Single Storey Timber Framed Extension to the rear of Belle View House, South Row, Redwick, Newport, NP26 3DU PI Ap 17/0611

Archaeological Watching Brief



Prepared for

Mr Nick Lakey

of

Belle View House, South Row, Redwick, NP26 3DU

Ву



- BLACK MOUNTAINS ARCHAEOLOGY -- ARCHAEOLEG MYNYDD DU -

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Front cover: View to the north of Belle View during the excavation for footings.

Non-technical Summary

Comisiynwyd Archaeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf gan Mr Nick Lakey i ymgymryd â briff gwylio archaeolegol ar gyfer datblygiad arfaethedig yn Belle View House, South Row, Redwick, Newport, NP26 3DU.

Roedd yr ymchwiliadau wedi nodi dyddodyn arwyneb canoloesol tua 0.3 m islaw lefel bresennol y tir. Roedd hwn yn cynnwys darnau cerameg (104) o'r 13^{eg} ganrif, gyda dyddodyn gorchuddiol cymysg (103) drosto, a oedd yn cynnwys cerameg ganoloesol ac ôl-ganoloesol. Nid oedd yr ymchwiliadau wedi nodi unrhyw nodweddion neu ddyddodion eraill o darddiad archeolegol yn y mannau a gloddiwyd. Cynhaliwyd y gorchwyl gwylio archeolegol ar 5 Gorffennaf 2018, a hynny mewn tywydd sych iawn.

Mae'r adroddiad presennol yn nodi canlyniadau'r briff gwylio archaeolegol, a hynny'n unol â safonau proffesiynol Sefydliad Siartredig yr Archaeolegwyr, fel y'u pennir yn y ddogfen, 'Standard and guidance for an archaeological field evaluation'. Cyhoeddwyd 2014.

Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Mr Nick Lakey to undertake an archaeological watching brief for a proposed development at Belle View House, South Row, Redwick, Newport, NP26 3DU.

The investigations identified a medieval surface deposit around 0.3m below the present ground level containing 13th century ceramics (104) overlain by a mixed deposit (103) containing both medieval and Post-medieval ceramics. The investigations did not identify any further features or deposits of archaeological origin in the excavated areas. The archaeological watching brief was carried on the 5th July 2018 in fine dry weather.

The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief in accordance with the professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief. Published 2014

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1. Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd/Archaeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf were commissioned by Mr Nick Lakey of Belle View House, Redwick (Figure 1; NGR ST 341325.919, 184070.784) to carry out an archaeological watching brief in response to Condition 2 of Planning Application No. 17/0611 during ground works for the construction of a single storey timber framed extension with extensive glazing creating a 'garden room' type structure. The proposed work also involved the relocating and rerouting of gas entry and gas cylinder storage, and waste routes from the first-floor bathrooms to the rear of the property.
- 1.1.2. The archaeological advisors to the LPA (GGAT) have indicated the potential to encounter significant multi-period archaeological deposits associated with the evolution of the Gwent Levels. Consequently, they (GGAT) required a programme of work in the form of an archaeological watching brief (Archaeological Planning Advice Letter NEW1390/RD).
- 1.1.3. The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief in accordance with the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching briefs* (Published 2014).

1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The definition of an archaeological Watching Brief as set out by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (CIfA) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
- 1.2.2 The purpose of an archaeological watching brief (as defined CIfA 2014) is:
 - to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
 - to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.
- 1.2.3 A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- 1.2.4 The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.
- 1.2.5 (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief. Published 2014)

1.3 Legislative Framework

- 1.3.1 Planning legislation is set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Planning Policy Wales (PPW 10th Edition) sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 sets out the Welsh Government's policy towards the historic environment. It states "The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset. It is the responsibility of all...planning authorities, applicants, developers and communities...to appropriately care for the historic environment in their area. The protection, conservation and enhancement of historic assets is most effective when it is considered at the earliest stage of plan preparation or when designing new proposals." (PPW 2018, 124).
- 1.3.2 Underpinning PPW are a series of legislative powers and TANs. The *Planning (Wales) Act 2015* sets out a series of legislative changes to deliver reform of the planning system in Wales, to ensure that it is fair, resilient and enables development. The 2015 Act also introduces a mandatory requirement to undertake pre-application consultation for certain types of development. The *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016* defines in *Schedule 4(I)* the parameters and definitions for the requirement of pre-application consultation by Welsh Ministers, particularly in response to the effect of statutory designated monuments, buildings, and parks and gardens.
- 1.3.3 Advice on archaeology and buildings in the planning process was contained in *Welsh Office Circular 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology* and *Welsh Office Circular 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment,* which updated *Welsh Office Circular 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas* following the Shimizu (U.K.) Ltd. v. Westminster City Council Judgement (February 1997). Detailed advice on Environmental Impact Assessment is contained within *Welsh Office Circular 11/99 Environmental Impact Assessment.* Following adoption of the *TAN 24 Historic Environment* on 31st May 2017, *Welsh Office Circulars 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology; 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas*; and 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment have been cancelled.

- 1.3.4 Any works affecting an ancient monument and its setting are protected through implementation of the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. In Wales the 1979 Act has been strengthened by The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The 2016 Act makes important improvements for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also stands at the centre of an integrated package of secondary legislation (Annexes 1-6), new and updated planning policy and advice, and best-practice guidance on a wide range of topics (TAN 24 Historic Environment).
- 1.3.5 Taken together, these will support and promote the careful management of change in the historic environment in accordance with current conservation philosophy and practice.
- 1.3.6 The Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 sets out a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* concerning sites and monuments of national importance (scheduled/listed), and there exists in the current Planning Policy Wales (Chapter 6) a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* of all types of heritage assets.

1.4 Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.4.1 Belle View House is located in the centre of the village of Redwick, *c*110m southeast of the medieval Church of St Thomas, on the Caldicot Level (Figure 1). The Caldicot Levels are an *Outstanding Historic Landscape (HLW(Gt)2)*, which represents the largest and most significant example in Wales of a 'hand-crafted' landscape (Cadw and ICOMOS 1998). They are an extensive area of low-lying land characterised by artificial reens, fields of pasture and natural watercourses, whilst beyond the active salt marsh in the intertidal areas are natural channels and artificial reens. The Levels are identified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) chiefly for their diversity of flora and fauna associated with the reens and banks; the foreshore areas are also noted for hosting migrant bird populations (Gerrard and Lewis 2007). The village of Redwick is situated within the Redwick Conservation Area (167 City and County of Newport 2002).
- 1.4.2 The general geology is superficial post-glacial (Holocene) Tidal Flat Deposits of clays and silts (alluvium) overlying sandstone bedrock (Mercia Mudstone Group Formation) of sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 251-200 million years ago in the Triassic Period (British Geological Survey). The superficial deposits of the Caldicot Level are characterised as the Wentlooge Series and generally consist of brownishgrey moderately friable silty clays becoming more grey in colour and heavier in texture with depth (Rippon 1996). The Wentlooge Formation can be subdivided into Upper, Middle (a peat layer) and Lower Wentlooge Formations. Archaeological artefacts and structures dated to the Bronze Age are associated with the Middle Wentlooge peat formation (Bell 2013). The Upper Wentlooge formation was laid down from the Iron Age through to the post-medieval period (Lewis 2007).

1.5 Archaeological background

- 1.5.1 The proposed development area is located at Redwick on the Caldicot Level, part of the Gwent Levels. Cadw and ICOMOS (1998) note that the "...Gwent Levels have been designated an *Outstanding Historic Landscape* (HLW(Gt)2), which represents the largest and most significant example in Wales of a 'hand-crafted' landscape. The Levels are entirely the work of humans, having been recurrently inundated and reclaimed from the sea from the Roman period onwards. The area has distinctive patterns of settlement, enclosure and drainage systems belonging to successive periods of use, and a proven and possibly vast potential for extensive, well-preserved, buried, waterlogged, archaeological and palaeoenvironmental deposits surviving from earlier landscapes".
- 1.5.2 Redwick is a clearly defined reclaimed wetland landscape of irregular fields bordered to the east by the Cold Harbour Reen and west by the Windmill Reen and centred on the medieval village of Redwick, the largest and best-preserved nucleated village on the Levels. The village probably originated in the late 11th century although an Early-medieval precursor is suggested by the curved churchyard boundary. A house at Redwick is mentioned in a 1270 survey of the manor of the Lordship of Striguil (Yates 2000). This may refer to a mansion supposedly demolished in 1810 somewhere in the vicinity (City and County of Newport 2002, 5).
- 1.5.3 Gradual enclosure between the 11th and 14th centuries has shaped the fieldscape around the village with the enclosure of street commons marking another significant change in the 19th century, several areas of roadside common survive, one with a plaque commemorating the enclosure act of 1850. Another plaque on the wall of the church commemorates the great flood of 1606 when many thousands of people and animals died, many other examples are known from other contemporary local Gwent Levels churches. A range of Commissioners of Sewers notices relating to the drainage system are on display built into the bus shelter near the church, along with some stones that were placed along reens to demarcate the stretches which individual tenants were responsible for maintaining (Lewis 2007, 28-29).
- 1.5.4 The area around Redwick and on the coastal margins is known to contain significant buried and preserved archaeological remains from the Prehistoric period through to the present day. Discoveries of Mesolithic human footprints, Bronze Age and Iron Age roundhouses, palstave axes, cattle footprints and fish-traps all demonstrate the high archaeological potential of the area for the presence and survival of Prehistoric remains. The Caldicot Level contains a buried Roman landscape of a drained and managed fieldsystems and industrial metalworking areas. Following periods of inundation, the Early-medieval ecclesiastical and later medieval landscape of drained and managed fieldsystems is fossilised in many of the field boundaries and reens extant today (Bell 2013, 13-63; Lewis 2007, 28-29).
- 1.5.5 Belle View House is noted within the Redwick Conservation Area Appraisal (figure p29) as a building making a strong contribution to the character of the area (City and County of Newport 2002). However, no mention of the building is made in the remainder of the document. The building probably dates to the early 19th century and is visible on the Redwick Tithe Map (1846) and later historic mapping. Made of local Lias Limestone with extended lateral wings and porch.

1.2. Previous Investigations

- 1.5.6 2000 Event E004539: GGAT carried out trenching at The Croft, Redwick. The fieldwork identified a medieval ditch and post-hole together with Post-medieval clay and daub material, interpreted as an industrial feature.
- 1.5.7 2001 Event E002504: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at 1 Church Row, Redwick. The primary groundworks consisted of the removal of the existing paving slabs and hand digging the foundation trenches for an extension. No discoveries noted.
- 1.5.8 2002 Event E004714: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Belle View, Redwick for an extension. An 18th century foundation trench was recorded.
- 1.5.9 2002 Event E004798: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at the church of St Thomas for drainage work in the graveyard. Four burials were located and numerous stray human bones together with 19th century ceramics, roof tiles, coffin handles and glass fragments.
- 1.5.10 2003 Event E004809: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Coronation Cottage for an extension. An infilled medieval reen was identified.
- 1.5.11 2003 Event E004816: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Deep Lake Cottage, Redwick for an extension. Pottery sherds from the 18th to 20th century was found. No significant archaeological finds or features were discovered (Bray 2003).
- 1.5.12 2006 Event E005009: Monmouth Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief at King's Head Redwick for an extension. Unstratified finds included medieval pottery, brown-stained bones and a Post-medieval import, possibly a costrel. There were no structural remains or significant finds discovered (Bray and Clarke 2006).
- 1.5.13 2006 Event E005010: Monmouth Archaeology carried out a watching brief at Church House Farm, Redwick. Two sherds of 13th or 14th century pottery were recovered.
- 1.5.14 2012 Event E004546: Cardiff Archaeological Unit carried out a watching brief prior to the replacement of Redwick Village Hall. The watching brief covered the soil reduction of the site. Excavation for a storage tank revealed a reen ditch cut into alluvial clays, running east-west. No artefacts or features were uncovered during the watching brief (Stewart-Turner 2012).
- 1.5.15 2013 A field evaluation was conducted by APAC Ltd ahead of the redevelopment of Parklands, South Row, Redwick. Trench 1 was largely sterile, Trench 2 recovered medieval ceramics (13th / 14th century) at around 1m in depth. Trench 3 also recovered medieval ceramics and a possible reen.
- 1.5.16 2017 An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd at New House, Church Row, Redwick. The investigations identified a single archaeological feature of significance, a palaeochannel (BO3) of undetermined date. The linear feature was aligned SE/NW and located to the rear of the house in the footings for the rear extension. The investigation did not identify any further features or deposits of archaeological origin in any of the remaining excavated areas. The stratigraphy was fairly uniform across the site. The only variation being areas of recent demolition and disturbance (Lewis 2017).

1.5.17 2018 - An archaeological watching brief was carried out by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd at Parklands, South Row, Redwick. A total of eleven foundation trenches were excavated. The investigations identified two medieval ditches aligned NE-SW across the rear garden of the property. A path or wall of medieval date was found in the base of Trench 5 together with eight pits broadly distributed across the site containing medieval ceramics and animal bone. An alluvial horizon representing a significant flooding event was found at *c*0.8m below the present ground surface in Trench 5, possibly indicating evidence of the great flood of 1606. A total of 73 medieval sherds, mainly local wheelthrown cooking pots of broad 13th century date, were recovered. Several sherds of either Bristol Ham Green or Bristol Redcliffe ware were recovered with two sherds from jugs belonging to later medieval vessels from the Malvern area. Animal bone recovered included cattle, sheep and pig, with none of adult age (Lewis forthcoming).

(Results obtained from a search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER), reference number 5701)

2 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief observed the machine excavation of the footings for the rear extension (Figure 2). The excavations were carried out using a 1.5t back acting tracked excavator with 450mm wide toothed bucket. The excavations were tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum using a Geomax Zenith 35 Pro GNSS/Glonass (GPS) Receiver and data logger with a 20mm tolerance. All areas of archaeological potential were surveyed with a Garrett Ace 400i metal detector with a 28cm x 22cm DD PROformance search coil.
- 2.1.2 All trench sections were cleaned by hand and the stratigraphy recorded in detail. The archaeological recording techniques conformed to the best industry standard; all deposits were recorded using a single continuous context numbering system and are summarised in Appendix III. Contexts were schematically drawn in section and the excavations drawn in plan. All excavations and contexts were photographed in digital using a Fujifilm FinePix S4800 super wide (30x) 24-720mm camera at 16mp. The natural Upper Wentlooge Formation was encountered and recorded in the base of the foundation trench.
- 2.1.3 All classes of finds were retained (cleaned and catalogued) and arrangements for final deposition have been agreed, as set out in the requirements of the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014). With the permission of the landowner Mr Lakey, ownership will be transferred to Newport Museum and Art Gallery for permanent curation.
- 2.1.4 A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) was made, reference number 5701. The HER search was originally carried out for an adjacent property at New House, Church Row, Redwick (Lewis 2017) and it was agreed with GGAT Curatorial that due to the short time span between projects in the same area that a new search would not be required for the present project.
- 2.1.5 The archaeological watching brief was carried out to the standards of the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief.* Published 2014.
- 2.1.6 A digital copy of the report and archive will be supplied to the regional HER, the LPA and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

3 Results

3.1 Stratigraphical evidence

- 3.1.1 The excavation for footings was carried out by machine to the rear (SE) of Belle View house. The topsoil was removed from an 8.1m by 7.9m area adjacent to the rear wall of the property (Figure 2). A square U-shaped trench measuring an average 0.9m wide and 0.8m deep was excavated for the foundations of the proposed extension. A modern 150mm diameter drain pipe (cut [106] and fill (107)) was noted running along the length of the NE foundation trench section. The principle discoveries were two stratified deposits, the first a mixed medieval and Post-medieval deposit (103) at 6.324mOD overlying a medieval deposit (104) at 6.044mOD, which remains *in-situ*. No further archaeological deposits, structures or features was identified in the base of the foundation trench at 5.705mOD and below context **104** at 5.994mOD.
- 3.1.2 The results of the excavation are detailed below and contextual information can be found in Appendix III.
- 3.1.3 **Topsoil Strip and Foundation Trench** (Figure 2; Plates 1-7)
- 3.1.4 The overall area removed during the topsoil strip measured 8.1m NW-SE by 7.9m NE-SW. This included the removal of part of the existing patio, hardcore sub-base and lawn. The square U-shaped trench was then machine cut down to 0.9m deep along NE side and 0.65m deep along SW side with the interior area it enclosed machine, and then when archaeological deposits were encountered, hand excavated to 0.33m in depth.
- 3.1.5 The basal deposit (105) encountered in the base of the trench and on the SE edge of the internal area it enclosed was a mid-brown clay with orange and black (manganese?) mottling forming part of the Upper Wentlooge formation. Overlying this was a thin reddish-brown clay silt deposit 0.05m thick (104), containing frequent charcoal flecks throughout together with 13th century medieval ceramics and adult *bovine* (cattle) bone (see Plates 11 and 12). The medieval ceramics included part of a Bristol Redcliffe jug, a jug handle from a Malvernian pitcher, a small 12th century sherd from a North Wiltshire or Cotswolds tripod pitcher, an imitation Bristol jug type and Penhow and Ham Green wares (see 3.2 and 3.3 below).
- 3.1.6 Overlying the 13th century deposit was another thin reddish-brown clay silt deposit 0.08m thick (103) with frequent charcoal and mortar flecks throughout. The mixed layer produced medieval and Post-medieval ceramics, metalwork, adult *bovine* (cattle) and *Sus* (pig) bone and glass. The ceramics included jug and cup examples possibly from the Malvern Chase kilns dating to between the 16th and 19th centuries. Later Post-medieval material was also encountered. These included 17th and 18th century blackware and Bristol or Staffordshire slipwares, with modern ceramics forming the largest proportion with transfer-printed white earthenwares, kitchen ware, stoneware and the lid knob from a brown teapot. A single piece of window glass was also recovered from 103 dating to between the 13th and 17th centuries. The metal artefacts included a 15th to 19th century trapezoidal single looped iron belt buckle, probably one half of a silver cufflink (as opposed to a plain button), a wrought iron nail and small fragment of lead sheet. A single flint debitage fragment of blue-grey coloured flint was also found in deposit **103** (see 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 below).

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3.1.7 Overlying the mixed Post-medieval and medieval deposit was a reddish-brown silt clay subsoil (102) with frequent quantities of small stones (<0.05m), roots and modern material (clinker, brick and plastic). The topsoil (101) was a dark-brown very gritty and dry silt clay loam in the lawn area and contemporary to this was the modern patio and subbase (100), which was removed to allow for the excavation.

3.2 Finds – Ceramics and Glass by Joyce Compton

Medieval and Later Pottery - Introduction and Methodology

3.2.1 Medieval and later pottery was recovered from two contexts (Plates 9-11; Appendix IV). All of the pottery has been recorded by sherd count and weight, in grams, by context, and the data entered onto an Excel spreadsheet for ease of manipulation. The spreadsheet forms part of the archive (Appendix IV). The pottery assemblage amounts to a total of 114 sherds, weighing 1656g, and is in relatively good condition (average sherd weight 14.5g) with very little abrasion evident. Short fabric descriptions for the medieval pottery, and some of the post-medieval, can be found in the archive (Appendix IV).

Medieval Pottery

- 3.2.2 The medieval assemblage forms the largest component and amounts to 59 sherds, weighing 1197g. The pottery is in good condition, mainly comprising large and unabraded body sherds. The average sherd weight is 20.3g. The proportion of glazed ware to unglazed is low at less than 20% by weight, but this can be accounted for, in part, by the presence of large parts of at least three cooking pots now represented by groups of joining base and body sherds.
- 3.2.3 For a relatively small assemblage, although not uncommon on sites in southern Gwent, there is a variety of identifiable fabric types. Among the glazed wares are several sherds from a Bristol Redcliffe jug, showing part of an applied thumbed strip, and another body sherd, also probably Bristol. Part of a jug handle is probably from a Malvernian pitcher, as shown in Vince (1994, fig.58.30). There is also a small vesicular sherd from a North Wiltshire or Cotswolds tripod pitcher. A flat-topped jug rim has a handle stub showing part of its slashed decoration. This is similar to a local jug shown in Courtney (1994, fig.34.144) and may be a local copy of a Bristol jug type. A flat-bottomed jug base sherd has buff fabric and the remains of a brown-green speckly glaze on the external lower wall. The source for this sherd is uncertain. The colour of the glaze may suggest a late medieval date.
- 3.2.4 The unglazed pottery is dominated by locally-made buff, sandy, micaceous wares which account for 70% by weight of the unglazed pottery assemblage. More than one vessel is represented but there are no rim sherds. Three further sherds, one a rim, with oxidised surfaces may be a locally-made fabric variant. There is no sooting or blackening and the rim sherd is from a large vessel, perhaps a flanged bowl such as Vince (1991, fig.53.24). Several sherds in dark grey quartz-tempered fabric with black surfaces are probably Malvernian. One of these appears to be coated internally with pitch. Further sherds have been identified as the hard reddish-brown fabric produced at Penhow (Wrathmell 2016, 59; Vince 1991, fabric Ha.1). The rim sherd indicates a vessel perhaps as Wrathmell (2016, fig.33.79). A body sherd in grey fabric with darker surfaces and a band of combing may be Ham Green but the identification is uncertain.

Early Post-medieval Pottery

3.2.5 Among the local red earthenwares dating broadly to the 17th to 19th centuries are sherds of earlier date, some perhaps 16th century. Isolating these from the later body sherds was difficult, since all were made from a similar type of red-firing clay. Twenty-two sherds (237g) have been separated out on fabric and finish grounds. The principal fabric component is white quartz in an orange-red matrix and these sherds are likely to derive from the Malvern Chase kilns (Vince 1991, fabric Mb; Vince 1985, fabric B4). There is a rim sherd, with an all-over green-speckled glaze, which is probably from a 16th-century two- or three-handled cup of a type similar to that shown in Vince (1991, fig.58.34). A range of these cups and tygs is also shown in Wrathmell (2016, figs 39 and 45), see especially fig.39.143. A second rim sherd, glazed on the inside of the rim and with a plain grey external surface, is from a larger vessel, perhaps a jug such as Courtney (1994, fig.17.53), although this is in a local fabric. The rim from Redwick may also be from a source more local than the Malverns and is probably 17th century.

Other Pottery

3.2.6 Twenty-five sherds (weight 178g) of later post-medieval and modern pottery were recorded in context 003. This assemblage is in the poorest condition, with an average sherd weight of just 7.1g. Recorded pottery types include 17th and 18th century blackware and Bristol or Staffordshire slipwares, but modern ceramics form the largest proportion and comprise transfer-printed white earthenwares, kitchen ware, stoneware and the lid knob from a brown teapot.

Post-medieval Glass

3.2.7 A very small sherd of window glass with decayed surfaces was noted in context 003. Manufacture of glass was improved during the 17th century by substituting sodium for the potassium used during the medieval period. By association with the pottery it was found with, the sherd could date to any time between the 13th and 17th centuries. It should be noted that the decay is advanced enough for the possibility of complete disintegration to occur.

3.3 Finds – Faunal Osteology by Iulia Rusu

Introduction

3.3.1 A total of seventeen faunal fragments were recovered from two contexts (Plate 12; Appendix IV), namely 103, a mixed medieval and post-medieval deposit and 104, a strictly medieval deposit, underlying 103. Aside from the osteological material, a residual flint debitage flake (undated) and a total of four metal items (an iron belt buckle, a hammered nail, an oval copper alloy or silver button and a small lead sheet fragment) were recovered from context 103, while no additional materials were identified from 104. Both contexts were dated based on modern, medieval and post-med ceramic sherds (for context 103) and glazed and unglazed medieval ceramic sherds (for context 104).

Methodology

- 3.3.2 Osteological analysis of the faunal remains from Belle View (Redwick) followed guidelines from *Animal Bones and Archaeology Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England, 2014), in reference to conducting an osteological assessment and identifying any further analytical potential of the osteological assemblage, as well as consulted the *British Association of Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology Code of Ethics* (BABAO, 2010) and the *Excavation of Faunal Skeletal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (Kausmally and Western, 2005).
- 3.3.3 Faunal *taxa* were determined using Schmid (1972). Age was estimated using tooth eruption/wear (following Desbiez and Keuroghlian (2016), adapted version of Rolett and Chiu (1994) and Grant (1982). Any pathology encountered was noted and mentioned/described in the appropriate section. All recommendations of analytical potential have been made taking into account all information obtained from the faunal assemblage during osteological analysis.

Primary Data

- 3.3.4 An overall good preservation state characterises the Belle View faunal assemblage, allowing for most fragments to be assigned to specific taxa. Little could be said relating to taphonomy (the study of processes affecting bone after deposition), as a limited amount of evidence has been identified. Primarily, staining represented the main development to have affected the remains, involving various areas of the bones. Specifically, a *Bos* metatarsus (from context 103) showed signs of its entire surface being affected to various degrees (with increased staining present towards the proximal epiphysis). Secondly, a general weathering pattern was recognized on all fragments, mainly defined by cracks, flaking and patches of damaged bone. It could also be stated that two possible cut marks were recorded on a medium mammal fragment (103).
- 3.3.5 Investigations have identified two species present within the assemblage, while adding two additional non-Linnaean categories (large and medium mammals). Most fragments were assigned to cattle (*Bos*) (context 103) or large mammals (contexts 103 and 104), followed by two fragments confidently defined as *Sus* (pig) (context 103) or medium mammals (context 103). Based on available evidence (e.g. fusion stage of epiphyses) most fragments also belonged to adult individuals. A detailed record can be found in Table 1. Similarly, a MNI (minimal number of individuals) has been calculated at four (based on remains from both contexts), shown in Table 2.
- 3.3.6 No evidence of pathology was identified within the assemblage. At the same time, due to the significantly small amount of remains available, little analytical potential is given.

3.4 Finds – Metal Artefacts by Richard Lewis

3.4.1 A total of four metal items (Plate 13) were recovered from context **103**, an iron (Fe) belt buckle and hammered nail, oval copper alloy (Cu) or silver (Ag) button and small lead (Pb) sheet fragment.

- 3.4.2 The iron belt buckle is a rectangular single looped buckle, the pin being flat and looped around the bar with no pin rest on the outside edge. The frame is slightly trapezoidal in shape and measures 50mm at the bar end by 50mm wide. The outside edge is 40mm long. The pin is 55mm long tapering to a hooked point and 10mm wide at the bar end. Trapezoidal shaped iron frames are known from the 15th century and common from the 17th century onwards. A comparable example is recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database (Tyrrell 2016, BUC-52E43E).
- 3.4.3 The hand-wrought iron forged nail measures 75mm by 10mm and is hammered with a rectangular profile. The nail head is missing. Broadly Post-medieval in date. Mechanised French (so named after their country of origin) or Wire nails were introduced in the mid-19th century as a cheap alternative to hand-made wrought iron nails so the wrought iron nail is likely to date to before this introduction.
- 3.4.4 The oval button is small and measures 17mm by 12mm with a 5mm loop. The face is covered in a black patina and has a down-turned rim. Probably one half of a cufflink of Post-medieval date. The button appears to be silver (Ag) but as no chemical test has been carried out it could prove to be copper alloy (Cu).
- 3.4.5 Fragment of lead (Pb) sheet measuring 40mm long by 25mm wide and folded at on end. The sheet is 1mm in thickness and covered in white corrosion. The lead sheet is very thin. No function can be ascribed.

3.5 Finds – Flint by Richard Lewis

- 3.5.1 A single piece of lithic material (flint) (Plate 14) was recovered from context **103** during the watching brief. The flint was examined rapidly under x10 and x30 magnification and recorded using a typological recording system (Andrefsky 2005). No further technical analysis was undertaken.
- 3.5.2 There is wide variation as to what is commonly classified as flint or chert (Andrefsky 2000, 52-58). Most archaeologists define flint forming from bedded (sedimentary) chalk deposits (diatoms, radiolaria and coral spicules) while chert nodules can be found forming in limestone environments (calcium carbonate diagenetically replaced with silicates). However, both materials are the same and belong to the cryptocrystalline (or microcrystalline) group of silicates (quartz).
- 3.5.3 The single lithic is a debitage fragment and was found to consist of blue-grey coloured flint, measuring 13mm long by 21mm wide weighing 1g. The proximal end has a prepared striking platform with two older platforms preserved along its width and truncated bulbs on the ventral surface. The distal end terminates in a step fracture, probably why the piece is so wide. The dorsal surface has two lateral blade scars, possibly indicating the extensive working of a small core, and a cluster of small (<1mm) circular fossils. On the distal end of the ventral surface a small area of the blue-grey patina gives way to grey-brown flint. Possibly showing the effect of heat. Cryptocrystalline silicates when heated slowly to 230-260° Celsius form smooth, glossy surfaces with a soapy feel that become very easy to fracture and thus easier to manipulate.

4 Discussion and Conclusion

- 4.1.1 The investigations identified a medieval surface deposit around 0.3m below the present ground level containing 13th century ceramics (104) and *Bovine* (cattle) bone overlain by a mixed deposit (103) containing both medieval and Post-medieval ceramics, metalwork, adult *bovine* (cattle) and *Sus* (pig) bone and glass. The stratified deposit **103** was identified at 6.324mOD overlying the medieval deposit **104** at 6.044mOD, the latter of which remains *in-situ*. The investigations did not identify any further features or deposits of archaeological origin in the excavated areas.
- 4.1.2 The basal deposit (105) encountered in the excavations proved to belong to the natural Upper Wentlooge formation. The Upper Wentlooge Formation formed during successive periods of inundation by the sea from the Bronze Age (Middle Wentlooge Formation) up until the 1st century BC (Rippon 1996). The formation of the Caldicot Level, with successive deposits of clays, then slows as the landscape is drained and managed, first in the Roman period and then later in the Early-medieval and medieval periods.
- 4.1.3 Redwick probably originated in the late 11th century, although an Early-medieval precursor is suggested by the curved churchyard boundary. Gradual enclosure between the 11th and 14th centuries has shaped the fieldscape around the village and this marries well with the ceramic evidence recovered during both the present watching brief and previous investigations in the village (see 1.2). Medieval ceramics of comparable dates have been recovered from Church House Farm (Bray and Clarke 2006), Parklands (Lewis forthcoming; Phillips 2013) and Belle View (Bray and Clarke 2002).
- 4.1.4 The variety of pottery types from the present investigation is remarkable for such a small assemblage and this can perhaps be accounted for by Redwick's proximity to the coast. Pottery in the borders and southern Gwent was obtained from a number of sources at an early date (Courtney 1994; Vince 1991) although local pottery industries were set up during the first half of the 12th century (Papazian and Campbell 1992, 81). Approximately one third of the Redwick medieval assemblage can be attributed to non-local sources, with wheel-thrown Bristol Redcliffe ware forming around half of this. Bristol Redcliffe is a typical 13th and 14th century ware, conventionally dated 1270-1450. Malvernian ware first appears during the 13th century, increasing in numbers thereafter (Vince 1991, 118) and the local pottery at Penhow is thought to begin production in the early 13th century (Wrathmell 2016, 59). The bulk of the Belle View pottery, therefore, can be dated to the 13th century and later, with some residual 12th century sherds, for instance Wiltshire/Cotswolds, also present.
- 4.1.5 Previous work at Belle View by Monmouth Archaeology (Bray and Clarke 2002) produced a similar range of pottery types within a smaller collection (38+ sherds; 2002, 9-10). The fourteen sherds of recorded medieval pottery appear to be all unglazed and all local apart from a single sherd of ?Malvernian (Bray and Clarke 2002, 9). The local pottery is described as Isca Grange ware although the fabric description given in Archaeology in Wales (Clarke 2001, 83) shows no distinguishing characteristics which would help to differentiate this ware from pottery made elsewhere in southern Gwent. Clarke provided a date of 13th century for the pottery found at the Isca Grange kiln but Bray and Clarke (2002, 9) suggest a 12th to 13th century date for that found at Belle View.

- 4.1.6 The ceramics from Belle View is an interesting collection, with the bulk of the assemblage dating to the 13th century. Smaller amounts are deposited thereafter and appear to demonstrate continuity of occupation from the medieval period up to present times.
- 4.1.7 The faunal remains recovered from the present watching brief represents a small assemblage mainly characterised by a good degree of preservation, with little taphonomic alterations present (e.g. staining, weathering, rooting). The main species identified being cattle and pig, with other questionable fragments being assigned to non-Linnaean categories. Due to the limited number of pieces recovered, no specific analytical potential could be identified. However, the presence of adult cattle and pigs in the medieval and Post-medieval periods does indicate the types of animal husbandry in use during these times, which has changed little over time into the present.
- 4.1.8 The metal artefacts recovered are too few to draw any substantive conclusions. However, the single looped iron buckle was trapezoidal in shape and these types are known from the 15th century and common from the 17th century onwards. Which matches well with the dating of the ceramic assemblage for deposit 103. A comparable example is recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database (Tyrrell 2016, BUC-52E43E). Belt buckles are not perhaps as common as one might think during the early Post-medieval period. Flynn (2016) notes that of a total of 28 copper alloy buckles were recovered from the Mary Rose, which sank in 1545 with the loss of some 375 men and around 179 individuals were recovered from the excavations. Therefore, 28 buckles in comparison to the numbers of men lost suggests that many were probably not wearing a belt buckle. The oval half cufflink button is most likely silver and would have been an expensive item in the Post-medieval period (18th to 19th centuries) and its loss probably caused much anguish to its owner some 200 years ago.
- 4.1.9 The flint debitage flake recovered from the mixed Post-medieval context **103** would appear to be residual and not related to the underlying medieval deposit (104). The flake cannot be classified by period other than generically prehistoric, although the blade scars on the dorsal surface are uniform and small (narrow) so a Mesolithic date is possible. However, as the Upper Wentlooge Formation was laid down from the Iron Age the flint debitage flake could very well date to this period as lithic use continued into the Roman period. If the flint debitage flake predates the Iron Age then agency must be a factor in its secondary deposition.
- 4.1.10 The investigations at Belle View have established that the property has probably been continuously settled since at least the 13th century. The numbers of pottery sherds (114) and other finds from medieval and later periods recovered from such a small area and the truncated nature of the deposits (103 and 104) is testament to some form of enduring occupation in the immediate area, if not on the site of the present house. The ceramic assemblage in particular will provide a useful reference collection for future investigations in the village.

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6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix I Figures



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6.2 Appendix II Plates



Plate 1. U-shaped foundation trench, view NW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 2. SW side of U-shaped foundation trench, view NW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 3. SE side of U-shaped foundation trench, view NE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 4. NE side of U-shaped foundation trench, view NW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 5. SE side of U-shaped foundation trench, view SE. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 6. SW side of U-shaped foundation trench, view NW. Scale 1m in 0.05m sections.



Plate 7. General view of U-shaped foundation trench and topsoil strip area, view NE.



Plate 8. Post-medieval window glass from context 103. Scales in 1cm sections.



Plate 9. Post-medieval and modern ceramics from context 103. Scales in 1cm sections.



Plate 10. Medieval and Post-medieval ceramics from context 103. Scales in 1cm sections.



Plate 11. Medieval ceramics from context 104. Scales in 1cm sections.



Plate 12. Medieval and Post-medieval faunal remains from contexts 103 and 104. Scales in 1cm sections.



Plate 13. Metal artefacts from context 103 showing both sides. Clockwise from top: hand-made iron nail and lead sheet fragment, oval silver cufflink/button and trapezoidal belt buckle. Scale 5cm in 1cm sections.



Plate 14. Flint debitage from context 103. Top dorsal surface, bottom ventral surface. Scale 5cm in 1cm sections.

6.3 Appendix III Context Inventory

6.3.1 The excavation for footings was carried out by machine to the rear (SE) of Belle View house. The topsoil was removed from an 8.1m by 7.9m area adjacent to the rear wall of the property (Figure 2). A square U-shaped trench measuring an average 0.9m wide and 0.8m deep was excavated for the foundations of the proposed extension. A modern 150mm diameter drain pipe (cut [106] and fill (107)) was noted running along the length of the NE foundation trench section. The principle discoveries were two stratified deposits, the first a mixed medieval and Post-medieval deposit (103) at 6.324mOD overlying a medieval deposit (104) at 6.044mOD, which remains *in-situ*. No further archaeological deposits, structures or features was identified in the foundation trench. The natural Upper Wentlooge formation was identified in the base of the foundation trench at 5.705mOD and below context **104** at 5.994mOD.

Context Type Depth Description									
Context	туре	Depth	-	Period					
100	Structure	0m – 0.1	Patio and underlying hardcore covering roughly half the excavation area. Contemporary with 101.	Modern					
101	Deposit	0m – 0.05m	Dark-brown very gritty and dry silt clay loam topsoil (outside patio area). Contemporary with 100.	Modern					
102	Deposit	0.05m – 0.2m	Reddish-brown silt clay subsoil with frequent quantities of small stones (<0.05m), roots and modern material (coal, clinker, aluminium ring pulls etc). Underlies 100 and 101; overlies 103.	Modern					
103	Deposit	0.2m – 0.28m	Reddish-brown clay silt deposit. Frequent charcoal and mortar flecks throughout. Thin mixed layer with medieval and Post-medieval ceramics, metalwork, faunal bone and glass.	Post-medieval					
104	Deposit	0.28m – 0.33m	Reddish-brown clay silt deposit. Frequent charcoal flecks throughout. Thin layer with medieval ceramics and faunal bone.	Medieval					
105	Deposit	0.33m – 0.9m	Mid-brown clay with orange and black (manganese?) mottling. Upper Wentlooge formation.	Natural					
106	Cut	0.1m – 0.6m	150mm Foul Drain Cut in NE foundation trench west facing section. Cut descends from roof down piple at ground level south to 0.6m below the present ground level.	Modern					
107	Deposit	-	Fill of 150mm foul drain cut 106. Dark-brown humic silt clay loam. Frequent quantities of brick, slate , mortar, charcoal and small stones (<0.1). Single plastic 150mm light brown foul pipe.	Modern					

6.3.2 **Topsoil Strip and Foundation Trench**

6.3.3 Level of present ground surface: Existing patio = 6.375mOD.

All depths below present ground surface. n.b = not bottomed

Acknowledgements and Copyright

6.3.4 The fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Lewis BA MCIfA. The report and illustrations were prepared by Richard Lewis with specialist artefact analysis provided by Joyce Compton and Iulia Rusu. The author would like to thank Mr Nick Lakey, Joyce Compton and Iulia Rusu for their help and support during the project. Thanks also to Rob Dunning and Claudine Gerrard (GGAT Curatorial) for helpful archaeological advice. The copyright of this report is held by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd, who have granted an exclusive licence to Mr Nick Lakey and his clients enabling them to use and reproduce the material it contains. Ordnance Survey maps are reproduced under licence 100058761. Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd retains copyright of any annotations.

6.5 Appendix IV Finds Inventory

Finds – Ceramics and Glass

Context	Туре	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Date	Notes	
103	Glass	Window glass	1	<1g	13th and	A very small sherd of window glass with decayed surfaces was noted in	
					17th	context 103. It should be noted that the decay is advanced enough for the	
					centuries	possibility of complete disintegration to occur.	
103	earthenware	modern ceramics	10	17	modern	rim and b/s, one with handle springing (cup), six with blue t-p, one with h- p design in orange and green	
103	earthenware	modern ceramics	1	13	modern	teapot lid knob	
103	earthenware	modern ceramics	1	8	modern	b/s kitchen ware, yellow glaze both sides	
103	stoneware	modern ceramics	1	4	modern	b/s bottle, transfer-printed printed in black 'H'	
103	slipware	yellow-glazed	3	11	post med	rim sherd, press-moulded dish, burnt, b/s both with brown slip-trail decoration	
103	slipware	brown-glazed	1	1	post med	b/s	
103	earthenware	blackware	1	2	post med	handle sherd, all-over lustrous black glaze	
103	earthenware	local coarse ware	7	122	post med	rim, base and b/s, one base and lower wall sherd join, two b/s are burnt	
103			25	178			
103				ASW = 7.1			
103	earthenware	local coarse ware	30	281	post med	rim and b/s, early post-medieval; three rim sherds, one probably from two-handled tyg, one from a jug or jar with out-turned rim, edge partially glazed and small one from a ?plate with all-over green glaze	
103				ASW = 9.4			
103	coarse ware	unglazed	13	236	medieval	base and b/s, ?some matching sherds in 104	
103	coarse ware	unglazed	1	54	medieval	body sherd with band of combing, some external sooting	
103	coarse ware	glazed	1	35	medieval	jug rim sherd with handle springing, which shows slashing	
103	coarse ware	glazed	4	104	medieval	jug base and body sherds, two joining, one with applied thumbed strip, Bristol Redcliffe	
103	coarse ware	glazed	1	36	medieval	jug base, buff fabric, part-burnt, speckly glaze on lower wall	
104	coarse ware	glazed	3	56	medieval	b/s two with handle springing (one vestigial)	
104	coarse ware	unglazed	36	676	medieval	rim, base and b/s, several groups of large joining sherds	
			59	1197			

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Context	Туре	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Date	Notes
				ASW =		
				20.3		
						51.8% by count, 72.3% by weight
	Fabrics					
103	glazed	red	22	237	early post med	wheelthrown, splashes of glaze, some partially glazed, hard fabric, small and medium white inclusions, perhaps eight vessels represented
	unglazed	buff	1	4	medieval	buff surfaces, grey core, small white inclusions, vesicular
	unglazed	red-buff	3	32	medieval	hard fabric, small white inclusions
	unglazed	grey-buff	4	68	medieval	hard fabric, shar write inclusions hard fabric, black surfaces, two sherds are very sandy, one of these is
		8.07 2011				coated internally with pitch, two have white quartz inclusions
	unglazed	grey	5	131	medieval	buff surfaces, micaceous, some external blackening, occasional rock inclusions
	unglazed	grey	1	54	medieval	grey-buff surfaces, rock inclusions, external sooting, band of combing
	glazed	grey	4	104	medieval	wheelthrown, buff surfaces, light grey margin, apple green glaze, applied thumbed strip - Bristol Redcliffe
	glazed	buff	1	36	medieval	wheelthrown, buff surfaces, green-brown speckly glaze on lower wall
	glazed	grey	1	35	medieval	wheelthrown, flat-topped rim, buff surfaces, patchy green-brown glaze, inc part of strap handle with slashing
104	unglazed	grey	3	80	medieval	orange-buff surfaces, occasional quartz inclusions, ledge rim present
	unglazed	grey	3	57	medieval	hard fabric, red-brown surfaces and margins, occasional rock inclusions, ledge rim present
	unglazed	grey	30	535	medieval	fine fabric, buff surfaces, micaceous, some blackening, groups of large joining sherds but more than one vessel present
	glazed	grey	1	22	medieval	brown surfaces, sparse white inclusions (?flint), handmade, no glaze apparent
	glazed	grey	1	17	medieval	wheelthrown, grey-buff surfaces, patchy green glaze, probably Bristol
	glazed	grey	1	17	medieval	red-buff surfaces, remains of green glaze
	unglazed	buff	1	4		vesicular
	unglazed	red-buff	3	32		Penhow?

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Context	Туре	Description	Number	Weight (g)	Date	Notes
	unglazed	grey-buff	4	68		Malvernian?
	unglazed	grey	5	131		
	unglazed	grey	1	54		Ham Green
	unglazed	grey	3	80		
	unglazed	grey	3	57		Penhow?
	unglazed	grey	30	535		
		Totals	50	961		
			85%	81%		
	glazed	grey	1	22		Malvernian
	glazed	grey	1	17		
	glazed	grey	1	17		Bristol
	glazed	grey	4	104		Redcliffe
	glazed	buff	1	36		
	glazed	grey	1	35		
		Totals	9	231		
			15%	19%		

6.5.1

Finds – Faunal Osteology

6.5.2 Total amount of analysed faunal remains recovered from Belle View (Redwick), distributed by species and non-Linnaean categories. Total amount of fragments: n=17

Context	Cattle (Bos)	Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capr</i>)	Pig (Sus)	Dog (Canis)	Horse (<i>Equus</i>)	Human (<i>Homo</i>)	Large mammal	Medium mammal	Unidentifia ble/small mammal	Burnt bone
103	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
104	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	6	-

6.5.3 MNI determined based on number of identified species/non-Linnaean categories per context

Taxon	MNI
Cattle (Bos)	1
Sheep/Goat (Ovis/Capra)	0
Pig (Sus)	1
Dog (Canis)	0
Horse (Equus)	0
Human (Homo)	0
Unidentified taxon	2
Total	4

Finds – Metal and Flint Artefacts

6.5.4 Metal and lithic artefacts, their period, weight and number by context.

Context	Material Type	Description	Period	Weight (g)	Min count
103	Silver (Ag)	Oval cufflink	Post-medieval	1	1 piece
103	Flint	Debitage flake	Prehistoric	<1	1 piece
103	Iron (Fe)	Trapezoidal buckle and hand forged nail	Post-medieval	37	2 pieces
104	Lead (Pb)	Lead sheet	Medieval/Post- medieval	5	3 fragments



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