

ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
EVALUATION AT  
ABBAY GATE, EVESHAM,  
WORCESTERSHIRE

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Illustrated by Carolyn Hunt

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# Contents

<b>Part 1 Project summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Part 2 Detailed report</b>	
1. <b>Background</b> .....	<b>2</b>
1.1 Reasons for the project .....	2
1.2 Project parameters .....	2
1.3 Aims .....	2
2. <b>Topographical and archaeological context</b> .....	<b>2</b>
3. <b>Methods</b> .....	<b>2</b>
3.1 Documentary search .....	2
3.2 Fieldwork.....	3
3.2.1 Fieldwork strategy .....	3
3.2.2 Structural analysis.....	3
3.3 Artefacts .....	3
3.3.1 Artefact recovery policy .....	3
3.3.2 Method of Analysis.....	3
3.3.3 Artefact Analysis .....	3
3.4 The methods in retrospect.....	3
4. <b>Description</b> .....	<b>4</b>
4.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits.....	4
4.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric deposits .....	4
4.3 Phase 3 Romano-British deposits .....	4
4.4 Phase 4 Medieval deposits.....	4
4.5 Phase 5 Post-Medieval.....	4
4.6 Phase 6 Modern .....	5
5. <b>Discussion</b> .....	<b>5</b>
5.1 Romano-British.....	6
5.2 Medieval.....	6
5.3 Post-medieval and modern.....	6
6. <b>Publication summary</b> .....	<b>7</b>
7. <b>The archive</b> .....	<b>7</b>
8. <b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	<b>8</b>
9. <b>Personnel</b> .....	<b>8</b>
10. <b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>8</b>
11. <b>Abbreviations</b> .....	<b>9</b>
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## **Archaeological evaluation at Abbey Gate, Evesham, Worcestershire**

**Chris Patrick, Tom Vaughan and Erica B Darch**

### **Part 1 Project summary**

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Abbey Gate, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR SP 0360 4365). It was undertaken on behalf of Johnson's Chartered Surveyors and their client Cox Homes Ltd, who intend to convert the existing offices into residential apartments and to erect two new two-storey buildings to the rear of the property. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate what its location, date and nature were.

The excavation of three trenches and two test pits showed activity on the site from the Roman period to the present day. The Roman remains consisted of a small pit, which was dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD and residual Roman pottery found in post-medieval deposits. Although these remains are only slight they are of interest as this is only the second time that Roman deposits have been found in Evesham.

Given the sites' location within the medieval abbey precinct, very few medieval deposits were identified or artefacts found. Only one medieval layer (a deep soil) was positively identified and all the other pottery and tile was residual. It is thought that the lack of medieval material could be due to the fact that precinct was kept clean and free from the domestic activity that is most easily identified archaeologically.

Post-medieval deposits showed a greater degree of domestic activity on the site as homes replaced the abbey buildings after its Dissolution in 1540 and some deposits of rubble that were found may date from that demolition.

## Part 2 Detailed report

### 1. Background

#### 1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Abbey Gate, Evesham, Worcestershire, on behalf of Johnson's Chartered Surveyors and their client Cox Homes Ltd (Fig 1). They intend to redevelop the site with residential apartments with associated access and parking and are preparing a planning application for Wychavon District Council, who consider that a site of archaeological interest may be affected (WSM 04567).

#### 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 Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service's Planning Advisory Section (HEAS 2003a) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2003b).

#### 1.3 Aims

The aims of the evaluation were to establish the presence and significance of archaeological deposits and of artefactual and ecofactual assemblages. The results should inform the local planning authority and English Heritage whether the proposed scheme is acceptable on archaeological grounds, and if so aid in defining appropriate mitigation measures to preserve *in situ* or record archaeological deposits.

### 2. Topographical and archaeological context

The building known as the Abbey Gate lies in the centre of Evesham, Worcestershire and was an integral part of Evesham Abbey, a Benedictine house whose origins date to the 8<sup>th</sup> century AD (Dalwood pers com). The abbey was comprehensively rebuilt in the period from 1078 by Abbot Walter (Dalwood 1996) and continued to be added to throughout the medieval period until its dissolution in 1540. The abbey was almost completely demolished soon after, apart from the bell tower and the few fragments of the structure that remain today. However, some buildings such as the Abbey Gate became private dwellings and survived, although in an altered state. The Abbey Gate is a Grade I listed building, while the area that was once occupied by the abbey complex is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 253).

### 3. Methods

#### 3.1 Documentary search

A detailed account of the historical and archaeological background to the area affected by this project can be found in the heritage audit carried out ahead of the evaluation by Warwickshire County Council (Palmer and Alcock 2003). In addition the following sources were also consulted in detail.

##### *Documentary sources*

- Dalwood 1996.

- Palmer and Alcock 2003.
- Lockett and Jones 2002.

## 3.2 **Fieldwork**

### 3.2.1 **Fieldwork strategy**

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2003).

Fieldwork was undertaken between 25<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2003.

Three trenches, amounting to just over 50m<sup>2</sup> in area (Fig 2). All three trenches were stripped to the top of what were considered to be significant archaeological deposits using a JCB 3CX fitted with a toothless bucket and watched under close archaeological supervision. Excavation beyond this layer was carried out by hand. In addition to the three machine excavated trenches, two test pits were excavated by hand within Abbey Gate. 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.

### 3.2.2 **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.

## 3.3 **Artefacts**

### 3.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

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

### 3.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. Artefacts were identified, quantified, dated and recorded on a Microsoft Access 97 database. The pottery was examined and recorded by fabric type according to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst and Rees 1992).

### 3.3.3 **Artefact analysis**

The assemblage came from nineteen stratified contexts and there was also some unstratified material. It ranged in date from the Roman to modern period and in condition from only slightly abraded to highly abraded. The assemblage is recorded in Appendix 2.

## 3.4 **The methods in retrospect**

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved

## 4. Description

The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1, with Appendix 2 summarising the artefacts recovered. The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figures 3 to 6.

### 4.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits of sand with pebbles were identified in all three trenches at depths of between 1.45m and 1.75m below modern ground level. No natural deposits were observed in either of the small hand dug test pits.

### 4.2 Phase 2 Prehistoric/undated deposits

No prehistoric deposits were definitely identified and no prehistoric artefacts were recovered but a pit in Trench 1 (101) was thought potentially to be prehistoric in date (Fig 3).

### 4.3 Phase 3 Romano-British deposits

Six contexts contained Roman finds (contexts 105, 203, 206, 303, 401 and 501) although only one feature, context 206, the fill of pit 205 could be given a *terminus post quem* date of Romano-British (Figs 4 and 5). The pit was oval in plan and measured 0.74m by at least 0.4m and 0.6m deep, cut into the natural.

**Artefacts.** All the Roman finds that were recovered were pottery. Although the level of abrasion varied, none of the pottery seemed to be highly abraded, and several sherds were in quite good condition. The pottery fabrics are summarised in Table 2.

The forms included a Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12) type 7 jar rim, possible 2nd to 3rd century (Webster, 1976, 23) and a black burnished ware (fabric 22) flanged rim, type 22, 2nd century (Smith and Davies, 1993, 233). Therefore, there is no Roman pottery that necessarily dating to later than the 2nd century AD (J D Hurst, pers comm).

### 4.4 Phase 4 Medieval deposits

The only medieval deposit that was identified in the evaluation was layer 505 found at the limit of excavation in Test Pit B (Fig 6). The top of the layer was located 0.54m below the ground surface and was 0.45m deep at the limit of excavation. Layer 105 in Trench 1 may also be medieval in date, the top of the layer is located 0.48m below the present ground surface, and was 1.07m deep overlying the natural.

**Artefacts.** Seven contexts contained medieval material. Context 505, which contained one sherd of Brill / Boarstall ware (fabric 63) had a *terminus post quem* date of medieval. Two other contexts may also date to the medieval period (105 and 304), but both contained a type of roof tile produced between the 13th and 18th century, and therefore could be medieval or post-medieval. Where the bricks that were recovered could be more closely dated, they also dated to the late medieval or early post-medieval period. The medieval pottery did not include any identifiable forms other than in the broadest of senses e.g. Jugs (J D Hurst, pers comm).

Also recovered were glazed floor and roof tiles.

### 4.5 Phase 5 Post-medieval

Post-medieval deposits were identified in all three trenches and in both test pits. In Trench 1 a large irregular shaped pit was found in the north-east corner, cutting suggested medieval layer



105. The pit measured at least 3.88m long, 1.75m wide and 1.49m deep with irregular sloping sides and a flat base. The feature was then sealed by a post-medieval layer (104), 0.18m below the modern ground surface and 0.35m deep (Figs 3 and 5).

A layer of post-medieval material were present in Trench 2 (203), this were located 0.51m below the modern ground surface and overlay the natural and sealed Roman pit 205.

The natural in Trench 3 was also directly overlain by a post-medieval layer (303). Layer 303 was located 0.6m below the modern ground surface and was 1.15m deep. A linear ditch (306) was identified in Trench 3, aligned northwest to southeast and measured at least 2m long, 2.1m wide and 1.4m deep and filled by 304 (Fig 5). The ditch was then overlain by post-medieval layer 302, located 0.33m below modern ground surface.

All the deposits in Test Pit A were post-medieval in date (Fig 6) with the exception of an undated cobbled surface (407), at 1.04m below the modern ground surface, at the limit of excavation. This surface was overlain by a soil layer (406), which was overlain by a sandy mortar layer, measuring 0.21m deep, with fragments of brick (403) which appeared to be some kind of construction /demolition deposit. This was overlain by a soil layer (402), which was overlain by another mortar layer (408). Layer 408 was overlain by soil layer 405 which was overlain by a rubble layer (404), measuring 0.14m deep and composed of broken brick tile and mortar, this was overlain by soil layer 401.

In Test Pit B the medieval soil layer 505 listed above, was overlain by soil layer 504 (Fig 6). Layer 504 was then overlain by a floor surface composed of light grey coloured flagstones (503) that covered about two thirds of the excavated area. The flagstones were roughly square in shape and measured approximately 500mm by 380mm and were 70mm thick and laid directly on to layer 504. The floor was overlain by a rubble layer (502) composed of roof tiles, broken bricks and mortar. The rubble layer was then overlain by a dark soil layer (501).

**Artefacts.** Contexts with a *terminus post quem* date in the post-medieval period were 203, 302, 303 (late post-medieval) 405 (late 18th century), 406 (18th century), 502 (late 18th century) and 504 (late 18th century). The greatest variety and quantity of material came from the post-medieval period and included some very high status Worcester porcelain, including cannon ball painted sherds (J D Hurst, pers comm). Where the pottery could be more closely dated, it was mostly 18th century.

Context 203 contained one sherd of modern stone china (fabric 85), which re-fits to two sherds from context 202, directly above. It is therefore assumed to be contamination. It also contained residual Roman pottery that was not very abraded.

#### 4.6 Phase 6 Modern

Modern deposits were present in all three trenches and both test pits and were all hardcore layers with the exception of Context 400 in Test Pit 4 which was a blue brick floor. Layer 202 in Trench also appears to be modern.

**Artefacts.** Contexts with a *terminus post quem* date in the modern period were 202, 304, 401, and 501.

### 5. Discussion

The artefacts recovered indicate activity in the area during the Roman, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods, which is consistent with earlier excavations in the abbey precinct and Evesham more generally (Palmer and Alcock, 2003, 5 –7).

## 5.1 **Romano-British**

The Roman pit that was identified in Trench 2 is of particular interest as it is only the second instance of Roman archaeological deposits being found in Evesham. Roman deposits were first observed in Evesham at an excavation approximately 100m north of the present site, at 13 Vine Street in June 2001 (Locket and Jones 2002). Roman period activity in the town had been suggested by residual Roman artefacts from previous archaeological investigations at the abbey (Cox 1990, 139; Hughes 1990; Woodiwiss 1987), the Almonry (Fagan 1993), and at 93-97 High Street (Edwards and Hurst 2000). The features found at Vine Street appeared to be boundary ditches relating to a settlement and finds of *tegulae* roof tiles suggested that fairly substantial buildings were located nearby. The pottery from the site suggested that occupation had ended in around the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD and this picture of the settlement appears to be reflected in the pottery dates from the Abbey Gate evaluation.

Some of the Roman pottery was abraded but not all of it, even when recovered from post-Roman contexts. This suggests that although Roman deposits were disturbed in the medieval and post-medieval period, they had not been repeatedly re-worked. This may be because the area was built on rather than used in agriculture and ploughed. The pottery fabrics recovered were either locally produced (Severn Valley ware) or had a national distribution (Samian, black burnished ware) and would be consistent with domestic activity. However, no Roman building material was identified.

The level of Roman activity at Abbey Gate appears to be low but is still significant and suggests that the site is on the fringe of a Roman settlement that existed perhaps further to the north, closer to the discoveries that had been made previously at Vine Street.

## 5.2 **Medieval**

Given the location of the excavation, within the abbey precinct, there were very few contexts dating to the medieval period, and very few medieval artefacts were recovered. The presence of glazed floor and roof tiles is unsurprising given the proximity to the high status abbey buildings (S Robson-Glyde pers comm), although again, it was not present in large quantities. The two types of medieval pottery recovered have been commonly found in Worcestershire.

The lack of large quantities of medieval finds suggests that there was a low level of activity on the site at this time. Alternatively it could be that the area was being used, but being within the abbey precinct it was kept clean, and free from the kind of medieval domestic activity that is most easily identified archaeologically, such as rubbish pits.

The broken tiles and bricks that were found in the evaluation could relate to the destruction of monastic buildings that followed the Dissolution (J D Hurst pers comm).

## 5.3 **Post-medieval and modern**

The deposits from the post-medieval and modern periods show a greater amount of domestic activity and events of building and demolition on the site long after the abbey had disappeared. The pottery recovered from the post-medieval period supports the idea of a rise in domestic activity. There was also tile, brick and other building material, which may have dated from the post-medieval period and presumably relates to post-medieval structures in the vicinity. High status occupation is also apparent judging from the presence of early Worcester porcelain (J D Hurst pers comm).

The two test pits identified two floor layers in close proximity to one another but at different heights. The flagstone floor found in Test Pit B was 0.36m below the ground surface but at the same level as the base of the arch buttress and suggests that this was the level of the medieval floor. However the undated cobbled floor surface found in Test Pit A was 1.04m below the ground surface, substantially lower than the surface in Test Pit B. If the surfaces are

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contemporary, then there is an unexplained drop in the medieval floor level in the short distance between the pits. However, as the cobbles are undated, they could be as early as Roman or could be a later post-medieval intrusion.

The latest deposits were layers of hardcore deposited to form the yard surfaces that are present today.

## 6. **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 project was undertaken at Abbey Gate, Evesham, Worcestershire ahead of a residential development. The project aimed to determine if any significant archaeological site was present and if so to indicate what its location, date and nature were.*

*The excavation of three trenches and two test pits showed activity on the site from the Roman period to the present day. The Roman remains consisted of a small pit, which was dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD and residual Roman pottery found in post-medieval deposits. Although these remains are only slight they are significant as this is only the second time that Roman deposits have been found in Evesham and suggest that the Abbey Gate site lies at the periphery of a settlement found in an earlier archaeological intervention on Vine Street.*

*Given the sites location within the medieval abbey precinct, very few medieval deposits were identified or artefacts found. Only one medieval layer was positively identified and all the other pottery and tile was residual. It is thought that the lack of medieval material could be due to the fact that precinct was kept clean and free from the domestic activity that is most easily identified archaeologically.*

*Post-medieval deposits showed a greater degree of domestic activity on the site as homes replaced the abbey buildings after its Dissolution in 1540 and some deposits of rubble that were found may date from that demolition.*

## 7. **The archive**

The archive consists of:

- 5 Trench records
- 4 Fieldwork progress records AS2
- 1 Photographic record AS3
- 18 Abbreviated context records AS40
- 10 Scale drawings
- 1 Box of finds
- 1 Computer disk

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum  
Hartlebury Castle  
Hartlebury

Near Kidderminster

Worcestershire DY11 7XZ

Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

## 8. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project, Mr R Johnson of Johnson's Chartered Surveyors, and Mr Russell Sumner of Cox Homes, and Mr A R Easterbrook of Easterbrook Architects. Thanks are also due to Mr Glyde the Planning Archaeologist for Worcestershire County Council and Ian George of English Heritage.

## 9. **Personnel**

Tom Vaughan led the fieldwork, and Chris Patrick the report preparation. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Simon Woodiwiss. Fieldwork was undertaken by Tom Vaughan, Andy Brown and Josh Cockhill, finds analysis was by Erica Darch and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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## 11. **Abbreviations**

WSM            Numbers prefixed with ‘WSM’ are the primary reference numbers used by the Worcestershire County Sites and Monuments Record.

SMR            Sites and Monuments Record.

## Appendix 1 Trench and Test Pit descriptions

### Trench 1

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5.20m Width: 3m Depth: 1.26-1.86m

Orientation: NE-SW

#### Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
100	-	Unstratified and machine-cut finds.	N/a
101	Pit	Sub-oval cut. Sharp break of slope. Sides near vertical, curving to a sloping flat base. Cuts [108]. Filled by [102].	1.63-1.95m
102	Fill	Brown sandy clay. Cohesive and moderately compact. Small rounded pebbles to base. v occasional bone. Single fill of [101].	1.63-1.95m
103	Hardcore	Fawn yellow gravel and gravel dust with occasional concrete patches at surface. Overlies [104].	0.00-0.22m
104	Soil	Dark blackish brown sandy clay. Extensive black coke, coal and cinders, occasional sub-rounded pebbles, glass, tile, pottery and mortar. Moderately compact and cohesive. Diffuse boundary with [105] below.	0.18-0.53m
105	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent pebble gravel, occasional tile, brick, glass, clay pipe. Moderately cohesive but not compact. Diffuse boundary with [108] below.	0.48-1.78m
106	Fill	Mixed rubble of small-medium size red sandstone, grey limestone, greyish white mortar occasional charcoal flecks, 2" bricks and bone. Frequent roots. Single fill of [107].	0.42-1.49m
107	Pit	Indeterminate dimensions or shape. Very sharp break of slope, with irregular stepped sides curving to a shallow flattish concave base. Filled by [106]. Cuts [105].	0.42-1.49m
108	Natural	Mid brownish orange sand with small-medium sub-rounded pebbles.	1.70m +

**Feature/deposit descriptions:**

Two features were identified within the trench, a single small pit or posthole [101]. It appeared only below the level of the subsoil, [105], indicating that the subsoil has probably been disturbed, or that the pit is of very early origin. It contained no dateable material.

A second very large pit was also recorded, in the east side of the trench, [107]. The full dimensions were not observed. The building rubble fill is a deliberate back fill. The feature may have been used as a lime pit.

The subsoil contained occasional medieval and post-medieval material, indicating that it has been disturbed.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. The natural terrace gravel was only identified, within a sondage across the middle of the trench.

**Trench 2**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 5m Width: 3m Depth: 1.09-1.56m

Orientation: NE-SW

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
200	-	Unstratified and machine-cut finds.	N/a
201	Hardcore	Discrete layers of fine grey concrete, fawn yellow and grey gravel, crushed coke/coal dust, slag and brick rubble. Compacted and cohesive. Overlies [202].	0.00-0.21m
202	Soil	Dark blackish brown slightly sandy clay. Extensive black cinders and coke, occasional sub-rounded pebbles, glass, tile, slag, pottery and mortar. Moderately cohesive but not compact. Diffuse boundary with [203] below.	0.21-0.95m
203	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent pebble gravel, occasional tile, brick, glass, clay pipe. Moderately cohesive but not compact. Diffuse boundary with [204] below.	0.51-1.45m
204	Natural	Mid brownish orange sand with small-medium sub-rounded pebbles.	1.45m+
205	Pit	Sub-oval cut, . Sharp break of slope, sides at c. 80° to horizontal. North side straight and south side curves to flattish base. Filled by [206]. Below [203].	1.10-1.69m
206	Fill	Dark brown sandy clay. Moderate small pebbles. No charcoal. V occasional pottery and animal bone. Cohesive but not compact. Single fill of [205].	1.10-1.69m

**Feature/deposit description:**

A single feature was identified within the trench, a single small pit [205]. It appeared only below the level of the subsoil, [204], indicating that the subsoil has probably been disturbed, or that the pit is of very early origin. It contained Roman material.

The subsoil contained occasional medieval and post-medieval material, further evidence of disturbance.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. The natural terrace gravel was only identified within a sondage across the middle of the trench.



**Trench 3**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 10m Width: 2m Depth: 1.10-1.85m

Orientation: NE-SW

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s) – top and bottom of deposits
300	-	Unstratified and machine-cut finds.	N/a
301	Hardcore	Fawn yellow gravel and gravel dust with occasional concrete patches at surface. Overlies [302].	0.00-0.33m
302	Soil	Dark blackish brown sandy clay. Extensive black coke, coal and cinders, occasional sub-rounded pebbles, glass, tile, pottery and mortar. Moderately compact and cohesive. Diffuse boundary with [303] below.	0.33-0.66m
303	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with frequent pebble gravel, occasional tile, brick, glass, charcoal, clay pipe. Worm cats and roots evident. Moderately cohesive but not compact. Diffuse boundary with [305] below.	0.60-1.75m
304	Fill	Limestone fragments. Grey-white sub-angular and sub-rectangular small-medium size rubble with extensive fawn-white lime mortar, light fawn brown sandy clay and occasional 2" bricks, tile and large charcoal fragments, v occasional bone and pottery. Frequent roots. V compact. Cohesive. Single fill of [306].	0.40-1.50m
305	Natural	Mid brownish orange sand with small-medium sub-rounded pebbles.	1.75m +
306	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW/SE. Shallow break of slope and concave irregular sides at c. 30° to horizontal curving to shallow concave base. c. 2.10m wide. Below [302]. Cuts [303].	0.40-1.50m

**Feature/deposit description:**

A single feature was observed: a wide ditch [306], below the contaminated soil [302] and cutting into [303]. It contained occasional post-medieval material and extensive building rubble. The alignment mirrors the existing south boundary of the Abbey inner precinct, so it may represent an earlier line of the boundary. Alternative explanation: The feature may have been used as a lime pit.

The subsoil contained occasional medieval and post-medieval material, indicating that it has been disturbed.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. The natural terrace gravel was only identified toward the north-east end of the trench, within a sondage.

**Test Pit A**

Maximum dimensions: Length:1.30m Width: 1m Depth:1. 1.05-1.14m

Orientation: NW-SE

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s)
400	Floor	Machine made blue brick paviors, 25x21.5x4cm. bedded onto thin layer of bright fawn/yellow soft mortar with white lime flecks.	0.00-0.07m
401	Soil	Grey brown slightly sandy clayey silt. Cohesive but not compact. Occasional brick, tile and pottery. Overlies [404].	0.07-0.19m
402	Soil	Mid brown slightly sandy clayey silt. Cohesive but not compact. Occasional limestone and tile. Overlies [403]. Cut by service trench.	0.35-0.57m
403	Construction layer	Yellowish brown sandy mortar and clayey silt. Occasional sub-angular grey limestone fragments, large charcoal fragments and flecks, small brick fragments and flecks, white lime mortar flecks, small rounded pebbles. Very compact. Cohesive. Diffuse boundary with [406] below.	0.49-0.70m
404	Hardcore rubble	Light fawn mortar with brick and tile rubble. Occasional sandy clay. Moderately compact and cohesive. Diffuse boundary with [405].	0.12-0.26m
405	Soil	Mid brownish grey sandy silty clay and ash. Frequent charcoal fragments and flecks. Moderately compact. Diffuse boundary with [402] and [408].	0.22-0.38m
406	Soil	Mid greyish brown slightly sandy clay silt. Cohesive but not compact. Very occasional charcoal flecks, small brick fragments, sub-angular grey limestone fragments, bone and pottery. Diffuse boundary with [407] below. Indeterminate depth to north-east.	0.63m +
407	Cobble surface	Small sub-rounded pebble gravel cobbles with mid greyish brown slightly sandy clay silt. V occasional tile. Compact but degraded surface.	1.04m +

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408	Construction layer	Brownish grey sandy silt and extensive small-medium yellow fawn mortar lumps and flecks. V occasional charcoal flecks. Moderately compact and cohesive.	0.36-0.48m
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**Feature/deposit description:**

The mortar layer [408] was only observed in the north-west section. It is interpreted to be related to the construction of the adjacent brick wall. Concreted layer [403] is similarly interpreted to be a post-medieval construction layer.

The pebble cobble surface [407] was quite degraded and petered out to the north-east. It contained a single tile fragment within the surface, but is otherwise undated. Soil [406] contained post-medieval pottery. NB: it is at a much lower level than the base of the buttress of the arch (and hence the medieval floor level) observed in TP B.

No other archaeological features or horizons were identified. Neither was the natural terrace gravel identified within the test pit.

**Test Pit B**

Maximum dimensions: Length: 1.10m Width: 0.90m Depth: 0.96-1.05m

Orientation: NW-SE

## Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Depth below ground surface (b.g.s)
500	Hardcore	Small sub-angular and rounded light yellow gravel below sawdust. Occasional post-med. and modern debris. Compact and cohesive. Defined boundary with [501] below.	0.00-0.12m
501	Soil	Dark blackish brown slightly sandy clayey silt. Moderately compact and cohesive. Occasional brick and tile, large charcoal fragments and flecks. Cut by service trench. Overlies [502].	0.12-0.33m
502	Rubble	Red roof tiles with occasional 2" brick fragments, pottery and mortar plus 25% dark blackish brown slightly sandy clayey silt. Overlies [503].	0.30-0.36m
503	Floor	Light whitish grey limestone flagstones. Only within western two-thirds of test pit. Roughly squared slabs, max 50x38x7cm. Bedded directly onto [504].	0.36-0.43m
504	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt. Moderately compact and cohesive. Occasional charcoal flecks, pottery and limestone fragments. Diffuse boundary with [505] below.	0.27-0.65m
505	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt. Cohesive but not compact. Occasional charcoal flecks, pottery, animal bone and very occasional limestone fragments.	0.54m +

**Feature/deposit description:**

The flagstone floor comprised unmortared limestone flags bedded directly onto the soil below. They were not contiguous, with large unfilled gaps between each roughly squared stone. Soil [504] below contained post-medieval material indicating a post-medieval date for the flooring.

NB: the flagstone floor level coincided with the base of the arch buttress. This was clearly NOT built to be seen (although the stone of the wall itself was dressed) – thus the medieval floor must have been at the same height. There was no indication of a foundation trench for the wall, so the soil must have been dumped against it to raise it up. This level is substantially higher than the cobble in TP A.

A modern pipe was recorded on the north-east side of the test pit, aligned NW/SE.

No features or archaeological layers were identified within the test pit. Neither was the natural terrace gravel identified within the test pit.

## Appendix 2

**Table 1 The pottery fabrics**

Fabric Number	Fabric Name	Period / Date range	Total	Weight (g)
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	1	13
3	Handmade Malvernian ware	Iron Age to 1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup> century	1	14
12	Severn Valley Ware	Mid 1 <sup>st</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> century	6	122
14	Fine sandy grey ware	Roman	2	79
22	Black burnished ware	2 <sup>nd</sup> century	1	38
43	Samian	1 <sup>st</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup> century	1	14
63	Brill / Boarstall	Medieval	1	58
63?	Possible Brill / Boarstall	Medieval	1	7
69	Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware	13 <sup>th</sup> to early 17 <sup>th</sup> century	2	32
78	Post-medieval red wares	Post-medieval	16	395
81	Stoneware	Post-medieval	5	36
82	Tin glazed wares	Post-medieval	3	25
83	Porcelain	Post-medieval / modern	8	18
84	Creamware	Post-medieval	17	83
85	Modern stone china	Modern	8	59
91	Post-medieval buff wares	Post-medieval	1	1
98	Miscellaneous Roman	Roman	1	5
99	Miscellaneous Medieval	Medieval	5	78

**Table 2 The complete finds assemblage**

Context	Material	Type	Date range	Total	Weight
100	Bone				147
102	Bone				1
105	Bone				225
105	Pot	Miscellaneous Medieval (fabric 99)	Medieval	1	3
105	Pot	Samian (fabric 43)	1st - 2/3rd C	1	14
105	Pot	Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12)	M1 - 4th C	1	18
105	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	1	90
106	Bone				583
106	Glass	Window		6	17
200	Tile	Flat roof tile	Modern	1	19
200	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	1	175
200	Tile		Modern	1	163
200	Slag			1	61
200	Pot	Stoneware (fabric 81)	Post- Medieval	1	9
200	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	Modern	2	20
200	Pot	Brill / Boarstall (fabric 63)	Medieval	1	58
200	Lead			1	52
200	Iron	Nails		3	27
200	Bone				94
200	Iron			1	13
202	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	19th C+	2	4
202	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	1	9

202	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	4	429
202	Pot	Tin glazed ware (fabric 82)	M16th - 18th C	1	7
202	Pot	Creamware (fabric 84)	L18th C	1	12
202	Pot	Porcelain (fabric 83)	1800+	3	8
202	Bone				79
202	Pot	Stoneware (fabric 81)	Post-medieval	2	7
202	Glass	Vessel	Post- Medieval /	10	297
202	Flower Pot		Post- Medieval /	1	15
202	Brick		Medieval / Post-	2	327
202	Brick		Medieval/ Post-	1	885
202	Tile	Pan	Post- Medieval	2	482
202	Pot	Post-medieval red ware (fabric 78)	Post- Medieval	2	60
203	Pot	Fine sandy grey ware (fabric 14)	Roman	1	74
203	Tile	Flat roof tile	Medieval	2	145
203	Shell	Oyster		3	70
203	Pot	Severn Valley Ware (fabric 12)	M1 - 4th C	2	26
203	Pot	Stoneware (fabric 81)	Post- Medieval	1	12
203	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	18th C	2	89
203	Bone				25
203	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	19th C+	1	6
206	Bone				3
206	Pot	Handmade Malvernian (fabric 3)	Iron Age – 1 <sup>st</sup> / 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1	14
206	Pot	Miscellaneous Roman (fabric 98)	Roman	1	5
206	Pot	Black burnished ware (fabric 22)	2 <sup>nd</sup> century	1	38
302	Glass	Vessel	Post- Medieval /	1	8
302	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	Post- Medieval	1	5
302	Tile	Flat roof tile	Post- Medieval	1	48
303	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	Post- Medieval	3	39
303	Tile	Floor tile	Medieval / Post-	1	200
303	Tile	Floor tile	Medieval / Modern	1	131
303	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	1	173
303	Tile		Medieval / Post-	1	73
303	Tile	Ridge	13th - 18th C	1	178
303	Pot	Severn Valley ware ( fabric 12)	2 - 3rd C?	1	35
303	Pot	Severn Valley ware ( fabric 12)	M1 - 4th C	1	38
303	Pot	Porcelain (fabric 83)	1800+	1	5
303	Pipe	Bowl	Post- Medieval	2	13
303	Mortar			2	81
303	Brick		Medieval / Post-	2	2621
303	Bone			0	1297
303	Pot	Fine sandy grey ware (fabric 14)	Roman	1	5
304	Concrete			1	1224
304				0	0
304	Bone				279
304	Brick		Medieval / Post-	1	1096
304	Brick		Post- Medieval?	2	2270
304	Brick		Post- Medieval /	2	1077
304	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	2	567
304	Tile	Floor tile	Medieval / Post-	1	263
304	Tile	Floor tile	Medieval	1	358
304	Tile	Pan	Modern	1	156
304	Tile	Ridge	13th - 18th C	1	115
304	Clinker			1	32

401	Pot	Tin glazed ware (fabric 82)	M16th - 18th C	2	18
401	Tile	Floor tile	Medieval	1	115
401	Tile	Flat roof tile	Post- Medieval	5	730
401	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	2	131
401	Tile	Flat roof tile	Modern	1	31
401	Stone	Fire cracked		1	358
401	Pot	Severn Valley ware (fabric 12)	M1 - 4th C	1	5
401	Pot	Creamware (fabric 84)	L18th C	4	23
401	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	18th C	4	133
401	Brick		Medieval / Post-	1	132
401	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	Post- Medieval	1	2
401	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	19th C+	1	2
401	Bone				31
401	Pipe	Stem	Post- Medieval	3	4
401	Mortar			2	21
401	Glass	Window	Medieval / Modern	1	1
401	Glass	Vessel	Post- Medieval /	1	35
401	Flower Pot		Post- Medieval /	4	50
401	Pot	Porcelain (fabric 83)	1800 +	3	3
401	Shell	Oyster		1	14
405	Tile		13th - 18th C	1	14
405	Shell	Oyster		1	7
405	Pot	Creamware (fabric 84)	L18th C	5	8
405	Pot	Post- Medieval red ware (fabric 78)	17th C	3	67
405	Pot	Post-medieval buff ware (fabric 91)		1	1
405	Pot	Stoneware (fabric 81)	Post- Medieval	1	8
405	Iron	Nails		1	42
405	Pipe	Stem	Post- Medieval	2	5
406	Pot	Miscellaneous Medieval (fabric 99)	Medieval	4	75
406	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	3	156
406	Stone	Building material		1	39
406	Stone			1	1934
406	Brick		Post- Medieval	1	39
406	Mortar			1	28
406	Pipe	Stem	Post- Medieval	1	1
406	Bone				481
406	Pot	Oxidised glazed Malvernian (fabric 69)	13th - E17th C	2	32
407	Bone				2
407	Brick		Post- Medieval	1	53
500	Glass	Vessel		1	10
500	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	19th C+	1	20
500	Flower Pot		Post- Medieval /	2	35
500	Iron	Nails		4	43
501	Tile	Flat roof tile	Modern	1	13
501	Flower Pot		Post- Medieval /	5	9
501	Glass	Vessel	Roman?	2	11
501	Pot	Modern stone china (fabric 85)	19th C+	1	7
501	Iron	Nails		3	21
502	Pot	Porcelain (fabric 83)	1800+	1	2
502	Tile	Flat roof tile	Modern	6	325
502	Tile	Flat roof tile	13th - 18th C	7	1427
502	Shell	Oyster		2	13
502	Pot	Creamware (fabric 84)	L18th C	4	30



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502	Pot	Unknown	Unknown	1	13
502	Pipe	Stem	Post- Medieval	2	2
502	Lead			1	48
502	Iron	Nails		2	66
502	Bone				22
502	Brick		Post- Medieval	2	1187
504	Bone				34
504	Iron			2	10
504	Pot	Creamware (fabric 84)	L18th C	3	10
505	Pot	Miscellaneous medieval (fabric 99)	Medieval	1	7
505	Bone				5