Excavations at Somerby, Lincs., 1957

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The excavation of this Deserted Medieval Village took place from late September to early December, 1957, under the direction of Mr. D. Corbett, for the Ministry of Public Building and Works.

The site shown on the Ordnance Survey Maps as a Roman encampment was scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Acts as 'Earthworks south west of Somerby Hall'. Early in 1957 the tenant farmer, Mr. G. Laming, had requested permission to level and plough the site. This was granted on condition that time was allowed for a partial excavation before destruction, which was readily agreed both by the farmer and the owner of the site, Sir E. C. Bacon of Gainsborough.

This report has been written by D. C. Mynard in collaboration with the excavator.

Summary

This scheduled site was threatened by ploughing in 1957 and a rescue dig was arranged. The village was already established at the time of the Domesday Survey and flourished until the 16th century when it was enclosed for sheep farming by the Topcliffe family. The Manor House remained in use until the present century but is now a ruin and the fields around it have been ploughed.

The excavation consisted of trial trenches over a large area of the site and the partial stripping of one platform. Some of the trenches located walls and others roads but these were not completely examined. The platform investigated produced the plan of four rooms interpreted as a two bay house with adjoining workshop, possibly a smithy. These rooms were in use from sometime in the 15th century to the mid-16th. Many small finds particularly ironwork were found in and around them. A well was situated in the yard to the south of the rooms.

To the north of the rooms were numerous features dug into the natural clay dating from the 11th to the 15th century. These were not fully examined due to their waterlogged state; it is likely that a spread of cobbles over some of these features represents an earlier house.
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INTRODUCTION

The deserted village of Somerby lies to the south west of the ruined Somerby Hall, in
the parish of Corringham. It is approximately three-quarters of a mile south of the A631
road, at a point one and a half miles east of Gainsborough.

The site lies in the middle of a gently rolling and slightly elevated plain, very exposed
except where it is still wooded. It is on the eastern edge of the Keuper sandstone, and lies
on Keuper Marl which manifests itself as a soggy yellow clay where not artificially drained
as by the canalised upper tributaries of the river Till. The close-set primary settlements lie
in the slight valley to the east and the site is in a higher area more typical of secondary, mar-
ginal and readily abandoned settlement. Thus a clear Scandinavian place name is a little sur-
prising here, and may be regarded as a precocious instance of a secondary-type settlement. If
the name were to prove to incorporate the word 'Summer' rather than the personal name
'Sumerled' it might even suggest an origin as a place of seasonal transhumance, later made
permanent. The National Grid reference is SK 846897.

The area scheduled was a large thirty-one acre field which contained the village site and
part of the fields on the north and south sides of the village. Air photographs of the site
showed a layout typical of deserted medieval villages in this district, with sunken roadways
and raised platforms surrounded by the ridges and furrow of its open fields. R.A.F. 'verticals'
were not as clear as the 'obliques' taken by Dr. St. Joseph, two of which (Plates In and 1b) are
here reproduced. In which shows the site before ploughing is from the North cast and 1b
taken after ploughing is from the south west.

Before excavation the whole site was surveyed by the Land Survey Branch of the Ministry
of Public Building and Works, their plan, Fig. 1, shows the layout of the earthworks and the
location of the excavated areas.

HISTORY

The name, Sumerdebi, in Domesday Book is clearly of Danish origin; the supposed
eponym Sumerled had a common Viking name. In Domesday it was divided into four
holdings totalling three carucates and seven bovates (i.e. thirty-one bovates);—those of the
King, Count Alan of Brittany, Ivo Taillebois and Geoffrey de Wirc; the first two comprise
Sokeland attached to the manors. Only two of these appear in the Lindsey Survey of 1115-18,
where Nigel de Albancio has inherited Geoffrey's four bovates (together with all his Oxholme
lands) and Count Stephen of Brittany still has the combined holding in Lea, Somerby and
Hapham. The Lindsey Survey does not record royal lands, but Ivo's share is strangely
missing, though most of his other lands are found in the hands of Ralph Mechin. By 1300
when Edmund, Earl of Cornwall died, thirty-one bovates, and a fraction more, were found to
be in his hands; evidently somebody, probably the business-like Earl Richard, his father, had
contrived to re-unite the whole Domesday vill, beginning with the royal parcel dependent on
the manor of Kirton Lindsey, and that which formed part of the lands of the Duke of Brittany
in England", each of which had been separately granted to Earl Richard. This appears to
be the origin of the holding of thirty-one bovates which was still intact in 1616. The lay
subsidy of 1327 was paid by eleven people, who paid a total of 14s 5d; one of these, Thomas
Fitzjohn, paying 3s. In 1332 fourteen people paid 28s 8d and in 1347 the vill was assessed
at 10", which brought in a sum of £1. 10s. 8d.

Forty-four years later, fifty-four paid Poll Tax. A rental of the manor temp. Edward III
lists six free tenants each holding a house and some land generally one virgate. It also refers
to three fields North, South and West.

During the fourteenth century the manor was held for some years by the de Tours and
presumably they were resident for in 1344 a commission enquired into a complaint by Thomas
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de Tours "that William Darcy and others broke his door and houses at Somerby, assaulted him, felled his trees and carried away and assaulted his servants."

During the 15th century the village was allowed reliefs of 7/9½ (23%) and 8/½ (23.8%) these reliefs are not high and do not suggest depopulation at this date. The lay subsidy returns for the years 1524, 1525 and 1545 are lost, in 1545 there were eleven taxpayers and in the following year only nine.

The family who were almost certainly responsible for emarkling the village, introducing sheep to it, and the resultant depopulation were the Topcliffes who married into the de Tours. They erected Somerby Hall, and created the parks around it.

Somerby passed to a Walter Topcliffe by his marriage to the daughter and co-heir of Thomas de Tours in the mid-15th century. John Topcliffe who died in 1530 described himself in his will as a 'Merchant of the Staple' and it may have been this John who introduced sheep to the village and was responsible for the resultant depopulation. The Kirton Court Rolls are missing for the years 1497-1548, in the Roll for 1548-9 there is no mention of the village, but in 1549-50 John Topcliffe paid a fine of 4d. not to appear. A search through the Kirton Rolls until the year 1561 produced no other mention of the village.

In 1569 a dispute of ownership between John Topcliffe and others versus Richard Topcliffe refers to the following: "Four messuages, ten tofts, one dovecote, ten gardens, 100 acres land, 800 acres meadow, 1,000 acres pasture and 100 acres woodland in Somerby juxta Corringham." From the large amount of pasture one can deduce the introduction of sheep. The Topcliffes held Somerby from the Dukes of Cornwall, a Richard Topcliffe is mentioned as a leading contractor in the Lay Subsidy of 1576 and presumably he is the late Mr. Topcliffe referred to in the Survey of the Soke of Kirton dated 1616. This survey gives definite evidence of depopulation. It states "there are now noe particular tenementes within this township, onle an ancient capellie house yet standeth maoted about much decayde and so are the orchardes gardens etc." "Having within the bounedes and lynites thereof much Sokeland as it seemeth both free and copiholde or customarie of which laste there are thirty-one oxynges (i.e. bovates) of land all latele in the handes of one Topcliffe deceased".

It goes on to state that the customary land was about 620 acres and was not distinguishable from the pretended freehold sold by a Topclif to a Mr. Alderman Jones of London, and worth about £500 p.a. The rest of the lands supposed free and held of the Duke of Cornwall as of the Soke of Kirton, part of the Duchy of Cornwall were about 560 acres and worth £300 p.a., besides woods for the most part imparkd and worth £1,000 if sold. The Topcliffes were not resident at this period for in his will dated 11th November, 1604, the notorious Richard Topcliffe, persecutor of Catholics (who died the next day), was described as living at Padley in Derbyshire. His son Charles inherited Somerby and immediately sold it to a Mr. Alderman Jones of London without surrender in the Court of the Duchy of Cornwall. This Charles was twice convicted as a felon but pardoned before his father's death, his right to the estate was contested by his sister Frances. In the Lay Subs. of 1628 the chief land owner in the village was Sir Edward Hussey, Bart. In 1697 22 people in Somerby paid towards a Poor Law Assessment, no doubt these people lived at the Hall and the various farmhouses in the parish.

In the mid-18th century the village belonged to Thomas Frederick Mackenzie Humberstone who lived at the Hall, a map of his estate there dated 1777 shows the large field, site of the village divided into two parts. The southern half called Stone Horse Park and the northern half Town Close; Somerby Hall and its surrounding moat stood in a field called Home Close. Later in the century Somerby and Corringham were purchased by John Beckett, a grocer from Bradford. His estate passed through the Becket family to a Miss Mary Beckett, who died early this century and Somerby came to the Bacon family through the marriage of her sister in 1853 to Sir Henry Hickman Bacon. After the death of Miss Mary Beckett
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circa 1920, the Hall was dismantled and is now a ruin. The above synopsis of the last two centuries of the village's history is gleaned from various sources in the Lincolnshire Archive Office.

THE EXCAVATION

Work was carried out from the 23rd September to the 7th December, 1957. Due to the inaccessibility of the site and the wet season there were no volunteer workers. Although not more than fifteen hours were lost to rain, delay was incurred during the excavation because of waterlogged ground conditions, which made detailed archaeological cleaning very difficult.

TRIAL TRENCHES

A base line grid was laid out and to this were tied a series of approximately fifty trial trenches (Fig. 1). Many of these revealed a scatter of stones and pebbles, which without further stripping, was impossible to interpret. Sketch plans of less than half of the trenches were drawn and very few notes taken concerning them as most proved negative, therefore little can be said about them. Walls were located by trenches I, VI, X and XXIV, subsequently trenches I and VI were enlarged to form the main excavation (Fig. 2).

Trench X (Fig. 1 and Plate 3), 60 feet by 3 feet on an east-west alignment, was extended on the south side 24 feet by 12 feet to reveal a fragment of wall and an associated floor (Plate 3). The excavator recorded this as part of a building of fifteenth to sixteenth century date. The building stood alongside one of the village streets, which can be seen exposed by the trial trench in Plate 3.

Trench XXIV (Fig. 1), again on an east-west alignment 28 feet long by 3 feet wide. The corner of a building was located here, walls were 12 inches thick and of dry-stone construction.

Road surfaces, on average 15 feet wide, were located in several of the trenches, and these were found to be constructed of two layers of pebbles, 2 to 3 inches in diameter. One of the trenches, XXI, was opened up to a 20 foot square (Plate 2), several horseshoes (Fig. 10, L.W.I., 11, 12, 13 and 15) and a round apur (Fig. 11, L.W. 26) were found here on the exposed road surface.

WELLS

Two wells were located.

Well 1 (Fig. 1 and Plate 4). This was situated some 50 feet east of the house site. A 25 foot square was marked out around the well, sherds of fifteenth century date were found in the top soil over the well which was stone built, the diameter being 4 feet at the top and the walls an average of 18 inches in thickness. The fill was removed to a depth of 5 feet 6 inches, at which yellow clay was located, on this were several fragments of wood (see Appendix B). The fill down to a depth of 3 feet is recorded as 'dirty clay', sherds were found in this fill but their date not recorded, and they are now lost.

Well 2 (Fig. 2 and Plate 7). This was situated in the yard on the south side of the house. It was of dry-stone construction of end set limestone slabs. The top was more oval than round and measured approximately 2 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 6 inches. The bottom consisted of rough stones at a depth of 4 feet 6 inches. The fill for the most part was dirty clay but there was grey silt at the bottom, sherds of thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth century date are recorded from the fill. Several fragments of wood found in the fill are described in Appendix B.

THE MAIN EXCAVATION (Figs 1 and 2)

A large 'L' shaped area was marked out in 20 foot squares and these were partly excavated to natural. The longest side of the 'L' was 140 feet by 40 feet on a north-south axis with the
foot projecting 20 feet by 40 feet from the south west corner. The northern part HA1 - HA8 (Fig. 2) was partly stripped to natural, revealing a system of gullies and pits of eleventh to fifteenth century date covered by a layer of grey silty clay on which were the remains of the yard surfaces associated with the building to the south.

The house site occupied the southern part of the 'L', squares HC1 - HC4, HD1 and HD5.

The excavation revealed two main periods of occupation on the sites—
Period 1 (Level I)
Eleventh – Fifteenth century. This covers the digging of the various gullies and pits, their siting up, the redigging and recutting of gullies and further siting up; the deposit of a six to eight inch layer of grey silt over all these features, possibly during a period of non-occupation, and finally the sealing of this silt by the erection of the rooms and laying down of the yard surfaces.

Period 2 (Level II).
Fifteenth – Mid Sixteenth century. The construction, period of use and destruction of the house and workshops.

Detailed Description

Level I (Fig. 2 and Plates 5 and 6).

The earliest occupation of the site is represented by the pits and gullies dug into the natural clay in areas HA1-8 and the north side of HC3-4.

The gullies appeared to the excavator to enclose an area, possibly a house site, approximately 80 feet by 30 feet with its long axis on a north south alignment. Within this possible enclosure he found a spread of large cobbles, F.3, and a hearth F.2, both sitting on the natural clay. The average depth of the gullies was 18 inches and on the east side they had been recut after siting up.

Area HA and the north part of HC were not completely stripped to natural, therefore it cannot be guaranteed that any of the gullies joined up.

There is no evidence to suggest that they were all contemporary, their exact dates are uncertain.

If the gullies represent an enclosure ditch then G1, 2, 5 and 8 might represent its original course, and G3 a recutting of G2 on the east side. G4 runs from the north east corner in a south east direction towards Pit 2, but whether it drained into this pit, or whether the pit was cut through it after it had silted up was not clear to the excavator. This pit was 14 feet in diameter and 5 feet deep, and contained sherds recorded as twelfth to fifteenth century. The only surviving sherds are cooking pots (Fig. 5, 33-35) from a depth of 4 feet 6 inches on stones at the bottom of the pit. From the grey clay silt just above the stones came jug sherds (Fig. 6, 47) of thirteenth century date and (Fig. 7, 59) of fourteenth to fifteenth century date. These cooking pots sherds are paralleled by Fig. 4, 22-27, from the fill of G6. This suggests that G6 and Pit 2 were both open at the same time and received similar rubbish. Fragments of wood from Pit 2 are described in Appendix B.

Cut by Pit 2 were the dark stains (F.1) on Natural clay which were thought to represent decayed timbers, one fifteenth century sherd is recorded from this feature.

Inside the possible enclosure in an almost central position was a patch of burnt clay and stones perhaps the remains of a hearth (F.2.), sherds of twelfth to sixteenth century date are recorded from this, the only surviving wall sherds are shelly. To the north west of this feature a circular patch of cobbles (F.3) extending over an area roughly 15 feet in diameter might represent a hut floor. From between these cobbles came a sherd of Stamford ware, a
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Torsey ware base, (Fig. 1, 6) some thirteenth century shelly sherds and thirteenth to fourteenth century glazed sherds. To the south of features 2 and 3 was G.6, 20 feet long, on a north west south east axis, 4 feet wide and 18 inches deep. This was filled with grey clay and contained shelly sherds Figs. 1 and 2, 19-27, and the glazed sherds Fig. 7, 62-64.

To the south east, Pit 1 produced 14th century sherds and to the east of Pit 2 a depression in the natural clay (F.4) produced a Romano British sherd and a sherd of Stamford ware.

The north end of areas HC3 and 4 was stripped to natural and revealed G7 running parallel with G1 and draining into Pit 3. On the south side of G7 spoil from its initial digging or from a subsequent cleaning out had been thrown on to the yard surface north of the house. G7 and Pit 3 both contained sherds of 15th - 16th century date, and therefore were certainly open when the house was in use.

Without more evidence one cannot be conclusive about the date of these gullies, or say exactly what they represent. They are not all contemporary and may span a period from the eleventh to the fifteenth centuries. All of the gullies and pits were filled with a silty grey clay which also covered the natural clay in all parts of the area stripped to natural.

LEVEL II (Fig. 2 and Plates 8 - 11).

THE HOUSE SITE

Area HC1-4, HD1 and HD3 contained the building which comprised four rooms, all in occupation at the same general period, from the mid-fifteenth to the mid-sixteenth century as indicated by the pottery and small finds found on the floor surfaces of the rooms and the yard surfaces outside the building. The latest pottery from beneath the floors of the building was of fifteenth century date; no Cistercian ware or Imported Stoneware was found in any levels sealed by the house or its yards.

The four rooms are arranged in an 'L' shape, with three series running east-west and C south of B. The excavator considered that rooms A, B and C were earlier than room F because the latter was built on black soil overlying the grey clay (level 1), whereas rooms A, B and C were built directly on the grey clay. The south wall of room A is buttressed to the east wall of room B and is definitely later, but the north wall of room A was too fragmentary to offer any constructive evidence (see plates 8, 9 and 10).

Rooms B and C (Plate 9), are both of the same build forming a rectangular building 22 feet by 13 feet internally, divided by a thin cross-wall, about one foot thick, not bonded to the outside walls, into Room B (13 feet) and Room C (8 feet). The outer walls were constructed of limestone rubble on cobble foundations and were generally 1 foot to 18 inches thick; the east wall remained to a height of six courses. No evidence of an entrance was recorded by the excavator, but plates 9 and 10 show what looks very much like a blocked doorway in the north-east corner leading into Room A. The floor level of Room B was not found and it was taken down to a layer of pebbles and limestone fragments (Plate 9), which was considered to be a 'platform' on which the house was built.

The photograph shows that the pebble and limestone layer extended below the level of the cobble footings of the wall. This 'platform' continued under the floor of room A and was probably the remains of an earlier house on the same site. The excavator did not remove the later building and therefore the plan, or indeed the existence of an earlier building must remain problematic.

Room C had a clay floor, in the north-east corner of which a layer of earth and flat stones, thought to represent a platform, was located but its exact use is uncertain; a fifteenth century sherd, (Fig. 7, 64) was found in the make up of this feature.

To the east of room B was room A (Plates 8, 9 and 10), measuring 12 x 8 feet. The walls were of limestone laid straight on to black soil, and approximately 1 foot thick. The room
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had a clay floor on which were two ‘hearthas’, one by the south wall and the other in the north-east corner. A large mass of cobbles and stone in the south-west corner were thought to be later fill but are clearly destruction tumble, (see Plate 8). There were several layers of burning on the floor of this room and this suggests either repeated cooking or, more probably, in view of the large amount of metalwork found in the area, some industrial use.

On the east side of room A was room F these two rooms being separated by a narrow corridor, 2½ feet wide (Plate 11). The exact size of room F (Plate 10) is uncertain, as much of the walls had been totally robbed, but it was most probably 12 × 14 feet in size with walls 1 foot thick. The fragment of wall shown on Fig. 3 running north-south inside the room might possibly represent a cross wall but is more likely to be of another period. As no doubt are the fragments of walling shown through the yard surfaces on the north and south sides of the building. Room F contained two hearths one in the north west corner and the other in the south west corner, the latter had sherds of Raeren stoneware assigned to the first half of the sixteenth century among its stones, which must date its construction or use. Beneath the hearth was a layer of black soil on a clay floor under which were sealed sherds of 13th century date (Fig. 5, 28). To the east of room F a patch of cobbles and pitched stones was thought to be an entrance but this cannot be proved and its exact purpose is not clear. Scattered over the floors and yards of the building were sherds and small finds of 15th and mid-16th century date the latter confirming its last period of use and the approximate date of destruction. From the footings of the east wall of room B and C came a broken decorated floor tile (Fig. 13, T1.) dateable to the first half of the 16th century; it is most likely that this tile got there after destruction and was not built into the wall.

The exact purpose of the four rooms is uncertain, the excavation provided insufficient information for definite conclusions to be reached. It seems most likely that they are all roughly contemporary. Rooms B and C representing a simple two bay house the occupant of which used the other two rooms A and F as a workshop, possibly a smithy. The amount of ironwork found in the rooms and on the yard surfaces around them tends to confirm this suggestion of an industrial use. Similarly the various hearths in rooms A and F and the layers of ash on the floors suggest something of this kind.

THE FINDS

POTTERY

Some of the pottery has since the excavation been discarded, but most of the rims, handles, bases and decorated wall sherds were saved.

POTTERY FROM LEVEL I.

Romano-British

Several sherds of 2nd century date were found during the excavation; all were unstratified and are not necessarily indicative of Roman occupation of the site. One sherd of 4th century colour-coated ware had been made into a spindle whorl, (Fig. 10, C.1.) this could have happened during the Roman or any subsequent period.

ELEVENTH – TWELFTH CENTURY

Stamford Ware

Two wall sherds with typical smooth off-white fabric and pale yellow-green glaze.

Torksey Ware (Fig. 1, 1–7)

Seven sherds of reduced grey ware characteristic of the products’ of the Torksey Kilns23 and probably made there,24 the kiln site being only about five miles south of Somerby.
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1. Inturned rim from bowl D.23.2 cm., Grey core, pink-brown margins with dirty brown surfaces. From HA2 “Grey clay over and in Gully”.
2. Cooking pot rim D. 15.9 cm. ware and colour as 1.
6. Sagging Base sherd from cooking pot, grey core, red brown margins, dark grey surfaces. All of the above are well known Torksey forms and are paralleled in the Torksey report.\(^2\) 2 is like the products of Kilns 6 and 7\(^a\); flanged bowls 3, 4 and 5 are also very typical, 5 is similar in colour to the products of Kiln 1\(^b\) but the form was not found in that kiln.

**Fine Shelly Ware (Fig. 1, 8 and 9)**

8. Cooking pot rim, D. 16cm. Fairly hard dark grey ware with plentiful fine shell grits, smooth almost soapy surfaces.
9. Cooking pot rim, D. 15.3cm. Fabric as 8 but with light brown surfaces blackened externally.
No. 8 is similar in form to the cooking pot rims in Torksey ware\(^b\) and may be contemporary or slightly later.

**TWELFTH – THIRTEENTH CENTURY**

**Fine Shelly Ware (Fig. 1, 10-14)**

10. Cooking pot rim, D. 19.5 cm. fine shelly ware with corky surfaces, grey core with orange brown surfaces. Area HC “Sealed beneath cobbled yard of 15th century house”.

Seven sherds of this ware were found together on the natural clay, this group contained the two rims 13 and 14.
13. Cooking pot rim, D. 20.3cm. grey core with pink-brown surfaces.
14. Cooking pot rim, D. 15.4 cm. ware and colour as 13.

**Corky Sandy Shelly Ware (Fig. 1, 15-17)**

This ware is tempered with sand and fairly coarse shell grits c. 2-3mm. in size, these shell grits are not plentiful and have been eroded out of the surfaces.
15. Rim and Base of Pancheon, D. 30-5cm. Grey core, orange-brown margins and dark grey surfaces.
16. Rim of cooking pot, D. 18cm. grey with red brown surfaces.

**Sandy Ware (Fig. 1, 18)**

10 is similar to a rim from Rischoholme\(^a\) there dated late 12th to early 13th century, several other similar rims were also found at Rischoholme associated with glazed jugs of the same date. 12 has the curve in the wall towards the base typical of 12th-13th century cooking pots in Lincolnshire,\(^a\) 13 is a simple everted rim but rather thick for the size of pot, 14 is a rather thin example of the same basic type as 10.
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THIRTEENTH CENTURY

Coarse Sandy Shelly Ware (Figs. 1, 2, and 3, 19 - 37)

The ware is tempered with coarse shell grits c.1-4mm. in size, the surfaces are sandy to the touch, the core is dark grey with buff-brown to red surfaces. From the fill of Gully 6.

19. Four sherds from two pancheons, D. 46cm. The body has rough horizontal smoothing marks externally.
20. Two sherds from a pancheon rim, D. 40-5cm. decoration of incised wavy line around top inner edge.
22. Everted rim from cooking pot slightly thickened at neck angle, D. 20cm.
23. Complete profile of cooking pot, everted rim with pointed bead. D. 22-5cm.
24. Complete profile of cooking pot, D. 23cm.
25. Complete profile of cooking pot, thicker rim than previous examples and the base is wider giving a more squat appearance. Rim D. 22-5cm.
26. Almost complete profile of cooking pot, similar to 25, D. 25cm.
27. Thick sharply everted rim from cooking pot D. 24-8cm.

The date of these shelly wares from Gully 6 is of particular interest. The pancheon 19 is paralleled at Scredington where it is not exactly dated but thought to be thirteenth century. Similarly 20 is paralleled at South Witham but can only be dated there between the late 12th and early 14th centuries. The cooking pots found together in this gully are all fairly large and thick walled apart from 21 which is finer and of smaller rim diameter and may well be earlier in date, it is paralleled at Chapel St. Leonards and dated there to the thirteenth century. 22 - 27 are all similar in fabric and style, they have simple everted rims and flat bases. Where the complete profile exists it is noticeable that 23 and 24 are almost as tall as their width having a square appearance, whilst 25 and 26 are wider with a rather squat appearance.

Gully 6, which also contained later looking glazed wares (Fig. 7, 62 - 64) cannot be considered as a sealed deposit because it is not known whether the later looking wares were intrusive, the exact association of the pottery from the gully was not adequately recorded. Cooking pots 22 - 27 have been provisionally dated to the thirteenth and the glazed jugs, 62, 63 and 64 to the fifteenth century. If one assumes that the shelly wares in Lincolnshire end in the early 14th century and that the cooking pots can be not later than that date, then the date of the jugs which may have been in association with them might not be as late as the fifteenth century, to which they have been assigned on fabric and stylistic evidence alone.

It may be that both the cooking pots and the jugs are of fourteenth century date, if so the cooking pots may represent the ultimate of their type in a shelly fabric. The ware is rough and thick, and is not comparable with the fine shelly wares of the 12th - 13th century. They are crudely made and not well finished compared with the 13th century examples from Chapel St. Leonards. The bases are flat and the fine rilling so typical of 13th century cooking pots in Lincolnshire is represented only by faint grooves hardly noticeable on the surface of the pot. Similar rims Nos. 33 - 35 were found in the fill of Pit 2 beneath jug sherds No. 47 dateable to the 13th century and 37 dateable to the 14th - 15th century.

The possibility that Nos. 19 - 20 and 22 - 27 may be of 14th century date is further suggested by comparison with pottery from Boston. Sherd of similar ware and form found there were dated to the first half of the 14th century. Pancheons 19 and 20 have rim forms similar to Boston No. 4. Our cooking pot rim forms are exactly paralleled by Boston Nos. 1 and 2.
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The Boston sherd's have not been examined to compare the fabric but the excavators description is similar to that of our sherd's. The other sherd's from Pit 2 are also paralleled at Boston, 33 and 34 are like Boston Nos. 1 and 2, whilst 35 with its concave rim is approaching the form of Boston No. 5, although it has a less well defined shoulder. It seems most likely that the sherd's from Gully 6 discussed above were associated together and are of 14th century date but one cannot be conclusive with the evidence provided by this excavation.

From other provenances.

28. Pancheon rim, D. 46-3cm. with simple flange sloping down externally. Grey core red-brown surfaces, faint rilling on body. From beneath yellow clay floor of room F.
29. Inturned rim from bowl, D. 21cm. From Pit 2 associated with cooking pots 33 - 35.
30. Rim of bowl with external flange which slopes down internally, D. 25-5cm. completely reduced.
31. Pancheon rim, D. 35-3cm. with squared flange and bend in neck giving an internal bevel.
None of these bowl and pancheon rims are paralleled by published material from Lincolnshire, 31 was a common form at South Witham.39

Cooking Pots

32. Everted rim D. 20-4cm. with rilling on the shoulder which is typical of thirteenth century cooking pots in Lincolnshire.
33. Everted rim D. 21-8cm. from Pit 2 depth 3 to 4 feet. Similar to 26.
34. Everted rim D. 26-8cm. from Pit 2 depth 4 feet 6 inches similar to 22 and 24.
35. Rim similar to 33 but with concave top edge internally, D. 24-5cm. the fabric of this example is less shelly and harder than most others in this ware. From Pit 2 found with 34.
36. Rim and shoulder D. 25cm. the rim is sharply everted and projects internally.
37. Small but thick rim D. 26-3cm. worn on top edge as if by a lid.

Wall sherd's of this ware came from level 1 and one came from the floor of Room F east of the hearth, this was no doubt residual.
32 with its short rounded neck can be compared with an example from Risholme40 of twelfth to thirteenth century date. 33 - 35 from Pit 2, have been discussed with Nos. 22 - 27 above. 36 is harder and better made than the other sherd's in this ware, the rim form is dated to the 15th century in Yorkshire 41 and is of the same general type as one dated to the second half of the fourteenth century at Scredington.42 A rim of 13th century date from Chapel St. Leonards 43 is similar to 37, it is also paralleled by Boston No. 944, first half of 14th century.

Finer Sandy Shelly Ware (Fig. 5, 38 and 39)

In this ware the shell tempering is finer and sparser, the fabric being predominantly sandy.
38. Rim of small cooking pot, D. 18cm., thin wall with rilling on shoulder.
39. Large pancheon rim, D. 40-5 cm. similar to 31 but heavier. Decoration of incised wavy line around the top edge internally, grey core with orange-brown surfaces blackened externally. An exactly similar rim came from area HA3 depression in natural clay (F.4). 38 is similar to 32 and is 13th century45 the body rilling being typically 13th century in Lincolnshire. The pancheon 39 is of the same general rim type as 31 and has the wavy line decoration seen on many bowls from the medieval period unto the present day46.

72
Corky Sandy Shelly Ware (Fig 6, 40 - 42)

Basically the same as the previous ware but the grits have been eroded from the surfaces leaving a distinctly corky appearance.

40. Pancheon rim, D. 49.5cm., like 39 grey core with red-brown surfaces.
41. Large pancheon rim, D. 45.3cm. Concave top edge.
42. Large pancheon rim with smaller flange, D. 38cm.

Fine Shelly Ware

Two wall sherds.

Sandy Ware (Fig 6, 43)

43. Simple everted rim from cooking pot with pointed top edge, D. 14.4cm. Hard buff-orange sand tempered ware, blackened externally. This comes from a small cooking pot and may have been made at Toynnton\(^4\) which is forty miles south-east of the site. The type is also known at Scredington.\(^5\)

Glazed Wares (Fig 6, 44 - 49)

All sherds are from jugs unless otherwise stated. The bulk of the material is recognised as wares that are well known in the area but come from kilns that have not yet been located, for the moment they are considered to be of local origin. Certain particular types have been identified in the area, one of these has been called Lincoln Ware.\(^6\)

44. Thumbed strap handle, fine sand tempered ware pink buff with light grey core, cream slip on back of handle partly covered with olive-green glaze. This decoration is of East Anglian origin being common on Developed Stamford and Developed St. Neots wares. During the Medieval period it is used over a large area of South East England. First half of 13th century.
45. Rim with external collar and internal bevel, D. 11.8cm. Orange-brown with grey core.
46. Grooved strap handle, off-white to buff ware, reddish slip on underside yellow-green glaze on outside.
47. Grooved strap handle red brown with light grey core and dark green glaze. From Pit 2, depth 3 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 6 inches.
48. Rim and handle of Lincoln Type, the handle is grooved, dark grey ware with pinkish patches on the body where not glazed. Also two wall sherds of this ware.
49. Pancheon rim, D. 40.6cm. Buff brown fabric with grey sand grits which protrude from the surface, patchy yellow brown glaze internally which has run towards the rim when pot was fired in an inverted position.

Thirteenth - Fourteenth Century

Sherds of Lincoln Type including fourteen similar handles to 28, some of the sherds are from the upper part of jug bodies and have faint horizontal grooves.

Local Ware (Fig. 6, 50)

50. Strap handle with single wide groove, fine sand tempered fabric grey core with orange brown surfaces and patchy green brown glaze.
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Non Local Wares (Fig. 6, 51 - 53)

51. Several wall sherds, fine sand tempered dark grey ware with thin light grey external surface, decoration of applied pellets of self clay, patchy olive green glaze externally.

52. Wall sherd of fine sand tempered ware grey core, buff internal surface light grey to white external surface, decoration of self clay dark mottled green glaze externally.

53. Two joining sherds from the neck shoulder of a jug, fabric as 52, but applied pellets of brown clay and green-brown glaze. 34

FOURTEENTH CENTURY

Local Ware (Figs. 6 and 7, 54 - 57)

54. Upper part of jug, D. 13-4cm. Coarse sand tempered red brown fabric with thin grey patches on body externally, olive green glaze externally with brown specks. Collar type rim with internal hollow, pulled out lip; strap handle with light thumb presses down either side.

55. Upper part of jug body, D. 12-6cm. Fine grey sand tempered ware, with brown grey surfaces, olive green glaze with dark green streaks running down the body, rim form similar to 54, at the base of the neck is a cordon and another on the shoulder, fine finger rilling on the body, plain strap handle with thumb presses at top and bottom. Where unglazed the body has a purple surface.

56. Strap handle with groove on underside, fine sand tempered grey core and orange brown surfaces, dark green glaze with red brown slip where not glazed. From Pond Well below topsoil.

57. Rim, D. 10cm. Hard orange ware spots of glaze externally.

FOURTEENTH - FIFTEENTH CENTURY

Local Ware (Fig. 7, 58 - 60)

58. Grooved rod handle with thumb presses on either side at base. Hard fine sand tempered ware, grey with red brown surfaces, cream slip externally under an olive green glaze.

59. Wide grooved strap handle, fabric as 56. From Pit 2 depth 4 feet.

60. Rim, D. 10cm. Very fine ware pink brown with thin grey core at thickest points. Patchy yellow green glaze externally. Decoration on rim of combed wavy lines, 45 thumb press at junction of handle.

FIFTEENTH CENTURY

Local Ware (Fig. 7, 61 - 64)

All sherds are hard fired and fine sand tempered.

61. Jug rim, D. 10-1cm. collar type with groove around top edge, pink brown with thin grey core, spots of yellow glaze externally. The following three jugs came from Gully 6 were possibly associated with cooking pots 22 - 27.

62. Complete profile of jug in grey ware with thin purple brown surfaces except on shoulder which is completely reduced, olive green glaze on upper part of body, which has run towards the base in places. The base is glazed on the inside. The body is decorated with a spiral groove around the shoulder. The rim is simple and slopes down externally, part of it is pulled out to form a lip. The base is flat. The handle of grooved strap type
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and has a thumb press on either side at top and bottom. The standard of finish on this jug is not high. The base and rim are marked where they have been broken away from a stack of jugs after firing.

63. Complete profile of jug similar to 62 but much better made. The body is fired pink brown throughout except at the neck and rim where there is a thin grey core, there are purple brown patches on the body and a yellow green glaze on the upper part which like on 62 has run towards the base. The rim slopes internally to a bead. The base is almost flat and has four groups of double thumb presses at equidistant points around its diameter.

64. Base and lower part of jug body similar to 63 pink brown fabric with traces of yellow green glaze at highest point, thumb presses as on 63. As previously stated these jugs 62 - 64 have been provisionally dated to the 15th century on evidence of style and form, but if they were associated with cooking pots 22 - 27 they might well be earlier and perhaps date from the first half of the 14th century. Several sherds from similar jugs were found in topsoil levels.

POTTERY FROM LEVEL II

All pottery from this level is considered to be local unless otherwise stated.

FIFTEENTH CENTURY (Figs. 7 and 8, 65 - 70)

65. Jug and rim grooved and stabbed strap handle 6.5cm. wide, thumb presses on either side at top; fine sand tempered grey ware with cream to pink surfaces, olive green glaze.

66. Wide grooved strap handle, fabric as 64. From yard surface area HC3, two similar sherds came from topsoil, similar to 59 but that has no stabbing.

67. Grooved rod handle grey core buff brown surfaces with pinkish tones, yellow green glaze. From Room C make up of rubble platform against wall.

68. Rim and shoulder of unglazed hard buff ware with grey core, D. 10cm. From HC2 south on scrappy wall footings.

69. Upper part of large two handled storage jar, D. 18-1cm. Grey core with buff brown surfaces. Three bands of incised wavy lines around the neck. Both handles have a mark possibly that of the maker on the top edge towards the neck, which consists of a cross within a square the whole thing being effected with separate stab marks and not a stamp. There is an underfired glaze on the upper body which is a dull yellow colour and has run towards the rim showing that it was fired in an inverted position.

70. Upper part of similar vessel, D. 16-8cm. the fabric is harder with a thick grey core and thin orange brown surfaces, there is a dark olive green glaze on the shoulder. The handles are of strap type and after their addition to the body a strip of clay has been applied around the neck, this strip is decorated with thumb presses which bear a grid stamp. There are also faint marks of the same stamp on the body above and below the strip. The body is further decorated with two grooves around the shoulder. Yard surface north of Room B.

LATE FIFTEENTH - SIXTEENTH CENTURY (Figs. 8 and 9, 71 - 79)

71. Rim and handle of large jug, D. 13-2cm. Hard ware with smooth surfaces almost completely reduced but thin buff patches on the surface and good quality olive green glaze with brown specks and grey undertones. Top edge of the rim is decorated with thumb presses. Strap handle with three grooves down the outside. From cobbled yard and top soil.

72. Rim of large jug, D. 13-6cm., in a hard off-white gritty fabric, non local, the grits are small c. .1mm. and are grey brown in colour. Buff slip externally and shiny brown
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green glaze which goes just over top edge of the rim. Applied thumbed strip around the neck. This might be a product of the Raw Marsh Kilns.\textsuperscript{54} HA unstratified.

73. Rim and handle of jug D. 10cm., in a non local gritty ware similar to 72. Mottled brown internal and external glaze in places where there is no glaze the body has a purple brown slip. The glaze is almost the colour of an eighteenth century Staffordshire mottled brown but has green undertones. The rim is pointed and has a concave inner surface. The handle is of strap type with a thumb press on either side at the top. Joining sherds of this jug came from topsoil and from on the clay thrown out when Gully 3 was cut, and Room B on cobbled platform.

74. Cooking pot rim, D. 21·1cm. Very hard dark grey ware purplish glaze on top of rim.
75. Cooking pot rim, D. 16cm. Fabric as 74. Unstratified.
76. Sherds of rim of large jar, D. 23cm. Pink buff fine sand tempered ware with purple brown slip spots of dull olive green glaze internally and on top of rim.
77. Similar rim D. 19cm, fabric as 76. Cobble outside building.
78. Complete profile less handles of two handled storage jar D. 19·3cm., in fine sand tempered pink brown fabric with splashes of purple glaze internally and a few runs down the body externally. The body has fine rilling and pulled out tripod feet, the handles were simply pushed on to the body and secured by two thumb presses at the base.
79. Rim and handle from similar vessel D. 20·6cm., to 78 in very hard reduced grey ware with purple core, tempered with fine white sand grits; the handles were of strap type and had a central groove with three thumb presses at the base and two at the top.

Several sherds of a flat base in a very hard dark grey ware with purple core, internal dark green glaze. From fill of Gully 7 (not illustrated).

EARLY SIXTEENTH CENTURY (Fig. 9, 80)

80. Rim and handle of jug, D. 10·2cm. Hard grey ware with fine black grits, strap handle with thumb presses on either side at top. Purplish glaze internally and externally.

From stones in HA over level 1.

Three similar handles were found, one unstratified, one on hearth in HC centre east, one in and around destroyed footings of North wall of room A.

GERMAN STONWARE (Fig. 9, 81 - 86)

Much of this stoneware was imported into this country during the 15th and 16th centuries, large quantities came through the port of King's Lynn, which might be the trade route along which the stoneware found at Somerby came.\textsuperscript{55} All of the sherds described here are from level II or are unstratified. The excavator recorded stoneware sherds from the grey clay level I, but these were discarded and have not been seen by the writer.

RAEREN. FIFTEENTH TO SIXTEENTH CENTURY

Sixteen sherds were found, all associated with the building, generally on the cobbled yard surfaces.

81. Frilled base from jug, grey with dark grey core, mottled grey brown glaze. Similar bases come from Westminster\textsuperscript{60} and Old Wardour Castle\textsuperscript{61}. First half of 16th century, from beneath hearthstones in Room F in black over clay.

82. Small jug handle, grey with grey glaze.

83. Frilled base sherd from jug with girth grooves on body, grey glaze with brown patches. The girth grooves which are more pronounced than on the examples from Winchester\textsuperscript{64}

76
or Tarring are rare in this country. Another grooved wall sherd possibly from the same jug was found.
Nine other sherds including part of a strap handle like 82 were found, all came from different vessels.

**Cologne. Mid-Sixteenth Century**

Twenty-three sherds from eleven vessels, generally uniform brown glaze.

84. Seven sherds of small jug D. 6cm., with globular body.
85. Four sherds from base of tankard, D. 7-6cm. decorated with a rose and leaves.
86. Base from globular jug, D. 8cm., there are two more base sherds from similar jugs, also a sherd of a plain handle like 82.

**Cistercian Ware (Fig. 9, 87-92)**

Eighty-five sherds of this ware were found in Level II mainly on the yard surfaces around the buildings. The following detailed report has been kindly written by Mrs. H. E. J. Le Patourel.

**CISTERCIAN WARE CIRCA. 1475-1550**

by H. E. J. LE PATOUREL

Of the thirty or more pots represented by Cistercian ware sherds from this site, enough remained to show the shape of sixteen. These are classified in accordance with the typology adopted for this pottery in Yorkshire. Although the site produced one sherd which appears to be a waster, this is not judged sufficient evidence for suggesting a kiln in the immediate locality for such wasters frequently travelled long distances. The known centres for the manufacture of Cistercian ware are Potterton, Silcoates and Pot Ovens in the West Riding of Yorkshire; Tickenhall in Derbyshire, Chilver's Coton, Warwickshire and perhaps the 'Babylon' kiln in the City of Durham. None of these kilns are very near to Somerby and the proportion of Cistercian ware found on the site seems somewhat high for a peasant household if this rather vulnerable pottery had to be transported long distances. It must always have been more expensive than contemporary coarse pottery for its production demanded techniques relatively advanced for the late fifteenth century. Not only were saggers used in its firing, but two varieties of clay, one rich in iron, the other iron-free, were necessary, and a certain amount of time and skill for the intricate slip trailing often used for decoration. The rapid spread of this somewhat specialised industry with its standardised shapes and decorative motifs presents a problem both puzzling and fascinating; it is not unlikely that many more kilns will be found to have been making Cistercian ware, and at least one in Lincolnshire is to be expected.

**Illustrations**

87. Type 1, a two-handled cup with seating for lid. At least five examples, all decorated, were found. This type was made at both the Yorkshire kilns, at Chilver's Coton and possibly in Durham. Distribution is widespread in eastern England north of the Thames with maximum distribution in Yorkshire (31 sites). Four sites in County Durham have produced it and outliers have been found in Newcastle, Salford, Kendal and a somewhat rustic copy at Melrose Abbey. A midland series exists in Leicester, Coventry and Nottingham and in Lincolnshire besides the Somerby finds there are examples from
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Snarford and Lincoln. The most southerly example is a small cup decorated with tiny face masks at King’s Lynn.

88. Type II. At least 5 examples, all undecorated. Known to have been made at Silcoates, Pot Ovens and Tickenhall. Distribution outside Yorkshire includes Lincolnshire pots from Bradley, Ketton and Haferthorne, and there are others from Nottingham and from Stoke-on-Trent. The shape seems less common than types I and IV.

80, 90 and 91. Type IV, decorated and undecorated. These two-handled cups with out-splayed rim are the commonest of the Cistercian ware forms and have the most widespread distribution extending beyond the usual area as far as London, Chester and Ipswich. The Yorkshire kilns made them in wide variety. Two of the Somerby examples have spots of cream glaze, the most frequently found decoration on type IV, cups but 91 has a new motif in the shape of a rough fleur-de-lis in white clay. The nearest analogy of this decoration is on a type I pot from Rest Park (Yorks. W.R.) with very small fleur-de-lis stamp, but this latter seems more in the tradition of armorial decoration on imported Beauvais jugs, while the Somerby motif looks more like an adaption of the plumes on many type III Cistercian-ware pots.

92. Type XII.

Type XII comprises multi-handled cups and it seems better to include this 4-handled example within its typology since each of the recognised types includes a fair range of variation. At some later date, it may be desirable to sub-divide type XII according to the precise number of handles, but as yet the only pot belonging with certainty to the Cistercian-wear date range is one from the kiln at Potterton, though this Somerby pot, and others at Leicester and at Lincoln are likely to do so.

SMALL FINDS

Numbers given in parenthesis are the Ancient Monuments Laboratory reference numbers, these are followed by the provenance if known.

OBJECTS OF STONE (Fig. 10, S.1 - S.2.)

S.1. (8739), Top soil. Polished Neolithic Axe, length 11.5cm., fine green brown stone. Its colour and form suggest Langdale Pike, Group VI; this was confirmed by a sample taken by Prof. F. W. Shotton.

S.2. (8740), Area HAI, Level I. Whetstone, length 15cm. The following report has been kindly provided by Prof. F. W. Shotton.

"A fine grained quartz-muscovite-biotite-schist. Accessory minerals include a fair amount of magnetite, a few other grains such as apatite and zircon. This is similar to the material which was used in medieval hones but is not necessarily dated because of that fact. The most likely source of the material is Scotland, though from which part, I would certainly not like to hazard a guess. It is, however, remotely possible that it came from a pebble in local glacial drift." These objects are common in the medieval period.

Several tiny fragments of whetstones in the usual grey green Micaceous Schist were also found in unstratified levels.

OBJECTS OF CLAY (Fig. 10, C.1)

C. 1. (8747), Level I, Gully 5. Spindle whorl, diam. 4-2 cm., centre hole diam. 8cm. Made from the knob of a Roman 4th century colour-coated ware box lid. Orange brown fabric with red brown external and chocolate brown internal colour coat. This object cannot be closely dated.
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OBJECTS OF BONE (Fig. 10, B.1 - 3)

B. 1. (8752), Level II, on Yard Surface. Pointed bone, length 10.3 cm., round in section.
B. 2. (8750) Level II. Deer antler, length 9cm. Possibly used as a pointed implement.
B. 3. (8751) Level II. Pointed bone, length 8.6cm.

OBJECTS OF METAL

Ironwork (Figs. 10 - 13, I.W.1 - 96)

The excavation produced a large selection of ironwork, including many horseshoes, spurs and knife blades. The bulk of these objects were associated with Period II, and suggest some industrial activity connected with the four rooms.

Horseshoes (Fig. 10)

Altogether parts of twenty-six horseshoes were found, ranging in date from the 12th to 16th century.

A useful series of horseshoes was published in 1940 and examples were then dated fairly closely. It does seem, however, that such exact dating is not really possible until more horseshoes are obtained from well stratified securely dated levels. Somerby whilst providing a good selection of horseshoes does not have such levels. All that one can say here is that some of the shoes are pre-house, from Level I and were in use at any time up to the mid-15th century. The other examples from Level II should be of mid-15th to mid-16th century date but some may be residual. It has been decided therefore to sort them into the following general types:

1. With Wavy Edges.
2. With Plain Edges.
3. With Plain Edges, but with a groove running along the line of the nail holes, (this is called “fullered”).

Further subdivisions of each type are suggested according to the type of nail hole, shape of the calkín and the internal shape of the shoe. These are explained below.

TYPE 1.

(a) With Round Countersunk Nail Holes and Plain Calkín.
I.W.1. (8932). Trench XXI on Road Surface. Part of shoe, nail holes 4mm. diam.
(b) With Round Nail Holes and Plain Calkín.
I.W.2 (8931). From footings of West Wall of Room B. Level II. Fragment of very worn shoe, pronounced wavy edge, holes 5mm. diam.
(c) With Square Nail Holes and Rounded Calkín.
I.W.3 (8917). Area HA3 unstratified. Almost complete shoe, with holes 6mm. square.

TYPE 2.

This the type best represented on the site is found in several sizes, ranging from quite small 8.9cm. to large 15.8cm. The measurements given are taken across the widest part of the shoe about half way up. All of the shoes of this type found at Somerby have square or rectangular nail holes.

(a) With Plain Calkín and a Pointed Shape Internally.
I.W.4 (8924). Trench III on Road Surface. Almost complete shoe with Calkín slightly turned back. The nail holes, 5mm. square, have been worn out of shape, perhaps by loose nails.
I.W.5 (8928). Level II. Half of similar shoe, nail holes 8 x 6mm.

Two other unillustrated fragments were found, (8938) from Level II, and (8939) unstratified.
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(b) With Plain Calkins and Round Shape Internally.
  I.W.6 (8915). Level II. Almost complete example, holes as I.W.5. Calkins slightly bent back.
  I.W.7 (8927). Topsoil. Half of a similar example, but with longer holes, 1 × 5mm.
  I.W.8 (8936). Level II. Shows the 'Fiddle Key' type of nail remaining in position.

Fragments of three others were found, (8926 and 8929) from topsoil, and (8930) from Trench XXI on Road Surface.

The average width of the previous examples of types 2a and 2b is no more than 10.3cm. The next two examples are not complete, but would be approximately 12cm.
  I.W.9 (8925). Topsoil over HAI. Rather narrow example with holes as I.W.5.
  I.W.10 (8923). Base of topsoil over Yard Surface (Level II). Wider example with eight holes 8 × 5mm.

(c) With Rounded Calkins.

This type is well represented with four examples of different sizes.
  I.W.11 (8922). Trench XXI on Road Surfaces. Width 8.5cm., six holes 5mm.
  I.W.12 (8920). Trench XXI on Road Surface. Width 10.6cm., six holes 9 × 5mm.
  I.W.13 (8912). Trench XXI on Road Surface. Width 12cm., eight holes 7 × 5mm.
  I.W.14 (8916). From fill of ditch HB. Width 15.5cm., eight small holes 6 × 4mm.

A fragment of a similar example was found in Level II.

(d) With Tapered Calkins.
  I.W.15 (8934). Trench XXI on Road Surface. Fragment of shoe with two countersunk rectangular nail holes 7 × 5mm.

TYPE 3.

(a) With Out-turned Calkins.
  I.W.16 (8921). Unstratified. A complete example, width 12.5cm. Two groups of four holes approximately 7 × 5mm. with fuller grooves.

The Type 1 examples are similar to horseshoes with wavy edges described in London Museum Catalogue (hereafter referred to as LMC) where they are given a general date range from 10th to the 13th century. None of our examples alter this dating. I.W.1 was found on the road surface in Trench XXI with later shoes but may be residual. I.W.2 came from the footings of the West Wall of Room B and again is no doubt residual, the last example is unstratified.

The Type II examples come from Level II or other undated trenches on the site, none came from Level I. It is unlikely that all of the Type II examples from Level II were in use from the mid-15th to the mid-16th century, although some may be residual. I.W.7, I.W.9 and I.W.10 are recorded as coming from 'Base of Topsoil' and there is little doubt that these are associated with I.W.5, I.W.6, I.W.8 and I.W.16, found on the yard surfaces which were overlain by topsoil. I.W.14 came from an undated ditch in Trench HB to the West of the main excavation (Fig. 2). The other examples were found on the road surface in Trench XXI and I.W.4 from the road surface in Trench III.

Spurs (Fig. 11)

All of the Spurs are of Rowel type. They all come from the yard surfaces (Level II) around the rooms, apart from three fragments found in topsoil over the yard surfaces and I.W.26, from the road surface in Trench XXI. LMC describes and illustrates a detailed series of Spurs and the classification adopted there67 is followed.

The Somerby Rowels that survive have 6 or 8 points, the Terminals are generally of Type F although one is of Type E. One example (I.W.22) has an F terminal on one arm and the other
is bent back to form a vertical slot similar to Type D. I.W.17 and I.W.19 still have small buckles attached. All of the examples found are of 15th -16th century date, by their association with the period of use of the Rooms. This general date is not contradicted by LMC, which dates most of its examples by comparison with Spans illustrated on Brasses and from Continental excavation.

I.W.17 (8802). Level II. Length 11'9 cm., six pointed rowel with Non Ferrous Plating (hereafter referred to as N.F.P.) almost straight arms, simple loop terminals like Type E. A small ‘D’ shaped buckle remains attached by a short strip of iron which is folded round a terminal.

I.W.18 (8806). Level II. Length 12-8 cm., but not complete, end of shank and rowel broken off, some N.F.P. More curved in profile than previous example, but similar terminals. A loop on underside of each arm towards the terminals, none of the LMC examples have this feature.

I.W.19 (8804). Level III. Length 13-7 cm. Six pointed rowel, short shank almost in line with the arms, F terminals. A small square buckle remains attached to one of the terminals, over all N.F.P.

I.W.20 (8811). Level II. Part of similar spur with terminals missing.

I.W.21 (8808). Level II. Length 13-5 cm., 8 pointed rowel, shank in line with arms and is connected to them by a well marked shoulder, F terminals.

I.W.22 (8807). Level II. Length 13-4 cm., rowel missing, one F terminal, the other arm is bent back to form a vertical slot. The shoulder and the out-turned arm terminal are decorated with incised grooves.

I.W.23 (8805). Level II. Length 14-5 cm., rowel missing and the only remaining terminal is broken but most probably of F type. The shank is turned down halfway along. The arms get wider towards shoulder. No N.F.P.

I.W.24 (8803). Level II. Length 10-8 cm. Rowel missing, shank bent down, loop on underside of arms, F terminals, N.F.P.


I.W.26 (8812). On road surface in Trench XXI. Arm and shank of spur with terminal similar to F type, arm widened towards shoulder.

I.W.27 (8814). Unstratified. Arm and part of shank from spur with simple out-turned terminal.

Also found, fragment of an arm and an E (ii) terminal both from topsoil, (8809) and (8810).

Harness (Fig. 11)

I.W.28 (8781). Level II. Side plate from Curb Bit, length 15-4 cm., N.F.P. The general type is shown in LMC.28

I.W.29 (8783). Level II. Iron ring with swivel attachment, no N.F.P.


I.W.31 (8782). Level I (HA4) D shaped buckle loop.

I.W.32 (8796). Level II. Similar loop.

D shaped loops were used as side rings on Snaffle Bits29 in the medieval and post medieval periods.

Buckles (Fig. 11)

I.W.33 (8792). Topsoil. Small example, 2-3 x 2-7 cm.

I.W.34 (8794). Level II. Similar example.

I.W.35 (8800). Trench X. Above floor. Rectangular, 3-4 x 2-5 cm. Pin missing.

I.W.36 (8801). Unstratified. 4 cm. long, by 3 cm. and 3-7 cm. Possibly from harness.
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I.W.37 (8784). Level II. Similar example.
I.W.39 (8786). Level I. D shaped buckle, pin missing, no N.F.P.
I.W.40 (8795). Topsoil. Triangular example, 3-2cm. along sides, pin missing.
I.W.42 (8798). Unstratified. Keyhole shaped double buckle, length 6-5cm., lots of N.F.P.

This form was current in the closing years of the 15th century, and is generally of post medieval date.
I.W.43 (8799). Unstratified. Circular double buckle, diameter 3-8cm. Decorated with notches on outside ring N.F.P.

Ring Brooches (Fig. 11)
I.W.44 (8797). Level I. Small example, 1-6cm. diam.
I.W.45 (8793). Topsoil. Part of larger example, 2-3cm. diam.
I.W.46 (8789). Topsoil. 2-6cm. diam.

Purse Frame Bars (Fig. 11)
I.W.47 (8857). Level II. Part of purse frame, ends broken away. (This example may not be a purse bar as the central loop is fixed and does not swivel.) Possibly window shutter fastening.
I.W.48 (8876). In destruction level of North Wall of Room B. Length 19cm. This example has a swivel ring in the centre, which passes through the bar and is secured by a collar.

Daggers (Fig. 12)
I.W.49 (8837). Grey clay, Level I. Quillon Dagger, handle and tip of blade missing, length of remaining part 27cm. The simple rounded Quillons are similar to a late 14th century example depicted on a tomb at Chalgrave, Beds.49
I.W.50 (8833). Trench XVII, on clay. Fragment of single edged dagger blade and handle (Baseland), with oval guard of copper alloy.

Knives (Fig. 12)
Forty-one knife blades were found, generally in a broken condition. The bulk of them were unstratified.
From Level I
I.W.51 (8824). Fragment of blade and tang with rivet for handle (grey clay).

From Level II
I.W.52 (8828). End of blade and tang missing, length of fragment 10-4cm.
I.W.53 (8820). On courtyard surface, HD. Fragment with pointed tang.
I.W.54 (8840). Courtyard surface, east of Room A. Length 14-3cm., tip of blade and part of tang missing, two rivet holes in tang.
I.W.55 (8841). Similar example, blade complete, length 10-5cm., tang broken with two rivet holes.
I.W.56 (8827). Part of knife handle and tang, length 11-2cm., two rivet holes in tang.
I.W.57 (8815). Part of similar knife, blade is complete length 10-5 cm. Tang has one rivet hole and is broken. Brazing and solder was wiped around the junction of blade and handle (A.M. Lab.).
I.W.58 (8823). Blade broken, remaining length 10cm., but tang is complete, length 5cm. and contains four rivet holes with rivets remaining. Between the tang and blade there is a length of almost 3cm. which is completely round in section.
I.W.59 (8819). Courtyard surface. Blade and pointed tang both broken, length of fragment 12.5cm.
I.W.60 (8816). Complete example with pointed tang, length blade 15.2cm., tang 7cm. Possible 'makers mark' shows on an X-ray as four round punchmarks in the form of a square (A.M. Lab.).
I.W.61 (8874). Courtyard area. Complete blade and tang, length 19cm., the tang has two rivet holes.
I.W.62 (8897). Courtyard. Fragment of blade and tang, with guard between, length 10 cm.

From Topsoil over House Site
Several examples all similar to those listed above, the only ones worth mentioning are:—
I.W.63 (8848). Part of large knife or dagger, both blade and pointed tang are broken, remaining lengths; blade 20.5cm., tang 8.5cm.
I.W.64 (8817). Complete blade and tang with rounded knob end, length blade 13 cm., tang 8.2cm.
I.W.65 (8749). Fragment of tang with parts of bone handle still surviving, length 5-3cm. The two halves of the bone handle are held in place by three rivets.
I.W.66 (8863). Tang with four rivet holes, and pronounced shoulder at beginning of blade, length 9.5cm.

Unstratified
Of the unstratified examples the only ones worth publishing are:—
I.W.67 (8843). Almost complete example, length 11cm., but end of blade broken away. The tang is rounded at its end. The junction of blade and tang is thickened. Two rivet holes through tang.
I.W.68 (8842). Fragment of tang and part of blade, length 9cm. Three rivet holes through tang.
I.W.69 (8826). Part of tang and handle.
I.W.70 (8834). Level I. Grey clay (HA3). Large knife or dagger, blade triangular in section and was probably 24-3cm. long, the pointed tang survives to a length of 6cm.

Padlocks and Keys (Fig. 12)
I.W.71 (8193). Level I. Grey clay. Fragment of casing of barrel padlock, length 9.8cm., diam. 5.5cm., constructed of sheet iron bound with reinforcing strips 1cm. wide, which are rivetted in place.
I.W.72 (8852). Level II (HA1) Padlock Key, length 16.2cm., possibly LMC Type A.81
I.W.73 (8853). Topsoil (HA1). Padlock Key, length 11.2cm., 13th to 14th century LMC Type C.82
I.W.74 (8849). Topsoil (HA2). Part of small key with hollow shank, length 3.5cm.
I.W.75 (8898). Level II. Yard surface North of rooms. Key with kidney shaped bow sprung into a tubular shank, length 11-10cm., copious N.F.P. 15th to 16th century.
I.W.76 (8899). Found with I.W.75. Key with circular bow pushed into tubular shank, some N.F.P. length 12.6cm. This type of bow was common before the 15th century.83
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Pitchforks (Fig. 13)

Parts of three pitchforks were found, two from Level I and one unstratified. Also four pointed fragments of iron, possibly tines from pitchforks, one from Level II, the others unstratified.

I.W.83 (8912). Level I. Gully 5 (HA2). Fork with tang broken at 15cm. from junction with the two tines, which remain to a length of 13.5cm. The tang is rectangular in section whereas the tines are 1.2cm. square.

I.W.84 (8907). Level I. Grey clay, Area HA3. Fragment of similar fork with round tines.

I.W.85 (8909). Unstratified with complete tang, 10-5cm., and one tine broken at length of 10cm.

Of the other fragments one is square, one is round and two are rectangular in section.

Hinge and Door Fittings

Hinge Brackets (Fig. 13)

Eight examples were found, all are similar to I.W.77 and I.W.78, they consist of a pin which is hammered into the door post and has its end turned up at a right angle on which the door hinge is hung. The average length is 9cm. Most of the examples came from the topsoil over the building.


I.W.78 (8776). Topsoil. Trench XXII.

Hinge (Fig. 13)

I.W.79 (8766). Level II. Courtyard West of Room B. Large strap hinge, length 45cm. but originally longer. 3.6cm. wide, pierced at intervals with nail holes, diam. 7mm.

Fragments of two other examples not illustrated from topsoil over Trench II and XXXVI.


I.W.81 (8880). Trench XI. End of strap hinge with nail hole.


Miscellaneous Ironwork (Fig. 13)

I.W.86 (8890). Unstratified. Hinged Lock Catch from a chest, consisting of a strip of iron, length 9-2cm., one end has a snake like termination, and to this is rivetted a pierced ‘D’ shaped piece of iron, which went into the lock. The other end is bent back and appears as a hinge on an X-Ray (A.M. Lab.). This example has some non-ferrous metal on the outside and may have been brazed to a metal plate being used in conjunction with other catches on a chest with several locks.

A similar object, but without the end bent over, was found in topsoil over HC2.

I.W.87 (8858). Level II. Yard surface East side of Room F. Probably Iron Gouge, length 13cm., one end is pointed the other hollowed out like a spoon, no N.F.P.

I.W.88 (8875). Level II. Similar gouge, length 13cm.

I.W.89 (8896). Topsoil. Fragments of a pair of scissors, not unlike a mid-15th century pair illustrated on a brass at Northleach, Glos.**

I.W.90 (8856). Topsoil. Uncertain object, possibly part of a bit, consisting of iron strip with a loop at both ends, to one loop is attached a small figure of eight shaped piece of iron, and to the other a simple ring, perhaps part of a chain, one end is bent up. This object has N.F.P.

I.W.91 (8779). Unstratified. Large barbed hook.
DENNIS C. MYNARD

I.W.92 (8872). Level II. Courtyard, north-east of house. Unknown object, consisting of semi-circular strip with two rivet holes and another strip projecting from it.

I.W.93 (8862). Topsoil. Fragment, probably part of knife.


I.W.95 (8878). Destruction level. Room B. Possibly part of lock casing.

I.W.96 (8859). Found with keys I.W.75 and I.W.76, small iron ring, continuous not split, diam. 2.5 cm.

OBJECTS OF COPPER ALLOY (Fig. 14, Cu 1 - 9)

Cu 1 (8726). From Level I. (HA1) Grey clay. Two fragments of rim from a cauldron or pipkin, diam. 12.5 cm. A 14th century example from London has a very similar rim. Fragments of another were found in topsoil. (Not illustrated).

Cu 2 (8722). Level II (HC3). Thimble decorated with raised dots. One with similar decoration was found in a pre-late 14th century level at Sudeley Castle, Warwick.86

Cu 3 (8738). Level II on Courtyard surface North of Room B. Bell with Iron Pea, the type is well known in the medieval and post-medieval periods and is often referred to as a Sheep Bell or Pack Horse Bell. It almost certainly had several uses. It was constructed of two parts, upper and lower which were brazed together.

Cu 4 (8737). Trench XI on road surface. A similar example from Trench XI on road surface.

Cu 5 (8728). Level II on floor of Room B. Strap End Buckle, length 3.5 cm., consisting of a bar with a rosette at each end, supporting the main body of the buckle which is snake like, from which the hook extends. The bar, body and hook all have notched decoration. This type is dated to the late 15th century in the L.M.C.87

Cu 6 (8729). Level II (HA2) Ring, diam. 2.1 cm. now broken into three pieces, originally had an oblique cut to allow for expansion.

Cu 7 (8724). Level II (HC) on yard surface. Pin length 6 cm. with round head made by coiling wire around the pin. This type of pin is not capable of close dating.

Cu 8 (8727). Topsoil HC. Part of handle from small chest.

Cu 9 (8736). Level II (HC1). Small Pendant, possibly Heraldic Horse Furniture. Consists of a ring 2.2 cm. diam. to which is attached a bar 1.9 cm. in length running through the pendant which is held in place by a washer, the end of the bar being buried over to retain the washer. The pendant itself is 1.8 cm. in diam. and 8 cm. thick, it is hollow with a hole on one side. It is decorated on one face with a chequered design possibly heraldic, none of the families connected with Somerby had a chequered design on any part of their arms.

OBJECTS OF LEAD (Fig. 14, L1 - L4)

L 1 (8743). Base of topsoil area HC. Pierced weight, overall diam. 3.1 cm., of central hole diam. 1 cm. Decorated with raised dots in triangular groups of three on top side.

L 2 (8745). In clay from recutting of G7. Similar weight, diam. 2.8 cm. and central hole 1 cm., decorated with raised dots around the central hole.

L 3 (8914). Unstratified. Pierced ball used as a weight, diam. 2.7 cm.

L 4 (8742). Topsoil HA 2. Rectangular piece of lead sheet 9.8 cm. X 11.5 cm. X 1 mm. thick, with nail holes around outer edge. One nail remains in situ.

Pewter (Fig. 14, P1)

P 1 (8744). Level II (HC2). Handle of spoon, length 8.8 cm. with diamond shaped knop. The bowl which is mainly broken away most probably pear shaped. A date in the 15th century is most likely.88

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FLOOR TILE (Fig. 13, T1)

This tile was found by the excavator firmly built into the footings of the east wall of Rooms B and C. It would seem likely (as suggested earlier) that it got there after destruction.

The following note has been supplied by Mrs. Elizabeth Eames.

"The inscription reads HONOR: 'The design would be complete on four tiles—probably identical but there might be other words and devices on the other tiles in the set. The leaf work in the outer corner is a late form of the usual Great Malvern type of leaf work; the Malvern type does not include the central flower. The device in the centre of the design is possibly a badge of the family of Somerby and Honor might be part of a motto. I should put this tile late on stylistic grounds and because of the large amount of white and the tenous sketchy nature of the red pattern make a guess at the first half of the 16th century.'"

The tile which is 15cm, square, has been illustrated as the bottom right hand corner of a set of four tiles. Possibly the set bore a shield carrying a coat of arms, but the motif in this bottom right corner of the shield is not well stamped and is not recognisable as part of the coat of arms of any family connected with Somerby.

APPENDIX A

NUMISMATICA

by S. E. Rigold

Four Jettons and a coin-weight were found, the latter and one Jetton were found on the yard surfaces in Level II, their date of late 15th to the second quarter of the 16th century confirms the suggested date of that level.

The following report has been supplied by S. E. Rigold, M.A., F.S.A.

Nu.1. (8731). Fig. 13, Nu.1. HA3 Level II. Uniface bronze or latten coin-weight for an Angel; mean diam. 15mm. 3mm. thick. Weight 4-8 gm. (74-08 gr.) - the standard was 80 gr. (c.5 gm.), down to the end of the reign of Elizabeth I. The style resembles Angels of Richard III and the early Henry VII (down to 1490), but the dress is more like true Gothic armour than feathered tights.

This weight is almost circular being slightly heart shaped: chamfered square weights, probably of Low-country make also occur. Date late 15th to the second quarter of the 16th century.

Nu.2 (8734). HD Level II. Thick Jetton, diam. 27mm., Lion of St. Mark/Reichsapfel in trilobe. Early Nuremberg but somewhat close in lettering and fabric to late 'Tournai' Jettons. Date late 15th to the second quarter of the 16th century.

Nu.3 (8730). HC2 Topsoil. Jetton, diam. 28mm., very corroded, quartered shield possibly with a crown above, garbled inscription: the other side is indecipherable. For Franco-Flemish market but of early Nuremberg manufacture, c.1590.

Nu.4 (8732). Spoilheap. Jetton, diam. 24mm., pierced; traces of Reichsapfel in trilobe, early to mid-Nuremburg, perhaps towards the middle of the 16th century.

Nu.5 (8733). HC2. Topsoil. Jetton, diam. 28mm., shield of Burgundy - Brabant, etc./Cross Fleury, early Nuremberg for Flemish market, c.1500.
APPENDIX B

WOOD FRAGMENTS

by G. C. MORGAN (Ancient Monuments Laboratory)

Three groups of wood fragments were found, all had survived due to the waterlogged condition of their deposit:

1. (697052). From the ditch in Tr. HB. to the west of the main excavation, came several fragments of Ash (Fraxinus excelsior). These were 1 to 4 inches in diam. and some were strips, one of which had a nail in it. Also one twig each of Oak (Quercus robur) and Willow (Salix sp.). No section of this ditch was drawn. The date may be 15th to 16th century as a horseshoe of that date (Fig. 10, I.W.14) came from it.

2. (697053). From the bottom of Pit 2 came several pieces of Hazel (Corylus avellana) ½-inch to 2 inches diam. and several pieces of Willow (Salix sp.) of similar size. The date of this deposit is 13th to 14th century.

3. (697054). From the bottom of W.2. came several pieces of Ash (Fraxinus excelsior) 2 inches diam., one twig, one piece of Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.), ½ inch diam., a strip of Oak (Quercus robur) from a piece at least 6 inches in diam., and several pieces of Willow (Salix sp.) 2 inches diam. 15th to 16th century.

APPENDIX C

ANIMAL BONES

by R. A. HARCOURT, B.M.V.S., M.R.C.V.S.

This collection was in two groups, with a total of 368 identified specimens. The earlier from Level I was of eleventh to fifteenth century date and the later from Level II fifteenth and sixteenth century. The total number of specimens was not great enough for any difference between these two groups to be detectable.

Table 1. Minimum numbers of individuals of each species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Century</th>
<th>No. of Specimens</th>
<th>Cattle</th>
<th>Sheep</th>
<th>Pig</th>
<th>Horse</th>
<th>Dog</th>
<th>Cat</th>
<th>Fallow Deer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th - 15th</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th - 16th</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cattle

The long bone measurements indicate animals of about 4 feet in height (45 - 47 ins: 116 - 120cms.), a size which seems typical of the medieval period. The long bones were well represented but vertebrae were few, skull remains and horn cores entirely absent.
### Table 2. Measurements of Cattle Bones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bone Type</th>
<th>Total Length</th>
<th>Proximal Width</th>
<th>Mid-shaft diam.</th>
<th>Distal Width</th>
<th>Shoulder Height</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humerus</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metacarpal</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>61-72 (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>199</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metatarsal</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>61-72 (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prox. Phalanx</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcaneum</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>23-28 (II)</td>
<td></td>
<td>50-57 (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures in parenthesis are those of the number of specimens measured.

Measurements are in millimetres and extremities are measured across articular surfaces. Metacarpel lengths are multiplied by a factor of 6 to calculate the height. As far as it was possible to tell in such a small sample the bones and teeth of fully mature animals predominated.

### Sheep

These animals were still the small slender type the size of which had remained almost unaltered since the Neolithic period although improvements in fleece were occurring.

### Table 3. Measurements of Sheep Bones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bone Type</th>
<th>Total Length</th>
<th>Proximal Width</th>
<th>Mid-shaft diam.</th>
<th>Distal Width</th>
<th>Mid-shaft diam. %</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humerus</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25-30</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius</td>
<td>119</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metacarpal</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>11/15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metatarsal</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>128</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mid-shaft diameter % = m.s.d. as % of total length. This gives a measure of relative stoutness and can be a sex determinant. The two specimens marked * were probably rams.

Mandible were relatively numerous and in all of them the lower third molars were well worn indicating animals which were fully mature or even old at death as is to be expected at a time when wool was the main objective in keeping sheep. There were no skull remains or horn cores.
DENNIS C. MYNARD

**Pig**

There were very few specimens and these mostly teeth. Four distal humeri measured 26, 29, 30 and 31mm.

**Horse**

This species was prominent, represented by numerous bones many of which were complete. (Table 4.) As yet little osteological evidence for the size of horses in medieval times is available but those from this site showed a height range varying from thirteen to fifteen hands (136 - 156cms.). Long bones indicating similar heights have been found on other contemporary sites.\(^{30}\)

**Table 4. Measurements of Horse Bones**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Length</th>
<th>Proximal Width</th>
<th>Mid-Shaft diam.</th>
<th>Distal Width</th>
<th>Century</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humerus</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>328</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metacarpal</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tibia</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>49</td>
<td></td>
<td>15/16th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metatarsal</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Phalanx</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>260</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>278</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
<td>11/15th</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>87</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dog and Cat**

These provided respectively six and two specimens. A mandible with a carnassial of 25 × 10mm, was from a dog the size of a large retriever. A cat tibia of 95mm. indicated a small slender animal.

**Fallow Deer**

This species was quite well represented in both groups and its presence perhaps suggests the activity of poachers.

**Table 5. Measurements of Fallow Deer Bones**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Length</th>
<th>Proximal Width</th>
<th>Mid-shaft diam.</th>
<th>Distal Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humerus</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>31-33 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius</td>
<td>33-35 (2)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metacarpel</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metatarsal</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Not all the scientific interpretation of the artifacts was available at the time of going to press. An addendum outlining the remainder will appear in the next issue.
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Notes

The Lincolnshire Domesday and the Lindsey Survey, Lincks. Record Society, XIX (1924), pp. 19, 21, 61, 81 and 191.

Ibid., p. 242.


P.R.O. E179/135/11.

P.R.O. E179/135/16.


P.R.O. E179/196/40.

British Museum Add. Ms. 37671, Fo. 65.

Ms. Abstract of the General Survey of the Soke of Kirton in Lindsey in the County of Lincoln, John Rylands Library, Manchester, Eng. Ms. 216. The original is at Cambridge, Cambridge University, Ms. 1273.

1448 P.R.O. E179/136/233 and 1463 P.R.O. E179/136/293.

1543 P.R.O. E179/137/385. 1544 P.R.O. E179/137/401.

Somerset House, F.20, Jankyn.


P.R.O. C78/41 No. 30.

P.R.O. E179/138/549 - 552.

As noted 10 above.

Ibid.

P.R.O. E179/139/717.

L.A.O. Brace 14/22/3.

L.A.O. Bacon Plan No. 16.


Sherds identified by J. G. Hurst and Miss H. Healey.

Torksey Figs. 7, 8 and 11.

Information from Miss H. Healey.

Torksey, p. 179.

Ibid. Fig. 7, 13.

F. H. Thompson, 'The Deserted Medieval Village of Riselholme near Lincoln'. Medieval Archaeology, IV. (1950) 95-108. Fig. 35, 2. Hereinafter referred to as Riselholme.

L. A. S. Butler, 'Hambleton Most Scradington, Lincks.', Journal of the British Archaeological Association. XXVI, (1954), 51-78. Fig. 15, 10 and 11. Hereinafter referred to as Scradington.

Problems of dating arise with Nos. 19-27, they have been placed under this heading but need not be of 13th century date.

Scredington, Fig. 15, 5.

A Preceptory of the Knights Templar excavated by Philip Mayes 1966-68, publication forthcoming.

F. H. Thompson, 'The Medieval Pottery from Chapel St. Leonards, Lincks.' Antiquaries Journal, XXXIII, (1953) 214 and Fig. 1. See Fig. 1, 5. Hereinafter referred to as Chapel St. Leonards.

Ibid.

Information from Mr. J. G. Hurst.

Information from Mr. J. G. Hurst.

Philip Mayes, 'A Medieval Tile Kiln at Boston, Lincks.', Journal of the British Archaeological Association, XXVIII (1965) 86-106 and Fig. 6.

But only a general date range of late 12th to early 14th century can be given there as the sherds were unstratified.

Riselholme, Fig. 35, 2.

Information from Mr. T. C. M. Browster.

Scredington, Fig. 15, 11.

Chapel St. Leonards, Fig. 1, 3.

As note 38, Fig. 6.

Riselholme, Fig. 35, 10.

During the Post Medieval Period this sort of decoration was often effected with a clay slip.

Information from Miss H. Healey.

Scredington, Fig. 15, 10 and p. 69.

Recently named by Mr. J. G. Hurst, but not definitely made at Lincoln. Identical ware was found at South Witham (see Note 33) compared with sherds made at Nottingham and called Nottingham Wares. This ware could be a regional type made at both Lincoln and Nottingham, alternatively it could have been made at Nottingham only and distributed down the Trent. The name 'Lincoln Type' has however been retained for this report in view of the proximity of the site to Lincoln.
DENNIS C. MYNARD

Risoholme, Fig. 17, 35.

These sherds are similar to the ware made at Toynerton but may not be a Toynerton product.

Similar decoration occurs on sherds of a different ware from Haverholme, Linca. from excavation by Mrs. M. U. Jones.

Scredington, Fig. 17, 42-44.

Information from Mr. J. G. Hurst. The Rawmarsh Kilns near Sheffield.

For a general discussion of these German Stonewares see J. G. Hurst, 'Stoneware Jugs' in B. Cunliffe, Winchester Excavations 1949-51, p. (1964) 142-3. Hereinafter referred to as Winchester.

J. G. Hurst, 'A Late Medieval Pit at Westminster Abbey', Antig. Journ. XL (1960), Fig. 2, 7.

J. G. Hurst in 'Excavations at Old Wardour Castle', Wilts. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Mag. LXI (1967), Fig. 4, 3 and 4.

Winchester, Fig. 27, 12.


Ibid. 238.

Waster heaps and remnants of Kilns structure found at Silicoates School by K. J. Woodrow.


Excavated by Mr. Philip Mayes. One of the kilns made Cistercian ware at one phase of its existence. Interim Report in Med. Arch. XII.

The pottery from this kiln is now in the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge and does not include anything like Cistercian ware.

At St. Chad's College. Information from Mr. J. E. Parsons.

From Miss Harbottle's excavation on the Curtain Wall.

Orchard Hall Ditch, excavated by Miss A. G. Parke.

Excavated by Miss B. Harbottle.

In the Abbey Museum. Illustrated in Proc. of the Soc. of Antig. of Scotland, LXXXVII (1952-3), Pl. 24, No. 2, excavated by Miss Harbottle.

Information from Mr. J. G. Hurst.

It is stated in Post Med. Arch. 1. (1967) that decorated Type III pots were not made at Silicoates. This is erroneous. One of the four examples of Type III decoration illustrated in Publ. of the Thoresby Soc. XLIX (1962-4), Fig. 38, plumes, cut leaves and stags were represented among the kiln wasters at Silicoates School.

It is probable that the stag pot in Stoke on Trent Museum is from the Tickerhall kilns.


Ibid., pp. 94-112.

Ibid., Fig. 18.

Ibid., Fig. 21, 2.

Ibid., Fig. 8, 1.

Ibid., pp. 146-7, Fig. 44.

Ibid., pp. 146-7, Fig. 45.

Ibid., p. 141.

Ibid., Fig. 46, 1.

Ibid., P. 207 and pl. LVI.

S. E. West, 'Griff Manor House (Sudeley Castle), Warwickshire', Journal of the British Archaeology Association, XXXI (1966), pp. 77-101, Fig. 4, 2.

As note 54, p. 279 and pl. LXXVI 7, 9 and 10.

Ibid., pl. XXVII, 5, Fig. 41, b and c.


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