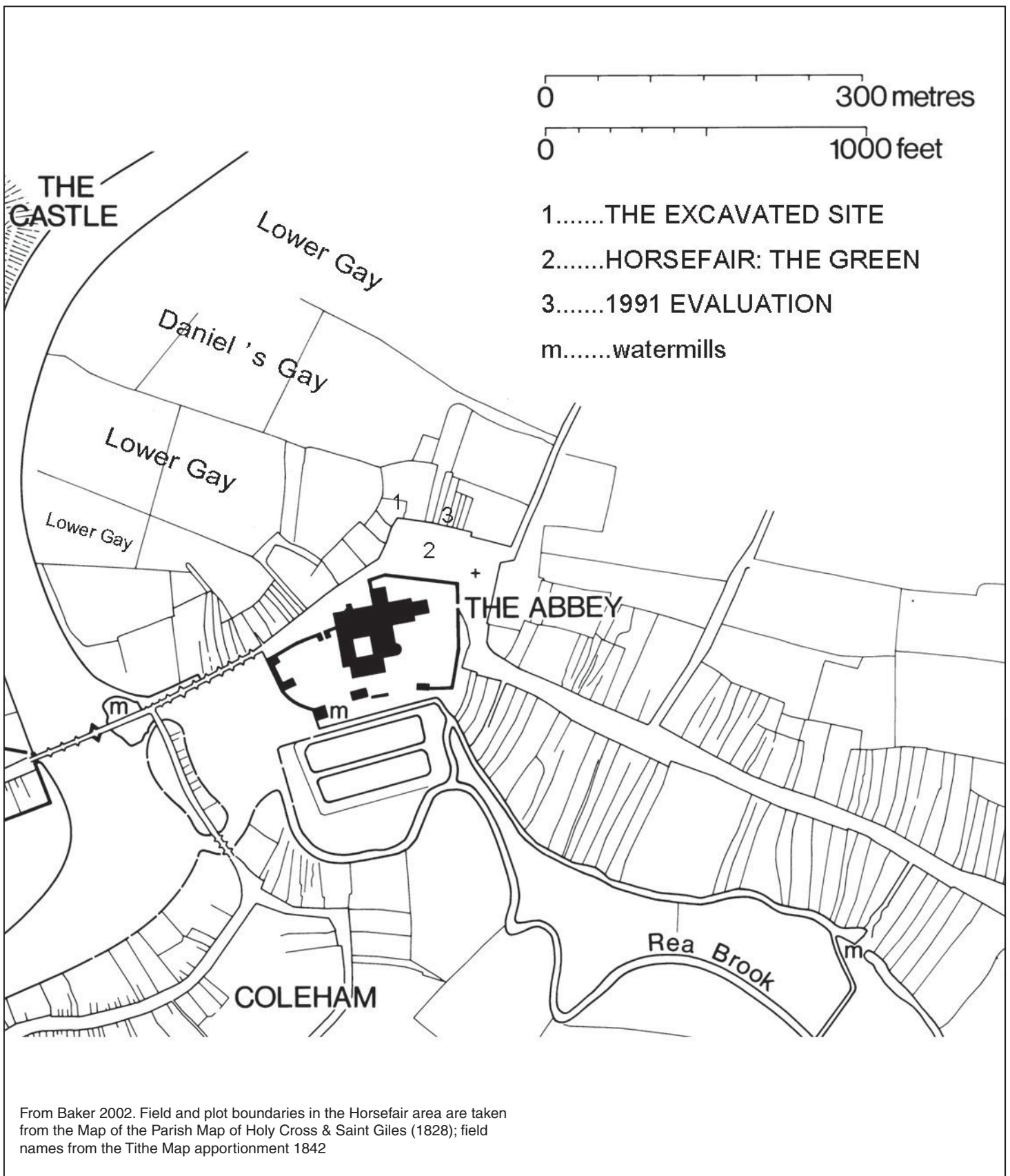
FIGURE TITLE

**Iron object Ra. 7501. Positive
x-radiograph image**

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FIGURE NO.

8



From Baker 2002. Field and plot boundaries in the Horsefair area are taken from the Map of the Parish Map of Holy Cross & Saint Giles (1828); field names from the Tithe Map apportionment 1842



Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

The Abbey Foregate suburb
(from Baker 2002)

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Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk