

Archaeological Excavation

Low Grange

Daffodil Park

Billingham

Stockton on Tees



Revised July 2023



TA22/03

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October 2021

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J Adams & R Daniels

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Summary

This report describes the methodology and results of an archaeological excavation undertaken by Tees Archaeology at Low Grange, Daffodil Park, Billingham, Stockton on Tees. The site is centred on National Grid Reference NZ 469 255. The fieldwork was undertaken in October 2021 as part of the Durham University 'Belief in the North East' HLF project.

The excavation took place on the site of a farmstead which was demolished in the 1960s and is now part of Daffodil Park, Low Grange an open area of grassland surrounded by housing developments of the 1960s onwards and owned by Stockton on Tees Borough Council.

The archaeological excavation comprised the investigation of four trenches. All trenches recovered evidence of buildings. Trenches 1 and 2 contained structures of medieval and later date while trenches 3 and 4 contained only post-medieval structures.

This report was revised in July 2023 by Robin Daniels after it was realised that not all the finds had been dealt with.

Acknowledgments

The project would not have taken place without the funding provided by the National Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the Durham University, **Belief in the North East**, project and the assistance of Dr David Petts of Durham University and Paul Frodsham, Belief in the North East Project Officer. We would also like to thank Martin Roberts for his enthusiasm for investigating the site and his work on the buildings and their interpretation.

Daffodil Park is owned by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and we would like to thank Councillor Chris Barlow for his support throughout the long development of the project. We would also like to thank the officers of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council who supported the project and helped make it happen, particularly David Askey and Graham Clingan.

Local people took a great interest in the project and again were supportive throughout. We would also like to thank the volunteers who took part in the project; 63 volunteers took part in the project for a total of 116 days. Their support and enthusiasm were a great help.

1. Introduction

An archaeological excavation of land at Daffodil Park, Low Grange, Billingham, Stockton on Tees (Figures 1--3) was undertaken by Tees Archaeology between October 18th and 29th 2021 as part of the Durham University 'Belief in the North East' Heritage Lottery Funded project. The fieldwork was carried out by Janice Adams and Robin Daniels.

The site was the location of a farmstead which was demolished in the early 1960s as part of the construction of a housing estate in the surrounding area. At the time of its demolition the identification of the site with that of the Prior of Durham's medieval manor house at Bewley was suggested by Leslie Still and limited building recording and archaeological excavation in 1960 and 1961 confirmed this (Still 1965).

2. Location and Geology

The excavation took place on the site of a farmstead which was demolished in the 1960s and is now part of Daffodil Park, Low Grange, an open area of grassland surrounded by housing developments of the 1960s onwards and owned by Stockton on Tees Borough Council (NZ 469 255).

The open area measures c.5.5ha and contains a series of medieval features as well as the site of the manor house. There is a stream running through the middle of the site and to the east of this there is a mill leat and the possible site of a water mill. A breached dam is present in the centre of the site and this had a partner to the south which has been destroyed by housing development. There is a filled in fishpond in the north western part of the site and a deep cutting to the west of the stream, above the line of the dam. This may be part of the fishpond complex, although Leslie Still suggested that this may represent a borrow pit for the construction of the dams and this is an equally possible explanation. To the west of the stream and to the immediate north of the manor house there are slight traces of ridge and furrow (medieval ploughing) and this area is thought to be part of the Park that went with the manor house.

The stream lies below the 10m contour and the ground rises gently to either side of the stream and with the manor house lying between the 10 and 15m contours. The underlying geology is part of the Sherwood Sandstone group and that is overlain by clay and silt derived from the last glaciation and subsequent silting related to rivers and streams.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

In the medieval period the Benedictine monks of Durham Priory held large amounts of land in the north-east of England. The produce and revenue from these lands paid for the monks at Durham.

In order to manage the lands Durham Priory established Administrative Centres near their major landholdings and these centres sometimes developed into Great Houses with a complex of buildings and farms. The main buildings might be quite lavish and would have been used as a retreat by the Prior and noble guests.

Durham Priory was given land at Billingham shortly after the Norman Conquest and it had a farming centre at Bewley by 1244 at the latest. It is recorded that Prior Hugh de Darlington built a Manor House here between 1258 and 1273 AD (VCH 1928, 198).

The name Bewley is derived from the French 'Beau Lieu' meaning fair or lovely place. The nearby villages of Newton and Cowpen Bewley took the last element of their name from the manor and were administered from there (Watts 2002, 85).

The Manor House of Hugh of Darlington was a major structure, one of the four grandest houses built by the Prior of Durham. It was important enough to have a clock in the 15th century at a time when clocks were extremely rare, this would have chimed the hours rather than show the time on dial (Surtees Society 1901, 631).

The Manor House contained a Great Hall, private chambers and kitchens and had gardens attached to it. In addition there was a working farm with barns, byres, granaries and stables. The manor house went out of use in the 17th century and while a farm continued on the site the whole complex was demolished in the early 1960s (VCH 1928 198).

In addition to the manor house complex there are documentary records of a Dovecote, fishponds with swans (Surtees Society 1901, 593), a water mill and a deer park attached to the manorial centre (VCH 1928, 198).

4. Aims and Objectives

The aims of the project were to locate, characterise and date any archaeological remains exposed by excavation that relate to the Prior's Manor House. Identify the function of individual structures, when they were built and how they were constructed as well as recover evidence of the later use of the site.

The objectives of the project were:

- To investigate and record evidence of the medieval and later structures on the site
- To identify and investigate any exposed archaeological deposits or features, including the recovery of artefacts, ecofacts and samples of material suitable for palaeo-environmental investigation.
- To engage the local community and volunteers in the project and promote awareness of the heritage of the site.

The results of the project will form part of a permanent archive of the site. The archive will be held by Tees Archaeology under the site code BLG21

5. Methodology

Three (1, 2 and 3) trenches were excavated using a JCB fitted with a 1.00m wide 'toothless' ditching bucket and one (4) was excavated completely by hand (Figures 1-3). In addition, a children's activity trench was created by removing the turf from a separate area. The excavation of the trenches was carried out under the direct guidance of the supervising archaeologist. The whole area of the trenches and welfare and storage facilities was enclosed by Heras fencing.

Excavation and recording was undertaken using the methodology set out in Tees Archaeology recording manual. Following machine excavation, the sections and the base of each trench were cleaned using the appropriate hand tools. Sections within each trench

were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20 and 1:50. The location of each trench was surveyed using GPS.

Deposits were recorded using pro forma context recording sheets. A photographic record of the investigations was compiled using digital photography. All photographs include a graduated metric scale where appropriate. The photographic record forms part of the project archive. A temporary benchmark was established on the site using established survey information.

6. Results

Trench 1 Excavation description

Trench 1 (Figures 1 – 5, 12, 13) was placed over a geophysical anomaly thought to represent walls of a structure. The trench measured approximately 2m by 10m and was orientated broadly north south. A firm clay deposit (116) was found at a depth of 0.45m below ground level. This clay is likely to be a natural glacial deposit.

An east/west wall foundation (104) was constructed over this deposit in the north part of the trench. This once formed the north facing external wall of a medieval building. The north face of the wall foundation (104) was constructed of large roughly faced stone blocks bonded with lime mortar. The surviving elements of the foundation had a stepped construction projecting out at each lower layer. The projection of the lowest course was 0.2m the next 0.12m topped by a chamfered string of stonework. The wall had a rubble core comprised of medium sized angular stones. The internal face was also stepped and roughly faced although there was no evidence of chamfered stonework as this course had not survived.

To the south of this wall, cutting the firm clay was a grave cut (127) for an animal burial (126). The animal's articulated remains were exposed but was not fully excavated. Only two fragments of this animal were recovered, a tooth and a vertebrae for species identification. The remainder was left in-situ. The backfill of the grave comprised mottled brown and orange slightly silty-clay. It was firm and compact with occasional crushed sandstone fragments. This grave backfill (126) underlay a single layer of stones forming a north/south un-bonded wall (113: 2.16m long by 0.2m wide), the contemporary return of the wall (114) was 0.6m long by 0.36m wide. Wall (114) continued east out of the area of investigation. These walls may have formed a small chamber within the building or supported a wooden floor. A thin layer of coarse red sand (115) was bounded by the two walls (113 & 114). Animal bone was found in this layer. To the west of this chamber overlying the clay (116) was a layer of clay measuring 2.18m by 1.35m and embedded with river rounded cobbles and sub-rounded stones (125). Two post-holes cut this layer. A circular post-hole (119) measured 0.18m in diameter and 90mm deep. The second post-hole (121) was 0.15m in diameter and 0.13m deep both were filled with grey-brown clay-silt (118) and (120) respectively and contained white and yellow stone flecks.

At the south end of the excavation overlying layer (116) was a wide east-west roughly faced, roughly coursed wall foundation (107) that measured 1.6m wide. This wall foundation is likely to be contemporary with wall foundation (104) to the north, forming two sides of the same building. Two courses of the wall foundation survived at the east side of the excavated area where traces of lime mortar could be seen bonding the stones. The stones were of medium and large size measuring from 0.2m up to 0.7 and 0.8m in length.

On the north side of the wall part of the stone facing was cut by a circular post-hole (123: 0.3m diameter) this was filled by a loose crumbly clay with small stone inclusions (122) up to 0.2m deep. The fill of the post-hole was sealed by the overlying layer of mottled yellow-grey clay containing crushed stone (124). The layer was 0.35m wide by 50mm thick. This layer appears to be a remnant from the construction of the building. No construction cut was visible. This clay layer abutted the north face of the wall suggesting that the wall foundation, the post-hole and the layer were all contemporary in date. A layer of moderately compact silt-clay (105) up to 0.2m thick overlay this (124) and was identified for up to 1.2m to the north. Pottery dating from the medieval period to the C19th plus animal bone, blue decorative, green tinted and bottle glass was recovered from this layer. Above this was a line of un-mortared red bricks (106) laid stretcher to stretcher. The row comprised 12 bricks that measured 1500mm by 250mm by 70mm. It is likely these formed a sleeper wall to support a wooden floor which no longer survived.

South of the wall foundation (107) an excavation trench relating to the 1960s excavations by Leslie Still was found. The cut for the excavation trench (128) measured 1.8m north south and continued out of the area of investigation to the south, to the east and west. It was filled with brown silt (112) that was reached at a depth of 0.7m below ground level. This layer was excavated to a depth of 0.1m. Pottery recovered from this layer dated from the medieval period to the C19th. It contained redeposited clay lumps, stone and mortar fragments, a D shaped copper alloy buckle and bottle glass. Directly above this at the south-east corner of the trench was a layer of fine brown silt (111) containing river rounded cobbles (0.16m thick). Pottery dating to the post-medieval and C19th was found in this backfill. Above this adjacent to the stone surface was a thin layer of red sand (129: 50mm thick). A layer of firm dark-brown silt-clay (117) formed the primary fill of the excavation trench. This was up to 0.22m thick.

The second 1960s trench was at the very north end of the excavation area, north of wall foundation (104). The cut (128) for the 1960s excavation was filled by silt-clay (110) which contained redeposited clay lumps, tile, brick, pot (from medieval to C19th in date), animal bone, shell, bottle glass and metal. This was overlain by a very similar fill of dark-grey silt (108) up to 80mm thick, fragments of animal bone, shell, green tinted glass, bottle glass and pottery sherds dating to the 18th and 19th centuries was recovered from this layer. This layer was directly over the north wall foundation (104).

A layer of grey-brown silt-clay (102) covered (117) and the entire trench. This contained small to large stones, brick rubble, cement, tile and lath and plaster fragments undoubtedly relating to the demolition of the buildings on the site. Contemporary to this, in the central part of the trench, was a more concentrated layer of stone demolition rubble in a grey-brown silt-clay (103), animal bone, shell, a steelyard weight and fragments of glass were recovered from this layer. This layer was approximately 0.4m thick and continued for 2m in length north-south. This rubble may relate to a trace of a potential structure (109) located on the west side of the trench. This feature was not investigated during the excavation. A made-ground deposit of stiff orange-brown clay (101) was directly over the layer of demolition (102). This was overlain by the grey-brown silt-clay topsoil layer (100).

Phasing

Figure 4a and b show broad phasing plans of Trench 1. The main features i.e. the walls are shown on both drawings for location purposes.

Phase 1: Medieval. The construction of the building (104) & (107). What is not clear is the relationship and date of the animal burial in relation to the construction of the building.

Phase 2: Late medieval to post-medieval cobble layer and internal partitions overlying the animal burial.

Phase 3: Later activity post-holes cutting cobble layer and brick support for floating floor

Phase 4: 1960s excavation trenches

Phase 5: The demolition of the buildings and landscaping of the area in the late 1960s.

Trench 2 Excavation description

Trench 2 (Figures 1- 3, 6, 7, 14) was targeted on a geophysical anomaly found during a survey of the site. The anomaly was thought to represent the walls and interior of a building (Figure 2). The trench was orientated broadly east/west and measured approximately 10.4m by 2.4m.

At the base of the trench at the south end was a layer of mottled yellow clay (239) with fragments of manganese, probably the natural glacial deposit.

At the very east end of the trench the yellow clay (239) was directly below stone wall (210) constructed of two courses of un-bonded large and medium sized stones with a roughly faced edge on the west side. It measured 0.75m thick and continued to the east.

To the east of the wall, layer (239) was overlain by a stiff brown clay layer (238) measuring up to 0.42m thick. Directly over this was a layer of mottled reddish-brown clay (232) with stone inclusions. Both of these clay layers appear to be made ground forming a levelling deposit and a stable foundation for the overlying wall foundation (203).

The wall foundation was constructed of un-bonded large and medium stones up to 0.45m by 0.48m in size. The wall was exposed for 2.09m and measured 0.82m wide by 0.16m thick. The wall has an appearance very similar to that of the stone surface suggesting that they were contemporary in date. A small section of wall (216) at the north of the trench constructed of the same material as (203) may be of the same date however this potential wall was only visible for 0.35m by 0.24m therefore its relationship remains inconclusive.

A possible post-hole (229) cut layer (244) to the west of wall foundation (203). The post-hole measured 0.25m by 0.11m and was very shallow only 0.05m deep.

At the west end of the trench small section of a north/south wall foundation (209) was constructed upon layer (244). This wall foundation was constructed of un-bonded stone similar to the latter however the stones within this wall foundation were vertically set. The remains of the foundation measured 1.3m long by up to 0.38m high.

Wall foundation (209) had been cut by the construction trench (236) for building foundation (227). Wall foundation (227) measured 0.8m wide increasing to 1m where it abutted the earlier construction and was orientated north/south. The remnant of the earlier structure wall (209) appears to have been incorporated into the latter. Wall (206) (a small section of wall to the north) did appear to overly wall (209) forming part of the same

construction as (227). The wall was roughly coursed and faced with reused stonework from earlier buildings on the site. Two fragments of worked stone were found in the foundation course (SF5 & SF 6). The cut for the wall was not visible on the west side. The construction cut was backfilled with a deposit of orange-brown mottled silt-clay (228 = 235), medieval pottery was found in this deposit. The construction cut was visible on the east side of the wall foundation and measured 0.2m wide.

A number of potential features (237, 240-243) cut layer (244). These remained unexcavated due to time constraints of the project. Towards the east of the trench was an isolated hollow (242) this was directly below a chamfered stone plinth (213). It is possible this chamfered stone formed the pad stone/base for a pillar (SF 3). It measured 0.42m by 0.43m.

Overlying (244) in the centre of the trench was a layer of orange-brown mottled silt-clay (231). This deposit was firmly compacted and contained pottery dating from the medieval period to the 19th century, glass, animal bone and shell.

Three shallow post-holes/pits appear to cut the mottled silt-clay layer (231). Post-hole (223) was filled by firm clay (222) and measured 0.25m by 0.2m by 50mm deep. Post-hole (234) was circular measuring 0.26m diameter by 50mm deep. It was filled by (233) a mottled grey-brown sandy-silt. Circular post-hole (225) was filled with a loose sandy fill (224) measuring 0.2m by 0.25m by 0.25m deep. These post-holes were not identified at a higher level due to the mottled nature of deposits however it is possible that the cut the deposits from further up and are later in date than that postulated here.

Overlying these deposits and features was a layer of fine black silt (205) that measured up to 0.1m in depth, medieval pottery, an iron key dating to the 15th or 16th century, a coin or token (SF1 - possibly mid-C17th date) and a sherd of clear glass was found in this layer. This deposit was not consistent across the internal area and may have been deposited to infill the uneven nature of the underlying layer. Above this was a layer of brown plastic clay (204) with inclusions of angular stones less than 0.35m in size, fragments of glass and sherds of both medieval and post-medieval pottery.

An irregular feature (221) cut layer (204). This may have been the site of a former drain that was removed. It measured 1.65m long by 0.62m wide (max) by 0.2m deep. This was filled by mottled orange-grey-brown firm silty-clay with occasional stone inclusions. This was overlain by layer (202) see below.

Directly to the west of wall (227) was the remains of a potential modern cobble surface in a layer of orange-brown sandy-clay (226) that also contained brick, 19th century pottery sherd, clay tobacco pipe stem fragment, fish and animal bone and a wooden post. Above this was a layer of reddish-brown coarse sandy-clay (211 / 217) that contained pot sherds dating from the post-medieval to C19th in date and clay tobacco pipe stems. This layer was cut by a robber trench (218). A robber trench is a trench that was excavated to reclaim any worked stone to be reused elsewhere. It measured 0.84m long by 0.56m wide and 0.25m deep. It was filled with grey-brown clay-silt (219) with inclusions of concrete, rounded stone, brick, a copper alloy lozenge shaped object (SF2 - possibly a brooch or mount) and a mason marked architectural fragment (SF4). Also cutting this layer was a relatively modern post-hole (234) filled by grey mottled sandy-silt (233) measuring 0.4m by 0.39m by 0.17m deep.

A later service cut the robber trench (218 / 219) on a north-west/south/east alignment. The trench included the brick built header for a drain (212) measuring 0.55m by 0.49m and the associated service trench (207) filled by hard compact clay (208), complete with a ceramic drain pipe manufactured by North Bitchburn Coal Co. from Darlington circa late 19th early 20th century (www.durhamrecordoffice.org.uk) and pottery sherds of 18th /19th century onwards were in the fill. Redeposited brick and stone were recorded within the fill of the drain. The drain was 0.3m wide and visible for 2.3m. The header of the drain was backfilled with a modern clay deposit (214) 0.18m thick.

The 1960s excavation trench and backfill (215) was removed during the excavation, 18th/19th century pottery and fragments of glass was recovered from this backfill. This was found at the east end of the trench directly in-between surface (210) and wall foundation (203). This was overlain by the demolition layer of moderately compact silt (201) containing a high quantity of rubble including stone, mortar, glass, brick and tile fragments relating to the demolition of the buildings that once occupied the site. This layer measured up to 0.23m in depth and contained pottery sherds dating from the post-medieval period through to the C19th. Over this was a levelling deposit comprising redeposited brown clay (202) up to 0.17m thick. Above this was a topsoil layer (200) measuring up to 0.15m.

Phasing

Figures 6a, b and c show the broad phasing of the deposits and features in Trench 2. The main features are shown on all three illustrations for positioning purposes.

Phase 1: The earliest activity recorded in this trench is likely to be the stone wall 210. This wall was looked at in more detail by Still in 1960/61 and comprised part of a building that pre-dated the structure in trench 1 and ran beneath the structure seen in this trench. The manorial complex dates to circa 13th century.

Phase 2: The construction of the building seen in this trench. The manorial complex was occupied from the 13th to 17th centuries and clearly at some point the structure in Phase 1 was demolished and a new structure built at right angles to it and across it. When exactly this happened is uncertain. The pottery assemblage from the site provides dates from the 13th to 15th centuries and as the walls contained re-used medieval stonework it is probable that this building dates from the later medieval period.

Phase 3: From the 17th century the complex was used solely as a farm by a tenant and the Ordnance Survey maps show that after 1855 but before 1896 a farm house was built to the south west and the medieval buildings were used as farm buildings. It is due to this conversion that this part of the manorial complex survived up until the 20th century. Still records that this building was used as a cow barn prior to its demolition (Still 1965). The presence of a robber trench does indicate that stone was been quarried from extant buildings probably to build and alter the surviving building and others in the immediate surroundings.

Phase 4: Late 19th or 20th centuries Installation of services. The ceramic drain uncovered on site was manufactured by North Bitchburn Coal Company which started production in 1867, it was recorded as still working in 1894 and continued on a smaller scale up until the 1950s (www.howdenlewearhistsoc.co.uk).

Phase 5: 1960s excavation conducted on site by L. Still prior to demolition of the building

on site.

Phase 6: 20th century demolition of the farm house and associated buildings, levelling of land and the instatement of topsoil layers to create the green open-space that is Daffodil Park.

Trench 3 Excavation description

The trench measured 8.3m long by 2.3m at its northern end and 2.3m at its southern, it was oriented north west to south east and was intended to look at an area of the manorial complex about which there was little information (Figures 1-3, 8, 9, 15).

The earliest layer encountered was a yellow-brown clay (304) which was probably natural. Overlying 304 was a mixed red/grey clay (331) which contained some stones. Clay 331 was cut by two trenches for field drains, 328 and 333. Trench 328 ran from SE to NW and was 0.3m wide and 1.2m long, it sloped quite steeply from the south to north and fed into another field drain (333). The fill of 328 comprised a dirty brown clay and a horse shoe shaped field drain. It intersected with Trench 333 which ran from NW to SE across the excavation, continuing into the section on both sides. Trench 333 was 0.3m wide and 0.34m deep and contained a mottled brown clay and a field drain. The field drain was a full circle with a plinth on the base and had been broken into to allow the pipe in 328 to drain into it.

Overlying the back filled drains and clay 331 were cobbled surfaces 312/318 and 313 and a line of stones (310) with associated post-holes. Cobbled surface 312/318 comprised relatively small (0.1m diameter) angular post stones and included fragments of coal. This surface respected the line of stones (310). 310 ran SE to NW and had an east west line of post-holes at its northern end (319, 320, 321, 322 and 323, see table below). At its southern end there was an area of cobbles (313) which was quite distinct from 312/318. 313 comprised a rough surface of quite large water worn cobbles and pieces of undressed stone with pieces of coal.

Post-hole	Diameter	Fill	Fill Description	Inclusions
319	0.1m	324	Light brown clay	Pebbles and brick fragments
320	0.15m	330	Dark grey clay	Post pipe clearly visible and has a brick inserted into it.
321	0.35m	325	Light brown clay	Pieces of brick
322	0.1m	326	Light brown clay	None
323	0.1m	327	Light brown clay	Stones acting as packing for a post

Table 1: Trench 3 Post-holes and fill

There was a layer of cinders (308) over the cobbled surface 312/318, this stopped at the wall line (310) and did not overlie cobbled surface 313. Cinder 308 also stopped at a layer of rubble (309) that overlay the cobbled surface 312/318 at the southern end of the trench. The rubble included grey clay and some brick and tile.

Cutting through everything were three trenches for modern ceramic drains (306, 311, 315). 306 contained a pipe (307) which fell from west to east and had a fill of loose tile

and brick. 311 contained a pipe which again fell from west to east and had had flat stones placed over it, while 315 also contained a ceramic pipe.

Overlying all of this was a layer of rubble 302/303 which was a mixture of stone, brick and soil and comprised a levelling layer across the site. This in turn was overlain by topsoil and turf (301).

Phasing

Phase 1 (late 18th or early 19th Century?)- Installation of Field Drains, construction of building and associated cobbled surfaces.

The earliest activity on the site was the installation of the clay field drains (328 & 333) clay field drains were in use by the last quarter of the 18th century and the horseshoe type drain was one of the earliest types used. The angle of 328 might indicate that it was draining from a structure in the vicinity of wall 310 and it is probable that the insertion of the drains and the construction of the wall were part of a single phase of activity.

Wall 310 and its associated post-holes (319-323) were probably part of a relatively light, agricultural building. The wall acting purely as a base for a timber structure and the post-holes marking the northern end of the structure. The post-holes are relatively small and would have only supported a light wall. The presence of brick in the post-holes is again suggestive of a date at least after the 17th century (when brick became more common).

Once the building was constructed a cobbled surface (312/318) was laid down outside it, creating a yard area. A more substantial cobble surface (313) was laid down at the southern end of wall 310, probably marking an entrance into the building.

Phase 2 (19th century)

The building and cobbled yard were used for their intended purpose and there was some damage (317) to the cobbled yard at the southern end of the trench and this was filled by some stone rubble (309). Subsequently a layer of cinder (308) was laid down over much of the yard area, respecting the wall of the building and the area of rubble (309). This was probably domestic ash from coal fires just thrown out over the yard.

Phase 3 (20th Century)

The building was demolished and the posts removed from their post-holes, with a brick being inserted into one of the post pipes to fill the hole. There does not seem to have been a great deal of debris from the demolition at this time, which is another indicator that the building was substantially of timber.

Phase 4 (20th Century)

Three large ceramic drains (306, 311 and 315) were inserted into the site. It should be noted that still encountered significant damage from the installation of drains and these must have been put in as part of the farm complex. The site was then levelled off with a layer of rubble (302/303) and grassed over (301).

Trench 4

Trench 4 was opened by hand and measured 3.9m by 1m. It was oriented south west to north east and was sited to explore a major geophysical anomaly. Unlike the other three

trenches it was completely dug by hand (Figures 1-3, .10, 11, 16)

The turf and topsoil (401) overlay a layer of brick rubble (402). A series of features were sealed by this rubble. A north – south wall (403) comprised two lines of brick, one laid at right angles to the other and bonded with mortar. The bricks measured 0.23m x 0.11m x 0.07m. There was an apron of concrete (407) 0.09m wide, providing a base for the wall.

To the east of the wall was a layer of grey-brown soil (405) which contained a few pebbles. This layer was excavated to a depth of 0.17m, but was not bottomed.

The area to the west of the wall was different to the area to the east and seemed to be outside a building. Layer 404 comprised ash and cinder with brick rubble and seems to be partially derived from material from the demolition of the building represented by wall 403. Underlying 404 was a grey-brown soil (406) which was probably the same as 405 and the wall was partially cut into this layer.

Phasing

Phase 1

The earliest phase encountered was the grey-brown soil (405/406) which was probably a plough or garden soil.

Phase 2 (19th century)

The second phase was the construction of the building represented by wall 403 and its attached concrete apron (407). The size and firing of the bricks dates this to the 19th century

Phase 3

In this last phase the building is demolished resulting in the deposition of layers 402 and 404 and finally the development of the soil and topsoil 401.

7. Finds

Four trenches (Nos 1 -4) were opened at the site of the former manor house of the Prior of Durham at Beaulieu, now known as Low Grange or Daffodil Park, Billingham. The documentary records are clear that the site had continuous usage from its establishment by the mid-13th century through to the demolition of the farm buildings in the 1960s. The documentary evidence indicates that a major manorial centre was built here between 1258 and 1273. The site continued in the use of the Prior of Durham until the 17th century when it was used as a farm until its demolition.

Some indication of this high status use might be expected to be present in the finds, but there is little to bear this out although further excavation might yield more evidence of its former glory.

7.1 Pottery

The pottery assemblage is dominated by 19th century material, particularly the ubiquitous creamware imitations of bone china and there are very few contexts that do not have material of the 19th and 20th century in them. This suggests a high level of disturbance, however the presence of some wholly pre-19th material in contexts in trenches 2 and 3

does hint at more promising contexts adjacent to trench 3 and perhaps at a greater depth in trench 2. In contrast neither trenches 1 nor 4 have contexts without 19th century material.

Pottery was assigned a fabric number as it was encountered. For ease they are grouped below by period and are discussed on the basis of minimum number of vessels, sherd counts and weights have also been recorded. Table 1 below shows the total numbers from each trench.

	Number of Sherds	Weight (grams)	Minimum number of Vessels
Trench 1	115	636	45
Trench 2	97	997	41
Trench 3	60	543	26
Trench 4	40	301	17
	312	2477	129

Table 2: Total amount of pottery recovered

Across the whole site, using the minimum number of vessels, there were sherds from 26 medieval vessels, 10 post-medieval and 98 vessels of the late 18th century onwards, the large majority of the latter being plates.

Trench 1

Trench 1 contained foundations of a substantial building, but there was relatively little evidence of intact floor surfaces. Table 2 breaks down the pottery from the site by context, the number is the fabric number and that in brackets is the minimum number of vessels in each context.

Trench 1 Context	Medieval	Post-medieval	18/19th Century onwards
U/S			1 (2)
101			1 (1)
103			1 (1)
105	6 (1)	11 (1)	1 (5)
108			1 (3), 3 (1)
110	4 (1), 6 (1) Total (2)	10 (1), 12 (1) Total (2)	1 (9+), 2 (1), 8 (3), 13 (2), 14 (1) Total (16+)
111		12 (1), 15 (1) Total (2)	1 (1), 8 (1), 11 (1) Total (3)
112	16 (1)	15 (1)	1 (5), 11 (1) Total (6)
Totals	4	6	38

Table 3: Pottery found in Trench 1 by context

Every context with medieval pottery has later material, it has however noteworthy that there is more post-medieval material than medieval. The general absence of medieval pottery is of particular interest, given that the structure is seen as a major medieval building. This disparity in pottery may be a product of the changing use of the building or indicate the removal of previous floor surfaces.

Trench 2

Trench 2 again contained the remains of a building and it was clear that the full extent of surface deposits had not been excavated by the end of the project.

Trench 2 Context	Medieval	Post-medieval	18/19 th Century onwards
U/S			1 (3+), 3 (2), 8 (2), 11 (3), 15 (1) Total (11)
201		17 (1)	1 (1)
204	4 (3), 6 (1)	18 (1)	
205	4 (1)		
208			11 (1)
211			1 (2), 3 (1)
215			1 (7+), 11 (2)
217		19 (1)	
226			1 (1)
228	4 (1)		
231	4 (2)	10 (1)	1 (3)
Totals	8	4	29

Table 4: Pottery found in Trench 2 by context

In contrast to trench 1 this trench had a number of contexts which were devoid of later material and this suggests that sealed deposits of medieval and post-medieval date were encountered. It is worth noting that the two pieces of tin glazed earthenware came from this trench, both in contexts without later material (204 & 217) which suggests that they were undisturbed. The amount of medieval material is still however very low for a structure that is presumed to be medieval in origin, but as noted above this may be a reflection of the progress of the excavation.

Trench 3

Trench 3 was located in an area where the archaeology was uncertain and had been heavily damaged by drains from a later toilet block. Nevertheless clear traces of a structure were found and this trench contained the most medieval pottery of any.

Trench 3 Context	Medieval	Post-medieval	18/19 th Century onwards
U/S			1 (2), 3 (1)
303			1 (3+)
305			1 (1)
308	4 (1), 5 (1)		3 (1)
309	6 (1)		
310	5 (1)		1 (1)
312	4 (1)		
313			1 (1)
318	4 (2), 7 (1)		
331	4 (3), 9 (1) Total (4)		1 (3), 8 (1) Total (4)
332	4 (2)		
Totals	12	0	14

Table 5: Pottery found in Trench 3 by context

No post-medieval pottery was identified but in contrast almost equal amounts of medieval and 19th century pottery was found and in terms of sherd counts there were 40 pieces of medieval pottery (20 in context 331) compared to 20 sherds of 19th century and later. In addition there were four contexts in which only medieval pottery was found suggesting that there were undisturbed medieval deposits.

There was also a greater variety of medieval pottery than in the other trenches, Tees Valley Ware B pre-dominated as it did in the other trenches where it was found, but Tees Valley Ware A was also present as was some York Glazed Ware and the slightly later Hambleton Ware. These all indicate that there was significant medieval activity in the area of this trench.

Trench 4

Trench 4 lay just to the north of Trench 3 and was designed to explore a particular geophysical anomaly.

Trench 4 Context	Medieval	Post-medieval	18/19 th Century onwards
402	6 (1), 20 (1)		1 (4), 2 (2), 3 (2), 8 (1)
405			1 (3), 3 (1), 8 (1), 15 (1)
Totals	2	0	15

Table 6: Pottery found in Trench 4 by context

There is little that can be said about this, the pre-dominance of the later material is obvious but medieval material is still present

Fabrics

18th to 20th Century

The fabrics of this date are much as would be expected and are typical of domestic deposits of this period, comprising primarily creamwares, earthenwares and stonewares. There is nothing here of particularly good quality and this may tie in with the farmhouse of this period being some distance away.

Fabric 1: Hard cream fabric with tiny grey inclusions, these fabrics have both a clear and cream glaze and are decorated with blue transfers and with blue and brown paint. The most common form is a plate. These are creamwares primarily of the 19th and 20th century. No attempt has been made to sub-divide them.

Fabric 2: Cream/white fabric with tiny grey grits, this is very similar to Fabric 1 but there is a distinct cream appearance to the fabric and pottery. It has an overall clear glaze and again the pre-dominant form is a plate.

Fabric 3: This is a hard red/brown fabric with a speckled brown glaze. There is one instance with an internal cream glaze and decoration included curved applied white slip. This is a redware of the type used for teapots etc.

Fabric 8: A hard red/brown fabric with mica and small dark grey grit inclusions. This earthenware typically has an internal white/cream slip and full internal clear glaze, while externally the glaze may be confined to the rim and shoulder. This is the typical kitchen

ware used from the late 18th century onwards.

Fabric 11: A hard light grey fabric with small dark grits, generally with a clear glaze, giving a grey appearance although in some instances a brown glaze is applied to the top and shoulder. In some instance there is vertical rilling to a straight side body. These are stonewares of the type used for storage jars.

Fabric 13: A thin hard, dark grey fabric with a black glaze overall and stamped decorative band below the rim. This is used as tableware.

Fabric 14: A hard fired, red/pink fabric with some quite large white inclusions, this may be a handmade plant pot.

Fabric 15: A hard fired red/brown fabric with small white inclusions there is a clear glaze internally and a mottled blue/black glaze over a white slip externally. This a decorative redware of the type used as teapots etc.

Post-medieval (16th – 18th Century)

There is a good range of post-medieval fabrics and this is consistent with continuous occupation while the presence of the tin glazed material, including at least one import indicates a reasonably high status for the site.

Fabric 10: A hard red/brown fabric with small cream inclusions and a good quality green glaze overall. Jug or jar, probably Osmotherley Ware of 16/17th century date.

Fabric 12: A hard red/brown fabric with a good quality brown glaze internally & externally. Drips internally, the handle of this jug or jar is thumbbed. Brown glazed redware.

Fabric 17: Hard buff/pink fabric with small dark grits and occasional larger white grit with a fine smooth green glaze internally.

Fabric 18: A hard pink/buff fabric with an external coarse brown/grey finish. Internally there is painted blue/ yellow/ green design over a white base. Tin glazed delftware of 17th century date, probable import from the Netherlands.

Fabric 19 A hard cream fabric with quite large brown and occasional white grits. There is a blue painted pattern over a white slip, the external is beige. Tin glazed earthenware of 17th century date.

Medieval Fabrics (13th -15th century)

The medieval fabrics are unremarkable and include Tees Valley Ware which is the dominant fabric type in the Tees Valley from the early 13th century to the mid-14th century when it is replaced by the regional reduced ware with its grey fabric and green glaze.

It is however worth noting that in the majority of rural sites in the area the earliest Tees Valley Ware (A) pre-dominates and there is a tailing off when the 14th century is reached due to the impact of a major economic decline in the region. The small amount of Tees Valley A suggests a relatively late date for the site and would tie in with the mid-13th century date for the establishment of the manor.

Fabric 4: A hard pink/red fabric with small dark grits and gritty feel. There is a white slip and/or light green glaze. The glaze is applied externally to the top of the vessel (by dipping). Decoration can be applied pellets and external ridging with thumbing of the base. Stacking marks are visible on some bases. The form tends to be jars and jugs. This is the later Tees Valley Ware B dating from the 13th and 14th centuries.

Fabric 5: A hard white/pink fabric with small dark grits and a smooth gritty feel. There is external horizontal rilling. Probable 13th century date.

Fabric 6: A hard grey fabric with small dark grits and external green glaze. Regional Reduced ware of the 14/15th centuries.

Fabric 7: A hard cream gritty fabric with no decoration or glaze. This is the earlier Tees Valley Ware A which can date from the late 12th to the mid- 14th century.

Fabric 9: A hard gritty buff/white fabric with large dark grey and dark brown (ironstone) grits and external light green glaze with applied pellets with brown glaze, the vessel found was probably a small beaker. York glazed ware of the 13th to 14th centuries.

Fabric 16: A cream fabric with layering visible in section with clear internal and external glaze. External applied pellets with iron/brown glaze, probable cup. Hambleton ware?

Fabric 20: A hard sandy fabric with tiny white grits, core was reduced but surfaces oxidised. Possibly East Cleveland Ware of the 13th to 14th centuries.

Conclusion

The relatively small amount of medieval pottery is disappointing, however the presence of some post-medieval material is of interest confirming the continuous occupation of the site from the mid-13th century to the 1960s.

7.2 Clay Pipes

Clay Pipes are usually ever-present on sites from the 17th century onwards and particularly those of 19th century date. There were however only six fragments found and none with any distinguishing stamps or decoration. All were of 19th century date, see table below.

Trench	Context	Quantity	Description
2	U/S	1	piece of stem
2	211	1	Fragment of bowl
2	226	1	piece of stem
3	U/S	1	Clay pipe stem, mouthpiece
3	331	1	Fragment of bowl
4	402	1	piece of stem

Table 7: Clay Pipes by trench

7.3 CBM

There were three main types of CBM, clay pan tiles, pieces of brick and pieces of dark brown glazed drain. This ranges in date from 18th to 20th century. The majority of this material was recovered from trenches 2 and 3 and reflects the later history of the structures.

The possible exception in date was an unstratified group of hard white pipe pieces, three of which were coated with bitumen and there was a single moulded collar piece with two ribs. This may be of 16th or 17th century date (Figure 17).

In addition, there was a piece of grey/blue glazed floor tile of 20th century date found in trench 3, context 331 and a white ceramic insulator for an electrical fence (trench 2, context 215).

7.4 Glass

Glass is divided into two categories, window glass and glass bottles.

Window Glass

Window glass was found in trenches 1, 2 and 3 and was of 19th or 20th century date and varied between completely clear to being clear with a green tint.

Trench	Context	Quantity	Description
1	103	9	Three thin clear glass. Six green tint / semi-opaque.
1	105	1	Green tint glass
1	108	2	Green tint glass
1	110	8	Thin green tint glass
1	112	3	Three green tint
2	U/S	35	Clear glass. Green tint glass and thick green tint glass
2	204	2	One thin laminating. 1 clear
2	215	4	Four clear
3	U/S	2	Two clear

Table 8: Window Glass by trench

The relatively large amount found in trench 2 might be indicative of the proximity of a window.

Glass Bottles

All of the pieces of bottle recovered were of 19th or 20th century date and there were bottles present in each trench

Trench	Context	Number of pieces	Description	Number of bottles
1	U/S	3	1 thick green tint glass from large jar. Two clear 'milk' bottle type one with moulded letters '...TH...'	2

Trench	Context	Number of pieces	Description	Number of bottles
1	103	28	2 dark green think bottle. 26 clear with neck and base pieces	2+
1	105	5	2 pieces blue glass with wavy moulding. Clear glass bottle, including part of base	1
1	108	6	2 pieces brown glass one with moulded 'MIDDLES...'. 1 green tint. 3 dark green	3
1	110	16	8 pieces brown bottle. 1 green tint neck and mouth. 2 olive green. 1 green tint. 1 light green. 1 thin clear. 2 dark green laminating	7
1	112	9	3 clear semi-opaque globular vessel including rim. 2 clear including part base. 4 clear including part base	3
2	U/S	23	3 green glass multi-sided bottle. 1 brown bottle. 1 mid green bottle. 1 green tint. 2 green tint laminating, 15 clear	7
2	201	1	Bright green	1
2	204	2	2 clear	1
2	205	1	1 clear	1
2	215	12	3 dark olive green. 7 clear, with two bases. 2 green tint	4
2	231	1	Clear	1
3	U/S	9	1 clear. 3 dark green laminating. 1 bright green, 2 green tint, 2 green tint semi opaque	5
3	303	3	1 green tint. 2 darker green tint one with moulded letters '...OO...' and one with moulded design	2
3	308	1	Clear with moulded stippled pattern	1
4	402	6	2 dark green, 4 clear, 2 thick green tint, 4 green tint semi-opaque, 1 bright green tint with moulded 'J.F. S...'. 2 joining thick green tint	5
4	405	18	4 mid green, 2 semi-opaque green tint, 3 brown, 8 clear, 1 green tint with moulded 'W' in base	5

Table 9: Glass Bottles by trench

7.5 Metalwork

Iron

The majority of ironwork recovered were miscellaneous agricultural and structural fittings, including door fittings for pivot type hinges (Trench 1, Context 110: Trench 2, Context 215, 226) a modern deadlock key (Trench 2, unstratified) and square section iron nails. The latter were recovered in small numbers from each of the four trenches. These are hand-made nails that can be of any date prior to the mass production of round nails which was

a product of the 20th century.

Continuing the agricultural theme there were some items of horse harness, two rectangular buckles (Trench 1, Context 110: Trench 2, Unstratified) and a horse bit.

Iron Chain Bit, with 90mm long chain of figure eight shaped pieces, 20mm across. One of the oval harness fastenings at one end of the chain is intact and measures 20mm across. Probable 19th century date. Trench 1, context 112 (Figure 18).

Iron key with a kidney shaped bow and a square stem until it reaches the bit, when it becomes more cylindrical in shape (Figure 19). The bit consists of two wards which have cut out sections that together form a cross. The key is 129mm overall and the stem is 8 by 8mm at the square section and 6mm diameter at the cylindrical section. The bit is 25 by 24mm, with a depth of 3-4mm, the bow is 37 by 26mm, with a depth of 4mm. Trench 2, context 205.

The size of the key indicates that it comes from a door and the kidney shape of the bow indicates a possible 15th or 16th century date (<http://www.lockcollectors.eu/members/keys/index.htm>).

Copper Alloy

There were only a few copper alloy finds and apart from four coins of the 1970s and 80s, a shotgun cartridge and a piece of shaped sheet they are listed below.

Bowl of spoon of probable modern date. Trench 2, context 215.

Barrel tap spout, the tap is missing, the long end is grooved and has filter holes in it. 159mm long, 20mm wide at tap fitting (Figure 20). Trench 3, unstratified, post-medieval, possibly late 18th century,

'D' shaped buckle with pin, there is a small groove on one side where the pin rests (Figure 21). This type of buckle could either be used with clothing such as belts or with harness and the absence of decoration and any other detail leaves a long date span from the 13th to the 17th centuries. The buckle measures approximately 33mm in length, 22mm in width, and 7mm in depth. Trench 1, context 112.

Coin or token, this appears to have been stamped and there are traces of markings on it but they cannot be read due to the poor condition of the coin. It measures approximately 12 x 11mm, with a depth of 0.5mm. Trench 2, context 205, Small Find No 1

This coin is of the same size as the copper alloy farthing introduced by Elizabeth I and produced by James I and Charles I. It bears some resemblance to the relatively common Rose Farthing of Charles I, mid- 17th century.

Lozenge shaped Object. This object has an incised border and there are small triangular indentations around the edges (Figure 22). The 'front' is however badly corroded. There is the remains of a fitting on the reverse which seems to comprise two rectangular pieces of copper alloy. The object measures approximately 15 x 15mm, with a depth of 2mm. Trench 2, context 219, Small Find No 2.

This may be a brooch or mount of some kind, probably late medieval or post medieval in date.

Coins

A group of 14 coins were found by metal detecting some distance away from the trenches. They are recorded here for completeness, all are pre-decimal currency.

Nine George V pennies (1917, 1919 (2), 1920 (2), 1927, 1929 (2), 1936).

One George VI penny (1937) and one halfpenny (1952).

Three Elizabeth II pennies (1963, 1965, 1967)

Lead

Three lead objects were recovered, a small piece of sheet, a flattened circle and a lead weight.

Lead weight, leaf shaped weight 80mm long and 35mm across at the widest part, with medial ridges and perforation for suspension through the shaft (Figure 23). Possible Plumb Bob. Trench 3, unstratified. Post medieval date.

7.6 Stone

Coal

Small to medium sized pieces of coal were found in all trenches, with most being found in Trench 1. These were not significant quantities and given that coal is present on sites in north east England from the medieval period onwards it is no surprise. The contexts in general are not secure enough to determine if the any of the coal was mined in the medieval period or later.

Slate

Slate becomes common on sites from the mid 19th century when it is imported for roofing purposes. Two fragments of roofing slate were recovered from trench 3 and the sharp end of a 19th century slate pencil was recovered from Trench 1, context 110.

Marble

Six fragments of marble floor tile were recovered from Trench 3 in an unstratified context. It is impossible to know how and when these were used, perhaps from a fireplace?

Steelyard weight, measures approximately 46mm in length, 41mm in width, and 34mm in depth (Figure 24). Medieval. Trench 1, context 103.

Miscellaneous Stonework. Sandstone with incised lines, arrow design and indentations. Uncertain use and date. Trench 3, context 331 (Figure 25).

Architectural Stonework

Roof tiles. A small number of stone roof tiles of medieval date were found in trenches 1 (4 pieces) and 2 (5 pieces) and this ties in with the medieval origin of the structures encountered in these trenches. The sizes varied but they all had chamfered edges to help the water run off, fixing holes drilled from both sides and mortar on the underside to help fix them in place and make the roof watertight (Figure 26).

Square plinth stone. This sandstone plinth has a base with sides of 0.42m and these reduce in size to 0.31m at the top (Figure 27). The total depth of the stone is 110mm and

the hollow chamfer starts at 50mm from the base. This appeared to have been used as a plinth within the building in trench 2, but the way it lay suggested that this was not its original position and it was probably re-used from an earlier period. There is little to date the stone but it is probably medieval. Trench 2, context 213, small find 3

Moulded stone with rolls and hollows. This piece of sandstone measures 0.47m long, 0.31m front to back and 0.27m deep (Figure 28). The hollows are 70mm in diameter. There are two roll mouldings with adjoining hollows. The rolls have been broken off and have been placed in the hollows. There are rough dressings top and bottom to allow keying of mortar. This is a section of arcading of probable 13th century date which lies to the exterior of the building in trench 2. This has been left 'in situ'. Trench 2, context 211, small find 4

Moulded stone with chamfer and hollow. This piece of sandstone measures 0.41m long, 0.22m front to back and is 0.19m deep (Figure 29). There is a hollow 70mm in diameter and there seems to have been an adjacent moulding which has broken off. There is a right-angle cutout and chamfer adjacent to the broken moulding. This may be part of a door surround and is of probable 13th century date, while the absence of the moulding means it is difficult to confirm the date the presence of roll mouldings with small find 4 is indicative. It has been re-used in wall 209 and placed lying on its back with mouldings uppermost, it was left 'in situ'. Trench 2, context 209, small find 5.

Moulded stone with two hollows. This piece of sandstone measures 0.41m long, 0.23m front to back and is at least 0.55m deep although the bottom was not visible. There are two adjacent hollows of 60mm diameter and there would have been a moulding between the two hollows but this has broken off. This is probably a piece of arcading and the absence of the mouldings makes dating uncertain there seems little reason to doubt that it would have had roll mouldings as in small find 4. Trench 2, context 209, small find 6.

Moulded Stone. Sandstone tracery of medieval date, no glazing channels, roughly triangular in shape with internal chamfer to arms and external roll. Possibly central cusp in a window. Maximum length is 370mm. Trench 2, context 205. (Figure 30)

Discussion

The three pieces of architectural stonework are significant, the combination of roll mouldings and deeply cut hollows indicate a late 13th century date and can be paralleled by similar finds at the Franciscan Friary in Hartlepool (Daniels 1986). This date would coincide with the documentary evidence for the construction of the manor house here by Prior Hugh of Darlington between 1255 and 1273. These dates are also consistent with the medieval pottery recovered and the presence of grouped mouldings suggests a building of some distinction.

7.7 Animal Bone

Faunal remains were recovered from the four trenches examined. Although the site was constructed in the C13th, the pottery found has a high proportion of C18th/19th and later wares relating to the subsequent use of the site as a farmstead.

The bones found are generally in good condition. The more recent finds appear to be paler, with a darker patina on those from older deposits. All identifiable fragments were

counted. Cattle and sheep size fragments are parts of ribs and vertebrae.

Trench 1

Foundations of a substantial building were encountered but no intact floor surfaces were observed. Comparison with the distribution of pot sherds found, listed in the Finds Report, indicates that faunal remains and ceramics were not always entering the archaeological record in association. For example, there were numerous potsherds from context 110 but few in context 108 though Table 1 shows that comparable numbers of bone fragments were recovered. Contexts 115 and 126 both contained bones but no potsherds to indicate date range.

Table 1 shows that cattle bones were most frequently encountered, with fewer sheep bones and one example of pig. The limited ageing data indicate the cattle and sheep were full grown with some mature cattle. In contrast the pig ulna from context 110 is from a piglet, large enough to be a suckling pig for the table rather than a neonatal mortality. The few butchery marks present are all chop marks. The only bird represented is goose in context 105, with the wing phalanx from context 103 being of goose size. The group of three rat bones from context 103 may indicate a comparatively recent natural mortality. Access to maritime resources is indicated by the cockle shells in contexts 103, 108 and 110 and mussel in 103.

No dog bones were found but gnawing marks from 103, 105 and 108 indicate the presence of dog on site.

Context 126 was recorded as an animal grave. The material recovered comprised a cattle tooth and vertebra, and the rest of the burial was left 'in situ'.

Trench 1 Contexts	103	105	108	110	115	126	U/S
Cattle		1	1	3		1	
Cattle size				1	2	1	
Sheep/goat	1		1				
Sheep size							1
Pig				1			
Rat	3						
Goose		1					
Bird sp.	1						
Cockle	1		2	1			
Mussel	1						
Dog gnawing	X	X	X				

Table 10. Fragment counts for the species present

X = present

Trench 2

While the majority of the potsherds were found in Trench 1, Table 2 demonstrates that the majority of the faunal remains were found in Trench 2. This trench examined a building and was not fully excavated. Stratified medieval deposits are suggested by the presence of only medieval potsherds in contexts 205 and 228. Unlike Trench 1, sheep/goat remains

were more widely distributed than those of cattle, with pig and horse bones present in comparable numbers to those of cattle. Bird bones are more numerous, with domestic fowl bones present in more contexts than those of either cattle, sheep or pig.

Context 205 is outstanding for the diversity of species represented, contrasting with the single medieval potsherd. It would appear that this context represents rubbish from the medieval occupation, with high status dining indicated by the predominance of bird bones. However, only the small wader, of redshank size, indicates hunted wildfowl. The goose bones are all from large domestic birds. The pigeon bone is from a juvenile, a squab, suggesting the presence of a dovecote at the site. The sparrow size bird could have been living about the buildings and taken for one of the dishes of "small birds" that appear in medieval cookery texts.

There is virtually no ageing data for the cattle and sheep, though the few bones appear full grown. In contrast all three finds of pig bones, from contexts 204, 205 and 231, are from piglets of sucking pig size, complementing the bird bones in suggesting high status dining.

The horse bones from 205 and 231 are more likely to indicate non-food waste entering midden deposits. Context 205 contained a complete metacarpal, giving an estimated withers height of 1.38m. The calcaneum from 231 has an unfused epiphysis, indicating an age less than three years old. These finds may represent mortalities among the breeding stock on the grange.

The only find of rat was unstratified and probably of comparatively recent origin.

Maritime resources were widely distributed. The marine shells are fragmentary, so have mostly only been noted as present. Cockle shells are most numerous with mussel, clam and oyster also found. Fish bones were found in contexts 205 and 226. This diversity of seafood may represent the regular fast days of the medieval religious calendar.

Gnawed bones were infrequent with chewed sheep bones from contexts 226 and 231. It is of interest that dogs do not appear to have had access to the bones deposited in context 205.

Trench 2 Contexts	204	205	214	215	222	226	228	231	U/S
Cattle		1							
Cattle size			1						
Sheep/goat		1				1		1	1
Sheep size		1							
Pig	1	1						1	
Horse		1						1	
Rat									1
Domestic fowl	1	5		1			2	3	
Goose	2	1				1			1

Trench 2 Contexts	204	205	214	215	222	226	228	231	U/S
Pigeon		1							
Small wader		1							
Small passerine		1							
Fish sp.		1				1			
Cockle	X	X		X			X		5
Mussel		X				X			
Clam	X								
Oyster			1				X		
Dog gnawing						X		X	

Table 11. Fragment counts for the species present X = present

Trench 3

The deposits in this trench had been disturbed by recent activity but contained the bulk of the medieval pottery found. The faunal remains in Table 3 show a very restricted range of species represented with only cattle and sheep bones found, complemented by cockle and mussel shells. Again, the cattle and sheep appear to have been full grown. Dogs appear to have been active in the vicinity with gnawing marks seen in five contexts.

This is the only trench with evidence of saw mark butchery, seen on cattle size ribs from contexts 303 and 331. This is an early modern to recent butchery practice, complementing the finds of C18/19th and later pottery.

Trench 3 Contexts	303	310	311	312	313	318	331	332	U/S
Cattle			1			3	1		
Cattle size	1						1		1
Sheep/goat				1	1		3		
Indet only		X							
Cockle				X			1	X	
Mussel				X					
Dog gnawing	X		X		X	X	X		

Table 12: Fragment counts for the species present X = present

Trench 4

The scant finds from this trench extend the pattern of cattle and sheep representation seen in Trench 3.

Trench 4 Contexts	402
Cattle size	1
Sheep/goat	1

Table 13: Fragment counts for the species present. X = present

Discussion

The faunal remains suggest that throughout its history the site was provisioned with, probably, home grown beef and mutton for the resident working household. Only the sawn beef rib bones from Trench 3 indicate purchase of butcher's meat in the recent past. The shellfish and fish bones suggest that these may have been the alternative ration on meatless days.

The sucking pig bones indicate that breeding pigs were kept on site. These piglets appear to have been one of the high status dishes served. In contrast, the cull adult pigs do not appear to have formed part of the regular victuals of the household.

There appears to be some spatial distribution in the disposal of household waste, with only Trench 2 receiving the least cattle and sheep bones, and concomitant least evidence for dog gnawing, but most bird bones and diversity of bird species. It is possible that 205, in particular, represents high status dining in privacy, rather than in hall with the household, and a separate pathway for waste disposal.

The horse bones may seem anachronous among high status dining waste. However, if these represent fallen stock, the manorial inquisition into death may have removed the bodies from the temptation of underhand dealing in body parts by the tenantry.

8. Low Grange Farmhouse, Billingham: The Buildings in Context by Martin Roberts

The early 1960s photograph of the part-demolished Low Grange farmhouse is an arresting image (Figure 33). Clearly revealed in its end gable is a large arched opening of medieval date. By good fortune the farmhouse was photographed, the surrounding area excavated and its wider landscape surveyed, all by Leslie Still and colleagues. So we have, at least, 'preservation by record'.

The site's photographic archive includes several informative shots of the standing farmhouse that allow a little more to be said about the building than Still set out in his excavation report. This has enabled not only a better plan to be drawn, but also elevations and a conjectural reconstruction of the original medieval building (Figures 36-38). This was the building revealed in Trench 1 of the current excavation.

Contextual analysis of the building, set against comparable structures on other granges of Durham Cathedral Priory, clearly identify the farmhouse as the former chapel of the prior's lodgings. The evidence for this is set out below, following a brief description and preliminary analysis of the building.

Description

The farmhouse was a two-storey, rubble stone building measuring 14.33 x 7.31 m (47 x 24ft) externally and laid out broadly E-W. The walls were approximately 900 mm (3 ft) thick, and the surviving features clearly demonstrated it incorporated substantial fabric of medieval date. Its eaves had been raised, probably in the eighteenth century, in stone on the south elevation and in brick on the north elevation and gables. The roof structure was renewed at the same time, set at a slightly shallower pitch than the original medieval steep roof. It was covered in clay pantiles.

Externally the **north wall** had a chamfered plinth just above its foundation (revealed by excavation) and at the top of the wall, about 3.6m (12ft) above the plinth, there was a chamfered string course. Both plinth and string course were missing where corner and central buttresses were once attached. The elevation was largely blank apart from two small oblong windows with chamfered ashlar dressings, now blocked, that once lit the ground floor. Just above the string course was the base of a two-light mullioned window, also dressed in ashlar, which must have risen above eaves level. The dressed stone kneeler on the northern corner of the medieval east gable survived, embedded in later brickwork.

The **south wall** had five post-medieval windows and a doorway. The plinth was revealed by excavation. There are areas of ground floor stonework at the west end that lack any discernible face. Above this area was a blocked first floor doorway with ashlar stone dressings, missing its arched head.

The **east wall** had a chamfered plinth and string course, the plinth missing where there were once buttresses, and a single ground floor window like those on the north wall. Immediately above the string course was a large, blocked window opening with ashlar dressings 2.7m (9ft) wide.

The **west wall** had the usual chamfered plinth, and at ground level at the northern end was a blocked doorway, double chamfered ashlar dressings with one surviving voussoir from its arch springing. It was splayed to the rear. At first floor level, at the southern end of the wall, was a large medieval arched opening with a similar double chamfered ashlar surround, measuring 2.29 x 1.15 m (7ft 6 in x 3ft 8 in), also splayed to the rear. Still interprets this as a window, also noting the presence of stumps of two metal saddle bars in the jambs. However, there is no evidence of any missing mullions or tracery, and taken with its offset position in the wall, its overall appearance and similarity to the ground floor doorway with its double chamfered jambs strongly suggest it is a first-floor doorway. The base of the opening also lines up with the blocked door threshold in the adjacent south wall. This is convincing evidence for the opening being a doorway and might also reinterpret Still's metalwork in the jambs as the remains of latches and catches. To the right (south) of the doorway arch is an unusual section of dressed quoins which might suggest the wall here abutted an existing building.

The **interior** of the farmhouse was not thoroughly examined, though Still considered the stone ground floor cross wall to be original, albeit without evidence and despite it not being bonded into the external walls.

Leslie Still carried out excavations around the base of the farmhouse and more widely adjacent to its SW corner where substantial foundations were revealed of three walls of an abutting building with clasping buttresses at its east end. These foundations ran under the farmhouse foundations and thus were considered probably a little earlier in date. From

the east end wall the north and south wall foundations continued westward and Still, not finding any enclosing west wall, surmised that it probably lay quite close by and that, taken with the clasping buttresses, probably suggested this building was a square or rectangular tower.

Preliminary Interpretation

Low Grange was the site of Bewley, one of the monastic granges of Durham Cathedral Priory and one of three, with Billingham and Belasis, in the Stockton area. Monastic granges usually combined several utilitarian agricultural buildings, such as barns, byres, stables, etc., with high-status accommodation for the Prior during his frequent visitations.

The farmhouse was well-buttressed with chamfered plinth and string course, and double chamfered openings and mullioned windows – evidently a high-status building, almost certainly part of the prior's lodgings.

The general form of the two-bay building with angle buttresses at the corners would suggest, as Still concluded, a thirteenth century date. This would fit well with the documentary evidence that records that, though the grange was in existence in the early thirteenth century, its prior's lodgings were built or rebuilt by Prior Hugh de Darlington between 1258 and 1273.

In line with most of the known prior's lodgings of Durham Cathedral Priory, the principal floor was the first floor, the ground floor used for more menial and storage functions. This ground floor was lit by small, squared openings on the north side (and probably originally to the south too). The main first floor was lit on the north side by a two-light window, sitting at eaves level, so its mullioned stonework must have risen above the eaves as a gabled dormer. The east and west windows are especially wide and may be late medieval insertions, perhaps square headed mullioned windows with arch-headed lights, of the type inserted into the chapel at Beaurepaire?

To identify precisely what purpose the farmhouse served in the medieval priors' lodgings, it is necessary to consider the wider context of the Priory's granges.

Durham Priory Granges

There were 38 granges belonging to Durham Cathedral Priory, the great majority of them (26) held by the priory's bursar, the monastery's chief financial officer. All three of the Stockton granges were controlled by him. Prior Hugh de Darlington (1258-73) undertook major building campaigns at a number of the granges, notably the building of the prior's lodgings. Fortunately, the remains of two of them survive at Beaurepaire and Muggleswick which, taken with the priors' lodgings at Durham and its cell at Finchale, enable us to see a clear pattern across the priory estate in the planning of this thirteenth-century, high-status building. This pattern can, in turn, help identify the specific medieval functions of the former Low Grange farmhouse and its adjacent excavated buildings.

The plan and form of these four prior's lodgings are derived from the long development of high-status medieval houses generally, both secular and religious, throughout the country. Common to all their plans, no matter how simple or complex, is the hall. This usually has a linear plan with service and entry facilities at one end, and private apartments, often including a chapel, at the other. It is therefore no surprise that the prior's lodgings at Durham, Finchale, Beaurepaire and Muggleswick, broadly follow the same plan, with

rooms moving from the communal towards the private: entry - hall – principal camera - chapel and lesser cameras.

Bewley

From fabric evidence, the former Low Grange farmhouse was a thirteenth century building added to a slightly earlier range. From documentary evidence the principal prior's lodgings were built by Prior Hugh de Darlington c. 1258-72. Leslie Still's archaeological excavations in 1961-2 revealed that the foundations of the standing farmhouse overlay those of the adjacent clasp-buttressed building. The form of this earlier building's buttressed east end foundations closely resembled buildings in the prior's lodgings at Muggleswick (chapel) and Beaurepaire (extended camera), work that has been ascribed to Prior Hugh's building campaign.

How soon after the construction of this building the former farmhouse was added is unknown. In theory it could have been all part of one building campaign, the farmhouse foundations added even before the earlier building had risen out of the ground. However, the evidence of the dressed quoins beside the first-floor doorway in the farmhouse's west gable may suggest it was added to an existing, full height, two-storey building. The overlap between the two buildings was just sufficient to enable an interconnecting first floor doorway, the jambs and threshold of which survived in the later farmhouse.

The Prior's Chapel

The prior's lodgings all have their chapels located at the more private end of their halls (Beaurepaire) and cameras (Durham, Finchale and Muggleswick). The liturgical requirement that chapels be orientated east-west meant that the chapel at Beaurepaire extended out at right angles to the north-south hall. At Durham, Finchale and Muggleswick, where the cameras were oriented east-west, their chapels were positioned in parallel, overlapping sufficiently to enable a connecting doorway to be provide between camera and chapel

At Bewley, the overlapping relationship between the large, excavated building SW of the farmhouse, and the farmhouse itself, coupled with the latter's east-west orientation and the survival of the blocked interconnecting first floor doorway, confirms that Low Grange farmhouse was originally the chapel of the prior's lodgings at Bewley grange. The adjoining building that overlapped at its south-west corner was almost certainly the prior's camera, which would have extended to the west, possibly linking to the prior's hall

It follows from the identification of Low Grange farmhouse as the prior's chapel, that a number of the building's features and characteristics warrant further examination.

Chapel sizes

Taking Low Grange farmhouse as Bewley's medieval chapel, allows us to compare five of Durham's prior's lodging chapels. Measured internally, in order of size they were:

Durham	84.30 sq m. (16.0 m x 5.3 m)
Muggleswick	67.32 sq m. (15.3 m x 4.4 m)
Bewley	65.88 sq m. (12.2 m x 5.4 m)
Beaurepaire	60.32 sq m. (11.6 m x 5.2 m)
Finchale	24.80 sq m. (8.0 m x 3.1 m)

Unsurprisingly, the prestige and grandeur of the prior's lodgings in Durham Cathedral would have determined that it had the largest chapel. The chapels at Muggleswick, Bewley and Beaurepaire are of roughly similar capacity, all of course built for the use of the same man. Only at Finchale is the chapel considerably smaller, where it was occupied by the prior of the small monastery there rather than being used by the head of the motherhouse.

First floor external doorways

One unusual feature of the Bewley chapel, shared with the prior's chapel in Durham is the presence of a first-floor external doorway on its west gable. Based on comparable lodgings where the chapel is essentially a free-standing building except where it joins the hall or camera, this would have given access to the first-floor chapel from outside, an approach quite distinct from the internal access the prior enjoyed moving easily on one level from his camera and hall. Recent research has shown that the prior's chapel at Durham, besides its primary function for the prior's devotions, was also used for the transactions of secular business matters between the prior or other of the priory's officers (obedientiaries) and visitors from beyond the priory's precinct. While it is not suggested that such business would have been transacted at Bewley, this external doorway does provide a direct access to the chapel for visitors (and perhaps monks too), who would not need to enter it through the prior's hall or camera

9. Discussion

The Buildings

Three buildings of probable medieval date were encountered, one in trench 1 and two in trench 2.

Earliest Building

A small part of this was encountered in trench 2. Stone feature 210 is part of structure which was explored more fully by Still in 1960/61 (Figure 6, 7, 14 & 39; Still 1960). This structure pre-dated that seen in Trench 1 and according to Still its walls underlie the building excavated in this trench. On this evidence it would have been one of the earliest parts of the manorial complex. It is probably best seen not as a single free-standing structure but as part of a complex housing multiple spaces with different uses as seen in monastic complexes.

The date of the building represented by this feature is uncertain but it is probably 13th century.

Trench 1 Building

This structure had very substantial walls and was clearly an important building in the manorial complex. Still had investigated the exterior walls of the building in Trench 1 and provides images in his report which clearly demonstrate a substantial structure with some architectural detailing (Figures 5, 13, 31 – 35). This building is discussed above in detail by Martin Roberts and it clearly comprised a chapel and Undercroft complex.

Trench 2 Building

The structure defined by walls 203 and 209 was described by Still as a cow shed (Still 1965, 400), whatever its latest function the archaeological evidence points to a more

domestic use earlier in its life (Figures 6, 7, 14, 27-30, 32, 39). We do not however know when it was built, the changes to its walls suggests that it had quite a long life, but it was clearly later than the structure represented by 210 and the pieces of medieval masonry built into its walls may have come from the underlying structure.

While it was not the first medieval building in this location the high status feasting suggested by some of the animal bones may indicate that it was a structure of some importance and would be consistent with a late medieval date.

In this context it should be noted that the buildings at Low Grange were leased by the Prior in 1409 and this was preceded by a period of extensive repair. It is possible that the demolition of the earliest building and the construction of this one dates from that period (Fielding 1980, 50). Fielding also notes that during Prior Fosser's time, at the end of the 14th century there may have been an extensive reconstruction of the site, although this is by no means certain (Fielding 1980, 39). It would however again fit with the construction of the trench 2 building in the latter half of the 14th century.

Construction Material

During excavation the stone used in the construction of the buildings was noted as being unusual for the area not appearing to be the limestone or type of sandstone normally seen. Still had looked at this and had it identified as a carboniferous sandstone (Still Archive), in her thesis on the buildings of Durham Priory Fielding notes that in 1532 stone was brought from Esh, to the west of the City of Durham (Fielding 1980, 85). This was the site of quarries probably used for the construction of the nearby Prior's manor house at Beaurepaire (Bearpark) and it seems probable that this was the source of most of the stone for Low Grange.

Archaeological Finds

The relatively small amount of medieval pottery has already been noted above as has the relative absence of the earlier types of medieval pottery. While the dates of the medieval pottery fit with the known dates for the manorial complex their paucity suggest that either the main domestic accommodation is elsewhere or that it was being disposed of elsewhere. The former is most likely, and it should be noted that the absence of medieval material from the building in trench 1 reinforces its interpretation as an Undercroft with a Chapel on the first floor.

There is little amongst the finds to indicate the status of the site, apart that is from the interpretation of the animal bone as being indicative of feasting and as the specialist notes further excavation of this location might be able to throw even more light on this activity.

Archaeological Potential

The excavations in 2021 confirmed the results of the previous geophysical survey in identifying a range of stone built structures. Portions of the exterior of these had previously been excavated by Leslie Still in 1960 (Still 1965) and he had associated them with the site of the medieval manor house of Bewley.

There was little doubt that Still was correct in his conclusion, however one of the purposes of the 2021 project was to assess the archaeological potential of the site. When Still excavated in the 1960s the buildings were still standing and he was unable to examine their interiors. It was therefore important to assess the impact of the subsequent demolition of the buildings and landscaping of the site on any below ground archaeology.

Excavations in trenches 1 and 2 clearly demonstrated that there were substantial surviving deposits and the report on the animal bones hints at the rich data that may survive at the site. Unfortunately trenches 3 and 4 also indicated the level of damage that the installation of drains had caused, although the quantity of medieval pottery from trench 3 suggested quite intensive medieval activity in the area.

The documentary references to the site are rich in their identification of different buildings and there are clear suggestions of walls surrounding the buildings. While the geophysical survey has clearly identified the focus of the medieval buildings we cannot as yet disentangle the structures it shows and identify the layout of the site in the medieval period and indeed how it evolved in that period. This would require much more extensive excavation, but it is clear that the information does survive beneath the turf.

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Appendix 1

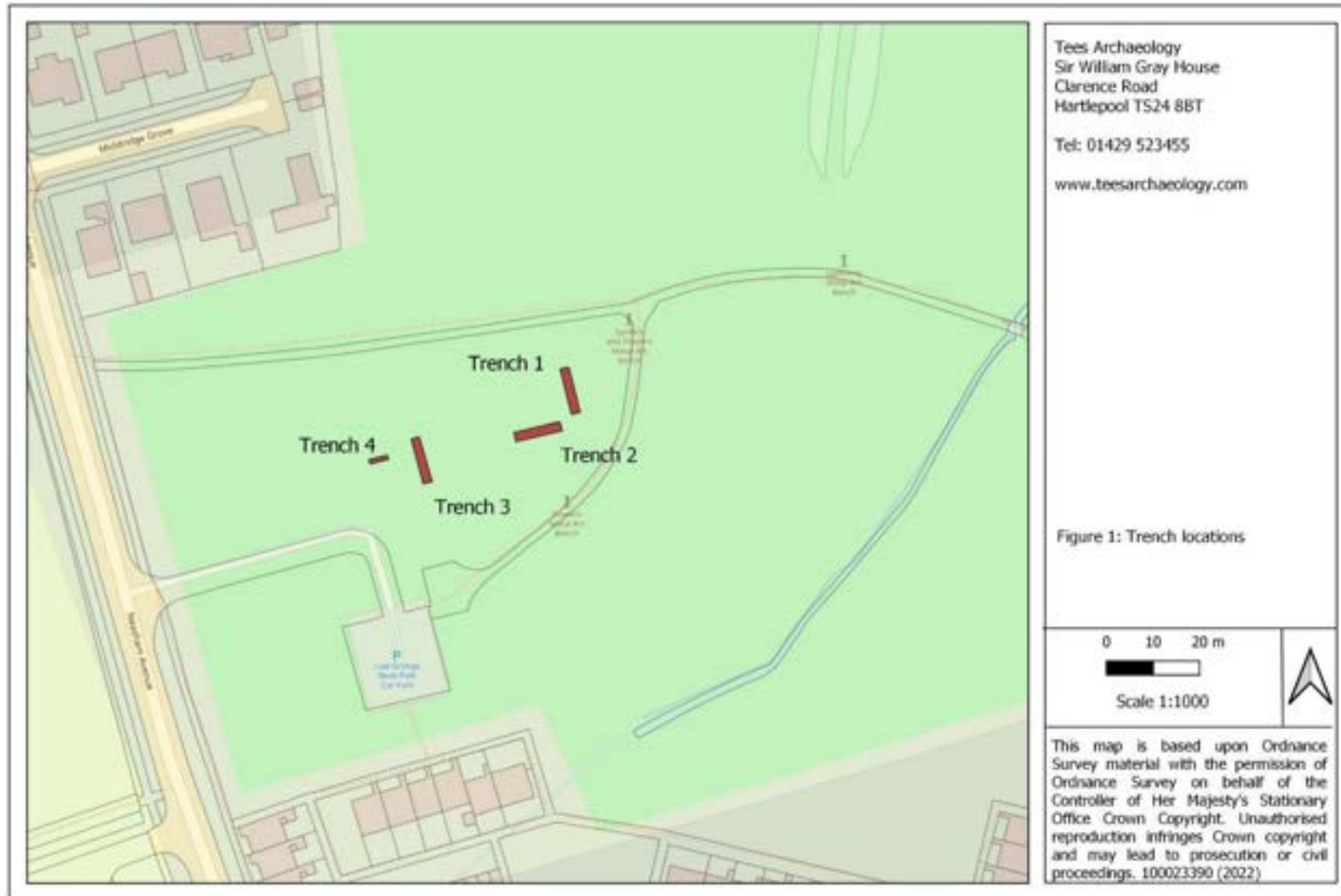
Context Information

Context no.	Trench	Type	Description	P	B&S	G	M	CP	CBM	S	Other
100	1	Layer	Topsoil								
101	1	Layer	Made ground deposit	*							
102	1	Layer	Demoliion layer								
103	1	Layer	Demolition layer toward N of trench	*	*	*				*	*
104	1	Wall	Wall foundations at N end of trench								*
105	1	Layer	Clay layer west of brick linear	*	*	*					
106	1	Brick linear	Brick linear ?wall foundation								*
107	1	Layer	Stone deposit at S of trench								
108	1	Layer	Dark grey silt layer	*	*	*					
109	1	Wall	Wall foundation orientated NS at W edge of trench								
110	1	Layer	Dark brown mottled layer below (108)	*	*	*					
111	1	Layer	Dark brown silt layer defined by cobbles in S	*							

Context no.	Trench	Type	Description	P	B&S	G	M	CP	CBM	S	Other
321	3	Cut	Cut for post-hole								
322	3	Cut	Cut for post-hole								
323	3	Cut	Cut for post-hole								
324	3	Fill	Fill of post-hole (319)								
325	3	Fill	Fill of post-hole (321)								
326	3	Fill	Fill of post-hole (322)								
327	3	Fill	Fill of post-hole (323)								
328	3	Cut	Cut for drain								
329	3	Fill	Fill of drain cut (328)								
330	3	Fill	Fill of post-hole (320)								
331	3	Layer	Red and grey clay layer	*	*			*	*		
332	3	Fill	Fill of (333)	*							
333	3	Cut	Cut for drain								
U/S	3	Unstratified	Unstratified context	*		*		*			

Context no.	Trench	Type	Description	P	B&S	G	M	CP	CBM	S	Other
400	4	Not taken	Not taken								
401	4	Layer	Topsoil								
402	4	Layer	Rubble layer	*	*	*		*			
403	4	Structure	Brick wall								
404	4	Layer	Ash and cinder layer								
405	4	Layer	Grey-brown silt	*		*					
406	4	Layer	Grey-brown clay layer								
407	4	Layer	Concrete base for brick wall								
U/S	4	U/S	Unstratified context								
Key P = pottery, B&S = bone & shell, G = glass, M = metal, S = stone, CP = clay tobacco pipe, CBM = building material											

Figures



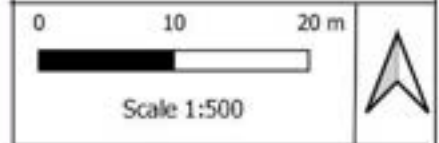


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Figure 2: Geophysical survey results overlain with the trench locations



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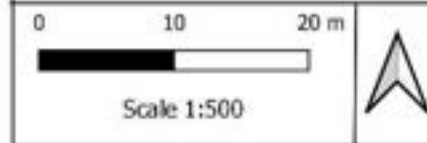


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Figure 3: 1960s plan of the site
 overlain with the trench locations



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Figure 4a: Trench 1 plan

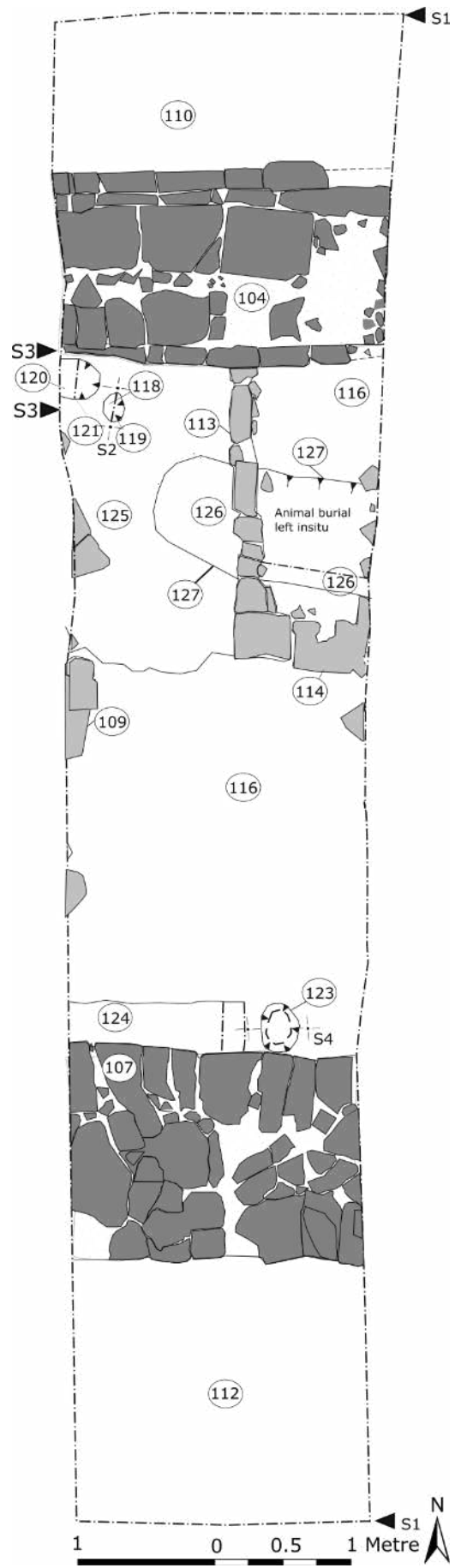
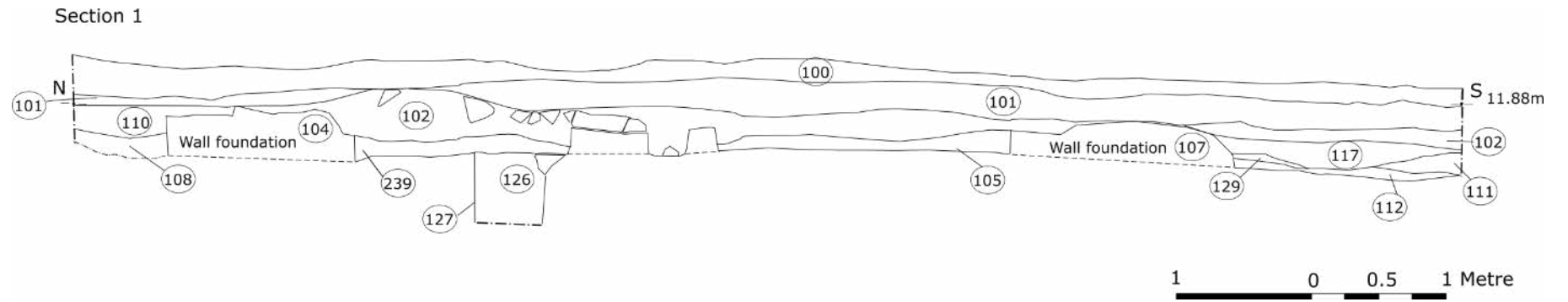
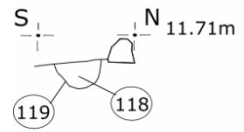


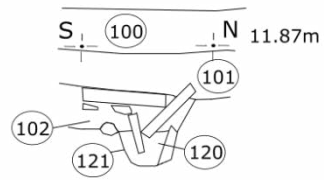
Figure 4b: Trench 1 plan with earlier features than Figure 4a



Section 2



Section 3



Section 4

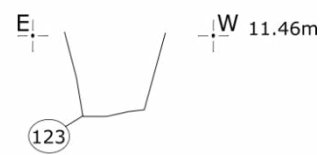


Figure 5: Trench 1 Sections

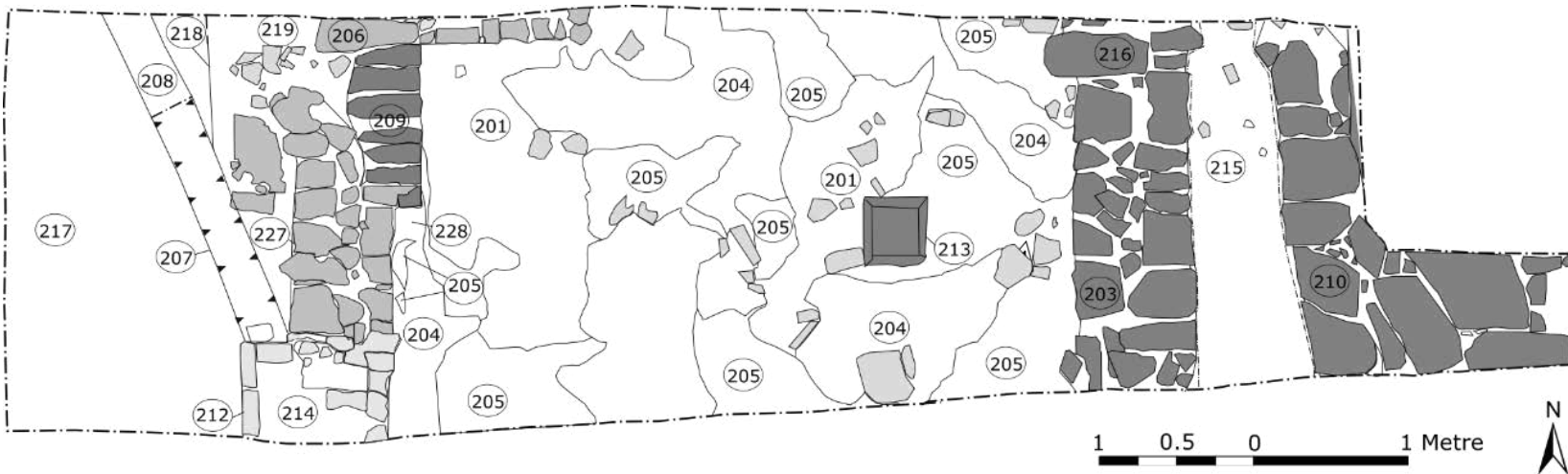


Figure 6a: Trench 2 Initial plan

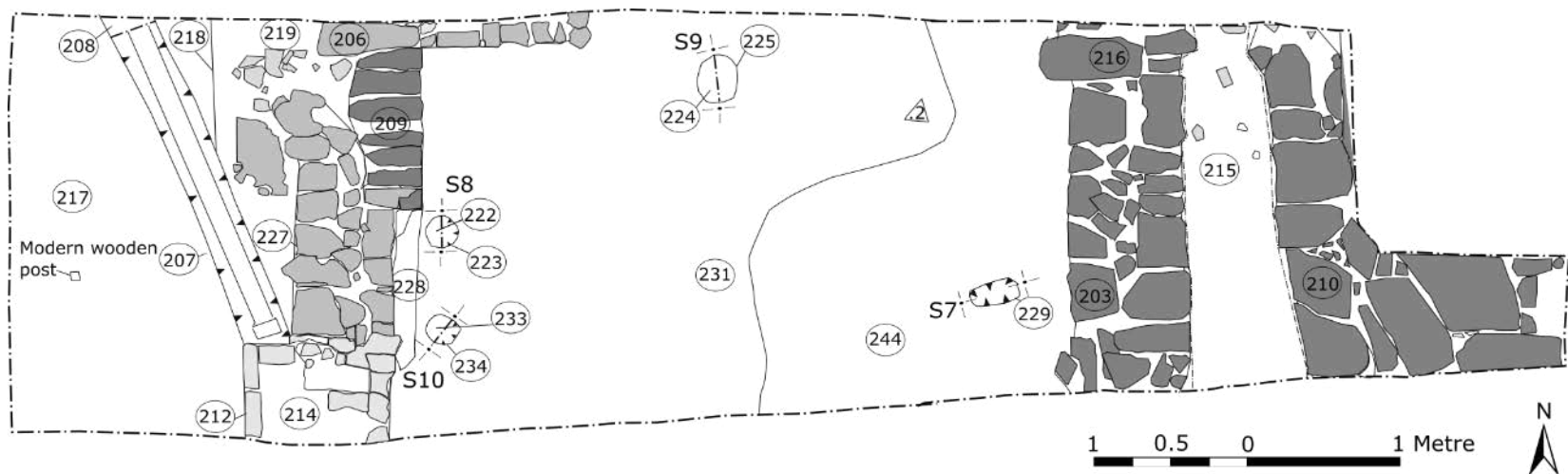


Figure 6b: Trench 2 Plan showing post-holes below layers shown in 6a

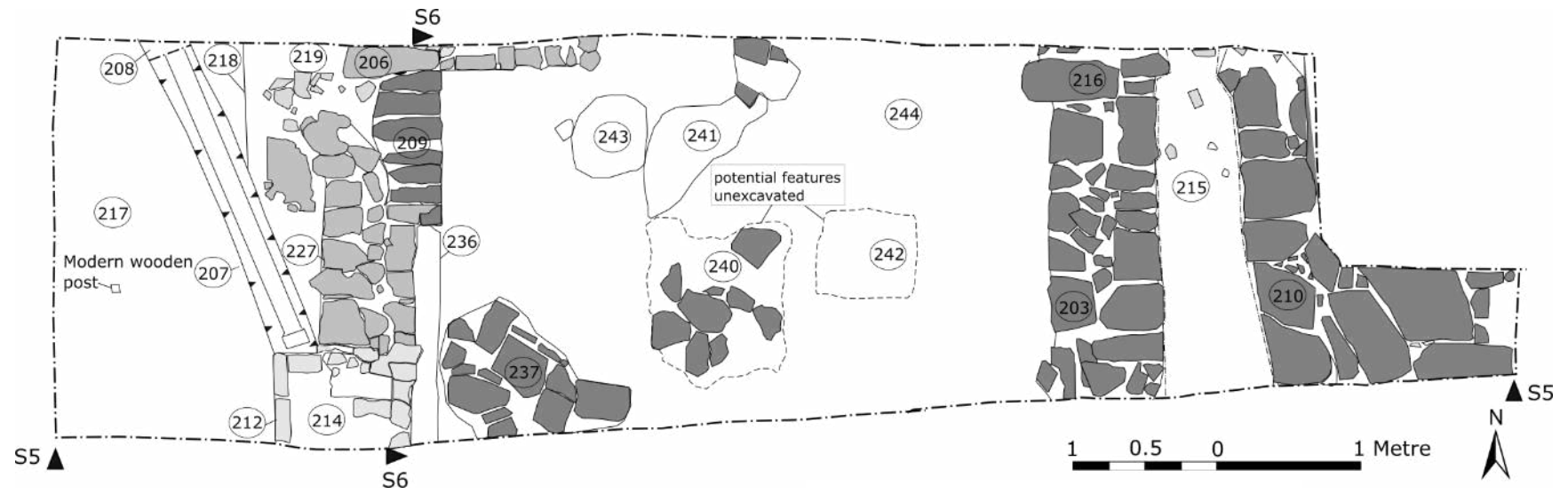


Figure 6c: Trench 2 Final plan

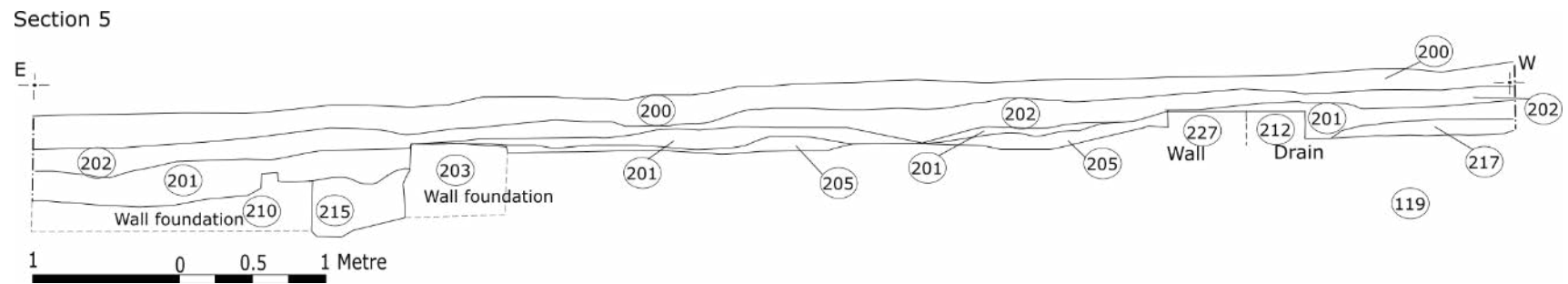
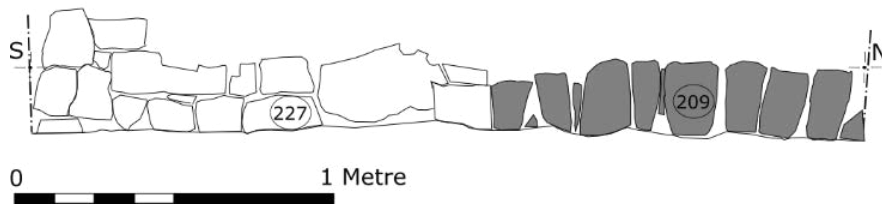


Figure 7a: Trench 2 Sections

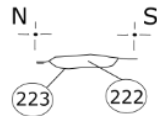
Section 6



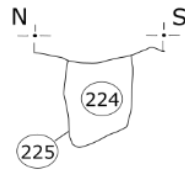
Section 7



Section 8



Section 9



Section 10

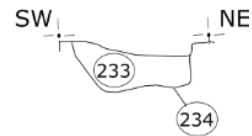


Figure 7b: Trench 2 Sections cont...

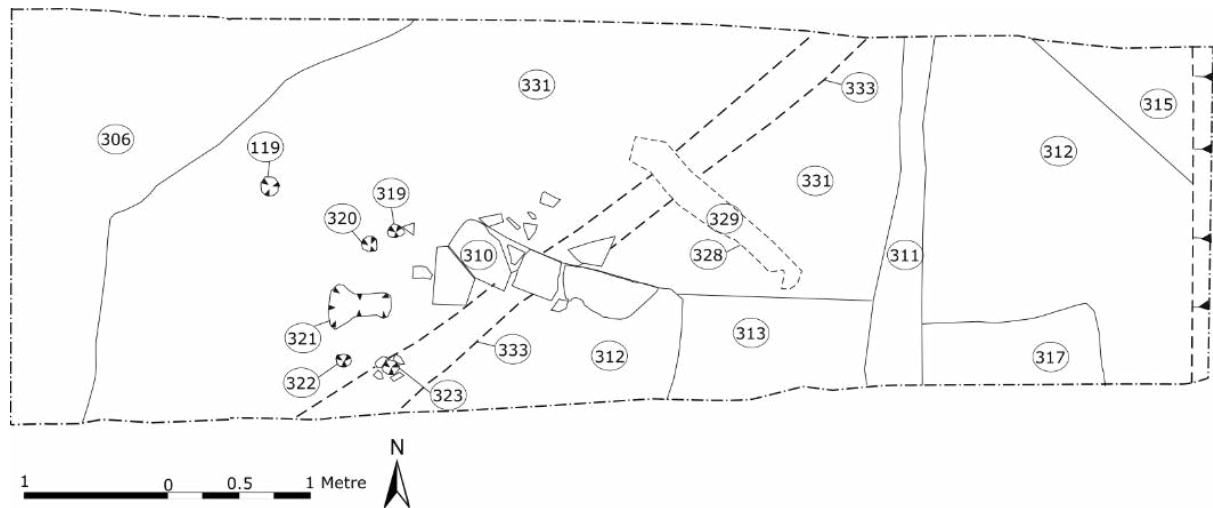


Figure 8: Trench 3 Plan

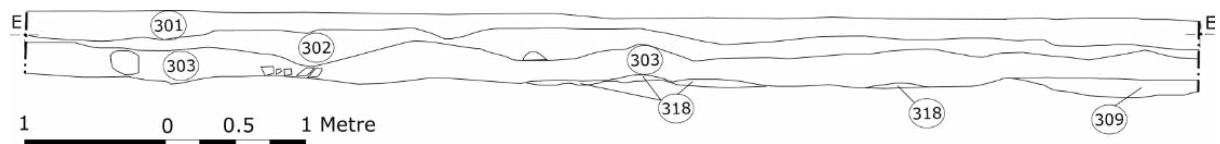


Figure 9: Trench 3 Section

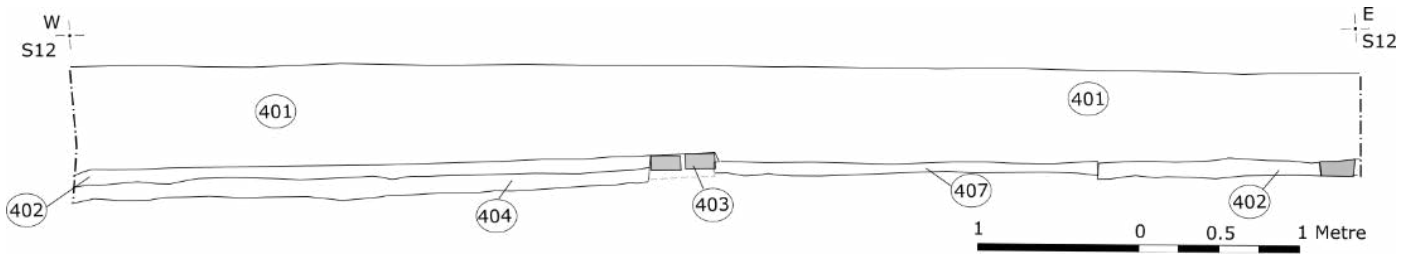
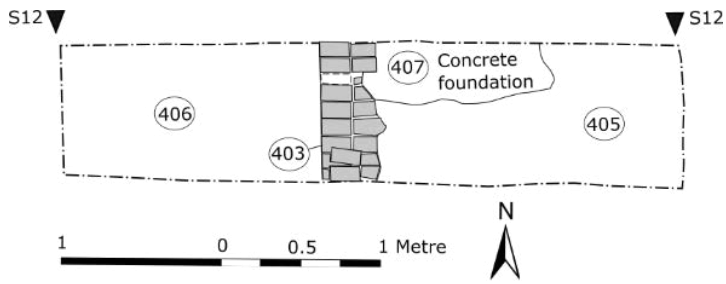




Figure 13: Trench 1 looking south, showing chamfer course on the north wall of the building



Figure 14: Trench 2 looking east, with earlier wall in the foreground



Figure 15: Trench 3 looking north, showing cobbled surface, wall base and entrance to building with wall base



Figure 16: Trench 4 looking west



Figure 17: CBM pipe collar of post-medieval date, trench 2, unstratified



Figure 18: Iron chain horse bit, trench 1, context 112



Figure 19: Iron key, trench 2 (© Durham University Artefact Conservation Service)



Figure 20: Copper Alloy Buckle, trench 1 (© Durham University Artefact Conservation Service)



Figure 21: Copper Alloy, lozenge shaped brooch, (© Durham University Artefact Conservation Service)



Figure 22: Copper Alloy barrel tap, trench 2, unstratified



Figure 23: Lead weight, trench 3, unstratified



Figure 24: Steelyard weight, trench 1, context 103, (© Durham University Artefact Conservation Service)



Figure 25: Piece of stone of uncertain use trench 3, context 331



Figure 26: Complete medieval roof tile, trench 1, context 110



Figure 27: Chamfered plinth, trench 2, small find 3



Figure 28: Architectural Stonework with hollows and rolls, trench 2 small find 4



Figure 29: Architectural Stonework with hollows and rolls, trench 2 small find 6



Figure 30: Moulded stone, medieval tracery, trench 2, context 205



Figure 31: North wall of building in trench 1, c. 1960 (L Still)



Figure 32: General view of farm complex in c. 1960, from the south. Large building is that excavated in trench 1, smaller building to the west is that excavated in trench 2 (L Still)



Figure 33: The farmhouse from the south-west during demolition in the early 1960s



Figure. 34: (a) East gable showing raised and trimmed gable and blocked east window. (b) Blocked doorway in west gable before demolition of adjacent farm building. Also showing dressed quoins to the right of the doorway arch.



Figure 35: (a) The south side of the farmhouse, at the west end. Note the blocked first floor doorway, and the faceless stonework below. (b) The central section of the north wall, showing the small ground floor window, the string course, and the base of the two-light dormer window.

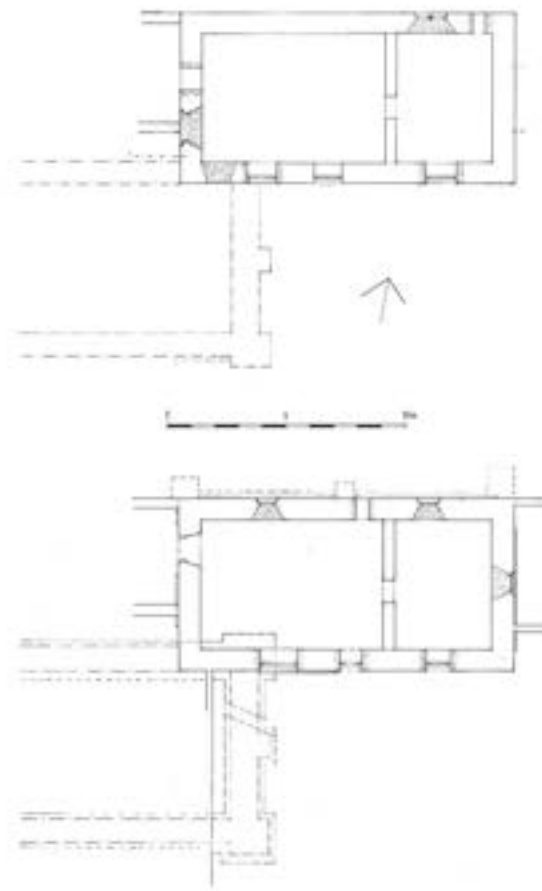


Figure 36: Prior's lodgings, Bewley. Ground floor plan (below), first floor plan (above) (© Martin Roberts)



Figure 37: Prior's lodgings, Bewley. Elevations. East and north (above), west and south (below) (© Martin Roberts)

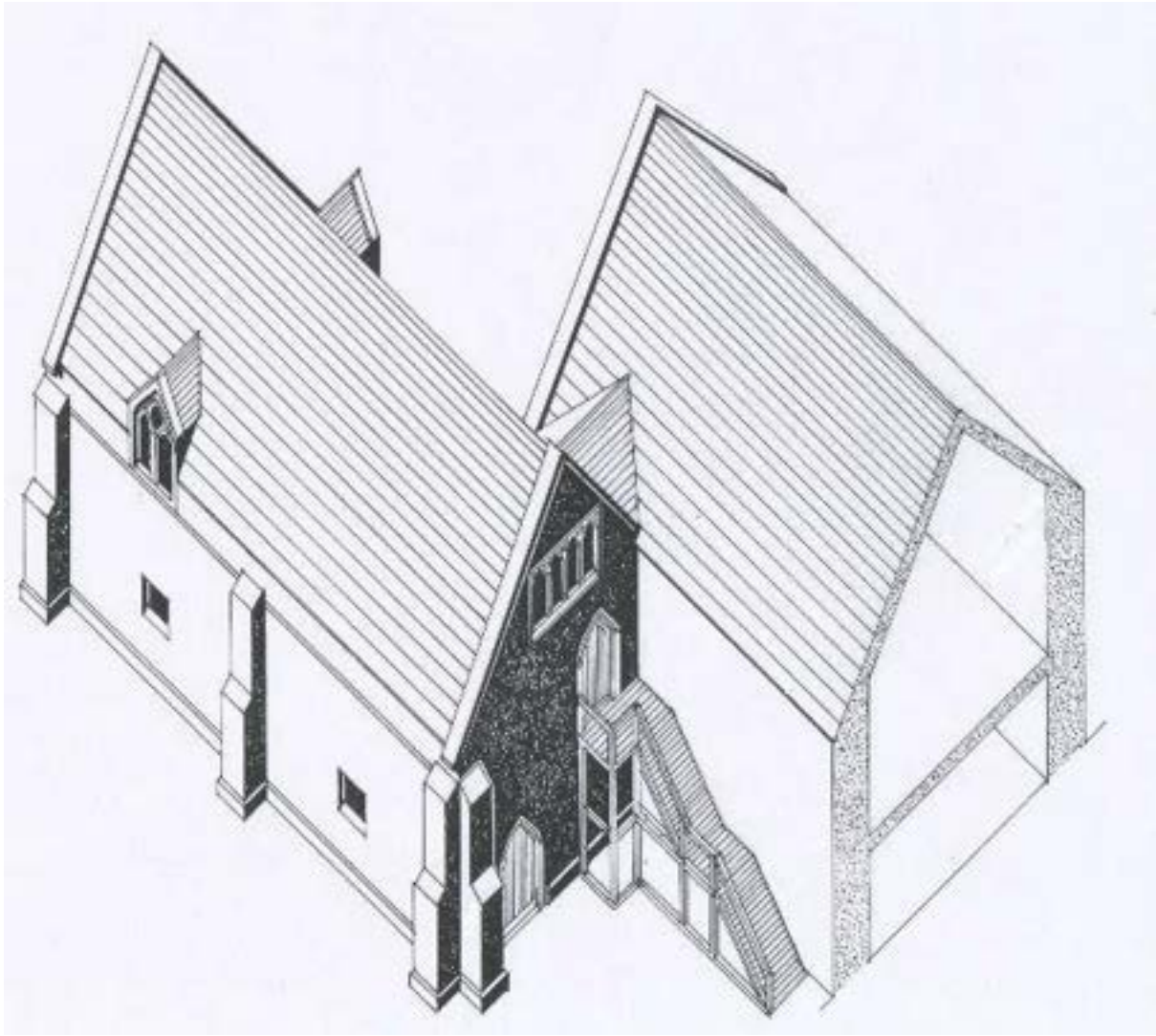
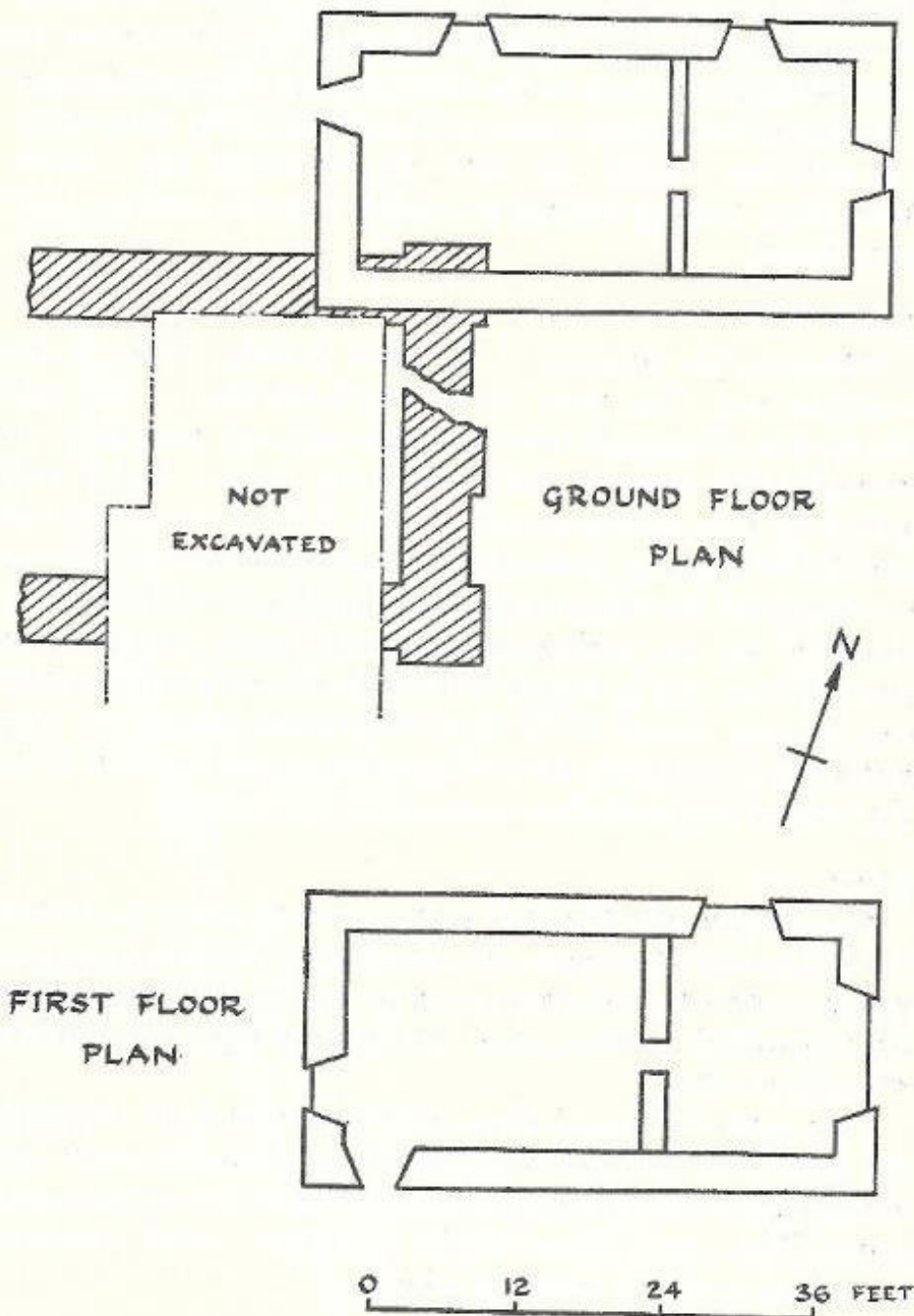


Figure 38: Conjectural reconstruction of the prior's chapel at Bewley, from the north-west, showing its link to the part-excavated camera or hall, and its external west doorways (© Martin Roberts)

LOW GRANGE FARM



EXISTING BUILDINGS SHOWN IN OUTLINE
FOUNDATIONS ONLY SHOWN SHADED

Figure 39: Plan of Site published by L Still (1965). The building in outline is the one excavated in trench 1, the area 'Not Excavated' is that of the 'Cow Shed' excavated in trench 2. The hatched foundations are those of feature 210 seen in trench 2

