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1999 - 2000

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92a Broad Street • Canterbury • Kent • CT1 2LU
tel: 01227 462062 fax: 01227 784724 email: admin@canterburytrust.co.uk
http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk

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ANNUAL REPORT 1999–2000
Compiled by John Willson

printed by Geerings of Ashford

24th ANNUAL REPORT

1999 CANTERBURY'S YEAR IN REVIEW 2000

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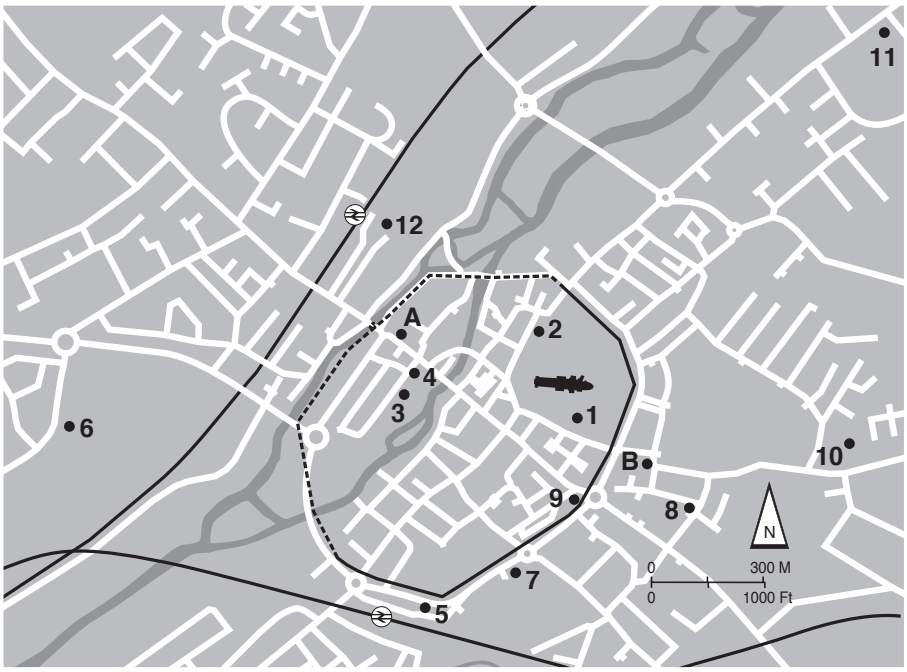
PART ONE

Fieldwork

I Canterbury City Sites



Canterbury city sites:
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2 No. 48 Palace Street
3 St Peter's Grove
4 St Peter's Methodist School
5 Station Road East
6 Canterbury High School, Knight's Avenue
7 No. 5 Rhodaus Town
8 Ivy Lane
9 City Rampart, St George's Gate
10 St Martin's Priory
11 Sturry Road
12 St Stephen's Fields
A St Peter's Street
B No. 3 Longport

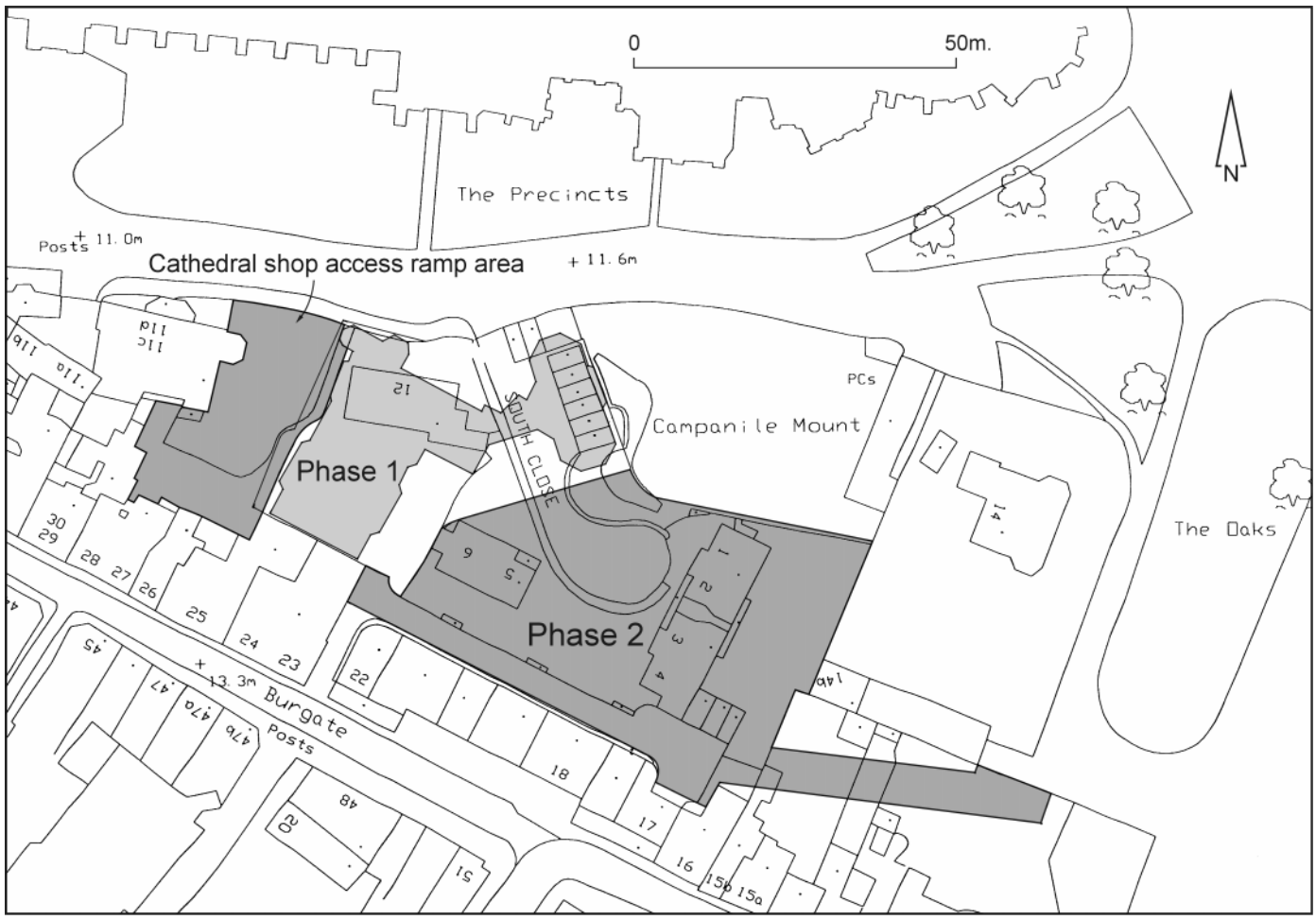
1 South Close, The Precincts
Simon Pratt

During April and May of 1999, evaluation excavations by the Trust for the Dean and Chapter were conducted on the site of a proposed residential wing and access road to the new Education Centre in the precincts of Christ Church Cathedral (TR 1512 5782). The evaluation area included the gardens of various properties in South Close, The Precincts, and an unnamed lane.

The fieldwork consisted of the cutting of five boreholes, the sinking of fourteen shallow probes (P1–14) and the excavation of fourteen trenches. The overall results of the fieldwork indicated that although deeply stratified archaeological deposits extended over most if not all of the site, with few exceptions, significant archaeological remains were deeply buried beneath recent overburden. Nevertheless, a number of interesting and significant discoveries were made during the evaluation.

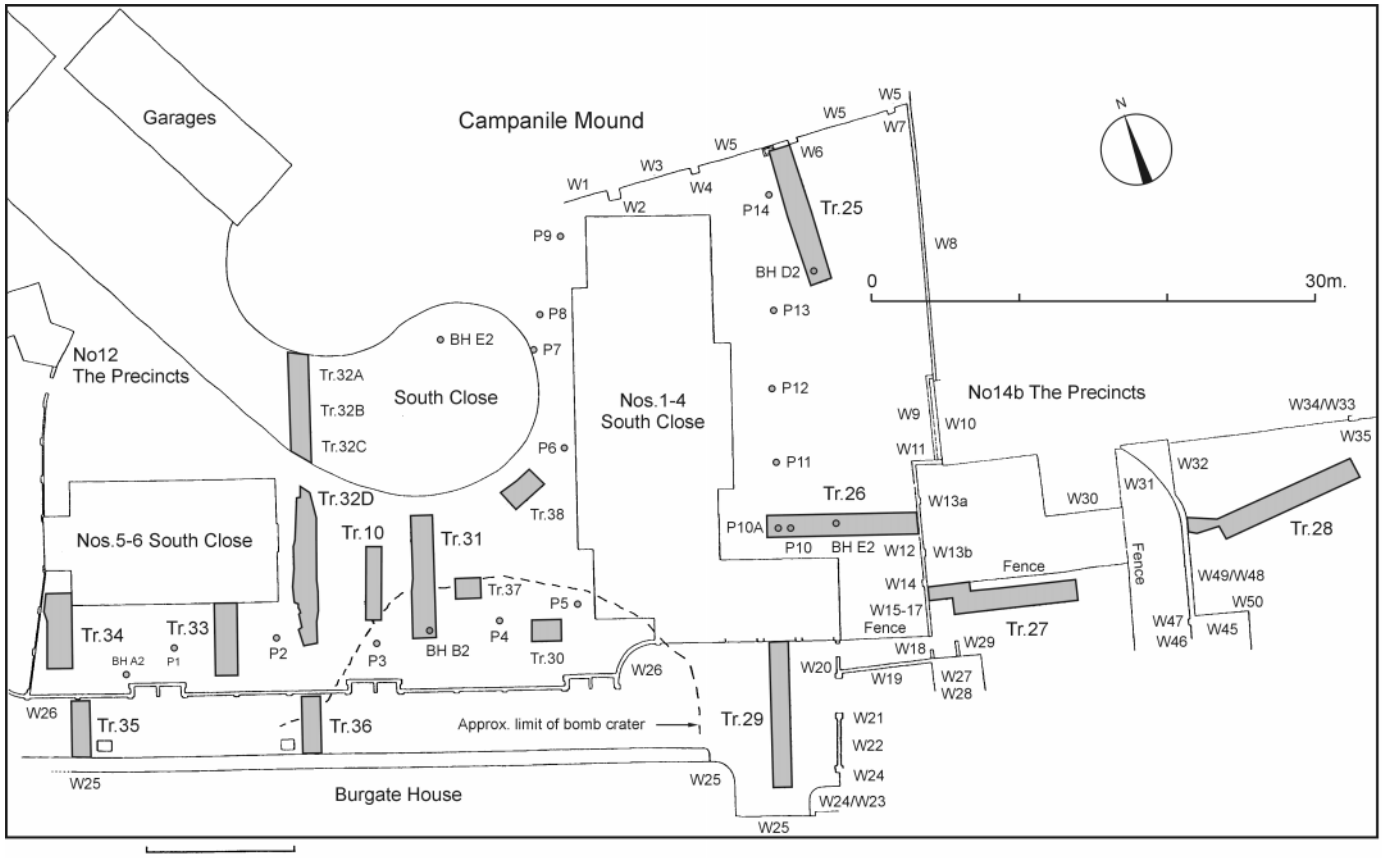
One test pit (P10) opened to the rear of Nos 3-4 South Close, provided evidence for a Roman building resting some 2.7 m. beneath existing ground level. Here, a masonry wall of greensand, flint and tile, flanked by a tile floor, was exposed beneath a compact layer of mortar demolition. The east–west foundation, which falls within an area containing two similarly aligned Roman streets, provides a tantalizing glimpse of complex and rich deposits at the base of the archaeological sequence.

Trench 27, cut to the rear of No. 15b Burgate, exposed a substantial 1.30 m. wide north–south aligned medieval wall footing of mortared flint,



Site location plan.

Trench location plan.



flanked by clay floors to the east and perhaps a metalling to the west. Although the clay floors and metalling clearly suggested the presence of a building and perhaps a yard, the wall almost certainly formed part of an older boundary which the building and yard surface were constructed against. The line of the foundation can be traced north and south, reflected in standing walls and is probably a remnant of a major topographical boundary separating land held by St Augustine's Abbey and the Priory. St Augustine's properties here were transferred to Christ Church and the latter's hold over the more easterly properties consolidated in 1177, following the great fire of 1174 (Davis 1934, 112; Urry 1967, 405-8).

Medieval working surfaces, chiefly of crushed mortar and Caen stone were detected, largely through augering, over much of the site. Just south of the campanile mound the uppermost were encountered at relatively high levels and may have formed part of a post-Dissolution mason's yard.

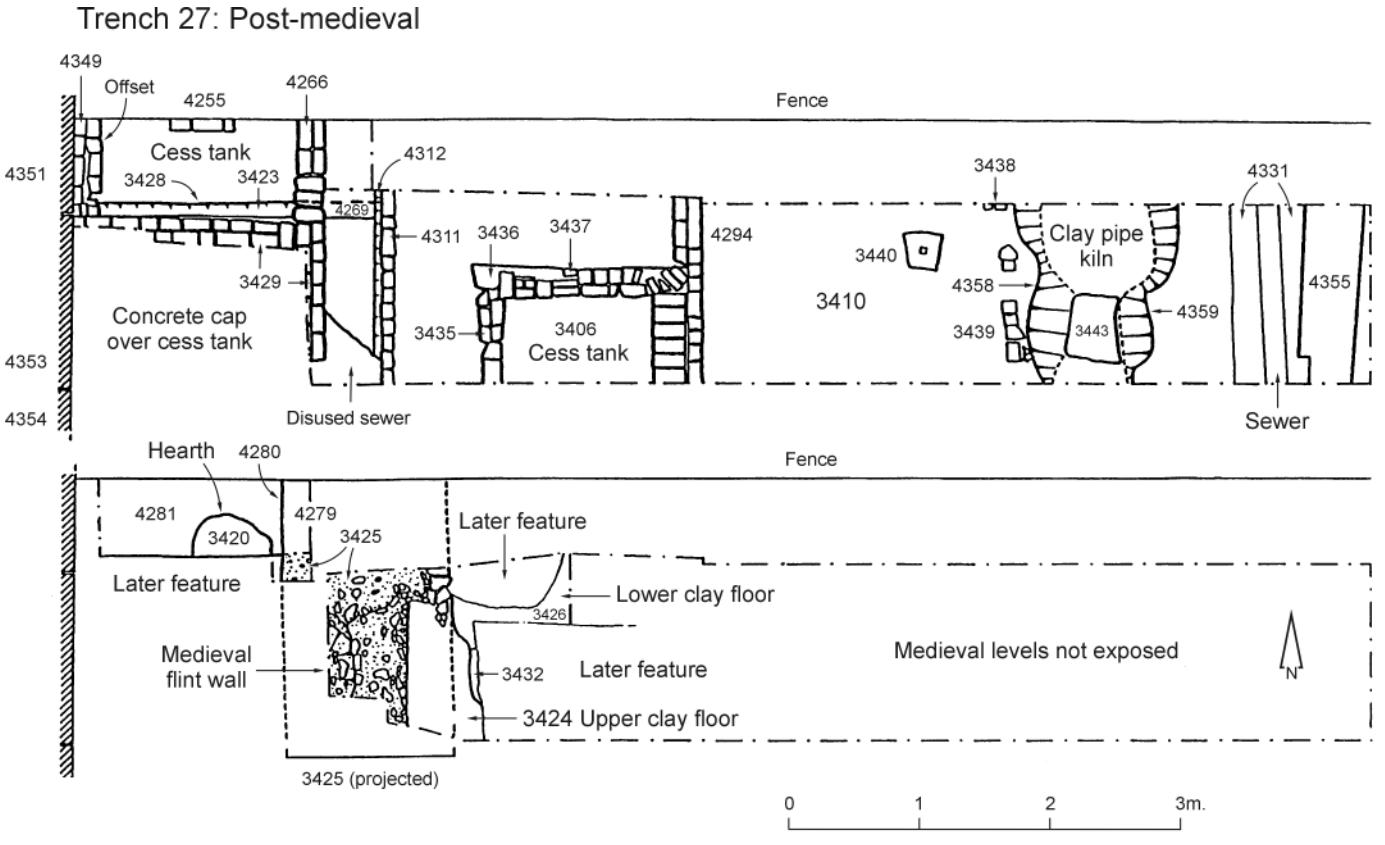
The fragmentary remains of a possible early Sacrist's House were uncovered in a series of small trenches cut in an area badly damaged by bombing next to Nos 5 and 6 South Close. Disjointed sections of walling in ragstone and Caen, representing several periods of construction and isolated islands of intact clay and mortar flooring were encountered in most of the trenches. Insufficient elements of the early building, were exposed however to reconstruct its plan.

The Sacrist's House appears to have been demolished or very heavily altered in the post-medieval period, probably in the seventeenth or early eighteenth century. Demolition materials capping the sequence of early deposits were overlain by a trodden construction horizon and unmortared brick walls and piers supporting a sprung wooden floor for the rebuilt house, a prebendal residence (later known as No. 13 The Precincts).

A plan of the house drawn up in *c.*1883, shows that the excavated elements formed part of the servants' hall (part of a south-eastern wing) which lay at a slight angle to the house, perhaps having inherited its alignment from the earlier medieval structure. In Tr.32D it was found that the rear wall of the kitchen was rebuilt further south at some time after *c.*1883. A brick wall exposed in Tr.33 marked a more southerly (cellared) extension, perhaps for a pantry, or a large septic tank.

The area to the rear of Nos 14–15b Burgate Street (Tr.27) was found to have been divided up into separate properties in the early to mid

General view along Trench 27.



plan of Trench 27 showing medieval wall foundation & clay floors & post-medieval features at a higher level.

seventeenth century. An out house for one of the properties contained a kiln used for the production of clay pipes in about *c.*1640–1700. Two properties had cess-tanks installed and one of these may have continued in use, as a septic tank, up until the middle of the twentieth century. The separate gardens appear to have been reunited in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, perhaps in 1805 (when the garden of No. 14c The Precincts was enlarged).

A number of rubbish pits were examined to the rear of No. 17 Burgate Street (in Tr.29). The pits dated from the sixteenth century, but some may have been earlier. Elsewhere, the foundations for a number of garden walls and tanks were examined, most dating to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and a number of standing walls were also recorded.

2 No. 48 Palace Street

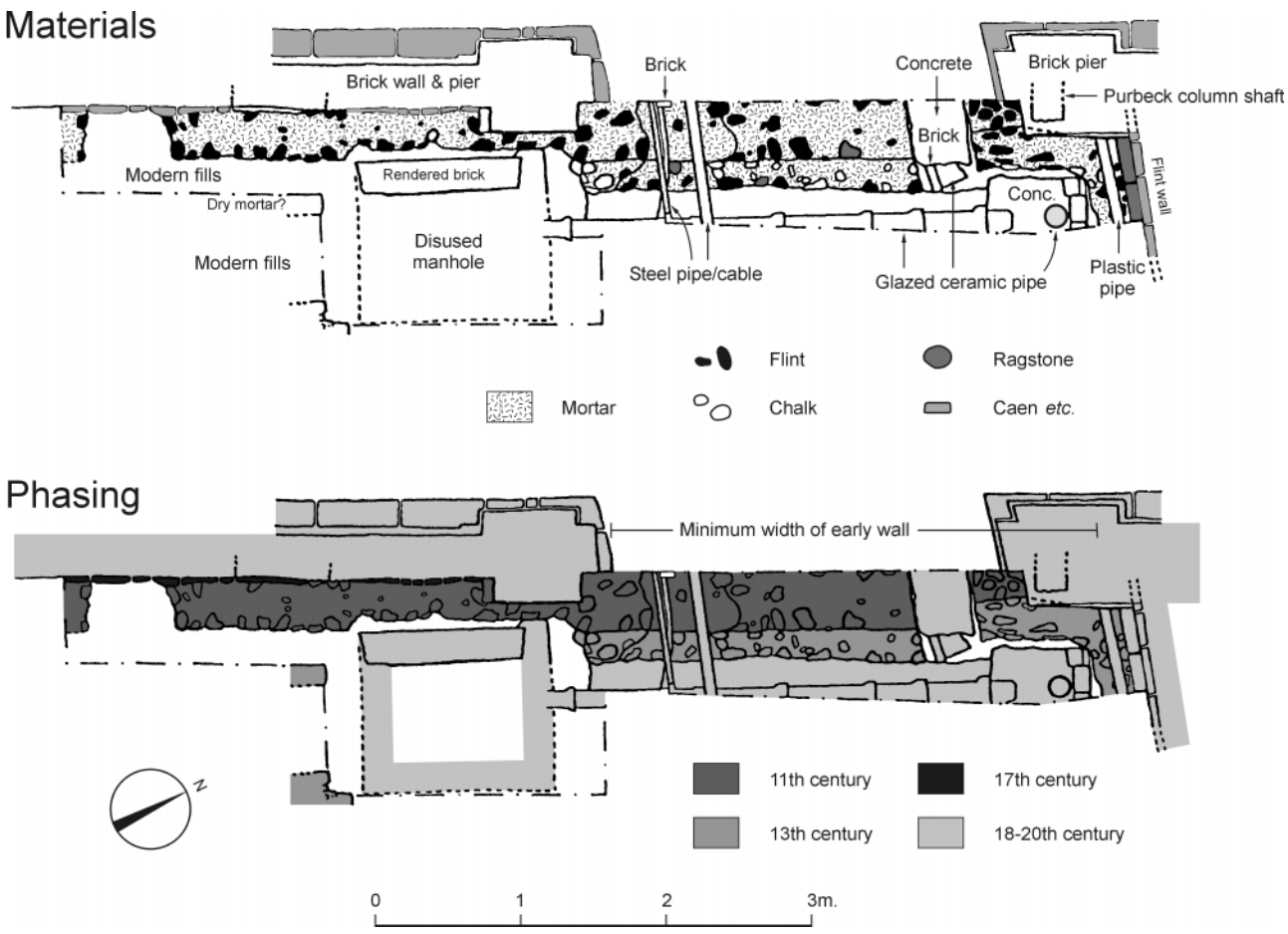
John Willson

A watching brief was conducted by the Trust, under the supervision of Simon Pratt, in July 1999 during the installation of a new gate mechanism in the yard of No. 48 Palace Street. A shallow trench, cut along part of the inner face of the northern part of the yard wall and gateway, exposed several phases of earlier walling fronting the street, the earliest of which seems to be associated with building works instigated by Archbishop Lanfranc in the eleventh century.

Before Lanfranc's tenure as archbishop (1070–96), a public street had continued the line of Northgate Street southwards to the city centre. In the 1070s this was shifted westwards to the line of Palace Street; the resultant extension to the archiepiscopal precincts was destined to accommodate the new palace and associated out-buildings. Parts of the wall erected by Lanfranc around the palace grounds still survive up to a height of about 3 m. above ground level along the northern and eastern boundaries, but hitherto none had been identified along Palace Street. The fabric in the standing sections is of unknapped flint with various other inclusions set in a similar mortar to that of the early wall revealed in the watching brief, which is almost certainly attributable to Lanfranc and thus datable to the latter part of the eleventh century.

A later wall fabric was found abutting the eastern face of the first and keyed into a recess

Right: View along slot trench showing medieval and later precinct wall foundations.
Below: Plan of medieval and later precinct wall of the Archbishop's Palace.



within it, consisting of a mixture of coursed flints and chalk, ragstone and a piece of Caen stone rubble set in a hard yellow-brown mortar. This 2.35 m. stretch of wall followed the projected line of the north wall of the thirteenth-century Great Hall, which still forms part of the northern boundary of the yard a few metres to the east. Further traces of the wall were seen to the south in the sides of the man-hole construction pit.

Work began on a new Great Hall in around 1200, and the bulk of this building (one of the largest such structures in England) was probably completed by 1220. The watching brief makes it clear that the western end of the early thirteenth-century hall was bonded into the earlier boundary wall at its northern end and up against it for a short distance to the south, before breaking away to run at an angle to it.

These early phases had been replaced by another wall constructed in coursed, roughly-squared chalk blocks with some ragstone and occasional large flints all set in a fairly hard white chalky mortar. This would appear to correlate with a survey of the Cathedral Precincts drawn up by Hill *c*. 1680, which shows a smaller yard occupying the northern portion of the existing one, with a boundary wall along the street frontage pierced by a narrow gate near the north-western corner. This wall was probably replaced in brickwork when Walpole House was erected in the late eighteenth century.

The watching brief was funded by the King's School.

3 St Peter's Grove

Simon Pratt

The western face of the medieval wall.

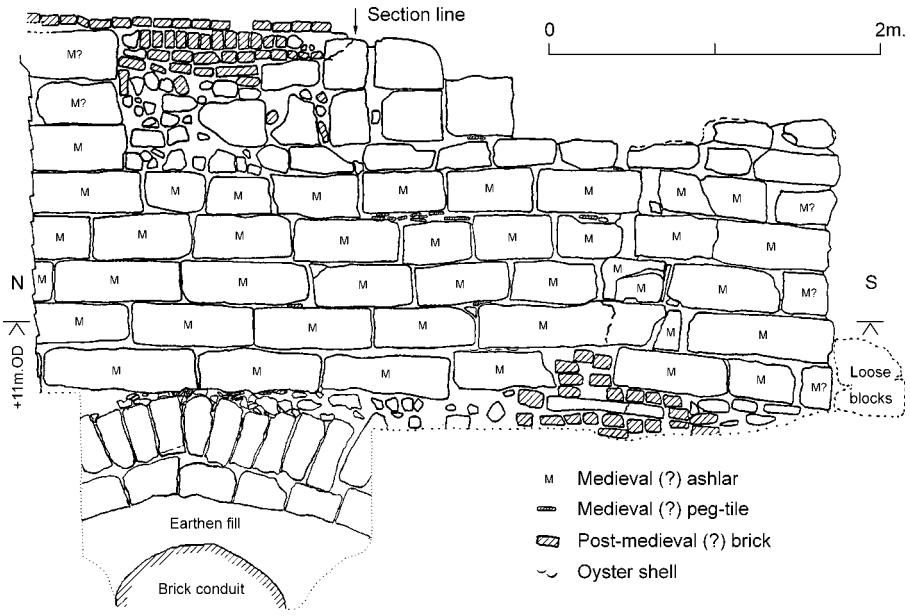
In March 2000, a stretch of ashlar walling forming part of the boundary between St Peter's Methodist Primary School (TR 14713 57907), and the now disused Greyfriars Passage was cleaned and recorded prior to being shored with timber frames as a temporary measure against its collapse. The site lies within a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM Kent 2).

The wall was originally constructed, probably in the early to mid fourteenth century, as a parapet for a bridge carrying Greyfriars Passage over a watercourse known as Thuate. Previous evaluation work by the Trust had shown that the earliest phase of the wall provided a parapet to an underlying arch of the bridge over the Thuate (Ouditt and Bennett 1990, 210). The shallow barrel-vault of the bridge was formed of a course of roughly squared blocks laid tangentially surmounted by another laid radially. The level was then made up with rubble, chiefly flint, in a soft cream sandy mortar. The first phase of the parapet was of five courses of ragstone ashlar with some (inserted?) peg-tile and oyster galletting bonded with a mixture of similar mortar and pale yellow grey clay. To the north, where the passage passed between properties outside of the precincts, the wall was probably at least three courses higher.

Four phases of repair were identified: the earliest, probably dated to the mid sixteenth century, appeared to be underpinning, in early post-medieval brick and York (?) stone in a soft yellow sandy mortar, near the southern end and was of such a form as to suggest that there may have been a second vault to the bridge here. In the second phase of repairs, probably during the mid eighteenth century, the upper parts of the wall were partially rebuilt in re-used ashlar blocks interspersed and capped by unfrogged bricks. Some repairs to the underpinning were probably also made at this time and it was probably at the same time that the brick conduit, exposed in 1990, was inserted under the northern vault. Further limited consolidation and repointing was subsequently carried out at the southern terminal. Later, more extensive repointing, in concrete, of the western face and some consolidation of the southern terminal completed the sequence. Now, one end of the wall is collapsing, perhaps as a result of the failure of the southern abutment of the bridge's putative southern archway.

No thoroughfare corresponding to Greyfriar's Passage appears in late twelfth- or early thirteenth-century rentals of Christ Church Priory and there is no apparent gap in the relevant stretch of the main street frontage (Urry 1967, map 2.5.5, D364–D369). In 1267 the proctors of the Franciscan friary were given the land lying between the now infilled watercourse named Thuate and the extant intramural limbs of the Stour, together with access from Stour Street, by Alderman John Digge (Cotton 1922, 9; 1924, 16–17): it was on this land that the main core of the friary was then built. In 1275 the friars appropriated a stretch of Criene Mill Lane (now St Peter's Grove), leading down from the main street to additional land to the west of Digge's gift, and permission for them to enclose the road was given in 1279 (Cotton 1924, 17).

By 1300 Greyfriars Passage had been formed, for there exists a copy bearing that date of a document by which an *enfeoffee* of Thomas Digge (John's son), having been granted permission to build a new house, covenanted 'not to make a



Section drawing of wall fabric exposed in 1990.

window or opening looking out onto the road or way by which the Friary is entered from the north gate' (Cotton 1924, 21). Whilst the original Stour Street entrance had probably given onto a timber bridge at the northern tip of the islet opposite Poor Priests' Hospital, in 1309 licence was given for the friars to erect a stone bridge a little to the north, part of which still survives (Cotton 1924, 20; Ward 1997, 14).

Maps of *c*. 1572 and 1595 show the northern end of the passage closed by an impressive gateway, the *Porta Borealis*, depicted in similar fashion as that of the Dominican Friary, which faced it and was of mid fourteenth-century date (Cotton 1924, 18, 21). An anonymous but generally reliable map of *c*. 1640 shows that an arched gateway also then stood across the southern end of the bridge over Thuate. The passage was originally 25 feet (*c*. 7.6 m.) wide but the eastern part was enclosed and built upon in the early seventeenth century if not a little earlier (Cotton 1924, 21).

The work was commissioned and funded by Kent Property Services.

4 St Peter's Methodist Primary School, St Peter's Grove

Simon Pratt

During February 2000, the Trust was commissioned to evaluate the site of a proposed new building in the grounds of St Peter's Methodist School (TR 1465 5791), formerly part of the outer court of Greyfriars monastery.

The earliest deposit exposed during the evaluation was a compact clay-loam soil horizon which yielded thirteenth-century pottery. The horizon was cut by three features, which included two pits and a possible wall-robber trench. These features were filled by demolition debris containing late medieval and early to mid sixteenth-century pottery and building materials.

The quantity of demolition debris in various deposits encountered strongly suggests that there was a building in the near vicinity in the medieval and/or early post-medieval period. Although it is likely that any medieval walls in the area were robbed out at the Dissolution of the monastery in 1538, it is possible that associated features such as floors, hearths and pits, may have survived nearby. If this area is ever properly developed, these together with the plan recoverable from the pattern of robbing, may provide an opportunity to examine part of an as yet unexplored zone of England's earliest Franciscan friary, uncomplicated by severe later disturbance.

The evaluation was funded by Kent Property Services.

5 Station Road East

Mick Diack

On 4th June 1999, the Trust was informed of the discovery of a human skeleton by builders who were carrying out work in the basement of 'The Biz' night-club (TR 147 573). Accordingly the writer visited the site with a view to archaeologically assessing and recording the burial, so that building work could continue unhindered.

Unfortunately, upon arrival it was discovered that the builder's site foreman (who professed to being an avid Time Team viewer) had removed all the bones that he could find and had even burrowed into the side of the section by some 1.1 m. in order to dig it out. It was not possible therefore to do anything other than recover the bone remains. No information about the orientation of the grave or the skeleton's positioning in the ground was forthcoming, and it is not known if there were any datable finds accompanying it.

The skeleton had suffered from being badly excavated, the right humerus was the only complete bone and even this had been damaged. The bones had been collected in an arbitrary fashion: for instance the proximal ends of both femurs were present but the distal ends were not, nor were around two thirds of the shafts. Only the proximal end of the right tibia was present, the left bone was nearly complete but was broken and the distal end was missing. The bones of the hands and feet were almost entirely missing; several vertebrae were missing, as was the sternum. Worst of all, the pelvis had been badly damaged. The skull was, however, almost complete.

The incomplete nature of the skeleton, and the damage caused to the bone prevented detailed analysis. Only one bone (the humerus) was available to enable the stature to be estimated and the damage to the pelvis made the establishment of the individual's sex difficult (and leaves some uncertainty).

Using the available information provided by the bone evidence, the skeleton appears to be female, aged from about 30 to 45 years old. The stature was calculated as 1.59 metres (5ft 3ins) using Trotter and Gleser's regression formula (Bass 1971, 24). The individual appeared to be healthy with no trace of disease. No arthritic changes to the bone were observed. No unusual morphology was noted either, apart from the individual being Hyperbrachycephalic (long headed).

The individual's teeth were somewhat less healthy (at least by modern standards). The upper right first incisor, the upper left second incisor and the upper left first molar had been lost during the individual's lifetime. The individual had periodontal (gum) disease, the resorption of the alveolar margin scored as 'Medium' (Brothwell 1981, 155). The teeth, especially the lower, had calculus (tartar) build up, scored as 'Medium' (*ibid.*). Interestingly, only the lower left third molar (wisdom tooth) was present, this had two small caries on the occlusal surface.

It is not possible to date this individual except by inference. Though it is possible that the skeleton could be an isolated medieval or post-medieval burial, it seems more likely that this individual dates from the Roman period, perhaps from a cemetery which is known to have existed in this area (Jenkins 1951, 63; Anderson and Blockley 1988, 20; Anderson and Rady 1990, 8; Bennett 1991a, 8).

Despite the circumstances of this discovery and the lack of information that could be recovered it remains an important discovery. Although we know the area was a Roman cemetery, much of this knowledge is based on anecdotal evidence from the construction of the railway and other building work dating from the Victorian period (Anderson and Rady 1990, 8) and relatively few intact inhumations or cremations have been recorded on this site in more recent times.

6 Canterbury High School, Knight's Avenue

Jonathan Rady

View showing an Iron Age pit in Trench 5, looking west.

During May 1999, an archaeological evaluation of part of the grounds of the Canterbury High School (TR 139 577) was undertaken in advance of the proposed development of a sports complex. Twenty-one trenches were machine excavated across the site. In all but three of the trenches (TR6, TR7 and TR9) topsoil sealed a substantial deposit of modern made ground up to a metre thick. Only five features likely to represent ancient activity were revealed.

In parts of the site, including the area of features mentioned above, it seems likely that some element of overall truncation of the levels has previously occurred. This is almost certainly related to landscaping and levelling that must have taken place when the school was originally built, at some time in the 1960s. There was, therefore little evidence for extensive archaeological remains on the site.

Only four features, all probably pits, were of any antiquity. The artefactual evidence suggests that all of the other features were Iron Age in date. The features are scattered, though there would appear to be a concentration in the area of Trenches TR5, TR10 and TR14.

One other feature in Trench 12 appeared to be ancient but its function was difficult to define. The feature contained early medieval pottery dated to the eleventh and twelfth centuries (though these may be intrusive), animal bone and shell.

The fact that most of the site appeared to be devoid of archaeological evidence may be interesting, given that the evaluated area is close to a known focus of late Iron Age settlement on the west bank of the River Stour (Whitehall Gardens: Frere *et al.* 1987, 45; Jenkins 1958, 198), and lies only about 500 m. west of the third-century walls of the Roman town

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by the developer, Ballast Wiltshier PLC (South East Region).

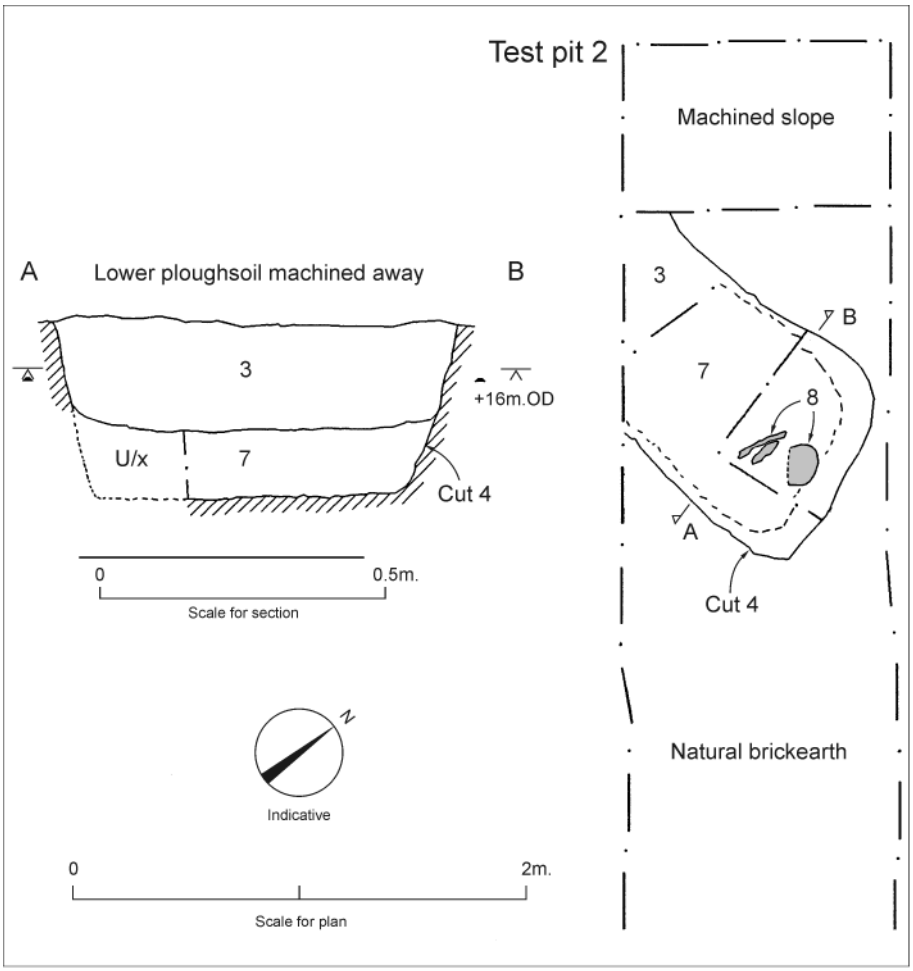
7 No. 5 Rhodaus Town

John Willson

In October 1999, three test-pits were cut on the site of a proposed new building at No. 5 Rhodaus Town (TR 1497 5701). The work, under the supervision of Simon Pratt, revealed a single human burial and a medieval soil horizon.

The site lies immediately south-east of the Roman town wall erected in *c*. A.D. 270–90 and about 150 m. south-west of Watling Street (the Roman road between Canterbury and Dover). Several existing or lost mounds in this area have been identified as having originated as Roman burial tumuli: these stand or stood at Dane John, Little Dane John, St George's Gate, Oaten Hill, Station Road and one further west along Rhodaus Town (Bennett 1984, 54–55 and fig. 1). An early Roman cremation cemetery has been identified 150–300 m. to the east and a generally later Roman inhumation cemetery 300–500 m. to the west (Andrews 1985, 56–9). In 1996, two probable Roman inhumations were identified about 50 m. to the east (Jarman 1999, 8). Roman clay and gravel quarries are known in the vicinity 100–150 m. to the north-west (Andrews 1985, 57), and north-east of the current site (Hicks 1999, 6–7), whilst an inhumation burial containing an iron knife dated to the seventh century was found cut into the quarry at the latter site.

Natural gravels overlaid by brickearth were revealed in each test-pit. Cutting brickearth in the central pit, at a depth of 0.65m below modern ground level, an inhumation burial was discovered. The feature, only partially exposed in



Plan and section of trench 2 showing grave.

the pit, consisted of the eastern end of a rectangular-shaped grave, 0.70 m. wide with vertical sides and a flat base, cut some 0.31 m. into the brickearth. The grave contained the partial remains of a human skeleton, laid supine and aligned with its head at the eastern end of the grave. Only portions of the cranium (lying on its left hand side) and what may have been the right clavicle and tibia were exposed. The lower grave fill was overlain by a grey silty loam containing specks of charcoal, tile or daub, with a few flints and seven sherds of coarse pottery dated to the late second to third centuries A.D. The upper level of the grave cut appears to have been truncated and sealed by a clean loam perhaps formed during cultivation of the area during the medieval or post-medieval periods. Evidence of this later ploughsoil was located in both of the other two test-pits, which apart from relatively modern deposits were devoid of any archaeological evidence.

Taking into consideration the proximity of the two burials found in 1996 and the general distribution of cemeteries around Canterbury, it is unlikely that the inhumation located in the centre test-pit was an isolated grave. Conversely, the absence of any other burials within the test-pits suggests that there is probably not a dense distribution of graves in this area. First-century burials tend to be cremated, the second- to third-century pottery within the upper fill would thus appear to represent a reasonable date range for this grave and a probable range for those found in 1996. Although no grave-goods have been found, the date range and varied alignments of the three skeletons strongly suggest Later Roman pagan rather than Christian burials.

The evaluation was carried out on behalf of and funded by the site owners Andrew and Tim Hewitt.

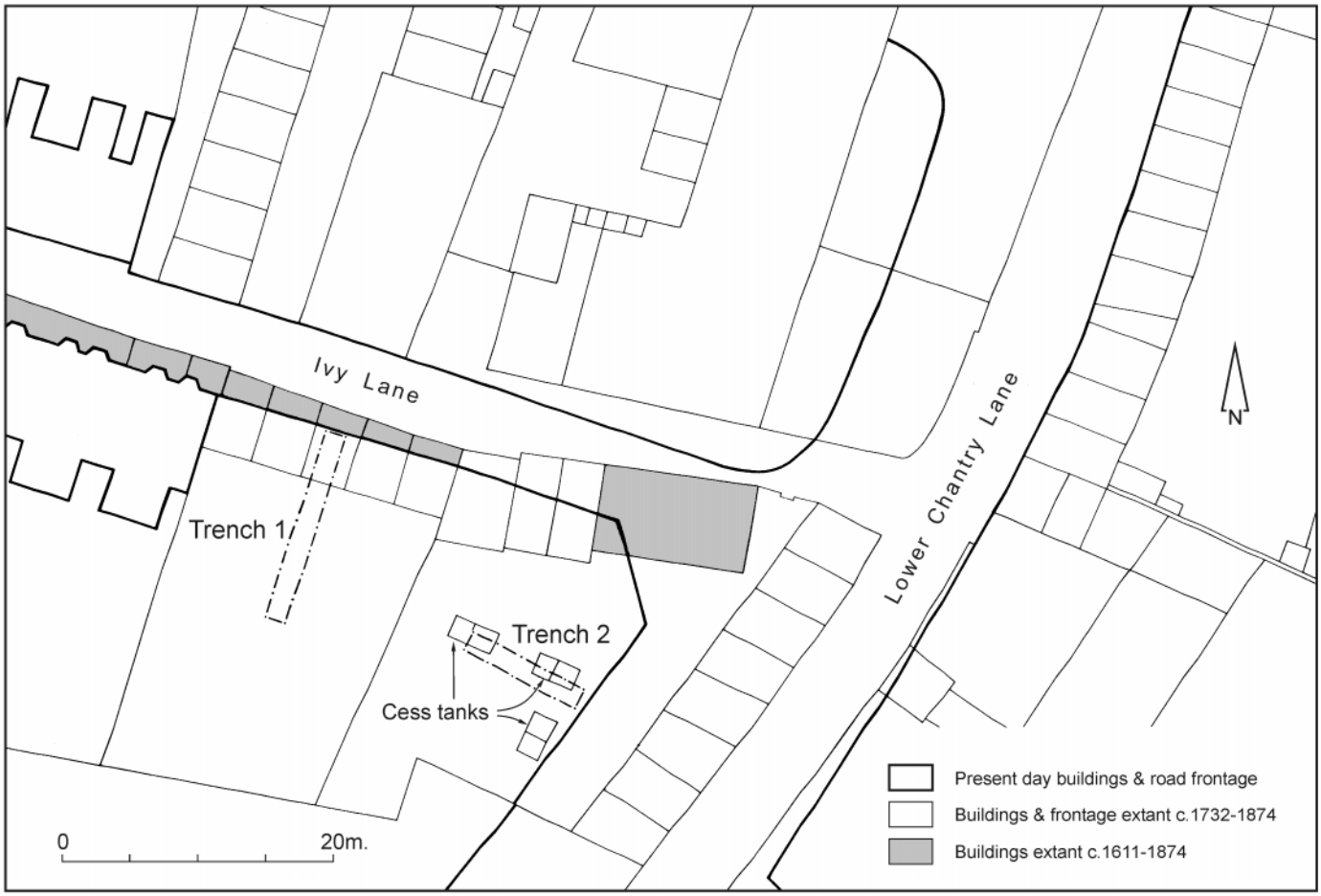
8 Ivy Lane

Jonathan Rady

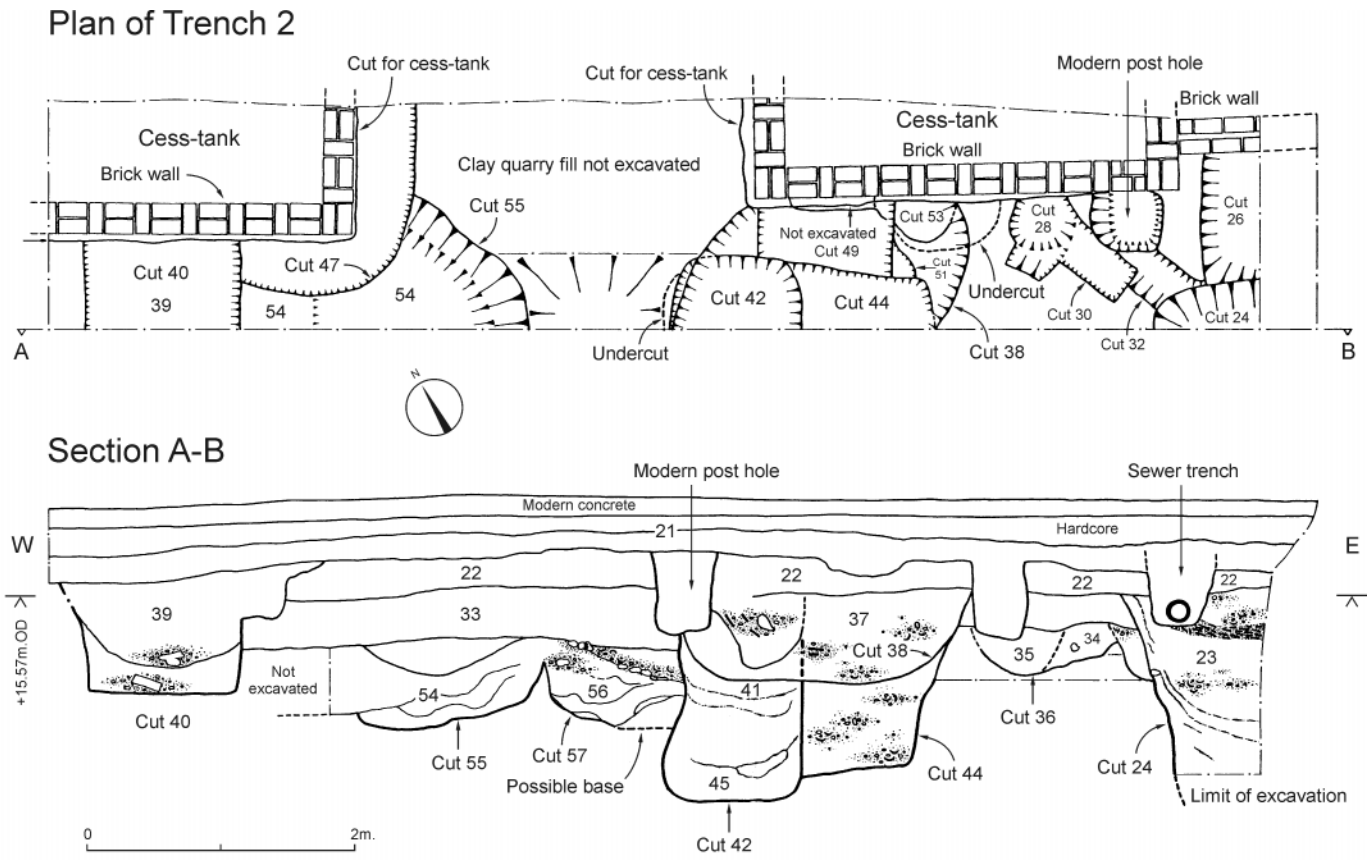
Between April and May 1999, evaluation trenching was undertaken at the junction of Ivy Lane and Lower Chantry Lane (TR 1544 5757) in advance of a proposed housing development. Two trenches were cut by machine on alignments perpendicular to both road frontages where the survival of buildings was anticipated against both frontages. Both modern frontages however proved to be set back from an original building line and the area evaluated fell entirely within a back garden area.

The earliest discoveries comprised a large clay quarry capped by a developed soil horizon recorded in Trench 2. Although datable finds were not recovered from the quarry or the soil horizon, both were considered to be of Roman date.

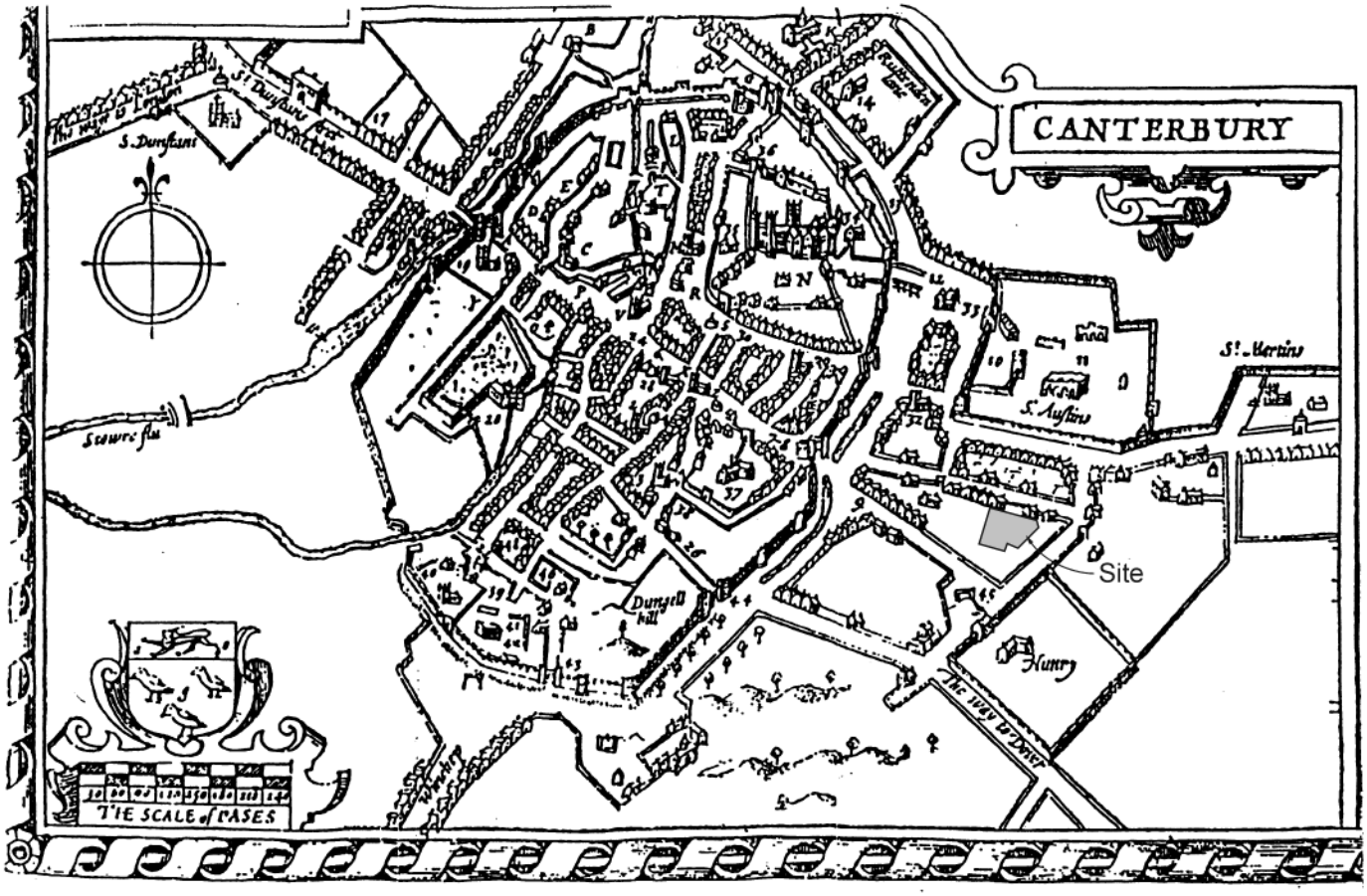
Most features in both trenches were rubbish and cess-pits of twelfth- to fourteenth-century date. Although the majority of features reflected domestic occupation, industrial processes such as clay quarrying and ironworking were also



Plan showing location of trenches and positions of earlier buildings and frontages.



Plan & section of trench 2 showing the many medieval & later rubbish & cess pits.



John Speed's map of Canterbury showing relative position of the Ivy Lane site.

evident. A number of substantial quarries found in Trench 1 appeared to date from the latter part of the fourteenth century to the early sixteenth century.

The presence of the early features broadly supports the view that most of the roads in the area including Ivy Lane and Lower Chantry Lane had been established on their present line (Urry 1967, Map 2 (b) sheet 7). Much of the Ivy Lane frontage was occupied by properties at this time but it is unclear whether these extended as far east as the present site. By the seventeenth century, cartographic evidence such as John Speed's map of Canterbury 1611 shows that at least part of the Ivy Lane frontage on the site may have been occupied by domestic structures, though the early maps and some of the later ones of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries cannot be relied upon for detail or scale. The W. and H. Doidge plan of the City of Canterbury for 1754 suggests that the site was occupied by a row of properties extending along Ivy Lane from the west with a detached property slightly to the east. These buildings were almost certainly the same or direct descendents of those shown on the earlier maps. A similar arrangement of buildings can be seen on the First Edition Ordnance Survey for 1874, but by this time the gap between the property blocks had been filled by three additional properties. The construction of these buildings can probably be dated to before 1825, since they are shown on Fenner's map of that date.

Later features and deposits in both trenches were of nineteenth-century date and related to structures occupying a previous frontage position, outside the evaluated area. Both frontage blocks appear to have shared two common rear gardens, separated by a brick boundary wall. Two large brick built structures found in Trench 2, correlate with two structures shown on the 1874 survey (which also shows a third to the south). These features were almost certainly large communal cess tanks serving the adjacent properties. These features would have gone out of use when the main Canterbury sewerage system was constructed in the 1860s. The backfill of the tanks was indeed cut by a sewer trench that fed into this system.

Demolition of the frontage buildings occurred during the Second World War as part of an extensive clearance of the site after a German bomber crashed and exploded, either on or immediately adjacent to the Ivy Lane site (Kentish Gazette 1944). Sometime after this the opportunity was taken to straighten the east end of Ivy Lane and virtually double the width of Lower Chantry Lane. From that time, the site has remained as open ground.

The evaluation was commissioned by George Bell and Co., as agents for the landowners.

9 City rampart, south of St George's Gate

John Willson

In August 1999 a small evaluation excavation, under the direction of Simon Pratt, was undertaken on the rampart bank behind the city wall, just north-west of Tower 7 and south of St George's gate. The work, in advance of the construction of a cycle facility (part of the Canterbury Whitefriars development) clearly demonstrated that the rampart mass was well preserved and that intact deposits rested close to the existing ground surface.

Canterbury's defensive wall was probably first built, on its current alignment, around A.D. 270–90, backed by an earthen rampart. The wall was left to fall into severe disrepair in the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval period. Originally there had not been an opening at what is now St George's Gate (formerly Newingate), but an altered street pattern probably dictated a breaching of the wall here in the late ninth or early tenth century to form a 'new gate'. An early, probably medieval, gate was identified during excavations on the site in 1988 (Bennett and Houliston 1989, 17–20). The city's defences were extensively overhauled in the late fourteenth century and Newingate was rebuilt as St George's Gate in the late fifteenth century. After 1754 the gate towers were adapted as water cisterns and later on the ditch outside of the wall was infilled in order to provide space for an extended cattle market. In 1801 the gate was demolished.

The evaluation consisted of the excavation of two 1.50 m. square trenches, one positioned on the eastern margin of the proposed development adjacent to an excavation carried out on the front of the city wall in 1947 (Frere 1982, 62 and fig. 23). The second trench was positioned at the southernmost corner of the proposed development area.

The earliest deposit encountered at the base of Trench 1 was a layer of compact gritty clay-loam with chalk, mortar flint inclusions and some animal bone. Two sherds of medieval pottery broadly dated to *c*. 1375–1525 were recovered from its surface. This deposit was overlaid by three horizontal bands of clay-loams with chalk, peg-tile and mortar inclusions the middle layer containing two further pottery sherds of similar date. These soils appeared to be probable medieval rampart deposits. Cut into the top of these deposits was an oval-shaped pit with vertical sides and a flat base. Its filling contained flints, oyster shells and peg-tile fragments. Sealing the pit and rampart deposits were two late post-medieval/modern trodden surfaces which in turn were sealed by a gravel metalled surface and its bedding layer. These were finally capped with a modern tarmacadam surface.

In Trench 2, the earliest deposit exposed was a mottled clay-loam perhaps representing an early medieval rampart deposit. This was overlaid by a sequence of silty clays all of which tapered out to the west, so that the surface of the uppermost deposit was quite steeply inclined. Two of these deposits contained single sherds of pottery dated to *c*. 1375–1525. This was overlaid by a thick deposit of green silty clay which had been truncated. All of these soils appeared to probably be medieval rampart deposits. Again these rampart deposits were overlaid by trodden soil surfaces and subsequently gravel metallings and a modern tarmacadam surface.

The bulk of the pottery recovered was late Tyler Hill Ware, broadly dating from the late fourteenth to the early sixteenth century. This material indicated that the laminated deposits surviving below tarmac formed part of an intact and well preserved rampart. Further still, as most of the ceramic assemblage appears to be early in the range, this might imply that several deposits exposed may represent repairs to the rampart carried out *c*.1380 rather than at the time of the rebuilding of St George's Gate a century later. No Roman deposits were encountered but this is probably due to the limited depth of the evaluation trenches. Given that a well-preserved medieval rampart survives here there can be little doubt that a Roman predecessor survives here, but at greater depth.

The evaluaton was commissioned and funded by Land Securities plc.

10 St Martin's Priory

John Willson

In December 1999, evaluation trenches were cut under the supervision of Simon Pratt ahead of a proposed car park development on land immediately east of the churchyard of St Martin's Church (TR 1591 5777). The site occupied part of the existing garden of a large, originally Tudor house now known (misleadingly) as St Martin's Priory. The work consisted of the machine excavation of four evaluation trenches (1–4) to critical archaeological levels which were then cleaned and hand excavated.

The site lay about 700 m. east of the late Roman and medieval city wall and 70–130 m. north of the Roman road to Richborough. In the Roman period, land flanking the road was used for rubbish dumps interspersed with cemeteries. Traces of substantial Roman buildings have been reported from the general area of St Martin's church.

The earliest phases of the church, which forms part of the Canterbury World Heritage Site, is very often interpreted as Roman although it may be of Anglo-Saxon date: it may have begun as a pagan temple, Christian church, funerary monument or villa. Despite its uncertain origins, it is highly likely that the church was used by Queen Bertha and Bishop Liudhard in the later sixth century and by St Augustine from A.D. 597. There was probably a *ville* at St Martin's from at least the later sixth century. In the seventh to ninth centuries this probably formed part of an extensive trading area (*wic*) stretching from St Augustine's Abbey's manor of Longport to the borough of Fordwich (Tatton-Brown and Macpherson-Grant 1985, 90–91). Viking activity may have caused a hiatus in occupation but a later tenth-century document mentioned a religious community at St Martin's. Documentary sources hint that there may have been a suffragan bishop (*chorepiscopus*) based at St Martin's possibly as early as the eighth century. A grant of 867 concerned both a bishop's seat and a '*villula*' associated with the church and a document of 1035 specifically mentioned a Bishop of St Martin's (Sawyer 1968, 287 and 338).

Physical remains which might belong to the *ville* and *wic* are disappointingly rare. The earliest substantial physical evidence from near the present evaluated site dates only from the mid eighth century. Several rubbish- or cess-pits (nine containing significant quantities of pottery dating to *c*. 750–900) were found in Conduit Meadow, on the hillside between the main road and the church, during excavations in 1984–5 (Rady 1987, 129–34). This work also revealed traces of a contemporary trackway, a forerunner of the southern end of North Holmes Road (formerly Church Lane).

The present evaluation lay just 60 m. north-east of the Conduit Meadow excavation and its discoveries may well be related. The results showed that Trench 1, situated at the north end of the site, contained no archaeological features, the natural deposits being directly overlaid by modern ground disturbance. In Trench 2, located some 7 m. to the south, the natural flint gravel was overlaid by an old ground surface. Cut into the surface was a shallow slot containing a single pottery sherd dated to *c*. 875–1050 and a small piece of later tile. Some 0.45 m. further west was a similar slot and a possible post-hole.

At the base of Trench 3 the subsoil was a clay-sand, probably degraded material from the Thanet Beds. This was overlain by an old ground surface, the southern part of which was cut by a shallow pit containing fragments of post-medieval brick and roof tile. Another slot found cutting the pit contained one fragment of Roman tile and fragments of post-medieval brick and tile. Above these features was a series of loamy soils representing post-medieval cultivation levels.

In Trench 4, at the south end of the site, the subsoil encountered was a sandy brickearth which was cut by a linear feature containing small quantities of flint, tile, a Roman tile, bone and charcoal. The feature was subsequently cut by a small pit containing fragments of post-medieval roof tile, east of which was another small sub-rectangular pit which yielded no datable finds.

Although none of the features yielded sufficient material for secure dating, most of them were probably associated with the garden of the present house or its immediate predecessor. The presence of residual Roman and Anglo-Saxon material, however, clearly suggests activity in the area, possibly in both periods.

In late topsoil, mixed with the remains of early twentieth-century garden bonfire materials, was found a small near-complete South Italian ceramic unguent bottle dating to the third century B.C. The decorated pot, illustrated here, was possibly a memento brought back from a trip to Italy by a former owner of the main house.

The evaluation excavation was carried out on behalf of and funded by Christ Church College, the current owners of the main house and grounds.

A near complete decorated South Italian ceramic unguent bottle dating to the third century B.C. found in topsoil deposits on the St Martin's Priory site.

11 Sturry Road

John Willson

On the 24th August 1999 an evaluation ahead of redevelopment was supervised by Simon Pratt against the frontage of the former Argos Store, Sturry Road (TR 1599 5901). The results showed that modern disturbances had probably removed all or most of the *in situ* archaeology beyond about 20 m. from the frontage but a strip of intact natural brickearth overlay natural gravel nearer the road and it was here that two linear features were identified.

The larger of the features cut the brickearth on a north-west by south-east axis close to the centre of the frontage and measured between 2.70 m. to 3.08 m. wide, 0.60 m. deep with steep sides and a rounded base. A lower fill contained struck flints and fragments of prehistoric pottery possibly of Bronze Age or Iron Age date. The upper fill contained a single sherd of late Iron Age

pottery. Interpretation of the feature is difficult given that so little survived, but it is possible that the size of the cutting suggests the presence of a prehistoric clay quarry or a substantial ditch of unknown function.

The smaller of the two features lay about 5 m. north-east of the larger feature and was aligned east-west. The ditch appeared as a straight, vertical-sided linear cut, 0.52 m. wide and 0.50m deep. A uniform fill contained a few pieces of Roman tile and a sherd of late Anglo-Saxon pottery. The ditch may have defined an early property boundary or more likely, a field.

The evaluation was funded by Jarvis Properties Ltd.

12 St Stephen's Fields

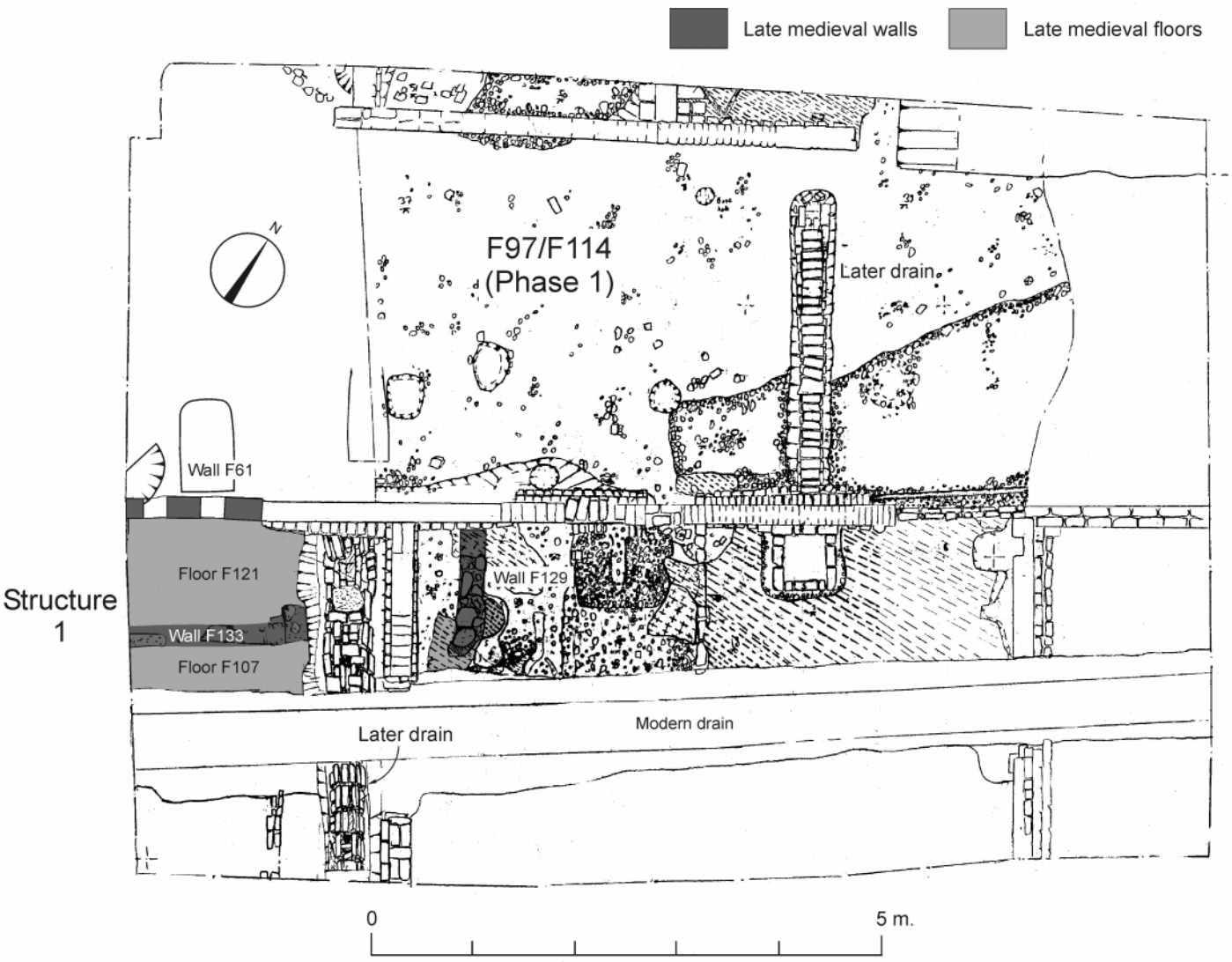
Alison Linklater and Jonathan Rady

A small excavation was carried out during March 2000, on a plot of land at St Stephen's Fields, just north of North Lane and immediately west of Station Road West (TR 1475 5840). The excavation, following an earlier evaluation of the area (Denton 1998), was undertaken in advance of a residential housing development.

The site was previously occupied by a garage comprising both nineteenth-century and modern buildings, the latter demolished prior to the development. Some of the nineteenth-century buildings, originally part of a late nineteenth-century lemonade bottling plant, were retained and converted for residential use. The site lies immediately adjacent to, if not within, the flood plain of the River Stour. The river is located 40 m. to the south-east.

An area of about 10 by 8 m. was initially cleared of overburden by machine and then hand-excavated. This work revealed a complicated sequence of post-medieval (probably Victorian) building and yard deposits sealing the fragmented remains of an earlier timber-framed structure or structures, represented by stone- and chalk-built dwarf walls and badly disturbed floors. Where deposits below the early structure were exposed, these appeared to be laid down by flooding.

The earliest structure on the site (Structure 1) was erected in the late fifteenth or early sixteenth century, perhaps as late as *c*. 1525–50. Unfortunately later disturbance made it impossible to determine the full plan, extent or exact nature of the building, but it is possible that



Plan of late medieval building (Structure 1).

The site under excavation after removal of some brick floors, looking north-east.

Medieval masonry wall of earlier structure, looking south-west.

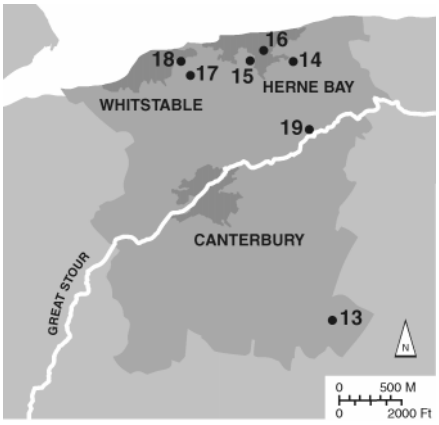
the remains were those of a service range associated with a property against the North Lane frontage. The building appears to have gone into disuse soon after the mid eighteenth century and there is little to suggest further building activity for the next hundred years

In the mid nineteenth century brick-built structures were erected on the site (Structures 2–4) and these are shown on the First Edition Ordnance survey for 1874. The survey shows a 'U'-shaped range of buildings set around a yard. The site was almost central to the range and most of the walls uncovered during the excavation can be directly equated with those shown on the survey. These structures had red brick walls and extensive brick floors which covered most of the site, under which was a series of brick-lined drains. The complex, a purpose built bottling plant, clearly reflects how a semi-derelict former domestic area was redeveloped for an industrial purpose in the late nineteenth century.

The excavation was funded by Rogate Developments Ltd.

The brick floors within post-medieval Structure 3, looking north-east.

II Canterbury District Sites



Canterbury district sites:
13 Old Dover Road, Barham
14 Willow Farm, Broomfield
15 Eddington Farm, Herne Bay
16 Underdown Lane, Herne Bay
17 Churchwood Drive, Chestfield
18 No. 63 Chestfield Road, Chestfield
19 Island Road, Hersden

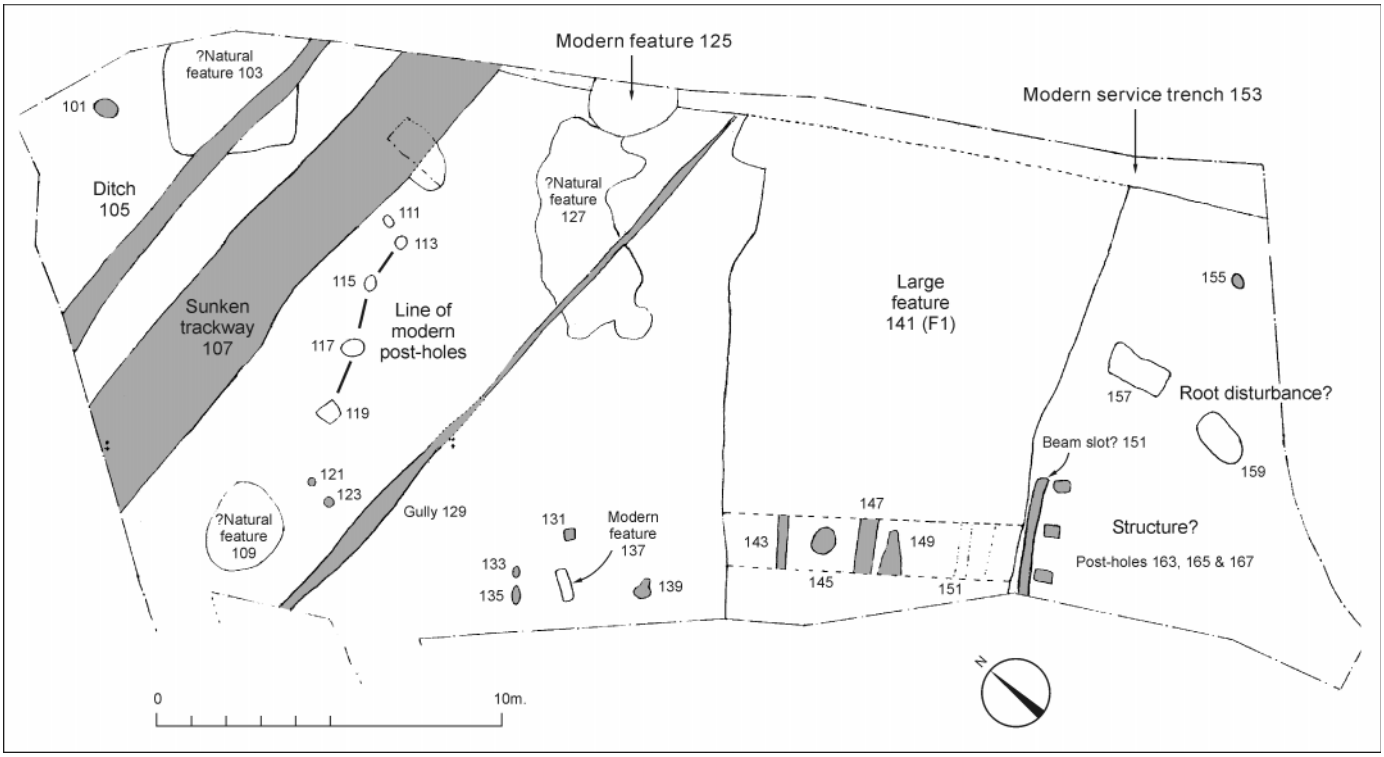
13 Old Dover Road, Barham
John Willson

An evaluation was undertaken, under the direction of Richard Cross, between August and September 1999 in advance of a proposed development on the site of the former Spinning Wheel Hotel, Old Dover Road, Barham (TR 2200 4955). The work consisted of the cutting and recording of some fourteen trenches.

Archaeological features were revealed in trenches 7–10 comprising a substantial part of a large feature (F1), possibly an enclosure ditch or large quarry, probably of Early Iron Age date. Although the full extent of the feature was not ascertained it was traced for at least 40 m. in length in a north-east by south-west direction. It survived for a depth of between 0.30 m. and 0.45 m. with a flat base cut into the natural chalk. Its lower and upper fillings contained a few flint flakes and sherds of Early Iron Age pottery.

Three trackways (F6–F8) were also recorded, preserved as sunken ways, the southernmost two following parallel north-west to south-east alignments cutting across the contours of the Barham Downs. A third and probably more important, northern trackway with an associated side ditch was aligned east–west and connected Barham to the Dover Road. The tracks varied from 1.80–1.95 m. in width, the average being 1.95 m. All of the tracks exhibited clear evidence of various episodes of wear and repair. A series of 'U'-shaped wheel ruts and intervening flattened ridges with lesser wheel ruts flanking the outer edges was evident. Although the trackways revealed evidence of detailed repairs, few datable finds were recovered. Peg-tile fragments and a single sherd of red-brown glazed earthenware of *c*. 1650–1750 date were recovered within the final repairs and provided a *terminus post quem* for the final use of the trackway

The three trackways, however, were probably contemporary and in use as late as the mid



Plan of stripped area showing trackway, side ditches and other features.

eighteenth century, although the date when the routes were first laid out is uncertain. It is likely that the southern and central trackways were no earlier than the medieval period. Whilst the alignment of the northern trackway indicates that it formed a branch route between the Dover Road and Barham to the west and exhibited evidence for a more complex pattern of use and repair. It may be the most important of the three.

Across the remainder of the proposed development only two archaeological features were located; both were of modern origin. The lack of any features within these evaluation trenches suggests that the areas north-west, north, east and south-east of the former hotel are largely sterile of archaeological remains. Moreover, across the southern margins of the site there was evidence for considerable down slope migration of topsoil due to former episodes of modern arable cultivation. Across much of the area subject to the evaluation topsoil cover was thin, on average only 0.10 m. thick.

The evaluation was funded by the developer Care Principles Ltd.

View showing the northern trackway with side ditch beyond, looking north.

14 Willow Farm, Hooper's Lane, Broomfield

John Willson

An archaeological field evaluation of land at Willow Farm, off Hooper's Lane, Broomfield (TR 1940 6705) was undertaken during September 1999 by a team supervised by Adrian Gollop, in advance of a proposed housing development.

The site, located to the south of the A299 Thanet Way, was relatively flat arable farmland, covering 4.24 hectares. A total of forty-nine trenches were excavated during the evaluation, twenty-three of which contained significant remains dating from the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age, to the Early Medieval period.

The earliest evidence dated to the Late Bronze Age and comprised numerous rubbish pits, ditches, gullies, a quarry pit, eight post-holes, occupation layers, a metalled surface and a buried soil horizon all suggestive of long-term settlement. Initial evidence suggests that the settlement was contained within a series of rectangular or square ditched enclosures, one of which seems to have contained a timber structure. Elements of the structure, a possible round house, included post-holes, drainage gullies and stratified occupation layers containing pottery, daub and charcoal.

Later Iron Age and Romano-British activity of several phases spanning the period from the early first to the late fourth century A.D., was represented by numerous boundary and enclosure ditches for a long-lived farmstead. Late in the sequence was a series of pits indicating possible small-scale industrial activity associated with a metalled courtyard. Although there was no clear evidence for domestic structures, a large pottery assemblage, dominated by domestic wares from the north Kent coast, Canterbury, Colchester, and Central Gaul, suggests a well established settlement focus nearby.

A third phase of agricultural activity was suggested by three medieval field boundary ditches and a single pit The early medieval features all yielded pottery dating from the eleventh to the thirteenth century A.D. Another ten features, mainly pits, were identified during the evaluation, but none contained datable evidence and could not be related to any period with certainty.

The evaluation was commissioned and funded by Abbey Developments Ltd.

15 Eddington Farm, Herne Bay

Grant Shand

It has long been thought that much of the north Kent coastal margin, dominated by London Clay, was scarcely occupied during the prehistoric periods and that chalk downland, the lighter loams of river valleys and even elevated gravel terraces were more favoured for settlement. The heavy, poorly draining clay was considered to be difficult to manage, particularly in the extremes of a wet or dry climate and this fact, together with a lack of fieldwork and chance discoveries, has led archaeologists to believe that heavy clay soils were only suitable for woodland management throughout the prehistoric period. Recent work at Eddington has changed this view.

The Eddington site, located on the southern fringes of Herne Bay (TR 1700 6705) was the subject of an extensive archaeological evaluation undertaken between August and September 1998 (Houliston 1998). The evaluation revealed numerous archaeological pits, post-holes and ditches indicating that the site was extensively

occupied over several millennia. The present report describes the results of large-scale excavations which followed, carried out during 1999–2000 by a team led by the author and Crispin Jarman (Jarman and Shand 1999; Shand 2000).

Topsoil stripping to the surface of London Clay revealed a complex pattern of intercutting archaeological features. Although all soil stains were mapped, full excavation of the whole site was not possible, and selected areas were targeted for sample excavation.

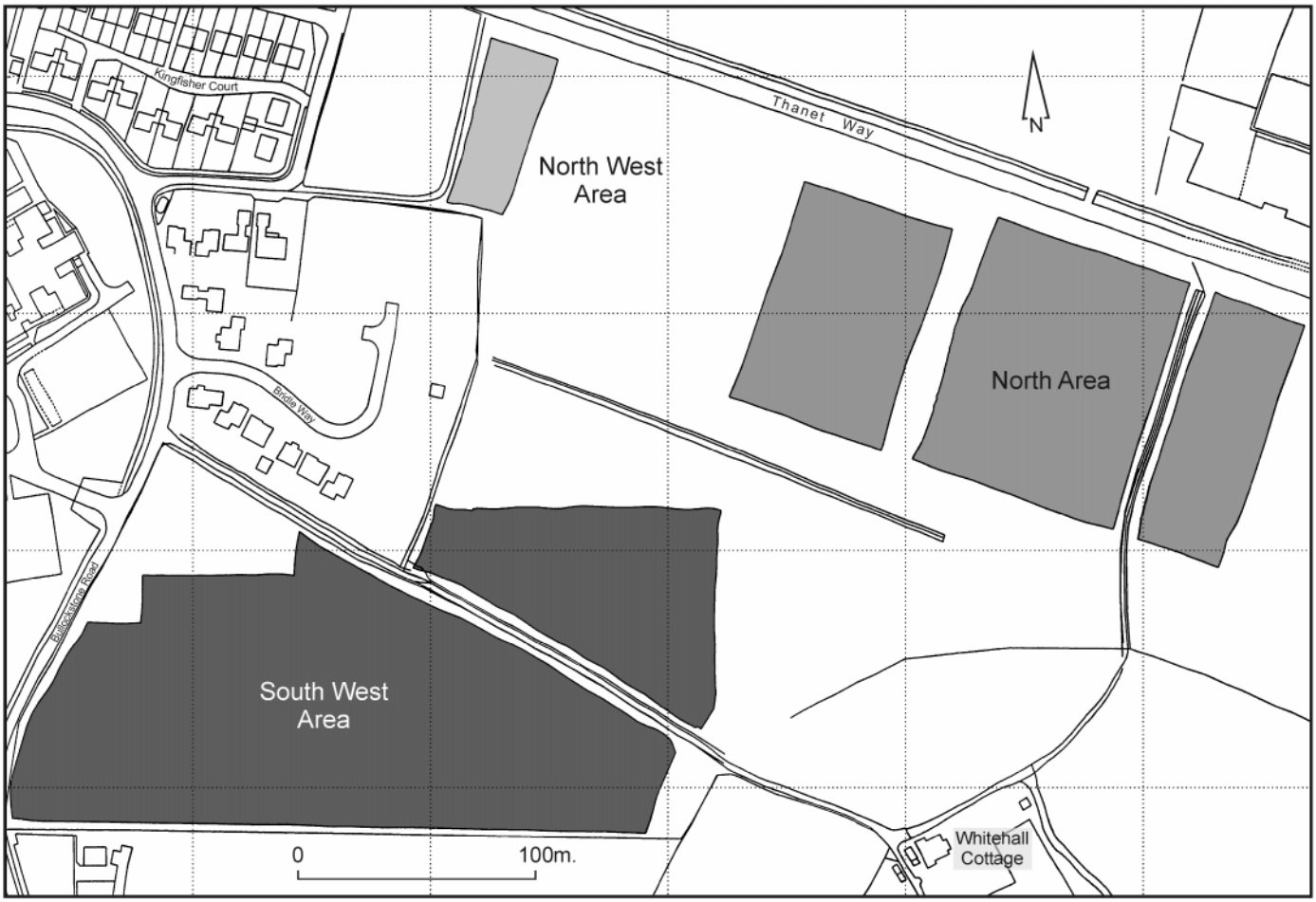
The earliest evidence for occupation was recovered from lower ground adjacent to and south of the old Thanet Way. Here, a complete polished stone axe gleaned from a shallow pit and a small assemblage of flints from various other ephemeral features suggested that occupation of the site commenced in the Later Neolithic period, *c.* 3500 B.C.. The polished axe, a significant and important find, is thought to have been a prestige item usually reserved for ceremonial functions. Interestingly, the polishing of the axe was not finished and partial surface polishing indicated that this example had not been completed at source. The stone type is of a non-local origin and is suggestive of trade links in the Late Neolithic. Further analysis of the stone type may identify its source. The absence of pottery and animal bone tends to suggest that this phase of occupation was of a transitory nature. A large number of dark soil stains, initially thought to be the vestigial remains of tree throws, were upon investigation found to be archaeological features. They were, however, devoid of any cultural material.

A period of abandonment appears to have followed and the site seems not to have been occupied again until the Late Bronze Age when a large enclosure was constructed. This extensive ovoid shaped enclosure, in excess of 220 m. by 100 m., was formed by a large curvilinear ditch measuring between 2.5 m. to 3.5 m. in width and nearly 2 m. deep with a causewayed entrance to the north. Within the enclosure, a number of smaller, roughly circular causewayed ditches were discovered together with a series of related post-holes and pits which may indicate the position of a rectangular structure.

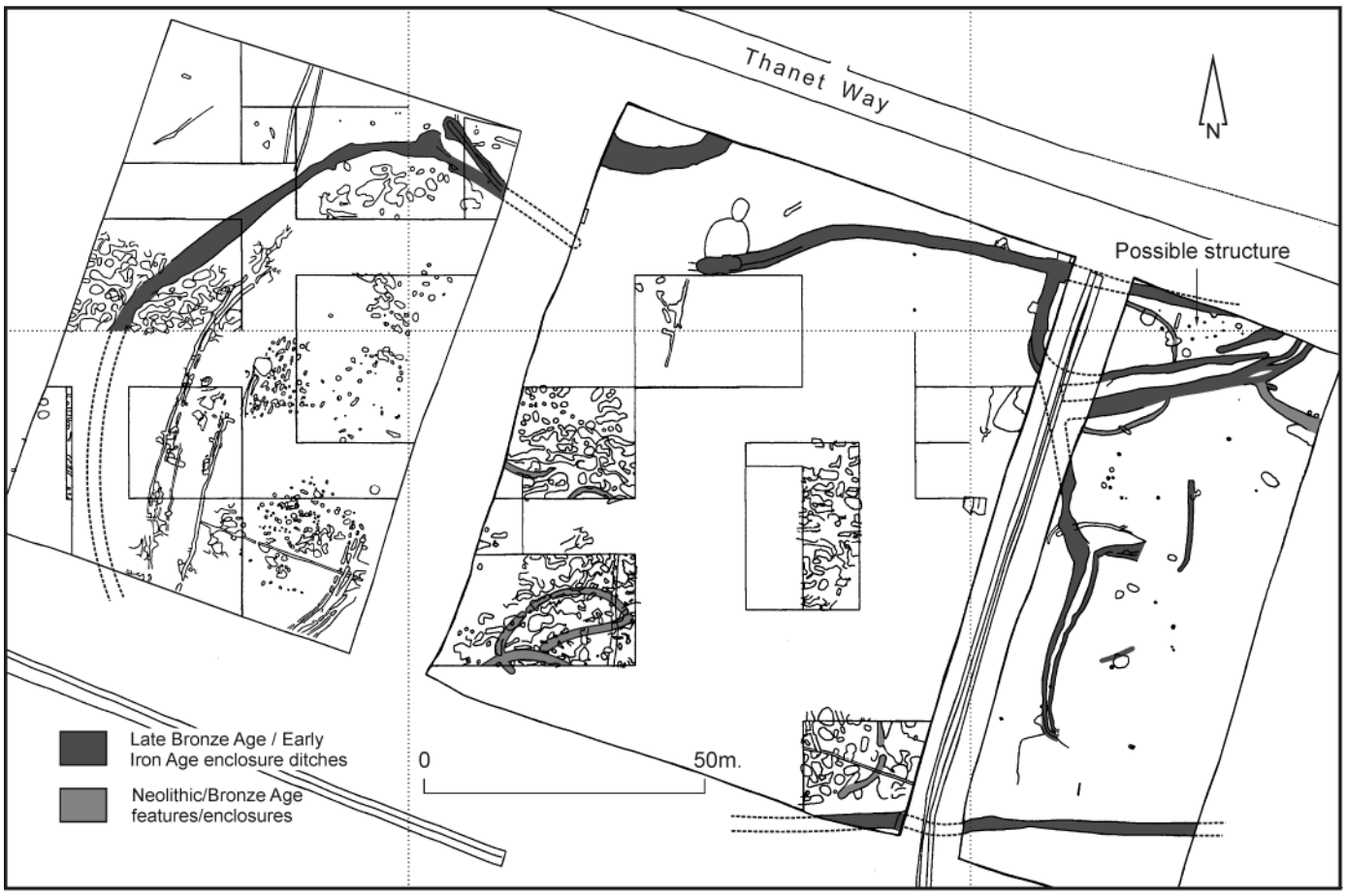
To the south-west, on slightly higher ground, a large ring-ditch with an internal diameter of 25 m. was discovered. The interior of the ring-ditch appeared devoid of features apart from a small number of irregular-shaped features aligned on the inner curve of the ditch. The features contained no datable finds. A number of later ditches appear to respect the ring-ditch, suggesting that it may have had been a conspicuous landscape monument, perhaps a burial mound. No internal burial was discovered, and a poor assemblage of possible Late Bronze Age pot-sherds was recovered from the fills of the ring-ditch.

Evidence of frequent re-cutting of the larger ditches indicated ongoing management and

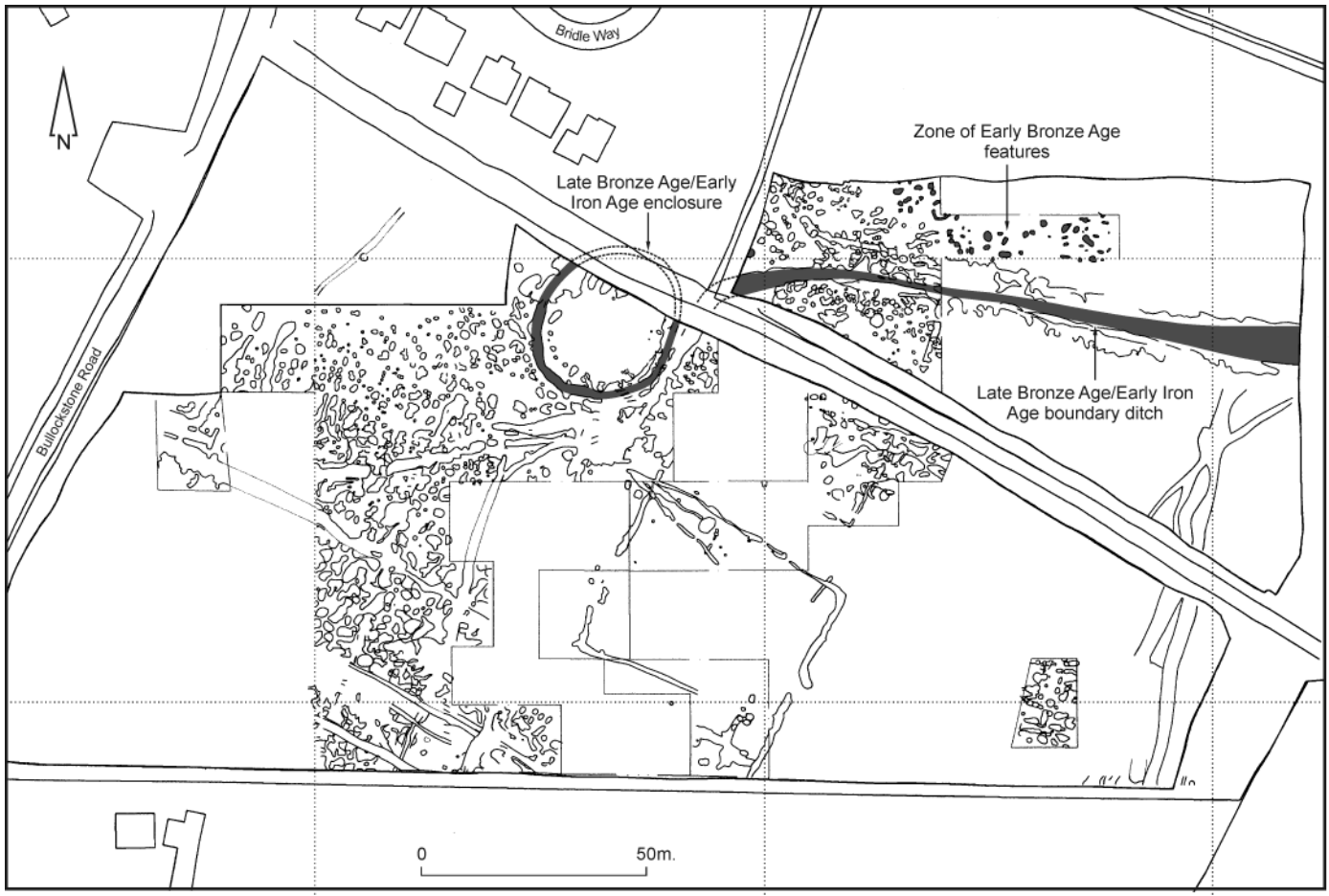
A Neolithic polished axe of foreign stone and a Late Bronze Age conical ceramic loom-weight from the Eddington Farm excavations. Scale in centimetres.



Location plan showing areas of excavation.



Plan of North Area showing Neolithic, Bronze Age & Early Iron Age enclosures & other features.



Plan of South West Area showing Early Bronze Age features and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age enclosure and boundary ditch.

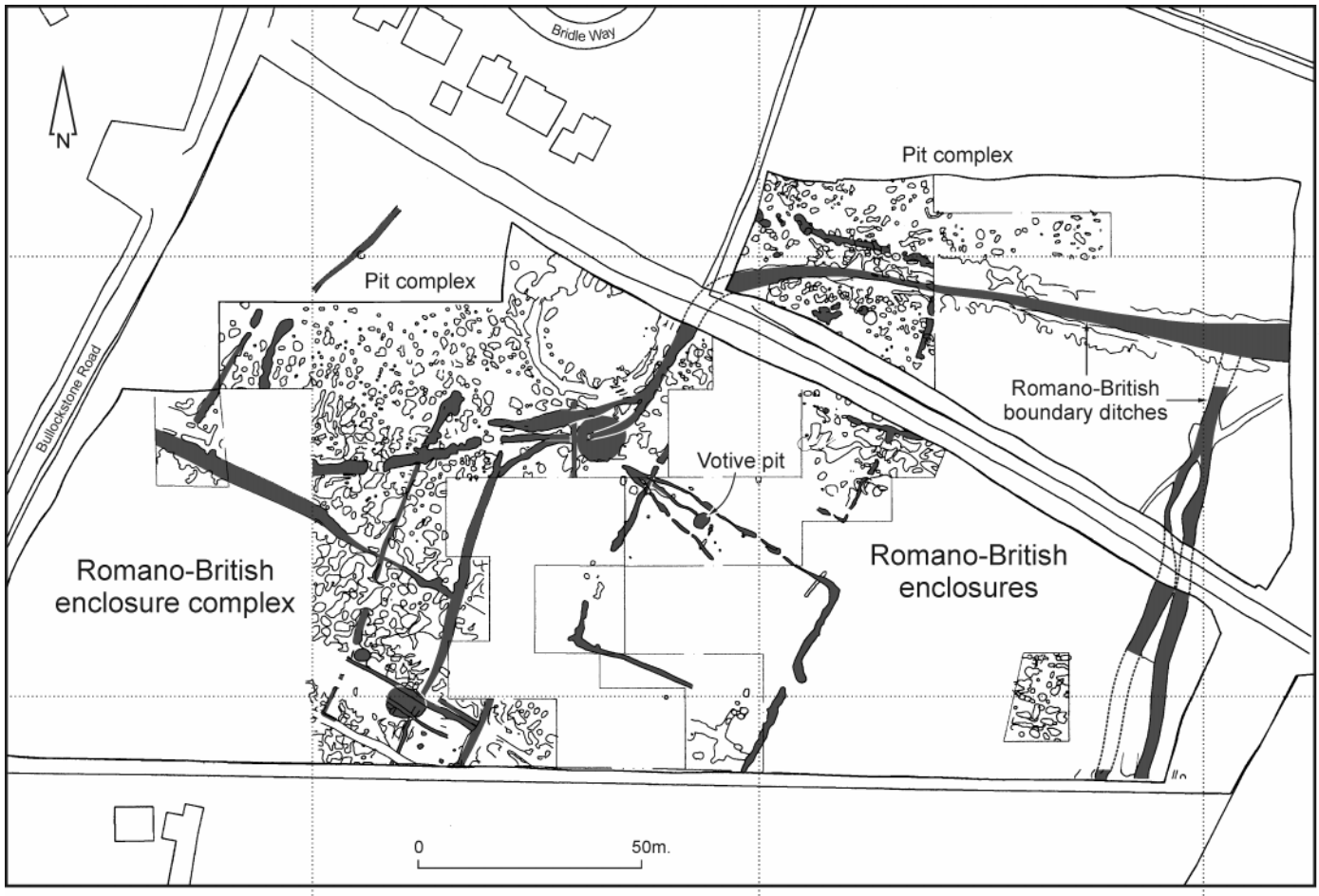
Pit (4760) during excavation revealing large sandstone slab, looking west.

Large sandstone slab after excavation of pit, looking south.

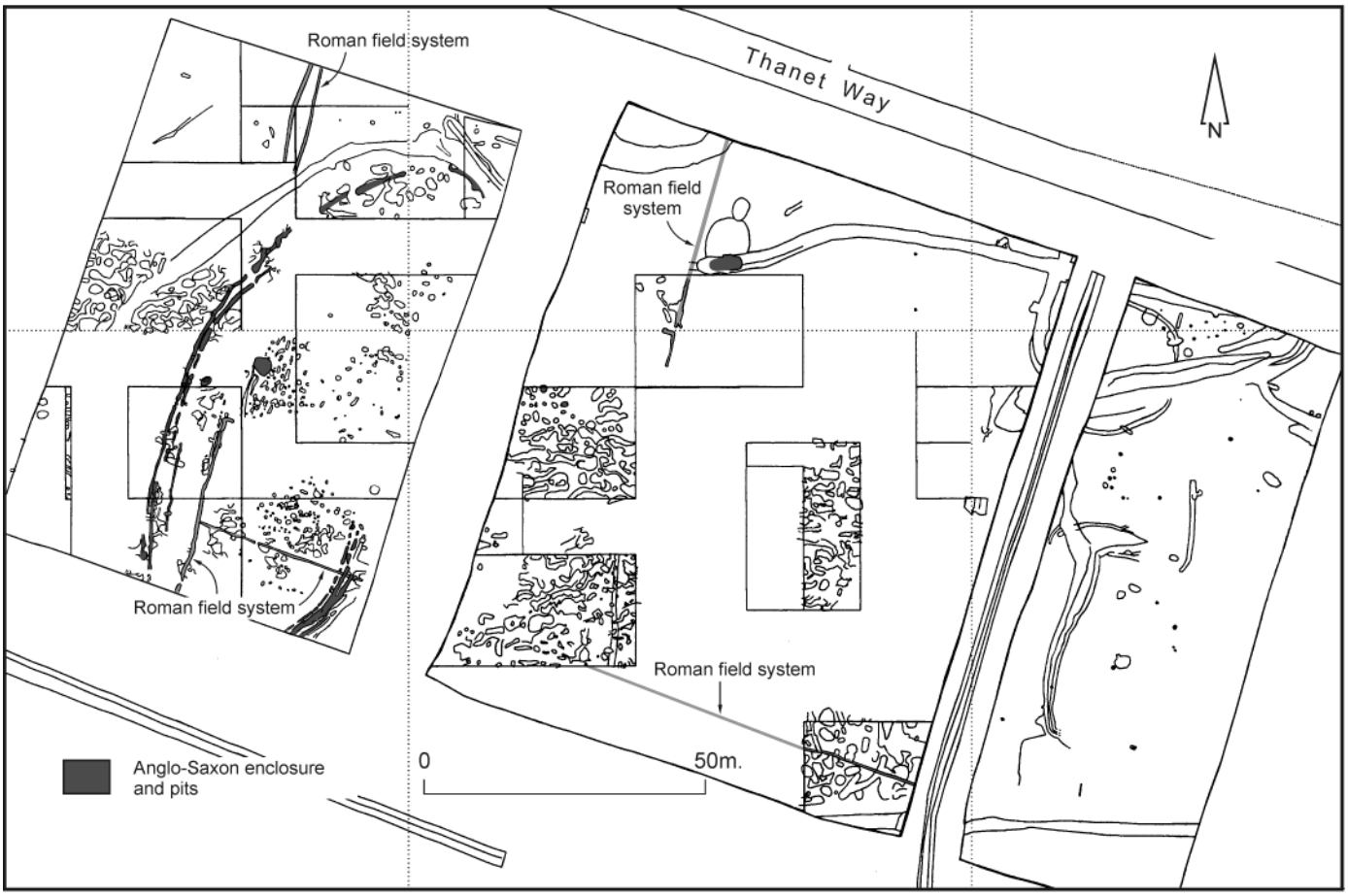
upkeep of the site, perhaps in response to silting up of the ditches. An interesting parallel to this is that modern drainage ditches cut by the excavation team to channel surface run-off during wet periods silted up at alarming rates. This supports the view that maintenance of the ditches especially during wet periods and winter would have to be undertaken regularly to maintain their function.

The apparent absence of domestic dwellings within the Late Bronze Age enclosure tends to suggest that its primary function may have been for the penning of animals or activities associated with animal husbandry. Copper alloy slag fragments found in the late backfill of one of the enclosure ditches and a conical ceramic loomweight, typical of a Late Bronze Age type in another, suggest a late domestic and industrial use for the enclosure or the proximity of a settlement. A watching brief maintained during ditch cutting in 1991, some 50 m. to the north provided evidence for Late Bronze Age domestic and metalworking activity (Macpherson-Grant 1991).

A second episode of abandonment occurred in the Early or Middle Iron Age. A significant deposit of hillwash (colluvium) discovered on the lower



Plan of South West Area showing Romano-British enclosures, ditches and pit complex.



Plan of North Area showing Roman field systems & Anglo-Saxon enclosures & pits.

ground was found to seal the Late Bronze Age and earlier features. Woodland clearance and agricultural practices on the higher ground probably in the Late Bronze Age, may have initiated the movement of soils by exposing thin soils to the elements. The eroded soil moving down slope under gravity, would have rapidly covered lower slopes, and made much of the landscape infertile.

Occupation appears to have resumed in the early Roman period with the laying out of a new field system on the slopes and the lower ground of the site. The fields were defined by shallow ditches aligned north-east to south-west. A small number of contemporary rectangular enclosures were also located on a curving crest of high ground to the south and west of the field system. Although the enclosures may have been irregular fields or stock pens, one of their number contained a substantial pit. Within the pit was found a large, flat, worked piece of natural sandstone, weighing over half a ton and placed on its edge in an upright position. An adjoining smaller pit contained two small complete pottery vessels, tentatively interpreted as votive offerings. It is tempting to equate this enclosure and its standing stone, with a ceremonial purpose, perhaps associated with nearby natural springs. Sadly there is insufficient evidence to support the supposition.

An early Roman cremation burial showing a coarseware pot (right) containing cremated bones and an accompanying Samian dish. Scale in centimetres.

Also associated with this phase of occupation was a cluster of Romano-British cremation burials, located close to the southern limit of excavation. Of the four or five burials identified, one contained a pair of hob-nail boots placed alongside the cremation vessel, while another cremation urn and accompanying vessels were found placed in a decayed wooden casket.

Further west and south of the enclosures and close to the small cemetery was an area

Hobnails marking the position of a pair of boots found accompanying an early Roman cremation burial. Scale in centimetres.

containing a high concentration of features, mostly pits and post-holes, interrupted occasionally by curvilinear ditches, indicating a focus of domestic occupation. Pottery recovered from most of these features dated from the mid third to the mid fourth century A.D. and post-dated the field system, the enclosures and the cemetery.

An early focus of settlement contemporary with the fields and enclosures must lie close by, perhaps on higher ground. Similarly, there was little evidence within the excavated area to indicate the presence of a late field system, accompanying the later settlement. This too must lie close by, perhaps on higher ground.

A final and rare phase of occupation dating to the early to middle Anglo-Saxon period was identified on the northern slopes of the site. Here a double-ditched enclosure defined the boundaries of a small farmstead. A large number of features were found within the enclosure, many containing pottery, animal bone and shells. Post-holes were also present, but it has not proved possible to identify an individual building. One large pit in the western part of the enclosure contained fragments of discarded sheet metal, as well as pottery. Three pits filled with oyster and mussel shells were found cutting the ditches at differing locations, at a stage when the ditches had become entirely silted up. The enclosure had clearly fallen out of use by this time.

Evidence from Eddington and other recently excavated sites on the London Clay have now helped to dispel old ideas that these heavy, poorly draining clay soils were unsuitable for agriculture and settlement. The distribution of new sites like the present one at Eddington, now point to extensive, often long-lived and sometimes near continuous settlement of the clay-dominated soils of the North Kent coast.

The work was funded throughout by Ward Homes Construction (Medway) Ltd.

16 Underdown Lane, Herne Bay

John Willson

In December 1999, an archaeological evaluation by the Trust, under the direction of Adrian Gollop, was undertaken to the rear of the Old House, Underdown Lane (TR 1777 6696). A total of twelve evaluation trenches were excavated, four of which were found to contain archaeological remains dating from the Early to Middle Iron Age, and early medieval periods.

The Iron Age features found on the site comprised one long ditch, a small gully and one small pit. The ditch, identified in three trenches, and traced for at least 60 m, running straight on a roughly east–west axis may define one side of an enclosure or represent a field boundary. An almost complete pot, dated to *c*. 450–350 B.C. was found in the upper fill of one ditch section. The small gully, aligned north-south, was only seen for a short length in a single evaluation trench. The small pit was located nearby. Pottery recovered from these features dated them to *c*. 550–350 B.C. Activity from this period was restricted to three trenches in the northern half of site, although residual pottery of a same date was also present in trenches in the southern areas. The features appeared to be agricultural and isolated in nature with no settlement structures identified. Some limited domestic activity was however suggested by the finds assemblage.

Medieval activity on the site was restricted to the extreme south-western corner of the area. Here a series of ditches and gullies, all aligned east–west, were recorded. The ditches yielding thirteenth-century pottery, may have served as field boundaries. One ditch was sealed beneath a spread of oyster shell and burnt flint cobbles capped by a clay deposit containing some fragmented roof tiles. These deposits may have been laid down to form an area of hardstanding, or a yard. The later clay spread with broken roof tile may be debris from an adjoining collapsed structure. Pottery recovered from these levels was dated *c*. A.D. 1225–75.

The work was commissioned and funded by O'Brien Property Ltd.

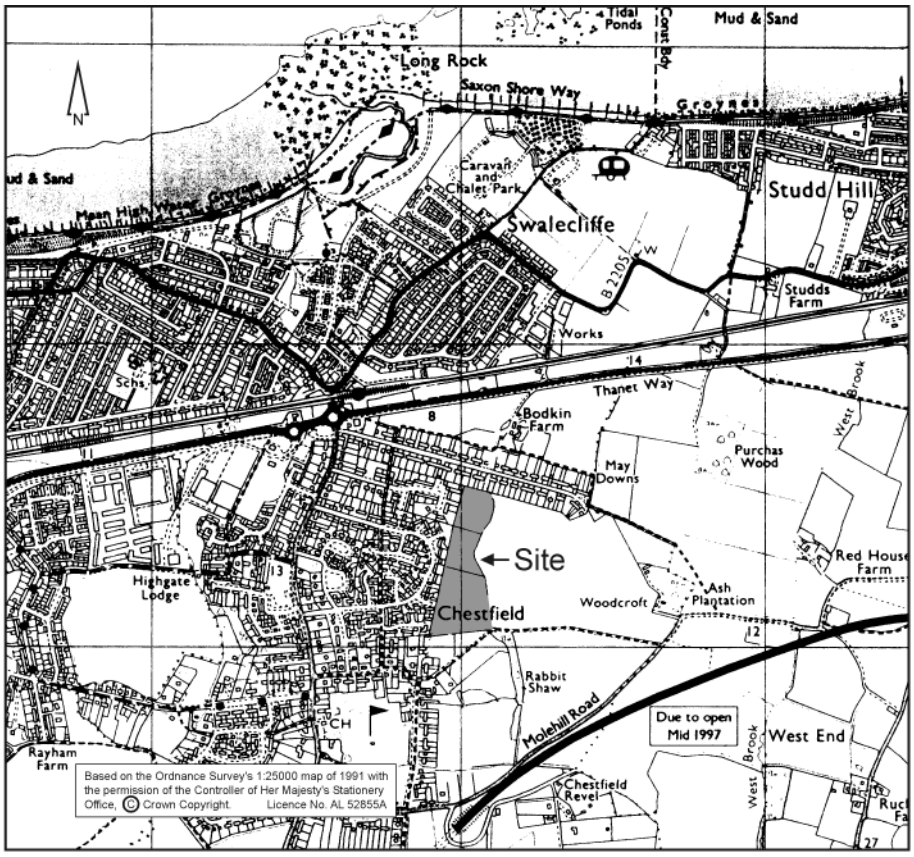
17 Churchwood Drive, Chestfield

Tim Allen

In January 1999 an archaeological evaluation in advance of development was undertaken on an extensive tract of land east of Churchwood Drive, Chestfield (TR 1400 6625), 3.5 km. south-east of Whitstable. The site lies on flat land at about 14 m. O.D. in an area known in antiquity as the Bogshole Levels, a name that still survives in part in the name 'Bogshole Lane'. The Bogshole Levels were once considered to be of low archaeological potential, but over recent years archaeological work has shown them to have been widely settled from at least the Later Bronze Age onwards, principally by short-lived, small-scale agricultural settlements

The results of the evaluation, which consisted of seventy-seven machine-excavated trenches, indicated the presence of two sets of remains, one dating to the Mid to Late Bronze Age, the other to the Anglo-Saxon period (Allen 1999). Six areas in which archaeological remains were concentrated were subsequently stripped of topsoil and subjected to full-scale excavation. The combined campaigns of work exposed the remains of a small Mid to Late Bronze Age hut and an associated extensive field system and a series of Anglo-Saxon and medieval enclosures, including, a sunken hut, a hollow way and a drove way. In addition a programme of documentary research was undertaken in order to place the results of the archaeological work within their historical context.

Both phases of work produced important archaeological evidence. Areas 3, 4, 6 and 5



Location plan

contained evidence for Bronze and Early Iron Age settlement activity, whilst concentrations of Anglo-Saxon remains were exposed and examined in Areas 1, 2, 4 and 6.

The earliest evidence for occupation comprised an extensive field system defined by ditches and traced across the five widely-spaced excavation areas. In Area 4, a wide, north–south aligned ditch was revealed. In Area 5, the fill of a deep, north–south aligned ditch and possibly a northern extension of the Area 4 ditch were found. In Area 6 part of a wide ditch was exposed which described a tight curve, suggesting that it marked the corner of an enclosure. All of these features contained potsherds identified as Deverel-Rimbury ware dated to the Mid Bronze Age (*c*. 1500–1000 B.C.), and sherds of Late Bronze to Early Iron Age wares (*c*. 1100–600 B.C.). Within Area 6 another substantial wide and deep ditch followed a straight north–south alignment intersecting the eastern part of the curving ditch and either forked or was recut to the south. The fill of the straight ditch produced sherds of similarly-dated pottery and fragments of cattle bone, daub, oyster shell and burnt flint, suggesting the presence of a nearby occupation site.

In Areas 3a and 3b, two parallel ditches and a number of shallow indeterminate archaeological features were exposed. This group of features, providing a small number of Late Bronze to Early Iron Age, potsherds was interpreted as evidence for peripheral settlement activity associated with a sunken hut found in Area 3a.

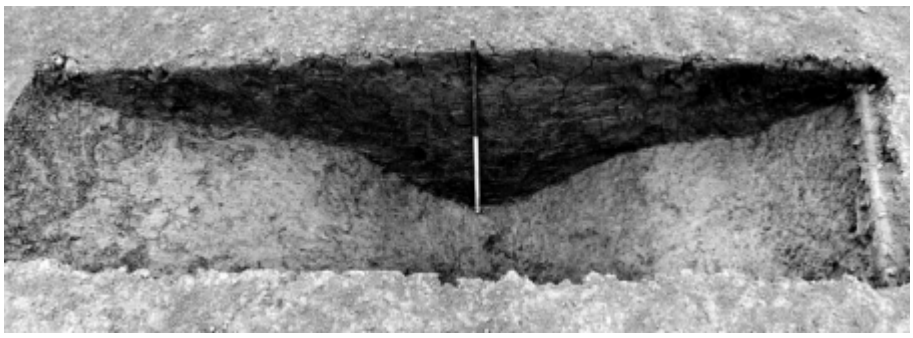
The sunken-floored hut was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 4 m. by 2.1 m., with a floor cut 0.34 m. below present ground surface. The floor, which surrounded a substantial circular hearth, was covered by the detritus of domestic occupation which included a large corpus of potsherds, fire-crazed flints and an amber bead. The ceramic assemblage dated broadly to the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age (*c*. 900–600 B.C.).

Some 21 m. south-east of the hut, was a shallow, roughly circular pit containing charcoal and small fragments of calcined bone, possibly the burial of a cremated infant. The bone has been carbon dated to *c*. 920–795 B.C.

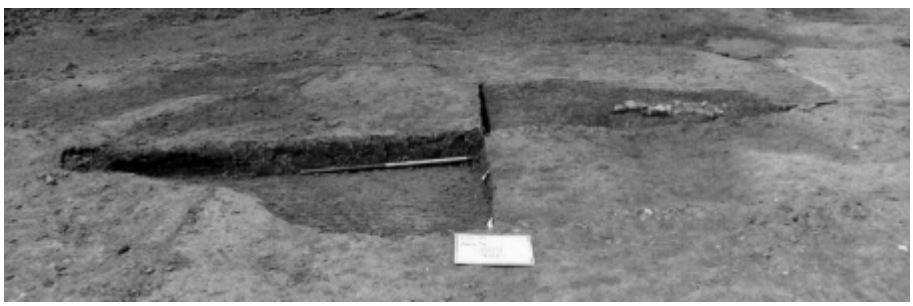
The hut had been built partly within a shallow linear hollow; all that survived of a wide, silt-filled ditch, which terminated 10 m. to the west. This ditch, containing potsherds of Deverel-Rimbury type, may have comprised part of the same extensive field system represented by the ditches exposed in Areas 3b, 4, 5 and 6. Several other ditches surrounded the hut and three terminated close to it. The overall arrangement was complex, and possibly represented attempts to manage rainwater during the life of the hut.

Evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity was recovered from a number of areas. In Area 6 the upper fill of a large curving prehistoric ditch yielded a surprisingly large corpus of Early and Mid Anglo-Saxon pottery dating *c*. A.D. 450–650 and *c*. A.D. 575–750, respectively.

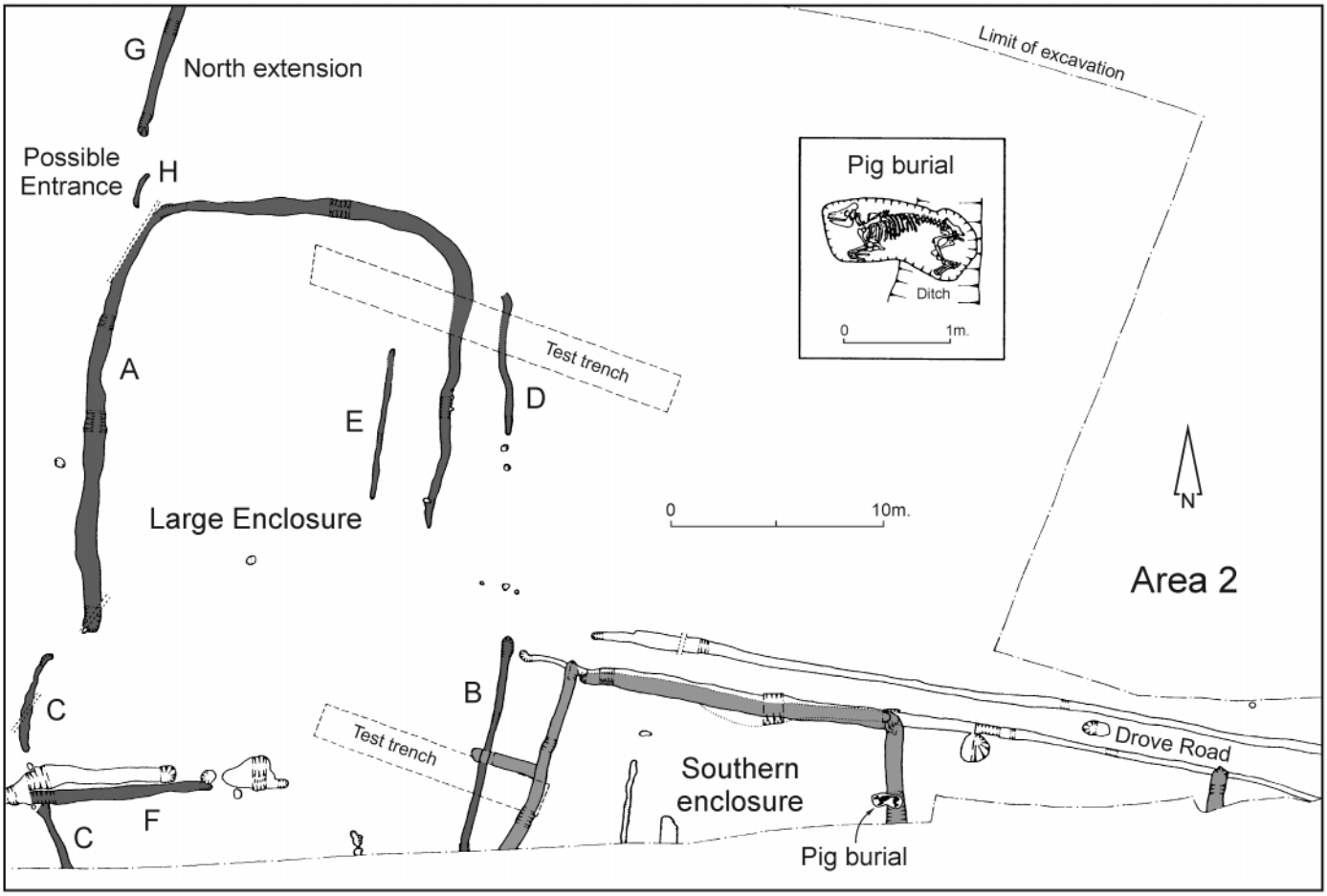
In Area 2, an extensive sub-rectilinear arrangement of gullies was exposed. Here, two phases of activity were identified. The first of these comprised two parallel gullies, interpreted as the remains of a drove road linking with the present line of medieval Radfall Road and a hollow way in Area 1. The parallel gullies led directly to an opening within a sub-rectangular arrangement



Section across a prehistoric field ditch, Area 4. Scale 1 m.



View of the Late Bronze Age sunken-hut with hearth in section (right), looking north (Area 3a). Scale 1 m.



Extract of plan of Area 2 showing enclosures, drove road, pits etc.

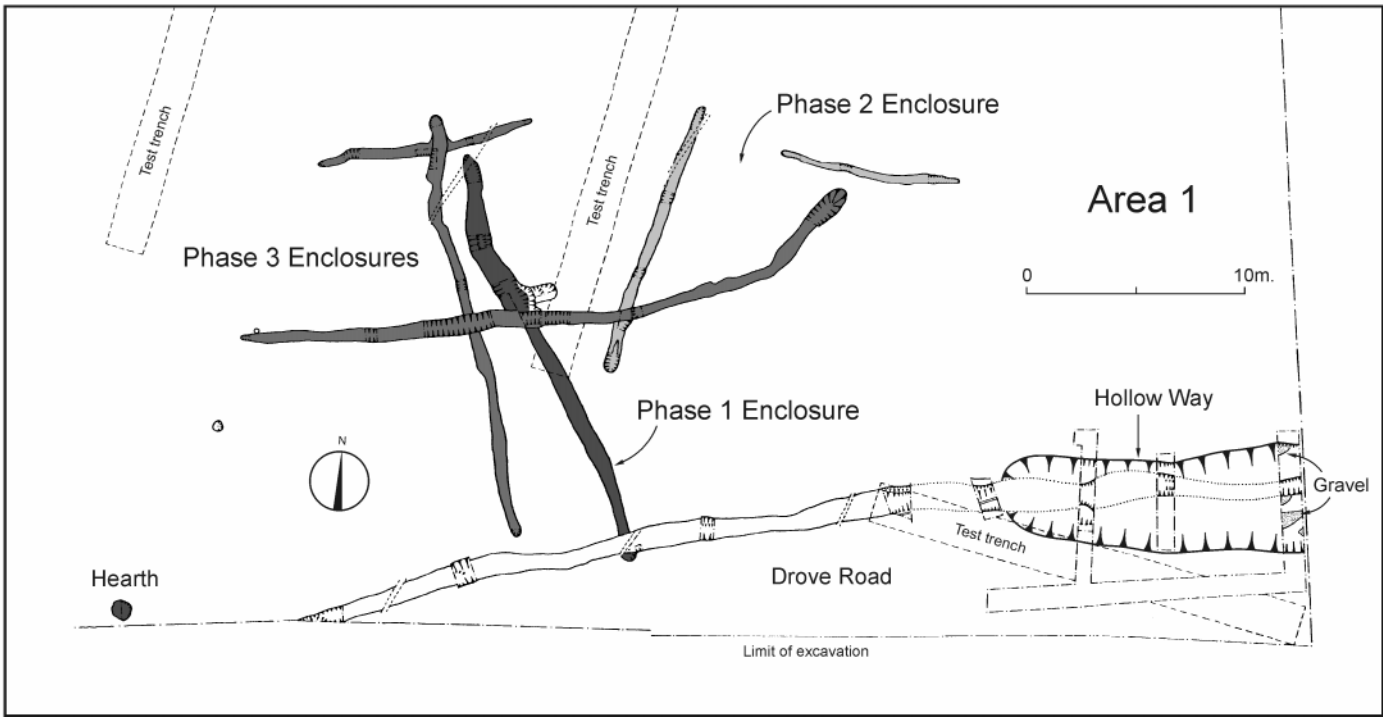
of presumably contemporary ditches interpreted as the truncated remains of a large enclosure.

In the centre of Area 2, a large 'U'-shaped enclosure (A) represented by a long gully was revealed. Two other gullies (B and C) appeared to form the south-east and south-western parts of the enclosure. However, both extended southward beyond the limit of excavation, indicating that only part of the enclosure fell within the excavated area. The gully fills provided pottery of the Late Anglo-Saxon period (*c*. 850–1050) and of the early medieval period (*c*. 1050–1150), together with small quantities of animal bone, particularly pig. Gully B, however, was aligned with a short gully (D), which lay roughly parallel to, and 2 m. east of the eastern section of the main enclosure. This suggested that the enclosure had been extended in size. Also running parallel to, and 3 m. west of the eastern part of the main enclosure was another short gully (E), which may have represented a separate enclosure, of which only a trace survived. Another north–south aligned linear feature to the south (F) was similarly interpreted.

A separate gully located to the north-west shared the same north–south alignment as the main enclosure ditch. In the 5 m. gap between the two was another short gully (H), and possibly together they represent the remains of an entrance giving onto an adjacent enclosure or field.

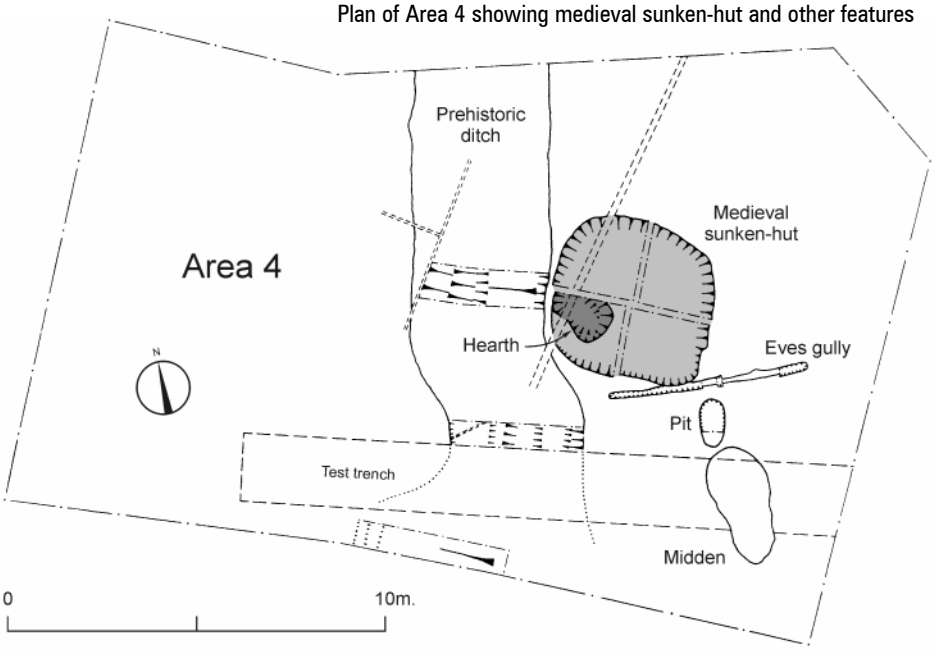
The southern part of the 'U'-shaped enclosure was cut at right angles by a short gully, which appeared to form part of a late (southern) enclosure. Here a series of contemporary gullies formed three sides of a rectilinear enclosure, extending southward beyond the excavated area. Its northern edge appeared to be a re-cut of the southern boundary ditch of the drove road using it as a boundary. Pottery dating *c*.1050–1100 was recovered from the enclosure ditches. An isolated gully located some 15m to the east, which also cut the southern side of the drove road may also

Early medieval pit containing a complete pig skeleton, Area 2.



Extract from plan of Area 1 showing enclosures, drove road, hollow way and hearth.

Plan of Area 4 showing medieval sunken-hut and other features



have represented part of a second phase field or enclosure boundary.

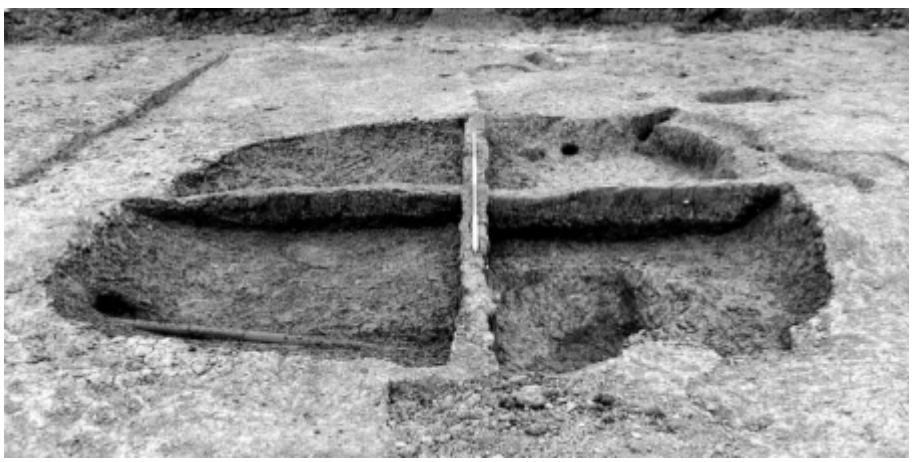
In Area 1 six discontinuous gullies were part-excavated. At least three phases of occupation was represented: A primary phase enclosure was represented by a wide north–south gully, which contained pottery sherds dated to *c*. 1050–1150. The enclosure was flanked to the south by the drove road. A second enclosure may be represented by two other gullies, which were again arranged rectilinearly. These contained pottery dating from *c.* A.D. 1075 to *c*. 1300.

A third phase was suggested by three further gullies forming a rectilinear arrangement. Pottery dating up to *c*. 1300 was recovered from the ditch fills.

The long, east–west aligned drove road ditch, contained pottery dated from *c*. 1200 to *c*. 1300, and it appeared to be a continuation of the drove road seen in Area 2. Much of the pottery within the upper fills of the ditch however, dated *c*. 1250–1300, indicating continuous use of the boundary.

To the south-west of the area, was a well-constructed hearth consisting of a concave, ash and charcoal-filled depression with a hard-baked clay base. There was no evidence for an associated structure and it seems it was an external oven, possibly associated with a building situated to the south, beyond the excavated area.

In Area 4, the earliest feature appeared to be a substantial north–south aligned prehistoric ditch, containing Late Bronze to Early Iron Age pottery. Immediately adjacent to the ditch, but of much



An early medieval sunken-floored hut, Area 4 (looking east). Scale 3 m.

later date was the remains of a sunken-floored hut. The hut was square measuring 4 m. by 4 m. and was cut 0.2 m. deep. A pit was cut within the hut to accommodate an internal hearth which contained charcoal, burnt clay and pottery dating to the thirteenth century.

A short way south of the hut was a midden of oyster, mussel and whelk shells, a short, straight and shallow drainage channel, possibly an eaves gully, and a pit. All three features yielded pottery of thirteenth-century date.

In Area 6, a north–south aligned ditch was located, its fill yielding pottery dated to 1225–1350. The ditch, possibly contemporary with the sunken hut, formed part of an adjacent field boundary.

The remains of the enclosures, hollow way and sunken hut clearly represent a precursive settlement of Chestfield, dating from the early medieval period. The possible identification of the part of the Radfall road at Chestfield in Areas 1 and 2 appears to establish Radfall road, along with the Radfall and Hackington road, as part of a medieval road system linking important medieval settlement centres such as Chestfield, Reculver and Amery Court to Canterbury via Tyler Hill. These roads also appear to have been used during the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods as a means of gaining access into the Blean woodlands for pannage and fuel (Everitt 1976, 16–19).

The excavation was commissioned and funded by Pelham Homes Ltd.

18 No. 63 Chestfield Road, Chestfield

John Willson

During January 2000 a limited evaluation excavation was carried out, under the direction of Christopher Sparey-Green, at No. 63 Chestfield Road (TR 1350 6626), in advance of a small residential development.

Five long trenches were machine excavated across the development area, which was at that time a small apple orchard situated on a flat site overlying London Clay. Only one ancient feature was revealed. This was a shallow gully traced running across Trench 1 at right-angles. The gully was 1.50 m. wide, with a rounded profile and just 0.20 m. deep. The gully fill contained a small corpus of flint-tempered sherds of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age date *(c*. 1400–600 B.C.).

The prehistoric gully and the pottery contained within it, along with the residual prehistoric sherds recovered in modern contexts in other trenches, suggests the existence of a possible settlement on or close to the site. The significance of this material is enhanced by the number of adjacent sites producing evidence for prehistoric and later occupation.

Bourne Developments kindly commissioned and funded the excavation work.

19 Island Road, Hersden

Richard Cross and Jonathan Rady

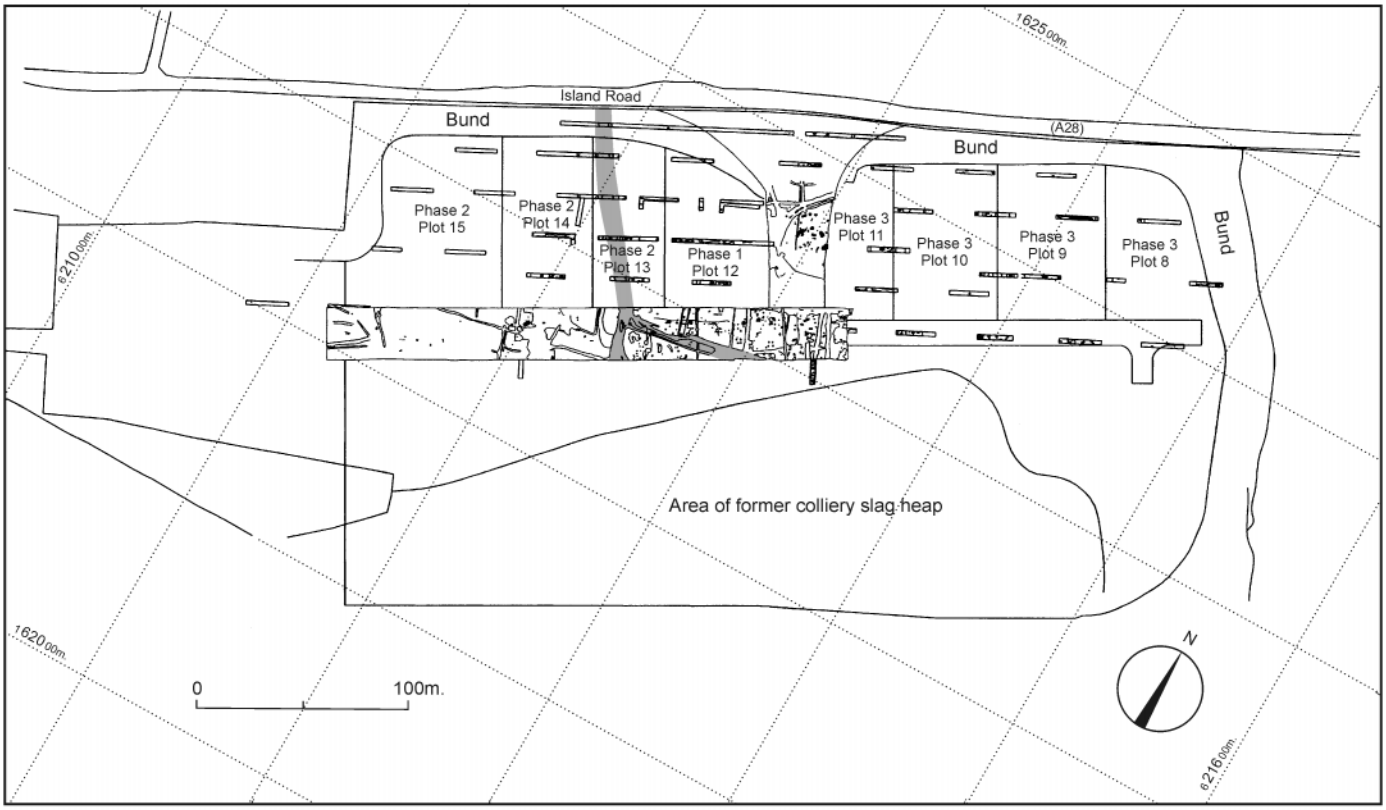
Between June 1998 and August 2000 three archaeological interventions were undertaken at Island Road, Hersden (centred at TR 2125 6235). The work, comprising two phases of evaluation followed by a detailed watching and recording brief, was undertaken in advance of the construction of an industrial estate. The site, extending to about 4.9 hectares, abutted the south side of the Island Road, immediately east of Hersden village.

The results of the excavations undertaken so far have demonstrated that sections of a substantial Roman roadside settlement extending over many hectares have been revealed. Burials, both cremations and inhumations are present, and there is evidence for an earlier Iron Age settlement across the north-east section of the development site. Archaeological works on the development were suspended by the developer in August 2001 and the investigations remain incomplete.

Topsoil machining of the site in progress, looking east.

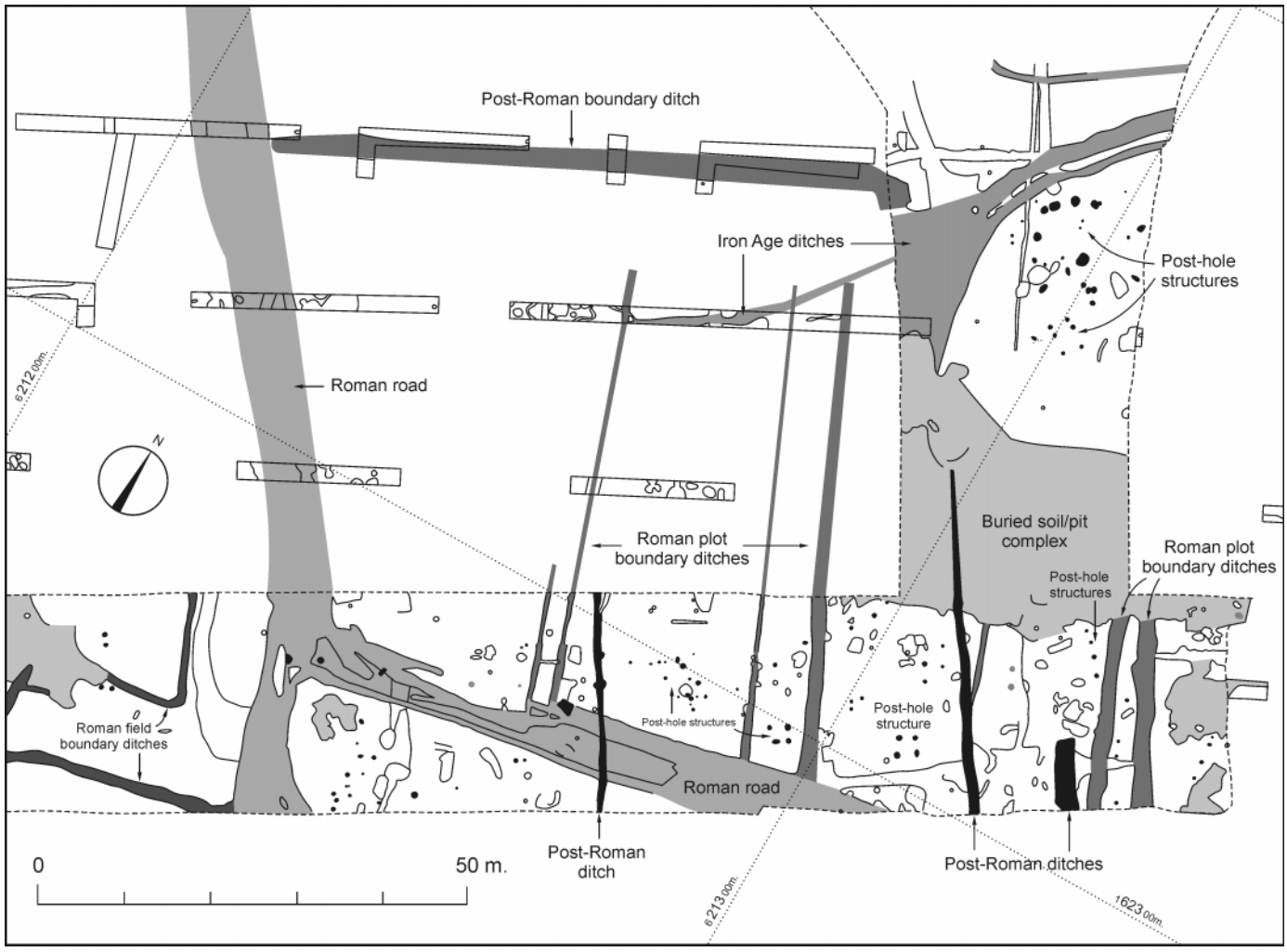
The site is situated on high ground at 28–29 m. O.D., about 7 km. north-east of Canterbury. Located on a flat plateau on the upper reaches of the northern valley side of the river Stour, the site abuts the south side of Island Road which marks the former alignment of the Roman road connecting Canterbury (*Durovernum Cantiacorum*) with the port and late Roman shore fort at Richborough (*Rutupaie*). The underlying deposits consist largely of Head Brickearth with Head Gravels across the western margins of the site.

Previous archaeological discoveries both north and south of the former Roman road alignment demonstrate that the route was flanked by early to mid Roman cremation and later Roman inhumation cemeteries. The pattern of these cemeteries is imperfectly understood, although on present evidence an extensive inhumation cemetery was clearly located at the junction of two Roman road routes, now represented by the



Plan showing location of site, excavated areas & trenches.

Extract from overall site plan showing known archaeological features to date.



View showing a Roman metalled road and side ditches exposed in one of the trenches.

alignments of the Island Road and Babs Oak Hill Road, at the foot and to the west of Staines Hill. Other evidence demonstrates, however, that both small earthen burial mound cemeteries as well as single isolated earthen burial mounds were also sited in proximity to the Roman roads. Examples have been recorded north of the road west of Staines Hill, to the south of the road east of Staines Hill and to the south of the road at Hersden some 500 m. south-west of the proposed development site (Rady 1995).

Air photographic evidence also indicates the presence of a complex pattern of rural settlement located in proximity to the Roman road alignment. Enclosures, a branch road and burial mounds have been noted 1100 m. to the north-east immediately west of Westbere. Another branch road and part of an enclosure or field system has also been noted abutting the north side of the Island Road opposite the proposed development site.

The excavations undertaken to date have revealed the presence of a buried soil layer immediately under the modern topsoil. This deposit varied considerably in depth, but was generally thicker towards the Island Road. Across the southern margins of the development area, the level was somewhat shallower. The colluvial deposit, of fairly uniform composition, yielded a substantial corpus of finds dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods.

Following the mechanical removal of the buried soil layer, a significant number of archaeological features were revealed in most evaluation trenches and across areas topsoil stripped for new roads. The features comprised ditches, pits, post- and stake-holes, quarries probably for clay extraction, two metalled roads, and burials. Few of the features found during trenching have been excavated and features exposed during the topsoil strip have only been mapped. Nevertheless, despite the lack of excavation, the corpus of finds recovered to date and detailed plans of soil stains do provide sufficient data to tentatively attempt an interpretation of this important site

Ceramic evidence suggests that the earliest occupation of the site dates to the early Iron Age (*c*. 550–350 B.C.). The finds distribution from the evaluation trenches indicates that this occupation phase is concentrated to the eastern side of the examined area, and would appear to be largely confined within an enclosure or series of enclosures defined by ditches. Post-holes situated within these postulated enclosures almost certainly relate to structures, perhaps round houses, the typical form of domestic building at this time. The recovered pottery of this period is of some interest, consisting mainly of rusticated coarsewares and a hitherto unknown type of decorated coarseware jar, which has parallels in north-east France and the Pas-de-Calais area.

There would seem to be a break in occupation of the site during the mid Iron Age (*c*. 350–150 B.C.), but a considerable quantity of possibly late Iron Age and definite pre-Roman 'Belgic' material was recovered. This corpus suggests that occupation of the site recommenced from perhaps *c*. 150/100 B.C. and certainly that the area was inhabited by the mid first century B.C. Material of this date was recovered from virtually the entire area, although this period of occupation is at present not well defined in terms of evidence for structural remains. A considerable number of linear features would appear to be part of an extensive field system, and it is possible that these date from this period. Although the occupation focus at this time may therefore be elsewhere, but almost certainly fairly close by, the quantity of pottery recovered would indicate *in situ* occupation.

Most of the mapped features appear to broadly date from the Roman period. Of particular interest were two metalled roads. The principal road, aligned north-west to south-east, was about 6

Recording a later Roman inhumation burial that had been cut into the upper infilling of a deep Iron Age ditch.

Excavation of a deep Roman ditch in progress.

A large Roman amphora, used as a container for a cremation burial being excavated.

m. wide, and was formed of a thin layer of rammed gravel and flanked by drainage ditches, from which Roman material was recovered. An east–west aligned road branches from the principal road across the southern part of the site.

Exposure of a larger area extending to 6,630 square metres during the strip and map fieldwork permitted a fuller understanding of the nature and layout of the Roman settlement to be made in that area.

With the exception of a few ditch alignments, the western 80 m. of the development site appeared to be devoid of archaeological features. The features observed probably represented sections of outlying field systems abutting the western side of the principal north-west to south-east Roman road. To the north of the angle of the two Roman roads a regular pattern of plot-boundary ditches was recorded. These contained groups of pits and post-holes indicating the presence of structures. Two definite buildings were recognized; both four-post granary-type structures, measuring about 5 m. x 4 m.

Three sets of ditches were set quite close together, between 5 m. and 12.50 m. apart. Although no gravel survived between them these ditches were considered to represent ditches either side of trackways. The ditches and trackways divided the separate tenement plots. The timber buildings that probably existed on each plot of land perhaps lay further north. Five plots were identified to the east of the principal road and although less obvious at least a further three plots may exist to the west. One of these latter plots was considerably wider than the others, being 50 m. wide compared to the more normal 15–25 m.

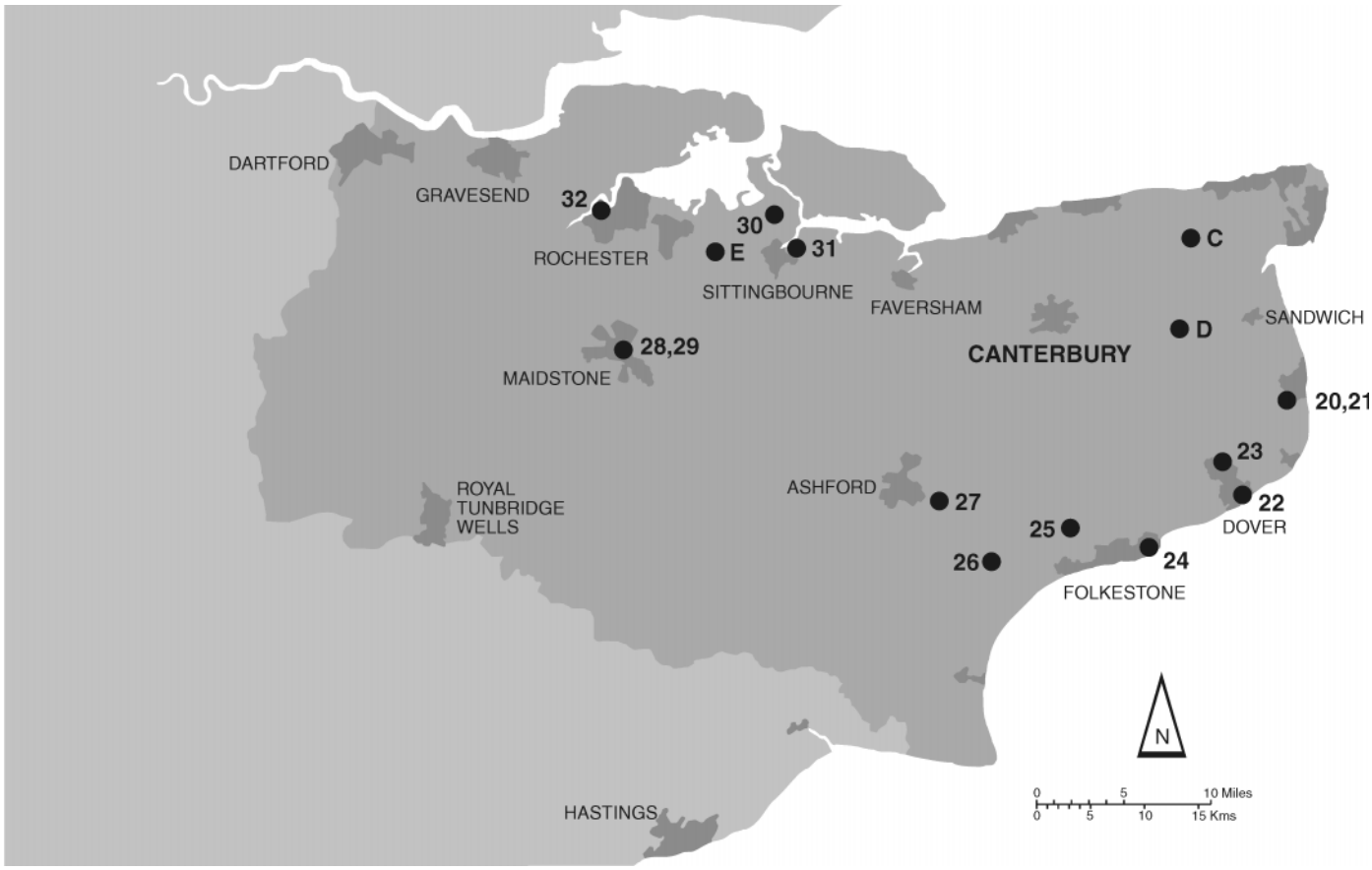
Across the central part of the development site, a large soil stain up to 20 m. wide probably represented a large pit complex. The pits appeared not to be for rubbish disposal and may perhaps have been originally cut to quarry natural brickearth. Similar extensive soil stains were identified at the east end of the site.

A single inhumation burial, aligned north-east to south-west, was recorded close to Island Road. The skeleton was badly preserved, but enough remained to determine that it was supine and extended, with the head to the west. There were no associated grave goods. A group of cremation burials, including an amphora burial was identified nearby during topsoil stripping. A second cremation cemetery was identified further to the south.

The elements of the multi-period settlements recorded during the archaeological investigations undertaken to date may be ranked of regional importance and significance in understanding the type, morphology, evolution and distribution of rural settlement, and the relationship between town and countryside during the Roman period. The presence of regular tenement plots abutting a major Roman road suggests that during this period the site developed as a planned roadside settlement, perhaps with a specialized function related to the road route and connecting urban and military centres, and is comparable to the extensive Roman settlement recently excavated at Westhawk Farm near Ashford (Booth and Lawrence 2000, 478–81). The presence of a much earlier Iron Age settlement on the site, with occupation also occurring in the late pre-Roman Iron Age is equally important for understanding the evolution of this settlement type.

An early Roman cremation burial group under excavation.

III Kent Sites



Kent sites:

20 East Barracks, Deal
21 North Barracks, Deal
22 Townwall Street, Dover
23 Old Park, Whitfield, Dover
24 Harbour Street, Folkestone
25 North of Saltwood tunnel
26 Gigger's Green canal bridge, Aldington
27 Crowbridge Road, Sevington
28 No. 37 High Street, Maidstone
29 Stacey's Street, Maidstone
30 Ferry Road, Iwade
31 Castle Road, Murston
32 Rochester Cathedral

C Chamber's Wall Farm, St Nicholas at Wade
D Wingham Court Farm, Wingham
E The George Inn, Newington

20 East Barracks, Deal

Keith Parfitt

In connection with the conversion of the old Royal Marines East Barracks near Deal seafront, (TR 376 519), formerly a Royal Naval Hospital, into private dwellings, a series of twenty-one trenches for various new drains and foundations was excavated across the site by contractors. These were inspected by the writer during an extended watching brief in the spring and summer of 1999 and collectively provided a clear indication of the general soil sequence over the area (Parfitt 1999a). A few useful archaeological observations concerning the early barracks complex were also made during the course of the work; details of the extant buildings of the barracks were recorded in a separate project (Seary 1999).

Workmen digging service trenches on the western side of the barracks discovered a quantity of human bones. The cemetery of the Royal Naval Hospital once occupied this area and seems to have been in use between 1795 and about 1860 (Clayre 1998). Some of the bones were discovered in an area shown on nineteenth-century maps as a burial ground. Other remains, however, were recovered in a region which has previously been considered to lie outside the cemetery area. This implies that the burial ground covered an area rather more extensive than is suggested by the available documentary and cartographic evidence. Study of the recovered bones by Trevor Anderson revealed three individuals with evidence of bone disease during life.

According to Elvin (1890) the Admiralty burial ground contained 1,685 burials. The greatest mortality (some 791 burials) occurred between 1795 and 1805 (Clayre 1998). Although many of the graves may have originally been marked, only nineteen memorials are extant and several of these are totally illegible. However, it has been

suggested that the patients were mainly British soldiers and sailors, as well as a few Russian prisoners of war. Bones from four children under the age of 5 years were recovered, which appears to be the first evidence that the hospital also gave treatment (in cases unsuccessfully) to young children. Possibly these were the offspring of the British service-men.

The present ground surface of the East Barracks complex lies between 5 and 6 metres above Ordnance Datum. The builders' trenches excavated across the site revealed details of the buried deposits. It is now clear that under the modern tarmac and topsoil layers, a deposit of coastal wind-blown sand, of varying thickness, extended across the entire area, sealing the natural brickearth. From the recorded evidence it would thus appear that the general sequence of stratified deposits across the East Barracks site is very similar to that previously established for the North Barracks a short distance to the south (Parfitt 1998; 1999b). A small quantity of prehistoric struck flints was recovered from the top of the brickearth and lower sand deposits, implying activity in this area during the Neolithic to Bronze Age periods.

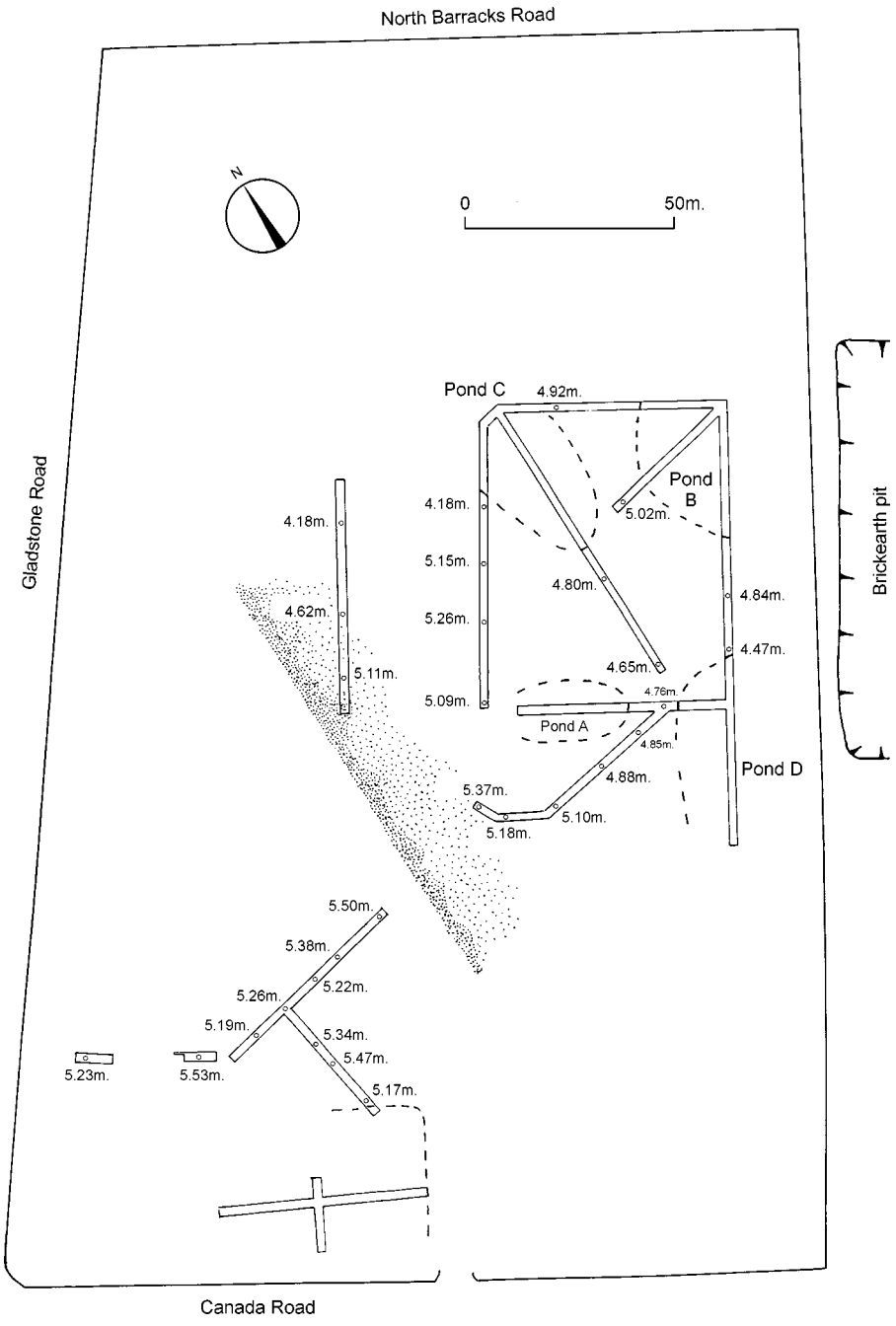
A deep foundation trench cut within the main building revealed three carbon-rich occupation layers interleaved with the basal sands. One of these produced twenty-one sherds of flint-tempered early Iron Age pottery, together with some calcined flints. A similar but thinner occupation layer, also containing early Iron Age pottery was located in another trench nearby. Collectively, these finds indicate at least casual occupation in the area between *c.* 550 and 350 B.C.

21 North Barracks, Deal

Keith Parfitt and Barry Corke

Also in connection with the proposed redevelopment of the former Royal Marines Barracks complex at Deal (TR 3749 5170) the Trust was invited to undertake a further programme of evaluation work at the North Barracks (Parfitt 1999b), following the extensive trenching carried out across the parade-ground here the previous summer (Parfitt 1998). The purpose of this next phase of work was two-fold; firstly, to establish the extent and depth of previous disturbances in areas known to have been formerly occupied by military buildings; and secondly, to further examine any surviving archaeological remains in relation to those already recorded. In particular, the extent of the wind-blown sand deposit previously located needed to be established, as this partially seals an ancient landscape lying across the coastal plain in this area. Five machine-cut trenches were consequently excavated, mostly in the western part of the site.

General view of evaluation trench 9.



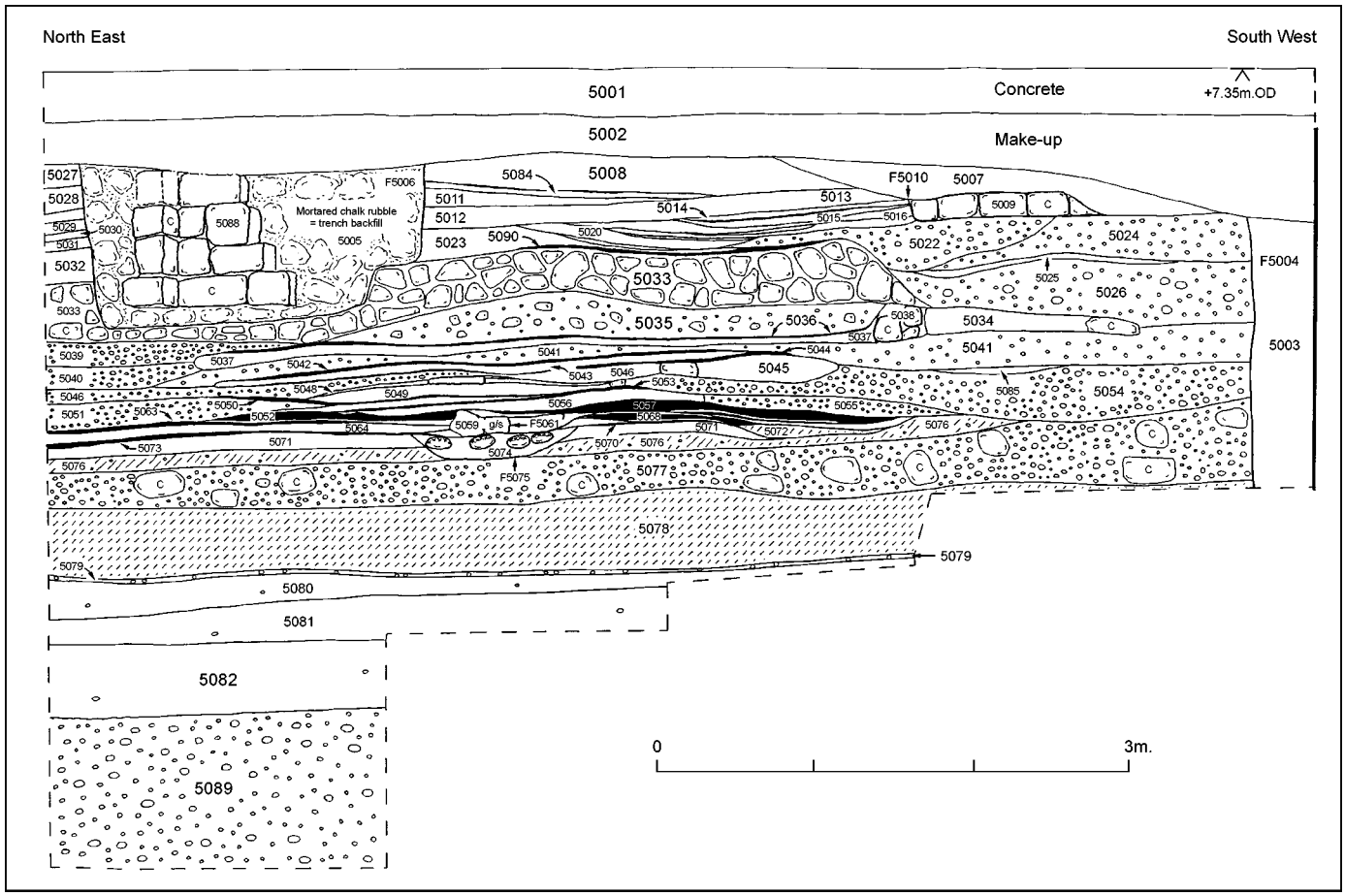
Plan showing evaluation trenches, with probable limit of wind-blown sand deposit, ponds A-D, brickearth pits & levels on the undisturbed brickearth surface.

Trenching along the south-western side of the complex, adjacent to Canada Road, unexpectedly revealed a deep pit in a region believed to be largely undisturbed and clear of recent remains. Covering an extensive area and filled with recent, unconsolidated rubble and soil deposits, there can be little doubt that the pit represents an infilled brickearth pit, probably dug during the first half of the nineteenth century. A number of other extensive brick-pits of this period lie in the immediate area of the barracks complex but there is no documentary evidence for the existence of such a pit in this position.

With regard to more ancient archaeological deposits, the approximate boundary of the wind-blown sand deposit was established. A few further, probably prehistoric, features were revealed on the site, cutting into the natural brickearth. These included three shallow gullies, two pits and an isolated post-hole. None could be securely dated. Prehistoric struck flints were found in both the top of the brickearth and the lower sands. These discoveries provide further evidence for settlement in the area during the Neolithic and Bronze Ages. The significant quantities of cores are of particular interest as they suggest that the flint-working industry may have been something more than a few episodes of *ad hoc* knapping.

22 Townwall Street filling station, Dover

Keith Parfitt



Section across south-east face of pit.

In July, 1999 the Trust was engaged by Dover District Council to maintain a watching brief during the removal of two large petrol tanks and other deep services occupying a vacant plot of land immediately to the north-east of the B.P. filling station, at the junction of Woolcomber Street and Townwall Street (TR 3228 4145). Prior to the reconstruction of this filling station in 1996, the Trust had undertaken major excavations here, which revealed a wealth of detail about this area during medieval and early post-medieval times (Parfitt 1999c; Parfitt *et al.,* forthcoming). The present small project provided some useful additional information and has demonstrated the continuation of deposits identical to those previously examined.

Observation of the sides of the pit excavated revealed well-stratified archaeological deposits in the north-east, south-east and south-west faces. The north-western face showed recent, disturbed soil, representing the backfill of a pit dug to remove other petrol tanks in 1996. In the south-east face, the primary archaeological deposit rested on top of a layer of natural marine sand and shingle which formed part of a spit infilling the old Roman harbour (Parfitt 1999c, 14). The top of the natural sand was between 4.10 and 4.25 m. above O.D.. Fragments of water-worn Roman tile were recovered from the shingle deposit. The later deposits seem to relate principally to a complex sequence of medieval chalk-floored timber buildings and their associated levelling deposits, roads and pathways. Traces of subsequent, later medieval and early post-medieval stone buildings survived above these.

23 Old Park, Whitfield, Dover

Keith Parfitt

As part of the initial phase of developing the former Old Park estate at Whitfield into the 'Dover Harbour Board Port Zone', a watching brief was maintained by the writer during the construction of new service roads across the area of the former Old Park estate on the hills above Dover (*c*. TR 3000 4389) (Parfitt 1999d). A single archaeological feature was revealed. This was located in a new pipe-trench cut on the south-eastern side of the former entrance to the Old Park Barracks complex (TR 3029 4440). It consisted of a broad, shallow pit containing frequent small fragments of calcined flint and occasional carbon specks. Although precise dating evidence is lacking, a broadly prehistoric date may be assumed.

Examination of the cleared areas showed a consistent sequence of deposits, comprising modern topsoil, some 0.30 to 0.40 m. thick, overlying natural Clay-with-Flints. The underlying chalk was nowhere exposed. Searches of the exposed topsoil and contractor's spoilheaps allowed the collection of a sample of prehistoric struck flints. Most of these flints appear to be broadly datable to the Neolithic–Bronze Age (*c*. 4000–2000 B.C.) but a few, more heavily patinated specimens, are likely to be of Lower Palaeolithic date (*c*. 400,000–100,000 B.P., see Parfitt and Cross 1999 for background details).

Investigations in other parts of southern Britain have shown that lithic scatters of the later Neolithic–Early Bronze Age period tend to be more frequent and far more extensive than those of the earlier Neolithic. A similar situation is likely to exist in east Kent but rarely do such surface flint scatters seem to be associated with surviving contemporary sub-surface features.

24 Harbour Street, Folkestone

John Willson

Between December 1999 and March 2000 Andy Linklater maintained an extended watching brief in the Harbour Street area of Folkestone during groundworks for a new sewer, forming part of the Folkestone Drainage Area Plan. These works took place in a part of the old lower town thought to have contained an early harbour for Folkestone, at a point where the Pent Stream ran into an area named the *Old Sea Gate*. During this work parts of a long timber revetment and details of the early harbour were revealed.

Until recently nothing was known of the detail of the medieval and early post-medieval water frontage, although documentary sources dating back to the twelfth to fourteenth centuries refer to obligations upon Folkestone to supply ships and men as part of its membership of the Cinque Ports Confederation (as a limb of Dover). Many fifteenth-century wills testify to the existence of a thriving fishing industry at Folkestone. Together this suggests that a sheltered anchorage was available at the mouth of the Pent. The first reliable written evidence of defined harbour works at Folkestone dates form the second half of the sixteenth century in the Warden's accounts for 1574 referring to money being left over from building works of the harbour (Mackie 1883, 268). Many other references to the harbour follow. The earliest illustration of the town showing the location of the harbour is Abraham Walter's 1698 plan of Folkestone which clearly shows the old original harbour as a wide 'V'-shaped tidal inlet, below the West Cliff, formed around the mouth of the Pent Stream and extending as far as the base of the Old High Street. In 1998, a large early twelfth-century masonry wall, with an associated cobbled work surface situated next to a silted up water channel was discovered on the site of the Tourist Information Centre car park, Tram Road (Willson 2001). It is believed that this was part of the medieval harbour wall and quayside situated next to the Old Sea Gate and if so is the first physical evidence recorded of the early harbour installations at Folkestone.

The present work in the vicinity of the Harbour Street and the former South Street area lay about 30 m. to the south-west of the masonry wall. Here, deep excavations revealed the early course of the Pent Stream and associated silt deposits. Flanking the west side of the Pent, a timber pile and planked revetment was discovered, which had been constructed by the mid seventeenth century. The revetment, seen over a long length, was cut into the early silts and bank side of the Pent channel and had a shingle and sand hard-standing on its western shore side edge. Together they appear to possibly represent a long timbered quayside along the western side of the early post-medieval Pent inlet harbour. Later evidence of deep silts shows that the harbour had, by the mid eighteenth century, silted up. This was probably due to long-shore drift deposits creating a shingle bank across the Pent outlet, thus blocking the harbour entrance and allowing large amounts of silt deposits to build up behind it.

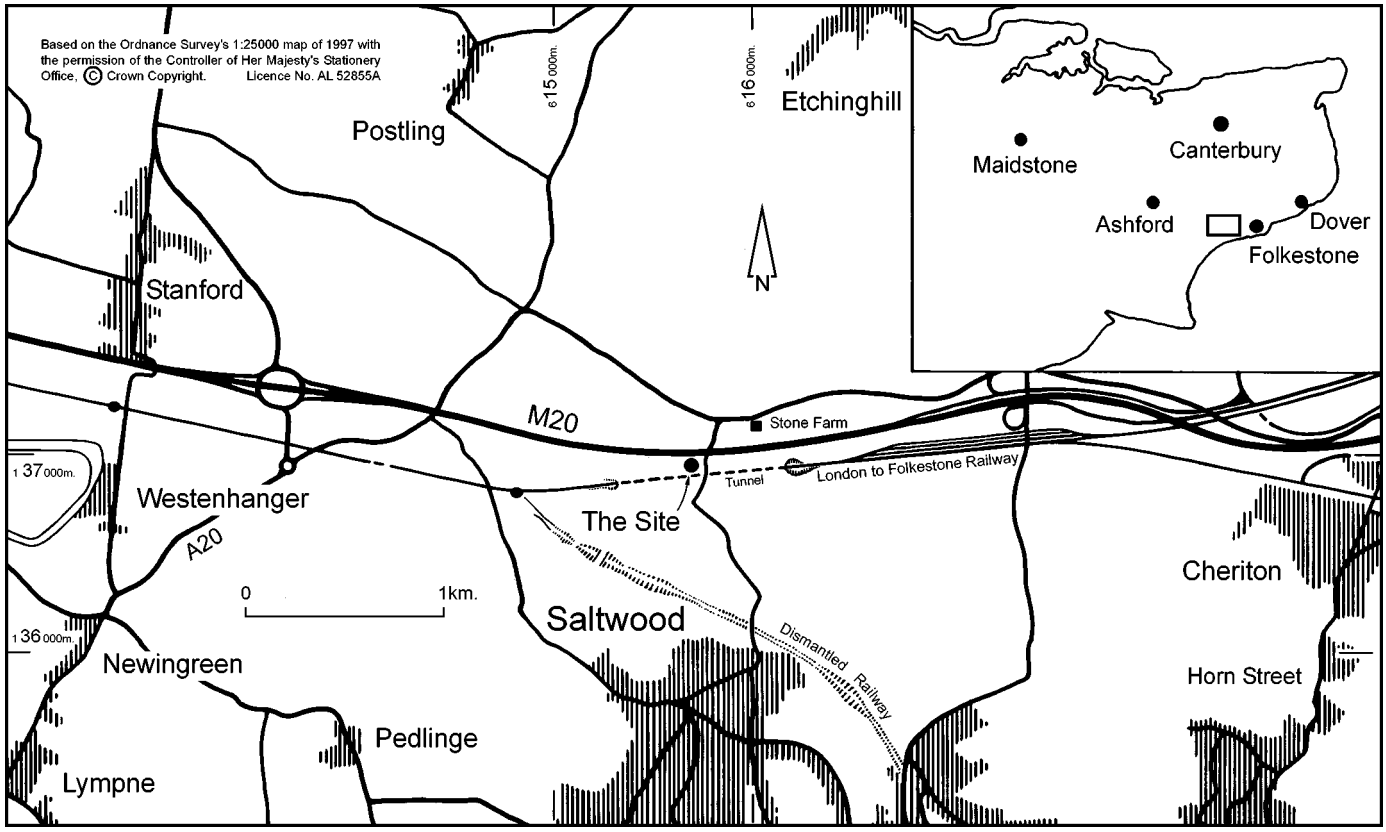
Evidence shows that the area of the inlet was then infilled and built over leaving the Pent Stream as an open channel between the tightly-packed houses. Meanwhile the harbour had shifted further to the south-west beyond the excavated area. Later still, during the mid nineteenth century, the old buildings were demolished, the Pent Stream was totally enclosed in a brick culvert, and the rest of the area was redeveloped with deep cellared brick-built houses. These remained virtually until the mid twentieth century when they were demolished.

The work was commissioned and funded by Southern Water Services Ltd.

Excavation of the early post-medieval timber post and planked revetment of the west side of the early harbour.

25 Land north of Saltwood Tunnel

John Willson



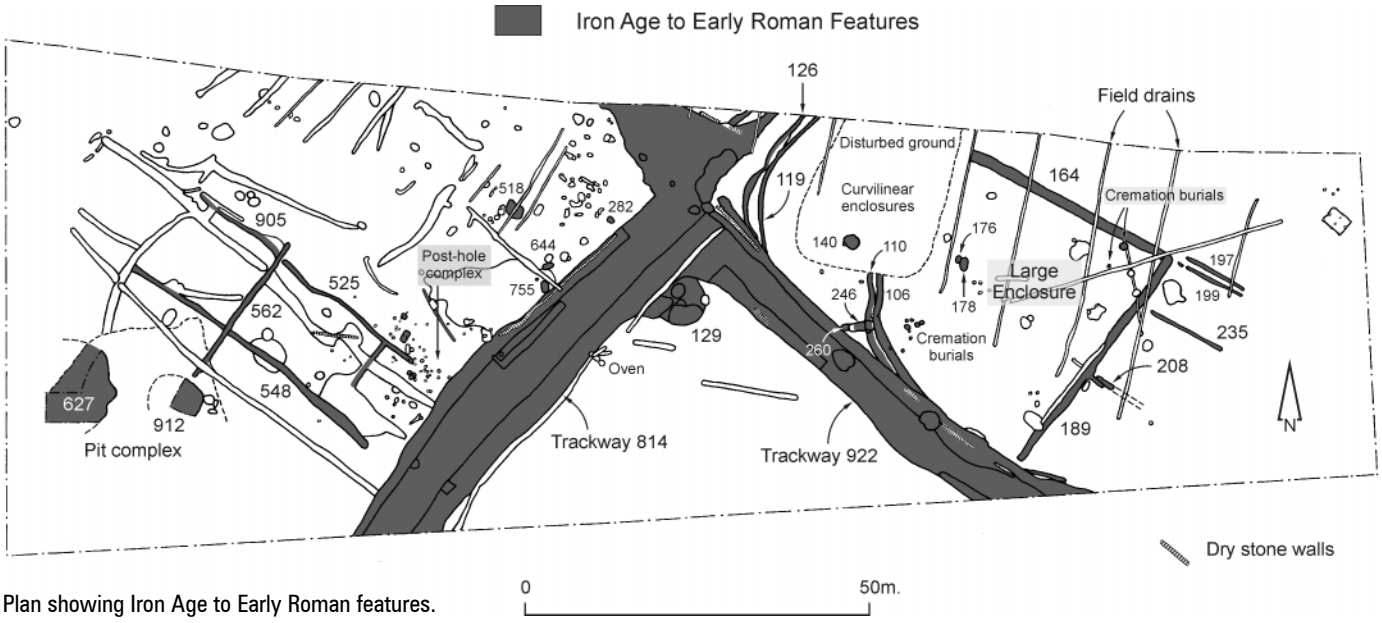
Location plan.

Between January and March 1999 the Trust was commissioned by Union Railways (South) Ltd to undertake detailed archaeological investigations on a suspected Roman settlement north of Saltwood Tunnel and the village of Saltwood (centred TR 1560 3695). This project, under the direction of Christopher Sparey-Green, formed a small part of an extensive programme of archaeological investigation carried out in advance of the construction of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (Sparey-Green 1999). The site falls some 2.5 km. west of a contemporary multi-period settlement at Dollands Moor excavated by the Trust during late 1987 and 1988 as part of the Channel Tunnel project (Bennett *et al*. 1989, 54–9).

The work concentrated on a strip of ground 430 m. long and up to 80 m. wide between the present M20 motorway and the main railway line from London to Folkestone, which here passes through a tunnel cutting the greensand ridge. This strip of land was designated for a new cutting and junction, where future up and down lines will connect with the existing railway line. The site lies at about 98 m. O.D. on the highest western corner of a plateau of the Folkestone Beds that forms an upper part of the Greensand Ridge. Beyond this the land drops steeply away south-westwards into the narrow valley of the Slay Brook where Hythe and Sandgate Beds are exposed.

Few finds were known from the vicinity until evidence of an extensive settlement was discovered during the construction of the adjacent M20 motorway in 1979 (Willson 1985, 226–35). Trial trenching in 1997 confirmed the presence of late pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman settlement in the area south of the motorway (O.A.U. 1997). However, once the site was stripped of overburden in December 1998 it was shown to be considerably more complex and extensive than previous discoveries had intimated.

General view across the site showing various excavated features. Scale 2 m.



Plan showing Iron Age to Early Roman features.

Section across the south-eastern trackway ditch (left) showing dry-stone wall footings along its edge and a Late Iron Age ditch (right) of one of the curvilinear enclosures. Scale 2 m.

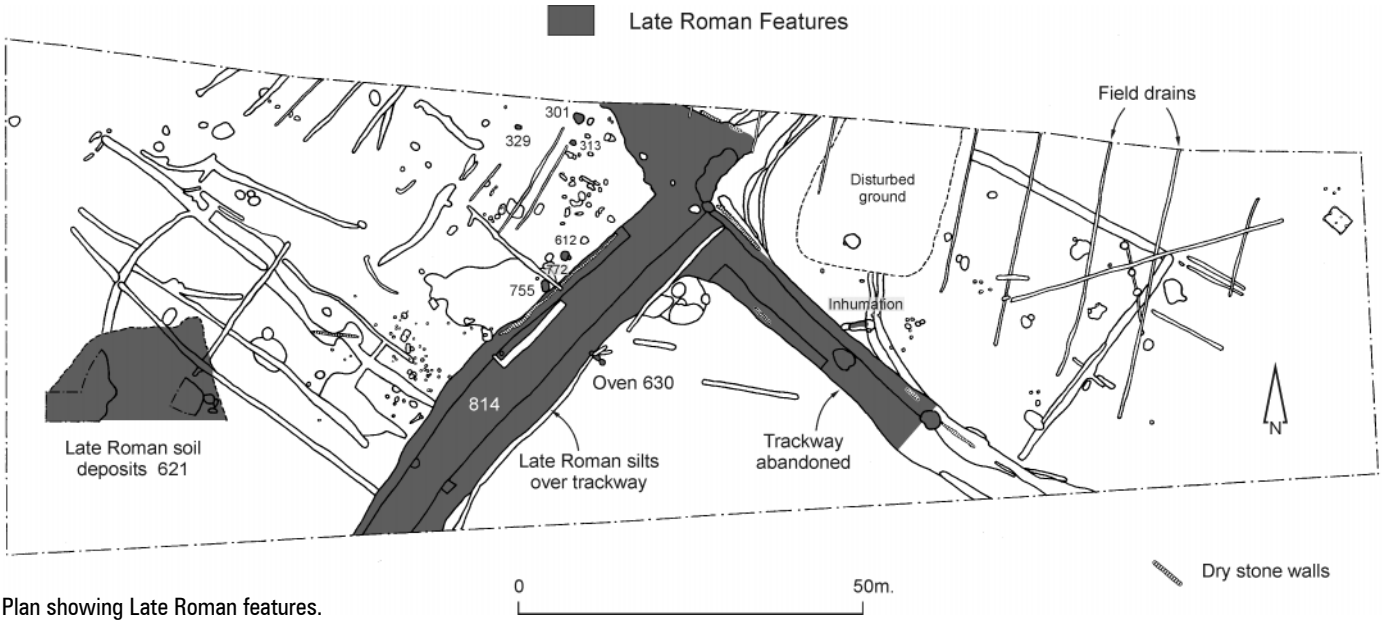
The present investigation was divided into several phases; this report provides an account of the first phase, constituting the western half of the study area. The work produced evidence for a long-lived, though dispersed, settlement commencing in the Early Iron Age and continuing through to the Early or Middle Anglo-Saxon period, a span of a millennium from the sixth century B.C. to the sixth or seventh century A.D. A discrete area of early medieval occupation succeeded this in the central zone.

The earliest activity on the site was prehistoric although no securely dated features were identified. This prehistoric presence was suggested by a background scatter of struck and burnt flints as well as a few flint tools probably of Neolithic date and residual sherds of coarse flint-tempered pottery and struck flints of Bronze Age date. An area of dark soil located in the south-eastern limits of the investigated area produced abraded sherds of prehistoric pottery and may have represented a buried prehistoric soil horizon. In addition a limited zone of Early Iron Age occupation (*c*. 650–400 B.C.) was revealed at the head of a dry combe in the south-west part of the site, adjacent to a trackway approaching the combe from the south-west, this activity being partly masked by later Iron Age and Roman phases. By the Late Iron Age (*c*. 100 B.C.–A.D. 40) the transition of the early, narrow trackway into a more sizeable hollow way [814] had already begun. While another trackway [922], approaching from the south-east, was also established.

The creation of these early trackways eventually led to the formation of important and more substantial routeways across and down the scarp. These routes were further improved during the Early Roman period, when the cutting of drainage ditches, a large soakaway pit and the laying of surface metallings of crushed greensand and small weathered flints took place. The junction of the two metalled routes formed a cross-roads, beyond which the line of the trackways to the north-east and north-west had been truncated by the M20. Certain sections of the hollow ways were flanked by stone footings set in the side ditches and these could possibly have once supported small dry-stone walls separating the roadway from open ground beyond. Within the angles of this road system to east and west was a series of enclosures which had passed through stages of enlargement and redefinition. To the east two pairs of ditches forming concentric arcs defined successive boundaries of a Late Iron Age enclosure. Adjoining the south side of the road junction a large oval quarry and two other pits dated to this period.

Immediately west of the western trackway and some distance south-west of the cross-roads a complex of Early Roman post-holes, pits and a small gully suggested the presence of timber structures of more than one phase, including at least one four-post structure and a long rectangular structure, set at right angles to the metalled trackway

One of the second century cremation burials with accompanying vessels. Scale 50 cm.



Plan showing Late Roman features.

West of the post-hole area lay a complex of ditches, representing at least two phases of Early Roman enclosures. The earliest enclosure was represented by a long 'T'-shaped ditch [525] which adjoined the post-hole structures and perhaps related to another long ditch [905] to the west. These combined with a parallel ditch [548] to the south and perhaps a cross ditch [562] to the west, formed a series of rectangular shaped enclosures running at right angles to the trackway. To the east of the junction of the trackways a large 'L'-shaped enclosure boundary formed by two large ditches [164 and 189] was revealed enclosing a trapezoidal shaped area between 25 m. and 35 m. wide and approximately 60 m. long, using the side ditches of the trackways as their third and fourth sides. Both arms of the 'L'-shaped ditch had been re-cut at a later date. Further narrow ditches [197 and 199] were traced south-eastwards from this large enclosure, one of two parallel ditches continuing the line of the north-eastern side, whilst other narrow ditches [235 and 208] further south suggested subdivisions within the enclosure. The area further to the south-east was subject to bad erosion and was not investigated.

Excavation in progress of the late Roman inhumation burial, looking east.

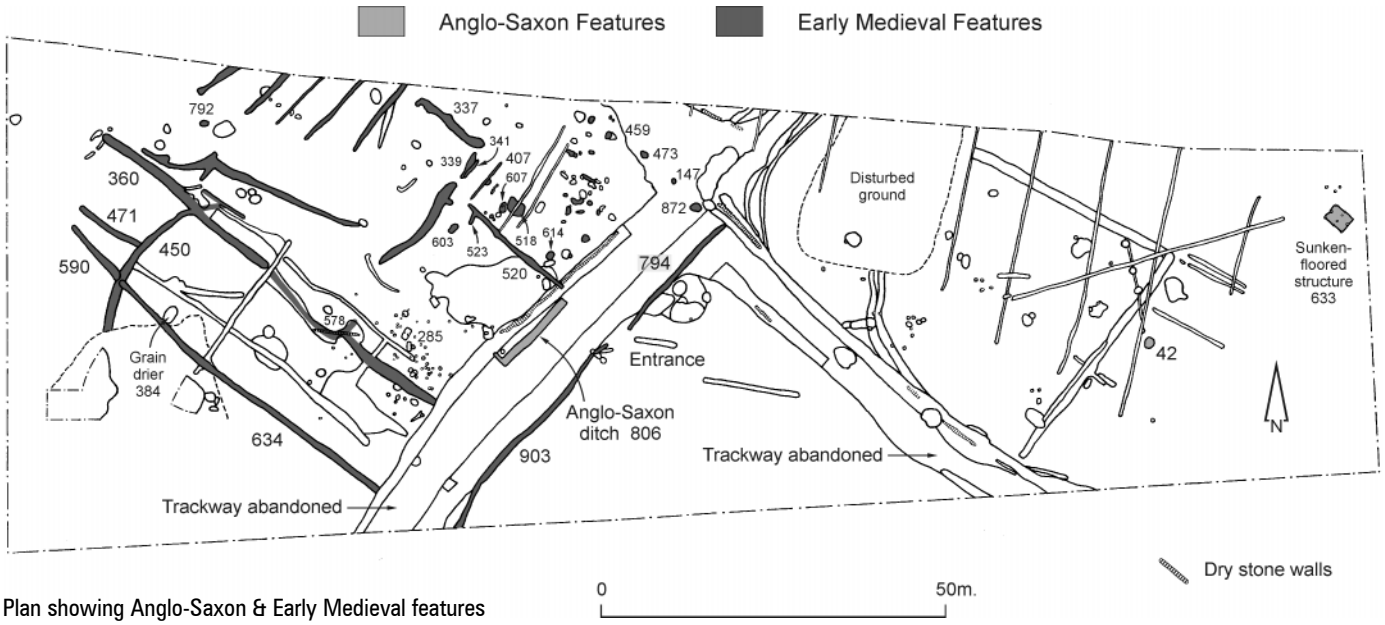
Within the 'L'-shaped enclosure and midway along its south-western side was a small cemetery. This consisted of a group of nine cremation burials accompanied by pottery vessels and copper alloy brooches of mid first- to mid second-century date. Two further cremation burials located in the far eastern corner of the enclosure, were dated mid to late second century. A third similarly dated burial was recovered from an evaluation trench nearby in 1997.

West of the earlier cremations was a group of intersecting pits containing waste debris from metalworking. At a much later date, an extended, adult inhumation burial, with its head to the west, was inserted into the pit group. The burial was probably of late or early post-Roman date.

During the later Roman period the western trackway continued to be used. A deposit of dark silt containing occupation debris capped the metalling and the earlier ditches and soakaway pit at the junction. The eastern track appears to have fallen out of use by this time. Some 15 m. south of the road junction a circular oven [630] with associated oval-shaped stoke-hole containing a wide range of fourth-century pottery, cut the hollow way silts. A pit [772], to the north-west, contained Late Roman pottery and may be of a similar date. In the far south-western corner of the site, overlying both early quarry-pits and some elements of the enclosure system was an extensive soil deposit [621] containing late fourth-century coins ranging in date from *c.* A.D. 330–80 and late third- to early fifth-century pottery.

The early post-Roman/Anglo-Saxon period (*c*. 450–700) was represented by a ditch [806] which was cut through the silts along the uphill side of the now disused western hollow way. The ditch, parallel to and co-terminus with a length of earlier dry-stone wall that was still extant, contained residual Late Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon pottery. Further west, a sub-rectangular pit [384] produced carbonised grain seed from its base together with sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery. The feature may have served as a grain drying oven. Similarly dated pottery was recovered from a pit [42] located to the east of the earlier 'L'-shaped enclosure. More significantly, a sunken-floored hut [633] was revealed in the far north-eastern corner of the site. The hut, aligned in conformity with the neighbouring, but earlier enclosure system, yielded a few sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery dated *c.* A.D. 450–650. No other structures were found but a sunken-floored structure and an Anglo-Saxon loomweight was recorded some 30 m. to the north-east during construction of the M20 in 1979 (Willson 1985, 226–7).

In the early medieval period (*c*. A.D. 1050–1200) a small settlement was established

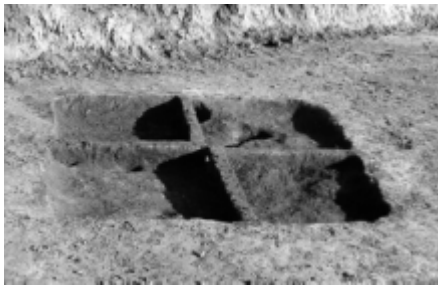


Plan showing Anglo-Saxon & Early Medieval features

immediately west of and overlying the silted hollow way junction. This was delimited by shallow ditches [520] and [339/341] on the south-west and the north-west sides, with further sections of ditch [337] continuing north-west off of the site. Within this area small pits, post-holes and a foundation trench or gully [407] suggested the location of structures. Further to the south-west was a series of rectangular shaped enclosures set end to end. On the north-east side a line of post-holes [147, 473, 459 and 872] appeared to cut the silts in the disused hollow way and extend onto the bedrock area; whilst a series of parallel trenches to the west may have defined a series of strip fields. Two lengths of ditch [794 and 903] located along the south-eastern side of the former hollow way, which was by then filled in, appeared to terminate against the line of a late Roman ditch to the north-east, or perhaps a surviving dry-stone wall. The ditches appeared to form an eastern boundary to a settlement dated by recovered finds to *c*. A.D. 1050–1200.

There was little sign of later medieval or post-medieval activity here or in the vicinity but the depth of overlying subsoil may suggest deep ploughing prior to the erection on the site of structures associated with an army camp of the First World War. Subsequently field drains were laid in the eastern area followed by the laying of service trenches during the Second World War.

Following the excavation of this multi-period settlement site at Saltwood, the work has extended eastwards where a substantial multi-period cemetery dating from the Bronze Age to the Anglo-Saxon period has been discovered. The details of this and an update on the whole site will form an important article in next year's report.



The Anglo-Saxon sunken-floored structure, looking east.

26 Gigger's Green canal bridge, Aldington

Jonathan Rady

Between July and September 1999, an archaeological watching and recording brief was carried out during the reconstruction of Gigger's Green canal bridge, which spans the Royal Military Canal near Aldington (TR 0705 3418). Groundworks during the construction of a temporary bridge adjacent to the existing structure were also observed.

The work, primarily involving a photographic survey, was required since the Royal Military Canal and the bridge abutments are a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Kent SAM No. 396). The bulk of the bridge was probably of twentieth-century construction, though the abutments, if not contemporary with the construction of the canal, almost certainly date to the nineteenth century. Little evidence for the construction or adaptation of the adjacent canal earthworks was observed within the cuttings made for the temporary bridge.

The reconstruction of the bridge involved the erection of a temporary bailey bridge adjacent to the east side of the existing structure, which required disturbance to canal earthworks. This was followed by piling for new foundations and the demolition and reconstruction (to the same design as the original) of the bridge superstructure. The greater part of each of the existing abutments was left *in situ* apart from the top ten or so courses which were removed to allow clearance for the new soffit.

The Royal Military Canal, conceived as a defensive waterway in response to a potential Napoleonic invasion was built between 1804 and 1809. The canal, which survives largely unchanged, extends for nearly 30 miles from Shorncliffe at Hythe in Kent to Cliff End, near Rye in Sussex and was constructed as a secondary line of defence against an enemy who had either crossed, or was about to cross the Romney Marsh. In addition, it was useful as a means of conveying troops along the coastal reaches and as a military supply route for the defensive Martello Towers lining the southern coast from Dover to Hastings.

The canal was originally 60 feet wide and 9 feet deep with an adjacent rampart (consisting of a parapet and banquette) and military road and

drain. The towpath was to seaward (Vine 1972, 56). At every third of a mile the canal was deliberately bent and the angles defended by cannons situated on the raised banks. The gun positions gave a line of fire down the entire straight length of each third mile (Vine 1972, 97–8).

During the early life of the canal, the waterway was predominately, though not exclusively, used for military traffic (Vine 1972, 100–110). From the later 1800s sections of the canal were progressively sold off to private individuals, the National Trust and, at Hythe, to the district council (Vine 1972, 203), though the canal was taken over by the military during both world wars. During the Second World War gun emplacements were placed on the north bank by each canal crossing, virtually on the same sites as the original Georgian gun positions.

As for Gigger's Green Bridge, it is unlikely that the now rebuilt brick structure was original or near contemporary with the construction of the canal since most, if not all, of the original bridges were of timber construction (Hicks 1996, 10). Although the original specifications for at least some of the bridges crossing the canal included brick-built abutments, these were not constructed, apparently due to a shortage of or a massive overspend on, bricks for military purposes at the time (Hicks 1993, 37–9).

Other bridges over the canal were rebuilt on a number of occasions during the nineteenth century and there is no reason to suppose that the same did not occur at Gigger's Green. It is likely therefore that the earliest part of the structure surviving probably dates to later in the nineteenth century. In addition, many of the bridges across the canal were strengthened during the Second World War (Hicks 1996, 12).

Giggers Green Bridge was founded on two projecting abutments mostly constructed of brickwork in English and English Cross bond, with adjacent wing-walls of similar and contiguous construction. The projecting corners of the abutments were strengthened with large ragstone quoins, of which four courses are visible above a sloped concrete plinth that bases the abutment and wing-walls. Prior to reconstruction, the decking, carriageway and parapets were supported by four longitudinal pairs of rolled steel girders, resting on and encased within the upper portion of the abutments. Additional lateral girders were also present. The structure was *c*. 10.02 m. long and about 6 m. wide. The parapets, also of brick with a coping stone top, were bounded to north and south by piers 1.48 m. high.

Only two previous interventions on the canal earthworks have been recorded archaeologically (Greatorex 1995; Rady 1997). There was little evidence for the construction or adaptation of the canal earthworks within the cuttings made for the temporary bridge. It would appear that on this western side of the bridge the canal earthworks, primarily the parapet, had already been considerably reduced. It is possible that this reduction may have taken place during the Second World War as there is a concrete pill-box set into the remnant earthworks, about 20 m west of the bridge.

The construction horizon for the bridge and the construction trenches for the bridge abutments were observed on the north and south sides of the canal. The position of these and the construction of the bridge abutments and wing-walls indicated that the brickwork was built free-standing in a large pit which was subsequently backfilled. Nothing of artefactual interest was recovered from the construction trench backfills.

The upper part of both abutments was of later build and probably contemporary with the steel girder bridge decking which indicates that the main superstructure of the bridge was not original. It is probable that this second phase and by implication the encased steel girders and most of the overlying superstructure are all of one period. This reconstruction may date as late as the Second World War, when some of the bridges over the canal were strengthened to take armoured vehicles (Hicks 1996, 12), but it is equally possible that the bridge was substantially rebuilt before this time. However, Duke's Head Bridge near Hythe was also strengthened with girders (in 1940) and 'charge holes' inserted below the decking, for explosives to blow the bridge in case of invasion (Hicks 1996, 12). At Gigger's Green, two rectangular brick structures, briefly exposed during the excavations behind the southern abutment are also likely to have been 'charge holes'. These observations suggest that the bulk of the bridge superstructure, prior to its renewal, dated to the Second World War.

Finally, a later re-facing was evident as one line of bricks, not bonded into the bulk of the fabric. The mortar where visible was of modern appearance and it seemed likely that the bridge had been repaired on an *ad hoc* basis throughout the twentieth century as the abutments subsided.

The watching brief was funded by Kent County Council.

General view of site showing the nineteenth-century brick bridge abutments after the removal of later superstructure, looking north.

27 Crowbridge Road, Orbital Park, Sevington

Jonathan Rady

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of Crowbridge Road, Orbital Park, near Sevington (TR 027 409). The brief, undertaken intermittently in January, March and September 1999, provided evidence of Iron Age activity and probably relates to a small settlement previously recorded in 1990.

The new road forms part of the continuing development of the Orbital Park, an industrial estate in the parish of Sevington on the south-east side of Ashford. The route of the new road extends north-east from an existing roundabout at the western end of The Boulevard and curves round to the west immediately south of the existing Ashford to Folkestone railway line, where it connects with future road developments by Union Railways. The topography of the area is fairly flat, at an elevation of *c*. 40 m. O.D. but at the north end of the site rises to a small plateau at about 45 m. O.D.

Prehistoric finds from the area east of Ashford suggest sparse settlement to the end of the Bronze Age with a few sites confined to the higher ground of the Greensand ridge to the north. For the Iron Age and Early Roman periods there is sufficient evidence, in the form of burials, coin finds and roads to suggest much more intensive settlement. Close to the present site, at the southern edge of the Greensand ridge, two sites have produced settlement features including large flat-bottomed ditches containing flint-tempered pottery of Early Iron Age and later date (Willson 1990; Philp 1991, 74–7).

To the south, a late first- to early second-century A.D. settlement containing a series timber structures, ditches and pits was found (Willson 1990). Elsewhere, mostly to the east, a few stray finds of the Late Iron Age and Romano-British date were located during the construction of Hall

Avenue in 1997. There are no finds of the later Roman period in the immediate vicinity.

For the post-Roman period, perhaps the most important site in the area is that of 'Boys Hall', a complex series of earthworks surviving north and south of the railway and situated only 400 m. east of Crowbridge Road. This moated site, associated with the Barry family of Sevington, was presumably a major seigniorial residence in the later medieval period (Hasted 1798, 578). Other medieval remains in the vicinity of the new road comprise the ditches of adjacent field systems (Willson 1990).

The watching brief provided no evidence for archaeological features at the southern end of the road scheme. Medieval ditches reported nearby were not located but conditions were particularly bad at this time and not all of the subsoil in the area was examined.

Iron Age remains, mostly ditches, were in evidence at the northern end of the site and these almost certainly form part of an enclosure and associated features found nearby in 1990 (Philp 1991, 76–7). Of the features themselves, little can be said, since comprehensive formal excavation was not possible. Their distribution, however, would suggest that the road alignment only crossed the margins of the settlement, and that the bulk of the ancient remains lay to the north-east. The topography of the area would support this view with the greater part of the settlement occupying the higher ground of the plateau. If this is the case, then much of site has probably been removed by the railway cutting (Philp 1991, 76–7; Willson 1990).

The watching brief was commissioned by Eurotunnel Developments.

28 No. 37 High Street, Maidstone

John Willson

During November 1999, an intermittent archaeological watching brief was carried out by Andrew Linklater at No. 37 High Street, Maidstone (TQ 7584 5560). The work involved the monitoring of groundworks being undertaken prior to the construction of residential properties to the rear of existing buildings on the northern side of the High Street.

The early town of Maidstone appears to have developed around a crossroads where an early Roman road (Week Street and Stone Street) crossed an established trackway between Tonbridge and Ashford (High Street and Ashford Road). Sometime during the late eleventh or early twelfth century the town was laid out as a planned enterprise on the initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury. This arrangement included a new broad High Street with a wide market place, built along the line of the established east–west trackway between the river crossing and the Roman road. By the early thirteenth century streets to the north of the High Street were laid out, and new house-plots made available along both sides of the present day Earl Street and St Faith's Street (Clark and Murfin 1995, 22 and 24).

The area of the development lay in a promising position just to the north of the medieval High Street and it was expected that evidence of medieval occupation would be revealed. Initially the whole area was topsoil stripped by machine to natural brickearth. Foundation trenches were then excavated from this level.

The dark soil deposit, consisted of a fine, dark-grey, laminated silt, possibly representing a re-worked flood silt originally deriving from the river Medway about 120 m. to the south-west of the site. A corpus of pottery recovered from this deposit contained both local and imported wares, dating from 1250–1575. The dark soil capped a thin even layer of ragstone rubble which appeared to extend over the whole site and may have been for a yard or hardstanding at the rear of an earlier street frontage building.

At the northernmost end of the site and cutting through the yard surface a sub-rectangular shaped pit was revealed. The pit contained laminated cess-type deposits with some domestic rubbish including pottery, glass and clay-pipes providing a date of between1660–80.The finds corpus also included part of an unused crucible, probably imported from Hesse in Germany, implying that some industrial or chemical process was perhaps taking place nearby. Two other pits, found cutting the courtyard, one close to the former pit and another located at the southern edge of the site, were also of seventeenth-century date.

The results of the watching brief were disappointing, but did at least provide residual pottery dating back to the earliest Maidstone. Overall, the sequence of deposits suggest that terracing had taken place to establish a late sixteenth-century yard surface and that the greater part of the development area lay to the rear of road frontage properties.

29 Stacey's Street, Maidstone

Jonathan Rady

Between January and February 2000, an evaluation of a site at Stacey's Street, on the northern side of Maidstone town centre (TQ 7580 5634), was undertaken in advance of a proposed office and car park development.

The site was situated near the Mount Roman villa (SMR No. TQ 75 NE 28). The southern end of the villa (TQ 7582 5617) was partially excavated soon after its discovery in 1843 (Charles 1847, 86–8) and more recently in the 1970s when evidence for a northern 'service' courtyard was exposed (Kelly 1992, 177–235). During the first quarter of 1994 an excavation by the Trust in advance of the construction of a new road (the A249), revealed substantial elements of the complex (Houliston 1999, 71–172).

To the east of the present site, a Roman road may follow the same alignment as Sandling Road which borders the area on the east. This road (Margary Route 13) which extended from Rochester to Hastings, served the important iron-working areas of the Weald (Margary 1955, 38–40). During the second half of the eighteenth century, Maidstone was home to the West Kent Militia and in 1797 they were stationed in newly constructed cavalry barracks at the end of Week Street (Russell 1881, 368; Clark and Murfin 1995, 88) and across the subject site.

Four trenches were cut to an agreed pattern within a public car park and across derelict ground. In addition, two brick-built cellars on the site were examined and recorded during the works. A third, similar and contiguous but completely buried cellar was also examined during a subsequent watching brief on groundworks in the area.

In all trenches a large accumulation of deposits was evident with a virtually identical sequence across the whole area tested. The earliest level

was undoubtedly derived from underlying brickearth and was interpreted as a disturbed zone of the upper subsoil. This was immediately capped by a darker and more silty deposit, almost certainly a considerably compacted old developed topsoil.

The exact date of these deposits is difficult to ascertain on the basis of the recovered pottery, because it is likely that both have undergone continual disturbance from agricultural activity such as ploughing. However, to all intents and purposes the soils, in their final form, are no earlier than the sixteenth century and were probably still undergoing disturbance in the late eighteenth century, prior to the construction of the barracks in 1797. A few small fragments of prehistoric pottery were undoubtedly residual and must derive from occupation nearby, presumably upslope.

The developed topsoil was cut by the construction trenches for a number of walls relating to the Cavalry Barracks. One wall can be equated with a barracks depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886.

Two brick cellars or vaults set side by side and of contemporary build were also recorded, their entrances set in the face of a near north–south aligned brick wall that formed a terrace across part of the site. The cellars, entered through rectangular doorways of near identical size, had curving rear walls designed to resist lateral soil pressures. One cellar contained six bays of double tiered brick-arched alcoves formed against each side of the cellar. The cellars, almost certainly Napoleonic in date and part of the early barracks, may have been magazines.

The archaeological work was commissioned and funded by the developer, Milroy Group.

View of Napoleonic brick-built cellar 1, showing internal bays of double tiered brick-arched alcoves that were possibly used for munitions storage.

30 Ferry Road, Iwade

Alan Ward

During May and June 1999, trial trenching, followed by a small scale excavation and a watching brief was undertaken on land adjacent to Ferry Road, Iwade (TQ 9015 6770). Initially twenty-three evaluation trenches were excavated of which only three trenches located against the northern edge of the site revealed archaeological features. A consequent small excavation mounted in this area provided ephemeral evidence for short-lived domestic occupation in the period *c.*1175–1225 and a later phase of agricultural activity dating up to *c.*1300.

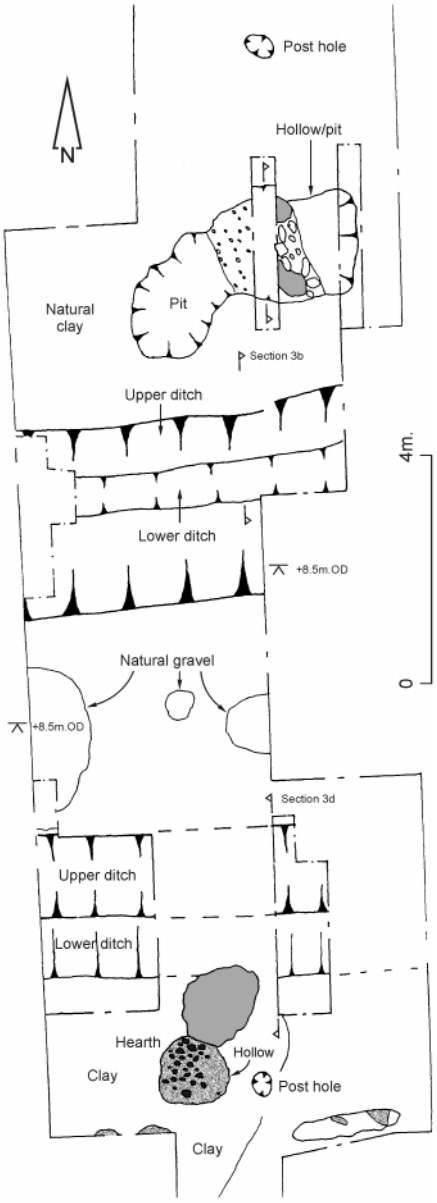
The earliest feature was a circular hearth, 1.10 m. in diameter set in a shallow hollow. The hearth was formed from a layer of gravel containing fragments of a Niedermendig lava-stone quern, lying on a bedding of scorched clay containing a single pot-sherd dated *c*. 1175–1225. The hearth was sealed by an oyster shell midden to the south and a clay deposit to the north, both possibly remnants of a floor. Both deposits contained pottery of the same date. A post-hole located just east of the hearth was considered to form part of this group of early features A second elongated burnt area, which lay 2 m. to the east also yielded pottery dating up to *c.*1225. Overall, the evidence suggested the presence of a domestic structure which had been heavily truncated by later activity. Only the most deeply-cut features survived.

Cutting the north side of the midden was an east–west aligned ditch containing pottery dating to *c*. 1250–1325. The ditch was later re-cut; the re-cut provided no datable finds. Extending parallel to the first ditch and 3 m. north was a second ditch which had also been re-cut. The primary feature yielded no datable finds, but the re-cut provided a sizeable corpus of potsherds dating up to *c.* 1300.

An irregular shaped shallow hollow 4.5 m. by 2 m. and just 0.20 m. deep was located to the north of the ditches. The feature, partly lined with a mixed deposit of compacted gravel, flint, ragstone, sandstone, oyster shells was filled with soil containing a substantial corpus of potsherds dating from *c.* 1225–1300. The metalled hollow may have originally formed part of a paved area, perhaps the deepest part of a trackway, which has otherwise left no trace. A single post-hole was found to the north of the hollow.

The parallel ditches, each with a re-cut, and the hollow would appear to have been contemporary. The features post-date the early domestic phase of activity and clearly suggest a change of use of the area from domestic perhaps to agricultural. On the basis of the dating of the pottery assemblage, domestic occupation would have been relatively short-lived. This brevity of occupation and change of use may explain the ephemeral nature of the early features and the quantity of residual material in later features.

The work was funded by Ward Homes Ltd.



Plan of extended area of Trench 3 showing early & later ditches, pits, post-holes & burnt areas.

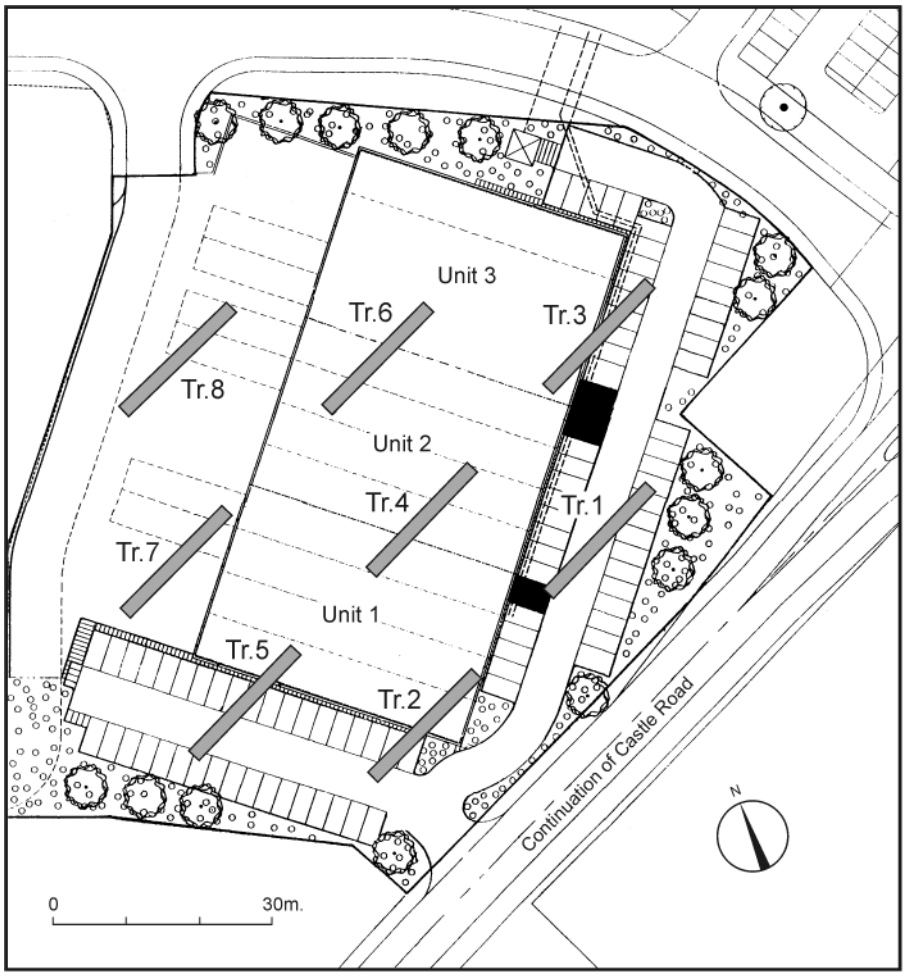
31 Castle Road, Murston, Sittingbourne

Christopher Sparey-Green and John Willson

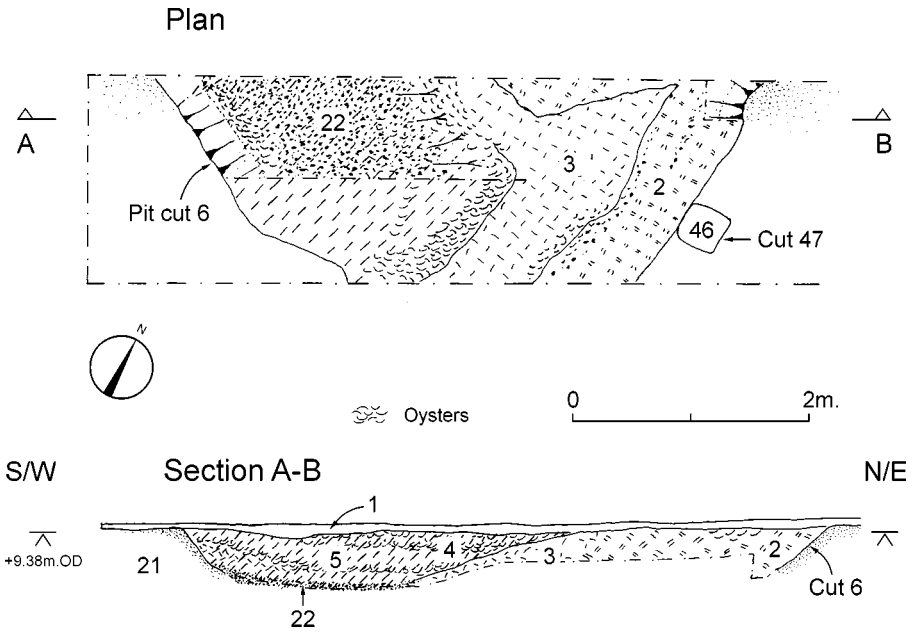
Between November and December 1999 an archaeological evaluation was carried out at Castle Road, Murston, Sittingbourne (TQ 9212 6492). The evaluation provided evidence for Late Iron Age and Roman occupation of the site.

The site, located about 200 m. east of Milton Creek, today consists of an area of relatively flat land that had been subjected to brickearth extraction during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The original ground levels have been somewhat reduced, perhaps by several metres, but the land may originally have gently sloped upwards to the south-east where the small settlement of Murston and its church now stands.

Some archaeological evidence was revealed during brickearthing in the past. Most notable amongst the earlier discoveries were two Neolithic axes recovered close to the site, one of flint and the other of foreign stone. They were exhibited at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in 1890. In 1869 a Roman inhumation burial contained in a decorated lead coffin with accompanying glass vessels was found about 750 m. to the north in Eleven Acres Field. Unfortunately the coffin was afterwards melted down and used for sealing up the gas mains of Sittingbourne (Wheeler 1932, 97–8). About 750 m. to the south a Roman cremation cemetery was discovered in 1871. A rich Roman cemetery, mostly cremations, was found about 1km to the south-west at Bayford in 1875, whilst further Roman cremation burials were discovered north of Mere Court about 250 m. to the east of the site during brickearth extraction in 1924 (Wheeler 1932, 97). More recently, during a watching brief carried out by the Trust immediately to the north of the present site, an Iron Age ditched enclosure was discovered (Houliston 1997).

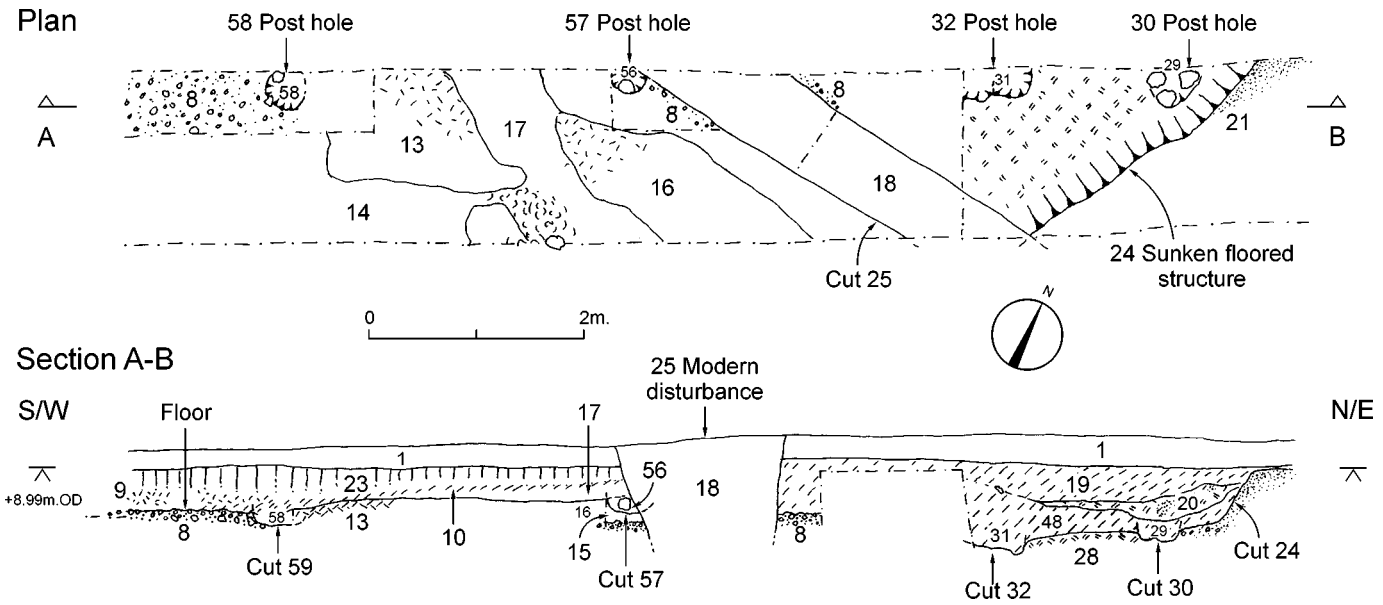


Trench location plan



plan and section of Trench 2 showing large pit feature 6

The Domesday Survey suggests a small settlement here held by the Bishop. Certainly by the early medieval period the site was occupied by the small village of Murston which, at this date, appears to have been centred on the low hill south-east of the site. The existing remains of the church of All Saints occupies the hilltop and is the only surviving remnant of this small settlement which perhaps extended west to the edge of Milton Creek. The church was mostly demolished in 1873, with the chancel left standing to act as a mortuary chapel, which in turn ceased to be used in 1910. Mere Court, 300 m. to the south-east, may have been a dependent farm. The present settlement of Murston now lies about a kilometre to the south. By the nineteenth century old Murston had been purchased bit by



Plan and section of Trench 5 showing the sunken-floored structure, feature 24.

An early Roman sunken-floored structure partially excavated in Trench 5.

bit and brickworks opened on or close to the site in 1834. Thereafter much of the surrounding area was systematically excavated for brickearth, when many of the earlier discoveries were made.

The evaluation consisted of the cutting of eight long trenches across the proposed development. Only two trenches, 2 and 5, contained any significant archaeology relating to an Early Roman structure and a large pit. Two Trenches, 4 and 6, revealed some limited evidence of prehistoric activity, whilst the remaining trenches revealed mostly modern ground disturbance.

The earliest evidence recovered was located in Trenches 4 and 6. Here separate deposits of yellow-brown brickearth and grey-brown silty clay were found to contain a small quantity of Iron Age pottery, daub and calcined flints. A similar deposit filling a small hollow in Trench 4 contained sherds of Roman pottery dated to the mid first century A.D.

In Trench 2, a large sub-rectangular shaped feature was revealed running across the western end of the trench. It measured at least 4.5 m. by 4 m. with neither end being seen. It had steep sides and a flattish base, was some 0.40 m. deep and its fill contained charred debris, burnt clay, oyster shells, glass and a quantity of pottery of mid to late first-century A.D. date. The charred debris represented cereal remains, grain, chaff, animal bones and fish bones.

In Trench 5, some 20 m. further to the north-west another large feature was revealed. This feature appeared to be a sunken-floored structure which occupied most of the trench length, cut some 0.50 m. deep. The floor surface, at the north-eastern end of the trench was composed of a compacted layer of brickearth into which were cut at least two shallow post-holes. To the south-west the floor lay on the surface of natural gravel; this was also cut by at least another two post-holes. Occupation deposits capping the floor contained shells, charcoal fragments and a quantity of pottery dated to the late first century B.C. to the early first century A.D. Above this was secondary occupation level with oyster shells, and quantities of pottery dated to the mid to late first century A.D. In Trench 7, two shallow and narrow gullies were seen running diagonally across the trench as well as a small post-hole; none contained any dating evidence.

The results of the evaluation showed that archaeological features still survive across the site despite extensive brickearth quarrying. The discovery of a first-century A.D. sunken-floored structure with timber upright posts to carry the superstructure and related internal occupational deposits in Trench 5, and another large pit type feature in Trench 2 closely to the south brings welcome evidence of actual Roman settlement to a site long famous for its many and often rich burials. The evidence for settlement and the cemeteries lie just to the north of the main London–Richborough–Dover Roman road via Canterbury. The site is also significantly immediately adjacent to the navigable waterway of Milton Creek, thus benefiting from two major transport links for both trade and commerce networks.

Industrial activity over the last two centuries has revealed a high density of sites in this area, the vast majority of which are ill recorded or from which the finds are scattered. Indeed, within this archaeological landscape, no site on the eastern side of the creek has been scientifically studied so the identification of important traces of early settlement here places importance on the proper investigation of this and other sites yet to be found in this area.

The Trust was commissioned and funded by Priority Sites Ltd.

32 Rochester Cathedral

Alan Ward

The Candlemaker's Room looking east from the modern stairs. The south wall of Gundulf's Tower is on the left and a buttress of the north aisle wall on the right.

During July and August 1999, the Trust undertook work in Rochester Cathedral as part of a project to install air blowing equipment for the cathedral organ. Several small but interesting archaeological trenches were excavated in three areas to assist with the new installation.

The first of these areas lay between the south wall of Gundulf's Tower and the north wall of the north aisle of the cathedral. Within this space lies a small room known as the 'Candlemaker's Room', or more correctly the wax chandler's room. The room, constructed in the medieval period and largely filled with rubble in the mid eighteenth century, was chosen for the routing of a section of the blowing equipment. Installation required the removal of rubble from the space and the recording of flanking walls. During this work a doorway giving access to the room from the north aisle was discovered together with steps leading up from the door flanked by brick retaining walls, installed in the mid eighteenth century to contain an early phase of rubble infill.

The second trench was located east of the Candlemaker's room within what is known as the 'Checker's Yard'. It was here, in the late nineteenth century that Sir William St John Hope, whose monumental work still provides the most important work on the architecture of the cathedral church and monastery (St John Hope 1898, 194–238; 1900, 1–85), excavated an investigative shaft. The in-filled shaft was re-excavated and about 2 m. of material was removed to the base of St John Hope's trench which had exposed the exterior face of a window in the north aisle of the crypt. Archaeological deposits and masonry were excavated for a further depth of 2.60 m. in an ever decreasing space to install the new duct. Re-examination of the old shaft and the additional cutting showed conclusively for the first time that Gundulf's Tower was constructed after the crypt. The latter is dated to the late eleventh century by Tim Tatton-Brown and others, and the tower to 1110–20 (pers. comm. T. Tatton-Brown).

The final trench was cut in the crypt. Here, of four rubbish pits identified, three produced only Roman pottery of the late first to third century; the fourth provided a few late tenth-century potsherds. Remnants of post-medieval or early modern earth and chalk floors or bedding deposits were also recorded.

The work was funded by the Dean and Chapter of Rochester Cathedral.

View looking down into the light well shaft within Cheker's Yard. The base and to the left of the photograph shows the south wall of Gundulf's Tower with the scale on a large offset. Above right is a window within the north wall which provided some light into the crypt.

Other sites investigated during the year

This section gives a list of some of the many sites investigated in the period April 1999 to March 2000, but where very little or no archaeological evidence was encountered.

Ashford, 9–11 Tufton Street
Bexleyheath, Crook Lodge Road
Boughton-under-Blean, The Charltons
Boughton-under-Blean, Colonels Lane
Boxley, All Saints and St Mary's Church
Chartham, St Augustine's Hospital
Chestfield, Molehill Road
Dartford, Darenth Village Park
Dover, Cherry Tree Avenue
Dover, Hobart Crescent
Dover, St Radigand's Abbey
Dymchurch, High Knock
Faversham, Upper Brents
Folkestone/Hythe, Flood Scheme
Folkestone, Harvey Grammar School
Fordwich, Fordwich Farm
Gillingham, Lower Lines
Harrietsham, Booth Field
High Halstow, Christmas Lane
Hoath, Church Road
Lenham, Water Lane
Maidstone, Knightrider Street
Maidstone, Tovil Mill
Monkton, Monkton Court Farm
Oare, John Hall Close
Ospringe, Churchman's Farm
Ospringe, Stalisfield Road
Rochester, 'Eagle Tavern', No. 124 High Street
Rochester, Nos 147–9 High Street
Rochester, King's School
Sandwich, Pfizer Sprinkler Complex
Sandwich, Pfizer West Site
Sittingbourne, Fulston Manor School
Sittingbourne, Kemsley Paper Mill
Smarden, High Street
Sutton Vallence, Sutton Vallence School
Thong, Thong Lane
Thurnham, Black Horse Inn
Thurnham, St Mary's Church
Tonbridge, Tonbridge Castle
Tonbridge, Castle Street
Wilmington, Church of St Michael and All Saints
Wapping, East London, Ensign Street
Wye, Bramble Lane

PART TWO

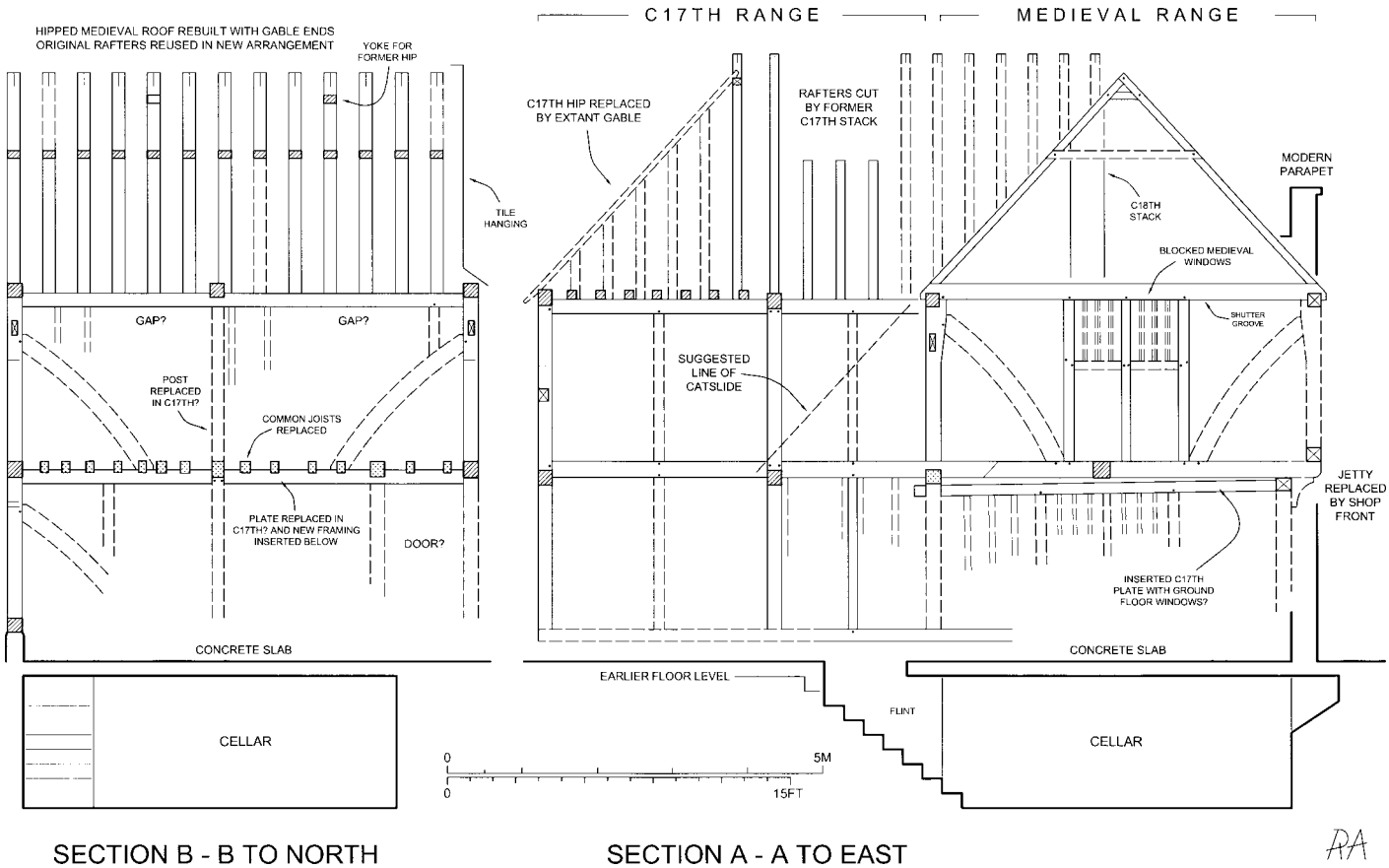
Building Recording

A No. 24 St Peter's Street, Canterbury

Rupert Austin

An architectural survey of No. 24 St Peter's Street was undertaken in October 1999 at the start of an extensive period of renovation. The property is located along the north-east side of St Peter's Street within 70 m. of the Westgate. At the time of the survey the interior had been stripped out and the remains of a sixteenth-century timber-framed building exposed. The original building is surprisingly modest in size. However, it was enlarged at the rear in the seventeenth century with the addition of a second two storey timber-framed structure.

The sixteenth-century building comprises a two bay range built parallel to the street. Both bays of this range were floored and jettied toward the street. A single room appears to have occupied the ground floor of the property with two small chambers above. The upper chambers were most likely open to the roof. Unfortunately the roof has been rebuilt, but the original rafters appear to have been re-used in the new arrangement. Inspection



of these rafters suggests that the original roof comprised a simple collar rafter affair. Two blocked windows were discovered in the south-east wall of the building at first floor level. A shutter groove above these openings confirmed that the windows were unglazed.

These windows reveal an interesting topographical feature of Canterbury that had been lost. No. 24 was originally built on a corner plot; a narrow passage ran against the south-east end of the building. This alley, known as Cackett's Passage, appears to have survived until the construction of the Sidney Cooper Gallery of Art in the late 1860s and led to a yard behind the street frontage. A long gallery now leads from a classical entrance to the former art school. This is clearly the enclosed line of the former passageway.

One should always be mindful with particularly small structures such as that at No. 24 that elements of the building have been removed. The viability of the two surviving bays of No. 24 is questionable. Two or three unit properties are not unknown in our towns and cities, but one concern with No. 24 is the absence of stairs to the upper chambers. The joists survive unbroken at the front of the building and a continuous sequence of peg holes suggests they ran uninterrupted at the rear leaving no break for stairs.

Missing bays that might have accommodated stairs to the first floor were not, however, located further up or down the street frontage. The passage and windows at the south-east end of the range prevent the possibility of additional fabric here. Unbroken studding along the north-west end of the range similarly rules out any additional bays in this direction. Indeed, the carpenter's numerals on the common joists of the first-floor frame start from this end of the building.

It is suggested that a small single storey outshot once extended from the rear of the property beneath a catslide roof. Several features observed during the survey indicate that this may have been the case. The dwarf wall and ground plate beneath the north-west elevation of the property clearly extend beyond the rear corner post of the extant structure (by approximately half a metre). Several shallow housings could also be seen on the rear eaves-plate of the range; these are perhaps the positions of the outshut rafters. A catslide would also explain the appearance of the rear wall of the main range, which is more consistent with an internal partition than an external elevation.

Buildings with contemporary outshots are a recognised building type, one that has been observed in both urban and rural settings. One such building, albeit an earlier example, can be seen at No. 70 Castle Street. Clearly in the absence of any surviving fabric the form of the missing outshot can only be suggested. It must, however, have been a simple affair that was most likely open to the roof. These outshots often functioned as utility areas with perhaps provision for cooking. Stairs to the upper chambers and perhaps a trap to the cellar would have been located in our outshot.

It appears the outshut was demolished and replaced by a more substantial two storey, two bay timber-framed extension in the seventeenth century. The framing of this extension is lighter in build than that of the medieval range. Single rooms appear to have occupied the ground and first floors with a small garret room in the roofspace. The remains of a winding newel staircase could be seen against the north-west wall of the range. A break in the floor joists within the centre of the extension almost certainly accommodated a chimney, a feature which is presently missing from this part of the building. Unfortunately the framing of the rear wall was obscured at the time of the survey and no evidence for its fenestration could be seen.

Despite the fragmented nature of the timber-frame surviving within No. 24 close inspection enabled many informed suggestions to be made as to its original form and development. No. 24 is certainly one of the smaller buildings surveyed by the Trust in Canterbury (more modest dwellings were less permanent in nature and have not survived). Its size makes it of some interest. Such structures are less common than the larger and more impressive timber-framed buildings of our towns and cities and have often been overlooked as a result.

B No. 3 Longport, Canterbury

Rupert Austin

A brief archaeological survey of this property was undertaken in April 1999 in advance of renovation. The property, which is located at the west-end of Longport Street, occupies one part of a larger building that also contains nos 1 and 2 Longport. Externally the building appears to be of late eighteenth-century build. Its brick façade, however, disguises fragments of an older timber-framed structure that dates perhaps to the seventeenth century.

General view of Nos 1-3 Longport.

Only a few seventeenth-century timbers can be seen within No. 3 today, but these are sufficient to suggest, albeit tentatively, something of the original form of the building. It is the joists and beams of the first and second floor, together with the south-west corner post that survive. The principal joists are chamfered with lambs tongue stops, whereas the secondary joists (double numbered carpenters marks can be seen on these) are plain. Tusk tenons have been employed in the floor frame.

The arrangement of joists and beams within No. 3 mirror exactly those within No. 1, something that confirms beyond doubt that the seventeenth-century building was the same length as the present brick façade and comprised four short

bays. The two central bays of this structure fell within No. 2, but the timber-frame here appears to have been removed as a result of eighteenth-century remodelling. Taller rooms more befitting of the Georgian era occupy this part of the structure today.

Examining the timbers within No. 3 it is noticeable that they do not occupy the full width of the bay as might be expected. It seems a brick chimney was located here between the first and second bays (the hearth that survives today against the south wall of the property is a later insertion). This is confirmed by examining the interior of No. 1; where a substantial inglenook still survives in this position between the third and fourth bays.

This double stack arrangement suggests that the building originally comprised a row of four small properties or tenements heated by internal back to back fireplaces. The surviving post in the south-west corner of No. 3 indicates that the tenements were a full two storeys high. Each would necessarily have comprised a single ground and first floor room with perhaps a garret in the roof space. Stairs to the upper floors may well have been positioned to the rear of the stack. Presumably the building was jettied at first floor level towards the street.

The removal of the southern stack and the construction of a new hearth against the end wall of the property suggests that Nos 2 and 3 were combined at some point into a single dwelling. The fabric of the inserted stack suggests this occurred before the eighteenth-century refacing/remodelling of the property, perhaps during the later part of the seventeenth century.

Few other features of the seventeenth-century building remain. Chased mortices on the sides of the south-west corner post reveal that the framing incorporated mid-rails. The small square panels formed by these and the regularly spaced secondary posts were characteristic of the period. The jowl post and tie-beam assembly atop the corner post is intact, although surprisingly there is no mortice for a principal rafter atop the tie. There are several possible explanations for this absence. A jettied gabled or garret are perhaps the most likely; the tie has clearly been cut back and once projected beyond the face of the elevation.

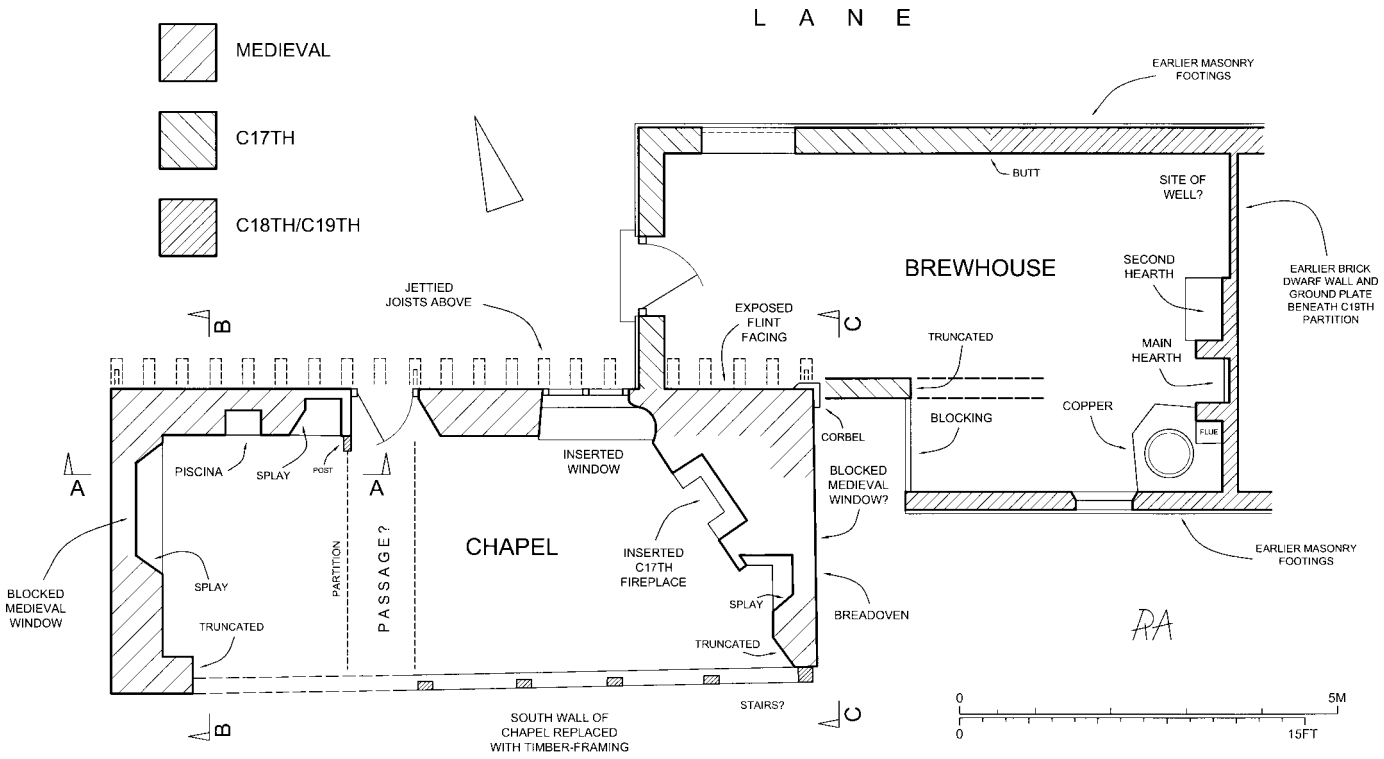
Irregular 2 inch red bricks can be seen along the south elevation of the building beneath the tie-beam. This may be original brick nogging (brickwork was increasingly used to infill the panels of timber-frames during the seventeenth century), but only a small area is presently visible.

The building was radically changed in the eighteenth century, when the timber-framed frontage was removed and replaced with a more fashionable brick façade. The new façade is of typically late Georgian appearance and was clearly designed to give the impression of one large house. The frontage is symmetrical and unified, the central element projecting slightly with an attractive pedimented doorcase and large gable with lunette window. The doors and windows have low segmental rubbed brick arches; a shallow plinth runs the length of the frontage. The three separate entrances and differing floor levels within the centre of the building suggest, however, that it still contained three properties at this time. The building was also increased in depth at the time of the conversion. The rear timber-framed wall of the seventeenth-century building was removed and replaced with a lightweight softwood frame. A third floor was also added beneath a new softwood roof.

The discovery of a row of four small seventeenth-century tenements at this end of Longport is certainly of some interest. Although the detail of their construction and appearance is not known the general arrangement has been understood with some certainty. Our knowledge of the history of this corner of Canterbury has been improved as a result.

C Chamber's Wall Farm, St Nicholas at Wade

Rupert Austin



GROUND PLAN OF CHAPEL AND BREWHOUSE

Chamber's Wall Farm is located in an isolated spot on the Isle of Thanet within a mile north-west of St Nicholas at Wade. The farmstead, which lies close to the former course of the Wantsum Channel, comprises a substantial group of buildings positioned on either side of a narrow lane. To the north of the lane a large timber-framed barn of probable seventeenth-century date can be seen together with a collection of more modern buildings including the farmhouse. To the south of the lane an L-shaped collection of buildings surrounds a rectangular walled foldyard. Most of the buildings surrounding the foldyard (these include the remains of a small barn, three shelter sheds, a byre and cart shed with granary) are of late eighteenth- or nineteenth-century date.

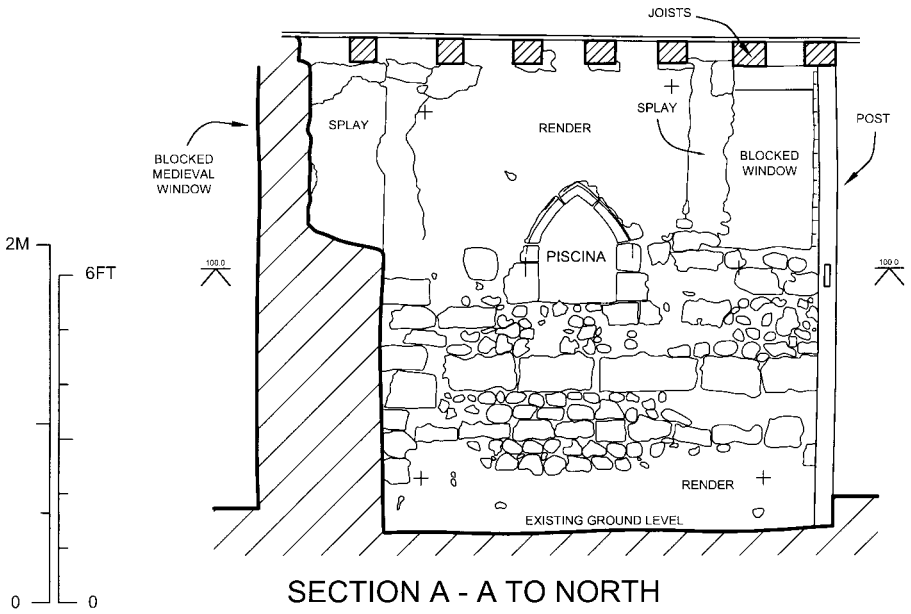
Earlier structures survive, however, at the north-west corner of the foldyard. Here fragments of a small medieval chapel, and an early farm building (now a brewhouse) can be seen. The chapel, brewhouse and barn appear to comprise the earliest surviving elements of the farm. An archaeological survey of the chapel and brewhouse was undertaken in March 1999 in advance of conversion.

Externally there is little to suggest the survival of any early fabric within the chapel. Indeed, the appearance of the structure is decidedly inauspicious. Two of its elevations are pebble-dashed, and a third clad in rusty corrugated tin. A modern corrugated asbestos roof now covers the building. Once inside, however, the structures medieval origins can clearly be seen.

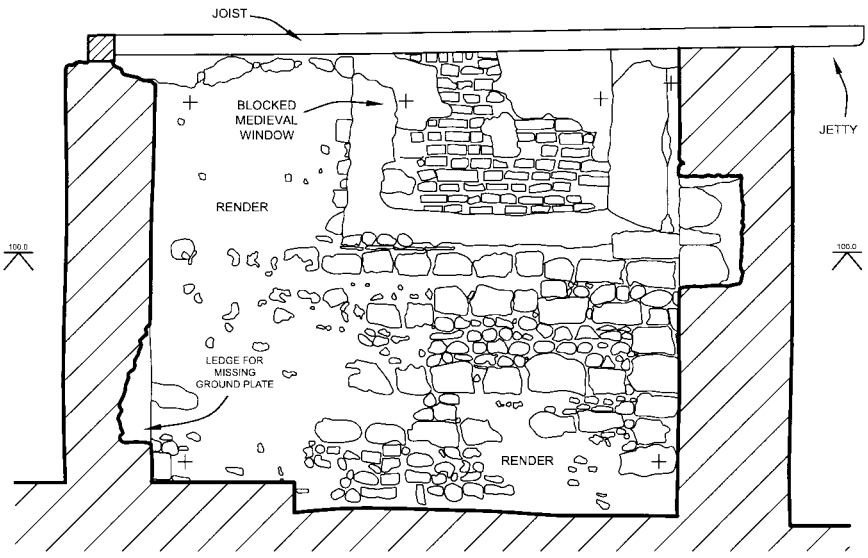
The chapel comprises a small rectangular single cell unit measuring 9.30 m. long by 4.00 m. wide. Masonry walls survive to the east and west and in part along the north elevation. The masonry along the south wall of the chapel has been removed and replaced by timber-framing. The walls are approximately 60–70 cms thick and survive to a height of around 2.5 m.

Externally the walls are built using coursed, knapped, water rounded flints with sandstone quoins. This fabric is best seen at the east end of the building where the exterior has not been obscured by pebble-dash. Internally, where the masonry was not exposed to the elements, the walls comprise banded chalk block and flint. Much of this is still covered by a coarse creamy lime render.

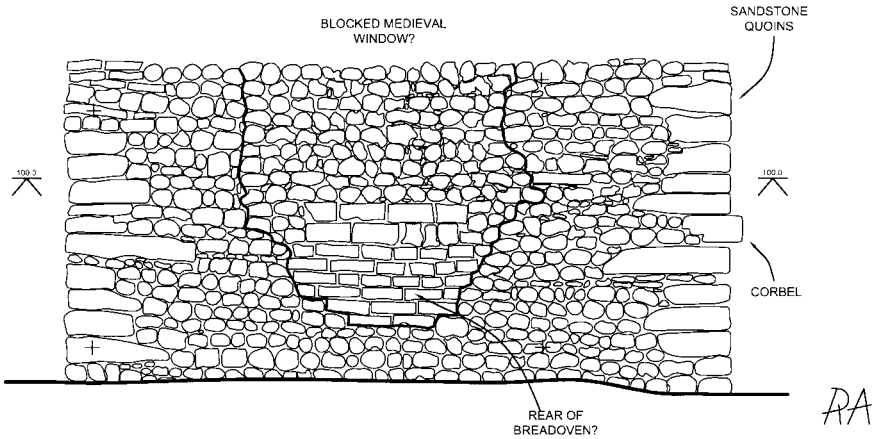
Only a few medieval features can be seen within the chapel. The most interesting is a small piscina with pointed arch in the north wall. This is a rather crude affair fashioned from chalk blocks. Blocked windows with splayed reveals are located in the east and west walls of the chapel. An area of



SECTION A - A TO NORTH



SECTION B - B TO WEST



ELEVATION C - C TO WEST

General view of the exterior of the chapel looking north-west.

inserted knapped flint clearly locates the position of the east window externally. The splay of a third window can be seen to one side of the piscina in the north wall. This belonged perhaps to a slightly smaller opening than those in the east and west walls. It is also blocked but the brickwork that infills the opening suggests it may have remained in use for longer.

At some point, perhaps during the first half of the seventeenth century, the chapel was converted into a domestic dwelling. A jettied timber-framed upper storey was added to the top of the earlier medieval walls and presumably the original roof was removed at this time. The rear wall of the chapel was demolished and replaced with timber framing. The reasons for this alteration are not clear, but the original masonry may have been in poor condition.

Several features of the timber-frame, in particular an edge halved and bladed scarf along the south elevation, suggest an early seventeenth-century date for its construction. One would expect to see a fascia applied to the jetty of a building of this period, however, the decorated fascia board bearing the date 1694 that survives in this position today is a later addition. The joists behind have rounded ends indicating they were once exposed to view. Exposed joists would have been rather antediluvian at this time, however, we should consider the buildings particularly isolated position.

A substantial brick chimney now occupies the north-west corner of the chapel; this was presumably inserted when the chapel was converted to domestic use. It seems likely the fireplace incorporated a bread oven on its south side. A domed area of brickwork can be seen internally at this point. Externally a slightly convex patch of brickwork is visible in the blocking of the former medieval window.

Most of the first floor joists are presently hidden behind a matchboard ceiling. However, those at the west end of the building are exposed. Evidence for studs and a post can be seen on one of these joists, indicating that a partition crossed the building at this point. This was perhaps one side of a passage that led through the centre of the building from the front door and which would have divided the ground floor into two rooms.

Access to the first floor appears to have been afforded by a small external stair tower located against the south-east corner of the building; the ground plate of the south wall doubled as the first step and is suitably worn in this position. Unfortunately the timber-framed first floor of the dwelling has now been removed.

Little can be said about the early farm building that abuts and partly internalises the north-east corner of the chapel. Only a small part of this structure, which was built perhaps towards the end of the seventeenth century, survives today. Its brickwork is now incorporated into a long shelter shed of eighteenth- or nineteenth-century date that runs along the north side of the foldyard. Both the front and a short length of the rear wall of this building survive, confirming that it was narrower than the extant shelter shed. An oak-framed, collar rafter roof still survives in part over the surviving brickwork.

No clues remain to indicate the original function of the building. The two hearths and a copper that can be seen within the structure today are features associated with the building's use as a brewhouse. These appear to have been added at the end of the nineteenth century. A well, now filled, was once located in the north-east corner.

View of the interior of the chapel showing piscina in north wall.

D Wingham Court Farm, Wingham

Peter Seary

During 1999 and 2000 the Trust undertook three building recording projects and cut two evaluation trenches at Wingham Court Farm. This complex of farm buildings lies immediately behind Wingham Court, within the curve of the A257 road (TR 242 573).

The farm buildings range in date from the seventeenth to the nineteenth century. They include a seventeenth-century granary, a nineteenth-century dairy incorporating a fragment of an earlier building; and a nineteenth-century barn, stables and cart-shed. They are disposed around two, roughly rectangular yards or courts, enclosed by brick walls of various dates. The evaluation trenches, around the dairy, revealed nothing of interest to pre-date that building.

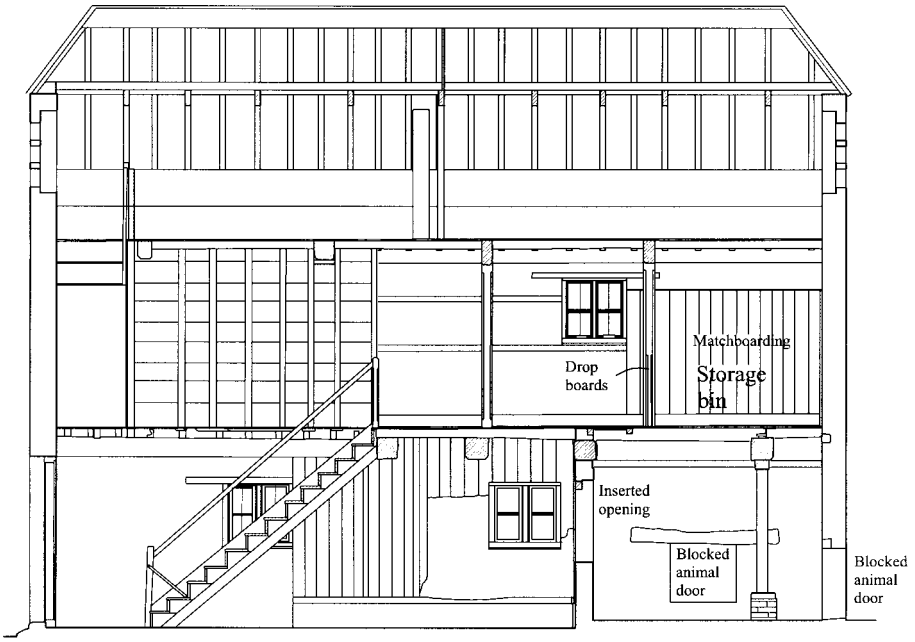
The granary was a small, rectangular, red-brick building of two storeys plus an attic, with a half-hipped roof. It preserved an interesting assemblage of timber fittings which have been the subject of a detailed drawn survey. Its structural timbers were almost all re-used (probably derived from several different sources) and varied in scantling and decoration.

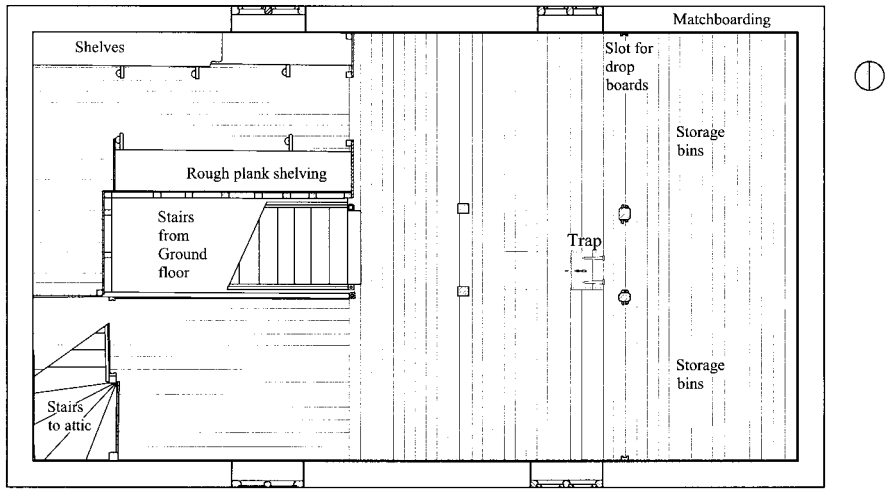
The first floor contained features dating from its use as a granary. These included match-boarded grain storage bins at the east end, which could be closed with drop boards. In front of these was a small trap-door for dispensing grain into a sack or barrow below.

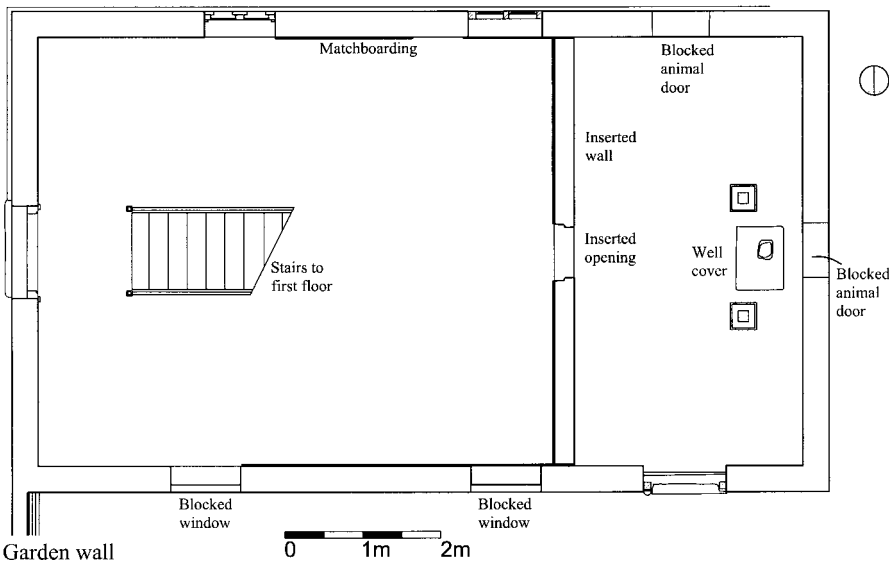
The ground floor had been subdivided by a brick wall. The small room at the eastern end was adapted to house pigs, and was fitted with low, square animal doors under timber lintels. There was a brick-lined well at this end, under a stone cover. The rest of the ground floor had long been used for storage; the eastern end had been matchboarded to ceiling height.

The attic had been converted to form a dovecote which was still in use. The gable windows were blocked with brick, leaving a cruciform pattern of apertures for doves. The attic stair was enclosed in a compartment at the west end and the edges of the attic were ashlared. Cat-holes in the ground floor doors were blocked at this time.

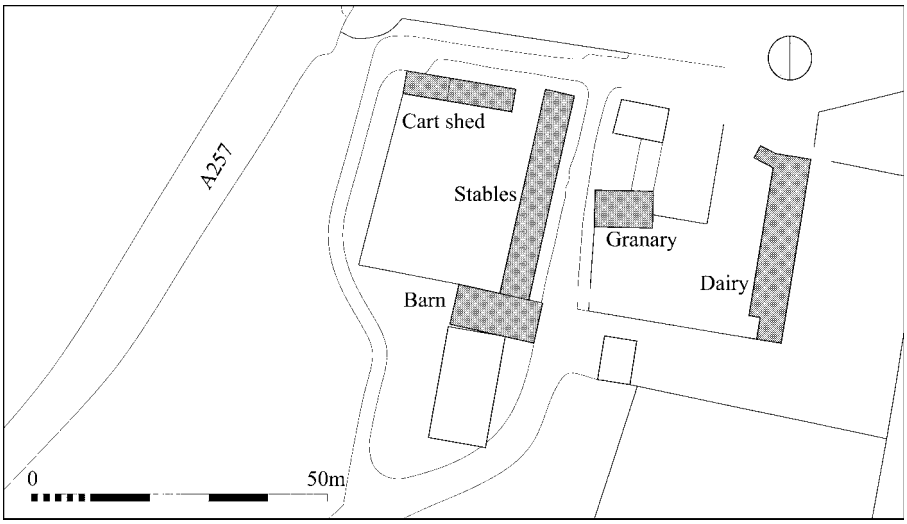
The nineteenth-century dairy and stables displayed many similarities of construction and may well be of the same date, probably late nineteenth century. They were long, narrow, rectangular, single-storey, red-brick buildings.







Cross section, looking north.
Ground and first floor plans.



Location plan.

Each faced south and had open-fronted sections between 'closed' ends. Each had a long, timber-framed feeding trough, supported on dwarf walls of brick, which extended through much of the length of the building. Behind each trough was a narrow earth-floored passage from which the animal feed could be replenished.

The dairy was built over the footprint of an earlier building which had, reputedly, been destroyed by fire. A fragment of this building survived at the south end of the range, somewhat narrower than the nineteenth-century build.

The nineteenth-century build had an open-fronted section of four bays with closed rooms to north and south (two rooms at the north end, one at the south). The rooms at either end of the 'open' section had heavy 'animal doors' with barred ventilators. The room at the south could only have accommodated a single animal; this was most recently a bull. The feeding trough and passage extended through 'closed' and 'open' sections alike. Excavation within the open section revealed a thick chalk floor in front of the trough, a common feature in buildings associated with livestock in Kent.

The stables were built onto a pre-existing farmyard wall. They were very similar in layout and construction to the dairy. The closed-fronted section of the building bore traces of stall divisions.

At the south end of the brick range was a weatherboarded, timber-framed barn of five bays, apparently contemporary with the stables. The frame rests on metre-high brick walls. The frame is of modern, machine-sawn, softwood construction with closely spaced studs and secondary posts set in mid bay. The roof is of king-bolt construction with struts.

An open-fronted brick building against the north wall of the stable yard may well have served as a cart-house. This, like the stable, was built onto the wall of the enclosure.

Although unexceptional, these farm buildings provided a useful example of a building type rapidly being lost through redevelopment.

E The George Inn, High Street, Newington

Rupert Austin

General view of the frontage, looking north-west.

The George Inn is centrally located within the village of Newington. It lies along the north side of the High Street close to Church Lane. The building was badly damaged by fire in February 1998 and remained in a ruinous state for some time. An architectural survey of the fire-damaged property was undertaken by the Trust in January 2000 at the request of Swale Borough Council.

The George Inn is a substantial building that contains fabric of several different periods. Two timber-framed structures survive within the property. These date almost certainly to the second half of the seventeenth century and occupy the front of the plot. Modern extensions now occupy the rear.

The older of the two timber-framed structures is located at the west end of the frontage. Only a small part of this remains today. Its size and alignment suggest it was a cross-wing that belonged with an earlier building, perhaps an open-hall. This hall, if it existed, must have been located to the east of the wing before the

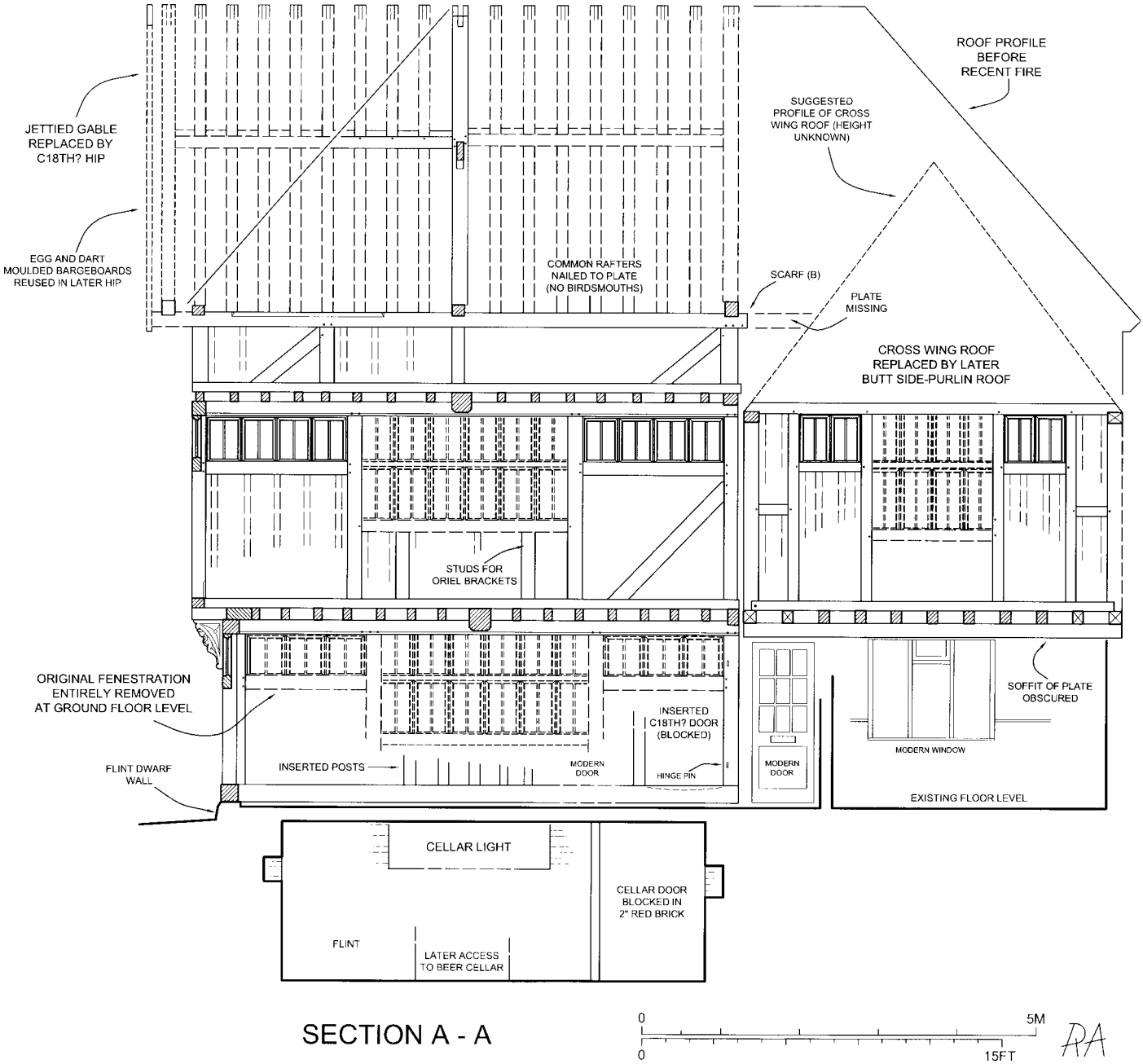
construction of the second seventeenth-century structure.

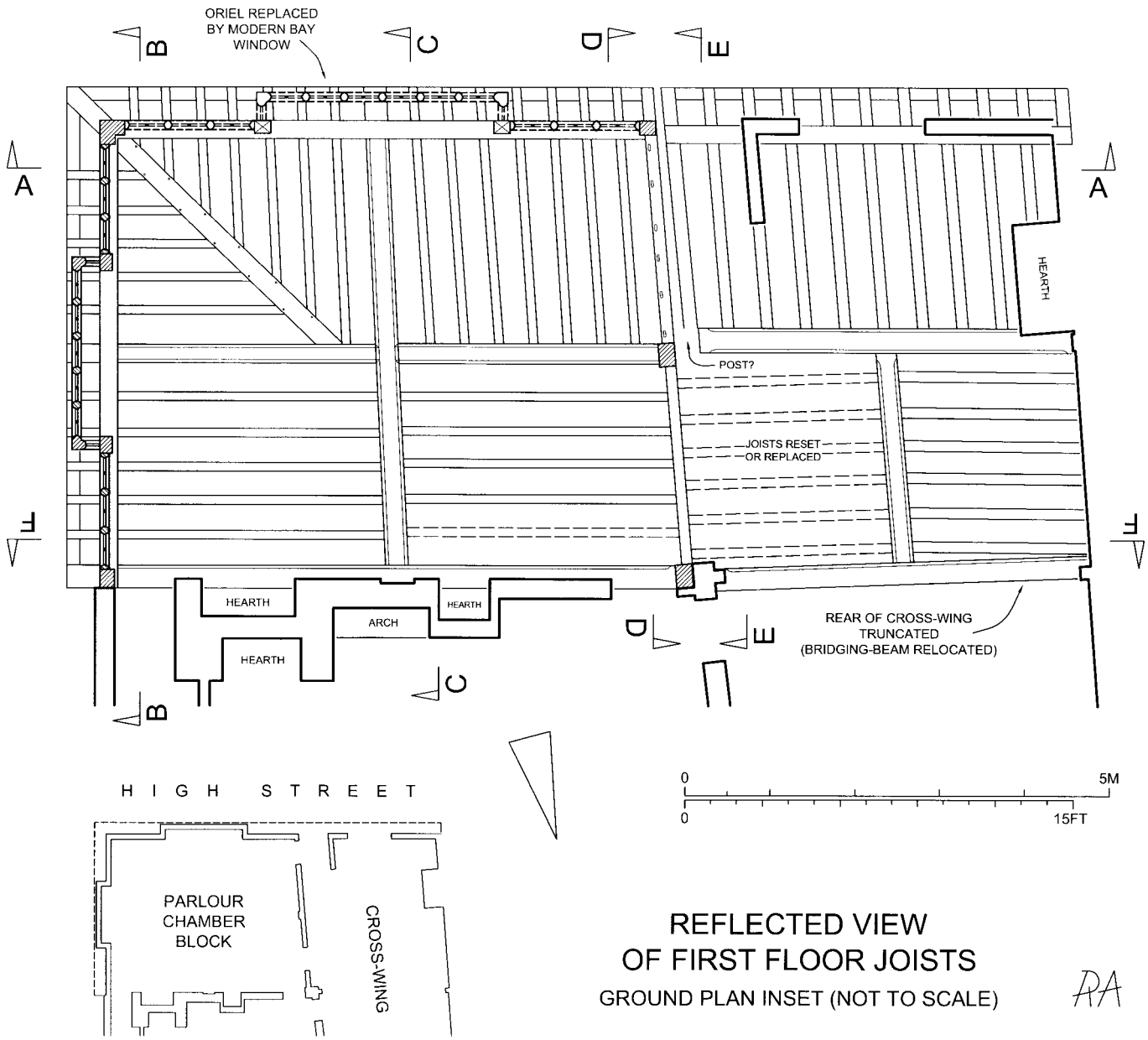
The cross-wing is two storeys high and was built at right angles to the street. The best preserved element is its jettied frontage. An oriel window once occupied the centre of this elevation at first floor level but this has now been replaced. Fortunately its clerestory sidelights have survived beneath later lath and plaster; the ovolo-moulded mullions here are typical of the period. The roof of the cross-wing no longer survives. It seems to have terminated in a jettied gabled to the street and was probably of butt side-purlin form. No evidence for any partitions could be seen on the soffit of the first floor joists and beams, suggesting that the ground floor of the cross-wing comprised a single room.

The cross-wing was modified considerably when the second timber-framed structure to the east was built. The alignment and height of its roof did not match those of the new range and it is perhaps no surprise to see its walls raised at this time and the roof of the second structure extended to cover its rooms. The cross-wing was also shortened at the rear at this time to match the span of the new roof.

The second timber-framed structure is located at the east end of the frontage and abuts the east wall of the cross-wing. Stylistically it is very similar to the cross-wing and was built perhaps only a decade or two later. Most of its timber-frame survives, though the fire all but destroyed its roof. The range is double jettied at first floor level to the east and south. The second floor is jettied to the south only.

A single room, perhaps a parlour, occupies the ground floor. This room was particularly well lit with continuous fenestration running along both the south and east elevations. Oriel windows were centrally located in these elevations, but only that in the east wall survives. A dragon post with an attractively carved bracket lies at the corner of the building, supporting the double jetty of the first floor in an attractive but conventional fashion. A similar room or chamber occupies the first floor of the range. This was also once lit by continuous fenestration and oriel windows, though all these features have now been lost. Short posts beneath the inner sills of the missing oriels indicate where support brackets were located. Plaster originally ceiled the common joists of the ground and first floor rooms leaving





only the principal cavetto moulded beams exposed.

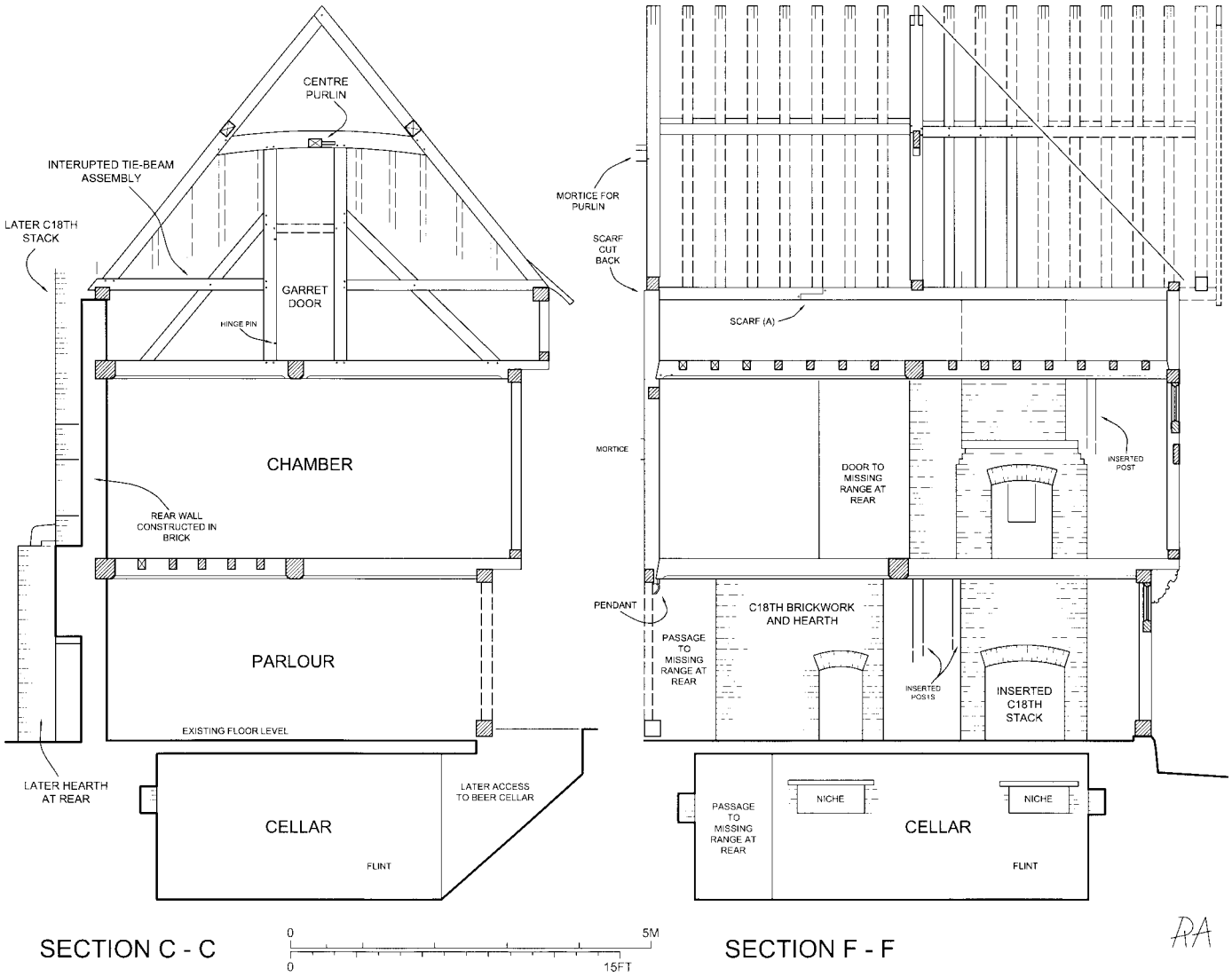
The second floor is only a half storey in height, the three rooms or garrets it contains falling partly within the roof space. The roof is of butt side-purlin construction. However, empty mortices on the sides of the surviving collars indicate that a purlin also ran up the centre of the roof. The purpose of this unusual feature is not clear though possibly the stability of the gables may have been of concern.

Interestingly an interrupted tie-beam arrangement has been employed within the roof to allow access between the easternmost rooms of the attic. A doorway (note the lock mortice and hinge-pin holes) forms an integral part of the interrupted roof truss. Interrupted tie-beams are a solution to a problem that is common to all half storey garrets, this being the tie-beams which cross the attic at each bay division of the roof. These fall at waist height preventing, unless modifications are made, access through the roof space. The third garret room lay above the earlier cross-wing but no longer survives. Access to this room appears to have been from the cross-wing below.

The east end of the roof, which survived the fire untouched, presently terminates in a hip, but this is a later modification. It originally terminated in a jettied gable, an arrangement that is common to many buildings of the period. The gable was located atop a flying plate; this has since been removed. It seems finely carved oak bargeboards once decorated the gable. These have been re-used as rafters in the later hip. An egg and dart moulding can be seen on the bargeboards; a classical motif that is indicative of the seventeenth-century date of the building. A similar gable almost certainly terminated the west end of the roof, but photographs of the building before the fire show that this too had been converted into a hip.

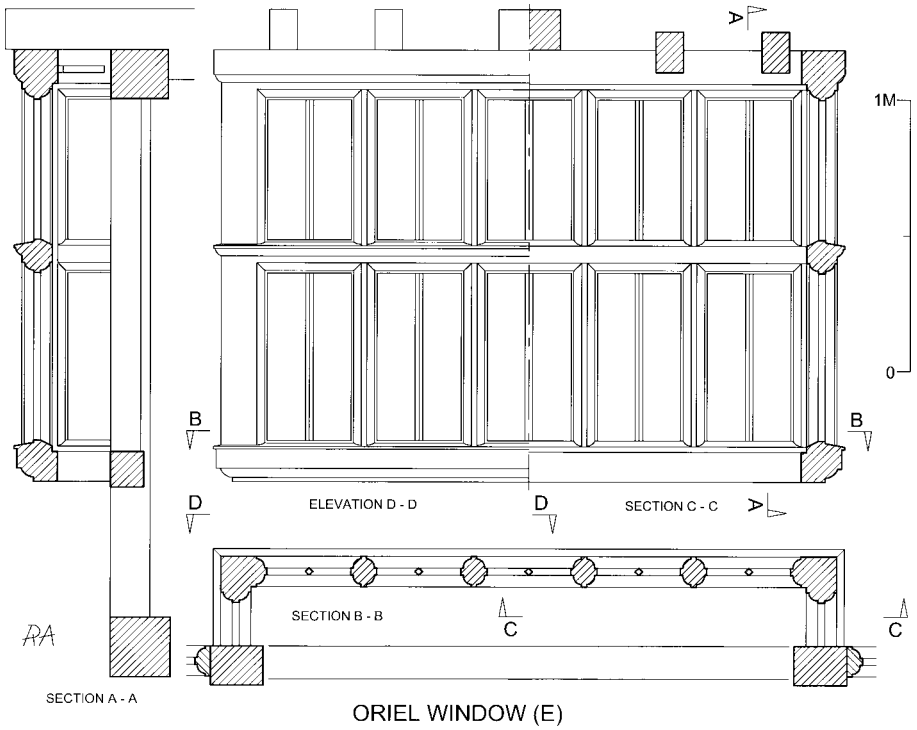
No evidence survives to indicate how the garret rooms were illuminated, but windows in the gables seem likely. A chamfer atop the eaves-plate in the eastern bay of the building suggests a dormer window may have been located here in the front slope of the roof but no mortices or other evidence for its construction could be seen.

Surprisingly the extant rear elevation of the structure is built in brick, the only timbers present being the principal beams needed to support the floors. It seems this was not always the rear elevation of the building but an internal wall. Unfortunately the brickwork appears to have been rebuilt in the eighteenth century, albeit re-using the old bricks. However, a chimney must have been part of the original arrangement. One would expect all the principal rooms of a building of this period to have been heated.



A contemporary cellar lies beneath the range. Its walls are built using small roughly coursed field flints (the dwarf walls that support the timber frame are similarly constructed). Evidence for a window opening can be seen in the front wall of the cellar together with a blocked door that afforded access to the street. A number of small niches with brick jambs have been let into the cellar walls. A contemporary extension to the cellar lies beyond an opening in the rear north-west corner of the basement; this extends well beyond the rear elevation of the timber-framed structure that stands above it.

This and other features suggest that part of the second timber-framed structure has been lost; stairs for example are noticeably absent from the extant arrangement. The form of the missing fabric is not known, although a stair tower, a small two-storey wing or perhaps something more substantial are all possible. If a kitchen was located here the brick north elevation of the extant structure might be explained as a firewall.



Computer generated reconstruction of easternmost structure.

View showing the first floor cross-wing fenestration.

View showing interrupted tie-beam arrangement of garret.

Access at ground level to this missing element appears to have been through a door in the rear wall of the parlour. A seventeenth-century style onion shaped pendant can be seen on the north-west corner post here; something that is perhaps associated with an opening or doorway. Another feature absent from the extant structure is an external entrance; all the existing doors are later insertions. Access to the property must have been through the adjoining cross-wing or through the missing element of the building.

At the end of the seventeenth century the George Inn would have been a fine and prestigious building located on a key route through the county. Many interesting features are contained within the property. It seems likely that both surviving timber-framed structures are associated with the development of one building, rather than separate dwellings that have since been combined.

PART THREE

Post Excavation and Research

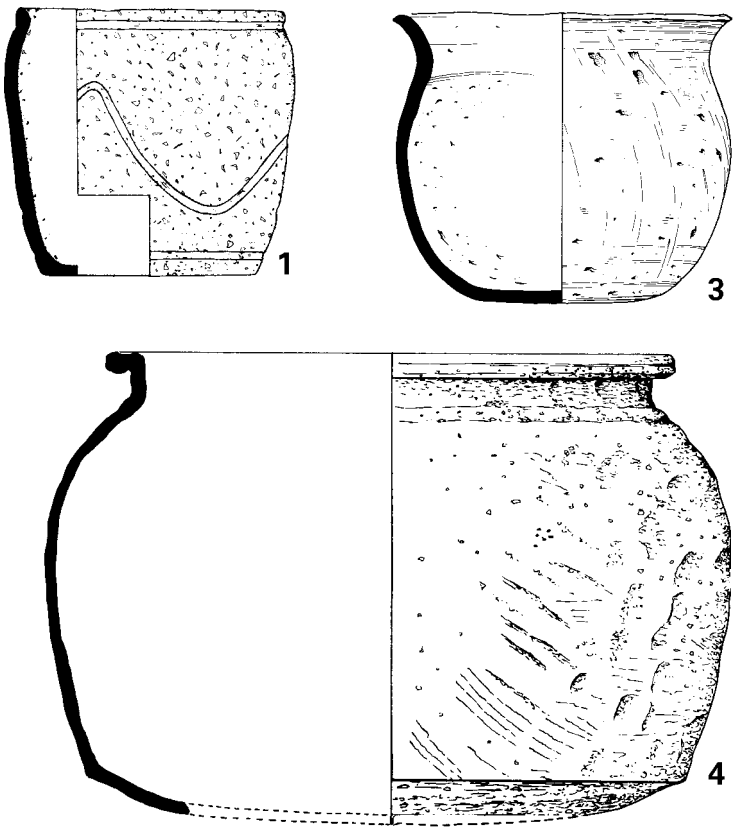
I Pottery Studies

Medieval shelly wares in Kent: a summary of recent research

John Cotter

Shelly wares or shell-tempered wares are a tradition of pottery manufacture in which crushed shell is added at the clay preparation stage prior to the forming of the pot. The shell, either alone or in combination with quartz sand and other materials, was added to 'temper' the clay, that is to give it more strength and make it more workable. Some people also believe that shell could have been added to pots because of its ability to cope with the stresses of thermal shock which occurred when a cold pot was suddenly placed on a fire for cooking purposes and in medieval Kent, at least, it is perhaps no coincidence that most shelly ware vessels were 'kitchenware' forms such as cooking pots and bowls. 'Tableware' forms such as jugs are comparatively rare.

Shelly wares were popular at different periods of time and for a variety of different reasons that we do not fully understand. They were popular in north-west Kent during the Iron Age and



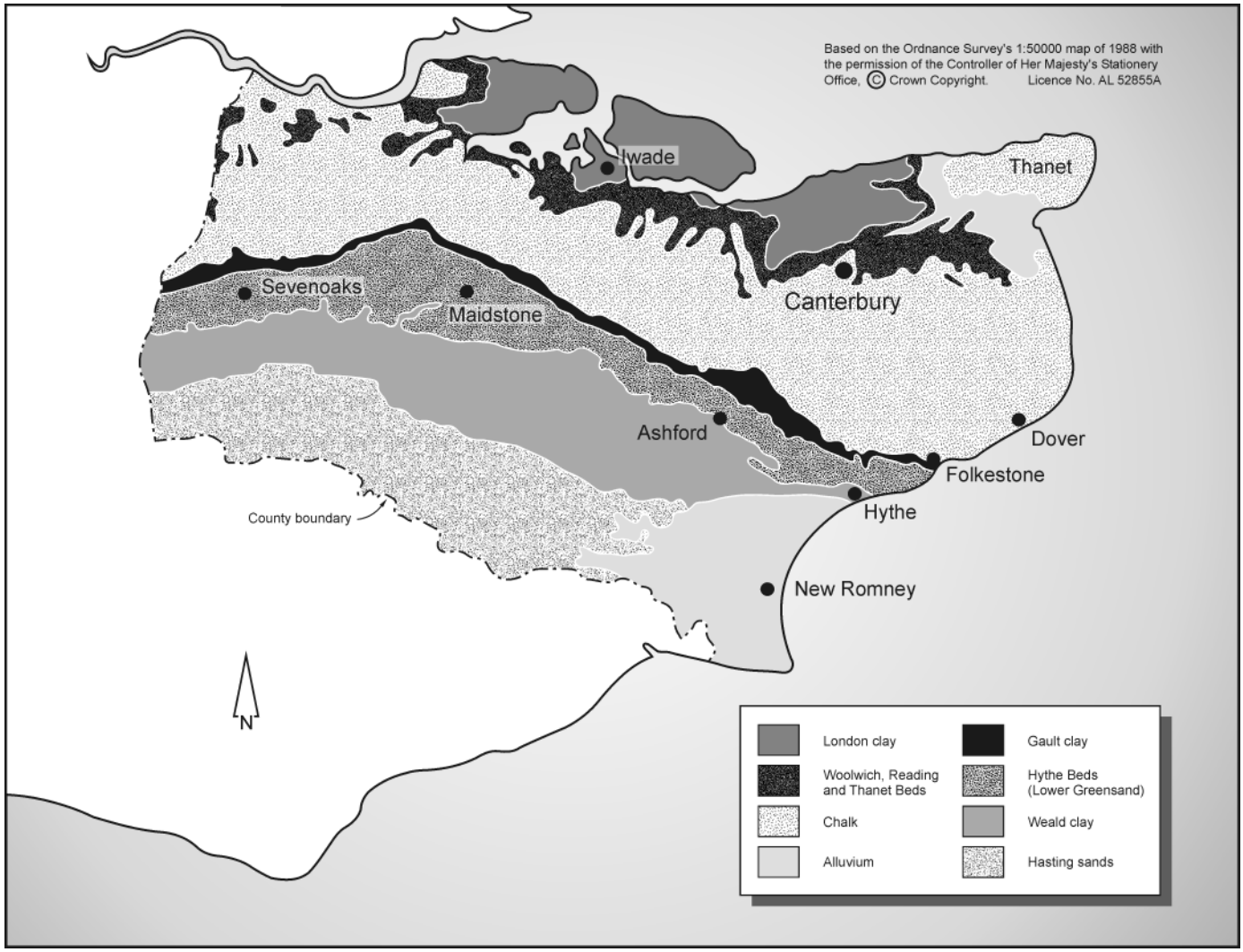
1 Iron Age shelly ware jar, Farningham Hill, West Kent.

2 Roman shelly ware jar, Fawkham, West Kent.

3 Anglo-Saxon shelly ware cooking pot, 8th – 9th century AD, Canterbury.

4 Early medieval shelly ware cooking pot, late 12th century, Canterbury.

Scale 1:4

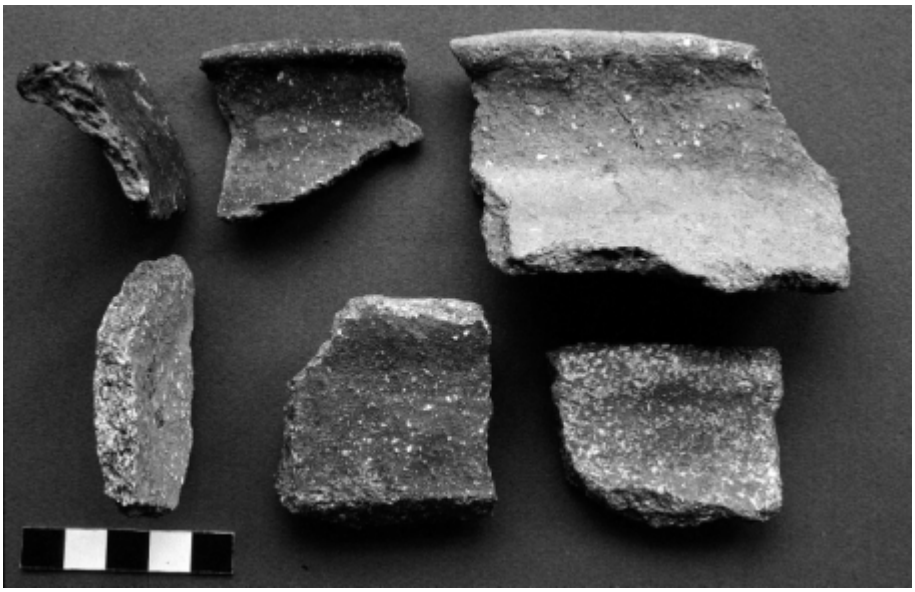


Geological sketch map of Kent showing places mentioned in the text

Roman periods and were probably a native tradition. With the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons after *c*. A.D. 410, however, the production of shelly wares over most of England virtually disappeared for a few centuries. Shelly wares made a slow comeback from the late seventh or eighth century. Their peak of popularity in Kent was during the early medieval period, roughly between *c*.1050 and 1225, after which time they quickly disappeared, never to return. In east Kent, true shelly wares (i.e. those with a significant proportion of shell in the fabric) seem to have died-out earlier than in the rest of the county, probably soon after *c.*1225. In some areas of Kent, however, shelly wares (mainly varieties of shelly-sandy wares) may have remained in production even as late as *c.* 1325, but eventually the shell content diminishes to a point where the term 'shelly' ware is no longer really appropriate. Their demise was related to the rise of purely sand-tempered wares, such as the Tyler Hill pottery industry near Canterbury, and perhaps to the gradual re-introduction of the true potter's wheel which had been abandoned at the Anglo-Saxon invasion.

Shelly wares, of many varieties, were used and probably made throughout medieval Kent but to date only one shelly ware kiln site has been identified, that at Potter's Corner, Ashford, which was probably in operation between the late twelfth and mid thirteenth centuries. It is thought that there must have been many others, but kilns of this period were often temporary, insubstantial structures whose remains have either not survived or have not yet been recognised in the field. This is problematical because archaeologists like to know *where* as well as *when* pots were made, and in fact these questions are often inextricably linked. The more certainly we can recognise the products of a particular kiln or ceramic industry the more likely we are to be able to date them accurately. This has a knock-on effect on other aspects of medieval archaeology (e.g. trade routes, structural remains, settlement development etc.) that rely mainly on pottery for their dating, often the only dating available. Refinements in one branch of archaeological knowledge often lead to refinements in others.

One of the biggest problems with medieval shelly wares, particularly when present as small broken fragments, is that at first glance they can often look horribly similar, from one end of the county to the other. Some shelly wares contain abundant shell fragments, some only sparse shell; sometimes the shell is very coarse, sometimes quite fine, sometime shell is the only visible material ('inclusions') in the basic clay fabric of the pot, but often it is mixed with sand and smaller quantities of other minerals or materials that may be naturally occurring in the clay or may have been deliberately added. It is all a bit like cookery really: there were a few main shelly ware 'recipes' but an almost infinite number of minor variations on these. The significance of all these variations is often difficult to understand. In some cases they have been shown to be of chronological significance (such as the gradual shift from sand-free to sand-tempered shelly ware fabrics) but in other cases they may be of purely local



Late Saxon Shelly Wares, local and possibly imported, from a pit context in Canterbury *c.* A.D. 875–925.

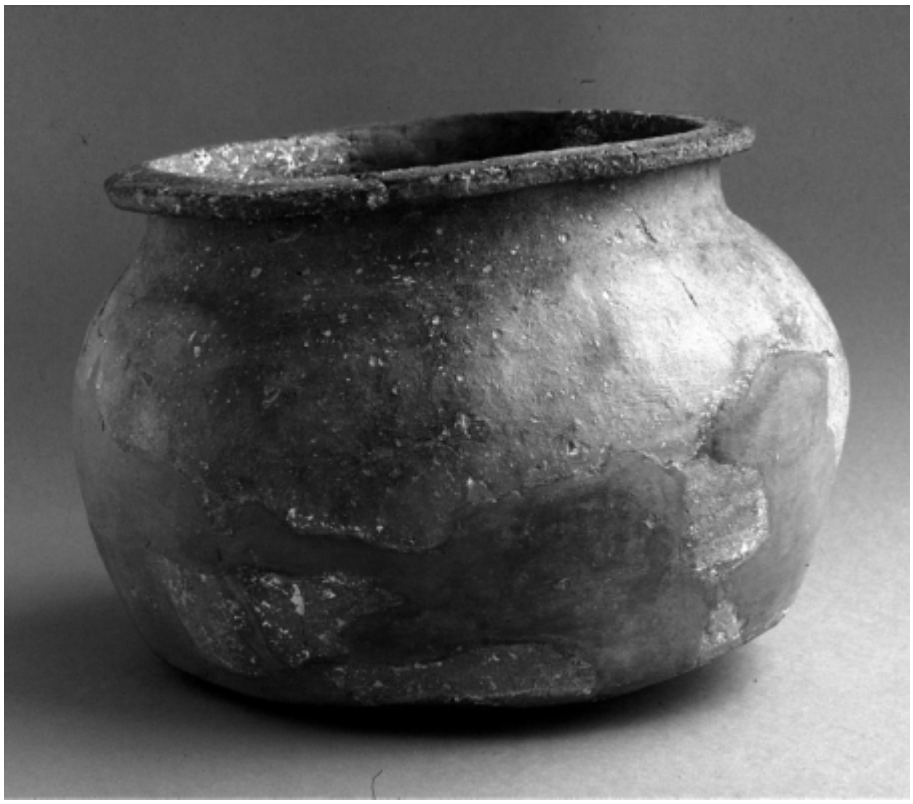
significance, influenced by geological and environmental factors. Shelly wares, however, are so common in Kent that they cannot be ignored and so over the years various pottery researchers have made attempts to describe, or 'characterise' the shelly wares found on their excavations, taking into account not just the shell or mineral content of the pottery fabric, but a whole range of other pottery characteristics such as vessel form (shape), surface treatment (e.g. decoration), function (if known) and date (if known). Little by little these studies have contributed to a growing understanding of the medieval shelly ware tradition.

Recent research by myself, often working in conjunction with other colleagues in the field, has been mostly been directed towards the goal of distinguishing the various shelly ware industries or traditions of Kent by a close examination of the types of shell-tempering used. My particular interest has focussed on the identification of the different shell species used as tempering agents in pottery, whether these could be correctly identified and whether this information could be used in some way. Hitherto this approach seems to have been little used in Kent, principally, it seems, because of the specialist zoological and palaeontological knowledge required to identify the shell in the first place. Over the years however, links have been established with experts in these fields, such as Dr John Cooper of the Natural History Museum in London, who has kindly examined samples of shelly wares from an increasing number of Kentish sites. One of the latter is the site at Iwade in the north Kent marshes, the results of which prompted the review presented here.

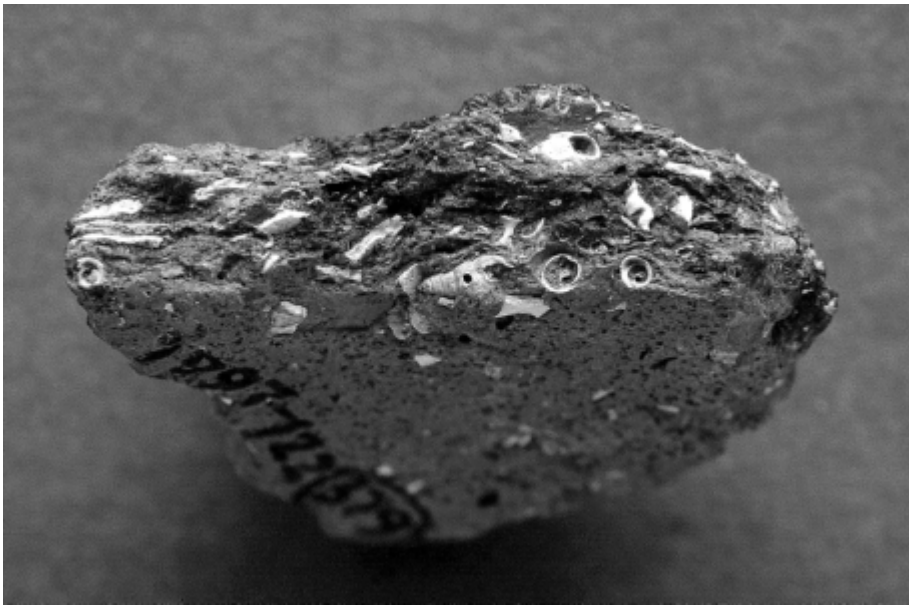
The shell content of medieval shelly wares derives from two main sources. One of these is contemporary (i.e. medieval) coastal shell, either deliberately collected in shingle form, or perhaps occurring as shell-rich clay beds sought-out by potters at low tide? The other is fossil shell, often extinct species millions of years old which occur in geological deposits of marine origin including clay, sand, sandstone and limestone. These can outcrop far inland and are weathered down into shell-rich clay sources which potters could then exploit.

Medieval Kent potters must have freely exploited both coastal and fossil shell sources as shelly wares occur throughout the county. The potters at Ashford, for example, must have exploited fossil shell sources as the town lies a considerable distance inland, and it is no coincidence that the town sits on the edge of the Hythe Beds, a broad ribbon of shell-rich strata stretching from Hythe and Folkestone on the south coast and up through Ashford, Maidstone and Sevenoaks in north-west Kent, areas known or suspected of having their own shelly ware industries. Unfortunately the shell content in Ashford-type shelly wares seems to be particularly sensitive to acid groundwater and frequently dissolves-out leaving a multitude of small voids. This problem affects all shelly wares to varying degrees, sometimes making species identification impossible.

Fossil and non-fossil shell occurring in pottery cannot always be distinguished from each other, even with the aid of a microscope. Different researchers have used different approaches to this problem depending on the facilities and specialist knowledge available. Both have a cost in time and money and both have their own advantages and disadvantages. Probably the quickest and most reliable method of making this initial distinction is by a chemical test known as



Large cooking pot in early medieval shelly-sandy ware *c.* A.D. 1150–1225. From St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury.



Edge-on view of a sherd of early medieval shelly-sandy ware with abundant gastropod inclusions. *c.* A.D. 1150–1225 from Canterbury.

Dicksons's method. This relies on the fact that fossil and non-fossil shell, have a slightly different chemical (calcite) composition which can be distinguished with the aid of chemical staining. This normally requires the preparation of a thin-section (slice) of pottery for examination under microscope using polarized light. This sort of analysis can only be carried out by trained technicians under laboratory conditions, but it has the advantage of not requiring a detailed knowledge of shell taxonomy.

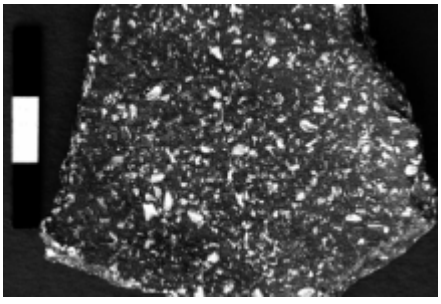
The other, more traditional, method of fossil/non-fossil differentiation is that mentioned earlier which requires (at least initially) the examination of the better-preserved shell fragments by a trained zoologist/palaeontologist who assigns the shell to known species, normally with the aid of a microscope. In this case, however, thin-sectioning, staining and laboratory conditions are not required; the potsherd (usually several) is simply examined under the microscope. This has the advantage that non-scientists (such as myself) can, with guidance, come to recognise the commoner types of shell inclusions that occur in the pottery of their area, and sometimes beyond, allowing them not only to distinguish fossil from non-fossil shell but also allowing useful comparisons to be made between the shelly wares from different parts of the county.

There is one other scientific technique which is sometimes used to distinguish similar-looking pottery types from each other, regardless of whether they contain shell or not. This relies solely on the chemistry of the clay used and the fact that clays from different sources have their own unique chemical 'fingerprint'. This technique goes under the impressive name of Inducto-Coupled Plasma Spectroscopy (ICPS). Because the technique is relatively new it has only been applied, so far, to a relatively limited number of pottery samples from Kent and would need to be applied to very many more before its usefulness (at least with regard to shelly wares) can be properly judged. Certainly the technique shows great potential, but again has the disadvantage that it can only be carried out by trained technicians under laboratory conditions.

By these different approaches a rough shelly ware 'map' of Kent is beginning to emerge, though it is still only very rough in places and almost blank in others. My own work has concentrated on shelly ware assemblages from east Kent, particularly the Canterbury area and Dover (Cotter forthcoming), though more recently assemblages from north coast sites, such as Iwade, and south coast sites, such as New Romney, have been available for inspection. At the same time Lyn Blackmore has been working on shelly ware assemblages from the Museum of London's excavations at Ashford and from other sites along the route of the high-speed rail-link in north-west Kent. Both Lyn Blackmore and Nigel Macpherson-Grant have recently completed studies of local and imported shelly wares from the site of the Saxon and medieval port of *Sandtun* near Hythe (Gardiner *et al.* forthcoming). Some of this information is summarised in a forthcoming overview of shelly wares in south-east England, which includes a section on Kent (Blackmore and Pearce forthcoming).

The main types of shelly ware in Canterbury and east Kent, which prompted my initial interest, often contain a distinctive and sometimes well-preserved suite of shell inclusions which look suspiciously like contemporary coastal shell, a suspicion subsequently confirmed by Dr John Cooper. These are most noticeable in shelly wares of the twelfth century, although they have been recognised in some much rarer and earlier examples of mid to late Saxon shelly wares from Canterbury excavations. In the medieval fabrics (sandy and non-sandy) the commonest shell inclusions are always platy bivalve fragments (mostly unidentifiable) but including cockle (*Cerastoderma* sp.), scallop (*Chlamys* sp.) and most distinctively the intertidal gastropods *Hydrobia* and *Rissoa*, sometimes surviving as complete conical shells up to 4 mm. long. Also visible are distinctive boney-structured? barnacle fragments, small echinoid spines and a pale spongey organism, possibly a seaweed-like *Bryozoan*. Tiny cellular marine organisms known as *foraminifera* have also sometimes been noted. The gastropods are particularly interesting as their preferred habitat is in brackish water either in lagoons or on estuarine mud, conditions which are not much in evidence along the modern coastline of east Kent which has no major river estuaries. However the coastline of north-east Kent has altered dramatically over the last thousand years. In Saxon times the Isle of Thanet was still separated from the mainland by the Wantsum Channel, and the modern river Stour, which flows through Canterbury, widened into a navigable estuary emptying into the latter, ideal conditions perhaps for brackish water gastropods to flourish? By the thirteenth century, however, this extensive estuary and the Wantsum Channel had completely silted-up and Thanet could be reached on foot.

My hunch is that most of the medieval shelly wares found in north-east Kent could have been produced at small pottery workshops along the banks of the Wantsum, in the last century or so of its existence as an open water channel, sites that now could lie up to a few miles inland. However, if they lay at the northern (Reculver) end of the channel, they may already have been lost to the marine erosion that affects the



A sherd of North French/Flemish shelly ware showing abundant finely-crushed shell inclusions. *c.* 850–1200. From a site near Folkestone.

Cooking pot sherds in Canterbury shell-dusted sandy ware, made at Tyler Hill, Canterbury, *c.* A.D. 1175–1250, showing surface 'dusting' of crushed shell in imitation of true shelly wares.

coastline here so badly. This hunch will obviously need to be tested by future fieldwork. One could further speculate that the demise of the 'Wantsum workshops' (*c*. 1225?) could have accelerated the local decline in the use of shelly wares. Curiously, however, it was about this time (*c*. 1175–1250) that the sandy ware potters at Tyler Hill, just north of Canterbury, were producing their own imitation shelly ware – cooking pots and bowls in the normal sandy-bodied Tyler Hill fabric, but decorated with a 'dusting' of crushed marine shell applied to the rim and shoulder of the vessel only, shell that they would have had to obtain from the coast at least three miles away. These imitations enjoyed a wide circulation throughout east Kent at the very time when true shelly wares were dying-out. Why? Were Tyler Hill potters filling a void in the market created by the decline of true shelly wares or did they exacerbate the decline by stealing the market away from the shelly ware potters? And why imitate shelly wares at all if sandy wares were a superior product? Was there some fond folk-memory attached to their use? These are questions we may never be able to answer satisfactorily.

Another area of Kent where we find brackish water gastropods in the local shelly wares is in the far south, in the Romney Marsh. The use of shelly wares here at ports such as New Romney and Lydd seems to have continued much later than in the eastern part of the county, possibly as late as *c.*1300. Some of these shelly wares are quite similar in appearance to Ashford-type shelly wares but the presence of contemporary marine shell (as opposed to Ashford's fossil shell sources) suggests a different, probably local source. Although the gastropod element in Romney Marsh shelly wares is fairly sparse compared to those of north-east Kent their presence here is significant. Like the north-east corner of Kent the coastline of the Romney Marsh area has seen major changes since the early medieval period. The once heavily indented topography of navigable creeks and lagoons here was gradually infilled as a result of storms, silting and land reclamation. The conditions for brackish water gastropods which once existed are now all but gone. For us the main significance of all this is that the presence of brackish water gastropods seems to be characteristic of the medieval shelly wares of just two areas of coastal Kent.

Examination of shelly wares from recent excavations at Iwade and Teynham, in the North Kent marshes, near Sittingbourne, suggests the continued use of shelly wares here until *c.*1250 and, unlike the Canterbury area further east, the sand-free fabric remained the dominant type here. The shell species used in this central area of the north Kent coast also differs slightly from that used along the north-east coast. Gastropod is virtually absent, mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) seems to be predominant, closely followed by cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*) with the occasional presence of Baltic tellin (*Macoma balthica*). All these differences point to local coastal or near-coastal production.

Inland parts of the county, particularly central, north and west Kent, seem to have been mainly supplied with shelly wares made with shell from fossil sources. The main sources of shell in these areas are likely to have been the Hythe Beds, mentioned earlier, and the shell-rich black clays of the Woolwich Beds. Both sets of deposits run parallel to the arc of the North Downs, the former to the south through the central part of the county, the latter to the north, mostly outcropping in north-west Kent, often near the coast.

The Ashford kiln, located on the Hythe Beds, was certainly one source of these wares and there may have been another near Maidstone. In fact Ashford-type shelly-sandy wares are so prolific in central and southern Kent that it is unlikely they could all come from just one or two kilns. Recent work, furthermore, suggests that this industry or tradition may have originated in the Late Saxon period. Insufficient work has been greater access to a larger number of pottery sources. At 'consumer' sites, such as Dover, for instance, shelly wares have been identified from a large number of sources, mainly as a result of trade, and although most of these are of fairly local origin, there are shelly wares present from almost every part of Kent. Added to this there is the problem (albeit an interesting one) of the presence of smaller quantities of medieval shelly wares imported from North France/Flanders and perhaps from other English sources. The fact that we are now at a point where we can at least broadly categorise the major shelly ware traditions of medieval Kent, and recognise 'alien' ones, is a sign that progress is being made in the understanding of this often problematic, but ubiquitous, class of ceramic.

PART FOUR

Education

Marion Green, Education Officer

'Cat launched into space!'

This is probably the most exciting current project from the Archaeology in Education Service. Canterbury Archaeological Trust is in the process of developing an educational website, with guidance from the Kent Advisory Service at Kent County Council Education Department and funding from Kent National Grid for Learning. The aim is to have as much educational 'content' as we can generate, making our discoveries accessible not only to those in teaching, but also any individual out there in that vast enquiring audience who is keen to find out about the past.

The website is due to be launched in April 2000 and will be at www.canterburytrust.co.uk.

For the rest of our work, there follows a summary of the now perennial activities of the Archaeology in Education Service:

Work Experience

Developing a sense of responsibility and co-operation in a working environment are the main objectives of the Kent County Council Work Experience scheme. Because a number of the students coming to us are considering Archaeology as a career, we continue to give them some solid archaeological content by arranging a number of structured activities.

During the year, placements were given to students from the following Kent schools: Simon Langton Girls School Canterbury, Sutton Valence School near Maidstone, Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys Canterbury, Dane Court Grammar School Broadstairs, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Faversham, Cornwallis School Maidstone and Canterbury High School.

Our quota for placements is always full. Where we cannot take a student, we can usually suggest that he/she makes an alternative arrangement to try some voluntary work during school holidays.

Higher Education

Lecturing to student teachers at Christ Church University College Canterbury continues and we would like to see some involvement in the schools provision for the Whitefriars excavations. Once again, we provided a specially structured placement for Humanities students at the University of Kent engaged in the 'Medieval Monasticism' course, part of their first year studies.

SET Week 2000

The 'Smelly Bits and Skeleton Pits' event staged for SET Week '99 was so popular that we (Canterbury Museums, the Trust and the University of Kent BioSciences Department) decided to run it again for SET Week 2000. Science, Engineering and Technology Week is a national event co-ordinated by the British Association for the advancement of Science, Engineering and Technology. There is a strong emphasis on the encouragement of general public understanding and appreciation of these subjects and many activities are aimed specifically at young people. As last year, the event was hosted by the Royal Museum, Canterbury. Over the four day period, there were a number of booked visits for Canterbury District schools (Canterbury, Herne Bay, Whitstable) while members of the general public were free to mix in whenever and wherever they could ... Saturday was extremely busy when everyone seemed to descend on the Royal Museum.

My thanks go to Dr Peter Nicholls of the Department of BioSciences, University of Kent, for once again securing funds from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for the Trust's input.

Medieval Canterbury

In addition, work on *Medieval Canterbury*, a resource book aimed at secondary school pupils is progressing well now that we have secured more funding and several of the Trust staff have supported the Education Service by giving guidance to GCSE and A Level students engaged in personal projects.

My thanks as always go to all those individuals and organisations who have supported our work and in particular Kent Archaeological Society, Kent County Council Education and Libraries, Medway Council and the Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

PART FIVE

The Friends

The Friends of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust

Lawrence Lyle

We welcome Norman Smith to the Committee as Minutes Secretary. Our numbers remain steady at around 360 but approximately two-thirds covenant their subscriptions enabling our efficient Covenants Secretary, Jean Dawson to claim about £1,300 in tax refunds from the Revenue.

The major grants this year have been:

- £1,890 for hardware and software to modernise the accounting system.
- £1,700 for an internet package which included setting up, configuration and training.
- £1,000 towards the cost of publishing another children's book, A Journey to Medieval Canterbury. This grant will strengthen Marion Green's hand in applying for grants from other sources.
- £990 to replace a worn-out and unreliable computer in the finance department.
- £583 for two cameras with lens filters and carrying cases.

Other grants from the Donald Baron Bursaries Fund enabled members of staff to attend conferences and courses connected with their specialism. John Cotter went to the Annual Conference of the Medieval Pottery Research Group in Sheffield, Peter Clark gave a paper on 'Archaeology and Geoarchaeology' to the Annual Conference of the Association of European Archaeologists at the University of Bournemouth and Marion Green attended the CBA weekend conference on 'Archaeology in Education', at the University of York.

Ann Vine and Meriel Connor led an enjoyable short break to King's Lynn in May. Based in the 'Duke's Head' in the historic centre, visits were paid, amongst others, to several fenland churches with an enthusiastic guide, to Sandringham and to Holkham Hall (where the BBC film crew had to postpone their lunch because Ann had a prior booking) as well as a guided walk round the town. The joint summer excursions with the Canterbury Archaeological Society began with three churches on 27th May, St Margaret's at Cliffe, Westcliff and Adisham. At the end of June my excursion was to Hall Place, Bexley, and to Downe House, where English Heritage have restored Charles Darwin's home and added imaginative explanatory exhibits. Meriel Connor led a London excursion in July which started in the Geffrye Museum with its period rooms specialising in the development of English furniture (and an excellent café), followed in the afternoon by a guided walk by a Blue Badge guide of parts of the City ending at the Guildhall. During the winter two more excursions were made to London. In November Ann Vine led a party to the Ranger's House, Greenwich, and to the Museum of London to see the special exhibition on 'Alfred the Great 849–899 London's forgotten King'; timing was affected by the Lord Mayor's Show. In February Meriel Connor was at last able to get a booking for a tour of the magnificent new British Library which she combined with a visit to the small but interesting Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology at University College, Gower Street.

A lecture was given in November on the dismantling and re-erection of Longport Farmhouse by Richard Harris, Research Director of the Weald and Downland Museum. The farmhouse lay in the path of the high speed rail link near Folkestone and the Trust was involved in both processes. A capacity audience was again gripped for nearly two hours by Paul Bennett's review of the work of the Trust during 1999 when he gave the annual Frank Jenkins Memorial Lecture in January.

Festival Walks, organised by Meriel Connor, were again fully booked and included some new venues. They provided insights into the history and buildings of Canterbury and nearby places and raised money for the Trust.

Our customary Newsletters have been compiled and published at four monthly intervals during the year. Although expensive to produce they provide news of our activities and of the Trust and are an essential link with our members. Our team of distributors does sterling work in saving postal costs. All Friends owe them and our hardworking Committee a debt of gratitude in keeping the show on the road.

FRIENDS *of the* CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

PART SIX

Financial Accounts

The following financial statements represent a summary of the audited accounts of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Limited for the year ended 31st March 2000. A full set are available at the Registered Office.

Report of the Directors

The Directors have pleasure in presenting their report for the year ended 31st March 2000.

Review of the Activities

The company was incorporated on 2nd August 1979 and acquired all the assets and liabilities of the unincorporated association 'Canterbury Archaeological Trust'. The principal activities of the company remained unchanged from those of the incorporated association, that is to advance the education of the public in Archaeology and to acquire and promote knowledge of the past of and in Canterbury and the surrounding area.

Results

The results of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2000 are as follows:-

	2000	1999
	£	£
Main Account	412,198	77,991
Friends Account	9,654	6,410
Donald Baron Bursary Fund	709	452

Directors

The Directors during the year were:
F.H. Panton
M.H.S. Bridgeford
R. Westbrook

Secretary

The Secretary during the year was Lawrence D. Lyle.

Registered Office

92A Broad Street, Canterbury, Kent.

Registered Charity Number

The Company is registered under charity number 278861

Auditors

A resolution to reappoint Larkings as auditors will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. Chantrey Vellacot retired 25 February 2000, a resolution to appoint Larkings as auditors will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Lawrence D Lyle Secretary 27 March 2001

Report of the Auditors

We have audited the financial statements set out herein which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies.

Respective responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit included examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2000 and of the surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Larkings
Chartered Accountants
31 St. George's Place
Canterbury
Kent CT1 1XD
(appointed 25 February 2000)

Main Account

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income		
Fees	950,837	1,032,008
Grants	25,250	41,825
Gift Aid	635,800	-
Donations	2,315	29,583
Other	26,092	32,265
	1,640,294	1,135,681
Operating Expenditure		
Direct Project Expenditure	1,136,089	973,928
Management & Administration:		
Wages, Salaries & NIC	92,007	83,762
	1,228,096	1,057,690
Surplus for the year	412,198	77,991

Balance Sheet 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible fixed assets	173,106	250,003
Current Assets		
Bank Account, Float & Debtors	894,744	423,906
Creditors (Due within one year)	(178,982)	(195,016)
Net Current Assets	715,762	228,890
Total Assets less current liabilities	888,868	478,893
Creditors (Due after one year)	(-)	(2,223)
Capital Account/Revenue Reserves	888,868	476,670

The Friends Account

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions	7,858	7,965
Other Income		
Donations, Events, Interest	3,511	2,459
Total Income	11,369	10,424
Expenditure		
Stationery, Postage,		
Printing, Bank Charges	1,715	4,014
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	9,654	6,410

Balance Sheet 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	£	£
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts & Debtors	29,322	25,412
Creditors		
Sundry Creditors (Due within one year)	(-)	(5,160)
Total assets less current liabilities	29,322	20,252
Represented by:		
Income and Expenditure Account		
Balance brought forward	20,252	20,404
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	9,654	6,410
	29,906	26,814
Less payments on behalf of and to		
Canterbury Archaeological Trust	585	6,562
	29,321	20,252

The Friends Account - Donald Baron Bursaries Fund

Income and Expenditure Account 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income		
Deed of Covenant/ Interest Received	1,330	1,286
Expenditure		
Courses Paid	621	834
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	709	452
Balance brought forward	11,267	9,917
	10,298	9,589

Balance Sheet 31 March 2000

Represented by:		
The Charities Deposit Fund	10,298	9,589

CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD

A REGISTERED CHARITY

PART SEVEN

Members of the Trust Council

Patron:
His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury
(Dr George Carey)

Vice-Presidents:
*Cllr Bernard Collins
Mrs Margaret Collins
Mrs Margaret Scott-Knight

Chairman:
The Lord Mayor of Canterbury

Vice-Chairman:
*Dr Frank Panton, M.B.E., Ph.D., C.Chem., F.R.S.C., F.R.Ae.S., F.R.S.A.

Honorary Secretary:
*Mr Lawrence Lyle

Honorary Treasurer:
Mr Robin Westbrook

Canterbury Museums Officer:
*Mr K.G.H. Reedie, M.A., F.S.A. (Scot), A.M.A.

Mr David Anning, F.C.A.
Dr T.F.C. Blagg, M.A., F.S.A.
Professor B.W. Cunliffe, C.B.E., M.A., Ph.D., Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A.
Professor S.S. Frere, C.B.E., M.A., Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A.
The Dean of Canterbury (Very Rev. Dr John Simpson, M.A.).
Professor Alfred Smyth, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.G.S.
*Mrs Margaret Sparks, M.A.
Professor John Wacher, B.Sc., F.S.A.
*Mr Bruce Webster, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.
*Mr Michael Bridgeford, F.A.S.I.

*indicates Member of Management Committee

One person appointed from each of the following bodies:

The Dean & Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral:
Mr John Burton, Dip. Arch., R.I.B.A.

Council for British Archaeology:
Mr Tom Hassall, M.A., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

University of Kent at Canterbury:
Mr Andrew Butcher, M.A.

Canterbury Archaeological Society:
Mrs Pan Garrard

Kent County Council:
Cllr Terry Pears

The British Museum:
Dr Leslie Webster, B.A., F.S.A.

Royal Archaeological Institute:
Mr Geoffrey Beresford, F.S.A.

Kent Archaeological Society:
Cllr Paul Oldham

Heritage Projects Limited:
Dr Peter Addyman, M.A., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

Four members of Canterbury City Council:
Cllr Harry Cragg
Cllr Mary Jefferies
Cllr Wes McLachlan
Cllr Ron Pepper

Non-voting members:
Mr Mansell Jagger, M.A., Dip. T.P., M.R.T.P.I.
(Director of Planning, Canterbury City Council).
Mr Peter Kendall, B.A.
(Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission (England).

Honorary Legal Advisors:
Furley Page Fielding & Barton (Mr Nigel Jones)

Auditors:
Larkings

PART EIGHT

Sponsors

The work of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust is mostly sustained by the commissioning and funding of fieldwork and research projects by clients and other bodies. We are very pleased to acknowledge the support of the following during 1999–2000.

Abbey Developments Ltd
Abbey Homes
Babtie Group
Ballast Wiltshire plc (South East Region)
R.J. Barwick & Sons Ltd
George Bell and Co.
Bennett and Baxter Builders Ltd
Biddle and Biddle
Bourne Developments
Bovis Homes
Boxley Parish Council
Bradie Building Services Ltd
Brattle and Bray Ltd
Bryant Homes
Building and Property Defence Ltd
Burkill Johnson Ltd
Care Principles Ltd
Christ Church College
Clague Architects
D. Clarke Builders
Mr Julian Cousins
Croudace Homes
Dean and Chapter Canterbury
Dean and Chapter Rochester
Dover District Council
Dover Harbour Board
English Heritage
Eurotunnel Developments Ltd
Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust
Mr P. Fuller
Grovehurst Energy
H.M. Prison Service Construction Unit
A.T. Hewitt
Jarvis Properties Ltd
Jenners Chartered Building
Kent Archaeological Society
Kent County Council
Kent County Council Education and Libraries
Kent National Grid for Learning
Kent Property Services
King's School, Canterbury
King's School, Rochester
Kwick Fitt Motorist Centre
Land Securities plc
Longmoor Construction Ltd
Medway Council
Milroy Group
Mr Gary Mitchell
Mizen Design/Build Ltd
Monkton Court Farm
Mott MacDonald Ltd
O'Brien Properties Ltd
Pelham Homes Ltd
Pfizer Ltd
Priority Sites Ltd
Prowting Homes Ltd
Rogate Developments Ltd
Salmon Developments plc
Shepway Construction Services
Spectrum Properties UK Ltd
Stoners Buildings Ltd
Sutton Vallence School
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Tyler Hill Partnership & Associates
Union Railways (South) Ltd
University of Kent at Canterbury
Vanguard Pubs and Restaurants
Ward Homes Construction (Medway)
Wilcon Homes
George Wilson Developments

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