ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT ST JOHN'S STREET CARPARK, MUCH PARK ST, COVENTRY

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1

Archaeological Evaluation at St John's St Car park, Much Park St, Coventry

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Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological Evaluation was undertaken at St John's St car park, Much Park St (NGR 3368 7866), Coventry (Fig 1), on behalf of Stoford Developments Ltd and Severn Trent Water Ltd (the Clients). The clients intend commercial redevelopment of the site with associated landscaping and car parking and Coventry City Council considers that a site of archaeological interest may be affected.

Five trenches were opened across the car park totalling an area of 158m², and excavation took place in three phases. The results indicate widespread evidence of occupation and industrial activity in the form of metalworking across the whole site in the mid-late medieval period, with one trench illustrating the remains of sandstone structure which may date to the 14th century. The predominant medieval features were pits, which appear to be cesspits and rubbish pits. While several postholes were also identified, this feature type was generally under-represented. Clear evidence for metal working in the form of an iron anvil, slag and hammerscale attest to industrial activity. Well preserved environmental evidence also indicates a variety of plant remains, including exotic species. In one trench a series of sandstone walls were identified which could form the rear of buildings stretching from the original Much Park Street frontage. Based on similarities with structural features in the Greyhound Public House excavation, the wall may date to the 14th century.

Post-medieval activities are represented by additional pit cuts as well as the placement of makeup deposits to level the surface. In the 18^{th} and 19^{th} centuries there is evidence for a small number of pits, but also additional make-up deposits, with the latter possibly related to the conversion of the back plots into a park or open area with trees and shrubs in the late 19^{th} century. With little truncation caused by the placement of the modern tarmac car park surface, there is also evidence for 20^{th} century buildings, which appear to correlate with buildings observed on OS maps.

While the site did not provide clear evidence for occupation in the early medieval period such as that seen in three previous excavations on Much Park Street, the north-east portion of the site has a high potential to yield such evidence. The site is considered to have a high level of significance and potential in relation to the criteria identified in the West Midlands Archaeology Regional Framework, in relation to both large medieval cities, and more specific criteria identified for medieval Coventry itself.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

Reasons for the project

An archaeological Evaluation was undertaken at St John's St car park, Much Park St (NGR 3368 7866), Coventry (Fig 1), on behalf of Stoford Developments Ltd and Severn Trent Water Ltd (the Clients). The clients intend commercial redevelopment of the site with associated landscaping and car parking, and Coventry City Council considers that a site of archaeological interest may be affected.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IFA 1999). The project also conforms to a brief prepared by Chris Patrick, Planning Archaeologist (Patrick 2007) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2007a).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate treatment, which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

More specifically the following aims were identified in the brief.

- To prepare a detailed assessment of the development site's history and archaeological potential.
- To identify any evidence for the survival of buried archaeological remains on the site which may be threatened by development of the site and area.
- To determine the depth of burial, character, date, extent, and state of preservation of any such remains.
- To provide an initial assessment of survey of any standing buildings on the sites and assess the degree to which earlier historic fabric survives within buildings currently occupying the site.

2. Methods

2.1 **Documentary search**

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Coventry City Historic Environment Record (HER) and Coventry Local Studies Library. As the search was made in order to complete the Desk Based Assessment (HEAS 2007b), the report here refers to this latter document.

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2007a). Fieldwork was undertaken between 5th November and 28th November 2007. The site reference number and site code is MPS 07.

Five trenches, amounting to just over $158m^2$ in area, were excavated over the site area of 0.48ha, representing a sample of 3.29%. The location of the trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

The site was excavated in three phases in order to allow continued use of the car park. Phase 1 was located at the rear of the car park, and encompassed Trenches 1 and 5. Phase 2 was at the front end of the car park, and Trenches 3 and 4 were located here. Trench 2 was excavated in Phase 3, located in the central area of the car park.

The trench locations were slightly modified during layout due to the location of services and boreholes. Consultation was made with Chris Patrick (Coventry Planning Archaeologist) prior to any alterations in trench size and layout. As the medieval archaeology was located at a depth of 1.3m in all but one trench (Trench 2), the trenches were widened from 2m to 4m in order to create a one metre wide step in accordance with the health and safety policy. Half of Trench 5 was excavated to the medieval deposits, with the remaining half machined to the top of two later brick walls. The length of Trench 4 was reduced to 10m. Trench 3 was also reduced to 10m in length, although the presence of a cable in the west half of the trench meant excavation halted here at a depth of 0.85mbs, with only a small area (8m²) excavated to the top of the medieval deposits.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a wheeled excavator, employing a toothed bucket to remove brick and rubble hardcore deposits, and a toothless bucket for soil matrices, under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of excavation, trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material, and capped by a layer of compacted road-stone.

2.2.2 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 Artefact methodology, by Laura Griffin

2.3.1 Artefact recovery policy

All artefacts from the area of salvage recording were retrieved by hand and retained in accordance with the service manual (CAS 1995 as amended).

2.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand-retrieved finds were examined and a primary record was made on a Microsoft Access 2000 database. Artefacts were identified, quantified and dated and a *terminus post quem* date produced for each stratified context.

The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and recorded by fabric type and form according to the fabric reference series maintained by Warwickshire County Museum (Sodon and Ratkai 1998).

2.4 Environmental archaeology methodology, by Alan Clapham

2.4.1 Sampling policy

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995, appendix 4). Large animal bone was hand-collected during excavation. Samples of 20-40 litres were taken from six contexts (118, 530, 532, 534, 535 and 226, 247), from pits and ditches which were of medieval and post-medieval date respectively. See Table 4 for details.

2.4.2 Method of analysis

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a $300\mu m$ sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds. Ten litres from each sample was processed due to the limited time available for this assessment.

The residues were scanned by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were scanned using a low power stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by the Service, and seed identification manual (Cappers *et al.* 2006). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the New Flora of the British Isles, 2nd edition (Stace 1997).

A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale.

2.5 **The methods in retrospect**

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved. As such, a high degree of confidence is attached to the conclusions of the project.

3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

The majority of Coventry is situated on Keuper Marl of the Triassic Enville Beds. More specifically, the solid geology of the site area is Upper Carboniferous red-brown mudstone and sandstone with subordinate lenticular conglomerates, with siltstones and thin limestones of the Keresley member. Both the clay and sandstone have been exploited for building purposes (CCB 2007).

The site is currently a sub-rectangular split-level tarmac car park with Coventry City Council buildings on the east extent (Fig 1 and 2). It lies to the south of the city centre, and is situated on south-west side of Much Park Street. It is bounded to the north and west by St John's Street, Much Park Street to the east, and Ringway St John's to the south. The southern car park area lies approximately 1m above the northern. A red sandstone wall, constructed of re-used blocks, runs parallel to the west extent of the site.

As a Desk Based Assessment (DBA) has been compiled for the site (HEAS 2007b), a summary only is provided here. A low number of prehistoric and Roman remains have been found in Coventry, and none are related to the site investigated in this project. Similarly, there is little archaeological evidence for Saxon settlement in Coventry, although the city is thought to have begun in Saxon times. The name 'Coventry' means a wooded watery area by a hill, which has been suggested to describe the slight hill on to which the cathedral was built which overlooks the river Sherbourne (Lancaster 1975, 2; cited in HEAS 2007b). Evidence

suggests that the Saxon settlement in Coventry was focused around the priory (est. in 10th century), and a lack of archaeological evidence in Much Park St for this settlement period lends support to this argument.

In the early medieval period Coventry was characterised by a division between two institutions – the Bishop of Chester, and the Earl of Chester. In this period, the site in this project lay within Cheylesmore Park, of the Earl's manor, on the northern extent of the park's boundary. At the end of the 13th century, Much Park Street and Park Street became more established thoroughfares, with the former becoming part of the major route from Coventry to London (HEAS 2007).

Three excavations undertaken on Much Park Street illustrate a pattern of development in the 12th and 13th centuries characterised by metalworking, and an increase population, although not intensively. Particular evidence includes bowl hearths and quenching pits (7-10 Much Park Street), and a smithy with hearths (122-3 Much Park Street). The frontage line for the street appears to have been quite fluid at this time (Soden 2005, 30), with the remains of timber framed buildings found at all three sites. This pattern on development was largely echoed in the excavations at the Greyhound Public House (120-121 Much Park Street; HEAS 2007b) located at the southeast corner of the car park.

With a burgeoning wool and cloth industry in place, 14^{th} century Much Park Street saw the clearance of existing buildings and occupations, and the establishment of substantial buildings of timber built upon stone fittings (Wright 1982, 33), such as the Stone House. With a mix of domestic and industrial use (such as evidence of $13^{th} - 15^{th}$ century industrial pits at 124-5 Much Park Street), multiple rebuilding episodes are evident, with the smithy at 123 Much Park Street re-established in the 15^{th} century (HEAS 2007b).

While the 16th and 17th centuries were characterised by widespread economic decline, the buildings on Much Park Street appear to have remained standing. Many houses that provided line of sight from the city wall were destroyed during the Civil War of 1642-51, yet Much Park Street remained built up on both sides (see John Speed's plan of 1610, HEAS 2007b, Fig. 2). The street frontage is little changed by the 18th century; Bradford's 1748 map (HEAS 2007b, Fig. 3) illustrates clear back-plots with gardens and outbuildings.

With a change in the 19th century to a focus on increasing industrialisation and growth across the city, pressure for cheap housing led to new construction. The most detailed map indicating change is the 1851 Board of Health map (HEAS 2007b; Fig. 4), demonstrating a row of 12 holdings on the site area. These run perpendicular to Much Park Street, and the Greyhound Public House is indicated. The large back-plots present in the 16th and 17th centuries are now depicted as an open area, with trees and paths. The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map shows an altered layout of this back-plot area 40 years later, with trees and paths replaced by a timber yard with workshops and sheds (HEAS 2007b; Fig 5).

The Timber Yard buildings are replaced in the early 20^{th} century by a ribbon dye works, forming a single building. While Coventry was targeted in the Blitz of $14^{\text{th}}/15^{\text{th}}$ November 1940, the Much Park Street area appears to have largely escaped target by the bombers, and as such, the site was little affected.

4. **Results**

4.1 **Structural analysis**

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-15. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits were encountered in all five trenches, and consisted of varying degrees of red to brown degraded sandstone of the Triassic Enville Beds. Depth of natural varied across the site confirming the natural north-east sloping topography, with a depth of 86.94m OD in Trench 1 on the south-west site extent, 85.95m-85.66m OD in centrally placed Trench 2, and 84.09m OD in Trench 4 located on the north-east extent of the site.

4.1.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits

One residual flint was recovered from an unstratified context in Trench 5, indicating probable prehistoric activity in the area. However, no prehistoric features were identified during the evaluation.

4.1.3 **Phase 3 15th to early 16th century deposits**

Although no Roman or Anglo-Saxon deposits were identified, there was widespread evidence of mid- late medieval deposits in all trenches.

Trench 1 (Figs 3-5, Plate 1)

A large medieval ditch oriented south-west to north-east occupied the majority of Trench 1 (119). It contained a sandy silt fill (118, 117) with pot sherds dating to $15^{\text{th}} - 16^{\text{th}}$ centuries. The deposit was truncated by pit 130, of unknown size, as it extended beyond the northern trench edge. Filled with a deposit comprised of clay, charcoal, bone and pot sherds, this apparent rubbish pit was subsequently re-cut several times (132, 134). The deposits within the pits (133, 135) contained similar materials. These features were covered by a homogenous silty sand layer (127).

Trench 2 (Figs 9-11, Plate 3)

Several medieval pits were cut into the natural (202). One pit (215) with two fills (214, 245) contained pot sherds and slag. The lower fill (245) was a greenish-grey colour suggestive of post-depositional changes. To the north of this feature a possible ditch was recorded (207), and the fill (206) contained pot sherds dating to 15^{th} - 16^{th} century, and one intrusive 17^{th} century sherd. Two further circular pits (211 and 209) truncated deposit 206, and a rectangular shaped pit (213) truncated the pit deposit 214, and pot sherds place it in the 15^{th} - 16^{th} century. In the centre of the trench, two pits were identified (223 and 225) in association with four stakeholes (244, 242, 221, 219), two on each side of pit 225 which were not excavated.

Trench 3 (Figs 9-11, Plates 5-6)

Although only a small area was exposed at the base of Trench 3, several medieval deposits were identified. Deposit 341 formed a medieval layer, located immediately above the natural. Numerous pits truncated this deposit. The full extent of pit 336 was not clear, as it was truncated by pits 347 and 332. Pot sherds date pit 347 to the 15th-late 16th century. The fill of 332 (333) was greenish-yellow in colour, along with fill 350 of pit re-cut 349, thus displaying similarities to medieval deposits recorded in Trench 2 (above). An intrusive 18th century sherd was also recovered.

Trench 4 (Figs 12-13, Plates 7-8)

Medieval deposits in Trench 4 were dominated by sandstone walls, which ran in line with the original Much Park Street frontage. A small sondage $(0.55m \times 0.45m)$ was placed alongside the lowest sandstone wall (414) to assess the depth of the wall and locate the natural deposit. At c. 0.2m wide, 3 remaining courses of the wall were recorded, set above a sandy clay silt deposit (413) situated above the natural (402). The full extent of deposit 413 is not known, as

it sloped to the north and may in fact fill a cut feature. Further investigation is required. Running parallel, but separated from wall 414 by 1.5m was sandstone wall 415. This wall was significantly wider than 414 (0.8m wide) and has a return running northwest. Set into the top of the wall was layer 416 comprised of slate tiles and clay. A sondage (1.5m x 1.5m) was placed between the two walls, and revealed a sandstone drain (420). A partial foundation or surface (418) was also exposed in the central area between the two walls.

Several medieval layers were recorded in the southern half of the trench only. Two thin (c. 0.08m) clay deposits (426 and 425) may have formed surfaces inside a building. Layer 424, a mixed deposit including charcoal, was situated above 425, and may form another floor surface, along with 423. Deposit 412, exposed in the small sondage (above) was thicker (0.25m), and sat above deposit 413, abutting wall 414. It is not clear if this deposit is located between the two walls, as excavation stopped here.

Trench 5 (Figs 14-15, Plates 9-10)

Three medieval pits (529, 548 and 552) were identified in Trench 5, although only pit 529 was sectioned. Pit 529 was 1.12m deep and cut into the underlying sandstone. It had four fills (530, 531, 532, 533) and the primary fill (530) contained abundant pot sherds dating to 15^{th} and 16^{th} century. Both 530 and 531 were comprised of yellowish-green silty clay, similar to some pit fills identified in Trenches 2 and 3. Pit 552, located immediately west of 529, was not excavated but superficially resembles the latter. To the immediate south of these pits was 548, a shallower pit that has been heavily truncated making its full extent unknown. Three fills (543, 544, 545) were however identified, which were sandy and devoid of cultural materials.

4.1.4 **Phase 4 Post-medieval: late 16th - 17th century**

Trench 1 (Figs 3-5, Plate 2)

A series of small pits were cut into the homogenous medieval deposit (127). One pit (116) was comprised of a dense charcoal deposit (115) followed by a silty clay deposit with some charcoal and animal bone (114). Residual medieval sherds dating to the 13th-14th century were recovered. A similar pit truncated the medieval layer (117), and contained similar materials to deposit 114. Two pits (126 and 124) appear to have been cut to deposit a mix of rubbish and building demolition materials (roof tile and plaster). One final deposit of red clay (110) filled a circular pit (111) that may have been a large post-pit for a building at the end of this period. This feature truncated pit 116 and 113.

A large deposit (105) covered the above features, forming a levelling layer. It was comprised mainly of silty sandy clay, with low quantities of small, quite worn tile fragments, charcoal and animal bone. It was dated to the mid-late 17^{th} century.

Trench 2 (Figs 6-8, Plate 4)

A large circular pit (227) contained a similar greenish-brown silty fill (247), with pot sherds and tile fragments dating to the 17^{th} century. A re-cut (251) of this pit contained a residual 16^{th} century sherd. This was followed by a number of apparent rubbish pits and re-cuts clustered in the south-east corner of the trench. Pit 235 contained coal and plaster fragments, and was truncated by a pit (233) with a similar fill (232). Pit 231 contained a large dump of roof tiles as well as 16^{th} - 17^{th} century pot sherds. A partially exposed pit (237) also dates to Phase 4.

A deposit (254) covering the medieval pits and stakeholes also dates to this period. It was largely devoid of cultural materials, and was similar to a partly exposed deposit (256) found in the far south-east corner of the trench. The former deposit was truncated by another rubbish pit (228), with the fill dominated by broken roof tiles indicative of a demolition

dump. The largest demolition deposit in Trench 2 is 205, located in the northern third of the trench. It was comprised of broken roof tiles, slate and ceramic, and some roof furniture dating to the medieval period. As no specific dating material could confirm a 15th century date, the structure could be older, and this is explored in section 6.3)

Trench 3 (Figs 9-11, Plates 5-6)

A series of pit cuts appear to have been made in the $16^{th} - 17$ th century. A deep cut pit, 334, was partially excavated, although the base was not reached. It contained a charcoal-rich deposit (363) and a silty clay deposit (353). The pit was re-cut by pits 352 and 360. Both had similar charcoal rich fills (361 and 362), along with silty sandy clay fills. Two deposits were also placed in this time period, possibly as levelling layers. Layer 365 was comprised of silty clay with numerous small fragments of sandstone, glass and mortar, although 346 was fairly sterile with only small sandstone fragments observed. Covering both these deposits and the pits was deposit 309. Over 1m thick in places, 309 likely formed a large levelling deposit. Residual pottery dating to the $15^{th}-16^{th}$ was recovered.

Trench 4 (Figs 12-13, Plates 7-8)

Layer 409, a large, thick reddish brown clay deposit covered the medieval structures. It also contained roof tiles, plaster fragments and potsherds, and represents a large make-up deposit placed to level the area. Pot sherds date from late 15th-17th century. A dump of tiles (421) within 409 may also represent demolition of buildings in the area. A thin ash layer (422) was also deposited in the southern half of the trench. This layer is posited to represent the final surface in this part of the building before alteration in the 18th century (see below).

Trench 5 (Figs 14-15, Plate 9)

A ditch (534) running east-west was placed over the top of pits 529 and 552, thus truncating the top fills. It contained pot sherds dating to the late 17^{th} to early 18^{th} century. To the north of this feature, a large pit (510) with multiple re-cuts truncated the ditch. Only the southern half of the pit was exposed, the northern half extending beyond the trench edge. Pit 510 was truncated by pit 538, which was filled by a mixed deposit (512). A series of smaller pits were then cut into the top of 512. Pits 520, 513, 517 were contemporary, and the latter two were truncated by pit 515. The fills of these pits (514, 518, 520, 516) contained mixed materials including coal and bone, and were likely rubbish pits. To the south of ditch 534 was another pit (539), the full extent of which is not known. Nonetheless, three fills were recorded (540, 541, 542), and one (542) had yellow-green mottles reminiscent of fill 530 in pit 529. Two additional rubbish pits were observed on the west half of the trench – 507 and 549, with the fill of the latter dating to the 16^{th} - 17^{th} century.

4.1.5 **Phase 5 18th and 19th centuries**

Trench 1 (Figs 3-5, Plate 1)

Two pits (122 and 129) contained similar deposits to the post-pit 110 - a pinkish-red clay. As they are cut through the 17^{th} century deposit 105, it is possible that pit 110 is contemporary with 122 and 129, illustrating a line of posts used for a building in Phase 5. Deposit 104 formed a thick clay layer (0.5m) across the trench, and was dated to the $17^{\text{th}}-18^{\text{th}}$ century.

Trench 2 (Figs 6-8)

Several make-up deposits represent Phase 5. Deposit 248 is the smallest, formed mostly of yellowish silty sand. It was covered by 203, a thick layer present in the northern half of the trench only, which contained small amounts of plaster, animal bone and charcoal. Above this layer was deposit 204, formed of clay silt, CBM fragments, pot sherds and charcoal flecks. Both 203 and 204 have a levelling affect, which was likely intentional. In the southern half of the trench layer 252 provided blanket cover over the post-medieval pits discussed in the

previous section. Similar to 203, deposit 252 also formed a levelling layer. Layers 250 and 255 were situated above 252. Both contained a small amount of charcoal and plaster.

Trench 3 (Figs 9-11)

The 18th and 19th centuries are represented by multiple pit cuts in Trench 3, predominantly truncating deposit 309. Pits 359, 319, 317, 313 and 322 were situated alongside each other on the southern extent of the trench. Each contains a mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay fill. They were likely related to the same activity. Further pits -326 and 324, contained silty charcoal deposits (327 and 325), and fill 316 of pit 315 was similar. On the northern half of the trench, pit 340 contained a silty clay deposit with small bone and mortar fragments. It was truncated by pit 338, which was itself truncated by pit 344, filled with a dark charcoal-silt deposit. Finds date these features to $17^{\text{th}}-18^{\text{th}}$ century.

Trench 4 (Figs 12-13)

Brick walls and deposits that contained demolition materials represent Phase 5. A construction cut (410) was made for a sandstone and brick wall (404) oriented north- west - south-east at the east extent of the trench. This wall had sandstone foundation blocks, with bricks set upon them. Brick wall 417 utilised medieval wall 414 as a foundation, and was likely linked to wall 419 which was oriented northwest-southeast. This latter wall did not use the return of 414 as a foundation, as it was slightly off-set to the east of 414. A thin deposit of mortar/plaster (406) above 409 may be linked to construction of wall 417.

Trench 5 (Figs 14-15, Plate 10)

Several large make-up deposits date to this phase. Deposit 504 covered the post-medieval features, and contained a mix of materials including small tile and brick fragments, plaster, and animal bone, and residual medieval pottery. Above this was deposit 503, similar in composition although more brown in colour, and was dated to the 18th century. A wall (528) was partially exposed in the southern half of the trench, although it extended beyond the west trench edge. An additional sandstone wall foundation (521) was observed to the south of 528 and both might stem from the same structure, although further investigation is required. Layer 502 was placed above these walls.

4.1.6 **Phase 6 20th century deposits**

Trench 1 (Figs 3-5, Plate 1)

There is evidence in the 20^{th} century for construction cut (109) through the 19^{th} century deposit 104, for the sandstone wall (107), which runs along the south-west edge of the site. Abutting the wall, deposit 106 was comprised of metal, glass modern ceramic fragments. This deposit was contemporary with deposits 103, 102 and 101 which are linked to the placement of the modern tarmac car park surface (100).

Trench 2 (Figs 6-8)

The ribbon dye works are represented by several features in this trench. Three construction cuts (217, 257 and 239) for brick and mortar foundations (249, 240, 216) were recorded which truncated the medieval and post-medieval deposits. In addition, a brick floor surface (258) was set above a brick and mortar foundation layer (259) and into a silty deposit (260). The floor was visible in the south-west half of the trench only. Above these deposits were those associated with the modern tarmac car park surface (200, 201).

Trench 3 (Figs 9-11)

Deposit 312 was a levelling deposit comprised of rubble and sandstone fragments. Several 20th century structures were built above this layer. Two construction cuts (357 and 308) were made for two parallel running brick walls (305 and 306). The latter was set into a mortar foundation (307), and was abutted by deposit 303. A thin deposit (311) partially covered 312, which was truncated by a cut (366) for brick wall 331, observed in the eastern trench wall only. A small pit (328) was located to the south of 331, and the bottom fill (329) contained some rusted ironwork. A brick surface (304) was recorded immediately beneath the rubble hardcore (301) and tarmac surface (300). The floor surface was inside the building represented by wall 305, oriented north-east to south-west.

Trench 4 (Figs 12-13)

Layers 403 and 405 formed make-up deposits, and consequently increased the level of the ground surface. This may have occurred while the brick buildings represented by walls 414, 417, 419 and 404 were still is use. A date of 17th century in layer 403 indicates residual finds. Above 403 was the hardcore rubble deposit (401), covered by the modern tarmac surface (400).

Trench 5 (Figs 14-15, Plate 10)

Layer 502 was truncated by a post-pit (536) filled with pinkish-red clay, and resembled several post-pits in Trench 1. Other remains indicative of structures included two brick walls (523 and 527) running parallel beside wall 521. A charcoal rich demolition layer (525) was located between the two walls only. Overlying these features were deposit 501 and 500, the hardcore layer and modern car park surface, respectively.

4.2 Artefact analysis, by Laura Griffin

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1 -3. Table 3 can be found in Appendix 2.

A substantial assemblage totalling 346 artefacts weighing 63.08kg was retrieved from the site. The assemblage was of mixed date spanning from the medieval to post-medieval periods. The finds were spot-dated and in the case of those from stratified deposits, this date was used to aid phasing of the site.

| Material | Туре | Total | Weight (g) |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|
| Pottery | Medieval | 33 | 332 |
| Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 62 | 3583 |
| Pottery | Post-medieval | 30 | 1348 |
| Bead | Amber | 1 | 1 |
| Brick | | 13 | 28650 |
| Tile | Floor | 1 | 162 |
| Tile | Ridge | 5 | 933 |
| Tile | Roof | 113 | 16865 |
| Roof furniture | | 3 | 296 |
| Ceramic | Object | 1 | 19 |
| Ceramic | Vitrified | 1 | 18 |
| Coal | | 1 | 1 |
| Copper alloy | Object | 3 | 2 |
| Copper alloy | Pin | 2 | 2 |
| Fired clay | | 2 | 76 |
| Flint | | 1 | 7 |
| Iron | Anvil | 1 | 1330 |
| Iron | Nail | 3 | 44 |
| Iron | Object | 5 | 82 |
| Mortar | | 4 | 63 |
| Pipe | Stem | 2 | 6 |

| Slag | | 7 | 508 |
|---------|-----------|----|------|
| Slag | Fuel ash | 3 | 4 |
| Slag | Iron | 21 | 4553 |
| Slate | Tile | 9 | 302 |
| Stone | ?Building | 1 | 84 |
| Stone | Building | 11 | 2156 |
| Stone | Burnt | 1 | 80 |
| Stone | Object | 1 | 301 |
| Textile | | 1 | 1 |

Table 1: Quantification of the assemblage

Pottery formed the largest material group totalling 125 sherds, weighing 5263g and accounting for 36% of the overall assemblage. The general condition of the sherds was good with only low levels of abrasion. The majority of sherds could be dated to the medieval and post-medieval periods with dates ranging between the 12th and 18th centuries. Where possible, sherds have been grouped and quantified according to the Warwickshire County (Sodon and Ratkai 1998) and Coventry City (Rylatt and Stokes 2003) fabric type series (see Table 2). A total of 28 diagnostic form sherds were present and could be dated accordingly; the remaining sherds were datable by fabric type to their general period or production span.

Ceramic building material formed the second largest material group accounting for 34% of the assemblage. The vast majority could be identified as fragments of flat roof tile of a longlived type produced between the 13th and 18th centuries. However, a small number of glazed ridge tiles, a single floor tile and a piece of roof furniture were also present and could be attributed to the medieval period. Other building material consisted of a sample of 13 complete or near complete bricks and 14 pieces of stone which appeared to have been used structurally and nine fragments of roofing slate. Four fragments of plaster were also recovered. Metalwork consisted of nine fragments of ironwork and five copper alloy objects. The identifiable ironwork included a highly corroded anvil and several nails. The remaining fragments were too corroded to identify at this stage of analysis. The copper alloy consisted of pins, a small fragment of rolled copper sheet and a heavily corroded disc. In addition, 31 pieces of iron slag were retrieved from the site, including fuel ash.

Other finds included a small amber bead (context 226), two pieces of clay pipe stem (context 4 and unstratified), one piece of coal (context 245), two pieces of fired clay (context 535), a worked flint (unstratified, trench 5) and a small fragment of textile (context 533).

Discussion

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, *terminus post quem* dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

| Fabric | Fabric common name | Total | Weight (g) |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------|------------|
| | | | |
| - | | 2 | 2 |
| MPS10 | Much Park Street fabric 10 | 2 | 101 |
| MPS5 | Much Park Street fabric 5 | 37 | 2855 |
| MP | Midlands purple ware | 3 | 753 |
| MB01 | Early Midlands blackware | 9 | 228 |
| MB01 | Midlands blackware | 13 | 324 |
| STG04 | Raeren stoneware | 2 | 21 |
| MANG | Manganese mottled ware | 3 | 37 |
| WW01 | Chilver Coton 'A' ware | 11 | 101 |
| SLM10/SLM11 | Late Chilvers Coton 'C' ware/ Late oxidised ware | 7 | 312 |
| MPS2 | Tudor Green-type ware | 6 | 9 |
| SQ203 | Coventry sandy ware A1 | 2 | 26 |
| SQ21 | Coventry glazed ware D | 1 | 45 |
| Sg12 | Deritend-type ware | 3 | 24 |

| WW012 | South Staffs whiteware | 3 | 29 |
|-------|---------------------------------------------|---|-----|
| N/CCW | Unidentified Nuneaton/ Chilvers Coton wares | 8 | 157 |
| COV | Unidentified Coventry wares | 6 | 214 |
| GRIT | Unidentified grit tempered wares | 2 | 20 |

Table 2: Quantification of the pottery by fabric type

Medieval

Material of medieval date formed the larger part of the assemblage from this site. A total of 18 contexts could be allocated a terminus post quem of medieval date, on the basis of the material retrieved (contexts 113, 115, 117, 118, 123, 125, 203, 212, 228, 238, 245, 309, 337, 348, 409, 423, 504 and 530). In addition, as commonplace on urban sites, there was also a significant amount of medieval material which could be identified as residual within contexts of later date.

Pottery

The pottery assemblage could be divided into two groups, the first being classed as medieval and consisting of 32 sherds dating between the 12th and 14th centuries and the second being of late medieval-early post-medieval forms which could generally be dated between the 15th and 16th centuries. This latter group was the larger of the two, consisting of 64 sherds.

The assemblage appeared typical of those previously found in the city, with pottery of local production dominating and only a very small amount of non-local wares present during 13th and 14th centuries. The assemblage consisted primarily of glazed wares, with only four sherds of cooking pot fabric identified. The lack of cooking pot sherds is in keeping with the largely later date of the assemblage with more widespread use of cast metal pots from the later 14th century onwards. Diagnostic sherds indicated a standard range of domestic vessel forms commonly seen on urban sites of this date.

Local wares were dominated by products of the Coventry and Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton industries. The earliest material consisted of two sherds from a cooking pot of Coventry sandy ware fabric A1 dating to the 12th-early 13th century (Warwickshire fabric SQ203; context 228). In addition, there was a base from a green glazed tripod pitcher of Coventry glazed ware fabric D which was of similar date (Warwickshire fabric SQ21; unstratified, Trench 3). A further two unglazed sherds thought to be from cooking pot-type vessels of similar date to the above vessels were also present. No parallel fabric types could be identified but both were very coarse containing abundant large rounded inclusions, probably mudstone.

The largest group of 13th-14th century pottery consisted of 11 sherds identified as being of Chilvers Coton 'A' ware (Warwickshire fabric WW01; contexts 118, 117, 206, 228, 230, 238, 337 and 504). All were decorated with a green glaze and the three diagnostic forms, including a strap handle with slashed decoration, and came from jug forms. In addition, a further 10 sherds were identified as being of probable Chilvers Coton production being variations of the above fabric ranging from pale pink through to pale orange in colour and having a similar range of inclusions (contexts 104, 203, 206, 245, 230, 409 and unstratified trench 2). Once more, identifiable forms were jugs and could be dated to a similar range as the Chilvers Coton 'A' ware.

Non-local wares consisted of three sherds of South Staffordshire whiteware (Warwickshire fabric WW012) and three of Deritend-type ware (Warwickshire fabric Sg12). All of the whiteware sherds were from jug forms, decorated with a patchy green glaze and could be dated to between the 13th and 14th centuries. Vessels of this fabric appear to have had a wide distribution with sherds commonly found in small quantity on sites in Worcester (Bryant 2004; Griffin 2004; Griffin forthcoming). Those of Deritend-type ware were decorated in a greenish brown glaze and one had painted white lines running down it, which are characteristic of this fabric type. Once more, sherds of this ware type are commonly dated to

between the 13th and 14th centuries and seem to have been distributed across the west Midlands region.

The later medieval/early post-medieval pottery similarly consisted of a range of locally produced wares. The fabric of the largest group of sherds from this group appeared to be the same as that identified as MPS 5 within the assemblage from earlier excavations at Much Park Street (Wright 1982, 121). A total of 37 sherds were identified in forms consisting of types commonly associated with groups of 15th-16th century date, including jars, cisterns and flared bowls (contexts 206, 246, 247, 337, 423, 504, 530 and trench 3 unstratified). The most complete vessels found within the assemblage were both of this fabric type and consisted of 24 sherds from a large cistern with a patchy orange-brown internal glaze and a flared bowl also with an internal glaze (context 530). No source has been identified for this fabric type but it is not thought to have come from the Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton area and bears most similarity to kiln waste found at Kirby Corner, Canley (ibid. 121).

Further fabric types identified within this later material, which could be paralleled with those found during earlier excavations in Much Park Street included six sherds of Tudor Green-type fabric (MPS 2; contexts 121, 226. 238, 246 and 309) and two sherds of late medieval coarser sandy wares (MPS 10; contexts 230 and 530). Those of the Tudor Green-type fabric all appeared to be from cup forms and displayed a dark or bright green glaze typical of this fabric type. Those of the coarser sandy ware included a roughly formed jar rim with a patchy, dark brown external glaze (context 230).

Material thought to be of later Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton production consisted of seven sherds of an oxidised fabric bearing strong resemblance to descriptions of Late Chilvers Coton 'C' ware (Warwickshire fabric SLM10). However, there are also similarities with the description of late oxidised ware (Warwickshire fabric SLM11) and comparison of this material with the type sherds for both fabric types will be needed to be sure as to which is the closest parallel. Once more forms consisted of large bowls, jar and cistern forms, all with a thin brownish green glaze and/or wash or thin slip. In addition, there were two further sherds of fabrics thought to be of Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton production but for which no exact fabric parallel could be found (contexts 503 and trench 3 unstratified).

Remaining coarseware sherds could not be identified as specific fabric types but were all of oxidised fabrics more reminiscent of those produced in or on the outskirts of Coventry than the Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton wares. This group consisted of 6 sherds which could be grouped into 4 different fabrics (contexts 118, 212, 504 and trench 2 unstratified).

In addition to the above, there were also two sherds of German stoneware present. These were both grey with a glossy glaze and identified as being of Raeren type (Warwickshire fabric STG04) and once more datable to the 15th-16th century.

Ceramic building material

As with the medieval pottery, roofing tile of this period fell into two distinct types consisting of a fine, micaceous oxidised fabric thought to be from the immediate vicinity and pale firing fabrics from the Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton area. In general, the oxidised fabric was used for flat roof tile and the pale firing for ridge tile and roof furniture that was decorated with a distinctive green glaze.

The flat roof tiles were generally nibbed, although a small number also displayed square pierced peg holes. Nibbed tiles and nib and peg tiles are thought to have been the earliest form of flat roof tile, being produced from the 13th century onwards. These appear to have been superseded by pegged forms by the 14th century in some areas of England, becoming virtually universal by the end of the 15th century (Fagan 1992, 13; Drury 1981, 131). Tiles of the oxidised fabric were found in quantity during the earlier excavations on Much Park Street (MPS Group III) and were dated from the 13th century inwards, being found in greater

quantity from the 14th century onwards, when they were found in association with the Nuneaton glazed ridge tiles (Wright 1982, 101). Only four fragments of flat tiles were of Nuneaton production (MPS Group I; context 206 and 426). All had a green glaze and three were from the same tile.

Five fragments of ridge tile were identified, all were unsanded and three were glazed (contexts 118, 504, 535 and trench 2 unstratified). In addition, a piece of roof furniture which took the form of a ridge tile with triangular cut-outs bordered by thumbed applied strips and covered in a patchy pale green glaze which has run through onto the underside. The most likely explanation for the purpose of this object would be as a ventilator. The fabric of this tile was of Nuneaton/Chilvers Coton type and although no direct parallels have been found, it is likely to date to the 14th century

A single floor tile was also recovered from context 504. It was plain with a dark green glaze, oxidised throughout with sanded base, slight bevel and measured 22mm thick. The fabric and decoration of this tile was identical to the description of those found during the earlier excavations on Much Park Street (Wright 1982, 103).

Metalwork

Metalwork from contexts of medieval date consisted of two copper pins (context 337 and 409) and two iron nails (contexts 228 and 531), an anvil (context 530) and an unidentifiable highly corroded iron object (context 530). The most interesting piece within this group was the anvil which was corroded but complete and ties in well with the evidence for iron smithing identified during the earlier excavations on Much Park Street (Wright 1982). The dating of context 530 within which it was found indicated a 15th-16th century date for this object.

Other ironwork found on the site may well be of medieval date but residual within later contexts. This material includes an unusual fragment of what appears to be a perforated sheet with thin tubes of iron 'threaded' through and bent into roughly oval loops/links (see Plate 11).

Iron slag

The majority of slag from the site was found within contexts of 15th-16th century date and that from later contexts can be assumed to be residual on this basis. Of the 31 pieces found, the majority were undiagnostic but that which could be was identified as smithing and fuel ash slag. In addition, a piece of vitrified ceramic with slag adhered to one surface was also found and was provisionally identified as being hearth lining (context 504).

Other material

Remaining material found within contexts of medieval date consisted of a piece of coal and fragments of roofing slate and large pieces of red sandstone and limestone, thought to be building rubble.

Post-medieval

A total of 14 contexts could be allocated a *terminus post quem* of post-medieval date on the basis of material found within them (104, 105, 206, 226, 230, 246, 247, 310, 333, 338, 405, 503, 535 and 550). Material ranged from the 16th-18th centuries in date and once more, was dominated by pottery.

Pottery

The post-medieval pottery consisted entirely of sherds from domestic forms commonly found on sites of late 16th-18th century date in this region. The most common fabric type was a black or dark brown glazed sandy red ware found in a variety of forms including cup, tyg and bowl/pancheon types Warwickshire fabric MB02; contexts 105, 247, 333, 338, 405, 503, 535 and unstratified). All 13 sherds of this fabric could be dated to between the mid 17th and 18th centuries, with the cup and tyg forms being of the earliest production.

A further eight sherds of a similar fabric were also identified, once more with brown glaze but also having distinctive white speckles (Warwickshire fabric MB02; contexts 206, 230, 247, 338 and trench 2 unstratified). All but one sherd of this fabric came from cup/tyg forms and was slightly earlier in date than those above being of the 16th-17th century. The remaining sherd appeared to come from a small jug, an unusual form in this fabric type (trench 2 unstratified).

Remaining sherds consisted of three of Midlands purple ware (Warwickshire fabric MP; contexts 230 and 246) and three of post-medieval buff ware with mottled brown glaze (Warwickshire fabric MANG; contexts 104 and 310). The Midlands purple ware included two sherds from a large pancheon form and the buff ware came from cup and tankard forms. All could be dated to between the 17th and 18th centuries.

Ceramic building material

A proportion of the flat roof tile assemblage described above is present within contexts of 16th-17th century date and later. This type of tile is of a long-lived type and although some of these tiles are likely to be residual, it is also likely that they were still being produced and used into the post-medieval period.

Other finds

Other finds found within contexts of post-medieval date include two clay pipe stem fragments (context 104 and unstratified), a highly corroded copper disc of c.5mm in diameter, possibly a token or rivet (context 206) and a small fragment of woven textile (context 533). In addition, a small amber bead was found within an environment sample taken from context 226. It is not possible to date this object but it could be of either medieval or post-medieval date.

Modern

A total of 13 bricks were recovered from contexts of 18th century date and later (contexts 128, 417, 419, 523 and 527). All were machine-made and generally measured $8.75 \times 4 \times 3$ inches in size.

4.3 Environmental analysis, by Alan Clapham

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Tables 4-6.

4.3.1 Hand-retrieved material

The hand-retrieved material consisted of large mammal bone, which has not been assessed, but the large quantity of bone recovered both by hand-retrieval and that present in the soil samples suggests that mammals, birds and fish all played an important part in the diet and economy of the area. Shellfish in the form of oyster shell was also recovered from the samples.

| Context | Sample | Sample type | Context type | Description | Period | Sample vol | Volume process ed | Residue assessed | Flot assessed |
|---------|--------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 530 | 2 | Bulk | Large pit | primary fill | Medieval | 40 | 10 | 1.21 | 50ml |

| 532 | 3 | Bulk | Large pit | 3rd fill | Medieval | 20 | 10 | 1.71 | 100ml |
|-----|---|------|------------------|----------|----------|----|----|-------|-------|
| 535 | 4 | Bulk | Ditch | fill | Medieval | 40 | 10 | 1.251 | 100ml |
| 118 | 5 | Bulk | Ditch | fill | Medieval | 40 | 10 | 0.51 | 15ml |
| 226 | 6 | Bulk | Recut pit 251 | fill | Post-Med | 40 | 10 | 1.01 | 30ml |
| 247 | 7 | Bulk | Pit 227 | fill | Post-Med | 40 | 10 | 0.61 | 35ml |

Table 4 Summary of the volume processed and residues and flots assessed from Much Park Street, Coventry

4.3.2 Wet-sieved samples

The wet sieved samples proved to be rich in all types of environmental evidence including waterlogged, charred and mineralised plant remains and in the majority of cases were well preserved (Table 5). Some waterlogged wood and large quantities of charcoal, fish bone and scales along with bird bone including a possible goose skull from context 247 were also recovered from the samples. Modern root material was present in all of the samples

Although plant remains were found in all of the contexts, the richest were 530 the primary fill of a large medieval pit and 226 from the fill of a recut pit 251, which was post-medieval in date. Cereals, other crops and weed seeds were identified. The cereals were preserved by charring and were represented by free-threshing wheat (Triticum sp), hulled barley (Hordeum vulgare) and rye (Secale cereale) grains. There was no evidence of chaff from any of the samples. Other crops recovered from the samples include peas (Pisum sativum) which were found as both charred and mineralised remains in both the medieval and post-medieval contexts. A charred cotyledon of broad bean (Vicia faba) was recovered from the postmedieval context 247. Charred flax seed (Linum usitatissimum) was found in the postmedieval context 226, as was the fruit of beet (Beta vulgaris), which may represent the remains of either leaf beet or beetroot. A single find of opium poppy (Papaver somniferum) was also found in this context. A condiment/spice in the form of fennel seeds (Foeniculum vulgare) were preserved by waterlogging in the medieval context 118, other exotic food remains included fig seeds (Ficus carica) were recovered from context 530. Other foodstuffs identified included hazelnut (Corylus avellana), in the form of charred nutshell from contexts 226 and 532, possible plum (Prunus sp.) from 530 and raspberry (Rubus idaeus) and blackberry (Rubus sect. Glandulosus) were found in context 226, 530 and 532. It is most likely that these finds represent wild foods gathered to supplement the diet, or in the case of the raspberry and blackberry pips they could have been growing in or around the site along with the elderberry (Sambucus nigra).

One of the samples (530) contained a large amount of mineralised concretions suggesting that the pit had been used either for dumping household waste or as a latrine, a complete dog coprolite was also identified from this context.

The non-cultivated plant remains indicated two types of habitat, one, damp as indicated by the finds of rush (*Juncus* spp.) seeds, bristle club-rush (*Isolepis setacea*) and sedge (*Carex* spp.) nutlets, and one disturbed, represented by fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*),

| Latin name | Family | Common name | Habitat | 118 | 226 | 247 | 530 | 532 | 535 |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Charred | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Triticum</i> sp (free- threshing) grain | Poaceae | free-threshing wheat | F | +++ | ++ | + | ++ | + | + |
| Triticum sp tail grain | Poaceae | wheat | F | ++ | | | | | |
| <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled) | Poaceae | barley | F | | ++ | + | + | | ++ |
| Secale cereale grain | Poaceae | rye | F | ++ | | | + | + | |
| Cereal sp indet grain | Poaceae | cereal | F | + | | | | | ++ |

| (fragments) | | | | | T | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|----|-----|----|------|----|-----|
| Cereal sp indet culm | Poaceae | cereal | F | | + | | | | |
| node | 1 ouccue | corour | 1 | | | | | | |
| Cereal sp indet embryo | Poaceae | cereal | F | | + | | | | |
| shoot | | | - | | | | | | |
| <i>Festuca/Lolium</i> sp grain | Poaceae | fescue/ryegrass | Α | | ++ | | | | |
| Bromus sp grain | Poaceae | brome grass | AF | + | + | | | + | |
| Avena sp grain | Poaceae | oat | AF | | | + | + | | |
| Poaceae sp indet grain | Poaceae | grass | ABD | | +++ | + | | | |
| (2mm size) | | - | | | | | | | |
| Ranunculus | Ranunculaceae | buttercup | CD | | +++ | | | | |
| acris/repens/bulbosus | | | | | | | | | |
| Corylus avellana shell | Betulaceae | hazelnut | С | | + | | | + | |
| fragment | | | | | | | | | |
| Beta vulgaris | Chenopodiaceae | beet | F | | + | | | | |
| <i>Rumex</i> sp | Polygonaceae | dock | ABCD | | ++ | | | | |
| Vicia faba | Fabaceae | broad bean | AF | | | + | | | |
| cf Vicia/Lathyrus sp | Fabaceae | vetch/pea | ABCD | ++ | + | | | | |
| Pisum sativum | Fabaceae | garden pea | AF | + | + | + | | | + |
| <i>Trifolium</i> sp | Fabaceae | clover | ABD | | + | | | | |
| Linum usitatissimum | Linaceae | flax | AF | | ++ | | | | |
| seed | | | | | | | | | |
| Plantago lanceolata | Plantaginaceae | ribwort plantain | ABD | | +++ | | | | |
| Anthemis cotula | Asteraceae | stinking chamomile | AB | + | + | | | | |
| Chrysanthemum | Asteraceae | corn marigold | AB | | + | | | | |
| segetum | | | | | | | | | |
| Lolium cf temulentum | Poaceae | darnel | AB | | + | | | - | |
| Mineralised | D : | 11 | ADDE | | - | | | - | |
| Brassica sp | Brassicaeae | cabbages | ABDF | | | ++ | + | | |
| Prunus sp | Kosaceae | sloe/damson/plum/cherry | | | | | ++ | | |
| CI VICIA/Lainyrus sp | Fabaceae | vetch/pea | ABCD | | | + | + | | |
| Cingium an | Asteropooo | garden pea | | | | | ++ | + | |
| Cirsium sp | Asteraceae | linenwood/comflower | ADDE | | | + | 1 | | |
| Weterlogged | Asteraceae | knapweed/conniower | ADD | | - | | Ŧ | | |
| Panavar of somnifarum | Dapaveraceae | onium poppy | ABE | | + | | | | |
| Figure carica | Moraceae | fig | ADr F | | T | | | | |
| Chenonodium album | Chanonodiacaaa | fat han | AR | | | | ++ | | |
| Rumar sp | Polygonaceae | dock | ABCD | + | | | + | | + |
| Viola sp | Violaceae | violet | DE | | | + | | | |
| Rubus idaeus | Rosaceae | raspherry | CD | | | | | | + |
| Rubus sect Glandulosus | Rosaceae | bramble | CD | | 1 | + | ++++ | ++ | |
| Foeniculum vulgare | Aniaceae | fennel | ABE | ++ | | | | | |
| Sambucus nigra | Caprifoliaceae | elderberry | BC | ++ | + | | ++ | ++ | +++ |
| Juncus sp | Juncaceae | rush | DE | | 1 | | + | | |
| Isolepis setacea | Cyperaceae | bristle club-rush | E | | 1 | | + | | |
| Carex sp | Cyperaceae | sedge | CDE | | 1 | | + | | |
| Cur on op | Cyperaceae | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | I | 1 |

Table 5. Table showing the plant remains recovered from Much Park Street, Coventry

| Habitat | Quantity |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| A= cultivated ground | + = 1 - 10 |
| B= disturbed ground | ++=11-50 |
| C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc | +++ = 51 - |
| | 100 |
| D = grasslands, meadows and | ++++ = 101+ |
| heathland | |
| E = aquatic/wet habitats | |
| F = cultivar | |
| | |

Key for table 5

corn marigold (*Chrysanthemum segetum*), clover (*Trifolium* sp.), thistle (*Cirsium* sp.) and knapweed/cornflower (Centaurea sp.). It is possible that the presence of these species indicate the processing of cereals in the area but the lack of cereal chaff in the samples suggests that the cereal grains represent a pre-cleaned crop that was grown elsewhere and imported into the area. Therefore the arable/disturbed element of the assemblage may represent plants growing in the vicinity of the features excavated. The presence of stinking chamomile indicates that heavy clayey soils were utilised for growing crops as were the lighter, less fertile sandy soils indicated by the finds of corn marigold. It is possible that the original source of these plants was from discarded cereal processing waste, which at a later stage became established as an urban weed flora associated with disturbed areas caused by constant trampling, and the associated wetland species indicate that some of the area may have been quite soft and wet underfoot.

| Contex t | Sampl e | large mammal | small mammal | fish | bir d | mollusc | insect | eggshell | charcoal | charred plant | mineralized plant | waterlogged plant | hammers cale | Comment |
|-------------|------------|--------------|-----------------|------|----------|---------|--------|----------|----------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 118 | 5 | mod | | rare | occ | | | | abut | rare | | - | occ | coal & slag present |
| 226 | 6 | abut | | abut | | | | | mod | rare | | | occ | coal & slag present |
| 247 | 7 | mod | | mod | occ | rare | | | abut | occ | occ | | occ | coal & slag present |
| 530 | 2 | | mod | abut | mo d | rare | occ | rare | abut | rare | mod | | | coal & slag present |
| 532 | 3 | mod | | occ | rare | occ | | | mod | rare | occ | | occ | coal & slag present |
| 535 | 4 | mod | | occ | rare | | | | mod | | rare | rare | occ | coal & slag present |

Table 6 Summary of the other environmental remains recovered from the residues and flots from Much Park Street, Coventry

4.3.3 **Overview of environmental evidence**

In general, cereal remains were found in both medieval and post-medieval contexts, although rye was only found in the medieval samples from this site. The lack of cereal chaff of all the species suggests that crop processing occurred elsewhere and it is most likely that the cereals were brought into the area already fully cleaned. Other cultivated foodstuffs identified include broad bean, peas, and possible beetroot. Charred flax seeds were also found a post-medieval context (226). Edible wild species that may have been collected to supplement the diet included hazel nuts, raspberries and blackberries. Exotic foods were rare in these samples but fig seeds were found in a medieval deposit suggesting that there was some trade. The dominant food remain in all of the samples consisted of fish, animal and bird bone.

The non-cultivated seeds identified from these contexts are more suggestive of an urban flora rather than crop-processing activities giving the lack of cereal chaff remains. The presence of stinking chamomile and corn marigold suggest that both heavy and light soils were used to grow the crops.

The presence of slag and hammerscale suggests that this was an industrial area.

5. **Synthesis**

5.1.1 Environmental Synthesis, by A. J. Clapham

Medieval and post-medieval plant remains

There has been a very limited number of environmental archaeology reports on the medieval and post-medieval occupation of Coventry, and these include Carruthers (2003) on the medieval cathedral and Priory of St Mary, which consisted of analysis of a small number of samples from a variety of pits, occupation layers and drains as well as from the wheel pit, Greig and Strachan (2003) on Broadgate East, Fryer (2006 & 2007) on Belgrade Plaza, Deighton, (2006) at 68-70 Whitefriars Street. These were all from the medieval town ditch and one, Greig (2003) from Upper Well Street.

In all cases, except from one sample from a stone lined pit in St Mary's Priory (Carruthers 2003), the reported numbers of charred and waterlogged remains from these excavations was low. Plant remains have been preserved by charring, waterlogging and mineralisation. The cereal remains identified include barley, wheat, rye and oats and in the case of the stone lined pit at St Mary's the finding of equal amounts of free-threshing (of both bread (*Triticum aestivum*-type and rivet wheat (*Triticum turgidum*-type)) wheat and rye grains, Carruthers (2003) suggested that they had been grown as a maslin. It has also been noted that there have been very few cereal chaff remains identified from any of the previous reports and it has been suggested that this represents the accidental charring of cereal grains during food preparation.

Other crops were recorded in low numbers, except at the cathedral and priory site were waterlogged seeds and capsule fragments of flax were identified and have been interpreted as possible evidence for flax retting. A hemp seed (*Cannabis sativa*) was also recovered from this wheel pit and again has been interpreted as evidence for fibre production (Carruthers 2003). Pea remains have also been recorded from the ditch in Upper Well Street but no beans have been recorded (Greig 2004). Previous reports also showed no indication for the use of condiments or spices.

Evidence of exotic foodstuffs that would have been imported from abroad is scant, although uncharred fig seeds were identified by Carruthers (2003) from the medieval and priory complex. Weed seeds have also been recorded in low numbers and represent cultivated/disturbed land and wet/damp ground. The cultivated/disturbed component of the assemblages has been interpreted as those species that can be found growing with the crops and again, because of their low numbers it has been suggested that there has been no local crop-processing activity, although there was evidence to suggest that different soil types were being used for the cultivation of crops (Carruthers 2003). Wild foodstuffs were noted in the majority of cases, mainly of hazel nutshell fragments that were preserved by both charring and waterlogging. A large number of hazel nutshell fragments, including some complete nuts were recovered from the wheel pit which Carruthers (2003) suggested represented hazel trees growing either close to or over the wheel pit, and were probably enjoyed by the mill workers. Bramble and elderberry seeds were also recovered from these sites. Greig and Strachan (2003) identified abundant seeds of strawberry from Broadgate Street East. Possible sloe and damson stones have also been identified (Greig & Strachan 2003) from this site.

Fish bone, bird bone and mammal bone have been recorded from the various excavations, some of which has been studied in detail and not so in other cases. Coal and charcoal has been recorded in abundance at all sites and it has been suggested that this represents the dumping of the remains of domestic fires. Slag and hammerscale have been detected at a number of sites including Upper Well Street, (Greig 2004), and Whitefriars Street (Deighton 2006) indicating industrial activity.

This previous work generally agrees with the analyses carried out here.

5.2 **Prehistoric**

Only one prehistoric artefact was recovered in this project. As it was unstratified, it is not considered to date any specific prehistoric activity on the site, although it does indicate prehistoric activity in the past. Thus, like previous sites excavated in this area of Coventry,

there is little evidence of prehistoric settlement in the area of Much Park Street. Likewise, no Roman archaeological remains were recovered in this project.

5.3 $12^{\text{th}} - 14^{\text{th}}$ Century

Unlike excavations at Stone House, 7-10, and 122-3 Much Park Street, there was little evidence for early medieval settlement in this project. With the earliest evidence, two pot sherds dating to the 12th-early 13th century coming from an unstratified deposit, and two other sherds of similar age in residual contexts, there were no actual contexts dated to the early medieval period. A group of sherds from the 13th-14th century were also recovered, but again these were in residual context or unstratified. While no features were excavated that could be dated to the early medieval period, a large percentage were not excavated which could prove to be of this period. Nevertheless, the evidence does indicate some earlier settlement either on the site or close by. While the evidence does not correspond with evidence for metalworking found at 122-3 Much Park St, it does indicate domestic activities with fragments of cooking pots (12-13th centuries) and jugs and storage vessels (13-14th centuries).

One possible layer may pre-date all other evidence on the site. While not dated, a layer of brown clay with charcoal and bone was recorded, located beneath the sandstone walls in Trench 4 (see below) which may date to the 14th century. This layer closely resembled a layer identified in the Greyhound Public House excavation, also located beneath sandstone walls, which was interpreted as representing agricultural activity prior to any industrial use of this area of Much Park St (Flitcroft 1997, 11). Wright (1982, 37) suggests, since the layer was observed at all three excavated sites on Much Park St (prior to this excavation) that the layer could indeed represent an brief return to cultivation in the area. In Trench 4 the layer does, however, slope to the north, and as such it may fill a cut feature pre-dating construction of the wall. Additional excavation is required in order to fully understand and characterise this deposit.

Of interest was evidence of a large structure represented by a sandstone wall in Trench 4 (context 415), which was located closest to the current frontage of Much Park Street. The structure was aligned with the extant Much Park St frontage, and bears striking similarities to a structure identified in the Greyhound Public House (120-121 Much Park St, Flitcroft 1997). In this latter excavation, a sandstone wall (83) was identified, which on comparison with results in this project appears to run on the roughly the same alignment as wall 415. Additional lesser walls have been identified in both projects, on the southern side of the main walls (415 and 83). In addition, Flitcroft (1997) identified layers resembling surfaces within the structure, and similar layers were also identified to the south of walls 415 and 414 in this project. While the structures identified in this project could not be securely dated, if they correspond to those identified in the Greyhound Public House excavation they could date to the 14th century.

It is unclear exactly what these structures might represent. However, Flitcroft (1997, 17) suggests that the building in the Greyhound Public House excavation could represent a tower placed on the periphery of the town, possibly within the northern limits of Cheylesmore Park. While it is not posited to have been a similar structure to Stonehouse located opposite, it was likely built in relation to similar motivations. Alternatively, as the walls were not overly thick, nor particularly well engineered, the sandstone walls may instead have provided footings for a timber house(s), built following clearance of buildings and occupation sites in the 14th century (Wright 1982, 33). Unlike Stonehouse, though, the structures identified here were partially demolished in the late medieval-early post-medieval period. In Trench 4 evidence of a levelling deposit covering the walls suggests a change in the use of this part of the site in the post-medieval period. Certainly, the archaeological record in Trench 4 does differ to the rest of the site, and it has the most potential for evidence of early medieval activities due to the possible agricultural layer (discussed above) and closeness to the former street frontage.

Evidence of former medieval buildings was recovered indirectly in the form of demolition deposits, as roof tiles and roof furniture, which date from the 13-14th centuries. These were present in most trenches, some more obvious dumps than others, and of particular interest was the fragment of glazed roof furniture. These finds seem to correlate with previous excavation in Much Park St (Wright 1982, 103). While it is unclear exactly where these buildings were located, the deposits were placed in the 16th-17th century, certainly suggesting demolition or rebuilding of roofs (at least) of medieval buildings during this time.

5.4 **15th-16th centuries**

The remainder of the site displayed a high level of evidence indicating activities in the $15^{th} - 16^{th}$ century. While documentary evidence points to an economic decline in the late 15^{th} to early 16^{th} century (Soden 2005, 35), with as many as 50% of houses occupied by the poor (Wright 1982, 42-3), archaeological evidence from this project indicates that this area of Much Park St was occupied and metalworking was taking place.

The majority of late medieval features were represented by pits, some cut deep (c.1m) into the underlying sandstone, and also postholes in Trench 2. Only a small percentage of pits identified were excavated, so it is difficult to characterise them as a whole. While it was initially posited that these pits were linked directly to metalworking activities, environmental and finds analysis suggest that some features may have been cesspits. Evidence from one of these (pit 529) supports the supposition of a smithy (at least one) becoming re-established at 123 Much Park St (HEASa, 10), with the recovery of an anvil and also hammerscale, coal and slag. Also recovered was a range of food remains, from blackberry and elderberry seeds, to bird and fish bones. In addition, some pits were likely rubbish pits. The density of pits thus suggests intensive occupation in this period, with the back plots playing an important role in domestic activities. However, it is difficult to establish any patterns or characterise the pit assemblage as a whole at this stage of the project.

Of interest was a large east-west oriented ditch located on the southwest extent of the site during this period. While it could represent a plot boundary, it could also be linked to drainage on the site. The environmental remains record the presence of hammerscale, coal and slag, indicative of metal working activities during this period, even on the southwest extent of the site. Unlike excavations at 124-5 Much Park St, no pits or features could be directly assigned as industrial pits *per se*. However, some pits did display evidence of small-scale activities in the form of pins and metal objects. As suggested above, then, the image is one of intensive occupation on the site during this period, with evidence for both domestic and industrial activities.

5.5 **16th - 17th centuries**

Evidence for occupation on the site during this period can be seen by pits and levelling deposits. The pits are comprised largely of demolition materials in the form of roof tiles, plaster, and sandstone fragments. As discussed above, a large percentage of materials were medieval which suggests either rebuilding activities or re-roofing in the area, and the sandstone fragments certainly suggest masonry work. The back plots were therefore used as dumping areas, most likely in order to increase the ground surface, as several make-up layers across the site date to this period. This includes a thick deposit that covers the medieval sandstone walls in Trench 1. John Speed's map (1610) certainly indicates a built up street frontage on both Much Park St and Dead Lane, with the back plots largely devoid of buildings. As such, this period appears to have been characterised by dumping and ground-building activities in relation to occupation and industries on the route out of Coventry to London.

5.6 $18^{th} - 19^{th}$ centuries

In the east half of the site there was evidence for brick and sandstone structures. In Trench 1 several brick walls were constructed, with one clearly utilising the remaining sandstone wall (415) as a foundation. Consultation of both Bradfords map (1748-9) and the Board of Health Map (1852) indicate the presence of buildings on this part of the site in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the brick walls identified here are considered to correlate with these buildings.

Two partial sandstone walls or foundations were also observed in the southeast extent of the site (Trench 5), indicating structural remains that may relate to the buildings on the Much Park St frontage. These walls, however, are above several makeup layers that seal the post-medieval pits, again suggestive of levelling the site prior to possible rebuilding.

The northwest extent (Trench 3) of the site attests to dumping of rubbish in the form of multiple pits and pit re-cuts, the majority of which date to the 18th century. Containing silty materials, bone, mortar fragments, these pits appeared to cluster in this area. In the central and south-east areas, evidence was more in the form of makeup deposits. While Trench 1 did display some pits, a thick layer was observed across the trench, covering the earlier pits. This pattern of made ground was also observed in Trench 2. Consultation of the Board of Health Map (1852) indicates a park-like area with grass and trees or shrubs during this period, and the makeup deposits thus discussed could correspond with transformation of the back plots into a communal area during the mid-19th century. By the end of this century the park appears to have returned to industrial use, with the 1st edition OS map indicating a timber yard occupying the majority of the site.

5.7 **20th century**

With the entire site having been turned into a car park at the latter end of the 20th century, there was actually little truncation in preparation of the tarmac surface. This has consequently led to the survival of multiple buildings. Evidence of 20th century structures was observed in each trench across the site. A sandstone wall that bounds the western edge of the site (Trench 1) can be dated to the early 20th century, indicating re-use of sandstone blocks, possibly from the old city wall. The wall is considered to have been in place by the time the site was occupied by the ribbon dye works in 1936, with evidence for large post-pads, and a brick floor in Trench 2 belonging to this extant building. Two parallel running walls and a brick surface in Trench 3 closely resembled a structure located on the 1936 OS map, and so too continued use of structures in Trench 4 which may have been related to the Midland Brewery. The south-east area of the site, as seen in Trench 5, also had brick wall remains that indicate at least one building on this part of the site.

5.8 **Research frameworks**

The West Midlands Regional Research Framework (http://www.archant.bham.ac.uk/research/fieldwork_research_themes/projects/wmrrfa/sem5.htm) provides a forum in which to assess the relevance and importance of the archaeological record of this project. It is particularly relevant to the medieval research strategy defined by Soden (2004) for medieval Coventry, which encompass a broader research strategy for medieval towns as specified by Baker (2003). With Coventry having been the 4th most important medieval city in England in the 14th century (Soden 2004, 1), any archaeological research undertaken in the city 'has a place in the vanguard of urban archaeological research' (Soden 2004, 4).

Based on the regional research strategy for the west midlands, Soden (2004) detailed 13 important aspects of research to be considered for Coventry, of which 10 are relevant here:

- Studies in urban origins
- Medieval town planning

- > Pattern of local, national and international trade
- Industrial/trading enclaves and the role of guilds
- ▶ Urban production and urban consumption
- Palaeoenvironmental studies
- > The interaction of town and country: food, fuel and manpower
- > Interdisciplinary work on the documentary record and the existing finds collections

The results of this project do address aspects of these research criteria. The archaeological record has informed on the development of Much Park St in both early and late medieval contexts, such as building remains and occupation layers, and when considered in concert with medieval urban planning research for Coventry (e.g. Lilley, 1998) could provide further insight into medieval town planning and urban origins. Results from the environmental analysis illustrate excellent survival rates of variable kinds of domestic food stuffs, with excellent potential for addressing local and national trade, patterns in urban consumption, and the interaction between town and country. This is complemented by the finds analysis which indicated clear evidence for industrial activities on site, with the presence of an anvil, slag and hammerscale relevant in further studies of urban production, industrial trading and of guilds, as well as pottery with relevance to studies of consumption and interaction. That the site illustrates intensive occupation in a period when the city was recorded to have been in economic decline ($15^{\text{th}}-16^{\text{th}}$ centuries) demonstrates clear potential for interdisciplinary studies with the documentary record.

6. Significance

6.1 Artefactual Significance by Laura Griffin

This assemblage forms a well-preserved group of finds. Although having been subjected to a degree of disturbance since deposition and as a result, a number of key contexts can still be relatively closely dated.

The pottery assemblage shows a good degree of similarity to that from other sites excavated locally and most importantly the earlier excavations undertaken on Much Park Street (Wright 1982), with fabrics being primarily of local production and a limited range of forms present. Despite this, the pottery has provided a good framework from which to date specific contexts and other material within the assemblage.

The volume of material retrieved from the small area of the site evaluated, indicates that the retrieval of a high volume of artefactual material should be anticipated in the event of development of this site.

6.2 Archaeological by Sarah Phear and Hal Dalwood

In considering significance, the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments (DoE 1990, annex 4), have been used as a guide.

These nationally accepted criteria are used to assess the importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. Though scheduling is not being considered in this case they form an appropriate and consistent framework for the assessment of any archaeological site. The criteria should not, however, be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

Based on the consideration of the site within the research framework detailed in the last section, and in consideration with of Baker's (2003) key research strategies for large medieval towns, the significance of the site can be discussed under the following headings.

Urban Growth and Population

The documentary and previous archaeological evidence from Much Park Street (south of the 'town ditch') indicate that this area was first occupied in the mid-12th century. Goddard has suggested that the layout of the area and the earliest occupation dated from after 1280, based on interpretation of documentary sources (Goddard 2004, 106). While evidence from the evaluation predominantly informs on the mid-late medieval period, the layer beneath the possible 14th century building on the north-east extent of the site is significant in that it predates the building and relates to earlier settlement on this part of Much Park St. As archaeological features predating the 14th century were not identified across the rest of the site, this north-east area has the potential for the survival of early medieval remains that can inform on initial urban growth.

Detailed plan-analysis of Coventry has been undertaken as the focus of research by Keith Lilley. The Much Park Street/Little Park Street area in particular has been discussed in some detail, in order to demonstrate the application of plan analysis for medieval Coventry (Lilley 1998). This part of Coventry stands out as having a regular geometric layout of streets and plots, a common feature of medieval town planning, although there is considerable variability in plot width on the earliest detailed town plans (Lilley 1998, 5-7, figs 2 and 3). With a high potential to inform on plot boundaries through pit and structural remains, the results of this project are significant and have great potential to address the urban development in this part of the medieval city.

The refuse that accumulated in back plots provides a direct insight into medieval and postmedieval households, including patterns of consumption in the broadest sense. Medieval towns with large populations such as Coventry depended on extensive hinterlands for food supply, and food waste (animal bone and plant remains) are direct indicators of networks of food supply. As many as 20% of the 13th century population of Coventry were involved in food supply to the rest of the urban population (Goddard 2004, 160-1). Archaeological evidence provides the means of understanding food supply in detail. The results of the evaluation indicated that the survival of animal and fish bone was good, as was the survival of plant macrofossils, including remains of cereals and fruit. Therefore, the potential for environmental analysis in informing on consumption, in relation to population growth and decline, are significant.

A wide range of goods were traded to and from medieval towns, and the understanding of archaeological evidence for trade from individual towns can only be achieved through comparison with documentary evidence. The economic development of Coventry between the 12th and 14th century has been studied intensively through documentary sources (Goddard 2004). Pottery forms the most distinctive and diverse evidence for traded goods from archaeological excavations, and the assemblage from the evaluation is relatively large and well-preserved, as section 7.1 has illustrated.

In discussing the evidence from excavations in Much Park Street, Wright pointed to documentary evidence for decline in the late 15th to early 16th century, with as many as 50% of houses occupied by the poor (Wright 1982, 42-3). With results thus far indicating intensive occupation of the site during this period, there is significant potential to inform on the documentary evidence and provide a more detailed picture of growth and decline in both the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Industry and Production

The industries that contributed to the remarkable growth of Coventry in the 12th to 14th century have been studied by Goddard (2004). In the 13th century, for example, the three industries that occupied the greatest numbers of the population were metalworking (15%), textiles (15%), and leather and fur (11.5%): no single trade dominated unlike other major towns (Goddard 2004, 160-8, tables 6-7, fig 2). The archaeological evidence from other sites in Much Park Street was dominated by metalworking, including bronze working casting buckles and blacksmiths; there was evidence for various other crafts (e.g. hornworking) associated with the production of finished metal goods, such as knives (Wright 1982).

The evaluation also produced direct evidence for blacksmithing, including an iron anvil and smithing waste (Trenches 1, 2, and 5). This evidence is associated with a blacksmith's workshop, which probably includes structural evidence for the forge.

The evidence for smithing was the only medieval production industry directly indicated, although the evaluation of a small area cannot be expected to reveal the full range of evidence for production industries. However, the development site is significant as it offers the potential to expand the range of evidence available on medieval industries in Coventry.

Housing and Buildings

Previous excavations in Coventry have revealed both stone and timber structures in the early period (HEAS 2007b, 7). The evaluation produced evidence for medieval buildings. Partial stone foundations of two buildings were revealed in one trench (Trench 4). The trench was c. 20m from the extant street frontage, and this evidence can be interpreted as part of a long range of buildings stretching back from the street frontage. It is possible that this was part of range of buildings belonging to a wealthier townsman, probably a merchant.

The evaluation produced extensive evidence for ceramic building materials, including ceramic roof tiles and roof furniture. This evidence is most usually broken and discarded during periods of rebuilding, Wright recorded a period of extensive demolition of buildings on Much Park Street in the mid-14th century, followed by rebuilding in the later 14th century, with further rebuilding of houses in the 15th and 16th century (Wright 1982, 33-42).

The development site is significant in that it offers the potential to expand the knowledge of the medieval building traditions in Coventry. Excavations in Much Park Street have already provided a range of evidence for different medieval building types. Further evidence for building types will produce a more complete picture of the streetscape, the mixture of building types, and the mixture of households of different degrees of relative wealth and poverty.

7. **Recommendations**

The potential and significance of the site has already been highlighted, and as such a high degree of importance is placed on the site to inform on the medieval and post medieval history of Coventry. Therefore, based upon the results of the evaluation, as detailed above, it is recommended that the site undergo full excavation.

The recommendations above are those of the Service and may vary from those of any archaeological curator or advisor to the planning authority.

8. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological Evaluation was undertaken at St John's St car park, Much Park St (NGR 3368 7866), Coventry (Fig 1), on behalf of Stoford Developments Ltd and Severn Trent Water Ltd (the Clients). The clients intend commercial redevelopment of the site with associated landscaping and car parking, and Coventry City Council considered that a site of archaeological interest may be affected.

Five trenches were opened across the car park totalling an area of $158m^2$, and excavation took place in three phases. The results indicate widespread evidence of occupation and industrial activity in the form of metalworking across the whole site in the mid-late medieval period, with one trench illustrating the remains of sandstone structure what may date to the 14th century. The predominant medieval features were pits, which appear to be cesspits and rubbish pits. While several postholes were also identified, this feature type was generally under-represented. Clear evidence for metal working in the form of an iron anvil, slag and hammerscale attest to the industrial activities. Well preserved environmental evidence also indicates a variety of plant remains, including exotic species. In one trench a series of sandstone walls were identified which could form the rear of buildings stretching from the original Much Park Street frontage. Based on similarities with structural features in the Greyhound Public House excavation, the wall may date to the 14th century.

Post-medieval activities are attested to by additional pit cuts, but also the placement of makeup deposits to level the surface. In the 18th and 19th centuries there is evidence for a small number of pits, but also additional make-up deposits, with the latter possibly related to the conversion of the back plots into a park or open area with trees and shrubs in the late 19th century. With little truncation caused by the placement of the modern tarmac car park surface, there is also evidence for 20th century buildings, which appear to correlate with buildings observed on OS maps.

While the site did not provide clear evidence for occupation in the early medieval period such as that seen in three previous excavations on Much Park Street, the north-east portion of the site has a high potential to yield such evidence. The site is considered to have a high level of significance and potential in relation to the criteria identified in the West Midlands Archaeology Regional Framework, in relation to both large medieval cities, and more specific criteria identified for medieval Coventry itself.

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10. **Personnel**

The fieldwork and report preparation was led by Sarah Phear. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Rogers. Fieldwork was undertaken by Sarah Phear, Tegan Cole and Richard Shakles, finds analysis by Laura Griffin, environmental analysis by Alan Clapham and illustration by Steve Rigby.

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Figures



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Figure 2 Trench locations





Figure 4 Trench 1 North wall section
West wall section



Ditch 130 west facing section



Figure 5 Trench 1 sections continued.









Figure 8 Trench 2 pit sections



Figure 9 Trench 3 plan



Figure 10 Trench 3 sections



Figure 11 Trench 3 south wall section









Plates



Plate 1 Trench 1: medieval ditch 119. Facing east.



Plate 2 Trench 1: sandstone wall and post-medieval layers. Facing west.



Plate 3 Trench 2 facing south.



Plate 4 Trench 2 pit 227 pre-excavation. Facing south.



Plate 5 Trench 3: medieval pit features at base. Facing west.



Plate 6 Trench 3: Sondage illustrating pit 347 and 334 with multiple re-cuts. Facing east.



Plate 7 Trench 4: Pit 529 half section. Facing east.



Plate 8 Trench 4: Sondage next to wall 414, illustrating the pre-construction layer 413. Facing east.



Plate 9 Trench 5: Pit 529 (foreground, pre-excavation), pit 552 (background) truncated by ditch 534.



Plate 10 Trench 5: pit 529 half section. Facing east.



Plate 10 Trench 5: Sandstone wall foundation 521 and brick wall 523. Facing south.



Plate 11 Perforated sheet of metal it iron 'threads'.

Appendix 1 Trench descriptions

Trench 1

| Maximum dimensions: | Length: 13m | Width: 4m | Depth: 1.3-1.7m |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| infuntinaliti antifettorono. | Dongen. 15m | ,, ioitii. 1111 | Deptil. 1.5 1.7 m |

Orientation:

East-west

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 100 | Modern surface | Tarmac and concrete layer of car park. | 0.11m |
| 101 | Made ground | Hardcore deposit for tarmac surface. In east half of trench only. | 0.11-0.4m |
| 102 | Layer | Mixed brown clay and ash deposit. | 0.11-0.25m |
| 103 | Layer | Reddish-brown clay, compact. Present beneath 100 on west extent only. Mixed with some brown clay across east end. | 0.4-0.55m |
| 104 | Layer | Dark grey sandy clay, compact. Frequent small CBM fragments, charcoal flecks. Occasional small stones. Possibly worked as garden soil. | 0.5-0.85m |
| 105 | Layer | Mid brown silty sandy clay, moderately compact to loose. Frequent small sandstone and red clay fragments, small CBM fragments, and small charcoal flecks. Occasional small stones, and small plaster fragments. | 0.85-1.2m |
| 106 | Deposit | Brown clay, loose. Frequent modern CBM fragments, glass fragments, and small bits of metal and slag. | 0.15-0.2m |
| 107 | Structure – wall | North-south aligned red sandstone wall, five courses remain, 0.6m wide: 0.56 x 0.21 x 0.21m, to 0.3 x 0.13 x 0.1m blocks Set with pinkish mortar, on top of foundation deposit 108, within cut 109. | 0 – 0.9m |
| 108 | Foundation deposit | Small-medium brick fragments, set with lime and mortar. Foundation deposit for 107. Fill of 109. | 0.28-0.68m |
| 109 | Foundation Cut | Sharp BFS, vertical sides, sharp BTB, flat base. Visible on east side only. Cut for wall 107. Filled by 108. | 0.28-0.68m |
| 110 | Fill | Reddish pink clay, compact, plastic. Occasional charcoal flecks, and small CBM fragments. Fill of 111. | 1-1.5m |
| 111 | Posthole cut | Circular in plan. North and south sides visible only. | 1-1.5m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Sharp BFS, steep to gradual sloping sides, gradual BTB, concave base. Visible in section only. | |
| 112 | Fill | Mid greyish-brown sandy silty clay, moderately compact and cohesive. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional small red sandstone fragments, small CBM and small bone fragments. Fill of 113. | 0.85-1.3m |
| 113 | Pit cut | South side visible only. Sharp BFS, gentle sloping side, gradual BTB, concave base. Filled by 112. Truncated in north extent by 111. Visible in section only. | 0.85-1.3m |
| 114 | Fill | Mid greyish-brown sandy silty clay, moderately compact and cohesive. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional small red sandstone fragments, small CBM and small bone fragments. Fill of 116. | 1-1.68m |
| 115 | Fill | Dense charcoal fill at base of pit. Occasional pot sherds, small bone fragments, small CBM and plaster fragments. | 1.68-1.85m |
| 116 | Pit cut | East side visibly only. Sharp BFS, gentle sloping side, sharp/gradual BTB, flattish to concave base. Filled by 114 and 115. Truncated on south extent by 111. | 1-1.85m |
| 117 | Fill | Mid brown silty sand, moderately compact and cohesive. Frequent small flecks of red clay and degraded red sandstone fragments, charcoal flecks and small pieces, small limestone and slate fragments. Occasional potsherds, and animal bone fragments. Fill of 119. Same as 118. Visible in west wall section only. | 0.89-1.59m |
| 118 | Fill | Mid brown silty sand, moderately compact and cohesive. Frequent small flecks of red clay and degraded red sandstone fragments, charcoal flecks and small pieces, small limestone and slate fragments. Occasional potsherds. Rare animal bone fragments. Fill of 119. | 1.22-1.74m |
| 119 | Ditch cut | Runs east-west. South extent of ditch only visible. Sharp BFS, gently to steep sloping sides, only partial base exposed which is flattish and irregular. | 1.22-1.74m |
| 120 | Natural | Degraded red sandstone of Keresley Member, with some patches of brownish-yellow sand. | 1.2m |
| 121 | Fill | Reddish pink clay, compact, plastic. Occasional charcoal flecks, and small CBM fragments. Fill of 122. | 1.05 + |
| 122 | Posthole cut | Circular in plan. North and south sides visible only: sharp BFS, steep to gradual sloping sides, gradual BTB, concave base. Visible in section only. Filled by 121. | 1.05 + |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 123 | Fill | Mixed brown clay silt. Frequent tile and red sandstone fragments, small pieces of charcoal, small bone and plaster fragments. Fill of 124. | 1.22-1.66m |
| 124 | Pit cut | East west sides visible only. Sharp BFS, steep to gradual sides, gradual BTB, concave base. | 1.22-1.66m |
| 125 | Fill | Mixed brown clay silt. Frequent small and medium tile and red sandstone fragments, small pieces of charcoal, small bone and plaster fragments. Fill of 126. | 1.31m + |
| 126 | Pit cut | East and west sides visible only. Sharp BFS, steep to gradual sides, base not visible. | 1.31m + |
| 127 | Layer | Mid brown silty sand, moderately compact and cohesive. Frequent small flecks of red clay, charcoal flecks and small pieces, and small limestone fragments. Occasional potsherds, and degraded red sandstone fragments. Rare animal bone. | 1.22-1.62m |
| 128 | Fill | Reddish pink clay, compact, plastic. Occasional charcoal flecks, and small CBM fragments. Fill of 129. | 1.4m + |
| 129 | Posthole cut | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 1.4m+ |
| 130 | Pit cut? | South side only partially visible. Sharp BFS, steep sides, sharp BTB. Filled by 131. | |
| 131 | Fill | Dark brownish-grey silty clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks and small pieces. Occasional tile fragments, small pieces of animal bone, pot sherds, mortar fragments, and root action. Fill of 130. | 1.4-1.8m |
| 132 | Pit | South side only visible. Gradual BFS, steep sides. Filled by 133. Truncates 131. | 1.4-1.7m |
| 133 | Fill | Dark greyish-brown silty clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks and small pieces. Occasional small animal bone fragments, small pebbles, and mortar fragments. Fill of 132. | 1.4-1.7m |
| 134 | Pit | South side only partially visible. Sharp BFS, steep side. Filled by 133. Truncates 133. | 1.4-1.6m |
| 135 | Fill | Brownish-red silty clay sand, compact. Occasional small charcoal flecks, small animal bone fragments, and small red degraded sandstone fragments. Occasional root action. Fill of 134. | 1.4-1.6m |

Maximum dimensions: Length: 12m Width: 4m

Depth: 1.5m

Orientation: North-south

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 200 | Modern surface | Tarmac and concrete layer of car park. | 0.06m |
| 201 | Made ground | Rubble and hardcore layer for 200. | 0.06-0.2m |
| 202 | Natural | Degraded red sandstone of Keresley Member, with some patches of brownish-yellow sand. | 1.14-1.25m |
| 203 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown clay silt, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks, whitish-grey mortar fragments, and fragments of CBM. Occasional bone fragments. | 0.37-1.31m |
| 204 | Layer | Mid-dark greyish-brown clay silt, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks, CBM fragments. Occasional white mortar fragments. | 0.21-0.85m |
| 205 | Layer | Mix of broken roof tiles, slate tiles, mortar fragments. Occasional fragments of chimney furniture and bricks. | 0.83-1.48m |
| 206 | Fill | Mid brown silty sand, moderately compact. Frequent small charcoal pieces and flecks, small plaster fragments. Occasional bone fragments, post sherds and slag. Fill of 207. | 1.3m + |
| 207 | Ditch cut? | Only partially exposed, so not clear. Runs east-west, with an irregular northern edge. Southern edge truncated by 213. | 1.3m + |
| 208 | Fill | Light brown with dark brown mottles silty sand, compact. Frequent small charcoal pieces. Occasional small plaster and tile fragments. Fill of 209. | 1.38m + |
| 209 | Pit cut | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 1.38m + |
| 210 | Fill | Light brown with dark brown mottles silty sand, compact. Frequent small charcoal pieces. Occasional small plaster and tile fragments. Fill of 211. | 1.38m + |
| 211 | Pit cut | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 1.38m + |
| 212 | Fill | Mottled dark brown and grey sandy clay, moderately compact. Frequent charcoal, all sized, slate and plaster fragments. Occasional medium-large slag pieces, and pot sherds. Fill of 213. | 1.49m + |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 213 | Pit cut | East-west oriented pit, possibly rectangular in shape but full extent not known. Truncates 245. | 1.49m + |
| 214 | Fill | Mid brown silty sand, loose. Frequent CBM small CBM fragments. Occasional small charcoal flecks and pieces. Occasional rounded pebbles, and roots. Fill of 215. Truncated by 213. | 0.96-1.36m |
| 215 | Pit cut | Circular in plan. Vertical sides, slightly undercut on west side, concave base. Filled by 214 and 245. | 0.96-1.65m |
| 216 | Structure – foundation | Square brick and lime mortar foundation for post/wall, 0.38m deep. Fills 217. | 1.1-1.48m |
| 217 | Cut – foundation | Vertical sided cut, flat base. Filled by 216 and 246. | 0.5-1.48m |
| 218 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 219. | 0.96m + |
| 219 | Cut – stakehole | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 0.96m + |
| 220 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 221. | 0.96m + |
| 221 | Cut – stakehole | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 0.96m + |
| 222 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 223. | 0.96m + |
| 223 | Pit cut | Irregular-ovalish in plan. Unclear southern edge. | 0.96m + |
| 224 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 225. | 0.96m + |
| 225 | Pit cut | Ovalish in plan. Unclear northern edge and relationship with 223. | 0.96m + |
| 226 | Fill | Reddish-brown silty clay, moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks, and root action. Occasional small mortar fragments, CBM fragments, animal bone and pot sherds. Fill of 251. | 1.13-1.3m |
| 227 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, vertical sides, sharp BTB, flat base. Filled by 247. | 1.13-1.41m |
| 228 | Fill | Mixed roof tile, CBM fragments, plaster and slate tile dump. Occasional pot sherds. Fill of 229. | 1.05m + |
| 229 | Pit cut | Ovalish pit, although full extent not clear as east side extends beyond edge of excavation. | 1.05m + |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 230 | Fill | Brown silty clay. Occasional charcoal fragments, CBM fragments, slate tiles, plaster, and medieval pot sherds. Fill of 231. | 1.14m + |
| 231 | Pit cut | Circular in plan but extends beyond eastern trench edge. Possible re-cut of 232. | 1.14m + |
| 232 | Fill | Mid brown clay sand, compact. Frequent CBM fragments, coal fragments, small sandstone and plaster fragments. Fill of 233. | 1.14m + |
| 233 | Pit cut | Circular in plan but extends beyond eastern trench edge. Filled by 232. | 1.14m +` |
| 234 | Fill | Mid brown sandy clay, compact. Frequent CBM fragments, coal fragments, small sandstone and plaster fragments. Fill of 235. | 1.14m + |
| 235 | Pit cut | Ovalish in plan but full extent not clear due to truncation and extension beyond eastern edge of the trench. | 1.14m + |
| 236 | Fill | Mid brown sandy clay, compact. Frequent coal fragments, small sandstone and plaster fragments. Occasional CBM fragments. Fill of 237. | 1.16m + |
| 237 | Pit cut? | Unclear as only partially exposed. Truncated by 239. | 1.16m + |
| 238 | Fill | Dark brown silty clay, compact. Occasional plaster fragments, charcoal flecks, and pot sherds. Fill of 239. | 0.28-1.21m + |
| 239 | Cut – foundation | Vertical sides, base not visible. Cut for wall/foundation 240. | 0.28-1.21m + |
| 240 | Structure – wall/foundation | Square brick and lime mortar foundation for post/wall, similar to 216. Extends beyond western trench edge. 0.58m + width. | 0.64-1.21m + |
| 241 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 242. | 1.05m + |
| 242 | Cut – stakehole | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 1.05m + |
| 243 | Fill | Medium brown silty sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fill of 244. | 1.05m + |
| 244 | Cut – stakehole | Circular in plan. Not excavated. | 1.05m + |
| 245 | Fill | Mottled greyish-green sandy silt, loose-moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional pot sherds and CBM fragments, small pieces of sandstone, | 1.36-1.65m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | and slag. Fill of 215. | |
| 246 | Fill | Reddish brownish-grey mottled clay and silty sand. Fill of 217. Abuts 216. | 0.5-1.48m |
| 247 | Fill | Greenish-brown silty clay, moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional small mortar fragments, CBM and slate tile fragments, animal bone, and pot sherds. Slight mixing with natural 202 at base. | 1.13-1.41m |
| 248 | Layer | Mid to light yellowish-brown sandy clay silt, friable. Frequent small charcoal pieces, and mortar flecks. | 0.5-1.09m |
| 249 | Structure – foundation | Square brick and lime mortar foundation for post/wall, similar to 216 and 240. Visible in eastern trench wall only. | 0.19-1.31m |
| 250 | Layer | Mid to light orangey-yellow clay with greyish-brown mottles, compact. Occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. | 0.25-0.58m |
| 251 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, gentle to steep sloping sides, flattish base. Re-cut of pit 227. Filled by 226. | 1.13-1.3m |
| 252 | Layer | Orangey-greyish brown sandy silt, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments. | 0.38-1.19m |
| 253 | Layer | Mid greyish-brown sandy silt, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks, and roots. Same as 254. | 0.91-1.15m |
| 254 | Layer | Mid greyish-brown sandy silt, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks, and roots. Same as 253. | 0.91-1.15m |
| 255 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown clay sand, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar flecks. | 0.35-0.43m |
| 256 | Layer | Dark black silty clay, friable. Frequent root activity. Visible in southern trench wall only. | 0.73-1.09m |
| 257 | Cut – wall/foundation | Vertical sided cut for modern foundation 249. | 0.19-1.31m + |
| 258 | Structure – floor surface | Orange-red brick floor, 0.10m wide bricks with blackish-purple coating. Set into 260. Visible in western trench wall only. | 0.13-0.23m |
| 259 | Structure – foundation | Brick and mortar/concrete foundation deposit for floor 258. Visible in western trench wall only. | 0.27-0.48m |
| 260 | Layer | Blackish grey silty sand, compact. Beneath 258. Visible in western trench wall only. | 0.23-0.27m |

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10m Width: 2-4m

Depth: 2.61m

Orientation: East-west

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 300 | Modern surface | Tarmac car park surface. | 0.11m |
| 301 | Make up layer | Modern hardcore for tarmac surface. | 0.11-0.26m |
| 302 | Natural layer | Reddish-yellow sandy silt. Degraded Keresley member sandstone. | 1.55m + |
| 303 | Layer | Mid dark greyish-black sandy silt, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks and CBM fragments. Present at west end of trench only. | 0.21-0.34m |
| 304 | Surface | Modern brick surface. Present on south side of trench only. | 0.2-0.3m |
| 305 | Structure – wall | 4 courses remaining of a brick wall, aligned north-east- south-west. Runs parallel to wall 306, both being aligned to original layout from Much Park St. Fill of 357. Covered by surface 304. | 0.35-0.69m |
| 306 | Structure – wall | Brick wall running parallel to 305, likely related. Six courses visible. Set above 307. | 0.21-0.87m |
| 307 | Foundation for 306 | Mortar layer set within 308, and forms foundation for wall 306. | 0.7m + |
| 308 | Cut for wall | Rectangular cut for foundation deposit 307. | 0.7m + |
| 309 | Layer | Orange pinky-brown silty sandy clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar fragments, glass fragments, and sandstone fragments. | 0.25-1.2m |
| 310 | Layer | Mid greyish-brown loose sand. Frequent small rounded and subrounded pebbles. | 0.3-0.38m |
| 311 | Layer | Dark black friable sand. Frequent charcoal flecks and small pieces, and mortar fragments. Occasional bone fragments. | 0.38-0.52m |
| 312 | Layer | CBM rubble layer with frequent small sandstone fragments. | 0.5-0.68m |
| 313 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, sharp BTB, irregular base. Truncates 309. Filled by 314. | 0.62-0.84m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 314 | Fill | Mid blackish-greyish-brown clayey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar flecks. Fill of 313. | 0.62-0.84m |
| 315 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, sharp BTB, irregular base. Truncates 309. Filled by 316. | 0.54-0.78m |
| 316 | Fill | Mid blackish-greyish-brown clayey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar flecks. Fill of 315. | 0.54-0.78m |
| 317 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, sharp BTB, irregular base. Truncates 309. Filled by 318. | 0.56-1.01m |
| 318 | Fill | Mid greyish-brown clayey sand. Rare charcoal flecks and clay pipe fragments. | 0.56-1.01m |
| 319 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, sharp BTB, irregular base. Truncates 309. Filled by 320. | |
| 320 | Fill | Mid blackish-greyish-brown clayey sand, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks. Rare mortar flecks. | 0.65-1.01m |
| 321 | Fill | Mid-light greyish-orangey-brown sand, friable. Rare post-medieval pot sherds. | 0.6-0.65m |
| 322 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep to stepped sides, unclear base. Filled by 323. | 0.63-1.2m + |
| 323 | Fill | Mid-light grey clay silt, friable. Rare sandstone fragments. Fill of 322. | 0.63-1.2m + |
| 324 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep to gently sloping sides, sharp BTB, pointed base. Filled by 325 | 0.59-0.72m |
| 325 | Fill | Mid blackish-greyish-brown clayey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar flecks. | 0.59-0.72m |
| 326 | Pit cut | South side visible only. Sharp BFS, steep to gentle sloping sides, irregular base. Filled by 327. | 0.61-0.83m |
| 327 | Fill | Mid greyish-brown clayey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. | 0.61-0.83m |
| 328 | Pit cut | Gradual BFS, gentle to steep sides, sharp BTB, concave base. Filled by 329 and 330. | 0.2-0.43m |
| 329 | Fill | Yellow gravely sand, loose. Frequent mortar with rusted iron work. | 0.2-0.39m |
| 330 | Fill | Dark brown clay, loose to moderately compact. | 0.2-0.43m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Occasional CBM fragments, and some mortar. | |
| 331 | Structure – wall | Brick wall similar to 305 and 306. Four courses visible. Not cut visible. | 0.25-0.62m |
| 332 | Pit cut | Partially visible only. Possible oval shape, extends beyond southern edge of trench. | 1.1m+ |
| 333 | Fill | Mid yellowish-greenish-brown silt, friable. Frequent charcoal pieces. Occasional mortar fragments. Fill of 332. | 1.1m + |
| 334 | Pit cut | Partially visible only. Extends beyond southern edge of trench. Ovalish in shape. Base not reached. | 1.2m-2m + |
| 335 | Fill | Mid greyish-brown silty sand, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks, and mortar flecks. Fill of 360. | 1.2-1.4m |
| 336 | Pit cut? | Possible pit feature, but unclear. Ovalish in shape. | 1.47m + |
| 337 | Fill | Mid brownish-greyish-orange clayey silt, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional bone fragments and CBM. Fill of 336. | 1.47m + |
| 338 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, Steep and gradual sloping sides, flattish to concave base. East edge truncated by 344. | 0.9-1.3m |
| 339 | Fill | Dark brownish-black silty clay, compact. Occasional charcoal lenses and small flecks, small mortar flecks and fragments, and small bone fragments. Fill of 340. Truncated by 338. | 0.9-1.6m + |
| 340 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, base not visible. Filled by 339. | 0.9-1.6m |
| 341 | Layer | Mid to light orangey-brown silty sand, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks. Sits above natural 302. | 0.85-1.65m |
| 342 | N/a | | |
| 343 | N/a | | |
| 344 | Pit cut | Rectangular-oval in plan. Sharp BFS, steep to gradual sloping sides, flat to concave base. Truncates 364. | 0.8m-1m |
| 345 | Fill | Dark black silt, friable. Occasional charcoal flecks and sandstone fragments. Fill of 344. | 0.8-1m |
| 346 | Layer | Light orangey-pink sand, friable. Possible redeposited natural. | 0.81-1.12m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 347 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep north sloping side, pointed base. Southern side truncated by 334. Filled by 348. | 1.61-1.99m |
| 348 | Fill | Brownish-rid slitly sand, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks, root action and mortar flecks. Truncated by 349. | 1.61-2.01m |
| 349 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping northern side, sharp BTB, pointed base. Truncated on southern extent by 334. Recut of pit 347. | 1.61-1.96m |
| 350 | Fill | Greenish-grey sandy silt, moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks, occasional mortar and slate fragments. Fill of 349. | 1.76-1.96m |
| 351 | Fill | Reddish-brown silty sandy clay, moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks and mortar fragments. Occasional root action. Fill of 349. Truncated by 334. | 1.61-1.81m |
| 352 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, gentle sloping northern side, base not visible as it extends beyond the southern edge of the trench. Recut of 334. | 1.7-2.3m + |
| 353 | Fill | Dark brownish-red silty clay, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks, mortar fragments, and animal bone fragments and small CBM fragments. Fill of 334. Truncated by 352. | 1.8-2.61m |
| 354 | Fill | Brownish-red silty sand, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional root action, CBM fragments, and animal bone. Fill of 352. | 1.61-2.25m + |
| 355 | N/a | | |
| 356 | Fill | Brownish-grey clay, compact. Frequent small mortar fragments and charcoal flecks. Fill of 357. | 0.41-0.72m + |
| 357 | Cut for wall | Sharp BFS, steep west side, base not visible. Visible in southern wall only. Filled by 356 and 305. | 0.41-0.72m+ |
| 358 | Fill | Mid brownish-grey silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks. Rare mortar flecks. Fill of 359. | 0.89-1.21m |
| 359 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep east and west sides, sharp BTB, flattish base. Filled by 358. Truncated by 319. | 0.89-1.21m |
| 360 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sloping sides, base not visible as it extends beneath the southern trench edge. Filled by 361 and 335. | 1.61-0.42m |
| 361 | Fill | Charcoal layer forming initial fill of re-cut 360. | 1.61-0.39m |
| 362 | Fill | Charcoal layer forming initial fill of re-cut 325. | 1.74-2.23m + |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 363 | Fill | Charcoal layer forming initial fill of cut 334. | 1.99-2.62 |
| 364 | Fill | Orange pinky-brown silty clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar fragments, glass fragments, and sandstone fragments. Fill of 338. Truncated by 344. | 0.9-1.3m |
| 365 | Layer | Orange pinky-brown silty clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional mortar fragments, glass fragments. | 0.91-1.25m |

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10m Width: 4m Depth: 1.6-1.7m

Orientation: Eastwest

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 400 | Modern Layer | Tarmac car park surface. | 0 - 0.06m |
| 401 | Makeup Layer | Loose light grey hardcore. | 0.06 - 0.29m |
| 402 | Natural Layer | Firm yellowish brown silty sand. Natural degraded sandstone of the Keresley Member. Visible in southeast corner sondage only. | 1.6m + |
| 403 | Makeup Layer | Firm dark black sandy silt. Frequent brick fragments. Occasional fragments of degraded red and green and glass fragments. | 0.29 – 0.64m |
| 404 | Structure - wall | Northwest-southeast aligned brick and sandstone wall. Red orange brick wall built on top of red sandstone wall comprising of small-med sandstone blocks $-0.5m \times 0.4m \times 0.13m$. | 0.4-1.1m |
| 405 | Layer | Mid reddish brown silty sandy clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional patches of clayey material. Abuts wall 404. | 0.64 – 1.15m |
| 406 | Layer | Mid yellow plaster-mortar, friable. Occasional medium rounded stones, charcoal flecks, and small CBM fragments. | 0.9-0.95m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 407 | N/a | | |
| 408 | N/a | | |
| 409 | Layer | Pinkish/brown grey sandy silty clay, compact. Frequent CBM fragments, mostly tile, and slate fragments. Occasional charcoal flecks, mortar fragments and pot sherds. Seals the medieval features. | 0.8m + |
| 410 | Cut – wall | Visible on west side of wall 404 only, in the south wall section. Sharp BFS, gentle sloping side, flattish base. Filled by 411 and 404. Construction cut for wall 404. | 0.8-1.1m |
| 411 | Fill | Greyish orangey-brown sandy silt, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional fragments of animal bone, greyish-white mortar fragments, and CBM fragments. Fill of 410. | 0.8-1.1m |
| 412 | Layer | Mid reddish yellow silty sand with occasional lumps of red clay, compact. Occasional small to medium rounded stones, medium to large lumps of degraded red sandstone, and charcoal flecks. Abuts wall 414. | 0.92-1.36m |
| 413 | Layer | Mid brownish-grey sandy clayey silt, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional patches of red clay, small to medium rounded stones, and medium to large degraded sandstone fragments. Rare animal bone fragments. | 0.36-0.56m |
| 414 | Structure – wall | Northeast-southwest aligned red sandstone wall. 3 courses visible. Irregular shaped blocks – rectangular to polygonal, c. 0.2m wide. Base of medieval wall. Runs parallel to wall 415. Sealed by 409. | 1.01-1.58m |
| 415 | Structure – wall | Northeast-southwest aligned red sandstone wall, with a return running northwest. 3 courses wide, 3 courses visible – block dimensions from 0.66m x 0.4m x 0.15m to smaller. Base of medieval wall. Unclear as to depth of foundations. Wall 417 is set upon this wall. | 0.91m + |
| 416 | Layer | Packing layer on top of wall 415. Slate tile and ceramic tile fragments set with a red sticky clay. Above 415 and beneath 417. | 0.85-0.91m |
| 417 | Structure – wall | Brick and sandstone wall set atop of medieval wall 415. Small sandstone blocks $-0.2m \ge 0.2m \ge 0.15m$. Bricks: $0.11m \ 0.06md \ge 0.24m$. Wall utilising medieval wall 415 as foundation. No cut visible. | 0.39-0.85m |
| 418 | Structure – wall foundation? | One large 0.47-0.3m red sandstone block visible between walls 414 and 415. Surrounded by small sandstone fragments. Possible foundation for wall but not clear. No visible cut. | 1.5m + |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 419 | Structure – wall | Northeast-southwest aligned brick and sandstone wall, slightly offset to return of wall 415. Large sandstone blocks, on which brick wall is set. Brick dimensions: $0.22m \ge 0.11m \ge 0.06m$. Likely contemporary with wall 404. No visible cut. | 0.45-0.91m |
| 420 | Structure – drain | Small rectangular green sandstone blocks, with slightly green stained clay of 409 covering them. Two rows, running parallel to and alongside wall 414. Sealed by 409. | 1.7m + |
| 421 | Deposit | Dump of small rounded sandstone blocks and CBM fragments, mostly tile. Within layer 409. | 0.73-1.11m |
| 422 | Layer | Dark greyish-black ashy silt, loose. Frequent small- medium charcoal pieces. Occasional small mortar lumps. | 0.82-0.89m |
| 423 | Layer | Mid brown sandy silt, compact. Occasional small- medium rounded and angular stones, charcoal flecks and small-medium mortar lumps. | 0.89-1.11m |
| 424 | Layer | Dark brownish-black sandy silt, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks and small pieces. Occasional small mortar lumps, patches of red clay. Slightly mixed deposit. | 1.11-1.21m |
| 425 | Layer | Mid red clay, compact. | 1.21-1.26m |
| 426 | Layer | Mid reddish-brown sandy silt, compact. Occasional charcoal flecks, small-medium angular lumps of sandstone. Rare medieval pottery. Sits above wall 414. | 1.26-1.35m |

Maximum dimensions: Length: 22 Width: 4m Depth: 1.7-1.2.5m

Orientation: North-south

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 500 | Modern surface | Tarmac car park surface. | 0-0.13m |
| 501 | Made ground | Brick and rubble hardcore | 0.13-0.41m |
| 502 | Layer | Dark greyish-brown silty clay sand, compact. Frequent small pieces of charcoal, small coal fragments, sandstone | 0.41-0.57m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | fragments, small pot sherds and roof tile fragments. | |
| 503 | Layer | Mid brown silty sand, compact. Frequent small coal fragments, small charcoal pieces, pot sherds, and small plaster fragments. Occasional small pebbles, and small animal bone fragments. | 0.56-0.98m |
| 504 | Layer | Mid greyish-brown silty sandy clay, loose- moderately compact. Frequent charcoal flecks, CBM fragments, particularly, tiles, small sandstone fragments. Occasional small rounded pebbles, small bone fragments, small plaster pieces, and small roots. | 0.98-1.33m |
| 505 | Natural | Degraded red sandstone of Keresley Member. | 1.7m |
| 506 | Fill | Mid brownish-grey sandy silt, moderately compact. Frequent small charcoal pieces, CBM fragments. Occasional sandstone fragments. Fill of 507. | 1.3-2.1m |
| 507 | Pit cut | Partially visible in south section only. Sharp BFS, stepped side, base not clear. | 1.3-2.1m |
| 508 | N/a | | |
| 509 | N/a | | |
| 510 | Pit cut | Visible in east wall only. Sharp BFS, steep stepped side, base not visible. Filled by 511. | 0.85 + |
| 511 | Fill | Brownish-orange silty sand, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional small stones, and small roots. Fill of 510. | 0.85 + |
| 512 | Fill | Light brownish-orange silty sand, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional small stones and roots, small sandstone fragments, cobbles, and small CBM fragments. Fill of 538. | 1.3 + |
| 513 | Pit cut | BFS not clear due to truncation by 515. Steep northern and southern sides, gradual BTB, pointed base. Filled by 514. | 1.2-1.93m |
| 514 | Fill | Dark brown slightly silty sand, compact but friable. Frequent charcoal flecks and root action. Occasional CBM fragments, and small sandstone fragments. Fill of 513. | 1.2-1.93m |
| 515 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS northern and southern sides, steep to gentle sloping sides, gradual BTB, concave base. Filled by 516. | 1.2-1.63m |
| 516 | Fill | Dark brown silty sand, compact but friable. Occasional small charcoal fragments, small coal fragments, animal | 1.2-1.63m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | bone, and small CBM fragments. Fill of 515. | |
| 517 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS south side only visible, steep sides, gradual BTB, flattish base. Filled by 518. | |
| 518 | Fill | Mid brownish-orange silty sand, compact but friable. Occasional charcoal fragments, root action and CBM fragments. Fill of 517. | 1.19-1.62m |
| 519 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep northern and southern sides, sharp BTB, concave to stepped base. Filled by 518. | 1.22-1.53m |
| 520 | Fill | Light brownish-orange silty sand, friable. Occasional small charcoal fragments, mortar and plaster fragments, small CBM fragments and root action. Fill of 519. | 1.22-1.53m |
| 521 | Structure – wall | Mid reddish-orange sandstone blocks $-$ 0.48 x 0.25m wide, to 0.21 x 0.17m wide. Two courses visible. Set in whitish-grey mortar. Possible foundation but not clear. Appears contemporary with wall 523. No visible cut. Not fully excavated. | 0.71 – 0.94m + |
| 522 | N/a | | |
| 523 | Structure – wall | Brick wall, one course visible. Brick dimensions – 0.215m x 0.10m wide. Oriented NE-SW, parallel to 527. No cut visible. | 0.74m + |
| 524 | Layer | Mid-light yellowish-white mortar, with some reddish- orange brick fragments. Above 523. | 0.74m - 0.78m |
| 525 | Layer | Dark black sandy charcoal mixed with demolition materials. Abuts walls 523 and 527. | 0.0.77m + |
| 526 | N/a | | |
| 527 | Structure – wall | Brick wall running northeast-southwest, parallel to 523. Brick dimensions: 0.22m x 0.105m wide. No visible cut. | 0.7m+ |
| 528 | Structure – wall | Partial sandstone wall or foundation. Mid orangish-red blocks, from 0.15-0.69m in size. Bonded by a light yellow mortar. No visible cut. | 0.5m + |
| 529 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS on south side, vertical sided, sharp BTB, flat base. | 1.71-2.82m |
| 530 | Fill | Light brownish-yellowy-green silty clay, friable. Frequent pot sherds. Occasional large cobbles, small sandstone fragments. Fill of 529. | 2.31-2.43m |
| 531 | Fill | Greenish-grey silty clay, friable. Frequent slay, small- large pieces. Occasional small charcoal pieces, root | 2.21-2.31m |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | action, small mortar fragments, CBM fragments. Fill of 529. | |
| 532 | Fill | Light brownish-orange silty sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional CBM fragments. Fill of 529. | 2.09-2.21m |
| 533 | Fill | Mid brownish-orange sandy silt. Frequent root action. Occasional CBM fragments. Fill of 529. Truncated by 534. | 1.59-2.09m |
| 534 | Ditch cut | Southern side visible only due to truncation by 510. Sharp BFS, steep sides, flattish base. Truncates 533. | 1.3-1.91m |
| 535 | Fill | Mid reddish-brown sandy silt, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional root action. Fill of 534. Truncated by 510. | 1.3-1.91m |
| 536 | Posthole/pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sides, concave base. Filled by 537. | 0.43-0.83m |
| 537 | Fill | Mid orangey-yellowish grey silty clay, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks. Partial degraded block of red sandstone. Fill of 536. | 0.43-0.83m |
| 538 | Pit re-cut | Visible in east wall only. Gradual BFS, steep to stepped sides, BTB not visible. Filled by 512. | 1m + |
| 539 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sides, base not visible. Truncates 545. | 1.31-1.83m + |
| 540 | Fill | Mid orangey-red sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional CBM and mortar fragments. Fill of 539. | 1.31-1.64m |
| 541 | Fill | Mid brownish-grey sand, friable. Occasional tile fragments and charcoal flecks. Fill of 539. | 1.31-1.72m |
| 542 | Fill | Mid orangey-red with some green and yellow mottles, clay sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Fill of 539. | 1.31-1.82m |
| 543 | Fill | Dark blackish-grey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional root activity. Fill of 548. | 1.45-1.68m |
| 544 | Fill | Mid brownish-yellow sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Fill of 548. | 1.62-1.73m |
| 545 | Fill | Dark blackish-grey sand, friable. Frequent charcoal flecks. Occasional root activity. Fill of 548. Truncated by 534 and 539. | 1.31-1.6m |
| 546 | N/a | | |
| 547 | N/a | | |

| Context | Classification | Description | Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 548 | Pit cut? | Heavily truncated so only north side visible, with a steep slope, to a flattish base. Truncated by 539 and 534. | 1.61-1.72m |
| 549 | Pit cut | Sharp BFS, steep sides, sharp BTB, pointed to concave base. Filled by 550. Truncates 535. | 1.3-1.49m |
| 550 | Fill | Mid brownish-orange silty sand, compact. Frequent charcoal flecks, root action. Occasional CBM fragments, and mortar fragments. Fill of 549. | 1.3-1.49m |
| 551 | Fill | Mid brownish-orange sandy silt. Frequent root action. Occasional CBM fragments. Fill of 552. | 1.71m + |
| 552 | Pit cut | Only partially visible. Similar to 529. Truncated by 534. | 1.71m + |

Appendix 2 Artefact Analysis, Table 6

| Context | Material | Туре | Total | Weight (g) | Date range | Period | TPQ |
|---------|------------------|------------------------------|-------|------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Unstrat | Flint | | 1 | 7 | | Prehistoric | |
| Unstrat | Iron | Nail | 1 | 22 | | | |
| Unstrat | Pipe | Stem | 1 | 5 | | Post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 4 | 184 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 3 | Late 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 45 | 12th-early 13th century | Medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Medieval | 2 | 5 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 4 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 1 | | Post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 59 | ?16th-17th century | Post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 11 | 16th-17th century | Post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Pottery | Post-medieval | 3 | 68 | 17th-18th century | Post-medieval | |
| Unstrat | Slag | | 3 | 248 | | | |
| Unstrat | Slag | Iron | 1 | 9 | | | |
| Unstrat | Tile | Ridge | 2 | 59 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| Unstrat | Tile | Roof | 2 | 438 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 104 | Pipe | Stem | 1 | 1 | | Post-medieval | |
| 104 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 1 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | L17-18C |
| 104 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 2 | 35 | Late 17th-18th century | Post-medieval | _ |
| 104 | Tile | Roof | 1 | 119 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 105 | Ceramic | Object | 1 | 19 | | ?Medieval | 14170 |
| 105 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 7 | Mid-late 17th century | Post-medieval | M-L1/C |
| 105 | Slate | Tile | Í | 9 | | | _ |
| 105 | Tile | Root | 6 | 291 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 110 | Slate | 11le | 1 | 51 | | | 12.150 |
| 113 | 1 ile | Roof | 2 | 310 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | 13-15C |
| 115 | Mortar | M 1: 1 | 2 | 16 | 124 144 | Medieval | 12.14C |
| 115 | Tile | Medieval | 1 | / | 13th-14th century | Medieval | 13-14C |
| 115 | Dattany | K001 Madiaval | 0 | /42 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 117 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 7 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | 13.14C |
| 117 | Stone | Burnt | 1 | / 20 | 13th-14th(13th) century | Wiedleval | 13-140 |
| 117 | Pottery | Late medieval/post medieval | 2 | 12 | 15th 16th century | Late medieval/post medieval | |
| 118 | Pottery | Medieval | 2 | 28 | 13th- 14 th(15 th) century | Medieval | 15-16C |
| 118 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 1 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | 15-100 |
| 118 | Tile | Ridge | 1 | 206 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | - |
| 118 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 317 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | - |
| 123 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 395 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 125 | Mortar | 1001 | 1 | 21 | 15th Toth contary | Medieval | |
| 125 | Tile | Roof | 6 | 604 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 128 | Brick | | 3 | 3600 | | | |
| 128 | Slate | Tile | 1 | 72 | | | |
| 203 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 6 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | |
| 203 | Slate | Tile | 1 | 13 | | | 13-14C |
| 203 | Tile | Roof | 4 | 1446 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | 1 |
| 206 | Copper | Object | 2 | 1 | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | | |
| 206 | alloy | Object | 1 | 1 | | | - |
| 200 | Iron Dotterre | Late mediaval/ | 1 | 1 | 15th 16th acretime | Lata madiaval/tti1 | - |
| 200 | Potterry | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 30 | Late 15th 16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | - |
| 200 | Potterry | Madiaval | 1 | 0 | 12th 14th contury | Late medieval/post-medieval | - |
| 200 | Pottery | Medieval | 2 | 0 | 13th 14th(15th) contury | Medieval | - |
| 200 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 52 | Mid-late 17th century | Post-medieval | M-L17C |
| 200 | Slag | Fuel ash | 3 | 1 | who-rate 17th century | i ost-inculevai | |
| 200 | Tile | Roof | 3 | 4 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | - |
| 200 | Dotteru | I ate mediaval/post modiaval | 2 | 1/0 | 15th 16th contury | Late mediaval/post mediaval | + |
| 212 | Slag | Iron | 2 | 40 836 | 15ul-10ul celluly | Late metreval/post-metreval | - |
| 212 | Stone | Building | 1 | 275 | | | 15-16C |
| 212 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 1/9 | 13th-16th century | Late medieval/post medieval | 13-100 |
| 212 | Bead | Amber | 1 | 149 | 15th-10th century | Late metreval/post-metreval | |
| 226 | Iron | Object | 1 | 40 | | | - |
| 220 | 11011 | object | 1 | ν | L | L | |
| 226 | Pottery | Late medieval/ post-medieval | 1 | 4 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/early post- medieval | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 226 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 8 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/nost-medieval | |
| 226 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 8 | Late 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | 16(-17)C |
| 226 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 4 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | |
| 226 | Tile | Roof | 1 | 438 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | _ |
| 228 | Iron | Nail | 1 | 5 | Total total contary | incure vui | |
| 228 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 23 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/nost-medieval | _ |
| 228 | Pottery | Medieval | 2 | 25 | 12th 14th century | Medieval | _ |
| 228 | Potterry | Medieval | 1 | 14 | 12th 14th contury | Madiaval | _ |
| 228 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 14 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | _ |
| 228 | Pottery | Medieval | 2 | 13 | 13th-14th(15th) century | Medieval | 15-16C |
| 228 | Tile | Roof | 1 | 225 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | 15-100 |
| 230 | Copper | Object | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 220 | Bottory | Lata madiaval/post madiaval | 2 | 120 | 15th 16th contury | Lata madiaval/post madiaval | - |
| 230 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 2 | 129 | | Late medieval/post-medieval | _ |
| 230 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | / | 13th-14th century | Medieval | |
| 230 | Pottery | Medieval | | 10 | 13th-14th(15th) century | Medieval | _ |
| 230 | Pottery | Post-medieval | | 26 | 16th-17th century | Post-medieval | _ |
| 230 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 2 | 709 | 16th-18th century | Post-medieval | 16.170 |
| 230 | Slag | | 3 | 243 | | | 10-170 |
| 230 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 434 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 238 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 1 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 238 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 20 | 13th-14th(15th) century | Medieval | |
| | | | | | | | 15-16C |
| 245 | Coal | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 245 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 4 | 13th-14th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 245 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 18 | 13th-14th century | Medieval | |
| 245 | Slag | Iron | 2 | 350 | | | |
| 245 | Slate | Tile | 1 | 14 | | | 15-16C |
| 245 | Tile | Roof | 5 | 355 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 246 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 3 | 8 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 246 | Pottery | Post medieval | 1 | 44 | 16th 17th century | Post medieval | 16(-17)C |
| 240 | Tottery | i ost-medievai | 1 | 44 | Tour-17th century | i ost-medievai | 10(-17)C |
| 247 | Iron | Object | 1 | 26 | | | |
| 247 | Mortar | | 1 | 26 | | | - |
| 247 | Pottery | Late mediaval/nost mediaval | 1 | 14 | 15th 16th century | Late medieval/post medieval | _ |
| 247 | Pottery | Dast medieval | 2 | 25 | 16th 17th contury | Dast medieval | _ |
| 247 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 2 | 23 | Late 17th century | Post-medieval | L17-F18C |
| 247 | Pottery | Post-medievai | 2 | 33 | Late 1/th-early 18th | Post-medievai | EI, EIGe |
| 247 | Clata | T:1- | 1 | 14 | century | | _ |
| 247 | State | | 1 | 14 | | | _ |
| 247 | Stone | Object | | 301 | | | |
| 247 | 1 Talla | | - | 501 | | | _ |
| 309 | The | Roof | 7 | 716 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| | Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval | 7 1 | 716 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval | 15-16C |
| 310 | Pottery Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval | 7 1 1 | 716 1 2 | 13th-16th century15th-16th century18th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval | 15-16C 18C |
| 310 333 | Pottery Pottery Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval | 7 1 1 1 | 716 1 2 24 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin | 7 1 1 1 1 | 716 1 2 24 1 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin | 7 1 1 1 1 | 716 1 2 24 1 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval | 7 1 1 1 1 1 | 716 1 2 24 1 4 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | $ \begin{array}{c} 301 \\ 716 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ $ | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 716 1 2 24 1 4 4 5 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century 13th-14th(15th) century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 337 337 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery Pottery Tile | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Roof | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 | 716 1 2 24 1 4 4 5 135 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century 13th-14th(15th) century 13th-15th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C 18C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery Pottery Tile | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Roof | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 | 501 716 1 2 24 1 4 5 135 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century 13th-14th(15th) century 13th-15th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C 18C 15-16C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 338 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery Pottery Tile ?Iron | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Roof Object | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 1 | 501 716 1 2 24 1 4 4 5 135 16 | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century 13th-14th(15th) century 13th-15th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C 18C 15-16C |
| 310 333 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 337 338 338 | Pottery Pottery Pottery Copper alloy Pottery Pottery Pottery Tile ?Iron Pottery | Roof Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Pin Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Roof Object Post-medieval | 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 1 1 | $ \begin{array}{c} 501 \\ 716 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 24 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 135 \\ 16 \\ 8 \\ \end{array} $ | 13th-16th century 15th-16th century 18th century 18th (-19th) century 15th-16th century 15th-16th century 12th-14th century 13th-14th(15th) century 13th-15th century 16th-17th century | Medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Post-medieval Post-medieval Late medieval/post-medieval Medieval Medieval Post-medieval | 15-16C 18C 18C 18C 15-16C |
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| 409 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 26 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
|-----|------------|-----------------------------|----|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 416 | Slate | Tile | 1 | 111 | Total Total Contary | medieval | |
| 416 | Tile | Roof | 6 | 1794 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 417 | Brick | | 1 | 0 | | Post-medieval | |
| 419 | Brick | | 1 | 0 | | Post-medieval | |
| 423 | Potterv | Late medieval/post-medieval | 2 | 52 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | 15-16C |
| 426 | Tile | Roof | 1 | 29 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 503 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 1 | 30 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 503 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 2 | 61 | 18th century | Post-medieval | |
| 503 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 5 | 18th-19th century | Post-medieval | 18C |
| 503 | Tile | Roof | 2 | 168 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 504 | Ceramic | Vitrified | 1 | 18 | | | |
| 504 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 3 | 100 | Late 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 504 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 5 | 13th-14th(15th) century | Medieval | |
| 504 | Stone | Building | 1 | 479 | | | |
| 504 | Tile | Floor | 1 | 162 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | |
| 504 | Tile | Ridge | 1 | 416 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 504 | Tile | Roof | 1 | 130 | ?16th century + | ?Post-medieval | L15-16C |
| 504 | Tile | Roof | 5 | 897 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 523 | Brick | | 4 | 12500 | | | |
| 527 | Brick | | 4 | 12550 | | | |
| 530 | ?Slag | ?Furnace base | 1 | 1214 | | | |
| 530 | Industrial | | 1 | 33 | | | |
| | waste | | | | | | |
| 530 | Iron | Anvil | 1 | 1330 | | Late medieval/post-medieval | |
| 530 | Iron | Object | 2 | 15 | | | |
| 530 | Pottery | Late medieval/post-medieval | 30 | 2776 | 15th-16th century | Late medieval/post-medieval | 15.160 |
| 530 | Pottery | Medieval | 1 | 16 | 12th-13th? Century | Medieval | 15-16C |
| 530 | Slag | Iron | 16 | 3358 | | | |
| 530 | Stone | ?Building | 1 | 84 | | | |
| 530 | Stone | Building | 4 | 1159 | | | |
| 530 | Tile | Roof | 7 | 1029 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | |
| 530 | Tile | Roof | 19 | 1731 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 531 | Iron | Nail | 1 | 17 | | | |
| 531 | Tile | Roof | 5 | 1502 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 533 | Textile | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| 535 | Fired | | 2 | 76 | | | |
| 525 | clay | D (1 1 | 1 | 47 | L 4 1741 1041 4 | | _ |
| 535 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 47 | Late 17th-18th century | Post-medieval | _ |
| 535 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 27 | Late 1/th-early 18th century | Post-medieval | |
| 535 | Roof | Ventilator louver | 3 | 296 | 13th-15th century | Medieval | L17-18C |
| | furniture | | | | - | | |
| 535 | Slag | | 1 | 17 | | | |
| 535 | Stone | Building | 4 | 243 | | | |
| 535 | Tile | Ridge | 1 | 252 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 535 | Tile | Roof | 6 | 1746 | 13th-16th century | Medieval | |
| 541 | Stone | Building | 1 | 0 | | | |
| 550 | Pottery | Post-medieval | 1 | 47 | 16th-17th century | Post-medieval | 16-17C |

Table 6: Summary of the assemblage

Appendix 3 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

The archive consists of:

| 131 | Context records AS1 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 7 | Fieldwork progress records AS2 |
| 4 | Photographic records AS3 |
| 264 | Digital photographs |
| 5 | Matrix sheets |
| 1 | Sample records AS17 |
| 1 | Levels record sheets AS19 |
| 5 | Trench record sheets AS41 |
| 16 | Scale drawings |
| 2 | Boxes of finds |
| 1 | Computer disk |
| The project arcl | nive is intended to be placed at: |

The Herbert,

Jordan Well,

Coventry,

CV1 5QP

Appendix 4 Brief



CITY OF COVENTRY

Brief for an archaeological evaluation at

Land off St. John's Street, Coventry.

An Archaeological Field Evaluation is defined in the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance document as:

'a limited programme of non-intrusive and / or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'.

1. SUMMARY

The proposed development at land off St. John's Street, Coventry has the potential to affect important belowground archaeological remains. This brief is for an archaeological evaluation of the part of the proposed development site, which is currently a car park, the results of which are to be submitted as part of an application for planning permission for the site. The archaeological evaluation of the second part of the site fronting Much Park Street currently occupied by buildings will follow at a later date when the site becomes available.

The evaluation will consist of five excavated trenches, so that a scheme for mitigating the impact of the development on the archaeological remains can be prepared. The scheme of mitigation may consist of further, more extensive excavation in advance of the commencement of the development, followed by post-excavation analysis, reporting and publication of the results The planning archaeologist will prepare a separate brief for the mitigation works.

2. SITE LOCATION

The site is currently a split level, tarmac surface public car park with Coventry City Council buildings on the eastern part of the site fronting on to Much Park Street (NGR: SP 33687866, see attached plan) and is bounded by St. John's Street to the north and west, Much Park Street to the east and Ringway St. John's to the south.

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND

Stoford Developments are applying for planning permission for an office development with basement car parking on the site. This brief is for an archaeological evaluation of the part of the proposed development site, which is currently a surface car park, the results of which are to be submitted as part of an application for planning permission for the site. The archaeological evaluation of the second part of the site fronting Much Park Street, which is currently occupied by Coventry City Council buildings, will follow at a later date. This brief only concerns the area of the site, which is currently a car park. A separate brief will be prepared for the evaluation of the Much Park Street frontage area.

The site occupies an important location within Coventry City centre and redevelopment is expected to affect important archaeological remains associated with the medieval and post-medieval city.

In accordance with Government Planning Guidance Note 16 (PPG16-Archaeology) and their own Built Environment Policy in the Coventry Development Plan (BE:15), Coventry City Council seeks to ensure that the interests of archaeology are fully included in the planning process as a material consideration. The prevailing policies call for a presumption in favour of preservation in situ, wherever possible, by means of sympathetic foundation design. Where such strategy cannot be implemented, the city seeks to preserve the archaeology by record, usually archaeological excavation. No blanket approach can be taken because each site is different and contains a different planning history.

The programme of archaeological works will take the form of an initial evaluation phase of trial trenching in the car park. Depending on the results of the trial trenching a second phase of excavation maybe required along with salvage recording during the construction of the building followed by post-excavation assessment, analysis, reporting and publication.

This brief constitutes justification for the archaeological evaluation, objectives, and a range of specific strategies and procedures, which are commonly applied. The evaluation report should interpret the evaluation results in relation to their wider archaeological context.

4. BACKGROUND ON COVENTRY

4.1. Geology

Most of Coventry lies on Keuper Marl, stiff red clay of the Triassic Enville Beds. This overlies distinctive coarse-grained red sandstone, which in turn seals Carboniferous coal seams. Both the sandstone and the clay have been extensively exploited for building purposes.

The area is dominated by the River Sherbourne (etymologically *Scir Burna* or clear stream) a tributary of the Warwickshire Avon. The Sherbourne is fed by the Radford Brook (upstream of the city centre), Springfield Brook (downstream of the city) and the River Sowe (some miles downstream). In geological time part of the city centre was formerly an inland sea (The Bablake), which contributed to many historical floods and continues to account for areas with waterlogged conditions. The predominant Keuper Marl and its derivative soils, where largely unmodified, are slightly acidic.

4.2. Archaeological and Historical background

The St. John's Street site was formerly within the extreme northern part of the Earl of Chester's hunting park which was associated with the Earl's castle to the north, the park stretched from south of Earl's Street in the modern city centre to Whitley Common a mile and half to the south.

By the 13th century the growing city had expanded over the extreme northern part of the park with the laying out of Little Park Street and Much Park Street with their associated tenements. Much Park Street, which forms the eastern boundary to the present site, became an important commercial area and the main road from London was diverted to pass along it.

The post-medieval period saw continued industrial use of the backlands, including a ribbon dyeing factory and the development of court housing behind the street frontage. Much Park Street suffered severe bomb damage during the Second World War and the structures which survived on the site were demolished in the early 1970's for the construction of the city council's post and printing building on the Much Park Street frontage while the rest of the area became car parking.

The history of the site has been summarised in an archaeological desk-based assessment prepared for the applicants by Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service.

5. **REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK**

- Trial-trenching
- Analysis, reporting, publication

Further excavation work maybe required if the trial trenching identifies archaeological deposits

Evaluation of archaeology in Coventry generally has a range of objectives

- To prepare a detailed assessment of a development site's or area's history & archaeological potential
- To identify any evidence for the survival of buried archaeological remains on the site which may be threatened by development of a site and area
- To determine the depth of burial, character, date, extent, and state of preservation of any such remains.
- To provide an initial assessment survey of any standing buildings on the site and assess the degree to which earlier historic fabric survives within buildings currently occupying the site

The programme of archaeological investigation at the land off St. John's Street has the following specific objectives:

- To recover evidence for land use prior to the creation of Much Park Street and Little Park Street.
- To recover evidence for the creation and development of the tenements along Much Park Street.
- To establish what activities may have been undertaken in the backlands along Much Park Street, specifically industrial or manufacturing activities such as metal working and cloth manufacture, in the medieval and post-medieval periods.
- To provide comparative material. This will contribute to our understanding of the site within the city as a whole. This will be possible through the examination of environmental and other data from other locally excavated sites and available documentary sources.
- To allow access to the results to the people of Coventry and the wider public through publication and presentation.

5.1. Written Scheme of Investigation

Before the project commences a written scheme of investigation detailing the methods to be used by the archaeological contractor in the investigation, must be submitted for approval by the Planning Authority. The archaeological contractor is to obtain written notification from the local planning authority that it fulfils the requirements of the brief before commencing work

The cost of the archaeological project is a confidential matter between contractor and client. It is sufficient for the contractors to give their professional assurance that sufficient funding has been made available for the work as briefed and specified to be carried out. The Planning Archaeologist will be pleased to offer a developer advice as appropriate.

All archaeological projects in the city of Coventry should meet the standards published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). If the relevant standards are not adhered to for projects conducted within the planning process then the developer may be required to supply further archaeological information, possibly requiring additional work, unforeseen costs and delay.

6. STAGES OF WORK

6.1. Trial trenching

Prior to the start of any fieldwork in the city, a fieldwork site code should be obtained from Paul Thompson, the Archaeology Officer at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry, Tel: 024 7683 2432. This fieldwork code must be clearly marked on all reports, finds and archive material created during the project.

Five archaeological trial trenches each measuring 20m long by 2m wide at the base of excavation, are to be excavated (see attached plan for suggested locations).

Maximum depths should be dictated by Health and Safety considerations first and foremost within the context of the requirement to test the thickness and the depth of burial of the archaeology. It is likely that the sides of the trench will need to be stepped to allow safe access, the use of shoring should also be considered.

Modern surfaces and some designated later deposits may be excavated by machine, generally using a flat-bladed bucket (a toothed bucket is permitted to remove compacted modern rubble and a breaker may be required), to reveal the uppermost significant archaeological horizon or, where absent, the natural subsoil. Mechanical excavation should be under direct archaeological supervision and control.

Each trench should be cleaned, planned and all features sampled sufficiently to determine their character and date. Environmental samples should be taken from deposits appraised by a suitably qualified specialist as likely to have palaeo-environmental potential. Sections should be drawn as appropriate and levelled to ordnance datum. The location of each trench should be accurately surveyed and related to the OS grid and datum level.

Artefact Assessments

A suitably qualified specialist, named in the contractor's method statement or Specification, should report on all pre-modern artefacts. All Saxon and later ceramics should be classified in accordance with the Warwickshire Ceramic Type Series (at Warwickshire Museum). The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum holds a massive collection of finds derived from previous excavations and antiquarian activity. In the event of more widespread or intensive excavation, contractors are encouraged to contact the Archaeology Officer (Paul Thompson) to ensure appreciation of the widest range of local parallels for finds.

Palaeo-environmental Assessment

Provision should be made for specialist assessment of a site's potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental material. Such work should be carried out and reported on by a suitably experienced specialist, named in the contractor's method statement or Specification. Recourse should be made to the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology guidelines *Environmental Archaeology* (2002).

Monitoring Arrangements

One weeks written notification of commencement of fieldwork is required to facilitate regular monitoring by the Planning Archaeologist or his nominated representative.

6.2. Analysis, reporting and publication

Report Content and Publication

The scale and nature of the report will depend on the results of the archaeological investigation. The final report should fully document the project and must include the results of the background research undertaken to place the evidence presented within its local and regional context.

The planning report submitted to Coventry City Council will include:

- A brief non-technical executive summary of the work undertaken and the results obtained
- Acknowledgments
- Site details, including location, grid reference, planning history, geology, place of archive deposition and any other relevant details of the projects history
- Archaeological and historical background
- Aims and objectives
- Methods
- Site narrative, comprising the detailed description, analysis and interpretation of the site
- Environmental evidence including specialist reports
- Archaeological science reports
- Artefactual evidence including specialist reports
- Discussion and conclusion
- Bibliography
- Illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, drawings of finds etc
- Photographs of the fieldwork, historic photographs, photographs of finds etc
- List of contexts and their descriptions (as appendices)
- Lists of finds (as appendices)
- Specialist reports in full (as appendices)
- Copies of the brief and project design (as appendices)

The report should take two forms:

- A restricted-circulation planning report (required)
- A note in West Midlands Archaeology and/or period-based national journal (required)

As a general rule five copies of the planning report (four bound 'hardcopy', one digital) should be submitted to The Planning Archaeologist, Conservation and Archaeology Team, Development Projects, Coventry City Development Directorate within six weeks of the completion of the field work. The digital copy should include both the report text and all illustrations, ideally as a single electronic document in a Word-compatible format. Archaeological contractors should confirm their client's requirements.

Archive Requirements

An integrated project archive (including both artefacts/ecofacts and project documentation) should be prepared in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (1991) upon completion of the project. Appropriate remedial conservation of artefacts should have been carried out by the contractor. The archive should in the first instance be made available to the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in a form commensurate with the museum's accession requirements. A copy of their written requirements is available from Paul Thompson, the Archaeology Officer, 024 76 832432.

7. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Contractors are requested to extend every courtesy to the media, since they are particularly interested in covering archaeological stories in the city.

Contractors are encouraged to invite involvement (over and above their professional staffing) of the Coventry and District Archaeological Society and other volunteers in fieldwork and finds processing wherever possible. Contact should be made, in the first instance with the Chairman, Mr Adrian Adams Tel 02476621565.

Due to the projects prominent location in the city centre it may benefit from public display, presentation and interpretation. Contractors are requested to consider offering guided public access to excavations or an open day, where Health and Safety considerations permit, and where their client, the developer or landowner is amenable.

This brief is valid for six months from the date of issue.

Prepared by: Chris Patrick Planning Archaeologist Checked by: George Demidowicz, Conservation and Landscape Team Leader

July 2007

Appendix 5 Project design

Written Scheme of Investigation

PROPOSAL FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT ST JOHN STREET CAR PARK, COVENTRY

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10th October 2007

Field Section, Historic Environment and Archaeology Service, Worcestershire County Council, Woodbury, University of Worcester, Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ



Project reference P3142

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As a Registered Archaeological Organisation of the Institute of Field Archaeologists we deliver a quality service to our clients, users and partners. We have a commitment to providing clients with projects to a high standard and which are on time and within budget. Through information and education we provide the present and future communities of Worcestershire with a well managed archaeological heritage. To the Service's partners we will initiate ideas and seek their implementation in areas such as research.

Proposal for an archaeological evaluation at St John St Car Park, Coventry

1. Project specific design

1.1 Background

The Field Section of the Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (the Service) has been requested to prepare a proposal for an evaluation on an archaeological site.

The proposal has been requested by James Brechtmann of EC Harris on behalf of Stoford Developments (the Client) in response to a brief (the Brief) prepared by Chris Patrick, planning archaeologist, Coventry City Council (the Curator) and dated July 2007. Stoford developments are applying for planning permission for an office development with basement car parking on the site. The brief is for an archaeological evaluation of the proposed development site, the results of which are to be submitted as part of this application.

The archaeological background to the site (National Grid reference SP 336 786) is given in the Brief (Section 4.2). The Client should be aware that buried archaeological evidence can be very variable, and that neither the Brief, nor this proposal, can always accurately specify what may exist on this particular site. This proposal is based on an existing state of knowledge as summarised in the Brief.

1.2 Aims and objectives

The aims and scope of the project are given in the Brief (Section 5).

The Brief indicates that significant deposits may be defined as those likely to be of medieval date.

The following aims are identified in the brief for the City of Coventry.

• To prepare a detailed assessment of a development site's or area's history & archaeological potential

• To identify any evidence for the survival of buried archaeological remains on the site which may be threatened by development of a site and area

• To determine the depth of burial, character, date, extent, and state of preservation of any such remains.

• To provide an initial assessment survey of any standing buildings on the site and assess the degree to which earlier historic fabric survives within buildings currently occupying the site

The programme of archaeological investigation at the land off St. John's Street has the following specific objectives:

• To recover evidence for land use prior to the creation of Much Park Street and Little Park Street.

• To recover evidence for the creation and development of the tenements along Much Park Street.

• To establish what activities may have been undertaken in the backlands along Much Park Street, specifically industrial or manufacturing activities such as metal working and cloth manufacture, in the medieval and post-medieval periods.

• To provide comparative material. This will contribute to our understanding of the site within the city as a whole. This will be possible through the examination of environmental and other data from other locally excavated sites and available documentary sources.

• To allow access to the results to the people of Coventry and the wider public through publication and presentation

1.3 Methods

The project will conform to the Brief.

A desk based assessment has been carried out which summarises the existing state of knowledge relating to this site.

Stage 1 Fieldwork

Five trenches will be excavated in the approximate positions shown on the enclosed plan. These will cover an area of $200m^2$ (representing *c* 4% of the development site area of *c* 5000m²).

Some briefs require this, only use if relevant Neither fieldwalking of geophysical survey are considered to be useful in achieving the aims of the project.

Professional standards and Service methodologies are detailed in Section 2.

Stage 2 Report

Following completion of fieldwork, a report will be prepared for submission to the Client and Curator as specified in Section 2.

Contingency

A contingency has been allowed to be applied to either fieldwork or report stages where necessary. The contingency is to allow for the appropriate treatment of the archaeological resource where this cannot be accommodated within the original costs. The contingency will be implemented in one or more of the following circumstances.

• Where possible to cover or offset the additional costs for circumstances excluded from the cost given in Section 3.

1.4 Personnel

The Project Manager will be the first point of contact in all matters relating to the project.

- The Project Manager for this project will be Tom Rogers (a profile is appended).
- The Project Leader for this project will be notified to the client on acceptance of this proposal

All staff will be appropriately qualified and with an established record of expertise. Profiles of key members of the team will be made available to the Client and Curator on request. The team will comprise the following, as required.

| Project Manager | Responsible for the project. |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Project Leader | Direct fieldwork and prepare report. |
| Field Archaeologists | Undertake fieldwork and associated tasks. |
| Specialist coordination and support | Finds and environmental assessment and illustration. |

In-house specialist support may be provided in a number of broad areas common to this type of project.

- Artefacts Derek Hurst, Laura Griffin, Alan Jacobs, Angus Crawford.
- Environmental archaeology Elizabeth Pearson (plant macrofossils, wood and charcoal), Katie Head (pollen and diatoms), Andrew Mann (molluscs).

In-house specialist support is also available in further more specialised areas (details will be supplied on request).

The Service has worked previously with a range of specialists in other fields (details will be supplied on request).

1.5 Programme

The project will commence on a date to be mutually agreed in writing. The Service will meet externally imposed deadlines wherever possible (for instance dates of planning committee meetings). Please inform the Service of specific commencement dates and date requirements for submission of the report.

The level of resources indicated below is for the purposes of demonstrating that an adequate level of resources have been committed to the project and variation may occur due to staff availability and the nature of the archaeological site. Any such variation will not compromise the quality or standard of the project. Periods for report production and the contingency are dependent on the quantity and complexity of information retrieved and cannot be quantified at present. Provision equivalent to 55%% of fieldwork (Stage 1) costs has been allowed for report production (Stage 2), and 20% of estimated fieldwork costs for contingencies. By way of illustration the resources identified for the report would allow for 18 person days (including specialist contributions). The resources identified for the contingency would allow for 4 person days in the field and a further 3 person days for the report, together with further plant hire.

| Programme | Stage name Stage number | Fieldwork Stage 1 | Reporting Stage 2 |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| staff | | | |
| Project Manager | person days | | |
| Project Leader | person days | 12 | 6 |
| Field Archaeologists | person days | 16 | |
| Specialists | person days | | 12 |

2. Standard project design

2.1 Quality

The Service is part of Worcestershire County Council and is subject to the Council's policies, safeguards, practices and audit procedures.

The Service is registered as an archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and as such is bound to the IFA's *Code of Conduct* and bylaws.

The following are relevant to this project:

- Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology (1997);
- Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluations (1999); and
- Guidelines for finds work.

The project and any recommendations will conform to the government advice contained in *Planning Policy Guidance: archaeology and planning* (DoE, PPG 16 1990).

2.2 Standard methods

The project will follow the procedures of the *Manual of Service Practice: fieldwork recording manual*, 1995 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **399**. Of particular importance here are the *Guidelines on evaluation*, *Finds recovery policy*, and *Guidelines for environmental sampling*. Copies of the guidelines will be supplied to the Client and Curator on request.

Stage 1 Fieldwork

The County Historic Environment Record/Sites and Monuments Record (HER/SMR) will be consulted before fieldwork starts, with the aim of refining the project strategy as presented in this proposal.

After the trenches have been opened by machine (using a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision), excavation will be by hand. Please note that the precise location and size of trenches will vary according to health and safety and archaeological requirements and the proximity of standing or buried structures. The Client may wish to be consulted by the Service on the location of trenches before they are excavated.

- Clean surfaces will be inspected.
- Selected deposits will be fully or partially excavated to determine their nature and retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples.

- Deposits will be selected for excavation on the basis of the minimum required to meet the aims of the Brief.
- Where possible less significant deposits will be excavated in order to define the nature and extent of those, which are likely to be of greater significance.
- Recognisable human remains, structured deposits, and areas of complex stratigraphy likely to be a significant part of the site will not be removed as part of the evaluation.
- Selection for excavation will be on the judgement of the Project Leader.
- The Service welcomes the assistance of the Curator in selection of deposits for excavation.
- The Service's specialist staff in artefacts and environmental evidence will be available for on-site advice.
- Recording of deposits will be undertaken and will follow standard Service practice (*Manual of Service Practice: fieldwork recording manual*, 1995 as amended, County Archaeological Service internal report, **399**).
- Unless otherwise specified reinstatement shall consist of simple replacement of the excavated material.
- The Brief requires that the Curator is invited to monitor fieldwork, and the Service will normally arrange visits. Any requirements of the Curator must be notified to the Service before fieldwork commences.

Stage 2 Reporting

The results of all fieldwork will be presented as a report in the Service's internal report series.

The report will contain:

- a non-technical summary;
- background;
- aims;
- methods;
- location and size of archive;
- discuss results; and
- assessment of the significance of deposits.

Assessment will usually employ the criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments used by the Department for Culture Media and Sport as a guide

(DoE, PPG 16 1990, Annex 4). Where the Curator has provided other criteria (such as those prepared by English Heritage for the Monuments Protection Programme or contained in structure or local plans) these may also be used.

In assessing the state of deposit preservation, physical, artefactual and environmental aspects will all be considered. An assessment of the quantity and range of artefactual and environmental material will be presented. Appropriate specialists will be consulted or contracted where appropriate.

The Service will normally supply three copies of the report to the Client (or agent if they are coordinating the project on the Client's behalf). One of these copies may be forwarded to the Curator. A reasonable number of extra reports will be supplied to the Client on request. Where requested the Service will forward a copy directly to the Curator (in the interests of speed).

The Service has a professional obligation to make archaeological information available within a reasonable period (outside of any period of confidentiality reasonably required by the Client). The report will be submitted to the HER/SMR with a short summary to be published in one or more regional journals (eg West Midlands Archaeology, Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society) where appropriate. The report will be submitted to the HER/SMR within three months of completion of the fieldwork, unless the Service is notified to the contrary.

All artefacts, except articles defined as treasure under the Treasure Act 1996 (or other legal requirements), discovered in the course of the archaeological project shall be the property of the Client (or landowner if not the Client). The Service will encourage the Client to donate any artefacts to an appropriate museum where they may be curated and made available for research and education. The Service will approach the Client after completion of the project with regard to the deposition of artefacts.

The record archive will be offered to an appropriate museum (usually the same as that for the deposition of artefacts) and security copies kept by the Service (or other appropriate arrangement).

2.3 Health and safety

The current (available through the County Council's intranet) conditions and requirements of the County Council's health and safety policies and procedures cover the Service.

- Health and Safety, corporate health and safety policy.
- Corporate Services safety policy (Cultural Services).

The County Council also produces supplementary guidance (for example).

- Accidents, emergencies, fire and first aid.
- Action in unbearably hot workplaces.
- Display screen equipment

- General risk assessment.
- How to set up your workstation.
- Lone working.
- Moving and handling of objects.
- No smoking policy.
- Personal protective equipment.
- The handling, storage and use of hazardous substances.
- Violence and personal safety.
- Workplace (health safety and welfare).

The Service has issued *Manual of Service practice: safe working practice* (2005 as amended, internal report, **461**) which are guidelines drawn from its risk assessments of common situations. The following guidelines are relevant to this project, and all staff will be aware of them.

- Working out of doors and working with soils.
- Travelling.
- Working with tools and small equipment.
- Lone working.
- Sharing the site with other contractors.

In addition provision has been made within the guidelines for assessing further risks which may be encountered during the project (*The specific circumstances of the site*).

All these documents may be viewed at the Service's offices, and may be copied to the Client and Curator on request.

The Client must notify the Service of any hazards within the archaeological site before the project commences. These include unsafe parts of any structure (eg unstable walls, rotten floors), hidden voids and contaminated ground or materials.

Where the project falls within the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994 the Service will act in the role of Contractor for the purposes of the regulations. The Client must provide the Service with the following.

- The name of the Planning Supervisor.
- The name of the Principal Contractor.

- The relevant contents of the Safety Plan.
- Service staff will follow any proper instruction given by the Principal Contractor for the purposes of health and safety when on site.
- Protective clothing will consist of hard hat, protective boots, and high visibility jacket.
- The Service will maintain hazard fencing around areas in which it is undertaking detailed recording and where this may be a hazard to others working on the site.
- All staff will be appropriately certified in the use of any equipment used during the project. Any equipment or plant (including scaffolding) provided by the Client will be inspected before use by Service staff.

The Client must notify the Service of any hazards within the archaeological site before the project commences. These include the location of existing services, contaminated ground, any agricultural chemicals.

The project is for the purposes of survey (partly to establish site conditions) and is considered to fall outside of the *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations* 1994. Should the Service be asked to participate in any development programme it will fulfil its responsibilities both as a archaeological designer and contractor, where requested.

- Protective clothing will consist of hard hat, protective boots, and high visibility jacket.
- All staff will be appropriately certified in the use of any equipment used during the project. Any equipment or plant (including scaffolding) provided by the Client will be inspected before use by Service staff.

2.4 Conditions

The project is undertaken under the provisions of one or more of the following:

- Local Government Act, 1972, section 111,
- Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act, 1970,
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979,
- any other relevant legislation.

In undertaking an archaeological project Worcestershire County Council's support (or otherwise) cannot be assumed or expected for any development proposal unless specifically indicated.

Worcestershire County Council will not have, or obtain any tenancy, or other estate, or interest in the archaeological site other than the access granted for the purposes of the archaeological project.

The Client will be responsible for obtaining all necessary permissions for undertaking the project. Of particular importance may be any consents for sites scheduled (or areas of archaeological importance) under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act* 1979, or listed buildings legislation.

The Client must inform the Service of any non-archaeological constraints to the site, which, in addition to those related to safety, include the presence of any legally protected species, tree preservation orders, Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Access to the site is the responsibility of the Client. Permissions for access must be arranged by the Client, with the landowner and tenant, as appropriate.

The project will only be undertaken when supported by a written agreement between Worcestershire County Council, the Client and/or the landowner (as appropriate). Forms of agreement or a draft agreement are enclosed with this proposal.

The Service is covered by public and employer's liability insurance (with a limit of £40 million), and professional indemnity insurance (with a limit of £2 million). Insurance is with AIG Europe (UK) Ltd (Policy Number 21005095, expires 29 September 2007).

The Service will retain full copyright of the report under the *Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it shall provide an exclusive licence to the Client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this proposal. This licence will only become effective on payment of any agreed costs to Worcestershire County Council.





Tom Rogers Project Officer

Joined the Service in 2005

In archaeological practice from 1994

Tom has a wide experience of leading and participating in archaeological field projects. He has directed several excavations in Ireland and project managed two large infrastructural projects. He has also worked on the Monuments Protection Programme on behalf of English Heritage and has a particular interest in Palaeolithic archaeology.

• Attainments

M.Sc. by advanced research in Palaeoanthropology, University of Sheffield , 1995

BA (Hons) 2:1 Archaeology and Prehistory, University of Sheffield, 1993

Selected publications and reports

Rogers, T. V., Fibiger, L.G., Lynch, L.G. and Moore, D. 2006 *Two glimpses of nineteenth-century institutional burial practice in Ireland* in The Journal of Irish Archaeology vol XV pp 93-104

Rogers, T V, 2003 Archaeological Excavation of a Bronze Age *fulacht fiadh* and two Early Christian Trackways at Drumaskibbole, County Sligo Licence 03E0100

Rogers, T V, 2004 Excavation of sixty-six inhumations and an enclosing ditch at Corofin, County Galway, Ireland. Licence 04E225

Other information

Project leader, Excavation of a Roman-Iron Age site at the former petrol storage facility, Bath Road, Worcester

Project Manager, the N18 Ennis Bypass, Barefield to Killow 2004

Project Manager, Monitoring of the Dublin North Fringe Water Supply Scheme, 2003

Project Leader; Excavation of Manorhamilton Workhouse cemetery, 2003