

# Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge

An Archaeological Investigation



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**Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge:  
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## Summary

*An archaeological investigation was undertaken between July and August 2012 during refurbishment works conducted at Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge. Three trenches were excavated at this time, two of which comprised tree-planting pits whilst the third connected the preceding areas in order to allow the instillation of a below-ground hydration system. The earliest deposit to be encountered at the site consisted of a 14<sup>th</sup> century garden-soil layer. During the 15<sup>th</sup> century, this was succeeded by two long-lived, multi-phased ancillary buildings with associated yard surfaces. In Trench 1, the building sequence was terminated during the late 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century when a substantial boundary wall, which demarcated the limit of the contemporary college precinct, was constructed. This wall then itself went out of use during the late 17<sup>th</sup> century when the nearby college chapel was constructed. By the time work on this new building was completed, in 1704, the surrounding ground surface had been substantially raised – thereby sealing the earlier deposits – and the archaeological sequence effectively became 'capped'. In Trench 2, a very similar sequence was encountered. In this location, however, the initial 15<sup>th</sup> century structure appears to have survived in use, with many phases of alteration and rebuilding, until 1966, when Chapel Court itself was constructed.*

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## Introduction

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) undertook excavations on a 248m<sup>2</sup> area of land situated in Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, between the 19<sup>th</sup> of July and the 31<sup>st</sup> of August of May 2012. This followed on from an initial trial-pit evaluation that was conducted at the site on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2011 (Newman 2012). The development area, which is centred on TL 447 582, is located in Chapel Court, on the periphery of the historic core of the college (see Figure 1). Within this area three trenches, covering a combined total of 33m<sup>2</sup> (or c. 50m<sup>3</sup>), were excavated. Two of these – Trenches 1 and 2 – comprised tree-planting pits, whilst the third – Trench 3 – ran between these areas in order to allow the instillation of a below-ground hydration system. The project followed the specification issued by the CAU (Dickens 2012) and approved by Dan McConnell, Development Control Archaeologist at Cambridgeshire County Council's Historic Environment Team. The work was commissioned by David Emond of R H Partnership Architects, on behalf of St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, in advance of extensive redevelopment.

### *Landscape and Geology*

The site is located in the southern half of the historic core of the city of Cambridge, within the boundary of the medieval King's Ditch. Prior to the commencement of the present works, the development area comprised a flagstoned courtyard situated adjacent to the college chapel that contained two trees and a raised planting bed. The ground surface lay at 9.47m OD. Geologically, the site lies on second terrace river gravels overlying Gault clay (British Geological Survey 1976). It is situated upon the fringe of the eastern floodplain of the River Cam. This river rises from springs situated along a northwest-southeast aligned Cretaceous chalk ridge that is located to the southeast of the town. Valley gravels and alluvium cover the valley bottoms, while the surrounding terraces are formed from drift deposits.

### *Methodology*

Modern deposits and overburden, including layers of concrete and tarmac, were broken out and removed by the principal contractor. All archaeological features and deposits were then excavated by hand and recorded using the CAU-modified version of the MoLAS system (Spence 1994); base plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, whilst sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. The photographic archive for this site consists of a series of digital images. Context numbers are indicated within the text by square brackets (e.g. [001]), and feature numbers are denoted by the prefix F. (e.g. F.03); all stratified contexts have been assigned feature numbers. A table of concordance, providing more detailed information on each individual feature, is presented at the end of this report. All work was carried out with strict adherence to Health and Safety legislation, and within the recommendations of SCAUM (Allen & Holt 2002). The sitecode for this project is **SCC 12**, and the event number is **ECB 3801**.

### *Historical and Archaeological Background*

The historical and archaeological background of the development area's environs has been discussed in detail in two previous desktop assessments (Alexander 1996; Dickens 1999). Therefore, only a brief summary of this information is presented here.

In the first instance, only limited evidence of Prehistoric activity has been identified in the vicinity. This is primarily indicative of transhumant usage of the gravel terraces flanking the river Cam. Similarly, limited evidence of Roman occupation is known from the area. Although it is probable that the site lay within the southern agricultural hinterland of the principal settlement on Castle Hill at this time (see further Alexander & Pullinger 2000; Evans & Ten Harkel 2010), the scale and extent of this area is as yet relatively poorly understood. Subsequent evidence for Early Saxon (*c.* 410-700) activity in and around Cambridge primarily comprises material recovered during the 19<sup>th</sup> century from pagan cemeteries on the outskirts of the city (see Dodwell *et al.* 2004; Cessford with Dickens 2005). Very little occupational evidence from this period has yet been identified. Middle to Late Saxon (*c.* 700-900) activity, in contrast, appears to have been primarily refocused upon the Castle Hill area, where a 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> century execution cemetery has recently been investigated (Cessford *et al.* 2007). By the mid 9<sup>th</sup> century it is clear that some form of settlement had been re-established in the area, as this was occupied by the Viking Great Army in 875, and the region was incorporated into the Danelaw from *c.* 886 until its conquest by Edward the Elder in *c.* 917 (Cam 1934, 39; Lobel 1975, 3). But, up until the mid 10<sup>th</sup> century, this settlement remained only an “economically viable backwater” (Hines 1999, 136). Following this date, however, it emerged as a significant urban centre. By the late 10<sup>th</sup> century a mint had been established (Lobel 1975, 3) and the town was being linked to a group of important trading centres including Norwich, Thetford and Ipswich (Fairweather 2005), thereby emphasising the central role played by river trade in its rapid economic growth. Indeed by the beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Cambridge acted as the leading inland port in the county, through which goods and services were disseminated to many of the surrounding regional towns (Cam 1934, 43).

By this time the town was fully established on the eastern side of the river, and was probably already enclosed by an extensive boundary work that later became known as the King’s Ditch. Although the eponymous ‘king’ is usually interpreted as being either John (1167-1216), who repaid the bailiffs of Cambridge the costs of enclosing of the city in 1215, or Henry III (1207-72), who paid for its refortification in 1267 (Cooper 1842-53), a recent radio-carbon determination derived from the basal fill of the ditch at the Grand Arcade site indicates that the boundary was at least partially extant by the late 11<sup>th</sup> or early 12<sup>th</sup> century (Cessford & Dickens *in prep.*). By the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, however, the ditch had largely silted up beyond practical use (Atkinson 1907) – despite numerous edicts having been passed for its cleaning and maintenance – and Cambridge’s role as a dominant port was similarly long since over (Bryan 1999, 97). At this stage the economic wealth of the town was no longer based upon river-borne trade, as it had been throughout the medieval period, but was instead largely centred around the University (first founded in 1209). The expansion of this institution had greatly benefited from royal investment, especially from the 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards (*ibid.*, 94-6), and its growth was also given significant impetus by the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536-40 since many of the disbanded religious houses were subsequently converted into Colleges (*cf.* Willis & Clark 1886). Indeed the influence of these Colleges has been one of the primary factors in shaping the landscape of Cambridge ever since, with the central riverside area (once the heartland of Medieval river trade activity) having been increasingly encroached upon from the 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards (Bryan 1999, 95).

At a more immediate, site-specific scale, the development area is located within the precinct of St. Catharine's College. The history of this particular institution has been covered in depth in a number of published sources (*e.g.* Willis & Clark 1886 II, 69-114; Browne 1902; Jones 1936; Jones 1951; Rich 1973; Edis & Baker 1997) and will not therefore be reiterated in detail here. Initially one of the smallest colleges in the University, St. Catharine's was founded in 1473 by Robert Woodlarke, Provost of King's College (Willis & Clark 1886 II, 70-72). Its historical development has been described as "unusually gradual, and the relations of several of the pieces composing it to each other are extremely obscure" (*ibid.*, 69). This situation has been exacerbated by the fact that little of the original fabric of the medieval college now remains extant. The present buildings primarily date from a major rebuilding campaign that was undertaken in 1673-1704. The three ranges surrounding Main Court, including the college chapel, were all completed at this time; a fourth and final range was also conjectured, but never constructed (*ibid.*, 100). Had it been built, this additional wing would have directly overlain the western half of the development area. Subsequent changes included, in 1743, the rotation of the main frontage of the College by 180°, transferring the primary entrance from Queen's Lane to Trumpington Street. Small-scale modifications and additions then continued to be made throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (*ibid.*, 107-8). Perhaps the most significant addition occurred in 1966, however, when Chapel Court was established immediately to the north of the investigated area. Located on land which had previously belonged to King's College, this development led to the decommissioning of the former medieval route of King's Lane.

## Results

The following section presents the results that were derived from the three excavated areas on a trench-by-trench basis. This is followed by assessment reports of the material culture and faunal remains assemblages. Before commencing, however, it is important to note that the limited depth of the interventions precluded an investigation of the complete archaeological sequence. In Trenches 1 and 2, for example, excavations were halted at a depth of 1.5m below the present ground surface, although 1m by 1m test pits were inserted to an additional depth of 0.5m (Figure 2). Nevertheless, augering in Trench 2 indicated that in this location a further 1.25m of deposits remained unexamined beneath the lowest limit of excavation. It is also probable that a similar depth of material remained unexcavated in Trench 1, but this could not be confirmed due to the presence of substantial rubble deposits which prevented augering. A similar difficulty was again encountered in Trench 3, where excavation was halted 1.2m below the present ground surface.

As a result of the aforementioned augering, natural gravels were determined to lie at 6.17m OD in Trench 2 (although this is unlikely to represent their original, untruncated height). By way of contrast, during previous excavations undertaken at sites in the near vicinity natural gravels have been recorded as lying at 7.53 to 7.65m OD at Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi (Cessford 2005), 7.9m OD at No. 7 St. Edward's Passage (Mortimer 1995), 8.2m OD in Bene't Court (Edwards 1996a), 7.15 to 7.3m OD on Free School Lane (Hunter 1991), 7.7m OD in the northern part of King's Parade opposite St. Mary's Street (Alexander 1998), 7.8 to 8.1m OD at 13 to 22 King's Parade (Hall & Brudenell 2003) and 8.05m OD in the Master's Garden of Corpus Christi College (Edwards 1996b). This pattern indicates that St. Catharine's

College, which lies a little way to the west of the aforementioned sites, is situated somewhat lower down the alluvial floodplain of the river Cam. Additional stratigraphic context is also provided by the results of small-scale works undertaken earlier in the 20<sup>th</sup> century a little way to the north of the present site, in the vicinity of the former King's Lane. Here, investigations undertaken in 1908 (Hughes 1908), along with a borehole survey conducted in 1964 (Anon. 1964), indicated that around three metres of deposits overlay the natural gravels. This is entirely consistent with the 3.25m deep sequence identified in Trench 2.

### *Trench 1*

This trench measured 4.22m by 3.88m in extent and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.0m. It was situated in relatively close proximity to the extant college chapel (Figures 3 and 4). Here, four successive phases of a 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century timber-built structure were identified, along with an associated yard surface and several pits. Subsequently, at some time during the late 16<sup>th</sup> or mid 17<sup>th</sup> century, this building was replaced by a substantial boundary wall that demarcated the limit of the contemporary college precinct. This wall then itself went out of use during the late 17<sup>th</sup> century when the nearby chapel was constructed. By the time work on the new building was completed, in 1704, the surrounding ground surface had been substantially raised – thereby sealing the earlier deposits – and the archaeological sequence effectively became ‘capped’.

The earliest deposit to be encountered in this trench comprised probable garden-soil layer **F.124**. This contained material culture of 14<sup>th</sup> century date. The presence of such a deposit suggests that the area is most likely to have comprised an open space at this time. But, during the early 15<sup>th</sup> century, the use of this part of the site appears to have changed. During this period two adjacent layers, **F.123** to the north and **F.125** to the south, were deposited. The former comprised a probable levelling deposit, while the latter – which was composed of bands of densely compacted yellowish orange gravel – consisted of a well-laid (and frequently repaired) external yard surface. Subsequently, somewhat later in the same century, pit **F.110** was inserted to the north of the probable yard area. This feature was then in turn rapidly overlain by compacted off-white clay layer **F.122**. The latter deposit, which was also 15<sup>th</sup> century in date, appears to have comprised an internal floor surface that was associated with a relatively ephemeral structure. Indeed, the building does not appear to have been very long-lived in this form as it was soon truncated by large pit **F.109**. At around the same time, a second pit – **F.111** – was also inserted into the adjacent yard area. Nevertheless, later in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the building was re-established. In its new form – which directly overlay the remains of its predecessor – the structure was represented by north-south aligned beamslot **F.108** and floor layer **F.121**. Externally, the former yard surface was also reinstated (as **F.126**). But this phase of the building was again relatively short-lived, as later in the 15<sup>th</sup> century it was succeeded by demolition/levelling horizon **F.120**. A third structural phase was then established. This was represented by unmortared clunch-built beam-pad/foundation **F.107**, along with make-up/floor layers **F.118** and **F.119**. In contrast to the structure's preceding two phases, therefore – during which its constituent timbers had been earth-fast, and therefore liable to relatively rapid decomposition – this third incarnation of the building appears to have been relatively well-constructed. Yet it too soon went out of use, and was succeeded by demolition/levelling horizon **F.117**. Eventually, during the



early 16<sup>th</sup> century, a fourth and final phase of the building was constructed. This was represented by north-south and east-west aligned beamslots **F.105** and **F.106**, and banded clay and gravel floor layers **F.103** and **F.116**.

The prolonged phase of intensive structural activity in this trench came to an end at some time between the late 16<sup>th</sup> and the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century. At this time, the preceding timber building was replaced by well-constructed brick- and masonry-built boundary wall **F.104**. A substantial feature, this wall had a distinctively well-dressed and pointed face to the south and a rough and irregular face to the north. Furthermore, a disparity of 0.24m was evident in the contemporary ground-level on the two sides, further reinforcing the distinction between ‘inside’ and ‘outside’ the boundary. Carefully constructed, with a 1.25m+ wide mortared brick and clunch rubble footing, **F.104** demonstrated a marked bend in its alignment partway along its length. At this point, well-dressed limestone blocks had been employed in its southern façade in order to maintain a smooth and regular face. Sometime after the construction of **F.104**, shallow robber cut **F.102** was introduced to its north while, to its south, layers **F.115** were deposited. These latter features may have been associated with the active usage of the wall or, alternatively, they may represent the initial stages of its decommissioning. This is because, in the late 17<sup>th</sup> or very beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the boundary wall was partially dismantled and substantial made-ground layer **F.127** was introduced above and around its remains. This deposit appears to have been directly associated with the construction of the adjacent college chapel, and was inserted at a time of major structural alteration across the entire college precinct (Willis & Clark 1886 II, 100). The layer raised the surrounding ground-level by 0.62m, thereby effectively sealing the preceding archaeological sequence. It is probable that following its introduction the area almost immediately became an enclosed courtyard, within which few if any additional activities were undertaken. Indeed, the only post-chapel features to have been identified in this trench comprised a series of intercutting 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century services and a 1960s flagstoned surface (these elements were collectively numbered as **F.101**). The area remains an enclosed courtyard to this day.

### *Trench 2*

This trench measured 4.07m by 3.11m in extent and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2.0m. It was situated approximately six metres to the east of Trench 1 (Figures 5 and 6). Here a second, near-contemporary building sequence was encountered which bore many similarities to that previously identified in Trench 1. In this particular location, an initial 15<sup>th</sup> century post- and beam-built structure was replaced by a timber-framed building with a stone-built sill wall by the end of that century. But, unlike in Trench 1, this building then appears to have remained in use – with numerous phases of alteration and rebuilding – until the 1960s. During the earlier phases of its existence a number of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century pits, along with a metallised yard surface, were also associated with the structure whilst, nearby, a second 16<sup>th</sup> century building also appears to have been present. Nevertheless, at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century much of the area became sealed by the same ground-raising event that was previously identified in Trench 1.

The earliest deposit to be encountered in this trench comprised probable garden soil layer **F.223**. This was almost identical in terms of both its form and composition to

layer **F.124** in Trench 1, and appears likely to have formed part of the same extensive 14<sup>th</sup> century deposit. In addition, a major change in land use also appears to have occurred in Trench 2 during the early 15<sup>th</sup> century, further reinforcing the similarity between the two areas. At this time a simple timber-built structure was established, whose footprint covered the majority of the trench. In its initial form, this structure was represented by east-west aligned beam-pad **F.219** and associated postholes **F.217** and **F.218**. This early incarnation of the building was relatively short-lived, however, as it was soon overlain by demolition/levelling deposit **F.222**. The latter layer was then in turn truncated by large 15<sup>th</sup> century pit **F.216**, which contained numerous banded fills and tip deposits (Figure 6). Subsequently, during the late 15<sup>th</sup> century, the building was re-established slightly to the west of its original location by well-built mortared clunch sill wall **F.214**. The scale and quality of this foundation indicates that it supported a relatively substantial timber-framed structure, although – as in Trench 1 – it was nevertheless still most probably ancillary in nature. Externally, small pit **F.215** was inserted at around the same time that the structure was rebuilt. Then, during the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, a series of layers – **F.221** – were deposited against outside of building, overlying the earlier feature. Amongst the associated levelling and make-up deposits was a layer composed almost entirely of metalworking debris, which is likely to have been derived from a nearby secondary blacksmithing workshop. Surmounting this latter material was a metalled yard surface. Later in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a series of rubbish pits – including **F.203**, **F.204**, **F.205**, **F.206**, **F.207**, **F.209**, and **F.210** – were inserted into the open space. These features varied in length between 0.42m+ to 1.90m+, in width between 0.28m+ to 1.62m+ and in depth between 0.34m to 0.73m. Generally, however, they averaged around 0.75m in diameter and 0.45m in depth, and contained moderate quantities of domestic refuse and metalworking debris. The principal exception to this pattern comprised **F.203**. This feature was much larger than the rest, and traces of decayed organic material situated against its vertical sides indicate that it was originally revetted with timber.

A second clunch footing – **F.211**, the stratigraphic position of which indicates that it was probably 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century in date – partially projected from the southern section of Trench 2. Although not as substantial as **F.214**, this additional foundation appears to have formed part of a very similar ancillary structure. Furthermore, the new building also abutted the same yard area as its older neighbour. Within the open space itself, refuse pits – including **F.202** and **F.201** – continued to be inserted during the early 1600s. By the close of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, however, the area became sealed beneath extensive made-ground deposit **F.220**. This almost certainly comprised a direct continuation of contemporary layer **F.127** that was previously identified in Trench 1, and its presence therefore marks the transition from domestic to collegiate occupation at the site. Following this layer's introduction, the ground height in Trench 2 rose by *c.* 0.6m. The smaller and more recent of the two ancillary buildings was abandoned at this time, and its remains were buried beneath the make-up material. Similarly, the adjacent yard area also became entirely submerged. But, significantly, the earlier and more substantial ancillary building appears to have remained in use, albeit most probably in an altered or modified form. This continuation is indicated by the addition of brick-built foundation **F.213** to the structure at some time in the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century. Composed of hand-made red bricks bonded with dense off-white lime mortar, this footing marks a major rebuilding episode. Subsequently, in the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century, a third footing – **F.212** – was also introduced. This latter foundation was composed of unfrosted pinkish yellow bricks bonded with coarse

yellowish-brown sandy mortar. The building finally appears to have gone out of use in the 1960s, when Chapel Court itself was constructed. Its remains were then overlain by a layer of concrete which acted as bedding for flagstoned courtyard **F.200**, and a number of services associated with the college's new buildings were also introduced.

### *Trench 3*

This trench connected Trench 1 to Trench 2. It measured 5.78m long by a maximum of 0.84m wide and was excavated to a depth of 1.2m (Figure 5). A portion of its length, situated at the eastern end and measuring 1.98m in length, was moled beneath existing services and could not therefore be effectively monitored. Although excavations in Trench 3 were undertaken on a much more limited scale than in Trenches 1 and 2 – and encountered an even more significant degree of modern truncation – the investigation nevertheless succeeded in identifying the vestiges of a fourth potential ancillary building, as well as the probable western return of foundation **F.214** from Trench 2.

The earliest deposit to be identified in Trench 3 comprised undated off-white dense clay layer **F.128**. This material most probably comprised the remnant of an internal floor surface, but its precise nature could not be determined due to the restricted size of the intervention. It was subsequently truncated by the insertion of pit **F.114**, which was then in turn overlain by banded layers **F.112**. The latter deposits consisted of a sequence of ten well-stratified layers that commenced with two probable make-up deposits that were succeeded by a second off-white clay surface. This material was then overlain in turn by an additional make-up layer that comprised the foundation for a series of six successive gravel surfaces. Taken as a whole, therefore, this sequence suggests that the initial putative structure was re-established following the insertion of pit **F.114** but was later succeeded by a relatively well-maintained external surface or pathway. Unfortunately, due to the extent of later truncation, these deposits only survived in section and no datable material culture was recovered. Furthermore, as a result of their limited exposure it is very difficult to determine their relationship to the more extensive sequences that were previously identified in Trenches 1 and 2, although it appears likely that they were closely contemporary. In addition to these deposits, the very partial remains of two separate clunch-built footings were also identified. The first, **F.129**, was oriented east-west while the second, **F.113**, was oriented north south (Figure 5). Later truncation once again rendered any relationship between either the foundations themselves, or the aforementioned sequence of deposits, indiscernible. Based primarily upon their orientations, however, it appears most likely that the former was associated with the newly identified structure, whereas the latter may well have comprised the return of foundation **F.214** from Trench 2.

### **Material Culture and Economic Data**

A moderately-sized finds assemblage – composed of 1192 items, weighing 25.4kg – was recovered (this includes the small quantity of material that was recovered during the initial test pit evaluation). The assemblage has been subdivided into two sections; the first comprises the *material culture* (which includes metalwork, pottery, glass, clay tobacco pipe, worked stone, moulded stone, ceramic building materials and metalworking debris), and the second the *economic material* (which includes faunal remains).

## Part I: Material Culture

### *Metalwork* (Richard Newman)

A relatively small metalwork assemblage – comprising 37 items, weighing 659g – was recovered. In the first instance, two copper alloy items, weighing 17g, were identified. These both comprised undiagnostic sheet fragments:

**F.203, [2022]:** A corroded plate fragment. It measures 35mm+ long by 31mm+ wide, and weighs 7g.

**F.207, [2026]:** A corroded plate fragment. It measures 34mm+ long by 28mm+ wide, and weighs 7g.

In addition, 35 iron items, weighing 642g, were also recovered. These predominately consisted of heavily corroded nails, although seven blade fragments, a staple and a bar/tool were also identified. The most significant of these artefacts comprised:

**F.120, [1019]:** A corroded blade fragment. It measures 44mm+ long by 15mm wide, and weighs 7g.

**F.203, [2022]:** A corroded bar fragment, possibly derived from a tool. It measures 145mm+ long by 24mm wide and 11mm thick, and weighs 130g.

**F.204, [2015]:** Two conjoining knife fragments, which together formed an almost complete blade with a narrow tang. In combination, they measures 124mm+ long by 23mm wide, and weighs 46g.

**F.209, [2029]:** A corroded blade fragment. It measures 62mm+ long by 20mm wide, and weighs 16g.

**F.215, [2038]:** A corroded 'U'-shaped staple. It measures 45mm+ long by 34mm wide, and weighs 31g.

**F.221, [2033]:** Two conjoining blade fragments. In combination, they measures 109mm+ long by 20mm wide, and weighs 36g. **[2034]:** A corroded blade fragment. It measures 52mm+ long by 18mm wide, and weighs 14g.

Although well-stratified, no particular element of this metalwork assemblage is of inherent interest and no further work is required.

### *Pottery* (David Hall & Richard Newman)

A moderately-sized ceramic assemblage, comprising 409 sherds weighing 5979g, was recovered. This material can be subdivided into three principal periods (Table 1).

Period	Fabric	Count	Weight (g)	MSW (g)
<i>Roman</i>	Undiagnostic Greyware	2	25	12.5
<i>Medieval</i>	Coarsewares	157	2197	14
	Essex Greyware	1	7	7
	Essex Redware	26	244	9.4
	Pink Shelly ware	1	38	38
	Surrey Borders	18	75	4.2
	Sgrafito ware	3	33	11
	St Neots-type	1	15	15
<i>Post-Medieval</i>	English Stoneware	2	27	13.5
	Frechen Stoneware	7	170	24.3
	Glazed Red Earthenware	81	1592	19.7
	Iron-glaze	18	208	11.5
	Plainwares	77	1207	15.7
	Raeren Stoneware	4	48	12
	Staffordshire-type Earthenware	11	93	8.4
		<b>409</b>	<b>5979</b>	<b>14.6</b>

**Table 1:** Ceramic assemblage by fabric

Firstly, a small quantity of Roman pottery – consisting of 2 sherds, weighing 25g – was present. This accounts for only 0.5% of the total assemblage by count and 0.4% by weight. Furthermore, both sherds comprised undiagnostic greywares that could not be closely dated, and both occurred residually within later medieval features. The most significant group of material, in contrast, was medieval in date (207 sherds, weighing 3320g). This accounts for 50.6% of the total assemblage by count and 55.5% by weight. As is typical of assemblages of this period, the group is dominated by coarsewares (157 sherds, weighing 2197g). These consisted of sherds with brown, buff, grey and

pink fabrics, the majority of which were most probably manufactured locally. A smaller quantity of contemporary finewares – including Surrey Borders ware, Essex Red and Greywares and Sgraffito ware – were also identified. The majority of these sherds are likely to be 15<sup>th</sup> century in date. A small quantity of earlier medieval wares – St Neots-type ware, which is 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century in date, and pink shellyware, which is 13<sup>th</sup> century in date – were also present within garden-soil **F.124**.

The third period to be represented at the site was post-medieval in date (200 sherds, weighing 2634g). This material accounts for 48.9% of the total assemblage by count and 44.1% by weight. The post-medieval fabrics were dominated by Glazed Red Earthenware – much of which is likely to have been manufactured at Ely (*cf.* Cessford *et al.* 2006) – and plainwares (which comprise a later development of the medieval coarsewares, and are again likely to have originated from Ely). Small quantities of German stoneware imported from Frechen and Raeren were also present, along with a few sherds of English stoneware, iron-glazed material and Staffordshire-type earthenware. The composition of this group is typical of post-medieval assemblages that have previously been recovered from Cambridge (see further Edwards & Hall 1997). Significantly, no post-medieval material definitively post-dating the late 17<sup>th</sup> century was identified. This supports the wider interpretation that the site was effectively ‘capped’ when the adjacent college chapel was completed in 1704.

#### *Clay Tobacco Pipe (Craig Cessford)*

Three clay tobacco pipe bowls/bowl fragments, weighing 112g, were recovered. In general, the presence of clay tobacco pipe fragments in a context indicates a date between the late 16<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (*c.* 1580-1910). Bowls, however, can often be more closely dated via comparison to Oswald’s simplified general typology (1975). In this particular instance, two of the bowls were recovered from modern service trench **F.101**. The first of these conforms to Oswald’s type 5, which dates to *c.* 1640-60. Although undecorated, this example has an unusual ‘shield-shaped’ heel, which indicates that it was not of local manufacture but was most probably imported from London. The second example conforms to Oswald’s type 9, which dates to *c.* 1680-1710. The third example was recovered from an unstratified context in Trench 1, and was too fragmentary to provide a full identification. It can only be dated to 1640+.

#### *Glass (Richard Newman)*

Twelve fragments of flat sheet soda and potash glass, weighing 8g, were recovered. These shards, each of which had a greenish tinge, are most likely to have comprised window glass. No evidence of decoration was present. Contextually, nine shards, weighing 3g, were recovered from **F.203** and three shards, weighing 5g, were recovered from **F.207**. Both features are 16<sup>th</sup> century in date.

#### *Worked Stone (Richard Newman)*

Three worked stone artefacts, weighing 644g, were recovered. This group includes two whetstones and a probable grindstone or palette. They comprise:

**F.101, [1001]:** Part of a well-worked block of fine-grained, quartz-rich sandstone. This has been shaped into a circular, drum-like object with a dished upper surface that has been heavily rubbed and abraded. The fragment measures 100mm by 72mm by 43mm, and weighs 391g. It was most probably derived from a fine grindstone or palette, which was perhaps used as a more delicate alternative to a mortar.

**F.103, [1007]:** A rectangular-sectioned whetstone fragment, which is composed of neatly-worked pale brown quartz schist. It measures 92mm+ long, 36mm wide and 25mm thick, and weighs 185g.

**F.110, [1035]:** A square-sectioned whetstone fragment, which is composed of well-worn grey quartz schist. It measures 131mm+ long, 15mm wide and 12mm thick, and weighs 68g.

#### *Moulded Stone (Richard Newman)*

Two moulded stone fragments, weighing 6566g, were recovered. They each consist of dressed oolitic Barnack limestone blocks, but both are heavily abraded and fragmented. Neither was found *in situ*, and their significance is therefore limited. They comprise:

**F.101, [1001]:** A fragment of a column section. This would originally have measured *c.* 280mm in diameter, although it is unclear whether it was initially circular (and thus free-standing) or semi-circular in form. It weighs 4700g, and is most probably medieval in origin. A more precise date cannot be established due to the extent of later damage/abrasion.

**F.214, [2009]:** A section of a pilaster, or large roll moulding without fillet, which has been separated from a larger block, possibly during demolition. It originally comprised part of a window or door frame. Due to the extent of its truncation the date of this fragment is unclear, although it is again most likely to be medieval in origin. The pilaster measures 94mm in diameter, and the fragment as a whole weighs 1866g.

#### *Ceramic Building Materials (Richard Newman)*

A total of 17 tile fragments, weighing 2416g, were recovered. The most significant element of the assemblage comprised a near-complete unglazed coxcomb ridge tile. This consisted of two conjoining fragments that were recovered from adjacent 16<sup>th</sup> century pits [2019], **F.206** and [2026], **F.207**. Overall, it measures 372mm long and was originally a minimum of 140mm+ wide; it weighs 1505g. Along its central ridge the tile has seven pyramidal crenulations, each of which was stabbed from below to aid in its firing. It was most probably manufactured at Ely, and is late medieval in date. In addition, fragments of three further glazed roof tile fragments were recovered:

**F.203, [2021]:** A roof tile fragment with a coarse fabric and dark green glaze. No crenulations are present. It measures 64mm+ long, 57mm+ wide and 11mm thick, and weighs 61g. It is medieval in date.

**F.221, [2036]:** A roof tile fragment with a coarse fabric and mid to dark green glaze. No crenulations are present. It measures 44mm+ long, 36mm+ wide and 10mm thick, and weighs 19g. It is medieval in date.

**[2000]:** A roof tile fragment with a coarse fabric and mid to pale green glaze. No crenulations are present. It measures 95mm+ long, 82mm+ wide and 9mm thick, and weighs 123g. It is medieval in date.

In addition, three glazed floor tile fragments were also present:

**F.206, [2019]:** Two floor tile fragments, both with fine red fabrics. The first had a dark brown glaze, and measures 96mm+ long, 81mm+ wide and 30mm thick; it weighs 225g. The second had a pale yellowish green glaze, and measures 41mm+ long, 32mm+ wide and 32mm thick; it weighs 63g. They were recovered from a 16<sup>th</sup> century context.

**F.216, [2040]:** A floor tile fragment with a fine red fabric and pale yellowish green glaze. It measures 112mm+ long, 80mm+ wide and 31mm thick, and weighs 375g. It was recovered from a 15<sup>th</sup> century context.

#### *Metalworking Debris (Richard Newman)*

A moderately-sized assemblage of total of metalworking debris, totalling 33 fragments weighing 2086g, was recovered. This material was widely distributed across Trenches 1 and 2, within a variety of features dating to both the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries (Table 2). Such a dispersed pattern of distribution indicates that a sustained period of metalworking activity was probably undertaken in relatively close proximity to the investigated areas during this time.

Trench	Feature	Context	Date	Count	Weight (g)
1	109	1044	15 <sup>th</sup> century	6	380
	109	1045	15 <sup>th</sup> century	1	23
	125	1037	15 <sup>th</sup> century	1	434
2	202	2013	17 <sup>th</sup> century	4	363
	203	2022	16 <sup>th</sup> century	12	105
	207	2026	16 <sup>th</sup> century	1	68
	210	2028	16 <sup>th</sup> century	4	365
	215	2038	15 <sup>th</sup> century	1	30
	/	2000	Unstratified	3	318
				<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>

**Table 2:** Metalworking debris by feature

The assemblage as a whole is typical of the by-products produced by secondary iron smithing. A minimum of three hearth bases/proto-hearth bases are present, for example. These are formed by the fusing and melting of slag that has reacted with sand, fuel ash, fired clay refractories and the

clay lining of a hearth itself. The remainder of the material appears to be comprised of fuel slag, which is formed when alkali fuel ash comes into contact with silica. Notably, very similar – although somewhat larger – assemblages of contemporary secondary smelting waste have previously been identified at the St. John’s Triangle and Old Divinity School sites (Newman 2008, 40-41; Cessford 2012, 77). Here, the slag was directly associated with three near-contemporary metalworking workshops, and it appears quite likely that a similar structure may have been located in relatively close proximity to the present site during the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## Part II: Economic Data

### *Faunal Remains* (Vida Rajkovača)

A relatively small, well-preserved and rather varied animal bone assemblage was recovered from the excavations at St. Catherine’s College. The overwhelming majority of its 435 assessable specimens, of a total weight of 7045g, came from contexts dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, allowing for the entire assemblage to be quantified and considered as one. The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Most, but not all, caprine bones are difficult to identify to species however, it was possible to identify a selective set of elements as sheep or goat from the assemblage, using the criteria of Boessneck (1969) and Halstead (Halstead *et al.* 2002). Ageing of the assemblage employed both mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982; Payne 1973) and fusion of proximal and distal epiphyses (Silver 1969). Sexing was only undertaken for pig canines, based on the bases of their size, shape and root morphology (Schmid 1972, 80).

Taxon	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	43	21.4	2
Sheep/goat	87	43.3	7
Sheep	8	4	1
Goat	2	1	1
Pig	27	13.4	2
Rabbit	6	3	1
Dog	3	1.5	1
Dog/fox	2	1	1
Cat	5	2.5	1
Domestic goose	7	3.4	1
Chicken	4	2	1
Crane	1	0.5	1
<i>Galliformes</i>	3	1.5	1
? <i>Wood pigeon</i>	1	0.5	1
? <i>Mallard</i>	1	0.5	1
? <i>Teal</i>	1	0.5	1
<b>Sub-total to family, order or species</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>100</b>	.
Cattle-sized	87	.	.
Sheep-sized	114	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	1	.	.
Bird n.f.i.	21	.	.
Fish n.f.i.	11	.	.
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>435</b>	.	.

**Table 3:** Number of Identified Specimens and Minimum Number of Individuals for all species; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified

Just over ten percent of the bone was recorded with surface erosion and weathering, and only four specimens as burnt. Gnawing was noted on 2.5%, an indication of a quick deposition of bone waste. Butchery marks were noted on 70 specimens, a figure which corresponds to 16% of the entire assemblage; in large characterised by the removal of horn cores from sheep skulls and vertebrae being chopped down the sagittal plane to separate carcasses into left and right portions. In addition to this, ribs were commonly cut to pot-sizes and fine knife marks were noted on sheep scapulae implying meat removal. Three main food species dominated the assemblage (Table 3), with sheep/ goat accounting for just under half of the identified species count with the combined MNI of nine animals on site. Despite the heavy reliance on domestic food supplies, a small number of bird specimens, tentatively identified to species level, does suggest, perhaps unsurprisingly, that wild fauna was also eaten. Fish were not assigned to species at this preliminary stage, although we could confidently state that cod is present in the assemblage.

Skeletal element count showed all parts of beef, mutton and pork carcasses were present on site. Based on a number of what appeared to be foetal or neonate cow and pig remains, it is clear that animals had been raised either nearby or even on site. Neonate cattle remains could also be an indication of the consumption of veal in the Post-Medieval period. Many of the new findings presented here practically replicate patterns recorded in comparable, albeit more substantial, assemblages from the immediate vicinity, especially that from the Hostel Yard excavations at Corpus Christi (Cessford 2005). The only level at which these two assemblages are not comparable is their size, with all other aspects being almost identical: sheep outnumbered cattle, poultry seemed to have played major part in their diet and fish remains were present throughout. In addition to this, the remainder of the species range recorded from St. Catherine's college mirrors that identified from Corpus Christi with duck, pigeon and crane all present in both assemblages. Rabbits were also well represented, perhaps due to the increase in their availability in the Post-Medieval period. The similarity extended into the butchery patterns, mainly dominated by the practice of splitting carcasses in half by chopping vertebrae along the dorso-ventral axis. Finally, as in the Hostel Yard faunal record, the assemblage did not offer a clear-cut picture with regards to status: the presence of crane may be taken as an indication of the site's high status, although the complete absence of deer would appear to disprove this notion.

## Discussion

As the above results attest, the earliest context to be encountered during the present investigation was 14<sup>th</sup> century in date (garden-soil **F.124 = F.223**). Beneath the lowest limit of excavation at the site, however, a minimum of one metre of *in situ* archaeological strata remained extant. Based upon comparisons made with the complete sequences recovered from other nearby sites, this remainder appears likely to comprise up to three centuries of additional material. At Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi College, for example – which represents much the most significant excavation to have previously been undertaken in the vicinity – settlement activity was found to have commenced during the 11<sup>th</sup> or early 12<sup>th</sup> century (Cessford 2004, 6). Highly comparable Saxo-Norman features were also encountered during the investigations conducted at No. 7 St. Edward's Passage (Mortimer 1995), Bene't Court (Edwards 1996a), the Master's Garden of Corpus Christi College (Edwards 1996b) and at the Fitzwilliam Museum (Whittaker 2001b). In the wider vicinity, the presence of a number of pre-Conquest churches has been cited as evidence that the route of Trumpington Street/Kings Parade itself was most probably established at some time during the first half of the 11<sup>th</sup> century (Addyman & Biddle 1965, 99; Haslam 1984, 21). Thus, by the close of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, it is clear that this southern part of Cambridge had already witnessed a relatively long history of domestic occupation. Unfortunately, the limited depth of the trenches at St. Catharine's College precluded any investigation of this early portion of the site's occupational history.



It is only during the 15<sup>th</sup> century that the archaeological sequence at Chapel Court begins to resolve into more detailed focus. By this date, at least two – and potentially upwards of four – ancillary buildings had been established within the investigated area. Also lying both around and between these structures were at least two associated yard areas with well-maintained metalled surfaces. The range of construction techniques that were employed within these buildings, and the rapidity with which certain of the structures were re-built, are typical of structures of this date that have previously been encountered all across Cambridge. Although a general pattern of progression – extending from the use of earth-fast posts in the Saxo-Norman period to the introduction of stone-built sill walls in the 15<sup>th</sup> century – has been identified, in many instances it appears that the construction technique used simply represented the most suitable type, selected from a known repertoire, to solve the specific problem that was encountered (Newman 2007, 64). Similarly, the precise usages to which these buildings were put are also somewhat unclear. Although they all appear too small and densely clustered to have been domestic in nature – a detail reinforced by their positioning at some distance from the principal street frontage – little if any material culture was found in direct association with the buildings themselves. A moderately-sized quantity of metalworking debris was recovered from a number of contemporary features, however, thereby implying a possible link with on-site craft-based activities. Notably, a very similar pattern has previously been identified at both the Hostel Yard (Cessford 2004) and 52-54 Trumpington Street (Whittaker 2001a) sites.

Historically, the development area predominately lay within a narrow property plot that was sandwiched between two substantial inns (Willis & Clark 1886 II, plan 16). To the north was situated the Bull Inn, while to the south lay the George Inn. Both of these hostelries had already been in operation for several centuries when their sites were acquired by St. Catharine's College in 1636 and 1637 respectively (*ibid.*, 76-7). It is of particular interest to note that, following the purchase of the George Inn, its boundary became the new official limit of the college precinct (*ibid.*, plan 16) as this event provides perhaps the most likely context for the construction of boundary wall **F.104** in Trench 1. Although little is known of the history of the central property itself, the site in general was depicted in a series of historic cartographic sources (see Baggs & Bryan 2002). The earliest known reliable map of the area was published by John Hammond in 1592 (Figure 7A). His depiction reveals that a number of buildings of varying sizes were present at this time, although it is not clear whether small ancillary structures such as those encountered during the recent excavation would necessarily have been included on such a plan. The buildings were shown by him as clustering to the east of a relatively formal walled garden. By the time of David Loggan's plan of 1688, however (Figure 7B), the majority of these latter structures had been demolished and work upon the new college buildings had commenced. Significantly, Loggan's drawing also includes the conjectured – but never actually constructed – fourth range of the new college quadrangle. The extensive changes that were undertaken at his time obliterated much of the preceding sequence of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century activity within the development area. Finally, William Custance's map of 1798 (Figure 7C) shows the college well on its way to its modern, recognisable form. A significant number of buildings have been cleared from the Trumpington Street frontage by this date, for example, in order to provide a more picturesque view of St. Catharine's for visitors. The next major change was to occur in 1966, when Chapel Court itself was established.

### *Acknowledgements*

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- 1 Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi
- 2 Free School Lane
- 3 Corpus Christi Master's Garden
- 4 52-54 Trumpington Street

Figure 1. Site location and previous CAU investigations



Figure 2. Trench 1(top) and Trench 2 (below), both facing East.

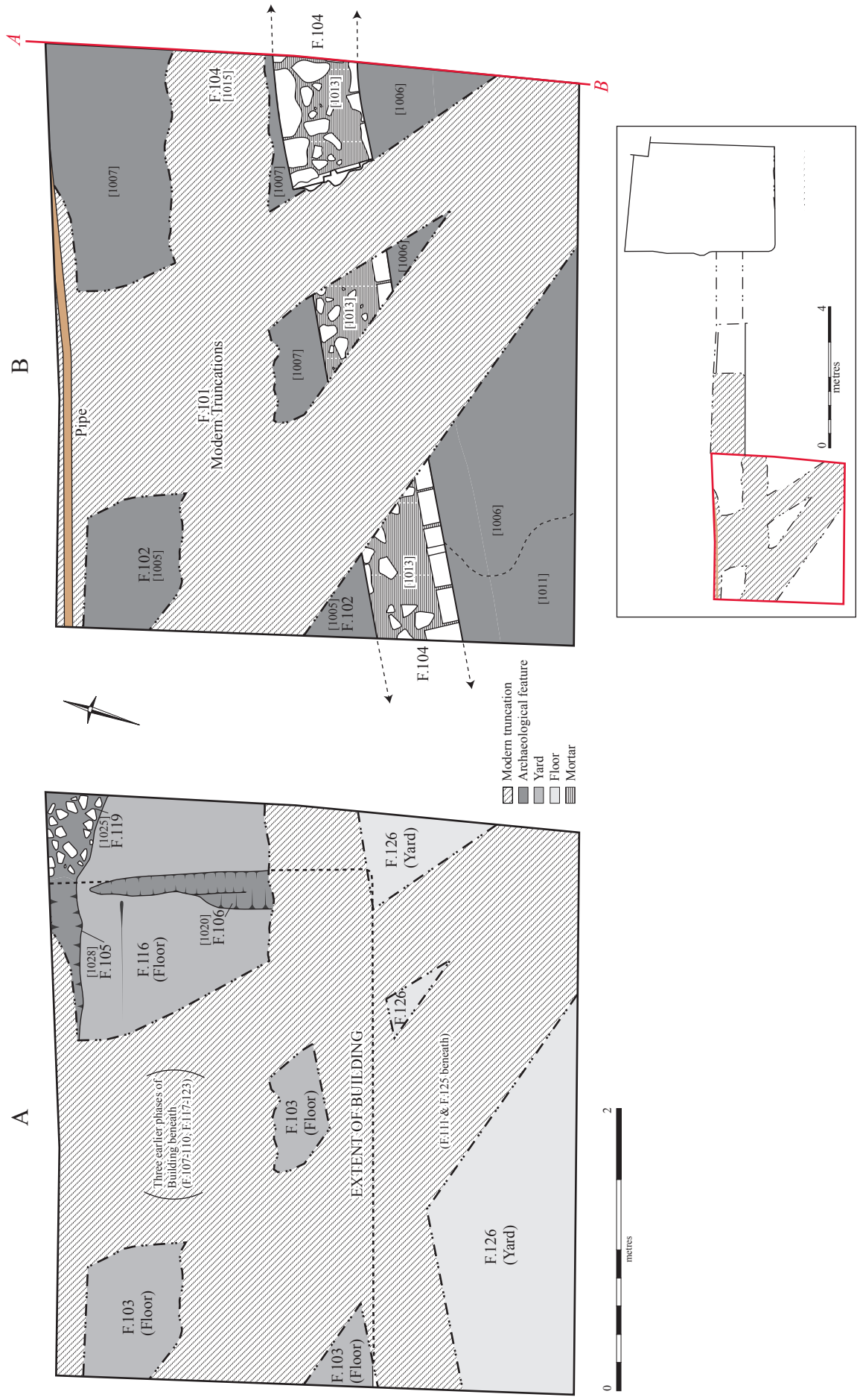


Figure 3. Early (A) and late (B) phase plans of Trench I



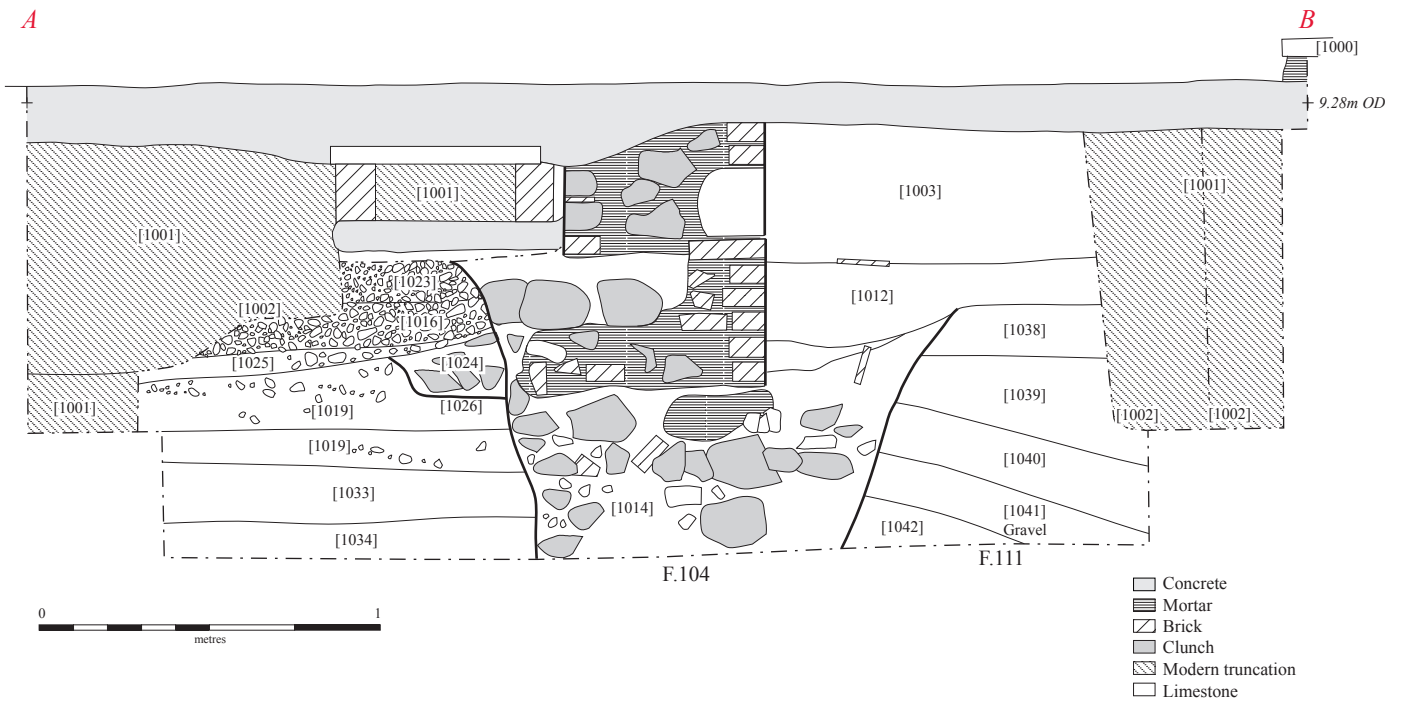


Figure 4. West facing section of Trench 1

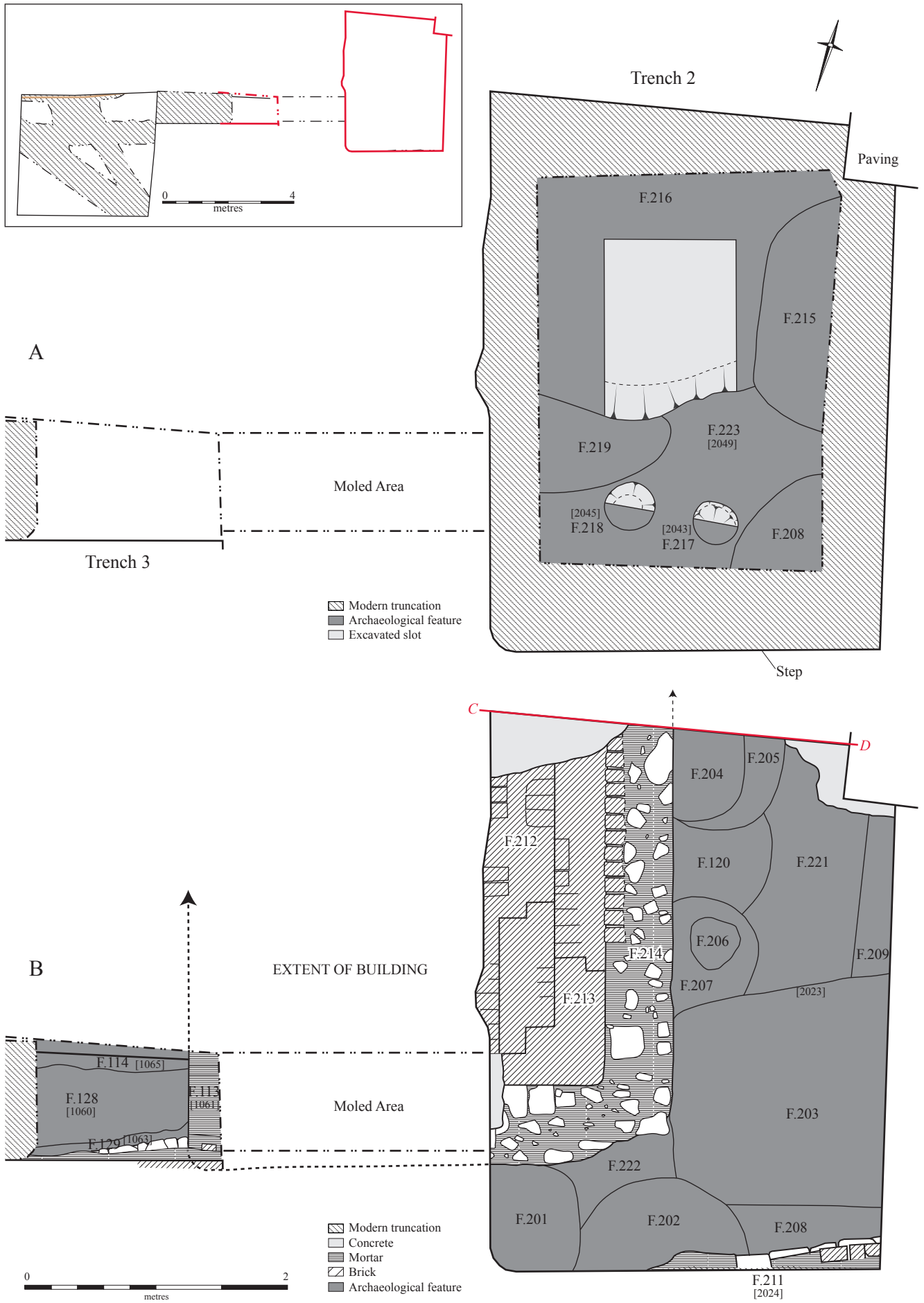


Figure 5. Early (A) and late (B) phase plans of Trenches 2 and 3

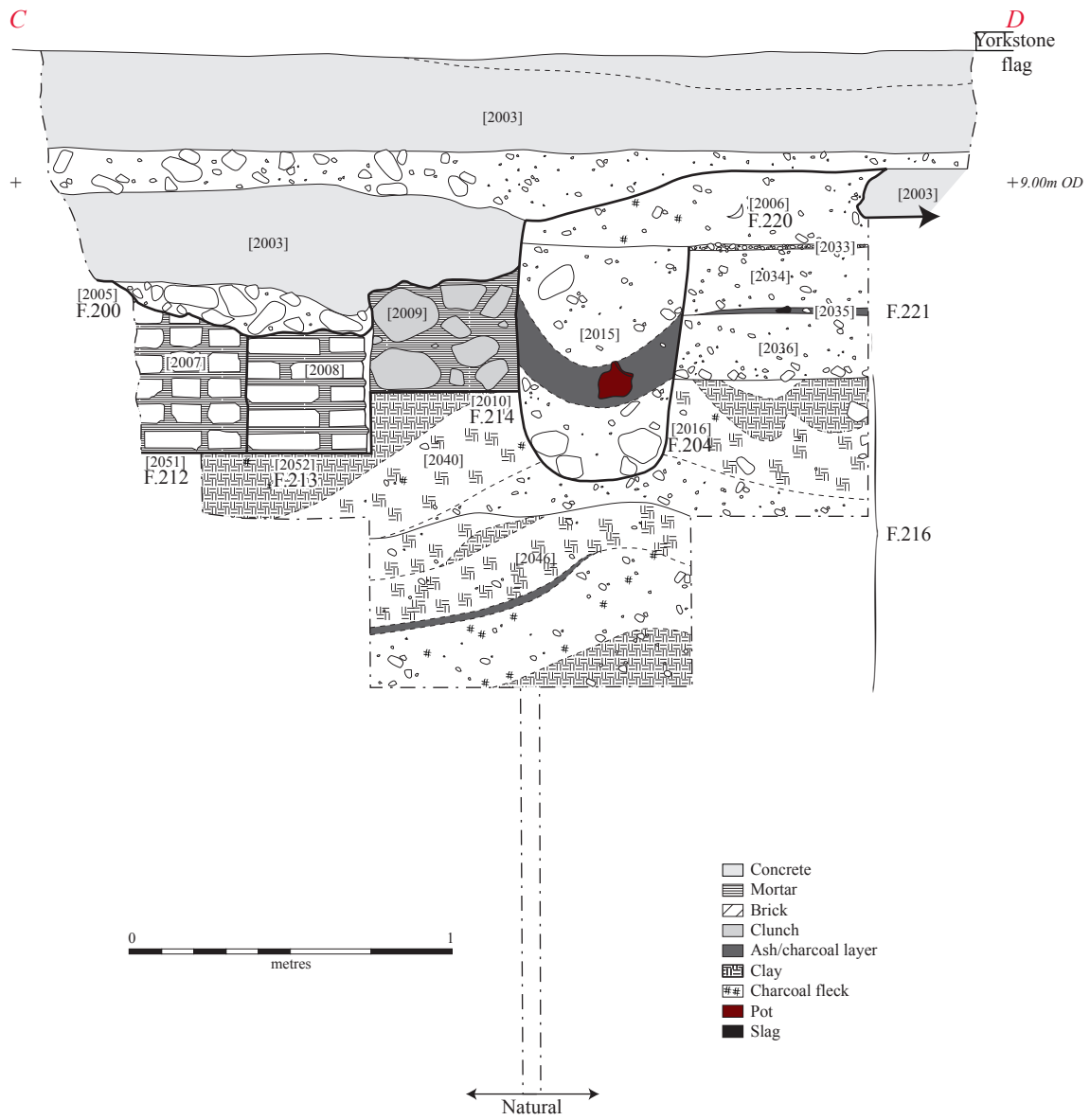


Figure 6. South facing section of Trench 2

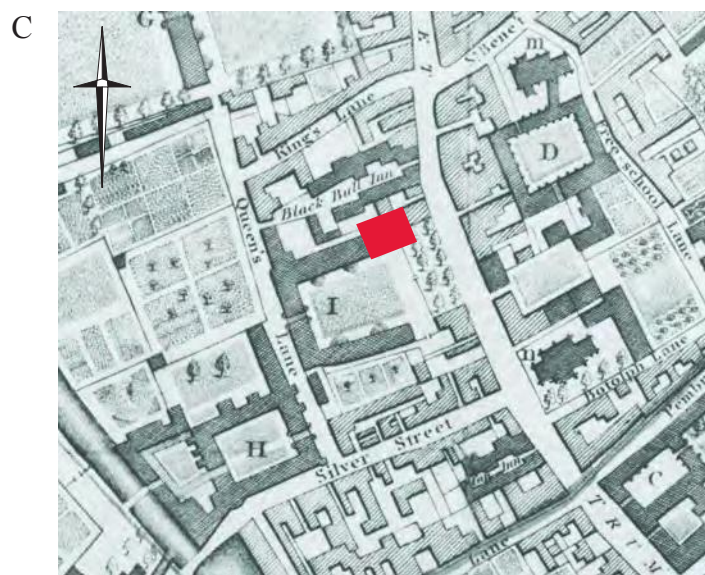
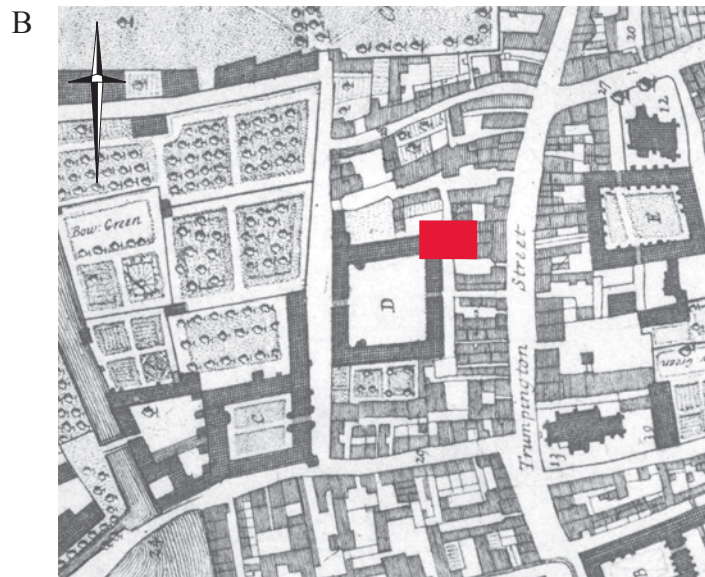


Figure 7. Historic maps. Hammond 1592 (A), Logan 1688 (B) and Custance 1798 (C)

**Feature Concordance Table**

Trench	Feature Number	Context Numbers	Type	Form	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spotdate
1	100	1000	Flagstoned surface	Extends beyond trench	4.22+	3.88+	0.26	
	101	1001, 1002	Modern services	Extends beyond trench	4.22+	3.88+	1.50+	
	102	1004, 1005	Pit	Heavily truncated	2.05+	0.55+	0.37	
	103	1007, 1008, 1009, 1010	Layers	Rectangular	2.10+	1.22+	0.22+	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century
	104	1013, 1014, 1015	Wall foundation	Linear, NE-SW	4.20+	1.34	1.25+	
	105	1027, 1028	Beamslot	Linear, E-W	1.15+	0.22+	0.08	
	106	1020, 1021	Beamslot	Linear, N-S	1.30+	0.30	0.28	
	107	1024, 1026	Pad/foundation	Linear, E-W	2.65+	0.35+	0.20	
	108	1029, 1030	Beamslot	Linear, N-S	1.10+	0.28+	0.38	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	109	1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048	Pit	Sub-rectangular	2.90+	1.80+	0.65+	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	110	1035, 1036	Pit	Sub-oval	1.80+	0.48+	0.25	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	111	1039, 1040, 1041, 1042, 1043	Pit	Heavily truncated	0.90+	0.82+	0.56+	
	115	1006, 1011, 1012	Layers	Heavily truncated	4.04+	1.06+	0.62+	
	116	1023	Layer	Heavily truncated	0.58+	0.37+	0.12+	
	117	1016	Layer	Heavily truncated	1.38+	0.98+	0.13	
	118	1017, 1018	Layers	Heavily truncated	2.62+	1.34+	0.07	
	119	1025	Layer	Heavily truncated	0.62+	0.42+	0.05	
120	1019	Layer	Heavily truncated	1.48+	0.72+	0.31	15 <sup>th</sup> century	
121	1031	Layer	Heavily truncated	1.23+	1.02+	0.12	15 <sup>th</sup> century	
122	1032	Layer	Heavily truncated	3.18+	1.35+	0.09	15 <sup>th</sup> century	
123	1033	Layer	Extends beyond trench	4.22+	3.88+	0.17	15 <sup>th</sup> century	
124	1034	Layer	Extends beyond trench	4.22+	3.88+	0.12+	12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century	
125	1037	Layer	Heavily truncated	2.90+	1.06+	0.43		
126	1038	Layer	Heavily truncated	0.48+	0.36+	0.16		
127	1003	Layer	Heavily truncated	4.22+	3.88+	0.60+		
200	2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005	Modern services	Extends beyond trench	4.07+	3.11+	0.64		
201	2011, 2012	Pit	Sub-square	0.82+	0.67+	0.50+		

Trench	Feature Number	Context Numbers	Type	Form	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spotdate
2	202	2013, 2014	Pit	Sub-oval	1.30+	0.68+	0.38+	17 <sup>th</sup> century
	203	2021, 2022, 2023	Pit	Sub-rectangular	1.90+	1.62+	0.72	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	204	2015, 2016	Pit	Sub-rectangular	0.70+	0.54	0.73+	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	205	2017, 2018	Pit	Sub-square	0.86+	0.64+	0.42	
	206	2019, 2020	Posthole	Sub-oval	0.40+	0.38	0.38+	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	207	2026, 2027	Pit	Oval	0.85+	0.66	0.45+	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	208	2031, 2032	Pit	Heavily truncated	1.08+	0.78+	0.69+	
	209	2029, 2030	Pit	Heavily truncated	1.21+	0.28+	0.34	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	210	2028, 2037	Pit	Sub-oval	0.74	0.70+	0.45+	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	211	2024, 2025	Wall foundation	Linear, ENE-WSW	1.76+	0.22+	0.32	
	212	2007, 2051	Wall foundation	'L'-shaped	2.20+	0.60	0.63+	
	213	2008, 2052	Wall foundation	'L'-shaped	2.45+	0.80	0.63+	
	214	2009, 2010	Wall foundation	'L'-shaped	3.10+	1.30	0.52+	
	215	2038, 2039	Pit	Sub-rectangular	1.82	1.21+	0.34+	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	216	2040, 2041, 2046	Pit	Sub-oval	2.70+	2.38+	0.95+	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	217	2042, 2043	Posthole	Circular	0.34	0.34	0.20+	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	218	2044, 2045	Posthole	Circular	0.34	0.34	0.23+	15 <sup>th</sup> century
	219	2047, 2048	Pad/foundation	Linear, E-W	1.02+	0.75	0.18	
	220	2006	Layer	Extends beyond trench	4.07+	3.11+	0.37	
	221	2033, 2034, 2035, 2036	Layers	Heavily truncated	1.88+	0.92+	0.43	16 <sup>th</sup> century
	222	2050	Layer	Heavily truncated	1.36+	0.88+	0.24	
	223	2049	Layer	Extends beyond trench	2.17+	1.33+	0.10+	
	3	112	1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, 1057, 1058, 1059	Layers	Heavily truncated	1.20+	0.70+	0.42+
113		1061, 1062	Wall foundation	Linear, N-S	0.80+	0.26+	0.54+	
114		1065	Pit (?)	Heavily truncated	1.20+	0.13+	/	
128		1060	Layer	Heavily truncated	1.20+	0.70+	/	
129		1063	Wall foundation	Heavily truncated	0.80+	0.12+	0.34+	

## Oasis Form

<b>OASIS ID: cambridg3-139771</b>	
<b>Project Details</b>	
Project name	Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge
Short description of the project	An archaeological investigation was undertaken between July and August 2012 during refurbishment works conducted at Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge. Three trenches were excavated at this time, two of which comprised tree-planting pits whilst the third connected the preceding areas in order to allow the instillation of a below-ground hydration system. The earliest deposit to be encountered at the site consisted of a 14th century garden-soil layer. During the 15th century, this was succeeded by two long-lived, multi-phased ancillary buildings with associated yard surfaces. In Trench 1, the building sequence was terminated during the late 16th or early 17th century when a substantial boundary wall, which demarcated the limit of the contemporary college precinct, was constructed. This wall then itself went out of use during the late 17th century when the nearby college chapel was constructed. By the time work on this new building was completed, in 1704, the surrounding ground surface had been substantially raised - thereby sealing the earlier deposits - and the archaeological sequence effectively became 'capped'. In Trench 2, a very similar sequence was encountered. In this location, however, the initial 15th century structure appears to have survived in use, with many phases of alteration and rebuilding, until 1966, when Chapel Court itself was constructed.
Project dates	Start: 19-07-2012 End: 31-08-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 3801 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	SCC12 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	BEAMSLOTS Medieval
Monument type	WALL FOOTINGS Post Medieval
Monument type	PITS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Part Excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
<b>Project Location</b>	
Country	England

Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge
Postcode	CB2 1RL
Study area	248.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 447 582 52 0 52 12 09 N 000 07 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 6.17m Max: 6.17m
<b>Project Creators</b>	
Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Alison Dickens
Project director/manager	Alison Dickens
Project supervisor	Richard Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	St. Catharine's College, Cambridge
<b>Project Archives</b>	
Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Archive ID	SCC12
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Glass","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Archive ID	SCC12
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Archive ID	SCC12
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Matrices","Photograph","Plan","Section"
<b>Project Bibliography</b>	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)



Title	Chapel Court, St. Catharine's College, Cambridge: An Archaeological Investigation
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Description	An A4 wire-bound document with plastic laminate cover. It is 29 pages long and has seven illustrations
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