

POINT
SIZE

4 220 100 104 220
6 240 100 104 240
8 260 100 104 260

10 280 100 104 280
12 300 100 104 300

14 320 100 104 320
16 340 100 104 340

NEWSGOTHIC

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4ef8k GmnoC

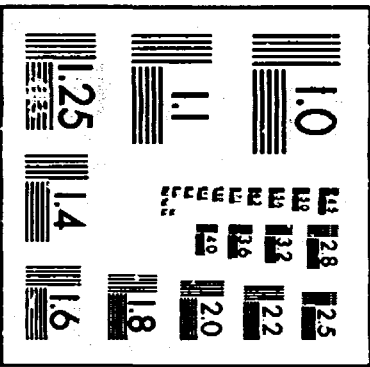
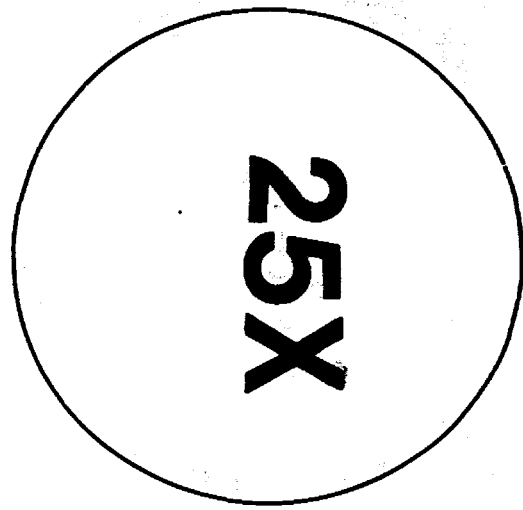
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7n34a 6Y3sl

10 Y0r8j A7o7q
Oelvi 2xbiy

8 9s59d Llcdg
33q7n E119g

6 235g Hq47j Sui1k Y5s5o
4 0line head 1107 0000

POINT
SIZE



Jr110 Arabid Oel7P Galar B101P 4 C3780 HZAVS 07WU ZLKD 12GM
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 KP7Yc Rho9t Umkh9 Ecafd 10 VILNU MZHSF XMBBO HWEKH
 C6jfm Zm79a 3s43l iskrY 126FRKM EB7AU FUDWM BOONF
 Oz7h9 B5e1P Wo8nk 8tizx14 C9E83 BI8AJ Z7QYI OKJDQ
 POINT
 SERIF (BASKERVILLE) SIZE SANS SERIF (MICROFONT)

SHOULD MEASURE .25" AT REDUCTION

0 12x 16x 20x 24x 28x 30x

LATE SAXON EVIDENCE AND EXCAVATION OF HINXEY HALL, QUEEN STREET, OXFORD

by CLAIRE HALPIN

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

The archaeological sites are discussed in date order of investigation.

18 Queen Street, 1968.

During the latter part of 1968 work commenced on the rebuilding of Halford's Ltd. Queen Street premises. The presence of pits along the frontage was noted by T.G. Hassall, but the site was too dangerous to excavate these features. They had the appearance of Late Saxon cellar pits. By 1974 the newly erected shop was sold to the Oxford and Swindon Co-operative Society Ltd. In 1976 it was demolished and the area was incorporated in the large scale development of 13-18 Queen Street and 35 Pembroke Street by Marks and Spencers Ltd.

Co-op Trial Trench, 1972.

New Inn Court, 1972.

13-18 Queen Street, 1976.

In 1971 the Oxford and Swindon Co-operative Society Ltd. planned to redevelop its Queen Street premises. As part of this scheme it acquired 35-37 Pembroke Street. Trial trenching and rescue excavations (New Inn Court, detailed below) were undertaken in 1972 on an area available prior to the demolition of the Queen Street store and Pembroke Street premises. In 1975-6 an exchange of premises was completed between the Co-operative Society (Queen Street) and Marks and Spencers Ltd. (Cornmarket Street). Marks and Spencers therefore actually undertook the ambitious development of 13-18 Queen Street and 35 Pembroke Street. Nos. 36 and 37 Pembroke Street, being listed buildings, were retained. Demolition work began in 1976 when a watching brief was conducted by Robert Bell.

Excavation Details

New Inn Court (Figs. 2, 4-11; Plates I, II)

A series of small trial trenches were excavated by hand in late January, 1972, and extended mechanically in April of the same year (Fig. 2). Approximately 2m. of post-medieval overburden was encountered, but none of these trenches produced significant archaeological material. With hindsight, it appears that these investigatory trenches were too narrow to penetrate obstruction from post-medieval walls and services, and a deep overburden. Only when Trench VII was examined by hand was medieval material found. It was then extended to encompass the largest area possible within the confines of the surrounding buildings, (6m. x 11m.). (To avoid confusion with feature numbers used during the recording of the trial trenches, the numbering of features and layers recorded in Trench VII began at 10).

Trench VII

The post-medieval overburden was up to 2m. deep. It consisted of a brown loam (L10) with stoneware pottery and clay pipes occurring throughout. The first stratified layer encountered was Layer 11 which appeared to have resulted from building destruction as it contained much mortar, stone, and ceramic roof tiles. Fragments of painted wall plaster and window glass were also found. It formed almost a complete layer over the trench, and dates from the 17th century or later.

Beneath this layer, within the western half of the trench, were four late pits, F12, F13, F14 and F22. F12 was a large,

but shallow, rectangular pit, cut from about the level of Layer 11. Its fill partially overlay the upper fill of F14. F12 also cut Layer 37/1, a ?floor layer, as did F22. F14 contained some rubble which may have been robbed from a wall. The latter is relevant as this pit cut a robber trench (F15) of an east/west medieval wall. F13, the last of the post-medieval pits, cut the north/south ?buttress (F23) of the same wall.

A similarity of fills suggested that F30 and F30/1 were associated and together formed a large irregular north/south trench on the eastern side of the site. The deep, almost vertical sides of F30 further suggested that it was part of a robber trench. The western edge of F30/1 was continuous with F30, though the profile of this feature was slightly broader. The fragments of ceramic roof tile and window glass recovered from F30 and F30/1, particularly the tile, tend to indicate that these features should be associated with the robber trenches and destruction layers found elsewhere. If this is a robber trench it is the largest and deepest recorded (Figs.9, 10 Section a), and is also of a slightly later date (being of the late 16th or early 17th century).

F30/1 was cut into the backfill of F16, a 16th-century hollow. The latter is one of several building destruction layers and features found. These destruction layers include L16, L17 (cut by F16) and L19 (slightly later in date). F20 was a shallow east/west gully which cut L17. Two small hollows, F33 and F33/1, likewise post-dating the building, were located to the south of F20. Two additional robber trenches, F15 and F26, with a possible third, F18, complete the evidence for the destruction

of a building. F15 was an east/west robber trench, cut by F14 (a post-medieval pit) at the west end, but intersecting with a wall (F23) and ?robber trench (F18) at its eastern end. F18 was of insufficient length to confirm its designation as a robber trench. Within the final robber trench (F26, orientated north/south) two well-laid stones packed with gravel were located (F26/1). Apart from L19 and F20, which date from the late 16th or possibly the 17th century, the above features date to the 16th century. Together these features contained fragments of window glass, much painted wall plaster and ceramic roof tiles.

Beneath Layer 17 were a series of superimposed clay, ash and loam layers (L24, L24/1, L24/2, L28, L28/1), which overlay a large clay floor (L31). Although these layers contained some fragments of window glass, wall plaster and ceramic roof tiles, they appear to represent final occupation material, as opposed to building demolition layers, since in addition to the ash deposits, Layers 24 and 24/1 contained much bone. In addition such pottery as was recovered from these layers was similar in type and date (fine tablewares of the late 15th and early 16th century) to that found within the underlying floor layers (L31, L31/1, L31/2), and also within the presumed floor (L37/1) located in the south-west corner of the trench.

Beneath Layers 28 and 28/1 an extensive clay floor (L31), dating to the late 15th or early 16th century, was revealed. It had been cut by F16, F20, F33, F33/1 and F30/1. The later features and a modern concrete footing cut the eastern side of the floor but the northern and western edges were largely preserved.

If, as suspected, F30/1 was a robber trench, this floor was originally bounded by a stone wall on its eastern edge. However, though F18 intersected a robber trench (F15) and stone walling (F23) it could not be traced southwards to abut the western edge of the clay floor. On the western and northern sides of this floor there was no evidence of the previous existence of stone walling, and one may envisage a framed wall constructed on a ground beam, the evidence for this lighter construction technique being entirely removed by later disturbance. Beneath the clay floor, L31/1 was of a varied composition, consisting of fine gravel, clay and ash. It appeared to have provided make-up material. The clay floor was actually eroded or cut down into the natural gravel (Fig.10 Section c) and would therefore have removed any evidence of earlier floors, though small fragments of such a layer (L31/2) were found below its northern edge. A post-hole (F43) containing a single 16th-century sherd was also found below L31. The fact that layers 24, 28 and 31 contained late 15th-early 16th-century pottery suggests that this post-hole was actually cut from a higher level than first recorded, or that the 16th-century sherd was intrusive.

A second area of possible flooring (L37/1), dating to the late 15th century, was revealed in the south-east corner of the trench. L37/1 appeared to have been disturbed. It consisted of a dirty yellow, sandy loam with lumps of finely laminated ash and also a white plaster layer. Finds from these layers included window glass and ceramic roof tiles as recorded elsewhere on site. The presence of F15, an east/west robber trench, to the north, and the suggestion that L31, the clay floor, was enclosed on its west side by a partition wall, argue in favour of L37/1 being a floor or occupation layer of an adjoining room: if so it would correspond chronologically to floor layers 24 and 28.

Little medieval walling survived. F23, a north/south wall, was constructed of roughly-faced limestone, bonded with clay. It was butt-ended on the north side and intersected robber trenches F15 and F18 on the south side. It may have functioned as a buttress. The second area of walling, F26/1, was largely robbed away and although seeming to represent a partner to F23 on the eastern side it does not easily accord with the putative timber wall which defined clay floor L31.

Four 13th-century pits were recorded, F25, F34, F35/6 and F39, all located on the north side of the trench and partially lost outside the excavation. F25 cut a small slot of uncertain function (F27). F25 and F34 were noteworthy in that they contained a large quantity of ceramic roof tiles which suggest a building alteration or demolition. That building changes were being made is further indicated by the fact that pit F34 cut through a series of early to mid 13th-century floor layers (L35/1- 5, 7). These variously comprised plaster floors, black ashly layers, yellow clay/gravel floors, and gravel/loam floors, the lowest (L35/7) directly overlying the cultivated upper level of the natural soil (L35/8). A shallow pit or post-hole, F35/9, cut L35/8 from about the level of L35/7.

Two shallow early to mid 12th-century hollows (F32/1 and F32/2) were recorded in the north-west corner of the trench. F32/1 was cut by a post-medieval pit (F14) and also a robber trench (F15). L32 overlay the hollows. The hollows themselves were cut through the clay topsoil, down into the natural gravel. On site it was suggested that the fill of F32/1 might post-date the fill of F32/2. Finds from the former contain much intrusive 16th-century pottery, probably derived from the adjoining robber trench F15.

A post-hole, F49, contained a single sherd of 12th-century date but it cannot be associated with other structures in this horizon.

On the west side of the trench a mid 11th-century pit (F29) was excavated. During the 1972 excavations this feature was only partially revealed owing to the proximity of buildings. Further excavation after demolition demonstrated that it was a large rectangular cess pit possibly cut by a smaller pit (L29/4-6). Soil samples from the main pit have been examined (see Fiche E13).

Between the medieval features a reddish clay topsoil was present, up to 0.45m thick in the least disturbed areas. The upper layers (L38/1-4) of this topsoil were weathered and darkened, and contained a mixed assemblage of Late Saxon and early medieval sherds. There was no evidence of any meaningful stratification in any part of this layer but archaeological features, predominantly post-holes and stake-holes, continued to be found during the various stages of its excavation. A stake-hole (F57/1) and post-hole (F60) were visible in the weathered surface. The larger post-holes, and a single pit (F47) were seen on the removal of this horizon (L33/1-4). However, the lesser post-holes and stake-holes were recorded only after the removal of the red clay, when they were seen cutting into the natural gravel. A small timber slot (F52) mostly cut away by F29 was also recorded.

These early features have been phased on the presence of two distinct fill types (Fig.5). The first consists of a grey brown loam frequently recorded as being ashy.

It includes pit F47, and from its similarity with layers 38/1-4, is likely to be the more recent. The second fill type consists of a red brown loam, frequently recorded as including charcoal flecks. Stratigraphically and spatially the timber slot (F52) intersects these phases. The phasing of these features on fill types is clearly somewhat arbitrary but owing to the weathering/cultivation of the upper horizon it remains the only objective criterion. The resulting division of post-holes and stake-holes produced a random scatter of features with no coherent pattern. The post-hole structure conjectured in the 1973 Interim report¹ is largely discounted with only the northern side remaining as a possible structural fragment.

Three features (F58, F59, and F91) were described as having red clayey fills almost indistinguishable from the natural clay topsoil.

1. B.G. Durham, 'Excavations at Oxford, 1972. New Inn Court', Oxoniensia, xxxviii (1973), 295, 297.

11-12 Queen Street, 1980. Salvage Investigations (Figs. 2,3).

The site was cleared in March, 1980. The new building for Top Shop did not include a basement so the old shop cellars were filled with gravel. In the intervening period it was made possible for the Archaeological Unit to open two small trenches to assess the survival of deposits for future reference. A record of an exposed section on the frontage was also made, (Fig.2).

Trench I, located on the eastern side of the site, originally lay c 4m. back from the frontage, but was extended northwards. It contained loose fill to a depth of 0.3m. However, excavation below this level revealed pits (L2/1- 3), burnt ashy layers (L3, L3/1, L3/2), and a sequence of gravel, cobbles, gravel, clay, charcoal and silt layers (L4, L4/1- 3, L5, L5/1) excavated successively down to the natural soil. From L2/1, L2/2 and L3 a total of five Late Saxon sherds was recovered. Regretably, no pottery was found within the L4 - L5 sequence, but the impression was of floors or yard surfaces fronting Late Saxon Queen Street. This impression was reinforced by the exposure of a long series of gravel surfaces, presumably metalling, at the edge of the street (Trench II), with a single sherd of 10th-century type at a level 0.3m. above the original topsoil (Fig.3). (The finding of the 10th-century sherd caused the relevant gravel surface to be labelled Layer 7, continuing the number sequence of Trench I). Trench III, located on the western side of the site c 4m. back from the frontage, produced only loose fill and was abandoned on the assumption that it related to an earlier generation of post-medieval cellar digging.

FLINT

New Inn Court (not illustrated)

Five pieces of struck flint, two flakes (one broken) and three blades (two broken) were found in contexts dating to the 10th and early 11th century, (L38/2, F54 and F86).

Only one fragment (L38/2, SF123) is clearly retouched. It is the tip of an awl (a point retouched all round) which was made on a blade. The other two blades (F86, SF124 and F86, SF125) exhibit possible serrated edges, but edge damage rules out a definite assessment.

These residual flakes may not be derived from a single industry but the recognised tool types - an awl and serrated blades - suggest a neolithic or bronze age date.

The finding of these flint flakes is used to augment the suggestion that features F58, F59 and F91, are prehistoric.

Worked flint was also found during excavations at Oxford Castle and 31-34 Church Street.¹

1. Andrew Sherratt, 'Worked Flint' in T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle, 1965-1973', Oxoniensia, xli (1976), 267; T.G. Hassall, 31-34 Church Street, forthcoming.

A List of Abbreviations used in the Pottery Catalogue.

cp cooking pot

bs body sherd

kw kitchen ware

ext external

int internal

lt light

dk dark

mot mottled

dec decoration

dbl double

inc including

misc miscellaneous

STRATIFIED POTTERY CATALOGUE by MAUREEN MELI. OR

(Figs. 12, 13)

Phase 2a 10th century

Only three bodysherds were associated with this group of post-holes (Group IA, Fabric B; Group IB, Fabric AC and a burnished Romano-British sherd).

Phase 2b 10th Century

One bodysherd was recovered from the timber slot (F52) (Group IA, Fabric B).

Phase 2c 10th Century

Nine sherds were found in association with this series of post-holes.

This and the earlier phases (2a and 2b) are thought to date to the 10th century.

Group IA B cp with everted rim; base; 1 spout possibly from a spouted cooking pot (Fig. 12, No. 1).

R cp with rolled rim.

Group IB AC bs

Group III AE bs

Phase 3a Late 10th-early 11th Century

A rather larger assemblage of pottery was associated with this phase. The hand-made shelly limestone wares (Group IA, Fabric B) dominated. A smaller percentage of St. Neot's-type ware (Group IA, Fabric R) and Oxford Early Medieval Ware (Group IB, Fabric AC) was also present. The presence of the latter types in association with a predominance of Oxford Late Saxon Ware (Fabric B) is unusual and may be accounted for by disturbance in Phase 3 due to cultivation.

Fabrics Y and AM, Group III, were also intrusive. A continental import, Fabric X and a regional import from Stamford were also recovered. 12 cooking pots and a ?storage jar represented the vessels in this phase.

Group IA	<u>B</u>	3 cps with everted rim; 3 bases; 2 shoulder bs.
	<u>R</u>	3 cps with rolled rim, 1 unusually thick (Fig. 12, No.2); 2 cp with everted rim; 3 bases.
Group IB	<u>AC</u>	cp with simple rim; cp with unusual ext rim flange (Fig. 12, No.3).
	<u>BS</u>	bs
Group II	<u>BF</u>	bs
Group III	<u>X</u>	?storage jar with simple rim (Fig. 12, No.8)(continental import) ¹ .
	<u>?Y</u>	cp. thickened rim; bs, glazed lt green int (probably intrusive).
	<u>AL</u>	cp with rolled rim (Stamford-type A).
	<u>AM</u>	bs, lt green glaze (probably intrusive).
	<u>ZZ</u>	inc Romano-British fine greyware.

Phase 3b Third quarter of the 11th century

The cess pit (F29) yielded a large homogeneous assemblage of pottery.

Oxford Early Medieval Ware (Group IB, Fabric AC) was now dominant, the shelly limestone (Group IA) was virtually absent.

1. See F32 in Phase 4a, and 65 St. Aldates, Trench II.

Sandy ware (Group III, Fabric AE) had also gained in popularity. Regional imports from Stamford dating from c 1020-1080 A.D. were also present.

26 cooking pots, including 3 straight-sided vessels, a possible spouted cooking pot and a Stamford-type pitcher were associated with this phase.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| Group IA | <u>B</u> | pot with simple rim (Fig.12, No.5). |
| | <u>R</u> | 2 cp with rolled rim (Fig.12, No.7). |
| | | 3 cp with flared rim (Fig.12, No.9). |
| Group IB | <u>AC</u> | 8 cp with simple rim, 1 finger tipped; 2 cp with thickened rims (Fig.12, Nos.10 & 11); 3 cps with everted rims; 3 straight-sided cps with clubbed rims; kw; 7 bases. |
| Group II | <u>BF</u> | 2 cps, 1 with simple rim, 1 with thickened rim; 1 kw; 3 bases; 2 bs, with grooved deco; bs with grooved and stabbed deco probably from spouted cooking pot (Fig.12, No.4) ¹ ; bs with stabbed deco. |
| Group III | <u>AE</u> | 5 cp with thickened rim, 2 with finger-tipped deco; 1 cp with everted rim and finger-tipped deco (Fig.12, No.12); base; bs with notched deco. |
| | <u>AT</u> | pitcher, lt green glaze (Stamford-type G) (Fig.12, No.6); bs, grooved deco, lt yellow glaze; bs. lt yellow glaze. |

1. See T.G. Hassall, 31-34 Church Street, forthcoming, F1556, a pit under a road surface.

(con.) Group III ZZ inc rimsherd possibly Romano-British New Forest Ware from L29/10.

Phase 3c First half of the 12th century

This phase was dominated by both Oxford Early Medieval Ware (Group IB, Fabric AC) and Oxford Medieval Ware (Group III, Fabric Y). Some regional and continental imports were also present (Fabrics G and X). F32/1 had a large intrusive component dating to the 16th century probably from F15 which cut F32/1. There is also a possible cross-join between L38/3 and L32.

Group IA	<u>B</u>	bs
	<u>R</u>	2 cps with rolled rim (Fig. 12, No. 15).
Group IB	<u>AC</u>	cp with simple rim, finger-tipped deco; cp with ext flanged rim (Fig. 12, No. 14), similar to No. 3; 4 kw inc 1 with clubbed rim, probably a bowl (Fig. 12, No. 13); base.
	<u>BR</u>	bs
	<u>BS</u>	base
Group II	<u>BF</u>	bs, grooved deco.
Group III	<u>G</u>	bs (?regional import).
	<u>X</u>	?storage jar with simple rim probably the same vessel as in Phase 3a.

(con.)

(con.)

Group III

Y

2 cps, 1 with thickened rim, 1 with simple rim; 4 bases; bs, rectangular rouletted deco (Fig. 12, No. 16)¹; bs, grooved deco, lt green glaze; 2 bs lt green glaze.

AT

bs, lt yellow glaze.

AE

base

AM

(Intrusive) 2 bs, grooved deco; 15 bs, dk green glaze ext; 2 bs, lt yellow glaze; bs, with applied thumbed strip, glazed dk green int and ext.

AZ

(Intrusive) bs, brown glaze int and ext; bs, lt green glaze int and brown glaze ext.

BN

(Intrusive) 18 bs, dk green int and ext; bs, dk green ext; bs, mot green int and ext.

ST

(Intrusive) Raeren: rim of drinking tankard; 2 necks from drinking tankards.

Phase 4a Early-mid 13th century

Only 21 sherds were associated with the early medieval building. They included some residual pottery (Group IA, Fabrics B and R) and a Stamford-type F dating from the late 9th to the

1. Bulwarks Lane, 1980, in B. Durham, C. Halpin & N. Palmer, 'Oxford's Northern Defences', Oxoniensia, forthcoming; Nuffield College in Notes & News, Oxoniensia, xiii (1948), 72, Fig. 16, No. 2; E.M. Jope, 'Late Saxon Pits under Oxford Castle Mound', Oxoniensia, xvii-xviii (1952-53), Pl. VIII, 34.

second half of the 10th century.¹

The contemporary local fabrics Oxford Medieval ware and Oxford Late Medieval Ware (Group III, Fabrics Y and AM) suggested an early-mid 13th century date.

Group IA	<u>B</u>	cp, with simple everted rim (Fig.12, No.17).
	<u>R</u>	bs
Group IB	<u>AC</u>	bs
Group III	<u>Y</u>	bs, grooved deco, lt green glaze.
	<u>AG</u>	bs, red slip, dk green glaze.
	<u>AM</u>	3 bs, glazed lt yellow ext; bs, glazed lt green int.
	<u>AW</u>	bs
	<u>CB</u>	cp, everted and squared (Fig.12, No.18) (Stamford type F).
	<u>ZZ</u>	misc.

Phase 4b Mid 13th century

The alteration of the building yielded a substantial number of sherds. Oxford Medieval Ware and Oxford Late Medieval Ware (Group III, Fabrics Y and AM) were equally popular, the latter included some highly decorated sherds and a date of the mid 13th century seems probable.² The assemblage included 18 cooking pots, 3 pitchers and a double-shelled lamp.

Group IA	<u>R</u>	cp, rolled rim.
Group IB	<u>AC</u>	3 cps with thickened rim; 3 cps with simple rim; cp with rolled rim; 4 bases.

1. All Saints, Phase 1.

2. Blackfriars

- Group II AQ cp with thickened rim.
- Group III Y 3 cp with thickened rim; 3 cp
with simple rim; 3 bases; 2
pitchers, thickened rims; strap
handle, lt green glaze; bs,
grooved deco, lt green glaze; 3
bs, rouletted deco; 10 bs,
rouletted deco, lt green glaze;
bs, applied strips, lt green
glaze; 6 bs, lt green glaze; 3
bs, lt yellow glaze; bs, brown
glaze.
- AE cp with squared rim; cp with
thickened rim; 2 bases.
- AG pitcher, glazed dk yellow int and
ext; 13 bs, white slip, brown
glaze.
- AM cp with undercut rim; jug with
thickened rim, lt green glaze;
dbl-shelled lamp, glazed mot
green int; 2 rod handles; 13 bs,
rouletted, mot green glaze; bs,
applied 'pine scales', mot green
glaze; 23 bs, slip deco, lt green
glaze; 3 bs, red slip, lt yellow
glaze; 7 bs, mot green glaze; bs,
lt green glaze; 2 bs lt yellow
glaze.
- ZZ bs

Phase 5b Late 15th-early 16th century

The pottery from the floors of the building was very fragmentary but a wide range of late medieval wares were recovered including the fine tablewares of Tudor Green (Group III, Fabric BN) and Rhenish stonewares. Oxford Late Medieval Ware was still dominant (Group III, Fabric AM), but Tudor Green (Fabric BN) and the Rhenish stonewares (Fabric ST) had made considerable impact. Minute sherds of 'Cistercian' type vessels were also found. The stoneware suggested a date of the late 15th-early 16th century. A coin found in association with L37 was dated 1471-83 A.D. and was probably deposited before c 1500 A.D.¹ 2 jars, a pitcher, some fine tableware and a Rhenish drinking mug were represented in this phase.

Group IB	<u>AC</u>	bs
Group II	<u>BF</u>	bs
Group III	<u>Y</u>	bs, applied strip, lt green glaze; 3 bs, lt green glaze, 4 bs, orange glaze; bs, dk green glaze.
	<u>AE</u>	base
	<u>AM</u>	Jar rim; pitcher glazed lt yellow; 20 bs, glazed dark green; 2 bs, mot green glaze int, lt green glaze
	<u>AZ</u>	Jar, simple rim, glazed brown; bs, glazed dk green int and ext; bs, glazed orange; 2 bs, glazed brown.

1. Identification by Marian M. Archibald.

BN fine tableware: rim; 17 bs mat
green glaze int and ext.
CL bs, glazed brown int and ext.
ST Raeren: rim of drinking mug.

Phase 6 First half of the 16th century and a little beyond
The robbing of the building yielded a small amount of pottery from the Late Saxon and early medieval period, but the bulk of the pottery probably dated to the first half of the 16th century and a little beyond. As in the previous phase much of the pottery was very fragmentary.

The only recent excavation to yield similar pottery is the Hamel, Phase BJV¹ dated to the early-mid 16th century, however, New Inn Court produced a few minute fragments of Cistercian-type ware and also continued slightly later than the Hamel. Oxford Late Medieval Ware was still dominant but the coarse red earthenwares (Fabrics AZ) were strong competition as were the Rhenish stonewares from Raeren, Raeren or Frechen and Cologne; the latter contained a residue of red pigment. A fragment of Netherlands Majolica, possibly from an altar vase, dating c 1500 A.D., was also recovered from F16. Two tokens of early 16th-century date were also associated with this phase. Judging from the number of rims, contemporary vessels included 15 jars, 5 cups, a possible colander, a deep-sided bowl, and 2 stoneware drinking mugs.

1. N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in the Hamel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlv (1980).

Group IA	<u>B</u>	base
Group IB	<u>AC</u>	cp with everted rim.
Group II	<u>BF</u>	bs
Group III	<u>Y</u>	bs, grooved deco, lt green glaze; 4 bs, lt green glaze; bs, orange glaze; bs, dk yellow glaze int.
	<u>AE</u>	bs
	<u>AK</u>	bs
	<u>AM</u>	3 jars with everted rim, 1 glazed lt yellow, 1 glazed mot green; Jar with ext flanged rim, glazed lt yellow; Jar with simple rim; Jar with bifid rim; ¹ 6 jars with thickened rim, 1 glazed lt yellow; cp, glazed dk green int and ext; small rod handle glazed dk green int and ext; 2 strap handle, 1 glazed mot green int and ext; thumbed base, glazed orange int; 8 bases, 1 glazed dk yellow int, 1 glazed dk yellow int and ext, 1 glazed orange int, 2 glazed lt green int and orange ext; bs, grooved deco, brown glaze; 5 bs, red slip deco, 2 lt green, 3 dk yellow glaze; 2 bs, glazed dk yellow int; 2 bs, glazed dk green; 6 bs, glazed orange int; 2 bs, glazed mot

1. N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in the Hamel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlv (1980), Fig. 20, No.3, early-mid 16th C.

(con.)

Group III AM

green; 10 bs, glazed orange; bs, glazed lt yellow; 2 bs, glazed lt green; 2 bs, glazed mot green int and ext; bs, glazed dk green; bs, glazed mot green int and orange ext; bs, glazed mot green int and ext; bs, glazed lt green int and orange ext.

AP

bs

AZ

3 jars, ext flanged rim, 1 glazed brown int, 1 glazed dk green int and orange ext; 2 jars, simple rim, 1 glazed mot green int; jar with thickened rim, dk green glaze int; 3 cps glazed brown int and ext; 1 cp glazed brown int; 1 ?colander, glazed brown int and ext; 1 deep-sided ?bowl, glazed lt green int; 1 thumbed base, glazed brown int; 1 splayed base; strap handle, glazed brown; 2 bs, grooved deco, 1 glazed dk green int and ext, 1 glazed dk green int; bs, rouletted deco, mot green glaze, 3 bs, glazed orange int; bs, glazed lt green int and ext; 7 bs, glazed brown int and ext;

(con.)

(con.)

Group III AM

2 bs, glazed brown int; 7
bs, glazed orange int and
ext; 2 bs, glazed dk green
int and ext; 4 bs, glazed dk
green; bs, glazed brown int
and orange ext; bs, glazed
lt green; 2 bs, glazed lt
green int; 3', glazed
orange; 8 bs, glazed brown.

BL bs

BN bs, dk green glaze int and ext.

CE bs, blue linear and geometric
design, white design, white
glaze, possibly Netherlands altar
vase.

CL 2 sherds, glazed brown int and
ext.

ST Raeren: late 15th/early 16th
century, 2 thumbled bases from
drinking vessels;¹ strap handle,
Raeren, second half of the 15th
century, 2 drinking mugs.
Raeren/Frechen: bs, Cologne:
first half of the 16th century,
base with residue of red pigment;
strap handle.

A catalogue for the remaining phases is not published as
the assemblages were deemed to be insufficiently stratified.

1. N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in the
Hamel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlv (1980), Fig. 19, No.38.

COIN AND JETTONS by MARIAN M. ARCHIBALD

New Inn Court

1. L37, SF116 (?floor layer, late 15th-early 16th-century)

Edward IV, 2nd Reign 1471-83

Halfpenny, initial mark annulet. Blunt Class XIV struck in 1473 at London.

Obv. o(EDWARD) DI GRA REX

Wt. 0.41 g. (6.3 gr.) weight has been increased by corrosion products.

The identification of the coin is certain. Coins of this period continued to circulate into the early 16th-century. The proportion present in currency however declined when the large issues of halfpence by Henry VII made their full impact on the circulation medium. This coin was scarcely worn when deposited so that a deposition date before c 1500 is most likely. It was probably lost earlier rather than later within that period but, when dealing with an isolated coin whose condition might be abnormal, it is not possible to put a narrower date on its deposition with any certainty.

2. L16/1, SF34 (destruction layer, first half of the 16th century and a little beyond)

Nuremberg jetton

Early 16th century

Obv. Nonsense legend. Reichsapfel within trilobed cartouche

Rev. Nonsense legend. Three fleur de lis with a crown surmounted by three annulets in each angle.

Wt. 1.89 g. Diameter 24mm

This is a typical large-module Nuremberg type, of the sort which turns up in Dissolution levels.

3. F18, 8F42 (robber trench, first half of the 16th century and
a little beyond)

German-made jetton of French type

Early 16th century

Obv. Nonsense legend. Shield with ?radiate and mantled eye and
star.

Rev. Legend replaced by alternate stars and S's (from the
British Museum example). Three fleur de lys with a
star in each angle.

Wt. 0.84 g. (incomplete) Diameter 20mm

The British Museum has two jettons with this obverse design,
one with reverse as here, the other with three annulets in each
angle instead of a star. The arms have not been traced and are
probably fictitious.

4. F30/1, SF132 (?robber trench, late 16th-early 17th
century)

Fragment of Nuremberg jetton

Early 16th century

Obv. -----OSG.SCH---Cross fleur de lisee

Rev. Crown initial mark, 1010-----OS Cusped decoration but
central motif off flan.

Wt. 0.42 g. (6.5 gr.) Diameter c 28mm

The reverses place this series of jettons in the Nuremberg
or Nuremberg-related group. They are not found in any publication
consulted.

They are really not much help in trying to narrow the date
of the decline of Hinxey Hall, between 1536 and 1552, as indicated
by the documentary references. One would incline to a deposition
date in the third rather than the fourth quarter of the 16th century.

COPPER ALLOY OBJECTS by ALISON R. GOODALL

New Inn Court and 13-18 Queen Street (Fig. 14)

1. SF113, F22/1

Finger ring made from a single strand of wire which has been folded in half to make a loop at one end and the two free ends have been knotted through this loop to make the bezel. The loop has been bound with very fine wire.

2. SF1, L10

Rectangular buckle with separate pin bar and wire pin.

3. SF36, L16/1

Brooch or buckle pin, D-shaped in section and without mouldings.

4. SF146, F30/1

Undecorated buckle plate containing end of leather strap.

5. SF148, F15

Buckle or hinge plate with incised decoration on upper surface, containing end of leather strap.

6. SF7, F14

Domed button of greyish alloy: loop missing.

7. SF21, L10

Flat decorated button: loop missing.

8. SF3, L10

Hinged clasp probably from a book binding. It is decorated with rings and dots and traced zig-zags. The pivot is of iron.

9. SF105, F32/1

Gilded repoussé disc. It has an outer cabled border and an inner beaded border surrounding an indistinguishable central design. The decoration is reminiscent of that on some Saxon disc brooches but the method of manufacture suggests a more recent date.

10. SF33, F16

Swivelling loop with a moulded collar, from a purse.

11. SF117, L37

Terminal from a knife handle with part of iron scale tang projecting from it. It is oval sectioned and has incised crosses on the sides and end.

12. 13-18, SF4, U/S

Candlestick decorated with slightly raised bands round the socket and stem and a more marked collar in the middle of the stem. The stem is inserted into a separate base which also acts as a drip tray. The form of the socket and stem suggest a date in the 15th or 16th century although the tray-like base ought to indicate a later date.¹

13. SF145, F30/1

Part of perforated disc with concentric incised rings.

14. SF22, L10

Domed stud with incomplete shank. Head diameter 30.5mm.

1. R. Michaelis, Old Domestic Base-Metal Candlesticks, (1978), Figs. 25, 26, 29 & 145.

15. SF71, F26

Disc with slight bevel on upper edge: no sign of attachment on back.

16. 13-18, SF3, F9

Cylindrical object ornamented with raised cordons, possibly the socket from a candlestick.

17. SF136, L38/2

Rivet or small patch of folded sheet metal.

18-40. Lace ends:

18-21, SF105, F32/1; 22-23, SF90, L28; 24, SF118, L37;
25-29, SF120, L37/1; 30, SF92, L24/1; 31-32, SF43, F18;
33, F82, L19/1; 34-35, SF5, L11; 36-37, SF50, F22;
38-40, SF4, L10.

36 and 41 are of folded sheet metal, the rest are rolled and 13 of these are also riveted. 25 is decorated all over with traced zig-zag lines. 34 retains a fragment of textile.

41-50. Pins:

41, SF105, F32/1; 42, SF59, L24;
43, SF90, L28;
44, SF92, L24/1; 45, SF102, L31;
46-47, SF120, L37/1;
48, SF82, L19/1; 49, SF5, L11;
50, SF2, L10.

All with heads of coiled wire.

51-52. Wire:

51, SF105, F32/1; 52, SF97, F30.

53-54. Wire twist-loops:

53, SF105, F32/1; 54, SF28, F15.

55. SF5, L11

Washer.

56-59. Sheet metal off-cuts etc.

56, SF120, L37/1;

57, SF82, L19/1;

58, SF144, F30/1;

59, SF17, F14.

60-61. Fused copper alloy:

60, SF129, L25/1;

61, SF132, F30/1.

but possibly for Edward VI, seems to indicate a 16th-century date. Occasionally stamps from different reigns appear on a weight which was tested more than once ¹ - though this was more common for the more durable weights of brass, to judge from surviving examples.

The present weight, at just over 2 oz, was presumably intended to pass as 2 oz - such anomalies were common enough to bring leaden weights in particular under suspicion of falsity, despite the efforts of the authorities to control the problem. ² Other weights of this type range from ½oz to 4lb - the present example seems to be the only 2oz one noted.

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1. R. le Cheminant, 'Antique Lead Merchants' Weights from the City of London', London Archaeologist, iii, No.11 (1979), 290.
 2. A weight of 1 lb 1 oz (? for 1 lb), stamped with a crowned C for Charles I or II, and the authentication marks of the City of London and of the Plumbers' Company is in the Ashmolean Museum (No. 1910.452, acquired from a collector, no findspot). I am grateful to Arthur MacGregor of the Department of Antiquities for his description of, and for allowing me to refer to, this object.

IRON OBJECTS by IAN H. GOODALL

New Inn Court (Fig. 15)

1 and 2, a heckle tooth and tenter hook, are associated with textile manufacture. 3 is a scale tang knife with solder from lost shoulder plates, 4, a dagger blade tip. 5 is probably a staple or rove. 6-9 broken nails with flat, rounded rectangular heads. Horseshoe arm 10 has the countersunk nailholes typical of its Late Saxon date; 11-13 are later and have plain nailholes. 14, which has non-ferrous plating and pairs of decorative grooves, may be from a bridle bit. 15, also plated, is a spur side. Buckles 16-19 are D-shaped or trapezoidal, 19 like 17.

1. SF69, F25; 2. SF143, L25/1; 3. SF55, L24; 4. SF32, F16;
5. SF56, L24; 6. SF168, L29/2; 7. SF64, L24/1; 8. SF161, L31/2;
9. SF162, L37; 10 SF75, L29/2; 11. SF31, F16; 12. SF101, F30;
13. SF41, L19; 14. SF18, F14; 15. SF24, L10; 16. SF99, F30;
17. SF45, L16/1; 18. SF11, L11; 19. SF169, U/S.

BONE OBJECTS by ARTHUR MACGREGOR
(Species Identification by Bob Wilson)

New Inn Court

1. F22, SF49 (Fig. 17, No. 1)

A tuning peg, probably from a fiddle or lute, was recovered from an early-mid 17th-century pit.

It has a transverse perforation at one end and is square tapered at the other. No lateral grooves are present around the hole which might have indicated wear from gut or organic strings, nor is there any indication of metallic staining which is associated with metal strings. Some wear marks are however visible on the tapered end.

Similar tuning pegs are known in the 15th century or earlier, for example, those from 79-80 St. Aldates,¹ but 16th and 17th-century tuning pegs are quite differently shaped so it is likely that this tuning peg is residual.

2. L25/1, SF128 (Fig. 17, No. 4)

A mid 13th-century pit yielded a sheep or goat scapula.

The spine has been trimmed and a series of holes have been drilled through the blade end. No wear is evident around the holes so it is unlikely to have been used as a craft tool. It may have been used as a strainer in the kitchen, and is possibly a proto-type to metal strainers in use today. If not, it may be a whisk.

1. B.G. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), Fig. 39, Nos. 9-11, 164-65.

3. F47, SF194; L25/1, SF-- (Fig. 16 Nos. 1,2)

A fragmentary bone ice skate made from a red deer 'long bone' was found in a 10th-century pit. It has a polished lower surface, and the front end is missing. A second bone fragment, smaller and with a less apparent skating surface, was found in a mid 13th-century pit (L25/1). The two pieces could be from the same skate, the latter forming the missing front end. A similar skate was recovered from an early-mid 9th-century context at 79-80 St. Aldates.¹ This suggests that the fragment from L25/1 is residual.²

13-18 Queen Street

4. F7, SF2 (Not illustrated)

A polished bone thread picker was recovered from a pit with both 10th-11th, and 18th-century pottery.

It tapers at both ends. It measures 7.7cm. in length, and its girth at the widest point is 1.2cm.

This type is more readily associated with the Late Saxon period.

1. B.G. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xliii (1977), Fig. 37, No.1, 160.

2. See also the Animal Bone Report in this article.

3. Pers comm. Gwynne Oakley.

VESSEL GLASS by GWYNNE OAKLEY

New Inn Court

Table 16. Description of Glass Vessel Types, and a Comparison of the Dating Evidence as Indicated by the Glass and Pottery Found Within Contexts

<u>Context</u>	<u>Small Find Number</u>	<u>Date of Context</u>	<u>Vessel Type</u>
L11	44	17th C. & later	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plain beaker. Poss late med./early 17th C. 2. Colourless jug neck with applied handle & neck string. 3. Colourless wine glass, cut facets. Poss. early 18th C. 4. Olive green cylindrical bottle. Mid 18th C. onwards.
F14	6	17th C. & later	Spherical button with metal loop.
F22	52	E-M 17th C.	
F22/1	111	E-M 17th C.	
F30	96	L16th/E17th	Heavy grey colourless pushed-in pedestal base of cup or sweetmeat dish with mould-brown vertical fluting. ¹ If 16th C. this might be an import, otherwise, & more likely, 17th/18th C.
F30	100	L16th/E17th	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pushed-in pedestal base of thin colourless drinking vessel (ale glass?). Late 16th/early 17th C. 2. Blue glass frag. virtually unweathered, poss. from base of bowl or dish, poss. moulded. ? Late 17th/18th C.
F30/1	135	L16th/17th	Rim, folded outwards, from thin colourless greyish open-mouthed vessel. Date as context.

1. Cf. English Drinking Glasses in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (1977), 9.

<u>Context</u>	<u>Small Find Number</u>	<u>Date of Context</u>	<u>Vessel Type</u>
L16/1	35	16th C.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oval-bodied flask with diagonal ribbing in pale blue-green glass.¹ 2. Plain beaker rim in weathered blue-green glass. 3. Poss. phial or jar body frag. with wrythen fluting in very pale blue glass. 18th C., and therefore intrusive. 4. Pale, weathered opaque, fancy moulded beaker. 16th C. 5. Colourless frag., fluted, uncertain vessel. 17th/18th C.
L19/1	81	16th C.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pale blue-green base of hanging lamp. This is a post-med. example of continued production of a med. type.²
F15	189	16th C.	<p>Either (a) 'Kicked' base of bottle or flask, or, less likely, (b) frag. of hanging lamp.</p>
L37/1	119	L15th/E16th	<p>2 frags. of a 'linen smoother', zone of wear in centre leaving edge highly glossy, signs of scratches. Diameter c. 90mm. (Fig.17, No.3).</p>

1. Cf. E.T. Leeds, 'Glass Vessels of the XVI Century and Later from the Site of the Bodleian Extension in Broad Street, Oxford', Oxoniensia, iii (1938), Pl.XII, D2 for a complete vessel.

2. Cf. G. Oakley, 'Glass' in J.H. Williams, St. Peter's Street, Northampton: Excavations 1973-1976, (1979), GL53. See also F15, SF189, above.

<u>Context</u>	<u>Small Find Number</u>	<u>Date of Context</u>	<u>Vessel Type</u>
L37/1	131	L15th/E16th	Pale blue-green base with shallow 'kick', prob. from vessel e.g. bottle or flask, with thin spherical body. Contains limey deposit on inside surface
L24	60	L15th/E16th	Pale green 'kicked' base frag. from ?globular flask. ¹
L21/2	66	L15th/E16th	
L28	72	L15th/E16th	
L31/2	114	L15th/E16th	Very thin spherically curved round cover (or dish?) - instrument face cover e.g. compass or composite sundial.
F32/1	106	1st ½ 12th C.	This <u>must</u> be intrusive. Pale blue-green 'kicked' base of ?globular-bodied flask. Pitted weathering (typical of 16th/17th C. glass vessels). ²

1 Cf. J. Haslam, 'Glass' in T.G. Hassall, St. Ebbe's Survey and Excavation Report, Post-Medieval, forthcoming. And also F32/1, SF106, below.

2 Ibid. N.B. The fragment from L24, SF60, above, is almost certainly from the same type of vessel.

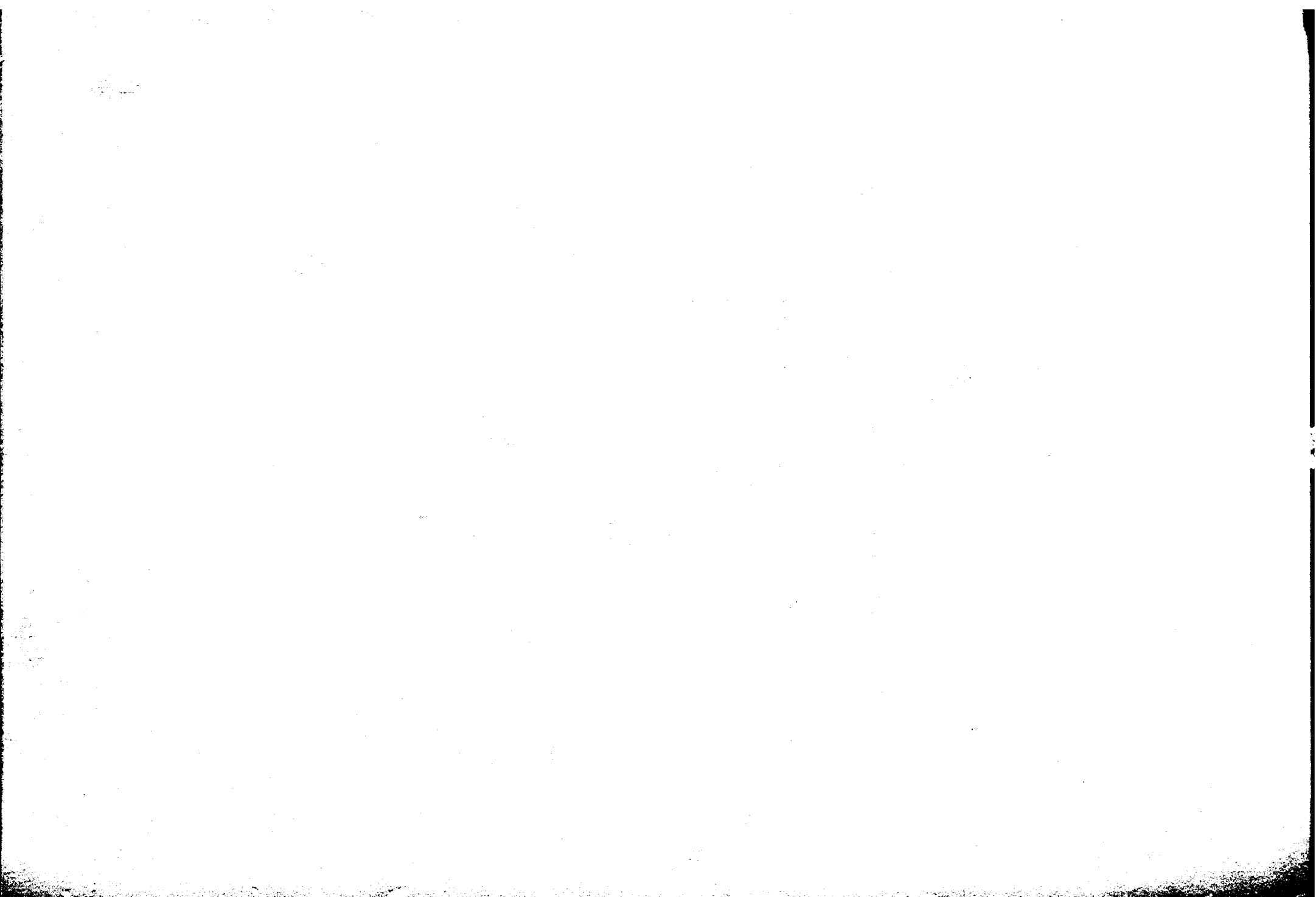


Table 17. Summary of Vessel Glass

	Date of Context				Total	
	L15th/E16th	1st ½ 16th C. & a little beyond	L16th/E17th	E-M 17th C.		
<u>Vessels etc.</u>						
Jug					1	Jug
Beaker		L16/1, SF35/2&4			3	Beaker
Ale Glass?			F30, SF100/1		1	Ale Glass?
Wine Glass					1	Wine Glass
Wine Bottle	L37/1, SF131				2	Wine Bottle
Cup/Dish			F30, SF96; (F30, SF100/2)	?	2	Cup/Dish
Open-Mouthed Vessel			F30/1, SF135		1	Open Mouthed Vessel
Oval-Bodied Flask		L16/1, SF35/1			1	Oval-Bodied Flask
?Globular Flask	L24, SF60				1	Globular Flask
Phial/Jar		(L16/1, SF35/3)			1	Phial/Jar
Hanging Lamp		L19/1, SF81/1			1	Hanging Lamp
Uncertain Vessels		F15, SF189; (L16/1, SF35/5)			2	Uncertain Vessels
Button					1	Button
Linen Smoother	L37/1, SF119				1	Linen Smoother
Instrument Face Cover (or dish)	L31/2, SF114				1	Instrument Face Cover (or dish)
Total	4	7	4		5	20 (+1, see below)

N.B. F32/1, SF106, ?Globular Flask, poss. 16th/17th C. Intrusive, context is dated to the 12th C. Figures following the small find numbers correspond to the subdivisions given in Table 16. Figures in brackets indicate ?/intrusive material.

STONE OBJECTS by MAUREEN MELLOR
(Stone Identification by Philip Powell)

New Inn Court

1. L17, SF189 (Not illustrated)

A fragment of Cotswold oolitic limestone which had been worked on three surfaces was recovered from a destruction layer dating to the first half of the 16th century. This piece of worked stone may have formed part of Hinkey Hall.

2. F15, SF53 (Fig. 17, No.5)

A stone mortar. Stone mortars were used in the kitchen to either grind or pound foodstuffs and these different usages leave distinct wear marks on the inside of the mortar. But the fragment of mortar from a 16th-century robber trench does not have sufficient of a base to ascertain how it was used.

It is made of Purbeck marble which has a tendency to split along the bedding planes and therefore has a comparatively short life. The rim (diameter 64cm) is polished and hollowed on top. The side lug is rectangular in plan and chamfered at the angles. The inner surface is smoothed and polished. The outer surface shows an area of oblique tooling around the rim and on the side lug, with tool 'peck' marks below.¹

1. Cf. G.C. Dunning, 'Mortars', in H. Clarke and A. Carter, Excavations in King's Lynn, 1963-1970, Med. Arch. Monograph 7, (1977), Fig. 147, No. 30, 326.

Though mortars of this type are usually associated with a 13th-14th century date,¹ this particular example was found in a 16th-century context, and examples from late medieval deposits are known elsewhere.²

3. L38/2, SF138 (Not illustrated)

A piece of unworked Kimmeridge shale with ammonite fossil was found in a layer dated to the late 10th/early 11th century. Similar pieces of shale have been recovered from contemporary contexts within the nearby salvage site at Selfridges.³

4. F48, SF167 (Not illustrated)

A fragment of a hone made in a fine grained micaceous sandstone was recovered from a 10th-century post-hole. The stone may have originally derived from the Drift. The outer surfaces are well polished. No measurements are given as the diameter and length are incomplete.

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1. G.C. Dunning, 'Mortars' in H. Clarke and A. Carter, Excavations in King's Lynn, 1963-1970, Med. Arch. Monograph 7, (1977), 321.
 2. G.C. Dunning, 'Purbeck Marble Mortar' in J.H. Williams, St. Peter's Street, Northampton: excavations 1973-1976, (1979), 284, dated to the second half of the 15th century.
 3. Westgate, F22, SF7; F63, SF23-26 and F96, SF30 in T.G. Hassall, St. Ebbe's Survey and Excavation, forthcoming.

?MORTAR ?CANDLESTICK by MAUREEN MELLOR

New Inn Court (Fig. 17, No.6)

L38/4, SF76. A ?mortar ?candlestick was recovered from a late 10th/early 11th-century layer.

The mortar has been fashioned into a pentagon. Two of the sides are worn, as is the lip of the central hole near these sides. Internally the central hole shows no evidence of wear as might be expected if it had been used as a pivot. The diameter of the hole measures 1.5cm, and may be considered too small for a candle at this date. The sides and underside are crudely finished but the upper part around the hole has been well finished and decorated with incised lines. It is possible that the whole object was inset into something and that only the upper part was visible.

This is the first Late Saxon artefact to be recovered locally that is possibly made of mortar.

CERAMIC SPINDLEWHORL by MAUREEN MELLOR

13-18 Queen Street (Fig.17, No.2)

F10 (U/S), SF1. Spindlewhorl. The mud is abundantly tempered with quartz and resembles no local pottery fabric types. It is biconical in shape and weighs some 21gm. Wear marks are evident around the central hole.

Ceramic spindlewhorls dating to the Late Saxon period are not common locally, but a biconical one in a shelly limestone was recovered from the late 8th-early 9th-century phase at 79-80 St. Aldates.¹ Other biconical types were also found at St. Peter's Street, Northampton, but these were made of chalk.²

1. B.G. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), Fig. 33, No. 1, 152.

2. G. Oakley and A.D. Hall, 'The Spindlewhorls' in J.H. Williams, St. Peter's Street, Northampton: excavations 1973-1976, (1979), 286-89.

TILES by MAUREEN MELLOR

New Inn Court (Not illustrated)

Three hundred and thirty two stratified tile fragments were recovered from Trench VII. The majority are roof tiles and only three are floor tiles. Nine fabric types are identified.

Phase 3c, the first half of the 12th century, yielded one tile fragment, but since it was found in F32/1 it may be intrusive,¹ and certainly a medieval tile at this date locally would be unusual.

Phase 4a, early-mid 13th century, produced only three tiles (Fabric III), but Phase 4b, mid 13th century, yielded ninety one tiles suggesting some reconstruction or refurbishment of a building. Twenty two of these tiles are glazed with plain lead glaze imparting a light green or orange colour. Seven peg hole tiles were recovered along with one tile with an imprint of a dog's paw. Parallels for the latter can be cited from almost every local medieval excavation. Fabric III, which contains no apparent inclusions, was predominant but a few tiles in Fabric VI and VIIA were also present. This assemblage parallels the earliest assemblage found at recent Blackfriars excavation.² The Dominican priory was founded by 1245 A.D.

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1. Finds from F32/1, a 12th-century hollow, include much intrusive 16th-century material.
 2. G. Lambrick, 'Further Excavations on the Second Dominican Priory, Oxford', Oxoniensia, forthcoming.

Only twelve tiles are associated with the occupation layers in the subsequent phase, Phase 5b, late 15th-early 16th century. However the destruction layers of the building (Phase 6) yielded 122 roof tiles and three floor tiles. Eight ridge tiles were recovered including one decorated with mottled orange glaze which was probably made in the vicinity of Brill, Buckinghamshire. Twenty seven of the tiles are glazed; three are decorated with mottled green glaze, the remainder having plain lead glazes. These decorated tiles are very reminiscent of those from Phase 4b. Peg tiles were found, including one where the peg hole had never been punched through. One floor tile (Fabric IIIB) had sufficient inlaid decoration to suggest a 13th-14th century date. Fabric III was still dominant in this phase but Fabric IV, with grog inclusions, was also popular. This rise in popularity of Fabric IV can be paralleled with the final phases of Blackfriars.

Phase 7, 17th century and later, includes two inlaid floor tiles which parallel Lloyd Haberley types (XXV and XV or XVI), these are known from a number of places in Oxford including Beaumont Palace, Rewley Abbey, 126 High Street and Carfax.

WINDOW GLASS by GWYNNE OAKLEY

New Inn Court

Table 18. Description of the Window Glass

<u>Context</u>	<u>Small Find Number</u>	<u>Date of Context</u>	<u>Window Glass</u>
L11	44	17th C. & later	A. ?Med., grozed, NPV. B. ?17th C., pale green, NPV.
F22	52	E-M 17th C.	Frag. green glass with red painted ?leaf design.
F22/1	111	E-M 17th C.	?Colourless with 1 grozed edge, NPV. Date poss. as context but window glass was usually green then.
F30	100	L16th/E17th C.	A. Pale-green, straight grozed edge, NPV. B. Curvilinear painted design, grozed edge, once pale ?green. ¹ C. Acute grozed angle, pale green, NPV. D. Thin pale green, NPV.

1. P.A. Newton with J. Kerr, The County of Oxford. A Catalogue of Medieval Stained Glass. The Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi, Great Britain, Vol.I (1979), Quarry Type 12. In window at Marsh Baldon Church, Oxfordshire.

NPV No Paint Visible

<u>Context</u>	<u>Small Find Number</u>	<u>Date of Context</u>	<u>Window Glass</u>
L16/1	35	16th C.	<p><u>7 frags., all early post-med:</u></p> <p>4 frags. opaque weathered, poss. once pale blue-green, 1 only with c 80° angled corner between grozed edges.</p> <p>1 frag. weathered on surface but pale blue-green.¹</p> <p>1 80° grozed corner in pale glass still translucent but iridescence hides true colour.</p> <p>1 very thin piece, all edges broken, pale?</p>
L19/1	81	16th C.	<p>Pale green weathered, acute angled corner, grozed edges, NPV. Prob. 16th C.²</p>
L37/1	119	L15th/E16th	<p>Painted window frag., amber glass, red linear design. Could be 16th C. or med. N.B. Very little weathering.</p>
L24/2	66	L15th/E16th	<p>Weathered opaque, could be med., NPV, no original edges.</p>
L28	72	L15th/E16th	<p>Right-angled corner with grozed edges, part of ?heraldic design scratched out from a matt background, partly obliterated by paint on both sides (red). Prob. med.</p>

1 Cf. J. Haslam, 'Early Post-Medieval Window Glass' in T.G. Hassall, St. Ebbe's Survey and Excavation Report, forthcoming.

2 Ibid.

NPV No Paint Visible

Table 19. Summary of Window Glass

Window Glass	Date of Context					Total	
	L15th/E16th	1st ½ 16th C. & a little beyond	L16th/E17th	E-M 17th C.	17th C. & later		
Painted ?Med.	L28,SF72		F30,SF100/B			2	Painted ?Med.
Unpainted ?Med.	L24/2,SF66				L11,SF44/A	2	Unpainted ?Med.
Painted Late/Post- Med.	L37/1,SF119			F22,SF52		2	Painted Late/Post- Med.
Unpainted Pale Green		L16/1,SF35; L19/1,SF81	F30,SF100/ A,C.D.		L11,SF44/B	11	Unpainted Pale Green
Unpainted ?Colourless		L16/1,SF35		F22/1,SF111		2	Unpainted ?Colourless
Total	3	8	4	2	2	19	Total

Letters following the small find numbers correspond to the subdivisions given in Table 18.

ANIMAL BONES AND SHELLS by BOB WILSON with ENID ALLISON and ANDREW JONES

New Inn Court

The bones were in a good state of preservation. They were not always recorded in detail where contexts were small or of doubtful use. Overall results of species identifications are given in Tables 20, 24, 25 and supplementary information on skeletal elements is shown in Table 21. 54% of the 2519 mammalian bones are classified by species in Table 20.

Percentages of Skeletal Elements and Butchery

Elements from the main carcass are relatively abundant compared to those of the limbs and feet. There are almost no horn cores and only metacarpal and metatarsal bones (trotters) of pig are common. These results do not suggest any close association with the early stages of butchery and carcass preparation.

One factor which varies the fragment number counts is the increasing medieval tendency to divide carcasses equally down the midline. The vertebrae from the Saxon pit are usually complete or trimmed laterally by cutting, but the late 15th-early 16th-century sheep vertebrae from L24 were commonly halved, thus increasing the percentage representation of body elements at the later period.

These later vertebrae were associated with other elements eg. of the hock joint, which were chopped smaller than usual as if butchery was crude or the bones were broken up and boiled possibly as a bony stew or for tallow. If the last possibility, the debris is unlikely to be from any intensive industrial activity because this is normally associated with broken up metapodial debris of sheep.

Stratigraphic Qualifications

Debris similar to that of the 15th-16th century occurred in F32/1, nominally of an earlier phase (3c, see Table 20) but only confirmed observations elsewhere that the deposit contained later intrusive material. Further debris of 16th-century date from F94 (not shown on the matrix or plans) was small found as the 'contents of a rat hole'. This included fragments of pig (2 teeth), sheep (vertebrae), rabbit (2 teeth), and eggshell (of

domestic fowl?), as well as 3 complete bones of mouse (probably of house mouse), and some of domestic fowl, wild bird, fish and a shell of mussel, Mytilus edulis. Some bone fragments were gnawed or eaten out as if by small rodents and the whole deposit is very similar to a scatter of bone and a mussel shell found in a wall space in the Church of St. Nicholas, Abingdon (unpublished data). All of the bones were small or light enough to have been carried by mice, and the intact rodent bones suggest that a mouse died in this hole.

Species presence and abundance of bones from early and late features appear consistent generally with results from other sites but for single rabbit bones in F52 and F56 which are considered to be of the 10th century. Possibly these bones are clues to the introduction of the rabbit to Britain but a skeptic would argue that they indicate features of later date, or further intrusive material from animal burrowing as already noted above. Rodent gnawing marks are evident on one bone (F52). In addition no rabbit occurred among the many small bones in the securely dated Saxon pit F29, and only among the bones of the 15th-16th century and later, including the aberrant F32/1 among them. However occasional bones of rabbit are found at other sites as early as the 12th century.

(cont.)

Another item of interest is the distal half of a red deer radius which was used as a skate (Saxon F47, SF194; Phase 2c). A proximal end, trimmed and of the same left side symmetry, was also found in L25/1 (Phase 4b) and could be from the same skate. Unfortunately the intervening shaft is missing and the skating surface is less apparent on this small piece. The rarity of red deer bones in local medieval urban deposits also reinforces the possibility that part of a Saxon skate was redeposited later. Interestingly, the Saxon fragment is unevenly preserved as if the upper surface of the skate was exposed to the weather for some time at a ground surface whereas the later piece was more evenly weathered before it was buried.¹

Bone Measurements

Selected measurements were made to compare with data collated for the Hamel, Oxford.² Results given in Table 22 generally confirm the earlier finding that Saxon animals were larger than medieval ones.

Age Data

Information for some Saxon material is given in Table 23. The animals represented were relatively old when they were killed.

Sexual Dimorphism

Examination of the pelves of sheep from F29 indicated that 4 were from ewes and 5 from wethers, or less probably rams, with one undetermined from a more immature individual.

Pathology

All examples noted are from Saxon deposits. Healed fractures were apparent in a sheep pelvis (ilium) and a fourth metacarpal of pig (F47). Both features appear accompanied by some shortening of the bone on mending and by outgrowths of bone, massive in the pelvis where it obliterated the attachment ridge of the rectus femoris although the muscle insertion will persisted while surrounded by bone. Osteoperiosteal or, more likely, osteomyelitic infection

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1. See also a description of the bone ice skate (F47, SF194) in the 'Bone Objects' section of this report.
 2. R. Wilson in N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in the Hamel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlv (1980), Fiche 2 E15.

and probable internal deposition of bone affected the healing of the pig bone since it is appreciably heavier than usual.

Lateral osteoses occurred on a distal humerus (L29/4) and a radius of sheep (L38/1) and probably resulted from knocks to the elbow joints. Further osteosis occurred to 5mm of outgrowth on an anterior proximal first phalanx of cattle (L29/7) and may be typical of animals kept for draught purposes.

Bird Bones by Bob Wilson and Enid Allison

Readily identifiable bones of domestic fowl were sorted out and the remaining bones were identified by Enid Allison. Results are given in Tables 20, 24, and 25.

Bittern and Common cormorant are new archaeological records for Oxfordshire and queried identifications of Scoter and Tufted duck are similarly of interest. Domestic/feral pigeon refers to these varieties and Rock dove rather than to Stock dove. At least 5 individual pigeons were represented in F29. A few knife cuts on their bones indicate they were cooked and eaten.

Domestic goose was much less common than domestic fowl at this site. Only 35% of the fowl bones in F29 (n=127) were from mature individuals, but the percentage is greater at 59% in Phase 5b (n=37) and in the intrusive 15th/16th century debris from F32/1.

Fish Bones by Andrew Jones and Bob Wilson

Bones listed in Table 25 were identified by Andrew Jones. All the certain identifications of species have been recorded locally before, and confirm previous work,¹ although the dating of bones from F32/1 and F34 is questionable (see the main bone report, Fiche D10-11).

Bones of pike in F29 suggest at least 2 fish of total lengths between 40-60cm. Bones of large cod are of note in F29 and F30. Large fish, particularly marine ones, may be over represented in the results since the bones of smaller species such as sprat and herring and various freshwater species tend to be recovered only by sieving. Two of the bones of pike and carp family in F29 were retrieved from the sieving of a 1 kg. sample of soil.

Five cranial elements of cod, conger and gurnard indicate that the larger marine fish were imported whole rather than in a beheaded or filleted form.

General Discussion of Bones

Species Percentage Trends

Table 25 shows the percentage trend of species presence in the deposits. Elsewhere in Oxford the representation of larger wild species diminishes during the medieval period and this trend is confirmed here particularly by the Saxon assemblage. In addition an abundance of pig bones gives way to higher proportions of sheep and rabbit bones in the medieval groups and shows a change in diet.

1. R. Wilson, D. Bramwell and A. Wheeler, 'Animal bones from the Broad Street and Old Goal site, Abingdon', Oxoniensia, xl (1975), 112; A. Wheeler in B. Durham et al, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlii (1977), 166-67; A. Wheeler, 'Fish Remains' in M. Parrington, 'Excavations at Stert Street, Abingdon', Oxoniensia, xliv (1979), 21-23; and, R. Wilson, R. Thomas, and A. Wheeler, 'Sampling a profile of town soil accumulation; 57 East St. Helen's Street, Abingdon', Oxoniensia, xliv (1979), 28-29.

Domestic Activity

Most of the bones are concluded to be domestic refuse and little connected with the early stages of commercial butchery and associated trades except fishmongers, although it is not known whether such trades were well differentiated in Oxford during the Saxon period. A first exception to this conclusion is that the bones of the heads and limbs of roe deer, (L29/2), could indicate that some butchery occurred independently of normal processing of domestic animal carcasses and followed hunting. On one frontal the antler had been lost naturally by shedding (October to December period) and on the other was broken off and presumably was worked somewhere else in Oxford. Second, knife cuts across the cranium of the cat skeleton in F29 showed that the immature individual, but older than 5 months of age, was skinned for fur.

Burnt bones were few and suggest that nearby fires were infrequent at least during the Saxon period, and that accidentally burnt bones were kept out of the later floor levels, or perhaps bones were kept out of fires by household cleaning.

Animals Living on the Property

The relative incidence of goose is at all times small compared to domestic fowl 4.6%. Comparison to the Hamel, where goose was more abundant 35%; $\chi^2=95.9$; $p > .001$,¹ suggests that the domestic birds which were eaten depended on what could be reared locally; thus geese on the meadows and fowl ubiquitously on the tenements of high and low ground. The bones of 'pigeon' in F29 might be related to an 11th-century dovecote or to the birds nesting among the houses. It is possible that the higher proportion of pig bones on the site is due to the animals being raised there.

1. R. Wilson and D. Bramwell in N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in the Hamel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlv, 1980, Fiche F08 & F09.

Prosperity and Status

The 15th/16th-century debris may not be typical of occupation associated with a dwelling such as Hinxey Hall, it certainly contains no elements which suggest any high status of the occupants. An ordinary existence is indicated. The general decline in species variety except for marine fish and the reduced presence of pig suggest that both the prosperity and the status of the inhabitants if anything declined from the 13th century, and overall from the Saxon period. Although the general abundance of pig and deer probably was greater at the earlier period, the Saxon deposits still indicate more status than is evident at sites in Cornmarket, Oxford Castle, 11-12 Queen Street, St. Aldates, Logic Lane and Clarendon Hotel, but appear more comparable to debris in pit F84 at Church Street and at All Saints Church.¹

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1. B.J. Marples in T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at 44-46 Cornmarket Street, Oxford, 1970', Oxoniensia xxxvi, 1970, 28-31; B.J. Marples in T.G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle, 1965-1973', Oxoniensia, xli, 1976, 302-304; R. Wilson, '11-12 Queen Street, 1980', this volume; B.J. Marples in B. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xlii, 1977, 166-67; J.W. Banks in F. Radcliff, 'Excavations at Logic Lane', Oxoniensia, xxvi-xxvii, 1961-62, 38-69; M. Jope in E.M. Jope, 'The Clarendon Hotel, Oxford', Oxoniensia, xxiii, 1958, 79-83; and R. Wilson, unpublished data on Church Street and All Saints Church, Oxford. C/O Scientific Collections, University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW.

In terms of a varied diet and the implications of status it is noted that few oyster shells were recovered although imports of marine shellfish appear more common in later centuries.

The significance of the skinned cat is uncertain since the skin could have been sold, but if it was used by the Saxon householder it would not indicate a high social rank.

If pigs, domestic fowl and pigeons or doves were husbanded on the site, the indications of prosperity and status may simply depend on the ownership of sufficient land for such purposes and less on the means to purchase preferred meats.

11-12 Queen Street

Bones salvages from 10th or 11th-century contexts numbered 44. The 20 identified bones were of sheep (9), cattle (6), pig (3), and domestic fowl (2).

Table 20. Frequency of Bones and Large Molluscs

Phase Feature Type Century	2a post- holes 10th	2b tim. slot 10th	2c post- holes 10th	3a soil layer L10th- E11th	3b F29 M-L 11th	3c F32 intrus.	4a Floor Layers E-M13th	4b Floor Layers M13th	5b Floor Layers L15th/ E16th	6-8 Pits etc. 16th & Later	Total	
Cattle	2	-	19	22	114	8	-	63	19	14	261	Cattle
Sheep	4	1	4	30	301	46	8	61	136	8	599	Sheep
Pig	3	-	38	32	237	14	4	22	32	1	383	Pig
Horse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	Horse
Dog	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	4	Dog
Cat	-	-	-	-	2 ^a	-	-	-	-	-	2 ^a	Cat
Red Deer	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	Red Deer
Roe	-	-	1	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	12	Roe
Hare	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	5	Hare
Rabbit	-	1	1	-	-	9 ^c	-	-	72 ^c	1	84	Rabbit
Total	9	2	64	85	671 ^b	78	12	152	259	24	1356	Total
Unidentified	4	3	63	69	501	114	4	93	312	n.c.	1163	Unidentified
Dom.Fowl	-	-	1	1	140	37	1	7	42	1	230	Dom.Fowl
Dom.Goose/ Greylag	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	3	2	-	11	Dom./Goose Greylag
Other Bird	-	-	1	1	55	2	-	2	5	-	66	Other Bird
Oyster	-	1	-	-	15 ^d	-	1	2	5	1 ^e	25	Oyster
Burnt Bones	-	-	-	1	6	1	-	3	1	1	13	Burnt Bones

a Excluding cat skeleton (23 bones)

b Also frog (c 152) and toad (7)

c Excluding metapodials

d Also garden snail Helix aspersa (c 60)

e Also mussel Mytilus edulis

Table 21. Percentages of the Elements of Head, Feet and Body

Feature	<u>Sheep</u>			<u>Cattle</u>		<u>Pig</u>	Feature
	F29	F25, F32 ^a & F34	L24	F29	F25, F32 ^a & F34	F29	
Phase	3b	3c-4b	5b		As previously	As previously	Phase
Century	11th	12th-13th	16th/16th		As previously	As previously	Century
n	301	78	110	114	63	237	n
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Head	18	24	-	19	19	15	Head
Foot	14	19	17	17	13	24	Foot
Body	68	56	83	64	68	60	Body

a Except F32/1, said to contain intrusive 15th/16th century ceramics, and where 29 sheep bones (65%) are halved vertebrae comparable to those in F24 (54%)

Table 22. Selected Measurements of Bones

<u>Sheep</u>		<u>Distal Width</u>	n	r	\bar{x}	sd
F29	11th C.	humerus	8	26-32	30.3	-
F29	"	tibia	14	24-29	25.7	1.47
		<u>Length (G1)</u>				
F29	11th C.	humerus	x 143		\bar{x}	
F29 & L38	"	radius	138,140,145;141			
F29	"	metatarsal	135			
F29	"	metacarpal	127			
		<u>Scapula index of sheep</u>				
F29	11th C.		1.12,1.14,1.24			
L24	15th/16th C.		1.01,1.13,1.20			
		<u>Cattle</u>				
		<u>Distal Width</u>				
F29	11th C.	metacarpal	x 52,57			
F29 & L38	"	metatarsal	56,47			
		<u>Length (G1)</u>				
F29	"	astragalus	x 59,62,64;61.7		\bar{x}	
		radius	235,232			
		<u>Pig</u>				
		<u>Distal Width</u>				
F29 & L38	11th C.	humerus	x 38,37e,37,38;37.5		\bar{x}	
		<u>Red Deer</u>				
		astragalus (G1)	49			

Table 23. Mandible Wear Stages (M.W.S.) and Percentage of Fused Epiphyses in Saxon F29

M.W.S.^a Sheep: 21, 27, 31, 31, 31, 32, 32, 32, 34, 35, 35, & 39
Pig: 10e; also 21 (F47) & 27 (F50) both 10th century.

<u>Epiphyses</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Pig</u>
n	125	34	100
% fused	77	88	48

a A. Grant, 'The use of toothwear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates' in Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from archaeological sites, ed. R. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne, B.A.R. British cix, 1982, 91-108.

Table 24. Fragment Frequency of Bird Bones

Phase Century	2c 10th	3a 11th	3b 11th	3c intrus.	4b 13th	5b 15th/16th	Total
Domestic Fowl	1	1	140	37	7	42	228
Domestic/Greylag Goose	-	1	4	1	3	2	11
Greylag/Pinkfoot	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Duck	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Mallard	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Teal	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Wigeon	-	-	1?	-	1?	-	2?
Tufted Duck	-	-	-	1?	-	-	1?
Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	1?	1?
Cormorant	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Bittern	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Lapwing	1	-	7	-	-	-	8
Golden/Grey Plover	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Snipe	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Wood Pigeon	-	-	2+1?	-	-	-	2+1?
Domestic/Feral Pigeon	-	-	32	-	-	-	32
Small Passerine	-	-	3	-	-	4	7
Indet.	-	-	6	-	-	2	8
Total	2	3	205	40	12	51	313

See also domestic fowl in Phases 4a and 6-8 (Table 20)

Table 25. Identification of Fish

Phase Feature	3b 29	5b 24&31	6 30	6 32/1	6 94
<u>Freshwater species</u>					
<u>Pike</u>					
<u>Esox lucius L.</u>	4	-	-	-	-
<u>Carp family</u>					
<u>Cyprinidae</u>	1	-	-	-	-
<u>Migratory species</u>					
<u>Eel</u>					
<u>Anguilla anguilla L.</u>	-	-	-	-	8
<u>Salmon/trout</u>					
<u>Salmonidae</u>	-	1	-	-	1
<u>Marine species</u>					
<u>Thornback ray</u>					
<u>Raja clavata</u>	-	1	-	-	-
<u>Conger eel</u>					
<u>Conger conger L.</u>	-	-	-	1	1
<u>?Herring</u>					
<u>?Clupea harengus L.</u>	-	-	-	-	2
<u>Cod</u>					
<u>Gadus morhua L.</u>	3	-	1	-	1?
<u>Ling</u>					
<u>Molva sp.</u>	-	1	-	-	-
<u>Cod family</u>					
<u>Gadidae</u>	-	-	-	1	-
<u>Gurnard</u>					
<u>?Aspitrigla cuculus L.</u>	-	-	-	-	4
<u>?Eutrigla gurnardus L.</u>	-	-	-	1	-
<u>Sea bream</u>					
<u>?Pagellus bogaraveo B.</u>	-	2	-	-	-
<u>Flatfish</u>					
<u>Pleuronectidae</u>	-	-	-	1	-
<u>Indeterminate</u>	14	-	1	4	2
<u>Total</u>	22	5	2	8	19

Table 26. Percentages of Fragment Frequency

Phase Century	2a-3a 10th-11th	3b 11th	4a-4b 13th	5b 15th/16th
n	160	671	164	259
	%	%	%	%
Cattle	27	17	38	7
Sheep/Goat	24	45	42	53
Pig	46	35	16	12
Horse	-	-	1.2	-
Dog	0.6	0.3	0.6	-
Cat	-	0.3 ^b	-	-
Red Deer	0.6	0.1	0.6 ^a	-
Roe	0.6	1.6	-	-
Hare	-	0.4	0.6	-
Rabbit	1.2 ^a	-	-	28
% of n				
Domestic Fowl	1.3	20.9	4.9	16.2
Domestic Goose	0.6	0.6	1.8	0.8
Other Bird	1.3	8.2	1.2	1.9
Oyster	0.6 ^a	1.3	0.4	0.4

a Possibly less well stratified

b Excluding cat skeleton

MINERALISED AND CARBONISED BIOLOGICAL REMAINS FROM A LATE SAXON CESS
PIT by MARK ROBINSON

New Inn Court

1 kg. samples from Layers 29/8 and 29/10 of a large Late Saxon cess pit were washed through a stack of sieves down to 0.5mm. The residues were then sorted and the results are listed in Tables 27-29.

Table 27: Mineralised Seeds

		L29/8	L29/10
<u>Caltha palustris</u> L.	Kingcup	1	-
<u>Prunus</u> sp. (<u>P. spinosa</u> L. size & shape)	? Sloe	2	1
cf. <u>Malus sylvestris</u> Mill.	Apple	-	1
<u>Pyrus</u> or <u>Malus</u> sp.	Pear or Apple	2	21
<u>Rumex</u> sp.	Dock	1	-
<u>Corylus avellana</u> L.	Hazel	1	-
<u>Sambucus nigra</u> L.	Elder	1	-
Ignota		-	5

Table 28: Carbonised Seeds

		L29/8	L29/10
<u>Triticum aestivocompactum</u> Schiem.	Bread/Club Wheat	-	10
<u>Triticum</u> sp.	Wheat		2

Table 29: Mineralised Arthropods

		L29/8	L29/10
Sphaeroceridae gen. et sp. indet puparia	Sewage Fly	82	120
<u>Fannia</u> sp. puparia (eg. <u>F. canicularis</u> (L.) Fly, or <u>F. scalaris</u> (F.) Latrine Fly)	Lesser House Fly	-	5
Diptera gen. et sp. indet. puparia	Fly	-	7
Histerinae gen. et sp. indet.	Beetle	-	1
Crustacea & Diplopoda			
cf. <u>Porcellio</u> sp. (eg. <u>P. scaber</u> Lat.)	Woodlouse	1	3
Isopoda gen. et sp. indet.	Woodlouse	1	-
Diplopoda gen. et sp. indet.	Millepede	1	-

In addition, Sample L29/10 contained ten unidentified mineralised objects of a sort which is familiar from cess pits elsewhere. These objects are thought to originate in the human body and are perhaps gall stones. Both samples also contained mineralised mats of plant stems.

Both the type of mineralisation and the species identified show that the layers sampled originally had a high faecal/urine content. Mineralisation was by calcium phosphate replacement, which is characteristic of badly drained cess pits with some calcium carbonate present, in this case the limestone gravel through which the pit had been cut. The dietary remains from the samples, mostly apple or pear pips which had presumably passed through the alimentary canal, do not suggest a lavish diet. Medieval cess pits can sometimes be rich in fig seeds and grape pips. The single seed of Caltha palustris, a marsh plant seems rather out of place amongst the plant material which was probably thrown into the pit, such as hazel nutshell

fragments and the woodlice which probably fell into the pit. Seeds of C. palustris have been identified from a cess pit at Taunton,¹ perhaps they were consumed for some purpose.

The insect remains from the pit largely comprise of the puparia of flies with larvae which feed on sewage. The beetle from the sub-family Histerinae is a carnivore which feeds on fly larvae in such foul habitats.

1. J.R.A. Greig, pers comm.

CARBONISED PLANT REMAINS FROM A MID-LATE SAXON CONTEXT by MARK ROBINSON

11-12 Queen Street

A 0.5 kg. sample from L3/1 was floated in water and the flot washed onto a 0.5mm sieve. L3/1, which has been interpreted as a mid-late Saxon layer, was rich in carbonized plant material, and the results are listed in Tables 30 and 31.

Table 30: Carbonised Seeds

<u>Hordeum vulgare</u> L. emend.	Six-row Hulled Barley	12
<u>H. vulgare</u> L. emend. or <u>distichon</u> L.	Hulled Barley	16
<u>Triticum aestivocompactum</u> (Chiem.)	Bread/Club Wheat	18
<u>Triticum</u> sp.	Wheat	4
<u>Secale cereale</u> L.	Rye	2
Cereal gen. et sp. indet.		29
<u>Agrostemma githago</u> L.	Corn Cockle	1
<u>Atriplex</u> sp.	Orache	1
Gramineae gen. et sp. indet.	Grass	1
Total		84

Table 31: Other Carbonised Plant Remains

<u>Hordeum vulgare</u> L. emend. or <u>distichon</u> L.	(Hulled Barley) Rachis Fragments	9
<u>Triticum</u> sp.	(Wheat) Tough Rachis Fragments	2
<u>Quercus</u> sp.	(Oak)	much

It is possible that all the carbonised cereal remains resulted from a variety of domestic processes. There was insufficient chaff to be sure that threshing took place on the site, perhaps the nulled barley was used unwinnowed.

LATE SAXON EVIDENCE AND EXCAVATION OF HINXEY HALL, QUEEN STREET, OXFORD

by CLAIRE HALPIN

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