



Hooke Court, Hooke, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of the Results



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Prepared on behalf of
Videotext Communications Ltd
49 Goldhawk Road
LONDON
W12 8QP

By
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

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Hooke Court, Hooke, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

Summary

In March 2006 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Hooke Court, Hooke, near Beaminster, Dorset (NGR 353125 100375), to investigate the remains of a medieval moated manor.

The primary aims of the evaluation were to investigate the surviving western wing of the house and to find evidence of a north range of buildings, demolished in 1965. The project also aimed to identify the earliest structures within the moated area and to look for evidence of buildings constructed *c.*1344 when a licence to crenellate was issued. The original access to the site was also explored, and the remains of the moat.

The results of the evaluation demonstrated that the surviving west wing and the now demolished north wing had their origins in the 14th or 15th century and had seen much alteration including major building works in the 17th century. Analysis of the photographic and map evidence showed that the original access to the moated complex was through a gatehouse in the northern range. A blocked archway was identified leading out to the road positioned to the north of Hooke Court.

Four major phases of building work were defined, although due to the lack of recovered datable finds from the foundation levels of the buildings a clear date for their construction could not be ascertained. However, it was clear that there had been no building work on the site before the early medieval period (11th to 13th century) and that major demolition of the site occurred no later than the early 18th century.

The most extensive building phase of the site included a possible north-south aligned first floor hall with a porch at the northern end, aligned directly on the blocked gateway identified (from photographic evidence) in the demolished northern wing. The hall had at least two bays divided by a screen, with walls constructed of rock chalk. Stylistically the building could be as early as the 14th century, although the use of rock chalk suggests a slightly later, 15th or 16th century date.

The internal area of the moat revealed a number of buildings. Post-medieval pottery with a function in dairying was recovered in large quantities from demolition deposits, particularly from the south of the site. Other finds of similar post-medieval date from this area included fine vessel glass and decorative roof tiles, indicative of high status occupation.

The evaluation also demonstrated that the moat did not extend around the entire complex of the manor as had been originally thought and was confined to the southern and eastern side, implying that it may have functioned as a garden feature rather than as a conventional moat. Its date is unknown, although it potentially had its origins in the early medieval period.

Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Melinda Corkery (Production Manager), Kate Edwards (Assistant Producer), Ben Knappett (Researcher) and Emily Woodburn (Production Co-ordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock and Emma Wood of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham, and landscape survey and map regression by Stewart Ainsworth, English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Mick Aston, Bristol University. The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson with on-site finds processing by Naomi Hall, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Kerry Ely, Brigid Gallagher, Ian Powlesland, Naomi Sewpaul and Matt Williams with assistance from James Bridges, Faith Cairns, Jo Hurst, Stuart Randall, Tracey Smith and Jon Webster. On-site pottery identification was carried out by Paul Blinkhorn, with small finds identification by Helen Geake.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson, with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mephram (finds) with Jessica Grimm (animal bone) and Nicholas Cooke (coins). The illustrations were prepared by Mark Roughley. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram.

The work also benefited from discussion on-site with Jonathan Foyle, Architectural Historian; Sam Newton, Historian; Phil Harding of Wessex Archaeology; Helen Geake of Cambridge University and Mick Aston of Bristol University.

The Dorset History Centre and Compass Consulting are gratefully acknowledged for supplying images used within this report.

Finally thanks are extended to Mandy and Peter Cooper for inviting Time Team to Hooke Court and allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation.

Hooke Court, Hooke, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Hooke Court, Hooke, near Beaminster, Dorset (hereafter the 'Site') (Figure 1).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Site is located in the grounds of Hooke Court, Hooke, Dorset and is centred upon NGR 353125 100375. Hooke Court is Grade II* listed Moated Manor which is currently a children's education study centre.

1.2.2 The village of Hooke is located in the valley of the River Hooke and is situated around 20km north-west of Dorchester. The village has two centres: the largest area is near to the church of St. Giles and comprises a few houses, with the area around Hooke Court less than 0.5km away to the north.

1.2.3 The Site is located at an elevation of approximately 155m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology is Upper Greensand overlying Gault (BGS, Sheet 327).

1.3 Historical Background

Hooke Court

1.3.1 The earliest reference to Hooke comes from the Domesday Book which records the Site being under the ownership of Saxon earl Aelthric prior to it being owned by the Count of Mortain, William the Conqueror's brother, under the name of La Hoc or 'bend in the river' (Videotext Communications 2006, 2).

1.3.2 In the 13th century the Cifrewast family owned the Site and it is believed that major building work occurred at this time on the orders of John de Cifrewast (b. c.1270 d.1340) and by the mid 14th century the deer park associated with the Manor was in existence as Robert Cifrewast (b. c.1295 d.1348) celebrated the baptism of his grandson (probably John de Maltravers (c.1338-

86) son of Elizabeth Cifrewast and John de Maltravers) by giving as a present 'a doe in his park of Hoke'.

- 1.3.3 In January 1344 Robert Cifrewast obtained a licence 'to crenellate his dwelling at Hoke' from King Edward III, which implies that a major building phase was proposed (Videotext Communications, 2 & 11; <http://wc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=johanson&id=I33280>) The 1361 Calendar Roll Inquisitions records a dovecote on the site and it is possible that the surrounding moat, which survives around the eastern and southern sides of the complex, may have been dug during this period (*ibid.*, 2).
- 1.3.4 Hooke Court passed to Robert's grandson John de Maltravers around 1355 when he and his wife, Elizabeth Aumerie or d'Aumerle (b. c.1346 d. c.1405) had two children Maud or Matilda (b. 1376 d.1401) and Elizabeth (b. 1380 d.c.1422). Following the death of John in 1386, Elizabeth took a second husband, Sir Humphrey Stafford of Southwick. In 1407 Elizabeth Maltravers, daughter of Elizabeth Aumerie and John de Maltravers married the son of Sir Humphrey Stafford, also named Humphrey (*ibid.*, 11; <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=42066#n90>).
- 1.3.5 It is the elder Sir Humphrey who is believed to have built much of Hooke Court and constructed the moat (*ibid.*, 11) and following the death of the younger Sir Humphrey in 1442, the manor was retained within the Stafford family, passing through a number of male family members, all called Humphrey.
- 1.3.6 During the War of the Roses at the Battle of Edgecote in 1469 Humphrey Stafford failed to commit his troops to the 1st Earl of Pembroke, William Herbert whose army supported Edward IV of the House of York against the army of Richard Neville, 16th Earl of Warwick. The defeat of the House of York by the Lancastrians resulted in the execution of Herbert, and subsequent apprehension and execution of Stafford.
- 1.3.7 In 1483 Hooke was acquired by the Willoughby family, and eventually passed to the Blount family, and the 5th Baron Mountjoy, Charles Blount died at Hooke in 1544. Later, in the early 17th century the manor was acquired by the Paulet family, the Marquis of Winchester, William Paulet acquiring the estate in 1609. During this time a number of additions were made to the manor complex at Hooke (RCHME 1952, 126).
- 1.3.8 During the Civil War Hooke Court was damaged by fire; Hutchins records in his 1861 *The History of Dorset* that the Manor complex 'seems to have been burnt in the Civil Wars, for, by the Treasurer's account, June 1647, 10s was paid to a mason sent to Hooke, to dig for lead among the rubbish after the house was burnt, and, July 5, he acknowledges the receipt of 5l. for 15 hundred-weight of burnt lead at Hooke. It was much repaired about 1647 by the Duke of Bolton, who resided here some time' (Videotext Communications 2006, 3).

- 1.3.9 Hooke Court had been a Royalist stronghold which was taken in 1652 by an Act of Parliament, with the estate then being sold to Sir Thomas Jervois. It was eventually returned to the Paulet family during the Restoration, who were subsequently created the Dukes of Bolton as reward for their loyalty.
- 1.3.10 The later periods at Hooke Court have not been as well documented and little is known before it became a school in the mid 20th century. In 1965 the northern east-west aligned wing of the complex was demolished, leaving only the western north-south aligned wing. The northern wing was recorded in the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments of England 1952 survey of West Dorset as having potentially 15th century features within 18th century rebuilds (RCHME 1952, 126).

The Village of Stapleford

- 1.3.11 Hutchins in *The History of Dorset* (1861) recorded that an ancient village now depopulated, called Stapleford, was incorporated into the village of Hooke in 1362. He recorded the existence of Stapleford in 1239, when it was granted a charter for a market and fair, and the location of a church or chapel (Videotext Communications 2006, 3). The National Monument Record (NMR) records the Stapleford Deserted Medieval Village (DMV) as distinctively bipartite, with a centre around the site of the church of St. Giles to the east and a centre around Hooke Court (NMR Unique Identifier 882472, NMR number ST 50 W 18).
- 1.3.12 In 1405, Elizabeth Aumerie died and in her will bequeathed that her body should be buried with her ex-husband John Maltravers at St. Giles in Stapleford. She left the rector £4 3s 4d in payment for the burial. The church in Hooke is of the same name, and no village of Stapleford exists today. The present day village of Hooke with its church of St. Giles is therefore likely to have been the old settlement of Stapleford.
- 1.3.13 There is a suggestion by local archaeologist Bob Edwards that earthworks in the field north of Hooke Court represent the remains of the deserted settlement. Finds collected by fieldwalking and from molehills include a small collection of 12th century pottery (Videotext Communications 2006, 4).

1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

- 1.4.1 During the re-digging of the moat in the 19th century a '*Misericord*' dagger dating to 1400 was recovered. The dagger was of a type used to deliver the death strike to a severely injured knight (Dorset County Museum, Acc. No. 1944.23.1)
- 1.4.2 Former deputy head teacher Christopher Reed carried out a limited excavation on the site in the 1960s, just after the demolition of the north wing of Hooke Court. Reed dug two trenches on the moat lawn, one of which revealed a substantial wall and sherds of medieval pottery; he also remembers seeing linear parch marks on the lawn, which may represent the remains of former buildings on the site.

- 1.4.3 In 1993, local archaeologist Bob Edwards carried out a small-scale geophysical survey on the moat lawn. Resistance and magnetic survey across the area revealed promising results, including several linear anomalies interpreted as wall lines, as well as open areas thought to represent open areas or courtyards.
- 1.4.4 A trench for an electricity cable was opened across the moat lawn in 2004. Although no structural remains were revealed, fairly large quantities of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered along with animal bone and various finds including musket shot, and associated domestic artefacts, representing a typical collection of finds from a domestic site with a long period of occupation.
- 1.4.5 No other excavations have taken place on the site.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Videotext Communications (2006), providing full details of the research aims and methods of the project. A brief summary is provided here.
- 2.1.2 The primary aim of the project was to investigate the Site's development as a fortified manor house throughout the medieval period, and its relationship with the village of Hooke.
- 2.1.3 Several specific research questions were posed:
- What is the date of construction of the surviving wing of the manor?
 - Did the moat ever completely surround the manor house? When was it built?
 - What evidence is there of an early house on the site? The surviving wing of the house is believed to be 15th century (J. Foyle, *pers. comm.*), but a licence to crenellate was issued to Robert Cifrewast in 1344. What evidence is there of fortification at this time, and how extensive were they?
 - What are the earthworks to the west of the house, and do they represent the remains of a shrunken/deserted settlement at Hooke Court, or are they the remains of either Hooke or Stapleford Village?
 - How was the site accessed originally? Was there a gateway?
 - Are there signs of defence and destruction and repair during and after the Civil War?

3 METHODS

3.1 Building Survey

3.1.1 A brief building survey was undertaken by Jonathan Foyle as part of this programme of works, including analysis of photographs of the demolished northern range and earlier maps of the site.

3.2 Landscape and Earthwork Survey

3.2.1 A landscape survey and analysis of the cartographic evidence was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. A summary of the findings are included here.

3.3 Geophysical Survey

3.3.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site using a combination of resistance, magnetic and ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey. The survey grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

3.4 Evaluation Trenches

3.4.1 Ten evaluation trenches of varying sizes were excavated after consultation between the on-site director Mick Aston and other specialists. Their precise locations were targeted to investigate geophysical anomalies, or elements identified from analysis of the cartographic evidence. Trenches 4, 5 and 7 were subsequently enlarged and amalgamated into one large trench.

3.4.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or where natural geology was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.

3.4.3 The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.

3.4.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

3.4.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising colour transparencies, black and white negatives (on 35mm film) and digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

- 3.4.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated soil.
- 3.4.7 A unique site code (HOO 06) was agreed prior to the commencement of works. The work was carried out on the 18th-21st April 2006. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, the full geophysical report (GSB 2006), the summary of the landscape and earthwork survey and details of artefactual and environmental assessments, are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Building Survey

- 4.2.1 The brief building survey identified that the extant west wing potentially had its origins in the 15th century. The southern end of the range was identified as the earliest block of the building with clear quoins defining the structure, with plain grouped lancet windows. The building was extended to the north and contains a surviving *in situ* fire place typical of c.1500-30. The building saw alterations in the 17th and 19th centuries with the addition of the parapet and porch way.
- 4.2.2 Photographs and early maps showed that the northern range formed an ‘L’ with the west range. At least one garderobe shaft existed within the north wall, demonstrating that it was a two-storey building with lodgings. Windows identified from the photographs along the north and south sides indicate that the range was built in the 15th or possibly 14th century and was remodelled during the 17th century with typical mullion and transom windows (**Figure 2**).
- 4.2.3 Photographs of the south facing elevation showed that an arch was once positioned at the east end of this range, offering a north-south through passage. This is likely to have been the main entrance into the Manor complex from the road which passes Hooke Court to the north (**Figure 2, Plate 4**).

4.3 Landscape and Earthwork Survey

The moat

- 4.3.1 The National Monument Report for Hooke Court records that the surviving moat has been much altered with a derelict swimming pool and an ornamental pool in the southern arm. Around the inner side of the water filled curving ditch is a slight step, which acted as a garden walk way along the waters edge. To the south of the southern arm of the moat, are formal garden earthworks, with a second walkway. A leat like feature aligns with

the walkway, which leads to a rectangular pool at the southern end. The NMR records this as an ideal position for an earlier fish pond (NMR, Unique Identifier:195931; NMR Number: ST 50 SW 9).

- 4.3.2 The Ordnance Survey (OS) 1:2500 map of 1889 (**Figure 4**) shows Hooke Court sitting at the north-west angle of what appears to be a moated enclosure, with the eastern and southern arms of the moat still shown at that date. The RCHME recorded that the moat enclosed the Manor with the western and northern arm of the moat subsequently being filled in (RCHME 1952, 126). However, the 1840 Tithe map (**Figure 3**) showed the eastern arm extending further south, to the edge of a former lane, suggesting that the southern arm was actually constructed between 1840 and 1889. This immediately threw into question the size of an original moat, and whether it originally enclosed the house. The Tithe map also showed two strips of water at the west of Hooke Court. These could possibly have been remnants of the west arm of a moat.
- 4.3.3 These ideas were tested by augering. This confirmed that the southern arm was a relatively recent feature, and that the ‘west arm’ was little more than a shallow, short-lived pond. The topography also argued against an enclosing moat, with a slope running from west to east. Thus, the evidence suggests that there never was an enclosing moat, and therefore the water-filled ditch to the east and north was likely to have a different function, such as a garden feature
- 4.3.4 The unusual ‘banana’ shape of the water-filled ditch as shown on the Tithe map also raised questions as to its origins. It cuts across the line of an underlying spur of ground, which has sharp falls to the north and south. This, combined with the pattern of fields shown on the map suggests that this spur was retained as the manorial settlement, extending westwards as far as the present road boundary.
- 4.3.5 It is even possible that the ditch may have pre-medieval origins, as the site was in the hands of a Saxon earl, Aelthric, prior to Domesday. The topography of the spur would have been ideal for fortification above the river courses to the north and east, and it is just possible that the unusual plan shape of the ‘east arm’ may be because it originally formed the eastern ditch of a Saxon fortification or *burh*. This might account for why Hooke Court is in an unusual place for a medieval manor site, perched on the slope of the spur. If it marks a continuation of an earlier site, its form is much more understandable, with the 15th century range close to the centre of the enclosure.

Possible garden features

- 4.3.6 A series of earthworks in the field to the east of the water-filled ditch could be correlated with garden features shown on the 1903 OS map and later aerial photography. However, given the long history and status of the site, it is possible that earlier gardens may underlie this area; the spur would have provided room for expansion, particularly during the 16th century when gardens became grander and larger. At this stage, it is possible that the private orientation of the house may have been turned to the west to overlook

this area, with the water-filled ditch forming an integral part of the landscape effects.

Medieval villages: Hooke and Stapleford

- 4.3.7 Examination of the plan form of the landscape combined with the historical sources (investigated by Sam Newton) indicated that the location of the medieval village of Hooke lay immediately to the north-east of Hooke Court, around a green along the former stream now occupied by a pond (formerly watercress beds as shown on the 1903 OS 1:2500 map: **Figure 5**). The sources clearly indicate two early manors, Hooke and Stapleford. Cottages to the east and the corn mill are likely to be descendants of the village properties mentioned in the 14th century. The present village of Hooke is therefore the medieval village of Stapleford, which disappeared from the record at this time.
- 4.3.8 The identification of the village at Hooke, provides the evidence to suggest that the entrance to Hooke Court was from the north, along the line of the present road. This close co-location of village and manorial centre conforms to a standard landscape pattern observed at many manorial sites throughout England.

4.4 Geophysical Survey

Introduction

- 4.4.1 Conditions for survey were good; the main survey area was flat with short grass.
- 4.4.2 The gradiometer data were dominated by ferrous disturbance, which will have masked any archaeological responses.

Results of resistance survey (Figure 6A)

- 4.4.3 The resistance results from Hooke Court proved very difficult to interpret, mainly as a result of the complexity of the archaeology and the extent of past landscaping on the site. While clear linear anomalies are visible in the data, in most instances it is very difficult to say whether these indicate walls, robbed-out walls, paths or even services. The discussion that follows can at best be seen as speculative in terms of interpretation.
- 4.4.4 Some of the highest resistance readings were found at (A); it transpired that these coincided with the location of a former sand pit used by the school. The sand was found on excavation to still be *in situ*; the very high resistance readings are due to the fact water can drain very easily through the fine grains, unlike in 'garden' soils. It is unfortunate that the sand was overlying and effectively masking (from the resistance survey) several wall foundations associated with earlier buildings on the site.
- 4.4.5 Running across the lawn was a series of linear high resistance anomalies that follow a rectilinear pattern and appear to respect the existing school buildings. Given the complexity of the responses it would be possible to conjure up numerous buildings or room plans, but in the absence of any documentary records this would be a facile exercise. While Time Team

trenches confirmed the existence of many of the walls it proved impossible fully to characterise the nature of the building remains.

- 4.4.6 Amorphous spreads of high resistance readings presumably reflect concentrations of rubble demolition material, former yard and floor surfaces and possibly undocumented school play ground features (like the sand pit).
- 4.4.7 One response (B) stands out from the others in that it has a circular rather than rectilinear shape. While this could be indicative of a round tower or a kitchen block, the most likely explanation is that the high resistance readings represent a former dovecote. Such a building is recorded in the documentary records though its location remained unknown prior to the present investigation.
- 4.4.8 A tree is present at (C) and this accounts for the lack of readings at this point.

Results of GPR survey (Figure 6B)

- 4.4.9 The GPR survey identified a number of strong, high amplitude anomalies that are thought to represent archaeology but the complexity of the site in terms of the numerous linear responses makes interpretation of the data difficult. A number of modern surface and subsurface features have also complicated the interpretation.
- 4.4.10 Anomaly (1) coincides with the position of a probable dovecote as seen in the resistance data. The clear circular nature of the structure is shown from an approximate depth of 0.36m to 1.0m. The high amplitude responses, presumably indicating either foundations or walls, add weight to the interpretation of such anomalies as archaeological in origin for the rest of the site.
- 4.4.11 The high amplitude anomaly (2) forms a distinct rectilinear feature - presumably the remains of a building. Less well defined anomalies (3 to 6) form linear anomalies which may also represent foundation or wall remains but the interpretation is more speculative. Although they follow a similar orientation to anomaly (2) it is not possible to say if this is either part of the same structure or some other feature.

Results of magnetic survey

- 4.4.12 It was hoped that a magnetic survey might be able to identify features such as ovens or fireplaces associated with the kitchens, but the results from the moat lawn are dominated by responses of a ferrous nature and as such it has not been possible to interpret the results archaeologically.

4.5 Evaluation Trenches

North and West Wing Junction: Trenches 1-3

Trench 1

- 4.5.1 Trench 1 was located where it was believed the demolished North Wing joined the extant West Wing, in order to investigate any underlying remains that relate to the demolished wing (**Figure 7**).

- 4.5.2 A deposit of demolition/levelling material (102) was identified under the topsoil (101). This was derived from the cleaning of masonry and the discarding of material which could not be recycled, and potentially dates to the 1960s when the North Wing was demolished. This deposit was identical to (203) in Trench 2 and (302) in Trench 3, and sealed *in situ* archaeology.
- 4.5.3 Due to the narrow constraints of a small evaluation trench the interpretation and understanding of the archaeology identified within Trench 1 was limited. There was a lack of datable finds recovered from the structures and so dating is tentative. Residual pottery finds from layers (101) and (102) include medieval sandy wares (12th to 14th century) and post-medieval redwares and German stonewares of the 16th century.
- 4.5.4 The earliest structures within Trench 1 comprised large sandstone blocks (103), (104) and (108) which potentially formed part of the foundations for the demolished North Wing. The second phase of building appears to have been north-south aligned sandstone wall (105) which butts block (103) and physically sits upon block (104). It is possible that (105) belongs to the same period of construction as (103) and (104), but this is not clear.
- 4.5.5 Overlying blocks (108) and (104) was a layer of modern concrete (106), and a possibly contemporaneous east-west aligned brick wall remnant (107). This shows clear alteration to the earlier structures, but there is no date for this construction.
- 4.5.6 A number of unexcavated deposits were identified adjacent to structures (103), (104) and (108) and it is unclear whether these demolition layers of un-recyclable material pre-date or post-date the sandstone structures. The deposits (110), (111), and (112) appear derived from the cleaning of masonry and the discarding of mortar and broken stone. Burnt rubble deposit (109) may relate to the 1965 demolition.

Trench 2

- 4.5.7 Trench 2 was positioned to investigate the site of a newel staircase at the junction of the North and West Wing, demolished in the 1960s (**Figure 7**).
- 4.5.8 Following the removal of current topsoil (201), which contained early medieval coarseware pottery sherds, and demolition material (202) contained within robber/demolition trench (209), a second layer of demolition (203) was identified, identical to the demolition material (102) in Trench 1 and (302) Trench 3. *In situ* archaeology was revealed below the demolition layer.
- 4.5.9 The earliest structure identified was (207), oolitic limestone stonework blocks which formed a slight curving structure interpreted as the foundation material of the newel staircase. This was butted by a roughly north-south aligned structure (206) from a second phase of the building. This may be contemporaneous with (207) but it is clearly stratigraphically later, and of unknown function.
- 4.5.10 A modern cable trench (204) cut through the archaeology, revealing natural geology (208) at the base.

Trench 3

- 4.5.11 Trench 3 was located in an attempt to identify the southern east-west aligned wall of the North Wing (**Figure 7**).
- 4.5.12 *In situ* archaeology was revealed following the removal of current topsoil (301), which contained early medieval coarseware pottery sherds, and demolition material (302).
- 4.5.13 An earlier demolition deposit of material (304), similar to (302) was revealed. This had been cut through by a large modern concrete block (303).

The Moat Lawn: Trenches 4-10

- 4.5.14 Trenches 4-10 were located on the moat lawn in an attempt to identify the remains of the Manor buildings. Each trench was targeted on anomalies from the geophysical survey. Trenches 6, 8, 9 and 10 were discrete trenches whereas Trenches 4, 5 and 7 were repeatedly extended and eventually joined to form a single trench (**Figures 8-10**).
- 4.5.15 Following the removal of the overburden it became clear that there were several phases of activity, with the building and rebuilding of structures, and the formation of associated occupation layers. Due to lack of finds directly associated with the structures no clear dating for construction and subsequent alterations can be ascertained, although stratigraphical relationships and phasing can be identified.
- 4.5.16 In the following discussion archaeological remains within the amalgamated trenches 4, 5 and 7 will be referred to by context only, while archaeology identified within the discrete trenches will be referred to by trench and context number.

Phase 1 (Figure 8)

- 4.5.17 The earliest phase of activity identified at Hooke Court appears to date from the early medieval period (11th to 13th century) from the recovery of datable pottery sherds, although there is very little evidence for actual features or structures.
- 4.5.18 Layers (527) and (804, Trench 8) were sealed by later structures and periods of activity. Layer (527) was interpreted as redeposited or reworked natural green sand, and contained sherds of coarse quartz-tempered ware (11th-13th century) and oxidised sandy ware (12th/13th century); a small sherd of post-medieval redware in the same layer may be viewed as intrusive. The exposure of the underlying natural geology may have occurred when the site was being prepared for the construction of buildings, thus leading to the reworking of the natural.
- 4.5.19 Layer (804) was interpreted as a buried ground surface, and contained early medieval coarse ware sherds (11th-13th century).
- 4.5.20 A single feature in trench 6 – pit (618) - was identified which potentially dates to this early period of activity, although the dating of the feature is implied from pottery recovered from later features which cut it. The pit was

situated towards the eastern side of the moat lawn adjacent to the moat itself. It was filled with (616) and (615).

- 4.5.21 The true nature of the feature is unknown as it remained unexcavated, but a number of features which cut it were excavated and finds recovered. Two construction trenches cut through upper fill (615). Construction cuts (607) and (612) relate to later phases of activity, but the backfill material within the cuts was derived from (615). Early medieval (11th-13th century) flint-/chert-tempered pottery was recovered from this backfill.
- 4.5.22 Features (515) and (548) may also be associated with the earliest phase, but produced no dating evidence. (515) was a probable pit, backfilled with (514), but was unexcavated, as was feature (548), filled with (549). Both features were clearly truncated by the construction of wall (508), which belongs stratigraphically to Phase 2.

Phase 2 (Figure 8; Figure 9, Plate 9)

- 4.5.23 Phase 2 comprises the first identifiable phase (of four) of building construction on the site. The nature of the structure identified is unclear as it was not revealed in its entirety, but it appears to form part of an east-west aligned building, 2.6m in width. The structure was formed by walls (508) and (517), and possible corner tower or buttress foundation (520). Each wall was constructed from large roughly shaped sandstone blocks and bonded with sand mortar.
- 4.5.24 Wall (508) was built within a foundation trench that cut through Phase 1 pits (515) and (548). The trench was backfilled with (509), and a sondage excavated through the construction cut showed that the wall had a single stepped foundation. Wall (517) was constructed within foundation trench (516), filled with backfill deposit (510). The construction cut (553) for substantial corner structure (520) cut through Phase 1 deposit (527).
- 4.5.25 It is unclear as to what sort of building the structures belonged, although their location perhaps suggests a southern range of buildings extending from the eastern side of the West Wing. If this is the case the building would not have been very large, from the positions of the possible outer wall of the building (517) and the corner tower (520). Wall (508) continued to the east but ran under the edge of the trench.
- 4.5.26 The date of the construction of this phase of building is unclear. A single sherd of post-medieval redware pottery was recovered from backfill deposit (510), but came from the cleaning of the upper surface rather than being definitely sealed within it. It is more likely that the construction date was closer to that of deposit (527), i.e. 11th-13th century rather than 16th-18th century.
- 4.5.27 Trench 9 was positioned upon a circular anomaly identified in the geophysical survey, and although there is no clear association, the structures identified potentially belong to Phase 2.

- 4.5.28 The northern half of a circular building, *c.*4.8 m in diameter, was revealed below the topsoil (901) and sub soil (902/903) (**Figure 9, Plate 11**). Wall (904) was constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks within construction cut (905) and was interpreted as the foundation blocks of the walls of a dovecote. The wall had clearly been truncated during the landscaping of the moat lawn and the eastern portion had been completely removed.
- 4.5.29 No dating as recovered from the construction cut of the dovecote structure though sherds of 11th -13th century pottery were recovered from the subsoil and topsoil. The structure has been tentatively dated to the later 14th century on documentary evidence alone, as the Calendar Roll Inquisitions of 1361 record a dovecote on the Site.

Phase 3 (Figure 8; Figure 9, Plates 8, 9 & 12)

- 4.5.30 The second phase of building includes north-south aligned wall (525) which clearly butted the southern edge of corner tower foundation (520). The corner foundation was also butted on the western and eastern side by cobbled surfaces constructed of rounded flint and sandstone fragments: (531) to the west and (530) to the east. The wall and surfaces are clearly related and contemporaneous, but no dating evidence was recovered.
- 4.5.31 Cobbled surfaces are both likely to have been external courtyard surfaces as opposed to internal floors of buildings. Wall (525) was narrow and crudely made in comparison to other identified walls, which suggests that it was a boundary or garden wall rather than forming part of a larger structure.
- 4.5.32 To the south of wall (525) and surfaces (530) and (531) was a separate structure formed by walls (404), (406/423) (546) and (526). The building was only partially revealed, and its nature remains uncertain, nor was any dating evidence recovered. However, the nature of the wall construction and associated floor surfaces is similar to that of (525), (530) and (531) and they are therefore potentially contemporaneous.
- 4.5.33 Wall (406/423) at its eastern end appeared to butt the northern end of wall (546). The western end of (406/423) had been truncated, revealing possible courtyard levelling deposit (421). It was bonded and keyed into the northern end of wall (404), which appeared stratigraphically to be contemporaneous. At the southern end of wall (404) was a single large stone slab which bordered deposit (413), potentially the entrance into the building from external courtyard (407) to internal floor surface (408). The internal surface (408) was bordered by walls (404), (406) and (546), and was constructed almost identically to (407), except for the presence of more mortar which suggests an internal floor.
- 4.5.34 Wall (526) was constructed in the same manner as (406/423) and clearly butted (546), but was only partially revealed.
- 4.5.35 There was no physical relationship between wall (525) and this southern building due to a later repair (533) to the cobbled surfaces (530) and (531) which removed any possible relationship.

- 4.5.36 Trench 10 was located to the east of walls (525) and (526) and uncovered structures potentially related those in Trenches 4 and 5. The alignment of wall (1010) is at right angles to wall (404), and is on a different alignment to all the other walls identified on Site. Wall (1010) was constructed of roughly shaped limestone blocks and appears to have been robbed out at a later period following the construction of later floor surfaces.
- 4.5.37 The date of the construction of this building is unclear, but stratigraphically it is potentially early. The only dating evidence came from demolition deposits (402) and 519) which sealed the structures and which belong to a later phase of the Site. The material from these deposits (dating from at least the 16th century onwards), although later than the underlying structures, includes a large quantity of coarseware pottery with a clear bias towards vessels with a dairying function, thus suggesting that this area of the Site had a very utilitarian function, perhaps the buttery or kitchen area of the complex. It is possible the Phase 3 structures had a similar function.
- 4.5.38 An east-west aligned ditch (504) was identified to the north of wall (508), which may be the same feature as ditch (604) in Trench 6. Ditch (504) contained two fills, (523) and (524), both undated. The ditch was re-cut by ditch (522), filled with (505) which contained both early medieval and post-medieval pottery. In Trench 6 the upper fill of ditch (604) contained early medieval pottery, but the earliest fill (611) yielded post-medieval sherds. This ditch is of unknown function and may have been part of the garden features, prior to later alterations.

Phase 4 (Figure 8; Figure 9, Plates 10 & 11)

- 4.5.39 Phase 4 constituted a large-scale building event on the Site, and the majority of the exposed features related to this period of activity. This phase saw additions to existing buildings and the construction of entirely new buildings. Again, however, the construction deposits relating to this phase could not be securely dated. All the structures assigned to Phase 4 were constructed using same building techniques.
- 4.5.40 Phase 4 saw the addition of a room onto the Phase 2 building. This room was formed by walls (521) and (534) and floor bedding layer (542) and is located to the east of wall (517) and buttress (520). The walls were constructed in a distinctive manner which made it possible to identify structures belonging to the same phase.
- 4.5.41 The east-west aligned wall (521) was bonded to the southern end of wall (534) and was constructed of roughly shaped oolitic limestone blocks on the outer face with rock chalk or clunch blocks on the internal face. The use of clunch is distinctive to this phase of building, and would have been easier and cheaper to quarry than the harder Ham stone or oolitic limestone. Clunch is normally rendered with limewash to prevent its erosion, but on wall (521) thin slabs of oolitic limestone had been cut and shaped and positioned over the chalk blocks, although probably not for the full height of the wall.

- 4.5.42 The use of clunch or rock chalk blocks is known from the early medieval period through to the 16th century and beyond. The use of thin slabs of limestone around the internal base of the wall could have served a number of purposes including acting as a decorative stone skirting board but also as protection for the chalk, which because of its softness, has a tendency to decay rapidly if it becomes damp or is affected by frost (Clifton-Taylor 1972, 63). In the 15th and 16th centuries many Dorset churches were constructed from chalk blocks and it is possible this structure also belongs to this period (*ibid*, 65).
- 4.5.43 The construction cut (550) for wall (521) clearly truncates and cuts through wall (525) which implies that by this point the probable garden wall was deemed obsolete and was removed. Floor (542) was revealed as a mortar rich deposit, which is likely to have acted as a bedding layer for an upper surface of tiles or flags, which have been subsequently removed.
- 4.5.44 A large north-south aligned building was identified to the east of the room formed by (521) and (534), constructed in the same manner with oolitic limestone on the outer face and clunch blocks on the inner. The building was formed by walls (703) and (714), with the continuation of (703) identified to the north in Trench 8 as (813) at the junction with wall 812. The building was at least 14.5m long and 5.35m wide.
- 4.5.45 No southern limit to the building was identified as the southern end of (703) had been truncated by later activity. The remains of an external cobbled surface lay to the west of wall (703). A number of internal structures within the building were identified which may indicate its function.
- 4.5.46 The southern end of the building was clearly divided by an east west aligned beam-slot which separated floor surface (705) from a distinct occupation layer (711). The beam slot (706) was associated with a limestone plinth (709), which potentially held an upright to support the roof, with the beam-slot forming some form of partition wall between bays of the building. Floor (705) was located to the south of beam-slot (706). It was highly disturbed and comprised a rammed chalk mortar surface which probably acted as the bedding deposit for a tiled floor. It was initially thought to have been the floor of a corridor.
- 4.5.47 To the north of the beam-slot was occupation layer (711), which consisted of multiple interleaving layers of occupation debris and areas of burning. The deposit was quite fragile, and once cleaned no further excavation occurred; no dating evidence was recovered.
- 4.5.48 Beam-slot (706) cut through a possible levelling deposit (713) for the floor associated with occupation layer (711). Two sherds of post-medieval pottery (16th-18th century) were recovered from (713), but came from the cleaning of the deposit and therefore may be intrusive.
- 4.5.49 The northern end of the building was identified in Trench 8, comprising walls (813) and (812). Both these walls were constructed of oolitic limestone on the outer face and clunch on the inner face.

- 4.5.50 Located to the west of the north-western corner of the building was a possible porch type structure comprising a large limestone flagged floor and a possible door sill foundation. The flagged floor (810) was only partially exposed and consisted of two large limestone flags, with the door sill (811) to the north. It would appear, therefore, that the main entrance into the building was from the north, which is potentially where the gate house to the complex was situated. Therefore one would enter through the gate house and immediately face the entrance to a large building, potentially the Great Hall of the manor complex.
- 4.5.51 Immediately to the north of the porch structure and walls (812) and (813) is a large cobbled surface (805/806) which was revealed to overly earlier ground surface deposit (804) from Phase 1. The cobble surface was clearly external with a possible drain (808) running east west across it, and located at the front of the possible Great Hall.
- 4.5.52 Trench 10 was located to the south of walls (703) and (714), and was positioned to investigate an area of high magnetic response from the geophysical survey. An earlier wall (1010) was identified potentially relating to cobbled surface (1011) and belonging to Phase 3 and a flagged floor surface (1005) was uncovered. The stone flags were set into mortar bedding layer (1006) which overlay the possible courtyard surface (1011). The relationship between possible earlier wall (1010) and floor surface was destroyed by later robbing events.
- 4.5.53 Located to the east of wall (714) in Trench 6, wall (608) ran parallel to wall (714), but due to the position of a high voltage electricity cable the relationship between the two walls could not be investigated. At the northern end of (608) was east-west aligned wall (613). A possible floor surface (617) was revealed between these two walls, suggesting the corner of a room of some kind.
- 4.5.54 Pottery recovered from the construction cuts of walls (608) and (613) (cuts (607) and (612) respectively) contained medieval pottery dating (11th-13th century), but this pottery is likely to have come from an earlier pit (618) through which they were cut. There is no direct dating for the structure.

Phase 5 (Figure 8)

- 4.5.55 Phase 5 is stratigraphically the final phase of building identified at Hooke Court, and consisted of a further extension on the eastern side of the room formed by walls (521) and (534) and floor (542). Wall remnant (535), built of limestone and sandstone blocks, butted the eastern edge of wall (534) where it joined (521). The remains of a possible floor bedding deposit (543) were identified to the north of (535), implying the existence of a room here, but nothing remains of this phase of building except for the stub of wall (535) due to later robbing.
- 4.5.56 A small gully (544) potentially also relates to this phase, but remained unexcavated.

Phase 6 (Figure 8)

- 4.5.57 The final phase of activity relates to the demolition of the buildings of the manor complex. Under the topsoil and turf of the moat lawn a large-scale demolition/levelling deposit was uncovered which sealed the underlying *in situ* archaeology. Every trench opened contained evidence of a period of large-scale demolition and the recycling of useable material.
- 4.5.58 The walls of the final phase of construction appear to have been completely robbed out by robber cuts (538) and (540). Pottery recovered from the fill of the (540) dated to the post medieval period, from the 16th century onwards.
- 4.5.59 These demolition deposits were recorded as (402), (502), (519), (536), (537), (603), (702) and (802/803) and contained the remains of broken stonework which could not be reused, and mortar removed from the stonework that was reused. Pottery recovered from these deposits had a potential date range of 16th to early 18th century and reflected a largely domestic, utilitarian function, including a significant component of ‘cream pans’, used in dairying. In contrast to this utilitarian pottery, the demolition deposits also contained large numbers of decorative glazed ridge (roof) tiles, which would not be out of place on a ‘high status’ building.
- 4.5.60 A single feature was identified cutting through Phase 2 wall (508) which was identified as potentially later than the building phases. Pit (512) was filled with a number of homogenous deposits. The earliest fill (529) contained post-medieval pottery, a 16th or 17th century lace tag and 18th century buckle. This pit was possibly a tree bole hole associated with the landscaping and establishment of a formal garden.

5 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered from all ten of the trenches excavated, although Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 9 produced only minimal quantities of finds. The assemblage is largely post-medieval in date, with a small amount of medieval material and some residual prehistoric flintwork.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, ceramic building material, clay pipes). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.
- 5.1.3 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site in its local and regional context, with particular reference to the medieval origins of Hooke Court and its subsequent occupation through the post-medieval period.

5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 The pottery assemblage includes sherds of medieval and post-medieval date. Condition overall is good, with sherds relatively unabraded, although the medieval sherds, many of which occurred residually in later contexts, were noticeably more abraded.
- 5.2.2 The whole assemblage has been quantified by ware type within each context, and the presence of diagnostic sherds noted. Pottery totals by ware type are given in **Table 2**.

Medieval

- 5.2.3 The medieval wares fall into two broad types: coarsewares and finer sandy wares; amongst the latter a single sherd of late medieval Donyatt-type glazed ware was identified (Phase 3 ditch (604)), but there are likely to be other Donyatt products amongst both coarsewares and sandy wares. The coarsewares are tempered with prominent flint/chert and/or quartz inclusions; most are unglazed although one glazed sherd is present. Similar wares have been recognised at other sites in south-west Dorset, such as Bridport and Woolcombe Farm, Toller Porcorum (Mephram 2000; Poulsen 1983), and have a potential date range of 11th to 13th century. The only diagnostic sherds from Hooke are two jar rims, one finger impressed of 11th/12th century form (Phase 1 layer (527) and subsoil (903) respectively). The sandy wares, some also containing sparse flint inclusions, are likely to be slightly later, with a date range of 12th to 14th century. One jar rim with deeply ‘cupped’ profile from Phase 1 layer (804) is a 13th century form, but no other diagnostic forms were identified. Alongside Donyatt, another possible source for the sandy wares is the 13th century kiln at Hermitage, about 13km to the north-east.
- 5.2.4 Medieval sherds came from all but one of the nine trenches (none from Trench 7), most coming from Trenches 5 and 6. Just over half the sherds occurred residually in later contexts, although Phase 1 layers (527) and (804), and the backfill of Phase 4 construction cuts (607) and (612), contained only medieval wares.

Post-medieval

- 5.2.5 The post-medieval assemblage comprises a relatively restricted range of wares, with an overwhelming predominance of utilitarian coarse earthenwares with an interesting bias in the range of vessel forms. This has both chronological and functional implications.
- 5.2.6 The earthenwares consist almost exclusively of redwares; there is only one small sherd of Verwood-type ware from the east Dorset production centre. This in itself is interesting, since Verwood-type wares have a wide distribution across Dorset and the surrounding counties. The explanation, however, is likely to be chronological – Verwood products had a relatively restricted distribution until around the middle of the 18th century. The Hooke assemblage appears to be earlier than this date, as will be discussed below. Instead, Hooke was probably supplied largely by the Donyatt production centre, which was in operation throughout the post-medieval period (Coleman Smith and Pearson 1988). Other potential sources include Holnest,

about 15km to the north-east (17th century documentary references only); Lyme Regis, 20 km to the south-west, where a kiln was operating in the 18th century (Draper 1982); and south Somerset centres further afield such as Honiton and Wrangway, all producing very similar wares.

5.2.7 From the early 17th to the early 19th century these wares included slipwares (which have been quantified separately here), both trailed and sgraffito. Slipwares are not well represented at Hooke, but amongst them are examples of finger-dragged designs typical of the 17th century, and some imitating the Staffordshire-type feathered slipwares of the early 18th century. This gives some limited chronological evidence, but in general the redwares, as utilitarian wares which show little change through time, are not susceptible to close dating; the Hooke assemblage has a potential date range from at least the 16th century onwards.

5.2.8 The relative scarcity of slipwares may be at least partly due a possible functional bias in the assemblage. This is most apparent in the large earthenware/slipware groups from Phase 6 rubble deposits (402) and (519) (147 sherds and 344 sherds respectively), but is also discernible across the assemblage. Of the 146 rims recorded, 131 are from bowls, and most of these (where the overall form can be deduced) come from large, flaring bowls of the type often described as ‘settling pans’ or ‘cream pans’ (which are not commonly slip-decorated). Many of these had a simple pulled lip for pouring. In other words, the earthenwares from Hooke seem to show a functional bias towards dairying activities. One of these bowls has the initials HB stamped on the rim (rubble deposit (519)), and a second a small gridded oval (context 1008), presumably potters’ marks, for which no parallels have been found. Other forms are scarce – a few jars, which could have had various food preparation/food storage functions, a few jugs, a couple of chafing dishes, and a possible mug base – very little evidence for ‘tablewares’.

5.2.9 Tablewares were supplied instead (although still scarcely) by stonewares of both German and English manufacture (jugs, bottles and mugs, i.e. vessels for serving and consuming drink); Staffordshire-/Bristol-type slipwares (cups and dishes) and tinglazed earthenware. All these have a date range which need not extend beyond the early 18th century, and this is supported by the almost total absence of any of the factory-produced wares of the 18th century and later; these are represented by one sherd of white saltglaze (*c.*1720-40; Phase 6 rubble deposit 519), three sherds of creamware (*c.*1740-1780; Phase 6 rubble deposits (603), (702) and (1003)), and three modern refined wares (one probably intrusive in rubble deposit (519), two from Trench 10).

5.3 Ceramic Building Material

5.3.1 As for the pottery, the ceramic building material (CBM) represents a very restricted range, with an unusual predominance of decorative roof tile. Out of 301 pieces recovered, 285 are from glazed ridge tiles. The largest groups came from Phase 6 rubble deposits (402) and (519). All but a few of the ridge tiles are in post-medieval earthenware fabrics very similar to those used for the pottery (see above). No complete examples survive. The form varies

slightly, but all seem to have had applied strips along the crest which were knife-cut or thumbed into 'cocks-combs'. A few have further ornamentation in the form of stabbing or slashing on the crests (which may have been partly functional, to strengthen the join between crest and tile during firing). One or two are in variant fabrics, one coarsely flint-gritted (possibly medieval) and one unusually pale firing. One potential source for these tiles, as for the pottery, would have been the Donyatt kilns, which were producing ridge tiles from the 14th century onwards (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988, 319-23), but other sources could also have been supplying Hooke.

- 5.3.2 Other CBM types are presented far more sparsely. There is only one flat (peg) tile, from Trench 5 topsoil, and it seems clear that apart from the ridge tiles, the roofing material of choice was stone (see below). There are six plain floor tiles (Phase 6 rubble deposits (519), (702) and (802), cleaning layer 537, context 1008) and one decorated (from (519)). The latter bears a complex interlaced design, one of a group of five late medieval (late 15th/early 16th century) tiles with similar designs known from Dorset; they were used largely at Milton Abbey and Fordington (Emden 1977, 18, 80, cat. 190). There are also eight brick fragments (most from topsoil contexts), all in fairly coarse fabrics, one overfired and vitrified.

5.4 Wall Plaster

- 5.4.1 Plain white wall plaster recovered from four contexts in Trenches 5, 7 and 10 includes fragments with rounded mouldings and with lath impressions.

5.5 Clay Pipes

- 5.5.1 The clay tobacco pipe includes both stem fragments and bowls. Of the latter, four are complete enough to be datable. Potentially the earliest is from Phase 6 rubble deposit (402), a decorated bowl of a form dating to *c.*1640-60, with a maker's mark comprising the initials BC stamped on the heel. This may equate to a similar mark recorded from Salisbury and dated *c.*1660 (Atkinson 1970, app. A). A bowl from Phase 6 rubble deposit (502) with a Tudor Rose heel stamp is also paralleled in Salisbury, dated *c.*1670-80 (*ibid.*, fig. 1, 14). Two bowls, from topsoil (701) and Phase 6 rubble deposit (702) respectively, are both dated *c.*1690-1710.

5.6 Stone

- 5.6.1 A small amount of building stone was recovered; this comprises roof tiles in fine-grained and shelly limestone (probably from the Forest Marble Formation) and slate, and three mouldings, including one window mullion, in Cornbrash. All stone types except slate would have been available locally within west Dorset.
- 5.6.2 Five pieces of worked flint/chert are the sole (residual) evidence for prehistoric activity on the site, although none are chronologically distinctive.

5.7 Glass

- 5.7.1 The glass includes both window (20 fragments) and vessel fragments (ten fragments). All the window glass is heavily oxidised, some to the point where all surfaces have been lost; two fragments from demolition layer (102) are almost completely devitrified. Several show the grozed (clipped) edges typical of medieval and early post-medieval window glass, although one piece found unstratified in Trench 7 has the later flame-rounded edge. One piece, from Phase 6 rubble deposit (402), has two surviving edges and may be from a diamond-shaped quarry; other fragments are too small to reconstruct original form.
- 5.7.2 Of the vessel glass, the most interesting pieces are two from (402), both probably from the same vessel – a plain, upright rim and a carination with applied, rigaree-decorated cordon from a stemmed goblet. The glass is good quality soda glass, colourless with a greyish tinge, of a type known as *façon de Venise* (although not necessarily of continental manufacture). Comparable vessels from Exeter are dated *c.*1600 (Charleston 1984, fig. 149, 75-7).
- 5.7.3 Other vessel glass comprises the rim and neck from a small bottle or phial, of early 17th century form, and a wine glass stem of 18th century date or later (both from Phase 6 rubble deposit (519)), the base from an early post-medieval small bottle or flask (Trench 7 topsoil), and five fragments, including one base and one rim/neck, from wine bottles of globular type with a date range of *c.*1650-1750 (Phase 6 rubble deposits (402) and (502), Phase 6 pit (512), topsoil (701)).

5.8 Metalwork

Coins

- 5.8.1 Five coins were recovered, all of post-medieval or modern date. Three are silver, and two are copper alloy. Their condition is poor, with signs of wear, and the copper alloy coins showing signs of corrosion.
- 5.8.2 The earliest coin is a silver shilling of Elizabeth I (Phase 6 rubble deposit (502)), dated to 1560-1. Two coins of Charles I were also recovered – a silver shilling (Phase 6 rubble deposit (702)) and a small copper alloy farthing (Phase 6 rubble deposit (802)). The former was struck at the Tower mint in London in 1641-3, as part of the last issue of coins minted there before it was taken over by Parliament during the English Civil War. The irregular edges of this coin suggest that it suffered a number of episodes of ‘clipping’.
- 5.8.3 The two remaining coins both date to the 20th century, and comprise a silver sixpence of George V, dating to 1929 (Trench 5 topsoil) and a florin of Elizabeth II, dated to 1956 (Trench 2 topsoil).

Copper alloy

- 5.8.4 Apart from coins, seven other objects of copper alloy were recovered, and these include a thimble (Trench 9 topsoil), a tap (Phase 6 rubble deposit (702)), a bell (Trench 5 topsoil), a lace-tag (Phase 6 feature (512)), a button

(Phase 6 rubble deposit (519)), a possible strapend (context 528 VOID), and a heavy, tapering tube of unknown function (Trench 5 topsoil). The thimble is of a late medieval or early post-medieval domed form, handmade with spiral-applied punched dots. The tap has a bifurcated key, a type which is considered to be intermediate between the medieval and later post-medieval (18th century onwards) taps. Such taps were used with cisterns (Margeson 1993, 138, fig. 102, no. 932). The bell is a cast pellet bell (also known as a ‘rumbler’ bell), a type known from the early post-medieval period through to the 18th or 19th century and most frequently used to decorate horse harness (*ibid.*, 213, fig. 162, no. 1760). Decoration on the lower half of the bell is in the common sunburst design; there is also a small panel underneath which would normally carry a founder’s mark, but the bell is too worn for this to be discernible (e.g. Bailey 1999, 40, nos. 18-20). Lace-tags would have been used to prevent the ends of laces fraying; they are particularly common in late medieval and early post-medieval contexts. This example is made from sheet rolled and folded inwards, a type which is apparently mainly 16th and 17th century in date (Margeson 1993, 22).

Iron

5.8.5 The majority of the ironwork comprises nails and other structural items including a swivelling hook (to hold open a window, shutter or chest). Other identifiable objects include a shoe buckle (Phase 6 feature (512)), three keys (Trench 5 topsoil; cleaning layer 537=502), a rowel spur, horseshoe and ox shoe (all from Phase 6 rubble deposit (402)), a stirrup (Phase 3 ditch (604)), a fish hook (Phase 6 rubble deposit (402)), three probable knives (Phase 6 rubble deposits (603) and (702); unstratified in Trench 7) and a scissor blade (unstratified in Trench 7). Most of these can only be dated broadly as post-medieval, but the shoe buckle is of a type used widely in the 18th century, having a loop chape with two spikes (Whitehead 1996, 103-4).

Lead

5.8.6 The lead contains the usual mix of waste/offcut fragments and window comes; there are also three musket balls (Phase 6 rubble deposits (402) and (519), Trench 5 topsoil), a perforated spherical weight (from (519)) and two fragments from a small decorative grille (Trench 8 topsoil). The musket balls are of a size and manufacture consistent with a Civil War date; one has been distorted through impact. The window comes all have an almost square ‘H’ section and were probably milled in a toothless mill, apart from one from a toothed mill from trench 10. The earliest documentary evidence for the lead mill is mid 16th century, although one example is known from an early 15th century context at Battle Abbey (Knight 1988, 156, type D). None of the came fragments derived from contexts dated earlier than Phase 6.

5.9 Animal Bone

Introduction

5.9.1 Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion, and therefore specimen counts (NISP) given here may differ from the absolute raw fragment counts in **Table 1**. No fragments were recorded as ‘medium mammal’ or ‘large mammal’; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category.

- 5.9.2 The extent of mechanical or chemical attrition to the bone surface was recorded, and the numbers of gnawed bone were also noted. Marks from chopping, sawing, knife cuts and fractures made when the bone was fresh were recorded as butchery marks.

Condition and preservation

- 5.9.3 The overall condition of the bone is good (**Table 3**). As 13% of the post-medieval bones were gnawed, canid savaging might be a significant biasing factor. Burnt bones are absent.
- 5.9.4 The low number of loose teeth corresponds with the low number of mandibles and the almost absence of maxilla found. The absence of loose but matching epiphyses or articulating bones indicate that the assemblage is probably extensively reworked (i.e. redeposition of primary refuse during demolition) - most material derived from post-medieval demolition layers.

Species proportions

- 5.9.5 All three period assemblages are dominated by cattle. The larger post-medieval assemblage is dominated by cattle, followed by sheep/goat and a small proportion of pig (**Table 4**). The late medieval assemblage contained domestic fowl as well. Only one post-medieval horse bone was found. The rest of the text will concentrate on the larger post-medieval assemblage.
- 5.9.6 Besides the remains of the usual domesticates, the post-medieval assemblage contained the remains of fallow deer (rubble deposit (519)), hare (rubble deposit (502)), mouse (502), rabbit (topsoil (701)), chicken (rubble deposits (502), (603) and (702), pit (512), construction cut (516), cleaning layer (537), topsoil (701), levelling deposit 713), duck (rubble deposits (502) and (702), pit (512), cleaning layer 537, topsoil (701)), goose (rubble deposit (702)), woodcock (rubble deposit (502)), woodpigeon (topsoil 501), passerine (rubble deposit (402), levelling deposit (713)) and large fish (rubble deposit (402)). Two bird bones, possibly representing two further species, from layer (903) could not be identified at this stage.
- 5.9.7 The presence of smaller and slender *galliformes* bones in topsoil (701) and rubble deposit (702) might derive from pheasant rather than from domestic fowl. Similarly, the bones identified as 'duck' might derive from domestic duck as well as from wild ducks of the genera *Anas*. The large pig bones from rubble deposits (402), and (519) and pit (512) might indicate wild boar. Although the native wild boar became extinct in the 13th century, it was soon reintroduced in parks (Yalden 1999, 168).

Population characteristics

- 5.9.8 The high number of age-able bones, measurable bones and bones with butchery marks in the post-medieval assemblage will provide information on husbandry practices, phenotype of the animals and butchery (**Table 5**).
- 5.9.9 It was noted that particularly the pig and cattle bones derive from large post-medieval breeds (height at the withers cattle 123 cm and pig 93 cm). The sheep/goat assemblage is far less homogenous in size with heights at the withers of 49, 52 and 61 cm, particularly the first two are smaller than the

normal medieval sheep/goat. A search on ABMAP (Animal Bone Metrical Archive Project) resulted in equally small medieval/post-medieval sheep/goat for Six Dials, Southampton; St. Johns Street and Victoria Road 3, Winchester (Hampshire), West Cotton (Northamptonshire) and Deans Way 1, Worcester (Hereford & Worcester).

- 5.9.10 The presence of bones from calf (rubble deposits (402) and (519)) and lamb ((402) and levelling deposit (713)) indicates that the people inhabiting the manor ate lamb and veal steak. Construction cut (405) probably contained the remains of a (stillborn) neonate sheep. The presence of neonate/foetal remains is normally associated with animal keeping on site (Reichstein 1994, 448). This might indicate that at least some animals were kept or slaughtered on site.
- 5.9.11 The presence of young chicken in rubble deposits (502), (603) and 702), pit (512), feature (515), topsoil (701), and levelling deposit (713) indicates that these were probably kept on site to provide eggs and a ready source of meat. Deposit (603) contained the remains of a young female chicken, whereas ditch (604) contained a tarsometatarsus with spur, probably indicating a roaster.

Butchery

- 5.9.12 A relatively large number of bones show signs of butchery. Especially the large cattle carcass, and to a lesser extent the smaller carcasses of sheep/goat and pig, were divided into handier portions. The virtual absence of heads and vertebra makes it likely that most animals were not butchered on site. Larger numbers of cattle metapodials and feet indicate that these bones were used for soup, rather than being proof of standard on site slaughter. The modern date of the material and the nature of the site make it likely that the animals were butchered by professionals and the meat on the bone transferred to the site.
- 5.9.13 Rubble deposit (402) contained a worked piece of bone, a chip of probable cattle metapodial sawn length-wise. This kind of debris is often found in medieval towns indicating a bone workshop. It is unlikely in this instance that bone craft was practised on site as part of a bone-working industry - it is more likely to represent someone's hobby.

5.10 Discussion

- 5.10.1 The finds assemblage from Hooke Court has informed a better understanding of the chronology of the site, and has produced some interesting groups of objects which have both economic and functional implications. Medieval activity on the site is sparsely represented, but pottery suggests a date range beginning perhaps as early as the 11th, but certainly the 12th century. No other artefact types, however, can be definitively assigned to the medieval period, and there is insufficient evidence to indicate the nature of activity on the site at this time. In the post-medieval period there is an interesting dichotomy between the pottery evidence, certainly utilitarian and with a potential bias towards dairying activities, and some of the other artefact categories, such as metalwork and glass, which include items which could be considered

indicative of a leisured lifestyle (fine glass vessels, items of horse furniture, fish hook), and of a varied and high status diet (bones of deer, hare, rabbit, wild birds and possibly wild boar).

5.11 Potential and further recommendations

- 5.11.1 The finds have already been recorded in some detail; further analysis is unlikely to provide any further refinement of the site chronology, or significant advances in an understanding of the site. The largest groups came from rubble/demolition deposits which clearly contained objects of mixed chronology. Any publication should utilise information presented in this document, in conjunction with the supporting data.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The project at Hooke Court provided a greater understanding of the preservation and extent of the underlying archaeological remains. However, due to the lack of recovered datable finds from the construction deposits of the structural remains, the date of each phase of construction cannot be ascertained, although a *terminus post quem* of 11th -13th century and a *terminus ante quem* of 16th to early 18th century for the structures can be inferred. Evidence for the evolution of the Site within the local area and how the manorial complex related to the wider settlement was also explored.

6.2 The Surviving West Wing

- 6.2.1 The first of the research questions was to identify the construction date for the surviving wing of Hooke Court. The trenches located at the junction of the west wing and demolished north wing (Trenches 1 and 2) revealed no remains or structures which could be identified as being part of the surviving wing, and therefore the dating of the west wing comes solely from the architectural details of the building.

- 6.2.2 The RCHME concluded that the buildings of Hooke Court contained features dating to the 15th century (RCHME 1952, 126), and this was confirmed in the reassessment of the building by Jonathan Foyle. He identified the southern portion of the western range as the oldest, potentially dating to the mid 15th century. Examination of the photographs and plan of the north wing demolished in the 1960s revealed that it too potentially had its origins in the 15th century (**Figure 2**).

- 6.2.3 Local tradition and the RCHME both record that much of Hooke Court was built by Sir Humphrey Stafford following his marriage to Elizabeth Aumerie after the death of Elizabeth's first husband John Maltravers. The RCHME records that the construction began *c.*1407 the year that Elizabeth Maltravers, daughter of Elizabeth Aumerie and John de Maltravers, married Sir Humphrey Stafford's son, also named Humphrey. The work may have begun as part of wedding celebrations and in preparation for the newlyweds'

occupation of the property (Videotext Communications 2006, 11; RCHME 1952, 126; <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=42066#n90>).

6.3 The Moat

- 6.3.1 Considerable work has been conducted into the categorisation of moated sites since they were first identified as a distinct category of monument during the 19th century, with later classifications made in 1901 by the Earthworks Committee of the Congress of Archaeological Societies (Aberg 1978, 1). The dating of moated sites, where dating has been possible, has shown that the majority date from the 13th and 14th centuries, although exceptions are known. Their function and reasons for construction have also been much debated, with the consensus being that they were constructed for a number of reasons - as a sign of wealth and prosperity, creating an image of defensibility and of course providing dry raised areas for habitation in parts of the country prone to flooding and high ground water (Platt 1978, 111; Aberg 1978).
- 6.3.2 Examination of the cartographic evidence (**Figures 3-5**), and the auger survey, were carried out in order to investigate the Hooke Court moat and its potential function, and to ascertain whether the moat ever entirely surrounded the manor complex. The RCHME survey suggested that the unusual shape of the moat came about through the filling in of the northern and western arms leaving only the eastern and southern intact (RCHME 1952, 126). However, the current project revealed that the moat did not encompass the complex of buildings.
- 6.3.3 The construction date of the moat is unknown, but it may have medieval origins. The identifications of features dating to the early medieval period (11th to 13th century) within the raised area at the centre of the moat potentially indicate an early medieval construction date for the moat itself. The recovery from the moat in the 19th century of a '*Misericord*' dagger dating to c.1400 potentially indicates that the moat was in existence in the 15th century, but this may have been a later deposition.
- 6.3.4 The landscape survey and cartographic investigation showed that the southern arm of the moat was constructed some time between 1840 and 1889, and that due to the topography it is unlikely the moat extended around the western side of the extant buildings. It would appear therefore that the moat feature potentially served another purpose, perhaps as a garden feature. However, the definition of a moated site is '*an area of ground, often occupied by a dwelling or associated structure, bounded or partly bounded by a wide ditch, which in most cases was intended to be filled with water*' (Taylor 1978, 5), so although the water-filled ditch never extended all the way around the buildings, Hooke Court cannot be ruled out as a moated site.
- 6.3.5 The moat is known to have been reworked in the early 20th century when a section of it was dug to form a swimming pool, located on southern arm of the moat. The Ordnance Survey map of 1974 clearly shows the swimming pool with an adjacent pond. The auger survey confirmed that the southern arm was a short-lived feature and silted up naturally.

6.3.6 Demolition of the buildings identified within the trenches occurred no earlier than the 16th century, and therefore any subsequent landscaping post dates this demolition period. The levelling of the area known as the moat lawn may have occurred some time after this, when the orientation of the house may have changed to face the east. The remains of garden features were identified in the field to the east of the moat and are likely to have been part of a large grand formal garden, which incorporated the water-filled ditch, together with lawns and flower beds.

6.4 Earlier Buildings and Fortification

6.4.1 No definitive date for the construction of the structures uncovered within the trenches could be ascertained, due to the lack of datable finds from construction levels. However, the earliest structures appear to post-date the 11th/12th century, and the latest structures were probably demolished sometime around the 17th century. Therefore the four phases of construction can be dated within a period of *c.*500 years. No more accurate date can be inferred from the recovered material, although the stylistic nature and layout of the structures may provide potential dates.

6.4.2 The earliest recorded construction identified from the documentary sources is believed to date from the mid 14th century when a licence to crenellate was granted to Robert Cifrewast in January 1344; such a licence implies the beginning of a major phase of building works. In 1361 the construction of a dovecote is recorded and in 1407 the majority of Hooke Court is believed to have been constructed by Sir Humphrey Stafford. When the manor passed to the Marquis of Winchester, William Paulet, at the beginning of the 17th century, a number of alterations to the fabric of the buildings were made, both before the Civil War and afterwards. It is however difficult if not impossible to identify features or structures which can be directly linked to the recorded construction work identified in the documentary sources except for one structure.

6.4.3 The one structure which can be potentially assigned a construction date is the dovecote, revealed in Trench 9. The Calendar Roll Inquisitions of 1361 record the existence of a dovecote and no other structure was identified on site which could be interpreted as a dovecote other than the feature in Trench 9. No other dating evidence was recovered from the construction deposits.

6.4.4 The earliest phase of construction (Phase 2) identified on Site comprised the building in Trench 5 - walls (508) and (517) and corner foundation (520). The nature of the structure is unclear but if it is part of a corner tower it implies a certain degree of fortification, and perhaps can be correlated with Robert Cifrewast's building works.

6.4.5 Dating the next phase of construction (Phase 3) is difficult, since the only secure dating evidence came from the large post-medieval demolition deposits which sealed the buildings.

6.4.6 Phase 4 saw the construction of a major building, interpreted as a first floor hall, which would have dominated the centre of the moated enclosure. The

building, formed by walls (703), (714), (812) and (813), contained at least two bays separated by a timber partition, and had at least one upper storey indicated by a limestone plinth which would have held a supporting upright.

- 6.4.7 The building had an external courtyard to the north, and a possible entrance through a small porch at the north-west corner. With an entrance on the northern side, one could enter through the main gates of the manorial complex (to the north) and enter straight into the lodgings.
- 6.4.8 On the eastern side of the building was a possible tower or staircase to allow access to the first floor. The main walls of the building were constructed in a distinctive manner with the outer face built of roughly shaped limestone blocks and the inner face of shaped rock chalk or clunch blocks. The clunch would have been rendered or white washed to provide an internal face to the walls, while the lower edge of at least one the walls was lined with thin slabs of limestone which would have acted as a decorative (and protective) skirting board.
- 6.4.9 Building techniques and layout provide some dating evidence. The use of rock chalk in buildings has a lengthy currency from medieval to post-medieval, and in Dorset a number of churches and chapels were constructed of clunch in the 15th and 16th centuries; the Hooke Court hall may therefore be of similar date. Other evidence, however, suggests an earlier date. The dimensions and layout of the building (5.4m wide, with separate bays and plinth for a supporting upright positioned approximately centrally between the two walls) are suggestive of a first floor hall. Similarities can be seen to a number of such buildings identified in the region, including the Abbot of Glastonbury's House at Meare, Somerset (6.7m wide) and Adam de Sodbury's Fish House, also in Meare (4.9m wide). These buildings date to 1322-35 (Wood 1965, 29, 33). It may be, then, that the large central structure at Hooke Court built using clunch is potentially 15th or 16th century in date, but in the form of an earlier style of building.
- 6.4.10 If the Phase 4 buildings belong to the 15th-16th century or later then they potentially belong to the period of Sir Humphrey Stafford's construction activity, with later alterations such as Phase 5 potentially being undertaken by William Paulet, although this is conjectural.

6.5 Stapleford Village

- 6.5.1 The NMR records that the current village of Hooke superseded the village of Stapleford and enveloped it in the 14th century, and the current programme of work uncovered nothing to contradict this assumption.
- 6.5.2 There has been limited field work previously carried out in the fields to the north of Hooke Court which may contain the remains of the Stapleford DMV, although due to time constraints no field work was carried out as part of the current programme of works. Examination of the cartographic evidence indicates that the medieval village of Hooke lay directly to the north-east of Hooke Court at the site of the former stream, now a pond. It appears that in the medieval period two distinct centres grew up, around the

mill and church of St Giles to the east (Stapleford) and at Hooke Court to the west (Hooke). These two centres eventually amalgamated and the name Stapleford was lost.

6.6 Access

6.6.1 Evidence from the excavated trenches, the cartographic and landscape survey, and the photographs of the demolished northern range (**Figure 2**) indicate that the main entrance into the manorial complex was from the north, from the location of the old village of Stapleford. The photographs show an archway (later blocked) which would have allowed access in to the central courtyard from the north. The entrance, together with the possible great hall located directly in front, formed the typical layout of a medieval manor. This layout can be seen, for example, at sites such as Waynefleete Tower, Esher, Surrey (Wessex Archaeology 2006), and on other moated manor sites including Igham Mote, Kent; Lower Brockhampton, Cheshire; and Southchurch Hall, Essex (Rigold 1978, 31). The excavation of Trench 8 revealed the northern end of the possible great hall with an entrance through a small porch on the side.

6.7 Civil War

6.7.1 It was recorded that Hooke Court was damaged by fire during the Civil War as it had been a Royalist stronghold under the Paulet family. The Manor was taken in 1652 by an Act of Parliament only to be returned to the Paulet family during the Restoration, and at this time Paulet, now the Duke of Bolton, carried out a number of renovations although it appears likely that no major rebuilding work occurred. The demolition material seen across most of the excavated trenches (Phase 6) predominantly dated to the early post-medieval period (16th-early 18th century) and can potentially be correlated with the destruction of much of Hooke Court during the Civil War, and the subsequent levelling and landscaping of the Site.

6.7.2 There was little evidence of burning, either in the form of large scale burnt deposits or fragments of burnt stone, and it therefore seems that a large scale cleaning-up operation occurred following the Civil War which saw the recycling of the useable material and the discarding off site of that which could not be used. A single burnt floor deposit was identified in Trench 10, but to what building it belonged is unknown.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1.1 A short article, probably between 3000 and 4000 words with seven or eight supporting illustrations, based on the results and discussion presented in this report, in the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History & Archaeology Society* is suggested as an adequate level of publication. This would comprise a brief introduction detailing the circumstances of the project and aims and objectives; a results section detailing the structural remains recorded, with finds information integrated into the text as appropriate; and a brief discussion of the results, with reference to the original aims and objectives.

8 ARCHIVE

- 8.1.1 The excavated material and archive, including plans, photographs and written records, are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 62502 and site code HOO 06. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with the landowners, Peter and Mandy Cooper, the excavated material to be used in a display at Hooke Court.

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Table 1: Finds totals by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Material	Tr 1	Tr 2	Tr 3	Tr 4	Tr 5	Tr 6	Tr 7	Tr 8	Tr 9	Tr 10	TOTAL
Pottery	8/125	1/32	3/15	157/6392	559/18,666	17/168	105/4079	151/2579	8/70	70/1966	1079/34,092
<i>Medieval</i>	1/4	1/32	3/15	1/13	15/110	13/93	-	4/68	4/41	1/3	43/379
<i>Post-Medieval</i>	7/121	-	-	156/6379	544/18,556	4/75	104/4079	147/2511	4/29	69/1963	1036/33,713
Ceramic Building Material	-	-	-	68/4156	192/10,949	-	14/1017	15/505	3/21	9/2055	301/18,703
Wall Plaster	-	-	-	-	2/182	-	13/540	-	-	1/39	16/761
Clay Pipe	-	-	-	3/21	21/88	-	9/57	7/21	-	2/13	42/200
Stone	-	1/1727	-	20/15,980	14/2428	1/184	7/16251	2/27	1/8	-	46/36,605
Flint	-	-	-	-	4/53	-	-	-	2/6	-	6/59
Glass	1/6	-	-	7/21	11/198	1/1	8/85	2/1	-	-	30/312
Metalwork (no. objects)	8	1	-	20	74	5	22	9	1	9	149
<i>Coins</i>	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	5
<i>Copper alloy</i>	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	1	-	7
<i>Iron</i>	7	-	-	17	56	5	11	5	-	7	108
<i>Lead</i>	1	-	-	3	11	-	9	3	-	2	29
Animal Bone	2/1	-	-	109/1552	325/5467	17/146	71/788	64/530	11/51	31/1143	630/9678
Shell	-	-	-	13/135	16/218	4/187	19/732	-	-	31/674	83/1946

Table 2: Chronological breakdown of pottery assemblage by ware type

Date Range	Ware type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
MEDIEVAL	Misc. coarsewares	28	258
	Misc. sandy wares	14	116
	late med Donyatt ware	1	5
	<i>sub-total medieval</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>379</i>
POST MEDIEVAL	Redware	946	32,315
	Slipware	44	806
	Verwood type	1	7
	Import	6	22
	Import 2	1	51
	Staffs-type slipware	6	67
	Tinglaze	3	25
	German stoneware	11	192
	Westerwald stoneware	4	21
	English stoneware	5	146
	White saltglaze	2	10
	Creamware	3	13
	Modern refined wares	4	38
	<i>sub-total post-medieval</i>	<i>1036</i>	<i>33,713</i>
	OVERALL TOTAL	1079	34,092

Table 3: Condition and preservation of animal bone per phase (NISP)

Phase	Medieval	Late medieval	Post-medieval	?
N	5	7	568	9
Condition	Fair	Good	Good	Fair
Gnawing	-	1	72	2
Burnt	-	-	-	-
Loose teeth	-	-	7	1

Table 4: Animal bone species list and percentages per phase (NISP)

Species	Medieval		Late Medieval		Post-Medieval		?	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Horse					1	0		
Cattle	2	40	2	29	222	39	6	67
Sheep/Goat	1	20	1	13	144	26		
Pig			2	29	45	8	1	11
Dog			2	29	2	0		
Small mammal					1	0		
Bird					53	9	2	22
Fish					1	0		
Other					8	1		
Unidentified	2	40			86	15		
Total	5	100	7	100	563	98	9	100

Table 5: Number of bones with the potential to inform on population characteristics and butchery

Phase	Medieval	Late medieval	Post-medieval	?
NISP	5	7	563	9
Age	-	2	125	3
Measure	-	3	83	3
Butchery	-	-	45	-
Pathology	-	-	4	-

Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

Trench 1

Trench 1			Type:	Hand Excavated	
Dimensions: 3m x 1.30m		Max. depth: 0.57m	Ground level: 151.96m aOD		
Context	Description			depth (bgl)	
101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very dark brown silty loam, with rare small stone inclusions. Deliberate dump of topsoil brought in from elsewhere to make vegetable patch.			0-0.24m
102	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey white sandy silt with common green sand stone fragments, demolition or levelling layer, mortar rich, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling.			0.24-0.44m
103	<i>Structure</i>	Large squared sandstone block, aligned N-S, possible foundation block for N-S aligned wall now robbed, possibly associated with foundation 104, one of earliest structures in trench but date and function unknown.			-
104	<i>Structure</i>	Large squared sandstone block, probably part of wall foundation and associated with 103. Date unclear. Part of where north wing (now demolished) joined extant west wing.			-
105	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned nicely worked squared sandstone block wall, sits upon 103 and butts 104. Possibly part of north range.			-
106	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of modern concrete which overlies worked sandstone slab 103, associated with red brick wall fragment 107.			-
107	<i>Structure</i>	Single course of machine made red bricks in stretcher bond, with light yellow sandy mortar, sit directly upon concrete 106.			0.07m high.
108	<i>Structure</i>	Squared sand stone block, aligned NW-SE, and possibly associated with 104, and sealed by concrete 106.			-
109	<i>Layer</i>	Burnt rubble deposit of broken and burnt stone fragments and charcoal, overlies 103 and butts 104 and 105. Building burnt down in 1965 during demolition and possibly associated with that.			0.010m thick
110	<i>Layer</i>	Unexcavated rubble deposit between 105 and 104, adjacent to foundation of upstanding buildings of west wing, unclear if post or predates 104 and 105.			-
111	<i>Layer</i>	Unexcavated rubble deposit adjacent to 103. Date unclear.			-
112	<i>Layer</i>	Unexcavated rubble deposit adjacent to 103. Date unclear.			-

Trench 2

Trench 2			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions: 1.80m x 1m		Max. depth: 1.02m	Ground level: 152.05m aOD		
Context	Description			depth (bgl)	
201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of area of grass.			0-0.20m
202	<i>Layer</i>	Mixed dark grey and light yellow silty sand, rubble rich deposit, abundant whole and half bricks, associated with demolition of 1965. Fill of 209 .			0.20-0.70m
203	<i>Layer</i>	Light yellow, white silty sand, mortar rich demolition deposit, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling.			0.20-0.45m
204	Cut	Modern cable trench. Stratigraphically later than 207 and 208.			-
205	<i>Fill</i>	Mixed fill of 204 .			-
206	<i>Structure</i>	Possible oolitic limestone squared block foundation course of wall, bonded with light yellow sandy mortar, which butts possible stairwell stonework 207.			0.36m high
207	<i>Structure</i>	Light yellow possible oolitic limestone squared stone block, part of demolished spiral staircase.			-
208	<i>Natural</i>	Natural sandy clay.			-
209	Cut	Cut of robber/demolition trench.			0.55m deep.

Trench 3

Trench 3			Type:	Hand excavated
Dimensions: 1.2m x 1m		Max. depth: 0.37m	Ground level: 152.04m aOD	
Context	Description		depth (bgl)	
301	<i>Topsoil.</i>	Mid grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of area of grass.	0-0.30m	
302	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey white sandy silt with common green sand stone fragments, demolition or levelling layer, mortar rich, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling.	0.30-0.37m	
303	<i>Structure</i>	Large concrete block, showed signs that attempts were made to move it using a mechanical excavator, which scored teeth marks in it. Modern foundation block, with cut 305 .	-	
304	<i>Layer</i>	Earliest deposit in Trench 3. Light grey white sandy silt with common green sand stone fragments, demolition or levelling layer, mortar rich, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling, cut through by 305 .	-	
305	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for 303.	-	

Trench 4

Trench 4			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 6.47x3.71m		Max. depth: c.0.50m	Ground level: 152.11m aOD	
Context	Description		depth (bgl)	
401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very loose mid grey brown sandy silt, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.09	
402	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey silty clay, rubble deposit, lots of mortar, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling.	0.09-0.45m	
403	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for N-S aligned wall 404.	-	
404	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall foundation, roughly cut sandstone and oolitic limestone blocks, no visible mortar, appears to be dry-stone wall, one course identified. Clear outer stones with rubble core. 404 is possibly the base of a cob wall or timber superstructure. Roughly built.	0.06m high	
405	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for E-W aligned wall 406.	-	
406	<i>Structure</i>	Roughly E-W aligned Roughly hewn sandstone block wall (same construction as 404). Foundation for cob or timber superstructure.	0.10m high	
407	<i>Surface</i>	Metalled cobbled surface of flint, chert, limestone and sandstone. Appears to be external courtyard surface of some kind, butts wall 404 on western side.	-	
408	<i>Surface</i>	Metalled cobble surface on the eastern side of wall 404, very similar to 407, however increased patches of mortar suggest an internal surface.	-	
409	<i>Layer</i>	Deposit of medium sub angular stones, uneven and roughly deposited. Possibly the base of a buttress type feature, or the rubble backfill of a pit.	-	
410	<i>Layer.</i>	Patch of dark grey brown silty loam, which overlies surface 408. Possible evidence of burning during demolition of buildings.	-	
411	<i>Layer</i>	Deposit which overlies 408 appears to be later deposit of redeposited natural mottled green sand.	-	
412	<i>Surface</i>	Equal to 408.	-	
413	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of mid brown silty loam with abundant small sandstone fragments, located at the S end of the N-S wall 404. Possible position of an entrance way of some kind.	-	
414	<i>Cut</i>	Possible cut associated with deposit 413, but unclear.	-	
415	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 416, loose dark brown silty loam, suggesting a natural deposition or deliberate backfill of very loose material, inferring a bedding deposit for a garden feature. Unexcavated.	-	
416	<i>Cut</i>	Linear cut of possible garden feature. Unexcavated.	-	
417	<i>Layer</i>	Equal to 415.	-	
418	<i>Cut</i>	Equal to 416.	-	
419	<i>Structure</i>	Equal to 406.	-	
420	<i>Cut</i>	Equal to 420.	-	

421	<i>Layer</i>	Very mixed possible demolition deposit of loose green silty sand. Possible levelling below 407.	-
422	<i>Layer</i>	Equal to 421.	-

Trench 5

Trench 5		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 15.97x8.59m		Max. depth: c.1.50m	Ground level: c.152m a OD
Context	Description	depth (bgl)	
501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very loose mid grey brown sandy silt, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.24m
502	<i>Layer</i>	Very loose rubble deposit below the topsoil and turf, appears to be a levelling layer, at the front of the current house, contains 17 th century dated finds, common stone fragments.	0.24-0.40
503	<i>Natural</i>	Natural greensand.	
504	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of E-W aligned ditch, cut directly into natural sand, linear in shape with a straight and steep southern edge, filled with 523 and 524. Has been recut by ditch 522. Initially thought to be box hedge cut associated with formal gardens but may predate the earliest phases of building of the Manor House.	0.60m deep.
505	<i>Fill</i>	Large homogenous fill of very dark brown silty clay, fill of ditch 522.	0.60m deep
506	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of light grey silty clay which overlies 505, fill of 522.	0.06m thick
507	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of E-W aligned foundation trench for wall 508. Filled with foundation deposit 509, and wall 508.	0.30m deep.
508	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned wall constructed from worked squared sandstone, possibly Ham stone, only the north facing elevation of facing stones survives; the southern elevation has been robbed of facing stones. The western edge has been cut through by 512. Associated with 517 and 520. Possible earliest phase of building.	0.10m high
509	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 507, levelling layer at the base of 507, on to which wall 508 has been constructed. Light grey silty sand, with common small sandstone fragments.	-
510	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 516, foundation cut of wall 517. levelling layer onto which wall 517 constructed. Light grey silty sand, with common small sandstone fragments.	-
511	<i>Structure</i>	Rubble core of wall 508, located in between facing stones.	-
512	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of sub rectangular pit which cuts through wall 508. initial thought to be deliberate hole for tree planting, but appears unlikely, feature of unknown function, but post dates the demolition of wall 508.	0.67m deep
513	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of 512, mid to light mixed silty clay loam deposit, overlies 518.	0.56m thick
514	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of feature 515, which is cut through by construction trench 507 for wall 508. Unexcavated. Mixed light grey and mid brown silty clay.	-
515	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of feature of unknown date or function which is cut through by 507, construction cut for wall 508.	1.10m deep.
516	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 517.	-
517	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall constructed from worked squared sandstone, possibly Ham stone for the facing stones and a rubble core, 3 courses of irregular courses of roughly squared blocks. Light yellow sandy mortar. Possible earliest phase of building.	-
518	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of pit 512, rubble rich mid grey brown silty clay, unclear of nature of deposition. Seals 529.	-
519	<i>Layer</i>	Deposit identified directly below the topsoil. Light grey silty clay, rubble deposit, lots of mortar, result of the cleaning of stone work and bricks for re-use and discarded mortar being used as levelling. Identical to 402 in Trench 2.	-
520	<i>Structure</i>	Large stone foundation at the southern end of wall 517. Constructed from large squared sandstone possibly ham stone blocks, largest measuring 1.16m x 0.66m x 0.26m. 2 courses identified bonded with sandy mortar. Possible base for corner tower of worked stone outer facing stones with rubble core. Majority of structure has been truncated by modern sand pit. Possible earliest phase of building.	-

521	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned wall. Constructed from chalk 'clunch' blocks on the internal side with worked and roughly shaped oolitic limestone blocks on the external side. The core of the wall is constructed from flint, sandstone and chalk rubble. The 'clunch' is light weight and cheaper to quarry. On the inner face the chalk has been covered by thin slabs of limestone to give the impression that the wall is completely built from worked limestone blocks. Associated with walls 534, 703, 812 and 714 as constructed using the same materials and in the same technique.	-
522	<i>Cut</i>	Recut of ditch 504. linear in shape with near vertical southern edge, with a flat base, unclear as to what the function of this feature is.	0.55m deep.
523	<i>Fill</i>	Earliest fill of ditch 504. Mottled mid grey and light yellow with slight reddish tinge, silty sand. Secondary deposit within 504 which has been cut through by 522.	0.30m thick.
524	<i>Fill</i>	Second fill of ditch 504. dark reddish brown slightly silty sand, deposit of heat affected natural sand, upper fill of 504, deposit over spills the feature edges and partially seals the natural sand. Deliberate fill, material brought in from elsewhere.	0.19m thick
525	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall foundation constructed of roughly shaped sandstone and chalk blocks bonded with light yellow sandy mortar. Wall has cobbled surfaces on each side, 530 to the east and 531 to the west and butts wall 520 and is cut through by the construction cut for wall 521. Date of wall unclear.	-
526	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned wall/foundation constructed of roughly worked sandstone and chalk blocks bonded with a light yellow sandy mortar. Butts 546 and is a continuation of wall 406 in Trench 4. sealed by demolition deposit filled with domestic house hold wares, perhaps suggestive of kitchen area of complex of buildings.	-
527	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of dark grey green redeposited or reworked natural sand, produced 12 th century pottery and is cut through by 553 construction cut for wall 520, possibly from the earliest phase of building.	c.0.20m thick
528	<i>VOID</i>	VOID	VOID
529	<i>Fill</i>	Lowest fill of 512, and sealed by 518. mid grey brown silty clay deposit.	0.44m + thick
530	<i>Surface</i>	Cobbled surface of abundant flint and sandstone blocks, within a mid grey brown silty clay. Butts wall 521 on the eastern side.	-
531	<i>Surface</i>	Cobbled surface of abundant flint and sandstone blocks, within a mid grey brown silty clay. Butts wall 521 on the western side.	-
532	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of repair to cobble surface 530 and 531 appears to cut through and truncate the southern end of wall 525. Irregular on shape and filled with flat sandstone slabs.	-
533	<i>Surface</i>	Fill of 532, repair to cobbled surface.	-
534	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall constructed from oolitic limestone worked blocks on the outer face with chalk 'clunch' blocks on the inner face. Same construction technique as 703, 714, 812 and 521.	0.23m high
535	<i>Structure</i>	Stub of wall which butts against the eastern side where walls 521 and 534 meet. Majority of wall has been removed by robber cut 538. 535 is therefore possible extension to building formed by 521 and 534. only seen in plan, no elevation, built of sand stone.	
536	<i>Layer</i>	Arbitrary cleaning layer context number assigned for area to west of wall 534, below topsoil, potentially same deposit as 502.	0.10m thick
537	<i>Layer</i>	Arbitrary cleaning layer context number assigned for area to east of wall 534, below topsoil, potentially same deposit as 502.	0.10m thick
538	<i>Cut</i>	Robber cut for the removal of wall 535. N-S aligned robber cut, equal to cut 540.	-
539	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of robber cut 538, mid grey sandy silt with common flecks of sand stone. Material being discarded as could not be reused.	-
540	<i>Cut</i>	Robber cut for E-W aligned wall, same period of robbing as 538.	-
541	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of robber cut 540, mid grey sandy silt with common flecks of sand stone. Material being discarded as could not be reused.	-

542	<i>Layer</i>	Area of mortar rich material, possible bedding layer or levelling deposit for a floor located within the room formed by walls 521 and 534.	-
543	<i>Layer</i>	Area of light grey sandy silt mortar rich deposit. Possible bedding layer or levelling layer, internal floor in room formed by walls robbed out by 538 and 540, however following robbing possibly becomes external.	-
544	<i>Cut</i>	Small linear gully aligned NE-SW between robber cuts 538 and 540. Date and function unknown, not excavated.	-
545	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 544, mid to light grey sandy silt.	-
546	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall, constructed of flint nodules and roughly worked sandstone blocks, associated with walls 404 and 406.	-
547	<i>Layer</i>	Mortar levelling deposit for cobbled surface 530.	-
548	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of shallow oval pit, which has been cut through by construction cut for wall 508, 507.	-
549	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 548, mid orange brown silty clay, slight evidence of burning.	-
550	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 521.	-
551	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 525.	-
552	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 526.	-
553	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 520.	-
554	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 546.	-

Trench 6

Trench 6		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 3.93x5.36m		Max. depth: 1.45m	Ground level: 151.91m aOD
Context	Description	depth (bgl)	
601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.12m
602	<i>Subsoil</i>	Dark brown loose silty loam.	0.12-0.30m
603	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey mortar rich silt deposit. Rubble layer, result of cleaning of stonework for recycling.	0.30-0.55m
604	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of E-W aligned ditch, possibly equal to 504 in Trench 5. Possible early medieval ditch, landscape division?	0.90m deep.
605	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of ditch 604. mid grey brown silty clay, homogenous fill, secondary deposit.	0.32m thick.
606	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 604, possible deliberate backfill deposit of mid grey loose silty clay.	0.47m thick
607	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall foundation 608, cuts 615, upper fill of large pit 618, filled with wall 608 and backfill deposit 609.	0.50m deep
608	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks with sandy mortar.	0.40m high
609	<i>Fill</i>	Deliberate backfill deposit around wall 608 in cut 607. Rubble deposit in dark brown loose silty clay. Material may be derived from the upper fill deposit 615, through which 607 is cut.	0.30m thick
610	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 604, slump of redeposited natural sand.	0.04m thick
611	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 604, earliest deposit at base of ditch, reddish brown humic silt sand. Very organic layer, suggestive of decayed vegetable matter.	0.15m thick.
612	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 613.	0.55m deep.
613	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned wall, possible buttress to wall 608, constructed of roughly hewn sandstone blocks in sandy mortar. Later addition to wall 608.	0.55m high
614	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill deposit around wall 613, probable derived from 615.	0.30m
615	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of large feature 618, which is cut by construction cut 607. Dark brown silty clay deposit.	-
616	<i>Fill</i>	Yellowish brown silty clay fill of 618, sealed by 615.	-
617	<i>Surface</i>	Possible mortar floor surface located to the west of wall 608. Yellow mortar, only partially revealed.	-
618	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of large sub rectangular feature c.3.2m x 1.80m+ which is cut by 604 and 607. nature of feature unknown, but possibly earliest feature on site. Unexcavated.	-

Trench 7

Trench 7			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 8.69x6.41m		Max. depth: c.0.40m	Ground level: 152.04m aOD	
Context	Description		depth (bgl)	
701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.20m	
702	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey mortar rich silt deposit. Rubble layer, result of cleaning of stonework for recycling.	0.20-0.40m	
703	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall. Constructed from chalk 'clunch' blocks on the internal side with worked and roughly shaped oolitic limestone blocks on the external side. The core of the wall is constructed from flint, sandstone and chalk rubble. The 'clunch' is light weight and cheaper to quarry. Associated with walls 534, 812 and 714 as constructed using the same materials and in the same technique.	-	
704	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for wall 703.	-	
705	<i>Surface</i>	Rammed chalk deposit, possible floor surface of E-W aligned corridor separated from floor area 711 by beam-slot 706. no dateable finds associated with this context.	-	
706	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of probable beam-slot which separated corridor floor 705 from room floor 711.	-	
707	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 706. Dark greenish brown silty sand., fill of beam-slot.	-	
708	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for the insertion of a limestone plinth 709.	-	
709	<i>Structure</i>	Stone plinth for taking upright to support roof of building. Associated with beam-slot 706.	-	
710	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition layer of mid greyish brown silty sand and clay removed to reveal corridor surface 705.	-	
711	<i>Layer</i>	Remains of occupation layers, mixed reddish grey and light yellow silty sand, with abundant sandstone inclusions confined by beam slot 706.	-	
712	<i>Surface</i>	Mid greyish brown silty sand with abundant gravels, possible external courtyard surface associated with wall 703.	-	
713	<i>Layer</i>	Light yellow sandy layer directly through which 706 is cut, levelling deposit.	-	
714	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned wall. Constructed from chalk 'clunch' blocks on the internal side with worked and roughly shaped oolitic limestone blocks on the external side. The core of the wall is constructed from flint, sandstone and chalk rubble. The 'clunch' is light weight and cheaper to quarry. Associated with walls 534, 812 and 703 as constructed using the same materials and in the same technique. Only partially exposed.	-	
715	<i>Layer</i>	Possible levelling layer below 711 and 705.	-	
716	<i>Natural</i>	Natural green sand.	-	
717	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of demolition located at southern end of wall 703.	-	
718	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of probable square feature. Unexcavated.	-	
719	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 718. Dark greenish brown silty sand. Unexcavated.	-	
721	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of possible post hole which cuts 715. Unexcavated.	-	
722	<i>Fill</i>	Fill f 721. mid greyish brown. Unexcavated.	-	

Trench 8

Trench 8			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 5.20m x 3.60m		Max. depth: 0.45.m	Ground level: c.152m aOD	
Context	Description		depth (bgl)	
801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.25m	
802	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey mortar rich silt deposit. Rubble layer, result of cleaning of stonework for recycling. Equal to 803. Concentrated to northern half of trench, exterior of building.	0.25-0.45m	
803	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey mortar rich silt deposit. Rubble layer, result of cleaning of stonework for recycling. Equal to 802 concentrated to southern half of trench, interior of building.	0.25-0.45m	

804	<i>Layer</i>	Mid to dark grey silty clay layer revealed in sondage through cobble surface 805/806. Possible buried ground surface.	0.10m thick
805	<i>Surface</i>	External cobbled surface of mid brown silty clay with abundant rounded flint and sandstone blocks.	0.10m thick
806	<i>Surface</i>	External cobbled surface of mid brown silty clay with abundant rounded flint and sandstone blocks.	-
807	<i>Surface</i>	External cobbled surface of mid brown silty clay with abundant rounded flint and sandstone blocks. Possible related and equal to 805/806 but separated by drain or kerb stones 808.	-
808	<i>Structure</i>	Possible drain or series of kerbs tones aligned E-W.	-
809	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay layer removed to reveal 808.	-
810	<i>Structure</i>	Two large sand stone slabs possible floor surface of entrance in to building, formed by walls 812 and 813	-
811	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned sandstone structure, possible door sill for entrance on to slabs 810.	-
812	<i>Structure</i>	E-W aligned wall. Constructed from chalk 'clunch' blocks on the internal side with worked and roughly shaped oolitic limestone blocks on the external side. The core of the wall is constructed from flint, sandstone and chalk rubble. The 'clunch' is light weight and cheaper to quarry. Associated with walls 534, 703 and 714 as constructed using the same materials and in the same technique.	-
813	<i>Structure</i>	N-S aligned highly disturbed chalk block wall, construction possibly similar to 812, but unclear.	-
814	<i>Layer</i>	Possible bedding layer for internal floor surface, mixed deposit of mid grey brown silty clay and sandstone fragments.	-
815	<i>Layer</i>	Possible layer below wall 813, revealed in area of disturbance.	-
816	<i>Cut</i>	Cut for possible door sill 811.	-

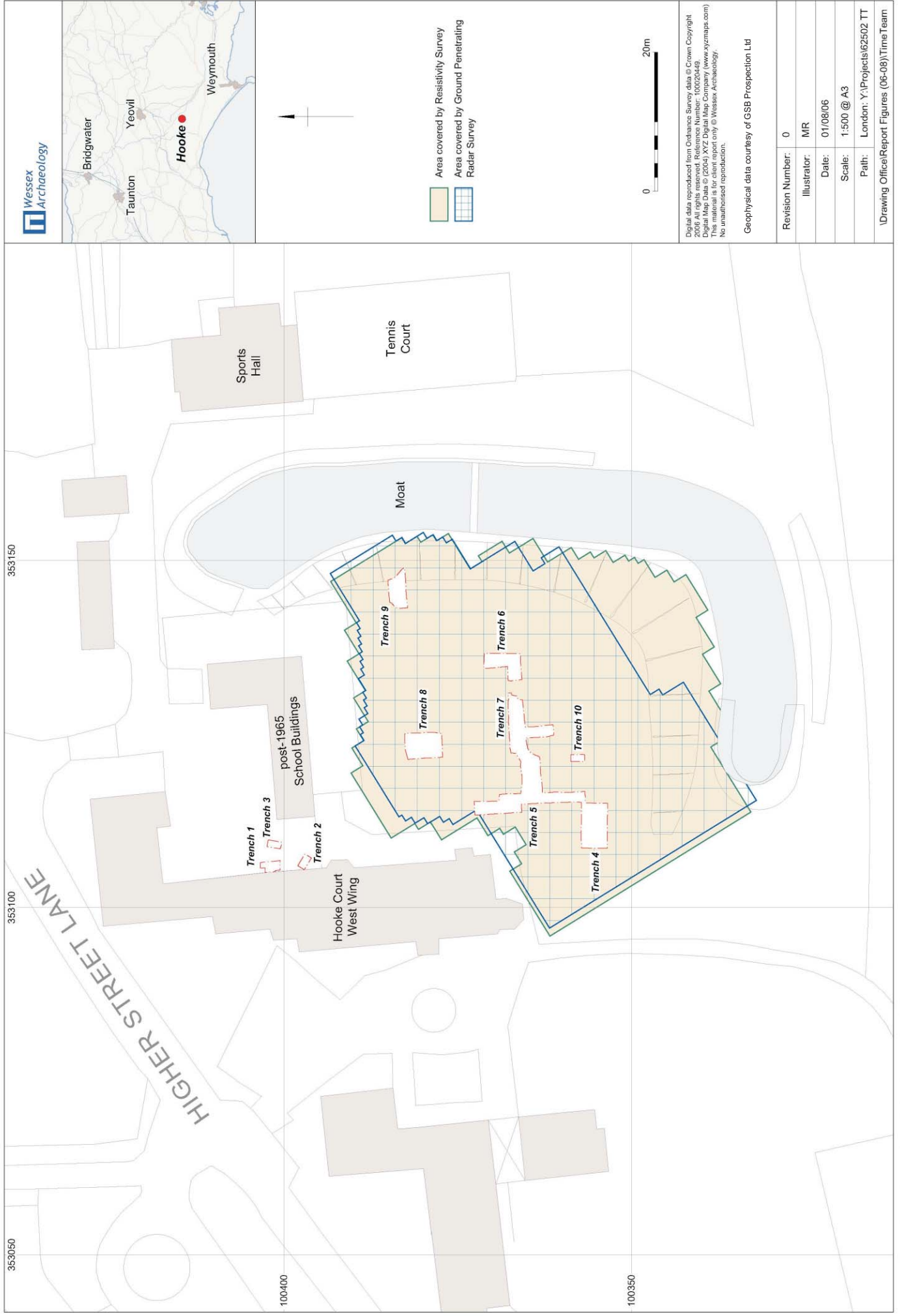
Trench 9

Trench 9		Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 22.13m x 1.50		Max. depth: 0.70m	Ground level: 153.08m aOD
context	Description		depth (bgl)
901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.19m
902	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid grey brown sandy clay layer.	-
903	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid grey brown sandy clay layer, equal to 902 but over structure 904.	-
904	<i>Structure</i>	Northern half of a curving structure built from roughly hewn shaped sandstone blocks, bonded with light to mid yellow sandy mortar. Dovecote wall.	0.30m high.
905	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for 904. Cuts natural	-
906	<i>Natural</i>	Natural green sand.	
907	<i>Cut</i>	Robber cut for removal of dovecote stone work, likely to have occurred during landscaping of the area closest to the moat.	-
908	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 907, light grey silty sandy loam, with abundant sandstone fragments.	-

Trench 10

Trench 10		Type:	Hand excavated
Dimensions: 2m x 1m		Max. depth: 0.70m	Ground level: 152.04m aOD
Context	Description		depth (bgl)
1001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay, current topsoil and turf of lawned garden.	0-0.10m
1002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Loose dark brown silty clay, with small fragments of limestone.	0.10-0.30m
1003	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of robber cut (1007), loose highly rubble rich fill, result of cleaning and discarding robbed and un-recyclable material.	0.30-0.40m
1004	<i>Layer</i>	Charcoal rich layer directly below (1002), and seals flagged floor (1005). Dark grey black silty clay.	0.05m thick.

1005	<i>Surface</i>	Burnt limestone flagged floor, sealed by (1004). Formed from large limestone flags similar to those identified in Trench 8.	-
1006	<i>Layer</i>	Mortar bedding layer for floor (1005), light yellow grey limestone mortar, heat affected. Overlies possible cobbled layer (1011).	-
1007	<i>Cut</i>	Robber cut for the partial removal of wall (1010).	-
1008	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of (1007), dark grey brown black silty clay with fragments of mortar and small limestone fragments.	-
1009	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of robber trench which removed possible wall joining (1010) to (1013).	-
1010	<i>Wall</i>	Roughly east-west aligned wall which potentially relates to wall (404) in Trench 4, only partially exposed.	-
1011	<i>Surface</i>	Possible cobbled surface equal to (407) in Trench 4 which was subsequently built over by floor surface (1005).	-
1012	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of robber cut (1009) dark grey brown silty clay.	-
1013	<i>Structure</i>	Large foundation stone, only partially revealed and sealed beneath layer (1011), potentially associated with (1010).	
1014	<i>Layer</i>	Dirty natural layer which overlay natural at the base of robber cut (1007), and overlay natural basal geology. Mid orange brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	0.08m thick
1015	<i>Natural</i>	Natural green sand.	



Site Location and Trench Locations, & showing geophysical survey area

Figure 1



Plate 1: Photo of Hooke Court c. 1880 from the south

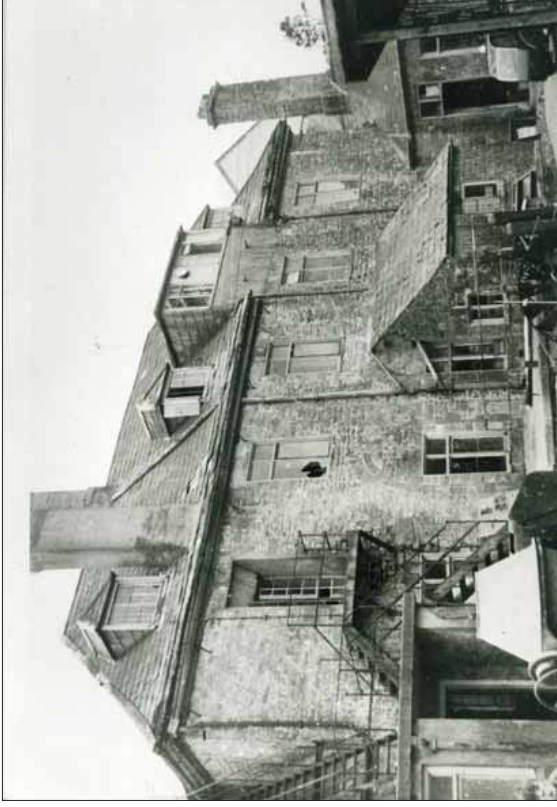


Plate 2: Photo of north facing elevation of the northern range prior to demolition showing blocked archways

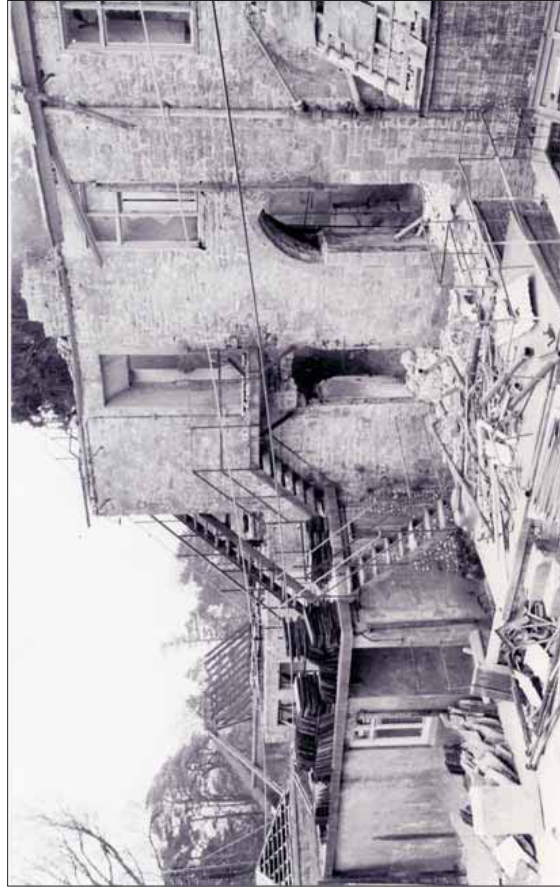


Plate 3: Photo of the north facing elevation of the northern range during demolition showing unblocked archways, 1965.

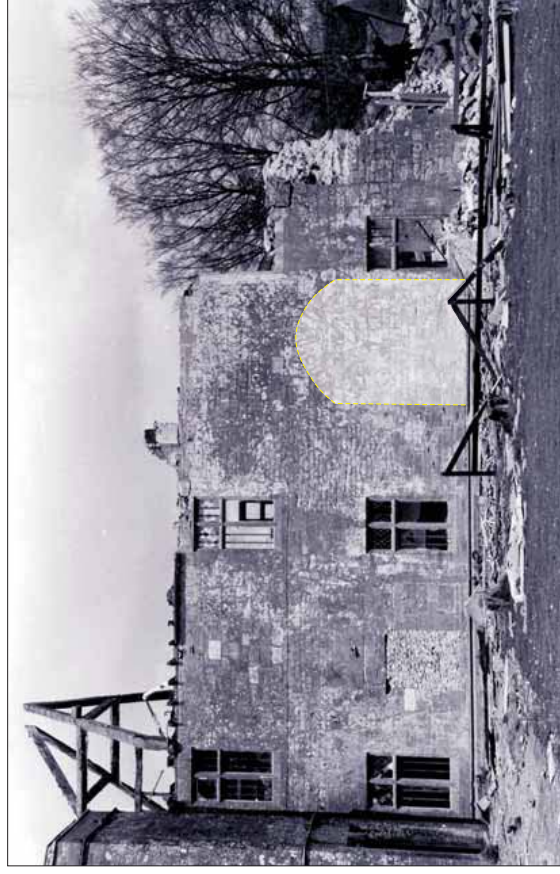


Plate 4: Photo of south facing elevation of the northern range showing the blocked archway, 1965.

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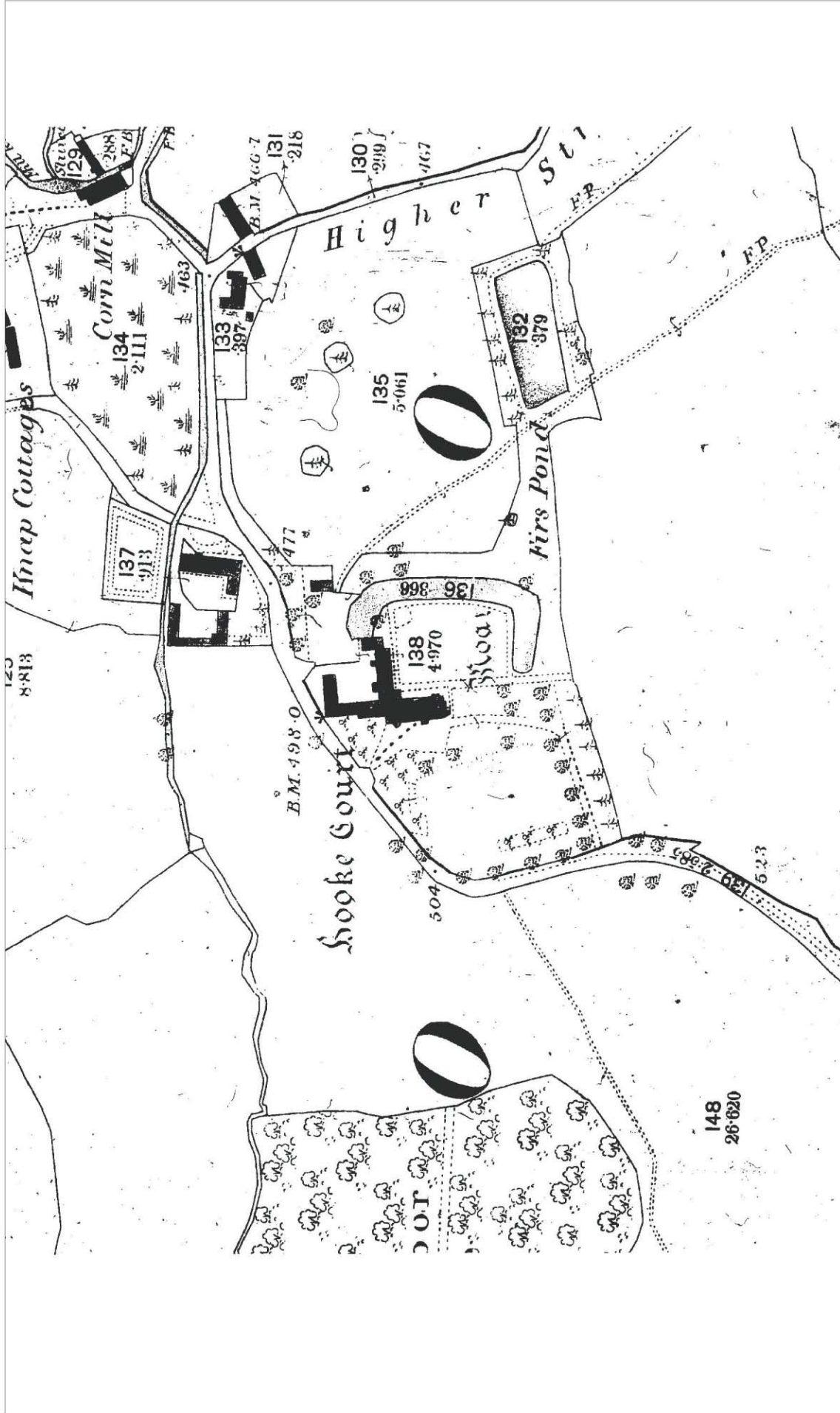
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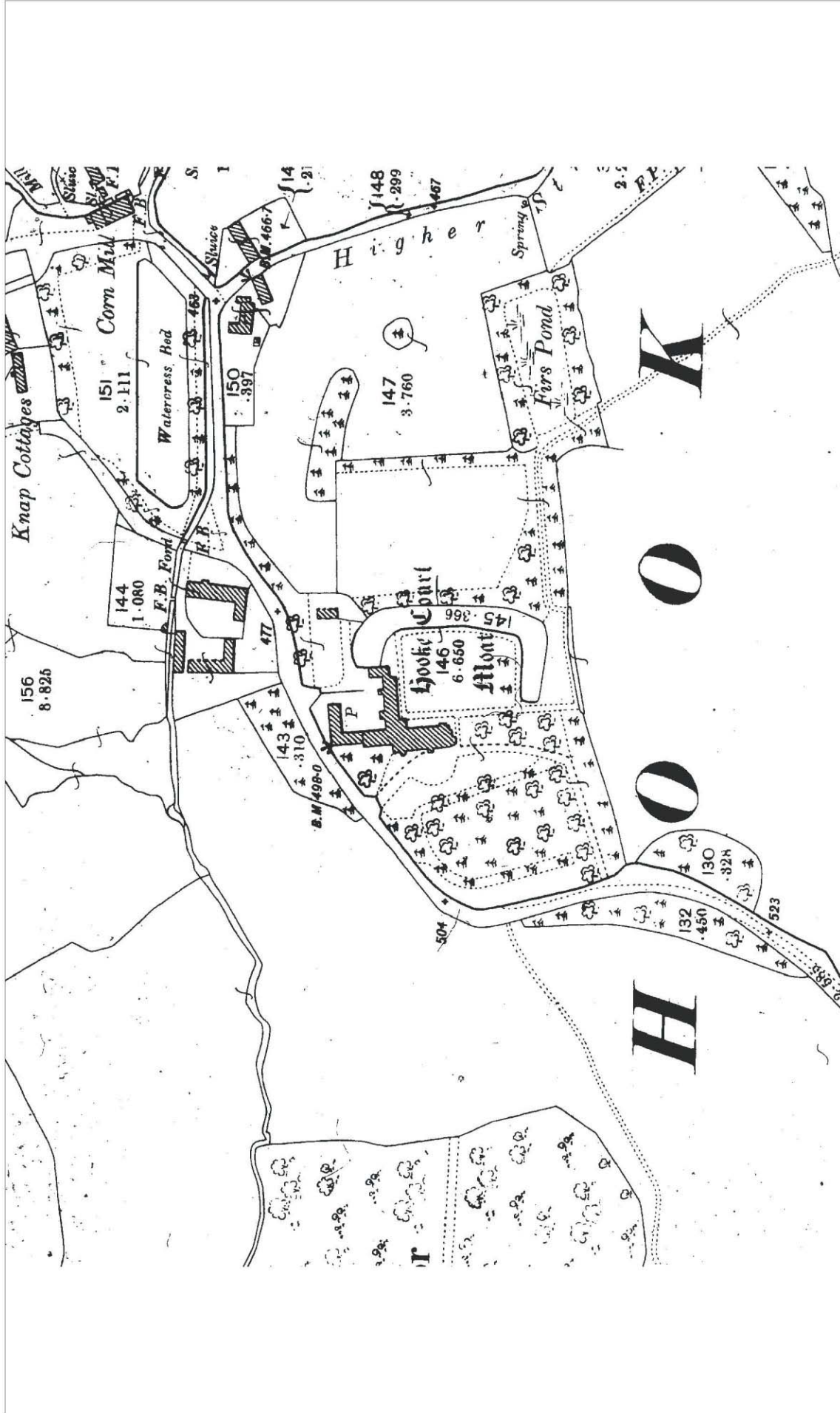
Hooke Tithe Map, 1840. (Ref:T/HOO) Courtesy of Dorset History Centre

Figure 3



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1888-1889 Ordnance Survey Map of Hooke 1:2,500 Figure 4



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1902-1903 Ordnance Survey Map of Hooke 1:2,500

Figure 5





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Interpretations of Geophysical Survey Results: A. Resistivity Survey and B. Ground Penetrating Radar

Figure 6



Plate 5: Trench 1 from the south (0.5 & 1m scales)



Plate 6: Trench 3 from the south (0.5 & 1m scales)



Plate 7: Trench 2 from the north (1m scale)

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Plate 8: Trench 4 area from the south (Scales = 2m & 2m)



Plate 9: Trench 5 area from the south (Scales = 1m & 2m)



Plate 10: Trench 8 from the south (Scales = 2m & 2m)



Plate 11: Trench 9 from the east (Scales = 1m & 2m)



Plate 12: Trench 10 from the south (Scales = 0.5m & 1m)

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Plate 13: General shot of Moat Lawn from the west

Figure 10



WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.

Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

London Office: Unit 113, The Chandlery, 50 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7QY.

Tel: 020 7953 7494 Fax: 020 7953 7499 london-info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



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