

69 Greencroft Street Salisbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Investigations

Online archive report



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69 GREENCROFT STREET, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

ASSESSMENT REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND PROPOSAL FOR POST-EXCAVATION ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Kent Morgan Architects on behalf of Blakemore Martin Limited to carry out an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of development at 69 Greencroft Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire (the Site), centred on SU 1474 3015.

The excavation comprised two trenches and was carried out between June 7th and June 18th 1999, followed by the watching brief during groundwork for the development in October and November 1999.

The Site is located on the west-side of Greencroft Street. At the time of the excavation the Site (being the area of the development) was an irregular shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 0.1 hectare and was occupied by a former car showroom and workshops. The Site was fairly flat, lying at a height of \underline{c} . 48.5m above Ordnance Datum.

The excavation was carried out prior to the demolition of existing buildings and took place at the front of the Site. Two trenches were excavated, either side of the front foundation wall of the former car showroom. Trench 1, in front of the showroom, measured 11m X 4m and Trench 2, within the showroom, measured 7m X 3m. The overall area of the excavation was 65m² (6.5% of the Site).

The earliest phase of horizontal soil deposits was cut by a ditch aligned north-south. Its two fills produced 13th / early 14th century pottery. In both trenches, a subsequent phase of make-up deposits containing 13th / early 14th century pottery preceded evidence for two adjacent buildings. Six subsequent phases representing the development and demise of the buildings were identified through the medieval and post-medieval periods. A final phase of modern activity was identified.

The excavation has provided a small but significant amount of information concerning the development of Greencroft Street properties since the medieval period and has, perhaps more importantly, indicated the potential that exists in the area for coherent archaeological evidence to survive to a level that can be retrieved and interpreted. It is intended that a short note on the results of the excavation is published in the Wiltshire Natural History and Archaeology Magazine.

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The project was commissioned by Ken Morgan Architects on behalf of Blakemore Martin Ltd, Downton, Wiltshire. The co-operation and help given by Mr Ian Blakemore (and his team) and Helena Cave-Penny, Assistant County Archaeologist with Wiltshire County Council is gratefully acknowledged.

Kevin Ritchie supervised the excavation with the assistance of Tessa Gent, Barry Henessy and Neil Fitzpatrick. Sue Johnson, Tom Baine and Sophie Bradwell provided additional help with research. Lorraine Mepham provided preliminary finds analysis. Nick Wells carried out coin identification. Sarah Wyles undertook the environmental assessment. Karen Nichols produced the illustrations. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Paul McCulloch.

69 GREENCROFT STREET, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

ASSESSMENT REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND PROPOSAL FOR POST-EXCAVATION ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

A: PROJECT BACKGROUND AND RESULTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Project background

- 1.1.1. Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Ken Morgan Architects on behalf of Blakemore Martin Limited to carry out an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of development at 69 Greencroft Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire (the Site), centred on SU 1474 3015 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2. The Site lies in the historic core of the City of Salisbury along the eastern side of Griffin Chequer, formed by Greencroft Street. The Chequer constitutes a block of land laid out as part of the regular plan of the City during the second quarter of the 13th century.
- 1.1.3. Outline Planning Approval for the development of eight houses in four blocks across the Site was conditional upon an archaeological survey being completed in accordance with a brief issued by Wiltshire County Council. The brief identified the potential of the Site as comprising medieval and prehistoric remains and required that a small excavation be carried out at the front of the Site prior to the start of the development. This was to be followed by a watching brief over the remainder of the Site during groundwork for the development. An outline written scheme of investigation for the excavation and watching brief was prepared by Wessex Archaeology and approved by the Council prior to the start of the excavation.
- 1.1.4. The excavation comprised two trenches and was carried out between June 7th and June 18th 1999. The watching brief during groundwork for the development was carried out in October and November 1999.
- 1.1.5. This assessment report outlines the preliminary results of the excavation and watching brief and presents proposals for post-excavation analysis and subsequent report production. The assessment was achieved by cross-checking and ordering of the project archive, analysis of the stratigraphic record, spot-dating of the pottery and scanning of other finds within the finds archive, and the processing of soil samples from the environmental archive.

1.2. Topography, land-use, and geology

- 1.2.1. The Site is located on the west side of Greencroft Street. At the time of the excavation the Site (being the area of the development) was an irregular shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 1 hectare and was occupied by a former car showroom and workshops. The site was fairly flat, lying at a height of <u>c</u>. 48.5m above Ordnance Datum.
- 1.2.2. The Site lies north-east of Salisbury City centre, 200m south of St Edmunds Church, and 70m west of the course of the City's medieval defences. The British Geological Survey map for the area (sheet 298) indicates the underlying geology of the Site as clay with flints. Alluvium of the River Avon and River Nadder occurs to the south and west, whilst Upper Chalk occurs to the east.

1.3. Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1. Salisbury's origins lie 2.5 kilometres north of the City at the site of Old Sarum, successively an Iron Age hill-fort, Roman installation, Saxon town, and Norman fortress. Old Sarum was the seat of a bishopric in the 11th century, which in 1220 was moved to its present site Salisbury Cathedral.
- 1.3.2. The City of Salisbury, formerly New Sarum and New Salisbury, received a Royal charter in 1227. It was planned around the cathedral over an area of about 105 hectares and its regular layout established blocks of land, divided into plots, that came to be known by the 17th century as Chequers. These characterise the City and took their various names from prominent buildings, often an inn (RCHM 1980).
- 1.3.3. The streets that formed the Chequers originally acquired directional names or the names of people or trades in them. Greencroft Street was known as Melemonger Stret, 'the street of the meal sellers', and forms the eastern side of Griffin Chequer, which is otherwise bound by Salt Lane, St Edmunds Street, and Winchester Street. Historical records indicate the successive tenure of the individual properties within the Chequers, how they grew and disappeared, and who owned or rented them.
- 1.3.4. Previous archaeological investigations in the City have indicated the potential for archaeological remains to survive coherently over large areas, thereby constituting a potentially valuable urban archaeological resource (Hawkes). However, the number and distribution of investigations remains relatively low, making archaeological assessments of individual sites within unexplored areas difficult. For this reason, the Site presented a valuable opportunity to provide an assessment of the archaeological potential of the Griffin Chequer area.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. Aims

2.1.1. The aims of the excavation, as set out in the brief, were to:

- Record and investigate to an appropriate standard the archaeological features uncovered
- Assess the extent of medieval activity within previously unexplored Griffin Chequer in relation to earlier excavations in the City
- Identify any earlier settlement, for example from the prehistoric period, that may have existed on the often-favoured gravel terraces

2.2. Excavation

- 2.2.1. The excavation was carried out prior to the demolition of existing buildings and took place at the front of the Site. Two trenches were excavated, either side of the front foundation wall of the former car showroom (**Figure 1**). Trench 1, in front of the showroom, measured 11m X 4m and Trench 2, within the showroom, measured 7m X 3m. The overall area of the excavation was 65m² (6.5% of the Site).
- 2.2.2. The excavation was confined to a relatively small area at the front of the Site and did not seek to mitigate the larger impact of the proposed development upon, potentially, more wide-spread archaeological deposits within the Site.
- 2.2.3. The trenches were opened mechanically and under archaeological supervision. Modern deposits were removed in a series of spits to reveal archaeological deposits beneath.
- 2.2.4. The archaeological deposits were cleaned, recorded and excavated by hand. The written, drawn, and photographic record was compiled in accordance with the Wessex Archaeology Fieldwork Recording Manual.

2.3. Watching brief

2.3.1. Following the excavation and during subsequent groundwork for foundations, a watching brief was maintained. This comprised visits to the Site to monitor areas not covered by the excavation. New footings were observed at the extreme west and in the north of the Site. Extremely poor, waterlogged ground conditions prevailed throughout.

2.4. Finds analysis

- 2.4.1. The excavation produced a finds assemblage typical of urban contexts ranging in date from medieval to modern, with the greater proportion of finds being building materials.
- 2.4.2. The finds assemblage has been cleaned, with the exception of metalwork and metalworking slag, and quantified by material type within each context.
- 2.4.3. The pottery has been scanned for datable groups and spot-dated. This has informed the preliminary phasing of the stratigraphic record.

2.5. Environmental sampling

- 2.5.1. Bulk samples were taken during the excavation to provide information on the nature of specific features/contexts and to aid the understanding of the activities and environment represented in the excavated area.
- 2.5.2. The animal bone assemblage recovered from the excavation was identified to species, where possible. In general the assemblage size is small and provides limited scope for study. This may be the result of the excavation not incorporating areas of the Site where greater concentrations of domestic waste from earlier periods could be expected, for instance toward the rear of the Site and the rear of medieval properties.

3. RESULTS

3.1. The excavation

- 3.1.1. The stratigraphic record of the excavation, including all written, drawn, and photographic records, is held within the excavation archive, currently housed at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the site code W6655. Brief descriptions of the context record from Trenches 1 & 2 can be found in **Appendix 1 & 2**.
- 3.1.2. Based on the stratigraphic record, eleven phases of activity or events have been identified (**Table 3**), provisionally supported by spot dating of pottery. Plans of phases, with context numbers shown as appropriate, appear on **Figure 2**. References to sections A-G (**Figures 3-5**) are provided through the text.

Phase	Description	Period
1	Soil deposits	AD 13 th /14 th
		century
2	Cut features and deposits- a north-south ditch, a shallow	13 th /14 th century
	pit and related deposits	
3	Make-up deposits	13 th /14 th century
4	Structural activity- establishment of buildings 1 & 2	13 th /14 th century
5	Structural activity- rebuild	13 th /14 th century
6	Structural activity- rebuild	
7	Structural activity- extension and addition of hearth	15 th /16 th century
8	Cut features and demolition deposits	17 th /18 th century
9	Structural activity- rebuild	
10	Structural activity- rebuild	18 th century
11	Structural activity- modern	Modern

Table 3: Phases 1 - 11

Phase 1 Soil deposits

3.1.3. The earliest phase identified consisted of three layers of soil overlying natural deposits. Context **159** (Figure 3, Section C) was a mid to dark brown silty clay that contained some charcoal and mortar. It was recorded within an east west hand dug slot in Trench 1. Context **129** (Figure 3, Section B),

recorded in the south-east corner of Trench 1, was a dark brown clay silt loam with some small flint gravel inclusions containing pottery and part of a stone mould of 13th / early 14th century date (3.4.13. below). Context **279** (Figure 4, Section E), a mid to dark brown clayey silt, was recorded in the base of a north-south hand dug slot in Trench 2. These layers represent the earliest archaeological deposits on the site.

Phase 2 Cut feature and deposits

- 3.1.4. In Trench 1 the buried soil **159** was cut by a north-south (parallel with Greencroft Street) aligned ditch **150** (Figure 3, Section C) which contained two fills and which had moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The primary fill **149** (Figure 3, Section C) and secondary fill **148** (Figure 3, Section C) of the ditch produced 13th / early 14th century pottery. The ditch may have been a field or plot boundary ditch, perhaps a formal demarcation dating from the inception of Greencroft Street.
- 3.1.5. In Trench 2 soil **279** was sealed by a thinner band of soil **278**, in turn cut by a shallow scoop **277** (Figure 3, Section C). Scoop **277** produced 13th / early 14th century pottery from its upper fill **274** (Figure 3, Section C).

Phase 3 Make-up deposits

3.1.6. This phase comprised soil deposits 147 (Figure 3, Section C) and 152 in Trench 1. The latter produced a whetstone, 13th / early 14th century pottery, and a fragment of human skull along with bones from several species of animals and poultry (Table 1). In Trench 2 this phase comprised 11 soil deposits and, of these, 237, 271 (Figure 4, Section E) and 273 (Figure 4, Section E) produced 13th / early 14th century pottery. The remainder 234, 240, 241, 244, 250, 251, 272 (Figure 4, Section E) and 281 (Figure 4, Section D) contained crushed green sandstone, ceramic building materials (CBM) and traces of crushed mortar. These layers appear to represent makeup and construction deposits.

Phase 4 Structural

- 3.1.7. This structural phase describes two buildings, elements of which were found in both trenches. The phase represents the earliest structural evidence recorded in the excavation, which is dated to the 13th / early 14th century.
- 3.1.8. Building 1 was represented by wall **156** (**Figure 3, Section A**), which lay mid-way along the west facing section of Trench 1. Its construction consisted of flint nodules bonded with yellow brown silty clay. Pottery sherds within the matrix of the bonding clay are of 13th / early 14th century date. The construction of this wall was simple with two rough courses of flints evident. This wall is interpreted as the front wall of building 1, the northernmost building in this phase.
- 3.1.9. In Trench 2, building 1 was represented by two sections of the same wall separated by later disturbance. This east-west wall comprised **243** (**Figure 4**, **Section D**), of which three courses of flint and mortar survived, and wall **242**, of which two courses survived. **243** was bonded to the northern end of **263** (**Figure 4**, **Section D**), a north-south wall of six rough courses of flint and mortar, which appears to have divided building 1 into two areas, or

rooms. Within the wall was a single course of ceramic roof tiles set at an angle. Toward the southern end of wall **263** and built into its fabric was a drain, **280** (Figure 4, Section D). Marking the southern end of the wall and the south-west corner of the building was a large Greensand stone block (0.40 x 0.15m).

3.1.10. Building 2, south of building 1, was represented by layer/floor 128 (Figure 3, Section B), located in the south east corner of Trench 1 and wall 284 (Figure 4, Section D). Layer 128 comprised laminated mortar and clay while wall 284 comprised flint nodules and a single Greensand stone block bonded with yellow brown silty clay. It was located in the south-east corner of Trench 2.

Phase 5 Structural

- 3.1.11. This phase of structural activity includes adjustments to building 1 and elements of building 2 of 13th / early 14th century or later date.
- 3.1.12. Part of building 1, wall **120** (Figure 3, Section A) was located near the north end of Trench 1 and was aligned east- west. It consisted of six courses of flint nodules of varying sizes 0.04 x 0.05m to 0.15 x 0.15m. The lower two courses were 0.40m wide, while the upper courses narrowed to 0.20m wide. Its southern (inner) face had a mortar render. At least 0.60m of the eastern end of the wall had been removed. With its two wider basal courses, this wall is interpreted as the original load-bearing northern wall of building 1.
- 3.1.13. Wall **141** (Figure 3, Section A) was located near the south end of the Trench 1 and was aligned east-west. Its construction was similar to wall **120** and it is interpreted as the southern wall of building 1.
- 3.1.14. Running between walls 120 and 141 was wall 124 (Figure 3, Section A), which extended along the eastern side of Trench 1 for 4.8m. It was constructed of flint nodules and courses of ceramic roof tiles set at an angle The remnants of a mortar render was apparent on the west (inner) face. Two Greensand stone blocks (dimensions unattainable) were recorded, one at either end of the wall, representing the north-east and south-east corners of building 1. Wall 124, built over and incorporating the line of wall 156, formed the eastern wall of building 1.
- 3.1.15. North of wall **141** and parallel to it, was wall **144**, aligned east-west and constructed from broken flint nodules. A large (0.2m x 0.3m) Greensand stone block formed its western extent while its eastern end butted onto wall **124**. It stood 0.20m high and 0.25m wide with no regular coursing visible. This wall is interpreted as an internal partition dividing the eastern threshold of building 1 from its interior.
- 3.1.16. Layer **220** (Figure 4, Section E) appears to be an addition of small unbroken flint nodules (up to 0.05 x 0.10m) lining the northern side of drain **280** (phase 4).
- 3.1.17. Layers **262** (Figure 4, Section D), crushed chalk, **282** (Figure 4, Section D), silty clay, and **261** silty clay, lay over wall **263** (phase 4) and below wall **266**

- (phase 6). These layers are interpreted as replacing the line of wall **263** in this phase, perhaps for a very short period prior to its reinstatement by **265/6** in phase 6.
- 3.1.18. Walls **246** (Figure 4, Section E) and **249** represent the same wall divided by a later intrusive feature. The wall was constructed of flint nodules up to 0.10 x 0.12m, and the section of it represented by **246** protruded from beneath **265** (phase 6) at an approximate right angle. This wall appeared to replace wall **242/3** (Phase 4).
- 3.1.19. Wall **164** comprised a single line of flints 0.50m in length, aligned east—west, and located near the south-eastern corner of Trench 1. It is interpreted as an element of building 2.
- 3.1.20. Layers **231** (Figure 5, Section G) and **233** (Figure 4, Section E & Figure 5, Section G) were located near the south-west corner of Trench 2 to the rear of building 2. Both layers were brown silty clays and both contained pottery of 13th / early 14th century date (**233** contained an almost complete but shattered pottery vessel).

Phase 6 Structural

- 3.1.21. This phase records the reinstatement of building 1 wall line **263** (phase 4). This was represented by **265** and **266**.
- 3.1.22. Wall **265** (Figure 4, Section D), was 4.4m in length and aligned north—south along the eastern edge of Trench 2, it consisted of at least 11 rough courses of flint nodules and ceramic roof tiles that were set in a herringbone style. A Greensand stone block was recorded at the northern end of the wall (0.30 x 0.40m). The corner formed by the block suggests the wall formed the western extent of building 1 in this phase.
- 3.1.23. Wall **266** (Figure 4, Section **D**) was built on top of wall **265**. The construction appeared to be very slip-shod and differed noticeably from that of **265**, the materials used in its construction consisted of varying sizes of chalk and Greensand stone blocks with whole and broken flint nodules.
- 3.1.24. Also in this phase occurred layer **232**, a gravely sand with frequent flint pebbles, below **227**, a greyish brown silty clay. Both layers were located near the south western corner of Trench 2 toward the rear of the building 2. Neither layer produced dateable finds.

Phase 7 Structural

- 3.1.25. This phase includes the construction of a northern extension to building 1 and interior elements, which may date to the later medieval or early Postmedieval period.
- 3.1.26. The additional space formed by the extension of building 1 is approximately half the size of the original area and is represented by walls 121, 162 (both Figure 3, Section A) and 267 (Figure 4, Section D only). Its floor was represented by 138, a surface, over a make-up and levelling layer 139 (Figure 3, Section C).

- 3.1.27. Wall **121** was aligned east to west and was 0.35m high, 0.40m wide and 2.40m long. The wall was constructed of flint nodules (up to 0.05x 0.08m), ceramic roof tiles laid horizontally and with a green sandstone blocks (dimensions unattainable) at either visible end, the southern (inner) face of the wall had a mortar render.
- 3.1.28. Wall **162** was aligned north-south with the northern end bonded to the eastern end of **121**. The construction was similar to **121**.
- 3.1.29. Floor layer **138**, a compacted brownish grey silty clay loam with mottled patches of white, contained 13th/ early 14th century pottery. Along with its make-up layer **139**, it covered most of the area bounded by walls **141**, **120** and **124** but did not spread into the south-east corner.
- 3.1.30. Hearth 145 was located near the south-west corner of the building and was c.0.80m². It consisted of three layers 151, 153 and 154. 151 was a brown/black deposit of fine silt located on the north side of the hearth. 153 consisted of staked brick and tile edging of the hearth. 154 was a pale yellow mortar surface within the hearth.
- 3.1.31. Layer **221** (**Figure 4, Section D**) was an addition of small unbroken flint nodules (up to 0.05 x 0.10m) lining the southern side of drain **280** (phase 4). Also associated with the drain was **222** (**Figure 4, Section D**) a light greyish brown silty clay loam which filled **220**, a re-cut of drain **280**, and which produced 13th/ early 14th century pottery. Layer **223**, a light greyish brown clayey silt located south of and partially covering **221**, was heavily truncated to the south by modern drain cut **226** (phase 11).
- 3.1.32. Layer **252** (Figure 4, Section F), grey-brown clayey silt, was possibly a buried garden soil that was located at the northern end of Trench 2. Pottery that was recovered has been tentatively dated as Later medieval to early Postmedieval.
 - *Phase 8 Cut features and demolition deposits*
- 3.1.33. This phase of cut features and demolition deposits occurs in the area of building 1 and dates to the 17th / 18th century, or later.
- 3.1.34. Posthole **126** had a diameter of 0.4m and 0.15m deep and was located near the north-east corner of building 1 and was cut through floor **138**. Its fill **125**, a very dark brown silty clay loam contained clay tobacco pipe fragments and pottery dated to the 17th / 18th century. Also recovered from the top of the fill was a Victorian Farthing dated 1879, possibly an intrusive find. Surrounding **126** was a thin yellow mortar floor surface/spread **127**, and **137**, a dark yellowish brown silty clay. Finds recovered from these layers are also of 17th / 18th century date.
- 3.1.35. Layers 209, 211, 212, 214, 216 (Figure 5, Section G) 238 (Figure 4, Section E), 245 (Figure 4, Section E), 254 and 255 consisted of layers of rubble, silts, and silty clays. Layers 256 and 213 may be remnant floor surfaces. Both were located against the west facing section.

3.1.36. Pit **247** was c.2m long, 1.20m wide and located at the northern end of Trench 2. Its fills **248** and **258** consisted predominantly of ceramic roof tiles.

Phase 9 Structural

- 3.1.37. In this phase the threshold to the eastern part of building 1 was modified, while activity in the western part was represented by a wall fragment of unknown function, and dumped deposits.
- 3.1.38. Wall **140** was located in the south-east corner of building 1 and ran between and butted earlier walls **144** and **141** forming with them and earlier wall **124** a roughly square area. This area was filled with **146**, a compact layer of chalk, which appears to have formed a step, probably toward the threshold presumed to have been positioned immediately to the east in wall **124**.
- 3.1.39. Wall 239 was located centrally in Trench 2 and consisted of a single course of frogged bricks 1m long and aligned north—south. Around and beneath 239 were a series of dumps 210, 215, 217, (all Figure 5, Section G) 230, 236, (both Figure 4, Section E) 260 and 275. These consisted of silty clays, clays and building debris.

Phase 10 Structural

- 3.1.40. This phase represents the final development of the eastern portion of building 1. To the west, rubble and building materials continued to be deposited.
- 3.1.41. Wall 109 was aligned east—west and consisted of three courses of brickwork bonded with mortar. It was built directly on top of flint wall 141 (phase5). Wall 115 ran north-south along the eastern edge of Trench 1 and consisted of two courses of brick. It was built directly on top of flint wall 124 (phase 5). 109 represents the southern extent, and 115 the eastern extent, or the front wall, of building 1 in this phase.
- 3.1.42. Hearth 135 was located inside the southern wall of building 1 and measured 1.40m². It consisted of five brick and tile layers, 130, 131, 132, 133 and 136. A George II penny (1727 1760) was recovered from between brick courses 130 and 136.
- 3.1.43. Walls **114** and **116** were aligned north–south through the middle of Trench 1. These walls consisted of two courses of bricks and appear to have been floor joist supports. Between these walls were black deposits **117**, **118** and **119**, layers of dust and general detritus. Within these deposits were found CBM, pottery, clay pipe, and glass all datable to the late 17th / early 18th century, and animal bone.
- 3.1.44. Layers 205, 206, 207, 208 and 218 consisted of rubble and mostly ceramic roof tiles.

Phase 11 Modern

- 3.1.45. This phase represents all modern activity recorded in Trench 1 & 2.
- 3.1.46. Wall **123** (Figure 3, Section A) was aligned north-south along the eastern edge of Trench 1. It was constructed of two brick courses set on a concrete

footing 160 (Figure 3, Section A) which in turn was on a rubble levelling layer 161 (Figure 3, Section A). A modern brick manhole, 101, c.1m² was located in the south-west corner of Trench 1 and was in-filled with rubble 102. 101 was built on a cast iron tank 112. Surrounding these was 103 a deposit of sand. 104, the cut that contained 101, 112 and 103, was not fully excavated.

- 3.1.47. 229 was a north—south running service trench located at the southern end of Trench 2. It was filled with rubble 228 and was contemporary with 226, an east—west service trench. 226 contained a ceramic sewage pipe 225 that was covered with rubble and soil 224 (Figure 4, Section D & E, Figure 5 Section G). Layers above these, 201 (Figure 4, Section D & F, Figure 5, Section G), 219 (Figure 5, Section G) and 285 (Figure 4, Section D) consisted of modern rubble.
- 3.1.48. **143** was a square cut 0.75m² and 0.50m deep located in the centre of Trench 1 and filled with rubble **142**. This feature may have been a soak away.

3.2. The watching brief

- 3.2.1. The watching brief was carried out during October and November 1999 during the excavation of foundation trenches for new houses to be built on the Site. Archaeological remains exposed by the excavations were the subject of minimal rapid recording, commensurate with the available time and prevailing site conditions, which were poor.
- 3.2.2. At the extreme west of the Site (**Figure 1**) a pit containing animal bone and oyster shell was observed in the section of a foundation trench indicating that archaeological features survived in this area. It was also noted that this area had been subject to heavy modern disturbance.
- 3.2.3. Heavy disturbance was also observed in the north of the Site. However, foundation trenches for plots 5 and 6 did reveal a mortared stone foundation of substantial proportions and at least 1.5m width in the extreme south-east corner of plot (Figure 1).

3.3. The excavation archive

3.3.1. The excavation archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury, under site code 46655.

3.4. The finds

Introduction

3.4.1. All finds (**Appendix 3**) recovered during the excavation have been cleaned, with the exception of metalwork and metalworking slag, and quantified by material type within each context. Spot dates have been recorded for pottery and datable clay pipes, and broad details of the range, potential date and condition of all finds types.

Ceramic building material

- 3.4.2. This category includes fragments of roof tiles and bricks. Amongst the roof tile are two ridge tile fragments, both glazed (contexts **206**, **222**), and one other glazed fragment (**237**) with applied thumbed strips, which could be from another ridge tile or possibly from a more elaborate piece of roof furniture such as a finial or louvre.
- 3.4.3. The remaining roof tile fragments are all from peg tiles, with either round or square peg holes. Three complete examples were recovered (206, 258), all of fairly consistent size (270-80 mm x 165-70 mm). A few fragments are partially glazed. Most of this material came from medieval contexts, and conforms to the general characteristics of medieval roof tile found elsewhere in Salisbury and the surrounding area handmade, frequently slightly uneven tiles in coarse fabrics, often poorly wedged and pale-firing.
- 3.4.4. One potential source for these tiles is the documented 14th/15th-century tile production centre at Alderbury, which supplied Clarendon Palace (Hare 1991). Ridge tiles could have come from the same source, or from the kilns at Laverstock just outside the city (Musty *et al.* 1969).

Clay tobacco pipes

- 3.4.5. These consist mainly of stem fragments, some of which are stamped with makers' marks. Bowls and bowl fragments range in date from late 17th century (one example; 137) through late 17th/early 18th century (six examples; 117, 125, 127, 134) to mid 18th century (3 examples; 137). The earliest bowl has a heel stamp of an imitation 'Gauntlet' mark ('Monkey's Paw') of c.1670-80.
- 3.4.6. Three other makers are represented by heel stamps: Edward Higgens (Salisbury, c.1690-1710; two examples, **122**, **137**), Joel Sanger (Salisbury, c.1720-40; two examples, **137**), and either Thomas Hunt (Marlborough, c.1685-1710) or Thomas Hill (Salisbury c.1690-1710; two examples, **134**, **137**). All are well-documented pipemakers whose pipes are commonly found in the area (Atkinson 1970; 1972).

Glass

3.4.7. All of the glass found is of post-medieval date, with the possible exception of a heavily corroded window glass fragment from context **148**, found with medieval pottery. The post-medieval fragments include both window and bottle/jar glass of late 17th century date or later.

Pottery

3.4.8. The pottery assemblage ranges in date from medieval to post-medieval. The majority of sherds are of medieval date, and products of the Laverstock kilns (Musty et al. 1969) dominate these. Both courseware's and fine wares are present. There are no complete profiles, but vessel forms represented include scratch marked jars (one possible handled example), bowls/dishes, and jugs, the latter mainly but not exclusively in the finer glazed wares, and including slip-decorated examples. All these forms can be found amongst the published examples from the 13th century Laverstock kilns, although their likely date range extends at least into the early part of the 14th century. Only one other

- medieval type was recognised here: a single sherd of a micaceous ware commonly found in north and west Wiltshire and probably originating from the putative production centre at Crockerton outside Warminster.
- 3.4.9. As has been found elsewhere in Salisbury, late medieval pottery groups have not been recognised here. Although there are a few sherds of a moderately fine sandy ware which appears to be transitional between the medieval Laverstock types and the post-medieval Verwood types, and which has been found elsewhere in Salisbury associated with 'Tudor Green' and other 15th/16th century wares. In this instance, however, most sherds occurred with later post-medieval types, with the exception of context 252. Examples found here include the spout from a bunghole jar or pitcher (248).
- 3.4.10. The post-medieval assemblage is similarly dominated by a local industry, in this case the Verwood earthenware industry of east Dorset (Algar *et al.* 1987). A number of kilns were operating in this area from at least the mid 17th century and probably earlier. There are examples here of 17th century types comparable to those found in the excavated mid 17th century kiln at Horton (Copland-Griffiths 1989), and late 17th/early 18th century brownglazed types ('Wiltshire Brown Ware'). Otherwise these wares are not closely datable within a 17th to 20th century date bracket, although here they have been dated in most cases on the absence of later industrial wares to a range of late 17th to early 18th century.
- 3.4.11. Other wares within a similar date range comprise West Country type trailed slipware and graffito ware, Staffordshire-type slipware and mottled ware, German stoneware, tin glazed earthenware and white salt glaze. Two sherds in micaceous sandy courseware's (137, 273), possibly from imported Spanish olive jars, may also fall within this date range, although are not closely datable (16th to 18th century). Modern (19th/20th century) industrial wares are confined to the unstratified collection and one other context (110).

Slag

3.4.12. Metalworking slag, probably from iron smithing, was recovered from four medieval contexts. This may indicate some metalworking in the near vicinity of the site.

Stone

3.4.13. This category includes one whetstone (152), one mould fragment (129) and three pieces of building stone. The latter comprise one irregular fragment of limestone (222) and two fragments of shaped green sandstone blocks (152, 206), one with a socket for a door or window hinge. The mould fragment, which came from a medieval context, seems to have had two functions. Its primary function was as the upper part of a two piece mould for casting a circular object with a diameter of approximately 0.05m. The upper face, however, has a second mould for producing tokens, probably by stamping.

Worked bone

3.4.14. Two worked bone objects were found unstratified: a ring, probably a curtain ring, and a small-perforated disc of unknown function.

Metalwork

- 3.4.15. Metalwork comprises objects of iron (30 objects) and copper alloy (22 objects, including eight coins/ tokens). Of these, 16 objects (10 iron and six copper alloy) were found unstratified, and these are mainly modern items such as teaspoons, a keyhole plate, a medal commemorating Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee of 1897, nails and others structural fittings. In addition, an oil lamp fitting came from context 117.
- 3.4.16. Coins include two Georgian and two Victorian issues (unstratified, contexts 125, 135), one 16th / 17th century token issued in Nuremberg (137), and three completely illegible coins/ tokens (117, 120, 139 ditto). Other copper alloy items include a decorative fitting (137), a thimble (146), two pins (117, 271) and a perforated sheet fragment (271); of these, only the objects from context 271 are likely to be medieval.
- 3.4.17. Iron objects consist almost entirely of nails, from both medieval and post-medieval contexts; other objects are unidentifiable.

Animal bone

- 3.4.18. A small group of bone was recovered from the excavations at Greencroft Street (Table 2). Much of the assemblage is typical of food waste as heavily chopped bones from domestic species are well represented. Four pieces of Fallow deer antler were recovered from two 17th/ 18th century contexts (248 and 258) and it is possible that these were raw materials for bone working.
- 3.4.19. Apart from the presence of antler in the collection the assemblage represents a typical domestic group.

Context	Phase	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig	deer	bird	No I D	Total
148	2	5	4			1	5	15
149	2	1	1	1		1	2	6
147	3		1					1
152	3	1	3	1		4	6	15
237	3					1		1
271	3	8					2	10
220	5	1	1					2
252	7						1	1
137	8	4	3				2	9
216	8						1	1
248	8		2		2		2	6
258	8				2		1	3
117	10					1	1	2
122	10						1	1
134	10		1				2	3
206	10		1				2	3
110	11						1	1
Total		20	17	2	4	8	29	80

Table 1: Animal bone by context

Shell

3.4.20. The shell recovered consists mainly of oyster, and both left and right valves are represented in roughly equal quantities. There are also small quantities of scallop and whelk.

3.5. The environmental evidence

Aims

3.5.1. Samples were taken during the excavation to help provide information on the nature of specific features/contexts and upon the general use of the Site.

Samples taken and Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 3.5.2. Three bulk samples of between one and eight litres were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. Samples were taken from a 13th/14th century pot, a 13th/14th ditch and a 17th / 18th century fireplace.
- 3.5.3. The bulk samples, by date range, are shown below:

Date range	No. of samples	Volume (litres)
13 th /early 14 th century	2	10
17 th /early 18 th century	1	1
Total	3	11

Table 2: Bulk samples by date range

- 3.5.4. The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Sample 3, however, was floated onto a 0.25mm mesh and fractionated down to 0.25mm.
- 3.5.5. The flots were scanned under a x10 x30 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred plant remains and charcoal quantified (**Appendix 4**).

Charred plant remains

3.5.6. The two samples from the 13th /early 14th century contexts (**148**, **233**) both produced small flots while the sample from the 17th/early 18th century context (**151**) produced a large flot (average flot size for a 10 litre sample is 60 millilitres). The flots contained very little rooty material but high numbers of uncharred weed seeds, which can be indicative of stratigraphic movement.

13th/early 14th century

3.5.7. Flots contained high numbers of charred grain fragments and small quantities of charred weed seeds. The sample from ditch 150 (context 148) also produced a few charred chaff and pea/bean fragments. Small mammal/fish bone was recorded in both samples and mollusc in the vessel fill sample.

3.5.8. The charred plant remains from dated medieval (13th-14th century) contexts in Salisbury are relatively sparse, and both samples come from well-sealed contexts and contain good quantities of charred plant remains. These samples have the potential to indicate the types of crop present, and the presence/absence of weed seeds and chaff may indicate whether the material was bought into the Site as processed grain for consumption or was prepared on the premises. Although they will not provide information of great interpretational significance for understanding the activities and archaeology within the excavated Site, they are important in the general context of medieval Salisbury.

17th/early 18th century

3.5.9. The single sample from this period produced moderate quantities of charred grain fragments and low numbers of charred weed seeds. Small mammal/ fish bone was also observed in this sample.

Charcoal

- 3.5.10. Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in Appendix 4. Charcoal fragments of greater than 5.6mm were retrieved in small amounts from the two 13th/early 14th century samples and in a large quantity from the 17th/early 18th century sample. The charcoal pieces were mainly large wood fragments.
- 3.5.11. The context from which the charcoal is derived will only indicate some of the wood/ timbers burnt on site either in the hearth, or fireplaces. As there is no specific feature to which to attribute them at this time, they are of little Palaeo-environmental significance.

Land snails

- 3.5.12. The sample from the ditch was specifically examined for the presence of snails that might help determine the nature of the ditch/ drain environment and the presence of water within the ditch.
- 3.5.13. No snails were present. Snails were present, however, in the samples from the pottery vessel, but these cannot aid in the interpretation of the deposition or contents of this vessel.

Small mammal bone

3.5.14. Although small mammal bone was present, its significance from this Site is limited in view of the limited contexts examined.

4. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

4.1. Introduction

4.1.1. The archaeological potential of the Site to address questions concerning property development in a Salisbury Chequer must be regarded limited due to the small size of the excavation. However, the Site is important because it indicates the potential of archaeological deposits in Salisbury in general and in the immediate area in particular. The deposits have been demonstrated to

be coherent and representative of the development of properties from their origins in the 13th century up to the modern period.

4.2. The excavation archive

- 4.2.1. The excavation archive comprises a coherent record of the stratigraphic sequence of features and deposits that have been separated into phases datable by spot-dating of finds. The record is capable of providing a detailed account of the sequence of deposits and structural remains recorded through an analysis of the context record, plans, sections, and photographs.
- 4.2.2. However, the excavation archive is capable of providing only an indication of the development of the Greencroft Street frontage and Griffin Chequer from the 13th century onwards. This is due to the small size of the excavation in which it was not possible to reveal all, or a substantial part, of the ground plan of a whole property, its structural components, open areas, and curtilage.

4.3. The finds archive

- 4.3.1. The artefactual assemblage is of very limited archaeological potential. The datable artefacts such as pottery, glass and clay pipes serve to indicate a chronological framework for the Site, but little else.
- 4.3.2. The number of animal bones recovered is very small, and those present are fragmentary. Little would be gained from further study of the hand-retrieved material.
- 4.3.3. The limited potential of the artefactual assemblage results almost certainly from the location of the excavation at the front of the medieval and later buildings investigated. Since the excavation did not cover 'backlands' to the properties, it was unlikely to reveal extensive pits and dumps that often characterise these areas and provide large finds assemblages.

4.4. The environmental archive

- 4.4.1. The charred plant remains from the medieval contexts, of albeit limited information, are important for medieval Salisbury and it is proposed that both be extracted and identified. All the remaining flots will be retained in archive, but their accompanying residues discarded.
- 4.4.2. The charcoal overall is sparse and unlikely to be functionally related to any of the contexts. Only charcoal from the hearths probably relates to the features from which they originated. Overall the potential of the charcoal to provide significant information is limited.

B: PROPOSALS FOR POST-EXCAVATION ANALYSES AND PUBLICATION

5. STATEMENT OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

5.1. Introduction

5.1.1. The excavation has provided a small but significant amount of information concerning the development of Greencroft Street properties since the medieval period and has indicated the potential that exists in the area for coherent archaeological evidence to survive to a level that can be retrieved and interpreted.

5.2. Aims

- 5.2.1. The principal aims of the proposed post-excavation works are:
 - To produce a fully ordered and indexed project archive of sufficient standard to be deposited with the Museum of Salisbury and South Wiltshire
 - To produce a brief illustrated report presenting a synthesis of the excavation for dissemination via an academic publication (e.g. the Wiltshire Natural History and Archaeology Magazine) through the analysis of the archive sufficient to meet the objectives outlined in para. 5.3 below and in accordance with published guidance (English Heritage 1991)

5.3. Objectives

- 5.3.1. The objectives are defined as follows:
 - To define the principal structural phases recorded by the excavation archive
 - To define the principal date range of the structural phases indicated by the finds archive
 - To identify within the finds archive any significant artefact type worthy of comparative analysis
 - To provide a brief historical and documentary context for the Site

6. METHOD STATEMENT

6.1. Structural phases and dating

6.1.1. The structural phases already identified will be summarised. This summary of the principal Site developments will be placed in a chronological framework based on the limited information available from the finds archive.

6.2. Finds: comparative analysis

6.2.1. From the finds archive, the mould fragment from context (129) should be briefly discussed (see 3.4.13. above) and compared with other examples. This object would benefit from illustration.

6.3. Historical and documentary background

6.3.1. The historic context of the Site will be summarised with reference to documentary evidence, as available.

6.4. Publication

- 6.4.1. It is proposed that a note on the excavation and watching brief at 69 Greencroft Street be submitted for publication in the Wiltshire Natural History and Archaeology Magazine as this is the appropriate County journal. The outline for this is:
 - Introduction and historical context
 - Structural remains and dating (plan)
 - Discussion

6.5. Task list

- 6.5.1. Analysis:
 - Historical and documentary research
 - Comparative analysis of mould fragment

6.5.2. Reporting:

- Historical context with documentary references
- Structural remains with dating evidence
- Report on mould fragment
- Plan of site
- 6.5.3. The personnel and time required to the tasks are as follows:

•	Project Manager	Paul McCulloch	1day
•	Finds Manager	Lorraine Mepham	.5 day
•	Illustrator	Rob Goller	.5 day

7. STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1. Museum

7.1.1. The recipient museum will be:

The Museum of Salisbury and South Wiltshire

The King's House

65 The Close

SALISBURY

Asst Curator: Andrew Deathe

7.1.2. The museum has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive from the site at the completion of the project.

7.2. Conservation

7.2.1. There were no immediate conservation requirements in the field. Metal objects have been X-radiographed as part of the assessment phase. There are no further conservation requirements

7.3. Archive storage

7.3.1. The excavation, finds, and environmental archives are currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology. The artefacts and ecofacts are stored in four boxes.

7.4. Discard policy

- 7.4.1. Wessex Archaeology, in consultation with the recipient museums, follows the guidelines set out by the Society of Museum Archaeologists in *Selection, Retention, and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections* (1993). This allows for the discard (by means of outright disposal, or dispersal to reference or teaching collections) of undiagnostic and/or poorly provenanced material, whose further study is considered to be of limited value.
- 7.4.2. In the case of the assemblage from the 69 Greencroft Street Site, it is likely that plain clay pipe stems, nails, and selected vessel glass and ceramic building material, as well as or including all items of obviously modern date will be targeted for selective or total discard. The selection will be made after full consultation with the recipient museum.

7.5. Copyright

7.5.1. The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by The Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the *Copyright*, *Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient Museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the

archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be not-for-profit.

7.6. Security copy

7.6.1. In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and on diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (RCHME), a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records at the Museum, and third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

8. REFERENCES

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Appendix 1: Summary of context descriptions for Trench 1

Context number	Component of/filled with	Description
100	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Concrete forecourt
101	102	Brisk lining, manhole
102	101	Rubble fill
103	104	Sand fill
104	101,102,103 & 112	Cut for manhole/ tank
105	, ,	Concrete block with pipe
106		Concrete block with post
107		Concrete flag with post
108		Brick and floor tile, surface
109		Brick wall (E-W) to south No.67
110		Rubble layer
111		Brick and tile surface, doorstep for No.65
112	104	Cast iron tank
113		Brick and tile surface, door step for No.67
114		Brick wall (N-S) to east No.67
115		Brick wall (N-S)
116		Brick wall (N-S) to west No.67
117		Layer between 114 & 115
118		Layer between 114 & 116
119		Layer west of 116
120		Wall, partition !(E-W) No.67
121		Flint, wall (E-W) to north. No.67
122		Layer between 121 & 120
123		Brick wall (N-S) below pavement
124		Flint/tile wall (N-S) below 123
125	126	Fill
126	125	Post hole
127		Mortar layer
128		Laminated mortar below 111
129		Buried soil below 128
130	135	Stacked tiles
131	135	Rubble/ brick layer
132	135	Brick layer
133	135	Brick layer
134		Rubble layer below 114
135	130,131,132,133 & 136	Group No. for hearth
136	135	Brick layer
137		Levelling layer
138		Chalk floor surface
139		Levelling layer below 138
140		Flint wall (N-S) internal No.67
141		Flint wall below 109 (E-W)
142	143	Fill
143	142	Soak away
144		Flint wall (E-W) internal No.67
145	151,153,154	Group no. for hearth
146		Compact chalk layer
147		Silt clay layer
148		Silt clay layer
149		Silt clay layer
150		Ditch (N-S)
151	145	Ash deposit
152		Silty clay layer
153	145	Brick edging
154	145	Mortar
155		Compacted chalk
156		Flint wall (N-S)
	1	· (- · - /

(Appendix 1: Contd.)

157	Natural clay
158	Tarmac layer
159	Fine silty clay
160	Concrete footing
161	Concrete 'pads'
162	Flint and tile wall (N-S)
163	Omitted
164	Remnant flint wall No.65

Appendix 2: Summary of context descriptions for Trench 2

Context number	Component of/filled with	Description
200	Component of futer with	Concrete floor of showroom
201		Made ground
202		Concrete floor
203		Temp. group no for E-W wall
204		Made ground
205		Demolition layer
206		Demolition layer / tiles
207		Demolition layer / mortar and silty clay
208		Demolition layer / tiles
209		Silt loam layer
210		Silty clay layer
211		Silty clay layer
212		Silt loam layer
213		Sandy silt loam layer
214		Silty clay layer
215		Demolition layer / mortar and C B M
216		Demolition layer / silty clay and flint
217		Crushed chalk layer
218		Demolition layer / clayey silt and C B M
219		Demolition layer / brick
220	280	Flint lining for gully
221	280	Flint lining for gully
222	280	Silt fill gully
223		Clayey silt layer
224	226	Fill of pipe Trench
225	226	Ceramic sewage pipe
226	224,225	Pipe Trench E-W
227	220	Silty clay layer
228 229	229	Fill of pipe Trench
230	228	Pipe Trench N-S Chalk layer
231		Clayey silt layer
232		Gravel and sand layer
233		Clayey silt layer
234		Clayey silt layer
235		Clayey silt layer
236		Clayey silt layer
237		Clayey silt layer
238		Clay layer
239		Wall, tile and mortar E-W
240		Chalk layer
241		Clayey silt layer
242		Wall, flint and mortar E-W
243		Wall, flint and mortar E-W
244		Clayey silt layer
245		Clayey silt layer
246		Wall, flint and mortar E-W
247	248,258	Pit cut
248	247	Fill
249		Wall, flint and mortar
250		Clayey silt layer
251		Chalk layer
252	1	Clayey silt layer
253	259	Fill
254		Clayey silt layer
255		Clayey silt layer
256		Chalk layer

(Appendix 2 Contd.)

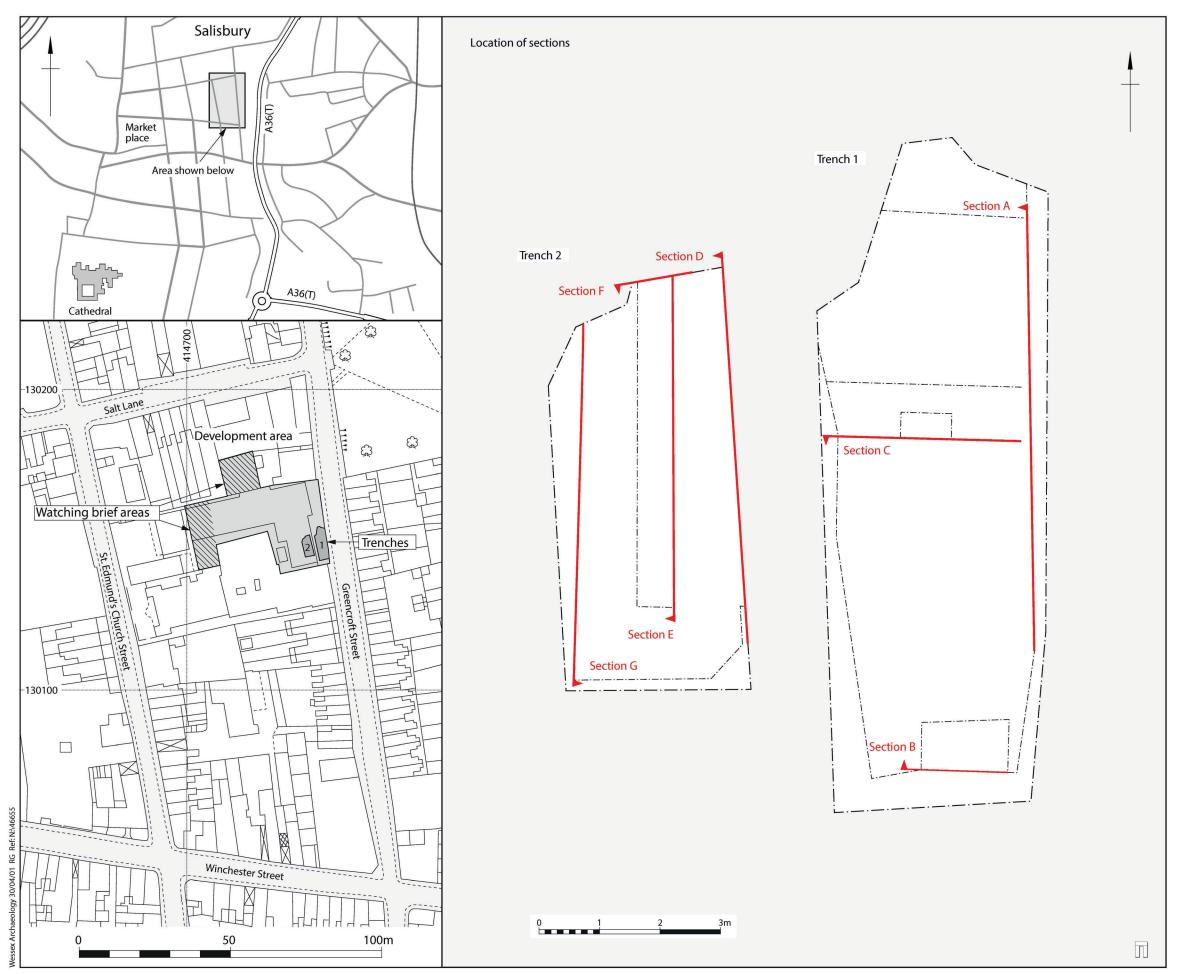
257		Same as 258
258	247	Fill
259	253	Post hole
260		Clayey silt layer
261		Clayey silt layer
262		Chalk layer
263		Wall, flint, clay and mortar N-S
264	Identical to 243, fill of 270	Wall, ,flint, clay, tile and mortar E-W.
265	Identical to 246	Wall, flint, tile, mortar and clay N-S
266		Wall, flint, chalk, mortar and clay N-S
267		Wall, flint, chalk, tile, mortar and clay N-S
268		Surplus
269		Surplus
270	264	Cut
271	277	Clayey silt layer
272	277	Clay layer
273	277	Clayey silt layer
274	277	Clayey silt layer
275	277	Clayey silt layer
276	277	Clay layer
277	271,272,273,274,275, 276	Pit cut
278		Clayey silt layer
279		Clayey silt layer
280	220,221,222	Gully E-W- drain
281		Clay layer
282		Clayey silt layer
283		Natural
284		Wall, green sandstone and flint N-S. (No.65)
285		Rubble layer

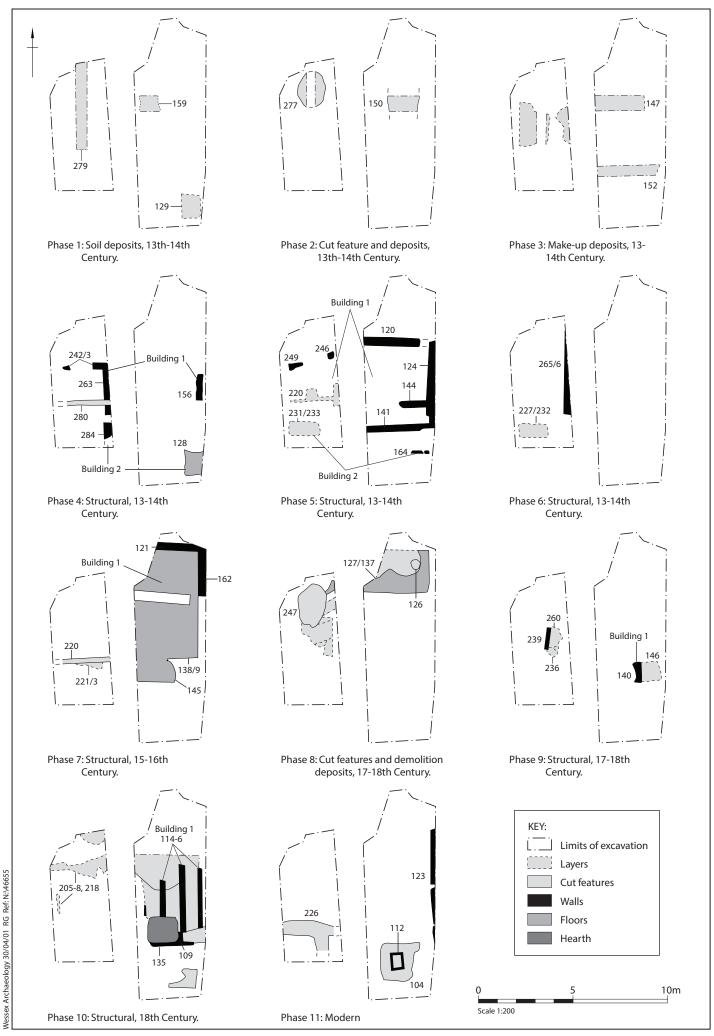
Appendix 4: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

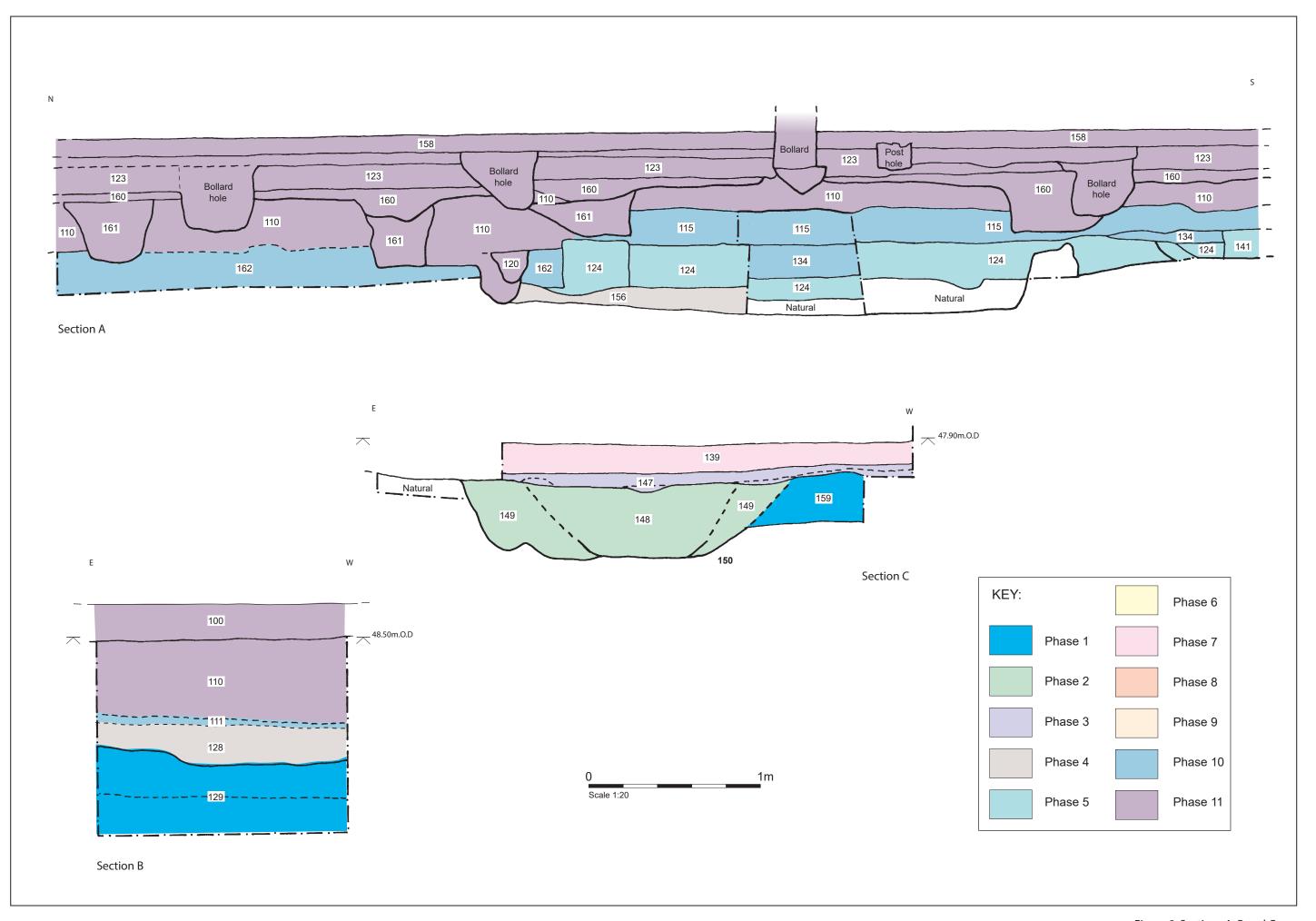
							Flot				Residue
Feature type/no	Context	Sample	II .	Flot size ml	Grain	Chaff	Weed uncharred	seeds charred	Charcoal >5.6mm	Other	Charcoal analysis >5.6mm
		1	1	и	13 th /ear	ly 14 th c	enturv			Į.	CVOILLI
Pottery ves	sel fill				,	.,					
SF 6	233	1	2	5	A	-	a	С	С	mollusc (A) smb/f (A)	-
SF 6	233	1*		100g mo	rtar sam	ple		•			
Ditch	•										
150	148	2	8	35	A*	С	a	С	В	smb/f (A) p/beans (C)	1
					17 th /ear	ly 18 th (century				
Hearth/ Fi	replace										
145	151	3	1	24 ⁻	В	-	a	С	A	smb/f (A)	-

KEY: A^{**} = exceptional, A^* = 30+ items, A = \geq 10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, (h) = hazelnuts, smb/f = small mammal/fish bones

NOTE: ¹flot is total, but flot in superscript = ml of rooty material. ²Unburned seed in lower case to distinguish from charred remains







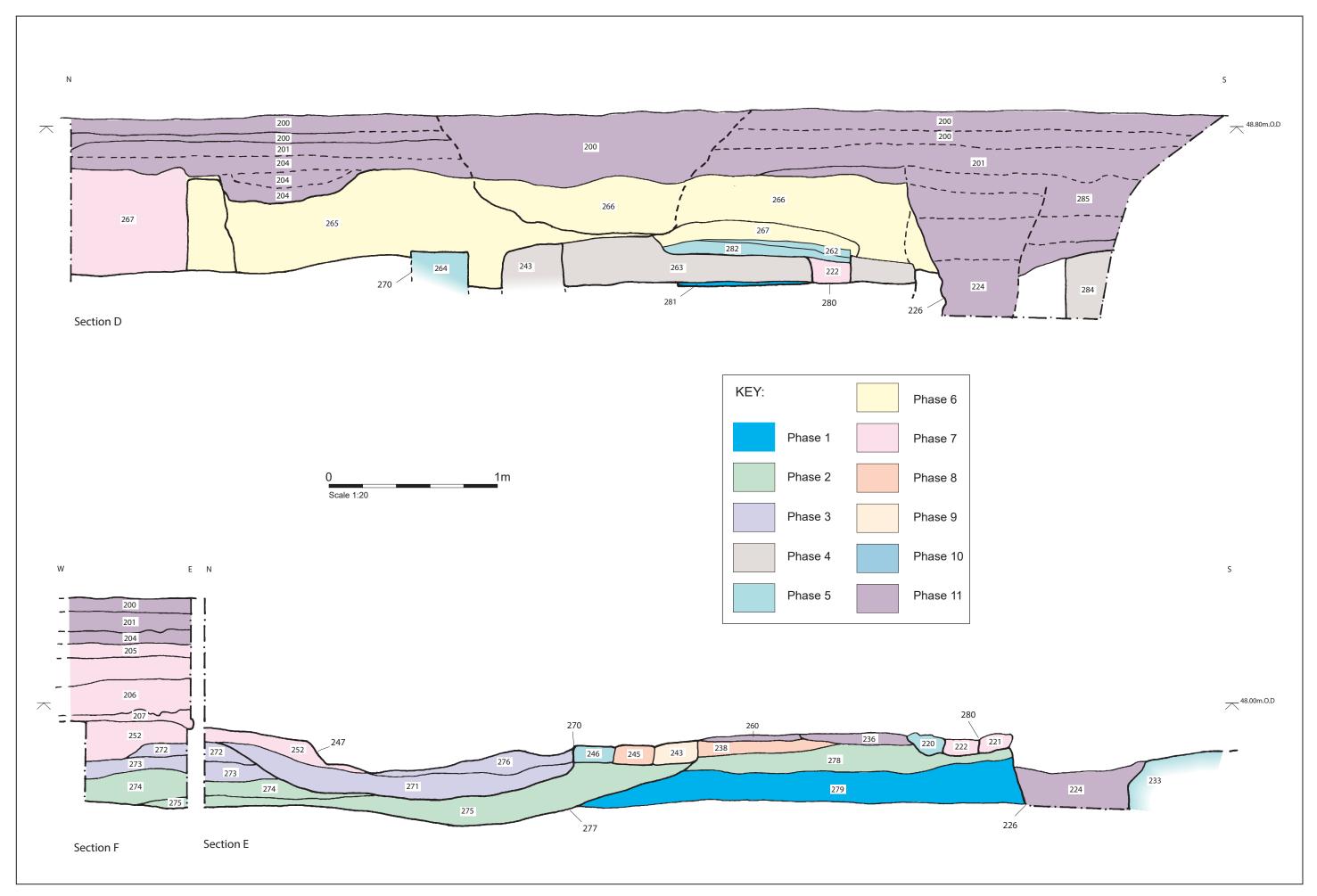
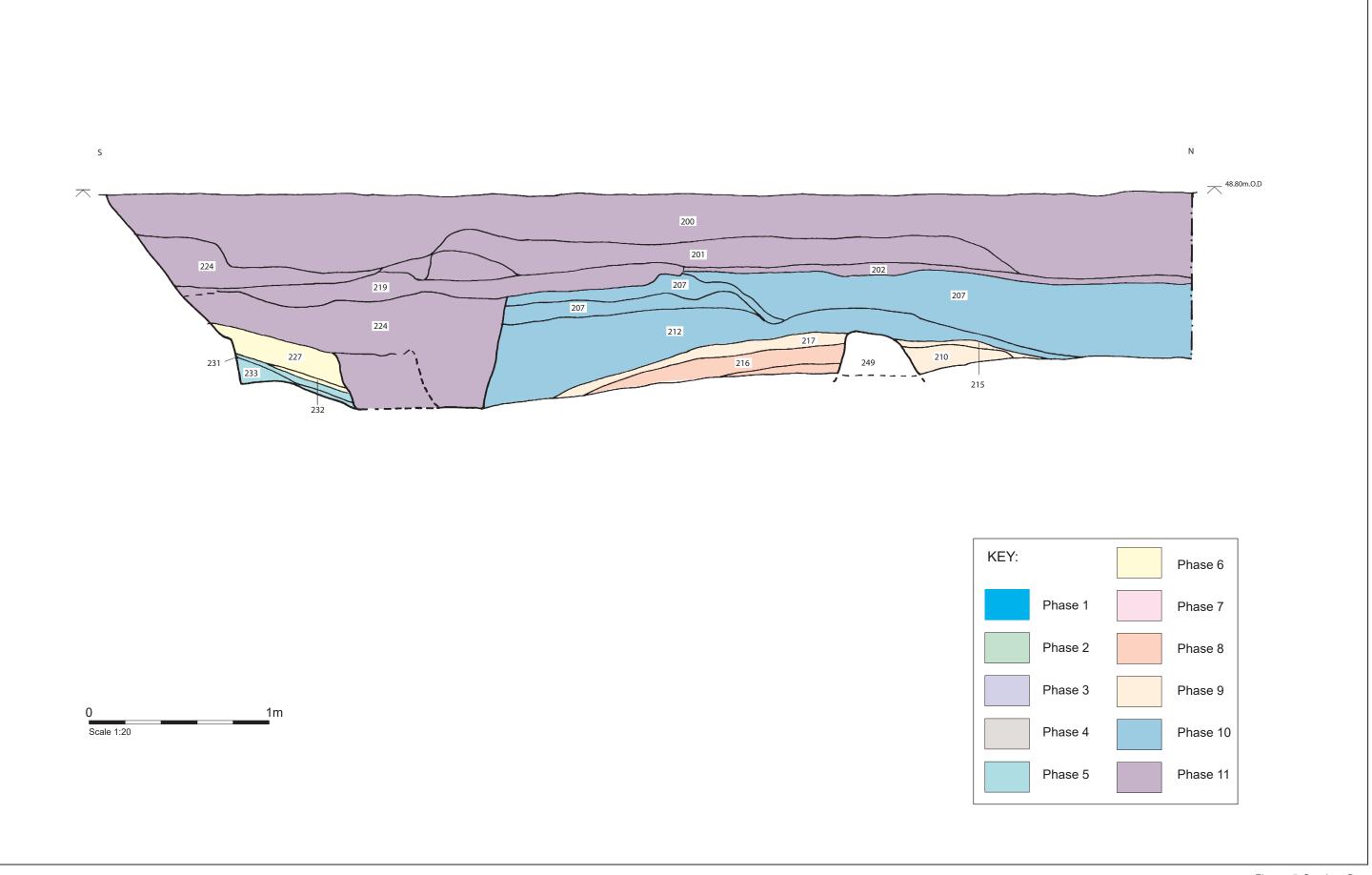


Figure 4: Sections D, E and F







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