

Land to the East of Dean Clarke House,  
Southernhay, Exeter, Devon

Centred on NGR SX 9235 9238

Results of archaeological excavation

Planning ref. Exeter City Council 11/1816/03, condition 6

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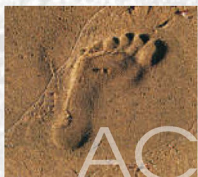
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On behalf of  
GJR Architects Ltd

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AC archaeology

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## Summary

*An archaeological excavation on land to the east of Dean Clarke House, Southernhay, Exeter (centred on NGR SX 9235 9238) was undertaken by AC archaeology during August and September 2013 in advance of construction for a hotel. Four areas were excavated.*

*Four Romano-British pits contained pottery dating from the 1st to the 4th centuries. A collection of postholes on the east side of the site did not form any obvious pattern and were not associated with any finds but their location and form may indicate that they are associated with the Iron Age settlement revealed during the construction of the adjacent Law Courts building.*

*Post-medieval stone boundary walls, wash house related to the Dean Clarke House Hospital and a small building probably related to Wynard's Almshouses were also recorded along with a number of drains and pits of the same broad date.*

*In addition to a small assemblage of prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval pottery a large assemblage of post-medieval pottery was recovered, along with glass, clay tobacco pipes, animal bones and ceramic building material.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION (Fig. 1)

- 1.1 This document sets out the results of an archaeological excavation carried out between 2nd August and 27th September 2013 in advance of the construction of a hotel on land to the east of Dean Clarke House, Southernhay, Exeter, Devon (centred on SX 9235 9238). The work was required under condition 6 of the grant of planning permission (Exeter City Council reference 11/1816/03). Guidance on the scope of the archaeological investigations was provided by the City Archaeologist.
- 1.2 The excavation was carried out by AC archaeology and was commissioned by GJR Architects Ltd on behalf of Trathen Properties Ltd.
- 1.3 The site is located in former staff car parks to the east of Dean Clarke House, at the rear of the property. The car parks formed two distinctive areas – a higher car park behind the building and at the same height as its wings, and a lower eastern car park. The former was situated at a height of between 34.6m and 35m aOD, whilst the east car park sloped downhill to the south-east from approximately 33m to 30m aOD. The car parks were constructed on the sites of former hospital buildings, the most significant being a 1950s radiography laboratory located within the eastern car park. It is bounded to the west by Dean Clarke House, to the east by the Law Courts with its access road to the north, and to the south the medieval Wynards Almshouses and the later Quaker Meeting House.
- 1.4 The underlying geology comprises Alphington breccia and the earlier Whipton formation, overlain by blanket head and regolith, along with deposits of the fifth river terrace. These alluvial deposits are represented by bands of gravel and red sand.

### 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 During the construction of the adjacent Law Courts, which were built on land formerly occupied by the hospital, part of an Iron Age enclosure containing a round house was excavated (Stead 2004). Ditches of a similar date were also found, as was a significant assemblage of South

Western Decorated (or Glastonbury) pottery. Residues from two of the pots were radiocarbon dated to 350-40BC.

- 2.2 The site lies outside the South Gate of the Roman and medieval city of Exeter. This is known to have been an area of extramural activity in both periods, and it is thought to have been occupied by the 17th-century Civil War defences of the City. First-century AD structures, possibly from an extramural compound, were located nearby at the Acorn Roundabout in 1988-89, and during excavations in 1974 before the construction of Keble House where a wattle-lined well containing 1st-century pottery was also found. The latter site may relate to a dependant civil settlement (*canabae*) associated with the fortress (Collings 2000). Further Roman features, of 1st/2nd-century date, were excavated during the construction of the Law Courts (Stead 2004).
- 2.3 Historic mapping presented in an archaeological assessment of the Law Courts (Collings 2000), which also included the eastern part of the current development area, depicts much of the site as gardens. During construction of the Law Courts, extensive and deep deposits of 18th and 19th century cultivation soil were exposed across the site (Stead 2004).
- 2.4 Until the late 19th century only the western part of the site adjacent to Dean Clarke House had been developed, and even then only on a small scale. Dean Clarke House was constructed in 1741 as the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. Expansion of the hospital over this land started in the 1890s and continued until the 1950s. All of the hospital buildings to the rear of Dean Clarke House have subsequently been demolished. In 2006 an archaeological and historic buildings assessment of Dean Clarke House was prepared by Oxford Archaeology (Oxford Archaeology 2006). This assessment concluded that archaeological deposits may survive in undisturbed ground, and within pockets below areas of previous disturbance.
- 2.5 In 2008 an archaeological evaluation of Dean Clarke House was carried out by Exeter Archaeology (Passmore 2008); this included land to the west of the present site. This project demonstrated that archaeological features, although not extensive, survive at depths of between 1.40m and 2.60m in the central car park, and between 1.70m and 2.09m in the eastern car park. With the exception of the majority of the area occupied by the radiography laboratory in the centre of the eastern car park, there is potential for archaeological deposits to survive throughout the site. Some of the exposed features were dated to the 18th and 19th centuries. Others however either contained no dating evidence or were inaccessible due to site conditions and therefore may be of earlier date. It was suggested that at least some of these features may be associated with the prehistoric/Romano-British occupation activity identified during excavations at the nearby Law Courts site.

### 3. AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the work were to monitor the groundworks during the initial ground reduction and to carry out a strip, map and sample excavation of the underground car park and associated ramp to excavate and record any archaeological deposits, features and finds exposed, and analyse and report on the results and finds as appropriate.

### 4. METHODOLOGY (Fig. 1)

- 4.1 The scope of the study has followed the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Passmore 2013). The excavation was undertaken in four separate areas as they became available during the construction work (Fig. 1). The work comprised the machine stripping of soil overburden

under the control and direction of the site archaeologist. Archaeological features identified in the stripped areas were excavated by hand.

- 4.2** Following discussions with the City Archaeologist identified later post-medieval features were mapped but not excavated. This phase in the site's history is briefly summarised within this report.
- 4.3** All features and deposits revealed were recorded using the standard AC archaeology pro-forma recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2* (revised August 2012). Detailed sections or plans were produced at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. All levels relate to Ordnance Datum.

**5. RESULTS – AREA 1** (Detailed plan Fig. 2, Plate 1)

- 5.1** This area of approximately 10 by 12m had been heavily disturbed by modern services and construction of the radiography building that formed the western side of the area. Modern levelling deposits (context 101) consisting of tarmac, concrete and hardcore was encountered to a depth of approximately 1m below the surface. Below this was a buried cultivation soil (101) up to approximately 0.8m thick was present above the natural subsoil (103). A number of stone (F107), brick (F104 and F106) and concrete (F105) features were exposed beneath the rubble all of which were of post-medieval and modern date.

**6. RESULTS – AREA 2** (Detailed plan Fig. 3 and sections Fig. 4; Plates 2-7)

- 6.1** This area was located on the west side of the site and had maximum dimensions of 32m E-W and 29m N-S. The car park in this location had been on two levels and separated by a revetment wall consisting of ceramic building material (CBM), concrete, slate, breccia and trap stone. The two levels were joined by a concrete ramp. The car park surfaces were laid on made ground (200) consisting of tarmac, concrete and hardcore, and this was encountered to a depth of approximately 0.3m in the lower car park area and up to 1.2m below the upper car park surface. Below this was a levelling layer (201) up to 1m thick containing large amounts of 18th to 20th century CBM, pottery, animal bone, clay tobacco pipe and rubble. This layer was cut by the brick and concrete footings of the former modern hospital buildings. Below this was a buried cultivation soil (202 = 101), measuring up to approximately 0.8m thick, that was above the natural subsoil (203) which was cut by several features. The features and structural remains related to post-medieval and modern use of the site are discussed in Section 10.5, with the several cut features of earlier date discussed in detail here.

**6.2 Linear features**

Gully F241 was northwest to southeast aligned. It was exposed to a length of 11.6m and measured 1m wide and 0.3m deep. It had a V-shaped profile and contained a single fill (242) consisting of yellow brown friable sandy clay with well-sorted sub-rounded gravels. There were no finds but the fill was unlike later features and may relate to earlier activity on the site.

Deposit 252 was unexcavated but was a northwest to southeast aligned linear which was approximately 8m long and 1.1m wide, and may be contemporary with F241.

### 6.3 Pits

Pit F237 was circular and measured 1.15m in diameter and 0.9m deep with vertical sides and a slightly concave base. It had a single fill (238) which comprised mid grey-brown friable silty clay. It contained Romano-British pottery and animal bone.

Pit F2123 was sub-square and measured 1.4m by 1.3m and 0.97m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. It contained five fills (2124-2128). Secondary fills (2124-2126) contained pottery of Romano-British date.

Pit F2130 was sub-circular measuring 1.4m by 1.3m and 0.84m deep with steep sides and a flat base. It contained distinct deposits of waste (2132-2136, 2138-2140) and capping deposits of sandy clay (2131 and 2137). Deposits 2133 and 2138 contained Romano-British pottery.

Pit F2147 was sub-circular measuring 0.77m by 0.62m and 0.51m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (2148) of mixed waste and re-deposited natural and a capping or levelling deposit (2149) of sandy clay loam, which contained pottery of Romano-British date. Adjacent pit F2150 was sub-circular measuring 0.67m by 0.59m and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a slightly concave base. It contained two fills (2151 and 2152). Basal fill 2151 consisted of reddish brown compact sandy clay 0.1m thick. The remainder of the pit contained a deposit (2152) of mid green brown friable sandy clay loam with moderate gravel and occasional tabular pebbles (> 100mm). This fill contained prehistoric pottery which must be residual as it also contained clay tobacco pipe.

## 7. RESULTS – AREA 3 (Detailed plan Fig. 3; Plate 8)

7.1 Area 3 was located in the northwest corner of the site and was irregularly shaped and had maximum dimensions of 20m E-W and 15m N-S. The car park surface was on made ground (300) consisting of tarmac, concrete and hardcore to a depth of approximately 0.5m. Below this was a levelling layer (301) up to 0.6m thick. This layer was cut by the services relating to the former modern hospital buildings. Below this was a buried cultivation soil (302) to approximately 0.7m thick above the natural subsoil (203) which showed more variety when compared with Areas 1 and 2, with clays, river gravels, sandstone outcropping and degraded breccia. The area contained several structures and cut features, the majority of the latter being service trenches, relating to the post-medieval and modern use of the site (see Section 10.5). Features from earlier phases are described in detail below.

### 7.2 Pits

Pit F354 was 0.5m in diameter and 0.4m deep with very steep sides and a flat base. It contained two fills (355 and 356) with no finds. This is a possible posthole and was located beneath boundary wall F352.

Pit F357 was adjacent to pit F354 and oval in shape and measured 0.7m by 0.4m and was 0.3m deep with fairly steep sides. It contained a single fill (358) with no finds. It was cut by pit F354.

## 8. RESULTS – AREA 4 (Detailed plan Fig. 2; Plates 9-10)

8.1 Area 4 was located in the northeast corner of the development area and was sub-rectangular with maximum dimensions of 12m E-W by 22m N-S. It was covered with car park and modern made ground material to a depth of 1m below which was the previously described cultivation soil. In general Area 4 was much less disturbed by post-medieval and modern activity with few

cuts evident in the cultivation soil, which covered the natural subsoil (403). Although they appear to have been very heavily truncated, several pits/postholes and linear features were observed cut into the natural subsoil and are described below.

## 8.2 Linear Features

Gully F408 was aligned northeast-southwest and traced over a distance of 6.4m and measured 0.5m wide and 0.08m deep. It had moderately steep sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (409) and no finds. It cut gully F410.

Gully F410 was aligned northwest-southeast and revealed over a length of 1.50m it measured 1.5m wide and 0.08m deep. It contained a single fill (411) and no finds. It is cut by gully F408.

## 8.3 Pits/postholes

Pit F404 was sub-oval and measured 1.4m by 0.55m and 0.05m deep. It contained a single fill (405) with no finds.

Pit F406 was sub-triangular with a maximum dimension of 0.56m and 0.08m deep. It had single fill (407) and no finds. The relationships and full extent of features in this part of the trench were very hard to discern but pit F406 appears to cut gully F408.

Pit F412 was not fully defined but appeared to be circular with a diameter of 0.74m and 0.06m deep. It had a flat base with a single fill (413) with no finds.

Posthole F415 was sub-oval and measured 0.5m by 0.3m and 0.3m deep. It had very steep sides and a flat base. It contained three fills, basal fill (416), post-packing material with common sub-rounded stones (418) and postpipe (417). There were no finds.

Pit F419 was circular with a diameter of 0.4m and 0.04m deep. It had a single fill (420) with no finds.

Pit F421 was circular with a diameter of 0.37m and 0.05m deep. It had a U-shaped profile. It had a single fill (422) with no finds.

Pit F424 was oval measuring 0.30m by 0.20m and 0.13m deep. It had a U-shaped profile. It had a single fill (423) with no finds.

Pit F426 was oval measuring 0.45m by 0.35m and 0.13m deep. It had a U-shaped profile. It had a single fill (425) with no finds.

Pit F428 was circular with a diameter of 0.47m and 0.23m deep. It had a U-shaped profile. It had two fills (429 and 430) with no finds.

Pit F432 was oval measuring 0.5m by 0.4m and 0.06m deep. It had a single fill (431) with no finds.

Pit F434 was circular with a diameter of 0.6m and 0.13m deep. It had a single charcoal-rich fill (433) with no finds.

Pit F436 was circular with a diameter of 0.3m and 0.1m deep. It had a single fill (437) with no finds.

Pit F438 was oval measuring 0.35m by 0.25m and 0.05m deep. It had a single fill (439) with no finds.

Pit F440 was circular with a diameter of 0.36m and 0.12m deep. It had a two fills (441 and 444) with no finds.

Pit F442 was circular with a diameter of 0.8m and 0.18m deep. It had a single fill (443) with no finds.

#### 8.4 Stones in hollows

Contexts F435/1-6 are a series of apparently inter-related stones in hollows or deliberate cuts. They do not appear to form a coherent pattern and none produced finds.

### 9. THE FINDS *by Kerry Kerr-Peterson with contributions by Henrietta Quinnell, Charlotte Coles and Paul Bidwell*

#### 9.1 Introduction

All finds recovered on site during the excavation were retained, cleaned and marked where appropriate. The assemblage consists of prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval pottery, CBM and animal bone, with a small amount of medieval pottery, glass, worked stone, shell and clay tobacco pipes. All of the finds are listed in Table 1.

Context	Context Description	Prehistoric Pottery	Roman Pottery	Medieval Pottery	Post-med Pottery	Cu alloy	Iron	Slag	Worked stone	Glass	Clay tobacco pipe	CBM	Animal bone	Slate	Shell
200	Made ground				4						1		1		
201	Levelling layers				93		2			4	11	7	51	1	7
202	Cultivation soil				46	1	1	1		4	15	4	26	10	14
204	Wall											1			
206	Wall				1								1		
207	Fill of F208				33					2		2	39		
209	Wall				1								1		
211	Fill of F210			2	72		3			38	38	7	41	36	5
212	Fill of F208			1	7										
213	Fill of F208				5								2		
218	Repairs in F204				3										
219	Fill of F210				133		4			5	7	30	113	6	3
220	Cobbles			1	5		4				3	1	3		
235	Fill of F236				12					5	18	13	30	1	1
238	Fill F237	1	26				3								
239	Deposit				3						1		3	1	
240	Fill of F2164				8		1				1	1	10	1	
250	Structure											3			
256	Fill of F255				2						1		7		
265	Drain				1							5			
266	Fill of F264											4	14	1	
269	Layer				2					2	1	3	1	4	
276	Layer													4	
281	Structure								1						
282	Deposit				1										
284	Fill of F283				1										
286	Fill of F288				3					2	5	2	3		
292	Fill of F291				9						4		1		
2109	Fill of F2108				4							6			
2114	Deposit				7							1			
2118	?garden feature														1
2119	?garden feature														
2121	Fill of F2122				1							1			
2123	Fills in F2123		8		1										
2124	Backfill of F2123		40												



2126	Backfill of F2123		1															
2129	Fill of F264																	
2130	Fills in F2130		4						1									
2133	Fill of F2130		77					2		1								1
2138	Fill of F2130		4															
2149	Fill of F2147		2															
2152	Fill of F2150	2									1							
302	Cultivation soil					23					2	2	4					
311	Deposit										1							
313	Fill of F312					3				9								
315	Fill of F314					5				2	2	1	1					
317	Fill of F316					7					2	3	4					3
319	Fill of F318					4					1		1					
326	Wall					1						1						
328	Fill of F327					1												
330	Fill of F324					1				1			1					
334	Fill of F332					4					1	2						
336	Fill of F335			1							1							
344	Wall					1					1							
345	?topsoil					1												
350	Fill of F349					1							2					
362	Fill of F361					1		6										
368	Fill of F367					20					2	3	3	9				
402	Cultivation soil									1								
427	Colluvium	1																
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>35</b>			

Table 1: All finds by type. CBM = Ceramic Building Material

## 9.2 Prehistoric Pottery by Henrietta Quinnell

A single sherd of either Middle or Late Iron Age was recovered from fill (238) of Roman pit F237. It comprises part of a lower wall and base of a highly fired vessel. Extensive use has almost worn away the burnishing; it has fresh breaks. It is possibly of an Upper Greensand Derived fabric.

A single small abraded body sherd of probable Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from colluvial layer (427). It has igneous inclusions suggesting a source in the area of Exeter volcanic material.

Two small body sherds of either Middle or Late Iron Age pottery in the Exeter Ludwell Valley fabric were recovered from the upper fill (2152) of pit F2150.

### Comment

The Middle Bronze Age sherd is not unexpected, given that a number of fields of this date have been found in the suburbs of Exeter as well as a house at Old Rydon Lane (e.g. Gilbert 2012).

The Ludwell Valley material is the only fabric found on the Middle Iron Age settlement on the adjacent Law Courts (Quinnell forthcoming a) and is therefore not unexpected.

Upper Greensand Derived fabrics are among those used in the recently recognised Late Iron Age Plain Ware fabrics at St Loye's, Exeter (Quinnell forthcoming b). The form of the base present is not closely dateable but as breaks appear to be fresh and there is Roman pottery in the feature, it is likely to be a Late Iron Age survival into the Roman period.

## 9.3 The Roman Pottery by Kerry Kerr-Peterson with contributions from Paul Bidwell

There are 162 pieces of Roman pottery weighing 4,556kg, derived from four pits and a total of eight contexts. A minimum number of approximately 45 vessels is represented. The pottery ranges in date from the 1st to the 4th century AD. The pottery is summarised by fabric in Table 2.

Cess pits F2130 and F2147 produced pottery ranging in date from the 1st to the early 2nd century AD. An almost complete South Western Black Burnished ware 1 counter-sunk handle Type 33 jar was recovered from context (2133) in F2130. This is represented by 66 body sherds and 6 rim sherds, including several large fragments, creating an almost complete profile. Both of the handles are present as is the complete base. This is an unusual example as there are thumb-marks above both of the handles rather than below them which is more common. It dates to the period from the mid first to the mid third century AD. This context also produced a sherd of South Gaulish samian dating to c. 50-110 AD. A single sherd of decorated samian Dragendorff (Dr) form 37 bowl came from context (2138) in F2130, which dates to c. 70-110 AD. A sherd of a small Dr form 27 cup came from context (2149) in F2147. This dates to c. 50-110 AD.

Cess pits F237 and F2123 are likely to be later and contain residual pottery dating from the 1st through to the 4th century AD. Context (238) in F237 produced four sherds of heavily abraded South Gaulish samian dating to c. 50-110 AD and a fragment of South Western Black Burnished Ware 1 counter sunk handle Type 33 jar, dating from the mid 1st to the mid 3rd century AD. This context also produced a sherd of Exeter Micaceous Grey Ware with incised grooves dating to c. 100–150 AD, 2 sherds of Nene Valley ware dating to the early 3rd to the early 4th century AD and a fragment of an African amphora which dates to the 4th century AD. Pit F2123 produced a similar range of pottery including a significant sherd of South Gaulish samian from a Dr form 18R rouletted dish from context (2126) (see Plate 11). The edges of the dish have been deliberately cut down for re-use and the dish displays the rare stamp of the maker Pastor, placing its manufacture in the La Graufesenque factory around 60-80 AD (Hartley 2011). Pit F2123 has also produced 3 sherds of South Gaulish samian including Dr form 29 bowls dating to c. 43-75 AD and several rim sherds of South Western and Dorset Black Burnished ware that can be dated to the 1st century AD. Context (2124) also produced one sherd of Oxfordshire imitation samian cup dating to the early 3rd to the early 4th century AD and a sherd of Nene Valley ware dating to the early 2nd to the early 4th century AD.

Context	SW BB1	Dorset BB1	Amphorae	Plain Samian	Decorated Samian	Samian undiagnostic	NV	SD	Ox. CC	Exeter Mic.	Undiagnostic	
238	9	6	1	4			2			1	3	26
Mixed fills within F2123			8									8
2124	6	14	13		2	1	1		1		2	40
2126				1								1
Mixed fills within F2130			3									4
2133	72	3		1				1				77
2138			2		1						1	4
2149	1			1								2
Totals	88	23	27	7	3	1	3	1	1	1	7	162

Table 2: Roman pottery summarised by fabric. Abbreviations: SWBB1= South Western Black Burnished Ware 1, BB1= Dorset Black Burnished Ware 1, NV= Nene Valley Ware, SD= South Devon Ware, Ox. CC= Oxfordshire Colour Coated Ware, Exeter Mic= Exeter Micaceous Ware

#### 9.4 Roman Ceramic Building Material

There are 9 fragments of Roman ceramic building material (1,114g) from 7 contexts. These are fragmentary and abraded. The assemblage is summarised in Table 3.

Context	No.	Description
201	1	1 abraded tegula, light orange fabric with adhering white lime mortar, with a c.40mm flange
202	1	1 undiagnostic, mid orange fabric.
250	2	2 flat tile, incl. 1 poss. tegula, mid orange streaky fabric
266	2	1 possible bessalis, 1 flat tile, light orange fabric, 45mm+ thick
302	1	1 undiagnostic, poss. tegula. Light orange micaceous fabric with buff clay lumps.
315	1	1 imbrex, streaky light orange fabric with lumps of buff clay.
2124	1	1 flat tile, mid orange slightly streaky fabric with mid grey/brown surface.

Table 3: Summary of Roman ceramic building material

Most of the material is residual apart from a piece of flat tile from the deliberate backfill (2124) of pit F2123. There is no evidence of stamps, decoration or graffiti. There are 4 fabrics represented.

#### 9.5 Fired Clay

Two pieces of undiagnostic fired clay (8g) were recovered from cess pit fill (2133).

#### 9.6 Medieval Pottery

There are 5 sherds of late medieval pottery (71g), derived from 4 contexts. These are all residual. There is a noted absence of earlier medieval pottery within the assemblage which all dates to the period of the 14th–15th centuries. The medieval pottery is summarised in Table 4 below.

Context	No	Description
211	2	1 reduced fabric green glazed jug with incised horizontal line decoration 14–15C. 1 oxidised fabric green glazed jug, prob. SS with incised line decoration 14–15C
212	1	Prob. SS oxidised light green glazed jug 14–15C
220	1	SS jug strap handle with stabbed decoration 14–15C
336	1	1 SS jug base 14–15C

Table 4: Summary of medieval pottery. Abbreviations: SS= South Somerset, 14C= 14th century

The assemblage consists entirely of green glazed, late medieval jug fragments, mostly derived from the Blackdown Hills region of Somerset.

#### 9.7 Post-medieval Pottery

There are 546 sherds of post-medieval pottery (15,908.6kg), recovered from 45 contexts. These range widely in date from the 16th century through to the 19th century. Table 5 is a catalogue of the post-medieval pottery with a summary of the fabrics.

Context	No	Description
Unstratified	1	SS jug handle, c. 18-19C.
102	1	Delft ware jelly mould with hand painted blue floral design, c. 18C.
110	5	1 SS slipware pancheon base, c. 18-19C. 1 flower pot, 3 ind. WW c. post 1870. MNV=5. Context date post 1870.
200	4	Residual - 1 SS copper green glazed chamber pot rim c. 18C, 1 SS with copper green speckles c. 18C, 1 NDGT c. 18C. 1 ind. WW c. 19C+. MNV=4. Context date 19C+.
201	93	Residual - 1 scratch blue SW base c. 1735-1775. 1 Westerwald SW c. after 1680. 19 NDGT, incl. pancheon base, MNV=5 c. 18-19C. 40 SS incl. 23 body sherds, 8 bases, 7 rims & 2 handles, incl. 2 pieces of a slipware dish, 1 chamber pot & 2 jugs, 1 copper speckled decoration & 1 thumb impressed exterior pancheon rim, MNV=c. 20, c. 18-19C. 1 Staff, salt glazed white SW c. post 1760. 2 cream ware MNV=1 c. after 1770. 1 SW James Keiller marmalade jar 19C. 2 SW c. 19C.6 blue transfer printed MNV=4, post 1870. 2 ind. WW, MNV=2 c. 19C+. 18 flower pot MNV=3. Context date 19C+.

202	33	Residual - 1 Ex. fabric jug handle c. 16-17C. 1 unknown fabric jug spout c. 16-17C. 3 Westerwald SW tankard incl. complete base c. 17C. 1 NDGT c. 18C. 17 SS incl. 1 c. 17-18C, 1 slipware dish, 1 tankard base, 1 pancheon rim, 1 copper green glaze body sherd, 1 beaker rim & 1 small jug handle MNV=17 c. 18 - 19C. 2 Staff, salt glazed white SW MNV=1, c. post 1760. 1 condiment jar of P & H Luke of Exeter c. 19C. 2 ind, WW MNV=1, c. 19C. 1 ceramic drain pipe. 5 flower pot MNV= c. 3, c. 18-19C. Context date 19C+.
206	1	1 NDGT jar base with adhering mortar, c. 18-19C.
207	33	Residual - 2 raeren SW drinking jug handle MNV=2 c. 1481-1610. 1 frechen SW drinking jug c. 16-17C. 1 Ex. Fab jug body sherd, c. 16-17C. 1 body sherd border ware c. 16-17C. 28 SS incl. 22 body sherds, 3 rims & 2 handles incl. a square pan MNV= c. 20, c. 17C. Context date c. 17C.
209	1	1 SS jar base c. 18-19C.
211	72	Residual - 1 frechen SW drinking jug handle c. 16-17C. 2 Westerwald SW incl. 1 tankard rim MNV= 2, c. 1650-1725. 1 North Devon sgraffito dish c. 18C. 2 SS sgraffito dish, 1 with copper green glaze, MNV= 2, c. mid 17C. 2 NDGT incl. 1 rim, MNV=2, c. 18C. 1 Staff, salt glazed white SW MNV=1, c. post 1760. 2 delft ware incl. 1 hand painted blue design, MNV=2, c. 18C. 32 SS incl. jug base c. 18 C, 1 copper green glaze c. 18C, 1 slipware dish, MNV=c. 15, c. 18-19C. 1 Staff yellow earthenware with comb slip decoration c. 1640-1750. 3 cream ware after 1770. 15 flower pot incl. 2 glazed pieces, MNV= c. 4, c. 18-19C. 7 ind. WW, incl. 1 with hand painted blue design c. 19-20C. 3 transfer printed ware c. post 1870. Context date after 1870.
212	7	5 NDGF incl. 1 jar rim with external incised line decoration, MNV=1 c. 17-18C. 2 unknown MNV=1.
213	5	3 NDGF jar, MNV=1 c. 17-18C. 2 unknown MNV= 1.
218	3	3 SS slipware dish with combed slip decoration MNV=1, c. 18C.
219	133	Residual - 1 raeren SW body sherd, c. 16 – 17C. 2 frechen SW, incl. 1 handle & rim, MNV=2, c. 16 – 17C. 2 Westerwald SW incl. 1 base & 1 rim MNV=1, c. after 1680. 7 SS sgraffito incl. 1 rim, 1 copper green glaze MNV=3, c. mid 17-18C. 1 TTPM body sherd, c. 17-18C. 8 NDGT incl. 2 conjoining rim sherds, MNV= 4, c. 1660-1700C. 11 NDGF incl. 1 chamber pot rim, MNV= 3, c. 17-18C. 3 ND sgraffito dish incl. rim MNV= 1, c. 18C. 1 yellow earthenware base, c. 18C. 94 SS incl. 1 near complete chamber pot, 1 spout, 2 rims & 1 jug handle MNV=c. 30, c. 17-18C. 2 SS slipware, 1 dish, 1 cup, c. 18-19C. 1 poss. Ex. Fab. Context date c. 18-19C
220	5	Residual - 1 Staff, yellow slipware cup handle, c. 1640-1750. 1 delft ware base with hand painted blue design, c. 18C. 3 SS incl. 1 rim & 1 handle MNV=3, c. 18-19C. Context date c. 18 – 19C
235	12	Residual - 1 border ware shell edged bowl rim c. 16-17C. 1 SS sgraffito dish with copper green glaze, c. mid 17C. 1 ND sgraffito with date 1675. 1 SS slipware c. 18C. 8 SS incl. handle c. 18-19C. Context date c. 18 – 19C
239	3	3 SS MNV=3 c. 18 – 19C
240	8	Residual - 1 frechen SW c. 16–17C. 5 SS incl. 1 jug base MNV=5 c. 18–19C. 1 flower pot. 1 NDGF c. 18–19C. Context date c. 18–19C.
256	2	Residual - 1 unknown fabric poss. c. 16 – 17C. 1 SS handle c. 17-18C. Context date c. 17–18C.
265	1	1 SS jug rim c. 17 – 18C.
269	2	Residual - 1 unknown fabric jug c. 16C. 1 SS slipware cup rim c. 18–19C. Context date c. 18–19C.
282	1	1 SS c. 18–19C.
284	1	1 delft ware blue sponge painted c. 18C.
286	3	2 SS incl. 1 copper green glaze c. 18C. 1 Staff salt glazed white SW c. after 1760. Context date 18C.
292	9	1 Westerwald SW base c. after 1680. 3 SS incl. 1 copper green glaze & 1 with bubbled glaze MNV=3, c. 18C. 3 Staff salt glazed white SW c. after 1760. 1 scratch blue SW c. 1735-1775. 1 delft ware with hand painted blue floral design c. 18C. Context date 18C.
297	8	Residual - 2 glazed jug with incised line decoration, poss. SS, MNV=1, c. 16-17C. 1 SS sgraffito dish c. 17C. 1 NDGF c. 17-18C. 4 SS incl. 2 black glazed c. 17–18C. Context date c. 17–18C
302	23	1 Westerwald with sprig floral design in cobalt blue c. 1650-1725. 1 delft ware hand painted with blue horizontal line decoration, c. 18 C. 21 flower pot with yellow glaze c. 18 - 19C. Context date c. 18–19C.
313	3	1 Staff yellow slipware with comb decoration c. 1640-1750. 2 flower pot. Context date c. 18C+.
315	5	1 delft ware with blue glaze & white painted design c. 18C. 1 NDGF rim c. 18 - 19C. 1 SS c. 18–19C. 2 flower pot c. 18–19C. Context date c. 18–19C.
317	7	Residual - 1 border ware c. after late 17C. 1 delft ware with hand painted blue floral design c. 18C. 1 Westerwald handle c. after 1680. 1 NDGF c. 18C. 1 SS waster with glaze over a break c. 18–19C. 2 flower pot c. 18–19C. Context date c. 18 – 19C.
319	4	Residual - 1 residual frechen SW jug base, c. 16 – 18C. 3 flower pot, 1 with glaze MNV=1, c. 18-19C. Context date c. 18 – 19C.
326	1	SS jar base c. 18 – 19C.
328	1	1 SS c. 18 – 19C.
330	1	1 unknown fabric c. post 1500.
334	4	1 bone china scrap c. 18C. 3 SS MNV=3, c. 18 – 19C.
344	1	1 NDGF with adhering lime mortar c. 18 – 19C.
345	1	SS slipware dish rim c. 18 – 19C.
350	1	NDGT c. 17 – 19C.
362	1	SS jar base c. 18 – 19C.

368	20	2 NDGF incl. flanged bowl rim c. 17C. 16 SS incl. jar rim MNV=c. 5 c. 17 – 18C. 2 SS sgraffito incl. bowl rim & dish MNV=2, c. 17 – 18C. Context date c. 17 – 18C.
2109	4	3 SS incl. 1 glazed jug with incised line decoration c. 17C, rest c. 18C, MNV=3. 1 flower pot. Context date c. 18C+.
2114	7	7 SS sgraffito dish, MNV=1, c. 17C.
2121	1	Delft ware with hand painted floral design in blue, red & green, c. 18C.
2123	1	NDGT c. 18 – 19C.

Table 5: Summary of post-medieval pottery fabrics. Abbreviations: SS=South Somerset, NDGT= North Devon gravel tempered, NDGF= North Devon gravel free, EX Fab= Exeter Fabric, Staff= Staffordshire, TTPMG= Totnes type post-medieval glazed, IND= industrially made, Sgra= sgraffito, SW= stoneware, FP= flower pot, Eng.= English.

There are 16 sherds that date to the 16th–17th centuries. These consist mostly of non-local wares such as German stonewares and border ware from the Hampshire/Surrey border. The majority of the early post-medieval sherds include Exeter fabrics and sgraffito dishes from South Somerset and North Devon. The majority of the assemblage consists of 18th–19th century South Somerset lead glazed earthenware, North Devon gravel-tempered or gravel-free wares and industrially produced material.

### 9.8 Medieval and Post-Medieval Ceramic Building Material

There are 90 pieces of medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM), weighing 7,899kg, from 23 contexts. The assemblage is fragmentary and contains a small amount of residual medieval material dating to the 13th-15th centuries. There are several pieces dating to the 16th–17th centuries, some of which are residual. The majority are industrially produced brick or pan tile fragments dating to the 18th–20th centuries. There are several undiagnostic pieces. The assemblage is summarised in Table 6.

There are 14 pieces of residual granite-derived, micaceous medieval material which consists mostly of flat tile fragments and 5 pieces of ridge tile, some with stabbed decoration dating to the 13th–15th centuries. There are 13 pieces dating to the 16th–18th centuries and these include one glazed floor tile and nine pieces of South Somerset derived glazed ridge tiles. The majority of the assemblage consists of industrially produced post-medieval material of 19th-20th century date.

Context	No.	Description
110	1	Undiag. flat tile, Post-med.
201	6	Residual - 1 micaceous flat tile c. 13 - 15C, 5 ind. tile 19C.
202	3	Residual - 1 micaceous flat tile c. 13 - 15C, 1 glazed flat tile c.17 - 18C 1 undiag. Ind. 19C.
204	1	1 glazed flat tile 17 – 18C.
207	2	1 SS glazed ridge tile 16 - 17C. 1 ind. flat tile with adhering gritty lime mortar c. post-med.
211	7	Residual - 2 undiag. flat tile post-med with remnant glaze 16 – 17C. 4 post-med inc. 1 pan roof tile & flat tile pieces, 1 almost complete floor tile with adhering lime mortar 19C. 1 undiag.
219	42	Residual – 7 SS ridge tile 16 - 18C, 1 flat tile with dark green glaze 16 - 17C 3 ind glazed flat tile 19C, 22 gritty inc. 2 ridge tile 19C. 5 ind. glazed flat tile 19C.
220	1	Residual - 1 floor tile with remnant greenish yellow glaze 16 - 17C.
235	1	Residual - 1 flat tile with greenish yellow glaze 16 - 17C.
240	1	1 gritty undiag. prob post-med.
250	1	1 complete handmade brick 18C.
265	5	Residual - micaceous ridge tile 13 - 15C.
266	2	2 undiag post-med.
269	3	Residual - 1 ridge SS ridge tile with green glaze 16 - 18C.
286	2	Post-med flat tile 18 - 19C.
302	1	Residual - 1 micaceous flat tile 13 - 15C.
317	3	2 post-med flat tile c. 19C, 1 undiag.

326	2	Ind. brick, one with adhering lime mortar c. 19C.
334	2	Ind. brick, one with adhering lime mortar c. 19C.
344	1	Post-med pan roof tile c. 19C.
368	3	Post-med, 1 handmade brick, 1 gritty flat tile & 1 undiag. c. 19C.
2109	2	2 undiag, incl. 1 gritty fabric.
2129	2	Post-med, undiag.

Table 6: Summary of ceramic building material. Abbreviations: Undiag= Undiagnostic, Post-med= Post-medieval, 13-15C= 13th–15th centuries, Ind= Industrial.

### 9.9 Mortar and Plaster

There are nine pieces of mortar (201g). All of the pieces are undiagnostic lumps of white lime mortar with common slate inclusions. These are all derived from contexts which contain post-medieval pottery and are likely to be 18th century or later.

A total of 19 fragments of plaster (1,382g) was recovered. There are 2 fabrics represented. The material from context (2154) is a white lime based plaster with common slate inclusions. The pieces from context (202) are mid reddish-brown and have a wider range of inclusions including some organic material. Almost all of the pieces have one flat side. There are no moulded pieces. The plaster is also likely to be later post-medieval in date.

### 9.10 Slate

There are 46 pieces of slate (6,490kg) from 11 contexts. These are all fragments of roof tile, most of which have nail holes. A total of 12 examples have more than one nail hole, with two having as many as three nail holes. Three of the pieces have been worked along the edges. Several of them are rectangular and there are several which are wider at the base. One small piece with no nail holes came from Roman cess pit F2130, context (2133).

### 9.11 Clay Tobacco Pipes by Charlotte Coles

There are 26 bowls and 99 stems from 24 different contexts with eight bowls complete enough for dating; 5 of these were dated from 1700-1770. The other three were late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. None of the bowls or heels had decoration or makers marks. One stem from fill (211) of pit F210 had incised decoration with flower and diamond designs and milling around the stem in several places. A bowl from deposit (219) had milling around its top. No mouthpieces were identified in the assemblage.

### 9.12 Glass

There are 85 pieces of glass (1,389kg) from 14 contexts. These include one piece of Roman and six fragments of medieval glass with the majority dating to the post-medieval period. The glass assemblage is summarised in Table 7 below.

Context	No.	Description
110	7	1 green bottle 18 - 19C, 1 moulded clear bottle base 19C & 5 post-med. clear window glass.
201	4	3 green bottle glass 18-19C, 1 clear moulded square bottle base 19C.
202	4	Residual - 1 corroded medieval window glass with one curved edge. 2 green bottle 18 - 19C. 1 Codd bottle neck post 1872.
207	2	Residual - 2 highly corroded medieval vessel glass incl. 1 cupped rim.
211	32	Residual - 1 corroded triangular piece of medieval window glass. 1 nearly complete round clear glass phial containing two iron objects, 18C. 29 green glass bottle incl. neck & rim dating to post 1765. 1 clear glass bottle 19C.
219	11	Residual - 11 green glass bottle incl. 1 neck 17 - 18C and neck & rim 1660-80.
269	2	Residual - 2 poss. corroded medieval window glass.
286	2	2 greenish post-med. Window glass
313	9	Clear window glass, post-med.
315	2	2 hand made greenish window glass, post-med

330	1	blue glass vessel 19C.
368	2	2 green bottle glass 18 -19C.
2133	1	Roman vessel glass.
2152	1	clear thin curved vessel glass, 17 - 18C.

Table 7: Summary of glass assemblage. Abbreviations: post-med= post-medieval, 18–19C etc.= 18th–19th century etc.

The assemblage contains one piece of flat Roman vessel glass from context (2133) of cess pit F2130. There are four pieces of residual medieval window glass. These are all highly corroded. The triangular piece from fill (211) of post-medieval rubbish pit F210 has been nibbled along all three sides. No decoration is visible. The majority of the glass is post-medieval in date and consist of green bottles dating to between the 17th–19th centuries and clear window glass.

### 9.13 Iron and Copper Alloy Objects

There are 24 pieces of iron (514g) and one copper alloy object (6g) recovered from 8 contexts. Three of the iron objects are Roman in date and the rest date to the post-medieval period. All of the metal objects are heavily corroded. These objects are summarised in Table 8 below.

The majority of the assemblage consists of iron objects. Most of these are nails. One copper alloy coin was recovered from cultivation soil (202). This is heavily corroded but is likely to be of late post-medieval or modern date. There are three iron nails and an iron rivet head which were recovered from fill (238) of Romano-British pit F237.

Context	No.	Description
201	2	1 Fe concave plate with one rounded end and a circular perforation at the rounded end. 1 Fe square flat plate. Post-med.
202	2	1 Fe nail with rectangular profile and missing head. 1 Cu alloy late post-med/modern coin. Post-med.
211	3	1 Fe hand-made nail with square profile, pointed end and sub-rounded head. 1 Fe bent piece of nail. 1 Fe flat structural piece. Post-med.
219	4	4 Fe hand-made nails with square profiles, 1 with a square head, 1 rounded, 2 missing head, 1 bent. Post-med.
220	4	3 hand-made Fe nails, square profiles, 2 with square heads, 2 bent. 1 long bent piece of Fe with circular profile. Post-med.
238	3	1 Fe rivet head. 1 hand-made Fe broken nail with circular profile & round head. 1 hand-made Fe nail with rounded head & profile. Roman.
240	1	1 hand-made Fe nail with rounded head & square profile. Post-med.
362	6	6 Fe conjoining pieces of cylindrical object. 1 hand-made nail with square profile & no head.

Table 8: Summary of iron and copper alloy objects. Abbreviations: Fe= Iron, Cu alloy= Copper alloy, Post-med= Post-medieval.

### 9.14 Slag

One piece of undiagnostic slag was recovered from a post-medieval cultivation soil (202). This has a flue ash element to it and a sandy concretion on one side. It is post-medieval in date.

### 9.15 Worked stone

There are 3 pieces of worked stone (26,935kg) from 3 contexts. One is a fragment of breccia from the mixed fills of cess pit F2130. This has two roughly faced sides and a flat face down one corner. The piece from structure (281) is a large architectural fragment of buff coloured limestone which has three faced sides and a notch running down one side which has vertical tooling marks on both surfaces. This is likely to be a door jamb of possible medieval origin. It has adhering white lime mortar.

### 9.16 **Animal bone** by *Charlotte Coles*

A total of 372 animal bones were retrieved from 27 contexts; of these 36% (135 fragments) of the bone is recordable. A total of 52 of the bones are modern and therefore not included in the following report. The remaining bones are all post-medieval. The bone condition varies greatly across the site. Species represented are cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse, dog and chicken. No wild animal species were noted.

#### Cattle

A total of 50 cattle bones was recovered, this represents a minimum number of individuals (MNI) of 2. Elements from all parts of the body are present; loose teeth are the most common cattle element recorded. Six of the cattle bones are unfused, the other bones are from mature individuals. Toothware analysis was not possible due to the fragmentary nature of the remains. Twenty-five of the cattle bones were butchered, the vast majority of the butchery marks are chop marks associated with meat removal and disarticulation. Knife marks were also recorded from a phalanx which indicates skinning.

#### Sheep/Goat

A total of 55 sheep/goat bones was recovered, which represents an MNI of 3. All parts of the body are present; loose teeth are the most common sheep/goat element recorded. All of the bones except two are fused. A single mandible stage of 15 (Higham 1967) was recorded, therefore one of the individuals was aged 26-28 months at time of death. Eleven of the sheep/goat bones were butchered, the majority of the butchery marks indicate disarticulation and meat removal. One is a chop through the base of a horncore, probably for removal of the horn sheave for working.

#### Pig

Only two pig bones were recovered; these are a scapula and a pelvis, which gives a MNI of 1. The remains were from an adult individual. Neither of these had butchery marks.

#### Horse

Only three horse bones were recovered; these are two radius and a femur, giving an MNI of 1. None of these bones had butchery marks.

#### Dog

A total of eight dog bones was recovered; seven of these were from ditch F236 and may represent a partial skeleton. The bones are all fused and therefore come from an adult animal.

#### Chicken

A total of four chicken bones was identified; these are two tibio-tarsus, an ulna and a humerus, which give a MNI of 1. The bones are from an adult individual and no butchery marks were seen.

### 9.17 **Shell**

There were 33 pieces of shell (355g) from 6 contexts. The majority of these are common oyster shells. There is one piece of mussel shell and five fragments of common cockle from levelling layer 201 and cultivation soil 202. All of the shell is derived from post-medieval contexts.

## 10. **DISCUSSION** (Fig. 6)

- 10.1 The excavation revealed a Romano-British phase along with minor prehistoric and medieval phases (Fig. 6). The majority of features on the site related to post-medieval and modern activity. These are discussed by phase below.



## 10.2 *Phase 1: Prehistoric*

The four sherds of prehistoric pottery dating from the Middle Bronze Age through to the Middle or Late Iron Ages were not in secure contexts. The Iron Age pottery in pit F237 is from a Romano-British context and may have survived to be used into this later period.

A possible prehistoric feature is gully F241 and this may be associated with the neighbouring unexcavated linear 252. There is no obvious function for these features, but they may relate to settlement or field boundaries. This may provide a context for the Middle Bronze Age pottery sherd as boundaries of this date have been discovered on the eastern suburbs of Exeter (e.g. Gilbert 2012) and Bronze Age pottery has previously been recovered from the excavations at the former Valiant Soldier a short distance to the southwest of the site (ECCHER10000).

Area 4 was located adjacent to the area of the Law Courts excavations which revealed Middle Iron Age settlement evidence (Stead 2004). A curving ditch formed an enclosure about 15m in diameter defining the settlement site. Located within this was a drip gully of a round house of 6-6.5m diameter, with further evidence of an associated cultivation system running from the enclosure in the form of a series of ditches possibly representing field or enclosure boundaries (ECCHER 11552, 11553, 11554). Although there were no finds, the mostly heavily truncated pits F404, F406 and F412 and posthole F415, and possible postholes F419, F421, F424, F426, F428, F432, F434, F436, F438, F440 and F442, along with gullies F408 and F410 may be associated with this period of settlement activity. There were no obvious patterns in the arrangement of the features although large possible postholes F432, F434 and F442 are N-S aligned over a distance of approximately 10m and this line also dissects the pair of possible postholes F424 and F426 (between F434 and F442). Possible postholes F421, F438 and F428 are aligned NE-SW over a distance of approximately 2m and F421 also forms the central post of close-set arc with F419 and F436. Also possibly related to prehistoric settlement was the peculiar series of apparently inter-related stones in hollows or deliberate cuts (contexts F435/1-6). They do not appear to form a coherent pattern and have no finds related with them.

## 10.3 *Phase 2: Romano-British*

Four large pits widely spaced in Area 2 were of Romano-British date. Pits F2130 and F2147 appear to have been cess pits with pottery indicating that they belong to Exeter's Roman military or early civil phases. These would have been located extra-mural to the legionary fortress but in close proximity to its south gate. The south gate of the legionary fortress was located c. 220m from the site and a Roman road, running southeast left the town at this point (ECCHER 10018). The site is therefore outside the area of the legionary fortress. However, evidence for associated civilian settlement has been recorded close by outside the fortress defences. Approximately 100m to the north of the site the 1974 excavations at Southernhay Gardens recorded the remains of two timber buildings and a wattle-lined well. It has been suggested that these remains may represent evidence of the legionary *canabae* (associated civilian settlement) (ECCHER 10048/ 49/ 50). Military activity in the general area has been attested at excavations on the site of the Valiant Soldier pub and Acorn roundabout where there was evidence for a group of buildings representing 1st century AD extra mural settlement straddling the road.

Pits F237 and F2123 although having pottery of military phase date also contained pottery dating to the later civil phase and it appears that these pits were in use during the 4th century. Pit F237 appears to have been a cess pit, while pit F2123 had cleaner fills and is of unknown purpose. Following the adaptation of the old legionary fortress to the civilian town the settlement grew beyond the original fortress defences. New town defences were constructed around 180-200 AD enclosing an area of 93 acres. The site was located outside of these new walls and the small amount of Romano-British ceramic building material on the site indicates

that townhouses were not constructed here. This is of little surprise as excavations in the area of the Guildhall showed that even within the town walls there were undeveloped areas in the late civil period (Collis 1972).

#### 10.4 **Phase 3: Medieval**

The site lay outside the walled city which followed the line of the Roman late civil period defences. Little is known about the city between the abandonment of the Roman town after c. 400 AD and the re-establishment of town life at the end of the 9th century. Town life was re-established in the 9th century and the old town was refurbished as a defended Saxon *burh*, with the repair of the city walls and the laying out of a new street grid. Some medieval settlement activity is known from the area of the site; for example, during the 1974 excavations in the garden of the Valiant Soldier public house a small kiln in operation between c. 1500 and 1550 was excavated (ECCHER 11210). During the 1988 excavations close by on the site of the Acorn roundabout, the wall footings of a stone-built late 15th or early 16th century house fronting onto Magdalen Street were uncovered (ECCHER 11211). On the opposite side of the street remains of 13th century houses built over the line of the Saxo-Norman ditch have been excavated, as has the remains of a 14th century building excavated in 1986-7. This evidence establishes that the Magdalen Street frontage was built up at least by this date, if not before. However the remains of these structures were cut through by a sizable late-medieval ditch on the street frontage containing early 15th century pottery. To the immediate south of the site Wynard's Almshouses were established in 1436. The site includes part of the gardens depicted on 19th-century maps as extending to the rear of the Almshouses, although their origins are unclear. With this neighbouring activity in the medieval period the few finds from this date are surprising and perhaps indicate that the medieval archaeology, if it had been present, was removed by the later post-medieval and modern use of the site.

#### 10.5 **Phase 4: Post-medieval and modern** (Plates 12-16)

Hooker's map of 1587 shows the South Gate and the suburb that had developed around it. The area of the site can be identified by the junction of Magdalen Street and Southernhay East. Three properties are shown along the Magdalen Street frontage, the eastern most may be a representation of Wynard's. Two further properties are depicted on the Southernhay East street elevation. Research by Dr Mark Stoye has established that large areas of suburbs were demolished and cleared for the city's defence at the start of the Civil War. The clearance of buildings and trees opened up fields of fire from the city defences and denied attacking forces defensive cover. This clearance, initiated early in 1643, included the suburbs outside the South Gate covering the site (ECCHER 10379.02). No evidence was found during the current excavations for the putative redoubt at Wynards or the putative ditch running north from it. If these did exist then they were on different alignments than previously postulated.

Following the end of the Civil War the rebuilding began and the area around the South Gate would have been redeveloped. Archaeological remains of post-Civil War houses have been excavated on the south side of Magdalen Street and to the west of the site on the north side of Magdalen Street (ECCHER 11472, 11418, 11464). The Coles map of 1709 provides the first cartographic evidence for the post-Civil War city. By this time much rebuilding is indicated in the southern suburb, although the map is schematic in terms of the building detail provided. 'Winards' is shaded and annotated and with the area behind, and behind Southernhay, depicted as fields. After 1741 the historic maps show the hospital building and formal gardens in the area of the site.

Nearly all of the dated cut features in Phase 4 were 18th-19th century or modern. Only three features could be shown to be earlier post-medieval: pits F208 and F2114 and linear feature F296. None of these were earlier than the 17th century. Linear F296 was of unknown purpose,

but pre-dated drain F265. Pit F2114 was earlier than wall F281 (part of building F2161) by which it had been in part built over.

A number of the more recent features had been heavily disturbed and are poorly understood, but there were several structures revealed which are described below.

A single wall, although exhibiting several re-builds and repairs, was aligned north-south through Areas 2 and 3 (F351, F352, F348, F353, F326, F273, F2141 and F206) (Plate 12). This wall is depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:500 map and may be an early feature. A boundary and adjacent track that emanated from the rear of the Wynard's Almshouses is first depicted on Sherwood's map of 1606 (Oxford Archaeology 2006). No evidence of the track was observed, but in several places linear hollows (F349, F327, F298, F2104, F2106 and F2164) were present infilled with deposits built up against the wall. The E-W aligned ditch F236 respected its line.

A breccia and slate stone built drain F2163 (Group no. for F222, F264, F268, F277, F294, F2100 and F2112) was shown to form a sub-rectangular feature and draining beneath the boundary wall on the east side (Plate 13). It was 0.7m wide and capped with breccia stone blocks. The drain was set in a 1m wide foundation cut (F264, F279, F280 and F293) and covered by backfill (266). Its shape in plan and its location quite closely matches paths shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:500 second edition map which shows the rectangle of the path joining on the east side where a small building abuts the boundary wall. Central to the rectangle and possibly related was pit F261 which was 0.85m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It contained two fills (262 and 263), but no finds. It would appear that the drain is possibly a garden-related feature associated with Wynard's Almshouses.

East-West aligned wall F2162 (F204, F209 and F229) follows the line of a former boundary. It was 1m wide and surviving in rough courses to 0.66m in height and constructed of breccia, with a small amount of trap, and some evidence of bonding with a yellowish silty sand mortar. It ended in the west with a well-formed terminal perhaps indicating the location of a former gate. The line of this boundary was continued to the west by fragments of wall (F246, F249, F250 and F251).

Structure F2161 (F270, F281, F2153/F2155, and F2156) was the remains of a building; its west and north walls were constructed of bonded breccia blocks (Plate 14). The wall in the west was exposed over a distance of 10m but continued to the south (F2156) beyond the area of excavation, where historic maps depicts it as the west wall of a small structure abutting F251 and continuing south as a boundary wall to the gardens of Wynard's Almshouses. The north wall had a fireplace feature (Plate 15) and in the south the stub of an E-W wall (F251, and possibly F250) may be the remains of a further hearth. The relationship between the wall stub and the west wall at its junction was difficult to ascertain due to disturbance by modern services. The east wall was missing. This building is in the location of a pair of attached buildings marked on the 1876 first edition OS 1:500 map and appear to be located in a plot belonging to the Wynard's Almshouses. The Almshouses were significantly modernised in 1863 and this building may be an addition of that date.

Pit F208 was oval in shape and measured 1.3m by 0.7m and 0.8m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 4a). It contained three fills (207, 212 and 213). Upper fill 207 consisted of mid to dark-brown firm silty clay with occasional slate fragments. Secondary fill 212 was a mid to dark brownish-red firm clay. Primary fill 213 consisted of mid brownish red firm clay. All of the fills contained post-medieval pottery and animal bone. This may have been a rubbish pit.

A pair of curvilinear gullies (F288 and F291) define an oval area and finds indicate an 18th century date. They are of unknown function but may relate to garden features.

Part of the foundations of the wash house F305 (F289/F307, F308, F320, F321, F322/323 and F344) related to Dean Clarke House Hospital were exposed (Plate 16). The foundations of breccia and brick stood to a height of 1.4m and measured 11.8m long by 7m wide, but were not fully exposed as the long axis appeared to continue beyond the edge of the trench to the west. It contained an internal fireplace (F306) with a base of blackened bricks. This had been constructed on a filled-in hollow (F324) which contained finds of post-medieval pottery, 19th century glass and animal bone. A ceramic drain F308 ran through a brick arch under the west wall of the exposed building. The north wall (F344) contained a pair of brick arches possibly for flues linking with a boiler house which may be represented by mortared walls (F335, F340/F360), mortared brick base F339 and ceramic drain F332. The base of the walls appear to have been built directly on to a surface (311) consisting of mid greyish brown compact sandy clay, which contained clay tobacco pipe. Directly to the south of the building a large sump-like trench (F2108) had been dug and contained post-medieval pottery and CBM.

Several pits (F223, F225, F227, F230, 253, F255, F270, F274, F283, F296, 299, 2118, 2119, F312, F314, F316, F318, F359, F361 and F363) of unknown function were recognised in Areas 2 and 3. These are probably of post-medieval or modern date. Also, to be added to this group are gullies F337, F367 and F216. F337 contained no finds but cuts F347 and must therefore be a late feature of unknown function. Gully F216 was not fully excavated but was seen to cut wall F2162 so must also be a late feature of unknown function. Gully F367 contained late post-medieval finds and may have functioned as a drainage ditch.

## **11. CONCLUSIONS**

- 11.1** The excavation revealed that the site had been significantly disturbed by post-medieval and modern activity on the site. The majority of this can be related to the expansion of activities related to Dean Clarke House Hospital in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 11.2** Four pits cutting the natural subsoil were shown to be Romano-British in date and illustrated some activity on the site at that time. On the east side of the site insubstantial evidence of possible Iron Age activity was best supported by postholes cutting the natural subsoil and may indicate that settlement of that period identified on the Law Courts site extended to the west.
- 11.3** For the historic period, the archaeological evidence concurs with the historical map evidence in that the site was initially fields, later gardens, with only a few structures being present. The earliest walls are probably F206, etc., and F2162, which may represent late 16th-century or earlier boundaries. Later features include garden features and structures associated with Wynard's Almshouses and the wash house of the Dean Clarke House hospital. No evidence was located for any Civil War defences that had previously been postulated in the area.

## **12. ARCHIVE AND OASIS**

- 12.1** The finds, paper and digital archive are currently held at the offices of AC archaeology, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ. The finds and paper archive will be offered to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, but if they are unable to accept this, then it will be dealt with under their current accession policy. A temporary reference number of RAMM 12/88 has been assigned by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum.

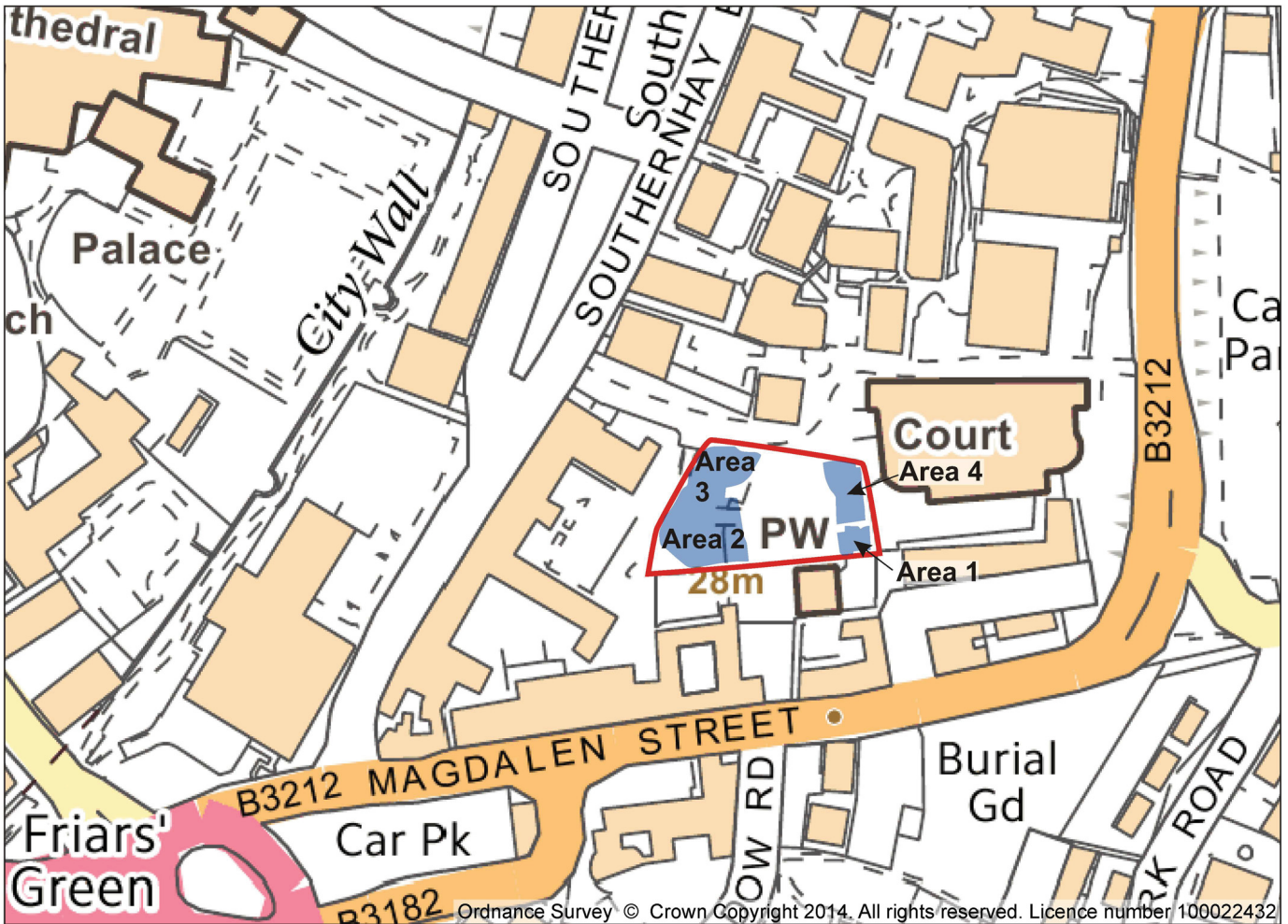
**12.2** The OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological InvestigationS) number for this project is 186120.

### **13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**13.1** The excavation was commissioned by GJR Architects Ltd on behalf of Trathen Properties Ltd. The fieldwork was undertaken by William Smith with assistance from Alex Farnell, Jon Hall, Stella De Villiers, Paul Cooke, Ben Pears, David Knight, Amy Cosgrove, Sophie Thoroughgood and Mary Letuscu-Jones. The illustrations for this report were prepared by Elisabeth Patkai. The project was managed for AC by Andrew Passmore and we are grateful to Andrew Pye the Exeter City archaeologist for his advice.

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PROJECT  
Land to the East of Dean Clarke House,  
Southernhay, Exeter, Devon

TITLE



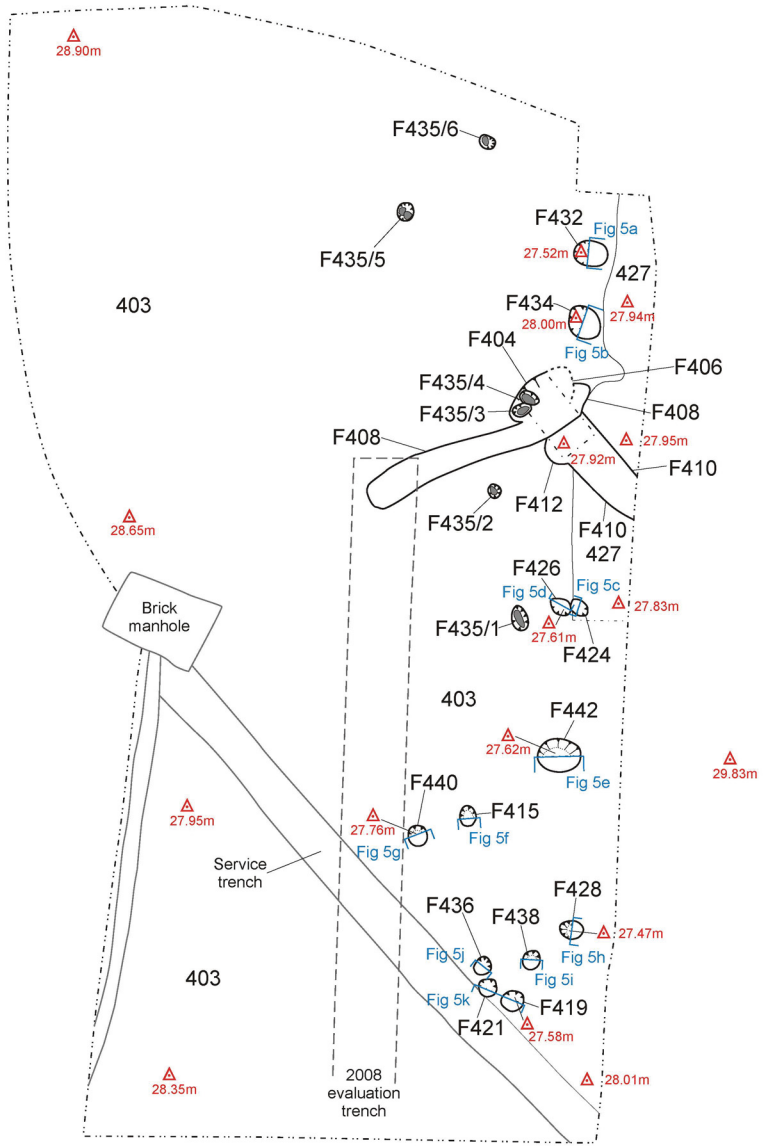
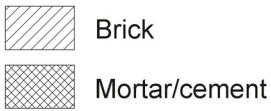
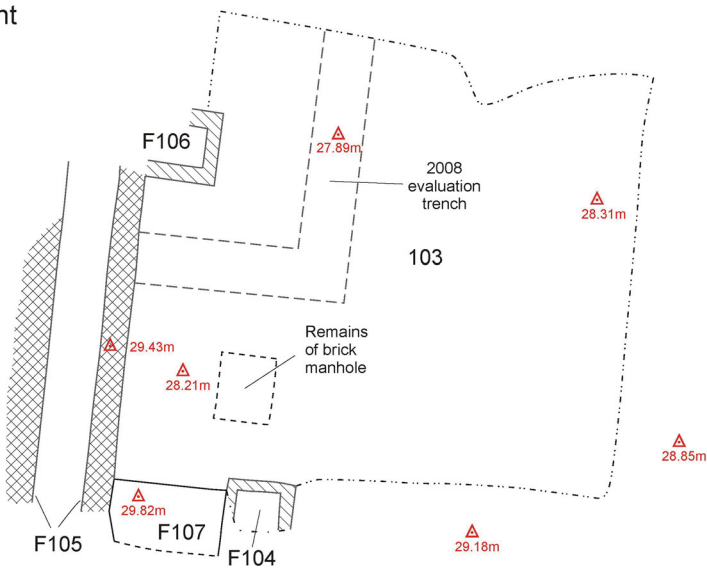
-  Site boundary
-  Excavation areas

Fig. 1: Site location





AREA 2



AREA 1

PROJECT

Land to the East of Dean Clarke House, Southernhay, Exeter

TITLE

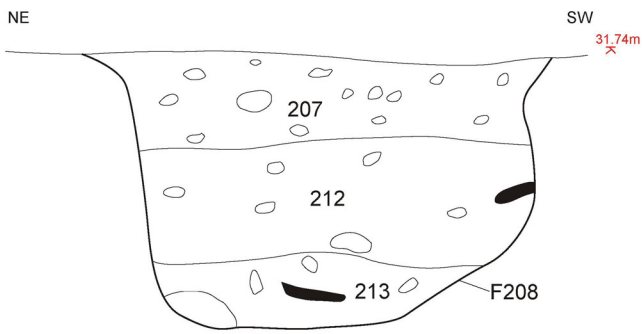
Fig. 2: Site plan of Areas 1 and 4



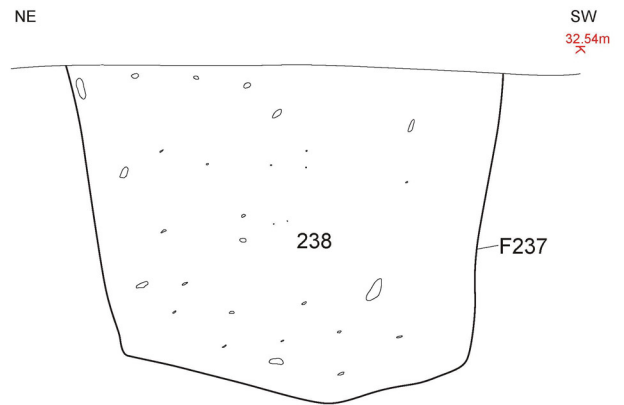




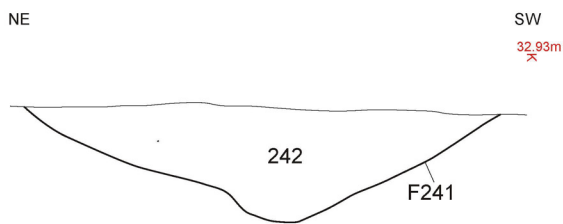
a) Section of F208



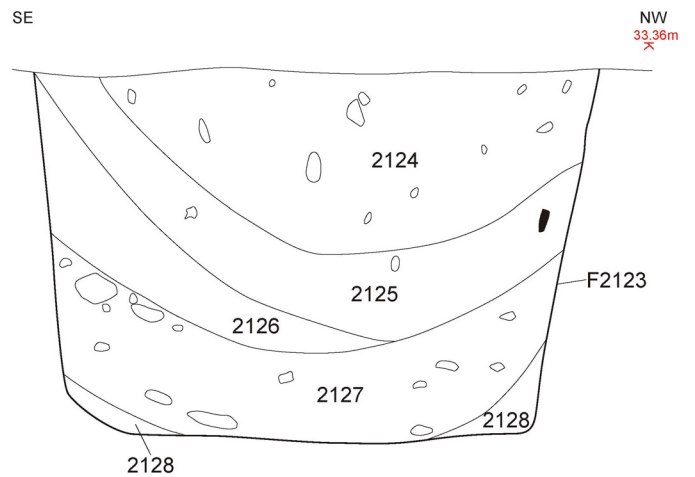
b) Section of F237



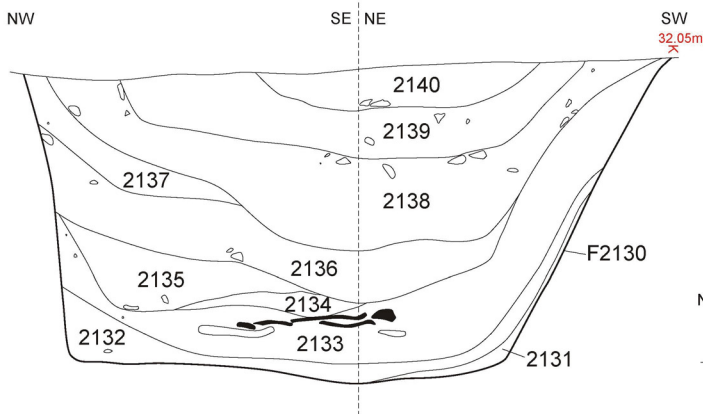
c) Section of F241



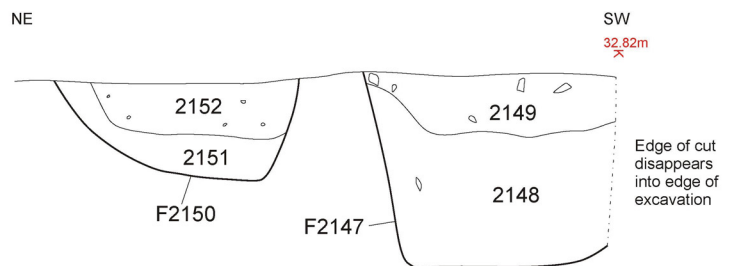
d) Section of F2123



e) Section of F2130



f) Section of F2147 and F2150



 Stones  
 Pottery



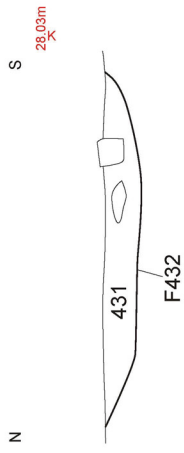
PROJECT

Land to the East of Dean Clarke House,  
Southernhay, Exeter

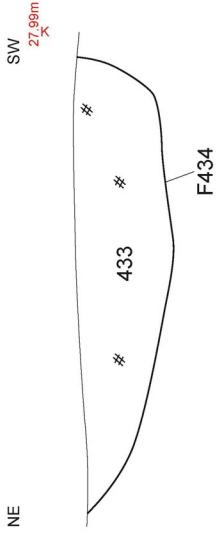
TITLE

Fig. 4: Area 2 sections

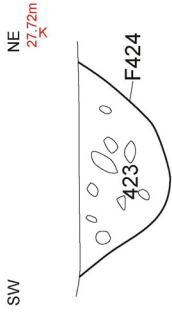
a) Section of F432



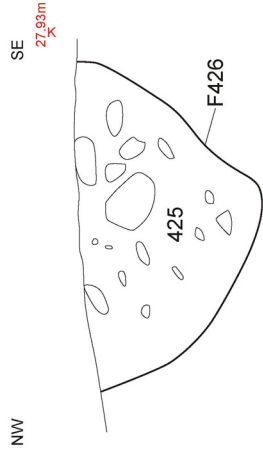
b) Section of F434



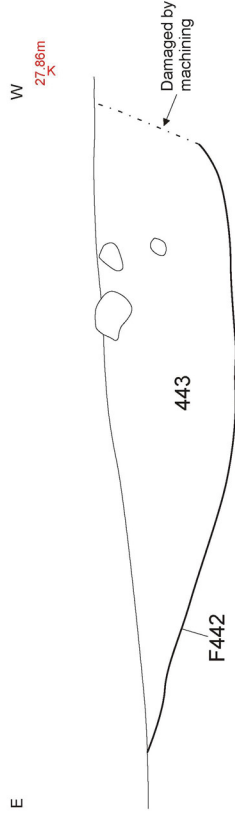
c) Section of F424



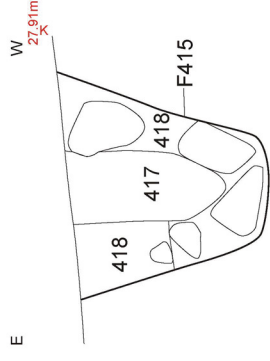
d) Section of F426



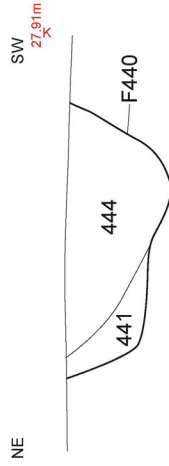
e) Section of F442



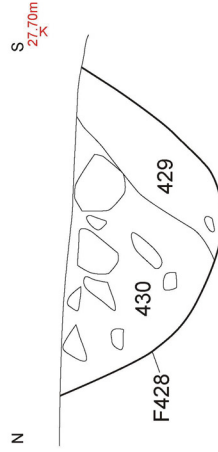
f) Section of F415



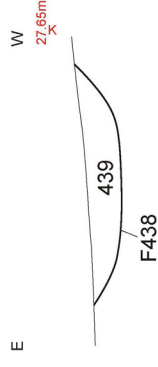
g) Section of F440



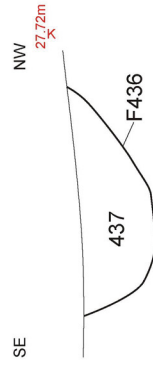
h) Section of F428



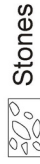
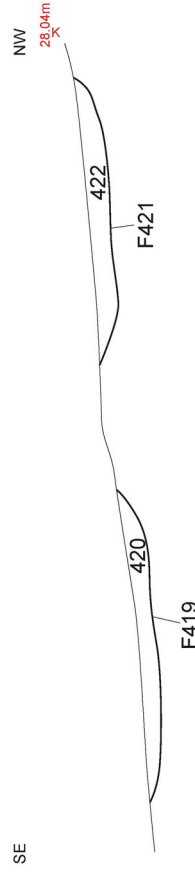
i) Section of F438



j) Section of F436



k) Section of F419 and F421



Stones



Charcoal



Scale 1:10@A4

Fig. 5: Area 4 sections





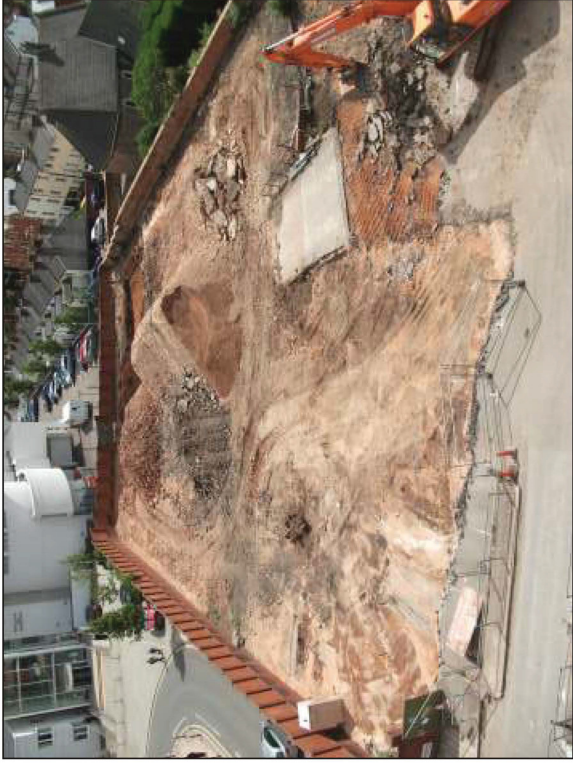


Plate 1: Stripping of overlying layers with Area 1 in the top right corner, looking east



Plate 2: Area 2, looking southeast



Plate 3: Area 2, northwest-facing section of pit F237 (scale 1m)



Plate 4: Area 2, northeast-facing section of pit F2123 (scale 1m)



Plate 5: Area 2, northwest-facing section of pit F2130 (scale 0.4m)



Plate 6: Area 2, southeast-facing section of pit F2147 (scale 0.5m)



Plate 7: Area 2, southeast-facing section of pit F2150 (scale 0.5m)



Plate 8: Area 3, viewed from the east (scales 1m and 1m)



Plate 9: Area 4, viewed from the northwest (scales 2m and 1m)



Plate 10: Area 4, northwest-facing section of posthole F415 (scale 0.25m)



Plate 11: Romano-British pottery from pit F2123 with the rare maker's stamp 'Pastor'



Plate 12: Area 2, north-south boundary wall, looking east (scale 2m)



Plate 13: Area 2, drain F2163, looking southeast (scales 1m and 2m)

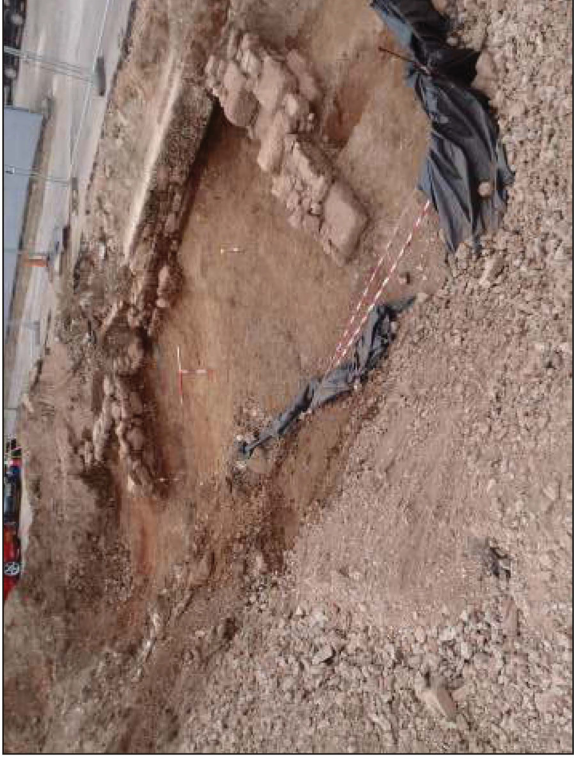


Plate 14: Area 2, building F2161, looking southwest (scales 2m and 1m)



Plate 15: Area 2, building F2161, wall F281, looking northeast (scale 1m)

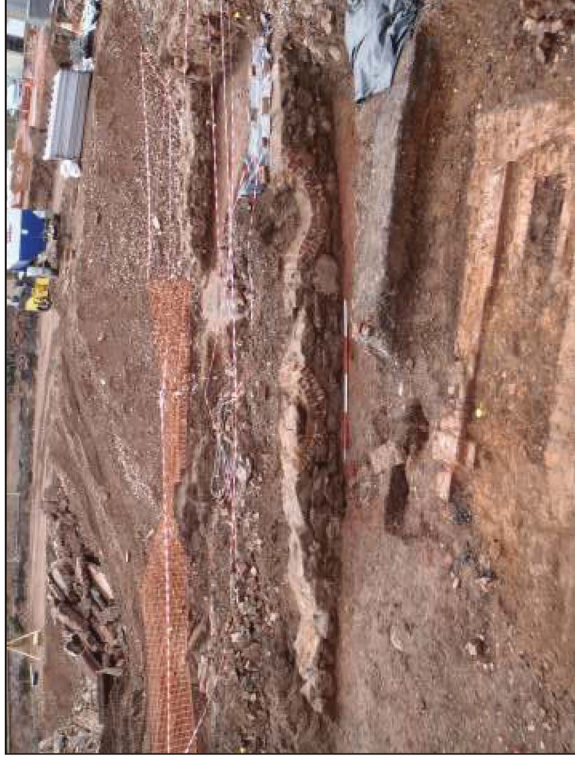


Plate 16: Area 2, building F305, looking south (scale 2m)

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