

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT

WARWICK HALL, CHURCH GREEN,

BURFORD, OXFORDSHIRE

NGR SP 2531 1235

On behalf of

The Church of St John the Baptist, Burford

MAY 2016

REPORT FOR The Church of St John the Baptist, Burford
c/o Acanthus Clews Architects
Acanthus House
57 Hightown Road
Banbury
Oxfordshire
OX16 9BE

PREPARED BY Tom Rose-Jones, Andrej Celovsky and Steve Leech

ILLUSTRATION BY Autumn Robson

EDITED BY John Moore

AUTHORISED BY John Moore

FIELDWORK 12th – 17th, 19th – 23rd, 28th, 29th January, 10th – 12th
February, 15th – 16th June 2015 and the 1st February
2016

REPORT ISSUED 5th May 2016

ENQUIRES TO John Moore Heritage Services
Hill View
Woodperry Road
Beckley
Oxfordshire OX3 9UZ

Tel: 01865 358300
Email: info@jmheritageservices.co.uk

JMHS Project No: 3049
Site Code: BUWH 14

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to OXCMS with the accession number OXCMS:2014.119

CONTENTS

	Page
<i>SUMMARY</i>	<i>i</i>
1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Site Location	1
1.2 Planning Background	1
1.3 Archaeological Background	1
2. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION	1
3. STRATEGY	3
3.1 Research Design	3
3.2 Methodology	3
4. RESULTS	3
4.1 Geological Horizon	3
4.2 Phase 1: Medieval Features	5
4.3 Phase 2: Undated Features	9
4.4 Phase 3: Remnant Cultivation Soil	10
4.5 Phase 4: Garden Soil	10
4.6 Phase 5: Post-medieval Features	10
4.7 Phase 6: Post-medieval Buildings	11
4.7.1 Outbuilding 1	11
4.7.2 School building and Well	12
4.7.3 Outbuilding 2	14
4.8 Phase 7: Stone Deposits	15
4.9 Phase 8: Topsoil and Made Ground	15
5. FINDS	17
5.1 Pottery	17
5.2 Animal Bone	18
5.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe	18
5.4 Glass	19
6. DISCUSSION	20
7. ARCHIVE	21
8. BIBLIOGRAPHY	21

FIGURES AND PLATES

	Page
Figure 1. Site Location.	2
Figure 2. Plans within garden area.	4
Figure 3. Plan of basement area reduction	7
Figure 4. Sections 1 to 9	8
Figure 5. Plan of structures 124, 119 and 102	16
Plate 1. <i>Pit 167; section 7. Looking north-northeast</i>	5
Plate 2. <i>Pit 179; section 11. Looking west.</i>	6
Plate 3. <i>Ditch 160; section 6. Looking south.</i>	9
Plate 4. <i>Pits 150, 152 and 154 within soakaway trench. Looking west.</i>	9
Plate 5. <i>Pit 175; section 10. Looking east-southeast.</i>	11
Plate 6. <i>Structure 119. Looking northeast.</i>	12
Plate 7. <i>Structure 124 and associated bedding surfaces. Looking northeast.</i>	13
Plate 8. <i>Structure 102. Looking east.</i>	14
Plate 9. <i>Stone deposits (104), (106) and redeposited natural gravel (108). Looking east.</i>	15
Plate 10. <i>School building 124, as seen in 1910. Looking northwest.</i>	21

Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief at Warwick Hall, Burford, Oxfordshire (NGR SP 2531 1235). Work was monitored intermittently between January 2015 and February 2016. Groundwork consisted of a reduction in ground level associated with the construction of a new build extension to Warwick Hall. Excavations revealed two pits and one linear ditch dating to the early medieval period, four un-dated pits, four pits three stone built foundation walls and a stone lined well all dating to the Post-medieval period. These were overlain by various made ground layers.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

The development site is located off Church Lane in Burford, approximately 30m south of the Parish Church of St John the Baptist and immediately adjacent to the River Windrush (NGR SP 2531 1235). The site lies at approximately 101m above Ordnance Datum (OD), and the geology is the Dyrham Formation – siltstone and mudstone, overlain by alluvium (clay, silt, sand and gravel).

1.2 Planning Background

West Oxfordshire District Council granted planning permission under 12/0350/P/FP to extend Warwick Hall and create a new community centre. Due to the archaeological and historical importance of the surrounding area a condition was attached to the permission requiring an archaeological watching brief to be maintained during the course of building operations or construction works on the site. The Oxfordshire Historic and Natural Environment Team prepared a *Design Brief for Archaeological Watching Brief* (OHaNET 2012) on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

John Moore Heritage Services (JMHS) was commissioned to undertake this work, and a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (JMHS 2014) was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the *Design Brief*. This *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) proposed the methodology by which the archaeological watching brief was to be carried out.

1.3 Archaeological Background

The area of the proposed development lies within an area of archaeological potential on the edge of the medieval core of Burford. It is adjacent to the Parish Church of St John the Baptist which dates from the thirteenth century. Whilst the site survey does not show burials extending into the proposed development area archaeological investigation elsewhere has shown that unmarked graves are often found beyond the boundary of the existing churchyard. Nearby archaeological investigation to the rear of the High Street and off Church Lane has revealed evidence of Romano British and medieval activity (JMHS 2014, OHaNET 2012, 1).

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the WSI were as follows:

- To make a record of any significant remains revealed during the course of any operations that may disturb or destroy archaeological remains.

In particular:

- To record any evidence relating to Romano British and medieval activity known in the area.

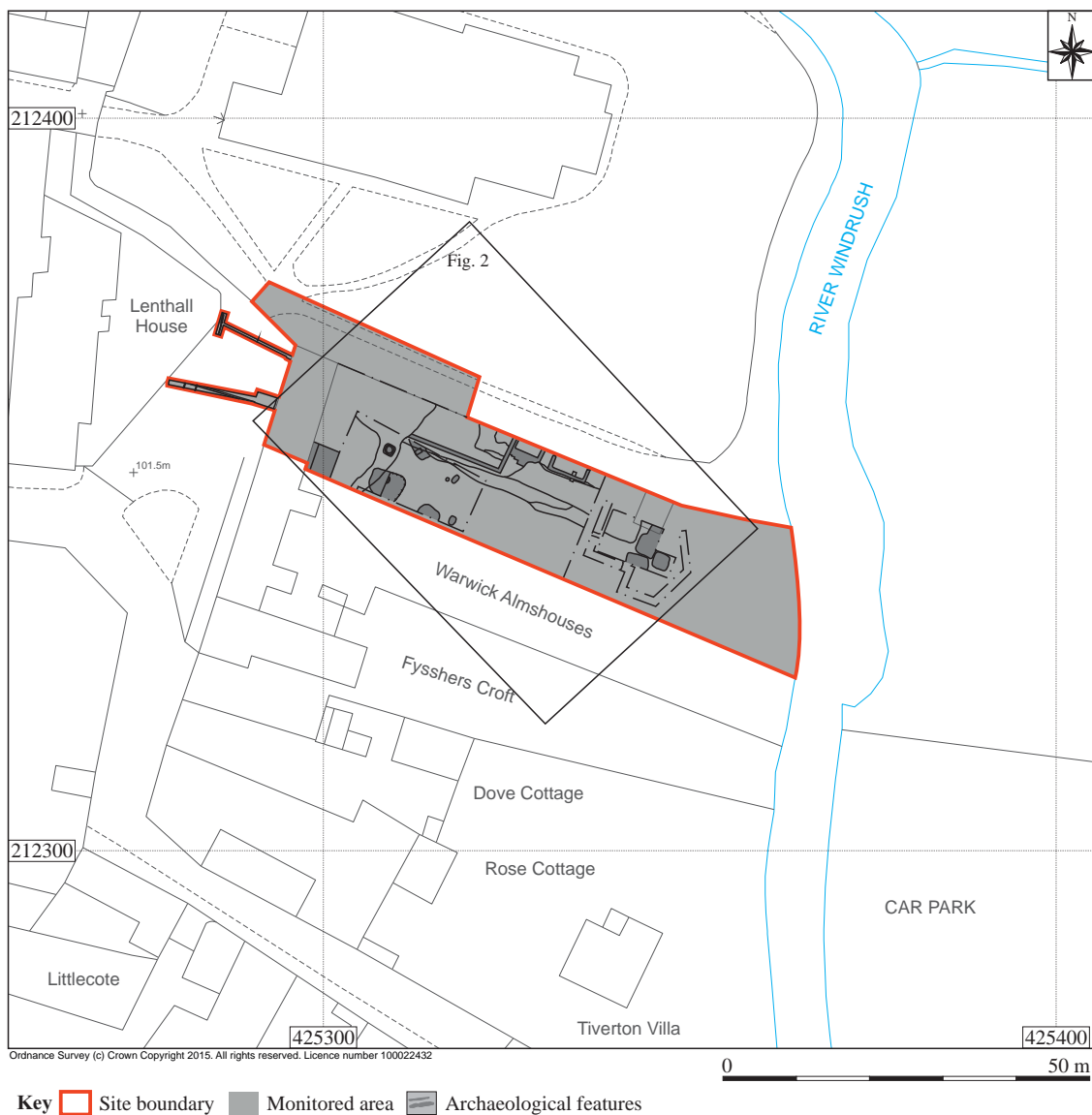
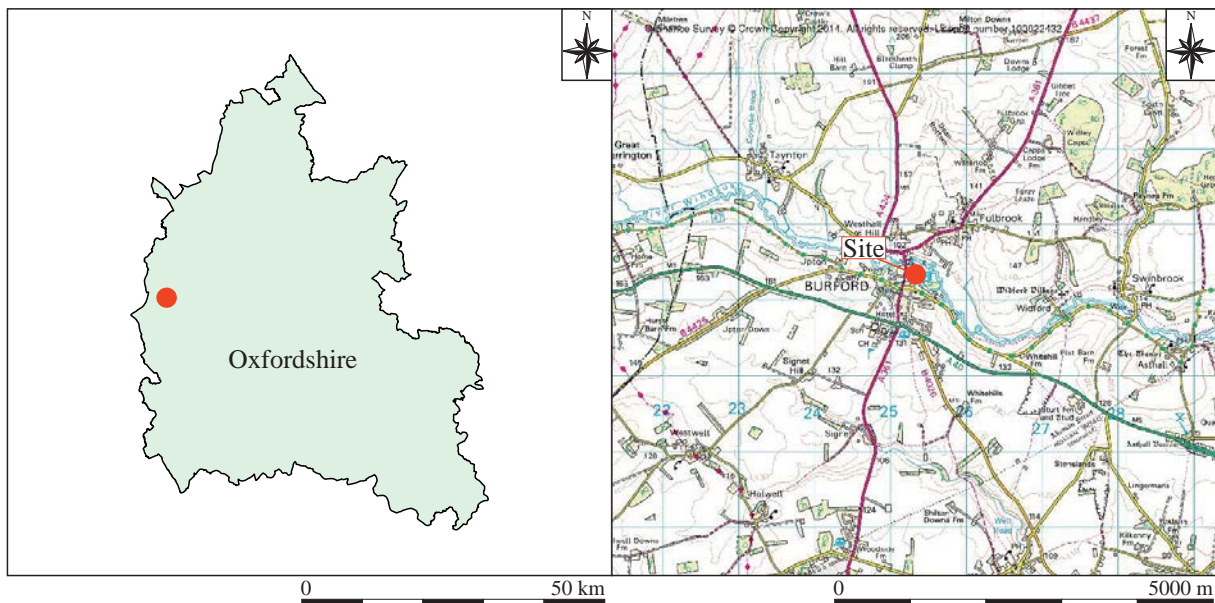


Figure 1: Site location

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief in accordance with the WSI (JMHS 2014). Site procedures for the investigation and recording of potential archaeological deposits and features were defined in the WSI (Sections 3.1 – 3.8).

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) and the principles of MoRPHE (Historic England 2015).

3.2 Methodology

Excavation was carried out using a 360° excavator fitted with a bladed bucket. Where archaeological horizons were encountered they were cleaned by hand and excavated appropriately. Standard JMHS techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of a written record for each deposit encountered, with scale plans and section drawings compiled where appropriate. A photographic record was also produced.

The resultant spoil from the works was visually scanned, especially for finds relating to Romano-British and Medieval activity.

4 RESULTS

Groundwork was undertaken in stages: The first stage of work consisted of a topsoil strip, followed by a reduction in ground level by 0.6m in order to accommodate a piling mat; this was followed by a small area of grading between the churchyard and the site; underpinning trenches excavated against eastern wall of Warwick Hall; excavation of soakaway and ground source heat pump at the eastern end of the site and the excavation of a basement at the western end of the site. The last stage of groundwork consisted of excavation of two service trenches in the area of car park west of Warwick Hall.

All deposits and features were assigned individual context numbers. Context numbers without brackets indicate features i.e. pit cuts, numbers in () show feature fills or deposits of material, while numbers in bold indicate structural features.

4.1 Geological Horizon

The lowest deposit encountered during excavation was the geological horizon (148): a compact light brownish yellow sandy gravel. This deposit was encountered during excavation for the soakaway at the eastern end of the site and for the basement area and the two service trenches at the western end of the development site.



Figure 2: Plans within garden area

4.2 Phase 1: Medieval features

Excavation for the basement of the new build extension revealed a series of features that truncated the geological horizon (Fig. 3).

Pit 167 (Fig. 4; S. 2; Pl. 1) had an ovoid cut 1.2m in length by 0.6m in width and 0.48m in depth; the sides were steep on the west-northwest side and undercut on the east-southeast side. The break of slope was sharp at the top and base, and the base was concave. This was filled by (166) a friable dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional fine gravel. One sherd of 11th century pottery was recovered from this fill. The pit was located 0.5m to the east of pit 169.



Plate 1: Pit 167; section 7. Looking north-northeast

Pit 179 (Fig. 4: S. 4; Pl. 2) was 5m in length by at least 3.5m in width and 1m in depth. The feature was sub-ovoid in plan, with a sharp break of slope at the top, vertical sides and a sharp break of slope at base. The pit had a flat base, with a small concave divet 0.9m in width by 0.3m in depth in the middle of the base. It was filled by three fills: (178) a waterlogged soft mid grey clayey silt with frequent fine gravel, 0.9m in section and 0.3m in thickness. This deposit filled the divet in the base of the feature, and was waterlogged due to its position below the water table; (177) a firm mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate poorly sorted sub-angular stone, 2.8m in section and 0.75m in thickness. The upper fill was (176) a firm mid greyish brown clayey silt with moderate poorly sorted sub-angular stone and moderate charcoal flecks, 6m in length by 3.5m in width and 1m in thickness which produced two sherds of 11th – early 14th century pottery and two fragments of animal bone. Fills (176) and (177) appear to have been deposited from the northern side of the feature, while their thick, homogenous form suggests that they were the result of a deliberate and rapid backfilling event. The divet filled by (178) may be the remains of an earlier feature mainly removed by pit 179.



Plate 2: Pit 179; section 11. Looking west.

Situated 0.5m from the eastern wall of Warwick Hall, linear ditch 160 (Fig. 4: S. 1; Pl. 3) was recorded; this feature was aligned north-northeast to south-southwest and exposed for a length of 4m. The ditch was 2.5m in width and 1.5m deep; the cut had a sharp break of slope at top and base, with vertical to undercut concave sides and a concave base. It contained five fills. The lowest fill (159), a soft mid grey silty clay containing occasional sub-angular stone, 0.2m thick and 2.4m in width contained two sherds of 11th – early 14th century pottery and one piece of animal bone. This fill is likely to represent a period of accumulation and silting while the ditch was open. Above this was (158) a firm mid reddish brown silty clay containing occasional sub-angular stone, 1m thick and 2.5m in width and contained one sherd of 11th – early 14th century pottery. The thick, homogenous form of this fill suggests that it was deposited rapidly, and may be a backfill of material derived from the bank; then (157), a soft yellowish brown silt containing moderate sandy gravel and charcoal lenses, 0.15m thick and 0.9m in width; followed by (156), a soft mid grey clayey silt containing occasional charcoal flecks, 0.2m thick and 2.1m in width; and lastly (155), a soft mid brownish grey clayey silt containing moderate mortar flecks and occasional charcoal flecks, 0.4m thick and 1.9m in width. These fills may represent a period of natural infilling after the abandonment and partial backfilling of the ditch with fill (158). No tip lines are evident within the ditch, and as such it is unclear if the supposed bank was located on the eastern or western side. The ditch was cut by the foundation trench 162, of the eastern wall of Warwick Hall 165. Foundation trench 162 was partially exposed and extended for 4m in length, it was 0.9m wide and 1m deep with vertical sides and a flat base, It was filled by wall 165 overlying (161): a mid-greyish brown silty clay that contained no finds.

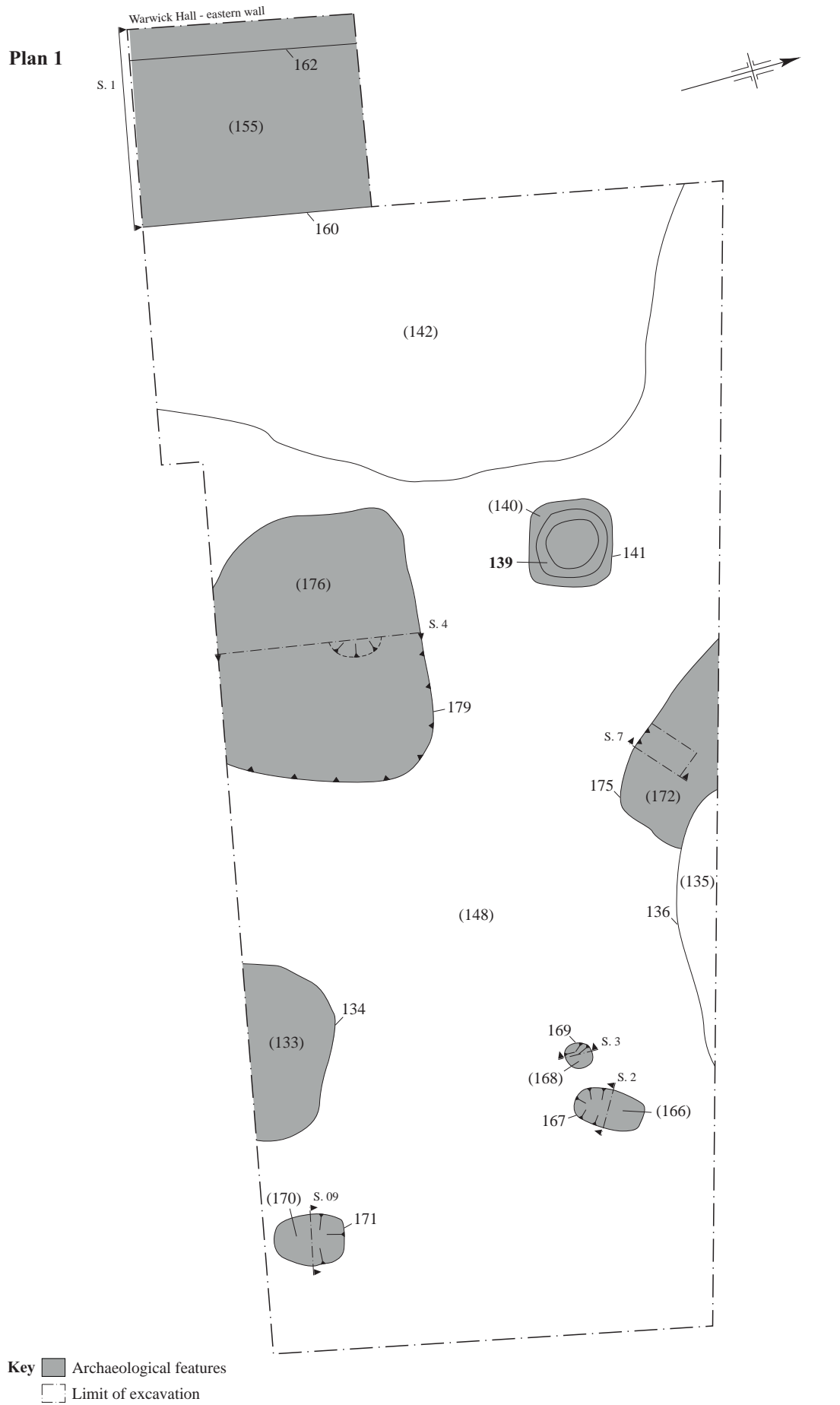


Figure 3: Basement area reduction

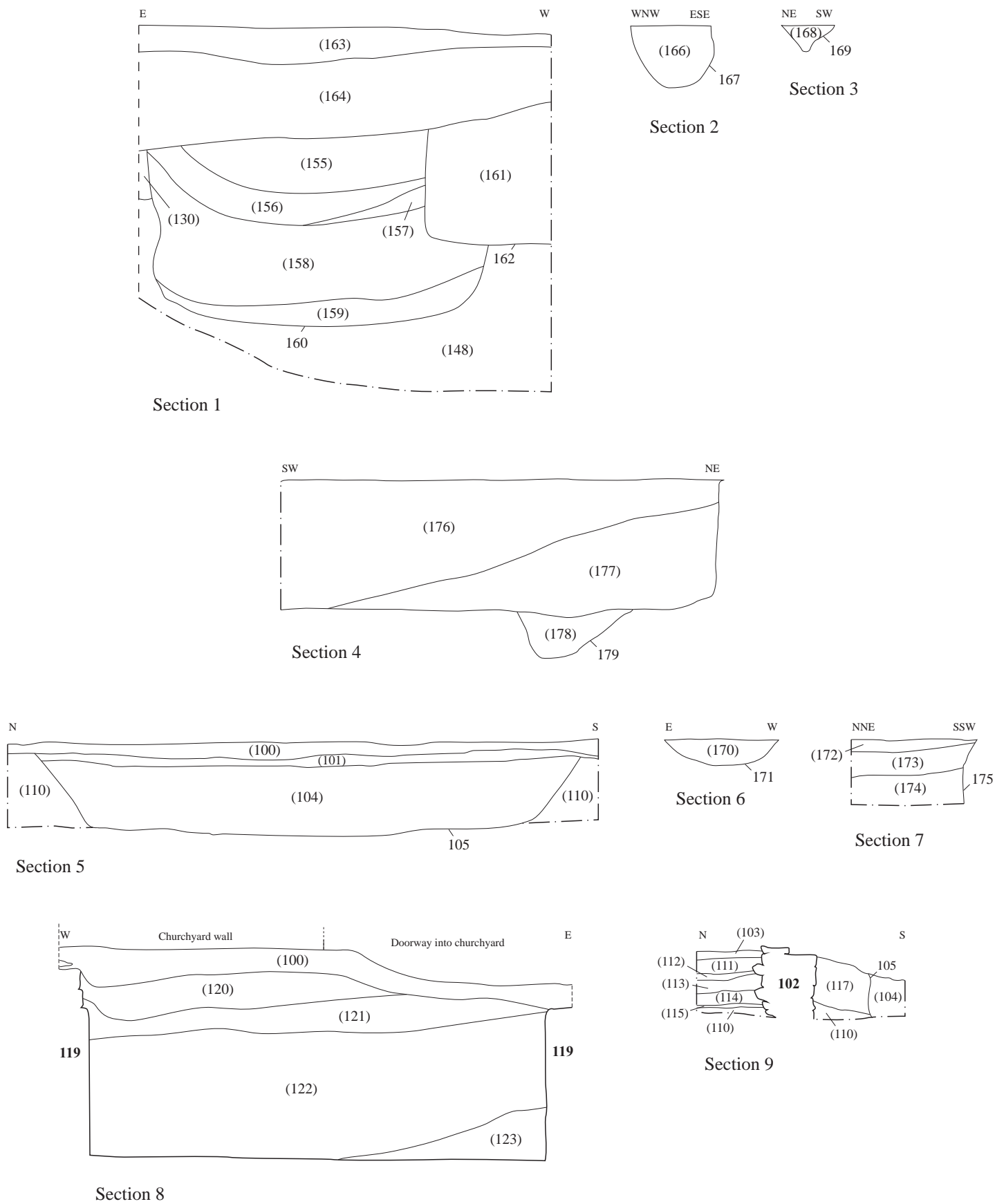


Figure 4: Sections 1-9

0 2 m

4.3 Phase 2: Undated features

The excavation of a soakaway at the eastern end of the site revealed three sub-rectangular pits that truncated the geological horizon: Pit 150 (Fig. 2; Pl. 4), a sub-square cut measuring 2.2m by 2.2m. This pit was filled by a firm mid grey silty sand containing moderate inclusions of fine gravel (149); Pit 152 (Fig. 2; Pl. 4), a sub-rectangular cut measuring 3.2m by at least 1.7m. This pit was filled by a firm mid grey silty sand containing moderate inclusions of fine gravel. This feature extended beyond the southern limit of the soakaway trench. Pit 154 (Fig. 2; Pl. 4), a sub-rectangular cut measuring at least 4.5m by 2.7m filled by a firm mid grey silty sand containing moderate inclusions of fine gravel (153). This feature extended beyond the eastern limit of the soakaway trench. This may have been two pits from the shape of it.



Plate 3: *Ditch 160; section 6. Looking south.*

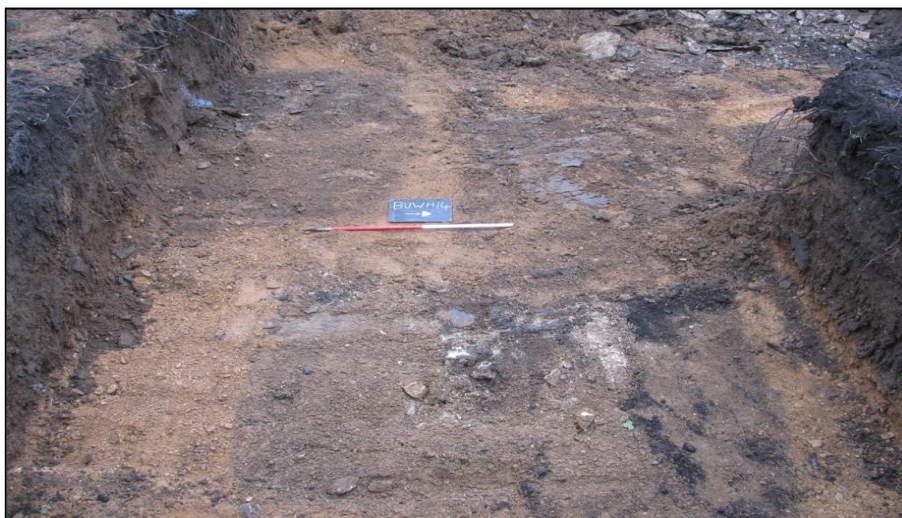


Plate 4: *Pits 150, 152 and 154 within soakaway trench. Looking west.*

Pit 169 (Fig. 4: S. 3) was situated in the basement trench to the east, it was circular in plan, 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. The cut had steep, convex sides with a sharp break of slope at top and base and a concave base and was filled by (168) a firm mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

A ground source heat pump trench was excavated around the soakaway to a depth of 0.8m, and a width of 0.8m. The lowest deposit encountered in the GSHP trench was garden soil (110); as in the soakaway trench this layer was truncated by rubble dump cuts 105 and 107. These were overlain by topsoil (100).

4.4 Phase 3: Remnant Cultivation soil (130)

The medieval features in the area of the basement excavation were overlain by a layer of firm mid reddish brown silty clay 0.1m in thickness (130). This layer was present over an area of 23m by 12m and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and south. It can be suggested that this deposit represents the remnants of a cultivation soil. This deposit was truncated by a number of post-medieval features, and overlain by a thick deposit of garden soil.

4.5 Phase 4: Garden Soil (110)

A layer of garden soil was present across the whole site. This layer was a soft mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal inclusions; the depth of the deposit increased from west to east, from 0.2 to 1m. It was truncated by post-medieval buildings 102, 119, 124, 139 (Fig. 5).

In the central area of ground reduction garden soil (110) was overlain by (108) a friable mid reddish brown silty sand with moderate, well sorted sub-rounded stone that contained three fragments of clay tobacco pipe dated to the Post-medieval period. This deposit was 20m in length by 2m in width and 0.2m in depth and was truncated by features 105 (Fig. 5) and 107.

4.6 Phase 5: Post-Medieval features

Five post-medieval pits were present within the area of excavation, cut into garden soil (110). Two pits 171 and 175 were sample excavated, whilst the remaining three were recorded in plan.

Pit 171 (Fig 2, Fig. 4: S. 6), was ovoid in plan with rounded edges, sharp break of slope at top, gradual at base, gently sloping sides and a concave base; 1.2m in length by 0.9m in width and 0.22m in depth. This contained a single fill (170), a loose mid brown grey clayey silt with frequent poorly sorted sub-angular stone and contained two sherds of mid-16th century pottery and two pieces of animal bone. The sherd of Brill/Boarstall Ware may be residual and therefore the feature could be later.

Pit 175 (Fig. 2, Fig. 4: S. 7; Pl. 5), was sub-rectangular in plan, at least 3.5m in length by at least 2m in width that extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north. A slot was excavated to a depth of 0.5m; this intervention did not reach the base of the feature. The cut was rectangular in plan, with rounded corners, vertical sides and a sharp break of slope at the top. Three fills were recorded: (174) a firm mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate poorly sorted sub-angular stone >0.25 in thickness and

0.85m width in section and contained four sherds of mid-17th – mid 18th century pottery, two fragments of animal bone and one fragment of 17th century glass; (173) friable light whitish grey sandy silt 0.18m in thickness and a width of 0.9m in section; (172) a firm mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal flecks, 80mm in thickness. This feature was truncated by 136, a sub-square pit cut 5.5m in length by 3.5m in width. Filled by (135), a firm mid brownish grey clayey silt with moderate inclusions of fragmented brick.

Pit 134 (Fig. 3), sub-rectangular in plan and 7.5m in length by 3.5m in width and was filled by (133) a soft mid grey clayey silt with occasional coal fragments and contained one sherd of early 18th century pottery, one fragment of animal bone and one fragment of clay tobacco pipe. This feature was truncated on its western side by pit cut 132: Pit 132, sub-ovoid in plan and 4.5m in length by 3.5m in width. This was filled by (131) a soft dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. This pit was truncated away during ground reduction for the basement trench (not on plan).



Plate 5: Pit 175; section 10. Looking east-southeast.

4.7 Phase 6: Post-Medieval buildings

4.7.1 Outbuilding 1

A rectangular building 119 (Fig. 4: S. 8; Pl. 6), built on the same orientation as the northern garden wall; however the garden wall appeared to overlie the northern wall of the building. The structure measured 5m in length by 3m in width, and the walls were between 0.5 to 1m in width. The interior of the structure formed an area of lowered ground level 3.5m in length by 1.2m in width and 1.1m in depth from the top of the walls. The structure was built from roughly squared to squared limestone blocks, with average dimensions of 400mm x 200mm x 100mm; the walls were coursed, with a rubble core and bonded with a light whitish grey silty sand mortar; the

interior surfaces were covered with a concrete render. The structure was built within construction cut 166, which truncated garden soil layer (110). There is evidence for the presence of a chimney breast on the southern side of the structure; here the wall was stepped out to increase the width to 1.7m, and larger stone was used.

The interior of **119** was filled by four deposits: (120), a soft light grey silt with occasional lenses of soft dark brownish grey silty clay loam, measuring 3.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.25m; overlaid by (121), a firm dark greyish black sandy silt containing frequent fragmented stone, brick and slate and occasional coal pieces together with two fragments of glass that date to the Post-Medieval period, measuring 3.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 0.25m and contained four sherds of 19th century pottery; (122), a loose mid brown sandy silt with frequent stone, brick and slate, measuring 3.4m by 0.8m with a depth of 1m; (123), a loose dark greyish brown sandy silt containing moderate fragmented stone, brick and slate and moderate charcoal and coal inclusions, measuring 1.4m by 0.5m, with a depth of 0.4m and contained eight sherds of 19th century pottery together with two glass bottles of the same date.



Plate 6: *Structure 119. Looking northeast.*

This deposit appears to have been tipped into **119** from the eastern side. The thick, homogenous nature of these deposits is indicative of deliberate backfilling, suggesting that the building was demolished and backfilled sometime during the 19th century (see discussion).

4.7.2 School Building and Well

The western wall of **119** was butted by the western wall of building **124** (Fig. 5: Pl.7). This was a school. This structure was a long rectangular building, aligned east west and built against the northern garden wall. The construction style of this structure was different to that of **119**, and there was no evidence of any stones joining the two walls; this potentially indicates that the two were not built contemporaneously. Surviving as foundations, this building measured 25m in length by 5m in width, the walls had a

width of 0.6m and survived within construction cut 167 to a depth of 0.6m. The structure was built from roughly squared limestone blocks, with average dimensions of 300mm x 200mm x 100mm. The walls were coursed, with a rubble core, and bonded with a light yellowish grey silty sand mortar. The walls were built within construction cut 167, which truncated garden soil layer (110).

In the eastern end of the building two compact gravel surfaces overlay soil layer (110): (127), a compact light yellowish grey sandy silt containing frequent fine gravel, measuring 1.5m by 5m with a depth of 0.1m; (126), a compact mid reddish yellow fine sandy gravel measuring 4m by 3m, with a depth of 0.1m. These deposits appear likely to be bedding layers that would have underlain a wooden or stone floor surface.

The western half of the building appeared to have been heavily truncated during construction work associated with the modern extension to the hall; the westernmost 12m of the structure was truncated by modern deposit (129).

Associated with the southern wall of building **124** was a circular, stone built well **139** (Fig. 2). This structure measured 1.3m in diameter, and was excavated to a depth of 2m. **139** was built from roughly squared limestone blocks with average dimensions of 200mm x 100mm x 100mm.



Plate 7: *Structure 124 and associated bedding surfaces. Looking north east.*

These were randomly coursed and earth bonded. **139** sat within construction cut 141, a sub square cut with sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides, measuring 2m by 1.5m with an excavated depth of 2m. Cut 141 was backfilled with (140), a firm mid grey silty clay containing moderate sub-rounded stone.

This well appears to have been built contemporaneously with the building immediately to the north, and during excavation it was observed that the foundation of the building increased in depth from 0.4m to 0.6m at this point.

4.7.3 Outbuilding 2

1m to the east of **119** a small rectangular structure was present, built against the northern garden wall. This was structure **102**, (Fig. 4: S. 9; Pl. 8). Measuring 5.5m in length by 2m in width; the walls were 0.4m in width and extended to a depth of 0.6m. The structure was built from roughly squared limestone blocks, with average dimensions of 300mm x 200mm x 100mm. The exterior faces of the walls were coursed, while the interior faces were randomly coursed. The wall was built with a rubble core, and bonded with a light greyish yellow silty sand mortar. **102** appears to have been built free standing, on top of soil layer (110); within the structure a series of deposits were butted against the interior face of the wall, recorded in section 9. The lowest of these was (115) a loose mid reddish brown coarse sandy gravel, 20mm in thickness; this may represent a layer of trampling deposited during the initial construction of the walls. This deposit was overlain by (114) a firm mid greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional charcoal flecks, 0.12m in depth; (113) a firm mid reddish brown coarse sandy gravel also 0.12m in thickness; (112) a loose mid grey sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular stone, 50mm in thickness; (111) a firm mid reddish brown fine sandy gravel 0.1m in thickness.



Plate 8: *Structure 102. Looking east.*

The purpose of these deposits appears to have been to support the wall while raising the floor level within the structure. These layers were overlain by a thin deposit of mortar that was bounded by the walls of the structure; possibly a bedding layer for a floor surface. This deposit, (103) was a soft light greyish yellow sandy silt 80mm in thickness and contained one sherd of 19th century pottery.

Two loose stony deposits were present butting the exterior wall of **102**: (117), a loose mid brownish grey sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular stone under 50mm, measuring 6m x 0.5m with a depth of 0.35m that contained one sherd of 19th century pottery. This deposit overlay (118), a loose mid brown sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular stone, measuring 5m by 0.4m with a depth of 0.2m.

4.8 Phase 7: Stone deposits

Two deposits of poorly sorted angular stone were present across much of the site, sitting within two large cuts; these ran longitudinally and were recorded within the main area of ground reduction, as well as in the area of the soakaway and ground source heat pump. The northernmost of these features, recorded as 105, was sub-linear in plan, with rounded corners, steep sides, a sharp break of slope at top and base and a slightly concave to flat base. The cut measured 20m in length by 4m in width, with an excavated depth of 1.2m. It was filled by (104) a deposit of loose, poorly sorted angular stone, with average dimensions of 400mm x 300mm x 70mm. Occasional patches of soft mid yellowish brown clayey silt were present within the fill. The southern feature, recorded as 107, was also sub-linear in plan with rounded corners, steep sides, a sharp break of slope at top and base and a slightly concave to flat base. The cut measured 60m in length by 6m in width, with an excavated depth of 0.8m. It was filled by (106) a deposit indistinguishable from (104) and contained two sherds of 19th century pottery. The north-western end of the feature was truncated by made ground (129). Both of these features appeared to respect the boundary walls of Warwick Hall. Their purpose is unknown unless they were to aid drainage in the playground.

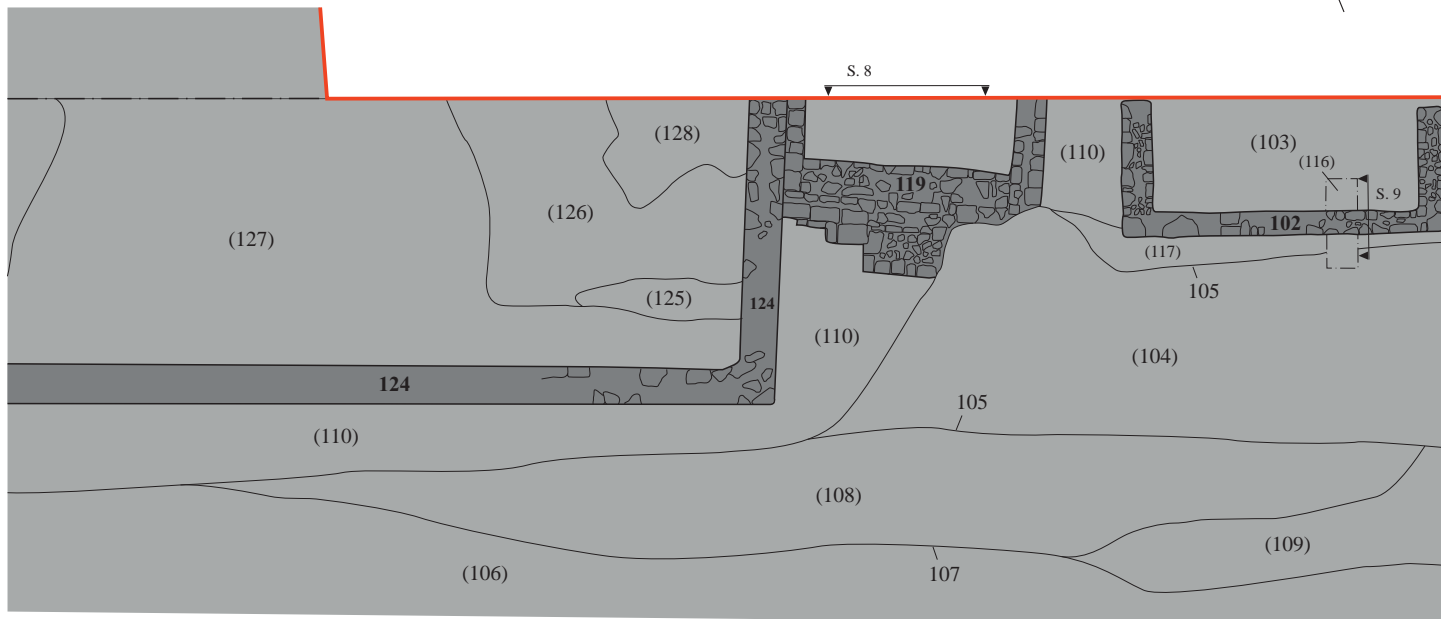


Plate 9: *Stone deposits (104), (106) and redeposited natural gravel (108).
Looking east.*

4.9 Phase 8: Topsoil and Made Ground

Topsoil (100) a soft dark brownish grey clayey silt loam with a depth of 0.2 – 0.3m, was present across the whole site excluding the footprint of the demolished extension. In the area of the demolished extension were deposits: (129) a loose mid greyish brown clayey silt, with frequent fragmented brick, slate and stone; (142) a mid-brown clay with frequent building rubble inclusions; (143) a mid-greyish brown silt. These were layers of made ground associated with the recently demolished 1970s extension.

Plan 2



Key

- Site boundary
- Monitored area
- Archaeological features
- Limit of excavation

0 5 m

Figure 5: Plan of structures 124, 119 and 102
16

Underlying the topsoil was (101), an interface layer of loose mid brownish grey silt containing frequent sub-angular stone, fragmented brick and slate. This layer was present below the topsoil, across whole site, with a depth of 0.1 to 0.2m.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 32 sherds with a total weight of 760g. It comprised a range of medieval and later material, and was recorded using the conventions of the Oxfordshire County type-series (Mellor 1984; 1994), as follows:

OXAC:	Cotswold-type Ware , AD975-1350. 6 sherds, 83g.
OXAM:	Brill/Boarstall Ware , AD1200 – 1600. 2 sherds, 13g.
OXBESWL:	Staffordshire Slip-trailed Earthenware , 1650 – 1750. 1 sherd, 4g.
OXCE:	Tin-glazed Earthenware , 1613 – 1800. 2 sherds, 9g.
OXDR:	Red Earthenwares , 1550+. 4 sherds, 152g.
OXFM:	Staffordshire White Salt-glazed Stoneware , 1720–1800. 1 sherd, 13g.
WHEW:	Mass-produced White Earthenwares , 19 th -20 th century. 16 sherds, 586g.

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 area (eg. Blinkhorn 2007).

The medieval assemblage comprises fragments of unglazed jars and glazed jugs which is typical of the 12th – 14th centuries. The post-medieval material is a mixture of fine tablewares and more utilitarian vessels of an entirely domestic nature. All the sherds are in fairly good condition and appear reliably stratified.

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

Cntxt	OXAC		OXAM		OXDR		OXCE		OXBEWSL		OXFM		WHEW		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
103													1	110	19thC
106													2	26	19thC
117													1	38	19thC
121													4	114	19thC
123													8	298	19thC
133					1	26	1	5			1	13			E18thC
158	1	11													11thC
159	2	7													11thC
166	1	7	1	7											13thC
170			1	6	1	93									M16thC
174					2	33	1	4	1	4					M17thC
176	2	58													11thC
Total	6	83	2	13	4	152	2	9	1	4	1	13	16	586	

5.2 Animal Bone by Simona Denis

A small assemblage of eight animal bone fragments, weighing 107.8g in total, was recovered from five different contexts. The items, although fragmentary, are well preserved.

Two different *taxa* were identified, with sheep/goat representing the vast majority (7 fragments, or 87.5%) of the collection, and the single item, identified as pig, representing the remaining 12.5% of the assemblage.

Context	Identification	Type	No. of items	Weight (g)	Marks	Comments
133	Sheep/Goat	Proximal metacarpus	1	13.8	Fine slice	
159	Pig	Molar M3	1	4.4		
170	?Sheep/Goat	Costal groove	2	4.2		
174	Sheep/Goat	Molar M1	1	6.9	?Chop entry point	
		Innominate	1	24.1	Chop entry point	Young individual
176	?Sheep/Goat	Scapula	1	48.1		
		Costal groove	1	6.3		

Butchering marks were observed on 3 of the sheep/goat bone fragments from two different contexts, showing evidence of secondary butchering, involving detailed meat and smashing the bone into smaller portions for marrow extraction and grease rendering (Watts 2004).

Chop marks were found on the 2 sheep/goat bones collected from context (174), showing the typical smooth surface at the point of impact. A single fine slice mark, produced with a sharp bladed implement like a skinning knife (Seetah 2009), was observed on the epiphysis of the sheep/goat proximal metacarpus found in context (133), possibly as a result of skinning.

It is not recommended to retain undiagnostic, unmarked animal bone fragments.

5.3 Clay Tobacco Pipe by Simona Denis

A very limited group of four moulded clay tobacco pipe fragments, of a combined weight of 16.6g, was collected from two individual contexts. The state of preservation of the items is very good, although extremely fragmentary.

Type	Context	No. of items	Weight (g)	Bore hole	Comments	Date range
Stem	108	1	9.6	Off-centre		?16 th – 18 th C
		1	2.7	Centred		?19 th C
		1	2.6			
Mouthpiece	133	1	1.7	Centred	Red wax coat	?19 th C

The three fragments found in context (108) were positively identified as stem fragments. Plain stem fragments without diagnostic features or decorations have very little dating value; however, a slightly later dating to the 19th century is generally suggested for stems with a centred bore hole (Ayto 1994).

The item from context (133) preserved traces of red wax, typically found on mouthpieces. Mouthpieces were coated in wax to prevent the smoker's lips from sticking to it (Weldrake).

The stem fragments were not retained due to their extremely limited potential for further analysis.

5.4 Glass by Simona Denis

A collection on seven glass objects weighing 394.6g in total, including two complete bottles, was found during the excavations at Warwick Hall. The state of preservation of the object is poor, the fragments being largely affected by flaking.

Context	Type	Colour	Weight (g)	Imperfections	Marks	Date Range
121	Bottle push-up base	Aqua	35	Bubbles		Undetermined
	Bottle mineral or double finish	Undetermined	35.9	Unknown		1780-1810
123	Vessel	Clear	36.2			AJ WHITE LTD – MADE IN ENGLAND
	Medicine bottle	Aqua	77		1890-1932	
			82.1		DAVIS – VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER	1860s
174	Bottle push-up base	Olive green	128.4	Orange-peel surface, bubbles		?E17 th C

Bottle is the most represented type among the assemblage, with 5 positively identified examples; the remaining 2 fragments belonging to a single object, tentatively identified as a small vessel.

The complete bottle finish recovered from context (121) was identified as a mineral or double finish, commonly used between the late 18th and the early 19th century. Due to the extensive degradation of the item, the original glass colour remains undetermined.

Two complete, small bottles originally containing medicines were found in context (123). Both objects are completely preserved, although largely affected by flaking; the makers were identified thanks to the embossing on the bottles:

- AJ WHITE LTD – MADE IN ENGLAND, a British company producing patent medicine, active between 1890 and 1932

- DAVIS – VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER, originally containing a famous ‘Perry Davis Vegetable Pain Killer – “Good For Man or Beast”, produced in the 1860s (<http://www.littlerhodybottleclub.org/research/davisperry.html>).

The bottle base found in (174) is probably later as the pottery was dated to mid 17th – mid 18th century.

It is not recommended to retain the incomplete glass objects due to their limited potential for further analysis.

6 DISCUSSION

The Medieval period is represented by two pits 167 and 179 and ditch 160 and were all dated to the 11th to the early 14th century. Small pit 167 may be contemporary with undated small pit 169 situated directly west and large pit 179 was possibly a quarry pit to extract the sands and gravels that was later re-used as a rubbish pit. Ditch 160 possibly formed part of a boundary ditch running from the church in a southerly direction. With the foundation trench for the rear wall of Warwick Hall cutting the upper eastern extent of the ditch, it indicates that the hall was constructed on this earlier boundary. There was a phase of cultivation after medieval activity as layer (130) overlay the medieval features.

There were four un-dated features present on the site, small pit 169 was discussed above, the three other large pits, 150, 152 and 154 again could have resulted from quarrying of the sands and gravels and then subsequently utilised as rubbish pits.

The Post-Medieval period is represented by four pits, 171, 175, 136 and 134, together with well **139**, and structures, **119**, **124**, and **102**. The pits are of various sizes and shape and possibly represent quarry or rubbish pits located to the rear of the property. The well is also well located within the rear of the property. Structure **119** (OB 1) is presumably a boiler house with a chimney breast that would have been situated on the northern wall of a demolished outbuilding. This structure appears on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) 1881 map along with the school and OB3. It was demolished between 1892 and 1899 from OS map evidence. Structure **124** (OB 2) formed the stone foundation wall of the school house visible on the OS maps from 1881 through to 1920; it is not present on the 1978 OS map. Structure **102** (OB 3) was represented by the stone wall foundation of an outbuilding with an unclear function. It may possibly have been a toilet facility. Evidence from the OS maps indicates this structure was already standing in 1881.

Map regression of Post med buildings associated with use of Warwick Hall as a school building:

1881 OS 1:2500 map shows school building and both outbuildings.

1891 -1892 OS 1:10 560 as above

1899 OS 1:2500 as above but without OB1.

1920 as above

1978 OS 1:2500 map shows only OB3, and school building is gone.

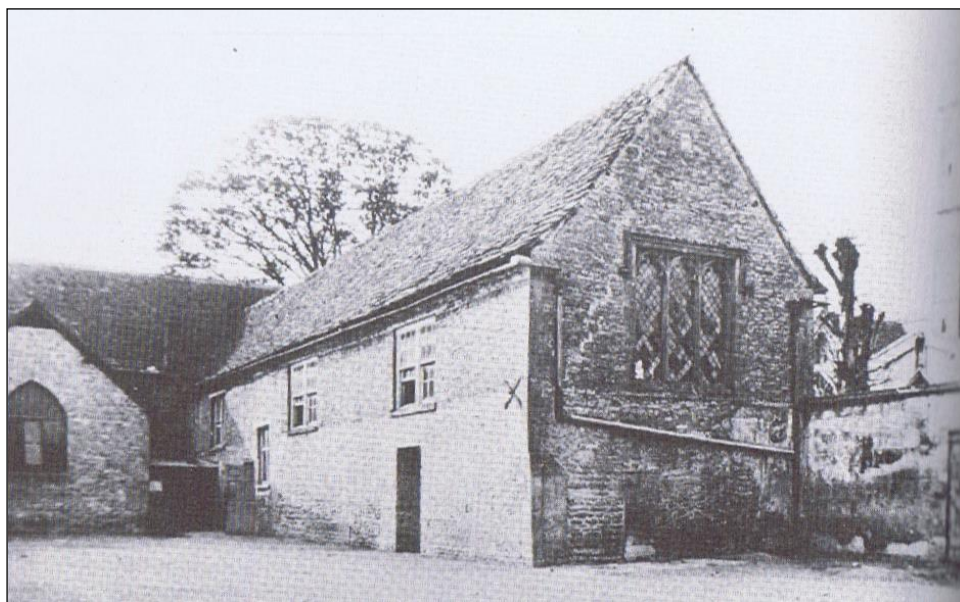


Plate 10: *School building 124, as seen in 1910. Looking northwest.*

7 ARCHIVE

Archive Contents

The archive consists of the following:

Paper record

The project brief
Written scheme of investigation
The project report
The primary site record

Physical record

Finds

The archive currently is maintained by John Moore Heritage Services and will be transferred to the County Museums' Store under accession code OXCMS.2014.119

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aultman J, Bon-Harper N, Grillo K, and Sawyer J (2014), *DAACS Cataloging Manual: tobacco pipes* (<http://www.daacs.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/tobacco-pipes2.pdf>, accessed 30/06/2015)

Aultman J, Galle J, (2014) *DAACS Cataloging Manual: Faunal* (<http://www.daacs.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/faunal1.pdf> accessed 09/07/2015)

Ayto, E. G. (1994) *Clay Tobacco Pipes*. Princes Risborough, Shire Album no.37

Blinkhorn, P, (2007) *Post-Roman Pottery in S Coles, J Lowe, and S Preston, Roman and Medieval Occupation at 47–53 High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire Oxoniensia 72*, 211-3

Bonin, H & de Goey, F. (eds), (2009) *American firms in Europe (1880-1980), Strategy, Identity, Perception and Performance*. Geneve

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Watching Brief*. Reading: CIfA.

JMHS, (2014) *Warrick Hall, Church Green, Burford, Oxfordshire Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished report

Jones, O. R. (1986) *Cylindrical English Wine and Beer Bottles 1735-1850*. Studies in Archaeology Architecture and History. National Historic Parks and Sites Branch Environment Canada. Ottawa

Mellor, M, (1984) *A summary of the key assemblages. A study of pottery, clay pipes, glass and other finds from fourteen pits, dating from the 16th to the 19th century in TG Hassall et al, Excavations at St Ebbe's Oxoniensia* **49**, 181-219.

Mellor, M, (1994) *Oxford Pottery: A Synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region Oxoniensia* **59**, 17-217

Seetah K 2009 The importance of cut placement and implement signatures to butchery interpretation
(http://www.alexandriaarchive.org/bonecommons/archive/files/archivefiles_download_seetah_textimages_204_7cd9b26908.pdf accessed 30/09/2015)

Watts, F. (2004), *A comprehensive analysis of the butchering activities performed at the Fincastle Bison Kill Site (DIOx5)*. Unpublished MS Thesis

Weldrake, D. *First Steps in Identifying and Dating Clay Tobacco Pipes*. Identifying Your Finds: A Beginner's Guide to What to look for. West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service
(<http://www.archaeology.wyjs.org.uk/documents/archaeology/identifying/Clay.pdf> accessed 28/04/2016)