ENFIELD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVE REPORT

EXCAVATIONS AT ELSYNG PALACE, FORTY HALL, ENFIELD, JULY 2025

(SITE CODE FXX25)

(SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT LO 59)

(EXCAVATION CENTRED TQ 338 988)

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ABSTRACT

- Excavation identified a probable cellared (?stair) tower, defied by very substantial walls, at the south end of the inner gatehouse of the palace and further cellared spaces running west from it. They suggest that extension of the original earlier fifteenth century gatehouse by Sir Thomas Lovell at the end of the century involved the addition of large four storey wings to its ends, part of a matching wing also being excavated at the north end of the gatehouse. There was possible evidence of subsequent modifications in the form of an inserted brick floor and all features were covered by often very deep rubble deposits, partly deriving from the cleaning of mortar from salvageable bricks and including large quantities of floor tile, cut brick and some worked stone fragments.

INTRODUCTION

- On-going research into the site of Elsyng Palace by the Enfield Archaeological Society (EAS) since 2004 (Dearne 2004; 2005a; 2005b; 2006a; 2006b; 2007; 2008; 2009; 2011a; 2011b; 2012a; 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017c; 2018; 2019; 2021; 2022; 2023; 2024) has significantly advanced our understanding of some aspects of the plan and developmental sequence of the palace. With the completion of the excavation of the south west range of the palace in 2019 the next priority appeared to be the location and characterisation of the moat fronted inner gatehouse which would have separated the inner and outer courts of the complex.
- The fronting moat was located in excavations in 2021 and 2022 (and further defined in 2023 and 2024 when it was shown to continue to the north around the west side of the inner court). This focused attention on a fairly prominent, tree encroached raised platform which it fronted and which excavations in 2023 confirmed held substantial built structures. Excavations in 2024 further explored these structures, confirming that they represented the inner gatehouse of the palace and defining at least two or three phases of its development, the latest incorporating a turret flanked entrance.
- However, how an apparently free standing wall featuring octagonal column bases, excavated in 2023 and adjoining one of the turrets, related to the rest of the façade of the gatehouse remained unclear while the 2023 and 2024 excavations left significant questions about the overall plan of the gatehouse. Moreover, the apparent proximity of the substantial structures identified by excavations in the 1960s (as located by the only surviving location plan) to the gatehouse raised significant doubts about the accuracy of that 1960s location plan.
- Thus, in order to test the hypothesis that the free standing wall was in fact the front of a loggia, to further elucidate the plan of the south end of the gatehouse and to test whether the previously mapped location of the 1960s work was reliable, in July 2025 the EAS cut five further trenches in this area, including two representing smaller parts of a projected larger trench which resources did not allow the full excavation of (see Fig. 1).
- Scheduled Monument Consent for the work was given by the Dept. of Culture, Media and Sport (Ref.: S00245500) following the submission by the author, acting as agent for the London Borough of Enfield (LBE; the owners), of an application, supported by a project design, for such consent.
- The work was undertaken in the period 6th – 20th July 2025 and included a public open day on 14th July. It was allocated site code FXX25 by the Museum of London and was carried out in accordance with the project design produced by, and under the direction of, the author. The work was project managed by Martin J. Dearne with the assistance of Neil Pinchbeck and John Pinchbeck of the EAS and the site archive and retained finds generated by the work will be deposited in the LBE Museums Service/EAS archive (see Appendix 1).

OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

The objectives of the excavation were:

- to establish the function of the apparently free standing wall seen previously in FXV23 Trench 4;
- to further trace the plan of the south end of the inner gatehouse including to elucidate its date(s), extent(s) and constructional history;
- and to test the accuracy of the mapping of the position of the 1960s excavations.

The methodology of the work was (Figs 1 and 6):

- Trench 1, 4.50 x 4.50 m, was cut immediately west of excavations in 2023 which found the free standing wall and aimed to establish whether that wall fronted a structure such as a loggia and if not whether any other element of the gatehouse lay to the west of it.

- Trench 2, 3.50 x 1.50 m, its position constrained by large trees, was cut immediately south of FXW24 Trench 2 to establish whether walls, very small exposures of which were seen in the latter trench to lead off from a very substantial wall, were present in this area and would help define the overall plan of the gatehouse.
- Trench 3, 5.00 x 1.50 m was intended to be cut to cross the 1960s trenches at what would be their nearest approach to the excavations of 2023 – 4 and where they had found a distinctive wall (Dearne 2022b, Fig. 1 [133]), the relocation of which would confirm the accuracy of the 1960s location plan. This trench was, however, moved 1.00 m to the south of its intended position, where it would still almost certainly have relocated the distinctive wall, as it would otherwise have blocked a heavily used park path.
- Resources were not available for the full excavation of the projected Trench 4 and rather two smaller trenches were excavated to partially achieve its objective of tracing the plan of any elements of the gatehouse that lay to the west of FXW24 Trench 2 and FXX25 Trench 2. They comprised Trench 4, 3.00 x 1.50 m, north of FXX25 Trench 1 and FXW24 Trench 2 which sought to achieve the unfulfilled objectives of Trench 2 above; and Trench 5, 1.00 m west of FXX25 Trench 2, 3.00 x 1.50 m (with a 0.50 x 1.50 m extension at the north end of the west side) and which sought to further trace structural features identified in Trenches 1 and 2.
- With the agreement of Historic England the baulk between Trenches 1 and 2 was also removed in the later stages of the excavation to fully record and study the construction of structural features found in those trenches.
- All excavation was by hand and none removed any *in situ* structures. Excavation was to the maximum permitted depth of 1.00 m (excepting where areas had to be less deeply excavated to provide trench access points), or only sufficiently to characterise the material forming the raised platform the gatehouse stood on.
- The excavations were single context recorded using EAS context sheets and other pro formas, digital photographs, plans and sections drawn at an appropriate scale and spot heights, all recording being with respect to existing fixed OS grid point markers.
- All non twentieth/twenty first century finds except cbm were collected from all contexts and spoil was metal detected (under a Section 42 licence (Ref.: SL00234825)).
- The trenches were seeded with modern coins and structural remains protected with mounded sieved topsoil before backfilling.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- The historical evidence for Elsyng Palace was outlined in several published and unpublished sources (e.g. Jones and Drayton 1984, 8ff; Phillpotts 2002, 11ff; Dearne 2004, 3), but has now been the subject of a major new research initiative by the author and others which has established that many details in these, and other, accounts are highly challengeable. Therefore a definitive new account of the history of the site has recently been published (Dearne *et al* 2022).
- Relevant to the current work is that the estate is believed to have Medieval origins, that the first substantial brick house on the site is now believed to have probably been built by John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester or his father Lord John Tiptoft in the early to mid fifteenth century and that under Sir Thomas Lovell this was adapted and substantially extended from c. 1486, by the early sixteenth century becoming his 'courtier's palace' with an outer and inner courts. Multiple visits to Lovell at Elsyng by Henry VII and VIII are known and on Lovell's death in 1524 it passed to his heir the Earl of Rutland who used it as a home and continued to entertain the king.
- It was acquired from him by Henry VIII in 1539 as a royal palace, primarily used as a residence for the royal children, and repaired but not rebuilt. Subsequently it may have been little used under Edward VI (except by Princess Elizabeth) and Mary, but was periodically used by Queen Elizabeth as a stop on royal progresses for the first decade of her reign. Despite several recorded phases of repair under these successive monarchs the palace may have been out of favour by the end of the sixteenth century and may partially have been used to accommodate royal favourites. Though there are recorded visits by James I early in his reign, in 1608 a warrant to demolish it and use the materials at Theobalds Palace was issued but not fully carried out. Repairs/remodelling followed in 1609 – 10 and repairs also continued under Philip Herbert (Earl of Montgomery, later Earl of Pembroke), whose family probably lived in the palace from ?c. 1612 to c. 1630, who was keeper of the palace and who subsequently purchased it from Charles I in 1641, but is unlikely to have lived there after 1630.

- The palace was still standing in 1656. Already though, by 1629, the Manor of Worcesters, formerly including parts of the palace estate but not the palace and its immediate environs, had passed to Sir Nicholas Rainton who built the standing Forty Hall at the top of the hill above the palace (Gillam 1997, 54) and by 1656 the palace estate had been acquired by a second Nicholas Rainton, who had inherited Worcesters and Forty Hall, and the palace is presumed to have been demolished shortly afterwards. The only contemporary reference to its site at the presumed time of demolition (in 1656) describes the palace as 'One very ancient Greate House called Endfield House with ye Couryards Gardens Orchards and Courtyarde with ye field adjoining called ye Walks' (London Metropolitan Archives ACC/0016/008) and little more is known from documentary sources about the palace site until the existing double avenue of Lime trees which cross the site were planted sometime before Rocque's map of Middlesex was produced in 1754.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- The only archaeological excavation on the site prior to 2004 was in 1963 - 7 by the EAS. Elements of the work were summarised in Jones and Drayton (1984) and its main focus was an area of c. 25 x 10 m of the inner court where very substantial remains of the palace structure were encountered, often just below turf level; and the recording of a gas main trench across the northern edge of the palace complex. Trenches were also cut further east and what is known of them was summarised by the author in 2004 (Dearne 2004, 3f). However, a re-evaluation of the archive for all this work has recently been published (Dearne 2022b; Dearne and Drury 2022).
- As noted above the accuracy of the only surviving location plan for the main elements of this work is currently being reassessed.
- A conservation management plan for the Forty Hall estate was prepared by Broadway Malyan Cultural Heritage in 1999 and a desk top study of the site of Elsyng Palace (Phillpotts 2002) was produced by Compass Archaeology Ltd in 2002 and drew on some of the geophysical and topographical surveys of all or parts of the site which have taken place.
- A resistivity survey in 1968 near the main 1960s excavations is known only from a slide of its results, but magnetometry and resistivity surveys were carried out in 1997 and 1998 and ground penetrating radar and topographical survey in 2000 (Horsley 1997; Bartlett 1989; and see Phillpotts 2002, passim and especially Fig. 28). However, many problems were subsequently identified with the magnetometry and resistivity surveys, including their inexact plotting against the OS grid and especially the fact that re-landscaping with gravel on palace demolition, the outcropping of natural gravel through the predominant brickearth natural and the widespread dumping of brick demolition rubble on palace demolition makes all but a few of their results of little or no value in assessing the plan of the palace.
- Subsequent to the desk top survey smaller magnetometry and resistivity surveys were undertaken for the EAS in 2003, 2004 and 2005 (Dearne 2005a; Black and Black 2004).
- Very extensive excavations and LiDAR/aerial photographic work by the EAS from 2004 to 2019 has been fully published (Pinchbeck 2013; Dearne *et al* 2022), established much of the plan of the outer court of the palace, revealed the entirety of the south west range of the palace (where not truncated on demolition) and identified many other features both within and peripheral to the palace complex including a brick clamp and large parterre garden. It also recovered evidence for site activity predating the establishment of the palace beginning as early as the nineth or tenth century.
- As outlined above excavation since 2019 has established the existence of a large moat between the inner and outer courts of the palace and of an artificial raised platform to its west on which the inner gatehouse of the palace was constructed (Dearne 2021; 2022; 2023; 2024).
- Very extensive archaeological excavations and monitoring on the nearby site of Forty Hall were also undertaken by the EAS (and others) in 2009 – 11 (for details see Dearne 2012b) and further extensive excavations and watching briefs at Forty Hall and on the wider estate surrounding it were undertaken in 2013 – 18 (Dearne and Pinchbeck 2015; 2018; Dearne 2017a; 2017b). The latter included examination of areas peripheral to a brick clamp excavated in 2005 and examination of a midden area relating to the palace near to Maidens Brook (where relevant to the palace this work was published in Dearne *et al* 2022 and a full publication of other aspects of it has now appeared (Dearne 2025)).

THE STRATIGRAPHIC SEQUENCE

Brick Morphology

- Bricks were hand made, relatively hard fired to shades of orange or red and unfrogged and many were marginally creased. Space/depth constraints, demolition damage and obscuring mortar limited the data that could be collected on bricks built into surviving structures. However, both [9] and [17] used bricks which were, where available for measurement, 0.22 – 0.24 x 0.11 – 0.12 x 0.055 m in size and [13] comprised bricks of the same thickness. [14] used bricks that seemed to be slightly less variable in size at 0.23 x 0.12 x 0.05 m, while the limited number available for measurement in [19] were 0.24 x 0.11 – 0.12 x 0.055 m and wall [20] used similar bricks with a slightly wider length range (0.23 – 0.25 m).
- Amongst rubble deposits [5B] produced four complete or nearly complete bricks. Their lengths were 0.23 – 0.24 m and widths generally 0.115 – 0.12 m with two showing thicknesses of 0.055 – 0.06 m, but two were irregular (?thus had not been salvaged for reuse), one tapering in thickness from 0.07 to 0.05 m along its length, the other 'bent', 0.055 m thick but only 0.1025 m wide.[1]
- Cut bricks are considered in Appendix 3.

Context Numbers

- Note that in Trench 1 a large rubble deposit, [5], was subdivided to reflect differing matrix composition and in site records these are referred to as [5] i) and [5] ii), but herein they have been designated [5A] and [5B].

Site Phasing

- Although a scheme of phasing has been established for the site and been tentatively tied to an absolute chronology (see Dearne 2019; Dearne *et al* 2022, 138; Table 1 below) in terms of archaeology this largely relies on an also tentative differentiation of structures using softer yellow sandy mortars (believed to be of Phase 1b) from those using hard white mortars (believed to be of Phases 2 – 4). Though the following description is structured to reflect this site phasing, it should not therefore be taken as solidly established and in particular it should be stressed that differentiation between Phases 2, 3 and 4 is often impossible.
- Moreover, in the 2024 work (Dearne 2024, 6) it became clear that the 'hard white mortars' in fact comprised two recognisable variants, one still a lot whiter and harder than the 'soft yellow sandy mortar' which appears to be characteristic of the first structures on the site, but not as hard or white as those mortars that seem to more clearly belong to Phases 2 – 4. This variant may be described as moderately hard buff or off white coloured mortar and there is reason to believe that it represents at least one phase of structural modifications later in Phase 1b or perhaps early in Phase 2 since in one instance at least a wall rebuilt with it was truncated when structures which used the hardest and whitest mortar, and clearly represented a major new construction project, were built and these in turn were argued to belong mainly to Phase 2. Thus a Phase 1b/2 has been introduced into the provisional site phasing tabulated below.

Phase	Date	Nature of Activity
1a	Pre early/mid fifteenth century	Features likely to pre-date the first brick built house
1b	Early/mid fifteenth century	Features belonging to the first brick built house probably constructed by Lord John Tiptoft and or the Earl of Worcester
1b/2	?Mid/late fifteenth century	Modifications to Phase 1b structures
2	c. 1486 and later	Features belonging to the major remodelling by Sir Thomas Lovell (and possibly the Earl of Rutland)
3	Sixteenth – early seventeenth century	Modifications to the remodelled house under ?Lovell/Rutland and post 1539 under royal ownership
4	?Early/mid seventeenth century	Deposits and features probably belonging to some ?post Elizabethan decline in the maintenance of the house
5a	c. 1660	Demolition deposits
5b	c. 1660 or a little later	Re-landscaping deposits

Table 1: Tentative Site Phasing (from Dearne *et al* 2022, 138 with modification)

[1] Given that a detailed evaluation of the dimensions of part bricks from rubble was undertaken in 2024 (Dearne 2024, 5) no similar exercise was undertaken.

The South End of the Gatehouse (Trenches 1 - 2 and 4 – 5; Figs 1 - 4 and 6)

Site Phase 2 (c. 1486 and later)

- No deposits or structures that seemed likely to belong to Phases 1a or 1b were encountered in this area and almost all deposits and structures appeared to belong to Phase 2 or later. It is possible that one feature ([22]) belonged to Phase 1b/2, but this was unclear and so it is discussed with Phase 2 features.
- However, there was limited evidence to determine whether the constructional sequence belonging to Phase 2 began with platform creation/extension or whether, as seems more likely, the material forming the platform on which the south end of the gatehouse lay was dumped around the already built foundations of the structures described below.
- That material comprised [16], a compacted dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/4) very clayey silt (redeposited brickearth), sometimes gleyed to light grey (10 YR 7/2) with moderately frequent rounded stones (mainly c. 0.01 m and to 0.03 m). Its cbm content varied, in Trench 2 (where tree roots prevented more than limited excavation) it contained only occasional brick fragments to 0.05 m, but in Trench 4 it included a 0.60 m wide, over 2.00 m long linear dump of multi angularly laying large (to half complete) brick fragments and some large lumps of hard white mortar. This appeared to have been dumped against a pre-existing embankment of [16] to its east, suggesting the occasional addition of pockets of demolition or construction debris to the main dump.
- A similar rubble deposit (FXV 23 [12]; Dearne 2023, 8) was encountered in FXV23 Trench 2, around 15.00 m to the south east where it had an interface with FXV23 [8]/[45] which is probably itself to be equated to FXX25 [16]. Also probably to be equated to [16] were deposits FXW24 [39] and perhaps [32] (Dearne 2024, 7f) which surrounded nearby and previously excavated elements of the Phase 2 south end of the gatehouse and together these deposits appear to have represented the dumps creating the south end of the platform on which the gatehouse stood.
- That they differed from deposits appearing to form more northerly elements of the gatehouse platform (FXW24 [37] and [48]; Dearne 2024, 8), which also produced a group of thirteenth to fourteenth century pottery (hardly at all represented in the small corpus of finds from the dumps at the south end of the platform), suggests that the platform had been extended to the south. Moreover the inclusion in FXV23 [12] and FXX25 [16] of lumps of hard white mortar suggests that this occurred in (or conceivably after) Phase 2. However, currently evidence is insufficient to closely define any boundary between the Phase 1b platform and this suggested southern extension of it and the only dating evidence from [16] in the current work (single body sherds of PMRE (1480 – 1600 +) and FREC (imported c. 1550 – 1700)) came from the highly tree root disturbed Trench 4 where [16] was also poorly sealed, so cannot be relied upon.
- Given that some of the structures to be described below clearly had subterranean elements and that previously excavated elements of the Phase 2 south end of the gatehouse were very deeply founded with some at least of the foundations then covered by brickearth deposits (Dearne 2024, 13ff) the most efficient sequence of construction would have been to dump the material forming the platform here only after construction had reached ground level. Indeed, the presence of hard white mortar lumps in deposits such as [16] might most readily be explained by they at least partly being debris from construction of those structures not just demolition material (i.e. from truncation of Phase 1b structures). Moreover it would be extremely difficult to build a wall such as [9] (described below) within a construction trench, no evidence for the presence of which was anyway recorded.
- It therefore seems probable that, strictly speaking, the earliest features/deposits encountered in the area were the walls forming at least three cellared/subterranean spaces. The most fully examined was the most easterly, defined by walls [9], [13], [14]/[18] and [17] in Trenches 1 and 2 (Pl. 1) and which seems very likely from its size, placing at the end of a gatehouse and the evidence for a substantial wooden construction having been anchored into one of its walls to have represented a (?stair) tower. If it was a stair tower it served to access not just above ground floors but also cellars as its walls' carefully rendered internal faces, and those of walls forming probably two further rooms or other spaces to its north west, were excavated to as much as 0.95 m below the probable ground floor level of the building.
- This probable tower was a slightly asymmetrical rectangle in plan, 4.92 to 5.22 m south east to north west and probably 2.94 to 3.16 m south west to north east internally. It had extremely solidly built/reinforced walls on the south east and north west, but slighter, if still substantial, walls to the south west and presumably (though only the inner face was seen here) north east (as a previous excavation (FXW24 Trench 2) would otherwise have encountered it rather than FXW24 [35], a much smaller wall running in a different orientation; see Fig. 6). Their construction varied and it is not impossible that

some elements of them could have been later reinforcements or modifications, but it is most likely that they had all been built in one construction campaign, if in stages.

- The wall most fully available for study was [9], the north west wall, which comprised five elements and a maximum length of 1.80 m of which was available for study (Pl. 2). Where it abutted and ran north east from an adjoining wall ([17]; see below) its north west side comprised a mortared rubble raft as a foundation for a brick wall, which wall was fronted on the south east by a band of mortared rubble separating it from a narrower rendered brick facing. Where it ran south west from [17] (and so to the south west of the tower) though it had a different construction, comprising a single wide brick wall on probably the same foundation raft.
- The raft (Pl. 3), the upper 0.35 m of which was excavated, was composed of 0.065 – 0.17 m chalk lumps, brick fragments (to 0.07 m) and at least one 0.18 x 0.24 x 0.15 m block of reused dressed grey crystalline Jurassic limestone, bonded with hard white mortar, lumps of which also formed part of its face. It had been reasonably tidily faced and projected 0.14 m further north west than the north west face of the brick wall built upon it. Its top was probably just below the level intended to be the ground floor surface of the space to its north west as [10], a 0.055 m thick brownish yellow (10 YR 6/6) very clayey silt (brickearth), capping it survived along part of its length.
- The English bonded (but in basal courses probably a little irregular) brick wall built onto the top of the raft where it abutted and ran north east from [17] used the same mortar, was 0.34 m wide and survived to two courses (0.13 m) high, while to its south east was an 0.18 m wide band of brick rubble again using the same mortar. This rubble 'core' was faced with a single skin of hard white mortar bonded English bond brickwork, the south east (internal) face of which was carefully rendered and survived to a height of 0.75 m above the limit of excavation.
- Where wall [9] ran south west from [17] it was much more disrupted by demolition and so only limited details of its construction were clear (Pl. 2), but it appeared to comprise a hard white mortar bonded brick wall built above, but possibly over the full width of the raft so that it may have been 0.77 m wide. Its south east face was again carefully rendered, surviving to 0.61 m above the limit of excavation.
- This section of the wall displayed a straight joint with the other elements just described so may well have been added to them, though the rubble foundation raft it also used was presumably in place before any brick structure was built, suggesting that it was later only in the sense that it belonged to a second stage of the same construction project. How far to the south west this section of [9] continued was unclear as it was at the edge of the excavated area, but a possible end to it (if not an illusion created by differential demolition) was located and it is possible that it only ran for 0.60 m and simply formed one side of a doorway between the two rooms adjacent to the tower (see further below).
- Opposite to [9] and forming the south east side of the tower was [14]/[18] (Pl. 4), again constructed in at least two stages (unless one was a later modification) and a length of 2.40 m of which was available for study. Its main element was an English bonded wall using hard white mortar, surviving to a maximum of six courses (0.80 m) above the base of excavation. It was 0.47 m wide and appeared to have a fair (north west) face parts of which had been rendered, though it was unclear how far any rendering had been demolition damaged and so how extensive it was. It appeared to have a mortared rubble core flanked by single skins of brickwork and its south east face was 0.02 m lower than its north west which, if not corrected higher up, would have given it a 3° lean to the south east.
- Flanking it on the south east and not fully available for study (Pl. 5) was an over 0.40 m wide band of up to 0.18 m pieces of irregularly shaped stone and at least one (0.18 m long) flint nodule set in hard white mortar (separately contexted [18]) which presumably formed part of this wall, be it original or a later reinforcement.
- At the south west end of the main brick wall a vertical straight joint showed that a 0.65 m long terminal to the wall had been added, be it as a modification or just in a separate stage of the construction process. Though the end face of the wall was largely beyond the excavated area, sufficient of it was accessible to establish that it had a rendered, chamfered corner using cut bricks (Pl. 6) and its north west face was also partly rendered (and may have been fully rendered but demolition damaged), if with a less careful finish than seen on walls such as [9], [13] and [14].
- This section of the wall was excavated sufficiently, showing that it survived to around 11 courses (0.72 m) above the limit of excavation here, to investigate a feature in its north west face which was found to be a rectangular void 0.21 m high, 0.27 m wide and 0.27 m deep (Pl. 7). The roof of the integrally built, rather than later cut out, void had been formed by thickly mortaring sections of peg tile into place and the void was almost certainly the setting for a very substantial timber beam.

- The third side of the tower was formed by wall [13], only the carefully rendered north west face and a little of the demolished core of which was seen (Pl. 8). It was at least 0.40 m thick and survived to 0.60 m above the limit of excavation, the render showing a scratched graffito consisting of three sides of a rectangle.
- Finally, the north west side was represented by [17], a wall that met [9], but had been heavily demolished so that only a 0.82 m length of it was preserved at the level at which excavation ceased (Pls 2 and 9). It was a 0.39 m thick two skin English bonded wall using hard white mortar and survived above the limit of excavation to 0.54 m. It was again carefully rendered, this time on both faces, and in alignment it ran towards the terminal end of wall [14]. Though deeper excavation would have been required to provide evidence, the fact that [14] ended without any sign that [17] met it may well suggest that [17] ran only as far as an (?external) doorway which lay at its south east end.
- If so this doorway would probably also have given on to another cellared room to the north west. Separated from the tower by wall [17], the rendering of its north west face indicating that it was an entirely internal wall, excavation was too limited to establish the dimensions of this second room. Indeed, it could have been subject to modifications in Phases 2 – 4, but both the limited exposure obtained and the extent of demolition damage at the level where excavation ceased meant that it was not possible to fully understand the building sequence here.
- However, Trench 5 (Pl. 10) provided a 1.00 m long exposure of [20], the ??original wall along the room's north western side. This survived to nine courses (0.47 m) above the limit of excavation,[2] was 0.50 m wide and English bonded using hard white mortar. Its south east face was again carefully rendered indicating that it was an interior wall to a cellared space. Wall [20] agreed in alignment with wall [9], but they differed constructionally and it seems unlikely that they were contiguous with each other; unfortunately though Phase 5a demolition work had left the north east end of wall [20] very battered above the level where excavation ceased while, as noted, how far south west [9] ran was unclear. It is therefore attractive to speculate that they flanked a doorway, especially as there was no sign of any structure in Trench 5 between them, but its absence might have resulted from demolition to below the level of permitted excavation.
- If it was the case that walls [20] and [9] flanked a doorway it would provide a possible interpretation of another section of what appeared to be walling in Trench 5. This, [22], had probably, but not certainly, been truncated and overlain by a new structure perhaps at some point in Phases 2 - 4 (see below) and probably further damaged by Phase 5a demolition. Though its width could not be ascertained, one short section of its original fair but unrendered face survived to seven courses above the limit of excavation and indicated that it ran south east to north west. It could therefore have run on to meet wall [20] beyond the point where it was preserved, ?again to form one side of a doorway.
- However, [22], the small available exposure of which was far too damaged to assess in detail, was bonded with a different mortar to [20],[3] the angle at which they would have met appeared to be rather acute and, unlike [20], [22] did not have a rendered face. The area to the east of [22] in Trench 5 appears to have been sunken by over 0.52 m with respect to the ground floor level of the building (as represented by the level of [10] 2.50 m to the north east in Trench 2) so that, like [20], [22], if it was a wall, appeared to be one delimiting a cellared space and speculatively such a space might have been a corridor leading to the room of which [20] was the north west wall.
- Alternatively though, especially given the mortar difference, there must be a possibility that [22] was of Phase 1b/2 not Phase 2 even if it didn't share the alignment of any of the known more clearly Phase 1b or Phase 1b/2 walls of the complex; while a third possibility is that [22] was a better built edge to what otherwise seemed to be a later feature, [21].

?Site Phases 2 to 4 (post 1486 to c. 1660)

- Thus, demolition damage meant that differentiation of [22] from this, which appeared most likely to be a new overlaying brick feature that respected and abutted the north side of [20], was very difficult. However, the most likely interpretation seemed to be that at some point [22] had been partly truncated and overlain by [21] and that it was a fairly roughly lain brick floor. It was over 1.00 m east west and over 1.50 m north south and seemed to consist of two layers/courses of part (half to three quarters complete, though also smaller fragments of) and occasional whole bricks with one or two lumps of hard

[2] Here excavation ceased slightly higher than elsewhere.

[3] [22] used a mortar which was slightly yellower than that in [20] and which, unlike it, contained moderately frequent rounded and angular brown quartz to 0.7 mm.

white mortar inserted in gaps between them. Whilst there had been some attempt to lay the part bricks regularly in the same orientation as wall [20], especially on the east, further west lines of part bricks ran at an angle to these and near to [20] consisted of only randomly placed fragments. Whether the brick fragments had been mortared together and whether there was mortar between the two courses was unclear, but the upper surface of [21] sloped up a little on the west.

- It is possible that this feature was alternatively some form of foundation for e.g. a pier, and if so [22] might have been an integral part of it, but the absence of traces of a third course of bricks having overlain those preserved argues against this, [22] was clearly far better built than [21] and excavations in 2024 found a similar roughly lain two layer unmortared part brick floor (FXW24 [63]; Dearne 2024, 17) had been inserted, probably fairly late in the lifetime of the building, elsewhere in the complex.
- Ultimately though, without dismantling these features or carrying excavation to a greater depth, the size of the exposure and degree of demolition damage means that the phase and function of [21] and [22] could not certainly be ascertained, and even that they were separate features must be only a provisional conclusion.

Site Phases 5a/b (c. 1660 Demolition and Relandscaping)

- All structural features at this end of the gatehouse had been demolished to at most a little above ground level in Phase 5a and parts of wall [17] in particular had been demolished to well below that level. However, in a similar way to another subterranean space further north in the complex excavated in 2023 (see FXV23 [39]; Dearne 2023, 12ff), the tower and the other cellared spaces to its west had demonstrably been used as a dumping area during the process of cleaning mortar from reuseable/resalable bricks and floor tiles and disposing of large quantities of brick, peg tile and floor tile fragments. Thus, the lower levels of many of these areas were occupied by dumps ([5B]) which primarily comprised large quantities of loose crushed, perhaps mixed white and yellower, mortar with an admixture of brick dust forming a reddish yellow (7.5 YR 6/8) matrix to dense deposits of quarter to three quarter complete bricks (some retaining ?whitewashed render), moderately frequent pieces of peg tile (to 0.10 m) and large numbers of fragmentary floor tiles, with smaller quantities of worked stone and cut brick (for these and floor tiles see Appendix 3).
- In Trench 1 this material was clearly mounded up towards the north and east, from which directions it had been tipped, and had become much more heavily compacted in its upper levels, probably from continually being walked across. Indeed, one linear area crossing the western margin of the tower from north north west to south south east, c. 0.10 m below the top of the deposit and overlaying demolished wall [17], was so compacted as to suggest that it had been repeatedly used as a pathway or barrow run for some time during the demolition process.
- The depth of these deposits could not be established in Trenches 1 and 5 as they continued below the level at which permitted excavation ceased, but in Trench 1 [5B] was as much as 0.60 m thick above this level (Pl. 1) and in Trench 5 it extended up to the top of wall [20].
- Probably marking the point at which the cleaning of resaleable materials had ceased, subsequently dumped demolition material rich deposits (restricted to Trench 1) differed from [5B] in the nature of their matrices. In the south east of the tower a slightly mounded linear dump, [6], of yellow mortar and smaller cbm fragments (suggesting the demolition debris from a Phase 1b structure) lay immediately above [5B], while in the south west of the trench, where the upper boundary of [5B] was substantially lower than elsewhere, the dumped material changed above it to [12]. This loose deposit had a brown/dark brown (10 YR 4/3) very clayey silt (brickearth) matrix and frequent rounded pebbles (0.01 – 0.05 m), small fragments of hard white mortar and extremely dense brick rubble (to 0.10 m) which decreased markedly in frequency in its upper horizons where it also became mixed with [5A] and [3] (for both of which see below). It was up to 0.80 m thick and probably related to a later, site clearance, stage in the demolition.
- The same may be true of [5A], a moderately compacted to compacted deposit of brick fragments (0.03 – 0.18 m), occasional peg tile fragments (to 0.10 m) and lumps (0.03 – 0.13 m) of hard white mortar in a brown (7.5 YR 4/4) very clayey silt (brickearth) matrix which lay to a variable, but typically 0.14 m, thickness above [5B] in many parts especially of the east of Trench 1, even if often mixed with [3] and not aways well differentiated from [5B]. It also lay above [16] in Trenches 2 and 4, in the former up to 0.20 m thick, but in Trench 4 (which may have lain outside the footprint of the building; see further below) at most 0.08 m thick; and clearly dumping activity had been primarily focused on cellared areas with uncellared areas receiving far less demolition material. In Trench 1 [5A] had numbers of variations including in the quantities of white (and in some areas yellow sandy) mortar lumps included in it and

gave the impression of individual barrow loads of material from a range of different sources being dumped side by side.[4]

- In Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 5 (though it was very patchy in Trench 4 and some south western parts of Trench 1 and absent above [6]) this demolition material had been overlain by a gravel relandscaping deposit, [3], also found in this stratigraphic position in most other excavated areas of the gatehouse site. It was a moderately compacted deposit of rounded 0.01 – 0.03 m and occasional larger (to 0.06 m) stones with rare cobbles to c. 0.10 m and rare brick fragments to 0.05 m in a brown/dark brown (7.5 YR 4/2) very clayey silt matrix. In Trenches 2, 4 (where present) and 5 it was often c. 0.20 m and sometimes up to 0.25 m thick, but in Trench 1 was much more variable, mixed with [5A]/[12] in the west and only really clearly defined in the east of the trench where it thinned to typically c. 0.05 – 0.07 m thick.
- As again found elsewhere on the gatehouse site (e.g. FXV23 [30]; Dearne 2023, 13) it would though appear that relandscaping took place before all demolition rubble had been disposed of because in Trenches 1, 2 and 4 further patches and linear dumps of rubble (contexted [2] in Trenches 2 and 4 and [4] in Trench 1) lay over [3]. They comprised fairly densely packed half to, rarely, complete and some smaller fragments of bricks.

Later Deposits and Features

- The only later deposit comprised topsoil. It, [1], was a loose, very dusky red (2.5 YR 2.5/2) humic loam, in some cases showing the beginning of developing a basal brown (10 YR 5/3) subsoil horizon and was generally 0.10 – 0.14 m thick, but thickened to 0.20 or even 0.28 m thick in some areas of Trenches 2 and 5.
- A single modern cut feature, [7], was present at the north section of Trench 1. It was a small (c. 0.47 m diameter) shallow circular pit, cut into and filled with topsoil, a charred branch and very corroded metalwork including a tin can/cannister lid and a possible biscuit tin or similar.
- The topsoil gave a modern ground surface at the east side of Trench 1 at + 32.065 m OD, the southern part of the site generally sloping down to the west so that the west side of Trench 1 and Trench 5 were at + 31.816 m OD.

<u>The Northern Part of the Gatehouse</u> (Trench 3; Figs 5 - 6)

- Trench 3 was cut to ascertain whether (as was doubted) the recorded position of excavations in the 1960s, as plotted from the only surviving location plan, was correct. If so, although having to be moved 1.00 m south of its intended position due to the presence of a heavily used path, it would have encountered a distinctive north south wall found by those excavations close to the surface. This wall was not encountered, nor was any sign of previous excavational activity present. Indeed, it was clear that this area had not been substantially disturbed since Phase 5a/b demolition and relandscaping of the site.
- However, on encountering significant demolition deposits it was clearly desirable to fully excavate most of the trench, especially as it represented the only opportunity likely to be available for work at the northern edge of the excavationally available area, a major gas main running to its north.

Site Phase 2 (c. 1486 and later)

- No deposits or structures that seemed likely to belong to Phases 1a, 1b or 1b/2 were encountered in this trench and all deposits and structures appeared to belong to Phase 2 or later.
- Much of the trench was occupied by a heavily demolished very large L- (or just conceivably T-) shaped English bonded wall, [19], built with hard white mortar and so which may well have belonged to Phase 2 (Pl. 11). The wall had been demolished down to nearly (and in some areas to) the level of the limit of excavation so was only seen (its structure often obscured by mortar) in plan in some areas, had been demolished to below that level at its east end and at the west end had been demolished quite irregularly.
- The east west arm of the wall, only the unrendered (presumably internal) north face of which was within the trench, was over 1.00 m wide and over 2.50 m long and survived to at most five courses (0.28 m) above the limit of excavation. Little of its north south arm was seen beyond the return, partly due to the need to step the section forward to avoid the collapse of loose demolition material and ensure safe working. However, it was probably c. 1.15 m wide, even if one face at the only point where measurement was possible had been demolished in a way that left the position of that face uncertain. The two arms of the wall did not meet at right angles rather, though demolition damage and the small exposure made accuracy difficult, they met at an angle of something like 77° or a little more.

[4] Very similar dumping was noted in previous work as FXW24 [13]/[16]/[41].

- The size of the wall suggests that it formed part of a substantial structure such as a multi storey tower which, given the depth to which the wall continued, may have been cellared and it seems extremely likely that it represents a Phase 2 addition to the north end of the Phase 1b gatehouse. Thus, even where its south end was demolished to below the limit of excavation it lay only 2.40 m west of the projected continuation of FXW24 [30] (Dearne 2024, 8), the west wall of the early gatehouse, which was traced in 2024 to within about 2.20 m of the current trench (Fig. 6 herein).

Site Phases 5a/b (c. 1660 Demolition and Relandscaping)

- Wall [19] had clearly been heavily demolished in Phase 5a, generating a deep deposit of rubble, [11], which lay above and around the remains of the wall and clearly continued below the level at which excavation ceased. It varied in composition, above the wall being a very compacted mass of blocks of hard white mortar, large brick fragments and large parts of peg tiles (as well as a single ridge tile fragment), while to its north it was much looser with frequent brick rubble (to 0.10 m), but in large part comprised crushed white mortar (so was somewhat similar to [5B] found in Trench 1).
- Though the rubble was up to 0.64 m thick above the demolished wall, to its north the density of the mortar lumps and brick fragments within the crushed mortar decreased in the upper horizons of the deposit and, as [11] ran east, the deposit became more mounded, reaching a thickness above the limit of excavation of almost 1.00 m. Here it also became interspersed with horizons of brown/dark brown (7.5 YR 4/2) very clayey silt (brickearth) with moderately frequent 0.02 – 0.075 m rounded stones and it is possible that this represented later minor disturbance as two sherds of White Salt-glazed Stoneware (SWSG; 1720 – 1780) and one of Refined White Earthenware (REFW; 1800 – 1900) were recovered from this area.
- Phase 5b here was represented by two relandscaping deposits above [11], though they may only have been different horizons of one graduated dump and neither had been deposited at the east end of the trench where [11] was mounded up and lay directly below topsoil. The lower, [15], was an 0.18 – 0.30 m thick compacted yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) very clayey silt with frequent 0.01 – 0.03 m rounded stones and occasional small fragments and flecks of cbm. Above it, [8] was a 0.04 – 0.14 m thick, rather less compacted deposit of typically 0.03 – 0.04 m rounded stones in a brown/dark brown (7.5 YR 4/4) gritty, very clayey silt, with much pea shingle in its lower parts. It was essentially similar to [3] at the south end of the gatehouse.

Later Deposits

- The only later deposit comprised topsoil. It, [1], was as described above and generally 0.16 to 0.20 m thick which gave a modern ground surface at + 31.270 m OD.

DISCUSSION

- One of the aims of the present excavation was to test the hypothesis (in Dearne 2024, 16) that an apparently free standing wall interrupted by octagonal column bases, excavated in 2023 and shown then and in 2024 to run south from and in line with an entrance to the gatehouse flanked by columns and multi-angular turrets, in fact represented the front wall of a loggia or veranda. This hypothesis could not be proven by the current work, but in part at least may receive some support from the placing of the tower. Thus, the projected south corner of the latter[5] would lay 1.00 m west of the penultimate column base on the wall, providing a support for the end of a roof which could have projected over the ?veranda from the south east side of the tower (Fig. 6). Though this would mean that the veranda (or perhaps corridor) broadened to 1.90 m as it ran north it would explain the presence of the dwarf wall with the setting for a post (FXW24 [35]) at its northern end. If this represented the foundation for a timber screen wall including a doorway (and especially if another door setting existed adjacent to the penultimate column base) then this veranda (or corridor) might represent a side entranceway to the ground floor of the gatehouse from the south.
- If so it may be that only the southernmost stretch of the columned wall was free standing and simply represented a continuation of it to the edge of the gatehouse platform, serving to screen from sight from the outer court any activity at the south end of the gatehouse and to give the façade a coherent appearance for the full length of that platform.
- The current work, taken with that in 2023 and 2024 which established that the Phase 1b gatehouse was significantly remodelled in Phase 2 (Dearne 2024, 21), has also significantly clarified the broad plan of

[5] Which would lay within FXV23 Trench 4, but in an area that was only superficially excavated and so it would not have been encountered.

the gatehouse as it was elaborated. It is now apparent that, as well as adding this entrance and possible veranda or corridor to the south end of the façade of the Phase 1b gatehouse, probably in the process extending the platform on which the gatehouse sat, new structures were built running both as far as the edge of that augmented platform and projecting back to the west. Moreover these structures were both cellared and clearly from the size of their foundations rose to a considerable height.

- The only one for which a specific function can currently be proposed is the tower. Its placing at the end of the gatehouse and probably its orientation at an angle to the rest of the building would seem to suggest a stair tower and, though the 1524 inventory does not provide specific evidence except for a vice (back stair), two stairs, symmetrically placed at either end of the gatehouse, would be expected (Drury in Dearne *et al* 2022, 292f). Additionally the evidence for at least one substantial engaged timber beam, which could have run to a central newel post, might well have provided the necessary support for a wooden winding staircase with landings.
- Overall though, it now seems that the remodelling of the gatehouse consisted of the retention of part of the essentially rectangular Phase 1b structure and addition of a new 'wing' at the south end which ran back westwards beyond the line of the back of the earlier gatehouse. The solidity of the construction of this 'wing's walls would seem to be consistent with the 1524 inventory taken on the death of Sir Thomas Lovell which provides evidence for at least parts of the gatehouse by then consisting of four storeys and thus helps to support the strong presumption that the remodelling was his (Phase 2) work.
- The excavation of wall [19] in Trench 3 now also very strongly suggests that a similar remodelling occurred at the north end of the gatehouse. This wall would have met the Phase 1b west wall of the earlier gatehouse at right angles if, as seems highly likely, it continued untruncated to this point (Fig. 6) and [19]'s solidity and the probability that it defined a cellared structure argue for a similar, though not necessarily mirror image, Phase 2 wing having been added here.
- Thus, the developmental scenario outlined in Dearne (2024, 22) appears to be increasingly likely to be correct, even if as yet how the north end of the gatehouse may have related to the structures recorded in 1967 in the gas main trench (see Dearne and Drury 2022) that runs to the north of the present limits of excavation cannot be established.
- However, the plan of the Phase 2 south wing behind its façade, beyond that it included the (?stair) tower, a cellared room and another cellared space (? a corridor), remains unknown. In 2024 there were small exposures of further walls (FXW24 [65] and [69]) running off of the large wall (FXW24 [51]) running west from the back of one of the entrance flanking turrets of the façade (see Fig. 6). However, the former, perhaps marking the back of an entrance vestibule, is not available for excavation because of the presence of a large tree. The latter ?wall would though have been present in Trench 2 in the current work if it had run any distance to the west, but was not. Its significance is therefore unclear and unfortunately the 2024 exposure was so small that even its orientation was not certain; moreover the same substantial tree prevents excavation where it might therefore have run, or have had a return, to the south, if indeed it was not just a buttress or similar.
- Further west Trench 4 demonstrated that there was no at least cellared extension to the back wall of the Phase 1b gatehouse that far north, but it also remains unknown how far south this original Phase 1b wall ran or whether and where it may have been truncated in Phase 2. Thus, the area examined by Trench 4 may have lain outside of the footprint of the Phase 1b and Phase 2 gatehouse, but this cannot yet be confirmed.
- Moreover, though remote sensing data is available for the site, further elucidation of the plan of the gatehouse is only likely to be possible through excavation. The difficulties of relating excavated structures to the geophysical survey evidence (Bartlett 1998, especially Plan 4) for this area of the palace were discussed in Dearne (2024, 21f and Fig. 10) and the present work has not significantly clarified the potential problems with the mapping of the survey data. Thus, the resolution at which survey evidence is available in addition to the problems in accurately plotting it against topography and excavation results mean that that any analysis of Bartlett's resistivity data has to be fairly speculative and should not be relied on, at least without repeating the survey with the greater spatial precision provided by twenty first century techniques. Indeed, the difficulties of interpreting resistivity data on a site with so much rubble over structures demolished to different degrees should not be minimised in the first place and it continues to be the case that geophysical evidence cannot provide a reliable guide to the evaluation of the plan of the gatehouse.
- Another aim of the present work was to make an initial check on the accuracy of the plotting of the position of the 1960s excavations and Trench 3 clearly showed that the surviving 1960s location plan

must be at least inaccurate. What had appeared to be the close approach of the structures excavated in the 1960s to the recent excavations of the gatehouse range (Dearne 2024, 22 and Fig. 12) should therefore now be seen as in significant doubt and there may also be consequential implications for the relationship between the structures excavated in the 1960s and those recorded in the gas main trench in 1967. Though at least a degree of inaccuracy in the locational plotting of the 1960s work is unsurprising given the rudimentary surveying techniques known to have been in use at the time, it must now be a priority to undertake further exploratory trenching to positively identify the correct location of these earlier excavations.

- As in 2024 (Dearne 2024, 22) there was no further material, as there was in 2023, that might question the likely date for the demolition of all of the palace of c. 1660. Indeed, the amount of demolition material present in Trench 1 especially now invalidates the observation made then that demolition rubble was less and of different character to the south of the southern turret flanking the gatehouse entrance excavated in 2023/4. Whilst this difference still appears to be real, it clearly now applies only to the area through which the column interrupted wall forming the east façade of the gatehouse ran; and this can now be seen to probably be due to demolition material from that and adjacent structures being deposited into the cellared (?stair) tower nearby (probably contributing to the number of cut bricks recovered (see Appendix 3) since they were used in the columns). The recovery of sherds of likely eighteenth century Agate Ware (AGAT; commercially 1730 – 1780) from this area (Dearne 2023, 13) does remain unexplained, but it seems increasingly unlikely that they indicate that any part of the palace was left standing after the rest of it was demolished.
- The recovery of further examples of Delft tiles (Appendix 3 Nos 4.1 and 4.2) also has implications for the late history of the palace since they suggest significant expenditure on decorative reflooring in the early decades of the seventeenth century, during which (before c. 1630) its main occupants would have been Philip Herbert (Earl of Montgomery, later Earl of Pembroke) and his family.

CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS

- Although extremely large tree roots occurred especially in Trench 2 where they belonged to a very large Oak (*Quercus sp.*) tree immediately next to the trench, the particularly large and solidly built structure here (wall [9]) had not been compromised and most others were sufficiently far from trees to be unaffected by root ingress. However, Trenches 2, 5 and particularly 4 were very encumbered by roots from another multi trunk tree and had any slighter structural features been present here they would likely have been disrupted.
- Thus, the control of new tree and large bush growth across the whole of the raised platform area must continue to be a priority, given the importance of the evidently well preserved remains of major palace structures here. The whole area west of the Lime tree avenue, which has been allowed to become occupied by far more trees than in relatively recent times, should continue to be seen as requiring careful management to limit and eventually decrease tree density to protect the archaeological resource and facilitate what archaeological work it would be practical to undertake.
- In terms of further research on the site, as noted above a priority should be the re-location of the 1960s trenches. Whilst interrogation of the photographic archive generated by this work may be of some assistance, the area has been allowed to become so wooded that isolating useful landscape details is likely to be virtually impossible while previous attempts to match 1960s excavated structures to geophysical surveys have proved unhelpful.
- A detailed check of the accuracy of current trench location plans coupled with a ground truthing exercise in respect of currently mapped LiDAR data may both be useful, but it may well be that the only option is to shallowly excavate a number of fairly widely spread trenches in order to re-encounter one or more of the structural features excavated in the 1960s, allowing the limits of the trenches cut at this time to be accurately mapped with respect to those cut in the last three years.
- As to the ongoing exploration of the plan of the gatehouse, excavation should now focus on areas to the west and south of FXX25 Trench 5 and the environs of Trench 4 in order to recover more of the plan of the south ‘wing’ of the Phase 2 structure.

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APPENDIX 1: ARCHIVE NOTE

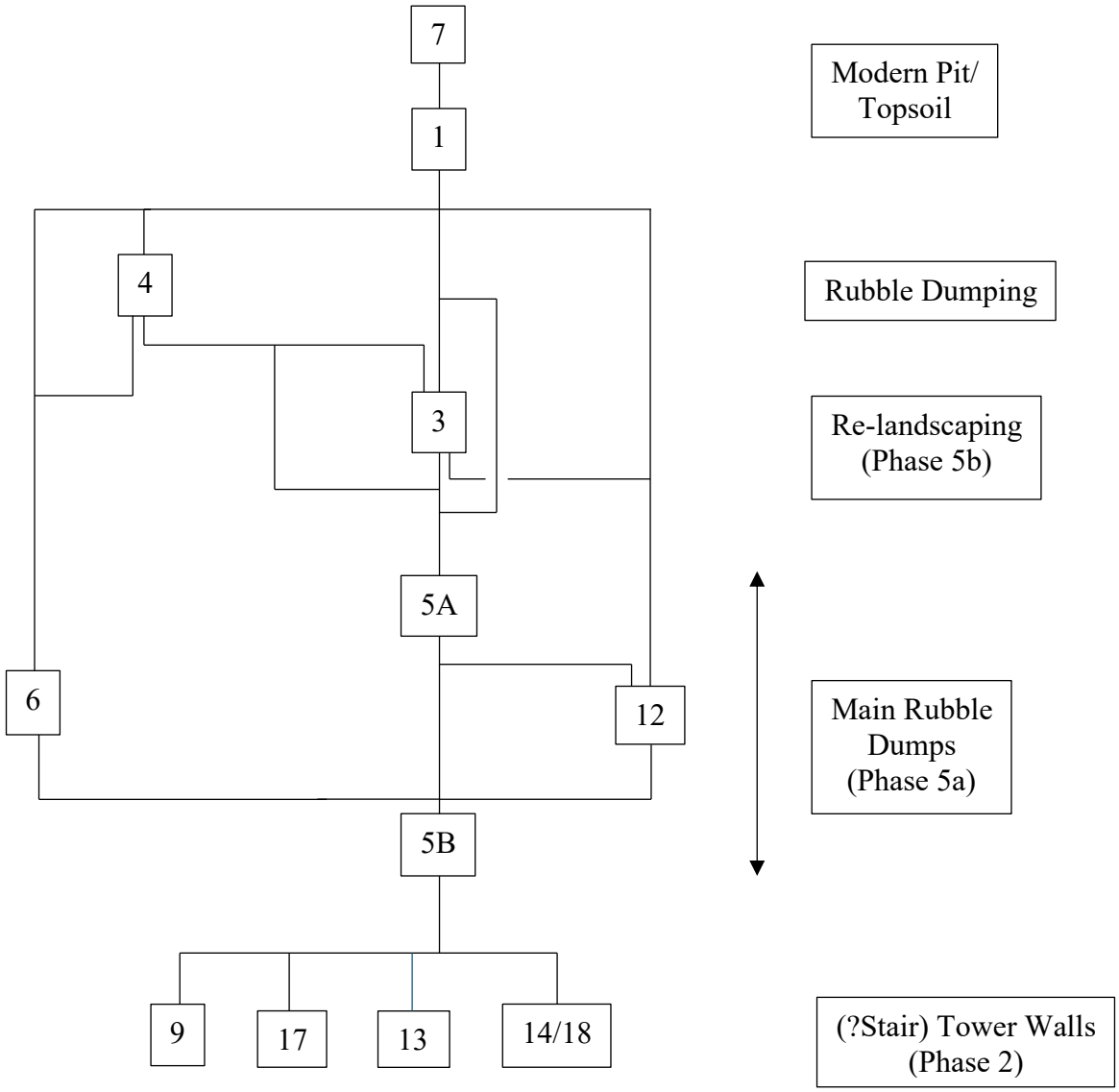
- The archive for FXX25 is held at the London Borough of Enfield Museums Service/EAS archive and includes:
- project design; ancient monument consent letter of grant; inked copies of all plans and sections; context register and original context sheets; section, plan, find, architectural materials, bulk floor tile and sample registers; photographic image register; digital image archive; site diary; levels register; finds report; this report; and the retained finds and samples.

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX AND SITE MATRICES

Context	Type	Description
1	Layer	Topsoil
2	Layer (Intermittent)	Rubble Dump
3	Layer	Re-landscaping
4	Layer (Intermittent)	Rubble Dump
5A	Layer	Rubble Dump
5B	Layer	Rubble Dump
6	Layer	(Part of) Rubble Dump
7	Cut	Modern Pit
8	Layer	Re-landscaping
9	Feature	Wall

10	Layer	Capping of Raft for 9
11	Layer	Rubble Dump
12	Layer	Rubble Dump
13	Feature	Wall
14	Feature	Wall
15	Layer	Re-landscaping
16	Layer	Platform Dump
17	Feature	Wall
18	Feature	Wall (Part of 14)
19	Feature	Wall
20	Feature	Wall
21	Feature	?Floor
22	Feature	Wall

Trench 1



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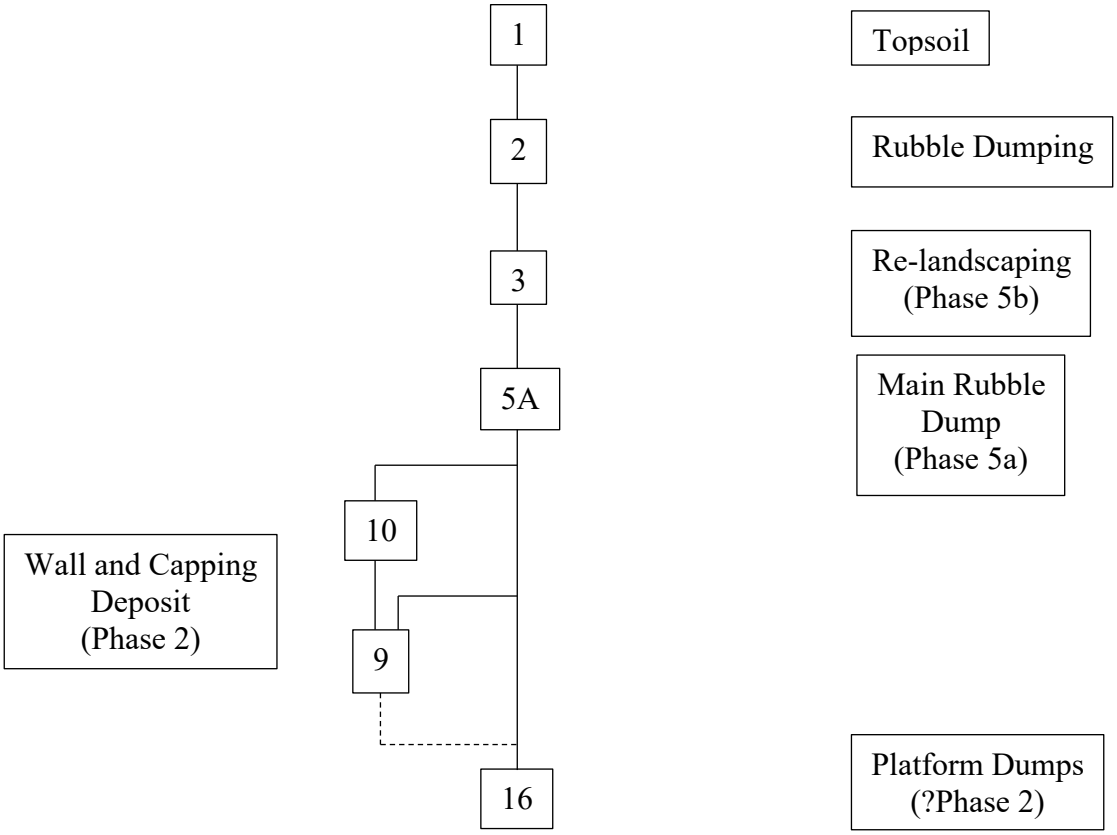

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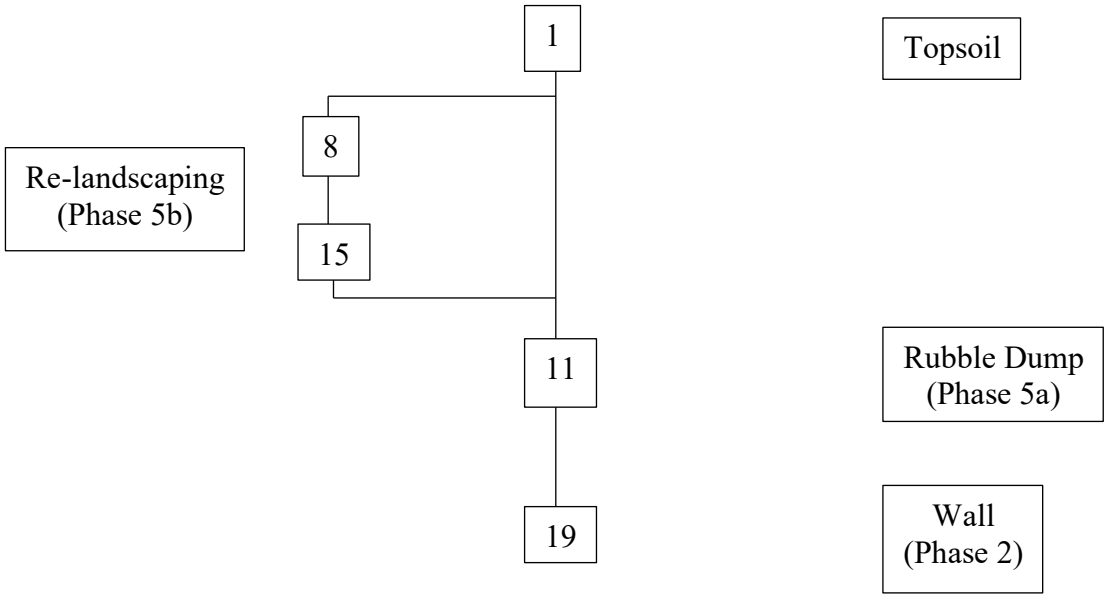

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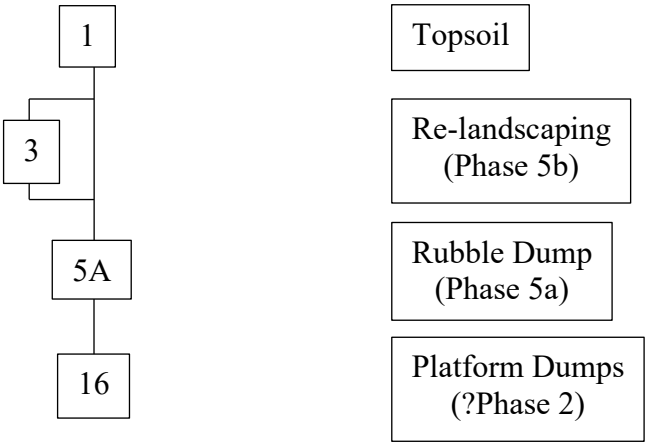

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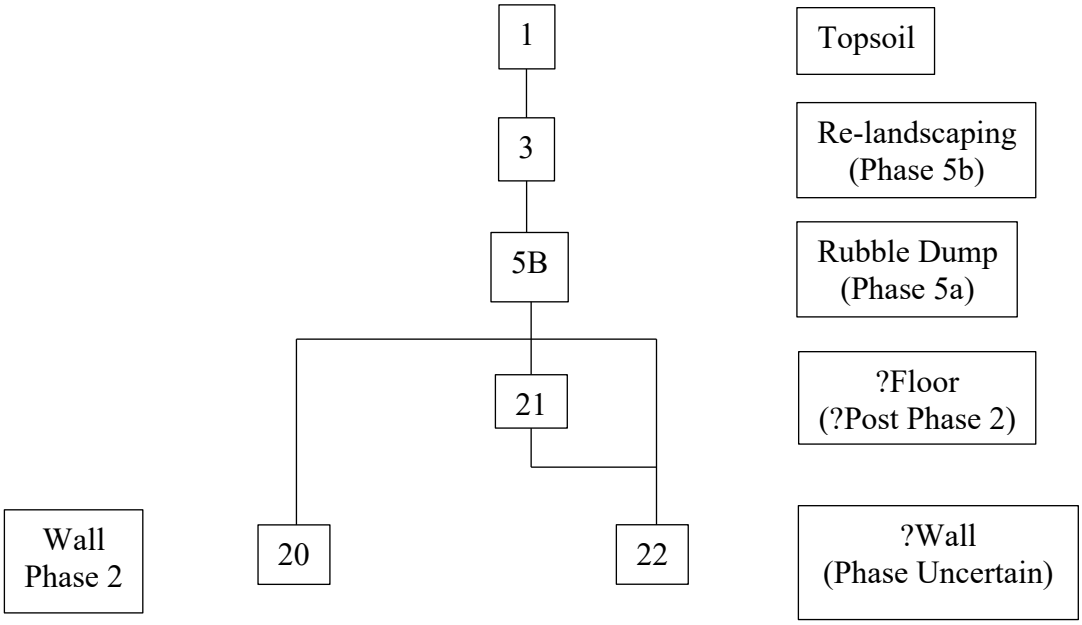


APPENDIX 3: FINDS SUMMARY
(MJD with contributions by Ian K. Jones and Neil Pinchbeck)

- The following summarises the main points of a fuller report available in the site archive. * denotes an item illustrated on Figs 7 - 10. Contexts appear at the end of catalogue entries thus: [7], with any small find number.

1 Building Stone (see also 11.1 below)
Edited and Summarised by MJD from reports by Ian K. Jones and with an introduction by MJD
Introduction

- Overall 36 fragments of stone showing some form of working were recovered, almost all from [5] (and mainly [5B]) with just one from [12] and one from [3] or [5]. The majority therefore likely derived from the inner gatehouse which emphasises the higher status of this part of the palace compared to other twenty first century excavated areas of it.
- Petrologically the stone was predominantly Greensand with a much smaller number of items in Limestone. Though there were window (and possibly doorway) elements, Greensand fireplace blocks were well represented as in 2024 (Dearne 2024, 29) and there was one fragment perhaps from a wall plinth.
- A notable find was the only probable mason's mark so far recovered from the site (on 1.12 below).
- Much material was abraded and or in small fragments including two Greensand fragments carrying only parts of two worked surfaces, 11 with part of only one and 17 lacking any surviving worked surface (full catalogue available in archive). The following were the more significant items:

Door and window elements

*1.1 Two joining pieces from a Greensand block, broken at both ends (W. 10.20; Ht. 18.00; Th. 14.65 cm). Well finished, but with slightly abraded curving mouldings, the abrasion suggesting that it comes from the outside of a building, while its form shows that it is from a corner block and its size suggests that it is probably from a doorway (there are slight traces of burning, but not where one would expect if it were from a fireplace). Working from the outer face, a small area of which survives, there is a 4.30 cm wide cyma recta moulding, separated by a 0.93 cm wide flat step from a 4.94 cm wide cavetto moulding. This leads to a second c. 40°, 1.02 cm wide step which flanks a 4.76 cm wide roll moulding with a flat inner side. This runs back to a poorly preserved, 1.54 cm wide chamfer, flanking the partly preserved inner face of the block which is parallel to the outer face. The beginning of the chamfer has quite a deep chisel cut at its beginning and there is a large area of damage to the cavetto and roll mouldings. [5]

1.2 Part of one end of a Greensand quarter round hood moulding or dripstone from above either a doorway or a large window (W. 4.80; Ht. 7.70; Th. 7.60 cm). The upper part of the convex face is badly damaged and there is some degraded mortar/plaster to the lower part. The surviving original end is only roughly finished with patches of cream mortar to the lower half and part of the original base of the block surviving, perhaps worked into a very shallow concave curve. [5]

1.3 Fragment from the end of a badly de-laminating (weathered) Greensand half round moulding/dripstone from above a window (L. 6.50; W. 3.50; Th. 3.50 cm). The surviving worked end is slightly less than vertical and has a few spots of cream mortar on it. [5]

1.4 A heavily abraded Greensand roll moulding fragment (L. 4.00; W. 3.50; Th. 2.40 cm). That one end is worked into an approximately 45° face suggests that this was part of the corner of a small window frame. [5]

*1.5 Fragment of a Greensand window frame or mullion (L. 10.54; W. 7.65; Th. 3.99 cm). It carries a shallow 4.57 cm wide concave (cavetto) moulding flanked on each side by flat faces at 45°, one over 2.24 cm wide and the other over 2.64 cm wide. Small areas of red (2.5 YR 5/6) accretion (? painted mortar/plaster) on the concave face. [3]/[5]

1.6 Two joining badly abraded Greensand fragments probably from a window frame (L. 13.84; W. 6.80; Th. 3.70 cm). The c. 5.11 cm wide front face and one side, c. 2.79 cm high and chamfered at c. 70°, were fairly well worked, the other, roughly vertical, side was left rougher and has traces of hard pinkish mortar, as does the fairly roughly worked back. [5]

1.7 Two joining fragments from a Greensand window frame or mullion (L. 8.85; W. 6.83; Max. Th. 3.13 cm). Well worked front face, over 5.80 cm wide, with an over 2.94 cm high surviving side, vertical below a 0.85 high (1.49 cm wide), 50° chamfer. [3]/[5]

1.8 Very battered irregular Greensand fragment possibly from a window mullion (L. 11.00; W. 4.20; Th. 4.20 cm). Three worked surfaces, two at 90° to each other, with part of a 0.30 cm high raised moulding at the end of one. [5]

Fireplace Elements

Fireplace Surrounds

*1.9 Fragment of a Greensand block forming the top right hand corner of a fireplace opening arch (L. 16.7; W. 9.25; Th. 10.10 cm). Working from the inner face, the first 1.21 cm of its flat surface, presumably in all 4.54 cm wide, is lost. Beyond it there is a 3.81 cm wide cyma recta moulding, separated by a sharp cut from a flanking 3.63 cm wide cyma reversa moulding. Beyond this a 1.76 cm wide flat surface leads to a trace of what may have been a further moulding. The mouldings' surfaces retain fine tool marks. The back of the block is less well finished, but much of the better finished base of the block survives with slightly coarser parallel tool marks left (? as mortar keying). From a fireplace with a typical late Medieval ('Tudor') arch form (cf Rodwell and Bell 2004, 164 and Fig. 5.7 a and c; from Period 4.1, dated 1535). [5]

1.10 Fragment from a well finished Greensand block forming the inner face of a fireplace surround (L. 7.16; W. 6.98; Th. 3.45 cm). All surfaces heavily burnt, burning penetrating into the block c. 2.00 cm along a crack and the surface facing the fire largely lost to flaking. The latter is flanked by a well finished 2.31 cm wide, 45° chamfer leading to an over 2.15 cm wide, less well finished surface at 90° to the first. [5]

1.11 Large part of a Greensand block possibly from a fireplace surround (L. 22.00; W. 17.50; Th. 12.50 cm). Retaining part of one worked surface with a number of ruled straight lines, some crossing and some forming tall, narrow triangles, scored into it. There is a trace of a concave moulding, areas of burning including to an unworked surface and spots of white mortar to worked surfaces on the back of the block. The scored lines might suggest casual use for practice by an apprentice. [5]

Fireplace Overmantel

*1.12 Fragment of a Greensand block forming part of the base of a fireplace overmantel (W. 4.39; Ht. 9.07; Th. 12.34 cm). Part of the base of the block survives and is smoke stained, as is a small area of the worked surface of the back of the block. From the base rises a well finished 4.95 cm wide cyma reversa moulding, ending in an over 5.24 cm long flat, horizontal (becoming very slightly angled) surface with two slight lines scored along it. The concave element of the cyma reversa bears a fairly lightly scored probable mason's mark comprising a 2.11 cm long upward pointing arrow probably with a bifurcated tail. [5]

Fireplace Interior Lining Block Fragments

1.13 Greensand fireplace lining block fragment (L. 12.50; W. 6.50; Th. 5.00 cm). One heavily burnt worked surface with the burning penetrating up to 4.50 cm deep into the block, presumably due to cracks. Two substantial demolition toolmarks on the underside including from a chisel with a 4.00 cm wide blade. [3]/[5]

1.14 Two joining pieces from a Greensand fireplace lining block (L. 12.30; W. 10.20; Th. 6.50 cm). Parts of two and perhaps three worked surfaces surviving, one probably the end of the block, one with a trace of a 90° turn. Very badly burnt and de-laminated with considerable damage from demolition. Fine pale cream mortar/plaster over one carefully finished burnt surface suggesting use in repairs or reuse of the block from an earlier fireplace. [5]

Plinth Block

1.15 Fragment probably from a Greensand plinth block (L. 5.03; Ht. 8.81; Th. 8.20 cm). The well finished (presumed) top surface was over 4.74 cm long and meets another well finished, over 8.21 cm long surface at 30°. Both sides of the fragment show heavy toolmarks, possibly from reshaping work. [5]

Fragments of Uncertain Function

1.16 The corner of a block of good quality cream coloured Limestone (L. 10.36; W. 7.27; Th. 8.28 cm). The well finished (presumed) front face, over 10.27 x 7.27 cm, has a slight (0.52 cm wide) groove more crudely cut 1.09 cm in from its (right) edge. It meets the ?base, which shows diagonal saw marks, at 90° and both are at right angles to a small (2.52 high, 7.90 cm long) area of preserved, but roughly worked, slightly concave (right) ?side surface. This may be a moulding or keying and carries a c. 1 mm

thick layer of white mortar with very frequent rounded brown quartz, covered by light grey (5 YR 7/1) paint. The other (left) side appears to have been cut (or re-cut) to give a (finer) face with a (rougher) ?triangular projection over 6.70 x 5.00 cm, starting 3.21 cm above the base and projecting 1.98 cm out from that face (the area below the projection again being rougher than it). This suggests either that the (if so rather small) block had been cut (and perhaps then more roughly trimmed again) to key it into some larger construction, or that it was part of a larger block later cut down for such a purpose. [5]

1.17 – 1.18 Two further pieces of good quality cream coloured Limestone (up to L. 12.00; W. 9.50; Th. 6.20), possibly from the same sizeable block as 1.16. One with scored lines meeting at right angles on one original worked surface and heavy toolmarks from demolition; the other a corner with two original well worked surfaces, one (6.00 x over 9.50 cm) with a small patch of burning, both with patches of cream mortar and clear saw marks to the underside of the block. [5]

1.19 Small rectangular block of Greensand (L. 6.50; W. 4.00; Th. 2.80 cm). One end well finished and polished with well finished top (over 4.00 cm wide) and one side (over 2.80 cm wide) separated by a worn 0. 80 cm wide chamfer. The opposite side and back heavily chisel marked over smaller tool marks. [5]

Roofing slate (MJD)

- A single fragment of grey roofing slate broken across a nail hole and 12.50 cm long came from [5].

2 Shaped Bricks (and Mortar Decoration)

(Field Recording by MJD and Ian K. Jones)

- There were a large number (83) of loose brick axe cut and rubbed red bricks. The majority (59) were from [5] (overwhelmingly [5B]) with three from [3] or [5], five from [12], nine from [2] and seven from [4] plus one item from [11]. They included a range of forms, several of them having previously been noted from the site, so the classification in Dearne *et al* (2022, 231) is used here for convenience. However, most fragments were relatively small, often quite battered and differentiation of forms, especially between King (or Queen) Closers, Multi-Angularly Cut bricks and Plinth bricks was often difficult. Some fragments classified as Concave bricks might also alternatively be fragments from Window Mullions.

Group b) – King (and Queen) Closers; and Multi-Angularly Cut Bricks

- Twenty one fragments were or seemed most likely to be from King (or in some cases possibly Queen) Closers or from bricks cut to give more than two faces, as used in building octagonal and similar columns. Differentiation between them was often impossible so they are discussed together. Of bricks probably used in e.g. multi-angled column construction, one triple cut brick was cut at 40° to give 6.00 cm long faces leading to further cuts at 70°; and another (if it was not a keystone brick) had two 7.00 cm long faces probably cut at 50° surviving, but any intervening (10.00 cm long) third face was lost. Other less classifiable bricks had been cut at angles from 35° to 60° with at least one retaining mortar in a position suggesting its reuse as rubble.
- One unusually large example (25.00 x 13.00 x 7.50 cm), cut at 50° and then at 40°, had all cut faces (and part of one uncut face) plastered and might alternatively have been an unusual Plinth brick.
- A run of four 11.00 – 12.00 cm wide, 6.00 – 6.50 cm thick bricks, the longest surviving to a length of 22.50 cm, found in close association in [2] were cut at 45° at one end and were probably King or Queen Closers, but were not complete enough to confirm this.

Group c) – Plinth Bricks

- Nineteen fragments were or may have been from Plinth bricks, cut with one angled side face, but, as noted, the condition of the material often prevented differentiation from other forms. Most consisted of fragments showing a face cut generally at 50° (with one at 45°), but only a few appeared to preserve evidence for whether the cut face occupied the full thickness of the brick (as Dearne *et al* 2022, Fig. 49, top right) or whether it left an uncut vertical face at the base of the side (op cit, second row left). Two fragments did though suggest the form with such uncut faces (3.00 and 3.50 cm high) while two others were of the form with the cut face occupying the full thickness of the brick. Of these one was cut at 60° to give a 7.00 cm long angled front face and the other was a nearly complete (21.00 cm long) brick, 11.00 cm wide and 5.00 cm thick, cut at 50°, 7.80 cm from the back face, to give a 7.50 cm long angled front face.

Group e) – Concave bricks

- The most common fragments (33) were from 5.50 to 6.00 cm thick bricks cut with a concave face. Several were certainly, and most were probably, from bricks with concave mouldings cut on the edge of the brick and of the same form as Dearne *et al* (2022) Fig. 49 e with straight faces at 90° to the concave (cavetto) moulding (see also Dearne 2024, 33). Where one straight face was preserved they were generally 3.00 – 4.00 cm long (with one 2.50 and one 5.50 cm long) and one preserved parts of both straight faces (over 8.90 and over 1.83 cm long).
- Better preserved fragments of this form demonstrated that they came from more than one decorative feature, or at least different levels in e.g. a corbel-table (cf. Smith 1975, 119f, Figs 5 and 6; Poulton 2010, 19 section 7), the lengths of the cavetto mouldings, where complete, being 5.50, 8.00 and 9.20 cm. Many of them carried white plaster on the cavetto and straight faces and one had a shallow 1.10 cm wide, horizontal, mortar filled groove on an end face, presumably to key it in place.
- However, as in 2024 (Dearne 2024, 33 No. 2.3), two examples had one straight face and one cut and rubbed convex curve bounding the cavetto, so that the moulding was approaching a reverse ogee (cyma reversa). One was on a 6.00 cm thick brick but incomplete; the other was:

*2.1 Much of a brick of this form (surviving L. 15.40; W. 11.80; Th. 6.14 cm) with a 0.88 cm thickness of mortar adhering to one side. [5]

Group f) - Convex (?plinth) bricks or window/door mouldings

- Five fragments had convex mouldings. One was a 5.00 cm thick brick with one long side cut to give a convex quarter round moulding to its edge while a second 6.00 cm thick brick was similarly cut, but to give a half round moulding as Dearne *et al* (2022) Fig. 49 f. The others comprised only fragments preserving part of a curved surface.

Group g) - Window Surround Bricks

- One fragment was from the end of a brick cut with a 1.30 cm wide, 0.87 cm deep groove at the beginning of an incompletely preserved convex face and was likely of the same form as Dearne *et al* (2022) Fig. 49 g.

Other Shaped Bricks

- The following are not represented in Dearne *et al* (2022):

*2.2 Complete brick (L. 23.50; W. 12.00; Th. 6.07 cm) cut and rubbed at one end to give a 6.50 cm long section with convex sides and end. Probable marking out lines scratched on upper face and brick axe marks from trimming on sides. Probably from a corbel. [2]

*2.3 Fragment (surviving L. 7.60; W. 11.30; Max. Th. 5.67 cm) comprising the end of a brick, one side face cut at 70° to taper it from front to back and then the resultant end cut to give two (upper and lower) pairs of 6.00 cm long, 4.10 cm wide faces, the upper and lower pairs of faces sloping in opposite directions at 50°, and each pair meeting at 25°. One face slightly ?miscut and broadening. Hard white mortar to base, top, cut side and (?as render) in patches on the cut faces. ?From tracery. [5]

*2.4 Fragment (L. 14.00; preserved face 11.00 x 10.50 cm) of a probably drip glazed brick with part of a face 'framed' by a shallow c. 1.00 cm wide cut on one side and by a slightly deeper c. 1.00 cm wide groove (both with traces of hard white mortar) crossing it at right angles below a possibly rubbed surface. Possible traces of a second groove parallel to the first at the base of the fragment. [5]

2.5 A 16.00 x 11.50 cm fragment of a 5.50 cm thick brick with a 5.50 cm deep, 6.00 cm wide rectangular step cut along one long side. [5]

Mortar Decoration

- [5B] also produced the following small pieces of hard white mortar which had been painted and or decoratively shaped (as well as a few covered in black soot):

2.6 Fragment (L. 8.80; W. 6.70; Th. 2.60 cm) of well smoothed mortar preserving two surfaces meeting at 40°.

*2.7 Fragment (L. 4.00; W. 1.79; Th. 2.83 cm) of Bird's Beak (protruding V-sectioned) pointing.

*2.8 Fragment (L. 5.00; W. 2.40; Th. 2.76 cm) of a mortar moulding comprising a step down to a low V-shaped ridge/Bird's Beak pointing beside a V-shaped groove flanking a stepped back surface. Painted

weak red (10 R 5/4), but the groove preserving a second coat of pink (5 YR 8/4) paint or very fine plaster.

*2.9 Fragment (L. 8.50; W. 3.36; Th. 4.38 cm) of mortar surface painted weak red (10 R 5/4) including over shallow paired grooves, probably to imitate brickwork.

3 Roofing (and Building) Tiles

(Field Recording by MJD)

- Peg tile fragments were reasonably common in demolition material contexts. Most were too small to establish more than their thickness (1.00 – 1.50 cm), but there was a single near complete example from [5B] which was 0.27 x 0.175 x 0.015 m with two round holes which were, however, filled which hard white mortar, which also adhered to the surface of the tile, indicating that it had been used in building work.
- [5B] also produced a number of other fragments of tiles mortared together, showing that they had been used in construction work. These sections comprised at least two tiles secured together with hard white mortar which also adhered to the outer faces of both tiles and matched *in situ* tiles mortared to the top of the void in wall [14] where they had almost certainly been used to secure a large beam into the wall of the (?stair) tower.
- The most complete of these was a pair of 24.00 x 17.00 x 1.50 cm tiles without peg holes (suggesting that these were specifically made for their purpose and not just casually used peg tiles) which were held together with a 2.70 cm thick band of hard white mortar which also covered their ends to a thickness of 1.18 cm and adhered to the back of one, retaining the impression of English bonded brickwork.
- One 1.70 cm thick ridge tile fragment was recovered from [11] and came from a curved tile with a width of over 15.00 cm.

4 Flooring Tiles

Decorated Tiles

*4.1 Tin glazed (Delft) floor tile, semi complete in two joining fragments (L. 14.51; W. 13.88; Th. 1.38 - 1.74 cm) with a third small probably matching fragment. A diamond shaped tile in a buff fabric, painted on a white background probably with a mirror image design at each end, each comprising a basal dark and light blue *fleur de lys* from the arms of which emerge blue outlined plants with leaves infilled in green and brown and terminate in brown/orange ?buds. Above the *fleur de lys* and in the centre of the tile is an orange centred flower in dark and light blue, flanked by partial spiky, orange centred flowers (which would have been continued on adjacent tiles) in dark and light blue with blue dots between the petals.

The design is matched by another small fragment from the site (Dearne *et al* 2022, 237 and Pl. 65) and 4.1 suggests that the plants are not in fact specifically Tulips. It also shows that the tiles were diamond (not triangular) shaped, so may have formed part of a wider floor rather than a roundel as speculated. The source and date cannot be certain, but it is likely this came from one of the Southwark pothouses such as Pickleherring and most likely dates to the second or third decades of the seventeenth century. [1] SF1 and 2

*4.2 Tin glazed (Delft) floor tile corner fragment (L. 11.17; W. 6.32; Th. 1.85 cm). A corner of a tile in a buff fabric, also preserving part of an angled side so that it may have been polygonal. The design, painted on a white background, may have had a central roundel outlined in dark blue and infilled with ?triangles of dark blue, yellow and green. Scattered around it are dark blue arabesques, with stylised flowers at one of their ends in green and yellow, and a line of blue outlined, green infilled circles of graduated sizes form an axial divider between the corner and the central motif.

No parallel has been noted, but again an origin at one of the Southwark pothouses such as Pickleherring and in the second or third decades of the seventeenth century seems most likely. [12] SF3

4.3 Tin glazed (Delft) tile surface fragment (2.30 x 3.00 cm) and chip. White glazed with traces of blue decoration. [1]

- Four further small fragments of Delft tiles from [1] lacked surfaces, except for one which retained an edge.

Plain Glazed Tiles

(Field Recording by Roger Dormer, Samantha Ng and Karl Lancelle)

- Fragments of undecorated flooring tile/brick came overwhelmingly from [5] and especially [5B], though numbers were slightly ambiguous in context (being from [5] or [3], most likely deriving from the sometimes poorly defined [5A]), there were a smaller number from [12] and isolated examples from [1] and [11].
- Overall 351 fragments were recorded, the overwhelming majority (336) certainly from tiles with marked edge chamfers restricted to the lower part of their sides (a form which also dominated the smaller corpus recovered nearby in 2024 (Dearne 2024, 34)). Two of these fragments had a vertical as well as a chamfered side preserved and one had a cross scratched on the back.
- Tile thickness generally ranged from 3.50 to 4.00 cm, but was fairly variable, sometimes dropping to as low as 2.00 cm and rising to as high as 5.50 cm. Most fragments were between 4.00 x 3.00 and 20.00 x 20.00 cm and commonly 10.00 – 15.00 cm in any dimension, frequently preserving one and occasionally up to three corners.
- A small number retained upper surface glaze, but most were heavily worn with glaze only assessable from small patches and or runs on sides and bases. Glaze colour, though a degree of subjectivity is involved in assessment and fabric/firing factors will have contributed to final glaze colour, was most often recorded as brown (88 examples) or black (56), with small numbers of fragments with green (11) or yellow/olive (7) glaze.
- The most complete of these tiles (from [5B]), comprised three large and two smaller joining fragments giving all but one corner of the tile. It was 20.00 x 19.80 cm (a size matched by a second half complete example) and 3.93 cm thick. It had a flat, smooth back and the upper surface preserved most of its brown glaze. Its chamfers were knife trimmed and so varied in height from 1.75 to 2.50 cm.
- Two other brown glazed floor tile fragments from [5] had a chamfer to the full height of the side preserved while the only example from [11] (Th. 2.90 cm, brown glazed) had no chamfer to its side.

5 Structural and Possibly Structural Metalwork and Building Fittings

- A majority of the iron finds were not further classifiable nails and nail shanks, many corroded and heavily concreated. Most had or appeared to have square sectioned shanks and broadly (sub) square heads. Nail size varied considerably from 10.90 cm long down to c. 3.00 cm. Contexts producing nails/nail shanks were [1] (6), [2]/[3] (2), [3] (3), [3]/[5] (19), [5] (18), [8] (1), [11] (3), [12] (10) and [U/S] (72), though those recovered by metal detector from [U/S] mainly came from spoil from [5].
- There was one iron joiner's dog from [5], over 4.50 cm long with one surviving leg 2.28 cm long. An iron U-shaped staple recovered [U/S] was 3.40 cm long and 2.20 cm wide.

6 Window Glass and Glazing Fittings

Window Glass

- Window glass was extremely rare and almost exclusively blackened, devitrifying and in fragments less than 2 cm^2. Pieces came from [1] (1), [3]/[5] (1), [5] (6) and [12] (6). There was one small chip of greenish window glass from [3].

Glazing Fittings

*6.1 Lead ?window frame/grill seating (L. 8.80; Max. W. 3.00; Main Bar Th. 1.94 cm). A roughly circular sectioned bar carrying a ?moulded rectangular sectioned channel (L. 4.50; W. 0.76; Depth c. 0.70 cm) on one (presumably upper) face. The presumed front of the bar turns down and has probably been roughly hammered to drive the bar home. At the other, very rough and expanded, end the bar has a chisel cut rebate on the lower face, presumably to fit it into brickwork or masonry. [5]

- There was only a single bent lead came fragment of Dearne *et al* (2022, 241) Type A, from [3]/[5]. Its estimated straightened length was 11.00 cm, its width was 0.56 cm, its thickness 0.41 cm, its web width 0.26 cm and its web depth 0.17 cm.
- There was, also from [3]/[5], a single bent fragment of lead tie bar, as Dearne *et al* (2022) Fig. 54. Its estimated straightened length was 16.00 cm, its width was 0.53 cm and its thickness 0.33 cm.

7 Internal Furnishing Items

*7.1 Fe ?? chest mount (L. 6.75; Max. W. 3.45; Th. c. 0.15 cm). A corroded rectangular plate of flat sheet metal with a 1.73 x 1.59 cm rectangular cut out at the centre of one long edge and a possible rivet along the other long edge, opposite one edge of the cut out. It is possible that this framed one side of a keyhole or a handle attachment point on a chest. [12]

8 Items of Personal/Clothing Adornment or Fasteners etc

- A single Ae lace chape (aglet) fragment (L. 3.00 cm) was [U/S] and one Ae dress pin fragment (L. 3.00 cm) came from [5].There was also:

*8.1 Ae ?lace edging (L. 2.77; Max. W. 0.39; Th. 0.18 cm). A short, curved binding formed of thin sheet, left open at the (?broken) ends and closed by folding a slightly wider 'lip' over in the middle. White fibrous material (??lace) protruding from the ends of the 'lip'. Although not a lace chape, which are straight and closed along their entire length, this suggests some form of binding from the edge of a lace dress element, intended to prevent fraying. [U/S]

9 Knives and Tools

9.4 Whetstone fragment (L. 2.60; W. 3.50; Th. 2.40 cm). Fragment from a sub rectangular to plano-convex sectioned coarse grey gritstone whetstone. Flat base and bevelled, worn sides and top. [1]

10 Weapons

- Three lead pistol balls (and a modern air rifle pellet) were recovered [U/S] (ball Dis 1.33 (unfired, retaining moulding seam); 1.20 (with flattening from impact); and 0.84 cm).

11 Vessels (11.1 by MJD and Ian K. Jones)

*11.1 Two very eroded and battered joining fragments from the upper wall and rim of a stone ??container/vessel (L 9.50; Ht. 4.80; Max. Th. 2.50; Int. Di. c. 9.00 cm). Poor quality, probably oolitic, banded Limestone (cream coloured with a white layer used for the exterior). If a jar, with a squared rim internally rebated for a lid/stopper, and with a slightly convex external side. Possibly a stone jar, though the context of use is hard to suggest and another possibility may be that this is a fragment from a carved hood to an internal architectural feature. [3]

11.2 Ae vessel fragment (L. 3.16; W. 1.25; Th. (wall) 0.11; Th. (rim) 0.14 cm) from a cast vessel with a simple, slightly thickened rim. [U/S].

12 Miscellaneous

12.1 Ae washer (Ext. Di. 2.22; Int. Di. 1.28; Th. 0.28 cm). Heavily corroded. [U/S]

12.2 ?Ae/pewter sheet fragment (L. 4.2; Maz. W. 1.93; Th. 0.23 cm). One curved edge. Black patina. Date uncertain. [U/S]

13 Metalworking Residues and Fuels

- Metalworking was mainly represented by Pb solidified splashes and sheet offcuts. Splashes, occasionally up to 5.10 x 3.10 cm, but generally under 2.00 cm, came from [1] (1), [11] (1), [12] (1) and [U/S] (12). Sheet offcuts and trimmings came from [5] (1).
- One other large, folded up offcut (straightened L. c. 13.20; W. 4.80; Th. 0.30 cm) from a broad Pb strip had three marking out lines scored on one face and came from [1].
- There was one small piece of cindery clinker from [12].
- Small quantities of coal in pieces up to 2.50 cm came from [1] and [3]/[5]. Roundwood charcoal (to 2.80 cm diameter) was noted from [12].

14 Vessel Glass

14.1 Body, ? goblet. Clear, now iridescent metal. [2]/[3]

15 Clay Tobacco Pipes

*15.1 Bowl, Atkinson and Oswald (1969) Type 25 (1700 – 1770) [U/S]

- Stem and bowl fragments came from [1] (6), [3]/[5] (2), [5] (1).

16 Pottery (by fabric)

- Only 114 sherds over 1 x 1 cm were recovered which, given the area and depth excavated, is a very low figure compared even to work in 2024. As in 2023 and 2024 the scarcity of pottery in demolition deposits is especially notable as most other demolition material deposits on the site produce significant amounts of pottery. This may well reflect functional differences across the site, with outer court and most moat deposits, which have been those encountered before 2023, deriving from clearance of service buildings whereas deposits encountered in 2023 - 5 represented the demolition of high status accommodation.
- Again as in 2023 and 2024, the profile of the majority of the corpus was broadly similar to that from earlier excavations, but with a lesser dominance of **London Area Early Post Medieval Red Earthenware** (PMRE/PMR) and **London Area Post Medieval Red Earthenware** (PMR).[6] This is likely to reflect less of the large flagons, which generally account for a high proportion of PMRE/PMR, on this part of the site, and of large kitchen vessels, which PMR was predominantly used for.
- **Surrey/Hampshire Border Ware** (BORD; c. 1550 – 1700), also a common component of corpora from the Elsyng site, was present, but in very small quantities.
- **Frechen Bartmann Ware** (FREC; imported c. 1550 – 1700) liquid storage/serving vessels (with one or two in **Post Medieval Black Glazed ('Metropolitan') Ware** (PMBL; Post c. 1580)) were represented, as usual in Elsyng groups, but again in small quantities and the few sherds identifiable to form were drinking jugs or mugs.
- There was also a light scatter of **Tin Glazed Earthenware** (TGW (Delft); Mainly post c. 1613) which included a small drug jar, a mug and a ?chamber pot.
- In contrast to 2024 (Dearne 2024, 37) early Medieval pottery was sparsely represented, but it was notable that the few sizeable sherds of **South Hertfordshire Greyware** (SHER; c. 1170 – 1350) bowls recovered came from Trench 3 contexts on the north of the 2025 site, so closer to areas producing most of the early Medieval pottery in 2024 than other 2025 excavation areas.
- Other fabrics represented by only one or two sherds were **Late Medieval/Transitional Sandy Redware** (LMSR; 1480 – 1600), **Surrey/Hampshire Red Border Ware** (RBOR; 1580 – 1800) and **London-Area Post-Medieval Slipped Redware with Clear (Yellow) Glaze** (PMSRY; 1480 – 1650).
- Only the following TGW vessels are worth separate note:

*16.1 Rim, small drug jar. Buff f., grey int. glaze, white ext. glaze decorated with three dark blue bands above a zone of overlapping orange and purple brown chevrons/zig-zag lines. Orton (1988, 327) Decoration Group D. ? c. 1630 – 70; Archer (2005, 94 and Pl. 6) No. 120. [1]

*16.2 Rim, mug. Buff f., white int. and ext. glaze.? Mid to late seventeenth century. [1]

*16.3 Rim, ?chamber pot. Buff f., int. and ext. good pale blue glaze, int. with trace of dark blue curved line decoration; ext. with at least two dark blue horizontal lines. [3]/[5]

17 The Faunal and Environmental Evidence

by Neil Pinchbeck (edited and with comments by Martin J. Dearne)

- 2.939 kg of animal bone and dentition, comprising 266 items, was recovered (eight items [U/S]).
- The distribution clearly reflected mainly Phase 5a site clearance/rubble dumping activities redistributing material e.g. from middens, but equally showed a relative paucity of faunal material on the raised platform compared to infilled moats and previously excavated rubble deposits in other areas of the palace, which have frequently produced far larger assemblages from far smaller volumes of deposits (additionally some records of rabbit and fox from demolition deposits [5], [12] and [11] need not represent food debris and may even be burrowing introductions). This almost certainly reflects the

[6] As outlined in Dearne *et al* (2022, 263) in terms of fabric late sixteenth/seventeenth century PMRE and PMR cannot usually be differentiated (pers. comm. Jacqui Pearce) and at this date at least the separation between PMR and PMRE is therefore at best only a reflection of the evolving kiln technology and to a degree consistency of glazing in use at a given production centre at a given time. It therefore seems potentially misleading to try and differentiate PMRE (usually given a terminal date of c. 1600) from PMR (usually dated c. 1580 – 1900) at least on the Elsyng Palace site as much of the 'PMRE' may represent redwares produced well into the seventeenth century, but just at centres not yet at this date producing the more consistently oxidised and glazed products one might term 'PMR'. All London Area Redwares characterisable as 'PMRE' from the site may then be better listed as PMRE/PMR and be dated very broadly to the later sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, not to before c. 1600.

higher status of the structures on the platform, more assiduous rubbish clearance here and the fact that this area did not have kitchen/food storage functions.

- The material provides limited dietary evidence, even if in line with previous excavations. The most numerous species were domestic sheep/goats (Ovicaprids: *Ovis aeries/Capra hircus*) with 127 items; domestic cattle (*Bos taurus*) contributed 77 items; pigs (*Sus scrofa*) were represented by seven items; rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) by 11 items; fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) by three; and brown rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) by one item. Bird bones comprised 10 identified as of chicken (*Gallus galllus*); two as of goose (*Anser anser*); and one as of duck (*Anser platyrhynchos*). The remaining items were not identified to species. (A full catalogue is available in archive.)
- The sheep/goat, cattle and pig bones were from the non-meat bearing parts of the carcass removed by butchery in preparation of joints of meat for the kitchen. Many had been broken or split for the extraction of marrow. The rabbit and chicken bones were similarly from the non-meat bearing parts of the carcass, but were snapped off by hand rather than by butchery.
- Frequent oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) shell valves were noted in most contexts, interspersed with occasional scallop *(Pecten maximus*) shell valves, Cockle (*Erastoderma edule*) shell valves, Garden snail (*Helix asperata*) and Brown lipped snail (*Cepaea nemoralis*) shells.

OASIS Summary for enfielda1-536307

OASIS ID (UID)	enfielda1-536307
Project Name	Research Excavation at Elsyng Palace
Sitename	Elsyng Palace
Sitecode	FXX25
Project Identifier(s)	Elsyng Palace
Activity type	Research Excavation
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Academic research
Organisation Responsible for work	Enfield Archaeological Society
Project Dates	06-Jul-2025 - 20-Jul-2025
Location	Elsyng Palace NGR : TQ 33800 98800 LL : 51.67204583230351, -0.06647679702795 12 Fig : 533800,198800
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Enfield Local Authority District : Enfield Parish : Enfield, unparished area
Project Methodology	Excavation of five trenches to 1.00 m depth
Project Results	•Excavation identified a probable cellared (?stair) tower, defied by very substantial walls, at the south end of the inner gatehouse of the palace and further cellared spaces running west from it. They suggest that extension of the original earlier fifteenth century gatehouse by Sir Thomas Lovell at the end of the century involved the addition of large four storey wings to its ends, part of a matching wing also being excavated at the north end of the gatehouse. There was possible evidence of subsequent modifications in the form of an inserted brick floor and all features were covered by often very deep rubble deposits, partly deriving from the cleaning of mortar from salvageable bricks and including large quantities of floor tile, cut brick and some worked stone fragments.
Keywords	Royal Palace - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Local society or group Enfield Archaeological Society
HER	Greater London HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Martin Dearne, Neil Pinchbeck, John Pinchbeck
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with London Borough of Enfield Museum Service;

Report generated on: 25 Aug 2025, 11:50

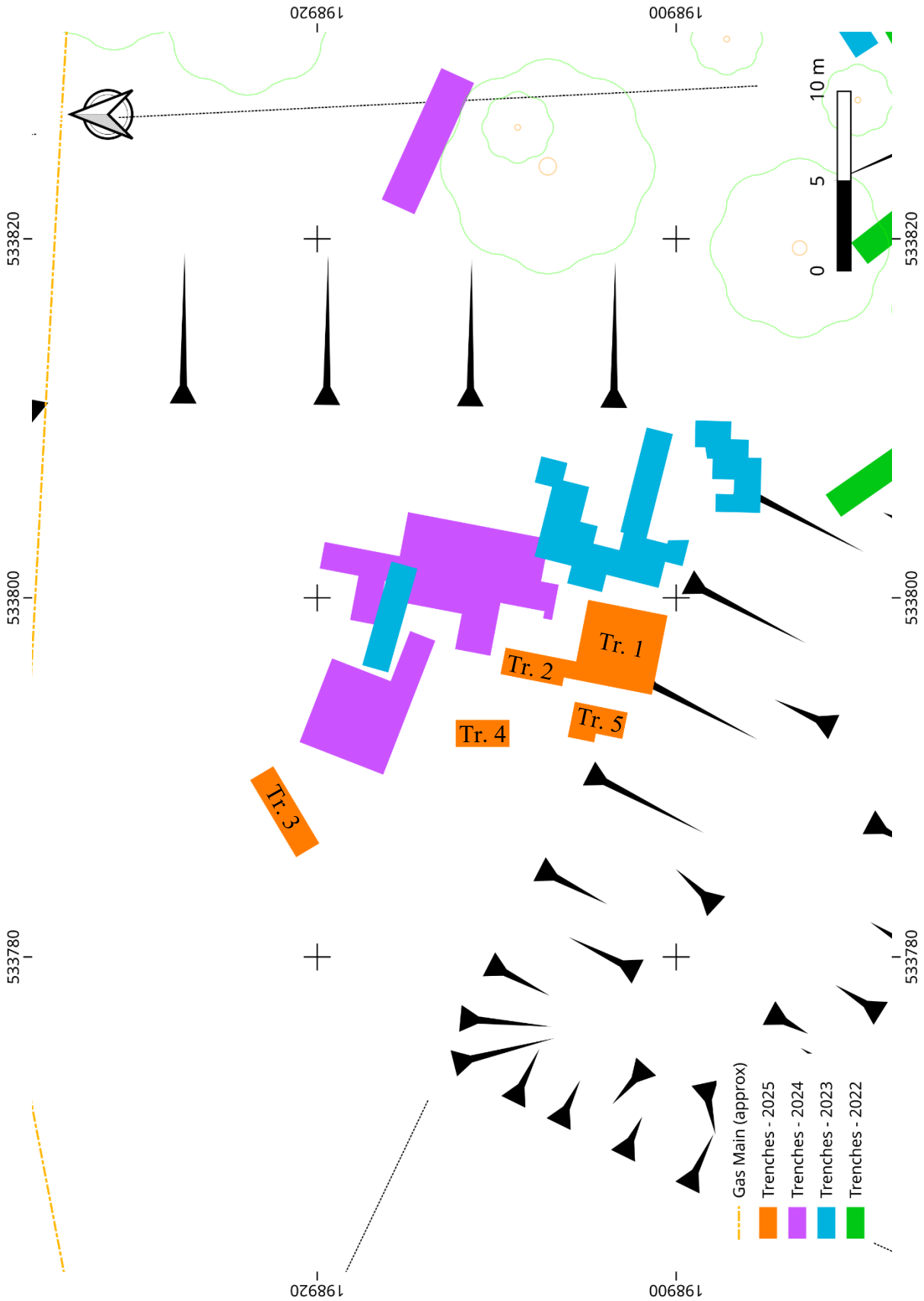


Fig. 1: Trench Locations in Relation to Previous Work
(LiDAR Generated Topography is Approximate – see also Fig. 6)

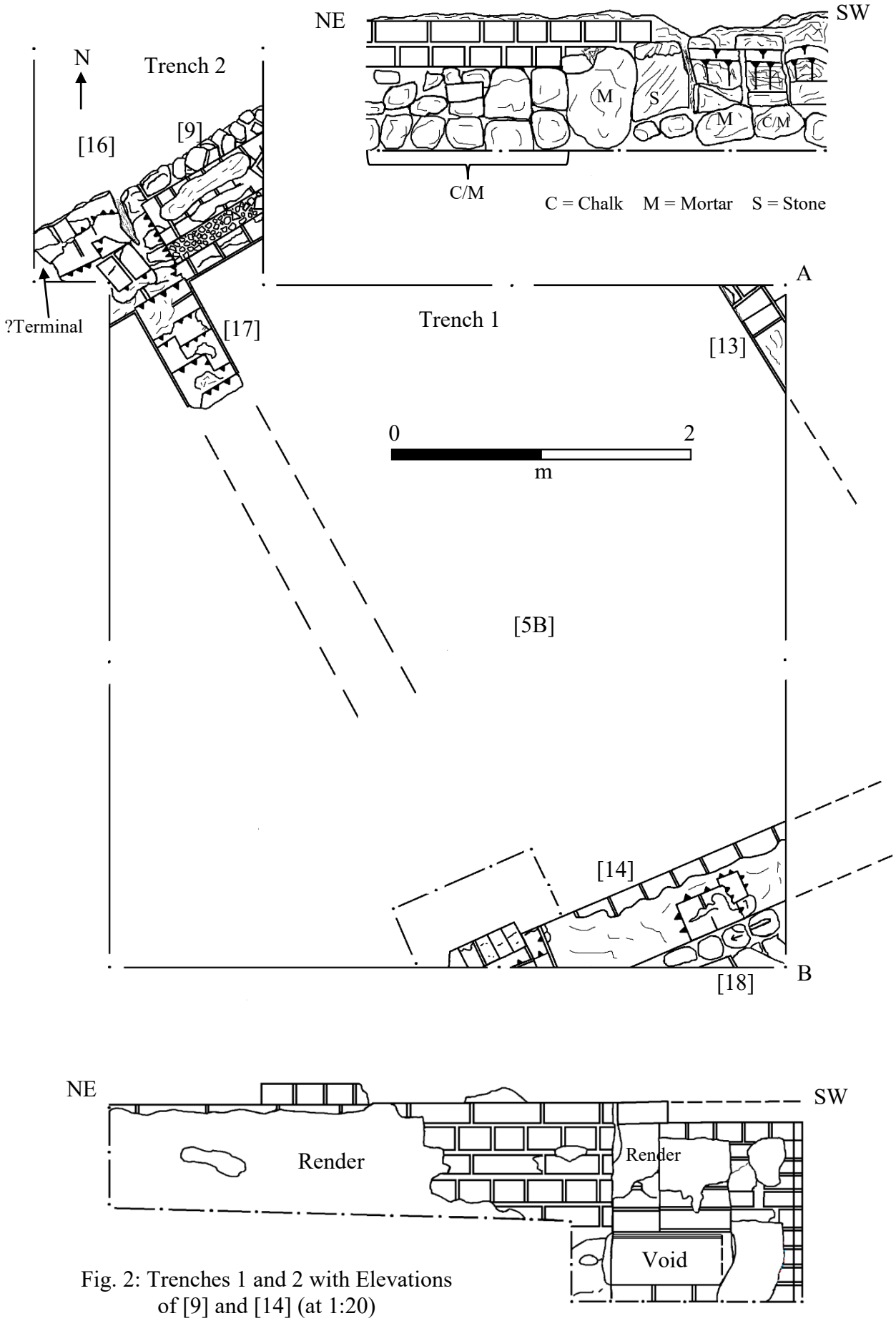


Fig. 2: Trenches 1 and 2 with Elevations of [9] and [14] (at 1:20)

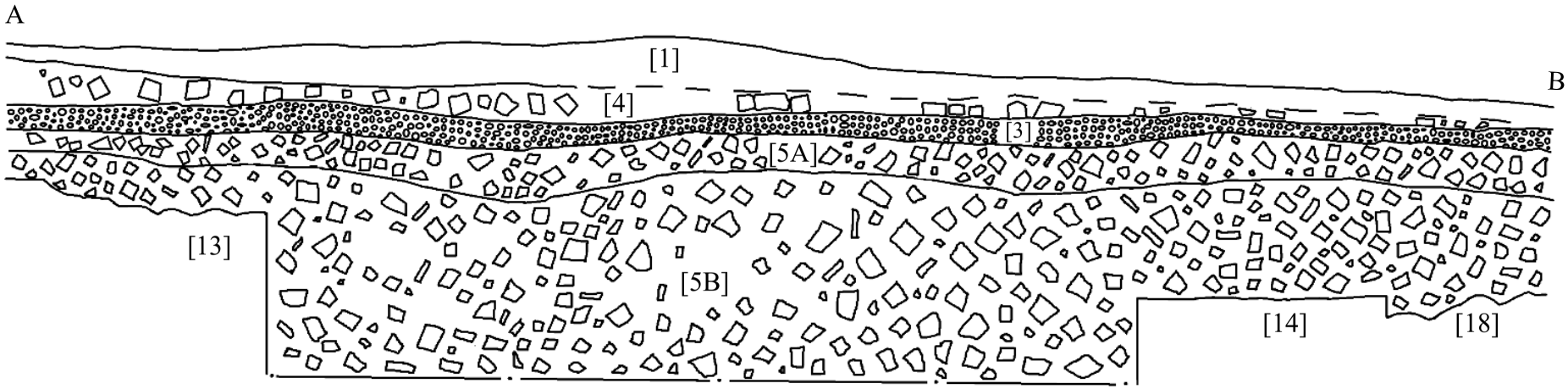


Fig. 3: Trench 1 Section A – B (1:20)

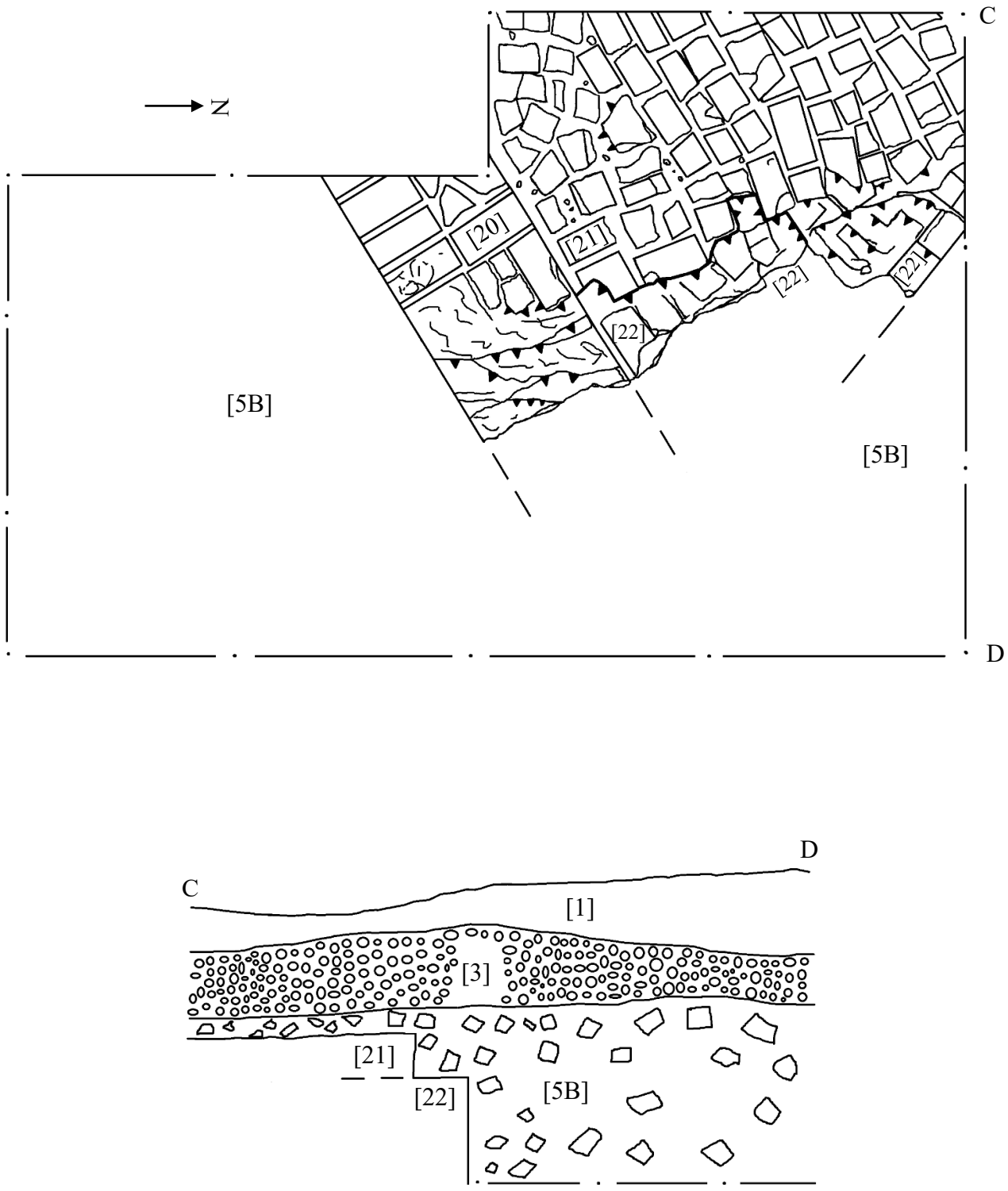


Fig. 4: Trench 5 Plan (Tree Roots Omitted for Clarity) and Section C – D (1:20)

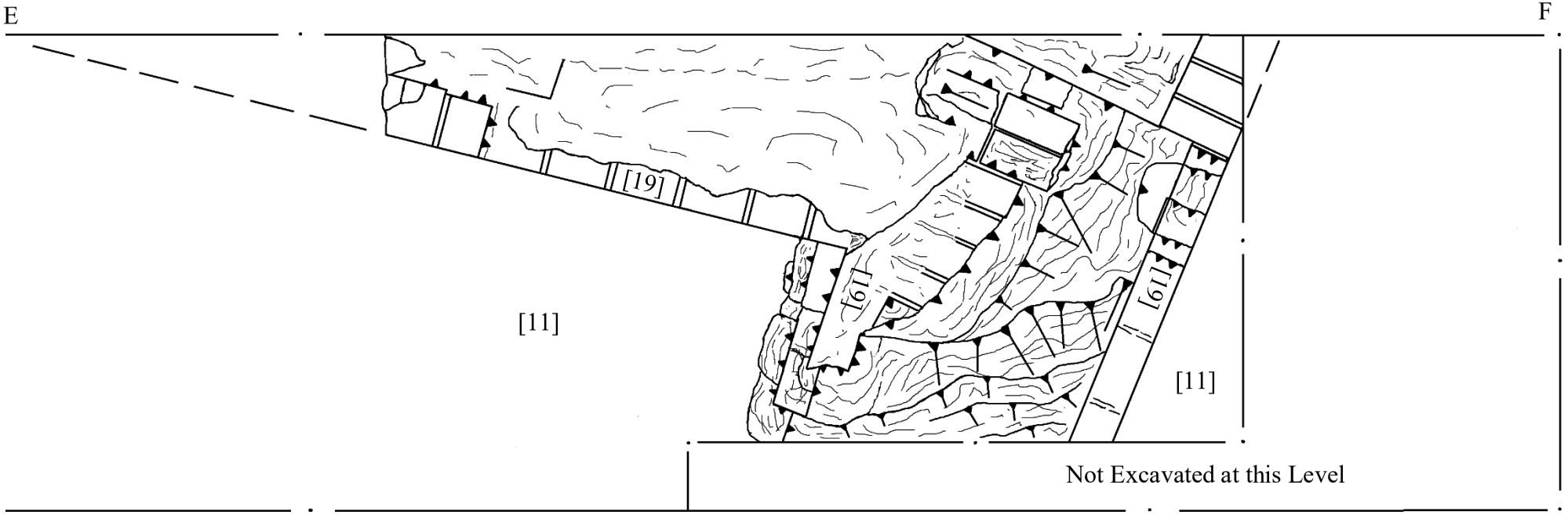
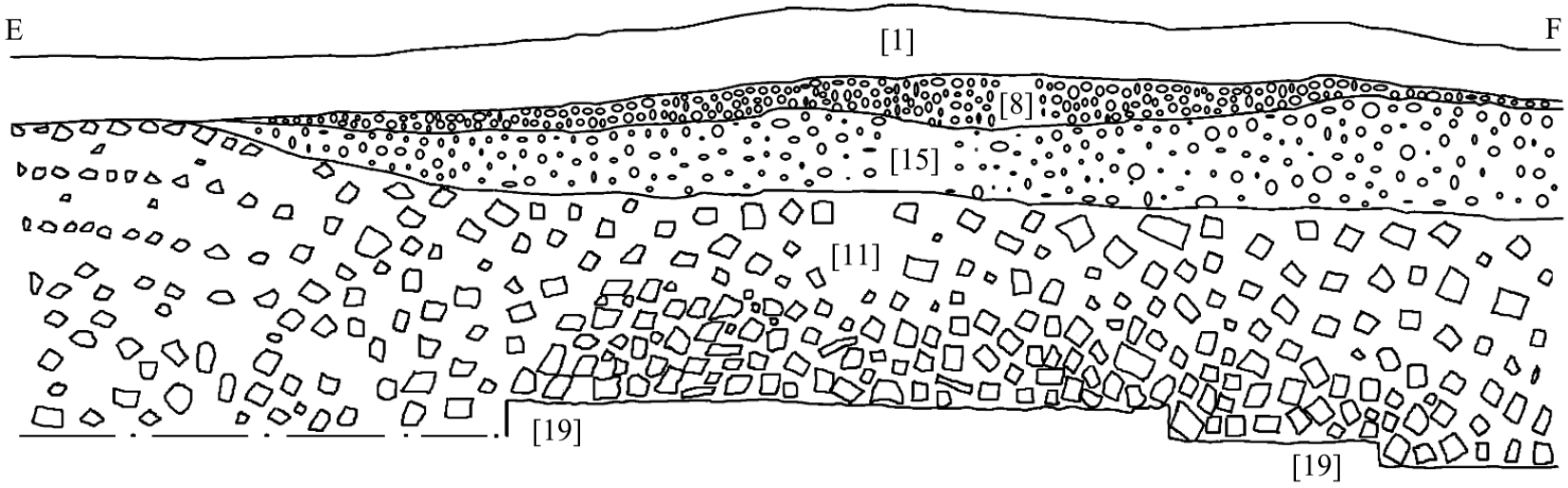


Fig. 5: Western Part of Trench 3 and Section E – F (1:20)



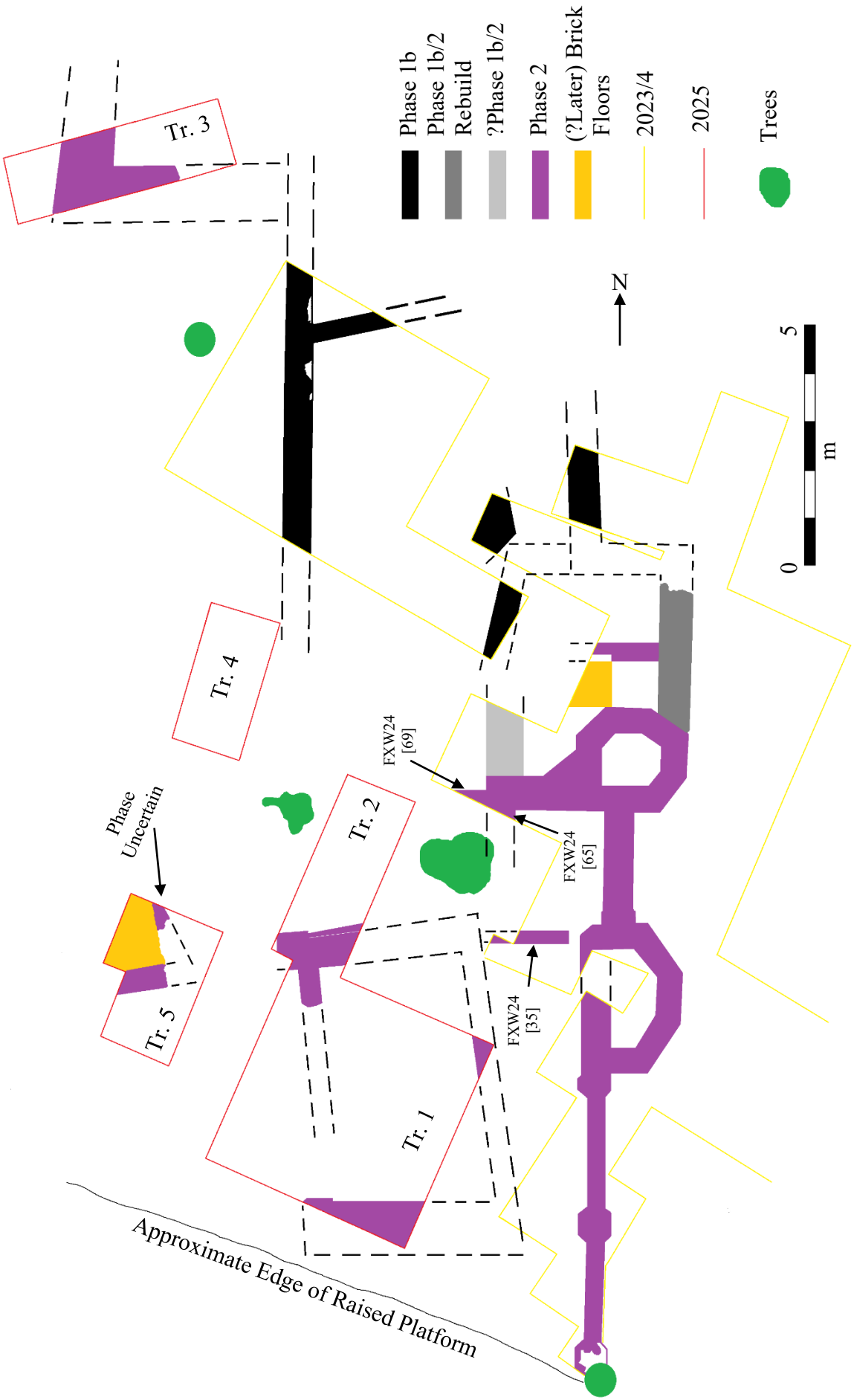


Fig. 6: Phased Structural Features Excavated 2023 – 2025

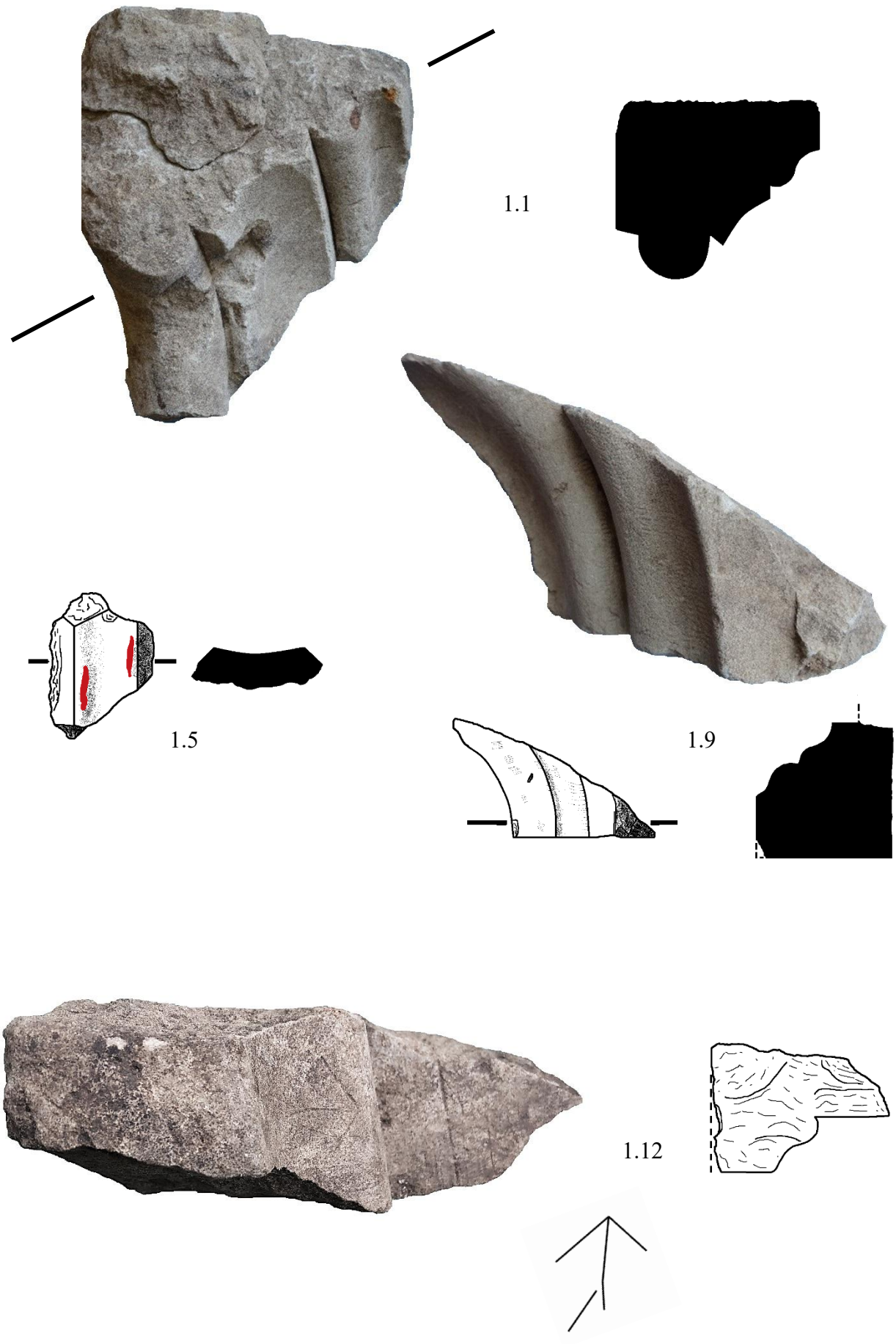
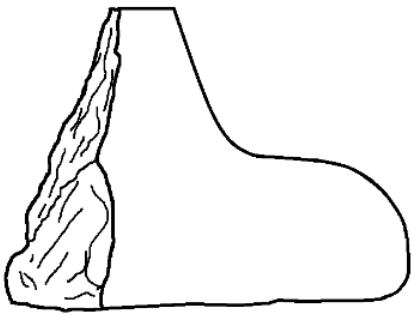
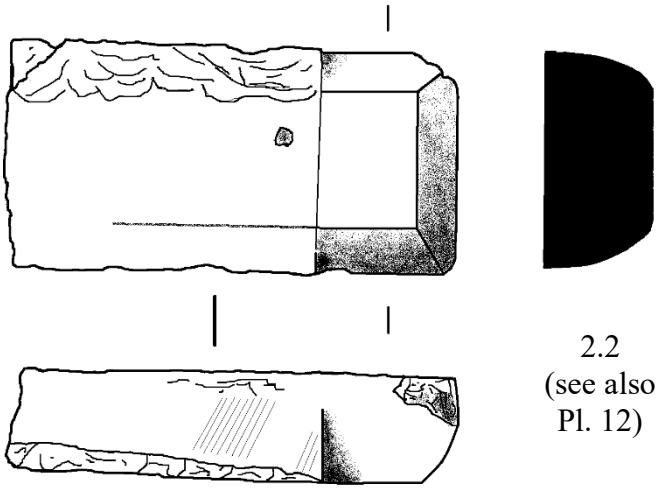


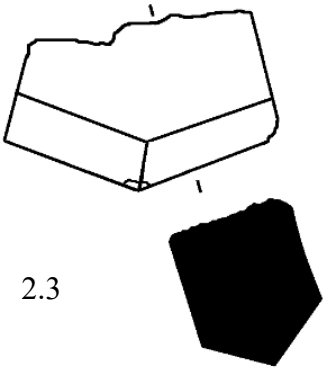
Fig. 7: Architectural Stonework (Drawings and Sections at 1:4, except Mason's Mark at 1:1; Photos Ian K. Jones and John Pinchbeck)



2.1

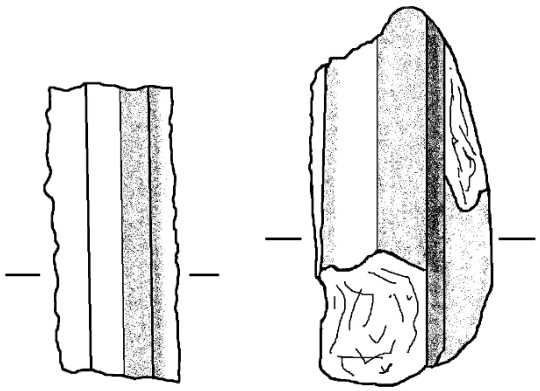


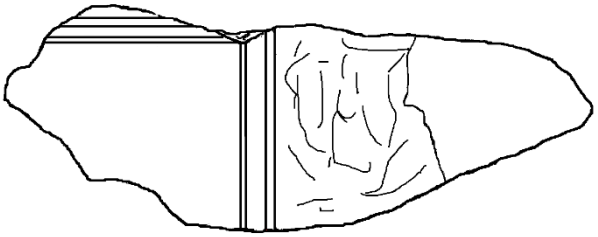
2.2
(see also
Pl. 12)



2.3

2.4





2.9

2.7

2.8

Fig. 8: Shaped Brick (Not to Scale; photo John Pinchbeck) and Decorative Mortar Fragments (1:1)

Fig. 9: Delft Tiles (Not to Scale) and Suggested Reconstruction of 4.1
(photos John Pinchbeck)

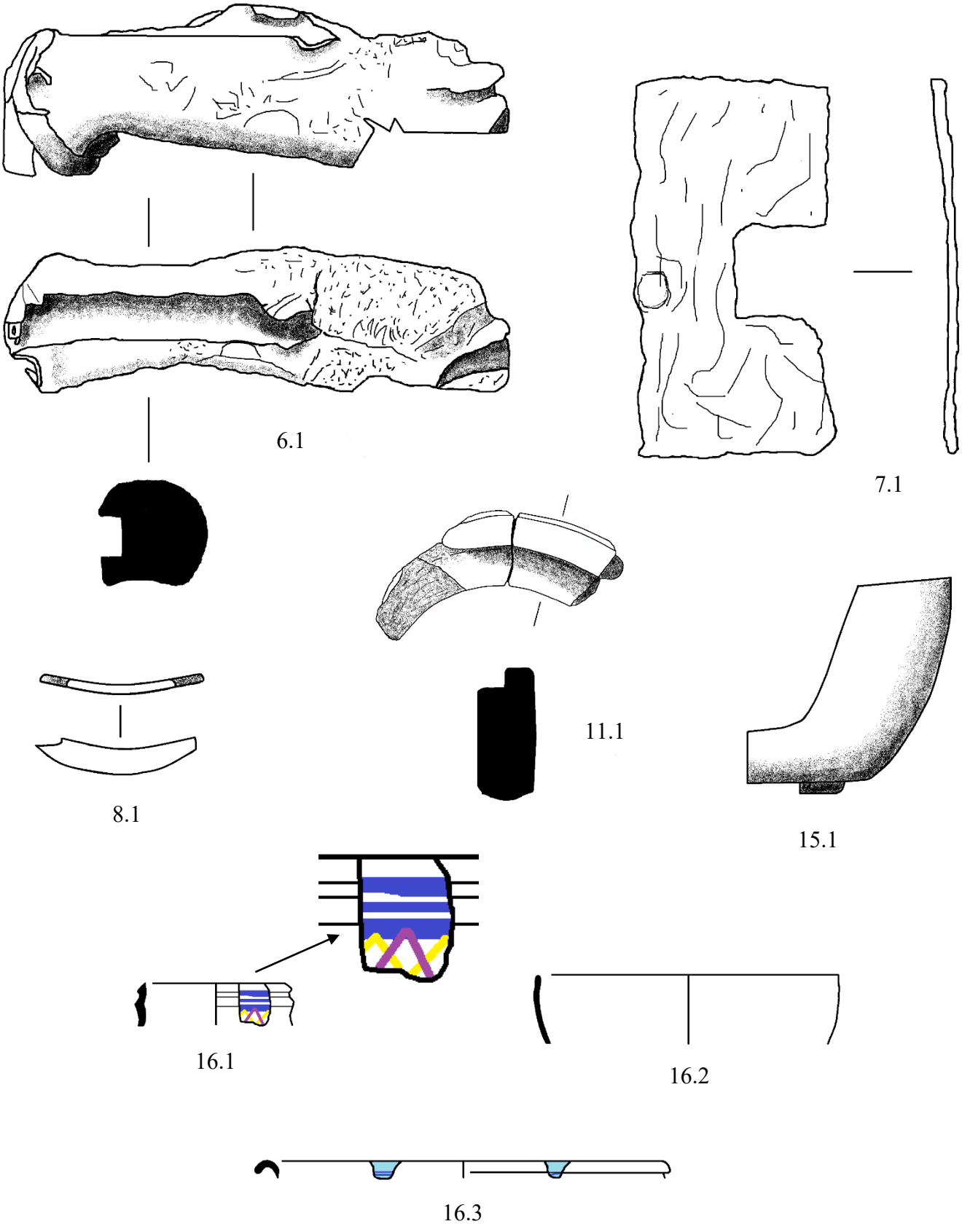


Fig. 10: Metal, Stone and Fired Clay Finds (1:1 Except 11.1 at 1:2) and Delft Pottery (1:4)

Pl. 1: Trench 1 Looking East with Walls [17] (to Left), [13] (centre) and [14]/[18] (to Right) (photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 2: Walls [9] and [17] (Photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 3: Detail of Wall [9] Showing the Stone, Chalk and Mortar Raft (photo MJD)

Pl. 4: Wall [14]/[18] Looking South East (photo John Pinchbeck)

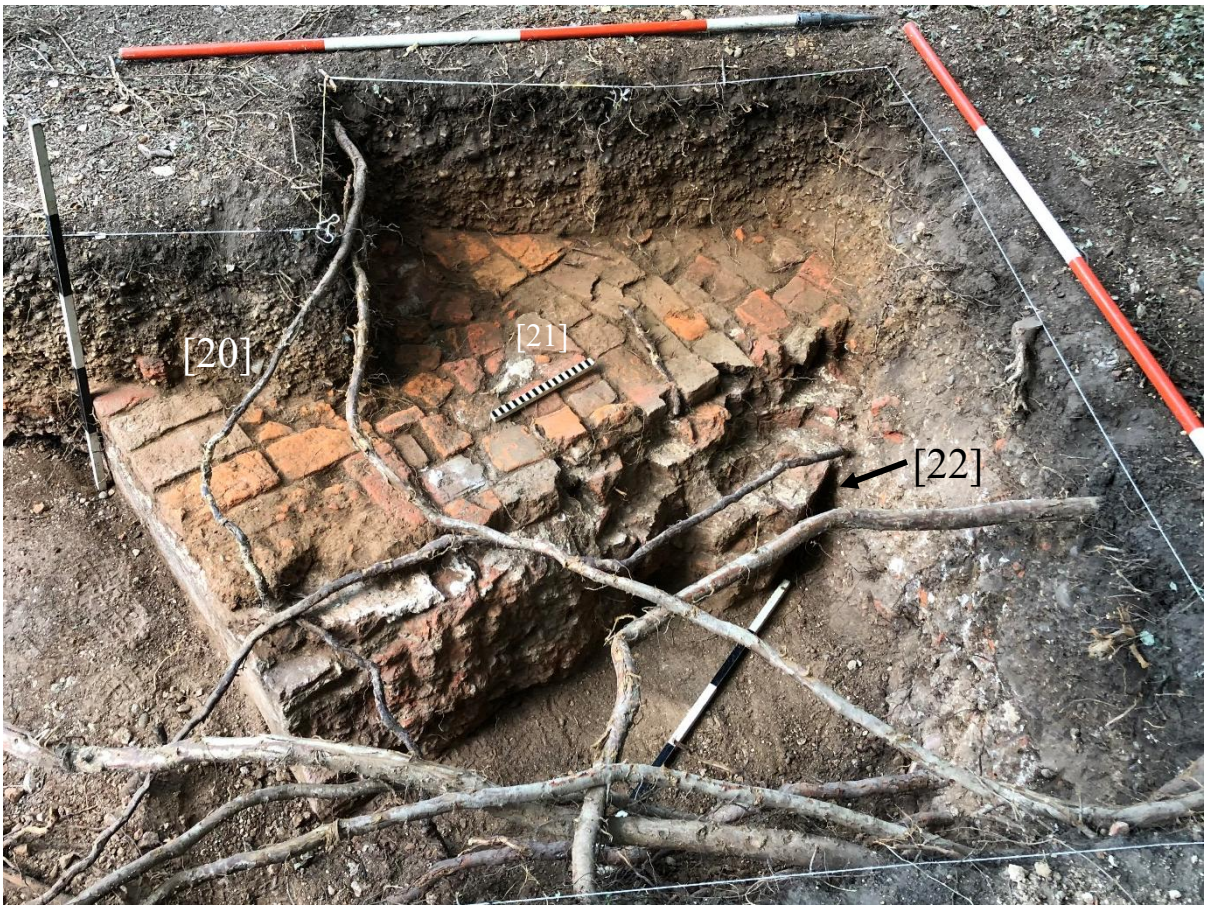
Pl. 5: Wall [14]/[18] Showing the Mortared Stone Reinforcement ([18]) Behind the Wall (photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 6: Detail of the Chamfered End of Wall [14] (photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 7: The South West End of Wall [14] Showing the Void (Demolition Damaged to the Right) (photo MJD)

Pl. 8: Wall [13] Looking North East with the Graffito Inset (photos John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 9: Wall [17] Looking North (photo John Pinchbeck)



Pl. 10: Wall [20], ?Wall [22] and Brick ?Floor [21] Looking West (photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 11: Wall [19] Looking South (photo John Pinchbeck)

Pl. 12: Shaped Brick 2.2 (See Appendix 3) (photo John Pinchbeck)