

West Court, Jesus College, Cambridge

Archaeological Evaluation and Monitoring



Simon Timberlake and Dave Webb

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Between March and the end of October 2015 archaeological monitoring was carried out of building works being undertaken in the West Court area of Jesus College. Four sites were monitored, three of which, the Park Street Transformer, Soakaway and Basement areas, produced archaeology. All three areas had Roman features within them, with evidence of Medieval, Post-medieval and modern truncation above. Within the Soakaway area two trenches revealed a series of late Roman ditches, pits and postholes cutting an earlier phase of quarrying which consisted of eight intercutting quarry pits truncating an earlier boundary ditch. The Park Street investigation consisted of two small but slightly deeper trenches which revealed three oval-shaped Roman pits (one of which contained a large amount of pottery), the terminus of a curvilinear ditch and a posthole. The Basement was the largest area (28m²), which like the Soakaway contained intercutting Roman quarry pits truncated by three parallel WNW-ESE ditches associated with what was probably the same late Roman field system, all of this being cut by a NNW-SSE boundary ditch of uncertain date. A single truncated human burial was found face down within one of the probable quarry pits, and it can only be assumed that this was Roman in date. This area of Jesus College between Park Street and Jesus Lane would appear to be part of a moderately busy extramural landscape associated with the Roman town, with evidence for quarrying, cemeteries (at Jesus Lane and Park Street), and also field system(s).

Introduction

Between March and the end of October 2015 the Cambridge Archaeological Unit undertook archaeological monitoring of groundworks at West Court, Jesus College associated with the refurbishment and external modelling of the Rank Building, and the refurbishment of the Webb Building, the latter of which included the building of a new basement and café pavilion against the north elevation of what was formerly known as Wesley House (TL 585 451). This involved the monitoring of four different areas, of which three - the Soakaway (200m²), Basement (280m²) and Park Street transformer (20m²) had archaeology (figures 1 and 2). A fourth area in the access route from Jesus Lane to the rear of the plot had been greatly disturbed and did not produce any archaeology and is not further discussed.

The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was commissioned by Edmond Shipway Construction Ltd. on behalf of Jesus College, this being produced in response to a condition placed on planning consent and advice from the Historic Environment Team at Cambridgeshire County Council (CHET).

Geology and topography

The underlying geology of the site consists of the First Terrace sand and gravel which overlies solid geology in the form of the Gault Clay (British Geological Survey, Sheet 188). The overall topography of the site is flat, lying upon the terrace of the River Cam in between the 5m and 10m contours, but with much of the ground surface in the areas of the excavations closer to 9m AOD, there being a slight rise in the land between the edge of Jesus Green and the buildings of the college.

Archaeological background

West Court lies in an area of known archaeological activity, with evidence of both Roman and Medieval occupation recorded in close proximity to the site, with prehistoric findings slightly further away towards the river (Williams & Evans 2004).

Prehistoric

Evidence for Neolithic/ Bronze Age and Iron Age activity was found during work carried out in 2004 some 150m northeast of the current site during fieldwork carried out in advance of the construction of the college Maintenance Workshop and Gardener's Compound (Williams & Evans 2004; [CB15722]). Neolithic flint and four sherds of Beaker pottery were found within in a hollow, whilst a sparse scatter of residual flint dating to the late Mesolithic/ early Neolithic and the later Neolithic was found across the site. Residual Bronze Age pottery was also encountered within a number of Iron Age features. Six linear – curvilinear parallel ditches containing Middle-Late Iron Age pottery were excavated within the eastern half of the investigated area, along with three Iron Age pits. The ditches would appear to be associated with a sub-rectangular Iron Age enclosure dating to the period after 400-300 BC.

Roman (see Figures 9 and 10)

This part of Cambridge lies in the Roman settlement hinterland, with evidence of an extensive field/ paddock system revealed at three nearby locations. Within this system two certain cemeteries have been identified; at 11 Park Street [CB15513] (Dodwell 2002) and 35-37 Jesus Lane [CB15727] (Alexander, Dodwell & Evans 2003) with the possibility of a third based on findings within sewer works on Jesus Lane in 1895 [CHER04802] (McKenny Hughes 1904). The Park Street cemetery appears to date based on pottery evidence to the late second and third centuries AD, as did the cemetery at nos. 35-37 Jesus Lane within which 32 burials were found, six of them accompanied by grave goods. There is a reference also to an early 20th century discovery of pottery wasters along Jesus Lane [CHER04802] some 100m to the west of the current development which McKenny Hughes considered to indicate the likely presence nearby of a Roman kiln site (Hughes *ibid.*). An excavation at the ADC Theatre in 2002, just 100m to the southwest of West Court, revealed a considerable depth of Roman stratigraphy including ditches and pits (Whittaker 2002), whilst further to the west of there are numerous other examples of Roman finds including those from recently excavated sites such as that St. John's Divinity School where evidence was found for the presence of Roman boundary plots and quarry pits (Cessford *et al.* 2014). The background to Roman settlement within this part of Cambridge is discussed in more detail within the recent desk-based assessment undertaken of 3-5 Round Church Street (Appleby 2016).

Medieval

The main medieval activity in the vicinity centres on the origins of Jesus College and the Nunnery of St Rhadegund that preceded it. The focus of this lies approx. 120m to the east of the current site, but there is evidence to indicate that, as in the Iron Age and Roman periods, this sat within a wider agricultural landscape defined by a field system (Evans & Williams *ibid.*) Three possible medieval ditches and some 14th-century pottery were also identified at the Maintenance Workshop and Gardener's Compound site located some 150m to the north-east of the Basement excavation. The course of the Early Medieval King's Ditch follows the approximate line of Park Street, thence to the NW and SE of this edge of Jesus College land. The early medieval town of Cambridge lay to the west of this point.

Methodology

Machining within the various areas of the site was undertaken by the contractors using a range of different size 360 excavators, but always under the guidance of an experienced archaeologist. Following topsoil removal the layers were excavated in approximately 5cm spits down to the top of the gravel natural, or until archaeological features began to appear in the sub-soil. At the Soakaway area a 15mx13m area was stripped gradually by machine and then planned at four different levels (at 1:50 scale) as various intercutting and truncated archaeological features appeared. Sections were recorded around the edge of the excavation whilst individual features were selectively dug by half-section (pits/ postholes) or by 0.5m or 1m slots. The approach to the digging of the Basement area was a little different. The archaeology here was similar but was recorded mostly at one level in order to plan a series of shallow ditches;

baulks were left in between this for recording the stratigraphy above. However, deeper trench steps across this area were planned at the same time for the purposes of recording the earlier truncated features. The archaeology was planned at a similar scale but was undertaken by the CAU survey team using GPS. At the Park Street transformer site the excavations were dug as two short parallel 4m x1.5m wide trenches with a section baulk of 1m in between – the latter taking the form of a ‘keyhole’ dug into the spaces between modern foundations. This site was also planned by hand, with geo-location of the trenches achieved by means of offset measurements taken from the walls of nearby buildings. Within the Basement area a human skeleton was removed following the issue of a Ministry of Justice License, in this case being lifted under the guidance of the CAU osteologist (Natasha Dodwell). Contexts were recorded using the CAU-modified MoLAS recording system, and in addition a full photographic record was taken, with finds recorded, bagged and removed from site as part of the archive JWC15. Health and safety was conducted in accordance with the guidelines established in the FAME manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2010).

Results

Soakaway Area (208m²)

(Figures 3, 4 and 8b)

Three different phases of archaeology were recognised beneath the topsoil and a layer of modern re-distributed landscape material (008). The latter horizon contained re-deposited Roman, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery. All of the feature-based archaeology encountered below this level appeared to be Roman.

The late phase Roman features consisted of three shallow truncated ditches (F.2, F.3, and F.8) with respective E-W, WSW-ENE and N-S orientations which were considered to be the remnants here of a 2nd - 4th century field system contemporary with a couple of small pits/ postholes (F.1, F.22 and F.23). Beneath this there was evidence for Roman sand and gravel quarrying in the form of at least 10 oval-sub-rectangular intercutting quarry pits (F.5-7, F.10-15, F.21) ranging from 3-6m in length and 0.15-0.3m deep (from the machine reduced level – but up to 1.4m from the modern ground surface) However, beneath these there were still earlier features partly truncated by the quarrying. These features consisted of one small pit (F.9) containing Samian pottery and a major N-S boundary ditch (F.17), which was up to 4m wide and at least 1m deep.

Basement Area (280m²)

(Figures 5 and 6)

Three different phases of Roman archaeology were recognised here beneath a topsoil and a humic subsoil layer, the latter horizon likely relating to Medieval cultivation or to a Post-medieval garden soil associated with the college.

Beneath the level of truncation of this garden soil (at c. 0.5m below ground level) were four E-W to WNW-ESE shallow (0.15-0.7m deep) field ditches (F.404, F.405, F.413 and F.414) the longest unbroken section of which (F.404) could be traced at least 30m (Figure 4). Only F.413 contained Roman pottery, but the similarity of

alignment and proximity of the other ditches meant that, as at the Soakaway area, they were interpreted as being part of a truncated Late Roman field system. Another ditch section and terminus (F.400) located in the NE corner of the site may also be part of the same field system, although it was on a WSW-ENE orientation similar to one of the ditches in the Soakaway. However, within the SE corner of the site a rather more substantial 1.5m wide ditch (F.411) aligned NNE-SSW cuts both of the ditches F.404 and F.405. It would appear therefore that this boundary ditch represents the latest phase of extant archaeology. No pottery was associated with this but feasibly it could be Late Roman or Early Medieval in date

The earlier archaeology cut by these ditches consists almost entirely of quarry pits. This phase of quarrying is probably contemporary with that found in the Soakaway, consisting in this case of up to 24 intercutting pits between 0.8 - 5m in diameter and between 0.15m – 1m deep (measured from the machine-cut level). A number of these pits were sampled by means of half or quarter sections, and Roman pottery was identified both within the backfill, slump and infill contexts (F.401-2, F.415-16, F.424, F.427, F.429, F.433, F.435). Four postholes (F.409-10, F.419, F.431) were also identified, three of these found in close proximity at the east end of the site, and one at the west end (F.431) in the bottom of ditch F.413.

The upper half of a human skeleton was found lying within the bottom of a Roman quarry pit (F.429) at the far western end of this site. This was of a middle-aged adult, probably female, who was lying prone and at a strange angle for a burial, with the right arm lying beneath the skull and flexed so that the hand rested upon the left shoulder, with the left arm protruding from the torso at 90° and the hand below the right forearm and head. The partial skeleton was excavated and removed from site along with a small amount of probably associated but disarticulated human bone.

Park Street Transformer Area (c.20m²) (Figures 7 and 8a)

The western trench was dug to a depth of 1.7m below ground level and encountered a Roman horizon consisting of dark grey clayey silt (109) at a depth of c.1.65m. This horizon contained only Roman pottery, which was much less abraded than in the silt layer above it (108), the overlying horizon also containing animal bone and late Medieval – 19th century ceramic. No features were identified as cutting this lower layer (109).

The eastern trench was dug to a depth of 1.9m where it encountered natural in the form of orange-brown slightly clayey sandy gravel. Immediately overlying the natural was thick dark clayey silt (113) containing animal bone and Roman pottery. This appeared to be the same horizon as (109), and was similarly overlain by a silty loam layer also containing late Medieval – 19th century ceramics.

Five features were identified as cutting layer (113) within the small area exposed at the bottom of the West trench. These consisted of three round-oval pits F.101-103, one of which (F.101) was half-sectioned and fully excavated, another which had cess-like material in the top (F.102), a N-S curvilinear ditch (F.104) and a posthole (F.105). Pottery was recovered from all three pits (consisting of late 1st/ early 2nd century to 3rd/early 4th century non-local to local finewares and coarsewares)

alongside animal bone, yet no finds were recovered from the top of the ditch and posthole.

Discussion

As has been suggested by Mazzilli's analysis of the pottery assemblage from these sites (see report in Appendix 1) there are indications of multi-phase Roman settlement within this area dating from the late 1st/ early 2nd century AD to the 4th century AD, but without any evidence of Conquest-period ceramics, and with most pottery relating to 3rd/4th century occupation, being represented by the abundant shelly coarsewares and smaller amounts of finewares. Furthermore, the relatively large mean sherd weight of Roman pottery recovered suggests that it was originally deposited on site (or else close by) and was not the result of later dumping.

Despite the small size of the investigation areas it was still possible to detect clear differences as well as similarities between the archaeology and the recovered pottery from each of the different sites. For example, the pottery recovered from the smallest investigation conducted at Park Street towards the western end of the evaluation area proved to be by far the richest in terms of the number of sherds and the percentage of finewares compared to coarseware types (c.25%). Taking into account the rather similar evidence recovered from St. Clement's Garden just 100m to the NW of this site we may be looking at the edge of the more wealthy nucleus of the lower Roman town, the urban limit of which could perhaps be defined by the line of Park Street, a boundary which was to be re-established during the Early Medieval period through the digging of the King's Ditch. Both the abundance and quality of the Roman pottery falls off significantly to the east of this line on passing eastwards into the area of West Court (i.e. the Basement and Soakaway areas), a phenomenon also noted in the case of the Roman cemetery on Jesus Lane (see Alexander et al. 2004). Compared to the latter sites we find that the British finewares (i.e. Oxfordshire Red Slipped, Hadham Red Slipped, Forest Slipped, Nene Valley and Oxfordshire Parchment) dominate this urbanized pottery assemblage from Park Street, alongside an increased percentage of continental imports such as Samian. Both the date and composition of this assemblage would appear to indicate the rising importance of this 3rd/ 4th century AD Roman lower town area, the focus of which lay to the south of the River Cam (and the likely river crossing close to Magdalene Bridge) and the Roman settlement on Castle Hill.

It is now difficult to interpret what the handful of features identified within the West trench at Park Street represent; at best we may assume that these are probably rubbish pits containing discarded pot and other domestic refuse such as animal bone food waste (consisting mostly of sheep with smaller amounts of cow) associated with the backyard plots of houses, these boundaries being defined perhaps by ditches as well as by fence lines. A possible analogy for this may be found on the western side of the Roman lower town at the St John's Divinity School (Cessford *et al.* 2014); a site located on the south side of the *Via Devana* (see Figure 10). Closer still we find a parallel to this at the ADC Theatre site located on the eastern town margin (Whittaker 2002). Here a similarly deep Roman stratigraphy consisting of pits and ditches continues over the road into the Park Street trenches located on the edge of the West Court re-development. The Soakaway and Basement areas on the other hand appear to represent the ancillary urban fringe; an area where gravel and sand quarrying was

being carried out upon vacant plots located in between several of the various cemeteries serving the lower Roman town. Following a phase of quarrying, a field system defined by WSW-ENE and N-S to NNE-SSW ditches was superimposed on top of the silted-up quarry pits during the late 3rd- early 4th century AD. Unfortunately, the small size of these investigations has made it difficult to completely exclude the possibility of dwellings within this area. In fact the presence of unabraded pottery and animal bone food waste within these pits and ditches would appear to indicate the relatively rapid burial of domestic rubbish (though in small amounts) from what must then have been nearby settlement. At the same time, to the east and north of here, we see evidence for the continuation of what was probably the same late Roman field system and pits, but now with considerably fewer traces of domestic rubbish in them; as noted at the Gardener's Compound and Maintenance Workshop, a small site excavated in 2003 and located approx. 100m to the north of the current Basement (Evans & Williams 2004). This evidence further supports the general picture we have of the Jesus College West Court area lying on the furthest east margins of the Roman lower town.

The discovery of a single human skeleton within one of the pits excavated at the Basement area remains something of an oddity, not simply because it was a burial clearly extramural to the two known cemetery areas of 35-37 Jesus Lane (Alexander *et al.* 2003) and 11 Park Street/ Cambridge Union (Dodwell 2002; Appleby 2015, 10), but rather because the individual concerned had been unceremoniously placed face downwards into a shallow abandoned quarry pit. It would appear that the woman was probably quite diseased towards the end of her life (see Appendix: Human remains *this report*).

In summary, the archaeology encountered at all three of the above Jesus College sites has contributed in some small way to our knowledge of the extent and importance of the Roman town of Cambridge (*Duroliponte*), in particular through helping us to better define the eastern margin of the lower town area, and to understand the nature of this landscape lying in between the cemetery areas of Park Street and Jesus Lane.

Acknowledgements

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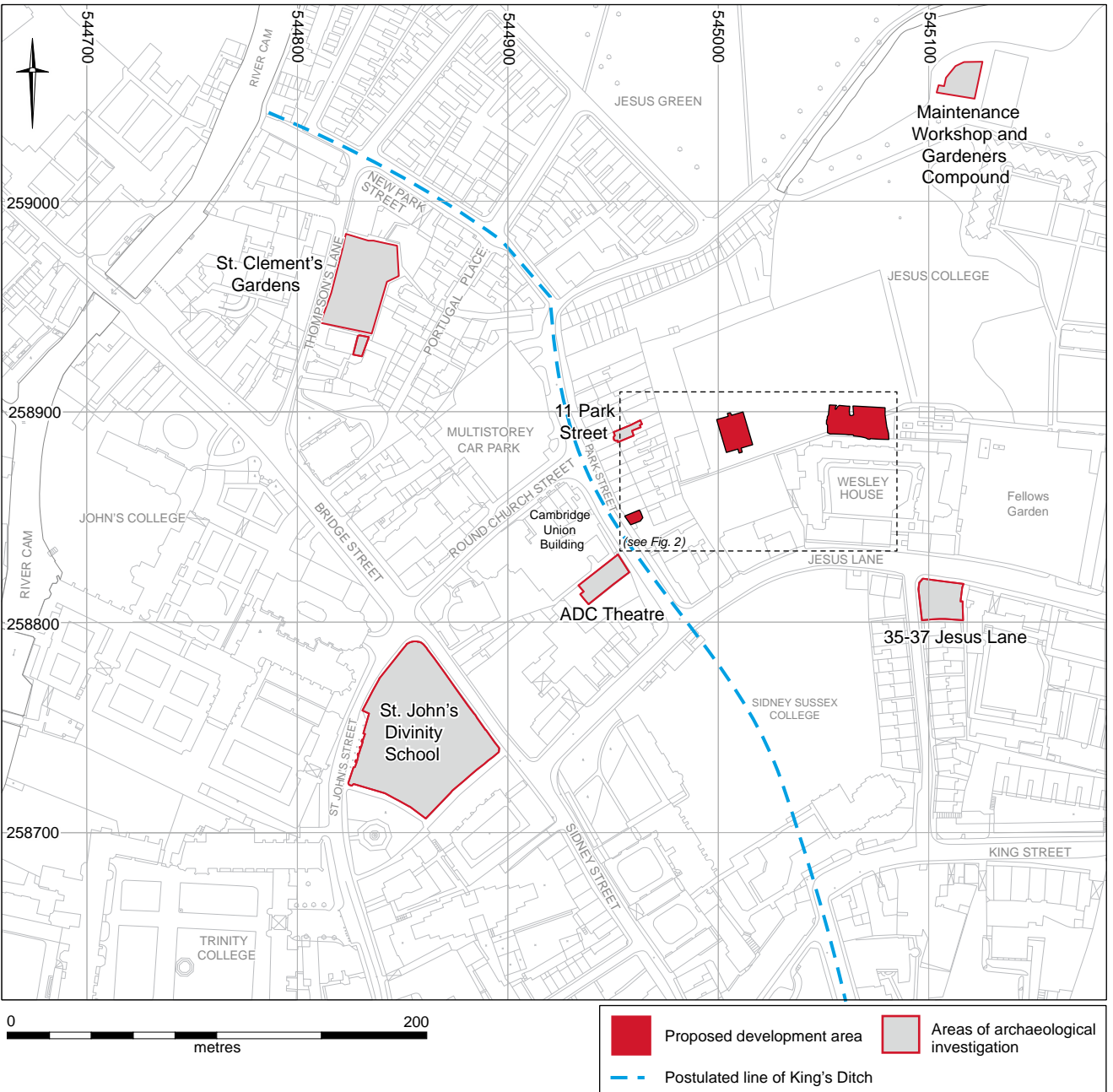
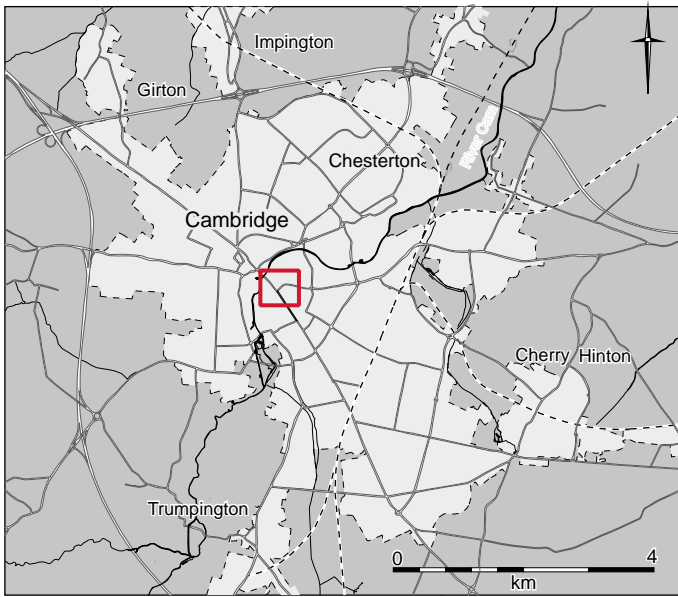


Figure 1. Location and gazetteer

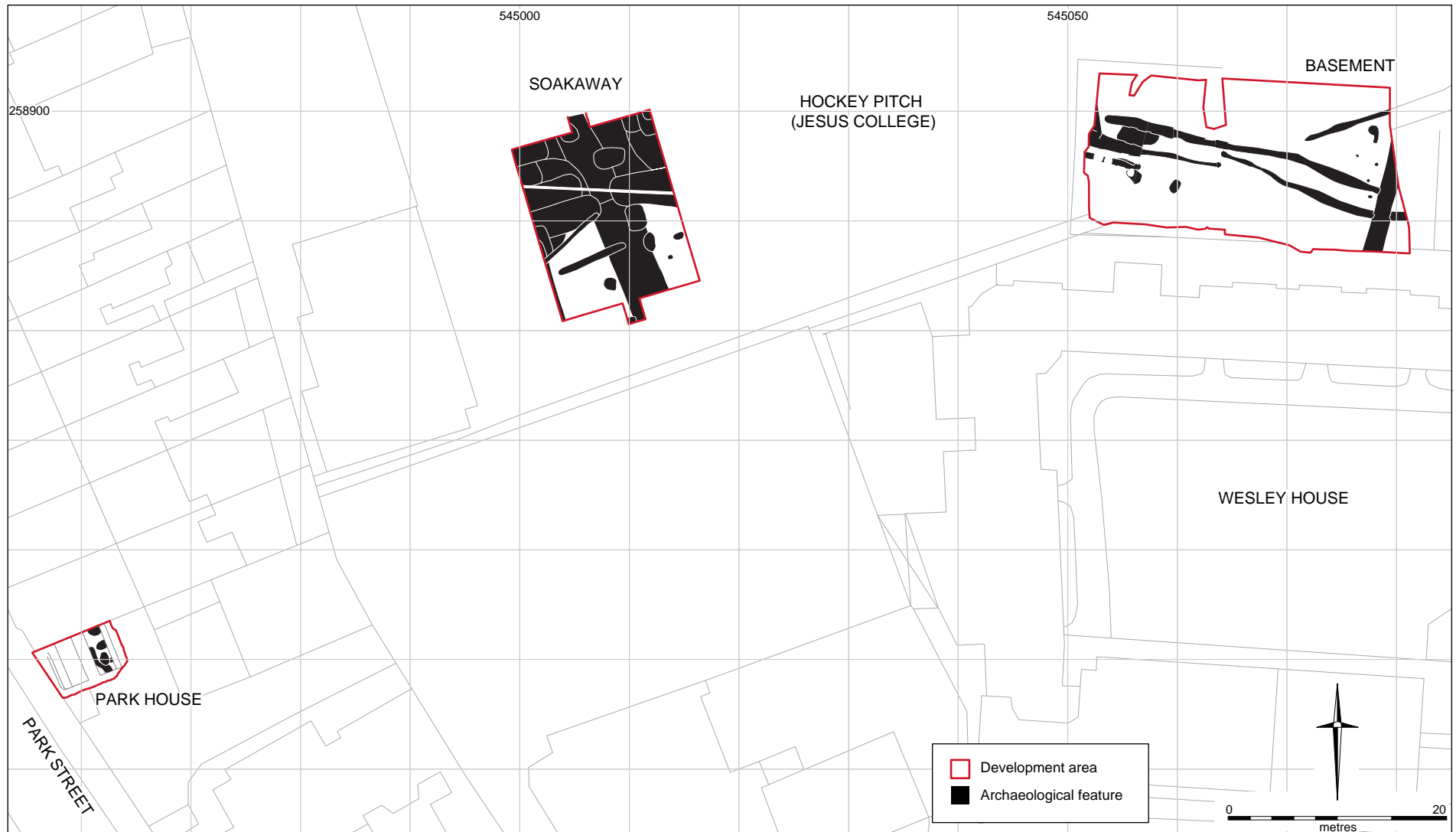
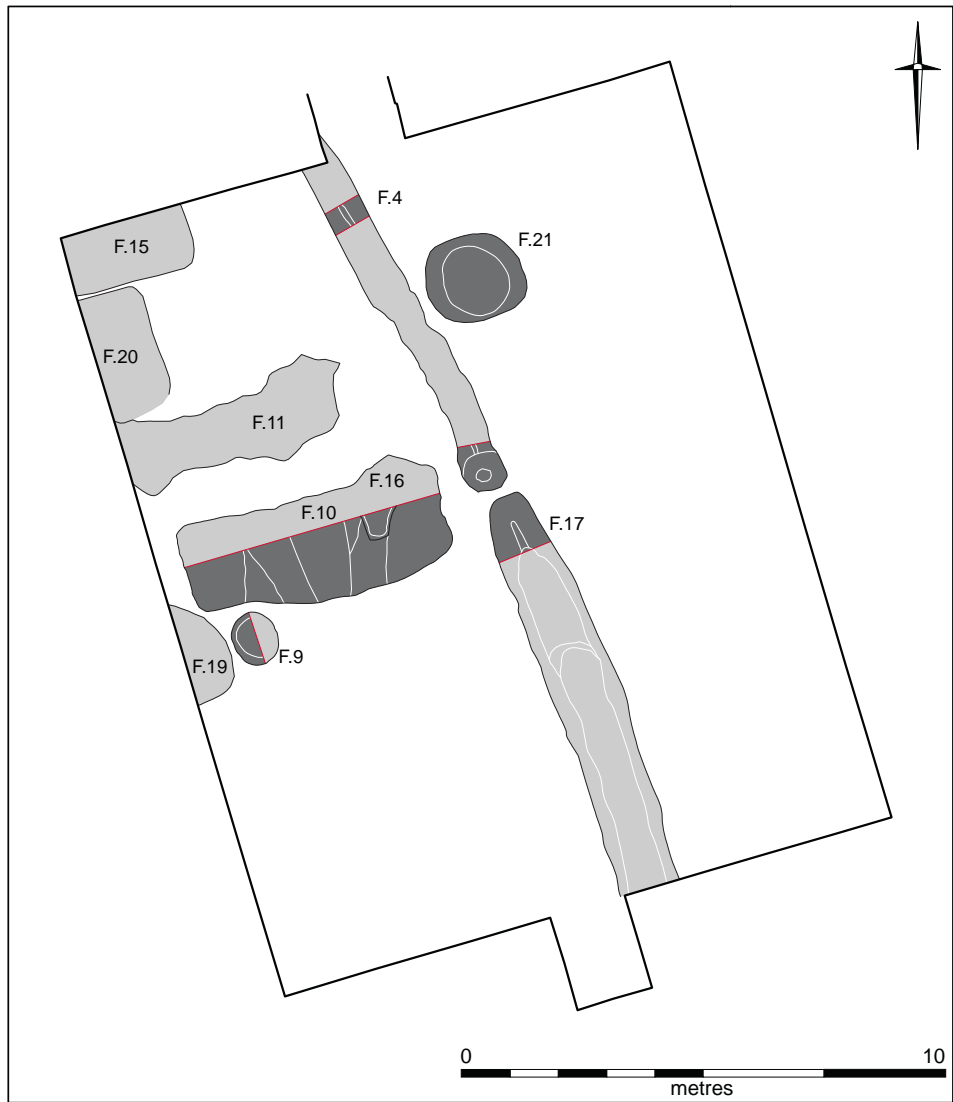
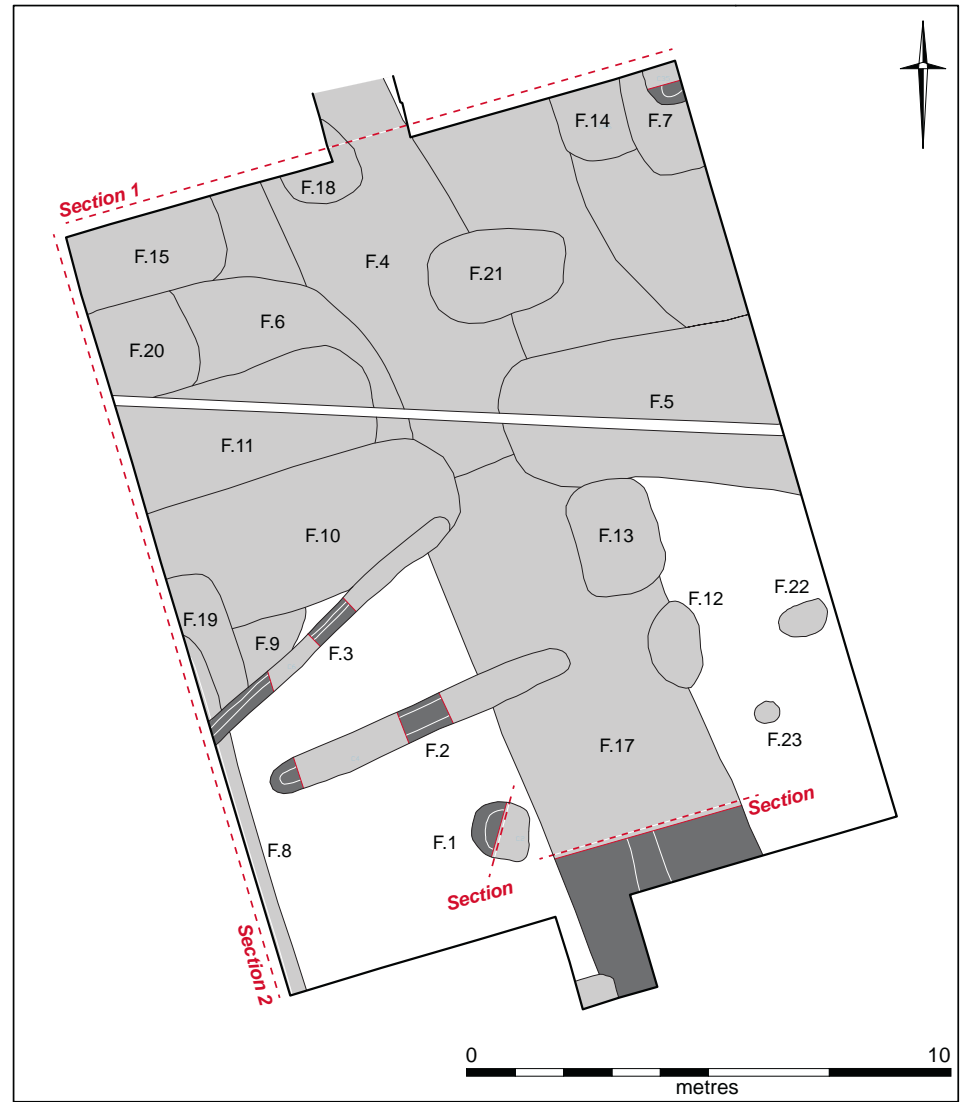


Figure 2. Trench plan



Lower



Upper

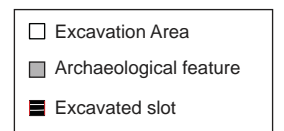


Figure 3. Plan of excavation areas (Soakaway, JWC15)

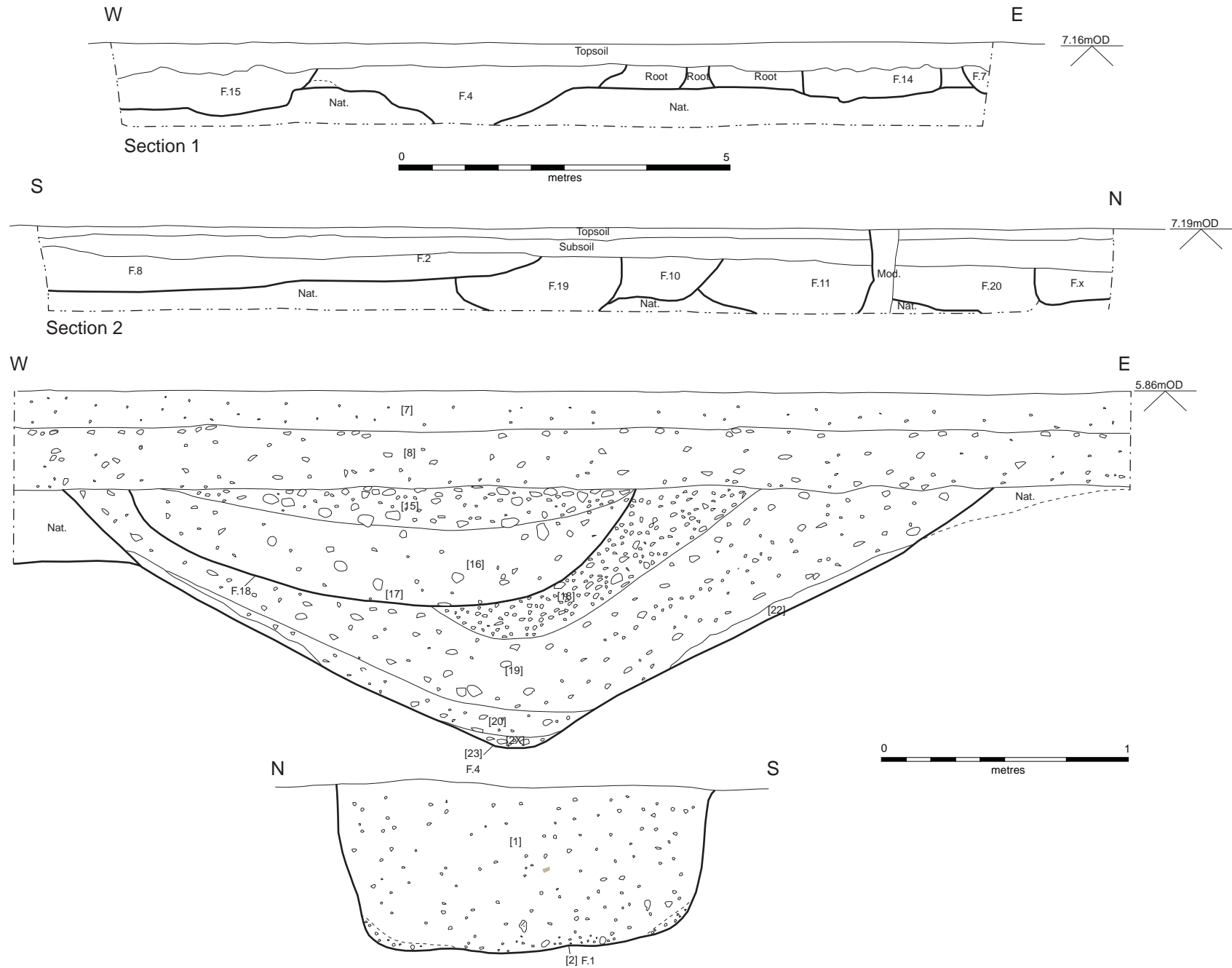
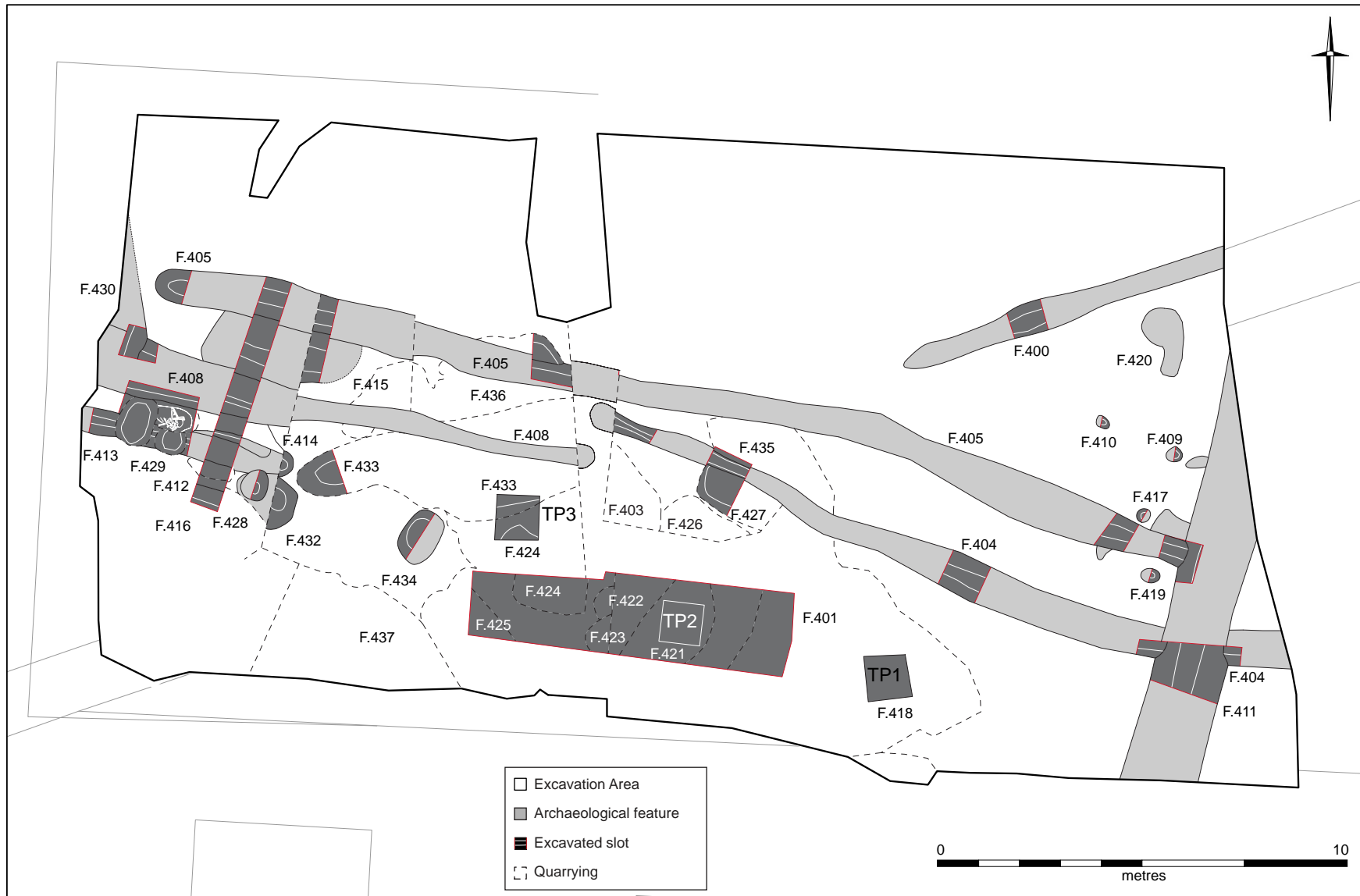
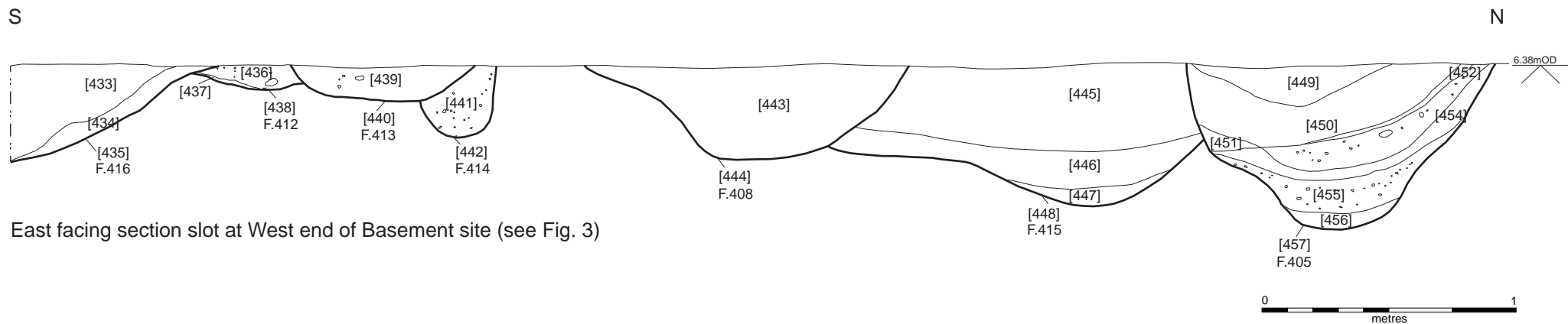


Figure 4. Sections across W and N sides of Soakaway and through features F.4, F.18 and F.1



Basement

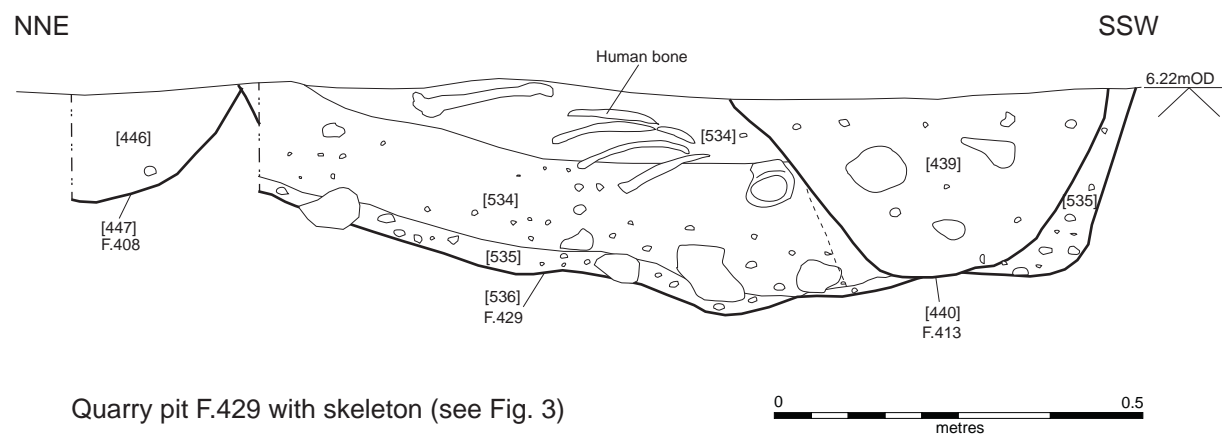
Figure 5. Plan of excavation areas (Basement, JWC15)



East facing section slot at West end of Basement site (see Fig. 3)



Detail of skeleton in F.429



Quarry pit F.429 with skeleton (see Fig. 3)

Figure 6. Section across West end of Basement site and through quarry pit F.429

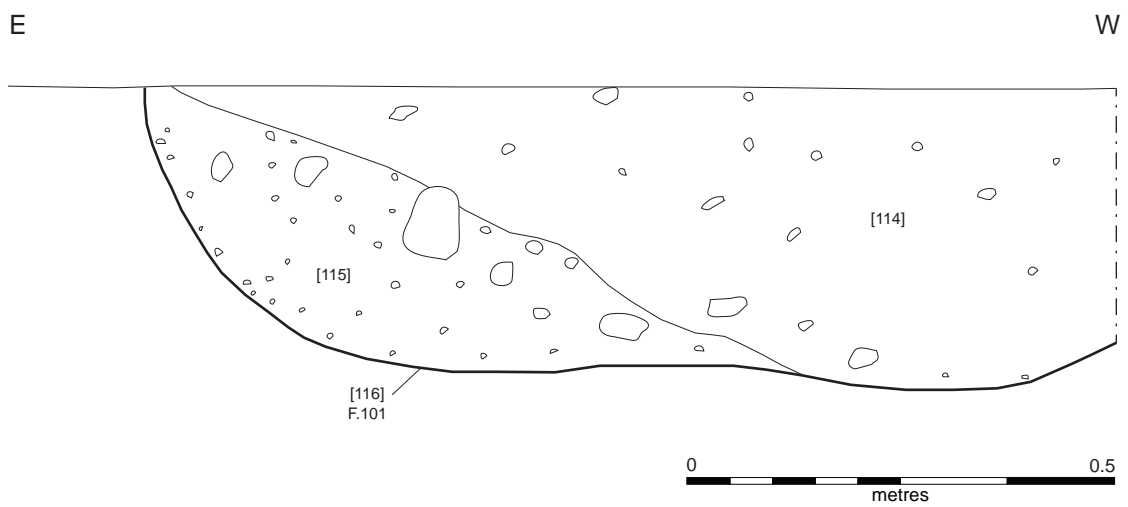


Figure 7. Plan of Park Street site (W and E trenches) and section of pit F.101



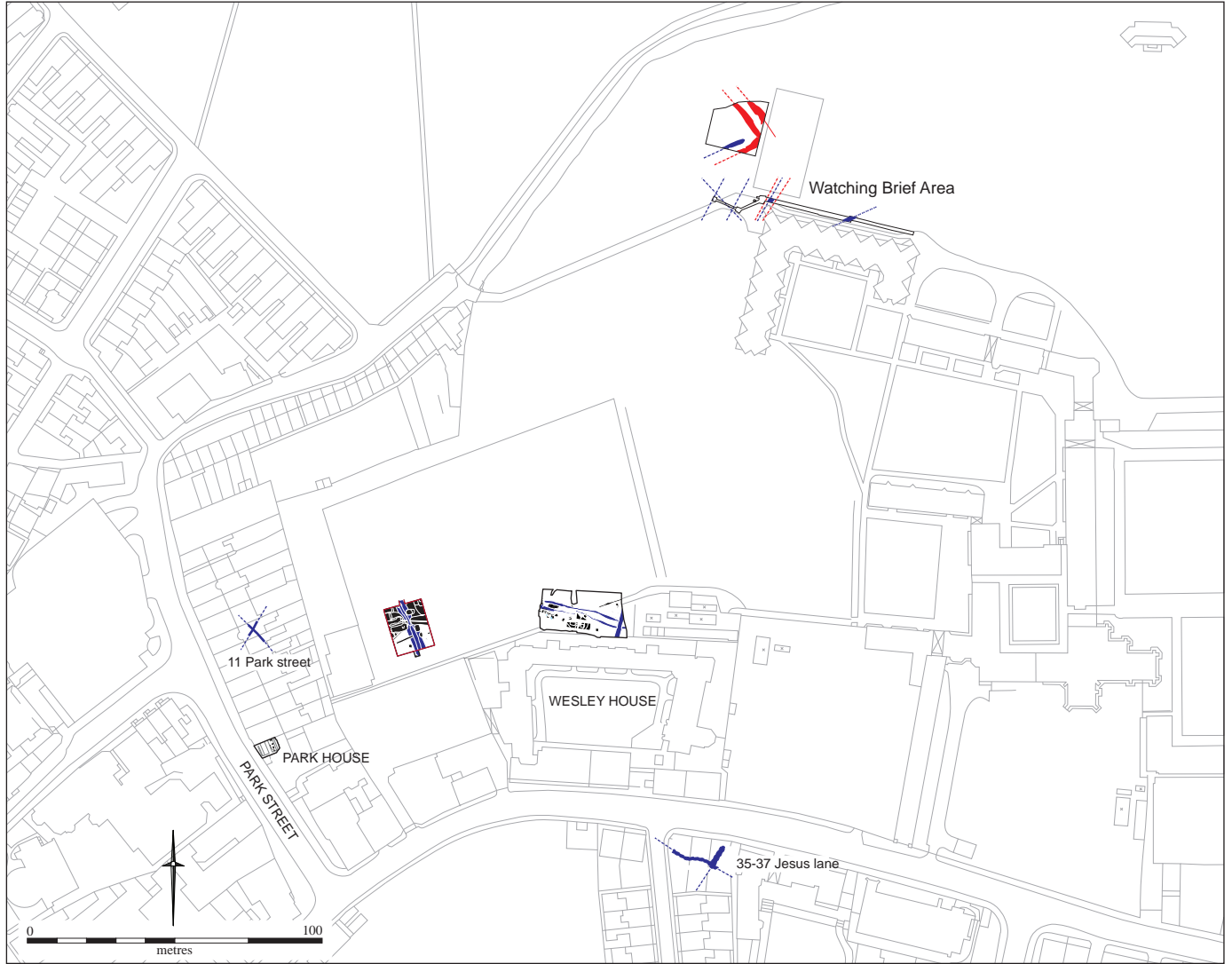
8a.



8b.

Figure 8a. East Trench of Park Street site with pit F.101. 8b. South-facing section of Soakaway site with Roman ditch (F.4)

544871/259102



545281/258776

- Roman feature
- Iron Age feature

Figure 9. Cambridge, the lower town Roman and Iron Age alignments

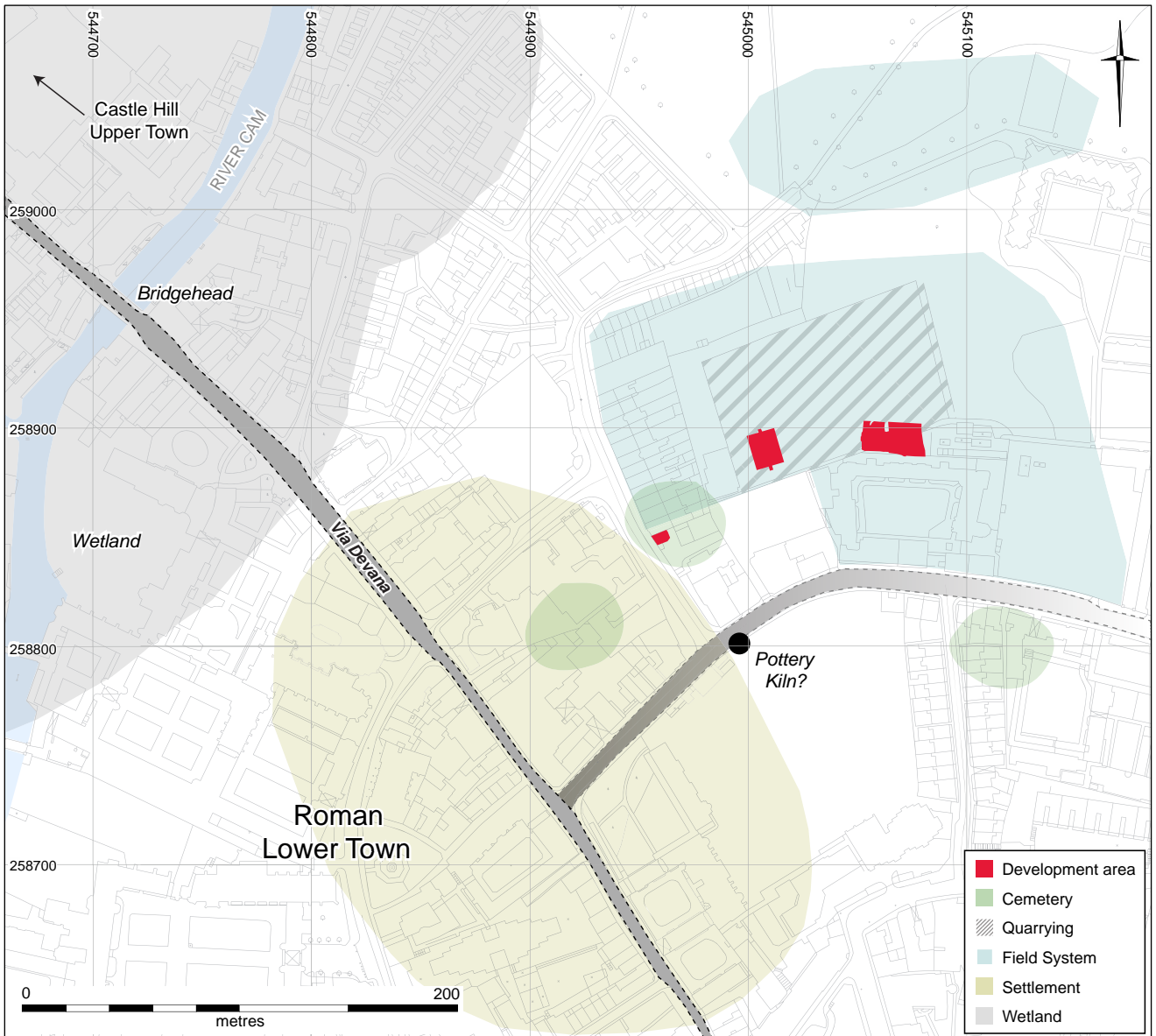


Figure 10. Plan of Roman Lower Town, Cambridge (*Duroliponte*) 2nd-4th c. AD

APPENDIX 1

Specialist reports

Human Remains *Benjamin Neil*

The human bone consisted of one *in situ* inhumation, plus some disarticulated material from an adjacent truncating context. Altogether, the bone represents just one individual, that of a female middle adult possessing some signs of disease.

Methodology

Sex estimation was accomplished using a multifactorial process of identifying the dimorphic dimensions of the os coxae and the skull (where available) using methods outlined by Buikstra *et al.*, (1994) Bruzek, (2002) Phenice, (1969) Scheuer, (2002) Singh & Potturi, (1978) and White *et al.*, (2011).

Term	meaning	explanation
Female	female	full confidence in the determination of sex
Male	male	
(female)	probably female	lacks full confidence in the determination of sex, but feels that the remains are probably as stated
(male)	probably male	
Indet.	sex indeterminate	analysed but are lacking sufficient diagnostic morphology for a determination of sex

Table 1: Calculation of sex based on skeletal elements

The age at death estimation was based on the data sets derived from British populations using methods based on measured changes in: the auricular surface (Buckberry & Chamberlain, 2002), the pubic symphysis (Brooks & Suchey, 1990) the acetabulum (Calce, 2012) and molar attrition (Brothwell, 1981). The degree of cranial suture closure will complement the latter and follow methods outlined by Meindl and Lovejoy (1985). If sub-adult mandibles are found within the assemblage, estimation will use criteria set out by Ubelaker (1989) (in White *et al* 2011). Where applicable, the degree of epiphyseal union can also be used to estimate age and will be recorded following criteria outlined by Buikstra *et al* (1994). For sub-adults, the appearance and fusion of secondary ossification centres for the major long bones are assessed using methods outlined by Buikstra *et al* (1994) Scheuer & Black, (2000) and White, (2011). Isolated bone fragments often have ambiguous or unobtainable morphological information, thus age in these cases may be indeterminate. However, where these fragments exhibit developmental and dimensional characteristics which are clearly not neonate, infant or juvenile, the inference will be that they are of an adult.

Neonate	Infant	Juvenile	Sub-adult	Adult	Young adult	Middle adult	Mature adult
<6months	0-4 years	5-12 years	13-18 years	18+ years	19-25 years	26-44 years	45+ years

Table 2: Age/ development classification

Results

Skeleton within quarry pit F.429

An east west aligned (truncated) skeleton with the head in the east, facing north, and lying prone. This is moderately preserved and partially articulated. The right arm lay beneath the skull, and was flexed at the elbow to bring the hand to rest over the proximal end of the left humerus. The left humerus protruded from the torso at about 90° and was flexed at the elbow such that the hand lay below the right forearm, and beneath the head. The left half of the skull was truncated, (presumably having been clipped by the machine) which fragmented the frontal bone and removed the parietal, temporal and occipital bones, which are now missing. Diminutive fragments of the pelvis (to include a left fragment of acetabulum and iliopubic ramus) and sacrum survive. The left femur is fragmented into three pieces and missing the greater trochanter, femoral head and the distal articulation including the popliteal surface. All other lower appendicular elements are missing. The skeleton is of an older middle adult (female).

There are two button osteomas present on the frontal squamous bone and indications of destructive lesions on the endocranial surface of the right temporal and parietal bones which may also involve the right pars orbitalis. This would need further study to confirm possible osteolytic meningioma. The mandible is near complete, yet fragmented into 3 pieces and missing the left ramus. All teeth are present except RI₁ which has been lost post mortem. Molar teeth LM₁ and LM₂, were lost ante-mortem with complete alveolar resorption. Moderate dental calculus is observed in buccal and lingual planes. Of the maxilla, LM¹ RPM² are lost ante-mortem with complete alveolar resorption; RM¹ and RM² are missing, with indications of a periapical abscess involving RM¹. There are significant indications of degenerative joint disease indicating osteoarthritis involving the vertebrae: cervical vertebrae C1 and C2 are fused along the posterior portion of the body and articular facets; marginal lipping exists both anterior and posterior faces; likewise the same condition is observed on C3 and C4 where fusion is seen between the facets and lamina. Significant osteophytes are observed on the thoracic vertebrae between T5, T6 and T7. Marginal lipping occurs on T10 and corresponding osteophytes on T11.

Disarticulated bone within ditch F. 483

A collection of human bone comprising six rib fragments, the distal end of the left femur, (to include the popliteal surface) with the lateral condyle missing and a fragment of pelvis to include the right acetabulum and ischial tuberosity were recovered from the ditch fill (439). Although the fragmented nature of the femur from this context prevents refitting with its likely counterpart from the articulated skeleton found within the adjacent quarry pit (F.429), it is nonetheless likely that this and the other bones from F.483 represent (in part) this skeleton's truncated elements, particularly as there is no duplication.

Assessment of faunal remains *Vida Rajkovača*

Investigations at Jesus College resulted in the recovery of three relatively small distinct sub-sets of animal bone, coming from three separate areas of the site (Soakaway, Park Street and Basement), totalling 404 fragments and weighing 7540g. Of this figure, some 259 assessable specimens were recorded with 124 being identified to species or family (Table 3). Bone was quantified and considered by area, as well as according to the chronology of the material. This analysis aims to quantify and characterise the assemblage and assess its potential for future study.

Methods

Identification, quantification and ageing

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). Age at death was estimated for the main species using epiphyseal fusion (Silver 1969) and mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982, Payne 1973). Where possible, the measurements have been taken (Von den Driesch 1976). Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident. Undiagnostic fragments were assigned to a size category.

Provenance, character and the chronology of the material

The majority of bone came from a range of contexts, mostly ditches or quarry pits of Romano-British date. It is presumed that almost all of it is made up of disarticulated domestic waste that got incorporated into the occupation horizons. There was no pottery of Conquest date, with the majority being of late 3rd and early 4th century.

Results

Soakaway Area

This area generated more animal bone than the other two sub-sets combined (Table 3). In addition to the bone from securely dated Romano-British features from 2nd and 3rd centuries, quantified here was material from a horizon ([08]) with later re-deposition of medieval and Post-medieval material. Of 154 assessable specimens, just over half were assigned to species level (82 specimens, or 53.2%). Ovicapra were the prevalent species within the NISP and MNI counts, followed by cattle and pig, with other common domesticates completing the range. Of wild fauna, we have rabbit and red deer elements. Aside from a single cow mandible aged to 1-8 months, ageing data was absent.

Basement Area

Though the largest of the three areas the Basement area contained a very small amount of animal bone. Of only 19 specimens, five were identified as cattle, sheep/goat and dog.

Park Street Area

Most of the bone came from pits containing Romano-British pottery. Material was moderately preserved, with less than half being identified to species (37 specimens, or 43% of the sub-set). Larger domesticates such as cattle and horse were collectively more abundant than ovicapra and pig.

Summary

Most likely owing to the much later date for at least proportion of the Soakaway bone (probably modern material from horizon [08]), the largest of the three sub-sets is sheep-dominated. The sub-set is characterised by a prevalent sheep component, typical for the medieval and Post-medieval assemblages; and crude butchery actions reflected in the use of saw as a multi-purpose tool.

Although based on significantly smaller numbers, the prevalence of cattle within the Park Street sub-set is more in keeping with expected period patterns and the results gained from the pottery analyses – reflecting the site’s urban and Romanised character. Bone from the Basement was negligible, and, aside from suggesting the site’s peripheral character, it is not possible to make any further suggestions about the site’s economy.

Jesus College West Court fauna is not as abundant or as rich in potential as some of the other comparable sites from the immediate vicinity, yet, when viewed against other sites in the area, it does hold potential to add to our understanding of the character of Roman occupation within Cambridge proper.

Taxon	<i>Soakaway Area</i>			<i>Park Street Area</i>			<i>Basement Area</i>		
	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	21	25.6	2	18	48.7	2	2	40	1
Sheep/ goat	33	40.3	4	14	37.8	2	1	20	1
Sheep	1	1.2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pig	11	13.4	1	2	5.4	1	.	.	.
Horse	3	3.7	1	3	8.1	1	.	.	.
Dog	3	3.7	1	.	.	.	2	40	1
Cat	6	7.3	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rabbit	1	1.2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red deer	1	1.2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Chicken	1	1.2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
<i>Galliformes</i>	1	1.2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sub-total to species or family	82	100	.	37	100	.	5	100	.
Cattle-sized	46	.	.	16	.	.	10	.	.
Sheep-sized	23	.	.	31	.	.	4	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bird n.f.i.	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
Total	154	.	.	86	.	.	19	.	.

Table 3: Number of Identified Specimens and Minimum Number of Individuals for all species from all contexts; breakdown by area; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be identified.

Worked Stone *Simon Timberlake*

Some 76g of work stone was recovered from the Soakaway area. This consisted of 42g of fragmentary lava quern and a fragment of a Roman whetstone (34g) which was composed of Reigate Stone (Upper Greensand). A very small amount of burnt stone (20g) and burnt flint (10g) was also recovered.

<79> F.17 [38] . Two small non-diagnostic adjoining fragments (20 + 40mm diameter) of burnt and weathered basaltic lava *rotary quern* from the Mayen source in the Rhineland. These non-diagnostic pieces suggest a minimum thickness of worn quern at least 25mm thick.

<21> Trench 1 [08]. A short section from the broken stem of a cylindrical-rectangular slightly tapering *whetstone* with an oval cross-section (dimensions: 50mm x 23-21mm x 13mm; weight 34g) . This was composed a fine grained blue-grey micaceous sandstone, quite possibly Reigate Stone (Upper Greensand). The quarried stone outcrops near Reigate in Surrey, and was used for whetstone manufacture during the Roman period, at least within the SE of England, as recorded by Shaffrey (2012) at Stanford Wharf, Essex. This particular honestone may have originally been some 100-120mm long, with a perforation at the broad end for hanging on a belt (SEE examples of Roman whetstones finds.org.uk/database/ search/ results). This example shows evidence of extensive use on all four sides, resulting in the perfectly smooth rounded profile. Traces of individual knife marks can however be seen upon one of the faces.

Burnt and worked clay *Simon Timberlake*

144 g of burnt clay was recovered from the West Court archaeological investigations, with two different fabrics being identified. Some 106g of this clay came from Park Street (Fabric 1), and 38g of it from the Soakaway (Fabric 2). That found at Park Street (<44>) might be associated with the use of clay ovens. All of it was Roman.

Fabric 1 heterogenous lumpy grog-filled white-buff- coloured clay fabric with occasional small (<10mm) flinty pebble inclusions, burnt-out straw (organic), and pink clay

Fabric 2 a hard light-pink micaceous silty clay fabric with numerous small voids (2-5mm) resulting from burnt-out organic inclusions

Cat. no	Feature	Context/ Interv/SF no <>	Wt. (g)	Nos. pieces	Size (mm)	Fabric type	WC	Notes
19		08	38	2	30-60	2		non-diagnostic daub pieces, one with a flat surface
44		113	106	1	75	1		large lump of daub – probably from a wattle wall panel or oven side. Traces of much greater burning on one face suggests the latter. Assoc with part-calcined chalk lump

Table 4 : Catalogue of burnt clay from Soakaway and Park Street areas

Brick and tile *Simon Timberlake*

A total of **1.16** kg of tile and brick was recovered from the Park Street (0.938 kg) and Soakaway (0.268 kg) excavations, of which at least 0.55 kg was likely to be Roman. Some 24g of this consisted of box-flue (hypocaust) tile, some 30g of it Roman brick, 60-70g of it indeterminate flat roof tile, and 422g *tegula* roof tile. The remainder was most likely, though not certainly Post-medieval, and consisted of a small amount of hand-made brick alongside a mixture of hand-made and machine-cut flat roof tiles, almost certainly derived from the roofs of college buildings. Clearly many of the contexts sampled had re-deposited Roman mixed-in amongst Post-medieval brick and tile.

- Fabric 1* hard-fired brick red sandy clay with small red iron-rich inclusions (<2mm) and v minor burnt-out organic and with sand parting on flat faces (brick)
- Fabric 2* pink-red well-fired silty clay fabric with frequent voids from burnt-out organic and small crushed calcined flint (<3mm)
- Fabric 3* brick red very well-fired homogenous clay fabric with micro-voids (tile)
- Fabric 4* hard fired laminated pink and grey clay fabric with comb-lined surface texture upon both sides and internally some occasional flint inclusions (1-5mm)
- Fabric 5* similar to Fabric 3 but with reduced grey interior

Cat no.	SF no	Feature	Context	No pieces	Weight (g)	dimensions (mm)	Fabric type	description	Tile type
14	Park Street		108	1	80	65 x 80 x 13	3	unabraded tile corner with nail hole	clay roof tiles – modern?
22	Soak		08	1	24	50x45x12	4	unabraded tile fragment with grey paint on one side	box-flue (hypocaust) tile Roman
22	Soak		08	2	30	(1)45x30x10 (2) 25	5+1	edge unabraded tile + abraded brick	Roman?
22	Soak		08	5	170	40-70 x 10-12	3?	slight abraded	Roman ?- Postmed tile
33	Park Street		112	3	240	60 + 80 + 110 x 14 (thick)	3	machine-cut w bevelled edges and nail hole 8-14mm diameter	clay roof tiles – modern?
37	Park Street		113	2	66	(1)60x10 (2)60x11	3	unabraded tile frags yellow(1) + red(2)	Postmed - modern
37	Park Street		113	2	422	135x80x25	3 or 5	right-angled edge of thick tile (unabraded)	Roman <i>tegula</i> roof tile
38	Park Street		113	1	20	45x30x25	2	defined edge	undated brick
49	Park Street (ETr)		113	3	66	30-60x12	5	unabraded tile frags	Roman tile+ x1> Roman PT
59	Soak	18	016	1	44	45x40x20	1	v weathered	Roman? brick

Table 5 : Catalogue of tile from the Park Street site

Iron slag *Simon Timberlake*

A single piece of Roman iron-smithing slag weighing **306 g** was recovered from the Soakaway.

<50> A barely magnetic smithing hearth base (SHB) of dimensions 90mm x 70mm x 50mm (306 g) with a large suture where this had broken off from the tuyere end. There is little about this which is diagnostic of the date of the ironworking, yet it came from the fill of a Roman quarry pit (014). Inclusions of charcoal were noted within the underside of the piece. The presence of a relatively unweathered and intact SHB is suggestive of small-scale iron smithing having taken place somewhere in the near vicinity.

Romano-British Pottery *Francesca Mazzilli*

Three Romano-British pottery assemblages from Park Street, the Soakaway and Basement areas were analysed as separate assemblages, but then jointly examined in the final discussion.

Methodology

All of the pottery was examined visually and details of fabric, form, decoration, use-wear and date were then recorded in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 1994) and the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998): see Table 5. All the percentage figures used in this report are based upon sherd counts.

A significant percentage of this Roman pottery assemblage occurs residually within Medieval and Post-Medieval mixed deposits. However, since it is believed that all of the Romano-British pottery arrived at the site during the Romano-British period, rather than being introduced at a later date through dumping etc., all of this material has been treated as a single assemblage.

Park Street Area

An assemblage of 462 sherds of Romano-British pottery weighing 8813g (mean sherd weight 19.07g) was recovered from the trenches on Park Street.

Assemblage composition

Despite the occasional presence of Roman-British pottery mixed in with post-Roman pottery in layers, the assemblage still had a high mean sherd weight (19.07g), suggesting that the soil disturbance was lower than expected, particularly in view of its location within a modern urban area. The high mean sherd weight also implies that this pottery did not travel far. However, no semi-complete vessels have been recovered.

There is no pottery of the first century AD apart from a single Samian ware fragment. In fact, from the small quantity of pottery that can be narrowed down chronologically (just 100 sherds), only 36% can be dated to the late first-second century AD, 18% to

the late second-third century AD, and the majority to late third-fourth century AD (46%).

As is quite typical of Romano-British assemblages in Cambridgeshire unsourced local coarse wares dominate (65.15%; 301 sherds, 3644g). These consist of: coarse and fine sandy greywares with or without white slip, coarse and fine sandy oxidised wares with or without white slip, black-slipped wares, reduced coarse sandy wares, whitewares, shell-tempered wares and grog-tempered wares (see Table 1). This whole group can be dated to the second-fourth century AD, with the exception of the grog-tempered and shell-tempered wares which date to the third–fourth century AD. The latter types comprise roughly 10% of this group.

The sourced pottery which can be dated to the early Roman period (roughly the second century AD) in this assemblage are recovered in just small quantities. They are: Black Burnished 1 (6 sherds, 357g), Verulamium or Godmanchester whiteware (4 sherds, 84g), and Colchester whiteware (11 sherds of a mortarium, weighing 1497g). Horningsea oxidised ware and greywares were also recovered in small quantities (i.e. 14 sherds, 546g). However, a couple of pieces of Nene Valley whiteware, possibly third century AD, were also recovered (these include 2 sherds of mortarium, 36g).

In spite of the predominance of unsourced local Romano-British coarse wares, the high percentage of fine wares and the variety of these is remarkable (24.67%; 114 sherds, 1055g). As is typical of Romano-British fineware assemblages from this area, Nene Valley colour-coated wares dominate (71.92% of the fine wares; 82 sherds, g.680). However, Samian ware from Gaul was also well represented (18.42% of the fine wares; 21 sherds, 230g), together with non-local Late Roman fine wares (mid/late-third–fourth century AD). These consist of Oxfordshire red-slipped ware and parchment ware (8 sherds, 52g), Hadham red-slipped ware (6 sherds, 102g) and New Forest-slipped ware (2 sherds, 34g). The Nene Valley colour-coated and parchment sherds that were recovered ranged from the second to the fourth century AD. Amongst those examples of the latter that can be more closely dated the majority of them appeared to be second-third century AD beakers with rouletting decoration, with a few of them presenting white, and more rarely red painted decoration, and dating to the late third-fourth century AD (14 sherds). A couple of the Samian and Nene Valley colour-coated fragments were burnt.

The dating of Gaulish Samian ware sherds from this assemblage ranged from the first to the early third century AD (AD10-230), with the majority dating to the second century AD. The Samian wares in this assemblage came from the centre of Gaul (mostly from the kiln Lezoux: 6 sherds), from the south (mostly from the kiln Grafesque: 5 sherds), the east (6 sherds), and from the north-east (2 sherds). Gaulish Samian ware sherds from the assemblage were dated to between the first and fourth centuries AD, but the majority is second century AD (42.85%). The latter come from Central Gaul, Southern Gaul (2 sherds, 21g), Eastern Gaul (6 sherds, 39g) North-eastern Gaul (3 sherds, 40g). Three Rhenish ware sherds were recovered which seem to have come from a kiln in the centre of Gaul, either Lezoux or Trier (Brulet *et al.* 2010). This is not a common ware in Cambridgeshire.

There is no significant pottery sherd from this assemblage that requires further discussion.

A variety of vessel forms could be identified (Table 6), with only 30.73% of the assemblage being composed of non-diagnostic body sherds. The most common vessel form identified was jars (35.31% of all diagnostic sherds (=113 sherds, 1612g)), followed by bowls (31.87% of all diagnostic sherds (=102 sherds, 2377g)).

Apart from in local greyware, oxidised + reduced wares and black-slipped ware, the jar form occurs within finewares such as the Nene valley colour-coated and parchment wares and Hadham red-slipped ware. This shows evidence for the use of jar forms in the late Roman period (third-fourth century AD). The rims of these forms are mostly everted, but some are plain and med-mouthed. Apart from in local greywares, reduced, shell-tempered and black-slipped wares, the bowl form is also used for Black-Burnished 1, Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware and fine wares. The latter include Oxfordshire and Hadham red-slipped wares and the Nene valley colour-coated wares. In fact this form is used throughout the Roman period. The rims of these bowls are mostly plain, with a few of them everted, beaded and flanged.

A further 16.87% of the diagnostic sherds were beakers; most of these consisting of Nene valley colour-coated ware, usually full neck indented beakers from the second-third century AD complete with rouletting and/or barbotine decoration (Perrin 1999, 89 ff.). Three beaker fragments were of Rhenish ware, dating to the second-third century AD from the Lezoux or Trier production sites within the centre of Gaul; the form of these most likely Baet.314 (Brulet *et al.* 2010). A further beaker fragment was composed of Hadham red-slipped ware dating from the mid/late third century-fourth century AD, and another Samian (Drag.22) from AD10-30 (Webster 1996).

The quantity of dish forms present within the assemblage was low (i.e. 4.06% of the diagnostic sherds). Apart from two black slipped ware and Black burnished 1 sherds in a plain rim dish form, this form mostly occurs in Samian ware, and is predominantly Drag.31 or 32(R). The other Samian dish forms within this assemblage are Bet 25 and Che 108 (Brulet *et al.* 2010).

Fabric	No.	Wt. (g)
Black-Burnished 1	6	357
Black-slipped ware – unsourced	85	1301
Colchester whiteware	11	1497
Coarse sandy greyware – unsourced	45	992
Coarse sandy oxidised ware - unsourced	19	172
Fine sandy greyware – unsourced	33	394
Fine sandy greyware (white slip) – unsourced	6	82
Fine sandy oxidised ware – unsourced	1	3
Fine sandy oxidised ware (white slip) - unsourced	8	40
Grog-tempered ware	4	137
Hadham Red-slipped ware	6	101
Horningsea greyware	6	353
Horningsea oxidised ware	8	193
Nene Valley colour-coated ware/parchment	12	90
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	70	590
Nene Valley whiteware	2	36

Fabric	No.	Wt. (g)
New Forest-slipped ware	2	34
Oxfordshire red-slipped ware	7	50
Oxfordshire parchment ware	1	2
Oxfordshire whiteware	2	61
Reduced sandyware – unsourced	74	1722
Rhenish ware	3	5
Samian ware	1	13
Samian ware (Central Gaul)	6	117
Samian ware (East Gaul)	6	39
Samian ware (North-East Gaul)	3	40
Samian ware (South Gaul)	2	21
Shell-tempered ware	26	351
Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware (white slip)	3	71
Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware	1	13
Whiteware – unsourced	3	23
TOTAL	462	8813

Table 6 : Romano-British pottery by fabric type (JWC15 Park Street)

As regards cups there are two black slipped ware sherds and a Samian ware sherd, specifically of the form Drag.35, dating to AD200-230.

This assemblage also includes a small quantity of mortaria fragments. Eleven of these are from Colchester (AD120-200) and two from Nene valley whiteware (possibly third-fourth century AD).

Form	No.	Wt. (g)
Beaker	54	337
Bowl	102	2377
Castor box	1	10
Cup	3	24
Dish	13	224
Jar	113	1612
Lid	2	36
Mortarium	13	1533
Storage vessel	18	683
Unknown	143	1979
TOTAL	462	8811

Table 7 : Romano-British pottery by form

One rim of Nene Valley colour-coated castor box has been found and dates from the middle-late third century AD. One Nene Valley lid, presenting both barbotine and rouletting decoration was recovered, and can be dated to the late second-late third century AD (Perrin 1999, 209 fig.52).

One coarse sandy greyware base appears to have been reworked to make it round, and was incompletely perforated in the middle; this suggests that it was meant to be reused for a spindlewhorl. However, as the centre hole was not fully perforated it was probably never utilised.

Feature Analysis

Most of the Roman pottery finds came from the layer contexts (in particular (113)) rather than from features. However, layer contexts (109) and (112) also contained post-Roman pottery.

Feature 102

This contains a variety of pottery from the late-first/second century AD to the third/fourth century AD. These consist of black slipped ware, reduced coarse ware, fine and coarse sandy greywares (second to fourth century AD), Horningsea oxidised ware and Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware (dating from the second century AD), and shell-tempered ware (third/fourth century AD).

Feature 103

This Roman pottery dating from late-first/second century to the third/fourth century AD. These consisted of black slipped ware, reduced coarse ware and coarse sandy oxidised ware (all of them dating to the second-fourth century AD), Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware and Samian (dating to the late first/second century AD), Nene Valley colour-coated ware (second to the fourth century AD), and Hadham red-slipped ware (mid-late third to the fourth century AD).

Soakaway Area

A small assemblage consisting of 97 sherds of Romano-British pottery weighing 1656g (mean sherd weight 17.07g (or 12.42g if we don't consider amphora fragments) was recovered from Trench 1 of the Soakaway area. Some sherds of this assemblage occurred residually within the Medieval- Post-Medieval mixed deposits. However, as with Park Street, all of this material is treated as a single assemblage.

Assemblage composition

The relatively high mean sherd weight of 17.07g associated with pottery from Roman features and overlying layers suggests that soil disturbance was not as high might be expected given the location of this site within a modern urban area. Nevertheless, no semi-complete vessels were recovered.

There is no pottery from here that can be exclusively dated to the period of the first century to fourth century AD, although most of it can be roughly dated to the second to third-fourth century AD. As is typical of Romano-British assemblages in Cambridgeshire, unsourced local coarse wares dominate (79.31% (=78 sherds, 866g). These consisted of buff sandy ware, whiteware, shell-tempered ware, coarse and fine sandy greyware (with or without white slip), coarse and fine sandy oxidised ware (with or without white slip), black-slipped ware and reduced coarse sandy ware (Table 7). The above group can be dated to the second to the fourth century apart

from the shell-tempered ware, which dates to the third–fourth century AD. The latter formed a relatively high percentage of this (19.23% of the unsourced Romano-British pottery (=15 sherds, 141g).

Looking at the sourced coarseware pottery, some four sherds were recovered (84g) which came from either Verulamium or Godmanchester. In fact, this was the only sourced pottery which could be dated to the early Roman period (late first/second century AD) in the whole assemblage, with the exception of Samian. Horningsea greyware was recovered in extremely small quantities (just 4 sherds, 161g). However, two imported storage vessel sherds are of interest: these are of Dressel 20 amphora from Spain. This amphora type dates to between the first and third centuries AD (Williams and Peacock 1983). The recovery of Dressel 20 fragments is not that unusual, given that this is a widespread type in Britain (Williams and Peacock 1983; Tyers 1996) and one the most common amphora types in Cambridgeshire (see Pullinger in Alexander & Pullinger 1999, 113). Despite that, the recovery of amphorae sherds can still provide some insight into the significance of the site, given that they are not extremely common (in Cambridgeshire) and do not appear in huge quantities in England away from the coast. Two handles of Dressel 20 amphorae were also recently found within St Clements Garden, roughly 200 metres away from West Court (see Mazzilli in Cessford *in prep.*). The recovery of this ware at both sites is interesting, given that it indicates the significance of trade and imported goods in this area during the Roman period.

Fabric	No.	Wt. (g)
Baetican amphora (Dressel 20)	2	476
Black-slipped ware – unsourced	13	205
Buff sandy ware – unsourced	5	106
Coarse sandy greyware – unsourced	10	85
Coarse sandy greyware (white slip) – unsourced	3	16
Coarse sandy oxidised ware - unsourced	13	107
Coarse sandy oxidised ware (white slip) - unsourced	1	38
Coarse sandy oxidised ware (reddish/brownish slip) - unsourced	3	7
Fine sandy greyware – unsourced	8	91
Fine sandy oxidised ware (reddish/brownish slip) - unsourced	1	2
Horningsea greyware	4	161
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	5	24
Reduced sandyware – unsourced	6	68
Samian ware (South Gaul)	4	46
Shell-tempered ware	15	141
Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware	4	84
TOTAL	97	1656

Table 8 : Romano-British pottery by fabric type

Fine wares constitute a smaller percentage of the whole assemblage (9.2% (=9 sherds, 70g). These include four Samian ware fragments from the south of Gaul, possibly from the kiln of Grafesque, plus five Nene Valley colour-coated ware sherds (i.e. second to the fourth century AD). From the Samian ware group three sherds can be dated to AD80-120 and one small Samian sherd to AD40-80. One of the Nene Valley

colour-coated sherds presents a rouletting decoration that appears to have been used in the late third century AD (Perrin 1999, 94 N167).

A variety of different vessel forms were identified (Table 8), although 70.1% of the assemblage was comprised of non-diagnostic body sherds. The most common vessel represented was bowls, consisting of 37.93% of all diagnostic sherds (=11 sherds, 112g). This occurred in shell-tempered, black slipped, reduced sandy ware, coarse sandy oxidised ware, and Verulamium/Godmanchester whitewares. By contrast there were only 18 sherds of other vessel forms (i.e. jars, beakers and storage vessels). This included one or two sherds each for dish, cup or amphora. Jar forms were identifiable both within fine sandy greyware, black slipped ware and Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware. Beaker forms occurred in Nene Valley colour-coated ware, whilst storage vessels were restricted to Horningsea greyware. As expected, both dish and cup forms occurred in Samian; Drag.18 and Drag.27 respectively.

Form	No.	Wt. (g)
Amphora	2	476
Beaker	5	72
Bowl	11	208
Cup	1	1
Dish	2	44
Jar	4	39
Storage vessel	4	161
Unknown	68	655
TOTAL	97	1656

Table 9 : Romano-British pottery by form

Feature Analysis

It is difficult to more closely-date the various features in this site given that they mostly present unsourced local Romano-British pottery which date from the second to the fourth century AD. Even in those cases where there is pottery present which can be more closely dated to the second or the third-fourth centuries AD, this is often mixed with earlier or later Romano-British material. Only in few cases can we suggest a late Roman date because of the presence of shell-tempered ware dating from the third-fourth century AD.

Feature 1

This contained a variety of pottery dating from late-first/second century to the third/fourth century AD. Amongst this were reduced coarse wares, coarse sandy greywares and oxidised wares dating from the second to the fourth century AD. Finewares included Samian (AD80-120), Nene Valley colour-coated ware from the second/third century AD and shell-tempered ware from the third to the fourth century AD.

Feature 2

This contained one Verulamium/ Godmanchester whiteware sherd (dating roughly to the late first/second century AD) and a shell tempered ware sherd, which dates to the third/fourth century AD.

Feature 3

Contains only 4 shell-tempered ware sherds from the third-fourth century AD, indicating it was a late Roman feature.

Feature 4/17

Contains a variety of pottery dating from the late-first/second century to the third/fourth century AD. This includes some unsourced black slipped ware, some coarse oxidised as well as fine-coarse greyware, and some Horningsea greyware, all of which date to the second-fourth century AD, and some Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware dating roughly to the late first/second century AD. One Nene Valley coloured-coated ware sherd was also recovered but we cannot narrow down its date. A single amphora sherd has a date range from the first to the third century AD.

Feature 13

This can be dated to the late Roman period on account of the recovery of a shell-tempered ware sherd from the third-fourth century AD together with some unsourced coarse sandy greyware and oxidised ware from the second to the fourth century AD.

Feature 16

Dates to the late Roman period based on the recovery of a shell-tempered ware sherd from the third-fourth century AD alongside some unsourced coarse sandy oxidised ware, fine sandy greyware and Horningsea greyware dating from the second to the fourth century AD.

Feature 18

This only contained an amphora sherd dating to the first-third century AD. It is interesting that a sherd of the same amphora type has also been found in the ditch F.4/17 which is recut by F.18.

Layer Context 15

This horizon was found to contain a variety of pottery dating from late-first/second century to the third/fourth century AD together with some post-Roman pottery. The pottery includes unsourced black slipped ware, coarse oxidised greyware, buff sandy ware, and some Horningsea greyware, all dating to the second-fourth century AD, some shell-tempered ware dating to the third-fourth century AD, and some Samian ware dating to AD80-120. One Nene Valley colour-coated ware sherd was also recovered, but we cannot narrow down its date.

Basement Area

An extremely poor assemblage consisting of 34 sherds of Romano-British pottery weighing just 519g (with a mean sherd weight of 15.26g (0.7 EVEs)). This was recovered from a larger area than the other two sites.

Assemblage composition

The assemblage had a mean sherd weight of 15.26g. This is a relatively high value which is skewed perhaps by the size of six large Horningsea ware fragments weighing

223g. The mean sherd weight suggests that the disturbance of soil was not as high as expected, given that the site is situated in a modern urban area. It also suggests that the Romano-British pottery did not travel far. Nevertheless, it would seem that the fineware sherds are extremely small, making it difficult to narrow down their dating. No semi-complete vessels were recovered.

There is no Late Iron Age or Roman Conquest material within the assemblage, and only one sherd of Samian can be dated to the first century AD. Moreover, due to the small quantity of pottery recovered and the scarcity of fine wares, it has proved difficult to closely date the assemblage, therefore the site, with most pottery sherds being unsourced local wares which date most probably from the second to the fourth century AD (i.e. 47.06% of the whole assemblage (=16 sherds, 213g)). These consist of coarse and fine sandy micaceous (or non-micaceous) greywares, coarse and fine sandy micaceous or non-micaceous oxidised wares (with or without white slip), and reduced coarse sandy ware (Table). Amongst the various unsourced local wares only the shell-tempered ware sherds can be securely dated to the late Roman period (i.e. third-fourth century AD (=7 sherds, 48g)). Horningsea ware comprised a high percentage of the whole assemblage (17.65% (=6 sherds, 223g)).

Fine wares made up a quite small percentage (11.76%) of the whole assemblage. Amongst these were three Samian ware sherds (first-second century AD) and a Nene Valley colour-coated ware sherd from a possible beaker (dating to the second to the fourth century AD). Samian ware fragments came from the centre of Gaul (Lezoux) (i.e. 1 sherd, 27g), from the east of Gaul (Trier) (1 sherd, 3g), plus another from the south of Gaul (1 sherd, 3g). It is not possible to more closely-date these fineware sherds apart from just one Samian rim from the South of Gaul which can be dated to the first century AD on the basis of its form (possibly Form 22). There is no significant pottery sherd(s) from this assemblage which requires any further discussion.

Fabric	No.	Wt. (g)
Coarse sandy greyware – unsourced	2	14
Coarse sandy micaceous greyware - unsourced	6	104
Coarse sandy micaceous oxidised ware - unsourced	1	14
Fine sandy greyware – unsourced	3	35
Fine sandy oxidised ware – unsourced	1	1
Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware – unsourced	1	7
Fine sandy oxidised ware (white slip) - unsourced	2	29
Horningsea greyware	2	150
Horningsea oxidised ware	4	73
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	1	2
Reduced sandyware – unsourced	1	9
Samian ware (Central Gaul) (Lezoux)	1	27
Samian ware (Eastern Gaul) (Trier)	1	3
Samian ware (Southern Gaul)	1	3
Shell-tempered ware	7	48
TOTAL	34	519

Table 10 : Romano-British pottery by fabric type

Some 61.76% of this assemblage is composed of non-diagnostic body sherds (= 21 sherds, 233g) (see Table 10). Indeed it has been possible to discern the storage vessels and beakers only from the size and the fabric of the body sherds. Storage vessels occur within the Horningsea ware (i.e. 6 sherds, 223g) whilst the beaker has been made from Nene Valley colour-coated ware (i.e. 1 fragment, 2g) (see Table 9). Three everted jar rims were recovered; these occur in shell-tempered ware, fine sandy greyware and fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware. Similarly, the three Samian ware sherds appear to have come from three different dish-type vessels. As the fragments were extremely small it was possible to infer the form type of these in only one instance i.e. that of Form 22 which was dated to the first century AD on the basis of a small fragment of the beaded rim (Webster 1996).

Form	No.	Wt. (g)
Beaker	1	2
Dish	3	33
Jar	3	28
Storage vessel	6	223
Unknown	21	233
TOTAL	34	519

Table 11: Romano-British pottery by form

Feature Analysis

It is difficult to more closely-date features on this site as most of these present un-sourced pottery dating from the second to the fourth century AD. In few cases we can suggest a late Roman date because of the presence of shell-tempered ware dating from the third-fourth century AD.

Feature 402

This can be dated to the late Roman period on the basis of five shell-tempered ware sherds of third-fourth century AD date together with some un-sourced local coarse and fine sandy greywares dating to the second to the fourth century AD.

Feature 408

This feature contained pottery which could be dated to the second century AD (i.e. Samian ware and Horningsea oxidised ware) alongside a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker sherd which couldn't be more closely-dated (however we can still suggest a second to the third century AD date).

Feature 413

Contained a Samian ware sherd dating from the first century AD together with a local fine sandy greyware sherd which could be dated to the second to the fourth century AD.

Feature 416

This feature can be dated to the late Roman period because of the recovery of shell-tempered ware sherds dating from the third-fourth century AD alongside an un-sourced local fine sandy oxidised ware with a white slip dating to the second - fourth century AD.

Feature 433

This was also dated to the late Roman period on the basis of the presence of shell-tempered ware sherds dating from the third-fourth century AD alongside some unsourced local fine sandy greyware dating from the second to the fourth century AD.

Discussion

Although Park Street, Soakaway and the Basement have been looked at as three separate sites in terms of their pottery assemblages, these sites may also be considered as a whole to give us a significant addition to the known material from the 'lower town'/roadside suburb of Cambridge. This can offer a useful insight into the nature and extent of the settlement, as well as the location of its nucleus, based partly on the diversity of their pottery, its density, quantity, and quality.

None of the three assemblages contain any Roman Conquest pottery. Instead we see pottery which dates from the late first century/second century to the fourth century AD, a period during which local Romano-British coarse wares dominate, as expected from other Romano-British assemblages in Cambridgeshire. The collective assemblage clearly indicates that the three areas form part of a Roman settlement. The recovery of third-fourth century shell-tempered pottery within features in all three areas, contrasted by the absence of features with exclusively second-century pottery, supports the late Roman date assigned to the larger site. As such we are probably not looking at a multi-phase occupation in Roman times.

Mixed layers with Roman and post-Roman pottery occur both in Park Street and the Soakaway areas. This implies a degree of disturbance of the soil during later period(s). However, since it is believed that all the Romano-British pottery arrived at the site during the Romano-British period, rather than being introduced at a later date through dumping etc., the material from both mixed layers and stratified features has all been treated as a single assemblage. Moreover, the relatively high mean sherd weight of the pottery at all three sites supports the contention that the soil was not so highly disturbed, and that the Romano-British pottery had not travelled far (Table 12).

Site	Park Street	Soakaway	Basement
Mean sherd weight	19.07g	17.07g (12.42g excluding amphora)	15.26g

Table 12: Mean sherd weight of Romano-British pottery assemblages from Park Street, Soakaway and Basement areas.

The Romano-British pottery assemblage from Park Street is the richest in terms of sherd numbers (462 sherds, weighing 8813g), despite the small extent of the evaluation trench (4m by 5m). By comparison, the assemblage from the Soakaway contains only 97 sherds, weighing 1656g, which was recovered over a wider area (20m by 10m). Finally the assemblage from the Basement consisted of only 34 sherds, weighing 519g, which was found in a much larger excavation trench of roughly 18m by 30m. The high density and quantity of the pottery found within the small trench at Park Street indicates the significance of this area compared with the other two (Table 13). This is also supported by the much higher percentage of finewares from here compared to the other two areas (Table 14).

Site	Park Street	Soakaway	Basement
Quantity (per sherd)	464	97	34
Wt. (g)	8813	1656	519
Measurement of the area excavated	4m x 5m	10m x 20m	18m x 30m
Fine wares (% based on the number of sherds)	24.67%	9.2%	11.76%

Table 13: Quantity per sherd and weight of Romano-British pottery assemblages from Park Street, Soakaway and Basement areas, the extent of the sites and the fine ware percentage.

The significantly high percentage of fine wares recovered from Park Street (24.67%) is an indicator a fairly urbanized way of life in this part of Roman Cambridge, particularly when we consider that fine wares from a typical rural site constitute a much smaller percentage, as was the case at Northwest Cambridge (i.e. 5% of the whole assemblage) (see Anderson in Cessford & Evans 2014, 195). A similarly high percentage of fine wares (22.8%) was recovered from the nearby excavation of St Clements Garden, roughly 70m north-west from the Park Street area (see Mazzilli in Cessford *in prep.*). This suggests that the nucleus or the wealthy area of the ‘lower town’/roadside suburb of Cambridge was most probably situated close to the River Cam (which lies just 100-150m distant of Park Street), whereas the other Jesus College sites were located on the outskirts. This picture is supported by the analysis of the pottery assemblage, and is validated by the proximity of the latter to the late Roman cemetery and the loci of pottery production, both typically found on the outskirts of settlement (Alexander *et al.* 2004). Also the hypothesis of Jesus College being on the outskirts of the wealthier suburb of Cambridge is supported by the much smaller percentage of fine wares (8.67%) recovered on Jesus Lane where a Roman cemetery, pottery kiln, and ditches of the Roman settlements were identified (see Monteil in Alexander *et al.* 2004).

This division between the Park Street /St Clements area and the Soakaway/ Basement area of West Court is even clearer when we look at the types of fine wares recovered from the two different sites. From the former came Oxfordshire red-slipped, Hadham red-slipped, Forest-slipped, and Nene Valley or Oxfordshire parchment wares (see Mazzilli in Cessford *in prep.*), whereas from the latter came just a few Samian and Nene Valley colour-coated ware sherds. The latter are common within almost any urban or rural sites in Cambridgeshire, although the former aren’t (see Monteil in Alexander *et al.* 2004, 84–87; Anderson 2004; Anderson in Newman 2008; Anderson in Cessford 2012; Anderson in Cessford & Evans 2014; Mazzilli in Cessford *in prep.*). The greater variety of the imported wares indicates perhaps the relative wealth of the source and destination settlements.

Looking in more detail at the dating of the fine wares recovered from Park Street, there seems to be a predominance of fine wares dating to the second-third century AD (i.e. 43.66% of fine wares that can be close dated) alongside a moderate amount of late Roman pottery (i.e. late third-fourth century AD =32.39%) (Table 13). However, if we consider the fine wares together with the coarse wares that can be more closely-dated, the assemblage appears mostly to be late third-fourth century AD in date (46%). In fact these two percentage findings are pretty similar to that of the pottery from St Clement’s Garden. Whilst the Park Street assemblage was smaller than that from St. Clement’s (i.e. 1,942 sherds (see Mazzilli in Cessford *in prep.*), the data still

supports the idea of there being a ‘lower town’ /roadside suburb here which continues into the Late Roman period (Mazzilli in Cessford 2016). This interpretation contrasts with the earlier decline of settlement suggested by the pottery analysis from previous excavations upon sites on or near to Jesus College (i.e. Whittaker 2003, 9; Monteil in Alexander *et al.* 2004, 84–87; Evans & Williams 2004, 24; Newman 2008, 61 ff.; Anderson in Newman 2008; and Anderson in Cessford 2012, 7–8) and Castle Hill, Cambridge (Anderson 2004). For a more detailed discussion and comparison of the data see British-Romano pottery report from St. Clement’s Garden (Mazzilli in Cessford 2016).

In terms of individually important discoveries, the Nene Valley colour-coated and parchment sherds with their white painted decoration from Park Street, plus the two amphora sherds from the Soakaway are of interest, and the former should be illustrated.

Period	%	No. of sherds
First century	5.63%	4
Second century	18.30%	13
Second-third century	46%	31
Mid/late third-fourth	32.39%	23

Table 14 : Breakdown of fine wares from Park Street into phases

APPENDIX 2
Feature Descriptions

Basement Area

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
400	shallow ditch + SW terminus	U-shape NE-SW	(400-401]	7.5	0.7	0.1-0.2			humic sandy gravel	none	?
401	quarry pit	irregular E-W?	(402-404]	5m	4m+	0.45		TP1	dk red silty sand (402); dk orange silt sand + gravel (403)	blk slip pot + large jar (403)	Roman
402	later shallow quarry pit/truncation	sub-circular	(405-407] (509-510]	3.8		0.4			brwn sandy clay and gravel (406); sandy clay w cobbles (405); blk-brwn silty gravel (509)	pottery	Roman
403	quarry pit	irreguar + sub-circular	(408-410] (520-521]	2.7+	2+	0.4			dk brwn sandy clay+ gravel (408); dk red sandy clay gravel (409); dk red silty clay (520)		Roman?
404	shallow ditch + NW terminus	U-shape WNW-ESE	(411-412] (465-468] (524-5]	16	0.5-1	0.1-0.5			dk red sandy clay+garavel (411); grey red brwn sandy gravel (465+467); brwn red grey gravelly silt		Roman?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
405	mod deep-shallow ditch + NW terminus	V-shape - flat base + re-cut WNW-ESE	(413-415] (420-423] (460-462] (476-477] (499-500] (511-512] (513-515] (532-533]	26	0.4-1	0.2-0.7			dk brwn red sandy clay+ gravel (413); dk brwn-red sand, clay redeposit gravel (414); red brwn gravel + stone (420+421); dk brwn loose sandy clay (460); brwn clay + yellow sand gravel (461); red brwn silty gravel (476); dk red brwn silty clay (499); dk blk brwn silty clay (511); dk red brwn silty clay (515); mid red brwn silty clay (513); dk red slity clay+stones (532)	none	Roman?
406	quarry pit	irregular	(416-417]	1.8	0.5+	0.25			reddish brown sandy clay (416)	none	Roman?
407	quarry pit	oval/ irreg + flat base	(418-419]	1.5	>0.3	0.25			reddish brown sandy clay w gravel and stone (418)	none	Roman?
408	shallow ditch + E terminus	U-shape flat base WNW-ESE to E-W	(443-444] (516-517] (530-531]	13	0.3 - 1.5	0.15 - 0.4			soft loose brown- dk grey silt with patch gravel (443); dk red brwn silty clay (516 + 530)	pottery (Samian)	Roman

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
409	posthole	flat base + sub-circular w post-pipe	(424-426]	0.3	0.35	0.2			mid red-brwn silty gravel (424); dk red-brwn silty gravel (425)		?
410	posthole	flat base + sub-circular	(427-429]	0.3	0.2	0.1			light yellow-orange sand (427); dk red brwn silty gravel (428)		?
411	shallow ditch	U-shape flat bottom NNE-SSW to N-S	(430-432] (463-464]	11+	1-1.5	0.33			loose dk brwn clay and gravel (430); redeposited clay, sand, and gravel (431); mid to dk grey silt (463)	animal bone	post-Roman?
412	small quarry pit	U-shape flat bottom + sub-circular E-W	(436-438]	2+	0.3-0.4	0.1-0.15	cut by F.416, F.429 + F.413		loose yellow-white gravel w humic (436); gravel with dark humic (437)	none	Roman?
413	shallow ditch	U-shape flat WNW-ESE to E-W	(439-440]	5m	0.5-0.7	0.15-0.25	cuts F.429 (sk), F.412, F.414, F.432		dk grey-brwn gravelly silt w redeposit cobbles (439)	animal bn + human bn + pot	Roman
414	short ditch	U-shape round base WNW-ESE	(441-442]	2+	0.2-0.3	0.3	cut by F.413, cuts F.412		dk grey gravelly silt (441)		Roman

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
415	quarry pit	flat-round bottom + sub-circular	(445-448]	5	1.3-1.5	0.55	cut by F.405 + F.408		grey to red-brwn mottled sandy silt (445); red brwn silt + gravel (446); orange-red silt gravel (447)	x1 pot	Roman
416	quarry pit	flat sloping base E-W	(433-435]	5	0.75+	0.4	cuts F.437?, cut by F.413 + F.432		grey brn gravelly silt (433); gravel-rich silty sand (434)	x3 pot (433)	Roman
417	posthole	sub-circular flat base	(458-459]	0.3	0.3	0.05			dk red brwn stony silty gravel (458)	none	?
418	quarry pit		not dug	2+	0.7+		cut by F.401			none	Roman?
419	posthole	circular flat base	(469-470]	0.35	0.3	0.15			dk brwn clay w orange sand + gravel (469)	none	?
420	quarry pit		not dug	1.7	1					none	Roman?
421	quarry pit	irreg N-S flat uneven base	(471-473] (484-485)	1.8+	1.8	0.9-1	cut by F.422 + F.423?	TP2	grey-brwn humic gravelly silt (485); humic gravelly silt (484); grey brwn sandy silt w mod yellow gravel incl (471); dirty orange brwn grey silty sand + gravel (472)	oyster shell (472)	Roman?
422	small quarry pit	sub-circular	not dug	0.8	0.5+		cut by F.432, cuts F.421(?)				Roman?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
423	small quarry pit	sub-circular	not dug	1	0.7+		cuts F.422				Roman?
424	quarry pit	sub-rectang irreg E-W flat base + slope step sides	(501-503]	3+	1.5	>0.4	cut by F.433	TP3	dk grey mottled red-brwn sandy gravel silt (501); red brwn sandy silt w patch dirty gravel (502)	animal bn + pot (501); bn+antler+oyster+pot (502)	Roman
425	quarry pit	sub-circular irreg w flat base + step	(486-487]	2	1.5+	0.3+	cut by F.424?		red brwn to dk brwn grey sandy gravelly silt with flint (486)	none	Roman?
426	quarry pit	sub-rectang oval	not dug	2	1+		cut by F.403			none	Roman?
427	quarry pit	sub-rectang	(522-523]	2	1.5?	0.23	cut by F.404 + F.435		mottled mid grey red brwn silty sandy gravel (522)	pot jar (Hornings)	Roman
428	tree throw/ quarry pit	sub-circular round base	(474-475]	0.8	0.65	0.25	cuts F.32 and F.413		dk grey humic silt with gravel and sand (474)	pot	Roman?
429	quarry pit w skeleton	oval/ irreg lobate E-W + round base	(534-536]	1.9	1.2	0.3	cut by F.408 + F.413		brwn grey silt w sand+ gravel + fl cobbles and sk bn (534); dirty gravel with thin humic lenses (535)	pot (535); human bn (534)	Roman
430	ditch	U-shape flat base NNW-SSE to N-S	(478-479]	2.5+	1?	0.4	cut by F.408		dk red brwn silty gravel with stones (478)	none	Roman?
431	truncated posthole	sub-circular V-shape base	(480-481]	0.3	0.27	0.08+	in base of ditch F.413		mixed mid grey orange (dirty) sandy gravel (480)	none	Roman?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill type	Finds	Period
432	quarry pit	oval NW-SE with flat base	(488-489]	1.1	0.9	0.35	cuts F.413 + F.416, and is cut by F.428: poss latest quar p		dk reddish brwn silty clay w stones (488)	none	Roman?
433	quarry pit	elongate irreg SW-NE + round-flat base	(504-506]	7	2.5+	0.7	cuts F.424 and F.436, cut by F.408	TP3	mottled dk red brwn - grey silty sandy gravel humic (504); loose soft grey sandy silt w occas gravel (505)	pot	Roman
434	quarry pit	oval NE-SW + slope flat base	(507-508]	1.2	0.9	0.15			reddsh brwn silty sand gravel with humic lens on base (507)	none	Roman?
435	quarry pit	irreg E-W + flat round base	(526-527]	3.4	2	0.27	cut by F.405 + F.404, cuts F.427		brwn red-grey gravelly sandy silt, more red to base (526)	pot rim	Roman
436	quarry pit	irreg WNW-ESE + slope base	(537-538]	6	2+	0.2+	cut by F.405 + F.408		redeposit dirty orange-yellow gravel (537)		Roman?
437	quarry pit	part concealed + poorly def	not dug	5	2.5+		cut by F.416?			none	Roman?

Soakaway Area

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Finds	Period
			[007]	site		0.15			v dark grey nr black sandy silt with sparse freq small-med sub-round well sorted gravel		modern?
			[008]	site		0.15-0.35			v dark grey sandy silt with freq small to large angular gravel inclusions, poorly sorted: a re-distributed soil	20thC + re-deposited IA + Roman	modern?
1	pit	N-S oval steep sides+ flat base	(001-002]	1.55	1.32	0.68			(001) dk grey-brown sandy silt with mod freq of sub-angular gravel, well sorted - evenly distributed, edge slumped	oyster, mussels, animal bone, pottery sherds	Roman
2	linear ditch	E-W short length, steep sides+ concv base	(003-004]	6.5	0.65	0.32	F.17		(003) dk brown sandy silt with orange mottl, occas sub-ang gravel, poorly sorted, edge slump grit in base	pottery, animal bone	Roman
3	linear ditch	NE-SW, with steep straight sides+ flat base; poor defined NE terminus	(005-006]	6.5	0.35	0.21	cuts F.8, F.19, F.9, F.10, F.4 & F.17		(005) dk brown silty sand w mod small poor sorted angular-round gravel, uneven distrib	pottery, animal bone + shell	Roman

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Finds	Period
4	linear which joins F.17	N-S broad V-shape ditch with steep straight sloping sides and concv base	(018-024]	longer than ex	3.8	1.45	cuts F.5, F.10, F.11, F.18		(018) dk yellow grey sand silt with freq small round gravel inclusions w thin tip lines E side, (019) dk yellow grey sand silt w mod sub-ang gravel + tip lines E side, (020) pale grey sandy silt (soft) with occas small sub-round gravel, (021+022) v dk grey sandy silt w freq round gravel incl washed out from edge @ 0.35m, (023) basal fill of grey-yellow silty sand w freq sml sub-ang gravel		Roman
5	quarry pit	sub-rectang E-W pit, mod slope irreg sides + flat irreg base	(030-031]	5.5+	3.5	1.2	cuts F.4, F.17, cut by F.13		(030) grey brown silty sand with freq small-large poor sorted sub ang gravel	pottery	Roman?
6	several quarry pit(s)	irregular with var cuts	(032) cuts not allocated	9.5	5.5				(032) reddish brown silty sand freq small sub-ang poorly sorted gravel: overlying spread covering several features (F.9, 19, 10, 11, 20 + 15)	bone	

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Finds	Period
7	quarry pit	N-S sub-rectangular, mod slop concav side	(034-035]	2.2+ beyond ex	1.2+	0.75	cuts F.14 + area of indistinct quarrying		(034) reddish brown silty sand with freq small-med poor sorted sub-ang gravel	bone	
8	linear ditch	N-S, well defined steep straight sides + concv base	(038-039]	8+	0.6	1	cuts F.19, cut by F.3		(038) dk reddish brown sand silt w mod freq small-large mod sorted angular gravel, weathered pea grit in base		Roman
9	pit truncated by later quarries	sub-circular with concave base	(036-037]		0.75	1.4	cut by F.3, F.19, F.10		(036) dk red brown sand silt w mod freq small-med mod sorted round gravel increasing to base	pot incl samian	Roman
10	large quarry pit with multiple cuts in base	sub-rectang E-W, vertic sides + flat base, irreg due to episod quar	(013-014]	5.55	2.25	0.15	cuts F.4, F.11, F.9, F.16, F.17; cut by F.3 + F.19		(013) reddish brown silt sand w freq small-med poor sorted subangular gravel, occas charcoal	pottery, bone, charcoal	Roman
11	quarry pit	sub-rectang, truncated on S side: mod slope concv sides + flat base	(029 + 042]	5+	2.2	1.3	cut by F.10, cuts F.4, F.20 + area of indistinct quarrying		(029) reddish brown silt sand w freq small-med poorly sorted sub-ang gravel		Roman
12	pit	N-S oval shaped, mod slope concv sides + base	(028 + 043]	1.8	1	1	cuts F.17		(028) reddish brown silty sand w freq small-med sub-ang poor sorted gravel		?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Finds	Period
13	exploratory quarry pit?	N-S sub-rectang cut, vertical straight sides + flat base	(027 + 044]	2.5	1.2	1.1	cuts F.5, F.17		(027) reddish brown silty sand with freq small-med sub-ang poor sort gravel		
14	quarry pit	E-W? sub-rectangular, vert sides + flat base	(045-046]	2.1	1.5	0.8	cuts area indistinct quarrying		(045) reddish brown silt sand with freq small-med poor sort sub-ang gravel		
15	quarry pit	E-W sub-rectangular, steep stepped sides + flat concv base	(047-048]	3.1+	1.1+	1.1	cut by F.20?		(047) dk reddish brown silt sand w freq small-med poor sorted subangular gravel		Roman
16	pit truncated by later quarrying	N-S oval pit, mod steep irreg straight sides + flat base	(011-012]	1	0.55	0.3	cut by F.10		(011) grey brown silt sand w freq small-med poorly sorted gravel w charcoal	pottery, animal bone, shell	Roman?
17	terminus of large linear ditch conjoining F.4	N-S broad V-shape ditch w steep straight slope sides +concv base	(009-010]		1.13	0.18			(009) grey brown silty sand w freq small-med mod sorted sub-angular gravel, pea grit in base		Roman

Park Street Transformer Area

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Findings	Period
			[101]	4.2+	5+	0.1			yard surface tarmac		mod
			[102]	4.2+	5+	0.2			reinforced concrete		mod
			[103]	4.2+	5+	0.15			dark grey silty loam with mod frq small-med sub-ang gravel, well sorted	late Med - 19thC pot + bone + abraded Roman	mod
			[104]	4.2+	5+	0.05			lens within [103] of dk brown decayed mortar + fine brick		mod
			[105]	4.2+	5+	0.35			dk grey silty loam with mod freq of small-med sub ang gravel incl, well sorted		mod
modern	robbed out wall	E-W	[106]			0.3			fill of [107] dk grey silty loam w freq large-small ang yellow brick and mortar, poor sorted	19th-20thC brick	mod
modern	robbed out wall cut	E-W	[107]			0.25	cuts [108]		cut - steep nr vertical sides w flat base		mod
			[108]			0.85			v dark grey silty loam with occas small-med gravel incl, well sorted	late Med - 19thC pot + bone + abraded Roman	mod?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Findings	Period
			[109]			LoE			v firm dk grey clay silt with mod freq small-med sub ang gravel incl, mod sorted, with occas thin lenses red-brown sandy gravel	Roman pottery (?) less abraded than in upper layers	Roman?
modern	robbed out wall	E-W	[110]			0.15	same as [106]?		dk grey silty loam with freq large-small ang yellow brick frag + mortar, poor sorted	19th-20thC brick	mod
modern	robbed out wall cut	E-W	[111]			0.15	same as [107]? cuts [012]		cut - steep with concave sides + concave base. Shallower segment of same feature as [007], but upper section removed by machine		mod
			[112]			0.5			v dark grey silty loam with occas small-med gravel incl, well sorted	late Med - +19thC pot + bone + abraded Roman	mod + Med base to this?
			[113]			0.6			v firm dk grey caly silt with mod freq small-med sub ang gravel incl, mod sorted, with occas thin lenses red-brown sandy gravel	freq frags bone +Roman pot (as [009])	Roman?

Feature no.	Feature type	Orientation/ shape	Context nos.	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	cuts/ cut by	Test Pit	Fill/ layer type	Finds	Period
101	oval-round pit	E-W	[114]	1.1+	0.75+	0.1 - 0.35			fill: dk grey clayey silt with mod freq small-large sub ang gravel inclus, mod sorted, evenly distributed		Roman?
101	oval-round pit	E-W	[115]	0.7		0.1 - 0.25			fill: dk grey clayey silt with patches orange-brown slight clayey sandy gravel + freq small-large sub ang gravel inclus, poor sorted, more freq towards base		Roman?
101	oval-round pit	E-W	[116]	1.1+	0.75+	0.3	cuts natural		cut: shallow concave sides and rounded base		Roman?
102	oval-shaped small pit with patch of cess	N-S	[117]	1.2	0.9		cuts F.105 + natural		cut - not excavated		Roman?
103	oval-shaped small pit	E-W	[118]	1.1	0.9		cuts natural		cut - not excavated		Roman?
104	curvilinear ditch(?) with N terminus?	N-S	[119]	2.6	0.6		cut by F.102, cuts natural		cut - not excavated		Roman?
105	possible round posthole		[120]		0.45		cut by F.102, cuts natural		cut - not excavated		Roman?

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OASIS ID: cambridg3-243729

Project details

Project name	West Court, Jesus College, Cambridge
Short description of the project	<p>Between March and the end of October 2015 archaeological monitoring was carried out of building works being undertaken in the West Court area of Jesus College. Four sites were monitored, only three of which produced archaeology; the Park Street (entrance), Hockey Pitch and Basement. All of three sites had Roman features within them, with evidence of Medieval, Postmedieval and modern truncation above. Within the Hockey Pitch area two trenches revealed a series of late Roman ditches, pits and postholes cutting an earlier phase of quarrying which consisted of eight intercutting quarry pits truncating an earlier boundary ditch. The Park Street investigation consisted of two small but slightly deeper trenches which revealed three oval-shaped Roman pits (one of which contained a large amount of pottery), the terminus of a curvilinear ditch and a posthole. The Basement was the largest area (28m²), which like the Hockey Pitch contained a band of intercutting Roman quarry pits truncated by three parallel WNW-ESE ditches associated with what was probably the same late Roman field system, all of this being cut by a NNW-SSE boundary ditch of uncertain date. A single truncated human burial was found face down within one of the probable quarry pits, and it can only be assumed that this was Roman in date. This area of Jesus College between Park Street and Jesus Lane would appear to be part of a moderately busy extramural landscape associated with the Roman town, with evidence for quarrying, cemeteries (at Jesus Lane and Park Street), and also field system(s).</p>
Project dates	Start: 01-03-2015 End: 21-10-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	JWC15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4418 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	FIELD DITCHES Roman
Monument type	QUARRY PITS Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	PITS Roman

Significant Finds	HUMAN SKELETON Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	WHETSTONE Roman
Significant Finds	SPINDLEWHORL Roman
Significant Finds	BURNT CLAY Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Roman
Significant Finds	IRON SLAG Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Large/ medium scale extensions to existing structures (e.g. church, school, hospitals, law courts, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Jesus College, Cambridge
Postcode	CB58EL
Study area	500 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 585 451 52.080833333333 0.313333333333 52 04 51 N 000 18 48 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 7m Max: 10m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Christopher Evans
Project director/manager	Alison Dickens
Project supervisor	David Webb
Project supervisor	Simon Timberlake
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Jesus College, Cambridge

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Archive ID	JWC15

Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Industrial","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Archive ID	JWC15
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Human Bones","Industrial","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Archive ID	JWC15
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Human Bones","Industrial","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Matrices","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	West Court, Jesus College, Cambridge Archaeological evaluation and monitoring
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Timberlake, S + Webb, D.
Other bibliographic details	Report no. 1319
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Place of issue or publication	University of Cambridge
Description	Pdf and A4 printed version: 25 pages and 5 figures including photos of sites and hypothetical map of Roman 'lower town'. Colour photo cover, bound
Entered by	Dr Simon Timberlake (st410@cam.ac.uk)
Entered on	24 February 2016

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