

The following is the text for the draft Level III report prepared in 1991/2 from the archives of the project 1989.28 and 1990.1. The text was on a series of dot matrix print outs that were scanned into a computer and converted to text using OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software by Gareth Dean as part of a PhD project at the University of York. The data for the Groups and Contexts has also been added to the York Archaeological Trust's Integrated Archaeological Database (IADB).

Any errors in this version of the report are due to this process and the original dot matrix prints outs held in the archive should be consulted if there are any queries or areas in need of clarification.

Throughout the process of scanning and conversion of the paper report to electronic format, the aim was to remain faithful to the original punctuation and setting out. No comments or views expressed in the text and no portion of the text was altered or removed.

EXCAVATIONS

at

12 to 18 SWINEGATE, 8 GRAPE LANE

AND

14/18/20/22

BACK SWINEGATE/LITTLE STONEGATE

YORK

0. S.GRID REFERENCE: SE 603520

1989/90.28 AND 1990.1

ARCHIVE REPORT

BY

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Swinegate Excavation or the "GA Fortress Dig" as it was otherwise called consisted of two separate areas at the respective corners of Grape Lane/Swinegate and Little Stonegate/Back Swinegate. In all, 15 separate trenches were excavated between October 1989 and July 1990, (see Figure 1). The work was carried out by a team from the York Archaeological Trust in advance of redevelopment of the site by the General Accident Insurance Company, who also fully funded both the excavation and the post excavation analysis. The project was directed by Nick Pearson and the archaeological supervisors were Jane; Lilley and Mark Whyman. Finds assistants were Karen Adams and Amanda Chilton. Liaison between the Archaeologists and the developers were undertaken by the Alex Gordon Partnership; this took the form of weekly visits by their representative, Colin Briden.

This Archive Report has been prepared under the general guidance of Nick Pearson. However specific areas have been written up by a number of individuals. Mark Whyman wrote 1 and 4 with the assistance of Mr W.H. WIJAYAPALA who analysed the material from planning zone JJ. Peter Sattelberger undertook Areas 2 and Simon Brereton and Jim Bonner at various times during the course of the project took on separate parts of Area 3. The remainder was written by Nick Pearson and the drawings and matrices were prepared by Caroline Emery.

Archaeological reasons for the project were various and spanned many of the periods in the history of the City.

For the Roman Period the site lies centrally within the Fortress, close to the Headquarters building and immediately adjacent to the Bath and sewer complex, where work had already been carried out by the Trust in the 1970's. Although it was not certain what would be the precise nature of the material it was felt that the site was likely to reveal further evidence for the Baths Complex or perhaps the domestic quarters of military officials or Tribunes. It was hoped that the excavation would reveal the development of the Fortress throughout the Period and perhaps reveal something of the

history of the site in immediate Post-Roman times. This is a subject of much debate and was a rare opportunity to analyse such evidence.

In the Medieval Period the large size of the available areas gave room for optimism that several properties could be examined both in relation to one another and to their backyard. Although properties of the late medieval period still exist as living buildings in the city, this was an opportunity to examine for the First time the development of the medieval tenemental layout.

The final research reason for our presence on the site was the possible presence, as indicated by the documentary source for the Church of St Benet's and its related cemetery.

The above objectives were largely satisfied, although the proximity to the modern ground surface and excellent survival of the medieval buildings means that they have perhaps become the more important aspect of the work. The Roman Fortress, although clearly surviving equally well was only able to be examined in a number of small discrete areas and the interpretation of the excavated material will as a consequence be more difficult.

Deposits of the immediate Post Roman period may well have been revealed in certain restricted parts of the site and these will be carefully analysed during post excavation work. Although the fabric of the Church of St Benet's was not encountered, a total of 100 inhumations were recovered from several of the designated piling positions. These are currently being examined by Gill Stroud at the Environmental Archaeology Unit at the University of York.

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The site was excavated using a single context recording procedure. Under this system the top most deposit in an area was identified by the excavator, planned and recorded on the pro-forma context cards. The context number was also entered onto the matrix of the area of excavation. These basic records were then checked for correctness, and stored.

POST EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

1) The Framework

The basis for the Level 3 text or Archive Report was the site matrix (see Figure 2). This was checked for stratigraphic correctness at the start of the post-excavation work and was then divided up into logically defined units

CONTEXT SERIES: This is defined as any number of contexts with close stratigraphic links that are interpreted as forming a single activity.

GROUPS: This is defined as the grouping together of context series to form a discussion point within the text. All context series must by definition belong to a group. It must be emphasised that these groupings are not the equivalent of a chronological phase or period.

2) The Text.

The next stage of post excavation work involved the compilation of the text. The Contexts within each context series are listed and described individually. It has been decided that the only information which will be laid out in the Archive Report is a shortened version of the context description and where applicable its inclusions. Information given is the data as stated by the excavator on the context cards. No attempt is made to interpret or alter the primary source; Thereafter their relationship to one another is discussed in the context series discussion and where applicable their interpretation (as stated on the context card or as elucidated in post excavation analysis) is included in the text. For a full version of what appears on the context card (i.e. stratigraphic relationships, and cross referencing data etc) the Level 2 archive must be consulted.

The relationship of the context series to one another included in the Group discussion and more widespread interpretation is contained within the inter-Group discussion of each trench. After the evidence of the pottery spot dates has been incorporated a final section is included which attempts to define site wide periods and phases.

Prior to this discussion the evidence is presented on a trench by trench basis.

All of the drawings including the site location plan and the site matrix (Fig 1 and 2) have been bound in a separate volume. The drawings relating to the context-series have been compiled from the single context originals using the computer soft-ware packages AutoCAD and Hindsight and are at a scale of 1:20.

AREA 1

INTRODUCTION

Area 1, originally a 3m x 3m test pit centred on 12.00E/82.50W and excavated between 31/10 and 13/11/89, was subsequently extended to cover an area 23m in length with a maximum width of 7.2 m, narrowing to 5m at its western limit. The long axis of the excavation approximated a north-east/south-west alignment, its north-western edge being parallel to and approximately 0.5m south-east of modern Grape Lane. Machine clearance of this area began in the third week of January 1990, with archaeological excavation commencing on 30/1. Deposits were excavated to an average depth some 0.70m below the modern ground surface, approximately 0.40m/0.50m of this being removed mechanically. A series of modern pipe trenches (1021, 1025 and 1225; see below), all aligned approximately south-east/north-west, divided the strata into discrete blocks to a depth of approximately 1.35m., substantially below that reached in excavation over most of the area, and a post-medieval cellar in the central/south-eastern area of the site had removed deposits to a similar depth over an area of 3m x 5m. Apart from these disturbances, however, later medieval structures and their associated deposits survived to an exceptional degree.

Given the limited amount of time available for the excavation (a total of 2 months from 31/01-06/04), it was decided to excavate Area 1 to the stratigraphic level of construction of the three buildings (X, Z and Brick) which were clearly evident following machine clearance. In this way it was hoped to retrieve detailed information about the date and function of the latest, phase of? medieval (?)

early post-medieval) structures on the Grape Lane street frontage. This aim was in part achieved, especially in Structure X but the complexity of the shifting pattern of alterations and modifications to the buildings meant that the anticipated unitary and contemporary phase of construction was to prove illusory. Thus it was only possible to define the form and extent of Structures Z and Brick, not to excavate deposits to the level of their construction. Nonetheless, the exposure, and as far as possible the excavation of the latest recognisably medieval buildings remained the guiding principle of the investigation of Area 1, and determined the level (based on judgements as to where, stratigraphically) the late street frontage began at which excavation ceased.

NOMENCLATURE

The interpretation of many of the context series and groups in this report requires discussion of their position, stratigraphic and spatial, in relation to the components of what were formerly standing buildings. However, the use of the word 'building' at this level of analysis invites confusion, as the Grape Lane street front underwent several phases of alteration variously involving the extension, reduction, integration, separation and partial demolition of what began as discrete buildings. 'Rooms' was considered as an alternative, allowing separate components of buildings to be mixed and matched in discussion according to requirements, but, whilst appropriate in a number of instances was positively misleading term in relation to the large, open internal area of the Group 4 'pad stone structure', a shortcoming compounded by the fact of its apparent subdivision into a series of small chambers (or rooms!). Eventually the more neutral 'structure' was opted for as having sufficient flexibility to avoid confusion with the use of the word for single 'positive feature' (e.g. hearth, wall etc.), when used to refer to a whole or recognisable part of a building 'Structure' as distinct from 'structure' has been adopted. It was felt that such terminology was necessary for use in the discussion as reference to Group numbers would involve the reader in repeated Journeys back and forth through the text, and more especially as modifications to the

Structures result in their frequently being represented by several Groups.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

Context 1269

1269: Rectilinear cut, truncated on north-eastern side by later intrusion 1.29.3, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a flat base, slight ledges evident on south-eastern and north-western sides.

Context 1281

1281: Roughly rectilinear cut, truncated on north-eastern side by later intrusion 1.26.20. Shallow vertical sides break sharply from top edge breaking sharply again to more gentle slope forming a broad 'ledge' within the feature, and again to a steep slope towards base, the form of the letter unclear due to truncation

Voids indicating robbed structural features associated with a building which pre-dated Structure Z. Although stratigraphically recorded as cutting 1.26.17 (1288), a dumped deposit which post-dates Structure Z, overlaying the plans indicates that this relationship is marginal in the extreme, and indicates that the truncation of 1288 which occurs in the vicinity of these features is just as likely, if not more so, to have been caused by the pipe trench 1.29.3 (1225). The recorded relationships with 1269 and 1281 have therefore been ignored and the stratigraphic record amended accordingly.

As the 'spine' of stratified deposits between the pipe trenches 1.29.3 (1225) and 1.29.4 (1025) was the only part of Area 1 where excavation reached levels which significantly pre-date Structures X, V and Z, the likely character and layout of the building/structure represented by 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 is impossible to establish. It would, however, seem to have belonged to and provide an indication of a phase or structures very different from those to which the bulk of the excavated deposits relate.

GROUP 2

1.2.1 Contexts 1082, 1083, 1084

1082: South-east/north-west aligned wall comprising single course of worked, medium/large limestone blocks in matrix of yellow mortar.

1083: Interrupted, south-east/north-west aligned wall constructed of medium sized limestone blocks displaying varying degrees of working, from roughly hewn to finely cut.

1084: north-east/south-west wall constructed of small -large blocks of limestone mostly deliberately cut.

The north-east, south-east and south-west walls respectively of a clearly unitary structure subsequently referred to as Structure X. Most of the worked blocks appear to be re-used rather than cut specifically for the construction of these walls.

1.2.2 Contexts 1330, 1330

1330: north-east/south- west aligned wall constructed of limestone blocks bonded with mortar. Survives over a length of c.1.50m truncated at north-eastern end by cut 1021. The wall incorporates a large block of limestone c.0.40m x 0.25m at its south-western end.

1331: Extensive deposit or extremely compacted limestone fragments, up to c.0.25 - 0.30m thick.

1.2.3 Context 1328.

1328: Isolated section of limestone wall bonded with lime mortar and tile fragments, roughly 'L' shaped in plan. This particular fragment of wall appears to have been preserved due to its retention as a post pad supporting an upright or the timber built building represented by Group 4 see below}.

1.2.4 Context 1329.

1329: south-east/north-west aligned wall, curving slightly to south at south-eastern end. Constructed of irregular, medium sized blocks of limestone, some roughly cut, others, apparently reused, more

regularly shaped, and including fragment of stone mortar. Length c.3.00m.

Extending south-eastwards at approximately 90 degrees from 1084, would appear to be the north-eastern wall of Structure Y. These contexts were the only traces reached in excavation of a structure contemporary with and almost certainly integral to Structure X, and henceforth referred to as Structure Y. The continuation of 1.2.3 to the north-west on an alignment which would meet the projected south-eastern end of 1330 (1.2.2) at 90 degrees was observed in the stratigraphic profile visible in the south-western edge of the later pit 1.29.1 (1028) sealed by unexcavated deposits almost certainly associated with the building represented by Group 4. As the 'L' shaped form of 1.2.3 argues that it formed the corner of a structure the wall originally extending to the north-east as well as to the north-west, it appears that there existed, contemporary with the original construction of Structure X and due south of it, a chamber approximately 4.00m wide. That this room was actually connected to Structure X is evidenced by the similarities in size and construction technique of 1330 (1.2.2) and 1082 (1.2.1), and above all by the fact that the north-western and south-eastern ends respectively of these walls would seem to have originally met at 90 degrees, the junction having been subsequently severed by the pipe trench 1.29.2 (1021).

1.2.5 Context 1337

1337: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned structure comprising large, shaped (in some instances reused) square and rectangular blocks of limestone, the single course of stonework being interrupted and unbonded. The structure apparently turns through 90 degrees to the northeast at its south-eastern extremity.

The south-western wall of a building to the north-east of Structure X, on the other side of the alleyway 1.2.6.

1.2.6 Context 1338

1338: Extensive deposit of hard-packed small-large cobbles and fragments of limestone, bonded with clay and some mortar and

displaying flat laid rectilinear slabs of limestone along part of its south-western edge. The deposit forms a linear south-east/north-west aligned structure, noticeably cambered, which becomes wider and appears to lose its camber beyond the south-eastern limits of 1.2.1 and 1.2.5.

Alleyway between Structure X and the building to the north-east, the surface possibly expanding to Form a yard behind the two buildings.

1.2.7 Context 1193

1193: 3 laminated deposits excavated as one due to time pressure on excavation, comprising (from bottom to top); mid brown compact 20% silt 80% clay with moderate flecks of charcoal, occasional animal bone and occasional tile fragments (3): Friable, finely crushed limestone with occasional small tile fragments (2); dark brown friable 20% silt 80% peat with moderate flecks of charcoal and occasional small fragments of animal bone (1).

The components of this deposit are interpreted as follows:

(3) Floor make-up

(2) Base for primary floor of Structure Y

(1) Material accumulating on (2) following demolition of Structure Y.

(2) May well be equivalent to 1331, having subsequently been reduced and eroded due to its having served as an external surface following the demolition of Structure Y. This being the case, (1) should be seen as accumulation occurring outside Structures X and Z, and should therefore belong to Group 16. It has not, however, been felt worth the effort of formally subdividing the context, as it will not be possible to separate the composite finds assemblage in this way. See below, Group 16, for discussion of deposits relating more closely to 1193 (1).

1.2.8 Context 1307

1307: Circular, steep sided post-hole with sharp edges and blunt base.

Deeper, stake hole like component to cut in western quarter of base.

1.2.9 Context 1298

1298: Circular stake hole with sharp top edge, steep sides and pointed base.

1.2.10 Context 1299

1299: Circular stake hole with sharp top edge, steep sides and pointed base.

1.2.11 Context 1300

1300: Irregularly shaped stake hole with sharp top edge, steep sides and pointed base.

1.2.12 Context 1301

1301: Square stake hole with sharp top edge, steep sides and pointed base. The fills of these features have been separated from their cuts as they are closely similar to the overlying layer 1.2.19. The precise function of the post and stake holes is unclear, but their early stratigraphic position and apparently short life, witnessed by the fact that they are sealed by deposits relating to the early history of Structure X, argues for their having been associated with the latter's construction rather than having a longer term structural purpose.

1.2.13 Context 1321

1331: Friable, light grey/dark brown 50% silt, 40% clay, 10% sand with frequent flecks of mortar, brick and charcoal and frequent fragments of limestone. Deposit slopes away to the south. The mixed character and inclusions of this deposit, allied to its stratigraphic position immediately above the dumped material which predates Structure X, suggest that it derives from constructional activities relating to that building. It may be the remnant of a more extensive deposit (note, for example, its similarity to 1310) which survived subsequent truncation due to the localised slumping which accounts for its north-south slope. However, the absence of any positive evidence for such truncation may indicate that the

layer accumulated in an irregularity in the pre-existing ground surface, and that the later slumping of deposits in the centre of Structure X is therefore incidental to its survival.

1.2.14 Context 1310

1310: Compact/Friable, green/dark-grey-brown 60% silt 40% clay with frequent charcoal flecks. This deposit is attributed to Group 2 due to the similarity of its description to that of 1321 and its stratigraphic position directly above the pre-existing ground surface. As there is no evidence of truncation or later slumping to account for the survival of such a discrete and restricted deposit, it seems likely to have accumulated in a depression in that surface.

1.2.15 Context 1306

1306: Friable, light brown/grey 70% clay 30% silt with frequent mortar and tile fragments, and small blocks of limestone in the base of the deposit.

The backfill of 1.2.8 (1307).

1.2.16 Context 1255

1255: Loose, yellow 90% sand 10% clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

Located in Group 2 due to its stratigraphic position immediately above the pre-existing ground surface and its description, which is appropriate for a deposit derived under constructional activities. The stratigraphic position of these deposits, directly above the ground surface which pre-dates Building X. and their constituent materials suggest that they derive from constructional activity. The likelihood that they are the truncated remnants of an originally more extensive deposit is reduced by the fact that subsequent layers apparently associated with the use of the building, cover much of its internal area: these would themselves have been removed by later disturbance, had it occurred. It is more likely therefore, that these contexts represent isolated patches of material possibly accumulated in minor irregularities in the pre-building ground surface.

1253: Compact, light-brown 80% clay 20% sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and fragments of tile.

1.2.18 Context 1320

1320: Compact, light brown 90% clay 10% silt with moderate mortar flecks.

These contexts may represent the remnants of a clay floor. However, the fact that the south-eastern edge of 1.2.18 appears to be the genuine limit or the context rather than being due to truncation suggests that its original extent was too restricted for this to be the case and it may therefore be best seen as a localised but deliberate (distinguishing it from 1.2.13–1.2.16, above) levelling of the interior of Structure X. Alternatively, localised but deliberately laid working surface.

1.2.19 Contexts 1297, 1296, 1295, 1294, 1273

1297: Loose, light brown/grey 70% silt 20% sand 10% clay with occasional mortar flecks and frequent limestone fragments. Although the description of this context does not indicate the burnt component which is characteristic of the rest of the deposits in 1.2.19, the similarity of its soil matrix and stratigraphic position have led to it being included in the series.

Backfill of 1.2.11 (1300).

1296: Loose, light-brown/grey 80% silt 20% sand with burnt orange clay around the outer edge of the deposit.

Backfill of 1.2.10 (1299)

1295: Loose light brown/grey 80% silt 20% sand with burnt orange clay around the outer edge of the deposit.

Backfill of 1.2.9 (1298)

1294: Friable, black, 50% charcoal 40% silt 10% ash with frequent charcoal fragments.

1273: Compact, red brown 100% silt, with a patch of crushed sandstone concentrated in part of the deposit.

1.2.20 Context 1318

1318: Loose, black 90% silt 10% charcoal with occasional mortar flecks.

1.2.19 and 1.2.20 appear to be burnt residues of some description. It is possible that they represent burnt debris from an early hearth within Structure X but as no such structure was recovered from an appropriate stratigraphic level this theory assumes that later disturbance has removed all trace of it; 1.25.1 (1026) may account for the absence. If this is the case, do the deposits represent activities associated with the construction of the building, or the earliest phase of its habitation and use? The decision to attribute these contexts, and those directly succeeding it, to constructional activities rests on the significance attached to (1267) 1.2.29 and (1314) 1.2.30 (see below). Alternatively, the burnt material may be redeposited, a construction associated dump, although the character of the deposits suggest that they are in situ, and thus argues against this interpretation. See also 1.2.21 (1313), below.

1.2.21 Context 1313

1313: Loose yellow 100% crushed limestone mortar. The restricted extent of this deposit, with no clear evidence or it having been removed over a wider area, argues against it being a surviving remnant of an originally extensive floor surface. Although the description is ambiguous, the 'crushed limestone element suggests residue from the reduction of limestone to manufacture lime mortar; either crushed in preparation for reduction, or fire cracked fragments from the detritus of the manufacturing process. This may provide a context for the burnt debris discussed above in 1.2.20.

1.2.22 Context 1292

1292 Shallow, south-north aligned scoop with sharp top edge, shallow sloping sides and blunt base: squareish post hole element in southern end of cut. The function of this feature is unclear. It has been attributed to this group due to its close stratigraphic relationship with (1286) 1.2.23, and is presumably a result of constructional activity.

1.2.23 Contexts 1311 and 1286

1311: Compact, Friable, light-dark brown 60% clay 30% silt 10% sand with frequent flecks of mortar, charcoal and burnt clay and moderate fragments of tile. Probably simply a spread of construction derived material; unlikely to be deliberate deposition for a specific purpose. May have accumulated in a 'trap' created by the edge or 1.2.19 (1320) to the north.

1286: Friable-compact, light brown 90%- clay 10% silt with frequent flecks of charcoal, brick, and mortar, frequent fragments of limestone and moderate fragments of tile. Possibly a deliberate deposition either to level the interior of Structure X or to create a working surface for constructional activities.

1.2.24 Contexts 1283, 1282

1283: Loose, yellow-white crushed mortar with frequent fragments of limestone. This deposit would appear to be too limited in extent to be a floor surface, and as there is no indication of it having originally covered a larger area but subsequently being truncated, it has been interpreted as mortar deposited during the construction of Structure X.

1282: Shallow scoop with indeterminate top edge and gradual slope from north to south. Base removed by later cut (1253).

The characteristics of this 'cut' suggest that it is in fact the result of slumping in the central zone of Building X, a phenomenon noticed (and noted; see above) in earlier deposits in this area.

1.2.25 Context 1275

1275: Compact, red/brown/orange burnt 80% clay 20% silt.

1.2.26 Context 1289

1289: Compact, orange 100% burnt clay.

1.2.27 Context 1290

1290: Compact, orange 1002 burnt clay. Two of these deposits, 1289 and 1290, were categorised as hearths on the context records. They do not, however, appear to have been deliberately created in the way this term implies, and it seems more likely that all three have a more prosaic origin. It is possible that they are the remnants of an originally more extensive surface, preserved in discrete patches where it was protected from subsequent erosion by the presence of timber upright resting directly on its surface, but supporting evidence is lacking. Whatever the exact nature of the activities which created these contexts, they seem likely to relate to the construction rather than use of Structure X.

1.2.28 Contexts 1270, 1268

1270: Friable/compact, light brown 90% clay 10% silt with occasional fragments of brick and tile and occasional charcoal flecks.

1268: Friable, dark brown/black 80% clay 20% silt with moderate charcoal and occasional mortar flecks. Possibly a deliberately laid working surface but may simply be material deposited as a result of constructional activity.

1.2.29 Context 1267

1267: Circular post hole with sharply defined top edge, steep sides and flat base.

Post-hole for timber upright.

1.2.30 Contexts 1317, 1316, 1315, 1314

1317: Roughly oval, steep sided cut with sharply defined top edge and flat base.

Construction cut for post pad foundation.

1316: Compact deposit of small/medium fragments of tile and limestone and cobbles.

1315: Loose, yellow 100% mortar with patch of light grey/brown clay and occasional tile fragments.

1315 and 1316 comprise the foundation for post pad 1314.

1314: Roughly shaped block of limestone, 0.40m x 0.30m, 0.15m deep.

Post pad for timber upright.

1.2.31 Context 1263

1263: Square stake hole with sharply defined top edge, steep vertical sides and pointed base. Stake hole with uncertain, but probably construction related function.

The position of 1.2.29 and 1.2.30 on the central north-west/south-east axis of Structure X suggest that they represent timber uprights which would have supported the upper floors or the structure. The primary load bearing upright would appear to have rested on the substantial pad stone foundation 1.2.30 with a subsidiary and probably earth-fast post represented by 1.2.29 further to the north-west.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The interpretation of all these contexts in the preceding group as being construction related requires some discussion. The stratigraphic argument hinges on 1.2.29 (1267). The position of this feature and that of 1.2.30 (1314), in relation to 1082, 1083 and 1084 (1.2.1) the walls of Structure X, strongly suggest that they carried uprights supporting the upper storey(s) of the structure. If this is the case, and accepting that these are important components of the building as a whole which, would be constructed before it was inhabited, then all contexts stratigraphically below either of these features should similarly pre date its use. Since the great majority of the contexts attributed to these Groups fall into this category, their constructional attribution appears valid.

There are, however, potential stratigraphic ambiguities which could prejudice this argument. These concern the relationship between 1.2.29 and the layers which it appears to cut through. The use of italics highlights the fact that there is an alternative possibility, namely that these layers accumulated around the in situ post, which was subsequently extracted: this alternative effectively

reverses the order of deposition and yet is impossible to differentiate from a sequence which conforms with that recorded. The recorded stratigraphic relationships have none the less been – accepted at 'face value' as there are other factors which support the argument for these deposits being construction related.

Firstly, none of the individual contexts or even the context groups is extensive enough to suggest a deliberate flooring of the interior or the building. In the absence of any clear evidence for widespread truncation, which would allow the suggestion that they are the remnants or deposits which formerly covered a wider area, it must be assumed that their extent has been largely unchanged since deposition.

Secondly, discrete deposits which are composed of identical materials (e.g. 1270, 1286; 1275, 1289, 1290) are stratigraphically separated by intervening deposits. Whilst this is only evident at the level of context groups rather than being intrinsic to the matrix, the fact that it is not possible to create groups which combine all deposits with very similar descriptions in a progressive sequence suggests that deposition occurred over a relatively short period of time. The reasoning behind this is that the repetition of deposit characteristics throughout the sequence argues for access to and use of the same materials throughout the period of deposit accumulation, and that this is more likely to reflect a short burst of activity than a more extended and intermittent process.

If these arguments are accepted, possible reasons for the absence of floors within Structure X must be explored. The existence of a solid floor surface – for instance flagstones – originally overlying the construction deposits but subsequently removed for reuse need leave no recognisable trace to its former existence. A raised wooden floor would present similar problems of detection. Alternatively, the internal surface may have been left without a 'finished' surface, possibly reflecting infrequent use of the ground Floor (e.g. for storage) rather than sustained activity. In the case of the stone floor interpretation, some deposits may be the result of the removal and replacement of specific areas of flagging, material having been deposited underneath the stones to correct localised slumping.

However, the layers discussed above do not appear to be concentrated in areas where slumping is evident, and the justifications outlined above, original constructional activity has been favoured as the context for their creation.

Taken together, Structures X and Y seem to have formed a unitary building, X being a room fronting the medieval thoroughfare represented by modern Grape Lane with a width of c.3.60m and a minimum length (long axis assumed to be NW-SE, i.e. at right angles to the street) of a similar order and likely to be greater. Structure Y was 'L' shaped in plan, extending to the rear of X with the arm of the 'L' extending to the south-west. Assuming 1.2.3 (1328) to mark the extreme southern corner of this structure, its dimensions can be reconstructed as 6.00m x 3.00m (for the north-east/south-west aligned component abutting X) and 1.40m x 3.80m for the arm of the 'L'. The drift southwards of the south-eastern end of wall 1.2.4 (1329) is reflected in the projected line of the wall linking 1.2.3 (1328) and the south western end of 1.2.2 (1330) and suggests that the rear element of Structure Y was twisted slightly south of the south-east/north-west alignment displayed by X.

The flooring of Structure Y is problematical as little archaeological examination of its interior at the appropriate stratigraphic level was possible. However, it is clear that the south-western arm of the structure was floored with a thick deposit of crushed limestone 1.2.2 (1331), suggesting a specialised function for this part of the Structure which distinguished it from the rest of the internal area to the north-east. That this surface was so restricted, and not merely subsequently truncated, is suggested by the fact that its north-eastern edge corresponds quite closely to the projected line of 1082 (1.2.1).

GROUP 3

1.3.1 Contexts 1266, 1261

1266: Friable, loose, green/brown/grey 70% silt 30% clay with occasional fragments of tile, moderate fragments of charcoal and moderate mortar flecks.

Backfill of 1.2.29 (1267).

1261: Friable, dark brown/black 80% silt 20% clay with moderate charcoal and mortar flecks and occasional tile fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The Friable, silty nature of these deposits, which accumulated to a depth of c.0.05–0.06m, and the relatively great extent of 1261 in the central area of Building X suggest that they may represent a period of abandonment of the structure. This interpretation is favoured as it is thought unlikely that such an un-compacted, fine grained and pure (i.e. relatively free of coarse components) soil matrix would have accumulated as a result of constructional activities or during the occupation the building, and is more likely to represent material allowed to accumulate (and remaining uncompacted) by the absence of human activity. That it did not accumulate in such an environment created by a raised wooden floor (the possible existence of which has been discussed above. Group 2 Discussion) would seem to be indicated by the fact that it was formed after the central upright represented by 1.2.29 (1267) had been removed, suggesting that the interior of the building had been dismantled. A period of abandonment has therefore been opted for.

GROUP 4

1.4.1 Context 1327

1327: Void with steep-vertical SE, SW and NW sides (NE side removed) and flat base. The surviving edges forming three sides of a square, dimensions approximately 0.70m x 0.70m. This feature is interpreted as the void left by the removal of a large block of stone (robbed by cut 1092 below) which is argued to have been a pad stone support belonging to the same building as 1.4.2–1.4.5

1.4.2 Context 1211.

Context 1211: Rectangular block of magnesian limestone, dimensions 0.40m x 0.30m

Pad stone support for timber upright.

1.4.3 Context 1212

1212: Block of magnesian limestone, triangular in plan form, clearly worked and exhibiting tooling marks, dimension 0.50 x 0.30m.

Architectural fragment re-used as pad stone support for timber upright.

1.4.4 Context 1323, 1234, 1322

1323: Rectilinear cut with steep, vertical side with sharply defined top and bottom edges, flat base. Construction cut for pad stone 1234.

1234: Rectilinear block of magnesian limestone dimensions 0.40m x 0.50m.

Pad stone support for timber upright.

1322: Friable, mid-light brown 60% silt 25% clay 15% sand with moderate flecks of mortar, occasional small-medium fragments of tile, occasional large and small fragments of limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of construction cut 1323.

1.4.2, 1.4.3 and 1.4.4 forms a line of pad stones aligned on a north-east/south-west axis and spaced approximately 1.70m apart. They are interpreted as representing a line of centrally placed roof supports for a timber built building, and are indeed the fundamental indication of the existence of such a structure.

1.4.5 Context 1274

1274: Sub rectangular block of magnesian limestone, dimensions 0.30m x 0.40m

Pad stone support for timber upright. Continues the alignment of 1.4.2, 1.4.3 and 1.4.4 approximately 3.60m, to the south-west of 1.4.4.

These contexts appear to represent the bases for timber uprights belonging to a building, henceforth Structure Z. They should be seen

in association with 1.2.3 (1328) which it is argued, survived from the earlier phase due to its retention as a pad stone for one of the uprights of the rear (south-eastern) wall of the Structure.

1.4.6 Context 1265

1265: Dark brown compact 40% clay 60% silt with frequent small/medium sized cobbles, occasional small fragments of limestone and very occasional flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.1.1 (1269). The character of this deposit suggests deliberate backfilling with cobbles in order to provide a solid foundation for the Structure Z wall 1.4.7 (1304), the north-eastern edge of which almost impinges on 1.1.1 (1269).

1.4.7 Context 1304

1304: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned structure, comprising a single course of variously sized blocks of limestone, some roughly shaped but the majority unworked, bonded with mortar and frequent tightly packed limestone chippings incorporating occasional small fragments of roof tile. There is a concentration of mortar/crushed limestone atop the blocks at the north-western end of the structure, and a noticeable indentation in its north-eastern edge close to its south-eastern end. In some places it is likely that the edges of the structure's long sides (including facing stones similar to those which survive along some of its length) have been removed by the later intrusions 1.29.3 and 1.29.4.

South-western wall of Structure Z.

1.4.8 Context 1308

1308: Restricted deposit of largely unworked medium sized blocks of limestone with moderate small-medium sized fragments of roof tile, located immediately to south-east of 1.4.7 (1304)

Component of south-western wall of Structure Z.

The interpretation of 1.4.7 and 1.4.8 as the original wall of Structure Z requires some explanation. It is argued that the indentation in the north-eastern edge of 1304 marks the original

position of pad stone 1.4.5 (1274), the position of 1.4.5 as excavated, however, was some 0.20m to the north-east of this location. This discrepancy is believed to be the result of 1.4.5 having been moved during the cutting of the later pipe trench 1.29.3 (1225). That the indentation does mark the seat of 1.4.5 is supported by the close similarity of the former's dimensions with those of the pad stone, and it would therefore appear that 1.4.5 was originally integral to the wall 1.4.7.

A further complication to this argument is that, in the stratigraphic record, 1.4.5 is recorded as having been separated from 1.4.7 by a dump layer of compact silty clay 1288 (1.26.17). If this is accepted 1.4.5 and 1.4.7 clearly cannot belong to the same structure. However, overlaying the plans indicates that it is equally plausible that 1288 accumulated around 1.4.5, and this sequence has been favoured in interpretation, prompting appropriate modifications to the stratigraphic record. 1278, the 'construction cut' for the pad stone thus also requires reinterpretation, and has therefore been simply seen as an interface between 1.4.5 and 1.26.17.

Apart From these examples, all of the ground-fast structural components of the suggested building are argued either to lie outside the excavated area or to have been removed by subsequent disturbance. The line of the north-eastern wall, for instance, is represented only by the void, 1.4.1 (1327) interpreted as the 'ghost' of a robbed pad stone, all other traces of the wall having been removed by the modern drain 1.29.2 (1021); The direct evidence for the existence of a wall is therefore slight. Nevertheless, two facts point to its former existence: Firstly the presence of the western wall of Structure X immediately to the north-east of that posited for Structure Z, and secondly the interruption of stratification, seen to the south-east of 1.4.1, which coincides with the supposed wall line. In this area a series of deposits (see below, Group 16) lap up to but do not transgress the north-eastern edge of 1.2.2 (1331), the crushed limestone floor of Structure Y which is argued as having been retained and incorporated in Structure Z. These deposits are seen as having accumulated outside

Structure Z, their south-western limit indicating the presence of a solid barrier- i.e. a wall which prevented the layers from extending further to the south- west. There is, however, no evidence for the constructional character of such a wall.

1.4.9 Context 1332

1332: South-east/north-west aligned linear feature, comprising a base or horizontally laid bricks and a south-western edge of vertical edge-set roof tiles. Total length c. 2.40m, width 0.20m.

Although superficially resembling a drain, the position of this feature (connecting pad stones 1.4.2 (1221) and 1.4.10 (1333) and its level base (variation of less than 10mms SE-NW) suggest that it in fact represents the tile lining for a timber sill beam, presumably supporting an internal partition of Structure Z.

1.4.10 Contexts 1333, 1334.

1333: Roughly square, shaped block of limestone with flat upper surface.

Pad stone support for timber upright.

1334: (Colour) compact 100% clay, forming linear deposit with south-east/north-west alignment, dimensions approx. 1.00m x 0.30m.

Probably threshold or doorway.

These features appear to comprise an internal partition, with doorway, separating the two north-eastern bays or Structure Z from those to the south-west. It would appear to be integral to the original layout of the building (or rather the earliest reached in the excavation) since the extreme south-eastern end of the tile sill beam lining 1.4.9 (1332) is sealed beneath pad stone 1.4.2 (1211) - it clearly cannot represent a modification post-dating the establishment of the central line of timber uprights indicated by 1.4.2-1.4.5. It is however surprising that 1.4.9 (1332) should extend beneath 1.4.2 (1211) - logically in such an arrangement the sill beam would be expected to abut the pad stone. The favoured reason for this helps to explain the absence of a contemporary,

equivalent partition to 1.4.9/1.4.10 which would have made an enclosed area or the southern, or of the two south-eastern bays or Structure Z, and is outlined in the Group Discussion.

1.4.11 Context 1291

1291: Rectilinear feature, comprising edge-set roof tiles forming a 'radial' pattern, bounded by edging of thicker (?floor) tiles.

Hearth situated in central south-western area of Structure Z.

1.4.19 Context 1319, 1312

1319: Sub rectangular cut, sharply defined top edge with steep slope on NE and SW sides, more gradual break from the surface and shallower slope on SE and NW. 'Bench-like' profile on NE side, irregular but generally flat base.

Construction cut for hearth 1312

1312: Edge set ?roof tiles forming flat rectilinear feature, angle of tile gradually changing from 90 to c.45 degree from SW to NE surrounded by small limestone block (0.10m-0.30m) set in clay.

Hearth.

This feature has been interpreted as a component of the original layout of Structure Z as it was the (stratigraphically) earliest context recorded in the south-eastern area of the building.

Additionally, however, it pre-dates the internal modifications of Group 10 (see below) which thus sets it apart from the plethora of superimposed adjacent hearths (ditto) apparently established after the subdivision. Finally, its dimensions and construction are very similar to 1.4.11 (1291). The location and stratigraphic position of which strongly imply that it is an original feature. See Group 4 discussion, below.

1.4.13 Context 1325

1325: Circular setting of broken ?roof tiles set on edge, the top edge leaning away from the centre of the circle. Base formed by further broken tile laid horizontally.

Function of this feature uncertain, but possibly standing for barrel.

1.4.14 Context 1024

1024: Rectilinear cut, longer (north-east and south-west) side vertical, south-east and north-west side slope more gently. Sharp break in slope from top edge, more gradual break to flat base. ?Robbed 'ghost' of internal feature of Structure Z. Function uncertain.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This Group comprises the original structural components and internal surfaces of Structure Z, a timber building employing pad stone bases for its major uprights. Apart From the central line of roof/upper storey supports 1.4.2-1.4.4, recognisable internal features include the hearth 1.4.11, the ?barrel standing 1.4.13 and, most significantly, the internal partition 1.4.9/1.4.10. Apparently an original feature, reference has already been made to the fact that it is partly sealed by the pad stone 1.4.2 (1211) (see above note appended to 1.4.9). In addition, 1.4.9/1.4.10 does not, on its own, effectively separate the extreme southern bay of Structure Z From the rest of the building: there is no contemporary indication of a north-east/south-west partition linking pad stone 1.4.2 and 1.4.3, or indeed of a continuation of 1.4.9 (1332) south-east of 1.4.2, 1.4.9/1.4.10 would therefore appear extraneous. This may, however, be explained by the suggestion that the original line of 1.4.2-1.4.4 was located slightly to the south-east of that recognised in excavation. This would account for the absence or traces of an equivalent partition to 1.4.9/1.4.10 on the grounds of it having been destroyed by the subsequent ?robbing cut 1.17.1 (1134). Two Facts support such a case; Firstly, the south-eastern extremity of 1.4.9 is sealed by pad stone 1.4.2, suggesting that the partition the former carried originally extended further to the south-east, the pad stone having subsequently been moved from its original position to that in which it was found. Secondly, neither 1.4.2 nor (especially) 1.4.3 was embedded to any depth into the ground surface which they are taken to be contemporary with. Whilst this need not

have compromised their function, it may be argued that it reflects their removal from more 'embedded' positions and replacement, in slightly different position, immediately prior to the dumping activity which presaged the Group 10 internal modifications, the dumped deposits of 1.10.3 (below) surrounding and consolidating pad stone 1.4.2 and 1.4.3. If this is accepted it should, of course, see these pad stones as part of Group 10- however, since it rests largely on speculative interpretation, and no direct evidence for or indication of their supposed original positions exists, they have been retained as part of the earliest excavated layout of Structure Z.

An alternative argument concerns the location of the apparently original hearth 1.4.12 (1312). Its similarity to 1.4.11 (1291) has already been noted, and this suggests that it performed a similar function (related to heating the building, as distinct from the small scale ?industrial purpose of the Group 13 hearths. This being the case, it is possible that the whole width of Structure Z was divided by a partition along the axis of 1.4.9 (1332), 1.4.12 (1312) being necessary to heat the south-eastern half of the building from which the heat generated by 1.4.11 (1291) was thus excluded. Again, no indication of such an original partition was excavated, although it may have been removed by the later cellar 1.26.20 (1229). Although speculative, it is necessary to consider both of these possibilities in assessing the arrangement of the internal space of Structure Z, and at a more pragmatic level to explain why, on a *prima facie* basis, 1.4.9/1.4.10 appears superfluous as an internal division.

These uncertainties and unproven suggestion concerning the original internal layout of Structure Z stem largely from the fact that the majority of its internal surfaces and fittings remained unexcavated at the end of the project; attempting to interpret contexts on the partial evidence provided by the final plan undoubtedly leads to the simplification of complex sequences or events with resultant ambiguities and apparent contradictions. Sumo support for the kind of explanation proffered in this discussion can nonetheless be drawn from the south-eastern section of the later disturbance

1.26.21(1230), which shows the existence, directly below hearth 1.4.11 (1291), of a near identical, earlier hearth. Although it cannot be regarded as certain that this coincidence is the result of simply raising (by c.0.30m) the floor level of an earlier manifestation of Structure Z, it strongly suggests it, and indicates that the kind of modification posited in the discussion above are quite plausible. It should be noted, however, that the pre-1.4.11 (1291) hearth itself belongs to a phase of the building reached nowhere else in the excavation. The original layout of Structure Z is further discussed with reference to 1.13.2 (1245) below.

Given the ambiguities inherent in the reconstruction of Structure Z result of the slowness of its remaining structural traces, it is worth noting its remaining structural traces, it is worth considering the argument that the pad stones 1.4.2-1.4.4 represent not the axial supports of a timber structure but its rear wall; in other words that all the deposits to the south-east of this line which post-date the demise of Structure Y were in fact external to Structure Z. The arguments against this are as follows

(1) Structural components 1.4.1 (1327) and 1.2.3 (1328); the interpretation of these is itself, however, uncertain, and does not prove the case beyond doubt.

(2) The south-eastern wall line evidenced by the interrupted stratification referred to in the discussion of 1.4.8

(3) The fragmentary but definite trace of the internal partition wall 1.10.6 (1209) (belonging to a later phase of the building- see below Group 10) extending to the south-east of pad stone 1.4.2 (1211)

(4) The fact that the original hearth 1.4.12 (1312), and the possibly original post-pad 1.13.2 (1245) (see below), and less certainly the Group 13 hearths (see below) seem most likely to belong in an internal rather than an external environment.

See below, 1.13.2 for further discussion of the original internal layout of Structure Z

GROUP 5

1.5.1 Context 1259

1259: Loose, dark brown 60% silt 40% sand with occasional charcoal and mortar flecks. Although this deposit may have derived from the same process as 1.3.1 (1261), it seems to have accumulated against an apparently deliberate arrangement of tiles illustrated on the plan of context 1261 but not allocated a separate context number. 1259 has therefore been grouped with contexts which seem to indicate a resumption of construction activities.

1.5.2 Context 1258

1258 Roughly circular post-hole with sharp top edge, shallowly sloping sides to a depth of c.0.12m. and rounded base with small diameter deeper (c.0.40m.) element in western part of cut

1.5.3 Context 1251

1251: Oval cut (long axis diameter c.0.50m) with sharply defined top edge, steep/vertical sides to a depth of 0.60m and rounded base.

The similarity of this Feature to 1.2.30 (1317), which was the construction cut for a post pad, suggests that it is likely to have performed a similar function.

1.5.4 Context 1326

1326: 'L' shaped cut (longer element aligned approximately south-east/north-west with sharply defined top edge, steep/vertical sides to a depth of 0.45m. and flat base. SE/NW and NE/SW elements approximately 2.00m (in trench) and 1.20m long respectively.

This void represents the 'ghost' of a probable stone structure, all traces of which were subsequently removed by robbing (see below, 1.25.1 (1026)). The context was created in post-excavation, due to the fact that the form of the cut 1026 strongly suggests that its purpose was the robbing of a pre-existing feature. The stratigraphic level at which this putative wall was constructed is impossible to determine, so it has been incorporated in the matrix between 1026 and the ground surface underlying the earliest construction deposits

associated with Building X. The reasons for placing it at this point in the sequence are outlined in the Group Discussion below.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1.5.2 and 1.5.3 appear to be replacements for the earlier foundations for internal timber uprights 1.2.29 (1267) and 1.2.30 (1317). The positions of the two upper storey supports seem to have been moved approximately 0.50m south (1267/1258) and 1.00m east (1317/1251) respectively. The similarity of 1251 to 1317 and 1267 to 1258 suggests however, that the structural system remained the same, with a substantial, pad stone founded upright to the south-east supplemented by a subsidiary, probably earth-fast post further north-west (see above, 1.2.29 and 1.2.30 (1267 and 1317)).

This altered arrangement appears to have been necessary to accommodate the wall represented by 1.5.4 (1326), which impinges on the original positions. It is for this reason that 1326 has been attributed to this Group. In this new structural arrangement the orientation of the upper storey supports was shifted slightly to the west of the original, although its position moved to the south-east. This realignment appears to be reflected in the subsequent rebuilding of the south-western wall of Structure X (see below, 1.18.1). However, there is no indication of any contemporary remodelling along these lines. Although discussion is hampered by the fact that the north-western element of the original south-western wall 1032 (1.2.1. above) has been removed by the modern pipe trench 1021 (1.29.2, below), it may be that 1326 formed the new south-western limit of Building X, creating an external 'niche' in the original wall line represented by 1082 (see especially 1.18.1 (1036), below).

This structural modification seems likely to relate to developments immediately to the south-west, and may be the recess for a stair linking the ground floor of Structure Z with the upper storey of Structure X.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION Groups 4 and 5.

The construction of Structure Z and the modification to Structure X (Groups 4 and 5 respectively have been linked, being seen as part of a single, premeditated campaign of building. This saw the integration of the previously freestanding Structure X into the newly built Structure Z, the former presumably performing an ancillary function to the pad stone built hall. The fact that structural features interpreted as being components of Z occupy part of what had previously been the internal area of Y indicate that by this stage the latter had been demolished, although no contexts which could confidently be associated with this event were recognised.

The evidence for the connection of X and Z, the construction of the niche, external to X, represented by 1.5.4, suggests that access may have been via a stairway leading from the ground floor of Z to the upper storey of X. The function of X in relation to Z is of course speculative, but the provision of private living space (e.g. a Solar) attached to but distinct from the main body of Z is suggested as an explanation. The form of the composite building X/Z may thus provide some indication as to its function and use.

GROUP 6

1.6.1 Contexts 1019, 1339

1019: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising 2-3 courses of blocks of limestone and sandstone bricks and cobbles bonded with cream mortar.

North-western wall of Structure Brick.

1339: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned structure comprising a single

course of roughly shaped blocks of limestone embedded in and apparently bonded with 100% clay.

Foundation of south-western wall of Structure Brick

1.6.2 Context 1340

1340: Structure comprising closely packed edge set roof tiles embedded in 100% clay, partly edged with thicker ?floor) tiles also set on edge, and partly covered by flat laid floor tiles. The structure consists of two discrete elements which have clearly been separated by subsequent truncation.

Fireplace located against south-western wall of Structure Brick.

1.6.3 Context 1341.

1341: Irregular but recognisably linear south-east/north-west aligned structure comprising a single, somewhat meandering course of small-medium sized irregular fragments of limestone embedded in 100% brown clay.

Rough sleeper wall for timber superstructure of north-eastern wall of Structure @

1.6.4 Context 1342

1342: north-east/south-west aligned linear structure comprising several small fragments and one large block of limestone, along with a few fragments of brick and roof tile, embedded in a basal deposit of stained brown mortar.

Sleeper wall for original north-western wall of Structure @.

1.6.5 Context 1343

1343: Extensive linear south-east/north-west aligned) surface of compacted crushed limestone very clearly defined edges to south-east (between Structures Brick and @ and threshold 1.6.6), less so in north-western part of deposit. A concentration of flat laid fragments of roof tile embedded in the surface or the deposit also concentrated in the north-western area.

'Blind' alley between Structures Brick and @

1.6.6 Context 1344

1344: Rectilinear structure comprising a compacted deposit of small-large cobbles with some small boulders surfaced with flat laid fragments of roof tile and partly edged with edge set fragments of same. The south-eastern extent of the structure is unclear as it lay beyond the limit of the excavation

Interpreted as a threshold for a building situated immediately beyond the south-eastern edge of the excavated area.

1.6.7 Context 1178

1178: Roughly circular cut, vertical sided breaking sharply from top edge and similarly to flat base.

Post/stake hole. The position of this feature, immediately adjacent to the north-eastern edge of the alleyway 1.6.5, suggests that it formed part of the original layout represented by 1.6.5 and Structures Brick and @.

1.6.8 Context 1157

1157: Black 10% sand 20% silt 70% charcoal with occasional fragments of bone and mortar and occasional patches of burnt yellow/orange clay.

?Use deposit associated with Structure @. May have been associated with subsequent, Group 21 phase of that structure (see below, 1.21.13 (1151)).

GROUP 7

1.7.1 Contexts 1016, 1012, 1011

1016: Rectilinear cut, sides breaking sharply from top edge except for north-eastern slope which is more gentle, steep sides breaking gradually to a base which slopes quite steeply to the south-east.

1012: Roof tile fragments set vertically along north-eastern edge of 1016 and at an angle of c.45 degree along south-western edge.

1011: white compact 100% lumps of mortar.

These contexts are thought to comprise a footing for a structural element associated with Structure U. This attribution is based on the fact that its spatial position does not appear to fit regularly into the pattern or the components of Structure U, although on purely stratigraphic grounds it could relate to the later building.

1.7.2 Context 1017

1017: Black 100% silt with moderate Ae and charcoal fragments. Residue from ?use of Structure U, although possibly associated with construction of V.

GROUP 8

1.8.1 Context 1345

1345: Slightly green buff coloured compact 100% clay forming level deposit of irregular but roughly oval plan form

1.8.2 Context 1346

1346: Mid-brown compact 100% clay forming irregular linear south-east/north-west aligned deposit.

These deposits are interpreted as originally having formed a single deposit, subsequently separated by the insertion of the partition 1.20.11 (1349) (see below). It is this relationship with 1.20.11, apparently integral to Structure V, which has resulted in the feature represented by Group 7 having been attributed to Structure U. Additionally, the south-western edge of 1349 appears to respect the north-eastern *wall* supporting the suggestion that it belongs to a phase of the pre-V layout

1.8.3 Context 1194

1194: Roughly oval (egg-shaped) cut, gentle break in slope from top edge to steep sides narrowing to a blunt pointed base.

Post-hole

1.8.4 Context 1195

1195: Roughly oval (egg-shaped) cut, sharp break in slope from top edge to steep/vertical sides. Gradual break in slope to rounded base.

?Stake/?post hole.

1.8.5 Contexts 1196 1181

1196: Squareish (but with rounded corners) shallow cut, top edge breaking sharply to gently sloping sides which break moderately sharply to flat base.

Post hole.

1181: Mid brown friable 20% clay 80% silt with moderate flecks of charcoal and fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1196.

The fact that 1.8.5 (1196) was backfilled before the cutting of 1.8.6 (1197) suggests that the latter may represent a slight modification to the original form of the superstructure of 1.8.1 (1345).

1.8.6 Context 1197

1197: Roughly oval (egg-shaped) shallow cut, sharp break in slope from top edge to gently sloping sides which break moderately sharply to flat base.

Post hole

1.8.7 Context 1198

1198: Roughly circular shallow cut sharp break in slope from top edge to gently sloping sides which break sharply/moderately sharply to flat base.

Post hole.

These contexts series, 1.8.3–1.8.7, are post holes arranged along the eastern edge of the clay deposit 1.8.1 (1345), and have

therefore been interpreted as representing some form of superstructure associated with that layer.

GROUP 9

1.9.1 Contexts 1203 1202 1187 1192

1203: Circular cut with vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge, character of base uncertain as it was impossible to empty the feature to its full depth.

?Scaffold stake hole. This interpretation, rather than the suggestion that the feature formed part of the structure proper of Structure V has been favoured because it is sealed by the floor base 1187.

1202: Mottled light brown/grey 40% clay 60% silt with occasional flecks of charcoal and small fragments of brick and animal bone.

Backfill of 1203.

1187: Yellow/light-brown compact 25% silt 75% clay with occasional fragments of brick, roof tile and limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal.

A floor, or floor base, which is clearly contemporary with the alleyway 1.6.5 (1343) CHECK THIS to the south-east as it is precisely delimited by the north-western edge of that surface.

1192: Squareish cut with sharply defined top edge, vertical sides (undercut to south-west) tapering to pointed base.

Post hole forming part of structure represented by surface 1187.

Although much of the north-western edge of 1.9.1 (1187) had been truncated by later intrusions, a small portion of it in the vicinity of 1192 appeared to represent its original, extent thus suggesting that the latter formed part of the north-western wall of Structure W. Although 1192 is recorded as cutting 1187, the nature of the spatial and stratigraphic relationships between the two contexts allows (perhaps more likely) possibility 1187 was laid against the

post which stood in 1192, distinguishing between these scenarios being impossible in the course of excavation.

1.9.2 Context 1351.

1351: Posthole visible in SW part of oven ADD DESCRIPTION AND DISCUSSION

GROUP 10

1.10.1 Contexts 1309, 1303

1309: Burnt orange red compact 40% silt 60% clay with frequent flecks of charcoal and burnt material, occasional small fragments of tile and occasional large patches of charcoal

1303: Dark grey friable 20% silt 30% sand 50% clay with frequent flecks of charcoal, occasional flecks and small fragments of mortar and occasional small fragments of tile

1.10.2 Context 1219

1219: Void, roughly circular in plan form, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge in all quadrants apart from south-east, to a flat even base.

Described by the excavator as a later post hole, such an interpretation presents some problems: it seems unlikely to be sheer coincidence that the extent of the void mirrors almost exactly that of the tile constructed ?barrel stand 1.4.13 (1325). It is suggested that, during the activities represented by this group, whatever was supported by 1.4.13 `remained in place, and that the levelling material 1.10.3 (1217) was packed around it, some of (1217) filling a slight gap between 1.4.13 and the structure it contained. This explanation accounts for the configuration of (1325), (1217) and (1219). It necessitates the reversal of the recorded stratigraphic order of (1217) and (1219), the latter being interpreted as the 'ghost' of a structure against which (1217) accumulated, rather than a later cut which pierced it.

1.10.3 Contexts 1217, 1302, 1190, 1214

1217: Light/mid-grey friable 40% clay 60% silt with frequent flecks of charcoal and mortar, moderate small fragments of brick and tile and occasional small fragments of limestone and slag.

1302: Mixed, predominately mid-brown/grey 45% silt 55% clay with frequent patches of mortar, moderate tile, occasional flecks of charcoal, fragment of brick and animal bone.

1190: Light grey-brown compact 15% sand 85% clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar, small fragments of limestone large and small fragments of brick and tile, fragments of coal and pebbles.

1214: Light brown compact 20% sand 80% clay with occasional flecks of plaster/mortar and charcoal, small-large fragments of tile and medium Fragments of limestone.

1.10.4 Contexts 1233, 1231

1233: Very mixed, compact, mid-brown 35% silt 65% clay with moderate flecks of charcoal and burnt clay, occasional flecks of mortar and occasional tile.

1231: Dark brown/black friable-compact 40% silt 60% clay with frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional small fragments of tile. These context series represent a sequence of dumped deposits laid down in the north-eastern part of Structure Z in order to raise the floor level in association with internal modification to the building.

1.10.5 Contexts 1188, 1167.

1188: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned cut, shallow, north-western break at top and bottom, base flat, south-eastern edge removed by later disturbance. Construction cut for wall 1167. Shallow nature of the cut may suggest that the wall was set, rather than cut into the underlying deposit.

1167: 2 courses of brick (average size c. 0.25m x 0.12m x 6mm) bonded with compact, clean light grey clay with occasional fragments

of tile and limestone and occasional cobbles. Light wall footing supporting internal partition of Structure Z

1.10.6 Context 1210, 1209

1210: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned cut, shallow sides breaking gently at top and bottom with flattish but uneven base. Heavily truncated on all sides.

1209: Bricks (including some fragmentary) bonded in matrix of compact mid/dark grey-brown 15% sand 85% clay with occasional small/medium tile fragments and occasional cobbles. Wall footing for internal partition of Structure Z.

1305: mid-dark grey-brown friable 30% sand 70% silt with frequent flecks of charcoal, occasional small medium sized patches of sand, small cobbles and small limestone fragments.

Possible use of eastern chamber of Structure Z, represented by material raked from hearth 1.4.12 (1312). 'Use' may, however, be something of a misnomer - the deposit may simply represent the raking out of the last burning of the hearth in order to spread the material around to level the ground surface - see Group 11 discussion below.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The contexts of this group represent the raising of the internal floor level of the north-eastern end of Structure Z, and the insertion of partition walls dividing this part of the Structure into discrete rooms. The possible existence of such divisions in the earlier phase has been mentioned above (see Group 4 Discussion) but the first definite evidence for their existence to the south-east and north-east of pad stone 1.4.2 (1211) does not occur until Group 10. It seems likely that the original partition 1.4.9 (1332) was retained through this phase; although it was in time replaced by a brick sleeper wall (1.19.1 (1199)), the constructional characteristics of the latter structure differ significantly from those of Group 10, and it has therefore been attributed to a later phase (see below, Group 19).

Two features of this phase of dumping and construction are of especial interest. Firstly, although some of the dumped material partly impinges on the original hearth 1.4.12 (1312), it did not do so to the extent that the functioning of this structure would have been compromised. Indeed, potential evidence for the actual use of this part of the building in this phase is limited to material interpreted as the rakings from 1.4.12. Secondly the patchy nature of the dumped deposits 1.10.3-1.10.4, which hardly seem appropriate as a permanent floor surface suggest either that the subsequent phase of use was very short-lived, or that those layers underlay a solid flagstone) floor during the contemporary phase of use. Given the restricted evidence available it is difficult to choose between these interpretations, but the solid floor option is pursued in connection with Group 11 – see below. In this instance the hearth rakings 1305 are more likely to represent the spreading of material which had accumulated on the hearth in the previous phase of use than a distinct burst of activity associated with Group 10.

GROUP 11

1.11.1 Contexts 1250, 1257, 1256, 1248, 1247, 1244, 1243, 1242

1250: Friable, dark, grey/brown 60% silt 40% clay with frequent flecks of mortar, frequent large and small tile fragments and occasional, small tile fragments and occasional small fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1.5.3 (1251)

1257: Compact-friable 70% clay 30% silt with moderate flecks of charcoal, occasional flecks of mortar and occasional fragments of limestone.

Backfill off 1.5.2 (1258).

1256: Loose yellow-white 100% mortar with very occasional very small fragments of limestone

Construction derived deposit

1248: Compact, light brown 90% clay 10% silt with frequent flecks of mortar and charcoal and occasional fragments of limestone

1247: Loose dark brown 90% silt 10% clay with moderate charcoal flecks.

The restricted extent and the characteristics of these deposits suggest that they, like 1256, are the result of constructional activity

1244: Compact-friable dark brown/black 60% silt 40% clay with frequent small patches of green sand, moderate flecks of charcoal, occasional flecks of mortar and occasional large fragments of tile.

This extensive deposit, which covers much of the central area of the interior of Building X, could, like 1.3.1 (1261) above, be seen as material accumulating during a period of abandonment. However, it differs from that context in its greater degree of compaction and frequency of coarse components: this would seem to argue against the 'natural' process of formation posited for 1.3.1 which led to the suggestion that it indicated abandonment. Additionally, although extensive, the layer is concentrated in the central and south-eastern area of the structure in which the greatest degree of slumping was in evidence. In combination with the fact that the deposit is directly overlain by the mortar floor base 1.11.2 (1058), this all points to 1244 representing a deliberate dump of material deposited to level the ground surface prior to the laying of a floor.

1243: Friable, black/dark brown 80% silt 20% clay with frequent flecks of mortar, moderate fragments of tile and occasional flecks of charcoal.

1242: Friable, light grey-brown 70% clay 20% silt 10% sand with frequent flecks of mortar and moderate fragments of tile.

Deposits very limited in extent, situated in the central area of Structure X and probably the result of constructional activity.

1.11.2 Context 1058

1058: Compact loose 100% yellow-white and green-yellow mortar with moderate small/medium fragments of limestone.

The interpretation of this deposit as a floor base—possibly the bedding for a tiled surface rests largely on its extent. Although patchy, the context is present over much of the internal area of Structure X, in contrast with the very restricted distributions of mortar evident in earlier constructional episodes. This suggests that, rather than simply being material subject to accidental spillage, it represents a deliberate deposition. This argument requires, however, that the intermittent nature of 1058 be explained as a floor base should, presumably, evenly cover the interior of the building. If the suggestion that 1058 originally carried a tiled floor is accepted (although no tiles were discovered in situ), the robbing of this surface, involving the accidental removal of underlying mortar adhering to the tiles, may account for the ultimate patchiness of the deposit. In spite of this interpretation, however, the possibility that the context is simply a construction deposit still remains; although see 1.11.4 and 1.11.6 below.

1.11.3 Contexts 1144, 1139

1144: wall forming three sides of a subterranean structure abutting south-eastern (outer) face of wall 10B4 (see 1.2.1, above), constructed of limestone blocks of various sizes and degrees of deliberate cutting including reused architectural fragments

1139: 40% Medium sized limestone fragments in a matrix of 40% compact yellow-brown clay with 20% compacted orange ?iron pan, situated in base of rectilinear void created by 1144.

These contexts comprise the sides and impervious base to a latrine/garderober attached to the outer wall of Structure X. Its function is testified to by the 'cessy' staining of the sides and base, and by the character of some of the fills excavated from the feature (see 1.11.7 below)

1.11.4 Contexts 1238, 1236, 1186

1238: Shallow, north-east/south-west cut, c.1.60m in length, max. width 0.30m and narrowing to south-west, abutting wall 1084 on its north-western (internal) face.

1236: Compact, 50% light brown clay 30% burnt orange clay 29% black silty clay with moderate flecks of charcoal and occasional small fragments of charcoal.

1186: Six complete (although in some instances broken) ?Floor tiles set at an angle of approximately 45 degrees into 1236.

The function of this feature is open to question, although the fact that its linear extent on the south-western side of wall 1084 exactly mirrors that of latrine 1.11.3 on the north-eastern side suggests that the two are closely linked. The most likely interpretation would seem to be that it formed part of the threshold to a newly created opening in wall 1084 designed to provide access to the superstructure which presumably covered latrine 1.11.3. It is of interest that 1186 protruded above surrounding deposits (in particular 1.11.9) by several centimetres. This can clearly not have been the case when the building was in use, and argues that the floor level contemporary with 1.11.4 was commensurately higher; in other words that there may have been a solid, presumably tiled Floor which was completely robbed when the building was finally abandoned and demolished.

1.11.5 Context 1037

1037: One course of five bricks, with very fragmentary second course, aligned north-east/south-west and laid directly on wall 1084.

Part of threshold into superstructure of latrine 1.11.3 (possibly a step?) also evidenced by 1.11.4

1.11.6 Contexts 1137, 1099

1137: Square, steep sided and flat bayed cut measuring 0.50m x 0.50m x c.0.15m deep.

1099: Flat laid (in base) and edge set (against edges) brick and floor tiles, bonded with mortar and forming 'lining' to cut 1137. Clearly burnt.

This feature was interpreted on site as a small hearth, due to the very evident traces on burning it displayed. However, there are reasons for suggesting that it actually represents the footing for a wooden upright.

Firstly, its 'socket like' character, suitable for receiving the base of a structural timber 0.30m x 0.30m and secondly its position, only fractionally to the north of that of 1.5.3 (1251), the robbing cut of the preceding upper storey support which had by this time been removed. The edge set tile protruded some 0.05m above the surrounding deposits (including putative floor base 1.11.2 (1058) again implying the former existence of a solid floor subsequently robbed. The evidence of burning which led to the original interpretation as a hearth may be the result of events associated with the demolition of the building (see below, 1.18.3; it is worth noting that 1236 (above 1.11.4) also exhibited indications of having been burnt which would not appear to relate to its function.

1.11.7 Context 1126

1126: Friable, dark brown and green 50% silt 50% organic material with occasional, flecks of mortar. Material derived directly from use of latrine.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This Group appears to represent the second major remodelling of Structure X. The link made between 1.11.3 and 1.11.4 is crucial in that it ties the otherwise 'free-floating' latrine into this particular rebuild. This has possible implications for the changing form of Structure X. It is unclear whether 1.2.4 (1329), the wall extending south-east from wall 1084 (1.2.1), formed part of a rear chamber to the structure, or simply defined the north-western limit of a yard. As the former interpretation has been favoured, the insertion of a latrine within this area may suggest that, by this stage of the building's history the rear chamber had been

demolished. However, the possibility of an internal latrine cannot be discarded completely.

? MODIFY THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH ?

The discussions appended to 1.11.4 and 1.11.6 seems to lend some support to the argument that 1.11.2 represents the remnants or mortar bedding for a tiled floor. The limits of the deposit are in this case of interest. 1.11.2 appears to be delimited by 1.5.4 (1326) possibly supporting the suggestion (see Group 5 Discussion, above) that the construction of 1.5.4 redefined the south-western limit of Structure X, and that the 'external' niche thus created relates to Structure Z to the south-west. The positioning of this Group, given that it could be broadly contemporary with any between 6 and 18, has been determined by the fact that it represents significant structural alterations to Structure X, and is therefore seen as most likely to be associated with the similarly extensive refurbishment of Structure Z represented by Group 10.

GROUP 12

1.12.1 Contexts 1284, 1980

1284: Compact loose 100% course, yellow-stained white mortar with occasional fragments of brick and tile, patches of clay and fragments of limestone and sandstone.

Possibly a floor surface in itself, but perhaps more probably the base for a solid floor surviving as a rectilinear deposit it has clearly been truncated to the north-west by the later robbing out 1134 and may therefore originally have extended as far as the partition wall 1.10.5 (1167). Its original extent to the north-east is far less certain. Although subsequent (?modern deposits in this area of the site were very close to the base level of 19th/20th century activity) erosion may have been responsible for this, it is possible that it was delimited by the existence of a smoke hood, represented by pads tones *** and ****, for hearth 1.4.12 (1312). Alternatively, given that the extent of 1284 corresponds closely to that of the overlying hearths 1.13.4 (1241 and 1235) and 1.14.3 (1222), it may have been protected from erosion which removed they

deposit to the south-east by these relatively solid resistant structures.

The eastern edge of 1284 slightly overlaps the western extremity of 1331 (1.2.2), the solid internal surface of Structure Y which seems to have been retained to form part of the floor to Structure Z.

Accepting, given the arguments presented above, that 1284 may originally have covered the whole or the area between 1331 and the partition wall 1.10.6 (1209), 1284 seems likely to represent an attempt to consolidate the surface of this area to a standard similar to that of 1331, in order to prevent irregularities in the floor surface resulting from the slumping of the underlying deposits. It would appear possible or even probable, that it formed a base for a solid (?tile or flagstone) floor rather than representing a surface in its own right.

1280: Post pipe void, rectilinear in plan form, vertical eastern edge, all others sloping more gently to pointed base, this slope interrupted by a slight horizontal ledge, broadening to the western edge. May have formed part of ?internal partition.

1277: Grey- brown, friable, 20% clay 80% silt with occasional flecks of mortar/plaster and charcoal and small crushed fragments of limestone, brick and tile.

Backfill or 1280.

1276: Linear cut, aligned south-east/north-west, turning through 90 degrees (to the north-east) at extreme north-western end. Sides break gently from surface falling sharply to imperceptible bottom edge leading to a rounded base.

Slot, probably for small sill beam indicating wooden partition.

This internal division extends from the extreme south-western end of 1330 (1.3.2), the foundation of the north-western wall of Structure V which was demolished prior to the construction of Structure Z. It is suggested that the partition implied by 1276 was also carried on 1330, thus forming a right-angled division within this room. The argument is supported by the fact that the short NE/SW aligned 'arm'

of 1276 begins from a point contiguous with that to which 1330 was exposed by the subsequent robbing cut 1.17.1 (1134). This would seem to indicate the reuse of 1330 as the base for an internal partition, 1276 being cut in order to receive the SE/NW aligned element or the superstructure. The fact that 1330 was exposed at this juncture, whereas the original SW wall of Structure Y (represented in excavated deposits only by 1.2.3 (1333) but observed in the sides or later intrusions over much or its length (see 1.2.3, above) was not, remaining buried beneath subsequent dumped deposits, has implications for the point at which the large subterranean feature indicated by, the existence of 1.17.1 (1134) was constructed. See below (1.12.2) for further discussion of this.

The earlier, backfilled stake hole 1280 may simply represent an episode in the construction of the partition (e.g. a temporary scaffold post, but it is possibly an indication of a predecessor or 1276 which utilised ground fast up rights. It has not, however, been seen as significant enough to justify the allocation of a separate context series, there being no other indications of an earlier phase or partition.

1.12.2 Context 1335

1335: Rectilinear cut, long axis aligned NNE-SSW, sides breaking sharply from surface and falling vertically to form a slight lip. Beyond this point angle of slope varies from steep- gradual (see plan 1134). In plan form the cut tapers to the SSW, with a rounded terminal at that end. The break in slope at the bottom of the cut is almost imperceptible, leading to a gently rounded base.

This feature is interpreted as the robbed 'ghost' of a solid (presumably stone) structure originally embedded substantially below the floor surface of the extreme eastern chamber of Structure Z. Positioned, as it is, immediately adjacent to and parallel with the internal partition 1.10.5 (1167), it is suggested that the feature represents the footing for a staircase leading up the side of that wall to the upper chambers of Structure Z. The argument that 1.17.1 (1134) is not simply a later feature, serving a purpose unrelated to Structure Z, rests on the concordance of the dimensions and location

of 1.17.1 with those of the eastern chamber of Structure Z, and its apparently coherent spatial relationship to 1276 (1.12.1 see above) demonstrably an early, albeit not original, component of that chamber.

1.12.3 Context 1208

1208: Oval post pipe void, sides breaking sharply from surface, vertical/steep sides on south north and west, more gentle on east, imperceptible break to rounded point base. The position of this post pipe suggests that it formed part of the superstructure (a handrail support?) for the stair case which 1.12.2 is believed to represent the robbed foundation of.

1.12.4 Contexts 1143 1141

1143: Mid brown compact 30% silt 70% clay with occasional sand inclusions and moderate flecks of limestone.

Construction backfill/packing of feature robbed by 1141.

1141: north-east/south-west aligned possibly linear (truncated at south-eastern end) cut, long sides steep with clean break of slope from top edge, western slope more gradual with less clearly defined top edge. Gradual break of sloped to flat base on all sides.

The function of this feature is unclear. Stratigraphically it could be associated with Structure Y or Z, cut as it is into 1331, the original floor of Structure Y re-used in Z. It has been associated with Z on the basis of the fact that 1141 was not backfilled, thus levelling the surface of 1331, until after the partition represented by 1276(1.12.1) had been demolished; it seems unlikely that, with 1331 in use as an internal floor of Structure Z, such a feature from a previous form of the building would be left open for so long.

If, however, the feature is seen as the robbing cut of a feature set into the floor 1331 (1.2.2) (suggested by the construction backfill 1143), this argument loses some its force, and it could belong to either Y or Z; this possibility cannot be dismissed, but the context has none the less been attributed to the later phase for the reasons outlined above. Even when the context is seen as the robbed 'ghost'

of a solid structure, it seems on balance to be more likely that it relates to the later Structure (Z) than that a feature integral to Structure Y survived incorporation into a new building with a completely different form and presumably function. Although 1141 appears to have been impinged upon by the Structure Z upright support 1.4.1 (1327), which would clearly insist that it be attributed to Structure Y, it is in fact the robbing cut of the pad stone, 1.17.2 (1092) which cuts 1141, and the latter can thus be quite acceptably seen as a component of the later building.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This Group represents the sub division of the extreme eastern chamber of Structure Z, a chamber first defined in Group 4 by the construction of the partition wall 1.10.5 (1167) and 1.10.6 (1209). As such it may simply represent the continuation of the activities of that Group, but has been kept separate due to the possibility that there was an intervening phase of use (represented by 1.10.7 (1305)), even though this interpretation has not been favoured. The structural features represented in this group appear to divide the chamber into two distinct areas; an 'L' shaped zone, the arms of which run parallel and adjacent to 1.10.5 (1167) and 1.10.6 (1209), defined by 1.12.2 (1335) and 1.12.1 (1276) respectively, and the (roughly square) remainder of the original chamber. The Function of the latter is unclear the only apparent trace of activity being an enigmatic robbed structure (1.19.4 (1141) but the former is suggested as indicating a SE-NW aligned corridor or passageway, leading to a staircase set at 90 degrees to the line of the corridor at its north-western end.

This interpretation clearly has implication for the status of the Group 10 deposits which accumulated in the area of the putative corridor; it insists that the hearth 1.4.12 (1312) was no longer used, and strongly favours the argument that this feature and the dumped deposits 1.10.1 (1303) represent material originally sealed by a subsequently robbed solid floor.

GROUP 13

1.13.1 Contexts 1271, 1293, 1252, 1249

1271: Light grey-brown compact 35% silt 65% clay with occasional large cobbles, medium-sized fragments of tile, small/medium sized fragments of limestone and flecks of charcoal, plaster/mortar and decayed sandstone.

Backfill of 1.12.1 (1276)

1293: Light orange-brown compact 40% sand 60% clay with occasional large

cobbles, medium-sized fragments of tile, small fragments of limestone and flecks of plaster/mortar and moderate flecks of charcoal. Basic matrix appears very similar to 1271; may be the same material subsequently burnt.

1252: Red-brown, blue streaked and compact 50% silt 50% clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar and occasional small fragments of tile.

1249: Mid-brown Friable 40% clay 60% silt with occasional flecks of charcoal, plaster/mortar and crushed brick, moderate small fragments of limestone with occasional larger fragments, moderate-small fragments of tile with occasional larger fragments.

These contexts represent restricted dumped deposits, presumably laid down to level the internal floor surface of the eastern chamber of Structure Z. There is some indication of their having been truncated to the east (see below, 1.14.3), but their western edges appear to reflect their original extent.

1.13.2 Contexts 1246, 1245

1246: Shallow cut, roughly square in plan form, southern edge breaking sharply from surface and falling vertically, other edges displaying more gentle break in slope from surface and falling steeply. Break in slope to flat but uneven varies from sharp to gradual, the base itself sloping gently to the west in a series of uneven steps.

Construction cut for post-pad 1245.

1245: 4 large blocks of limestone bonded with and bedded on a loose white sandy mortar, the remaining gaps filled with loose dark grey 20% sand 30% clay 50% silt with frequent flecks of mortar. A fifth block of limestone set slightly apart to the north seems to have been dislodged from the main group, possibly when the later intrusion 1.26.20 (1229) was excavated.

Post-pad

The position of this structure, precisely the same distance to the south-east of 1.4.2 (1211) as 1.4.10 (1333) is to the north-west, suggests that, like the latter, it should form part of the original layout of Structure Z. However, its stratigraphic position, cut through dumped deposits which appear to relate to the second reordering of the internal layout of the building prohibits this interpretation. It is possible that 1245 represents a replacement or an original, stratigraphically earlier post pad of which no trace remains. Extending this line of thought, it is of interest that the two stones which form the south-western element of 1245 differ from the rest in being larger and laid with their Flat surfaces upwards, contrasting with the smaller, irregularly laid and positioned Fragments to the north-east. It may be suggested that the south-western components represent the post pad associated with the original construction of the building, the rest being inserted to provide consolidation at a later stage. The replacement or the original timber upright, or its realignment due to structural distortion, provides a possible context for such a modification.

If this is accepted, it is worth noting that the proposed 'earlier' elements of 1245 could stratigraphically be placed with the original layout of the building: by analogy with 1.4.10 (1333) it may be suggested that 1245 performed a dual function, also serving as a doorpost for an opening immediately to the south-east. The evidence is, however, considered to be sufficiently ambiguous to preclude the post-excavation subdivision of the context and the transfer of part of it to the earlier phase. See Group 4 discussion (above) for more

detailed consideration of the original internal layout of Structure Z.

1.13.3 Context 1347

1347: Shallow, curving cut, long axis aligned south-east/ north-west, steep sides and virtually flat base, south-western element of cut truncated.

'Ghost' of robbed stone threshold.

If 1.13.2 (1245) is regarded as having formed part of the original layout of Structure Z (see discussion above), this feature could equally well belong to that phase, the more so in that the precise level from which the feature was cut is unclear due to its subsequent robbing. The position of the original hearth 1.4.12 (1312), immediately to the north-east of the doorway, does, however argue against this suggestion

1.13.4 Contexts 1241, 1240, 1235, 1228, 1227

1241: Roof tiles set on edge in clean, burnt clay forming roughly rectilinear feature (south-eastern edge truncated), occasional medium-large fragments of brick and small-large fragments of limestone also embedded in the clay. Layer of ashy material, yellow in the centre of the feature but changing to dark brown around the edges overlying the structure.

Hearth. Apparently laid directly on underlying dumped deposits - no indication of it having been cut into the surface.

1240: Rectilinear cut, eastern and southern sides breaking and falling sharply, imperceptible break in slope to an uneven although largely flat base falling in irregular steps to the north. Northern and western sides removed by later disturbance.

Construction cut for hearth 1235

1235: Burnt, edge set roof tiles in a matrix of dark red-brown compact clay containing occasional fragments of brick and flecks of coal and charcoal with a rough edging of flat laid roof tile. A deposit of yellow brown compacted ash in the centre of the feature

Hearth and associated use deposit. Although clearly two separate features, these contexts have been amalgamated into a single series as they appear to represent sustained activity of the same type, 1235 being seen as a direct replacement of 1241. Replacement may have been necessary due to the reduction of the tile firing surface to powder due to repeated firings; relatively few edge set roof tiles appear to survive in either case. The exact purpose of the kilns is however unclear, other than that they seem likely to have performed industrial rather than domestic functions.

1228: Mid-gray/brown compact 20% silt 80% clay with moderate fragments of tile, moderate medium-sized fragments of limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal. Although this deposit is, technically, stratigraphically above hearth 1235, it actually abuts that structure rather than seals it, and has therefore been interpreted as a dumped deposit associated with the levelling of the floor surface during the phase of use represented by that hearth.

1227: Black/dark grey friable 20% sand 80% silt with frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional small fragments of tile.

Use deposit representing material raked from hearth 1235.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This Group sees a significant reorganisation of the eastern chamber of Structure Z. Firstly, it is clear that the Group 12 partition 1.12.1 (1276) is removed, a series of dumped deposits extending over the line of this feature. Further, if slight structural modifications may be indicated by the post pad 1.13.2 (1245) (see discussion above). The new 'open' room appears to have been utilised for some form of industrial activity evidenced by the hearths, which appear to have been built close against the still standing (and possibly Functioning: see below 1.14.4 (1336)) staircase. The possibility of the reuse of the original hearth 1.4.12 (1312), the burning surface of which appears to have remained unencumbered in this phase, should be mentioned in this context. However, the position of the doorway represented by threshold 1.13.3 (1347) seems to render this suggestion unlikely. Once again, the nature of the

floor surface in this phase is unclear and the question of whether or not the dumped deposits were originally sealed by a solid floor remains open.

GROUP 14

1.14.1 Context 1226.

1226: Mid-brown compact 40% silt 60% clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar and occasional fragments of tile. Dumped deposit laid down to raise level of hearth 1222, and possibly entire floor surface.

1.14.2 Contexts 1138, 1133, 1128

1138: Red-brown/grey varying 25/40% silt 75/60% clay with occasional tile fragments, occasional flecks of charcoal and moderate flecks of limestone

1133: 60% black clay (20%) silt (80%) 40% grey-brown clay with moderate fragments of tile, occasional small fragments of limestone and occasional

Flecks of charcoal.

1128: Grey-brown 100% clay with occasional fragments of limestone, brick and tile, occasional cobbles and occasional flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.12.4 (1141). These deposits clearly indicate the cessation of use of 1.12.4, and are interpreted as backfill/makeup associated with the laying of floor 1.14.3 (1222) see below).

1.14.3 Contexts 1224, 1223, 1222

1224: Pale cream, friable sandy mortar with moderate clay inclusions, occasional fragments of limestone and tile and occasional charcoal flecks

Mortar bedding for hearth and possibly contemporary floor surface

These two deposits may well be the remnants of originally more extensive deposits laid down to raise and level the internal floor

surface subsequent to the cessation of the activities represented by 1.13.4 (1241/1235); see discussion of 1222).

1223: Shallow oval cut with gently sloping sides and rounded base, gentle break of slope from surface. Impression left in underlying deposits by edging of hearth 1222.

1222: north-east/south-west aligned line of Flat laid bricks (1); edge-set roof tiles set in yellow-grey compact clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and fragments of tile (2) to south-east. Flat laid irregular limestone slabs forming parallel, alignment (3) to north-west. Structure clearly truncated on all sides.

The 3 separate components of this context are interpreted as follows:

- (1) Edging of hearth
- (2) Firing surface of hearth
- (3) Possible remnant of contemporary floor surface

The significance of this context is twofold: Firstly, components (1) and (2) clearly represent a hearth distinct from 1241 and 1235 in both the regularity of its arrangement and its location. 1222 appears to be a remnant of a rectilinear hearth with substantial brick edging positioned against the internal partition wall which runs south-east from pad stone 1.4.2 (1211), and thus seems more likely to represent a domestic fireplace than a structure associated with manufacturing activity, the purpose inferred for the much less regular hearths 1241 and 1235. Component (3) is interpreted as the only surviving remnant of a Floor surface of irregular limestone slabs which originally covered a much wider area within the room. This rests on the assumption that the rest of the Floor was removed by subsequent truncation, a suggestion supported by the fact that the surface of 1222 stood proud of surrounding contexts by somemms and by the fact that it betrayed clear evidence of truncation on all sides. It is possible that some of this truncation was caused by machining prior to manual excavation.

1.14.4 Context 1336

1336: Originally ?rectilinear cut (truncated severely to north-west and north-east , slightlysouth-eastern edge. more gradual slope on south-western. slightly 'saucered' base. Small circular element on eastern corner of feature probably an associated post hole. 'Ghost' of wall blocking entrance to stairway, robbed by 1148.

This context was created in post-excavation on the assumption that the later feature 1.15.1- (1148) (see below) represents the robbing of a solid structure. This argument is supported to some extent by the regular form of that feature, and in particular by its position and alignment, which seem to relate directly to the layout of the eastern chamber of Structure Z, thus suggesting that it represents more than an arbitrary later intrusion such as a rubbish pit. If this is true, the stratigraphic and spatial position of 1.15.1 (1148) indicate that whatever was robbed by it may be earlier than, contemporary with or later than 1.14.3 (1222), but must post date 1.13.4 (1235), the later of the ?industrial hearths. It is therefore suggested that (1.13.4) was constructed against the superstructure of staircase 1.14.4 (1336), which may have remained open throughout this phase, but that the entrance to the stair was blocked at the time of the remodelling of which 1.14.3 (1222) is the clearest evidence.

1.14.5 Contexts 1159 1149

1159: Shallow, curving cut, long axis aligned south-east/north-west element of cut truncated.

Robbing cut of threshold represented by 1.13.3 (1347).

1149: Mid brown compact 15% silt 95% clay with moderate Fragments of tile and Flecks of mortar, occasional Flecks of charcoal and Fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1159. This would seem, on the basis of the relative scarcity of coarse components, to have been a deliberate deposition rather than the chance accumulation of demolition debris in an open hole. It has for this reason been associated with Group 14, 1149

having a greater similarity to layers in this Group than to later, apparently demolition derived contexts. A possible reason for the removal of a threshold from a building which subsequently continues in use is the extension of a continuous floor (in this case 1.14.3 (1222) from one room into another.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This group represents another major reorganisation of the eastern chamber of Structure Z; the interpretation of 1.14.3 (1222) as a Fireplace, based on its Form and position, suggests a return to some form of 'domestic' layout and Function, as distinct from the small scale industrial activity of Group 13. Although this is based on a very restricted area of surviving, stratification, the switch from free standing hearth to a ?wall-fast fireplace would appear to be decisive.

The interpretation of the irregular limestone slabs which form a component of 1.14.3 (1222) as being the remnant of a much more extensive floor clearly implies a great deal (in terms of area if not depth) of subsequent truncation. The survival of such a restricted patch of flooring (and associated hearth) may be the result of their having been an (?heavy) object resting on it which prevented its removal .

Speculating further, it may be that the original extent of this putative floor complemented that of 1.4.9 (1332), this solid and deep deposit continuing to survive as an effective internal surface. Finally, the removal of the threshold represented by the robbing cut 1.14.5 (1159) may suggest that continuous flooring extended through this doorway and into the chamber immediately to the south-west.

GROUP 15

1.15.1 Contexts 1148, 1145

1148: Originally ?rectilinear cut (truncated severely to north-west and south-eastern edge, more gradual slope on south-western corner of feature probably an associated post hole.

Removal of blocking 1.14.4(1336)

1145: Context comprising 3 distinct deposits removed as one due to time pressure on excavation. These were (From bottom to top);

(3) Mixed, light/mid-brown Friable 100% silt with frequent oyster shells, moderate Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of tile.

(2) Mid-grey/brown 100% clay with occasional Flecks of charcoal and Fragments of tile.

(1) Dark brown/black Friable 100% silt with Frequent Flecks of charcoal and moderate Fragments of slag.

These are interpreted as Follows:

(3) Material accumulating in open robbing cut.

(2) Deliberate dumping to restore Floor level.

(1) Rakings from hearth accumulating in depression in surface.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This activity would seem to indicate the reopening and continued use of the staircase subsequent to the reorganisation of the chamber marked by 1.14.3 (1222), the phase during which it appears to have been blocked in the First place. No other levels or Feature likely to be contemporary with this event can be recognised; it may be that it represents a brief use of the staircase prior to its demolition. The ashy deposit (3) deriving from one or the Final Firings of 1.14.3 before Structure Z was demolished.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

Groups 10, 12, 13, 14, 15

These groups comprise a succession of recognisable, and in some cases substantial modifications to and reorganisations of the internal layout of Structure Z. The changes in function which they seem to imply are unclear, but a few general points can usefully be made. From an originally 'open plan' arrangement (excepting the separation of the north-eastern end from the rest by 1.4.9 (1332)), the building is partly subdivided into discrete rooms or chambers

(Group 10), creating a broad division between the bays Fronting the Medieval precursor of Grape Lane (which remain open) and those to the rear (which do not). Subsequent modifications (Groups 12 – 15) appear to be largely restricted to the rear bays, suggesting frequent changes of Function; contrasting with the relative stability indicated by the lack of change in the layout of the bays nearer the street Frontage. Attempting to characterise these varying activities is at present entirely speculative, but a probable shift from a domestic (Groups 10 and 12) to a manufacturing (Group 13) Function, returning to domestic usage in Group 14 seems supportable.

GROUP 16

1.16.1 Contexts 1185, 1168, 1169, 1095, 1102

1185: A 'laminated' context comprising 3 deposits excavated as one due to time pressure on the excavation. The deposits are described as Follows (reading from bottom to top):

(3) Mid-brown compact 100% clay

(2) Mid brown friable 50% sand 50% gravel with a patch of mid-grey sand incorporated in the matrix, moderate pebbles and occasional small Fragments of limestone

(1) Mid orange-brown 20% silt 80% clay with moderate Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of limestone and tile

These deposits are interpreted as follows:

(3) Levelling of ground surface following subsidence into underlying Feature

(2) Relaying of ?external surface

(1) Further levelling due to subsidence.

This composite deposit is interpreted as being external to Structures Y and Z, (see discussion appended to 1.4.1 (1327)), and represents levelling and resurfacing activities in this yard. Refer also to discussion appended to 1.2.7 (1193) for material accumulating prior to this resurfacing.

1166: Mid orange brown compact mixed 100% clay with moderate Fragments of tile, occasional Fragments of limestone and animal bone, occasional mortar Flecks and patches of brown sand.

Dumped deposit, possibly for resurfacing of ?yard with ?Flagstones.

1169: Roughly shaped rectilinear block of limestone, dimensions c.0.30m x c.0.20m.

Pad stone support for ?lean-to structure associated with Structure Z

1095: Mid orange brown compact 100% clay with frequent flecks of mortar, occasional flecks of charcoal, occasional fragments of limestone and tile

1102: Orange brown compact 100%clay with Frequent Flecks of mortar and limestone, occasional Fragments or tile and animal bone, occasional flecks of charcoal and pebbles.

These two deposits were equated on the context cards and appear likely to have performed a similar Function to 1168, Probably representing a re-levelling; although it extends slightly further to the south-west than the other deposits in this Group, it still does not transgress the line or the north-eastern wall on Structure Z, and this fact combined with the character of the deposits suggests that it is more likely to represent levelling than demolition.

GROUP DISCUSSION

All of these deposits appear to post date the Demolition of Structure Y and the construction of Structure Z on the basis that none extend beyond the line of the putative north-eastern wall of the latter (see discussion appended to 1.4.1. (1327) above). They have therefore all been interpreted in the content of an external yard and are seen as successive levelling and resurfacing deposits. Under these circumstances the clay deposit 1168 is perhaps best seen as the base For a subsequently robbed solid surface, probably of Flat stones, and the pad stone 1169 as a component of a small lean to associated with that surface although it seems Futile to speculate on the likely nature` of such a structure. Any of the

contexts in this group could be contemporary with any of the phases of internal reorganisation of Structure Z.

GROUP 17

1.17.1 Contexts 1207, 1134, 1123

1207: Mid/dark brown Friable-15% sand 25% clay 60% silt with occasional cobbles, Flecks of charcoal and mortar and small Fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1.12.3 (1208) interpreted as part of structure of staircase.

This would therefore appear to represent the First stage of its dismantling.

1134: Rectilinear cut, long axis aligned NNE-SSW. sides breaking sharply from surface and falling vertically to form a slight lip. Beyond this point angle of slope varies from steep gradual (see plan 1134). In plan form the cut tapers to the SSW, with a rounded terminal at that end. The break in slope at the bottom of the cut is almost imperceptible, leading to a gently rounded base.

The robbing of the foundation of the staircase represented by 1.12.2 (1335)

1123: Orange-brown compact 100% clay with moderate small/medium roof tile fragments and flecks of mortar, occasional large fragments of brick and roof tile, occasional small fragments of brick and small/medium fragments of mortar, occasional small cobbles and flecks of charcoal.

The character of this deposit, especially the absence of domestic rubbish suggests a deliberate levelling episode. Such an operation may have been carried out in order to create a level surface in the external 'yard' suggested by the existence of 1.18.9 (1176) (see below). The roof tile Fragments referred to were concentrated on the surface of the deposit, and probably indicate the subsequent collapse of the roof, having been saved from removal by subsequent

disturbance due to 1123 having subsided into 1134 {see Group 17 discussion, below}.

1.17.2 Contexts 1092, 1091, 1087, 1080

1092: Sub rectangular cut, sharp break in slope From top edge, NE, SE and SW sides steep/vertical, NW a more gentle slope and slightly truncated, gradual break in slope to Flat base.

Robbing cut for pad stone represented by 1.4.1 (1327)

1091: Mid grey brown compact 30% silt 70% clay with Frequent Flecks and Fragments of limestone, occasional Fragments of tile and animal bone and occasional Flecks or charcoal

Backfill of robbing cut 1092.

1087: Shallow depression, roughly circular in plan form, perceptible break in slope from top edge, very gentle slope to saucer profiled base.

A depression caused by the slumping of the underlying backfill 1091.

1080: Dark brown Friable 20% silt 80% sand with moderate Flecks of charcoal, occasional clay inclusions, small Fragments of tile and limestone, Flecks of mortar and Fragments of animal bone.

Backfill of depression 1087.

1.17.3 Context 1068

1068 Variable matrix of dark brown silt/sand/clay, increasingly clayey towards south, clay content 100% in south-east area of deposit, incorporating moderate fragments of tile/brick and limestone, occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar, occasional cobbles and fragments of concrete.

Material ?derived from demolition of Structure Z

The presence of concrete fragments in this deposit led the excavator to record the entire context as being the result of modern intrusion. However, it is suggested that the bulk of the deposit

does in fact relate to the demolition of Structure Z, the concrete being intrusive to 1068, possibly as a result of the pre-excavation machining. The pure clay element of the context seems likely to equate with that evident in 1.26.5 (1052), and should probably more properly belong with that context; both deposits were excavated hurriedly as being 'merely' demolition derived. The context could equally belong to the subsequent demolition episode represented by Group 26.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The contexts in this group are interpreted as having derived from the demolition of the south-eastern bays of Structure Z, a statement which carries with it the implication that the north-western..... been two stages of demolition is not conclusive, but has nonetheless been Favoured. The reasons can be summarised as follows;

-1165, the backfill of the cess pit 1.18.9 (1176) appears to consist of demolition debris, and is itself sealed beneath an extensive spread of similar material. Since 1.18.9 must have been excavated after the demolition of the room at Structure Z which previously occupied the immediate vicinity, but is covered with demolition deposits, two phases of demolition are hinted at.

- 1123, the backfill of the staircase robbing cut 1.17.1 (1134), appears to be a deliberate levelling deposit rather than simply an accidental accumulation of demolition material. As the removal of the staircase seems to have been one of the last events which occurred whilst the eastern chamber of Structure Z was still standing, this levelling has been seen as that of an external area. Since the surface of 1123 is littered with large fragments of roof tile it would seem that some roof collapse occurred after the levelling, and therefore post dates the use of the area as an external yard, indicating subsequent demolition.

- both 1.17.2 (1092), the robbing of the Structure Z pad stone, and the cess pit 1.18.9 (1176) were sealed by large quantities of demolition debris which predate the construction of the later building Structure ? (e.g. 1.26.5 (1052)). This has been interpreted

as the spreading around of debris to create a roughly level surface in advance of building, and again indicates the demolition of a structure after the south-eastern bay(s) of Z had been removed.

These arguments rest on two primary assumptions; Firstly, that all the post 1.18.9 (1176) demolition debris is more or less in situ, not having been imported From elsewhere and secondly that the levelling of the staircase robbing cut 1.17.1 (1134) did occur in an external context. As no structures or deposits which clearly relate to Z and post-date 1.18.9 (1176) were recognised, this would appear to be a fair interpretation. As there is no evidence of the north-western bays of Z having been disturbed by external features in the way that their south-eastern equivalents are by 1.18.9 (1176), it is suggested that the former remained standing, at least for a short period of time, as a discrete building.

GROUP 18

1.18.1 Context 1036

1036: South-east/north-west aligned wall constructed of 35% reused limestone blocks, 35% tile, 20% brick and 10% sandstone, compact brown clay 'inclusions' (For bonding?).

This wall exactly replicates the length and alignment or the longer element of 1.5.4 (1326) and is situated c.1.20m to the west of that Feature. This supports the interpretation outlined above that 1.5.4, when constructed, defined the new south-western limit of Structure X, creating a 'niche' which gave ground to Structure Z, as if the original wall 1.2.1 (1082) had remained upstanding throughout the life of 1.5.4, 1.18.1 would have been unnecessary. The construction of 1.18.1 can thus be seen as marking the restoration of the original line of the wall of Structure X.

1.18.2 Context 1081

1081: Linear deposit'(long axis aligned south-east/north-west of 70% limestone blocks and medium sized Fragments, 20% compact dark brown clay and 10% tile Fragments, with moderate Flecks or mortar and occasional Fragments of brick.

This context is interpreted as a crude wall footing, based on its constituent materials, its linear Form and its location, which extends the line or 1.18.1 to the south-east although an alternative interpretation would see it as simply a demolition deposit, its Form and position, together with the Fact that its north-eastern edge is marginally overlapped by the deliberate dump of 1.18.6 (1039), whilst the bulk of the context overlies the original wall 1082, suggest deliberate construction as part of the rebuilding testified to by 1.18.1.

1.18.3 Context 1077

1077: Compact, 100% light/dark red burnt clay.

Interpreted on site as a Fire base, Filling the central void of 1.11.6 (1099) which was at that stage interpreted as a hearth. The burning evidenced by the clay may indicate, the use of 1.11.6 as a small-hearth, during rebuilding operations; however, a less specific cause such as the burning of combustible material during reconstruction, may be responsible (note the evidence of burning of 1236, 1.11.4 above)

1.18.4 Context 1057

1057: 80% brick fragments 20% tile fragments with occasional mortar flecks.

Very localised layer directly overlying 1.11.6 (1099), probably accumulation of material derived from activities associated with rebuilding prior to deliberate levelling of ground surface 1.18.6.

1.18.5 Context 1085

1085: 100% Fragments of root tile.

Very localised layer situated immediately to north-east of 1.18.1, probably accumulation of material derived from activities associated with rebuilding prior to deliberate levelling of ground surface 1.18.6.

1.19.6 Contexts 1039, 1038

1039: Compact, mid dark brown 80% clay 20% silt with occasional Flecks of charcoal.

1038: Compact, 100% yellow/brown clay.

These contexts, which together cover most of the south-west and central area of Structure X, almost certainly represent the deliberate levelling of the interior in preparation for (solid?) Flooring, and may themselves have formed a Floor surface. This interpretation is supported by the Fact that the south-western edge of 1039 clearly respects the wall 1.18.1 (1036).

1.13.7 Context 1136, 1086, 1056

1136: Roughly rectilinear cut with curved edge at north-western end. Sharply defined top edge with steep south-western and shallow north-western sides, South-eastern and north-eastern sides defined by original wall 1084 and 1083 respectively. Flat base.

Construction cut for 1080.

1086: Large, Flat slab of yellow sandstone, partly discoloured by heat to mid/light red, constitutes 40% of context set in compact mid-dark brown 30% clay 30% silt with moderate Flecks of charcoal and occasional Flecks of mortar

1056: Single course of bricks Forming 'L'shaped structure in angle of walls 1084 and 1083 (1.2.1).

The stratigraphic position of this Feature would allow it , to be attributed to Group 11, and support For such a decision can be Found in the Fact that both 1.11.4 (1236) and 1.11.6 (1099) show evidence of burning similar to 1086 and this has been seen as the result of activity associated with the reconstruction represented by Group 18. .This may suggest that 1.19.7 was already in existence when that reconstruction occurred. However, the Fact that 1.18.7 is not sealed by the levelling deposit 1.18.6 argues that it was contemporary with that deposit, and thus integral to the Group 18 rebuild. In this context the traces of burning displayed by the

Feature can only be explained in terms of its specific function that it was in fact hearth. The course of bricks 1056 may thus be seen as a localised lining to protect the limestone sleeper walls 1083 and 1034 from heat damage.

1.18.8 Contexts 1122, 1115

1122: Compact, orange brown 80% clay 20% silt with Frequent Flecks of charcoal and some organic inclusions.

1115: Compact, dark brown 70% clay 30% silt with moderate/Frequent Flecks of mortar, occasional/moderate charcoal Flecks and moderate Fragments of tile.

The character of these deposits suggest that they were deliberately dumped to seal the residual content of the latrine 1.11.3 (1144). This may imply that the latrine had ceased to Function Following the Final remodelling of Building X. The greater density of coarse components evident in 1115 may be due to it having been in contact with the overlying demolition deposit 1111 (see 1.25.2. below), and the difference in its colour from that of 1122 may also stem from this fact: in other words, the two contexts could originally have been a single deposit. Although 1.18.8 could stratigraphically belong to the succeeding demolition episode 1.25.2, it seems unlikely that the effort involved in sealing the latrine would have been taken when the building was being demolished.

1.13.9 Contexts 1176, 1172

1176: Rectilinear, vertical sided cut with Flat base; south-eastern edge of feature beyond limit of excavation.

Garderobe/cess pit

1172: Mid grey/green light brown compact 20% clay 80% silt.

Use deposit cess within pit 1176

This Feature has been interpreted as a replacement for 1.11.3 (1144), constructed on ground previously covered by the eastern chamber of Structure Z. Clearly such a feature is unlikely to have been excavated within a standing building whilst it was in use, and

a context which post dates the demolition of Structure Z seems most appropriate. However, stratigraphically the Feature could be placed before the construction of Z, after the demolition of Structure Y. Attribution to the later phase has been Favoured because of the absence of any other indications of activity between the demolition of Y and the construction of Z, the argument that this sequence of events represents a premeditated (rather than ad -hoc) building campaign (see Inter-group Discussion , Groups 4 and 5), and the appropriate context for the excavation of a cess pit provided by the apparent abandonment of the garderobe 1.11.3 (1144).

A caveat should perhaps be entered here; as the south-eastern edge of the feature lay beyond the limit of the excavation, it remains a possibility that, like 1.11.3 (1144), it was served by a drain, thus making its location within a building tenable. However, the contrast in construction with 1.11.3 (1144) is striking, and it seems more likely to have been a simple cess pit than a Functioning garderobe.

1.18.10 Context 1348

1348: irregularly shaped cut, south-western edge only within limits of excavation; gradual, barely perceptible break in slope from top edge to a gentle slope, this in turn breaking sharply to become much steeper. Gradual break in slope towards base, the character and extent of this uncertain as it is beyond the extent of the excavation.

Probable pit, the purpose of which is unclear. It has been attributed to this Group as it appears most likely to be associated with the use of the area behind the street Frontage for pit digging, as represented by 1.18.9 (1176).

1.18.11 Context 1079

1079: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned depression clearly defined break of slope at top edge of north and west sides, these falling steeply to rounded base, gentle break in slope at southern edge falling gently to base. Originally recorded as a cut, this feature in fact appears to represent simply a very clearly defined interface between two contexts, its profile being the result of

slumping of the underlying deposit 1.17.1 (1123) into the original cut 1.17.1 (1134). This subsidence is seen as having occurred when the area of the former eastern chamber of Structure Z was external to any surviving buildings (see Group 17 discussion).

GROUP DISCUSSION

This group seems to represent a partial rebuilding of Building X, an episode which included the reestablishment of the original line of the south-western wall of the structure 1082 (1.2.1). This would appear to indicate that the integration of Structure X with Structure Z to the south-west represented by 1.5.4 (1326) (above), was reversed in this phase, and that the Structure reverted to being a separate building, the superstructure of 1.5.4 being dismantled. Since 1.5.4 was not actually robbed (at least to below Floor level) at this stage (see 1.25.1, below), it must be assumed that the Foundation remained in situ, either sealed beneath or forming part of the surface or the ground Floor.

The sealing of the garderobe 1.11.3 (1144) with 1.11.8 (1123, 1115) suggests that the drain which served to empty the feature had by this time ceased to Function thus providing a reason For the excavation or the cess pit 1.18.9 (1176).

GROUP 19

1.19.1 Contexts 1213, 1199, 1189

1213: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned cut, north-eastern edge steep – vertical with sharp break in slope from top and to Flat base, south-western edge removed by later disturbance.

Construction cut For wall 1199

1199: Bricks, up to 3 courses, and occasional limestone blocks laid on a bed of sand and bonded with matrix 50% compact grey clay 50% loose yellow sand.

Wall forming internal partition to Structure Z.

1189: Yellow brown, Friable 20% silt 80% sand with frequent Fragments of tile and soma lenses of yellow brown clay.

Backfill of construction trench 1213.

Partition wall extending north-westwards from pad stone 1.4.2 (1211)

GROUP DISCUSSION

Although in some ways similar to the earlier partition walls 1.10.5 (1167) and 1.10.6 (1209), the constructional characteristics of 1.19.1 differ to such an extent (employing sand bedding, mortar bonding and whole bricks) from the broken brick and clay construction of the earlier partitions that it has been interpreted as a later structure. It could, however, have been inserted anywhere between Group 10 and the demise of Structure Z. It seems to mark a change in the configuration of the building in that the doorway (represented by threshold 1.4.10 (1334) in its predecessor, the partition 1.4.9 (1332), is blocked by the insertion of 1.19.1.

GROUP 20

1.20.1 Context 1260.

1260: Linear south-east/north-west aligned structure comprising a single course of medium/large blocks of limestone with occasional small/medium cobbles.

North-eastern wall of Structure V.

Situated on a spine of material separated from adjacent contexts due to truncation by the later intrusions 1.29.4 (1025) and 1.29.3 (1225), this structure has been attributed to Structure V on the basis of its correspondence in terms of length, position and alignment, with the other structural components of the suggested building. In particular, 1260 terminates at a point exactly corresponding with the projected line of 1.6.1 (1019), the north-western wall of Structure Brick against which V appears to have been built. Although there are no readily apparent traces of a South-western return to 1260 at its south-eastern extremity, probably as a result of damage caused by subsequent structural episodes (see 1.26.17, below), it is argued that 1260 would originally have turned at this point to join 1019, a relationship subsequently destroyed by 1.29.4 (1025).

1.20.2 Context 1010.

1010: Oval cut. sides breaking sharply from top edge, Falling steeply/vertically to concave base.

Post hole for one of the central upright of Structure V

1.20.3 Context 1205

1205 Shallow, squareish cut, sides breaking sharply from top edge and Falling vertically to Flat base.

'Ghost' of robbed pad stone supporting central upright of Structure V. `

1.20.4 Context 1004

1004: Rectilinear cut, vertical sides break sharply from top edge, breaking sharply to flat base. `

?Structural Feature relating to Structure V, possibly a robbed pad stone For upright.

This Feature has been, attributed to Structure V on the basis of its correspondence with the line of uprights represented by 1.20.2 (1010) and 1.20.3 (1205). Although recorded as cutting the deposit 1.20.17 (1005), interpreted as having accumulated during the use of the Structure, it has been regarded as part of the original layout, the suggestion being that 1004 represents the robbing a solid structure against which 1.20.17 subsequently accumulated, distinguishing between the alternative sequences being impossible in the course of excavation.

1.20.5 Contexts 1008, 1009

1008: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned structure comprising two courses of brick, roof tile and blocks of sandstone and limestone bedded with cream mortar.

Internal partition of Structure V

1009: Mid-brown Friable silty sand 70% with cream mortar 30% and patches of compact light brown clay 10% with moderate fragments of limestone and occasional Fragments of charcoal, coal and roof tile.

Levelling deposit associated with construction of Structure V

1.20.6 Context 1179

1179: Laminated deposit comprising orange/light brown 20% clay 80% sand, light brown 100% sand and mid brown 10% clay 10% sand 80% silt. Fragments of tile and limestone in upper part of matrix.

Backfill of 1.8.3 (1194)

1.20.7 Context 1180

1180: Mid/dark brown Friable 10% sand 10% clay 80% silt with occasional Fragments of limestone and small cobbles.

Backfill of 1.9.4 (1195).

1.20.8 Context 1182

1182: Mid-brown Friable 10% sand 10% clay 90% silt with moderate Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1.8.6 (1197)

1.20.9 Context 1183

1183: Mid brown Friable 5% clay 20% sand 75% silt with occasional Fragments of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.8.7 (1198)

These series, 1.20.6-1.20.9, represent the removal of the Group 8 structure in advance of the construction of structure V.

1.20.10 Context 1191.

1191: Mid brown Friable 10% charcoal 30% clay 60% silt with occasional flecks of brick and tile.

Backfill of 1.9.1 (1192) prior to construction of Structure V.

1.20.11 Context 1349

1349: Shallow south-east/north-west aligned linear cut, sides sloping gently to rounded base, edged with parallel lines of cobbles.

Slot for internal partition of Structure V

1.20.12 Context 1177

1177: Grey brown compact 50% clay 50% silt with moderate organic content and occasional fragments of roof tile and mortar.

Backfill of 1.6.7 (1178). The character of the fill suggests that it may represent a post rotted in situ, possibly truncated by the insertion of the upright represented by 1.20.13 (1175). As this is not certain, however, the deposit it has been seen as backfill and attributed to Group 20 rather than Group 6 as would be the case if it were the remnant of a post.

1.20.13 Context 1175

1175: Shallow, roughly circular cut, sides falling steeply (vertically on north-west) to irregular uneven base.

Post hole, or possibly robbing cut for pad stone. The position of this Feature suggests that it may have contained one of the jambs for a south-eastern entrance to Structure V, situated on the line of the alleyway 1.6.5 (1343) which appears to have been blocked by the building.

1.20.14 Contexts 1125, 1124, 1113, 1097

1125: Oval, steep/vertical sided cut with some undercutting, along axis aligned south-east/north-west, largely flat base but cut more deeply against north-eastern and north-western edges.

Construction cut For ?oven 1113.

1124: Black loose 20% Fragments of ?coal 80% charcoal.

Deposit derived from use of 1113. That this context was sealed by the base of the oven 1124 would appear to indicate that at least

part or the latter represents secondary resurfacing of the base of the Feature. See 1113 below.

1113: Deposit of closely set, squared blocks or sandstone c.0.25m x 0.25m forming rectilinear surface in base of cut 1125, this component surrounded by Flat laid roof tiles and cobbles extending to the edge of the cut.

Base of oven. The tile and cobble component of this structure sealed the use deposit 1124, and would therefore appear to be a secondary addition to the original base represented by the laid sandstone blocks. The exact purpose of the oven is unclear.

1097 Dark grey cinder 50% charcoal Fragments 50% incorporating a number of Fragments of iron.

Secondary ?use deposit associated with 1113. Although the iron fragments may appear to provide an indication of the use to which 1.20.14 was put, it is not clear whether this deposit represents the normal use of the structure or simply the burning of an associated superstructure (thus accounting For the iron Fragments, some of which appeared to be nails) when the oven fell out of use.

1.20.15 Context 1160.

1160: Mixed mid/dark brown Friable 100% silt, incorporating lenses of clay, sand and crushed coal.

1.30.16 Contexts 1150, 1142

1150: Light brown Friable 10% clay 10% silt 10% loam 70% sand with Frequent lumps of slag and occasional small Fragments of coal.

1142: Light/mid brown Friable 20% sand 20% loam 70% silt incorporating lenses of sandy clay with Frequent lumps of slag and occasional Flecks of charcoal and small Fragments of coal.

1.20.15 and 1.20.16 both appear to respect the north-eastern and would therefore seem to represent activity within that building. The occurrence of slag throughout the three contexts suggests that they may represent material derived from industrial processes, and that V was used for such activities. However, it is possible that the

layers are actually dump deposits, laid down to level an overlying solid Floor surface. Nonetheless, in this particular instance the character of the soils suggest that they are the direct result of activities performed in the very close vicinity, and the references to lamination argue against a single, rapid deposition such as would be expected of dumped material. Manufacturing debris would therefore appear to be the most likely explanation.

1.20.17 Context 1005

1005: Dark brown/black clay silt 70% dark grey silty clay 30% with moderate Flecks and Fragments of charcoal, occasional flecks of coal, mortar and tile and occasional small pebbles.

Deposit deriving from use of Structure V.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

Groups 18, 19 and 20

At this stage in the sequence the Grape Lane street front is seen as having been occupied by Structure X and the north-western bays (i.e. those actually fronting the thoroughfare) of Structure Z, the latter's south-eastern equivalents having been demolished. The structural modifications of these Groups serve to separate X and Z (1.18.1 (1036)) and to create a separate chamber in the north-eastern part of what survived of Z (1.19.1 (1199)). It is suggested that this indicates the division of what had been a single, if composite building (X and Z having been integrated in Group 5) into a series of discrete rooms or chambers. A possible interpretation at such a development is the creation of a row of small workshops or retail premises (shops!) along the street frontage.

GROUP 21

1.21.1 Context 1096

1096: Green-tinged pale yellow brown compact 30% silt 70% clay incorporating strips of ?decayed wood, with moderate Fragments of brick and roof tile, and occasional Fragments of wood, animal bone and shell.

Backfill of oven 1.20.1 (1125). A deliberate levelling, prior to the construction of Structure M, it is possible that 1096 represents part of the Former superstructure of 1.20.14 pushed into the void to level the ground surface. The absence of any traces of burning in the deposit, which would be expected of such a structure, does however weaken this argument.

1.21.2 Context 1003

1003: Mottled light brown/dark brown/grey clay 70% sand 10% cream mortar 10% white clay 10% with occasional medium sized Fragments of brick and roof tile and Flecks of mortar and charcoal.

Backfill of 1.20.4 (1004), ?structural component of structure V.

1.21.3 Context 1007

1007: Dark brown/black silt sand 60% crushed coal 40% with frequent lumps of slag and occasional Flecks and Fragments of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.20.3, post-hole For central upright of Structure V

1.21.4 Context 1204

1204: Mid brown friable 10% Fragments of limestone 40% clay 50% silt with frequent patches of crushed charcoal, moderate small/medium sized Fragments of tile and occasional Fragments of slag, iron, animal bone and shell.

Backfill of 1.20.3 (1205) following removal of Structure V.

1.21.5 Context 1174

1174 Mixed grey brown Friable 40% clay 60% silt with occasional fragments of roof tile, mortar, animal bone, mortar, charcoal and occasional pebbles.

Backfill of 1.20.13 (1175) following removal of Structure V.

1.21.6 Contexts 1184, 1173, 1154 1171, 1153

1184: Medium brown silt 20% charcoal 30% burnt orange clay 50% with moderate small/medium fragments of roof tile.

Floor base associated with extension of Structure W to north-west.

1173: Squareish cut, sharp break in slope from surface falling vertically to Flat base which slopes downwards slightly to south-east.

Post hole

1154: Square shaped cut, sharp break in slope from top edge, vertical, in some places undercut sides; north-western side breaks sharply to south-east to create chisel-shaped profile or base.

Post pipe void

1171: Mid brown Friable 10% charcoal 20% brick and roof tile fragments 25% clay 45% silt with occasional Fragments of mortar limestone and sandstone.

Post packing

1173, 1154 and 1171 are the remains of a post located close to the northern corner or 1184 which appears to have been, a component of the *northern* wall of the extended Structure W.

1153: Mid brown loose 10% charcoal 10% mortar 10% clay 70% loam with moderate small Fragments of brick/roof tile.

Backfills of 1154, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.7 Contexts 1112, 1109

1112: Square cut, sides falling steep/vertically to a pointed base.

1109: Mid-brown loose 25% silt 75% clay with moderate flecks of, charcoal and occasional flecks of mortar, also incorporating a cluster of fragments of limestone, roof tile and cobbles.

Backfill of 1112, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated

archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.8 Contexts 1076, 1075

1076: Oval cut with sharply defined top edge, vertical sides breaking sharply to a Flat base.

1075: mid brown loose 10% sand 10% clay 40% silt 40% crushed brick and tile with moderate Fragments of mortar and occasional Fragments of limestone animal bone, charcoal and wood.

Backfill of 1076, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.6 – 1.21.8 are voids representing posts Forming up rights of north-eastern wall) of extended Structure W.

1.21.9 Contexts 1055, 1054

1055: Roughly circular, shallow cut, steep/vertical aides breaking sharply from top edge and less sharply to Flat base. Deeper, oval component in north-eastern part or the Feature with vertical sides and Flat base.

Post hole. The attribution of this context to Structure W is significant, as it is cut into 1.6.4, the north-western wall of Structure @, thus insisting that @ must have been demolished (or at least modified – see below) before W was constructed. 1055 is noticeably shallower than the other post holes attributed to W; the reason for this may have been the Firm Footing provided by 1.6.4, obviating the necessity for a deeply cut post socket.

1054: Mid brown/grey 20% mortar 30% silt 50% clay with moderate, small Fragments of limestone and occasional Flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1055, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.10 Contexts 1094 1093.

1094: Oval cut with sharply defined break of slope at top edge, sides Falling vertically to Flat base, undercut on south-west.

Post hole.

1093: Mid brown/grey 15% crushed mortar 15% charcoal 30% clay 40% silt with frequent crushed brick/roof tile. Moderate small Fragments of mortar and occasional fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1094, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there were therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.9 and 1.91.10 are components of the south-eastern wall of Structure W.

1.21.11 Contexts 1074, 1073

1074: Squareish shaped cut with rounded corners, sharply defined top edge, vertical sides Falling to irregular base, except For south-western side which slope steeply rather than vertically. Deeper, tapered element in south-western corner of Feature.

?Post hole or possibly a stake hole which has been widened in has been widened during the removal of the wooden upright.

1073: Mid brown/grey 10% crushed brick/roof tile 20% charcoal 35% silt 35% clay with Frequent Fragments of roof tile, moderate Fragments of mortar and occasional Fragments of bone.

Backfill of 1074, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.12 Contexts 1089, 1088

1099: Roughly circular cut, sharply defined break of slope at top edge, steep sides falling to pointed base.

Stake hole.

1088: Dark brown loose 10% clay 40% charcoal 50% silt.

Backfill of 1089, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

Although 1.21.11 and 1.21.1 are not located precisely on the wall lines represented by 1.21.6/1.21.8 and 1.21.9/ ` 1.21.10, they have been attributed to the same phase of activity on the basis of the Fact that they are clustered around and have the same stratigraphic position as 1.21.8 (1076). The likely purpose of the uprights these voids contained is unclear, but that they do relate to Structure W is probable.

1.21.13 Context 1151

1151: Shallow linear depredation, long axis aligned north-east/ other edge very indistinct with gentle, irregular slope to irregular base.

? 'Ghost' of structural Feature internal to Structure @.

This Feature has been interpreted as a replacement for 1.6.4, the original north-western wall of Structure @ subsequently removed by robbing. The appropriate context for such a rebuilding seems to be provided by the construction of the 'extended' Structure W, one or the components of which, 1.21.9 (1055), impinges on 1.6.4, indicating that by this stage the latter had been demolished. 1151 is therefore seen as a rebuilding of thin wall on the same alignment immediately to the south-east.

1.21.14 Context 1350, 1135, 1127.

1350: Linear, south-east/north-west aligned cut, shallow with vertical sided and flat base width of cut increasing to north-west.

Beam slot

1135: Block of sandstone, irregularly shaped with Flat upper surface.

Pad stone.

This series represents the reestablishment of the south-west..... the alleyway 1.6.5 (1343) (see Group 8, above).

1127: Mid-dark brown Friable 10% sand 20% clay 70% loam with occasional Flecks of charcoal and occasional shells, Fragments of coal, limestone and mortar.

Backfill of 1350, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.21.15 Context 1006

1006: interleaved dark brown black clayey silt 50% mid/dark brown sandy silt 50% with moderate flecks (fragments of charcoal and Flecks of mortar and occasional fragmented on mortar and roof tile.

Deposit derived from activity associated with use of Structure U—it is however possible that the layer represents dumped material originally sealed beneath a subsequently robbed solid Floor surface.

1.21.16 Context 1002

1002: Medium brown friable 100% silt with occasional small Fragments or brick and Fleck of charcoal and mortar. Deposit accumulating during abandonment or Structure U.

1.21.17 Context 1001.

1001: Light brown Friable silty clay 80% creamy brown loose mortar 10% mid brown Friable silty clay 10% with moderate small medium

Fragments of roof tile, occasional large Fragments or roof tile,
Fragments of limestone, flecks of charcoal and pebbles

Debris derived from demolition of Structure U.

GROUP 22

1.22.1 Contexts 1140, 1121.

1140: Grey-white compact 100% mortar. Either trample or deliberately laid deposit directly underlies 1121.

1121: Yellowish light brown compact 20% silt 80% clay containing flat laid Fragments of roof tile and some cobbles, the matrix also incorporating occasional fragments of brick, limestone and shell.

1.22.2 Context 1131.

1131: Orange light brown 40% silt 60% clay with occasional fragments of roof tile.

Survival of this part of what was originally a more extensive deposit was probably due to it having been, sealed beneath the later post represented by 1.24-6 (1065). 1.22.1 and 1.22.2 appear to have been deliberately laid and their compaction and the occurrence of horizontally laid tiles in 1.22.1, as well as their position atop 1.6.1, the original south-west wall of Structure Brick, suggest that they represent structure make-up or wall Footing For a successor to 1.6.1. Although the extent of these deposits is restricted, there is ample evidence that truncation by the later stone-built pit 1.28.6 had removed much of what previously existed.

GROUP 23

1.23.1 Contexts 1147, 1070, 1069, 1063, 1062

1147: Light/mid brown grey 30% silt 70% clay with occasional Flecks of mortar and charcoal, occasional Fragments of brick, roof tile, animal bone and shell.

Backfill of 1.21.13 (1151). Probably a deliberate levelling deposit following the removal of the structure represented by 1.21.13.

1070: Circular cut with sharp break of slope at top edge vertical sides tapering to a pointed base.

Stake hole.

1069: Mid orange brown 100% sand.

Deliberate backfill of 1070.

1063: Irregular cut 'pear shaped' in plan form, with long axis aligned north-east/south-west. Sharply defined break of slope at top edge, gradual slope breaking almost imperceptibly to flat base.

1063 may be a replacement for 1070; alternatively the two may have formed a single composite Feature. In the latter event the stratigraphic order should be amended placing 1063 below both 1062 and 1069. However, since choosing between the two would be arbitrary, and in either case both 1070 and 1063 would appear to have formed part of the same general layout of Structure @, it has been felt unnecessary to alter the relationships.

1062: Light brown loose 25% clay 25% silt 50% mortar with occasional flecks of brick and charcoal and occasional small fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1063, placed in the same context series because the Feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

1.23.2 Context 1170, 1166

1170: Squareish shaped cut with rounded corners, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and tapering to pointed base.

Stake hole. Attributed to the same group as 1070 due to the fact that a line drawn between the two stake holes runs parallel to 1.6.3 the north-eastern wall of Structure @ suggesting that they are components of a contemporary structure **NO!**

1166: Dark grey brown organic material 50% silt 50%, incorporating Fragment of wood.

Backfill of 1170, attributed to same context series as it may be the remains of a post rotted in situ.

GROUP 24

1.24.1 Context 1132

1132: Mid grey brown 20% sand 20% silt 30% clay 30% charcoal/cinders (latter concentrated towards base of deposit with moderate fragments of roof tile and occasional Flecks of mortar.

This context clearly post dates (overlies) 1.6.1, the south-western wall of Structure Brick, and pre dates the Group 24 structure represented by 1.24.2-1.24.6. The character of the deposit suggests that it may have derived, From the destruction of Structure Brick. As no other traces unequivocally belonging to this episode were recognised 1132 has For convenience been attributed to Group 24.

1.24.2 Context 1041

1041: Shallow, linear north-east/south-west aligned cut, ends of cut curved in plan form. North-western edge steep/vertical, north-eastern and south-western more gentle. All sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a Flattish base. South-eastern edge of Feature beyond the limit of the excavated area.

Slot for ?structural Feature within Structure Brick.

1.24.3 Context 1090

1090: Irregular linear feature, long axis aligned north-east/south-west, for the most part..... Shallow with.....vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to Flat base. At the north-eastern end of the Feature, however, is a much deeper, roughly oval component, its longer axis aligned south-east/north-west, with steep/vertical side and a rounded base.

Slot forming part of ?structural Feature within Structure Brick.

1.24.4 Context 1050

1050: Oval cut, vertical edge on north-eastern side, elsewhere sides slope at c.45 degrees to Flattish base. Possibly a post hole, the

position of this Feature suggests that it may have Formed part of a single structure along with 1.24.2 and 1.24.3. However, the excavator makes the suggestion that the Feature is actually a void caused by the removal of a large cobble. It is nonetheless possible that 1050 or its former contents did serve a structural purpose in conjunction with the other features referred to above.

1.24.5 Contexts 1117, 1060, 1116

1117: Roughly rectilinear cut, steep sided on north-west near vertical on north-east and south-west, south-eastern edge beyond limit of excavation. Sharp break in slope from top edge, bottom edge less clearly defined, base very irregular.

Post hole.

1060: ?Circular, shallow cut, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to Flat base. South-eastern edge of cut beyond the limit of excavation

Post pipe void

1116: Mid brown/grey 10% sand 10% silt 80% clay incorporating large Fragments of brick and roof-tile with occasional Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of limestone and animal bone.

Post packing deposit.

1.24.6 Contexts 1130 1065

1130: Two irregularly shaped Fragments of limestone located immediately to the west of the western edge of 1065.

Post packing

1065: Irregularly shaped cut, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to Flat base.

Post hole.

CLEARLY POST-DATES STRUCTURE BRICK

Together 1.*.r, 1.*.* and 1.*. seem to form a partition within Structure Brick. Although no extensive excavation was carried out

within this building, making detailed analysis impossible, the position of this partition relative to the large Fireplace 1.*.* suggests that it is likely to have been a secondary rather than original feature.

1.24.7 Contexts 1079, 1049, 1045, 1035

1079: Greenish brown/grey loose 10% sand 20% clay 70% silt with moderate Fragments of mortar and Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of coal, shell, brick and roof tile.

Backfill of 1.24.3 (1090).

1049: Greyish mid brown loose 10% sand 10% clay 15% mortar 65% silt with occasional Fragments of bone and roof tile.

Backfill of 1.24.4 (1050)

1045: Mixed grey/green brown loose 10% sand 10% clay 30% silt 50% coarse components (Fragments of brick, mortar, roof tile and limestone with occasional Fragments of shell and animal bone.

1035: Dark brown friable 20% charcoal 20% clay 60% silt with occasional fragments of roof tile, limestone, animal bone and shell with occasional flecks of mortar

1.24.8 Context 1059, 1064

1059: Mid brown/grey loose 10% sand 10% silt 80% clay with occasional fragments of limestone, mortar, brick and animal bone, occasional flecks of charcoal and patches of orange sand.

Backfill of 1.24.5 (1060)

1064: Brownish grey loose 10% sand 30% clay 60% silt with occasional fragment of brick, limestone and mortar and occasional flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.24.6 (1065)

These contexts seem to represent the demolition and removal of the partition 1.24.2-1.24.6

GROUP 25

1.25.1 Context 1026, 1022

1026: L shaped cut (longer element aligned approximately east-south/north-west) with sharply defined top edge, steep/vertical sides to a depth of c.0.45m and flat base. SE.NW and NE. SW elements approximately 2.00m (in trench) and 1.20m long respectively

Robbing of wall represented by 1.5.4 (1326)

1.25.2 Contexts 1111, 1108

1111: Friable, yellow brown 70% silt, 20% clay 10% tile fragments with moderate/frequent mortar flecks, occasional medium sized fragments of limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal.

Demolition debris backfilling latrine 1.11.3 (1144).

the robbing of 1026 at this stage suggests that the Foundation of the wall remained in situ throughout the phase of occupation subsequent to the Structure X rebuild of Group 18, this in spite of the inferred dismantling of its superstructure (see Group 18 Discussion, above) It is likely that most of the demolition deposits associated with Structure X were removed during machine clearance.

GROUP 26

1.26.1 Context 1023

1023: Very mixed light brown 20% silt 80% clay with moderate fragments of roof tile moderate flecks of limestone and charcoal and occasional pebbles.

Demolition debris backfilling 1.4.14 see Group 14-above.

1.26.2 Contexts 1165, 1164, 1163

1165: Mid brown friable 30% clay 70% silt, becoming increasingly silty towards base with occasional lenses of dark grey brown 10% clay 90% silt, the whole matrix containing frequent limestone inclusions ranging from flecks to fragments up to 100mm, occasional fragments of roof tile, clay lumps and flecks of charcoal.

Deliberate backfilling of cess pit 1.18.9 (1176)

1164: Shallow, circular cut/depression, very gently sloping sides with 'saucer' profiled base, truncated on southern side.

Depression in surface off 165 caused by subsidence of latter.

1163: Mid brown 30% clay 70% silt with frequent flecks of charcoal.

Material accumulating in 1164.

1.26.3 Context 1162

1162: Steep/vertical-sided rectilinear cut with flat base, truncated to south-east.

Possibly either a post hole or the terminal of a south-east/north-west aligned slot.

Context Series 1.26.1-1.26.3 The deliberate backfilling of cess pit 1.18.9 (1176) to level the ground surface prior to the construction of Structure ? and a post hole representing activities (e.g. scaffolding) associated with that construction. Certainly, 1162 does not appear to bear any obvious relationship to the layout of Structure Z and as it has in any case been argued that 1.18.9 (1176) post-dates the demolition of that building (see Group 18 above) a constructional context appears most likely.

1.26.4 1129, 1118, 1103

1129: Grey brown compact 10% sand 40% silt 50% clay with moderate pebbles, cobbles and fragments of tile.

1118: Dark grey-brown 40% silt 60% clay with frequent flecks and fragments of charcoal, occasional flecks and fragments of mortar and occasional fragments of roof tile.

Material dumped to level and backfill pit 1.18.10 (1348)

1103: Irregularly shaped cut roughly rectilinear steep/vertical sides break sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to flat base.

Possible ?post hole

1.26.4 This context series appears to correspond quite closely to 1.26.2, representing like the latter the backfilling of a Group 18 feature 1.18.9 succeeded by possible scaffold post hole. For this reason the series has been attributed to the same Group.

1.26.5 Contexts 1161, 1052

1161: Burnt red brown compact 30% silt 70% clay with occasional fragments of tile and flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1.26.3 (1162)

1052: Mixed deposit, brown compact clay 65%, dark brown friable clay 75% silt 25% 40% with moderate flecks of charcoal occasional cobbles and pebbles, occasional fragments of roof tile/brick and limestone.

1.26.5 These contexts are interpreted as material dumped to level the ground surface in advance of laying the floor (?solid subsequently robbed) of Structure ?. That 1052 post dates Structure Z is clear. It covers 1.17.2 the robbed post pad which formed a component of that structure as well as cess pit 1.18.9 (1176), which is argued to post date Z. Its purpose is suggested firstly by the fact that the absolute level of the surface is very close to that of 1.26.16 (1032), the most obvious and convincing component of Structure ?. Secondly, the clay component of the context forms a 'capping' to the similar material beneath it, the latter also containing the bulk of the coarse component (had time allowed they would have been excavated as separate contexts). It is therefore suggested that 1052 represents the spreading of debris derived from the final, complete demolition of Structure Z, with a layer of clay being deposited on top of this in order to provide a level, even textured floor (or more likely floor base, a solid surface laid on top). It has already been stated that the clay component of 1.17.3 (1068), another rapidly excavated deposit may also be part of this surface (see above).

1.26.6 Context 1279

1279: Mid brown compact 40% silt 60% clay with moderate fragments of limestone and roof tile, moderate Flecks of charcoal and occasional Flecks of mortar

Debris From demolition of Structure Z, spread to level ground surface in advance of laying of Floor of Structure ?. This context is located in the small extension to the excavation carried out in plan zone L.

1.26.7 Contexts 1218 1216.

1218: Void, square in plan form, sides break sharply from surface and fall vertically narrowing to sharply pointed base.

`Ghost' of stake forced through base of 1.4.13 (1325) and subsequently extracted. Probably associated with construction of scaffold post of Structure ?

1216: Dark grey mottled orange friable 25% clay 75% silt occasional small Fragments of roof tile, medium sized Fragments of limestone, Flecks of charcoal and plaster and small cobbles.

Material packed in 1.10.2 (1219) in order to consolidate post represented by 1218.

1.26.8 Contexts 1158, 1107, 1105, 1104, 1100, 1101

1158: Light brown Friable 15% silt 45% sand 40% charcoal the latter concentrated in large patches with occasional small patches of burnt brick, small/medium fragments of limestone and small Fragments of brick and roof tile.

1107: Light/mid grey friable 30% sand and 70% clay with frequent Limestone chippings, moderate patches of burnt clay and Flecks of charcoal, occasional small fragments of limestone, brick and roof tile and occasional small/medium cobbles.

1105: Dark grey brown Friable 15% clay 85% silt with occasional small fragments of limestone, flecks of charcoal and small patches of yellow clay.

Trampled deposit created during constructional activities

1104: Shallow, oval void, gradual break in slope from surface, sides falling gently, breaking imperceptibly to rounded base.

?Scaffold post holes

1100: Black loose 100% charcoal with occasional small fragments of crushed limestone and brick.

1101: Black loose 100% charcoal with occasional small patches of sand and flecks of mortar.

1.26.9 Context 1120

1120: Black loose 15% clay 25% ash 60% charcoal with moderate small fragments of coal, occasional large cobbles, small pebbles and fragments of crushed brick.

These series of contexts (1.26.8 and 1.26.9) represent material scattered and trampled inside Structure ? during its construction, with possible trace component of the scaffolding used in that operation.

1.26.10 Contexts 1114, 1072, 1053, 1051

1114: Light yellow/grey compact 100% clay with occasional flecks and patches of charcoal and small fragments of crushed brick and tile.

1072: Mid brown compact 10% silt 90% clay with occasional limestone chippings, small fragments of tile, cobbles and flecks of charcoal.

1053: Mid brown/green 70% clay 20% crushed limestone 10% light brown sand with occasional fragments of roof tile, small cobbles and flecks of charcoal.

1051: Light/orange brown compact 100% clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and mortar.

1.26.11 Context 1152

1152: Very light brown/grey compact 20% silt 80% clay.

1.26.12 Contexts 1215, 1146

1215: Dark grey friable 20% ash 25% clay 55% silt with frequent lumps of slag and moderate flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1218

1146: Dark grey/brown friable 15% ash 85% clay with frequent flecks of iron oxide, occasional small-large lumps of slag, large fragments of limestone, patches of black ash and small fragments of mortar.

1.26.13 Context 1264

1264: Orange-brown 100% clay, becoming sandy towards base with occasional pebbles and fragments of roof tile. Remnants of a capping of crushed limestone on surface

Capping of crushed limestone may represent actual floor base.

1.26.14 Context 1272

1272: Reddish brown compact 20% silt 80% clay with moderate tile roof tile, occasional fragments of limestone and brick and occasional Flecks of charcoal.

1.26.15 Contexts 1098, 1066

1098: Compact grey brown 10% sand 30% silt 60% clay with moderate fragments of limestone, tile, mortar and occasional Flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of (1.26.3}

1066: Dark brown compact 25% silt`25% tile Fragments 50% clay with frequent limestone chippings.

Demolition debris/levelling deposit.

These deposits (1.25.10, 1.25.11, 1.25.12, 1.25.13, 1.25.14 and 1.25.15) all of which exhibit a very high proportion of clay in their matrices, are interpreted as being part of a single episode,

the deliberate dumping of an extensive layer of firm (if slightly compressible) material as the precursor to the laying of the (subsequently robbed) solid floor of Structure ? In this way they can be equated with the uppermost component of 1,26,5 (1052). The reason for the deposit not being homogenous, being variously coloured and having different silt components may be that the material was being acquired in opportunistic fashion from contemporary constructional or demolition activities, or that (some) of these contexts in fact represent a series of discrete and localised levelling operations effected beneath the solid floor of Structure? during its use. The vestigial limestone capping of 1.26.13 (1264) may represent the immediate sub floor levelling.

1.26.16 Context 1048

1048: Light brown/grey compact 15% sand 85% clay with moderate small/medium fragments of roof tile and very small patches of crushed limestone, occasional small-large fragments of limestone, occasional large fragments of brick and tile, cobbles and flecks of mortar and charcoal.

Debris (derived from final demolition of Structure Z?) used to create roughly level surface prior to laying of floor of Structure ? Probably equivalent to lower component of 1.26.5 (1052). The extent of the deposit is restricted to that of the earlier robbing cut 1.17.1 (1134). The high percentage of clay suggests that this may be another component of the clay levelling deposit represented by 1.26.10

1.26.17: Contexts 1276, 1288, 1254, 1239, 1285, 1287, 1237

1278: Sub-rectangular cut with steep vertical sides, originally interpreted as the construction cut for pad stone 1.4.5 (1274), subsequent re-interpretation (see discussion appended to 1.4.8 above) suggests that is in fact simply represents the interface between 1274 and 1288.

1288: Grey browns compact 30% clay 70% silt with occasional small/medium fragments of limestone, small fragments of roof tile

and small lumps of clay and occasional flecks of burnt sand and small lumps of clay and occasional flecks of burnt sand and clay.

1254: Dark brown -compact 40% clay 60% silt with occasional small-large fragments of roof tile and flecks of charcoal and burnt sand.

1239: Medium brown compact 30% silt 70% clay with moderate flecks of mortar, occasional small-large Fragments of limestone and occasional flecks of charcoal, occasional large shaped blocks of limestone, brick and complete roof tiles embedded in surface of deposit.

1285: Red brown compact 30% clay 70% silt with occasional small angular Fragments of limestone and roof tile and occasional Flecks of charcoal and burnt sand.

1237: South-east/north-west aligned structure, two courses, the lower of brick the upper of limestone blocks, some shaped and clearly re-used, all bonded with white mortar.

The south-western wall of Structure ?

1.26.18 Contexts 1047, 1046, 1044, 1043, 1040, 1032, 1031, 1027

1047: Black friable 5% clay 95% charcoal with occasional small fragments of tile.

1046: Mixed brown 100% clay with moderate fragments of tile, occasional fragments of limestone patches of mortar and flecks of charcoal.

1044: Small, irregular, shallow cut, gently sloping sides breaking sharply from top edge and much more gradually to saucer shaped base.

Depression caused by ?constructional activities.

1043: Light grey-brown compact clay with moderate flecks of mortar and occasional Flecks of charcoal and fragments of roof tile.

These contexts are interpreted as having derived From activity associated with the construction of Structure? They have, however, been kept separate from 1.26.17 as their attribution is less certain than that series and it is unlikely that they represent later (possibly demolition associated?) events.

1040: Light brown white flecked sand 40% mortar 60% with moderate large Fragments of brick and small patches of clay, occasional fragments of brick and charcoal.

Base for floor of Structure?

1032: Bricks bonded with and set on off white/cream 10% sand 90% mortar with occasional Flecks and small Fragments of brick and small fragments of limestone. Some evidence of burning on both bricks and mortar base.

The traces of burning led the excavator to interpret this feature as a hearth. However, its form and the materials of which it is constructed would not seem to be characteristic of such a function and it has therefore been interpreted as either a surviving patch of the Floor surface of Structure? or perhaps more likely an internal feature associated with the latter's use.

1031: Light brown loose 30% sand 70% silt with moderate Flecks of burnt brick and mortar, occasional Flecks of charcoal and occasional small fragments of brick and roof tile.

1027: Loose 10% reddish brown sand 10% burnt brick and roof tile 80% pinkish white mortar with moderate flecks of burnt mortar, occasional Flecks of charcoal and occasional small Fragments of brick, roof tile and limestone.

Interpreted by the excavator as indications that 1032 was a hearth, it seems more likely that these deposits relate to that structure (either as integral to its construction or as a result of its demolition) and that the burning reflects activity during or after demolition.

1040 and 1032 are of significance in that both extend across the line of the north-east/south-west aligned internal feature associated with the line of the north-east/south-west aligned internal partition of Structure Z, covering pad stone 1.4.2 (1211) and 1.4.3 (1212), thus indicating that by this phase that Structure must have been demolished.

1.26.19 Context 1034

1034: Comprises three component layers; burnt red 100% clay incorporating roof tiles overlying pure stiff brown 100% clay, in turn overlying mixed deposit of dark brown friable silty sand 10% grey brown clay 20% burnt red silty clay 70%

A Hearth associated with Structure?

The stratigraphic position of this deposit, overlying the floor base 1.26.3 (1052) suggests that it represents an internal feature of Structure?. The fact that the surface of the hearth is c.100mm above the level of the floor lends some support to the suggestion that the latter was originally sealed beneath a subsequently robbed solid floor.

1.26.20 Context 1229

1229: Large, rectilinear cut measuring 5.00m x3.50m in excavation, c.0.60m in depth vertical sides and flat base. South-eastern edge beyond limit of excavation.

Construction cut for cellar which would appear to form part of Structure ?. That the cellar post-dates Structure Z appears to be indicated by the fact that its north-western edge appears to have removed a pad stone which formed part of a line of such features extending between 1.4.3 (1212) and 1.4.5 (1274), the upper Storey supports of that Structure. The evidence for this is provided by 1.*.* (1....) interpreted as the 'ghost' of the corner of such a post pad. It is unlikely that, where the cellar part of Structure Z, it would impinge on one of the latter's main structural components in such a fashion.

1.26.21 Context 1230

1230: Linear cut, south-east/north-west aligned, vertical north-eastern side breaking sharply to a flat base, lined with a mortared brick wall, south-western side truncated by 1.29.3 (1225).

Drain/culvert associated with cellar (1.26.20) of Structure ?.

GROUP DISCUSSION

It is extremely likely that much of this building was removed during pre-excavation machining, being regarded as later than the phase of the street frontage which was considered the prime objective of the excavation; certainly the cellar 1.26.20 (1229), which seems to belong to Structure ?, was regarded as intrusive from the beginning of the excavations. The surviving traces represented by this group are therefore fragmentary, and understanding of the details of layout and Function is impossible. It worth noting, however, that deposits similar to 1.26;17-1.26.18 were observed but not recorded overlying Structure X but recorded , thus suggesting that the latter was demolished before the construction of ?, and did not exist alongside it.

The interpretation of the earlier deposits in this group as being demolition debris deriving specifically from Structure has important implications for the later phase of that building. These are outlined in the Group 17 discussion above.

GROUP 27

1.27.1 Contexts 1071, 1061

1071: Shallow cut, trefoil in plan Form, vertical south-eastern side, other sides slope more gently, almost imperceptible break in slope to blunt base.'

1061; Friable 10% light orangey brown sand 40% light brown clay 50% cream/light brown mortar with occasional fragments of charcoal.

Cut (?robbing; ?scaffold post) and backfill associated with demolition of Structure ?

1.27.2 Context 1030

1030: Deposit of 10% cobbles 90% fragments of brick and roof tile.

Debris from demolition of Structure ?

1.28.1 Contexts 1042, 1033

1042: Mid-grey brown loose 20% silt 80% clay with moderate Flecks/small Fragments of charcoal, moderate fragments limestone and occasional fragments roof tile, oyster shell and animal bone.

1033: Mid-grey/brown loose 40% silt 60% clay with moderate patches of crushed limestone, occasional fragments of roof tiles, charcoal and shell and occasional pebbles.

1.28.2: Context 1119

1119: Light grey brown compact 50% clay 50% silt with moderate flecks and small Fragments of charcoal Fragments of roof tile, brick, animal bone and shell and moderate cobbles.

Immediately below the level reached by machine clearance, these layers (1.28.1 and 1.28.2) are the much truncated remnants of dumped deposits relating to phases of activity subsequent to those which was examined archaeologically.

1.28.3 Contexts 1156, 1155

1156: Irregular feature, linear element aligned south-east/north-west, the south-western edge of the feature turning to the south-west in its north-western half. The north-western edge of the feature lies beyond the limit of the excavated area. Cut is for the most part steep sided, with sharply defined break in slope from the top edge and a more gradual break in slope to the very irregular base, which exhibits many undulations and depressions.

Probably the void left by the robbing of a structural element, the function of which is uncertain.

1155: Mixed mid brown friable 10% mortar 10% crushed charcoal 10% silt 20% clay 50% loam with frequent fragments of roof tile, moderate, medium sized fragments of limestone, occasional fragments of brick, animal bone and shell and occasional cobbles.

Backfill of 1156, placed in the same context series because the feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated

archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit

1.28.4: Context 1201, 1200

1201: Square shaped cut, sharp break of slope from top edge, vertical sides breaking in similarly sharp fashion to a flat base.

Post hole

1200: Mid brown friable 15% crushed charcoal 25% clay 50% silt, 10% bright orange sand with moderate small fragments of charcoal and occasional flecks and small fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 1201, placed in the same context series because the feature belongs to the last phase of structural activity excavated archaeologically, and there are therefore no succeeding episodes which could meaningfully subsume the deposit.

RE WRITE

Components of structure of uncertain function; 1154 and 1156 both impinge on deposits associated with re-establishment of Structure W wall line - these must therefore be very late in the sequence !MORE!

1.28.5 Contexts 1110, 1106

1110: ?Circular (south-eastern edge beyond the limit of the excavation) cut, vertical sides break sharply from top edge, similarly sharp break of slope to flat base, with deeper element in western corner.

Possibly a post hole although the precise function unclear. That 1,28.5 post dates the main structural phases is indicated by the fact that it truncates 1.6..3 the north-eastern.....

1106: Very mixed light brown 10% sand 20% clay 20% slag 50% silt with occasional fragments of limestone, brick, roof tile, mortar and shell and occasional small cobbles.

Backfill of 1110. The character of the deposit suggests that the feature was backfilled relatively recently.

1.28.6 Context 1018

1018: Linear structure comprising a single course of roughly shaped, unbonded limestone blocks, aligned north-east/south-west.

North-western wall of stone built, brick based pit, most of which was removed in the course of pre-excavation machining.

GROUP 29

1.29.1 Context 1028

1028: Rectilinear (north-east/south-west aligned in excavation) cut with vertical sides and flat base. Feature sealed beneath edge of excavation to south east

? pit of uncertain function

1.29.2 Contexts 1020, 1021

1020: shallow cut, rectilinear plan form, sides breaking gently from surface and falling vertically to south-east and south-west, more gradually on north-west and north-east, rounded bottom to flat, uneven base.

1021: Linear cut, vertical sided and flat based, running north-west..... before it reaches south-eastern edge of the excavation.

Pipe trench

1.29.3 Context 1225

1225: Linear cut. South-east/north-west aligned, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge on north-east, more gradually on south-west, levelling out through blunt bottom edge to flat base which slopes from south-east to north-west.

Pipe trench.

1.29.4 Contexts 1025, 1015, 1014, 1013.

1025: Linear south-east/northwest aligned cut, vertical sides breaking sharply From top edge and equally sharply to Flat base which slopes downwards from south-east to north-west. Pipe trench.

1015: south-western edge of 1025 as excavated in Test Pit 1.

1014: Brick bonded with cream mortar.

Part of culvert within pipe branch 1015/1025

1013: Mid grey brown Friable 50% sand 50% silt with moderate flecks of mortar and small fragments of brick and occasional fragments of mortar and roof tile and flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 1015/1025

1.29.5 Context 1232

1232: Linear cut long axis aligned south-south-east/north-north-west.....from top edge, steep slope to rounded bottom edge leading to Flat, even base.

Construction cut for brick & concrete wall removed during pre-excavation machining.

1.29.6 Context 1067

1067: Rectilinear, vertical sided cut, south-eastern edge beyond the limit of excavation, vertical sides break sharply from top and similarly to a flat base.

Construction cut for brick-built foundation. Clearly modern the backfill of this feature was removed as part of 1000

1.29.7 Context 1029

1029: Squareish cut with rounded corners, vertical sides break sharply from top edge and similarly to flattish base, south-western and north0western edges of the feature beyond the limit of the excavation.

Modern feature of uncertain function; ?foundation base.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Traces of cuts and structures from the most recent phase of the sites use which penetrated to/were built from a level below that

reached by pre-excavation machining which removed associated overlying deposits.

THE YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

LEVEL III ARCHIVE REPORT

by

PETER SATTELBERGER

February 1991

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Area 2 is part of a series of trench excavations on the site of 12-18 Swinegate, York (site code: 1989/90:23). In size, Area 2 constitutes a small trench measuring 3m x 3m, located approximately 13m. NE of Swinegate and approximately 20m SW of Grape Lane (see site plan). Area 2 was excavated from machined off modern construction levels to natural, resulting in a depth of excavation of approximately 4.3m.

THE EXCAVATION

Group 1

CONTEXT SERIES 2.1.1

Context 2243 (natural)

A compact lamination of mid brown/orange and blue clay with occasional pebble inclusions.

Discussions:

This context was interpreted as a natural deposit. Intruding into it is a later wall foundation cut (2201) of approximately 1.5m. in width on a NE/SW alignment running through the excavated area, a shallow linear cut feature (2270) approximately 3m wide aligned SE/NW and truncated at its NW end by the previously mentioned wall foundation cut, and a linear feature (2249) running along the bottom of the NW trench section. As a matter of expediency the SE end of wall foundation cut (2201) remained unexcavated for a distance of approximately 1.5m.

GROUP DISCUSSION

A natural clay deposit intercut by later human activity, and occurring at a depth ranging from 12.01- 11.19 OD or 4.38m.to 3.56m below modern levels. The starting point of this report

Group 2

CONTEXT SERIES 2.2.1

Contexts 2236, 2242

2236 (Backfill/dump)

A compact to friable deposit of 40% sand, 30% silt, and 30% clay to an average depth of 0.10m. Inclusions: occasional large patches of whitish sand; medium cobbles, tile Fragments, bone, shell, pottery sherds and charcoal Flecks.

2242 (Cut/unknown) _

A NE/SW aligned cut Feature truncated by the NW section of the trench resulting in only the NE edge of this cut lying within the excavated area. The top and bottom edges are sharp with steep sides and a level base. This cut averages 0.13m in depth. Contains (2236).

Discussion:

The sharpness of the edge and steepness of the sides of (2342) suggests it was cut into (2243) rather than a naturally occurring feature. The Form and Function of this cut, however, is difficult to interpret due to its severe truncation by the NW trench section. The refuse content contained in its Fill (2236) suggests this material was either intentionally dumped in this cut For the purpose of backfill or had simply accumulated over time.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.2.2

Context 2267

2267 (Dump)

A thin compact dark brown grey deposit averaging approximately 0.02m in thickness. Comprised of 80% clay, 10% sand and 10% ash. This deposit was situated in the SE corner of the trench; it had been intercut a later wall Foundation cut (2201) to the SW and a later slot cut (2270) to the NW. Inclusions: moderate charcoal.

Discussion:

A single context series consisting of a thin dump deposit possibly for the purpose of levelling, which was then intercut by later features— see for example (2270).

CONTEXT SERIES 2.2.3

Contexts 2269, 2270

2269 (Slot fill deposit)

A friable brown/black deposit averaging 0.07m in depth and comprised of 60% charcoal and 40% clay. No inclusions recorded.

2270 (Slot cut)

A shallow cut feature (averaging 0.08m. in depth) and approximately 0.40m in width and 1.0m in length. This cut is aligned in a SE/NW direction across the excavated area. It broadens out at the base of the SE trench section under which it runs and is intercut at its NW end by the later wall foundation cut (2201). The top and bottom edges are sharp with steep sides and a relatively flat base. Contains (2269).

Discussion:

The spatial limitations resulting from a trench of this size, together with the truncated nature of this cut feature, severely limit any functional interpretation of its original purpose. The later wide wall foundation cut (2201) which runs through this area in a NE/SW direction also obscures any possible relationship this cut may have had with cut (2242) which ran along the base of the NW section. The fill (2269) of this cut (2270) is markedly different from the mixed fill seen in (2236) which suggests that (2269) was likely the result of a single deliberate act.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.2.4

Contexts 2227, 2229

2227 (Dump/levelling)

A linear deposit lying parallel with and truncated by, the NW section of the trench. A mid-green friable deposit comprised of 20% sand, 50% silt, and 30% clay to an average depth of approximately 0.15m. Inclusions: occasional bone, shell, tile frags, charcoal Flecks, and cobbles, with moderate pottery ranging from sherds to semi complete vessels.

2229 (Dump)

A small, mixed, red-brown, grey, and dark brown Friable deposit of 80% clay and 20% silt with an average depth of 0.06m. The SE Facing edge of this context is the result of its later inter-cutting by the wall Foundation cut (2201). Inclusions: occasional bone and pottery sherds with moderate charcoal Flecks. Both of these deposits may have been the result of dumping or a deliberate attempt to level the hollow created by the earlier cut Feature (2242) which lies stratigraphically beneath these two contexts.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.2.5

Contexts 2271, 2266, 2268, 2272

2271 (Dump/build up)

A small thin deposit of 80% yellow clay and 20% yellow sand truncated by Foundation cut (2201) to the NW and the SW trench section. This context is also intercut by post hole cuts (2253) and C2254). No inclusions recorded.

2266 (Dump/backfill)

A Friable brown/black deposit of 50% charcoal, 40% clay and 10% sand to an average depth of 0.04m. Truncated by Foundation cut (2201) to the NU and the SE trench section. Seals a smaller dump deposit (2268) lying stratigraphically beneath it. Inclusions: occasional oyster shell.

2268 (Dump)

A small compact to friable deposit of 70% yellow sand and 30% yellow clay to an average depth of 0.03m. Truncated by foundation cut (2201) to the NW. Inclusions: occasional pottery sherds.

2272 (Stake pipe void)

A round void approximately 0.04m. in diameter and 0.12m. in depth with rounded top edge and vertical sides. The base was not visible due to the narrowness of the pipe void itself. The result of a stake having been driven into natural.

Discussion:

A series of small dump and or levelling deposits mostly containing domestic material. An isolated driven stake is associated with this series of dumps but its Function is unknown.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The various context series in this group represent, in stratigraphical terms, the earliest human activities found in this excavated area. The sequence begins with the digging of what appears to be a ditch in (2.2.1) and the later depositing in it of dump or levelling material containing ash and charcoal seen in (2.2.2.). Another ditch like cut Feature, positioned at right angles to the first, and cutting through (2.2.2). appears in (2.2.3.). Contexts series (2.2.4.) and (2.2.5.) indicate further dumping and build up deposits associated with these two ditch Features characterised this early phase of land use. The spatial distribution and relationships of these various context series are restricted by the small size of the excavated area (3.m.X 3.m.) as well as the later 1.5m wide Foundation cut (2201) which runs across this trench in a NE/SW direction.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 2.3.1

Context 2245

2245 (Levelling)

A deposit of compact 90% orange light grey clay and 10% sand extending over the area of the trench from the edge of foundation cut (2201) to the SE section at an average depth of 0.05m.

Stratigraphically seals (2.2.5.). Inclusions: Frequent charcoal.

Discussion:

The high clay content of this deposit and its colour would suggest that it consisted to a large extent of redeposited natural likely as levelling material.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.3.2

Context 2222

2222 <Levelling)

A deposit of compact 100K mid-brown to yellow clay extending From the NW trench section to the edge of Foundation cut (2201) which inter-cuts it. Average depth of this deposit was 0.12m. This context was inter-cut by a later linear cut Feature (2214) along the edge of the NW section. Stratigraphically seals (2.2.4.). Inclusions: occasional pottery sherds, small pebbles, charcoal Flecks, and Frequent small patches of white sand.

Discussion:

Redeposited layer of almost pure clay, likely for the purpose of levelling.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.3.3

Contexts 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265

2246 (Post pipe void)

A shallow post impression approximately 0.12m in diameter and 0.05m in depth. Imperceptible top edge with a gentle side gradient and a Flat base.

2247 (Stake pipe void)

Small stake void approximately 0.04m in diameter with a sharp top edge. Steep side gradient and pointed base. Depth recorded only as shallow.

2248 (Stake hole cut)

Oval shaped shallow impression approximately 0.12m in diameter with an imperceptible top edge. Steep side gradient, and pointed base continuing down to form a stake hole void. This has been interpreted by the excavator to be a shallow cut made to accommodate a stake which was then driven into the ground for some as yet unknown Function.

2249 (Stake hole cut)

A shallow circular impression approximately 0.12m in diameter. Top edge is imperceptible with a steep gradient to the north-east becoming gentle in slope to the south-west; base is flat with a central stake hole void. Interpreted on site as a cut made to accommodate a stake which was then driven into the ground.

2250 (Post hole void)

Shallow irregular shaped impression approximately 0.18m in diameter. Top edge breaks sharply from surface with a gentle gradient on the NE and becoming steep to the SW; base is flat.

2251 (Post pipe void)

A shallow circular impression approximately 0.06m in diameter. Top edge is sharp with a steep gradient and pointed base.

2252 (Stake hole cut)

Shallow circular depression approximately 0.10m. in diameter with a sharp top edge, gentle gradient and rounded bottom. Interpreted by the excavator as a cut into which a stake was then driven into the ground.

2253 (Stake hole cut)

A roughly circular shallow cut approximately 0.08m in diameter with an imperceptible top edge, gentle gradient, and rounded base with a stake hole void in the centre. Interpreted on site as a cut into which a stake was then driven into the ground.

2254 (Post pipe void)

An irregular shaped shallow cut approximately 0.20m in diameter with a sharp top edge, steep gradient and flat base. This context had been intercut by a later post hole (2221).

2255 (Post pipe void)

An irregular shaped shallow depression resulting from its later truncation by Foundation cut (2201) on its NW side.

2256 (Post pipe void)

A roughly circular and shallow depression measuring approximately 0.12m in diameter and 0.04m deep, with a gentle break of slope to the top edge, gentle gradient, and rounded base, such that the whole resembles a shallow, concave dish. Interpreted on site as the impression made by a post when driven into the ground.

2257 (Post pipe void)

Round top edge, approximately 0.07m in diameter, with a sharp break of slope and vertical sides; base not visible. The impression made by a post driven into the ground.

2258 (Post pipe void)

A shallow circular depression, approximately 0.10m. in diameter and 0.03m deep, with rounded top edge, gentle side gradient, and rounded base giving the whole a shallow concave appearance.

2259 (Post pipe void)

A shallow oval shaped depression approximately 0.14m in diameter and 0.03m deep, with a rounded top edge, gentle side gradient, and rounded base giving the whole a shallow concave appearance.

2260 (Post pipe void)

An irregular shaped shallow depression, approximately 0.10m in diameter and 0.01m deep, with a rounded top edge, gentle side gradient, and rounded base giving the whole a shallow concave appearance.

2261 (Post pipe void)

An oval shaped shallow depression approximately 0.25m in diameter and 0.07m deep, with a gently breaking top edge, and gentle side gradient leading down to a vertically sided depression in the centre measuring approximately 0.10m in diameter. Interpreted on site as a shallow post hole cut through which a post was driven into the ground.

2262 (Post pipe void)

A shallow circular depression measuring approximately 0.13m.in diameter and 0.04m deep, with a gently breaking top edge, and a gentle side gradient on three sides except for the south-east side which is vertical; base is flat. Interpreted as the impression left by a post set very shallowly in the ground.

2263 (Post pipe void)

Circular depression, approximately 0.06m.in diameter and 0.02m deep, with a sharp break of slope on the top edge and vertical sides: base is not visible. The impression left by a small post driven into the ground.

2264 (Post pipe void)

Circular shallow depression, 0.08m.in diameter and 0.02m deep, with a gently breaking top edge, gentle side gradient, and rounded base.

2265 (Post pipe void)

A circular void, approximately 0.07m. in diameter, with a sharply breaking top edge, vertical sides; base not visible. The impression made by a small post driven into the ground.

Discussion:

This group of assorted post and stake holes is concentrated in the SE area of the trench between the edge of Foundation cut (2201) and the SE trench section. The shallowness of many of these post holes would suggest that in many cases these holes represent impressions left by posts stood on end rather than actually and deliberately having been set in the ground, while others such as (2249), (2252), and (2253), For example, indicate shallow cuts were initially dug, into which stakes were then driven into the ground.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The area of this excavated trench was levelled using, predominantly clay, possibly originally derived from natural deposits to which domestic refuse material had also been added. The quantity and variation of these inclusions would suggest that in this area this levelling was achieved by means of two distinct deposits as seen in (2.3.1.) and (2.3.2.) which may or may not have been representative of a single levelling episode.

The levelling and build up of this area was then Followed by the arrangement of posts and stakes seen in (2.3.3). A linear NE/SW alignment of a small number of posts including: (2265), (2264), (2262), (2261), (2246), (2250), and (2254) is indicated, but stronger inferences about the nature of this perceived alignment are restricted by the lack of sufficient spatial evidence from a trench of this size. The excavator has suggested these posts may represent the scaffolding associated with the construction of wall (2173). However, the intercutting of post hole (2255) by the Foundation cut

(2201) for this wall would indicate these posts are considerably earlier than this wall's construction. These posts represent an early, and likely temporary, structure on this site – more will be said on this point in 2.4.1 immediately following.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 2.4.1

Context 2237

2237 (Build up/dump)

A mid grey Friable deposit consisting of 60% clay, 30% sand, and 10% ash extending over the entire area of the trench between the edge of Foundation cut (2201) and the SE trench section to an average depth of 0.06m. Inclusions: moderate charcoal and frequent clay patches.

Discussion:

This context, of either accumulated or dumped material, seals (2244) and the majority of post/stake holes discussed in (2.3.3.), and also formed the back Fill of these shallow post/stake holes. The presence of this deposit in the backfill of these post holes provides a likely indication these posts were deliberately removed after a short duration in the ground.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.4.2

Context 2244

2244 (Dump)

A small deposit averaging 0.06m in depth and extending beneath the SE trench section. Comprised of a black Friable deposit of 60% charcoal and 40% clay, This context seals post holes (2256) and (2246) lying stratigraphically beneath it. Inclusions: frequent large charcoal flecks.

A dump of burnt material deposited over the area of earlier posts after their subsequent removal.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Two single context series consisting of shallow deposits of either deliberately dumped or accumulated material which seal earlier occupation levels seen in group 3.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.1

Contexts 2215, 2219

2215 (Build up/levelling)

A red brown friable deposit consisting of 70% clay and 30% silt, and ranging from 0.02-0.06m in depth. Inclusions: occasional pottery sherds, patches of clay, small limestone frags, and bone.

2219 (Build up/dump)

A thin friable grey-green deposit of 50% sand 40% silt, and 10% clay. Inclusions; occasional bone, tile frags, glass, with moderate pottery sherds.

Discussion:

Both contexts represent the build up or dumping of material with a high domestic content in the SU corner of the trench. Both are also truncated by the SW and NW trench sections and cut by (2201). (2219) is also cut by (2214), discussed below.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.2

Contexts 2212, 2214

2212 (Slot Fill deposit)

Mid brown friable deposit of 60% sand, 30% silt, and 10% clay. Fill of cut (2214). Inclusions: occasional pottery, bone, medium cobbles, limestone frags, charcoal flecks & tile.

2214 (Slot/Foundation cut)

A NE/SW aligned cut truncated along its length by the NW trench section. The NE end of this cut is also truncated by the NE section.

Sharply breaking top edge with steep sides at its SW end, with the side gradient becoming more gentle moving toward the NE end, and the top edge growing less distinct. Depth varies from 0.09m-0.19m; relatively flat base.

Discussion:

The severe truncation of cut (2214) by the NW section obscures its actual form and consequently its function. The most likely interpretation of this Feature is that it was a beam slot cut, and that it's Fill (2214), which featured a high proportion of sand, was intended For the purpose of levelling and packing.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.3

Contexts 2238, 2241

2238 (Slot Fill)

Friable mid-grey/brown deposit of 50% clay, 30% ash, 10% sand, and 10% charcoal, 0.02m-0.03m in depth.

2241 (Slot cut)

A rectangular cut, situated in the NE corner of the trench, approximately 0.56m. X 0.28m. aligned SE/NW and cut by (2201) at its NW end. A shallow feature ranging from 0.02-0.03m in depth with gently sloping sides which grade imperceptibly into a concave base.

Discussion:

(2241) is interpreted by the excavator as either the impression or deliberate cut for a beam. Context (2238) is either the deliberate or accumulated fill of this cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.4

Contexts 2239, 2240

2239 (Post hole Fill)

Friable mid-grey/ dark brown deposit of 70% clay, 20% crushed mortar, and 10% ash.

2240 (Post hole cut)

A roughly square shaped post hole 0.20 X 0.18m and 0.24m in depth. Sharp top edge with vertical sides which steps in by 0.07m at a depth of 0.14m on the NE side. Contains (2239).

Discussion:

A cut for a post, which appears from its post pipe void to have been a squared and reused timber.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.5

Contexts 2230, 2233

2230 (Back Fill)

Compact to Friable brown-green deposit of 70% clay and 30% silt.

2233 (Unknown slot cut)

A shallow (0.01m) and narrow cut measuring 0.24m x 0.08m and aligned north-east/south-west. The side edges break sharply from the surface, the ends, however, break imperceptibly. The side gradients are gentle and the base is rounded.

Discussion:

This context series is located at the immediate SE end of 2.5.3. The narrowness of this cut has led the excavator to suggest that it was likely dug to accommodate a short beam, but it may also have been the impression left by a large Flat stone set on its edge.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.5.6

Contexts 2231, 2234, 2232, 2235

2231 (Post pipe Fill)

Compact to Friable mid brown deposit of 80% clay, 10% sand, and 10% silt

2234 (Post pipe void)

A shallow circular cut averaging 0.02m in depth and 0.12m in diameter with a sharp top edge, steep side gradient and flat bottom. Contains (2231).

2232 (Post pipe Fill)

Compact to Friable mid brown deposit of 80% clay, 10% sand and 10% silt.

2235 (Post pipe void)

Circular shallow cut averaging 0.02m.in depth and 0.15m in diameter. Top edge breaks clearly from the surface with a steep side gradient to the SE, and a gentle gradient to the NW; base is flat.

Discussion:

These two post holes were situated in the SE corner of the excavated area in close proximity to one another; (2234) lay 0.06m NW of (2235). This proximity, together with the similarity in their Fills and their levels O.D would suggest these posts were contemporaneous. The Function of these posts, however, is more difficult to determine. The shallowness of these post hole voids, particularly for posts of such substantial diameter would indicate they represent the impressions made by posts resting on the ground rather than having been set into it. This would suggest a temporary load bearing Function for these posts which did not require the additional vertical structural support commonly derived from being set in the ground. They may in Fact have been used as props within some Form of temporary timber structure.

GROUP DISCUSSION

A number of variable and possibly related construction activities are included within this group. In 2.5.1 levelling or build up activities are seen to have occurred in the SW area of this trench which were later intercut by a beam slot or ditch like Feature aligned NE/SW as seen in 2.5.2. Set at right angles to this cut is another smaller, truncated cut (2241) located in the NE corner of

the trench, as seen in 2.5.3. Associated with this cut is the square post Feature 2.5.4 which is cut into the NE edge of (2241). At the SE end of (2241) is the peculiar slot cut (2333) in 2.5.5 which may have accommodated a small beam, possibly on end, or a flat stone on its edge, appearing as some form of terminus to the cut structure as a whole. To the SW of this cut at a distance of approximately 2.0 m are located the two post holes described in 2.5.6. Assigning any possible interpretation to these various structural elements is tenuous at best given the size of this trench and the nature of the evidence itself. In general terms, however, it could be said that these various context series represent a continuation in the use of the land in this site for the building of temporary and renewable timber structures of unknown purpose.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 2.6.1

Contexts 2217, 2225, 2226, 2228

2217 (Dump/levelling)

A mixed deposit averaging 0.08m in depth and consisting of compact to Friable lenses of grey 10% sand, 15% clay, and grey\red brown 15% sand, and 60% clay. Inclusions: occasional sandstone frags, pottery sherds, cobbles, and clay patches with moderate charcoal.

2225 (Dump/levelling)

A deposit of compact green\brown 90% clay and 10% sand located in the SE corner of the trench, and truncated on its NW edge by foundation cut (2201). Inclusions: Frequent sandstone frags.

2226 (Dump/build up)

A mixed deposit consisting of mid grey\green 80% clay, 10% sand, and 10% silt. Inclusions: occasional clay patches, frequent sandstone frags and charcoal.

2228 (Dump/build up)

A mixed deposit of compact brown\green 30% clay, 10% sand and 10% silt with lenses of black Friable material consisting of 15% charcoal, 15% clay, 10% sand, and 10% silt. Inclusions: frequent charcoal, sandstone frags, and mortar with moderate patches of clay.

Discussion

A series of dump and/or build up deposits with a combined average depth of 0.11m and extending over the area of the trench from the edge of (2201) to the SE section. It is uncertain if these deposits represent a single episode of dumping/levelling or a series of accumulative deposits over time.

GROUP DISCUSSION

A sequence of dump/build up deposits containing what appears to be construction refuse possibly for the purpose of levelling.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 2.7.1

2197, 2200, 2202, 2205, 2206, 2208, 2210, 2211

2197 (Levelling)

A Friable red brown deposit averaging 0.07m in depth and consisting of 30% small pebbles, 40% sand, 20% crushed limestone and 10% clay. Physically cut by Foundation cut (2201), well construction cut (2038), and (2196). Inclusions: occasional medium cobbles, pottery sherds, and tile fragments.

2200 (Levelling/dump)

Compact mid-grey/brown deposit averaging 0.04m in depth situated in the south-west corner of the excavated area. Consists of 80% clay and 20% medium pebbles. Inclusions: occasional pottery sherds and charcoal Flecks.

2202 (Dump)

A compact mid grey/brown deposit consisting of 80% clay and 20% silt to an average depth of 0.06m. Physically cut by (2201), (2038) and (2196). Inclusions: Frequent medium cobbles and occasional pottery sherds, bone, and large patches of grey-brown clay.

2205 (Build up/levelling)

Friable mid-grey deposit averaging 0.05m in depth and consisting of 60% clay, 30% silt, and 10% sand. Contains the base of well construction cut (2038): is also cut by (2201). Inclusions: occasional medium cobbles, tile, small patches of mortar, and bone with moderate pottery sherds.

2206 (Floor/levelling)

A compact mid brown deposit of 80% clay and 20% silt with inclusions of occasional medium cobble, charcoal flecks, bone, pottery sherds, and tile frags. Truncated by the NW trench section. Possibly a Floor surface although so little of it actually remains; could also represent a levelling deposit.

2208 <Levelling/build up)

A compact deposit of 60% mid grey clay and 10% silt, with 30% light grey/green sand. Inclusions: occasional large tile fragments, bone, charcoal Flecks, and pottery sherds.

2210 (Levelling/build up)

Friable green-grey deposit of 70% clay and 30% silt. Inclusions: occasional medium cobble, bone, and pottery sherd.

2211 (Dump/build up)

An uneven deposit situated in the SW corner of the trench and truncated by the NW and SW sections. Friable mid green/brown 60% clay and 40% silt. Inclusions: occasional limestone frags, bone, shell, and tile frags with moderate pottery sherds.

Discussion:

A sequence of deposits, with an average combined depth of 0.37m., occurring between the NW edge of foundation cut (2201) and the NW trench section; a space measuring approximately 0.65m in width and 3.0m in length. Most appear to have been dump or levelling deposits.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

The purpose of these deposits is not entirely clear; they may represent intentional levelling or an accumulation of dumps over time. Any interpretation of these deposits as Floor surfaces, as in the case of (2206), is tenuous at best given their fragmentary nature and the limited available spatial evidence.

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 2.8.1

Contexts 2218, 2223, 2224

2218 (Masonry wall)

The remains of a wall structure situated in the NE corner of the excavated area aligned NE/SW, and truncated along its length by the NE trench section. Standing two courses high to a maximum height of 0.32m and a length of 0.70m, this wall is constructed of roughly coursed and faced limestone blocks (approximately H.0.08m x L.0.20m x W.0.10m) set in a matrix of hard light grey mortar containing 40% small pebbles (diameter 0.002m-0.02m), 20% sand, 10% angular limestone (average Dia. 0.06m), and 30% crushed limestone. This wall is possibly cut through at its NW end by the later insertion of wall (2173).

2223 (Foundation pit cut Fill)

A compact mid brown deposit ranging from 0.11m- 0.17m in depth and consisting of 60% blue mottled clay, 10% sandstone fragments, and 30% cobbles averaging 0.08m in diameter. Inclusions: occasional charcoal.

2224 (Foundation pit cut)

A linear cut aligned NE/SW with only its SW Facing edge extending beyond the trench section and, therefore, visible. The top edge is sharp and distinct; the side gradient breaks shallowly and gently from the top for a distance of approximately 0.06m. then becomes vertical, descending to a Flat base. Contains (2223).

Discussion:

The width of this wall is not known due to the truncation along its length by the NE section, however, the relative shallowness of its Foundation cut (0.17m. at its maximum) would suggest it was constructed to support a wall of modest proportions. It is apparent, according to the excavator, that this wall was intercut at its NW end by the later insertion of wall (2173) which ran at right angles to it.

Context Series 2.8.2

Contexts 2220, 2221

2220 (Post hole Fill)

A friable black/grey deposit of 50% clay, 25% charcoal, and 25% sand. Inclusions: occasional fine pebbles.

2221 (Post hole cut)

A circular cut approximately 0.12m in diameter and 0.36m in depth with a sharp top edge, vertical side gradient, and pointed base.

Discussion:

An isolated post driven into the ground in the southern corner of the excavated area: its Function is unknown. The high concentration of charcoal in its Fill suggests this post may have burned in situ.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Stratigraphically, wall (2218) represents the earliest masonry feature within this excavated area. Unfortunately, however, it provides insufficient evidence of its original structural form and

purpose. The isolated post seen in 2.7.2 is cut into the same context (2217) as the wall construction cut (2224) which is why it appears in this group; it is not evident that it had any direct relationship with this wall Feature.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT SERIES 2.9.1

Contexts 2192, 2203, 2204, 2207, 2209, 2210, 2213

2192 (Build up/dump)

Friable mid brown/light grey deposit or 60% sand and 40% clay. Intercut by wall Foundation cut (2201). Inclusions: occasional tile, pottery sherds, charcoal and limestone frags.

2203 (Build up)

Friable red/green/grey deposit of 90% sand and 10% silt with occasional charcoal and pottery sherd inclusions.

2204 (Dump/levelling)

Compact deposit of 70% light brown clay and 30% brown/white mortar with inclusions of occasional tile and limestone.

2207 (Levelling/Floor)

A thin strip (approximately 0.10m x 1.0m.) or compact dark green/brown 90% silt and 10% Fine pebbles.

2209 (Levelling/dump)

Compact light brown deposit to 80% clay and 20% sand with inclusions of occasional tile and limestone frags, and moderate mortar.

2213 (Levelling)

A compact red/brown/grey deposit or 80% clay, 10% sand, and 10% silt extending over the area of the trench from the edge of (2201) to the SE section at an average depth of 0.05m. Physically butts (2216). Inclusions: occasional limestone frag.

2216 (Dump)

A Friable grey deposit averaging 0.04m in depth and situated in the extreme SE corner of the trench. Contained 40% sand and 60% clay.

Inclusions: occasional charcoal.

Discussion:

A sequence of dump/levelling deposits, with a combined average depth of 0.26m., occurring to the SW of wall (2218) in the area between the later Foundation cut (2201) and the SE trench section.

GROUP DISCUSSION

It is difficult to ascertain if any of these deposits actually represent occupation Floors as suggested in (2207) or whether they represent a series of levelling or dump deposits occurring over time. What is apparent, however, is that these deposits succeed in raising the ground level on the SE -side of the later Foundation cut (2201) to within an equal range of that occurring in group 7 on the opposite NW side of Foundation cut (2201).

GROUP 10

CONTEXT SERIES 2.10.1

Contexts 2173, 2198, 2199, 2201

2173 (Masonry wall)

A stone wall, standing 3 to 4 regular courses high with an overall width of 0.90m and running through the excavated area on a NE/SW alignment. The facing stones are squared limestone blocks 0.08m-0.10m high and 0.15m.0.50m wide). Between its faces, the wall's core consists of predominantly rough and unshaped stone ranging from 0.10m-0.30m in diameter. The mortar is 60% limestone and 40% small gravel. The upper course of the wall is stepped in 0.03m on the SE side, and 0.10m on the NW side, giving it an overall width of 0.70m; approximately 2/3 of this exposed upper course has been robbed away.

2198 (Structure make up)

Very hard and compact light yellow deposit, averaging 0.25m in depth, and consisting of 50% angular limestone, 20% sand, and 30% crushed limestone. Inclusions: Frequent small pebbles (up to 0.01m in diameter), occasional bone, charcoal flecks, and tile flecks.

2199 (Packing Fill)

A compact deposit of 80% medium to large cobbles and 20% mid brown clay with inclusions of small limestone mortar lenses near the surface, and occasional pottery sherds, tile, and shell,

2201 (Foundation pit cut)

A cut averaging 1.4m.in width and 1.25m. in depth on a NE/SW axis. The top edge is sharp, with near vertical side gradient breaking sharply onto a fairly level base.

Discussion:

A wall of substantial proportions, and quality in its construction, is evident in this context series. It consisted of a broad base some three courses high upon which a narrower upper course stood, which was almost entirely robbed away during a later period. This wall is constructed upon a deep foundation cut, intruding well into the natural deposits on this site and containing two compact fill deposits serving as suitable foundation material to support this wall's mass.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.10.2

Contexts 2189, 2191

2189 (Floor/levelling)

A thin compact deposit consisting of 80% mid grey clay, 10% brown-grey sand, and 10% charcoal. Intercut by (2138). Inclusions: occasional limestone and pottery sherds.

2191 (Building construction deposit)

A Friable light grey/brown deposit consisting of 30% pebbles (averaging 0.01m. in diameter), 20% limestone frags, 30% crushed limestone, and 90% sand. Intercut by (2188). Inclusions: occasional tile frags and bone.

Discussion:

These two deposits are situated on the SE side of wall (2173) extending to the SE trench section. (2191) represents a spread of mortar and limestone likely associated with the construction of wall (2173). A compact clay deposit (2189) was then inserted over this either as levelling or possibly as a floor surface.

GROUP DISCUSSION

In 2.10.1 the construction of a substantial wall structure is evident. Its intercutting of the earlier wall (2218) indicates it was part of a later redevelopment of this site, although precisely what this later development was remains uncertain. The deposits seen in 2.10.2 are stratigraphically and physically related to the construction of this wall. Moreover, the presence of an apparent Floor surface (2189) would suggest that the area to the SE of wall (2173) constituted the interior space of the structure to which (2173) was a part.

GROUP 11

CONTEXT SERIES 2.11.1

Contexts 2177, 2179, 2180, 2183, 2185, 2181, 2182, 2187, 2188

2177 (Flue/hearth)

A structural Feature situated in the NE corner of the excavation and truncated by the SE trench section; consisting of compact mid brown/yellow 40% clay, 30% sand, 10% silt, and 10% angular stone Fragments (averaging 0.10m. in diameter). This feature is roughly 0.80m square and contains a rectilinear cut (approximately L. 0.70m x W 0.10m) aligned SE/NW within it. Inclusions: occasional charcoal, tile, pottery, and Fragments of millstone grit.

2179 (Build up! dump)

A compact mid brown/grey deposit of 60% clay, 30% sand, and 10% silt ranging from 0.02m-0.10m in depth, and occurring as a build up of domestic material within the rectilinear cut described in (2177). Inclusions: moderate charcoal and pottery sherds.

2180 (Use deposit)

A Friable mixed red/brown deposit of 30% burnt clay, 20% charcoal, and 50% mid brown/dark grey clay. Stratigraphically and physically below (2179). Inclusions: occasional small Fragments of millstone grit.

2183 (Use deposit)

A loose black deposit, averaging 0.04m. in depth, of 90% charcoal and 10% ash. Stratigraphically and physically below (2180). Inclusions: occasional small Fragments of limestone.

2185 (Structure make up)

A loose light grey deposit, averaging approximately 0.04m in depth, of 40% sand, 30% crushed limestone, and 30% angular fragments of limestone grit with an average diameter of 0.10m. A deposit exhibiting extensive heat damage. Stratigraphically and physically below (2183). Inclusions moderate pebbles (average diameter 0.01m), and millstone grit Fragments.

2181 (Structure make up)

A deposit forming the HE side of (2177). A compact grey/brown deposit consisting of 70% clay, 20% medium limestone fragments, and 10% tile frags.

2182 (Structure make up)

A deposit forming the SE side of (2177). Comprised of 80% mid grey to grey/brown clay, 20% small to medium limestone fragments. Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks.

2187 (Structure make up)

A rectangular slab of millstone grit (0.10m thick X 0.63m long X 0.38m in height) standing lengthwise on edge on a NE/SW axis, and situated on the NW end of the rectilinear Flue Feature described in (2177). Heavily tool marked on both sides slanting diagonally across the surface.

2188 (Flue/hearth cut) .

A roughly rectangular cut, with a maximum depth of 0.18m and truncated by the SE trench section. The top edge is sharp with a near vertical gradient on all sides breaking sharply onto a Fairly Flat base. The base also contains a shallow channel (L 0.70m X W 0.15m X D.0.05m) aligned SE/NW and sloping gently to the SE. At the NW end of this channel, and set at right angles to it, is a shallow groove which contained the millstone grit slab seen in (2187). Physically cuts (2189) lying stratigraphically beneath it.

Discussion:

Contexts (2177), (2185), (2181), (2182), and (2187) indicate the heat resistant qualities incorporated into the construction of the structural aspects of this Feature. Evidence of burning can be seen in the deposits contained within the shallow rectilinear channel within this Feature, as seen in contexts (2180) and (2183), as well as the heat damage to the base of this channel noted in (2185). Context (2179) represents a build up of domestic material within this same channel which because it seals the earlier use deposits (2180) and (2183), likely accumulated after this structure had fallen out of use. Functionally, the evidence From this context series points to a likely interpretation of this structure as having been either a hearth of some sort, or a Flue For the conveyance of heated air, likely emanating From a point beyond the SE trench section. IF a Flue, heated air was presumably ducted through the linear channel Feature, the base of which is described in (2185); where it was then diverted upwards, by the presence of the millstone slab described in (2187), through to an overlying space.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.11.2

Context 2172

2172 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 80% charcoal, 10% medium limestone and 10% crushed limestone abutting the SE end of wall (2173) at Foundation level and extending under the SE and SW trench sections. Inclusions: occasional bone, large tile Fragments, and pottery sherds. On the basis of the high charcoal and domestic refuse content in this context it can be interpreted as the likely remains of a burnt wooden Floor.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The construction of a Flue structure, likely For the purpose of conducting heated air, is strongly indicated in 2.11.1. This Feature intercuts (2189) seen in 2.10.2.: an earlier levelling/Floor deposit inserted immediately after the construction of wall (2173), therefore, indicating this Flue structure was inserted very soon after the wall's construction. The Fact this Flue appears on the SE side of wall (2173) provides further evidence for the area on this side of the wall having been interior. The burnt remains of a probable wooden Floor are indicated in 2.11.2. which abuts with wall (2173), but does not physically contact the previously discussed Flue structure, therefore, making it uncertain if it was actually contemporary with it.

GROUP 12

CONTEXT SERIES 2.12.1

Contexts 2152, 2156, 2160, 2168

2152 (Levelling)

A deposit of 50% crushed limestone, 30% limestone (maximum 0.15m. in diameter), and 20% yellow/brown sand. Inclusions: Frequent patches of mid brown clay and occasional tile Fragments.

2156 (Levelling)

A compact loose deposit of 40% crushed limestone, 20% green/brown sand, 20% pebbles, and 20% limestone Fragments. Inclusions: moderate large patches of yellow brown sand, and occasional pottery Fragments.

2160 (Levelling)

Compact deposit of 70% yellow/brown clay, 20% crushed limestone, and 10% small to medium limestone Fragments. This clay levelling slopes away From the base of wall (2173) to the SE. Inclusions: occasional charcoal Flecks, pottery sherds, shell, and brick Fragments.

2168 (Levelling)

Compact deposit of 70% yellow/brown clay, 90% sand, and 10% crushed limestone. Intruding through this deposit From beneath is (21873, the millstone grit slab standing on edge as seen in 2.11.1., lying stratigraphically below. Inclusions: moderate limestone Fragments (maximum diameter 0,15m.), occasional charcoal Flecks, pottery sherds, and small patches of mid brown clay.

Discussion:

A sequence of compact deposits with a combined average depth of 0,28m. and extending from the edge of wall (2173) to the SE trench section. These deposits abut the wider base of wall (2173) to just below its step in at the Fourth course level (see 2.10.1.). The downward slope of these deposits away From the wall base suggests they may have functioned more as levelling than actual Floor surfaces.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.12.2

Contexts 2145, 2147, 2143, 2148

2145 (Stake pipe Fill)

A Friable mid brown/light grey deposit of 80% sand and 20% clay with occasional inclusions of charcoal and mortar.

2147 (Stake pipe void)

Circular top edge (approximately 0.06m. in diameter) with a sharp break of slope, vertical side gradient and rounded base. Depth measures 0.09m. Contains (2145).

2143 (Floor/levelling)

A mid brown deposit of 20% sand, and 70% clay with 10% charcoal, extending over the E corner of the excavated area. Cut by (2147). Inclusions: occasional patches of green/blue clay.

2148 (Floor/levelling)

A loose deposit of 60% crushed limestone, 20% small pebbles and 20% yellow/brown sand. Lies stratigraphically above (2152). Inclusions: moderate tile (maximum 0.08m. in diameter), and occasional bone.

Discussion:

These two relatively thin deposits (average combined depth 0.03m.) appear in the eastern corner of the excavated area bounded by the SE Face of wall (2173) and the SE and NE trench sections, To the SU these deposits are truncated by the later insertion of Foundation cut (2083). Thus the area containing these deposits is limited to a rectangular space roughly 1.40m X 1.0m on the SE side of wall (2173).

Both of these deposits slope downwards from the base of wall (2173) to the SE section, a distance of approximately 1.40m in which the decline is as much as 0.25m. Such a slope would suggest these deposits would have formed a rather impractical occupational Floor surface.

Driven through (2143), at a distance of approximately 0.14m from wall (2173), is an isolated stake of unknown Function, which was interpreted by the excavator as having been later removed from the ground.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.12.3

Contexts 2085, 2074, 2092, 2098, 2103, 2105, 2115, 2113, 2133, 2137, 2141

2085 (Dump)

A small deposit lying in the NE corner of the excavated area and truncated on its SW side by the insertion of Foundation cut (2083). A loose mid brown/grey deposit comprised of 30% sand, 30% cobbles (averaging 0.05m. diameter), 20% clay, and 20% crushed mortar. Inclusions: occasional pot and pebbles (averaging 0.01m in diameter).

2074 (Dump)

A Friable dark green/grey deposit of 40% clay, 40% sand, 10% silt and 10% charcoal. Inclusions: moderate pottery sherds, occasional Fe object.

2092 (Floor)

A compact mid grey/brown deposit of 40% clay, 30% sand, 10% Fine pebbles, and 20% pebbles averaging 0.03m. in diameter. Inclusions: occasional tile, pot, and bone.

2099 (Floor)

Compact mid-brown/grey deposit of 50% sand, 40% clay, and 10% pebbles (averaging 0.03m. in diameter). Inclusions: occasional pot, tile, mortar, and clay patches.

2103 (Levelling/Floor)

A Friable dark grey/brown deposit of 80% sand and 20% clay. Inclusions: Frequent ash, moderate charcoal, with occasional pot and bone.

2105 (Levelling/Floor)

A compact mid brown/light grey deposit of 90% sand and 10% silt. Inclusions: occasional tile, pot, mortar, and charcoal.

2115 (Floor)

A small friable light grey deposit truncated to the SE by the trench section and to the SW by Foundation cut (2083): comprised of 50% coarse sand, 40% sand, and 10% tile Flecks. Possibly the remains of a Floor surface or an isolated patch of dumped mortar.

2113 (Levelling)

A Friable dark grey deposit of 80% sand, 10% ash, and 10% charcoal. Inclusions: moderate mid brown sand patches, occasional tile, pot, and clay patches.

2133 (Floor)

A compact deposit of mid brown 90% sand, and 10% charcoal. Inclusions: occasional pottery sherds and tile Fragments.

2137 (Floor)

A compact mid brown deposit of 70% sand, 20% clay and 10% charcoal. Inclusions: Frequent mortar patches, occasional pot, tile and angular limestone.

2141 (Floor/levelling)

A Friable light grey mortar consisting of 50% crushed limestone, 20% mid brown clay, 10% sand, 10% pebbles (averaging 0.01m. in diameter), and 10% tile Fragments. Stratigraphically above (2145). Inclusions: Frequent charcoal.

Discussion:

This sequence of deposits lies stratigraphically above 2.12.2. The compactness of many of these contexts, many of which Feature a high percentage of sand and clay, together with various inclusions of essentially domestically derived material, suggests these contexts likely represent Floor surfaces or bases For Floor surfaces. What complicates this interpretation, however, is that Fact that none of these surfaces are level in relation to wall C21?3J; they all slope down and away From it. This slope amounts to a drop of 0.27m in the case of E2144) when measured From the base of the SE section roughly

1.40m From wall (2173), and gradually diminishes to a drop of 0.11m. For (2092).

CONTEXT SERIES 2.12.4

Contexts 2120, 2121, 2122, 2125, 2127, 2132, 2140, 2144, 2153

2120 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose deposit consisting of 70% dark grey brown silt, and 30% yellow brown sand. Inclusions: occasional limestone Flecks and tile Fragments.

2121 (Stake pipe void) ~

Circular shaped cut approximately 0.07m in diameter with a sharp top edge, steep sides, and rounded base.

2122 (Floor)

A compact deposit of 50% yellow brown clay, 30% mid grey/brown silt, and 90% black charcoal. Inclusions: occasional small patches of pure clay.

2125 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 60% light yellow-brown sand, 20% mid grey/brown silt, and 20% black charcoal. Intrusions: occasional small pebbles and pottery sherds.

2127 (Floor)

A very thin loose deposit of 60% black charcoal, 15% yellow brown sand, and 35% mid grey/brown silt. Inclusions: occasional wood Fragments (maximum diameter 0.05m.). *remains of a burnt Floor.

2132 (Floor)

Compact deposit of 60% yellow/brown sand, 90% sandstone Fragments, and 20% mid grey/brown silt. Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks, small patches of yellow/brown clay, with occasional tile Fragments and bone.

2140 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 50% crushed limestone, 20% small pebbles, and 30% yellow/brown sand. Inclusions: moderate patches of yellow/brown clay, with occasional tile Fragments.

2144 (Floor)

A compact deposit of 50% mid red/brown clay, 30% yellow/brown sand, and 20% limestone Fragments (0.02m– 0.15m across). Inclusions: occasional patches of yellow/green clay and small tile Fragments.

2153 (Levelling/dump)

A loose deposit of 60% crushed limestone, 20% small pebbles and 20% yellow/brown sand. This deposit physically overlies the broad step in of wall (2173). Inclusions: moderate tile fragments, with occasional bone.

Discussion:

A sequence of deposits with a combined average depth of 0.19m., located in the southern corner of the excavation bounded by the SE and SU trench sections and the SU Facing side of wall (2173). These deposits are truncated at their NE edge by the later insertion of Foundation cut (2083). The exposed area containing these deposits is thus restricted in size to a roughly square area adjacent to the SE side of wall (2173) measuring 1.25m x 1.40m.

These contexts appear to have been deposited against wall (2173) and slope downwards toward the SE trench section in a similar manner to that of the other context series in this group. The compactness of many of these surfaces and their inclusions would suggest they formed a mixed series of Floors, but their slope away from the wall remains difficult to understand. Cutting context (2125) is an isolated post/stake of unknown Function which corresponds closely < within 0.05m.) to the level of the stake appearing in 2.12.2.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.12.5

Contexts 2088, 2096, 2099, 2102, 2106, 2114

2088 (Floor)

A deposit of 40% cobbles, 20% clay, 20% sand, and 10% large stones (size range 0.10m.-0.20m.) Inclusions: occasional tile Fragments and lime plaster.

2096 (Levelling/Floor)

A compact deposit of 80% clay, 10% sand, and 10% silt. Inclusions: occasional tile and pottery Fragments.

2099 (Floor)

A compact mid brown/grey deposit of 50% sand, 40% clay, and 10% pebbles (average diameter: 0.03m.) Inclusions: occasional pottery, tile, clay patches and mortar.

2102 (Levelling/Floor)

A Friable dark grey/brown deposit of 80% sand and 20% clay. Inclusions: Frequent ash, moderate charcoal, and occasional bone, tile and pottery Fragments.

2106 (Levelling/Floor)

A compact mid brown/light grey deposit of 90% sand and 10% silt. Inclusions: occasional tile, charcoal, pottery, and mortar.

2114 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 50% black charcoal, 30% dark grey/brown silt and 20% yellow sand. Inclusions: occasional large tile, small to medium pebbles, patches of yellow/brown clay, and bone.

Discussion:

A sequence of deposits situated stratigraphically above 2.12.4. with an average combined depth of 0.25m. The earlier deposits in this series slope gently away From wall (2173) as seen previously in

2.12.4 later contexts such as (2088) and (2096), however, appear to be relatively level.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

This seemingly large context group consists of deposits occurring in the area to the SE of wall (2173) as bounded by the trench sections situated in this half of the excavated area. Series 2.12.1. contains a sequence of levelling deposits likely associated with the construction of wall (2173) and the preparation of a base for later Floor surfaces. This series ends at roughly the level of the broad step-in occurring on the SE Facing side of wall (2173). Subsequent context series are affected by the presence of a later Foundation cut (2083), aligned in a SE/NW direction and running from the middle of the exposed SE side of wall (2173) to the SE section, which cuts all of the earlier deposits of this group. This situation has resulted in the compartmentalisation of this area into two small, and roughly square, corner regions on either side of this cut Feature. The base of this cut appears between (2153) and (2148) in 2.12.4. and 2.12.2. respectively.

The build up of these various surface deposits is stratigraphically evident, but the sequence of their deposition is less clearly understood. This is why in both 2.12.2. and 2.12.4. These context series end with the insertion of stake cuts, which share a similar level (12.90-12.95 for (2147) and (2121) respectively), which may suggest they were contemporary. At the very least the appearance of these stakes is an indication that the underlying context into which each were cut actual were Floor surfaces, and quite probably contemporary. Within 2.12.3 and 2.12.5 it is possible, on the basis of context descriptions and inclusions to link a number of the deposits appearing on either side of the later intruding Foundation cut (2083) as part of earlier Floor levels extending over this exposed area, as For example in the case of (2099) in 2.12.5 and (2098) in 2.12.3 (a Further six sets of correlating contexts appear within this group as noted in the group matrix).

GROUP 13

CONTEXT SERIES 2.13.1

Contexts 2195, 2196, 2194

2195 (Backfill)

A compact deposit of 50% mid brown clay and 50% limestone Fragments (average diameter 0.10m.). The limestone Fragments were concentrated toward the bottom of this deposit. Inclusions: occasional opus signinum, tile, and mortar.

2196 (Cut-other)

A linear cut Feature on a NE/SW alignment and truncated along its 2.20m length by the NW trench section. The NE end of this cut turns in toward the NW section, while the SW end continues under the SW trench section. The top edge breaks sharply to a concave side gradient sloping into the NW section; the base is obscured by this same section. The exposed depth ranges from 0.16m at the NE end to 0.11m at the SW end.

2194 (Dump)

A Friable mid brown/light grey deposit consisting of 60% sand and 40% clay. Inclusions: Frequent pottery and limestone Fragments with occasional shell, tile, charcoal, and mortar.

Discussion:

Context (2195) constitutes the Fill of cut (2196); a Feature located approximately 0.65m. to the NW of wall (2173) and in a parallel alignment with it. Dump deposit (2194) lies stratigraphically beneath (2196), and is cut by it.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.13.2

Contexts 2176, 2091, 2178, 2184, 2186, 2190, 2193

2176: (Levelling)

A Friable deposit of 40% light-dark orange sand, 40% light grey clay, 10% black charcoal, and black/brown silt. Inclusions: none.

2091 (Dump)

A mixed deposit of 50% light brown clay, 10% grey silt, with 30% grey/brown silt, and 10% clay. Inclusions: Frequent charcoal flecks, sandstone, with occasional pot, shell, tile, and Fe objects.

2178 (Dump)

Friable grey/green deposit of 70% clay and, 30% silt. Inclusions: Frequent charcoal, moderate shell and pottery sherds, and occasional bone, limestone and sandstone.

2184 (Dump)

Friable black deposit of 80% charcoal, 10% sand, and 10% silt. Inclusions: none.

2186 (Dump)

Friable light brown deposit of 40% silt, 20% sand, 30% charcoal and 10% silt. Inclusions: moderate bone and charcoal with occasional large pottery sherds.

2190 (Dump)

A deposit described by the excavator as a mixture to lenses consisting of light brown 20% clay and 10% silt, brown/green 10% clay and 20% silt, mid brown 10% silt and 10% sand, and 10% charcoal and 10% sand. Inclusions: .Frequent pottery sherds, charcoal, moderate shell, Fe objects, bone, tile, with occasional limestone and crushed sandstone.

2193 (Dump)

A mixture of Friable light brown 40% clay and 20% sand, with compact light brown 10% clay, and Friable dark brown 20% silt and 10% sand. Inclusions: frequent charcoal, occasional mortar, shell, and small pebbles.

Discussion:

A series of dump deposits with a combined average depth of 0.40m. situated to the NW. of wall (2173) and lying stratigraphically above

2.13.1. The varied nature of these deposits and their inclusions suggests they represent a build up of dumped domestic material.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The various context series within this group relate to activities that occurred to the NW of wall C2173). This is an area or the excavation measuring about 3.0m X 0.65m and therefore, limited in the spatial information it can provide.

The content and inclusions of (2194) in 2.13.1 combined with its stratigraphical relationship with wall (2173), would suggest it is a deposit of construction related material, likely associated with the construction of this wall. Cut Feature (2196) is very enigmatic in its Function due to its severely truncated appearance. Its relationship with wall (2173) is also uncertain. Context (2195) indicates, this cut, »was backfilled with construction material waste, possibly associated with the building of wall (2173) or some other, as yet, unknown structure lying Outside of the excavated area.

The dump deposits seen gin 2.13lQ. appear to be comprised essentially, of domestic waste, possibly redeposited, which may have accumulated over time, or resulted from a single dumping episode. The depths of these deposits and their proximity with wall (2173) may be an indication they were intended to build up the, ground levels on this NW side of wall (2173) with that occurring on its SE side.

GROUP 14

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.1

Context 2166 2998

2166 (Wall)

A line or limestone blocks (ranging From 0.10m-0.25m in length .and 0.10m in height) aligned NE/SW and appearing in the SE trench section From the south corner or the excavated area and extending 1.40m NE. Approximately 0.Bm. of this wall appears to have at least

two overlying courses, but these were obscured behind the trench shoring and could not be properly recorded. All courses whether exposed or obscured appeared regular and even.

2998 (Wall)

A wall of rectangular limestone blocks (averaging 0.14m. in length and 0.09m; in height) standing two courses high on a SE/NW axis and appearing in the SW trench section from the south corner and extending approximately 0.90m to the NW. All of the blocks in this wall are roughly squared but six also have a smooth Face. The blocks are bonded together with a hard orange/grey mortar composed of 50% concreted coarse sand, 10% fine pebbles, 10% pebbles with an average diameter of 0.04m., 20% angular limestone, and 10% cobbles average diameter 0.10m. The core of this wall was composed of angular limestone, cobbles, and mortar

Discussion:

The remains of two finely built small walls, both of which appear in the trench sections, which resulted in only their partial exposure. These walls converge in the extreme S corner of the excavated area and are bonded together at that point. Wall (2166) runs parallel with the earlier wall (2223) while wall (2998) runs NW from wall (2166) in the direction of wall (2173) where it stops about 0.40m. away from reaching it. No foundation cuts or base features were evident for either of these walls.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.2

Contexts 2084, 2086

2084 (Floor)

A friable mid brown/grey deposit of 30% sand, 30% clay, and 40% limestone fragments lying in the S corner of the excavated area bounded by wall (2166) to the SE, wall (2998) to the SW and truncated on its NE facing edge by the later foundation cut (2083). Lies stratigraphically above (2088). Inclusions: Frequent pebbles (average 0.02m in diameter), with occasional pottery fragments.

2088 (Floor)

A deposit comprised of 40% cobbles, 20% sand, and 10% large stones ranging from 0.10m-0.20m in diameter. Inclusions: occasional tile Fragments, and pieces of lime plaster.

Discussion:

Two Floor surfaces, with a combined average depth of 0.08m which relate stratigraphically to the construction of the wall structures noted in 2.14.1.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.3

Contexts 2999, 2081, 2083

2999 (Wall)

A wall aligned SE/NU which abuts wall (2073) at its NW end and is truncated by the trench section at its SE end. The exposed length of this wall is approximately 1.50m its width averages 0.50m. This wall stands a full two courses high: partial remains of a third course have also survived. At its SE end this wall slopes downward, either as a consequence of slumping or by design, by an estimated 0.12m. The Facing stone of this wall is comprised of regular coursed and roughly rectangular limestone blocks (0.10m x 0.14m). Most of the blocks are roughly squared; however, 9 blocks on the SW Face are squared with a smooth Face. The mortar is hard grey/orange composed of 50% concreted coarse sand, 10% Fine pebbles, 10% pebbles (averaging 0.04m. in diameter), 20% angular limestone (average diameter 0.10m., and 10% cobbles (average diameter 0.10m. The central core of the wall consisted of angular limestone, cobbles, and mortar. Inclusions: occasional tile Found in core.

2081 (Packing/structure make up)

A compact deposit of 50% mid brown clay, and 50% cobbles ranging in size from 0.10m-0.20m. In diameter. Inclusions: occasional large tile Fragments, and moderate sized pieces of opus signinum.

2083 (Foundation cut)

A linear cut Feature with a sharp top edge, vertical sides, sharp bottom edge, and Flat base. Average depth 0.50m. with an average width of 0.64m. Contained (2081).

Discussion:

A substantial and finely built wall resting on a compact Foundation base of clay and cobble set within a relatively deep cut Foundation trench cutting through a series of earlier Floor surfaces. This wall is bonded to the SE Facing side of the earlier and larger wall (2173).

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.4

Contexts 2073, 2077, 2087

2073 (Wall)

A wall aligned SW/NE appearing in the SE trench section, and extending) at its NE end From the NE side of wall (2999) to the extreme E corner of the excavated area. This wall stands a single course high. Its exposed Face is composed of regularly coursed limestone blocks (averaging 0.10m X 0.16m.) Most blocks are roughly (squared; with some having a single squared Face. The blocks are bonded with compact orange/grey mortar containing 60% concreted coarse sand, 20% Fine pebbles, 10% small pebbles, and 10% limestone. From what can be seen of the core it appears to be comprised of angular rough hewn limestone blocks together with mortar (as described above).

2077 (Fill/packing)

A compact deposit consisting of 50% mid brown clay and 50% cobbles ranging from 0.10m. to 0.20m.

2087 (Foundation cut)

A linear SW/NE aligned cut, truncated along its length by the SE trench section. The top edge is sharp, side gradient slopes under section. The depth of this cut was not available. Contained (2077).

Discussion:

The remains of a small wall set at right angles with, and bonded to, wall (2999).

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.5

Contexts: 2064, 2067, 2072, 2075

2064 (Floor)

A mid brown deposit of 70% clay, 20% sand with 10% dark grey/brown silt. Inclusions: occasional pottery' and tile Fragments, and bone.

2067 (Floor)

Very compact deposit of 60% clay, 20% sand, and 20% patches of white mortar.

2072 (Floor)

Compact mid brown deposit of 70% sand and 30% clay. Inclusions: occasional mortar patches and angular limestone Fragments (averaging 0.10m. in diameter).

2075 (Floor)

Compact deposit of 70% white mortar, 10% off white mortar with 20% angular limestone Fragments ranging from 0.15m-0.04m in diameter, and laid flat. Inclusions: occasional tile.

Discussion:

A sequence of Floor, and/or Floor base surfaces situated in the SE corner of the excavated area in the space bounded by walls (2998), (2175), £29993, and (2166). Average accumulated depth 0.25m.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.14.6

Contexts: 2065, 2066, 2068, 2069, 2071

2065 (Floor)

A deposit of 70% compact mid yellow/brown clay and 30% Friable mid brown silt. Inclusions: Frequent small pebbles, moderate medium to

large pottery sherds, with occasional small brick and tile, charcoal and mortar Flecks.

2066 (Floor)

A Friable mid brown deposit of 70% clay, 20% silt, and 10% grit. Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks, with occasional small pieces of mortar, brick and tile.

2068 (Floor)

A deposit containing 60% compacted mid yellow sand, 25% Friable mid~yellow/brown clay, and 15% Friable mid brown silt. Inclusions: Frequent medium~small pebbles, moderate large pieces of worked limestone, tile, with occasional shells, and pieces of mortar.

2069 (Floor/levelling)

Deposit of 50% mid brown clay, 35% mid yellow/brown sand, and 15% grit. Inclusions: Frequent small and medium pebbles and small mortar Fragments, moderate small pieces of brick and tile, with occasional charcoal Flecks, and medium pieces of mortar.

2071 (Floor)

A compact deposit of 60% pebbles and cobbles (ranging from 0.01m. to 0.15m. in diameter), 20% mid brown clay, 10% mid brown sand, and 10% Fine pebbles. Inclusions: Frequent Flecks of mortar, moderate brick and tile, with occasional bone, shell, and pottery.

Discussion:

A sequence of Floor and/or Floor base surfaces situated in the HE corner of the excavated area in the space bounded by wall (2073), (2999), and (2175). Average accumulated depth 0.15m.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The various context series in this group outline a number of related structural developments in the region of the excavated area to the SE of wall (2173). Two phases of construction appear to be evident. The First phase begins with the construction of walls (2998) and (2166) appearing in the S corner of the trench as seen in 2.14.1. A

gap of approximately 0.40m. between the NW end of wall (2998) and the SE Facing side of (2173) suggests this may have represented a narrow entrance into this newly created space. Associated with this wall construction are the Floor surfaces discussed in 2.14.2. Following the laying of these Floors, the second structural phase begins with the insertion of Foundation cut (2083) for wall (2999) as seen in 2.14.3. This is then followed by the construction of wall (2073) in 2.14.4

These structural developments indicate the area to the SE of wall (2173) was subject to intensive rebuilding with the insertion of new walls creating small internal spatial divisions of an, as yet, undetermined Function. This division of internal space by these means resulted in the creation of some unusually small and puzzling spaces, such as that achieved by the insertion of walls (2998), (2166), and (2999) in relation to wall (2173), which produced a cubicle approximately 1.40m. X 1.60m. A sequence of Floor surfaces inserted within the two exposed internal spaces created by this structural development can be seen in 2.14.5. and 2.14.6.

GROUP 15

CONTEXT SERIES 2.15.1

Contexts: 2129, 2130, 2119, 2158, 2162, 2134, 2136, 2138, 2150, 2142, 2163, 2135, 2149, 2155, 2169, 2151, 2164, 2171, 2175, 2154, 2139, 2146, 2157, 2167, 2161, 2165, 2170, 2174, 2159

2129 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 50% yellow sand, 30% yellow/grey sand, and 20% yellow/grey silt. Stratigraphically below (2118), (2131), (2124), (2123), and (2112).

2130 (Floor)

A Friable black brown deposit of 50% clay, 25% silt, and 25% charcoal. Stratigraphically below (2112) and (2109).

2119 (Floor)

A very small loose black deposit or 70% charcoal and 30% sand.
Stratigraphically below (2094) and above (2135).

2158 (Floor)

A loose black/brown deposit of 70% silt and 30% sand.
Stratigraphically below (2118).

2162 (Floor)

A loose yellow/grey deposit of 90% sand and 10% silt.
Stratigraphically below (2129).

2134 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose black deposit of 60% silt and 40% charcoal.
Stratigraphically below (2129).

2136 (Stake pipe void)

A circular cut approximately 0.03m. in diameter and 0.05m. in depth.
Top edge sharp with steep side gradient, and rounded base. Contains
(2134). .

2138 (Floor)

A loose black deposit of 50% charcoal, 30% sand, and 20% clay.
Stratigraphically below (2129).

2150 (Floor)

Very small circular deposit of 60% charcoal, 30% silt, and 10% sand.
Stratigraphically below (2129).

2163 (Floor)

Small loose deposit of 50% yellow/grey sand and 50% yellow sand.
Stratigraphically below (2150) and (2135).

2135 (Floor)

A small black/brown Friable deposit of 50% silt, 20% clay, 15% sand.
and 15% charcoal. Stratigraphically below (2130).

2149 (Floor)

Small loose yellow deposit of 80% sand and 20% silt. Cut by (2136).

2155 (Floor)

A very small and loose deposit of 70% black charcoal and 30% yellow sand. Stratigraphically below (2149).

2169 (Floor)

A loose black deposit of 50% charcoal, and 20% sand with a lens of grey/black 10% sand and 20% charcoal. Stratigraphically below (2155) and (2164).

2151 (Floor)

Very small Friable deposit of 60% grey silt and 40% yellow sand. Stratigraphically below (2142).

2164 (Floor)

Very small loose grey/brown deposit of 60% clay, 20% sand and 20% silt. Stratigraphically below (2151).

2171 (Floor)

Very small loose deposit of yellow 30% sand and 20% silt with a loose black lens of 40% charcoal and 10% sand. Stratigraphically below (2142).

2175 (Floor)

A loose black deposit of 80% charcoal, 10% sand, and 10% silt. Stratigraphically below (2171) and above (2176) in 2.13.2.

2154 (Floor)

A loose black deposit of 60% charcoal and 40% silt. Stratigraphically below (2135) and above (2176) in 2.13.2.

2139 (Floor)

Extremely small friable orange/brown deposit of 40% clay 30% silt, and 30% sand. Stratigraphically below (2135), and above (2176) in 2.13.2.

2146 (Floor)

A loose black/brown deposit of 70% sand and 30% charcoal. Stratigraphically below (2136).

2157 (Floor)

Small loose black deposit of 60% charcoal and 40% silt. Stratigraphically below (2146).

2167 (Floor)

Small loose black/grey deposit of 70% charcoal and 30% sand. Stratigraphically below (2157).

2161 (Floor)

A loose and very small yellow deposit of 80% sand and 20% silt. Stratigraphically below (2157) and above (2176) in 2.13.2.

2165 (Floor)

A small loose black/brown deposit of 90% charcoal and 10% silt. Stratigraphically below (2158) and (2163).

2170 (Floor)

A mixed loose deposit of 50% mid-grey/yellow silt with 40% charcoal and 10% orange sand. Inclusions: occasional Fe object. Stratigraphically below (2165) and (2169).

2174 (Floor)

A loose black deposit of 90% charcoal and 10% sand. Stratigraphically below (2170).

2159 (Floor)

Very small loose black deposit of 60% charcoal and 40% sand.
Stratigraphically below (2101) and above (2176) in 2.13.2. .

2142: (Floor)

30% yellow sand, 20% yellow silt, 20% grey silt, 30% dark
yellow/grey sand with patches of orange sand and clay.

Discussion:

A series of quite small deposits of Fine loose material with high concentrations of silt, sand, and charcoal. What is also characteristic of these deposits is their general absence of inclusions. This has led to the on site interpretation of these deposits as material deposited through Floorboards and the suggestion that their charcoal content represents evidence of burned timber Floors. Context (2136) appears as an isolated stake which although closely associated in elevation to the stakes seen in 2.15.2. is not stratigraphically related to them.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.15.2

Contexts: 2128, 2131, 2117, 2124, 2116, 2123, 2108, 2109

2128 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose black deposit consisting of 60% charcoal and 40% silt.

2131 (Stake pipe void)

A shallow oval shaped cut with sharply breaking top edge, steep gradient and Flat base. Contained (2128).

2117 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose mid grey deposit of 80% silt and 20% sand.

2124 (Stake pipe void)

Circular cut approximately 0.04m in diameter and 0.03m. in depth.
Sharp top edge with steep side gradient and slightly pointed base.

2116 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose mid grey deposit of 70% silt, 20% sand, and 10% charcoal.

2123 (Stake pipe void)

A small circular cut approximately 0.03m in diameter and 0.08m. in depth. Top edge sharp with a steep side gradient, base steps in on the SE side.

2108 (Stake pipe Fill)

A loose mid grey, deposit of 80% silt and 20% sand.

2109 (Stake pipe void)

A roughly circular shallow cut (approximately 0.10m. in diameter and 0.03m. in depth). Top edge is imperceptible. with a gentle side gradient, and a Flat base.

Discussion:

A series of post/stake holes displaying no particular spatial patterning or clear evidence of any contemporary relationship. The strongest link between them is that they Fall within a contour range of 0.09m. suggesting they may have- been part of the same occupation horizon. Their Function, either individually or as a possibly contemporary group, remains unknown.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.15.3

Contexts: 2097, 2089, 2090, 2094, 2093, 2095, 2100, 2104, 2101, 2107, 2111, 2126, 2110, 2112, 2118

2097 (Floor)

A very small loose yellow deposit or 90% sand and 10% silt. Stratigraphically above (2101). Inclusions: none.

2089 (Floor)

A loose yellow/grey deposit of 60% silt and 40% sand. Inclusions: occasional ash.

2090 (Floor)

A loose grey/black deposit of 50% silt and 50% sand. Inclusions: occasional pot.

2094 (Floor)

A Fine loose dark grey deposit of 90% silt and 10% sand. Stratigraphically below (2090). Inclusions: occasional charcoal.

2093 <Floor)

A loose deposit of 70% grey/black silt, 20% grey/black sand, and 10% yellow sand. Lies stratigraphically below (2089). Inclusions: occasional charcoal.

2095 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 10% black/grey silt, 50% grey/yellow (sand. and 40% yellow sand. Occasional limestone frags.

2100 (Fill)

A loose and Fine deposit of 60% mid grey silt and 40% mid-grey sand.

2104 (Slot cut)

A small rectangular cut 0.26m. X 0.08m. with a depth of 0.03m, on an E/W alignment. Features a sharp top edge, steep side gradient and rounded base. Contains (2100).

2101 (Floor)

A Fine mixed deposit of 40% mid grey silt, 10% mid grey sand, 30% grey/black charcoal, and 20% grey/black silt. Intercut by (2104). Inclusions: occasional patches of yellow sand.

2107 (Floor)

A loose mid grey/yellow deposit of 60% sand and 40% silt. Stratigraphically above (2111), (2126), (2110), and (2112). Intercut by (2104).

2111 (Floor)

A loose grey/yellow deposit of Fine 40% sand, 40% clay, and 20% silt.

2126 (Floor)

A small loose and Fine black/grey deposit of 50% charcoal, 40% silt, and 10% sand. Inclusions: occasional charcoal.

2110 (Floor)

A very small loose and Fine yellow/black/grey deposit of 60% silt and 40% sand.

2112 (Floor)

A small loose and Fine yellow/grey deposit of 50% clay, 40% silt, and 10% silt.

2118 (Floor)

A small loose and Fine black deposit of 80% charcoal, sand, and silt. Stratigraphically below (2111).

Discussion:

This series consists of a sequence of small, and quite varied deposits, which because of their Pine texture and lack of inclusions, have been generally interpreted to represent material deposited through Floor boards: more will be said on this point in the Following group discussion. Context (2104) may possibly represent an isolated beam slot cut as part of a suspended timber Floor, .as suggested by the excavator, however, insufficient evidence exists to confirm this.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.15.4

Contexts 2070, 2076, 2079, 2078, 2080, 2082

2070 (Build up/Floor)

Compact dark brown/grey deposit of 10% sand, 30% silt, and 60% clay. Truncated along its SE Facing edge by a later robber cut (2063). Inclusions: moderate mortar patches with occasional limestone.

2076 (Floor)

Compact deposit of 80% mid yellow clay. and 20% mid brown clay. Inclusions: moderate large limestone, occasional large tile and small pottery sherds.

2079 (Cut-other)

Roughly rectangular cut (0.10m. X 0.25m.) with a sharp top edge, vertical slope, sharp bottom edge, and Flat base. Maximum depth 0.10m. Situated in the extreme W corner of the excavated area and truncated by the SW and NW trench sections.

2073 (Floor)

Compacted deposit of mottled mid brown/mid yellow 60% clay and 40% silt. Inclusions: moderate Flecks of charcoal.

2080 (Floor)

Friable mid brown deposit of 70% silt and 30% clay. Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks.

2082 (Floor)

A loose deposit of 60% yellow light brown sand, 30% mid grey ash, and 10% mid grey silt. Lies stratigraphically above (2090), (2089), and (2097). Inclusions: occasional Fe object.

Discussion:

These contexts amount to the most spatially extensive deposits within the narrow confines of this exposed area to the NW of wall (2173). They also include among them some of the most compact

deposits occurring in this region, and within this group series. Cut Feature (2079), although quite truncated by the SW and NW sections, represents a well defined and structured cut suggesting it may possibly have been a beam slot, however, insufficient evidence exists to be certain of this interpretation.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This rather large and seemingly amorphous group represents a build up of deposits to a depth of 0.38m occurring within the rather limited space between the NW edge of robber cut (2163) and

the NW trenches section a space measuring approximately 0.20m. in width and 3.0m. in length. These are deposits that would have built up against the NW Face of wall (2073) before it had been robbed down to its current surviving height. The majority of these deposits are mixed, fragmentary, and quite small in size.

To interpret the sequence and inter-relationships resulting from deposition processes among such a group necessitated a certain amount or arbitrary grouping of these contexts. Thus 2.15.2.

contains a series of small stake/post voids, together with their respective fills, which provides the only real indication or any definable occupation horizon between the deposits contained in 2.15.1. and 2.15.3.

The interpretation, given to the deposits appearing in 2.15.1. and 2.15.3., as Floors was established on site, on the basis of their quite Fine texture; the presence of considerable quantities of charcoal suggesting evidence of burnt timber Floors and the general lack of inclusions suggesting their likely deposition through Floorboards. It must also be acknowledged, however, that these deposits may represent nothing more mysterious than the accumulation of waste material derived From hearths, braziers, and other domestic sources dumped against the external side of a building, either as a means of disposing of refuse in a discrete area within a settlement, or as a deliberate act intended to build up the ground level on one side of, a wall to match that occurring on the other. A major difficulty with the on site interpretation of these deposits is that

one would expect to Find evidence of the deposition of material through timber Floors in the Form of peaks and valleys within these deposits, created by the presence of overlying Floorboards and the spaces between them through which material would Fall; no such patterns were evident.

Firmer evidence supporting the presence of Floor surfaces occurs in 2.15.4., however, due to spatial constraints and the nature of this available evidence it remains uncertain if these Floor surfaces were external or internal in relation to wall (2173).

GROUP 16

CONTEXT SERIES 2.16.1

Contexts: 2052, 2053, 2061, 2062, 2063

2052 (Backfill)

Friable dark grey/brown deposit of 60% clay, 20% sand and 20% silt, Inclusions: Frequent mortar (averaging 0.15m. in diameter), moderate. limestone, with occasional tile, pottery, shell and bone.

2053 (Robber cut Fill)

A friable deposit of 50% black/brown silt, and 50% medium to large mortar with black/brown clay. Inclusions: Frequent mortar, with occasional tile, charcoal, bone, and patches of clay.

2061 (Backfill)

A Friable deposit of 60% mid brown/black, 30% light brown clay, and 10% white/yellow mortar, located at the SW end of cut (2062). Inclusions: occasional small/medium limestone frags, shell, bone, and charcoal.

2062 (Robber cut fill)

Friable deposit 40% clay, 40% limestone rubble, 20% silt. Inclusions: Frequent limestone and mortar, with occasional charcoal, tile and patches of clay.

(2063 (Robber cut)

A linear cut Feature aligned NE/SW running through the excavated area, measures approximately 1-50m. in width with a maximum depth of 0.75m. Features a sharp top edge, vertical side gradient with a sharply breaking bottom edge, and a Flat base.

Discussion:

A Context (2063) represents a cut made For the removal of masonry from wall (2173). Contained within this cut are a series of Fill and/or dump deposits comprised mostly of demolition and domestic refuse, to an average combined depth of 0.80m.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.16.2

Contexts: 2055, 2056, 2058, 2059

2055 (Dump)

A Friable brown/black deposit of 50% silt, 40% clay and 10% sand
Inclusions: moderate mortar, with occasional limestone frags and tiles.

2056 (Backfill)

Friable black/brown deposit of 60% silt, 30% clay, and 10% sand
Inclusions: moderate mortar, limestone, and patches of clay.

2058 (Pit cut)

A large shallow and irregular shaped cut (roughly 1.0m. X 1.50m. with a maximum depth of 0.12m. Top edge is imperceptible on NE and SW sides, gradual break From surface on the NE and SW sides. The break of slope at the base is irregular, and the base slopes toward the SE. Contains (2056).

2059 (Dump)

A compact deposit 60% pink/orange clay, 10% dark grey/brown clay and 30% silt. Stratigraphically above (2061). Inclusions: occasional tile.

Discussion:

A sequence beginning with a dump deposit of clay, possibly including redeposited Floor make up into which a later pit cut (2058) was inserted, the Fill (2056) containing demolition and domestic refuse.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.16.3

CONTEXTS: 2054, 2057, 2060

2054 (Dump) A Friable to loose deposit of 60% dark brown silt, 30% mid brown clay, and 10% light yellow/white mortar. Inclusions: Frequent medium limestone, occasional tile and bone.

2060 (Dump)

Friable dark grey/brown deposit or 50% silt and 50% clay with patches of lighter yellow/brown material. Inclusions: moderate Flecks of creamy white mortar, with occasional tile, limestone and sandstone, pot, and bone.

2057 (Dump)

Friable dark grey brown deposit with a maximum depth of 0.25m comprised of 40% sand, 40% clay, and 20% silt with orange/brown veining. Inclusions: occasional tile and limestone (average diameter 0.10m.)

Discussion:

A series of small dump deposits comprised primarily of demolition and domestic material, occurring in the eastern corner of the trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION

A series of destruction related activities appear to have taken place within this excavated area as suggested by the evidence of these context series. The major destructive activity here is, of course, robber cut (2063), For the removal of masonry From wall (2173), as seen in 2.16.1. It is this deeply cut Feature which separates the deposits discussed previously in series 2.14.5, 2.14.6, and all of the series in group 15. Following the insertion

of this robber cut, a sequence of dump deposits containing a high proportion of demolition material and domestic refuse is also evident in 2.16.2 and 2.16.3. The appearance of pit cut (2058) and Fill (2056) in 2.16.2. is a Further indication of the demolition and waste deposition activities occurring at this time.

GROUP 17

CONTEXT SERIES 2.17.1

Contexts 2050, 2051

2050 (Spit)

A mixed series of dumps and re-disposition composed of dark brown/black 60% silt and 40% clay extending across the entire excavated area. Inclusions: Frequent bone and moderate limestone frags.

2051 (Spit)

A mixed series of dumps and re-disposition composed of dark brown/black 50% silt, 20% clay, 10% sand, and 20% mid brown sand extending across the entire excavated area. Inclusions: frequent limestone, moderate clay patches, with occasional tile.

Discussion:

Two arbitrary trench wide spits undertaken as an expedient measure For the removal of numerous mixed dark dump deposits with a combined average depth of 0.28m.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.17.2

Contexts: 2047, 2049, 2044

2047 (Backfill)

A Friable highly organic deposit of 90% dark orange/brown silt and 10% dark orange/brown clay. Inclusions: moderate oyster, with occasional tile, pot, and small wood Fragments.

2049 (Pit cut)

A shallow (maximum depth 0.14m) curving pit situated in the north corner of the trench and truncated by the NW and NE trench sections, also intercut by well cut (2038). Contains (2047).

2044 (Dump)

Friable brown/black deposit of 80% clay and 20% silt truncated by the SE trench section. Inclusions: moderate charcoal, Flecks, with occasional oyster, bone and burnt bone, pot, and small limestone.

Discussion:

Included in this series is truncated and, therefore, only partially exposed, shallow refuse pit together with its highly organic Fill together with what appears to be a dump deposit of domestic refuse. These represent the only discernible Features appearing between the rather heterogeneous deposits discussed in 2.17.1 and 2.17.3.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.17.3

Context 2043

2043 (Spit)

A friable site wide deposit of 70% dark brown clay, 20% dark brown silt, and 10% light pink/brown sand, average depth 0.20m.

Inclusions: moderate bone, with occasional limestone, oyster, pot, tile, Fe., charcoal Flecks, and small cobbles.

Discussion:

An arbitrary spit For the removal of a mixed series of dumps containing general domestic refuse.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.17.4

Contexts: 2039, 2040, 2041

2039 (Backfill)

A Friable deposit of 80% light grey/white silt (possibly ash), with 20% light grey brown clay appearing as laminations within the

deposit. Inclusions: occasional pot, bone, limestone, and oyster shell.

2040 (Backfill)

A friable deposit comprised of 60% mid brown clay, 10% mid brown silt, and 30% black charcoal Flecks. Inclusions: moderate bone with occasional burnt bone, Fe, cobble, oyster.

2041 (Pit cut)

A shallow sub rectangular pit (maximum depth 0.15m) located in the eastern corner of the trench and truncated along its exposed length of 1.30m by the NE section. Features a sharp top edge at its eastern extent becoming gradual to imperceptible toward its NW end. The gradient is gentle with a blunt base becoming slightly uneven to the east- Contains two Fill deposits (2040) and (2039).

Discussion:

The interpretation of cut (2041) as a pit is by no means certain; it's exposed, seemingly, linear Form, and well defined SW Facing edge, is enough to suggest that it may have originally Functioned as something other than a pit. Two distinct Fills were contained in this cut, both evidently associated with burning activities, but it is uncertain if these Pills were inserted as part of a single backfilling episode.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The evidence From this group series indicates this excavated area, was subject to a site wide build up of dumped deposits (with an average accumulated depth of 0,50m.) consisting primarily of dark soil containing domestic refuse. For the most part these dumps were small, mixed deposits the removal of which was best achieved by means of a series of arbitrary spits.

GROUP 18

CONTEXT SERIES 2.18.1

Context: 2036

2036 (Build up/dump)

A Friable mid grey/dark brown deposit consisting of 60% clay, 20% sand, 10% silt, and 10% clay patches ranging in colour From grey to mid brown. Inclusions: occasional tile, pot, bone charcoal, wood Frag., Cu, and limestone Frag. (average (diameter 0.15m.)).

Discussion:

A site wide deposit with an average depth of approximately 0.40m. The texture, and range of domestic inclusions within this deposit, as well as the disturbance recorded by the excavator from root, worm, and human action would suggest this deposit had been cultivated; indicating it had once been garden soil. Included within this deposit, as well, were two human Femurs lying physically above Fill (2039) of cut (2041) in 2.17.3 and aligned NW/SE, The appearance of these partial human remains may possibly suggest the presence of an earlier burial on this site, the evidence of which has been lost due to cultivation activities associated with this context.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.18.2

Contexts: 2037, 2046, 2042, 2048, 2045, 2038

2037 <Backfill)

A friable mid brown grey deposit of 60% clay, 20% sand, 10% angular limestone (average 0.04m. in diameter), and 10% mid brown clay patches. Inclusions: occasional tile, shell, Cu, and charcoal.

2046 (Well Fill)

Friable mid grey/brown deposit of 60% clay, 20% silt, and 20% small medium limestone. Inclusions: moderate tile, with occasional wood, Fe, bone, pot, pebbles and small cobbles.

2042 (Backfill)

Friable .deposit of dark grey/brown 40% silt, 40% clay And 20% sand, used as backfill behind the well lining and the cut.

Stratigraphically above (2048). Inclusions: occasional wood and bone.

2048 (Backfill)

A Friable dark grey/brown deposit of 50% silt, 40% clay and 10% sand, used as a backfill between the well lining and the cut.

Inclusions: occasional bone, woods frag. plaster, charcoal, and limestone frag.

2045 (Well lining)

The poorly preserved remains of, wooden barrel staves (ranging From 0.01m-0.02m in thickness), including traces of the supporting ribs.

2038 (Well cut)

A semi-circular cut positioned in the extreme north corner or the excavated area, and partially obscured by the NW and NE trench sections. A vertically sided cut extending to a depth of 1.83m. onto a Flat base; the base intercuts (2205) in 2.7.1.

Discussion:

This context series reveals the partially exposed remains of a clearly definable barrel lined well situated in the extreme north corner of the trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Within this group occurred the development of a deep deposit or garden soil suggested by the inclusion of a wide array of domestic refuse indicative of manuring practices, together with evidence of actual cultivation. This garden activity may have disturbed and earlier burial on this site as seen in 2.18.1. Associated with this garden deposit was the construction of a wooden barrel lined well seen in 2.18.2. It is quite probable that this well went out of use sometime before garden activities themselves actually ceased due to

the presence of garden soil in the upper most Fill of this well as seen in (2037).

GROUP 19

CONTEXT SERIES 2.19.2

Contexts: 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035

2031 (Dump)

A Friable mid grey/dark brown deposit or 60% clay, 90% sand, and 10% silt. Inclusions: Frequent charcoal, with occasional tile, shell, bone, stone, and slag.

2032 (Dump)

A loose mixed deposit of 20% white/yellow crushed limestone, 70% pink/light brown sand, and 10% black charcoal. Inclusions; moderate limestone with occasional mortar.

2033 (Dump)

A small: deposit of 100% white/yellow crushed limestone. Inclusions: Frequent limestone Fragments.

2034 (Dump)

A site wide Friable deposit of mid grey/dark brown 60% clay, 20% sand, 10% silt, with 10% mid brown clay patches. Inclusions: moderate bone, pot, and charcoal, with occasional shell, tile, and stone (average diameter 0.05m.).

2035 (Dump)

A loose deposit of 85% white/yellow crushed limestone with 15% dark brown silt. Inclusions: Frequent limestone, with occasional tile and architectural Fragments.

Discussion:

The earliest series of dump deposits in this group. The combined average depth of these deposits is 0.30m. Their content suggests

they represent a mixture of light industrial and domestic waste with redeposited demolition material.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.19.2

Contexts: 2009, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2023

2009 (Dump/levelling)

A Friable dark brown deposit of 50% silt, 40% clay, and 10% sand.

Inclusions: moderate mortar.

2012 (Dump/levelling)

A Friable black/brown deposit of 80% decayed timber, 10% silt, and 10% clay. Inclusions: Frequent charcoal, with moderate mortar.

2014 (Dump/levelling)

A loose mid brown deposit of 70% sand, 20% silt, and 10% clay.

Inclusions: Frequent mortar, with occasional tile, charcoal, cobbles (ranging From 0.05m- 0.10m. in diameter), and limestone.

2018 (Dump)

A Friable dark brown deposit of 70% sand, 15% silt, and 15% clay.

Stratigraphically below (2014). Inclusions: occasional limestone Frag, bone, and tile.

2016 (Dump)

A friable dark brown deposit of 70% clay and 30% silt.

Stratigraphically below (2014). Inclusions: occasional bone, tile, pot, oyster shell, and Flecks or light brown sand.

2015 (Slumped deposit)

A Friable dark brown deposit of 40% clay, 40% silt, and 20% sand.

Situated in the extreme north corner of the trench this deposit has slumped into an underlying depression. Stratigraphically below (2016) and (2018). Inclusions: moderate charcoal and mortar, with occasional tile and cobble.

2023 (Cut-other)

A sloping depression partly obscured by the NW and NE trench sections. Top edge gradual with a steep gradient and a blunt bottom edge.

Discussion:

This context series represents those deposits which lie stratigraphically above the well structure described in 2.18.2. The subsidence of underlying deposits within this well has caused the contexts within this series to slump. Initially, this situation led to an on site interpretation of these deposits as the Fill of cut (2023), which with hindsight can actually be seen to represent the line of slumping into this earlier well structure. The contents of these deposits suggest they represent mixed domestically derived refuse.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.19.3

Contexts: 2007, 2017, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2020, 2024, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2010, 2013, 2022, 2025, 2026

2007 (Dump)

A large loose deposit partially extending over the area of the trench, but concentrated primarily in the south-eastern half of the excavated area. Comprised of 50% white crushed limestone, 25% dark brown clay, 10% dark brown sand, and 15% dark brown silt. The crushed limestone was concentrated in the NW region of the trench becoming much thinner toward the SE. Inclusions: Frequent brick and tile, with occasional cobble ranging from 0.05m-0.10m in size.

2017 (Dump)

A small friable dark brown deposit of 40% clay, 10% silt, and 50% medium cobbles. Stratigraphically below (2007). Inclusions: frequent small pebbles, with occasional small limestone, bone, pot, and tile.

2008 (Dump)

A dark brown loose deposit, situated in the west corner of the trench, and comprised of 60% clay, 30% silt, and 10% sand.

Stratigraphically below (2007). Inclusions: Frequent (charcoal, with occasional tile, mortar, bone, pot, and limestone chippings.

2011 (Dump)

A Friable dark brown deposit of 80% clay and 20% silt situated in the extreme south corner of the excavated area. Stratigraphically below (2007). Inclusions: occasional charcoal Flecks, bone, small limestone, mortar, and light pink/brown patches of pure clay.

2019 (Dump)

A small Friable deposit comprised of 60% dark brown clay, 20% dark brown silt, 10% mid pink brown clay patches, and 10% cream white mortar. Stratigraphically below (2017). Inclusions occasional small-medium limestone, small cobbles, pot, tile, and bone.

2021 (Dump)

A friable deposit of 50% Fine grained light cream/brown mortar or possibly plaster, 30% mid brown silt, with 20% of this deposit made up of Friable lenses consisting of 80% mid brown clay and 20% mid brown silt. Stratigraphically below (2019). Inclusions: occasional patches) of pure pink clay, small limestone, charcoal flecks, oyster shell, bone, and pot.

2020 (Dump)

A Friable deposit of 40% white mortar, 40% dark brown silt, and 20% dark brown clay. Stratigraphically below (2008) and (2017).

Inclusions: Frequent tile, moderate charcoal, and occasional small limestone and cobbles.

2024 (Dump)

A compact black/brown deposit of 60% clay- and 40% silt.

Stratigraphically below (2020). Inclusions: Frequent charcoal, moderate mortar, and occasional tile and small cobbles.

2023 (Dump)

A loose deposit of 60% mid brown sand and 40% dark brown silt extending over the west corner of the excavated area. Stratigraphically below (2024). Inclusions: moderate charcoal, mortar and tile Fragments, with occasional large sandstone and medium limestone Fragments.

2029 (Dump)

A small Friable deposit of 60% black charcoal with 40% dark brown silt. Stratigraphically below (2029).

2030 (Dump)

A small Friable deposit of 100% light brown sand. Stratigraphically below (2029) and above (2031) in 2.19.1. Inclusions: moderate crushed*tile and brick, with occasional tile frags and charcoal.

2010 (Dump)

A Friable deposit of 60% creamy white mortar and 40% small limestone Fragments. The mortar was concentrated toward the NW of this deposit, while the limestone appeared more in the SE. Stratigraphically below (2011).

2013 (Dump)

A compact deposit of 70% orange/red clay, 15% light brown silt, and 15% light brown sand, extending along the bottom of the SW section toward the south corner of the excavated area. The clay within this deposit appeared as burned angular pieces up to 0.015m. in diameter. Stratigraphically below (2010). Inclusions: occasional charcoal flecks, small limestone, pot, and bone.

2022 (Dump)

A compact deposit of 30% light pink/brown clay, 20% mid brown clay, 20% mid brown silt, 15% medium cobbles, and 15% medium limestone. The pink/brown clay is concentrated in a 0.50m.g wide band running diagonally across the south corner of the trench From the SE to the SW sections. Stratigraphically below (2021) and (2013). Inclusions:

occasional charcoal Flecks, small cobbles, small limestone, bone, and tile.

2025 (Dump)

A Friable dark brown deposit of 60% silt, 20% medium and large cobbles, 10% medium limestone, and 10% dark brown clay.

Stratigraphically below (2022). Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks, with occasional bone, tile, and pot.

2026 (Slump)

A Friable deposit of 50% black clay, 40% cobbles, and 10% silt situated in the south corner of the trench and set within a shallow depression in (2031) lying stratigraphically and physically below. Stratigraphically below (2025). Inclusions: moderate medium limestone, with occasional charcoal Flecks, medium pebbles, bone, and tile.

Discussion

A sequence of assorted dump deposits extending to an average combined depth of 0.38m over most of the excavated area, with the exception of the north corner region which was discussed in 2.19.2. On the basis of their contents, these dumps represent the re-deposition of a variety of materials associated with construction/destruction, and domestic activities. Spatially, however, they provide little interpretive evidence based on their stratigraphical relationships.

CONTEXT SERIES 2.19.4

Contexts: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

2001 (Dump)

A Friable deposit of 80% mid brown clay, and 20% mid brown silt situated predominantly in the SE area of the trench. Inclusions: moderate charcoal Flecks, with occasional tile, pot, bone, and limestone.

2002 (Dump)

A Friable deposit comprised of 50% silt, 25% charcoal, and 15% clay situated in the southern corner of the excavated area.

Stratigraphically below (2001). Inclusions: frequent small to large tile Fragments, moderate charcoal, with occasional brick and bone.

2003 (Spit-various dumps)

Ai series of: small Friable dump deposits removed as an expedient measure in a single trench wide spit averaging 0.18m in depth.

Comprised of 80% mid brown clay and 20% mid-brown silt.

Stratigraphically below (2002). Inclusions: occasional tile, mortar, pot, bone, and charcoal Flecks.

2004 (Dump)

A Friable brown/black deposit of 50% charcoal, 25% silt, and 25% clay. Stratigraphically below (2003). Inclusions: Frequent mortar, with occasional bone, brick and tile.

2005 (Spit - various dumps)

A series of small Friable deposits removed as an expedient measure in a single trench wide spit averaging 0.20m. in depth. Comprised of 80% mid brown clay and 20% mid brown silt. Inclusions: occasional tile, pot, bone, Fe, mortar and charcoal.

2006 (Dump)

An indistinguishable trench wide series of dumps comprised of Friable 80% mid brown clay and 20% mid brown silt. Stratigraphically below (2005) and above (2007) in 2.19.3. Inclusions: occasional limestone chippings, mortar, tile, pot, and bone. A sequence of rather unremarkable site wide dump deposits, primarily comprised of general refuse, with a combined average depth of approximately 0.60m.

Discussion

Context Series 2.19.5: 2000

2000 (Deposit type- other)

A mixed site wide deposit of brick, tile, mid brown clay, and general demolition rubble. Two distinct, patches of tile rubble were evident, one in the north corner region and the other on the SE side of the excavated area.

Discussion:

This context represents the starting point of the excavation of Area 2. It consisted of modern demolition rubble that was removed by machine. A plan was not made For this context.

GROUP DISCUSSION

This entire group is made up of a sequence of dump deposits with a combined average depth of approximately 1.30m. In content, the earlier series in this group such as 2.19.1 and 2.19.3 contain a higher concentration of construction/destruction debris, whereas the later context series in this group can be characterised by their higher proportion of general refuse.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION

The interpretation of the archaeological data recorded during the excavation of Area 2 is obviously limited by the small size of the trench itself, as discussed in the introduction of this report. With this cautionary note in mind, this summary discussion of the sequence of excavated deposits can proceed, as Follows.

Naturally occurring clay deposits seen in (2.1.1) were encountered at a depth ranging From 12.02m. to 11.67m. O.D. Inter-cutting this deposit were two very early Features, an unknown cut (2.2.1.), an apparent slot cut (2.2.3.), together with a later wall Foundation cut (22013, seen in (2.10.1), all apparently Roman.

The earliest human activities to have occurred on this site appear in group 2 in the Form of linear negative Features (2.2.1) and (2.2.3), possibly ditches, and a series OF dump deposits (2.2.2), (2.2.4), and (2.2.5.). Following this the area was apparently

levelled with deposits consisting primarily of redeposited natural with inclusions of other materials as seen in (2.3.1.) and (2.3-9). In the SE half of this trench a series of post/stakes were inserted through; these deposits, as discussed in (2.3.3). The Function at these posts/stakes is uncertain, due in part to the sparse spatial evidence available. However, the presence of (2.4.2), within the Fill of the majority of these post/stakes, would suggest they had been removed From the ground at the game time, therefore, implying they had a temporary Function such as that of an encampment. Sealing (2.3.3) as mentioned previously, were two dump or build up deposits seen in (2.4.1.) and (2.4.2.).

Group 5 includes a series of possibly related, although unidentifiable, constructed features divided by the presence of the later wide Foundation cut (2201). On the NW side of (2201) a sequence of dump or levelling deposits occurred as seen in (2.5.1), through which a linear cut Feature (2.5.2.), possibly a slot cut, was later inserted. To the SE of (2201) in the east corner of the trench, appears the unusual cut Feature the elements of which are described in (2.5.3), (2.5.4.), and (2.5.5.). To the SW of this Feature lay the post holes and fills seen in (2.5.6) while little can be said of the function of the Features in this group their presence does point to the continuation, it not increased intensity, in the use and occupation of the land within this site.

Sealing the above mentioned features appearing to the SE of Foundation cut (2201) in group 5, is a sequence of dump/build up deposits described in (2.6.1). Little can actually be said of these deposits except that they contained what appears to be redeposited construction debris. Similarly to the NW of (2201) a sequence of dump deposits (2.7.1) occurs to the NW of 2201, also including construction, as well as domestic waste, possibly for the purpose of levelling.

The earliest in a series of masonry wall structures appearing on this site is revealed within group 8, as described in (2.8.1.). Only the SW Face of this poorly surviving wall emerges From the NE section, the rest remains hidden From view. This situation, unfortunately does not allow any meaningful interpretation of this

wall beyond that of mere speculation. A sequence of levelling or possibly build up deposits (2.9.1) lies stratigraphically above this wall feature and earlier deposits appearing in the area of the trench to the SE of foundation cut (2201).

Lying stratigraphically and physically above the deposits is groups 7 and 9 is the major wall structure (2.10.1) running NE/SW through the SW region of the trench. The construction of this wall heralded a period of intense construction and occupation on this site particularly in the area of the trench lying to the SE of this wall, which because it affords more spatial and structural information offers greater evidence in support of the interpretation of this side of the wall as having been internal. This sequence of development begins with the first in a series of Floors seen in (2.10.2.), followed then by the construction of what appears to be some Form of Flue structure (2.11.1), quite possibly associated with heating.

Sealing this Feature are a series of levelling deposits in (2.12.1.) above which appeared an extensive series of south-eastward sloping Floor levels in (2.12.2.), (2.12.3.), (2.12.4) and (2.12.5) all of which have been cut by the later insertion of wall Foundation cut (2083) appearing in (2.14.3).

At this stage a series of walls were constructed which created considerable internal division within the space to the SE of the major wall appearing in (2.10.1). This sequence of construction begins with walls (2166) and (2998) in (2.14.1), followed by the insertion of two small Floors (2.14.2.) stratigraphically associated with these walls. A substantial wall seen in (2.14.3) then cuts the Floor surfaces described in (2.14.2.) and bonds at right angles to the previously mentioned major wall structure in (2.10.1). A Final smaller wall (2.14.4.) completes this structural sequence. what this structural redevelopment reveals is a complex pattern of wall alignments creating a peculiarly small compartmentalisation of internal space into two small internal cubicles – one in the south and the other in the north corners of the trench. Series (2.14.5.) and (2.14.6) represent a sequence of Floor deposits laid down in each of these respective cubicle spaces.

Spatial constraints limit the analysis of the architectural Form of this structure, and with it any Firm interpretation of its likely Function. At this stage all that can be conclusively said about this structural sequence is that it is definitely of Roman origin given its type of construction, and the Fact that this site is situated well within the known confines of the Roman Fortress in York.

A build up of deposits occurred in a narrow strip of space created by the NW Facing side of wall Feature (2.10.1.) and the NW trench section. This sequence begins with series (2.13.1) containing single levelling deposit and a truncated linear cut of unknown Function. Above this series was a sequence of dumps (2.13.2) possibly representing levelling material For the purpose of raising the surface on this side of wall (2.10.1).

Sealing this previously mentioned series group were a vast number of small, Fine deposits discussed in group 15. Two rather conflicting interpretations of these deposits have been set out in this report. The First, considers these deposits to be material deposited through overlying Floor boards, which of course implies that this side of wall (2.10.1.) was also internal. The second interpretation presented here suggests these may also represent small dumps containing burnt domestic waste that had built up against the side of this same wall. It is only later in (2.15.4.) that any larger compact surfaces are evident, and these provide no clear indication -they were either internal or external.

In group 16 there is clear evidence of abandonment and destruction having occurred within this site. A broad robber out (2.16.1.) was dug For the removal of masonry from wall (2.10.1) and dump deposits appear over later Floor surfaces as in the case of (2.16.3.). This site continued to be a repository For dumped material, as seen in group 17, which also includes the insertion of two shallow refuse pits (2.17.2.) and (2.17.4). It is quite evident that by this period all occupation had ceased within this particular site, and that dumping activities, whether by intention or not, were succeeding in building up the ground level in this area.

Changes in the use of this land becomes evident in group 18.

Firstly, with the occurrence of a deep deposit of what is quite certainly garden soil in (2.18.13) which may possibly have disturbed an earlier burial on this site. Secondly, the insertion of a barrel lined well (2.18.2.) occurred in the extreme north corner of area 2. The contemporaneity of this well with the previously discussed garden activity is uncertain, but the presence of a garden type deposit in the upper Fill of this well would suggest it may possibly have been Filled in before the land was turned over to cultivation.

In the 19th, and Final group of context series in this report, the land within this site turned once again into a repository tor dumped refuse material, which accumulated to a depth or approximately 1.30m.

AREA 3

INTRODUCTION

Area 3 was the largest trench excavated on the site. It measured 3.20m x 15.00m and was aligned NW/SE running parallel to Swinegate. It was intended at the outset that the full stratigraphic sequence would be removed by hand in this area giving the complete story of the development of the site but with particular emphasis on the Roman and immediate Post Roman Period. Two strategies were employed to achieve this objective Firstly the trench was positioned several metres back from the Swinegate street Frontage so that there was less likelihood of encountering complex structures of medieval date. It was thought that these were more likely to be at the street frontage and that the area under consideration would be in the backyard areas of such properties. This would ensure that the excavation team would encounter the earlier deposits with the minimum of delay. Secondly Trench 2 (see figure???) was dug slightly in advance of trench 3 and using slightly less sophisticated techniques of excavation. It was intended that this combined with the significantly smaller size of the area would ensure that important horizons could be identified in advance in trench, thus ensuring that the maximum evidence could be extrapolated From them when they were encountered in trench 3. Both of these strategies were in broad terms successful.

For the purpose of recording the area was divided into four planning zones of roughly equal size labelled C, D, E and F which ran respectively from west to east.

The Excavation

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 3.1.1

CONTEXT: 3740

3740 NATURAL

Compact 100% clay ranging from leached white yellow at surface to dark red grey 102 below surface.

Discussion: Boulder clay laid down by glaciations.

GROUP 2

CONTEXTS: 3754, 3752, 3753, 3751, 3749, 3750

3754 STAKE PIPE VOID .

Circular cut. Sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides, rounded base

3753 STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular cut, sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides, rounded base

3750 STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular cut sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides base rounded

3751 BACKFILL DEPOSIT

100% loose grey clay

3749 BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey loose 100% clay

3752 BACKFILE DEPOSIT

Loose 100% grey clay

Discussion: Three stake holes between 0.06m and 0.12m in diameter and similar in shape. They Form a line running approximately east west cutting into 3740 and overlain by 3725. The nature of their fills, 3751, 3753, 3749, suggests that the stakes were removed rather than rotted in situ.

CONTEXTS: 3747, 3748

3748 PIT CUT

Circular cut. Sharp break of slope from surface. Concave sides and base.

3747 BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown grey orange 100% clay.

Discussion: 3748 was 0.60m in diameter and cut into natural 3740. It is interpreted as a post hole and if this was the case then the backfill 3747 suggests that the post was removed and the cut backfilled.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.2.3

CONTEXTS: 3744, 3741, 3745, 3742, 3746, 3743

3744: STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular cut 0.04m in diameter with a pointed base, vertical sides and a sharp break of slope at surface.

3745: STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular cut 0.05m in diameter. Rounded base sharp break of slope from surface and vertical sides.

3746: STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular cut 0.05m in diameter. Base rounded with a sharp break of slope at surface and vertical sides.

3741: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid orange loose 100% clay.

3742: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid brown-orange 50% clay, 50% sand.

3743: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid orange 70% sand 30% clay.

Discussion: A group of three stake holes similar both in plan and the composition of their backfills and stratigraphically similar to those in context series 3.2.1.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.2.4

CONTEXTS: 3757, 3756, 3737

3757: PIT CUT

Sub rectangular cut long axis north-south. East and west sides vertical slope. North and south sides gradual slope. Sharp break of slope from surface. Base Flat with step.

3756: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact 100% dark grey red clay

3737: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact 100% red clay

Discussion: This series is made up of a large pit 3.00m x 1.75m and .40m deep. Its backfills give no clue to its use and suggest that it was backfilled when the area was levelled.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.2.5

CONTEXTS: 3755, 3736

3755: SLOT CUT

Linear cut running east west. Sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides Flat base.

3736: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact 100% black charcoal

Discussion: This was a slot 1.50m x .30m cut into 3.2.4 and its Fill 3736 is possibly the remains of a beam.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group consists of a series of cuts into natural 3740 (3.1.1) and sealed by 3795 (3.4.1). 3.2.1 is a line of stake holes similar to 3.2.3 but structurally unrelated. They each might be part of separate Fence lines. 3.2.2 is a solitary cut possibly a post hole but not part of any identifiable structure. 3.2.4 is a large pit of no obvious Function which was later backfilled with clay and 3.2.5 cut into it.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.1

CONTEXT: 3735

3735: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact light brown clay 60%, mid grey clay 40% with occasional mortar Flecks, small pebbles and charcoal Flecks

Discussion: This dump of redeposited natural extends to the north, south and west under the trench edges. Its purpose was most probably to level the surface.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.2

CONTEXT3: 3738, 3731, 3726, 3729, 3730

3738: CONSTRUCTION CUT .

Shallow linear north south cut, steep sides, sharp break of slope at the top and bottom, the latter sloping to the north.

3731: OTHER (Foundation)

Loose yellow brown pebbles small to medium 80%, sand 20%.

3726: STRUCTURE MAKE~UP

100% compact grey clay.

3729: STRUCTURE MAKES~UP 7

100% yellow-white plaster.

3730: STRUCTURE MAKE UP

100% yellow white plaster.

Discussion: This was a linear Feature running north south across the trench truncated to the south by the trench edge and by a later trench to the north. It was on average 0.30m wide and 0.08m deep. The band of clay 3726, 0.12m high, ran along the eastern edge of the Foundation 3731. Contexts 3739 and 3730 adhered to 3726 on the east and west sides respectively. It is hard to believe that this wall would been of any great height and probably formed a low sill.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.3

CONTEXT: 3721

3721: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mid grey brown 80% clay, 20% silt with occasional brick Fragments, charcoal flecks, pot, medium pebbles, plaster Fragments, and shell.

Discussion: This layer was approximately 0.13m thick and covered the area west of context series 3.3.2. It extended under the trench edges.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.4

CONTEXT: 3732

3733: OTHER (pipe)

Lead pipe. Tear drop shaped in section 0.65m x 0.5m, 2.57m long with one Join. Pipe dips along its length slightly to the south.

Discussion: This length of lead pipe ran approximately NW/SE truncated by the north and south trench edges, it was not contained in a cut but lay sandwiched between contexts 3735 and 3721.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.5

CONTEXTS: 3716, 3708, 3707, 3705

3716: PIT CUT

Sub rectangular, top edge sharp, steeper on north and south than east and west slope breaks halfway down to vertical. Rounded bottom edge to flat base.

3708: PIT CUT

Sub square with rounded corners top and bottom edges sharp. West side steep to vertical. East side steep. Flat bottom,

3707: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid grey brown 10% clay, 20% crushed plaster, 70% large plaster Fragments (10–20cm).

3705: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable pale yellow 80% clay, 10% silt, lens of black silt 10% with occasional tile and moulded and painted plaster.

Discussion: These pits were similar in shape, size and depth and cut into deposit 3721 (3.3.3). Their fills 3707, 3705 contained plaster fragments which suggest that they were backfilled with demolition material, possibly from the wall in context series 3.3.2. Their original Function is unknown,

GROUP DISCUSSION: 3.4.1 was laid down in preparation for the construction of the decorated clay wall 3.3.2. The plaster linings 3729 and 3730 suggest this was part of a high status structure though the wall itself was not very high, 3.3.3 covers the area west of the wall and seals 3.3.4 and was probably used as an interior surface. 3.3.5 cut into the latter and were backfilled when the structure of which 3.3.2 was a part was demolished,

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.1

CONTEXTS: 3725, 3711

3725: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact grey brown orange 20% silt 80% clay with occasional charcoal, medium pebbles.

3711: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

100% mid grey~ brown clay, compact with occasional charcoal flecks.

Discussion 3725 was approximately 0,20m thick and covered almost the entire length of the trench bounded in the west by context series 3.3.2 and, in the east was cut by 3739. 3711 was about 0.10cm thick and overlay 3725 at its western limit, extending east c.2.00m.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.2

CONTEXT: 3724, 3723

3724: POST HOLE CUT

East end sharp top edge, blunt bottom edge. Rounded bottom sloping west with steep sides west end cut east end, vertical sides forming a rounded point.

3723: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown 70% silt, 30% clay. There was also (ring of wood stain, red mortar and charcoal).

Discussion 3724 was a pear shaped cut c.80cm in length with a deep circular cut c.0.40m in diameter and 0.39m deep in the west end which contained what appeared to be the partially burnt remains of a post.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.3

CONTEXT9: 3722, 3715

3722: PIT CUT

Roughly circular Gradual break from surface Irregular concave sides.
No perceptible break from bottom Flat.

3715: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable 10% yellow pink mortar, 80% mid brown grey silt, 10% mid brown grey clay with moderate charcoal Flecks.

Discussion: 3722 was a roughly circular cut c.0.70m in diameter and c.0.5m deep. Its backfill 3715 consisted of building rubble.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.4

CONTEXT: 3718, 3717

3718: UNKNOWN CUT

Irregular cut, sides break sharply from surface, ledge on western side, steep side, narrow base

3717: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

100% loose small pebbles with occasional medium pebbles.

Discussion: 3718 was c.0.45m x 0.40m and 0.13m deep. The nature of 3717 might suggest deliberate backfilling to level the surface.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.3.4

CONTEXT: 3719, 3720

3720: POST HOLE CUT

Circular cut steeper on west side sharp break of slope from surface.
Concave sides and base.

3719: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed compact yellow grey brown clay 100% with Frequent Flecks of charcoal.

Discussion: 3720 was c.0.30m in diameter and 0.19m deep. IF it contained a post the nature of its fill 3719 suggests that it was removed.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.6

CONTEXT: 3710, 3706, 3704

3710: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose black 100% charcoal, thicker toward north side

3706: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mid yellow brown mortar 90%, mid brown clay 10% with lens of mortar, charcoal and clay

3700: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact 100% red and grey clay with occasional Flecks of charcoal, Fragments of plaster and pot.

Discussion: This represents a series of dumps which spread across most of the trench. 3710 was c.10cm thick and was a dump of burnt material from an activity outside the limits of the trench. 3706 was an extensive deposit of building material overlying this. 3704 Formed an edge with the western limit of 3706 and extended Further west to overlie the wall plaster in context series 3.3.2.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.7

CONTEXTS: 3701, 3702

3701: OTHER (collapse/demolition)

Layer of painted plaster 0.15m thick which was badly cracked painted side down, appears to be all white

3700: OTHER (collapse/demolition)

Thin smooth layer of cream plaster, Face down.

Discussion; These two deposits lay towards the west end of the trench and represent the destruction or collapse of the same wall possibly (3.3.2).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.4.8

CONTEXTS: 3690, 3734

3690: FLOOR

Compact brown/red deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt with occasional degraded sandstone, charcoal flecks and frequent plaster fragments.

3734: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit: Brown sand 20%, silt 30%, orange clay 50% with moderate charcoal and occasional small pebbles.

Discussion: This context series isolated against the western section by construction cut (3758). Their similar height and the presence of frequent plaster Fragments has led to them being included in this group.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group follows a sequence of levelling, pitting and dumping in what appears to be an external area. 3.4.1 was used to level the surface and cut by 3.4.2 to 3.4.5 which serve no obvious purpose and were sealed by 3710 (3.4.6). Only 3.4.2 showed any positive structural signs containing what could have been the remains of a burnt post. 3.4.6 and 3.4.7 were dump deposits possibly relating to the demolition of 3.3.2. 3.4.8 may also belong in this category although may also have related to its use. (3690) was described by the excavator as a Floor deposit.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.1

CONTEXT: 3699

3699: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact 100% grey-brown clay with occasional small plaster Fragments, small tile Fragments. Charcoal flecks, medium cobbles.

Discussion: This was a levelling deposit c.0.10m thick and covered almost the entire area of the trench sealing context series 3.4.7 and 3.3.5. It was truncated by a later cut at its eastern limit. .

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.2

CONTEXT: 3691

3691: FLOOR

Friable mix of 40% white plaster, 40% grey brown wood (mineralised?) 30% black charcoal.

Discussion: This layer was made up of the remains of planks with plaster fill in between and covered an area of 1.50m x 4.00m, its southern limit truncated by the trench edge. There were no walls or posts associated with the floor and its function is therefore difficult to determine.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.3

CONTEXT: 3685, 3683

3685: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact light orange 20% rounded pebbles (2-4cm diameter), 80% mortar with wood imprinted on underside of context.

3683: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compacted loose, orange 70% sand-grit, 30% 2-4cm pebbles

Discussion: Two deliberate dumps presumably deposited after floor 3691 (3.5.2) went out of use; it was only about 0.05m thick.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.4

CONTEXT: 3693

3693: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown clay 70%, cobbles (4-8cm) 30%.

Discussion: A deposit c.0.05m thick, interpreted as possibly the foundations for a rough wall or a dump of construction material. It lay below 3692 and may have been a floor foundation.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.5

CONTEXTS: 3692, 3684.

3692: FLOOR

Two parallel wooden planks.

3684: FLOOR

Friable yellow brown 50% crushed limestone, 30% small pebbles, 30% sand occasional small pieces of mineralised wood.

Discussion: This context series represents a series of Floors. They do not relate to any walls or posts and Form only small areas truncated by the north section. Their Function therefore is difficult to determine.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.6

CONTEXTS: 3687, 3679

3687: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable green grey sand 20%, clay 80% with frequent charcoal, occasional pot.

3679: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact 100% clay, colour variable but mainly mid brown becoming mid grey towards the west end of the area with Frequent Flecks of charcoal, small pebbles and occasional mineralised root.

Discussion: Thee two dumps overlay context series 3.5.5 and mark the end of the use of those Floors. 3687 was only 0.5m x 1.00m and truncated by the northern trench edge. 3679 was trench wide, truncated by a later robber trench to the east and extending 5.00m west, 0.11m thick. 3687 was 0.01m thick.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.7

CONTEXT: 3678

3678: DUMP DEPOSIT

A very hard compact of green/grey/brown 20% clay, 30% Fine pebbles with a lens of 50% mortar. Also contained Flecks of charcoal.

Discussion: A small dump 1.00m square and 0.05m thick serving no obvious function.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.5.8

CONTEXTS: 3695, 3686, 3681

3695: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey brown silty 30%, clay 70% with Frequent charcoal Flecks, burnt clay Flecks, occasional tile, plaster, mortar.

3686: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable grey brown sand 30%, silt 30%, clay 40% with frequent mortar Flecks/lumps moderate charcoal, small pebbles, burnt clay.

3681: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact orange brown clay 90%, mortar 10% with occasional plaster, pebbles, charcoal.

Discussion This context series represents an accumulation of dumped material at the western end of the trench stratigraphically above deposit 3699 (3.5.1). They were probably related to an activity taking place to the northwest of the trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: 3699 (3.5.1) was a compact clay deposit used to level all but the east end of the trench and seals groups 3 and 4. Overlying this was 3.5.2, a planked Floor which had been cut away by later activity and had no associated wall or post lines. The Floors in 3.5.5, laid over dump 3.5.4, were stratigraphically similar to 3.5.2 but their alignment suggests that they formed a separate surface. After these surfaces went out of use they were mostly cut away and a sequence of dumps, 3.5.3, 3.5.6 and 3.5.7, then deposited

on top. 3.5.8 Was a sequence of dumps in the west end of the trench, spatially separated but stratigraphically similar to the rest of the group.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.1

CONTEXTS: 3739, 3733

3739: CONSTRUCTION CUT

T shaped cut, sharp break or slope from surface. Vertical sides base Flat.

3733: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact 100% red clay with occasional rounded cobbles.

Discussion: Cut 3739 emerges from the eastern trench edge and runs west for c.1.00m. at this point it splits, the northern arm 0.73m wide, the southern arm 1.00m wide. Both arms run into the trench edges. On average the cut is 0.25m deep and is interpreted as having carried a wall. The nature of the Fill 3733 suggests that the wall was removed and the cut backfilled.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.2

CONTEXT: 3714, 3713

3714: UNKNOWN CUT

Shallow cut. Top edge vertical, sides steep, bottom Flat.

3713: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact black-brown grey 50% clay 50% silt.

Discussion: 3714 was a regular, rectangular cut of unknown type, cut by a later Feature, situated in the northeast corner of the trench and was 1.60m x 1.00m x 0.10m deep. Its backfill 3713 suggests no obvious Function although to ascertain extent it respects the line of cut 3739 (3.6.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.3

CONTEXT: 3703, 3712, 3709

3703: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown orange 70% clay, 30% plaster Fragments.

3709: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown 60% clay. 40 % plaster Fragments and decayed plaster.

3712: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact black 60% clay, 40% charcoal with moderate patches of decayed plaster, occasional patches of red clay.

Discussion: This context series represents a series of dumps of building debris and burnt material.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.4

CONTEXT: 3698, 3697, 3700

3698: OTHER (slot cut)

Sharp top and bottom edges, Flat bottom, south end not determined, runs approximately north south.

3700: OTHER (slot cut)

Sharp top and bottom edges, Flat bottom, running approximately north-south, north end peters out.

3697: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Brown wood staining, compact, 60% clay, 40% silt with occasional wood Fragments.

Discussion: Slot 3693 was 0.12m wide. 1.40m long and 0.05m deep. It was a linear cut running north south Filled by 3697 which is interpreted as being the remains of a decayed beam. 3700 was a cut on the same alignment as 3698 and is certainly the same Feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.5

CONTEXT: 3696

3696: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact grey 80% clay, 20% silt with Frequent charcoal Flecks, plaster Fragments and decayed plaster, tile.

Discussion: This was a dump of demolition material about 1.00m square which overlay context series 3.6.4.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.6.6

CONTEXT: 3728, 3727

3738: UNKNOWN CUT

Sharp top and bottom edges, vertical sides, Flat bottom.

3727: BACKFILL

Compact 50% silt, 40% clay, mid grey with occasional charcoal Flecks.

Discussion: 3738 was a square cut 0.88m x 0.70m and 0.08m deep situated in the southeast corner of the trench and truncated by a later cut to the west. The Fill is similar to 3714 in context series 3.6.2

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group was stratigraphically isolated by construction cut 3739 (3.6.1) within which no wall remained. The shape of this cut suggests that it formed the outside and partition wall of a building situated to the east of the trench. Any interior surfaces were cut away by 3.6.2 and 3.6.6. The robbing most likely occurred soon after the building went out of use prior to the deposition of 3.6.3. 3.6.4 Was then cut into these dumps and is interpreted as a beam slot. Part of this was later dumped over by 3.6.5

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 3.7.1

CONTEXT: 3688, 3694

3688: OTHER (beam slot cut)

Linear cut. Nest side has sharp break of slope from surface with vertical sides and a sharp bottom edge. The east side had a more gradual slope.

3694: OTHER (plaster Facing)

Vertical plaster facing-painted on east side, c 0.2m thick.

Discussion: 3688 was a linear cut running north south, cut into 3679 in context series 3.5.6 and deposit 3696 (3.6.5). It was 0.32m to 0.36m wide, 0.15m deep and truncated by the north and south trench edges. 3694 was adhered to the west side of 3688.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.7.2

CONTEXT: 3682, 3676

3682: OTHER (demolition/collapse deposit)

Layer of painted plaster mostly lying Face down although some was vertical and presumably in situ.

3676: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey dark brown 50% clay, 20% sand, 30% plaster.

Discussion: This context series represents a process of demolition or collapse and subsequent levelling. 3682 is most likely more of 3694, (3.7.1) which has fallen from east to west. This was then overlaid by a levelling deposit of demolition material, 0.10m thick.

GROUP DISSUSSION: This group represents a separate phase of building to that in group 6 and sees the rejoining of the east end and the rest of the trench stratigraphically by the cut 3688 (3.7.1). This series cuts through 3.6.5 and 3.5.6 and is interpreted as a beam slot. The purpose of the plaster adhering to the side to this cut is

not clear but it is almost certainly the same as that of 3682 (3.7.2), how this plaster Face was supported is also not clear but the direction of the plaster Face indicates that it relates to an activity to the east of the 3.7.1. 3.7.2 lies over the east end of the trench and is overlain by deposit 3676 presumably to level the surface.

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 3.8.1

CONTEXT: 3673

3673: DUMP/LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mottled brown-orange silt 30%, clay 70% with moderate charcoal and mortar lumps. Occasional pebbles, painted plaster, shell, bone, pot and tile.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This context series covered almost the entire trench and Forms a relative nodal point which is stratigraphically above all of the above mentioned groups. It varied in thickness between 0.17m in the west to 0.04 in the east.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.8.3

CONTEXTS: 3620, 3670, 3671, 3672, 3674

3620: OTHER DEPOSIT

This deposit covered much of the trench and consisted of blocks of soil, black/mid grey/light grey, friable compact 70% silt, 20% clay, 10% sand. They appear to be the decayed remains of individual turfs.

3670: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact, mid grey/brown deposit: 40% silt, 50% clay, 10% sand with occasional pottery sherds and charcoal Flecks.

3671: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed lenses of grey clay 40%, sand 10%, orange sand 40%, 10% silt with frequent mortar and plaster Flecks, moderate degraded sandstone patches and occasional cobbles, and mortar chunks.

3672: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black 50% charcoal, 30% small pebbles, 10% sand, 10% silt with occasional mortar Fleck

3674: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/black 50% charcoal, 40% ash, 10% sand with occasional plaster Fragments.

Discussion: This context series comprised three separate dumps of demolition material and domestic waste in association with a major deposit (3672) and (3670). This extended almost the full length of the trench and comprised a mass of individual decayed turfs. These were not arranged in any pattern and one possible interpretation for them is that they represent the remains of a large turf stack which was systematically dismantled for constructional purposes elsewhere.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.8.3

CONTEXTS: 3680, 3689

3680: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact orange clay with occasional pot, bone, tile, shell, slag and pebbles <2-5cm diameter).

3689: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable grey/green clay ,40%, silt 40%, with lenses of compact brown clay 20% and occasional pot, bone, tile, mortar and patches of pebbles.

Discussion: These two deposits have been included in this group as they are at the same approximate level as the remainder of the material. They are however only just within the excavation area where they are immediately cut by (3758) (???). It is therefore not possible to offer a further interpretation for them.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group of material represents an important episode marking a division between the insubstantial structural remains which have been outlined in the previous groups and the important buildings which were about to be erected on the site and

which are discussed below. The inference is that the area was external and was being levelled and prepared For this later structural activity as well as being used For the storage of building material to be used elsewhere within the fortress.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT SERIEZ 3.9.1

CONTEXTS: 3668, 3675, 3677, 3758

3668: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact orange/brown clay layered with cobbles and clay with moderate limestone Fragments.

3675: WALL

Wall constructed of medium to large limestone blocks set in matrix *of coarse mortar (containing Frequent small to medium pebbles). It measured 0.75m in width.

3677: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed layer of 30% orange clay with brown green 30% clay, 40%, silt with frequent charcoal Fleck, occasional pebbles, pot and plaster.

3758: CONSTRUCTION CUT

L shaped construction cut. This Feature was not fully excavated due to lack of time. It was only emptied to below the level that natural could be seen in its sections. Its Full profile and depth are therefore unknown. The width of the cut varied but was approximately 0.80m.

Discussion: This context series comprised the cut and Fills of an L shaped construction trench located in the western half of the, excavation area at a slight angle to the line of the trench. At the NU end the wall which had been constructed within this Feature had not been fully robbed out. Elsewhere it had been fully removed in antiquity.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.9.2

CQNTQXT: 3653

3653: DUMP DEPOSIT

Large limestone block, 72x 70x 22cm, lying 45 degrees to N-S axis, sloping From N-S. S corner 1.5cm lower than rest of There is a "step" 12cm lower than surface on NE end.

This limestone block was clearly not in situ and had apparently been abandoned during the robbing out of the building discussed in the previous context series. The step described by the excavator is likely to have Formed part of a socket which would have supported either a timber or further stone upright. IF this interpretation is correct then it would have formed one of four such stones and would therefore represent a part of a considerable structural Feature.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The construction trench and associated wall described in this group represent evidence for a major stone building. This was however, judging from the stratigraphic evidence, extremely short-lived (see Group 10) and no evidence was found for its use or occupational deposits, apart From the single stone block discussed in (3.9.2).

GROUP 10

CONTEXT SERIES 3.10.1

CONTEXTS: 3656, 3669

3656: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Light brown friable deposit: 40% sand, 40% clay, 20% silt with occasional charcoal Flecks.

3669: ROBBER CUT

Linear cut. Small step along S side. All other edges vertical, sharp break of slope at base, base Flat.

Discussion: This Feature was the robber trench for the building discussed in the previous group

CONTEXT SERIES 3.10.2

CONTEXTS: 3654, 3655, 3667

3654: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown deposit 70% clay, 30% silt with moderate mortar and charcoal Flecks and small pebbles.

3655: DIMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown deposit: 50% clay, 10% sand, 40% loose mortar with o occasional tile, medium limestone Fragments, mortar/sandstone Flecks and moderate charcoal.

3667: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact 100% mid-brown clay with occasional charcoal Flecks, small pebbles and small sandstone Fragments.

Discussion: These three deposits were only Just within the excavation area to the west of the robber trench discussed in the previous context series, They are therefore difficult to interpret and their height 0.D. coupled with the mixed nature of their makeup would indicate that they were Formed during the robbing process.

GROUP 11

CONTEXT SERIES 3.11.1

CONTEXTS: 3645, 3647, 3649, 3651, 3652

3645: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Compact mid orange brown 100% clay with occasional white Flecks, black mottling and frequent rounded pebbles (2-4cm diameter).

3647: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Loose red brown pebbles (4-15cm) 50%, sand 25%. Clay 25%

3649: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose black 50% charcoal, 50% sand.

3651: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable 80% creamy yellow mortar, 20% light brown silt (as lenses) with occasional charcoal Flecks and small lenses of charcoal (up to 2cm thick).

3652: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable light brown grey, 25% sand grit, 20% silt, 95% mortar Fragments (Rum diameter) with occasional pieces of painted plaster.

Discussion: This context series comprises a build up of mixed dumps and levelling material spanning the Full width of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.11.2

CONTEXTS: 3646, 3650

3646: OTHER DEPOSIT

Dark grey/brown loose deposit: 50% silt, 30% sand, 20% clay with occasional bone, small limestone Fragments and pot sherds

3650: OTHER

Narrow N~S running linear cut, vertical sides, sharp top and bottom break, level base.

Discussion: This Feature was not related to any other possible Functional element and interrupted the build-up sequence contained in the rest of the Group.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.11.3

CONTEXTS: 3624, 3627, 3631, 3640, 3648

3624: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Eight orange/brown Friable deposit: 20% sand, 10% rounded pebbles (2-5 cm in diameter), 40% clay, 30% silt

3627: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Compact mid/brown 80% clay, 10% Fine pebbles, 10% creamy mortar with occasional charcoal Flecks

3631: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Compacted Friable light brown deposit: 30% sand, 20% silt, 50% clay with Frequent mortar Flecks, occasional charcoal and small pebbles.

3640: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Light grey to yellow, loose to compact deposit: 40% crushed limestone, 30% pebbles, 30% limestone mortar with occasional limestone Fragments.

3648: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid/brown deposit: sand 30%, silt 30%, charcoal 40%.

Discussion: This context series comprised Further mixed levelling deposits spanning the Full width of the trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a diverse mix of dumps and levelling deposits spanning the Full width of the trench to a depth of approximately 0.25m.

GROUP 12

CONTEXT SERIES 3.12.1

CONTEXTS: 3642, 3643, 3644, 3657, 3658, 3659, 3660, 3661, 3662, 3663, 3664,

3665, 3666

3642: FLOOR

Loose, 60% orange-brown wood, mineralised wood, 40% white mortar with occasional charcoal Flecks and iron staining.

3643: OTHER DEPOSIT

Loose creamy white mortar 100% adhering to the vertical edge of (3644)

3644: OTHER

Rectangular cut, N&W sides only within excavated area. Sharp break of slope from surface vertical sides, sharp break of slope at base, base flat.

3657: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid/brown deposit; 20% mortar, 50% sand, 30% clay

3658: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose orange brown deposit: 80% Pine pebbles, 20% medium pebbles.

3659: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose Yellow deposit: 80% sand, 20% mortar.

3660: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid-brown deposit: 60% clay, 40% sand.

3661: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid/brown deposit: 50% clay, 40% sand, 10% silt.

3662: POST PIPE VOID.

Top edge- sharp, gradient~ steep, bottom edge- pointed.

3663: POST PIPE VOID

Top edge -sharp, gradient- steep, bottom edge- pointed.

3664: POST PIPE VOID

Top edge~ sharp, gradient~ steep, bottom edge~ pointed.

3665: POST PIPE VOID

Top edge sharp, gradient steep, bottom edge -pointed.

3666: POST PIPE VOID

Sharp top edge, gentle gradient, bottom edge flat.

Discussion: This context series constitutes an extremely interesting Feature comprising a wooden planked Floor set in a rectangular cut and covered with a thin deposit of clay and creamy? mortar. This arrangement is then bounded by a number of posts. This is clearly a very enigmatic Feature. The timber planks would imply the presence of a structure. However the only constructional elements are the extremely Flimsy posts which constitute its boundary. These would not have been sufficiently strong to support anything other than the most meagre superstructure. This would therefore imply that this was an external surface bounded by a post driven fence. Its Function at this early stage in the research must remain open to speculation. Perhaps a cock-fighting pen.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.12.2

CONTEXTS: 3623, 3634, 3636, 3641

3623: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable, mid/brown deposit: 70% clay, 20% silt, 10% mortar with Frequent charcoal Flecks, moderate small/medium limestone Fragments, occasional cobbles and tile Fragments.

3634: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable 60% brown silt, 40% charcoal with occasional mortar and tile Fragments.

3636: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact Friable mottled brown/orange deposit: Clay 70%, silt 30% with moderate mortar lumps and Flecks, charcoal Flecks, occasional tile and pebbles.

3641: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose white (creamy) 100% plaster.

Discussion: These deposits were all within the confines of The Feature: described in the previous context series. They may have been associated with its use and also its abandonment. They do not

give any clue as to its Function. The high presence of mortar and plaster is however of note.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises only those contexts which are directly related to the rectangular Feature (3644). As yet no definitive interpretation is offered for this Feature, other than that it was external and had no substantial superstructure,

GROUP 13

CONTEX SERIES 3.13.1

CONTEXTS: 3622, 3625, 3626, 3628, 3629, 3630, 3632, 3633, 3635, 3637, 3638, 3639

3622: UNKNOWN

N S running cut, straight sides, S end steep sides, sharp top edge, rounded bottom edge, level base.

3625: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable light brown/grey deposit: 40% silt, 10% sand, 50% clay with occasional charcoal Flecks and Frequent lumps of mortar.

3626: DUMP DEPOSIT

Very mixed Friable deposit: 10% black charcoal ash, 20% clay, 20% sand, 20% silt, 30% red/brown sand with occasional pot, bone, tile, glass, iron objects, quartz-lead lumps? and shell.

3628: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey/brown deposit: 30% clay, 40% sand, 10% silt, 20% quartz blocks (up to 20 cm) with occasional charcoal Flecks, bone; pot, tile Fragments and patches of pure clay.

3629: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose black sand 90%, silt 10% with frequent charcoal.

3630: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable, orange/brown sand lenses 20%, black silt 70%, sand 10%.

3633: POST HOLE CUT .

Top edge- sharp, gradient- steep, bottom- blunt (quite shallow).

3633: POST HOLE CUT

Top edge~ sharp, gradient- steep (slightly undercut), bottom edge~ pointed.

3635: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact orange/brown 85% clay, quartzite(?) blocks <20-40cm) 15%.

3637: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown grey 40% sand, 20% limestone, 10% clay with occasional charcoal Flecks, small sandstone Fragments, pottery sherds and quartz Fragments.

3638: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable green/black 70% sand, 30% charcoal (increasingly lime green in colour towards bottom of Fill) with occasional decayed timber Fragments. Patches of clay and moderate small bits of coal. `

3639: SLOT CUT (INC BEAM SLOT)

Shape varies From N to S. North-top edge gradual, gradient gentle, bottom Flat. South:top edge sharp, gradient steep, bottom pointed.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a diverse range of mixed deposits spanning the Full width of the trench which may have co-existed with the use of the structure described in the previous group. In addition to these build-up deposits there were two small post-holes and a slot which although very roughly aligned with one another did not have any other structural significance. This material immediately preceded a major episode of levelling which is described in the Following group.

GROUP 14

CONTEXT SERIES 3.14.1

CONTEXTS: 3615, 3619, 3621

3615: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mid-brown sand 50% and yellow white mortar 50%.

3619: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mid-brown 30% orange sand , 10% mortar, 30% pebbles 2-4 cm diameter , 30% greenish brown sand with moderate tile and limestone Fragments, occasional bone and pottery.

3621: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mid-brown 10% tile, 30% limestone rubble, 10% mortar, 10% silt, 40% lead ore?

Discussion; These three deposits spanned the Full width of the area excavated and represent a process of build-up and levelling for the metalled surface discussed below. The depth of this material varied across the trench but was up to. 0.40m at its thickest.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.14.2

CONTEXTS: 3614, 3617, 3618

3614: METALLING. .

Compact 70% cobbles 3-6 cm, 20% tile Fragments 2~13 cm, 10% limestone Fragments 5-7 cm.

3617: METALLING

Compact/Friable yellow white 30% mortar, 10% tile Fragments, 30% limestone Fragments, 10% pebbles with moderate large cobbles.

3618: METALLING

90% cobbles <3-10cm) set in compact yellow/white mortar with occasional tile.

Discussion: This context series comprised a compacted deliberately laid metalled surface spanning much of the trench although not present in the same convincing manner at the western end, perhaps as a result of having been removed at a later date. At the eastern end of the area the upper surface of (3617) was raised in such a way as to give the impression of a raised Feature reminiscent of a rough kerb. IF this were the case then it would imply the presence of a linear Feature aligned N/S across the width of the area.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised the levelling for and a metalled surface which spanned almost the Full width of the trench.

GROUP 15

CONTEXT SERIES 3.15.1

CDHTEXTS: 3607, 3608, 3613, 3616

3607: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact yellow 40% limestone Fragments, 40% mortar, 10% sand 10% small pebbles with occasional tile Fragments

3608: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact white 90% mortar, 10% limestone Fragments (8-15cms) with occasional pebbles 2~4 cm.

3613: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact white 40% pebbles, 30% mortar, 20% small limestone Fragments, 10% small tile Fragments with occasional cobbles.

3616: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable light brown/grey deposit, 10% sand-grit, 60% clay, 30% silt with occasional charcoal Flecks, tile Fragments (small large) and Frequent white mortar Flecks

Discussion: This context series comprised a Further build-up or mixed material designed to prepare the ground surface For later more convincing compacted 'working ' surfaces. ~

CONTEXT SERIES 3.15.2

CONTEXTS: 3609, 3610, 3611, 3612

3609: PACKING DEPOSIT

Loose dark brown/grey silt 60%, clay 20%, off white mortar 20% with occasional stones, tile and bone.

3610: PACKING DEPOSIT

Loose mid grey deposit: 50% pebbles (2-4cm>, 25% silt. 25% sand with moderate tile Fragments.

3611: POST HOLE CUT

Basically round, top edge sharp, gradient steep. Bottom edge pointed, bottom Flat.

3612: POST HOLE CUT

Irregular shape, top edge sharp, gradient steep but steps in at about one fifth of the way down, bottom is blunt.

Discussion; This series comprises two post holes cut into the previously laid down metalling and levelling deposits. (3612) is larger: than (3611). Other than that they have no related structural Features within the excavation area little can be said about theme. The excavator recorded that timber (3466) (3.16.11) was related to cut (36113. It is actually only on the edge of the cut and given the Fact that this is the only timber recorded at this level coupled with the fact that it could have been driven down Prom above this may not be correct. In addition to this it has a spatial relationship with the timbers in (3.16.11) and is therefore discussed there.

GROUP DISCUSSION: A Further round of trench wide levelling deposits in this instance including two post holes for which no major interpretation can be drawn.

GROUP 16

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.1

CONTEXTS: 3606

3606: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown grey 10% cobbles (max 8cm diameter average 4cm>, 30%sand~grit, 30%silt, 30% clay with occasional clay and tile.

Discussion: This deposit was not dissimilar to those other levelling which both post and predated it. It has however been placed in a context series on its own as its covers almost the Full extent of the trench excluding the western planning zone and is a limited nodal point on the matrix. In addition to this the excavator has alternatively described it as a Floor and notes that there was metalling material pressed into its upper surface within planning Zone F, i.e. at the eastern end of the area.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.2

CONTEXTS: 3576, 3577, 3583, 3589, 3591, 3595, 3596, 3597, 3598, 3599, 3600, 3601, 3602, 3603, 3604, 3605

3576: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact clay/tile 30%, limestone Fragments 10%, pink/orange (mortar 70% with occasional opus signinum Fragments.

3577: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable light brown clay 70%, silt 10%, loose light yellow white mortar Flecks with occasional charcoal and tile.

3583: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable light brown clay 60, sand 25%, silt 25% with occasional mid brown/green clay blobs, tile Fragments and mortar Flecks.

3589: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Mixed layer comprising 40% mid brown silt, 10% brown sand, 40% mortar, 10% small pebbles with occasional small to medium limestone Fragments, small tile Fragments and medium pebbles.

3591: DUMP DEPOSIT

Light brown, Friable 70% clay, 30% coarse sand, 10% small pebbles.

3595: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact 70% large cobbles, 30% yellow mortar, 10% brown clay.

3596: DUMP DEPOSIT

70% limestone Fragments, dark brown clay 20%, silt 10% with frequent medium tile Fragments.

3597: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mixed layer of 30% mortar, 30% mid brown silt, 30% dark brown clay, 30% small pebbles with moderate small tile Fragments.

3598: DUMP DEPOSIT

15% sandstone Fragments on top of compact white/yellow mortar 85% with occasional medium pebbles.

3599: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed layer of brown sand (10%), silt (10%), clay (20%), small tile (25%), medium tile (25%), mortar (10%) with occasional large tiles Fragments, moderate medium limestone Fragments and small pebbles.

3600: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose mortar 50%, silt 50% with Frequent small/large tile Fragments and moderate small/medium limestone Fragments.

3601: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose light orange/brown deposit: 90% sand, 10% silt with occasional small pebble (5-12cm) and white mortar Flecks.

3603: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown/grey deposit: 30% sand, 50% silt, 20% clay with Frequent small pebbles very few pebbles in Zone F.

3603: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey/brown deposit: Silt 20%, clay 60%, limestone Fragments 20% with occasional tile, charcoal Flecks, sand stone Fragments.

3604: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Mid brown friable deposit: Silt 80%, clay 20% with occasional tile and bone.

3605: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact. light brown/green clay 90%, pockets of mid brown silt 10% with occasional small to medium pebbles, tile Fragments, pea grit, charcoal and limestone Fragments.

Discussion: These deposits span the Full width of the trench and continue the process of ground raising, levelling and dumping now becoming Familiar in this sequence. Much of the included material emanates from the demolition of buildings. Only in one instance this series did the excavator Feel that one of the deposits may, have actually existed as a true surface. This was (3598) and it was described as a Floor.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.3

CONTEXTS: 3590, 3592, 3593, 3594

3590: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey clay 70%, silt 30% with moderate limestone Fragments.

3592: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid light grey 70% clay, 30% silt with occasional black silt and light grey mortar Fragments.

3593: POST HOLE CUT

Sub circular cut with sharp top edge, vertical sides dropping to pointed base.

3594: POST HOLE CUT

Irregular roughly circular cut, sharp break from surface, irregular straight sides, sharp break to base, flat base.

Discussion: Both of these post holes are interesting in that it was possible to record a convincing case for the presence of a cut and a Fill. However they did not have a sufficiently straight Forward relationship with the post to be certain that they represented the true point at which the post had been driven down into the ground. Indeed in the case of (3594) (3592) the post (3573) is on the edge of the cut rather than in it. Indeed on the basis of this unclear relationship it is discussed below in (3.16.10). In the case of (3590) (3593) the post (3468) does lie centrally within the hole but not sufficiently deep for it to have supported it. The more likely explanation is that they were driven in from a higher level and subsequent movement has created a Feature that the excavator has recorded as a cut. In the case of (3468) a further cut was noted higher up the preserved timber stump. A Further explanation For the lack of depth of the cut may be that the subsequent material surrounding the post was placed there roughly contemporaneously, thus acting as its support, (3468) indeed has spatial relationships with the timbers in (3.16.11) and is therefore included in the discussion at that point.

However as neither of these posts can be clearly linked to other Features or timbers higher up the stratigraphic sequence they have been recorded here where the excavator placed them with a note to, the effect that preserved timbers driven into the ground whether or not in a pre-excavated cut remain difficult to place within a stratigraphic sequence, particularly in the well preserved organic deposits here in York.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.4

CONTEXTS: 3578, 3579, 3580, 3581, 3582, 3584

3578: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable green/brown clay 40%, silt 20%, sand-grit 30%.

3579: METALLING

10% small limestone, 20% medium limestone, 10% tile, 10% small pebbles set in matrix of mortar 40%, covered in pea grit 10% with occasional sandstone Fragments. .

3580: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/brown deposit: Sand 10%, clay 10%, silt 20%, with medium/large limestone Fragments.

3581: DUMP DEPOSIT

Green/brown friable deposit: 40% clay, 20% sand, 40% silt.

3582: POST HOLE CUT

Sub circular cut, sides break sharply from surface edges steep at top, rounded off to concave base.

3584: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown 10% silt, 10% clay, loose light brown 40% mortar, 25% tile, 15% pebbles.

Discussion: This context series comprised the levelling for and the make-up of a convincing metalled surface in the central part of the trench, (3579). Also included in series is a post hole which cut into this deposit and a further levelling dump which sealed it. There was no evidence for a post or post pipe void within the cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.5

CONTEXTS: 3372, 3373, 3549, 3562, 3564, 3565, 3566, 3567, 3568

3372: POST

Wooden post 12x7x45cm, pointed at one end.

3373: POST

Circular wooden post 10cm in diameter, 47cm in length, sharp end.

3549: OTHER DEPOSIT

Compact layer of rounded cobbles 90%, 10% matrix or pea grit, sand and silt.

3562: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact light yellow-orange 90% mortar, 10% pink opus signinum with occasional tile.

3564: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey/black sand 10%, cobbles 25%, silt 40%, clay 25%.

3565: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact: dark grey/black silt 65%, sand 10%, cobbles 35%.

3566: POST HOLE CUT

Sharp top edge, steep sides dropping to point.

3567: POST HOLE CUT

Blunt top edge, sides slope gradually then sharply to point.

3568: DUMP DEPOSIT

60% mortar, 40% black silt with occasional small pieces of tile and small limestone Fragments. .

Discussion: This series comprises a major two cobbled surface spanning the central two thirds of the trench. This is yet another in the series of apparently open yards or work areas which have

successively been positioned here. Cut into this surface are two apparent post holes, with their related fills and timbers in situ. However the same provisos exist with these posts as with those discussed above in (3.16.3). However they have been included here as this is the stratigraphic position that they were recorded in and there is no other evidence which would enable them to be positioned elsewhere in this discussion. This is an issue which will be addressed again in the discussion of, this Group in the Site wide discussion.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.6

CONTEXTS: 3559, 3561, 3563, 3569

3559: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose black ash 60%, silt 30%, coarse sand 10% with moderate pebbles, occasional tile-brick, Frequent charcoal lenses.

3561: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact-friable orange/yellow crushed limestone mortar 90%, limestone Fragments with moderate tile Fragments.

3563: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Loose dark grey/brown silt 50%, sand 30%, clay 30% with occasional tile and moderate pebbles.

3569: OTHER

40% large limestone cobbles Fragments (20cm-10cm>, 50%. Flat sandstone Fragments <20cm-5cm>, 10% large cobbles with moderate tile Fragments.

Discussion: This series constituted further compacted deposits. In this case that gave the appearance of having Formed true surfaces. Their position at the eastern end of the trench and their similarity of height with those in the previous context series would imply that they existed contemporaneously.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.7

CONTEXTS: 3367, 3530, 3543, 3546, 3548, 3550, 3551, 3552, 3553, 3558, 3560

3367: POST

Vertical timber post, 10cm. in diameter

3530: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mid dark grey silt 70%, clay 30% with occasional mortar Flecks and limestone Fragments.

3543: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black small medium pebbles 60%, sand 10%, clay 30% with moderate mortar, sandstone and Frequent tile Fragments.

3546: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable light grey silt 55%, sand 10%, dark brown silt 15%, dark brown clay 15% with occasional mortar and tile Fragments.

3543: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey black clay 20%, silt 80% with occasional mortar Flecks and lumps.

3550: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown silt 35%, sand 15%, clay 50%.

3551: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed layer of light/dark brown and grey silt 30%, sand 30%, medium limestone Fragments 30%, tile 10%, mortar 10% with frequent tile and sandstone Fragments.

3553: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown silt 45%, clay 25%, light brown/orange coarse grained sand, 30% with occasional tile Fragments.

3553: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey 50% silt, 40% clay, 10% sand.

3558: POST HOLE CUT

Sharp top edge, sloping horizontal sides, blunt bottom edge.

3560: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey silt 70%, clay 20%, sand 10% with occasional limestone fragments and frequent tile.

Discussion: This series comprised further build-ups and dumps concentrated primarily in the eastern two thirds of the trench. A single posthole has been included in the sequence. The same problems apply to the way in which this was recorded as was observed in the discussion for (3.16.3) and (3.16.5). There may however be some spatial relationship between this post-hole and that recorded in (3.16.5)

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.8

CONTEXT: 3570

3570: POST

Circular sectioned post c7cm in diameter

Discussion: This post has the same problems of recording as those discussed elsewhere. Given its recorded stratigraphic position on the matrix this is the logical point at which to note it in this text. It has no clear spatial relationship with any other timber on the site.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.9

CONTEXTS: 3370, 3390, 3517, 3519, 3532, 3533, 3534, 3535, 3536, 3537, 3538, 3539, 3540, 3554, 3555, 3556, 3557

3370: POST

Wooden post 18x8cm.

3390: POST

Upright round timber, 19cm diameter, end sharpened to point.

3517: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey silt 70%, clay 30%.

3519: POST PIPE VOID

Sides break sharply from surface, E side drops sharply W side vertical to point.

3533: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey clay 60%, sand 30%, silt 10%, with occasional pebbles and timber Fragments

3533: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey clay 60%, sand 30%, silt 10% with occasional pebbles and limestone Fragments

3534: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey clay 50%, sand 30%, silt 10%.

3535: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey clay 60%, sand 30%, silt 10% with occasional pot, tile, pebbles and large limestone Fragments.

3536: POST

Circular wooden post, 9cm in diameter.

3537: POST HOLE CUT

Oval shaped cut, top edge gradual, gradient fairly steep on west.

3538: POST HOLE CUT

Circular cut, top edge sharp, gradient moderately steep, bottom edge blunt.

3539: POST HOLE CUT

Sub~circular cut, top edge sharp, gradient steep, bottom edge blunt.

3540: POST HOLE CUT

Sub circular cut, top edge gradual, gradient gentle, bottom rounded.

3554: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact, dark grey clay 60%, silt 30%, sand 10% with occasional small cobbles.

3555: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey silt 70%, clay 20%, sand 10% with occasional small cobbles and mortar Flecks,

3556: POST HOLE CUT

Blunt top edge, sides sloping to vertical, blunt bottom edge, rounded bottom,

3557: POST HOLE CUT

Sharp top edge, sloping sides falling to point.

Discussion: See below Context Series (3.16.10).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.10

CONTEXTS: 3571, 3572, 3573, 3574, 3575

3571: POST

Round wooden post 10cm in diameter,

3572: POST

Round wooden post 10cm. diameter, 63cm. in length.

3573: POST

Round wooden timber 8cm diameter, pointed end of stake 30cm in length.

3574: POST

Rounded wooden post 10cm diameter, end shaped to a point

3575: POST

Round wooden post 10cm diameter, pointed end.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.11

CONTEXTS 3466, 3467, 3468, 3469, 3470, 3471, 3472, 3473, 3474

These following driven timbers have been included in the discussion here on the basis of their spatial relationship with the. Features in (3.16.9) and (3.16.10). Their stratigraphic positions as recorded on the Matrix have been ignored as it is believed by this author that their driven nature has led to them being incorrectly positioned.

3466: STAKE

Oval stake 40 by 50mm in diameter, 30cm in length.

3467: POST

Upright timber 10x7cm diameter.

3468: POST

Oval post, diameter 155 by 100mm. No visible bark.

3469: STAKE

45-50mm in diameter. Length unrecorded.

3470: POST

Vertical split timber post.

3471: STAKE

Round stake driven in at an angle, 25mm. diameter.

3472: POST

Round timber post 65mm diameter.

3473: POST

Ovoid wooden post 6x9cm diameter.

3474: STAKE

Round stake 45-50cm in diameter.

Discussion (3.16.9, 3.16.10 and 3.16.11) These three context series bring together a number of driven timbers, some within cuts, some not, in addition to some postholes and Fills which do not contain the preserved remains of timbers. There are stratigraphic difficulties with these Features, particularly the driven posts which have been referred to elsewhere, in addition to the fact that this author is suspicious that some of the Features which have been recorded as cuts may be nothing more than a shape left in the ground at the base of a post which has been driven in from a higher level perhaps as a result of the post moving in the ground either whilst being positioned or perhaps during the period of its use.

However these cuts and timbers are all roughly at the same stratigraphic level within this deep sequence of levelling and dumping and there is something that can be said concerning their spatial distribution.

The cuts and Fills (3537) (3538) (3539) (3540) (3556) (3557), (3.16.9) are all concentrated at the intersection of planning zones D and E and form a rough east west alignment. Timbers (3571) to (3575), (3.16.10) lie slightly to the NW of the postholes and hold a less convincing but similar alignment. Timbers (3466) to (3474), (3.16.11) are entirely within Plan Zone E, but they form a continuation of the alignment further east. Posthole (3519), (3.16.9) also lies in this area. The important point concerning these Features is that they respect neither the earlier underlying Roman building alignment nor the forthcoming cemetery or medieval building layout. There seems to be at least minimal evidence for a period of usage of the site where the emphasis of alignment is different from both prior and succeeding events. Dating evidence and environmental material may be of particular relevance in assessing the importance of these associated Features.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.12

CONTEXTS: 3520, 3544, 3547

3520: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/light orange/brown silt 20% clay 30%, mortar lumps 30%, medium limestone Fragments 20% with moderate tile, limestone Fragments, cobbles, pebbles, occasional large limestone Fragments.

3544: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable, dark grey/brown sand 20%, silt 40%, clay 40% with moderate mortar Flecks, occasional mortar lumps, tile Fragments, small limestone and sandstone Fragments.

3547: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable black-brown 60% clay, 40% silt.

Discussion: Further mixed build-up deposits concentrated in the western half of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.16.13

CDHTEXT3: 3512, 3523

3513: BACKFILL

Mixed Friable deposit: Pale grey/brown silt 40%, clay 20%, grey/black silt 30%, sand 10%, with occasional tile Fragments, pot, bone, shell small pebbles, limestone blocks, and opus signinum, with Frequent tile and limestone blocks at the west end of the cut.

3523: ROBBER CUT

Rectangular cut orientated NW/SE extending both to the NE and SE of the area excavated. Sharp top edge, steep sides, bottom edge is pointed.

Discussion: The shape, orientation and nature of the backfill material of this cut would indicate that it is the robber trench of

a stone wall. It does not however relate to any other constructional feature within the excavation area at this stratigraphic level.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a diverse range of build up, levelling and dumped deposits with occasional surfaces spanning the Full width of the trench and continuing the process outlined in the previous groups. In addition there is a concentration of postholes and driven timbers included in this group which are of particular interest in that they do not represent structural alignments From either the preceding or succeeding activities on the site. As stated in the discussion for these timbers and cut Features; there is same suspicion about their precise stratigraphic positioning and in some instances whether they represent true cuts at all. (Please also see GROUP 24 below). They may simply be the mark left in the ground as a part of the process of driving a post or are perhaps caused by the movement of a post whilst it is actually in use.

There is also a single structural Feature (3.16.13), a robber trench included in this group. It physically cuts (3520) (3.16.12) but is not related to any other constructional Feature.

GROUP 17

CONTEXT SERIES 3.17.1

CONTEXTS: 3542, 3545

3542: FOUNDATION PIT CUT FILL DEPOSIT

75% limestone Fragments, 15% sandstone, 10% friable dark grey/brown silt with occasional tile Fragments and decayed sandstone.

3545: FOUNDATION PIT CUT

Cut not clearly defined. Top edge blunt, E. edge steep slope, blunt bottom edge. W edge gradual slope to blunt bottom. N end of cut hardly discernible

Discussion: This Feature is a narrow shallow stone Filled trench spanning the Full width of the trench and has the appearance of a Foundation trench for a sleeper beam. There is however no other comparable Feature within the excavation area although it may relate

to some of the levelling deposits described in the next context series. IF it is a true structural Feature then there is the likelihood that the building to which it relates continues to the west, into the unexcavated area.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.17.2

CONTEXTS: 3527, 3528, 3529, 3531

3527: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact mid orange brown deposit: 80% silt, 10% sand, 10% clay with occasional mortar Flecks and iron staining.

3528: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black to dark brown clay 10%, silt 90% with occasional small limestone Fragments,

3529: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/orange deposit: Silt 75%, clay 15%, sand 10% with occasional iron staining and yellow white mortar flecks.

3531: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable orange/brown sand 90%, clay 10%, silt 70% with moderate mortar flecks, occasional limestone and tile Fragments.

Discussion This context series comprised a number of further compacted level deposits in this instance restricted to the western end of the trench in association with the Foundation cut described in the previous section.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The most that can be said about this group is that it represents slim evidence for the presence of a structure on the site interrupting the process of deposition and build-up that was represented by the previous groups and comes immediately before a further build-up associated with the use of the site as a cemetery.

GROUP 18

CONTEXT SERIES 3.18.1

CONTEXTS: 3513, 3514, 3516, 3521

3513: COFFIN

Wooden coffin lid badly decayed.

3514: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown silt 50%, clay 30%, orange sand 30% with moderate mortar flecks and wood Fragments.

3516:-SKELETON

Extended inhumation, poor condition, arms alongside body, right hand resting over right thigh. Bones stained orange/yellow, Orientation NE/SW Facing NE. Lower legs outside the area excavated.

3531: GRAVE CUT

SE side, top edge steep, vertical side, blunt bottom edge, level base, NW side not so well defined top edge, vertical side.

Discussion This grave was a further example from the site of an inhumation apparently not within a coffin but within a cut with a plank of wood placed over the body after burial.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.18.2

CONTEXTS: 3501, 3518, 3522, 3525, 3526

3501: POST

Wooden post, round in cross section 8.5cm, in diameter. Isolated within cut 3522.

3518: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/brown deposit: Sand 20%, silt 35%, clay 45% with frequent tile, large stone blocks and occasional oyster shell.

3522: POST HOLE CUT

Sharp top edge, blunt bottom edge, rounded base

3525: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey/black deposit: Silt 80%, clay 20% with occasional decayed sandstone Fragments.

3526: PIT CUT

Irregular edge, gradual break from surface, sides irregular but concave. Sides meet base with no perceptible break. Base is concave.

Discussion This context series comprises a small pit with no obvious Function and an isolated post set in a posthole at the western end of the trench at the same stratigraphic level as the burial discussed in the previous context series.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised unrelated cut Features including a burial positioned in between two episodes of build-up materials.

GROUP 19

CONTEXT SERIES 3.19.1

CONTEXTS: 3503, 3506, 3515

3503: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark orange/brown deposit: 20% clay, 15% sand, 65% silt with Frequent white orange mortar Flecks, small sandstone Fragments and occasional tile Fragments.

3506: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit Sand 20%, silt 40%, clay 40% with occasional small limestone and tile Fragments, pebbles and moderate medium pebbles.

3515: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mottled grey and light pink deposit: Silt 30%, clay 70% with occasional small limestone and tile Fragments and small pebbles. `

Discussion This series of build-up deposits spanned the western three-quarters of the trench being stratigraphically later, but at the same approximate level as 3520 (3.16.12) at the eastern end. They preceded the extensive use of the site as a cemetery.

GROUP 20

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.1

CONTEXT 3524

3524: STAKE

Wooden stake, ovoid in cross section 28cm in length 7cm in diameter. This timber was isolated and has been recorded in the discussion here on the basis of its recorded stratigraphic position. As it is a driven timber there is however the possibility that it is from a higher stratigraphic level.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.2

CONTEXTS: 3476, 3477, 3485, 3489, 3493, 3494, 3499

3476: COFFIN LID

Rectangular sawn plank (lifted as 6 Fragments) 80x30x1cm possible dowel hole on eastern edge.

3477: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 10% burnt wood, 10% white mortar. 10% oxidised red coarse sand, 40% mid brown clay and 30% mid brown silt.

3485: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose black to grey 100% Fragments of burnt wood/charcoal.

3489: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation, orientated NE/SW, Facing NE. Wrists across pelvis, legs mainly outside the area of excavation. Bones in very poor condition especially on left hand side where the ribs, clavicle, and scapula were virtually totally rotted away. Skull collapsed. .

3493: GRAVE MARKER

Roughly rectangular block of limestone resting on longer edge, sloping over the grave at head end.

3494: PILLOW STONE

Two large limestone blocks acting as grave markers, irregularly shaped, embedded in base of grave cut (3499).

3499: GRAVE CUT

Rectangular cut truncated by south-facing section. Edges some undercut, sides break sharply from surface and to base.

Discussion This grave was notable for the fact that again there was no coffin, merely a plank of wood placed over the body. In addition to this there were two stones supporting the head and a stone acting apparently as a grave marker.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.3

CONTEXT: 3487

3487: SKELETON

Infant inhumation truncated by N. facing section, legs only with the excavation area. Orientation NNE/SSW facing NNE. Bones fragile.

Discussion This individual was found between two deposits of build-up. There was no evidence for either a coffin or a distinct grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.4

CONTEXT: 3488

3488: SKELETON

Adult inhumation truncated by N. facing section, waist down only within the area and below the knees removed by a later burial. Legs extended. Orientation NE/SW.

Discussion This individual was found between two deposits of build-up. There was no evidence for either a coffin or a distinct grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.5

CONTEXTS 3484, 3490

3484 DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid dark grey 30% silt, 35% sand, 45% clay.

3490: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation, orientated NE/SW Facing NE. Left arm on pelvis

Discussion This individual was found between two deposits of build-up. There was no evidence for either a coffin or a distinct grave cut. However in this case a distinct deposit was recorded in association with the body, (3484).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.6

CONTEXT: 3491

3491: SKELETON

Juvenile inhumation orientated NE/SW Facing NE, truncated by north facing section above the knees.

Discussion This individual was found between two deposits of build-up. There was no evidence for either a coffin or a distinct grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.7

CONTEXT: 3495

3495: SKELETON

Partial skeleton, upper body only remaining. Its skull was removed by a later burial and the thorax and lower body lay beyond the area excavated, Orientation was NE/SW with the head at the SW.

Discussion This individual was found between two deposits of build up. There was no evidence for either a coffin or a distinct grave cut. However in this case some orange-brown colouration around bones was recorded which may have been the remains of a shroud.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.8

COMTEXTS: 3486, 3492, 3500

3436: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable 60% silt, 40% clay dark grey to orange, mostly surrounding the skeleton with less than 10% sand, occasional limestone Fragments and occasional charcoal and areas of blackening.

3492: SKELETON

Articulated skeleton, orientated NE/SW facing NE with the lower legs outside the area excavated. The arms were crossed over the stomach. The left over the right. Bones in good condition.

3500: GRAVE CUT

S and E sides sharp top edge, steep vertical sides, blunt bottom edge. W side not easily defined. Fairly level bottom.

Discussion Articulated adult inhumation within a grave cut but with no apparent sign of a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.9

CONTEXTS: 3496, 3497, 3498

3496: POST

Wooden Post 9cm in diameter. Shaped end point driven into cut (3498)

3497: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: 60% clay, 30% silt, 10% sand with occasional small tile fragments

3498: POST HOLE CUT

E side, sharp top edge, vertical side. W side less well defined as disturbed by the removal of a skeleton. Pointed base.

Discussion This was an isolated post set in a cut immediately adjacent to grave (3500) (3.20.8), although it is not necessarily related to it.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.20.10

CONTEXTS: 3502, 3504, 3505, 3509

3503: COFFIN LID

Coffin lid quite decayed and had sagged a little south west corner badly damaged. No carpentry Features visible

3504: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit: Loose oxidised material 10%, friable mid brown silt 40%, clay 50%.

3505: SKELETON

Extended inhumation, aligned NE/SW Facing NE. with the thorax and lower body beyond the area excavated. Head had fallen back.

3509: COFFIN

Coffin base and sides, 32.5cm in width. Its length is unknown as it extends beyond the area excavated. Those parts of timber that were

within the area excavated were conserved. (Timber nos. 206, 207. 208, 209).

Discussion This inhumation was within a coffin (add in details from timber sheets here). There was however no clear evidence for a well defined cut into which the coffin had been placed.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a number of inhumations at the western end of the trench sandwiched between build up deposits (3503) (3.19.1) and (3482) (3.21.1). In addition to the burials a posthole and an isolated stake were recorded at the same stratigraphic level in this part of the trench.

GROUP 21

CONTEXT SERIES 3.21.1

CONTEXTS: 3461, 3482

3461: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid-dark deposit: Clay 45%, silt 45%, sand 10% with occasional large tile Fragments.

3482: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/black deposit: Silt 60%, clay 40% with occasional shale, small tile Fragments, medium limestone Fragments and occasional charcoal.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised two build-up deposits approximately 10cm in thickness sealing the burials in the previous group and thereafter cut by later burials, (3.22.1-10).

GROUP 22

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.1

CUNTEXTS: 3475, 3479, 3481, 3483

3475: COFFIN

Wooden lid of coffin, collapsed From SE aide of coffin, truncated by SW section.

3479: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown silt 100% with occasional small pebbles.

3481: SKELETON

Adult inhumation truncated by SW section, lower leg bones only within the trench. Orientation NE/SW Facing NE. Bones in slightly degraded condition.

3433: COFFIN

Wooden coffin truncated by SW section. Base and N. end only survive.

Discussion This inhumation was not found within a discernible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.2

CONTEXTS: 3449, 3451, 3453, 3456, 3458

3449: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/black deposit: 80% silt, 20% clay, with occasional small limestone Fragments (2 to 6cms in diameter), white Flecks and small to medium cobbles.

3451: COFFIN

Wooden coffin lid, approximately rectangular in shape, fairly well preserved but broken into Fragments on removal. It has collapsed into the interior of the coffin.

3453: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/black deposit, 60% silt, 40% clay with mid red/brown wood stain.

3456: SKELETON

Human skeleton orientated ENE/WSW, with only the lower half of the body in the area excavated. Facing ENE. Bones stained black and in a poor condition. No right Foot or pelvic bones apparent. Lower right arm lying over pelvis.

3458: COFFIN

Timber coffin, base complete, (possibly two planks), coffin end and both sides. One end beyond the area excavated. One peg was found in the base which was apparently Functional.

Discussion This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.3

CONTEXTS: 3421, 3431, 3433, 3446

3421: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable deposit: 80% dark grey clay, 20% dark grey silt with occasional small pebbles and mortar Flecks.

3431: COFFIN LID

Friable mid red/brown 80% silt, 20% clay (decayed wood Forming brown stain). This represents the badly preserved remains of a coffin lid.

3433: SKELETON

Human skeleton orientated NE/SW Facing NE. Feet and lower leg bones only with in the area excavated. Bones stained black.

Long boned damaged at either end. Ankle bones in poor condition.

3446: COFFIN

Wooden coffin remains, bottom board and NE-side board well preserved.

Discussion This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.4

CONTEXTS: 3407, 3414, 3434, 3510, 3511

3407: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey d0% clay, 40% silt with occasional cobbles and small limestone Fragments.

3414: COFFIN LID

Brown decayed timber. 2 planks, each plank 14cms in width. Their length is unknown as they continue to the NE of the area excavated.

3434: COFFIN

Coffin made of 4 pegged planks (lid, 2 sides, end) lying partly outside the area of the excavation. Dowels were used to secure the end planks onto the base.

3510: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid to dark grey compact deposit: 60% clay, 40% silt with occasional charcoal Flecks.

3511: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation orientated ENE/WSW facing ENE. Both hands over pelvis. Legs are partially beyond the area excavated but it is clear that the Femurs have rolled over within the coffin perhaps as a result of water having been present in the coffin during the process of decay

Discussion This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut. In this instance the orientation is slightly askew to those others in the immediate vicinity.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.5

CONTEXTS: 3422, 3433, 3440

3423: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: Sand 10%, silt 40%, clay 50% with occasional bits of skeleton, 3 lower Jaws, 4 skull fragments, 3 long bones, 1 Foot bone, 3 pelvic bones, 2 vertebrae, 2 skulls, 1 scapula and 1 Femur.

3432: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose greenish organic substance, around bones of skeleton, from the neck to knee level. As this body was not buried within a coffin this deposit has been interpreted as the remains of a shroud.

3440: SKELETON

Adult extended inhumation orientated NE/SW Facing NE. Head turned to N. Arms crossed over pelvis, legs extended. Good state of preservation, all bones apparently present.

Discussion: This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut. In this instance there was no coffin present either, the body may have been buried in a shroud. The deposit sealing the burial was of interest in that it contained a considerable number of disarticulated remains. It would appear that the opportunity was taken at the time of this burial to rebury those parts of earlier individuals which had been disturbed.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.6

CONTEXTS: 3419, 3425, 3427, 3428, 3429

3419: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid dark brown deposit: 60% clay, 40% silt with occasional limestone pebbles.

3425: COFFIN LID

Single plank, badly Fragmented, 1740mm long, 300mm wide, 10mm in thickness.

3427: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit: 90% silt, 10% clay.

3428: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Left arm extended at side, right hand on pelvis. Bones very poorly preserved, ribs and spine almost totally decayed away. Skull and left Femur badly crushed. Feet Just outside the area of the excavation.

3429: COFFIN

Base, sides & end of coffin. (For precise measurements see card). The method of construction of this coffin was- unclear apart from a groove along the north-western side of the base which would have accommodated the side timber. Elsewhere there was no evidence of nails, Joints or pegs or dowels.

Discussion This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.7

CONTEXTS: 3448, 3450, 3459, 3478

3448: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: Sand 20%, silt 30%, clay 50% with occasional small limestone Fragments, wood and bone.

3450: SKELETON

Supine adult skeleton orientated NE/SW Facing NE. Bones are in reasonable condition,

3459: COFFIN LID

Decayed single piece of timber, lying on top of the skeleton, ton, presumably a part of the remains of the lid of the coffin.

3478: COFFIN

Coffin Rectangular base, sides appear to be four planks, but are badly decayed to a stain and virtually undetectable.

Discussion This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut:

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.8

CUNTEXTS: 3424, 3436, 3441, 3447

3424: COFFIN LID

Friable mid brown silt 100% with frequent medium wood

Fragments/Flecks: (The decayed stain left by what has been interpreted as a coffin lid

3436: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown deposit: silt 80%, clay 20% with frequent wood Flecks:

3441: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation orientated NE/SW Facing NE: Right arm appears to have been under pelvis. However no arms remain except the right hand: Legs Fully extended: State of preservation very poor: Skull is broken, Jaw, most of spine, most of the ribs and half of the pelvis and arms are missing: There was a tree stump immediately above the body which may account for much of the disturbance.

3447: COFFIN

Very decayed timbers forming a coffin: No evidence for nails: joints or dowels.

Discussion: This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut:

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.9

COHTEXTS: 3417, 3426, 3435, 3445

3417: COFFIN

Wooden planks forming the lid of a coffin.

3426: SKELETON

Extended legs and Feet of human skeleton orientated NE/SW Facing NE:
The rest of the skeleton lies beyond the area excavation. Good state of preservation:

3435: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown deposit: Silt 60%, clay 40%:

3445: COFFIN

Rectangular timber coffin remains, well preserved, truncated by section: The base appears to be made of three planks. (NB refer to conservation for constructional characteristics)

Discussion: This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.10

CONTEXTS: 3452 3455 3457

3452: COFFIN LID

Mid brown Friable 100% silt with frequent small wood Fragments, Forming the very decayed lid of a coffin.

3455: SKELETON

Extended inhumation aligned NE/SH Facing NE. Lower half of body beyond the limit of the excavation area. Arms at sides, bones in very good condition except the left ribs which were damaged by a later driven post, and the skull which is in a poor condition.

3457: COFFIN

Very much decayed at sides and at top end. No nails, Joints or dowels present (continues beyond the limits of the excavation area).

Discussion: This was a further inhumation not associated with a clearly visible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.22.11

CONTEXTS: 3415, 3420, 3433, 3437, 3439

3415: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown 100% silt with occasional red brown wood stains, white Flecks and pieces of tile.

3420: SKELETON

Skeleton, Feet only protruding from section. Facing NE, orientation not clear but likely to be NE/SW. Bones stained black/orange.

3433: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable 100% mid red/brown silt with occasional wood Fragments.

3437: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable 100% dark brown silt with occasional Flecks of white sand. .

3439: GRAVE CUT

Sharp top edge, steep gradient, almost vertical for whole of cut within the excavation area. Level bottom.

Discussion: This was a further inhumation at the same level as those also discussed in this group. This example differed from the others in that a definable grave cut was observed and recorded.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised 11 burials, all of which were in coffins except For one which was apparently buried in a shroud. Only one grave cut was clearly observed during the process of excavation. These burials were sandwiched between the build-up deposits described above in (3.19.1) and (3.21.1) and below in (3.????).

GROUP 23

CONTEXT SERIES 3.23.1

CONTEXTS: 3462, 3480

3462: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid orange/brown fairly compact organic deposit with black mottling: 40% clay, 30% silt, 30% very small wood Fragments with Frequent twigs and wood chips 1cm diameter and occasional bone.

3480: PIT CUT

Sharp top edge, steep gradient (vertical sides) with rounded bottom edge continuing into the trench edge.

Discussion: This Feature clearly extended significantly beyond the limits of the excavation area. The nature of its fill would however indicate that it could best be interpreted as either a cesspit or a pit for the disposal of domestic waste. Analysis of the environmental samples that were taken from its Fill will hopefully add further to this interpretation.

GROUP 24

CONTEXT SERIES 3.24.1

CONTEXTS: 3416, 3418, 3423, 3430

3416: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: 10% clay 90% silt with occasional small and medium pebbles and small limestone Fragments.

3418: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable Pine blue stained mid-black organic 100% silt with occasional small pebbles and moderate small Flecks of decayed wood.

3423: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid to dark brown 100% decayed wood.

3430: POST PIPE VOID

Ovoid in shape, top-sharp break of slope, vertical sides dropping to a blunt bottom. Approximately 0.24m in diameter.

Discussion: This post-hole described in some detail is the largest of the stakes and posts which are described in this group, all of which were driven in nature.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.24.2

CONTEXTS: 3329, 3342, 3343, 3346, 3347, 3348, 3349, 3350, 3351, 3352, 3353, 3354, 3355, 3356, 3357, 3358, 3359, 3360, 3361, 3362, 3363, 3364, 3365, 3366, 3368, 3369, 3371, 3378, 3382, 3383, 3384, 3385, 3386, 3387, 3388, 3389, 3391, 3392, 3393, 3394, 3395, 3396, 3397, 3398, 3399, 3400, 3401, 3402, 3408, 3412, 3442, 3443, 3444, 3454, 3460, 3464, 3465, 3507, 3508

3329: POST

Round timber 10cm diameter.

3342: STAKE

Vertical wooden stake. 7cms in diameter, 38cm in length.

3343: STAKE

Vertical wooden stake 4cm. diameter

3346: POST

Rectangular timber post, 19cm NE-SW, 9cm NW-SE.

3347: POST

Vertical apparently round timber 12cm in diameter, squared off and tapering at base.

3348: STAKE

Upright timber stake 5cm in diameter.

3349: STAKE PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid grey deposit: Silt 80%, clay 20% with occasional small pebbles and sand and grit.

3350: STAKE PIPE VOID

Round hole 7cm diameter. vertical sides tapering slightly near base, about 18cms in depth.

3351: POST

Upright timber post c.8cm. diameter.

3352: POST

Sub rectangular timber post 12 x 9cm.

3353: POST

Upright timber c. 14cm. NW/SE by 10cm NE/SW, apparently vertical. Possible tree stump rather than deliberately positioned post.

3354: POST

Ovoid upright timber: 16cmx13cms with a length of 0.76m.

3355: POST

Roundish upright timber post 9cm x 8cm.

3356: POST

Semicircular upright timber post c.8x5cm, with one flat edge.

3357: POST

Roundish upright post, approximately 10cm. diameter.

3358: POST

Round upright timber 7.5cm diameter leaning to NE.

3359: POST

Upright timber post, round, 8cm. diameter, tapered end

3360: POST

Upright round timber post 75cm diameter. 35cm long tapered end.

3361: POST

Large irregular shaped timber upright with one flat face, measuring 29cm x 613cm. Possible tree stump.

3362: POST

Round upright timber post, 5cm. diameter.

3363: POST

Wooden post 10 cm in diameter.

3364: STAKE

Wooden stake. diameter 3.5cm.

3365: STAKE

Wooden stake, diameter. 2cm.

3366: STAKE

Wooden stake vertical, 6cm. diameter.

3368: STAKE

Wooden stake 25cm in diameter, length 10cm tapered toward bottom.

3369: POST

Circular post: 30cm diameter x 44cm long. Base is very roughly hewn into a rounded shape.

3371: POST

Wooden post diameter 5-6cms.

3378: POST

Wooden post, 10cm. x 6cm.

3382: STAKE

Upright timber. 5cm.diameter

3383: POST .

Round upright timber, 10cm.diameter

3384: STAKE

Round upright timber, 5cm.diameter

3385: STAKE

Round upright timber, 3cm diameter

3386: POST

Rectangular upright timber post: 43cm long x 10cm wide X 5cm thick.

3387: POST

Round upright timber, 7cm. diameter

3388: POST

Upright timber 8cm wide – round in shape ~ base pointed.

3389: POST

Round upright timber, 21cm. diameter

3390: POST

Upright round timber, 19cm.diameter, end sharpened to point

3391: STAKE

Wooden stake 5cm diameter driven vertically into ground.

3392: STAKE

Wooden stake driven vertically into ground, 5cm. diameter.

3393: STAKE

Wooden stake 5cm in diameter driven vertically into ground.

3394: STAKE

Wooden stake, 5cm in diameter driven vertically into ground.

3395: STAKE

Wooden stake driven vertically into the ground. 5c. in diameter.

3396: STAKE

Wooden stake driven vertically into ground, 5cm. diameter.

3397: STAKE

Wooden stake c5cms in diameter, driven vertically into ground.

3398: STAKE

Wooden stake. 5cm in diameter driven vertically into ground.

3399: STAKE

Upright: timber, 5cm. diameter driven vertically into ground

3400: STAKE

Small round section stake (split into 3 along length) 4cm in diameter.

3401: POST

Wooden post sub-circular in cross section, 70mmx310mm.

3402: POST

Upright timber post.: 8cm in diameter.

3408: STAKE

Vertical wooden stake 4cm.diameter.

3412: STAKE

Round wooden stake, 5cm diameter

3442: POST

Timber post 10cm diameter

3443: POST

Timber post of 10cm diameter.

3444: POST

Timber post 10cm diameter.

3454: POST

Vertical timber post. 10cm. diameter.

3460: POST

Wooden post—11cm in diameter, some bark present.

3464: POST

Vertical upright post, ovoid in shape, 60cm.diameter.

3465: POST

Upright post. 50mm in diameter.

3507: POST

Vertical timber post, 9.5cm diameter.

3508: POST

Vertical timber post 10cm. diameter.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a substantial number of driven posts and stakes and a single post in a post-hole in the central part of the trench primarily in planning zones D and E although there were a few scattered outliers in Zone F. It is unclear at this stage quite what function these Features performed but there is a suggestion that they continue the East/West alignment of the similar driven posts that were described above in Group 16. Indeed given the difficulty of recording driven timbers as stated in that discussion it is possible that these were indeed contemporary Features and there is some error in their stratigraphic positioning on the Harris Matrix. Nonetheless it is true that their alignment is different from the norm on the site for both the preceding and succeeding phases. The significance of these driven timbers and

their spatial distribution will be considered Further in the Site-wide Discussion at the end of this report.

GROUP 25

CONTEXT SERIES 3.25.1

CONTEXT: 3374

3374: YARD

Surface consisting of 10% tile Fragments, 5~15cm, 20% small limestone Fragments, (10~15cm), 10% medium limestone Fragments (10~15cm), 30% small pebbles (2~5cm), 20% medium pebbles (5~10cm), 10% small sandstone, (5~10cm) with occasional large limestone 15cm, bone and wood Fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This single deposit extended the Full length of the trench sealing the majority of the burials in this area although there were a number that were pressed into its surface. It is, an important deposit signalling a change of use of the area, perhaps representing the point in time when the cemetery was in decline. Certainly later Features on the site indicate that what had previously been held as one area was divided up into plots or tenements associated with buildings, apparently fronting Petergate. A problem with this interpretation is the Fact that the majority of the driven timbers that were described in the previous group were still visible above the surface of this deposit. One might have expected them to have been levelled or removed if their Function had ceased and the land was to be used for alternative purposes. There remains the possibility that some or all of the driven timbers described above may in Fact post date this metallated surface and may have been driven down through it. There certainly are similar timber Features later in the sequence. It should also be noted that a similar deposit of metalling was Found elsewhere on the site where burials had been present, increasing the possibility that this was indeed a deposit deliberately laid to seal the burial level. The excavator described the surface as a yard. Although this is a reasonable interpretation on the basis of its Formation there is no

evidence for related structures or indeed evidence for its precise Function.

GROUP 26

CONTEXT SERIES 3.26.1

CONTEXTS: 3344, 3375, 3379, 3406

3344: COFFIN LID

Plank of timber collapsed over skeleton, rectangular in shape.

3375: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose to compact dark brown-oxidised red deposit: 60% silt, 40% sand with occasional wood Fragments.

3379: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation, orientated NE~SW Facing NE. Burial position unclear as the lower torso downwards lay beyond the limit of the area excavated.

3406: COFFIN

Truncated by south facing section. Pegs present on the western side.

Discussion: This was a further adult inhumation within a coffin. As with many of the previous examples no obvious grave cut was recorded. This individual was however cut into the surface of the deposit (3374) (3.25.1) which apparently sealed the majority of the burials within the cemetery, both in this excavation area and elsewhere on the site.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.26.2

CONTEXTS: 3345, 3376, 3377, 3381, 3403, 3405

3345: COFFIN LID

Lid of coffin, broken into two pieces longitudinally and pressed onto the surface of the skeleton. Presence of a small crosspiece with an associated peg may indicate that it had split prior to burial.

3376: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit: Sand (90%), silt (30%) in very thin layer over skeleton with occasional small pebbles.

3377: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown deposit: Silt (30%), clay (70%) lying around and under skeleton with occasional sand and small pebbles.

3381: SKELETON

Adult inhumation lying NE-SW, Facing HE, legs extended, left Foot turned in towards right. Wrists crossed on right pelvis. Good preservation, complete skeleton present.

3403: GRAVE CUT

Cut not visible in plan, but known to exist as the burial had clearly cut into the surface of the metalled deposit, (3374) (3.25.1).

3405: COFFIN

Wooden coffin made of flat planks, one for each of the sides and one for the base. Traces of pegs and sockets in head end between side and base. Possibly a slit and groove to join the base and the sides Tapers From 33cm wide at the head end to 23cm wide at the Foot.

Discussion: This was a further adult inhumation within a coffin. As with the previous example this individual was cut into the surface of the deposit (3374) (3.35.1) which apparently sealed the majority of the burials within the cemetery, both in this excavation area and elsewhere on the site.

GROUP 27

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.1

CONTEXTS: 3339, 3340, 3341, 3409, 3410, 3411, 3413

3339: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: silt 30%, clay 50%, ash 10%, sand 10% with occasional small limestone and tile Fragments and Frequent slag.

3340: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact 100% pebbles and cobbles, size 3~23cm with Frequent tile Fragments and occasional human bone.

3341: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark black/brown deposit: 40% clay, 30% silt, 30% organic matter with frequent limestone Fragments.

3409: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact 100% light grey clay. .

3410: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid to dark brown deposit: Clay (40%), silt (60%) with occasional organic matter and sand.

3411: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/black deposit: Silt (40%), clay (60%) with occasional tile, cobble and pebble.

3413: PIT CUT

Rounded and slightly irregular shape with a sharp break of slope from surface, smooth vertical sides and a sharp break From a Flat bottom.

Discussion: This context series comprises a series of build-up and dump deposits which collectively span the Full width of the trench sealing the metallised surface discussed in group 25. They themselves are cut by a number or Further inhumations (see below) and appear therefore to have been lain down whilst the cemetery was still in use. They however do Form a part of a process of accumulation on the site which is continued in later groups. A single small pit was

integral to this build-up. There is no clear interpretation for its Function.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.2

CONTEXTS: 3330, 3331, 3332, 3333

3330: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey Friable deposit: Silt 60%, clay 20%, brown decayed wood.

3331: SKELETON

Adult inhumation, orientated NE\SW, Facing NE, legs fully extended. Only the lower legs and Feet within the area excavated.

3332: COFFIN

Wooden coffin, top rotted away, sides stand to 3cm. high, otherwise the timber has rotted away. The base is formed of two Flat planks.

3333: GRAVE CUT

Rectangular cut, orientated N/SW. Sides steep, Top and bottom edges sharp to Flat base. Extends beyond area excavated.

Discussion: Further inhumation within a coffin. On this occasion a grave cut was identified. This burial cut (3341) (3.27.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.3

CONTEXTS: 3327, 3328

3327: SKELETON

Adult or sub adult inhumation orientated NE/SW. Facing NE, wrists crossed over pelvis. Legs fully extended. Skull damaged by the later insertion of a wooden post. Right Femur also damaged.

3328: COFFIN

Brown Friable 100% decayed timber. There was one Fragment of timber (No 105) which may however have been a surviving part of the coffin, although it has the appearance of a stake.

Discussion: Further inhumation within a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.4

CONTEXTS: 3335, 3337, 3338

3335: SKELETON

Adult inhumation orientated approximately NE\SW, Facing NE. Arms crossed over pelvis. Legs fully extended. Skull crushed.

3337: COFFIN

Friable dark to mid brown decayed wood. The badly decayed remains of a coffin.

3333: GRAVE CUT

Shallow irregular grave cut, clear on NW and NE edges but elsewhere uncertain. Irregular base.

Discussion: Further inhumation within a coffin. On this occasion a shallow irregular grave cut was identified. This burial cuts (3341) (3.27.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.5

CONTEXT: 3334

3334: SKELETON

Sub-adult inhumation, orientated approximately NE~SW. Facing NE. Both hands on pelvis. The skull is damaged and the legs (other than the Femur of the left leg) are missing presumably as a result of later disturbance.

Discussion: There was no evidence for either a coffin or a grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.27.6

CONTEXT: 3336

3336: SKELETON

Adult inhumation orientated approx. NE~SW Facing NE. Lower half of body beyond area excavated. Torso disturbed and skull severely damaged.

Discussion: Not Found within either a coffin or a clearly defined grave cut.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a series of dumps and build-up deposits which spanned the full width of the area excavated in the eastern half of the trench. Five inhumations were cut into the surface of this build-up.

GROUP 28

CONTEXT SERIES 3.28.1

CONTEXTS: 3321, 3326

3321: DUMP DEPOSIT

30% brown\black clay, 60% brown\black silt, 10% black sand with Frequent medium to large limestone Fragments, occasional small to medium cobbles,

3326: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mid dark grey silt 70%, clay 30% with occasional tile, limestone and wood Fragments.

Discussion: These two deposits comprised a thin spread of build-up material over the western half of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.28.2

CONTEXTS: 3277, 3313, 3314

3077: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid brown friable deposit: 90% organic material, 10% silt

3313: PIT LINING

Wicker pit lining of pit 3314, only partially remaining

3314: PIT CUT

Rectangular cut, edges break sharply from surface and are almost vertical with a flat base

Discussion: This context series comprised a single pit interpreted as a cess pit on the basis of the high organic content of its fill and the fact that it was lined.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.28.3

CONTEXTS: 3323, 3325

3323: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown silt 40%, clay 20%, organic material 40% with moderate wood Fragments and occasional pebbles

3325: PIT CUT

Cut truncated by N. Facing section, sides break sharply from surface, falling steeply at top then rounding out to base. Roughly semicircular in plan.

Discussion: This context series comprised a single pit tentatively interpreted as a cess pit on the basis of the high organic content of its fill, although there was no evidence for a lining to it. It interrupted the processes of trench wide build-up described in the remainder of this group,

CONTEXT SERIES 3.28.4

CONTEXTS: 3316, 3318, 3320

3316: OTHER DEPOSIT

Surface of stone and brick Fragments: 70%pebbles, 30% limestone with Frequent brick and tile Fragments.

3318: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark brown friable deposit composed of 60% organic material, 30% clay, 30% coarse sand with moderate bone, occasional leather and moderate pebbles, (5cm to 10cms).

3330: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown silt 50%, organic material 50% with frequent wood, occasional bone, slag and pebbles

Discussion: This context series continued the process of build-up described in the First context series in this group. 3316 was however rather different in that it formed an apparently deliberately laid metalled surface or area of hard standing at the western side of the trench,

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a site-wide accumulation of build-up material into which were cut two cess pits and onto the surface of which on the western side of the trench was an apparently deliberately laid area of metalling or hard standing. This general level spanning the full width of the trench was divided into discrete divisions or properties by a number of wicker fences discussed in the following group

GROUP 29

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.1

CONTEXTS: 3279, 3289, 3317, 3333

3379: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit: Organic material 70%, dark brown clay 30%, silt 10% with occasional wood, bone, oyster, snail and shell.

3389: PIT CUT

Irregular top edge, no perceptible break from surface, sides are irregular and concave. Sides meet the base with no perceptible break. Base is flat.

3317: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown grey deposit: Organic material 10%, sand 10%, silt 40%, clay 40% with occasional pot, stone, and moderate bone, and slag.

3323: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Spread of limestone Fragments From 8cm across to 30cm with occasional gritstones, sandstone, tile, bone, shell and small cobbles.

Discussion: This context series comprised a build-up and a spread of stones on the western side of the trench to the east of a wicker Fence or boundary, discussed below in (3.29.2). This material was cut by a single pit, which on the basis of the high percentage of organic material in its Fill has been interpreted as a cess pit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.2

CONTEXTS: 3276, 3280, 3281, 3282, 3283, 3284, 3285, 3286, 3287, 3288, 3290, 3291, 3292, 3293, 3294, 3295, 3319

3276: FENCE

Wooden Fence running NE/SW made up from upright stakes interlaced with horizontal wattle rods to Form A wicker-work structure. Approximately 0.40m in height.

3280: STAKE

Timber stake, with round cross section, pointed bottom, 310mm in length with a diameter of 45mm.

3281: STAKE

Timber stake 280mm long 45mm wide, cross section round, pointed end.

3282: STAKE

Timber stake, round cross section, 210mm long, 155mm wide, pointed end.

3283: STAKE

Wooden stake 340mm long, 45mm wide, round in cross section, pointed end.

3284: STAKE

Timber stake 50mm. wide, 370mm long with pointed end, circular in cross section.

3285: STAKE

Timber stake with pointed end 280mm, long 45mm wide, round in cross section.

3286: STAKE

Wooden stake, pointed bottom, round in cross section 245mm long, 50mm in diameter.

3287: STAKE

Timber stake 255mm. long 35mm, wide. Cross section round, pointed end.

3288: STAKE

Wooden stake 55mm wide, 350mm long with sharp pointed end, round in cross section.

3290: STAKE

Timber stake 340mm long, 38mm wide, round cross section and tapering to a point.

3391: STAKE

Timber stake, round cross section, tapered point, 360mm long 45mm in width.

3392: STAKE

Timber stake 395mm. long, 35mm. wide, cross section round, pointed end. ,

3393: STAKE

Wooden stake round in cross section pointed bottom, 180mm long, 40mm in width.

3294: STAKE

Pointed timber stake, round cross section, length 310mm, width 50mm.,

3295: STAKE

Timber stake, round cross section, pointed end, 320mm long, 45mm in diameter.

3319: ROD

Horizontally interlaced strips of wood 30mm diameter weaved together around upright stakes to Form a Fence.

Discussion: This context series comprised one of e series of wicker Fences running NE/SW across the trench dividing the build-up deposits described in the previous group into discrete areas or properties. This example formed the NW side of an apparent ginnel or alleyway. The Fence Forming the opposite side of this Feature and the deposits associated with its use are described in the Following series.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.3

CONTEXT: 3273

3273: PATH

Compact 100% limestone rubble, ranging from 30cm to 1cm with moderate Fragments of bone end occasional shell.

Discussion: This context series comprised a well laid metalled path associated with the use of the alleyway Formed by the two wicker Fences discussed in the two adjacent context series to this.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.4

CONTEXTS: 3296, 3297, 3298, 3299, 3300, 3301, 3302, 3303, 3304, 3305, 3306, 3307, 3308, 3309, 3310, 3311, 3324

3396: ROD

Horizontal timber lengths woven around vertical timbers. Each timber approximately 60cms long with a diameter of 2~3cms. Round in section. Overall height of the Feature 20cms.

3397: STAKE

Vertical timber 33cm long with bottom 13cm sharpened to a point. Round in section. Diameter .03cm.

3398: STAKE

Vertical timber 21cm long with bottom 12cm sharpened to a point. Round in section. Diameter .04cm

3299: STAIL

Flat ended vertical timber 10cm long, with round cross section of .03cm diameter.

3300: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 37cm long, round with diameter of 0.45cm.

3301: STAKE

Vertical timber 25cm long with bottom 20cm sharpened to a point: Diameter .45cm.

3302: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 23cm long. Round with diameter 3:5cm. Round in section.

3303: SAIL

Flat ended vertical timber 25cm long, round in section with diameter 3cm

3304: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 14cm long, round in cross section with diameter 5cm

3305: SAIL

Flat ended vertical timber 13cm long, round in cross section with diameter of 3cm.

3306: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 13cm long, round in section with diameter 2.5cm.

3307: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 30cm long, round in cross section with diameter 3.5cm.

3308: SAIL

Flat ended vertical timber 9cm long, round in cross section with diameter 3cm.

3309: STAKE

Sharpened vertical timber 16cm long, round in cross section with diameter 3cm.

3310: SAIL

Unsharpened vertical timber 9cm long, round in cross section with diameter 3cm.

3311: SAIL

Flat ended vertical timber 26cm long, round in cross section with diameter of 2cm.

3324: FENCE

Wicker Fence running NE/SW across the Full width of the trench. .

Discussion: This context series comprised one of a series of wicker Fences running NE/SW across the trench dividing the build-up

deposits described in the previous group into discrete areas or properties. This example formed the SE side of an apparent ginnel or alleyway. The Fence Forming the opposite side OF this Feature is described in the previous series and the deposits associated with its use are described in the Following series.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.5

CONTEXTS: 3278, 3312, 3315

3278: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: sand 20%, silt 40%, organic material 40% with moderate small bone and wood Fragments and occasional small and large limestone Fragments, medium pebbles and leather.

3312: POST

Upright timber post, circular. 65cms in length with a diameter of 15cms,

3315: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Circular post set vertically into ground. 12.5cms in length with a diameter of 12cm.

Discussion: This context series consisted of a dump deposit which spanned the eastern half of the trench From Fence line 3324(3.29.4) in the west to 3236 (3.29.7) in the east. The area bounded by these two Fence lines, which measured in excess of 7m was bisected by a later Fence, (3257) (3.29.6). Two isolated posts to the west of (3.29.6) at this level have been included in this series.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.6

CONTEXT3: 3257, 3258, 3259, 3260, 3261, 3262, 3263

3257: FENCE

Short section of wicker Fence made up of vertical stakes with interwoven wicker work. Orientated NE/SW extended to the NE of the area excavated.

3258: SAIL

Horizontally laid wattles, woven around a series of 5 uprights.
Average of 2cm in diameter.

3259: STAKE

Upright timber stake Forming part of NE/SW aligned wicker Fences
42cms in length with a square 5cm section.

3260: STAKE

Upright timber stake forming part of NE/SW aligned wicker Fence.
47cms in length with a square 5cm section.

3261: STAKE

Upright timber stake Forming part or NE/SW aligned wicker fence.
30cms in length with a square 7cm section.

3262: STAKE

Upright timber post Forming part or NE/SW aligned wicker Fence.
Length 49cms with a square 5cm section.

3263: STAKE

Upright timber stake forming part of NE/SW aligned wicker Fence.
46cms in length with a square 5cm section.

Discussion This Fence represents a further subdivision of what in the previous group had been a large open area. In this case the fence does not extend fully to the SW section. This may therefore imply that this Feature rather than having served as a complete property boundary may have represented a subdivision within a property or a demarcation of a particular activity within the area. The general impression given is that the area was in the back of properties and is likely to have been serving as back gardens or yards where cultivation and the disposal of domestic waste may have taken place. There is also the possibility that livestock may have been penned here and that industrial activities may have been taking place. Such evidence will hope-fully emerge from a study of the Finds and the environmental material.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.7

CONTEXT: 3274

3274: PACKING DEPOSIT

302 irregular limestone rubble (5x5-25x25cm) set in 20% mid/dark brown rubble with occasional large tile & medium pot.

Discussion: This Feature comprises a linear band of densely packed rubble, orientated NE/SW spanning the Full width of the trench apparently supporting the upper parts of some timbers which had been driven at an earlier level but which were apparently still extant, (3507) (???) and (3508) (???). They had therefore been reused to Form a Further boundary or division in this area.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.29.8

CONTEXTS: 3236, 3237, 3238, 3239, 3240, 3241, 3242, 3243, 3244, 3245, 3246, 3247, 3248, 3249, 3250, 3251, 3252, 3253, 3254

3236: FENCE

NE/SW orientated Fence composed of vertical posts and stakes 3237-3254, and horizontal wattling.

3237: POST

6cm diameter post, 42cm long, round cross section, bark present, sharpened point.

3238: POST

Split timber post 14x78cm, tapered point.

3239: POST

29cm long, round cross section, 8cm diameter.

3240: POST

34cm long, cross section round with one flattened side.

3241: POST

Split timber post, some bark remaining, 14cm diameter.

3242: POST

Timber with round cross section, 6cm diameter, 40cm long.

3343: POST

Max diameter c. 11cm. Length unrecorded. Split timber, no bark.

3244: POST

Timber 52cm long, round cross section 6cm diameter, tapers to point.

3245: POST

Upright split timber post, 10cm. diameter, some bark present.

3346: POST

Round cross section, diameter 8cm, 47cm long with bark present.

3247: STAKE

33 cm. in length, 4cm. in diameter. bark present.

3348: POST

49cm in length, 8cm.in diameter, some bark, tapers to point.

3349: POST

37 cm. in length, 8 cm. in diameter, tapers to point, bark present.

3350: POST

Upright split timber post 14cm. diameter. Some bark present.

3251: POST

42 cm. in length, 6cm. in diameter, bark is present.

3352: POST

Vertical timber post, round in cross section, 55cm.x8cm bark present, tapering to point.

3353: STAKE

Upright timber stake, 4cm. diameter, bark present.

3954: POST

Max diameter c.8cm, length 80cm.

Discussion: This was the most easterly of the wattle Fences in the excavation area at this level, running the Full width of the trench aligned NE/SW.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group represents the initial level at which the site was divided into separate properties by a number of post and wattle Fences. Two of these Fences divided an area that was surfaced with metalling and which appears to have been an alleyway between two areas of ownership. These land divisions separated the area into tenements at a right angle to the Swinegate/Petergate axis. The presence of cess pits and the nature of the levelling material ranging from highly organic loams to packed areas of hard standing give the general impression of backyard or back garden type activities. Analysis of the Finds and environmental evidence has not yet taken place so this interpretation cannot yet be taken Further.

GROUP 30

CONTEXT SERIES 3.30.1

CONTEXTS: 3234, 3256, 3264, 3267, 3268, 3271, 3272, 3275

3934: ROAD

90% hard-packed cobbles, average size 5~10cm 10% black clay.

3256: ROAD

30% pebbles, average 30-50mm, 30% brown black clay, 40% brown/black silt.

3264: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark orange-brown 60% peat, 40% silt. Very organic & Fibrous with moderate small pot & bone Fragments, occasional small tile and brick Fragments and oyster shell and woody Fragments.

3267: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

80% Friable mid to dark brown peat, 20% clay with occasional bone, pot, cobbles~10 to 20cm, pebbles, oyster shells and patches of cessy material.

3268: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

65% Friable dark brown silt, 25% Friable dark brown clay, 10% dark brown sand with occasional wood flecks, large limestone blocks, medium sandstone blocks and moderate bone.

3271: DUMP DEPOSIT

Dark grey Friable deposit: 50% organic material, 50% silt, with moderate bone and occasional pot.

3272: DUMP DEPOSIT

100% light-dark grey limestone rubble ranging in size from (5cm to 25cm) with occasional bone and medium tile Fragments.

3275: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown/grey deposit: grit 10%, sand 20%, silt 30%, clays 40% with occasional bone.

Discussion: This context series comprised a number of diverse deposits in the western two thirds of the trench interpreted as use deposits associated with the Fence lines discussed in the previous group. There were two areas described by the excavators as road material which may be more readily be considered as hard standing within backyards Formed by the Fence lines. The remainder of the deposits would indicate the presence of cultivation and the dumping of domestic waste. As with other deposits of this type analysis of the environmental samples is awaited with interest.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.30.2

CONTEXTS: 3233, 3255, 3265, 3269, 3270

3233: USE DEPOSIT

Compact mixed mid-brown organic material 80% (containing wood and straw like material and dark grey silt 20% with occasional concretions, leather, pot and frequent particles of sand.

3255: PIT CUT

Roughly rectangular Stop edge with depressions on NE and SE corners to accommodate adjacent Fence. N, S and W sides slope steeply down to a sharp bottom edge. The east side is shallow except For one vertical step.

3265: PIT LINING

Wattle. 4 uprights 3cm. diameter with lengths of wattle 2cm. woven between them. There is the possibility that this Feature includes a cess pit screen. It is only present on the eastern side of the Feature.

3269: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid dark brown organic layer. 50% dark brown peat, 10% light brown silt, 40% wood Fragments.

3270: PIT CUT

At E edge sharp break from surface 3 vertical sides. At W and S edges gradual break from surface and concave sides. Flat bottom. N edge beyond area of excavation.

Discussion: These two Features were clearly cess pits associated with the property divisions discussed in the previous group. They were cut into the build-up deposits of the preceding context series.

CONTEXT 3.30.3

CONTEXTS: 3232, 3266

3332: DUMP DEPOSIT

50% Friable dark brown silt, 30% Friable dark brown clay, 20% organic material with moderate medium wood Flecks, occasional small-medium limestone Fragments.

3266: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

75% mid-brown silty clay, 15% small wood »Fragments, 10% pebbles (3-6cm).

Discussion: These two deposits were at the western end of the trench sealing pit (3270) (3.30.2). They were at the same level as (3270) (3.30.1) in the adjacent property to the east and are likely to have been Formed by the same mixed processes of cultivation and the dumping of organic type domestic refuse.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The material in this group is interpreted as the continued use of the property boundaries outlined in the previous group without the evidence of the environmental samples it is not possible to be certain as to the Formation of this material but the high organic content coupled with the presence of cess pits would indicate cultivation and the disposal of domestic waste including Faecal material in what are likely to have been backyards or gardens.

GROUP 31

CONTEXT SERIES 3.31.1

CONTEXTS: 3221, 3222, 3224, 3225

3221: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable brown clay 20%, silt 60%, organic material 20% with Frequent medium wood Fragments, occasional tile Fragments, small limestone Fragments and clay lumps.

3222: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable grey deposit: 70% clay, 30% silt with frequent ash, small tile and bone Fragments and occasional medium stone Fragments.

3224: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit: Northern half light brown grey 30% clay, 15% silt Southern half dark grey/brown clay 15%, organic material 15%, and silt 25% with moderate cobbles (up to 15cm), occasional grey and off-white mortar, bone and small pieces of wood.

3225: DUMP DEPOSIT

Grey-brown silt 40%, clay 40%, 20% off white mortar with occasional small pieces of wood.

Discussion: This context series consisted of a thick accumulation of mixed dumps and organic material over the Full length of the trench sealing the wicker property boundaries outlined in the previous group.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.31.2

CONTEXTS: 3223, 3226, 3227, 3228, 3229, 3230, 3231

3223: PIT CUT

Truncated pit against S section with long E/W straight edge on southern side, Sharp break of slope all round with near vertical fall on east. Elsewhere less steep. Flattish base.

3226: USE DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown/grey deposit: Clay 50%, silt 50% becoming slightly orange towards base and grey with more clay to the eastern end with occasional shell, tile and brick, bone, mortar Flecks and wood Fragments.

3227: USE DEPOSIT

Compact organic material 80%, compacted straw 20%, Fragments of wood with occasional Small limestone, brick and tile Fragments.

3228: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

100% compact green organic material with occasional bone, pot and limestone Fragments.

3229: PIT CUT

Rectangular with rounded corners. Top edge sharp, bottom edge rounded. Bottom Flat but slopes downwards to the north Sides vertical.

3230: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown/grey deposit: Clay 10%, 10% silt, 80% organic material with occasional limestone Fragments, bone, shell, brick and tile.

3231: PIT CUT

2 sides of steep cut truncated, on W by (3223) and S by shoring on 45. Sharp break of slope from surface, gradual break at base, base Flattish.

Discussion: This context series consisted of three pits cutting into the build-up deposits of the previous context series. (3229) and (3231) have the appearance of being for the disposal of cess. The stratigraphically later and differently shaped pit (3223) has no clear Function. The excavator suggested it may have been associated with animal husbandry. Analysis of the environmental material is awaited.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.31.3

CONTEXTS: 3217, 3218, 3220

3217: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown clay 30%, silt 30%, organic material 30% with Frequent organic matter, moderate wood Fragments and occasional tile, limestone Fragments and patches of clay.

3218: STANDING

Compact dark grey/brown clay 30%, silt 20%, cobbles 25%, limestone Fragments 25% with occasional tile, brick, shell, bone, small wood Fragment and small clay patches.

3220: STANDING CONSTRUCTION CUT

Ovoid cut with vertical sides and flatish base and sharp break of slope.

Discussion: This context series comprised a single site wide deposit of mixed material (3217) sealing the pits in the previous context series onto which was placed a single circular compact deposit within a cut. The Function of this Feature is unclear but it may have supported a heavy piece of machinery.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised major site wide build up apparently sealing the wicker fences described in, the previous group. The accumulation is accompanied by further pit digging and the nature of the spread material would indicate the continued deposition, of domestic refuse, combined with cultivation in a back land environment.

GROUP 32

CONTEXT SERIES 3.32.1

CONTEXT: 3204

3204: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% silt, 30% clay, 20% sand, Frequent organic remains, occasional tile, charcoal, mortar lumps.

Discussion: This context series was a trench wide accumulation of dumped material forming a nodal point of the site matrix which all the context series discussed in this partial report lay above.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This single series group contains context (3204), a major trench wide build up deposit.

GROUP 33

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.1 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3189, 3200, 3201

3189: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey friable deposit, 40% peat, 25% silt, 25% clay, 10% sand, moderate mood and occasional tile inclusions

3200: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey Friable deposit, 60% silt, 30% sand, 10% peat, occasional pot, bone and charcoal inclusions.

3201: PIT CUT

Truncated sharp top edge, moderately steep sided, blunt bottom edged, Flat bottomed cut

Discussion: Cut 3901 was truncated on the north and east by the edges of the excavation. Its excavated extent was 1.0m x 0.6m and it was 0.24m deep. The nature of its rills, 3189 and 3200, suggested no obvious purpose for the cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.2

CONTEXT: 3213

3213 DUMP DEPOSIT

Blue-grey, compact deposit, 100% clay, moderate mid brown silt mottling, occasional mortar, tile Fragment and pebble inclusions.

Discussion: A dump of clay on surface 3204, not wholly contained within the trench and possibly relating to some activity taking place beyond the southern limit of the excavation.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.3 (Pits and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3202, 3206, 3208, 3212

3202: USE DEPOSIT

Dark grey Friable deposit, 70% silt, 20% clay, 10% peat, occasional Fragments of limestone, tile and charcoal

3206: PIT CUT

Rectangular north-south cut, vertical sides, flat bottom

3208: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

A dark grey Friable deposit, 80% silt, 90% clay, occasional limestone and tile Fragments, occasional decayed wood, charcoal and cobble inclusions

3212: PIT CUT

Rectilinear steep sided, flat bottomed cut,

Discussion: These two pits, each truncated by later cuts and the southern edge of the excavation, were similar both in plan, being approximately 0.6m long and, 0.25m deep, and in the composition of their backfills, 3202 and 3208.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.4

CONTEXTS: 3205, 3209 (Pit and fill)

3205: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 70% silt, 30% clay, occasional Flecks light grey clay, moderate tile and brick, occasional pot and bone inclusions

3209: PIT CUT

Steep sided, flat bottomed cut

Discussion: This pit, which was 1.0m x 0.7m x 0.6m, was truncated by later cuts and the northern edge of the excavation: It was

backfilled with refuse and may have been dug specifically for this purpose.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.5 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3176, 3184

3176: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit, 50% silt, 40% clay, 10% sand, occasional pot, shell and bone inclusions

3184: POST HOLE CUT

Oval, steep south sided, gentle north sided cut

Discussion: Cut 3184 was 0.70m x 0.40m and 0.20m deep: It had two circular depressions (0.10m diameter) in the base, one 0.09m and the other 0.16m deep. These were interpreted as being post-holes but not individually recorded. The cut is interpreted as being for the removal of these posts, being backFilled with refuse.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.6 (Build up)

CONTEXT: 3147

3147: BUILD UP DEPOSIT (or dump deposit)

Mixed deposit taken as a spit, dark grey brown, 60% silt, 40% clay, occasional Fine pebbles

Discussion: This deposit was 0.20m thick and covered the eastern half of the trench, sealing context series 3.33.1 to 3.33.5. It is interpreted as being the result of an accumulation of material in the external area of a property,

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.7 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3138, 3149, 3157

3138: BACKFILL DEPOSIT (or dump deposit)

Friable brown deposit, 100% peat (organic), occasional pot, bone, tile, leather, timber Fragments

3149: DUMP DEPOSIT (or backfill deposit)

Friable black deposit, 100% peat, with lenses of concreted material, occasional pot, tile, timber frags, and moderate bone.

3157: PIT CUT

Rectangular cut with rounded corners, steep sides, Flat base

Discussion: Cut 3157 was 2.00m long and 0.56m deep, its width unknown due to truncation by the northern edge of the excavation. The high organic content of the fills suggests that this was a cess pit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.8 (Foundation trench and packing)

CONTEXTS: 3139, 3541

3139: PACKING DEPOSIT

mixed deposit 50% Firm grey brown 50% clay, 50% silt; 30% limestone Frags ({30cm diam); 20% red brown 50% clay, 50% silt: occasional tile, cobble inclusions

3541: FOUNDATION PIT CUT

Linear cut truncated on west side, east side irregular in plan.

Discussion: This cut extended beyond the trench to the north and the south. It was truncated by a later cut on the west side which obscured much of its original extent. It is interpreted as being the Foundation cut for a boundary Fence or wall.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.9 Dump

3140: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose light grey deposit, 100% mortar

Discussion: This small dump of mortar was seemingly unrelated to any other in the area. It is best interpreted as being the result of domestic rather than industrial activity.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.33.10 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3133

3133: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey-brown deposit, 70% silt, 20% clay, 10% sand, moderate pot, tile, bone, mortar, occasional cobble, limestone Frags

Discussion: This deposit covered the eastern half of the site in an accumulation of dumped material. It was between 100mm and 200mm thick and sealed context series 3.33.6 to 3.33.9. The deposit was bounded on its western side by the wall which truncated context series 3.33.8.

GROUP 33 DISCUSSION: 3.33.1 to 3.33.5, a sequence of pits, backfills and dumps in the eastern part of the trench, all lay on, or were cutting, 3304 (3.32.1) and were all sealed by 3147 (3.33.6). The latter covered only the eastern half of the trench and, while it may well be contiguous with accumulation to the west, later intrusions severed any stratigraphic links making direct associations impossible.

A similar pattern of episodic dumping and pitting Followed by general accumulation is shown by 3.33.7, 3.33.9 and 3.33.10, with pits fills and dumps on or into 3147 (3.33.6) Followed by the build up of 3133 (3.33.10).

The deposit and cut of 3.33.8 are believed to represent the Foundation cut of a boundary Fence or wall, suggesting that 3133 (3.33.10) should not be expected to extend into the western part of the trench as it is related to accumulation within a delineated property.

GROUP 34

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.1 (Posthole and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3099, 3100

3099: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown deposit, 100% silt, moderate timber Fragments

3100: POST PIPE VOID

Circular cut with vertical sides, tapering to a blunt point at the bottom.

Discussion: 3099 is interpreted as being the remains of a post, now rotted, which had been driven into the ground creating cut 3100.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.2 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3101, 3102

3101: BACKFILL DEPOSIT (or dump deposit)

Friable pale brown deposit, 70% clay, 30% black burnt sand Frequent red burnt sand flecks, black burnt clay nodules, occasional pot, slag, bone, tile

3102: PIT CUT

Sub rectangular, sharply defined, gently sloping, flat bottomed cut

Discussion: This shallow rectangular scoop was 0.35m long, 0.80m wide and 0.15m deep. The fill contained much burnt material and small, amounts of slag. The pit is interpreted as being dug for the disposal of waste from an industrial process.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.3 (Pit and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3117, 3127

3117: USE DEPOSIT

Mixed grey brown deposit, 60% silt, 20% clay, 20% organic, occasional nodules yellow brown clay, tile, brick, bone, shell, charcoal, wood, mortar

3127: PIT CUT

Rectangular, square based, steep sided, flat bottomed cut

Discussion: Pit 3127 was slightly truncated to the north and south by later walls. It was 1.70m x 1.40m x 0.50m in size and Filled with a mixture of domestic refuse and organic material, suggesting that this was a rubbish or cess pit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.4 (Accumulation)

CONTEXTS: 3093, 3106

3093: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

pit composed of; at west side grey brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, occasional light brown blotches; at east side grey brown deposit, 75% clay, 25% silt

3106: LEVELLING DEPOSIT (or garden soil deposit)

Friable light brown grey deposit, 60% silt, 40% clay, moderate worm holes and small roots, occasional flecks of charcoal, mortar, small limestone Frags, tile, bone

Discussion: These two accumulations of material were approximately 0.10m thick and covered an area directly to the east of the boundary formed by context series 3.33.8 in the northern part of the excavated area.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.5 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3091

3091: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable mid grey deposit, 70% clay, 20% silt, 10% sand, occasional pot, tile, bone, large limestone frags, white mortar lenses, moderate pink grey clay lenses

Discussion: This build up of dumped material was approximately 0.10m thick and covered an area just to the south of context series 3.34.4.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.34.5 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3072

3072: BUILD UP DEPOSIT (or use deposit)

Friable light brown deposit, 80% silt, 20% clay, occasional, Flecks charcoal, tile Frags, blotches of burnt clay

Discussion: 3072 was a small deposit with some signs of burning, and was probably a dump of material resulting from activity of an unknown nature.

GROUP 34 DISCUSSION: 3.34.1 to 3.34.3 were pits and fills cut into 3133 (3.33.10). The fills included some burnt material and other non-domestic refuse suggesting industrial activity was taking place beyond the bounds of the trench. 3.34.4 and 3.34.5 were separated by a later cut which destroyed any stratigraphic links and these three deposits covered much of the eastern part of the trench, sealing the pits mentioned above. 3.34.6 was a small dump of material perhaps also related to industrial activity,

GROUP 35

CONTEXT SERIES 3.35.1 (Wall and Foundation trench)

CONTEXTS: 3089, 3164, 3171

3089: STRUCTURE

Structure Formed by bricks in irregular 'English cross' pattern bonded with off white 70% mortar, 30% sand, average brick size 220x100x50mm.

3164: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

compact dark grey deposit, 60% silt, 40% clay, moderate small pebbles, occasional small cobble, clay lumps, limestone Fragments, tile Fragments, charcoal Flecks, mortar-plaster Flecks

3171: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Rectilinear, steep sided, stepped cut with uneven rounded base

Discussion: Wall 3089 was an east-west running, linear Feature truncated by the southern edge of the excavation. It was 0.50m high and had an opening at its base – possibly a drain or culvert. The Foundation trench 3171 was backFilled with building rubble.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.35.2 (Wall construction cut)

CONTEXT: 3073

3073: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Steep sided uneven based N~S cut with two E~W cuts running off it, much destroyed by later activity

Discussion: This Feature was a shallow cut about 0.50m wide a 0.20m deep forming the construction cut for the walls in 3.35.3.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.35.3 (Wall foundations)

CONTEXTS: 3017, 3033

3017: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

L shaped Foundation of light brown clay with cobble, limestone and tile Frags, occasional mortar

3033: STRUCTURE MAKE UP

Rough limestone (350mm), brick, tile, cobble and creamy mortar set on light brown clay and Forming L-shaped structure

Discussion: 3033 abutted 3017, although both were set in the same construction cut, 3073 (3.35.2). Towards the western end the east west arm of 3017 there seemed to be a threshold indicated by an area of decayed wood. These two contexts are interpreted as Forming the Foundations For the walls of structure X.

GROUP 35 DISCUSSION: wall 3.35 was stratigraphically below 3073 (3.35.2), and hence was not part of structure X which was built on Foundations 3.35.3

GROUP 36

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.1 (Stakes and stake holes)

CONTEXTS: 3077, 3078, 3079, 3080, 3081, 3083, 3084, 3085, 3086, 3087

3077: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mixed deposit, 35% grey brown clay, 35% silt, 30% decayed brown wood

3078: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mixed deposit, 35% grey-brown clay, 35% silt, 30% decayed brown wood

3079: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mixed deposit, 35% grey brown clay, 35% silt, 30% decayed brown wood

3080: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mixed deposit, 35% grey brown clay, 35% silt, 30% decayed brown wood

3081: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mixed deposit, 35% grey-brown clay, 35% silt, 30% decayed brown wood

3083: POST PIPE VOID

Small round vertically sided stake hole, 30mm diameter

3084: POST PIPE VOID

Small, round, vertically sided stake hole, 30mm diameter

3085: POST PIPE VOID

Small, squareish, near vertical aided stake hole, set at slight angle, 45mm diameter

3086: POST PIPE VOID

Small round vertically aided stake hole

3087: POST PIPE VOID

Small round near vertical sided stake hole, set at slight angle,
40mm diameter

Discussion: This group of five stakes were driven into the ground, creating cuts 3083 to 3087, and rotted in situ leaving fills 3077 to 3081. They were not related to any excavated structure, presumably having been placed to support a Feature which was subsequently removed.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.2 (Tree Root)

CONTEXTS: 3082, 3088

3082: OTHER DEPOSIT (or tree deposit)

Loose Friable deposit, 100% decayed brown wood, occasional pebbles,
tile Fragments

3088: OTHER CUT (or tree cut)

Irregularly shaped hole, max dimensions at top 250x160mm

Discussion: 3083 and 3088 were originally thought to be another post and posthole relating to those in 3.36.1 but on excavation they were found to be part of a tree.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.3 (Levelling)

CONTEXT: 3042

3042: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Small deposit of 40% tile Fragments, 40% limestone, 20% cobble,
occasional bone

Discussion: This deposit of building rubble was immediately to the north of the suspected threshold discussed in 3.35.3. It is interpreted as being a levelling deposit relating to the use of structure X.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.4 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3043, 3059

3043: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit, 70% silt, 30% clay, occasional Flecks of mortar

3059: OTHER DEPOSIT (or dump deposit)

mixed deposit of to west 80%, light-mid brown silt, 20% orange mottled clay; to east 100% gritty dark grey cinder elsewhere light brown grey 70% clay, 30% silt

Discussion: These two dumps, each about 0.10m deep were truncated by the northern edge of the excavation. The deposits could be the consequence of vegetational growth but the burnt material in 3059 is most likely the result of a separate activity.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.5 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3040

3040: DUMP DEPOSIT (or levelling deposit)

mixed deposit of 50% Friable grey brown loam, 50% tile Fragments, occasional charcoal, mortar Flecks, small limestone Frags

Discussion: This dump of tile Fragments possibly Formed a Foundation For later deposits

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.6 (Use)

CONTEXT: 3038

3038: USE DEPOSIT

thin light grey brown deposit, 50% silt, 50% clay, occasional wood, tile Fragments, medium cobble, small limestone Fragments

Discussion: This thin deposit was associated with a Feature largely hidden beneath section which was possibly related to metal working. 3.36.5 Formed a Foundation For this deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.7 (Accumulation)

CONTEXT: 3037

3037: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 70% silt with organic Feel, 20% clay, 10% light brown clay, occasional tile Frags mortar Flecks

Discussion: A small build up or material much truncated by the northern edge of the excavation possibly relating to the abandonment or the area of activity associated with 3.36.5 and 3.36.6.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.8

CONTEXT: 3008

3008: SLUMPED DEPOSIT

compact deposit, 30% yellow brown clay, 70% light brown silt, occasional bone, tile brick, limestone Fragments, pebbles, mortar, wood (near base of context), shell

Discussion: This deposit lay directly above the rubbish pit discussed in 3.34.3. It is interpreted as being material which had slumped into the softer fills of this pit, although it could also represent a deliberate levelling deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.36.9

CONTEXT: 3004

3004: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact very pale brown deposit, 100% clay, occasional Flecks or mortar

Discussion: This dump of clay was truncated by the southern edge of the excavation and covered an area of approximately 2.0m by 3.0m.

GROUP 36 DISCUSSION: 3.36.1 and 3.36.2 were stratigraphically related to the rest of the group, but not structurally related. 3.36.3 to 3.36.7 were dumps or build ups of material to the north of the E-W arm of wall 3017 (3.35.3). In particular, 3043

(3.36.3) was a dump of building rubble to the north of what was thought to be a threshold in the wall. The compactness of this deposit was not recorded but it is interpreted as being placed to provide Firm ground, presumably in an external area. The area to the south of the threshold also appears not to be internal, leading to the interpretation of structure X as either an out building or a series of external walls.

3008 (3.36.8) Filled a depression in the surface of an earlier pit and was situated within an alcove created by the walls of 3.35.3. It is therefore contemporary with the use of structure X, while 3004 (3.36.9) sealed 3133 (3.35.3) and can be placed in the period after structure X was in use.

GROUP 37

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.1 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3160, 3162

3160: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable mid brown deposit, 85% clay, 15% silt, frequent tile, occasional bone, pot

3162: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable white deposit, 100% limestone mortar, frequent cobbles 40-80mm

Discussion: These two contexts in the south eastern corner of the excavation were isolated by a modern intrusion and cannot be related to the rest of the stratigraphic sequence.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.2 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3130

3130: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable mid grey deposit, 70% clay, 20% silt, 10% sand, occasional tile, bone, pot, stones

Discussion; Accumulation of dumped material in the north eastern quadrant of the trench,

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.3 (Pits and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3119, 3120, 3125, 3128

3119: BACKFILL DEPOSIT (or dump deposit)

Friable mid orange-brown deposit, 85% clay, 15% silt, occasional bone, badly decayed timber, frequent stones, moderate tile

3120: PIT CUT

Rectangular cut with rounded corners, steep sides, scoop like base

3125: DUMP DEPOSIT (or backfill deposit)

Compact mottled red-black-orange deposit, 90% sand, 10% clay, occasional tile, bone, pot

3128: PIT CUT

Severely truncated steep sided cut, bottom obscured by edge of excavation

Discussion: These two pits should perhaps have been located in separate context series, Pit 3128 was almost entirely obscured by the NE corner of the excavation, but was Filled with what could have been waste material from an industrial process, Pit 3120 was a shallow steep sided scoop measuring 1.70m x 1.00m x 0.20m and Filled with a stony silty clay which gives no clue as to its purpose Both pits cut 3130 and were sealed by 3115.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.4 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3115

3115: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable dark grey deposit, 70% clay, 20% silt, 10% sand, moderate pot, bone, tile, pink clay blobs, Frequent white mortar Flecks.

Discussion: A build up of dumped material over the same area as 3130 (3.37.2)

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.5 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3009, 3018, 3019

3009: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable orange-brown-black deposit, 50% charcoal, 30% silt, 20% burnt clay

3018: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable orange-brown-black deposit, 50% charcoal, 30% silt, 20% burnt clay

3019: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable orange-brown-black deposit, 50% charcoal, 30% silt, 20% burnt clay

Discussion: These three identical deposits were disturbed by machine clearance of the site. They are interpreted as representing a dump of burnt material.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.6 <Dump>

CONTEXT: 3112

3112: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit, 50% sand, 40% silt, 10% clay, occasional bone, pot, tile, burnt bone, burnt clay, a moderate pink clay blobs, frequent charcoal Flecks.

Discussion: This dump of material, including some which had been burnt, is interpreted as being waste from an industrial process.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.7 (Pit and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3109, 3111

3109: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mixed deposit, 50% silt, 40% dark brown clay, 10% pale greeny-brown clay, occasional tile, bone

3111: PIT CUT

Truncated, semi circular, steep sided, flat based cut

Discussion: 3111 was a steep sided pit about 0.35m deep and much truncated by later intrusions. No purpose can easily be assigned to this Feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.8 <Dump>

CONTEXT: 3107

3107: DUMP DEPOSIT (or build up deposit)

Friable mid grey deposit, 70% clay, 20% silt, 10% sand, moderate pale pink clay blobs, occasional tile

Discussion: 3107 was a small dump of material sealing pit 3111

CONTEXT SERIES 3.37.9 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3013, 3029

3013: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable orange-brown-black deposit, 40% silt, 30% charcoal 30% clay, moderate small tile Fragments

3022: PIT CUT

Semi-circular, steep sided, rounded based cut

Discussion: 3032 was a shallow steep sided pit truncated by the northern edge of the excavation approximately 0.15m deep and 1.10m x 0.70m, it was filled with waste material.

GROUP 37 DISCUSSION: 3.37.1 is included in this group by default, all relationships being severed by a modern intrusion. 3.37.2, 3.37.3 and 3.37.4 follow the sequence of accumulation, pitting and dumping, accumulation established elsewhere. The Final build up of the sequence, 3115 (3.37.4), is then also the subject of dumping of burnt material, possibly of industrial origin, and the digging and subsequent Filling of Further pits. All of this activity took place

to the east of the N-S arm of wall 3.35.3 perhaps in a different property to that of Group 36.

GROUP 38

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.1 (Post hole and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3191, 3192

3191: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt with traces of wood, possible traces of bark on NE edge, occasional limestone inclusions

3192: POST HOLE CUT

Round vertically sided cut, sharp break of slope at top, 0.10m diameter and 0.14m deep

Discussion: The fill of the posthole cut suggests that this post rotted in situ to leave 3191,

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.2 (Posts set in pit)

CONTEXTS: 3186, 3193, 3194, 3195, 3196, 3197, 3198, 3199

3186: PACKING DEPOSIT

Mixed moderately compact deposit, 85% silt, 15% dark grey clay, occasional brick, tile, pebble, limestone, sandy patches, mortar

3193: POST

Near vertical round timber poet 90mm diameter

3194: POST

Near vertical round timber poet 640x70x70mm

3195: POST

Near vertical round timber poet 910x90x90mm

3196: POST

Vertical round timber poet 800x100x100mm

3197: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Light-mid grey deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, with Fragments of wood at top

3198: POST PIPE VOID

Round vertically sided cut tapering slightly toward base

3199: POST HOLE CUT

Irregular cut with sharpish break of slope and Flat base

Discussion: This group of five posts, one of which (3197/98) had been removed or rotted in situ, were set in a single post hole/pit cut which was approximately 1.00m across and 0.10m deep. The poet described above in 3.38.1 was on the edge of the cut and was perhaps associated with the other Five. The intended Function of these posts is not readily apparent, although they may have served as a Foundation For later deposits.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.3 (Posts set in pit)

CONTEXTS: 3169, 3175, 3180, 3181, 3182

3169: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact mixed deposit, 30% cobbles (20mm), 30% limestone Fragments, 30% silt, 10% dark brown grey clay, occasional brick, bone, organic matter, sandstone

3175: POST HOLE CUT

Ovate, vertical aided, Flat based cut

3180: POST

Steeply eloping round timber poet 700x80x80mm

3181: POST

Near vertical, round timber poet, 880x75x75mm

3182: POST

Near vertical, round timber poet, 600x80x80mm

Discussion: Pit 3175, 0.80m x 0.60m and 0.22m deep, contained three posts set in a compact deposit of building rubble, and perhaps served as a Foundation For later deposits.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.4 (Ditch)

CONTEXT: 3216

3316: DITCH CUT

N-S, steep sided, flat based cut, sides somewhat less steep to south.

Discussion: This ditch was 0.50m wide and 0.30m deep extending beyond both the northern and southern edges of the excavation. It contained a number of stakes and posts, described below in 3.38.5 and is interpreted as forming a boundary perhaps between two properties.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.5 (Post and stakes)

CONTEXT: 3215

3315: POST

Near vertical squareish timber post, 300x100x90mm, base tapered

Discussion: This post was set within cut 3316 (3.38.4) with ten other stakes which were not given context numbers (recorded on plan 3204). These stakes were placed approximately 0.50m apart along the western edge of the ditch and, together with post 3315, are interpreted as forming part of a boundary fence associated with ditch 3216 (3.38.4).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.38.6 (Fill of ditch)

CONTEXT: 3214

3214: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Moderately compact grey deposit, 80% clay, 20% silt, with less clay lower down, occasional tile, bone, wood frags

Discussion: This deposit was used to backfill the northern part of ditch 3216 (3.38.4) either as packing for the possible Fence (3.38.5) or to Fill the ditch after it had ceased to be used.

GROUP 38 DISCUSSION: The posts and pits of 3.38.1 to 3.38.3 Formed two similar groups, neither of which related to a known property boundary. They were physically below the brick built intrusion discussed in Group 43 and may possibly have been placed as Foundations for this structure 3.38.4 and 3.38.5 together formed a ditch set with regularly spaced stakes along its western edge. This ditch ran on the same line as 3.33.8, the levels suggesting that the latter post-dated the Group 38 ditch, and is interpreted as forming a property boundary.

All of the Features in Group 38 cut surface 3204 (3.32.1).

GROUP 39

CONTEXT SERIES 3.39.1 (Slumping)

CONTEXTS: 3183, 3187

3183: BACKFILL DEPOSIT (or slumped deposit)

Mixed deposit of 40% friable black silt, 10% lenses of brown sand, with 30% organic, 20% silt, moderate wood Fragments, occasional lumps of grey clay, mortar

3187: SLUMPED DEPOSIT

Friable black deposit, 40% clay, 30% organic 20% silt, Frequent small wood, bone, shell, occasional timber, bark, medium tile

Discussion: These two deposits lay above 3204 (3.32.1), They may have been pit fills but no cut was identified and interpreted as deposits which had slumped into a pit lying below 3204 (3.32.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.39.2 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3185, 3203

3185: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 50% loose light brown sand, 30% friable mid brown clay, 20% Friable mid brown silt, moderate mortar, occasional bone, wood, oyster, limestone cobbles

3303: PIT CUT

Linear cut running N-S truncated by north section and brick sump, sides break sharply from surface and to base which is flat

Discussion: 3203 was a linear cut 1,00m long and much truncated. It could have been a ditch or a pit, and was 0.80m wide and 0.30m deep, It was backfilled with 3185, a deposit of refuse, and cut surface 3204 (3.32.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.39.3 (Pits and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3174, 3177, 3178, 3179

3174: PACKING DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 60% medium to large limestone Fragments with 40% friable dark brown silt, occasional charcoal, tile, mortar flecks

3177: PACKING DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 70% mid yellow-white limestone cobbles with 20% Friable mid brown clay, 10% Friable mid brown silt, occasional bone, small tile Fragments

3178: POST HOLE CUT

Sub rectangular, steep sided, flat based cut

3179: POST HOLE CUT

Ovate, steep sided cut

Discussion: Pit 3178 was truncated by the southern edge of the excavation and was 0.60m wide and 0,30m deep, Pit 3179 was 0.60m x

0.60m and 0.24m deep, although there was no evidence for the presence of a post in either case, these two pits were believed by the excavator to be postholes. They are interpreted as being related to pit 3151 (3.40.4) which is stratigraphically later than 3178 and 3179.

They Form a line of three similarly proportioned pits, each Filled with limestone rubble.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.39.4 (Accumulation)

CONTEXT: 3170

3170: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 30% organic, 20% silt, frequent small and medium tile, small wood, small and medium bone, occasional small cobble, limestone and leather.

Discussion: This accumulation of material was between 0.10m and 0.20m thick and covered the western end of the trench.

GROUP 39 DISCUSSION: Group 39 Follows the pattern of pitting and dumping into and onto 3204 (3.32.1) with a subsequent general accumulation, 3.39.4, sealing these deposits. 3.39.2 may represent a linear boundary ditch akin to 3541 (3.33.3) and 3216 (3.38.4) but was severely truncated making positive association impossible. `

GROUP 40

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.1 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3121, 3126

3131: DUMP DEPOSIT

Loose mottled orange brown deposit, 100% sand

3126: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mixed orange grey deposit, 30% clay, 10% silt, occasional small mortar inclusions

Discussion: Much of these two deposits was removed by later activity. They were part of a series of dumps in this part of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.2 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3163

3163: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black deposit, 100% charcoal

Discussion: This dump of burnt material was truncated by later cuts. It was one of a series of dumps in this part of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.3 (Dump)

CONTEXTS: 3122, 3129

3122: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

mixed deposit of 70% large to medium limestone blocks, with dark brown 10% silt 20% clay, occasional lumps and flecks of mortar, Flecks of charcoal, tile.

3129: PIT CUT

Irregular cut, sides break sharply from surface on W and E sides, gently on south.

Discussion: Pit 3139 was truncated by the northern edge of the excavation, its known extent being 0.70m x, 0.60m with a depth of 0.30m. It was filled with building rubble which it may have been dug to accommodate.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.4 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3148, 3151

3148: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

mixed deposit of 90% light white grey, coarse limestone cobbles 100-200mm, 10% friable dark brown clay, occasional mortar flecks, tile Flecks, small medium tile Fragments

3151: PIT CUT

Regular edged, steep sided, flat bottomed cut.

Discussion: Pit 3151 was 0.70m x 0.70m and 0.35m deep. It was filled with a dump of limestone similar to those in pits 3178 and 3179 (3.39.3). 3151 was stratigraphically above 3170 (3.39.4) while the other two pits were below 3170.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.5 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3132

3132: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact light grey deposit, 90% clay, 10% silt, occasional mortar, charcoal Flecks, tile Fragments

Discussion: This dump of material was one of a series in this part of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.6 (wall construction cut and Foundations)

CONTEXTS: 3124, 3135, 3141, 3143, 3144, 3145, 3146

3124: OTHER DEPOSIT. (Foundation)

45% cobbles, 45% limestone, set in 10% compact pink-grey clay, occasional medium tile, moderate small tile

3135: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, Frequent mortar Flecks, small limestone Fragments. Moderate wood Fragments, charcoal, tile Fragments

3141: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Irregular, shallow, flat based linear cut, sides break sharply from surface on west side, more gentle slope on east side.

3143: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Two upright timbers treated as one context 1: round, 680x110x50mm

2: round, sharpened at base, 630x50x50mm

3144: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Upright timber approximately 100mm in diameter

3145: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Upright, sub-rectangular timber, 700x120x100mm, with groove and dowel stub

3146: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Upright timber, approximately 100mm diameter with 25mm hole cut through

Discussion: Construction cut 3141 was a linear N-S cut approximately 0.60m wide and 0.10m deep. It was truncated by the southern edge of the excavation and had four upright timber supports 3143-46, within it. These were packed in backfill 3135 and Foundation 3124 was then laid on top. These deposits Form a foundation for wall 3032 (3.40.8).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.7 (posts)

CONTEXTS: 3207, 3210, 3211, 3235

3207: POST

Roughly squared, upright timber, 800x110x100mm, sharpened towards base

3210: POST

Upright, squared timber, 890x150x140mm

3211: POST

Upright, squared timber, 1450x120x100mm, bottom 250mm tapered, one Face shows signs of working

3235: POST

Upright squared timber, slot or mortice cut away at angle

Discussion: These four upright timbers were directly below wall 3032 (3.40.8) and either formed a Foundation similar to the Four posts 3143-6 (3.40.6) or were part of an earlier boundary Fence.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.40.8 (wall)

CONTEXTS: 3032, 3114

3032: WALL

Large irregular blocks of limestone, laid in a linear fashion, bonded with a yellow tinged, off white sandy mortar, Formed from two courses, occasional small and large tile frags, medium cobbles, small limestone frags, patches of crushed brick

3114: OTHER DEPOSIT (construction cut fill)

Compact deposit, 50% brown clay, 30% medium limestone frags, 20% silt, frequent small tile and wood fragments moderate medium tile, occasional medium cobbles.

Discussion: Wall 3032 was truncated by both the northern and southern edges of the excavation and was 0.30m wide. 3114 was a dump of material at the bottom of the wall on the western side. It was either the top of the Foundation deposits or an accumulation relating to use of the well, which was not clearly part of a more complex structure.

GROUP 40 DISCUSSION: 3.40.1 to 3.40.3 Form as sequence of dump pits and backfills onto and into 3204 (3.32.1) which were sealed by 3118 (3.41.1). 3.40.4 Formed, together with 3.39.3, a series of pits running N-S across the trench. 3.40.5 was a dump of clay on 3170 (3.39.4) and sealed by 3118 (3.41.1). These five context series were related stratigraphically, representing a number of seemingly unrelated activities.

3.40.6 and 3.40.7 together Formed Foundations For wall 3.40.8 which ran N-S to delineate two properties.

GROUP 41

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.1 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3118

3118: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mottled grey brown deposit, 50% clay, 30% silt, 20% organic frequent wood Fragments occasional mortar flecks, small to medium limestone fragments.

Discussion: Accumulation of dumped material to the east of wall 3032 (3.40.8), approximately 0.20m thick. The nature of the material suggests that this was an external build up, possibly the consequence or vegetational growth.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.2 (Dump)

CONTEXTS: 3090, 3110

3090: DUMP DEPOSIT

A Friable light brown deposit, 100% clay, occasional mortar, tile, charcoal, Flecks, small bone, tile, wood

3110: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mixed deposit, 60% mid brown clay, 40% dark brown clay, occasional charcoal, mortar flecks, small tile Frags, bone, cobbles

Discussion: These deposits are two of a series of dumps on surface 3118 (3.41.1). Their function is not known.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.3 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3071, 3094

3071: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 80% compact light brown clay, 20% friable dark grey charcoal, occasional tile, bone, mortar Flecks, moderate tile fragments

3094: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 85% loose white yellow brown mortar, 15% friable dark brown clay, occasional tile, charcoal Flecks, pot.

Discussion: These deposits are two of a series of dumps on surface 3118 (3.41.1). Their Function is not known.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.4 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3097, 3103, 3116

3097: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of compact light brown 70% clay, 20% silt, with 10% mid brown silt, occasional small limestone Frags, charcoal, mortar Flecks, tile Fragments

3103: DUMP DEPOSIT

mixed deposit of Friable light brown 10% clay, 20% silt, with dark brown 10% clay, 30% silt, and 30% black silt, occasional patches of light brown clay, charcoal, Frequent small lumps of burnt clay

3116: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact deposit, 80% black charcoal, 20% mid pink yellow mortar, occasional Flecks of sand, brick, bone, medium limestone Fragments

Discussion: These deposits are three of a series of dumps on surface 3118 (3.41.1). Their Function is not known

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.5 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3028, 3030, 3104

3028: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mottled brown grey deposit, 50% clay, 30% silt, 20% organic, occasional small-medium wood Frags, mortar Flecks

3030: PIT CUT

Sub rectangular, steep sided cut with uneven Flat base

3104: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mixed deposit of dark brown 20% sand, 20% silt, 20% clay, with light brown 20% silt, 20% clay, occasional small tile Frags, medium tile Frags, charcoal Flecks.

Discussion: Pit 3030 was 1.30m x 0.5m and 0.23m deep. Fill 3028 was in the northern half of the pit only, while 3104 was present throughout the cut. This pit cut dump 3090 (3.41.2) and was Filled with refuse. It is interpreted as a rubbish pit,

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.6 <Dumps>

CONTEXTS: 3011, 3025

3011: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit, 80% organic, 20% silt

3025: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit, 50% organic, 40% silt, 10% clay

Discussion: These deposits are two of a series of dumps on surface 3118 <3.41.1>, Their Function is not known.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.7 (Dumps)

CONTEXTS: 3015, 3021, 3023, 3034

3015: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mixed grey brown deposit, 70% silt, 30% clay, occasional tile frags, charcoal flecks, small limestone fragments

3021: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey deposit, 60% clinker, 25% silt, 15% clay

3023: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit, 50% organic, 50% silt

3034: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact pale brown-grey deposit, 100% clay, moderate tile Frags, occasional mortar flecks, organic material

Discussion: This series of dumps was stratigraphically later than pit 3030 (3.41.5). 3034 was truncated by the southern edge of the excavation

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.8 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3026, 3035, 3057, 3219

3026: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of friable light brown 50% clay, 30% silt with 20% dark brown sand, moderate mortar flecks and lumps, occasional charcoal, small pebbles

3035: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid-dark grey-green 40% clay, 20% silt with patches of Friable to compact dark grey 30% silt, 10% sand moderate wood Fragments, occasional tile, mortar lumps, charcoal

3057: PIT CUT

Sub-rectangular, steep sided cut with Flat base, edges slightly undercut

3219: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 30% dark brown silt, 30% organic, 20% light grey clay, 10% green-grey clay, 10% black silt, moderate small limestone, occasional tile, bone, pot

Discussion: 3057 was a large (1.70m x 0.90m) pit, 0.30m deep, cutting the dumps in 3.41.7. It was filled with refuse and is interpreted as a rubbish disposal pit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.9 (Wall)

CONTEXT: 3076

3076: WALL

Random, unfaced, rough hewn? Chalk bonded with light creamy white mortar, moderate cobbles, occasional tiles

Discussion: This short section or wall, running E-W, was truncated by the northern edge of the excavation: It was stratigraphically later than dumps 3.41.2 on surface 3118 (3.41.1), and was not related to any other structural elements in this part or the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.10 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3010

3010: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid grey deposit, 50% clay, 50% tile, occasional Flecks of mortar

Discussion: This small dump of clay and tile was truncated by the northern edge of the excavation: It sealed wall 3076 (3.41.9)

CONTEXT SERIES 3.41.11 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3006

3006: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mixed orange brown deposit, 100% clay, occasional limestone fragments, flecks of mortar, wood Fragments

Discussion: This dump of clay sealed pit 3057 (3:41:8) and dumps 3.41:7 and 3.41.6 it was truncated by both northern and southern edges of the excavation and by later intrusions

GROUP 41 DISCUSSION: 3.41:1 was a general accumulation in an external area which sealed several pits and dumps This build up was Followed by episodic dumping of rubbish on surface 3118 and in pit 3030 (3:41:5) which was cut into 3118: Further dumping and pitting

is represented by 3:41.7 and 3.41.8, with this sequence culminating in a widespread dump of clay, 3:41:11, which sealed these deposits and Features: A short section of wall, 3.41.9, was also sealed by a deposit of clay, 3.41:10, with both the latter and 3:41:11 being subsequently cut by the brick built structure of Group 42.

GROUP 42

CONTEXT SERIES 3.42.1 (Wall construction cut)

CONTEXT: 3098

3098: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Vertical sided, Flat based cut with a shallow gully around the edge

Discussion: 3098 was a box shaped cut 2.0m wide and 0.22m deep with a shallow gully 0.30m wide and 0.04m deep running around the bottom edge. It was truncated by both northern and southern edges of the excavation. The eastern edge of this cut was along the line of ditches 3541 (3.33.8) and 3216 (3.38.4) which were interpreted as property boundaries. This cut formed the Foundation trench for structure Y (3.42.2).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.42.2 (Wall/Floor and Foundations)

CONTEXTS: 3031, 3069, 3092, 3096

3031: OTHER

Brick built structure comprising of mortar bonded brick walls and an unbonded, edge laid brick base, average brick size 240x110x50mm

3069: OTHER (Foundation)

roughly squared limestone blocks set in cream coloured mortar
Forming sides of a rectangle, block sizes From 100x200mm to 300x300mm, occasional tile Fragmentary pot sherds, and one large Fragment of millstone

3092: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey deposit, 100% cinder, moderate medium brick Fragments

3096: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable light yellow brown deposit, 100% sand, occasional medium pieces of brick

Discussion: 3031 would perhaps have been recorded as two separate stratigraphic units. It comprised a wall of mortar bonded bricks set on Foundation deposit 3069 which ran around the gully described in 3.42.1 with an unbonded Floor of bricks laid on edge onto a surface levelled with deposits 3092 and 3096. These deposits Formed structure Y, a brick built cellar.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.42.3 (Levelling)

CONTEXT: 3007

3007: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact mixed rubble deposit, 50% brick, 50% mortar, moderate tile Fragments

Discussion: This deposit of rubble was used to backfill structure Y (3.42.2)

CONTEXT SERIES 3.42.4 (Levelling)

CONTEXT3: 3167, 3168

3167: USE DEPOSIT

Compact grey deposit, 100% clay

3168: USE DEPOSIT:

compact mixed deposit, 50% pure grey clay, 50% dark brown sandy(20%) silty (20%) clay(60%), Frequent medium tile Fragments, mortar Flecks, occasional charcoal Flecks

Discussion: These two deposits were recorded as being stratigraphically, earlier than 3098 (3.42.1), but appear to have been laid as levelling deposits For Foundation deposit 3069 (3.42.2).

GROUP 42 DISCUSSION: the deposits and Features in Group 49 represent the construction, use and subsequent abandonment of structure V, a brick built cellar. This was built in construction cut 3098 (3.42.1), the base of which was levelled with clay beneath the mortar bonded walls which were built with bricks set on limestone blocks. The base of the cut beneath the floor of unbonded bricks was levelled with a deposit of sand and another of cinders. The whole structure was later backfilled with brick and mortar rubble, 3.43.3.

This intrusive structure destroyed any stratigraphic links between deposits in the western and eastern ends of the trench.

GROUP 43

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.1 (Cut and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3166, 3172

3166: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit, 60% clay, 40% silt occasional tile, limestone, mortar Flecks and lumps, moderate wood

3172: UNKNOWN CUT

Shallow, irregular, flat based cut truncated by brick sump

Discussion: 3172 was a shallow (0.05m deep) cut, 1.10m x 0.90m, truncated by the northern edge of the excavation and by later intrusions to the south. It lay directly above cut 3203 (3.39.3), separated by 3170 (3.39.4), and Formed either a slump of material into this depression or a cut of unknown purpose

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.2 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3165, 3173

3165: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit, 60% silt, 40% clay, occasional bone, mortar Flecks, small tile Fragments, medium wood

3173: PIT CUT

Irregular edged, steep sided cut, much truncated by modern intrusions

Discussion: Cut 3173 was almost completely removed by later intrusions and truncated by the southern edge of the excavation. The wood Fragments in 3165 were aligned with the pit edge, possibly representing the remains of a lining deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.3 (Accumulation)

CONTEXT: 3161

3161: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 30% silt, 20% organic, Frequent small tile, wood, bone, moderate medium tile, occasional shell, small limestone

Discussion: Thin (0.03m> accumulation of material in area to the west of wall 3033 (3.40.3> suggesting external build up.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.4 (Posts and timbers)

CONTEXTS: 3152, 3153, 3154, 3155, 3156

3152: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Two pieces of plank stuck face to face and standing vertically on edge

3153: POST

Rectangular post, slightly sharpened at one end

3154: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Rectangular cross section, increases with length from 25x31mm to 40x55mm, parallel to 3152

3155: STAKE

Wooden stake driven vertically into the ground

3156: STAKE

Wooden stake driven vertically into the ground

Discussion: These three posts and three structural timbers were lying on or driven into 3161 (3.43.2), and are interpreted as forming a structural support for eaves drip 3134 (3.43.6).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.5 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3137

3137: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 70% silt, 30% clay, occasional mortar flecks, charcoal flecks, tile fragments, limestone fragments. Moderate organic material

Discussion: Accumulation of dumped material approximately 0.08m thick and covering the same area as 3161 (3.43.3). These deposits are similar to 3118 (3.41.__) which covers an area to the east of wall 3032 (3.40.8)

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.6 (Drain and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3134, 3136

3134: EAVES DRIP

Long thin wooden lathe approximately 50mm wide and 3mm thick placed to form a U shaped trough held in position at one point by three vertical stakes.

3136: OTHER DEPOSIT (drain fill)

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, occasional small tile and mortar

Discussion: 3134 formed a U-shaped trough, supported by the timbers (in 3.43.4) which is interpreted as being an eaves drip. 3136 was a silty deposit interpreted as an accumulation relating to the use of 3134.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.7 (Accumulation)

CONTEXT: 3131

3131: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, frequent small tile and wood, moderate medium tile, occasional shell

Discussion: An accumulation of material over the same area as 3161 (3.43.3) and 3137 (3.43.5) which was approximately 0,04m thick. This deposit sealed the timbers in 3.43.4.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.8 (Cobbled surface and construction cut)

CONTEXTS: 3095, 3108, 3113

3095: OTHER (eaves drip)

Surface made of rounded cobbles from 0.05m to 0.15m, with some tiles set on edge

3108: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid grey orange deposit, 100% sand, occasional tile Fragments and organic matter

3113: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Sharp top edge followed by a gentle concave slope to a Flat base

Discussion: Cut 3113 was 0.80m wide and 0.09m deep, running N-S and truncated by the edge of the excavation at both ends. It was backfilled with a deposit of sand, 3108, and on this was laid a surface of rounded cobbles built around a series of posts (3.44.3) and butting wall 3032 (3.40.8). This is interpreted as an eaves drip for wall 3032 (3.40.8).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.9 (Dump)

Contexts 3075

CONTEXT: 3075

3075: DUMP DEPOSIT (or levelling deposit)

Compact brown deposit, 70% clay, 20% organic, 10% silt, frequent small and medium tile, small wood, moderate medium wood, shell occasional, medium cobbles, limestone, small coal

Discussion: A dump of tiles, many laid flat, in an area to the west of wall 3032 (3.40.8). This deposit is interpreted as Forming a rudimentary Floor For an external area.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.43.10

3105: DUMP DEPOSIT (or levelling deposit)

Friable dark brown deposit, 50% clay, 50% silt, frequent small tile, small wood, occasional medium and large tile, cobble, medium wood, leather

Discussion: An accumulation of dumped material in a yard to the west of wall 3032 (3.40.8).

GROUP 43 DISCUSSION: The sequence of events leading to this group of context series was pitting and slumping into surface 3170 (3.39.4) represented by 3.43.1 and 3.43.2 Followed by an accumulation of material from vegetational growth (3.43.3 and 3.43.5). A timber eaves drip supported on driven stakes (3.43.6), presumably related to a structure on the line of 3032 (3.40.8) to the east, was then covered in another accumulation (3.43.7) over the same area. A cobbled surface (3.43.8), interpreted as another eaves drip, was constructed directly over the same line while a build up of dumped material took place to the west (3.43.10), and the sequence culminated in a dump of clay and tile (3.43.9) which sealed both the eaves drip (3.43.8) and the accumulation (3.43.10), Forming a rudimentary surface.

GROUP 44

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.1(Path)

CONTEXTS: 3159, 3150

3150: PATH

Surface of compacted Friable light brown 30% silt, 30% sand mixed with dark brown 20% silt 20% sand, occasional limestone Fragments, tile Fragments, mortar Flecks, moderate small lumps of burnt clay

3159: PATH

compacted surface of 30% medium pebbles, 30% limestone Fragments, 30% large pebbles, set in 20% dark brown silt, moderate crushed brick, occasional slag, wood Fragments

Discussion: 3159 was a compact metallised surface of pebbles and cobbles seen only in the extreme NW corner of the trench and truncated to the south by intrusion. It was covered with a compacted accumulation of silt and sand, 3150, which was approximately 0.05m thick. Both deposits sloped down towards the east where they may have slumped into ditch 3203 (3.39.2) which lay directly below. 3159 and 3150 are interpreted as forming a path.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.2 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3036

3036: DUMP DEPOSIT (or levelling deposit)

mixed deposit of 40% Friable mid brown clay, 40% Friable dark brown silt, 20% compact green clay, Frequent small tile, moderate wood, mortar, occasional medium and large tile, medium limestone, leather, shell .

Discussion: This dump of mixed material was placed on the eastern side of path 3.44.1 and is interpreted as a levelling deposit to counteract slumping.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.3 (Post Pipe Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3045, 3046, 3047, 3048, 3050, 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054

3045: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable green stained mid grey deposit, 60% silt, 40% sand
occasional plaster/mortar, charcoal Flecking, small brick/tile

3046: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey deposit, 60% sand, 40% silt, occasional charcoal
and crushed brick Flecking, moderate plaster

3047: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

loose mid grey deposit, 70% sand, 30% silt, occasional
plaster/mortar Flecking, small plaster/mortar Fragments, moderate
badly decayed mood Fragments

3043: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid grey deposit, 60% sand, 40% silt, occasional small
plaster/mortar Frags, small pebbles

3050: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey deposit, 70% silt, 30% sand, occasional Flecks of
plaster/mortar, crushed brick/tile, charcoal

3051: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey deposit, 70% silt, 30% sand, occasional Flecks
mortar/plaster, occasional Flecks charcoal

3052: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey deposit, 60% silt, 40% sand, occasional flecks
plaster/mortar, charcoal Flecks, brick/tile Flecks

3053: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose mid grey deposit, 70% sand, 30% silt, occasional small
brick/tile, charcoal Flecks, mortar Flecks

3054: POST PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit, 90% silt, 10% sand, occasional medium tile, small tile, brick/tile and charcoal Flecks

Discussion: This series of deposits Filled post pipe voids 3.44, and are interpreted as being accumulations of material in the depressions Formed by the removal of a series of stakes related to surface 3095 (3.43.8).

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.4 (Post pipes)

CONTEXTS: 3060, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064, 3065, 3066, 3067, 3068.

3060: POST PIPE VOID

Irregular stepped V profile, slightly undercut

3061: POST PIPE VOID

Oval, angled cut with a rounded base D

3062: POST PIPE VOID

Rectangular, steeply angled cut with pointed base

3063: POST PIPE VOID

Rectangular, vertical, profiled cut

3064: POST PIPE VOID

Oval, angled, U profiled cut

3065: POST PIPE VOID

Sub circular, vertical, U profiled cut

3066: POST PIPE VOID

Ovoid, angled, V profiled cut

3067: POST PIPE VOID

Oval, angled, V profiled cut

3068: POST PIPE VOID

Oval, vertical, V profiled cut

Discussion: 3060, 3063, 3065 and 3068 were vertical cuts between 0.10m and 0.15m deep forming a N-S alignment and spaced regularly 0.85m apart. They are interpreted as being vertical elements of an unknown structure associated with eaves drip 3095 (3.43.8) and wall 3033 (3.40.8).

3061, 3062, 3064, 3066 and 3067 were angled cuts between 0.08m and 0.13m deep pointing in directions From NW through N36 with the exception of 3062 which was at an angle of 15 degrees to the vertical, they were set at angles between 40 and 55 degrees and are interpreted as holding angled supports For a structure relating to posts 3060, 3063, 3065 and 3068.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.5 (Wall)

CONTEXTS: 3014, 3024

3014: WALL

Large irregular shaped limestone Fragments, bonded with coarse gritty off white mortar, laid linearly, with occasional brick/tile Fragments, small limestone Fragments

3024: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Friable mid grey deposit, 60% silt, 30% sand, 10% clay, Frequent small (medium tile Fragments, moderate mortar Flecks, occasional charcoal Flecks, small coal Fragments, medium cobbles, limestone Fragments, large tile/brick Fragments

Discussion: 3014 was the primary bonded course of a N-S wall which projected 0.40m into the trench from its northern edge. It was set on 3034, a deposit laid on eaves drip 3095 (3.43.8) as a levelling/foundation. 3024 extended across the trench, running into the southern edge of the excavation, and wall 3014 is presumed also to have originally continued in such a fashion.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.6 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3070, 3074, 3190

3070: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of 60% compact brown clay, 40% Friable brown organic silt, frequent small tile and wood, occasional medium tile and wood

3074: PIT CUT

Steep sided cut, truncated by later pit and edge of excavation

3190: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid-dark brown deposit, 100% silt, occasional mortar Flecks

Discussion: Cut 3074 was 1.60m wide and 0.56m deep, truncated to the south by the edge of the excavation and From above by a later pits It had two fills 3190, a clean silt possibly deposited naturally, and 3070, interpreted as a deliberate backfilling related to subsequent reuse of the area. The Frequent wood Fragments in 3070 were possibly the remains of a pit lining deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.7 (Pit and Fills)

CONTEXTS: 3029, 3039, 3041, 3056

3099: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey brown deposit, 80% clay, 20% silt, moderate mortar Flecks, occasional oyster shell, bone, charcoal Flecks

3039: PIT LINING

Mixed deposit of 70% friable yellow white mortar, 30% loose dark brown wood

3041: PIT LINING

Mixed brown deposit of 50% friable organic silt, 50% compact clay, frequent small wood, small tile, occasional medium wood, medium limestone, medium cobble

3056: PIT CUT

Steep sided, flat based cut, somewhat truncated by edge of excavation

Discussion: Pit 3036 was cut into the top of the backfilled pit 3.44.6. It was 1.70m wide, 0.56m deep and truncated to the south by the edge of the excavation. Two of its Fills, 3039 and 3041, were the remains of a wooden lining of horizontal laths and vertical supports. 3029 is interpreted as a backfill deposit associated with the pit falling out of use.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.8 (Levelling)

CONTEXT: 3020

3020: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable green Flecked mid grey deposit, 80% silt, 20% sand g moderate mortar Flecks, occasional brick/tile Flecks, medium mortary Fragments, charcoal, Fragments/Flecks, medium brick/tile

Discussion: This deposit was placed in a depression on the top of pit 3056 (3.44.7) and is interpreted as being laid to counteract slumping into the earlier pits below.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.9 (Post hole and fill)

CONTEXTS: 3055, 3058

3055: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed dark brown deposit of 60% friable loam, 40% loose wood, occasional mortar Flecks, small wood Fragments small/medium tile

3058: POST HOLE CUT

Oval, vertical sided, Flat based cut

Discussion: 3058 was 0.30m x 0.20m and 0.47m deep. It cut surface 3075 (3.43.8) and was possibly related to the structure discussed in 3.44.4 above. The high wood content of 3055 suggests that it was formed by a post rotting in situ.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.10 (Pit and Fill)

CONTEXTS: 3044, 3049

3044: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey brown deposit, 80% clay, 20% silt, occasional limestone cobbles (< 100 x 150mm), tile Fragments organic Fragments, charcoal Flecks, oyster shell, pottery, small green clay lumps

3049: PIT CUT

Steep sided cut with rounded base, much truncated by edge of excavation

Discussion: This small pit was 0.70m wide and 0.11m deep, and was located directly above posthole 3058 (3.44.9). Its Function is not known.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.11 (Pit and Fills>

CONTEXTS: 3012, 3016, 3027

3012: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

mixed deposit of 60% Friable organic silt, 40% compact dark brown clay, Frequent small tile, occasional charcoal, mortar Flecks, wood, brick, cobble, bone, Fruit stones

3016: PIT CUT

Steep sided cut much truncated by edge of excavation

3037: PIT LINING

Traces of wooden pit lining, approximately 10mm thick

Discussion: Pit 3016, 1.50m wide and 0.33m deep, was truncated by the northern edge of the excavation. It was lined with 3037, a deposit of wood, and contained much organic material. It is interpreted as being a cess or rubbish pit.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.12 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3005

3005: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey brown deposit, 60% clay, 40% silt, Frequent Fragments of tile, pottery, brick, limestone, charcoal, occasional medium/large brick

Discussion: This accumulation of dumped material, 0.09m thick, covered the western part of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.44.13 (Dump)

CONTEXT: 3003

3003: DUMP DEPOSIT (or levelling deposit)

Mixed deposit of 60% loose tile, 30% brick, 10% dark grey silty clay, occasional medium limestone, cobbles, charcoal, and mortar Flecks

Discussion: A dumps of tile and brick filling a depression caused by slumping into pits directly below.

GROUP 44 DISCUSSION: The precise place in the stratigraphic sequence of 3.44.1 and 3.44.2, a N-S path along the western edge of the trench, is not known. Like other deposits and Features in the group it was eventually sealed by 3.44.12.

The posts represented by 3.44.4 were either set into surface 3.43.8, with the cobbles laid around them, or cut through this surface with gaps being created by the removal of cobbles. The Four vertical and Five sloping posts are seen as the timber elements of a structure of unknown Form relating either to wall 3.40.8 or to wall 3.44.5, depending on the relationship between the posts and the eaves drip, with the plans suggesting the Former and the context records suggesting the latter.

3.44.6, 3.44.7, 3.44.10 and 3.44.11 are the result of dumping in pits cut into 3.43.9. This activity was followed by the levelling shown by 3.44.8 and then a general accumulation of dumped material,

3.44.12 and 3.44.13, which sealed the deposits and Features in this group.

GROUP 45

CONTEXT SERIES 3.45.1 (Modern intrusion)

CONTEXT: 3002

3002: OTHER CUT (modern intrusion)

Vertically sided, Flat based, rectangular cut

Discussion: This large cut, 3.70m x 1.50m x 0.94m, contained a structure used for storing diesel oil. It disturbed many of the deposits at the eastern end of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 3.45.2

CONTEXTS: 3123, 3142, 3158

3123: WALL

Wall made up of large limestone blocks bonded with pale yellow white mortar, occasional tile (part of bonding)

3142: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Large blocks of decayed timber, approximately 500x240x --mm, placed two deep directly beneath the line of wall 3123

3158: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Rectangular cut with steeply sloping sides and Flat base

Discussion: wall 3123 ran E-W, was set on a timber Foundation raft 3142 and was built in cut 3158. This structural arrangement suggests that it was not related to other walls found in the trench and it is interpreted as being the base of a modern wall

CONTEXT SERIES 3.45.3 (Modern Intrusion)

CONTEXT: 3001

3001: OTHER (modern intrusion)

Vertically sided rectangular brick structure with Flat base

Discussion: 1.80m x 2.10m and 1.42m deep, this brick built modern intrusion had been used to store diesel oil.

GROUP 45 DISCUSSION: The Features in this group - a wall and two diesel stores- are believed to be modern intrusions.

GROUP 46

CONTEXT SERIES 3.46.1 (Machine clearance)

CONTEXT: 3000

3000: OTHER DEPOSIT (machine clearance)

Mixed deposit of tile/brick rubble and mid brown clay

Discussion: This mixed deposit was stratigraphically later than all represents the machine clearance of the site.

GROUP 46 DISCUSSION: This group was stratigraphically later than all others in the trench.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

Group 2 represents one of the earliest phases of development on the site comprising a pit and a number of post hole cutting into the Group 1 natural deposits. They are not directly stratigraphically related to the structure in group 3 which was situated in the west end of the trench. They may therefore be contemporary with it. In this group (3.3.2) which comprised a low plaster Faced sill is difficult to interpret but it is clear that it was related to a building and that the area to its west was serving a different purpose to that to the east. It is possible that it might have been an open structure of some kind with (3.3.2) Forming a low sill.

Group 4 represents a sequence of levelling, pitting and dumping taking place over much of the area east of group 3 but stratigraphic links between the two suggest that the structure in Group 3 was demolished during this time in preparation for the series of Floors and dumps over the centre and meet end of the trench in Group 5. Only partial evidence of these activities remains and drawing any conclusions as to their Function is difficult. Most of the dumps in this group and indeed all of the Groups were of a construction or demolition nature and there is very little domestic evidence. It is probably safe to say though that these relate to a shift in use of this part of the site from an outdoor area to a series of indoor surfaces of buildings that were demolished soon after the end of their use.

Group 6 Follows a different stratigraphic strand to Groups 4 and 5 and represents a phase of construction robbing and dumping in the east end of the trench beginning soon after the initial levelling at the start of Group 4. The exterior and partition walls of a building extending to the east of the trench edge can be traced here although as with Group 5 demolition seems to have occurred soon after its disuse and the area was extensively robbed. Over this demolition can be seen traces of subsequent cuts and dumps of no obvious Function. This building could well have been contemporary with Groups 4 and 5 and both were well out of use by the time of the activity in Group 7.

The stratigraphic links between this area and the rest of the trench are restored by Group 7 which is a short phase of construction and demolition or collapse corresponding to activities to the east of 3.7.1. This and the rest of the trench is levelled by Group 8. The latter is not a true group but relative nodal point in the matrix which seals most of the earlier deposits and provides a convenient break for the purposes of this report.

Group 9 contained the sole evidence for what was clearly a major stone trench built building covering much of the excavation area. The Feature had been largely robbed out in the Roman period and there was little evidence that could be directly attributed to its usage other than a single large stone block (3.9.2). It seems

apparent from the lack or related occupational surfaces, the nature or the stratigraphic sequence and the Fact that this building was so systematically robbed out that it may have only remained in existence for a very short space of time. Nonetheless it is evidence for construction in stone for the first time within this part of the Fortress. The fact that it was so swiftly robbed out must indicate a considerable alteration to the layout of the Fortress at this time.

Groups 10 and 11 constitute the process of robbing and demolition of the building discussed in the previous group.

Groups 12 and 13 consisted of a planked timber floor at the eastern end of the trench with associated build up deposits elsewhere. This Floor was surrounded by a perimeter of very flimsy posts which clearly delineated its limits but which were very evidently not sufficiently robust to represent the remains of superstructure or walling. Interpretation of this Feature is interesting. The high percentage of mortar associated with it has given rise to the suggestion that it was a mortar mixing area perhaps associated with constructional activities taking place elsewhere. A further possibility, given that the area was at this point clearly external is that it was within the confines of the exercise yard associated with the bathhouse complex. Cock fighting pits are known to have been present in such places: such an interpretation would not be entirely unreasonable for this Feature.

In general terms the alteration of the use of the site From the Group 9 building to the apparently external planked surface in Group 12 shows a very definite change or use of the site.

Group 14 represents a further alteration to the use of the site. In this case the area was made ready with a series of levelling deposits for the deliberate construction of a well made metalled surface covering much of the excavation area. This is again clearly an external surface. Whether it is again possible to interpret this as being associated with the exercise yard or the baths complex or whether it is simply a general external surface within the Fortress is clearly open to speculation.

Groups 15 and 16 continued the process of build up described in the previous group. The nature of the build up combines levelling deposits with deliberately laid metalled surfaces. In this case the metalling is less well laid than in Group 14. There was also a small robber trench associated with this accumulation and a number of driven timbers. Neither the timbers nor the trench show any relationship to any other Features in the site and the timbers are of particular interest in that they have an alignment which shows no relationship with structural alignments that were recorded on the site either before or after. Whereas the general nature of alignments tended to be NE/SW, these were apparently E/W.

Group 17 comprised a narrow sleeper beam and associated surfaces which may represent the vestigial traces of a building. They immediately pre-date the use of the site as a cemetery (see below).

Groups 18 to 22 comprised the burials and build-up deposits associated with the systematic use of the site as a cemetery. Details of layout and burial practice for each of the inhumations can be found in the relevant context series.

Groups 23 and 24 consisted of a single possible cess pit 3.23.13 which post dated the above mentioned burials and a widespread group of stakes which had no clear relationship with the burials. Their alignments might suggest that they are related to the previously mentioned E/W alignment of posts (see above Group 16).

Group 25 was a single deposit of metalling which covered the entire length of the trench and clearly showed that the emphasis on the site was about to again change. Although not signalling the total abandonment of the cemetery it certainly signalled the division of the area into separate properties shortly afterwards.

Groups 26 and 27 represent the final demise of the cemetery comprising further build up and a very limited number of further burials.

Groups 28 and 29 largely consisted of a number of NE/SW orientated wicker fences which divided the site into four separate properties slightly less than 5m in width running back from the Swinegate

street Frontage. A number OF cess pits and primary build up deposits associated with these properties are also discussed in these groups.

Groups 30, 31 and 32 constitute Further build up and pit digging associated with the continued use OF the wicker Fences discussed in the previous group.

Groups 33, 34, 38, 39 and 40 together with part of Group 43 (3.43.1, 3.43.2, 3.43.3 and 3.43.5) showed a continued pattern of dumping and accumulation into pits cutting a series of widespread build ups.

While the use of the area for the disposal of cess, domestic and industrial refuse formed the main activity throughout all the above groups, they show an absence of structures, with the exception OF the property boundaries which were seen as ditches and stake lines, with one wall, (3.40.8).

The use of the area for rubbish disposal is also evidenced by the pits, dumps and accumulations seen in Groups 35, 36, 37, 41 and 44, and in the remainder of Group 43. Here, however, more substantial structures are seen, with a system of walls forming Structure X which had a two phase eaves drip (3.43.6 and 3.43.8) with the remains of the upright posts and angled braces (3.44.4) of some sort of timber support.

The brick built cellar of Group 42 severed stratigraphic links between the eastern and western parts of the trench and in doing so created many of the difficulties Found in trying to link the various build ups seen over the area. Other modern intrusions were placed in Group 45. The Features in this Group, the two diesel containers together with a short section of wall had a less brutal effect on the stratigraphic sequence.

Group 46 was the machine clearance of the topmost deposits on the site. These comprised the brick rubble left behind by the buildings which had recently been demolished.

AREA 4

INTRODUCTION

The excavation was conducted on a block of land bounded by Back Swinegate to the south east and Little Stonegate to the south west (NGR .-----). The actual excavated area comprised a strip c.20.00m long parallel and adjacent to Back Swinegate c.8.00m wide at its north eastern extremity but narrowing to c.6.00 at its south western limit. From the latter point the excavation extended c.9.00m to the north west, parallel to Little Stonegate, with a width of c.6.00m, the plan of the excavated area thus taking the Form of a reversed 'L' or Christmas stocking. The whole of this area, as well as a block c.8.00m x 5.00m, immediately north-east of the shorter arm of the 'L' (that which Fronted Little Stonegate), was mechanically excavated to a depth approximately 0.60m below that of the modern ground surface, which on the Back Swinegate street frontage was recorded as being 15.48m AOD. In the angle OF the two arms of the 'L' a post medieval cellar measuring c.5.00m x 4.0m and emptied mechanically as a later disturbance, exposed earlier archaeological deposits to an absolute height of 14.00m AOD. This Feature was utilised in the positioning of a 3.00m x 3.00m test pit {centred on 207.50E x 407.30 N}, which was excavated to a depth OF 3.40m below the modern ground surface in order to examine Roman deposits on the site and which is the subject OF a separate report by Mr Wijayapala. The excavation of Back Swinegate/Little Stonegate took place over a period of 4 weeks between 12/03 and 06/04 1990.

Excavation strategy, and to some extent method, was dictated by the extreme time pressure under which the site was dug. The original aim was to simply expose and record the latest phase of Medieval or early post medieval buildings along the Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate street frontage, and to excavate as much as possible of any stratified sequence associated with them. However, as work progressed it became clear that two distinct phases of timber built structures (surviving as low limestone wall footings), separated by a dumping and levelling episode, were present. Given that, along the Back Swinegate frontage, the structures of the earlier phase appeared to be much better preserved than their later counterparts,

it was decided to attempt to excavate as much of that frontage as possible to the earlier level in order that a drawn and photographic record could be produced. In the process, it was anticipated that the excavation of the heavily disturbed later buildings would produce artefactual assemblages relating to their construction and use, a task which there would be insufficient time to execute with reference to the earlier phase. The limited time available, however, demanded that large and often complex units of stratification be removed as single contexts, their definition determined by their stratigraphic relationship to clearly recognisable elements of the two structural phases. This obviously limits the reliability of statements concerning the date and function of the buildings which derive from the consideration of artefactual assemblages, as the contexts within which the latter are recorded may encompass the construction and several phases of use of the building. Additionally, and particularly relevant to this report, the definition of such broad stratigraphic units often renders the detailed discussion of the internal layout and sometimes even the very Form of individual structures impossible. This report therefore limits itself largely to discussion of the dimensions, relative location and constructional characteristics of the buildings of the two phases, and places little emphasis on the interpretation of their Function based on spatial and stratigraphic evidence, evidence which For the most part it proved impossible to recover in sufficient detail in the time available.

A slightly different situation prevailed along the Little Stonegate Frontage, where the later phase of buildings, patchily represented along Back Swinegate, survived to a Far greater degree. Here it was felt to be worthwhile examining the later structures in more detail, with the result that the earlier phase was not reached in this area. Over Area 4 as a whole, therefore, an attempt was made to examine and make detailed records of elements of both structural phases, concentrating effort on the best preserved phase of the respective Frontages.

This discussion may seem to be at odds with the ethos of a Level Ill report, coming as it does before any of the excavated deposits have

even been introduced, let alone interpreted. However, as interpretative judgement played such a pronounced role in determining excavation strategy and even in the definition of individual contexts (see above), it has been felt necessary to state this and to outline the kind of onsite recognition and interpretation which determined the character of the site archive.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

4.1.1 Contexts 4164, 4165, 4166

4164: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure, comprising a single course of unmortared, roughly shaped blocks of limestone, with occasional Fragments of roof tile, set in two parallel and contiguous rows. The north-eastern end of the structure is marked by a Flat surfaced rectilinear block of limestone, horizontal dimensions 0.30m x 0.20m.c.5.00 metres in length, the structure is interrupted by two vertically sided voids, respectively positioned 2.30m and 3.60m south-west of its north-eastern limit.

Although not noticeably curved, the Feature does bow slightly outwards towards the north-west, a characteristic most pronounced at the north-eastern end. The structure is truncated to the south-west by the later disturbance 4.11.17 (4008).

4165: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned structure comprising a single course of unmortared roughly shaped blocks of limestone, with occasional cobbles, set in two parallel and contiguous rows which bow outwards slightly towards the north-east. c.2.10m in length (within the excavation), the structure adjoins the north-eastern end of 4164 at an angle of c.90 degrees; c1.40m south-east of that junction. 4165's two rows of limestone blocks are interrupted by a large (0.35m.x 0.25m>, irregularly shaped but Flat surfaced block of the same material. The south-eastern extent of the structure is unknown as it continues beyond the limit of the excavated area.

These structures Form the north-western and north-eastern walls respectively of a building fronting Back Swinegate (Structure A).

Truncated by 4.11.17 (4008) 4164 continues to the south-west of that Feature as 4167 (see 4.1.9 below).

4166: Deposit of small, angular Fragments of limestone with occasional larger Fragments, up to c.0.40m in depth truncated to the north-east, north-west and south-west.

Truncated remnant of a surface associated with Structure C (see below). A single larger block of limestone on the north-eastern periphery of 4166 may be a remnant of the north-eastern wall of Structure C which delimited the deposit. Equivalent to 4169 4.1.2 and 4170 (4.1.3); see Group Discussion.

4.1.2 Contexts 4167, 4168, 4169

4167: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure, c.3.40m in length, comprising a single course of unmortared, roughly shaped blocks of limestone set in two parallel and contiguous rows. These rows are interrupted 0.80m from their south-western limit by a vertical sided oval cut. The structure is truncated to the north-east by the later disturbance 4.11.17 (4008).

This structure represents the south-eastern continuation of 4164 (see above, 4.1.1) being separated from the latter only by the later disturbance 4.11.17 (4008) and having identical -constructional characteristics to it. It thus Forms part of the rear wall of Structure A, a component of the Back Swinegate street Frontage.

4168: Linear north-west/south-east aligned structure, c.1.30m in length comprising a single course of unmortared, roughly shaped blocks of limestone and large cobbles. The structure abuts the north-western Face of 4167.

The south-western wall of Structure C, also represented by the surfaces 4166, 4169 and 4170. Although no specific Feature was recognised to account for it, it is all but certain that the structure extended Further to the north-west, having been truncated by subsequent activity (see below, Group 4).

4169: Deposit of small, angular fragments of limestone with occasional larger fragments and pebbles, extremely compacted and up

to c.0.50m in depth. Delimited by 4167 to the south-west and 4168 to the south-east, but extending c.1.20m beyond the north-western limit of the latter; 4169 is extremely truncated to the north-east by the later disturbance 4.11.17 (4008).

Internal surface of Structure C equivalent to 4166 (4.1.1) and 4170 (4.1.3); see Group Discussion.

4.1.3 Context 4170

4170: Deposit of small angular Fragments of limestone with occasional larger Fragments and pebbles, extremely compacted and up to c.0.30m in depth, with a linear concentration of larger Fragments at the north-eastern edge of the deposit.

Internal surface of Structure C equivalent to 4166 (4.1.1) and 4169 (4.1.2): see Group Discussion. The north-west/south-east alignment of larger fragments of limestone which partly delimits the north-eastern extent of 4170 may represent traces of the north-eastern wall of Structure C, but is not felt to be sufficiently convincing to merit the attribution of a separate context number.

4.1.4 Context 4178

4178: 'L' shaped structure, north-east/south-west aligned arm c.1.20m in length, north-west/south-east aligned arm c.1.40m, comprising large, edge set Fragments of roof tile, the alignments of which reflect the arm of which they form a part. Enclosed within and contiguous with the arms of the 'L' was a deposit of burnt 100% clay with dimensions of c.1.00m.x 0.80m.

Remnants of a hearth or hearths located in the north-eastern area of Structure A. The plan form is probably, although not certainly, the result of subsequent truncation, although it may reflect the robbing or removal of another component of the structure from within the arms or the 'L'. It is possible that the differing alignments of the tiles within the two arms reflects successive hearths rather than a single structure, although in the context of the 'robbing' scenario Just referred to this seems unlikely.

4.1.5 Context 4159

4159: Block of limestone, carved in the Form of an architectural capital, resting on the ground in an inverted position c.0.60m beyond the south-western limit of 4167 (4.1.2).

Architectural capital re-used as post-pad

4.1.6 Context 4171

4171: Linear, west north-west/east-south-east aligned structure comprising a single course of unmortared, roughly shaped blocks of limestone, interrupted but apparently unitary and c1.70m in total length.

4.1.7 Context 4179

4172: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure, comprising a single course of roughly shaped blocks and Fragments of limestone, incorporating (near the north-western end) a large (c.0.30m.x 0.30m) irregular Flat slab of the same material. Total length of the structure as a whole c.0.70m.

4.1.8 Context 4173

4173: Somewhat amorphous but nevertheless roughly linear, north-west-south-east aligned deposit of roughly shaped blocks and fragments of limestone, the deposit extending over a length of c.1.00m

GROUP DISCUSSION

4.1.6, 4.1.7 and 4.1.8 represent walls radiating respectively south-eastwards, south-westwards and north-westwards from the post-pad 4.1.5 (4159). All of these structures form part of a coherent complex with 4.1.2 (4167), and would thus seem to be integral to the phase or building represented by the better preserved Structure A have been destroyed by the later intrusion 4.11.17 (4008).

The south-western (?and north-eastern) wall(s) of Structure C abutted the rear (north-western) wall of Structure A. The precise form on this building is unclear due to the extent of its

disturbance by subsequent activity, but a corridor like element measuring c.4.40m (minimum) x 2.00m and extending north-west wards From Structure A can be recognised. The extent of 4.1.1 (4166) suggests that this corridor opened out into a wider room (minimum dimensions c.3.40x 3.00m) adjacent to Structure A, but the most striking Feature of this building was the deposit of crushed limestone, up to c.0.40m in depth which formed its internal surface.

Structure B has a width of c.4.40m (north-east/south-west) and a minimum length of c.6.50m, the south-eastern limit of the building being beyond that of the excavation and the north-western having apparently been truncated by subsequent disturbance. Apparently divided internally by 4.*.* (4172), which continues the line of 4.-.-/4.-.- (4164/4167) the rear wall of Structure A, the rear chamber contained two regularly spaced upright supports, that nearer the street Frontage apparently being open plan (BUT NOTE THE POSSIBLE CENTRAL POST HOLE). The function of the large post pad in the north western corner of the building is unclear. RE-WRITE THE ABOVE

The respective alignments of Structures A and C and Structure B are of interest. Whilst the walls of B, the south easternmost building, are aligned on the same axis as Little Stonegate, those of A and C reflect the line of Back Swinegate. Thus the rear wall of Structure A, 4.1.2 (4167}, meets the north-eastern wall of Structure B, 4.1.5/4.1.6 (4159/4171) at an angle of c.100 degrees, closely reflecting that at which Back Swinegate meets Little Stonegate. Perhaps more surprising is the Fact that 4.1.7 (4172), the internal dividing wall of Structure B, reflects the alignment of Back Swinegate. It is possible that this indicates that Structure B is a later building, itself aligned on Little Stonegate inserted into pre-existing range of structures aligned on Back Swinegate which originally continued to the junction of the two streets. The manner of the excavation and the extent of later disturbance did not, however, allow this to be confirmed stratigraphically.

ABOVE NEEDS MODIFICATION

OF particular note were the profiles of the internal, surfaces of Structures-A and B. These were pronouncedly convex the peaks of the

undulating profile they combined to create corresponding with the central north-west/south-eastern axes of the buildings, the troughs with their side walls. The explanation for this unusual configuration is unclear but 3 alternatives present themselves: Firstly that it represents the actual original profile of the internal surfaces, secondly that it is due to subsequent selective truncation, or thirdly that it was caused by partial subsidence of the surfaces into earlier Features. The First option seems unlikely, and the second is demonstrably not the case, as deposits such as 4.1.10 (4146) cover the full extent of the concave surface (in this case of the north eastern half of Structure A) and show no indication whatsoever of truncation towards their edges. This leaves the third option, which would appear to be the most likely explanation that originally level surfaces have subsequently distorted due to partial slumping. The possible reasons for this slumping are of interest. That the 'trough' of this undulating micro topography correspond closely with the wall line of Structures A and B strongly suggests that the weight of their superstructure was partly responsible, causing compression of underlying deposits. This, however, seems unlikely to be the whole story; the degree of concaveness which the surfaces display (with a vertical disparity of up to c-----m) implies an exaggeration of the effect due to differential settlement, the result of material of varying load bearing capacity underlying the medieval buildings. The nature of those anomalies regularly spaced and apparently restricted to the street Frontages, invites comment. The regularity of the Form and spacing of though undulations clearly cannot be explained as slumpage into arbitrarily shaped and positioned Features such as large pits. The substantial walls of the underlying Roman structures (such as those revealed in the deep test pit - see Mr Wijnyapala's text) obviously represent a regular arrangement which may account for the 'slumped' profile, but as these would seem to have extended over the whole of the excavated area, whilst the undulations are restricted to the street frontages, it may be necessary to seek another explanation. One possibility is that the 'trough' of the undulations more caused by subsidence into the internal areas of earlier, cellared buildings, constructed in stone or more likely

wood, the 'peaks' indicating the positions of the walls of these inferred structures. This would account for the apparent restriction of the undulations to the zone of the street Frontage. It should however be noted that this restriction may be more apparent than real, as the disturbed, homogeneous deposits of the 'backlands' of Structures A and B are far less likely to betray evidence of undulation than the laminated, easily distinguishable layers within the building themselves. Accepting this, the underlying grid of Roman structures may be responsible for the profile of the internal surface of Structures A and B.

POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER DIVISION REMOVED BY 4008?

GROUP 2

4.2.1 Context 4128.

4128: Mid/dark brown 30% clay 70% silt with moderate Flecks of charcoal, moderate Fragments of limestone and occasional lenses of pure silt and clay

Material dumped to raise level of internal surface on north-eastern area of Structure A in advance of the subsequent construction of buildings.

This deposit may originally have been more extensive- see discussion appended to 4.4.5 (4127) below.

4.2.2 Context 4158.

4158: Very mixed composite deposit, main component black ash/sand with large fragments of roof tile over mixed, dark grey clay with small Fragments of mortar and Flecks of charcoal.

Dumped deposit, ?equivalent to 4.2.1 (4128), above, removed at the end of the excavation to expose 4.1.1 (4165), the north-eastern wall of Structure A.

4.2.3 Context 4095

4095: Composite deposit comprising a layer of charcoal over orange burnt clay, this in turn overlying a thick layer of pinkish mid

brown 20% silt 80% clay, in which was embedded a tile constructed hearth. The deposit as a whole contained occasional small medium fragments of roof tile and occasional flecks of crushed limestone.

A dumped deposit raising the ground level in the south-western area of Structure A in advance of the subsequent construction of buildings. For discussion of the possible significance of the 'superficial' layers in this context see below, 4.4.4 (4094).

4.2.4 Context 4117.

4117: 'Composite' deposit comprising three distinct components

(From base);

1) Mid grey compact 20% silt 80% clay with moderate, Flecks of charcoal, occasional small/medium Fragments of limestone, brick and roof tile, shell and animal bone and occasional cobbles

2) Pale yellow compact 30% clay 70% sand with occasional fragments of roof tile and animal bone and occasional cobbles.

3) Dark grey brown very mixed 40% silt 60% clay with Frequent Flecks of charcoal, moderate Fragments of brick and roof tile and occasional Fragments of shell.

Dumped deposit located in area of Junction of Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate street frontages.

4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 represent the dumping of a substantial amount of material in order to raise the ground level of the Back Swinegate street Frontage, burying in the process many elements of the earlier buildings represented by Structures A, B and C.

COMMENT ON TRUNCATION BELOW 4117

4.2.5 Context 4087

4087: Composite deposit, the bulk of which comprises dark grey brown Friable silty clay with Frequent Flecks of charcoal and Fragments of roof tile and occasional cobbles (80% of deposit total) overlain with Friable crushed limestone(10%) and some compacted burnt clay (10%).

Although representing a number of separate deposits amalgamated due to the requirements of rapid excavation, the bulk of this context comprises dumped material. It has been the subject of post excavation alteration to its stratigraphic position: 4087 was recorded on site as being below the hearth 4112 (4.6.1) however, there are indications from the plan of 4087 that this hearth overlay the bulk of the dumped material, and was sealed only by the 'superficial' surface layers of this composite context. This is suggested by the fact that some of the elements of 4112 are visible on the plan of 4087, the surface of the former being only a few millimetres below that of the latter; an examination of the levels on the respective plans confirms this.

As a result, 4112 should be seen as above the dumped component of 4087 which comprised the bulk of that context. As such it is seen as having been deposited as part of the ground levelling conducted in advance of the construction of Structure D, being broadly equivalent to 4.2.4 (4117), 4.2.3 (4095) etc.. Although in part directly overlying 4.2.4, which has also been attributed to this episode, 4087 has been allocated a separate series due to the stratigraphic convolutions associated with it.

4.2.6 Context 4082.

4082: Composite deposit, comprising (?from base) 40% mid brown clay, 20% ash/cinders, 30% compacted fired sand incorporating ?mould fragments and 10% mid brown sand. The deposit as a whole included frequent fragments of roof tile, lumps of slag and flecks of mortar and charcoal.

Almost certainly represents the same episode as 4.2.5 (4087) separated from that context only as a result of having been truncated by the later, intrusive Feature 4.11.16 (4003)

4.2.7 Context 4110.

4110: Single, interrupted course of limestone blocks, overall length c.1.40m. The structure incorporates two large (0.40m.x 0.35m. and 0.45m.x 0.30m), shaped and flat surfaced blocks, set with their long axes at an angle of c90 degrees to each other.

The extreme north-eastern component or a north-east/south-west aligned wall, directly overlying the Junction of the Group 1 walls of 4.1.1 (4164 and 4165).

4.2.8 Context 4103.

4103: Single course of medium/large blocks of limestone (up to c.0.35m.x 0.30m.) Forming a north-east/south-west aligned structure with an overall length of c.1.90m.

Component of a north-east/south-west aligned well partially overlying the Group 1 wall 4.1.1 (4164).

4.2.9 Context 4109.

4109: Two adjacent, roughly shaped blocks of limestone, total dimensions of the context c.0.30m.x 0.20m., located approximately equidistantly (c.0.60m.) between 4.2.7 (4110) and 4.2.8 (4103).

?Post-pad.

4.2.7, 4.2.8 and 4.2.9 together form part of the rear (north - western) wall of a building - henceforth Structure D which Fronted Back Swinegate and clearly post-dated Structure A (see below. discussion appended to 4.2.10 (4108)).

4.2.10 Context 4108.

4100: Single, interrupted, north-east/south-west aligned course of medium sized blocks of limestone and sandstone incorporating occasional cobble and Fragments of roof tile. With a total length of c.3.60m., the structure is punctuated with three large (up to c.0.40m.x0.35m.), flat surfaced blocks of limestone.

North-east/south-west aligned wall contemporary with 4.2.7 (4110) - 4.2.9 (4109).

4.2.7 (4110) - 4.2.9 (4109) and 4.9.10 (4108) together form the rear (north-western) wall of a building (Structure D) which fronted Back Swinegate. All of the components of this wall post-date extensive dumps of material (4.2.1 (4128) and 4.2.3 (4095)) which themselves seal the rear wall 4.1.1/4.1.2 (4164/4167) and other components of

Structure A, and thus clearly represent a distinct and later constructional episode. The extent of Structure D would appear to have been very similar to that of A. although the alignment of the later rear wall shifted c.6 degrees to the east, suggesting a marginal realignment (and therefore a slight relocation) of the street frontage.

4.2.11 Context 4175.

4175: Rectilinear, regularly shaped block of limestone with flat upper surface, measuring c.0.40m.x 0.25m.

Post pad.

4.2.12 Context 4176.

4176: Rectilinear block of limestone with Flat surface, dimensions c.0.30m.x 0.20m., set in a restricted deposit of clay in which were also embedded two irregular Fragments of limestone.

Post-pad

THE ABOVE TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THIS DISCUSSION

4.2.13 Context 4179.

4179: Single, irregular but roughly squared block of limestone measuring c.0.20m.x 0.15 with horizontal upper surface.

4.2.14 Context 4180.

4180: Single, irregular but roughly squared block of limestone measuring c.0.20m.x 0.15 with horizontal upper surface.

These two contexts represent post pads, each located c.1.80m south-east of the north-western wall of Structure D as represented by 4.9.8 (4103) and 4.2.7 (4110). Together with the extreme north-western component of 4.2.15 (4121) (see below) they form a line of post based on an alignment parallel to that of 4.2.8/4.2.7, spaced c.1.40m apart. They are therefore seen as the bases for upright superstructural components of Structure D and their positions relative to each other and the north-western wall of the building suggest that these may have been arcade posts. The form and

superstructural characteristics of D will be considered Further in the Group Discussion.

4.2.15 Context 4121.

4121: Single, north-west/south-east aligned course of small, unworked blocks of limestone with a total length of c.2.00m within the excavation (extends beyond the south-eastern limit of the area). Incorporates a single, larger flat surfaced block of limestone c.0.60m from its north-western limit and a smaller, irregular but similarly flat surfaced block at that limit.

Internal division or Structure D: the block of limestone referred to at the north-western limit of the context formed one of a linear series with 4.2.13 (4179) and 4.2.14 (4180).

4.2.16 Context 4181.

4181: Linear. south-east/north-west aligned cut with rounded south-eastern terminus (north-western limit of Feature indefinite, sides eloping at c.45 degrees, breaking sharply From top edge and more gradually to a Flat base, c.2.40m. in length.

The ?'ghost' of an internal division of Structure D, parallel to and ? contemporary? with 4.2.15 (4121), located c.2.75m to the south-west of the latter.

Together, 4.2.15 (4121) and 4.2.16 (4181) appear to define a space measuring.c.2.80m x (minimum) 3.60m, the long axis being transverse to that of D as a whole. The Full length of this chamber is uncertain due to its extending beyond the area excavated, but it is entirely possible, indeed probable, that it spanned the Full width of D, thus forming a corridor separating the north-eastern and south-western components of the building. The fact that both of these divisions clearly terminate short of the long-north-western and south-eastern walls of D, 4.2.15 (4121) at its north-western limit and 4.2.16 (4181) at its south-eastern, implies the existence of entrances into the two separated areas at these points. See the Group Discussion for further consideration of this layout.

4.2.17 Context 4182

4182: Single irregular but roughly squared block of limestone measuring c.0.20m.x 0.15 with horizontal upper surface contiguous with an irregular but roughly rectilinear spread of mortar to the south-west.

This context is considered to represent a component of the superstructure of D analogous to those evidenced by 4.2.13 and 4.2.14 (above). Apart from the similarity of its Form its position fits that expected of a post pad were the line of supports indicated by 4.2.13/4.2.14 extended, with the same spacing to the south-west. The spread of mortar may be the remnant bedding For another block of limestone, subsequently removed.

4.2.18 Context 4177.

4177: Square block of limestone with flat surface, dimensions c.0.40mx 0.35m a deposit of ?mortar in which were embedded irregular Fragments of limestone and cobbles contiguous with the north-western Face of the block.

Post pad, the base of a post forming one of the line of internal upright in the south-eastern range of Structure D represented by 4.2.17 (4182).

This structure has been attributed to this Group due to its position relative to 4.2.17 (4182) and 4.2.16 (4181), which strongly implies that it formed the base of one of the Structure D arcade posts, the regular spacing of the three Features being evident. This does however present a stratigraphic problem, in that 4177 was not revealed until after 4.2.5 (4087) had been removed, and would thus appear to predate it, and therefore Structure D as a whole. The explanation for this is that 4177 was actually only sealed by the superficial component of 4.9.5 (see, above, 4.2.5, for more extensive discussion of another example of this), and can, thus be seen as contemporary with the bulk of that Structure D levelling deposit.

4.2.19 Context 4081

4081: Irregular but roughly rectangular cut steep-vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to an, irregular but nevertheless broadly flat base.

Setting For a timber upright forming part of the series also represented by 4.2.17 (4182) and 4.2.18 (4177).

4.2.20 Context 4183

4183: Linear. north-east/south-west aligned cut with expanded, post hole like south-western terminus, gently sloping sides breaking gradually From top edge, the character of the base of the Feature (and its width) being unclear as the south-eastern edge lies beyond the limit of excavation. Length c.3.10m.

The alignment of this Feature is at approximately 90 degrees to that of 4.2.16 (4181), and it has therefore been interpreted as a component of a contemporary internal arrangement. It is considered likely to represent the south-eastern equivalent of the putative arcade indicated by 4.2.17, and as the distance between 4.2.11 (isolated component of NW wall of D) and 4.2.17 is closely similar to that between the latter and the south-western terminus of 4.2.20, it is arguable that Structure D was divided axially into a nave with two aisles, the width of each of these three divisions being approximately equal. The alignment of 4.2.20 and its position immediately adjacent to the south-eastern edge of Area 4 means that any possible continuation of this arcade to the north-east would lay outside the excavated area, thus accounting for its absence beyond the transverse division marked by 4.2.15 (4121) and 4.2.16 (4181). Further consideration of the layout of Structure D and its implications is presented in the Group Discussion.

4.2.21 Contexts 4162, 4050.

4162: Shallow. vertical sided north-east/south-west aligned cut, breaking sharply from top edge and similarly to a Flat base. The Feature survives only as a single vertical edge the north-western equivalent apparently having been removed by subsequent disturbance;

the original width of the feature is thus unclear. The northern limit of 4162 is determined by its truncation by 4.11.16 (4003), but at its south-western limit it abuts the south-eastern end of 4.2.24 (4065).

4050: Greyish light brown compact very mixed 20% sand 30% clay 50% silt with occasional Fragments of limestone, brick, roof tile, mortar, charcoal, shell and animal) bone and occasional pebbles.

Interpreted as the 'ghost' of a solid structure originally connecting 4.2.24 (4065), the rear wall of the south-western range or Structure D with 4.2.11 (4175), the most southerly surviving component of the rear wall of the south-eastern range, 4162 may represent a wall. However, , the extent of its Fill 4050, which covers a rectilinear area measuring c.2.00m.x 1.80m suggests that it may rather mark the edge of a solid, laid surface (presumably of large, Flat stones), the Fill) being either post robbing backfill or (and this interpretation has been Favoured due to the degree of compaction evident in the context) a levelling deposit which originally lay underneath that surface.

4.2.22 Context 4184

4184: Block or limestone, roughly square but with rounded corners measuring c.0.25m.x 0.20m contiguous with a restricted deposit of sand to the north-west.

4.2.23 Context 4185.

4185: Structure comprising three large (maximum c.0.45m.x0.20m.), roughly shaped blocks of limestone surrounding a linear deposit of dark brown clay with high organic content, the overall length of the composite Feature being c.1.50m.

These Features together comprise a north-west/south-east aligned structure internal to Structure D and located at the south-western end of its south-eastern range. This is seen as a transverse partition of the building. The two elements are separated by a space c.1.00m. across, possibly indicating the position of a doorway.

4.9.24 Context 4065.

4065: Linear, north-west-south-east aligned structure c.5.10m in length, comprising large (up to c.0.30m.x 0.25m.), roughly shaped blocks or limestone and some cobbles with occasional Fragments of root tile bonded with yellow-white mortar. The structure as a whole bow slightly outwards to the north-east.

4.2.25 Context 4066

4060: Linear, north-west-south-east aligned structure c.4.20m in length, comprising large (up to c.0.30m.x 0.25.) roughly shaped blocks of limestone and some cobbles. Approximately 2.80m. north-west of the south-eastern limit of 4066 (determined by the insertion of the later wall 4.8.1(4054)) the structure incorporates a large, flat surfaced block (of sandstone measuring c.0.35m.x 0.30m.. The structure as a whole bows slightly outwards to the north-east.

4.2.24 and 4.2.25 are interpreted as having originally formed a continuous wall, subsequently divided by the insertion of 4.8.1 (4054). This is considered to be the case because whilst 4.2.24 (4065) is described as being bonded with mortar and 4.2.25 (4066) is not, the bowing outwards noted in the descriptions of both contexts in Fact describes a continuous shallow arc extending through 4.2.24 (4065) arguing very strongly for a single construction event. The explanation for the presence of mortar in the interstices of 4.2.24(4065) may be derived from the Fact that this structure underlay the robbing trench For a much later brick built wall footing (removed as part of the unstratified context 4000) and that the mortar actually became attached to the stones of 4.2.24 when the latter was constructed. In other words 4.2.24, like 4.2.25, was originally constructed as an unmortared wall, and both can therefore comfortably be seen as having formed a continuous bowed rear wall of the south-western range of Structure D

4.2.26 Context 4102

4102: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned structure comprising a single course of roughly shaped but largely irregular limestone

blocks (up to c.0.20m.x 0.15m.) with occasional blocks of sandstone, fragments of roof tile and cobbles, all irregularly laid; Surmounted in places by a single course of Flat laid bricks, the total length of the structure is c.4.00m., its north-western limit (within the excavation) being marked by a single, larger c.0.20m.x 0.20m.) block of limestone.

On first examination this structure would appear to belong to Group 8, as it forms the rear wall of Structure F (see below). The characteristics of its construction are, however, closer to those of the Structure D walls 4.2.24 (4065) and 4.2.25 (4066) than to 4.8.1 (4054) the south-eastern wall of F. Attribution to F may be considered more likely on the basis that 4102 terminates immediately adjacent to the north-eastern limit of 4.8.1, thus appearing to form a unitary structure with the latter. This, however, ignores the possibility that 4.2.26 was, like 4.2.24/4.2.25 (4065/4066), truncated by 4.8.1 (4054). The constructional similarities of 4.2.26 to 4.2.25 (4066) have led to this argument being Favoured, and it is suggested that 4.2.26 originally extended south-eastwards to the Junction of the two ranges of Structure D, but was removed to the south-east of 4.8.1 (4054) by the later cellar 4.12.1 (4000). The implications of this for the overall layout of Structure D are considered in the Group Discussion, below.

4.2.27 Context 4186

4186: Irregular but roughly rectilinear block of limestone measuring c.0.30m.x 0.20m.

Pad stone for timber upright.

4.2.28 Context 4187

4187: Slightly irregular but rectilinear block of limestone measuring c.0.30m.x 0.15m.

Pad stone For timber upright.

4.2.27 and 4.2.28 are interpreted as the bases For structural posts internal to the south-western range of Structure D. A notional line drawn between the two contexts runs parallel to and c.1.80m to the

south-west of 4.2.24 (4065). They are seen as being analogous to 4.2.13 and 4.2.14 (see above), i.e. the arcade post of an aisled building. The Form of Structure D in to be is considered in the Group Discussion.

4.2.29 Context 4190.

4190: Irregular block of limestone with some evidence of shaping, Flat surfaced and measuring c.0.30m.x 0.20m.

Pad stone (probably an originally squared block subsequently broken) For internal upright at north-eastern end of south-western range of Structure D, situated immediately to the south-west of the north-eastern limit of 4.2.25 (4066).

4.2.30 Context 4192

4192: Roughly square, Flat surfaced block of sandstone measuring c.0.20m.x 0.20m.

Pad stone for internal upright at north-eastern end of south-western range of Structure D, situated c.0.80m south-west of 4.2.29 (4190).

4.2.29 and 4.2.30 have been attributed to this Group as their positions relative to the Group 8 sleeper wall represented by 4.8.3 (4153) and 4.8.2 (4191) (see below) seem to indicate that they predate that structure. Exactly how they fit into the structural scheme suggested by 4.2.27 (4186) and 4.2.28 (4187) is unclear. Although an extension of the notional straight line connecting 4.2.27 and 4.2.29 links these with 4.2.30 (4192), the resulting alignment does not correspond well with the convex curve of wall 4.2.24/4.2.25 (4065/4066) noted above. It is possible that 4.2.29 (4190) and 4.2.30 (4192) are the only visible component of a line of such uprights stretching transversely across the range, the other elements being sealed beneath and thus rendered invisible by 4.8.3 (4153), a structure which was not removed in excavation. Alternatively, these pad stones may represent the bases For door jambs, the main arcade post (the equivalent to 4.2.27 (4186) and

4.2.28 (4187)) once again seen as being sealed beneath/removed by
4.8.3. Neither suggestion is however conclusive.

4.2.31 Context 4188.

4188: Linear. north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising an alignment or cobbles embedded in sand extending over a length of c.0.90m. The alignment is continued to the south-west by an irregular, but still recognisably linear, shallow, steep/vertical sided cut extending approximately a further 1.60m.

Internal partition located at the south-eastern end of the south-western range of Structure D. The 'cut' element of the Feature may represent the positions of limestone blocks subsequently robbed which have left their impressions in the underlying deposits. The structure appears to have terminated c.0.60m south-west of the south-eastern limit of 4.2.24 (4065); it is possible that this opening indicates the position of a doorway.

4.2.32 Context 4196.

4196: Linear deposit of yellow/light brown 30% clay 70% sand extending c.2.80m south-eastwards From 4.*.* (4...), interrupted midway along its length For a distance of c.0.70m then turning through c.90 degrees and extending north-eastwards For c1.60m, abutting wall 4.2.24 (4065).

This deposit appears to delineate a rectilinear area within the south-western range of Structure D, representing a sub-division of that building. It seems most likely to be material, sealed beneath a timber sill beam, which was eroded elsewhere within the range. The interruption in the deposit along its south-western side seems likely to indicate the position of a doorway.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Together, the components of this Group comprise Structured D, a building of two ranges occupying the street Frontages of modern Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate. The rear wall of the south-eastern (Back Swinegate) range is c.6.60m in length from its north-eastern limit (represented by 4.2.7 (4110)) to its Junction with 4.2.24

(4065), the rear wall of the south-western range as 4.2.7 does in Fact appear to be the extreme north-western corner of the building, this can be taken as having been its total length. 4.2.24

(4065)/4.2.25 (4066) itself, the rear wall of the south-western range extends over a distance of c.9.70m within the excavation, but appears to have extended Further, there being nothing to suggest that the north-western limit of the building was located in the excavation.

The internal structure of the building is ambiguous due to both subsequent disturbance and the Fact that it was impossible to expose its Full width - the Front wall of Structure D, if they survive, remain buried beneath modern Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate. However, a number of post pads 4.2.13 (4179), 4.2.14. (4180) and 4.2.17 (4182), all equidistant from the rear wall of the south-eastern range, and 4.2.27 (4186) and 4.9.28(4187), equidistant from that of its south-western equivalent, are, interpreted as arcade posts which would have supported a timber superstructure. That the building was of timber construction is testified to by the fact that its walls are insubstantial and shallowly Founded designed to raise horizontal timbers at the base of the wall above the wet ground surface rather than to carry the load of a stone superstructure. Additionally, the walls are regularly punctuated by substantial, Flat surfaced stone pads, clearly designed to support sizeable timber uprights. This arrangement has the Further implication that the horizontal timbers at the base of the wall were not themselves load bearing, designed to spread the weight of the structure evenly along low stone sleeper walls (which were in any case inadequate For this Function), but simply served to Join the Frame together at its base to ensure its rigidity.

Returning to the aisled Form of the building, it is worth noting that each of the arcade post pads can be convincingly paired with substantial pad stones in its rear wall, suggesting the positions of the cross Frames. Whether Structure D was single or double aisled is unclear, due to the Fact that its Front lay beyond the excavated area. A double aisled structure is marginally Favoured on the basis that 4.2.20 (4183) seems more appropriate as an internal division

than as the Front wall; as only half (axially) of this feature was within the limits of the area excavated, it would appear that the putative second row of arcade posts lay just beyond the south-eastern edge of the excavation. Assuming three aisles of roughly equal width (based on the distances between 4.2.11 (4175) and 4.2.17 (4182) and 4.2.17 and 4.2.20 (4183)), the total width of the building would have been c.5.40– 5.70m thus placing its Back Swinegate Frontage close to the line of the edge of the modern pavement. This Figure approximates the width of the building which would be expected if the timber uprights of Group 7 are located on its central line(see below), which may tentatively be seen as corroborative evidence For it being the lateral dimension of D, even if it does not directly support the double arcade theory. A similar arrangement is assumed For the south-western range Fronting Little Stonegate, although in this instance no trace whatsoever of the suggested second arcade were recognised within the excavation, again due to the limited extent imposed by the position of the present-day thoroughfare.

If the aisled nature of the building is accepted, there are nevertheless anomalous Features to be considered. Most notable is the disparity between the size of the arcade post pads and those incorporated into the line of the rear wall. The latter are up to four times the size of the Former in terms of surface area, and are on the whole more substantial stones altogether. In an aisled building the roof would have been carried on the arcade plate, the bulk of the weight of the structure thus resting on the arcade posts. The wall posts, by contrast, would only be required to carry the rafters of a single pitched, lean-to roof. This however, would seem to require sub-structural provision diametrically opposed to that in evidence in Structure D. The explanation for this may lie in the existence of upper Floors; these would have required Floor Frames,–considerable weights which would have been attached to the wall posts – if the building was of two or even three storeys the substantial nature of the latter would have been essential It should also be noted that the narrowness of the central room? frame implied by the spacing of the arcades means that it would have been relatively light and thus supportable by the slender arcade posts

suggested by the small post pads. Thus most of the weight of the superstructure, floor frames and the lean to roofs of the side aisles - would have been concentrated on the wall plate, explaining their apparent substance. An alternative to this is that the arcade posts simply represent props for the tie beams spanning the Full width of the building, the roof being carried on a wall plate resting on the side Frames.

WAS THERE AN UEPER STORE?

Evidence For the internal division of Structure D is restricted to four partition walls, 4.2.15 (4121), 4.2.16 (4181), 4.2.22, 4.2.23 (4184/4185) and 4.2.31 (4188). The two former structures appear to delimit a ?partly discrete chamber, possibly a cross passage in the south-eastern range. Both clearly terminate some way From the rear and Front walls respectively, suggesting the positions of doorways allowing access to the north-eastern and south-western areas of the range. 4.2.22/4.2.23 and 4.2.31, meanwhile, appear to demarcate a separate chamber at the junction of the two ranges, both structures again terminating in a Fashion which suggests the existence of entrances from one chamber to the other.

The Form of the south-western range appears to have differed significantly from that of its south-eastern counterpart. Although the presence of arcade posts within the body of the range argues for it being part of a unitary structure with the latter, the existence of 4.2.26 (4102), an apparently contemporary wall to the rear of and parallel to 4.2.25 (4066) introduces an extra component to the layout. The argument that this wall originally extended along the Full length OF the rear OF the building results in the creation OF a 'corridor' some 1.50m, wide at the back of the range. The purpose or significance of this is unclear.

POSSIBLY ADD MORE ABOUT SIZE/PROPORTIONS OF ROOMS, INTERNAL

LAYOUT OF SOUTH-WESTERN RANGE

DISCUSSION ABOUT OPEN PAVED AREA TO N OF SW RANGE

GROUP 3

4.3.1 Contexts 4086, 4088

4086: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising a single course of irregular blocks of limestone (up to c.0.20m.x 0.20m) c.1.20m in length within the excavation.

South-eastern wall of Structure E.

4088: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned structure comprising a single course of irregular and irregularly set blocks of limestone (up to c.0.30m.x 0.20m.) with a total length of c.3.40m. The south-eastern extremity of the structure incorporates two irregular but roughly linear flat surfaced slabs of limestone, c.0.70m in total length. The whole structure bonded with a matrix of 20% silt 80% clay with occasional cobbles and fragments of brick and roof tile.

South-western wall of Structure E.

4.3.2 Context 4194

4194: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned structure comprising a single course of cobbles and irregular fragments of limestone, incorporating at its north-western end a substantial (c.0.50m.x 0.30m.) flat surfaced block of sandstone. Total length c.1.60m.

A wall of uncertain function, although certainly a component of an adjunct to Structure E, extending as it does from the south-eastern wall of that building.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Structure E is located in the extreme north-western corner of Area 4; its north-eastern and north-western limits are unknown, being beyond the excavated area. Although it was not possible to establish a direct stratigraphic connection between this building and those (Structures A and D) fronting Back Swinegate, two factors have led to E being considered contemporary with the later of these two. Firstly, the method of construction of 4083 has its closest parallels in Structure D, in particular 4.2.10 (4108); the walls of Structure A, by contrast, comprise smaller, more closely set

unbonded blocks. Secondly, the absolute height of the Structure E walls (at c.14.57m AOD) is closer to that of Structure D (c.14.75m AOD) than that of Structure A (c.14.57m AOD). As this association is not stratigraphic, however, Structure E has been attributed to a separate Group.

The flat surfaced stones which comprise part of 4088 appear to form the threshold of an entrance into the building.

ADD SOME MORE TO THIS

GROUP 4

4.4.1 Context 4114

4114: Flat laid, rectilinear ?bricks/?Floor tiles set on a base of 20% yellow brown sand 80% grey clay, forming a square structure edged with edge set roof tiles.

This structure may be a small hearth or a setting for an internal upright of Structure D. Although no obvious traces of burning were recorded, the hearth interpretation has been Favoured as the position of the structure seems inappropriate for that of an internal upright. If this interpretation is correct, the Function of the hearth is nonetheless unclear.

4.4.2 Context 4115.

4115: Structure, trapezoidal in plan Form, comprising roof tiles set on edge in a bed of grey 100% clay, the Feature as a whole delimited with edge set ?Floor tiles.

Hearth, ?central to north-eastern chamber of Structure D.

Probable Function?heating rather than manufacture

4.4.3 Contexts 4190, 4111

4120: Brown loose sand with very Frequent Fragments of red-brown Fired sand conglomerate, Frequent Flecks of charcoal and occasional Fragments of copper alloy.

Either detritus from a manufacturing process conducted within Structure D, or a deliberate dumping of such material to provide a level, well-drained and solid Floor surface.

4111: very thin deposit of black 40% sand 60% silt with very Frequent Flecks of crushed charcoal and occasional lumps of same.

Use deposit deriving from activities within Structure D.

Both of these deposits abut, and are therefore strictly speaking later than, the hearths 4.4.1 (4114) and 4.4.2 (4115). They would appear to be broadly contemporary with these structures. It is uncertain whether 4120 is material directly derived From activity within Structure D or 'imported' From elsewhere as Flooring material. This is obviously significant in determining the Function of Structure D; the Fired sand conglomerate is suggested as being debris From 'bronze' (more correctly copper alloy) casting, and if it were in situ would clearly imply a very specialised Function For the building, providing a possible explanation For either or both of the hearths 4.4.1 and 4.4.2. However, the 'levelling' interpretation would leave only 4111, a deposit of Far less distinctive character, as possible residue From the use of D, suggesting a less singular role. .

Distinguishing between these possibilities is not easy. 4120 does postdate all the recognised components of Structure D (including the small post pads), and it cannot therefore be insisted on stratigraphic grounds that it must be Floor levelling. However, it cannot be argued, on the basis of this stratigraphic position, that it must be use derived; the possibilities of a Floor laid after the structure of the building was completed, or the laying of a secondary Floor after a period or use, preclude this.

DISCUSS THIS FURTHER

4.4.4 Context 4094

4094: Black Friable 40% sand 60% clay with Frequent powdered charcoal deposit derived ?from use of Structure D, or possibly a burnt horizon signifying the <?partial> destruction of Structure D.

DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE ORIGINS (re burning) OF 4111 AND 4094

4.4.5 Context 4127

4127: Complex, mixed deposit, much disturbed and varying in colour and consistency but basically a mid/light brown 20% sand 30% silt 50% clay with moderate small/medium sized Fragments of limestone and occasional Fragments of mortar, brick, roof tile, shell and animal bone and occasional ashy inclusions and small cobbles.

This context is a typical 'backland' deposit, much disturbed by pitting and ?cultivation associated with Structure D. However, the parent material from which the deposit derives is very likely to be the same as 4.2.1 (4128). This interpretation is Favoured because, although the wall 4.2.8 (4103) marked the north-western limit or 4.2.1 and the south-eastern limit of 4.4.5 (4127), no clear interface between the two soil contexts could be recognised. The suggested reason for this is that a single dumped deposit, the original form of which is represented by 4.2.1, extended across the whole of this part of the excavated area, having been laid down or levelling purposes immediately before the construction of Structure D. Subsequently this layer retained its original characteristics where it was protected from disturbance by the superstructure and Floors of D, but in the external area to the rear of the building was modified to the state in which it was recognised in excavation. This admixing of 4.4.1 to create 4.4.5 resulted in very different deposits, but also created a situation where the recognition or the precise point of transition from one to the other was extremely difficult. The formation processes bearing on 4.4.5 (4127) have also affected its position within the sequence; although originally contemporary (in fact, it is argued, identical) with 4.2.1, the subsequent disturbance, some if not most of which is likely to have occurred during the use/occupation of Structure D, has resulted in a separate and later attribution.

4.4.6 Context 4122.

4122: Mid orange brown Friable 50% silt 50% clay with frequent flecks and fragments of roof tile and mortar, moderate Flecks of

charcoal and moderate Fragments of pot and animal bone, like 4.4.5 (4127), this is a typical 'backland' deposit, much disturbed by pitting and ?cultivation associated with Structure D, It is likely that its relationship to 4.2.3 (4095) is similar to that of 4.4.5 (4127) to 4.2.1 (4128), i.e that the deposit was originally part of the dumped level recognised within Structure D, subjected to disturbance and transformation during the use of the building (see 4.4.5 For a more detailed discussion of this),

GROUP 5

(IS A NEW GROUP REQUIRED HERE ?) .

YES!

4.5.1 Context 4061,

4061: Irregular but roughly square shallow cut, gradual break in slope From top edge, gentle slope to irregular but Flattish base,

4.5.2 Context 4075,

4075: Irregular, roughly 'S' shaped cut with angular rather than rounded plan form, gentle slope breaking sharply from top edge and gradually to rounded base, the 'angular' character of the plan form of this feature (which can in Fact be broken down into two rectilinear components see plan), together with its shallow profile, suggest that it may represent the robbing of two or more large blocks of stone,

4.5.3 Context 4096

4096: Shallow, roughly ?square (north- eastern edge truncated) cut, steep/vertical sides breaking sharply From top edge and similarly to Flat base,

Possibly robbing cut For solid (?stone) base of structural Feature.

The shallowness of these Features, the regularity of their plan Forms and the Fact that they are all located within Structure D, not transgressing its limits at any point, suggest that they represent the robbing of solid internal components of the building. Their

Function is unclear, but their locations and distinctive Forms distinguish them from other, apparently later Features cut from the same stratigraphic level. One, indeed, appears to have been truncated by the removal of a substantial internal upright of D (4.5.3 (4096); see below, 4.7.1 (4059)), thus confirming it as having been part of the internal layout of that building as opposed to a later intrusion.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The Features in this Group, although stratigraphically later than the 'use' deposit 4.4.4 (4094) may nonetheless relate to the activities represented by that layer. All are seen as the robbed 'ghosts' of solid structures, removed after the deposition of 4094 but almost certainly in existence whilst the latter was accumulating. The precise purpose of these suggested structures is unclear, but a function associated with that of the hearths 4.4.1 (4114) and 4.4.2 (4115) is likely; the close proximity of these Features to 4.5.3 (4096) and 4.5.1 (4061) seems significant here.

GROUP 6

4.6.1 Context 4112

4112: Sub rectangular structure, c.1.00m.x 0.80m comprising edge set of bricks and fragments of roof tile embedded in clay, a skim of ashy material on the surface.

Hearth, situated in the south-eastern corner chamber of Structure D (as defined by 4.2.31 (4188) and 4.2.22/4.2.23 (4184-4185)). Considered broadly equivalent, in terms of phase and, possibly. Function to 4.4.2 (4115) in the north-eastern chamber of Structure D. In addition to 4112, this Group incorporates two other hearths; these were Features recorded during the removal of 4087 (4.2.5) and 4095 (4.2.3) (see above). Although pressure of time during the excavation meant that they were not adequately recorded – the deposits within which they were recognised being summarily removed – their approximate positions (in the memory of the area supervisor) were roughly evenly spaced between 4.2.16 (4181) and 4.2.23 (4185). That the hearths were associated with Structure D is, in spite of

the nature of their excavation, all but certain, as the silty clay dump which Formed the major single element of both 4.2.3 and 4.2.5 clearly post dated (i.e. sealed) the components of the Structure A-B-C complex. Unsurprisingly, however, there are contradictions in stratigraphic detail most notably the Fact that the hearth referred to as having been incorporated in 4.2.3 has been located in a Group subsequent to that of its parent context. The explanation for this is that 4.2.3 included (as its uppermost component) a relatively thin deposit or burnt material (see description above) which overlay the hearth, obscuring it from view when the context was defined. Thus, although the hearth clearly post-dated the major component of 4.2.3 the silty clay dump – which was used in the attribution of this composite context to a specific Group, it was nonetheless included in the context as a whole, resulting in the stratigraphic contradiction referred to. At this point the frustrated researcher can, with the Field Officer, do no more than reflect on the fact that it's an imperfect world wherein you get what you pay for.

4.6.2 Context 4150

4150: Rectilinear (near square), structure comprising large, Flat laid Fragments or roof tile and limestone, overlain with a deposit of dark reddish brown burnt clay and delimited by edge set tiles. Overall dimensions c.1.00m.xc 0.90m

Hearth located in north-east of south-western range of Structure D. The hearth has been attributed to Structure D, rather than the later Structure F (see below), due to the Fact that its position in relation to the walls of the latter is eccentric, but corresponds well with the putative central line of D (see Group 2 Discussion for consideration of the likely width of the building. Additionally, the surface of the structure is pierced by a number of post and ,stake holes, one of which in particular, being surrounded by packing stones and located centrally to Structure F, seems likely to be a component of that building (see below. 4>8"6 (4193)). The hearth would thus appear to predate F and belong to D.

GROUP DISCUSSION

The Group comprises a hearth in the south-eastern corner chamber of Structure D, and two which were not recorded as separate contexts but the existence of which was noted during the excavation of laminated 'composite' contexts. They have been kept separate From the Group 4 structures and Features, with which they are nonetheless considered to be broadly equivalent, due to the, inadequacy of the Formal site record of these Features. Whether the hearths served for heating or other domestic/industrial purposes is, unsurprisingly, an open question. ADD TO THIS RE 4150

? INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION ?

GROUP 7

4.7.1 Context 4059

4059: Roughly circular cut, diameter c.0.80m, steep/vertical sides breaking sharply From top edge and similarly to a Flat base, except in the north-western quarter of the cut where the side slopes more gradually.

Interpreted as the void of a robbed timber upright within Structure D.

This feature has been attributed to a discrete Group as it appears to represent a significant change in the Form and layout (? and possibly therefore Function) of Structure D. This can be suggested on two counts; Firstly that its position is eccentric in relation, to the north-eastern subdivision of the building, and secondly that it truncates part of the Group 5 'ghost' 4.5.3 (4096), thus unequivocally post-dating that feature.

Understanding the significance of 4.7.1 rests on a consideration of other, comparable features elsewhere in the south-eastern range feature which once again did not benefit From adequate in situ recording due to over rapid excavation and whose significance (and in one case existence) was only recognised during post excavation. These Features comprise:

a roughly circular, vertical sided cut with a diameter of c.0.55m located at site grid reference 215.00E x 407.50N, a Feature which penetrated the level of the internal surface of Structure B and was therefore plotted on the basal plan of the area

a three quarter elliptical edge to the context 4087 (4.2.5), the other quarter of the ellipse being recognisable as a complementary depression in the base of the later intrusive Feature 4.11.16 (4003 see below), located at site grid reference 213.50x 412.50N.

The precise stratigraphic position of these 'Features' is irretrievable. The Former was not visible in the surface of 4.2.5, whereas the latter was but the composite nature of this context divests this 'stratigraphic' relationship of any great significance. They have been interpreted as part of a structural scheme in conjunction with 4.5.3 (4096) on the following grounds:

all three Features are the same distance (c.2.40m) south-east of the line of the rear wall of Structure D's rear wall

the distance between the two unrecorded Features (taken From their centre points) is c.5.00m; that between the north-eastern most of these and 4.5.3 (4096) is c.10.00m. The three Features can be connected by a line running parallel to the rear wall of Structure D at a distance of c.2.40m from it. Using the 5.00m unit of spacing suggested by the surviving features, a posthole midway between 4.7.1 and the Feature at 215.00E-x 407.50N would be expected; (that there is no such Feature is accounted for by the Fact that the zone around this point has been subject to extensive disturbance by the later intrusion 4.11.17 (4008).

In summary, the positions of these Features relative to each other and the rear wall of Structure D have resulted in their being grouped as evidence of a single episode of reconstruction, notwithstanding the absence of detailed stratigraphic information to confirm their contemporaneity.

4.7.2 Context 4113

4113: Mid brown Friable/compact 80% silt 10% Fragments of crushed mortar 10% Flecks and Fragments of roof tile with Frequent Fragments of animal bone moderate small, fragments of charcoal and occasional Fragments of pottery and shell.

4.7.3 Context 4079

4079: Mid brown Friable 80% silt 10% clay 10% small crushed Fragments of limestone with moderate small Fragments of roof tile and occasional small Fragments of charcoal, shell and animal bone.

4.7.2 and 4.7.3 have been interpreted as construction derived deposits. Both directly overlie the Group 4 back land horizon and their mixed character and components suggest demolition and/or construction related activities. This is seen as being appropriate to the major reconstruction, represented by 4.5.3 (4096) etc., as well as to the structure 4.7.5 (4106).

4.7.4 Context 4189

4189: Roughly linear, steep sided north-east/south-west aligned cut; only the south-western side survives, the others having been truncated by the, later disturbance 4.11.17 (4008). The cut breaks sharply from its top edge and apparently similarly sharply to its base, although the character of this is unclear due to the aforementioned truncation. The surviving south-western side is punctured by a series of vertical sided cuts with pointed bases.

The Feature- the function of which is uncertain, although the stake holes suggest a structural purpose – has been attributed to Group 7 on the basis of an apparent association with the construction derived deposit 4.7.3 (4079). This association is suggested by the proximity of the two contexts and the presence of a substantial amount (10% of the entire context) of crushed limestone within 4079. This seems likely to be derived from the cutting of 4.7.4 (4189) through the earlier surface 4.1.2 (4169), thus linking the two events, 4.7.3 (4079) being in part up cast from the excavation of

4.7.4 (4189). If the context is part of a structure, its form and purpose are nonetheless unclear due to its limited survival.

4.7.5 Contexts 4107, 4106, 4057

4107 Rectilinear, vertical sided cut, sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to a flat base. Truncated by later Features on north-eastern and north-western sides.

Construction cut for wall 4106.

4106: Rectilinear deposit of Flat laid roof tiles embedded in 60% light. orange/beige Fine sand 40% crushed mortar, overlain by a single layer-of blocks of limestone and some tiles set in an identical matrix. The matrix also includes occasional small Fragments of charcoal and occasional Fragments of shells. Truncated by later Features on north-eastern and north-western sides.

The remnants of a sleeper wall. Although, as referred to in the description, the structure was truncated on two of its sides the other two appear to be 'real' edges. This suggests that it represents the surviving corner of a building which would appear to have occupied roughly the position of the later cellar {see below 4.11.17 (4008)) as its stratigraphic position insists that it post dates at least some of the 'back land' activity associated with Structure D, it has been attributed to Group 7 on the basis that it represents secondary construction associated with that building, and that this is most credibly seen as part of the major reconstruction represented by this Group.

4057: Deposit of blocks of limestone and gritstone of various sizes up to c.0.35m.x 0.28m including squared blocks and, some with Flattish surfaces, as well as Fragments of roof tile and cobbles, all embedded in mid brown Friable 80% silt 10% clay 10% small Fragments of limestone with occasional Fragments of charcoal, animal bone and shell. Surface of the deposit betrayed traces of burning.

A (?deliberately laid) surface abutting 4106, and presumably Forming, part of the same structure. The soil matrix up described corresponds closely with the underlying 4.7.3 (4079), probably

indicating that the coarse components of 4057 had been pressed into the layers below. The irregularity and extent of the surface argues against it having been a hearth, in spite of the evidence of burning. The question of whether it was internal or external must be considered open although as the comments concerning 4.7.5 (4106), (see above) perhaps slightly favour the latter.

4.7.6 Context 4041

4041: Laminated deposit comprising mid brown Friable 90% silt 10% clay embedded with fragments of limestone, brick and roof tile, including two of the latter set on edge, with flecks of charcoal, sand, limestone and occasional Fragments of animal bone and pot; this overlain by deposit of bright orange/red brown burnt clay.

Apparently represents the use of the surface 4.7.5 (4057) and therefore attributed to a separate series in order to distinguish it from construction whether it was a makeshift hearth or simply represents accumulated deposits subjected to post depositional burning e.g. the site or a demolition associated bonfire is unclear. Similarly its restricted extent may indicate a genuine concentration of burning or simply reflect the truncation of the rest of the deposit by subsequent activity.

4.7.7 Context 4034

4034: Circular cut, vertical aides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to a Flat base. Diameter c.0.60m depth c.0.30m.

A substantial post hole of uncertain Function, this Feature has been attributed to Group 7 as it seems to represent a component of a structure to the rear (i.e north-west) of the south-eastern range of Structure D, a phenomenon only otherwise evidenced in this Group. The precise role of this Feature is however unclear, and there is no unequivocal indication that it did indeed relate directly to the structure represented by 4.7.5 (4106)

GROUP DISCUSSION

This group represents the Final layout and use of Structure D, marking a distinct change in the internal form of the building. The position of the putative timber upright, represented by its robbing cut 4.7.1 (4059), is eccentric in relation to the walls of the north-eastern subdivision of D; it has been interpreted as a single component of a substantial modification of the superstructure of the whole of the south-eastern range of the building, otherwise represented by two comparable Features not recognised as individual contexts during the course of the excavation. This involved the insertion of a series of large, regularly spaced timber uprights down the central axis of the range, dividing it into structural bays of approximately 5 metres and apparently rendering redundant the arcaded structure represented by 4.2.13 (4179) etc.

If accepted, this clearly represents a dramatic change in the structure of the building, implying a major reconstruction involving principles of construction quite dissimilar to those which prevailed in its earlier manifestation whereas previously (see Group 2 Discussion, above) it has been argued that a narrow roof Frame was supported on arcade posts, the wall posts bearing the weight of the Floor Frame and lean-to aisle roofs, it is suggested that the Group 7 uprights would have carried a single span roof Frame, as well as serving (in conjunction with the wall posts) to support the Floor Frame(s).

It seems very likely that the structural changes imply an altered Function For the building as a whole. What this may have been is however impossible to determine, as no diagnostic deposits or internal Features could be unequivocally associated with the modifications. Interestingly, no indication of such alterations were evidenced in the south-western range of Structure D; whilst this may simply reflect the Fact that no deposits below the latest surfaces were investigated, it is probable that substantial late Features such as the Group 7 uprights would have manifested themselves it may therefore be that the two ranges of Structure D were after Group 7 and possibly earlier (eg Group 6) subject to separate development,

with all that implies in terms of possibly differing Function and ownership

GROUP 8

4.8.1 Contexts 4045, 4054, 4044, 4053

4045: Linear, steep sided north-east-south-west aligned cut, breaking sharply from top edge.

Construction cut for wall 4054. Only the north-western element of the wall trench survived. A Flat base can be assumed although as wall 4054 was never removed this was not planned.

4054: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising two parallel and contiguous rows of limestone blocks (up to c.0.40m.x 0.25m.), including a number of accurately squared examples and a few water worn boulders, the interstices packed with smaller fragments of limestone, cobbles and fragments of roof tile. Overall length of the structure c.5.60m within the excavated area.

Foundation for south-eastern wall of Structure F.

This structure is seen as post dating 4.2.24/4.2.25 (4065/4066), in spite of having been originally recorded as stratigraphically below that structure. The reason for this contradiction is that, on initial examination 4.2.94 and 4.2.25 appeared to abut the south-eastern and north-western faces respectively of 4.8.1 (4054).

However, as has been noted above (4.2.24 (4065)), 4.9.94 and 4.9.25 appear to be complementary arcs of a continuous shallow curve which runs through and thus does not in any way reflect the existence of 4.8.1. It therefore seems likely that 4.8.1 is the later feature, and that the 'butt joints' actually represent the point at which the originally continuous wall 4.2.24/4.2.25 was bisected by 4.8.1.

4044: Light brown compact 20% silt 80% clay with occasional flecks of mortar and fragments of roof tile.

Backfill of construction cut 4045.

4053: 'L' shaped structure of irregular fragments of limestone and roof tile bonded with mortar, the north-west/south-east arm

measuring c.0.90m, the north-east/south-west c.0.50m. The structure is located on the Junction of 4.8.1 (4054) with the Group 2 wall 4.9.26 (4102) (see above).

This is interpreted as a levelling course presumably levelling the surfaces of 4.2.26 (4102) and 4.8.1 (4054) in order to carry a sill beam. It is considered likely to have originally extended along the Full length of 4.8.1 (4054), having been subsequently removed by the superimposition of the later wall 4.11.9 (4006). It appears to have been necessary to build the level up to that of the surface of 4.2.26, and to compensate for the subsidence of the south-eastern end of that wall, in order to provide a level platform for the timber Frame. (The likely reasons for this subsidence are considered above – see Group 1 Discussion)

4.8.2 Context 4191

Linear north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising 2-3 courses of Flat laid bricks incorporating small cobbles and Fragments of limestone. Overall length c.0.90m.

Internal partition Filling space between Group 2 post-pads 4.2.29 (4190) and 4.2.30 (4192) at the north-western end of the south-western range of Structure D. Interpreted as being later than rather than contemporary with those pad stones as it abuts the north-eastern Face of 4.2.30, but passes to the southeast of 4.2.29, a slightly awkward arrangement which would not be expected if the structures were contemporary. The similarity of the constructional details of 4.8.2 to those of 4.8.3 (4153) have led to the latter being seen as part of the same episode and thus also postdating the pad stones.

4.8.3 Context 4153

4153 Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising 2-3 courses of bricks, Flat laid in two parallel and contiguous lines incorporating occasional Fragments of roof tile and some cobbles. Overall length (within excavation) c.2.10m.

Internal partition located at the north-western end of the south-western range of Structure D. Extends From the south-western Face of 4.2.30 (4192) to the south-western edge of Area 4. Interpreted as being part of the same episode as 4.8.2 (4191) see above.

4.8.4 Context 4160

4160: Linear. north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising, a single course of roof tiles on the whole intact or large, Fragments, with occasional smaller Fragments of tile and some of brick. Overall length c.1.40m.

Internal partition extending the line of 4.8.3/4.8.2 (4153/4191) to the north-east between walls 4.2.25 (4066) and 4.2.26 (4102), Although slightly dissimilar in terms of the material of which it was constructed, it seems most likely to be contemporary with the other Group 8 partitions, although the possibility that it belonged to the original layout cannot be discounted.

4.8.5 Context 4152.

4152: Rectilinear structure comprising edge set roof tiles bounded by edge set ?bricks/?Floor tiles, total dimensions c.0.90m.x 0.40m. The north-eastern one Fifth of the 'pitched' surface was sealed by a single course of edge set

?bricks/?Floor tiles, which retained to the north-east a deposit of compact sandy clay which was in turn partly embedded in the Fabric of 4.2.26 (4102)

Hearth. Located hard against the inner (south-western) Face of 4.9.26 (4102), it has been attributed to this Group as its position appears more appropriate to the layout of Structure F than that of the putative Structure D 'corridor'. Stratigraphically, however, it could belong to either. Although not fully investigated, it appears that the rear (north-eastern) limit of the hearth was redefined at some point in its life, this being indicated by the course of edge set tiles and packing which overlay part of the original surface, creating a new Functional back edge to the structure. That the packing deposit appeared to be bonded with the Fabric of 4.2.26

suggests that this modification was associated with a more widespread reconstruction of Structure F; beyond this nothing can be said.

4.8.6 Context 4193

4193: Roughly circular, vertical sided cut, diameter c.0.15m, enclosed on three sides by irregular, edge set blocks of limestone.

The position of this Feature on the central north-east/south-west axis of Structure F suggests that it formed the setting for a component of the superstructure of that building. The fact that it punctures the hearth 4.6.2 (4150), and that the latter would therefore seem to belong to an earlier layout, has led to the attribution of that context to Group 6 (see above).

4.3.7 Contexts 4038, 4037.

4038: Rectilinear cut, long axis aligned north-west/south-east, with rounded ends, steep/vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge but much more gradually to a flattish base, resulting in a flattened saucer profile.

?Pit or ?robbed Feature associated with the use of structure F. It has been attributed to this group as it cuts through the edge of the Structure D hearth 4.6.9, and would therefore appear to post date that Structure.

4037: Deposit comprising 80% fragments of roof tile and 90% mortary sand.

Backfill of 4038. Apparently demolition derived this context has been attributed to the same sequence as 4037 due to the absence of an otherwise recognisable demolition horizon for Structure F, it seeming inappropriate to create a new group on the basis of such a restricted deposit.

GROUP 9

4.9.1 Contexts 4119, 4101

4119: Laminated deposit comprising ?compact grey brown 30% silt 70% clay overlain by red brown burnt 30% silt 70% sand, the extent of the deposit delimited by walls 4.2.25 (4066) and 4.2.26 (4102).

Apparently the original Floor surface (or at least a component of the Flooring material) of Structure F on which was deposited material associated with the use of the building.

4101: Laminated deposit comprising layers of burnt mid/dark brown 30% sand 70% silt with frequent small Fragments of coal interleaved with thin lenses of 50% clay 50% sand.

Deposits accumulating during the use of Structure F.

4.9.2 Context 4151

4151: Dark brown (burnt) compact 40% silt 60% sand with moderate Fragments of Fired sand concretion and ?Cu alloy residue.

Material accumulating during the use of Structure F.

4.9.3 Context 4072.

4072: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned ?structure comprising a single course of irregular blocks of limestone (up to c.0.20m.x 0.15m.) with occasional cobbles, embedded in an irregularly shaped deposit of sand with occasional Fragments of mortar.

Abutting the inner (south-western) face of 4.2.26 (4102), this structure also partly impinges on the surface of 4.8.5(4152). Although its Function is unclear, a (localised?) modification to Structure F seems to be indicated.

4.9.4 Context 4154.

4154: Roughly oval depression, sides sloping shallowly from sharply defined top edge to shallowly rounded base.

Depression ?caused by base of upright post.

4.9.5 Context 4155

4155: Cut, rectilinear in plan Form, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and meeting to Form a pointed base.

Stake hole.

4.9.6 Context 4156.

4156: Cut, square in plan Form, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and meeting to Form a pointed base.

Stake hole.

4.9.7 Context 4157.

4157: Cut, rectilinear in plan Form, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and meeting to Form a pointed base.

Stake hole.

4.9.4-4.9.7 Form a cluster of Features located immediately to the south-west of the Group 8 hearth 4.8.5 (4152). The latter three Features comprise a linear arrangement, aligned on a north-east/south-west axis, the larger, shallow Feature 4.9.4 being located slightly to the south-east. Although their Function is obscure, it seems likely that they are associated with the modifications indicated by 4.9.3 (4072).

4.9.8 Context 4071, 4070, 4067

4071: Loose 30% sand 70% silt incorporating much organic material and charcoal, laminated with lenses of sand and mortar.

4070: Yellow white loose 15% mortar 85% sand.

4067: Mid brown compact 40% silt 60% sand with Frequent Flecks of charcoal.

These deposits appear to indicate the resumption of use of the building after the modifications represented by 4.9.3 (4072). All are very localised and restricted in extent, and it does not seem useful to attempt to separate them into different episodes.

4.9.9 Context 4069

4069: Burnt mid brown compacted 40% silt 60% sand with Frequent Flecks of charcoal and concentrations of shells and small animal (Fish) bones.

Closely similar to 4067 (4.9.8) and probably deriving from the same activities.

GROUP 10

4.10.1 Contexts 4097, 4055

4097: Linear, north-south aligned cut, steep vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a blunt base. Square ended, the dimensions of the cut are c.3.40m x 0.60m, with a depth of c.0.35m.

4055: Mid brown loose 40% sand 60% silt with Frequent Fragments of brick, roof tile sand animal bone and some Fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 4097.

4.10.2 Context 4093, 4092

4093: Linear, north-south aligned cut, steep sides breaking sharply From top edge and more gradually to a blunt base which slopes slightly From south to north. The terminii of the Feature are irregular but roughly rounded at the south, more pointed at the north, its dimensions being c.2.80m x 0.40m with a depth of c.0.30m.

4092: Brown loose 20% sand 30% silt 50% clay with Frequent Fragments of roof tile and animal bone and occasional Fragments of pottery, mortar and charcoal.

Backfill of 4093.

4.10.3 Context 4098, 4074

4098: Linear, north-south aligned cut, steep vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a blunt base. Square ended, the cut is c.2.40m in length, its width increasing from

c.0.20m at its northern end to c.0.50m at its southern and its depth being c.0.25m.

4074: Mid brown loose 40% sand 60% silt with Frequent Fragments of animal bone, brick and roof tile and occasional Fragments of shell.

Backfill of 4098.

4.10.4 Contexts 4064, 4056.

4064: Linear, north-south aligned cut, steep sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a blunt base. Square ended at its northern limit, the Feature is truncated to the south. Its surviving length is c.2.20m, its width narrowing from an average of c.0.65m over most of its length to c.0.50m at its southern limit. Depth c.0.40m.

4056: Light brown compact very mixed 20% sand 80% clay with Frequent medium large Fragments of brick and tile and occasional patches and Flecks of mortar and Flecks of charcoal.

Backfill of 4064.

4.10.5 Contexts 4063, 4062

4063: Linear, north-south aligned cut, steep/vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a blunt base. Rounded at both ends in plan Form and c.1.90m in length, the Feature expands abruptly towards the north from a width of c.0.30m to c.0.60m, creating a 'Frying pan' shape. Average depth c.0.30m.

4062: Deposit comprising very loose dark brown 15% clay 35% silt 50% large Fragments of roof tile.

Backfill of 4063.

These Features, 4.10.1, 4.10.2, 4.10.3, 4.10.4 and 4.10.5 form a series of parallel, north-south aligned irregularly spaced Features located in the north-eastern part of Area 4. The 'core' group consists of 4.10.1 4.10.2 and 4.10.3, the Forms of which are closely comparable: 4.10.4 and 4.10.5 (4064) share Fewer Formal similarities, but their linearity, alignment and similar Fills seem

sufficient reason to associate them with the three previously mentioned. As 4.10.2 and 4.10.5 respectively cut across the rear wall and internal area of the south-eastern range of Structure D, it is clear that the Features post date the demise of that building. Their Function is uncertain but it has been suggested that similar parallel trenches, backfilled (as these were) with copious coarse components, were dug to provide drainage for open ground (Aldwark, Castle Garage). This interpretation has been Favoured here.

4.10.6 Context 4068

4068: Linear, east-west aligned structure comprising irregular blocks of limestone and occasionally of sandstone (up to c.0.20m.x 0.15m.) set in a matrix of dark brown 10% silt 90% clay incorporating variously sized Fragments of brick and roof tile and patches of white sandy mortar.

Wall Foundation located in the north-eastern part of Area 4. The relationship of 4.10.8 and 4.10.7 to this structure suggest that it was Freestanding rather than that it Formed part of a building (see below, 4.10.8).

4.10.7 Contexts 4058, 4060, 4047

4058: Light yellow 100% sand with moderate large Fragments of animal bone and medium sized Fragments of brick and roof tile.

Backfill of 4.7.1 (4059).

4060: Dark brown compact 30% clay 70% silt with occasional Flecks of mortar and small Fragments of charcoal brick and roof tile.

Backfill of 4.5.1 (4061)

4058 and 4060 are interpreted as having been deposited as part of the same episode as the extensive overlying deposit 4047, backfilling the voids of Former structural Features.

4047: Mixed deposit consisting mainly of sandy clay loam incorporating small Fragments of tile, mortar, charcoal, animal bone and pottery with a concentration of larger Fragments of roof tile on the surface of the deposit.

An extensive deposit covering much of the area to the south of 4.10.6 (4068) and sealing three (4.10.5 (4063), 4.10.2 (4093) and 4.10.3 (4098)) of the parallel trenches, this has been interpreted as the bedding for a lawn, which the trenches are seen as having been dug to drain. The larger roof tile Fragments which were recorded probably represent material subsequently falling onto the exposed surface of the layer rather than being integral to the deposit. The lawn bedding interpretation is supported by the level surface of the deposit, the small size of the coarse components within it and its considerable degree of compactness (as remembered but not recorded). These characteristics are quite dissimilar from those which would be expected of a soil subjected to horticulture.

4.10.8 Context 4046

4046: 10% yellow brown compact sand, 30% light brown compact loam, 60% grey brown compact clay with occasional Fragments of roof tile and limestone and occasional Flecks of charcoal.

This deposit has been interpreted as being similar in origin to 4.10.7 (4047). However, whilst the latter only marginally overlaps (by a matter of centimetres the southern edge of the wall footing 4.10.6 (4068), 4046 at one point covers the whole of its width, albeit only over a distance of c.0.30m. This might suggest that 4046 (and therefore, 4.10.77) post-date the demolition of 4.10.6.

However, the fact that the area where the latter is transgressed by 4046 is so restricted is interpreted as an indication of the position of a narrow opening in the wall, the contemporary deposit 4046 having accumulated through this space. The absence of any interruption in the wall footing 4.10.6 at the position of the proposed opening need cause no concern, as it would serve no purpose for such a small aperture, and would indeed complicate the construction process. The implication of this interpretation is, of course, that both sides of 4.10.6 were bounded by open ground, and that it was therefore a free standing wall rather than a component of a building (see above). The compactness and level surface of the deposit, as well as the small size and relative infrequency of its coarse components, suggest that it represents the

bedding For a lawn rather than soil subject to horticulture and the repeated introduction of domestic refuse.

4.10.9 Context 4080.

4080: Mixed deposit comprising 10% grit 40% Fragments of roof tile 50% compact mid brown clay with Frequent Flecks of mortar and charcoal and occasional small Fragments of limestone and cobbles.

Backfill of 4.2.19 (4081).

4.10.9 has been attributed to this Group as it is the backfill of a structural component of Structure D. and would therefore seem most likely to have been deposited after that building had been dismantled.

4.10.10 Contexts 4039, 4029.

4039: Square shaped (although partly due to truncation on north-western side) cut, vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to a Flat base. Dimensions c.0.80m.x 0.70m with a depth of c.0.60m.

4029: Mid brown friable 25% clay 25% sand 50% silt with moderate Flecks or mortar, occasional small/medium Fragments of limestone and occasional small Fragments of roof tile, charcoal and shell. The surface of the deposit was more compacted and contained a greater concentration or coarse components than its lower horizons.

Backfill of 4039.

The Function of this Feature is unclear as it clearly postdates (in that it truncates) the Group 7 structure 4.7.5 (4106) it has been attributed to Group 10 as the next episode significantly evidenced in this area of the site. Given the uncertainty of its Function, however, its affiliation is loose.

4.10.11 Context 4053.

4059: Mid brown Friable compact 35% clay 65% silt incorporating patches of rusty brown clay and mustard brown sand with moderate Flecks and Fragments or limestone, charcoal and roof tile,

occasional Fragments of bone, pottery and shell and occasional cobbles. .

Backfill of 4.7.4 (4189)

GROUP DISCUSSION

4.10.6 (4068) clearly represents a structure, possibly quite substantial, on an alignment quite different to that of Structure D. The Fact that both 4.10.6 and the linear features which have been attributed to the same Group transgress the limits of Structure D indicates that they Form a later episode entirely. One problem presents itself in associating the linear Features (4.10.1 etc.) with 4.10.6, in that part of 4.10.5 (4063) is overlain by 4.10.6, suggesting that the parallel trenches belong to a preceding phase of activity. This relationship is, however, marginal, and the conformity of both trenches and wall to a common alignment have resulted in their being seen as contemporary. If the interpretation of 4.10.1 - 4.10.5 as drainage Features (see above) is correct, the implication is that the area to the south of 4.10.6 was open ground in this period, and 4.10.7 (4047) has indeed been seen as possible bedding for a lawn. This contrasts markedly with the previously completely built up street Front and seems to indicate a substantial change in the use of the area. .

Seeing 4.10.6 as a freestanding wall bounded to the north and south by areas of open ground accessible to each other through a narrow gateway suggests a moderately elaborate walled garden. Such a use of space seems to imply the existence nearby of a building of some status with a presumably largely residential purpose.

GROUP 11

4.11.1 Contexts 4033, 4014.

4033: Mid brown Friable 10% sand 30% clay 60% silt with moderate Fe_Fragments, occasional Fragments of charcoal, mortar, animal bone and shell and occasional pebbles.

Backfill of 4.7.7 (4034).

4014: Very mixed dark grey brown Friable 30% sand 30% clay 40% silt` with lenses of yellow brown 30% clay 70% silt and light reddish brown 100% clay the matrix as a whole incorporating Frequent Fragments of roof tile, brick and mortar and occasional pebbles and Fragments of limestone.

Component of an extensive dumped deposit.

4.11.2 Context 4017

4017: Very mixed mid/dark brown 30% sand 30% silt 40% clay incorporating patches of light reddish brown clay and sandy mortar with clusters of small Fragments of limestone and cobbles as well (as occasional thin lenses of organic material. The matrix as a whole incorporates Frequent Fragments of roof tile, brick and mortar with occasional small pebbles and occasional large Fragments of limestone.

4.11.3 Context 4004

4004: Very mixed mid brown/light grey Friable 40% clay 60% silt incorporating some distinguishable lenses, the matrix as a whole moderate medium-sized Fragments of roof tile (with occasional larger examples) and occasional Fragments of mortar and limestone and Flecks of coal and charcoal.

4.11.4 Context 4016.

4016: very mixed mid/dark brown 30% sand 30% silt 40% clay incorporating patches of light reddish brown clay and sandy mortar with clusters of small Fragments of limestone and cobbles as well as occasional thin lenses of organic material. The matrix as a whole incorporates Frequent Fragments of roof tile, brick and mortar with occasional small pebbles and occasional large Fragments of limestone.

4.11.5 Context 4015.

4015: Very mixed mid-dark brown 30% sand 30% silt 40% clay incorporating patches of light reddish brown clay and sandy mortar with clusters of small Fragments of limestone and cobbles, as well

as occasional thin lenses of organic material. The matrix as a whole incorporates Frequent Fragments of roof tile, brick and mortar with occasional small pebbles and occasional large Fragments of limestone.

4.11.6 Context 4161.

4161: Irregular blocks and Fragments of limestone.

Backfill of 4.9.4 (4154).

Attributed to this Group as it Forms a component of Structure F, which may (see Group 8 discussion above) have remained standing throughout the Group 10 changes in land use.

4.11.7 Context 4005.

4005: Very mixed deposit consisting mainly of a c.40% silt 60% clay dump, but incorporating lenses of sand, mortar and silt with some burnt patches, the dumped material itself including Fragments of brick, roof tile and some blocks of limestone.

4.11.1, 4.11.2, 4.11.3, 4.11.4. 4.11.5 and 4.11.7 represent extensive dumped deposits which were rapidly hand excavated. As can be seen from their descriptions they each included several distinguishable deposits, possibly representing more structured episodes (e.g. possible surfaces), which were removed as single blocks due to pressure of time. All however clearly post-dated the earlier structural phases which were examined in more detail, sealing major components of them.

4.11.8 Context 4009.

4009: Light brown compact 10% sand 10% silt 80% clay with Frequent large and medium sized Fragments roof tile and Frequent Flecks of charcoal and mortar with occasional patches of crushed limestone.

4.11.9 Context 4006

4006: Linear north-east-south-west aligned structure comprising regular, mortared courses of bricks. Overall length c.4.00m.

4.11.10 Context 4010.

4010: Linear. north-east-south-west aligned structure comprising a single course of mortared brick bonded in a matrix of 15% sand 15% silt 70% clay. Overall length c.2.20m.

4.11.11 Context 4018.

4018: Linear, north-west/south-east aligned structure comprising large Fragments of brick, roof tile and limestone and some cobbles (3 courses) bonded in a Friable sandy mortar.

Overall length c.2.40m.

4.11.9, 4.11.10 and 4.11.11 are lengths of wall apparently associated with the Final phase of structures on the site, most traces of which were removed by machine as overburden during site preparation.

4.11.12 Context 4007

4007: Linear, north-east/south-west aligned structure comprising a single course of roughly shaped blocks of limestone, the interstices between these major components incorporating Fragments of brick and roof tile and some cobbles as well as some clay and mortar bonding material.

THIS MAY NEED MOVING TO AN EARLIER GROUP

4.11.13 Contexts 4012, 4001

4012: Irregular, cut, roughly 'bottle-shaped' in plan, gradually sloping sides. breaking sharply from top edge and almost, imperceptibly to a rounded base. Long axis aligned approximately north-west/south-east, the Former end being truncated by a later Feature, the latter being beyond the south-eastern limit of the excavation.

4001: Backfill of 4012. No description.

4.11.14 Context 4011.

4011: Rectilinear cut, long axis aligned north-east/south-west, steep/vertical aides breaking sharply from top edge and more gradually to a Flat base. Dimensions c.2.10m.x 0.70m.

Pit cut of uncertain function.

4.11.15 Context 4013.

4013: Irregular but roughly rectilinear cut, long axis aligned north-east/south-west, steep vertical sides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to a Flat base.

Pit cut of uncertain Function.

4.11.16 Context 4003

4003: A complex of vertical sided and Flat based rectilinear trenches. Primarily construction trenches for substantial brick walls which were excavated during site preparation.

4.11.17 Context 4008

4008: Substantial linear north meet/south-east aligned cut, steep aides breaking sharply from top edge and similarly sharply to a Flat base.

Pipe trench cut.

GROUP 12

4.12.1 Context 4000

4000: Unstratified archaeological material recovered during machine observation and preliminary clearance. Contexts 4001 and 4002 are similar material and should be added to this group.

AREA 4 PLANNING ZONE JJ

The level 3 text presented below has been written by Mr W.H Wijayapala under the supervision of Nick Pearson. The area was a discrete shored 3m square in the centre of Area 4 on that part of the site at the corner of Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate (Marked as a black rectangle on Figure 1). The shaft was excavated within a Victorian cellar where the medieval structures which survived in the immediate vicinity had been removed. It was dug in order to determine whether burials were present in the area. In the event this was not the case. Deposits comprised organic accumulation above well preserved stone buildings of apparent Roman date.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 4.1.1 (Figure 3)

Context: 4149

4149: COMPOSITE

No context card was filled in as this was in fact a composite plan showing the lower level that the excavation reached. Work did not continue below this level, as the brief was to remove burials prior to redevelopment. No burials had been encountered here and this level was clearly below where they would have been anticipated. What remained comprised a complex of walls and compacted surfaces. These were of apparent Roman date judging by their general appearance and constituent materials.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT 4.2.1 (Figure 4)

Context: 4163

4163 Wall

Wall, 0.74m in width consisting of regularly shaped limestone facing stones measuring 0.09m in depth and varying in length from 0.15m to 0.22m, bonded with a light yellow brown gritty mortar with a core of mortar cobbles and fine gravel. It was orientated NNW/SSE. It emerged from the north section and was truncated after 1.65m by a robber trench, 4043 4.6.13 which had removed both it and associated features. This intrusion revealed in its base that the Wall foundations were clay, cobbles and limestone.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.2.2 (Figure 5)

Context: 4145

4145 FLOOR

Compact friable yellow brown grey gravel with occasional limestone flags butting the wall 4144. This is a floor surface at the base of robber trench 4043 (4.6.1).

CONTEXT 4.2.3 (Figure 6)

Context: 4144

4144 WALL

Stratigraphically later feature than wall 4163 (4.2.1) and at 90 degrees to it. Built with limestone and mortar and faced to the south but the north side seems unfaced and irregular, perhaps as the result of having been robbed out. Mortar is friable and mid to dark reddish brown in colour. It extends both to the west and to the east of the area excavated.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.2.4 (Figure 7)

Contexts: 4141, 4142, 4143

4141 LEVELLING-DUMP

Compact sticky mid gray brown and reddish sandy silty clay deposit with inclusions of charcoal flecks, small pebbles, cobbles and red clay.

4142 FLOOR

Compact friable light to mid reddish brown sandy gravelly limestone floor surface with occasional small cobbles.

4143 FLOOR

Compact friable reddish brown gravelly sandy floor area with frequent medium size cobbles.

Discussion: These three deposits were adjacent to the eastern side of wall 4163 4.2.1.

CONTEXT 4.2.5 (Figure 8)

Contexts: 4136, 4137

4136 FLOOR

Compact but friable yellow to reddish light brown mortar and limestone floor surface with occasional gravel. Mortar is very sandy.

4137 FLOOR

Compact sticky light to mid grayish brown clay and creamy yellow limestone floor with occasional cobbles.

Discussion This context series comprise two successive floor surfaces. They lie to the west of wall 4163 4.2.1.

CONTEXT 4.2.6 (Figure 9)

Context: 4148

4148 STRUCTURE MAKE-UP

Compact sticky mid reddish brown clay and cobble foundation wall with occasional limestone fragments, running from east to west at right-angles to 4163 (4.2.1). This is apparently the remains of a further robbed-out wall.

CONTEXT 4.2.7 (Figure 10)

Context: 4049

4049 WALL

Limestone and mortar wall along eastern edge of the trench running north to south. The mortar was creamy green to orange red in colour and appears to be prepared with crushed limestone. Fragments of Samian ware were also present.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group is not easy to interpret as it is associated with the composite mass of structural elements which lay below it and were not excavated. This evidence was discussed above in Group 1. It is also difficult to interpret as it is decidedly

incomplete. The various elements clearly extend in every direction from what was an extremely small trench. No other areas in the vicinity were excavated to a comparable level and it is not therefore possible to assess the information spatially. In addition to this the excavator responsible for recording this area did not differentiate between stratigraphic and physical relationships. There was also some later robbing of stone which not only destroyed some of the fabric but also further disjointed the relationships.

As a result of this partial and confusing evidence, there is little point in assessing this evidence other than stating that there was clearly at least two phases of major building constructed in stone with strong and well-built walls and solid and neatly constructed associated floors. These elements clearly belong to buildings of some status and were reasonably well preserved. To order to interpret them more fully, beyond what little evidence is currently available and yet to be studied from finds and pottery from the current project, it will be necessary to re-excavate them at some future date.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 4.3.1 (Figure 11)

Contexts: 4131, 4135

4134 DEMOLITION DUMP

Friable light yellow brown limestone and mortar rubble deposit with occasional brick and tile fragments.

4135 DUMP

Compact sticky mid reddish brown sandy silty clay deposit with occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Discussion: This context series appears to be associated with the demolition of the building formed by walls 4163 (4.2.1) and 4144 4.2.2.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.3.2 (Figure 12)

Contexts: 4133, 4147

4133 FLOOR?

Compact light reddish brown to light brownish grey clay deposit. This deposit was apparently the remains of a clay floor showing traces of burning.

4147 DUMP or LEVELLING

Compact sticky greeny gray to yellowish brown layer silty sand deposit with occasional inclusions of limestone fragments, reddish brown clay and creamy green mortar.

Discussion: This context series was described by the excavator as a levelling up for a floor. There are however no associated structural elements and there is also a slope of approximately 0.20m over the comparatively small width of the trench. It is equally plausible that it is associated with the demolition represented by the previous context-series. The burning could be representative of either occupational or destructional activity.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.3.3 (Figure 13)

Contexts: 4138, 4139, 4140

4138 USE or BACKFILL

Friable mid green to brown clayey silty sand with occasional inclusions of patches of grey clay, charcoal flecks and small pebbles.

4139 PIT LINING

loose sticky black to dark brown decayed wood.

4140 PIT CUT

Roughly ovoid shaped pit with regular sloping sides and curved base. This appears to be the very bottom part of a feature which had been partially truncated and sealed by 4133 4.3.21.

Discussion: This context-series represents the lower part of a truncated wood lined pit. Although no environmental evidence was sampled from this feature the black humic nature of 4138 and the fact that it was deliberately lined with wood may indicate that it served as a cess-pit rather than as a more generalised rubbish

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group brings together a series of disparate contexts comprising a demolition horizon above the buildings discussed in the previous group. It includes at its surface a deposit (4133) which the excavator described as a floor but which may have been little more than a temporary ground surface during this process of demolition. A single pit (4140) was included here as it was partially sealed by (4133) and was at a comparable level. It may also have functioned during this demolition activity

GROUP 4

CONTEXT 4.4.1 (Figure 14)

Contexts: 4126, 4130, 4131, 4132

4126 LEVELLING or DUMP

Mid to dark brownish black clayey sandy silt with moderate inclusions of charcoal flecks and occasional tile and limestone fragments and mortar.

4130 LEVELLING

Compact sticky clayey silty sand deposit with occasional fragments of charcoal and limestone, small cobbles and mortars.

4131 LEVELLING

Compact sticky light to mid greyish brown clayey silt material with occasional charcoal flecks and red brown clay -

4132 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky light to mid greyish brown clayey silty sand deposit with occasional charcoal flecks, limestone fragments, small pebbles and occasional patches of mortar..

Discussion: This context series represents a series of mixed deposits which raised and levelled the ground prior to the construction of the metalled surface discussed below in 4.4.2

CONTEXT SERIES 4.4.2 (Figure 15)

Contexts: 4123 4124 4125

4123 METALLING

Compact friable orange brown and yellow to greeny grey metalled surface with occasional fragments of limestone, tile and small flecks of mortar.

4124 METALLING

Compact friable orange brown and yellow to greeny grey gravel and grit metalled surface with occasional limestone pieces tile fragments and small flocks of mortar. This deposit was very similar to 4123 but was physically separated from it by the upper surface of 4125 (4.4.2) which formed a slight ridge.

4125 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky light to mid reddish brown silty sandy clay with moderate inclusions of charcoal flecks and occasional fragments of burnt daub.

GROUP DISCUSSION: (4.4.2) was part of a yard or path which had been constructed using metalling and gravel over the raised and leveled ground surface formed by (4.4.1).

GROUP 5

CONTEXT 4.5.1(Figure 16)

Contexts: 4048, 4051, 4073, 4076, 4077, 4078, 4089, 4090, 4091, 4099, 4100, 4104, 4105, 4116

4048 DUMP

Compact friable mid to red brown sandy pebble deposit with occasional fragments of limestone and small cobbles.

4051 LEVELLING

Compact friable mid to dark greenish brown clayey silt and sand deposit with moderate small pebbles, occasional small flecks of charcoal and decayed wood.

4073 DUMP

Cluster of lumps of small and medium size limestone with occasional fragments of sandstones. Colour of limestone are varied from greenish cream to greenish-brown.

4076 DLUMP or LEVELLING

Compact sticky dark brownish black sandy and claysy silt with moderate charcoal fragments and occasional fragments of tile, oyster shells, pieces of bricks, bone fragments and pot sherds.

This deposit appears to be an accumulation of domestic waste used as part of a levelling process.

4077 DUMP or LEVELLING

Light to mid greyish brown sandy silt and clay with occasional charcoal flecks and pebbles and small patches of reddish brown iron staining..

4078 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky dark to mid grayish brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional fragments of limestone, in the centre of the trench.

4089 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky dark to mid grayish brown clayey and sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks.

4091 LEVELLING or DUMP

Moderately compact and sticky mid dark grayish brown with occasional charcoal flecks, limestone fragments, pieces of tile and oyster shells.

4099 BACKFILL

Compact sticky dark gray to black sandy clayey silt with occasional small lumps of mortar, with little evidence of bone and pottery. This is the fill of 4104.

4100 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact friable light brown yellowish clayey silty sand with occasional small pebbles, limestone fragments and mortar.

4104 PIT CUT

Pit of a roughly ovoid shallow pit with vertical sides and irregular bottom. Depth is approximately 10cm. The nature of its infilling material suggests that it may have been a cess pit.

4105 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky silty sand with occasional fragments of tile, limestone and cobbles, and small patches of pea grit and mortar. Colour varied from mid greyish-green to mid brown grey, reminiscent of cess. There was a higher than average number of pottery sherds within this deposit.

4116 LEVELLING or DUMP

Compact sticky light to mid grayish brown clayey sandy silt with occasional flecks of charcoal, limestone, oyster shell and large lumps of mortar.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group represents a number of levelling deposits and dumps used to raise the ground (approximately 0.40m) above the metalled surface (4.4.2). A small pit (C4104) intervened in this leveling sequence at the western edge of the excavation area.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 4.6.1 (Figure 17)

Contexts: 4042, 4043

4042 BACKFILL.

Compact friable dark brown to black silty and clayey sand with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional oyster shells and fragments of limestone and domestic waste.

4043 ROBBER CUT

Part of a large cut with straight edge running across the trench from the east to the west section. This contained fill (4042).

GROUP DISCUSSION: This feature has been interpreted as the robber trench for the large stone structures described above in Group 2. It cut through the intervening demolition, metalling and levelling discussed in Groups 3, 4 and 5.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 4.7.1 (Figure 18)

Contexts: 4030, 4040

4030 OTHER: LIMESTONE SURFACE

Roughly circular spread of limestone pieces with occasional fragments of sandstone, millstone grit and cobbles. Limestone pieces are varied in size (5 to 35cm).

4040 DUMP

Compact sticky dark brownish black clayey silt and sand with occasional charcoal flecks, small pebbles and fragments of decayed wood.

Discussion: This context-series represents a build-up approximately 0.40m in thickness, post-dating the robber trench discussed above. It is not clear whether the limestone surface was a deliberately laid feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.7.2 (Figure 1.9)

Contexts: 4031 403

4031 POST PIPE FILL

Loose friable light to mid reddish brown decayed wood. This was the remains of an in-situ, post within cut 4032..

4032 POST-PIPE VOID

Truncated circular post-hole with straight sides, flat base and slightly sloping top edge. Its diameter would indicate that the contained post was reasonably large, measuring approximately 0.40m in diameter.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a bid Id-up above the robber cut discussed above in (4.6.1) Its surface comprises a limestone surface (4130). It is not clear whether this was deliberately laid although its association with the post-hole (4032) may indicate some structural significance.

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 4.8.1 (Figure 20)

Contexts: 4026, 4027, 4028

4026 BUILD-UP

Light reddish brown to dark reddish brown thin layer of dumped woody organic material. Compact in some places, sometimes friable.

4027 DUMP

Compact sticky dark brown clayey silt and sand with occa sinnal limestone fragments and small cobbles.

4028 BUILD UP

Compact sticky dark brown clayey silt and sand with limestone fragments, charcoal flecks and small cobbles.

Discussion: This context series comprises a build-up of discarded organic material approximately 0.30m in thickness. It is cut by the pits discussed below in (4.8.2).

CONTEXT SERIES 4.8.2

Contexts: 4021, 4022, 4023, 4024, 4025, 4035, 4036

4021 BACKFILL

loose friable light to medium reddish brown material with some pieces of wood or vegetable matter. Fill of (4025).

4022 BACKFILL

Compact sticky mid to dark brown clayey sand with occasional limestone fragments, charcoal flecks and small pebbles. Fill of 4024.

4023 PIT-LINING

Loose and friable decayed wood lining or possibly undecayed compressed vegetable matter, with occasional fragments of limestone. Colour rather patchy but ranging from creamy yellow through red to brown.

4024 PIT-CUT

Pit cut which at the south west corner and only partially within the trench. It seems to be approximately rectangular in shape with a sloping section on the northern side, but almost vertical on the eastern side.

The excavator interpreted its primary fill (4024) as a wood lining, but also concedes that it may have been little more than compressed vegetational material within its fill.

4023 PIT-CUT

Pit cut only partially within the excavation area at its north west corner. Regular sides with a sloping bottom. Backfilled with 4021.

4035 BACKFILL

Compact sticky mid to dark orange brown silty sand, organic in nature with occasional charcoal flecks, small pebbles, oyster shells and wood fragments. This is the fill of pit cut 4036.

4036 PIT-CUT

Roughly rectangular pit cut with steep sides and slightly irregular shaped bottom. It measured 1.76m in length, 0.60m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.65m.

CONTEXT SERIES 4.8.3 (Figure 22)

Contexts: 4019 4020

4019 BUILD-UP

Loose friable mid to dark brown and black clayey silt and sand with occasional limestone pieces, small pebbles and charcoal flecks.

4020 BUILD-UP

Loose friable mid to dark brown to black clayey silt and sand with organic material.

Discussion: This context series represents the first activity excavated in this planning zone, although it should not be forgotten that this area was at the base of a Victorian cellar and later deposits are therefore likely to have been truncated. The organic content of the material has led to a general interpretation of this material as garden soil

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a build-up (4.8.1) into which were cut three pits t4.G.21 which were then themselves sealed by a later build-up (4.8.3). The organic nature of both the pit-fills and the build-up deposits indicates that these activities represent a process of disposal of unwanted refuse and perhaps cultivation or gardening.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT 4.9.1 (Figure 23)

Context 4000

4000 Clearance of the surface area for the excavation within the base of the Victorian cellar.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION: On such a simple sequence site as this, very little specific can be added to the discussions which have taken place above, prior to the addition of dating and other evidence.

A number of general points can however be made; the sequence is consistent with what would be expected in this area, namely a apparently multi-phase horizon of well constructed buildings clearly of Roman date, which show a process of demolition and perhaps abandonment prior to their systematic robbing. Above this there was evidence for organic accumulation which would be consistent with cultivation and waste disposal taking place to the rear of a medieval property. The excavation zone was positioned some distance from the street frontages of both Back Swinegate and Little Stonegate. It should be noted that there was no evidence for the continuation of the cemetery of St Benet's Church into this part of the site.

AREA 5

INTRODUCTION

Area 5 was located at the Swinegate Street frontage opposite its junction with Sack-Swinegate (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the Pinal phase of the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains.. Archaeological deposits were recorded above the burial level and the opportunity was taken to continue work below this level. As a result of pressure of time and the need to excavate burials elsewhere on the site it was not possible to inch natural in this area.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT 5.1.1

CONTEXT: 5083

5083: WALL

Wall aligned approximately NE/SW measuring 0.44m in width and extending beyond either end of the area excavated. Upper courses of the feature were made of roughly shaped and faced blocks of limestone, bonded with yellowy/white mortar. It was set on a plinth or offset foundational course which measured up to 0.80m in width. This was more evident on the western side of the Wall. On the eastern side it became narrower and merged with the upper part of the wall towards the northern end of the trench. The plinth itself was bonded with a mixture of clay and mortar.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The stratigraphic relationship of this wall to the surrounding material is unknown as it was not possible in the time, available to excavate to the level of its foundation cut. The offset course was apparently an above ground feature as no cut was observed at its top level. There was also no evidence that the feature had been robbed out below the contemporary ground level. The small size of the limestone blocks with which it was made would probably

explain this. It is quite clear from its constructional characteristics and in the relationship of its orientation to other walls on the site that this feature is of Roman date. It will be further discussed in the Site Wide summary at the end of the report.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT 5.2.1

CONTEXTS: 5079, 5081, 5084

5079: FLOOR

Compact grey-green deposit: Silt 80%, sand 20% with frequent mortar flecks. Where the context is closest to the wall its colour is deep brown-orange as though affected by extreme heat.

5081: DUMP DEPOSIT

Orange-red-brown compact deposit: Clay 60%, silt 40% with moderate plaster, occasional small pebbles and limestone fragments.

5084: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact orange/brown deposit: 60% clay 40% silt. This was not excavated and represents the maximum depth reached in trench 5.

Discussion: This context series Includes the context number (5084) assigned to the lower limit of excavation within the area. The remaining two deposits, (5081) and (5079) have been interpreted as levelling tip and a floor associated with wall (5083) (5.1.1). Due to the fact that the archaeological sequence was not fully excavated here, this cannot be stated to be the primary floor surface associated with this wall. Its plan shows it to have built-up against the offset course and its interpretation is rather dependent on this feature. If this is seen as foundational (despite the apparent lack of a cut) then (5079) may have been mistakenly identified as a floor by the excavator. However if the offset course is an above-ground feature then this interpretation would remain valid.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.2.2

CONTEXT: 5078

5078: FLOOR

Black/mid grey friable deposit: 50% clay, 50% ash, with occasional iron fragments.

Discussion: As with (5079) this deposit is associated with the offset course of wall £50832. In this case it lips over the offset at the northern end of the trench and therefore might perhaps be more convincingly interpreted as the primary floor. The presence of the substantial quantity of ash, coupled with the iron fragments might even indicate that this was a wooden floor, suspended from the offset course.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.2.3

CONTEXT: 5076

5076: FLOOR

loosely compacted deposit ranging in colour from light to dark grey: 80% coarse sand, 10% clay, 10% pebbles, with occasional fragments of sandstone and charcoal fleck.

Discussion: This deposit was interpreted as a further floor. It was certainly level but the lack of compaction may indicate that it was a levelling deposit for the next floor in the sequence rather than having had this function itself.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.2.4

CONTEXT: 5075

5075: FLOOR

Yellow white deposit: Crushed stone and mortar 80%, pebbles 10%, limestone fragments (5-15cm) 10%.

CONTEXT 5.2.5

CONTEXTS: 5072, 5073

5072: FLOOR

Compact yellow mortar 100%

5073: FLOOR

Friable green-black deposit: silt 70%, sand 30% with frequent charcoal fleck.

Discussion: These two deposits continue the series of floor type deposits associated with wall (5083). (5072) is only present in a narrow strip immediately adjacent to the wall and (5073) was described by the excavator alternately as a build up deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.2.6

CONTEXTS: 5065, 5066, 5069, 5070

5065: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable green/brown deposit: silt 25%, clay 35%, white plaster-mortar 40%.

5066: BEAM SLOT

Linear cut with rounded northern end. Top edge sharp, sides steep to vertical, bottom edge abrupt. Bottom flat, except for northern terminus which is shallowly stepped down.

5069: FLOOR

100% compacted bright orange-red crushed brick-tile.

5070: DUMP or LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mottled pale grey deposit: clay 10%, silt 30%, sand 60%, with occasional fragments of bone, tile and charcoal.

Discussion: These deposits represent a floor (5069) and a levelling deposit (5070) to either side of a beam slot (5066) 0.40m in length extending to the south of the area excavated. It ran parallel to and

was just in excess of 1m to the west of wall (5083). It has been interpreted as the robbed out foundation for a possible internal timber division or partition associated with the use of the building. It is noteworthy that the deposits associated with the beam slot slope slightly downwards towards the cut for the beam slot.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This Group represents a series of floors and levelling deposits associated with the use of wall (5083) (5.1.1) in addition to a single beam slot interpreted as an internal division within the interior of the building.

GROUP 3

CONTEXTS 5.3.1

CONTEXTS: 5063, 5067, 5068, 5071, 5074, 5077, 5080, 5082, 5085

5063: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable deposit: 40% clay, 40% coarse sand, with 10% small pebbles and a 10% lens of mid brown clay.

5067: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable deposit, mid to pale cream in colour: clay 10% silt 30%, sand 60% with moderate red clay lumps, occasional pebbles, tile and limestone fragments.

5068: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable deposit, yellow brown in colour: 20% charcoal, 40% sand, 40% clay with occasional small pebbles.

5071: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Two lenses. Compact light brown deposit: 60% clay, 20% friable white brown mortar, 20% clay with moderate plaster (some painted) and small pebbles.

5074: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Compact red-brown deposit: 90% clay, 10% sand with frequent painted plaster (red-green).

5077: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Friable green brown deposit: 60%clay, 40% silt with frequent plaster.

5080. DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Compact red/brown deposit: 90% clay, 10 silt with frequent plaster fragments.

5082: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable green\brown deposit clay 80% silt 20%.

5085: OCCUPATION DERIVED DEPOSIT

Not excavated. Number simply given to take levels at the point that excavation ceased.

Discussion: This context series is an accumulation of mixed material excavated from a narrow strip only about 0.40m in width between the eastern section of the trench and wall (5083) (5.1.1). It includes the deposit (5085) at the base level of excavation which was not excavated and described in full and cannot therefore be interpreted. The nature of this build-up is unclear. It is clearly associated with the wall (5083) and has built up against it. It is very mixed in nature as can be seen from the above descriptions. The lack of floor levels means that it is possible to interpret it as an external build-up either contemporary with the use or later than the use of the building. The presence of much painted-plaster is certainly evidence for the demolition of a building in the vicinity, even if it is not this particular one. There is however a further interpretation that should not be overlooked. There is the possibility that some or all of the deposits in this context series could be within a construction cut, the eastern edge of which is outside the area excavated. This is however considered unlikely as there was no corresponding edge to the opposite side of the cut. This would have fallen within the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.3.2

CONTEXTS: 5062, 5064

5062: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Friable deposit: 75% plaster, 15% mid/brown clay, 10% mid brown sand with occasional limestone and tile fragments, pebbles and charcoal flecks.

5064: DUMP DEPOSIT

Slightly reddish-brown friable deposit: silt 40%, clay 60% with moderate mortar and charcoal flecks.

Discussion: These two deposits have built up against wall (5083) and were clearly dumped deposits. Their mixed nature and the pretence of a large quantity of plaster in (5062) would indicate that they are associated with the demolition of the building.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.3.3

CONTEXT: 5061

5061: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

Compact mid grey/green deposit silt 25% clay 75% with frequent painted plaster fragments, occasional charcoal flecks, tile fragments and pebbles.

Discussion: This deposit spanned the whole of the trench and was the first deposit in the sequence to physically seal the top of wall (5083). The presence of a large quantity of plaster fragments in its matrix would indicate that it was derived from a demolition process likely to have been associated with the wall that it sealed.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.3.4

CONTEXTS: 5059, 5060

5052: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid/ brown deposit: 40% clay 20% coarse sand or pebbles, 40% sand with occasional large tile fragments, small cobbles and moderate small limestone fragments.

5060: PIT CUT

Pit cut with gradual top edge, gently sloping sides and a rounded bottom. Sub rectangular in shape approximately 0.50m in diameter. Very shallow only 0.07m in depth.

Discussion: This feature was very shallow, little more than a scoop and does little to suggest the presence of any activity other than the demolition that is represented by the remainder of the material in this Group.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.3.5

CONTEXT: 5058

5058: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable pale grey brown deposit silt 20%, clay 10%, sand 70% with frequent limestone fragments, moderate cobbles, animal bone and tile.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The disparate materials included in this Group comprise deposits which were found to the east of wall (5083) and also some which sealed it after it had been partially robbed. Included within the sequence is a single shallow cut feature. The nature of this build-tip is demolitional and it is suggested that they grew up in what is the area external to the building and may have been laid down after it went out of use, although there is no stratigraphic information which would prevent any of them from being contemporary with its use. Indeed there is the possibility that some are in fact within the fill of its construction cut.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 5.4.1

CONTEXT: 5057

5057: OTHER DEPOSIT

Compact to loose deposit: 50% small-medium pebbles, 35% reddish brown sand, 15% gravel with occasional small tile and animal bone fragments.

Discussion: The excavator had some difficulty with the interpretation of this deposit as its compaction ranged from loose to compact across the trench. He was however inclined to the opinion that it was a deliberately maintained metalled surface. It covered the whole of the trench so it is not possible to see it in relation to other features. There was a marked ridge along its surface which represents settlement to either side of the earlier wall (5083).

CONTEXT SERIES 5.4.2

CONTEXTS: 5055, 5056

5055: DUMP DEPOSIT

Pale brown friable deposit: silt 20% sand 80%, with occasional pebbles (more frequent towards the bottom), cobbles and small tile fragments.

5056: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact pale grey brown deposit: silt 15% sand 85%, with occasional small fragments of tile and sealed by 0.03m thick compact iron pan.

Discussion: These two dumped deposits were placed above (5.4.1) to overcome the marked slumping effect which was brought about by the presence of the underlying wall (5083). They created a level surface for the later deliberately laid surfaces in (5.4.3)

CONTEXT SERIES 5.4.3

CONTEXTS: 5051, 5052, 5053, 5054

5051: OTHER DEPOSIT

Mixed lenses of 30% compact brown mortar, 30% compact greeny brown pebbles and 40% friable pink coarse sand.

5052: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable mid greenish brown deposit: sand 30%, silt 30%, small pebbles 40% with occasional tile and bone fragments.

5053: POST HOLE CUT

Elliptical shaped cut: top edge sharp, sides vertical, sharp bottom edge and flat base.

5054: OTHER DEPOSIT

Light brown friable deposit: 10% clay, 60% pebbles, 30% sand with moderate tile fragments.

Discussion: (5051) and (5054) were two thin deposits to either side of the ridge described in 5.4.13. The impression given is that these were further deliberately laid surfaces above the dumped material described in the previous context series. However in the absence of any corroborative evidence this must remain a very tentative interpretation. (5053) was a small ovoid post hole with a maximum N/S diameter of 0.32m, cutting (5054). It was not related to any other feature within the excavation area. It was backfilled with (5052).

GROUP DISCUSSION: This Group brought together two succeeding phases of pebbled surfaces, the nature and compaction of which would suggest that they had been deliberately laid. They slumped into the voids created in the west central part of the trench by the presence of wall (5083) below and some material had been dumped in order to level the area for the second putative surface. A single post-hole has also been included in this Group.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 5.5.1

CONTEXTS: 5048, 5049, 5050

5048: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact-friable dark grey-brown deposit: 40% clay; 20% sand; 10% silt; dark green lens of sand 15% silt 15%, with moderate chalk flecks and occasional fragments of decayed timber post.

5049: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black/brown deposit: 50% sand 50% clay with frequent mortar flecks and moderate limestone fragments.

5050: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown-dark grey deposit: 60% sand, 40% silt with occasional tile, limestone and bone fragments with moderate mortar fleck.

Discussion: This context series comprised a mass of mixed material containing much demolition material and may represent a deliberate attempt at raising the ground surface.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.5.2

CONTEXTS: 5044, 5045, 5046, 5047

5044: PACKING DEPOSIT

Dark grey friable deposit: clay 50%, silt 40%, sand 10% with occasional pebbles.

5045: POST HOLE CUT

Sub-circular cut with a maximum E/W diameter of 0.32m, top-edge sharp, sides moderately sloped, bottom-flat breaking gently from sides.

5046: PACKING DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey brown deposit: 40% sand, 40% clay, 20% coarse grained sand with occasional tile fragments,

5047: POST HOLE CUT

Roughly circular cut 0.22m in diameter with a gradual break of slope from tipper edge and with a concave base.

Discussion (5045) and (5047) were two post-holes of similar dimensions cut into the taper surface of (5048). They were clearly related but had no obvious structural significance.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group contained no obvious structural features other than the two related post holes. The remainder of the material apparently served to raise the ground surface.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 5.6.1

CONTEXT: 5040

5040: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey brown deposit: sand 15%, clay 25%, silt 60% with moderate mortar and plaster flecks, occasional lime-stone, sandstone, tile and brick fragments and large cobbles.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This deposit was much thicker than the deposits that had preceded it, (0.40m). It was however very mixed and it is not possible therefore to be precise about the nature of the build up that it represents. Its real significance is that it lies at the interface of the previous combination of deliberately laid surfaces, demolition and build up and the use of the area as a cemetery.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 5.7.1

CONTEXTS: 5037, 5038, 5039

5037: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid-dark grey brown deposit: flecked sand 30%, clay 15%, silt 55% with occasional small limestone fragments, medium brick and tile fragments, mortar and plaster flecks and small mortar fragments.

5038: SKELETON

Supine adult inhumation, orientated NE/SW with the head at the south-western end. Bone in poor condition. Partly removed by later burials. Right hand on thigh. Some evidence of disease (arthritis) to Joint of left knee.

5039: GRAVE CUT

Rectangular cut orientated NE-SW, bending at 45° at north end. Sides break sharply from surface, fall sharply to rounded bottom edge, base uneven.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.7.2

CONTEXTS: 5041, 5042, 5043

5041: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: sand 40%, silt 60% with occasional mortar flecks, limestone, brick and tile fragments and small pebbles.

5042: SKELETON

Supine juvenile inhumation, orientated NNE-SSW, facing north. Bone in fair condition. 90% of skull, both legs, upper right side missing. Both hands on pelvis but not crossed.

5043: GRAVE CUT

Rectilinear cut oriented NE-SW. South end truncated by shoring, northern end by later grave cut. Western side breaks sharply from

surface falling vertically to a rounded bottom edge. Eastern edge breaks sharply, falling vertically to a slight lip and then gently to the bottom edge. Base slightly rounded and uneven with a slight step up to the south.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Two burials lying side by side cutting (5040) 5.6.12 and themselves cut by later burials (see below).

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 5.8.1

CONTEXT: 5035

5035: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact to friable mid-dark grey/brown deposit: 60% sand, 20% silt, 20% clay with occasional limestone and tile fragment and moderate gravel.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This is an important deposit as it seals the two burials discussed above and is itself cut by a number of later burials. It is clear that at least in this area there was pressure of space which resulted in the need for intercutting. Elsewhere on the site this was not necessarily the case and it will be an important factor in later site-wide analysis of the material in elucidating the possible limits and extent of the cemetery.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.1

CONTEXTS 5003, 5006, 5007

5003: SKELETON

Supine inhumation of adult female, orientated NE/SW. Articulation good, preservation good, left humerus missing. Both feet outside the limit of the excavation. There was a concretion present over most of the body which may have been caused by the decay of a burial shroud. This individual was not within a coffin.

5006: GRAVE CUT

Roughly rectangular cut, gently sloping sides, orientation NE\SW, irregular bottom, truncated at north by section and SW by another grave cut.

5007: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Medium to dark brown-grey friable-compact deposit: sand 60% silt 20% clay 20% with occasional small cobbles, limestone and tile fragments and gravel.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.2

CONTEXT: 5026

5026: SKELETON

Articulated tibia and foot, orientated NNE-SSW, with the foot at the NNE end. Majority of foot-ankle bones present though in poor condition. Skeleton truncated by shoring. This burial was badly truncated by later features and also largely outside the area excavated. However it was apparently not placed within a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.3

CONTEXTS 5012, 5022, 5023

5012: SKELETON

Extended supine adult skeleton with hands over pelvis, orientation facing NNE. Bone condition good, articulation good. Left humerus unexcavated in east-facing section, both feet and lower leg bones remaining in south-facing section.

Not within a coffin but material around the body indicated the

5025 GRAVE CUT

Rectilinear shape, orientated NE-SW. This feature extended to the south of the area excavated and had also been disturbed by the insertion of a later burial (5021) (5.9.6). There was clear evidence that the upper levels of the cut had been truncated.

Discussion: As with other burials in this group there was clear evidence for later disturbance not only further burials but also by the change of land use to a metalled surface. In this case that evidence was at its most stark. It appeared that the skeleton had been removed in its entirety.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.6

CONTEXTS: 5005, 5008, 5009, 5021

5005: SKELETON

Supine adult inhumation facing NE/SW in fair condition. 90% lower arm and right leg truncated by shoring sheets. The right hand also appears to be missing due to a stone that had been pressed through the coffin lid. The hands were however crossed over the pelvis and the bones may be mixed. Only the right side of the pelvis remains and was found lying upside down. The skull was badly damaged in the facial area, with the lower jaw detached. It appears that the body may have been lying along the side of the coffin.

5008: OTHER DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: sand 40% silt 60% with a moderate small cobbles, occasional large limestone fragments, and medium tile, brick and limestone fragments.

There is no grave-fill deposit assigned to the burial. The excavator was inclined to the opinion that this material had slumped into the cut after the coffin had rotted and collapsed.

5009: COFFIN

Friable mid to dark brown decayed wood. Coffin rectangular in plan and section orientated NNE-SSW, truncated by N & W facing sections. Its lid was very badly decayed and was not preserved. The base was very thin and the underlying contents were showing through in places. Part of the base was removed by later disturbance and the eastern side was outside the shoring. Damage had been caused by the weight of material above.

5021 GRAVE CUT

Rectangular in plan and section. Sides break sharply from surface, fall vertically to sharp bottom edge leading to flat uneven base falling gently to the Southern edge partially truncated by shoring as is the eastern edge. It is also partially disturbed by later activity.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.7

CONTEXT: 5004

5004: SKELETON

Lower legs(below knee)and feet bones only, cut by construction cut for brick wall in SW corner of trench. Orientated NE/SW with feet to the NE

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.8

CONTEXTS: 5030, 5031, 5032, 5033, 5034, 5036

5030: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid to dark greyish brown, friable to compact deposit: Sand 70%, silt 15%, clay 15% with occasional limestone, tile, gravel and stone fragments.

5031: COFFIN

Friable to compact mid dark brown decayed wood. Orientated north-east/south-west sloping to the south-east. North and south sides also dip towards the centre. Western edge very thin, becoming thicker to the east where there is a slight chamfer. Truncated by the shoring to the south and (5019) to the north. coffin lid

5032: SKELETON

Supine adult inhumation orientated north-east/south-west, head to south-west facing north-east. 90% bones present in poor to fair condition. Arms down each side hands crossed over pelvis. Feet side by side, left slightly overlapping the right and part covered by collapsed coffin sides. Skull in poor condition squashed flat and

slightly disturbed at top by shoring sheets. 75% of ribs absent, vertebrae in very poor condition.

5033: COFFIN

Friable to compact mid to dark brown decayed wood. In poor condition, sides collapsed inwards on west, north and north-east sides. Truncated by the shoring to the south. Base is thicker on the west getting thinner and more decayed to the east.

5034: GRAVE CUT

Rectilinear in shape orientated north-east/south-west. Truncated to south by shoring sheets. South-west and south-east edges break sharply from surface falling sharply to a rounded bottom edge. N. NE, NW sides break gently, falling gently to a indiscernible bottom edge. Bottom slopes down to the south.

5036: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid to dark grey deposit: clay 1.5%, sand 20%, silt 65% with occasional small decayed wood flecks, mortar/plaster flecks, medium-small limestone fragments and small brick, tile and sandstone fragments.

Discussion: When this burial took place an earlier grave (5006) was disturbed. It seems that prior to the insertion of this coffin t50331, the previous burial was sealed by the deposition of (5036). The burial then took place normally.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.9

CONTEXTS: 5015, 5016, 5017, 5018, 5019

5015: COFFIN LID

Light to medium brownish red, decayed and friable wood. Orientation North-east/South-west. The two ends are raised higher than the centre as a result of differential sinking. The western side was decayed and parts of the legs and pelvis were visible.

5016: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid to dark grey/brown friable deposit: sand 60%, silt 20%, clay 20% with occasional small cobbles, pebbles, tile and limestone fragments.

5017. SKELETON

Supine skeleton, orientation North-east/-South-east. Articulation quite good. Preservation fair. Female adolescent. Jaw and spine badly decayed.

5018. COFFIN

Rectangular wooden coffin oriented NE-SW truncated by north edge of section. Wood in poor state of preservation

5019: GRAVE CUT

Grave cut, roughly rectangular in shape evenly sloping sides, base slopes away to the south.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.9.10

CONTEXT: 5010

5010: SKELETON

Isolated skull. No visible signs of grave or coffin, or cut, Found lying on left side with the front of skull facing north.

Discussion: An isolated skull presumably resulting from the disturbance of an earlier grave by the insertion of a later burial. It lay on the edge of grave cut (5034) (5.9.8) and may have been disturbed when this was cut.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group represents several burials laid out close together in some density. The pressure for space was evident in that there was considerable intercutting within this group which itself sealed those discussed above in Group 7. There was a similarity of orientation and layout although it was clear that some were in coffins whilst others were placed in shrouds within the cut.

CONTEXT 5.10.1

CONTEXT: 5002

5002: USE DEPOSIT

Layer of 70% cobbles, (ranging from 0.015m to 0.06m although the majority were under 0.05m) set in a matrix of dark, grey sand 10%, silt 20% with occasional small cobbles, tile and limestone fragments and some small pieces of wood.

Discussion: This was a very important deposit. It spanned the whole of the trench although it was patchy in nature. It was clearly a deliberately laid metalled surface sealing the burials discussed in the previous Group. It represents the demise of the cemetery and marks a clear change of land use in the area

CONTEXT 5.10.2

CONTEXTS: 5027, 5028, 5029

5027: POST

Timber post, roughly square in section, up to 0.16m width. Top part extremely decayed.

5028: PACKING DEPOSIT

Very compact but quite friable mid greyish/brown deposit:sand 70%, silt 15%, clay 15% with occasional small limestone thips, limestone and tile fragments and gravel.

5029: POST HOLE CUT

Post-hole cut, roughly circular in plank Sides almost vertical with slightly rounded, almost flat base. 0.50m in diameter

Discussion: This was an isolated post, at leant within this relatively small excavation area. It was driven in to the metalled surface discussed above and may represent a structural division or indeed a property boundary associated with the above-mentioned change in land use.

CONTEXT SERIES 5.10.3

CONTEXT: 5001

5001: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark grey/brown deposit: clay 20%, silt 80%, with moderate slag including fragments of mould, occasional wood fragments: shell, bone, brick, tile and limestone fragments. There was a patch of very compact brown material approximately 1m in diameter in the west of the trench and also a 1.50m length of fence, otherwise unrecorded just above the cobbles of 5002.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The metalled surface and related post-hole and sicker fence which form this group are a clear change from the burials that were taking place here previously and might be evidence for not only a change of land use but also for the deliberate subdivision of the area into properties. The presence in the build-up above the metalled surface of slag and mould fragments is also perhaps evidence for economic activities which have been introduced onto the site with this change in use.

CONTEXT 5.11.1

CONTEXT: 5000

5000: OTHER DEPOSIT

This was the top 2m of soil removed by machine including a NE/SW brick cellar wall 0.50m in from W side of the trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Modern material removed by machine and also earlier material which post-dated the metalled surface above the burial level. The brief here was not to carry out a full archaeological excavation but to remove human skeletal remains in as fast and as efficient a manner as possible.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION:

This area was one of those excavated during the last phase of activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developer's behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was

secondary to this consideration. To achieve that end therefore the topmost two meters were removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than mixed soils were removed. There was no evidence within this trench for well constructed buildings of medieval date standing at the Swinegate street frontage. If such buildings had been of timber on post-pad supports it is unlikely that such ephemeral evidence would have been seen. The archaeological sequence was truncated at the lower levels in that once it was clear that the burials had been fully removed no further excavation took place. This means that although a wall of apparent Roman date was seen and recorded, it was not possible to establish its position within the stratigraphic sequence as its foundation levels were not reached. However a number of surfaces were encountered to either side of this wall from which it was possible to establish the interior and the exterior of the building. It was also clear that there were a number of demolition deposits above the use deposits. At this stage it is not possible to assign a date for the use and demolition of this building but it may be possible to say more in the site-wide discussion at the end of this report) about both its date and its relationship to other similar features which were recorded elsewhere on the site.

The burials that were encountered in this trench were amongst the most dense spatially that were found on the site and also could be divided into two phases separated by a build-up deposit. The majority of the burials were in the later group and there was a considerable amount of intercutting and disturbance of earlier burials.

There was clear evidence that the cemetery went out of use and was covered over by a metalled surface. The shallowness of some of the cuts and the disturbance of some of the skeletons by the insertion of this layer would also indicate that the site had been levelled at the time that this surface was created. There was a single post and a length of wattle fence in association with the metalled surface which may indicate that what was once an open burial ground was being divided into separate areas or properties. There is evidence

that this was happening elsewhere on the site and that the whole area had been subject to redevelopment and a change of land use.

This evidence may also be of importance when considering the laying out of the streets in the vicinity in the Medieval Period. This topic will be considered later in the site-wide analysis of the material. There was also evidence for metal-working associated with this change of land use which may be further evidence for a change in the kinds of activities that began to take place on the site after the cemetery had been closed and the site redeveloped.

AREA 6

INTRODUCTION

Area 6 was located at the Swinegate Street frontage opposite its junction with Back-Swinegate (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the final phase of archaeological work on the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains on behalf of the developer. In the event no burials were found within this trench and once a level had been reached which was sufficiently lower than the burial level on the remainder of the site to be sure that there were none present here, excavation work ceased. Some limited archaeological recording took place whilst hand removal of these deposits was being carried out.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT 6.1.1

CONTEXT: 6077

6077: BUILD UP Deposit

Dark grey brown compact deposit: silt 40% clay 60% with moderate tile and limestone and occasional opus signinum, bone and shell fragments and cobbles.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This deposit was described by the excavator as a build-up of cultivated soil. It was the lowest level, reached within this excavation area. The stone fragments were concentrated on the NW side of the deposit and there was a slight slope down to the SE.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT 6.2.1

CONTEXTS: 6073, 6074

6073: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid green/grey deposit: 70% sand, 30% silt with moderate medium limestone fragments.

6074: PIT CUT

Squarish cut approximately 0.40m across, sides break sharply from surface, moderate gradient to blunt bottom edge, slightly concave base.

Discussion: Small pit, cut into (6077) (6.1.12_. There is no definite function for this feature although its proximity to a post-hole (6078) (6.2.2) would imply a similar function.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.2.2

CONTEXTS: 6070, 6076, 6078

6070: POST

Substantial timber post, 0.20m in diameter standing up to 1m in height. This post was not removed at the end of the excavation as it was driven down into the underlying deposits and could not readily be removed.

6076: PACKING DEPOSIT

Friable grey deposit: 70% silt, 30% clay with occasional medium limestone fragments, small pebbles and small tile fragments.

6078: POST HOLE CUT

Ovoid cut for post 6070, approximately 0.35m in diameter. Sides break sharply from surface, fall steeply, post is driven through base of cut.

Discussion: This context series is the only example within this group of posts/stakes which is clearly within a cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.2.3

CONTEXTS: 6079, 6080, 6081, 6082, 6083

6079: POST

Plank shaped piece of timber 0.35m in length, 0.15m in width, with a thickness of 0.06m, placed upright in ground.

6080: POST

Upright round sectioned timber driven into ground, with a tapered end, 0.47m long and 0.09m in diameter

6081: POST

Circular vertical timber post, approx 0.20m in diameter and 0.40m in height.

6082: POST

Upright timber post 0.40w in length and 0.08m in diameter with a tapered base.

6083: POST

Vertical timber post of circular section.

Discussion: This context series formed a small huddle of driven stakes or posts close to the western section of the trench with a single outlier (6082). They were related to the posts in (6.2.4) with which they formed a fence line orientated approximately NE/SW.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.2.4

CONTEXTS: 6044, 6045, 6046, 6047, 6048, 6049, 6050

6044: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Thin, very badly rotted plank stump.

6045: POST

Timber upright post, 0.73m long, 0.08m diameter with tapered base.

6046: POST

Upright post 0.65m long, 0.14m diameter with tapered end.

6047: POST

Timber post rounded in section, 0.49m long, 0.10m in diameter, end is tapered to a point.

6048: POST

upright timber post 0.10m diameter, length not known as not removed.

6049: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Vertically set wooden plank, rectangular in section tapered to a point at bottom.

6050: POST

Truncated post of sub-circular section. Very little remaining other than tapered point.

Discussion: The timbers in this context series formed part of the same fence-alignment as that discussed above in (6.2.3). They are in a separate series as these examples were sealed by a different deposit. (6.2.3) and (6.2.4) together formed a feature which was similar in nature and timber size to the fence line in (6.2.6) and were approximately 1.80m to its west. There was no other clear relationship and they did not have any other structural significance other than that they may have been contemporary with the metalled surface (6.2.6).

CONTEXT SERIES 6.2.5

CONTEXT: 6075

6075: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Sub rectangular timber post up to 0.30m in width and in excess of 0.45m in height, truncated by shoring. Continued down into underlying deposits and was not excavated.

Discussion: A single driven post with no obvious association with any other structural feature but lying 0.80m to the east of fence line (6.2.5).

CONTEXT SERIES 6.2.6

CONTEXTS: 6056, 6057, 6058, 6059, 6060, 6061, 6062, 6063, 6064, 6065, 6066, 6067, 6068, 6069, 6071, 6072

6056: POST

Upright timber post 0.38m long by 0.07m in diameter.

6057: POST

Vertical post, circular section approx 0.10m diameter and in excess of 0.45m in height. Not excavated.

6058: POST

Upright timber post 0.37m long by 0.09m in diameter with tapered end.

6059: POST

upright timber post 0.38m long by 0.10m in diameter with tapered end.

6060: POST

Vertical post 0.08m in diameter, circular in section.

6061: POST

Vertical timber post, circular in section with a diameter of 0.07m.

6062: POST

Vertical timber post 0.33m long, 0.10m in diameter cut to a pointed base.

6063: POST

Vertical timber post. Dimensions not recorded as it disintegrated on excavation.

6064: POST

Vertical timber post. Dimensions not recorded as it disintegrated on excavation.

6065: POST

Vertical timber post. Dimensions not recorded as it disintegrated on excavation.

6066: POST

Upright round sectioned post, 0.34m long, 0.08m in diameter, with tapered end.

6067: POST

Vertical timber post 0.40m long, 0.10m in diameter. Base cut to squared point.

6068: POST

Round sectioned post set upright, 0.46m long, 0.11m in diameter, tapered to base.

6069: POST

Circular sectioned post 0.55m long, 0.09m in diameter, tapered base.

6071: POST

Vertical timber post, 0.20m in diameter. Circular section. 0.50m in length.

6072: POST

Vertical timber post.

Discussion: This context series comprised a fence line running NE/SW across the line of the trench. It formed a very clear alignment but there was no evidence for any wicker adhering.

CONTEXT 6.2.7

CONTEXT 6055

6055: USE DEPOSIT

Layer of limestone fragments 60%, cobbles 20%, pebbles 20%. Size of stones varies, larger limestone in west, small pebbles in centre, larger cobbles to east.

Discussion This deposit spanned the full width of the trench and been elsewhere on the site in trenches 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8. It may represent a metalled surface although the opinion of the excavator was that it was too roughly formed to be functional. It may have been deliberately laid down to seal the burials that have been found elsewhere on the site. The fact that there were no burials in this particular area does not preclude this interpretation.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The major features in this group comprise a metalled surface (6.2.7) and two fence lines (6.2.3) (6.2.4) and (6.2.6) with a number of associated outlying posts. It is difficult to be certain whether the metalled surface pre or post-dates the timbers in the two fence lines as they have been driven into the underlying deposits. The fact that there are two cut-features (6.2.1) and (6.2.2) stratigraphically earlier than the surface, one of which contains a post which is part of fence line (6.2.6) would suggest that the posts were earlier. This is perhaps of minor importance as the fence lines and surface were clearly related and certainly co-existed. Despite the lack of burials in this particular trench this combination of features clearly signals the demise of the cemetery and is perhaps evidence for the deliberate division of the area into separate properties with an inherent change of land use.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 6.3.1

CONTEXTS: 6051, 6052, 6053, 6054

6051: DUMP DEPOSIT

50% large limestone blocks, medium limestone blocks 20%, small limestone fragments 10%, in 20% dark grey silt with occasional wood and tile fragments, moderate cobbles and small pebbles.

6052: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark grey-black compact deposit: 30% clay, 70% silt with moderate limestone fragments, occasional cobbles, tile, animal bone and opus signinum fragments.

6053: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown-grey deposit: silt 40% clay, 60% with occasional cobbles, limestone, pebbles, bone and wood.

6054: DUMP DEPOSIT

50% cobbles set in dark grey friable sand 20% clay, 10% silt 20%. becoming more clay, to the east with moderate limestone, occasional tile, bone, and opus signinum fragments.

Discussion: This context series represents material which had built up over the whole of the trench sealing the metalled surface in (6.2.7). The lower most deposit (6054) has a high percentage of cobbles in its make-up and may be a constituent part of the surface. The other three deposits are more mixed in nature and are more likely to represent gradual accumulation above such a surface.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.3.2

CONTEXTS: 6040, 6041, 6042, 6043

6040: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Regular shaped timber tapering to one end. Comprises about a third of a tree trunk

6041: OTHER DEPOSIT

Layer of rounded medium cobbles 60%, limestone fragments 10%, dark grey sand 10% silt 10%.

6042: USE DEPOSIT

Friable black deposit: Clay 15%, silt 85% with frequent limestone fragments, and occasional tile and opus signinum fragments.

6043: ISOLATED STRUCTURAL TIMBER

Timber plank placed on edge in ground, 0.80m long, 0.08m wide and 0.03cm thick, very decayed.

Discussion: This context series includes two patches of deposit in separate parts of the trench at the same approximate level. As with the deposits in the previous series they have a high percentage of cobbles and may represent a continuation of the use of the surface originally laid down in (6.2.7). The presence of the two timbers, one of which (6043) appears to revet the edge of one of the deposits (6041) perhaps adds weight to the theory that these surfaces were formed deliberately.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.3.3

CONTEXT: 6039

6039: OTHER DEPOSIT

50% medium cobbles, 20% medium limestone fragments, 30% gray compact sand with occasional large limestone and tile fragments.

Discussion: This a further example in the series of cobbled surfaces spanning the full width of this trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The contexts in this group largely form further cobbled or metalled surfaces either spanning the full width of the trench or only apparent in patches. There is also some material suggestive of build-up associated with the use of these surfaces and there is at least one timber present which may have acted as a support for the edge of one of the surfaces.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT 6.4.1

CONTEXTS: 6034, 6035, 6036, 6037, 6038

6034: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark brown compact deposit: peat 20%, clay 20% silt 60% with occasional bone, tile, pebbles, wood, shell and limestone fragments and moderate flecks of charcoal.

6035: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey-brown deposit: 40% silt, 30% clay, 30% organic matter with occasional pebbles, small limestone pieces and tile fragments.

6036: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey green deposit: 80% compact dark grey organic material, 10% clay, 10% silt with occasional bone, pot, tile, wood, shell, cobbles and limestone fragments. (The excavator recorded that there was also some human bone present).

6037: POST

Wooden post driven vertically into the ground, 0.25m in length, 0.02m in thickness, 0.06m in width, rectangular in cross section.

6038: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

100% compact yellow-dark green-brown organic deposit with moderate fragments of bone, (both animal and human) and wood, occasional limestone, pot and tile fragments and occasional cobbles.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a build-tip in excess of 0.50m above the previously discussed metalled surfaces. The organic and generally mixed nature of the accumulation would suggest that activities represented may have been cultivation and disposal of unwanted material, including cess, in a presumably external area. This latter interpretation is based on the lack of structural elements (excluding a single isolated post) and related floors. It

is however perhaps dangerous to make wide-ranging interpretations in what is after all such a small excavation area.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.1

CONTEXT: 6033

CONTEXT: HEARTH

Compact red brown deposit: clay 70%, friable burnt red sandy clay 30%, with moderate tile fragments, occasional limestone fragments, cobbles and charcoal fleck.

Discussion: This small feature, only partially within the excavation area at the northern section, was identified by the excavators as a hearth-setting, placed on the surface of the earlier organic build-up. There is however no evidence within the excavated area for a coherent structure with which this could have related.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.2

CONTEXTS: 6030, 6031, 6032

6030: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable deposit: 30% brown silt, 70% pale brown clay with moderate charcoal and mortar flecks and small pieces of straw.

6031: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey deposit: 25% silt 75% clay with frequent charcoal flecks, occasional bone, limestone, tile and shell fragments and pebbles.

6032: CUT

Circular cut, sides break sharply from surface on E edge, fall steeply to gentle bottom edge. U edge sides break gently from surface and curve gradually down to base.

Discussion: This context series comprised a single build-up deposit spanning the full width of the excavation area, into which was cut a single small intrusion (6032), the function of which is not apparent. The build-up is less organic and more compact than which pre-dated the hearth in (6.5.1). It has a slight slope down from east to west. It is not easy to interpret this deposit. It may have been an area of uncultivated external beaten earth associated with an adjacent building. The inclusions are suggestive of an occupational element in its make-up.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.3

CONTEXTS: 6025, 6026, 6027, 6028, 6029

6025 HEARTH

Hearth consisting of 50% tile, 50% clay. Tiles set on edge, mostly orientated NW-SE. Central area of clay is burnt, outer edges unburnt. There is a large quantity of associated ash.

6026: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey-green deposit: silt 40%, clay 60% with occasional pebbles, tile, charcoal and bone fragments.

6027: HEARTH

Shallow subcircular cut. Sides break gently from surface, imperceptibly to base. Base concave.

6028: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit: Multicoloured sand 60%, silt 10%, clay 20% with occasional pebbles, charcoal flecks and mortar and moderate ash.

6029: FLOOR

Compact pale yellow deposit: sand 25%, crushed limestone Compact pale yellow deposits sand 25%, crushed limestone 75% with occasional tile fragments.

Discussion: This context series comprised further spreads of compacted material which are clearly occupational in nature. There

is one deposit (6029) which although only surviving as a small patch, may be the remnants of a crushed limestone floor. Into the "beaten earth" type deposit (6026) which sealed the above layer was cut a well constructed tile hearth. This was sub-rectangular and up to 1m in size. There is no other constructional element within the trench and it is not possible at this stage to determine if it was-domestic or industrial function.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.4

CONTEXTS: 6019, 6020, 6021, 6022, 6023, 6024

6019: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark grey-green friable deposit. Silt 30%, clay 70% with and occasional tile and bone fragments.

6020: HEARTH

Remains of hearth, Closely packed tiles 60% laid on edge, oriented mostly NE-SW, set in burnt clay 40% with some burning at upper surface.

6021: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Sub-rectangular cut. Sides fall vertically from sharp top edge to sharp bottom edge, base flat but uneven. Cut through by later hearths

6022: FLOOR

Friable pale yellow crushed limestone.

6023: DUMP DEPOSIT

(Mixed friable deposit: Dark brown sand 30%, silt 30%, clay 30% with patches of lighter brown sand 10%

6024: DUMP DEPOSIT

(Mixed green-brown deposits clay 50%, dark brown silt 30%, clay 20% with occasional small pebbles, small tile fragments, medium limestone fragments and mortar flecks.

Discussion: This context series contained a series of mixed and laminated deposits which have been interpreted as a series of beaten earth surfaces and floors with related build-up material. (6019) and (6022) are particularly convincing as floors. In the centre of this latter deposit was a cut (6021), containing a neat tiled hearth (6020), but no other structural element was present and it is not possible to be certain if this was an internal or an external feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.5

CONTEXTS: 6016, 6017, 6018

6016: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact pale orange brown deposit. Silt 20%, clay 80% with frequent limestone (0.025m diameter), occasional tile, bone and frequent limestone (0.025m diameter), occasional tile, bone and charcoal fragments.

6017: HEARTH

30% rounded medium cobbles, 20% tile fragments set in burnt 30% clay, 10% silt, 10% sand. Very mixed deposit.

6018: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable pale yellow deposit: Sand 50%, dark green-brown compact silt 20%, clay 30% with occasional charcoal flecks.

Discussion: These three deposits sealed the surfaces and hearth in (6.5.4). (6017) was described by the excavator as a further hearth but it was a much less convincing feature and it may be more likely that this context series is associated with the continued use and-or the destruction of the activity of which (6.5.4) formed the primary evidence.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.6

CONTEXTS: 6009, 6010, 6011, 6012, 6013, 6014, 6015

6009: BUILD-UP

Friable dark brown-black deposit: clay 30%, silt 70% with occasional mortar flecks and patches of light brown clay.

6010: HEARTH

Hearth consisting of clay with tiles set on edge. Tiles survive on S and E sides. Elsewhere removed by later feature.

6011: SLOT FILL DEPOSIT

30% friable rotted timber, 70% friable mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional flecks charcoal flecks and yellow clay. The rotted timber may be the remains of two small posts inserted within the cut.

6012: SLOT CUT (INC BEAM SLOT)

Shallow trench with steep sides, flat bottom, dropping off at north end into steep sided stake hole with pointed bottom.

Another similar one but smaller is adjacent.

6013: FLOOR

Friable pale cream sand and crushed limestone with moderate limestone and occasional tile fragments.

6014: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey--green clay 20%, silt 80% with moderate charcoal fleck and occasional tile and bone fragments.

6015: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Squareish shaped cut truncated by the N section. Sides break sharply from surface, vertical to sharp edge to base. Base is flat but uneven and higher in NE and SW corners.

Discussion: This context series comprised a further cut (6015) containing hearth (6010) with an associated surface (6014) and later build-up (6009) perhaps relating to its use. There was also a further convincing crushed limestone floor (6013) but only in a limited area adjacent to the SE section. Unlike previous context series there was some limited evidence for constructional elements in the form of a small beam slot (6012) fill (6011) orientated NE-SW which contained two small post holes. This feature was adjacent to and marked the NW limit of (6013). It did not however extend the full length of the deposit, terminating at the larger of its two internal post-holes, approximately 0.50m from the SW section.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.7

CONTEXTS: 6007, 6008

6007: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable 100% black silt with occasional clay.

6008: HEARTH

Area of burnt clay-silt 30% with tile 30%. Appears fairly disturbed, tile mostly set on edge. No strong pattern of orientation.

Discussion: This context series comprised a small dumped deposit (6007) in the northern corner of the trench above what was described by the excavator as a hearth, (6008). In this case the feature was not within a cut, was partially cut away and was generally less convincing. However the presence of burning and tiles set on edge would indicate that it had this function despite being less well constructed.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.5.8

CONTEXTS: 6002, 6004, 6005, 6006

6002: HEARTH

Mid orange-red(burnt)friable deposit: silt 40%, clay 60% with moderate glazed tile fragments and occasional limestone fragments and cobbles.

6004: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact-friable mottled dark-light brown silty 40%, clay 60% with occasional charcoal, small tile fragments, sand, small pebbles and mortar lumps.

6005: POST-HOLE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose black deposit: silt 90%, burnt clay 10%

6006: HEARTH

Tiles set on edge in clay. North end better preserved. Tiles with axis placed north-south. Central area is light orange brown burnt clay-silt, outer clay unburnt. Inclusions comprise moderate charcoal flecks, occasional mortar lumps and medium limestone fragments.

Discussion: This context series comprises two further hearths in association with a horizontal build-tip deposit which may represent the use of these two features. There was a single rather small post-hole in association with this surface.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a succession of small hearths in association with a number of succeeding surfaces and build-ups. The main characteristic of these hearths was that they were constructed of tiles set on edge placed within a cut, although there were examples which were less well constructed. The surfaces were generally beaten earth in nature although there were two examples of crushed limestone. It is not certain whether these were internal or external features. The presence of a beam slot in 6.5.6 and a post-hole in 6.5.8 may however suggest the presence of a structure. The limited size of the excavation area makes interpretation uncertain.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 6.6.1

CONTEXTS: 6001, 6003

6001: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Rubble backfill of construction trench: 70% broken brick, 10% mortar, 10% brown sand, 10% brown silt

6003: CONSTRUCTION CUT

NW-SE running trench, extending beyond the SW and SE sections. Sides break sharply from surface, vertical to undercut, bottom rounded-uneven.

Discussion: Construction trench and fill of a wall seen in the SW section, apparently of modern date.

CONTEXT SERIES 6.6.2

CONTEXT: 6000

6000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Very mixed layer. Modern rubble and disturbed soils Machine clearance.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a single modern construction trench and the topmost deposits removed by JCB. These were about 0.50m in depth.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION:

This area was one of those excavated during the last phase of archaeological activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developer's behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was secondary to this consideration. To achieve that end therefore the topmost 0.50m was removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than mixed soils were removed.

Due to pressure of time it was not possible to excavate the complete archaeological sequence in this area. No burials were apparent and once this had been proven by excavating to a depth below which they were likely to be forthcoming, based on their level elsewhere on the site, work ceased. The sequence of material uncovered consisted of a thick deposit of cultivated soil at about the level that burials would have been anticipated. Above this level was a compacted metalled surface into which were cut two fence lines (one of which was very well-constructed) and upon which further deposits of metalling were lain. It is argued that this deliberate surface

coupled with the apparent division of the area into boundaries or properties would indicate that the cemetery, admittedly not present, in this area, had gone out of use and the land had been divided and perhaps subjected to a change of use and redevelopment. This aspect will be considered in full elsewhere in this report when the evidence is analysed on a site-wide basis. Building-up around the fence lines and above the metalled surface was a reasonably thick accumulation of organic soil which may be indicative of cultivation. There was thereafter a further marked change of use on the site which continued until brick buildings were constructed in the modern period. This change of use consisted of a series of tile built hearths. These features were not found in association with any particularly convincing structural elements and it is not possible to be certain therefore whether they were internal or external, or indeed whether they were domestic or industrial in function. It is hoped that analysis of finds and environmental evidence will be of use in further understanding their function.

AREA 7

by Peter Sattelberger

December 1990

Introduction:

This document forms the Level III Archive Report for Area 7 within the sits, of 12-18 Swinegate, York – site code 1989-90:28. Area 7 constitutes a small trench (approximately 3.m X 3m) as part of a series of small trench excavations lying to the south of the general site area and fronting on the north-east side of Swinegate itself (see site plan).

The format of this report follows that previously described in the level III Archive Report of Area 2 Swinegate. This report's general organisation is based on the principles of single context planning (Harris 1979), and post-excavation analysis and reporting as set out by Pearson and Williams (forthcoming).

In the course of this excavation a large number of timber posts and stakes were uncovered, the bulk of which were not accompanied by post cuts, therefore inferring they had been driven into the ground. For the purpose of maintaining consistency in the nomenclature used in this report, a stake, whether pointed or blunt ended, is established as any timber timber 5cm in diameter. Any timber larger than this diameter with either a pointed or blunt based is defined as a post.

The Archaeological Sequence

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 7.1.1

Contexts 7070, 7071.

7070 (Use deposit)

A compacted metallised site-wide surface consisting of 50% yellow mortar, 25% small cobbles, and 25% large cobbles.

7071 (Use deposit)

An unexcavated compacted site-wide metalled surface consisting of 50% yellow mortar, 25% small pebbles, and 25% large pebbles.

Inclusions: occasional tile fragments.

Discussions

This context series represents a metalled surface extending over the excavated area of trench 7 and extending beyond its boundaries. The small area of this trench limits any conclusive spatial interpretation of this feature, except to suggest that it may have been part of a surfaced yard.

GROUP 1 DISCUSSION:

This single context series group represents a cobbled surface of an undetermined purpose. This group also represents the furthest extent of the excavation of area 7 to a level of approximately 12.75m0.0. at an average depth of about 3.0m. below present ground level, and contains context C70713 which is the starting point of this report.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 2.7.1

Contexts 7066, 7069

7066 (Build, up-levelling deposit)

Compacted dark brown-black soil consisting of 50% clay, 50% silt.

Inclusions: occasional tile fragments mid medium size pebbles.

7069 (Build up-levelling deposit)

Compacted dark brown-black soil consisting of 50% clay, and 30% silt. Inclusions: occasional sandstone block, limestone rubble, and tile fragments.

Discussion:

This context series was a trench wide deposit of either build up or levelling material to an average depth of approximately 0.20m.

Group 2 Discussion:

The building up or levelling of the ground in this trench area is an apparent indication of a change in land use from that seen previously in group A.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 7.3.1.

Contexts 7058, 7064, 7061, 7065.

7058 (Grave fill)

A wooden coffin lid (L.1.25m. X W 0.25m. X T. 0.03m.) aligned west to east with its east end extending beyond the edge of the excavation. This lid was damaged in appearance and consisted of eight large fragments leaving an undefined edge on its western end.

7064 (Grave fill of coffin)

A friable dark brown-black soil consisting of 50% silt and 40% clay. Inclusions: occasional stone frags and small pebbles.

7061 (Skeleton)

An extended supine adult inhumation aligned west to east, and facing east. The right hand was positioned on the pelvis; the left arm extended fully along the side. The lower left leg and the entire right leg lay outside of the excavated area. Although truncated in this manner, the available bones of this skeleton appear well preserved and relatively complete, however, the skull is severely crushed with a rather flattened appearance.

7065 (Grave fill coffin base)

The remains of the timber base together with a fragment of the north facing side panel of the coffin for skeleton (7061). The eastern (foot) end of this coffin base is truncated at an angle by the edge

of the excavation. The recovered portion of this base measured L 1m X W 0.40m X T 0.2m. The side panel is badly decayed and damaged; measurements were not recorded for this side panel fragment. The coffin's west end, near the head, did not survive.

Discussion:

This context series represents an adult coffin burial; one of a group of four such burials found in Area 7. The damage resulting to the coffin and the skeleton is considered to be the result of the later cobble surfacing of this area with the insertion of (7053). This may also account for the lack of any evidence for a grave cut for this burial.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.3.2

Contexts 7067, 7068

7067 (Skeleton)

A supine inhumation of small stature, possibly adolescent, aligned west to east, and facing east. The skeleton is relatively complete and well articulated, but truncated by the eastern edge of the trench resulting to both feet lying outside of the excavated area. Both hands are positioned on the pelvis, although none of the fingers have survived with the exception of a small number of phalanges recorded on the left hand. The skull has been disturbed in antiquity and bears a crushed and flattened appearance.

7068 (Grave fill coffin)

A wooden coffin base with fragments of the north and south side panels surviving., This coffin has a west to east orientation. The extreme eastern (foot) end of the coffin lies outside of the excavated area. The recovered portion of the base measured L. 0.90m. X U. 0.28m.X T 0.015m; measurements were not recorded for the side panel fragments. The western end had decayed into a brown powder. The lower portions of the side panels on the eastern half of the coffin, and the coffin's wooden base remain reasonably well preserved. Possible peg holes appear in both side panels (the hole in the north panel measures H 0.0035m X W 0.003m, that in the south

panel is H. 0.003m. X 0.0015m); decaying processes are believed to have enlarged these holes to their current size.

Discussion:

This context series represents an adolescent or small adult, timber coffin burial among a group of four such burials within Area 7. There was no evidence of a grave cut for this burial which is interpreted as the consequence of the disturbance created by the later insertion of (7053).

CONTEXT SERIES 7.3.3

Contexts 7062, 7063

7062 (Skeleton)

An extended supine adult inhumation aligned west to east and facing east. A quite disturbed and incomplete skeleton with many bones missing including those of the lower right leg, left foot, both hands, collar bone, spine, ribs, lower and upper jaw. The right arm is positioned on the abdomen; the left arm lies outside the excavated area. The surviving bones appear well preserved.

7063 (Grave fill – coffin)

A wooden coffin containing skeleton (7062), and orientated west to east. The western end of this coffin is truncated by the edge of the excavation. This coffin consists of a badly damaged wooden base together with a small fragment of the north facing side panel attached. The coffin base measured L. 1.80m X W. 0.36m X T. 0.01m. Measurements are not available for the north side panel fragment.

Discussions

One of a series of four burials in this excavated area. This burial has been greatly damaged during antiquity most probably with the later insertion of a heavy cobble surface stratigraphically above it. Again, as with the other burials in this group, no grave cut was evident.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.3.4

Contexts 7059, 7060

7059 (Skeleton)

An incomplete and greatly disturbed skeleton consisting of only two leg bones. The remainder of the skeleton lies beyond the NE section of the excavation. Determining the orientation of this skeleton is difficult given the few bones available and their disturbed state, however, because of the position of the leg bones in the western extreme of this burial, it would be reasonable to infer that this burial faced the west.

7060 (Grave fill – coffin)

A partially recovered wooden coffin base aligned west to east and measuring L. 0.42m X W 0.19m X T. 0.01m extending from the NE section of the trench.

Discussions

The severe truncation of this burial by the NE edge of the excavation has resulted in only its partial recovery. It is the only burial within this group which exhibits a west facing orientation compared with the east facing alignment of the other burials appearing in this group.

GROUP 3 DISCUSSION:

The fact these are coffin burials which conform to a standard in their alignment (in this case east-west) would indicate they are part of a larger, but as yet undetermined, cemetery. The recorded damage and disturbance to these burials is interpreted as the result of the later cobble surfacing of this area for as yet some unknown purpose and occurring after this area of the cemetery had ceased to be used. No intercutting was evident among the burials in this trench.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 7.4.1

Context 7053

7053 (Use deposit)

A black friable soil consisting of 10% clay, 10% silt and 10% sand with 30% limestone frags (average size 0.10m) and 40% cobbles (average size 0.06m). Inclusions: Occasional tile, shell, bone, and wood fragments.

Discussion:

This single context group comprises a metalled surface extending over the entire excavated area of trench 7 and averaging approximately 0.15m in depth. The act of levelling and inserting this surface is interpreted as having been responsible for the disturbance recorded to the burials lying stratigraphically beneath it (see group 3 above). The insertion of this surface is also an indication that, in this small area at least, the land had ceased to be used as a cemetery and had taken on a different, but as yet undetermined, function.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 7.5.1

Contexts 7049, 7047

7047 (Build up deposit)

Black friable soil consisting of 80% organic material and 20% silt. No inclusions recorded.

7049 (Build up deposit)

Black friable soil consisting of 60% organic material, 20% clay, and 20% silt. Inclusions: occasional pot, bone, tile, and Limestone fragments.

Discussion:

Contexts 7049 and 7047 represent an accumulation, to an average depth of approximately 0.30m, of what has been interpreted as a build up of garden soil. Both contexts are deposits which extend over the entire area of trench 7 such that (7047) seals (7049) beneath it.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.5.2

Context 7048, 7054, 7055, 7056, 7057

7048 Wattle fence)

A wattle fence structure surviving to approximately 0.11m in height and following a line running for approximately 2 meters from under the NW section of the excavated area and parallel with the SW edge of the trench. At this point this fence turns about 90 degrees in a NE direction where it runs beneath the north-east section of the excavation. The wattle structure of the fence consisted of 60% timber sail and 20% rods, with a mixture of 10% clay and 10% organic material between the rods and sails.

7057 (Post)

A severely damaged timber post measuring L. 0.17m X D. 0.06m with one end shaped to a point. This post was one of a series of posts and stakes supporting (7048), and was situated at the extreme NW end of the fence. It was driven into (7047)

7056 (Stake)

A severally damaged timber stake measuring L.0.18m x D.0.05m. with one end shaped to a point. This stake was an upright support for (7048) and was situated to the SE of post (7057). It was driven into (7047).

7055 (Post)

A severally damaged timber post measuring L.0.36m.X D.0.07m with one end shaped into a point. It was an upright support for (7048) and was situated to the SE of (7056). It was driven into (7047).

7054 (Post)

A severally damaged timber post measuring L.0.30m.X D.0.08m. with one end shaped into a point. It was an upright support for (7048) and was situated to the south-east of stake (7055). This post was driven into (7047).

Discussion:

This line of posts represents only the north-west to southeast section of the wattle fence; other posts are shown on plan but were not recorded individually. All of these stakes were truncated as a result of spade damage which occurred with the removal of (7046) in (7.6.1) lying stratigraphically above them.

GROUP 5 DISCUSSION:

Context series (7.5.1) suggests a build up of organically rich soil occurred as a likely consequence of activities associated with gardening in this area. In (7.5.2.) a division of this garden land seen in (7.5.1) into individual plots by means of wattle fencing occurs possibly signifying the demarcation of land into either separate holdings or for functional purposes (ie pens). A trench of this small size, however, does not afford the necessary spatial information to draw stronger inferences from this recovered information.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 7.6.1

Contexts 7046, 7052

7046 (Dump deposit)

Compact to friable black soil containing 80% organic material and 20% silt an average depth of approximately 0.15m, and extending over the entire area of the trench. The north-west half of this context contained a shallow linear depression or cut feature approximately a meter wide to the NE and 0.50m in width to the SW. Inclusions: frequent tile and limestone fragments.

7052 (Post)

An isolated timber post measuring L.0.64m X W.0.12m. and shaped into a point at one end. There was no indication of a post hole cut which suggests this post was driven rather than set into (7046).

Discussion

Context (7046) represents an accumulation of dumped material, mostly organic, possibly resulting from an accumulation of rubbish or for levelling purposes. Post (7052) is stratigraphically related to (7046) but has no known function.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.6.2

Contexts 7033, 7040

7033 (Build up-dump deposit)

Compact brown-dark grey soil 80% organic and 20% silt.

7040 (Dump deposit)

Compact organic dumped material BOX organic and 20% silt.

Inclusions: decayed wood fragments.

Discussion

A series of accumulation dump deposits along the NU side of the excavation and averaging approximately 0.25m in depth. (7033) seals (7040) beneath it.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.6.3

Context 7042, 7035, 7050, 7034

7042 (Post)

Vertical timber post of . rectangular shape measuring L,0.34m X W 0.12m X T.0.02m. Appears to have been driven into the ground. An isolated post, function unknown.

7035 (Post)

Vertical timber post with "D" shape cross section and blunt ended, measuring L 0.39m X W 0.12m. Isolated post, function unknown.

7050 (Post)

Vertical post of irregular shape measuring L 0.48m. X W 0.19m. Isolated post of unknown function. W 0.19m Isolated post of unknown function.

7034 (Dump deposit)

Compact black soil consisting of 60% organic material, 20% silt, and 20% clay to an average depth of 0.24m,

Discussion:

Context (7034) has been interpreted as a rubbish dump of unknown purpose. It extended over the SE area of the trench. It is separated from series (7.6.2.) by a later cut ditch feature on a NE-SW alignment through trench 7. The three timber posts in this series did not have post cuts associated with them which would suggest they were driven into (7034), their function however remains unknown.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.6.4

Contexts 7030, 7032

7030 (Dump-build tip)

Friable dark brown-black soil consisting of 60% clay, 20% sand, 10% silt, and 10% wood fragments. As a matter of expediency a number of small wooden stakes-posts were included as part of this context and their position indicated on plan. This group of 19 stake-posts of various shapes and sizes form a roughly linear pattern running NE-SW through the middle of this context.

7032 (Post)

Rectangular upright timber with a pointed base measuring L.0.45m x W 0.17m. X T.0.16m. This post also has a peg hole in one side. It appears to have been driven into the ground.

Discussion

Context (7030) has been interpreted as a dump of domestic origin with an average depth of approximately 0.15m – 0.20m and sealing context series (7.6.3) beneath it. No functional interpretation is attempted by the excavator of this stake-post group, however, on plan their aligned pattern closely resembles that of a fence structure similar to that seen in (7.5.2). The interpretation of this structure as a fence would suggest that previously established property boundaries continued to be used, but had drifted slightly to the south-east by approximately 0.20m at the SW section to 0.10m at the NE section of trench 7 (7032) is an isolated post made from a re-used timber and driven into £7030) for an unknown purpose.

CONTEXT 7.6.5

Contexts 7051, 7036, 7037, 7038, 7039, 7043, 7044, 7045, various posts.

7051 (Post)

Large irregular shaped rectangular post. Base pointed. 1.05m. X W 0.10m X T. 0.15m.

7036 (Post)

Vertical round post. Base pointed. L 0.42m X D 0.13m

7037 (Post)

Vertical post measuring L 0.41m X W 0.14m Base pointed.

7038 (Post)

Vertical round post L.0.51m.X D.0.05m. Bark still, adhering.

7039 (Post)

Vertical and "D" shaped in cross section. L.0.59m.X W 0.10m.

7013 (Post)

Vertical round post L.0.67m.X D.0.16m.

7044 (Post)

Vertical with "D" shaped cross section and blunt ended L 0.1m. X W 0.11m.

7045 (Post)

Vertical round post with pointed base. L.0.26m.X D.0.06m.

Discussion:

This group of posts were all situated in the SE half of the excavation. They lie stratigraphically above context (7034) with the exception of (7051) which extends downward to lie above context (7053) in series (7.4.1) All are sealed by context (7024) in (7.8.1) lying stratigraphically above. They have all been interpreted on site as isolated timber posts of unknown function and were grouped together on plan (7035) for the purpose of convenience.

GROUP 6 DISCUSSION:

This group represents a series of activities related to the domestic use and division of land in this area. Within the various context series of this group a number of dumps of organic waste possibly derived from gardening practices or domestic activities had contributed to the build up of the soil within the area of this trench. Property demarcation continued through the use of fences as seen in context (7030) in series (7.6.4) which also appear to continue previously established alignments as seen in (7.5.2). The numerous posts which appear in this group are difficult to interpret due to the small size of this trench and the lack of sufficient spatial information this provides. Combined with this are the difficulties associated in relating posts that have been driven rather than set into the ground thereby omitting any possible interpretive evidence which may have been provided by the presence of post hole cuts.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 7.7.1

Contexts 7028, 7031, 7029

7028 (Backfill)

Friable grey soil 50% clay, 10% silty and 40% organic woody material. Inclusions: moderate quantities of bone and occasional pot, limestone, timber and shell frags.

7031 (Drain lining)

Drain constructed of bricks, averaging L.0.25m. X W.0.07m., set three courses high along two parallel rows and capped with a row of bricks set at right angles to the drain structure. The drain has a roughly NE-SW alignment and extends beyond the area of this trench. For the sake of expediency the drain lining fill was recorded as part of this context. It consisted of friable brown soil comprised of 50% silt and sand.

7029 (Drain construction cut)

A cut approximately 1m in width and 0.50m in depth along a NE-SW alignment and extending under the NW and SE facing sections of the trench. The SE edge of this cut is sharp, the NW edge gradual; the sides of the cut are moderately steep, and the base v-shaped.

Discussion:

Cut (7029) was constructed to accommodate the drain structure (7031); context (7028) represents the backfill surrounding the drain and the fill of the cut. This single context series group represents the construction of a drain feature which bisects the trench on a NE-SW alignment.

GROUP 7 DISCUSSION:

The insertion of this drain structure indicates a change in the use of land in the immediate area of this trench from its previously interpreted function as a garden area.

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 7.8.1

Contexts 7014, 7041, 7024, 7026, 7027

7014 (Build up-dump deposit)

Friable dark grey soil comprising 50% clay, 40% silt, and 10% sand; extends over the north-eastern half of the trench sloping gently downward toward the SW. Average depth 0.40m, Inclusions: occasional pot, bone, tile, shell limestone frags and cobbles.

7041 (Timber post)

Vertical rectangular shaped post L 0.25m. X W 0.13m.X T.0.02m.
Isolated post of unknown function.

7024 (Build up- dump deposit)

Friable to loose dark brown-black soil consisting of 60% clay, 30% sand, and 10% silt; extends over the SE half of the trench to an average depth of 0.15m and lies stratigraphically below (7014). Inclusions: moderate wood frags, and occasional leather, tile, and pot frags.

7026 (Dump deposit)

A series of mixed dumps recorded as an expedient measure as A series of mixed dumps recorded as an expedient measure as one context of approximately a meter in width running along the NW side of the trench. Comprised of 40% white crushed limestone, 20% loose black charcoal and silt, and 40% crushed yellow limestone. Average depth 8.0cm. Inclusions: frequent tile frags.

7027 (Dump deposit)

Black soil 80% clay and 20% silt. Lying entirely beneath (7024). Inclusions: frequent tile. An accumulated series of either dump or build up deposits derived from domestic activities and extending across the area of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.8.2

Contexts 7013, 7016, 7018, 7015

7013 (Foundation pit cut fill deposit)

Medium brown soil consisting of 60% clay, 30% silt, 10% sand.

Inclusions: frequent mortar, charcoal and occasional tile and limestone frags. Backfill of construction cut (7015).

7016 (Wall structure)

Remains of a masonry wall on a NE-SW alignment and extending beyond the boundaries of the trench. Maximum height 0.35m with an average width of approximately 0.50m. This wall stands three courses high at the SW with the bottom course consisting of rectangular limestone blocks with an average length of 0.30m. Other courses consist of irregularly shaped blocks ranging in size from 0.20–0.40m. The central section of the wall, was capped by a lens of red clay measuring about a meter in length. The NW facing corner of the wall is cut by pit cut (7020). Inclusions: large cobbles set in top course and sandy mortar.

7018 (Building construction deposit)

Compact medium brown-grey deposit consisting of 90% clay and 10% sand lying stratigraphically and physically beneath wall (7016). Inclusions: occasional pot and charcoal.

7015 (Wall construction cut)

Cut running NE-SW and extending beyond the trench boundaries The edge of this cut is sharp with a vertical side ranging in height from 0.24m.–0.33m. Bottom surface abrupt and flat. SE side of cut stepped out with sharp top edge and slight vertical face running into a 20 degree slope down to flat base. Edge to edge width of cut approximately 1 meter.

Discussion:

The construction cut (7015) for wall (7016) cuts contexts (7014) and (7026) lying stratigraphically beneath it. An unusual aspect of this

wall structure is that it was constructed upon the sloping SE face of the construction cut rather than its flatter base surface. This situation necessitated the insertion of deposit (7018) in order to level this surface to allow for the construction of the wall. The wall itself is set at right angles to the line of Swinegate lying just to the SW of Trench 7 suggesting it may have functioned as part of a possible structure structure aligned with this road.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.8.3

Contexts 7006, 7012

7006 (Floor)

A thin band of floor deposit approximately 2.5m by length by 0.3G in width located along the SE edge of the trench and inter-cut by pit cuts (7008) and (7002) as well as the SE trench section. This context consisted of a layer of 100% compacted mortar; dirty white in colour. This floor was also cut by a line of four stake holes aligned NE-SW along the edge of the floor where it meets the SE section. These stake holes were included on the plan of this context but were not recorded separately.

7012 (Floor)

Situated immediately beneath (7006), this context consisted of a series of very thin compacted floor layers recorded as a single context. The upper layer comprised 25% black charcoal 15% dark grey silt, 10% dark grey clay, and 25% orange sand. The bottom layer contained mottled white-black-orange silt 10% and clay 15%.

Inclusions: occasional pot, tile, and bone.

Discussion:

A sequence of floor levels affected by severe inter-cutting from later features resulting in only a narrow strip of these levels surviving. Part of a floor surface of a building and possibly associated with wall (7016) situated to the NW, however at no point within the excavated area do these two features appear to physically contact one another.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.8.4

Contexts 7022, 7025, 7023.

7022 (Dump deposit)

Compact red-brown deposit consisting of 80% clay and 20% silt.

7023 (Dump)

Compact to friable medium brown deposit consisting of 50% clay, 30% silt, with a lens of 20% charcoal. Inclusions:

occasional limestone, cobble, and tile frags. Cut by wall construction cut (7015) to the east.

7025 (Dump)

Compact red-brown deposit 90% clay and 10% silt.

Discussion:

A series of small dumps situated in the NW corner of trench 7. The truncation of this context series by the NW and NE trench sections, as well as by later cut features (7015) and (7021), restricts any functional interpretation of these dump deposits.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.8.5

Contexts 7005, 7010, 7011, 7017, 7021

7005 (Hearth)

A severely truncated, and therefore, irregular shaped structure, measuring approximately 1.0m X 0.80m, located along the NW edge of the trench. The remains of this structure consist of 50% tiles standing on edge, and averaging 0.10m X 0.05m in size, 20% large cobbles which border the tiles to the south-west, and 30% burnt clay. Inclusions: frequent charcoal flecks.

7011 (Dump)

Compact deposit of 70% medium brown clay, 15% sand, and 15% silt. Inclusions: frequent flecks of mortar and charcoal, occasional bone,

tile and cobble. Lies stratigraphically above (7013) (wall construction cut backfill).

7010 (Occupation derived deposit)

loose deposit consisting of 60% charcoal with 40% orange sand. A shallow deposit averaging 0.05m in depth and comprised of various thin layers and lenses of charcoal and sand mixed together. Possibly associated with hearth (7005) lying stratigraphically above.

7017 (Hearth)

An irregular shaped structure due to its truncation by the NW trench section and by construction cut £7015). Located in the NW corner of trench 7, this hearth consists of 10% red-brown clay, 70% tile (average size 0.10m X0.20m) standing on edge, and 20% yellow sand surrounding the tile. Inclusions: occasional small cobbles.

7021 (Hearth construction cut)

Contains hearth (7017). The NW side of this cut has a sharp top edge with a steep gradient and a flat base. The SW side has an imperceptible top edge with a gentle gradient leading onto a flat base surface. A shallow cut with a maximum depth at the bottom of the north edge of 0.10m.

Discussion:

Two apparently superimposed hearth structures are evident in this context series. The earliest, (7017) is contained within construction cut (7021) located in the NW corner of the excavated trench. The second, and latest, hearth (7005) appears from its surviving remains to have been larger in size than £70173 and to have extended further to the SW. Separating these two structures are two thin deposits (7010) and (7011). Context (7010), which averages 0.05m in depth, physically and stratigraphically links both hearths. Its high concentration of charcoal and sand lenses is interpreted as derived from burning activities associated with these hearths; it may possibly have functioned as a levelling deposit for the construction of the later hearth (7005) above the earlier hearth (7017). Context (7011) lies stratigraphically below the eastern

extent of hearth (7005) and stratigraphically above (7013), the backfill of wall construction cut (7015), thereby relating the later hearth (7005) with wall structure (7016).

GROUP 8 DISCUSSION:

This group indicates a number of possibly related settlement activities had occurred in the area of this trench. Context series (7.8.1) begins with a series of dumps and build up deposits, less organic in their composition and associated more with domestic refuse. Structural constructs follow with the appearance of wall (7016) in (7.8.2), floors in (7.8.3), and hearths in (7.8.5). The contemporaneity of these various features is difficult to establish on the basis of stratigraphical relationships alone. Only in the case of the later hearth (7005) in (7.8.5) is there direct evidence indicating a stratigraphical link with wall (7016) in (7.8.2). The floor levels in (7.8.3) have been too severely inter-cut by later features to be certain they were associated with this same wall structure, however, their recorded levels suggest such a link may have been possible. If this is the case it would suggest that the area on the SE side of the wall was an internal space, and the area on the other side of the wall to the NW containing the hearth way have been either external or part of another internal space associated with this wall structure. Any such interpretation is however complicated by the lack of a recorded floor surface associated with this hearth, and a general lack of sufficient spatial evidence from a trench of this small size to support strong structural interpretations of these various features.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT 7.9.1

Contexts 7007, 7008

7007 (Pit backfill)

Friable green-brown deposit consisting of 70% clay and 30% silt. Inclusions: occasional pot, bone, and tile, with moderate to large cobbles and limestone frags.C0.15-0.25m in dia.).

7008 (Pit cut)

A roughly rectangular shaped cut measuring approximately 1.3m in length and 0.70m in width with sharp edges and steep sides, though the side on the SW end has a slightly more gentle slope.. The maximum depth of this cut was 0.40m. This pit cuts floors (7006) and (7012) in context series (7.8.3) and its NW side follows the SE facing edge of wall (7016) in (7.8.2).

Discussion

This context series represents a pit cut for the disposal of refuse. Its stratigraphical relationship to floors (7006) and (7012) and wall (7016) indicates that it was inserted sometime after these structural features had ceased to be used.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.9.2

Contexts 7004, 7009

7004 (Demolition dump)

Deposit consisting of 40% large limestone pieces and cobbles and 60% pink clay. Inclusions: occasional tiles

7009 (Demolition dump)

Context comprised of 50% compact pink clay and 50% limestone blocks ranging 0.15m– 0.50m in length.

Discussion:

Two probable interpretations of this context series present themselves. The first is that this context series is associated with the demolition of wall (7016) in (7.8.2). The limestone blocks correspond in type and size with those used in the construction of wall (7016). Stratigraphically both of these contexts lie over wall (7016) and extend to the SE of it in a rough alignment with the wall itself, suggesting therefore that this wall either collapsed or was demolished in a south-easterly direction. If this interpretation is correct then the pink clay appearing in these two contexts would have to be considered as part of the wall's structural make up,

implying that the wall was constructed of limestone blocks and pink clay upon a foundation of limestone and mortar (see 7016). It is interesting to note as well that (7004) lies above the previously recorded lens of red clay lying atop the wall structure in context (7016).

Alternatively, this context series may simply represent a dump of limestone blocks and clay which was deposited after wall

(7016) had been removed down to its surviving height. Context (7004) also lies stratigraphically above backfill (7007) and pit cut (7008) indicating that this pit was likely cut before wall (7016) was demolished.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.9.3

Contexts 7019, 7020

7019 (Post hole packing deposit)

Friable pink-brown deposit consisting of 30% silt, 20% clay, and 50% tile.

7020 (Post hole cut)

Circular post hole cut approximately 0.20m in diameter and 0.35m in depth, running slightly under the north-east trench section. The top edge is sharp with steep sides ending in a V shaped base.

Discussion:

A post hole cut and packing for the purpose of accommodating an upright isolated timber of unknown function. This post hole cuts dump (7013) and wall (7016) in (7.8.2.) at its extreme north-east end. Insufficient evidence exists to establish the function of the post which would have been set in this post hole or any possible relationship this post cut may have had with wall (7016) which it cuts.

GROUP 10

CONTEXT SERIES 7.10.1

Context 7003

7003 (Dump)

1 site wide deposit of friable dark brown 80% clay and 20% sand to a maximum depth of approximately 0.25m. Inclusions: frequent charcoal, moderate limestone blocks and tiles occasional bone.

Discussion:

A site wide deposit of dumped general refuse.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.10.2

Contexts 7001, 7002

7001 (Pit backfill)

Compacted dark grey-brown deposit consisting of 30% silt, 50% sand, and 20% burnt orange sand. Inclusions: occasional boner copper slag, tile, moderate clay crucible and various unidentifiable copper objects.

7002 (Pit cut)

Quite truncated by eastern section of trench, leaving an undetermined overall shape. The exposed cut has a pie-shaped appearance with sharp edges, steep sides and a rounded base to a maximum depth of 0.30m. Contained (7001).

Discussion:

A pit cut for the disposal of industrial waste likely associated with an, as yet undisclosed, nearby copper working activity area. According to the excavator, it is conceivable that this cut could have been made from a higher level which had been machined off at the start of the excavation of this trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 7.10.2

Context 7000

7000 (Other)

A deposit consisting of 25% brick rubble and gravel, 25% clay, 25% silt and 25% sand.

Discussion:

This context represents the beginning of the trench 7 excavations it consisted mainly of modern rubbish and material which was removed by machine.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION

Group 1 marks the beginning of this discussion, and the end of the excavation itself, with the disclosure of a metalled surface of unknown size, which may possibly have functioned as a surface of unknown size which may possibly have functioned as a paved yard . In group 2 this surface, at least in the area of this trench, appears to fall out of use and becomes the repository for dumped or levelling material. Subsequently, this area became part of a cemetery, perhaps associated with the church of St. Benet believed to have been located at one time in the Swinegate area which later became redundant in the first half of the 14th Century. Further archaeological and historical evidence is required however if this link between cemetery and church is to be substantiated. Following this, another site wide metalled surface appears in group 4 the insertion of which disturbed the earlier burials in this area, and also marked the end of the use of this particular site as a cemetery.

In group 5 a build up of organically rich deposits occurs suggesting that this site became a garden area sometime during the late medieval period. Dating evidence will undoubtedly refine this chronology, but for the present the cemetery evidence can act as a terminus post quem for the archaeology which followed it. This group also sees the beginning of property divisions occurring on this site in the form of wattle fencing (see 7.5.2). An intensification of

garden related activities is suggested by the continued presence of dumps of organic materials, isolated structural posts and the use of fences possibly continuing previously established boundaries, as seen in group 6. The insertion of a brick drain structure, on a NE-SW alignment through this site in group 7, appears to have marked the end of the garden-cultivation period in this area, and to have heralded a subsequent period of domestic or industrial land use on this site as seen in group 8.

Group 8 begins with a series of build-up deposits consisting of mixed dumps comprised of wastes derived from general domestic activities as seen in (7.8.1) and (7.8.4) Cutting through this build-up is a wall structure (7.8.2) aligned NE-SW across the site and set at right angles to present day Swinegate. To the SE of this wall lie the severely inter-cut remains of floor surfaces appearing in (7.8.3) which, because of their condition, cannot conclusively and stratigraphically be linked with this wall structure.

Nevertheless, the close physical proximity of these two features, as well as the relationship of floor to wall base levels makes it difficult to rule out the possibility that these two structural elements were not in some way related, in which case they may represent a room within a building of undetermined structural form. Located to the NW of the wall is context series (7.8.5) which represents a hearth structure and its subsequent replacement, the latter evidently stratigraphically related with the wall itself. Again, there is the problem of insufficient spatial evidence obtainable from a trench of this small size to clarify the relationship between these various structural features, but the indication is that a structure, possibly a house, lay in the SE portion of Area 7 and beyond, and that to the NW of this building was located a hearth, or more accurately a series of hearths, which had in some way an association with this building.

Group 9 marks a further change which sees the destruction of the structural features described in group 8. The floor surfaces are inter-cut by a large refuse pit in (7.9.1), and the wall is inter-cut by a large refuse pit in (7.91), and the wall is either intentionally destroyed or allowed to collapse in (7.9.2.) It is not

entirely clear from the evidence available, however, whether the deposit of limestone blocks and clay seen in (7.9.2.) actually represents demolition material from this wall, or material that was dumped there after the wall had been removed Series (7.9.3) represents a post hole cut through this wall after its collapse or removal to its surviving height. Domestic occupation had apparently ceased on this site at this point and the land itself became a dump site for waste material derived from likely nearby domestic and industrial activities, including copper working, as seen in group 10.

AREA 8

INTRODUCTION

Area 8 was located at the Swinegate Street frontage opposite its junction with Back Swinegate (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the final phase of excavation and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The topmost deposits were removed by machine and excavation ceased when it was clear that there were no further burials within the area.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 8.1.1

CONTEXT: 8019

8019: WALL.

Three sandstone blocks set in line roughly NNE-SSW. No traces of mortar bonding.

GROUP DISCUSSION: It should be noted that this feature is difficult to interpret as it was not excavated and was the lowest level reached when excavation in this area ceased. The deposits which related both to its use and its demolition also remain unexcavated. However it is worth stating that its general construction

characteristics coupled with its orientation and its height O.D would indicate that it was not Roman in origin.

GROUP 2

Context Series 8.2.1

CONTEXTS: 8017, 8018

8017: SKELETON

Adult inhumation. Lower legs only within area of excavation.

Articulated. Bones well preserved. Orientation NE-SW with the head to the SW.

8018: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

compact mid-dark brown deposit: 50% silt 50% clay with occasional fragments of tile and moderate medium pebbles.

Discussion This context series comprised a build-up of garden type soil into which was placed a single inhumation. This was neither within a cut nor a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 8.2.2

CONTEXTS: 8014, 8015, 8016

8014: SKELETON

Roughly NE-SW infant inhumation, with the head to the SW. Skull and tipper torso only within area of excavation. Burial position impossible to determine.

8015: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation orientated NE-SW with the head at the SW. Articulated. Left side and legs missing. Skull badly crushed. Right arm extended.

8016: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact mid-dark brown deposit: 50% clay 50% silt with occasional fragments of tile.

Discussion: This context series comprised a build-up deposit similar in nature to that in f8.2.12 containing two infant burials. Neither was within a coffin and there were no grave cuts present.

CONTEXT SERIES 8.2.3

CONTEXTS: 8003, 8004, 8005, 8006, 8007, 8008, 8009, 8010, 8011, 8012, 8013

8003: OTHER DEPOSIT

Dark grey compact deposit: 50% clay 50% silt with occasional fragments of tile and pebbles. This material had slumped over the collapsed coffin lid (8004).

8004: COFFIN LID

Badly decayed timber. Loose organic brown stain, four fragments only visible, sloping down from the top of the coffin to rest 0.01m to 0.02m above the skeleton.

8005: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey friable deposit: 50% silt 50% clay with occasional small pebbles and pea grit. This was below the decayed lid (8004) within coffin (8007).

8006: SKELETON

Extended NE-SW adult inhumation with the head to the SW. Both hands on pelvis. Lower legs outside area of excavation. Skull rolled over onto left shoulder. Bones well preserved.

8007: COFFIN

Wooden coffin. Reddish brown in colour very friable and crumbly. Rectangular in shape, extremely decayed, lying partly outside the area of excavation.

8008: GRAVE CUT

Rectangular cut for coffin (8007) and skeleton (8006). Vertical sides, flat bottomed. Orientated NE-SW. Partly outside area of excavation.

8009: COFFIN FILL

Friable to compact, dark brown to black deposit: 50% sand 30% silt 20% clay with occasional small tile fragments and pea grit. This was the material which fell into coffin £80113 when the lid rotted and collapsed.

8010: SKELETON

Inhumation oriented NE-SW. Female. Good articulation. Left hand extended, right hand on pelvis, supine. Front of skull damaged.

8011: COFFIN

Roughly rectangular coffin. Dark brown almost totally decayed wood. Friable and crumbly.

8012: GRAVE CUT

Roughly rectangular cut. Vertical sides, flat base.

8013: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown deposit: 50% clay 50% silt with occasional fragments of tile and moderate fine pebbles.

Discussion: This context series comprised a deposit of build-up material (8013) which sealed the burials discussed in (8.2.2) and was itself cut by two further graves. In this case the burial technique was very different. The skeletons were placed within coffins and there were clearly defined grave cuts. The constituent context numbers of each of the two inhumations were firstly (8001) to (8008) and secondly (8009) to (8012).

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group consisted of five inhumations divided stratigraphically into three levels with build-tip material in-between. Those in 8.2.1 and 8.2.2 were neither within coffins nor

grave cuts whilst those in (8.2.3) were in clearly defined cuts and in well-constructed coffins.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 8.3.1

CONTEXTS: 8001, 8002

8001: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown black deposit: 40% sand, 40% silt and 20% clay. Very humic and organic with occasional small cobbles and moderate fragments of animal bone.

8002: USE DEPOSIT

Compact 100% irregular limestone cobbles ranging from 0.02m to 0.15m in diameter with occasional fragments of tile.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a deliberately laid metalled surface coupled with a thin deposit of garden soil associated with its use.. This surface has been seen elsewhere on the site and represents the point at which the cemetery ceased to function and there was a change of land use. In other areas there were structural elements which coincide with this event. This was not however the case here.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 4.1.1

CONTEXT: 8000

8000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Mixture of two basic layers, the upper part being made tip of bricks, tiles and general demolition material. The lower of garden soil 40% sand 20% clay 40% silt with moderate animal bone fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Machine clearance of the site nearly two metres in depth.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

This area was one of those excavated during the last phase of archaeological activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developer's behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was secondary to this consideration. To achieve that and therefore the topmost two meters were removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than garden soil and brick rubble was removed. There was no evidence within this trench for well constructed buildings of medieval date standing at the Swinegate street frontage. However if such buildings had been of timber on post-pad supports it is unlikely that such ephemeral evidence would have been seen.

The archaeological sequence was truncated at the lower levels in that once it was clear that the burials had been fully removed no further excavation took place. This means that although a rough unmortared wall of unknown date was seen and recorded at the limit of excavation, it was not possible to establish its position within the stratigraphic sequence as its foundation levels were not reached and the deposits which related to both its use and its demolition were not excavated.

Sandwiched between the build-tip which sealed the top of this wall and the deposits that were removed by machine were two important features. The earliest comprised a number of burials which were superimposed on top of one another in three apparent levels divided by garden type soil. The lower two of these apparent levels of inhumations were laid on to this material without apparently being placed within either a coffin or a deep grave cut.¹ The apparently latest group of three were more formally buried in coffins within grave cuts.

It should be remembered that the technique of excavation used during this operation was to remove arbitrary spits and remove human remains as these were encountered. The levels of burial mentioned above may reflect nothing more than differences in depth of cut attained for different individuals. It is not impossible that the lowest body encountered was the last to be buried.

Above the burials a metalled surface was deliberately laid. This surface has been seen elsewhere on the site and represents the point at which the cemetery ceased to function and the land was divided into separate properties and redeveloped. Elsewhere in other excavated areas of the site there was more clear cut evidence for structures property divisions and for industrial evidence for structures, property divisions and for industrial activities. This was not the case here.

AREA 9

INTRODUCTION

Area 9 was located adjacent to Area 2 in that part of the site at the corner of Swinegate and Grape Lane. As with Area 2 it was positioned back from the street frontage, (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the latter stages of the archaeological activity on the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The top 1.5m metres of material were removed by machine and hand excavation only commenced at the level that burials were expected. As a result of the lack of burials within this excavation area and the presence of upstanding structural remains of apparent Roman date being present some limited excavation of the deposits associated with these features was carried out. It was not however possible to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence down to natural.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

The deposits in this group were not given context numbers by the excavators as they were neither excavated or fully recorded. They were observed prior to the backfilling of the area in the section of cut C90841 to 9.2.1). They consisted of a wall and related floor surface of a building pre-dating those that it was possible to excavate fully and which form the main body of the following text. These features were not drawn to scale but shown on a schematic section. The sequence seems to show the construction cut with clay and cobble fill for a stone wall robbed out above the first course. The floor was of sand above a mixed series of levelling deposits, which sealed the construction cut. No artifacts were retrieved from these levels

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 9.2.1

CONTEXTS: 9069, 9081, 9082, 9083, 9084, 9085

9069: STANDING

Medium to large sandstone fragments in a ratio of 4 to 1 making up 50% of the deposit, with large millstone grit fragments, 30% bonded with light yellow-white to light grey brown mortar 20%. Inclusions comprised occasional large limestone fragments, small to medium limestone fragments and small to medium cobbles.

9081: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact, mid brownish grey deposit of 40% sand, 40% silt, 20% clay, with occasional small pebbles and flecks of charcoal.

9082: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mixed deposit of friable mid brownish-grey sand 40%, silt 40%, clay 20%, with occasional small pebbles, charcoal flecks and 40%, clay 20% with occasional small pebbles, charcoal flecks and frequent mortar flecks.

9083: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Medium (30%) to large (20%) cobbles in a matrix of compact light brown-white mortar 50%. with occasional small limestone fragment and cobbles.

9084: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Rectilinear in shape, orientated NW/SE, with a 90 degree end on the NW side of the trench. Sides break sharply from top, falling sharply to a slight lip then gently to rounded bottom edge. NW edge more irregular, falling in a series of irregular steps to a flat base. This feature was not fully excavated.

9085: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Medium (20%) to large (80%) cobbles in a ratio of 1 to 4, making up 40% of the deposit in a matrix of compact blue/grey streaked

yellow/brown to red/brown clay 60% with occasional small to medium tile fragments.

This context series comprised a large rectangular cut feature at the southern corner of the trench. Its dimensions are uncertain as it extended to the south and east of the area excavated, However its foundations comprised a layer of clay and cobbles (9085) and a layer of cobbles and mortar (9083) placed within the cut (9084). These deposits supported (9069) a layer of roughly shaped sandstone and millstone grit fragments. The nature of this deposit coupled with the rectangular shape of the construction cut imply that this was not a wall-like feature.

Indeed the presence on the upper surface of the layer of what appear to be the impressions of large timbers or stone slabs, coupled with the lack of evidence for robbing has led to the interpretation that this was a standing for a wooden sleeper beamed building or perhaps a base for heavy machinery.

There were also two deposits (9081) and (9082) which were placed into the construction cut as packing deposits after (9069) had been constructed.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.2.2

CONTEXTS: 9070, 9072, 9073, 9074, 9075 9076, 9077, 9078, 9079

9070: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact light to mid orange/brown sand 10%, silt 10%, clay 80% with occasional small limestone and sandstone fragments, cobbles, patches of grey clay and flecks of charcoal.

9072: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable mid yellow/brown silt 10%, clay 10%, sand 80% with occasional flecks of plaster and grit.

9073: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable light orange/brown silt 40%, clay 60% with occasional medium mortar fragments, charcoal flecks, small pebbles, mortar flecks and

small limestone fragments, mortar flecks and small limestone fragments.

9074: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact greyish brown 10% sand, 10% silt, 80% clay with occasional small limestone fragments, cobbles, pebbles, flecks of charcoal and plaster.

9075: STAKE PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid/dark grey/brown sand 15%, silt 85% with occasional mortar flecks and small limestone fragments.

9076: STAKE PIPE VOID

Cut, ovoid in shape. Sides break sharply from surface. H,E,U sides fall gently in steps to slight lip, then sharply as does S. side to sharply pointed base.

9077: DEMOLITION DEPOSIT

compact mid to dark greenish brown sand 20%, silt 20%, clay 60%. with moderate patches of wall plaster, occasional small limestone fragments, small cobbles and charcoal flecks.

9078: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact blue/grey streaked light red/brown clay 100% with occasional charcoal and plaster flecks, mortar and plaster fragments and limestone fragments.

9079: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Quite compact, quite sticky light to mid/yellowish brown deposit. Sand 30%, silt 30%, clay 40% with occasional small patches of mortar, charcoal flecks and small pebbles.

This context series comprises a series of mixed deposits lying centrally in the trench cut away by later features to both the north-west and the south-east. They are all fairly horizontal in nature and may be associated with the use of the standing

discussed above in (9.2.1). There was a single stake hole 9075-6 associated with this build-tip which had no apparent function.

A further possible explanation for these deposits is that they were associated with the use of the buildings observed only in the section of cut (9084) (9.2.1) and discussed in Group 1. There is however no direct or stratigraphic evidence for this assertion.

GROUP DISCUSSION: Due to the heavily truncated and partial nature of the evidence in this trench it is difficult to imply a function for this structure and apparently related deposits. The impression left in the surface of (9069) (9.2.1) certainly gives weight to the assertion that this was either a major sleeper beam building or indeed may have supported some form of heavy machinery. A similar phenomenon observed in a deposit later in the sequence (see below) implies continuity of function in this area.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.1

CONTEXTS 9052, 9053, 9067, 9080

9052: STAKE PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

loose dark brown deposit: Silt 60%, sand 10%, clay 30% with occasional small wood fragments and charcoal flecks.

9053: STAKE PIPE VOID

Circular hole created by insertion of a stake. Timber rotted in situ, the void infilled with material which has fallen in. Vertical sides, pointed base.

9067: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact mid grey/brown sand 50%, silt 20%, 30% clay with occasional small cobbles, pebbles, limestone fragments, patches of mortar and flecks of charcoal.

9080: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Medium to large sandstone fragments 60% in a matrix of 1.5% silty 25% mortar with moderate small limestone fragments, occasional small cobbles and clay patches.

This context series consists of two deposits which continue the build-up discussed in (9.2.2). In this case however they post-date the standing in (9.2.1) and have been interpreted as having been part of the ground preparation for a later structure, (9.3.4). There was a single stake hole driven into the surface of this build-up. It's function is unclear.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.2

CONTEXTS: 9051, 9059

9051: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact but friable mottled light to dark brown/grey sand 30%, silt 35%, clay 35% with occasional small pebbles and char- coal fleck.

9059: FLOOR

100% compact light mid yellow brown mortar with occasional small cobbles, limestone fragments and charcoal flecks.

This context series comprised a convincing mortar floor (9059), with a single mixed build-up deposit (9051) which was stratigraphically above it and may have been associated with its use. It is likely that this surface although rather different in nature and perhaps function and stratigraphically distinct from (9063) may be associated with it as they are at the same approximate level.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.3

CONTEXTS: 9064, 9066

9064: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact, mid/dark brown deposit: silt 40%, clay 40%, sand 20% with occasional small cobbles, limestone and tile fragments, charcoal and wood flecks.

9066: PIT CUT

Roughly oval cut, irregular sloping sides and uneven base, vertical edges on S and E sides.

This context series consisted of a single small pit. It was not associated with any other structural element. It may have been for the disposal of general domestic waste and its presence here at this point in the stratigraphic sequence might imply an association with the demolition of the structure associated with the standing discussed above in Group 2.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.4

CONTEXTS: 9036, 9037, 9063

9036: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

compact mixed light reddish brown mid greyish brown: sand 45%, silt 20% clay 35% with occasional small cobbles, tile and limestone fragments.

9037: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Compact mixed deposit varying from light reddish brown to mid greyish brown. Sand 45%, silt 20%, clay 35% with occasional small fragments of limestone and tile and cobbles.

9063: FLOOR

Compact light-mid greyish yellow deposit: 25% limestone gravel, 75% mortar with occasional small cobbles and frequent large fragments of decayed sandstone.

This context series consisted of a major compacted deposit (9063) which showed similarities with the standing In (9.2.1) which has been interpreted as a machine-base or the bedding for a sleeper beamed building. As it was in almost exactly the same position and showed similar indentations left by heavy weights it would appear to represent the replacement of one similar feature by another. The other two deposits in this context series were of less significance but were related to this constructional event.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.5

CONTEXTS: 9062, 9065, 9068, 9071

9062: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Compact grey streaked mid orange-brown clay 100% with moderate decayed sandstone flecks, occasional charcoal flecks, medium cobbles, small pebbles, limestone fragments and a small patch of burnt clay.

9065: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose medium to coarse green stained off-white sand with occasional small sandstone fragments, pebbles, clay patches, brick and tile fragments.

9068: USE DEPOSIT

Coarse deposit: Sand 20%, green stained white mortar 80% with frequent very small pebbles.

9071: PIT CUT

Ovoid cut much truncated, imperceptible break from surface, falls gently then sharply to rounded bottom edge, to rather uneven base.

This context series consisted of a single mortar lined pit, only partially within the excavation area and also cut away by later intrusive features. It was however clearly a major feature perhaps used for the mixing of mortar. The later fills are related to its backfilling, levelling the area for a series of surfaces.

CONTEXT 9.3.6

CONTEXTS: 9057, 9058, 9060, 9061

9057: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey/brown to light yellow brown deposit: Silt 35%, sand 40%, clay 35% with occasional small limestone and sandstone fragments, charcoal flecks and small cobbles;

9058: OTHER DEPOSIT

Compact light orange/brown deposit: Sand 30%, clay 50%, with 20% compacted green brown sand patches and inclusions comprising occasional charcoal flecks, small decayed sandstone patches and small pebbles.

9060: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable light grey/mid brown deposit. Silt 30%, clay 10%, sand 60% with frequent mortar flecks, moderate charcoal flecks, occasional small brick fragments, clay patches, mortar fragments, small pebbles.

9061: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable mid/dark grey deposit: Silt 40%, charcoal 60%. with occasional small burnt clay patches, mortar flecks, burnt brick and tile.

This context series consists of four deposits against the extreme NW edge of the excavation almost completely truncated by the large construction cut (9031). As a consequence of there being such a small quantity of surviving material it is extremely difficult to make any intelligent observations about them. They have been placed together as their mixed nature suggests that they may have formed occupational or build-up deposits, but cannot definitely be described as floors or true surfaces. The high percentage of charcoal in (9061) led the excavator to infer that it had resulted from the use of a hearth or fired

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.7

CONTEXT: 9056

9056: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Compact light to mid orange brown deposit: Sand 40%, clay. 60% with occasional small patches of dark grey silt, brick and tile fragments limestone fragments and pebbles.

This deposit is in the same sequence as the above deposits in £9.3.6) and is subject to the same interpretative difficulties. The

fine compact nature of the deposit has led to it being interpreted as a trite floor deposit.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.5

CONTEXTS: 9047, 9054, 9055

9047: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable mid/dark grey deposit: Sand 40%, silt 60% with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional medium/large brown oxidized patches, small tile and limestone fragments and small pebbles.

9054: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: Silt 40%, charcoal 60% with occasional small pebbles and tile fragments.

9055: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mottled bluish grey deposit: Sand 10%, silt 10%, clay 80% with occasional patches of grey clay and charcoal flecks.

This is a further series of deposits isolated against the NW section. Again likely to be occupational in nature. The reasonably large amount of charcoal, making up 60% of (9054) is noteworthy.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.3.9

CONTEXTS: 9035, 9044

9035: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact mixed deposit, light reddish brown to mid greyish brown: Sand 45%, clay 35%, silt 20% with occasional small tile and limestone fragments and cobbles.

9044: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Compact yellow/white deposit: Sand 40%, mortar 60% with occasional small pebbles and small limestone fragments.

These are two further strips of material isolated against the NW section. In this case the compacted nature and high percentage of

mortar in (9044) has led to the tentative suggestion that it was a deliberately laid surface.

GROUP DISCUSSION: As with Group 2 the high level, of disturbance by later intrusions, particularly the two ditch-like features (9.8.1) and (9.8.2) which run across the full width of the trench, dividing the surviving archaeology into unrelated segments, makes this Group difficult to interpret. What is clear is that the hard-standing described in Group 2 was replaced by a similar feature (9.3.4) in approximately the

same position after the original feature had been removed and the area levelled, (9.3.13). The presence of impressions left by heavy weights in the upper surface of (9633) attest to that. There was also an area of mortar flooring (9.3.2) and a pit (9.3.5), apparently used for the production of mortar in association with the new structure.

also an area of mortar flooring (9.3.2) and a pit (9.3.5), apparently used for the production of mortar in association with this new structure.

A single pit (9.3.3) containing domestic waste intervened between these two major structural events but is not thought to be of any particular significance, perhaps occurring during the building activities associated with the replacement of the old by the new.

There were also a series of deposits adjacent to the NW section which may relate to the structure represented by (9.3.4). (The precise relationship is uncertain as later intrusions had isolated them from contemporary evidence). They comprised an accumulation of build-up deposits and floors/surfaces. A number of context series were assigned to this build-up: (9.3.6), (9.3.7), (9.3.8) and (9.3.9).

It should also be mentioned that the evidence discussed below in Group I was contemporary with the activities included in this Group. The evidence is ambiguous and must await dating or other evidence to help resolve the problem, should this actually prove possible.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 9.4.1

CONTEXTS: 9049, 9050

9049: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact reddish/brown deposit: Clay 50%, small and medium sized cobbles 50% with occasional small limestone fragments.

9050: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Cut for clay and cobble foundation. Area too small to identify orientation.

This feature is clearly a clay and cobbled filled foundation trench. However it is only just inside the north-eastern edge of the excavation area and is therefore very difficult to interpret. Neither its orientation nor its dimensions can be recorded with any degree of accuracy. It was also truncated within the excavation area by a later feature (9017) (9.8.23).

CONTEXT SERIES 9.4.2

CONTEXTS: 9032, 9043, 9045, 9046, 9048

9032: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact light reddish brown to mid greyish brown deposit:

Sand 45%, silt 20%, clay 35% with occasional tile and limestone fragments and small cobbles.

9043: FLOOR

80% light yellowish/brown mortar, 20% small limestone fragments with occasional gravel.

9015: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact light/mid greyish brown deposit: Sand 50%, silt 30%, clay 20% with occasional charcoal flecks, large pebbles and grit.

9046: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark greyish/brwn deposit: Sand 20%, silt 40%, clay 40% with occasional tile fragments, charcoal fleck, grit, small limestone fragments, small cobbles and pebbles.

9048: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact/friable mid/light greenish/brown deposit: Sand 45%, silt 25%, clay 30% with occasional charcoal fleck and small pebbles.

This context series comprises a series of horizontal deposits with a total depth of 0.25m, cut away by later features to both the NW and the SE. They are interpreted as the levelling deposits for a mortar and limestone floor (9043) above which a thick deposit of occupational material £90321 was then laid. These deposits sealed the fill of the cut discussed above in (9.4.1) and would have presumably lipped up to the edge of the wall, which was contained by it, prior to its robbing.

GROUP DISCUSSION: There is no direct stratigraphic evidence for the relationship between the material in this Group with other features on the site. They could relate to either the earlier structural arrangement discussed below in Group 3 or indeed could relate to the major building layout discussed below in Group 5. IF it proves during later analysis that the construction cut (9.4.1) belongs with the earlier Group 3 activities, then it is possible that the deposits in (9.4.2) could be split, with some of them associated with the earlier Group and some with the later. If dating or other evidence does not provide a definitive answer to this problem then it will remain as an unresolved issue.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 9.5.1

CONTEXTS: 9019, 9039, 9041, 9042

9019: WALL

NE/SW aligned wall, limestone facing two courses high. Rubble core of 5-10 cm sized limestone fragments bonded with a yellow/white

sandy mortar with occasional small pebbles. NW face comprised well worked smooth, sharply edged angular blocks. The SE face slightly cruder in construction.

9039: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

50% cobbles in a matrix of compact, grey mottled orange/brown silt (10%), clay (40%) with occasional small limestone and sandstone fragments.

9041: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Quite friable, not very compact mid to dark yellowish/ brown deposit: Sand 50%, silt 20%, clay 30% with occasional patches of grey clay and small pebbles.

9012: CONSTRUCTION CUT

NW/SE orientated wall construction cut.

This context series comprised the construction cut and foundation deposit for the two lower courses of a well constructed wall 0.60m in width and aligned NW/SE.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.5.2

CONTEXTS: 9028, 9031

9028: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Compact mid reddish/brown sticky deposit: 20% sand, BOX clay with occasional small and large cobbles and small limestone fragments.

9031: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Linear NE/SW cut for wall (9018). Vertical sides, slightly sloping almost flat base, Shallow ridge and depression in the base at the NW end.

This context series comprises the cut and lowermost fill of a wall construction trench running along the NW side of the excavation area. It has been placed in a separate context series from the remainder of the fills of the cut and the wall which it contains because differential robbing and consequent removal of material has

given it importantly different stratigraphic relationships with other features elsewhere in the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.5.3

CONTEXTS: 9018, 9022, 9023, 9024, 9025, 9026, 9027

9018: WALL

NW/SE orientated limestone wall bonded with mortar. Colour of mortar mid green/brown to light creamy brown. The mortar was very hard and included occasional pebbles. The presence of three edged stones running across the top of the upper surviving course are perhaps evidence for an entrance. Robbing, combined with the fact that this feature, reins into the section means that it is not possible to be precise about its width, but it is thought to be approximately 0.60m.

9022: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Light greenish/brown very compact deposit, slightly friable in places: Sand 30%, clay 70% with occasional small patches of light grey clay.

9023: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Layer of cobbles ranging in size from 5cm to 15cm with occasional small limestone fragments.

9024: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Very compact, very sticky, mid greyish brown deposit with a touch of red here and there: Sand 20%, clay 80%.

9025: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Layers of cobbles 5–25cm in size with occasional limestone fragments and occasional patches of silver/grey clay.

9026: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

light to mid green/brown friable to compact deposit: 65% sand 35% clay with occasional limestone fragments, cobbles and patches of clay.

9027: OTHER

Semi-circular cut, gentle slope on SW, vertical on NW. Truncated to NE by shoring, to SE by cut (9011) (9.8.1). Base slopes to E.

This context series contained the remainder of the fills of the construction trench discussed above in (9.5.2). Included within this series of building construction deposits was a small intrusion (9026, 9027). This is not however thought to be a separate activity from the construction of the wall foundations. This series also includes the remains of the wall that was supported by the foundational layers. Although this has been heavily robbed out there was evidence for a threshold.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises two major walls running approximately parallel to one another on either side of the trench. Their orientation is NE/SW. They are also similar in width and in constructional characteristics. Later robbing and the digging of deeply cut linear features means that they have no direct stratigraphic relationship with one another and minimal relationships with other surrounding deposits. There is also evidence that the internal layout of the resultant building was subsequently modified by the insertion of more crudely constructed cross walls. The high degree of intrusive activity has meant that there is no evidence for surfaces of floors which directly relate to either of these two walls, although there is the possibility that some of the deposits in (9.4.2) relate to this use of the site.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES: 9033, 9034, 9038, 9040

9033: FLOOR

Clay 100%, light to mid greyish red. Very compact, very sticky.

9034: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Wall consisting of large blocks of limestone bonded with a loose grey/white silt 30%, mortar 70%, with infill of limestone chippings and occasional small pebbles also bonded with the above mortar.

9038: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Small, to large cobbles, mostly medium (up to 5cm) in a matrix of compact orange brown/blue streaked clay 100% with occasional small sandstone fragments, occasional small sandstone fragments.

9040: CONSTRUCTION CUT

Rectilinear shape cut, truncated to NW by 9017. Sides break sharply. SE side cut irregularly into the fabric of the adjacent mall (9019) (9.5.1), where it falls in irregular steps to a rounded bottom edge. The SW side falls sharply then vertically to a sharp bottom edge. The NE side breaks sharply and falls vertically to a sharp bottom edge. Base uneven but flat, sloping gently to the SE.

This context series comprises the constructional elements of a subsidiary

wall crudely bonded at 90 degrees to (9019) (9.5.1) as a later subsidiary part of the building plan. It appears to be more crudely constructed than (9019). A small patch of clay floor lies at the intersection of the two walls. Both this floor and the mall itself have been separated from associated deposits elsewhere in the trench by a later rut feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.6.2

CONTEXTS: 9029, 9030

9029: BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Mid/light grey brown deposit: 50% clay, 50% cobbles, very compact, cobbles range from 5-15cm. with occasional tile and small limestone fragments.

9030: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Linear cut with vertical sides at SE end, NW end disturbed, base fairly flat, orientated NW/SE.

This context series comprises a construction cut with its clay and cobble fill. This feature is cut into and forms a later cross wall

associated with wall £9018) (9.5.3). It is also the continuation of the same feature discussed above in (9.6.1).

GROUP DISCUSSION: The importance of the evidence from this group is that it represents a later cross wall divided the area between walls 9018 (9.5.3) and (9019) (9.5.1). The area was thus divided into two separate areas by the addition of this wall.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 9.7.1

CONTEXT: 9020

9020: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark greenish/brown very compact very friable deposit: Sand 30%, clay 20%, mortar 50% with moderate grit and occasional small tile fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a single context. It consisted of a mixed deposit immediately above wall (9018) (9.5.3). It extends both to the NW and the NE of the area excavated. In addition to this it has been cut away to the SE by a ditch-like feature (9011) (9.8.1). Although the evidence is only fragmentary it has however been interpreted as the remains of the fragmentary it has however been interpreted as the remains of the material that was discarded when the wall (9018) was robbed-out. It is not clear whether or not this wall was robbed out below its foundational level. There was no trace of a robber trench

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 9.8.1

CONTEXTS: 9004, 9006, 9007, 9011, 9012, 9013

9004: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey brown compact very sticky deposit: Sand 20%, silt 20%, clay 60% with occasional small cobbles, limestone fragments, pebbles and patches of grey clay.

9006: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown to black very compact, sticky, quite humic deposit: Sand 20%, silt 50%, clay 30% with occasional limestone and tile fragments, pebbles and grit.

9007: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown/black very compact, very sticky deposit: Sand 10%, silt 40%, clay 20% with occasional limestone fragments, small pebbles and very small pieces of tile or brick.

9011: ROBBER CUT

Cut aligned NE/SW adjacent to wall (9018). Irregular sloping sides, uneven base, tapering slightly to the SE.

9012: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid to dark brown decayed timber, very loose and soft, quite sticky with occasional small pebbles.

9013: POST PIPE VOID

Post hole, circular, regular vertical sides, flat base.

This context series comprised the cut and fills of a linear feature which spanned the full width of the area, extending both to the NE and SKI. It was aligned NE/SW and had irregular sloping sides and a flat base. It was positioned immediately to the SE of wall (9018) (9.5.3) and was initially thought to be the robber trench for that feature. However there was no evidence for demolition material in its fill and it was rather odd as a robbing trench as it ran alongside the wall rather than actually lay cutting down over the top of the wall. The silty nature of the several fills (9004), (9006) and (9007) has led to the suggestion that it was in fact a crudely cut unlined drain. A small decayed post (9012) (9013) was found driven into the base of the cut prior to its infilling but no explanation is offered for this isolated feature.

CONTEXT SERIES 9.8.2

CONTEXTS: 9014, 9015, 9016, 9017

9014: OTHER DEPOSIT

Dark grey/brown compact organic deposit: Sand 10%, silt

Dark grey/brown compact organic deposit: Sand 10%, silt 65%, clay 25% with occasional large and small limestone fragments, small to medium cobbles, small sandstone fragments, small to medium brick/tile fragments, oyster shell fragments, decayed wood and charcoal flecks.

9017: DRAIN CUT

Cut aligned NE/SW adjacent to wall (9019) (9.4.1). It continues beyond both ends of the area excavated. The NW side breaks gently from the surface, falling sharply to a rounded bottom edge, except at the SW end where it falls vertically in the lower part of the cut. The SE side breaks gently but the fall varies along the length of the cut. The base is flat and uneven with a slight depression in the centre. For the reasons expressed in the previous context series this has been interpreted as a crudely cut unlined drain rather than as a robber trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: These two features are related stratigraphically, by alignment and by the nature of their fills. Although adjacent to two major robbed out walls they have been interpreted as drains rather than as robbing features. They do not however relate to any structures within either this area or any of the other excavation areas. As with other major elements on the site the isolated and limited size of the trenches has severely limited the interpretation that it is possible to make.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT SERIES 9.9.1

CONTEXTS: 9009, 9010

9009: USE DEPOSIT

Friable, mid to dark grey/brown silt 80%, with lenses of organic, light to mid green brown friable cess (which consists of BOX straw, 20% liquefied faecal remains?) with occasional small decayed wood fragments, millstone grit fragments, medium limestone fragments and small to medium cobbles.

9010: PIT CUT

Rectangular in shape long axis NE/SW, sloping sides, rounded base truncated to NE by shoring and to the SW by £9008) £9.9. 2) -

This pit cuts into the linear feature described above in (9.8.2). Its fill would indicate that it was cut for the disposal of cess.

CONTEXT 9.9.2

CONTEXTS: 9005, 9008

9005: USE DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/brown deposit: Sand 15%, silt 85% with occasional medium limestone fragments, small sandstone fragments, decayed wood, orange clay and mortar flecks.

9008: PIT CUT

Rectilinear, longest axis NE/SW, sides break sharply from surface, NE and SW sides sharp, N corner gentle then vertical to a slight lip then vertical. SW side falls vertically. NW side falls vertically then sharply. Sharply rounded bottom edge leading to a flat uneven base with a shallow depression to the N.

This was the lower part of a cess pit which had been partially cut away when the topmost levels in the trench had been removed by JCB.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group consisted of two cess pits in sequence both cutting the linear feature discussed above in

(9.8.2).

GROUP 10

CONTEXT SERIES 9.10.1

CONTEXTS: 9001, 9002, 9003, 9015, 9016, 9021

9001: OTHER DEPOSIT

fixed compact light grey/brown-dark brown/black layer of various deposits: Sand 40%, silt 30%, clay 30% with occasional wooden posts, large limestone blocks, small fragments of timber.

9002: USE DEPOSIT

Mid to dark green/brown very sticky very compact deposit:

Sand 40%, silt 30%, clay 30% with occasional small fragments of twig or branch and small pebbles.

9003: PIT CUT

Rectilinear pit. Regular sloping sides, flat base.

9015: POST

Well preserved post. good preservation, complete trunk circular dark reddish brown

9016: POST PIPE VOID

Post hole cut, circular in section, vertical sides pointed base.

9021: POST

Timber post rectangular, pointed base, 16cm-10cm-6cm. Dark brawn badly decayed. (Not conserved).

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised a number of deposits and features which were excavated by hand but were recorded in some

haste as the primary concern within this trench as a result of pressure of time was to reach the level at which burials would have been encountered should they have been present. The material included one spit of several deposits (9001) into which was cut a single pit (9003) (9003), the fill of which would indicate that it was dug for the disposing of unwanted domestic waste. In addition to the two posts that were recorded as having been driven down through the surface of this horizon ((9015)(9016) and (9021) there were a number of others which were not recorded individually but were shown on the plan for (9001). They did not form any discernible pattern. The excavator also recorded the presence of two worked limestone blocks and the apparent decayed remains of a wooden floor. These features were not however recorded in any more detail.

GROUP 11

CONTEXT SERIES 9.11.1

CONTEXT: 9000

9000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Layer of dark brown black garden type soil

This deposit represents the top 2.5m of material, removed by 3CR in order to get down to the possible burial level as swiftly as possible.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION:

This trench contained a wealth of archaeological evidence, much of which is extremely difficult to interpret due to the small size of the excavation area and the fact that deeply cut intrusive features disrupted many of the important stratigraphic relationships.

The first point to note is that despite the fact that this trench was excavated to uncover human remains it was clear that the cemetery did not extend to this part of the site.

The opportunity was therefore taken to carry out some limited further work in order to reveal a little more of the underlying building plan of Roman date, It was not possible to excavate the

complete archaeological sequence and a wall was observed in the section of later features which it was not possible to otherwise excavate or record. This feature is described in Group 1. Groups 2 and 3 contain evidence for a major structure, apparently rebuilt or replaced on at least one occasion. It differed from the other Roman buildings on the site in that it apparently formed a large well constructed area of hard standing rather than a trench-built foundation which would have supported standard type of building. The initial interpretation of this feature is that it represents the base for a large piece of heavy machinery. In Group 3 there was also evidence that this now rebuilt feature co-existed with a mortar-mixing pit and surfaces also of mortar.

In Group 4 there was evidence for a construction cut, largely outside the area excavated with an associated build-up. It is not clear from the stratigraphic evidence whether this relates to the material in Group 3 or to that in Group 5.

Group 5 contained evidence for a major change of use on the site, two large trench-built walls were constructed running parallel to each other across the full width of the trench. As a result of later intrusions it was not possible to determine the relationship of these walls with any surfaces, but they may be associated with at least some of the build-up sequence in (9.4.2). In Group 6 the building which was made up by these two major walls was internally altered by the addition of a subsidiary cross wall. This smaller wall had been cut in two by later intrusive activity.

There was some evidence for the robbing out of this building in Group 7. Thereafter two major linear features dominated the trench in Group 8. These have been interpreted as crudely cut unlined drains, although as they run parallel to the major walls it is possible that they are associated with the robbing process. These features were themselves cut by later cess pits, Group 9, prior to the accumulation of a large deposit of garden-type soil which was partially excavated by hand and partially by mechanical means.

AREA 10

INTRODUCTION

Area 10 was located in the backyard to the rear of the property at the intersection of Coffee Yard, Grape Lane and Swinegate. It was thus isolated from the remainder of the trenches that made up this project, (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the final phase of the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The topmost deposits were removed by machine and excavation ceased when it was clear that there were no further burials within the area.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXTS SERIES 10.1.1

CONTEXTS: 10002, 10005

10002: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable brown deposit: 70% organic material, clay 20%, silt 10%.

10005: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Two major lenses of 1) friable brown 10% sand, 1.0% silt, 20% clay
2) friable black 20% sand, 20% clay, 20% silt with occasional tile, sandstone and limestone fragments and moderate flecks of mortar.

Discussion: This context series represents a build-up of type soil. It was the lower level of excavation in this E10005) was not dug at all.

CONTEXT SERIES 10.1.2

CONTEXTS: 10003, 10004

10003: POST

Isolated post, vertically driven into ground. 490mm x 1000mm x 100mm. circular cross section.

10004: POST

Isolated post, circular cross section. vertical in ground. 560mm x 1000mm x 300mm.

Discussion: Two posts approximately 0.75m apart, aligned north-south. Little more can be said about them. They are not associated with any other structural element and are stratigraphically earlier than the excavated deposits which have built up around them.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 10.2.1

CONTEXT: 10001

10001: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact mid-dark brown deposit: 70% clay 30% silt.

Discussion: This is a 0.40m build-up sealing the top of the posts in the previous context series. It was removed as an arbitrary spit to search for skeletons.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 10.3.1

CONTEXT: 10000

10000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Mixed deposits removed by machine.

Discussion: Machine clearances

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

This area was one of those excavated during the last phase of activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developers behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was secondary to this consideration. To achieve that end therefore the topmost 2.00m were removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than mixed soils were removed.

Due to pressure of time it was not possible to excavate the complete archaeological sequence in this area. No burials were apparent in this area and once this had been proven by excavating to a depth below which they were likely to be forthcoming based on their level elsewhere on the site, work ceased. The material uncovered consisted of cultivated or garden soil and two isolated posts.

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9 APPENDIX 2: List of contexts in context order.

INTRODUCTION

Area 11 was located at the Swinegate Street frontage opposite its junction with Back-Swinegate and to the north-east of the alleyway that divided the north-eastern part of the site into two separate halves, (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the latter stages of the archaeological activity on the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The top two meters of material were removed by machine and ephemeral structural traces may not have been observed. Hand excavation only took place at the level, at which burials were expected. As a result of pressure of time and the need to excavate burials elsewhere on the site it was not possible to excavate into the pre-cemetery levels.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 11.1.1

CONTEXT: 11025

11025: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark brown compact deposit: clay 25% silt 75% with occasional pebbles and limestone, tile and bone fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This deposit was the lowest level reached in this trench. It represents a build-up of dark cultivated soil and was not present over the whole of the trench having been cut away by later intrusions.

GROUP 2:

CONTEXT SERIES 11.2.1

CONTEXT: 11008

11008: SKELETON

Supine extended adult inhumation, right hand by side, left hand on right pelvis. Orientation SSW to NNE. Skull and lower legs partly missing. Left femur displaced. No grave cut or coffin present.

CONTEXT SERIES 11.2.2

CONTEXTS: 11012, 11014, 11013, 11016, 11017

11012: COFFIN

Fragment of timber on a NNE/SSW axis, possibly part of coffin (11015) below, which was disturbed when a cut (11011) was made for a later burial.

11014: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey deposit: clay 30%, silt 70% but looser round head of skeleton. Inclusions included occasional brick, round head of

skeleton. Inclusions included occasional brick, limestone shell and mortar fragments and pebbles.

11015: COFFIN LID

Remains of a coffin lid in decayed state. Traces found on the skull and in SW and W area of the burial.

11016: SKELETON

Supine extended adult burial. Right hand on right hip. Lnft hand on centre of pelvis. Bones well preserved. Orientation SW/NE with the head to the SW. Very few feet bones present.

11017: COFFIN

Narrow wooden coffin. Rectangular, U half destroyed by later burial. When lifted proved to be a timber stain, those bits which could be, were sampled.

Discussion: Adult burial within a coffin and a grave cut stratigraphically earlier and partly cut away by a further burial discussed below in (11.2.3).

CONTEXT SERIES 11.2.3

CONTEXTS: 11006, 11007, 11009, 11010, 11011

11006: SKELETON

Inhumation burial, adolescent, supine, preservation poor. Orientation NE/SW with the head to the SW. Legs truncated by north section.

11007: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark gray/black compact deposit: silt 45%, sand 10%, clay 45% with occasional charcoal flecks. This is material which has fallen into coffin £11009) after the collapse of the lid.

11009: COFFIN

Straight sided rectangular timber coffin. Quite well preserved on west side and base, other sides less so. No evidence of nails or pegs.

11010: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark grey deposit: clay 30% silt 70% with occasional limestone, brick and bone fragments.

11011: GRAVE CUT

Shallow, flat based grave cut. Slightly rounded S end. North end outside excavated area.

Discussion: This grave is not entirely within the excavation area and is also rather shallow. This is because it is immediately below the metalled surface (11002) (11.4.1). This apparently deliberately laid surface signals the closure of the cemetery over much of the site and the shallowness of this particular inhumation implies that some material may have had to be removed in order to provide a level surface. There is the possibility therefore for the truncation of the archaeological sequence.

CONTEXT SERIES 11.2.4

CONTEXTS: 11022, 11023, 11024

11022: COFFIN LID

Extremely fragmentary remains of thin plank forming a coffin lid which protruded into the extreme northern corner of the trench.

11023: SKELETON

In the extreme northern corner of the trench.. The only visible hits were radius, ilium, some ribs and vertebrae. Aligned NW/SE. As so little of this individual was within the excavation area it was left unexcavated.

11024: COFFIN

Thin planks of a coffin base.. Only a tiny bit was within the excavated area.

Discussion: This burial was only partially within the northern corner of the trench and as such was left unexcavated. It lay immediately adjacent to the cut (11021) (11.3.1) but was not cut by it. What the burial was stratigraphically above was neither recorded nor excavated.

CONTEXT SERIES 11.2.5

CONTEXT: 11013

11013: COFFIN

Fragment of wood 0.38m x 0.29m x 0.015m. Cut edges on E and S sides
Remainder removed by pit (11021), (11.3.1).

Discussion: This small fragment of wood has been interpreted as the remains of a burial, the rest of which was removed when a later pit (11.3.1) was cut.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised four burials, two of which were in coffins and grave cuts and two that were not. Orientation and body position were however similar as far as could be ascertained. There was also the fragmentary remains of what may have been a coffin from a further disturbed burial.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 11.3.1

CONTEXTS: 11019, 11020, 11021

11019: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid dark brown deposit: 30% clay, 70% silt with occasional bone, tile, limestone fragments and pebbles.

11020: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid dark brown/green deposit: 20% clay 80% silt with occasional bone, tile, limestone and sandstone fragments.

11021: PIT CUT

Pit, upper part almost circular with gradual break of slope from surface shelving to a flat step. Lower part a linear slope from surface, shelving to a flat step. Lower part a linear L-shaped profiled trench.

Discussion: The interpretation of this feature is difficult as it was excavated during the speed and haste of body chasing. It has been interpreted as a single linear cut with a step on one side. This is because it has a single fill and because it is similar in profile and infilling material to (9017) in Trench 9.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 11.4.1

CONTEXT: 11002

11002: USE DEPOSIT

40% medium limestone fragments, 40% medium cobbles, 10% silt, 10% clay with occasional tile and pottery fragments

GROUP DISCUSSION: This deposit was a metalled surface spanning the full extent of the trench except at the south-western end where it had been cut away by later intrusions. It was up to 0.1Gm in thickness and represents a deliberate laying of a surface. This has been seen elsewhere on the site and coincides with the abandonment of the cemetery. The excavator has drawn the position of an otherwise unrecorded wicker fence aligned NW/SE, cut into the surface of this feature which might imply an associated property boundary or structure.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 11.5.1

CONTEXTS: 11003, 11004, 11005, 11018

11003: PIT CUT

Circular cut mainly outside area of excavation. Sharp break of slope from surface, irregular sides. Base not in area excavated.

11004: POST

Upright post 0.06m in diameter, 0.50m long, squared base. Associated with pit (11018).

11005: PIT LINING

Wicker lining of pit 11003. Consists of 7 uprights with woven horizontals in between.

11018: PIT CUT

Sub rectangular cut. Sharp break of slope from surface. Steep sides flat base. Mainly outside area of excavation.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised two intercutting pits only partially within the south-western end of the excavation area. They were excavated quickly as this was part of a skeleton removal exercise and their fills were removed with the preceding spit (11001) (11.6.1). It is not possible to assign a function for these features although the wicker-lining associated with (11003) and the organic nature of the fill of both, might imply that they and the organic nature of the fill of both, might imply that they were used for the disposal of cess. There was also a single post associated with pit (11018).

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 11.6.1

CONTEXT: 11001

11001: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark grey/brown deposit: clay 30%, silt 50%, sand 20% with brown organic material filling cuts at south/western end of trench. Inclusions comprised occasional brick/tile, shell, wood, limestone, sandstone and bone fragments, (some human)

GROUP DISCUSSION: A build-up of garden-type soil post-dating the metallated surface discussed in (11.4.1).

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 11.7.1

CONTEXT 11000

11000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Top 2m of soil removed by machine. This removal method was brought about by the need to get down to the burial level with the greatest possible haste. This deposit was observed to ensure that major medieval features would be recorded should they have existed. Ephemeral features are likely to have gone unnoticed.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

This area was one of those excavated during the latter stages of archaeological activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developers behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was secondary to this consideration. To achieve that end therefore the topmost two metres were removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than garden soil and brick rubble was removed There was no evidence within this trench for well constructed buildings of medieval date standing at the Swinegate street frontage If such buildings had been of timber on post- pad supports it is unlikely that such ephemeral evidence would have been seen.

The archaeological sequence was truncated at the lower levels in that once it was clear that the burials had been fully removed no further excavation took place.

The lowest level reached (11025) (11.1.1) was a deposit of cultivated or garden type soil which remained unexcavated. Into the surface of this deposit were either placed or cut four inhumations and a trace of timber which may be the vestigial traces of a coffin which had otherwise been destroyed by a linear cut, (11.3.1). Two of the burials were in coffins and two were not. The linear feature is of interest in that it is aligned to a similar feature in Trench 9. It also pre-dates the metalled surface (11.4.1) which elsewhere on the site has been taken to be the activity which signals the demise of the cemetery. This linear cut or ditch will need to be examined in some detail to see if it has some significance in relation to the limits of the cemetery. At this stage in the analysis it would appear to be at the north-western perimeter of the main cemetery area although there is a charnel pit and a single infant burial further to the NW in trench 12. (See the site-wide discussion elsewhere in this report for a more full account of this aspect of this feature).

The metalled surface in this trench was associated with an ephemeral wicker fence and was also cut by what have been interpreted as cess pits. This is further evidence for the change of land use which this surface signals. Later developments in the medieval and early modern periods remain unrecorded as the top 2m of material was removed by machine.

AREA 12

INTRODUCTION

Area 12 was located at the Swinegate Street frontage opposite its Junction with Rack-Swinegate and to the north-east of the alleyway that divided the north-eastern part of the site into two separate halves, (see Figure 1). It was excavated during the final phase of the site and was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The top two metres of material was removed by machine in addition to the fill of a backfilled Victorian cellar which ran NE/SW through the centre of the trench and had caused some disturbance of the medieval deposits. Following the removal of the human remains there was some limited time to investigate an underlying Roman wall and related deposits. There was not however sufficient time to excavate the full archaeological sequence.

THE STRATIGRAPHIC SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 12.1.1

CONTEXT: 12044

12044: WALL.

Wall running NE/SW made up of mortared limestone blocks, on the same alignment as a similar feature in trench 2. It was not excavated and had been robbed out down to the surviving level. Its full width was not known as it continued to the south-east beneath deposits which had built-up against it which there was not time to excavate. It is likely to have had the same width as the wall in trench 2 which is clearly, related to it.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.1.2

CONTEXT: 12043

12043: WALL

Limestone wall orientated NW/SE and extending to the SE of the excavation areas 1 course remaining, bonded with sandy, friable mortar with occasional pebbles. Width varied from 0.52m to 0.55m. It has a clay and cobbled foundation.

Discussion: These two walls are clearly Roman in origin but because of the constraints of the excavation method in this trench it is difficult to be able to say much beyond this as their constructional and use deposits remain in the main, unexcavated.

However something can be said about their relationship. The smaller wall (12043) (12.1.2) was clearly later than the larger (12044) (12.1.1) as its foundational levels were above layers which had built up against the side of (12044). It clearly therefore represents an alteration, presumably internal to the building, of which C 12044) was one of the main structural elements. The relative importance of the two walls is also shown by the nature of their robbing. (12043) was not robbed to the same level as (12044) presumably because the blocks from which it was built were not sufficiently large to warrant the effort required in removing them. The stratigraphic position of (12044) is not known in relation to the rest of the sequence and it is therefore shown to float on the context matrix. (12043) is however stratigraphically below (12042).

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.1

12041: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown deposit: 90% clay 10% sand, with moderate mortar fragments and occasional pottery sherds and animal bone.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.2

12038: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact light grey/mid brown deposit: 20% limestone; 40% mortar; 40% clay, with occasional tile. Fairly hard even surface which may have served as a floor or the levelling for a floor.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.3

12035: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact mid brown deposit: 90% clay, 10% limestone fragments up to 0.15m in diameter with occasional pottery sherds, tile and bone fragments and moderate mortar patches.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.4

12032: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/dark brown deposit: 50% clay, 40% sand, 10% ash with frequent charcoal, fleck, moderate oyster shell and occasional pot and tile fragments.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.5

12030: DUMP DEPOSIT

Compact 100% mid brown-orange clay, with moderate limestone fragments and occasional shell, pot and charcoal fleck.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.6

12021: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable deposit: 40% sand, 20% ash, 30% clay, 10% mid brown clay patches. Colour mid brown/dark grey. Inclusions com rinsed moderate charcoal flecks and occasional pot, tile and bone.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.2.7

12018: BUILD UP DEPOSIT Friable mid brown/grey deposit: 40% sand, 60% clay with moderate charcoal fleck and occasional pot and tile.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group of seven contexts form a build-up approximately 0.40m thick adjacent to wall (12044) (12.1.1) against which they have clearly been deposited. The limited size of the excavation area coupled with the fact that it was not possible to reach the constructional levels of the (12044) mean that interpretation is limited. There is however some evidence to suggest that they are external. The wall (12043) (12.1.2) on the opposite side of (12044) has been interpreted as internal, which would lead to the likelihood that this was external. The nature of the deposition itself would also back up this hypothesis. They are fairly mixed and have a high percentage of inclusions. In several instances the excavator has recorded that there is an element of domestic waste about the material. They are also reasonably compact and level. Perhaps the best explanation for their formation is that they form rough beaten surfaces adjacent to a building into which refuse may have been dumped or swept. They have been separated into separate context series as it is likely that each deposit may have formed and existed at the surface for some considerable time.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 12.3.1

CONTEXTS: 12019, 12020

12019: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: 30% sand, 20% ash, 50% clay, with moderate charcoal fleck and occasional bone and tile.

12020: PIT CUT

Roughly rectangular pit, top edge has been truncated by shoring and cut (12007). The north facing edge terraces down to the base in sharp breaks of slope, the U facing side slopes imperceptibly to the base from a sharp top edge.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This small feature .is truncated by a later feature and also extends beyond the excavation area. It is therefore difficult to assign a function for it except to state that the ash

and charcoal in its fill might imply that it was for the disposal of the residue from a hearth or fire.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 12.4.1

CONTEXTS: 12009, 12012

12009: FLOOR

Friable light grey-brown deposit: 80% clay, 20% sand with occasional tile, limestone and sandstone fragments.

12012: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown/dark grey deposit: 60% clay, 20% sand, 10% silt (or ash), 10% charcoal fragments with occasional tile, shell, pot, bone and lead.

GROUP DISCUSSION: These two deposits continue the process of build up associated with the use of a building discussed above in Group 2. Here the excavator is more firm in his interpretation that one of the deposits formed a floor but there is no real evidence to disprove the suggestion that this was an external area. It is likely to have been a coarse compacted area of beaten earth.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 12.5.1.

CONTEXTS: 12037 12039

12037: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Slightly mottled, moderately compact mid grey/brown deposit: silt 40% clay 60% with occasional small brick and tile fragments, charcoal fleck and a slate type stone with mica, limestone, pebble and lenses of yellow-brown clays

12039: PIT CUT

Shallow, vertically sided, flattish based pit, c.1m across, partly obscured by I3-facing section, giving impression of being circular.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This feature was an extremely shallow pit only a maximum of 0.18m in depth. It is difficult to assign a function to it. The most likely explanation is that it is simply the levelling out of a shallow depression prior to the laying down of a later floor. Although there is no stratigraphic relationship between this pit and the wall discussed above in 12.1.1, it cut into deposits which built up against wall (12043) and is therefore likely to have been associated with its use, i.e. an internal occupational feature.

GROUP 6

CONTEXT SERIES 12.6.1

CONTEXTS: 12029, 12034, 12036

12029: FLOOR

Metalled surface of small cobbles or pebbles (2–12cm) 40%, limestone 10% In a matrix of light grey/brown silt 30%, sand 10%, clay 10% with occasional brick and mortar fragments.

12031: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Friable grey/brown silt 63%, clay 33% with occasional

12036: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

Compact friable light brown silt 60%, sand 10%, clay 30% with occasional small lenses or lumps of dark grey and inclusions of frequent pebbles, occasional tile and charcoal.

GROUP DISCUSSION: These three deposits, as with the previous group are at the eastern corner of the trench confined by the walls discussed in (12.1.1). Again they are interpreted as having been associated with the use of these walls forming a compacted metalled surface (12029) with associated levelling deposits. The excavator alternatively interpreted the lowermost levelling deposit as a yard in its own right. The nature of the material which make up these surfaces is of interest in that its durable consistency would imply that they were external in nature. The configuration of their associated walls as discussed in (12.1.1) would however indicate that the area is in fact internal. This could be a factor in

determining the function of the building of which they form apart. At this stage due to the limited size of the excavation area there is little more that can be stated. This issue will however be addressed when the buildings? clearly Roman in date are discussed in more general terms on a Site-wide basis.

GROUP 7

CONTEXT SERIES 12.7.1

CONTEXTS: 12027 13028

12027: STRUCTURE MAKEUP

Compact deposit: Yellow-brown silt 20%, clay 80%, slightly more fawn on eastern half with moderate pebbles (0.08m in diameter) and occasional limestone fragments.

12028: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Shallow cut with flattish base against south-facing section with one straight edge, almost vertical, orientation north-west/south-east.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.7.2

CONTEXTS: 12025, 12026

12025: POST-PIPE FILL DEPOSIT

Loose to moderately compact dark grey deposit: Silt 70%, clay 30%, with slightly organic feel to it and one small fragment of wood.

12026: POST PIPE VOID

Vertically sided cut up against S-facing shoring, 0.16m in length.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The important element in this group is the cut described in (12.7.1.). Its clay and cobble fill would imply that it was the foundation trench for a constructional feature.

Unfortunately neither its width or length can be determined due to the small size of the excavation area. It may have supported a stone superstructure or It may perhaps have supported a timber framework of which that described in (12.7.2) is the sole surviving (The

excavator however recorded that the interpretation of this post was made difficult by its proximity to the edge of the trench and it may indeed have been driven from a higher level). Although it is not possible to determine the nature of the material which formed the superstructure of this foundation it clearly represents a change to the structural layout as seen by the walls discussed in (12.1.1). Despite the small size of the excavation area there is sufficient evidence to show that whilst this feature existed three related walls or divisions formed a narrow chamber no more than 1.50m in width. This plan may help in the interpretation of the function of the building and will be further considered in the Site-wide discussion. The arrangement of walls perhaps adds weight to the argument that the area is internal. What is clear however is that this alteration to the ground plan was short-lived as it was dismantled and sealed by a floor deposit, (see 12.8.1), without leaving evidence of deposits forming which may have related to its use.

GROUP 8

CONTEXT SERIES 12.8.1

CONTEXT: 12024

12024: FLOOR

Compact yellow/light brown deposit: Clay 50%, silt 50% (10% of which is dark brown in small patches), with iron staining, mortar and crushed limestone concentrated in area running E-W for width of 0.30m against the south-facing section. Inclusions comprised moderate limestone varying in size from 0.01m up to 0.08m, occasional cobbles, pebbles , bone, mortar, and small brick and tile fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This surface lay immediately above the cobbled surface discussed above in (12.6.1) and is likely to have been a further surface associated with the use of the building. The excavator records however that it may have been associated with its demolition, although the nature of the material means that it is difficult to see how this could have been the case.

GROUP 9

CONTEXT SERIES 12.9.1

CONTEXTS 12040

12040: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact slightly mottled mid grey/brown deposit: silt 40%, sand 10%; clay 50% with occasional mortar, brick, charcoal, pebbles, limestone fragments (up to 0.015m) and lenses or lumps of yellow/brown or grey clay.

12042: PIT CUT

Pit cut in SE corner of trench against S face of E-W Roman wall. 20 to 30 deg. slope to flat base on the side against the wall, only partially within the excavation area.

CONTEXT SERIES 12.9.2

CONTEXTS: 12031, 12033

12031: DUMP DEPOSIT

Mixed loose deposit of pebbles(1-10cm diameter)50%, mid grey brown silt 25%, 25%clay with occasional small lenses of grey/brown silt 25%, 25%clay with occasional small lenses of silt/clay, mortar (white and light brown) near wall, brick, limestone fragments and sand.

1033 BUILD-UP DEPOSIT

Firm friable mid grey/brown deposit: Silt 65%, clay 35%. with two small pockets of mortar and clay and occasional small pebbles, brick fragments, mortar, charcoal and sand.

CONTEXT SERIES 1294

CONTEXTS: 12014, 12015, 12016, 12017, 12022, 12023

12011: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Fairly loose dark brown deposit: Clay 30%, silt 70% becoming darker at western end with occasional bone, brick-tile and shell.

12015: STAKE

Lower portion of stake 5.5cm diameter, tapering over it's length of 18cm

12016: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact yellow/grey deposit: Clay 80%, charcoal 20%.

12017: OTHER

Vertically sided, flattish based cut adjacent to wall (12044) (12.1.1).

12022: STAKE PIPE VOID

Cut left after removal of tapered stake (12015). Slightly undercut on F side, angled 70 degrees to west.

12023: OTHER DEPOSIT

loose mid brown/grey deposit: Silt 60%, clay 30%, sand 10% with occasional pebbles and mortar.

GROUP DISCUSSION: It is difficult to assign any interpretation to deposits and features within such a small area between an upstanding wall and the limits of the excavation. However the fact that they have built-up against the wall and the nature of their material would indicate that they are associated with the use and or the demolition of the building. Certainly this is the case with (12.9.1) and (12.9.2). It is difficult to assign a precise function for the pit (12042) (12.9.1), but the two deposits in (12.9.2) would appear to be occupational in nature. (12031) may have been a deliberately laid surface, described by the excavator as a yard. Again as

elsewhere the evidence is not sufficient to determine whether the area was internal or external.

The material in (12.9.3) is very fragmentary and is also probably associated with the use of the building, although the excavator recorded that this was the last evidence associated with it and may well have been apart of the demolitional activity. There is so little to go on that it is not worth dwelling on the point.

GROUP 10

CONTEXT SERIES 12.10.1

CONTEXTS: 12005, 12008

12005:. BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Compact mid grey/dark brown deposit: 60% clay, 30% sand, 10% mortar flecks with occasional tile, bone and pot.

12008: ROBBER CUT

NE/SW) running cut truncated by sections. NW side rounded top edge, steep slope to rounded bottom edge, SE side undercut with sharp edges, bottom flat.

Discussion: The position and nature of the fill of this feature would clearly indicate that it is the robber trench for wall

(12044) (12.1.1).

CONTEXT SERIES 12.10.2

CONTEXTS: 12011, 12013

12011: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Loose brown/grey deposit: Clay 40%, silt 60% with mortar and occasional pebbles.

12013: PIT CUT

NW edge only, within the excavation area. 1m in length of cut adjacent to the edge of the trench. It appears to be steep-sided and abuts wall (12043) (12.1.2). Its other characteristics are unknown.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group is of interest in that it contains one feature (12.10.1) which is clearly the robber trench for one of the Roman walls which were the dominant features in this trench. What is important however is the presence of the other cut t12t2.2) only partially within the excavation area along the north-eastern side. It has the fill and characteristics of a further robber trench and is at the same physical and stratigraphic level as (12.10.1). It also abuts wall (12043) (12.1.2). There is therefore clear evidence that the building which is contained within this excavation area has a further wall running parallel to the major wall (12044) 12.1.1) which was still in existence at the time of its robbing. There was earlier evidence for a short lived wall or partition which had been dismantled during the life of the building (see 12.7.1)). The presence of this additional feature creates a narrow corridor of a ground plan only a metre in width. Such an arrangement is present elsewhere on the site and will be further considered in the Site-wide discussion.

GROUP 11

CONTEXT SERIES 12.11.1

CONTEXT: 12010

12010: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Moderately compact dark grey/brown deposit. 30% clay 70% silt with occasional small pieces of light brown silty clay interspersed with bone, mortar, pebbles , wood and limestone fragments (up to 8cm).

CONTEXT SERIES 12.11.2

CONTEXT: 12002

12002: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation, badly disturbed by charnel pit and cellar construction. Orientation site NNE-SSW facing NNE. Bones present; ribs, vertebrae, pelvis and fingers. (No coffin present, perhaps buried in a shroud).

CONTEXT SERIES 12.11.2

CONTEXTS: 12003, 12004

12003: CHARNEL PIT FILL DEPOSIT

Compact dark grey/brown deposit: Sand 40%, clay 40%, with 20% human bones.

12004: CHARNEL PIT CUT

Pit cut, sharp top edges, gentle break of slope to base which slopes gently to the east, roughly rectangular in shape..

Discussion: This pit contained six long bones laid horizontally, one skull, two vertebrae, one clavicle, one radius or ulna, a toe bone, one jaw, and two vertically set long bones. These had clearly been reburied having been disturbed by an unknown activity, presumably later burials, although there were no such later burials within this excavation area.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprised the only evidence for burials in this trench. The presence however of a later Victorian cellar which reached down to this level may have truncated the sequence. The single deposit in (12.11.1) has been included here as it was the only remaining deposit at this level after the cellar had been inserted and is likely, judging by its make-tip and approximate depth to have been in existence at the time that burial was taking place here.

The haphazard nature of the burial layout here i.e. a single inhumation and a charnel pit may tell us something about the limits of the burial-ground and is a further Issue which will be addressed in the Site-wide discussion.

GROUP 12

CONTEXT SERIES 12.12.1

CONTEXTS: 12001, 12006, 12007

12001: USE DEPOSIT

Dark brown 100% organic deposit, compacted in places. Possible remains of wicker in S side with occasional cobbles, tile fragments, bone, shell and mortar.

12006: POST

Upright timber circa 58x20x17cms. Rounded with one flat side. Base not sharpened but resting in saucer shaped hollow on top of Roman wall.

12007: PIT CUT

Pit cut, sharp top edge, vertical sides, truncated by sections. Eastern half comes down on top of Roman wall, W side goes deeper to the west of wall.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises a single pit post-dating the robber trench discussed in Group 10 but because of the presence of the Victorian cellar having no relationship with anything else in the excavation area. The fill would indicate that it was a rubbish pit and no explanation is offered for the single post which the excavator reasoned was placed within the cut prior to its backfilling.

GROUP 13

CONTEXT SERIES 12.13.1

CONTEXT: 12000

12000: UNSTRATIFIED DEPOSIT

Dark soil and rubble and cellar wall removed by machine. In all approximately 2.50m of modern material.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION:

This area was one of those excavated during the last phase of activity on the site. It was intended to remove human remains on the developers behalf. Any archaeological evidence uncovered was secondary to this consideration. To achieve that end there- for the topmost two and a half metres -metres were removed by machine without full recording. This operation was however observed and nothing other than garden soil and the brick foundations of a Victorian cellar were removed. This feature removed much of the later medieval evidence and there was therefore no evidence within this trench for well constructed buildings of medieval date standing at the Swinegate street frontage.

The archaeological sequence was truncated at the lower removed only, limited further excavation took place whilst the excavation team awaited the laying out of further pile positions within which burials were to be searched for. During this limited additional excavation work, considerable evidence was however found for a major Roman building constructed in stone with associated use and floor deposits. (There was no time to excavate its construction levels). It had been considerably robbed out. There was sufficient evidence to suggest the presence of a major wall aligned north-east/south-west to which was abutted a small chamber. This is something which has been observed elsewhere on the site and will be discussed further in the site-wide discussion. There was also some limited evidence for additional short-lived alterations to what is taken to be the interior of the building, in the form of a robbed out partition or division.

As for the burials in this trench they comprised a single infant inhumation in a shroud and a number disarticulated bones within a charnel pit. The Victorian cellar may however removed some later burials.

AREA 13

This area was located immediately to the north-west of Area 12, close to the junction of Swinegate and Grape Lane. It was a 3m square, machine-cut trench excavated to recover human remains. No bones were observed during its excavation and as it was dangerous it was immediately backfilled. It is assumed to be outside the area of the cemetery.

AREA 14

INTRODUCTION

Area 14 was located in that part of the site which cornered Little-Stonegate and Back-Swinegate. It was positioned at the street frontage and was excavated during the latter stages of the archaeological activity on the site after Nos 20 and 22 Back Swinegate had been demolished, (see Figure 1). It was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The top 1.3m approximately were removed by machine and hand excavation only commenced at the level that burials were expected.

As a result of the extreme pressure of time under which the project was operating at this late stage a system of arbitrary spit excavation was undertaken to locate and excavate human remains. In the event this area along with the adjacent area, No 15 proved to be the densest area of burial on the site. As a result of this technique it is not possible to use a standard stratigraphic approach to the compiling of this part of the level 3 Report. The reason for this is the context into which the grave was cut remains unknown. The relationship of a particular burial to the spits underlying and overlying it, is evidence of nothing more than the physical depth to which the grave was cut. The only way in which burials can be related to one another in a sequence is by virtue of actual intercutting of bodies, and perhaps also how they relate to each other spatially.. For this reason it has been decided that all of the burials will be discussed in a single group and possible relationship or sequences will be outlined at the group level.

It should also be recorded here that there was a robber trench and a wall running diagonally through the excavation area. For the reasons stated above it is also difficult to establish a relationship between this feature and the burials. There were a number of burials which clearly cut the robber-trench fill. These clearly post-date the robbing of the wall. Although it is not possible to be certain as to the stratigraphic relationship of the remainder the fact that burial is less dense after the robbing coupled with the fact there

is an area devoid of burials over the south-western end of the excavation area where the robber-trench and the remainder of the wall intersect would imply that the wall was still in existence at the time that the area was first used for burial, but was dismantled whilst the cemetery remained in use. Indeed the evidence would indicate that the wall was demolished as the use of the cemetery apparently went into decline.

It should also be noted here that once it was clear that all human remains had been removed from within this trench, no further excavation took place.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 14.1.1

CONTEXT: 14076

14076: OCCUPATION DERIVED DEPOSIT

Friable mid brown deposit: 60% sand 40% clay.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This context was not excavated and is the level reached in trench 14. It was similar to deposits which had predated the burials in trenches 2, 5, 9 and 12.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 14.2.1

CONTEXT 14075

14075: WALL

Limestone 85%, light brown yellow mortar 15% with occasional small pebbles and sandstone fragments. Orientation NW/SE.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.2.2

CONTEXTS: 14057, 14058

14057: UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

Very mixed deposit: Loose coarse mortar of varying colours from light yellow to mid grey/white (50%), mid orange/brown clay (20%), silt (30%) with occasional large sandstone and limestone fragments, occasional medium cobbles, occasional patches of fine yellow/white sand, moderate small to medium limestone fragments, occasional human bone fragments and occasional medium mortar fragments.

14058: ROBBER CUT

Linear cut, sides slope steeply, base uneven, NE/SW alignment. The cut does not extent to the SW end of the trench. This coincides with where wall (14075) (14.2.1) still exists. The robber trench was therefore excavated only to the limit of the need for stone.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group consists of a robber-trench (14.2.2) and an associated wall (14.2.1). The interpretation of these related features is beset with difficulties.

Firstly there was not sufficient time to reach the construction levels of the wall and therefore it is difficult to be certain as to its date. In addition to this it was largely robbed away within the excavation area which was anyway only another of the 3m areas. It is possible that it is of either Roman or medieval date. If it is Roman than clearly it is a further piece in the jigsaw of the layout of the fortress. If it is medieval then it raises the possibility that this is evidence for the presence of the fabric of the Church of St Benet.

This second point is important in relation to the burials which were found in proximity to the wall. As stated in the introduction clear stratigraphic relationships are uncertain.

introduction clear stratigraphic relationships are uncertain.

However the fact that some burials are found at the same physical level and running parallel to the wall would indicate that they had

co-existed with it. The presence of further burials in the fill of the robber-trench on a slightly different alignment would indicate that the cemetery continued in use after the wall had been dismantled., This does not tell us however whether or not the origin of the wall lies in either the Roman or the medieval period.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.1

CONTEXT: 14073

14073: SKELETON

Only 2 upper and lower legs exposed within the area excavated. Orientaled NE/SW. Not buried within a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.2

CONTEXT: 14072

14072: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: 40% sand, 40% clay, 20% silt with moderate fragments of dressed limestone and animal bone.

This was a build-up approximately 0.10m in depth removed as an arbitrary spit as part of the process of recovering human remains.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.3

CONTEXT: 14071

14071: SKELETON

Adult extended inhumation. Skull and left humerus removed by disturbance. Fore-arm and hand of right arm and the left hand also missing. Orientation NE/SW, not within a coffin. There are other burials which are physically above this individual and may account for the disturbance.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.4

CONTEXT: 14070

14070: DUMP DEPOSIT

Friable black deposit: 40% sand; 40% clay; 20% silt.

This was further arbitrary spit removed as a part of the process of looking for human remains.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.5

CONTEXT: 14069

14069: SKELETON

Extended adolescent inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Truncated by shoring above 9th vertebrae and removed below sacrum by later disturbance. Left side of pelvis, right hand and most of left hand missing.

CONTEXT SERIS 14.3.6

CONTEXT: 14066

14066: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown/dark grey deposit: 40% sand, 40% clay, 20% silt with occasional small angular limestone fragments, tiler and moderate fragments of human bones.

This was a further arbitrary spit removed to recover human remains.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.7

CONTEXTS: 14067, 14069

14067: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated adolescent supine inhumation. Only the left hand side of the body was within the excavation area. Scapular left arm, pelvis, left leg exposed with the scapula at the SW end of the grave.

14068: COFFIN

Wooden planks, base 74cm long x 14cm wide, one side piece 62cm long 2cm wide. The remainder was outside the area excavated.

CONTEXT SERIES

CONTEXT: 14065

11065: SKELETON

NE/SW supine infant inhumation. Only pelvis, right and left lower arms & vertebrae remaining. This disturbance was caused because the burial was partly, outside the area excavated and was heavily disturbed by later burials.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.9

CONTEXT: 14064

11064: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated adult inhumation. Due to later disturbance left arm, both legs and feet, left hand-side of the pelvis, left scapula and right hand missing. Not apparently within a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.10

CONTEXTS: 14061, 14062, 14063

14061: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation disturbed by pit (14040) C??).

Orientated NE-SW facing NE. Right leg, right side of the pelvis, most of right foot and skull missing as result of the disturbance

14062: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/black deposit: Clay (10%), sand (20%), silt (70%), with orange-brown mottling and occasional small cobble, small limestone and tile fragments and occasional medium limestone fragments.

14063: GRAVE CUT

Rectilinear cut, orientated NE/SW. Sides break sharply from top, fall sharply to rounded bottom edge. Flat, even base. Truncated to N S S by later cuts.

This was the first occasion in which the excavators had been able to record the presence of a grave cut, although it is not certain that the true top of the cut was observed.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.11

CONTEXTS: 14060

14060: SKELETON

Supine infant burial orientated NE/SW. Right arm parallel to torso. Right hand under pelvis. Left hand on top of pelvis Only femurs remaining of legs. Not within either a coffin or a grave cut and disturbed by later burials.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.12

CONTEXT: 14059

14059: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/black deposit: Sand (20%), clay (20%), silt (20%) with occasional small mortar fragments and flecks, small pebbles and small sandstone fragments.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.13

CONTEXTS: 14054 14055

14054: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated supine adolescent inhumation. Skull at SW end, left leg apparently missing, arms at either side of torsos 140 trace of a coffin. Legs truncated by the shoring sheets.

14055: GRAVE CUT

Shallow linear cut, top edge gradual, gentle slope 1 rounded-flat bottom edge.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.14

CONTEXT: 14053

14053: SKELETON

Extended adolescent inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. left hand side of the body is present. Some of the remainder lies outside the area excavated and the rest has been disturbed. No evidence for either a coffin or a grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.15

CONTEXT: 14052

14052: SKELETON

Semi-crouched juvenile inhumation. Bone poor. Much of skull, 40% torso, right hand? right leg and lower legs missing. Aligned NE/SW with the head to the SW. Left hand on pelvis, right by the side of the body. No sign of a coffin and no discernible grave cut.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.16

CONTEXTS: 14048, 14049, 14050

14048: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark brown deposit: 90% clay, 10% silt.

14049: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated sub-adult inhumation, partly outside trench (Right arm and half, of the skull). Bones fairly well preserved. Skull smashed by shoring.

14050: COFFIN

Wooden plank 1.50m by 0.30m. Badly damaged by shoring to SE. No traces of sides except for a slight brown stain at NE end.

There was no apparent grave cut associated with this burial. The coffin was of interest in that there was no trace of either the sides or a lid. Either these had been completely removed by later disturbance which seems unlikely as the burial itself was relatively

undisturbed by comparison with some of the others from the site. It is possible therefore that the plank was used as a simple bier on which to place the body for burial.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.17.

CONTEXT: 14017

14047: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact deposit: 30% red/ brown clay, 30% limestone fragments up to 150mm, 30% dark brown silt.

This was one of a series of arbitrary spits removed to search for human remains. No attempt was made to look for features.

CONTEXT SERIES: 14.3.18

CONTEXTS: 14043, 14014, 14045, 14046

14043: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid brown/pale grey friable deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt with occasional fine pebbles up to 20mm, tile and bone fragments.

14044: SKELETON

Extended adult inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Skull removed by a later intrusion, (14040) The other bones had been rearranged, making it impossible to determine the precise body layout. The right tibia was upside down and the torso was totally disturbed.

14045: COFFIN

Badly decayed wooden plank 120cm by 20cm by 10mm, used as the lid of a coffin. Lifted only as fragments. Too badly decayed to identify jointing techniques.

14046: COFFIN

Box constructed of wooden planks (rectangular), truncated by pit (14040) at SE end. Planks 20mm thick and pegged together.

This burial was of interest in that it was placed in a well constructed coffin. The lack of a grave cut may be accounted for by the technique that was employed to carry out the excavation. It has been suggested that the rearrangement of some of the bones within the coffin is as a result of flooding during the process of decay causing some of the bones to float about and become repositioned.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.19

CONTEXTS: 14041, 14042

14041: SKELETON

NE/SW aligned infant inhumation with the head to the SW, probably originally extended. Bones very jumbled indeed, burial position impossible to determine. Partially truncated by the shoring.

14042: COFFIN

Badly decayed coffin. NW end outside trench. NW and SE sides consisted of a single plank each, SW end consisted of a single plank which had rotted away to a stain. Base consisted of three pieces of timber which may originally have formed one single plank. No nails had been used in the construction of the coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.20

CONTEXTS: 14034, 14035

14034: COFFIN

Complete wooden coffin, 1 plank per side and base. NE side outside trench. No trace of lid. All timbers badly rotted. No nails were used in the construction, the sides were simply placed into grooves in the upper edge of the base

14035: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation orientated NE/SW, facing NE.

Bones very disturbed, original position impossible to determine. Pelvis and legs outside area of excavation.

As with (14045 (???) it is possible that the disturbance of the position of the bones may have been caused by water lying inside the coffin during the process of decay.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.21

CONTEXTS; 14036, 14038, 14039

14036: COFFIN

Very badly decayed series of planks, long section aligned NE/SW.

14038 BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown/orange compact deposit; 80% clay, 10% silt, 10% coarse sand with occasional bone fragments, occasional large limestone fragments and occasional fine limestone fragments.

14039 GRAVE CUT

Subrectangular cut aligned NE/SW, 80cm by 30cm deep.

This feature had all the appearances of a grave cut, indeed it apparently contained a coffin. However there were no bones inside this putative coffin, either because they had been removed in antiquity, or for some reason the grave was not used.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.22

CONTEXT; 14033

14033; BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact deposit; 30% light brown clay, 30% limestone fragments from 10mm to 150mm, 15% dark brown clay, 15% dark brown silt.

A further arbitrary spit removed during the clearance of the cemetery.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.23

CONTEXTS; 14037, 14040

14037 BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey/black deposit; 10% sand, 20% clay, 70% silt with occasional decayed wood flecks, medium and small cobbles, small to medium limestone fragments, mortar and mortar fleck.

14040 PIT CUT

Rectilinear cut, long axis NE/SW, truncated by shoring at SN end of the trench. Sides break sharply from top, NW side falls in irregular steps, sharp bottom edge. Flat, uneven base.

Although this feature was removed quickly as a part of the process of cemetery clearance the excavator recorded that the highly organic nature of the fill would indicate that it was used as a cess pit.

Environmental samples were taken from this fill.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.24

CONTEXTS: 14027, 14028, 14029, 14030, 14031

14027: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid brown compact deposit: 60% clay, 20% silt, 20% coarse sand with occasional large limestone cobbles up to 150mm, moderate small limestone pebbles up to 30mm and frequent human bones.

14028: COFFIN LID

Very fragmentary wooden board. Rotted to a stain in most places, circa 400mm by 200mm by 5mm thick.

14029: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid grey/brown deposit: 50% clay, 50% sand with occasional fine pebbles, (10mm-20mm).

14030: SKELETON

Lower legs of an extended adult inhumation orientated NE/SW with the legs to the NE. Rest of burial cut away despite being inside a

coffin. Right tibia and fibula upside down suggesting that those bones that remain are not in their original position. Flooding within the coffin during the process of decay has been put forward as a possible reason for this phenomenon.

14031: COFFIN

Sides and base of a coffin, 1 plank per side. SW side outside area of excavation. Badly decayed, especially the upper edges. The planks up to 15mm thick.

This was a further burial within a coffin. There were a number of disarticulated human bones thrown in with the upper fill of this grave (14027), as if they had been disturbed when this burial took place.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.2.25

CONTEXT: 14023

14023: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact deposit: 30% pale-beige clay, 30% limestone fragments from 10mm-60mm, 15% dark brown silt, 15% dark brown clay.

This was a further arbitrary spit hacked off to look for burials. N., attempt was made to look for features or to determine precise matters of stratigraphy.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.26

CONTEXTS: 14026, 14032

14026: COFFIN

Friable badly decayed mid to dark orange/brown wood, forming the base of a coffin.

14032: GRAVE CUT

Rectilinear cut orientated NE/SW, truncated by shoring and by a later cut (14025). The sides break sharply from surface, falling sharply, vertically on NE side to a round bottom edge and flat base⁴

The body associated with this cut and coffin base has been removed in, its entirety.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.27

CONTEXTS: 14024, 14025

14024: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable mid/dark grey deposit: Sand (20%), clay (20%), silt (60%) with occasional plaster/mortar and charcoal flecks, medium limestone fragments, cobbles and small-medium brick-tile fragments.

14025: UNKNOWN

Roughly L shaped cut. SW end rounded, S square. Sides break sharply from surface, fall sharply except in SW where falls gently to indistinct base edge. Flat base.

This shallow cut feature was excavated quickly during the process of searching for human remains. There is no real clue as to its function.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.28

CONTEXTS: 14021, 14022

14021: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown compacted deposit: 60% clay, 40% silt with occasional large and fine pebbles.

14022: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation orientated NE/SW with the head to the SW. Very small, surviving bones very brittle. Legs survive, no lower torso or pelvis. Burial position unclear but probably fully extended.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.29

CONTEXTS: 14018, 14019, 14020

14018: COFFIN

Rectangular plank 1.01m x 0.15m x 0.01m thick. Badly damaged on NW and NE by shoring.

14019: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown loosely compacted deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt with occasional pebbles up to 3cm.

14020: SKELETON

Extended infant burial orientated NE/SW facing NE. Partly outside area of excavation. Right arm fully extended, Left arm, only humerus visible. Right leg extended, left leg outside trench.

This infant burial was of interest in that there was a plank placed over the body to act, as a lid but it was not actually placed within a properly constructed coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.30

CONTEXT: 14015

14015: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

15% dark brown peat, 15% silt moderately compacted, 30% pale grey/beige clay, 30% limestone fragments, 10% mud/brown silt.

This was a further arbitrary spit of soil hacked off to reveal any burials in this trench. No attempt was made to look for features.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.31.

CONTEXTS: 14016, 14017

14016: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Friable dark grey deposit: Clay 20%, silt 80% with occasional small brick/tile fragments, pebbles, mortar and plaster flecks.

14017: OTHER

Small cut, ovoid in shape. Sides break sharply from surface. NE edge falls sharply then gently to SW where there is a slight depression. SW side falls sharply to a rounded bottom edge leading to the base of the depression. Nil and SE sides break sharply, falling to rounded bottom edge. Base falls gently to the SW.

This was a small pit into which was placed a human skull. This was presumably disturbed during the process of burying another individual.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.32

CONTEXTS: 14013, 14014

14013: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid/dark brown to orange 80% clay, 10% silt, 10% limestone rubble (3-10cm, average 5cm).

14014: PIT CUT

Sub-rectangular cut, only NW and SE sides visible within the excavation area. At NW end, irregular break of slope at surface, vertical sides, flat base. SE side similar but shallower.

This feature had the appearance of a grave cut. In fact it contained a disarticulated skull. Perhaps an earlier burial was disturbed and it was decided not to use this grave.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.33

CONTEXTS: 14005, 14008, 14010

14005: COFFIN LTD

Rectangular wooden plank 600mm by 8mm by 180mm truncated by NE section. Also second irregular shaped plank 8mm by 450mm by 170mm.

14008: SKELETON

Disturbed inhumation of a young preadolescent comprising the middle portion of the skeleton. Ribs, scapulae, humeri, left radius and ulna, and some vertebrae present.

14010: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Friable red/brown rust stained charcoal 100%.

This burial had been disturbed either in antiquity or perhaps during the process of machine clearance of the topmost deposits.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.34

CONTEXTS: 14003, 14004, 14006, 14007, 14009

14003: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Mid grey loosely compacted deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt with occasional coarse pebbles and tile fragments.

14004: COFFIN LID

Rectangular wooden board, rectangular in cross section 74 x 12 x 2cm thick, cracked on west side. Carving on lid 3 concentric squares with a cross overlaid. The carving looks like a 9 Mans Morris game.

14006: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Pale/dark grey deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt. Loosely compacted. Inclusions comprised two small stones which may have acted as pillow stones for the skull.

14007: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation orientated NE/SW, facing NE. Original position impossible to determine as the bones were badly disturbed. The nature of this disturbance is unclear but it had undoubtedly occurred in antiquity. The burial was truncated by the NE section.

14009: GRAVE CUT

Rectangular cut, the NE end of which lies outside the area excavated. Sharp break of slope from surface, sides vertical, base flat.

CONTEXT SERIES 14.3.35

CONTEXTS: 14001, 14002

14001: SKELETON

Extended infant inhumation aligned NE/SW, badly disturbed by JCB, original burial position hard to determine. Skull, most right side missing.

14002: COFFIN

Rectangular plank in 3 fragments, c.49 x c.12cm. Badly damaged by JCB. One fragment has a circular 2cm hole through it.

This burial, although damaged was noteworthy in that the body was not placed inside a coffin but had been simply laid on a plank.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises all of the burials that were excavated in this trench and the spits of material into which they had been inserted. As discussed in the Introduction the technique that was used for the removal of the burials was in response to pressure of time and involved the removal of human remains without complete regard to the stratigraphic sequence. There was no time to determine the position of grave cuts, or the true level from which the grave had been dug. The apparent sequential order of burial as shown on the Matrix is not therefore a true reflection of the stratigraphic sequence. The material was simply removed in spits and burials were excavated at the level at which they appeared. The sequence is therefore based on nothing more than the physical level at which the grave-diggers chose to place the body. The inter-relationship of the bodies to one another will have to be considered therefore on the basis of their spatial distribution, the degree of disturbance by later intercut burials and by the physical level at which they were buried.

The number of spits that were removed during the process of cemetery clearance amounted to eight. These were numbered (14.3.2), (14.3.4), (14.3.6), (14.3.12), (14.3.17), (14.3.22), (14.3.25), (14.3.30). In addition to the burials there were a number of other small cut features which were recorded in a crude manner.. One of these (14.3.23) has been interpreted as a cess pit. The remainder were apparently empty grave cuts (14.3.21), (14.3.26) or were dug to rebury bones which had been disturbed during the process of later burial (14.3.31) (14.3.32). There was one shallow scoop (14.3.27) for which no interpretation is offered.

Of the total of 21 burials eleven were not found within a coffin. These were numbered (14.3.1), (14.3.3), (14.3.5), (14.3.8), (14.3.9), (14.3.10), (14.3.11), (14.3.13), (14.3.14), (14.3.15) and (14.3.28).

Of the remainder 5 were in standard coffins (14.3.7), (14.3.18), (14.3.19), (14.3.20), (14.3.24), 2 were laid on a plank of wood, (14.3.16), (14.3.25) and 3 had a plank of wood placed over the top of the body, (14.3.29), (14.3.33), and (14.3.34).

Determining the order of deposition of these burials is difficult. The density and the degree of intercutting within the area suggested that there was continuous burial in this part of the cemetery throughout its life.

Some preliminary remarks can be made. There is a change in alignment. (14071) (14.3.3) and (14069) (14.3.5) are on a different alignment to the remainder, approximately NNE/SSW and are also parallel to wall (14075) (14.2.1). It is argued therefore that they were placed in relation to this feature whilst it was still standing. (140641) (14.3.9) and (14073) (14.3.1) may also belong to this phase but this is not as clear cut as with the previous two examples.

All of the rest are all on a similar alignment, NE/SW and a number of them cut into the fill of the robber trench of wall (14075). Clearly therefore there is a second phase of burial post-dating the

demolition of the wall and comprising the period during which the cemetery was at its most active.

It is intended that alignment patterns will be considered from all of the excavation areas later in this report in the Site-Wide Discussion.

As there is no definitive stratigraphic sequence the relative chronology of these burials to one another cannot be determined other than by actual intercutting of the bodies by a later burial. This does not define any neat sequential or spatial ordering which would allow for the creation of sub-divisions within this group. The implication is that this particular part of the cemetery was in constant use for a period of time which has not yet been determined. A chart is included in the report (see Figure ***) which shows the relative chronology of burials within this phase on the basis of intercutting relationships.

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 14.4.1

CONTEXTS: 14011 14012

14011: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Dark brown/orange deposit: 80% clay, 20% silt, with some bone fragments.

14012: PIT CUT

Shallow pit cut truncated at SW end of the trench by shoring. Base very irregular.

GROUP DISCUSSION: The function of this feature is unclear. It clearly post-'dated the cemetery. Its tipper levels were largely removed by machine clearance of the area.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 14.5.1

CONTEXT: 14000

14000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Machine clearance of the site. No description was recorded at the time of excavation.

INTER-GROUP DISCUSSION

This trench was one of those excavated during the last stages of the archaeological part of the project. It was designed to locate and excavate human remains in as swift a time as possible. In the event a wall, was recorded, which had been partially robbed out and which pre-dated most of the burials although it may have been contemporary with the earliest of them. It was not possible to reach the construction levels of this wall and it is not therefore possible to be certain as to its date of construction. At this stage it could be either Roman or medieval. It is hoped that its alignment and spatial relationship with other walls on the site, may resolve this problem. This problem will be considered when the evidence is analysed in the Site-Wide Discussion later in this Report.

In all 21 burials were recorded in this small area. They have been separated into two separate phases on the basis of their relationship with the wall discussed above. The deposits which seal the burials were all removed by machine and any archaeological features which may have been present were not recorded.

AREA 15

INTRODUCTION

Area 15 was located in that part of the site which cornered Little Stonegate and Back Swinegate. It was positioned at the street frontage and was excavated during the latter stages of the archaeological activity on the site after Nos 20 and 22 Back Swinegate had been demolished, (see Figure 1). It was positioned over one of the concrete pile positions with the specific objective of recovering human remains. The top 1.2m approximately were removed by machine and hand excavation only commenced at the level that burials were expected.

As a result of the extreme pressure of time under which the project was operating at this late stage a system of arbitrary spit excavation was undertaken to locate and excavate human remains below the level of the clearly defined horizon of metallurgy (15.3.1).

In the event this area along with the adjacent area, No 14, proved to be the densest area of burial on the site. As a result of this technique it is not possible to use a standard stratigraphic approach to the compiling of this part of the Level 3 Report. The reason for this is that the context into which the graves were cut remains unknown. The relationship of a particular burial to the spits underlying and overlying it, is evidence of nothing more than the physical depth to which the grave was cut. The only way in which burials can be related to one another in a sequence is by virtue of actual intercutting of bodies, and perhaps also how they relate to each other spatially. For this reason it has been decided that all of the burials which pre-date (15.3.1) will be discussed in a single group and possible relationship or sequences will be outlined at the group level (there was a single burial which clearly post-dated (15.3.1) This is discussed in Group 4).

It should be noted that once it was established that all of the human remains had been removed from the area, excavation ceased. No attempt was made to excavate the full archaeological sequence. The

top of a wall was observed at the level that excavation ceased, [15048) [15.1.2). This was on an apparent Roman alignment.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

GROUP 1

CONTEXT SERIES 15.1.1

CONTEXT: 15049, 15050

15049: OCCUPATION DERIVED DEPOSIT

Spit composed of various contexts. 40% sand, 40% silt, 60% clay, mid reddish grey/brown, compact with occasional limestone fragments, pebbles, charcoal flecks and patches of reddish brown clay. Only present on the NE side of wall, (15048) (15.1.2).

15050: OCCUPATION DERIVED DEPOSIT

Various different contexts, to the NE of wall (15048) (15.1.2). This level was unexcavated and represents the level that was reached when excavation ceased. A detailed description of each of the individual deposits which make up this composite is contained in the Level 2 Archive.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.1.2

CONTEXT: 15048

15048: OCCUPATION DERIVED DEPOSIT AND A WALL

This context comprised a wall and a number of individual contexts which were unexcavated and existed to the SW of the wall. (Each of these individual deposits is described in further detail in the Level 2 Archive). The wall was built of mortared limestone and was aligned NW/SE. It was approximately 0.60m in width and continued to both the NW and the SE of the area excavated. It had been robbed out to the level of one course above the foundation level which consisted of clay and cobbles.

This composite context represents the final level of excavation in this part of the trench.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.1.3

CONTEXT: 15046

15046: LEVELLING DEPOSIT

This context was again made up of different elements, comprising 40% silt, 60% clay I crumbly chalk-like material. The clay is light reddish brown, the chalk is creamy white. Inclusions comprised occasional charcoal flecks, tile fragments, oyster shell, limestone fragments and small cobbles.

The purpose of this deposit appeared to have been to level the ground surface over the remains of the above mentioned Roman wall, prior to the area being used as a cemetery.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group represented the level at which excavation ceased in this trench. It consisted of a number of contexts built-up against a wall on an apparent Roman alignment. A spit of material which sealed this feature (15.1.3) and which predated the burials has also been included here.

GROUP 2

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.1

CONTEXT: 15047

15047: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW aligned supine adult inhumation, facing NE. Upper half removed by coffin 15038. Legs extended, arm bones present but disarticulated.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.2

CONTEXT 15045

15045: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated infant inhumation. Only part surviving is from neck to pelvis of the right hand side. Bones fairly well preserved. The remainder has been disturbed by a later burial.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.3

CONTEXT: 15044

15044: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated supine adult inhumation, facing NE Legs missing, left arm missing. Other bones well preserved.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.4

CONTEXT: 15043

15043: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated infant inhumation, very badly disturbed. Ribs, legs & spine only present.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.5.

CONTEXT: 15042

15042: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated supine adult inhumation. Arms crossed onto right hand side of pelvis. Fe objects fused to both sides of pelvis.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.6

CONTEXT: 15041

15041: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated supine adult inhumation facing NE. Left leg and lower right leg only survive.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.7

CONTEXT: 15040

15040: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated adult inhumation, facing NE. Both hands flexed over abdomen. Mainly outside trench. Bones well preserved.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.8

CONTEXT: 15039

15039: SKELETON

Extended NE/SW orientated supine infant inhumation facing NE. Bones well preserved, left arm extended, right arm slightly flexed. Lower spine disturbed.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.9

CONTEXTS: 15037, 15038

15037: SKELETON

Extended supine adult inhumation orientated NE/SW. Left arm almost straight with hand over pelvis, right arm bent over breast. Bones in good condition.

15038: COFFIN

Coffin made from half sectioned tree trunk. Centre hollowed out.. Sides S NE end slope to roughly flat base. SW end runs into section.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.10

CONTEXTS: 15036

15036: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Compact dark brown deposit: 80% clay, 10% silt, 1.0% irregular limestone cobbles up to 150mm.

This was an arbitrary spit removed during the process of removing human remains.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.11

CONTEXT: 15035

15035: SKELETON

Extended supine child skeleton orientated NE/SW facing NE. Preservation fair. The skull is shattered. The remainder of the

skeleton complete although the thigh bones were displaced in antiquity.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.12

CONTEXT: 15034

15034: SKELETON

Remains of NE/SW orientated extended supine child skeleton facing NE. Preservation fair. The lower legs lie beyond the area excavated and the right side of the body has been removed by the insertion of skeleton (15033) (15.2.13).

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.13

CONTEXT: 15033

15033: SKELETON

Extended supine infant inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Only the lower legs and the feet remain, the rest has been cut away by later disturbance.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.14

CONTEXT: 15632

15032: SKELETON

Remains of supine adult inhumation aligned NE/SW, facing NE. Preservation fair. Upper and lower right leg and lower Sand part of upper left leg and part of both feet present. The remainder is beyond the area excavated.

CONTEXT SEREIS 15.2.15

CONTEXT: 15031

15031: SKELETON

Remains of supine adult inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Good preservation, only the lower legs and feet show, emerging from SW section.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.16

CONTEXT: 15030

15030: SKELETON

Remains of poorly preserved supine child inhumation, orientated NE/SW facing NE. Skull, torso I upper arms remain, skull crushed. The rest of the skeleton lies outside the area excavated.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.17

CONTEXT: 15029

15029: SKELETON

Remains of NE/SW orientated adult supine inhumation, facing NE. Preservation fair, left leg complete, lower right leg and part of both feet only remain, upper body appears to have been removed by later burial.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.18

CONTEXT: 15028

15028: SKELETON

Remains of poorly preserved, poorly articulated supine infant inhumation, orientated NE/SW. The skull has been removed by later disturbance and the lower legs were beyond the area excavated. There was some staining below the body which suggested that it may have been lain in a coffin base. It was not possible to sample or conserve this material.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.19

CONTEXT 15027

15027: SKELETON

Remains of adolescent supine extended inhumation orientated NE/SW facing HE. Preservation fair. Left and right leg complete, part of pelvis and lower right arm all that remain of the torso.. The remainder has been removed by later burials.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.20

CONTEXT: 15026

15026: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated supine inhumation, facing NE, legs parallel. Preservation fair, only the legs and feet are present within the excavated area.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.21

CONTEXTS: 15024, 15025

15024: SKELETON

Extended supine infant inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. largely complete, some bones displaced due to water logging within coffin. Bones fairly well preserved. Some ribs by feet, one lower arm by feet.

15025: COFFIN

Coffin, made of 5 planks (1 few each side, end and base). Sides decayed to stain. Base better preserved. No nails. Insufficiently well preserved to identify carpentry techniques.

This context series comprised a burial within a coffin.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.22

CONTEXTS: 15023

15023: SKELETON

Extended child inhumation orientated NE/SW facing NE. Fully extended, bones well preserved, although the skull was crushed.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.23

CONTEXTS: 15021 15022

15021: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated extended infant inhumation, lying mainly outside the area of excavation. Both femurs plus 1 lower leg bone only present. Severely rearranged.

15022: COFFIN

Base S sides of coffin, lying mainly outside area of excavation. Each side plank measured less than 0.10m in thickness.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.24

CONTEXT 15020

15020: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

15020: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Brown/black friable deposit: 60% clay, 40% silt.

This was a further arbitrary spit removed to reveal the burials.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.25

CONTEXTS: 15010, 15016

15010: BACKFILL DEPOSIT

Mid grey/brown friable to compact deposit: Sand 30%, silt 10%, clay 10%, human bone 50% with occasional small pebbles, shell, limestone and chalk fragments.

15016: CHARNEL PIT CUT

Cut containing the disarticulated remains of at least 20 humans. Orientated NE/SW. Sides fairly regular. SW end has gentle gradient. Base fairly flat at NW end. SE end more irregular.

In addition to the disturbed human remains within this cut there was also a complete skeleton in a coffin (15015) (15.2.27) which had apparently also been inserted. It is possible that this was not a

later event but that the cut was extended at the time of this burial to include the disarticulated bones.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.26

CONTEXTS: 15017, 15018 15019

15017: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated infant inhumation. Articulation and preservation poor. Supine, skull collapsed, feet missing.

15018: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

mid yellowish brown, quite loose, quite friable deposit: 50% sand, 30% silt, 20% clay with occasional oyster shell, small pebbles and grit.

15019: COFFIN

Remains of wooden coffin, reddish dark brown, very friable, very decayed material.

This skeleton was placed within a coffin and if it had been excavated in a more satisfactory manner it is likely that a grave cut would have been recorded.

CONTEST SERIES 15.2.27

CONTEXTS: 15006, 15015

15006: COFFIN

Coffin made of timber planks, badly decomposed, orientation NE/SW. NE end is beyond the area excavated.

15015: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated supine adult inhumation. Head at the SW end. Left hand under pelvis, right forearm under torso. Legs together, skull on side.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.28

CONTEXTS: 15011, 15012, 15013, 15014

15011: GRAVE FILL DEPOSIT

Compact/friable darkish grey deposit: silt 10%, clay 10%, patches of light brown in places with occasional brick/tile fragments, mortar flecks, shell, limestone fragments, pebbles, animal and human bone.

15012: COFFIN LID

Remains of coffin lid. 2 fragments over legs, 1 at head end. All except the head end fragment had collapsed fallen into the coffin.

15013: SKELETON

Extended supine inhumation orientated NE/SW Partly under shoring on SW and SE sides. Left side and part of lower right leg excavated. Skull beyond shoring. Lower left leg and foot not in their correct position.

15014: COFFIN

Timber coffin partly cut by shoring in SE corner of trench, leaving only 80% of SW side and base to be excavated. The timber at the NW end was not evident.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.2.29

CONTEXTS: 15008, 15009

15008 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPOSIT

Cobbles 60%, limestone large fragments 25%, sand 15%, cobbles 5-25cm, limestone fragments 15-30cm. (Sand, mid yellow-brown and extremely friable).

15009: WALL CONSTRUCTION CUT

Very shallow cut. Top edge imperceptible, gradient gentle, bottom edge rounded to flat.

This context series was interpreted by the excavator as the construction cut and fill for a wall foundation. The fact that it

terminates within the excavation area unrelated to any other constructional element would however leave this interpretation open to some doubt. It is also adjacent to and terminates along an approximately similar axis to the charnel pit (15.2.25). It was however clearly not used for the same function.

GROUP 3

CONTEXT SERIES 15.3.1

CONTEXT: 15007

15007: METALLING

Deposit of cobbles: 40% at 10cm, 30% at 15cm, 30 less than 10cm with occasional animal bone, small pebbles and small tile, sandstone and limestone fragments.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This deposit sealed the burials discussed above in Group 2. This phenomenon was recorded in the rest of the site and signalled the end of use of the area as a cemetery and a resultant change of activity. In this particular area the presence of metalling did not completely signify such a change. There was a further burial and some disturbed bones which clearly post-dated this event. These are discussed in Group 4

GROUP 4

CONTEXT SERIES 15.4.1

CONTEXT: 15005

15005: SPIT

Dark brown to black compact quite friable deposit: Sand 15%, silt 15%, clay 10% with occasional shell, small pebbles, cobbles, limestone fragments and animal bone.

This was a further arbitrary spit removed in the process of finding human remains.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.4.2

CONTEXT: 15003

15003: SKELETON

NE/SW orientated adult supine inhumation, facing NE. The skull was partially outside the area excavated and only the jaw and other fragments were salvageable. Hands on pelvis. Arms and legs fully extended.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.4.3

CONTEXTS: 15002, 15004

15002: BUILD UP DEPOSIT

Dark brown/black very compact deposit: Sand 30%, silt 50%, clay 20% with occasional small cobbles, pebbles, tile and limestone fragments, occasional oyster shell, chalk and charcoal flecks.

15004: SPIT

Mid blackish/brown, compact, slightly friable deposit: Sand 40%, silt 20%, clay 20% with occasional medium cobbles, pebbles, animal bone and small limestone fragments.

This context series consisted of two arbitrary spits removed in order to uncover human remains. The excavator noted that a pit was present but no effort was made to record it due to the fact that the team were under extreme pressure to remove human remains in as swift a manner as possible.

CONTEXT SERIES 15.4.4

CONTEXT: 15001

CONTEXT: 15001

15001: SKELETON

Human bones, orientation uncertain, no articulation, badly disturbed by machine. These were the first human remains to be encountered in this trench.

GROUP DISCUSSION: This group comprises the first human remains to be found in this trench combined with the arbitrary spits iTs whi'h th'y were located. The burials in this group have been separated from those in Group 2 as they were clearly later and stwatigraphically above the deposit of metalling in Group 3.

GROUP 5

CONTEXT SERIES 15000

CONTEXT: 15000

15000: OTHER DEPOSIT

Bricks, rubble, large limestone fragments and several dark earth deposits. This was the topmost 1.2m of material entirely removed by machine. No attempt was made to record or excavate individual deposits or features.

INTER GROUP DISCUSSION

This trench was one of those excavated during the last stages of the archaeological part of the project. It was designed to locate and excavate human remains in as swift a time as possible in the event, the remains of a wall was recorded at the level at which excavation ceased, (Group 1). This feature predated all of the burials. Although it is not certain as to its date of construction it was on an apparent Roman alignment. It is intended that its relationship with other structural elements on the site will be discussed later in this report in the Site-Wide Discussion.

In all 26 definite burials, a further disarticulated example and the contents of a charnel pit were recorded in this small area. (The charnel pit contained the disarticulated remains of perhaps 20 to 25 individuals). These burials have been separated into two separate groups on the basis of their clear stratigraphic relationship with the metalled surface discussed in Group 3. This feature is of interest in that it was present in those other trenches where burials were present and represented the level at which burial ceased. The inference is that this was a deliberate act to seal and protect the burials at the time when the site was undergoing a

change of use. It is clear that within this trench this feature signals the demise of the cemetery. However there was one definite burial after it had been laid down, in addition to some disarticulated bones. This material is discussed in Group 4.

The remaining 25 inhumations and the contents of the charnel pit are all considered together in Group 2. The reasons for this are similar to those laid out in the equivalent argument concerning the burials in Trench 14 and are also outlined in the Introduction to this trench.

The technique that was used for the removal of the burials was in response to pressure of time and involved the removal of human remains without complete regard to the stratigraphic sequence there was no time to determine the position of grave cuts, or the true level from which the grave had been dug. The apparent sequential order of burial as shown on the Matrix is not therefore a true reflection of the stratigraphic sequence, other than in relation to the metalled surface in Group 3. Elsewhere the material was simply removed in spits and burials were excavated at the level at which they appeared. The sequence is therefore based on nothing more than the physical level at which the grave-diggers chose to place the body. The inter-relationship of the bodies to one another will have to be considered therefore on the basis of their spatial distribution, the degree of disturbance by later intercut burials and by the physical level at which they were buried.

The number of spits that are included in Group 2 were two. These were numbered (15.2.10) and (15.2.24). In addition to the burials there was a single cut feature, (15.2.29). This was interpreted by the excavator as a wall foundation although the lack of any other related constructional features must leave this open to some doubt.

Of the total of 25 burials in this group (excluding those within the charnel pit) eighteen were not found within a coffin. These were numbered [15.2.1), [15.2.2), [15.2.3), (15.2.4), [15.2.5), [15.2.6), [15.2.7), [15.2.03 [15.2.113 [15.2.123 [15.2.133 [1.5.2.143 [15.2.153 [15.2.163 [1.5.2.173 [1.5.2.193 [15.2.203 and C15.2.8). Of

these [15.2.5) was of special interest in that there were a number of iron objects in the region of the pelvis.

Of the remainder, 5 were in standard coffins [15.2.21), [15.2.23), [15.2.26), (15.2.27), and [15.2.20). There was some limited evidence that one may have been laid on a plank of wood [15.2.18), although there was not sufficient time to record this material properly. Finally one of the coffins [15.2.9) was described by the excavator as being fashioned out of a hollowed-out tree-trunk.

Determining the order of deposition of the burial in this group is difficult. The density and the degree of intercutting within the area suggested that there was continuous burial in this part of the cemetery throughout its life.

Unlike the situation in trench 14 alignments is less useful. [15040), [15.2.7) and (15042), (15.2.5) are clearly two of the earlier examples and are on a slightly different alignment, this is less clear cut than in the previous trench. It is intended that alignment changes between each if the excavation areas will be discussed later in this report in the Site-Wide Discussion.

As there is no definitive stratigraphic sequence the relative chronology of these burials to one another cannot be determined other than by actual intercutting of the bodies by a later burial. This does not define any neat sequential or spatial ordering which would allow for the creation of sub-divisions within this group. The implication is that this particular part of the cemetery was in constant use for a period of time which has not yet been determined. A chart is included in the report (see Figure **) which shows the relative chronology of burials within this phase on the basis of intercutting relationships.

SWINEGATE EXCAVATION: SITE PHASING AND SYNOPSIS

INTRODUCTION:

This document comprises the phasing of the Swinegate Excavations within which Context-Series is included in a Period or Phase. These two terms may be defined as follows:-

PERIOD : An event or series of events which can be divided from those which precede and follow it on the basis of the available dating evidence.

PHASE: This is a sub-division of Period and is a separation of events on the basis of the structural or stratigraphic sequence which the available dating evidence does not indicate can be divided on the basis of date

Dates provided were ascribed from the pottery spot-dates alone and are broken down into Centuries or parts of Centuries A.D.

It is intended that this site phasing should provide the basis for the groupings that will be used by the specialists researching the individual classes of material from the site. Should that analysis show that the date bands assigned are either too crude or entirely wrong then it is possible that subject to discussion the date might be altered. The phasing structure is however based on sound-stratigraphic, contextual and structural data and it is therefore hoped that this will remain valid throughout the Future research into the site.

The text that accompanies each Period and Phase is designed to be a simple description of what is present and is discussed separately by individual trenches. Beyond the identification of each individual Feature as buildings, property boundaries etc or other major Features which extend into several excavation areas There is no attempt to Further interpret the material either on a site wide basis or on the basis of its relationship with other material either within or beyond York. It is hoped however that individual researchers will consider the implications of differences in the distribution of their material across the whole site and by relationships both with the major site wide features and the surrounding topography, throughout the development of the site.

It is intended that further interpretation and research leading to a full publication text will be a product of the study and integration of all of the various strands of evidence from the site.

The final point that I would wish to make in this introduction is that the excavation of a large number of discrete small trenches in the context of deeply stratified urban archaeology, whilst it might lead to the possibility of a pragmatic arrangement between Archaeologist and Developer does not lead to adequate results. The phasing that is proposed here is undoubtedly flawed and in some instances might be wrong or positively misleading. The sequence within each of the individual trenches is valid but as each either tells a very different story to the remainder or contains only a single element of what is contained in other trenches the ability to make valid links is not great. The best has been made of what structural, stratigraphic, contextual and dating links as there are but Final interpretation of this evidence is likely to be minimal. I would suggest that the Trust think twice before entering into such an arrangement again. Having said that it is undoubtedly true that it was sheer misfortune that the largest excavation area was placed over what was an outside area during much of the Late Roman Period.

PERIOD 1

Phase 1: Natural Deposits

Trench 2: (2.1.1)

A natural clay deposit occurring at a highest level of 12.01m.

Trench 3: (3.1.1) .

Compact natural clay covering the full extent of the trench. Height of just under 12.00m.

PERIOD 2

Phase 1: Initial use of the site (3rd quarter 1st century)

Trench 2: (2.2.1), (2.2.2), (2.2.3) (2.2.4), (2.2.5), (2.3.1)

Ditch like Features running at right angles to one another, (2.2.1) and (2.2.3) associated build-up/dump deposits, (2.2.2), (2.2.4), (2.2.5). Not clear as to the Function of the ditches. Not entirely within the excavation area and also cut by later features.

Trench 3: (3.2.1), (3.2.1), (3.2.3), (3.2.4), (3.2.5), (3.3.1), (3.3.2), (3.3.3), (3.3.4), (3.3.5)

Group 2 consisted of a series of stake holes, a possible post-hole and a single large pit with a slot cut into the top of its fill.

Group 3 covered the eastern half of the trench and consisted of a shallow construction trench with associated build up deposit to the west, which were interpreted as interior. This Feature was 0.3m in width and packed with clay and cobbles which supported yellow plaster traces to either side. There was no evidence to indicate the nature of the material which has supported the superstructure of this Feature.

Indeed it seems too insubstantial to have been durable and long lived. There was also an apparently insitu small bore water pipe.

Phase 2: Trench 2: (2.3.3), (2.3.3), (2.4.1), (2.4.2)

Roughly NE/SW alignment of small driven posts with associated fills. Other than this alignment they have no clear substance or relation with other features. However they are limited spatially by later Features and the limits of the trench and may have extended further their apparent alignment may therefore be misleading. It is worth noting that the deposits in the trench at this level were split into two by the later construction cut (3.10. 1) and there is little similarity between the deposits at this level to either side of it. It may therefore be that this wall replaced an earlier major constructional Feature on a similar alignment. There is no remaining clue to the nature of such a feature. However if this were the case then the excavators interpretation of these timbers as having been for scaFF0ld posts would have some validity as they pre-date the major construction trench.

Trench 3: (3.4.1) (3.4.2), (3.4.3), (3.4.4), (3.4.5), (3.4.6), (3.4.7), (3.4.88)

The short lived nature of the Phase 1 structure in this trench is attested to by the material in this phase which consisted largely of

demolition and dumped material sealing the previous structural evidence and making may for an altered building arrangement.

Phase 3: New-building Layout in Stone

Trench 2: (2.5.1), (2.5.2), (2.5.3), (2.5.4), (2.5.5)

Major linear Feature interpreted as a beam slot aligned NE/SW only partially within the excavation area, (2.5.2). Plus a smaller but similar Feature (2.5.3) and (2.5.5) to the opposite side of the later major construction cut with associated post hole (2.5.4). (2.5.6) comprises two further post holes at this level (2.5.1) is an area of levelling associated with these features.

The disparate and partial nature of this evidence means that it is difficult to say much more than it appears to represent the deconstruction of further flimsy timber structures.

Trench 3: (3.5.1), (3.5.2), (3.5.3), (3.5.4), (3.5.5), (3.5.6), (3.5.7), (3.6.1), (3.6.2), (3.6.3), (3.9.1)

This phase comprised a major partially robbed out wall foundation at the western and northern sides of the trench with a related construction at the eastern end. Between these two structural elements was a strange timber and plaster floor with other associated build up deposits.

An interpretation of this arrangement of structural elements is not easy. The major wall foundation with the 90 degree turn has the appearance of a building. However the feature at the eastern end of the trench is not of a similar major load bearing capacity and it may be that if this was a building then the eastern side may have been open or less major construction than the other walls. It is also possible that the major wall was a boundary or perimeter wall to an open enclosure and the other easterly constructional element was a feature internal to the enclosed compound or courtyard. The wooden floor is similarly not easy to explain. If this is an internal area then it only covers a portion of the total area. One proposition is that it was a mortar mixing area.

Trench 5: (5.1.1), (5.2.1), (5.2.2), (5.2.3), (5.2.4), (5.2.5), (5.2.6)

The wall seen over a large area in trench 3 above continued into this trench and was associated with a number of build up and Floor deposits in addition to a single beam slot.

Phase 4: Alterations at the eastern end of the trench

Trench 3: (3.6.4), (3.6.5), (3.6.6), (3.7.1)

During this phase the easterly constructional element in the structure described in the previous phase was replaced by two beam slots, one of which was lined with a thin vertical face of plaster on its eastern side. As with the plaster lined feature discussed earlier during this period this also had an apparently short life.

Phase 5: Structural collapse, levelling and turf spread

Trench 3: (3.5.8), (3.7.2), (3.8.1), (3.8.2), (3.8.3)

The material in this phase sealed the structural Features at the eastern end of the trench discussed in phase 3, although not the major wall itself and is further evidence for change in the life of this enigmatic structure, if not for its Final decline. In addition to that there was a layer of turfs spread randomly and covering much of the trench. The interpretation of this deposit is that it is the remains of a turf stack which was used elsewhere within the Fortress.

Phase 6: Robbing

Trench 3 (3.9.2), (3.10.1), (3.10.2), (3.11.1) E3.11.2)

This material in filled and sealed a robber trench for the phase 3 wall and represents the Final disappearance of this structural arrangement.

Trench 5: (5.3.1), (5.3.2), (5.3.3), (5.3.4), (5.3.5)

Although it is difficult to fully understand the nature of these deposits within such a small excavation area they are interpreted as the evidence for the demolition and robbing of the phase 3 wall.

PERIOD 3

Phase 1: Second phase of the construction in stone and the creation of the open area. (First half 2nd century)

Trench 2: (2.6.1), (2.7.1), (2.8.1), (2.8.2), (2.9.1), (2.10.1), (2.10.2), (2.11.1), (2.11.2)

(2.6.1), (2.7.1), (2.9.1), (2.10.2) and (2.11.2) were levelling, occupation or flooring associated with two stone trench built walls (2.8.1), (2.8.2) and (2.10.1). Of these two features (2.10.1) was the major feature, running centrally across the trench on a NE/SW alignment. The other wall was apparently subsidiary and was only just within the excavated area. It is possible that the lesser wall predated the larger.

Again the very small scale of the area excavated is an important factor in the interpretation of these features. Nonetheless they are clearly part of a major phase of building in stone, seen elsewhere on the site. The earlier wall within this trench forms an internal division within the building. The function of the space created is attested to by the presence of (2.11.1), a small cut feature which has been interpreted as either a stone lined hearth or flue.

Trench 3: Timber Floor and associated deposits.

(3.12.1), (3.12.2), (3.13.1)

This was an enigmatic feature sealing the demolition of the last phase of the previous period. It was a wooden planked floor surrounded by an insubstantial fence which would not have supported a major superstructure. It was apparently external. It has therefore been interpreted as a feature within an area which unlike the previous period had now become external.

The presence of this feature represents a clear decision to change the nature of the use of the site from that which had been present, in the preceding period. The inference is that the area is now a deliberately laid out open area. A parade ground or a courtyard • have all been suggested. It has the exercise yard for the baths house. This would seem a reasonable interpretation given the

proximity of the range of buildings skirting the area in trenches 2, 9 and 12 which may represent buildings surrounding this open space. IF this is a valid interpretation then the wooden Feature could perhaps be a cock Fighting pit.

Trench 4 Planning Zone JJ: (4.1.1), (4.2.1), (4.2.2), (4.2.3), (4.2.4), (4.2.5), (4.2.6), (4.2.7), (4.3.1), (4.3.2), (4.3.3), (4.4.1)

Although there is no contemporary dating evidence for these structural elements and they are some considerable distance from the rest of the site they have nonetheless been assigned to this Period. They comprise a major stone building with surfaces both internal and external.

Trench 9: (9.2.1), (9.2.2)

(9.2.1) comprised the cobbled and mortar Foundations for a deeply cut Feature which has been interpreted as a sleeper beam for a massive structure or perhaps more likely some form of machine base. (9.2.2) comprised deposits which apparently related to the use of this Feature.

Trench 12: (12.1.1)

Evidence for this Period from this trench comprises a single wall. It lies on the name alignment and has the same constructional characteristics and dimensions as wall (2.10.1) in trench 2. It is thought to be the continuation of what is clearly one of the major constructional elements on the site in the Roman Period. There were no occupational levels associated with this wall in this period in this trench. This is explained by the fact that this trench was only excavated for the removal of human remains of medieval date and the constructional levels associated with the wall were not reached. Excavation ceased as soon as it was clear that human remains were not going to be encountered.

Trench 14: (14.2.1)

The robbed out stump of a wall was observed during cemetery clearance in this area. Although it is not possible to be certain as

to its date or construction as its foundation levels were not reached it has similarities of orientation and constructional characteristics to the building range outlined in this Period. As it is same distance from the remainder of the evidence it is difficult to interpret it further except For the simple observation that its presence indicates that major stone buildings existed in this Period over some considerable area. As we are within the Fortress this is hardly surprising.

Phase 2: Re-metalling of the Open Area

Trench 3: (3.14.1,) (3.14.2)

During this phase the Full width of the trench was resurfaced with a convincing deposit of metalling which sealed the wooden Floor of the previous phase but which was still apparently external.

Trench 5: (5.4.1), (5.4.2), (5.4.3)

Two successive metallised surfaces within this area would indicate that the open area discussed above in Trench 3 continued to the south-west. -

PERIOD 4

Phase 1: Continued use of the Period 3 Building. (Second half 2nd century)

Trench .2: (2.12.1), (2.12.2), (2.12.3), (2.1.4), (2.12.5),
(2.13.1), (2.13.2), (2.15.1), (2.15.2), (2.15.3), (2.15.4)

This phase comprises the continued use of the building constructed in the previous period. Context Series (2.12.1) to (2.12.5) consist of several successive Floors and levelling deposits with associated post or stake hole which may represent alterations to the interior of the building. In all the build up is approximately 0.75m. All of these deposits slope downwards away From wall (2173) (2.10.1). This slope continues to the SE of the areas excavated and is therefore unexplained. They may be sloping towards a Feature which lies between this trench and trench 9 to the SE. The deposits in this group have been cut by later Foundation trenches. However it has

been possible to directly relate surfaces between series on the basis of height OD and the nature or the material.

Groups 13 and 15 built up to the NW of wall (2173) (2.10.1) and are different in nature than those discussed above. The basic assessment of this material is that it is external to the building. Group 13 comprises material which is interpreted as having resulted from the construction and later use of the building. Group 15 constituted largely of a series of very thin laminated silts and clays which the excavator recorded as either Floors or material which may have fallen through a wooden boarded floor. This interpretation has been rejected in post excavation work in favour of them being mixed material external to a building.

Trench 3: External Surfaces.

(3.15.1), (3.15.3), (3.16.1), (3.16.2), (3.16.3), (3.16.4)

This phase comprised a series of levelling deposited and metalled surface spanning the full width of the trench replacing those which had been laid down in the previous period. The nature or the use of the site was however unchanged.

Trench 5: (5.5.1), (5.5.2)

A number of levelling or dump deposits were present within this area suggesting that the Trench 3 open area continued as far as this trench. There was however no convincing metalled surface that could be assigned to this phase.

Trench 9: (9.3.1), (9.3.2), (9.3.3), (9.3.4), (9.3.5), (9.3.6), (9.3.7), (9.3.8), (9.3.9)

The disparate elements within Trench 9 during this phase represent the replacement of the hard standing discussed in the previous phase by similar Feature in the same position with its associated use surface. Two pits were also associated with this phase. One was little more than a rubbish pit, the other was clearly a mortar mixing pit. Both may have derived from this constructional activity.

Trench 12: (12.2.1), (12.2.2), (12.2.3.), 12.2.4), 12.2.5),
(12.2.6), (12.2.7), (12.3.1

These disparate elements represent the continued use of the wall discussed in Period 3. They are all interpreted as external and (12.3.1) may be the remains of a fire.

Phase 2: Alterations to the interior of the Building

Trench 2: (2.14.1), (2.14.2), (2.14.3), (2.14.4), (2.14.5), (2.14.6)

This phase comprised the addition of a number of subsidiary walls to the major wall described in Phase 3 (2.14.1) to (2.14.4). They lie to the SE of this wall and appear to divide the area into small chambers or booths of which there are two within this excavation area. (The subsidiary wall in the original complex (2.8.1) Period 3 phase1 had already been dismantled prior to the erection of these later Features).

The clear implication is that these are a just a small Fraction of a complex of some size and scale. The surfaces which relate to the initial construction or these walls lie within (2.14.5) and (2.14.6).

These walls survive to a greater height OD than the major wall to which they were related. It is felt that this is as a result of differential robbing. The major wall presumably was constructed of stones of sufficient size to be of interest to the robbers.

Trench 9: (9.4.1), (9.4.2), (9.5.1), (9.5.2), (9.5.3), (9.6.1),
(9.6.3)

Group 5 comprised two further walls apparently part of the same complex as those within trench 2, slightly Further to the east. This interpretation is based on the similar nature of the walling, their physical height and orientation as opposed to dating evidence which was either lacking or residual.

Group 6, (9.6.1) and (9.6.2) was a subsidiary wall at 90 degrees to the other two which had been sliced into two separate parts by later intrusive activity. As with the smaller walls in trench 2, this

feature apparently divided the area into two separate rooms. Apart from limited evidence in (9.6.1) related Floor or occupational surfaces had been destroyed in antiquity.

Group 4, (9.4.1) (9.4.2) consisted of a construction cut in the extreme NW edge of the trench with some related build-up deposits. It is stratigraphically possible that it could belong to the previous phase. However it has been included here as the evidence from both this trench and elsewhere on the site indicates that the large building created during Period 3 was being internally divided into smaller zones during this phase. The presence of the wall suggested by this construction cut would fit with this interpretation.

Trench 12: (12.1.2), (12.4.1), (12.5.1), (12.6.1), (12.7.1), (12.7.2), (12.9.1), (12.9.2), (12.9.3), (12.10.2)

As in the other trenches, particularly Trench 2, the major NE/SW orientated wall outlined in Period 3 had an additional wall butted against it during this phase, (12.1.2) and evidence for the construction of a further wall (12.7.1), (12.7.2). In addition to this immediately adjacent to the SE section was the edge of a feature which has been interpreted as the robber trench of a further wall. This is clear evidence for a change in the form and function of this major structural element. Those subsidiary walls are interpreted as internal divisions, creating two small chambers in relation to the major wall, one at least of which would have internal dimensions of only 1m, approximately. This arrangement has been seen elsewhere on site in trench 2 in particular and also in trench 9.

(12.9.1), (12.9.2), (12.9.3) were material associated with the use of this wall, having built up against it. They were however severely restricted between it and the SW section. It is difficult to interpret them other than to say that they were recorded as being occupational in nature; the topmost deposits may however have been associated with the demolition of the building as they were disparate in nature. There was however no related later dating evidence.

(12.4.1), (12.5.1), (12.6.1) were further built up of occupational deposits associated with the continued use of the building. (12.4.1) is thought to be external, the remainder internal.

Trench 15: (15.1.2)

A single wall was observed during the course of skeleton removal in this trench which on the basis of the nature of its construction, height DD and orientation could be assigned to the range of buildings in this phase. However it is on the opposite side of Swinegate to the remainder of the bulk of this evidence and as such is some considerable distance away. In addition only a small length of walling was uncovered in this trench. As such it is therefore difficult to further interpret.

PERIOD 5

Phase 1: Final phase of use of the Period 3 and 4 Stone Building Range and later developments. (Late 3rd/4th century)

Trench 2: (2.16.3)

This Period comprises three variable deposits within the north-western room described in the previous period. They were interpreted by the excavator as dumps and indeed may be related to the demolition outlined below in Period 6. They may however represent the final use of the building.

There is the possibility that similar material and a pit cut in the other room belong to this Period. There is however is a single stratigraphic link recorded on site which appears to suggest that this material post-dates the robbing, (see below Period 6). This relationship has been respected.

Trench 3: Further Trench Wide External Surfaces

(3.16.5), (3.16.6), (3.16.7), (3.16.8) This material comprised a continuation into the 3rd century of the of the open exercise yard which was laid out in the preceding period.

Trench 4: Planning Zone JJ: (4.4.2)

There was some evidence that the Period 3 phase 1 building had a new surface laid down in this later Roman Period.

Trench 5: (5.6.1)

This was a very thick and mixed deposit which may have been associated with the open area present at this time in Trench 3.

Trench 8: (8.1.1)

Three sandstone blocks have been assigned to this trench in this Period largely because they do not comfortably fit elsewhere. Their construction characteristics and alignment would suggest that they do not relate to the initial construction of the major Roman range of buildings discussed above however they predate the use of the site as a cemetery. Their physical height has led to them being included here.

Trench 12: (12.8.1)

(12.8.2) is described by the excavator as a Floor associated with the continued use of the building. Although the dating evidence for this group is earlier it has been included here on the basis of its height OD.

Phase 2: Late/Post Roman developments:

The material included in this phase is present here on the basis of minimal dating evidence, all of which is of Roman date. It is however structural evidence at the interface of the Roman and the Post Roman Periods and there is the possibility therefore that it may represent an entirely separate Period 6 activity of Post Roman date.

Trench 3: Post alignment and possible related structures.

(3.16.9,) (3.16.10), (3.16.11), (3.16.12), (3.16.13), (3.17.2),
(3.27.2)

This phase comprises a number of driven posts and post holes cutting the metalling of phase 1. There is a stratigraphic problem with these features but they do appear to represent a rough E/W

alignment. What is particularly interesting is that this alignment respects neither the preceding nor the forthcoming structural layouts.

There was however two cut Features at this stratigraphic level which may be associated with these posts. One has the appearance of a sill beam and the other is perhaps the robber trench for a Feature which has otherwise entirely disappeared.

Trench 4 Planning Zone JJ: (4.5.1)

There was evidence for an organic accumulation at this point in the stratigraphic sequence. It has therefore very tentatively been assigned here.

Trench 6: (6.2.3), (6.2.4), (6.2.5), (6.2.6)

These post alignments have also been included in this phase on the basis of their similarity of alignment with those discussed above in trench 3. As they were driven in nature it is not impossible that they are later in date and relate to the Period when the area was divided into separate properties or tenements, (Period 9).

PERIOD 6

Demolition (11th/12th Century)

Trench 2: (2.16.1), (2.16.2)

This Period comprises the robber trench and fills of the major wall (2173) (2.10.1) discussed in Period 3. A pit containing demolition material and a number of dumps which may have been associated with the robbing process are also included here. Their dating evidence would however put them in Period 5 if it were not for a single stratigraphic relationship. As stated above this relationship was respected.

Trench 4 • Planing Zone JJ: (4.6.1)

The Period 3 phase 1 building was apparently robbed out at this time.

Trench 9: (9.7..1)

This was the only deposit within this trench that could definitely be assigned to the demolition of the building. It consisted of a single mixed layer lying immediately on top of the un-robbled lowermost courses of wall (9.6.2) (Period 4).

The two ditch-like features from this trench which are discussed below in Period 8 may possibly have been misinterpreted and could be associated with the robbing processes.

Trench 12: (12.10.1)

The major wall discussed above in Period 3 (12.1.1) was robbed out during this Period.

Trench 14: (14.1.1), (14.2.2)

The wall (14.2.1) which it seems likely to belong to the Period 3 building was robbed out in this Period.

Trench 15: (15.1.1), (15.1.3)

The deposits in this trench assigned to this period apparently sealed the robbed Roman wall discussed above and prepared the site for its forthcoming use as a cemetery.

PERIOD 7

Burials (11th to 12th century)

Trench 3: (3.18.1), (3.18.2), (3.19.1), (3.20.1), (3.20.2), (3.20.3), (3.20.4), (3.20.5), (3.20.6), (3.20.7), (3.20.8), (3.20.9), (3.20.10), (3.21.1), (3.22.1), (3.22.3), (3.22.4), (3.22.5), (3.22.6), (3.22.7), (3.22.9), (3.22.10), (3.22.11)

Burial activity within this phase in this trench comprised 90 inhumations, 11 of which were in coffins, 2 were placed within the grave on a simple plank and 7 of which were apparently not within coffins.

There are also build up deposits included in this period which perhaps separate the Group 22 burials from those in groups 18 and 20

although this is by no means certain. If is the case then it can further be suggested that the group 22 burials represent an extension of the cemetery to the east. There is also a very slight change in orientation which may also suggest this division. It is not possible to identity separate datable periods or burial activity however.

Trench 5: (5.7.1) (5.7.2)

(5.8.1), (5.9.1), (5.9.2), (5.9.3), (5.9.4), (5.9.5), (5.9.6),
(5.9.7), (5.9.8), (5.9.9), (5.9.10)

Burial density was high in this small area. Two burials (5.7.1 and (5.7.2) were lower than and cut by the remainder of the burials. Neither of these individuals were within coffins although they were in identifiable grave cuts.

Of the remaining nine, five were in coffins. Three of these and two others were in identifiable grave cuts.

Trench 7: (7.3.1), (7.3.2), (7.3.3), (7.3.4)

Inhumation in this area consisted of four burials all of which were in coffins. None however were in identifiable grave cuts.

Trench 8: (8.2.1), (8.2.2) (two burials) (8.2.3) (two burials)

In all 5 inhumations were uncovered in this trench. Two were buried in coffins within grave cuts. The remainder were neither in coffins nor within identifiable cuts. They were apparently separated by build-up material but this may be simply the result of not being able to identify grave cuts within these mixed soils. They did not intercut which would imply that they were part of the same process of burial activity.

Trench 11: (11.1.1), (11.2.1), (11.2.2), (11.2.3), (11.2.4),
(11.2.5)

The evidence for burial practice in this trench consisted of two inhumations in coffins and two which were not. Orientation and body position was similar. There was also the Fragmentary remains from a Further burial which had been disturbed. A linear feature within

this trench may prove to be the NW perimeter of the main burial area although there is a single infant inhumation and a possible charnel pit within trench 12.

Trench 12: (12.11.1), (12.11.2), (12.11.3)

Within this trench evidence for burial practice was reduced to a single infant inhumation and a small charnel pit, as a result of the cutting of a Victorian cellar had removed much of the evidence further to the NW. This cellar marked the NW limit of burials discovered on the site.

Trench 14: (14.3.1), (14.3.2), (14.3.3), (14.3.4), (14.3.5), (14.3.6), (14.3.7), (14.3.8), (14.3.9), (14.3.10), (14.3.11), (14.3.12), (14.3.13), (14.3.14), (14.3.15), (14.3.16), (14.3.17), (14.3.18), (14.3.19), (14.3.20), (14.3.21), (14.3.22), (14.3-23), (14.3.24), (14.3.25), (14.3.26), (14.3.27), (14.3.28), (14.3.29), (14.3.30), (14.3.31), (14.3.32), (14.3.33), (14.3.34), (14.3.35)

All of the skeletons that were found in this trench as well as the build-up deposits which separated them have been included in this Period.

The technique that was used for the removal of the burials was in response to pressure of time and involved the removal of human remains without complete regard to the stratigraphic sequence. There was no time to determine the position of grave cuts, or the true level from which the grave had been dug. The apparent sequential order of burial as shown on the Matrix is not therefore a true reflection of the stratigraphic sequence. The material was simply removed in spits and burials were excavated at the level at which they appeared. The true inter-relation of the bodies to one another will have to be considered therefore on the basis of their spatial distribution, the degree of disturbance by later inter-cut burials and by the physical level at which they were buried.

The number of spits that were removed during the process of cemetery clearance amounted to eight. These were numbered (14.3.2), (14.3.4), (14.3.6), (14.3.12), (14.3.17), (14.3.22), (14.3.25), (14.3.30). In addition to the burials there were a number of other small cut

features which were recorded in a crude manner. One of these (14.3.23) has been interpreted as a cess-pit the remainder were apparently empty grave cuts (14.3.21), (14.3.26) or were dug to rebury bones which had been disturbed during the process of later burial (14.3.31), (14.3.32). There was one shallow scoop (14.3.27) for which no interpretation is offered.

Of the total of 21 burials eleven more not found within a coffin. They were numbered (14.3.1), (14.3.3), (14.3.5), (14.3.8), (14.3.9), (14.3.10), (14.3.11), (14.3.13), (14.3.14), (14.3.15) and (14.3.983).

Of the remainder 5 were in standard coffins (14.3.7), (14.3.18), (14.3.19), (14.3.20), (14.3.24), 2 were laid on a plank of wood, (14.3.16), (14.3.25) and 3 had a plank of wood placed over the top of the body, (14.3.29), (14.3.33), and (14.3.34).

Determining the order of deposition of these burials is difficult. The density and the degree of intercutting within the area suggested that there was continuous burial in this part of the cemetery throughout its life.

Some preliminary remarks can be made. There is a change in alignment. (14.7.1), (14.3.33) and (14069) (14.3.5) are on a different alignment to the remainder, approximately NNE/SSW and are also parallel to wall (14075) (14.2.1). It is argued therefore that they were placed in relation to this feature whilst it was still standing. (14064) (14.3.9) and (14073) (14.3.1) may also belong, to this phase but this is not as clear cut as with the previous two examples.

All of the rest are all on a similar alignment, NE/SW and a number of them cut into the Fill of the robber trench of wall (14075). Clearly therefore there is a second phase of burial post-dating the demolition of the wall and comprising the period during which the cemetery was at its most active.

As there is no definitive stratigraphic sequence the relative chronology of these burials to one another cannot be determined other than by actual intercutting of the bodies by a later burial. This does not define any neat sequential or spatial ordering which

would allow for the creation of sub-divisions within this group. The implication is that this particular area was in constant use during the life the cemetery.

Trench 15: (15.2.1), (15.2.2), (15.2.33), (15.2.4), (15.2.5), (15.2.6), (15.2.7), (15.2.8), (15.8.9), (15.2.10), (15.2.11), (15.2.12), (15.2.13), (15.2.14), (15.2.15), (15.2.16), (15.2.17), (15.2.18), (15.2.19), (15.2.20), (15.2.21), (15.2.22), (15.2.23), (15.2.24), (15.2.25), (15.2.26), (15.2.27), (15.2.28)

In all 25 burials and the contents of a charnel pit have been included in this spied from within this area (A further example and a collection of disarticulated bones are included in Period 8 phase 3). The charnel pit contained the disarticulated remains of perhaps 90 to 25 individuals.

The technique that was used for the removal of these burials was in response to pressure of time and involved the removal of human remains without complete regard to the stratigraphic sequence. There was no time to determine the position of grave cuts, or the true level from which the grave had been dug. The apparent sequential order of burial as shown on the Matrix is not therefore a true reflection of the stratigraphic sequence, other than in relation to the metalled surface in Group 3. Elsewhere the material was simply removed in spits and burials were excavated at the level at which they appeared. The interrelationship of the bodies to one another will have to be considered therefore on the basis of their spatial distribution, the degree of disturbance by later intercut burials and by the physical level at which they were buried.

The number of spits that are included in this Period are two. These were numbered (15.2.10) and (15.2.24).

Of the total of 25 burials in this Period (excluding those within the charnel pit) eighteen were not found within a coffin. Those more numbered (15.2.1), (15.2.2), (15.2.3), 15.2.4), (15.2.5), (15.2.6), (15.2.7), (15.2.8), (15.2.11), (15.2.12), (15.2.13), (15.2.14), (15.2.15), (15.2.16), (15.2.17), (15.2.19), (15.2.20) and (15.2.22).

Of these (15.2.23) was of special interest in that there were a number of iron objects in the region of the pelvis.

Of the remainder, 5 were in standard coffins (15.2.21), (15.2.23), (15.2.26), (15.2.27) and (15.2.28). There was some limited evidence that one may have been laid on a plank of wood (15.2.18) although there was not sufficient time to record this material properly. Finally one of the coffins (15.2.9) was described by the excavator as being Fashioned out of a hollowed out tree trunk.

Determining the order of deposition of the burials in this group is difficult. The density and the degree of intercutting within the area suggested that there was continuous burial in this part of the cemetery throughout its life.

Unlike the situation in Trench 14 alignment is less useful. (15040), (15.2.7) and (15042), (15.2.5) are clearly two of the earlier examples and are on a slightly different alignment, although this is less clear cut than in the previous trench.

As there is no definitive stratigraphic sequence the relative chronology of these burials to one another cannot be determined other than by actual intercutting of the bodies by a later burial. This does not define any neat sequential or spatial ordering which would allow for the creation of subdivisions within this group.

Period 8

Phase 1: Site wide accumulation evidence for cultivation and the demise of the cemetery (11th/12th century)

Trench 2: (2.17.1)

A trench wide accumulation of mixed dark loams removed as two spits containing domestic refuse. Featureless and laid down perhaps as a result of their relationship to the rear of properties which at this time may have begun to emerge on the newly formed street Frontages and in the vicinity of the cemetery seen elsewhere on the site. Their Formation may derive from a combination of the dumping of domestic waste and also vegetation growth. Analysis of the environmental samples will no doubt be revealing.

Trench 3: (3.23.1), (3.24.1), (3.24.2)

This phase consisted of a single cut Feature largely outside the excavation area associated with a single large post-hole and a number of driven stakes. These timbers respect approximately the alignment of the timbers in the Period 4 phase 2 materials.

Trench 6: (6.2.1) (6.2.2)

These were two cut features sealed by the metallised surface of the following phase. They are at a relatively high level OD, a Fact which is reflected in the relative thinness of the metalling at this point. They were both interpreted as post-holes.

Trench 9: (9.8.1), (9.8.2)

This group consisted of two ditch like features running parallel to the robbed remains of the walls discussed above in Period 4. They are however not thought to be a part of the robbing process as they do not contain demolition material and are adjacent to, rather than immediately on top of the robbed out feature. Their fill is highly organic and they have therefore been interpreted as primitive drainage features perhaps marking the limits of the cemetery seen elsewhere on the site. Given the organic nature of much of the evidence from this period it is perhaps not unreasonable to also associate them with initial attempts at using the site for cultivation. As with much of the other evidence from the site, analysis of their environmental samples should be extremely revealing.

Trench 11: (11.3.1)

11.3.1; was single linear feature apparently of a similar scale and aligned with (9017) (9.8:2) in trench 9. It is therefore also interpreted as a primitive drain.

Phase 2: Site Wide Metalling

Trench 3: (3.25.1)

This trench wide deposit or compacted metalling is very important in that it signals the virtual demise of the use of the site as a

cemetery: After the deposition of this material the area is clearly divided into separate tenements running at 90 degrees to the Petergate/Swinegate axis.

Trench 4: Planning Zone JJ (4.7.1), (4.7.2)

A deposit of metalling was found in this area not unlike those elsewhere on the site. Although in a similar position within the stratigraphic position it was at a lower height OD. This may however be explained by the Fact that this trench was some considerable distance from the rest of the excavation: Trench 5: (5.10:1)

This material comprised a deposit of metalling which appeared to seal the burials in Trench 5. It was seen elsewhere on the site where burials were present but was lacking where they were not. It is thought to be a deliberate attempt to seal the burial horizon.

Trench 6: (6.2.7)

This deposit was present in this trench despite the Fact that it did not seal any burials.

Trench 7: (7.4.1)

Again this deposit spanned the full width of this trench

Trench 8: (8:3:1)

This ubiquitous deposit was also present in this trench:

Trench 11: (11.4.1)

This material was similar in nature and at the same physical level as (5.10.1). It is thought to carry out the same Function

Trench 15: (15:3.1)

Metalling sealing the majority of burials in this area

Phase 3: Further burials

Trench 3: (3.26.1), (3.26.2), (3.27.1), (3.27.2), (3.27.3),
(3.27.4), (3.27.5)

This phase consisted of six further adult or sub adult inhumations, 5 of which were in coffins cut into the surface of the Phase 2 metalling. There is also a trench wide layer of build-up material included in this phase.

Trench 15: (15.4.1), (15.4.2), (15.4.3), (15.4.4)

Within this trench there was a single adult inhumation and a number of disarticulated bones possibly disturbed by the mechanical excavator which post dated the Phase 2 metalling,

Period 9

Division of the site into separate tenements and associated organic accumulation (late 11th/12th century)

Trench 2: (2.17.2)

A deposit of organic material and a single refuse pit are included in this Period.

Trench 3: (3.28.1), (3.28.2), (3.28.3), (3.28.4), (3.29.1), (3.29.2),
(3.29.3), (3.29.4), (3.29.5), (3.29.6), (3.29.7), (3.29.8),
(3.30.1), (3.30.2), (3.30.3)

During this Period the area was divided into four separate properties or tenements by a series of wicker fences and included an area of compacted metalling on the western side of the trench.

There was also an accumulation of build up material into which were cut two cess pits.

Trench 4: Planning Zone JJ:

Trench 5: (5.10.2)

A single isolated post hole for which there is no contemporary dating evidence. It has simply been included here on the basis of its position in the stratigraphic sequence.

Trench 6 (6.3.1), (6.3.2), (6.3.3)

These deposits showed no evidence for division into separate properties. There was however evidence For organic accumulation as well as Further resurfacing of the metalling,

Trench 7: (7.5.1), 7.5.2)

An organic accumulation and a wicker fence indicate the initial division of this part of the site into possible separate properties.

Trench 9: (9.9.1), (9.9.2), (9.10.1)

Material in this phase consisted of three cess pits, two posts and a thick spit which may have contained more complex material. It was however excavated in some haste and therefore cannot be further interpreted.

It is worth noting that deposits of a similar date were found at a higher level to the north-west in Trench 2. This may reflect the underlying Roman buildings. The current hypothesis is that `there was less build up within the buildings in trench 9 than in Trench 2 or that there was a change in Floor level to either side of one of the major.NE/SW orientated walls that ran through the area. The lower level created within the trench 9 confines would therefore be reflected in the relative levels of later deposits.

Trench 10: (10.1.1), (10.1.9), (10.2.1)

This area was situated to the rear of the property which was at the intersection of Coffee Yard and Swinegate. Although there were no burials which was the reason For its excavation there was a considerable build-up of garden type soil and two isolated posts which may belong to this Period.

Trench 11: (11.5.1), (11.6.1)

This material comprised two intercutting pits largely outside the excavation area (11.5.1) sealed by a deposit of garden type soil (11.6.1). The Fact that one of the pits was wicker lined may indicate that it functioned as a cess pit.

Trench 12: (12.12.1)

A single pit containing a post and a backfill of domestic waste. Could have been included in Phase 1 but has been placed here as the process of pit digging apparently commenced elsewhere on the site during this phase.

Period 10

Further Organic Accumulation (12th/13th century)

(Machine clearance of many of the excavation areas accounts For this build up being unrecorded in some parts of the site).

Trench 2: (2.17.3) `

Trench 3: (3.31.1), (3.31.2), (3.31.3), (3.32.1)

Trench 4 Planning Zone JJ: (4.8.1), (4.8.2), (4.8.3)

This material comprised pits and builds up material suggestive of a combined process of disposal of waste and cultivation.

Trench 6: (6.4.1)

Trench 7: ((7.6.1), (7.6.2), (7.6.3), (7.6.4), (7.8.1)

Over much of the site large scale organic accumulation took place during this Period with some associated wicker Fences. The inference is that dumping of domestic refuse was taking place in association with Buildings that stood at the street Frontages.

Period 11

Further Organic Accumulation and evidence for buildings at the Street Frontage (13th-14th century)

There is some complexity of structural layout and alterations during this Period, which may reflect continued structural development during the time span. However due to the limited nature OF the evidence from each of the separate small excavation Areas it has not been possible to divide these into separate building phases. The evidence has as a result been presented here in a single unit.

Trench 2: (2.17.4), (2.18.1) (2.18.2) (2.19.1)

Continued accumulation of cultivated and manured mixed loams. In this instance associated with a barrel lined well and another small pit.

Trench 3: (3.33.1), (3.33.2), (3.33.3), (3.33.4). (3.33.5), (3.33.6), (3.33.7). (3.33.8), (3.33.9) (3.33.10), (3.34.1), (3.34.2), (3.34.3), (3.34.4), (3.34.5), (3.34.6), (3.35.1), (3.35.2), (3.35.3), (3.36.1), (3.36.2), (3.36.3), (3.36.4), (3.36.5), (3.36.6), (3.36.7), (3.36.8), (3.36.9), (3.37.1), (3.37.2), (3.37.3), (3.37.4), (3.37.5), (3.37.6), (3.37.8), (3.37.9), (3.38.1), (3.38.2), (3.38.3), (3.38.4), (3.38.5), (3.38.6), (3.39.1), (3.39.2), (3.39.3) (3.39.4) (3.40.1), (3.40.2), (3.40.3), (3.40.4), (3.40.5), (3.40.6), (3.40.7), (3.40.8), (3.41.1), (3.41.2), (3.41.3), (3.41.4), (3.41.5), (3.41.6), (3.41.7), (3.41.8), (3.41.9), (3.41.10), (3.41.11), (3.43.1), (3.43.2), (3.43.3), (3.43.4), (3.43.5), (3.43.6), (3.43.7), (3.43.8), (3.43.9), (3.43.10), (3.44.1), (3.44.2), (3.44.3), (3.44.4), (3.44.5), (3.44.6), (3.44.7), (3.44.8), (3.44.9), (3.44.10), (3.44.11), (3.44.12), (3.44.13)

These diverse materials comprise primarily a considerable build-up associated with the continued use in the Medieval Period of this area for the disposal of domestic refuse both in pits and in general spreads of material and for cultivation in an area to the rear of the Street Frontages. A considerable number of post holes and Further Fence lines were physical evidence for the maintenance of the property boundaries that had been laid out in Period 9. In addition to this material there was however within one of the properties, evidence in the Form of rough stone sills and an apparent threshold for a small building. Its height OD would suggest that it relates to some of the complex structures revealed during excavation of Areas 1 and 4 at the major street frontages.

Trench 6: (6.5.1), (6.5.2), (6.5.3), (6.5.4), (6.5.5), (6.5.6), (6.5.7), (6.5.8).

Material in this trench during this Period consisted of a series of well constructed hearth made of tiles set on edge with related surfaces. Other than the presence of a single small beam slot there was nothing to prove whether these Features were internal or external. It is quite possible that this small excavation area could have been entirely within a building.

There is clearly a link here with the immediately adjacent evidence from trench 7, (see below)

Trench 7: (7.7.1), (7.8.1), (7.8.2), (7.8.3), (7.8.4), (7.9.1), (7.9.2), (7.9.3)

This material comprises further build-up deposits, a wall running at 90 degrees to the street frontage with associated floors, a hearth and a drain. This is the only convincing evidence from the site for a building of medieval date standing at the Swinegate street frontage. Also included in this Period is evidence for the apparent demolition of this building.

Period 12

Continued Organic Accumulation (14–15th Century).

Trench 2: [2.19.2) [2.19.3) [2.19.4)

Continued accumulation of cultivated and manured mixed loams.

Trench 7: [7.10.1)

This was a single deposit of mixed clay and sand spanning the full width of this trench.

Period 13

Machine Clearance of the Site 16th century–Modern

Material belonging to this Period was removed by machine in this area. It included the topmost levels of mixed loam accumulation dated to the 16th century. In addition to this the building rubble

left behind by the demolition of the buildings that had stood on the site until recent times was also present.

Trench 3: [3.42.1), [3.42.2), [3.42.3), [3.42.4), [3.45.1), [3.45.2), (3.45.3), [3.46.1)

This material comprised the fabric of two modern brick-lined diesel tanks and the machine clearance of the area, in addition to a semi sunken brick-built cellar feature of slightly earlier date, (19th century).

Trench 4 Planning zone 37: [4.9.1)

Clearance of the surface area at the base of the Victorian cellar.

Trench 5: [5.10.3) [5.11.1)

[5.10.3) was the initial deposit excavated by hand in this trench spanning the full area immediately below the top 2m of material removed by machine. No evidence was observed during this process for buildings fronting Swinegate.

Trench 6: [6.6.1) [6.6.2)

In addition to the topmost 0.50m of material removed during the machine clearance of this trench there was also the foundation trench for a wall of apparently modern date.

Trench 7: [7.10.2) [7.10.3)

This material comprised the top-most deposits removed by machine, in addition to the fill of a pit which contained no immediately available dating evidence but which held some copper-working debris. It is thought to have been relatively recent in date.

Trench 8: [8.4.1)

This was the top 2w of material removed by machine. The top 2m consisted largely of brick rubble.

Trench 9: [9.11.1)

This was the topmost 2.0m of organic loam and the modern demolition material removed by machine. No features of archaeological interest

were recorded. It must however be remembered that the intention within this trench was to recover human remains. Other archaeological recording was a bonus.

Trench 10: [10.3.1)

This was the topmost 2m of organic loam and other material removed by machine.

Trench 11: [11.7.1)

This was the topmost 2m of material removed by machine. No evident features were recorded.

Trench 12: [12.13.1)

This was the top 2.5m of material removed by machine, comprising dark soil in one half of the trench. Elsewhere it consisted of the brick and rubble infill of the Victorian cellar.

Trench 14: [14.4.1) [14.5.1)

[14.5.1) was the topmost material removed by machine prior to cemetery clearance. [14.4.1) was a shallow pit below the level of the machine clearance, at the same general height O.D. as the burials discussed above in Period 7. However as there was no dating evidence and as it was not possible to assign a function for the feature it has been included here.

Trench 15: [15.5.1)

This was the topmost 1.2m of material removed by machine. No attempt was made to record individual features should they have been present.