context one
HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGY

# Crowcombe Court
# Crowcombe
# Somerset

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMUNITY EXCAVATION

**February 2023**

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Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme

Quantock Hills
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Context One Heritage & Archaeology carried out an archaeological community excavation and Open Day at Crowcombe Court, Crowcombe, Somerset for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme in June and July 2022. Overall, nearly 200 volunteers, of all age groups and abilities, took part in the two-week excavation. The project culminated in an Open Day with over 150 visitors.*

*The purpose of the excavation was to identify the location, date and evolution of the original manor house that may have originated in the late 13th century but was superseded in 1724 with the present Crowcombe Court. Very little is known about the early manor although a map of 1767 shows a formal garden just north of the church that was laid out in 1676 and may have encapsulated or adjoined the manor itself. A late Victorian Ordnance Survey map identified this area as the site of the manor although its veracity is uncertain.*

*This report presents the results of the excavation together with an assessment of the finds, culminating in a discussion on interpretation and signposts for future work.*

*Despite new information in the form of LiDAR and geophysical surveys indicating the potential for discovering the early manor, this proved elusive to excavation although there were tantalising clues as to its existence. The manor may not have been located but the later 17th century formal garden with one of its fine pavilions and garden wall was rediscovered. This proved most worthy of excavation and shed light on an important transitional period in the history of Crowcombe manor. At its height, the garden was probably quite the spectacle serving as an extension to the grandeur that was the new Crowcombe Court. A 1740 painting depicts the garden enclosed by tall walls espaliered with fruit trees with pavilions at either end while a contemporary map shows paths and borders around the perimeter, and crossing in the middle with a fountain as its centrepiece. The discovery of fine pottery, numerous wine bottles, and clay tobacco pipes attest to the use of the garden as a pleasure ground, all of which was probably refurbished as part of the vision for the new and impressive Crowcombe Court.*

*Ultimately John Carew's grand design gave way to changing fashions where 17th century formal gardens gave way to a trend for more naturalistic parkland settings of the later18th century. The loss of the garden may well have taken away more tangible clues as to the whereabouts of the medieval manor although there is arguably sufficient evidence to pursue an idea that it still lay close-by. This included features and finds that were analogous with the garden such as the discovery of a potential dwarf wall with capstone that possibly supported a timber structure; a metalled surface that pre-dated the pavilion; medieval pottery, the earliest of which was 12th/13th century; and a variety of thick medieval slates from the roof of a well-appointed nearby structure.*

*Combined, all the remains were buried under demolition material and more widespread landscaping deposits in the 18th and 19th centuries in particular. While this has fortuitously ensured the preservation of sub-surface remains, the thickness of these deposits explains the lack of definition from some of the survey results. As such, should the hunt for the manor be featured as part of a future investigation, then consideration might be given to techniques such as ground penetrating radar (GPR) as a means of identifying remains at depth. The obvious targets might be the area outside the western and northern sides of the walled garden.*

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*The excavation was co-ordinated and supervised by Richard McConnell BA (Hons), MCIfA, Cheryl Green FSA, PhD, BA (hons), MCIfA, and Tara Fairclough BA (Hons), PCIfA, of Context One Heritage & Archaeology.*

*The report was authored and compiled by Richard McConnell, with finds specialist contributions*

*The illustrations were prepared by Tara Fairclough with Richard McConnell. Photographs by Context One. Volunteer image on Page 8 courtesy of Antony Jones*

*Post-excavation work was carried out by Cheryl Green and Tara Fairclough*



FRONT COVER: Looking towards Crowcombe Court through a fragment of excavated window glass (© Context One Heritage & Archaeology)

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The aim of the excavation at Crowcombe Court was to discover the remains of the medieval manor with the objective of taking the archaeological and historical narrative of the evolution of the village a step forward. However, the ultimate goal was to share that process of discovery with those vested in the landscape in which they live and work, and encourage an interest in our shared history.

The following report is a technical assessment of the results and as such, underplays the role of those who contributed to the success of the project from its inception to the post-excavation work and beyond. Nevertheless, Cheryl, Tara and I would like to give our sincere thanks to all those that took part in the excavation and we would like to take a moment to mention a few of the many contributors.

First, we are grateful for Dan Broadbent (Historic Heritage Officer, Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme) for commissioning Context One to carry out the excavation and for his support throughout the project. Dan was hands-on for much of the fieldwork, helping with volunteer logistics, administering Open Day activities, taking on interviews as well as often seen with a wheelbarrow shifting spoil or with a mattock and trowel in hand.

We also owe our thanks to Jon Barrett (Community Engagement & Volunteering Officer, QLPS) for volunteer co-ordination. Jon's work in scheduling the cohort of volunteers was more complex than simply allocating excavators each day, and we are only too aware of the many variables that needed to be taken into consideration to achieve the smooth running of this important aspect of the excavation.

Antony Jones (The Local Film Company) brought his video camera and microphone most days to document the excavation and produced a series of short films for QLPS. Antony's enthusiastic engagement to capture the essence of the project showed through in the final films giving the record of the excavation that all-important human touch.

Ian Long of the Minehead Area Detectorists got in touch to offer the group's help during the excavation, and we were only too pleased to invite them over to scan the spoil heaps and the wider Site between the trenches and test pits. The team made multiple visits to the Site and happily engaged the volunteers, young people and school children during their surveys. We are grateful for their input and came to regard them as part of our team.

We are grateful for helpful advice and information from South West Heritage Trust during the course of the fieldwork. Bob Croft (Head of Historic Environment and Estates) was a frequent visitor to the Site, engaging volunteers and the public with his knowledge and his enthusiasm for the project both during the excavation and the Open Day.

We are grateful to James Bellamy (General Manager, Crowcombe Court) for his unique knowledge of the grounds and his own observations across years of maintenance. James was also kind enough to show us around the house and invite us for a drink in the garden at the close of the excavation which was most welcome on a very hot day.

We would like to thank Patsy Smith for providing extracts from her detailed studies on Crowcombe Court that were largely compiled when she was the owner of the house until 2011. The level of historical information that Patsy has gathered over a number of years has greatly aided our narrative of the later history of the manor and has hopefully led to a rounded view on the excavation results and their historic context.

Any excavation is underpinned by a base of operations, and we were particularly lucky to have rented Church House for the duration of the fieldwork. Just a short stroll from the trenches, Church House provided all the amenities that we needed, from kitchen facilities, office space and an exhibition area for the Open Day. A special thanks goes to Joyce Dalton from the Church House team of volunteers for her help in administering our stay.

Our biggest thanks are, of course, reserved to the volunteers who came from near and far, and gave up their time to dig dirt, either with a mattock and shovel or kneeling with a trowel. The team turned up everyday with the same smile whether they were clad in waterproofs to face wet conditions or sweltering in blazing sunshine. We won't try and mention everyone individually for fear of missing someone off the list but suffice to say that the results clearly reflect the enthusiasm and endeavour of all those that took part and the project was richer for it. We hope the experience was as enjoyable as it was for us. A few stalwarts came day after day and became permanent fixtures of the team and deserve an honourable mention. These include Ant Haskins who took holiday from his job with Oxford Archaeology, Ruth Conley, Caroline Saunders and Sandie Fenech.

The sum of all the contributions above made for a memorable excavation and through everyone's fine efforts, the excavation has been every bit as successful as we all had hoped.

Ultimately, the excavation would not have been possible without permission from Anthony Trollope-Bellew, the owner of Crowcombe Estate who sadly passed away towards the end of 2022. Anthony was a descendent of the Carew family that held Crowcombe Manor since the medieval period and was vested in the history of Crowcombe that his family shaped over many generations. Anthony visited the site with his family on several occasions and was not only very interested in the excavation but generously shared his knowledge of the grounds in more recent years. We were glad to have made his acquaintance and pleased that we were able to show him some of his ancestor's legacy.

# GLOSSARY

**BCE**
Abbreviation for "Before Common Era." When used as a suffix to a date, it indicates the number of years prior to the traditional date of the birth of Christ (or the beginning of the Christian era) that an event occurred. The expression is intended as a non-denominational dating system

**CE**
Abbreviation for "Common Era." When used as a suffix to a date, it indicates the number of years after the traditional date of the birth of Christ (or the beginning of the Christian era) that an event occurred. C.E. is thus equivalent to A.D. or "of the Christian era" and is intended as a non-denominational dating system

**Context**
A single unit of excavation, which is often referred to numerically, and can be any feature, layer or single element of a structure. A pit for example would have a context number for the cut and a separate number for each fill within the cut

**Cropmark**
An archaeological site no longer visible on the ground due to the removal of upstanding remains (often by ploughing). The sites are recorded from Aerial Photographs by differential crop growth over buried features such as pits, ditches and walls

**Demesne**
The part of the lord's manorial lands reserved for his own use. Villagers worked in the demesne for a specified numbers of days per week. The demesne could either be scattered among the serfs' land, or be a separate area, the latter being more common for meadow and orchard lands

**Digital Data**
All documents and records in digital form, including correspondence, contracts, specifications, notes, records, pro-forma, indexes, catalogues, reports, maps, plans, section drawings, elevations, site photographs, object images, CAD files, databases, digital aerial photograph interpretations, geophysical and other survey data, GIS files, audio records, images, satellite imagery, spreadsheets, text files, analytical results and 3-D data

**Harris matrix**
A diagrammatic tool to order stratigraphical units (contexts) into ordered sequences to establish relationships and chronology

**HER**
Historic Environment Record. A database of known designated, non-designated and locally listed heritage assets

**Early medieval (Anglo-Saxon)**
CE410 - CE1066

**Fieldwalking**
Fieldwalking involves an ordered surface collection of artefacts from ploughed fields The aim is to identify areas of former activity on a site by plotting the distribution and concentration of material and assessing it by period

**Geophysical survey**
A method of seeing beneath the ground surface using a number of methodologies, including Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), Resistivity and Magnetometry. It takes a specialist to both use the field equipment and interpret the data. When used with Topographic survey the results can be very effective, though it is very dependent on soil and geological conditions within the site area

**GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) survey**
Very often this can be used for both Field Survey to provide accurate location of newly discovered sites and also as a tool for topographic survey, to provide a fast method for recovering thousands of 3D coordinates. There are a range of GPS receivers available, from the handheld (with a accuracy of 20m+/-) to the Satellite base station variety that can be millimetre accurate. It should be remembered though that GPS could be affected by the landscape, such as tree cover, mountains, tall buildings etc.

**In-situ**
A term applied to archaeological remains/deposits that are found in their original undisturbed location or position during excavation or survey

**LiDAR (light detecting and ranging)**
Airborne lidar measures the height of the ground surface and other features in large areas of landscape with a very high resolution and accuracy. It provides highly detailed and accurate models of the land surface at metre and sub-metre resolution. This provides archaeologists with the capability to recognise and record otherwise hard to detect features

**Listed Building**
A building or structure that is of national historic importance designated under one of three categories (Grade I, Grade II* and Grade II) according to interest/importance and legally protected under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990

**Medieval**
CE1066 - CE1540

**Modern**
CE1800 - present

**Orthogonal**
The computer generation of a 2D surface model from multiple photographs

**Post-medieval**
CE1540 - CE1800

**Photogrammetry**
The creation of accurate, fully textured 3D models of objects, features, excavation sites and landscapes from photographs using computer software

**Prehistoric**
c. 10,000BCE - CE42

**Romano-British**
(CE42 - CE410)

**Scheduled Monument**
An archaeological site that is of national historic importance and legally protected under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979

**SHC**
Somerset Heritage Centre, Taunton

**Sondage**
A small test excavation to investigate part of a larger trench/area

**Temporary Bench Mark (TBM)**
A reference point relating to a height above sea level (above Ordnance Datum - aOD) against which archaeological features and deposits can be measured against using a dumpy level. The TBM is often established with its aOD height taken from a GPS although an arbitrary measurement can be used in the field and re-calculated with its actual aOD height during post-excavation

**Terminus ante quem, Terminus post quem**
Reference points in the dating of a stratigraphic sequence on a site before which (ante) or after which (post) a context was formed. (similar to relative dating)

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)**
A document setting out the rationale, strategy, excavation methodology and post-excavation tasks to successfully carry out an archaeological programme of works

# INTRODUCTION

Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out an archaeological community excavation and Open Day at Crowcombe Court, Crowcombe, Somerset for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) in June and July 2022.

The QLPS is a five-year programme of works and activities in and around the Quantock Hills led by Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and grant-funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and other partnership sources. The scheme commenced in 2020 and includes 23 projects grouped under the themes of *Inspire, Live and Learn*. The excavation forms Project 3.5 under the *Learn* theme, *Understanding the Landscap*e, and is aimed at involving the local community to improve an understanding of the landscape history of the Quantocks through archaeological fieldwork.

The purpose of the excavation was to identify the location, date and evolution of the original manor house that may date to the late 13th century but was superseded in 1724 with the present Crowcombe Court. Very little is known about the early manor although a map of 1767 shows a formal garden just north of the church that was laid out in 1676 and may have encapsulated or adjoined the manor itself. A late Victorian Ordnance Survey map identified this area as the site of the manor although its veracity is uncertain.

This report presents the results of the excavation together with an assessment of the finds, culminating in a discussion on interpretation and signposts for future work.

Figure 1. Excavation of Trench 1 in progress

# THE SITE

## Location

The Site (centred on NGR ST 14077 36763) is within the former parkland of Crowcombe Court, a fine example of an early 18th century brick Grade II* house and now a wedding venue (Historic England (HE) List Entry no. 1345656, Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER) no. 30494) (Figure 13). The parkland itself is designated as an early 18th century Grade II Registered Park and Garden (HE List Entry no. 1001143, HER no. 34602), and incorporates former garden earthworks (HER no. 34705), and the conjectured site of the early manor (HER no. 33223).

Crowcombe Court is broadly in the middle of Crowcombe village with the house entrance flanked by the Grade I Listed, Church of the Holy Ghost, a 14th century and later church (HE List Entry no. 1174327, HER no. 33222). Immediately opposite the entrance is Church House, a rare example of a surviving early 16th century church house, and now a Grade II* building (HE List Entry no. 1057446, HER no. 34801).

## Topography & Geology

Crowcombe is situated at the foothill of the Quantocks on the more sheltered western side and within the Quantock Hills AONB (Figure 2). Centrally positioned along the length of the range, the village sits at the base of Crowcombe Combe which is nestled between Black Hill and Great Hill and marked by the minor road to Nether Stowey. The parkland itself is on ground that predominantly rises from west to east (c. 140m to 161m above Ordnance Datum (aOD)) from Crowcombe Court Drive to the tree line although the gradient was less pronounced around the areas of excavation (c. 140m-144m aOD). The ground also rose gently from south to north.

The recorded geology for the Site is Mudstone and halite-stone of the Mercia Mudstone Group (BGS, 2022). There is no recorded superficial geology. The soils are characterised as slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (CSAIS, 2022). The Site is in a parkland setting with the excavation areas under pasture.

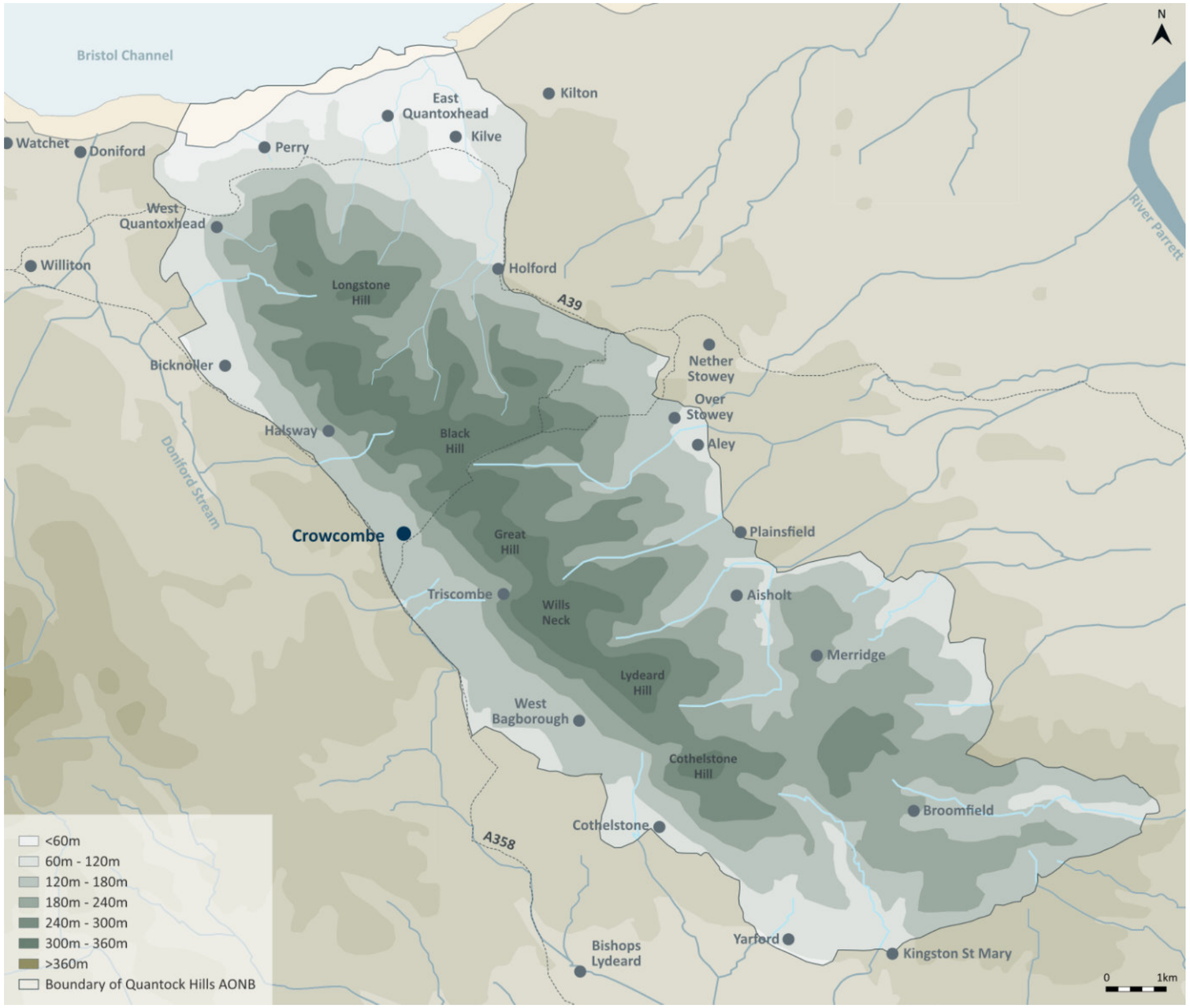


Figure 2. Site setting

# VOLUNTEERS

Community Archaeology projects are the central component of the QLPS 'Understanding the Landscape' theme, and is designed to provide a range of opportunities for volunteers to get involved in archaeology.

The ultimate aim of the projects are to harness a better understanding of the historic environment of the Quantock Hills and the environs by training a group of local volunteers to investigate its history and archaeology and take the story forward.

The programme includes desk-based analysis of records such as historic map analysis and LiDAR interpretation while fieldwork comprises geophysical survey, fieldwalking, and test-pitting, all of which culminate in an annual community excavation and public open day in the summer. The excavation at Crowcombe forms the second of four planned excavations during the life of the QLPS, the first being the excavation of a Late Bronze Age 'slight univallate hillfort' at Cothelstone Hill in 2021.

Across the 15 days of the excavation at Crowcombe, 66 individual volunteers took part in the excavation, contributing almost 1,500 hours of work. This included a number of volunteers who completed the entire excavation. The range of tasks included hand excavation, GPS survey, levels survey, soil sieving for finds, finds processing, sorting and cataloguing, site record keeping, and open day preparation. Members of the Minehead Area Detectorists (https://www.mineheadareadetectorists.co.uk/) were frequent visitors, scanning the excavation areas and the areas in between, often assisted by the younger volunteers.

In addition, nearly 100 pupils from Crowcombe and Stogumber Primary Schools visited the site took part in test-pitting and sieving along with 32 members of Mick Aston's Young Archaeologists (MAYA) (https://www.yac-uk.org/clubs/mick-astons-young-archaeologists-somerset), and two, Year 11 student work placements. A number of community groups also visited during the course of the excavation and around 150 local people visited our excavation open day to view the excavations, handle an array of finds on display at Church House, and watch medieval craftsmanship being carried out by experimental archaeologists from Newhaven Coppice.

A comprehensive video diary of the excavation was carried out by Antony Jones of the Local Film Company. Antony was commissioned to carry out the videography by QLPS and this resulted in a series of short YouTube videos documenting the excavation. These can be viewed through the QLPS website at https://qlps.org/learn-3-5-understanding-the-landscape/in-search-of-crowcombes-elusive-medieval-manor/. The excavation also attracted local media interest with radio interviews and social media videos conducted by BBC Radio Somerset.

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

There are no indications of settlement activity in Crowcombe before the Anglo-Saxon period when documents first allude to its existence. A charter of 854 CE refers to the estate of *Cerawicombe* belonging to Glastonbury Abbey while Crawancombe is mentioned in 904 CE when the Bishop of Winchester exchanged land there to become part of the West Saxon royal demesne (Gathercole 2003: 3). The West Saxon (Wessex) Kingdom spanned Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset and governed large estates in Somerset, the scale of which persisted throughout the Saxon period despite a trend towards smaller and fragmented holdings as the period progressed (Riley 2006: 79). It is likely that the Crowcombe estate passed to Earl Godwin, the powerful English nobleman, in the 11th century, and then to his widow, Gytha, when he died in 1053 CE (Gathercole 2003: 3). Gytha granted the estate to the church of St Swithins at Winchester the following year for what Collinson says was '…in expiation of her husband's treacherous abuses of diverse monastic institutions…' (Collinson 1792: 514) but the tenure was short-lived and was handed to Robert of Mortain in 1086 in the years following the Norman Conquest (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64). Despite the family forfeiting the estate in the early 12th century, this was never formally recognised, and ultimately led to a remarkable continuity of family ownership until the present day (Gathercole 2001: 4).

In a bid to increase revenue, Crowcombe was incorporated as a borough in the early 13th century acquiring market rights in 1227 and rights to a three day fair from 1234 (Gathercole 2003: 4). The market cross now stands 30m east of the Carew Arms and is both a Scheduled Monument and Grade II* structure, but was probably relocated from its medieval position adjacent to the Church and opposite Church House. The borough was split before 1247 after one part of the estate was gifted by Godfrey of Crowcombe to the Prioress of Studley in Oxfordshire and known as Crowcombe Studley; the other part was retained by the Mortain family and became Crowcombe Biccombe or Crowcombe Carew (modern-day Crowcombe (Gathercole 2003: 4). Both estates were repatriated in the late 19th century by Ethel Mary Trollope of Crowcombe Biccombe to form Crowcombe Court Estate (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64; Gathercole 2003: 4). The success of incorporation is unclear. There are references to a 'villa burgi de Crowcombe' in 1297, and incidentally the first mention of a manor, along with entries in the lay subsidy of 1327 but there are mixed indications of whether the borough existed thereafter (Gathercole 2003: 4).

Documentary sources record a succession of four Simon of Crowcombe's as Lords of the Manor between 1236 and 1349 before the estate passed to the Biccombe family and their heirs until 1568 (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64). The sixth and final Biccombe, Hugh, left the estate to Elizabeth, one of his two daughters who married Thomas Carew of Camerton (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64). Thomas Carew was one of eight Carews, and six Thomas's to inherit the estate until it passed to James Bernard following his marriage to the daughter of the last Thomas Carew in 1766 (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64). The manor was inherited by John Carew, a cousin of Bernard's wife Elizabeth in 1811, and his descendants before finally being left to the Trollope family from 1886 (Baggs et al 1985: 54-64).

Details relating to Crowcombe manor house itself during the medieval period are scant with the earliest references only available from the late 13th century. Dovecotes and a fishpond are mentioned in the mid-14th century but nothing further (Riley 2006: 102; Baggs et al 1985: 54-64). Sir John Carew was granted the right to make a warren and park at Crowcombe during the reign of James I (1603-1625) and laid out a court and garden in 1676. The garden is depicted on an estate plan of 1767 and shows a substantial rectangular garden neatly attached to the north wall of the churchyard and encompassing a simple co-axial arrangement of four parterres divided by paths leading to a central circular area with a feature, possibly a tree, as its focal point (Figure 3).

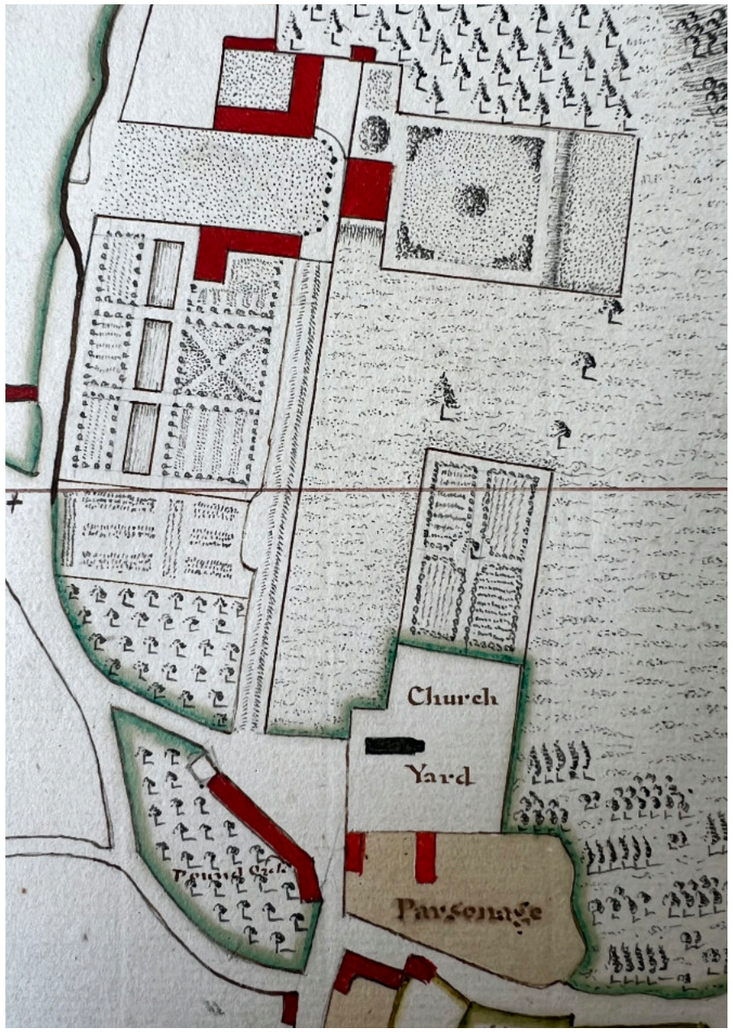


Figure 3. Extract from a plan of demesne land in Crowcombe, 1767 showing John Carew's garden

A painting of Crowcombe Court dating to around 1740 (Figure 4), most likely commissioned to commemorate the completion of the new manor, includes the garden which is shown as being surrounded by a high stone wall incorporating pavilions centrally positioned along the northern and southern walls. A doorway is shown through the wall leading directly into the churchyard at the south-western corner with an opposing door in the far north-western corner. There are no sign of the parterres or paths within the garden although the inside of the western wall appears to have shrubs or trees growing up against it. The pavilions are shown to project out from the wall at either end with a central door flanked by windows on either side and a single window above. The roof forms an apex with a cupola.

While little can be gleaned from the documentary sources relating to the location, form and scale of the manor during the medieval period, some of this is fleshed out in the early 18th century but only when it was being demolished. In 1719, a 17 year-old Thomas Carew was set to inherit Crowcombe estate following the death of his father, also Thomas (Smith 2012: 1). However, the young Carew could not realise his inheritance until he reached the age of majority in 1723. In the meantime, he married Mary Drew, and together they looked to replace the manor with a brand new building in the emerging Neo-Palladian style (Smith 2012: 1). Thomas Parker, an architect and joiner from Gittisham in Devon was engaged as the builder, and in 1724 it appears that construction of the service wings had begun alongside the demolition of the old manor (Smith 2012: 2).

Figure 4. Colourised painting of Crowcombe Court , c. 1740 showing walled garden with pavilions in the foreground

In a letter from Mr J L Sanford to his sister on 11 April 1724 (Figure 5), he writes the following:

> *"I was at Crowcombe last Wednesday [5 April] they have demolished all the ….. the Hall Great Parlour Puddys Parlour and the stair case and cellar, Mr Carew sent ….. Parker this day £100 which I hope shall …. he will allow it out of the rent which is now ?do, if tis so in pulling down God alone knows …… the house in raising! This I beg to your self, I found this thing of building is supported by Mrs Drewe more than Mr Drew…"*

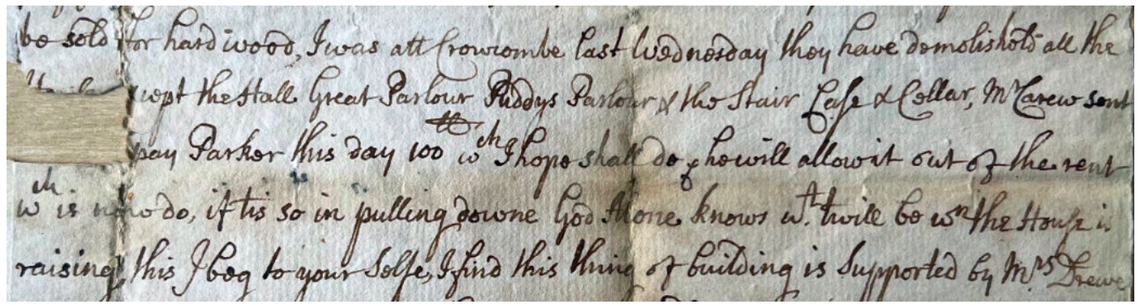


Figure 5. Extract from Mr Sanford's letter in April 1724

Demolition of the old buildings was clearly proceeding at pace with only some of the principal rooms left to remove at the time of Sanford's visit. By June of that year, records show that work had progressed to taking the Hall apart and it is at this point we learn of a rather scandalous incident involving a theft of coins found here, and one that only came to light when the theft was exposed some years later. Parker employed a number of tradesmen for the new house including a plumber, James Gaylard. Part of the initial work involved the salvage of materials from the old buildings for re-use and Gaylord's task was to remove any worthwhile lead and glass. Parker had clearly been on site during this work and on this particular occasion called Gaylord to the east end of the Hall. The blacksmith, a man by the name of Hook, was also salvaging materials here but was told by Parker that there was nothing of interest for him and sent him away. Parker then showed Gaylord a hollow or cavity in the wall behind a board and apparently revealed a stash of 2,000 silver coins held in several canvas bags and a leather bag. Gaylard was asked to stand on a mould for casting lead as Parker passed the bags down to him through a window of the chamber next to the hall. Parker then went down to take the bags and put them in a handled basket. The coins, thought to be hidden during the tensions associated with Monmouth's Rebellion in the 1660s, were taken to Parker's lodgings in Crowcombe and then to Gaylord's workshop in Honiton before he took them to London and exchanged them for over £500. Gaylard was simply reimbursed for his time and expenses while it was alleged that Parker received most of the money along with a number of items that Gaylord was instructed to purchase including '…two brace of pocket pistols, a case or two of drawing instruments, a book of architecture, several cuts draughts or plans for building, a stone ring, one silver antegugler…'.

The theft went undiscovered until 1735 when Gaylord, believing that he was on his death-bed, confessed to his part in the crime and implicated Parker. In the intervening years, the relationship between Parker and Carew soured to the point that Parker was replaced by Nathaniel Ireson, a Wincanton architect, in 1734 who took it to completion in 1739. The fate of Gaylord is unclear, but it is known that he certainly lived on beyond his confession to write a letter asking for forgiveness to Thomas Carew in July of 1735 and signing off with '…your unworthy servant…' (SHC ref. DD/TB/29/10).

Parker managed to allude justice for a while by fleeing to France for a period (Minnitt pers. comm.). He returned when he thought the matter had blown over, only to be thrown in the Fleet debtor's prison when he could not pay what he owed Carew by re-mortgaging some of his properties (Smith 2012: 5). Parker was later released following the passing of a new law that allowed debtors to exchange their sentence for a guarantee of payment but he apparently died before he could settle the debt to Carew (Minnitt pers. comm.).

While this incident is fascinating in its own right, the detail surrounding the theft coupled with Sanford's visit provide the only historical information on the character of the medieval manor. Not surprisingly, the manor included the key components that would be expected of a well-appointed manorial complex including the hall at its core with two parlours or bed chambers. There was certainly a (wooden) partition between the hall and one of the parlours, and it is reasonable to deduce that as the coins were found at the east end of the hall, that this range, at least, was oriented west to east. The mention of a stair coupled with Gaylord's account that Parker passed the bags of coins down to him while he perched on a mould and then handed them back to him when he came down would suggest the hall and parlours may have been on a first floor by this time. It might be expected that the original building would only have had a ground floor with a first floor inserted as the medieval period progressed. This might also apply to the staircase. While the sources indicate a first floor, we should be cautious of the some of the terminology used in the contemporary records. For example, Gaylord talks about the 'upper room' which was simply a term often used to describe the lateral arrangement of rooms, with 'upper' meaning the far end. The mention of a cellar is also noteworthy but may refer to a ground floor store or undercroft and need not necessarily refer to a subterranean element. Finally, the glass and lead removed from the building by Gaylord must relate to window glass but again, it is likely that glazed windows were a later introduction, and perhaps yet another indication of the evolution of the manor building(s) across several hundred years. The sources equally testify to a complex that was coming to the end of its life but this may have more to do with the young Thomas Carew's desire to establish his legacy on the estate rather than the viability of the manor buildings. The construction of the walled garden by John Carew in the last quarter of the 17th century is a testament to a continuing financial investment in the manor, and a sense that there was still a pride in it.

Figure 6. Colourised engraving of Crowcombe Court gifted to James Bernard by Rev. John Collinson, *c.* 1791 (drawn & engraved by T. Bonnor)

Figure 7. Colourised print of Crowcombe Court folly, bridge and cascades, late 18th century (drawn & engraved by Coplestone Warre Bampflyde)

Notwithstanding a premature end to the manor buildings, the walled garden was saved from demolition with the likelihood that it was embellished as part of the landscaping around the new manor. This probably included the insertion of the pavilions at either end and other ornamental work within the garden space. Certainly, the image portraying the house and its setting in the painting of *c.* 1740 is one of structured grandeur where the compartmentalisation of the grounds and the sharp lines of trees and evenly-spaced planting that extended to the hills beyond very much emphasised a tamed landscape. Thomas Carew died in 1766, and at a time that coincided with a change in fashion of country estates. The enclosed nature of gardens and parkland gave way to a trend promoted by the likes of Capability Brown for more natural open settings. An engraving of Crowcombe Court gifted to Bernard by the antiquarian Rev. John Collinson in *c.* 1791 and featuring in volume III of his History of Somerset, shows the zeal with which the new owner adopted this fashion (Figure 6). The view from the south-east clearly shows John Carew's walled garden had been swept away along with the the Court gardens and regimented landscaping, and replaced with a natural pastoral scene in a parkland setting framed with mature woodland on the slopes behind. Furthermore, Bernard commissioned the construction of a gothic folly in the form of a ruined church on the shoulder of a combe behind the house along with a rustic bridge over the stream and a flight of seven ponds with cascades between. The folly was always thought to include materials from the old manor although it is thought more likely to incorporate material for the early Halsway Manor nearby (Figure 7). Both the folly and bridge still survive and are Grade II Listed, but despite some re-modelling of the ponds in the 1950s (Smith 2012: 8), the ensemble is no longer maintained and is overgrown.

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

There are no records of any archaeological investigations that have sought to ascertain the location of the medieval manor at Crowcombe, either in antiquity or in the modern period, although speculation has persisted. While there are no clues in the writings of antiquarians such as Collinson, the Ordnance Survey are unambiguous in the location of the manor in their 1st edition 25" map of 1888 where they identify a spot just north of the church (Figure 8). It is unclear how they ascertained this position but it may have been informed by local knowledge or anecdotal tales. The location certainly coincides with the former garden but nothing more can be gleaned.

A modern earthwork survey first identified the slight remains relating to elements of the 17th century garden (Riley 2006: 119-120, Figure 9). This area was subsequently targeted for geophysical survey as part of preliminary works to inform the excavation. The survey was carried out by GeoFlo in February 2022 and comprised a magnetic survey of a 2.5ha area covering much of the open ground on the eastern side of the house and drive. The results corroborated the location of the garden in the form of linear anomalies defining the line of the exterior walls and interior elements. Concentrations of magnetic disturbance were also identified immediately adjacent to the suspected walls on the western and eastern flanks; a similar area centrally located, and straddling the suspected north wall, pointed towards potential demolition debris from buildings. Outside of these, various linear anomalies across the survey area suggested drains or former garden features. The results compared favourably with a recent high resolution (25cm) LiDAR survey covering the whole of the Quantocks study area in 2020, and commissioned by the QLPS. This comparison has subsequently been supplemented by a drone survey of parchmarks by C1 revealed at Crowcombe Court following the lengthy dry spell in the summer of 2022. Some of these are regularly visible in the summer months.

During the excavation, and due to the nature of the archaeology exposed, the churchyard wall was examined for any physical evidence that might relate to the former garden where it was attached. Despite areas of subsequent masonry/brickwork repairs and the modern eastwards extension of the churchyard, the wall still incorporates vestiges of the garden. This includes a blocked doorway at the north-east corner where the 1740 painting shows it (Figure 10); a 4m wide x 2m deep recess (Figure 11) in the position of the southern pavilion also shown in the painting; and stubs of both the western and eastern garden walls that projected from the churchyard wall (Figure 12).

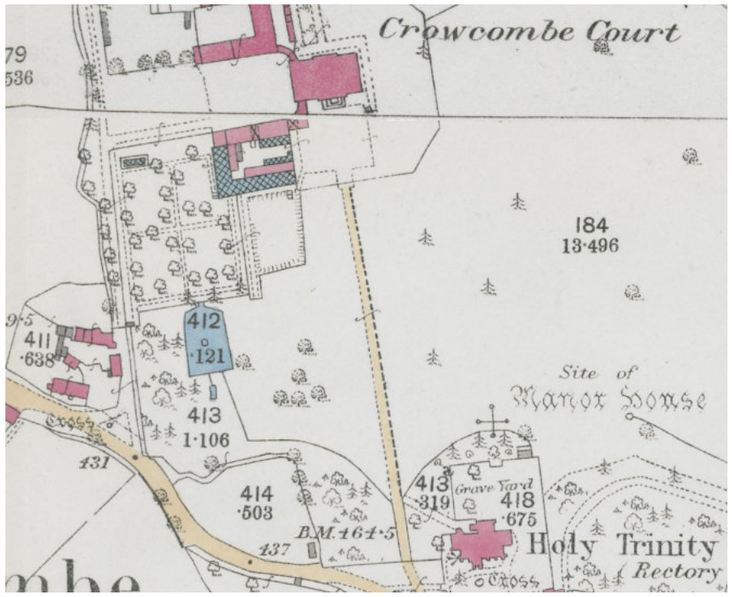


Figure 8. Extract from 1st edition OS map, 1888 showing conjectured location of medieval manor

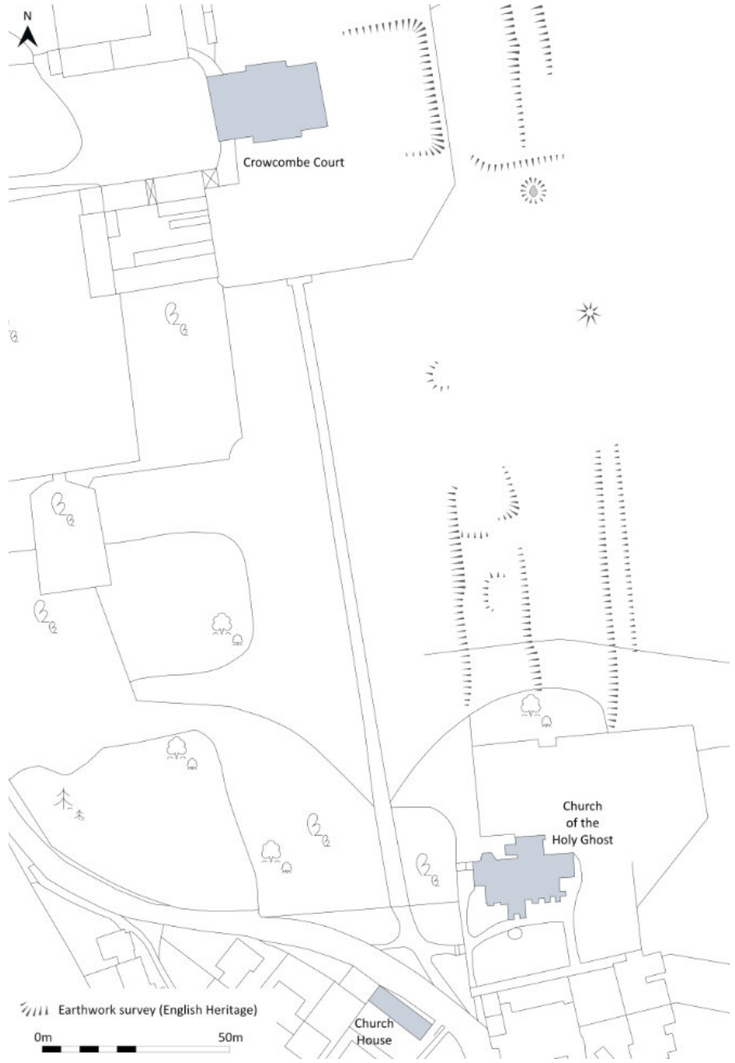


Figure 9. Earthwork plan showing former garden and landscaping features (after Riley, 2006)

Figure 10. Blocked doorway on the north-west corner of the churchyard into the former garden

Figure 11. The overgrown recess in the north side of the churchyard wall showing either side of the former pavilion wall (2 x 1m scales)

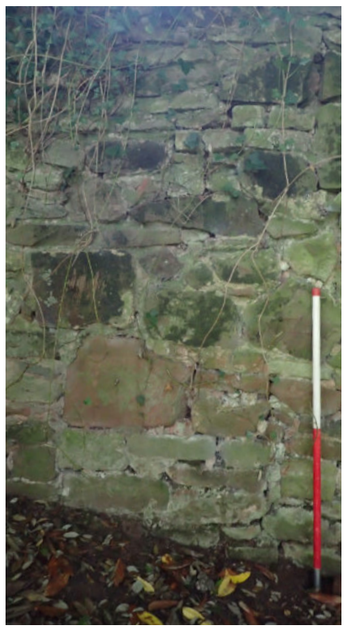


Figure 12. Stub of former garden walls projecting from north side of churchyard wall (2m & 1m scales)

# EXCAVATION

### Excavation strategy

The geophysical anomalies interpreted as possible demolition spreads alongside the former 17th century garden wall became obvious targets for excavation. The rationale for this was that these might relate to former medieval buildings ranged around a loose courtyard that was formalised with the introduction of the garden in 1676 by John Carew. While it is a matter of record that the buildings were demolished in the 1720s, the garden clearly continued until the 1760s at least. The close proximity to the church and the physical connection of the garden to the churchyard wall gave further weight to this hypothesis.

As such, it was decided to use an allocated 100m² area of excavation over two of the three possible demolition spreads. This originally comprised two, 10m long x 5m wide trenches straddling the northern (Trench 1) and western (Trench 2) sides of the former garden encompassing the garden wall in both instances and any structures or other physical evidence of the medieval manor. It was decided to extend Trench 1 northwards an extra 1m on the first day of excavation to better encompass the geophysical anomalies here. A number of locations for 1m x 1m hand-dug test pits that coincided with other geophysical anomalies away from the former garden were also identified to supplement or better understand any findings in the trenches (Figure 13). The amount of test-pitting would be determined by the character of the remains as they became known, and available staffing. In all, 6 test pits were excavated. The details of the full programme of archaeological works was incorporated into a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to the QLPS by C1 in March 2022 as part of the tender pack.


Figure 13. Excavation trench locations and geophysical survey interpretation plot

### Survey

An initial site visit was carried out on 12 May 2022 with the principal objective of re-locating several wooden grid pegs used as the geophysical survey grid by GeoFlo and take GPS readings from them. The purpose of this was to use the data to plot a section of the grid that encompassed the area of the former garden and position the proposed trenches. The grid would serve as a framework for any measurements in and around the excavation areas and calibrate the location of the geophysical anomalies and the trenches. A peg near the south-western corner and the northern edge of the geophysical grid were successfully re-located (Caudwell 2022: 12, fig 8, GPS points 1 and 4).

The site grid, trench corners and two Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) were marked out on 20 May 2022. An Emlid Reach RS+ RTK GPS unit was used to set out the corners of a section of the survey grid at 20m intervals, covering an area of 80m x 60m. The corner of each 20m square was marked with a wooden stake driven into the ground and flush with the surface. These were tagged with local co-ordinates, starting with 0m east/0m north at the south west corner, with the opposite north-east corner, for example, having co-ordinates of 60m east/80m north. The trench corners were separately marked with pegs and tags relating to their respective corners.

### Site set-up and preparation

Machine excavation of the turf, topsoil and subsoils down to suspected archaeological horizons in both trenches were carried out on 27 June 2022 by Vic White JCB Hire & Groundworks using a JCB 8026CTS tracked excavator under the supervision of C1 staff. Spoil was mounded 5m beyond the northern edge of Trench 1 and a similar distance away from the western end of Trench 2 with the nearest part of the spoil heap to each trench fenced off with netlon barrier netting. Site set-up also included a tent near the trenches for shelter, bulky tools, and finds processing. Temporary toilets were positioned in an open area near the church while Church House was purposed for desk-based work, volunteer inductions and welfare. The building also served as a presentation space for finds during the Open Day.

Volunteers arrived on 29 June and with the exception of the weekend of 9-10 July, excavation was continuous until 16 July. Closing the site took place over three days from 18 to 20 July with just C1 staff. This included checking the site archive, residual finds processing, data input and machine backfilling the trenches and test pits along with re-seeding the topsoil.

### Excavation methodology

Following the machine excavation of soils down to suspected archaeological deposits, all subsequent investigation was carried out by hand, and in accordance with the *Somerset Archaeological Handbook* issued by South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) in 2017 (amended 2021) and *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) in 2014 (updated 2020). Context One adhered to the *Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology* of the CIfA (2014, revised 2021) and the *Regulations for Professional Conduct* (2019, revised 2021), at all times during the course of the excavation.

Both trenches were initially hand-cleaned using a combination of shovel scraping and trowelling to clean the surface but it soon became clear that the higher deposits were largely superficial spreads of dumped material requiring removal through episodes of mattocking and cleaning before features were revealed.

All excavated features were fully recorded and this involved a photographic record; a hand drawn plan and section and/or photogrammetric equivalent; a written record using pro-forma recording sheets in paper and digital formats; and GPS positioning. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a "Harris-Winchester matrix" diagram. Soil colours were logged using a Munsell soil colour chart. Features selected for drawing were carried out on dimensionally stable media at 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections. All archaeological remains were levelled to Ordnance Datum, either directly by GPS or manually referenced against a TBM. A photographic record of the excavation was carried out, and involved the sole use of digital images. This included detailed and general photographs of the principal features discovered and working shots of the excavation as it progressed.

The deposits and features encountered during the excavation are listed and described in Appendix 1-III and summarised in the following sections. In accordance with standard archaeological practice, context numbers for cuts appear in square brackets, e.g. [100]; layer and fill numbers appear in standard brackets, e.g. (100) with the first digit indicating the trench number: (100) Tr1, (200) Tr2.

### Photogrammetry and 3D capture

A photogrammetric plan was assembled for Trench 1 on completion of the excavation work and this involved taking 67 horizontal images along the trench at 1m intervals and processed using Agisoft Metashape software in the office to produce a composite, high resolution, orthogonal image for post-excavation digitisation.

3D models of both trenches were generated using Polycam on an iPhone 13 pro using LiDAR technology. The models will form part of the Site archive and will also be available to view and interact with on our Sketchfab page at https://sketchfab.com/Context_One.

Aerial images were taken with a DJI Mavic Pro drone to produce an orthogonal plan of the parchmarks at the end of the excavation using 171 images captured using a pre-determined flight plan at an altitude of 70m. The drone was also periodically employed to take aerial images as the excavation progressed.

# RESULTS: Trench 1

See Figures 14 and 15 for orthogonal and digitised plan views of excavated trench. General working shots are included in Figures 19, 21 & 23.

Removal of the turf, topsoil (1000) and subsoil (1001) exposed a shallow spread of stone scalpings at the northern end of the trench (1005). This was an indicator for a more widespread rubble stone layer (1002), 0.30m thick, that extended from the northern baulk southwards where it partially overlaid a fill (1003) and a further rubble deposit in a more clay matrix (1018). These were both overlying a Victorian brick drain (1036), (Figures 14, 15 & 20) which was set in a narrow foundation [1004]. The top of the drain was exposed 0.50m below the ground surface and aligned west to east, extending beyond the trench in both directions. The drain was up to 0.77m wide and vaulted in appearance with the sides walls laid in header rows while the roof was laid in stretcher rows. The bricks were bonded in a hard lime mortar. There was evidence of repair work to a section of the drain towards the eastern end, manifesting in a slight bend and a less tidy appearance. Excavation reached the base of the drain and showed the full height of the feature to be 0.36m. A hand-dug sondage extending northwards from the edge of the drain measuring 1.85m x 0.95m cut though rubble layers (1005), (1002), and (1018) totalling 0.62m deep (Figure 22). This exposed a thin lens of soil (1019) above a consolidated, horizontal layer of 'cobbles' or 'metalling' (1020) pressed into clay. This possible surface filled the base of the sondage and clearly extended beyond but its full extent was not determined. A slither of the same surface (1033) was exposed between the drain and north pavilion wall (1025) where it was cut by both features (Figure 20). While it was stratigraphically earlier than the drain and pavilion, the surface could not be dated.

The main focus of the excavation lay to the south of the drain, and across the remainder of the trench, where a sequence of deposits (1006)=(1007), (1011), (1012), (1013), and (1015) revealed the floor plan and exterior of the northern pavilion depicted in the *c.* 1740 painting described earlier. Perhaps the most distinctive deposit (1006) above the structure was a thick (0.19m) dark loam largely coinciding with the footprint of the pavilion, and with abundant finds including large quantities of brick and tile, ceramics, window glass, vessel glass, roofing slates, wall plaster, ferrous items, and animal bone. The quantities of material here were such that only a proportion were retained for assessment. Collectively, the material was dated to the 18th century although some of the glass was 17th century with a residual amount dated to the 19th century. A sherd of 12th - 13th century pottery was also recovered. Finds collected in the other overlying deposits were similarly ascribed to the 18th century.

The footprint of the pavilion was entirely contained within the trench and comprised four walls (1016)[1030], (1017), (1025)[1034]/(1035), (1026), forming a square with outside measurements of 4.60m x 4.40m (Figure 14 &15). The northern (1025), eastern (1016) and western walls (1026) were 0.50m thick, constructed of clay-bonded coursed stone rubble, and stood to a height of 0.15m to 0.48m (Figures 20, 24 & 25). The front (southern) wall (1017) was similarly built but more slender at 0.35m wide (Figures 16 & 18), and with a central door threshold (1027) (Figure 17). The threshold was marked by a line of render lapping up against either side of what would have been the bottom of the wooden door frame but now filled with soil (1028). A square socket at the eastern side of the threshold is likely to have held a wooden upright as part of the frame. The door would probably have been around 1m wide. The threshold was set back in line with the interior of the wall, giving room for a front step which may have once been a stone block. The base of an 18th century bottle was embedded into the threshold render. The wall (1038) at the south-eastern corner of the pavilion continued eastwards into the baulk and appeared to do the same westwards at the south-western corner although this edge of the pavilion ran into the baulk here. The interior faces of the pavilion walls were rendered with a thick (up to 0.05m), hard pinkish grey lime mortar that lapped onto the floor (1029). Patches of a similar render were exposed across the floor suggesting that the entire surface was once covered in a concrete-type finish.

Outside of the pavilion, and in the remainder of the southern end of the trench, excavation came down through demolition deposits (1007), (1013) and (1015) to expose a soil layer (1014), 0.20m thick, covering a thicker soil (1024) (where it was exposed in two sondages, Figure 16 & 18) running alongside the front of the pavilion and extending 1m to 1.50m away from the wall. This was adjacent to a band of small stone 'cobbling' (1022)=(1032) that extended beyond the full width of the trench and outside of the baulk at the southern end.

A 2m length of a possible wall or very hard stone layer (1037) showed along the eastern trench section and was cut by the narrow foundation trench [1030](1031) for the pavilion wall (1016) here. No dating evidence was recovered.

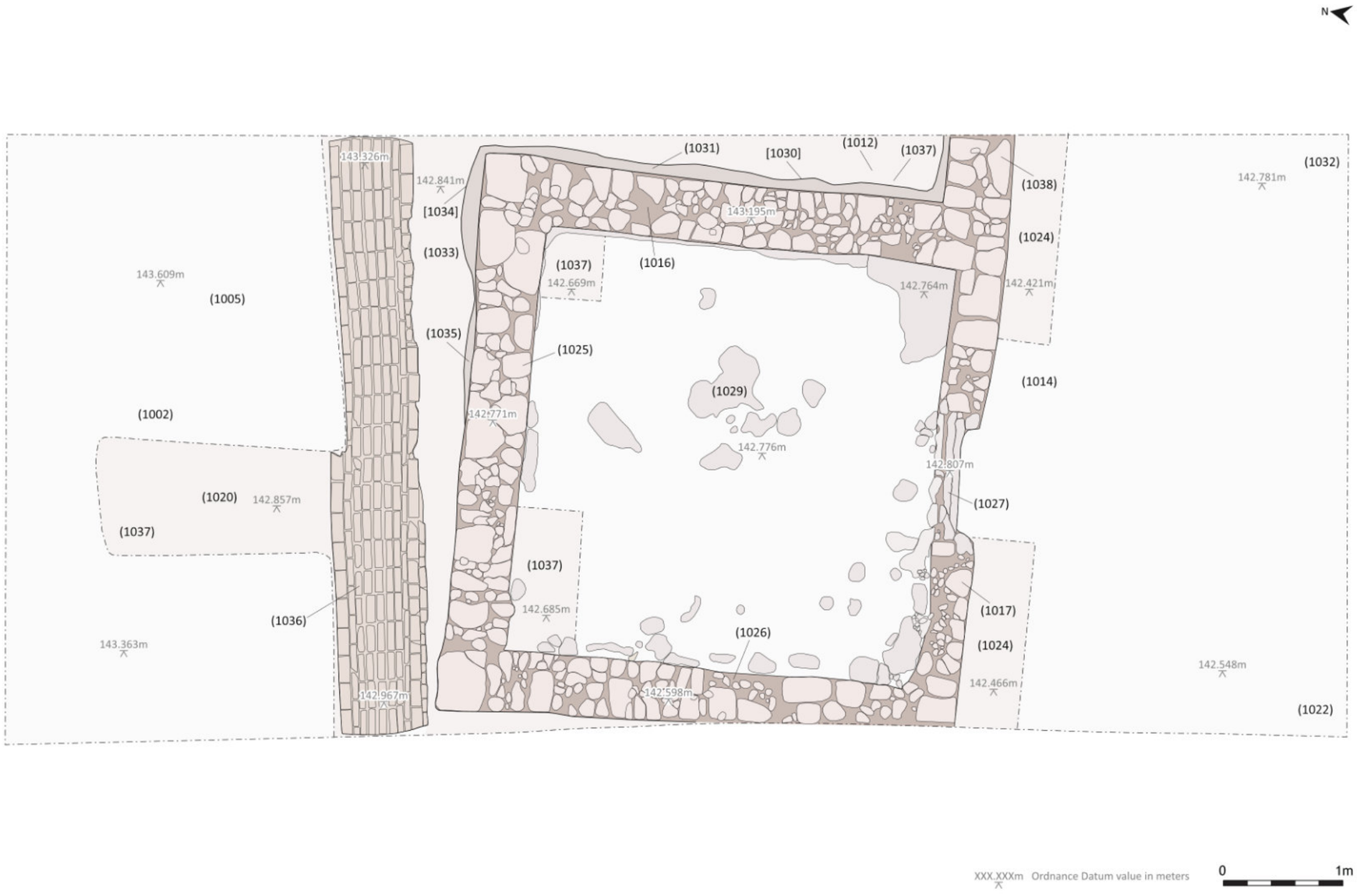



Figure 14. Digitised plan of Trench 1

Figure 24. East wall (1016) of pavilion and return (1038). View from south (1m & 0.50m scales)





Figure 25. Southern end of east wall (1016) of pavilion and return (1038). View from west (1m scale)

Figure 23. Trench 1 looking north following completion of excavation (1m scale)



Figure 15. Orthogonal drone plan of Trench 1

Figure 16. South-east corner of front wall (1038) of pavilion in section (1m scale)



Figure 17. Door threshold (1027) in front wall of pavilion (1m scale)


Figure 18. South-west corner of front wall (1017) of pavilion in section (1m scale)

Figure 22. 'Metalled' surface (1020) exposed in sondage north of the Victorian drain (1036) (1m & 0.50m scales)


Figure 21. Trench excavation in progress looking north-west


Figure 20. Victorian drain (1036), rear pavilion wall (1025) and surface (1033). Looking west (0.50m scale)


Figure 19. Trench excavation in progress looking south-west

# RESULTS: Trench 2

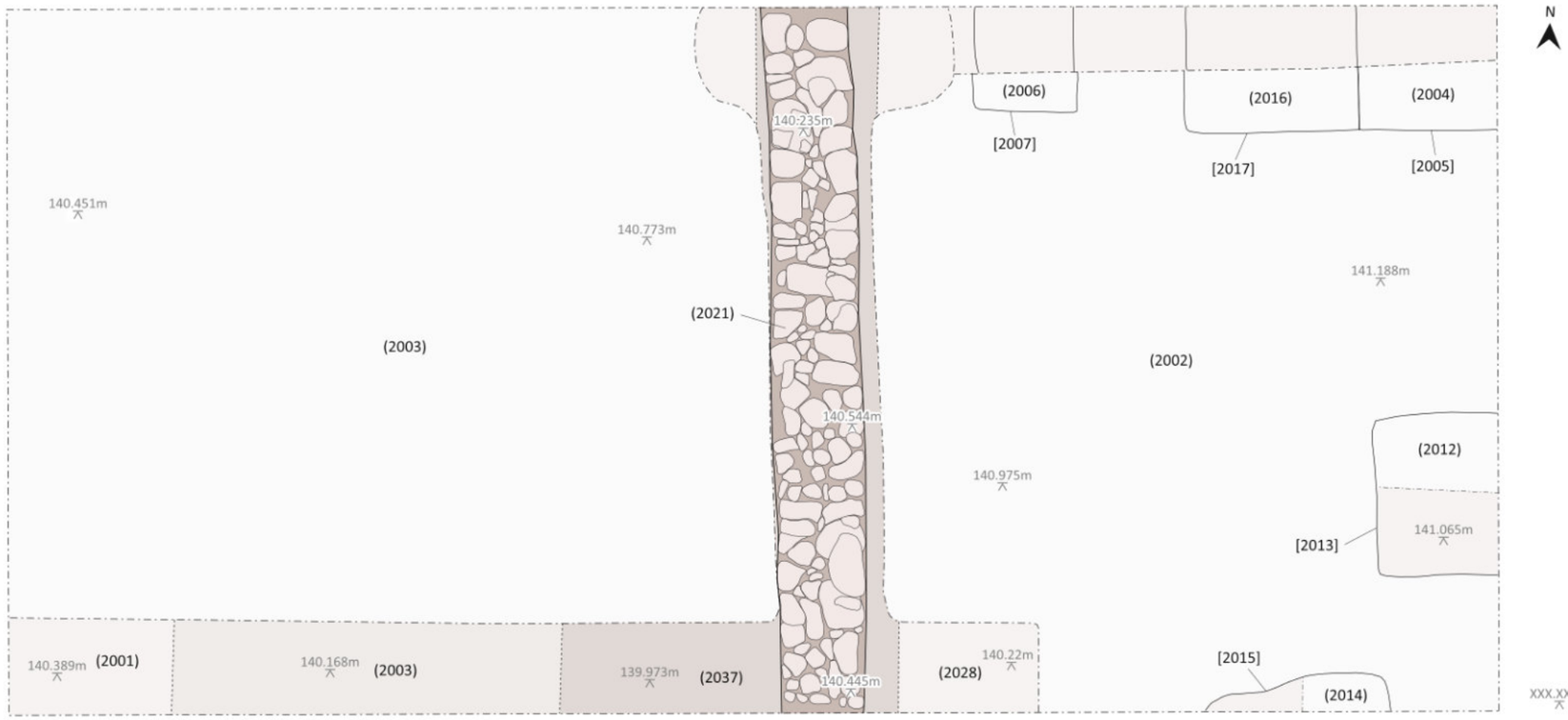
See Figures 26 and 27 for digitised plan with section, and orthogonal image views of excavated trench.

Machine removal of the turf, topsoil (2000) and subsoil (2001) by machine to a combined depth of 0.30m exposed two adjacent layers (2002) and (2003). Layer (2002) extended from the eastern end of the trench for at least 3.35m westwards and comprised 0.20m thick redeposited yellow clay. This was cut by a series of five suspected pits or depressions, three of which, (2004)[2005], (2016)[2017] and (2006)[2007], were investigated as part of a 0.50m wide hand-dug sondage at the northern end of this layer against the baulk. The form of these features was not conclusively defined but all had straight sides and were greater than the depth of excavation (*c.* 0.18m). A single sherd of 18th century pottery was recovered from (2004). The adjacent layer (2003) to (2002) on the western side largely comprised re-deposited stone rubble at least 0.45m thick and extended across the trench to the western baulk.

Given the general homogeneity of the exposed deposits, a hand-dug sondage, 0.50m wide was excavated along the southern baulk to coincide with the conjectured crossing of the former garden wall. The sondage was eventually extended to the west to better understand the archaeological sequence here and totalled *c.* 5.90m in length. Excavation did indeed encounter the wall (2021) which was exposed 0.68m below the ground surface and, as expected, orientated on a north-south axis. The full length of the wall across the trench was ultimately excavated during the course of the fieldwork. The wall was 0.60m wide with four built courses and a lower rubbly foundation course where it was excavated in the sondage, with a combined depth of 0.60m (Figure 29). Constructed from random-coursed red sandstone with a rubble core and clay-bonded, the wall was set in a narrow foundation cut [2011]. Although excavation was generally hampered by constant groundwater at the lower level of the wall, it was broadly possible to characterise the sequence of the wall from its construction to demolition within the sondage.

On the eastern side of the wall, four horizontal deposits (2025), (2026), (2027) and (2028) appear to have been laid against the wall and likely served as a succession of landscaping deposits or surfaces (Figure 30). The middle deposits (2026) and (2027), 0.11m and 0.22m thick respectively, had a high gravel content, perhaps indicating episodes of a former path alongside the wall. The uppermost landscaping deposit (2025) was more soil-like than the underlying deposits and may reflect a change to a border against the wall rather than a path. Unfortunately, none of these deposits contained any dateable material.

The remaining overlying deposits, and those on the western side of the wall were less structured, relating to the period following demolition as most lapped over the remains of the wall (Figure 31). A demolition deposit (2035) at the base of this sequence suggests that the wall was probably dismantled from this side, the level of which would indicate a differential height between the more 'natural' ground surface on the outside of the wall compared to the build-up of landscaping sequences on the interior. This deposit was subsequently interrupted by the insertion of a drain [2009] alongside the wall comprising a 0.68m wide layer of brick and stone. This was backfilled with a thick (0.35m) mixed deposit of silty clay, sandstone and gravel fragments (2020) containing both 17th and 18th century material. This deposit was topped with two thinner deposits (2032) and (2033). Above these were a series of levelling deposits (2022), (2030) and (2031), presumably in a concerted attempt to raise the ground above naturally wet terrain. Deposit (2022) included a few finds attributed to the 17th century. A more discreet sequence of post-demolition deposits on the eastern side of the wall included (2008), (2019), (2023) and (2024) with (2008) producing 16th to 18th century finds.



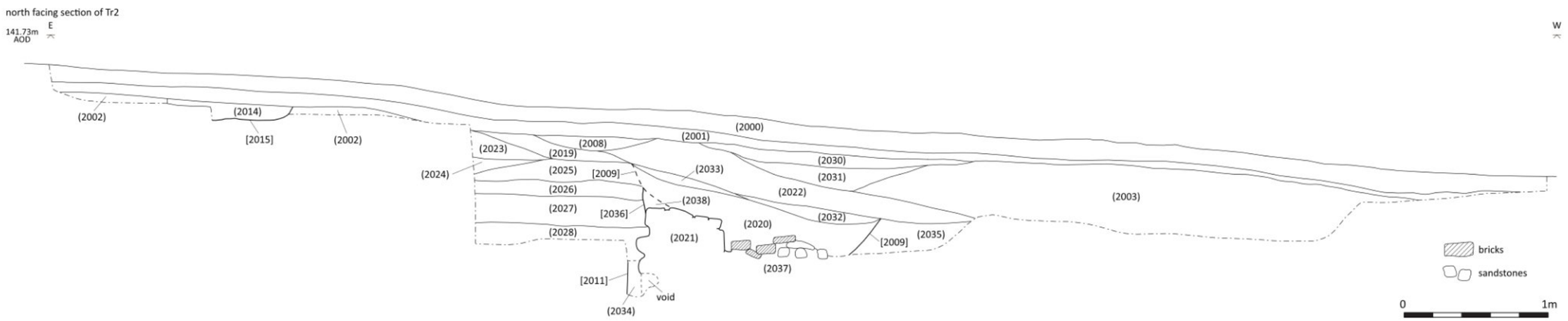




Figure 26. Digitised plan of Trench 2 and north facing section

Figure 27. Orthogonal drone plan of Trench 2

Figure 28. Sondage on south side of trench during excavation (1m scale)

Figure 29. East facing section of garden wall (2021) exposed in sondage (0.50m scale)

Figure 30. Deposited layers above garden soils in north facing section (1m scale)

Figure 31. Deposited layers over garden wall in north facing section (1m scale)

# RESULTS: Test pits

### Test pit 1

TP1 ultimately became a training test pit for school children and the MAYA group, and was re-excavated and re-sieved several times. As such the depth did not exceed 0.30m and only penetrated topsoil (100) and sub-soil (101) levels to reveal a suspected re-deposited layer of stone rubble. Finds were limited to a small assemblage of later post-medieval and modern domestic material, none of which was retained.

### Test pit 2

TP2 was extended to 1.75m in length to better serve as a training test pit and was excavated to a depth of 0.59m. Below the topsoil (200) and subsoil (201) were two horizontal layers containing some brick (202) and stone rubble (203). The upper layer (202) was 0,27m thick and included some bricks with mortar adhering. A number of finds (10) were 18th century ceramics. The pit was first backfilled with finds excavated across the Site that were considered of limited research potential and did not merit retention.

### Test pit 3

The deposits below the topsoil (300) and subsoil (301) in TP3 were similar in character to TP2 with re-deposited brick (302) and stone rubble (303) and 18th century finds. The only discernible difference was some mortar patching at the base of the pit and and a compacted appearance that was interpreted on Site as a possible surface or metalling although this may also reflect a consolidated landscaping deposit.

### Test pit 4

Located between TP2 and TP3, the character of the deposits were broadly similar to its neighbours although the brick deposit immediately below the subsoil in both pits (202) and (302) were instead represented by a stone rubble layer (402) here despite a similar thickness. The underlying stone rubble deposit (403) was exposed at a depth of 0.46m below the surface and taken down a further 0.10m before this was investigated an additional 0.34m deeper within a quadrant of the pit. The base of this deposit was not reached and was generally found to be have a higher soil content and less stone than in TP2 and TP3. Finds were sparse but similarly dated to the later post-medieval and modern period.

### Test Pit 5

TP5 (1.50m x 1.50m) was positioned to intersect the north-west corner of the garden wall by aligning the trajectory of the walls in Trenches 1 and 2 (Figure 32) The wall (509) was finally exposed at a depth of 0.95m below the ground surface under various redeposited layers (502), (504), (505), (506) largely comprising stone rubble although brick was also noted in layer (505). A possible robber cut [503] suggests the wall was not only demolished but was dug below the contemporary ground level to retrieve more stone. A stand of soil (507) against the robber cut, 0.46m thick, probably represents a remnant of the planted border against the interior side of the wall. This overlies a thin (0.05m) lens (511) of reddish brown clay with small stone fragments which may well indicate a trampled layer of stone flaking from the activity of constructing the wall itself, and subsequently covered with soil as part of the formation of the garden.

Of particular note, and unexpected, was the remains of an additional wall (513) exposed in the east facing section of the pit (Figure 33). The wall abutted the exterior corner of garden wall (509) and appeared from the section that it would have followed a westerly course and aligned on the same co-axial arrangement as the garden. The wall was 0.55m wide and seen to a depth of 0.35m. It was constructed from soil-bonded red sandstone blocks with three more regular-sized stone courses followed by two irregular stone-sized courses that provided a flat base for a capping stone that spanned the width of the wall. The wall was sealed by brick rubble deposit (505). The removal of stone at the corner of the garden wall to facilitate further investigation of the adjacent wall also revealed some large flat stones; these were not analogous with the garden wall investigated both here and in Trenches 1 and 2, and might tentatively indicate the remains of an antecedent to the garden wall. There was no dating evidence to determine its chronology and due to demolition and robbing processes, the stratigraphic relationship between the two walls was not sufficiently clear to establish a temporal context.

Figure 32. Plan of Test pit 5 showing corner of garden wall (509) (1m scale)

Figure 33. Wall (513) with capping stone shown in east facing section of Test pit 5 (0.20m scale)

### Test pit 6

TP6 encountered the top of a brick vaulted drain (602), 0.20m below the ground surface (Figure 34). The plan of the drain was fully exposed in the pit and was a little asymmetrical with the western edge fully defined and the eastern edge just beyond the baulk. The suggested width was around 1m and was oriented on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment which was confirmed by a parchmark leading away from the pit in both directions, the southern line heading towards the modern stream. It was unclear if the northern parchmark continued for some distance northwards or intersected with a line of the drain exposed in Trench 1. The drain in TP6, although contemporary in appearance, was clearly a smaller and subsidiary conduit.

Figure 34. Plan of Test pit 6 showing Victorian drain (1m scale)

# THE FINDS

## General

The majority of finds collected through excavation were washed, air-dried and bagged by context in preparation for assessment. Only exemplars from bulk assemblages such as mass-produced ceramics, window and bottle glass, brick and slate were selected for processing and retention; the remainder were quantified, photographed en-masse, and re-buried during backfilling. Metalwork and delicate finds were not washed, and only dry-brushed where appropriate. No special provision was needed for any specialist treatment of finds. All metal detecting finds were bagged individually and given a unique number, with their locations recorded with GPS. Further assessment/analysis might only be undertaken if the results merit publication and where it is recommended in the specialist reports below.

## Pottery by Rachel Hall

A total of 320 sherds, weighing 9253g, were recovered from 15 contexts from the site (see Table 1). With the exception of a small amount of medieval and 19th century sherds, the assemblage was dated to the post-medieval period, based on form and fabric. The average sherd size is 28.91g and generally the assemblage is in a fair to good condition. The sherds were assessed visually using a 40x hand lens with data entered onto an Excel spreadsheet by context, fabric, vessel type, date, number, and weight with diagnostic sherds recorded.

*Medieval (12th-16th century)*

A single sherd of possible Ham Green ware was recovered from layer (1006), representing the base of a jug with thumbed base and patchy green glaze over a buff sandy fabric. This can be dated to the 12th - 13th century (Figure 36, g). A total of 4 sherds weighing 63 g were recovered from three contexts. These abraded body sherds are iron-rich fabrics, with orange/red grey/black surfaces, in coarse fabrics with visible sand grains. These abraded body sherds represent a small amount of locally produced medieval coarsewares. A rim sherd was recovered from subsoil (1001) in a reduced sandy fabric, very similar to the DPT 3 fabric identified at Donyatt (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: 103). The sherd is from a cooking pot, with sooting on the rim. A further jar rim and body sherd were recovered from layers (1023) and (2008), these sherds can all be dated to the 16th century.

*Post-medieval (AD 1500-1799)*

The majority of the assemblage comprises 316 sherds, weighing 9223g (see Table 1). Five fabrics were recorded all dating to the post-medieval period. These sherds can be identified from known fabrics made locally with similar examples recorded in other local excavations in Donyatt, Somerset (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988). The pottery was recovered from fifteen contexts and unstratified layers.

The majority of the sherds that were recovered are part of vessels of Donyatt Ware that was produced locally. Examples of glazed earthenware dishes and slipware bowls were identified along with pancheons and jars. These can be dated from the early 18th century.

Earthenware glazed sherds dating to the 18th century which have parallels with Donyatt Ware were recovered from layers (1006), (1007), (1021), (2008), (2022), pits [2005], [2013] and drain [2009]. Similar examples of these Donyatt open dish rims, body sherds and bases with internal slip coating with trailed feathered patterns under an amber glaze were recovered locally at Donyatt to the south-east of the site (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig. 97. 8/137), (Figure 36, f).

Two pancheon sherds were recovered from layer (1006) and pit [2013]. These pans were used to settle milk before the cream was skimmed. These examples are dated to the early 18th century with parallels found locally (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig.123. 12/56), (Figure 36, c).

The majority of the sherds comprise dish rims, base and a small number of complete profiles. These were recovered from layers (1006) (Figure 36, a), (1007), pits [2005], [2013]. The majority are dated to the 18th century.

From layers (1014), (1021) and (1024) examples of Donyatt dish rims with thumbed frilly edge and with an amber internal glaze were recovered (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig. 94. 8/117). A rounded, conjoining dish rim, base and body sherds, which has parallels with another Donyatt form (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig. 93. 8/108) was recovered from layer (1014). From layer (1015), two different dishes with plain, rounded rims and amber internal glazes were identified, paralleled within the Donyatt assemblage (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig. 94. 8/115 and fig.104. 8/184) (Figure 36, b). Two further dish styles, one conjoining dish rim, base and body sherd with slip trailed decoration was recovered from layer (1024) (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: fig.106. 8/194 and fig. 104. 8/188), (Figure 36, d & e). All these vessels are moderate to high status tableware from substantial settlements and show occupation from late 17th to early 19th century. The forms are largely open bowls and amber glazed with a distinctive zig-zag pattern on the internal surfaces. Slip decorated wares dating from the late 17th century and produced in Donyatt potteries, Somerset, indicate trade links with other market towns during that period. Donyatt was the largest kiln production centre in southern Somerset, although there were others recorded at Wiveliscombe, Crowcombe and Nether Stowey in the 16th - 17th century (Allen 2000).

Four sherds of Brown Stoneware, weighing 274g were recovered. Examples of Brown Stoneware were produced in Bristol and London (Draper 2001: 33) and can be dated to the mid-17th century. Conjoining base sherds from a Brown Stoneware jug with a post-firing perforation in the base were recovered from layer (1015). Sherds from a bottle neck, in a mottled brown stoneware with grey fabric were recovered from layer (1006). Similar examples of this fabric of Nottingham Stoneware were recovered from Donyatt, dating to the 18th century (Coleman -Smith and Pearson 1988: 338).

| Context no. | Fabric | Vessel type | Date | No. | Weight (g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1001 | Sandy | Dish | C16 | 1 | 5 |
| 1006 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 8 | 223 |
| 1006 | Earthenware Slipware | Bowl | Early C18 | 10 | 138 |
| 1006 | Porcelain | Cup | C18 | 4 | 30 |
| 1006 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 19 | 419 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | Dish | C18 | 3 | 97 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | - | C18 | 14 | 380 |
| 1006 | Stoneware | Bottle | C18 | 2 | 21 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | Pancheon | 1700-1750 | 19 | 835 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | Bowl/cup | C18 | 11 | 247 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | Jug | C12-C13 | 1 | 28 |
| 1006 | Earthenware | Dish/pot | C18 | 33 | 768 |
| 1006 | Earthenware glazed | Sherd | C18 | 1 | 5 |
| 1007 | Earthenware glazed | Dish | C18 | 1 | 12 |
| 1014 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 10 | 78 |
| 1014 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 29 | 955 |
| 1015 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 19 | 543 |
| 1015 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C19 | 10 | 582 |
| 1015 | Stoneware | Jug | C18 | 2 | 253 |
| 1015 | Earthenware | - | C18 | 2 | 6 |
| 1021 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 17 | 371 |
| 1021 | Earthenware Slipware | Bowl | C19 | 7 | 75 |
| 1021 | Earthenware | Dish | C19 | 2 | 28 |
| 1021 | Earthenware slipware | Dish | C18 | 6 | 144 |
| 1021 | Earthenware glazed | Bowl/cup | C18 | 2 | 40 |
| 1023 | Sandy | Jar | C16 | 1 | 57 |
| 1023 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18 | 4 | 93 |
| 1024 | Earthenware Slipware | Dish | C18-early C19 | 39 | 1908 |
| 1024 | Earthenware | Dish | C19 | 13 | 285 |
| 2004 | Earthenware glazed | Dish | C18 | 1 | 33 |
| 2008 | Earthenware glazed | - | C18 | 3 | 21 |
| 2008 | Sandy | - | C16 | 2 | 1 |
| 2012 | Earthenware glazed | Pancheon | C18 | 1 | 143 |
| 2012 | Earthenware glazed | Dish | C18 | 9 | 182 |
| 2020 | Earthenware | Dish | C18 | 1 | 48 |
| 2020 | Earthenware glazed | Jar | C17 | 1 | 50 |
| 2022 | Earthenware glazed | - | C17 | 1 | 57 |
| TP2. | Earthenware | - | C18 | 7 | 57 |
| TP.2 | Earthenware glazed | - | C18 | 3 | 26 |
| TP.3 | Earthenware glazed | - | C18 | 1 | 9 |
| **TOTALS** | | | | **320** | **9,253** |

Table 1. Pottery by context, fabric, vessel type, number and weight (g)

*Modern*

A total of 4 sherds weighing 30g were recovered from layer (1006). These sherds represent the base and rim sherd of a porcelain cup, with a blue and white transfer pattern. The sherds are in a poor condition. Similar examples of Porcelain produced in Bristol, dating to the 19th century were recovered from Donyatt (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: 343).

## Glass by Rachel Hall

A total of 184 shards of glass weighing 4024g were recovered from the excavations with concentration in Trench 1 and a small amount from Trench 2 (see Table 2). The glass can be divided in to Vessel and Window glass.

*Vessels*

A total of 92 glass vessel fragments were recovered. The majority of the assemblage comprises green translucent bottles, varying from medium to thick-walled cylindrical bottles. Two types of bottles were identified in the assemblage, and no complete vessels were recovered. A small amount of bell-shaped bottle bases were recovered from layers (1006), (1015) and wall [1027], dating to 1750-1770 (Hume 1961: Type 19). Several bottles with complete or near complete bases were also recovered from layers (1006), (1014), (1015), (1021) and (1024). These have a shallow basal kick and were dated to 1770-1800 (Hume 1961: Type 21). A small number of bottle mouths were also identified from layers (1006) and (1015) which represent flattened string rims of 18th century bottles. A single, mouth fragment, with a trailed string rim (13mm below the mouth) was recovered from layer (2022) and represents an earlier 17th century type of bottle (Hume 1961: Type 4).

An incomplete seal from a glass bottle was recovered from west wall of a building (1026) (Figure 35). Although no exact parallels can be found for this, there has been research in London from other similar glass bottle collections (Jeffries and Major 2015). The degraded glass seal measures 40mm in diameter and has the Royal Crest with a lion and unicorn on it. The practice of applying seals to English bottles can be dated to shortly after the establishment of the glass bottle industry in 1650's, due to the English wine bottle industry expanding after the restoration of the monarchy in 1660 (Jeffries and Major 2015). Ten seals in London's archaeological collections have been recorded, the Type 2 group has been identified as consisting of armorial seals, displaying either a shield (or arms, often crested) or a ducal, earl or baronial crown. These continued into the 19th century in simpler forms (Jeffries and Major 2015: 147). These were reserved for the private and domestic sphere, where bottles with seals that present elaborately designed armorial seals were used as a means by which the aristocracy could project status and wealth in addition to ownership (Jeffries and Major 2015: 155).

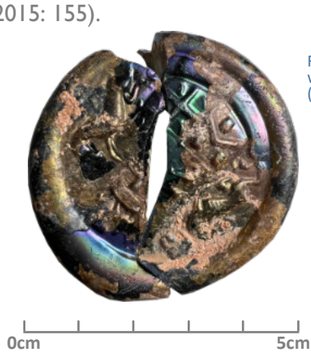



Figure 35. Seal from glass bottle with lion and unicorn motif (5cm scale)

The remaining fragments are undiagnostic body shards and the majority have a thin iridescent surface with flaking, discoloured surfaces, as the bottle glass was made using unstable materials (Historic England 2011: 3). The earliest post-medieval bottles were free-blown (Van den Bossche 2001). Mould-blown cylindrical bottles became increasingly popular from the mid-17th century, as the dark-green, thick-walled 'English bottle' made its appearance (Historic England 2011: 45).

Three fragments of vessel glass were identified that were of a different nature. Two sherds of clear glass were identified that may be from decanters. An incomplete, cylindrical object was recovered from layer (1006). The clear glass fragment tapers along the length, with an internal perforation inside, and is possibly a stopper from a Decanter. A second fragment of clear glass was recovered from layer (1015) with flat cut sides, which may have formed part of a Decanter. Colourless lead glass was produced in the 1670s and was used for finer vessels (Charleston 1984: 97). A single curved rim in fine, translucent blue glass was recovered from layer (1015). This may be part of a fine ware Carafe, dating to the 17th century (Historic England 2011: 44).

*Window Glass*

A total of 92 fragments of glass were recovered from layers (1006), (1014), (1015) and (1023). These fragments have evidence of their production with rolled edges, thin appearance and diamond cut marks and breaks. These are fragments of crown glass that was produced in the 17th century and onwards (Historic England 2011: 45). The glass is a transparent blue or green in colour and may have been cut on site as there are various diamond cut marks, pontil marks and one fragment has measurements etched into the surface; these were all recovered from layer (1006), along with lead came around a pre-cut window quarry. Similar window lattice panes were recovered from Donyatt dating to the early 18th century (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988: 352). The glass was in a fairly good condition with signs of degradation and iridescent surfaces.

Due to the taxation of glass based on its weight, rather than window area from 1745, the production of crown glass was preferred as it was thinner (Historic England 2011: 46). Crown glass was produced by blowing a spherical bubble of glass, transferring this to a pontil and then spinning it until the centrifugal forces caused the glass to flare out and expand into a large disc. Two drawback of crown glass were firstly, the central portion where the pontil was attached (the bull's eye) was thick and so discarded and secondly, the general shape of crown glass meant only small panes of glass, known as quarries, could be cut from the disc (Historic England 2011: 35).

| Context no. | Material | Type | Date | No. | Weight (g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1006 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 17 | 584 |
| 1006 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 1 | 37 |
| 1006 | Glass | Vessel | 1750-1770 | 23 | 1147 |
| 1006 | Glass | Window | C19 | 3 | 261 |
| 1006 | Glass | Window | C17 | 40 | 368 |
| 1006 | Glass | Window | C17 | 22 | 50 |
| 1006 | Glass | Window | C18 | 17 | 74 |
| 1014 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 4 | 84 |
| 1014 | Glass | Window | C18 | 1 | 1 |
| 1015 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 14 | 261 |
| 1015 | Glass | Window | C18 | 8 | 15 |
| 1015 | Glass | Vessel | 1750-1770 | 13 | 585 |
| 1015 | Glass | Vessel | C17 | 1 | 1 |
| 1015 | Glass | Vessel | C17 | 1 | 1 |
| 1021 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 3 | 191 |
| 1023 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 2 | 13 |
| 1023 | Glass | Window | C18 | 1 | 1 |
| 1024 | Glass | Vessel | 1770-1800 | 1 | 42 |
| 1026* | Glass | Vessel | 1700-1800 | 2 | 23 |
| 1028 | Glass | Vessel | C17 | 3 | 52 |
| 1028 | Glass | Vessel | 1750-1770 | 2 | 103 |
| 2012 | Glass | Vessel | C17 | 1 | 15 |
| 2022 | Glass | Vessel | C17 | 4 | 115 |
| **TOTALS** | | | | 184 | **4,024** |

Table 2. Glass by context, material, type, number and weight (g)

## Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Rachel Hall

A total of 8 fragments, weighing 268g (see Table 3) of Ceramic Building Material were recovered from layers (1001), (1002), (1006), (1015) and (1021). These comprise oxidised, sandy fragments with a small amount of diagnostic material such as incomplete roof and floor tiles, all dating to the post-medieval period. No further work is required on the assemblage and it can be discarded.

*Further work*

No further work is required on the pottery or glass assemblage apart from a small amount of material that can be illustrated (denoted in the tables with an asterisk against the context number). The illustrated finds can be retained and the rest discarded if deemed necessary.

No further work is necessary on the glass assemblage apart from a small amount of fragments that can be illustrated. The retention of the complete glass assemblage is not required. A small amount of window glass with evidence of cut marks and the window quarries can be retained and the crest from the wine bottle along with a selection of bottle bases. However, the remaining window glass and vessel glass fragments can be discarded.

| Context no. | Fabric | Type | Date | No. | Weight (g) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1001 | Sandy | Roof tile | P.med | 1 | 19 |
| 1002 | Sandy | Floor tile | P.med | 1 | 45 |
| 1006 | Sandy | Roof tile | P.med | 2 | 85 |
| 1006 | Sandy | Floor tile | P.med | 1 | 18 |
| 1006 | Glazed | Floor tile | P.med | 1 | 87 |
| 1015 | Sandy | Tile | P.med | 1 | 1 |
| 1021 | Sandy | Tile | P.med | 1 | 13 |
| **TOTALS** | | | | 8 | **268** |

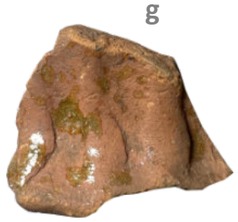
Table 3. CBM by context, fabric type, number and weight (g)

Figure 36. Exemplar selection of excavated pottery (10cm scale)


a

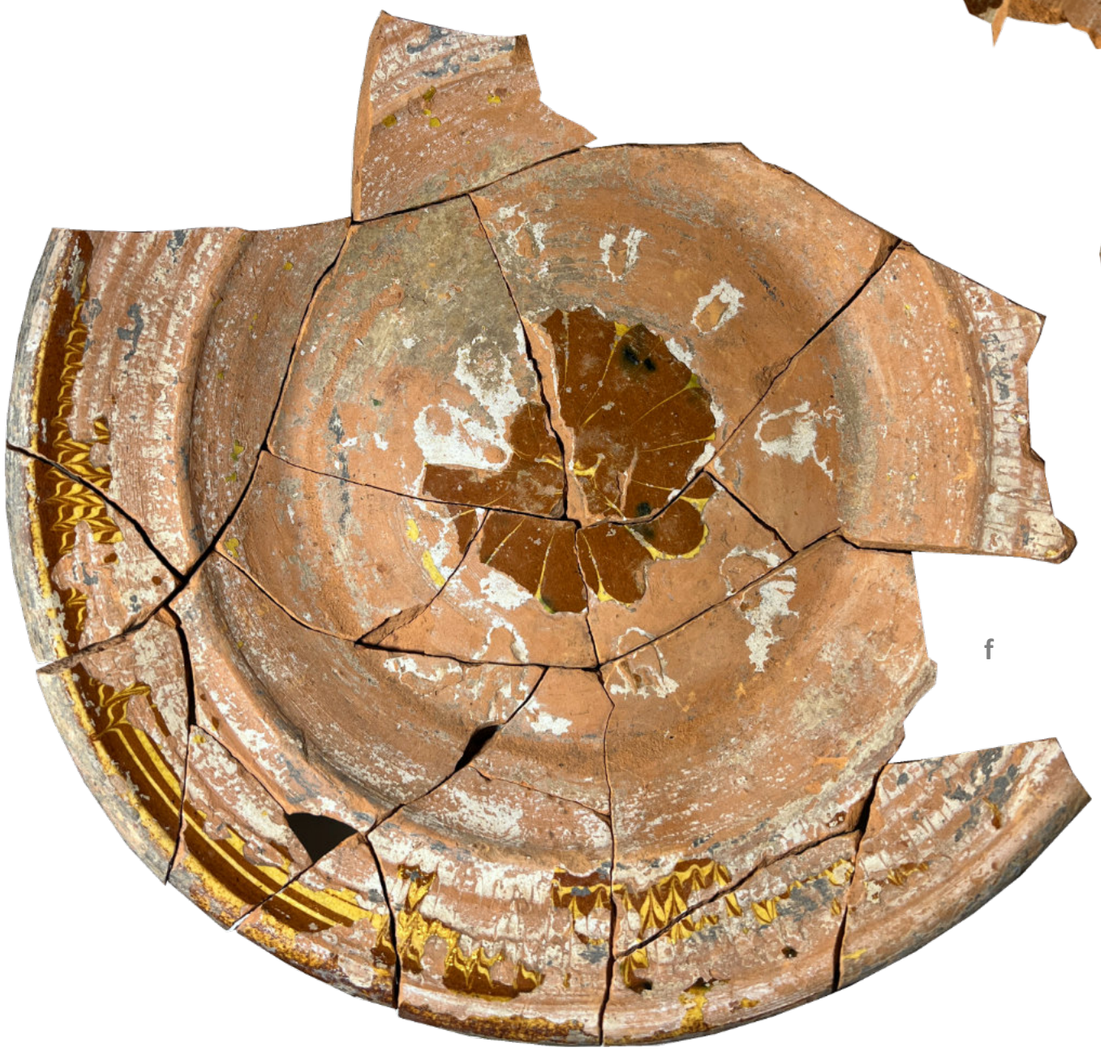

b


c


g


e


d


f

a. Earthenware slipware dish rim sherds (early C18)
b. Conjoining earthenware slipware dish rim sherds
c. Glazed earthenware pancheon rim sherd (early C18)
d. Conjoining rim, base and body sherds of earthenware slipware dish (C18-early C19)
e. Conjoining base and body sherds of earthenware slipware dish (C18-early C19)
f. Almost complete earthenware, slip trailed dish (early C18)
g. Glazed Ham Green earthenware thumbed basal sherd (C12-13)

0cm 5cm 10cm

## Clay tobacco pipe by Cheryl Green and Richard McConnell

A total of 125 clay pipe fragments weighing 346g were recovered during the course of the excavation (see Table 4). The assemblage was dominated by clay pipe stem fragments, with 111 recovered from 12 contexts predominantly in Tr1 but with eight from Tr2 and a single fragment from TP3. The fragments represent all parts of the clay pipe stem, from the slender mouthpiece to the bowl. Twelve bowl fragments and one complete bowl were recovered from three contexts in Tr1 and a single context in Tr2, with a total weight of 57g. The earliest dateable fragment came from context 2004; a very stubby, flat heel and upright bowl indicate a late 17th century date. Another fragment with a flat heel from (1024) might be similar in date or early 18th century (Figure 37 f). These forms contrast to the slender, pointed heels of two fragments recovered from (1006) and (1021) (Figure 37 c) and both indicating an 18th century. Layer (1006) produced decorated bowls spanning the 18th and 19th centuries; the 18th century examples include a fragment decorated with horizontal ribs (Figure 37 b) and another in black fabric with a vertical band of stylistic foliage along the front face (Figure 37 d). Black pipes were seen elsewhere in the assemblage and included part of the bowl, spur and stem of an early 18th century form (Figure 37 e). One bowl shows a boxer in relief with fists raised, alongside the lettering 'IVAN' and decorative surround (Figure 37 a). The lettering is all that remains of the name 'SULLIVAN' standing for John L Sullivan, the American bare-knuckle fighter who was supposed to challenge the English champion, Jem Smith in 1887. He would have been similarly depicted on the other side of the bowl. The fight never took place. However, this is a good example of commemorative pipes that became popular in the late 19th century.

The clay pipe stem fragments are not recommended for long term curation however the bowls include some interesting and potentially unusual pieces that should be kept.

| Context no. | Pipe element | No. | Notes | Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1001 | Stem fragment | 1 | | C18/C19 |
| 1002 | Stem fragments | 2 | 1 pale and 1 black | C18/C19 |
| 1006 | Stem fragments | 81 | Includes 7 black stems | C18 |
| 1007 | Stem fragments | 3 | | C18 |
| 1014 | Stem fragments | 2 | | C18 |
| 1015 | Stem fragments | 3 | | C18 |
| 1021 | Stem fragments | 9 | Includes 1 black stem | C18 |
| 1023 | Stem fragments | 3 | | C18 |
| 2000 | Stem fragment | 1 | | C18/C19 |
| 2008 | Stem fragments | 2 | | C18 |
| 2010 | Stem fragments | 2 | | C18 |
| 2012 | Stem fragments | 3 | | C18 |
| 302 | Stem fragment | 1 | | C18 |
| Topsoil | Bowl fragment | 1 | Heel & stem snapped off. Edge of bowl incised with irregular band of small triangular notches | C18 |
| 1006 | Bowl fragments | 7 | 1 x decorated with horizontal ribs; 1 x decorated with a boxer & lettering 'IVAN' above; 1 x black fabric with pointed heel & base of bowl, with vertical band of diagonal lines in relief; 1 x upper part of bowl in black fabric with stylistic foliage in relief in vertical band along front; 3 x plain | C18 & C19 |
| 1014 | Bowl fragment | 1 | Fragment of plain bowl | unknown |
| 1021 | Bowl fragments | 3 | 2 x small fragments of pale grey; 1 x long stem with pointed heel and base of plain bowl | *c.* 1850-70's |
| 1024 | Bowl fragment | 1 | Flat heel & half of plain bowl | ?Late C17/ early C18 |
| 2004 | Bowl | 1 | Complete plain bowl with very short, flat heel | Late C17 |
| **TOTALS** | | **123** | | |

Table 4. Clay tobacco pipe by context, material, element, number, notes and weight (g)


Figure 37. Selection of six clay tobacco pipe stems and bowls (3cm scale)

## Metal Finds by Jonathan Davey

The metal assemblage was sorted by type and subjected to a preliminary assessment. Precise dating is difficult as the majority of finds are iron nails or fittings with a long chronology and/or have undiagnostic traits. However certain finds have been more closely dated using the PAS (Portable Antiquities Scheme) for comparative examples.

The assemblage comprised 157 metal artefacts with over 80% (130) made of iron, 90% of those being nails. These were 'T-headed' or 'L-headed', generally long and fairly broad, and ranging in length from 5cm to 11cm. A post-medieval date is suggested and most were likely used in construction although a small amount of boot/shoe nails were also found. Other construction-related iron artefacts include window and gutter fittings. The largest metal object in the assemblage is an iron cauldron side with handle. The PAS has entries for both medieval and post-medieval iron cauldrons and vessels; this example dating to the 18th or 19th century is cast rather than the earlier hammered examples (Brown 2009: SF-919C32 and Rogerson 2014: NMS-7FBF1F)

Lead artefacts (x 11) include two mounts or strap fittings both dating to the 17th- early 19th century (Atherton 2009 DENO-403092 and Geake 2020: NMS-08D167), one of which was found by metal detector outside of the trenches, and the other in context 1006 in Trench 1. Other lead finds include a button, a handmade container and some window came that had been rolled to produce a figure of eight pattern. This was probably the result of spontaneous casual action, perhaps in an idle moment during window replacement/removal.

Other metalwork, mostly metal detected finds, range from buttons to coins, and are all modern with some as recent as the 1990s. Only one coin was found in a stratified context (1006), a Victorian half-penny dated 1861.

The assemblage adds to the narrative of the Site in that it largely supports other evidence for construction/demolition activities.

## Bulk lead by Cheryl Green

A small fragment of lead sheet was recovered from layer (1006). The top edge is straight but the other edges appear to have been cut. The sheet is inscribed with the numbers 1 and 2, the 1 positioned above the 2, while to the right of number 1 is an inscribed scroll pattern.


Figure 38. Inscribed lead sheet (3cm scale)

A large quantity of lead was recovered from context 1006; this predominantly comprises twisted and broken window cames along with several gutter fixings, with a combined weight of 5.2kg. Three larger, cut pieces of lead probably relate to rolls or sheets for flashing at abutments such as chimneys for weather-tightening. A small piece of lead pipe was also recovered. The only other context in Tr1 to produce any lead was garden soil 1024; this was a small piece of flat window came, which might suggest it was never utilised for holding window glass in place and therefore might be an off-cut. Two severely twisted pieces of window came were also recovered from context 2007 in Tr2. A single piece was recovered with the glass still clasped between the folded sides of the came (see Tyson); as this glass is dated to the 18th century it is a reasonable assumption that the leadwork derived from a building of that date. The quantity of lead window cames might constitute a useful resource for the study of 18th century glazing and be worthy of long-term curation.

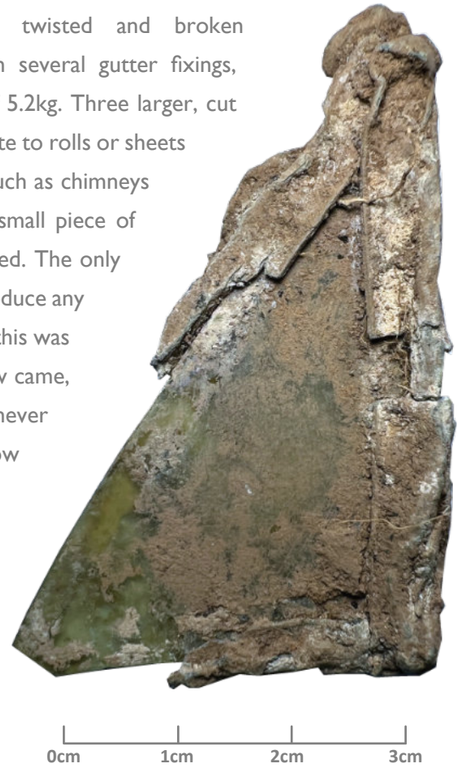



Figure 39. Window glass with lead came attached (3cm scale)

## Bulk iron by Cheryl Green

Context 1006 produced 2kg of iron fixings and fittings. The identifiable objects comprised brackets for guttering and rainwater downpipes; large hand-wrought rivets with rectangular heads, hand-wrought square headed nails; window handles and stays; bolts and fixing plates; latches; handles; and hinges. Brief assessment of these objects suggests that they approximately date to the 17th and 18th centuries (Alcock and Hall 1994).

## Metal and glass working residues by Cheryl Green

A small quantity of metal working residue was recovered from both trenches, weighing a total of 260g. In Tr1, context 1006 yielded two small pieces of metal working residue and context 1015 produced a single lump. A small nodule of vitrified clear glass was also recovered from context 1006, and a brown coloured lump of glass came from context 1024 which might be cullet (glass that has been melted down and reconstituted for future use). In Tr2, all the specimens were metal working residues, with single pieces recovered from contexts 2000 and 2012; a large lump and five smaller fragments from context 2004; and another piece from the spoil. The metal working residues may have derived from the smelting of iron which would be in keep with the activities of a forge or smithy. The two fragments of glass working residues would either suggest that glass manufacture was taking place nearby or that (more likely) they derived from the melting down of glass for re-use.

### *Further work*

The metal and glass working residues might benefit from specialist analysis, particularly if the assemblage size is increased through further investigations in the future. As such, a small selection of exemplars would merit retention for long-term curation.

## Architectural stone by Cheryl Green

Two broken pieces of architectural stone were recovered, both of a high quality fine-grained shelly oolitic limestone. Both came from Tr1 and have a combined weight of 1272g. One piece was unstratified but was found in the area above the Victorian drain; it is a thin, flat piece, square in plan and with a beaded moulding to one corner. This is a broken segment of a window mullion jamb; these types have an uncertain date range but are present in contexts dating to the later 17th century. The other piece came from context 1015 and is a segment of window jamb, featuring a roll mould with hollow chamfer to the external face and a deep groove for holding a window pane (Figure 40). The form of the moulding dates from the late 16th century.

Both pieces of stone may have derived from a late medieval or early post-medieval building. As the only stonework that may have derived from the manor, it is recommended that they are retained for long-term curation.


Figure 40. Late 16th century moulded limestone window jamb (10cm scale)

## Roofing slates by Cheryl Green and Richard McConnell

A large quantity of roof slate were retrieved during the excavation but only the best examples were selected for retention. Slates were noted in contexts 1006, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1014 and 1023. The exemplars were collected from three contexts (1014, 1021 and 1024) and a number of unstratified specimens were also retained for assessment. The details are provided in Table 5 with examples illustrated in Figure 41.

Broadly, three different types of roof slate were recognised. The earliest had a rough stone-like surface and measured between 2cm thick and 3cm thick with a tapered rectangular shape, and a single peg hole (Figure 41, a-d). Most of the fragments were very narrow, exemplified by a complete specimen from context (1014) measuring 8cm wide by 18cm long). However, there were also some larger slates, the most complete being an unstratified specimen from Tr1 which measured 17.5cm wide by 22cm long. The varying sizes of the slates suggest they belonged to a random slate roof, with the largest laid at the eaves diminishing to small slates at the ridge. The nearby Church House is a fine example of this type of roof, albeit the product of restoration work.

Examples of thinner riven slates were also observed across the Site with context 1021 producing the best and only complete example from a sealed deposit (Figure 41, e). This measured 14cm wide by 18cm long but only 0.50cm thick but again with a single peg/nail hole. Other slate fragments were similarly riven and thin but more regular in appearance and with two nail holes.

The thicker, more variable-sized slates with a rough surface are in-keeping with the medieval Blue slate industry of the South West, with the largest slate from the Site matching the upper limits of sizes recorded in 1954 (Jope and Dunning 1954: 211). Blue slate from the west of Britain could be split into thinner pieces than traditional limestone or sandstone tiles and was therefore easier to transport as well as resulting in a much lighter roof. The Devonshire sections of the Pipe Rolls between 1171/2 and 1186/7 record purchases of large quantities of slates for the King's buildings in Winchester

| Context no. | Slate type | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 1014 | Rough surface – complete | 2cm thick, tapering to 8cm at widest, 18cm long. Sub-circular nail hole measuring 0.9cm |
| 1014 | Rough surface – complete | 2cm thick, tapering to 9.5cm at widest, 21cm long |
| 1014 | Rough surface – complete | 2cm thick, tapering to 11cm at widest, 19.5cm long |
| 1021 | Riven – complete | 0.05cm thick. 14cm wide (slightly tapered), 18cm long. Circular nail hole measuring 0.7cm |
| 1021 | Rough surface - broken | 3cm thick, 11cm widest (tapering), length unknown |
| 1021 | Rough surface - broken | 3cm thick, 6.5cm widest (tapering), length unknown |
| 1024 | Rough surface - complete | 3cm thick, tapering to 8cm at widest, 22cm long |
| 1024 | Rough surface - broken | 3cm thick, 13cm widest (tapering), length unknown |
| TP3 | Rough surface - broken | 2cm thick, tapering to 8cm at widest, length unknown |
| TR1 u/s | Riven – complete | 0.05cm thick. 17.5cm wide, 22cm long. Circular nail hole measuring 0.5cm |
| TR1 u/s | Rough surface - broken | 3.5cm thick, 17.5cm wide, 30.5cm long. Sub-circular peg hole measuring 1cm |
| TR1 u/s | Rough surface - broken | 2cm thick, 15cm wide, 25cm long. Sub-circular peg hole measuring 1cm |
| TR1 u/s | Rough surface - broken | 2cm thick, 11cm wide, 20.5cm long. 1 chamfered shoulder |

Table 5. Roofing slate by context no., type and details

as early as 1186/7, Southampton (Jope and Dunning 1954: 215). Allowing for a short delay in this material becoming more generally available, a medieval date for the Crowcombe slates is likely. The thinner riven slates with a single peg hole would be in keeping with a post-medieval date while the twin-holed, more regular sized slates probably derive from the Welsh quarries, and are likely to be19th century.

It is recommended that the roofing slates reported here should be retained for long-term curation.


a. Unstratified stone slate with broken single peg hole (medieval)
b. Unstratified stone slate with single peg hole (medieval)
c. Smaller, upper course stone slate with single peg hole (medieval)
d. Modified stone slate with single peg hole (medieval)
e. Post-medieval riven slate possibly used on pavilion roof

Figure 41. Selection of roof tiles and slates (10cm scale)

## Brick by Cheryl Green

Brick fragments were recorded in contexts 1006, 1011, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1018 and 1023. These were all derived from handmade bricks with three complete exemplars retrieved from garden soil (1024). These measure 25cm long, 12cm wide and 5.5cm deep, with a reddish grey fabric, no frogging, and coarse components of quartz visible in the clay matrix. The thickness of the bricks is slightly thinner than the 18th century average thickness of 6.35cm, however a late 17th or 18th century date seems likely. These bricks differ from the orange bricks used for the construction of the Victorian drain (1036), which utilised thinner, machine-pressed and kiln fired bricks which typify the industry from the mid-19th century onwards.

## Animal bone by Cheryl Green

A large quantity of animal bone was observed in layer 1006 and a sample collected. This comprises fragments of cattle femur; sheep/goat rib; sheep/goat teeth; a pig jaw; chicken bones; a male horse canine; and an astragalus from the rear leg of a dear. The latter was popular from the Roman period as a game piece however given that wild deer wander across the parkland it more likely derived from a deceased animal. The rest of the assemblage reflects the farmland setting. Bird bones were recovered from contexts 1014 (x 7), 1015 (x 2), 1021 (x 10) and 1023 (x 2); these were all leg bones which might suggest they were butchered joints, most likely game. Context 1015 also produced two fragments from a sheep/ goat leg, and context 1021 a tiny jaw fragment of a small mammal and three sheep bones (2 x leg and 1 x rib). Animal bone from Tr2 was confined to several unidentifiable small burned fragments from context 2002.

The animal bone has no research value and is not recommended for long term curation.

## Shell by Cheryl Green

A large quantity of oyster shell and occasional scallop shells was observed in layer 1006 but not collected. Oyster shell was also present in contexts 1015, 1021 and 1023 in much smaller quantities; exemplars were collected from these contexts. Analysis of the shell reveals an absence of marine biota which suggests a freshwater provenance.

The shell has no research value and is not recommended for long term curation.

## Prehistoric Flint by Anthony Haskins

Two small residual flints were recovered from the community excavation at Crowcombe. The characteristics of the flints suggest a Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

A single overshoot flake was recovered from the excavation. The flake has multi-directional scars on the dorsal surface and part of a surviving narrow blade core platform. This would suggest the flake was intentionally created to rejuvenate the platform.

The other struck flint was a small core with multiple removals from several platforms. The surviving removal scars suggest a narrow blade core of Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The final two removals are opposed and may have been struck from the core using an anvil.

The flake is struck from a dark greyish brown chalk flint, whilst the level of recortication on the core mean it is not possible to identify the original flint. Flint within the Quantocks is rare, and this material must have been brought into the area.

# DISCUSSION

The aim of the community excavation at Crowcombe was to try and find the lost medieval manor, the antecedent to the present 18th century Crowcombe Court. Despite new information in the form of LiDAR and geophysical surveys indicating the potential for discovering their remains, the manor proved elusive to excavation although there were tantalising clues as to its existence. The manor may not have been located but the later 17th century formal garden with one of its fine pavilions was rediscovered. This proved most worthy of excavation and shed light on an important transitional period in the history of Crowcombe manor.

It was expected that machine removal of the topsoil was likely to expose the top of any structural remains relating to the garden and/or the medieval manor. While machining stopped at the deposits directly beneath the topsoil and subsoil as they began to change and yield finds, exposure of the garden remains were ultimately deeper that anticipated in both trenches. Together with the deposit sequence found in the majority of the test pits, it is now possible to show that this combined area was subject to extensive landscaping in the years following the removal of the formal garden in the late 1760s, and the reason for the remains being well-buried. In Trench 1, this manifested in several episodes of dumping within the pavilion to infill and cover the demolished remains. The insertion of the substantial drain in the Victorian period also gave rise to further disturbance and backfilling, mixing already dumped material. The dumps were notable for a plethora of finds within them; the assemblage largely providing a span of dates from the 17th to 19th centuries although the majority were 18th century. This accords well within the main period of use for the garden and pavilion, and is likely to reflect both demolition material and discarded household wares. However, the volume of the 18th century assemblage might also suggest that an opportunity was taken to dump material from elsewhere, perhaps from Crowcombe Court itself. The complexion of the later 19th century material included large quantities of glass, with a likely candidate being from one of the several phases of glasshouses that are recorded around Crowcombe Court, specifically the replacement of a glasshouse indicated in the mid-19th century. In Trench 2, the overlying deposits were distinct for their homogeneity and lack of finds, and perhaps a more typical example of the landscaping work in the later 18th century and beyond. This corresponded to a dumped layer, broadly 0.30m thick below the topsoil and subsoil in test pits 2, 3 and 4. It would not be surprising to find that the entire lower slope encapsulating the former garden and other formal areas on the east side of Crowcombe Court was subjected to widespread landscaping in the later 18th century, with further periodic infilling in the 19th century. Ultimately, this probably served a dual purpose; to produce the soft, pastoral landscape that is shown in the later 18th century engraving, as well as providing a more permeable layer beneath the surface to dissipate water from the springs on the hillside. It is certainly the case that the management of water here has been an enduring issue, from the insertion of major culverts such as the ones discovered in Trench 1 and Test pit 6 in the Victorian period to the more recent open culvert along the southern boundary. Archaeologically, the result of the landscaping and infilling has, to an extent, also mis-directed the interpretation of the LiDAR and geophysical survey results on which the trenches were located. This data, coupled with the aerial parchmark images taken after the hot and dry spell immediately following the excavation, have been re-interpreted on the basis of the excavation results and separated according to feature type (Figure 42). Critically, this has better differentiated confirmed or likely garden features from drainage, and permitted the accurate framing of John Carew's garden and associated features while also explaining the lack of clarity in the survey results.

It is now possible to suggest that the garden measured 81.70m long and 40.10m wide externally, so roughly 2:1 proportions. A track is indicated immediately outside the walls and surrounding it on three sides, measuring *c.* 4.5m wide. There is certainly a tree-lined avenue shown outside of the eastern wall on the 1740 painting, much of which was defined as a slight earthwork by Hazel Riley (Figure 9). However, the angle of the view precludes confirmation of tracks on the western and northern sides, although any such tracks are not depicted as being accompanied by tree planting. The interior is marked by a number of co-axial linear features which represent both path borders and internal divisions or parterres. A linear running down the spine of the garden which appears to match a slight earthwork is suggested to be the western side of the central path shown on the 1767 map running between each end of the garden. By reflecting the position of the path in relation to the western garden wall, this would provide a space for a 4m wide path. The map indicates a similarly wide path around the perimeter of the garden although this probably incorporated a border. Indeed, the deposits in front of the excavated pavilion indicate soil up to 1.50m from the front of the building with a more metalled deposit beyond. The soil (border) width fits neatly with the measurement between the western garden wall and the nearest edge of the infilled door opening in the churchyard wall leading into the garden at the southern end. The door would consequently lead straight onto the path, the width of which would be around 2.50m wide. There was insufficient space in the excavation trench to confirm this although the metalling was traced for *c.* 1.75m and still continued into the baulk. Three, broadly equidistantly-spaced (*c.* 7m) linears running perpendicular to the central path in the northern half of the garden probably represent parterres although the northernmost inexplicably extends to the western garden wall. Two short linears either side of the main path probably represent the southern edge of the central path that crossed the garden from west to east.


Figure 42. Re-interpretation of earthworks, LiDAR, geophysical survey results and recent parchmark evidence

The surveys have also led to confirmation of the former gardens on the eastern side of Crowcombe Court although the plan and painting only partially correlate  A number of circular parchmarks/earthworks appear to represent tree boles, left as scars from a few scattered cedars that can be seen in Victorian and early 20th century photographs, some with a ring of animal fencing, as part of the parkland setting (Figure 43). One, in particular appears to be a signature planting at the corner of the formal garden closer to the house. Incidentally, this appears to form part of an extension of the Court garden which was not depicted in the painting. Away from these, the network of drainage channels on the higher ground, in particular, is plain to see. These probably take different forms depending on their age although the excavation showed that a number of these, at least, are Victorian. While neither the brick drain in Trench 1 and the smaller drain in test pit 6 were excavated beyond their exposure, recent remedial work in early 2022 encountered one of the Victorian drains just north of Trench 1 and showed this to have had a slate floor and clear of debris despite no longer functioning (Bellamy, pers. comm.)

Figure 43. Crowcombe Court, *c.* 1860 with young and established cedars and associated fencing (after Riley)

The northern pavilion itself was uncovered almost in its entirety within Trench 1, and almost square, with external measurements of 4.60m x 4.40m. The side and rear walls were 0.50m thick which compares with 0.60m for the garden wall in Trench 2. The front wall was more slender at 0.35m thick. Despite this obvious difference, there were no breaks in the pavilion masonry or the garden wall on either side suggesting that the pavilion was built as part of the original construction. The pavilion was effectively positioned outside of the garden, with its frontage in line with the interior garden wall. This is in direct contrast to the 1740 painting which clearly shows the pavilion wholly within the garden with its rear wall following the line of the garden wall. A similar representation of the pavilion is shown against the churchyard wall although the surviving recess indicates a hybrid arrangement. The width of the recess matches the interior width of the excavated pavilion (*c.* 3.6m) but the return only measures *c.* 2m deep, roughly half of its depth. This could indicate several configurations; the pavilion straddled the churchyard wall and the half inside the garden was demolished while the rear walls were reduced to the height of the churchyard wall; the rear wall was shortened; or the pavilion was largely decorative and designed more for symmetry rather than any productive use.

The walls of the northern pavilion still survived as reduced stubs, with the eastern wall standing to a height of *c.* 0.45m above the floor while the western side had been demolished flush with the interior. The differential was purely the result of the slope. The walls were random-coursed with a rubble fill and quoins on each corner of the back wall. A thick render still adhered to the interior face, and was particularly evident on the eastern wall. There was a noticeable lapping of render over the edges of the floor but whether this once extended seamlessly across the surface is not clear although patches of mortar set into the floor suggest it might have. A central door threshold with frame sockets still evident on either side matches well with its portrayal in the 1740 painting. The door would have been around 1m wide and, according to the painting, flanked by two windows with a further window above. It is quite possible that all of the diamond-pattern window pieces and their associated lead glazing derive from the discard of these windows. Similarly, some of the roof slates are also likely to have come from the demolition of the pavilion, particularly the neater cut, riven slates which were deliberately sized for ornamental covering on smaller roofs.

The section of garden wall encountered in Trench 2 and then again at the corner with the northern wall in Test pit 5, both showed it to be 0.60m wide. The wall appears to have been at least 3m+ in height judging by the scar in the south-west corner of the churchyard wall, and perhaps as high as 4m after scaling it from the 1740 painting. The demolition and robbing of the wall in Trench 2, and a possible insertion of a french drain alongside the external face, has obscured the deposit sequence here although a series of horizontal deposits against the interior face suggest the earliest ground surface may have been around 0.80m below the present one. Several other deposits on top of this might indicate a raising of the ground surface more generally over time to within 0.30m of the present ground surface although this could simply reflect banking of soil/gravels against the wall as part of a border treatment. At the corner of the wall discovered in Test pit 5, the earliest ground surface may have been marked by a crushed sandstone trample layer at a depth of around 0.50m, possibly a construction horizon below the present ground surface. A thick deposit of soil above this may have been the result of episodes of soil refreshment or ground raising although there was no discernible sequence unlike in Trench 2. However, the primary observation here is further evidence of widespread and significant landscaping activity.

It is clear from the construction, plastered walls and mortared floor that the pavilion was designed to be used rather than as an ornament for the garden. The structural evidence indicates this was always part of John Carew's garden from its inception in the 1670s although there is evidence that Thomas Carew refurbished the garden and pavilion in the 1730s to better fit his progressive and grandiose vision for the manor. Certainly, the dominance of 18th century material here would suggest a period of greatest use while the quality and completeness of some of the contemporary Donyatt pottery and wine bottles, in particular, conjures a picture of the garden used for summertime entertainment under the young Thomas Carew's tenure. While caution might rightly be required when attributing all of this material to the pavilion itself, wine bottle fragments found within the floor and door threshold, for example, perhaps add weight to its intended function. Despite the likely investment in the garden by Thomas Carew to match the grandeur of the new Court building, it was all gone by the 1760s and, instead became a more passive backdrop, melding with a new naturalistic parkland setting that has endured ever since.

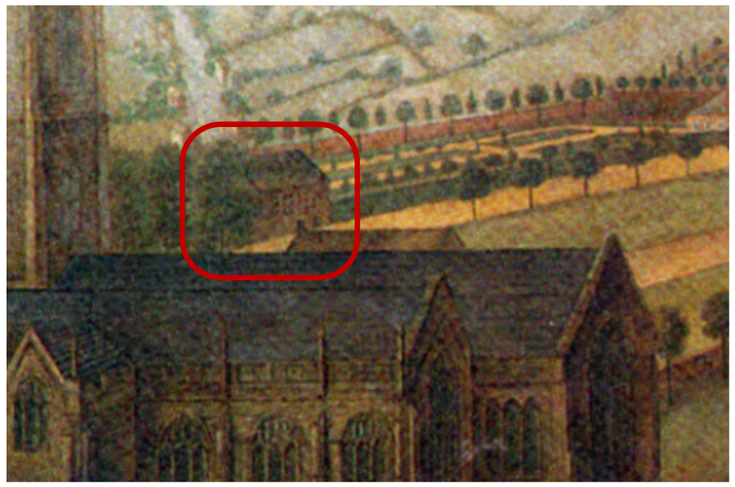
While the excavation revealed a tangible snapshot of life at Crowcombe Court in the early 18th century, and deserving of study, the investigation did not expose the remains of the medieval manor which it set out to do. However, there was some evidence to suggest that the manor might still survive and in close proximity to the garden, as suspected. A review of the evidence is explored below.

Documentary sources identify a settlement at Crowcombe in the late Anglo-Saxon period and mention a manor from the late 13th century. Occasional references to elements of the manor including a dovecote and fishponds during the medieval period are not helpful in framing the character of the manor although it is perhaps reasonable to make general assumptions on its main components. These would likely have comprised an enclosure containing a hall, service wings, accommodation chambers, kitchen and brewhouse. In terms of its location, there is no evidence to suggest where it might have been, only a further observation that medieval manors were generally close to the church.

Ironically, the most informative historical detail about the manor derives from its demolition with eye-witness accounts documenting its final days in the Spring and Summer of 1724. The manor was already being pulled down when Mr J Sanford, a friend of the Carew family, visited in April and noted some of the principal rooms were still standing including the Great Hall, two parlours, a staircase and cellar. There is a suggestion that these were left for temporary accommodation while the first habitable space for the Carews was made available in the new Court buildings, and that these

survived long enough to be depicted in the later painting celebrating the completion of Crowcombe Court around 1740. There is certainly a building shown in the painting (Figure 43) that is not depicted on an estate map just a few decades later although the map does identify a curious 'lay-by' along the drive that would broadly coincide with the location in the painting. However, the notion that this building was a remnant of the manor noted in April 1724 conflicts with testimonies taken as part of the silver coin theft by James Gaylard and Thomas Parker from the Great Hall during demolition in June of that year. It is clear that the demolition in progress during April had reached the principal rooms by this time and was in the final stages. As such, it is unlikely that anything was left of the medieval manor beyond the summer of 1724 so either the painting depicted an unrelated building or it was the product of artistic licence. The latter explanation is perhaps more likely as it has already been demonstrated with reference to the pavilion. Despite the poor quality of the available facsimile, it bears a resemblance to the western end of Church House, and what looks like its two close set doors. Together with the depiction of the church in the foreground, it may have been part of a deliberate contrivance by Carew to combine these familiar and long-standing buildings with his brand new manor perhaps as a way of binding it to the longevity of his family's tenure.

Figure 44. Extract from painting of *c.* 1740 showing unknown building



Ultimately, the postulated location of the medieval manor, and the location of the excavation trenches, was determined by the position of a formal garden laid out in 1676 by John Carew. The garden first appears in the painting of *c.*1740 and then on an estate map in 1767, a year after the estate was passed to James Bernard. John Carew's garden stands out for being separate from the gardens attached to Crowcombe Court and adjoining the churchyard. As the garden was laid out during the final decades of the former manor before its demolition, it was a reasonable hypothesis to suggest that it was designed to fit within the manor complex, perhaps formalising a previous loose courtyard arrangement of buildings. In this scenario, it was proposed that the manor buildings might lay around the outside of the garden.

The excavation revealed several anomalous features and finds that pre-dated the pavilion and garden which might lend weight to the notion that the former manor lay close by. In Trench 1, this included a metalled surface that was encountered *c.* 0.80m below the ground surface in a sondage, and again between the Victorian drain and north wall of the pavilion, and cut by both. A hard stone layer cut by the eastern pavilion wall also pre-dated the building. None of these features could be dated although a few residual finds in the trench spanned the medieval period between the 12/13$^{th}$ and 16$^{th}$ centuries. Perhaps most intriguing was the discovery of a wall attached to the corner of the garden wall encountered in test pit 5. This presented in section as a 0.55m wide wall with a rubble foundation and flat capping stone bridging the entire width. The wall would have extended away to the west of the garden. In addition, the make-up of the corner wall included a very large flat stone which was different to the smaller rubble stone form of the wall everywhere else. Together, it is tempting to speculate that the garden was built against and over pre-existing structures and surfaces/yards with the additional wall representing a foundation and capping stone for a possible ?timber structure.

# CONCLUSION

Despite the lack of substantive evidence for the lost medieval manor, the excavation of the late 17th century garden and pavilion proved to be both a rewarding archaeological investigation and a successful community project.

Overall, nearly 200 volunteers, of all age groups and abilities, took part in the two-week excavation, some for just a few hours while we saw others on a daily basis. The excavation culminated in an Open Day where we welcomed over 150 visitors. The quality and detail of the excavation results is a testament to the enthusiasm of the volunteers, and their close attention to detail, despite the fact that, remarkably, many were complete novices to archaeology.

In terms of the archaeology, the discovery of the well-preserved remains of the former garden and one its pavilions revealed physical evidence for a period of transition between the medieval manor and renewal in the 18th century. At its height, the garden was probably quite the spectacle serving as an extension to the grandeur that was the new Crowcombe Court. The 1740 painting depicts the garden enclosed by tall walls espaliered with fruit trees with pavilions at either end while a contemporary map shows paths and borders around the perimeter, and crossing in the middle where it shows a fountain. The discovery of fine pottery, numerous wine bottles, and clay tobacco pipes attest to the use of the garden as a pleasure ground, all of which was probably refurbished as part of the vision for the new and impressive Crowcombe Court.

Ultimately John Carew's grand design gave way to changing fashions where 17th century formal gardens were no longer *de rigueur* with the trend for more naturalistic parkland settings of the later18th century. The loss of the garden may well have taken away more tangible clues as to the whereabouts of the medieval manor although there is arguably sufficient evidence to pursue an idea that it still lay close-by. The raising of the ground here through landscaping work in the 18th and 19th centuries in particular, may well have ensured a level of preservation for any surviving remains although the detection and resolution of these is largely beyond standard survey techniques which has been shown to be the case here. As such, should the hunt for the manor be featured as part of a future investigation, then consideration might be given to techniques such as ground penetrating radar (GPR) as a means of identifying remains at depth. The obvious targets might be to survey an area outside the western and northern sides of the walled garden.

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Ordnance Survey 25" map, 1887.

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Ordnance Survey 6" National Grid map, 1961.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1978.

# APPENDIX I: Trench 1 Context Summary

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr1 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 1000 | Layer | Topsoil. Soft brown (7.5YR 4/3) loam | 1001 | | >10.00 | >5.00 | 0.10 |
| 1001 | Layer | Subsoil. Friable brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with sparse, small >0.10m stones | 1005, 1006, 1007 | 1000 | >10.00 | >5.00 | 0.20 |
| 1002 | Layer | Stone layer on N side of drain (1036) & extending over drain backfill (1003). Soft brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with 90% stones & rubble measuring on average 0.05-0.10m. Observed finds: C19 floor tile & ceramic roof tile; Fe nail; C19 pottery. Finds collected: pottery; slate; tile; flint. | 1003, 1018 | 1005 | >3.00 | >5.00 | 0.30 |
| 1003 | Fill | Fill above drain (1036). Soft strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty clay with 10% small rubble. | 1036 | 1002, 1006 | 1.00 | >5.00 | 0.20 |
| 1004 | Cut | Cut for drain (1036). Aligned E-W with straight vertical sides. | 1019, 1033 | 1036 | 1.00 | >5.00 | 0.90 |
| 1005 | Layer | Stone scalpings on N side of drain (1036). Soft brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with 90% small gravel & stones. | 1002 | 1001 | 2.60 | >5.00 | 0.05 |
| 1006 | Layer | Soil layer to S of drain (1036) containing varying concentrations of material representing at least 3 separate buildings (?medieval, C17-C18; C19). Friable dark brown (7.5YR 3/4) loam with between 10-50% building material including CBM (brick & tile); window glass (c. 1m3 of clear/ turquoise window glass, 0.25m3 of PM glass); lead work; stone; wall plaster; roofing slate; Fe fixings (nails etc.). Other finds include animal bone & pottery. Representative samples of each material type collected. | 1003, 1011 | 1001 | 5.50 | >5.00 | 0.19 |
| 1007 | Layer | Soil layer across S end of trench & at same horizon as (1006) (contemporary). Friable brown (7.5YR 5/4) loam with occasional small stone. Became deeper towards the S. | 1013, 1021 | 1001 | >2.30 | >5.00 | 0.08 |
| 1008 | Fill | Fill of small feature. Probable animal burrow. | 1009 | 1001 | | | |
| 1009 | Cut | Very shallow feature. Probable animal burrow. | 1003 | 1008 | | | |
| 1010 | Cut | Demolition of pavilion. | 1029, 1031, 1035 | 1015, 1024 | 4.77 | 4.50 | |
| 1011 | Fill | Backfill above demolished building. Soft strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) silty sandy clay with abundant rubble, mortar lumps, wall plaster, roof slates, window glass, CBM fragments (brick & tile) & small stones. | 1012, 1015 | 1006 | 4.77 | 4.50 | 0.25 |
| 1012 | Layer | Capping of clay, sand & stone above wall (1016). Firm light brown (7.5YY 6/3) clay with abundant moderate stones. | 1023 | 1011 | 2.17 | 0.90 | 0.15 |
| 1013 | Layer | Brick & rubble layer to S of pavilion (E side of trench). Soft strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) silty sandy clay with abundant rubble, mortar lumps, wall plaster, roof slates, window glass, CBM fragments (brick & tile) & small stones. | 1014 | 1007 | 2.76 | 2.00 | 0.36 |
| 1014 | Layer | Soil to S of pavilion, below rubble layers (1013) & (1015) & above garden soil (1024) & cobbles (1022) (1032). Friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty sandy clay with occasional small rubble, roof slate fragments, CBM fragments (brick & tile) & small stones. Observed finds: cattle scapula; blue & white china; clay pipe; bird bone; shards of bottle glass; sherds of Donyatt pottery. | 1021, 1024, 1022, 1032 | 1013 | 1.00 | 5.00 | 0.20 |
| 1015 | Layer | Rubble backfill of building & overlapping walls (1016), (1017), (1025), (1026). Soft strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) silty sandy clay with abundant rubble, mortar lumps, wall plaster, CBM fragments (brick & tile) & small stones.Observed finds: window glass; fragment of rough hewn roof slate | 1010 | 1011 | 4.60 | 4.85 | 0.20 |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr1 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 1016 | Structure | E wall of building, the S end returning eastwards as garden wall (1038). Constructed of coursed rubble mostly measuring between 0.10m & 0.20m with occasional larger stones particularly at NE quoin (up to 0.50m across). Bonded with friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty sandy clay with tiny gravel. Hard pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime render to internal face. | ?1017, 1030 | 1029 | 4.50 | 0.50 | 0.45 |
| 1017 | Structure | S wall of building with door threshold (1027). Constructed of coursed rubble mostly measuring between 0.10m & 0.20m with occasional stones up to 0.30m across. Bonded with friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty sandy clay with tiny gravel. Hard pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime render to internal face. | ?1016, ?1038 | 1029 | 3.50 | 0.35 | 0.45 |
| 1018 | Layer | Clay layer lapping over N edge of drain (1036) & extending northwards. Friable reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/6) clay with 10% small rubble & CBM (tile & brick). | 1036 | 1002 | 2.00 | >5.00 | 0.27 |
| 1019 | Layer | Soil above cobbles (1020) & cut by drain cut [1004]. Friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/4) silty clay with occasional small gravel. | 1020 | 1004 | >2.00 | >5.00 | 0.06 |
| 1020 | Layer | Cobbled/ metalled surface cut by drain cut [1004]. Densely packed moderate sized rounded or sub-rounded stones of 0.06-0.09m set within firm strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) and grey (7.5YR 5/1) sandy clay. Same as (1033) which is cut by wall cut [1034] for C17 pavilion. | 1039 | 1019 | >1.70 | >1.20 | 0.10 |
| 1021 | Layer | Garden soil above ?cobbled/metalled surface (1022). Friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with occasional small gravel & several large rubble stones in SE corner of trench. | 1022 | 1014 | 3.00 | 2.75 | 0.30 |
| 1022 | Layer | Rough ?cobbled/metalled surface or stone layer in south-west area of trench, same as (1032). Contemporary with garden soil (1024) along S side of wall (1017). Small rounded or sub-rounded stones set in firm strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty sandy clay. | | 1021 | 1.30 | 1.95 | - |
| 1023 | Layer | Backfill to E of wall (1016). Friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty sandy clay with abundant small & moderate sized rubble, roof slate fragments, CBM fragments (brick & tile) & small stones.Observed finds: clay pipe stems, window glass, Fe rivet; bottle glass shard | 1010 | 1012 | 3.95 | 0.30 | 0.45 |
| 1024 | Layer | Garden soil to S of wall (1017) & contemporary with cobbled/metalled surface (1032). Friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with occasional small gravel. | | 1014 | >5.00 | >0.55 | 0.30 |
| 1025 | Structure | N wall of building.Constructed of coursed rubble mostly measuring between 0.10m & 0.20m with occasional stones up to 0.40m across. Bonded with friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty sandy clay with tiny gravel. Hard pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime render to internal face. | 1034 | 1029, 1035 | 4.75 | 0.50 | 0.48 |
| 1026 | Structure | W wall of building. Constructed of coursed rubble mostly measuring between 0.10m & 0.20m with occasional stones up to 0.30m across & a 0.45m stone forming NW quoin. Bonded with friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty sandy clay with tiny gravel. Hard pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime render to internal face. | ?1017 | 1029 | 4.50 | 0.50 | 0.15 |
| 1027 | Structure | Threshold for doorway in wall (1017), abutted by floor (1029). Constructed of small rubble & hard pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime mortar which retains the door post setting & position of door & step (all gone). Two large shards of bottle glass were recovered from the mortar. | 1017 | 1029 | 1.22 | 0.44 | 0.24 |
| 1028 | Fill | Soil fill in threshold (1027). Friable strong brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with occasional small gravel. | 1027 | 1015 | 1.22 | 0.44 | 0.10 |
| 1029 | Structure | Floor of pavilion. Firm strong brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with surface of pinkish grey (7.5YR 7/2) lime mortar surviving across much of floor. Same as lime render used for internal rendering to walls. | 1016, 1017, 1025, 1026 | 1031 | 3.55 | 3.55 | 0.05 |
| 1030 | Cut | Construction cut for building. Along E side of wall (1016) cutting layer/ structure (1037). Steeply sloping concave cut. | 1037 | 1016, 1038 | 3.94 | 0.25 | 0.48 |
| 1031 | Fill | Backfill of construction cut [1030]. Soft strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty clay | 1016, 1025, 1038 | 1010 | 3.94 | 0.25 | 0.48 |
| 1032 | Layer | Cobbled/ metalled surface in south-east area of trench, same as (1022). Contemporary with garden soil (1024) along S side of wall (1017). Small rounded or sub-rounded stones set in firm strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty sandy clay. | | 1014 | 1.30 | 2.00 | - |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr1 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 1033 | Layer | Cobbled/ metalled surface cut by construction [1034] of pavilion & drain [1004]. Densely packed moderate sized rounded or sub-rounded stones of 0.06-0.09m set within firm strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) and grey (7.5YR 5/1) sandy clay. | | 1004, 1034 | 5.00 | 0.30 | - |
| 1034 | Cut | Construction cut for wall [1025]. Along N side of wall (1025). Steeply sloping concave cut. | 1033 | 1025 | 5.00 | 0.20 | 0.15 |
| 1035 | Fill | Backfill of construction cut [1034]. Soft strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) silty clay | 1025 | 1010 | 5.00 | 0.20 | 0.15 |
| 1036 | Structure | Victorian brick drain. Semi-circular capping & upper plinth of bricks laid as stretchers; lower plinth of bricks laid as headers.Bonded with hard white lime mortar. | 1004 | 1003, 1018 | >5.00 | 0.80 | 0.6 |
| 1037 | Structure/ layer | Potential wall or very hard stone layer cut by construction of pavilion. Exposed in E baulk. Random small to moderate size stones set in firm grey (7.5YR 5/1) silty sandy clay. | | 1030 | 2.00 | 0.15 | 0.20 |
| 1038 | Structure | Garden wall, with northward return as pavilion E wall (1016). Constructed of coursed rubble mostly measuring between 0.10m & 0.22m. Bonded with friable strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) silty sandy clay with tiny gravel. | ?1017, 1030 | 1029 | 1.00 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| 1039 | Layer | Natural clay, possibly redeposited. Varies between firm grey (7.5YR 5/1), light greenish grey (Gley 1 10Y 8/1) and pale green (Gley 1 5G_/2 8/2) sandy clay. | | 1020, 1023, 1030 | - | - | - |

# APPENDIX II: Trench 2 Context Summary

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr2 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | Layer | Topsoil. Soft brown (7.5YR 4/3) loam. | 2001 | - | Trench | Trench | 0.12m |
| 2001 | Layer | Subsoil. Friable brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with sparse small >0.10m stones. | 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2023, 2030 | 2000 | Trench | Trench | 0.10m |
| 2002 | Layer | Redeposited yellow clay. Compact mottled yellowish brown (10YR 5/4 5/6 5/8) speckled with light grey (10YR 7/1) patches sandy silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular stones and small gravel fragments. Cut by features [2005] [2007] [2013] [2015] [2017]. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 2024 | 2005, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2017 | 3.35m+ | 5.00m+ | 0.20m |
| 2003 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy clayey silt with frequent angular and sub-angular stones, some relatively large at >0.10m and small gravel fragments. Poorly sorted horizontal deposit. Very similar to deposit (502) seen in TP5. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 2022 | 2031 | 3.94m+ | 5.00m+ | 0.45m+ |
| 2004 | Fill | Fill of pit [2005]. Compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy clayey silt with moderate angular and sub-angular stones and small gravel fragments. Contained pottery. | 2005 | 2001 | 1.00m+ | 0.84m+ | 0.14m+ |
| 2005 | Cut | Cut of pit. Presented as rectangular with straight steep sides, however, shape in plan wasn't completely exposed as it continued outside of the trench limits and feature wasn't fully excavated to depth. Cuts (2002) and filled with (2004). Probable C19/Mod disturbance. | 2016 | 2004 | 1.00m+ | 0.84m+ | 0.14m+ |
| 2006 | Fill | Fill of pit [2007]. Compacted light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/3) sandy silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular stones and small gravel fragments. | 2007 | 2001 | 0.50m+ | 0.68m | 0.18m+ |
| 2007 | Cut | Cut of pit. Presented as rectangular with straight steep sides, however, shape in plan wasn't completely exposed as it exceeded the limits of the trench and feature wasn't fully excavated to depth. Cuts (2002) and filled with (2006). Probable C19/Mod disturbance. | 2002 | 2006 | 0.50m+ | 0.68m | 0.18m+ |
| 2008 | Layer | Subsoil derived deposit. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silty clay with occasional small gravel fragments and charcoal flecks. Contained pottery and 2 shards of modern green bottle glass. | 2022 | 2001 | 0.70m+ | 0.84m | 0.10m |
| 2009 | Cut | Cut of french drain. Linear with slightly concave moderate sides. Feature wasn't fully excavated to depth. This feature appears to cut through the garden wall (2021) utilising the remnant walling as a sort of revetment on the east side. The west edge of the drain cuts through the demolition layer created by the dismantlement of the garden wall. Handmade bricks (2037) fill the base of the drain and these just rise above the current surface water table. The west side is very diffuse and the feature wasn't bottomed due to the ingress of water. | 2025, 2035 | 2037 | 0.70m+ | 1.75m | 0.40m+ |
| 2010 | Layer | Same as (2008) but on the north side of the trench. | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2011 | Cut | Construction cut for wall. Linear orientated N-S with straight vertical sides. Seen briefly in a very narrow sondage excavated in front of wall (2021). Sondage extended below the surface water table and consequently made observation difficult. Filled with (2034). | 2029 | 2021 | 5.00m+ | 0.08m | 0.23m+ |
| 2012 | Fill | Fill of pit [2013]. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy clayey silt with moderate sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks. Contained a relative high pottery sherd count. | 2013 | 2001 | 0.92m | 0.63m | 0.15m |
| 2013 | Cut | Cut of pit. Presented as rectangular but shape in plan wasn't completely uncovered as it continued outside of the trench limits. Sides were straight and steep giving way to a flat base. Cuts (2002) and filled with (2012). Probable C19/Mod disturbance. | 2002 | 2012 | 0.92m | 0.63m | 0.15m |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr2 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 2014 | Fill | Fill of pit [2015]. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silty clay with with frequent angular gravels and larger gravel fragments <0.04m and charcoal flecks. This fill may be the same as layer (2023). | 2015 | 2001 | 1.08m | 0.28m+ | 0.12m |
| 2015 | Cut | Cut of pit. Presented as rectangular but shape in plan wasn't completely uncovered as it continued outside of the trench limits. Sides were straight and moderate and the base was irregular. Cuts (2002) and filled with (2014). It is possible that this isn't a actual cut but an interrupted continuation of layer (2023). | 2002 | 2014 | 1.08m | 0.28m+ | 0.12m |
| 2016 | Fill | Fill of pit [2017]. Compacted light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/3) sandy silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular stones up to 0.08m in size and small gravel fragments. | 2017 | 2005 | 0.50m+ | 0.95m | 0.18m+ |
| 2017 | Cut | Cut of pit. Presented as rectangular with straight steep sides, however, shape in plan wasn't completely exposed as it continued outside of the trench limits and feature wasn't fully excavated to depth. Cuts (2002) and filled with (2016). Probable C19/Mod disturbance. | 2002 | 2016 | 0.50m+ | 0.95m | 0.18m+ |
| 2018 | Layer | Same as (2022) but on the north side of the trench. | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2019 | Layer | Redeposited soil. Friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silty clay with moderate stones and small gravel fragments. Horizontal deposit/ probable landscaping layer. | 2022 | 2023 | 0.70m+ | 1.12m | 0.10m |
| 2020 | Fill | Fill of [2009]. Soft dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay with occasional gravel fragments and a slightly gritty texture. Very occasional degraded sandstone fragments and angular stones. (2020) is also bioturbated by the presence of plant roots, some relatively thick and substantial, which have turned black in the anaerobic conditions. Contained pottery. This fill represents the backfill of the french drain [2009] following the initial deposition of bricks and is consequently quite moist and sticky. | 2037 | 2033 | 0.70m+ | 1.75m | 0.35m |
| 2021 | Structure | C17 garden wall. N-S orientation with a red sandstone construction and bonded with a reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy clay. Four courses where observed plus a lower course which seemed more random and rubbly in nature. The wall has a rubble core with the inner wall face presenting as random coursed while the fragment of outer wall face uncovered was observed to be neater, perhaps of uneven course construction, though only one and a bit courses was revealed on this face. The larger stones measured up to 0.34m x 0.16m x 0.20m. A possible construction cut [2011] was noted to coincide with the first 'proper' course of stone and noted to be at a similar level as possible earlier ground surface (2029). French drain [2009] appears to have cut across the wall. It is not known for certain what the superstructure of his wall was constructed with and one might presume it to be a sandstone wall, though there are a lot of bricks around (as the fill of the french drain (2037) and covering the garden wall in TP5) and it is possible the wall was built partially of brick, or stone with brick detailing. It is equally possible the bricks were originally laid as a pathway, perhaps connecting the opposing doorway/entrance ways that are recorded on a painting of the garden dating to *c*. 1740s. | 2011 | 2034 | 5.00m+ | 0.60m | 0.60m± |
| 2022 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Friable reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy slightly silty clay containing occasional light brownish grey (10YR 6/2) small mottles with moderate amounts of angular yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) degraded sandstone fragments <0.03m, sub-rounded small stone fragments <0.01m. This relatively extensive layer covers the french drain and it is possible that there was some landscape removal before (2022) was laid down. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 2003, 2008 | 2019, 2032 | 0.70m+ | 2.60m | 0.25m |
| 2023 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silty clay with frequent angular gravels and larger gravel fragments <0.04m and occasional charcoal flecks. It is possible that (2023) is the same as (2014) and that pit [2015] is not an actual feature. Probable landscaping layer. | 2024 | 2019 | 0.58m+ | 0.60m | 0.19m |
| 2024 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Compacted light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/3) sandy silty clay containing reddish grey (5YR 5/2) mottles with frequent sub-angular and angular gravels and small red sandstone fragments. Fill of pit [2007]. Very similar to (2006) and (2016) observed to the north of the trench. Probable landscaping layer. | 2025 | 2023 | 0.45m+ | 0.47m | 0.11m |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr2 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 2025 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Friable dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy clayey silt with occasional gravel fragments and a slightly gritty texture. Very occasional degraded sandstone fragments and angular stones. Also present are the very occasional larger sub-angular stone <0.10m. Very similar in nature to fill of French drain [2009], (2020), however (2020) was far more stickier and plastically clayey. The sharp horizon between this and layer (2026) below may indicate a change in depositional process or a change in the reason for deliberate deposition. It's possible that (2026) represents a pathway adjacent to the garden wall (2021) and later layer (2025) is either related to the demolition of the wall or a period of change in use from pathway to something more soily. Probable redeposited layer. | 2026 | 2009, 2024 | 0.70m+ | 1.16m | 0.17m |
| 2026 | Layer | Possible surface. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silty clay with frequent gravel fragments and sub-angular stones <0.03m. The west edge of this deposit appears to respect the projected line of the garden wall (2021). Horizontal deposit/possible pathway. | 2027 | 2036 | 0.70m+ | 1.16m | 0.11m |
| 2027 | Layer | Possible surface. Moderately compacted reddish grey (5YR 5/2) sandy silty clay with frequent gravel fragments and sub-angular stones <0.03m. The west edge of this deposit appears to respect the projected line of the garden wall (2021) while the lower portion is butted up against the remnant remains of the wall. Horizontal deposit/possible pathway. | 2028 | 2026 | 0.70m+ | 1.18m | 0.21m |
| 2028 | Layer | Redeposited natural. Compacted grey (5YR 5/1) and greenish grey (Gley 1 10Y 6/1 & 10Y 5/1) sandy clay, sand particles are relatively fine grained. Contains frequent sub-angular stones <0.06m and small gravel fragments as well as small degraded sandstone fragments. Horizontal deposit/possible make up layer for pathway. | 2021 | 2027 | 0.70m+ | 1.21m | 0.15m+ |
| 2029 | Layer | ?Former land surface. Compacted black (5YR 2.5/1) slightly sandy silty clay with occasion to moderate sub-angular stones, very rare sub-angular stones <0.06m, some evidence of bioturbation from roots and charcoal flecks some up to 3mm in diameter. Not seen in section. It possible that this layer represents the former land surface or the construction horizon of the garden wall (2021). Not seen in section but a small area was observed in plan. | - | 2011 | 0.30m+ | 0.30m+ | 0.10m+ |
| 2030 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silty clay with frequent angular stone fragments <0.02m and smaller gravels. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 2031 | 2001 | 0.70m+ | 0.90m | 0.09m |
| 2031 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/3) sandy silty clay with moderate angular stone fragments some relatively large at <0.05m and smaller gravels. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 2003 | 2030 | 0.70m+ | 1.37m | 0.14m |
| 2032 | Fill | Fill of [2009]. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy silty clay with occasional to moderate angular stones <0.02m and frequent gritty gravels. | 2033 | 2022 | 0.70m+ | 1.02m | 0.10m |
| 2033 | Layer | Fill of [2009]. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/3) sandy silty clay with frequent gritty gravels and rare small charcoal flecks. Possibly deriving from (2019). | 2020 | 2032 | 0.70m+ | 0.81m | 0.08m |
| 2034 | Fill | Back-fill of construction cut [2011]. Moderately compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay with moderate sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. Water ingress made this a tricky deposit to observe. | 2021 | 2028 | 5.00m+ | 0.08m | 0.23m+ |
| 2035 | Deposit | Demolition deposit. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy clay with moderate to frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular sandstone stones up to 0.20m and degraded sandstone fragments, some charcoal flecking. This deposit formed when garden wall (2021) was demolished. It appears that the wall was dismantled to ground surface and excavated out below ground as shown by possible pathway deposits that seem to butt up against demolition cut [2036], therefore leaving an impression of the wall. Deposit was only seen on the west side of the wall suggesting demolition towards the exterior of the garden may be to aid ground levelling between the interior of the garden and the exterior. Wall (2021) and demolition deposit (2035) were subsequently cut by French drain [2009]. | - Must be related to [2036] & (2038) demolition cut and backfill | 2009 | 0.70m+ | 1.15m+ | 0.24m+ |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tr2 10m x 5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 2036 | Cut | Demolition/robber cut. Linear in plan and orientated N-S with straight vertical sides. Small fragment of the garden wall demolition cut preserved in section. Possible pathways (2026) and (2027) appear to butt up against this cut showing the impression of the wall. The resulting demolition of the garden wall is recorded further to the west (exterior of the garden) as (2035). The similarities between (2020) and (2025) have meant the French drain cut [2009] is quite diffuse but it makes stratigraphic sense that it would cut through [2036] and the resulting demolition. Cut for removal of the stone from the garden wall and subsequent demolition, probably the same as cut [503] seen in TP5. Cut by [2009]. | 2026 | 2038 | 0.70m+ | 0.20m | 0.13m |
| 2037 | Fill | Fill of [2009]. Soft dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay matrix containing frequent ?C17 handmade bricks and sandstone stones acting as the drainage component in French drain [2009]. | 2009 | 2020 | 0.70m+ | 0.68m | 0.16m+ |
| 2038 | Fill | Fill of [2036]. Moderately compacted reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy clay with moderate to frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular sandstone stones. Deposit is broadly contemporary with demolition deposit(2035) and the soil matrix is very similar. Backfill of demolition cut. | 2036 | - Physically cut by [2009] | 0.70m+ | 0.20m | 0.13m |

# APPENDIX III: Test Pits Context Summary

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **TP1 1m x 1m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 100 | Layer | Topsoil. | 101 | - | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.15 |
| 101 | Layer | Subsoil. | 102 | 100 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.15 |
| 102 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble. | - | 101 | 1.00 | 1.00 | - |
| **TP2 1m x 1.75m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 200 | Layer | Topsoil. | 201 | - | 1.75 | 1.00 | 0.13m |
| 201 | Layer | Subsoil. | 202 | 200 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 0.11m |
| 202 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Loose and rubbly reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy silty clay with frequent large bricks, some with a pale mortar adhering to them and stony gravels. Very similar to the redeposited brick rubble layer (505) seen in TP5 but not as loose. Horizontal deposit/ probable landscaping layer. | 203 | 201 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 0.27m |
| 203 | Layer | ?Redeposited layer. Moderately compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay with moderate stones and small gravel fragments. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | - | 202 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 0.08m+ |
| **TP3 1m x 1m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 300 | Layer | Topsoil. | 301 | - | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.13 |
| 301 | Layer | Subsoil. | 302 | 300 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.09 |
| 302 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble. | 303 | 301 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.28 |
| 303 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble/possible stone surface. | - | 303 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.15+ |
| **TP4 1m x 1m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 400 | Layer | Topsoil. | 401 | - | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.15 |
| 401 | Layer | Subsoil. | 402 | 400 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.06 |
| 402 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble. | 403 | 401 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.25 |
| 403 | Layer | ?Redeposited layer. | 404 | 402 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.44+ |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **TP5 1.5m x 1.5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 500 | Layer | Topsoil. Soft brown (7.5YR 4/3) loam. | 501 | - | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.10 |
| 501 | Layer | Subsoil. Friable brown (7.5YR 4/4) loam with sparse small >0.10m stones. | 502 | 500 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.05 |
| 502 | Layer | Redeposited stone rubble. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy clayey silt with frequent angular and sub-angular stones, some relatively large at >0.10m with one stone measuring 0.22m in length. Also contains small gravel fragments. Poorly sorted horizontal deposit. Very similar to deposit (2003) seen in Tr2. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 504 | 501 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.28 |
| 503 | Cut | Demolition/robber cut. Linear in plan and orientated N-S with straight vertical sides. Possible man-made soil/garden soil (507) appears to butt up against this cut showing the impression of the wall. This suggests the wall (509) was dismantled leaving interior garden deposit (507) extant before backfill/landscaping layer (505) was rapidly deposited against it. Cut for removal of the stone from the garden wall and subsequent demolition, probably the same as cut [2036] seen in Tr2. | 507 | 506 | 1.50 | 0.85 | 0.58 |
| 504 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Compacted reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silty clay accompanied by light grey (10YR 7/1) mottles with frequent angular gravels and larger gravel fragments <0.04m, sandstone stones <0.10m, fragments of a pale mortar and occasional charcoal flecks. (504) appears to butt up against Demolition/robber cut [503] suggesting rapid deposition once the wall (509) had been removed. Horizontal deposit/ probable landscaping layer. | 505 | 502 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.28 |
| 505 | Layer | Redeposited layer. Loose and rubbly reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy silty clay with frequent large bricks, some with a pale mortar adhering to them and stony gravels. (505) appears to butt up against Demolition/robber cut [503] suggesting this loose and voided layer was rapidly deposited, potentially originating from the north-west. Horizontal deposit/probable landscaping layer. | 506, 513 | 504 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.52 |
| 506 | Layer | ?Demolition trample. Moderately compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay mottled with greenish grey (Gley 1 10Y 6/1 & 10Y 5/1) sandy clay with moderate small stone fragments. This relatively thin layer appears to be deposited above the demolished/robbed out wall and the demolition cut [503] and is interpreted as trample left from the action of demolishing the wall and probably originates from interior garden deposit (507). | 503 | 505 | 0.48 | 0.82m | 0.10 |
| 507 | Layer | Man-made soil. Moderately compacted reddish grey (5YR 5/2) sandy silty clay mottled with greenish grey (Gley 1 10Y 6/1 & 10Y 5/1) sandy clay with moderate small stone fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. Pretty homogeneous throughout and originally built up against wall (509), it is thought this deposit was exposed when the garden wall was dismantled/demolished. | 511 | 503 | 0.48+ | 0.15+ | 0.46 |
| 508 | Cut | Construction cut for wall (509). Linear orientated N-S before returning at a right angle and travelling in an E-W direction. Straight vertical sides, base not observed due to constricted area of TP. Filled with (510). | 510 | 509 | 1.50 | 0.13+ | 0.20+ |
| 509 | Structure | North-west corner of C17 garden wall. N-S orientation before returning at a right angle and travelling in an E-W direction.<br>Red sandstone construction, bonded with a reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy clay with three large stones being particularly note worthy measuring at least 0.50m wide x 0.30m thick, one of which appears to be quoin stone. It appears this relatively deep course may be the lowest course but the room constrictions of the TP and time constraints made it difficult to discern the underlying structure. Like the length of garden wall (2021) seen in Tr2 this stretch also has a rubble core but unlike (2021) it is impossible to say with certainty what the course construction is and whether the exterior was more neatly presented than the interior. A narrow construction cut [508] was observed on both sides of the wall with (511) tentatively interpreted as construction trample. As mentioned in the context description for wall (2021) seen in Tr2, it is not known for certain what the superstructure of his wall was constructed with and one might presume it to be a sandstone wall, but as (2021) there are a lot of bricks around the wall and it is possible that the wall had a stone plinth and a upper brick construction or a mixture of the two. It's equally possible the bricks were originally laid as a pathway, perhaps connecting the opposing doorway/entrance ways that are recorded on a painting of the garden dating to *c*. 1740s. Wall (513) was observed (in section only) to butt up against this wall but their stratigraphic and chronological relationship can not be presented with any certainty. | 508 | 510 | 1.21+ | 0.80 max | 0.30+ |
| 510 | Fill | Back-fill of construction cut [508]. Moderately compacted dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) sandy silty clay with moderate sub-rounded and sub-angular stones. | 509 | 511 | Trench | 0.13m+ | 0.20m+ |

| Context no. | Type | Description | Above | Below | Length | Width/ Diameter | Thickness/ Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **TP5 1.5m x 1.5m. All measurements in metres.** | | | | | | | |
| 511 | Layer | Construction trample. Moderately compact reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy silty clay with moderate small sub-angular stones. Deposit is quite thin at around 0.05m, butts up against the interior of wall (509) covering what is thought to be natural (514). It was also observed to cover the wall's construction cut back-fill (510) but is overlain by the interior garden deposit (507). | 510 | 507 | 0.65m+ | 0.16m | 0.06m |
| 512 | Cut | Construction cut for wall (513). Only seen in section and tight up against the north-west corner of the test pit. Probably linear and orientated E-W. Straight vertical sides, base not observed due to constricted area of TP and location of cut. | 514 | 513 | 0.05m+ | 0.05m+ | 0.35m+ |
| 513 | Structure | Undated wall. Only seen in section but presents as E-W orientation. Red sandstone construction, bonded with a similar reddish brown (5YR 4/4) sandy clay seen in the C17 garden wall. Wall appears to be capped by a slab of sandstone overlying two courses of stones between 0.05m and 0.10m thick before a more regular three courses of stones around 0.05m thick each were observed. The position of this wall in the north-west corner of the TP meant that the face of this wall wasn't exposed s any interior or exterior details or construction type was unable to be recorded. Wall (513) was observed (in section only) to butt up against wall (509) but their stratigraphic and chronological relationship can not be presented with any certainty. This is possibly a short, capped garden wall either springing off the walled garden wall ((509) here) enclosing further areas of ornamental garden relating to recorded LiDAR data and known crop marks. However, the corner of (509) and (513) is slightly miss-aligned so it is possible that (513) pre-dates the C17 garden wall. | 512 | 505 | 0.05m+ | 0.55m | 0.35m+ |
| 514 | Deposit | Redeposited natural. Compacted light greenish grey (Gley 1 10Y 8/1) and pale green (Gley 1 5G_/2 8/2) sandy clay containing extensive reddish brown (5YR 5/4 and 5YR 4/4) mottling, sand particles are relatively fine grained. Contains frequent sub-angular stones <0.10m and small gravel fragments as well as small degraded sandstone fragments. Observed on both the north and south side of wall (509), this deposit is possibly the remains of natural excavated out of the construction cut [508] and redeposited at the edges of the cut, may be to aid ground levelling. Deposit appears to be more disturbed on the north (exterior) side of the garden wall which may relate to another horticultural feature in another area of garden. | - | 508, 512 | Trench | 0.12m+ | 0.30m+ |
| **TP6 1m x 1m** | | | | | | | |
| 600 | Layer | Topsoil. | 601 | - | Trench | Trench | 0.12m |
| 601 | Layer | Construction back-fill. Moderately loose reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular stones some relatively large at between 0.10m - 0.15m wide. | 602 | 600 | 1.00m+ | 1.00m+ | 0.17m+ |
| 602 | Structure | Culvert. Comprises the top of a brick constructed culvert, orientated in a NNW-SSE and bonded with a very pale mortar. Construction appears to be asymmetrical with the apex and initial slope curving down the culvert being the same before bricks on either side of the profile are laid in different directions: latitudinally of the east side and longitudinally on the west side. This culvert was observed *c*. 0.20m below the ground surface as as a consequence a very clear parch mark in the grass ran up to and through TP6 in perfect alignment with this culvert. | - | 601 | 1.00m+ | 0.88m+ | - |