EXCAVATIONS ON THE SITE OF BOURNE HALL, EWELL, 1962–5

†Steve Nelson

with contributions by Jon Cotton, Jeremy Harte, David Hartley, Frank Pemberton and Phil Stanley

Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society

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Cover illustration. Watercolour of Bourne Hall, 1830, by J. Stokes (BHM 2016.037-003).

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Contents

Background

Site location

The site lies near the centre of Ewell Village on slightly rising ground to the south-west of Bourne Hall Lake, the headwaters of the River Hogsmill. This lake is now an ornamental feature in the grounds of Bourne Hall but the underlying spring has been venerated since an early date. Finds of prehistoric, Roman and later date were found during the drought of 1991/92 when the bed was cleared out and relined, evidence for a focus of activity from early times in this area (Harte and Waterhouse, 1992).

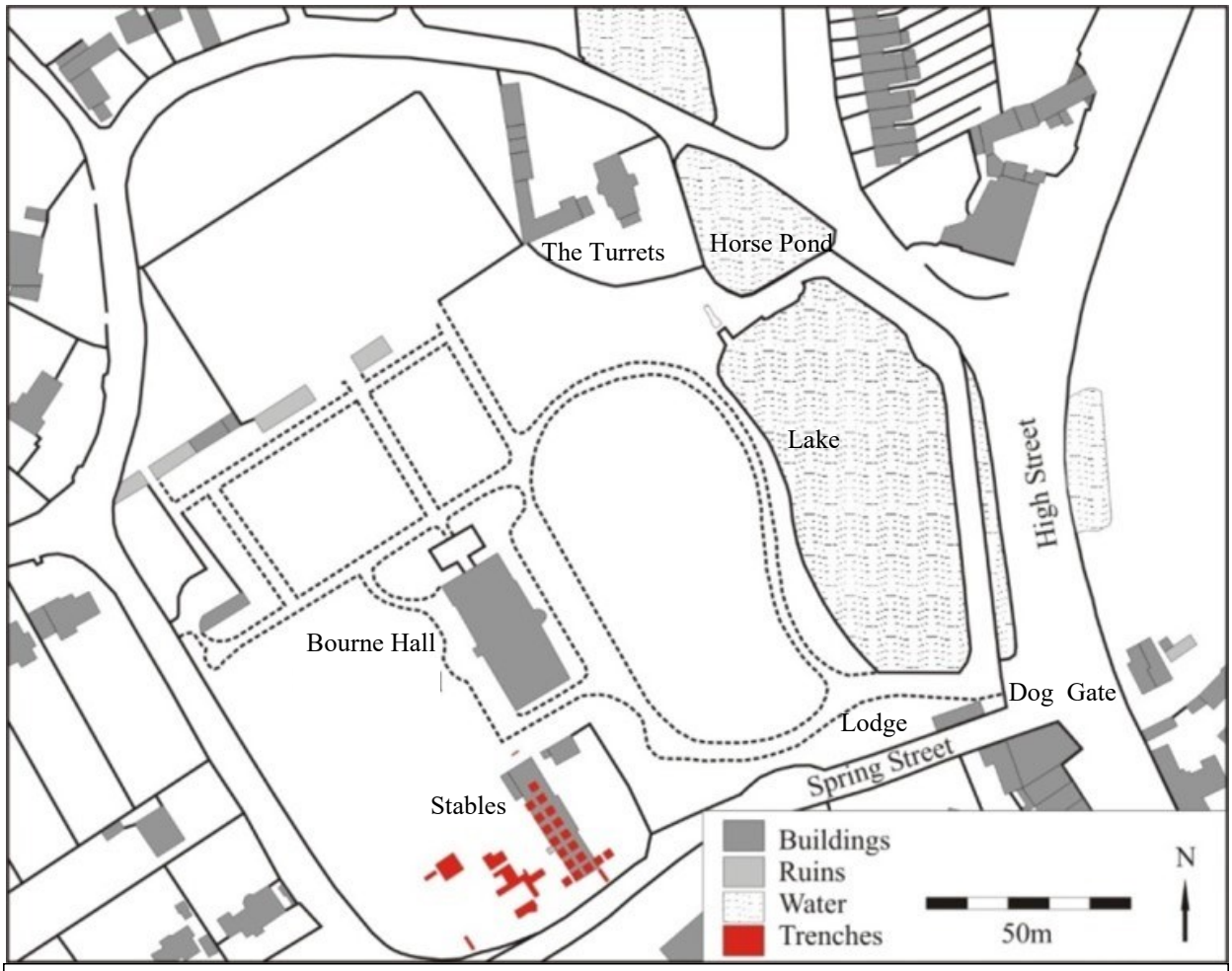

Figure 1. Site location plan.

Finds had previously been made during gardening works to the lawn at Bourne Hall in 1903 and 1913, as detailed in the section on 'Other archaeology'. From 1959 onwards surface finds of Roman pottery and other pottery were recorded by Arthur Jenkins, and small archaeological interventions took place in 1987, 1994 and 2004. In 2019, a programme of test-pitting took place on the lawn.

The many finds of all periods from Ewell, both before and since the excavation of 1962–5, are registered on the County Historic Environment Record. A useful gazetteer of the Roman archaeology has been published (Abdy and Bierton, 1997). All the archaeological evidence for Ewell was reviewed in the Extensive Urban Survey in 2003 (Poulton 2003). A general review was also published for the Villages Project of the Surrey Archaeological Society (Abdy 2004).

Geology

The surface geology of Ewell lies on the spring line between the Upper Chalk and London Clay. In the centre of the village are intervening Tertiary deposits of Reading Beds and Thanet Sands, although the Woolwich Beds (now termed the Lambeth Formation) seem to be absent. The Thanet Sands vary in thickness from at least 5m in the area of Ewell House Grove to shallow pockets elsewhere. The OS 1:50,000 Geological Map (sheet 270) shows Thanet sands of variable thickness overlying Upper Chalk.

Over the whole of the excavated site the natural level was noted as Reading Beds. There was some discussion at the time over this: a letter of March 1963 from the Geological Survey was uncertain whether this was the Reading formation *in situ* or a deposit of a metre of drift from the Woolwich, Thanet and Reading Beds.

Documentary evidence, by Jeremy Harte

On a first encounter Bourne Hall is a traffic island, surrounded by the B2200 under the names of Spring Street (on the south and west sides), Chessington Road (north) and London Road (east). Coming round the one-way system, and approaching the traffic lights before the Spring Hotel, you pass on your right a body of water walled off from the park. This is the Horse Pond, the only land within the circuit of the roads not to fall within the old curtilage of Bourne Hall. Since 1971 the name of Bourne Hall has been shared by two properties – the low round building serving as a community hub in its park to the south, and the health centre to the north. Before that, the properties constituted a single curtilage of 3.5ha or rather, as this will be a regression survey working backwards in time from the present, 8 acres 2 roods 20 perches.

On the 1871 OS map, the grounds are clearly under one ownership, containing everything suitable for a Victorian gentleman's mansion. It was not called Bourne Hall then; this name was adopted in 1931 when a girls' school opened in the building. In 1871 the house was called Garbrand Hall – although the OS cartographers managed to transpose this name with that of Fitznells, the manor house on the north of Chessington Road – but it helps to use the name of Bourne Hall as we regress to earlier periods, when the central area was anonymous. Although the house itself was demolished in 1962, many of the outlying features still remain: the Dog Gate at the entrance, the Lodge beside it, the levelled lawn and the lake with its two islands. A gothic arch continues to divide the lake from the Horse Pond to the north, and drivers enter the car park through the same gap in the wall which admitted horses and carriages to the old stable yard. The brick wall now marking the northern edge of the park was the southern wall of some orchards which stood where the health centre is now. However, the apparent unity of the premises disguises a division in ownership. When Margaret Glyn gave the land to the Council in 1945, her grant excluded a block of land to the northeast, which had to be purchased separately. This area was bounded by the Horse Pond, Chessington Road, the perimeter wall of the old orchard and, on the south, a quite arbitrary line running through the park, the two properties having long since been thrown together and treated as one. This legally separate property was about 1r 35p in area.

In 1871 the layout of the grounds was largely rectilinear, following the alignment of the house. An estate plan of 1829, however, maps internal property boundaries which show that the grounds were not originally so orderly. This earlier plan shows a kitchen garden south of the dividing wall, not north of it. This old kitchen garden, afterwards thrown into the Victorian landscaped grounds, was not quite rectangular: its southern wall is decidedly skew, pointing straight to the gothic arch as if following a pre-existing boundary. There are two other buildings to the north-east, one apparently a laundry and the other labelled 'dairy', though it was afterward known from its decorative chimneys as The Turrets.

The Ewell Inclosure Map of 1801 supports the 1829 estate map in most respects, with the name 'Thomas Hercy Barritt Esq' added in a loop across the property. It seems that the gardener's house, visible to the west of the Georgian kitchen garden on the later plan, had yet to be built, but otherwise all the buildings are recognisable. Bourne Hall itself is there, the stables, the bothies along the kitchen garden walls, the laundry and the dairy. Where the two

cartographers differ, the Inclosure Map has probably sketched the boundaries wrong. On the accompanying award, the extent of the property is 7a 0r 11p for the freehold land ('House, Outbuildings, Orchard, Garden & Pleasure ground', plot 320), with 1a 0r 16p made up by two bodies of water – the lake and a square pond, now lost, which lay south of The Turrets – and a copyhold property, plot 320a, consisting of a 'Barn, Stable, Brewhouse & ½ acre of land'.

However, the bland face of the map disguises changes which had taken place not long before. In June 1796 the house had been purchased by Thomas Hersey Barritt – it is after his Jamaican relatives that it was named Garbrand Hall – and at the court of the manor of Ewell on 28th August, Barritt was admitted to two properties. The first was 'land formerly messuage, yard & garden since taken down by the said Thomas Hersey Barritt & barn, brewhouse, dairy erected', the same as 320a on the Enclosure Map, though smaller in area; the second was 'land on which formerly stood a messuage "Windsmer Hill" with workshop & orchard. Taken down by Thomas Hersey Barritt & laid into his garden, adjoins behind barn, brew-house & dairy taken [taking] in the Evergreen Oak in the garden formerly Thomas Hersey Barritt nearly opposite the Gates of the National School' – gates which would have been at the foot of the present Old Schools Lane.[1] The first property, which as we will see appears to have been on the east, was 1a 2r 0p, and the second 1r 34p: nearly 2a in all. By measure, the land north of the Bourne Hall boundary wall, if that line is projected to the Horse Pond, is 2a 0r 3p. The copyhold property thrown into one with the separate estate of Bourne Hall was therefore the northern part of the curtilage, today's Health Centre.

Although the court roll of 1796 ascribes the demolition of buildings to Barritt, it fulfilled a plan which had been made some years earlier. In 1776 Philip Rowden proposed to pull down the messuage at Windsmer Hill, which he had acquired in 1772.[2] Rowden was a member of the Vintner's Company who was building up a small landed estate in Ewell (Dexter 1994, 1–5). He acquired the main enfranchised property in 1766 after commissioning ambitious designs for a house – 'at Yoel... fronting the Canal' – from William Newton a few months previously.[3] James Edwards, passing by in 1798, was told the house 'has been erected about 19 years, and appears to be executed in the modern taste; between it and the road is a handsome green plat, at the bottom of which runs a fine crystalline river shaded with lofty elm-trees' (Edwards 1801, 33). This suggests that the house itself – the future Garbrand Hall or Bourne Hall – was built in about 1779.

When Rocque made his map of Surrey, published posthumously in 1768, he was therefore recording the Bourne Hall curtilage as it existed before Rowden's development. The scale is two inches to the mile and some details are conventional, but the line of the canal or crystalline river is visible – a thinner stream than the modern lake – and there are divisions corresponding to the properties at Windsmer Hill and The Turrets. Blocks of black distinguish three buildings; one to the north, on the site of the later barn, one at the south-west corner in the crook of Spring Street, and one in the centre of the property, a little to the east of the site which Rowden would choose for his mansion.

If we turn to the Senex map of 1729, the lines of the roads are still clear, and several little buildings have been sketched within their circuit, but at this point cartography gives out and we have to rely instead of the succession of property in the court rolls. The north-east property – 1a 2r of land, the messuage, yard and garden rebuilt as a brewhouse and dairy, later to be The Turrets – was acquired by Barritt from the builder Henry Kitchen. Its history goes back to 1738, when it was held and occupied by a labourer, John Lucas the younger.[4] It may be the otherwise unidentified messuage held by John Lucas the elder in 1712.[5]

The north-west property – 1r 34p of land called Windsmer Hill, where a house was pulled down by Rowden in 1776 to enlarge his gardens – had been owned through most of the eighteenth century by Thomas Williams the elder and younger, and Thomas Williams nephew of Thomas the younger. The property can be traced back earlier through an epitome of court rolls, always keeping the same name: in 1691 we find it in the hands of Henry Fendall of Ewell House; in 1616 it had come to the Garraway family; and in 1595 Alexander Clifford acquired it from Nicholas Saunder, 'a tenement called Windsmer Hill near Morers', formerly in the occupation of William Escham or Exham.[6]

But the court rolls, so helpful in tracing the two properties which were copyhold of the manor of Ewell, do not cover the grounds of Bourne Hall itself. This was held of the subordinate manor of Bottalls, held by William Newland of Gatton jointly with his father George in 1738, when the tenement of John Lucas was recorded as lying north of George Newland's property. The Newlands had been bequeathed the manor by Thomas Turgis in 1704, and when a rental was drawn up a few years later in 1711, the property was occupied by Thomas Sanders: 'one large House and Barne and stables and severall out buildings with orchard and gardens containing by estimation fower akers more or less – joyning to the river head est and to the street west and south and joyning to the land of Mr Thomas Williams north'.[7]

Thomas Sanders held other properties in Ewell around this time, though it is not clear whether he had any relationship to the main Saunder line. This had come to an end when Nicholas Saunder (*c.* 1563–1649) moved out of the village to spend his last days in Nonsuch Park. It was he who sold Windsmer Hill in 1595, and his father, another Nicholas (*c.* 1530–1587) was lord of the manor of Buttalls and the principal landowner in the village when Thomas Taylor surveyed the parish in 1577.

This survey (reconstructed in fig. 2) is almost as good as a map, for Taylor was very thorough in his perambulation.[8] Evidently the land which was to be John Lucas' cottage was still included in Windsmer Hill at this stage, for the lands of Nicholas Saunder to the north of his mansion at Bourne Hall form a single property: 'a tenemente a barne a stable a brewhowse twoo yards twoo garden plottes and twoo hempstalles abutting upon the said Ryver of thest uppon the landes of the said Nicholas adioyning to his said Mansion howse of the southe upon the said lane ledinge to Northcrofte of the North'. On the corner of Spring Street and Chessington Road is another property, copyhold of the manor of Ewell and held by Edmund Skeete, which was evidently later absorbed into Windsmer Hill: 'A tenemente a yarde a stable a barne an Owtlett a garden and an orchard plot abutting uppon the landes of Nicholas Saunder of thest and South partes and uppon the Waye from the said Ryver to Robertstretelane of the north and west parte'. Taylor puts down both properties as an acre each, adding up to the measured 2a 0r 3p of the north (Health Centre) part of the Bourne Hall curtilage: but Taylor's acres were not intended to be precise.

The main Bourne Hall property, held of the manor of Buttalls, was estimated at 5a, and contained 'a faire Mansion howse with a gatehouse a fore Courte hall parlor and other edifices and buildings with ij backyardes stables and barnes also a Dovehouse twoo gardens and an orchard'. The orchard was to the southwest of the property, and included 0a 1r of land which was copyhold of Ewell, as if a separate property had been thrown into the grounds. The Dipping Place or headwater of the Hogsmill (then called Kateswell) stood at the south-east corner, the southern limb of Spring Street (then Beggerstrete) to the south, the western limb of Spring Street (then 'highwaye to the Marshe') to the west and Skeete's land to the north-west. To the east lay the river, which in the 1540s had been 'enclosed with a stone wall and within the same a little bancketing howse late erected and pondes and fishe therein within the same inclosure abutting upon the Ryver as now it is of thest parte and

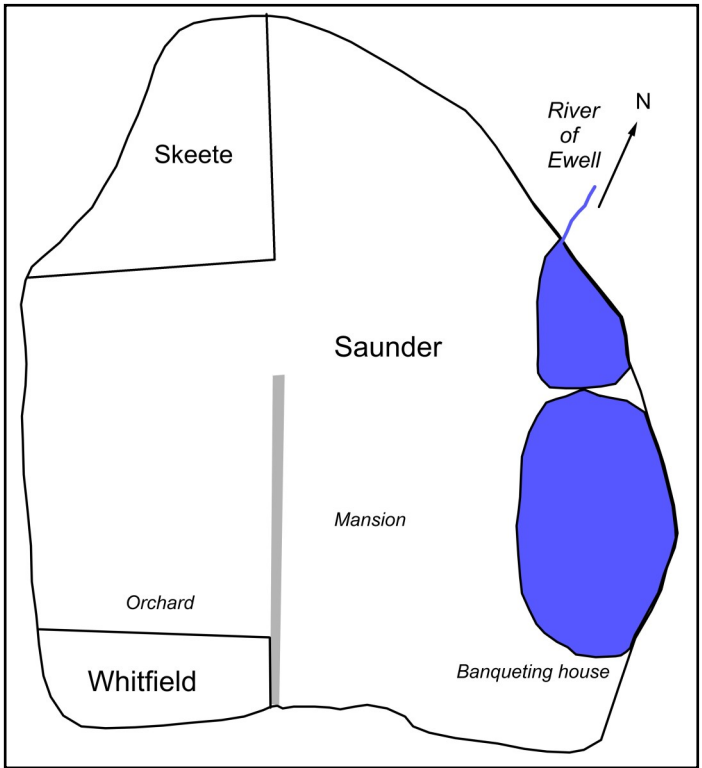

Figure 2. Reconstructed layout from Taylor's survey of 1577.

the backside of the said Mansion howse of the same Nicholas Saunder'. This took 0a 0r 20p out of the common river, an appropriation duly noted by Taylor. Later, in 1589, Buttalls and Ewell manors went to arbitration and it was agreed that the fishing of the river belonged to Ewell except for the part enclosed within the walls of Saunder's dwelling-house (Manning and Bray 1804–14, 3.801). Here is the origin of the Horse Pond, an area which would have formed part of the Bourne Hall curtilage if it had not been decided to leave some access to the common stream when the rest was enclosed.

The riverside banqueting house lay behind the dwelling-house, which must therefore have looked west and not east like the eighteenth- and twentieth-century buildings. It faced another smaller house across the way, for Taylor tells us that 'John Whitfeld holdeth a tenemente a barne a stable a yarde a garden and an orchard' in the south-west corner of Spring Street. Taylor says that it took up an acre, making the southern part of the Bourne Hall curtilage 6a 0r 20p in all, which is not far out from the measured 6a 2r 17p.

This house at the south-west corner still stood in 1593, when Leonard Ellwood held 60a of land and a residence late of William Whitfield on lease from the elder Nicholas Saunder.[9] After that it disappears from the record and must have been absorbed into the Bourne Hall grounds – part of the long policy of incorporating separate tenements into a unified curtilage which seems to have been initiated by Henry Saunder (*c*. 1455–1518), grandfather of the elder Nicholas. Henry was the first to move from the family home at Charlwood to Ewell, so he was likely to have been the founder of the 'faire Mansion howse'.

In some marginal annotations made in the mid-fifteenth century, William Saunder (the father of Henry) appears as tenant of his mother-in-law Agnes Sayer for property in the area of Bourne Hall. At this time the property to the south-west had just been taken over by the Whytefeld family from William Codyngton. So from 1577 a chain of inference takes us back a century earlier, and at this point we have more detail, for the annotations were made on a register of 1408 which describes Ewell house by house (reconstructed in fig. 3).

Unlike Thomas Taylor, the clerk who compiled the register was no mapmaker; instead he takes us for a walk through the village streets, and we have to work out for ourselves whether we are turning right or left.[10] We cross London Road – from one bus stop to the other, in today's layout – and turn left past three tenements on the east side of the river, which is much narrower than the present lake. Two springs feed it: first Ingerhameswelle, then Cakeswell, which is the present Dipping Place. Thomas Hayton has an ox shed on the street corner, which must run parallel to Spring Street as 26 feet of it are in the tenement adjoining Cakeswell, while a further unspecified length lies to the west in the tenement called Westones, formerly Lurdones, where Hayton has a house. He is the master of what will later become Buttalls manor, although in 1408 it features only as one amongst several fees: these were separate bundles of property, but still regarded as part of the manor of Ewell. The split ownership of the ox shed suggests that already the lords of Buttalls were incorporating other parts of the Bourne Hall curtilage into their lands.

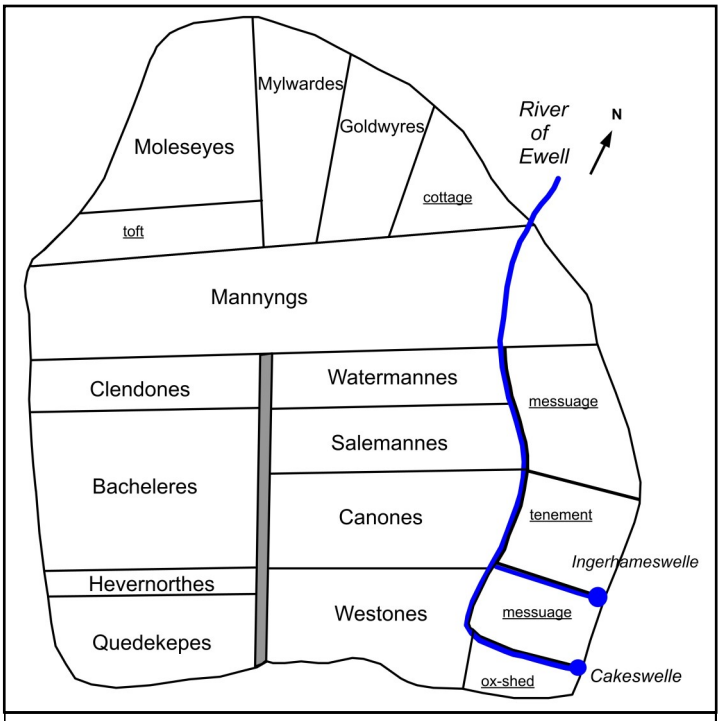

Figure 3. Reconstructed layout from the register of 1408.

At this point we must be turning north, since we head past a series of properties which back eastwards onto the river. After Westones come Canones and Salemannes, both held of Buttalls fee, then Watermannes, and then the eastern half of Mannyngs. The next four properties consist of Moleseyes tenement together with three subordinate properties held of Moleseyes, and then we are back to Mannyngs again. It seems as if we have reached the top of the Bourne Hall grounds and turned back round, anticlockwise, a deduction confirmed by the fact that Goldwyres, one of the Moleseyes tenements on the north-east, is occupied by Beatrice Morer: remember that in 1595 the north-west Windsmer Hill property was 'near Morers'.

The Mannyngs tenement evidently ran all the way east and west across the property block. Returning southwards over it, we pass some more tenements to our right on the western side: Clendones, Bacheleres (which is held of Buttals fee), Heverenorthes (i.e. the Hevere tenement in the north part of the village), and finally Quedekepes, which evidently occupies the south-west corner in the crook of Spring Street, as it is said to adjoin Westones on the western side. Quedekepes is held of Morden fee by Laurence Codyngton, who will in time be succeeded by the Whytefelds.

Details from the Register of 1408 can be supplemented by a terrier of Wallington fee made about the same time, *c*. 1400. 26 feet of the property-straddling ox shed were in this fee, set down as 'a byre and part of a barn'; evidently it was a combined building for animals and storage, lying between Cakes Welle and 'the gate of Thomas Hayton'. It seems that Hayton's property at Westones was entered from Spring Street through a gate, usually the sign of an ambitious building. The terrier also mentions Watermannes, which lay between the tenements of Salemannes and Mannynges ('called of old Bruggers'), and describes Clendons as lying to the west of Watermannes, north of Bachelers and south of Mannynges.[11] This all matches the layout described in the 1408 circuit. A marginal note says that the ox shed was later in the hands of Sayers (Agnes Sayer, mother-in-law of William Saunder) and that Watermannes was later in those of Exham (William Exham, also recorded as an early tenant of Windsmer Hill).

The names of the tenements might give some clue to their date, but unfortunately none of them are topographical: they all commemorate former owners, many from well-established local families. The most that can be said is that they represent a tradition earlier than the Black Death, for some of the families are not known after that date: a Fitznells terrier of *c*. 1315 has the last records of the Bruggers, otherwise known as atte Brugge or de Ponte, and the Heveres, who came to the village, as the Saunders later would, from Charlwood.[12] A Ewell customal of *c*. 1300 has the last mention of Richard of Moleseye, probably the original occupant of Moleseyes tenement; it also states that 'Nicholas de Weston holds a tenement of Robert Lurdin and renders two shillings a year at Easter and Michaelmas for all service by a fine levied in the Court of the Lord King John'.[13] This must refer to the property Westones *olim* Lurdones, halfway along Spring Street, which would therefore go back to before 1215. It seems that the division of properties within the Bourne Hall curtilage is as old as the thirteenth century, if not older.

This is confirmed by the history of the property at the south-west corner, for although the Codyngtons were lords of the manor of Cuddington, they held this fee as a detached portion of the manor of Morden, belonging to Westminster Abbey. From the Westminster records we find that in the late fifteenth century Quidekepes was occupied by Richard Vynes and contained 'the hall, chamber [ ], gate with a chamber on each side of the aforesaid gate'. In 1456 Richard Denton held it, together with 30 acres of land in the open field, for a rent of 11s 7d plus 2 cocks and 4 hens annually. Denton was in arrears to the tune of 80 hens, a sign that the property was drifting out of Westminster's control. In 1312 the non-poultry rents had been 8s with ½d *medsilver* (probably a payment in lieu of haymaking) and 14 men's working sessions bringing in the harvest. It was paid by Thomas de St. Michael, this being the earlier family name of the Codyngtons.

There were three other tenements in Morden fee, and in a customal of *c*. 1225 their combined rents had been the same as they were later in 1312. It follows that the property at Quedekepes existed then and was paying its customary rent. In fact it may go further back, for the lands in

Ewell owing suit to Westminster Abbey are unlikely to have been alienated after the main manor was granted to Merton Priory, whereas it would be quite in keeping for an earlier king to have given them to the Church when the manor was royal property. The charter produced by Westminster as proof that 2 hides in Ewell were given by King Edgar in 959 is a fabrication, but in Domesday Book the manor of Mordon pays geld for 12 hides, and only 10 of these were locally in Mordon, so the other two may well represent the Ewell lands: perhaps including the site of Quedekepes, although properties might have been exchanged over the years.

The name of Quedekepes is something of a mystery, for no family of that name is known in the village. Middle English *qued* means 'harm, injury', so the surname – pronounced as two syllables, Queedkeep – would be analogous to the common Kepeharm.[14] The only place-name within the curtilage not to derive from a personal name is Windsmer Hill, already in existence in 1595 and therefore unlikely to be a transfer. Similar names are frequent in southern England: Winchmore Hill in Penn (Bucks), Winchmore Hill in Enfield (Midd), and Wismore Hill (Winsmer Hill 1594) in Ashdon (Essex).[15] The forms suggest *wince* 'sharp bend, corner' as the qualifier, the generic being a compound appellative *mære-hyll* 'boundary hillock' found independently in several names.[16] The Ewell property stands on the sharp bend where Spring Street turns into Chessington Road, and if this turn already needed a boundary marker in the Anglo-Saxon period, then the circuit of roads which defines the Bourne Hall curtilage must already have existed in the eleventh century.

The excavations

Excavation programme

In 1962 Epsom & Ewell Borough Council demolished the mansion house at Bourne Hall with its stable block. The then newly formed local society, Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society (NEAS, later just NAS), now Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society (EEHAS), gained permission to carry out an excavation in advance of the redevelopment (fig. 1). Excavation began in August 1962 initially under the direction of Ted Baxter, Cedric Yardley and David

Figure 4. Overall excavation view.

Cousins. This season was referred to as site I, and site II followed with the discovery of the well. The excavation was taken over by Norman Nail who directed work from 1963 to 1965: fig. 4 shows work in progress.

The initial work in 1962 consisted of eight trenches, each initially laid out as 10 x 3 feet (3.2 x 0.98m) on a N/S alignment over sites I and II. Site I, the house, comprised four trenches; two 'through' the basement of the house and two just to its south. On site II, the stables, four trenches were dug askew to the lines of the stable wall foundations. Once these trenches on the stables site had revealed the medieval well, they were extended on all sides so that this could be partially excavated. Having apparently been dug in September 1962, the well was backfilled before the excavations of 1963–5.

In 1963 the alphanumeric grid layout was laid out, as noted above, incorporating the previous year's trenches. Some 35 of the grid squares were dug, mostly contiguous although there were outliers to the north and west: these trenches were nominally 8 feet square, separated by 2-foot baulks. Levels/contexts made up about a metre of mixed deposits, often described as 'dark earth' etc., overlying the natural Reading Beds.

Post-excavation

Finds were stored first at the Upper Mill and then Ewell Court House. They are now in the archaeological store at Bourne Hall Museum under the reference BHE 1962.

The paper record was held by Norman Nail, who intended to produce a full report up until his death in 2000. After the death of Joyce Nail in 2013 all remaining records were retrieved and reunited with the surviving site archive at Bourne Hall Museum.

The finds themselves had been sorted in 1990 into category and trench/context order. In 2010 the pottery was analysed by fabric type by Chris and Gay Harris; in 2015 this was checked again and annotated using Roman fabric and form codes from the Museum of London and medieval fabric codes from the Medieval Pottery Group of Surrey Archaeological Society.[17] In 2021, a representative sample was re-examined by Phil Stanley (finds section 2) and a few adjustments made.

Site records

A series of site notebooks were compiled during the excavation by Norman Nail, and plans and section drawings (to imperial scale) were made by different people and to differing standards. Very few of the sketch plans and sections are annotated with the layer/context numbers that appear in the notebooks although some photos show layer labels pinned to the excavated sections. Some include descriptions but these appear to be notes made by the recorder and seldom relate to the notebook descriptions. There are also instances of duplication of numbers: in trenches on the Stables, feature numbers run from F1 to F153 but a separate series, F1 to F61, was used on the rest of the site.[18] One large plan ('the plan' throughout this report) of the excavated trenches, showing most but not all the features, was prepared by Martin Morris for the area to the west of the stables and another joining plan, apparently by David Cousins, for the stables themselves. These two plans have been used as the basis for interpreting the site. They were prepared to a scale of 1:100.

About 100 black and white photographs of varying quality were taken during the course of the work but few of these are annotated or assigned to a location. There are also some 60 colour slides.

For the initial work in 1962, contexts were identified by letter abbreviations: sherds of the red ware jug found in the later medieval well are marked variably WF(BE), BWF, BW, BWF all meaning something like 'well fill' or 'below well'. Next year the site was laid out as a grid of alphanumeric trenches aligned on the stable walls, with A1 in the south-east (fig. 5). Within each square, layers/contexts were numbered sequentially without reference to their numbers in adjoining squares, and this applied also to the baulks between squares when they were

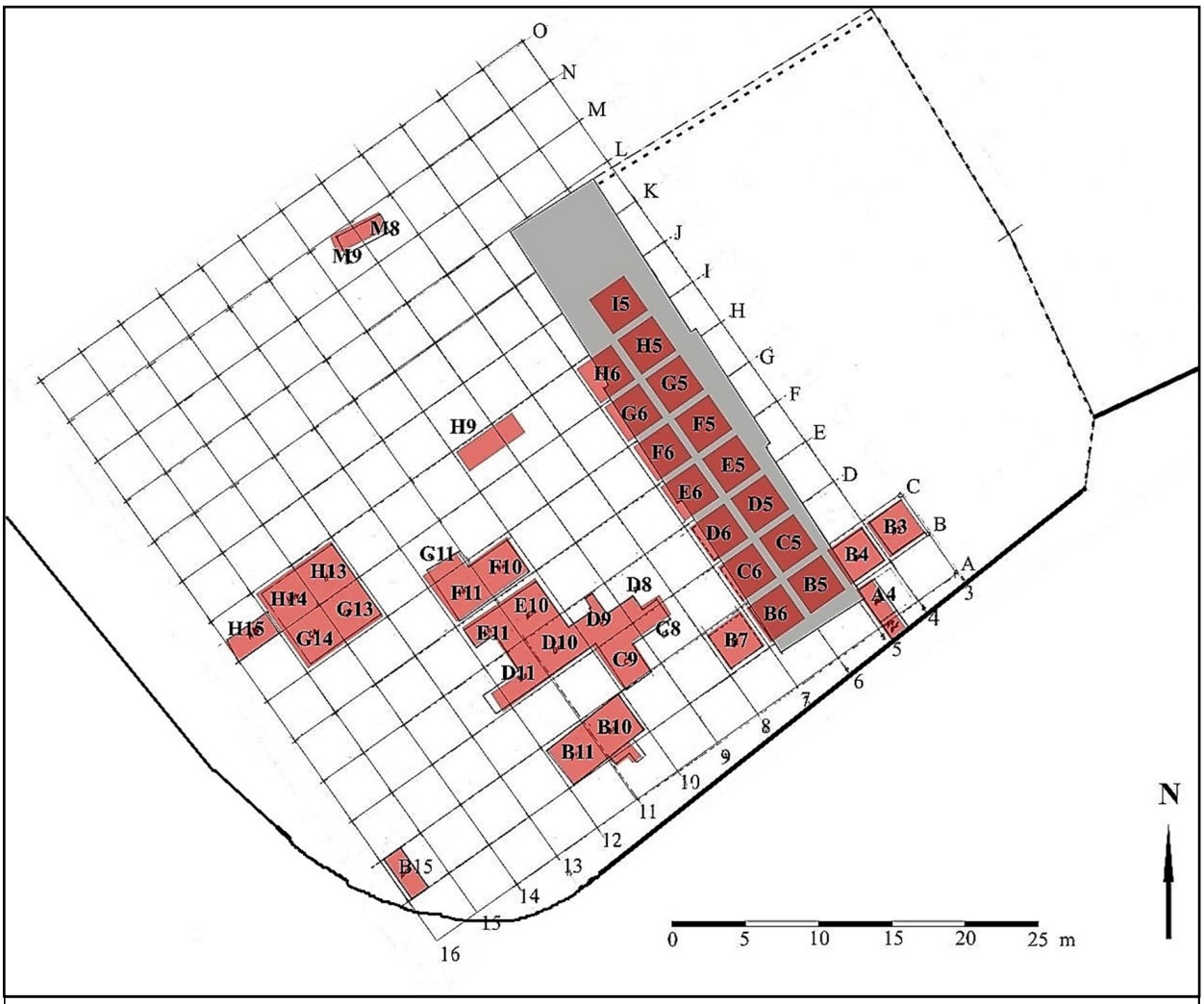

Figure 5. Grid layout of trenches.

removed, so that B7 context 2, B6 context 2 and B6 Ext 2 context 2 are not necessarily identical. Some contexts were also identified by feature numbers (F1 etc) but no concordance was kept between context and feature numbers.[19]

Between them, the plans, records and finds labels referred to 292 contexts. In preparing the site for publication, the surviving notebooks were digitised and collated to into a sequence of trench, context and feature numbers matched with photographs where possible. A site plan was prepared at a scale of 1 inch to 4 feet, with additional plans of the significant features. In addition, a representative E–W section was reconstructed (fig. 6) following the line of B

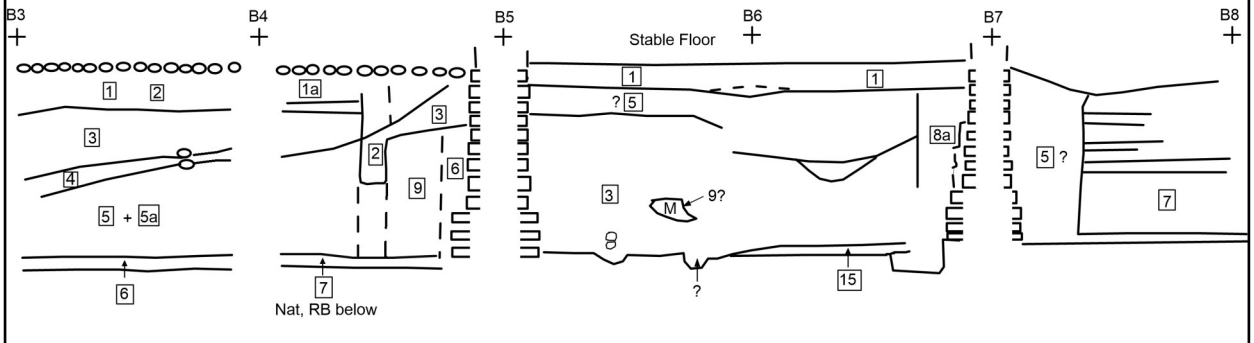

Figure 6. Schematic section through site.

trenches, drawing on individual sketch sections and the site note books. The section is indicative rather than accurate, as these section drawings had not all been made to the same scale and few were annotated with context numbers.

The interim reports were:

> 1962. Notes on fieldwalking, site I (the house) and site II (the stables, including the medieval well), credited to the Fieldwork Committee and apparently drafted by David Cousins, printed in the NEAS bulletin 2nd series 2 (September 1962) pp8–10.
>
> 1963. Report on the 1962 season, including the well, delivered by Norman Nail to the AGM of 24 January 1963, printed in the Minutes.
>
> 1965. Report circulated after the end of excavation, evidently by Norman Nail, covering the cremation burial, Roman ditches and medieval well, printed separately.
>
> 1980. Report circulated by Norman Nail in July 1980, covering prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods.
>
> 1994. Notes sent by Norman Nail to a meeting for the publication of outstanding excavations, 22 October 1994, covering the site sequence from prehistoric to post-medieval.

These syntheses were based on personal intuition at the time, without the detailed background to support them and some are invalid.

Finds processing

Although finds had been marked with trench and context numbers, few drawings included these numbers, so that interpretation was needed before individual finds could be allocated to drawn contexts. Most of the surviving finds were pottery and this was identified by fabric and used as the basis for dating features in the absence of other stratigraphical evidence. The total amount of pottery surviving amounted to 8,980 sherds (65.71kg), not including the complete cremation flagon. All the pottery was sorted within each context and entered onto an Excel spreadsheet to allow sorting by trench and ware.

The site evidence

Early Roman

An extensive chalk layer covers most of square B11, except possibly for a foot-wide strip along its south side. The layer appears to continue right up to the point where it was truncated by the cellar feature, in B10. No references to it have been found in the site notes, but stratigraphically it is earlier (AD 43 to *c*. 150) than the early ditch F57, which can be seen in photos (most clearly in fig. 15) to cut it.

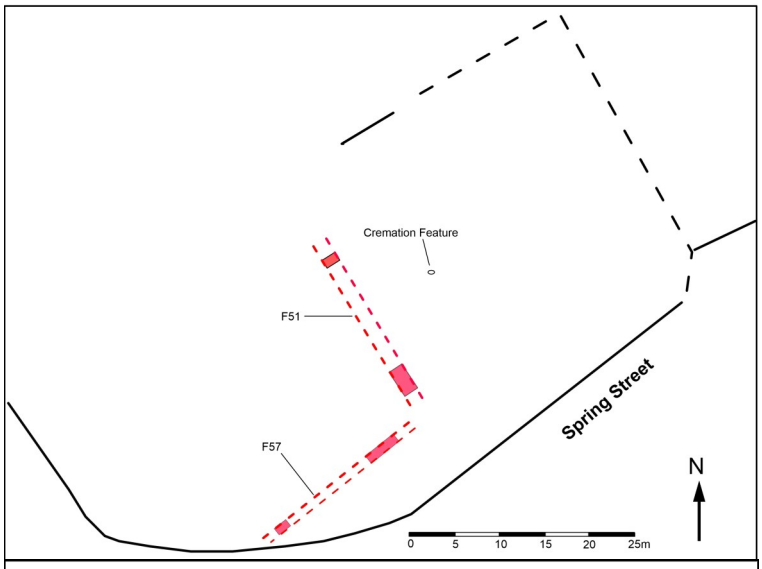

Figure 7. Plan of Roman ditches in red.

This ditch F57, running east-west across the site, was traced (fig. 7) for a distance of 49 feet (14.9m). It was observed in grid squares B15, B11 and B10, and may have continued further at both ends, although it was apparently absent in squares C5 and C6 over the stables block. The ditch fill contained residual Iron Age and early Roman pottery, with none from a later date.[20]

Early Roman material was found at other locations on the site, although it has not been possible to identify these as features. It was observed at five points in the outlying grid square M/N 8/9, where the pottery included Highgate B/C fabrics (AD 65–85) and ERSA (40–70), together with fragments of brick and roof tile. Early Roman material was also found in grid square H9 amongst others.

The mix and spread of material of widely varying dates, apparently deposited in layers rather than pits, suggests a dumping ground. This could be backlot dumping or material that had been transported out of the settlement by the street-cleaning services of municipal authorities as organic waste, or *stercus*, as known from elsewhere in the Empire (Lepetz 2017, 252).

In square F6 a ring-necked flagon was found in association with cremated remains and a small deposit of pig bones. The flagon (finds 2.06) is in VRW fabric of AD 120–140. It appears to have been buried in a small pit dug into a Roman layer, although the context was not fully excavated: instead, the overlying wall footings from a subsequent phase were truncated by a cut to reveal the finds. In the photograph (fig. 8), two of these footings can be seen running out at right angles from the section. Before the photograph was taken, the flagon had been removed, cleaned, and replaced *in situ*. A report from the Natural History Museum (no longer in the archive) identified the remains as those of a middle-aged man. The flagon had been ritually killed by knocking through a small hole in its base. In a new study of Kentish burial material, this was found to be a rare treatment of a grave good (Carter 2022, 257, fig. 17 and discussion pp 253–4). The survival of the flagon is remarkable, as the footings of one wall were directly in contact with it and pressing down on it.

Grid squares C9/D9, at the southern end of ditch F51, contained a context 10 with pottery of mixed dates, in fabrics AHSU, VCWS plus a small piece of samian (early Roman), through BB2 (mid Roman) to an AHFA type 3C hooked-rim jar (form 1.32 in Lyne & Jefferies 1979), a form and fabric that extend to the end of the Roman period. Amongst these were part of a cavetto rim cordoned jar (finds 2.01), Lyne & Jefferies type 1.19 in AHSU fabric of AD 50–160; a substantial body of the vessel was present, suggesting that it was a disturbed cremation urn.

Figure 8. Roman burial in F6.

Late Roman

Later Roman activity (AD *c*. 250–420) is indicated by a second ditch, F51, which ran north-south almost at right angles to the first and was picked up in grid squares C9 to H8/9. The total distance traced was 51 feet (15.5m). The fill of the ditch contained residual pottery of early Roman and Iron Age date together with later wares, up to a jar in Lyne & Jefferies form 4.45 of AHFA fabric (350–420). The stratigraphic relationship of ditches F57 and F51 cannot be established since the point at which they joined or crossed was removed by the later cellar feature in C9, discussed below. They do not seem to have differed significantly in profile: although later truncation/dispersal of the Roman layers had destroyed evidence for their full dimensions, it is clear from sections that they were both at least 2 feet wide and 0.75 feet deep, with flattened bases.

Only twenty-five numbered deposits throughout the site contain solely Roman or prehistoric material (plus three probable with later intrusive material) and five of those are in M/N 8/9, the outlying trench to the north which did not pick up the north/south ditch F51 at that point. This trench also contained stratified Roman ceramic building material (CBM) in contexts 3, 4 and 5. The only feature numbers that appear on the plan are F51 (in grid square H9) and F57 (in grid square B15).

Square H9 does have three contexts, 9, 10 and 11 which have solely Roman or prehistoric material (eight sherds). Likewise, the ditch F57 in grid square B15 has three contexts noted as ‘fills of F57’ (contexts 6, 8 and 9) which contain only Roman and prehistoric material (six sherds).

Also significant is trench ‘C9/10’, a complex of grid squares and features including the southern portion of the Roman ditch F51 (actually in D9).[21] Furthermore, context 10 contains only Roman pottery (95 sherds, of which 77 belong to the probable disturbed cremation urn).

A context only noted as ‘Fill of F30’ also produced only Roman pottery but feature F30 in Nail’s field notes is conflated with feature F6 which has much post-Roman material.

Medieval: the well

Grid squares D5/E5 contained evidence for the construction and robbing out of a well. The features identified with this did not appear until after the removal of 18 inches of black earth, below 6 inches of 'demolition rubble', and it was then finally recorded as having a depth of about 15 feet 6 inches (1962 interim, 8–9).[22]

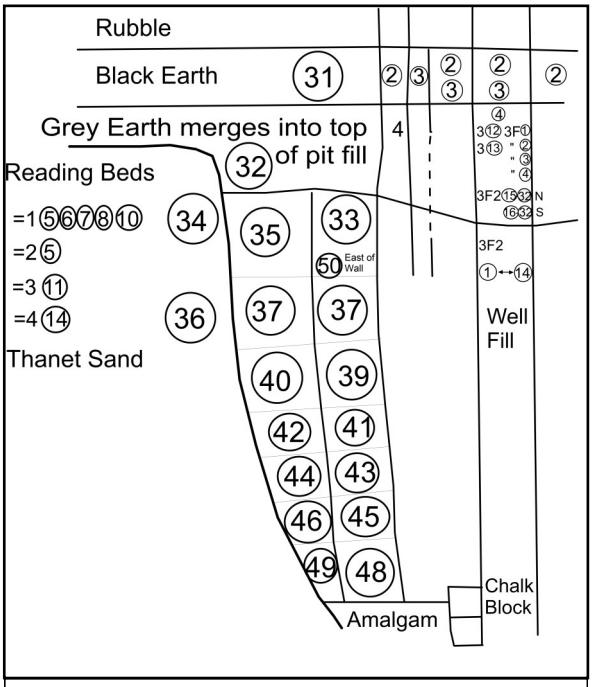

Figure 9. Nail's sketch section of the well.

The excavation of the well was recorded in a sketch and photographs (figs. 9 and 11) which shows disturbed upper levels – called rubble, black earth etc – and beneath them the pit fill, dug in spits numbered 33–48. The structure of the well is fairly certain (fig. 10 offers a reconstruction drawing) although the block of mortared chalk 'wall' is open to doubt. Equally, the fill of the lower part of the well within the surviving chalk block lining was presumably undisturbed and this contained the important group of leather offcuts (finds 8.24 to 30), wooden objects (finds 8.16 to 19) and red ware jug (finds 4.01).

The initial feature, a circular construction pit some 3m in diameter at the top narrowing to 2.1m at the bottom, had been dug through the Reading Beds to reach the water-bearing Thanet Sand at a depth of just over 2.4m below the top of the construction pit.[23] Within the pit, slightly to the north of centre, a well shaft of about 1m diameter had been created by building up a lining or steening of chalk blocks and the excavated earth backfilled and packed in behind. This feature must have continued to contemporary ground level, although only 1m of the well shaft survived, with 7 courses of shaped blocks intact (coinciding with the 1963 water table, about 1m below the original) and a further 6 courses disturbed. A single chalk block remained imbedded in the straight strip of floor at the top, with another apparently *in situ* visible in the photograph at a point in the side of the shaft opposite.[24] Otherwise the steening had been robbed out. The floor, which survived in a single wall-like strip 1m wide across the construction pit, was built from unshaped blocks of chalk, Reigate stone and flint. It was apparently intended as a hard standing for people using (and later robbing) the well, sitting as it did solely within the rim of the construction pit.

Within the surviving lowest part of the well was a hollowed-out trunk of elm, rising up about 1m, which would have filtered water seeping in sideways as well

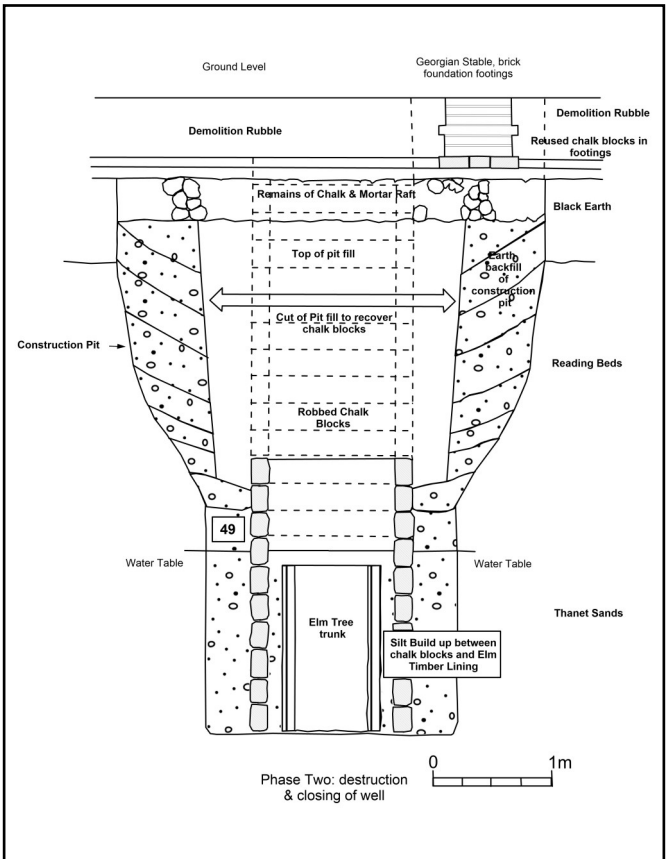

Figure 10. Suggested reconstruction of the well.

Figure 11. Top of the well.

as bracing the shaft. At the lowest level of the fill was found a turned wooden vessel, probably a butter tub. Above it lay a wooden block, tapered and bored with a hole at the upper end, and bored at the lower end for a slot which contained a sheave or pulley wheel. Above that was a vessel of late Cheam ware (1360–1490), missing its base and handle, with string tied round the neck (4.01). It appears that both the tub and jug had been hanging in the water during the life of the well, presumably to keep contents cool, and were lost when their strings broke, while the pulley block would have taken a rope for pulling up buckets. If the thin end of the block had been morticed into a framework over the well, and the dowel had broken, this would explain its presence in the lower fill. The uppermost items in the fill comprised an intact shoe (fig. 12), no longer surviving, and leather offcuts (finds 8.24 to 30). Earlier interim interpretations saw these as some form of closing deposit, but recent close examination suggests that they may have been casual discards.

The lowest level of well fill above the elm trunk comprised a silty deposit with much Thanet sand and some chalk lining blocks and large flints, which may attest a period of disuse before – or during – the robbing. At a later date the top 4m of steening was robbed out from the well. First, most of the flooring was cut away, leaving just a strip on the western side and a rough circle of blocks at the top. Then the bulk of the lining blocks were removed. Despite a blank column shown in Nail's sketch (fig. 9) which could be interpreted as a robber trench, finds from the spits excavated across the construction pit are remarkably cohesive in date so it is more likely (and less effort!) that a small person was lowered down the well shaft with a bucket alongside to carry out the removal by removing the blocks with little disturbance to the surrounding pit.

Figure 12. Intact shoe from the well fill.

The uppermost levels, making up the black earth above the rim of the construction pit, contained seventeenth and eighteenth-century material. Two interpretations are possible. One is that the robbing took place *c*. 1600, and that the pit was backfilled then; this would imply that the chalk blocks were part of some other feature (or stored) before being reused in the stables, and that the outline (or location) of the pit remained visible/known some two hundred years later, to be avoided in laying out the new walls. This would account for the time required for a topsoil 18 inches thick to build up. The other is that the backfill does indeed date from the 1770s, but that the site had been archaeologically barren since the nearby house was demolished in the early seventeenth century, so that there was no later pottery in the area to date the fill. In the plan of the stables, a corner wall closely avoids the construction pit of the well, suggesting that robbing took place to stabilise the site shortly before the stables were built and their footprint avoided resting walls on made ground. When the ground was made up for the stables, rubble from elsewhere on the site was brought in, and this did contain eighteenth-century pottery.

The well consolidation deposit was a black earth that included bone, shell and charcoal as well as tile, chalk and pottery. The 1963 interim report also described 'signs of burning and the large number of nails in the debris at the top [which] might be the result of the burning of the wooden nailed-on lathes of a framed building whose main timbers pegged together were pulled apart and taken elsewhere at the final destruction of the well'. The well would have served the other house to the south-west of the Bourne Hall curtilage (Whitfields or Quedekepes) which was already demolished at that time, for we know that the Bourne Hall property extended unobstructed to south and west in 1711.

The construction pit fill can be spot-dated to 1480–1500 on pottery using the standard formula.[25] The earliest ware present is WW2/WW3TG (White Wares, 1350–1500) and the latest PMSR (Post-Medieval Slipped Red, 1480–1650). The fill of the well shaft itself (contexts WF and variations) has pottery from which a spot-date of 1580–1600 can be derived, with the earliest ware PMRE (early Post-Medieval Red Ware, *c*. 1480–1600) and the latest, an RBORD costrel (Surrey/ Hampshire Border Red Ware, 1580–1800). The disuse of the well is dated by the dump of scrap leather from shoes of the early sixteenth century, so the active period of use of the well may not have been of long duration. In the absence of more concrete evidence we can only say that the well existed at a time earlier than the fifteenth-century vessel which was lost in its waters, and was still in use when the early sixteenth-century shoes were dropped into it.

Medieval: the cellar

In grid squares B10 and 11 and C9/10 there was a rectangular cut feature measuring 25 by c. 15 feet (8.2m x 4.9m) and 6 feet (1.9m) deep, which cut through contexts of the Roman ditch, F57 and its neighbour running north F51 (fig. 13). The deep feature appears to have been noted as F10 but not fully described in the notebooks. Only two partial opposed quarters of the feature were excavated, separately. In fact, less than half of the NE quadrant was fully excavated.

A close examination of plans and photographs (figs. 15 and 16) gives a good idea of the sequence of events. An early floor of timber is evidenced by the survival of two wooden beams, approx. 6 inches square in section, one *in situ* (lying at right angles to the N-S sides) and another about three feet away, at an angle. They seem to be embedded in a grey-brown silty matrix, probably water-lain. Subsequently, perhaps following flooding, this floor was removed and one of chalk put down, about one foot thick. Photographs indicate lines of darker soil, two feet wide, interpreted as wall trenches in the SW corner up against the excavated sides, cutting or abutting the chalk floor. The cellar wall was of brick (one brick survives in place and can be seen in fig. 15). A possible entry point may be hinted at by the depiction of a 'step' on the site plan (labelled F15), cut into the southern point of the Roman N-S ditch at its junction with the northern edge of the cellar.

At the end of the cellar's life the brick was removed and the feature infilled. The fill was of heavy rubble (fig. 14) with a very clear division between this fill and an overlying dark earth

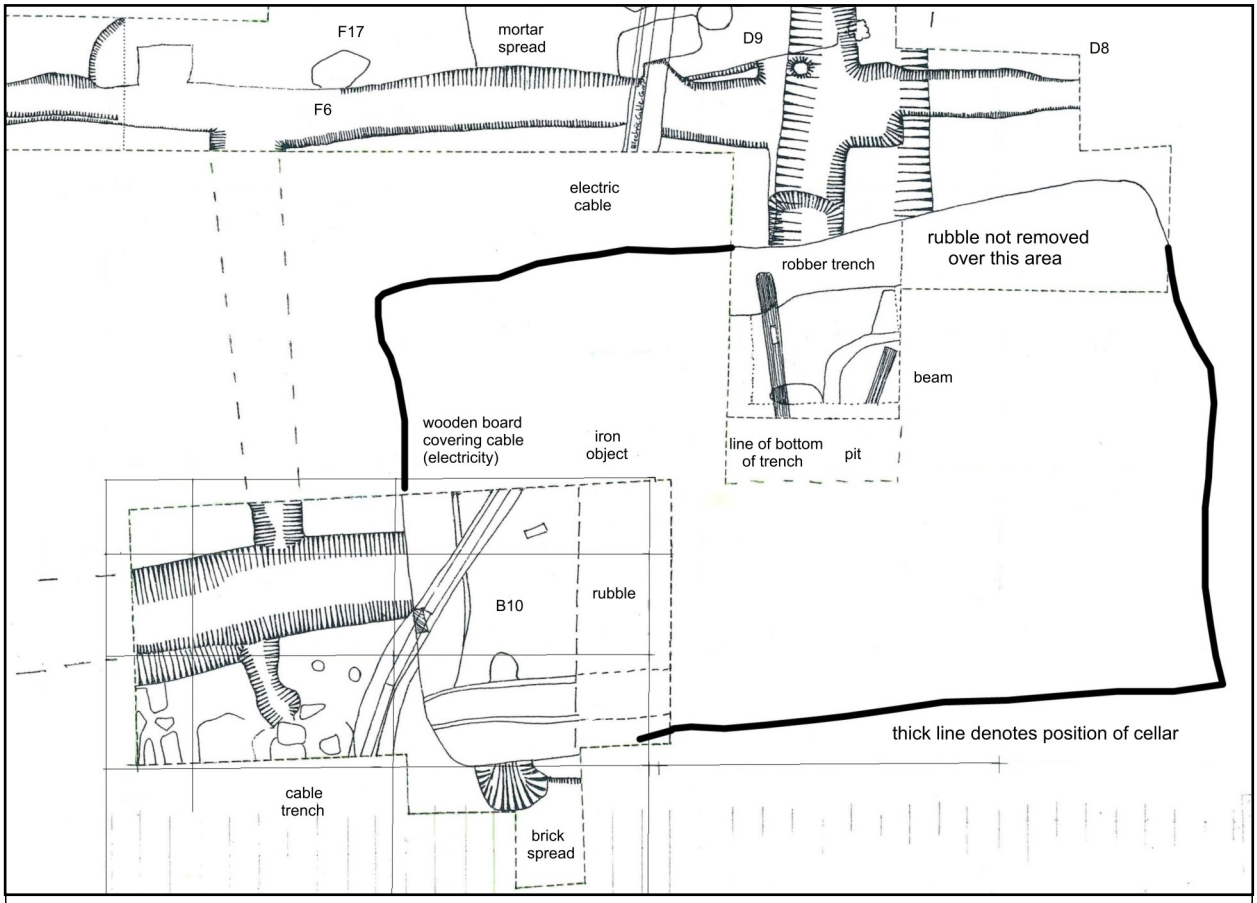

Figure 13. Part of site plan with the cellar feature outlined.

Figure 14. Rubble fill of cellar with beams beneath.

Figure 15. Edge of the cellar in foreground and Roman ditch F57 beyond.

Figure 16. North section of grid square B10/11.

level, presumably at the level at which the feature was recognised. The contexts appear to be 4 (top of cellar fill), 6 in C9/10 and 5 in B10/11. If this is the case then all these contexts are mixed and contain, as well as some early sherds, eighteenth-century pottery, and this must represent the date of the final disuse of the feature, probably to be associated with the construction of the stable block.

When Norman Nail reviewed the site in 1980, he stated that the 'packing between the cellar walls and the pit in which it was constructed … included a number of medieval encaustic tiles'.[26] Only one of the tiles that survive is marked, as context 5, noted as cellar fill. The tiles (finds 5.1 to 11) are indeed medieval but of course are earlier material incorporated in the rubble filling of the feature in the eighteenth century. The brick and roof tiles that survive from this context appear mixed and of seventeenth or eighteenth-century date. The medieval tiles are virtually all different designs from their period under production: a representative collection kept as heirlooms for some time and finally discarded?

The 'cellar' was assumed to have been beneath a medieval building defined by a series of gullies interpreted in site reports 1972 and 1980 as beam slots. These appear on the plan in several squares at right angles to each other. A few photos also show these, for example that which appears in grid square D10/11/12 (fig. 17) and is noted as feature F6 on plan but also F30 in notes. This length can be seen in the photo to cut into a chalk layer of some depth, which is not otherwise described. The gullies vary in size, from 12 to 18 inches (32–49cm) wide and about 12 inches (32cm) deep.

There are a number of problems with this interpretation and its dating since the excavation and the field notes made 40 years ago. All the contexts in these areas were very disturbed with pottery of all periods; the chalk layer was not identified; and the plan attempts – but fails – to show clear relationships between 'gullies' /'beam-slots'/ ditches, to the extent we cannot now be sure of those relationships.[27]

Figure 17. The supposed beam slot, feature F6, cut into a chalk layer with later disturbance in the foreground, in grid square D11/12

It is also difficult now to interpret the 'beam-slots' as earth-fast beams. Such construction is unlikely to have been in use in the medieval period, certainly not after late Saxon times. There is no indication of any rubble found in the gullies that might be expected as sleeper/sill walls in late medieval construction, and feature F30 only contained Roman material.

There are a few references to 'medieval walls' in the note books and in a couple of photographs. However, these are not plotted on the overall site plan (a major omission). One photo of trench 2 in 1962 shows what was noted as Walls C and D underlying the brick stable wall (fig. 18). There are no finds that appear to relate to these features, apart from an iron arrowhead (finds 8.09), or their relationship to contexts either side. Likewise, the large number of features noted simply as postholes may be of medieval or later date but are now impossible to prove. For example, a line of eight or nine small postholes plotted in B6 and C6, parallel to the outer west wall of the stable, were interpreted at the time of excavation as scaffold-pole holes for the building's construction on no other basis than that they seemed in alignment with the stable walls.

Figure 18. Mortared chalk walls C and D under eighteenth century stable wall looking north.

Eighteenth century

The rectangular brick walls of the stable, of c. 1770, were obvious in the centre of the site. It is assumed that the structure was of one build. The principal walls were *c.* 18 inches (0.49m) thick with an offset foundation. However, there is some confusion over identification of the excavated fills of the construction trenches for the walls indicated on some site section drawings. For example, B6 context 8a is described in the notes as a foundation trench and appears as such in a sketch section. However, this is the only context recorded clearly as such.

A mass of feature numbers is marked on the original site plan and sections, many of them relating to the stable's internal subdivisions and service areas. Some may be earlier but it was not possible to identify these from the site records.

The Finds

1 Prehistoric pottery, by Jon Cotton

An assemblage of 87 sherds (661g) was recovered from a range of contexts across the site. All are disturbed except for three contexts in MN 8/9: 6, 7 and 8. Apart from one small flattened rim from C9/10 context 7, they mostly comprised plain, thin-walled body sherds. The only other feature sherds comprised two lower wall/basal fragments and a weakly-shouldered piece, all from M/N 8/9, context 5.

A limited range of fabrics is present, overwhelmingly comprising the use of crushed burnt flint (<3mm in size) as a tempering agent. Two sherds with smooth soapy surfaces were tempered with grog (C6, context 3 and M/N 8/9 context 7). Surfaces are mostly roughly smoothed, though a handful of sherds had been burnished both inside and out (e.g. B15 context 8 and M/N 8/9 context 5).

Most of the context groups featured small abraded sherds. However, just over 50% of the total assemblage by both weight and sherd count was recovered from a series of contexts in M/N 8/9. This included a group of 40 fresher sherds from context 5, many of which appeared to have come from the same vessel – a thin walled, weakly-shouldered jar.

The absence of large or diagnostic sherds makes dating a difficult exercise but the combination of fabric, wall thickness and lack of decoration suggests that the bulk of the material can be accommodated within the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age period (ninth to seventh centuries BC). The two grog-tempered sherds are likely to be of Late Iron Age or Early Roman date.[28]

Similar groups of material have been reported from sites across Ewell, often in disturbed or residual contexts – the closest being the site to the rear of the former King William IV pub (Orton 1997, fig. 12, nos 3–12).

2 Roman coarse wares, by Phil Stanley

Methodology

A total of 682 Roman coarse and fineware sherds were recovered over the four seasons of excavations on the Bourne Hall site, from 156 contexts spread across almost every trench or square excavated.[29] Total weight was 6.2kg. The small number of rims, approx. 57 sherds, only gives 4.59 EVEs.[30]

For the current reinterpretation of the site, it was not practical nor necessary to do a complete rechecking of the detailed cataloguing work that had been done previously, so the focus was on looking for Roman contexts (i.e. those having no post-Roman pottery or other finds) which would form the basis for the first part of the catalogue; then on the extraction of any diagnostic or intrinsically interesting sherds from the remaining contexts to go into part two, the Residuals list. 192 sherds were therefore re-examined with revisions/expansions made as necessary. The Roman pot data were extracted from the original master pottery list onto another spreadsheet, amendments applied there then that in turn uploaded into an Access database, which was populated with terminology-controlled lookup lists. The database forms the master list. A copy of this file will be deposited with the site archive.

Only 142 sherds could be attributed to the likely Roman contexts (26 in number), so the majority of sherds (80%) were from disturbed contexts or residual in later contexts. Fragmentation was high (average sherd weight of 8 gms), probably a result of rubbish middens being turned over a number of times by later activity.

In order to make it easier to reference where on site the Roman pot was coming from, the trenches have been grouped into:

I The house site, trenches 3 and 4 (flowerbeds)
II The stable block and well, early contexts, 1962 trenches 1–4, spanning north and south blocks
IIa The stable block southern half including the well: trenches A3 to E7
IIb The stable block, northern half, trenches F5 to H7
IIIa The central area, C/G 8/11
IIIb South-west group, B15
IIIc North-west group, G/H 13/15
IIId Northern group, H9, M/N
IIIe Southern central group, B10/B11

Forms and fabrics were recorded using the Museum of London coding system, 2012 version, but with date ranges updated from the latest available list, 2019.[31] Alice Holt wares also use the form classification (L&J) from Lyne & Jefferies 1979, together with its later update (Lyne 2012). Further key sources were the forms (M&T) defined in Marsh & Tyers 1978 and Davies, Richardson & Tomber 1994; the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection in Tomber and Dore 1998; and the later extensions to M&T found in Rayner & Seeley 2008.[32] A table of forms and fabrics is given in the Appendix.

Roman contexts

Twenty-six contexts in total produced no post-Roman pottery or other datable finds (or later items considered intrusive). Of these, six produced only Iron Age pottery or Roman ceramic building material. Out of the remaining twenty, excluding the possible disturbed cremation urn (2.01) and the flagon from the cremation (2.06), only 5 rims were recorded, coming from just five contexts. Including the cremation urn and flagon, we get an EVE of just 2.18.

Area IIa (stable block southern half including the well) – 2 contexts
TR small base/lower body sherd of possible Terra Rubra; AD 40–60. Baulk B5/C5 context 3.

Area IIb (stable block, northern half) – 4 contexts
SAND sherd of lid, 200mm diameter. F5/6 context 3.

AH body sherds from a 1A.13 (L&J) cordoned/necked jar with combed lattice decoration; 220–70. G6 context 7.

Area IIIa (central trenches) – 4 contexts. The C9/10 complex included extensions in C8, D8 and D9, but the Roman pot is mostly from context 10, likely to be the fill of the N-S ditch F51.

AHFA bead-rim jar, 200mm diameter, L&J 4.44; 270–350. 'Fill of F30',
AHFA hooked-rim jar body sherd, L&J 1.32, M&T 3C; 270–420. C9/10 context 10.
AH straight-sided bowl 270mm diameter, burnished interior and exterior, L&J 6A.3; 180–270. C9/10 context 10.
BB2 everted-rim jar with cavetto rim. C9/10 context 10.
NKFW body sherd; 60–160. D/E 10/11 context 13 (residual).

Area IIIb (south-west group) – 2 contexts. B15 context 6 is believed to be within the fill of the east-west ditch F57

FMIC body sherd; 50–120. B15 context 6.
VRW patera handle, M&T 9J; 50–160. B15 context 6.

Area IIId (northern group) – 4 contexts

AHFA bead-rim jar body sherd, L&J 4.45, burnished band with obtuse combed lattice decoration (above); 350–420. H9 context 9, northern extension of north-south ditch F51.
HWC M&T 2E jar, upper body sherd with scored vertical lines below cordon; 70–160. M/N 8/9 context 5.
AH M&T 2F8 jar with acute lattice decoration, limescale on internal surface; 160–200. M/N 8/9 context 5.
HWC bead-rim jar, M&T 2A12, 180mm diameter; 70–160. M/N 8/9 context 5.

Area IIIe (south-central group) – 4 contexts

AMPH body sherd, pink fabric with thumbnail impressions on interior surface. B10/11 context 11, apparently within the E-W ditch F57.
NKFW body sherd; 60–160. B10/11 context 7, apparently within the E-W ditch F57.
ERSA everted-rim jar, M&T 2E, 180mm diameter; 50–70. B10/11 Ext context 1a.

Residual contexts

Residual pottery, mostly rims, in rough date order.

ERSA M&T 3F beaker pedestal base sherd, black-slipped; 50–70. F6 context 1, area IIb.
HWB/C HW 14.1 reed-rim bowl; 40–160. B15 context 1, area IIIb.
HWC M&T 3B1 beaker, body sherd with applied dots; 55–100. H6 context 3, area IIb.
VRW tazza, rouletted decoration on rim and flange, M&T 9C, 220mm diameter; 50–160. 3 context 1, area I.
VRW flagon rim sherd; 50–160. B6 context 3A, area IIa.
AHSU M&T 2C2 jar with burnishing over rim, 160mm diameter; 50–150. B/C 5/6 context 3, area IIa.
HWC M&T 2G cordoned jar base and body sherds; 50–160. D6 context 2, area IIa.
SAND M&T 2D flat-rimmed figure-7 storage jar, black-slipped over rim, dark-grey sandy fabric; 60–150. B7 context 2, area IIa.
VCWS M&T 1G flaring-mouth flagon rim with wide, flat cup, 80mm diameter; 70–140. B7 context 2, area IIa.
VCWS M&T 7HOF hook-flanged mortarium rim sherd, 420mm diameter; 70–140. H15 context 2, area IIIc.
HWC body sherd with barbotine dot decoration; 70–160. F5 context 1, area IIb.
AH? Single-grooved triangular rimmed bowl, white slipped over rim, 160mm diameter; 90–150. B5 context 5, area IIa.
AHSU L&J 1.19 narrow-mouth jar, 160mm diameter; 90–150. F5 context 4, area IIb.
AHSU L&J 7.10 (Neatham type 13) lid, burnished on underside, 200mm diameter; 90–150. G5 context 1, area IIb.

AHSU L&J 3A/B flat/everted rim jar, 140mm diameter; 90–150. G6 context 1, area IIb.
AH jar rim sherd, M&T 2V, thickened, slightly hooked, black sandy fabric. B10 Ext context 1, area IIIe.
AMPH rim sherd, 120mm diameter. B7 context 2, area IIa.
LOXI bowl with flat, thickened rim, 140mm diameter; 90–160. H5/6 context 21, area IIb.
NKGW jar body sherds, 160mm diameter; 100–150. G5 context 1, area IIb.
HWC M&T 3F5 narrow-necked globular beaker body sherds with triple mid-body cordon; 100–160. C9/10 context 7, area IIIa.
BB2 M&T 4G2 flat-rimmed bowl, 300mm diameter; 120–160. B10/11 context 2, area IIIe.
HWC HW 4.2 cordoned jar body sherd, with burnished vertical lines above the cordon; 100–160. B10/11 context 5, area IIIe.
BBS M&T 2F10 jar, body sherd with acute lattice within band; 120–200. B4 context 5, area IIa.
VCWS M&T 1B8 ring-necked flagon, 70mm diameter; 140–200. B7 context 2, area IIa.
AH M&T 2F (Lyne 2012, 1.25) small everted-rim jar, 160mm diameter; 160–90. D/E 10/11 context 11, area IIIa.
BB2 M&T 5J2 bowl, external groove below rim, 180mm diameter; 120–250. 3 context 1, area I.
BB2 M&T 4H7 bowl; 220mm diameter, 120–250. C9/10 context 7, area IIIa.
BB2 M&T 5J plain-rim dish, 350mm diameter; 120–250. IIa D5 context 2, area.
COLCC beaker rim sherd; 50–250. D5 context 2, area IIa.
BB2 M&T 4H bowl with acute lattice decoration; 120–250. H14/15 context 1, area IIIc.
AHFA L&J 5B.3 flanged bowl with lid seating, 280mm diameter; 220–70. B7 context 2, area IIa.
AH L&J 1.26 flat rim jar, 22cms diameter; 180–250. F5/6 context 1, area IIb.
BB2 (or AHBB – check) M&T 2F6 jar body sherd with incised acute lattice decoration; 220–70. H5 context 3, area IIb.
OXWW mortarium body sherd, white smooth surfaces (no prominent grits); 180–400. F5 context 1, area IIb.
AHFA L&J 1.31 jar, 180mm diameter; 180–270. G5 context 1, area IIb.
AHFA L&J 3C hooked rim jar, light grey slip over rim, 280mm diameter; 250–400. 4 context 1, area I.
AHFA L&J 3C hooked rim jar, 160mm diameter; 250–400. 4 context 1, area I.
PORD M&T 2F3 everted rim jar. Possibly FINE PORD, burnished on external shoulder, 240mm diameter; 325–400. 'Fill of F15', C9/10 context 3, area IIIa.
AHFA L&J 3C.3 jar, triangular rim sherd, 300mm diameter; 270–330. G6 context 1, area IIb.

Figure 19. Roman coarse wares 2.01.

Figured

2.01 AHSU cavetto-rim jar with cordon below neck, 185mm diameter, almost complete, in 77 sherds: L&J 1.19, M&T 2G1, 50–160. Possible disturbed cremation urn. Roman context C9/10 context 10, area IIIa.

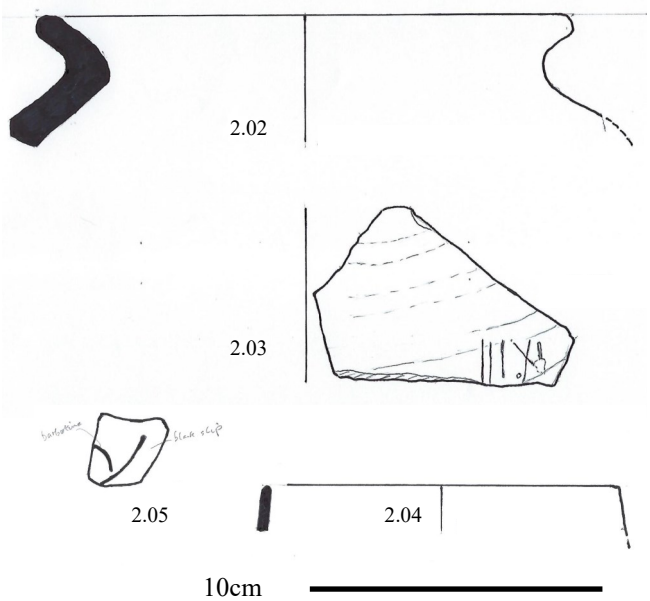

Figure 20. Roman coarse wares 2.02 to 5.

Figure 21. Roman coarse wares 2.06

2.02 AHSU storage jar, 200mm diameter: L&J 9.7, M&T 2V, 90–150. Thick-bodied, black-fired fabric, flattened rim. Occasional angular flints but abundant white sand and moderate mica. Residual in G/H 13/14 context 8, area IIIc.

2.03 AMPH upper body sherd with scratched graffito III.XI, 50–250. Residual in 3 context 1, area I.

2.04 KOLN beaker rim sherd, glossy black slip, rim slightly incurved, 10cm diameter: M&T 3F, 100–140. Residual in H15 context 2, area IIIc.

2.05 KOLN beaker body sherd with applied barbotine decoration, 100–140. Residual in G6 context 1, area IIb.

2.06 VRW ring-neck flagon, height 175mm, complete: M&T 1B5, 120–40. This was holed in the base as part of the funerary ritual. Roman context F6 context 4, the cremation burial.

2.07 OXIDF bowl, band of faint square lattice decoration below rim, burnished inside and out, 24cm diameter: M&T 4H3, 120–300. Residual in F6 context 5, area IIb.

2.08 PORD dish, flat-top triangular rim sherd with white slip, 220mm diameter: L&J 6B.2, 325–400. Unable to parallel amongst published PORD forms. Rim possibly sooted. Residual in G6 context 1, area IIb.

Discussion

The large range of forms, fabrics and periods represented, together with an average sherd weight of only 8 gms, is similar to that found at other sites in Ewell, and has the appearance of backlot rubbish dumping. The nearest known structure would have been the building of which foundations were observed in 1950 ‘under the pavement in front of the lock-up shops in the Market Parade, High Street’ at TQ 2197 6268, about 120 metres east of the south-east corner of these excavations.[33] In 1991 a Roman well was excavated in the grounds of Spring House, at TQ 2186 6265, across the road and 40 metres from the excavations.[34]

Fine wares are barely represented, being only 2.9% of the whole assemblage by sherd count. Regional wares are more plentiful at 60.8% and follow the known pattern of a great variety of early sources reducing to a much smaller number of larger producers from the mid-Roman period onwards (just Alice Holt-Farnham on this site). It is known there is a marked fall-off in pottery quantities in several areas after about 190 (Evans & Mills 2023) and this occurs here also. We do have a small amount of pottery that spans the mid-Roman period and a limited quantity from the later third to late fourth centuries (Nene Valley, Portchester D, Oxford, but mainly Alice Holt-Farnham). One wonders whether this is real or reflects conservatism in pottery styles combined with a relative lack of well-dated deposits (Symonds & Tomber 1991, 66, for the period 160–200 in London).

The marked preponderance of local or regional coarse wares (97.1%) over fine wares is in line with other Ewell sites. Amongst the former, no examples of the coarse brown sandy ware common at 46–50 High Street were noticed (Hayman 2010, 289), nor the black-surfaced wares described from Glyn House (Stansbie & Score 2004, 206). Alice Holt stands at 32.2% (by sherd count) of the total.

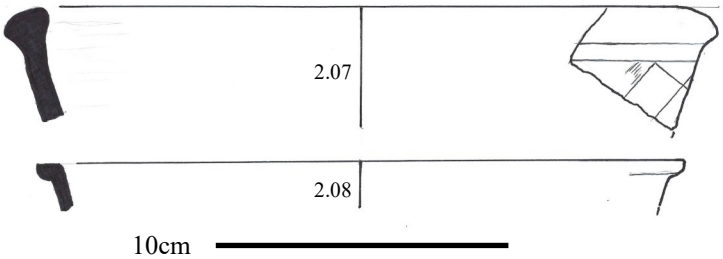

Figure 22. Roman coarse wares 2.07 and 8.

3 Samian, by Joanna Bird

Samian sherds were small and fragmentary (except for the Drag 37 bowl, of which about three -quarters of the foot survives) and are mostly from mixed later contexts. Full details are in the archive – this is a summary by Phil Stanley.

Roman contexts

South Gaulish: dish Dr. 18, Flavian. C9/10 context 10
South Gaulish: bowl Dr. 37, foot (worn), Flavian–Trajanic. C5/B5 context 3.

Residual

Central Gaulish: dish Dr. 31, rim, Antonine. 2 context 3.
Central Gaulish: cup Dr. 33, foot, Antonine. B4 context 5.
Central Gaulish: dish Dr. 31, Antonine. G5 context 1.
Central Gaulish: cup Dr. 33, rim (slightly burnt), Antonine. H6 context 2.
Central Gaulish: dish Dr. 18/31 or 31, Hadrianic–Antonine. F/G 10/11 context 4.
East Gaulish: dish Dr. 31, rim flake, late second to first half third century. 2 context 3.

4 Later pottery, by †Steve Nelson

Saxon

The total amount of post-Roman pottery surviving is 8224 sherds (59.22 kg). It covers in general all periods, from Saxon and early medieval to post medieval/modern in date. The total amount of 'Saxon' types is not great at 29 sherds (226g) across 18 contexts all unstratified. Although the numbers are small, they are worth study as very little pottery of this date has been recovered from Ewell. These sherds include the principal/broad main types of early/mid Saxon fabrics as recognised in Surrey and were classified as GT (chaff/organic tempered) or QGT (with some added quartz) and SAXQ (with no organic tempering). SAXFL has sparse to moderate flint inclusions. The individual sherds are generally small and fairly abraded with only three rims. By analogy with dated London types these have a broad range in the Early and Mid -Saxon period. The basic London series is similar to Surrey but has many more subdivisions that have been recognised there in larger groups. There is one class, ESGS/SLGS which is considered to have some greensand/glauconitic inclusions and thus possibly originate from Surrey. However, there is no direct equivalent in the Surrey series.

GT: The most distinctive of Saxon pottery is that tempered predominantly with grass/chaff. There were only six sherds (79g) from three contexts and of these four appear to be from the same vessel which has a distinctive 'scratched' or wiped, oxidised outer surface. The inner surface is reduced and slightly burnished. Equally distinctive is one sherd that appears to have a secondary 'slurry' coating on its outer surface. This is of a finer clay with no temper, patchily applied with many lumps and 'peaks' where the wet clay has been pricked up by the fingers. The coating appears contemporary rather than some accidental material adhering later. Coarse slip coating (*schlickung* type) is known and is typical of early (that is fifth-century) Saxon types but that is different being heavily charged with sand.

QGT: This has added quartz sand as well as some organic tempering to greater or lesser degree. It is debatable how different this is in terms of ware type or dating. There were five sherds from five contexts. One small rim sherd has coarse quartz and rare flint. It is also difficult to orientate but appears to be from a small, *c*. 70mm, closed vessel, perhaps of urn type.

SAXQ: This is predominantly sand tempered with no discernible organic inclusions. There were 17 sherds from nine contexts. One small sherd has distinctive brown ironstone inclusions and may be a separate fabric, Qiron in the Surrey series. There is one thick bodied rim from a bowl, one small (15mm diameter) possible cup form and another thin-walled neck fragment from near the rim of a possible tubular spout.

SAXFL: There are two sherds that appear specifically tempered with sparse flint. There was some difficulty in differentiating some handmade sherds of the later QFL type. It is doubtful how much true flint tempered pottery of Saxon date there actually is in Surrey.

The evidence from the pottery for occupation in the Saxon period is not great. In fact, the early/ mid Saxon pottery of Surrey is generally quite sparse; there are very few well dated groups and no independently dated types other than the cinerary urns.

Although there was a sixth-century cemetery centred on the Grove in Ewell, there are precious few sites in the area with which to compare any domestic material. Although there have been several archaeological interventions over the years in Ewell only a handful of domestic Saxon pottery has been recognised in contrast to the overwhelming amount of Roman material. The excavation at Church Meadow in 2000 produced a single stamped Saxon sherd from a possible urn of seventh-century date.[35] Church Meadow excavations from 2012–14 again had a very few early post-Roman sherds – only three/four of probable Saxon types.[36]

Three or four CHAF sherds were present in the large amount, mostly unstratified, of post-Roman material found on the King William IV site and must have been stray survivals.[37] A

sherd of GT was found in the post-Roman topsoil at Grove Cottage.[38] At Tolworth Court Farm, 3km along the Hogsmill, there were only 11 sherds of early to mid Saxon date in a variety of fabrics both chaff tempered and quartz and greensand/glauconite (i.e. ESGS and SLGS) tempered types (Blackmore & Thorpe 2019).

Late Saxon/Early Medieval

SNC: There is in Surrey a range of predominantly chalk/tufa tempered wares classed as Saxo/ Norman Chalky. They are variable in their tempering makeup with varying amounts of chalk/ tufa and occasional shell (freshwater) and flint. There are no independently dated groups of Saxo/Norman pottery in Surrey. The wares have been likened to EMCH or EMCALC in London dated to c 1000–1150 but most common in the late eleventh and early twelfth centuries. There were only six sherds (from six contexts) that might be of this type, all appear handmade. There was one rim with an expanded shape.

Poly-tempered and early Surrey wares (Q1 & IQ): These are other early ware types in Surrey but only amounted to 19 sherds (319g).

Shelly Wares: There was a range of shelly fabrics with varying amounts of crushed oyster shell temper with or without sand added. They were classified in line with Surrey codes as S1 (see below), S2 (with no sand/quartz) or S3 or S4 with some added quartz. There is always a difficulty in differentiating medieval shelly types from Roman on sites with Roman occupation. Interestingly, there were only seven sherds of shelly fabric identified in the Roman pottery. The various types of post-Roman shelly wares in Surrey and the London region range from late Saxon in the north of the county, principally on sites bordering the Thames and the subsequent medieval types which are ubiquitous over most of the county. The earliest of these are classed LSS (Late Saxon Shelly ware) in London, broadly equivalent to S1 in Surrey. These have a smooth surface feel and finer shell temper rather than the larger, oyster fragments in the more common and later S2. The distribution and dating of early shelly wares were fully discussed by Jones (Poulton 1986) and the position has hardly developed since then. Argument in the past has centred on the supposed derivation of LSS, in the Thames region, from the better known late Saxon industry of St. Neots type ware and its equivalent in the Oxford area (Oxford B). True St. Neots and Oxford B is characterised by Jurassic fossil inclusions. It seems clear that LSS/S1 is not a single ware type.

There were relatively few of these shelly types (28 sherds) which date in general to *c*. 1050–1150+, ending slightly later in Surrey than in London. There were only two sherds (D6 context 8 and G5 context 1) classified as S1 form. One (D6 context 8) is a simple expanded bowl rim in a dense reduced fabric.

Medieval

Flint tempered wares: There were 31 sherds of the flinty QFL with moderate amounts of flint, dated c 1080–1200. There were no examples of the predominantly large flint tempered FLQ which is rare in the east of the county.

Grey/brown sandy wares: As expected there were many of these Q2 types (164 sherds). This is a general term for these exclusively sandy wares ubiquitous over the county, dated by analogy with EMGY in London series, *c*. 1080–1200. Three sherds showed the distinctive shell on surface (Q2SoS) where sparse shell has been pressed into the outer surface of the vessel. It is never common but examples are known from a number of sites in the east of Surrey and west Kent (Jones & Nelson 2017, 19).

Grey wares: Surprisingly the grey ware industries, principally Limpsfield and South Herts, account for only 17 sherds.

White wares: These ware types dominate the whole assemblage (1378 sherds, *c*. 73%). WW1A and WW1B relate to CBW and KING respectively. Perhaps not surprising is that WW1A, supposedly from the Surrey/Hants border area is in the minority. The allocation of

sherds to WW2 in the Surrey series is based on a view of the sand particle decreasing size. Dating for this is less certain as there is no direct equivalent in London. Some relate to the texture of Cheam type ware (CHEA *c*. 1350–1500) but not all are by any means products of the known Cheam kiln/waster sites. Those sherds with apparent Cheam type forms were allocated the CHEA code and there were several sherds showing red or brown painted decoration in lines or dots. They were logged simply as WW2 but are presumably of Cheam production where this type of decorative treatment is known (Orton 2016). The group of material classified as WW3 is finer again and includes some that may be CHEA or the later Border ware type; with small unglazed body sherds the distinction is often unclear.

RWW: There were 92 sherds (646g) that show increasing amounts of pink/red cores or margins that are classed as Red/White Ware and seem typical of the later, fifteenth-century stages of the Surrey White Ware industry. They are more common to the west of the county where production sites are known, such as at Ash (Holling 1971).

Medieval figured

4.01 Jug of late Cheam ware (1360–1490), missing its base and handle, with string tied round the neck. There were 18 joining sherds from the near complete profile. The vessel is difficult to characterise. Its form is similar to barrel-shaped jugs from Cheam where they appear to be a late element in the Cheam series (Orton 2016, 80). However, it is in a pink fabric with a white slip surface. The jug is interesting as it retains a cord tied and secured with pitch around the rim as if it had been suspended from a rope, perhaps as used to draw water from the well. However the base and handle are missing, unusual if the jug had been lost in use.

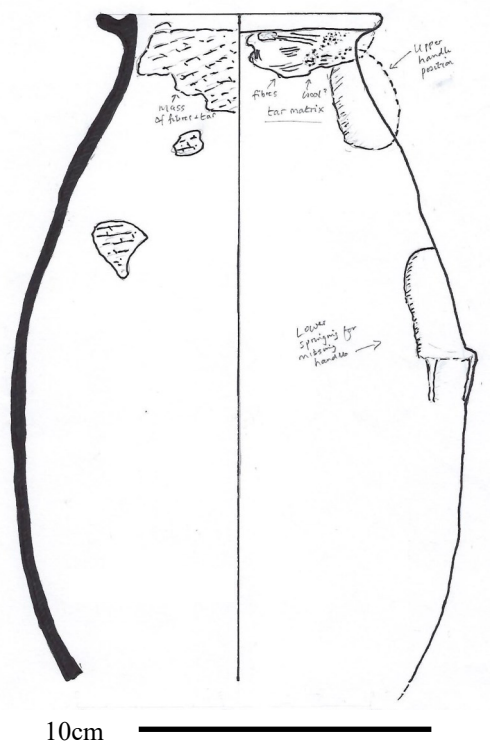

Figure 23. Medieval pottery 4.01.

Post-medieval

The large amount of modern (MOD) material, flowerpots etc show that all pottery seems to have been kept! The greater amount of pottery from the site relates to the post medieval period and includes most types common from c 1500 onwards. They are dominated by red wares; those of sixteenth-century date, PMRE and the later PMR which changes very little over the whole period from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries. There is little that needs to be said about them.

The very few imported wares represented are principally the German stonewares with Siegburg (SIEG) being the earliest traded into this country. They are less common in Surrey but the eight sherds show the typical off white stoneware fabric with patchy pinkish ash glaze on narrow neck drinking jugs. Raeren (RAER) drinking jugs are far more common with 58 sherds and Frechen/Cologne stonewares, including Bellarmine type bottle sherds even more so. There were only single sherds of Saintonge white ware (SAIG) and a possible South Netherlands maiolica (SNTG). Six sherds (probably 4 vessels) came from Martincamp flasks. It is interesting to note that a near complete example of one of these flasks was recovered from the excavation of the Carpenter's Bakery site at 7 High Street, Ewell.[39]

5 Building material, by Frank Pemberton

Roman

The ceramic building material from all contexts on the site amounted to some 738 pieces (79.36kg). A tenth of this – 64 pieces (8.16kg) – appear to be recognisable Roman types – *tegula*, *imbrex* or brick, from a little over 30 contexts. Unlike the later material, most of the Roman tile is small and eroded; a few pieces are of uncertain date. Most of the Roman material is clearly redeposited but a few pieces confirm the presumed dating of contexts, such as the floor tile found in M/N 8/9 and in B10/11 context 9, the area of the east-west Roman ditch.

There were very few pieces of note but three pieces of box flue tile were present, including one roller-stamped piece of Lowther Ashtead type 4 design (Betts, Black & Gower 1994) from C5 context 1. Another piece was combed and there were also plain fragments. A wall tile with chamfered edge came from H9 context 8.

Floor tile was common and there were three pieces of brick. A possible *tessera* was found in B7 context 2. The roof tile was all *tegula* apart from one *imbrex* piece from M/N context 4.

There was one piece of mortar and plaster from a Roman context, B10/11 context 7. This consists of two large pebbles embedded in a white mortar with orange-pink flecks, adhering to a roughly-smoothed white plaster. The presumed back of the piece is flat and partly mortar and partly plaster. A shallow groove impression *c*. 18mm wide, suggests attachment to a wattle-and-daub wall.

Medieval

Most post-Roman ceramic consisted of tiles, predominantly two-peg roof tiles; there was very little brick. Since Rowden's house and stables were slate-roofed, the tiles must have come from structures demolished before his time and may date from the mid sixteenth century buildings associated with Henry Saunder; certainly they are likely to be later than 1400.[40] Since most of the tile was found in the upper fill of the well, it is likely to come from the building associated with the late medieval cellar. There are two fabric groups, one smooth, the other coarse and gritty to the touch. One tile, from the cellar fill, was marked with a dog's paw print. The peg holes are square, not round. Tiles are on average 160mm wide and longer than 250mm (no full-length fragments were found) which would match the dimensions of 6¼ x 10½ inches (159 x 267mm) laid down in the Act of 1477.[41]

In total, 9.40kg of building stone was found on site, of which 31% was Reigate Stone and 30% chalk, including some squared chalk blocks. Three-quarters of the Reigate Stone came from the well contexts; one piece from 3F2 context 4 has a flat base and two axe-dressed faces at an angle of 135º, evidently a reused block from an octagonal column, and probably reused stone from Merton Abbey. A limestone fragment worked on the outer face, from 3 Ext context 4, may have the same origin, coming from a cylindrical column originally of 6 inches (152mm) diameter. One piece of flat stone from Site I, and apparently another from G/H 13/14 context 9, were roof tiles or slats of Horsham Stone. Other flat limestone fragments, with widths varying from 8 to 22mm, may have come from flooring slabs

Medieval figured

The excavation also found a group of inlaid two-coloured lead-glazed tiles of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. These were found in the rubble fill of the cellar in B10 context 5 as confirmed at the excavation site (Eames 1980, 17) although only one tile (5.11) is marked with this context. It is not clear how flooring which would normally be associated with a royal or wealthy monastic foundation should have ended up in the cellar of a small rural property. The tiles were not confined to this feature, as a fragment was found in Bourne Hall Lake in 1977, of

the same design as 5.11 below.[42] The most plausible explanation is that like the stone in the well fill, these were collected as spolia from Merton Priory during the building works by William Saunder *c*. 1540, since we know that stonework from the Priory was used at the same time. There are no parallels in the tiles from Merton Priory published in Turner 1967, but cf. 5.03 below. The tiles are intact or in large pieces, suggesting that they were not imported as rubble. They may have been relaid as flooring for a minor building such as the banqueting house by the lake, and then dumped when the building was demolished.

Excavation at known production sites has shown that inlaid tiles were formed into square blanks from weathered malleable clay, being cut to exact shape by metal plates or formed in wooden moulds. Once a tile had dried to a leather-hard finish, a wooden stamp would be placed on the tile and struck with a hammer to create one of the popular designs. A coat of white slip was applied to the decorated tile before a coat of transparent lead glaze was added before being stacked and fired. Tiles appear to have been 6 inches (150mm) square when wet and to have shrunk in firing, although 5.10 is a little larger at 6¼ inches (160mm) after firing. This process created a yellowish design that stood out clearly against the red-fired tile fabric. These tiles were used for the floors of cathedrals and great churches as well as palaces. Some highly decorated schemes for interiors are set out by Eames 1992, 37–54, and van Lemmen 2004, 19–22.

Comparison of tiles in the London hinterland and at monasteries nearby with those at Westminster Abbey has led to this style being known as the Westminster Group (Betts 2002).

5.01 Lion and griffin passant affronty. Rectangular tile, originally 4½ x 9 inches (115 x 230mm)
5.02 Figure riding right to left, set within a quatrefoil. This is a reversed version of the usual hunter type, although the tile-maker has adjusted the design so that the rider still has his horn in the left hand. In his right is a stick, perhaps originally derived from a bird on the wrist, and there is no dog, as in other versions. The type is found at Westminster Abbey. Published in Eames 1985, fig.53.
5.03 Stag running left to right past a tree, shot by an arrow, a hound beneath it, set in a quatrefoil. From the same series as 5.02: for these hunting sequences see Eames 1980, 177. A possibly identical tile was found at Newark (photographed in Hicks & English 2023, 15) and a closely similar design, also in a quatrefoil, was found at Merton Priory (right hand side of the drawing in Pearce 1932 pl. 9). The type is found at Westminster Abbey. Published in Eames 1985, fig.53.
5.04 Radiating eightfold design, with fleurs de lis pointing to the corners and leaf motifs extending to the sides.
5.05 From a four-tile repeat design, a double curve around two leaf scrolls and outside it a four -petalled flower flanked by crosses made of five lozenges. In the complete design, the curves would form a circle and the leaves an eight-branched spray.
5.06 From an indefinitely repeating design, with an engrailed curve along each side around a four-petalled flower, and a flower outside the curves. In the complete design, the curves would form repeating quatrefoils. A similar tile was found at Newark (Pearce 1932 pl. 10).
5.07 From an indefinitely repeating design, with a small double invected curve in the corner around leaves, and a larger double engrailed curve running across the tile around a lozenge cross flanked by hollow six-petalled flowers and half-sections of four-petalled flowers, the two curves being separated by a leaf spray. In the complete design, the curves form repeated large and small quatrefoils. A very similar tile was found at Newark (Pearce 1932 pl. 10) and a set is in the flooring at Westminster Abbey chapter house.
5.08 Part of a design similar to 5.07.
5.09 Part of a design similar to 5.07.
5.10 Part of a design similar to 5.07.
5.11 Part of a design resembling 5.07, except that the two curves are separated, not by a leaf spray, but by alternating lozenge crosses and six-petalled flowers.

Figure 24. Medieval tiles 5.01 to 7.

Post-medieval

There was one piece of eighteenth-century mathematical tile in B5 context 2. Two terracotta-type pieces had a *fleur de lys* moulded design probably from a chimney pot, B11 context 1. The same design is found on a chimney pot from Pitt Place in Epsom.[43]

5.12 Blue Delft wall tile (probably Lambeth pottery), approx. one third surviving, and the glaze badly damaged. There is just enough of the design left to match the corner decoration in Ray 1978, 118 pl.34, and Betts 2016, 21 fig.14:44b.

6 Glass small finds, by Phil Stanley

Roman

A number of fragments of probable Roman vessel glass were noted (following Allen 1998; Price and Cottam 1998). They came from the following contexts (all stable block areas): Trenches 1 and 3 context 4; well pit fill context 47; A4 Ext context 3; B3 contexts 4 and 5; B4 context 4; B5 contexts 2, 3 and 5; B6 context 3a; baulk B/C 5/6 context 3; baulk B/C 6 context 3; B7 context 2, 7 and 7a; C6 context 3a; F4 context 2; and F5 context 1. These were all small pieces of clear light-green glass from square-sided jars.

Post-medieval

A large quantity of post-medieval glass was recovered from 142 contexts across the site. By weight the greatest amount was seventeenth and eighteenth-century dark-green wine bottles, in varying degrees of delamination, followed by flat window glass, often very decayed. A small number of fragments of wine glasses with long stems and other small bottles/jars (for soft drinks or condiments) made up most of the rest.

6.01. Bowl of small sherry or port glass, slight lamination visible. 35mm diameter at the rim. C9 context 2.

7 Clay pipes, by Frank Pemberton

A total of 810 stem fragments and 70 substantial fragments of bowls or stems were recovered from the site. Pipes have been identified following the standard typology for clay pipes in south -eastern England as set out in Atkinson and Oswald 1969, with information on clay pipes from Ayto 1979.

Most bowls are from the smaller pipes that were in use from *c*. 1610 to 1650: Atkinson and Oswald types 2, 5/7, 6, and 9–12. Others dated from 1670–90. There were few eighteenth or nineteenth-century pipes.

7.01 Squat rounded bowl with milled rim with pointed foot. Atkinson and Oswald type 6, *c*. 1620–30. Trench W2 context 3.
7.02 Pipe with a small flat foot/spur, broken from the bowl and stem base end. Atkinson and Oswald type 5/7.Trench A/B 5/6 context 2.
7.03 Bowl with milled rim and flat foot. Trench D6 context 5.
7.04 Plain rimmed bowl with end of stem and flat foot. Trench F5 context 1.
7.05 Base of bulbous bowl with flat flattish sides, having a flattened foot profile. It has a maker's mark GT. Trench D6 context 1.
7.06 Bowl fragment with stem end and flat foot. It has a maker's mark GT. Trench F6 context 3.
7.07 Bowl fragment with stem end and flattened foot. Atkinson and Oswald type 15, *c*.1660–80; many known at Nonsuch. Trench D/E 10/11 context 5.
7.08 Bowl with milled decoration of rim. Atkinson and Oswald type 25, *c*. 1750–60 at Surrey sites. Trench B7 context 2.
7.09 Bulbous rounded bowl with milled rim, having a spike shaped foot, *c*. 1850–1910. It has a maker’s mark RC. Trench A4 Ext 3.

8 Other small finds, by David Hartley, Frank Pemberton and Phil Stanley

Stone, by David Hartley

8.01 Flat, black, rectangular piece of polished slate. Two original opposed straight sides give width of 37mm. Two broken ends leave length of 35mm. B7 context 65

8.02 Pierced and polished bead, in semi-transparent yellow stone. 4mm thick with the upper and lower sides flattened, 10mm diameter with the hole 2mm in diameter. B6 context 12

8.03. Two fragments, end and middle, apparently from a single whetstone of gritty yellow sandstone. About 27 x 22mm in cross-section. B7 context 2 and B7 context 65.

8.04 Tapered end fragment from a whetstone of gritty whitish sandstone. 36 x 28mm in cross-section. 3F1 context 1.

8.05 Child's marble. 14mm diameter. G6 context 1.

Copper alloy, by Frank Pemberton

The most frequent copper alloy finds on site were the 35 pins and 18 tags, often found in the same context, followed by 6 buttons or studs. These are the casual losses to be expected in the medieval and modern period.

8.06 Clasp from a book-binding, box-shaped and ending in a hook. It is decorated with incised chevrons on the upper surface and with a D-shaped opening in the lower. At the time of excavation the clasp was examined by H.M. Nixon of the British Museum, who reported: 'Clasps of this type were in use from the fourteenth century up to the seventeenth; this form is most characteristic of late fifteenth- or early sixteenth-century bindings, and a book bound in Basel in 1509 has a very similar fish-tail termination to the clasps. Most of the heavy scholarly works which required clasps were printed on the continent, but it was usual to import the books unbound. As the clasp was dug up in England, it is more likely than not that it formed part of a binding executed in England in the early part of the sixteenth century'. 25mm long, 15mm wide and 4 mm thick, the hook 10mm. B5 context 5.

8.07 Curved decorated handle, apparently brass. The body is a long, D-section strip, with fixing holes at either end and a flat panel in the centre decorated by hatching. It ends in a loop.100mm long. B6 context 15.

8.08 Decorated spoon bowl. The springing for the handle has a raised leaf design, perhaps acanthus. 26mm wide at maximum, 42mm long. F/G 10/11 context 4

Iron, by Frank Pemberton

Iron nails were found in almost every context on site, lost during building or redistributed after demolition. There was also some structural ironwork including ties and plates. Also derived from buildings were pieces of lead strip from guttering and some thin strips of horn from F5 and F6 context 1 which may have come from windows. An axe (from B10/11 context 9) and latch-lifter (A4 Ext context 4) could not be dated; there were also 5 buckles which like the copper alloy pins and tags would be losses from clothing. Curiously for an excavation on the suite of a stable, only three contexts yielded fragments of horseshoes: 3 context 3, 3 context 4 and the cellar floor in C9/10.

8.09 Swallow-tail socketed arrowhead, missing one barb. It is probably fifteenth-century and would have been used for hunting and not for defence; the long flat barbs were to prevent a wounded animal shaking out the arrow. 55mm long, 18mm from centre of shank to outside of the surviving barb. The 1965 interim says it was 'found among the flints of medieval wall footings on the stable site', which would be wall C or D.

8.10 Rowel spur, five spokes visible. The exact form is indeterminate as it is heavily corroded, but it is probably fourteenth or fifteenth-century (see Perkins 1954, figs. 32, 34, 35). 44mm long at the maximum. Well 31.

8.11 Key. 75mm long. F/G 10/11 context 1

8.12 Knife blade. Blade 103mm long with tang 51mm long. B7 context 2.
8.13 Oval belt buckle. 29mm wide at maximum, with tongue 24mm long. F5 context 1.
8.14 Harness ring, heavily corroded. 58mm diameter. Well 35.

Wood, by David Hartley and Frank Pemberton

8.15 Burnt spall or tine, either of wood or of shell, possibly from a hair comb. This may be of Roman date as it comes from a context yielding only Roman pottery, although parallels are lacking. The narrow point is broken. 70mm long, smoothly tapered from one end at 3mm thick down to 1.5mm at 6mm then widening out slightly. B5 context 7.

8.16 Small tub, tapering slightly inwards, with a flange below the rim. It was lathe-turned from a single block, apparently of chestnut wood. The flange would have been difficult to cut and must have had some purpose; possibly this was a vessel for cheese or butter-making, with a cloth stretched over the top and tied under the flange. If it was suspended in the well for cooling and lost when a cord snapped, it must date from the working life of the well in the fifteenth century. 150mm in diameter at base and 120mm at top, the taper allowing for a 15mm flange which is set 20mm below the top. From the well fill: the 1962 interim says it was found 'right at the bottom, at 15 feet 6 inches'.

Figure 25. Medieval wood 8.16.

8.17 Flat disc, evidently the base of a bucket as it was found in the well fill. The wood has a wide, even grain and would have fitted into the croze or groove cut at the base of the bucket staves. When the binding round the staves worked loose, the base would fall out. 290mm diameter, 13mm thick. From the well fill: the 1962 interim says it was found just beneath the shoes which were 'within the hollow elm truck, at a depth of approximately 12 feet'.
8.18 Bucket base, found with 8.17 but slightly smaller. 250mm diameter on average, 10mm thick.
8.19 Pulley. The block is a single piece of oak, pierced with a rectangular slot for the slightly dished sheave or wheel, which is also of oak, and turns on a wooden axle. Above this the block tapers to less than half its width and is pierced by a round hole, in line with the pulley. Evidently this was the pulley for raising buckets from the well. The taper would allow the block to be morticed into a cross-bar in the well roof. 445mm long, 125mm wide around the pulley tapering to 50mm at the top, and 70mm thick, the slot for the sheave occupying 35mm x 85mm of this thickness. The sheave is 125mm in diameter and 35mm thick. From the well fill: the 1962 interim says it was found below the Cheam ware vessel, 'at about 14 feet'.

Figure 26. Medieval wood 8.19.

Bone, by Phil Stanley

8.20. End of a comb (possibly ivory rather than bone), with 7 large tines and the remains of 23 narrow. Egan 2005, fig. 54:291, dates a similar piece to the mid sixteenth century; Cubitt, Hartle & Marshall 2022, fig. 41:2563, to the early eighteenth century. 49mm wide and 30mm surviving in length. C10 Ext context 2.
8.21 Round stick with one squared end. 45mm long, 4mm diameter, the squared end 5mm x 5mm. C6 context 3.
8.22 Thread picker or pin beater, polished and pointed at both ends. It is round with one flat central facet. Thread pickers were used to separate threads on a loom. They are well documented in Middle and Late Saxon contexts in the London area (Cowie and Blackmore 2008, 210–11). 128mm long. G6 context 1.
8.23. Domino, with a one and a six separated by an engraved vertical line. 30mm x 15mm. G/H 13/14 context 9.

Leather, by David Hartley and Frank Pemberton

At what must have been the end of the working life of the medieval well, shoe leather was thrown into it; according to the 1962 interim, this was found in 'this silty deposit and within the hollow elm trunk, at a depth of approximately 12 feet'. One intact shoe, no longer present, was photographed after excavation, but the rest of the leather had been stripped to soles, heels and welts; some pieces had been cut out for reuse. This must therefore have been discarded leather rather than ritually deposited shoes.

The shoes had been of the square and rounded-toe styles, known as a replacement for the pointed-toe shoes of the medieval period. This change has been attributed to the changes of the Renaissance with both square and rounded shoe types dating from the early fifteenth century (Norris 1938; Egan 2005, 24–9; Saxby *et al* 2021, 239–42). The offcuts and scrap shoe leather in the well range in date from roughly 1500–1620 (Hazel Forsyth, pers. comm.).

8.24 Rounded square-toe shoe in two apparently matching toe and heel fragments. The whole shoe would have been 270mm long and 125mm wide.
8.25 Small rounded-toe shoe in three apparently matching toe, welt and upper back fragments. The whole shoe would have been 230mm long and 90mm wide..
8.26 Completely rounded shoe sole. 240mm x 85mm.
8.27 Small square-toe shoe in two apparently matching two and part-middle fragments. 160mm x 80mm.
8.28 Broad and wide shoe. 275mm x 95mm.
8.29 Broad and medium-wide shoe. 235mm x 85mm.
8.30 Belt with two pairs of two holes for attaching a buckle or clasp. The holes are 110mm apart; the belt is 40mm at the end, tapering along the length, of which 340mm survives.

9 Coins, by Phil Stanley

Only two Roman coins were recovered on the site, both from near the south-east corner. There were no medieval coins; a farthing of Charles II and a halfpenny of George II were found from later periods. An unidentifiable lead token was found in C6 context 3a. Cousins (1965, 19), describing Anglo-Gallic jettons of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries with a king's head on the obverse and cross on the reverse, says 'an example of this type of jetton was found on the Bourne Hall site in 1963'; this has not survived.

9.01 Barbarous antoninianus, 222–74. Obv: radiate head right. Rev: central figure holding what may be a spear and standard. D3 context 2.
9.02 AE3 or 4 of House of Constantine, 324–33. Obv. diademed draped bust right. Rev: two soldiers standing either side of two standards, GLORIA EXERCITVS (Sear 1974, 3786, 3851, 3886; Moorhead 2013, 178, figs. 9 and 14). A4 context 3.

Figure 27. Roman coins 9.01 and 2.

Other archaeology

In December 1903, David Willis purchased Bourne Hall and lived there until his death in 1911, when the house passed to his son Henry. Henry remembered 1903 as the year 'when three skeletons and an Edward III silver penny were found' – not necessarily together, but somewhere in the grounds (Malden 1913). Up to this time, a lawn had sloped unbroken eastwards from the front of the house to the lake.[44] This was scarped at the upper level and raised at the lower to create a flat tennis court, apparently created by Henry when he inherited the property. The 1933 edition of the OS 25-inch map has a cross in the middle of this area, at TQ 2185 6272, with the note 'human remains found A.D. 1912', while the historian Cloudesley Willis writes of 'a house standing here in Tudor times, of which the remains were uncovered between the house and the lake early in this century. They consisted of a cellar of chalk masonry, and footings of brick walls, the bricks being unusually large. Two human skeletons were found at the same time' (Willis 1931, 42–3).

More details were reported by Henry Willis to Henry Elliot Malden of the Surrey Archaeological Society. There was one complete burial and most of another, with a third represented by a cranial fragment. Found at the same time, according to Malden, were a pedestal jar and 'sundry other fragments of Roman pottery and glass'. Finds of later date included floor tiles, plaster, a bone knife handle, the bronze pan of a pair of scales, two coins and 'a quantity of large animal bones'. A photograph shows part of an inlaid floor tile, a sherd of slipware, the base of a beaker or incense cup, and what may be the knife handle, together with a substantial base, possibly of a medieval jug in fine imported ware, and a large rim sherd (upside down) from an open jar of early form.[45] One item in the photo has survived, the pedestal jar (fig. 28). It is a wide-mouthed, round-bellied vessel in a burnished black fabric, probably a third-century Alice Holt ware; it is substantially intact, suggesting that it was deposited ritually, either as an incense burner or to hold a cremation.[46]

Figure 28. Pedestal jar found in 1912.

When the property became Bourne Hall Girls' School, the grounds were still maintained in the old style, but after World War 2 they fell into neglect. On taking them over as a park, the Council laid out flower beds, one by the access path to the east of the stables, and another along the south side of the wall that divided the main grounds from the Victorian kitchen garden, then known as the paddock. The Rose or Dutch garden at the north-west corner of the property was cleared and the brick cottage south of it was demolished to create an exit for the car park. To the west of this area, a twenty-foot bank lying parallel with Spring Street was levelled, and finally the boundary walls along Spring Street were taken down and rebuilt, with the raised ground within it cut back to provide working space. From 1959 onwards these works were monitored by Arthur Jenkins, who collected surface finds. These included flints and, from about TQ 2178 6272, a prehistoric rim sherd from a small vessel of flint-tempered ware with a perforated lug. Nearby was found a large sherd of an early Alice Holt dish. Other sherds in the same fabric were found together with colour-coated wares and a sherd of imported fine ware with polished black slip and a band of impressed decoration. A coin of Domitian was found in the new flower bed at about TQ 2186 6269. Medieval pottery included twelfth or thirteenth-century wares, one from a carinated dish in shell-tempered fabric with red surface, and there was an early seventeenth-century pipe.[47] Some more medieval pottery was collected from flower beds by David Cousins.[48] Other investigations in the north-western corner and the paddock area found flints, Roman and medieval pottery, with a single flint-tempered sherd.[49]

Jenkins observed a scatter of largish stones in the centre of the flower bed where the coin had been found, with a layer of flint and brick fragments near the surface; this would be the pathway towards the stable arch as shown on the 1871 and earlier plans. In the paddock, clearance of a rectangular nursery bed running east-west revealed 'a very distinct line of chalk and building rubble indicating that perhaps at one time a path, approximately 6 feet wide, ran from a small gateway in the Paddock wall towards the Chessington Road'. To the north of this gateway, at TQ 2177 6279, cropmarks had been seen in the field, and when it was ploughed these were seen to be building foundations. Jenkins walked the nursery bed, finding a round flint scraper, probably Early Bronze Age, and a petit tranchet flint arrowhead. Towards the east of the bed, Roman pottery of all periods was accompanied by tweezers decorated with a quincunx of dots. Medieval occupation was represented by a Nuremberg jetton, and later use by pottery, pipes and a pipeclay wig curler.[50]

After the excavations of 1962–5 there was no more recording work undertaken in the grounds until the winter of 1980, when a section of the paddock or kitchen garden wall was taken down at TQ 2180 6279 to provide light for the newly built Health Centre. Below the topsoil was a brick wall some 13 courses (0.75m) deep, consisting of three arches running north-south. This would have been part of the heating system for the greenhouses which appear at this site on the 1871 OS. The infill contained metal parts from a 7½-inch Colt pistol, as issued in 1873, no doubt discarded by its owner for prudent reasons.[51]

In the storm of October 1987, a tree was uprooted at TQ 2180 6278, along a ridge of raised ground running north-south from the edge of Bourne Hall. This exposed a line of brick wall foundation running along the ridge and following the eastern boundary wall of the kitchen garden as it appears in the 1829 plan – the garden that was later incorporated into the grounds and replaced by a new kitchen garden to the north. The foundations were 0.5m thick, with eight courses surviving and a large chunk of reused mortared brickwork set in the base. The brickwork was earlier than Philip Rowden's redevelopment in 1770 and it was probably early sixteenth century. Dark garden soil of a later date was banked up on either side of the footings, containing pottery of all dates up to the eighteenth century: Roman, Saxo-Norman, and White Ware of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. A fragment of baked clay may have come from a mid to late Saxon bun-shaped loomweight.[52]

Bourne Hall Lake dried out in the summer of 1990. This was not the first time this had happened – the lake lies on the upper limit of the water table – but it was the first time that it was followed up by archaeology.[53] The Surrey Metal Detector Club worked over the lake bed that winter and discovered Roman coins and later metalwork. In the summer of 1991 a trench was dug, under the supervision of Hugh Waterhouse, running north-east from the northern island to the lake edge.[54] This found that repeated dredging of the lake had scarped all internal features down to a height of about 0.1m, and that the natural surface consisted of Thanet Sand overlying Chalk. Rising springs had created pockets in the chalk which filled with sand and detritus from the lake bed, and it was out of these pockets that the metal-detectors' finds had come. The pockets also contained some Roman pottery, much material in a Saxo-Norman fabric, and a few later sherds; the Roman material was heavily abraded but the later sherds showed fresh breaks. Several horseshoes were found in the lake bed.

Within the bed of the lake brick walls survived to a height of three courses. These were earlier than the two islands and retaining wall of the present lake, and therefore predated the 1801 map. Wall A was L-shaped, with a long north-south arm extending to the north edge of the later lake at TQ 2188 6279 and a shorter east-west one to its eastern edge at TQ 2194 6273. Wall B was slightly thicker and ran south of and parallel with the east-west arm of A. To the west of and parallel with the north-south arm of A was a fragmentary wall line built from blocks of Reigate Stone, several of them taken from a medieval ecclesiastical building. Adjoining the walling on the outer side was a feature, context 10 (the butler's dump), which contained domestic earthenware, porcelain bottles and wine glasses dating from 1660 to 1760. The sherds had clean breaks but did not represent complete vessels, which suggests that the feature had been redeposited from an original pit group elsewhere. By the northwest wall of the lake was a frame of wooden timbers, apparently built to support a structure above water level.

Excavations continued in the spring of 1992 under the direction of Charles Abdy. Several cuts were made around the walling and foundations or areas of hard standing were uncovered at two locations to the south of the lake. From pottery in the mortar, these seem to have been sixteenth or seventeenth-century.

In 1996 the lake dried out again and it was decided to replace its bed by an impermeable lining. A final season of excavation was carried out under the direction of David Brooks, sectioning the walls to clarify their date, and establishing how water was fed to the earlier phases of the lake. By the autumn all archaeological levels had been destroyed, so a consortium of metal detectors was given permission to work over the spoil heaps. This proved much more productive than expected, since the mechanical excavators were cutting through and scraping up all the natural potholes into which finds had been carried by water action.

The archaeology from the lake therefore falls into two sequences: one lengthy series represented by the stray finds, and another shorter one derived primarily from the wall features. The long sequence begins with a socketed copper alloy axe of the eighth century BC and ends with a small brass dolphin from early 1996.[55] The Iron Age was represented by a gold quarter-stater of Tincomarus, a silver stater and a dragonesque fibula. Roman finds included a disc brooch with remains of green and blue enamel, a diamond brooch with a central round cup for enamel, a Hod Hill brooch and a phallus brooch with several other T-brooches in fragmentary condition. Roman coins were very numerous, and mostly early. The 48 which could be identified came from Reece period 1 (6), R2 (5), R3 (1), R4 (13), R5 (4), R6 (4), R7 (1), R8 (1), R10 (2), R13 (4), R14 (2), R15 (1), R17 (2), R18 (1) and R21 (1). This is in marked contrast with excavations elsewhere in Ewell, where coins of AD 260–348 (R13 to 17) are commonest, followed by 348–408 (R18 to 21).[56]

The Anglo-Saxon period was represented by a pin-head, a cruciform brooch and a saucer brooch with running spiral design. There were medieval buckles, a purse bar, and the leg from a bronze skillet. The only medieval coin was of Edward III, but the coin series continued through five Tudor issues to Charles I, with three jettons and three lead tokens.

By contrast, the structural archaeology begins *c*. 1550 with the first phase of the north-south limb of Wall A. This was revetted on the outside with reused Reigate Stone masonry which, given the date, must have had its origin in the demolished Merton Priory, which from 1538 had supplied foundation materials to Nonsuch Palace. The revetment held in place a bank of compacted gravel, very hard and evidently waterproof, which was dated by a cleanly broken bellarmine shed in the fill; bellarmines were common in the stray pottery finds, suggesting that the lakeside had been a place for drinking and leisure. No sign was found of the original course of the river. It seems that its bed had been scraped flat and replaced by a large rectangular body of water, about 1m lower than the present lake level, but raised slightly above the surrounding lawn; more like a canal or fishpond than a garden feature. The brickwork of Wall A, and the more substantially built Wall B, appeared to be eighteenth-century, and the feature was respected by the butler's dump. The last phase of the walling would therefore have been *c*. 1770, a repair of the square canal at the time when Philip Rowden was building the mansion. Within thirty years, however, this formal design had become old-fashioned and was replaced by the present lake. The water was now much deeper and the wooden framework against its western edge probably supported a jetty for boating trips.

As part of improvements to the lake in 1994 a rock feature was installed at its south-west corner, with a pump operating a waterfall over the rockwork. A trench dug for the electrical connection cut some walling at TQ 2188 6271, of which 1m was recorded; it consisted of squared Reigate stone masonry, two blocks wide, faced on the south side with brickwork of eighteenth-century appearance.[57] The wall was oriented about 20 degrees north of east, and nearby lay a roof tile of Horsham stone. The same Horsham slats had been used to line the culvert leading under the bridge from the south when Bourne Hall Lodge was built in 1860.[58]

There was no archaeology in the following years apart from a coin of Magnentius found in 1997 at TQ 2182 6268.[59] In 2004 the erosion of the western bank of the lawn revealed brickwork,

and a trench was cut under the direction of Frank Pemberton running east-west from TQ 2185 6271, at right angles to the bank.[60] Within this was a brick wall reinforced at the back with a layer of mortared flints; it had long triangular buttresses spaced a yard apart to support it on the eastern side. Behind the wall, beneath 0.65m of rubble, lay the original sandy topsoil containing abraded Roman sherds. The brick wall held back the bank which was created by scarping the lawn in 1912, although the bricks themselves looked earlier. 2m to the east of this wall was found a section of chalk wall, parallel with the bank at about 30 degrees west of north. This formed the corner of a building, with a return east-west wall to the south. A layer of clay abutted this on the west, as if this were the outside of the building, while brick and mortar within the angle of the walls indicated that this was the inside. The surviving wall was five courses (0.65m) high, suggesting that this was not a foundation course but the remains of a building cut away during the levelling of the lawn.

In 2019 five test pits were opened at points around the lawn, under the direction of Nikki Cowlard.[61] Only one of these contained any features: this was TP6 at TQ 2185 6272, which revealed a stretch of shallow mortared flint and Reigate stone wall foundation, one course deep, running about 45 degrees west of north. As the ground had been cut at this point *c*. 1m below its pre-1912 level, the original wall may have been more substantial. No continuation was found of the chalk wall excavated in 2004, which must have stopped short of this point or changed course. The other test pits, further away from the Edwardian cutting, showed a stratigraphy of 0.1–0.2m turf and topsoil, 0.1–0.2m lighter loam and 0.1m of disturbed natural Thanet Sand natural. All the test pits found late medieval or post-medieval ceramic building material with a dump of roof tile at TQ 2186 6275 in TP2. Finds included worked flint, with several blades, and three fragments of prehistoric pottery. Roman pottery was present (28 sherds), along with prehistoric, Saxon, Saxo-Norman and later medieval fabrics: however, the level of finds was small, perhaps because of later clearance of the site.

Concluding Discussion

Sources

This discussion offers an integrated narrative drawing on the earlier sections dealing with site evidence and finds 1963–5, other archaeology 1903–2019, and the documentary record. Each of these sections gives the supporting references for statements about the Bourne Hall area, so they have not been repeated here.

Prehistoric

A long prehistory for the Bourne Hall area is indicated by the flintwork, which includes Mesolithic elements: blades, cores and microliths were recorded by Roger Jacobi (Wymer 1977, 273). The large collection of struck flint found in the 1962–5 excavation will be considered as part of a survey of the Ewell area currently being prepared by Jon Cotton.

However, the first evidence for agricultural settlement comes from the Late Bronze Age, including sherds from two vessels found in square M/N context 5, and probably also the rim sherd of flint-tempered ware with a perforated lug found by Jenkins further north. This material is likely to date from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, ninth to seventh centuries BC. Pottery of this date has been found in pits at Ewell Grove and the King William IV, suggesting a landscape of small farms on the chalkland spur (Pemberton & Harte 2011, 236–7; Orton 1997, 94). The plain socketed axe of south-eastern type, found in the old river bed and dating from the eighth century, is probably a ritual deposit and begins a tradition which appears to have continued through to post-Roman times.

Very little pottery of Iron Age date was found in excavation – 87 sherds, with only a handful of undisturbed deposits at the northern end of the site (squares H9, M/N 8/9). The small number and abraded nature of the sherds probably represents sporadic activity possibly associated with the area of the springs. The group of 40 sherds from M/N context 5, are probably from just two vessels and may have been from a discrete feature although it is not possible to identify this from the records. Deposition of valuables in the river continued in the Iron Age with a dragonesque fibula and two coins, one of Tincomarus suggesting cultural links with the Silchester area around the turn of the millennium. Coins of Tasciovanus (of Verulamium) and the Dobunni (of the lower Severn) have been found in Epsom, so the region had extensive contacts.[62]

Early Roman

Ditch F57, running east-west towards the stable site, was of early Roman date, probably contemporary with the laying out of Stane Street in the 60s AD and itself cutting an undated deposit of chalk. A coin of Domitian (81–96) was found nearby; Roman pottery included early Alice Holt greyware and fine wares from north Kent and London plus a small piece of amphora with thumbnail impressions, but the ditch was the only identifiable feature of this early period. The only domestic item was the tweezers found to the north of the area by Jenkins. On the stable site, fine wares make up only 3% of the pottery (by sherd count) while regional wares make up 61% and, as elsewhere, begin with many producers in the early Roman period, gradually reducing to the Alice Holt-Farnham industry alone. However, the mix and spread of material of widely varying dates across the whole Roman period suggests a dumping ground rather than an occupied site.

Roman coins from the river are numerous, and predominantly early, where the trend elsewhere in Ewell was for coin loss to take place in the late Roman period when issues were smaller and less valuable (Abdy & Bierton 1997, 139–40). More than half the coins are first-century, the dominant period being Reece 4 (69–96). The numerous brooches found in the river would also have been ritual deposits; they include a first-century Hod Hill type. The high level of activity at the river contrasts with the absence of settlement elsewhere, suggesting that the cult site was approached from the east, possibly from the turning point of Stane Street at

TQ 221 628, and that the rising ground to the west was left unoccupied. If the chronology of the coins accurately represents activity at the site, then the popularity of the waterside shrine declined within a generation of the arrival of the road in Ewell. The nearest evidence for Roman settlement is the well at Spring House and the assumed foundations of a building at Market Parade discussed above, along with the agricultural buildings near Glyn House (Stansbie & Score 2004).

The second century saw the cremation burial in square F6, accompanied by a ring-necked flagon in VRW fabric of 120–40. Two other vessels seem very likely to have contained cremations: the cavetto rim cordoned jar in AHSU fabric of 50–160, found in squares C9/D9 context 10, and the third-century pedestalled jar in AH black burnished fabric found in 1912, with no findspot. The inhumations uncovered during gardening works may also date from the third century: although we have no context, it seems unlikely that they could have been buried in Christian times, and they are a long way from the Saxon cemetery in The Grove. Given the reluctance in pagan Roman times to let the dead rest anywhere near settlement, or in sacred places, the presence of these burials confirms that the main Bourne Hall area was waste ground and not linked with the shrine at the spring.

Late Roman

As elsewhere in Ewell, the crisis of the third century is reflected in a decline in the archaeological record; there is one coin of this period, and two of the House of Constantine and Magnentius from the fourth. Later Roman activity is indicated by a second ditch, F51, running north-south almost at right angles to the earlier ditch F57. The stratigraphic relationship of these ditches is not clear but they do not seem to have differed significantly in profile: the fill of F51 shows that it remained in use much longer, the latest pottery being a jar of AHFA fabric (350–420).

F51 is oriented about 33º west of north; F57, about 40º north of east. These alignments are found at other sites nearby; in the Headway, some 250m to the west, there is a Roman ditch oriented 40º west of north and in Ewell Grove, about 250m to the south, there is another oriented 40º north of east (Perkins 2020; Pemberton & Harte 2011, 231–2). These alignments are unlikely to be coincidental since they match the plan of medieval Ewell, where the streets consistently follow a grid plan set between 30 and 40º west of north. This was first noticed by Winbolt (1936, 232–5), although he was over-enthusiastic in making Ewell a walled town, rather than a settlement with rectilinear fencing and ditching. The grid was not a single contemporaneous pattern, since the ditches are of different dates: it was generated by laying out new boundaries at right angles to older ones. Its alignment pays no respect to Stane Street, suggesting a pre-Roman origin.

Saxon and Saxo-Norman

The presence of two Anglo-Saxon brooches in the river indicates continuity or revival of ritual deposition at the headwaters of the Hogsmill into the late fifth or early sixth centuries, as dated by the cruciform brooch. This continued into the sixth century, as dated by the saucer brooch, which can be paralleled by those in burials at the cemetery in The Grove (Dunning 1933). A similar date is likely for the place-name Ewell, referring to the same springs (*æwiell*) and belonging to the early class of nature-names used for settlements (Gover, Mawer & Stenton 1934, 75).

Early and mid Saxon pottery from the stable site, together with a bone thread picker and the probable find of a loomweight to the north of the grounds, shows that there was domestic activity as well as ritual. The pottery, although sparse, is more plentiful than at any other Ewell site, so the ground to the west of the river must have been occupied rather than being left waste as it had been in Roman times. If Windsmer Hill, as *wince* + *mǣre-hyll*, refers to a bend in land boundaries then by the late Saxon period the area was divided into separate properties.

The first documentary information is from Domesday Book, where two hides held of the manor of Morden include the property later called Quedekepes/ Whitfelds in the south-west of the Bourne Hall curtilage. The Saxon-Norman Chalky and Shelly Wares found on the stable site belong to this period, and would have been within the boundaries of the southwest property. Pottery of the same date was found to the north of the complex, and during the excavation of the lake, where its unabraded state suggests that it came from a pit or dump rather than being redeposited in topsoil.

Medieval

From the thirteenth century onwards it is possible to identify properties within the Bourne Hall curtilage. Its southern and western sides (the present Spring Street) respected the rectilinear village grid of 30 to 40º west of north, and the river similarly ran north-west. The north part of the curtilage, within the curve of Chessington Road, formed a single property held *c*. 1300 by Richard of Moleseye. To the south there were tenements lying on either side of a pathway which ran parallel with the river and the western limb of Spring Street.

The Quedekepes/ Whitfelds property in the southwest was paying rent and labour services in the 1220s. Excavations in this area found flint tempered and sandy wares of 1080–1200, succeeded by the white wares which were originally made at Kingston and subsequently at Cheam. Similar pottery in red/white ware was in use up to the fifteenth century. The only datable feature in this area was the well, which lay towards the southeast of the property. This had been carefully built with chalk block steening, a floor of hard standing around the top, and a frame with pulley block to haul up buckets. It is not clear when the well was dug but it remained in use for some time (long enough for the bottoms to drop accidentally out of two buckets) and was still open in the early fifteenth century when a late Cheam Ware vessel was lost in the water. Shortly afterwards the dumping of shoe leather from about 1500 shows that it had passed out of use, presumably replaced by another well. In the late fifteenth century the main house at Quedekepes had a hall and chamber and there was a gatehouse with a chamber on each side. As the well lay to the southeast of the property, presumably in the domestic area, then the main house may have been to the west of it, with the gate fronting onto the south or west limb of Spring Street.

At the south-east of the Bourne Hall curtilage, the tenement of Lurdones/ Westons was in existence by 1215. It paid a quarter of the rent charged for Quedekepes, as if it were a lower grade of property, although the tenements were about equal in size. Later the house in this tenement would have a gateway opening onto Spring Street; this suggests a more prestigious building, facing south. By the early fourteenth century the whole area was divided into four tenements on the west, four on the east, Bruggers/ Mannyngs running across from Spring Street to Kingston Road, and the original tenement of Richard of Moleseye at the north end now divided into five, probably reflecting the population expansion of the previous century. The pathway of chalk and building rubble found running across this area presumably served as a property boundary.

After the Black Death properties began to be amalgamated, the beginning of a process which would continue until the whole area came under one owner in the late eighteenth century. In 1408 two adjoining tenements east of the river were held by Joan Ingerham; two divisions of Moleseyes by Beatrice Morer, and another division along with half of Mannynges by Margaret Cole; Thomas Hayton occupied a plot at the High Street/ Spring Street corner as well as Westons, and the two tenements Canones and Salemannes to the north of it. Hayton evidently treated this block as a unity since his byre and barn was built across a boundary between the once separate lands of Waletons and Buttalls fees.

Archaeology indicates that all the tenements were occupied from an early date and the spread of pottery, though unstratified, is the largest from any site in Ewell. Sherds of the thirteenth and fourteenth century have been found across the curtilage. The two whetstones from the Quedekepes area are probably of similar date, as is the leg from a bronze skillet found by the water. The horseshoes found in the old river bed, if they are late medieval, would have come

from animals grazing at the lower end of the tofts. Personal adornments include buckles and a necklace bead in lustrous yellow stone. A purse bar from the river, two pennies of Edward III found at different times, an Anglo-Gallic jetton and the bronze pan of a pair of scales come from the tenements of Thomas Hayton. The fifteenth-century hunting arrow and the rowel spur from the Quedekepes tenement show that this property, with its ambitious documented architecture, had residents aspiring to a gentry lifestyle.

Tudor

By 1470, when Thomas Hayton's lands were inherited by Henry Saunder of Charlwood, Buttalls fee had acquired the status of a subordinate manor in Ewell, and Henry was building up a landed estate to match. The property to the southwest – the former Quedekepes – remained separate, however; in 1577 it was occupied by John Whitfeld, with a house, yard, barn and stable. The cellar found to the west of the well, and originally lined with brick, may have underlain part of this house. There is no evidence for date but it indicates a building of some kind running parallel with Spring Street. Traces of burnt wood and nails in the final backfill of the nearby well are compatible with the demolition of a timber-framed building here. The cellar itself was some 8 by 4 metres, rather short for the hall building indicated by the records, but it may have been confined to the eastern part. The cellar, and therefore the house, remained in use for some time during which its original wooden floor was replaced by one of chalk.

At some point between 1470 and his death in 1518 Henry Saunder moved to Ewell, where he or his son built a new property within the block of land that Thomas Hayton had thrown into one – roughly corresponding to the present Bourne Hall lawn. As described in 1577, this was 'a faire mansion howse' with a hall and parlour; the entrance was to the west, approached through a gatehouse and forecourt. Around the property were 'other edifices & buildinges', stables and barns, two working yards and a dovecot (a manorial privilege). Foundations of this house have been exposed twice, chalk walls being seen on both occasions. The cellar was walled with chalk and there were footings of chalk (as seen in 2004) and large brick (as seen in 1912), probably forming a plinth wall for a timber-framed house as there is no vernacular brick building recorded in the area for this date. The presence of reused Horsham stone tiles elsewhere in the grounds suggests that these may have roofed the house. A stretch of flint and Reigate stone foundations, to the north of but not on the same alignment as the mansion house, may have supported walls for an outbuilding.

William Saunder succeeded his father. It may have been he who built the mansion house: 'faire' in the language of a 1577 surveyor usually means 'new'. He was certainly making alterations to the grounds in about 1540, when the river was banked up into a lake. By this stage the three 1408 tenements east of the Hogsmill must have been bought into the manor house property; two of them were already in Buttalls manor, making it easier to pull the houses down and enlarge the river into a lake extending to the road line of the High Street. The legality of this appropriation was not sorted out until 1589, when a boundary was established between Saunder's private grounds and the publicly accessible Horse Pond.

The raised lake served as a fish pond and there was 'a little bancketing howse' beside it, probably on the south side, where tiles and flooring of the sixteenth century were found. Tudor banquets were informal meals, often in a garden; William held a number of important legal appointments in Surrey, and would have welcomed a setting for casual conversations with guests. The bellarmine jugs found in the lake fill would have been part of this hospitality, as they were typically used to hold beer or wine. William was made Receiver for the Court of Augmentations in 1539, with responsibility for selling former monastic property: this would explain the use of rubble from Merton Priory in the retaining wall of the lake (Walker 1955, 87). Merton is also the most likely origin for the thirteenth-century inlaid tiles found in the backfill of the cellar for the Whitfeld property. The tiles are mostly intact, so they were not rubble; their final dumping took place in the 1770s but before then they may have provided flooring, as a kind of curiosity, for another building in the grounds. Other Merton spolia found in this area may have been used as rubble infill for its walls.

By 1577 almost all the curtilage had fallen into the hands of the Saunders. The orchard, and possibly the gardens, seems to have taken up the western part of the complex; one rood of the orchard, held directly of Ewell manor, may represent the old Hevernorthes tenement. The old Mannynges tenement was thrown into the grounds and may correspond to the 'ij backyardes' of the 1577 survey, since a dividing wall between the two halves of the property rested on Tudor brickwork; it was later the boundary wall of a kitchen garden, which may go back to this period.

The Whitfeld tenement remained separate in 1593, and possibly later. The old Moleseyes tenement was divided into two blocks. The eastern half, owned by the Saunders but not incorporated in their mansion grounds, contained a house with barn, stable, and brewhouse. It had two yards and two gardens, probably because it had earlier been a pair of separate properties, and 'twoo hempstalles' – apparently yards for the processing rather than the growing of hemp, for which the waters of the Horse Pond may have been a resource. The western half, occupied by Edmund Skeete, had a house, barn and stable with garden and orchard land.

Archaeology from the Whitfeld tenement, some of it redeposited from elsewhere in the curtilage, bears out the evidence for high status entertainment, with Siegburg, Raeren and Frechen/Cologne stoneware being imported as well as Martincamp flasks. Five Tudor coins were found in the lake deposits: four Nuremberg jettons have also been found across the area (three in the lake and one on the lawns). The dated issues are from the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century; they were used as counting tokens on a gridded tablecloth in the manner of an abacus. Also reflecting the owner's lifestyle was the clasp from the binding of a large book, probably early sixteenth-century. The Saunders family were recusants and a likely source for this heavy clasp would be a Catholic scholarly work.

Garbrand Hall

In 1595 Nicholas Saunder sold a small property at Windsmer Hill, apparently at the time that he moved out of the village to Nonsuch Park. This lay to the northwest of the curtilage, in the former Skeete property, which may have passed to the Saunders by this date; it was to remain in separate ownership until 1776. The property to the north-east appears to have been sold by the Saunders, probably at the same time, and by 1712 it was in the hands of a labourer.

The Saunder mansion and its grounds now occupied the rest of the curtilage, the Whitfeld property having been incorporated with the rest. In addition to the sixteenth-century mansion there was a barn, stables, outbuildings, orchard and garden. Clay pipes of early seventeenth-century date and a wig curler suggest a gentry lifestyle, as does the domestic group redeposited by the lake containing slipware, delft, porcelain, wineglasses and bottles accumulated between 1660 to 1760.

From 1766 Philip Rowden put into action his plans to turn the Tudor buildings and estate into a contemporary residence and pleasure grounds. He acquired all neighbouring property within the curtilage – the house at Windsmer Hill and the property to the north-east. From the beginning his plan was to turn around the aspect of the main house so that it overlooked the canal or lake, which he enlarged and provided with stronger brick retaining walls. The new house was built, probably in 1779, west of the old one on higher ground so that it would command a view over the lawn down to the water. A wall to the south of the lawn may have been part of a garden building of this period, as the brickwork is eighteenth-century despite the reuse of Reigate stone rubble.

Although the stables were in a different style from the house, they appear to have been built at the same time, as the two buildings were clearly planned as a unity; possibly a different architect designed the plainer, more old-fashioned stable block. Construction began by filling in the medieval well, which appears to have remained visible until then. The last trace of the former Whitfeld house was demolished and its cellar backfilled. The stable block had two central coach houses with stalls and loose boxes for three horses on either side; a domestic floor above the carriage house would have accommodated the groom and family.[63]The delft

tile found in backfill may have lined a room here, or it may come from kitchens in the mansion house. From a deviation in the wall line of Spring Street, it seems the original plan was for vehicles to enter from a gate halfway along the street.

In June 1796 the house was purchased by Thomas Hersey Barritt and given the name Garbrand Hall. Barritt completed his predecessor's programme for a unified design of the grounds. The Windsmer property was made into a second garden, lying between the kitchen garden and the orchard; a gardener's house was built to the west of the kitchen garden; while the north-east property was replaced by a drying ground and barn, together with a dairy (afterwards called The Turrets) intended to form a picturesque backdrop when seen across the Horse Pond. Barritt also improved the entrance to his house, building the Dog Gate and separating the southernmost ten or twelve feet of the lake from the rest by a bridge to give an impressive entrance drive; at this stage, if not earlier, the stable yard was provided with access from the park as well as the road.

The property now fulfilled all requirements for a gentleman's residence, although the next century saw some minor changes. In 1841 the ice house (near the roadside wall, just east of the stable block) and the Ionic bathing temple (north-east of the lake) are mentioned for the first time. At some date between 1841 and 1870, the old kitchen garden was thrown into the landscaped grounds, and the old orchard and second garden combined into a new kitchen garden. New greenhouses with a heating system were built to the south of the dividing wall, and a set of gardeners' bothies on the north, while the square pond south of The Turrets was filled in: it may have been a source of water for the dairy rather than a garden feature. The conservatory wings to north and south of the mansion house were added about this time. In 1860 a lodge was built over the stub of lake just inside the Dog Gate, with a bell cage on the connecting wall so that the butler could be summoned to gate duties. Later the land south of the gardener's house was landscaped as a sunken rose garden, and in 1912 the lawn was levelled to provide a flat surface for tennis. When Margaret Glyn gave the property to the Council in 1945, visitors could still see a Georgian mansion in a Victorian landscaped setting. It was not to last long.

Notes

[1] Surrey History Centre 2238/10/166 p54; 10/169 s.n. Batson.
[2] SHC 10/173, 14 Oct 1772; 10/174, 18 April 1776 (also probably 2238/10/110).
[3] SHC 10/175, 9th April 1766; Drawings Collection of the British Architectural Library.
[4] SHC 10/172, 16 Oct 1738; 10/173, 15 Nov 1763, 18 Oct 1769; 10/175, 23 Aug 1796.
[5] SHC 10/170, 20 Oct 1712, 24 Aug 1730, 22 Jan 1732.
[6] SHC 10/170, 6 Oct 1595, 5 Dec 1616, 12 Dec 1633, 22 Oct 1691, 4 Oct 1702; 10/172 21 Oct and 16 Dec 1747; 10/173, 19 May 1759; 940/16/1, 14 Oct 1748.
[7] SHC 940/20/17 p22.
[8] Published (from SHC 2238/10/158) in Shearman 1955.
[9] SHC 10/170 10 Oct 1593.
[10] *Register or Memorial of Ewell* 1913, 20–2
[11] *Fitznells Cartulary* 1968, 63–4 (entries 469 to 473).
[12] *Fitznells Cartulary* 1968, 47, 59 (entries 170, 403).
[13] *Register or Memorial of Ewell* 1913, 140, 157.
[14] For which see Clark 2001.
[15] Jepson 2011, 88 (the two Winchmores); *Newsletter of the Essex Soc. for Archaeology and History* 153 (2007): 8 (Wismore).
[16] E.g. at Mere Hill in Prestwold: Cox 1998–2019. There are five further examples in Jepson 2011, 73.
[17] The MoLAS fabric and form codes are accessible in https://www.mola.org.uk/roman-pottery-codes and Mason, Spencer & Rayner 2020; the SAS Surrey County codes in Jones & Nelson 2017.
[18] Original numbers have been retained for the two overlapping sequences of features, as it should be clear enough from the trench which series is referred to. Trenches A4 to I7 cover the stables.
[19] Since the grid plan included an east-west row of trenches beginning F, the archive includes trenches F5, F6, F10 and F11 as well as contexts numbered from F1 onwards. They are differentiated in this report by the words 'trench' and 'context' throughout.
[20] As planned, ditch F57 appears to cut the so-called beam slots in F6 at right angles, as if contemporary with – or later than – them, but these features are of early modern date, so this is misleading as we are only looking at a single post-excavation plan.
[21] All finds from this complex are marked C9/10.
[22] The 1980 Interim stated that the 15 foot 6 inches was measured from 'modern ground level' (presumably the top of the demolition rubble), but in the next paragraph, that 'the funnel shaped pit [was] 15' deep', which contradicts the stratigraphic information in the 1962 Interim.
[23] At which point a mix of refilled earth and Thanet Sand was encountered that was 'interpreted as the original water level' (1963 Interim). The current (2024) OS datum for TQ 21840 62660 is 35m, about 3.5m above the average water level in Bourne Hall Lake.
[24] Nail (1962 Interim, 9) says there survived a 'rough circle of curved chalk blocks'.
[25] The range is EDate to LDdate, where EDate = 'earliest possible date of the latest item present' and LDate = 'latest possible date of the earliest item present', *provided* LDate is later than EDate.
[26] 'Archaeological Excavations at Bourne Hall, 1962–65', unpublished typescript held by Bourne Hall Museum with the site archive.
[27] A good example of the drawbacks of multi-phase plans!
[28] It is suggested (Tyers 1996, 67; Evans 2022) that flint tempering continues well into the Roman period due to its properties for improved heat resistance.
[29] A context number identifies a deposit *within* an excavated unit, which might be a square, a group of squares, the baulks between squares or a feature like the late medieval well, so B/C 6 context 3 (the baulk between squares B6 and C6) is not provably the same deposit as C6 context 3 (just within square C6).
[30] EVE = Estimated Vessel Equivalents, surviving rim portions measured as a percentage of a whole vessel, with the percentages then totalled up.
[31] The list is accessible online at https://www.mola.org.uk/, 'London Roman pottery fabric codes'.
[32] The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection is accessible online at https://romanpotterystudy.org.uk/nrfrc/base/index.php?section=nrfc0). For Highgate fabrics, see https://highgate.potsherd.net/docs/info
[33] Jenkins, 'In Search of Roman Ewell' (1973), 18, typescript held at Bourne Hall Museum and accessible at https://www.epsomewellhistory.org.uk/_files/ugd/056f8e_27f488d6e4704245a7952c68996c2ba5.pdf. Page numbers refer to this transcript, not to the original. The building is site 50 in Abdy & Bierton 1997.
[34] The excavation archive awaits accessioning at Bourne Hall Museum.
[35] 'St. Mary's No 5 Churchyard, Ewell Surrey', unpublished report held at Bourne Hall Museum with the site archive and accessible at https://www.epsomewellhistory.org.uk/ArchaeologicalPapers
[36] The report by Nikki Cowlard is in preparation.

[37] Post-Roman material from this site was not published in Orton 1997 but can be found in the unpublished archival report at Bourne Hall Museum.
[38] Not published in Pemberton & Harte 2011, but identified (from trench III layer 3) by the medieval pottery study group of the Surrey Archaeological Society.
[39] *Bulletin of the Nonsuch Antiquarian Soc.* 2nd ser 5, 1963, 12. The vessel, from Pit B, was identified by Steve Nelson in his analysis of the pottery from this as yet unpublished site.
[40] In the Wallington Fee terrier of *c*. 1400 a property is called 'the tilid house' as if that was enough to distinguish it from others, so clearly thatch was still the norm: *Fitznells Cartulary* 1968, 62 (entry 460). There was a tile kiln (le Tyleoste) at Epsom in 1537: TNA LR 2/190.
[41] Celoria and West 1967.
[42] BHM small finds Z 168-001.
[43] BHM accessions 2003.037.
[44] The lawn appears unbroken on a photograph of *c*. 1895 (13646 in Bourne Hall Library) and on the 1910 revision of the 25-inch OS map.
[45] The photograph is in Malden 1913. He also mentions 'two bronze coins said to be of Edward III', an impossible description which has been copied from one source to another down to HER 2601.
[46] BHM small finds Z 199. It carries an old label 'dug up in the garden of Garbrand Hall… circa 1890': however, Malden explicitly states that it was found in the 1912 gardening works. The vessel came back to light in 1979 (Cotton 1979). Louise Rayner (pers. comm. 2017) identifies it as a Class 2 pedestal beaker and compares figs. 74.665 and 78.818 in Lyne 2012, 166, 213.
[47] Jenkins 'In Search of Roman Ewell' chapter 2. He locates the 1912 finds at the north-west corner of the Bourne Hall site, but this is based on a misreading of Winbolt 1936, 234. A map given by Jenkins to the Ordnance Survey records (afterwards HER 2540) showed a cluster of sherds at TQ 2184 6266, probably found in rebuilding the wall to the west of the present car park entrance.
[48] BHM small finds Z 088.
[49] BHM small finds Z 019 and 022. A flint core found later is Z 077.
[50] Jenkins, 'In Search of Roman Ewell'. The grid reference is from the Ordnance Survey/ HER notes.
[51] BHM photos FM 0025.30 to 35. The pistol is in photo 0025.10; I was told about its identification in the 1980s.
[52] The excavation archive by Steve Nelson is in Bourne Hall Museum.
[53] A photo, BHM 2020.027-003, shows that the lake was dry *c*. 1960. It also lost its water in the drought of 1977, when the fragment of inlaid floor tile was found.
[54] The excavation archive BHL 1990 in Bourne Hall Museum covers all investigations from 1990 to 1996.
[55] The dolphin had been one of the prizes for a museum treasure hunt, but fell into the water before it could be found. By agreement, most archaeological metalwork was retained by the detectorists after being recorded. A few pieces were later logged on the Portable Antiquities Scheme.
[56] Periodisation from Reece 2002.
[57] The excavation archive by Steve Nelson is in Bourne Hall Museum.
[58] One of these was retrieved for the museum, BHM 1991.064.
[59] BHM small finds Z 055.
[60] The excavation archive BHE 2004 is in Bourne Hall Museum.
[61] The excavation archive BHL 2019 is in Bourne Hall Museum; the HER reference is MSE23382. There were originally to have been six pits, but TP4 was not excavated.
[62] HER 1151, 1121.
[63] The stables were described when the property was advertised in the *Times* of 19 May 1795.

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Excavations in 1962–5 at the old stables of Bourne Hall revealed two thousand years of history in the heart of Ewell. Although recording at the time was variable and some of the archive has been lost, our reinterpretation places the original finds and stratigraphy in context with other archaeology and the documentary evidence to tell how an area used for dumping and burials on the outskirts of the Roman town became the home of Anglo-Saxon settlers and a sought-after address in the medieval village of Ewell before being developed as the grounds of two exclusive mansions – first for a Tudor administrator of monastic property in the Dissolution, then for a Georgian member of the Vintner's Company who wanted a Surrey mansion.

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