

2.2 Building 2

Catalogue of structures

F954 Tr1 B31-B32 Foundation tr for F890

Rels: b. (484); c. Nat.

Length: 7.0 m Width: 4.1 m Depth: ~ (not excavated)

Description: This foundation trench was most apparent around the north-west corner of the building, where the walls were not flush with the edge of the cut. This is probably not a narrow trench just following the wall line, but a wide terracing for the whole of the west end of the building, which appears to have been built on a level terrace, which was partly cut into the natural clay-with-flints at the west end. It was visible where it projected beyond the walls by 0.1 m on the west and 0.6 m on the north. However it is likely that it extended the full width of the building and possibly up to 17 m along the north side and on the south side as far east as the doorway (about 9 m).

Fill: Light yellowish-brown clay containing scattered mortar, chalk and flint grit, angular flint gravel 10–30 mm, angular broken flints and burnt flints 60–100 mm, broken fragments of clay tile *c.*100 mm, limestone roof slate fragments and pottery.

F906 Tr1 B338216-B344246 Wall foundation (west)

Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Length: 9.34 m Width: 0.6–0.7 m Depth: ~

Description: The two uppermost surviving courses only were exposed in the first season of excavation, any lower ones being obscured by the collapsed wall F955. The wall faces were constructed of squared flints 120–250 mm, all of very similar size most averaging *c.*180 mm and shape, especially the outer face. All the flints were closely set and interlocking, even in the core, though the core included smaller flints packed in between the larger nodules. Several rounded chalk blocks 60–200 mm occurred both in the face and core. The stones were set in light yellowish-brown mortar mixed with small rounded chalk and grit. In some areas of the core, yellowish-brown clay was packed around the flints.

The upper course, which survived only along the outside in the north half, projected out beyond the course below by about 0.1 m. It may in fact have been dislodged and pushed outwards when the wall above (F955) collapsed.

F955 Tr1 B31-B32 West wall (fallen)

Rels: b. (484); a. unex

Length: 8.3 m Width: 0.2–0.45 m Height: 9.4 m

Description: The near complete west wall had fallen flat as a block eastwards over the western half of Building 2. Some of the upper eastern courses which were more disrupted were excavated without planning; these would have been courses of the interior wall face, the outer face at the top/east end having been disturbed by ploughing. Where the wall survived as a coherent mass it was planned in detail. In describing the wall it is regarded as a standing elevation: therefore the base of the wall lies to the west and the top to the east in the plan.

The pattern of the wall construction was not consistent across its whole width and the pattern of coursing was not as apparent in the areas constructed of flint compared to other materials. Judging by the amount of flint blocks in the very thin overlying ploughsoil, there must have been considerable damage from ploughing to the wall face accounting for the more disrupted character of the flint-built areas. Following excavation of the wall it became apparent from the surviving thickness that much of the outer half must have been destroyed by ploughing,

so that what was exposed in plan was either wall core at the west end or the inside of the interior face at the east.

Flint was used almost exclusively for the lowest courses of the wall up to a height of 3.8–4.0 m in the western half, but only *c.*1.3 m in the east half, above which there was an area of wall 1.2–1.6 m high and *c.*4.5 m long, constructed with subrectangular chalk blocks *c.*100–150 mm of which five to six courses could be discerned. Above was a further stretch of flint walling which was continuous with that at the western side. The matrix around the flints over large areas was the brown clay ploughsoil which had filtered down between, much of the mortar having been leached out. Areas of mortar did survive around some groups of flints, but it survived best in the upper half of the wall, where it was much more continuous. It became apparent during planning that in the top area, even where flints or chalk were infrequent, the basic matrix material was the wall mortar. It was a yellowish-brown clayey mortar, soft and weathered containing a high density of chalk grit and small rounded chalk.

The upper half of the wall was made up of distinct bands of chalk separated by bands of flint. The lowest band (3.8–4.4 m high) of chalk was made up of about five courses of chalk blocks, then one or two flint courses followed by further courses of chalk (about four to five) up to 5.2 m high. The chalk courses on the south side from 4.7 to 5.2 m were in fact the top of the robbed out wall F984 protruding through the fallen rubble of F955. Above this at the north side were about five thin courses of limestone slabs (possibly reused roof slates) with a few clay tiles. Each of these was separated by one or two courses of chalk or flint or a mixture of the two. These limestone courses appeared to extend only for about 3 m in length from the north end of the wall and up to 6.4 m high. To the south at this level the wall was predominantly flint with some chalk.

Above this height the outer face had been destroyed by the ploughing associated with the field lynchet F884/902 and what survived was either core or inner facing blocks. Courses of chalk and flint were still apparent, including some very well-defined courses, whilst other areas presented a mass of flints. There were also extensive areas of solid mortar (soft and decayed) with very few stones embedded in them. It was noticed during planning that within the matrix of decayed mortar there appeared to be blocks of hard darker brown mortar. These were not individually planned and it was unclear whether these represented differential weathering of the mortar mass, or whether hard blocks of mortar had been used in the building in the same manner as the chalk and flint.

The alignment of some of the coursing at this top end of the wall suggests the impact of the fall broke off blocks of masonry, which landed at slightly different angles. This is supported by a large fairly intact block excavated separately as layer 486, but not planned.

Small Finds: 2883, 2894 Iron: 4 + 5 nails Samples: 3945 plaster

Other Artefacts: tile, bone, stone

F890 Tr1 B540187-B344247 Wall (north)

Rel: b. (475); c. Nat.

Length: 21.6 m Width: 0.65–0.68 m Depth: ?

Description: The wall was well constructed, possibly set into a foundation trench, where not in the general building terrace F954. The footing consisted of a level mortar bed at least 80 mm thick and at least three courses of flints survived above this mainly towards the west end of the wall. The flints were of uniform size mainly 150–200 mm, closely keyed together, both core and facing blocks set in light brown mortar mixed with much small chalk and grit. In some areas the mortar had been leached away to be replaced with ploughsoil.

Towards the west end, where it survived highest, there was a course of large subrectangular limestone slabs up to 250 x 300 mm, extending only a metre in length set into one of the flint courses. They occurred only along the outer face. They may indicate the position of a

subsidiary door into the building. In this western section of the wall several fragments of broken clay tile had been built into the wall core. It was also apparent that some of the fallen wall F955 overlay F890, suggesting the latter had been robbed out before the west wall fell in.

Small Finds: 2640 Fe nail Samples: 3686 stone

F891 Tr1 B540186-B508106 Wall (east)

Rels: b. (475); c.b. F949; c. Nat.

Length: 9.1 m Width: 0.86 m Depth: ?

Description: This external wall was the most poorly preserved having suffered the most plough damage, with plough/subsoiler ruts clearly having cut through the wall and dislodged flints. The foundation appears to be set into a shallow trench containing a bed of pale brown mortar mixed with a high density of chalk. Remains of a single course of flint nodules 150–250 mm survived set into the mortar. In some areas the original tightly packed interlocking character of the flints was visible, particularly along the central section of the outer wall face.

F892 Tr1 B498104-B320160 Wall (south)

Rels: b. (475); c.b. ph 1151; c. Nat.

Length: 21.0 m Width: 0.58–0.6 m; 0.75 m Depth: ?

Description: The south wall of Building 2 had the main doorway F929 set into it midway along its length. During the use of the building the east end had to be repaired or rebuilt represented by F948.

A wider foundation was set into a trench of uncertain depth and only parts of the upper course of flints of this foundation were visible. Sometimes a foundation off-set of 0.1–0.14 m was visible, but in some sections the upper wall appeared to be flush with the foundation.

The wall faces were constructed of flint nodules 150–220 mm of uniform size and shape, closely set and well keyed, bonded with light brown mortar. At the east end, where only the lowest flint course survived, the wall core contained smaller flints, which were generally more dispersed within the mortar. In the western section the stones in the core were much more closely set, but towards the corner included a number of rounded chalk blocks 60–120 mm. The south-west corner with F906 was marked by a large flint nodule 320 x 360 mm deliberately selected for or cut to its square shape.

Small Finds: 2665 Fe nails

F948 Tr1 B515110 Wall rebuild south-east corner

Rels: b. F880; a. F891, F892

Length: 1.7 m Width: 0.7 m Depth: 0.15 m

Description: The east end of the south wall was repaired probably at the same time as F949, the southern end of the east wall, though the character of construction of each is somewhat different and F948 may be a later repair. This length was made of massive flint blocks 200–390 mm long (much larger than the flints used elsewhere in the walls) with the larger blocks used for the wall face. The corner was marked by a large squared greensand block 270 x 160 mm. The blocks were not as neatly set as in other sections of wall. They were bonded with light yellowish-brown mortar.

F949 Tr1 B510100 Wall rebuild south-east corner

Rels: b. (475); a. F891

Length: 3.0 m Width: 0.8 m Depth: 0.15 m

Description: In the process of repairing the south-east corner of Building 2 a substantial length of the south end of the east wall was rebuilt and slightly realigned by a maximum of

0.35 m at the corner to the east of the original wall. One course survived constructed on top of F891.

The inner and outer faces were built of large flint blocks, 200–250 mm, closely set and keyed to one another, with smaller flints 80–120 mm tightly packed in the wall core. They were set in a light brown hard mortar about 0.08 m thick.

F929 Tr1 B432124-B405134 Blocked doorway

Rels: b. (475); con. (538); a. F892

Length: 2.7 m Width: 0.8 m Depth: ?

Description: The original doorway had been constructed midway along the south wall, 8.6 m from the east end and 9.2 m from the west end. Each side of the doorway was marked by large carefully shaped, squared greensand blocks c.500 x 280 mm and large flint blocks c.400 mm.

Within the doorway were large flint blocks and broken nodules 150–350 mm, which do not appear to have been laid in any coherent manner but appear to be a random dump or collapse. They may represent a rough foundation for a wooden doorsill, but part of a proper alignment of flints was visible below them along the south edge comparable with the main wall face suggesting this was later infill dumped after the doorway was dismantled. Nor are the flints properly laid to suggest a wall was built to block the doorway in a well-constructed manner. If these flints did form a foundation for a wall, they represent a very serious case of cowboy builders at work.

The soil (538) between the flints was a fine compact dark yellowish-brown clayey soil containing a moderate density of flint grit, small angular flints, some burnt, and fragments of limestone slates and clay tile up to 120 mm.

Small Finds: 2652 Fe nails Samples: 3733 limestone

F896 Tr1 B470116-B493195 Internal N–S wall

Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Length: 8.44 m Width: 0.45–0.66 m Depth: ?

Description: This internal wall was aligned N–S, cutting off the eastern third of the building. At both the north and south ends it formed a butt joint with the outer walls (F890, F892) of Building 2. The wall footing was set in a foundation trench, which appeared to be filled with close-set angular flint nodules 80–140 mm, exposed at the north end of the wall and in the base of F872. No part of the wall footing was excavated, but where the corn drier flue F921 was cut up to the wall edge, the flints visible in its end may indicate that it was similar in depth and construction to F916/F947.

Over the lower flints a layer (0.1–0.12 m thick) of pale brown mortar mixed with a high density of chalk grit and scattered chalk fragments and angular flint 20–50 mm formed the surface on which the wall itself was constructed. The lowest course of flints survived mainly over the central section. The flint nodules were 120–250 mm in size, tightly packed, with the larger ones generally selected for the wall faces.

At the south end, where the wall had been cut through for the construction of flue F919 of the corn drier, it had been rebuilt with large rounded blocks of chalk 150–280 mm closely packed in light brown mortar.

The post-hole, ph 1151, at the south end cut into the outer wall (F892) was on line with this wall and may have been part of a timber frame superstructure associated with the internal wall.

F895 Tr1 B490168-B524160 Internal E–W wall

Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Length: 3.7 m Width: 0.52–0.6 m Depth: 0.35 m (min.)

Description: This internal cross wall, aligned E–W, ran between F896 and the outer east wall F891 and defined the north-east room of the building. It appears to have been built as a single construction with F896, but forms a butt joint with the outer wall F891.

No part of the wall was excavated, though some part of its thickness was visible in the end of the flue F924. Here it could be seen that a footing 0.2 m thick of pale brownish- yellow mortar mixed with much soil and containing a few small angular flints formed the base for the wall. On this only one course of flints partly survived set into the mortar. The flints measured 100–180 mm in size and in general were fairly dispersed in the mortar, rather than being closely keyed together. However this may merely reflect the level of survival as in a few small areas the flints were close set. Occasional rounded chalk blocks *c.*100–120 mm occurred in the wall core and at the east end there was much small chalk rubble rammed amongst the flints.

Small Finds: 2635 Pb waste

F916 Tr1 B458140 Internal E–W wall

Rel: b. (475); c.b. F920; c. Nat.

Length: 1.25 m Width: 0.5 m Depth: 0.37 m

Description: Internal cross wall aligned E–W and with F947 originally defined the north side of the south-east room of Building 2. The two walls may not have been continuous, as they are slightly different in character, perhaps being separated by a doorway, subsequently destroyed by F920. F916 may abut wall F896, rather than being bonded with it.

The foundation trench had a U-shaped profile and was filled with three courses of large angular flint nodules, 100–180 mm, tightly packed and interlocking in a matrix of brown clay mixed with chalk and flint grit. Over the surface of the uppermost course of flints was a layer, 40–70 mm thick, of mortar mixed with clayey soil, subangular chalk up to 40 mm, chalk and flint grit.

F947 Tr1 B510133 Internal E–W wall

Rel: c.b. F920; b. (498); a.b. F891; c. Nat.

Length: 1.0 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: 0.3 m

Description: This short length of wall foundation had been truncated by F920 and was probably originally continuous with F916. Set into a U-shaped foundation trench were three courses of angular flint nodules 120–180 mm set in a very dense reddish clay mixed with chalk and flint grit. The lowest course appears to be small flints *c.*60 mm rammed in the clay, in contrast to the uppermost course of tightly packed interlocking nodules.

F956 Tr1 B430180 Internal E–W wall

Rel: b. F955, (500); c.b. F933

Length: >0.56 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: 0.03–0.06 m

Description: This structure appeared to be a stub of internal cross wall running E–W across the central room of Building 2. It occurs on the west side of the room and appears to continue westwards under the fallen wall F955. Its east end has been cut by oven F933 and no sign of the wall survived east of the oven.

It was composed of a spread of very pale brown mortar 30–60 mm thick into which had been set a number of angular flint blocks 80–140 mm with rounded chalk fragments and crushed chalk between.

F923 Tr1 B424158 Internal wall footing

Rel: b. F955, ?(514)

Length: >0.45 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: c.0.1 m

Description: Short length of wall footing protruding below F955. This appears to be part of an E–W wall set into a shallow foundation trench cut into the natural clay and containing a wall footing of rammed puddled chalk 0.4 m wide. This lines up with F957 on the east side of the room and the two may have originally formed a single internal partition of the central room.

F957 Tr1 B470145 Internal E–W wall

Rels: b. F883A, (487); c.b. F951

Length: 0.9 m Width: >0.2 m Depth: ?

Description: Severely truncated remnant of wall aligned E–W in the central room of Building 2. It is on line with wall F916/F947 in the rooms to the east and also with the remnants of a foundation trench (F923) protruding below F955. Only a part of its north edge survives, the rest having been destroyed by a complex of ovens and hearths (F951–3, F883). Part of a course of flints, 80–150 mm, survived at its west end set in a base of solid light brown mortar mixed with small chalk.

F885 Tr1 B460106 Wall collapse

Rels: b. (475); eq. (488); a. (524); s.a. F886

Length: 1.0 m Width: ? Depth: ?

Description: see F886

F886 Tr1 B465104 Wall collapse Roman

Rels: b. (475); eq. (488); a. (524); s.a. F885

Length: 2.0 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: ?

Description: Flint nodules 150–250 mm closely set with much degraded light brown mortar between mixed with yellowish-brown clayey soil. [Block of fallen or demolished wall against outside edge of south wall F892 of Building 2.]

F976 Tr1 B375200 Collapsed wall

Rels: b. 580; a. 632; eq. 609, F955

Description: Solidly mortared chalk and flint wall block: the uppermost part exposed in excavation consisted of roughly subrectangular chalk blocks c. 200 mm size, set in light yellow–pale brown soft chalky mortar. These blocks probably formed part of the wall core as upon removal of the chalk, which was only one block thick, flint blocks were exposed. These had probably formed the internal wall face.

F982 Tr1 B32/B42 ?Internal wall or collapsed wall

Rels: b. 580, a. 611

Length: 1.6 m Width: 0.4–0.45 m

Description: This may have been a very roughly constructed footing. It was built mainly of chalk blocks 150–240 mm with some flint blocks up to 220 mm. They were set in a mixture of soil and mortar. Upon full excavation it appeared more likely to be a section of the collapsed wall that had been more solidly mortared.

F959 Tr1 B392229-B387210 Internal chalk wall

Rels: b. F955; c. F890, F892; contains F1012, F1011

Length: 6.0 m Width: 0.54 m Height: 0.15 m

Description: This wall footing is aligned N–S and cuts off the west end of Building 2 (which is then subdivided into two rooms by F991). The wall was well constructed of square–

subrectangular chalk blocks 100–260 mm with smaller more irregular blocks mostly 50–100 mm forming the core, set on a bed of pale brown mortar. There were two gaps in the centre forming doorways F1011 and F1012 leading to the two rooms to the west. Only one course in height survived. At its south end it had been rebuilt as F984. At both north and south ends this wall breaks through the external walls, F890 and F892.

F984 Tr1 B370150-B357170 Internal wall

Rels: b. F955; a. F959; c. F892

Length: 3.0 m Width: 0.36–0.52 m Height: 0.41 m

Description: This section of wall replaced F959 at its south end between the door F1012 and the exterior of the building delimited by F892. It was more roughly constructed than the earlier wall. At its south end it was composed of roughly squared chalk blocks 80–100 mm in size set in hard pale brown mortar and survived two courses high. At the north end the fireplace or oven F990 has been inset into the wall, which is constructed here of a mixture of sandstone blocks 200–250 mm long and chalk and flint *c.*200 mm that have subsequently been burnt. The short section of this wall north of F990 was irregularly built of chalk flint blocks 180–220 mm with a chalk and flint core.

F991 Tr1 B345203-B363196 Robbed wall base

Rels: b. 611, 633

Length: 4.6 m Width: 0.2–0.3 m

Description: This insubstantial flint and mortar wall footing was aligned E–W subdividing the west end of Building 2 between F906 and F959/984 into two rooms. The footing was constructed of flint nodules 100–220 mm set in light brown mortar. The base possibly supported a light timber partition, which at some stage during the building's use had been demolished.

F1011 Tr1 B383194 Doorway in F959

Rels: b. 611, 633; set in F959

Length: 0.85 m Width: 0.3 m Depth: 0.05 m

Description: This survived as a partial gap across half the width of the chalk wall F959 on the east side. Here the chalk blocks were missing and a flat patch of plain mortar possibly represents the position of a wooden doorsill leading into the north-west room.

F1012 Tr1 B377175 Doorway in F959/984

Rels: b. 611, 633; set in F959

Length: 0.96 m Width: 0.3 m Depth: 0.05 m

Description: This took the form of a short gap in the chalk blocks of wall F959 on the east side where a flat patch of brown mortar possibly represented the position of a wooden doorsill leading into the south-west room of Building 2. There was much wear in the area leading to this doorway (F1057), which has also caused wear and damage to the doorway.

F1013 Tr1 B340203 Doorway in F991

Rels: b. 611, 633; set into F991

Length: 0.9 m Width: 1.0 m

Description: This doorway led between the two westernmost rooms of Building 2 forming a gap at the west end of wall F991 next to the external wall F906. The area of the door extended beyond the width of F991 showing as a slightly hollowed area sloping down from the slightly higher north floor (612) to the lower southern floor (659). The area was paved with four limestone roof slabs up to 400 mm long with patches of mortar adhering to them.

F1045 Tr1 B420203 Flint post pad

Rels: b. 677; ?c.b. F987

Length: 0.34 m Width: 0.27 m Height: 0.15 m

Description: This roughly shaped rectangular flint block was set into the natural clay and possibly formed a pair with F1046.

F1046 Tr1 B407156 Flint post pad

Rels: b. 677; ?c. F1052; ?c.b. F987

Length: 0.32 m Width: 0.26 m

Description: Square flint nodule set into the natural clay; possibly forms a pair with F1045 and may relate to slot F1052 which terminates at it.

F1053 Tr1 B403198 Flint foundation pad

Rels: b. 657; c. natural

Length: 0.7 m Width: 0.6 m

Description: Setting of flint nodules 120–200 mm with small flints and chalk packed between and set in mortar bedding. As planned this appears to be an oval feature possibly with a circular void at its north edge, but it is recorded as originally being more elongated up to 1.2 m long. It possibly formed a base for some internal structure within Building 2.

F1052 Tr1 B378165-B405156 Slot

Rels: b. 677; c.b. F994, ?F984; c. natural

Length: 3.0 m Width: 0.2–0.3 m Depth: 0.1 m

Description: Slight linear slot, rather irregular running E–W between post pad F1046 and wall F984/F959.

Fill: (1) Brown fine clayey soil containing much chalk grit and a moderate density of weathered rounded lumps up to 20 mm, plus occasional flecks of charcoal and red fired clay.

F983 Tr1 B352233 Post pit

Rels: b. 611, c. 612

Length: 1.1 m Width: 1.0 m Depth: 0.38/0.58 m Void diam: 0.38 m

Description: Large sub-square pit with deeper circular hollow on the west side, which apparently held the timber.

Fill: (3) [Packing] Hard densely compacted uniform deposit of yellowish-brown clayey soil mixed with a high density of angular flint gravel and fewer rounded chalk lumps, both *c.* 20–60 mm, and frequent chalk grit and containing several large flint nodules 100–250 mm.

(2) [Fill of post void] Loose greyish-brown crumbly clay soil containing a moderate density of weathered flint gravel and rounded chalk up to 20 mm and occasional charcoal fragments. The large flint nodules 100–200 mm against the west side are probably packing material slumped in following removal or rotting of the post.

(1) Across the top of the feature was a thin layer of dark brown clayey soil mixed with flecks of mortar and charcoal and containing much occupation debris, especially pottery, tile and limestone roof slates.

Small Finds: (1) Iron: 2920 5 nails, (2) CuA: 2951 coin, (3) CuA: 2952 coin; 3082 worked stone

Samples: 4021 stone

Other Artefacts: (1) Pottery, tile, daub, bone, stone, oyster, mussel and snail shell, tesserae; (2) Pottery, flint, snail shell; (3) Pottery, tile, bone, stone, oyster shell

Catalogue of ovens, hearths and corn driers

Ovens

F931 Tr1 B475180 Oven Type 2a Within Building 2 Phase: Roman
Rels: b. (514); c. Nat. Aligned: E–W

Length: 2.0 m

Width: oven bowl: 0.54 m; flue: 0.46–0.62–0.28 m; stokehole: 0.46 m

Depth: oven bowl: 0.41 m; flue: 0.33–0.22 m; stokehole: 0.1 m

Description: Elongated oven, trilobate in form, though the main part – the oven bowl and flue – could be regarded as figure-of-eight shaped, but this would disregard the stokehole at the west end, which was unusually narrow. The oven bowl was circular with a slight narrowing where it joined into the flue or firing chamber, also circular. At the west end this narrowed to join into the stokehole, which flared out only very slightly as it sloped up to the ground surface. In general the sides were steep and near vertical and the base very slightly dished in the oven bowl. In the flue the base was gently sloping and undulating, forming a continuous incline with the floor of the stokehole rising to the surface. *In situ* burning occurred around the upper edges of the oven bowl and flue and extended into the stokehole opening. The most intense reddening of the clay was around the flue and at its junctions with both bowl and stokehole.

Fill: (3) Extending over the whole base, up to 60 mm thick in the oven bowl, was a layer consisting of fine lenses of grey ash alternating with fine black charcoal dust containing some charcoal fragments up to 40 mm.

(2) Infilling the lower half was a dump of yellowish-brown clayey soil mixed with much degraded mortar, lumps of red and brown clay, limestone slabs *c.*120 mm, clay tile up to 280 mm, blocks of mortar 30–140 mm, flint nodules up to 150 mm and patches of ash and charcoal. [Deliberate infill of oven utilizing building materials from demolished or refurbished building.]

(1) Filling and levelling the upper half of the oven was a highly compacted dark yellowish-brown clayey soil containing a moderate scatter of chalk grit, rounded flint pebbles 10–40 mm, some burnt, broken flints up to 100 mm plus occasional flecks of fired clay and charcoal and few worn fragments of limestone slab. [Deliberate infill to level and reconstitute floor surface following disuse of oven.]

Small Finds: 2704 Fe nails

Samples: 3729 charcoal; 3831 flotation; 3861 mortar

F933 Tr1 B439187 Oven: type 2a Within Building 2 Phase: Roman
Rels: b. (514), F950; c. Nat. Aligned: N–S

Length: 2.0 m

Width: oven bowl: 0.6 m; flue: 0.4 m; stokehole: 0.5 m

Depth: oven bowl: 0.26 m; flue: 0.25 m; stokehole: 0.12 m

Description: Dumb-bell-shaped oven, cut into the natural chalk marl/clay. It had a circular oven bowl at the north end, narrowing slightly to form a straight flue running from it on a level and sloping up at the south to form the stokehole, which widened only slightly from the flue. Burning of the upper sides and rim discoloured red and pink occurred around the oven bowl and flue with most intense burning at the junction of the two, around the rim of the bowl and on the base of the flue, where the clay was fired hard to a yellowish-brown colour.

Fill: (3) Extending evenly over the base of bowl, flue and the lower step of the stokehole was a thin layer of dark grey fine ash mixed with charcoal fragments and dust containing a

scatter of burnt flint and chalk 5–20 mm and flecks of red fired clay. [Cinders from final firing.]

(2) Dark reddish-brown clayey soil mixed with much mortar grit and large lumps of soft weathered mortar up to 150 mm, with occasional flecks and smears of charcoal. Lying flat in the top of the layer over the oven bowl were several broken angular limestone roof slates 140–180 mm long. [Deliberate infill utilizing broken building debris.]

(1) Dense and very compact dark reddish-brown very clayey soil containing a sparse scatter of broken flints 10–60 mm, some burnt and occasional soft lumps of weathered light brown plaster. [Deliberate infill and levelling of feature.]

Samples: 3732, 3817 charcoal; 3837 flotation; 3795 mortar

F951 Tr1 B465150 Oven Type 2b Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rel: b. F883, (487), (514); c. F952, F957

Length: 1.6 m

Width: oven bowl: 0.44 m; flue: 0.26 m; stokehole: 0.76 m

Depth: oven bowl: 0.26 m; flue: 0.23 m; stokehole: 0.22 m

Description: Keyhole-shaped oven, aligned N–S with the oven bowl lying to the south. This was exceptionally well preserved (probably because of the protection of F883 overlying it). It had a circular oven bowl gradually narrowing to join with the flue. This widened abruptly into a large deep circular stokehole. The walls of the stokehole ranged from steeply sloping on the north to more splayed around the sides. The base was smooth and flat sloping down very slightly through the flue to the slightly dished base of the oven bowl. At the north end the feature was cut through natural clay marl, but around the south and west side of the oven bowl it had cut through an earlier oven (F952). Here the sides had been lined with an artificial wall of clay *c.*40–50 mm thick, which had been thoroughly fired to a yellowish-brown or red colour preserving the finger marks of shaping and moulding of the clay as well as impressions of grass/straw. The most intense firing occurred along the sides of the flue and over the oven bowl. More extensive baking on the surface to the west may result from the earlier ovens. Only one half was excavated.

Fill: (3) Across the base was a thin (80 mm) layer of dark grey ash and fine charcoal forming fine lenses and interleaved with thin discontinuous lenses of dark red burnt clay and containing occasional burnt flints up to 60 mm.

(2) Infilling the stokehole was a thick layer of dark brown clayey soil with dark yellow clay mottles and containing sparse chalk grit, lumps of dark yellow mortar, flint pebbles and gravel 20–50 mm and rare chips of limestone slab. [Deliberate tip incorporating some building debris infilling and levelling the stokehole.]

(1) Infilling the flue and oven bowl was a mass of building debris dominated by large blocks of yellowish-brown mortar 70–250 mm, friable concrete, broken limestone slabs and clay tile fragments, flint nodules up to 150 mm densely compacted in dark brown charcoal-stained soft soil. [Deliberate infill and levelling of oven utilizing demolished building materials.]

Small Finds: 2777 Fe object

Samples: 3894, 3897 flotation

F952 Tr1 B462137 Oven Type 2 Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rel: c.b. F951, F953; b. F883; c. Nat.

Flue: Length: 0.45 m Width: *c.*0.46 m Depth: 0.25 m

Description: The north end of this oven was cut away by F951 and the south end has been destroyed by F953, though this oven may in fact be its bowl or stokehole (see below). What

clearly survives in plan is the narrow oven flue with steep near vertical sides and flat base. The clay of the sides and base had been baked pink–red.

Fill: (2) Over the base was a remnant of ash and charcoal c.20–30 mm thick.

(1) The upper part was filled with dark brown clayey soil mixed with chalk grit and a few worn chalk and flint fragments up to 40 mm. [Deliberate levelling dump.]

Samples: 3895 flotation

F953 Tr1 B460135 Oven Type 2 Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: c.b. F939, F951; b. F883 (487); c. F952

Length: ~ Width: >0.45 m Depth: 0.25 m

Description: Very little of this feature was exposed and it is possible most of it had been destroyed by F939. It appeared to be circular in form with sloping sides. Rather than being a separate feature it may have been the bowl or stokehole of F952. Without full excavation it is not possible to judge.

Fill: The small area of fill excavated showed interleaving lenses of brown clayey soil with a charcoal and ash lens through it in the lower half overlain by a lens of soil and mortar and finally a lens of dark red clay near the top.

F956 Tr1 B430180 Roman Oven: type ?2b Within Building 2, central room

Rels: b. F955, (500), (677); c.b. F933

Length: 1.1 m Width: 0.6 m Depth: 0.12 m

Description: Shallow dished figure-of-eight-shaped hollow, aligned WNW–ESE. Its east end may have been cut away by F933 or possibly F950 was in fact this.

Fill: (1) A thin layer of dark grey soil mixed with a high density of ash and charcoal covered the base to a depth of 40 mm. The remaining hollow was infilled with floor level deposit (677).

F987 Tr1 B421206 Oven type: 2b Within Building 2, central room

Rels: b. 611 eq; c. Nat., 657

Length: 1.5 m

Width: bowl: 0.66 m; flue: 0.35 m Depth: bowl: 0.3 m; flue: 0.2 m

Description: This keyhole-shaped feature with narrow flue widening slightly to the oven bowl at the west end was cut into the natural clay marl and had intense burning along the sides and base of the oven bowl and flue, especially at the junction of the two. It had a slightly dished base and steeply sloping sides. *In situ* burning was not present at the east end, where the sides and end slope more gently and would have formed the stokehole to the structure. The flue and stokehole were continuous with no significant change from one to the other. The structure was aligned E–W.

Fill: (2) Covering the base and extending the full length of the feature was a thin layer of dark grey–black fine powdered charcoal, ash and charcoal fragments up to 10 mm in a crumbly clayey soil. It was up to 100 mm thick in the bowl thinning to 20–30 mm in the stokehole. [Cinders from firing.]

(1) Compacted pale brown clayey soil containing rounded chalk grit and rare weathered flints 20–80 mm. The surface was smooth and trampled. [Deliberate infill to reinstate floor surface.]

Samples: (2) 3954 flotation

F989 Tr1 B343163 Oven/Hearth type: unclassified Within Building 2: south-west room

Rels: b. 633, 620; a. 659

Length: c.0.5 m diam. Width: ~ Depth: 0.04 m

Description: Arc of circular wall constructed of dark yellow clay and mortar mixed with small broken flints c.50 mm. It was up to 0.15 m wide and survived to a height of 30–40 mm. This dauby material did not appear to have been heavily fired, but was sealed by a layer of charcoal and ash (620).

Fill: Unexcavated

F990 Tr1 B371166 Oven type: 2a Within Building 2: south-west room

Rels: b. 633, c. Nat.

Length: 1.66 m

Width: bowl: 0.62 m; flue: 0.36 m; stokehole: 0.68 m

Depth: bowl: 0.14 m; flue: 0.07 m; stokehole: 0.05 m

Description: This dumb-bell-shaped structure was aligned E–W having its east end constructed integrally with the wall rebuild F984. At its east end the section of wall which formed the back face of the oven bowl was constructed of rectangular sandstone blocks c.200 mm set on courses of chalk and flint blocks, all bedded in mortar. These survived to a height of 0.4 m. The two upper courses of blocks had been burnt. The floor and sides of the oven were also intensely burnt in the central flue (the firing chamber) extending partly into the bowl and stokehole. The floors of the oven were flat and the sides gently sloping, especially around the stokehole area.

The base plan is typical of small Roman ovens, but its integral construction with the wall suggests it may have formed some sort of fireplace or possibly had a substantial superstructure built into the corner of the room to form a bread oven. The remnants of some form of construction of clay tile and tufa between F990 and the room corner to the south may have been a part of this oven.

Fill: A thin layer of pure ash and charcoal layer over the base of the stokehole. The fill of the flue was a mix of clayey soil and flints, some burnt, 40–100 mm. The oven bowl was filled with a clayey soil containing dispersed charcoal fragments, small flints and lumps of burnt tufa.

Artefacts: (1) Iron: 2990 2 nails; pottery, oyster shell

Samples: 3986 plaster

F1010 Tr1 B414186 Oven type: 2a Within Building 2, central room

Rels: below 677, cut by F933; cuts natural, cut by F1041?

Length: 2.0 m

Width: bowl: 0.8 m; flue: 0.6 m; stokehole: 0.85 m

Depth: bowl: 0.36 m; flue: 0.28 m; stokehole: 0.16 m

Description: This oven, aligned E–W, is closest in shape to the dumb-bell type, though the flue is little narrower than the ends of the oven. It takes the form of three interconnected rounded hollows with flat base and sloping sides, except in the flue where the sides are more vertical. There was *in situ* burning over the base and sides of the oven bowl and flue to a depth of 30–50 mm with the most intense firing along the upper edge, especially around the back of the bowl and at the junction of bowl and flue on the south side.

Fill: (2) Over the floor was a layer of fine silty soil mixed with a high density of ash and fine charcoal with the main concentration 80 mm thick towards the back of the oven bowl, virtually none in the flue and a thin skim in the stokehole.

(1a) Over the cinders in the oven bowl were a few slabs of limestone slating and clay tile, lying flat, which may have fallen in from a drying floor covering the oven base.

(1) The main infill was a thick deliberate dump of brown clayey soil mixed with large quantities of occupation and building debris, including broken flints 100–200 mm, chalk blocks, some burnt, fragments of sandstone including a worked block 300 mm, lumps of burnt and shaped tufa, clay tile, oven slag, fired orange clay and charcoal. [This dump is very possibly derived from the demolition of another oven – it is very similar to the construction materials of F990 and may have derived from that structure.]

Artefacts: (1) Pottery, flint

Samples: (1) 4043 stone; (2) 4065 flotation

F1041 Tr1 B416193 Oven type: 2a Within Building 2, central room

Rel: below 672, 677; cuts F1010?

Length: 1.8 m

Width: bowl: 0.58 m; flue: 0.54 m; stokehole: 0.64 m

Depth: bowl: 0.34 m; flue: 0.29 m; stokehole: 0.15–0.18 m

Description: This oven is aligned E–W lying directly alongside F1010. It is assigned to the dumb-bell form, though there is very little distinction in width of its three parts. It has a flat base and steeply sloping sides which have been fired to varying degrees up to 100–140 mm deep over most of the feature, except for the extreme east end of the stokehole. The most intense burning and reddening occurred along the upper edges of the flue mainly and parts of the oven bowl.

Fill: (2) Covering the entire floor of the feature was a thin deposit of ash and charcoal mixed with a little clayey soil and containing a little burnt flint 10–40 mm and sparse chalk grit. In the stokehole the ash subdivided into three thin lenses separated by thin layers of charcoaly soil.

(1) Infilling most of the feature was a deliberate dump of occupation and building debris, especially mortar blocks, flint nodules, fired clay fragments, charcoal and ash mixed into a clay soil containing small chalk lumps and lumps of natural clay.

Artefacts: (1) Pottery, flint

Samples: 4066 flotation

F1055 Tr1 B374152 Oven/hearth Within Building 2, central room

Rel: b. 633, a. F994/5

Length: c.1.1 m Width: c.0.8 m Depth: ~

Description: This poorly preserved structure was possibly the remains of a hearth or oven set in the corner formed by walls F984 and F892, on the other side to F990. It is too damaged to discern its overall form and size, but within its structure was a rim of hard pink mortar, blocks of tufa, limestone slabs and clay tile and some burnt flints.

Hearths

F872 Tr1 B490188 Hearth Type 6 Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rel: b. (475), (486), (509); c. F896; a. (550)

Length: 2.06 m Width: 0.9 x 0.8 m; internally 0.64 x 0.5 m Depth: 0.14 m

Description: This structure was built into the internal wall F896 of Building 2: it appeared to be constructed integrally with it and not a later insertion. The base was formed by the close-packed flint nodules, c.80 mm in size, which formed the wall footing and in the area of the hearth had been intensely burnt. The band of clay natural at the back of the hearth beyond the wall footing had also been burnt, discoloured to a light yellowish-red. The basic structure was

square, enclosed on three sides by flint and mortar walls, capped at the back (east) and north side by clay tiles laid flat, 0.1 m above the flint base. These measured c.100–160 mm by 180–200 mm and in some cases it was evident that they were pieces of broken box tile.

At a distance of 0.4 m in front of the hearth set slightly to either side 0.9 m apart were two shallow stake-holes c.60 mm wide and 50–70 mm deep. One appeared to be circular, one rectangular. Between these stake-holes and extending out in an oval 1.3 m long in front of the hearth was a shallow hollow with burning on the surface.

The structure appears to have remained in use throughout the occupation of the building. Most of the layers which extended out in front of the hearth appeared to be broadly contemporary with floor (550). They were sealed by a late floor (509) and it is clear that ash and charcoal from the hearth had been trampled over that surface also.

Fill: (2) Over the area in front of the hearth was an irregular spread of very degraded pale brown to dark pink baked clay incorporating small chalk and flint pieces 5–20 mm. [Hearth lining eroded off walls/base during use of structure.]

(3) Over this was a fine soft compact dark grey soil discoloured by the very high density of ash and crushed charcoal. Very thin lenses could be discerned of charcoal-rich lenses alternating with light brownish-grey ash. [Cinders and rake out from a series of firings of the hearth.]

(4) Within the fireplace itself was a solid mass of amorphous light brownish-orange daub/fired clay tempered with chalk grit. This appeared to have a deliberate curved edge around its south side (suggesting it was a deliberate resurfacing of the base, though there is also the possibility that it was collapsed superstructure).

(1) Within the fireplace over (4) was an isolated patch of burning 0.3 m by 0.4 m. It consisted entirely of small charcoal fragments.

Small Finds: 2716 CuA split ring; 2659 Fe nails

Samples: 3707 charcoal; 3844 stone; 3719, 3808, 3858 plaster; 3827, 3834 flotation

F880 Tr1 B510100 Hearth Type 1/3 Phase: Late Roman

Rels: b. (475); a. (485), F891/F892

Length: 1.02 m Width: 0.64 m Depth: 0.09 m

Description: Roughly subrectangular layer of friable clay mixed with a few chalk lumps 10–30 mm, burnt to a dark orange colour. The hearth lay over the south-east corner of Building 2 either overlying mortar layer (485) or possibly integral with it, the surface of the layer being used for the position of a hearth.

Samples: 3838 fired clay

F883 Tr1 B465136 Hearth Type 1 and 5 Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (511); a. F951–953, F957

Length: E: 0.65 m; M: 1.26 m [0.62 x 0.42 m]; L: 1.3 m [0.76 x 0.64 m]

Width: E: 0.6 m; M: 0.95 m; L: 1.0 m Depth: E: 0.08 m; M: 0.08–0.1 m; L: 0.08 m

Description: This hearth was constructed in the south-east corner of the central room of Building 2 and was resurfaced on two occasions. In all three phases of use it probably post-dates the corn drier stokehole F939, though it could be argued that the first phase was contemporary.

Early phase: The first hearth (Type 1) was constructed of a simple spread of clay (8), lentoidal in cross section and burnt over the central area of the surface, where a slight hollow had worn. This was covered by an extensive layer of ash and charcoal (487) mixed into dark brown clayey soil containing small rounded flint pebbles 10–30 mm, chalk grit and fragments of mortar. This spread beyond the confines of the hearth extending over F939 and the

surrounding trampled clay floor and continued to accumulate during the subsequent use of the hearth.

Middle phase: The hearth (Type 5) was resurfaced with the construction of a rectangular pad of broken mortar (6) mixed with large quantities of tesserae. In the centre was a shallow worn hollow 0.7 m in diameter with burning over the surface in this area. A thin lens of charcoal and ash (5) *c.*50 mm thick had accumulated in the hollow. This was covered by two clay tiles (4), which effectively resurfaced the south half of the hearth. The tiles covered an area 0.62 x 0.42 m and the individual tiles measured 430 x 280 mm and 430 x 320 mm. Some broken clay tiles were set on edge forming a kerb along the west edge at the south end.

Late phase: In the final phase a further layer of mortar was spread containing lumps of wall plaster and tesserae into which four clay tiles were set to form the surface of the hearth (Type 5). The clay tiles measured 375 x 310 mm. There was an oval area of burning measuring 0.65 x 0.44 m. A clay tile was set on edge forming a slight kerb along the north edge of the tiles, whilst to the south there was a more substantial construction of greensand blocks 100–300 mm and burnt broken flint nodules *c.*150 mm enclosed between kerbs of clay tile set on edge to the east and west sides. Contemporary with this phase was the fallen building debris (511) trampled and used as a floor surface.

Small Finds: 2770 Fe nails

Samples: 3867, 3880 stone; 3893 flotation

F943 Tr1 B465188 Smithing hearth (Oven type 5) Within Building 2

Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (564); c. F931

Length: 1.0 m Width: 1.0 m Depth: 0.26 m

Description: Shallow circular basin-shaped hollow with gently sloping sides and dished base. The southern edge was removed in excavating oven F931. As a result it was truncated from a very shallow worn area to the south, which may have been associated with its use. There was light burning on its surface and its upper edge was partly lined with flints. The evidence of the fill indicates this to have been a hearth associated with iron smithing.

Fill: (3) Over the base was a thin lens of charcoal fragments and fine charcoal dust mixed with a little small chalk 5–10 mm and a few burnt flints 20–50 mm. It was thickest in the centre up to 40 mm, thinning as it ran up the sides. [Cinders from final use.]

(2) Very stiff, sticky yellow or brownish-yellow clay lumps mixed in dark greyish-brown charcoal-rich soil with broken flints up to 120 mm, lumps of greenish-grey clay *c.*40–50 mm, sparse chalk grit and a few pieces of orange baked clay.

(1) Across the top was a thin layer of greyish-brown mixed clayey and loamy soil, discoloured by fine charcoal and containing sparse chalk grit, iron slag, hammer scale and baked hearth lining. [Debris from smithing and disused smithing hearth.]

Small Finds: 2712 CuA coin; 2735 Fe blade, 2773, 2778 Fe nails

Samples: 3848, 3882, 3881 charcoal; 3842, 3883, 3885, 3887 fired clay/hearth lining; 3826, 3884, 3886 slag; 3871–2 flotation; 3879–9 sediment/metallurgy

F950 Tr1 B436175 Hearth Type 1/3 Within Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (514); a. F933

Length: 0.6 m Width: 0.45 m Depth: 0.03–0.07 m

Description: Small roughly circular/oval hearth constructed of a slab of clay mixed with some soil and containing rounded burnt flint pebbles 10–30 mm and rare angular flints up to 60 mm. The area of the hearth had been burnt red. It is possible that this was not a deliberate construction of clay, but an area of a hearth delineated by the burning of the underlying clay

layer within F933 and the adjacent clay natural. In this case it would be type 3 rather than type 1.

F1009 Tr1 B400220 Hearth type 3a Within Building 2, central room

Rels: b. 639; a. Nat.

Length: 0.52 m Width: 0.4 m Depth: ~

Description: Irregular sub-oval area of *in situ* burning on the surface of the natural clay- with-flints.

Fill: None.

F1054 Tr1 B380218 Hearth? type 3a Within Building 2: north-west room

Rels: b. 611; a. 612

Length: 0.9 m Width: 0.75 m Depth: ~

Description: This feature is represented by an area of *in situ* burning on the surface of floor 612. It is bordered on the south edge by a rim of light orange very decayed fired clay. The flints in the floor surface have been burnt in the area of the hearth and there was a faint rim of charcoal around the north edge. The hint of some sort of wall suggests this may have been some sort of oven or fireplace that had largely been demolished and flattened.

The corn drier

Description: This structure was set into the south-east and east central rooms of Building 2, the partition wall (F916, F947) between the two rooms being demolished and its stokehole, F939, placed in the south-east corner of the central room of Building 2. A flue, F919, was cut through the wall F896 to form the firing chamber and to conduct hot air from this through the various flues. There were a total of six flues, two (F918, F921) of which branched off the main firing flue (F919) and the others from the central chamber F920 into which it ran. The flues branch out from the central subrectangular chamber to form an X shape in plan, but with the southern flues (F922–F918) curving around to form a loop.

Remnants of the flint and mortar superstructure, which would have formed the foundation for the floor of the drying chamber, survived around the edges of F919, F920 and F922, but it appears that for the most part the structure was deliberately demolished and the flues infilled, though the presence of horizontal tiles and stone slabs appears to indicate the slumped in remains of the supports for the overlying floor across the flues.

F939 Tr1 B465136 Stokehole of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: c.b. F883; b. (486); c. F952, F953

Length: top: 1.4 m; base: 0.77 m Width: top: 1.3 m; base: 0.82 m Depth: 0.59 m

Description: This was set in a nearly square pit cut into the natural. It had a flat base and a steeply sloping south side splaying out slightly at the top. Around the north and west sides walls had been constructed of flint nodules 80–200 mm set in brown mortar, with some clay tiles set into the top course. The walls were probably constructed on these sides only as the stokehole had cut through earlier ovens on its north-west corner. At the back of the stokehole a ledge or step had been constructed 0.78 x 0.32 m in area and 0.18 m high. It had been surfaced with clay tiles, two fairly large complete rectangular bricks c.300 x 340–360 mm and a smaller fragment infilling the gap at the north end.

Fill: (4) Infilling the base level with the step was a soft fine loose soil mixed with a high density of ash and charcoal containing a few small fragments of burnt flint and chalk, a little flint grit and scattered flecks of red fired clay. Close to the junction with flue F919 occurred a

cache of oyster shells. (This is equivalent to layer (2) in F919.) [Cinders from firing of corn drier.]

(3) Above this and covering the step was a thin (30–70 mm) lens of fine dark grey ashy soil containing a high density of decayed mortar and flint grit. [Eroded mortar ?trampled over cinders.]

(2) Loose almost stone-free grey soil mixed with a high density of ash and charcoal containing a few small burnt flint pebbles and grit. Within this and especially concentrated by the flue opening was a large quantity of oyster shell.

(1) Across the top was a band of blocks of mortar/plaster up to 200 mm, flint nodules *c.*150 mm and lumps of red baked clay densely compacted in a matrix of stiff brown clay stained and mottled with charcoal and red fired clay. The surface was smooth and trampled. The layer was *c.*50 mm thick by the west rim of the stokehole but thickened to 150 mm and sloped down slightly towards the flue side. [This sealed the cinders of the stokehole after the corn drier went out of use; the material probably derived from the corn drier superstructure and the surface subsequently served as the floor level. As the underlying ash layers compacted it subsided slightly leaving a shallow hollow in the top of the stokehole.]

(487) Infilling the hollow was a dark brown clayey soil mottled grey and black from the high density of ash and charcoal containing a few rounded flint pebbles 10–30 mm some burnt, chalk and mortar grit. It accumulated to a depth of 0.18 m within the stokehole, but extended over the rim to merge into the underlying soil layer (514). [These cinders derived from the adjacent hearth F883.]

Small Finds: 2693, 2729, 2744, 2739 Fe nails; 2695, 2721 CuA coins; 2755 whetstone
Samples: 3818, 3797 charcoal; 3833, 3830 flotation; 3824–5 slag; 3812 mortar

F919 Tr1 B476126 Flue and firing chamber of corn drier, Building 2

Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (508), (547); c. F896

Length: 2.6 m Width: top: 0.2–0.46 m; base: 0.35 m Depth: 0.43–0.58 m

Description: This was the main flue incorporating the firing chamber at its west end, which ran north-eastwards from the stokehole (F939) to the central chamber (F920) of the corn drier. It had a flat base and straight vertical sides. Between the stokehole and the junction with flues F918 and F921 the walls were constructed of horizontally laid courses of clay tile/brick, totalling eight at the west end. The structure was not dismantled, but they appear to be square clay bricks *c.*200 mm long and 20–50 mm thick, suggesting some possibly were tegulae or box tiles. In the top course broken box tiles with combing were certainly incorporated. These had been bonded with mortar and over the top a layer of chalk blocks and flint nodules *c.*150 mm had been set in the mortar. A row of flints set in mortar had also survived along the upper edge on the south side at the east end and extending partly around the edge of F920. The way in which the flints and tiles projected out at the top of the flue indicates the commencement of the arch over the top of the flue.

There was virtually no sign of burning on the floor of the flue, though a very slight hollowing could be observed. However some blackening/sooting along the lower courses of the tile was visible extending up the lowest two to three courses of tile, and burning of the clay/mortar sides was observed to a height of 0.15–0.18 m.

Fill: (2) Over the base at the west end was a mound of loose dark grey fine powdery soil containing a very high proportion of ash and charcoal with a few small broken flints and flint pebbles, some burnt, scattered throughout. It was thickest at the stokehole (*c.*0.15 m) gradually thinning and disappearing by flue F918. (This is equivalent to F939 (4).) [Cinders from firing of corn drier.]

(3) Overlapping the tail of (2) and extending over the base towards F920 was a compact deposit of building debris comprising clay tile, fragments of limestone roof slate, flint and chalk blocks set in a brown clayey soil with chalk grit. [Deliberate tip thrown in from F920.]

(4) Overlying (3) and filling the east end of the flue was a mixed deposit of dense compact yellowish-brown clayey soil, small weathered mortar lumps, broken flints 40–50 mm and a little small chalk scattered throughout. [Deliberate dump tipped from F920.]

(1) Infilling the upper half at the west end was a dark greyish-brown fine loose soil mixed with much charcoal and ash, a few broken flints and chalk lumps up to 100 mm and much decayed mortar. The layer also contained a large quantity of large potsherds, metal objects, and other occupation debris. (This is equivalent to F939 (1) and (2).) In addition there were many clay tiles, mainly towards the top of the layer, lying horizontally or sloping gently towards the centre. These may have supported the overlying floor or wall (F896) and subsequently slumped into the void at the top of the flue after it had been infilled. [Deliberate dump of occupation and building debris.]

Small Finds: 2643 CuA spoon; 2671, 2673 Fe nails, 2760 Fe sheet; 2678 glass

Samples: 3798, 3816, 3731 charcoal; 3828, 3835 flotation; 3786–7, 3814, 3853, 3754 plaster; 3764 shale; 3846, 3869, 3772 stone

F918 Tr1 B495155 Flue of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (508), (547); c. Nat.

Length: 3.25 m Width: top: 0.26 m; base: 0.2 m Depth: 0.11–0.42 m

Description: This flue extended from the firing chamber south-eastwards, curving around to form a loop joining with F922. At its east end, where it curved to join with F922, there were the remains of a flint structure along its upper northern edge. This was constructed of large flint nodules closely set in yellowish-brown chalky clay/mortar, which probably formed part of the floor of the drying chamber, which extended over the flues. The flue itself had a narrow U-shaped profile with a flat base and straight vertical or undercutting sides. In plan the eastern half appears irregular due to overcutting of the upper edge in excavation.

Fill: (2) The lower half was filled with very compacted, dark yellowish-brown stiff clayey soil with a moderate to high density of chalk and mortar grit. [Deliberate infill.]

(1) The upper half was filled with a very compact brown clayey soil containing dense chalk and flint grit, scattered small broken flints and much pottery and bone. [Deliberate infill.] In some areas there were large quantities of clay tile sloping in from the edges towards the centre. [These possibly represent part of the superstructure that supported the overlying floor.]

Small Finds: 2664 Fe object, 2769 Fe sheet, 2674 Fe nails, 2660 Fe strap; 2669 vessel glass; 2670 CuA coin

Samples: 3710, 3841 charcoal; 3738–9 limestone slates; 3755, 3776, 3793, 3852, 3864 plaster; 3771 millstone

F920 Tr1 B495138 Central chamber of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (508), (547); c. F916, F945

Length: top: 1.8 m; base: 1.64 m Width: top: 0.72 m; base: 0.68 m Depth: 0.5 m

Description: Subrectangular/oval chamber of corn drier forming central node into which the individual flues joined. It had a flat base and straight vertical sides.

Fill: (2) Tipped across the base and filling the south half completely was a greyish-brown clayey soil mixed with a very high density of plaster and mortar fragments up to 80 mm size, together with a lower density of fired clay c.20 mm, broken flints up to 120 mm and sparse charcoal fragments and flecks.

(1) Filling the hollow in the upper half on the north side was a stiff greyish-brown clayey soil mixed with a high density of small weathered chalk and mortar fragments up to 30 mm and occasional flint gravel up to 60 mm. Towards the top occupation debris in the form of clay tile, bone, pottery and shell became more frequent.

[Both layers represent rapid deliberate infill incorporating much building and occupation debris.]

Small Finds: 2681, 2751, 2655, 2702 Fe nails; 2668, 2676, 2683 glass; 2675 CuA coin; 2682 Pb frags

Samples: 3703, 3727, 3721, 3748, 3799 charcoal; 3832, 3829, 3836 flotation; 3773–5, 3789, 3807, 3809, 3854 plaster; 3850–1, 3805 stone

F921 Tr1 B482134 Flue of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (508), (547); c. Nat.

Length: 0.82 m Width: top: 0.24 m; base: 0.14 m Depth: 0.34–0.5 m

Description: This was a short flue which branched off the main firing chamber running back north-west towards the wall. It had a narrow U-shaped profile with a flat base and straight near vertical sides.

Fill: (1) Very dense compact dark greyish-yellow clayey soil mixed with dense rounded chalk fragments and mortar grit. It also contained occasional mortar lumps up to 100 mm, small flints and a scatter of charcoal and fired clay flecks. [Deliberate fill.]

Small Finds: 2710 decorated bone; 2717 glass; 2753, 2747 Fe nails

Samples: 3770 nut shell; 3810, 3813 plaster

F922 Tr1 B506129 Flue of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (508), (547), (498); c. Nat.

Length: 1.4 m Width: top: 0.45 m; base: 0.17 m Depth: 0.17–0.27 m

Description: Flue running from south-east side of central chamber towards south-east corner of room before curving round to join with F918. It has a U-shaped profile with flat base curving up to sloping or vertical sides. It became progressively shallower towards the corner of the room.

Fill: (2) Infilling the lower half was a yellowish-grey clayey soil mixed with chalk grit and sparse mortar grit and small fragments.

(1) The upper half was filled with a similar greyish-yellow clayey soil containing a high density of mortar grit and lumps up to 120 mm, fragments of clay tile, limestone slabs, and rare broken flint nodules up to 140 mm.

[Deliberate infill of flue.]

Small Finds: 2531 CuA coin; 2680, 2672 Fe nails

Samples: 3726, 3840 charcoal; 3784 plaster; 3806 mortar

F924 Tr1 B497147-B498163 Flue of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (498); c. Nat.

Length: 2.1 m Width: top: 0.34 m; base: 0.26 m Depth: 0.37 m

Description: This flue ran straight north from the central chamber, F920 to the wall F895. It had a U-shaped profile with flat base and straight vertical sides.

Fill: (2) The lower half was filled with a brownish-grey clayey soil containing frequent chalk grit, plus fragments and flecks of mortar, fired clay and charcoal. At the interface with layer 1 was a limestone slab 110 mm lying horizontally.

(1) The top was filled with a dense mix of mortar fragments *c.*50 mm, and small chalk in a matrix of compact brown clay soil.

[Deliberate infill.]

Small Finds: 2690 CuA coin; 2651 Fe nails
Samples: 3778, 3815 charcoal; 3855 plaster

F925 Tr1 B511142-B515158 Flue of corn drier, Building 2 Phase: Roman
Rels: b. (498); c. Nat.

Length: 2.6 m Width: top: 0.26–0.36 m; base: 0.21–0.31 m Depth: 0.2–0.31 m

Description: This flue ran south-south-west from the edge of wall F895 running parallel with the east wall F891, before turning sharply to the west at its end to join with the central chamber F920. It had a flat base and straight vertical sides.

Fill: (2) The lower half was filled with a very compact brown clayey soil containing chalk grit, a moderate density of small flints up to 30 mm and scattered charcoal and fired clay flecks.

(1) The upper half was filled with a stiff yellowish-brown clay soil containing mortar, chalk and flint grit, fired clay flecks, flints 50–70 mm and occasional large limestone slabs lying horizontally in the top.

[Deliberate infill.]

Small Finds: 2750 Fe nail

Samples: 3712, 3768 charcoal; 3763 plaster

F994 (Stokehole) B391165 and F995 (Oven bowl and flue) B384154 Tr1

Oven: type 2a Within Building 2, central room

Rels: b. 618, 633; c. 672, 707; s.a. F995

Oven bowl: length: 0.6 m width: 0.75 m depth: 0.5 m

Flue: length: 0.5 m width: 0.35 m depth: 0.40 m

Stokehole: length: 1.4 m width: 1.05 m depth: 0.35 m

Description: This structure was given two numbers as it was not clear initially that the two hollows formed a single feature. It is set into the south-west corner of the central room of the building at right angles to the south wall, running parallel to the internal wall F984, being aligned N–S. The oven bowl was circular joining to a narrow flue on its north side. This ran into a much wider oval stokehole. The oven bowl and flue had a flat floor and straight near vertical sides, all burnt or fired to some degree. The most intense heating occurred around the upper rim and in the central flue. The surface of the natural clay to either side had been affected by heat up to 0.5 m on the west and 0.9 m on the east. The surface had been turned yellowish-green and sandy, with a red fired rim 200 mm wide along the extreme east edge. This may imply that there was a more extensive superstructure, reaching beyond the surviving base. The stokehole was slightly shallower with the floor stepping up into it from the flue. The floor was dished and the sides more gently sloping with little evidence of heating apart from a little along the upper edge at either side.

Prior to excavation of the fills a number of limestone slabs survived around the flue and oven bowl, overlapping the edge of the walls and projecting out over the bowl and flue, sloping in towards the centre. One of the slabs overlapping the flue had a surface of clay that had been baked and suggests that this was in fact part of the floor covering the flue and oven. Limestone slabs lying over the stokehole are more likely to be part of later floor surfaces rather than structure relating to the oven.

The evidence for this structure suggests that a drying floor of stone slabs surfaced with clay covered the oven bowl and flue and that the flow of hot air was possibly directed to the sides, possibly flowing below a more extensive floor. The most likely use was for drying grain and evidence for this may be found in the flotation samples.

Fill: Covering the entire floor was a thick deposit F995(2)/F994(4) of grey ash, fine charcoal powder and charcoal fragments containing a little rounded chalk grit and small flints. It is

possible that in the stokehole, where it was up to 150 mm thick, the layer subdivided into a series of thin lenses, representing an accumulation over several firings. Above this the feature was infilled with a series of deliberate dumps. First the stokehole (F994 (3)) was filled in with flint nodules up to 250 mm, chalk and mortar blocks c.120 mm set in a matrix of degraded mortar. In the remaining hollow of the oven bowl were a series of largely horizontal deposits. At the base a dark brown clayey soil (1c) mixed with chalk grit, a few broken flints up to 100 mm, fragments of limestone slab and many pieces of red fired clay (probably part of the collapsed floor). Overlying this was a layer of chalk and flint pieces (1b) 80–150 mm in brown clayey soil mixed with sparse weathered chalk and mortar lumps 10–40 mm. Across the top was a dark grey clayey soil (1a) mixed with a high density of fine charcoal powder and fragments and small rounded fragments of chalk and mortar. This deposit rested on a burnt limestone roof slab 200 mm surrounded by flints 100–150 mm. It is possible that the hollow in the top of the oven was being utilized as a hearth at this stage. Within this upper layer a cut antler and small greensand mortar were found in the flue and a whetstone close to the rear edge of the oven bowl. These items may have formed some sort of special deposit, rather than accidental loss.

F994: Small finds: (1) Iron: 2957 4 nails, 2958 pin; (3) 3107 Fe nail

Artefacts: (1) Pottery, tile, flint, stone, oyster shell; (2) Pottery, tile, bone, mussel shell; (3) pottery, tile, bone, stone; (4) pottery, tile, bone, oyster shell

Samples: 3974–8 stone; 4000, 4015 charcoal; 4026, 4050, 4053 plaster; 4058–9 flotation

F995: Small finds: (1) 3096 Iron 2 nails; (1a) 3054 Iron nail, 2981 cut antler, 2982 whetstone, 2983 greensand stone pestle, 3014-5 worked stone; (1c) 2976 worked bone, 3089 Fe nail

Artefacts: (1) Pottery, bone, flint, stone, oyster shell; (1a) pottery, tile, bone, flint, stone, oyster shell, tesserae; (1c) pottery, tile, bone, flint, stone, oyster and mussel shell.

Samples: 3968 stone; 3985, 4027 plaster; 4034 charcoal; 4061–4 flotation

Descriptions and catalogue of post-holes and post lines in the vicinity of the building

A total of 37 post-holes were exposed, all but one occurring in trench 1. Only six post-holes were partly or fully excavated. Six post lines or structures were identified in trench 1 ranging in size from two posts up to 12 posts and all appear to relate spatially to Building 2. Three post-holes were not assigned to a post structure. One of these (ph 1158) was in trench 3, another, ph 1151, was cut into the south wall (F892) of Building 2 and appeared to form a structural element of the building. One to the east of Building 2 was isolated, unrelated to the other post-holes spatially.

PL15 and PL16

Two of the post lines PL15 and PL16 ran parallel to the south wall (F892) of Building 2 at a distance of 0.2–0.3 m and c.0.8 m. Some of the post-holes in each line paired with one in the other (e.g. ph 1165 and 1166, ph 1184 and 1185) but this was not consistent throughout their lengths. There were 12 post-holes in PL15 and nine in PL16 and both lines had a gap of 2.4 m in front of the doorway of Building 2, F929. The post-holes of PL15 were set at intervals of 0.5–1.5 m and measured 0.3–0.46 m in diameter. One was excavated and had a depth of 0.36 m, but some unexcavated post-holes appeared to be no more than shallow hollows. Voids were visible in seven post-holes mostly measuring 0.09–0.15 m across, though one appeared to be 0.37 m.

The post-holes of PL16 were set at intervals of 1.0–1.7 m and appeared to be slightly larger in area ranging in diameter from 0.36–0.6 m, apart from one 0.2 m wide. Only one was half

sectioned and had a depth of 0.34 m, but once again some of the unexcavated post-holes appeared to be no more than shallow hollows. Five post voids were visible measuring 0.12–0.2 m.

The post-holes were filled with flint nodules 60–230 mm in size set in a matrix of yellowish-brown clay soil. Occasionally fragments of clay tile or limestone slab were present. Sometimes the flints were clearly arranged as packing around the edges of the post-hole, but sometimes extended across the whole area of the post-hole.

PL17

This short line of post-holes extended from the south-east corner of Building 2 to the north-west corner of Building 1, a distance of 2.7 m. Four post-holes were identified and their voids excavated. A possible fifth post-hole may have been present at the east end cutting into the side of the wall (F927) of Building 1 and was subsequently truncated by the gully F926.

The post-holes measured 0.32–0.62 m in diameter by 0.26–0.35 m in depth. The voids measured 0.13–0.26 m and most appeared to be circular, though ph 1179 was more polygonal from the effect of using limestone slabs as packing. Ph 1183 appeared to have been recut, but as all the packing was not excavated it is unclear whether the second post-hole may in fact have been the edge of the post-hole proper. The post voids were filled with brown clayey soil and packed around by flint nodules or limestone slabs.

PL18

This structure was composed of two post-holes, phs 1156 and 1157, aligned alongside the east wall F891, close to the north-east corner of Building 2. They were 1.7 m apart and set c.0.2 m from the wall. They measured 0.36–0.5 m in diameter, but only the northern one was excavated which had a depth of 0.28 m and a void 0.13 m in diameter. The southern post-hole appeared to be more of a shallow hollow containing a setting of flints.

PL19–21

These three post lines are considered together as they may have formed a single structure. Three post-holes (PL21) ran alongside the north wall, F890, of Building 2 from the north-east corner forming a line of 6.8 m, with the posts set evenly at intervals of 3.4 m. Running at right angles from the western and central post-holes were two further alignments (PL20 and PL19) composed of three and two post-holes respectively, having their end post-holes in common with PL21. The post-holes were at 2 m and 1.2 m intervals.

The post-holes tended to be oval in shape measuring 0.4–0.5 m by 0.6–0.75 m. Most appeared to be shallow hollows 0.07–0.1 m deep, apart from the ph 1152 at the corner of PL20 and 21, which was 0.23 m deep. Most were defined by small broken flint nodules up to 120 mm packed in the hollows, apart from ph 1152 which had flints up to 200 mm set in brown clayey soil.

Discussion

All the post lines appear to relate to Buildings 1 and 2. PL17 was different to the others in that it appears to have formed a short fence or barrier of some sort between the corners of the two buildings. All the others were aligned along the walls of Building 2. The longest PL15 and 16 are set too close to the building to form the foundation of a structure such as a veranda and the pairs are set too close together to have formed something like a covered walkway. The apparent shallowness of the post-holes and size of the post voids suggest a lighter

structure. They probably represent some sort of garden feature such as a pergola or individual posts to support fruit trees or vines. The post-holes on the north and east side may have had a similar function, though this would be a less suitable position for the growing of trees or vines. The post-holes were rather larger and may represent some sort of light shed or shelter. Four of the post-holes of PL19 and 20 form an even rectangle 3.4 by 2.0 m.

Catalogue of post-holes

Ph 1151 Tr1 B474112 Building 2

Diam: 0.36 x 0.5 m Depth: 0.16 m Void: ~ Rels: b. (475); c. F892

Description: Oval post-hole cut into south wall of Building 2 aligned with internal wall F896. The upper fill was dominated by painted red wall plaster. Below was a dark brown loamy soil with broken flints 140 mm and a few clay tile fragments.

Finds: 2736 Nail; 2686 Glass

Samples: 3680 plaster

Ph 1152 Tr1 B475218 PL20/21

Diam: 0.52 x 0.76 m Depth: 0.23 m Void: ~ Rels: b. (480); c. Nat.

Description: Fill of greyish-brown clayey soil with flint gravel (1) around sides grading into orange-brown clay soil with flint gravel and pebbles (2) with large flint blocks up to 200 mm, remains of packing (3).

Ph 1153 Tr1 B482238 PL20

Diam: 0.47 x 0.64 m Depth: 0.07 m Void: ~ Rels: b.(480); c. Nat.

Description: Very shallow dished post-hole filled with brown clay soil mixed with a little chalk and some flints up to 120 mm.

Ph 1154 Tr1 B484249 PL20

Diam: 0.48 x 0.66 m Depth: 0.1 m Void: 0.3 m Rels: b. (480); c. Nat.

Description: Brown clayey soil mixed with flint gravel and small chalk with flint blocks forming packing mainly around the west side.

Ph 1155 Tr1 B552146

Diam: 0.48 x 0.52 m Depth: 0.29 m Void: 0.28 m Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Description: Circular post-hole with steep sides and flat base. The fill consisted of brown silty clay soil mixed with chalk grit, flint gravel and pebbles and several large flint blocks up to 170 mm, some roughly shaped.

Finds: 2757 Marcasite

Ph 1156 Tr1 B540165 PL18

Diam: 0.46 x 0.54 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Description: Flint blocks, with some cut faces, embedded apparently in the natural clay- with-flints.

Ph 1157 Tr1 B543182 PL18

Diam: 0.36 m Depth: 0.28 m Void: 0.13 m Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.

Description: Uniform brown clayey soil with broken flints up to 120 mm.

Ph 1158 Tr3 C576399
Diam: 0.27 m Depth: 0.21 m Void: ~ Rels: c. F917
Description: Circular post-hole with steeply sloping sides and dished base. Fill of light brown silty soil containing a moderate density of chalk grit and subangular chalk and flint fragments up to 30 mm.

Ph 1159 Tr1 B507207 PL19/21
Diam: 0.54 m Depth: 0.13 m Void: ~ Rels: b. (480); c. Nat.
Description: Shallow dished hollow filled with brown silty clay soil mixed with subangular flint gravel and chalk grit and with several worn flint blocks, some faced, 80–120 mm, embedded in it.

Ph 1160 Tr1 B514227 PL19
Diam: 0.52 x 0.66 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (480); c. Nat.
Description: Flints

Ph 1161 Tr1 B342139 PL16
Diam: 0.45 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.14 m Rels: b. (478); c. Nat.
Description: Flint nodules, some with cut faces, 80–200 mm formed packing around void fill of brown silty clay soil.

Ph 1162 Tr1 B363140 PL15
Diam: 0.3 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. Nat.
Description: Worn and faced flint blocks in squarish arrangement embedded in brown silty clay soil with chalk grit, flint gravel and flecks of charcoal and fired clay.

Ph 1163 Tr1 B341133 PL16
Diam: 0.4 x 0.45 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. Nat.
Description: Flint nodules and some faced blocks 50–150 mm embedded in brown silty clay soil with sparse chalk grit and flint gravel.

Ph 1164 Tr1 B358128 PL16
Diam: 0.4 x 0.45 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. ?(479)
Description: Flint nodules and some faced blocks 50–230 mm embedded in brown silty clay soil with sparse chalk grit and flint gravel.

Ph 1165 Tr1 B429118 PL15
Diam: 0.36 x 0.46 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.1 m Rels: b. (478); c. (479)
Description: Large flint nodules 130–220 mm formed packing.

Ph 1166 Tr1 B428113 PL16
Diam: 0.36 x 0.44 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.12 m Rels: b. (478); c. (479)
Description: Flint packing: mostly small flints 40–200 mm.

Ph 1167 Tr1 B445113 PL15
Diam: 0.34 x 0.4 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.14 m Rels: b. (478); c. (479)
Description: Flint packing of nodules 100–200 mm.

Ph 1168 Tr1 B442107 PL16
Diam: 0.5 x 0.6 m Depth: 0.34 m Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. (479)

Description: Circular post-hole with steep straight sides and dished base. Brown silty clay soil containing flint gravel and pebbles *c.*40 mm and sparse chalk grit and flecks of fired clay. Embedded in this were flint blocks, some faced, 80–150 mm.

Ph 1169 Tr1 B453108 PL15

Diam: 0.4 x 0.44 m Depth: 0.36 m Void: 0.37 m Rels: b. (478); c. (479)

Description: Circular post-hole with steep straight sides and flat base. Fill of brown silty clay soil containing flint gravel and pebbles *c.*40 mm and sparse chalk grit. Embedded in this were flint blocks, some faced, 80–150 mm.

Samples: 3874 charcoal

Ph 1170 Tr1 B462105 PL15

Diam: 0.34 x 0.44 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. (479)

Description: Large flint packing in dark brown silty clay soil with sparse subangular chalk grit.

Ph 1171 Tr1 B459097 PL16

Diam: 0.15 x 0.2 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. (479)

Description: Single flint nodule indicates post-hole.

Ph 1172 Tr1 B481101 PL15

Diam: 0.32 x 0.42 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.1 m Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (479)

Description: Flints 30–170 mm filling most of post-hole.

Ph 1173 Tr1 B480095 PL16

Diam: 0.42 x 0.48 m Depth: 0.18 m Void: 0.12 m Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (479)

Description: Flints 50–210 mm formed packing around void.

Ph 1174 Tr1 B498096 PL15

Diam: 0.36 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (479)

Description: Mass of flints 100–200 mm filling whole of post-hole.

Ph 1175 Tr1 B497090 PL16

Diam: 0.5 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.2 m Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (479)

Description: Flint packing (2) some shaped around void, filled with brown silty clay soil (1).

Ph 1176 Tr1 B511092 PL15

Diam: 0.3 m Depth: 0.08 m Void: 0.15 m Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (556)

Description: Flints 60–230 mm and clay tile formed packing around void.

Ph 1177 Tr1 B510087 PL16

Diam: 0.38 x 0.43 m Depth: 0.06 m Void: 0.14 x 0.2 m Rels: b. (515)-(525); c. (556)

Description: Flints 60–180 mm formed packing around void.

Ph 1178 Tr1 B515096 PL17
Diam: 0.32 m Depth: 0.35 m Void: 0.2 x 0.26 m Rels: b. (515)-
(525); c. (556)

Description: Small circular post-hole with sides sloping in to narrow base. Soil fill.

Ph 1179 Tr1 B519095 PL17
Diam: 0.4 m Depth: 0.31 m Void: 0.2 x 0.26 m Rels: b. (515)-
(525); c. (556)

Description: Polygonal post-hole with limestone slab packing on edge around void on north side and flint nodules around south.

Ph 1180 Tr1 B524092 PL17
Diam: 0.42 m Depth: 0.29 m Void: 0.15 x 0.2 m Rels: b. (515)-
(525); c. (556)

Description: Flint packing 100–150 mm around void.

Ph 1181 Tr1 B520090 PL15
Diam: 0.34 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (515)-(525); c.
(556)

Description: Flint blocks infilled most of post-hole with some limestone slab packing *in situ* on edge around south side.

Ph 1182 Tr1 B539196 PL21
Diam: 0.4 x 0.5 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (475); c. Nat.
Description: The presence of the post-hole was defined by worn small flints in centre.

Ph 1183 Tr1 B533087 PL17
Diam: 0.56 x 0.62 m Depth: 0.26 m Void: 0.16 x 0.22 m Rels: c.b. F926;
b. (525); c. (556)

Description: Fairly large post-hole, possibly recut, with flint nodules up to 150 mm forming packing around soil-filled void.

Finds: 2766, 2779 Nails

Ph 1184 Tr1 B402127 PL15
Diam: 0.38 m Depth: ~ Void: 0.09 m Rels: c.b. F884; c. (479)?

Description: Shallow scoop filled with brown silty clay containing small flint nodules 50–110 mm.

Ph 1185 Tr1 B400120 PL16
Diam: 0.4 x 0.54 m Depth: 0.12 m Void: ~ Rels: c.b. F884; c. (479)?

Description: A little flint packing in shallow scoop.

Ph 1186 Tr1 B354137 PL15
Diam: 0.32 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. Nat.

Description: Flint nodules with some faced blocks 50–150 mm embedded in brown silty clay soil with sparse chalk c.10 mm and flint gravel.

Ph 1187 Tr1 B367132 PL15
Diam: 0.36 m Depth: ~ Void: ~ Rels: b. (478); c. Nat.

Description: Flint nodules and some faced blocks 50–150 mm embedded in brown silty clay soil with sparse chalk grit and flint gravel.

Catalogue of miscellaneous features in trench 1

F937 Tr1 B441167 Shallow subrectangular scoop Within Building 2

Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (514); c. (563)

Length: 0.66 m Width: 0.46 m Depth: 0.09 m

Description: Oval basin-shaped hollow, adjacent to F938 with which it may be contemporary.

Fill: (1) Dark yellowish-brown clayey soil containing a moderate density of subangular chalk up to 20 mm and occasional flint gravel and rounded pebbles up to 50 mm.

F938 Tr1 B442163 Shallow circular scoop Within Building 2

Phase: Roman

Rels: b. (514); c. (563)

Length: 0.74 m Width: 0.69 m Depth: 0.17 m

Description: Regular shallow oval hollow, possibly resulted from wear rather than being deliberately cut. Similar to F937, with which it may be contemporary.

Fill: (1) Dark yellowish-brown clayey soil containing sparse chalk grit, charcoal flecks, broken flints up to 80 mm, flint nodules c.120 mm and rare pottery and bone.

F926 Tr1 B545103-B533075 Gully/drain Phase: Roman

Rels: c. (525), (556), (565), ph 1183

Length: 3.6 m Width: top: 0.64–0.84 m; base: 0.24–0.36 m

Depth: 0.22–0.33 m

Description: Linear gully, aligned NE–SW, its north terminal having been excavated and cut away in the 1960s trench to the north. Where it cut through soil layers in its northern extent it had a symmetrical U-shaped profile with sloping sides and flat base. Where it ran alongside F927 it utilized the vertical wall face as one side, though the other side continued as before.

Fill: (536) Dark grey very fine silty soil with dark yellowish-brown mottles contained a sparse scatter of chalk and flint grit, a moderate density of flint gravel and pebbles 30–40 mm concentrating towards the base of the fill. [Natural accumulation of silt in drain.]

In the baulk section two large limestone roof slates overlay the fill and another large slab was found in the fill. These may represent some sort of covering for the drain, though they could be the continuation of layer 524 (which could have doubled as a cover for the drain at this stage).

Small Finds: 2745, 2658, 2700 Fe nails; 2685 glass

Samples: 3747, 3769 charcoal; 3862 mortar; 3725 slag; 3766, 3794, 3802 shale; 3780, 3803–4, 3875–7 stone

F904 Tr1 B544290 Oval hollow/pit

Rels: b. (476); c. Nat.

Length: 1.32 m Width: 0.9 m Depth: ~

Description: Not excavated.

Fill: Dark greyish-brown clayey soil mixed with small flint gravel and flecked with charcoal and other occupation debris.

F903 Tr1 B500280 Rectangular pit/feature

Rels: b. (476); c. Nat.

Length: 4.2 m Width: 2.5 m Depth: ~

Description: Not excavated. Large rectangular/sub-oval feature: it could be any one of a range of features: pit, ritual shaft, well, working hollow, quarry.

Fill: Dark greyish-brown clayey soil mixed with small flint gravel and flecked with charcoal and other occupation debris.

F945 Tr1 B585080 Trench Phase: Roman/modern?

Rel: b. (476); c. (475)

Length: 3.0 m Width: >1.0 m Depth: >0.45 m

Description: Linear trench with straight vertical sides, possibly 1960s excavation trench.