



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

AT

THE OLD LATIN HOUSE,

MARKET HILL,

BUCKINGHAM,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

NGR: SP 6955 3404

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Summary

John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief during ground reductions at the rear of the Old Latin House, Market Hill, Buckingham. The excavations revealed made ground deposits across the site which overlay pits and areas of intercutting features and general ground disturbance. Possibly the earliest features identified were several pits/negative features in the west of the excavated area which were dated by the pottery to the 15th and 16th centuries. A post-medieval fragment of clay tobacco pipe was recovered from the surface of one of these fills but may have been intrusive from the layer above and an iron floor brad recovered from the fill of a pit containing 16th century pottery may have been 19th century but the dating of the brad was uncertain. The rest of the site was dominated by widespread deposits that were the fills of large cut/intercutting pits some of which may have been related to small scale quarrying for sand and gravel. Material recovered from the fills of these features provided dating broadly in the post-medieval and no earlier than the 17th century. The deposit of a large cut feature in the north of the site contained modern pottery.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

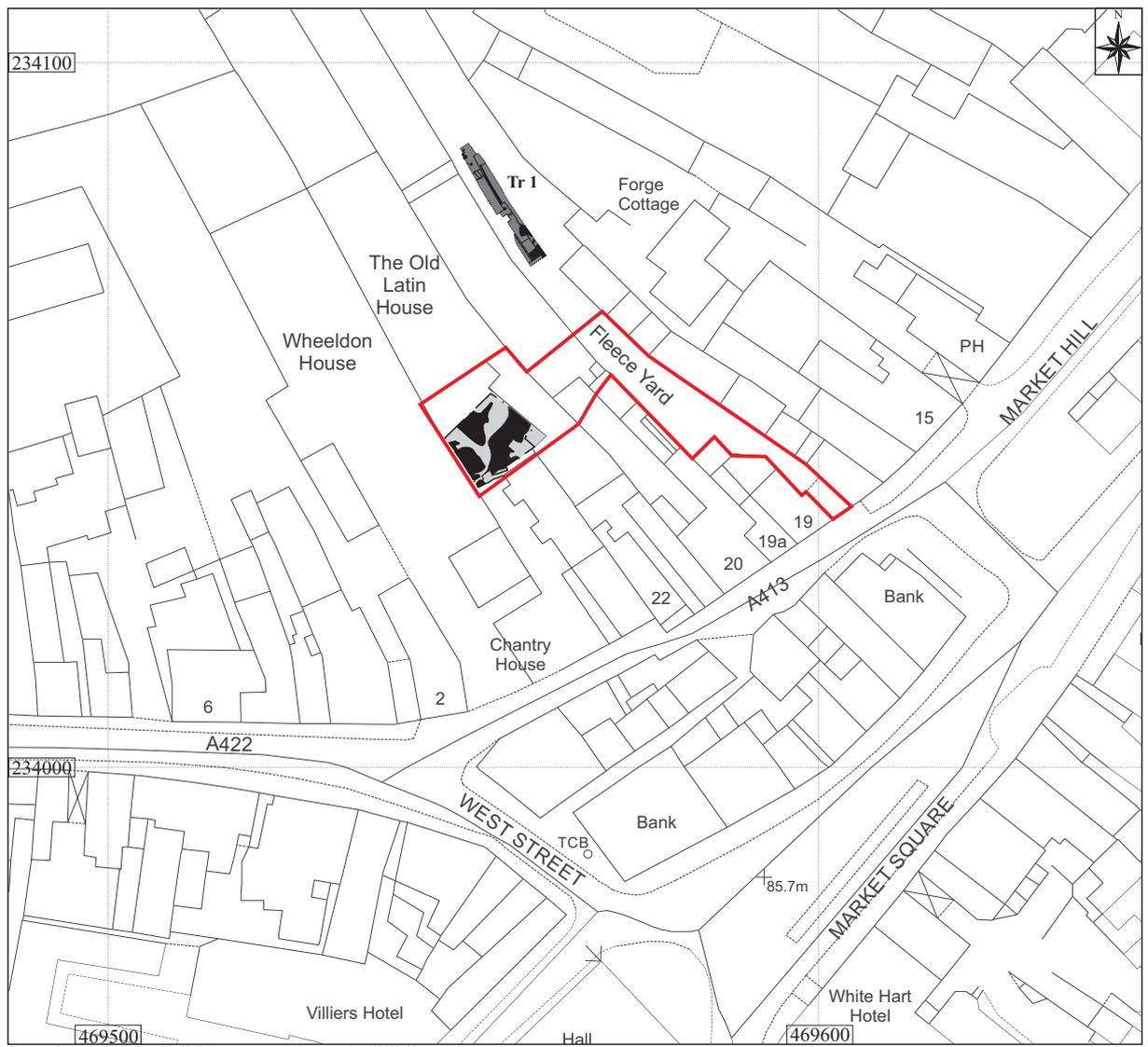
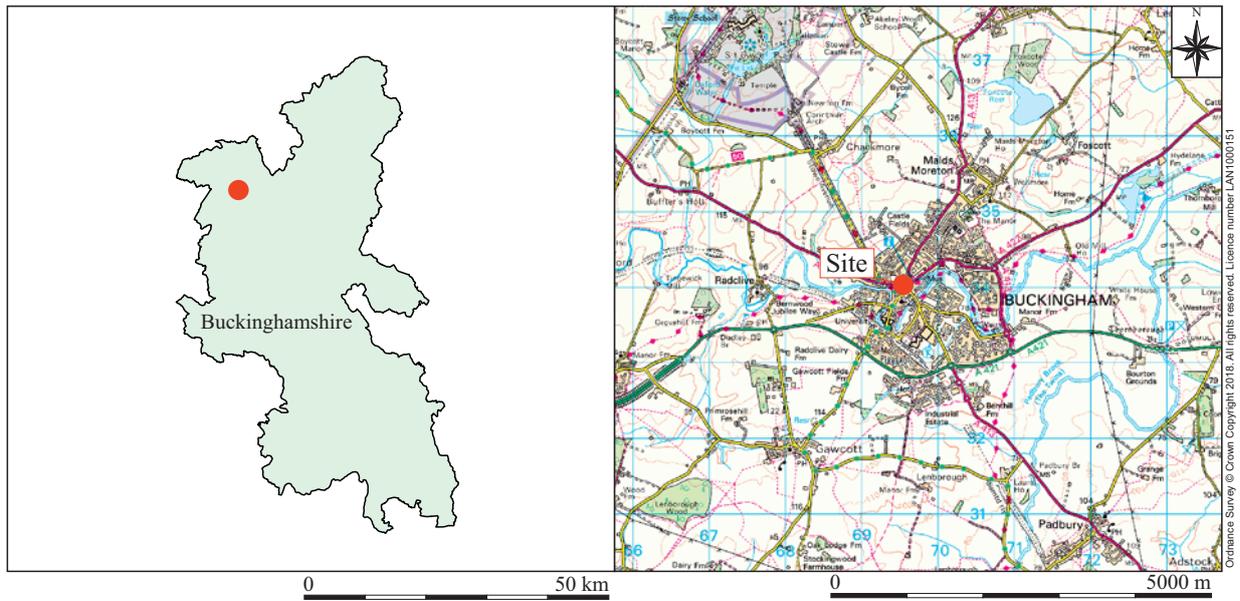
The site is located to the north of Market Hill, Buckingham at NGR SP 6955 3404. Geologically the site is situated in an area of Glaciofluvial deposits of sand and gravel overlying mudstone beds.

1.2 Planning Background

Aylesbury Vale District Council has granted planning permission for the erection of a new stairwell to the rear of Old Latin House, Market Hill, Buckingham with the creation of three flats and the alteration of the ground floor kitchen (Ref. 10/00977). Due to the potential for archaeological remains to be present on the site a condition was attached to the permission requiring the carrying out of an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the new construction. Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service (BCAS) has prepared a Brief for such work. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared outlining the method by which the archaeological work, relating to the ground reduction for an outdoor terraced area, would be carried out in order to preserve by record any archaeological remains of significance.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

There is minimal prehistoric activity recorded in the area, although a Neolithic flint fabricator was recovered 400m NW (CASS 5161). Small scatters of Roman material have been recorded on the edges of Buckingham. These finds are over 1km from the site.



Key: Site boundary Evaluation trench 2018
 Archaeological features Area of Watching Brief

Figure 1: Site location

Edward the Elder constructed *Burhs* on both sides of the River Ouse in 915. By the laws of Athelstan each *burh* was allowed one moneyer (a mint). There are no mints known in Buckingham before that constructed by Ethelred II. Coins from this mint have been discovered in the area and are dated 975 – 1060 (CASS 0210).

Saxon material has been found in the vicinity of the site. A Saxon spearhead was found 200m to the SSW (CASS 0595). An inhumation of probable Saxon date was found 450m south (CASS 5675). This might be a outlier of a Saxo-medieval cemetery 400m to the south (CASS 5676).

At the time of the Domesday survey the town had two mills, a well-established church and a mint. It was counted with Bourton as a Royal Manor. During the reign of Edward the Confessor the manor was held by Ulf or Wolfin, Bishop of Dorchester.

After the conquest the manor was held by the Giffards who built a castle on the central hill. The site of Buckingham Castle lies 250m to the south (CASS 1755). Edward II ordered the provisioning of the castle in 1312, although there is no evidence as to when it was constructed; it is speculated that it might be 1140 (TVAS 2001). Documentary evidence suggests it was in ruins in 1540 and in 1670 a bowling green was made on Castle Hill. A recent evaluation was carried out on the site (TVAS 2002).

The site is close to the original location of the medieval market cross, which stood in Horse Fair, West Street. This is now situated in the old churchyard some 400m to the south (CASS 2218).

The original parish church stood 500m to the SWW; this was dismantled in or after 1776 (CASS 1925). The church built in 1780 is 300m to the south (CASS 4040).

The site of St. Laurence's Hospital lies 100m to the NNE (CASS 1928). It was founded before 1252 and dissolved before 1400. Barton Hospital founded in 1431 originally stood 400m to the south, it was rebuilt in 1701 (CASS 2406).

An evaluation at Stratford House (OA 2002), which is 300m NE located pits and postholes dated to the 11th – 13th century (CASS 6709). Another evaluation (CgMs 2002) 200m NE located domestic occupation dated to the 11-13th century (CASS 8379). A third evaluation (NA 2006) in the area, 150m SW, located a significant number of archaeological features of medieval date (CASS 9593).

Medieval pottery finds have been recorded in the area; 50m to the west (CASS 4439), 100m to the south (CASS 4367), and 250m to the south (CASS 0199).

With the demolition of St. Laurence's Hospital 100m NNE an Almshouse was constructed in 1597 and later rebuilt in 1897 (CASS 1928). A work house built in 1835 was located 500m to the north-west (CASS 9045).

An evaluation at Stratford House (OA 2002), which is situated 300m NE located ditches dated to the 17th century (CASS 6709). Another evaluation (OA 2005) 400m NE located pits dated to the 18th century (CASS 8475).

An evaluation was carried out in 2009 71m to the north-west of the site. This identified a small amount of 11th century pottery and a large number of pits dating from the 13th century to the 19th century. The evaluation also identified post-medieval wall which probably relate to a building found on 18th century maps of the area (Roberts 2018, 6). A later excavation on the same site revealed the Norman Borough boundary ditch. This had formed the northern edge of a sequence of large early medieval sand quarries. These sand quarries had been backfilled and later burgage plots had been overlain up to the borough boundary. To the rear of these properties rubbish pits were cut into the fills during the later medieval period. Some of these pits yielded evidence of leatherworking (Roberts 2018, 4).

An evaluation in the adjacent Fleece Yard 26m NNE of the site identified a number of pits, two of which contained 17th century pottery. A further pit was identified which contained 19th century pottery and was below the floor of a former 19th century building. There were a number other undated pits, although some of these could be broadly dated as they were under the remains of a 19th century building wall (JMHS 2018a).

A 16th century timber-framed building called the Manor Court is 500m to the south (CASS 1924). A second 16th century house is 50m to the east (CASS 5090) and a 15th century house 400m to the south (CASS 5129). Ebenezer Chapel (CASS 5598) built in 1842 and its associated cemeteries (CASS 5599) are within 200m to the north of the site. The site lies within the Identity Area 1 and 2 of the Buckingham Conservation Area.

The site of a now destroyed water mill is 400m SW. This is mentioned in documents of 1574 and recorded on Speed's map of 1610 (CASS 1938).

A branch of the Grand Union Canal is 400m NW, this was opened in 1801 (CASS 2954). A number of former clay pits (CASS 9076, 9077, 9078, 9079) and a sand pit (CASS 9081) are recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1885 some 500m to the north and west.

The site itself is adjacent to the medieval Chantry Chapel of St. John the Baptist (CASS 2405) that was founded by Archdeacon of Buckingham (1219-1268). The building was rebuilt in 1471 – 1481, although it retains a late 12th century doorway. The precinct was used as a cemetery. The Chapel was converted to a Latin School in the 16th century. It suffered a major fire in 1690 and had considerable amounts of rebuild. It was restored in 1857 and again in 1875.

A Hospital of St. John the Baptist is mentioned in 1279 in the Hundred Rolls. It is possible that it was associated with this Chapel.

To the rear of the Latin School is Old Latin House. This dates from the 15th century and was the former schoolmaster's house. It was also substantially rebuilt in 1695 after the fire. Originally constructed of timber-frame at first floor level the rebuild is in red brick laid in Flemish bond. The ground floor is constructed of coursed and uncoursed limestone rubble. The building is physically attached to the Old Latin School and stretches back from it in a north-westerly direction. It is two storeys high and roughly rectangular in plan. To the front of the building is an 18th century uncoursed limestone rubble wall, faced with brick to its south-western side.

Both Jeffery's map of 1770 and Bryant's map of 1825 show the area of the site to be in a built up area. The first edition OS map of 1885 has a similar layout to that present today.

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The aims of the investigation as laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (JMHS 2018b) were as follows:

- To identify and record any archaeological remains revealed by the groundworks for the new outdoor terraced area.

In particular:

- To pay attention to the potential for Saxon and medieval deposits and inhumations associated with the medieval Chantry.

3 STRATEGY

3.1 Research Design

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation agreed with BCAS, the archaeological advisors to the Aylesbury Vale District Council.

The recording was carried out in accordance with the standards specified by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).

3.2 Methodology

An archaeologist was on site to observe all ground reductions down to the top of archaeological deposits or level of excavation, whichever was higher.

Where archaeological horizons were encountered but would not be further excavated by the works they were cleaned by hand and recorded in plan but not further investigated, except in order to characterise the nature of the deposits. Where features and horizons were encountered that would be further removed by the works they were excavated down to the final limit of excavation. Standard John Moore Heritage Services 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.

As most archaeological deposits were identified at the impact level for the excavations and would not be further excavated, the majority of features were recorded in plan and not further investigated, finds were recovered from the top of these fills and deposits. Limited excavation was carried out to further characterise the nature of the deposits and a pit which was identified above the lower limit of excavation was partially excavated down to that level.

The resultant spoil from the works was visually scanned, especially for finds relating to the Anglo-Saxon and other medieval periods.

4 RESULTS

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.

The lowest deposit identified was the natural sand and gravel (15). Cut into and overlying this deposit were a number of pits, possible ditches, general ground disturbance and spread deposits (Fig. 2, Plan 1; Plate 1). Arguably the earliest of these features were located towards the west of the site, although due to the limits of the excavation it was not possible to identify the boundaries between three of these features and that of the general spread deposit in the area.



Plate 1. Excavated area. SE view.

Feature 26 was a curved feature which may have been a pit or a ditch terminus (Fig. 2, Plan 1). It had an unclear boundary with feature 29 which in turn had an unclear boundary with a much larger deposit (36). Features 26 and 29 both contained mid to dark grey loamy sand deposits, (25) and (28) which contained bone, ceramic tile and pottery. This material was recovered from the surfaces of the deposits and the pottery provided a date no earlier than 15th century for these deposits. To the south of these features was the spread deposit which was a mixed mid-red brown and mid to dark grey loamy sand (36) (Fig. 2, Plan 1). The deposit was not found to be overlying any earlier deposits and it is likely that it was deposited in a cut, 35. The cut 35 was not clearly visible in the westerly section and may have been cut from higher in the soil profile. Alternatively, previous activity on the site may have truncated the feature down to the level of the natural. The area of the feature was 4.14m by greater than 2.35m. The deposit contained tile, mid-16th century pottery and a fragment of clay tobacco pipe which dated the deposit to no earlier than the post-medieval. As with the two other features in this area of the site there was an unclear boundary between 35 and cut feature 24 (Fig. 2 Plan 1). This feature may have been a pit or a ditch

terminus. It contained a fill of mid grey brown loamy sand (23) and animal bone was recovered from the surface of the fill. Overlying fill (36) was 0.11m thick, friable mid-red brown loamy sand (34) which had an unclear lower horizon with (36) (Fig. 2, section 4). Deposited above this was a 0.27m thick deposit of mid-greyish orange loamy sand (33). This was identified as a buried soil horizon and was overlaid by several made ground deposits with frequent stone and gravel inclusions (30) (31) and (32). These deposits had a combined thickness of 0.46m.

Further south of these features was another cut feature, partially revealed by excavation which was identified as a pit but was possibly a ditch terminus, 22. The feature was identified at a raised level near to the edge of the site and due to the need to further lower the ground here the feature was hand excavated down to the final limit of excavation. The pit was sub-rounded with irregular sides (Fig. 2, Plan 1, Section 2 and 3; Plates 2-3).



Plate 2. Pit 22. Section 2. WSW view.



Plate 3. Pit 22. Section 2. SSE view.

It was greater than 0.9m wide by greater than 1.2m in length, with a depth greater than 0.24m. The lowest fill identified was mid-dark grey sand with moderate stone inclusions and burnt flecks (21). The deposit was 0.09m thick and was only observed on the edge of the pit towards the west of the feature.

Deposited above this was a >0.3m thick deposit of mid-dark grey loamy sand with abundant large fragments of stone (20). The deposit contained animal bone, ceramic tiles and pottery which dated the deposit to no earlier than the 16th century. The deposit also contained one iron fragment identified as a floor brad which was possibly 19th century in date, although the dating was uncertain. The upper fill of the pit was a 0.12m thick deposit of mid to dark grey loamy sand with moderate to rare stone inclusions and a fragment of ceramic tile (19). Deposited above this was a 0.12m to 0.2m thick deposit of mid-dark grey loamy sand (18). It contained moderate stone, flecks of ceramic brick or tile and rare burnt fragments. The deposit was identified as made ground or a disturbed soil horizon which had slumped slightly into the upper fills of the pit 22. Lying above this were the gravels from the driveway and made ground deposits (27) and made ground deposits with a combined thickness of 0.5m, (16) and (17).

Located towards the ENE of pit 22 was a manhole and the cut to this appeared to have truncated the easterly end on pit 22 (Fig. 2, Plan 1). The manhole was located towards the west of a large deposit (37). The deposit covered an area of approximately 9m by 4m. The deposit was identified at the lower limit of excavation and so, was for the most part, recorded in plan and not further investigated. However, in order to characterise the nature of these deposits an area to the south of it was excavated which identified intercutting features (Fig. 2, Plan 1, Section 1). The lowest cut identified was an irregular sided cut that was greater than 0.46m in depth, 10. This cut was filled by a lower fill of mid-grey brown and yellow loamy sand (5) which was greater than 0.15m thick. Above this was a 0.34m thick upper fill of dark grey brown and mid-red brown loamy sand (4). The deposits included frequent stone inclusions of various sizes and they looked like they had been backfilled into the excavated areas. Both deposits contained fragments of clay tobacco pipe dating to the post-medieval period.

Deposit (4) was cut by an east-west oriented feature, 9 which was greater than 2m by greater than 0.6m. It was filled by mid to dark grey loamy sand (8) with moderate burnt inclusions. The fill was greater than 0.22m thick and was cut towards the west by cut 7 which was only identified in section. Cut 7 had concave side and a rounded base. It was 0.25m deep and greater than 0.72m wide. It was filled by a slightly loamy mid-grey and yellow sand (6). The nature of the excavated deposits would suggest that the general spread of material (38) was likely the result of multiple intercutting activities and general disturbance.

Further large deposits of material were identified towards the north of the stripped area and were recorded in plan but not further excavated, (11), (13) and (39). These deposits were overlain by several layers of made ground.

The lowest deposit of made ground was a 0.4m to 0.5m thick deposit of mid-grey brown loamy sand with patches of yellow sand (3). The deposit was spread across most of the site except perhaps in the far west of the site where it was not as apparent in section. Deposited above this was a mid-grey brown loamy sand with patches of

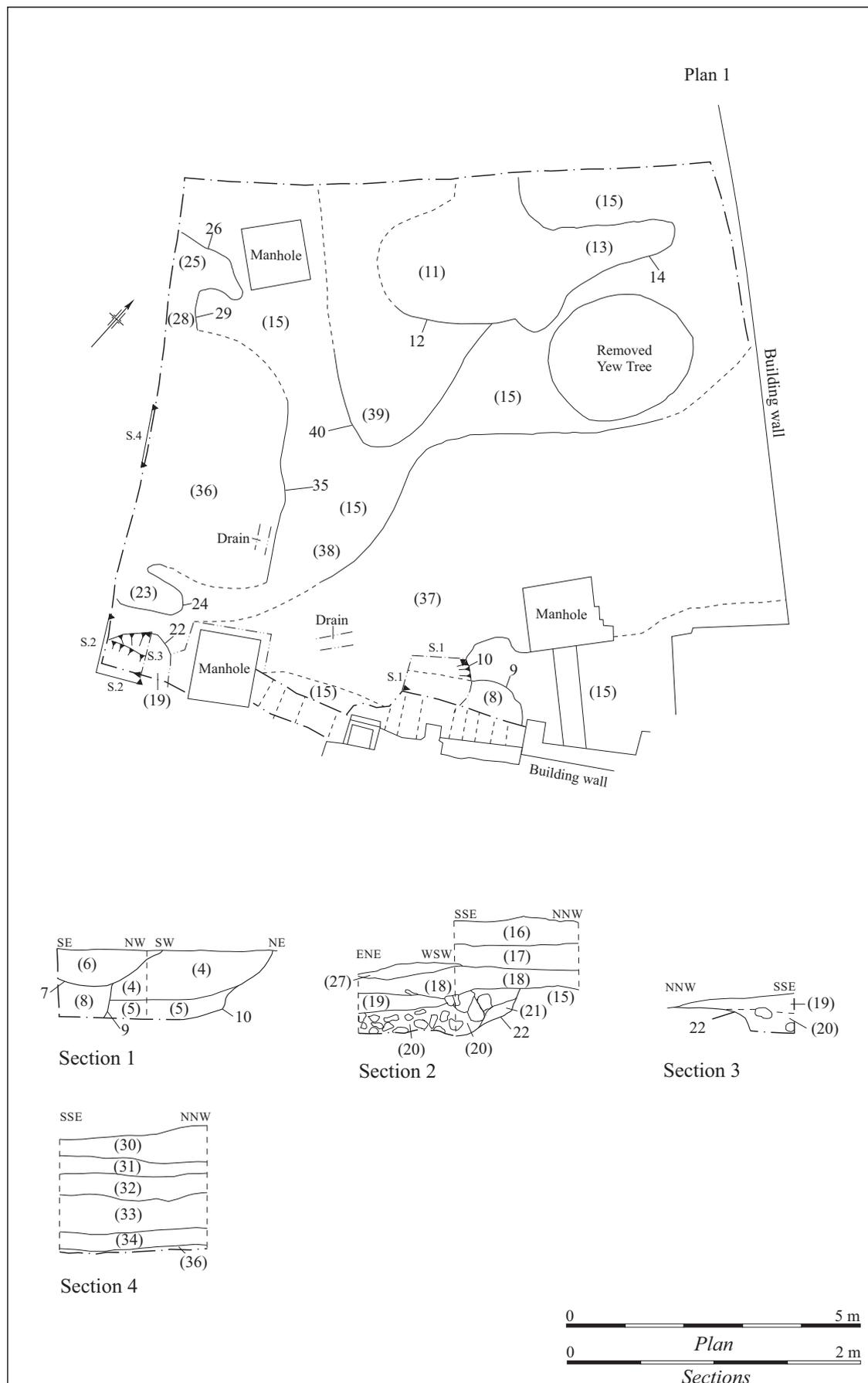


Figure 2: Site Plan and Sections

orange sand and patches of black ash (2). This deposit was 0.2m to 0.3m thick and contained a fragment of modern air brick. The deposit was identified as made ground.

It is possible that some of the post-medieval cuts were cut through made ground but were not clearly distinguishable from the surrounding deposit. This was probably the case for cut 14, which may have been the same as cut 12. The fill of 14 was a mid to dark grey brown sand with frequent stone and burnt material (13). Brick and tile were recovered from this fill broadly dating to the post-medieval as well as a fragment of 19th century bottle glass.

The uppermost deposit on the site was a light reddish brown sand with frequent inclusions of brick and tile (1). It was 0.1m thick and had been subject to recent disturbance during ground works.

5 FINDS

5.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 35 sherds with a total weight of 1,188g. It was all medieval or later, with the bulk of the material being of late medieval or early post-medieval date. It was recorded using the conventions of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat et al. 1994), as follows:

MS3:	Medieval Grey Sandy Wares , mid 11 th – late 14 th century. 1 sherd, 6g.
MS6:	Potterspurty Ware , 1250 - 1600. 10 sherds, 294g.
MS9:	Brill/Boarstall Ware , 1200-1600. 4 sherds, 29 g.
TLMS3:	Late Medieval Reduced Ware , mid 14 th – early 16 th century. 1 sherd, 39g.
TLMS9:	Late Brill/Boarstall Ware , 15 th – 17 th century. 7 sherds, 211g.
PM8:	Red Earthenware , 16 th – 19 th century. 3 sherds, 66g.
PM13:	Midland Blackware , late 16 th – 17 th century. 1 sherd, 6g
PM15:	Cistercian Ware , 1470-1550. 2 sherds, 115g.
PM25:	White Earthenware , late 18 th – 20 th century. 4 sherds, 386g.
PM29:	Rhenish Stonewares , 1450+. 2 sherds, 36g.

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 very typical of sites in the region, and suggests that activity largely dates to the 15th- 16th centuries. The sherds are mostly fairly large and in good condition, and appear reliably stratified.

Common earlier medieval (11th – 14th century) coarsewares are absent other than the single sherd of fabric MS3. The Potterspurty Ware is all later medieval fabrics, and mainly sherds from large bowls, a major product of the industry at that time. Similar comments apply to the Brill/Boarstall Wares. The few jug sherds present are plain, which is also typical of the late medieval period.

The fragments of Cistercian Ware are from cups, the main output of the tradition, and the two sherds of German Stoneware are both from bottles or jugs of Frechen type, a very common import during the earlier medieval period (Gaimster 1997). The post-

medieval earthenwares are mostly fragments of internally glazed bowls, along with a piece of a drinking cup in fabric PM13. This is, once again, very typical of the industries in question.

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

Cntxt	MS3		MS9		MS6		TLMS3		TLMS9		PM15		PM8		PM29		PM13		PM25		Date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
U/S									1	23									3	344	U/S
4									2	44											15thC
13																			1	42	MOD
18	1	6	1	1					1	10			2	47	1	20	1	6			L16thC
20			2	6	3	58	1	39					1	19							16thC
25			1	22	7	236			1	10	1	51									15thC
28									2	124											15thC
36											1	64			1	16					M16thC
Total	1	6	4	29	10	294	1	39	7	211	2	115	3	66	2	36	1	6	4	386	

5.2 Faunal Remains by Simona Denis

Animal Bone

34 animal bone fragments, weighing 1034g in total were recovered during the archaeological work. With the exception of the two fragments recovered from buried soil (18), the entirety of the assemblage was recovered from the fills of eight individual features. The state of preservation of the material is generally fair, although extremely fragmentary; only two of the bones recovered were complete.

Table 2: Animal bone occurrence by context and type

Context	Taxon	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Marks	Comments
U/S	Cow	Distal humerus	1	316	Fine slice, ?point insertion	
		Distal ulna	1	18		
	?Cow	Proximal femur	1	190	?Chop	
	Large mammal	Rib	1	28		
	Pig	Tibia	1	56		
	?Sheep/Goat	?Tibia	1	7		
	Mammal	Undetermined	2	6		
4	Small mammal	?Scapula	1	7		Unfused
8	Bird	Metatarsus	1	4		Complete
	Large mammal	Rib	1	21		
		Vertebrae	1	30	?Chop	
	Small mammal	?Mandible	1	3		
11	Cow	Proximal radius	1	101		
13	?Pig	?First phalanx	1	2		Possible pathology
18	Small mammal	Metapodial diaphysis	1	13	Chop	
	Mammal	Rib cortex	1	3		
20	Sheep/Goat	Proximal ulna	1	8		Fresh break, conjoining
		Distal Radius	2	22		

						fragments. Complete
	Pig	Distal metacarpus epiphysis	1	62	Chop, ?saw	
	Small mammal	Rib	4	18		
		?Vertebrae	1	8		
	Large mammal	Rib	2	21		
	Mammal	Cortex	1	3		
23	Pig	Tibia diaphysis	1	37		Point insertion, ?fine slice
	Small mammal	Rib2	13			
25	Sheep/Goat	Mandible with P2, P3, M1, M2	1	33		
28	Small mammal	Vertebrae	1	4		Surface cracking

- Species Identification

14 of the remains, representing 41% of the assemblage, were identified on the basis of the observation of *Genus*-specific characteristics. 16 additional items, or 47% of the collection, were attributed to 'large mammal' (usually comprising cattle and horse) or 'small mammal' (sheep/goat, pig, roe deer) of undetermined species (O'Connor 2003) exclusively on the basis of the size range of the fragments. The remaining four fragments (over 11% of the assemblage) were too small to retain any diagnostic feature, and were therefore generically attributed to 'mammal'. Due to the variable sizes and robustness of animal bones taphonomic factors may favour preservation of certain species, resulting in the under-representation of other, smaller animals (Kasumally 2002).

Sheep/Goat was the most represented *taxa*, with 5 items, or 14% of the collection; cow and pig were equally represented by 4 fragments each, representing 11% of the assemblage. A single bird bone was also recovered.

- Butchering Marks

Butchering evidence was recorded on 6 of the bone fragments, representing over 7% of the assemblage.

Primary butchering consists of hide removal, joint dismemberment and meat removal, whereas secondary butchering involves detailed meat and smashing the bone into smaller portions for marrow extraction and grease rendering (Watts 2004). Since the portioning of a carcass involves so much work, butchers prefer to disjoint the articulations rather than cut through bones, resulting in a larger amount of chop marks on the epiphysis and metaphysis of the bones compared to evidence of sawing (Colley 2006), although sawing marks are considered by some authors as indicative of bone working rather than butchering (Seetah 2009).

Chop marks were identified on four of the bone fragments; in one instance, these were associated with possible saw marks, as observed on the pig metacarpus recovered from deposit (20). Clusters of parallel fine slice marks associated with multiple point

insertions were recorded in two cases, on the pig tibia from deposit (23) and on one unstratified cow humerus.

Animal bone fragments with no butchering marks or noticeable features are not recommended for retention.

Oyster Shell

A limited group of 5 marine shells, of a combined weight of 41g, was recovered from two deposits. The entirety of the assemblage was positively identified as British Native Oyster or European Flat Oyster. The items are in a fair state of preservation, although fragmentary, and preserved sufficient diagnostic features to be identified as right (1 item), or left (4 items) valves (Winder 2011).

Table 3: Oyster shell occurrence by context and type

Context No.	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)
4	Left valve	2	18.6
	Right valve	1	6.5
20	Left valve	2	15.9

It is not recommended to retain the oyster shell fragments due to their very limited potential for further analysis.

5.3 Brick and Tile by *Simona Denis*

An assemblage of 96 ceramic building material fragments, weighing 8516g in total, was hand-collected during the archaeological works at Old Latin House. Although extremely fragmentary, the state of preservation of the material was good and allowed the identification of the type for the vast majority (91%) of the fragments.

Table 4: Ceramic building material occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Fabric	Complete Thickness (mm)	Comments	Date Range
U/S	Roof tile	4	306				Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Perforated brick	1	180	Yellow, sandy with rare small inclusions	64	Perforated	Modern
4	Roof tile	1	28				Medieval to Post-Medieval
5	Roof tile	2	162				
	Brick	1	106	Red-orange, gritty with no inclusions	Not preserved		
6	?Brick	1	440	Pink-orange, sandy with rare small inclusions	40	Mortar	?Medieval
8	Roof tile	4	201				Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Brick	1	269	Pink-	45	One overfired	?Medieval

				orange, gritty with frequent small inclusions		face	
	?Brick	1	109	Red orange, gritty, with small inclusions	Not preserved	Glazed	Medieval to Post-Medieval
11	Roof tile	5	784			Ungulate hoof print	Medieval to Post-Medieval
		1	318				
	Peg tile	1	168			Corner. Complete, circular peg hole	
	Brick	1	406	Red-orange, sandy with rare small inclusions	43	Mortar	?Medieval
		1	178	Red-orange, sandy with rare inclusions	Not preserved		Medieval to Post-Medieval
13	Roof tile	3	285				Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Peg tile	1	183				
	Brick	1	400	Pink-orange, gritty with small to medium inclusions	64	Corner	?Post-Medieval
		1	756	Dark red, gritty with rare medium to large inclusions	95	Mortar	
18	Roof tile	11	440			Corner. Incomplete, circular peg hole	Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Peg tile	1	41				
	Undetermined	7	51				Undetermined
19	Peg tile	1	101			Incomplete, circular peg hole	Medieval to Post-Medieval
	Glazed ridge tile	1	130				
20	Roof tile	30	1614			Corner. Incomplete, circular peg	
	Peg tile	1	56				

		1	126			hole	
						Complete, circular peg hole	
	Undetermined	2	40				Undetermined
25	Roof tile	3	193				Medieval to Post-Medieval
28	Roof tile	2	69				
32	Roof tile	2	85				
36	Roof tile	2	226				

Roof Tile

Seventy five of the ceramic building material fragments were positively identified as originating from roof tiles; of these, 6 preserved peg holes, and were therefore identified as peg tiles. The preserved peg holes are circular, with the exception of the example collected from deposit (13), showing a complete, square peg hole.

One of the roof tile fragments recovered from deposit (11) preserved the hoof print of a small ungulate, probably a deer.

Roof tiles are almost totally functional and their characteristics change very little over time; also, good quality roof tiles were often reused. Hand-made peg tiles were also commonly used until the 19th century, when machine-made tiles became popular. Consequently, the potential for dating evidence of plain roof tiles remains limited, and only a broad date from the Medieval to the Post-Medieval period can be suggested.

Three fragments of tile were misidentified and sent to the pottery specialist. These included two fragments of unglazed flat roof tile weighing 68g which occurred in context 25. They were both 13mm thick, and in a hard red sandy fabric. They are probably of late medieval date. Context 19 produced a fragment of glazed ridge tile with a “cockscorb” crest. It weighed 130g and has a grey sandy fabric with orange-red surfaces. There are patches of glossy green glaze on the upper surface. It is medieval, and probably of Potterspury type (eg. Vince 2004).

Brick

Less than 10% of the assemblage was composed of nine brick fragments. The material dated to the Medieval or Post-Medieval period with the exception of the unstratified, modern perforated brick. None of the objects was complete; thickness represented the only complete dimension preserved in six of the examples. Traces of mortar were recorded on three of the items, and one example recovered from deposit (8) showed traces of light brown glaze on one of its faces.

The original function of the remaining 10 items, found in deposits (18) and (20), remains undetermined due to the extremely small size of the fragments and the lack of any diagnostic feature.

It is not recommended to retain the fragmentary brick and plain tile examples due to their very limited potential for further analysis.

5.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe by Simona Denis

11 clay tobacco pipe fragments, of a combined weight of 50.8g, were collected from six different deposits. The material, although fragmentary, is in a good state of preservation. Stem fragments represent the vast majority (nine items, or over 81%) of the group; the two remaining objects were complete bowls.

Table 5: Clay tobacco pipe occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Base	Comments	Reference	Date Range
U/S	Stem	1	4.5				Post-Medieval
4	Stem	2	6.7				
5	Stem	1	1.8				
		2	4.1				
	Bowl	1	16.2	Spur	Roulette on rim	Oswald 1975 Type 17	1640-1680
33	Stem	1	2.5		Oval cross-section		Post-Medieval
36	Stem	1	5.6				
		1	1.6				
37	Bowl	1	7.8	Missing	Roulette on rim	Oswald 1975 Type 16	1610-1640

No decorations or marks were observed on the nine stem fragments. None of these plain stem fragments recovered included a mouthpiece; furthermore, the fragmentary state of the items precludes any attempt to reconstruct the original overall length or attempt a dating. Unmarked stem fragments without diagnostic features or decorations have very little dating value, and can only generally be assigned to the Post-Medieval period.

The two well preserved, near complete bowls were positively identified as Oswald 1975 types 16 and 17 (Oswald 1975).

The example found in deposit (5), corresponding to type 17, had a comparatively larger, bulbous bowl with roulette decoration along the rim; it also preserved the pointed spur and 20mm ca of the typical thick stem. The type is dated to 1640-1680. The base and stem were not preserved on the object recovered from deposit (37); however, the completeness of the bowl allowed its identification as Oswald 1975 type 16. This type, dated to 1610-1640, has a small bulbous bowl and shows a rouletted rim.

The plain, unmarked and undiagnostic stem fragments are not recommended for retention.

5.5 Glass Bottles by Simona Denis

A small assemblage of 6 glass fragments, weighing 1037g in total, were recovered during the archaeological work. The material was in mediocre state of preservation, extremely fragmentary and affected by iridescence.

Table 6: Glass occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	Colour	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Comments	Date Range
U/S	Base	Olive green	1	294	Machine-made. Embossing: BUCKINGHAM N&C ^o 1536	1872-1900
	Push-up base	Olive green	1	362	Extensive iridescence.	17 th -19 th C
	?One-piece dip mould base	Amber	1	224		17 th -19 th C
	Body	Undetermined	1	24	Extensive iridescence	Undetermined
	Neck with champagne finish	Olive green	1	71	Machine-made	?19 th C
13	Neck with grooved ring finish	Amber	1	62		1860-1890

The entirety of the collection was positively identified as post-medieval bottle glass. The only noticeable fragment being one unstratified bottle base bearing an embossed maker's mark. The base mark type, consisting in the letters N&C^o on the upward arch and a 4-digits number on the downward arch, with an offset 'keyhole' in the centre, is generally attributed to the maker Nuttall & Co, St. Helens, Lancashire, operating between 1872 and 1900 (Lockhart et al. 2018).

It is not recommended to retain the glass fragments due to their unstable conditions and very limited potential for further analysis.

5.6 Stone Roof Tile *by Simona Denis*

Three fragments of stone, weighing 494g in total, were recovered from three different deposits.

The items were tentatively identified as roof tiles and broadly dated to the Medieval or Post-Medieval period.

Table 7: Stone roof tile occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Date Range
U/S	?Stone roof tile	1	153	Medieval to Post-Medieval
18		1	39	
20		1	302	

It is not recommended to retain the stone tile fragments due to their extremely limited potential for further analysis.

5.7 Iron Objects *by Simona Denis*

A small collection of 5 iron items, of a combined weight of 28.6g, was recovered during the archaeological monitoring.

The extremely poor state of preservation of the items, showing severe oxidation, prevented the positive identification of the type for the majority of the objects; however, the items were tentatively identified as nails and possible fittings, dating to the Post-Medieval period.

Table 8: Iron objects occurrence by context and type

Context	Type	No. of Items	Weight (g)	Comments	Date Range
U/S	?General purpose nail	1	6.8	Rectangular cross-section, sharp point, head missing	?19 th C
11	?Nail	1	5	Rectangular cross-section	Undetermined
	?Fitting	2	14.3	Flat strips	
20	Floor brad	1	2.5	L-head, point missing	?19 th C

It is not recommended to retain the iron objects due to their extremely unstable state of preservation and their very limited potential for further analysis.

6 DISCUSSION

The findings of the excavations on site were limited due to most features continuing below the limit of excavation which mostly negated the need for further archaeological excavation. What could be ascertained from the site was that the area had been quite substantially disturbed and dug into over time. Some of this activity appeared to be quite recent and indicated later post-medieval and modern activity. There was evidence for earlier activity along the westerly boundary of the site with two pits containing 15th century pottery. It was however difficult to distinguish the boundaries of these possibly late medieval pits from that of a much larger deposit across the west of the site. This larger deposit did contain 16th century pottery but it also contained fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem dated broadly to the post-medieval period. It should be considered, however, that all the finds from this area of the site were recovered from the upper few millimetres of the fills and so could all be intrusive.

A further pit contained pottery providing a 16th century date but an iron brad found in a lower deposit could indicate a later date for the deposit.

There was earlier pottery medieval pottery recovered on the site but this was all from deposits with later material or which were stratigraphically later.

Pits had been identified in the adjacent evaluation site at Fleece Yard (JMHS 2018a). Those pits which yielded dateable material from this site provided dates ranging from the 17th century to the 19th century. One of these pits was of substantial size and depth and may indicate small scale quarrying for sand and gravel in the area.

Quarrying has been recorded from the medieval period on an excavation site 71m to the north of the site (Roberts 2018, 4). These had been backfilled and later burgage plots had been overlain up to the borough boundary. To the rear of these properties rubbish pits were cut into the fills during the later medieval period. And some of these pits had yielded evidence of leatherworking (Roberts 2018, 4).

The pits and disturbance in the grounds of the Old Latin House may indicate small scale quarrying for sand and gravel which were later backfilled or they may have been dug for the primary purpose of waste and rubbish disposal. Later modern material on the site may be from quite recent disturbance on the site as the result of ground clearance.

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 Buckinghamshire County Museum with accession number AYBCM: 2008.16.

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APPENDIX 1: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Old Latin House, Market Hill, Buckingham
Short description	<i>John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief during ground reductions at the rear of the Old Latin House, Market Hill, Buckingham. The excavations revealed made ground deposits across the site which overlay pits and areas of intercutting features and general ground disturbance. Possibly the earliest features identified were several pits/negative features in the west of the excavated area which were dated by the pottery to the 15th and 16th centuries. A post-medieval fragment of clay tobacco pipe was recovered from the surface of one of these fills but may have been intrusive from the layer above and an iron floor brad recovered from the fill of a pit containing 16th century pottery may have been 19th century but the dating of the brad was uncertain. The rest of the site was dominated by widespread deposits that were the fills of large cut/intercutting pits some of which may have been related to small scale quarrying for sand and gravel. Material recovered from the fills of these features provided dating broadly in the post-medieval and no earlier than the 17th century. The deposit of a large cut feature in the north of the site contained modern pottery.</i>
Project dates	21 st June 2018 to 26 th June 2018
Project type	Watching Brief
Previous work	None
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Market Hill, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. MK18 1JX
Study area	43m ²
Site co-ordinates	SP 6955 3404
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	John Moore Heritage Services
Project Brief originator	Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Services
Project Design (WSI)	John Moore
Project Manager	John Moore

Project Supervisor	Gavin Davis	
MONUMENT TYPE	Pits	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Pottery Brick and Tile	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Finds
Paper	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Report, Site Records, Drawings
Digital	Buckinghamshire County Museum	Digital Photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
John Moore Heritage Services, 2019, <i>An Archaeological Watching Brief at The Old Latin House, Market Hill, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire</i> . Unpublished.		