

# New Court and Master's Garden, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

## An Archaeological Investigation



Richard Newman



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## **Summary**

*An archaeological investigation was undertaken across New Court and in the Master's Garden of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, during the installation of an electricity substation and associated cable trenching. Although the exposures were limited in extent, structural remains associated with a number of former College buildings were encountered. These included the chapel (1579-1823) and bakehouse (c. 1474-1823), which was later used as a tennis court before being converted into student accommodation, as well as a purpose-built tennis court (c. 1569-1823) that was subsequently used as a warehouse and winestore. Also encountered were remains associated with the medieval St Bernard's Hostel and the post-medieval Dolphin Inn. All of these structures were demolished when New Court was established in 1823.*

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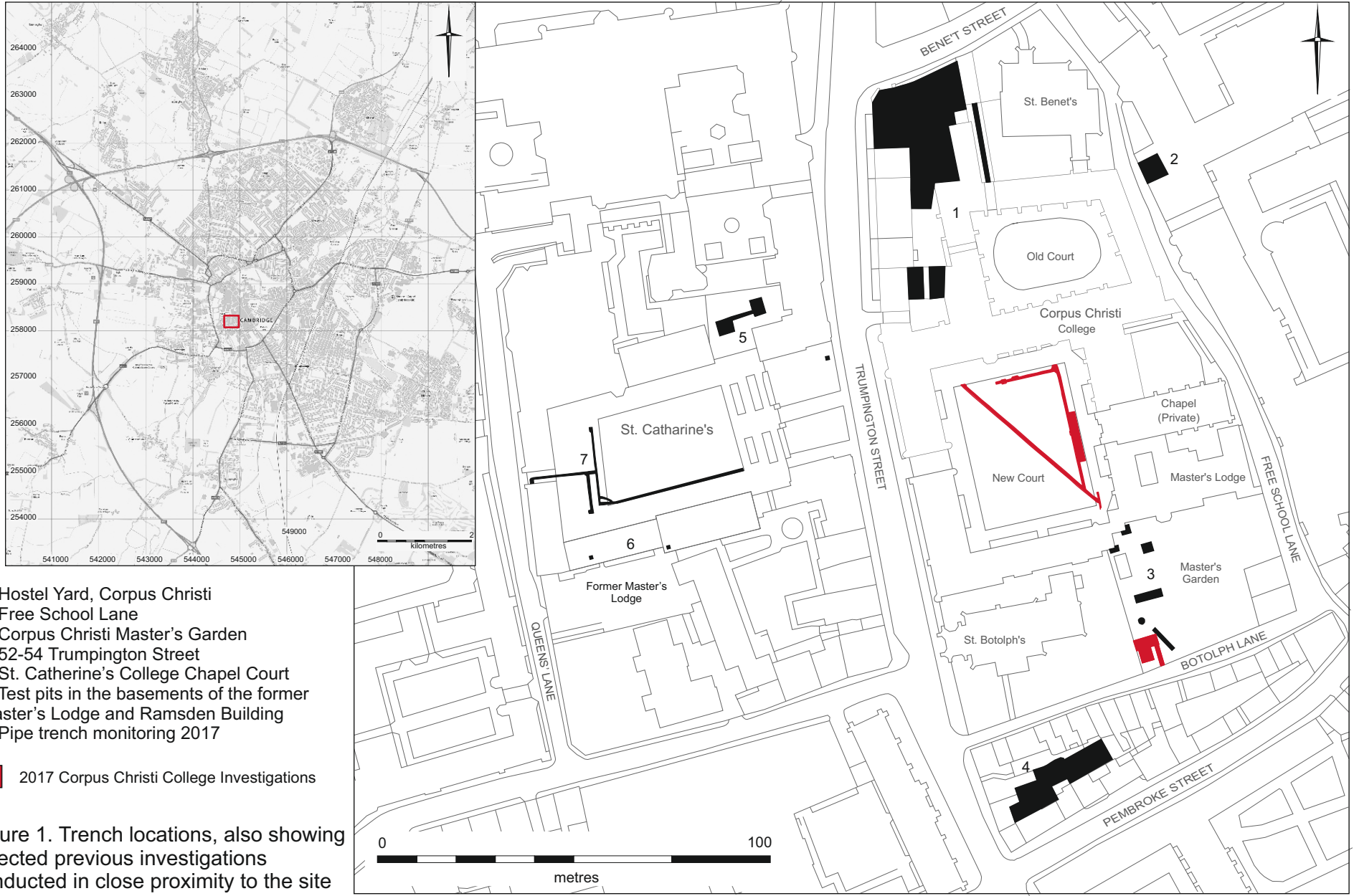
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## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological investigation that was conducted by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, between the 26th of July and the 18th of August 2017. The investigated area, which was centred on TL 4486 5817, incorporated a portion of the lawn of New Court as well as the southwestern corner of the Master's Garden (Figure 1). Two trenches, covering a combined total of 121.9sqm, were excavated by the principal contractor and monitored by the CAU. The first of these, situated in the Master's Garden, was associated with the construction of a new electricity substation. The second, and much longer, trench was inserted for high voltage electric cabling and extended across much of New Court (Figure 2). In the latter location, an additional area adjoining the cable trench was also hand-stripped and partially excavated in order to evaluate more fully the degree of preservation of the undisturbed structural remains and to establish precisely the location of the west end of the former chapel (Figure 3). The project was commissioned by Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Methodologically, the project followed the written scheme of investigation prepared by the CAU (Dickens 2017); it was monitored by Kasia Gdaniec, Development Control Archaeologist at Cambridgeshire's Historic Environment Team. In the Master's Garden, stripping of the 31.5sqm trench was undertaken by a mechanical excavator with a 2.0m wide toothless bucket under close archaeological supervision. All structural remains were left *in situ* and not disturbed. In New Court, however, an archaeological presence was only established after the initial excavation of the cable trench had been concluded. Here, the structural remains – which impeded the safe introduction of the electric cables – had already been removed along the trench's course. In both areas, all exposed archaeological features and deposits were recorded using the CAU-modified version of the MoLAS system (Spence 1994). Base plans were drawn at a scale of 1:50, whilst sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. A digital photographic archive was also compiled. Throughout the following text, context numbers are indicated by square brackets (e.g. [101]); an appendix of context descriptions is presented at the rear of the document. The sitecode for the investigation was CCG17 and the event number was ECB5308.

Topographically, the site is located in the southern half of the historic core of the city of Cambridge, within the boundary of the medieval King's Ditch. Prior to the commencement of the present works, the area of investigation in the Master's Garden comprised an area of raised planting beds, the upper surface of which lay at 10.73m AOD. In New Court the trenching was primarily restricted to the central lawn, the surface of which lay at 10.02m AOD. Geologically, the site lies on second terrace river gravels overlying Gault clay (British Geological Survey 1976). Although not encountered directly during the course of the investigation, natural gravel was determined to lie at a minimum depth of 7.60m AOD in New Court via augering.



- 1. Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi
- 2. Free School Lane
- 3. Corpus Christi Master's Garden
- 4. 52-54 Trumpington Street
- 5. St. Catharine's College Chapel Court
- 6. Test pits in the basements of the former Master's Lodge and Ramsden Building
- 7. Pipe trench monitoring 2017

■ 2017 Corpus Christi College Investigations

Figure 1. Trench locations, also showing selected previous investigations conducted in close proximity to the site



Figure 2. View across New Court, facing southeast, showing the extent of the trenching





Figure 3. The investigation in progress, with the west wall of the former chapel exposed in the foreground as a guided tour is in progress (view facing south)

### *Historical, archaeological and cartographic background*

The historical and archaeological background of the development area's environs has been discussed in detail in a previous desktop assessment (Alexander 1996), whilst the wider background of Cambridge itself is reviewed in a number of published sources (e.g. Cam 1959; Lobel 1975; Bryan 1999; Taylor 1999). Consequently, only an outline summary is presented here.

In the first instance, very limited evidence of prehistoric activity has been identified in the vicinity. This is primarily indicative of seasonal usage of the gravel terraces flanking the River Cam. Similarly, limited evidence of Roman occupation is known from this part of Cambridge. Although it is probable that the site lay within the southern agricultural hinterland of the principal settlement on Castle Hill at this time, the scale and extent of this area, and any associated suburban development, is as yet relatively poorly understood (see further Alexander & Pullinger 2000; Evans & Ten Harkel 2010; Cessford 2017). Subsequent evidence for Early Saxon (c. 410-650) activity in and around Cambridge primarily comprises material recovered during the 19th century from pagan cemeteries on the outskirts of the city (see Dodwell et al. 2004; Cessford with Dickens 2005). Very little occupational evidence from this period has yet been identified. Middle to Late Saxon activity (c. 650-900), in contrast, appears to have been primarily refocused upon the Castle Hill area, where a 7th to 9th-century execution cemetery has been investigated (Cessford *et al.* 2007).

By the mid-9th century it is clear that some form of settlement had been re-established, as this was occupied by the Viking Great Army in 875 and the region was subsequently incorporated into the Danelaw from c. 886 until its conquest by Edward the Elder in c. 917 (Cam 1934, 39; Lobel 1975, 3). Nevertheless, up until the mid-10th century this settlement remained only an "economically viable backwater" (Hines 1999, 136). Following this date, however, it emerged as a significant urban centre. By the late 10th century a mint had been established (Lobel 1975, 3) and the town was being linked to a group of important trading centres including Norwich, Thetford and Ipswich (Fairweather 2005), thereby emphasising the central role played by river trade in its rapid economic growth. Indeed, by the beginning of the 13th century Cambridge acted as the leading inland port in the county, through which goods and services were disseminated to many of the surrounding regional towns (Cam 1934, 43).

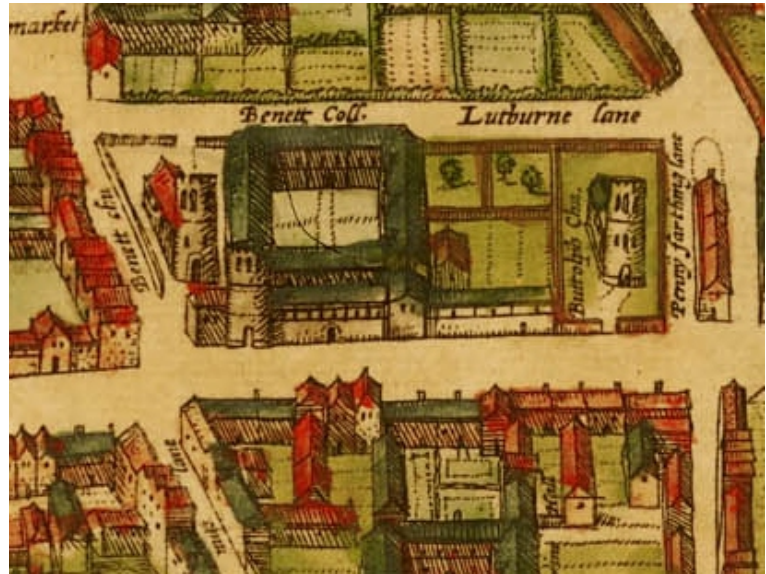
By this time the town was fully established on the eastern side of the river and was probably already enclosed by an extensive boundary work that later became known as the King's Ditch. Although the eponymous 'king' is usually interpreted as being either John (1167-1216), who repaid the bailiffs of Cambridge the costs of enclosing of the city in 1215, or Henry III (1207-72), who paid for its refortification in 1267 (Cooper 1842-53), a recent radio-carbon determination derived from the basal fill of the ditch at the Grand Arcade site indicates that the boundary was at least partially extant by the late 11th or early 12th century (Cessford & Dickens in prep.). By the early 17th century, however, the ditch had largely

silted up beyond practical use (Atkinson 1907) – despite numerous edicts having been passed for its cleaning and maintenance – and Cambridge’s role as a dominant port was similarly long since over (Bryan 1999, 97).

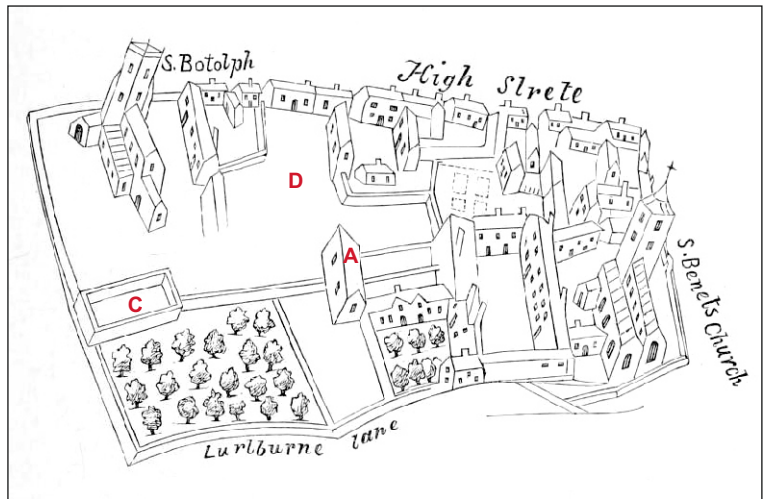
At this stage the economic wealth of the town was no longer based upon river-borne trade, as it had been throughout the medieval period, but was instead largely centred around the University (founded c. 1209). The expansion of this institution had greatly benefited from royal investment, especially from the 15th century onwards (Bryan 1999, 94-6), and its growth was also given significant impetus by the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536-40 since many of the disbanded religious houses were subsequently converted into colleges (Willis & Clark 1886). Indeed, the influence of these colleges has been one of the primary factors in shaping the landscape of Cambridge ever since, with the central riverside area – once the heartland of medieval river trade activity – having been increasingly encroached upon from the 15th century onwards (Bryan 1999, 95).

Corpus Christi College itself was founded in 1352. It is unusual in the history of Cambridge colleges in that it was founded by townsmen – who were members of the guilds of Corpus Christi and the Blessed Virgin Mary of nearby St Benet’s parish church – rather than an ecclesiastical, royal or seigneurial benefactor. St Benet’s, meanwhile, located at the northern end of the site, represents the only pre-conquest church still standing in the town; it was built (or more probably rebuilt in stone) c. 1060-90 (RCHM(E) 1959 II, 262-65; see also Newman 2017). Originally comprising a series of domestic properties, the site of the future college was initially established in 1342 when a group of plots lying immediately to the south of the church were amalgamated by the two guilds. The irregular shape of this initial site is preserved in the footprint of Old Court to this day. Subsequently, over the course of the next two centuries, a series of piecemeal acquisitions and conveyances saw the college take control of almost the entire street block extending from St Bene't's Church in the north to St Botolph's Church in the south and from Trumpington Street in the west to Luthburne Lane (now Free School Lane) in the east (see Willis & Clark 1886 and Masters 1753 for a detailed history of these conveyances).

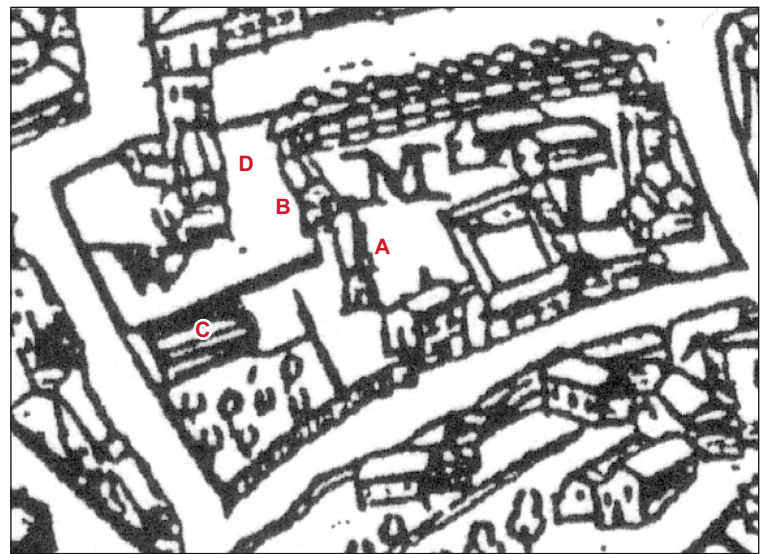
Further acquisitions were also made all across the town during the late 14th century, leading to the college becoming one of Cambridge’s largest landlords. Despite the substantial expansion of its holdings, however, the buildings that comprised the college itself expanded relatively slowly during this period. Aside from the initial chambers, hall and kitchen located in Old Court, a Master’s Lodge and associated garden were also constructed immediately to the south during the 14th century. Subsequently, construction of a bakehouse commenced in the 15th century, but was not completed, whilst a new purpose-built chapel was added in the 16th century. Usefully, the locations of many of these buildings can be traced in a series of historic maps of Cambridge that began to be produced from 1574 onwards (Figures 4-6). Although initially schematic rather than accurately surveyed (Clark & Gray 1921; Baggs & Bryan 2002), these cartographic sources nevertheless comprise a valuable resource.



Braun 1575



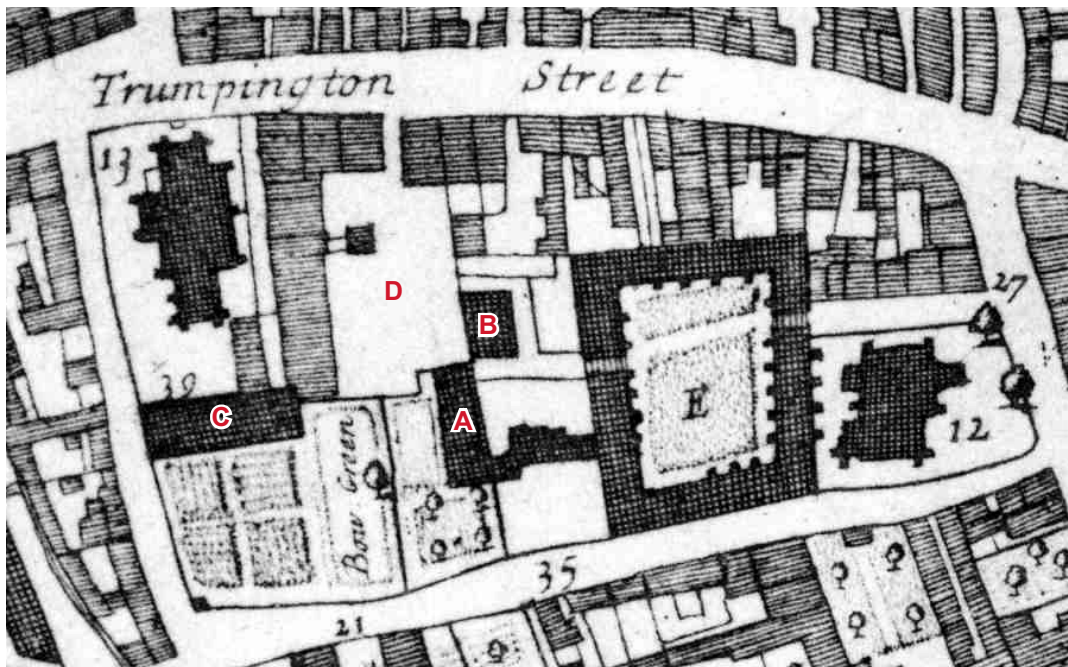
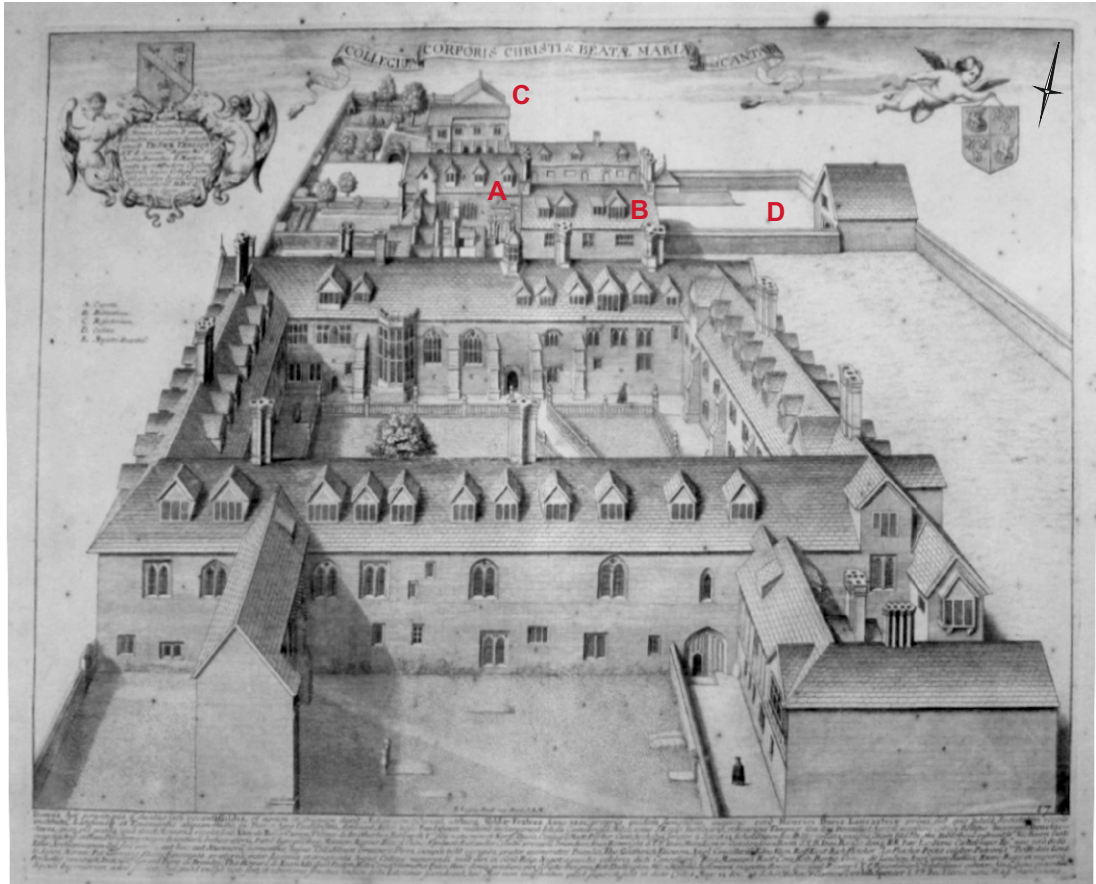
Hammond 1592



Speed 1610

- A. Chapel
- B. former Bakehouse
- C. Tennis Court
- D. Stable Yard

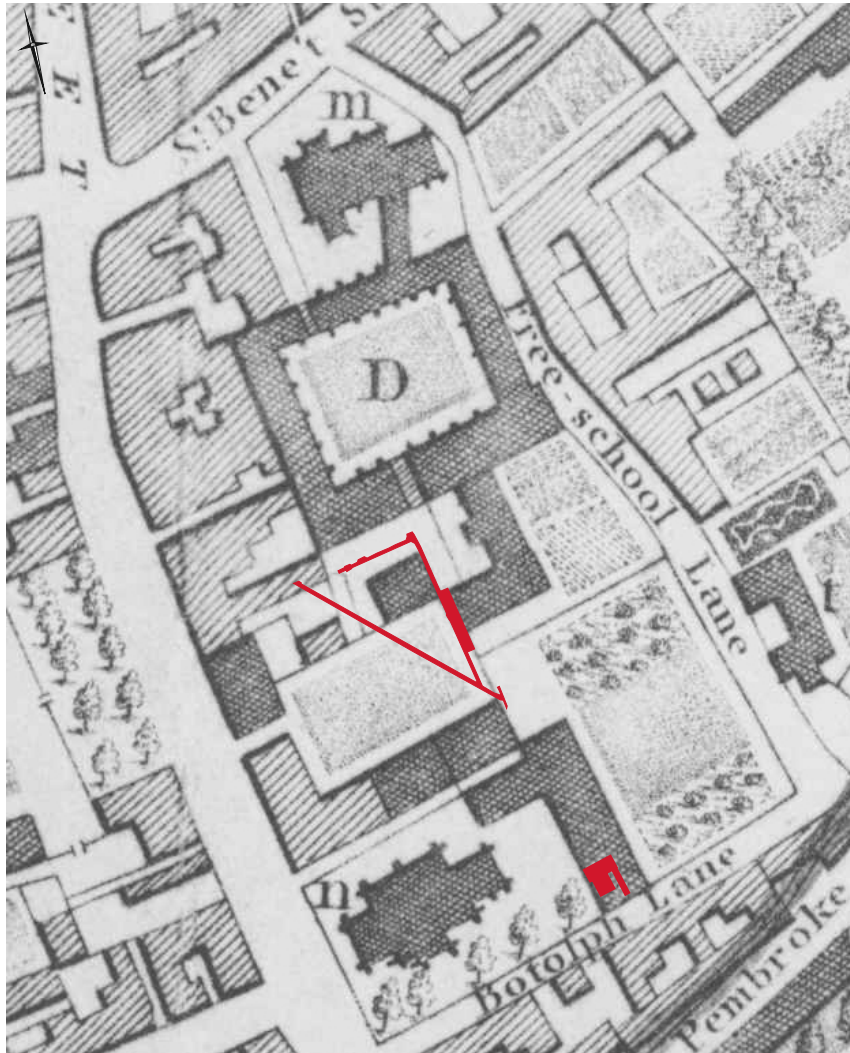
Figure 4. Historic maps depicting the college, including those of Braun (1575), Hammond (1592) and Speed (1610). Note that the version of Hammond shown here is a reduced copy redrawn from burnt fragments held by the Bodleian library; a number of known buildings are missing due to damage. Particular buildings discussed within this text have been highlighted



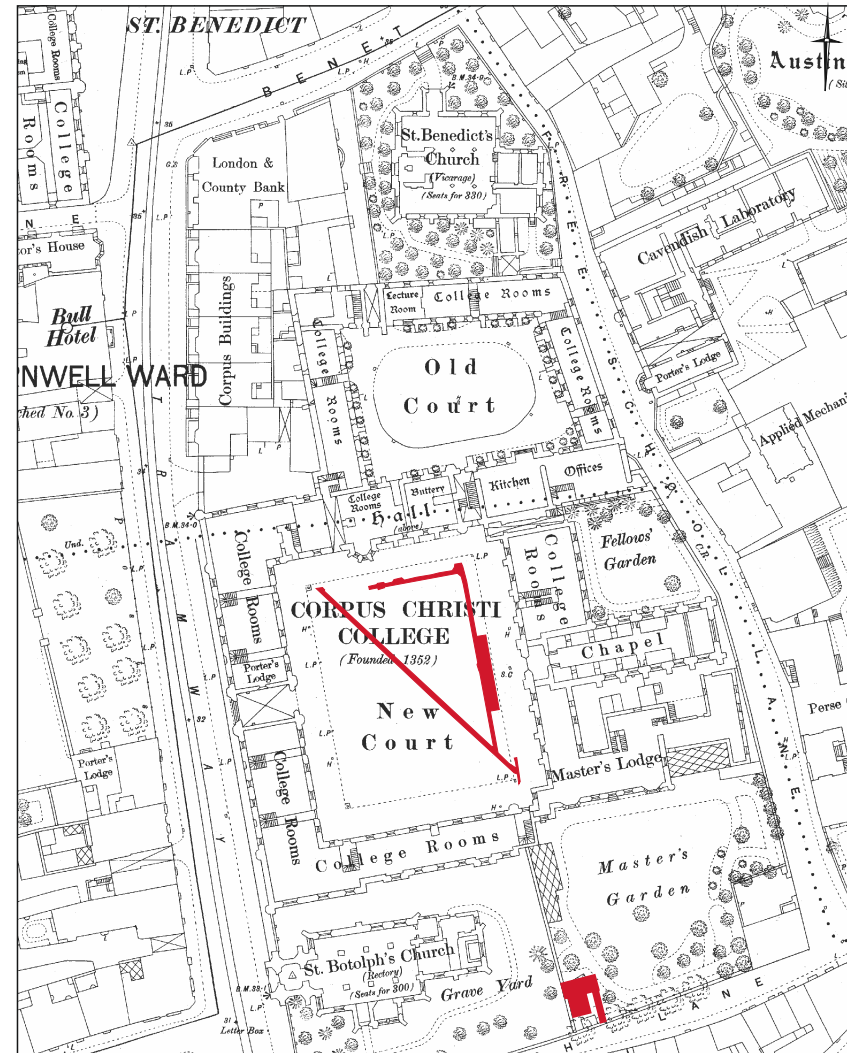
- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| A. Chapel           | C. Tennis Court |
| B. former Bakehouse | D. Stable Yard  |



Figure 5. Depictions of the Corpus Christi College by David Loggan, including: print view of 1690 (top) and; plan view of 1688 (bottom). Particular buildings discussed within this text have been highlighted



Custance 1798



Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1885

Figure 6. Historic maps depicting the college, including that of Custance (1798) and the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (1885). The latter shows the extensive reorganisation of the site that accompanied the construction of New Court

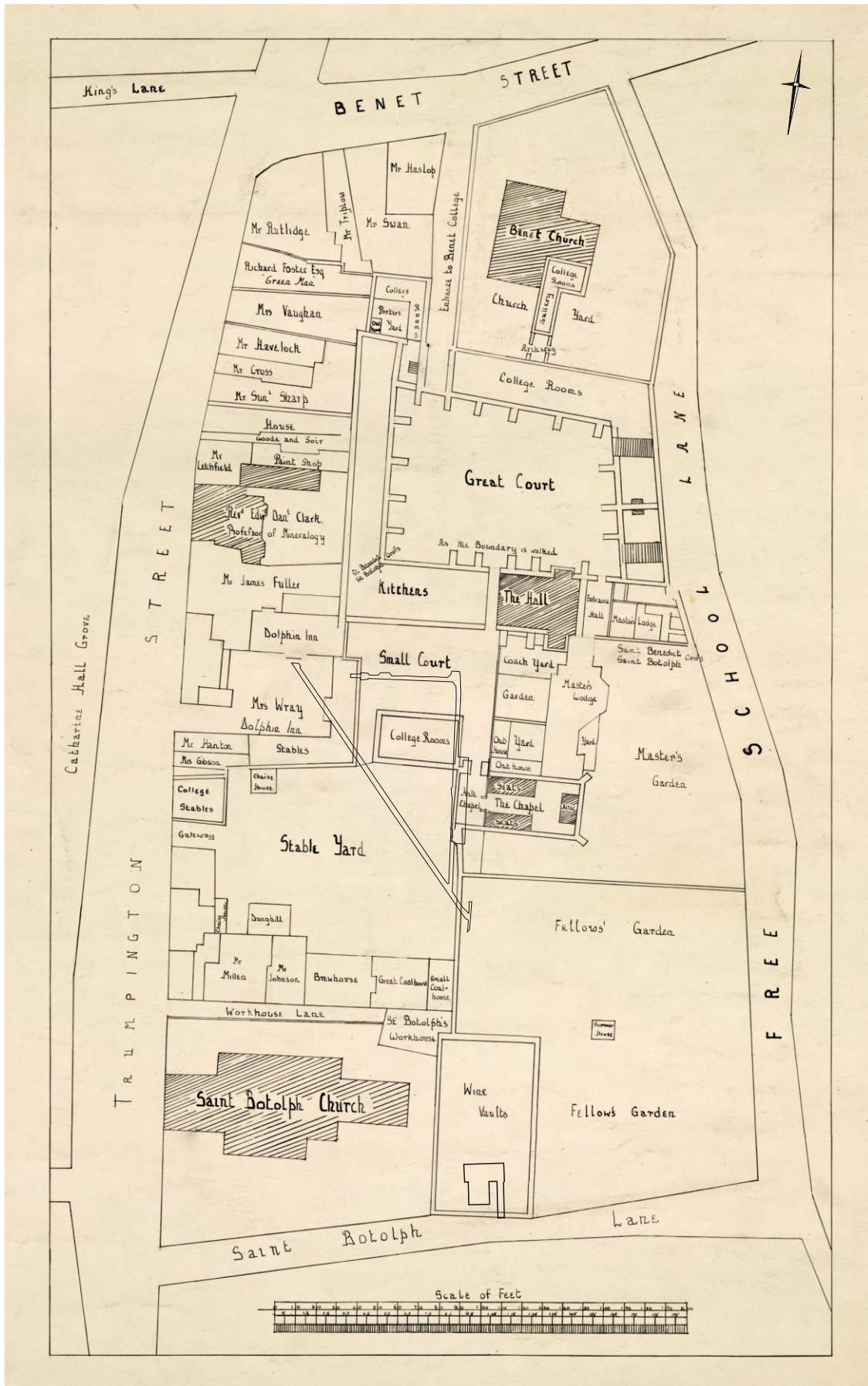


Figure 7. A copy of Watford's 1823 plan of the street block, drawn immediately prior to New Court's construction. This version was redrawn from the original in the 1950s

Fig. 1. PLAN ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY OF THE SITE AND BUILDINGS  
OF  
CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE,  
BASED ON A PLAN MADE BY WATFORD, SURVEYOR, 1823.

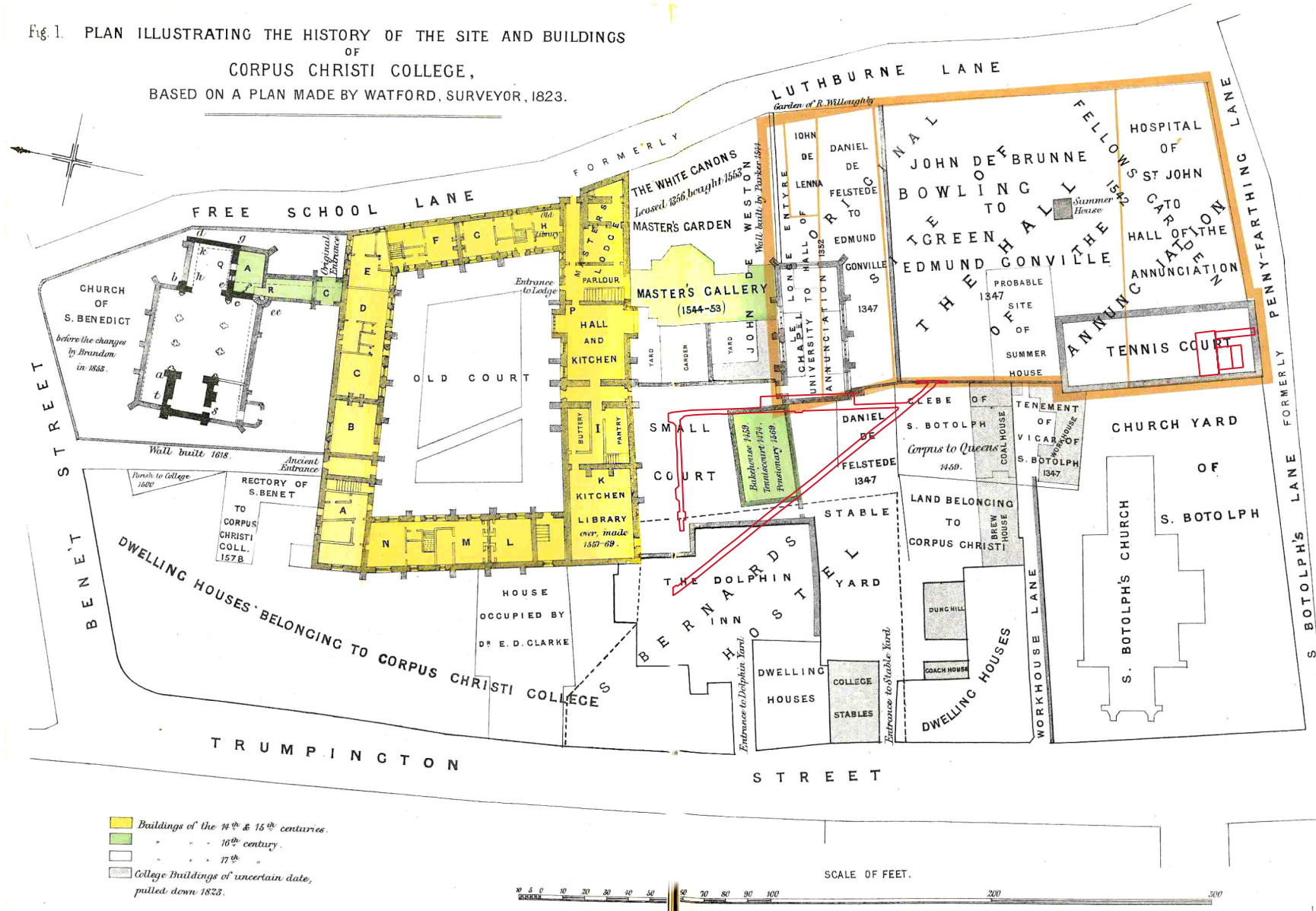


Figure 8. Willis and Clark's 1886 reconstruction of the street block. Whilst based primarily upon Watford's plan (Figure 7), this version incorporates additional information derived from property deeds and other historical sources



Early maps by Richard Lyne (1574) and George Braun (1575; Figure 4) are of limited value, although the disproportionate scale at which Old Court was depicted is notable. This was a device used to emphasise its significance as the dominant feature of the street block, as the expense of excluding the presence of other contemporary structures. A similar pattern occurred in the plan published by William Smith in 1588. In 1592, however, a more reliable map was produced by John Hammond (Figure 4). Only one complete copy of this work is known to have survived, held by the Bodleian Library in Oxford, and of this many of the sheets are in a very poor state of preservation. Unfortunately, the southern half of the present street block extends onto one of these damaged sheets. Nevertheless, Hammond's map shows a number of important details that were not visible in earlier sources. Old Court, for example, is depicted at the correct scale and is surrounded by numerous domestic buildings, thereby emphasising how small a proportion of the block it occupied. To the south, the newly erected chapel and tennis court are also discernible. These structures are also visible in John Speed's small-scale map of 1610 (Figure 4).

Subsequently, in 1688, David Loggan produced the first map of the town in which the perspective view was vertical as opposed to tangential (Figure 5). This plan represented the most accurate cartographic depiction of Cambridge to date (Baggs & Bryan 2002, 6). Allied with an isometric print of the college that he published 1690, Loggan's map provides a wealth of useful information; in particular, it allows the footprints of numerous buildings to be traced with a reasonable degree of certainty. The layout apparently remained relatively unchanged in 1798, when William Custance drew a new map of the area (Figure 6), although Custance often copied Loggan and did not necessarily show all the changes that had occurred. Then, in 1823, the area was surveyed by Watford prior to the construction of New Court (Figure 7). His plan was drawn at a larger scale than any previously, and included additional information such as the names of current tenants. Finally, in 1886 a reconstructed plan of the area's topography was published by Robert Willis (Figure 8). Although drawn some years after New Court was completed, Willis's plan incorporates information drawn from earlier cartographic sources supplemented by details derived from a thorough examination of the documentary sources contained within the college archives. Consequently, his plan represents the most accurate known depiction of the site's former layout. It will therefore be Willis's plan that is used to plot the discoveries recorded in the results section below.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Due to the nature of the works that were monitored, which primarily consisted of a cable trench measuring over 80m in length but averaging only 0.8m in width, this investigation covered a relatively broad spatial area (Figure 1). Despite its extent, however, the degree of exposure that was possible within the restricted confines of the trench was limited; thereby precluding a detailed understanding of the site's overall development. This situation was further compounded by the absence of an archaeological presence during the trench's initial excavation. Unstratified finds recovered from the upcast spoil could not be directly correlated to the contexts from which they had been derived, with the result that the temporal sequence of the identified stratigraphy cannot be established with precision.

As a consequence of these factors, the following results will be presented on a *spatial* as opposed to *temporal* basis. Seven key areas have been identified, around which the report's structure will be based. These comprise:

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| I. The former College chapel | V. The Dolphin Inn/St Bernard's Hostel |
| II. The former bakehouse     |  |
| III. The Tudor tennis court  | VI. The Stable Yard                    |
| IV. Small Court              | VII. WWII air raid shelters            |

Three of these areas pertain directly to former College buildings – a chapel, bakehouse and tennis court – the functions of which can be identified via surviving documentary and cartographic sources. A further three represent individual plots or discrete bounded spaces that existed prior to the extensive 1823 demolition associated with the establishment of present-day New Court. These include Small Court, the Stable Yard and the premises of the Dolphin Inn (formerly the site of St Bernard's Hostel). The seventh and final category represents features associated with the establishment of a series of air raid protection (A.R.P.) trenches in New Court during the Second World War.

In each instance, the archaeological remains associated with each area will be detailed and their historical context explored. A summary of the recovered finds assemblage will then be presented, before a concluding discussion that assess the significance of the discoveries and the potential for further analysis/publication.

### I) College Chapel (1579–1823)

The most substantial structural remains to be encountered during the course of the investigation were associated with the former late 16th-century college chapel. Situated towards the eastern side of New Court, in relatively close proximity to the extant chapel that succeeded it in 1823 (Figure 9), this structure represented the first purpose-built venue for religious worship in Corpus's history. Previously, the nearby church of St Benet's had performed a dual role for both parochial and collegiate congregations; a relatively common pattern amongst Cambridge's medieval colleges (see further Willis & Clark 1886).

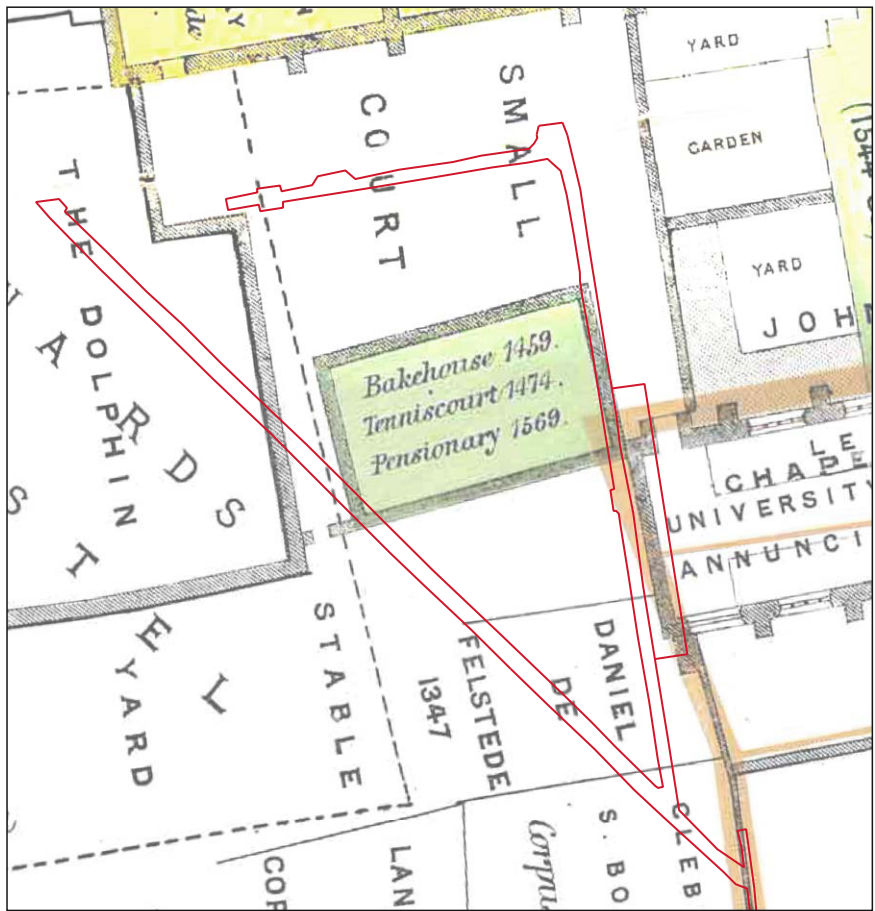
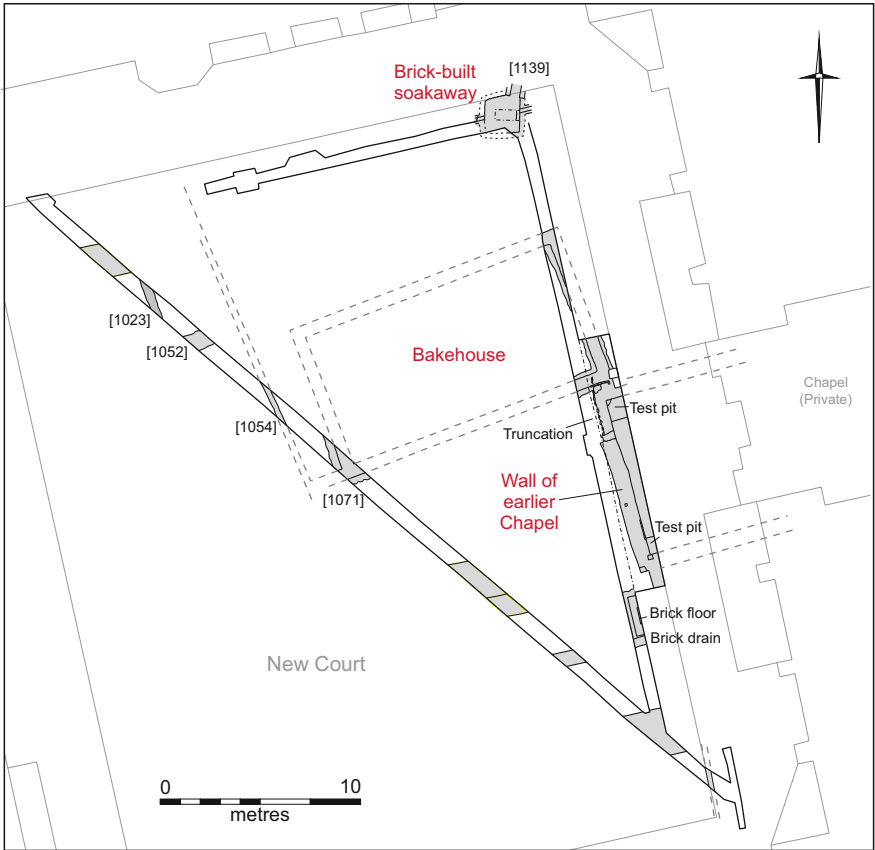
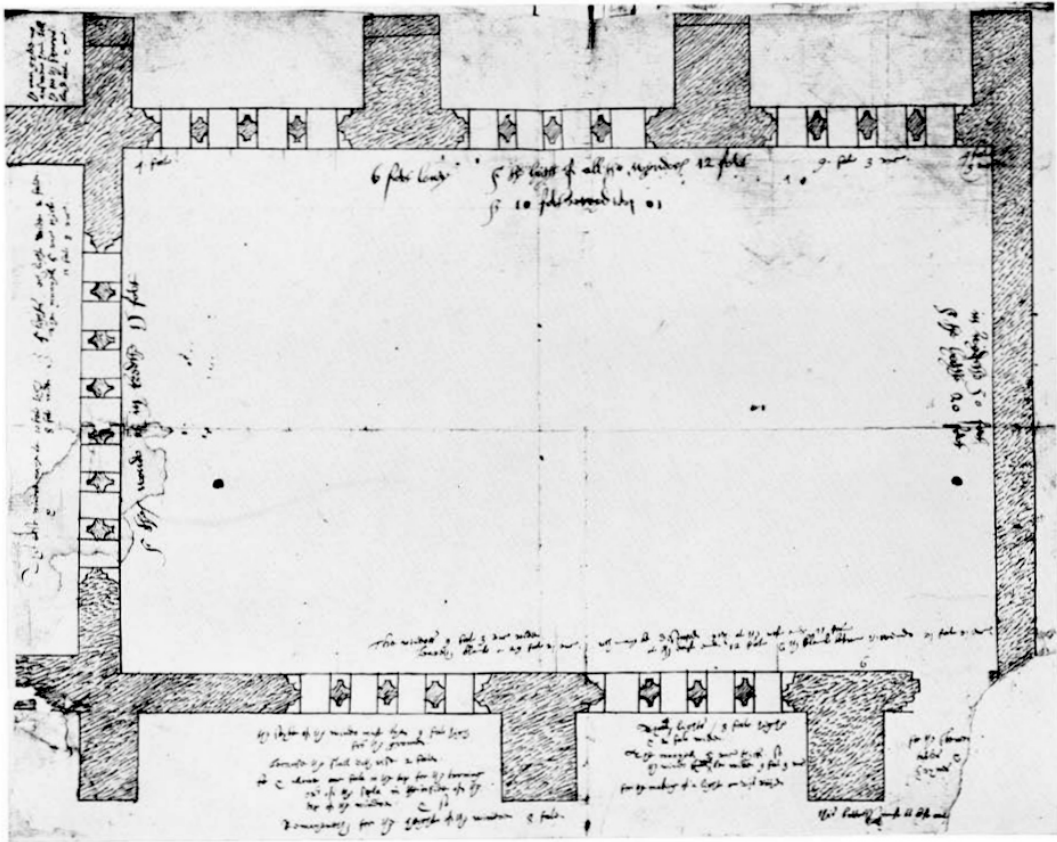
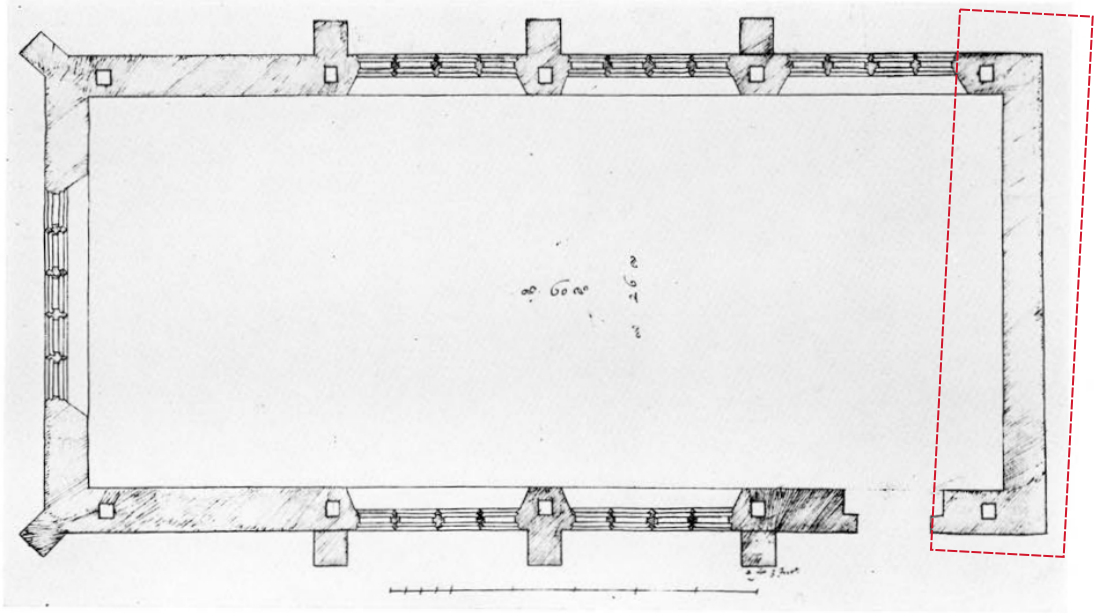


Figure 9. The uncovered remnants of the former chapel's west wall, viewed vertically (right), with a plan of the excavation (top left) and the trench overlaid upon Willis and Clark's reconstruction (bottom left)



1578



1579

Figure 10. An initial 'platt' of the proposed chapel from September 1578 (top), and a more detailed plan attached to an indenture dated 24th January 1579 (bottom); both reproduced from Sandeen 1962. (Area of investigation shown in red)

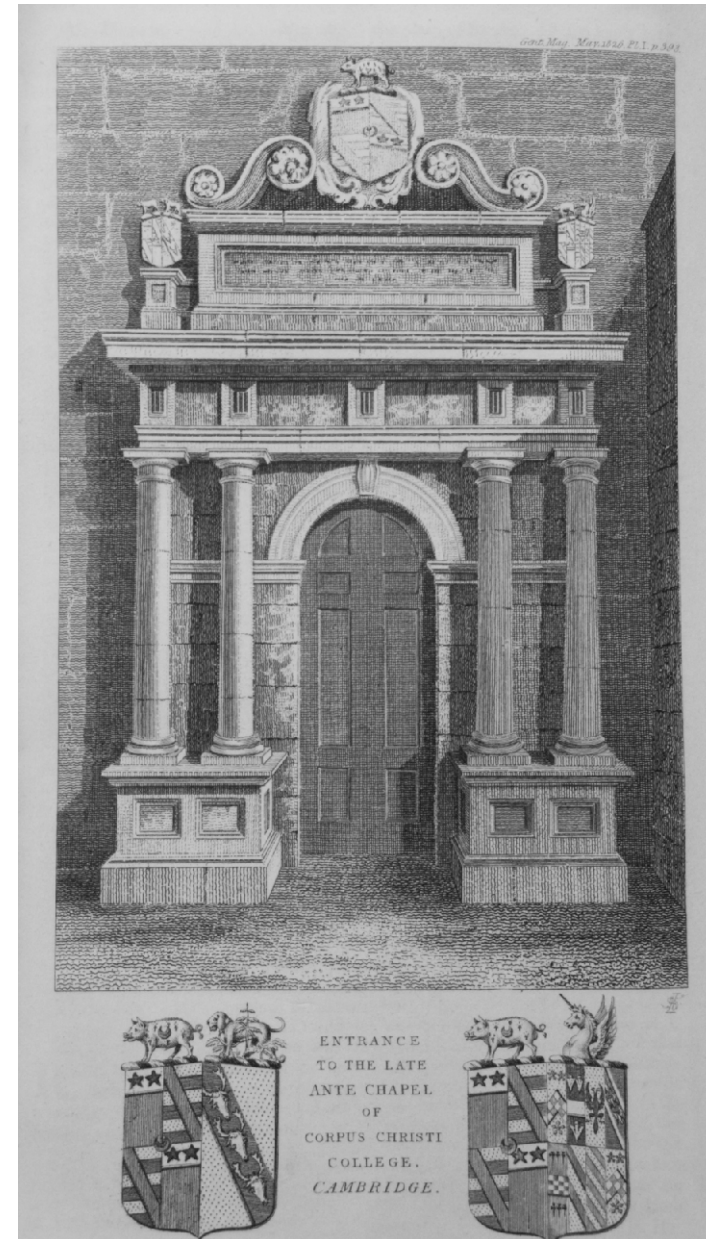
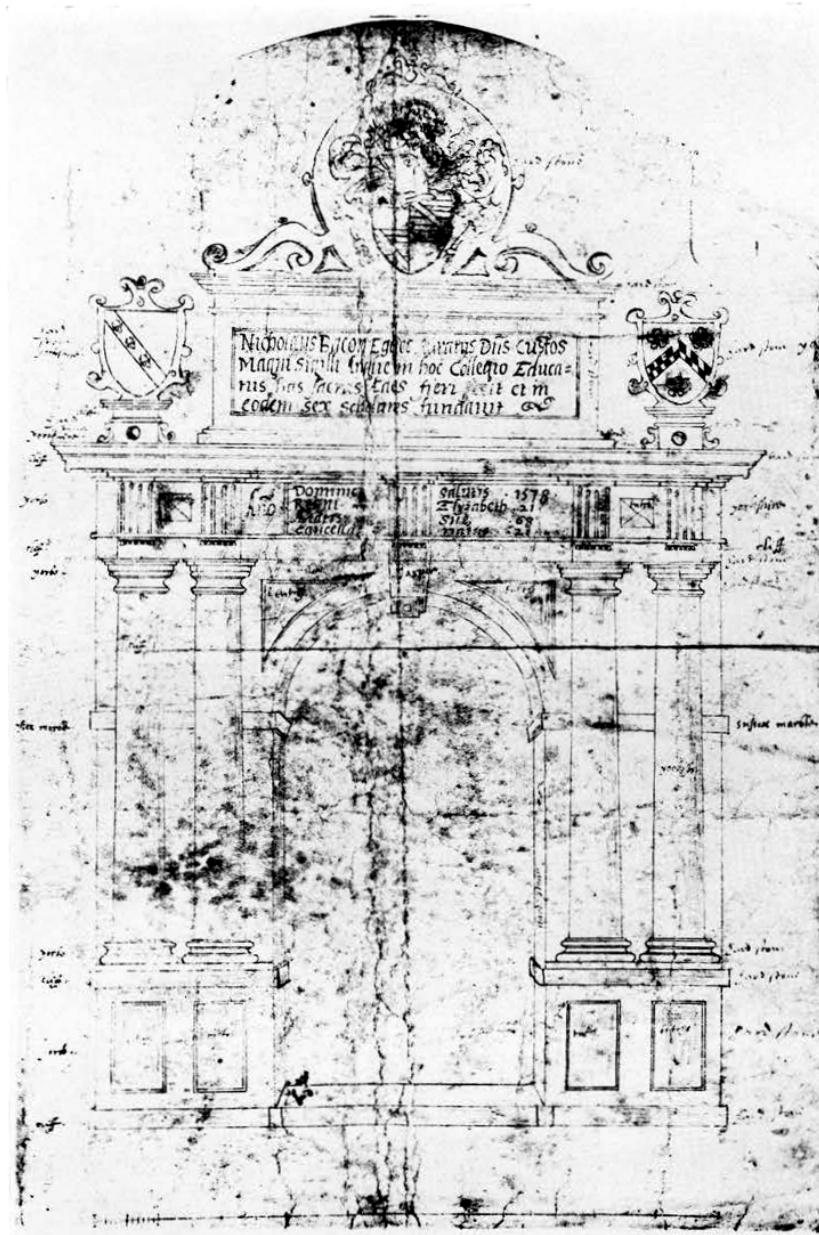


Figure 11. The entrance to the ante-chapel, showing the original mason's drawing (left, from Sandeen 1962) and the completed entrance from an enlargement of Logan's 1690 print that was published in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, May 1826 (right)



Figure 12. A view of the chapel's interior looking from the chancel across the choir, with the antechapel in the background, published in Combe 1815

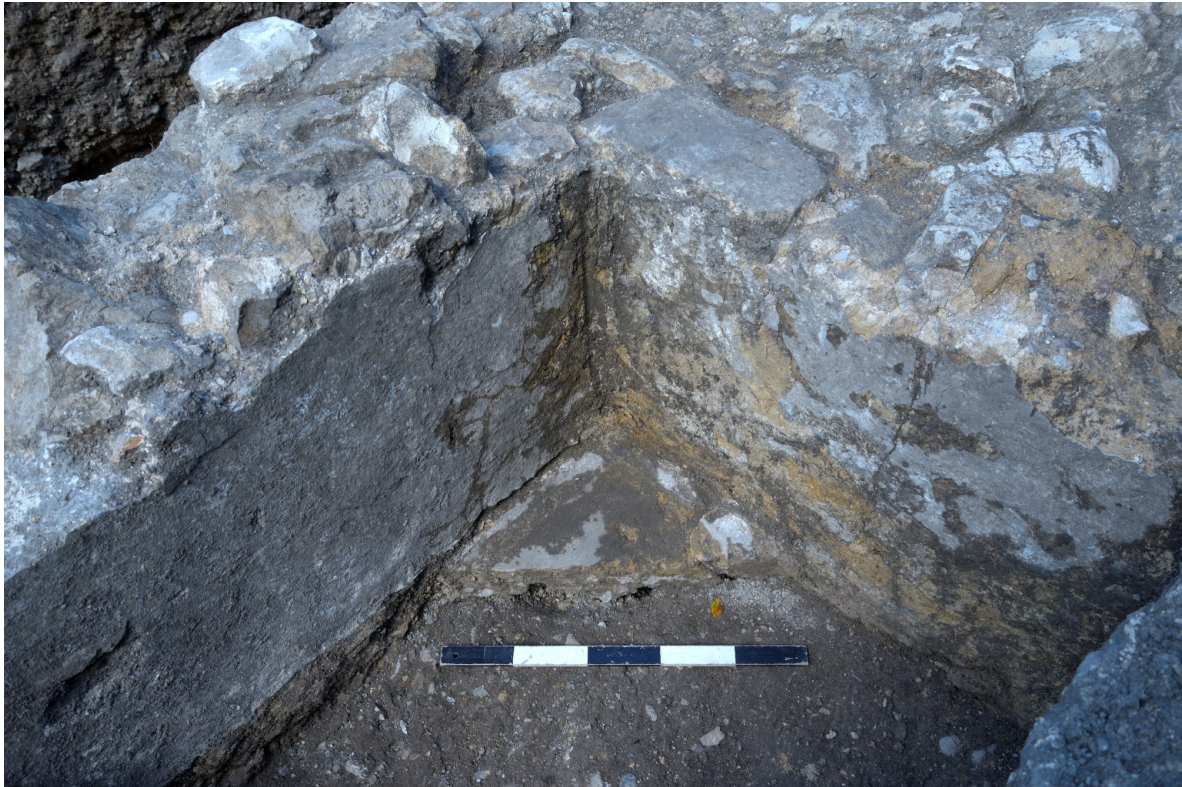


Figure 13. Photographs of the former chapel, showing; a fragment of the original flagstone floor and internal rendered walls (top, facing northwest) and ashlar quoining on the building's exterior southwest corner (bottom, facing northeast)

Construction of the new chapel began in 1578/9 and was completed in 1584 (Willis & Clark 1886 vol I, 289-97). Its principal benefactor was Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, who donated £200 pounds towards its erection; an endowment that was initially intended to cover the entire cost of the project, although in the event it fell short by some £450. Usefully, a substantial number of documents survive in the college archive pertaining to both the design and construction of the chapel, many of which have been published in summary form (Sandeem 1962). Amongst these documents are plans detailing both the chapel's proposed form, prior to the commencement of work (Figure 10), and the blueprint of the design as it was actually constructed (Figure 10) as well as the original mason's proposal for the entrance porch to the antechapel (Figure 11). In addition, the historical accounts provide considerable information pertaining to the materials that were used in the building's construction – such as various dissolved monasteries from which much of the building stone was salvaged – along with details of the individuals who were employed in building it. The chapel's interior was depicted in an early 19th-century print (Figure 12).

### *Archaeological remains*

During the initial phase of cleaning and recording the sections of the service trench in New Court, a substantial masonry wall was identified towards the northern edge of the site that predominately lay beyond the limit of excavation. From its scale and location, this was identified as a likely remnant of the former chapel. Consequently, the decision was made to hand-strip an additional area, running parallel to the trench, in order to more fully expose the chapel's remains and also to assess the degree of preservation present outside the area of recent disturbance. All identified structural remains were preserved in situ and carefully reburied once the investigation was complete.

The identified portion of this structure comprised the west wall of antechapel (Figures 9-10). Although partially clipped by the insertion of the service trench, and truncated by an earlier water pipe, the chapel was otherwise excellently preserved. The highest surviving portion of the structure was encountered at 9.87m AOD, only around 0.12m below the present lawn surface, while the walls were consistently upstanding to around 0.50m. This high degree of survival indicates that the general ground level of New Court was *raised* rather than *lowered* in 1823 when the site was cleared. The hand-stripped area was continued until the returns of both the north and south walls were identified and test pits were then dug in the two interior corners in order to establish the original floor level (which lay at 9.32m AOD). The clunch-built footings of the chapel's walls continued below the limit of excavation.

The walls themselves, which measured 0.78m wide, were constructed with a clunch and reused masonry core faced with irregularly-coursed Barnack ragstone to create an uneven, textured appearance. They were bonded with pale yellow lime mortar. On the southwest corner of the chapel, two courses of dressed limestone quoining also remained in situ (Figure 13). Internally, in the northwest corner of the antechapel a single remnant of the original flagstone floor remained in place (Figure 13), the rest of the flagstones having been robbed (see Figure 12 for a depiction



of the floor as it appeared in the early 19th century). The internal walls of the antechapel had been rendered (Figure 13), concealing a single skin brick repair that extended along much of the eastern face of the west wall. Comprised of pinkish red handmade bricks, this repair was most likely 18th century in date. In 1815 the walls of the antechapel appear to have been wainscoted (Figure 12), and this alteration may thus have been associated with the panelling's introduction.

### *Discussion*

Architecturally, documentary sources suggest that “the chapel presented a modest and, except for the porch, wholly traditional appearance” (Sandeem 1962, 34). Archaeological evidence confirms this hypothesis. The uncovered walls were composed of irregularly-coursed ragstone with dressed limestone quoins. Many of the constituent materials, including numerous moulded fragments, were reclaimed. These were derived from a variety of sources:

“The Queen ... contributed towards this work about thirty loads of timber, by a warrant under her privy signet, from the estate of a dissolved monastery lying in Barton, as did in like manner Francis earl of Bedford one hundred and forty-six tons of stone from that of Thorney, which were delivered at GuyHirne upon the lord keeper's letter and the earl's warrant. Mr. Wendy the son of Dr. Wendy, who then lived at Haslingfield in this county, gave likewise one hundred and eighty-two loads of stone from the late priory of Barnwell, besides what the Colledge tenants of Landbeach and Wilbraham could bring in two days with their teams” (Masters 1753, 132).

The chapel's modest external appearance was wholly suited to its location. The porch was accessed via the southern end of Small Court, along a narrow gap formed by the east end of the former bakehouse (Figure 8). From this position, the remainder of the building was obscured from view by the wall of a yard flanking the Master's Lodge. Since the chapel's southern and eastern walls were located in the lodge's garden, and its eastern wall in the Stable Yard, the porch was the only portion of the structure that was visible to the incoming congregation. Internally, the decoration was more elaborate but still relatively restrained; the distinction between the choir and chancel, for example, was maintained via fittings, such as the choir stalls – which were modelled after those in St John's College chapel (Willis & Clark 1886 vol. I, 294) – rather than being defined architecturally (as visible in Figure 12).

Despite its modest appearance, the construction of a new, dedicated chapel marked a significant shift in the college's focus; both historically and topographically. Historically, Corpus Christi was originally founded by one of the guilds of St Benet's and had long maintained a close relationship with the church; so much so that it was frequently referred to informally as 'Benet College' during the late Middle Ages. Yet at the beginning of the post-medieval period, as the size of the society continued to expand, the existing facilities were no longer regarded as adequate (Sandeem 1962, 24). Topographically, the original buildings of Old Court were situated immediately beside the church, to which they were physically connected during the 15th century. But by locating the new chapel further to the south, on

land that the college had long owned but not physically occupied, the spatial focus was reoriented; a topographical shift that eventually culminated in the establishment of New Court itself.

## **II) College Bakehouse (c. 1474–1823)**

This relatively substantial late medieval building was located immediately to the northeast of the former chapel, which partially abutted it (Figure 14). The addition of a purpose-built bakehouse to the college was first proposed in 1456. Bakehouses were relatively common during the late Middle Ages, especially in monasteries/institutions and large houses/palaces, due to the large volume of food that required specialised preparation in such contexts as well as the potential fire risk that activities of this kind presented (see Woolgar 2016). In this particular instance, however, construction of the new building does not appear to have commenced for some years after the initial contract was drawn up, and was never fully completed (Willis & Clark 1886 vol. I, 258-60). The half-built, roofless structure was used for a period as an ad hoc tennis court before eventually being converted into a pensionary (accommodation for pensioned students) in 1569.

### *Archaeological remains*

During the course of the investigation, three of the four corners of this building were identified; thereby allowing its size and orientation to be established with a reasonable degree of certainty. In addition, information pertaining to the nature of its construction and associated internal surfaces was also encountered and a cross-section obtained (Figure 14).

Overall, the bakehouse measured internally 13.05m in length by 6.68m in width. Its walls were substantial, measuring 0.88m wide and surviving to a maximum height of 9.68m AOD (Figure 14). All three investigated walls ([1071], [1152] and [1159]) were composed of unworked clunch and Barnack rag fragments that were bonded with off-white lime mortar and faced from the ground level up with a single skin of handmade Tudor red bricks. These walls rested in turn upon unworked clunch rubble footings that extended below the limit of excavation (Figure 14).

Internally, initial mortar bedding layers [1155] and [1156] were identified. These deposits were overlain by compacted pale brown floor layer [1154], which comprised the earliest surviving internal surface; it lay at 9.23m AOD. The clay floor was then partially overlain by a second mortar layer, [1164], which probably acted as the bedding for a robbed tiled surface. Finally, the footing of an internal sub-dividing wall – associated with the building's conversion into a pensionary in 1569 – was also present. [1157] consisted of unworked mortared clunch and red brick fragments (Figure 14).

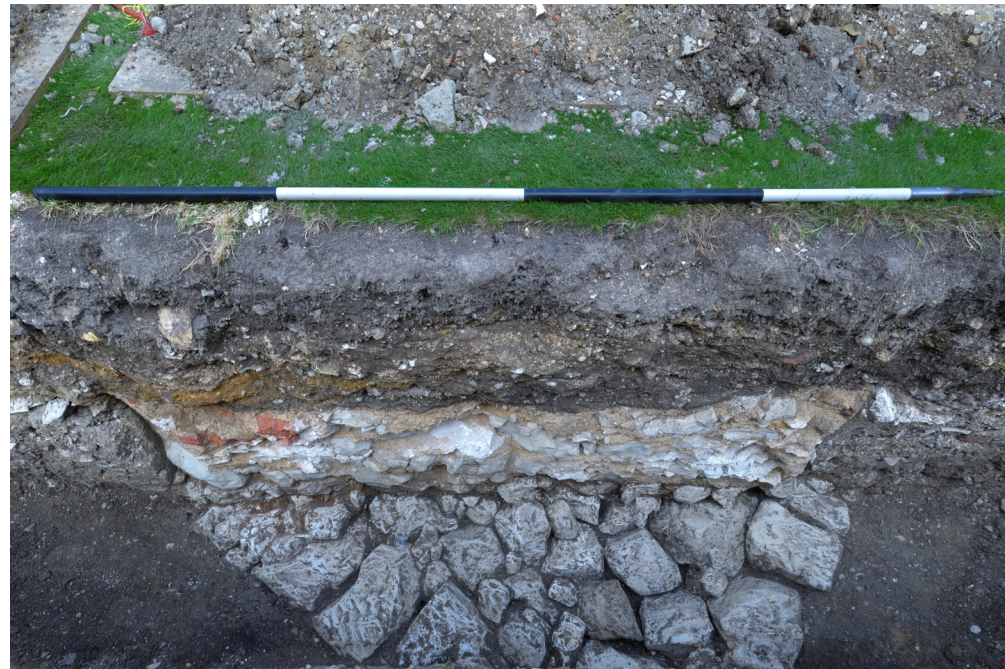
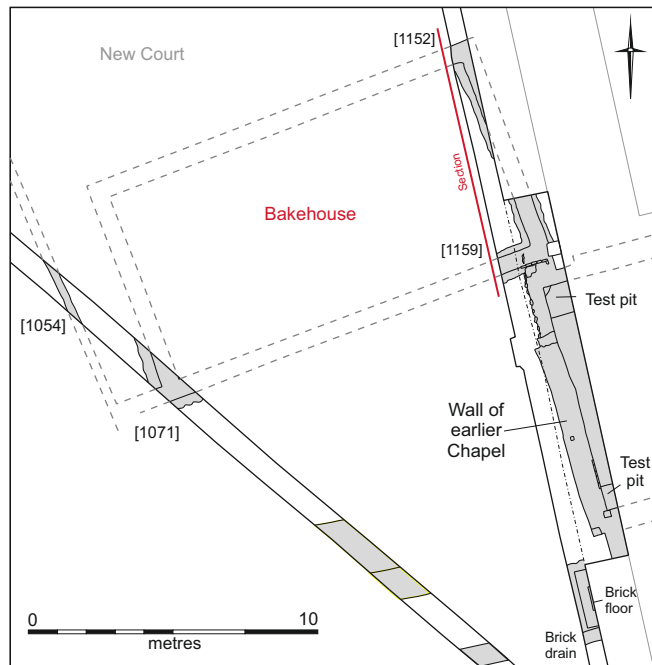
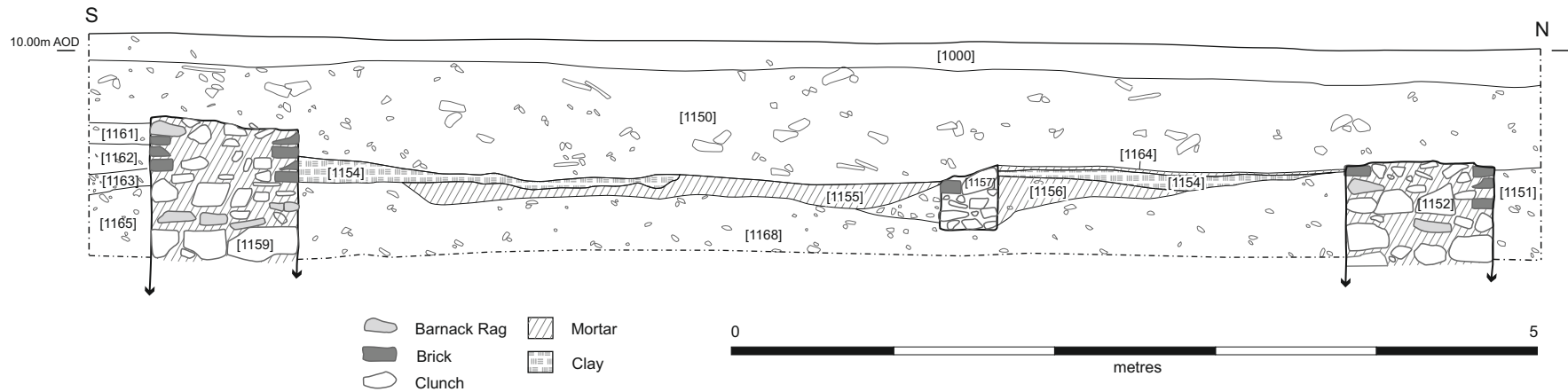


Figure 14. The College bakehouse, showing an east-facing section across the eastern end of the building (top), along with a plan of the exposed remnants of the structure (bottom left) and a photograph of its southwestern corner (bottom right)

## Discussion

A number of important results pertaining to the size, form and construction of this building were obtained from the archaeological investigation. These can be placed into their historical context via a series of documents that are held within the college's archives. The first reference, from 1456, is as follows:

"Memorandum that the Fryday next before the feast of the Nativity of S. Mary the Virgin [8 September] anno domini 1456, it is agreed by the Master of the College of Corpus Christi and the brethren of the same, that with all convenient and possible despatch there shall be erected at the cost of the said Colledge a new Bakehouse, as long as the middle house lately built by Master Andrew Doket, and as high under the eaves as the upper part of the Windows, which lately, to our detriment, have been placed in S. Bernard's Hostel" (as quoted in Willis & Clark 1886 vol I, 259).

It was however three years before a contract was drawn up with John Loose, 'Leyer', of Cambridge on the 4th of December 1459. This stipulated that the building was to be constructed between the 12th of March and 1st of August 1460. Furthermore, whilst engaged upon this work Loose was to 'have withinne the sayd Colledge a chamber, j bedsted, and a bedde, and his mete to be dyght in the kechyn at there cost'. Unfortunately, "the provisions in the contract descriptive of the building are extremely obscure, and we learn little from them except that the walls were to be partly of stone, partly of brick, and to rise "a foote above the wyndows of sent Bernardis hostell" which was "therto adioynant" (*ibid.*). The method of construction here described closely accords with the walls that were investigated archaeologically. There is however some doubt as to whether the contract was completed at this time. This is because a later, 16th century source stated that 'the walls of the Tennis-court were built in the time of William Smyth, eighth Master [1474-77] on ground where it had been agreed that a bakehouse should be constructed for the use of the College'. Work on the bakehouse may thus have been delayed for a second time prior to its commencement. It is however notable that this same source also recorded that:

"The Master and Fellows caused six chambers for the use of pensioners to be fitted up in this present year of our lord, 1569, beyond the quadrangle on the garden side, where a disused building stood, the walls of which had been raised to their full height in the mastership of Thomas Cosyn (1487-1515) with the intention of using it as a bake-house and granary. That excellent man's efforts were, however, unsuccessful, though the walls reached a certain height. The place was next used as a Tennis court for the exercise of the students. Now, however, it was fitted up, as may be seen to this day, with floors, roofs, garrets, and other contrivances, for the use of any pensioners who may choose to resort to the College" (*ibid.*, 260).

There is thus some confusion over the precise date at which the initial phase of construction took place, although 1460/1474 represent the most likely candidates. Following its conversion into student accommodation, the building remained in use as chambers until its eventual demolition in 1823.

### III) Tudor Tennis Court (c. 1569–1823)

A new, purpose-built tennis court was constructed by the college during the 16th century (*ibid.*). Unlike the other areas discussed in this report, Area III was located towards the southern boundary of the street block, within what is now the Master's Garden and was then the Fellow's Garden (Figures 8 and 15). Its presence was first recorded on Hammond's map of 1592 (Figure 4), although it is likely to have been established by 1569 at the latest when the former bakehouse, latterly utilised as a tennis court, was converted into a pensionary (Area II). Remnants of this tennis court have previously been identified during two previous small-scale investigations conducted within the Master's Garden (Edwards 1996; Alexander 1997). The present investigation makes a valuable contribution to the known corpus of information regarding this significant building.

#### *Archaeological remains*

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken during the installation of a new electricity sub-station in the Master's Garden. A series of adjoining trenches extending over 31.5sqm were excavated here to house the footings of the new structure, the depths of which were stepped according to which portion of the sub-station they supported. In the deepest sections of the trench, the uppermost surviving floor surfaces associated with the tennis court were encountered. The excavation was therefore halted at this depth and the design of the foundations modified slightly in order to avoid disturbing any in situ structural remains

The earliest structural element encountered during the course of the investigation comprised brick wall remnant [2009] (Figure 15). Composed of handmade red Tudor bricks, this wall – which survived to a height of 9.21m AOD – had been rendered on its interior face. Given its location, it is highly likely that it formed part of the tennis court's western wall. Abutting [2009] was the remains of a robbed tile surface ([2008]). The tiles themselves were composed of a coarse red fabric and measured 8 inches square, with their upper surface lying at 8.87m AOD. Where they had not been robbed they were largely overlain by coarse mortar layer [2007], which probably comprised the bedding for a second tiled floor, since removed.

Interestingly, cut into the surface of [2007] was 18th/early 19th century well [2013]. The shaft of this well, which was constructed from unfrosted yellow bricks, had been backfilled with rubble, while its construction cut contained redeposited blue Gault Clay (Figure 16). It is known that the tennis court fell out of use at some time during the 18th century and that the structure was subsequently used as a warehouse and later a winestore (Figure 7). Clay silt deposit [2006], which overlay [2007] and contained a fine copper alloy bridle mount (Figure 21.1), appears to have been associated with this transition. It is probable that the well was inserted into the structure to assist with whatever activities were then being undertaken. Overall, the results of this work accord closely with those of the two previous investigations (Edwards 1996; Alexander 1997). Remnants of the same extensive tiled surface were identified, for example, while the discovery of the tennis court's west wall (which was later used as the footing for the boundary wall of St Botolph's churchyard, [2010], constructed in 1823) allows its position to be fixed with some certainty.

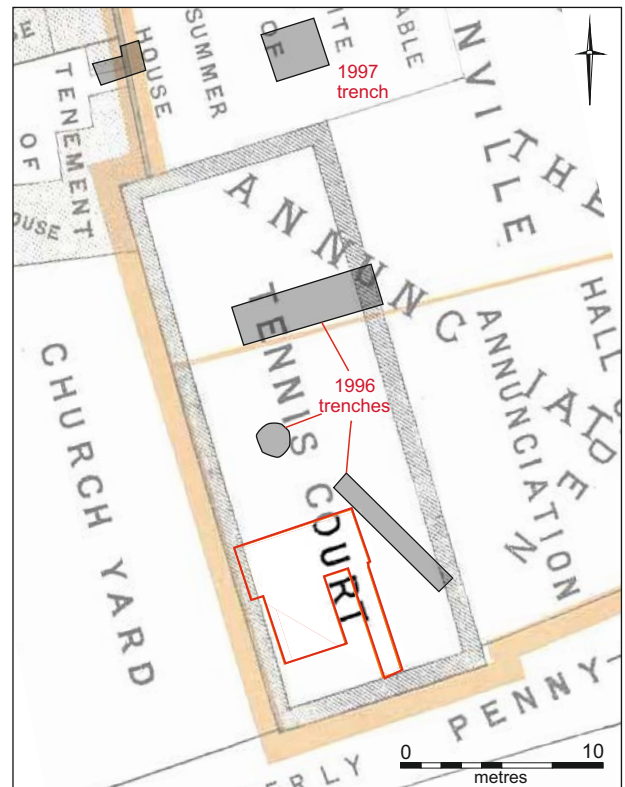
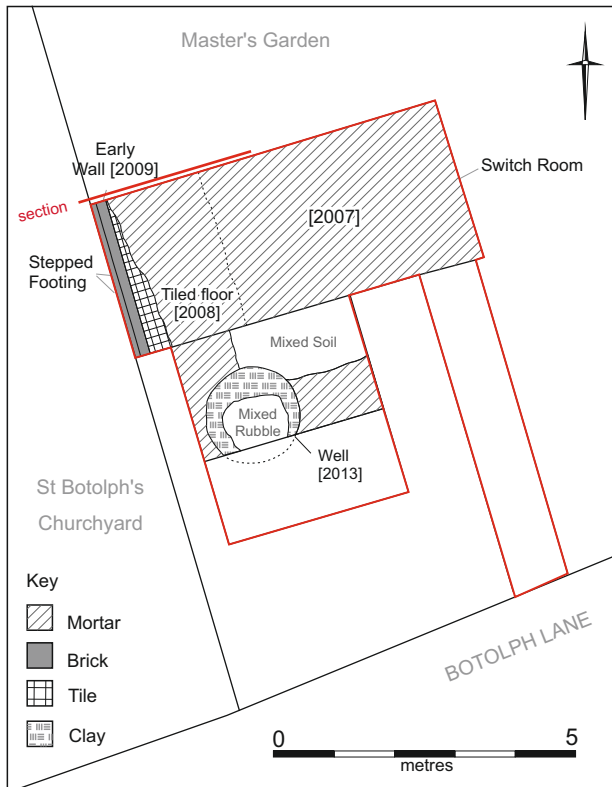
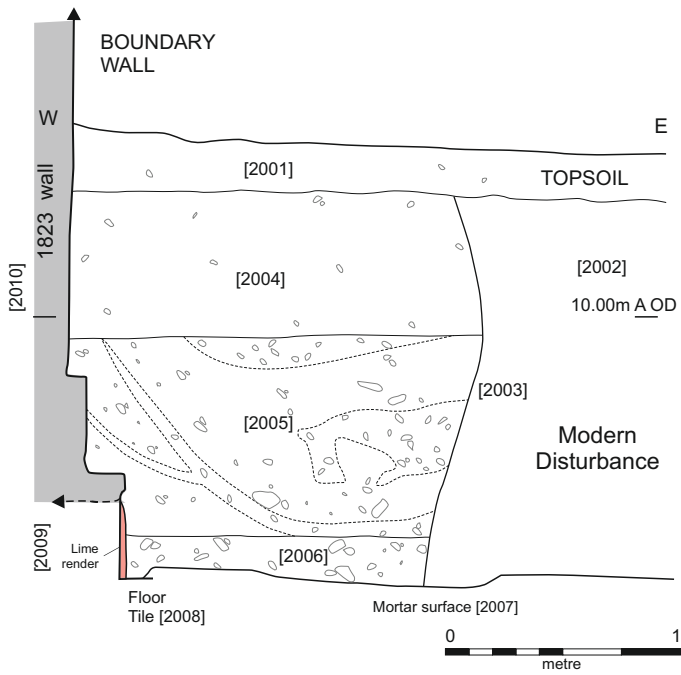


Figure 15. The Tudor tennis court, showing a plan of the present investigation (bottom left) and the location of previous investigations overlain upon Willis and Clark's plan (bottom right), as well as a section and photograph of the recent trench (top)



Figure 16. Photographs of the former tennis court, showing the original brick wall with attached render that was used as a foundation for the current boundary (top, facing west-southwest) and the backfilled well cut through a mortar surface (bottom, facing west-southwest)

## Discussion

The construction of the 16th-century tennis court in the Fellow's Garden marked the transition from an ad hoc playing space in the former bakehouse to a purpose-built sporting venue. This change did not occur in isolation but instead reflected the growing popularity of tennis at this time, as well as the development of a standardised set of rules for the game. Furthermore, Corpus was by no means unique amongst Cambridge colleges in constructing a tennis court during this period. Six further colleges – St John's, Trinity, Queens, Christ's, Pembroke and Peterhouse – have identifiable courts in Hammond's map of 1592, and others may also have been omitted (Morgan 2001, 11). In general, the majority of early courts appear to have been built of timber; although many were probably rebuilt in brick or stone during the 16th century or 17th century (Morgan 1995, 118-20). At Cambridge, the 16th-century court at St John's is known from documentary sources to have been built of timber and is unlikely to have been unique in this respect. Hammond depicted this structure as plank-built in his plan, and used the same convention for several other courts – including that at Corpus – although this may represent a stylistic device as opposed to reflecting architectural reality (Morgan 1995, 118-19).

The design of most of these 16th-century courts was probably of the simpler *jeu quarré* design rather than the more modern, and complex, *jeu à dedans* type (see Shneerson 2016). Today, few examples of this early design remain extant, the most notable exception being the court at Falkland Palace, Scotland, which was built between 1539 and 1541. The archaeological excavations undertaken in Area III – during both the present phase and in 1996 and 1997 – therefore present a valuable opportunity to investigate a court of this date, and to explore issues such as the nature of its construction and any potential changes that were made over time. The results are significant both regionally and nationally, given the dearth of previous excavations at tennis court sites.

## IV) Small Court (?17th century)

Small Court comprised the area lying immediately to the south of Old Court prior to the construction of New Court (Figure 8). This small courtyard was bounded to the south by the former bakehouse (Area II), to the east by the Master's Lodge and to the west by the Dolphin Inn (Area V). Crossing this courtyard also comprised the only means of accessing the chapel. Unfortunately, due to the presence of a series of earlier services that had been backfilled with loose sand, the portion of the investigated trench in this area was highly unstable. Although the majority of its sections had collapsed, a substantial stone and brick-built structure with a vaulted roof was nevertheless identified. Consequently, the area surrounding this structure was shored up and made safe to enter and the investigation focused exclusively upon this discrete portion of the trench (Figure 17).



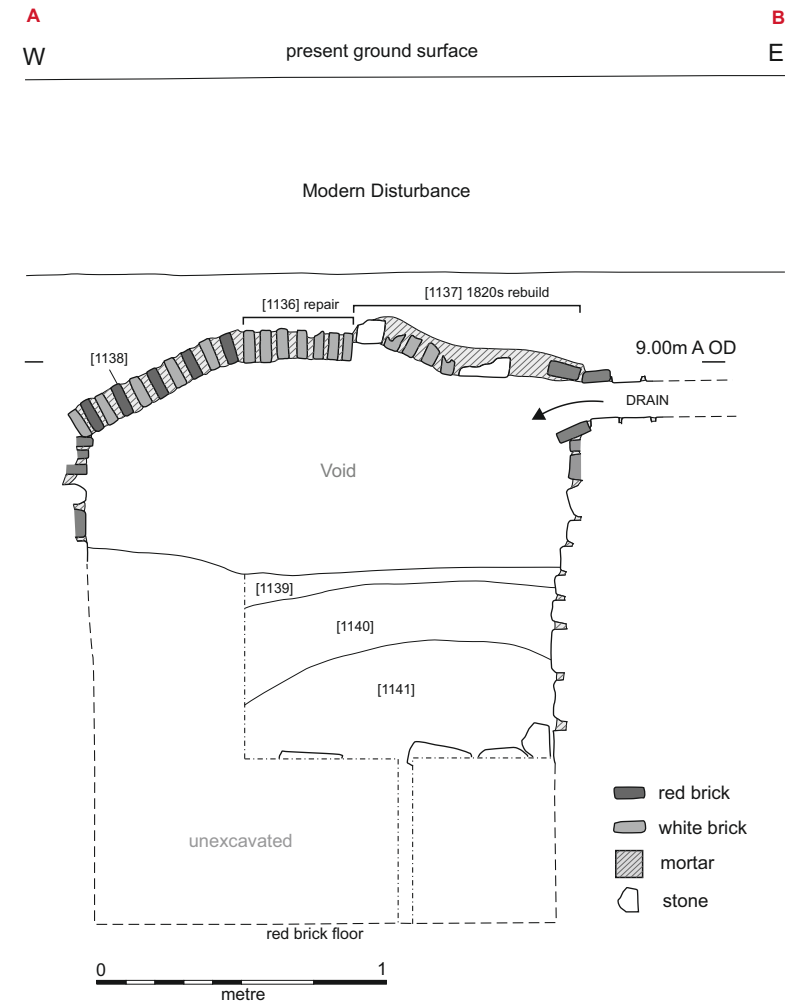
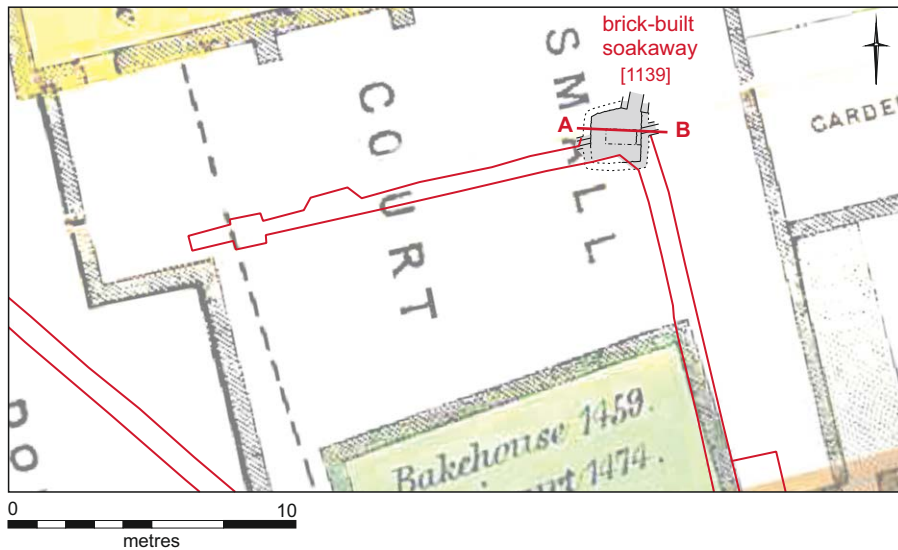


Figure 17. The stone and brick-built soakaway in Small Court, showing a section across the feature (right), a photograph of its interior (top left, facing north) and a plan of its location (bottom left)

### *Archaeological remains*

Access issues, allied with trench-edge instability, impacted upon the extent to which excavation could be undertaken within the interior of the structure. A small sondage was nevertheless inserted through its finely laminated silt infill and a cross-section established. This determined that the feature was predominately stone-built with a brick vaulted roof above. A minimum of two brick-built box drains were also identified, feeding into its interior. Consequently, the feature appears most likely to have functioned as a large, well-built soakaway of probable post-medieval date.

The soakaway was sub-square in form and measured 2.26m by 2.26m in extent. From the crown of the vault to the red brick floor at its base (which was determined via augering to lie at 6.98m AOD) was 2.0m (Figure 17). The walls of the tank were constructed from reused clunch and limestone blocks, measuring on average 550mm by 280mm by 200mm on average, that were laid in a rough, best-fit manner with occasional peg-tile fragment infill. The roof of the structure was initially constructed using alternating rows of red and pale yellow handmade bricks, giving a pleasing decorative effect (Figure 17). A minimum of two brick-built drains were identified feeding into the stone-lined tank, and a series of finely laminated banded silt fills had accrued within the interior ([1141], [1140] and [1139]). These deposits had visibly 'mounded up' below the infeed points, thereby demonstrating the tank's capacity to settle out silt and allow water to drain freely.

A repair had been made to the roof of the vault at some time during the 18th century ([1136]), and the structure was heavily altered in 1823 when an arched yellow brick culvert was introduced ([1137]) by removing a portion of the original wall and roof (Figure 17). This soakaway nevertheless remains a very well-built example of its type. It is likely that some form of access hatch was originally provided, so that regular maintenance could be undertaken.

### *Discussion*

This soakaway was most probably early post-medieval in date. Although brick was clearly being utilised as a building material at the site in the 15th century (Area II), it was probably too expensive a material to be employed in a below-ground vault at this date. However, the use of brick as a general building material increased significantly during the 17th century, crossing what has been termed the 'Brick Threshold' (Lucas 1997a) when it became extensively used in the reconstruction of vernacular buildings during a period of 'Great Rebuilding' (Platt 1994). During the 18th century its prevalence escalated still further, although – partly as a result of the brick industry's success – production was taxed between 1784-1850, thereby significantly inhibiting supply (Lucas 1997b). The strategic usage of decorated 'bands' of brickwork in this structure indicates that it remained a relatively prestigious material when used, therefore suggesting a probable date in the 17th century. It is unclear whether the soakaway initially served a specific function – such as an association with the nearby college kitchens – or was always part of a more general drainage system. Unfortunately, much of the potential evidence related to this question is likely to have been lost when the structure was altered in 1823.

## V) The Dolphin Inn/St Bernard's Hostel (Medieval–1823)

This area represents the westernmost portion of the site to have been investigated during the present project. This is significant because the College's western frontage – along what is today Trumpington Street – is known to have comprised both the earliest and longest-lived focus of domestic activity in the initial street block (Alexander 1996, 12). Consequently, although situated some distance from the street front itself, this portion of New Court is nevertheless likely to contain a relatively intensive sequence of archaeological remains extending back into the 11th century (a similar pattern was identified at nearby Hostel Yard; Cessford 2005). Unfortunately, due to the limited depth of the cable trench, the earliest portion of the sequence in this area was not investigated.

Whilst the early history of this part of the site was almost certainly domestic in focus, by the 14th century the area is known to have been occupied by St Bernard's Hostel. Originally an independent *Hospitium Artistarum* – hostel for students in the arts – associated with Queen's College (Fuller 1840, 62; Stokes 1924, 22), St Bernard's Hostel was formally conveyed to that institution by Henry VI in 1447; it was eventually purchased by Corpus Christi in 1534 for the sum of 100 marks (Willis & Clark 1886 vol I, 245). The 15th-century Bursar's Book of Queen's College records that the hostel comprised a complex of buildings including a gallery, a hall and a chapel (*ibid.*, 248) and when the construction of a college bakehouse was first proposed in 1456 the rear of the hostel was described as 'thereto adjoining' its proposed site (see Section II, above). After being put to probable use as student accommodation during the 16th century, the former hostel was eventually converted into a tavern known as the Dolphin Inn. As Watford's plan shows (Figure 7), by the early 19th century the inn buildings, including a stable block, were arranged in a quadrangular layout around a central courtyard.

### *Archaeological remains*

The deposits in this area were recorded entirely in section. Nevertheless, three broad phases of activity were identified. The first of these was associated substantial structure with clay floors and internal timber wall divisions of probable late medieval date. Subsequently, this building was demolished and a made-ground deposit introduced over its remains – most probably during the 16th century – before finally the Dolphin Inn was established in the 17th/18th century. A series of clunch-built wall footings were associated with this latter phase.

The earliest of the three identified phases was associated with a substantial building or buildings (a key portion of the sequence in this area was removed by a WWII air raid shelter). The structure was represented by two internal beamslots ([1012] and [1037]), both of which were abutted by clay floor surfaces and associated bedding layers. Given the depth of the uppermost floor surface, at 9.25m AOD, it is probable that this structure was late medieval in date. It may well have been timber-framed in design, although unfortunately none of its external walls were identified.

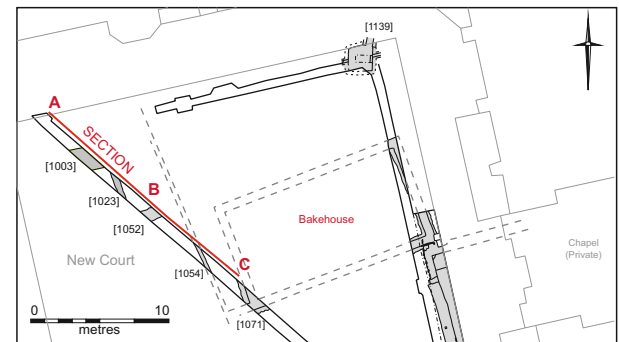
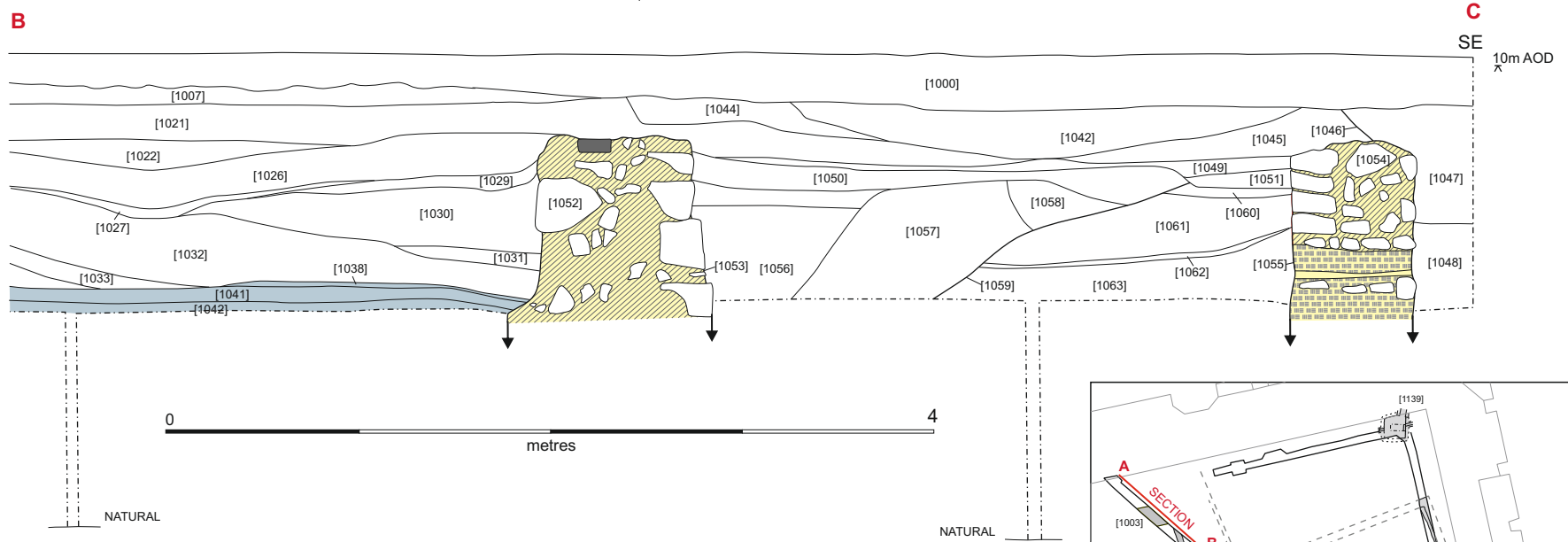
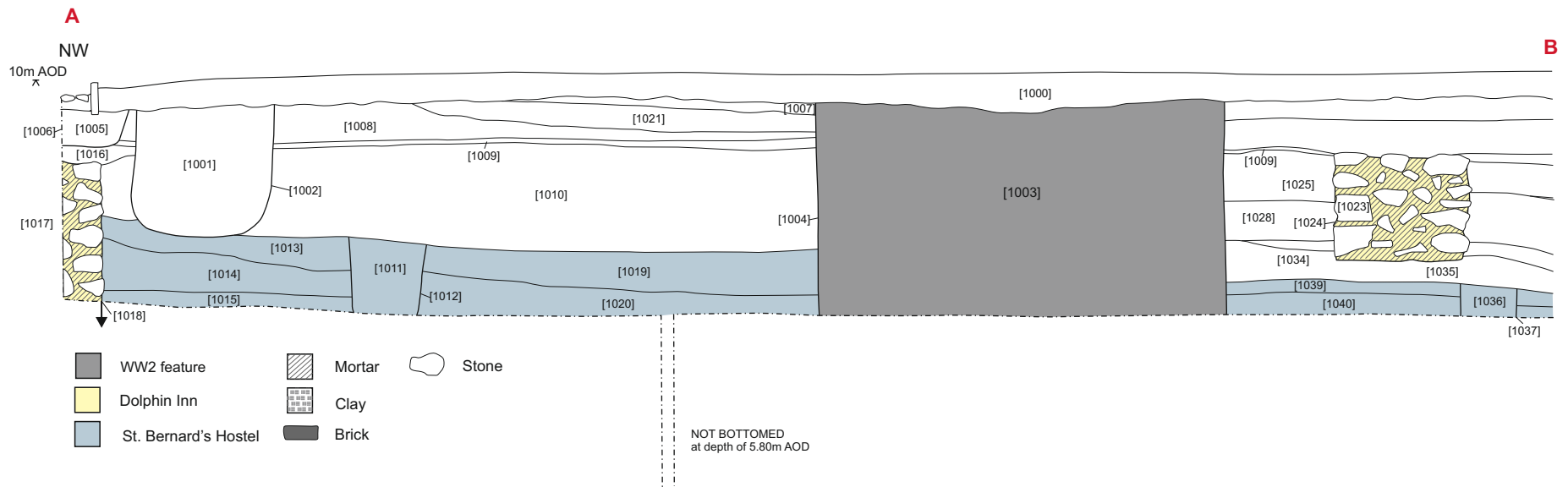


Figure 18. Northeast-facing section of the Dolphin Inn area, also showing floors and beamslots associated with a substantial late medieval building

Overlying the structural sequence were a series of dump deposits that appear to represent the making-up of the ground level in this general vicinity. Although no in situ dating evidence was recovered from these layers, a ceramic assemblage was recovered from a sample of the upcast spoil in this area. This group was dominated by sherds of 16th-17th century date (see pottery report, below). Since the preceding structural sequence is likely to have been relatively sterile, these deposits represent the most likely source for the bulk of this material.

The third phase of activity is represented by clunch-built wall footings [1023], [1052] and [1054]. Each of these features appears to represent a below-ground foundation that supported a now lost wall (indicating that the ground level at the time of the walls' insertion was around 9.70m AOD). Based upon the foundations location and alignments, it is very likely that they represent part of a structure or structures shown on Watford's plan of the Dolphin Inn (Figure 7). No associated floor surfaces or other inn-related features were identified.

### *Discussion*

Based upon its size, location and stratigraphic position, the substantial late medieval building that was encountered in this area is very likely to have comprised part of the rear portion of St Bernard's Hostel. The function of the range is unclear, although an accommodation block is perhaps the most probable interpretation. Stratigraphic evidence, allied with the sampled ceramic assemblage (see pottery report), indicates that it is most likely to have been demolished during the 16th century. Two events are known to have occurred during this period that may have been associated with such a change. The first took place in May 1530 when St Bernard's chapel was demolished (ibid., 245). This marked the end of the hostel as an independent, self-contained entity – a widespread pattern that occurred across Cambridge around this date (Caius 1574, 52) – but does not appear to have been accompanied by a wholesale programme of demolition. Instead, in 1534 the site and its associated buildings were purchased by Corpus Christi College. Given the proximity of the hostel to the college bakehouse, it may well have been at this time that the eastern range was levelled.

Of the former hostel's other structures, many appear to have remained standing for at least a century afterwards. They were recorded cartographically by Hammond (1592; Figure 4), while in 1624 it was recorded that "a passage is lately made out of the hostle belonging to the saide Colledge, into the tennis court of the same" (quoted in Willis & Clark 1886 vol I, 248). This suggests that the rooms were probably put to use as accommodation for students – a pattern that is also known to have occurred at nearby St Botolph's Hostel, which was owned by Pembroke College, at this time – although it is also possible that some of the buildings were rented out to private tenants.

The next event to occur in the area's history was the establishment of the Dolphin Inn itself. Although the precise date at which this took place is unclear, it is most likely to have

occurred between the mid-17th and mid-18th century. It is possible that by this time the hostel's buildings were no longer suitable for use as student accommodation, or else were deemed too expensive to repair/maintain. Alternatively, it may simply have been more profitable to rent them all out. It was a well-established pattern at this time in Cambridge for inns or eating establishments to succeed former hostels, with many reusing pre-existing buildings for this purpose (Gray 1925, 111-13; Cam 1959, 115). St Botolph's Hostel, for example, had been rented out to a cook by 1643 (Fuller 1840, 41). The name of the new hostelry may well have been selected to reflect the fame of Cambridge's largest, and one of its oldest, public houses; the original Dolphin Inn, which was situated in close proximity to All Saint's Church, had been established before 1500 (Cam 1959, 115).

## **VI) The Stable Yard (Medieval–1822)**

The Stable Yard lay to the south of the bakehouse (Area II) and to the west of the chapel (Area I). During the post-medieval period this area contained a number of ancillary structures – including the college stables, a brew house, a coachhouse and a coalhouse (Figure 7) – but it was predominately utilised as an open work space. In the mid-18th century it was known as *Hostle-yard* due to its proximity to the former St Bernard's Hostel “of which probably the present Stables were some part” (Masters 1753, 45). Much of the area was acquired piecemeal by the college during the 14th and 15th centuries; previously, it had been subdivided into domestic plots that fronted onto Trumpington Street.

### *Archaeological remains*

The deposits in this area were recorded entirely in section. Nevertheless, two broad phases of activity were identified. The earlier of the two consisted of general layers of garden-soil type material of probable late medieval date, along with a few isolated cut features. The second consisted of many banded surfaces and interleaving trample/dumping deposits that are likely to have been associated with the establishment of an open yard area following the college's acquisition of the entire space by the late 15th century.

Layers [1095] and [1094], at the base of the exposed sequence, consisted of homogenous pale greyish brown sandy silts. Stratigraphically, these deposits were truncated by the footings of the former bakehouse (Figure 19), indicating that they were almost certainly medieval in date. Also present towards the southeastern end of this arm of the trench was large cut feature [1120] that extended over 4.0m in depth (as determined by augering). This almost certainly comprised a well, and in turn cut what appears to be at least one further pit ([1124]). Overall, therefore, this initial phase is generally indicative of domestic, backyard activity. (More detailed context descriptions can be found in the appendix at the rear of this report.)



Subsequently, however, a dramatic shift in the pattern of deposition occurred. Replacing the homogenous, garden-soil type deposits were a sequence of well-compacted banded layers. Whilst not remaining entirely consistent across the area, these layers nevertheless formed a series of discrete horizons that are consistent with the treatment of the area as a single open space. A small number of localised events also occurred, such as the introduction of pit [1084]. Whilst some of the layers may have comprised surfaces in their own right – such as [1112] and [1115] – others appear to represent trample or the deliberate dumping of material (more detailed context descriptions can be found in the appendix at the rear of this report). This sequence of banded deposits continued all the way through until 1823.

### *Discussion*

Interpreting the remains encountered in the Stable Yard is somewhat problematic, due to the trench-based nature of the investigation allied with the absence of associated material culture. Nevertheless, a striking change clearly occurred in the stratigraphy of this area at around the same time that the adjacent bakehouse was established (c. 1460-74). The depositional pattern changed from the gradual accrual of large, homogenous garden-soil deposits associated with probable backyard activities to a much more rapid proliferation of banded surfaces and associated make-up deposits. This transition, along with the wide extent of the latter deposits across the known footprint of the Stable Yard, provides a strong indication that the use of the area changed following its acquisition by the college. From this point forward, until 1823, the Stable Yard appears to have become the venue for a range of ancillary activities associated with the day-to-day running of the college.

## **VII) WWII Air Raid Shelters (1939-45)**

During the Second World War the college housed various government departments whilst the then Master was also the Regional Commissioner of Civil Defence Region 4 (an organisation which may have been required to act as an autonomous government authority if central government was incapacitated). Consequently, a series of air raid precaution (A.R.P.) trenches were established upon the lawn of New Court to act as shelters for civil servants in the event of an attack (Alexander 1996, 22-24). Four of these shelters – the locations of which can be plotted from contemporary aerial photographs – were encountered archaeologically during the investigation (Figure 20).

### *Archaeological remains*

In each instance, the air raid shelters consisted of narrow trenches, measuring between 2.12m and 2.64m in width that had been backfilled with relatively sterile redeposited topsoil material. No remnants of the original retaining walls were identified, and only a few patchy remnants of concrete floor were encountered; the majority of the shelters extended below the limit of excavation (Figures 18-19).



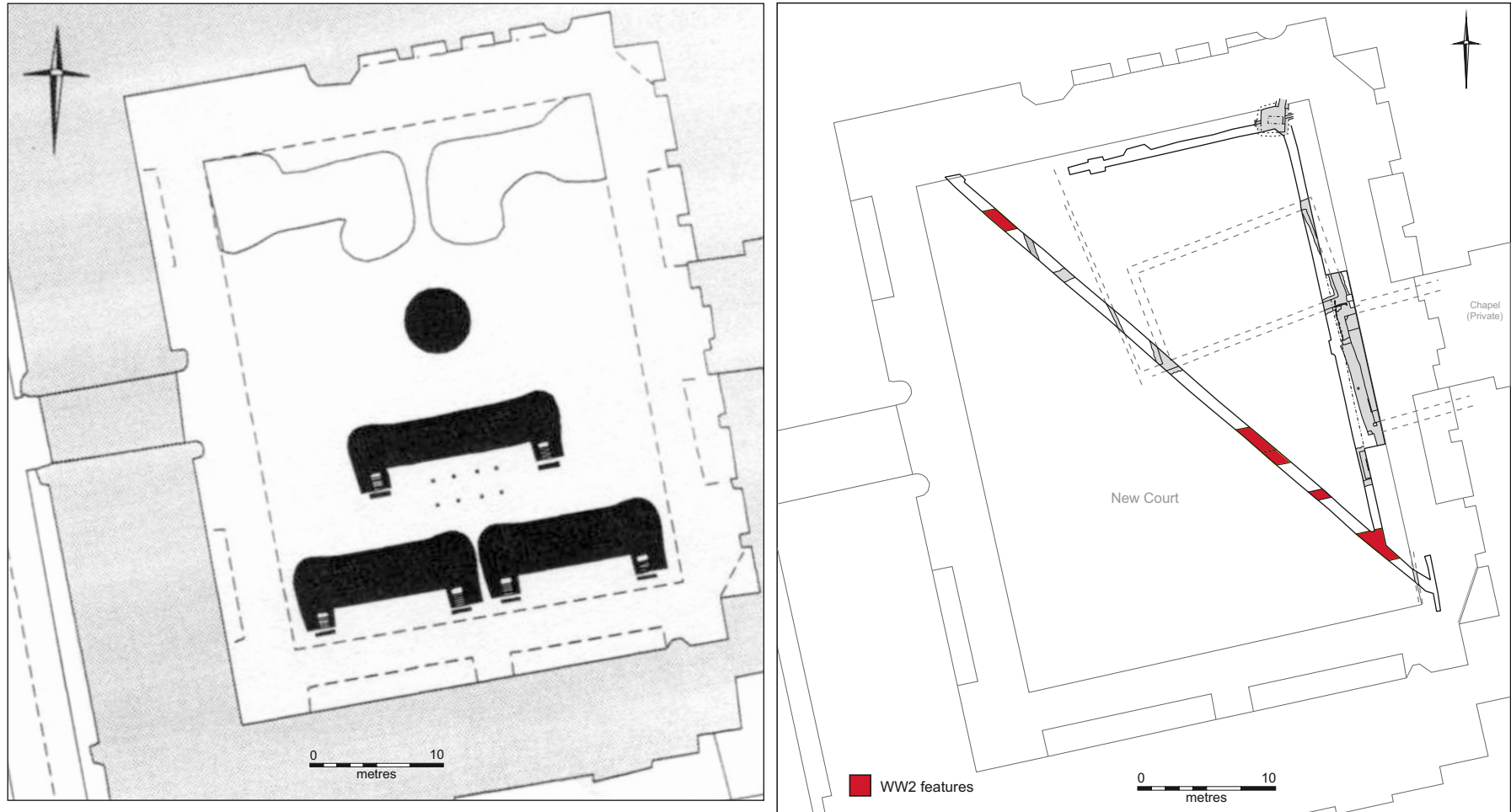


Figure 20. A plan of the air-raid defences established on New Court during WWII, plotted from a rectified aerial photograph taken in August 1945 (top) and a plan of the archaeologically-identified WWII features encountered during the recent investigation (bottom)

### *Discussion*

Because the internal support structure of the air raid shelters had been comprehensively removed prior to their backfilling, the principal means of reconstructing their original form and appearance now comprises contemporary photographic images, allied with guidance manuals for their construction such as *Bomb Resisting Shelters* (ARP Handbook No. 5A, 1939). The archaeological evidence does however confirm that the impact of these trenches upon the underlying deposits in New Court was relatively minimal. Had large civilian shelters been constructed, it is likely that much more extensive truncation would have occurred. One interesting side note to the shelter's construction is a photograph in the Cambridgeshire Collection which shows a brick-built cellar that was encountered 'when digging A.R.P. trenches in the front court of Corpus, Autumn 1939' (Alexander 1996, 14). It was postulated that this structure was associated with the former Dolphin Inn, indicating that the photograph was most probably taken whilst excavating the air raid shelter encountered in Area V (Figure 18).

## MATERIAL CULTURE

The finds assemblage recovered during the recent investigation was modest in size, given the scale of the investigations; the retained material totalled only 147 items weighing 61.3kg. The reason for this apparent dearth is not an absence of finds *per se*, but rather the circumstances in which much of the recovery took place. Across New Court, where the larger of the two investigated trenches was located, an archaeological presence was only established after the initial excavation phase had been concluded. Therefore, in order to assess the likely extent of the original assemblage, prior to its disturbance, a one cubic metre sample of upcast spoil was analysed and the finds recovered (Table 1).

Material type	Count	Percentage of total
Pottery	42	14.6%
Animal bone	56	19.4%
Metalwork	3	1.0%
Clay tobacco pipe	5	1.7%
Ceramic building materials	133	46.2%
Stone tile	12	4.2%
Shell	37	12.9%

*Table 1.* Composition of sample recovered from one cubic metre of upcast spoil (Area V)

Using this data, it is possible to estimate the likely extent of the assemblage that was lost to disturbance. Overall, the excavation in New Court extended to approximately 80 cubic metres in volume. Across this area, however, the density of material will not have remained consistent; some portions of the site are likely to have been subject to relatively substantial depositional activity, equal to or greater than that in the recovered sample, whereas others – particularly those occupied by long-lived buildings – will have been comparatively sterile. Taking these factors into account, it is probable that the original assemblage comprised in excess of fifty times the amount that was recovered (that is, at least 2,000 additional ceramic sherds and around 3,000 animal bones).

Despite this limitation, a number of important finds were recovered during the course of the project. These include metalwork, ceramics, clay tobacco pipe, moulded stones and ceramic building materials. Each of these categories is discussed separately below.

### **Metalwork** (Martin Allen and Justin Wiles)

A small metalwork assemblage was recovered from this site. In the first instance, three copper alloy items, weighing 28g, were present (Figure 21). They comprise:

[1174], Area IV: Copper alloy jetton, English, c. 1321–44. Obverse: sterling head with portrait of English silver pennies of classes 15c and 15d. Reverse: long cross patonce with rosette of pellets in each angle and crown in each angle of the border. 22 mm diameter, 0.71 g (corroded, central piercing).



Figure 21. Copper alloy artefacts, including a blinker or saddle brass (1), a pierced English jetton of c. 1321-44 (2) and a post-medieval fitting or spatula (3); with, below, the multi-period ceramic assemblage recovered from a cubic metre sample of upcast spoil

[2006], Area III: A fragment of copper alloy cast blinker or saddle brass, which when complete would have been rectangular with chamfered corners and a raised image of a sheep. Measures 30 x 26mm, weight 20.86g. Late 18th or early 19th century.

[1169], Area I: A copper alloy fitting, length 86mm and circular in section. One end widens to form a spatula shaped flat that tapers to a point, the other end has several collars that terminated at a rounded point. Weight 6.27g. Probably 17th to 18th century.

In addition, aside from a small number of nails and other unidentified lumps, a single identifiable iron artefact, weighing 112g, was present. It comprises:

[1150], Area II: An iron stud with a tapered shaft and right-angled leaf-shaped head. Such items were used to affix battening to a wall as a framework for mounting timber panelling. It weighs 112g and is post-medieval in date.

### Pottery (with David Hall)

A small ceramic assemblage, consisting of 92 sherds weighing 1774g, was recovered from the site. As Table 2 shows, despite the limited size of the group a relatively broad range of material was present, spanning the 12th to 19th centuries in date.

Period	Fabric	Date	Count	Weight (g)
Saxo-Norman	St Neots-type	10th-12th century	2	14
Medieval	Essex redware	14th-15th century	1	8
	Grey fineware	15th century	2	12
	Grey coarseware	15th century	34	610
	Medieval Ely ware	14th-15th century	1	36
	Pink gritty coarseware	14th-15th century	4	24
	Red coarseware	15th century	2	36
	Unidentified glazed fineware	14th century	1	10
Post-medieval	Frechen stoneware	16th-17th century	3	278
	Glazed red earthenware	16th-18th century	19	456
	Glazed red fineware	17th century	2	20
	Plain red	16th-17th century	1	64
	Raeren stoneware	16th-17th century	2	16
	Staffordshire-type slipware	17th-18th century	2	20
	Tin-glazed earthenware	17th-18th century	2	8
Modern	Bone china	19th century	3	36
	Chinese export porcelain	18th century	1	1
	Creamware	18th century	2	28
	English Utilitarian stoneware	19th century	1	6
	Refined white earthenware	19th century	2	5
	Staffordshire white salt-glazed stoneware	18th century	1	10
	Westerwald stoneware	18th century	2	60
	Yellow plantpot	18th-19th century	2	16
<b>Total</b>			<b>92</b>	<b>1774</b>

Table 2. Breakdown of pottery assemblage by fabric type

When broken down by date, medieval material was the most prevalent (48.9% by count, 41.5% by weight), closely followed by post-medieval material (33.7% by count, 48.6% by weight), whereas Modern (15.2% by count, 9.1% by weight) and Saxo-Norman sherds (2.2% by count, 0.8% by weight) were much less common. This result reflects both the individual circumstances of the investigation, as the deepest, Saxo-Norman layers lay below the limit of excavation, and the particular history of the site, since the establishment of New Court effectively ‘capped’ the archaeological sequence in 1823 with little material likely to have been introduced after its construction.

There were few individually significant sherds. A fragment of Westerwald stoneware from [1142] in Area I bore a decorative roundel containing the letters GR, which probably stand for Georgius Rex, while in Area III a miniature 19th-century bone china teacup was recovered from planting bed [2004]. This was almost certainly derived from a child’s tea set. Unfortunately, the only group of any size was arbitrary in nature. It consisted of a sample derived from a cubic metre of upcast spoil in Area V, the composition of which is broken down by fabric in Table 3.

Period	Fabric	Date	Count	Weight (g)
Medieval	Grey coarseware	15th century	9	318
	Grey fineware	15th century	2	12
	Medieval Ely ware	14th-15th century	1	36
Post-medieval	Frechen stoneware	16th-17th century	3	278
	Glazed red fineware	17th century	2	20
	Raeren stoneware	16th-17th century	2	16
	Glazed red earthenware	16th-18th century	18	412
Modern	Creamware	18th century	2	28
	Refined white earthenware	19th century	1	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>40</b>	<b>1124</b>

*Table 3.* Assemblage recovered from cubic metre spoil sample broken down by fabric

Unlike the composition of the overall assemblage (Table 2), the pottery from group [1171] was dominated by post-medieval material of predominately 16th-17th century date (62.5% by count, 64.6% by weight), with a moderate proportion of medieval material (30% by count, 32.6% by weight) but only a small quantity of modern sherds (7.5% by count, 2.8% by weight). This reflects the particular sequence of the area from which it was recovered (Area V), where a late medieval building was succeeded by an open area into which made-ground deposits were introduced during the 16th-17th centuries prior to the area becoming sealed again beneath the Dolphin Inn.

No further analysis of this material is required, although selected sherds could be drawn for publication.

#### **Clay tobacco pipe** (Craig Cessford)

A total of ten clay tobacco pipe fragments, weighing 50g, were recovered. In general, the presence of clay tobacco pipe fragments in a context indicates a date between the late 16th to early 20th centuries (c. 1580-1910). Bowls, however, can often be more closely dated via comparison to Oswald’s simplified general typology (1975). In this particular instance, only one bowl was present. Recovered from [1169], Area I, it belongs to Type 6 (c. 1660-80).



1



2



3



Figure 22. The moulded stone assemblage, including: the head and cill of a small limestone window (1), a heavily graffitied clunch fragment (2) and a clunch mullion with glazing groove (3)

### **Moulded stone** (Richard Newman)

A small assemblage of moulded stone, comprising eight blocks weighing 46.6kg, was recovered from the upcast spoil in New Court. Six of these fragments, in particular, are of some interest (Figure 22). They comprise:

[1172], Unstratified (Figure 22.1): Two blocks that formed the head and cill of a small window respectively. Both are composed of oolitic limestone that probably originated from Barnack, and both measure 485mm wide by 382mm deep. The simple perpendicular moulding on both blocks has an internal roll-and-fillet around a chamfered embrasure. There is no evidence for either a glazing groove or glazing bars (although none of the corresponding mullions were recovered). These blocks were later reused as hardcore and have patches of lime mortar adhering that could be carefully removed to aid in their illustration.

[1172], Unstratified (Figure 22.2): A broken and heavily abraded fragment of moulded clunch; most probably originally part of a door jamb or window mullion. It is notable for the quantity of incised graffiti that is present on both surviving faces, although no clear figurative design or legible lettering could be discerned. It measures 375mm long, 162mm wide and 84mm deep.

[1172], Unstratified (Figure 22.3): Three rejoining fragments that comprise part of a clunch window mullion. It has a hollow cavetto moulding on each face and glazing grooves to two sides. It measures (when rejoined) 682mm long by 240mm wide and 85mm deep and is probably medieval in date.

### **Ceramic building materials** (Richard Newman)

A ceramic building materials assemblage comprising 12 items weighing 11.76kg was retained from the investigation. The material primarily represents samples that were recovered from particular buildings – including the former bakehouse (Area II) and the soakaway in Small Court (Area IV) – which could be subjected to scientific analysis in order to clarify issues surrounding its date and origin. Of particular relevance in this regard are eight near-complete bricks, weighing 10.52kg that were retained from [1138], [1159] and [1170].



## DISCUSSION

By their very nature, trench-based investigations typically reveal only a limited proportion of an urban sequence. Consequently, their results are often restricted to a series of localised details – particular to the specific area of excavation – as opposed to the broad story of a site’s development. In this instance, that situation is further exacerbated by the individual circumstances of the project, which limited the scope for recovering both fine-grained stratigraphic information and associated dating evidence. Nevertheless, as the above section attests, a number of important results were obtained. These pertain to particular buildings (such as the former chapel, bakehouse and tennis court) as well as more generalised areas (such as the Stable Yard and former Dolphin Inn).

At a relatively broad level, the results recovered during the course of the present work closely conform to the pattern identified during previous investigations undertaken in the general area. The overall depth of the sequence, for example – the build-up of which broadly represents the gradual accumulation of deposits proportionate to the degree of activity that was being undertaken – is very consistent with that encountered on other sites in the immediate vicinity (Table 4). This confirms that the early portion of the sequence, which lay below the limit of excavation in the current instance, is highly likely to be similar to that identified in these other locations.

Site	Top of archaeology (AOD)	Highest natural (AOD)	Minimum depth of sequence	Reference	Reference No. (Figure 1)
<i>New Court, Corpus Christi</i>	10.02m	7.60m	2.42m	<i>This report</i>	N/A
Hostel Yard, Corpus Christi	10.00m	7.57m	2.43m	Cessford 2004; Cessford 2005; Cessford & Fallon 2006	1
Free School Lane	10.30m	7.30m	3.00m	Hunter 1991	2
Master’s Garden, Corpus Christi	10.08m	8.05m	2.03m	Edwards 1996; Alexander 1997	3
52-54 Trumpington Street	9.44m	7.95m	1.49m	Whittaker 2001	4
St Catherine’s College	9.47m	6.17m	3.30m	Newman 2013	5

*Table 4.* Minimum depth of archaeological deposits encountered during archaeological investigations conducted in close proximity to New Court (see Figure 1 for site locations)

It is however the individual stories of particular buildings that provide the most significant aspect of this project's results. The construction of the former chapel, for example, represented a significant change in the college's topographical focus that was necessitated by its increasing success. The newly uncovered archaeological remains, allied with the extensive corpus of documentary sources retained in the college's archive, can now shed important light upon this phase of the institution's development. Other significant discoveries include the identification of a part of the late medieval St Bernard's Hostel and the post-medieval Dolphin Inn as well as the WWII air raid defences that were established in New Court. But perhaps the most significant discoveries, in terms of wider research potential, at least, relate to the former bakehouse and Tudor tennis court. This is because these structures were associated with a sport, real tennis, that was of particular importance during the 15th to 17th centuries – both across Cambridge and throughout much of western Europe – but which has been little studied archaeologically.

Real tennis has been the subject of much historical enquiry, which has predominately focused upon the game's cultural and social development (e.g. Morgan 1995; Gillmeister 1997; Shneerson 2016). First emerging in France during the 12th century, tennis was initially played without racquets in informal spaces. At this time the rules appear to have been similar to those of fives, pelota or handball; indeed, early documentary references to 'tennis' are often problematic because it is difficult to determine precisely which of these games is meant. By the mid-late 15th century, however, tennis had developed into a rule-governed and highly sophisticated sport. Concomitantly, the field of play had largely been transferred from ad hoc spaces into purpose-built courts. The reasons for this transition are complex, but appear to have been closely bound up with the sport's adoption as a symbol of prestige and a tool for social mobility among the increasingly status-competitive royal court nobility of late medieval Europe (Lake 2009). As its rules became increasingly complex, the game offered ever greater opportunities for displays of conspicuous consumption in spheres such as architecture, fashion and gambling.

In England, tennis became known as *the Royal Game* via its association with Kings from Henry V (r. 1413-22) onwards, though it achieved its greatest impact during the reign of Henry VIII (r. 1509-47). This explosion in the sport's popularity is well-illustrated by the history of tennis in Cambridge during the same period. First attested in the town in 1410, when it was banned under threat of a fine of 40d, by the late 16th century at least seven colleges are known to have constructed their own purpose-built courts (Morgan 2001, 1-12). To date, however, only those at Corpus Christi have been investigated archaeologically. Furthermore, the playing of tennis in the former bakehouse represents the first recorded instance of the game being connected to a specific structure in the town. The recent excavations, therefore – allied with the results of two previous small-scale investigations – provide a valuable opportunity to explore the architectural evidence associated with this sport and to place this material into its wider social and cultural context.

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## APPENDIX: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

The following table presents a catalogue of context descriptions derived from the recent investigation. Due to the particular circumstances in which the bulk of the recording took place – within narrow trenches from which the deposits had been removed without archaeological supervision – the majority of these contexts were recorded in section only (see Figures 14, 15, 18 and 19). Consequently, in most instances it was not possible to determine accurate dimensions and/or orientations and these details have therefore been omitted.

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1000	L	Dark brown humic topsoil	I-VII
1001	F	Loose topsoil backfilled into modern pit – fill of [1001]	V
1002	C	Cut of sub-circular pit	V
1003	F	A banded, heterogeneous backfill consisting of mid-brown sandy silt, dark humic silt and mid-greyish brown silt with occasional CBM and gravel inclusions – fill of [1004]	VII
1004	C	Cut of WWII air raid shelter	VII
1005	F	Mid-greyish brown clay silt, with frequent sand and gravel inclusions – bedding for cobbled surface above	V
1006	C	Cut for [1005]	V
1007	L	Mid-brown sandy silt, with occasional gravel inclusions	V
1008	L	Mid-orangey brown sandy silt, with occasional to frequent gravel inclusions	V
1009	L	Lens of firmly compacted mid-orangey yellow sandy gravel	V
1010	L	Mid to dark greyish brown clay silt, with occasional gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions	V
1011	F	Mid-brown clay silt with gravel and charcoal inclusions –fill of [1011]	V
1012	C	Cut of beamslot [1011]	V
1013	L	Compacted mid-orangey yellow sandy gravel	V
1014	L	Mid to dark brown clay silt with occasional gravel inclusions	V
1015	L	Mid to pale yellow fine sandy gravels	V
1016	L	Mid-grey clay silt	V
1017	S	Wall footing composed of unworked clunch blocks bonded with pale greyish brown clay	V
1018	C	Cut for wall [1017]	V

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1019	L	Compacted mid-orangey yellow sandy gravel	V
1020	L	Mid to dark brown clay silt with occasional gravel inclusions	V
1021	L	Demolition horizon consisting of lime mortar, plaster and CBM fragments	V
1022	L	Mid-brownish grey clay silt	V
1023	S	Wall footing composed of unworked clunch blocks bonded with pale yellow sandy lime mortar	V
1024	C	Cut for wall [1023]	V
1025	L	Mid-brown sandy silt with occasional CBM fragment inclusions	V
1026	L	Mid to dark grey clay silt with ash, charcoal and CBM fragment inclusions	V
1027	L	Lens of dense ash and charcoal	V
1028	L	Mid-greyish brown silt with frequent ash and charcoal inclusions	V
1029	L	Yellow sandy lime mortar with occasional CBM fragment inclusions	V
1030	L	Mid-greyish brown clay silt with occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	V
1031	L	Dense off-white clay with finely laminated silt and ash lenses	V
1032	L	Mid-brownish grey silty clay with clunch, gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions	V
1033	L	Compacted pale yellow sandy lime mortar	V
1034	L	Dense pale grey clay with very few inclusions	V
1035	L	Mid-greyish brown clay silt with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions	V
1036	F	Mid-brown clay silt with gravel and charcoal inclusions –fill of [1037]	V
1037	C	Cut of beamslot	V
1038	L	Off-white clay floor remnant	V
1039	L	Mid-grey clay silt with fine laminations and frequent charcoal inclusions – probable trample deposit	V
1040	L	Dense off-white clay floor surface	V
1041	L	Mid-grey clay silt with fine laminations and frequent charcoal inclusions – probable trample deposit	V
1042	L	Dense off-white clay floor surface	V
1043	L	Pale yellow friable sandy gravel	V
1044	L	Mid-brown sandy silt with frequent gravel and CBM fragments inclusions	V



Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1045	L	Pale brown sandy silt	V
1046	C	Cut of probable robber pit	V
1047	F	Pale yellowish-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions - fill of [1046]	V
1048	F	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions – fill of [1046]	V
1049	L	Lens of yellowish-orange sand	V
1050	L	Dark greyish-brown silty sand occasional gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions	V
1051	L	Mid greyish-orange friable sandy silt	V
1052	S	Wall footing composed of unworked clunch blocks and red bricks bonded with pale yellow sandy lime mortar	V
1053	C	Cut for wall [1053]	V
1054	S	Wall footing composed of squared and unworked clunch blocks bonded with pale yellow sandy lime mortar, with lower banded off-white clay footing	V
1055	C	Cut for wall [1054]	V
1056	F	Mid-greyish yellow silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions – fill of [1059]	V
1057	F	Mid-orangey brown silty sand with occasional CBM fragment and gravel inclusions – fill of [1059]	V
1058	F	Off white compacted clunch fragments	V
1059	C	Cut of large pit – robbing?	V
1060	L	Lens of friable orange sand	V
1061	L	Pale greyish brown silty clay	V
1062	L	Dark brown clay silt with occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	V
1063	L	Mid-grey silty clay with rare gravel inclusions	V
1064	L	Dark brown sandy silt with occasional CBM and clunch fragment inclusions	V
1065	L	Dark brown sandy clay silt	V
1066	L	Lens of friable orange sand	V
1067	L	Mixed mid-greyish brown and yellowish-brown sandy silt with frequent gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	V
1068	L	Pale greyish brown silty clay	V
1069	L	Mid-grey silty clay with occasional to frequent clunch and CBM fragment inclusions	V
1070	L	Pale greyish-brown silty clay, with occasional to rare gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	V

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1071	S	Unworked rubble-cored wall with red brick facing – represents wall of 15th century bakehouse	II
1072	C	Cut for wall [1071]	II
1073	L	Dark brown to black silt with frequent ash and charcoal inclusions	V & VI
1074	F	Early 20th-century cast iron water pipe – fill of [1076]	VI
1075	F	Pale greyish-brown with occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions – fill of [1075]	VI
1076	C	Cut for early 20th-century water pipe	VI
1077	L	Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with frequent cobbles forming remnant of probable surface	VI
1078	L	Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions	VI
1079	F	Mid-greyish brown clay silt with occasional clunch and CBM fragment inclusions – fill of [1081]	VI
1080	F	Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional to rare clunch and CBM fragment inclusions – fill of [1081]	VI
1081	C	Cut of probable pit	VI
1082	L	Pale greyish brown sandy silt with occasional clunch and CBM fragment inclusions	VI
1083	F	Mid-greyish brown clay silt with rare gravel inclusions – fill of [1084]	VI
1084	C	Cut of small pit	VI
1085	L	Mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions	VI
1086	L	Dark brown to black silty sand with frequent ash and charcoal inclusions	VI
1087	L	Pale greyish brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions	VI
1088	L	Pale greyish brown lime mortar with lenses of fine silt trample	VI
1089	L	Mid-greyish brown clay silt with occasional to frequent	VI
1090	L	Mid-greyish brown silty sand with off-white clay mottles and occasional gravel and CBM inclusions	VI
1091	L	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	VI
1092	L	Pale yellowish brown sandy lime mortar with pea grit inclusions	VI
1093	L	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional to rare charcoal inclusions	VI
1094	L	Pale greyish brown silty sand with occasional gravel, charcoal and CBM inclusions	VI
1095	L	Pale grey clay silt with rare gravel inclusions	VI
1096	F	Mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional to frequent gravel inclusions – fill of [1097]	VII

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1097	C	Cut of WWII air raid shelter	VII
1098	F	Friable mid-brown sandy silt with mortar fleck, CBM fragments and gravel inclusions – fill of [1101]	VII
1099	F	Friable greyish brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions – fill of [1101]	VII
1100	F	Dark greyish brown sandy silt – fill of [1101]	VII
1101	C	Cut of WWII feature associated with [1097] – possibly robbing of entrance stair?	VII
1102	F	Mid-brownish grey silty sand with frequent gravel and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions – fill of [1106]	VI
1103	F	Mid-brown silty sand with frequent gravel and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions – fill of [1106]	VI
1104	F	Dark greyish-brown silty sand with gravel and CBM fragment inclusions – fill of [1106]	VI
1105	F	Grey concrete with CBM hardcore inclusions – fill of [1106]	VI
1106	C	Cut of WWII-related feature	VI
1107	L	Firm mid yellow sandy gravel	VI
1108	L	Banded/laminated deposit consisting of mid-brown silty sand with lenses of black sandy silt and dark reddish brown clay silt with frequent burnt CBM and charcoal fleck inclusions	VI
1109	L	Heterogeneous deposit of pale bluish grey clay with lenses of pale yellow lime mortar and occasional gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	VI
1110	L	Banded deposit consisting of dark brown sandy silt interleaved with lenses of pale yellow sand and mid to pale grey silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions	VI
1111	L	Pale grey silty sand with frequent gravel inclusions	VI
1112	L	Compacted pale blue clay – possible floor surface?	VI
1113	L	Dark grey sandy silt with frequent gravel and rare mortar and charcoal inclusions	VI
1114	L	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel and occasional CBM fragment inclusions	VI
1115	L	Flat laid reused peg-tiles – possibly used as make-up for a floor?	VI
1116	L	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel and charcoal inclusions	VI
1117	L	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional bluish grey clay mottles	VI
1118	L	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and mortar fleck inclusions	VI
1119	F	Pale greyish-brown sandy silt with frequent Collyweston stone roof tile inclusions – upper fill of [1120]	VI
1120	C	Cut of deep feature – possibly a well?	VI

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1121	L	Mid grey sandy silt with frequent mortar fragment inclusions	VI
1122	L	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and mortar fleck inclusions	VI
1123	F	Mid to pale greyish-brown sandy silt with frequent mortar fragment inclusions – fill of [1124]	VI
1124	C	Cut of probable pit	VI
1125	L	Mid grey sandy silt with frequent clunch fragment and rare CBM fragment inclusions	VI
1126	F	Dark greyish-black sandy silt with frequent gravel and charcoal fleck inclusions – fill of [1127]	VII
1127	C	Cut of WWII air raid shelter	VII
1128	L	Dark brown to black sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions	VI
1129	L	Friable dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions	VI
1130	L	Dense gravel band in matrix of dark brown sandy silt	VI
1131	L	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent mortar flack and gravel inclusions	VI
1132	L	Dark brown to black sandy silt with frequent charcoal inclusions	VI
1133	L	Black sandy silt with rare gravel inclusions	VI
1134	S	Clunch-built wall footed bonded with sandy yellow lime mortar with frequent pea grit inclusions	VI
1135	C	Cut for wall [1134]	VI
1136	S	Brick rebuild of roof of soakaway [1138]	IV
1137	S	Brick rebuild of soakaway [1138]	IV
1138	S	Original brick and clunch/limestone build of ?17th century soakaway	IV
1139	F	Mid to pale brown finely laminated silty clay with very few inclusions – fill of soakaway [1138]	IV
1140	F	Dark brown organic silty clay with fine banded laminations – fill of soakaway [1138]	IV
1141	F	Mid brownish-grey clay silt with very fine laminations and rare pea grit inclusions – fill of soakaway [1138]	IV
1142	L	Compacted pale yellow sandy lime mortar layer outside chapel	I
1143	L	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions – upper backfill inside antechapel	I
1144	L	Mid-grey sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusion – lower backfill inside antechapel	I
1145	L	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusions – upper backfill of chapel's porch	I
1146	L	Mid-grey sandy silt with frequent gravel inclusion – backfill of chapel's porch	I

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1147	L	Relatively loose mid brownish-yellow mortar and mid grey-brown sandy silt demolition layer infilling bakehouse	II
1148	L	Pale greyish yellow trampled mortar with occasional CBM fragments – demolition horizon associated with chapel's porch	I
1149	L	Flagstone floor remnant in antechapel, bedded upon firm pale-yellow lime mortar	I
1150	L	Grey brown sandy silt, with frequent gravel and mortar and rare charcoal and CBM inclusions	II
1151	L	Dark grey silty clay, with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions	II
1152	S	Unworked rubble-cored wall with red brick facing – wall of 15th century bakehouse	II
1153	C	Cut of wall [1152]	II
1154	L	Firmly compacted pale brown mottled clay laminated floor surface within bakehouse	II
1155	L	Coarse sandy pale brown lime mortar levelling infill in bakehouse floor	II
1156	L	Coarse sandy pale brown lime mortar make-up layer beneath clay floor [1154]	II
1157	S	Footing for internal subdivision in former bakehouse, composed of unworked mortared clunch and red brick	II
1158	C	Cut of wall [1157]	II
1159	S	Unworked rubble-cored wall with red brick facing – wall of 15th century bakehouse	II
1160	C	Cut of wall [1159]	II
1161	L	Mid to pale brownish grey clay silt with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions	II
1162	L	Dark grey brown clay silt with occasional gravel and charcoal inclusions	II
1163	L	Coarse sandy pale brown lime mortar with laminations of fine grey silt	II
1164	L	Thin pale yellowish-brown mortar layer overlying clay floor – bedding for robbed tile floor?	II
1165	L	Mid-brownish grey clay silt with occasional gravel, charcoal and CBM fragment inclusions	II
1166	S	Unworked rubble-cored wall with red brick facing	-
1167	C	Cut of wall [1166]	-
1168	L	Grey brown sandy silt, with frequent gravel and mortar and rare charcoal and CBM inclusions	-
1169	L	Backfill of chapel (as 1143)	I
1170	S	Brick-built square footing, seen only in section	VI
1171	O	Finds recovered from one cubic metre sample of spoilheap in Area V	V
1172	O	Unstratified moulded stone fragments recovered from spoilheap	-

Context No.	Type	Description	Area
1173	O	Near complete roof tile recovered from spoilheap near bakehouse	II
1174	O	Finds number for material recovered soakaway [1138]	IV
2000	O	Unstratified finds from planting bed in Master's Garden	III
2001	L	Dark brown humic topsoil	III
2002	F	Mixed and heterogeneous mid to dark brown clay silt with lenses of yellow gravel and modern CBM fragment inclusions – fill of [2003]	III
2003	C	Cut of modern disturbance	III
2004	L	Dark brown clay silt with occasional gravel inclusions	III
2005	L	Mid-brown clay silt with lenses of off-white mortar and gravel	III
2006	L	Mid-brownish grey clay silt with frequent gravel and CBM fragment inclusions	III
2007	L	Off-white lime mortar with moderate gravel inclusions – bedding for robbed surface?	III
2008	L	Tiled floor surface, composed of 8 inch square coarse red earthenware tiles	III
2009	S	Red brick and lime mortar footing, with some render still adhering	III
2010	S	Yellow brick boundary wall of St Botolph's churchyard	III
2011	F	Loose CBM rubble in friable off-white mortar matrix – infill of shaft of well [2013]	III
2012	F	Dense pale blue mottled clay – construction backfill of well [2013]	III
2013	C	Cut of well into floor of former tennis court	III

## OASIS FORM

<b>OASIS ID: cambridg3-303775</b>	
<b>Project details</b>	
Project name	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
Short description of the project	An archaeological excavation was undertaken across New Court and in the Master's Garden of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, during the installation of an electricity substation and associated cable trenching. Although the exposures were limited in extent, structural remains associated with a number of former college buildings were encountered. These included the chapel (1579-1823), bakehouse (c. 1474-1823) and tennis court (c. 1569-1823). Also encountered were remains associated with the medieval St Bernard's Hostel and post-medieval Dolphin Inn. All of these structures were demolished when present-day New Court was established
Project dates	Start: 26-07-2017 End: 18-08-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ECB5308 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	CCG17 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	WALLS Post Medieval
Monument type	FLOORS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	JETTON Medieval
Investigation type	"Part Excavation", "Salvage Record", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
Postcode	CB2 1RH
Study area	121.9 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 4486 5817 52.202269892023 0.119999526614 52 12 08 N 000 07 12 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 4m Max: 7.6m
<b>Project creators</b>	
Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Alison Dickens
Project director/manager	Alison Dickens
Project director/manager	Chris Evans

Project supervisor	Richard Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store
Physical Archive ID	CCG17
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Metal","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store
Digital Archive ID	CCG17
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Metal","other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Archaeology Store
Paper Archive ID	CCG17
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Metal","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Section","Survey "
<b>Project bibliography</b>	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	New Court and Master's Garden, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: An Archaeological Investigation
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