Roman and Medieval Archaeology at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge

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Two trenches revealed a core of activity from the second–fourth century and the twelfth–fourteenth century, in which five main phases were identified. The first, dated to the second century, comprised two wells and a possible quarrying hollow, all set upon and above hillside terracing. A significant quantity of structural debris, including decorated daub, was recovered from one of the wells, as well as five near-complete vessels also. Second to third century activity of Phase II was of another series of pits associated with a well and possibly a rammed floor excavated in a previous investigation adjacent to the project area. The line of the hill's walled defences (Phase III) was traced by a substantial Medieval robbing episode (Phase IV), with subsequent nearby occupation (Phase V) evinced by pits of a similar date. Amongst the importance of the investigation is the degree that it potentially attests to the distinctly civic status of Castle Hill during the Romano-British era.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful throughout for the co-operation of Ron Kay of the University of Cambridge's Estates Development, plus also Richard Stewart and Patrick Watson at RLF, and Steve Clarke and Phillip Joyce of SDC. Andy Thomas, Cambridge County Council, monitored the programme, and we appreciated the interest shown towards the work by Andrew Nairne and the staff of the gallery itself.

Aided by Francesca Mazzilli and Tim Matzliach, the fieldwork was overseen by Matt Wood and Marcus Brittain, with the CAU's programme managed by Evans and its finds work organised by Justin Wiles; the surveying was undertaken by Jon Moller and Jane Mathews, with site photography by Dave Webb.

1. INTRODUCTION

Owing to major renovations and building works begun at Kettle's Yard Art Gallery the Cambridge Archaeological Unit was commissioned to undertake a programme of monitoring and investigation of its underlying archaeological deposits known from previous interventions there (Figures 1 and 2). The area's Roman sequence was deemed to be a priority with previous observations of its walled and earthwork defences in the vicinity remaining somewhat ambiguous. The project was carried out during latter part of 2015, and revealed evidence significant to a greater understanding of Roman Cambridge.

The work entailed the opening of three areas of archaeological investigation, designated here as Areas A-C, and comprised the gallery's main entrance (Area A), the gallery's western-third of the ground floor (Area B), and the main gallery's basement (Area C).[1] The trenches and archaeological features/deposits were entirely excavated with hand tools and recorded using the CAU modified version of the MoLAS recording system (Spence 1990). The trenches and features therein were digitally photographed in high resolution RAW and JPEG format and then planned at a scale of 1:20, with trench and feature sections drawn at 1:10. Heights were obtained by using a Dumpy level against a benchmark of 14.614m OD on the northeast corner of St Peter's church. All plans were correlated with fixed points on the OS grid using a Geographic Positioning System (GPS). Environmental sampling of the archaeological deposits was strategically conducted as bulked (bagged) samples. Information detailing the character of the trenches was recorded on a data sheet that, along with the digital photographic record, has been catalogued together within an archive following the procedures outlined in MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006). These are being stored with the processed material finds record at the CAU offices, under the site code KYE15.

Topographic/Geological Context and Background

Kettle's Yard is sited upon one of Cambridge's steepest hillside slopes (centred on TL44535909) immediately south of St. Peter's Church cemetery and fronting onto Castle Street to the east. The gallery is positioned mid-way along the hill's landfall at an elevation of *c*. 10.8m OD at street level, and overlooks the River Cam at the base of the hill; the highpoint cap of Castle Hill lies to the northwest. However, this present-day topography is the result of considerable soil mobility, and various locations along the hill's southeast landfall have experienced accumulation of sediment up to *c*. 5.0m thickness. Topographic profiles of the hill have provided a useful aid in relating height and geology with various earthworks and findings from the hill's summit to the river terrace below (Hughes 1894; Gray 1921; Figure 3). More recently, a compilation of the heights at which differing phases of archaeology have been encountered from the top of Castle Street to Magdalene Street in the lower river valley has illustrated a distinct accumulation of deposits following the Romano-British occupation that has gradually reduced the slope's declination (Cessford 2013). This thickening of the soil overburden ranges from *c*. 1.5m at *c*. 20m OD to *c*. 5.0m at *c*. 4.5m OD, and masks a landscape in which a sharp drop of the hill's profile

[1] In addition, relating to the insertion of a temporary crane-base, an area of *c*. 5 x 10m was opened up immediately alongside Northampton Street. Thought possibly to coincide with the line of the Roman town ditch as indicated on Alexander and Pullinger's 1999 map (Figure 6.1), the cutting only went down to a depth of *c*. 0.50m and, therefore, no archaeology whatsoever was exposed therein.

may be registered on its southeast approach between Kettle's Yard and the Folk Museum.

Variation in the hillside geology has been observed at a number of locations. The geology towards the base of Castle Hill is a projection of Gault clay overlain by lower chalk marl and capped by Pleistocene sands and gravels of varying thickness (Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 11–12). However, 4-5 Castle Street, which is positioned on the hillslope at *c*. 7.0m OD, a perched watertable was noted as near to the ground surface in a band of soft gravelly sand sealed between harder gravels and clayey marl (Cessford 2011). The hydraulic character of the hillslope is likely to have changed in response to several millennia of human intervention, which is important to consider in the context of Kettle's Yard's archaeology.

Before progressing, the area's archaeological and historical background warrants summary:

Romano-British – At least since the nineteenth century there has been notable interest in the archaeology of Castle Hill, and although numerous investigations have been conducted, the hill's urban context has generally limited the scale of possible investigation. This has posed a number of difficulties for an understanding of the sequence and nature of its archaeology. Nonetheless, this has been addressed in a number of publications (Alexander and Pullinger 1999; Evans 1999; Cessford with Dickens 2005; Evans and Ten Harkel 2010). the publication of Alexander and Pullinger's (1999) *Roman Cambridge* a growing number of interventions have been carried out across the vicinity of Kettle's Yard: Cow and Calf public house (Mortimer 2000), Castle Mound (Fairbairn 2009, 2012; Webster 2013), 18 and 18a St Peter's Street (Dickens 2002), 4-5 Castle Street (Slater 2010; Cessford 2013), The Folk Museum (Dickens and Amour 2002; Cessford 2003), Chesterton Lane Corner (Mortimer 2000; Cessford and Dickens 2005), as well as Sunnyside House (Wills 2003) on the east side of Castle Mound. These have provided further insight to the development of the southeast landfall of Castle Hill, which may be brought further into context in the light of investigations along its southwest landfall (see Collins 2013) and in particular along the Cam riverside: the School of Pythagoras (Newman 2013), St. John's Triangle (Newman 2008) and St Clements (Cessford 2016).

The basic narrative that has emerged shows some continuity of ceramic traditions from the Late Iron Age into the earliest Romano-British occupation of the hill's crest. The immediate pre-Roman communities occupied enclosed settlement prior to the founding of a rectangular ditched enclosure or fortlet in the first century AD. The hill's occupation during the first–second centuries appears to have been broadly distributed, and has frequently been located across its summit and hillside as well as the low-lying river valley. In terms of the pottery frequencies observed across the hill's investigations (Anderson 2004), this represents the most populous phase of activity. Gradual decline of the density of occupation of the hill may be observed in the third and fourth centuries although, by contrast with this decline, the hill's enclosure by substantial defensive earthworks and a stone wall is attributed to the later third to fourth centuries.

Two roads have been identified with the early phases of Romanised settlement at Castle Hill. A Late Iron Age foundation for Akeman Street has been proposed with a first century AD establishment for the Via Devana (Evans and Ten Harkel 2010, 54-5). Although their exact courses are a subject of debate, the former is thought to be aligned north-northeast to south-southwest, with the latter entering the later settlement's defences in the northwest and turning southward with the natural slope of the landfall immediately east of the roads' crossing and following the slope downhill broadly in line with today's Castle Street, where it has most likely been observed at Chesterton Corner (Mortimer and Regan 2001).

Approximately twenty buildings of the first to second century have been identified across Castle Hill. At the Folk Museum, immediately southwest and below Kettle's Yard, a beam slot for a first century building has been identified, with occupation extending into the second century (Cessford 2003). The building's dimensions could not be ascertained, but in the few cases where this has been determined there are varying scales of floorplan, the longest wall being over 6.1m (House 5a) with the shortest (House 3a) recorded as 3.0m (Alexander and Pullinger 1999). The most basic surviving floors have been composed of compacted earth, whereas more elaborate structures utilise a foundation of hardened marl either as layers of rammed rubble or as multiple upright blocks. The latter of these is represented at Kettle's Yard (Evans 1994; 1999). It is not clear as to when this floor was constructed, although its use during the third century has been postulated. This was in proximity to a group of

features that included a circular well and a rectangular pit or 'tank' that were connected by a short deep gulley. These may have served some form of water-related processing, perhaps with flax fibres and, containing structural debris and pottery dated to the third century, their contemporaneity with the floor/building has been postulated. In effect, these and the features exposed in the 2015 excavation reported here are to be examined as a single 'site', and this is taken into account in the Discussion below (Section 3).

Wells have been found across Castle Hill with straight vertical sides and with both a circular or squared plan and occasionally partially retaining a timber lining (Alexander and Pullinger 1999). The depth of these varies between 1.5 and +6.4m, which reflects the diversity of the geology and relative depth of the watertable across the hill. Instances of unusual deposits within a number of the deeper wells has prompted consideration of their ritual significance; this has led to interpretation of well clusters from the second century at Ridgeons Garden South/Comet Place as representative of a shrine complex (*ibid*.) – a conclusion that may be open to question.

The features exposed at Kettle's Yard in 1994 were set within and upon a shallow terrace cut against the hillside. It is likely that the southeast hillside was subject to additional and varying scales of terracing (Cessford 2011, 26), although the nature and sequence of these has not been obtained from the hitherto small areas of investigation. Towards the base of the hill and within the valley of the River Cam, cobbled and paved trackways have been observed as leading to the waterside at the School of Pythagoras (Newman 2013) and in the grounds of Magdalene College (Walker 1911). These illustrate the diversity of resources and land-use that was available upon the hill's southeast landfall.

The status of the communities that occupied Castle Hill has been an issue of some debate, and whether or not this may be classed as a town has been of particular interest (Evans and Ten Harkel 2010). A substantial building or *mansio* built of stone masonry was examined in Castle Court, and the combination of hypocaust, *opus signinum* and painted plaster could signify the building's importance (Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 39-40). Constructed at some point in the second century, and subject to later modification, the building remained in use into the third century. But it is through the hilltop's later enclosure by substantial defences within the third to fourth century that the hill's possible urban character has been cited. These consisted of a ditch and inner bank, the latter's outer face supported by a large stone wall facing, *c*. 3.0m wide (Alexander and Pullinger 1999). Where observed along the circuit's north, northeast and east sides, the defensive ditch and rampart are both up to 12m wide, the ditch having been cut to a maximum depth of 3.4m. At St Edmund's College a trench excavated in 1985 traced the northeast wall and ditch over an area of 20m whereby it was shown that the wall was positioned *c*. 12m behind the ditch, with a butt-end marking the east (Fen) gate. The relationship of the wall/bank to the ditch has not been observed elsewhere on the hill and it has been argued that the wall and rampart were erected together, although exact phasing of the defences has not been fully determined.

A conjectured course for the circuit of the hill's Roman defences has been proposed on a number of occasions since the nineteenth century (e.g. Figure 4). Unfortunately, the locations at which the defences have been encountered during excavation (as recorded in Alexander and Pullinger 1999) may in most cases be only approximately mapped. Greatest certainty of the character of the defences may be directed to the north and west of the hill where a number of observations have been recorded since the 1960s. The course of the east line of the defences is less certain, having been proposed on the basis of a single trench opened in 1985 (SH85) somewhere beside the rampart of the Medieval castle bailey. Similarly, understanding of the southern defences, situated on the hill's steepest landfall, is far from clear. A Cambridge antiquary, John Bowtell (1753-1813) reported having seen the foundations of the Roman wall as standing in 1804-1810 on its west, north and east sides, noting that 'Whether the southern face of this enclosure was walled or not, we cannot yet say' (Walker 1911, 188). The possible existence of the defensive wall on the southeast hillside has been tentatively suggested owing to Roman brick found within the fabric of St. Peter's Church. This presence was confirmed in Kettle's Yard in 1984, upon the construction of the new gallery during which a trench revealed the footings of a substantial wall (Pullinger 1984). This stood to a height of 0.5m, over which 'was a thick layer of burnt material, containing sherds of eleventh to twelfth centuries' (Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 65; Figure 5). The location of the trench has been approximately located in Figure 2. Beneath the wall's inner face was a sherd 'of fourth century red polished ware' with 'fragments of mortaria, flagons and tiles' all incorporated within the footings. This was estimated to be at least 2.5m wide and, although the published plan and section is considerably lacking in any detail, a judgement of its scale would claim that the base of the wall lay at a depth of *c*. 3.0m, and the possibility that this abutted the outer face of a rampart (this also having been cut by pits) was inferred. To the west of this, on Honey Hill Green in Northampton Street, the hill's defensive ditch was observed in a trench opened in 1949 (RCHM(E) 1959, no. 15; Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 60; Figure 5), but again its exact location remains inconclusive.

Castle Hill's southeast landfall is clearly important to any understanding of the character of Roman settlement in Cambridge. The broad distribution of settlement has provided little explanation for the subsequent enclosure of the hilltop in the fourth century, and the defended settlement's civic status is not certain. Moreover, the nature and relationship of the defensive earthworks and the stone wall to activities on the southeast hillslope is open to question, and the project reported here is a rare opportunity to explore this.

Post-Roman – Understanding of Castle Hill's post-Roman story has recently been summarised by Cessford and Dickens (2005), with notable finds of (Middle) Saxon to post-Medieval phases demonstrating the continued importance of the southeast hillside and the attraction of the Roman defences upon which an eleventh century timber motte and bailey were erected and then remodelled and expanded in the twelfth–thirteenth centuries. During this time a number of collegiate and ecclesiastic buildings were established, including the School of Pythagoras, originally constructed in 1180-1200. Neighbouring today's buildings at Kettle's Yard is the church of St. Peter, which was also established by the twelfth century and perhaps earlier. It is noteworthy that during substantial rebuilding of the church in the eighteenth century a late Roman figurine and fourth century coins were revealed, and Roman tiles and masonry were reputedly incorporated into the church's foundations (Walker 1911; RCHM(E) 1959, 123-32; see also Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Accession no. Z 24977). Roof tiles and tesserae were also recorded from construction works immediately west of St. Peter's Church in 1955 (Alexander and Pullinger 2000, 74). Excavations in 1994 of the passageway leading to Kettle's Yard from Castle Street revealed twenty-five inhumations extending from the cemetery. These were accompanied with iron nails that indicate burial within wooden coffins, and finds included fifteenth–sixteenth century items of copper alloy. The cemetery continued into use into the early post-Medieval period and has been subject to remodelling and reduction in the modern era.

To the north of Chesterton Lane and opposite to St. Peter's Church, the earlier church of St Giles (est. *c*. 1092) is survived in the current nineteenth century building by a late eleventh century chancel arch and fragments of a twelfth century doorway (RCHM(E) 1959, no.52).

At Chesterton Lane Corner excavations of a 4.0m deep shaft encountered a clay floor and wall of a building, through which a wooden box containing a hoard of 1805 silver pennies or sterlings had been placed in the early 1350s most probably by the occupant (Cessford and Dickens 2005, 86-94). A pit possibly of the ninth–eleventh century was identified at the Folk Museum (Cessford 2003), and there are numerous instances of a twelfth–fourteenth century date that were cut into the infilled Roman defensive ditch and accompanying bank. Activities including gardening and horticulture between the late twelfth and late sixteenth century lead to the accumulation of 0.8m of soil at the Folk Museum (*ibid*.), increasing to over 1.0m between Chesterton Lane and the river (Cessford 2011, 25-6). Taking into account the accumulation of later deposits on the hillside, the thickness of this overburden increases to a maximum of 5.0m, and significantly masks the underlying Roman landscape. The significance of this for an understanding of the context of the finds at Kettle's Yard is brought into focus in Section 3.

Cartographic evidence from the sixteenth century depicts a row of buildings as fronting onto Castle Street in the footprint of Kettle's Yard and the Folk Museum. A patchwork of gardens and yards are situated behind these buildings, bordered to the north by the walled cemetery of St. Peter's Church. Large pits containing eleventh- sixteenth century pottery and evidence of threshing and food production have been observed to the rear of the Folk Museum and provide a picture of the activities these may have serviced (Cessford 2003). This is broadly replicated in Fuller's 1634 map of the same area, changing significantly with Loggan's map of 1688 in which a more substantial building is depicted with an extension of smaller buildings – perhaps barns or lean-tos – along the southeast edge of the cemetery border and where the former gardens were situated. Only one rear-side building is located in the later nineteenth century, and Kettle's Yard and the surrounding area were subject to substantial remodelling undertaken in the twentieth century.

Figure 1. Location Plan

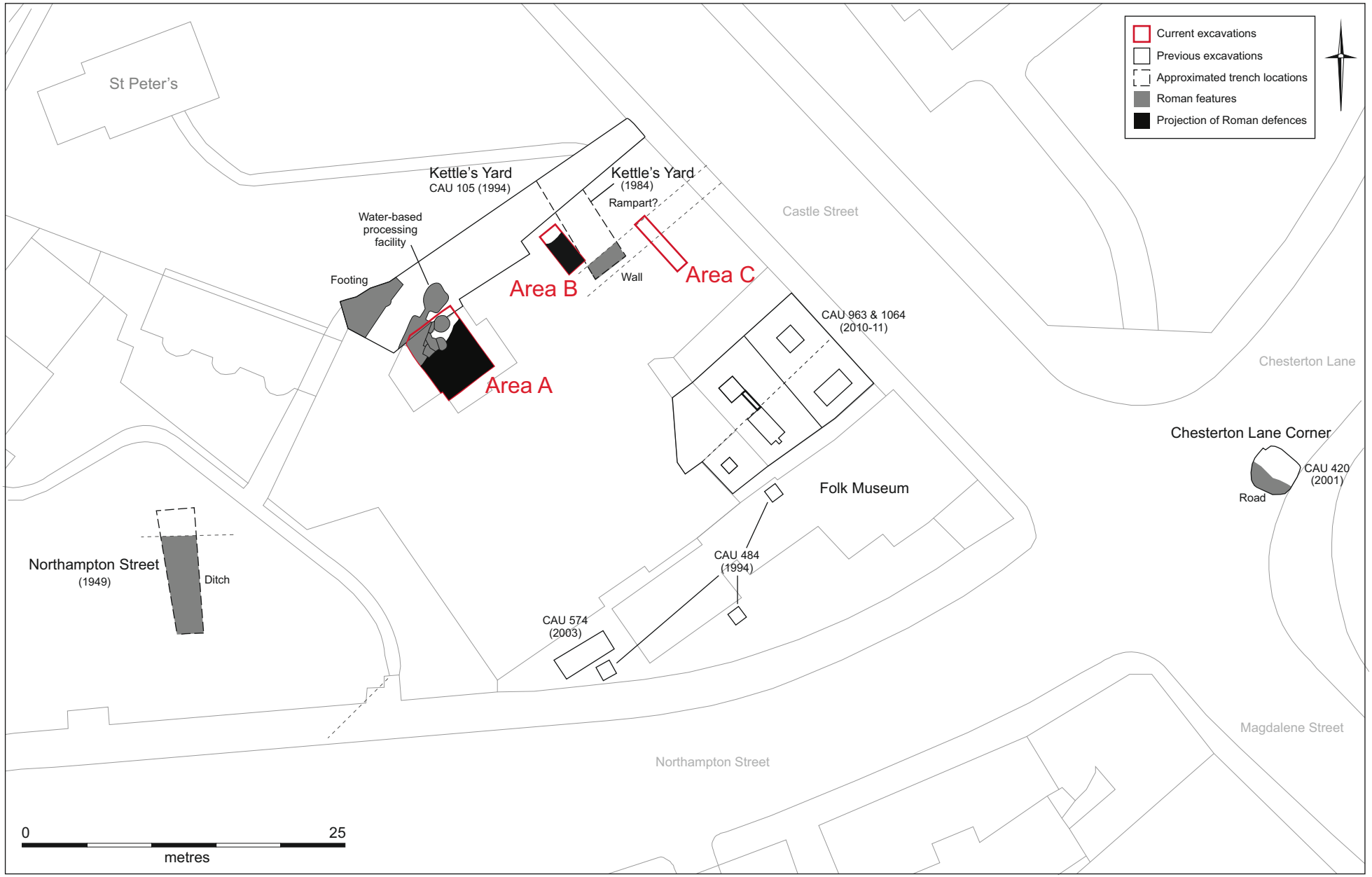
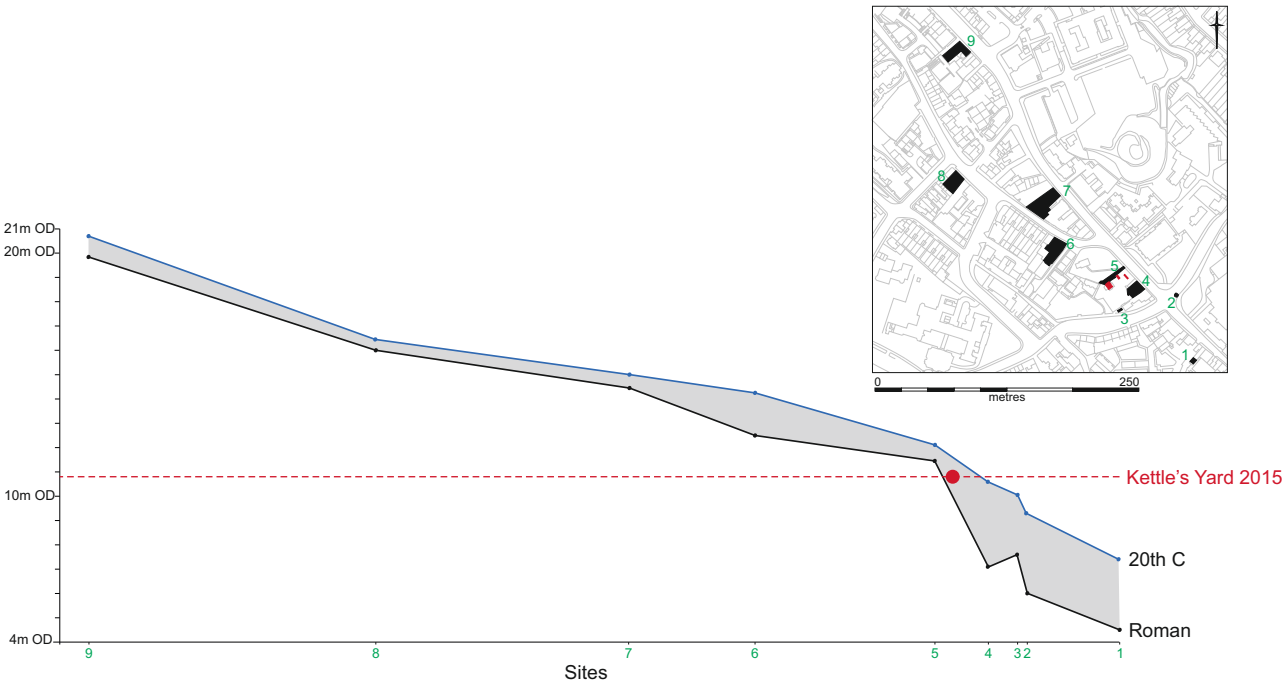


Figure 2. Trench area locations



(After Cessford 2011)

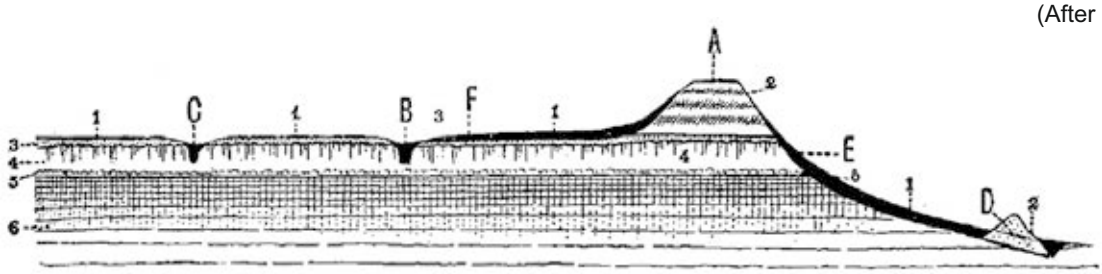
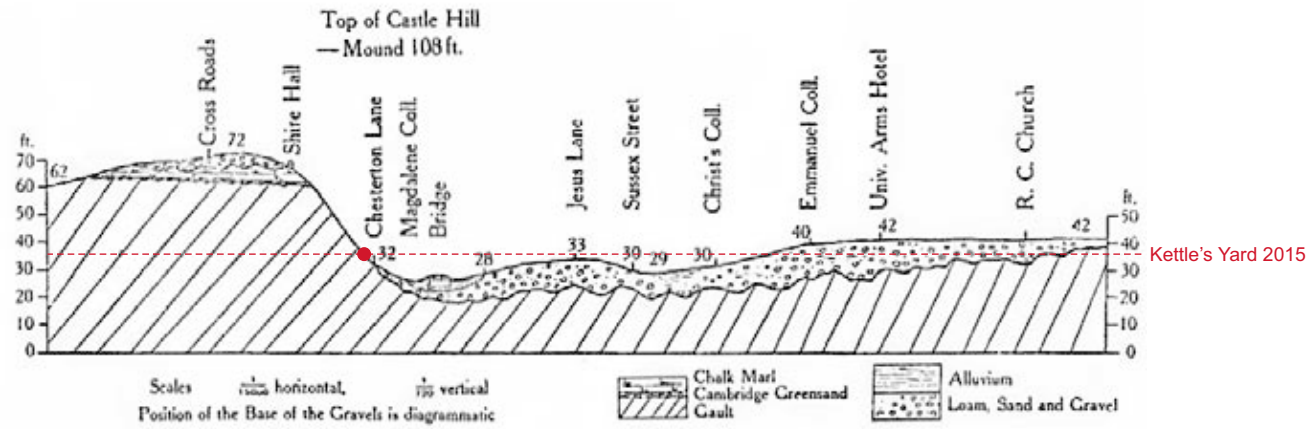


FIG. 2. Section N.E. and S.W. through the Burh. Length of section, 380 yards.

1. Talus and later made earth.
2. Earlier made earth of mound and rampart.
3. Pleistocene gravel.
4. Chalk.
5. Phosphate bed at base of Chalk.
6. Gault.

A. The mound.
B First fosse of Burh.
C. Second fosse of Burh.
D. Bank in Magdalene College grounds.
E. Position of tunnel where solid chalk was pierced after passing through made earth.
F. Position of excavation for new house, see p. 175.

(After Hughes 1894)



(After Grey 1921)

Figure 3. Three profiles of Castle Hill

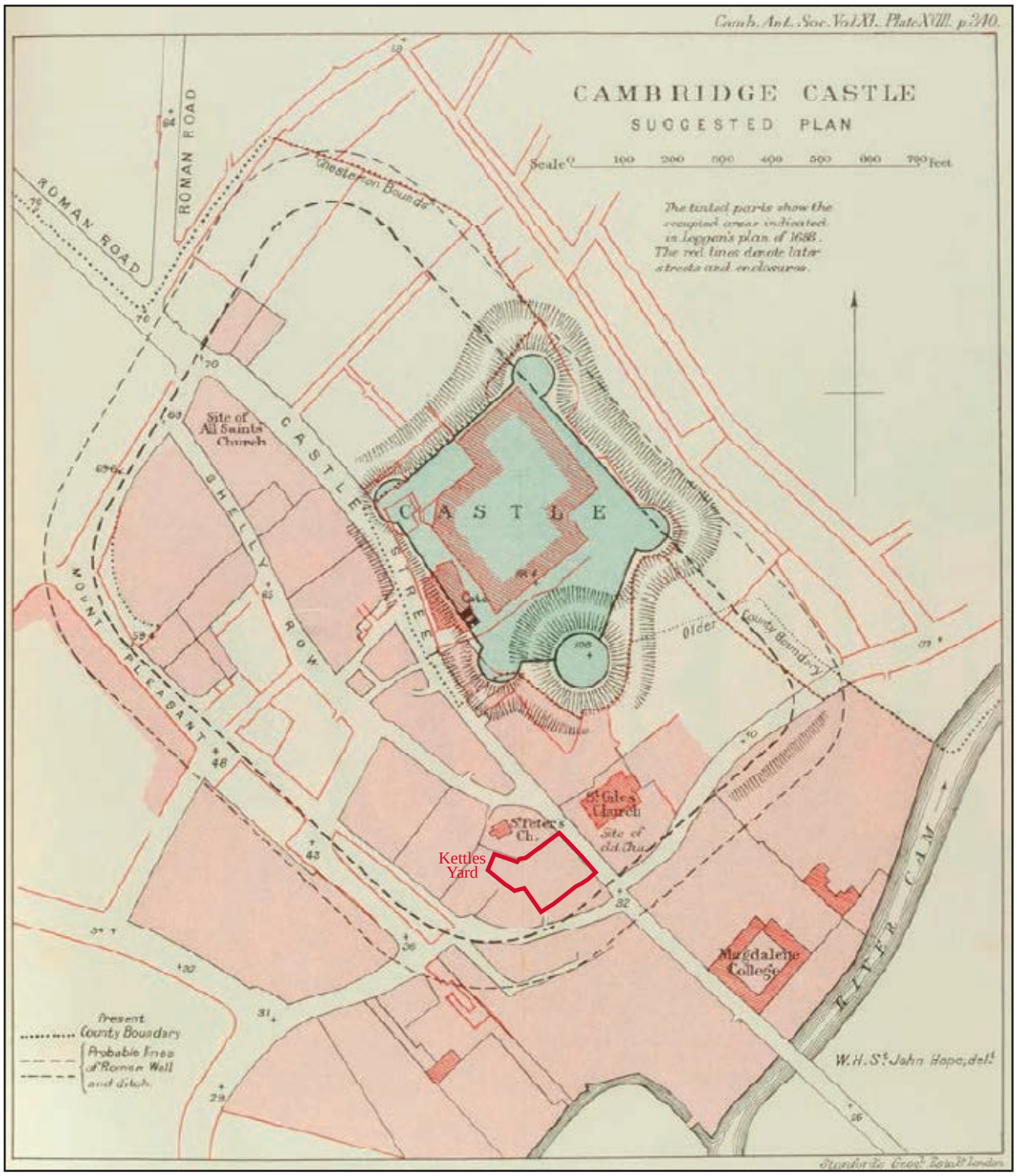
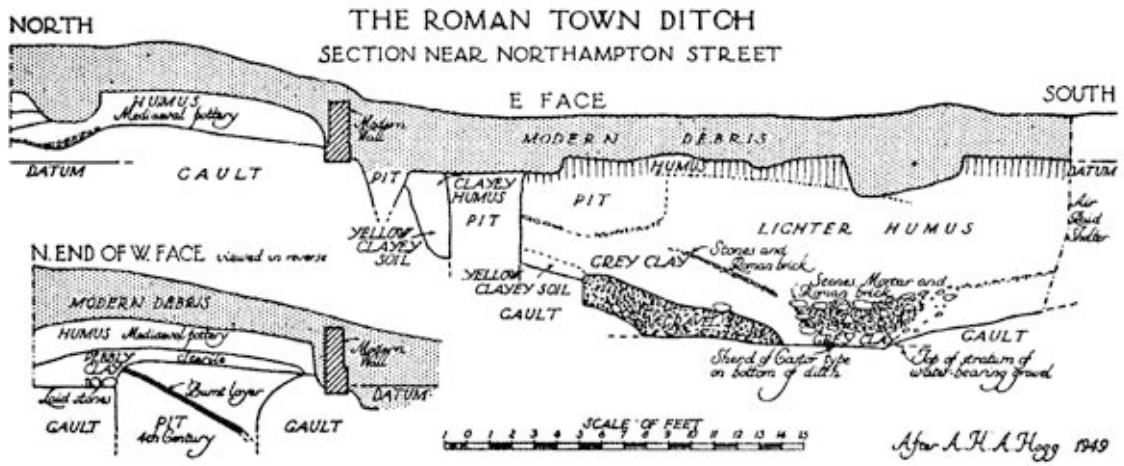
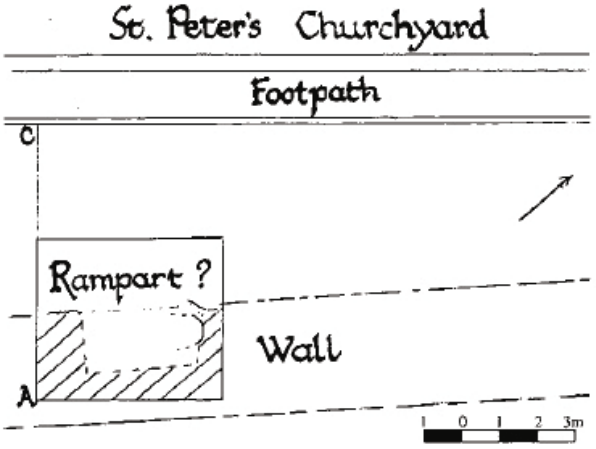


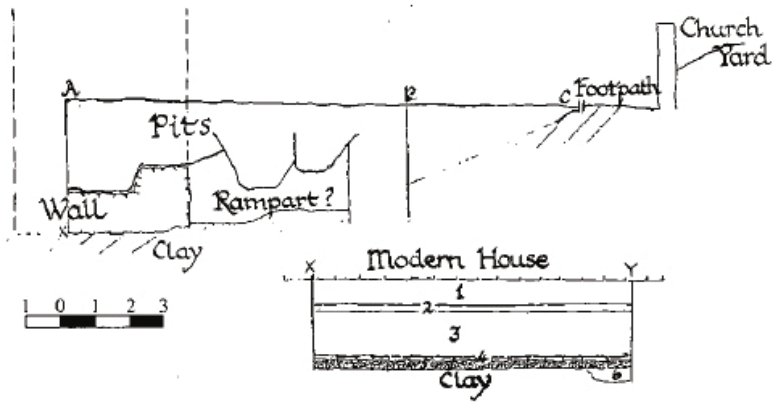
Figure 4. Hope's 1907 plan of the Roman and Norman defences



1949



Kettle's Yard, the town wall



1984

Figure 5. 1949 and 1984 investigations at Northampton Street and Kettle's Yard

2. RESULTS

In Areas A and B there was considerable evidence for Romano-British and late Medieval activity (Table 1); located within a deep basement, Area C revealed only natural clay devoid of any archaeology.

Material	**Number** (weight in grammes)			
	Area A	**Area B**	**F.101**	**F.107**
Burnt Clay	2 (49)	-	-	-
Animal Bone	1318 (8369)	134 (804)	90 (838)	17 (181)
Human Bone	5 (32)	-	-	-
Burnt stone	1 (285)	-	-	-
Brick/Tile	32 (2909)	3 (421)	-	-
Glass	12 (377)	-	-	-
Metal	2 (163)	-	-	-
Pottery	458 (12310)	61 (1539)	83 (1865)	104 (3844)
Shell	72 (1463)	3 (21)	7 (143)	41 (1016)
Tobacco Pipe	10 (34)	2 (5)	-	-
Worked Clay	1025 (193108)	-	3 (334)	1009 (192002)
Worked Stone	1 (868)	-	-	1 (868)
Total	*2938 (219967)*	*203 (2790)*	*187 (3572)*	*1172 (197911)*
	3141 (222757)			

Table 1. Finds totals by trench and category

The core of the Romano-British activity was found in Area A. Overall dating to the second–fourth centuries AD, this comprised at least two (and probably three) main phases of activity. The first, dated to the second century, comprised either a ditch or a terrace-edge and two wells, one cutting a cluster of shallow pits; the other well contained a discrete dump of structural debris within its upper profile, indicating the nearby presence of a building. The second phase is attributed to the second to third century, and is represented by a rectilinear pit only part-exposed on the northwest edge of the excavation area. This conjoins with features investigated in 1994. There is a possible third phase of Romano-British activity that is represented by a line of deep Medieval features that are likely to have robbed the third to fourth century defending stone wall in a fourth phase of activity. Romano-British pottery was found in later contexts in Area B, but contemporary features were not encountered. Both Areas A and B had twelfth–fourteenth century pits that may be divided into two phases. The first comprised the probable robbing of the later Roman wall; the second is a sequence of deep, almost straight-sided pits that cut the infilled robbing trench, and are indicative of nearby occupation. The post-Medieval and modern eras were each represented by drains and layers of truncation resulting from a number of episodes of building construction and modification; the majority of this pertains to the nineteenth century. The results from Areas A-C are presented below by period and their respective sub-phases.

Area A was situated at the southwest of the entrance to Kettle's Yard, adjacent to the 1994 excavations along Kettle's Yard passageway, and covered 25.65sqm (5.7 by 45m). Twenty-one features were recorded from Area A (Table 2), of which eight were assigned to the second–fourth century, three to the twelfth–fourteenth century, and sixteenth–nineteenth century activity is illustrated by an otherwise mixed finds

assemblage from the remaining features. For each of these periods the predominant feature type was pits of varying size; there was no evidence for upstanding earthworks relating to the fourth century defences.

Phase	Features	Description
Post-Roman	100, 108, 109, 110, 112?, 113?, 114? 115, 116?, 128?, 129?, 130, 131	Robber trenches, pits and truncation layers
Roman	101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 117	Pits and terrace

Table 2. Summary of Area A deposit sequence

At a length of 3.6m (1.5m width), Area B was located on the ground floor inside of Kettle's Yard main building. This predominantly comprised features of the twelfth–fourteenth century and nineteenth-twentieth century with a small residual assemblage of Romano-British pottery (Table 3). The project's only prehistoric find of a single pottery sherd was made in Area B.

Feature	Contexts	Romano-British		Post-Roman	
		Number	Weight	Number	Weight
118	567	-	-	6	83
120	571	3	12	32	509
121	587	-	-	1	11
122	575 & 576	4	43	14	708
124	580	1	55	3	103
125	585	-	-	1	15

Table 3. Roman and post-Roman pottery in Area B

Located within a basement at 7.56m OD, Area C covered 4.85 by 1.0m and consisted of a surface of concrete over a brick and tile floor set within a layer of sand. This rested upon solid geology – stiff blue and homogenous clay ([590]; tested to 0.5m depth) – with no archaeology other than a hand-made folded ceramic drain of seventeenth–nineteenth century date, cut 0.1m into the clay (see Figure 10).

Prehistoric

A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was found in Medieval pit F.122 [575] in Area B and was the only indication of prehistoric activity during the project from either of the excavated areas. This was a rim of Middle to Late Iron Age date decorated with thumbed impressions and bonded with sand temper.

Romano-British

Over 98% of the project's Romano-British pottery was recovered from Area A (250 sherds, weighing 6518g). This spanned the first–fourth centuries AD, but with a dominant second–fourth century cohort. 23.9% (1560g) of Area A's Romano-British pottery was found to be residual to post-Roman contexts, with the remaining 76.1% (4958g) of the assemblage having been recovered from six features. Allied with stratigraphic information, eight Romano-British features were identified, comprising five pits, two wells and a terrace-edge or ditch base. In Area B, three post-Roman features contained a total of eight sherds of Romano-British pottery (see Table 6); no Romano-British features were identified there. Sherds from F.120 could be assigned

to the second–fourth centuries AD, which corresponds with Area A's chronological range.

Phase I

Phase I is characterised by a cluster of intercutting features bordered to the east by a ditch or terrace (F.117). The majority of Romano-British features belong to Phase I, dated in the main to the second century, but three of which – F.101, F.107 and F.117 – could possibly have been used into the early third century.

Intercutting 'Scoops'/Hollow

Stratigraphically, the earliest features are F.103 and F.104, which together form an amorphous hollow perhaps comprising of multiple intercutting 'scoops'. Feature 105 and F.106 appear to cut both F.103 and F.104, but may be a contemporary part of the same sequence of shallow 'scooping'. Little by way of distinction could be drawn between the cut and fill profile of F.103 and F.104, which in all likelihood represent an episode of cutting over an area of at least 1.7 by 3.2m oriented northwest-southeast. With a depth of 0.22m the profile of this primary hollow displayed concave sides and a near flat base that was filled with soft greyish brown clayey silt ([520] & [518]) overlying moderately compact sandy silt [519]. F.105 and F.106 are also best considered as a single shallow 'scoop', this time with a rectilinear plan at least 1.1m wide and rounded at the corners, oriented northeast-southwest and cut to a depth of 0.4m with a slight gradual slope from the west. From its basal fill [517] – soft dark brownish grey clayey silt overlain by three similar deposits [515 & 516] varying in their degree of mottling with lighter brown silt – this produced seven sherds of pottery including a sherd of Samian, dated to the second-third century. The southern extent of F105/106 was truncated by post-Roman activity. Finds recovered from the overall hollow included small quantities of animal bone and worked clay or daub (Table 4).

It was not possible to securely determine a relationship between the hollow and well F.101, although their pottery assemblages would suggest that they are broadly contemporary

The hollow – being an incorporation of shallow and irregular scoops – may have been used for localised quarrying of the sandy marl, perhaps for inclusion in the daub mix for a nearby building, and parts of the hollow itself may even have been used in the mixing process.

Wells

Two pit wells were identified: F.101 and F.107. These produced the largest assemblage of Romano-British finds from either of the excavated Areas (Table 1). It is noteworthy that F.107 contained 58% (3844g) of the entire project's Romano-British pottery and 67% of the total number of finds overall, (90% by weight); F.101 accounted for 28.1% of the project's pottery by weight (1865g). Both wells had similar profiles, with straight vertical sides to a flat base, and each were circular in plan.

F.101 (diam. 0.7m, depth 1.3m) - An assemblage of 1810g of pottery and 838g of animal bone came from F.101, with a near-complete vessel represented by sherds unabraded in their appearance. The majority of the pottery (767g) was recovered from the lower 0.45m of the pit [514, 530 & 531] within light brown orange clayish sandy silt of either friable or loose compaction. This included two semi-complete vessels in [514]. The remaining 0.85m was filled with three deposits of soft dark brown clayey silt with medium-sized stones ([512 – 513]). Eight sherds of twelfth century pottery were found in the upper horizon of [512] and were probably intrusive from within layer F.100.

F.107 (diam. 1.4m, depth 1.9m) - The basal fill [510] comprised homogenous loose greyish brown silty clay with a conical profile to a thickness of *c.* 0.35m. Containing only a single small (11g) sherd of pottery, this relatively slow-forming deposit was sealed by a thin band of ash and charcoal [509] overlain by friable reddish orange ashy clay [508] into which a large assemblage of substantial slabs of extensively burnt and vitrified decorated wall plaster had been dumped (192,002g). Both [508] and [509] filled the conical void above [510], together retaining this profile. They also produced 16 long iron nails and a few charred grains of wheat, and snails derived from both freshwater and terrestrial environments were present. Light grey brown silty clay ([507]) filled the remaining 1.15m profile, with 2845g of second–fourth century pottery – including at least five near complete vessels – and a second century fragment of rotary lava quern amongst its finds.

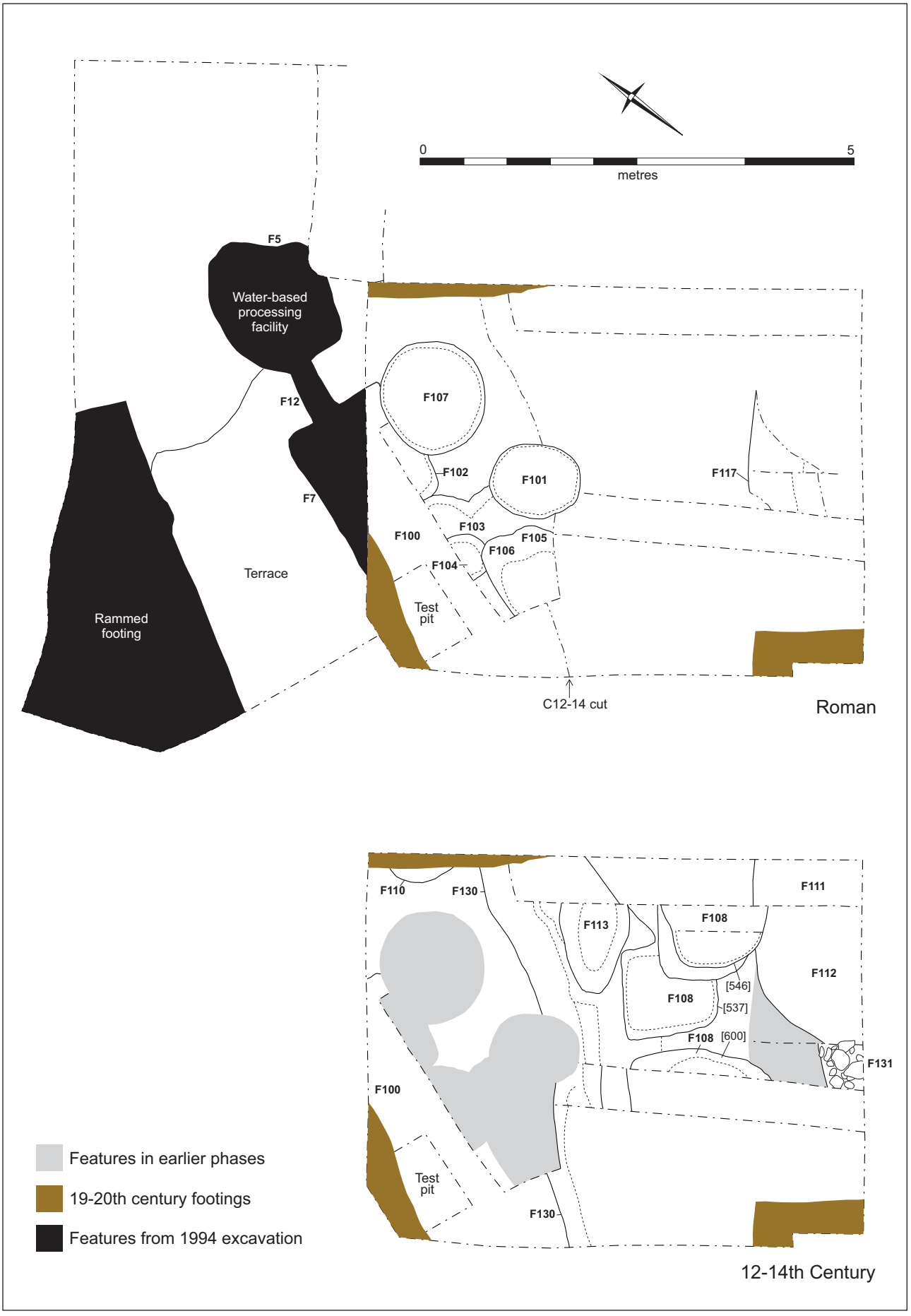
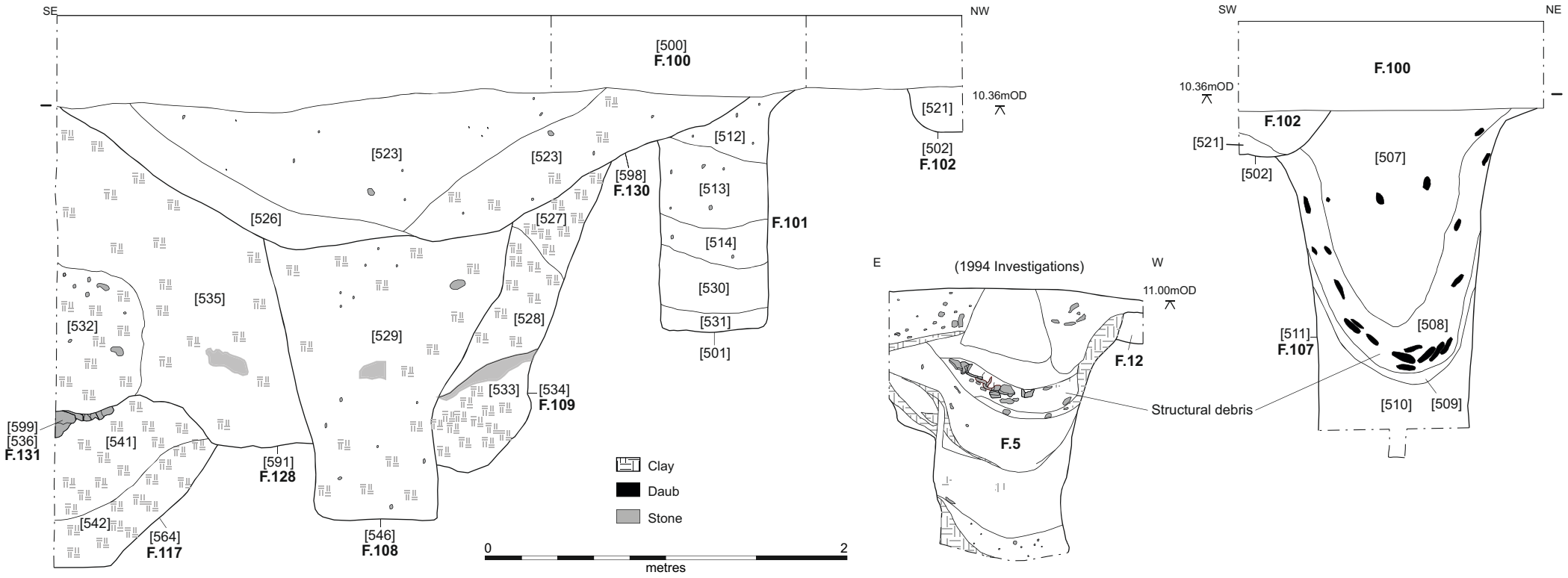


Figure 6. Phasing of Area A



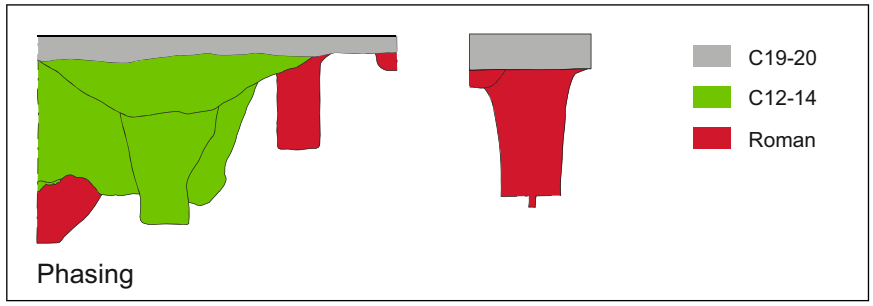


Figure 7. Sections in Area A

North east section

View of Area A facing south west

Roman (Phase 1) terrace/ditch F.117

Medieval features with F.131 rubble over Phase 1 terrace/ditch

Figure 8. Photographs of Area A

	Feature	Pottery no. (Wt)	Animal Bone (Wt)	Worked stone no. (Wt)	Oyster Shell	Worked Clay (Wt)
Scoop/hollow	103	2 (35)	-	-	-	-
	104	-	52	-	1	-
	105	-	-	-	-	-
	106	7 (289)	28	-	1	273
Well	101	83 (1865)	90 (838)	-	7	334
Well	107	104 (3844)	17 (181)	1 (868)	41	192002

Table 4. Summary of finds from wells and scoop/hollow; weight in grammes.

Terrace

Much of Area A to the east of the wells and the hollow was a northeast–southwest swathe of intercutting Medieval features. These had removed all earlier features, with one exception: F.117. This was encountered at a depth of *c*. 2.4m from the ground surface and, although its upper horizon had been removed by the Medieval activity, some 0.75m of its basal profile and fill structure had survived (Figures 7 & 8). While heavily truncated, F.117 was a linear feature oriented east-northeast to west-southwest with a gradual and slightly concave profile, only one side of which was revealed against the excavation area's south section. This contained two fills separated by a horizontal basal boundary. The upper of these fills was mid greyish brown and friable slightly clayish silt with rare small sub-angular stones and occasional snail shells ([541]); the lower fill, [542], was essentially the same except that it was slightly lighter in colour and without trace of snail shells. Nine sherds of second–third century pottery were collected from both fills. Respectively, the fills' sediment contrasted with the dark and heavier soils of the overlying post-Roman deposits, and was also distinct from the fills of the surviving Romano-British features from both Phases I and II. A basic observation of the fills *in situ* was that the sediments were resonant of weathered colluvium, and inclusions of land snail casings observed during excavation may support this view. Unfortunately, a sample of the profile was not available for microscopic analysis.

It is possible that F.117 represents the base of a ditch aligned with the contour of the hillside slope, perhaps even marking a drop in the land profile. It is equally possible that this is the weathered edge of a flat terrace cut into the edge of the hillside. The 1994 investigation revealed what was termed as a 'working terrace' (1994: F.4), into which a well and related pit or 'tank' had been excavated (Evans 1994, 4; 1999, 256). The alignment of F.117 does not appear to correspond with the 1994 'terrace', but this may also be due to a combination of the heavy truncation and the scale of investigation.

Phase II

Although only partially revealed against the north edge of the excavation area, F.102 was distinctly sub-rectangular in plan, oriented close to north–south, and with sharp concave sides and a flat base at a depth of 0.28m. This was filled with soft greyish brown clayey silt [521] over moderately compact 'dirty' mottled interface [522] with the underlying solid marly-sand clay geology. Feature 102 contained three sherds (259g) of second–fourth century pottery and was found to cut the upper fill of well F.107 and the edge of hollow 'scoop' F.103. The feature was a continuation of a pit or 'tank' excavated in 1994 (Evans 1994, 4: F.7). This was rectilinear in plan, with a flat base at a maximum depth of 0.3m and contained the same fills as observed in 2015, from which 11 sherds of second–fourth century pottery were collected. A relationship with a deep well (1994: F.5) was identified by an interlinking 0.4m deep gulley (1994: F.12), which together may have been used in some form of water-related processing activities.

Phase III

Though technically not physically present, the hill's third–fourth century defensive wall was most likely robbed in its entirety during the Medieval period. For clarity, this phase is described below with the broader Medieval phase of activity, but is brought into the context of the Romano-British phases in the Discussion (Section 3).

Figure 9. Phasing and photographs of Area B

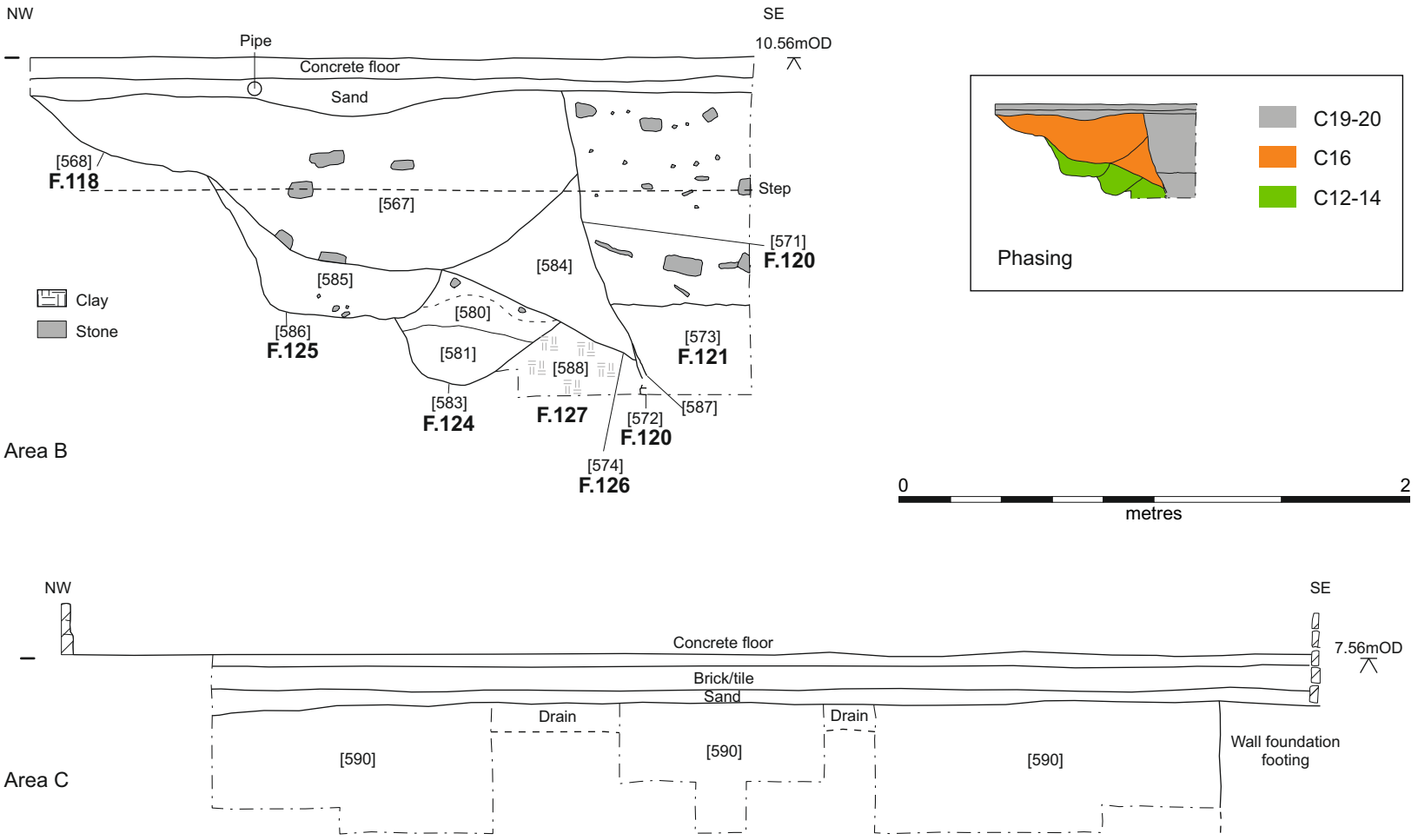


Figure 10. Sections in Areas B and C

Medieval

Of the project's total post-Roman pottery assemblage, 53.7% (155 sherds, 3805g) comprised of twelfth–fourteenth century wares (2601g; Table 5). As represented by Area's sequence, the period is here divided into two phases of activity (Area B probably only displayed the second of these: Phase V). The majority of the features contained a pottery assemblage mixed with Romano-British pottery. Plans of the Medieval activity in Areas A and B are shown in Figures 6 and 9; phasing is best visualised in section on Figure 7.

Feature	Area	Roman Pottery no. (Wt)	C12–14 Pottery no. (Wt)	C16–17 Pottery no. (Wt)	Animal Bone (Wt)	Brick / Tile	Oyster Shell	Worked Clay (Wt)	Fired Clay (Wt)
108	A	38 (822)	55 (1971)	4 (206)	3378	21	14	-	-
109	A	15 (202)	5 (87)	-	574	4	1	-	-
110	A	8 (181)	9 (295)	-	297	-	-	-	-
112	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
118	B	-	1 (11)	3 (60)	54	2	-	-	-
122	B	4 (44)	6 (663)	-	199	-	-	-	-
123	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
124	B	1 (55)	2 (93)	-	213	-	1	-	-
125	B	-	1 (15)	-	-	-	-	-	-
128	A	-	-	-	119	-	-	-	-
129	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
130	A	25 (298)	26 (556)	1 (15)	2026	7	5	-	49
131	A	3 (115)	1 (12)	-	-	2	-	-	-
Total		*94 (1717)*	*106 (3703)*	*8 (271)*	*6860*	*36*	*21*	*0*	*49*

Table 5. Summary of finds from twelfth–seventeenth century features; weight in grammes.

Phase IV

During the excavation there was an attempt to ascertain the presence of a ditch or foundation trench on line with the presumed course of the Roman town defences. This was originally thought to be represented by F.109, which followed a northeast–southwest course along the west edge of the intercutting features (Figure 7). It was observed in three parallel sections in which its depth and profile undulated and varied considerably (maximum 2.25m). Although of a comparable depth with F.128, there was no obvious continuity between their respective fills, this possibility having been obscured by F.108 in each section. In any case, the mix of Romano-British and Medieval pottery in F.109 (Table 6) serves to indicate its later attribution. Instead, F.109 is one of a number of features of twelfth–fourteenth century date cut to a similar depth that may be regarded either as individual pits or lengthier features all cut within a wide linear swathe oriented northeast to southwest. The western edge of this swathe (characterised in section as F.109) was distinct, and appears to have partly cut through the second century well F.101 and the hollow 'scoops'. When viewed collectively, there is a strong possibility that these served as robber cuts for the extraction the Roman defences' stone walling. In support of this argument is a distinct rubble layer of large rough stones that line the base of 'robber' pit F.131 that had cut through the upper horizon of the second–third century terrace or ditch (F.117; Figures 7 & 8). This was the only example of a discrete stone dump from any of the phases; although these did not appear to have derived from a mortar-bonded structure – this not observed as having been adhered to the stones – it is conceivable that they served as packing to a foundation. Recovered from amongst the stones – within fill [536] – were a sherd of Nene Valley Colour Coated Ware and two sherds of Horningsea Ware, both dated to the second–fourth century, with a single sherd of twelfth century greyware.

Feature	Contexts	Romano-British		Post-Roman	
		Number	Weight (g)	Number	Weight (g)
108	525	9	167	5	88
	529	2	93	11	391
	553	24	447	48	1786
109	528	10	158	2	15
	533	5	44	3	72

Table 6. Quantification of period-specific pottery from Features F.108 and F.109.

Phase V

All features of Phase V were pits dated to the twelfth–fourteenth century. These had cut through the infill of the Phase IV features – probably the infilled 'void' of the robbed wall foundations – and, in addition to pottery, contained assemblages of animal bone and items more generally associated with domestic refuse; in other words, an assemblage broadly distinct to that recovered from the Phase IV features.

The greatest quantity of finds from this derived from F.108 – including 75.8% (1971g) of the twelfth–fourteenth century pottery, 3378g of animal bone and sixteen brick or tile fragments. This feature is slightly problematic in that it has been assigned to account for features identified in three sections perpendicular to the northeast–southwest swathe of intercutting features, whereas a section aligned longitudinally to the swathe would likely have revealed multiple feature cuts. Where the solid geology was penetrated in a plan-view, the basal cut of F.108 appeared to register at least three sub-oval or sub-square features, probably the bases of deep individual pits with diameters of between 0.7 and 1.3m. Three cut numbers have been assigned to these: [537], [546] and [600]. The recorded fill sequence is primarily derived from [546], with [537] having originally been recorded as containing a single fill [525]. This was originally thought to also constitute the fill of what has subsequently been identified as cut [600], and their respective finds may not, therefore, be distinguished in the single catalogue entry. The depth of these pits (in relation to a datum at the current ground surface) was between 2.8 and 4.35m, with profiles of fairly straight and near-vertical sides, fanning towards the lip of the features at a width of 1.3-1.85m. These were filled by up to three deposits of broadly similar dark greyish brown friable clayey silt ([525/529]), mottled in the lower horizons [553] with lenses of similar composition with a greenish grey colour.

Each of the features that constitute F.108 clearly cut through the infilled Phase IV profile, and are the primary elements of Phase V. Additional twelfth–fourteenth century pits also characterise this phase and cut through the upper profile of F.108. The widest of these (F.130) slightly over-lapped the western edge of the Phase IV robbing cut of F.109 and continued 3.8m from this and beyond the east edge of the excavation area. With an undulating shallow concave profile and a maximum depth of 1.3m, this too may have been composed of multiple intercutting features filled by homogenous friable dark greyish brown clayish silt ([523] & [524]). This produced a mixed assemblage of animal bone (2026g), pottery (1015g) and tile (7; 1362g), and was the only twelfth–fourteenth century feature to contain fired clay, but only weighing 49g.

Five small pits in Area B could be assigned with confidence to Phase V (F.122–6). Each of these was sub-circular in plan (*c*. 0.85m diam.), with sharp concave sides and a flat base at depths between 0.85 and 1.25m. They contained 1–3 fills, generally of dark grey or brown silt varying in compaction with charcoal flecks and occasionally mixed with bands of marl or clay, and with 376g of animal bone and 200g of possible building stone (n=12).

By contrast with the Phase IV, the pits consigned to Phase V are of a character more readily attributable to occupational activities. Cereals were revered from Area B, and both the deep shaft-like pits and the wide distribution of shallower scooped pits produced an assemblage of domestic waste that by weight accounted for 74% of the project's fauna; cattle being the dominant species represented, and butchery displayed on a number of specimens. The ageing of individual elements is suggested by Rajkovača to indicate that animals were reared near to or on site, where slaughter and consumption were also carried out. The low frequency of tile and structural debris in Area A and B may suggest this to have been a rear-side garden plot or yard.

Post-Medieval to Modern

Sixteenth–Seventeenth Century

Cut to a depth of 0.75m, and through the underlying twelfth–fourteenth century pits, F.118 extended across Area B with gradual concave sides and a near-flat base (Figures 9 & 10). This contained dark grey silt [567] with sixteenth–seventeenth century pottery and tile amongst its finds. Extending across the excavated area, this was probably a shallow pit. An additional feature, F.126, was cut by F.118 and inturn cut the twelfth–fourteenth century pits, but otherwise remains undated. In Area A, where no features of this date were identified, only five sherds of sixteenth–seventeenth century pottery were forthcoming, most likely as intrusive within the upper profiles of F.108 and F.130, both of which were overlain by tertiary post-Medieval layers (i.e. F.100, see below).

Nineteenth–Twentieth Century

Within Area A there was a shallow layer (F.100) of very dark greyish brown sandy (silty) clay that filled the 0.3m deep hollow 'voided' by the swathe of earlier cut features. This contained a mix of nineteenth century and earlier material, particularly of building debris, with modern material within its uppermost horizon. Also assigned to the nineteenth or early twentieth century were a ceramic drain (F.115) that traversed the excavated area from northeast to southwest, and at least two undated pits: F.114, and F.116. In Area B, the twelfth–fourteenth century features were subsequently cut by a wall foundation slot (F.120) that was filled with masonry rubble and loose dark grey silt [571], with a concrete foundation (F.121) at its base; all the archaeology here was truncated by a modern concrete plinth (F.119).

Environment and Economic Data

Environmental Data – Val Fryer

Four samples were submitted for the assessment of plant macrofossil assemblages: two from a second–fourth century shaft pit (F.107) in Area A and two from twelfth–fourteenth century pits (F.122 and F.124) in Area B.

The samples were bulk floated by the CAU and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 7. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (2010). With the exception of a small number of de-watered elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds, all of which may be intrusive, all plant remains were charred.

Although all four assemblages are small (i.e. <0.1 litres in volume), cereal grains and seeds of common weeds are present at a low to moderate density throughout. Preservation is moderately good, although a number of the grains are puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded from the Medieval pits F.122 and F.124, with wheat occurring most frequently. Of the wheat grains, most appear to be of a rounded hexaploid type form, but in the absence of chaff it is not possible to state which species may be present. A single floret of a possible cultivated oat (*A. sativa*) is present within the assemblage from pit F.124 (Sample 103). From Roman pit F.107 grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) were recorded from both contexts [508] and [509].

Seeds are generally scarce, with most occurring as single specimens within an assemblage. The taxa range for both the Roman and Medieval pits strikingly comparable. All are of common segetal weeds, with taxa noted including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), grasses (Poaceae), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). Nutlets of sedge (*Carex* sp.) and spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.), both wetland plants, are also recorded along with a single cherry (*Prunus avium*) fruit stone and charred and de-watered seeds of elderberry. Charcoal/charred wood fragments are present within all four assemblages, being especially abundant within the fill of Roman pit F.107 (Sample 101).

Sample No.	100	101	102	103
Context No.	508	509	576	576
Feature No.	F.107		F.122	F.124
Date	Roman		Medieval	
Cereals				
Avena sp. (grains)			x	x
A. sativa L. (floret)				xcf
Hordeum sp. (grains)			x	
Secale cereale L. (grains)			x	x
Triticum sp. (grains)	x	x	x	xx
Cereal indet. (grains)	xcffg		x	xx
Herbs				
Anthemis cotula L.		x		x
Atriplex sp.				x
Chenopodiaceae indet.	x	x		x
Fabaceae indet.		xcf		
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)A.Love				x
Lithospermum arvense L.				x
Small Poaceae indet.	x	x		
Large Poaceae indet.				x
Polygonum aviculare L.				x
Rumex sp.		x	x	
Urtica urens L.			x	
Wetland plants				
Carex sp.	x	x		x
Eleocharis sp.		x		
Tree/shrub macrofossils				
Prunus avium L.				x
Sambucus nigra L.	xw	x		
Other plant macrofossils				
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xxxx	xxx	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	xxxx	xxx	x
Charcoal >5mm		xxxx	xx	x
Charcoal >10mm		xxx		
Charred root/stem				x
Indet. fruit/nutshell frag.				x
Indet. seeds	x	x	x	x

Sample No.	100	101	102	103
Context No.	508	509	576	576
Feature No.	F.107		F.122	F.124
Date	Roman		Medieval	
Other remains				
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x	x	xx
Black tarry material			x	x
Bone	x	x	x	
Burnt/fired clay		x		
Fish bone			x	
Mineral replaced arthropods		x	xx	
Small coal frags.			x	
Small mammal/amphibian bones		x		x
Vitreous material		x	x	
Molluscs				
Open country species				
Helicella itala	x			
Pupilla muscorum	x			x
Vallonia sp.				x
Vertigo pygmaea				xb
Catholic species				
Trichia hispida group				x
Marsh/Freshwater obligate species				
Anisus leucostoma				x
Armiger crista		x		
Lymnaea sp.				xb
Succinea sp.				xb
Sample volume (litres)	**14**	**14**	**14**	**14**
Volume of flot (litres)	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 7. Summary of Environmental data.

Key to Table

x = 1–10 specimens xx = 11–50 specimens xxx = 51–100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens cf = compare fg = fragment w = de-watered b = burnt

Other plant remains are scarce, but do include small pieces of charred root/stem and an indeterminate fragment of fruit stone/nutshell.

Black porous/tarry residues and globules of vitreous material, all of which are probably derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains and straw/grass), are present within all four assemblages. Other remains occur less frequently but do include small pieces of bone, fish bones/scales (in Medieval pit F.122), mineral replaced arthropods and small mammal/amphibian bones.

Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, a small number of shells (including some burnt specimens) are recorded from Roman pit F.107 and, most notably, from Medieval pit F.124. A mix of terrestrial and freshwater species, it is tentatively suggested that the presence of the burnt shells may indicate that grasses and plant materials from nearby wetland habitats were being utilised within the city as bedding, flooring or thatch, and were then subsequently burnt along with their resident fauna.

As the assemblages are small and somewhat limited in composition, any accurate interpretation of the features is extremely difficult. Despite the divergent dates of the sampled contexts – Romano-British and Medieval – the recovered assemblages are broadly similar, although cereals are more abundant within the later features. However, it is unknown as to whatever significance lies within this observation, largely because it is difficult to state with any degree of certainty where the materials may have originated from. The high density of charcoal within the Roman pit F.107 (particularly within [509]) may be indicative of a small, discrete deposit of hearth waste, although it is suggested that some midden refuse may also be present within the pit's fills. It is assumed that these materials accumulated as the pit fell out of regular use. The Medieval pit assemblages are almost certainly principally composed of scattered hearth/midden waste, much of which was probably accidentally incorporated pits. Few environmental indicators are present, although the presence of stinking mayweed seeds may suggest that during both the Roman and Medieval periods, some cereals were being grown on the local clay soils. In addition, it would appear that wetland plant materials were probably being utilised as litter or thatch, with the burnt remnants of this material occurring within the assemblage from pit F.124.

As none of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

Animal Bone – Vida Rajkovača

A small assemblage of animal bone with a raw count of 1626 fragments and a weight of 9216g was analysed. From the hand-recovered proportion of the assemblage, some 242 assessable specimens were recorded, 137 of which were assigned to species, family or order (Table 8). A sample of the fauna recovered in 1994 was also analysed. This was not included in the original report (Evans 1994) and comprised of an assemblage of 30 specimens from two selected features that form part of the feature complex connected with the current project, and 30 specimens were analysed. Sieved bone amounted to 57 specimens and this was considered separately. Based on the chronology of the material, the assemblage was divided into four sub-sets and the bone was quantified and considered accordingly. This report aims to quantify and characterise the assemblage and assess its potential for future study.

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.

The preservation ranged from moderate to quite good, with minimal weathering and surface erosion. Only two elements were recorded as burnt and six had signs of canine gnawing. Butchery was noted on 15 specimens, the majority of these were on remains of larger domesticates.

Roman

Seven features generated faunal material. Well F.101 ([512], [514], [530] & [531]) had 15 specimens (42% of the sub-set); a further 11 specimens came from the other well F.107, with the remainder of bone being recovered from a number of pits. Cow and sheep/goat were recorded, as well as juvenile remains of a partial dog skeleton (Table 8, F.101). Mallard was positively identified and an unidentified wader bird. Crude chop marks were observed on a cow pelvis from well F.107 and fine skinning marks on cow astragalus from F.101. One cattle-sized thoracic vertebra fragment from F.101 [514] had a 'greasy' appearance that suggests the possibility of a more recent date and mixing of the context; the context was recorded as loose silt impacted by significant rooting, through which it is conceivable that intrusive elements may have entered.

In addition to the bone from 2015, a representative sample of material recovered from the 1994 excavation (KET94) was also selected for analysis. This assemblage derived from a shaft pit (1994: F.5) akin to F.101 and F.107, and an associated pit or 'tank' (1994: F.7). Though based on small numbers, the results showed a similar range of species (Table 8).

Medieval

Of seven features containing animal bone, pits F.108 (NISP=80) and F.130 (NISP=50) stand out. The bone recorded from these two features amounted to *c.* 54% of the site assemblage by count and 74% by weight (n.b. F.108 is recorded above as likely to represent three separate, but similarly phased features). Cattle dominance is again illustrated for this period, though other domesticates and birds are well represented (Table 8). A partial dog skeleton came from pit F.110 ([538]) with swelling on one of radii.

As noted for a thoracic vertebra fragment from the Roman sub-set, a cow leg from pit F.109, and cow and pig elements from pit F.130 could also be of a more recent date; in this instance, this is based on the general appearance of the bone and the size and style of the butchery. Butchery was also recorded from pit F.108, where the use of a saw as a multi-purpose tool was recorded on a horse femur from [525].

Based on a pig mandible aged 14–21 months, and a sheep mandible aged 6–12 months, it is clear that animals were reared on site or in the vicinity. The skeletal element representation showed all body parts were present, which suggests local slaughter and consumption.

Post-Medieval

Only three cattle-sized elements were recorded, all from pit F.118 located in Area B.

Modern

A small amount of bone came from modern layer F.100 ([500]) and a robber cut F.120 ([571]). Cattle, sheep/ goat, pig and dog were positively identified (Table 8).

Taxon	NISP by phase				
	Roman KET94 F.5 and F.7	**C2–4**	**C12–14**	**C16–17**	**C19–20**
Cow	6	13	34	-	7
Sheep/ goat	4	5	27	-	7
Sheep	1	-	2	-	-
Pig	1	-	11	-	2
Horse	-	-	15	-	-
Dog	-	1	1	-	1
Chicken	-	-	1	-	-
Domestic goose	-	-	5	-	-
Mallard	1	1	-	-	-
Galliformes	-	-	1	-	-
Waders	-	1	-	-	-
Frog/ toad	-	-	2	-	-
Sub-total to species or family	**13**	**21**	**99**	**-**	**17**
Cattle-sized	13	9	50	3	9
Sheep-sized	4	5	22	-	-
Mammal n.f.i.	-	1	-	-	3
Bird n.f.i.	-	-	3	-	-
Total	***30***	***36***	***174***	***3***	***29***

Table 8. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts (KYE15 & KET94 excavation season presented separately); breakdown by phase; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Fauna from Heavy Residues

In addition to the hand-recovered bone, some 57 specimens were recovered as heavy residues following the processing of environmental bulk soil samples. Only 18 were identified as sheep/goat and frog or toad. The remainder was made up of unidentifiable crumbs of mammal bone. One rodent-sized fragment, a bird bone shaft fragment and three unidentifiable fish vertebrae were the only evidence of micro, avian or fish fauna from site.

Taxon	C2–4	C12–14
	Well F.107	**Pit F.124**
Sheep/ goat	-	2
Frog/ toad	2	14
Sub-total to species or family	**2**	**16**
Cattle-sized	-	1
Sheep-sized	-	2
Rodent-sized	-	1
Mammal n.f.i.	3	28
Bird n.f.i.	-	1
Fish n.f.i.	1	2
Total	***6***	***51***

Table 9. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from F.107 and F.124; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Aside from stating that the findings from each of the phases are in keeping with known local patterns relating to proportion of species and the character of animal use, it is difficult to assess the assemblage any further. Cattle dominance in the

Roman sub-set is widely recorded across the region, reflecting the preference for beef, believed to have been brought over from the Continent by Roman legions populating Britain (e.g. King 1991). The Medieval period in the region is characterised by a heavy reliance on domestic sources of food, and the results from Kettle's Yard certainly support this notion.

Human Bone – Benjamin Neil

In general, an excavation within/near a churchyard has high potential for revealing human remains where the cemetery soil can produce significant quantities of disturbed, disarticulated skeletal material (English Heritage 2005). That disarticulated human bone was found within four features adjacent to St Peter's churchyard adds weight to the suggestion that it likely represents later truncation and re-working of the cemetery soil.

Sex estimation was assessed using the metric traits outlined by Bass (1987) and Berrizbeitia (1989) and assigned according to the following:

Term	Read as	Meaning
Female	Female	Analyst has full confidence in the determination of sex for the remains
Male	Male	
(female)	Probably Female	Analyst does not have full confidence in the determination, but feels the remains are probably the stated sex.
(male)	Probably Male	
Female?	Possibly female	Analyst does not have confidence in the determination, but feels the available evidence hints at the stated sex.
Male?	Possibly male	
Indet.	sex indeterminate	The remains have been analysed, but are lacking sufficient diagnostic morphology for a determination of sex

Isolated fragmented bone will often have ambiguous or unobtainable morphological information thus age is indeterminate; however where these fragments exhibit developmental, degenerative and dimensional characteristics that are clearly not neonate, infant or juvenile, the inference will be adult.

F.100 [101] Adult - A right anteriolateral mandible fragment <101> in a moderate preservation with some minor cortical bone flaking. The fragment includes alveoli for the premolars, canine and incisors, the mental foramen and partial mental protuberance. The two surviving mandibular premolars exhibit moderate supra-gingival dental calculus. Enamel hypoplasia is also present on both premolars, being indicative of physiological stress in childhood. Two adult cranial fragments <102> were also identified.

F.108 [533] Adult, (female) - A complete radius in moderate preservation, taphonomically altered to include longitudinal and mosaic cracking, minor exfoliation of the lamellae, root-etching, and dark mottling, indicative of possible microbial activity that increases the bone vulnerability to agents such as fungi, which in turn metabolise the organic components of the bone.

F.108 [525] Adult, (female) - A left proximal femoral diaphysis fragment in good preservation to include an anterior portion of the caput, neck, greater and lesser trochanter; a rounded bony projection is present along the superior border of the gluteal tuberosity, approximately at the level of the distal end of the lesser trochanter. This is otherwise known as a third trochanter, which is defined by general low incidence; for example, a total 6.1% of individuals from a combined population of 622 individuals from three archaeological excavations in Poland displayed this characteristic (Bolanowski 2005), which is largely attributed to a mechanical stress and biomechanical adaptation exerted by the gluteus maximus muscle (Lozanoff 1985).

F.108 [525] Adult - A left occipital skull fragment with some minor lamellae flaking to include longitudinal and mosaic cracking, minor exfoliation of the lamellae and root-etching.

F.120 [571] - An isolated intermediate hand phalange in moderate preservation, taphonomically altered to include longitudinal and mosaic cracking and minor exfoliation of the lamellae.

F.130 [524] - A mid shaft humeral fragment to include the deltoid tuberosity.

Material Culture

Prehistoric Pottery – Marcus Brittain

Although no features of prehistoric date were encountered during the excavations, a single sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from pit F.122 ([575]) in Area B. Weighing 14g, this was a rim with thumbed decoration bonded with a sandy grit temper, for which a Middle or Later Iron Age date is likely.

Roman Pottery – Francesca Mazzilli

The assemblage comprises 282 sherds weighing 6527g (Tables 10 and 11). Although relatively small, when combined with the 1994 material the assemblage totals 682 sherds (16018g) and is one of the most substantial that has been recently recovered from Castle Hill. The following analysis is centred upon the 2015 assemblage. The 1994 assemblage (KET94) was briefly reported in Evans (1994) and more recently re-catalogued by Katie Anderson (CAU archive). Quantified details of the 1994 assemblage are presented here in Table 1 (400 sherds; 9491g), with Anderson's full catalogue outlined in Table 10.

Of the 2015 assemblage, 23.9% occurred residually within Medieval and post-Medieval mixed deposits (90 sherds; 1560g). Since, however, it is believed that all of the Romano-British pottery arrived at the site during the Romano-British period, rather than just being introduced at a later date through dumping/manuring, *etc*., all of this material has been treated as a single assemblage.

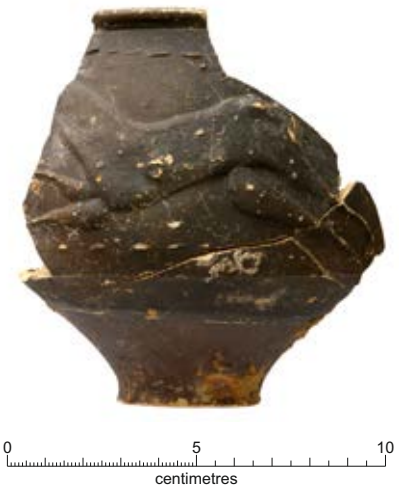
The pottery was visually examined and details of fabric, form, decoration, use-ware and date were then recorded in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 1994) and the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998). The only difference between this and the fabric system used in previous CAU specialist reports is that the former provides nomenclatures for each fabric, such as Q from 1 to 9, whereas here the fabric type are explicitly named, taking into account the composition of the pottery (coarse or fine), the presence of inclusions, and the firing technique (i.e. whether it is oxidised or reduced; see Table 10). All the percentage figures used in this report are based upon sherd counts.

Assemblage Composition

Despite the high presence of Romano-British pottery mixed in layers with post-Roman pottery, the Romano-British pottery assemblage still retained a high mean sherd weight (MSW, 25.5g or 25g excluding the four semi-complete vessels), suggesting that the soil disturbance was less than expected, particularly in view of its location within a modern urban area. The high MSW also implies that this pottery did not travel far to its place of deposition. This is further illustrated by the preservation of a high percentage of diagnostic sherds, as shown by the high percentage of estimated vessel equivalence (EVE, 9.1), and by four semi-complete vessels broken into a few large sherds.

The assemblage presented a wide variety of fabrics: unsourced local Romano-British coarse and fine wares, local wares from Horningsea and Verulamium/ Godmanchester, coarse and fine wares from further afield in Britain including Nene Valley, Hadham and Oxfordshire, plus (Samian ware) imports from Gaul (Table 10).

Semi complete pots from wells F.101 and F.107



Nene Valley colour-coated vessel with ‘hunt’ scene from well F.107

Roman finger-ring embedded within daub (F.107)

12th-14th century buckle (F.108)

Stamped Samian pot bases; left: Felicio IV (from the 1994 excavation), right: Africanus II (from well F.107)

Figure 11. Photographs of selected finds

There is no Roman Conquest material. From the small quantity of pottery that can be narrowed down chronologically (just 85 sherds; 32.9%), 63.5% can be dated to the late first–second century AD with 22.3% to the second–third century AD. Only 14.1% can be dated to the mid-late third–fourth century AD. This indicates that activity took place on or near to the site from at least the late first century AD and up to the fourth century, which is evinced by the recovery of three Nene Valley colour-coated sherds. Nevertheless, the low percentage of pottery from the mid-third century AD onwards may illustrate an entry into a period of decline.

As is quite typical of Romano-British assemblages in Cambridgeshire, unsourced local coarse wares dominate (73.8%; 195 sherds, 3653g). These are: buff sandy wares, whitewares, shell-tempered wares, coarse and fine sandy micaceous or non- micaceous greywares with or without slip, coarse and fine sandy micaceous or non-micaceous oxidised wares with or without slip, black-slipped wares, reduced coarse sandy ware, and imitation Black-Burnished 1 ware (Table 10). This entire group can be dated to the second–fourth century AD, with the exception of a local unsourced imitation of Black-Burnished 1 that can be roughly dated to the second century AD. This ware was represented by a relatively high percentage (7.3%; 19 sherds, 572g), and presents the same form and burnished decorations as those of Black-Burnished 1, but with a different set of fabric inclusions. By visually examining the fabric of the imitation Black-Burnished 1, it is possible to distinguish a fabric consisting of coarse greyware. The presence of the locally produced imitation Black-Burnished 1 and its recovery in a relatively high quantity suggests that this ware was considered to be of a good quality, and that it was in high enough demand for it to be locally reproduced. Imitation Black-Burnished 1 sherds have been recovered elsewhere on Castle Hill, although it is uncertain in what quantity (Anderson 2004). A local unsourced imitation of Black-Burnished 1 is also recovered in 'the lower town'/roadside suburb of Cambridge, located to the south and east of the river Cam, in St Clement's Garden site (53 sherds; 1743g); Mazzilli in Cessford 2016).

Amongst the coarse greyware, there are a couple of fragments of a distinct unsourced type, consisting of coarse granular greyware with quartz (two sherds; 11g). Only two whiteware sherds (27g) from either Verulamium or Godmanchester were recovered. With regards to late Romano-British cooking pottery, an extremely low percentage of shell-tempered ware, dated to the third–fourth century AD, was recovered (three sherds; 27g). Horningsea greyware and oxidised ware occurred in relatively high quantities (13.5%; 35 sherds, 1951g).

In spite of the predominance of unsourced local Romano-British coarse wares, there are a relatively high percentage of fine wares (17.8%; 47 sherds, 793g). As is typical of Romano-British assemblages from the Cambridge region, Nene Valley (second–third century AD) colour-coated wares dominate (51% of the fine wares; 24 sherds, 334g). Primarily of beaker form, the following sherds are of notable interest. One is a rim of a funnel-neck indented beaker with barbotine 'S'-shapes or butcher's hooks used in the second–third century (Perrin 1999 N165). A semi-complete Nene Valley coloured-coated vessel was recovered: it is called 'hunt cup' because of a finely moulded animal and it is from the late second–late third century (Perrin 1999, N132). Three lid sherds belong to a castor box from the late second–late third century (Perrin 1999, N208-209). Only three Nene Valley coloured-coated fragments can be dated to the fourth century; these are two fragments that have rouletting and red and orange painted linear decoration, as well as a sherd of plain dish rim.

Samian ware from Gaul is also well represented (38.3% of the fine wares; 18 sherds, 421g). Originating from Central Gaul, Samian ware sherds are dated to between the late first and second centuries. From this group (in F.107, [507]) an almost complete Samian dish (Drag.18), broken into 12 fragments, may be highlighted for its base stamped with the name *Africanus ii*, attributed to a potter from Lezoux, Toulon-sur-Allier *c*. 155-180 AD (Hartley & Dickinson 2008, 97-98; Figure 10). There is also a burnt Samian sherd that presents a worn denticulate edge that suggests its reuse in a later period; its function is unclear, although its use for scraping may be considered. The 1994 assemblage also includes a Samian dish base stamped with the name *Felicio iv*, which is attributed to a potter from Montans (South of Gaul) *c*. 110-150 AD (Hartley & Dickinson 2008, 18-20; Figure 10). This type of stamp is frequently found in sites in London (i*bid*.).

The number of non-local Late Roman fine wares (mid-late third–fourth century AD) is extremely low, consisting of three sherds of Hadham red-slipped ware and three Nene Valley coloured-coated sherds. Only two sherds (15g) of parchment ware were identified; fired in Oxfordshire kilns, these date to the mid-late third–fourth century AD.

Fabric	Code	KET94		KYE15		Combined Total	
		No.	Wt.	No.	Wt.	No.	Wt.
Black-Burnished 1 – unsourced local imitation	BB1	-	-	19	572	19	572
Black-slipped ware – unsourced	BKSL	20	338	18	290	38	628
Buff sandy ware – unsourced	BUFF	-	-	1	20	1	20
Coarse sandy greyware – unsourced	CSGW	293	7492	60	1472	353	8964
Coarse granular micaceous greyware (limestone and quartz inclusions) – unsourced	CGG M	-	-	2	11	2	11
Coarse sandy micaceous greyware - unsourced	CSGW M	-	-	9	148	9	148
Coarse sandy micaceous greyware (brownish slip) - unsourced	CSGW M BS	-	-	1	9	1	9
Coarse sandy oxidised ware - unsourced	CSOX	25	361	11	159	36	520
Coarse sandy micaceous oxidised ware - unsourced	CSOX M	-	-	22	215	22	215
Coarse sandy oxidised ware (white slip) - unsourced	CSOX W5	-	-	1	16	1	16
Fine sandy greyware – unsourced	FSGW	-	-	33	568	33	568
Fine sandy micaceous greyware - unsourced	FSOXGW	-	-	6	59	6	59
Fine sandy oxidised ware – unsourced	FSOXW	-	-	1	4	1	4
Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware - unsourced	FSOXM	-	-	4	35	4	35
Fine sandy oxidised ware (dark brownish slip) - unsourced	FSOX M BS	-	-	1	6	1	6
Hadham Red-slipped ware	HAD	4	24	3	23	7	47
Horningsea greyware	HORNGW	3	151	19	1120	22	1271
Horningsea oxidised ware	HORNOX	-	-	16	831	16	831
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	NNVCC	15	167	24	334	40	503
Nene Valley greyware	NNVGW	1	7	1	18	1	18
Nene Valley whiteware	NNVWW	-	-	1	15	1	15
Oxfordshire parchment ware	OXFPAR	-	-	2	15	2	15
Reduced sandyware – unsourced	RDC5	18	388	2	36	20	424
Samian ware (Central Gaul)	TSG C	9	177	18	421	27	598
Shell-tempered ware	SHELL	8	73	4	29	12	102
Verulamium/Godmanchester whiteware	VER/GODM	-	-	1	74	1	74
Whiteware – unsourced	WW	3	311	2	27	5	338
TOTAL		*400*	*9491*	*282*	*6527*	***682***	***16018***

Table 10. Romano-British pottery by fabric type; weight in grammes.

A variety of vessel forms could be identified (Table 11). Excluding non-diagnostic body sherds (amounting to 43.9%), the most common vessel form identified was jars, representing 39.5% of all diagnostic sherds (59 sherds, 1442g), followed by a lower percentage of bowls (13.4%).

Semi-complete small jars occur in imitation Black Burnished 1 ware and local greyware. The jar form also occurs in black-slipped ware and Nene Valley greyware. The rims of these forms are mostly everted, but some are flanged and beaded. A rim of a jar with tall grooved neck occurs in Nene Valley greyware.

Bowl forms occur in fine sandy greyware, black-slipped ware, shell-tempered ware and Oxfordshire parchment ware. The rims of these forms vary: everted, flanged, beaded, and almond-shaped.

A further 11.4% of the diagnostic sherds were dishes; most of these consisting of Gaulish Samian ware, one plain black-slipped rim dish, and third–fourth century Nene Valley coloured-coated plain dish. In this assemblage the most common dish form for Samian ware is Drag.18/Drag.18/31R, which is a common form in Britain (Webster 1996). From this group, an almost complete Samian dish, specifically a Drag.18, was found.

The quantity of beaker forms present within the assemblage was low (seven sherds; 79g), consisting of Nene Valley colour-coated ware. One rim sherd of this group is of interest as it indicates that the vessel was a funnel-neck indented beaker with barbotine 'S'-shapes or butcher's hooks, which was used in the second–third century (Perrin 1999, N165). Three fragments of Nene Valley colour-coated castor box lid have been found and they can be dated to the late second–late third century (Perrin 1999 N208-209). Its edge is burnt, suggesting its long-term use for hot food.

Cups are represented by a semi-complete Nene Valley coloured-coated hunt cup broken into four fragments, and two Samian ware diagnostic sherds, specifically of the Form Drag.33, dating to mid-late second century, with a Cup Form O&P pl LV no.13 from the Flavian period.

A small fine sandy oxidised flagon sherd and a small Nene Valley whiteware mortaria fragment were also present.

Form	**No.**	**Wt.** (g)
Beaker	7	79
Bowl	20	277
Castor box (Lid)	3	45
Cup	6	170
Dish	17	421
Flagon	1	2
Jar	59	1442
Mortarium	1	15
Storage vessel	35	1951
Unknown	115	2328
TOTAL	*258*	*6628*

Table 11: Romano-British pottery by form

Feature Analysis: Area A

Pit F.101 - Romano-British pottery was recovered from all contexts except for [513]. The uppermost fill [512] contained eight sherds of Medieval pottery that are probably intrusive from overlying layer [500]. The pottery consisted of local unsourced Romano-British fine and coarse micaceous sandy greywares and reduced sandy wares, which can be only roughly dated to the second–fourth centuries. This comprised local unsourced fine and coarse micaceous sandy greywares, reduced sandy wares, black slipped wares and Horningsea wares, which can be only roughly dated to the second–fourth centuries, a second century Gaulish Samian rim, a second–third century Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker sherd, and two sherds of Oxfordshire parchment ware carinated bowl.

Pit F.107 - Romano-British pottery was recovered from all contexts, with no later intrusive pottery. Context [508] contained a local unsourced coarse sandy greyware body sherd with burnished rhomboid patterned design dated to the second–fourth century. Including local unsourced fine micaceous sandy oxidised and black slipped wares, also of the second–fourth century, context [510] also produced a Gaulish Samian dish rim (Drag.18) from the late first century and a Nene Valley colour-coated ware sherd of a funnel-neck indented beaker rim with barbotine 'S'-shape or butcher's hook from the second–third century. The uppermost layer [507] contained an assemblage that included five semi-complete vessels (four with complete profiles) broken into large sherds (Figure 11). They are: an almost complete late first-century Gaulish Samian dish (Drag.18; diam. 320mm) with a stamped base depicting the name *Africanus ii* (*c*. 160-170 AD, see above), a second-century imitation Black Burnished 1 jar, and a second–fourth century fine sandy greyware jar, a second–fourth century

coarse sandy greyware bowl, and a Nene Valley coloured-coated cup from the late second-late third century with a moulded depiction of a hunt scene.

Ditch/Terrace F.117 [541] and [542] - No post-Roman pottery was recovered from F.117, which contained an assemblage of local unsourced fine sandy greyware and Horningsea greyware dating to the second–fourth century, and three Nene Valley coloured coated sherds from the second–third century, including two lid fragments of Castor box and a body sherd of beaker. Overall, the pottery group may be assigned to the late second to late third century AD.

Pit F.102 - Three sherds were recovered from F.102, dating to the second-fourth century, one being from a coarse greyware jar; a sherd of Horningsea ware was also present.

Pit 103 - Only two body sherds of greyware were recovered, each dating to the second–fourth century.

Pit 106 - Twelve sherds (289g) including three rims were recovered. Although of broadly second–fourth century date, a number of these may be more narrowly dated to the second–third century. This includes a barbotine decorated Nene Valley colour coated sherd, a mid to late second century Samian cup of conical form 33, and a sand tempered flagon of possible second century date.

Post-Roman features F.108 and F.109 - During the excavation it was postulated that a Medieval robber cut (F.108) was observed through the possible surviving foundation of a Romano-British ditch or foundation trench (F.109). Both features, however, returned a mix of Romano-British and post-Roman pottery (Table 12), which suggest these each belong to a post-Roman (i.e. twelfth–fourteenth century) phase.

Feature	Contexts	Romano-British		Post-Roman	
		Number	Weight (g)	Number	Weight (g)
108	525	9	167	6	88
	529	2	93	11	368
	536	3	115	2	26
	553	21	424	51	1576
	Total	*35*	*799*	*70*	*2058*
109	528	10	158	2	14
	533	5	44	5	113
	Total	*15*	*202*	*7*	*127*

Table 12. Romano-British pottery in F.108 & F.109

Post-Roman pit F.130
Although of post-Medieval date, F.130 contained 12 (298g) Romano-British sherds mainly of local unsourced coarse sandy greywares, but with three sherds of fine ware: a Gaulish Samian base sherd of Drag.18/31R form, a tiny fragment of a Gaulish Samian shallow bowl sherd and a Nene Valley colour coated fourth century dish sherd.

Feature Analysis: Area B

Nine (131g) sherds of Romano-British pottery were residual to seven features in Area B (Table 13), which also contained Medieval and post-Medieval wares.

Feature	Contexts	Number	Weight
118	567	-	-
120	571	3	12
121	587	-	-
122	575 & 576	4	43
124	580	1	55
124	581	1	21
125	585	-	-
Total	-	*9*	*131*

Table 13. Romano-British pottery in Area B

The 2015 Romano-British pottery assemblage at Kettle's Yard is small, even combined with the 1994 assemblage, but represents a significant addition to the known material from Castle Hill.

At a broad level the 2015 assemblage presents a wide variety of pottery from late first–fourth century AD; as might be expected from Romano-British assemblages in Cambridgeshire, this includes a predominance of second–fourth century coarse wares. Although fourth century activity was represented by three sherds of Nene Valley colour coated ware, the decrease of pottery for this date suggests that the site was in decline from the mid-third century onwards. Further illustrating this is the contrast between the 21 sherds of high quality fine wares of the second–third century (Nene Valley colour coated wares) and their low frequency in the fourth century, represented only by three sherds of Hadham red-slipped ware and three sherds of Nene Valley colour coated ware.

The two wells, F.101 and F.107, and the layers of the possible terrace (F.117) had exclusively second–third century AD pottery. Compared with the 1994 assemblage (Going in Evans 1994; Anderson 2004) and the pre-2000 Castle Hill investigations (Hull & Alexander & Pullinger 1999), this illustrates a peak in the early mid-second to early mid-third century AD, which had decreased by the mid–late third and fourth centuries. Nevertheless, there are minor discrepancies between the result of these previous investigations and those reported here; for example, the Kettle's Yard passageway investigations found that no pottery dated earlier than the end of the mid-second century AD, whereas the 2015 assemblage contained examples of the late first and second century, including Gaulish Samian ware and imitation Black Burnished 1. In addition, shell-tempered cooking wares of the third–fourth centuries were also noted in the 1994 investigations at Kettle's Yard (Going in Evans 1994), but were only minimally represented in 2015.

In a study of eight sites across Castle Hill conducted by Anderson in 2004, it was found that only 7.5% of the whole assemblage was composed of fine wares, which included four examples of Oxfordshire red-slipped ware. The 2015 assemblage presents a higher percentage of fine wares (18.2% of the entire assemblage) in which there are only three sherds of Hadham red-slipped ware and Oxfordshire red-slipped ware was entirely absent. When combined with the 1994 assemblage the numerical value of finewares correlates more closely the other sites, with an 11.9% frequency. This raises a number of questions about the urban status of the hill in the context of Roman Cambridge. At North West Cambridge, for example, which may be drawn upon to represent a 'typical' rural or hinterland settlement, fine wares constituted only 5% the overall assemblage (Anderson in Cessford & Evans 2012, 195; Anderson in Brittain and Evans 2014). The consistent higher percentage at Castle Hill may serve to indicate that this was a location for civilian settlement which may have extended to 'the lower town'/roadside suburb of Cambridge on the basis of the high percentage of fine wares in St. Clement's Garden (see Mazzilli in Cessford 2016), Park Street (see Mazzilli in Timberlake and Webb 2016), Divinity School (Anderson in Cessford 2012) and St John's Triangle/Corfield Court sites (Anderson in Newman 2008). For a more detailed discussion of this comparison see Mazzilli (in Cessford 2016).

A contrast in the assemblages between the Castle Hill and its 'lower town'/roadside suburbs is in the relative frequency (by sherd count) of Horningsea Wares, which in the latter occurs at a frequency of 6% (Mazzilli in Cessford 2016; Mazzilli in Timberlake and Webb 2016), whereas at Kettle's Yard in 2015 this was observed to be 13.5% (35 sherds; 1951g). A higher frequency of Horningsea wares may be drawn upon to suggest that a market of local goods or their storage occurred more prevalently on Castle Hill; however, when combined with the 1994 assemblage the frequency for Horningsea wares at Kettle's Yard is brought back down to 5.8%, and thereby in parallel with Cambridge's 'lower town'/roadside suburbs. This, again, raises further questions as to the civic status of Castle Hill.

Roman Tile – Simon Timberlake

<*195*> *F.121 [587]* - One small fragment from the corner of a re-used Roman pila (hypocaust) tile or brick, originally perhaps 120-130mm square and 25-30mm thick (250g). One face is heavily covered with the remains of a sandy mortar, with a smaller amount upon the upper face. The break in the tile pre-dates its last use and the application of mortar (i.e. this had been applied onto the broken edge, suggesting that it was a broken piece chosen to fit into an existing crack within a later wall).

Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery – David Hall

A fairly moderate assemblage of Medieval and post-Medieval pottery totalling 4879g was recovered (Tables 14-16), of which 3846g (78.8%) was of twelfth–fifteenth century date. 2632g of pottery could be attributed more specifically to the twelfth–fourteenth century, of which a considerable proportion (74.8%, 1971g) derived from a group of pits in Area A collectively recorded as F.108.

Century AD	**Area A**		**Area B**		**Total Wt.** (no.)
	Wt.	**No.**	**Wt.**	**No.**	
12 - 13th	1096	58	176	7	1272 (65)
13 - fourteenth	1360	35	-	-	1360 (35)
14 - 15th	551	15	663	6	1214 (21)
15 - 16th	121	2	-	-	121 (2)
16 - 17th	100	3	60	3	160 (6)
19th	299	46	453	28	752 (74)
Total	*3527*	*159*	*1352*	*44*	*4879 (203)*

Table 14. Summary of Medieval and post-Medieval pottery; weight in grammes.

Feature	**Context**	**Cat. No**	**Wt.**	**Count**	**Fabric**	**Date AD**	**Notes**
100	500	100	108	36	Mis	C19	
101	512	107	45	7	Grey ware	C12	
			10	1	Stamford Ware	C12	
108	525	152	88	5	Mis.	C19	
	529	156	121	2	GRE	C15/16	
			85	2	Frechen	C17	
			17	1	Pink shelly	C13	
			28	1	St. Neots	C12	Shelly, rim, oil lamp?
			140	5	Sandy	C12	Thetford, 1=rim jug, 1=thumbed deo, 1=bowl rim

Feature	Context	Cat. No	Wt.	Count	Fabric	Date AD	Notes
	553	162	6	1	Stamford ware	C12	
			308	16	Shelly ware	C12/13	1=rim
			150	4	Essex reds	C14/15	
			41	1	Buff ware	C13/14	Jug rim, slash deo
			1189	22	Grey ware	C13/14	4=rims, 2=base
			92	4	Grey ware	C12	Thetford
109	528	170	15	2	Pink	C14	Few grits
	533	174	61	2	Grey ware	C12	Thetford, 1=tile, 1=rim
			11	1	Pink	C14	Sandy grit
110	539	179	260	8	Grey ware	C12/13	1=base, 1=jug rim, 1=jar rim
			35	1	Fine ware	C14	Handle, pink ware, 2 rows of wavy deo, clear glaze
130	523	208	66	3	Mis.	C19	
			3	1	Brill	C13/14	
			23	1	Heading	C14/15	Jug rim, deo
			6	1	Shelly	C13	
			28	1	Thetford	C12	Thetford, grey
			70	5	Grey sandy	C13	
			311	5	Pink sandy	C14	3=bases, scrap handle
			6	1	Pink sandy	C14	
	524	212	4	1	Stamford	C12	
			37	2	Mis.	C19	
			7	1	Pink shelly	C13	
			15	1	Course, sandy	C16	
			71	6	Grey sandy	C12	1=jug rim
			27	3	Pink sandy	C13/14	Grit, 1=jar rim
131	536	160	12	1	Grey ware	C12	
Total			*3496*	*155*			

Table 15. Overview of Medieval and post-Medieval pottery from Area A; weight in grammes.

Feature	Context	Cat. No	Wt.	Count	Fabric	Date AD	Notes
118	567	186	11	1	Grey ware	C12	Thetford
			60	3	GRE	C16-17	
120	571	189	453	28	Mis.	C19	
			24	1	Grey ware	C12	Thetford
122	575	196	658	5	Sandy	C14	Buff outside, hard large base, fragments of glaze, thumbed deco
			5	1	Pink	C14	Sandy grits
	576	198	22	1	Grey	C12	Thetford
			11	1	Grey sandy	C13	
124	581	202	3	1	Pink sandy	C12	
			10	1	Grey ware	C12	Sandy grit, 1=base
			9	1	Pink	C12	Sandy grit, 1=base
			9	1	Grey Ware	C12	Thetford, 1=rim
	580	200	21	1	St. Neots	C12	
			72	1	Grey ware	C12	Thetford
125	585	205	15	1	Grey ware	C12	Thetford?
Total			*1383*	*48*			

Table 16. Overview of Medieval and post-Medieval pottery from Area B; weight in grammes.

Worked and Utilised Stone – Simon Timberlake

Rotary Quern

<144> F.107 [507] (0.872 kg) - A fragment (c.20%) of the upper worn stone of a lava quern (165mm x 150mm x 22-35mm thick). Worn and discarded fragment from the upper stone of a small hand-operated rotary lava quern made of vesicular basalt from the Mayen quarries (Niedermendig) imported from the Eifel region of the Rhineland. The underside grinding surface has been worn down and also worn smooth obliterating any trace of the original radial furrow dressing, as was quite typical with the upper mobile stone of these mills. The original thickness of this stone may have been between 50-60mm (Watts 2002, 34), whilst the approximate circumference curvature of the rim suggests a diameter of around 350-420 mm, which is probably the norm for these lightweight handmills. There remains some evidence of the peck dressing on the upper surface of this stone, alongside a more obvious vertical grooving (i.e. shape dressing) around the rim. More than likely that the stone was broken up after extensive use as a quern, then used as rubble fill. The trade in lava quern which comes into Eastern England via. Colchester seems to have all but ceased by the third century AD, suggesting a likely second century AD date for their use (Watts *ibid*.).

Building Stone

Some 4.92kg of possible building stone was recovered (Table 17). This came from pits of the twelfth–fourteenth centuries (F.108 and F.130) within Area A, plus the stone recovered from a pit (F.124) of the same phase excavated within Area B.

Small fragments (chips) of what appeared to be oolitic Ketton Stone (Upper Lincolnshire Limestone) from Northamptonshire were recovered from Area A, whilst a collection of rough and largely un-worked pieces of stone between 60-170mm in size were recovered from the fill [581] of F.124 in Trench B. These pieces consisted of a diverse range of different stones, possibly including Ketton Ragstone (a cemented oosparite limestone), Cornbrash, Blisworth Limestone, Lower Lincolnshire Limestone and also the sandy limestone basal horizon of this which lies close to the Collyweston Slate. More locally-derived material accompanying this stone included flint nodules from the chalk and possibly also stone from the Elsworth Rock (Corallian), although it seems much more likely that such 'rough' rock might have been brought into Cambridge via the River Cam in the form of ballast stone on barges. Earlier uses of Ketton Stone was registered from the Roman villa at Comberton (www.comberton.org.uk/history), whilst Fox (1923) discussed the evidence for a Roman trade in Ketton Stone between the Northamptonshire quarries and the Cambridge region, referring to the presence of Roman houses with Ketton Stone as foundations at Cottenham and Ickleton, and also citing Stukeley who suggested that the building stone was brought by barge from Northamptonshire together with Castor ware pottery via the canals of the Foss and Car Dykes and the River Cam.

1994 Investigations

<*083***>** *F.6 [032]* - A piece of rough walling stone, crudely broken to size, but unshaped and un-faced (2.34 kg; 180mm x 130mm x 65mm). There is no evidence of attached mortar, suggestion a drystone wall construction, or possibly foundation rubble. An oosparite, possibly of Lincolnshire Limestone, perhaps Ketton Rag.

Cat. no.	Feature [context]	No of pieces (Wt.)	Geology	Dimensions (mm)	Notes
164	108 [553]	1 (286)	oolitic limestone - Ketton Stone?	90 x 40 x 60	Roughly squared and faced fragment of limestone which has been quite heavily burnt (reddened) on its surface
204	124 [581]	14 (4586)	(a) biosparite limestone (Cornbrash or Blisworth?) (b) peletoidal oosparite lmstn – Lincs Limstn/ Ketton Rag (c) Lincolnshire Limestone (d) fresh unpatinated grey flint nodule (e) Lincs Limestone? (f) patinated flint nodule (g) Elsworth Rock? (h) Ketton Ragstone? (i) Elsworth rock? (j) Lincs Lmstn (k) Blisworth Lmstn? (l) Cornbrash? (m) base of Lincs Lmstn – Collyweston? (n) patinated flint nodule	(a) 170 (b) 180 (c) 160 (d) 90 (e) 150 (f) 120 (g) 120 (h) 120 (i) 90 (j) 85 (k) 80 (l) 70 (m) 90 (n) 60	(a-b) rough unworked walling stone (b) rough worked with mortar (d-n) small stone infill for wall? Suggestion of stone brought in from Northants (Ketton area) along Car/ Foss Dyke perhaps as ballast for use in rough walling/ stone work, alongside more locally sourced material
218	130 [534]	1 (44)	oolitic limestone - Ketton Stone?	70 x 20 x 35	Small stone chip of ashlar BS with at least one chiselled face and adhering Roman mortar with flint gravel incl. (10mm)

Table 17. Detailed Catalogue of Building Stone. Weight in grammes.

Fired and Worked Clay – Simon Timberlake

The following describes in four sections the assemblages of daub plaster panels, burnt clay, Roman mortar, and Roman lime plaster. Also included here is the burnt clay and building stone recovered from the 1994 investigations.

Daub Plaster Panels

Some 105 kg of burnt clay (daub) was recovered from well F.107, predominantly from fill [508]. The majority of this was made up of 281 burnt and broken-up pieces of daub walling material (totalling 103.5 kg; Figure 12). In addition, a further 958g of similar walling material was recovered from three other nearby features (F.101, F.102 and F.106). All of this material had originally been plastered onto a backing of clay-covered reeds woven or sandwiched into a wooden frame. However, a smaller amount of daub from what was probably the same wall (a minimum of 0.2%) had been reinforced using woven wattle instead of reeds.

A detailed catalogue was compiled of all the clay fabrics, reed dimensions, wood or stick mouldings, and keyed herring-bone (chevron) roller or pattern-decorated surfaces encountered as a means to better understand the layered structure of this

wall and its method of construction. The following is a summary statement of the catalogue that is archived at the CAU.

Wood (timber) Structure

No wood elements survived within the fired daub plaster pieces although the mouldings (negatives) of their forms suggested a structure consisting of upright studs at least 80mm deep (and possibly 40-50mm wide) braced in between by thin round wood and split round (hence flat or squared) wooden rods between 20 and 30mm wide (the studs of the wall would probably have been keyed into a wooden base plate and top plate – an arrangement typical of vernacular Roman timber framed buildings (see Perring 1999, 61, Figure 20). The horizontal distance between the studs and the vertical distance between the rods could not be calculated accurately on account of there being no complete surviving plaster panel determined from the re-fitting of pieces. However, re-fitting of one nearly complete panel of daub plaster fragments (see Fig) suggests that the upper panels of the stud wall were a minimum of 0.5m (width) by 0.3m (height). This panel possessed the mould reliefs of flat (split) wooden rods upon its upper and lower edges. Yet it appears from the study of this whole collection of plaster pieces that the panels at the base of the wall were shorter (possibly just 180 – 190mm tall) and the daub wall wider (with perhaps 60-80mm thickness of plaster); the studs here were correspondingly bigger and made of whole (as opposed to split) round wood sections, each of them up to 30mm in diameter. It seems possible therefore that the stud wall frame was designed to support a more substantial plaster base – a necessity perhaps to try and hold the cumulative weight of the thinner and weaker upper panels, and to avoid deformation of the daub as it dried during its construction. Needless to say the height and total width of the wall(s) could not be calculated from the assemblage of plaster, nor could the wood species used in the wall frame be discerned; however, it seems likely that hazel might have been used for the round wood and split round wood rods. Evidently the interpretation here is in favour of the panels as deriving the sub-structure of a building's walls as opposed to its ceiling. This interpretation is restricted by the absence of any pieces showing a full cross-section across its width; in other words, we simply do not know the thickness of the panels, and neither is it possible to differentiate from the panels as to which is the inside and which is the outside of the wall, although decorated surfaces may be used to infer this (see below).

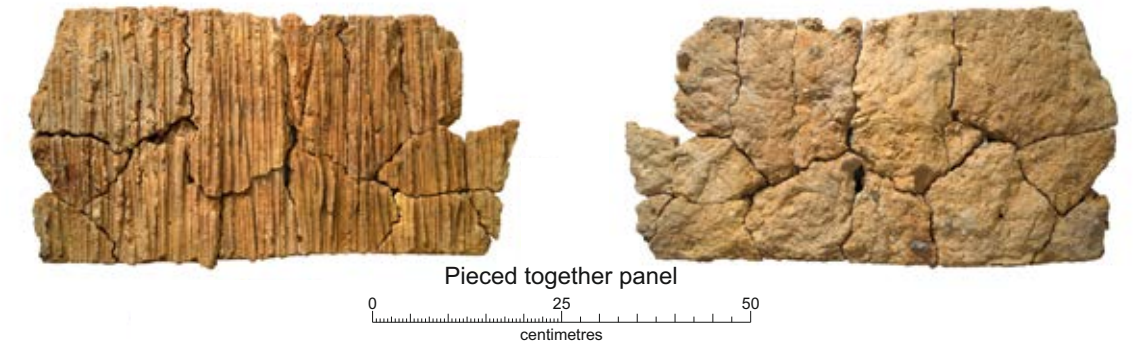
Wattle

Little evidence for the use of wattle was recovered from the daub assemblage, just 14 pieces with traces of woven wattle sticks (15-20mm diam.) embedded in daub clay in place of reeds (see below). Woven wattle panelling may have been confined just to the lowest course(s) of the wall, serving as basal panel sections of *c*. 500mm x 180mm. In some cases the wattle may have been added as reinforcement to the more commonplace reed bonding, with vertical rather than horizontal weaving (as is suggested in Perring 1999, Figures 17 and 20). It is unclear as to why wattle is so poorly represented by comparison with reeds as a framework for the plaster. A possibility that might serve as an explanation for this could be that the thin panels belonged to an internal partition wall rather than an external face; as such it may have been designed to be thin across most of its surface area.

Reed Framework

Perhaps the single most obvious feature of this assemblage was the impression of a reed framework as a backing to the daub (239 out of 281 pieces). The reeds would have been cut, perhaps in sheaves up to 1m long and thinned-out to a layer 10-20mm thick, and then attached vertically to the rear of the timber rod framework. Impressions on the reeds (Figure 12) suggest that these may have been tied onto the framework using twine, or that they had originally been tied in bundles for transport to site; a if not directly tied to the timber rod framework, then a technique of sandwiching of the reed bundles between pairs of the rods may have been employed. The reed panel face would then have been plastered over with a thin coat of wet clay and left to dry prior to the application of the daub plaster. *Phragmites* sp. (the Common Reed) appears to have been used here (R. Ballentyne *pers. comm.*), which had stalk diameters of 2 to 10mm (but averaging out as 4 to 6mm), typical of summer reed cutting. The use of fresh reeds suggests harvesting from a local fenland source, although the nearest suitable environment to Castle Hill could have been the marshy areas of the River Cam, as has been suggested by recent pollen spectra at St Clement's Gardens (Boreham in Cessford 2016).

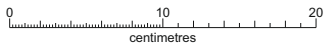
Analysis in progress



Timber moulding

Large chevron

Small chevron



Twine impression

Not to scale

Daub layering

Not to scale

Figure 12. Photographs of daub from well F.107

Daub

Analysis of the daub fabric suggests the application of two to three layers of a mix different to that of the primary yellow-brown wet clay coating the reeds. Whilst slightly different variants to a cream to yellow brown coloured porous sandy clay daub mix were noted within the assemblage, the basic mix was composed of: silty clay tempered with chopped vegetable debris (mostly of *Phragmites* reed fragments) mixed with small amounts of unburnt or slightly burnt patinated flint gravel, rare lumps of silty daub grog, reddish ochre and vitrified clay, together with the much more ubiquitous crushed chalk, flint grit, and marl. The variations noted may be explained perhaps by the puddling of small amounts as individual mixes within daub mixing pits, the siting of which is not presently known, with inclusions varying from batch to batch, except for the ubiquitous reed debris which appears to be associated with the reed bundles arriving on site. On looking through the variations seen within the daub, it was possible to differentiate daub mix scraped from the base of the chalky gravel (i.e. that within the bottom of the mixing pit) from that dug out of the top of the pits, the latter appearing to consist of a more homogenous silty clay mixed up with reed fragments (almost all of which were less than 20mm long). Although the sandy silt and clay used in making the daub may have been sourced from Castle Hill, it is more likely that this was derived from alluvium taken from the riverbanks or palaeochannel fills of the River Cam nearby.

In addition to the daub plaster fabric(s) already described, a small amount (x13 pieces = 1.56 kg) of a quite different chalky daub, not necessarily related to the wall, was recovered from the same dump deposit. Associated with this were pieces of a chalky daub-rich stone mortar (see below).

Decoration

The ornament or keyed decoration applied to the still wet daub wall surface was of the fairly standard opposing chevron or 'herringbone' type commonly described from Roman vernacular and even higher-status buildings from first and second-century urban contexts described by Perring (1999, 94); such as in Colchester (Crummy 1992), Verulanium (Wheeler and Wheeler 1936) and London. However, Wallace in her recent publication on *The Origin of Roman London* (2015, 86) notes that the use of herringbone keyed decoration patterns upon daub or *terra pise* walls seemed to be associated with higher status buildings such as the proto-forum in Cornhill, and that keyed daub walls were generally rare south of the river in Southwark. At Kettle's Yard 64% of the daub pieces possess a keyed moulded chevron design (as herringbone), with most of the remainder being rough or unmoulded – representing either undecorated or unfinished wall. Amongst the decorated or keyed daub plaster pieces two slightly different moulded chevron patterns (perhaps reflecting the existence of two different roller dies) were recognised; a standard chevron (65-70mm long) and a large chevron (approx. 100mm long). The large chevron was clearly the rarer of the two (seen just on 7 pieces as opposed to the 131 pieces of the standard chevron). Quite possibly the larger chevron was associated with a basal wall frieze or a doorway, or else this simply indicated the involvement of another plasterer (and his die) in the construction of the building. The existence of a third die mould (with a much fainter or worn standard size chevron design) is suggested, but cannot really be proved, one way or another. The application of this design on the wet daub plaster using a roller die is referred to by Perring (1999, 94) in his description of the process of 'decorative keying'. At Lullingstone villa in Kent the roller die used measured 300-370mm wide and was operated upwards. Measuring the overlap ridges present on the plaster surface at Kettle's Yard an estimate for the width of the roller die is less, possibly even half this size at 150-200mm, although most of the surviving sections of plaster are smaller.

Given the small degree of uncertainty still as to whether this assemblage represents reed-supported roof or wall, one might consider another interpretation of how the different daub pieces fitted together. The presence of roughly equal amounts of decorated and undecorated plaster (both of them with reed supports in the middle) might suggest that we are looking at two sides of the same wall, both of which peeled off when the structure burnt and the reeds carbonised in the middle. Both then could be the walls of an internal room decorated just on one side, or else the two sides of a decorated external wall of a timber framed building – perhaps even a building of moderate to high status. Perring noted how these patterned daub plaster walls would sometimes have provided keying for plaster (and painted plaster)

decoration, but how they also served as a decoration in their own right, similar to the pargeted wall plaster designs popular in Tudor England (*ibid*. 94).

Not directly associated with the use of this daub plaster keying technique, Pullinger and Weatherhead (1999, 252) noticed the presence of a wattle and reed framework as backing to a painted lime plaster wall from debris obtained from a cellar associated with a substantial building on Castle Hill. Certainly the use of reeds rather than wattle as a framework fill for a daub wall would appear to be relatively uncommon as a building technique in Roman Britain. Elsewhere, partitions of plaster applied directly to bundled reeds have been recorded in Roman constructions in Italy, and Vitruvius describes something similar in his discussion of the plastering of a vault (Vitruvius 7.3, see 1914, 205–7):

> … take cord made of Spanish broom, and tie Greek reeds, previously pounded flat, to the furring strips in the required contour. Immediately above the vaulting spread some mortar made of lime and sand, to check any drops that may fall from the joists or from the roof. If a supply of Greek reed is not to be had, gather slender marsh reeds, and make them up with silk cord into bundles all of the same thickness and adjusted to the proper length, provided that the bundles are not more than two feet long between any two knots. Then tie them with cord to the beams, as above described, and drive wooden pegs into them […] Having thus set the vaultings in their places and interwoven them, apply the rendering coat to their lower surface; then lay on the sand mortar, and afterwards polish it off with the powdered marble. After the vaultings have been polished, set the impost mouldings directly beneath them. These obviously ought to be made extremely slender and delicate, for when they are large, their weight carries them down, and they cannot support themselves.

An additional model may also be proposed for Kettle's Yard by which the reeds were held in place to form a rigid framework for the application of daub. As mentioned above, this would entail the sandwiching of tied reed bundles between pairs of rods at each panel interval. This would provide a considerably strong and light structure, and an even layer of reeds onto which the daub may then be applied. In any case, it is likely that these examples from Kettle's Yard and elsewhere on Castle Hill are local variations in building techniques and styles according to the availability of the relevant useable materials.

Interestingly, Vitruvius mentions the limitations or shortcomings of wattle and daub buildings; during the building of these the swelling of the wet woven wattle framework opposes the shrinkage of the drying daub leading to cracking of the surface; The use of a 'double series of reeds with their shafts crossing on the walls' serves as a means to 'prevent any chipping or cracking from taking place.' Furthermore, he considered wattle partitions in houses to be a fire hazard '….for it is made to catch fire, like torches.'

In all probability the daub assemblage recovered from Kettle's Yard represents the burnt and collapsed walls of a Roman building. The possibility remains that this includes ceiling material, but the most likely explanation is that most comes from the internal partition walls of a moderately high status building. In all likelihood other bits of daub walling from this structure remain unexcavated in the vicinity of the site.

The use of reeds rather than wattle as a framework within this stud-walled daub construction is slightly unusual in terms of Roman building practice, although the use of decorative keying and the application of roller die applied chevron motifs is not uncommon in Roman Britain, including when used as a pargeting technique, without the addition of painted or unpainted wall plaster. This account of a locally adapted building style will provide a useful parallel for comparison with any future studies of Roman building in Cambridge and elsewhere in Roman Britain.

Future analysis of retained samples from this wall might include palaeoenvironmental work undertaken on the very well preserved perfect casts of *Phragmites* sp. reeds as well as any carbonised seeds retained within the burnt daub. Good samples should also be kept for the purposes of examining the pattern mould decoration in order to critically compare the use and movement of dies between sites.

Burnt Clay

<216> F.130 [524] - Possibly a poorly fired fragment of a weathered clay brick (34g). The texture and mineral fabric of this resembles a well-fired pink burnt clay consisting of well puddled silty clay with some small burnt-out organic inclusions (such as chaff/ straw) and occasional chalk. It is suggested that this might be the weathered edge of a hand-made brick of approx. 50mm thickness such as is common during the sixteenth-seventeenth century (unlikely to be Roman; i.e. redeposited).

<222> F.107 [508] (Sample 100; >4mm fraction) - Some 12 weathered and rounded fragments of a red sandy burnt clay recovered from the sieving of a bulk sample. There is no suggestion here that these may be brick, rather they seem to consist of weathered and water-rolled daub.

F.107 [508] - Thirteen pieces (1.56 kg) of a white to light grey chalky daub recovered as fragments. These did not appear to be related in any obvious way to the dump of wall plaster from the well, but were recovered from the same deposit.

1994 Investigations: **<***005***>** *F.5 (031)* - Eight fragments (374g). Burnt clay (daub) fabric similar, but not identical to the daub wall plaster fabric recovered in 2015. Fabric description: porous sandy pinkish brown burnt daub with inclusions of burnt-out vegetation debris (probably small *Phragmites* reed fragments), occasional patinated angular flint gravel (<10mm), crushed burnt flint, chalk and marly daub grit (<3mm). The largest piece has the mould impression (70mm+) of a flat timber element; quite similar to the stud wall timber impressions associated with the 2015 daub plaster assemblage.

Roman Mortar

A total of 1.5 kg of mortar was recovered, of which +200g consisted of *opus caementicum*. With its crushed tile matrix, *opus caementicium* is 'artificial' pozzolanic cement that was devised as a means to try and re-create an effective alternative to true pozzolanic cement made from crushed volcanic pumice, lime and stone and used to great effect in Italy as a building material. In effect this was a fairly standard building material used in Roman Britain; the tile-filled mortar being hard enough itself to be used for load-bearing walls in all manner of major structures. Vitruvius discusses the manufacture of sandy mortars in his *De Architechira I* (16 BC).

F.107 [508] - 22 fragments of coarse Roman wall mortar containing lumps of flint gravel and chalk but no tile (1156g).

<*128***>** *F.102 [522]* - One large fragment of coarse Roman wall mortar (166g) containing lumps flint and chalk but no tile (v.coarse).

<184> F.117 [542] - Two lumps of *opus caementicium* Roman mortar (total 192g) containing rare small lumps of chalk and flint within a sand lime plaster matrix containing abundant crushed red and pink tile (up to 1-6mm diameter pieces) which make up 15-20% of the mix. One of the lumps (102g) is attached to the underside of the broken edge of a clay brick or tile whilst the other (86g) has a flat surface suggestive of it having also been laid under a flat tile or stone. These mortar fragments may thus have been part of a tile-coursed wall; a common and effective means used to strengthen a structure largely made up of mortar and rubble stone. Recovered from a Roman context.

<216> F.130 [524] - One small fragment of opus carmenticium mortar with crushed brick recovered from a post-Medieval context. This is a fragment of Roman mortar re-deposited within the later feature.

Roman Lime Plaster

A single piece of coarse lime wall(?) plaster, weighing 52g, was recovered from F.107 [508]. Evidently this was not a finish suitable for wall painting, and there is no indication that it was associated in any way with the daub plaster wall assemblage

Metalwork – Marcus Brittain with Andy Hall

A total of 18 metal items were recovered, including 15 iron nails from two pits dated to the second–fourth centuries AD, also from which a finger ring was found embedded within a daub matrix; a copper alloy buckle from a sixteenth century pit, but more probably dated to the twelfth–fourteenth century phase of the site's use; and a strip of probably twentieth century lead flashing. The large size of the nails indicates that these were utilised for structural purposes.

F.107 [508] - Copper alloy item of dress, weight unknown; Romano-British. Found embedded in clay daub walling; analysed *in situ*, not removed from daub. Plain cast circular finger-ring with single lump of corrosion on outer face (not a mount or bevel). Flattened inner surface and concave outer surface gives overall D-shaped section. Outer diam. 21.94mm; inner diam. 14.87mm; thickness 3.28mm; height 4.57mm. Relatively thick for a finger ring of this period, a ring of comparable form and dimensions was found on the left hand index finger of a third–mid-fourth century skeleton at Colchester (Crummy 1983, 47, no. 1749). A plain cast ring of similar dimensions (13mm internal diam.) was recorded from Stonea Camp within a layer dated to the third–fourth century (Johns in Jackson and Potter 1996, 329, no.7).

<219> F.100 [500] - Lead flashing, weight 61g. Oxidised surface indicates lack of antiquity, and a probable twentieth century date.

<231> F.101 [514] - A hand-made iron nail, weight 10g; length 43mm, diam. 11mm; heavily corroded and congealed with calcified marl.

<232> F.107 [508] - Six hand-made iron nails with square profile and flat head, weight 74g; max length 72mm, min length 32mm; diam. 8mm; max head diam. 13mm; all heavily corroded and congealed with calcified marl.

<233> F.107 [507] - Eight hand-made iron nails with square profile and flat head, weight 99g; max length 92mm, min length 43mm; diam. 8-10mm; max head diam. 13mm; most heavily corroded and congealed with calcified marl.

<234> F.108 [523] - AD twelfth–fourteenth century copper alloy buckle in three pieces, weight 15g. Length 58mm, head width 26mm, plate width 15mm, plate thickness 1mm. Recessed oval frame with plate and ornate outside margins with zigzag engraving; cast pin has transverse ridge; moulded seat for pin; plate is pierced with five holes for rivets; underside of main plate holds an extra small (broken) plate possibly added as a repair. A comparable example is catalogued at the Museum of London (Egan and Pritchard 2002: 77, cat. no. 313)

Slag – Simon Timberlake

A single piece of iron slag weighing 270g was recovered from the twelfth–fourteenth century feature (F.108) thought to be a series of pits along the robber cut into the foundation trench for a substantial Roman wall.

<167> F.108 [553] - *A* piece of vitrified hearth lining (VHL) or vitrified end of a large diameter clay tuyere pipe of at least 110mm diameter (270g; 95mm x 80mm x 30mm). If this was the end of a tuyere, this would have been near the tip at the point where this was broken off from the forming slag, most probably as an iron smithing hearth base (SHB). The glassy iron-rich slaggy vitrified clay contains

numerous burnt-out impressions of charcoal fragments, areas of iron slag (fayalite), plus calcined chalk and flint. It is very slightly magnetic.

<223> *F.107 [509] (*Sample 101) - Catalogued as slag, this is more likely an iron oxidation product (rust), although from what is unknown.

Clay Tobacco Pipes – Marcus Brittain

Two post-Medieval features contained stems of clay tobacco pipe. In Area A, this was layer F.100 that covered much of the excavation area and from which ten (33.8g) stem fragments were recovered. In Area B, a nineteenth century foundation cut (F.120) produced two stems (4.68g). One stem from F.100 included a pedestal, with the remaining assemblage being of plain white buff exterior.

3. DISCUSSION

Five main phases may be identified across the combined areas of the 1994 and 2015 investigations:

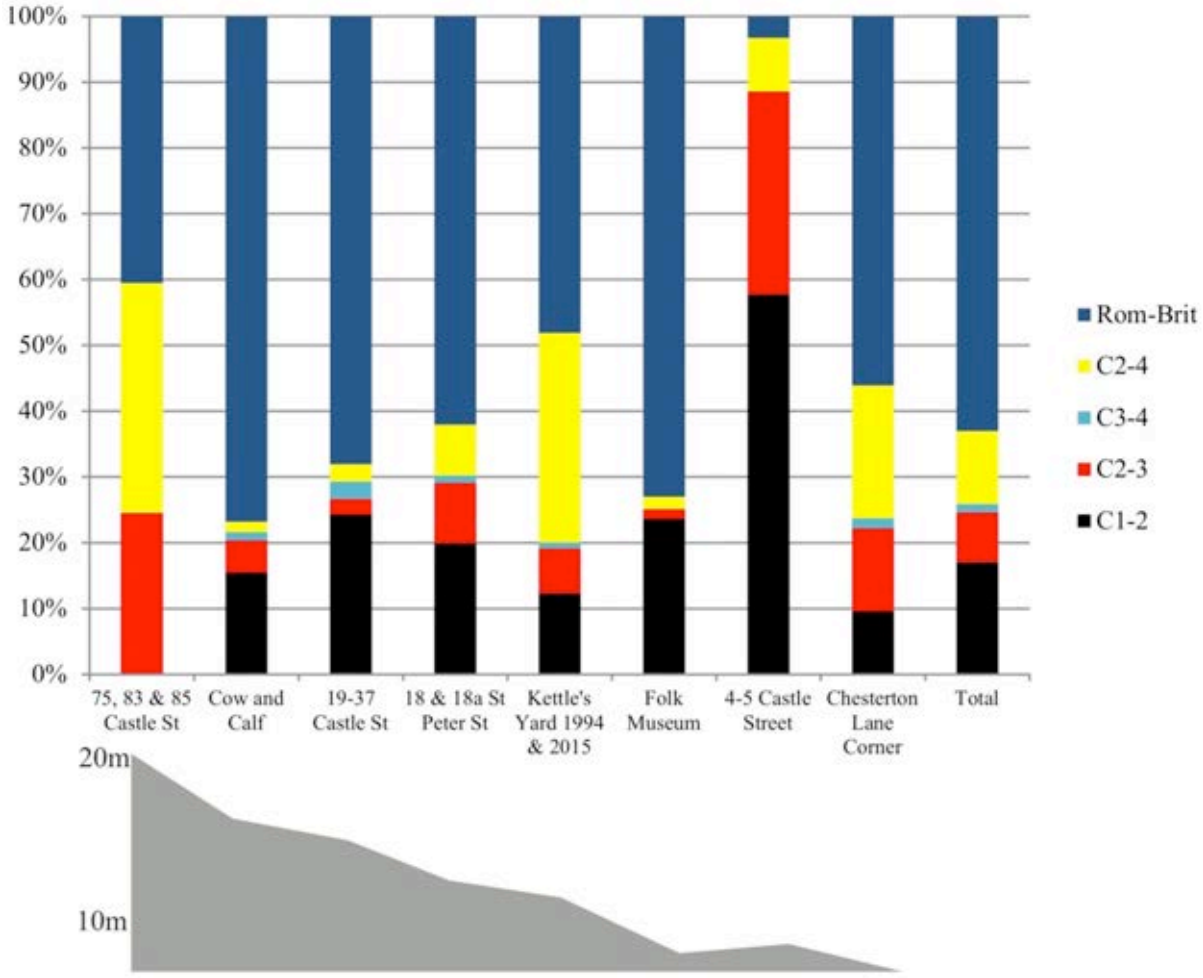
Phase I	– occupation and ditch/terrace	Second–third century
Phase II	– occupation and ditch/terrace	Third century
Phase III	– establishment of defensive wall	Third–fourth century
Phase IV	– dismantling of the defensive wall	Twelfth–fourteenth century
Phase V	– occupation	Twelfth–fourteenth century

Romano-British

Phasing has been assigned primarily on account of pottery traditions and stratigraphic relationships. This poses some difficulties on the grounds that for much of the pottery only a broad second-fourth century designation was possible. Although no features of the first–second century were encountered, its pottery (54 sherds) accounted for 63.5% of the assemblage that could be more narrowly identified. A further 19 sherds belonged to the second–third century, with only 12 sherds dated specifically to the mid–late third–fourth century (see Mazzilli, above). The pottery assemblage from Kettle's Yard appears to fit within a quantifiable pattern gained from a collation of excavated assemblages from across Castle Hill (Table 18; Graph 1). This is dominated by ceramics from the first–second century that gradually reduces in the second–third century, with only a minimal presence of third–fourth century ceramic traditions.

Site	C1–2		C2–3		C3–4		C2–4		Rom-Brit		Total		Height mOD
	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	No.	Wt	
75, 83 & 85 Castle St	0	0	9	332	0	0	20	472	34	548	63	1352	20
Cow and Calf	320	5684	183	1804	14	467	17	575	2591	28261	3125	36791	16
19-37 Castle St	88	1937	31	187	15	211	17	211	443	5427	594	7973	14.5
18 & 18a St Peter St	29	931	31	429	8	51	34	361	280	2897	382	4669	13
Kettle's Yard 1994	5	88	43	789	2	34	14	813	336	7767	400	9491	11
Kettle's Yard 2015	54	1903	20	305	12	114	173	4327	n/a	n/a	259	6649	11
Folk Museum	58	1494	33	96	0	0	7	118	561	4619	659	6327	8.5
4-5 Castle St	79	2223	39	1186	n/a	n/a	16	315	2	126	136	3850	8
Chesterton Lane Corner	95	1454	119	1913	11	236	170	3056	633	8511	1028	15160	7
Total	*598*	*11638*	*452*	*5591*	*50*	*999*	*283*	*5733*	*4896*	*58135*	*6673*	*92564*	-

Table 18. Dated Romano-British pottery from Castle Hill; weight is in grammes.



Graph 1. Percentages of phased pottery by weight from Castle Hill Romano-British assemblages, presented with relative heights in metres OD.

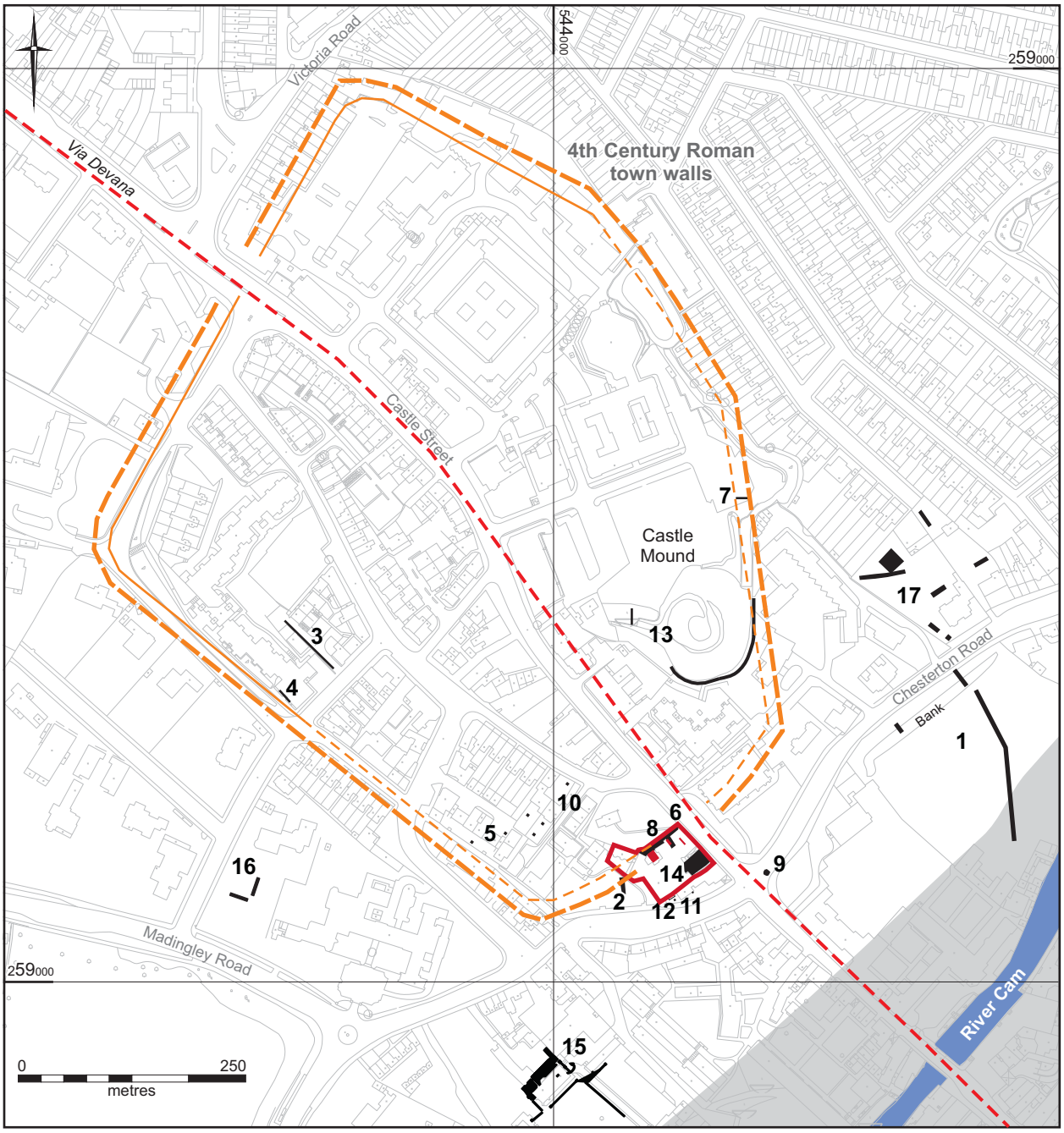
For a number of features it has been possible to narrow a timeframe to within a century, thereby reducing the window of possibility for associated sequences. Nevertheless, some justification is warranted, namely owing to the 'absent presence' that defines the identification of Phases III and IV, this being the understanding that the hill's Roman defences – its stone wall – passed through Kettle's Yard. This further poses a challenge of defining the relationship of the occupation in Phase II with the defences and the degree, if any, to which their use overlaps.

Firm dating evidence for Phase I was provided by the pottery evidence, although the sequence relating well F.101 to the broader 'scoop' hollow of F's. 103–6 was not possible to refine. Nevertheless, along with well F.107, a second-century date for the establishment of the Phase II features is sound. This is true also for the truncated linear feature (F.117) surviving only in a partial state beneath the Medieval activity. As to whether this is the base of a moderately sized ditch or the weathered edge of a hillside terrace-cut is difficult to confirm; should its filling sediment be regarded as a result of colluvial mobility down the hillslope then its status as a working terrace may be warranted. Terracing of the hillside may have been a necessary requirement for its successful habitation, particularly in light of the landfall of *c*. 11m to 8.5m OD between Kettle's Yard and the Folk Museum. As confirmed by its pottery, this continued in use into the third century, although if this was as a weathered terrace then it does not appear to have been assiduously managed.

The 1994 investigations on the northeast side of Area A revealed what was then suggested to be a terraced platform cut into the landfall, and first–second century pottery was identified amongst its small assemblage (13 sherds, 157g) of otherwise indeterminate sandy greywares. What was not certain in 1994 was the relationship of the third-century 'processing complex' of pits, gulley and 'tank' to the terrace (Evans 1994). The outcome of this relationship also held implications for an understanding of the broader sequence there. Should the features of the processing complex have cut the fill of the terrace – an event for which there was no certainty – then their contemporaneity with the rammed floor building identified in 1994 (F.2; Figure 14) would have been likely. In the absence of this relationship (the terrace and processing complex being regarded as contemporary), the building and the processing complex were assigned to separate phases. Now, with two distinct phases of pit cutting having been identified in Area A, and the probable continuity of the use of the terracing – if not even its 'management' – into the third century, the possibility of a connection between the building and the processing complex may again be raised. With F.102 representing the east half of the processing tank excavated in 1994 (F.7), the likelihood of the structural walling debris from well F.107 as having derived from the rammed floor building is diminished: F.102 having also been shown to cut the well's upper fill. Considered in greater detail below, the temper of the patterned daub recovered from F.107 was found by Timberlake to be different than that found in the 1994 processing complex's well, F.5. This reveals the possibility of two phases of building on the hillside, one connected with Phase I, and the other with Phase II. As argued below, the high temperatures required for the vitrification of reed daub may have required the addition of fuel, thereby suggesting that a deliberate clearance episode of one building preceded the establishment of another: a claim for which there comparable examples. In any case, Phases I and II illustrate hillside occupation on what are likely to be cut terraced platforms from the second and into the third centuries.

Just 0.7 and 1.4m across whilst being 1.3 and 1.9m deep, the two wells (F.101 & F.107) – like the earlier-dug, F. 5 (1.4m diam.; 1.5m+ deep) – were dug to facilitate the provision of groundwater. Possibly originally barrel-lined, the clustering of such features at this point must surely reflect the depth of spring-lines at the base of Castle Hill's chalk marl geology. The recovery of the wells reflect upon crucial importance of the town's water supply, especially given Roman Cambridge's hill-top location, Indeed, the features here – plus their distinct shaft-like form – should make us reconsider what others have interpreted as the deep 'ritual shafts' that Alexander excavated at his Ridgeons Garden South/Comet Place site, and whose ritual content has even led Roman Cambridge to be envisaged as some manner of cult centre (e.g. Taylor 1999). The votive character of the offerings in their bases is incontestable. Yet, in all likelihood, these also originally served as deep wells, with the 'ritual packages' only being deposited when the water supplied failed/dropped in that portion of the hill-top.

Totalling 10.7kg, the pottery recovered from wells F.101 and F.107 accounted for *c.* 66.4% of the total Romano-British assemblage (16.12kg). The five near-complete vessels from F.107, and the single example from F.101, were all recovered from the wells' upper profiles. It is, therefore, significant that underlying this in F.107 was the mass of burnt structural daub within two charcoal-rich deposits. Accordingly, the pottery is unlikely to have derived from either of the buildings thus far identified on the hillside.



1 Walker (1911)
2 Northampton Street (1949)
3 AR (1964)
4 MP (1964-8)
5 PH (1983)
6 Kettles Yard (1984)
7 Shire Hall (1985)
8 CAU105 (1994)
9 Chesterton Lane Corner (2001)
10 CAU466 (2002)
11 CAU484 (2002)
12 CAU574 (2003)
13 OAE1105 (2009 & 2013)
14 CAU963 & 1064 (2010-11)
15 Pythagoras CAU1199 (2013)
16 Westminister College (2013)
17 Sunnyside house (2003)

Previous Excavations
Marshy Area
Kettle's Yard
Roman Town Walls and ditch (projected)
Roman road

Figure 13. Cambridge Ordnance Survey map with selected locations of previous excavations

Figure 14. Rammed marl floor revealed in the 1994 excavations

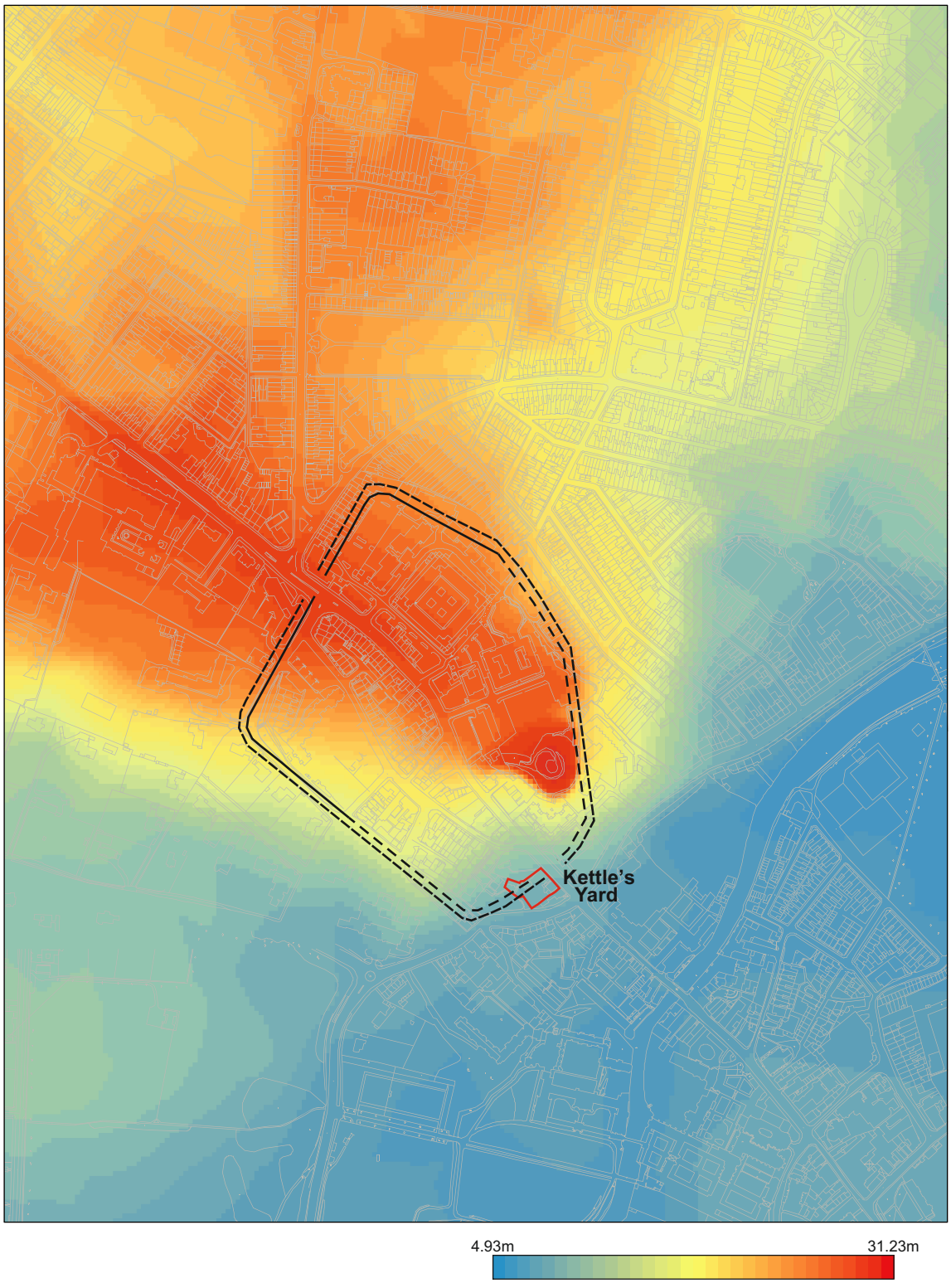


Figure 15. Digital elevation model of Castle Hill with Roman defences

In addition to the structural walling in well F.107, lesser quantities of similar daub were recovered from well F.101 and the adjacent 'scoop' F.106, all belonging to Phase I. Mortar and lime plaster also occurred in well F.107. Timberlake's analysis suggests this to be predominantly of wall panels, probably from an internal division, and illustrates at least two forms of decorative die. The burnt daub shows evidence for sawn timber uprights probably linked by squared horizontal rods upon which the daub structure was applied; larger unmodified rods of roundwood wattling appear to have rung the lower wall boundary, adding strength to the wall footing. Large iron nails from pit F.107 further attest to the substantial timber framework that formed the skeleton of the building. The structure was clearly substantial, and composed of a range of materials that may have been locally available, but are more likely to have required some degree of importation. The use of reed as the framework for the plaster is clearly one aspect of the varied resources and techniques utilised in building practices at Castle Hill; the presence of freshwater and terrestrial mollusca urges Fryer's environmental assessment to raise the possibility that roof thatch was employed and, in the absence of tiles, it is possible that reed was also used for this purpose. Bones of a mallard and a wader bird found within pit F.101 further point to the importance of water-edge resources.

Although noted from partitions in Roman constructions in Italy (Perring 1999, 63), reed structure walling is not common to Roman Britain. An example of the second century has previously been found at the Shire Hall excavations on Castle Hill from a 0.6m-deep cellar inside of a substantial building that was filled with an ashy deposit containing disintegrated daub and plaster with burnt wood and iron nails (Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 40; Pullinger and Weatherhead 1999, 252). Further afield, to the north of Cambridge, at the fenland site of Stonea Grange there were several fragments of painted daub with reed impressions dated to the fourth century, but this was rare amongst an otherwise large daub assemblage (Jackson and Potter 1996).

It is likely that the plaster found in well F.107 was applied to the bundled reed and wattle panels once they had already been fastened to the building's main framework. The exact composition of the daub may only be confirmed by micrmorphological thin-section analysis. Nevertheless, as explained by Timberlake, the varied temper is a result of the puddling of different elements of the wet plaster material in the mixing pit, and also represents different stages in the plastering process, with sandy components deriving from the base of the pit within which the plaster was mixed. The mixing process may have been fairly arduous, with the mixture being squeezed and pressed by hand, so much so that one of the unlucky plastering team may have lost their finger-ring in the process. An alternative explanation is that the ring may have been deliberately embedded within the wall's plaster, perhaps to mark its foundation, or even as a good luck charm. In Roman Cambridge this may also explain the finding of a dupondius of Trajan (98–117 AD) found embedded in daub near to the probable fourth-century villa at Arbury Road, where also a coin of 330–337 AD was found lodged within the chalk floor (Frend 1955, 19, 41). In another context, along with coins and other objects, jewellery was often set within mortar at tombs in Rome (Nicolai 1999, 45). However, metal detecting of the Kettle's Yard plaster revealed no further objects, and a misfortunate loss may in this instance account for the ring.

The daub's impressed decoration was applied by two roller dies that display two variations of lozenge patterning. This decorative technique has been found in contexts as early as the first and second-century AD, and is thought to have been imported as a construction detail from Gaul (Perring 1999, 94). It has generally been

found with large buildings – including villas – suggesting connotations to elevated-status, although keyed daub has also been found in second-century buildings in Essex that may have been military buildings (Crummy 1992, 253; Atkinson and Preston 2015).

Location	**Length** (m)	**Width** (m)	**Floor**
House 1	*c*. 5.2	4.9	n/a
House 2a	3.5	3.5	Chalk
House 3a	*c*. 4.5	3	n/a
House 5a	*c*. 6.1	3.65	n/a
House 14	3.8+	1.8+	Earth
House 4b	4.9	4.9	Marl over sand
House 6d	6.1	2.45	Marl
House 16	3.6	2.1	Marl
Kettle's Yard	4+	2.3+	Marl
Arbury	8.6	5.3	Tile over marl
War Ditches	10.5	7.5	n/a
Godmanchester (ave.)	11	5	-

Table 19. Dimensions of second to early fourth century buildings surviving near intact at Castle Hill, with local comparisons; 'n/a' designates the non-survival of floor deposits.

The numerous buildings at Castle Hill that have been identified for each phase of Romano-British occupation display varieties of scale and building technique (Alexander and Pullinger 1999). Excluding Kettle's Yard, sixteen buildings dated to the second–third century have previously been excavated, eight of which with floors of rammed gravel, marl or chalk (Houses 2a, 3b, 9, SH II F74, 15, 21 & 24). Shallow foundation trenches, occasionally with postholes supporting a timber frame were the commonest method of construction. Dimensions of only five buildings have been ascertained (Table 19), and these are notably small by comparison with second-century timber post settings at War Ditches (Structure 2, *c*. 10.5 by 7.5m; White 1963–4, 31–2) and two-roomed buildings at Godmanchester (ave. 11.0 by 5.0m; Green 1974; Jones 2003). If lacking in scale, a number of the buildings at Castle Hill were elaborate in their construction. As an example, positioned on the western slope of the hill at Storey's Paddock, a foundation platform of over 7.5sqm was prepared for the construction of House 16 and its associated yard using tips of limestone, loam and clay that raised the floor level by *c*. 0.3m. Sand, earth and clay were then tipped around the levelled area, and an 8cm layer of puddled marl was then laid upon this to form a floor surface of 3.6 x 2.1m. Two postholes marked the building's western edge, with no others having survived. Daub and roof tiles found on the surface near to the building were thought to have probably belonged to it, and overlying the floor was burnt daub and charcoal with 36 iron nails. The building had been destroyed by fire.

The structural debris collected from well F.107 was clearly only a fraction of the material that any building would have incorporated. It had clearly been dumped into the well in a process of clearance following the destructive fire event to which the building succumbed. Destruction by fire appears to have been the fate of a number of the hill's Romano-British buildings, with only one (House 9) from the second century illustrating any direct evidence for having then been rebuilt, as represented by two layers of marl flooring separated by a thick layer of dark charcoal-filled loam. Elsewhere, buildings appear to have been erected upon the site of former buildings, the remains of which again suggest a fire event. This was the case at Arbury Road where a probable second–fourth century villa was built over a well, the upper profile of which contained a mass of building material that included burnt roofing tiles, a thick layer of painted multi-coloured wall plaster, pieces of

timber sawn into planks and squared beams, with box tile and fragments of glass (Frend 1955). At Godmanchester another important building, probably a villa, was constructed on the site of an earlier building shortly after it had burnt down (Frend 1978, 10); it may be that, in some instances, the burning of buildings was part of a systematic process of ground clearance.

The daub at Kettle's Yard was well fired, displaying colours of intense orange and red, and some fragments were vitrified with a blackened colour. Daub from different parts of the building seems to have been exposed to differing durations and intensities of fire. Although of a lighter construction, experiments of fire with reed and wattle daub houses reconstructed from Neolithic examples found in southeast Europe have shown that their flammability is not enough to sustain the intensity of flame required to reach temperatures required for vitrification of daub (700–1000°C), and the addition of fuel may have been required (Carneiro and Mateiciucová 2007, 281–3). A range of factors can influence conflagration, including materials and their qualities, the nature and purpose of a structure, or the seasonal weather conditions (dry months being more conducive to a quick but not necessarily sustained burn). The building at Kettle's Yard may have housed material that could have acted as extra fuel (perhaps here including a thatched roof), but it also remains a possibility that its destruction by fire was a deliberate occurrence.

With no sign of any of the buildings evidenced at Kettle's Yard as having continued into the fourth century, it is unlikely that their presence coincided with the establishment of the hill's defences. The nature of the defences on the south and east sides of the hill are poorly understood, and yet a number of expectations of their character as defined from interventions to the north and west of the hill have guided much investigation of the southeast hillside. The scale of twelfth–fourteenth century features in the current project have, in all reality, removed the evidence that may otherwise have existed for the defences, dated by Alexander and Pullinger (1999) to the fourth century; the distinct linearity of these intercutting features certainly suggests that they followed an earlier boundary, and that these represent robbing pits is a distinct likelihood.

The 1984 excavations in Kettle's Yard uncovered surviving wall footings that, as reported in Alexander and Pullinger (1999), stood to a height of 0.5m, over which 'was a thick layer of burnt material, containing sherds of eleventh to twelfth centuries.' The exact location of the trench can only be approximately positioned in Figure 2. The character of the wall has been more fully revealed in three other investigations on the hill – Mount Pleasant, Castle Court 1985 and 1986 (*ibid*.) – either as partially upstanding or as traced by a robber trench. Of 2.1–3.0m width, it was constructed of limestone with mortar bonding and either set in a foundation trench or directly upon the sold geology. At Mount Pleasant (MP) the foundation trench was exposed in an area of 10sqm and recorded as being 0.6m deep. The foundation comprised a basal layer of laid gravel overlain by chalk marl and sealed by 'a slurry of yellow-brown mortar.' Although the stone walling had been completely removed, the backfilled robbing trench contained 'many large fragments of mortared oolitic limestone, flint nodules, bonding tiles and clunch blocks.' At Castle Court (CH85) the foundations were traced over 17m in a foundation trench; in the same area (CH86) the wall was found to be 2.1m wide and of limestone blocks, but set upon the chalk bedrock without a foundation trench. The structure of the wall was a complex sequence of set-blocked facing with irregular drystone walling, alternate courses having been set by a pouring of lime mortar. Further to the west, the wall was again set within a foundation trench, *c*. 0.6m deep and 3.0m wide. A post setting along the inner edge was thought to be related to the wall's construction, and the apparent

robbing of the wall from its outer face served as additional evidence that a bank must have at that time still stood on the wall's inner side.

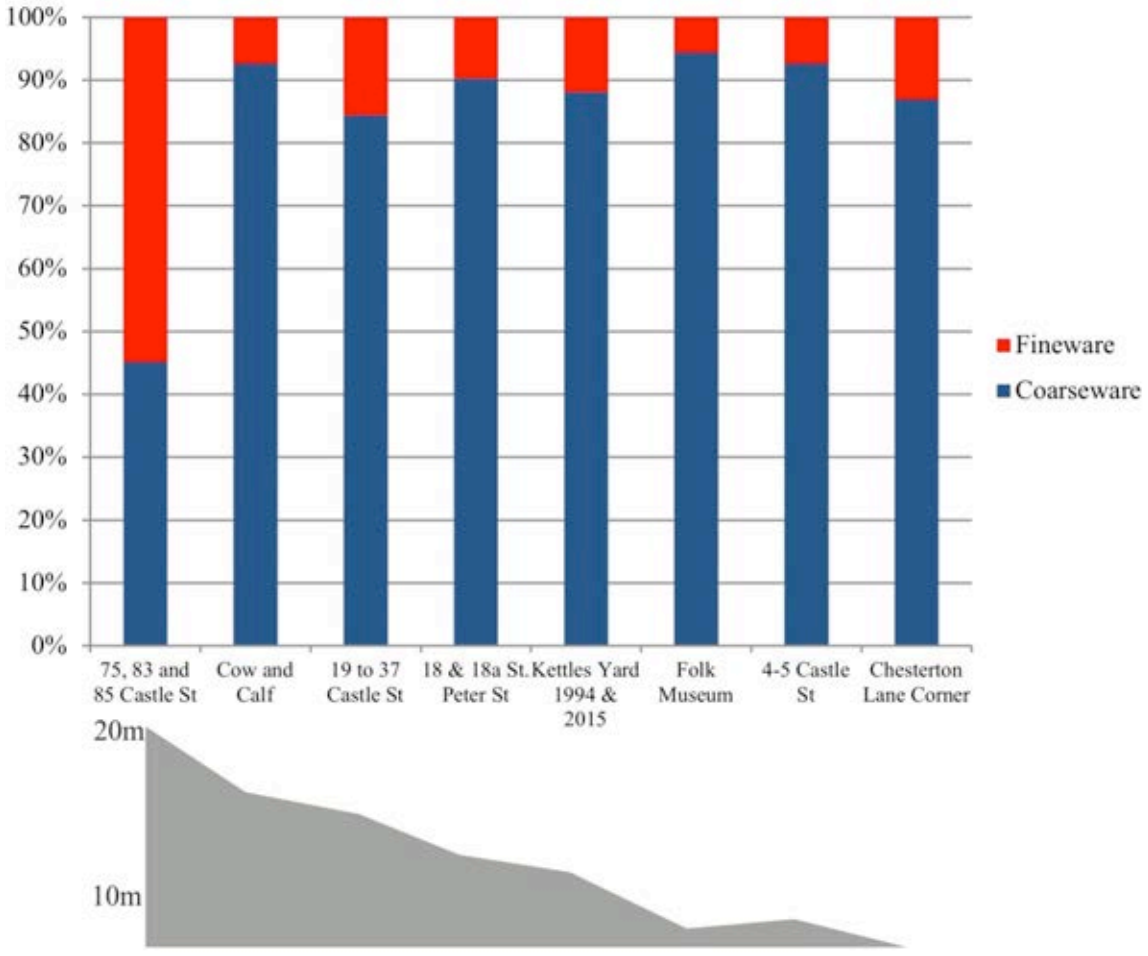
In Area A the extent of twelfth–fourteenth century cutting in Phase IV covered almost 4.0m across, and then continued beyond the excavation area, to a depth of 2.25m+. This would be more than adequate to house a foundation of the scale described above, and its northeast–southwest orientation suitably hugs against the hill's contour at the crest of a marked drop in the landfall. Robbing of a feature of this size would have clearly entailed considerable labour and, with the only remnant being stone rubble in the base of one of the robbing pits (F.131), the robbing was clearly successful. This material was not obviously faced, and nor did it display markings of mortar bonding. It may, therefore, have stabilised a footing or perhaps filled a structure of boxed revetment within the main wall.

Despite of the questionable suggestion proposed from the 1984 published sections, what is not present in the narrative of any of the investigations at Kettle's Yard is evidence for the earthen rampart shown elsewhere to be substantial and faced by the stone wall. It seem unlikely that even levelling of the bank for the establishment of the churchyard around the twelfth-century would have left no trace, and the effort that this would have required seems unnecessarily extreme. Remodelling of the north side of the churchyard after 1881 (Cambridge Improvements Commissioners, Cambridgeshire Archives ref. CB/4/9/12) is also unlikely to have removed surviving traces of a bank. Instead, it is plausible to assume that the bank did not extend as far as Kettle's Yard and that the wall stood alone as the primary defence. By implication, therefore, it is also unlikely that the ditch extended into or beyond Kettle's Yard. This need not be surprising. The steepening of the landfall slope between Kettle's Yard and the Folk Museum is likely to have served as a barrier in its own right, with the wall perched at the crest of its steepest point adjacent to the town's main southern access gate and above the presumably weathered terracing (Figure 15).

With the likelihood that only a substantial wall represented the defences within the confines of Kettle's Yard, the exact extent of the hill's southern earthworks is uncertain, but appears to have been located somewhere on Honey Hill Green (RCHM(E) 1959, no.15). The trench was opened in 1949 by Alexander Hogg on behalf of the Cambridge University Archaeological Field Club prior to his appointment in the same year as secretary for the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire (Briggs 1981). An air raid shelter had truncated the south edge of the ditch, the remainder of which was described as '*c.* 12m wide at its lip, 2.6m deep, and 3.6m wide at its flat bottom,' with 'considerable quantities of fourth century Roman sherds' (Alexander and Pullinger 1999, 59). A curious dump of 'stones, mortar and Roman brick' are illustrated in the published section as having been tipped into the ditch from its inner edge, and subsequently overlain by a thick deposit of 'lighter humus' into which later undated pits have been cut. No further detail of the record survives for this trench but, whilst not wishing to extend too far into this discussion, there are a number of similarities between the 1949 and the 1994/2015 Kettle's Yard trenches that are deserving of mention. First, the dimensions of the robbing cut in Area A are similar to those of the ditch observed in 1949. Second, there is a parallel occurrence of structural rubble in each trench. Third, later pits penetrate the fill of the broad feature of the ditch/robber cut; finally, deep Roman pits are situated at the inner edge of the ditch/robber cut in both trenches. Although post-Roman pottery is not mentioned as having been revered from the ditch in the 1949 trench, the point of this comparative exercise is simply to raise the possibility for future investigations that the 1949 'ditch'

may also represent the line of the robbed defensive wall, and therefore inflict further doubt for the presumed course of the hill's southern defensive earthworks.

The Kettle's Yard findings are of major significance on a number of accounts. Not least is that they reflect distinctly 'urban behaviours'; this being of enhanced importance given that, in terms of its formal 'town characteristics, Roman Cambridge can often seem to be sadly lacking. On the one hand, there is the tight 'specialised clustering' of the site's wells, plus their deep shaft-form; as a 'well-type' these rarely occur in rural contexts, such as at North West Cambridge (Cessford & Evans 2012; Brittain and Evans 2013) and where, instead, the wells were much broader and their profiles splayed far more. On the other hand, there is also the relative 'purity' (and quantity) of the wall-daub demolition material backfilled into the F.107 well. This kind of unmixed building debris speaks of organisation and 'purpose' and is, again, something that is much more characteristic of Roman towns – such as London or Colchester – and not rural settlements.



Graph 2. Percentages of Coarse and Fine ware pottery by sherd number from Castle Hill Romano-British assemblages, presented with relative heights in metres OD.

Within this civic context, at least two successive buildings are represented at Kettle's Yard, and the status of the hillside residents is a point of interest. Where data is available for from pottery assemblages across the southeast landfall at Castle Hill, fineware, by sherd count, equates to 7.5% of the entire assemblage. On a site-by-site basis little variation may be observed in this ratio when compared with sites' position relative to topographic height (Graph 2). The exception to this is found upon the hill's summit at 75, 83 and 85 Castle Street where a near 1:1 ratio emerges;

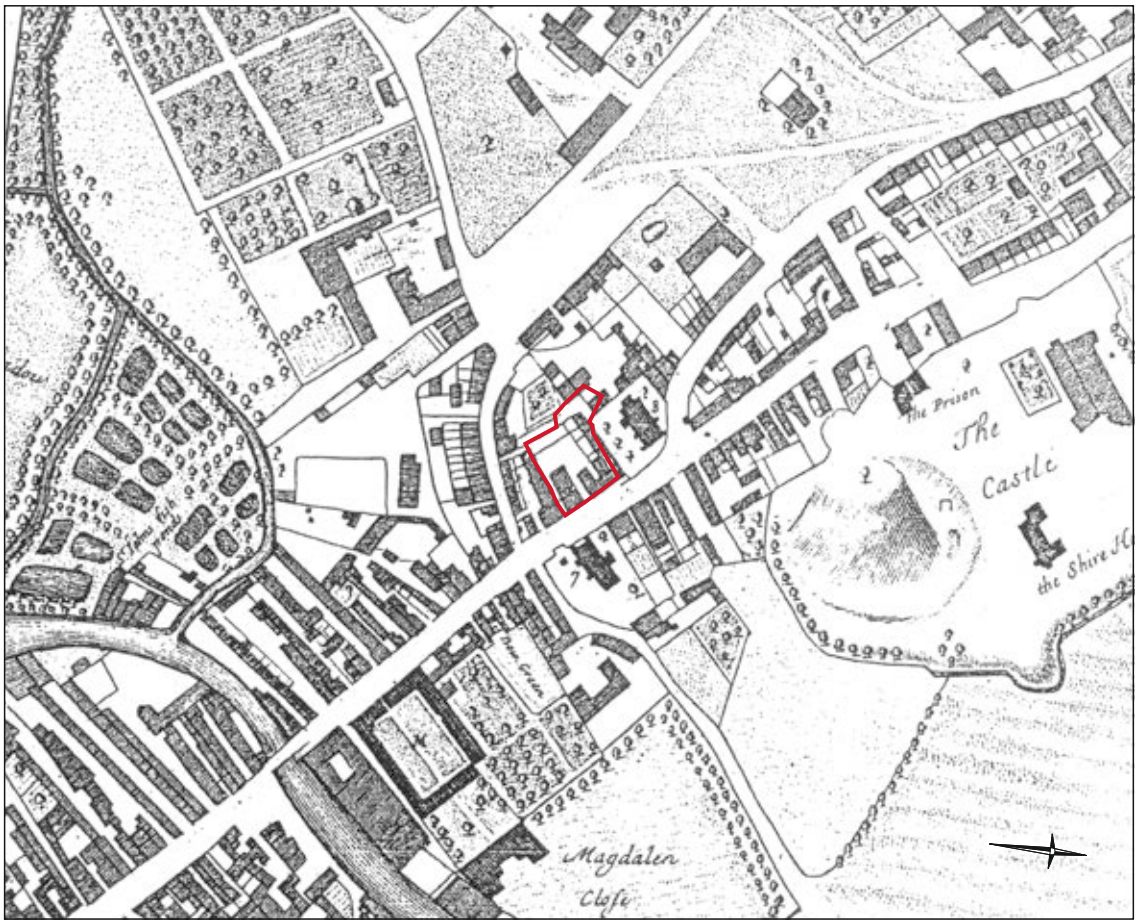
however, this is an assemblage too small for statistical security. What these figures do not take into account are specific phases of pottery traditions, and a comparison of vessel as opposed to sherd count may provide a more accurate approach; nonetheless, as a rudimentary insight the sherd count shows little spatial distinction of coarsewares versus finewares. Using this approach, and combining the 1994 and 2015 data, Kettle's Yard fineware accounts for 11.9% of its assemblage (78 sherds; 1199g), with near to 50% (38 sherds) derived from either the pits/wells or deposits associated with the rammed floor surface. The number of vessels represented by finewares and coarsewares is likely to be more evenly balanced. This, at least, suggests the possibility that habitations in proximity to Kettle's Yard were, at least until the third century, above the average social standing.

Post-Roman Activity

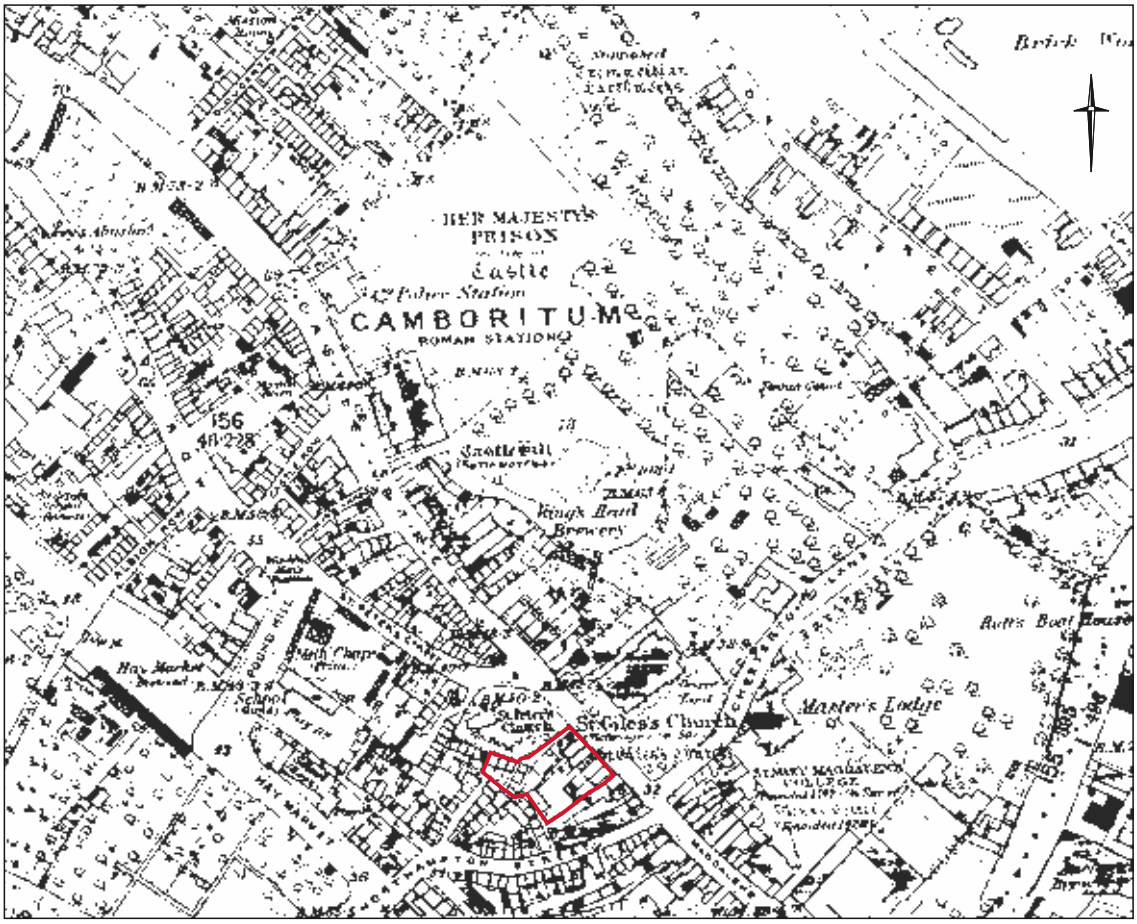
The Phase IV robbing of the defensive wall in the twelfth–fourteenth century coincides neatly with the establishment of St. Peter's Church sometime prior to the twelfth century, and the alignment of the former wall appears to have continued into and through the Medieval period as a boundary limit for the cemetery, with the distribution of burials encountered in 1994 (Evans 1994) not extending into the 2015 areas. The survival of parts of the footings in the 1984 trench might also suggest that some small part of the wall remained an active presence through this time, although the few cases of disarticulated human bone from these pits indicate a complicated post-depositional history.

Following the demolition of the fourth-century wall and infilling of the remaining void, further twelfth–fourteenth century activity in Phase V occurred with deep, near-straight-sided pits, subsequently intercut by a mass of additional features. It has been postulated that by the twelfth-century the parishes of St. Giles and St. Peter's at Castle End were poor, and could perhaps even be classed as slums (RCHM(E) 1959). The Medieval parish of St. Peter was in fact a curacy, formerly in the patronage of the Abbott of Barnwell, and followed afterwards by the bishop of Ely (Wright and Jones 1841, 19-20). However, the finds from the Phase V pits rather indicate a steady local economy of cattle-rearing, supplemented with pigs and small-scale cereal agriculture or garden industry. Animal bone from this phase represented 74% (by weight) of the site's overall assemblage. Access to the river valley/marsh resources appears to have been another available and utilised commodity.

The sharp break of the western edge of the intercutting Medieval features is worth reiterating, for this appears to mark the limit of the cemetery to St. Peter's Church. Lyne (1574) and Braun's (1575) maps of the area also show this boundary to be in use in the later sixteenth century, and it has seen little modification into the present. With only one clear exception in Area B (F.118), there is also little by way of post-Medieval intervention that is obvious at Kettle's Yard, and only limited material evidence for this era was recovered. In these maps the investigation area lies to the rear of buildings fronting on to Castle Street, and the lack of features from this period may indicate the use of the rear-side plots for gardens or animal runs. However, the lack of evidence for additional buildings over the investigation area in Loggan's map of 1688 suggests that truncation during nineteenth and twentieth century construction may have removed such traces.



Loggan's map of Cambridge (1688)



1st Edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map (1886)

0 250
metres

Figure 16. Historic maps (site shown in red)

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APPENDICES: Context Summary

Area A

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
500	L	100	Modern Layer	Firm, very dark grey brown, sandy (silty) clay. Frequent large CBM fragments and whole bricks. Becomes increasingly mottled towards the west with reddish brown sandy clay and blue grey clay.			0.3	C2-4 / C19-21	C19-20
501	C	101	Well	Vertical sided well with flat base and circular plan	0.7	0.6	1.3		C2-4
512	F			Soft, dark brown clayey silt. Few medium size stone inclusions and some rooting				C2-4 / C12	
513	F			Same as 512 but mixed with mottling natural grey clay.					
514	F			Loose brown silt with a lot of rooting.				C2-4	
530	F			Friable light brown orange clayish sandy silt with mottling of grey yellowish/greenish soft silty clay				C2-4	
531	F			Loose light brown orange clay sandy silt				C2-4	
502	C	102	Pit/'tank'	Small pit		0.6	0.28		C2-4
521	F			Soft greyish brown clayish silt				C2-4	
522	F			Medium compact dirty natural grey clay mixed orange sandy silt and brown silt					
503	C	103	Pit	Small pit		0.75	0.1		C2-4
520	F			Soft greyish brown clayish silt mixed with orangey and greyish sandy clayish silt.				C2-4 / C16	
504	C	104	Pit	Small pit		1.15	0.22		C2-4
518	F			Soft greyish brown clayish silt with big rooting					
519	F			medium compact light brown orange sandy silt					
505	C	105	Pit	Small pit		0.54	0.29		C2-4

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
515	F			Soft mid/light brown clayish silt mottling with grey clayey silt					
516	F			Soft dark brown silt				C2-3	
506	C	106	Pit	Small pit		1	0.4		C2-4
517	F			Soft dark brown mixed with greyish clayish silt.				C2-4	
507	F	107	Well	Firm, light grey brown, silty clay.		1.4	1.9	C2-4 / C14	C2-4
508	F			Friable to loose, reddish orange clayey ash.				C2-4	
509	F			Loose, very dark grey/black, ash and charcoal					
510	F			Friable to loose, grey brown, silty clay				C2-4	
511	C			Vertical sided well					
525	F	108	Pit	Firm mid brownish grey clayish silt with rare small stones		0.7-1.3	2.8	C2-4 / C19	C12-14
537	C			Deep flat based pit with steep vertical sides and sub-square plan					
529	F			Friable dark greyish brown clayish silt with moderate rooting		0.85-1.85	4.35	C2-4 / C12-17	
545	F			Friable dark greyish brown clayish silt with very rare small stones					
546	C			Deep flat based pit with sharp concave sides; sub-oval in plan					
553	F			Friable dark greyish brown clayish silt with greenish grey lenses				C2-4 / C12-14	
595	F			Compact mid orange gravelly silty sand					
600	C			Deep sub-oval pit with sharp concave sides and flat base		1.3-1.6	3.10		
527	F	109	Pit/robber cut	Compact mottled grey silty clay with darker brown patches and light rooting		3	2.25		C12-14

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
528	F			Friable mid brown clayish silt with rare small stones				C14	
533	F			Friable and occasionally firm mixed deposit of mottled blue-grey clayish silt and yellow-orange marl				C2-4 / C12-14	
534	C			Roman wall foundation/ditch cut oriented NW-SE with steep near vertical sides and flat base					
543	F			Firm mottled light orange, grey and brown silty clay with very rare small stones					
544	F			Firm mottled light orange, mid brown and white silty clay					
592	F			Soft dark brown silt, possibly rooting					
593	F			Firm mid orange sandy gravel					
538	F	110	Pit	Friable light grey brown clayey silt		0.7	0.55	C2-4	C12-14
539	C			Shape in plan unknown; vertical sides with flat base				C2-4 / C12-14	
548	F	112	Pit/robber cut	Friable dark greenish brown clayish silt with rare small stones and light rooting		>1	1.53		C12-14
549	F			Firm mottled greenish brown silty clay with rare small stones and rooting					
550	C			Pit with straight vertical sides; not bottomed					
551	F	113	Pit	Firm mottled mid brownish grey and mid greyish white silty clay		0.75	2.8		C12-14
552	C			Heavily truncated pit with steep near vertical sides and flat base					
594	F			Firm mid brownish grey silty clay					
556	F	114	Pit	Friable mid greyish brown clayish silt with rare small stones		0.63	0.3		C19-20
557	C			Small pit with shallow rounded profile					

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
558	F	115	Drain	Friable light brownish yellow clayish silt with rare small stones		0.3	0.5		C19-20
559	C			Ceramic drain cut with rounded profile					
560	F	116	Pit	Friable mid greyish brown clayish silt with rare small stones and rooting		>1.5	0.84		C19-20
561	C			Large pit with sharp concave sides and slight rounded base					
541	F	117	Ditch or Terrace?	Friable dark greyish brown clayish silt with very rare small stones and shell			3.1	C2-4	C2-4
542	F			Friable mid greyish brown clay silt with very rare small stones				C2-4	
554	C			Moderate sides, not bottomed					
532	F	128	Pit/robber cut	Friable very dark greyish brown clayish silt with shell, roots and stone. Dumped deposit		>2.2	1.85		C12-14
535	F			Friable mid brown clayish silt with rare small stones					
547	F			Firm mottled greenish brown silty clay with rare small stones					
562	F			Friable very dark grey clayish silt with very rare small stones and rooting; diffuse basal boundary with [547]					
563	F			Friable mid greyish brown clayish silt with rare small stones and rooting					
564	F			Friable dark greyish brown silty clay with rare small stones and rooting					
591	C			Large cut feature, possibly a pit, with undulating base.					
596	F	129	Pit/robber cut	Firm very dark grey silt with moderate chalky marl stones					C12-14
597	C			Straight sides to unexcavated base					

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
523	F	130	Pit	Friable dark brown clayish silt with rare small stones		3.8	1.3	C2-4 / C12-14	C12-14
524	F			Firm dark brown clayish silt with moderate rooting and rare small stones				C2-4 / C12-16 / C19	
526	F			Friable light brownish yellow clayish silt					
598	C			Shallow concave profile with near to flat base					
536	F	131	Pit/robber cut	Cornbrash rubble - possible Roman wall debris			2.85	C2-4 / C12	C12-14
565	F			Friable mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate small stones					
599	C			Highly truncated; shallow concave profile					
566	L		Layer	Firm mottled mid greenish and greyish brown silty clay with very rare small stones and rooting					C17-21

Area B

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
567	F	118	Pit	Dark grey moderately compact silt with occasional small sub-angular stones c.2cm diam.		2.1+	0.75	C12 / C16-17	C16-17
568	C			Slightly oval pit oriented NE-SW with irregular sides and near flat base					
569	F	119	Foundation	Concrete					C20-21

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
570	C			Modern concrete pillar for stairwell; sub-rectangular with flat base and straight sides		0.8	0.8		
571	F	120	Robber Cut?	Dark grey mixed loose and compacted silt with frequent rubble		0.7+	0.85	C2-4 / C19	C19-20
572	C			Robber cut with vertical sides and flat base against [569]					
573	O	121	Foundation	Stone and gravel foundation with sand bonding					C19-20
587	O			Loose dark greyish brown silt with brick and tile					
575	F	122	Pit	Moderately compact dark grey silt mixed with mid orange coarse sand and rare patches of mid yellow-white clay and occasional small sub-angular stones throughout		0.8	1.1	IA / C14	C12-14
576	F			Soft dark grey silt with occasional charcoal and rare clayey marl patches				C12-13	
577	C			Sub-circular pit with sharp concave sides slightly overcut in lower profile to flat base					
578	F	123	Pit?	Moderately compact mid to dark brown silt with occasional charcoal flecks					C12-14
579	C			Probable pit with near flat base, truncated upper profile			1		
580	F	124	Pit	Bands of dark grey silt and mid bluish white clay/marl. Clear as bands in section, but mixed in excavation.		0.85	1.25	C12	C12-14
581	F			Soft dark grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional corn brash lumps, some burnt					

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
582	F			Re-deposited marl/clay, probably displaced from pit side in cutting of F.123					
583	C			Oval pit oriented E-W with vertical sides and flat base					
585	F	125	Pit	Dark grey moderately compact silt with rare sub-angular stones c.2cm diam.		0.9+	0.85	C12	C12-14
586	C			Sub-square pit with sharp concave sides and near flat base					
574	C	126	Pit?	Possible pit with Straight inverted sides			1.2+		C12-14
584	F			Firm mid yellowish brown silt with very rare small sub-angular stones					
588	F	127	Pit?	Stiff mid yellowish grey silty clay		0.6+	1.3		C12-14
589	C			Heavily truncated pit with flat base					

Area C

Context No.	Cat	Feature No.	Basic Feature Description	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Pottery Spot Date (AD)	Assigned Date (AD)
590	L	N/A		Natural stiff blue clay					

Catalogue of Romano-British Pottery (1994 & 2015)

2015: Area A

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
100	500	100	BKSL	Bowl	1	12		C2-C4
100	500	100	TSG C	Cup form O&P pl LV no.13	1	37		Flavian period
100	500	100	CSGW		1	3		C2-C4
100	500	100	NNVCC		1	5	rouletting and red and orange painted linears	C4
101	512	107	TSG C		1			C2/MLC2
101	512	107	OXFPAR	Bowl	2	11		MC3/C4
101	512	107	HORNOX		1	27		C2?
101	512	107	HORNGW		3	45		C2-C4
101	512	107	CSOX WS		2	14		C2-C4
101	512	107	FSGW M		1	6		C2-C4
101	512	107	BKSL		4	29		C2-C4
101	512	107	CSGW	Jar	5	31		C2-C4
101	512	107	FSGW		4	96	waving burnish	C2-C4
101	514	112	CSGW		9	558		C2-C4
101	514	112	FSGW	Jar	1	1		C2-C4
101	516	117	NNVCC	Beaker	2	10		C2-C3
101	530	118	CSGW		1	63		C2-C4
101	530	118	FSGW M		1	8		C2-C4
101	531	120	CSGW	Small jar	6	190		C2-C4
101	531	120	CSGW M		1	12		C2-C4
101	531	120	CSGW	Small jar	5	126		C2-C4
101	531	120	RDCS		1	28	combing	C2-C4
102	521	123	HORNGW		1	243		C2-C4
102	521	123	CSOX		1	9		C2-C4

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
102	522	127	CSGW	Jar	1	7		C2-C4
103	520	129	CSGW		1	19		C2-C4
103	520	129	CSOX M		1	16		C2-C4
106	517	132	HORNGW		2	201		C2-C4
106	517	132	FSGW		2	10		C2-C4
106	517	132	NNVCC	Beaker	1	3	barbotine	C2-C3
106	517	132	CSGW	Jar	4	42		C2-C4
106	517	132	TSG C	Cup conical form33	1	11		MLC2
106	517	132	HAD		1	2		M/LC3-C4
106	517	132	BUFF	Flagon?	1	20		C2?
107	507	136	TSG C	Plate Drag.18	11	311	Base stamp – Africanus II	MLC1
107	507	138	FSGW	Small jar	4	170		C2-C4
107	507	139	NNVCC	Cup	4	122	finely moulded animal hunt cup	LC2-LC3
107	507	140	BB1 Imitation	Small jar	19	572	burnished rhomboid	C2
107	507	141	NNVCC	Beaker	2	11		C2-C3
107	507	141	TSG C		1	15		C2-C4
107	507	141	HORNOX		5	415		C1-C2
107	507	141	HORNGW		4	189		C2-C4
107	507	141	HORNOX		1	231		C2?
107	507	141	BKSL	Jar	7	146	burnished rhomboid in a fascia framed by grooves	C2-C4
107	507	141	HORNOX		7	132		C2?
107	507	141	FSGW M		1	7		C2-C4
107	507	141	CSGW M		2	7		C2-C4
107	507	141	CSGW M		3	51	burnished rhomboid	C2-C4
107	507	141	CSGW		1	27		C2-C4
107	507	141	CSOX WS		2	345		C2-C4
107	507	141	WW	Jar	2	27		C2-C4

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
107	507	141	CSOX WS		3	58		C2-C4
107	507	141	CSGW M BS		1	9		C2-C4
107	508	146	TSG C	Plate form18	1	41		MLC1
107	508	146	NNVCC	Beaker funnel neck indented	1	50	barbotine s-shapes or butcher's hooks	C2-C3
107	508	146	FSOX M		1	7		C2-C4
107	508	146	BKSL		1	4		C2-C4
107	510	151	CSGW		1	11	burnished rhomboid	C2-C4
108	525	152	BKSL	Dish	1	9		C2-C4
108	525	152	BKSL	Bowl	1	22		C2-C4
108	525	152	CSOX WS		1	29		C2-C4
108	525	152	CSGW M		1	67		C2-C4
108	525	152	CSGW M granular		2	11		C2-C4
108	525	152	FSGW M		1	13		C2-C4
108	525	152	HAD		1	8		MLC3-C4
108	525	152	CSGW M		1	8		C2-C4
108	529	156	VER/GODM		1	74		C2
108	529	156	BKSL	Jar	1	19		C2-C4
108	553	162	HORNGW		1	87		C2-C4
108	553	162	NNVCC	Dish	2	41		C3-C4
108	553	162	NNVCC	Castor box	1	9	rouletting	LC2-LC3
108	553	162	NNVWW	Mortarium	1	15		C2-C4
108	553	162	BKSL	Jar	1	32		C2-C4
108	553	162	BKSL		1	17		C2-C4
108	553	162	NNVCC		1	5	rouletting and red and orange painted linears	C4
108	553	162	HAD		1	13		C2-C4
108	553	162	FSOX M BS		1	6		C2-C4

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
108	553	162	NNVGW	Jar with tall grooved neck	1	18		LC2-LC3
108	553	162	CSGW		8	155		C2-C4
108	553	162	CSOX		1	21		C2-C4
108	553	162	FSGW		1	5		C2-C4
108	553	162	CSGW		3	23		C2-C4
109	528	170	HORNGW		1	52		C2-C4
109	528	170	CSGW		3	41		C2-C4
109	528	170	FSGW		5	59		C2-C4
109	528	170	FSGW	Jar	1	6		C2-C4
109	533	174	FSOX M		1	2		C2-C4
109	533	174	NNVCC		1	3		C2-C3?
109	533	174	FSOX M		2	26		C2-C4
109	533	174	FSGW		1	13		C2-C4
110	538	177	RDCS		1	8		C2-C4
110	538	177	CSGW		2	23		C2-C4
110	539	179	HORNGW		2	111		C2-C4
110	539	179	CSGW		2	28		C2-C4
110	539	179	FSGW		1	11		C2-C4
117	541	181	HORNGW		2	64		C2-C4
117	541	181	FSGW	Bowl	1	14		C2-C4
117	541	181	NNVCC	Castor box	1	19		LC2-LC3
117	541	181	NNVCC	Castor box	1	17	rouletting	LC2-LC3
117	542	182	NNVCC	Beaker?	1	5		C2-C3?
117	542	182	FSGW	Bowl	2	43		C2-C4
108	536	160	NNVCC		1	2		C2-C4
108	536	160	HORNGW		2	113		C2-C4
130	523	208	TSG C	Dish Drag18/31R	1	4	rouletting on the internal part the base. No foot is visible from the fragment	C2

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
							recovered	
130	523	208	FSGW		1	20		C2-C4
130	524	212	NNVCC		3	17		C2-C3
130	524	212	NNVCC	Dish	1	15		C4
130	524	212	TSG C	Shallow bowl	1	2	barbotine on the flange	C1-C2
130	524	212	FSGW	Bowl	7	88		C2-C4
130	524	212	HORNOX		2	26		C2?
130	524	212	CSOX		2	34		C2-C4
130	524	212	CSGW		2	15		C2-C4
130	524	212	SHELL	Bowl	3	27		C3-C4
130	524	212	HORNGW		1	15		C2-C4
130	524	212	CSGW		1	35		C2-C4

2015: Area B

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date
120	571	189	FSOX		1	4		C2-C4
120	571	189	CSOX		1	5		C2-C4
120	571	189	CSGW M		1	3		C2-C4
122	575	196	FSGW		1	11	burnished waves	C2-C4
122	575	196	CSOX		1	7		C2-C4
122	576	198	FSGW M		2	25		C2-C4
124	580	200	CSGW	Jar?	1	55		C2-C4
124	581	202	FSGW		1	21		C2-C3

1994 (KET94)

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
2	25	1	CSGW	Body	2	14	BU	RB

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
2	25	1	TSG C	Dr33?	1	22		Mid-late C1
2	25		CSGW	Body	3	33	1 with sooting	RB
2	25		NNVCC	Body	1	7		150 +
2	25		NNVCC	Decorated body	1	2	Rouletting	150 +
3	27		CSGW	Body	18	138		RB
3	27		CSOX	Body	2	36		RB
3	27		NNVCC	Castor box	1	38	Rouletting	C2-3
3	27		NNVCC	Body	4	28		150 +
3	27		RDC5	Body	3	16		RB
3	27		CSOX	Rim	1	7		C2-3
3	27		WW	Body	1	31		C2-3
3	27		CSGW	Necked jar with everted rim	1	8		RB
3	27		BKSL	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	25		C2-3
4	29		CSGW	Body	11	95		RB
4	29		HORNGW	Decorated body	1	42	Combed lines	C1-2
4	29		CSGW	Necked jar with beaded,everted rim	1	20		RB
5	31		CSGW	Large storage jar body sherds	101	4223		RB
5	31		RDC5	Decorated body	4	143	BU waves	C1-2
5	31		CSGW	Body	3	38		RB
5	31		BKSL	Body	4	29	BU	C1-2
5	31		CSGW	Decorated body	1	13	Rilling	C1-2
5	31		CSOX	Body	1	4		RB
5	31		HORNGW	Decorated body	1	59	Combed lines	C1-2
5	31		CSGW	Grooved rim bowl	1	10		C2-3
5	31		CSOX	Necked jar with slight beaded rim	1	51		C1-2

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
5	31		CSOX	Necked jar-bead rim with frill dec on bead	1	16		C1-2
5	31		CSOX	Necked jar-angular bead rim with groove	1	25		C1-2
5	31		NVCC	Body	1	2		150 +
5	45		CSGW	Body	20	704		RB
5	45		BKSL	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	17		RB
5	45		CSGW	Rim	1	7		RB
5	45		HAD	Body	1	1		C2-4
5	45		WW	Mortaria	1	275		C2-4
6	32		CSGW	Body	22	306		RB
6	32		CSOX	Body	5	55		RB
6	32		RDC5	Body	3	31		RB
6	32		SHELL	Body	2	17		RB
6	32		NNVCC	Flat base	1	36		150 +
6	32		CSGW	Jar/bk with everted rim	2	10		RB
6	32		NNVCC	Body	2	7		RB
6	32		BKSL	Beaded bowl	1	29		C2-4
6	32		CSGW	Jar with beaded rim	1	6		RB
6	32		TSG C	Body	1	2		C2
6	32		CSOX	Beaded, grooved rim bowl	1	5		RB
6	32		NNVGW	Body	1	7		150 +
6	32		NNVCC	Indented beaker	1	9		C2-3
6	39		CSGW	Body	4	33		RB
7	34		CSGW	Body	7	91		RB

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
7	34		WW	Body	1	5		RB
7	34		CSOX	Body	2	23		RB
7	34		HORNGW	Flat base	1	50		RB
7		29	CSGW	Body	2	22		RB
7		29	CSGW	Jar with long neck and small beaded rim	1	4		RB
	15		CSGW	Body	12	115		RB
	15		HAD	Body	1	8		C2-4
	15		CSOX	Body	1	8		RB
	15		CSGW	Jar with beaded rim	1	17		RB
	15		SHELL	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	10		RB
	15		BKSL	Beaded, flanged bowl	1	16		C3-4
	19		CSGW	Body	8	46		RB
	19		CSGW	Jar with everted, beaded rim	1	48		RB
	30		CSGW	Body	1	13		RB
	44		CSGW	Body	2	16		RB
	44		CSGW	Very everted rim	1	85		RB
	44		BKSL	Decorated body	1	6	Lattice dec	C1-2
	44		CSOX	Body	2	11		RB
		2	CSGW	Body	1	9		RB
		2	CSGW	Dog Dish	1	14	BU	C2-4
		10	CSGW	Body	13	147		RB
		10	BKSL	Body	3	67		RB
		10	BKSL	Jar with flat topped rim	1	22		C1-2
		10	CSOX	Necked jar with everted rim	1	8		RB

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
		10	CSGW	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	7		RB
		10	CSOX	Jar with upright rim	1	2		RB
		10	TSG C	Decorated body	1	14		C2
		10	HAD	Body	1	9		C2
		19	CSGW	Body	3	69		RB
		19	SHELL	Body	1	5		RB
		19	CSGW	Flat base	1	18		RB
		19	NNVCC	Body	1	10		150 +
		19	CSOX	Flat base	1	19	BU	C2-3
		19	CSGW	Necked jar with flat top beaded rim	1	7		RB
		19	CSGW	Beaded bowl	1	15		C2-3
		19	HAD	Body	1	6		C2-4
		19	CSGW	Body	1	21		RB
		19	CSGW	Flat base	1	12		RB
		19	CSGW	Jar with beaded rim	1	8		RB
		23	CSGW	Large jar-with flat base and decorated	1	443	Dragged finger imp	C1-2
		23	CSOX	Body	3	79		RB
		23	CSGW	Body	6	66		RB
		23	RDC5	Body	8	198		RB
		23	BKSL	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	7		RB
		23	NNVCC	Indented beaker with barb scales	1	18	Barbotine scales	C3
		23	TSG C	Dr33 base? Complete stamp	1	43	CEELLCIO'??	Mid-late C1
		23	TSG C	Dr18/31	1	15		C2
		23	TSG C	Dr18/31	1	7		C2

Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (g)	Decoration	Date AD
		28	CSGW	Body	3	15		RB
		28	CSOX	Body	1	12		RB
		28	NNVCC	Indented beaker	1	9		C2-3
		36	BKSL	Necked jar/beaker with everted rim	1	6		RB
		39	CSGW	Body	6	69		RB
		39	SHELL	Body	1	6		RB
		39	SHELL	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	21		RB
		39	CSGW	Necked jar/bk with flat top everted rim	1	7		C1-2
		39	NNVCC	Dog Dish	1	3		C2-4
		39	CSGW	Narrow mouth jar/bk with everted rim	1	17	BU	C1-2
		44	CSGW	Body	1	15		RB
		44	TSG C	Dr18/31R	1	3		Mid-late C1
		45	CSGW	Body	6	34		C2-4
		45	SHELL	Rim	1	8		RB
		59	CSGW	Body	14	366		RB
		59	BKSL	Body	5	114	1 with BU waves	RB
		59	SHELL	Body	1	6		RB
		59	CSGW	Necked jar with beaded rim	1	18		RB
		59	TSG C	Dr18/31	1	18		C2
		59	TSG C	Dr18/31	1	53		C2

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OASIS ID: cambridg3-247800

Project details

Project name	Roman and Medieval Archaeology at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge
Short description of the project	Two trenches revealed a core of activity from the second-fourth century and the twelfth-fourteenth century, in which five main phases were identified. The first, dated to the second century, comprised two wells and a possible quarrying hollow, all set upon and above hillside terracing. A significant quantity of structural debris, including decorated daub, was recovered from one of the wells, as well as five near-complete vessels also. Second to third century activity of Phase II was of another series of pits associated with a well and possibly a rammed floor excavated in a previous investigation adjacent to the project area. The line of the hill's walled defences (Phase III) was traced by a substantial Medieval robbing episode (Phase IV), with subsequent nearby occupation (Phase V) evinced by pits of a similar date. Amongst the importance of the investigation is the degree that it attests to the distinctly civic status of Castle Hill during the Romano-British era.
Project dates	Start: 02-11-2015 End: 18-12-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	KYE15 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 4617 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Monument type	PITS Roman
Monument type	WELLS Roman
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Monument type	ROBBER TRENCH Medieval
Monument type	WALL Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Roman
Significant Finds	HUMAN BONE Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	WORKED CLAY Roman

Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	MORTAR Roman
Investigation type	"'Field observation'","'Open-area excavation'"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Kettle's Yard
Postcode	CB3 0AQ
Study area	35.9 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 4453 5909 52.210623194452 0.115566345577 52 12 38 N 000 06 56 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 7.56m Max: 10.8m

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	Christopher Evans
Project supervisor	Marcus Brittain
Project supervisor	Matthew Wood
Type of sponsor/funding body	University of Cambridge
Name of sponsor/funding body	University of Cambridge

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Archive ID	KYE15
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Archive ID	KYE15
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Archive ID	KYE15

Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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