

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

AT

OXFORD THAMES FOUR PILLARS HOTEL,

SANDFORD-ON-THAMES, OXFORDSHIRE

NGR SU 5318 0185

On behalf of

John Hallam Associates

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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at the Oxford Thames Four Pillars Hotel, Sandford-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. Three machine-dug trenches were excavated to the north-west and south-east of the existing hotel complex. Archaeological features and pottery of medieval and/or post-medieval date were identified in all three of the trenches.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The development area (hereafter referred to as ‘the Site’) is located within the existing grounds of the Oxford Thames Four Pillars Hotel, on the eastern bank of the River Thames and to the north-west of St Andrew’s Church in Sandford-on-Thames, Oxfordshire (NGR SP 5318 0185) (Figure 1). The overall area is bordered to the north and west by Littlemore Brook and the River Thames, to the south by Church Road and residential properties, and to the south-east and east by St Andrew’s Church and Sandford Road. The underlying geology consists of a mixture of Beckley Sand Member and Upper Jurassic Corallian limestones and sands, with the northern part of the Site consisting of alluvium and peat situated above sand and limestone.

The existing ground level is relatively flat at *circa*. 55 metres above Ordnance Datum, falling gently away to the west and north to the River Thames and the Littlemore Brook. Some terracing and other landscaping has taken place within the hotel grounds, especially to the north-west. The Site currently consists of hotel buildings, both converted post-medieval buildings and new accommodation and service extensions; with grassed lawns, gardens, bordering hedges, car parking areas and tennis courts.

1.2 Planning Background

Planning permission was sought for an extension to the existing Oxford Thames Four Pillars Hotel buildings at Sandford-on-Thames, along with associated additional car parking areas. The Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services (OCAS) requested that any new application should be supported by the results of an archaeological field evaluation, due to the potential presence of below ground archaeological remains. OCAS also prepared a Design *Brief* for the archaeological work programme.

John Moore Heritage Services (JMHS) was commissioned to undertake this work, and a *Written Scheme of Investigation* was prepared by John Moore Heritage Services to satisfy the requirements of the Brief (JMHS 2538/01). This *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) proposed the methodology by which the archaeological evaluation was to be carried out.

The WSI was accepted by the Oxfordshire County Archaeologist, and the fieldwork for the archaeological evaluation took place on 29th November-2nd December 2011.



Figure 1. Site and Trench Location

1.3 Archaeological Background

The Site was identified as being of archaeological potential by Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services as it is within the known area of the medieval Knights Templar Preceptory, founded in AD 1239-1240 (Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record PRN 19666). One of the largest Templar complexes in England, following the suppression of the order in 1312 it was taken over by The Knights Hospitallers of St John until the Dissolution of *c.* 1540 when most of the complex was demolished. The Grade II Listed buildings on the Site mostly date to the 18th century, with some 15th century elements, and were called Manor Farm until *c.* 1849 (Lobel 1957).

East and north-east of St Andrew's Church were earthworks from a Deserted Medieval Village, most of which were subsequently destroyed during the construction of a playing field and the village hall. Medieval building and domestic debris including 13th-15th century pottery was recorded during this construction work, and stone coffins were discovered in the barn on the Site during the 1920s.

An archaeological evaluation in 1994 (Ford 1994) excavated seven trenches around what was then the Temple Farm Country Club. Archaeological features (ditches and gullies) were only identified in two of them – Trenches 4 and 6 to the south-east of the current hotel complex. Apart from fragments of animal bone these features produced few finds, with only one sherd of shell-tempered medieval pottery recovered from a north-south ditch in Trench 6 (Ford 1993, 3). A recent Ground Penetrating Radar survey (Smalley 2011) identified possible masonry structures to the north-east of the existing hotel complex.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation were:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains within the Site;
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered;
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of the archaeological features and deposits.

And in particular:

- To establish whether features related to the Knights Templar Preceptory survive on the Site.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

In response to the Brief issued by Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services (OCAS), JMHS carried out the work, which comprised scheme for the mechanical excavation of three trial trenches – one 20 metres in length and two 10m long.

3.2 Methodology

Site procedures for the investigation and recording of potential archaeological deposits and features were defined in the WSI and agreed with OCAS.

A 5-tonne tracked 360-degree excavator fitted with a toothless 1.5m wide ditching bucket was used to excavate the trenches. Any archaeological deposits and features revealed were then cleaned by hand and recorded in plan before being excavated and recorded at an appropriate level. Archaeological features had written, drawn and photographic records made of them, and all deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers without brackets indicate features i.e. pit cuts; while numbers in brackets () show feature fills or deposits of material. All context numbers are preceded by trench number and /. Details of individual trenches are presented in Appendix 1 – the context inventory – at the rear of this report.

Context numbers without brackets indicate features i.e. pit cuts; while numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material. All artefacts were collected and retained. The trenches without archaeology had record photographs taken of their stripped areas, whilst photographs and drawings recorded representative sections of the deposits above the undisturbed natural subsoil. The work was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008) and the principles of MAP2 (English Heritage 1991).

4 RESULTS

4.1 The Archaeological Results

Due to physical constraints such as the need to avoid tree roots, it was necessary to alter the position of Trench 1 (Figure 1).

All the trenches and their contexts have been listed in Appendix 11 at the rear of this report. The Oxfordshire County Archaeologist Mr Richard Oram inspected the Site on Tuesday 29th November shortly after the trenches had been machine excavated.

In all trenches the topsoil was friable dark grey brown sandy loam with brick and tile fragments and pebbles, up to 0.30m thick. Underneath this was up to 0.30m of made ground, consisting of layers of redeposited subsoil mixed in with building debris such as relatively modern brick and tile fragments, metal objects and sometimes levelling layers of gravel and/or limestone chippings. Other layers of overburden appeared to have been reworked by root or animal activity. The natural subsoil was different in each trench, and so will be described separately below.

4.2 Trench 1 (Figs 2, 3)

Trench 1 was 20m long and 1.5m wide, and orientated roughly north-east to south-west. The topsoil (1/100) was 0.25-0.30m thick, and had a great deal of root disturbance. Below this, deposit (1/101) was made up of several different layers of compact yellow to range brown sandy gravel with angular limestone fragments, or of off-white and light grey brown limestone fragments or chippings. These levelling layers varied between 0.10-0.20m in thickness. Post-medieval tile and one limestone

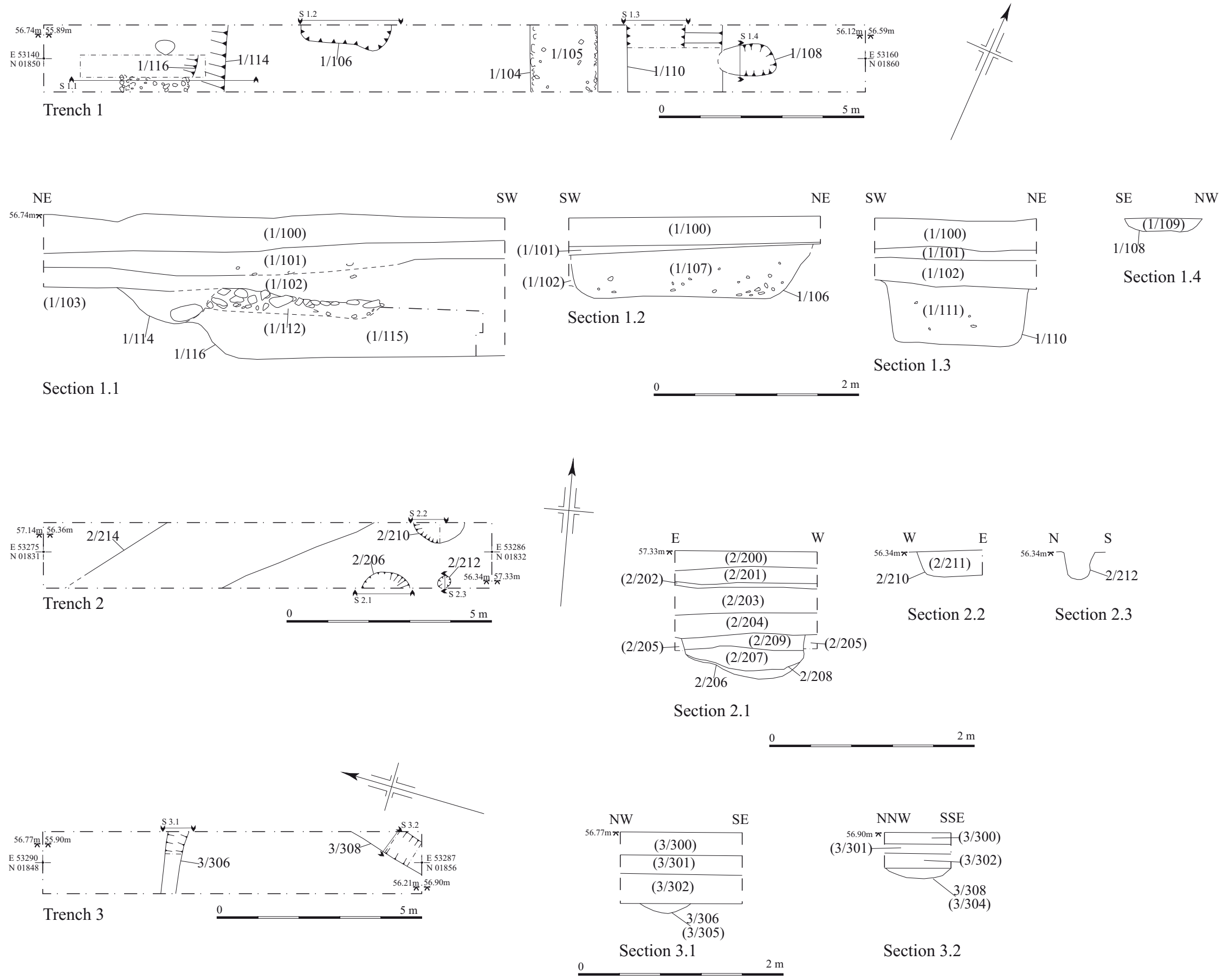


Figure 2. Plans and Section of Trenches

architectural fragment was recovered from these made ground deposits. The natural subsoil (1/103) consisted of friable, mottled light yellow brown and light brown sand with occasional rounded and subrounded pebbles, but in Trench 1 it was still quite disturbed by root and worm action. Also present across the entire trench was deposit (1/102), a layer of friable mid to dark brown sand with occasional subangular limestone fragments and oyster shell fragments. This layer sealed some of the features, but others appeared to have been cut through it, and it was unclear if it was redeposited material or not, though there were clear signs that at the very least had been reworked *in situ*.

Underneath deposit (1/102) was 1/105, a north-west to south-east orientated masonry feature up to 1.60m wide and made of angular and subangular limestone fragments up to 0.30m long, 0.20m wide and 0.15m thick, together with fragments of tile and animal bone. There were also large irregular lumps of mortar re-used in this feature, this being off white or light grey in colour with black speckles or flecks. The masonry had been laid within a shallow rectilinear cut up to 0.20m deep and 1.62m wide, with a flat base. The surface of 1/105 was markedly level and the top of some of the stone and mortar seemed to have been worn, and this feature was probably a path.



Figure 3. Trench 1. Masonry path 1/105 looking south-west

Just 0.70m north-east of path 105 was cut 1/110, a rectilinear feature 1.32m wide and 0.70m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill (1/111) consisted of mid reddish-brown silty sand with moderate quantities of subangular limestone fragments, stone and ceramic roof tile fragments and one sherd of possible late medieval or early post-medieval pottery. It is likely that this was a robber cut. Towards the north-eastern end of Trench 1, pit 1/108 was an oval feature 1.40m long, 0.74m wide and 0.13m deep, with gradually sloping sides and a gently concave base. Its fill (1/109) consisted of mid-brown silty sand with occasional angular and subangular limestone fragments, and produced one sherd of probable 11th century pottery. The relationship between pit 1/108 and robber cut 1/110 was not clear, as the fills of both were very similar and this area appeared to have been subjected to much disturbance and trample in the past.

Pit cut 1/106 was only partly exposed within Trench 1 so its original shape was unclear, though it seemed to be irregular or perhaps sub-oval in plan. As exposed in the trench it was 2.20m long, 0.60m wide and up to 0.52m deep, with very steep sides and a flat or gently concave base, and it seemed to have been cut through deposit (1/102). Its fill (1/107) was reddish-brown silty sand with large quantities of angular and subangular limestone fragments, and it contained one sherd of possible Romano-British pottery.

At the south-western end of Trench 1 there was a large and enigmatic feature which it was not possible to resolve satisfactorily within the narrow evaluation trench, and only a narrow sondage could be excavated through it. Cut 1/116 was up to 0.5m deep, with a quite steep north-eastern edge and a flat base. The south-western edge was not identified and may have extended beyond the limits of Trench 1, but as at least 2.75m of cut 1/116 was exposed in section it must have been a sizeable feature, possibly on a broadly north-west to south-east alignment. The fill of 1/116 (1/115) was friable reddish brown silty sand, with ceramic tile fragments. One clay pipe fragment and a complete medieval tile were also found on top of this deposit, along with (1/112), a layer of compact subangular limestone fragments 1.70m long and up to 0.80m wide and 0.20m thick. It was initially thought that (1/112) represented stone foundations, possibly a pier base, which would imply that cut 1/116 was a footing trench, but the depth of soft sand underneath (1/112) would seem to rule this out.



Figure 4. Trench 1. Sondage through cuts 1/114 and 1/116 looking south-west, also showing stone deposit (1/112)

The situation was further confused by the presence of a marked break in slope to the north-east of cut 1/116. This second edge sloped at approximately 45 degrees, and several large limestone boulders were also present on the edge of this cut. Up to 0.85m wide and 0.25m deep, it was numbered separately as 1/114, but it was unclear whether this was a separate cut or if both 1/116 and 1/114 were part of just one large stepped feature. The 'fill' of 1/114 was (1/113), also reddish-brown silty sand. The similarities between (1/113), (1/114) and (1/102) made it very hard to determine exactly what the stratigraphic sequence was.

4.3 Trench 2

Trench 2 was 10m long and 1.5m wide and orientated approximately east to west. The topsoil (2/200) was up to 0.20m thick, but this was again situated above a series of redeposited and made ground deposits (2/101), (2/202), (2/203) and (2/204) that were a combined total of *c.* 0.80m thick. These layers contained much modern brick and tile, modern glass fragments, concrete and slate fragments, modern metal objects and plastic.

The natural subsoil in Trench 2 consisted of off-white or light grey-brown chalky limestone (2/205). Dug into this was a series of cut features. Only part of pit 2/206 was exposed in plan, but it was up to 1.20m long, at least 0.52m wide and up to 0.44m deep, and appeared to be circular or subcircular in shape with relatively gentle but stepped sides and a rounded, gently concave base. Its primary fill (2/208) was dark grey-black charcoal-rich clayey silt up to 0.10m thick, and this contained one sherd of possible mid-11th century pottery. The secondary fill (2/207) consisted of light grey-brown clayey silt with occasional small subangular limestone fragments up to 0.28m thick, and animal bone fragments, probably from cattle. The tertiary fill (2/209) was mid-brown clayey silt 0.16m thick.



Figure 5. Trench 2. Pit cut 2/206, looking south

Pit 2/210 was probably also subcircular in plan, and was approximately 1.10m wide and up to 0.20m deep, with very steep, near vertical sides and a rounded, flat base. Its fill (2/211) was light brownish grey clayey silt with subangular pebbles, and this did not produce any finds. Cut 2/212 was circular in plan, 0.30m in diameter and 0.24m deep. It had vertical or near-vertical sides and a slightly concave base, and was probably a posthole. The single fill (2/213) was light brown clayey silt with subangular pebbles and charcoal pieces, but this did not yield any finds.

Extending obliquely across Trench 2 was large rectilinear feature cut 2/214. This was at least 4.10m long and 2.12m wide, and probably represented a boundary ditch orientated approximately north-east to south-west. This feature could not be excavated by hand due to time constraints, so its original depth and likely date are unknown. A fragment of post-medieval tile and two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the upper surface of the fill (2/215), a mid-grey clayey silt with occasional chalk fragments. As these finds were from the interface with made ground layer (2/204) above, however, it is possible that the ditch was earlier in date.

4.4 Trench 3

Trench 3 was 10.20m long and 1.5m wide, and orientated north-west to south-east. The topsoil (3/300) was 0.20-0.30m thick, and once again this lay above made ground layer (3/301), mid-brown silty sand with limestone fragments, modern brick and tile fragments, nylon rope and plastic fragments up to 0.25m thick. Below this was a layer of dark grey brown sandy silt (3/302) up to 0.40m thick, with limestone fragments and charcoal flecking. It was unclear if this too was deposited material, if it was a buried soil or if this deposit had been reworked *in situ*. No artefacts were noted within it during machining. The natural subsoil in Trench 3 was mottled yellow orange to orange brown silty sand and sandy silt with occasional small pebbles (3/303), and this seemed likely to have been at least in part alluvial in origin.

Two features were identified cut into the natural subsoil (3/303). Cut 3/306 was a narrow rectilinear slot or gully up to 0.40m wide and only 0.10-0.15m deep, with relatively steep sides and a flat base. Its fill (3/305) consisted of mottled dark brown and grey brown sandy silt with frequent fragments of charcoal and what appeared to be lumps of unfired clay daub. One sherd of mid-11th century pottery was retrieved from part of this feature, which may have been a drainage gully near a building, the setting for a fence or more likely the slot for the wattle and daub wall of a building.

At the southern end of Trench 1 was cut 3/308, a shallow gully or ditch up to 0.70m wide and 0.20m deep orientated roughly NNE-SSW, with relatively gentle sides and a flat or gently concave base. Its fill (3/304) was mottled mid to dark brown sandy silt, and contained two sherds of possible Romano-British pottery and one sherd of 10th century pottery.

4.5 Reliability of Techniques and Results

The reliability of results is considered to be good. The archaeological evaluation took place in generally clement conditions with average light and visibility.

5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

5.1 The Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 11 sherds with a total weight of 81 grammes. It was recorded utilizing the coding system and chronology of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1984; 1994), as follows:

OXR:	St Neots Ware c. AD 850-1200. 1 sherd, 3g.
OXAC:	Cotswold-type ware c. AD 975-1350. 3 sherds, 48g.
OXFH:	Border ware c. AD 1550-1700. 3 sherds, 17g.
P-MED:	Post-medieval c. AD 1600-1800. 2 sherds, 57g.

In addition, four sherds (13g) of Romano-British pottery was present, all of which was abraded to a greater or lesser degree. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region.

The post-Roman assemblage indicates that there was activity at the site in the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods, and that it was then abandoned until the early post-medieval period. The post-Roman sherds are all in good condition and appear reliably stratified.

The two sherds of pottery recovered from the top of ditch fill (2/215) both have an orange fabric, though the darker reddish-orange colour of one indicates that is probably a separate, second vessel. This latter sherd also has an external dark reddish-brown slip, and traces of fine knife marks. Both have internal glazes – one mid-reddish brown in colour with frequent dark reddish-brown lead-glazed splashes and streaks that appear separate to the main glaze, the other with only occasional dark-reddish brown streaks that seem contiguous with the main glazing. These two sherds were probably from broad, flat-bottomed vessels such as pancheons.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Context	RB		OXR		OXAC		OXFH		P-MED		Earliest date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1/102							3	17			M 16 th C
1/107	1	2									RB??
1/109					1	14					M 11 th C
1/111							1	13			M 16 th C?
2/202	1	4									RB??
2/208					1	27					M 11 th C
2/215									2	57	16 th C
3/304	2	7	1	3							10 th C
3/305					1	7					M 11 th C
Total	4	13	1	3	3	48	3	17	2	57	

5.2 The Tile by Gwilym Williams

The tile recovered from the evaluation at Oxford Thames Four Pillars, Sandford-on-Thames comprised ceramic roof and floor tile, and stone roof tile.

The tile was scanned, weighed and counted. No fabrics have been examined.

Most of the tile was roof tile, although four fragments of floor tile were recovered, two of which were ‘Stabbed Wessex’ style tiles dating from the late 13th to early 14th centuries. The other two fragments of floor tile were undecorated and not easily datable in the absence of associated tiles, but were probably also medieval, however.

The roof tile was generally quite fragmented with only two fragments having pegholes and a secure date is equally not possible, although a medieval date is most likely. A single fragment was extremely interesting, as it was heavily reduced almost to the point of vitrification and deformed. The size of the fragment – 50mm by 45mm – is small, and the fragment may well be imported from elsewhere. Nevertheless, the fragment resembles either a waster, or perhaps more likely a piece of kiln or oven furniture.

The stone roof tile is undateable, but comprises small fragments, with a couple of larger pieces, including one with a peghole.

The assemblage is entirely in keeping with the demolition of the structures associated with the former priory. Although no designs on the floor tiles were recognisable, other evaluations in the area such as Minchery Farm, which may also have been a Templar holding (Williams 2006, 21), have yielded reasonably good assemblages of floor tile.

Table 2: Tile occurrence by number and weight (in g) of fragments per context

Context	Weight (g)	Frag.	Dimensions (LxBxT)	Description	Date
(1/102)	2271	8	165mm ×160 × 30	7 fragments tile & 1 complete floor tile; 5 roof & 3 floor. 2 floor tile unglazed, one floor tile possibly ‘Stabbed Wessex’	Medieval
(1/105)	258	5	-	4 fragments roof tile, including 1 with peghole; one fragment ‘Stabbed Wessex’ floor tile	Post 13 th C.
(1/111)	3277	20	-	Fragments of oolitic limestone, including 1 with drilled peghole	Medieval?
(1/111)	449	9	-	9 small fragments with two very reduced fabric; one piece possible waster or kiln-furniture; fragment ridge tile; fragment very corky fabric with reduced core.	Medieval?
(1/115)	2	20	-	Roof tile	-
(2/215)	1	57	-	Roof tile	-

5.3 The Architectural Fragments *by Adrian M. Chadwick*

One fragment of worked limestone was recovered from made ground deposit (1/101) in Trench 1, and was thus essentially unstratified. There are faint traces of diagonal tool marks on another flat face at right angles to the recess, these marks being *c.* 10-12mm apart. The right-angled recess would appear to comprise part of a window or a door jamb, but the masonry fragment is not closely dateable. It may have been derived from the demolition of either the later medieval Preceptory buildings, or from the post-medieval manor house.

Fragment of worked limestone. Maximum length 270 millimetres, max. width 140mm, max. breadth 120mm. Weight 4862 grammes.



Figure 5. Architectural fragment from layer (1/101), Trench 1

5.4 Clay Pipe *by Adrian M. Chadwick*

One small fragment of clay pipe stem weighing 2g was recovered from context (1/115). This was not closely dateable, but is likely to be late 18th or 19th century in date.

5.5 Palaeo-environmental Remains

No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental analysis were identified, and no samples were taken.

6 DISCUSSION

The Ground Penetrating Radar survey of a car park area immediately north-east of the existing hotel complex identified possible buried masonry features (Smalley 2011), with other results indicative either of either fragmented masonry and/or demolition or makeup layers.

In Trench 1, path 105 was aligned north-west to south-east and was extending in a line that would have brought it to the existing entrance of an extant stone-walled garden. It thus seems likely that this path was a feature associated with the post-medieval landscaping of the area around the former Preceptory buildings, probably as part of the post-medieval manorial complex of Manor Farm. Given that it was adjacent to robber cut 110 and on the same alignment, it may have been respecting an existing wall or similar boundary, and it probably made use of masonry and mortar robbed from the surviving medieval structures. The *Victoria County History* of the Bullingdon hundred (Lobel 1957, 267) records that Temple Farm had a walled garden to the north in which there was a doorway with the date 1614 carved over it, and this would certainly accord with the archaeological evidence.

It is unclear when pits 1/106 and 1/108 were dug. The Romano-British sherd from pit 1/106 was probably residual, but the one sherd of mid-11th century pottery robber cut 1/110 could equally be residual/re-deposited too. The Roman pottery from gully 3/308 in Trench 3 may also be residual, and there are traces of Romano-British settlement including pottery kilns extending northwards from Sandford-on-Thames on both sides of the river.

At the south-western end of Trench 1 it was unclear what features 1/114 and 1/114 represented. Not only were fills (1/113) and (1/115) extremely similar to one another, however, but they were also barely distinguishable from layer (1/102). It is possible that one cut (perhaps 1/114) was a footing trench, with the other (1/116) a later re-cut or robbing episode. If this was indeed the case, then this would imply very substantial foundations indeed, probably associated with the medieval Preceptory complex. Alternatively, this feature or features may reflect post-medieval landscaping, perhaps a terrace-edge revetment.

The features excavated in Trenches 2 and 3 represent postholes, pits and gullies associated with medieval occupation, and are similar to some of the features recorded 40-50m to the west during the 1994 evaluation (Ford 1994). Interestingly, the date of the pottery apparently reflects late Saxon and Saxo-Norman occupation, pre-dating the establishment of the Preceptory by the Templars in AD 1239-1240. Sandford was first mentioned in a charter of AD 811, when lands there were granted by Kenulf, King of the Mercians to Abingdon Abbey, with further lands at Sandford granted to this abbey in 931 by Athelstan (Lobel 1957, 267-268). In 1050 the abbot of Abingdon Abbey transferred his rights in Sandford to a priest called Blacheman, who had been given permission in 1046 to build a church dedicated to St Andrew near the monastery. The building was to be carried out with the profits from Sandford and other lands the priest was given at the same time, but by the time of Domesday in 1086 Sandford was listed as one of the lands of St Mary of Abingdon. The likely presence of a probable ford nearby might also have attracted occupation. It therefore seems possible that on the Site there was a settlement either built in association with the 11th century church, or pre-dating it.

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Appendix 1: Trench and Archaeological Context Inventory

Context	Type	Description and finds	L (m)	B (m)	D(m)	Levels	Date	Interpretation
Trench 1								
(1/100)	Layer	Friable to loose dark grey brown sandy loam with tile & brick frags., pebbles & root disturbance.	Across trench	Across trench	0.25-0.30m	56.59-56.74m OD	Modern	Topsoil
(1/101)	Layer	Compact yellow to orange brown sandy gravel with frequent pebbles & angular limestone frags.	Across trench	Across trench	0.10-0.20m	-	Modern	Made ground
(1/102)	Layer	Mid to dark brown mottled friable sand with subangular lmst. frags.	Across trench	Across trench	0.15-0.26m	-	Post-med?	Redeposited/reworked
(1/103)	Layer	Friable mottled light yellow brown & light brown sand with occasional pebbles.	Across trench	Across trench	-	55.89-56.12m OD	-	Natural subsoil
1/104	Cut	Rectilinear, shallow cut with a flat base.	1.5m	1.62m	0.20m	-	Post-med?	Construction cut for path
1/105	Masonry	Angular & subangular lmst. frags., mortar lumps, ceramic tile frags. & animal bone	1.5m	1.60m	0.25m	-	Post-med?	Masonry path
1/106	Cut	Irregular/sub-oval pit cut with steep/near vertical sides & a flat/gently concave base.	2.20m	0.60m (excav)	0.52m	-	Med.?	Cut of pit
(1/107)	Fill	Friable reddish-brown silty sand with large quantities of angular & subangular lmst. frags. 1 sherd of poss. RB pottery.	2.20m	0.60m (excav)	0.52m	-	Med.?	Fill of cut 1/106
1/108	Cut	Subcircular/oval in plan with relatively gentle sides and a rounded, gently concave base.	1.40m	0.74m	0.13m	-	Med.?	Cut of pit
(1/109)	Fill	Mid-brown silty sand with occasional angular and subangular lmst. frags., & 1 one sherd of 11 th C. pottery.	1.40m	0.74m	0.13m	-	Med.?	Fill of cut 1/108
1/110	Cut	Rectilinear cut with very steep/vertical sides & a flat base.	1.5m	1.32m	0.70m	-	Post-med?	Robber cut
(1/111)	Fill	Mid reddish-brown silty sand with moderate quantities of subangular lmst. frags., stone and ceramic roof tile frags. 1 sherd of late med./ post-med. pottery.	1.5m	1.32m	0.70m	-	Post-med?	Fill of cut 1/110
(1/112)	Layer	Lmst. frags. forming compact footings/layer.	1.7m	0.50m (excav)	0.20m	-	Med./Post-med?	Footings/fill of cut 1/116
(1/113)	Fill	Friable reddish brown silty sand.	1.5m	0.85m	0.25m	-	Med./Post-med?	Fill of cut 1/114

	1/114	Cut	Only one edge identified, with quite steep sides.	1.5m	0.85m	0.25m	-	Med./Post-med?	Construction cut/revetment
	(1/115)	Fill	Friable reddish brown silty sand, with ceramic tile & clay pipe frags.	1.5m	2.75m+	0.5m	-	Post-med.	Fill of cut 1/116
	1/116	Cut	Only one edge identified, with quite steep sides and a flat base.	1.5m	2.75m+	0.5m	-	Post-med.	Construction cut/revetment
Trench 2									
	(2/200)	Layer	Friable to loose dark grey brown sandy loam with tile & brick frags., metal objects, plastic, pebbles & root disturbance.	Across trench	Across trench	0.20m	57.14-57.33m OD	-	Topsoil
	(2/201)	Layer	Friable mid-brown sandy silt with frequent subangular lmst. frags., brick & tile frags., metal objects, plastic.	Across trench	Across trench	0.16m	-	Modern	Made ground
	(2/202)	Layer	Friable mid to dark brown sandy silt with lmst. frags, brick & tile frags.	Across trench	Across trench	0.04m	-	Modern	Made ground
	(2/203)	Layer	Dark grey silt with some angular lmst. frags.	Across trench	Across trench	0.24m	-	Modern	Made ground
	(2/204)	Layer	Dark grey-brown sandy silt with chalk lumps & occasional charcoal.	Across trench	Across trench	0.24m	-	Post-med?	Redeposited/reworked
	(2/205)	Layer	Off-white or light grey-brown chalky limestone	Across trench	Across trench	-	56.34-56.36m OD	-	Natural subsoil
	2/206	Cut	Subcircular in plan with quite steep sides & a concave base.	1.2m	0.52m (excav)	0.44m	-	Med.	Cut of pit
	(2/207)	Fill	Friable light grey-brown clayey silt with occasional small subangular lmst. frags. & animal bone frags.	1.15m	0.52m (excav)	0.28m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 2/206
	(2/208)	Fill	Dark grey-black charcoal-rich clayey silt with 1 sherd mid-11 th C. pottery.	1.10m	0.52m (excav)	0.10m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 2/206
	(2/209)	Fill	Mid-brown clayey silt.	1.2m	0.52m (excav)	0.16m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 2/206
	2/210	Cut	Subcircular in plan with very steep, near vertical sides & a rounded, flat base.	1.10m	0.50m (excav)	0.20m	-	Med.	Cut of pit
	(2/211)	Fill	Light brownish grey clayey silt with subangular pebbles.	1.10m	0.50m (excav)	0.20m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 2/210
	(2/212)	Cut	Round in plan, vertical or near-vertical sides & a slightly concave base.	0.30m	0.30m	0.24m	-	Med.	Cut of posthole

	(2/213)	Fill	Friable light brown clayey silt with subangular pebbles & charcoal pieces.	0.30m	0.30m	0.24m	-	Med.?	
	2/214	Cut	Rectilinear. Not excavated due to time constraints.	4.10m (exposed)	2.12m	-	-	Med./Post-med?	Cut of ditch
	(2/215)	Fill	Friable mid-grey clayey silt with occasional chalk fragments, 1 frag. post-med tile, 2 sherds 16 th -17 th C. pottery.	4.10m (exposed)	2.12m	-	-	Med./Post-med?	Fill of cut 2/214
Trench 3									
	(3/300)	Layer	Friable to loose dark grey brown sandy loam with tile & brick frags., metal objects, plastic, pebbles & root disturbance.	Across trench	Across trench	0.20-0.30m	56.77-56.90m OD	Modern	Topsoil
	(3/301)	Layer	Friable mid-brown silty sand with lmst. frags., brick & tile frags., nylon rope & plastic.	Across trench	Across trench	0.15-0.25m	-	Modern	Made ground
	(3/302)	Layer	Dark grey brown friable to plastic sandy silt with occasional lmst. frags. & charcoal flecking.	Across trench	Across trench	0.30-0.40m	-	Post-med/modern?	Redeposited/reworked
	(3/303)	Layer	Friable mottled yellow orange to orange brown silty sand and sandy silt with occasional small pebbles.	Across trench	Across trench	-	55.90-56.21m OD	-	Natural subsoil
	(3/304)	Fill	Friable mottled mid to dark brown sandy silt, 2 sherds of possible R-B pottery & 1 sherd of 10 th C. pottery.	2.10m (excav)	0.70m	0.20m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 3/308
	(3/305)	Fill	Friable mottled dark brown and grey brown sandy silt with frequent fragments of charcoal & unfired clay daub lumps, 1 sherd mid-11 th C. pottery.	1.5m	0.40m	0.15m	-	Med.	Fill of cut 3/306
	3/306	Cut	Rectilinear slot with relatively steep sides & a flat base.	1.5m	0.40m	0.15m	-	Med.	Cut of slot/gully
	3/307	VOID	VOIDED						VOIDED
	3/308	Cut	Rectilinear in plan with relatively gentle sides & a flat or gently concave base.	2.10m (excav)	0.70m	0.20m	-	Med.	Cut of ditch/gully