

# *Marches Archaeology*

## **17-21 Greenhill**

**Lichfield  
Staffordshire**

**Report on an  
evaluation excavation**

September 1999

*Marches Archaeology Series 093*

*Archaeological Consultants and Contractors*

**Land to the rear of 17-21 Greenhill  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire**

**NGR: SK 121 096**

**Report on an evaluation excavation**

**Report by**  
Richard Stone *MA MIFA*

**Contents**

Summary

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Description of the site
- 3 Archaeological and historical background
- 4 Scope and aims of the project
- 5 Description of the evaluation
- 6 Finds and environmental evidence
  - 6.1 The pottery, by Stephanie Rátkai
  - 6.2 The glass, by Geoff Egan
  - 6.3 The other objects
  - 6.4 The environmental remains, by Liz Pearson
- 7 Discussion
- 8 Conclusions
- 9 Acknowledgements
- 10 Bibliography
- 11 The archive
- 12 The site matrix
- Appendix 1 List of contexts
- Appendix 2 List of finds

*September 1999*

*Marches Archaeology Series 093*



**Land to the rear of 17-21 Greenhill  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire**

**Report on an evaluation excavation**

*Summary*

*An evaluation excavation at 17-21 Greenhill, Lichfield revealed significant archaeological remains dating from the twelfth or thirteenth century onwards. These consisted primarily of domestic deposits. Of particular interest was a cesspit which yielded fragments of at least two glass urinals, a complete pottery jug and much of an unusual pottery vessel described as a candle makers' trough, which is understood to be unique in this country.*

## **1 Introduction**

It is intended to apply for planning permission to develop land at the rear of 17-21 Greenhill, Lichfield. The site is situated at NGR: SK 121 096 (Fig. 1).

A desk based assessment of the site was carried out by Marches Archaeology (Stone, 1999). That report gives a detailed description of the use of the site in the past and at present. This report will only summarise the information presented therein.

The Local Planning Authority, advised by their archaeological advisor, required that an archaeological field evaluation be carried out. Building Design Group requested Marches Archaeology to carry out the archaeological work. A Project Proposal was produced forming a specification of works, based on a specification from Staffordshire County Council.

## **2 Description of the site**

The site lies on the northern side of Greenhill, within the parish of St Michael to the east of the historic core of Lichfield and roughly equidistant from the two medieval parish churches of St Mary and St Michael. The land is at a height of approximately 91m O.D. on a hillside rising to the south, at the top of which is the medieval church of St Michael (approx. 104m O.D.). The underlying solid geology is of Keuper Sandstone (VCH, 1990, 1). This is overlain by sands and gravels. It is on the northern side of a wide open area at the junction of the roads which historically led to Burton (Greenhill) and to Whittington (Rotten Row).

17-21 Greenhill consists of buildings on the eastern side, fronting onto the street. To the rear of the main buildings are various later additions. To the west of these are open areas which run northwards at an oblique angle. Behind number 17 is a tarmac area used for car parking. Behind number 19 is a garden area, with a shed at the rear of the property. The area at the north of number 21 is now reduced to a small yard, the remainder being included within the grounds of The Duke of York public house.



### **3 Archaeological and historical background**

The site lies within the medieval town of Lichfield. The desk based assessment concluded that:

'Medieval archaeological remains may survive on the site. These could include evidence of any earlier road systems in the area, of the development of the Greenhill suburb and possibly of the market area, of earlier buildings and of the use of the land to the rear of the frontage buildings. This may include evidence for craft or industrial activity.' ... 'Foundations of post-medieval buildings shown on historic maps from the late eighteenth century onwards are expected to survive on the site. The extent to which these may have disturbed earlier, medieval, deposits is not known. Further information about the uses of these buildings and their predecessors, if any, may be obtained by fieldwork, though the importance of this information is likely to be of less archaeological significance than any medieval remains.'

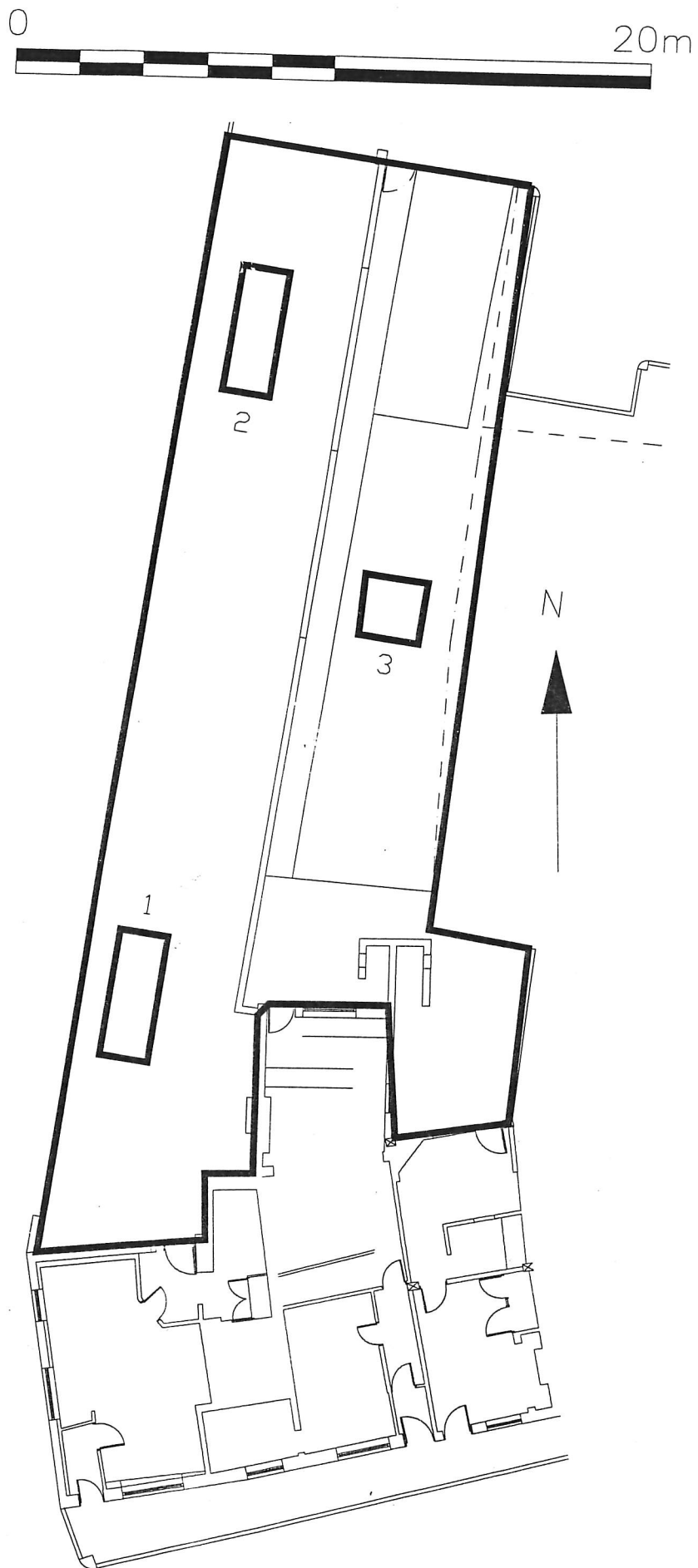
### **4 Scope and aims of the project**

Three trenches were excavated (Fig. 2). Two were 4 metres long and 1.5 metres wide, the third being 2 metres square. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of sufficient deposits to enable decisions to be taken to preserve the archaeological resource, either *in situ* or by record. The evaluation did not aim to determine simply the level of the top of the archaeological resource as the development proposal may include groundworks which could penetrate to the natural geology, removing all of the archaeological deposits. An area within each excavated trench was excavated to the bottom of the stratigraphic sequence in order to test the depth, complexity and nature of the deposits.

The aims of this evaluation were 'to locate archaeological deposits or remains and determine their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability, documentation, quality of setting and amenity value. This is for the purpose of establishing their significance and enables appropriate decisions to be made on the conservation of these deposits' (Institute of Field Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations). Specific objectives were to determine the value of the site to an understanding of the development of medieval Lichfield and to assess the nature and status of the site, with particular reference to the postulated late medieval hall.

### **5 Description of the evaluation**

The upper deposits were excavated by mechanical excavator to a level determined to comprise deposits, features or horizons of archaeological significance. Further excavation was by hand. Selected sampling was used to test deeper stratification, the level of natural deposits or other information required for the fulfilment of the aims and objectives of the Project Proposal. Such features as are considered to be of value to the understanding and interpretation of the site were selectively excavated, either in part or in full. All artefactual and ecofactual material recovered from hand excavation was initially be retained. Samples were taken of deposits considered to have environmental potential. On completion of the fieldwork the trenches were backfilled.



**Fig. 2** Location of the trenches

### *Trench 1*

The natural sands [19] were encountered at a minimum depth of 0.63m below ground level. Overlying this was a thin layer of reddish brown silty sand [14] which was probably deliberately laid as a surface (Fig. 3). Cutting this was a deep, rectangular, vertical sided pit [16]. This was filled with successive deposits of organic waste [18], thought to be human excreta, followed by a clay deposit [17], possibly a secondary lining or internal capping. In turn this was covered by a layer of household waste [15] and finally further probable human excreta [13] (Fig. 4).

At a later date a trench [12] for a ceramic drain [11] was excavated associated with a trench [10] for a pier base [9]. A layer of mixed brick rubble in a reddish silty sand matrix [8] sealed these and all earlier deposits.

A trench [7] (not illustrated) was dug through this for an east-west oriented brick wall [4], which was butted to the boundary wall between 17 and 19 Greenhill. A surface of bricks laid on edge [3] survived to the north of this wall and was covered by an accumulation of topsoil [2] on which was laid the tarmac [1] which forms the present ground surface.

### *Trench 2*

The natural sands [45] were encountered at a minimum depth of 0.72m below ground level. Cutting through these was a pit [44] filled with a moderately compacted dark brown sandy loam [43] (Fig. 5). The shape in plan is uncertain as only one edge was found, with a sloping side (1:1), leading to the start of an apparently flat base.

This pit was truncated by a later large roughly rectangular pit [40] with rounded corners. The sides were irregular, and the base flat. This had been backfilled with loose silty sand containing a large amount of brick fragments [39]. This pit was in turn truncated by a linear trench [42]. This was filled with brick rubble [41] and is thought to represent the line of a robbed out wall.

All earlier deposits were sealed by a layer of brick rubble [6] which included modern material such as plastic. This was covered by a layer of hardcore [5] as formation for the present tarmac surface [1].

### *Trench 3*

The natural sands [27] were encountered at a minimum depth of 0.79m below ground level. At the east of the trench was a thin layer of compacted red sand [52] which contained one animal bone but was generally clean. This was covered by two successive layers of reddish brown soil accumulation [33 and 32].

Cutting the natural at the west were three features thought to be the bases of postholes [47, 49, 51] (Figs. 6 and 7). All were shallow, being 110mm, 60mm and 150mm deep respectively. They were filled [46, 48, 50 respectively] with brown sandy loam free from inclusions. A layer of dark brown sandy loam [31] covered these features. It is thought that this is broadly contemporary with [32] or [33] but it was clearly different and the relationship

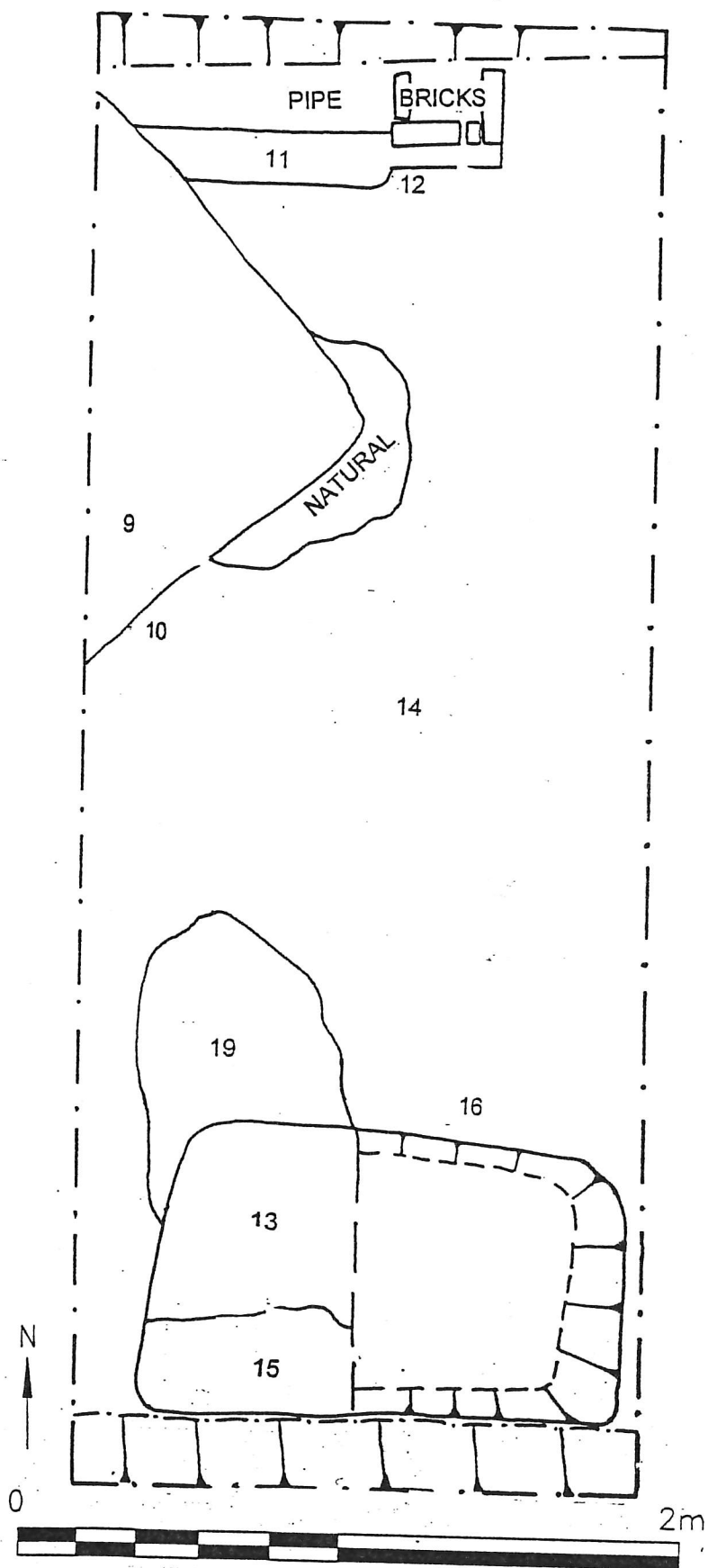


Fig 3 Plan of Trench 1

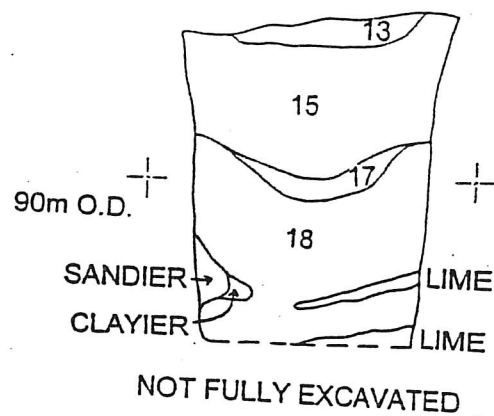


Fig 4 Section of pit 16

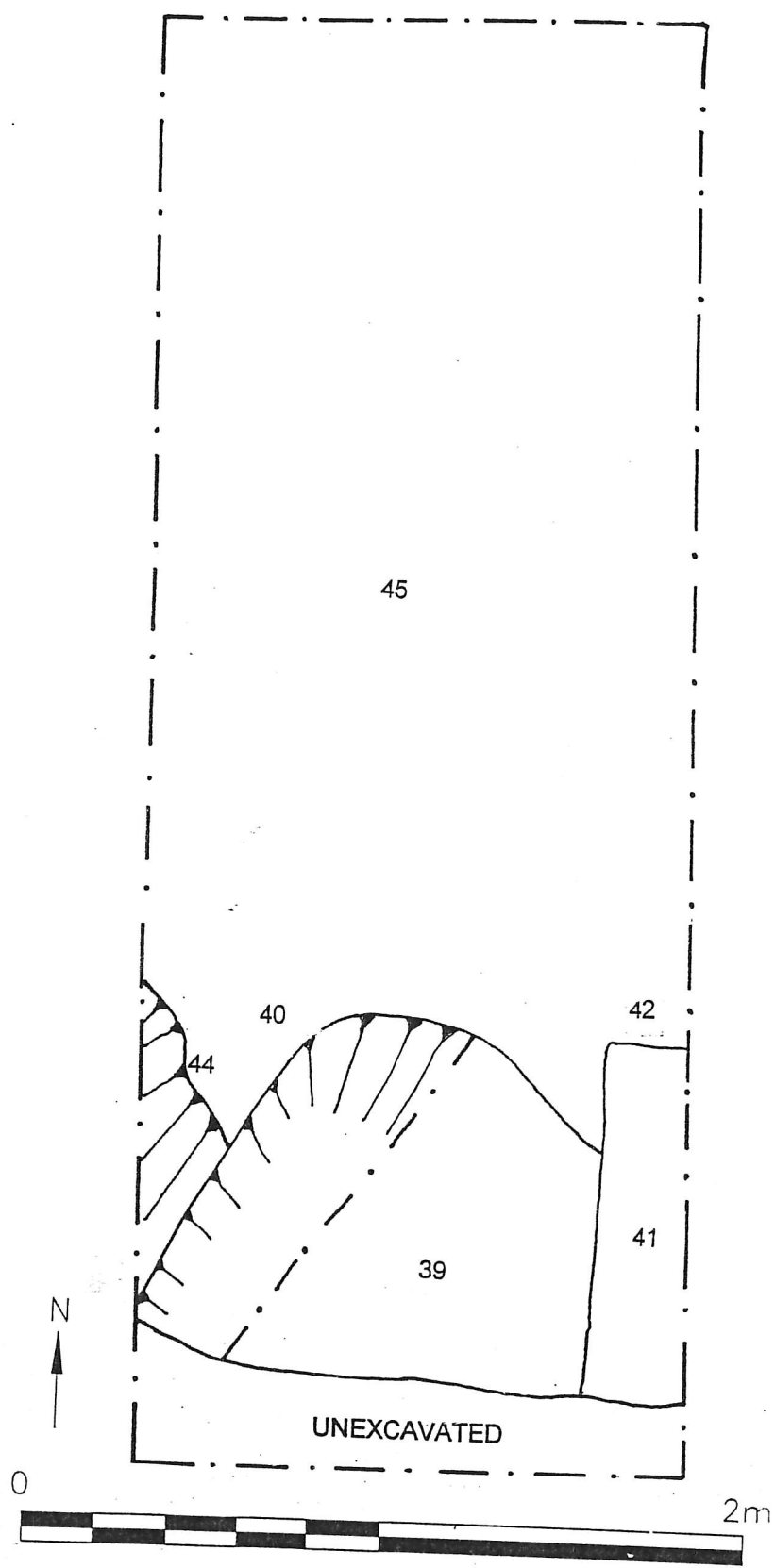


Fig 5 Plan of Trench 2

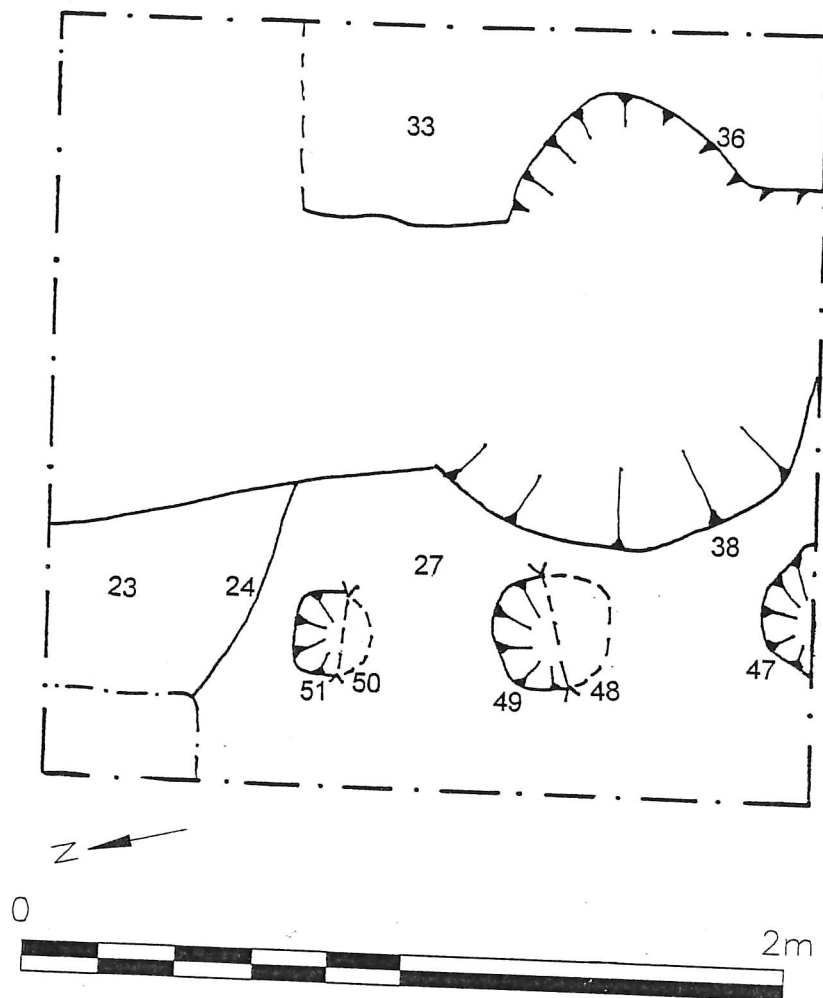


Fig 6 Plan of Trench 3, first phase

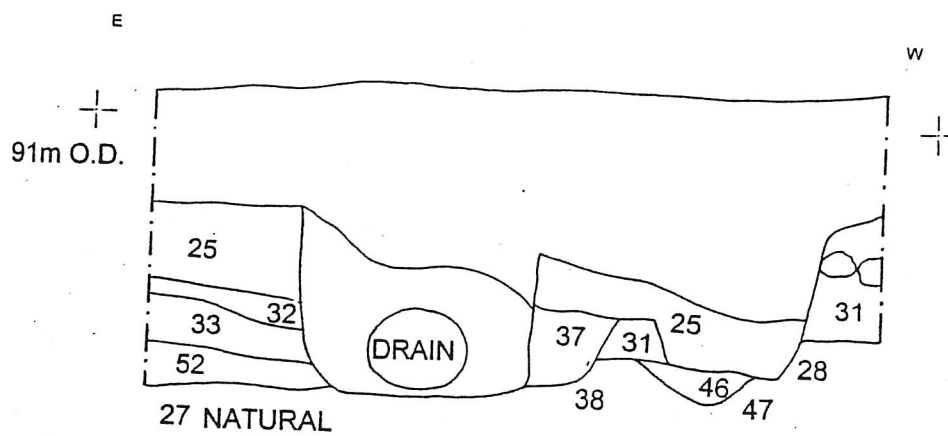


Fig 7 North section of Trench 3

between them is lost as a later drain bisected the trench. This soil accumulation was succeeded by a cobbled surface [26]. This layer was heavily truncated by later features, most of which had cobbles mixed in with their fills. A large circular pit [38] with sloping sides, filled with loose dark brown sandy loam [37] cut through soil layer [31].

This was in turn cut by a small pit [30] with tapering sides, filled with loose reddish brown sandy loam [29] (Fig. 8). The relationship of pits [30] and [38] with cobbles [26] is unclear (Fig. 9). A north-south oriented gully or beam slot [28] on the same line as the earlier postholes truncated the cobbles.

To the east was a shallow pit [36] filled initially with reddish brown sandy loam [35] and later by a similar but darker soil containing fire and building debris [34]. Evidently this either cut or was cut by pit [38] but the relationship was lost by the insertion of a later drain.

A mixed layer [25] of reddish brown sandy loam and dumped fire waste and building debris covered the whole trench, sealing all earlier deposits and features. Within this there were several large cobbles, presumably derived from the digging out of the cobbled surface [26].

A deep pit [24] filled with dark brown sandy loam [23] and small amounts of brick debris and cobbles was cut through this layer at the north of the trench. One rounded corner was seen but the plan appeared to be probably rectangular. The side which was excavated was vertical and the bottom was not reached as a large stone trough or basin which could not be removed was included within the fill.

A drainage trench [22] was cut through this pit and the general soil layer [25] through all earlier deposits. the trench around the large ceramic drain was backfilled with a dark brown sandy loam [21] containing occasional cobbles and brick fragments. Above this was a further accumulation of dark brown sandy loam [20] which formed the present topsoil.

## **6 Finds and environmental evidence**

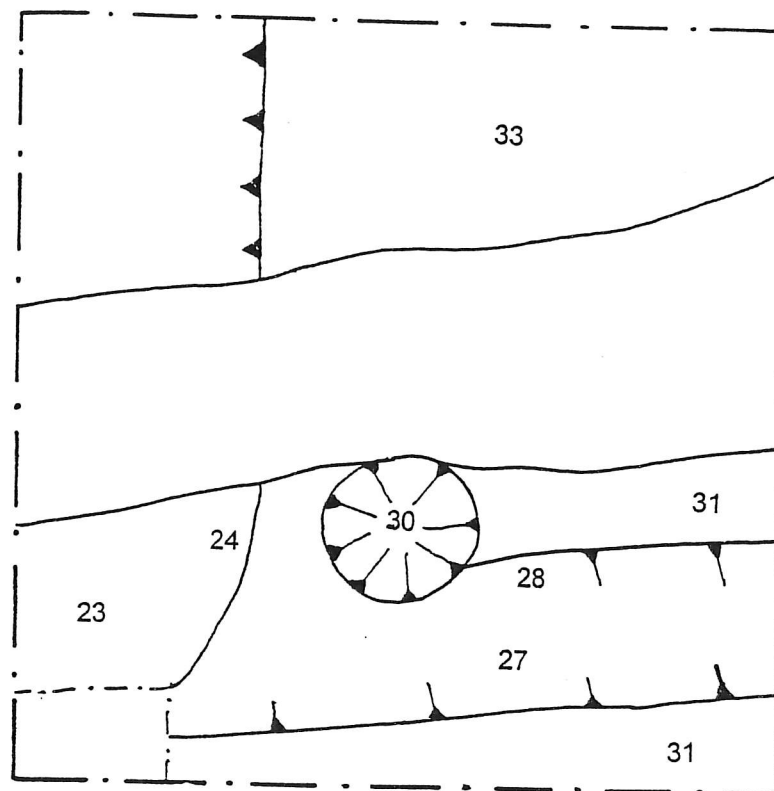
### ***6.1 The pottery, by Stephanie Rátkai***

All the pottery was examined macroscopically and divided into the broad fabric groups used by Ford (1995), i.e. whitewares, iron-rich sandy utilitarian wares and iron-rich sandy table wares. The pottery was quantified by sherd count and details of form, decoration, sooting and wear were noted. Each context was spot dated.

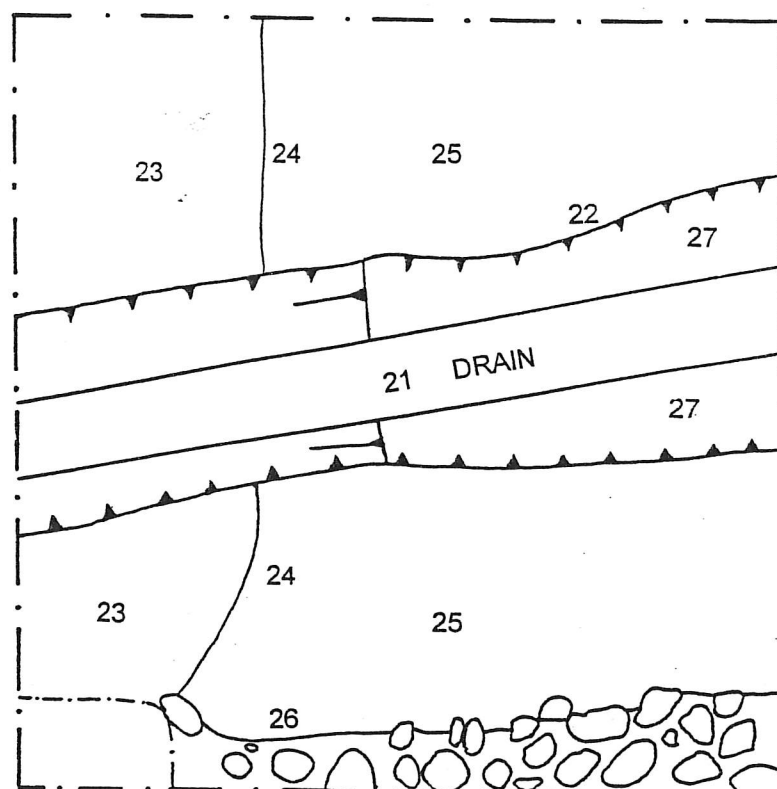
#### ***Cess pit fills (contexts 13, 15, 17 and 18)***

The fills of the cess pit were remarkable. A complete whiteware jug came from (18). The jug had a small squat form and was unglazed (Plate 1). The form and plainness of the jug suggests that it was made in the ?later 14th century.

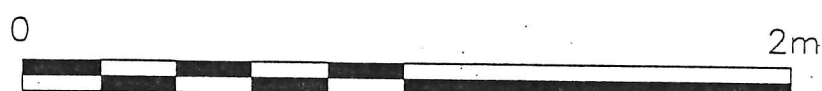
A substantial portion of another vessel came from contexts (15) and (17) (Plate 2). The vessel base was c 31cm in length and c 7cm wide. The sides of the base were roughly parallel but the ends were elliptical. The base had four feet. The walls, which had a slight inward slope, were slab built although the curved ends and perhaps the upper section of the long sides,



**Fig 8 Plan of Trench 3, second phase**



**Fig. 9 Plan of Trench 3, third phase**





appear to have been coil built. Although several sections of the rim survived it was not possible to reconstruct a complete profile. However, it seems likely that the original height of the vessel was c 30cm. One curved end section, a substantial amount of which survived, had a horizontal strap handle c 4cm below the rim and it is likely that there was the same arrangement at the opposite end. A patchy green glaze covered the exterior of the vessel and part of the interior. In places the glaze was discoloured to a dull brown, presumably due to the effects of cess. The closest parallels for this vessel can be found in Hurst *et al* (1986, plate 22 and fig 65: 223) and are described as candle-makers' troughs. They are both Low Countries' products dating from the 15th-early 16th centuries. They differ from the Lichfield example in having crenellated rims, a reinforcing central rib on the long sides and no feet or handles. Presumably the feet on the Lichfield trough acted as stabilisers as the central rib may have done on the Low Countries' vessels. Such a find is very rare in Europe and unique in Britain. The date of this vessel is difficult to establish precisely. Whitewares appear to have been in use from the mid 13th century until the 14th century. However, their *floruit* appears to be the later 13th century and first half of the 14th century since from the later 14th century oxidised red and orange sandy wares become more frequent and usually form the main component of 15th century groups.

The upper fill (13) of the cess pit contained a fragment of a partially burnt flat roof tile probably of medieval date.

In addition to the jug and the candle-makers' trough a small number of small body sherds came from the cess pit fills. Context (15) contained four whiteware sherds and two utilitarian sandy ware cooking pot sherd. The whiteware sherds represented a sooted cooking pot and a glazed jug with red painted decoration. A second glazed sherd and an unglazed unsoted sherd may represent two further vessels. Two unglazed whiteware sherds came from (17). Context (18) produced four whiteware sherds. Two were glazed jug sherds, one was unglazed and the fourth was from a bowl with an internal glaze. There was a single utilitarian sandy ware cooking pot sherd.

#### *Pit and feature fills (23), (29), (39) and (43)*

Small numbers of sherds were recovered from these pit fills. Fills (23) and (29) contained sherds of later 17th-19th century date. Fill (43), however dated to the 13th-14th centuries and contained a utilitarian sandy ware cooking pot sherd. Feature fill (39) cut (43) and contained a whiteware bowl base and a blackware tankard fragment with a flaring rim and corrugated body. The blackware sherd dates this fill to the late 16th or 17th centuries.

#### *Layers (6), (25), (32) and (33)*

Modern rubble layer (6) contained only an overfired whiteware handle sherd, decorated with slashing and incised wavy lines, probably dating to the later 13th-mid 14th centuries. Layer (25) contained pottery of the 17th-19th centuries with two residual medieval sherds of 13th-14th century date. However, occupation layer (32) was medieval in date. It contained three unglazed whiteware sherds and a glazed whiteware jug sherd probably dating to the later 13th or 14th centuries.

In addition there were two sandy table ware sherds consisting of an unglazed pitcher rim, a glazed sherd with traces of applied decoration, also possibly from a pitcher and a sooted

utilitarian sandy ware sherd in a rather soft fabric. These three sherds were slightly different from the usual sandy utilitarian and table wares and may date from the 12th century. They are unlikely to be later than the 13th century. A single sooted whiteware cooking pot sherd came from layer (33), dating to the thirteenth to fourteenth centuries.

### *Chronology*

All of the medieval pottery is made up of either whitewares or sandy utilitarian and table wares. This suggests that the focus of occupation is in the 13th-14th centuries. However, three sandy ware sherds may date to the 12th century. There is an absence of any sandy oxidised wares of the later 14th-15th centuries, of Midlands purple wares of the 15th-16th centuries and also of Cistercian wares, dating to the late 15th-16th centuries. This would tend to suggest that the occupation represented by the sherds from the site is no later than the 14th century, although the pottery sample is very small and may therefore be misleading. However, a shortage of 14th-15th century pottery was apparent at both Lichfield Arts Centre and Bird Street, Lichfield but these too were small assemblages. The larger group from Sandford Street produced a continuous sequence from the 12th century through to the post-medieval period.

### *Discussion*

The pottery assemblage although small is of major importance to ceramic studies not only regionally but nationally because of the presence of the candle-makers' trough, a unique find in Britain. In addition, the pottery provides further evidence of the growth, development and topography of Lichfield.

### *Proposals*

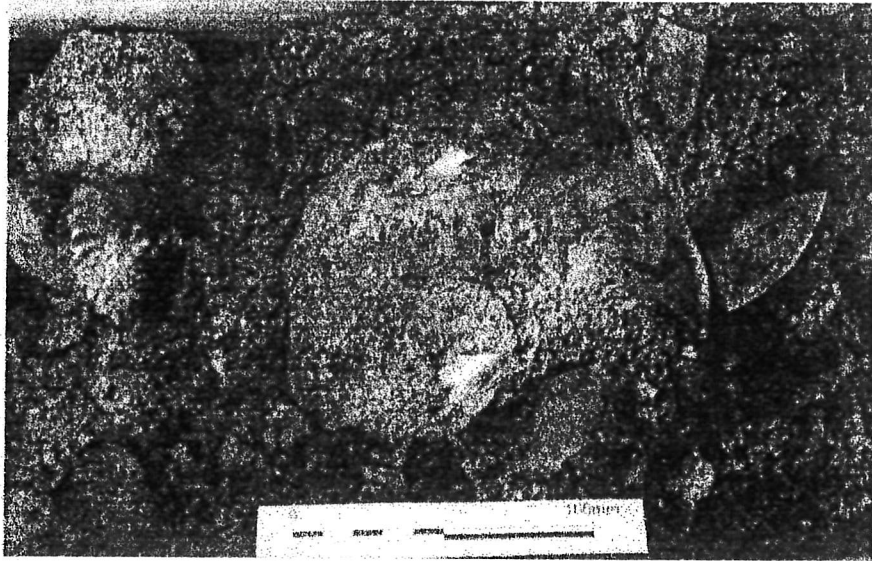
1) It is recommended in view of the unique nature of the candle-makers' trough, that, if possible, the cess pit at least be fully excavated to retrieve any further fragments of the vessel, so that the vessel can be reconstructed as completely as possible.

2) Residue analysis should be undertaken on the candle-makers' trough to determine the contents of the vessel. As this procedure is designed to analyse fatty acids or lipids it should be relatively simple to determine if tallow or beeswax was used in the vessel.

*\*NB Residue analysis is a destructive process. If further pieces of the vessel are recovered (see 1 above) it is suggested that these are left unwashed and a small sample from them is used for analysis.*

3) The remaining medieval pottery should be fabric typed in detail and matched to the fabrics found at Sandford Street, the Arts Centre Lichfield and Bird Street. This should enable some work on comparative chronology to be undertaken, which in turn would lead to a better understanding of the development of Lichfield.

4) The post medieval pottery from mixed 17th-19th century groups need not be recorded in detail. However, residual medieval pottery should be recorded in detail.



The Glass Urinal



The Candles-makers' Trough



The 14th century  
Whiteware Jug

## 6.2     *The glass, by Geoff Egan*

Context 18: small find 1 (four pieces) & small find 2 (35 pieces)

The fragments are of pale-green, translucent thin glass with some spots of opaque yellow and dark brown corrosion (Plate 3). The 39 fragments comprise a rounded base with fragments of the plain body, neck and flaring rim (no. 1 and much of no. 2), a second, more corroded, base, and pieces from two or more rims and the upper part of two or more necks with wry moulding. Fragments that have become almost fully opacified and have wry ribbing closer together than the others similarly moulded are probably from the second vessel, of the same basic type as the first. The bases have external pontil marks, definitively identifying them as urinals. It is just possible that parts of three of these vessels are present, but to keep handling of these very fragile items to a minimum (a few very thin fragments have suffered slightly in transit) it is best that this is considered by conservators if the decision to reconstruct is taken.

Such vessels were used for uroscopy - the night urine being collected in the nearly colourless, globular container to allow the state of health of the individual concerned to be diagnosed by the colour and opacity or lack of it, ultimately by reference to colour samples in teaching establishments and textbooks (Charleston 1984, 32-3).

Glass urinals were available from at least the mid 13th century (e.g. Keys 1998, 254 no. 777) and as the basic design was satisfactory for the intended purpose, it remained current until uroscopy fell into disfavour in the early post-medieval period. Since urinals were widely used and are not uncommon medieval finds in a fragmentary state, the significance of the present ones (the first of which is relatively well preserved) is mainly local and as part of the complete assemblage from the pit. If there is relevant documentary evidence to identify the inhabitants of the property at the appropriate period, this would be a bonus.

## 6.3     *The other objects*

A total of 0.224 kg of animal bone, predominantly large mammal, was retrieved from six contexts. A single fragment of clay pipe stem came from layer [25] in trench 3. Three small fragments of ironworking slag, one from a medieval layer, the others from undated but possibly medieval features, suggest that there was some iron industry in the vicinity. Two fragments of post-medieval window glass were recovered from layer [25].

## 6.4     *The environmental remains, by Liz Pearson*

### *Aims*

The aims of the assessment were to determine, from samples and information provided by the Client, the state of preservation, type, and quantity of environmental remains recovered. This information will be used to assess the importance of the environmental remains.

### *Methods*

Samples were taken during excavation by Marches Archaeology from selected contexts of high potential for environmental remains.

Samples of 10 litre size were processed by flotation followed by wet-sieving using a Siraf tank. The flots were collected on a sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were subjected to a rapid scan in order to estimate the abundance of each category of environmental remains. The flots were also rapidly scanned using an EMT stereo light microscope. Species identifications of plant remains were made (where possible) by comparison with modern reference collections housed at the County Archaeological Service.

### *Results*

The assessment has demonstrated survival of small quantities of plant remains, preserved by both anaerobic conditions and mineralisation, small mammal and fish bones, and mineralised insect remains. Phosphate concretions suggesting the presence of cess waste were concentrated in the lower samples, and all samples were relatively rich in small fragments of charcoal.

#### Context 18, sample 4; lowest deposit sampled

This sample was rich in phosphate concretions, large lumps of the material being present in the residue. Small fragments of chalky material were also noted in the flot. Plant remains included seeds of blackberry/bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg), fig (*Ficus carica*) fine stem fragments. The latter were unidentifiable during scanning, but may be identifiable to a basic level after more detailed examination.. These remains and some fragmented insect pupae appear to have been preserved both by anaerobic conditions and mineralisation. A small quantity of small mammal bone appears to be dominated by unfused epiphyses.

#### Context 17, sample 3

This sample was similar in composition to the underlying deposit (18). However, seeds of blackberry were more abundant, and in addition, a single possible mulberry seed (cf *Morus nigra*), occasional charred cereal grain, fish vertebrae and mineralised beetle remains were recorded. Coal fragments were also noted in the residue.

#### Context 15, sample 2

Occasional uncharred seeds of blackberry, fig and sedge (*Carex* sp) were present, in association with charred bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* type) and brome grass (*Bromus* sp) grains and a single seed of vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/lathyrus* sp). Phosphate concretions were not evident, although there were a small number of mineralised insect pupae. Small fragments of green glazed medieval pot were the only other domestic waste visible in the residue. Industrial waste in the form of occasional iron slag was also noted.

#### Context 13, sample 1; upper deposit

Fragments of brick and tile, chalk fragments and a calcareous substance (possibly lime) were abundant in the residue, some of which may derive from domestic building waste. A small quantity of blackberry and fig seeds was also present in the flot.



## *Discussion*

A variety of environmental remains associated with cess and domestic food waste has survived in these deposits, albeit in small quantities. The cess waste appears to be concentrated in the lower two contexts (18 and 17) as they are relatively rich in phosphate concretions and contain evidence of food remains (for example blackberry, mulberry and fig seeds) which are likely to derive from human faeces. The small mammal bone may be the remains of small animals which became trapped in the pit, although the fish bone is likely to derive from food waste. These remains are all particularly common in cess deposits. Chalk and lime are present throughout, and may have been thrown into the pit to dampen down foul odours, much like the use of hay and straw which are frequently found in cess pits. The fly pupae, which have become mineralised by the cess waste, demonstrate minor fly infestation of these organic deposits.

The plant remains provide important evidence for the use of both home grown and imported fruit. Mulberry (*Morus nigra*) is thought to have been introduced by the Romans, and is documented as being important in medieval gardens (Roach 1985). The fig is an exotic species and is most likely to have been an imported fruit, whereas blackberries are most likely to have been collected locally from hedgerows nearby. Although the diversity of plant remains is low, further evidence for cultivar species may be recovered by taking additional larger samples during future excavation work on the site.

Contexts 15 and 13 above may represent the backfilling of the pit as the phosphate waste appears to be absent and there is more evidence for general domestic waste (for example pottery and brick or tile fragments). Comparison of lower and upper deposits may therefore provide information on the change in use of this feature, from its use as a cess pit to backfilling with general domestic waste.

Analysis of pollen remains may provide additional information on the presence of material which is often not well represented by macrofossil remains.

## *Recommendations*

Further sampling of this feature is recommended in order to recover a greater volume of material for analysis. The following recommendations are made for a further stage of work:

- Recovery of larger (40 litre) sized samples from appropriate deposits within the pit.

- Spot sampling of deposits in situ for pollen remains.

- Processing of small 1 litre sub samples to be sorted wet, in order that fragile plant material can be more easily identified. Processing of the remainder of the sample by wet-sieving and flotation (as above) to recover additional cultivars and animal bone etc.

- Analysis of plant macrofossil and insect remains, small mammal and fish bone.

## **7 Discussion**

The pottery included material from the twelfth century. However, this was residual and it is not possible to infer that the site was occupied at this date, though this may tend to support such an interpretation.

The earliest secure indication of the use of the site is in the thirteenth century to the rear of number 19.

The early postholes [47, 49, 51] in Trench 3 suggest a timber structure, though the form is not clear from such a small intervention. The various pits in this trench are a further indication of the continuing use of the backland of number 19, presumably largely for waste disposal, throughout the medieval period.

The cesspit [16] in Trench 1 is undoubtedly the most significant feature of the site. The assemblage this produced include a complete pottery jug, a pottery candle-maker's trough and a glass urinal, all of which could be considered to be of a quality worthy of museum display. As a group their historical value is increased. This cesspit was associated with a deliberately laid thin surface [14]. The survival of such a thin sand surface suggests an inside surface, i.e. a floor rather than a yard. No structural remains were found to shed any light on this.

The cesspit, floor and a pit in Trench 2 [44], together with the postholes and pits of Trench 3 show the developed nature of this area of Greenhill by the later fourteenth century.

After this period there seems to have been a change in the use of the site. There was a general absence of material of the fifteenth to seventeenth centuries, with a resurgence during the eighteenth century. As it is understood that one of the frontage buildings has relatively high status late medieval origins it is possible that this absence of evidence represents not abandonment but rather a cleaner use of the site, reflecting higher status.

By the nineteenth century the backlands were becoming increasingly built up with brick buildings. The foundations and floors for these have to some extent removed earlier archaeological deposits and it is possible that the absence of late medieval and early post-medieval deposits may in part be explained by these works.

## **8 Conclusions**

The general archaeological potential of the site is relatively high, particularly the medieval cesspit, which has produced a very important assemblage of material.

The deposits survive at a relatively high level, between 0.63m and 0.79m below present ground level. If the proposed development penetrates deeper than this it is likely that significant archaeological deposits may be disturbed.

The evaluation has indicated that the site has several aspects of interest. Firstly there is the origin of the use of the site, which may lie as early as the twelfth century. Secondly, the nature and status of the use during the medieval period. Thirdly, the apparent change of use in the late medieval period. The fourth aspect is specific to the cesspit, and any other similar features which may exist on the site. This particular pit has produced such an exceptional wealth of material that the opportunity to provide further information if the deposit is threatened is of great importance.

## **9 Acknowledgements**

Marches Archaeology would like to thank Renton Developments Limited and Building Design Group for their assistance and Chris Welch of Staffordshire County Council for his comments on Staffordshire parallels to the evidence from the site.

Stephanie Rátkai would like to thank Sarah Jennings for her help in the identification of the candle-makers' trough.

Liz Pearson would like to thank Derek Hurst for editing her report.

## **10 Bibliography**

Charleston, R J, 1984, *English Glass and the Glass Used in England c400-1940*, London

Ford, D A, 1995, *Medieval Pottery in Staffordshire, AD800-1600: A Review* Staffs Archaeol Studies No 7 1995.

Hurst, J G, Neal D S, and van Beuningen, H J E, 1986, Pottery produced and traded in North-West Europe 1350-1650 Rotterdam Papers VI

Joyce, N, 1998 Preliminary report on the original construction and development of nos 17-21 Greenhill, Lichfield, unpublished report for Greenalls Property Management

Keys, L, 1998, 'Glass urinals', in G Egan (ed.), *The Medieval Household (Medieval Finds from Excavations in London 6)*, London, 252-4

Roach, F A, 1985 *Cultivated fruits of Britain: their origin and history*, Blackwell, Oxford

Stone, R, 1999 Report on a desk-based assessment at land to the rear of 17-21 Greenhill, Lichfield, Staffordshire, Marches Archaeology Series, 067

VCH, 1990, *Victoria History of the Counties of England, Staffordshire: Lichfield*, vol XIV

## **11 The archive**

The archive is currently stored at Marches Archaeology's offices at Lyonshall, awaiting eventual transfer to an approved repository.

The archive consists of:

2 context index sheets

52 context sheets

1 index of samples

4 samples sheets

1 index of small finds

2 small finds sheets

17 finds recording sheets



3 boxes of finds  
1 index of site drawings  
2 sheets of site drawings  
1 sheet of inked drawings  
1 sheet of levels for sections  
2 sheets of levels for plans  
6 photographic index sheets  
2 films of black and white photographic negatives  
3 films of colour photographic transparencies  
1 film of colour photographic negatives  
1 matrix  
1 security copy disc (Harris matrix, database, Project Proposal and this report)  
This report

## 12 The site matrix

