

Archaeology South-East



Archaeological Investigations at the Former Taylor's Garage, Bridge Street, Wye, Kent

Incorporating the Results of an Evaluation and Watching Brief

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Archaeological Excavations at the site of the Former Taylor's Garage, Bridge Street, Wye, Kent

Neil Griffin

INTRODUCTION

Planning permission was granted by Ashford Borough Council (ref: 99/01264/AS) for the residential development of a site at the former Taylor's Garage, Bridge Street, Wye, Kent (NGR: TR 0529 4667; Fig. 1). Due to the location of the site, within the historic core of the town, the Kent County Council Heritage Conservation Group advised that archaeological evaluation should be undertaken as a condition of planning permission in order to assess the archaeological potential of the site prior to construction work. Accordingly, Archaeology South-East (ASE), part of the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology UCL, was commissioned by Richard Daniels Associates on behalf of Mereyton Homes Limited to undertake the work. Evaluation (Griffin 2002), excavation (Griffin and Barber 2003) and a subsequent watching brief revealed surviving medieval and post-medieval archaeology dating from the 13th century. Extensive truncation caused by the construction and demolition of the garage and fuel tanks had minimised archaeological survival to some degree.



Fig. 1: Site location

BACKGROUND

The site lies at c. 42m AOD near to the centre of the town on land which slopes gently down to the Great Stour River which is about half a kilometre to the north-west. Geologically the site is situated on head deposits of clay and silt which overlie the solid West Melbury Marly and/or Zig-Zag Chalk Formations (BGS 2011).

Roman settlement in the area, probably focussed on the location of the fording point of the Great Stour River, is testified by several find-spots of Roman material including occupation debris and building material which suggest both substantial buildings and industrial activity in and around the present centre of Wye (Sparey-Green 1999, 392; Burnham and de Saxe, 2003, 16 – 18). Following the withdrawal of Roman administration, Wye was established as a royal *vill* within the Kingdom of Kent; although the first mention in a charter is not until AD 762 it is likely to have been established much earlier (Burnham and de Saxe 2003, 22). Archaeological evidence for such a centre is still lacking, though crop marks at Wye Court on the northern outskirts of the town do resemble those at the royal *vill* at Yeavinger in Northumberland (*ibid*, 23). After the Norman conquest, the Royal Manor of Wye was given to Battle Abbey, and was the largest of three settlements in the Stour Valley. A charter, dated 1225, gave a royal decree for Battle Abbey to hold a weekly market on Thursdays and an annual three-day fair during March (Burnham and de Saxe 2003, 30-33). In 1231, some of the land within the town was divided into house plots (Muhlfeld 1933) and the present church was founded in the late 13th century overlooking the market square, replacing the Saxon Minster which is thought to have stood to the west on the northern bank of Bridge Street. A college of secular priests was opened in Wye in 1447 (Parkin 1985).

In January 1545 the lands and properties of the college and other religious houses were seized during the Dissolution. These were granted to the secretary of Catherine Parr and remained in private hands for nearly 350 years before reverting to an educational establishment in the 18th century (Cooling 2003, 98-99). Other than a medieval undercroft (to the east of the site; Ward 1989, 337-40) there is little other surviving medieval architecture visible in the town today. The earliest standing buildings survive around the original market place in Church Street, though these are much modified. The Old Swan House, which adjoins the western boundary of the site, is thought to have 15th-century origins.

The earliest known map of Wye is that of Michael Moon, dated 1746 (Fig. 2). The plan shows the area of the site as a detached two-storey house fronting Bridge Street between Swan House and a narrower property that is probably 148-150 Bridge Street (formerly the Swan Inn). The Wye Tithe map of 1842 (Fig. 3) depicts what may be the same building extended and described in the apportionment as a plot of a house, three cottages, outbuildings and pasture. By the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map in 1873 (Fig. 4) a largely unchanged layout of buildings is apparent with the rear extension to the main house divided into three cottages and a communal water pump. These properties do not appear on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey of 1898 (not shown). Photographs (not shown) dating from around 1913 and again 1918 show a two-storey fire station fronting Bridge Street on the forecourt of Taylor's Garage (Burnham and de Saxe 2003, 147). A substantial building is depicted on the 1961 Ordnance Survey map (not shown) as occupying much of the plot, but by the 1981 Ordnance Survey map (not shown) the only buildings appear to the rear of the plot.

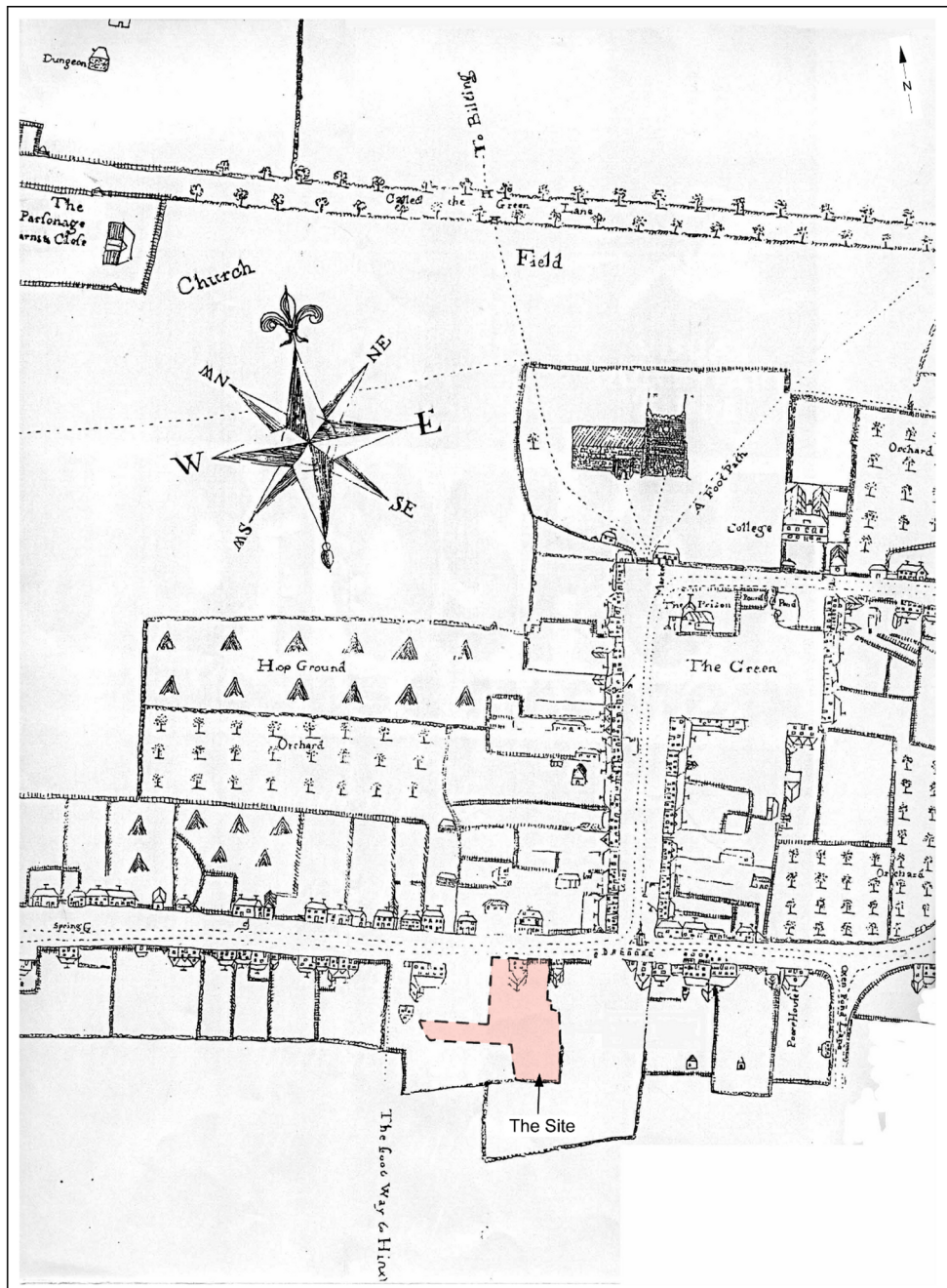


Figure 2: Plan of Wye Town, 1746, Michael Moon



Figure 3: Wye Parish Tithe Map, 1842

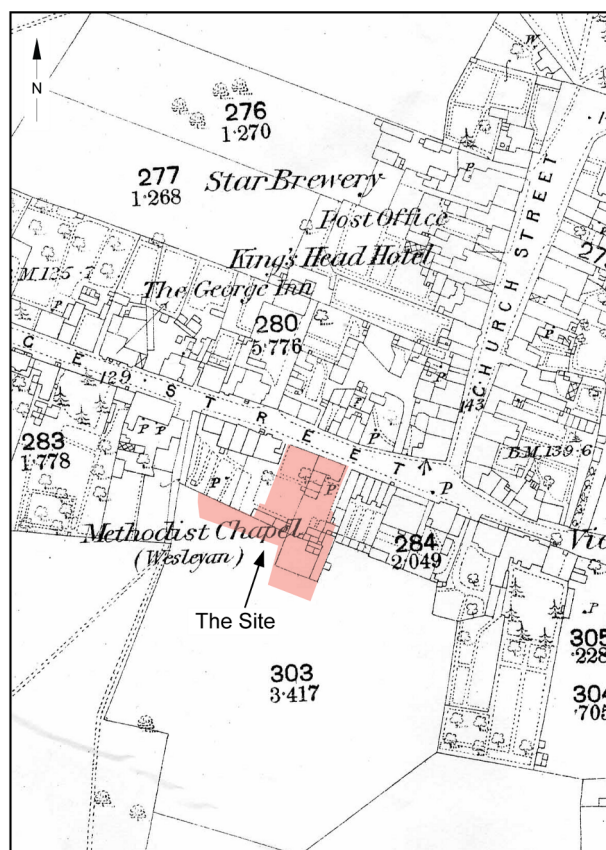


Figure 4: 1st edition 25'' Ordnance Survey, 1873

By the later 13th to 14th centuries various refuse pits were dug on the site. Many of these were cut into the backfill of the former ditch. These pits variously included finds of pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), bone, and slag. One large pit [1143] contained significant quantities of tile and a copper pin and one large flat-bottomed pit [61], over 3m across, contained a medieval tile fragment. Another very large feature was steep-sided [1185], measured c. 10m in length (Fig. 5, Section 2) and contained c. 1.6kg of tile.

Continued pitting into the 15th century ([1020], [1191] and [2013]) yielded large quantities of domestic food waste including animal bone and marine and freshwater shells, and assemblages of brick and tile, pottery, glass, burnt clay and charcoal reflecting sustained occupation. The presence of tile in many of the pits suggests that a number of roofed buildings existed in the area and the food waste that substantial quantities of meat and fish were being consumed in what were perhaps fairly affluent households. This reflects historical sources which suggest that Wye was indeed prosperous during the 14th century (Burnham and de Saxe 2003, 39).

Post-medieval

The digging of refuse pits continued into the 17th century with pits [1036], [1070], [1072] and [1122] containing 16th- to early- 17th- century pottery, large amounts of brick, tile and bone. One pit [1036] contained a late 16th-century silver spoon (Fig. 8).

By the 17th or early- 18th century evidence of a brick-built cellared property (or properties) with garden and/or yard to the rear was found on the site. Recorded remains included brick wall foundations [1180], [1181] and [1193], remnants of a brick floor and brick wall piers, a possible privy base [1170], a barrel-vaulted brick drain [1154] and the bottom of a possible coal chute or chimney [1195] (Fig. 7, Section 3). The bricks used in these constructions are of 17th- to 18th- century date and the buildings appear to have been destroyed sometime in the 19th century as they were all backfilled by, or sealed beneath, loose demolition material. This contained a variety of materials including Welsh roofing slate, roof tile and bricks, 19th-century pottery, 30 copper pins, copper wire, (residual) mid- 17th- to mid- 18th-century clay tobacco pipe, wood and animal bone. Environmental samples taken from the drain were rich and included some fish bone.

Another brick structure [1187] was probably the base for a copper: a large vessel used to heat water for washing. This had a roughly square brick floor with brick sides that were raised two to three courses high and was infilled with material [1203] containing domestic refuse including metalwork, a bone-handled toothbrush, glass, clay pipe and 19th- century pottery. The copper may have been within one of the buildings, or perhaps in an outbuilding, the remains of which had not survived.

The area beyond this to the south-west of the buildings had been consolidated, levelled and raised through the importation of chalk and rubble which was compacted into layers. Cut into this were various features including postholes [1004], [1006], [1086], [1088], [1090], [1094], [1109], [1115]; intercutting pits [1044], [1068], [1102], [1129], [1127] and [1159] and pits [1000], [1016], [1056], [1151], [2002], [2004]. These features are dated by various quantities of 17th- to 19th- century tile and pottery. One feature, a steep-sided flat-based pit [1044], c. 1.1m deep, contained construction debris including mortar, ceramic building material, chalk blocks and flint nodules (Fig. 7, Section 5). A number of other contemporary pits [46], [48], [57], [59], [63], [2015], [2019], [2021] and a 2.2m wide flat bottomed ditch [55] were located further south (Fig. 7, Section 4).



Figure 6: Plan of post-medieval features

Discussion

During the 16th and 17th centuries Swan House, situated to the west of the site, was an impressive hall house. This was occupied by the Swan family who had married into the Twysden family, lessees of the Manor of Wye for 90 years between 1535 to 1625. Together these two represent the leading families in Wye at the time (Burnham and de Saxe 2003, 71). The pottery suggests the site reached its most affluent period in the 18th century. The recorded remains of the houses and the east-west aligned ditch to the rear of the site apparently correspond to the properties depicted on Moon's map of 1746 (Fig. 2).

The Tithe Map (Fig. 3) nearly 100 years later in 1842 shows that the main building within the site had been extended southwards, and possibly also to the west over the area of the brick drain, by this time. The relevant apportionment lists five occupants in the house and three cottages. The posthole grouping at the south-western corner of the site closely matches the northern end of an outbuilding within Plot D79 on the Tithe Map and the same may be the case for postholes at the south-eastern corner. It is probable that the rubble and chalk surfaces identified in this area relate to the use of this part of the site as a yard associated with these outbuildings. By 1873 (Fig. 4) any outbuildings in this area have gone and the land appears to have reverted to an open field.

A small structure, depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1873 as adjacent to the southernmost cottage, closely matches the position of the possible coal chute and may indicate that this was a later addition as nothing is shown on the Tithe Map although it seems to lie within the Swan House property boundary. The exact function of this structure, however, remains uncertain, but it may have had some industrial function, indeed the 19th century pottery is dominated by industrialised wares and there is a lack of more expensive types of pottery. The curving brick culvert perhaps served the water pump as depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. The base for the copper, usually for laundry, is probably contemporary with the cottages which were destroyed sometime prior to 1898 as they do not appear on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (not shown).

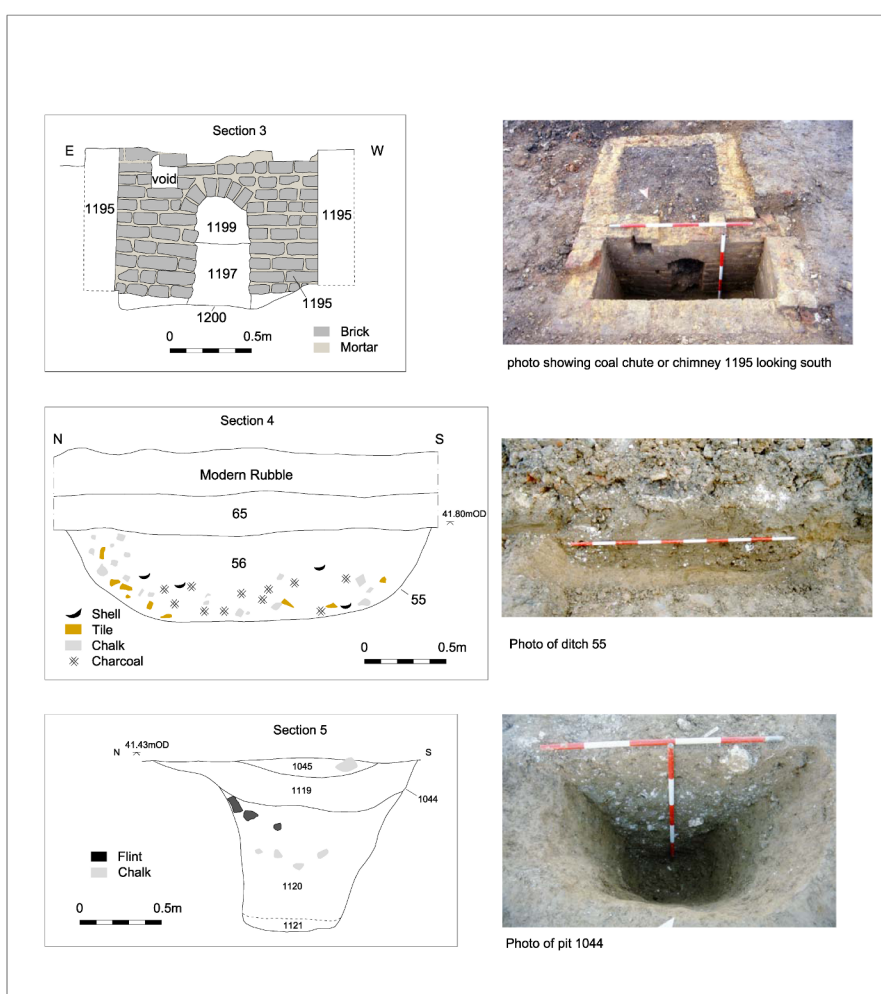


Figure 7: Selected sections and photographs

THE FINDS

Pottery

Luke Barber

The excavations produced 433 sherds (4,491g) from 50 contexts and spans the late 12th to mid-19th centuries. The condition of the pottery is generally good with few signs of abrasion, though sherd sizes tend to be on the small side, particularly for the medieval material. Most contexts produced under five sherds each. Although the pottery assemblage is fundamentally poor it was, at the time of excavation, the largest excavated group from Wye and was therefore deemed to be of importance in beginning to establish a local fabric series. All pottery was quantified by sherd count/weight, by fabric and context.

Table 1: Quantification of ceramics by period

Period	Late C12 – C13	mid C13 – C14	C15 – C16	C17 – C18	Late C18 – mid C19
No./weight	62/329g	34/290g	13/171g	59/531g	265/3,170g
Average sherd	5.3g	8.5g	13.2g	9g	12g
No. of different fabric groups	2	4	3	17	14

The medieval and transitional assemblage

The assemblages of medieval and transitional pottery from the site consist of 109 sherds with the largest medieval group, of only 20 (127g) 13th-century sherds, deriving from pit [1098] (fill [1099]). The fabrics are described below with numbers in brackets relating to the total sherd number and total weight of each fabric group.

Medieval shell-and-sand-tempered wares

M Q+s 1: Moderate fine/medium sand with sparse to common shell to 1.5mm. Medium-fired cooking pots only. Suggested date – late 12th to late 13th century. (55/279g)

M Q+s 2: Moderate/abundant fine/medium sand with rare shell to 1.5mm. Medium to well-fired cooking pots only. Suggested date – mid to late 13th century. (7/50g)

Medieval sand-tempered wares

M Q1: Moderate medium sand. Well to high-fired oxidised ware. Cooking pots and glazed jugs. Suggested date – mid/late 13th to 14th century. (8/44g)

M Q2: Moderate medium sand. A mixed group of oxidized and reduced medium-fired wares. Cooking pots and glazed jugs. Suggested date – mid 13th to 14th century. (22/164g)

M Q3: Moderate/abundant fine sand. Mill-Green type jugs only. Green glaze over a white slip. One example from Context 204 is decorated with applied scales under the slip/glaze. Suggested date – later 13th to 14th century. (3/78g)

M Q+fe 1: Sparse to moderate fine/medium sand with sparse iron oxide inclusions to 1mm. Well to high-fired oxidized ware. Only cooking pots noted. Suggested date – early 14th to mid 15th century. (1/4g)

Transitional Fabrics

M Q4: Sparse to moderate fine/medium sand with rare chalk inclusions to 1mm. Well to high-fired oxidized ware, occasionally with spots of glaze. Only cooking pots noted. Suggested date – late 14th to 15th century. (4/88g)

M Q5: As *M Q4* but with no 'chalk' inclusions. Well to high-fired oxidized ware, occasionally with spots and patches of glaze. Cooking pots and pitchers noted. Suggested date – late 14th to early 16th century. (8/78g)

HFSE 1: High-fired fine sandy earthenware with white 'chalk' inclusions to 1mm. Unglazed. Related to *M Q4*. Suggested date – late 15th to early 17th century. (1/5g)

The general ceramic trend for the local area consists of a dominance of sand-and-shell-tempered wares during the 13th century replaced by purely sand-tempered wares in the late 13th to early 14th centuries (Barber 2008, 169). The latter wares appear to become plainer and higher fired in the later 14th to 15th centuries, though the change is gradual and uneven. Unfortunately, the assemblages from the site, although showing a mix of sand/shell and sand-tempered wares suggestive of a post-1250 date, are considered too small to be representative. The lack of French imports is notable, though this is also most likely to be a result of the small assemblage size.

The post-medieval assemblage

The majority of pottery from the site is of post-medieval date. Although the 17th to 18th centuries are well represented it is not until the 19th century that the quantities begin to increase. The largest single assemblage from the site comes from the infilled brick structure [1187] (fill [1203]) from which 206 sherds (1,834g) of 19th-century pottery were derived whilst the largest early post-medieval context assemblage consists of a mere seven sherds. Fabrics are described below with common names for wares where applicable.

17th to 18th centuries

HFSE 2. High-fired fine sandy earthenware with black iron oxide inclusions to 1mm. Sparse thin internal glaze. Suggested date – 16th to 17th century. (1/97g)

HFE 1. High-fired fine earthenware with rare fine/medium quartz grains. Oxidised light brown, often with external white slip. Unglazed. Suggested date – 16th to 17th century. (2/81g)

HFE 2. High-fired fine earthenware with very rare 'chalk' and iron oxide inclusions to 0.5mm. Oxidised red brown. Unglazed. Suggested date – 17th century. (1/4g)

GRE 1. Glazed red earthenware. Medium-fired granular fine/medium sand tempered. Internally red-brown glazed. Suggested date – early 17th to mid/late 18th century. (20/200g)

GRE 2. Glazed red earthenware. Medium-fired fine sand-tempered.. All over dark brown/purple 'glittering' glaze. Suggested date – 17th to early 18th century. (4/4g)

GRE 3. Glazed red earthenware. Medium-fired granular fine/medium sand-tempered with rare larger quartz inclusions to 1mm. Internally red-brown glazed. Suggested date – later 17th to 18th century. (5/12g)

GRE slip: Glazed red earthenware as *GRE 1* but with trailed slip under a clear glaze with green patches (similar to Werra dishes) . Suggested date – 17th to mid 18th century. (1/10g)

WW YG. Yellow-glazed white Borderware (Pearce 1992). Suggested date – mid 16th to 17th century. (2/3g)

WW GG. Green-glazed white Borderware (Pearce 1992). Suggested date – mid 16th to 17th century. (1/1g)

TGE 1. Tin-glazed earthenware with plain white glaze. Suggested date – 17th to early 18th century. (4/8g)

TGE 2. Tin-glazed earthenware with pale blue glaze. Suggested date – 18th century. (4/14g)

TGE 3. Tin-glazed earthenware with plain white glaze, decorated with blue painted patterns. Suggested date – 17th to early/mid 18th century. (5/17g)

TGE 4. Tin-glazed earthenware with plain white glaze, decorated with blue, red and green painted patterns. Suggested date – later 17th to mid 18th century. (1/2g)

Staffordshire combed slipware. Suggested date – 18th century. (1/23g)

Westerwald stoneware. German stoneware with cobalt blue decoration. One small sherd only (Gaimster 1997). Suggested date – mid 17th to mid 18th century. (1/1g)

London stoneware. Suggested date range – 18th century. (1/2g)

Chinese porcelain. Suggested date range – 18th to early 19th century. (5/52g)

Later 18th to 19th centuries

Creamware. Mid 18th to early 19th century. (3/9g)

Refined white earthenware with clear (yellow) and brown mottled all-over glaze. Later 18th to mid 19th century. (1/20g)

Pearlware (with blue transfer print). 19th century. (89/465g)

Industrial slipware. 19th century. (4/46g)

Yellow ware (often with white slipped strips and/or blue bands. 19th century. (29/34g)

Late slipware. Fine red earthenware with internal white slip under glaze. 19th century. (1/7g)

Late Glazed red earthenware 1. A fine, well-fired earthenware, usually associated with large bowls/jars. Internal clear (glazing red brown) glaze. Late 18th to 19th century. (5/287g)

Unglazed earthenware. Flower pots. 19th century. (9/268g)

English stoneware from London and Staffordshire. 19th century. (5/404g)

English porcelain. Late 18th to 19th century. (12/85g)

Plain 'china'. 19th century. (19/598g)

Transfer-printed 'china'. Blue. 19th century. (54/393g)

Transfer-printed 'china'. Other colour (purple, brown and red). 19th century. (8/74g)

Plain 'china' with light grey glaze. 19th century. (26/203g)

Discussion

The site provides a small but important group of pottery for Wye and a few observations are worth making. The earliest pottery from the excavations is of the late 12th or early/mid 13th century. The sand-and-shell-tempered wares dominate the earliest groups but there are many small groups which also contain a good proportion of sand-tempered wares. Whether these groups include residual sand-and-shell-tempered wares or intrusive sand-tempered

wares is impossible to say with any certainty. It is equally possible that these assemblages date to a period when there was an equal mix of the two fabric types in circulation, suggesting a date in the third or last quarter of the 13th century. Whatever the case, by the 14th century sand-tempered wares, including some highly decorated slipped jugs of Mill Green type, dominated the town's ceramics. The 15th to 16th centuries saw the higher fired utilitarian vessels typical of the time. Throughout this earlier occupation at the site there is a notable lack of imports, with only Westerwald stoneware occurring. The low quantities of pottery suggest that medieval occupation was not intense in the vicinity or that a significant quantity of the refuse was exported, perhaps for manuring.

The post-medieval assemblage has many more fabrics and forms. Imported material, both from the region and abroad, does increase but never to a particularly high level. The absence of Frechen stoneware suggests that most activity is late 17th or early 18th century. Although refuse disposal is still not extensive, the range of pottery present hints that the site reached its most affluent in the 18th century. The 19th-century assemblage is dominated by industrialised wares and indicates that specific refuse disposal was occurring within the excavated area. The lack of the more expensive types of pottery suggest the site was not quite as affluent as in the preceding century.

Ceramic Building Material

Samantha Cawt

The excavations produced 152 (48.5kg) pieces of brick in 11 different fabrics from 47 contexts and 741 (36kg) pieces of tile in eight sand-tempered fabrics derived from 93 contexts. A complete list of all material by context and fabric, with samples, forms part of the archive.

Medieval tile

The site produced 131 (8.1kg) fragments of peg tile. Fabrics 3, 3b, 4 and 5 are represented in relatively high concentrations within the sample contexts for this date. These may be medieval fabric types and they are probably residual where they occur in post-medieval contexts.

Table 2: Characterisation of medieval tile assemblage using specific context groups

Fabric	C13-14			C14-15	
	Fill [1144] Pit [1143]	Fill [1186] Pit [1185]	Fill [1189] Depression [1188]	Fill [1153] Pit [1020]	Fill [1192] Pit [1191]
	No/g				
F1	1/5	15/920	11/385	14/950	-
F1b	-	3/200	1/50	2/325	10/480
F2	1/25	1/150	1/25	3/100	-
F3	-	-	10/405	-	3/145
F3b	-	-	6/250	-	2/50
F4	21/1160	-	1/20	5/175	1/20
F5	11/935	1/55	3/140	6/475	1/60
F6	-	-	-	1/25	-
Totals	34/2125	20/1325	33/1275	31/2050	17/755

Post-medieval tile

Approximately 255 (10kg) fragments, mostly of peg tile, one fragment of bonnet tile and two fragments of floor tile were identified. Context [1197] (fill of coal chute or chimney [1195]) produced four nibbed valley tiles and four pan tiles. Fabrics 1, 1b and 2 are all hard-fired types which appear to be prevalent within the sample for this date.

Table 3: Characterisation of post-medieval tile assemblage using specific context groups

Fabric	C17-C18
	Fill [60] Pit [59]
	No/g
F1 Hard-fired abundant fine sand temper with occasional calcareous inclusions to 1mm	79/3735
F1b Hard-fired abundant fine sand temper with moderate calcareous inclusions to 2mm	-
F2 Hard-fired abundant fine sand temper with occasional calcareous inclusions to 4.5mm and flint inclusions to 7.5mm	5/245
F3 Medium-fired moderate coarse sand temper with occasional iron oxides to 3mm	1/50
F3b Hard-fired moderate medium sand temper with very rare iron oxides to 1mm and rare calcareous inclusions to 2mm	-
F4 Medium-fired moderate coarse sand temper with very rare calcareous inclusions to 1mm	-
F5 Medium-fired abundant fine sand temper with yellow clay laminations and rare iron oxides to 1.5mm	-
F6 Medium-fired moderate medium sand temper in yellow clay with very rare iron oxides to 3mm	-
Totals	85/4030

Brick

Five fabrics from the largest group dating to the 19th to early 20th century, have been identified (B1, B2, B7, B8 and B10) They are predominantly hard fired (occasionally exhibiting vitrified surfaces) and sand tempered. A small sample of six bricks (2.5kg) in three fabrics can be dated late 16th-/early 17th- to 18th-century, including Fabric B6. The small amount of material associated with the 14th century contexts is perhaps intrusive with the exception of Fabric B4 which may be a late medieval type.

Table 4: Characterisation of brick samples

Fabric Type	Undated	C14	Post-medieval	C17 -C18	C19 - early C20	Totals
	No/g					
B1 Hard-fired sandy with occasional calcareous inclusions to 3mm and occasional iron oxides to 1mm	-	-	-	2/355	1/1,360	3/1,715
B2 hard-fired sandy with rare iron oxides to 4mm	3/8,415	2/55	-	3/1,585	7/11,180	15/21,235
B3 Hard-fired powdery with occasional iron oxides and calcareous inclusions to 2mm	-	1/25	-	-	-	1/25
B4 Medium-fired powdery with frequent calcareous inclusions to 4mm	-	5/25	-	-	-	5/25
B5 Very hard-fired sandy in yellow clay with moderate iron oxides and calcareous inclusions to 4mm	-	-	1/450	-	-	1/450
B6 Very hard-fired sandy with rare iron oxides and calcareous inclusions to 2mm	1/1,700	-	-	1/600	-	2/2,300
B7 Hard-fired powdery with occasional calcareous inclusions to 1mm	-	-	-	-	1/1,680	1/1,680
B8 Hard-fired powdery with rare iron oxides to 11mm	4/7,395	-	-	-	1/2,785	5/10,180
B9 Very hard-fired sandy with moderate flint inclusions to 12mm and calcareous inclusions to 6mm	1/1,760	-	-	-	-	1/1,760
B10 Hard-fired, powdery with rare calcareous inclusions to 2.5mm	-	-	-	-	2/1,920	2/1,920
B11 Hard-fired, sandy with very rare calcareous inclusions to 5mm	1/1,220	-	-	-	-	1/1,220
Totals	10/20,490	8/105	1/450	6/2,540	12/18,925	37/42,510

Clay Pipes

Luke Barber (incorporating comments by David Atkinson)

The excavations produced 52 stem fragments, two heel fragments and two bowls from 15 contexts. The material spans the later 17th to 19th centuries though most is of 18th- to 19th-century date. The earliest bowl, dated 1700-1730, is from pit [1002] (fill [1003]). The other bowl from the infilled brick structure [1187] (fill [1203]) is from a spurred pipe with leaf decoration on the seam and moulded initial (IS) on the spur (c.1840-1870).

Metalwork and Slag

Luke Barber and Neil Griffin (incorporating comments from Dora Thornton)

The excavations produced a small assemblage of metalwork: 111 pieces from 24 contexts. The ironwork consists of 28 items in very poor condition with five medieval nails/nail fragments and post-medieval nails. The remains of a bone handle from a knife with tang came from the drain [30]/[1154] (fill [32]). Three pieces (225g) of iron smelting tap slag were recovered from two 13th- to 14th- century pits, [1050] and [1041], and may represent secondary domestic working. Some 72 pieces of copper alloy were also recovered. Only one piece, a bar-shaped belt mount from pit [1143] (fill [1144]), is of medieval date (Egan and Pritchard 1991, No. 1157). The remaining copper alloy items are from the 17th to 19th centuries and are dominated by 63 spherical-headed pins and three dome-headed upholstery tacks. A single fragment of window lead came was recovered from posthole [20] (fill [21]).

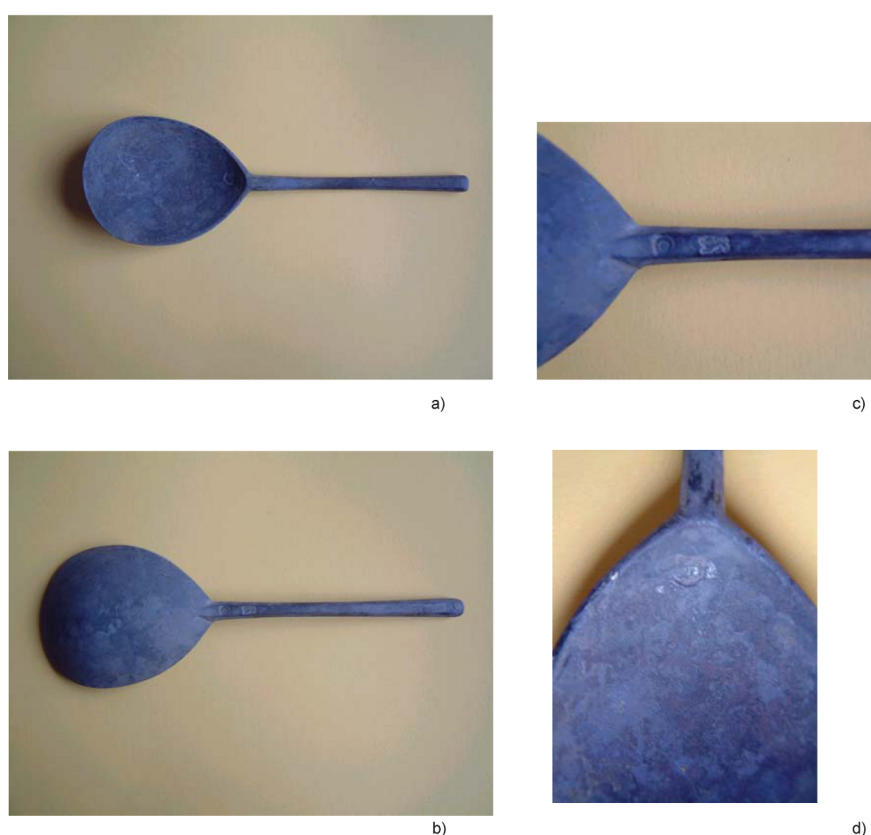


Figure 8: Photographs of silver spoon

a) front view

b) reverse view

c) details of marks on reverse

d) details of marks on front

A silver slip-top spoon (Fig. 8) with a rounded bowl and a stem that thickens towards the end was recovered from pit [1036] (fill [1037]). It is tarnished and a little pitted, but the following hallmarks were present: leopard's head crowned for London in bowl (Fig. 8, d), date letter for 1591 just before the end of the stem, two further marks on the back of the stem showing the lion passant for London and a maker's mark resembling a crescent or letter 'C' enclosing an illegible letter or symbol (Fig. 8, c). The maker's mark, although not clear, resembles two

known contemporary examples, one of an unknown silversmith and the other of William Cawdell whose maker's mark was that of the letter 'C' enclosing the letter 'W'. He was an eminent maker of silver spoons and was operating in London between the late 16th to early 17th centuries (for context and comparison, see Snodin 1974, 25; Marquardt 1997, 57; Houart 1982, 36).

Glass

Luke Barber

The excavations produced 98 pieces (3178g) of glass from 28 contexts. The earliest material consists of two pieces (3g) from a badly degraded kicked base of an unidentified vessel from 14th- to 15th- century pit [1191] (fill [1192]). The vast majority of glass is of later 17th-, 18th- and early 19th- century date. The most common vessels throughout this period are wine bottles in dark green glass, the earlier examples all having badly degraded surfaces. Pit [1204] (fill [1205]) produced an almost complete bottle and the remains of at least two others (18th to early 19th century). Other vessels include cylindrical, square and hexagonal bottles in very fine glass. Most of these appear to be of later 17th- to 18th- century date. Few drinking vessels are present. These consist of a possible beaker from drain [30]/[1154] (fill [32] and [1157]), an early 18th-century beaker with applied horizontal trailed ribs from pit [59] (fill [60]) and an early 19th- century wine glass from [1195] (fill [1198]). Only four small fragments of window glass were recorded.

Animal Bone

Lucy Sibun

The excavations produced 197 fragments (4.5kg) of bone, of which 28 were dated and produced identifiable bone.

13th to 14th centuries

Cattle, sheep, pig and horse were all present, each from single individuals. The cattle were represented by all parts of the skeleton, sheep and pig by longbones and the horse by a metapodial. Butchery from carcass dismemberment was noted on the cattle and sheep fragments.

15th century

One 15th- century context, pit [1020] (fill [1153]) contained cattle, sheep and horse each from single individuals. These were fragments of cattle longbone, ribs and vertebrae, sheep longbones and mandibles and horse mandible and innominate fragments. A single fragment of cattle femur displayed knife cuts.

17th to early 18th centuries

Cattle, sheep, pig, horse and chicken were recovered each from single individuals. Fragments of longbones, ribs and innominate bones represented cattle and sheep. A single fragment of radius represented horse. Cattle fragments display evidence of splitting and jointing the carcass as well as food waste.

19th century

Sheep fragments dominated the 19th- century assemblage but cattle and chicken were also noted each from single individuals. Knife marks were present on cattle rib fragments, and the longbones of a juvenile pig (less than 1½ years) have been chopped and sawn through. The complete skeleton of a chicken was recovered from the possible coal chute [1195] (fill [1198]).

The Fish Bone

Gemma Ayton

A total of 14 identifiable fragments of fish bone were recovered alongside a small quantity of unidentifiable ribs, rays and spines and small cranial fragments. The assemblage was recovered from post-medieval pit [1151] (fill [1152]) and drain [30]/[1154] (fills [1157], [1158] and [31]). Cod (*Gadus morhua*), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) and plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) have been identified in pit [1151]. The bone from this feature was hand-collected and it is therefore unsurprising that only the larger species are represented. Soil samples from drain fills [1157], [1158] and [31] contained three fragments of vertebrae identified as herring (*Clupea harengus*) and sole (*Solea solea*).

No evidence was recovered to suggest the consumption of freshwater species from the Great Stour River though the assemblage is very small and it is likely that the river provided a valuable supply of fish.

Marine Molluscs

Luke Barber

Sixty-eight pieces (572g) of shell were recovered from 23 contexts. Generally the shell is in poor condition with fragment size being small. No large groups were present. Although the assemblage is small it clearly demonstrates that coastal resources were making their way well inland during the medieval and early post-medieval periods. The material from the later 18th century onwards may be residual.

Table 5: Marine Molluscs by period

Period	No. of contexts	Oysters (upper/lower valve frags) <i>minimum no. individuals</i>	Other Species
C13-early C15	6	(2/9) 9	-
C17-mid C18	12	(22/27) 27	Mussel 1 frag. Egg shell
Late C18 – early C20	3	(1/3) 3	-
Undated	2	(3/0) 3	

Plant Remains

Lisa Gray

Cultivated food plants were bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.s.l.), oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum sativum* L.) and pea (*Pisum sativum* L.). These were present in small quantities in all samples. Each of these could have been grown as mixed crops, for example, “dredge” (barley and oats; Hammond 1993, 2). They may be the remains of animal fodder, fuel or human meals such as pottage (Wilson 1973, 199) or fine sieving waste prior to milling. Possible wild plant foods were elderberries (*Sambucus nigra* L.) and hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana* L.). Elder seeds were present, uncharred in all but sample <14> and a fragment of charred hazelnut shell was recovered from sample <9>. The charred seeds in sample <14>, which produced the richest charred assemblage, were mainly those of plants found in waste ground and dry pasture, for example, white clover (cf. *Trifolium repens* type) (Hanf 1983, 353-56) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata* L.). These may be the remains of hay, stable waste, fodder or fine-sieving waste.

Table 6: Plant Remains (Habitat codes: A= weeds of cultivated land; B= weeds of arable and disturbed ground; C= woods, scrub, hedgerows; D= grassland; E= damp or marshy ground; F= edible wild; G= medicinal; H= wild with economic uses; I= cultivated)

Scientific name	Common name	Plant part	Preservation	Habitat code	Use code	[1101]	[1145]	[1099]	[1013]	[1144]
						<10>	<14>	<9>	<5>	<13>
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.s.l.	bread/club wheat	grain	CH	-	FI	-	-	3	-	2
<i>Hordeum sativum</i>	barley	grain	CH	-	FI	-	5	-	-	-
cf. <i>Hordeum sativum</i>	barley	grain	CH	-	FI	2	-	-	-	9
<i>Avena</i> sp.	oat	grain	CH	A	FI	-	4	-	2	-
cf. <i>Avena</i> sp.	oat	grain	CH	A	FI	1	-	1	-	3
<i>Avena/ Hordeum/ Secale/ Triticum</i>	indet.cereal grains	grain	CH	-	FI	1	-	-	+	-
<i>Ranunculus/acris/repen s/bulbosus</i>	buttercups	achene	CH	ABCDE	G	-	5	-	-	-
<i>Brassica/Sinapis</i> sp.	wild cabbage/mustard	seed	CH	AB	FHI	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Silene</i> sp.	campion/catchfly	seed	CH	ABCD	F	-	1	-	-	-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	Fat hen	seed	CH	AB	FHI	-	1	-	-	2
cf. <i>Trifolium repens</i> type	white clover	seed	CH	D	-	-	60	-	-	1
Cf. <i>Pisum sativum</i>	pea	seed	CH	-	FI	-	-	-	-	1 frag
<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L.	sheep's sorrel	seed	CH	AD	-	-	-	-	-	2
<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.	curled dock bract	seed	CH	BC	-	-	3	-	-	-
<i>Rumex acetosa/crispus/obtusifolius</i>	dock	seed	CH	ABCD	-	-	16	-	-	-

Scientific name	Common name	Plant part	Preservation	Habitat code	Use code	[1101]	[1145]	[1099]	[1013]	[1144]
						<10>	<14>	<9>	<5>	<13>
<i>cf. Corylus avellana</i> L.	hazel	shell fragment	CH	C	F	-	-	1	-	-
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	self-heal	seed	CH	BCD	G	-	11	-	-	1
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	ribwort	seed	CH	D	-	-	27	-	-	6
<i>Carduus/Cirsium</i> spp.	thistles	seed	CH	ABDE	G	1	13	-	-	-
<i>cf. Eleocharis</i> sp.	spike-rush	seed	CH	E	-	-	1	-	-	-
<i>cf. Lolium</i> sp.	rye-grass	seed	CH	B	I	6	20	-	-	4
<i>Lolium/Festuca</i> sp.	rye-grass/fescue	seed	CH	BCD		12	40	-	-	-
<i>Poa/Phleum</i> sp.	poa/cat's tail	seed	CH	ABCDE		14	-	-	-	-
indeterminate	grass	stem fragments	CH	ABCDE	FHI	-	++++	-	-	++++
indeterminate	wood	>4mm flecks	CH			+++++	+++++	+++++	+++++	+++++
indeterminate	wood	<4 mm fragments	CH			+++	+++	++++	+++	++++
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	elder	seed	WL	BC	FGH	+	-	+	+	+
<i>Carex</i> sp.	sedge	seed	WL	CDE	H	+	-	-	-	-
indeterminate		root fragments	WL			+	+	+	+	+ / ++

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