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The Prehistoric Period (continued from p.131)

PREHISTORIC FINDS

Human Remains by Mary Harman

Child Burial from Pit 831 (Pl. 1)

The skeleton, complete in the ground, was brittle and very fragmentary; although the surfaces were quite well preserved, the splintering of the diaphyses and the decay of the epiphyses and the vertebral bodies has left only the skull, in numerous pieces, parts of all the long bone shafts, and many small rib fragments.

All the deciduous teeth were found, and the unerupted crowns of many of the permanent teeth; the development of these, compared with the diagram of tooth development produced by Brothwell,¹ suggests an age of between three and four years. None of the long bone diaphyses were complete, but the major portions of those of the humerus, femur and tibia survive, and length measurements of these, compared with the chart prepared by Miss R. Powers,² suggest a slightly younger age, perhaps two to three years, although in view of the condition of the bones the age based on the teeth is probably the more reliable.

There was no evidence of injury or disease affecting the surviving bones, and the teeth were all healthy with no evidence of caries.

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1. D.R. Brothwell, Digging up Bones, British Museum (Natural History) 1965, 59.
 2. Information from R. Powers.

Pottery, Flint and Metalwork by Humphrey Case (Fig. 3, 1-11)

Burial Pit 831

- The fill of the pit (L831/1) produced 42 sherds of Beaker pottery 11 3/4 oz.) from at least 8 pots (Fig. 3, 1-8).
1. 4 sherds (3 joining including rim) and possibly 5 others including flakes and crumbs; reddish-brown to light brown (leached) exterior, grey core and interior, abundant shell filler to 7 mm.; zonal criss-cross, and reserved zig-zag ornament, notched stamps.
 2. 3 body sherds (2 joining) in similar fabric but with flint filler to 5 mm.; zonal criss-cross, notched stamps.
 3. Body sherd (neck); reddish-brown exterior, grey core and interior, grog; horizontal zonal decoration and reserved zig-zag.
 4. Body sherd and possibly 4 more; similar exterior, brown interior; similar fabric but sandier and more eroded; similar zig-zag decoration.
 5. 5 sherds (4 joining including shoulder): light brown to reddish-brown exterior, grey brown core and interior, grog and occasional flint to 4 mm.; slashed cordon and criss-cross decoration, eroded but probably all notched stamp.
 6. 5 body sherds (including rounded shoulder); light red exterior, grey core and interior, sandy texture, grog and sparse flint to 3 mm.; roughly zonal opposed finger-nail impressions.
 7. 4 sherds (including 3 joining); reddish brown to brownish grey (leached) exterior, grey core and interior, grog and sparse shell to 5 mm.; opposed finger-nail impressions pressed together to form cordons, with undecorated zone; joining sherds ground to rough triangular shape and perforated from outer surface.
 8. 3 sherds (including 2 joining); reddish-brown exterior, grey interior, grog; finger-nail impressions probably similarly arranged but not to form cordons.

There were also 6 unassignable flakes or crumbs, including one with notched stamp impression and another possibly from a base.

Such an assemblage including sherds of a number of beakers and probably storage vessels (e.g. no. 7) is characteristic of settlements¹ but uncommon in graves. It is characteristically Late Beaker. The inturned rim of no. 1

1. Cf. Cassington pit 1, H. Casé et al., 'Excavations at City Farm, Hanborough, Oxon', Oxoniensia, xxix/xxx, (1964/5), Fig. 22.

is well matched at the Eynsham cemetery, graves 1, 3, 4, 8,¹ and the finger-made impressions of no. 8 in grave 15.² The flowing profile of no. 6 should cause no surprise.³

From L831/1 also came 11 struck flints (2 1/4 oz.) and sieved spalls (1/4 oz.), fairly clean flaking material with fairly unabraded cortex suggesting flint from surface of chalk, including (Fig. 3, 9, 10):

9. Scraper, l. 36 mm., w. 30 mm., fully pressure flaked on dorsal surface, marks of use all round.

10. Small flake knife, l. 35 mm., nibbled retouch both edges. Somewhat similar flake knives occur in Beaker Culture graves and the scraper would be in character. The pit also contained a fragmentary quartzite pebble (5 3/4 oz.), with reduced skin and slight surface cracking, probably a hearth stone or pot boiler.

Feature 832

Small pottery flake, less than 1/4 oz., probably Beaker pottery.

This whole assemblage is more characteristic of settlements than graves. Beaker culture activity has been rarely recorded from the flood-plain⁴ but is now beginning to appear there.⁵

Overlying Alluvium (Layers 641/2, 750, 783, 817, 828)

11. Gold strip (Fig. 3, 11), l. 87 mm., w. 8.5 mm., Th. 0.4-0.5 mm., decorated with 11 traced grooves, very straight, even, smooth and parallel even under x 20 magnification (SF 444, L828).

Such accurate work is unknown in Middle Beaker Culture contexts, but by the Late phase many traditions were operating.⁶ The best matches for this

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1. D.L. Clarke, Beaker Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland (1970), figs. 1056, 1079, 986, 951.
 2. Ibid., fig. 1038.
 3. Cf. Cassington grave 1, ibid. fig. 120, and Cassington pit 2, Case et al., op. cit., Fig. 23.
 4. H. Case, 'Beaker Pottery from the Oxford Region: 1939-1955', Oxonienzia, xxi (1956), 1-21, 20.
 5. A.G. Sherratt, 'A New Beaker from Radley', Oxonienzia, xxxviii (1973), 384-5; and on an old ground surface under an early Bronze Age barrow, Kings Weir, Wytham, see this volume p. 1.
 6. H. Case, 'The Beaker Culture in Britain and Ireland', Beakers in Britain and Europe, ed. R. Mercer, BAR 26 (1977), 71-84.

piece appear to be the gold pommel strips from graves with bronze daggers at Blackwaterfoot, Bute; Skateraw, East Lothian; and Collessie, Fife,¹ although none of these is as long or as finely traced as the Oxford specimen, which also lacks the internal flanges of the Scottish pieces. A fragment from the well-known grave with Vase Food-Vessel associations at Topped Mountain, Fermanagh,² also seems comparable. All these are Early Bronze Age. Henshall and Gerloff indicate a Wessex Culture connection with the Scottish pieces, and it is not inconceivable that they were current when Late Beakers were in use in the Upper Thames.

12. Small flake scraper (Fig. 3, 12) l. 20mm., w. 27 mm., damaged by use at tip (L750). Such small scrapers are characteristic of Beaker Culture associations.

The alluvium also produced 6 crumbs of pottery (<1/4oz.), indeterminable but consistent with Beaker pottery (L783); a flint flake, l. 37 mm., with marks of use (L828); flint spall (L828) and 2 further flint flakes (L641/2) with ochreous patination, possibly therefore not associated with remainder; one originally with white patination, broken and with nibbled retouch. Also from the site but unstratified was a flint block, l. 42 mm., with marks of use on both edges and two possibly Belgic Iron Age or Roman sherds came from a medieval ditch (818, D2a).

1. A.S. Henshall, 'Scottish Dagger Graves', J.M. Collis and D.D.A. Simpson (ed.), Studies in Ancient Europe (1968), 173-95; S. Gerloff, 'The Early Bronze Age Daggers in Britain'; Prähistorische Bronzefunde, Abt. VI, Bd. 2(1975).
2. E.C.R. Armstrong, Catalogue of Irish Gold Ornaments (1933), no. 399.

Animal Bones by Bob Wilson

The Burial Pit 831 produced 4 cattle and 3 sheep or goat bones, besides 31 unidentifiable or rib fragments, one of which was burnt. Breakage during excavation increased the number of unidentifiable fragments. A small accessory pillar on the fourth deciduous tooth of a broken, immature, mandible may indicate goat (Capra sp.). An Apodemus sp. mouse mandible was obtained from the sieved sample (see below).

Cut marks indicated the removal of cheek meat from the posterior end of a cattle mandible. These bones are not distinguishable from ordinary occupation debris.

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE by Mark Robinson

A column through the pre-medieval alluvium overlying the gravel and a 9 Kg. sample from the Beaker burial pit, 831/1, were sieved to a mesh size of 0.5 mm. and examined for biological remains.

The Samples

The Column Sample (Fig. IV, Section C)

Level (m. above gravel)

Layer 641	0 - 0.23	Brownish orange slightly clayey silt
	0.23 - 0.47	Brownish grey silty clay loam with red-brown flecks

The Burial Pit 831

Layer 831/1	Orange brown slightly clayey silt with grey and charcoal flecking.
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Results

The sediments of the column sample were entirely free of macroscopic biological remains. Gravel or grit was absent as was calcium carbonate.

The only biological remains in L831/1 were some small bones and unidentifiable particles of wood charcoal. Fine flint chippings were also present. As with the column sample, the deposit was lime free.

Interpretation

The absence of organic material in the burial pit even though its bottom was below the modern water table suggests that the water level has not always been as high. Since organic material was preserved to the top of the water table in the medieval features on the site this change must have occurred before the 12th century.

Perhaps related to the rise in the water table is the evidence for substantial fluvial activity on the site subsequent to the Beaker burial. The layer of Beaker occupation debris from which L831/1 was presumably derived and whatever soil from probable plough marks on the surface of the lower alluvium was made through were dispersed. In their place was deposited 0.2 - 0.3 m. of alluvium. The absence of molluscs from the column sample suggests that at some period inundations of lime rich river water were not frequent enough to counter rainwater leaching.

The Medieval Period (continued from p. 160.)

Archaeological Description

D2a: Mid 12th century ditch (Fig. I, Plan 2; Fig. III, Sections A, B)

The ground surface at the beginning of the medieval period was represented by the top of the alluvium (641/2, 750, 783, 817 and 828). This surface was fairly level and on average 55.66 m. above sea level. Cut into the layer was the earliest medieval feature on the site, a small ditch running north-south, which has been recut, possibly more than once. The earliest cut, 820, was 0.8 - 1.2 m. wide, about 0.15 m. deep and filled with grey silty clay. This was later replaced by 818, a recut slightly to the west, which was 0.2 m. deep and 0.9 - 1.2 m. wide. 818 was filled successively with layers of sand, gravel, and clay and gravel (818/3, 818/2, 818/1). This ditch was probably for drainage; its fill contained aquatic snails. It was certainly too insubstantial to form any kind of barrier, although it might have marked a boundary. Probably contemporary with the ditch was 819, an irregular hole, 0.7 m. in diameter and 0.15 m. deep, cut into 817 and filled with gravelly orange clay.

D2b: Mid-late 12th century ditch (Fig. I, Plan 2; Figs. III, VI, Sections D, H; Pl. 3)

The next development was the excavation of another ditch (645), a corner of which was uncovered in the south west of the site. This had also been recut. The earlier cut was only visible to the west, where it ran slightly more to the south than its successor. It would have been c. 1 m. deep and perhaps 2 m. across and was successively filled with grey clay (645/7), clayey loam (645/6) and brown gravelly loam (645/5). The later cut was about 1 m. deep and 2.6 m. wide at the west end and 0.9 m. deep and 1.8 m. wide at the south. On the corner there was a slight hollow, perhaps a sump, in the bottom. This cut was filled with orange gravelly clay (645/4), grey clayey loam (645/3, 645/9 and 645/10) and brown clay loam (645/2 and 645/8). The character of the upper layers and the quantities of rubbish they contained seemed to indicate that the ditch was deliberately filled once it had fallen into disuse. This ditch also was probably dug primarily for drainage, and its depth, greater by 0.85 m. than that of 818 and 820, could indicate that drainage schemes in the area were having some effect. On the other hand 645 might have been dug at a different time of year when the water table was lower. Furthermore even though no trace of a bank was found by the ditch, it would have been a substantial obstacle and could therefore also have functioned as an animal enclosure.

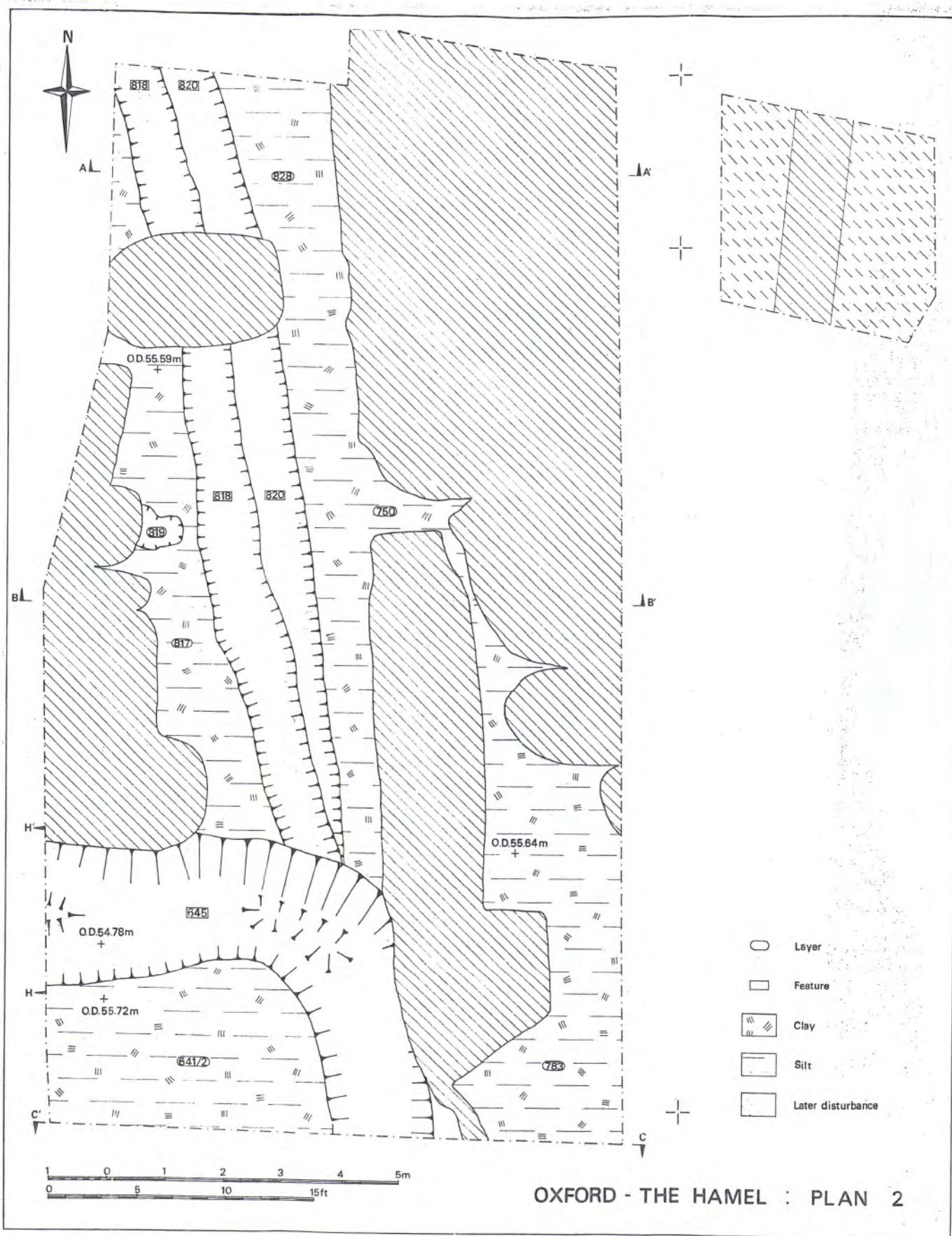


Fig. I D2a and D2b : Mid-late 12th century.

D3a: Late 12th - early 13th century ditches (Fig. II, Plan 3; Figs. III, IV, VI, Sections A, B, D, J, K; Pl. 3)

The infilling of ditch 645 was followed by the excavation of a complex of further ditches. In the southern part of the site, running north-south, was a length of ditch (786), 1.8 m. wide by 1.1 m. deep which widened out into a pit/waterhole (626), c. 3 m. wide at its southern end. The combined length of these was 9.5 m. A shallow drainage gully (812), c. 0.15 m. deep by 0.3 m. wide, ran into the south side of 626. On the east of 626 was a ramp of gravel and clay (810a) down to the water to facilitate access, and an apparent sump in the bottom to enable the convenient filling of buckets. During the period of use of the waterhole 626 (Fig. IV, Section D) a series of thin layers of gravel, loam, silt and clay built up in it (808, 809, 807, 803, 742, 744, 743); 742 and 744 were thin layers of clay, perhaps dumped to seal organic material below. In ditch 786 (Fig. VI, Section J), after a similar sequence of thin silt layers, some containing organic material, clay or gravel had been deposited (786/21, 786/20, 786/18, 786/13, 786/14, 786/15, 786/8), the northern end of the ditch was filled in with loam (786/5) and gravel (786/4) before being recut and reduced in length by 1 m. The recut ditch then filled with more layers of silt with clay and organic material (786/19, 786/16, 786/12). The large number of the thin layers in these features is probably explained by the continuing use of the waterhole.

In the northern part of the site there were two parallel ditches running north-south. The western of these 795, 1.75 m. wide by 1.1 m. deep, ran on the same alignment as 786, from which it was divided by a narrow (c. 1.5 m.) causeway of undisturbed ground. The shorter recut of 786 was very probably designed to widen this causeway. The length of 795 excavated was 7.5 m. and the only layer deposited in it during its period of use was the black organic silt 799 (Fig. III, Section A). To the east was 799, another ditch of similar depth but somewhat wider (c. 2 m.). This showed signs of having been recut, the fill of the earlier cut being blue grey silt (799). The later cut was apparently contemporary with 795.

The material excavated from ditches 786 and 795, or at least the alluvium from the top if not the gravel below, appeared to have been thrown to the west where it formed layers 763 and 707 (770, 771). In a line alongside 786 and 795, cutting 763 and 707, were six small post-holes, c. 0.15 - 0.2 m. in diameter (813, 814, 815, 816, 821 and 822), which presumably supported a fence. Running west from a point 1.2 m. west of the south end of ditch 795 was a slot (830), 0.25 m. wide by 0.3 m. deep, which probably also supported a fence, the

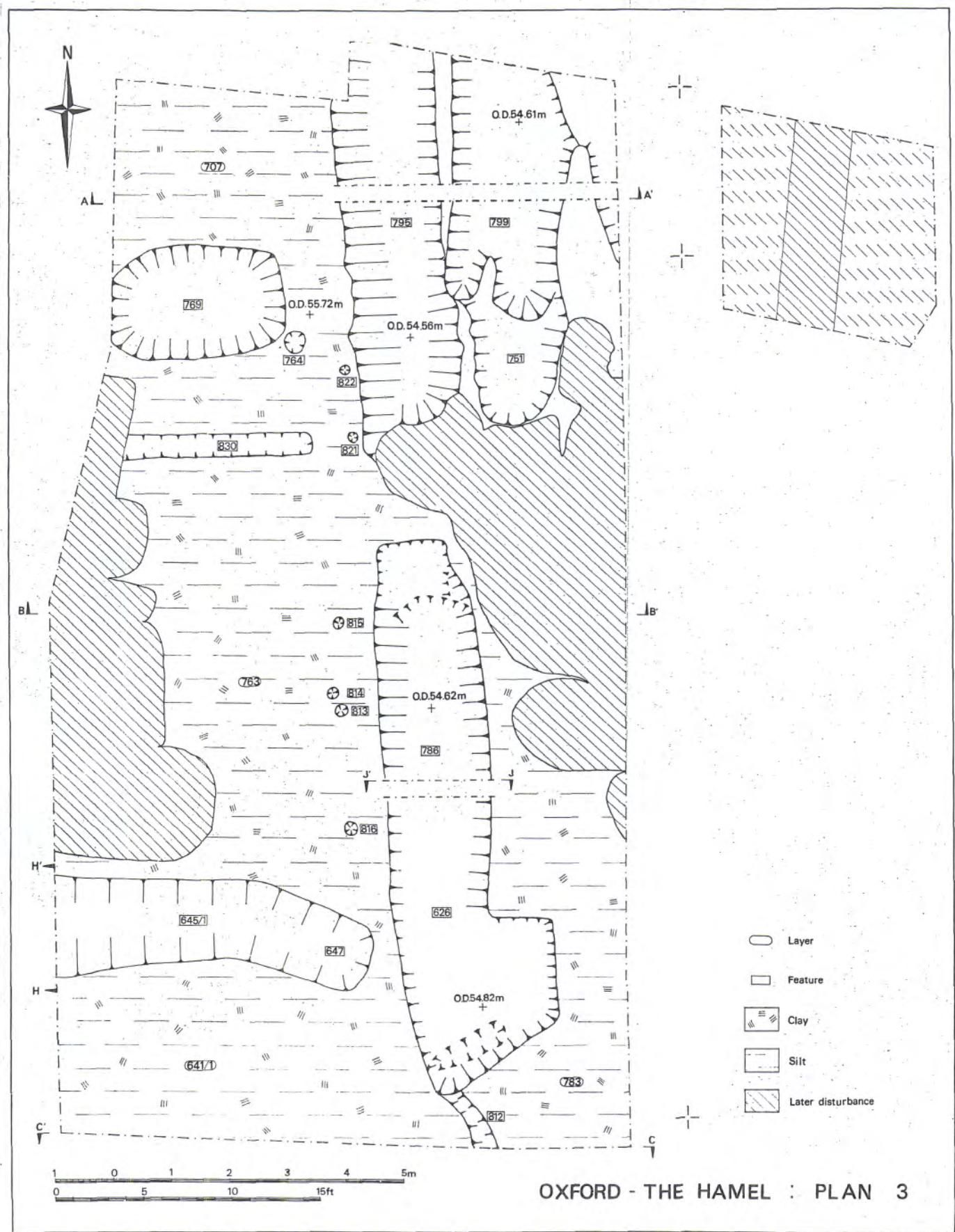
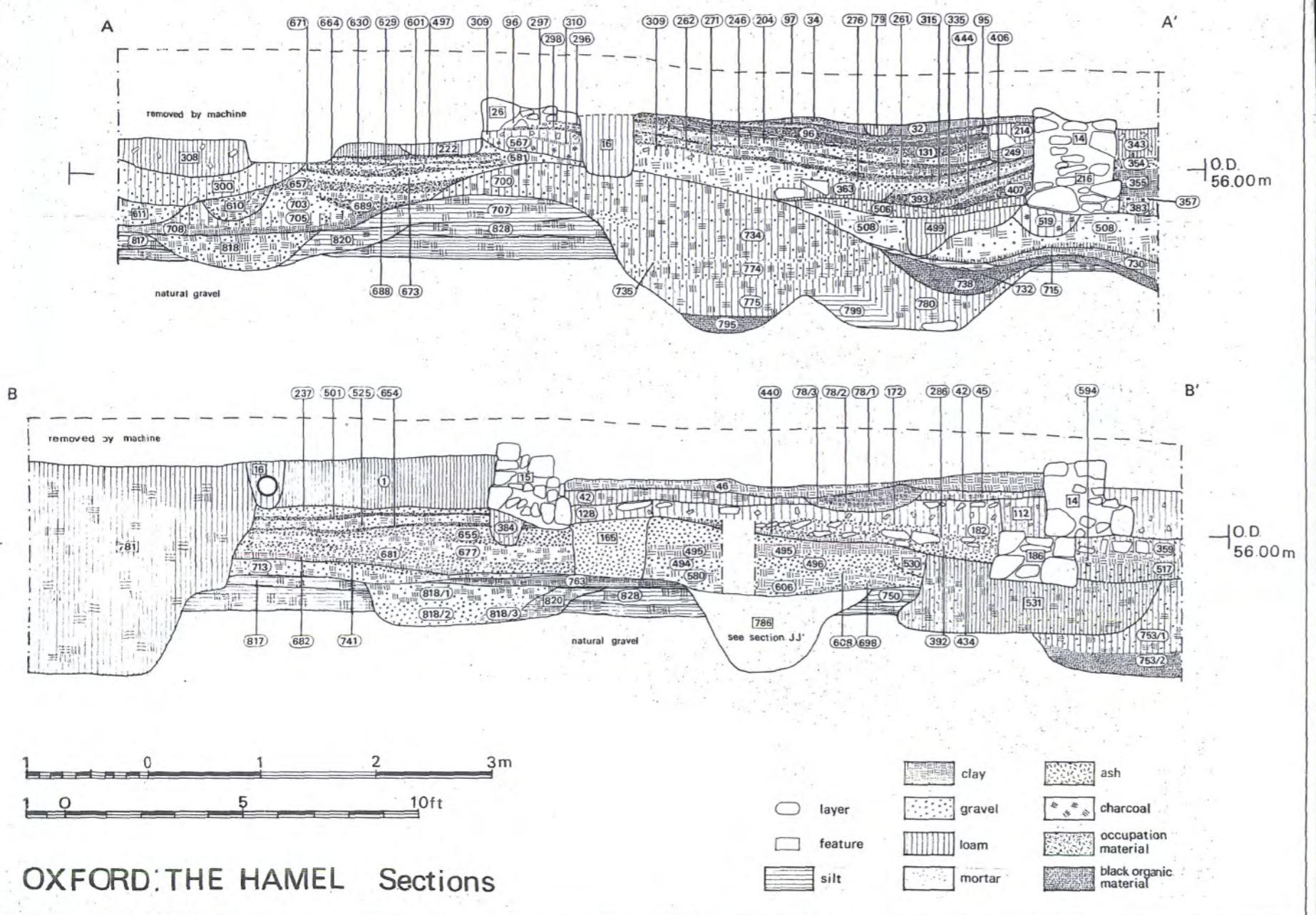


Fig. II D3a : Late 12th-early 13th century.

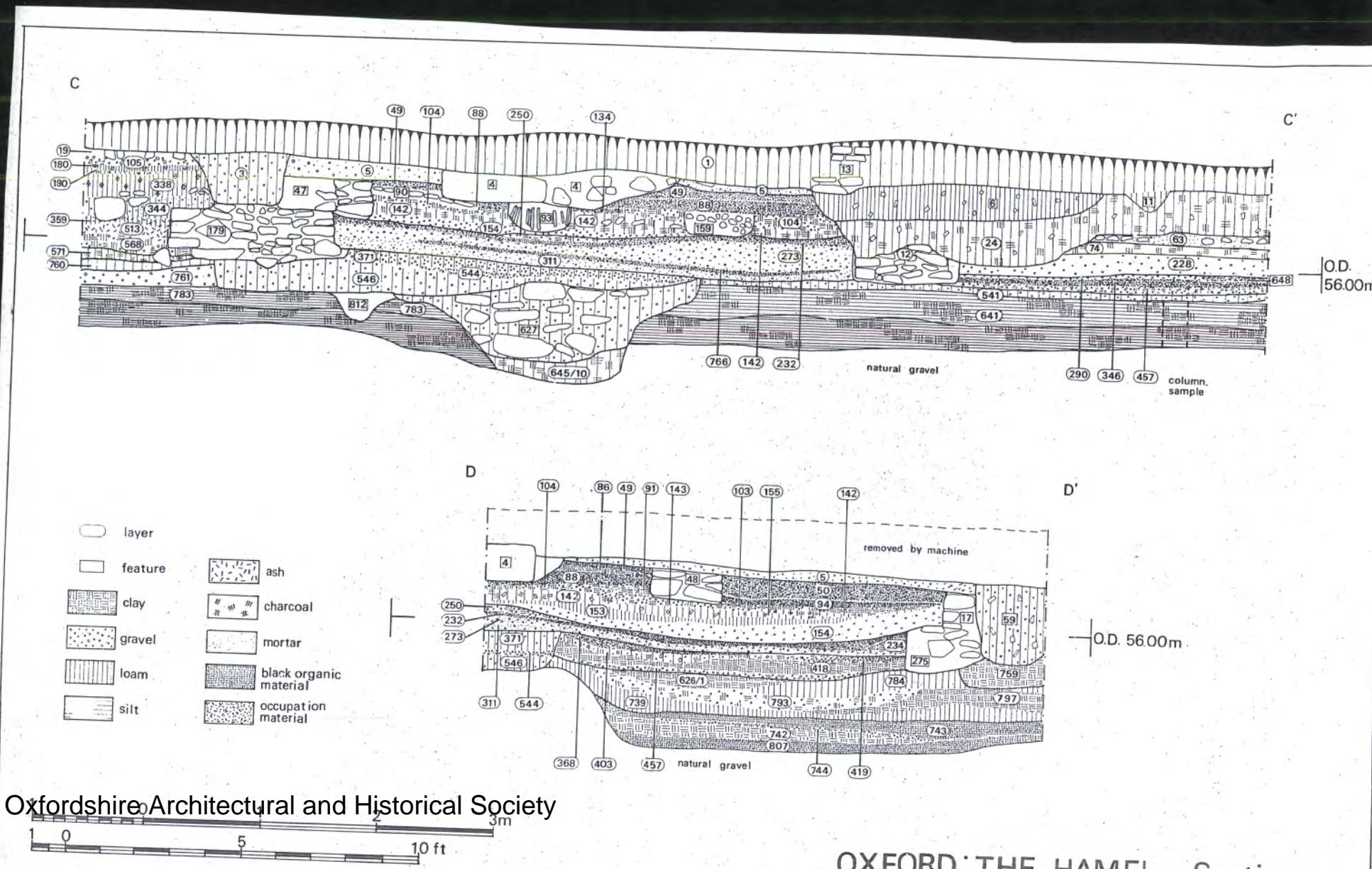


OXFORD: THE HAMEL Sections

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intervening space perhaps holding a gate. To the north of 830 was a large pit (769), 2m. by 3m. by c.1 m. deep, in which a thin layer of black organic silt built up whilst it was open (769/2) (Fig. VI, Section K). Adjacent to 769 was another post-hole 764. At the south end of the site the earlier ditch 645 seemed still to have been visible as a slight hollow, the dark grey clay fill of which (645/1 and 647) ran over 808, one of the early layers in 626.

D3b: Infilling of ditches, early 13th century (Figs. III, IV, VI, Sections A, B, C, D, J, K)

The period of use of this system of ditches was ended by deliberate infilling preparatory to the construction of the first buildings on the site. The material used for the infilling contained quantities of domestic rubbish and was probably brought from elsewhere. The waterhole 626 (Fig. IV, Section C) was filled with various layers of clay, loam, ash and gravel (811, 734, 797, 794, 793, 784, 626/3, 626/2, 626/1, 646 and 540), the ditch 786 (Fig. VI, Section J) with layers containing clay, gravel, silt and loam (786/11, 786/10, 786/9, 786/7, 786/6, 786/3, 786/2, 786/1). At the northern end of the site, ditches 795 and 799 (Fig. III, Section A) were filled with a large layer of clayey gravelly loam (775, 778, 751, 774, 735, 782, 780, 734, 747, 752, 700, 479 and 584; this varied in colour because of waterlogging). The top of this layer formed a bank, rising 0.3 m. from on top of 707 and sloping down to the east. To the south, the bank decreased in size. The pit 769 was filled with grey clay and stones (796/1, 772, 773) and then the level of the area around it was built up by the dumping of layers of clay and gravel (709, 701, 704, 708, 705, 703 and 706). To the south of 769 the layers of gravel and clay over 763 (724, 768, 727, 713, 762, and 741) may have built up during the period of use of the ditch system, but more probably are again attempts to raise the general surrounding level and provide a suitable surface for building. The same applies to the layers of gravel 798 and 761 (the latter cut by the hollow 767), which overlay 783 in the south east corner of the site, and to the series of layers in the south west corner over 641 (541, 542, 543, 586, 587, 642 and 643, which was cut by a small post-hole 644).

Building Phase I: Early-mid 13th century (Figs. V, VII, Plans 4, 5; Figs. III, IV, Sections A, B, C, D; Pl. 4)

The first buildings formed a row of three along the west side of the site. The southernmost was HI, the middle BI1 and the northern building BI2. All three extended out of the trench to the west. The area to the east of the buildings was a yard cut by pits and ditches (B10 and E1).

HI The Southern Building (Figs. V, VII, Plans 4, 5; Fig. IV, Sections C, D)

The southern building was the earliest of the three. Its builders were well aware of the filled in ditches and took precautions accordingly. Before construction of the north wall, which followed the line of ditch 645, a foundation trench (759, 758, 749, 725) 0.8 m. wide by 0.4 m. deep was dug into the top of 645 (Fig. IV, Section D). This was then packed with orange clay, 0.2 m. thick on which was laid the single course of wall foundations. Where the south wall of the building crossed 645, a trench was cut across the latter and filled with large stones¹ (627) (Fig. IV, Section C). Apart from this foundation nothing survived of the south wall; fragments of the west wall (522 and 628) were, however, excavated, together with a 4 m. stretch of the north wall (726). This latter was 0.6 m. wide, well constructed of medium sized stones bonded with yellow clay. The building was rectangular and measured internally 4 m. by over 8 m. The dimensions and quality of the foundations and the fact that patches of burning were found against the walls of the building suggest that the walls may have been of stone, but it was probably only one storey high.²

1. Large stones are over 300 mm., medium stones 100-300 mm. and small stones less than 100 mm.
2. Reconstruction of buildings from ground plans alone is difficult. The following principles of interpretation have been used here. The most likely building materials are stone or timber. Cob is a third possibility but although possible cob walls have been found in Oxford (B. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates', *Oxoniensia*, xlii (1977), 184, ph 4, late 10th century and B. Durham, *CBA 9 Newsletter*, x (1979), 158, Shoe Lane, 11th/12th century) they seem to occur in early contexts and there was no positive evidence for cob at the Hamel. However it is possible that some of the footings here interpreted as carrying stone or timber walls could have supported ones of cob. As between stone and timber the most important factor is width of foundation - one 1m. wide must generally be for a stone wall, one only 0.5m. wide or less for one of timber. Secondly quality of foundation: the careful filling of pits and ditches beneath foundations, would be unnecessary for a timber frame and suggests a stone wall, but unmortared foundations suggest timber. Certain other things give indications: the presence of buttresses will indicate stone as may the presence of hearths against walls. Regarding the height of buildings, again the thickness of foundations are critical, and secondly the presence of hearths or ovens at ground level, will preclude the existence of upper storeys at least over that bay.

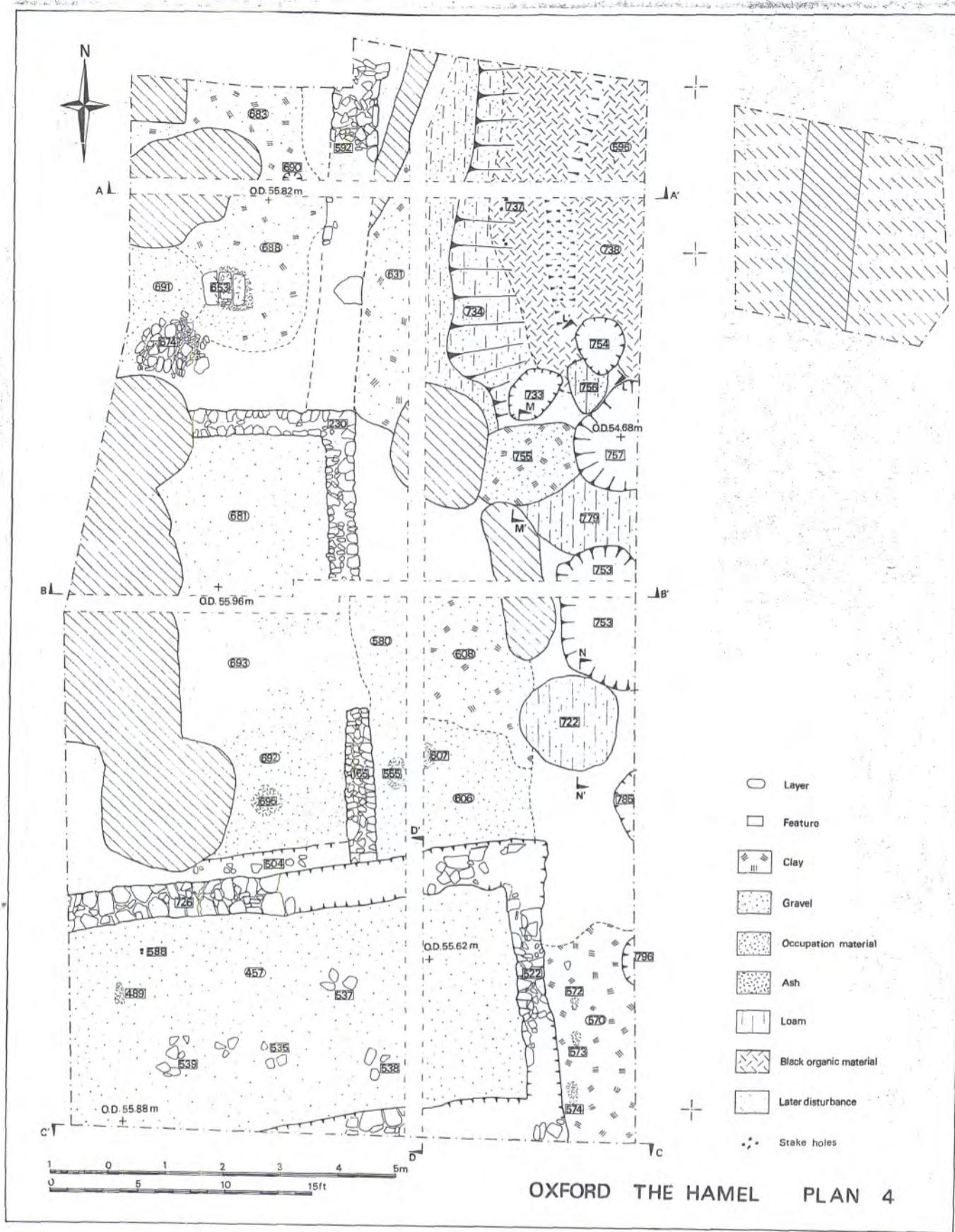


Fig. V HI, BI1, BI2, BIOa : Early 13th century.

The first floor layer in the building was of dirty gravel (457) 0.1 - 0.3 m. thick. On top of this were groups of stones (535-539), and a patch of scorched gravel (489). These stones may represent the remains of metalling over the gravel surface, or, since the stones are large and grouped, they may be the remains of some internal furnishing. Also cutting 457 were two rectangular stake-holes (588). These layers were then covered by a layer of yellow clay (347, 505), presumably another floor. On top of this was a thin occupation layer (346) which contained patches of another floor layer of white clay. On top of 346, against the north wall, was another patch of scorched gravel (488). Like 489 it is unlikely to have marked a permanent hearth. Apparently contemporary with 346, in the south east corner, was 458, a layer of gravelly loam and charcoal.

Overlying these layers was a further series of yellow clay floors (418, 307, 372, 352, and 329). Again there was no proper hearth, although burnt patches were observed (376, 350 and 339). There were also some stake-holes (417, 328, 351 and an unnumbered group of six by the north wall) and a post-hole (416) in this floor, presumably marking internal furniture. There was also a pile of small stones towards the south east corner (428). These floors were succeeded by another, composed of brown gravel (290 and 419), which also had burnt patches on it: 648 in the south west corner was quite extensive (over 0.6 m. by 0.6 m.); 318, which, like 488, was against the north wall, was over 0.6 m. by 0.3 m. A post-setting (377) packed with two stones was also probably contemporary with this floor. A layer of rubble over 290 probably derived from the demolition of the building.

At the east end of the building, over 419, was a layer of clay, loam, gravel and stones (403) overlaid in the south east corner by a patch of sandy gravel (402); both these were overlaid by occupation material (368, 370). This sequence of layers could represent debris from the final occupation or demolition of the building or make-up for the construction of its successor. At the demolition of the building its foundations were robbed, most thoroughly on the south side where there was no plan to rebuild on the same line. The resulting robber trench was filled in with various layers of gravel (348, 371, 459, 576, 546, 544, 545). The lack of both a permanent hearth in this building and of substantial occupation layers suggests that it was not domestic, being used perhaps for storage or for some commercial or industrial function.

BII The Middle Building (Figs. V, VII, Plans 4, 5; Fig. III, Section B)

The middle building of this phase was constructed later than that to the south; it used the latter's north wall (726) as its own south wall. Its east

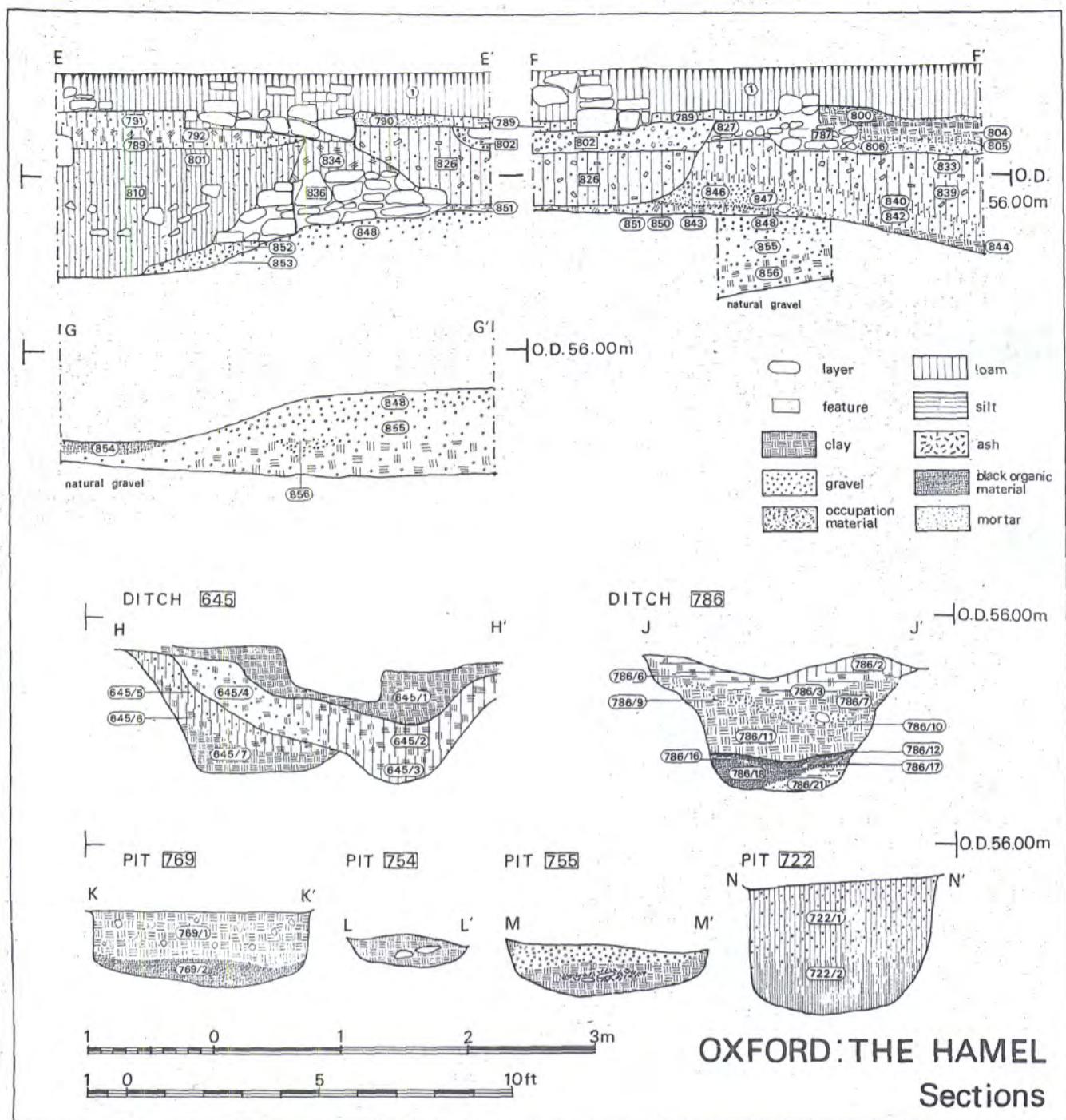


Fig. VI

and north walls (165 and 230) were 0.5 m. wide, of small stones, with expanded footings set in a foundation trench (728 and 702) 0.9 m. wide by 0.3 m. deep, filled with hard packed clay and gravel. In the middle of the east wall there was a gap 2 m. wide which, since the floors of the building could be followed across it, must have contained a door; its excessive width being perhaps accounted for by the removal of a timber door surround. The west side of the building had been destroyed by later pits, so the exact position of the west wall is uncertain, although a reasonable line would lie just within the excavated area. The dimensions of the building therefore were 7.5 m. by over 3 m. The narrowness of the walls probably means that they supported a timber superstructure. Inside the building, along the south wall, was a shallow slot (504) 0.3 m. wide, containing four piles of stone at 0.4 m. intervals. These presumably supported posts or beams for a completely timber end-wall, a feature explicable if the owner of the building to the south was prepared to permit building against his property but not the keying of timber into it. Possibly related to 504, was another pile of stones in the south west of the building (637). 504 was cut into a gravel layer (624) which probably belonged to the construction of the building; 637 cut similar layers (547 and 639).

Inside the building on both sides of the doorway, making a sort of entrance passageway, were short stub partitions or screens, probably originally resting on sill beams. Although these partitions did not survive, this arrangement was demonstrated by the extent of occupation layers. The earliest occupation layer in the building was the patchy layer 712, in the passageway, which was covered by an orange clay floor (696). This was overlaid in the southern part of the building by an occupation layer (694), with the hearth (695) at its centre. This and subsequent occupation layers in this area stopped 0.5 m. short of the east wall, leaving a clean strip of floor up to the wall. Presumably this is explained by the existence of a bench or shelf along the wall which prevented the floor beneath being walked upon. Over 694 was a gravel floor (693) extending over the south area and passageway. On top of this in the south area an occupation layer (692) built up, which was covered by another floor (616), of hard packed gravel and clay (it contained a patch of ash 615). The next floor in the passageway was 553; it was brown gravel and could be discerned extending out of the door. To either side of the door, gravel with clay perhaps marked the position of the partition walls alongside the door. Layer 553 was overlaid by a clay layer (551) which also overlay an occupation layer (552) which had built up in the south area over 616.

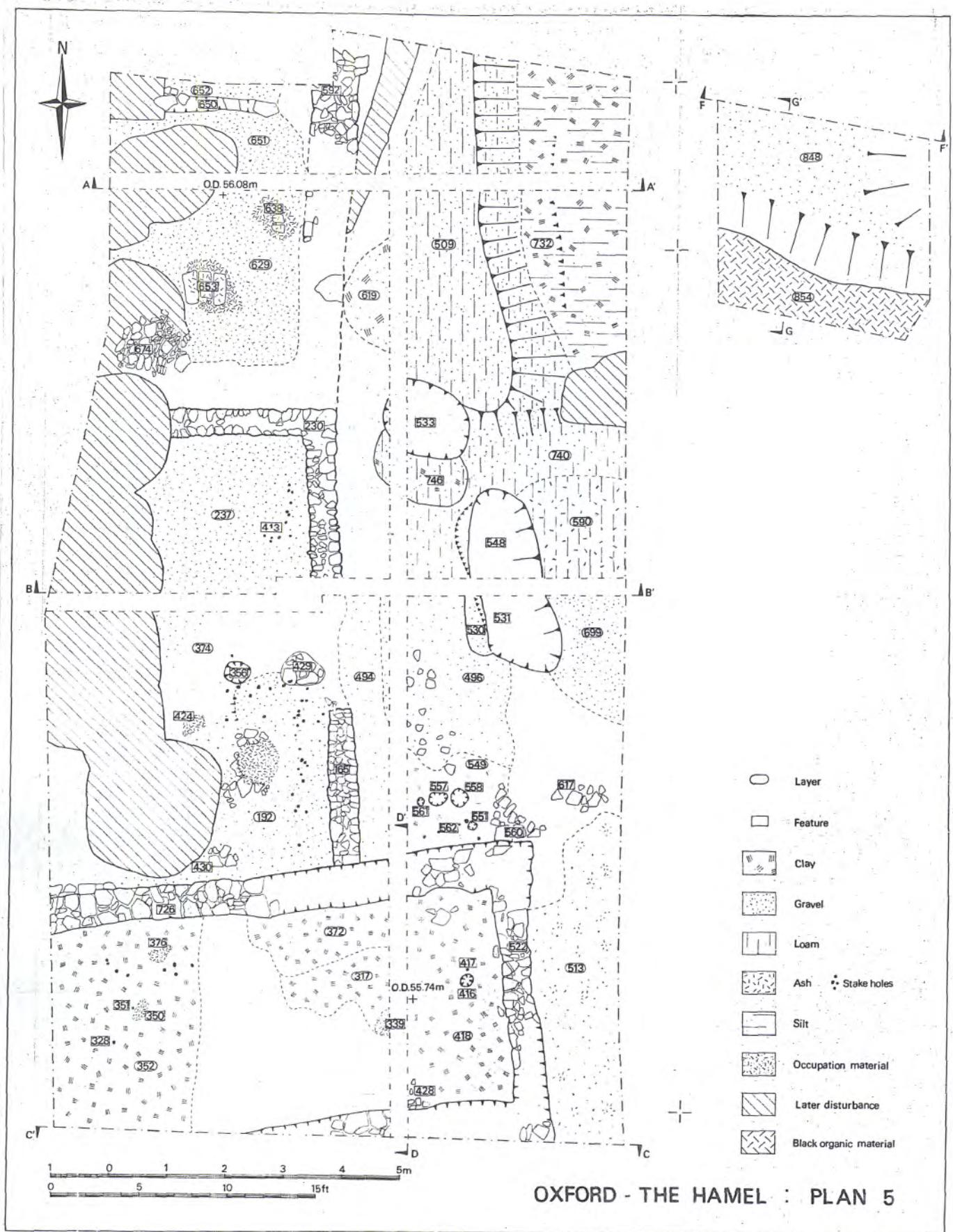


Fig. VII HI, BI1, BI2, B10a, E1 : Mid 13th century.

Layer 551 was cut by two small post-holes (632 and 633) and by a slight hollow by the door (554) filled with flat stones, which is perhaps to be explained as repairs to the threshold surface. Over 551 was a thin occupation spread (493), which was covered by another gravel floor (492) cut by two small post-holes (475). By this time continued use and erosion of the floors meant that the position of the partitions and bench were marked by slight ridges of clayey gravel (490, 358 and 491) up against which floor layers were laid and occupation debris accumulated. In the southern area the sequence continued with gravel floors (474 and 556) and occupation layers (473, 454 and 453), the first of which was cut by a small post-hole (472). All these floors respected a large hearth in the middle of the area (0.8 m. by 0.6 m.) ringed with medium sized stones. In the passage, 492 was covered by another occupation spread (375), which appeared continuous with 453 and was cut by the small post-hole (384). Layer 375 was overlaid by a thin gravel floor (374) which extended into the southern area. At this point a certain amount of refurbishing of the building seems to have taken place, although the same internal arrangement was retained (Fig. 14, Plan 5) except that there was now no trace of a screen on the north side of the door. The post-slot (504) at the south end was overlaid by a post-base (430), 1.9 m. to the west of wall 165 and against wall 726. Presumably this served the same function as 504. The screen to the south of the door, which probably previously rested on a sill beam, seems now to have been supported by a post in post-hole 356, and on the post-base 429, and the bench/shelf in the southern area was supported by a line of stakes (452). The extent of the stake-holes suggests that the bench now extended along the south side of the partition - indeed, it may always have done so. Apart from the hearth in the centre of the southern area, which remained in use, there was a burnt patch (424) on 374 towards the door into the passageway. On top of these layers was another occupation spread (192 and 425), which was covered by a final gravel floor (426 and 166), with a hearth of laid stones (189) in its centre. These were overlaid by a last occupation layer (167).

In the northern part of the building (Fig. III, Section B) the earliest floor layers in sequence were of yellow clay (682), gravel (681), clay and gravel (677) and gravel (655). Each had a very thin spread of occupation material on its surface. Layer 677 was cut by a post-hole (679) and 655 by some stake-holes (672). Layer 655 was overlaid by patches of occupation material (667, 668, 669 and 670) and these by a similar layer (654). Covering 654 was a new clayey gravel floor (525) on top of which was an irregular burnt

patch (524). Layer 525 was cut by stake-holes (529), shallow post-holes (526, 527, 528) and an irregular hollow (578), 1.6 m. long by 0.8 m. wide, deepest at its east end, lined with a thin layer of clay, and filled with clayey mortar and ash. 578 might have been used for mixing mortar for use in repairs to the building. Layer 525 was also cut by 640, a hole 0.6 m. across by 0.2 m. deep. These features were all covered by a thin occupation layer (501) and that by another gravel floor (237), on which was a patch of burning (236). Layer 237 seemed to be the same as 374 in the southern part of the building, especially since it was cut by a line of stake-holes (413) which presumably corresponded to the similar line (452) to the south. Overlying 237 were the final layers belonging to this building: 412, a small patch of occupation debris and 411 a patch of burning adjacent to it.

BI2 The Northern Building (Figs. V, VII, Plans 4, 5; Fig. III, Section A)

The northernmost building of this phase was the last of the three to be constructed; it was also the most fragmentary, having been disturbed by later buildings to the east and by pits to the west. The top of the infilling of the field ditches formed a slight bank running north-south on which the eastern wall of the northern building (592) was placed. This, which survived only at the north end of the area, was built with small to medium rubble, was 0.9 m. wide but without any kind of foundation at all. The north wall (230) of the middle building seemed also to have served as the south wall of this one. There was an irregular band of 32 stake-holes between 0.6 m. and 1.4 m. to the north of 230 but these do not seem to have been structural and more probably related to the construction of one of the buildings. The north and west walls of the northern building were outside the excavation, so all that can be said of its dimensions is that they exceeded 6 m. by 3.4 m. If the hearth 653 was centrally placed, the building could not have been much more than 3.4 m. wide, and its west wall will have lain just outside the trench. Although the wall footings of the building were quite wide, the lack of any foundations perhaps indicates that the building was timber framed.

The earliest layer inside the building (685 and 689) might have been occupation debris, but is perhaps more likely to represent dumping in an attempt to raise the level of the interior of the building. Towards the south west corner was an irregular stone structure (674), 1.2 m. square, made of small and medium stones, which was perhaps a shelf or a base for something. On top of 685 and 689 was a floor of yellow clay and gravel (688, 683 and probably 691), set into which was a rectangular hearth (653), 0.6 m. by 0.7 m., constructed of large stones. This remained in use for some time because successive floor and occupation layers inside the building respected it. Also cutting 688 and 683

was a post-hole (690). On top of this floor was a layer of occupation debris (657, 684 and probably 687) which was in turn covered by another gravel floor (673 and probably 686). Layer 673 was cut by 5 stake-holes (680) and covered by another build-up of occupation material (671 and probably 676), on top of which were further floor layers, of hard clayey gravel (664) and clay (675). Cutting 664 were groups of stake-holes (661, 663 and 665) and in the north west corner, an irregular post-hole or possibly the end of a beam slot truncated by later pits (662). At the north end of the building 664 was subsequently cut by an east-west slot (650), c. 0.2 m. wide and set with large stones, presumably for a partition. To the east 650 ended 0.6 m. from wall 592, a gap perhaps too narrow for a doorway (Fig. VII, Plan 5). On the north side of 650 was an occupation layer (652), to the south a clay floor (651). These three were sealed by a clayey gravel floor (635 and 636) and this by more occupation debris (622). Further south in the building, 664 was covered by a gravel floor (630) with a hearth (638), constructed of two flat stones, set into it. Up to this point the hearth 653 seems still to have been in use: a spread of ash from it (658) overlay 630. However, the next occupation layer (629) overlaid 630, 638 and 653. This was in turn overlaid by 601, another clayey gravel floor, with another hearth (649), made of smallish flat stones, set into it. Layer 601 was overlaid by a number of extremely patchy occupation layers (497, 599, 602, 623/2) and a floor layer (598 and 623/1), which were the latest layers to survive from the building.

B10a: The area outside the buildings, yard surfaces, ditch and pits (Figs. V, VII, Plans 4, 5; Figs. III, IV, VI, Sections A, B, C, L, M and N)

Outside the southern building the contemporary ground surface seems originally to have been layer 761, the latest layer of dumped gravel on which the east wall of the building was set, since where that layer was not covered by the wall it was appreciably dirtier. Over 761, layers of grey loam (760) and compacted yellow clay (570) built up (Fig. IV, Section C). Contemporary with these layers was pit 796 of which only the very edge protruded from the edge of the excavation. On 570 there were three unexplained ashy patches (572, 573 and 574) parallel to wall 522 (Fig. V, Plan 4). Then came further layers of ash, clay, loam and gravel (569, 571, 568, 625, 618, 513 and 515). None of these layers really extended much beyond the corner of the building, and although this may have been due to the manner of excavation, there may have been a barrier, perhaps represented by the stones 617 and 560 (Fig. VII, Plan 5), dividing this southern area from the space to the north.

To the east of the middle building there appears to have been a similar open space (Fig. III, Section B) surfaced with layers of beaten clay loam or gravel (634, 580, 606, 698, 721, 697, 608, 609, 605 and 604). There were

charcoal patches on 580 and 606 (555 and 607 respectively) (Fig. V, Plan 4) and a group of stones (678) set into 697. These layers were covered by further gravel surfaces (550 and 566) which in turn were overlaid by a layer of orange clay (549, 498 and 589). This had the groups of stones 560 and 617 set into it and was cut by 4 post-holes (557, 558, 559, 561) and 5 stake-holes (562) (Fig. VII, Plan 5). These post-holes, with or without the stones, could be interpreted as evidence of a small lean-to shed (1 m. by 2-3 m.) against the walls 522 and 165. Alternatively, the stones, as already suggested, might have supported a fence dividing the land of the southern building from that to its north. After their disuse these features were covered with further layers of gravel (494, 582 and 496), clay (495) and clay loam (532). Layer 532 was cut by the small pit 530 (Fig. III, Section B) which was filled with clean yellow gravel and then cut by another pit (531, 548) which was filled with black clay and ash.

At the north end of the site in this phase, as in the last, there was a ditch (Fig. V, Plan 4; Fig. III, Section A). It was 2.5 m. wide from the east of the bank (700) to the edge of the trench, and extended at least 6.5 m. southwards, its south end being obscured by later pits. Along the side of the bank was a row of four willow stakes (737), presumably designed to provide some kind of revetment for the bank. In the bottom of the ditch a fairly substantial layer of black organic material (738 and 596) and then layers of grey clay silt (736, 593 and 732) accumulated. In the strip between the buildings and the ditch, on top of the bank, there was probably a pathway with successive surfaces of gravel and clay with some ash (631, 620, 619, 600, 469).

At the south end of the ditch there was a group of pits (Fig. V, Plan 4). From north to south these were 756, c. 1 m. by 0.6 m. and 0.2 m. deep, which was cut by 754 (Fig. VI, Section L) of similar dimensions and filled with brown sandy loam and gravel. West of these was 733, a pit 1.2 m. by 0.7 m. and 0.1 m. deep and filled with ashy clay loam. All these were cut into the ditch layer 738. Further south was 779, 1.8 m. by 1.2 m. and c. 0.5 m. deep filled successively with grey sandy gravel, clayey loam and loamy gravel (779/3, 779/2, 779/1). 779 was cut to the north west by 755 (Fig. 13, Section M), 1.8 m. by 1.4 m. by 0.4 m. deep, filled with brown loamy clay with a patch of ashy clayey gravel. To the east, 755 was cut by 757, a pit 1.7 m. wide extending out of the trench and containing a thick black organic layer overlaid by a thin layer of white ashy clay. South of 779 was 722 (Fig. VI, Section N), a circular pit 1.6 m. in diameter and 1.08 m. deep filled with

brown gravelly loam which became more organic below the water table. Between 779 and 722 and cutting them both was 753 (Fig. III, Section B), a pit 2.4 m. wide filled successively with black organic material (753/2) and green-brown loam with gravel, ash and clay (753/1). Adjacent to 722 to the south was another probable pit (785) which only extended 0.3 m. into the trench and whose top layer was dark clay loam (666).

These pits were filled and covered by a variety of layers: Pit 753 by the orange clay 720 and dark brown gravel 699, and Pits 755, 757, 756 and 754 by a layer of orange gravel and green loam (740) which was covered in turn by layers of clayey loam (748), gravelly clay (723) and ashy loam (590). Pit 733 was overlaid by orange gravelly clay (731) and this by dark green gravelly loam (509) which also extended over the bank (700) and partially over the ditch silt layers, 736 and 732. These layers were then cut by further pits (Fig. VII, Plan 5) to the south west of the earlier ones. There was a pit (575, 746) filled with soft black clay loam (746/2) overlaid by a lighter layer containing gravel (746/1). This was cut to the north by 533, c. 1.2 m. in diameter and filled with grey-green ashy clay loam. To the south of 533 was a pit (531, 548), 2.8 m. by c. 1 m. (Fig. III, Section B), very much undercut on its western side and filled with ashy gravelly loam.

Most of the pits contained quantities of pottery and bone and there is little doubt that they were used for rubbish disposal, but whether this was their primary purpose is more doubtful. Although most of them went below the water table, it was only by a few centimetres, so with the exception perhaps of Pit 722, which was deeper than the rest, they do not seem to have been dug as wells. Cursory examinations of waterlogged material from Pits 722, 757 and 746 failed to produce the characteristic cess-pit assemblages so this function also can probably be ruled out. Perhaps the most likely primary function is as quarries for gravel for floor and yard surfaces. The undercutting of Pit 531, 548, which was not due to collapse because of standing water, could be explained as an attempt to extract as much gravel as possible without cutting back the sides. Furthermore it is noticeable that the pits tended to cut into natural gravel as much as possible, even if as in the case of Pit 746, 575 they approached close to the house.

E1: Dumping: early/mid 13th century (Fig. VII, Plan 5; Fig. VI, Sections E, F, G)

The earliest activity in the extension to the main trench seems to have involved the removal of the alluvium from over the natural gravel together with

some of the gravel. The alluvium was at any rate absent and the surface of the gravel sloped down to the west, towards the ditches in the main trench, with which this activity may be associated.

Then came the dumping of layers of gravelly clay (856) and gravel (855 and 848). These layers served to raise the level on the north side by 0.65 m. but sloped down to the south. They appeared to have been dumped from the direction of St. Thomas's Street and might be part of a causeway built for the road rather than foundations for buildings. Certainly there seems to have been some delay between the dumping and building during which the top of 848 became compacted and a quantity of organic material (854) collected at the bottom of the slope to the south. This was then covered with orange gravel (853) and green-grey charcoally loam (852) before the first building was erected.

B10b: Infilling of Ditch and Pits: Mid 13th century (Fig. III, Section A)

The next sequence of layers in the main area, presumably deposited when the buildings on the site were being demolished, represents the infilling of the ditch and pits and the levelling of this area of the site preparatory to the construction of the next phase of buildings. The ditch was filled with a large number of small layers of material, probably brought from elsewhere, containing domestic rubbish, and each layer representing no more than a basket or cart load or two. Over 732 and 509 were a series of layers containing clay, loam, gravel and ash (730, 729, 718, 715, 717, 507, 508, 719 and 714). Cutting 508 were two small and unexplained pits (519 and 499). The former was c. 1 m. in diameter by 0.3 m. deep, filled with grey loam; the latter 0.6 m. in diameter by 0.2 m. deep and filled with green-brown loam. 714 was cut by two small ragged pits (564 and 563) which are probably best regarded as the result of shovelling part of the dump northwards. They were both overlaid by a yellow clay layer (518). Overlying all these features was a layer of brown-green gravelly loam (506). At the north end of the site the ditch was filled in with layers of gravel, clay and loam (585, 565, 521/1, 520, 487, 485, 484, 481, 480 and 483). 483 was cut by two small post-holes (482) and then covered by a layer of hard gravel (465).

To the south of the ditch the pit 533 was overlaid by 512, brown loam, which also overlaid 509, and then by a layer of yellow gravel (511). Pit 531 and the area of earlier pits were covered by a thick layer of charcoally loam (523). Both 523 and 511 were overlaid by a layer of green-brown loam (510), similar to 506. By this stage the pits and ditch had been effectively filled, although more material was dumped before the next phase of building.

Over 510 were patches of charcoal (451) and a layer of charcoally loam (450) which also partly overlaid 506. Layers 450 and 506 were covered by layers of yellow gravel (449 and 448). The final layer of the first phase in this area was an ashy brown clay patch (461) on 448. At the northern end, over the gravel 465, was a layer of green yellow clay (443), cut by a stake-hole (442) and a small post-hole (439) and then overlaid by layers of gravelly and clayey loam (456, 435, 415, 476 and 477). On top of these was a layer of charcoally loam (366 and 471) which probably corresponded to 450 and which was overlaid by a final layer of brown gravelly loam (398 and 470) probably equivalent to 449 and 448.

In the strip between the ditch and the buildings, on top of the path surfaces, were layers of loam and gravel (468, 455, 447 and 446) probably representing the western extent of the dump that filled in the ditch. To the north of these were layers of gravel (777 and 711), the latter overlain by dark loam (710). Also overlying wall 592 and perhaps associated with its demolition were layers of clay and ash and gravelly clay (612, 591 and 581).

Building Phase II: mid 13th-late 15th/early 16th century (Figs. VIII-XIII, Plans 6-11; Figs. III, IV, VI, Sections A, B, C, D, E, F; Pl. 5)

Both tenements were rebuilt during the second building phase. On the southern tenement was a large building HII which lasted only a short time before being replaced. At the northern end of the site parts of a range fronting onto St. Thomas's Street were excavated: BIIa in the main area and E2 in the extension (E2D represents its demolition). Between BIIa and HII was a range fronting the Hamel. This underwent six internal rearrangements (BIII-6) before demolition BIID. There were a few features outside BII to the west (BII0), and to the east a series of road or yard surfaces (RII). Building phase III was confined to the southern tenement (HIII, being the replacement of HII); on the northern, BII continued in use.

HII: The Southern Tenement mid-late 13th century (Fig. VIII, Plan 6; Fig. IV, Sections C, D)

Although only the north-east corner of the second building on the southern tenement was excavated, it is clear that it was very substantial: its north and east walls (275 and 179), which were of one build, were between 1.1 m. and 1.2 m. wide. They sat in a shallow construction trench (317, 369) using the remains of the earlier building as their only foundation. The footings consisted of medium sized random rubble facing a small rubble core, and there can be little doubt that the walls were of stone. Of the plan of the building however little can be said. Some features possibly associated with its construction were the mortar patch (306) in the south west corner and a group of four stake-holes by wall 275 (319, 295, 345, 340), perhaps made by scaffolding poles. Three other stake-holes (349, 765 and 313) might belong with these or to the period when the building was in use.

The earliest floor layer which only survived on the east side was compacted sandy gravel (311). On this built up an occupation layer (766) 10-30 mm. thick, which was then covered by another sand and gravel floor (273); c. 60 mm. thick, containing several medium stones. On top of 273 was a series of patchy occupation layers (274, 277 and 266) and further gravel floors (265 and 268).

At this point it seems that the lack of adequate foundations for the size of the building began to be felt. The layers just described had slumped into the pit (626) underneath (Fig. IV, Section D). It is of course impossible to say exactly when this subsidence occurred, but these layers were cut by two pits (278 and 279), up against wall 275, which might easily be explained as



inspection pits. Also outside the building to the east was a semicircular rubble-filled pit (360) against wall 179, and it was perhaps at this time that a buttress (516), 1.3 m. by 0.3 m. was built against the north east corner of 179. Inside the building, 278 and 279 were sealed by a layer of loam and stones (252) in the centre of the excavated part of the room, and by a layer of gravelly clay (234) against wall 275. These were probably make up for a new floor. Thereafter occupation seems to have continued for a while, causing the build up of an occupation layer (232) and patchy floors of gravel (250) and clay (251). Also associated with 232 was 233, a patch of burnt gravel, perhaps a hearth. It is possible that this hearth related to the demolition of this building which seems to have occurred at this stage. The problems of continuing subsistence had become intolerable necessitating rebuilding on a smaller scale. The hollow that had opened in the floor at this level, when excavated, was c. 0.3 m. deep.

The layers described above were only present in the eastern part of the building, having been removed almost entirely by later activity in the western, where floor surfaces of this phase seem to be represented only by a layer of gravel (228) with a roughly stone-built hearth (227) set into it and a thickish layer of yellow clay and occupation debris (74). The three stake-holes (280, 281 and 282) which cut the latter layer cannot be definitely attributed to this phase and may represent traces of scaffolding for the construction of the next building on this tenement.

BIIa Building fronting St. Thomas's Street: mid 13th - late 15th century
(Figs. VIII, IX, Plans 6, 7)

At the north end of the trench in building phase II a small section of the back of a building fronting St. Thomas's Street lay within the excavation. The south wall of this (64) was 0.6 m. wide, of small and medium random rubble, in a construction trench (400), c.0.75 m. wide and otherwise filled with brown loam.

Of the interior of this building only a triangle of c.1.26 m.² was excavated. The earliest layers within it were orange clay and sand (365), overlaid by brown clay loam (364) overlaid by yellow sand (332). These were probably make up for the floor of the building. At this stage a partition, c.0.15 m. wide and probably of timber, was inserted running at right angles to 64. In the room to the west of this a series of thin floor and occupation layers, alternately of brown loamy occupation material and yellow clay (342, 341, 331, 330, 325 and 324), built up above 332. In the room to the east the layers were rather thicker. Over 332 was 382, brown clay and gravel overlaid by orange clay (304) which was cut by eleven haphazard stake-holes.

304 was covered by dark loam (242), gravel (316) and brown clay loam (224). These last three layers all contained quantities of charcoal and were probably occupation material.

The remaining layers in this building (258, 259, 243 and 215) all containing brown loam and rubble in varying proportions and extending over the partition are probably associated with its demolition.

E2 Building fronting St. Thomas's Street: mid 13th-late 15th century
 (Figs. VIII, IX, Plans 6, 7; Fig. VI, Sections E, F)

The earliest building in the extension was part of the range fronting St. Thomas's Street. Its south wall (836), the continuation of wall 64, merely protruded from the section, its line diagonally across the middle of the trench being represented by a ragged robber trench (849). Also protruding from the west section (Fig. VI, Section E), abutting 836 to the north, was a 1.2 m. stretch of another wall of similar construction at right angles to it. The thickness of this wall may mean that the room to the east belonged to a different house. Within this room was a sequence of patchy floor and occupation layers: an orange gravelly clay floor (851) was overlaid by occupation layers (850 and 847) and these in turn by a gravel floor (846), itself covered by further occupation material (845). Although no further floors from this building survived, it is more likely that they were removed than that the building was demolished after a short time.

E2D Demolition of E2 building: late 15th/early 16th century (Fig. VI, Section F)

The next layers in the extension, which overlaid the robber trench (849) of the south wall, belonged to the demolition of the building and construction of its successor. Layer 844 was a thick layer of green-grey clay (c.0.15 m) overlaid by brown loam and charcoal (843). Layer 838 was a patch of gravel against wall 436 overlaid by a patch of ash (837), perhaps part of 843. These layers were overlaid by a thick layer of loamy gravel (842 and 835) and another of gravelly loam (840), the former being cut by a shallow hole, 841. Layer 840 was overlaid by orange gravel and rubble (839) and gravelly loam and rubble (833); 835 by orange clay and brown clay loam (834). The dumping of these layers produced an almost horizontal surface between 0.6 m. and 0.8 m. higher than before, on which the next building was constructed.

BII The Building fronting the Hamel: mid/late 13th century to late 15th/early 16th century (Figs. VIII-XIII; Plans 6-11; Fig. III, Sections A, B)

Between the building fronting St. Thomas's Street and that on the southern

tenement was one fronting the Hamel. It was trapezoid in shape, the length of its eastern wall being 12.5 m., of its western an estimated 16 m. and its breadth 4.75 m. It was built abutting both its neighbours and using their north and south walls (275 and 64). Its east wall footing (216, 186) was 0.6 m. - 0.75 m. thick, and constructed of medium and large coursed rubble. Towards the north it rested on an area of stones (716) presumably dumped as an extra foundation over soft ground. About 4 m. from its south end was a door into the street. The west wall only survived in a short length at the south end (169) and in a discontinuous shallow robber trench (222) which only in one place retained a few stones. Generally in this phase preservation was much better towards the east where the layers had subsided into the filled pits and ditches. The thickness of the surviving wall footings strongly suggests that the walls were stone rather than timber. This building had a long life in the course of which it underwent a number of internal rearrangements (BIII-6).

BIII: mid/late 13th century (Fig. VIII, Plan 6; Fig. III, Section B)

The earliest layer inside the building at its south end was orange clay (440); this was overlaid by layers of gravel (467, 434 and 353). At the northern end of the building was a layer of dark brown gravelly loam (437) on which was a patch of clayey loam (445). These layers seem to have been bedding for a floor of rough stones which originally covered the whole building but survived only in patches (438, 464, 432 and possibly 404). To the north, these stones were overlaid by an occupation layer of greenish black clay loam with patches of mortar (407), which was itself overlaid by various patches of loam and charcoal (421), mortar and stones (420), orange gravel (431) and, at the extreme north end, pink ash and mortar (444). Some of these layers were presumably occupation debris others periodic repairs to the metalling. All of them were covered by 406, black loam and gravel, the final occupation layer of this subphase.

BII2: late 13th - early 14th century (Fig. IX, Plan 7; Fig. III, Sections A, B)

The first internal rearrangement of the building involved the construction of a partition wall (381), of which the stone spread 349 was probably part, 4 m. from the middle of the north end of the building. The footings of 381 were of small-medium rubble and c.0.65 m. wide. To the north of 381 was a layer of occupation material containing patches of gravel floor (393). This was overlaid

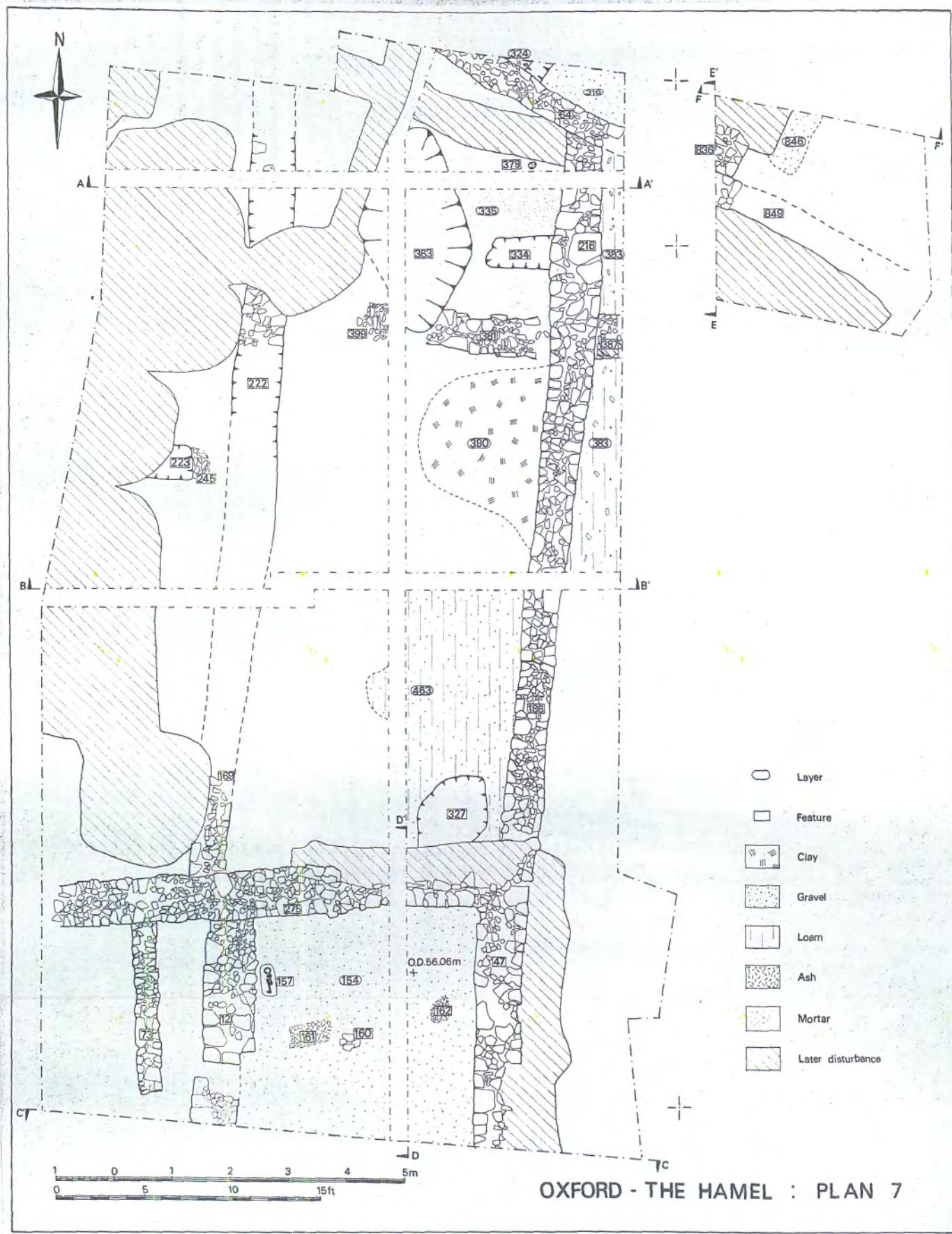


Fig. IX HIII, BIIa, E2, BII2, BII0, RII : Late 13th-early 14th century.

by a hard mortar floor (335), which was cut by a rectangular hole (334) 1 m. by 0.55 m. and 0.22 m deep, filled with gravel, and a small post-hole (379), 0.1 m. in diameter and 0.1 m. deep. Layer 335 was overlaid by a patch of yellow clay (442). To the south of wall 381 was a layer of orange gravelly loam (409), perhaps a floor, and a heap of rubble (414) against wall 216. Over 409 was a patch of occupation layer (410), cut by a square feature (423) c.50-60 mm. deep filled with orange clay against wall 216. These layers were overlaid by 408, more orange loam and gravel and this successively by hard yellow clay (390) and a thin occupation layer (389).

At the south end of the building, after the excavation of a shallow irregular pit (327), c.1 m. across and its filling with loose brown gravelly loam, there was a slight build up of gravelly loam (392 and 463). These layers might belong to the previous subphase - it was not easy to relate the southern end of the building, where the accumulation of occupation material was much less due to lack of hearths, to the northern. Indeed judging by the character of the layers there might quite possibly have been a partition dividing the two parts although no physical trace of one was found.

This subphase was brought to an end by the removal of wall 381 and the excavation across it of a shallow pit (363) c.3.5 m. by 1.6 m. and 0.3 m. deep, which was filled with layers of loam (380, 567?, 363/2) and gravelly clay (363/1). (The layers 310, brown stony loam, and 309, mortar and stones were perhaps also part of the fill of 363.) The purpose of the pit is unclear, but it might have been dug to investigate the cause of the subsidence of the floor into the buried ditches (Fig. III, Section A).

BII3: mid 14th century (Fig. X, Plan 8; Fig. III, Section A, B)

The next development was the construction of an oven (240) in the middle of the building. The base of this consisted of an area (1.8 m. by 1 m.) of medium sized stones set on edge. The oven was stoked from its north end where there was a large flat stone. Apart from two large stones to the west of the stokehole, no trace of the superstructure survived. However, to the east was a layer of stones set in mortar (401), covered by a thin layer of dark loam (397) and a layer of burnt clay (301), suggesting perhaps that the oven had a clay superstructure set on a rough stone base. On the west side of 240 was a similar mortared stone surface (302), covered again by burnt clay (291), although the latter may relate to the demolition of the oven. An alternative interpretation of the oven is that the superstructure as well as the chamber was confined to the pitched stones - it was noticeable that the traces of burning on the stones did not extend to the edge. However, such an

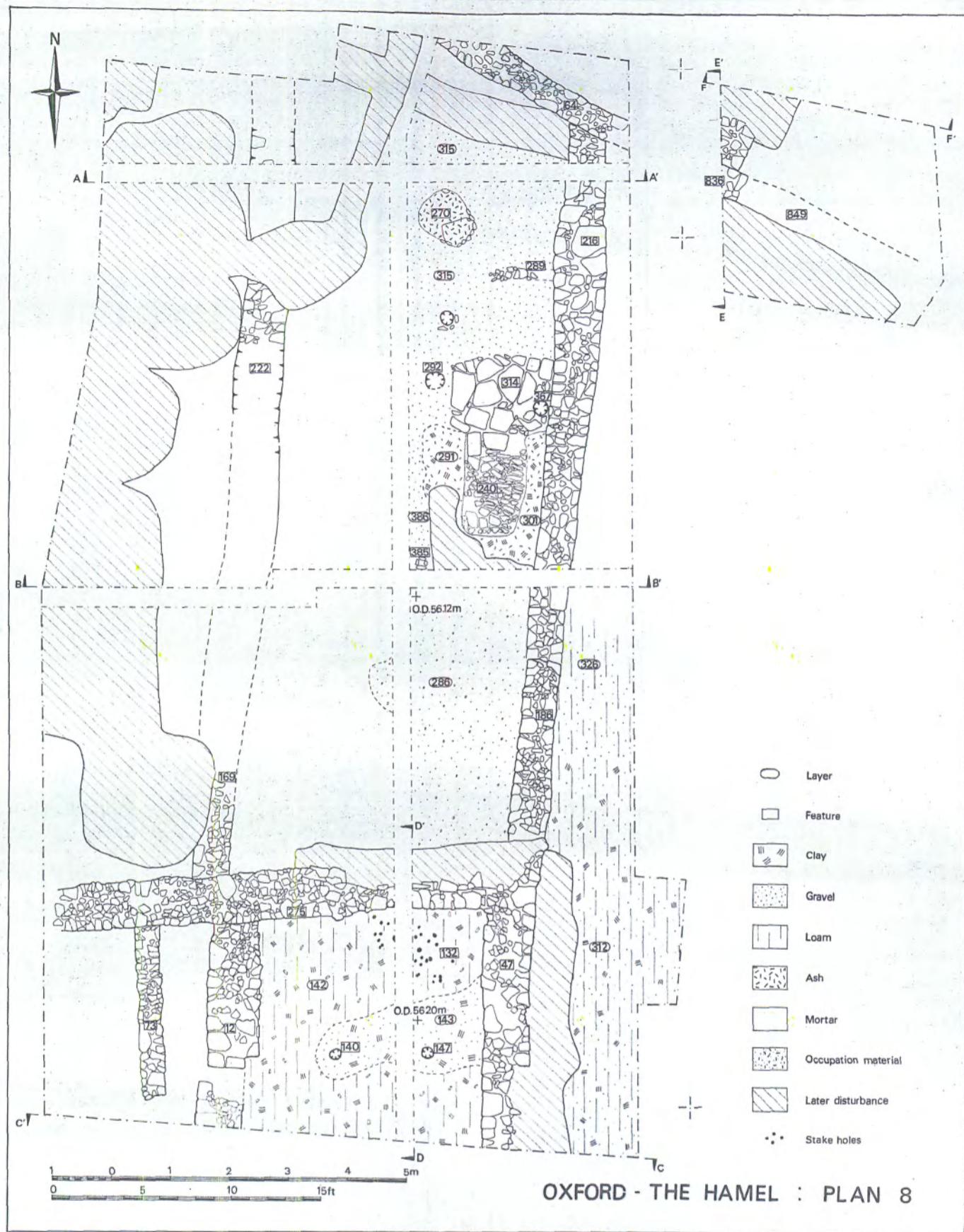


Fig. X HIII, BIIa, E2, BII3, RII : Mid 14th century.

oven would probably be too small for practical purposes and the former version is perhaps to be preferred.

Immediately to the north of oven 240 was an area 1.4 m. by 1.8 m. paved with large rough flagstones (303, 314) set on a layer of clean yellow clay (373). These flagstones probably facilitated the sweeping up of ash raked from the oven. To the north of the flagstones a hard packed gravel floor (315) stretched to the north of the building. Layers 314 and 315 were cut by three post-holes (367, 292 and a third 1 m. north of 292). Of these 292, being all but centrally placed across the building, perhaps supported a cross partition.

1.4 m. north of 314, cutting 315, was a line of small stones (289) c.1 m. long, at right angles to wall 216, which may also have supported a partition or screen. Also set into 315 and centrally placed across the building was a hearth (270), consisting of one large stone and an area of burnt clay 1 m. by 0.8 m. lined by smaller stones. At the north end of the building, 315 was overlain by patches of clay (276, 272 and probably 299); elsewhere by an occupation layer (260), which was itself covered by a gravel floor (248). 248 was then sealed successively by layers of occupation material (262 and 298), a clayey gravel floor (271 and 297) and a mortary gravel floor (264). Layer 264 was cut by a hearth (203) in the same position as and replacing 270. Hearth 203 was made of a layer of pebbles, c.1 m. across, set in a shallow pit full of clay (263). Layer 264 was then covered by a yellow clay floor (261), and this by more thin layers of occupation material (247 and 296 and 246). At the north end of the building, over 246, there was a further patch of gravel floor (478).

On the western side of the northern part of the building was a sequence of small layers belonging to this or an earlier subphase. The earliest of these were loose gravel (394) and clayey loam (396), the latter being overlaid by yellow clay (395), and 394 and 395 by a patch of occupation layer (391). The next layers, gravelly loam (388), orange brown clay (288) and brown loam (287), were cut by a curious irregular hollow (336) against the west wall of the building and this by a post-hole (337).

Immediately south of oven 240 was a layer of gravel 386. This was cut by a small post-hole (385) which was approximately centrally placed across the building and may have supported a timber partition dividing the building along this line. The area to the south at this time was probably occupied by a floor surface made of gravel and small stones (286) and brown loam (462). Over these were similar layers of gravelly soil (182) and stones (466). Layer 182 was cut by a post-hole (320) against the south wall.

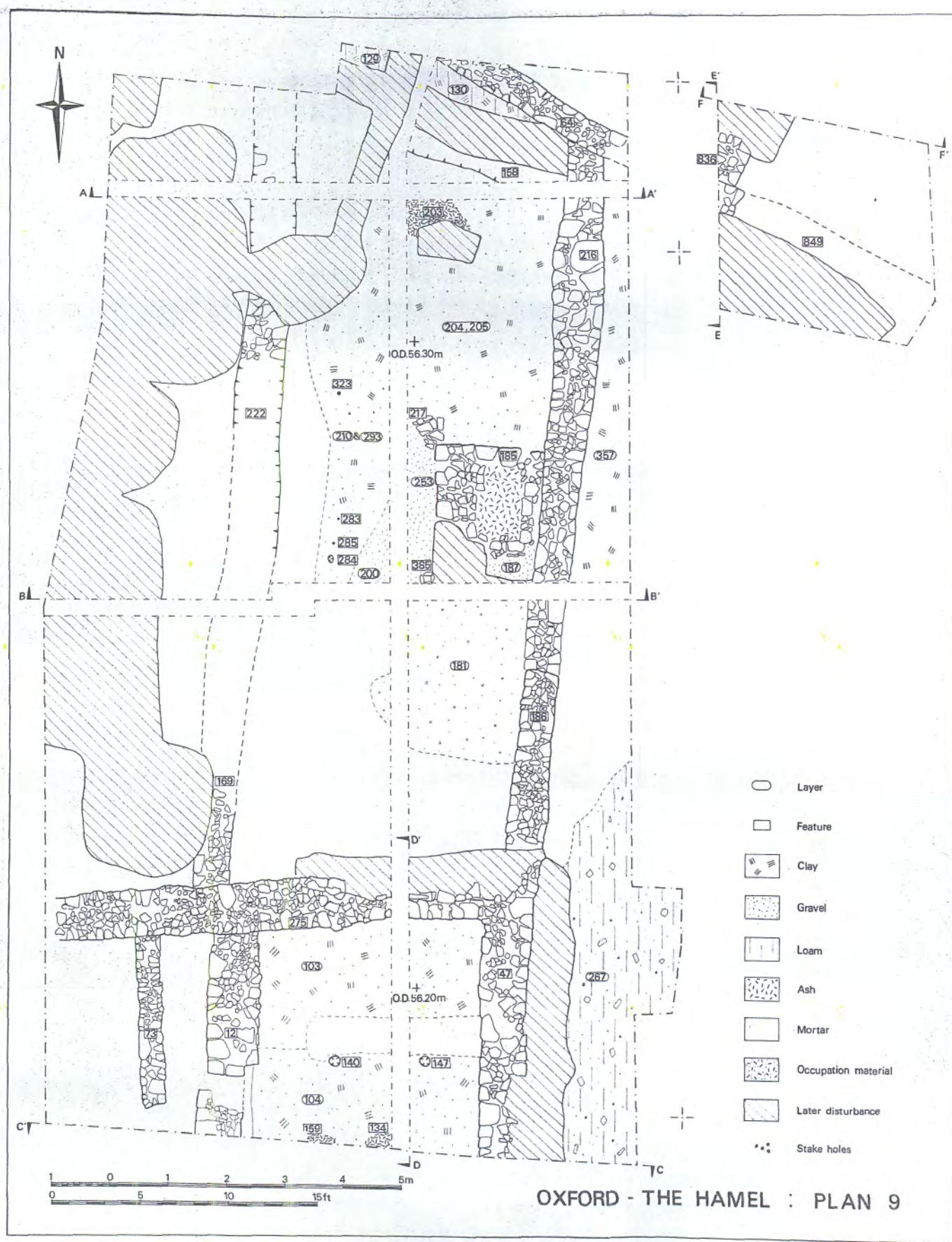


Fig. XI HIII, BIIa, E2, BII4, RII : Late 14th century.

other (Pl. 6). In the southern room the sequence of gravel and small stone surfaces continued with layer 181 covered by an occupation layer (171).

BII5: early 15th century (Fig. XII, Plan 10; Fig. III, Section A)

In the next phase the oven fell into disuse and the building was divided into three rooms by the insertion of partition walls. The northernmost of these (99) was at right angles to wall 216 and 3.6 m. from the middle of wall 64. Its footing was roughly constructed of medium rubble, but being 0.6 m. thick, probably supported a stone wall. The room to the north of it, since the partition marked by slot 158 seems to have continued in use, would have been c. 2.1 m. by 4.5 m. internally which is small, although not unreasonably so. Along the east side of the room was a stone bench or shelf (214), c. 0.3 m. wide, set in a trench filled with yellow clay (249) and brown clay loam (220). Almost centrally placed in the room was a pentagonal hearth (98), 1 m. by 0.8 m., well constructed of pitched stone slates set in yellow clay.

The middle room measured 4.2 m. by 4.5 m., its southern end being marked probably by two sections of clay filled slot (188 and 197) which presumably held a timber framed partition. In the course of this rearrangement a small pit (193) was dug in the west side of the room and filled with orange clay and stones. Then over this and over the remains of the oven and earlier floors a fairly thick layer of orange clay (145 and 194) was deposited both to level off the room and serve as the new floor. Layer 145 was cut by a small slot (219) c. 0.12 m. wide, running 1 m. across the middle of the room. Set on 145, over the former oven 185, was a small stone built hearth (101). Around these features a thin occupation layer (144) built up.

In the southernmost room there was a well laid floor of small and medium stones (172) set on layers of gravel (150) and loamy gravel (152). Adjacent to the door in the north east corner of the room a small hollow (256) was worn in the stone floor and then filled with two layers of brown loam divided by one of orange clay. Also cutting 172 against wall 216 was a small post-hole (183).

BII6: mid-late 15th century (Fig. XIII, Plan 11; Fig. III, Sections A, B)

The next and final surviving rearrangement of the building involved the enlargement of the two northern rooms at the expense of the southern. This also meant that the door in the east wall now opened into the middle rather than the southern room. Wall 99, the northernmost partition of the previous phase was replaced by wall 40, 1 m. to the south, 0.7 m. wide and constructed of medium rubble. The north room measured, across its middle, 3.3 m. by 4.5 m. Probably connected with the construction of this subphase was a stone packed post-hole (170). This was covered by a layer of broken stone slates, possibly

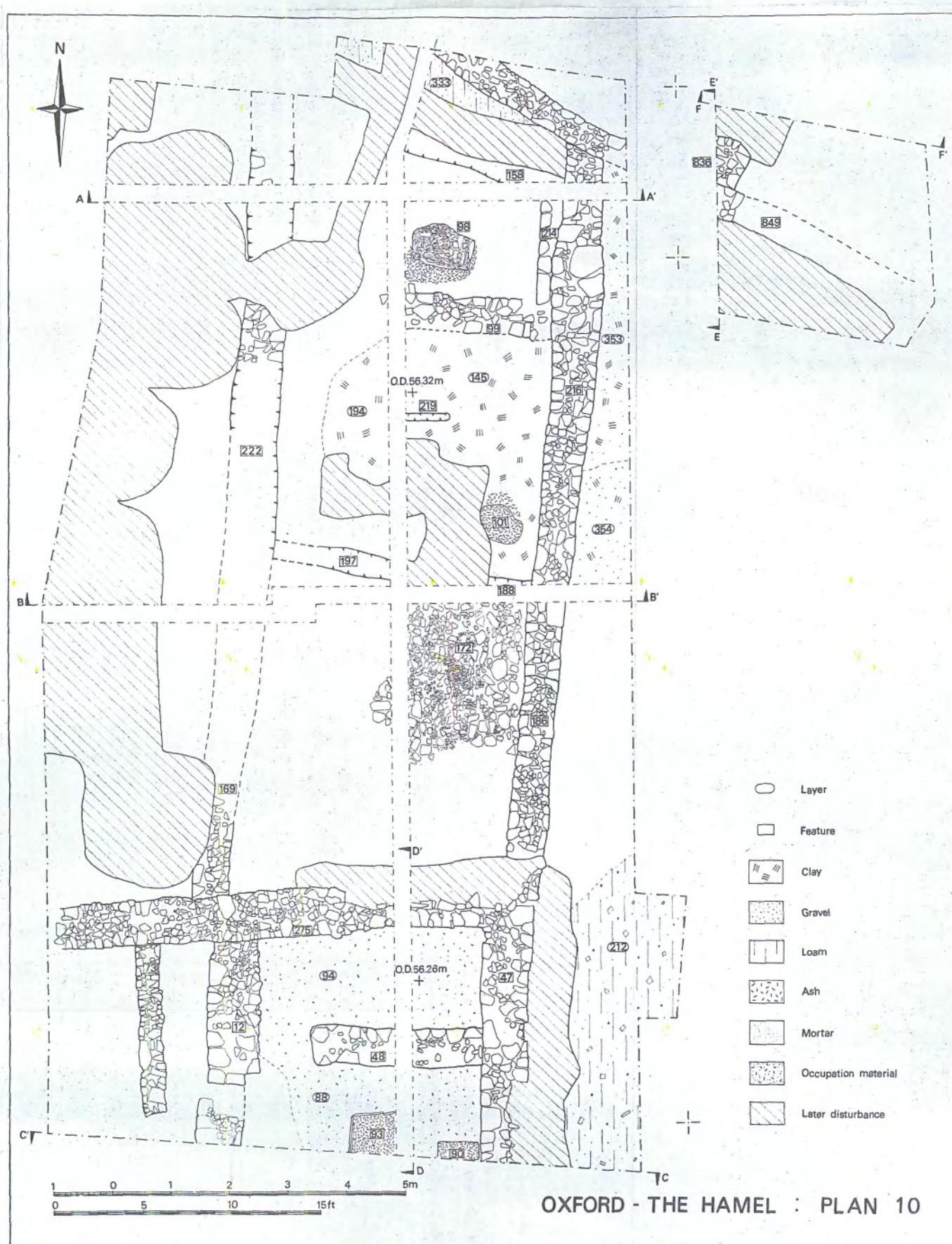
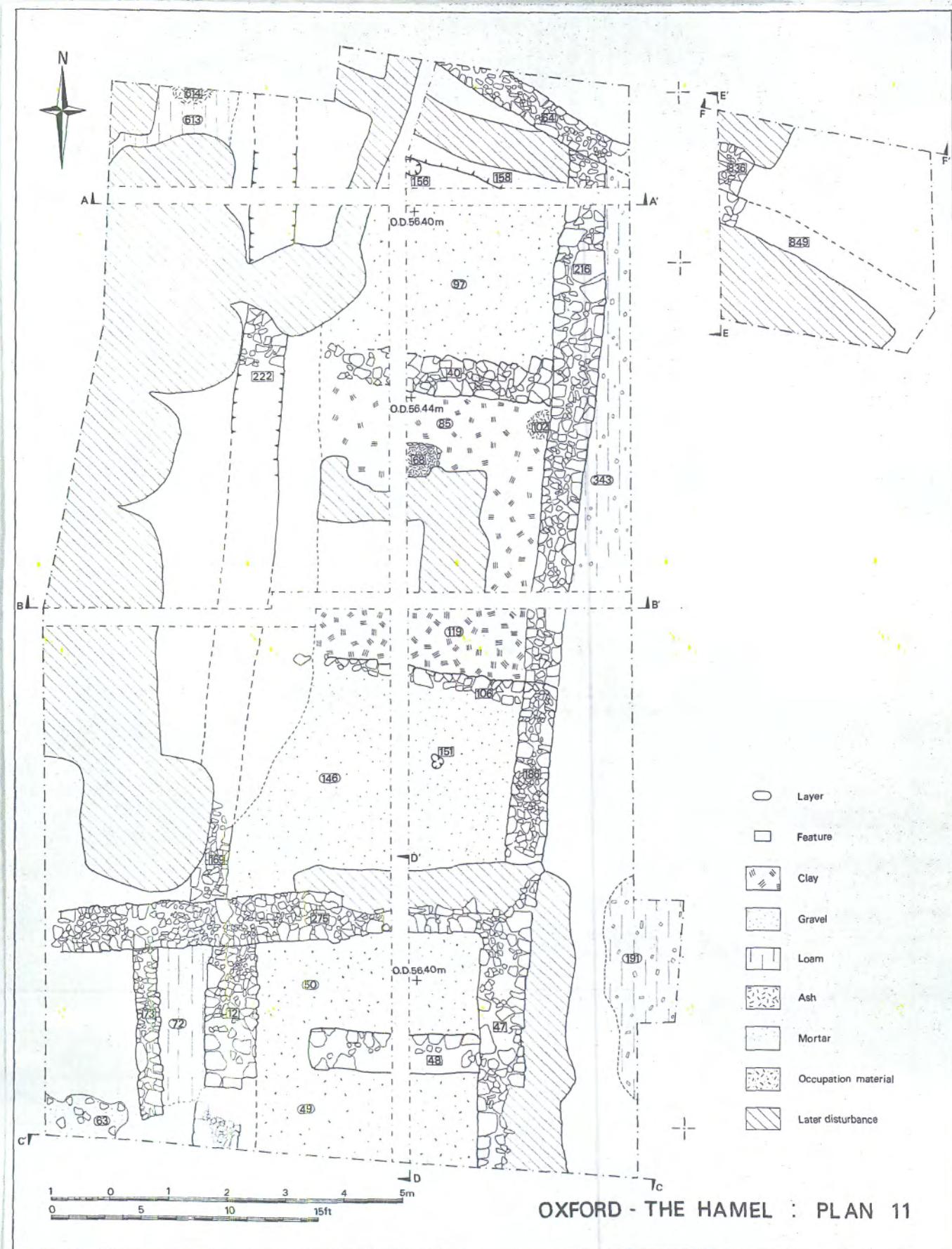


Fig. XII HIII, BIIa, E2, BII5, RII : Early 15th century.

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Published in *Oxoniana* 1980, (c) Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society. Mid-late 15th century.

the result of contemporary roof repairs. The slates were covered by a layer of occupation material (96), one of loamy orange clay (95) and another of ashy occupation material (97). Layer 97 was cut by a post-hole 156, whose post may have strengthened the partition (158) against which it was set.

The middle room measured 4.7 m. by 4.5 m., its southern boundary being wall 106, 0.3 m. wide, of small rubble and probably supporting a framed partition. The level of the area to the north of 106, which in the last subphase had belonged to the southern room, was much lower than that of the central part of the building and therefore had to be made up by dumping a layer of rubble and loam (128 and 196) c.0.15 m. thick. Layer 128 was cut by a small ash filled pit (257) and overlaid by a layer of brown clay (119). To the north were layers of make-up of clay and gravel (124, 100 and 126) which were covered by a patch of ash (125), a clay floor (85) and an ashy occupation layer (83). Set into 85, almost in the centre of the building, c.1 m. south of wall 40 was a hearth (68), with a base of stones c.0.6 m. square surrounded by a border of pitched stones. In the course of its use, as the layer of ash 83 built up around it, the hearth itself was built up with layers of yellow clay.

Layers 85 and 83 were also cut by a shallow feature 0.6 m. by 0.33 m. filled with orange clay (92), a post-hole (84), 0.3 m. in diameter and 0.1 m. deep, against wall 216, and a patch of red ash (102) c.0.4 m. across in the north east corner. Layer 83 was overlaid by another layer of occupation material (58, 60, 77) which was cut by a post-hole (62), 0.25 m. in diameter and 0.08 m. deep, and a shallow pit (61) and on which was a patch of ash (69). The occupation layer 58, 60, 77 was overlaid by layers of orange gravelly clay (57) and brown loam (71). The last was cut by a small post-hole (70), 0.1 m. in diameter and 0.08 m. deep.

In the south room was another gravel floor (146), cut by an irregular hole (151), 0.15 m. deep, and overlaid by a probable occupation layer (148 and 149) and a layer of mortar and stones (137). The last of these perhaps relates to the demolition of the building as does a spread of rubble (168) on the east side of wall 169.

BIID: Demolition of building: late 15th/early 16th century (Fig. III, Section B)

At the southern end of the building the lower floor level allowed the survival of a series of layers relating to its demolition and the construction of its successor. The east wall (186, 216) and the cross wall 106 were robbed, producing the robber trenches 112 (filled with brown sandy loam) and 141. These were covered by grey-brown loam (111) which was cut by a rectangular feature

filled with gravel, loam and rubble (117 and 118). Layer 111 was cut by a possible ash filled post-hole (135), another post-hole filled with red loam (138) and a shallow depression filled with orange clayey gravel (139), which was overlaid by a patch of dark loam (109) and both were sealed by brown loam (115). Layer 115 had on top of it a patch of gravel (116) and another of sandy mortar and stone (114), which was cut by a semicircular pit, c.1 m. in diameter, dug against the demolished footing of wall 106. This pit was filled with mortary gravel (127), ash (113) and red loam (108). Also over 115 was another small patch of ash 107.

To the west of these were layers of brown gravelly loam (120, 121 and 122). 120 was covered by dark clayey loam (42) and this by the burnt patch (43) and a layer of red clayey loam (45). Layer 45 was cut by an ash filled hole (163) and by a pit (44, 78) which was 1.2 m. by 1 m. by 0.3 m. deep, and filled with three layers of clay, grey over dark brown over yellow. This pit might have been used for the mixing of daub for the infilling of timber framing.

BII0: Outside layers west of the building: mid 13th-late 15th century (Figs. VIII, IX, XIII; Plans 6, 7, 11)

The area to the west of the building, or at least that part of it not removed by later pits, seems to have been a yard surfaced with gravel. The earliest layers of the phase seem to have been 503 and 603. Overlying them and the wall of the first phase building (230) were layers of gravel and ash (231 and 427) overlaid by gravel (238). These layers were cut by various features (Fig. VIII, Plan 6); 238 by a small post-hole (405) and 231 a shallow stone packed feature (229), which was probably a postbase, and by a laid stone hearth 221 and 362. Hearth 221 was later (Fig. IX, Plan 7) cut by a small stone packed hollow (245) and this by another similar feature (223). A final outside layer, belonging to the end of phase two, was a patch of green-brown loam in the north west corner of the site (613) on top of which was a burnt patch c.0.4 m. in diameter (614).

RII The Roadway: mid 13th to late 15th century (Figs. VIII-XIII, Plans 6-11; Figs. III, IV; Sections A, B, C)

The earliest layers deposited to the east of the buildings were probably made up for street surfaces rather than the surfaces themselves: dark ashy loam (517) was overlaid by brown loam (595), yellow clay (594) and ashy loam (359). The surface of the road going with these layers had presumably either been published in *Oxfordshire 1980*, (c) Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society, never reached this extreme edge of the street. Layer 359 was cut by the pit 360 and the buttress 516 which, it has been suggested (see

HII), were part of attempts to remedy building subsidence. Layer 359 was also cut by a shallow rubble-filled depression (361).

To the north, butting against wall 216, was a rough block of small rubble (387) c.0.8 m. across; this extended outside the trench and could be the end of a wall (Fig. IX, Plan 7). However it was set in a loamy rubble street surface (383) and opposite the internal partition wall 381 and is therefore most likely to represent a buttress. The inhabitants of the northern tenement could also have been having subsidence problems. 383 was overlaid by further street surfaces of clay, gravel, loam and rubble (357, 355, 354 and 343).

To the south, 359 was overlaid by a series of layers containing loam, gravel, mortar, rubble and charcoal (344, 338, 326, 312, 269, 321, 267, 235, 212 and 208). Layer 321 was cut by a mortar filled post-hole (322) and 208 by a circular pit c.0.45 m. in diameter (225, 213/1) which contained roof slates and was perhaps a soakaway. Pit 225 was covered by a final series of road surfaces of loam, rubble, mortar and clay (213, 207, 191, 190).

Building Phase III

HIII The Southern Tenement: late 13th-late 15th/early 16th century (Figs. IX-XIII, Plans 7-11; Fig. IV, Sections C, D; Pl. 7)

The replacement building on the southern tenement, which corresponded to subphases BII2-6 on the northern, was smaller than its ill-fated predecessor and consisted of a range parallel to the street, c.3.9 m. wide internally. The north wall 275 was retained from the earlier phase, only the east and west walls being replaced. The new east wall (47) was constructed of thin courses of fairly well squared medium-large rubble facing a small rubble core. It was c.0.8 m. thick and survived three courses high. The west wall (12) was similarly constructed but c.0.9 m. thick and had an expanded footing. Towards its southern end was a door whose width is uncertain due to later robbing. Again this building was probably built completely of stone, and probably had a solar (2.6 m. long) over its northern bay.

The inside of the building was levelled by dumping a thick layer of gravel (154) into the subsidence hollow (Fig. IX, Plan 7; Pl. 7). Cut into this gravel was a shallow hole (157), 0.4 m. by 0.15 m. by c.0.2 m. deep containing the skeleton of a newly born child, orientated north-south. There was no trace of a container for the skeleton which had its head to the north. Also cutting 154 was a post-base offour stones set in the top of a hole packed with clay and gravel (160). This was placed slightly off-centrally across the building but is nevertheless best explained as a support for a solar over the northern bay. There was probably no partition below because the layers ran through uninterrupted. This being so, patches of ash (161 and 162) on 154 were probably random accumulations rather than hearths. These features were covered by a compacted layer of dark loam (153). Subsidence seems to have continued to be a problem because it became necessary to dump a layer of loam and rubble (155) to fill a hollow c.0.1 m. deep that had developed over the filled pit (626) (Fig. IV, Section D). On top of 155 was loamy clay rubble (142), probably similar make-up (Fig. X, Plan 8). At this stage also the post-base for supporting the solar was replaced by two post-holes (140 and 147), 0.2 m. in diameter by 0.15 m. deep. Again, there was no physical trace of a partition and the next floor layer (143), of clayey gravel, was laid on both sides. In the northern bay of the building was a cluster of about 28 stake-holes (132). Presumably these were made by some apparatus such as a loom. These layers were in turn sealed by another floor (103 and 104) of gravelly yellow clay (Fig. XI, Plan 9). There were two hearths in this floor, both protruding from the south edge of the excavation: 134 was simply a patch of burnt clay, 0.3 m. by 0.35 m., whereas 159 was a hole 0.6 m. wide by 0.2 m. deep filled with small stones packed in yellow clay. These may

have been used successively or together.

The next development was the physical partition of the northern bay by the construction of a wall (48) along the same line as the previous post supports (Fig. XII, Plan 10). This wall, which was of similar construction to 47 although only 0.7 m. wide, contained a door c.1 m. wide at its western end. Layer 91 was a spread of clay, mortar and stone along wall 48 and presumably represents construction debris. On top of this layer was a sequence of thin floor and occupation layers, collectively about 0.1 m. thick, in both rooms (94 in the northern, 88 in the southern). Contemporary with these surfaces were two hearths (90 and 93); 93 which occupied the same position as 134, was a hole, c.0.5 m. square by 0.3 m. deep, lined with stone slates, and filled with pitched stone slates packed with orange clay; 90, against wall 47 was constructed of flat stones. Hearth 93 was sealed by the upper layers in 88 whereas 90 was not, which suggests that 90 was later. Also over 88 was a patch of orange clay (86), perhaps a fragment of floor layer. On top of these layers was a final sequence of occupation layers (49 in the southern room, 50 in the northern) (Fig. XIII, Plan 11).

The area to the west of wall 12 had suffered much from later disturbance and little remained assignable to this phase except wall 73 (Fig. XIII, Plan 11). This ran parallel to wall 12 c.0.8 m. to the west. It was constructed of small rubble, was c.0.4 m. thick and probably supported a timber wall. It ended c. 0.45 m. from the edge of the trench, perhaps in a doorway. To its west was a layer of mortary rubble (63), to its east a layer of yellow mortary loam (72). It is not possible to say whether wall 73 supported an outshot covering a staircase or a passage running behind the building, or was the east wall of an outbuilding separated from the main building by a narrow open space. Perhaps of these possibilities a staircase serving the solar over the northern bay is most likely.

Building Phase IV: early 16th to 19th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Figs. III, IV, VI, XV, Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, P, Q; Pl. 8)

In the fourth building phase new buildings were erected on both tenements. In the extension a small part of the back of a building on St. Thomas's Street, half across the end of the Hamel, was uncovered (E4). In the main area on the southern tenement was a new building (HIV) to the north of which, on the northern tenement, was a new range parallel to the Hamel (BIV). This extended over the previous back wall of the range on St. Thomas's Street, suggesting that this frontage was also redeveloped at this stage. To the west of the northern building was a yard/garden used for the digging of pits (BIVP); to the east was a final sequence of road surfaces (RIV).

E4: early-mid 16th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Fig. VI, Sections E, F)

The south wall of the new building (787), 0.5 m. wide and of small to medium coursed rubble, ran diagonally across the trench for 2 m. before turning into the north edge of the trench. The smallness of this wall suggests that it supported a timber framed superstructure. The northern part probably contained a doorway, because outside it was a spread of small rubble (827) such as would be laid to prevent wear of a threshold. Within 787, whose north face was plastered, were layers of mortar and orange clayey gravel (806) representing either construction debris or the earliest floor, brown loam with ash and charcoal (805), and yellow clay (804) either a floor or bedding for flagstones.

Outside the building was a series of layers probably representing yard or street surfaces; rubble, gravel and loam (829) were overlaid by further rubble (824) and the latter by a patch of gravelly mortar (823). Layers 824 and 827 were cut by a largish pit (826) in the north west corner, c.0.5 m. deep, filled with loam with gravel and rubble. Cutting 826 was a post-base made of slates (825) and a shallow depression (802) filled with stony gravel, which may possibly represent a robbed out westward extension of 787. At any rate the next outside surface, of mortar (790), respected 802. Inside the building at this time the door through 787 was blocked with a narrow rubble wall c.0.3 m. thick and a new yellow clay floor was laid within. Outside the building the mortar surface 790 was cut by a large trench-shaped pit (810) filled with dark loam with charcoal and brick rubble (801 was the top layer in the pit). The pit contained large quantities of animal bone as well as fragments of painted glass, presumably the remains of windows, possibly from Oseney Abbey, broken up for their lead cameas.

On top of the pit were layers of gravelly loam (780), orange clay and brown loam (792), brown loam and gravel (791) and ashy loam and brick rubble (788). Within wall 787 was a layer of yellow clay and ash (800) which probably relates to the demolition of this building.

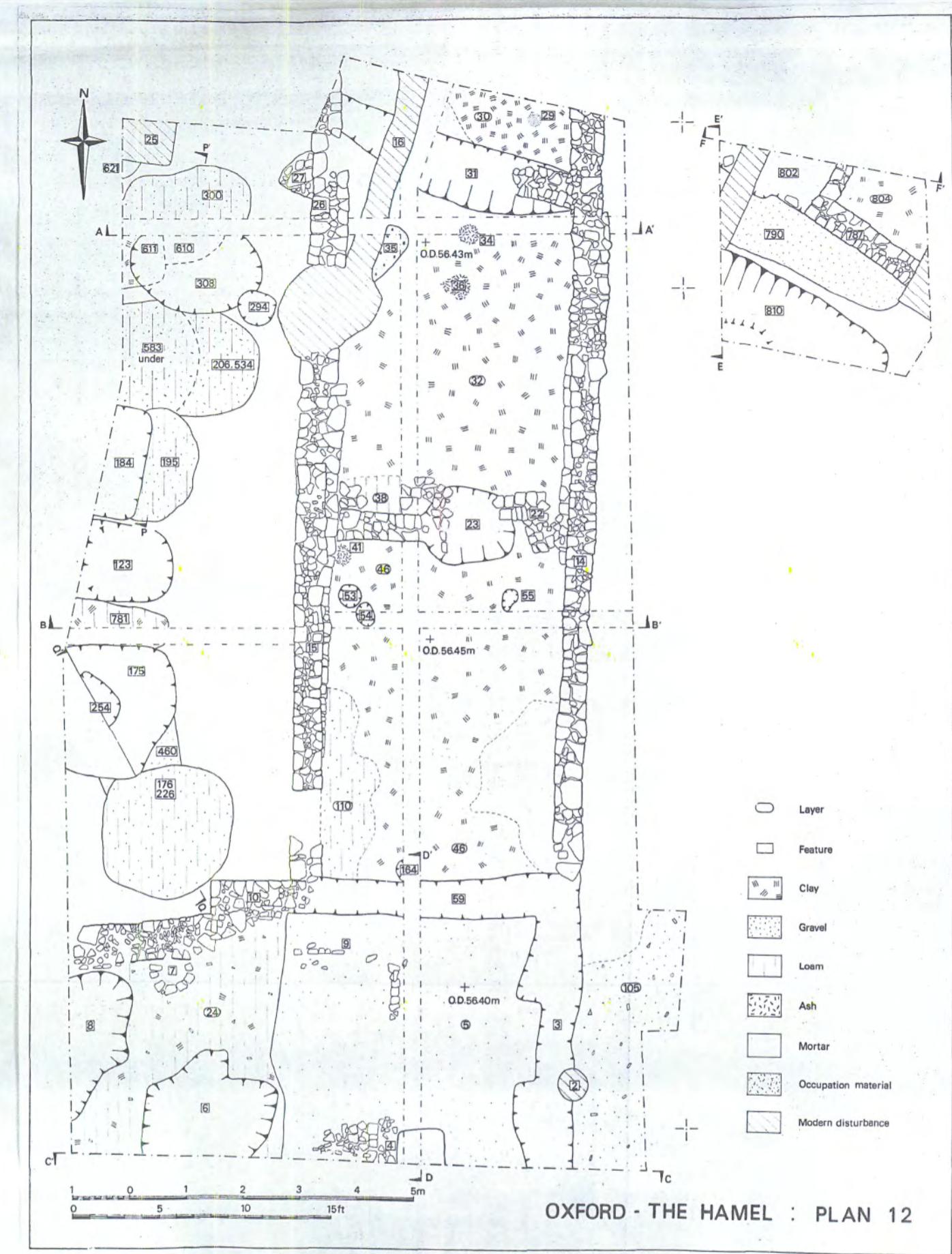


Fig. XIV E4, HIV, BIV, BIVP, RIV : 16th-19th century.

HIV The Southern Tenement: early 16th to mid 19th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Fig. IV, Sections C, D)

The walls of this building were represented mostly by robber trenches. Along the east side was robber trench 3, filled with gravelly loam. In places this had cut into wall 47 of the previous phase but where it had not it was c.0.6 m. wide and c.0.5 m. north of 47. The northern wall was represented by robber trench 59, c.0.6 m. wide by 0.5 m. deep, filled with layers of rubbly loam, and the short stretch of wall (10) which made a corner, protruding slightly (0.6 m.) north of the line of wall 275. Because of later disturbance, no trace of the west wall was found, but it was probably set on top of wall 12 of the previous phase. Similarly no trace was found of the back extension shown on the survey of 1829.¹ The robber trenches suggest that the wall footings were c.0.5 m. wide and probably supported a timber framed structure of more than one storey. The width of the building would have been c.5.2 m.: (the length excavated was 4.2 m.), almost the length recorded in 1772.²

Inside the building was a layer of off-white gravelly mortar (5, 51), about 50 mm. thick which was probably bedding for a flagstone or tile floor. Cutting layer 5 in the south edge of the trench was a feature (4) consisting of a very large stone adjacent to a spread of small-medium rubble. This was perhaps the foundation for a chimney stack. To the north of 4 was a broken L-shaped row of smallish stones (9) on top of layer 5. This was perhaps a support for a staircase, partition, or some other part of the internal structure. The only feature attributable to the phase outside the building was an almost circular stone-lined hole (7), c.1 m. wide by 0.3 m. deep against the boundary wall 17. It was filled with grey ash and was perhaps a soakaway.

The demolition of this building left robber trenches as described above or, in the case of the west wall, a robber spread represented by layers 87, 89, 133 and 24. In the south west corner of the site this spread was cut by shallow pits (6 and 8) filled with dark loam and rubble which had removed any trace of the rear extension to the building.

BIV The Northern Tenement: early 16th to 19th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Fig. III, Sections A, B)

The building on the northern tenement, like its predecessor, consisted of a range parallel to the Hamel. Its east and west walls (14, 244 and 15, 26)

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1. H.E. Salter, Cartulary of Oseney Abbey, ii, O.H.S. xc (1929), 608-10.
 2. H.E. Salter, Surveys and Tokens, O.H.S. lxxxv (1929), 40-1.

were 4.3 m. apart and consisted of medium and large coursed limestone rubble c.0.5 m. wide set on an expanded footing 0.7-0.8 m. wide. They probably therefore supported a timber framed structure. Underneath the north end of the west wall (26) a shallow pit (27) had been filled with rubble to prevent subsidence. At its south end the building butted against the wall removed by robber trench 59. At the north end there was a cross wall, almost completely robbed out (31/2), but whose robber trench (31) showed it to have run parallel to St. Thomas's Street. This probably represented the north end of the accommodation which was c.12.5 m. long, the space to the north being a through passage, similar to the one in the previous phase.

Approximately in the centre of the building was a cross wall (21, 22 and 56), c.0.5 m wide, made of small rubble incorporating the robbed out remains of a chimney stack foundation (23). The chimney probably served a fireplace on each side of the wall - that on the north of the wall being to the west, that on the south to the east. This feature had been inserted into the building, but whether during its construction or later is impossible to say. The surviving floor layers respected the chimney but earlier ones could have been removed.

The southern room was 6 m. by 4.3 m. with a doorway 0.8 m. wide at its south west corner. Inside the room was a thick (0.1 m.) layer of orange clay (46) which was probably bedding for a flagstone or tiled floor. On the west side of the room, over 46, was a layer of gravelly loam (110). Although this could have marked repair to the floor, it and the other features over 46 probably dated from the demolition of the building. These other features were a burnt patch (41), a hollow (53), 0.45 m. in diameter by 0.15 m. deep, filled with black loam, another hollow (54) 0.46 m. by 0.35 m. by 0.1 m. deep, filled with clayey gravel, a shallow hole (55), 0.3 m. in diameter by 0.06 m. deep, filled with black loam and a post-hole (164), 0.37 m. in diameter by 0.22 m. deep.

The northern room was trapezoidal; its east side 5 m., its west sides 6.4 m. and 4.3 m. wide. Within the room was a layer of grey-brown clay (32) which was overlaid on the south by dark grey loam (39). Layer 39 was cut by part of the robbing of the northern fireplace (38) and overlaid by dark green sandy clay (37). On top of 32 were two small burnt patches (34 and 36), the former containing melted lead, probably from the melting of window lead, and a patch of ash (33). Layer 32 was cut by a stone and mortar filled feature (35) and a post-hole (79), 0.3 m. in diameter filled with orange-grey soil. Layer 32 was overlaid by orange clay (76) which was cut by a post-hole (80), and a slight hollow (82) and overlaid by a black ashy layer (75). Again most of the features just described probably date to the demolition of the building rather than its period of use. To the north of robber trench 31 was a layer of green-

brown clay (30), on which there was a small patch of orange mortar (29). After the demolition of the building and robbing of the cross wall the robber trench was filled with orange brown clayey gravel, patches of which spilled over into the interior of the demolished building.

BIVP: Pits to the west of the building: early 16th to 19th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Fig. XV, Sections P, Q)

The area west of the building in this phase seems to have been a garden or yard used for digging pits. The earliest of these was 583, the north west of the trench. It was c.2 m. in diameter and its bottom 0.3 m., which survived, was filled with brown stony loam (660), yellow gravelly clay (659) and ashy loam (583). To the north of 583 was pit 610 filled with clay and ash, of which a segment 1 m. by 0.4 m. survived. This was cut by another pit (611), filled with clayey gravel, which extended out of the trench. Both of these were cut by pit 300, 1.3 m. by 2.3 m. by 0.6 m. deep filled with gravelly loam. In the southern half of the site was a fragment of pit (460) containing layers of red loam and charcoal and mortary gravel. This was cut to the south by a pit (176, 226), c.2.4 m. in diameter and 1.3 m. deep, filled with black organic material overlaid successively by layers of clay and gravel, ash, clayey gravel, brown loam and charcoal, and brown gravelly loam. This, the earliest group of pits, was dated by the pottery found in them to the 16th century. With the possible exception of 226, 176, they were presumably simply rubbish pits - they were not deep enough to be gravel pits, wells or cesspits.

The remaining pits dated from the 18th and 19th centuries. At the north end of the area there was a small segment of pit (621), extending only 0.3 m. into the trench. Further south was a pit (206, 534), c.1.9 m. by 2.3 m. filled with gravelly ashy loam which cut 583 and was itself cut by pit 308 to the north. Pit 308 was 2.2 m. by 1.7 m., filled with loam and stones and cut by a small circular pit (294), 0.7 m. in diameter, filled with brown charcoally loam. To its south 206, 534 was cut by pit 195, 1.9 m. in diameter by 0.45 m. deep and filled with charcoally loam, gravel and brown loam. The shallowness of these five again suggests that they were probably rubbish pits. Cutting the western side of 195 was a deep rectangular pit 184, 2 m. across and filled with soft brown loam. To the south again and divided from 184 by a thin arête of undisturbed ground was another rectangular pit (123) and to the south of this and similarly divided from it was a third (781). Pit 123 was 1.2 m. by 1.4 m. to the section and filled with brown gravelly loam; 781 1.2 m. by 1.8 m. and filled with dark loam and orange clay. These three pits which all contained 19th century material, went below the water table and were unlined were probably cess pits. The respect they paid to each other suggests also that they were dug in

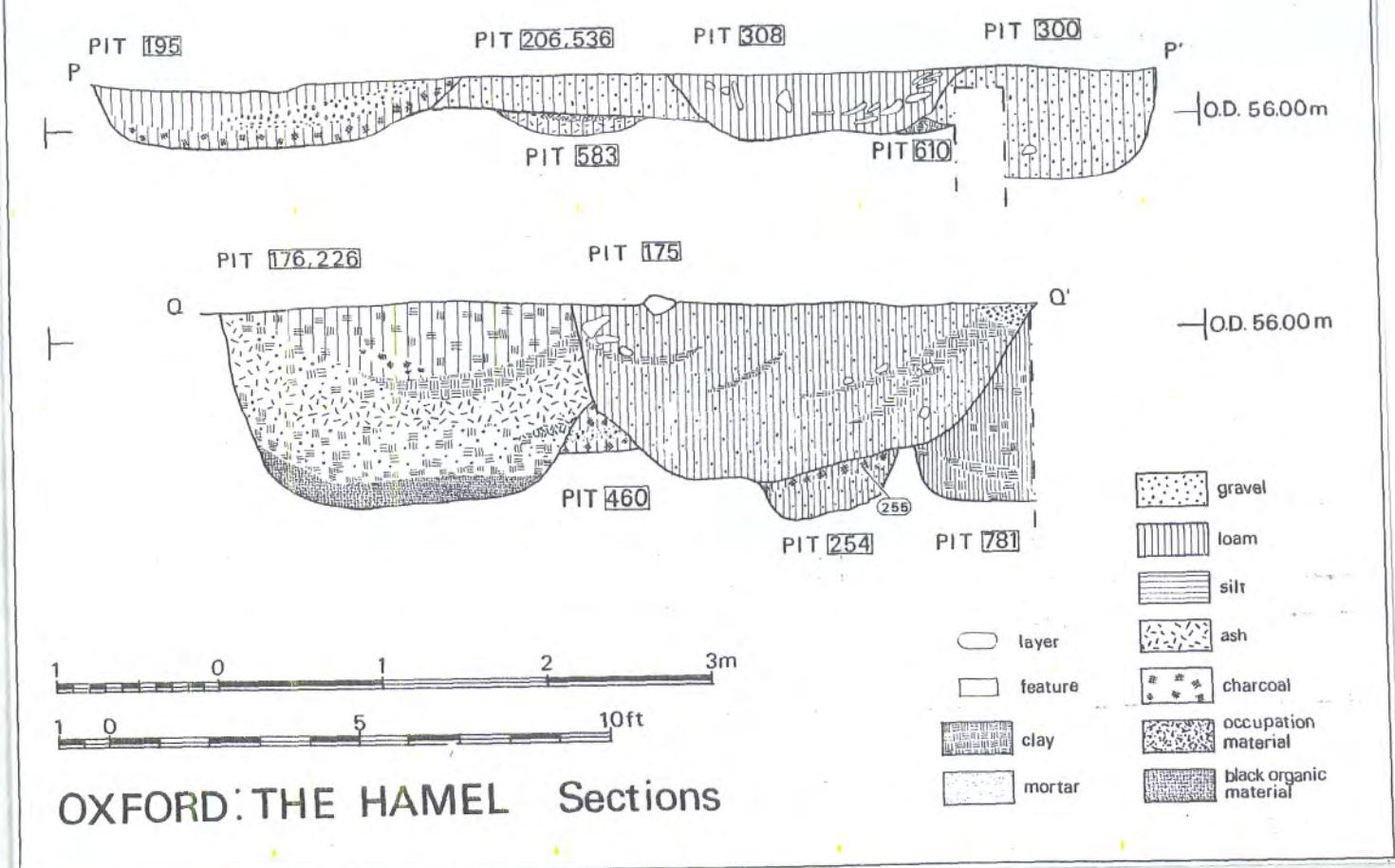


Fig. XV

succession. Between 781 and 176, 226 was the latest of these pits (175), which was c.2.6 m. in diameter and 1.1 m. deep. At its bottom was another smaller pit, 0.8 m. across and 0.3 m. deep, going below the (modern) water table and filled with brown gravelly loam (254) overlaid by a layer of charcoally loam (255). It is not really possible to say whether 254 was a hollow dug in the bottom of 175 as a sump or water hole or an earlier pit cut by 175.

RIV The Roadway: early 16th to 19th century (Fig. XIV, Plan 12; Fig. IV, Section C)

The only area where the road surfaces of the Hamel of this phase survived was to the east of the southern tenement. To the north they were removed by the last buildings on the site. Over layer 190, described in the previous phase, were layers of sandy orange clay and charcoal (177), dark loam and rubble (180), and gravel and rubble (105). 180 was cut by a narrow trench (514) filled with ash and charcoal which may have been a drain and 105 was overlaid by the final road surface of the Hamel before its realignment (19). This consisted of granite setts laid east-west. There was a pavement c.1 m. wide divided from the road proper by a gutter c.0.6 m. wide where the setts were laid north-south.

Modern

The remaining excavated features relate to the final Victorian phase of buildings or later. In the north east and south west parts of the site were wall footings (20 and 13). On the west side were pipe trenches (11 and 16), the former holding a lead water pipe, the latter a drainage system to which a manhole (28) was connected. Finally from the period after the demolition of these buildings came two pits (25 and 18) and a fence post-hole (2).

Trench II¹

Trench II was dug on St. Thomas's Street on the east side of the Hamel. It measured 3.5 m. by 3 m. The layers in it can be divided into six phases: Phase 1 represents layers of dumping dating to the early-mid 13th century; Phase 2a was the first building on the site (mid-late 13th century) and Phase 2b a rebuilding or rearrangement (14th-early 15th century); Phases 3 and 4 represent two further buildings (dating to the 15th to 16th centuries and the 17th to 19th centuries respectively) and Phase 5 was the final mid-nineteenth century building on the site.

Phase 1: Dumping early-mid 13th century (Fig. XVI, Sections A, B)

The natural gravel at the bottom of the trench was covered by alluvium c.0.3 m. thick and containing a number of gley horizons. On top of the alluvium a number of layers of gravel, silty clay and loam were deposited (142, 141, 140, 137, 136, 138, 135, 133, 132b, 134, 114, 113, 112, 131b, 130b and 67). Some of these contained quantities of ash and domestic rubbish; they probably represent dumping designed to raise the level of the ground by 0.6-0.8 m. so that building could take place. As in the extension to the main area (E1) the layers sloped down southwards, probably because the dumping took place from the direction of St. Thomas's Street. The variety of the layers suggests that the dumping may have continued over some time.

Phase 2a: Building mid-late 13th century (Fig. XVI, Plan 1, Sections A, B)

The first building was constructed at this stage. Although no trace of a partition was found, owing to the depth of later foundations, the trench must have lain across two separate tenements (or rooms) since the layers on either side formed distinct sequences. The wall dividing the two tenements can only have been c.0.5 m. wide but nevertheless is likely to have been stone built, because it had hearths laid against it on either side. On the west side the earliest floors were patches of brown and yellow clay. These were covered by an ashy occupation layer (106) into which, against the wall, was set a stone built hearth (107). Over these was a floor layer of loamy gravel (104) on which was more occupation material (103) and another hearth (102), made of orange clay (over 107). The next floor layer (Fig. XVI, Plan 1) was of yellow gravel (97) and contained a hearth (98), made of limestone blocks set in clay. It was cut by 101, an unexplained shallow depression filled with grey brown

1. The layers and features in Trench II were numbered in a separate sequence. Finds from it are prefixed with ST.

OXFORD: THE HAMEL Trench II Sections & Plans

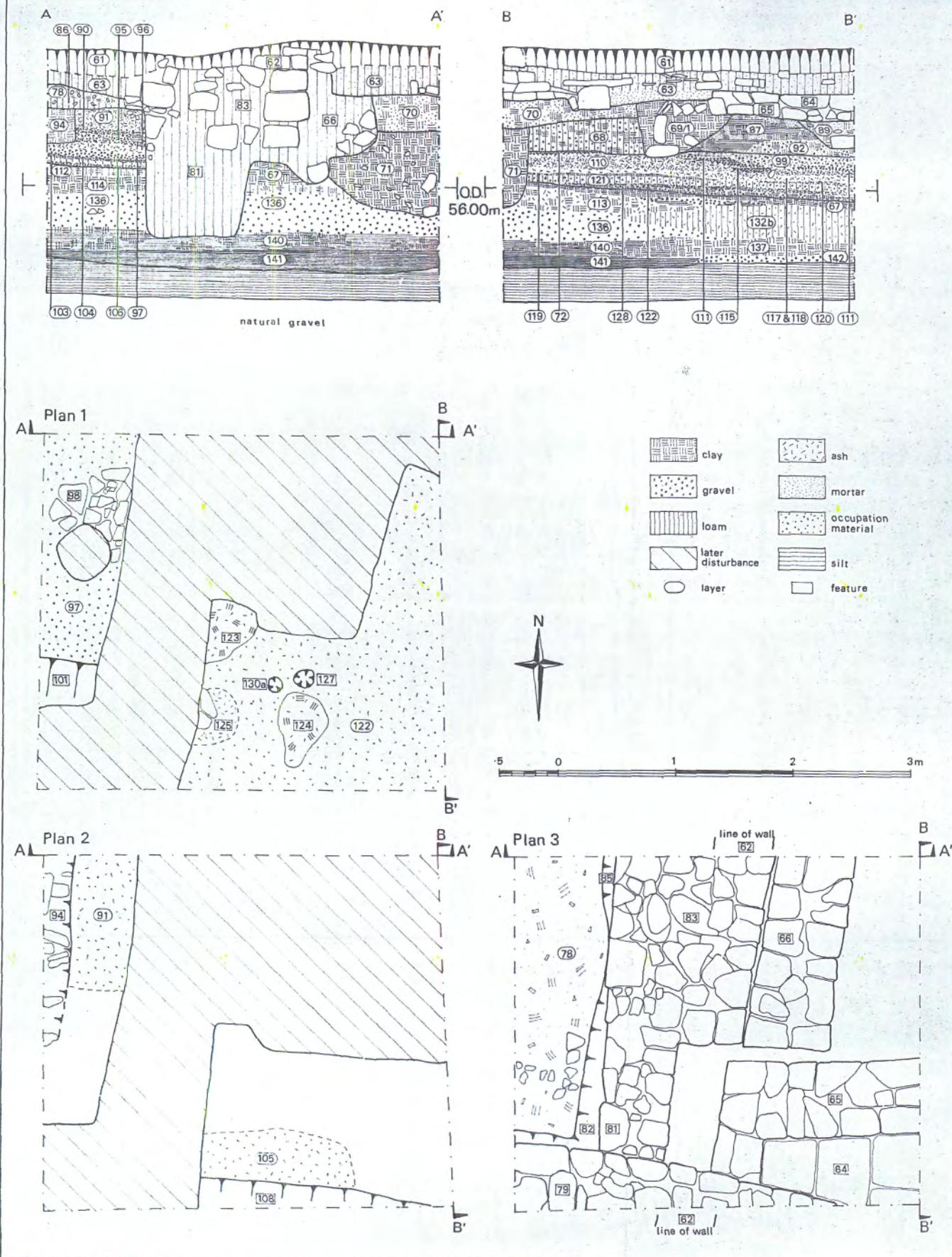


Fig. XVI Plan 1 : Phase 2a, mid-late 13th century;
 Plan 2 : Phase 2b, 14th/early 15th century;
 Plan 3 : Phases 3-5, 15th/16th century-19th century.

silty clay. These features were covered by another occupation layer (96), probably the last in this building phase, since the silty gravel over it (95) also contained building rubble and mortar, suggesting some rebuilding activity. The internal arrangement of the building also seems henceforward to have been different. On the east side the first building produced a similar sequence of floors, beginning with orange clay (129) with two burnt hearth patches on its western edge (131a and 132a), which were then covered by gravelly clay and occupation material (128) and an occupation layer (122). Layer 122 (Fig. XVI, Plan 1) had a number of hearths on it: 123 (over 132a), 126 and 125 (over 131a), and 124. Hearth 125, built of two flat stones packed in clay, was the only one of these not a simple patch of clay. Adjacent to 124 were two small post-holes, both 0.15 m. in diameter (127 and 130a). Layer 122 and its associated features were covered by a probable floor layer of gravelly loam (121) on which another occupation layer (120), containing a hearth patch (over 124), built up. 121 was overlaid in turn by a brown clay floor (119), another spread of occupation material (118) and layers of yellow gravel (116) and greenish loam (117). Over 117 was a series of thin occupation layers (110, 77, 76 and 75) into which was set a stone built hearth (115). Over 110 was a layer of brown clayey loam (109, 75) which might be regarded as levelling make-up connected with a rebuilding or reorganisation of the tenement, perhaps contemporary with that on the west side.

Phase 2b: Building 14th to early 15th century (Fig. XVI, Plan 2, Sections A, B)

In the next phase on the west side layer 95 was covered with layers of gravel and occupation spread (90) cut by a stone packed post-hole (93), c.0.35 m. in diameter. Over 90 was more occupation material (91) into which was cut (Fig. XVI, Plan 2), on the west side of the trench, a slot (94) containing some upended limestone blocks. This could have supported a staircase within the building but is perhaps more likely to represent a partition dividing a passageway from the rest of the building; although the passageway were impossibly narrow (c.0.6 m.) the rebuilding must have involved the replacement of the stone wall between the two tenements with a narrower timber framed one; certainly no more hearths were placed against the wall. On the eastern side the next layers were occupation layers (73 and 105) divided by a patch of gravel (111, 72) probably the remains of a floor. Layer 105 (Fig. XVI, Plan 2) was cut by a shallow slot (108), running at right angles to the dividing wall, which

probably supported a partition. Over 105 was a series of thin occupation and floor layers, the last in the building and a spread of rubble and clay (99) and gravel (100) which probably related to its demolition as did the succeeding brown gravelly clay, rubble and mortar (92).

Phase 3: Building: 15th to 16th century (Fig. XVI, Plan 3, Sections A, B)

Before the construction of the next building some preparatory activity seems to have taken place, evidence of which only survived on the eastern side of the trench: 92 was cut by a shallow depression (87), filled with brown clay mortar and gravel; layers of brown clay with mortar and charcoal (84) and dark grey gravelly clay (68) were deposited, the latter being cut by pit 71, filled with grey-brown clay, and overlaid by orange sandy clay (70). Layer 70 was cut by a post-hole packed with stone and grey-brown clay (69), which could have supported scaffolding. In the south east corner, 84 was cut by a depression (88), filled with rubble and clay (89). This was probably foundation for the floor of a building, structural evidence of which was confined to this area (Fig. XVI, Plan 3) and consisted of a wall (65), 0.6 m. wide of medium coursed rubble, of which a corner was excavated, bounding a well laid flagstone floor (64). The alignment of this wall was slightly different from that of those which preceded and succeeded it. The layers 86 and 78 both containing mortar and rubble, on the western side of the trench over 91 and 94 probably relate to the demolition of this building.

Phase 4: Building: 17th to 19th century (Figs. XVI, Plan 3, Section A)

Structural evidence for the next building was more extensive. Running along the south edge of the trench was a wall footing (79) of medium rubble sitting in a foundation trench 0.75 m. deep filled with mortared rubble. Abutting this at right angles was a crosswall (81), 0.6 m. thick, which widened into a chimney base (83) 1.25 m. wide on the eastern side. Features 81 and 83 were a not later insertion since their foundation trench (82 and 85) was continuous with that of 79. Presumably these walls represent a stone building parallel to St. Thomas's Street divided by a wall containing an internal chimney stack with a fireplace opening into the eastern division.

Phase 5 (mid 19th century and modern) (Fig. XVI, Plan 3, Sections A, B)

The final building on the site, a Victorian two storey, brick built shop, was represented by a brick wall (62) running parallel to 81 but 0.5 m. to the east, on the east edge of the chimney base (83). The space between 81 and wall 65 had been filled with rubble and mortar (80) as a foundation for 62. Against

its eastern side had been placed another chimney base (66), c.0.8 m. deep, of mortared brick and rubble. Presumably at this stage there were fireplaces on both sides of the wall. The final layers in the trench were loose rubble and mortar (63), presumably the demolition of this building and the modern rubble topsoil (61).

MEDIEVAL FINDS

Pottery by Maureen Mellor (continued from p. 161)

Method of classification

A comprehensive system of recording pottery attributes was devised for this site and subsequent sites to be processed from excavations in Oxford 1968-1976. The pottery was recorded in a numerical code for speed and standardisation of description. The sequence of columns on the sheet reflected the process of potting, from the original clay to the firing. The characteristics recorded were: fabric classification, has already been outlined,¹ sherd classification, includes both number and weight of sherd or group of sherds with effectively identical characteristics,² potting techniques, embraces method of manufacture and surface treatment as distinct from decoration, and thickness of sherd measured in centimetres, form, includes class of profile as measured from the narrowest point at the top of the vessel (usually just below the rim) to the base, this profile is related to a series of published local 'type-vessels'. The series is updated as new forms appear. Rims, bases and the position of the body sherd in relation to the profile are then considered and treated similarly as are handles and spouts; decoration, internal and external glaze, the condition of the glaze and the 'structural' decoration are recorded, these also relate to published local types; firing conditions are estimated by a hardness test (Moh) and by colour descriptions of surfaces and core, each entry being a condensed Munsell Code; comments³ allow for anomalies not catered for by the previous columns and often refer to pointers of an archaeological nature, i.e. residual element, or contamination, or coin present.⁴

The report includes a synopsis of vessels present, an outline of key archaeological indicators from each structural phase and a simplified catalogue; more detailed records of the computer print-out are available on fiche. The catalogue of sherds is arranged by fabric-type under broad fabric

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1. B. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), 111-112.
 2. C. Orton, 'Quantitative pottery studies: Some progress, problems and prospects', Science and Archaeology, 16.
 3. I am grateful to Katherine Barclay of the Winchester Research Unit for advice concerning the provision of a 'comments' column.
 4. Durham, 'St. Aldates', 112. The contractions used in this report are outlined in an earlier report, and the sherd numbers quoted in the captions follow the same principle as recent reports from Oxford.

groups: Group IA-shelly limestone; Group IB-oolitic and other limestone; Group II-flint and Group III-sand.

Several new fabric types were recognised from the Hamel:

- | | | |
|--------|------------|--|
| Gp IB | Fabric CT: | (See Table VI) |
| Gp III | Fabric BN: | (See Table VI) |
| | Fabric BW: | (See Table VI) |
| | Fabric BX: | (See Table VI) originating from eastern Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire. |
| | Fabric CU: | coarse buff earthenware, abundantly tempered with sub rounded, grey, colourless, quartz and quartzite. |

The following post-medieval wares were allocated fabric codes on this site only, for ease of reference:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Fabric CE: | Netherlands tinglaze |
| Fabric CL: | Cistercian types |
| Fabric ST: | Stoneware, Raeren and Frechen |
| Fabric BL: | Fine buff earthenware (sixteenth-seventeenth century) |
| Fabric ZX: | White earthenware (nineteenth century) |
| Fabric ZY: | Porcelain |
| Fabric ZZ: | a 'miscellaneous' category established for sherds which could not be classified visually because of secondary burning, natural accretions, fragmentary nature, etc. |

The pottery illustrations (Figs. 9-22) are arranged within each phase by fabric-type as far as possible. This is to enable the forms and decoration associated with discrete production centres to be easily identified.

As with St. Aldates sites, sherd counts were used to record the fabric from each provenance within each structural phase and so facilitate comparison between the two sites; the results for this site are illustrated in the histogram (Fig. 8). Although weight of sherd/sherds was also recorded no detailed analysis has been undertaken as yet.

The classification of form profiles as previously outlined was adopted,¹ with the addition of kitchen ware (Kw) which included rims with a continuous

1. Ibid. 112.

incurving profile insufficient to determine whether the vessel was a bowl/pan or shallow dish, fragmentary rims with insufficient 'neck or shoulder' to attribute them to a specific form profile and depressed bases with an obtuse angle probably from cooking-pots, bowls, shallow dishes, storage jars and latterly porringer. Bases with an acute angle were classed as splayed bases and may be equated with certain jugs such as baluster-types, triple-deckers, stout baluster-types and cylindrical-types. Bases are depressed unless otherwise stated. Glazes are illustrated as a percentage of each phase in the histogram (Fig. 8).

Pottery from phases D2, D3, HI, HII, HIII, BI and BII is described in detail; selected large pit groups from BIV are included where they supplement present knowledge of form profiles in the early post-medieval period. Assemblages from the Extension (E) and Trench II (ST) have been recorded and phased in accordance with the ceramic evidence of the main excavation; only those ceramic horizons not present in the main excavation are discussed in detail.

The pottery information collected from this site was fed into an ICL 1900A computer mainly under 'George 3'. Famulus package was used for data storage, retrieval and manipulation. Programs for formulating the data into suitable mode for use with Famulus were written in Algol-68 (using Algol 68-R compiler). After Famulus had run, a program written in Snobal (using 1900 macro spitbol) was used to analyse the data. The computer gives a print-out in an abbreviated verbal form, which is comprehensible to non-pottery specialists. It was felt that the use of a computer for the sorting of large assemblages of pottery was invaluable and that the facility of storing primary data on magnetic tape and microfiche will also prove useful for future pottery researchers in the area.¹

1. Grateful thanks are due to Susan Hockey and Lou Burnard of the Computing Service, University of Oxford for their patience and encouragement.

CatalogueD2a: mid 12th century ditch

The little pottery recovered from this phase was predominantly sandy (Gp III), with few sherds tempered with calcareous gravel (Gp IB). The transition from Gp IB to Gp III apparently occurred at 79-80 St. Aldates in Phase 7, which was dated to the third quarter of the 12th century, there being an irregular coin of Stephen (c.1141) in the previous phase.¹ The earliest pottery was from the general alluvial layers (L750, 1AC, 7Y), the remainder from ditch 818 (2AC, 9Y, 3ZZ). F818 included a cooking-pot (diam. 180 mm.), a glazed sherd and two sherds with evidence of 'knife' trimming.

Gp IB AC cp rim.

Gp III Y cp, finger-pressed rim;²

2 bases, 1t yellow-glazed bs.

ZZ 3 bs, 2 may date to the Belgic Iron Age or Roman period.

D2b: mid to later 12th century ditch (Fig. 9, Nos. 1-3)

Again comparatively few sherds were found from this substantial ditch; the wares continued to be dominated by sandy fabrics (Gp III) with an increase in glazed sherds (11 per cent). The percentage of glaze was very similar to that noted at 79-80 St. Aldates Phase 7. Pottery associated with ditch 645 included cooking pots (3 rims, diam. range 140 mm. - 280 mm.), a 'tripod-pitcher', a kitchen ware rim. 'Knife' trimming occurred on 9 per cent of the total.

Gp IB AC cp. rim; kw rim, stabbed deco. (No. 1).³

Gp III AE cp rim (No. 2).

Y cp, thumbed rim; one 'tripod-pitcher' rim, notched deco.⁴ and 1t yellow glaze.

6 bs 1t green glaze, deco comprises 3 bs with regular and horz grooves;⁵ 2 bs with thumb-pressed applied strips.⁶

BW 2 kw bases inc 1 very large, (No. 3).

1. Durham, Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), 133.
2. E.M. Jope and W.A. Pantin, 'The Clarendon Hotel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xxiii (1958), Fig. 16 BIB 9, p. 62.
3. For similar deco., F. Radcliffe, 'Excavations at Logic Lane, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961-2), Fig. 11, No. 2, p. 61.
4. For notched rim, E.M. Jope et al, 'Pottery from a late Twelfth-century well ... from St. John's College, Oxford, 1947', Oxoniensia, xv (1950), Fig. 16, No. 6, p. 50.
5. For incised grooves, Jope and Pantin, Clarendon Hotel, Fig. 19, BIB. pp.44,57.
6. For applied strips, ibid. Fig. 19 BIB. pp. 45, 57.

D3a: late 12th century ditches (Fig. 9, Nos. 4-13)

The complex of further ditches yielded a much wider range of wares and included two fabric-types whose source is to the south of Oxford (Fabrics AG Gp III and AQ Gp II).¹ Spouted pitcher rims and tripod feet were present. On typological grounds this assemblage was presumably contemporary with the infilling of St. John's well which contained a very worn coin of Henry II minted 1168-80, and with the beginning of 79-80 St. Aldates, Phase 8. Wares included cooking-pts (40 rims diam. range 160 mm. - 280 mm.), a vertical-sided cooking pot, a kitchen ware, jugs including 'tripod-pitchers' (2 rims) and spouted pitchers (4 rims). Only 4 per cent of the sherds were 'knife' trimmed and glazed sherds had increased slightly (Fig. 8). Presumed regional imports (Fabrics AB, AG, AH and AQ) represented 2.6 per cent of the total.

Gp IB AC 5 cp rims; 1 vertical sided cp rim; 2 kw rims.

BS bs.

Gp II AQ 5 bs.²

Gp III Y 30 cp rims (Nos. 5-8,³ 9); inc. 2 finger-pressed rims No. 4⁴ and a small baggy cp or porringer (No. 10) with much 'knife' trimming and carbon deposit on ext surface;⁵ 3 thumb-pressed rims; a base (No. 11); 4 spouted pitchers (No. 12);⁶ 2 'tripod-pitchers' rims and one tripod foot; 52 glazed sherds, predominantly lt green; deco comprised 5 bs, regular and horz grooves; 8 bs, applied strips inc 4 thumb-pressed and one with lattice pattern.

AB tripod foot.⁷

AE 2 cp rims.

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), 121; Newbury, information from Alan Vince; Netherton, Hants, information from Jon Fairbrother.
2. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, 135; Jope et al, 'St. John's Well', Fig. 18 No. 1.
3. Form only, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 19 No. 1, p. 133.
4. Radcliffe, 'Logic Lane', Fig. 14 No. 3, 62.
5. For similar form, Durham, St. Aldates', Fig. 20 No. 22, p. 134.
6. Jope et al, 'St. John's Well', Fig. 16 No. 1, p. 48.
7. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, p. 135; Jope et al, 'St. John's Well', Fig. 16 No. 8, p. 50.

AG bs.

AH bs, regular and horz grooves and lt green glaze.¹

BW 3 cp rims, (No. 13); kw rim, finger-pressed; bs, applied vertical wavy strip, lt green glaze.²

ZZ bs.

D3b: late 12th-early 13th century ditches (Fig. 9 Nos. 14-20, Fig. 10 Nos. 1-21)

The pottery from this system of ditches was thought to be a homogeneous assemblage with the exception of some probably intrusive pottery from L700 (Fabrics AM and AW and some highly decorated sherds, including a sherd from a biconical jug in L700). The fabric-types were similar to those in the previous ditch although a few new local or regional imports had emerged as had some new vessel-types. Similar assemblages are known from Greyfriars Trench IV, F61 and F62 which pre date the building of the Friary c.1224;³ Littlegate F50, F51 and F52 sealed by the Oxford town wall c.1244;⁴ the pottery still closely resembled that from St. John's Well⁵ but also overlaps with Bodleian Extension Ceramic Group A and Ceramic Group B⁶ although the wide jug bases (Fabric AH, Ceramic Group A) were not noted nor was the white and red slip decoration (Fabric AG), typical of the Associated Ceramic Group A (Well 1) and Ceramic Group B. This assemblage was still similar to Phase 8 at 79-80 St. Aldates.

Vessel types included cooking-pots (62 rims diam. range 140 mm. - 280 mm.), kitchen ware (15 rims), shallow dishes (2 rims), a colander, a lamp, storage jars (2 rims), jugs including 'tripod-pitchers' (3 rims), a possible ovoid jug, and a superbly executed pitcher (Fabric AH Fig. 10 No. 21) decorated with

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1. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, 135.
 2. E.M. Jope and W.A. Pantin, 'The Clarendon Hotel, Oxford', Oxoniana, xxiii (1958), Fig. 19 BIB. 44, p. 57.
 3. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1969. Second Interim Report, Oxoniana, xxxv (1970), 11.
 4. B. Durham, 'Town Defences of Oxford's South West Ward', typescript available from Oxford Archaeological Unit.
 5. E.M. Jope et al, 'Pottery from a late Twelfth century well ;;; from St. John's College', Oxoniana, xv (1950), pp. 47-55.
 6. R.L.S. Bruce-Mitford, 'Archaeology of the Bodleian Extension', Oxoniana, iv (1939), 115-124. Ceramic Group A, Fig. 22 B Y, Fig. 22 A AH, Fig. 22 G AW, Fig. 22 F AH, Fig. 22 D AH. Ceramic Group B, Fig. 22 E AG, Fig. 26 E ?AW, Fig. 25 F ?AW, Pl. XII Z AG.

applied triangular sectioned dark grey strips in marked contrast with the near white iron-free clay of the body and thick light green glaze the potting skill was far superior to the usual Oxford tripod-pitchers. Two other unusual forms were present. A fragment of kitchen ware (Fabric AC Fig. 9 No. 17) showed a scar where a handle had been luted to the rim; handles are rare in this fabric, possibly because such low fired pottery is unable to support such appendages. Secondly, a near vertical sided pot (Fabric AC Fig. 9 No. 18) had an exaggerated rim and a hole drilled in the side prior to firing. Suggestions for its function include a firepot for carrying embers or a small firecover.¹ 1 per cent only of sherds was 'knife' trimmed; regional and local imports (Fabrics AB; AG, AH, AQ, BB - Gloucester-type 44, BK - from south-east,² BH and CT - a Cirencester-type,³ accounted for 3 per cent of the total.

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Gp IA | <u>R</u> bs, almost certainly brought from elsewhere as there was no tenth or eleventh century activity on site. |
| | <u>BK</u> kw base (Fig. 9 No. 14). ⁴ |
| Gp IB | <u>AC</u> 8 cp rims; 9 kw rims (Fig. 9 No. 15) inc 1 with handle scar (Fig. 9 No. 16); vertical-sided pot, thickened stabbed end, hole made prior to firing in side of vessel, slight carbon deposit ext (Fig. 9 No. 18). ⁵ |
| | <u>BB</u> bs, lt green glaze 'probably from thirteenth century tripod-pitcher'. ⁶ |
| | <u>CT</u> bs. |
| Gp II | <u>AQ</u> 2 kw rims (Fig. 9 Nos. 19-20); 2 bases (Fig. 10 No. 1). |
| Gp III | <u>Y</u> 52 cp rims (Fig. 10 Nos. 2, 3, 12, 13 and 17). ⁷ |

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 19 No. 16, p. 133; T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Merton College, Oxford, 1970', Oxoniensia, xxxvi (1971), Fig. 13 20/1, p. 42.

2. Fabric known, M. Robinson, 'Excavations at Copt Hay, Tetsworth, Oxon', Oxoniensia, xxxviii (1973), p. 83.

3. Information from Alan Vince.

4. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, p. 134.

5. Ibid. Fig. 19 No. 6, p. 133.

6. Information from Alan Vince.

7. Inc. parallel, J. Daniell, 'The City Wall and Ditch in Clarendon Quadrangle', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 29 No. 3, pp. 156-159.

2 rims finger-pressed (Fig. 10 No. 14); 6 rims thumb-pressed (Fig. 10 Nos. 15 and 16);¹ baggy shoulder and base of cp (Fig. 10 No. 6);² 3 kw, one thin walled (Fig. 10 No. 4); one with combed deco (Fig. 10 No. 18); 67 bases; 2 storage jar rims (Fig. 10 No. 5), one thumb-pressed (Fig. 10 No. 7); colander base, drilled holes, made prior to firing (Fig. 10 No. 19), cross-joins between L778 and L700; 3 'tripod-pitchers' rims; 4 strap handles probably from 'tripod-pitchers' inc. 2 with inset 'rope' deco and one with thumbed edges, thick green glaze (Fig. 10 No. 20);³ 99 glazed sherds pred lt green, deco comprised 17 applied strips inc 11 thumb-pressed; 4 regular and horz grooves; 2 wavy and horz grooves.

AB jug base possibly from 'tripod-pitcher'; 4 bs lt yellow glaze.

AE bs.

AH kw rim (Fig. 10 No. 8); spouted pitcher, applied triangular-sectioned dk grey strips, lt green glaze (Fig. 10 No. 21);⁵ 4 bs lt green glaze.

AG tripod foot (Fig. 10 No. 9).⁶

AM bs, mot green glaze; bs lt yellow glaze; 2 bs applied red slip, orange glaze, probably contamination from B10b.

AW cp, squared rim (Fig. 10 No. 10);⁷ bs from biconical jug, applied strips of alternating colours, lt green glaze⁸ the latter is almost certainly contamination.

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, Fig 20, No 6, 134, M. Biddle, 'The Desorted Medieval Village of Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961-2), Fig. 22 No. 9, p. 151.
2. Jope et al., 'St. John's Well', Oxoniensia, xv (1950), Fig. 18, No. 1, p. 53.
3. A.G. Hunter and E.M. Jope, 'Excavations on the City Defences in New College, Oxford, 1949', Oxoniensia, xvi (1951), Fig. 14, No. 1, p. 37; for thumbed edges, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 25 F (Group B).
4. Jope and Pantin, 'Clarendon Hotel', Oxoniensia, xxiii (1958), Fig. 19 Z. 18, p. 59.
5. D. Sturdy, 'Thirteenth Century and Later Pottery from the Clarendon Hotel and other sites in Oxford', Oxoniensia, xxiv (1959), Fig. 10 No. 1, p. 24.
6. T.J. Weare, 'Excavations at Wallingford', Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), Fig. 9 No. 45, p. 212.
7. Earliest squared rim, Daniell, 'Clarendon Quadrangle', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 22 No 8, p. 151.
8. Deco. only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 25 B, p. 107.

BH bs.¹

BW cp rim, lamp with pinched spout (Fig. 10 No. 11);²

2 bs 1t green glaze, 1 with applied strip.

ZZ bs.

1. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, p. 134.

2. For similar lamps, T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1968, First Interim Report', Oxoniensia, xxxiv (1969), pp. 31-34 Church Street, Pottery report in typescript.

Building phase IHI: early-mid 13th century building (Fig. 11 Nos. 1-7)

Only 6 per cent of the pottery was associated with an occupation layer L346. Harsh sandy wares were still dominant (Fabric Y, Gp III), but a slight increase in calcareous gravel tempered wares was noted (Fabric AC, Gp IB) as compared with the later ditch. This increase is due in part to residual material recovered from the robber trench L544, the foundation trenches and general floor levels. This assemblage still contained elements similar to the later ditches (D3) and comparable sites including Seacourt Period 1 levels,¹ but, except perhaps for a base possibly from a wide bodied jug (Fabric AM, Fig. 11 No. 2), there was no evidence of pottery similar to that from Well 1 at the Bodleian Extension.²

Vessels comprised cooking-pots (12 rims diam. range 140 mm. - 240 mm.), a kitchen-ware rim, 'tripod-pitchers' (2 rims) and a double-shelled lamp in Fabric AM from the earliest floor level.³ 'Knife'-trimmed vessels had increased to 10 per cent while only one regional import was represented (Fabric AH).

Gp IA R bs, probably residual.

Gp IB AC cp rim, kw rim, probable shallow dish (No. 5).

Gp III Y 11 cp rims (Nos. 3, 6 and 7), inc finger-pressed rim and thumb-pressed rim; 9 bases (No. 4); 2 'tripod-pitchers' inc rim with notched deco,⁴ glazed int and ext lt green; 4 bs, applied thumb-pressed strips, thick orange glaze; 15 bs lt green glaze, 3 dk green.

AH, bs, lt green glaze.

AM base probably from wide bodied jug (No. 2); double-shelled lamp, glazed int lt green (No. 1).⁵

AW bs, extruding knob, mot green glaze.⁶

BW bs, orange glaze.

1. Where sandy wares are more popular than white flecked wares, M. Biddle, 'The Deserted Medieval Village of Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), p. 135.
2. Bruce-Mitford, Oxoniensia, iv (1939), p. 97.
3. For earliest lamps in this fabric, Durham 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, p. 134.
4. Jope et al., 'St. John's Well', Oxoniensia, xv (1950), Fig. 16, No 6, p. 50.
5. For fabric and form, Ibid., Fig. 21, No. 7, p. 60.
6. See 'below', BI0b Fig. 14, No. 16.

BI1: early-mid 13th century building (Fig. 11 Nos. 8-24)

Occupation levels within the southern and northern rooms accounted for only 7.5% and 2% of the pottery respectively. The walls and foundation trenches yielded 11% of the total, while the southern room, passageway and northern room yielded 51% and 37% of the total pottery. A slightly higher percentage of decorated finer wares (Fabric AM, Gp III) in comparison with coarser wares (Fabrics AC, Gp IB & Gp III) were recovered from the floor layer 237, burnt patch 524 and post-hole 526 in the northern room. Like HI there was a slight increase in the calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabric AC, Gp IB) as compared with the ditch phases but in this case, some at least of these wares were thought to be contemporary with the assemblage, as forms in this fabric (Fig. 11, No. 19) were emulating the thin walled sandy wares (Fig. 11, Nos. 18 and 22)¹ and pans/shallow dishes in this fabric from other sites dated firmly in the thirteenth century.² A cross-join was noted between floors of this building and BI2 (Fabric AC, Gp IB) suggesting that both were refloored at the same time. The highly decorated sherds from L237 (Fabric AM, Gp III) were comparable with jugs from Well 9 at the Bodleian Extension³ and Phase 9 at 79-80 St. Aldates, but the majority of the sherds were similar to Phase 8 at 79-80 St. Aldates.

Wares included cooking-pots (39 rims, diam 100 mm. - 280 mm.), kitchen ware (20 rims), jugs (6 rims) including 'tripod-pitchers' (4 rims), a shallow dish, porringers (2 rims) and a colander. Regional imports represented 6% (Fabrics AB, AG, AQ, and BK) while sherds with thin walls (3 mm. - 4 mm.) accounted for 10% of the total.

Gp IA BK bs.

Gp IB AC 5 cp rims (No. 11); inc thin walled (No. 19); 14 kw rims (No. 15); 12 bases; a shallow dish (No. 14); bs from L682 cross-joins with L688 in phase BI2.

Gp III AQ 2 cp rims; kw rim; 3 bases; bs with combed deco.

Gp III Y 31 cp rims (Nos. 10, 12, 13, 20, 23, 24) inc thin walled (No. 18), 2 finger-pressed rims (No. 9), 7 thumb-pressed rims⁴

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 20, Nos. 24 and 25, p. 134.

2. Biddle, Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), 136; Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, p. 134.

3. Bruce-Mitford, Oxoniensia, iv (1939), 104, 121.

4. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 20, No. 6, p. 134.

5 kw rims inc 1 thumb-pressed; 25 bases; 4 'tripod-pitchers' rims (Nos. 16 and 17), the latter with dk yellow glaze; strap handle, inset 'rope' deco; bs, combed deco cross-joins between L655 (northern room) and L693 (southern room); tripod foot; bs, drilled holes, probable colander; 44 glazed sherds pred lt green; deco includes bs, applied white strips; bs, reg and horz grooves; bs, wavy and horz grooves; 3 bs, applied thumb-pressed strips.

AB bs, thick lt yellow glaze.

AG 3 bs, lt green glaze, 2 with white slip deco;¹ 1 bs, orange glaze and white slip; bs, dk yellow glaze and combed deco.

AM 2 jug rims (No. 21);² 23 glazed sherds pred mot green; deco. comprises 7 bs, red slip; 2 bs applied strips inc 1 rouletted; 3 bs, reg and horz grooves; bs, applied scales.³

AW 2 porringer rims inc profile (No. 22); base, int glazed mot green; 4 glazed sherds, 3 lt green; deco inc 2 bs, red slip; shoulder bs, white slip, showing body luted to separate neck.

BW cp, heavily thumbed rim (No. 8), heavy thumbing is characteristic of this fabric.

BI2: early-mid 13th century building (Fig. 12 Nos. 1-20)

29% of the pottery was associated with occupation levels, a much higher percentage than in HI and BI1. Calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabrics AC Gp IB) were fewer than in the contemporary HI and BI1 buildings and were only recovered from floor levels; there was a concomitant increase in the flint and chalk gritted coarse wares (Fabric AQ, Gp II). This may just be a reflection of the higher percentage of pottery from occupation levels or alternatively may indicate slight chronological or social differences. The pottery was comparable with the sites already mentioned in BI1 but also included some elements of Ceramic Group C at the Bodleian Extension and a thirteenth century pit at Carfax.³

Wares included cooking-pots (23 rims, diam. 140 mm. - 240 mm.), kitchen ware (8 rims), jugs (4 rims) including 'tripod-pitchers' (3 rims). Regional

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1. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Ceramic Group B, 119 and Associated Group A, 118.
 2. For rim, *Ibid.*, Fig. 24D, pp. 107, 121.
 3. For deco., *Ibid.*.
 4. Bruce-Mitford, *Oxoniensia*, iv (1939), 123; E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', *Oxoniensia*, vii (1942), Fig. 17, Nos. 6 and 8, p. 73.

imports (Fabrics AG, AH, AQ, BK, BH and CT) and sherds with thin walls (0.3 mm. - 0.4 mm.), accounted for 14% and 12% of the total respectively.

Gp IA R bs, residual.

Gp IB BK base.

AC 3 kw rims; 2 bases.

CT bs.

Gp II AQ 3 cp rims (No. 5); 2 bases.

Gp III Y 18 cp rims (Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6-8) inc 3 thumb-pressed rims (Nos. 2 and 9); 5 kw rims (Nos. 12,¹ 14); a shallow dish, thumb-pressed rim (No. 13); 14 bases; 2 'tripod-pitcher' rims glazed int and ext (No. 15), notched rim (No. 16); base, probably 'tripod-pitcher', lt green glaze; strap handle, applied strip, rouletted edges and lt green glaze (No. 10); 5 bs. applied thumb-pressed strips; 2 bs, wavy and horz grooves; bs, reg and horz grooves; 36 glazed sherds pred lt green.

AH thumbed base, lt yellow glaze possibly ovoid jug (No. 18);² 3 bs, applied dk grey triangular sectioned strip, lt yellow glaze.

AG 'tripod-pitcher' rim, int and ext glazed orange; kw base, 2 bs lt green glaze inc bs, white slip deco.

AM jug rim partially glazed int and ext dk yellow (No. 19), rim form, reminiscent of typical 'tripod-pitchers' in Fabric Y; 11 glazed sherds pred mot green; deco comprises 2 bs red slip; 3 bs regular and horz grooves.

AW small cp rim, thin walled (No. 17); strap handle, applied thumb-pressed strips and thumbed edges (No. 11);³ 7 glazed sherds pred mot green; deco comprises bs, applied red strips; bs, applied white strips, curvilinear pattern, mot green glaze possibly from stout baluster type or tripledecker jug.⁴

BH cp. rim.

ZZ cp, possibly Fabric AW.⁵

1. Form only, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 22, No. 22, p. 134.
2. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig 22 A, Ceramic Group A, 101; first noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates", Phase 8, p. 133.
3. Similar deco. only, M. Robinson, 'Excavations at Copt Hay, Tetsworth, Oxon', Oxoniensia, xxxviii (1973), Fig. 15 No 5, p. 91.
4. Form and deco only, Jope, 'Recent Finds', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), Fig. 17 No. 1, p. 73.
5. Form only, see 'below' Fig. 12 No. 24.

B10a: early-mid 13th century yard/pits/ditch (Fig. 12 Nos. 21-24, Fig. 13 Nos. 1-27)

60% of the pottery was recovered from pits; the area of pits to the south of the ditch (Fig. V Plan 4) yielded pottery assemblages contemporary with earlier levels of BI (18%), with the exception of F755 which may contain intrusive material. The later pits accounted for almost all the decorated finer wares (Fabrics AM and AW, Gp III) and contained little calcareous gravel tempered pottery (Fabric AC, Gp IB 2.8%). The fine wares were similar to pottery from B10b and suggested that these later pits were infilled just prior to building of BII. Some residual material was found in general layers (Fabrics R and Z)¹ a higher percentage of Fabric AC was also noted in these layers but again some copied later forms (Fig. 13 Nos. 8 and 9) as in building BI.

The pottery from the yard surfaces outside HI and BI1 corresponds to the earliest levels with HI and BI, with the exception of a decorated bodysherd (Fig. 13 No. 13) from L495 and pottery from pit 531 (87 sherds). The pottery from F531 was typologically the latest and included jugs with splayed bases from both baluster-types and stout baluster types or tripledecker-types and sherds with red slip decoration.² This pit is probably contemporary with B10b and 79-80 St. Aldates Phase 9 rather than the pottery from the buildings. One sherd from F531 cross-joined with L517 in RII and also L392 in tenement BII2, other cross-joins were noted between B10a, B10b and BII1, either suggesting an intrusive element in B10a or a degree of residuosity in B10b, BII1 and BII2.

At the northern end of the site, material from the ditch (4%) was similar to pottery found in the infill of ditches (D3b) or possibly the earliest levels of BI. Pits 755, 722 and 753 were probably contemporary and were covered by general layers 748 and 590 containing pottery of similar type to the material from the ditch, at the northern end of the site. Pit 575/746 which encroached close to the houses (BI1 and BI2) contained few sherds and was cut by F533 (4%). Pottery from this pit was similar to pits 531 and 755 and included a sherd with thick red slip from a wide bodied jug; this is the only vessel which can be equated with jugs from Well 1 at the Bodleian Extension.³ The sherds from the

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 6a, p. 132.

2. For deco only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 24 H, Associated Ceramic Group B, p. 105.

3. For deco and possible form only, Ibid., Fig. 23 B, p. 97.

pit groups were considerably larger than those from within the tenements, and gave more information concerning forms of vessels and types of decoration and fabric. All the Bodleian Extension Ceramic Groups were represented and some improvements to the sequence are now possible (see discussion p.).

Sherds in Fabric Y with light green glaze accounted for 12% of the total, twice that noted in tenements BI1 and BI2. These sherds were not more fragmentary, as might be expected after secondary deposition, and the majority were recovered from the earlier pits and general layers, so it may be that a combination of more vigorous rubbish disposal of glazed wares together with some selectivity in the archaeological retrieval of finds from pits accounts for this anomaly.

Wares included cooking pits (42 rims, diam. 130 mm. - 260 mm.), kitchen ware (16 rims), jugs (11 rims), pitchers (2 rims) and a porringer, a shallow dish, a fragment of double-shelled lamp and a firecover handle. Regional imports (Fabrics AB, AG, AH, AQ, BK and BH) and thin walled vessels (03 mm. - 04 mm.) accounted for 10% and 15% respectively. 'Knife' trimming was present on less than 1% of the sherds.

Gp IA R base, probably residual, L496 cross-joins with L440 in BII1.
BK strap handle from firecover, sootting visible on underside
 (No. 20); 2 kw bases (No. 25).

Gp IB AC 9 cp rims (Nos. 1-2) inc 2 thin walled (No. 9) and small cp
 (No. 8),¹ one with stabbed deco;² 7 kw rims; 13 bases; a
 shallow dish.

Gp II AQ 5 cp rims; 3 kw rims; 2 bases.
BF base, possibly residual.³

Gp III Y 23 cp rims, 2 rims thumb-pressed, 1 finger-pressed;⁴ 5 kw
 rims (Nos. 3-6); 55 bases; 5 'tripod-pitcher' rims (No. 14),
 lt green glaze; 2 spouted pitchers; 10 strap handles (No. 18);
 possible bowl;⁵ 150 glazed sherds pred lt green; deco inc

1. For similar small cp, see 'above' Fig. 10 No. 18, BI1.
2. See 'above', Fig. 9, No. 1, D2b.
3. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle', Oxoniensia, xli (1976), p. 256.
4. Form only, Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 23, Nos. 10 and 21, p. 154.
5. Ibid., Fig. 14, No. 10, p. 157.

5 bs, rect. rouletting;¹ 8 bs, applied strips; 8 bs, reg and horz grooves.

Z bs, thick lt yellow glaze, probably residual (F548).²

AB base, lt yellow glaze; 2 strap handles, 'rope' deco, orange glaze (No. 16);³ shoulder bs, combed deco, dk yellow glaze (No. 10); 2 bs dk yellow glaze.

AG strap handle, slashed and stabbed deco, orange glaze (No. 17);⁴ shoulder bs from jug, orange glaze (No. 22); 14 bs, lt green glaze, 8 with white slip;⁵ 3 bs orange glaze, 2 with white slip; 3 bs red slip, bs, horz and wavy grooves;⁶ bs cross-join with L507 in BI0b.

AH cp rim; shoulder bs; 6 bs lt green glaze, inc bs with reg and horz grooves; 2 bs, applied triangular sectioned dk grey strips.

AM kw base; porringer rim, ext rilling (No. 7); jug rim, partially glazed mot green; 5 bases inc 1 thumbed; 4 splayed bases inc probable baluster type (No. 27).⁸

2 slashed strap handles; possible horz handle (Fig. 13 No. 21); bs, dbl-shelled lamp int glazed dk green; 51 glazed sherds inc

1. M. Parrington and C. Balkwill, 'Excavations at Broad Street, Abingdon', Oxoniensia, xl (1975), Fig. 28 No. 57, p. 38.

2. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 6a, p. 132.

3. Deco. usually associated with Fabric Y. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 22 B, p. 101.

4. Similar broad handles, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, Fig. 20 Nos. 15 and 31, p. 134.

5. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1968', Oxoniensia, xxxiv (1969), Fig. 4 No. 4, p. 116; Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Associated Ceramic Groups A and B, p. 119.

6. Deco only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 24A.

7. See above, Fig. 10, No. 21, D3b.

8. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 8, Fig. 20 No. 12, p. 134, wrongly attributed to Fabric Y.

25 orange, 11 lt green, 11 mot green etc.; deco comprises 6 bs red slip, bs white slip, 3 bs reg and horz grooves. AW 3 cp, squared rims (Fig. 12 Nos. 21-22),¹ the former cross-joins with L392 in BII2 and L517 in RII (Fig. 12 No. 24);² kw rim; 2 jug rims, glazed lt green and orange respectively; thumbed base, possible wide bodied jug, evidence of secondary burning (Fig. 13 No. 23);³ 2 splayed bases, possible triple-decker or stout baluster-type (Fig. 13 No. 24),⁴ partial orange glaze and flashing marks; thumbed base, possible ovoid jug;⁵ 4 rod handles, typical of triple-decker or stout baluster-types; 4 strap handles inc small handle with 'plug' to attach handle to body of vessel (No. 19), usually handles luted to outside of vessel; bs, jug, applied rouletted strips, thick green glaze from F548 cross-joins with L523, B10b (No. 28); 37 glazed sherds inc 19 lt green, 12 mot green etc.; deco comprises 5 bs red slip, bs white slip, 2 applied red strips, 3 applied rouletted strips, bs with applied red and white pellets (No. 13), lt green glaze; bs, distinctive roulette deco (No. 12), dk green glaze; bs applied scales dk green glaze, possible shoulder of tripledecker jug but unusually sharp angle (No. 11).⁶

BH bs.

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1. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 24 G, p. 104.
 2. Biddle, 'Seacourt', *Oxoniensia*, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 23 No. 23, p. 154.
 3. Form only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 23D, p. 97.
 4. M. Parrington and C. Balkwill, 'Excavations at Broad Street, Abingdon', *Oxoniensia*, x1 (1975), Fig. 35 No. 135, p. 43, Abingdon Fabric D, wrongly published as Fabric N.
 5. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 26 E and Fig. 25 F, Ceramic Group B, pp. 103, 114.
 6. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 11, Fig. 24 No. 11 p. 135; T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle', *Oxoniensia*, xli (1976), Fig. 13, No. 13, p. 260.

BW small cp rim (Fig. 12 No. 23); handle, 1t green glaze No. 15).¹

BX (very abraded possibly AM, F533) jug rim, mot green glaze; 4 bs mot green glaze inc 3 applied rouletted strips, 2 bs rec slip.

E1: 13th century (Fig. 14 Nos. 3-4, 21, 24)

No pottery was recovered from the dumping layers of gravelly clay and gravel (L848, L855 and L856) but a reasonable sized assemblage came from L854 (44 sherds), comparable with that from buildings BI. This was sealed by L854 (1 sherd only) and finally L852 (14 sherds), the pottery from the latter being of similar or later date to BI0b.

No calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabrics AC Gp IB) were recovered. The only recognisable forms were cooking-pots (3 rims diam. 170 mm. - 270 mm.), none 'knife' trimmed, and thin-walled vessels represented only 2%. Regional imports (Fabrics AH and BK) accounted for 3% of the total.

Gp IA BK bs.

Gp III Y 3 cp rims (Nos. 3 and 4), 1 finger-pressed; 3 bases; 3 glazed sherds, 2 1t green, 1 orange.

AH bs, 1t yellow glaze.

AM 3 glazed sherds, orange, 1t yellow, mot green, the latter with white slip under the glaze.

AW thumbed base (No. 24), partial 1t green glaze; small strap handle, unusual deco (No. 21), 1t yellow glaze; bs probable belly from ovoid jug, reg and horz grooves, 1t green glaze.²

BX bs.

BI0b: mid 13th century infill (Fig. 14 Nos. 1-2, 5-20, 22-23, 25-26)

It is suggested that these layers were brought from elsewhere and that some of the material in them was residual. This residual pottery probably dates to the beginning of BI, although little calcareous gravel tempered ware (Fabric AC Gp IB) was recovered, but the remainder was dominated by finer sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III) which were evidently in strong competition with the

1. Similar form only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 25 F, p. 114.

2. Ibid., Fig. 22 G, p. 112.

earlier coarser sandy wares (Fabric Y Gp III). The calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabric AC Gp IB) had been superceded by chalk and flint tempered wares (Fabric AQ Gp II), but the latter still retained some vessel forms of the calcareous gravel tempered wares such as pans, shallow dishes and cooking-pots. These wares form the bulk of the 'white flecked wares' noted at Seacourt where their use had increased by the late 13th century.¹ The coarse open-textured fabric was ideal for cooking vessels, as it could withstand the stress of continual heating and cooling. Large vessels in the finer sandy wares (Fabrics AM and AW) rarely show signs of carbon deposits.² The greater range of jug types available was reflected in the number of jug rims recovered. Mottled green glaze was as popular as plain lead glazes and a higher percentage of composite plastic decoration was evident, red slips and applied strips being most popular. Wares with composite plastic decoration are equated with triple-decker or stout baluster-type jugs; these were rare in the Bodleian sequence³ but were present at Seacourt and Bicester Priory where they were dated to the 14th century.⁴ They are contemporary with Phase 9 at 79-80 St. Aldates which contained a coin 1279-1324 and a jetton of 1320's⁵ but they were also recovered with 3 pre-1279 coins from a stone-lined pit at Banbury.⁶ Cross-joins were noted between L366 and L304, BIIa, and between contexts within the phase as well as those already mentioned between BI0b and BI0a, suggesting some disturbance.

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1. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), p. 135.
 2. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), Fig. 18, pp. 74-5; Hassall, 'Oxford Castle', Oxoniensia, xli (1976), p. 264.
 3. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Well 10 and Well 13 Nos. 2 and 4, p. 129.
 4. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Fig. 25, No.1, p. 158; D.A. Hinton, 'Excavations at Bicester Priory 1968', Oxoniensia, xxxiv (1969), p. 28.
 5. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 9, pp. 134, 140.
 6. P. Fasham, 'Excavations in Banbury 1972', Oxoniensia, xxxviii (1973), p. 326.

Wares included cooking-pots (33 rims, diam 160 mm. - 260 mm.), kitchen ware (14 rims), jugs (23 rims) including 'tripod-pitchers' (3 rims), a spouted pitcher and a double-shelled lamp. Regional imports (Fabrics AB, AG, AH, AQ, BB and BK) and thin walled vessels had increased slightly 18.5% and 17% respectively.

- Gp IA BK kw rim, jug rim (No. 11).¹
- Gp IB AC 2 kw rims; base.
BB base, lt green glaze, probable 13th century 'tripod-pitcher'.²
- Gp II AQ 4 cp rims; 4 kw rims, ext. flange, combed deco (No. 6);
14 bases (No. 26); 2 bs horz combing.³
- Gp III Y 26 cp rims; 5 kw rims (No. 1); 3 'tripod-pitcher' rims, 1
notched rim; spouted pitcher rim; tripod foot; thumbed
base, probable ovoid jug;⁴ 2 strap handles, inc 1 with 'rope'
deco, 38 glazed sherds, pred lt green; bs, reg and horz
grooves.
AB bs.
AG thumbed splayed base, probable ovoid jug, lt green glaze
(No. 25);⁵ strap handle, white slip, lt green glaze (No. 20);⁶
bs red slip, lt green glaze; 3 bs orange glaze; 2 bs white
slip, inc cross-join L366 and L304 (BIIa) and L715 and 717.
9 bs lt green glaze, 5 bs reg and horz grooves; 3 bs white
slip.

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1. Form only, F. Radcliffe, 'Excavations at Logic Lane, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 13 No. 2, p. 61.
 2. Information from Alan Vince.
 3. Radcliffe, 'Logic Lane', Fig. 13 No. 1, p. 61.
 4. Bruce-Mitford 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig 25 F, p. 114.
 5. Form only, Ibid., Fig. 26 E, p. 103.
 6. Fabric and general form, T.J. Weare, 'Excavations at Wallingford', Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), Fig. 8 No. 18, p. 212.

AH jug rim, 1t green glaze; strap handle, 'rope' deco, 1t green glaze (No. 23), possible spouted pitcher;¹ rod handle, 1t green glaze, bs applied red strip, 1t yellow glaze; 4 bs, 1t green glaze.

AM cp rim; kw rim; 14 bases (No. 9); 14 jug rims (No. 13), possible baluster-type;² 2 pinched spouts (No. 5); shoulder bs, red slip, 1t green glaze (No. 17); base, applied rouletted strips (No. 14);³ 9 strap handles, 2 rod handles; base, possible jug (No. 7);⁴ bs, small neat rouletting, red and white applied strips (No. 18); belly, possible conical jug (No. 19), probable new form; 138 glazed sherds inc mot green 49, 1t green 33, orange 31 etc.

AP jug rim, 1t green glaze; bs, applied rouletted strip; bs 1t green glaze.

AS jug rim, mot green glaze (No. 12).

AW 2 cp rims (No. 2);⁵ 2 bases (No. 10); jug rim, strap handle, glazed int and ext mot green; base, probable small jug, glazed 1t green (No. 8); kw rim glazed mot green int and ext (No. 15); bs with extrusion, mot green glaze (No. 16);⁶ probable dbl-shelled lamp rim, glazed int mot green; 3 bs 1t green glaze; bs, red slip. bs, white slip, bs applied rouletted strip, mot green glaze.

BC bs, int 1t yellow glaze.

BX kw base; jug base; 2 slashed strap handles, 1 with mot green glaze, cross-joins L415 and L398; rod handle; bs, probable triple-decker or biconical jug; 19 glazed sherds pred. orange.

1. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Pl. X No. 9, p. 115.
2. Form only, Ibid., Fig. 24 H, p. 104.
3. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 25, No. 1. p. 158.
4. Ibid., Fig. 20, No. 8, p. 147.
5. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), Fig. 17 No. 10, p. 73.
6. Similar extrusions HI and B10a.

Building phase IIHII: mid-late 13th century building (Fig. 15 Nos. 13-15)

Only a small group of pottery was recovered from this phase, as from phase HI, compared with phases BI and BII. 34% of the pottery was recovered from occupation levels, 14% was associated with either the construction or make-up of the building; this accounts for the presence of calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabric AC, Gp IB) and some of the earlier coarse sandy wares (Fabric Y, Gp III) similar to those found in HI, D3a and D3b. The highly decorated wares Fabrics AM and AW) were recovered from the occupation and floor levels only. The few sherds from the hearth 233 was similar to the pottery from the make-up layers. The fine sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III) predominated; as in BI0b, a wide range of plastic decoration was used, red, white and applied rouletted strips being equally popular; the proportion of mottled green glaze to plain lead glazes was 4:1, a substantial increase over phase BI. This small group (L232, L250, L251, L311) was similar to pottery from buildings BIII, possibly BII2, and phase 10 at 79-80 St. Aldates.¹ A cross-join was noted between L232 and F626, D3b.

The pottery included cooking-pots (5 rims, diam range 240 mm. - 280 mm.), kitchen ware (3 rims), jugs (2 rims) and a 'tripod-pitcher', and a double-shelled lamp. Regional imports (Fabrics AQ, BK and BH) and thin walled vessels accounted for 4% and 14.5%.

Gp IA BK bs.

Gp IB AC cp rim, kw rim.

Gp II AQ cp rim;² 2 kw rims.

Gp III Y 3 cp rims inc 1 thin walled (No. 13);³ 7 bases, 'tripod-pitcher' rim; bs, glazed lt green bs, lt yellow; bs, reg and horz grooves.

AM 2 jug rims, mot green glaze (No. 14); shoulder bs, applied rouletted strips in alternating red and white strips, partially glazed mot green (No. 15); shoulder bs, applied rouletted strips, dk green glaze;⁴ strap handle; rim of dbl-shelled

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), p. 135.

2. Robinson, 'Tetsworth', Oxoniensia, xxxviii (1973), Fig. 19 No. 56, p. 97.

3. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 20. No. 24, p. 134.

4. For form and deco see above, Fig. 13 No. 28.

lamp, glazed mot green int; 54 glazed sherds, pred mot green; deco comprised brown slip 10, white slip 10, applied strips plain 2, rouletted 9.

BH bs.

ZZ bs.

BIIa: Mid 13th-late 15th century building (Fig. 17 Nos. 21-24)

Only two contexts L215 and L224 yielded more than twenty sherds each, a detailed catalogue for the remaining contexts spread over such a time span was not deemed sufficiently meaningful to be published. The construction trench yielded two sherds (Fabrics Y and AM) and the wall 64 yielded some probably residual sherds (Fabric Y Gp III), together with some sherds thought to be contemporary with BII, including a wide mouthed bottle or small jug (Fabric AM Gp III), mottled green glaze (No. 21). The earliest layers L364 and L365 date to earlier phases in BII. No pottery was recovered from the occupation levels in the western room. In the eastern room, occupation layer 224 was thought to be contemporary with BII5-BII6, on account of the presence of Fabric BG, a Farnborough Hill-type (Surrey) (No. 22) a jug rim, together with local products similar to that in BII5-BII6, but some sherds may be residual. Wares included a bodysherd from a large jug, Fabric AG, with white slip decoration, partially glazed light green (No. 24). Five cross-joins were noted between this fabric between this phase, BII3, BII5, BII6 and the topsoil attesting to the disturbance caused by the later buildings. The remaining layers of 243 included a bodysherd, probably from an ovoid jug, with an applied curvilinear strip and thick light green glaze (Fabric AH) (No. 23), which may be residual,¹ and 215 included a wide strap handle (Fabric BG, not illustrated).

E2: 13th century building

None of the six contexts yielded more than eight sherds per context. From the limited pottery evidence, these sherds appear to be contemporary with if not earlier than L852 in the previous phase, with the exception of one sherd from Wall 836 which apparently dates to Phase BII. One cooking-pot was noted. Regional imports included Fabrics BK and AG.

Gp IA BK kw base.

Gp II AQ bs.

1. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 22 A, p. 101.

Gp III Y cp rim; 3 glazed 1 mot green; 2 lt yellow.
AG kw base; bs, lt green glaze.
AM jug base, glazed int and ext dk green; bs, mot green glaze.
ZZ bs.

E2D: 13th-15th century demolition (Fig. 17 Nos. 27-34)

The earliest layers compared with similar groups in Phase BII0b and early BII, with the exception of a type of glaze, streaky mottled green, which was not noted until Phase 11 at 79-80 St. Aldates,¹ dated to the 15th century. A larger assemblage from F842 was thought to be comparable with pottery from Phase BII5, while the large assemblages from F839 and F840 were probably contemporary with Phases BII6 and BIID and yielded substantially more information concerning forms than the BII sequence. The few sherds from 834 were almost certainly residual. A strap handle luted onto a jug rim displayed a thumb impression at the junction of the rim and handle (No. 33) which is characteristic of jug types found at Brill,² similar types have been noted at Seacourt and the Bodleian Extension.³ This type of application is apparently not common on the site and only appears towards the end of the sequence in E, its presence was not noted in the main sequence. A beautifully executed lid (No. 29) was found; no type of jug or kitchen ware appears to fit this lid, its diameter being wider than many jugs and yet not wide enough for the vessels with bifid rims such as (No. 28). A type of decoration not noted in earlier levels is the deep incised grooves often present on the shoulder of jugs as in this phase and HIII (Fig. 18 No. 7).⁴

Wares included cooking-pots (4 rims diam 150 mm. - 250 mm.), kitchen ware (3 rims), jugs (6 rims), a shallow dish, a bowl, a lid, double-shelled lamps (3 rims), bottle fragments. Regional imports (Fabrics AH, BB, BN - Tudor Green and CT) represented 1% only of the total.

Gp IB AC bs.

BB bs.

CT bs, partial lt green glaze.

Gp II AQ cp rim; kw rim; 2 bases; 2 bs horz combing.

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', p. 135.

2. E.M. Jope, 'Recent Medieval Finds in the Oxford Area', Oxoniensia, x (1945), p. 96.

3. Biddle, 'Seacourt' Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig 25 No. 2, p. 158; Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig- 24 A and Pl. XII No. 7.

4. For unpublished sherd, Durham, 'St. Aldates', F53/1, Phase 11, p. 93.

Gp III Y 2 cp rims; kw rim, bs reg and horz grooves; bs, lt green and bs, lt yellow glaze.

AE bs.

AH bs, glazed int and ext, lt green.

AM 6 jug rims (No. 32);¹ 3 bases inc (No. 30) int glazed lt yellow;² 3 splayed bases; rod handle, mot green glaze; 3 strap handles (No. 33), thumb impression, characteristic of Brill;³ bs, probable belly of baluster-type (No. 34); red slip, lt green glaze; thick bs, possible storage jars;⁴ bs, applied pads;⁵ bs, deep reg and horz grooves, mot green glaze; shallow dish, int lt yellow glaze; bowl rim (No. 27);⁶ lid ext glazed dk green (No. 29); 2 dbl-shelled lamps, int glazed mot green; 13 fragments, probable bottles; 132 glazed sherds pred mot green 53, lt green 25, dk green 19 etc.; deco comprised 10 bs red slip, bs white slip, 12 bs, applied plain strips; 3 bs applied rouletted strips.

AP rod handle.

AW kw rim, undercut, partially glazed green;⁷ base; thumbed jug base, partially glazed mot green (No. 31); dbl-shelled lamp, glazed int and ext mot green; bs, white slip deco.

BN bs, mot green glaze.

BX cp, bifid rim (No. 28).⁸

ZZ bs.

1. For rim and fabric only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 26A, p. 125.
2. For possible form, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxoniansia, xlvi (1977), Fig. 24 No 4, p. 135.
3. E.M. Jope, 'Recent Medieval Finds', Oxoniansie, x (1945), p. 96.
4. HIII and E4(2).
5. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 24 No. 5, p. 135.
6. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniansia, vii (1942), Fig. 18 No. 6, p. 75.
7. Similar rim, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 10, p. 134, and BIII.
8. First noted, ibid. Phase 11, 135 and HIII.

BII1: mid-late 13th century building (Fig. 15 Nos. 1-12, 16-33)

20% of the pottery was associated with occupation levels (406 and 407), these levels contained comparatively large sherds when compared with sherds from occupation levels in Phase BI, L437 also contained large sherds; 8% of the pottery was thought to be residual (L467, L464 and L440) together with some pottery from L434, L432 and L353. The proportion of finer sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III), predominantly jugs and porringer, had increased, as had the coarse domestic wares tempered with flint and chalk (Fabric AQ Gp II), some of the coarser sandy wares (Fabric Y Gp III) may be residual. Regional imports accounted for 23% (Fabrics AH but predominantly AQ). The range of jug types was not as wide as in the previous phase, types with splayed bases predominated and included triple-decker types, stout baluster-types and baluster types, no evidence of development was noted on the latter,¹ and a sherd of a biconical type was recovered. This building also produced the earliest undercut rim on the site.²

Composite designs in plastic underglaze decoration were more evident than in the previous phase, BI0b, the majority of applied strips being slim and triangular in section, almost certainly extruded onto the body of the vessel. Some of the decorated sherds, with applied strips over a red slip, were rather wider than usual and did not display the characteristic triangular section (Fig. 15 Nos. 11 and 28). Applied rouletted strips were popular. The number of glazed sherds had increased, in particular the use of mottled green glaze, as in HII.³ Some of the unglazed porringers and jugs show uneven colouration of the external surface, caused by fine wood ash settling on the pots and known as flashing. Flashing was particularly evident on these later fine sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III).

The pottery from this building was thought to be contemporary with building HII, Phase 10 at 79-80 St. Aldates and those sites already mentioned in connection with BI0b, with the exception of Phase 9 at 79-80 St. Aldates, although some overlap may be possible. The fabric was that of Ceramic Group C at the Bodleian Extension although many of the wares were more highly decorated than those illustrated from that site. Cross-joins occurred between this group and BII4.

1. D.A. Hinton, 'Rudely Made Earthen Vessels' in Pottery and Early Commerce, ed. D.P.S. Peacock, 228.

2. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Phase 10, 134; Jope, 'Recent Finds', Fig. 18 No. 6, p. 75; Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), p. 135.

3. Biddle, 'Seacourt', 135.

Wares included cooking-pots (27 rims, diam 150 mm. - 280 mm.), kitchen ware (13 rims), jugs (18 rims) including 'tripod-pitchers' (2 rims), a shallow dish, a probable bottle or narrow jug rim, a double-shelled lamp and a fragment of a 'skillet', an aquamanile with part of a horseman's leg sitting astride it. Sherds with thin walls (2 mm. - 4 mm.) represented 24% of the total.

- Gp IA R cp rim (residual).
- Gp IB AC 2 kw rims; 3 bases (probably residual).
- BS bs.
- Gp II AQ 14 cps (No. 6)¹ (No. 8), an unusually angular form and small cp (No. 9); kw rim, probable pan (No. 7);² 20 bases; 18 bs combed deco.
- Gp III Y 7 cp rims; kw rim; 3 bases; 2 'tripod-pitchers' rims inc strap handle, both glazed lt green; 2 tripod feet; 3 possible 'tripod-pitcher' bases, thinly glazed lt green; 2 strap handles inc 1 with 'rope' deco, lt green glaze; 12 glazed sherds pred lt green; bs, combed deco, lt green glaze.
- AE bs.
- AM 7 kw rims inc porringers (Nos. 17-18), 1 with pinched spout; 19 bases (No. 23), wavy and horz grooves, int blistered dk green glaze;³ shallow dish, unusual rect rouletting on rim, thickly glazed int mot green (No. 12), possible bottle or jug rim (No. 27);⁴ abraded bottle base (No. 31); possible cup base, int glazed mot green; 16 jug rims (Nos. 24-25 and 26) with rod handle; part of skillet handle (No. 29);⁵ 7 strap handles; 3 rod handles (No. 30); 5 bases (No. 32); 15 splayed bases; 8 bs, belly of triple-decker jugs;⁶ shoulder bs, triple-decker or stout baluster-type jugs (No. 10), bs, belly of biconical jug, cross-joins F407 and 437; dbl-shelled lamp rim; bs, probable aquamanile, impressed deco, dk green glaze

1. R.A. Chambers, 'A Desolated Medieval Farmstead at Sadler's Wood, Lewknor', Oxonienzia, xxxviii (1973), Fig 9 No. 5.
2. E.M. Jope, 'Medieval Pottery in Berkshire', B.A.J., x (1947), Fig 4 No. 5, p. 56.
3. Similar bases L334/2, L379.
4. Chambers, 'Sadler's Wood', Fig.8, No. 8.
5. First noted, Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxonienzia, xlvi (1977), Phase 10, p. 135.
6. 'Notes and News', Oxonienzia, iii (1938), Pl. XIXB.

and applied red strips, which may represent part of horseman's leg (No. 22);¹ composite deco, very thick mot green glaze;² 269 glazed sherds, pred mot green 136, lt green 78; deco included red slip, applied strips plain and rouletted in equal proportion, bs, applied strips in red and white clay (No. 21) mot green glaze; applied strips, mot green glaze (No. 33); bs applied strips, red rouletted and curvilinear strips; shoulder bs, crude white applied strips over red slip (No. 11); 2 shoulder bs, applied strips over red slip, stabbed 'raspberry', dk green glaze (No. 20).

AW 4 cp rims (No. 1);³ 4 kw rims (No. 5), ext rilling⁴ inc 2 porringers (Nos. 3 and 4);⁵ undercut rim;⁶ splayed base; rod handle; shoulder bs, applied rouletted strip, dk green glaze; 25 glazed sherds pred lt green.

BX small cp, int glazed lt green (No. 2); 3 kw rims (No. 16), pinched spout⁷ (No. 19), int glazed lt yellow; base; shoulder bs, thick red slip applied to body of vessel, crude white strips, complex design (No. 28) cross-joins L437 and L500 in BII4;⁸ 8 glazed sherds pred lt yellow.

AY bs, int glazed lt green.

ZZ bs.

BII2: late 13th-early 14th century building (Fig. 16 Nos. 1-14)

The pottery from occupation levels accounted for only 6% of the total. The fine sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III) seemed to be well established, the

1. Similar sherds found in L611 (BIV), probably same vessel.
2. J. Haslam, Medieval Pottery (Shire Publications), Fig. 12 No. 3.
3. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Merton College, Oxford, 1970', Oxoniensia, xxxvi (1971), Fig. 17 No. 31, p. 94.
4. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 24 G, p.104.
5. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), Fig. 23, Nos. 16 and 17, Phase 10, p. 134.
6. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), Fig. 18 No. 2, p. 76.
7. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Fig. 22 No. 28, Phase 9, p. 134.
8. Jope, 'Recent Finds', Fig. 17 No. 8, p. 73.

fabric percentage remaining constant and the coarse kitchen wares (Fabric AQ Gp II) also retained a corner of the market (Fig. 8). The use of underglaze plastic decoration seemed to be as popular as ever, with the exception of applied rouletted strips, and although the variety of composite designs had decreased, glazed sherds in general showed a slight increase. Forms were similar to those in BII1 but the lack of rod handles together with the decrease in composite designs may indicate that triple-decker or stout baluster-type jugs were no longer common. The jug rim forms, as first recognised in the Bodleian Ceramic Group C and from this site, B10a and later assemblages, appear very conservative and were still present in this building. An unusual shallow dish (No. 5) may have been used as table ware, rather than kitchen ware although ceramic table wares are usually associated with the later Middle Ages.¹ The only bridge spout from the site was recovered from this building (No. 8). Another curiosity was the recovery of two bodysherds (Fabric AM Gp III) stuck together during firing, these must be from a waster or a 'second'. This phase was still thought to be contemporary with Phase 10 at 79-80 St. Aldates and also contained elements of Well 1 and Associated Ceramic Groups A and B and Ceramic Group C at the Bodleian Extension.

Wares included cooking-pots (19 rims, diam 150 mm. - 280 mm.), kitchen ware (5 rims), shallow dishes (3 rims), a porringer, jugs (14 rims) including a 'tripod-pitcher', a fragment of a double-shelled lamp. Regional imports accounted for only 13% although a slightly wider variety was present in comparison with BII1 (Fabrics AG, AH, AQ and BK). Thin walled vessels had increased 33% (02 mm. - 04 mm.).

Gp IA	<u>BK</u> bs.
Gp IB	<u>AC</u> kw rim, (probably residual, F327).
Gp II	<u>AQ</u> 11 cp rims ² and small thin walled cp rim (No. 6); kw rim; 8 bases; strap handle.
Gp III	<u>Y</u> 3 cp rims, 1 finger-tipped rim, another, thumbed rim; kw rim; 11 bases; 'tripod-pitcher', glazed int and ext lt green; 11 glazed sherds, pred lt green; bs, reg and horz grooves. <u>AG</u> bs, lt green glaze. <u>AM</u> 2 kw rims; 7 bases (No. 10), blistered mot green int and

1. See HIII.

2. Including parallel, T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford, 1968', Oxoniensia, xxxiv (1969), 31-34 Church Street. Pottery report in typescript.

ext;¹ 3 shallow dish rims, probably one vessel, combed deco, glazed mot green int and ext (No. 5); 12 jug rims;² jug rim, glazed ext lt green (No. 7);³ 2 splayed bases inc (No. 13), a type not readily identifiable with any known vessel in the region, baluster-type jug base (No. 12), red slip deco;⁴ 7 depressed bases; 7 strap handles; possible bridge spout (No. 8), thin mot green glaze, 180 glazed sherds, pred mot green 85, lt green 44; deco comprises red slip and applied plain strips in equal proportion, shoulder bs (No. 9), deep grooves, possible ovoid jug; shoulder bs, horz white slip, possible baluster-type jug (No. 11); 2 bs, fused during firing (L334/2); pedestal of dbl-shelled lamp.

AW 5 cp rims (Nos. 2-4);⁵ porringer base (No. 1); 2 thumbed bases, 1 partially glazed mot green, the other glazed lt green (No. 14); 16 glazed sherds, pred mot green.

BX kw base, int glazed dk yellow, possible porringer; jug rim, mot green glaze.⁶

ZZ bs.

BII3: mid 14th century building (Fig. 16 Nos. 15-25)

This assemblage was considerably smaller than the BII subphases. The occupation and floor levels, each yielded 16% of the pottery; pottery from L397 was residual and some probable residual material was noted in L336, L286, L270/1 and L248. The assemblage was generally similar to that of Phase BII2 (Fig. 8). A slight decrease in underglaze decoration, in particular the use

1. See above Fig. 15 No. 27.

2. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', *Oxoniensia*, iv (1939), Fig. 24 E, p. 104; Biddle, 'Seacourt', *Oxoniensia*, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 25 No. 2, p. 158, but without finger impressions.

3. Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 26 A, p. 125.

4. For deco only, T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1968', *Oxoniensia*, xxiv (1969), Fig. 4 No. 6.

5. No. 4 parallels one from L342, BIIa (not illustrated).

6. Form only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Fig. 26 E, p. 103, Fig. 23 H, p. 97.

applied strips and mottled green glaze was noted, but this may well be a reflection of the lack of jug sherds (2 rims only). This apparent absence of jugs was not altogether surprising as this building was dominated by an oven and hearth area. Besides the ubiquitous cooking pots and kitchen wares other classes of vessel included a small bottle (No. 24), unusually stout and squat for an Oxford type,¹ although a smaller type is known from 79-80 St. Aldates.² Such bottles may have been used as containers for more precious liquids, such as oil. (No. 19) is a new form to the region, and may be associated with some industrial activity. There were no carbon deposits and the internal 'scale' may have accumulated before or after burial. The large holes on the shoulder were made prior to firing. This soft, low fired fabric (Fabric BB Gp IB) originated from the Cotswolds area.³ Yet another waster or 'second' was noted.⁴ A cooking-pot, or possibly storage jar,⁵ was usually large, but bowls of similar diameter are known from Brill.⁶ A probable jug base had heavy internal 'scaling' and slight external carbon deposits (No. 25); these were thought to have occurred during the 'life' of the vessel and may suggest a use other than for cooking. The pottery was still comparable with 79-80 St. Aldates, Phase 10 in percentage of mottled green glaze and the continued dominance of Fabric AM (Gp III), and also with Ceramic Group C from the Bodleian Extension. Cross-joins included one between L286 and L146, BII6.

Wares included cooking-pots (11 rims), kitchen wares (5 rims) including porringers (3 rims), jugs (2 rims) fragment of skillet and a bottle. Regional imports (Fabrics AG, AQ, BB, BK) accounted for 19% of the total, but only Fabric AQ was recovered from occupation levels; thin walled vessels remained constant (36%, .02 mm. - .04 mm.).

Gp IA BK bs.

Gp IB AC 2 kw rims.

1. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 19 Nos. 14 and 15.
2. Durham, Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), Phase 9, Fig. 22 No. 24, p. 134.
3. Information from Alan Vince.
4. See BII2.
5. M. Welch, 'A Medieval Pottery Group from 18 Walton Street, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), Fig. 6, p. 266.
6. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), Fig. 18 No. 4, p. 74.

BB unknown form, holes made prior to firing, slight 'scale' deposit int (No. 19), inc cross-join F337 and 287.

Gp III AQ cp rim; 9 bases; 8 bs, horz combing; bs, stabbed deco (No. 23), possible jug.

Y 7 cp rims; kw rims; bs applied strips; 3 bs, lt green glaze.

AG jug base, partial lt green glaze; bs white slip, thin lt green glaze; bs, red slip deco, cross-joins between F286 and F146 in BII6.

AM 2 cp rims (No. 15);¹ 3 porringer rims (No. 17); 6 bases; 2 jug rims;² splayed base; 3 bases (No. 25), partially glazed mot green, heavy 'scale' deposit int, carbon deposits ext; probable skillet handle, dk green glaze, stabbed deco (No. 21);³ belly of jug, prominent dimple, partially glazed mot green (No. 18);⁴ 94 glazed sherds, pred mot green.

AP small bottle, partially glazed lt green (No. 24); 4 bs lt green.

AW cp rim (No. 16);⁵ rod handle, stabbed deco.

BX bs, possible baluster-type jug, red applied slip and strips, lt yellow glazed (No. 20); 2 splayed bases (No. 22), partial lt green glaze, possible bulbous jug.

ZZ bs.

BII4: late 14th century building (Fig. 16 Nos. 26-30)

This phase yielded a similar sized pottery assemblage to that recovered from BII3. Only 6% was associated with an occupation level (171); some residual pottery was noted in L210, L293 and L502 and accounted for the higher percentages of Fabric AC (Gp IB) than in subphases BII1-BII3. As in BII3 few recognisable forms were found, but jugs had increased slightly in comparison

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1. For similar rim see above Fig. 16 No. 2.
 2. For base only, Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniensia, iv (1939), Fig. 25 A, p. 107.
 3. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniensia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 20 No. 5, p. 147.
 4. Durham, 'St. Aldates', Oxoniensia, xl (1977), Fig. 23 No. 29; E.M. Jope, 'Archaeological Notes', Oxoniensia, xix (1954), p. 146, Pl. IXA.
 5. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1968', Oxoniensia, xxxiv (1969), Fig. 4 No. 9.

with BII3, as had the use of underglaze decoration: apart from rouletted applied strips. Mottled green glaze had recovered to the level found in subphase BII2. The finer sandy wares (Fabric AM Gp III) still predominated, but a sherd of post-medieval coarse ware (Fabric AZ Gp III) was also recovered. The use of cooking vessels had decreased (Fabric AQ Gp II) despite the fact that the phase was dominated by an oven. Mrs. le Patourel has shown that metal vessels were in use by all social levels of the population and that their popularity increased during the course of the 14th century,¹ and this may account for the lack of ceramic cooking pots from this phase. The only face mask from the site was recovered from F211, feature thought to be within the area of BII4; the face mask (No. 30), probably from a jug, well glazed with mottled green, is a type that is not usually associated with Oxford, but has affinities with Surrey and London types.² Cross-joins between this phase and BIV and BII6, again suggest some later disturbance of this building. The pottery was still comparable with Phase 10 at 79-80 St. Aldates and Ceramic Group C at the Bodleian Extension.

Wares included cooking-pots (5 rims), kitchen wares including probable porringer (7 rims), jugs (5 rims), a bottle, and a possible cresset lamp. Regional imports (Fabrics AG, AQ, BK) and thin walled vessels (3 mm.- 4 mm.) accounted for 12% and 30% respectively.

Gp IA BK bs.

Gp IB AC 3 kw rims; 3 bases.

BR bs, possibly residual, cross-joins L173 and L96, BII6.

Gp II AQ cp rim; 6 bases; bs, horz combing.

Gp III Y 4 cp rims, inc thumbed rim; 2 bases; 1 lamp rim, possible cresset-type.

AG tripod foot, 1t green glaze (No. 29); thumb depressed base, partial orange glaze.

AM 4 kw rims, probably porringer, 4 bases; 5 jug rims;³ rim, pinched spout, horz and reg grooves, partial mot green glaze; cross-joins between F129 and F30 BIV;⁴ jug, applied red strips, thick mot green glaze (No. 26); bs, applied rouletted strips,

1. H.E. Jean le Patourel, 'Documentary Sources and the Medieval Pottery Industry', Medieval Archaeology, xii (1968), 101.

2. J. Haslem, privately circulated drawings of London and Surrey types. No. 60.

3. Includes forms parallel to Bruce-Mitford, 'Bodleian Extension', Oxoniana, iv (1939), Fig. 24 H.

4. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxoniana, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 20, No. 6, p. 147.

alternating colours, thick mot green glaze (No. 27); splayed base; 3 depressed bases; 2 strap handles, rod handle, a bottle; 109 glazed sherds pred mot green 60, lt green 22; deco comprised red slip 17, applied plain strip 12, rouletted 6, reg and horz grooves 10.

AW slashed strap handle, partial lt green glaze; bs, applied thumb strip (No. 28).¹

AZ bs, brown glaze.

BX bs, lt yellow glaze.

ZZ bs.

BII5: early 15th century building (Fig. 17 Nos. 1-4)

A small number of sherds was recovered; the small assemblages from northern-most room, the room to the south and the southern-most room accounted for 9%, 52% and 39% respectively; no pottery was recovered from certain occupation levels. Identifiable wares were scarce, but the major fabric-types were similar to the previous phase although there were fewer obviously residual sherds. A new fabric-type (Fabric BG Gp III) similar to the Farnborough Hill, Surrey types was present. This fabric was recognised at Seacourt amongst the cooking-pots in the later levels and was dated to the 14th century,² but appears late in the pottery sequence on this site. A sherd of local Tudor type (Fabric BC Gp III) was also recovered; similar sherds are known from the barbican ditch Oxford, thought to have been infilled by the mid 15th century.³

Underglaze decoration was still dominated by red slip and applied plain strips, the glazed sherds had increased slightly but a definite shift away from mottled green, and a preference for light green glaze were noted. A similar trend was noted at 79-80 St. Aldates Phase II.⁴ An increase in the use of internal glaze and partially glazed sherds was evident. Partially glazed sherds have long been recognised as a characteristic of later medieval pottery.⁵ Cross-joins included one between this building and the next, BII6 and the same sherd joined a third in the topsoil. This pottery was similar to Phase II at 79-80

1. For similar deco, Welch, 'Pottery from Walton Street', Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), Fig. 6, p. 266.
2. Biddle, 'Seacourt', p. 135.
3. T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle', Oxoniensia, xli (1976), p. 261. Barbican ditch.
4. Durham, Oxoniensia, xlvi (1977), Phase II, p. 135.
5. E.M. Jope, 'Some Recent Finds of Medieval Pottery', Oxoniensia, vii (1942), p. 76.

St. Aldates which yielded two coins, one dated 1300-2, the other to the late fourteenth-fifteenth century, and a jetton of c.1460,¹ and was thought to pre-date the infilling of the barbican ditch.

Wares included cooking-pots (2 rims), jugs (2 rims), a bottle and a double-shelled lamp. Regional imports (Fabrics AG, AH, AQ, BB and BG) and thin walled vessels accounted for 20% and 48% of the total. The percentage of Fabric AG (9%) was surprisingly high and some of it may be residual although in the Newbury area this type continued in popularity throughout the 14th century.

Gp IB AC bs.

BB bs, thin lt green glaze.

Gp II AQ cp rim; 2 bases.

Gp III Y kw base; jug base, lt green glaze.

AG cp rim (No. 1), carbon deposits ext; base (No. 2), lt green glaze; cross-joins F145 and F128, BII6 and topsoil.

AM 2 jug rims; bottle rim, thin orange glaze (No. 3); dbl-shelled lamp int glazed lt green; 2 strap handles; rod handle; base; 40 glazed sherds pred mot green 16, lt green 4, deco includes red slip and applied strips, equally popular inc shoulder bs from possible bulbous jug (No. 4), applied pellets, dk green glaze; bs applied rouletted strip.

BC bs, glazed int and ext mot green.

BG bs, thick lt green glaze.

BX base of probable jug; bs partial dk green glaze.

ZZ bs.

BII6: mid-late 15th century building (Fig. 17 Nos. 5-13, 15-20)

The number of sherds from this phase was comparable with earlier buildings notably BII2. Twenty-five percent of the pottery was recovered from occupation levels within the northern room and the room to the south (15% and 10% respectively) no pottery was recovered from the occupation levels in the southernmost room, the remaining pottery beings from 'tops of walls'. Pottery from F156 and some from

1. Durham, 'St. Aldates', p. 140.

2. Information from Alan Vince, 'Excavations at St. Bartholomew's Street', Wiltshire Arch. Mag., (forthcoming).

L124 and L46 may be residual; the latter included the only early calcareous gravel tempered wares (Fabric AC Gp IB), amongst which was an unusual fragment of kitchen wares (No. 6) very wide in diameter and with applied thumbed strip. Coarser sandy wares (Fabric Y Gp III) also feature; some forms, such as two bodysherds with composite plastic decorations (Nos. 9 and 10) typical of jugs found in BI0b-BII1, were also recovered. These jugs might have been treasured over a number of generations, but in view of the presence of coarser wares they too were considered residual. As in the earlier phases of BII, the finer sandy wares still predominated (Fabric AM Gp III), but a slightly wider range of fabric types was present, including 'post-medieval red wares' (Fabrics AZ and AY Gp III), regional imports from Surrey, such as Tudor Green (Fabric BN Gp III) and Farnborough Hill types (Fabric BG Gp III), local Tudor types (Fabrics AM and BC Gp III), and the first continental imports from the BII sequence, a sherd of Raeren or Frechen stoneware (Fabric ST Gp III).

Two distinct groups of potting traditions were present: competently executed wares, often emulating Tudor types (Nos. 8 and 15) and traditional medieval forms but often crudely made. The sherds of the latter thick and the clay poorly wedged (Nos. 17 and 19); they had distinctive kiln scars on the underside of the pot, making them unstable. Another undercut rim was present, the second only from the BII sequence. The proportions of underglaze decorations were similar to those in BII5, but an apparent increase in the use of mottled green glaze was noted. However, this apparent increase may be misleading as L146 (187 sherds) contained much of the highly decorated and mottled green glazed sherds which were thought to be residual, although some of its contents such as (No. 16) and the sherd of stoneware were obviously contemporary. Cross-joins occurred between the phase and BIID. L40/1 was thought to be contemporary with L50 and perhaps L94 in HIII, while the remainder of the pottery was possibly slightly earlier and could be compared with the later pottery from Seacourt.¹ This site was dated by the excavator to pre-1400, but his documentary evidence only proves desertion by 1439 and the site could still have been occupied

1. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Oxonienzia, xxvi/xxvii (1961/2), Fig. 27, pp. 163-6.

into the second quarter of the 15th century. The coin of 1430-4 from an occupation level in BII6 supports the later date.

Wares included cooking-pots (6 rims, diam 130 mm. - 240 mm.), kitchen ware including probable porringer (8 rims), jugs (7 rims), a double-shelled lamp, and a base of a new bottle of jug-type (No. 16). Regional imports and thin walled vessels accounted for 11% of the total.

Gp IA BK.

Gp IB BR kw. base.

BB bs, 1t green glaze (No. 20).¹

AC kw rim, applied thumb-pressed strip (No. 6), probably residual; base.

Gp II AQ 2 cp rims; 1 kw rim; 3 bases, 2 bs, combed deco.

Gp III Y cp rim; 3 bases; tripod foot, 1t green glaze; tubular spout, 1t green glaze; 10 glazed sherds pred 1t green glaze.

AG 2 bs white slip dots, orange glaze; bs, white slip, 1t green glaze; cross-joins between BII5 and topsoil.

AM 2 cp rims;² possible base of lobed cup (No. 15);³ 6 kw rims, possibly porringer (No. 5); a base; 5 jug rims (No. 13), partially glazed orange; 6 bases (Nos. 17 and 19); 2 splayed bases (No. 18), possibly tripledecker or bulbous jug; shoulder bs, composite deco, partially glazed mot green (Nos. 9 and 10);⁴ 5 strap handles inc small type with irregular slash marks (No. 11), very abraded; dbl-shelled lamp, int glazed mot green; base of bottle or jug (No. 16), a new type.

AP 2 bs, partially glazed 1t green.

AW cp undercut rim, kw base; jug rim; bs, applied strips and mot green glaze.

AY bs, partially glazed int orange.

AZ bs.

1. For fabric only, *ibid.* Fig. 21, p. 149.

2. R.A. Chambers, 'A Desereted Medieval Farmstead at Sadler's Wood, Lewknor', *Oxonienzia*, xxxviii (1973), Fig 9 No 6, p. 163; Biddle 'Seacourt', Fig. 27 No 3, p. 165.

3. Biddle, 'Seacourt', Fig 20 No 7; S. Moorhouse, 'A Late Medieval Domestic Rubbish Deposit from Grove, near Wantage', *B.A.J.* lxvi, Fig 1 Nos. 4 and 5, pp. 117-9.