

CB05, CB37 and CB38
ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT ON
CHESTERFIELD ARMS

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CHESTERFIELD ARMS

SITE HISTORY

The site has been occupied since at least the 1450s and very likely before that. When the former



Conjectural map for 1586. Map on the left shows it overlain on modern topography.

bowling green to the south was being developed for Hassall Court it was found to have been a Roman cemetery. There has been an inn on this site since at least the 1700s and possibly earlier.

1596

From the 14th century most of Bingham was owned by a single lord of the manor. In 1586 this was Bryan Stapleton, for whom the survey on which we base our map of Bingham was produced. The parcel of land now occupied by the Chesterfield Arms was in the possession of four different tenants of the estate. The test pits are on land originally tenanted by three of them. All three were cottagers who had no other land holdings in the parish fields.

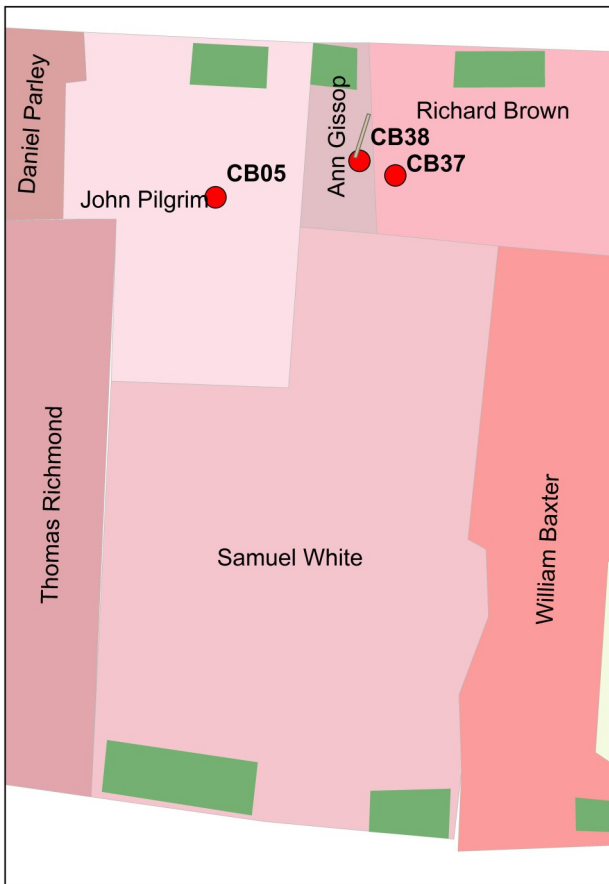
The holdings were described as:

Richard Radcliffe - "a cottage and toft".

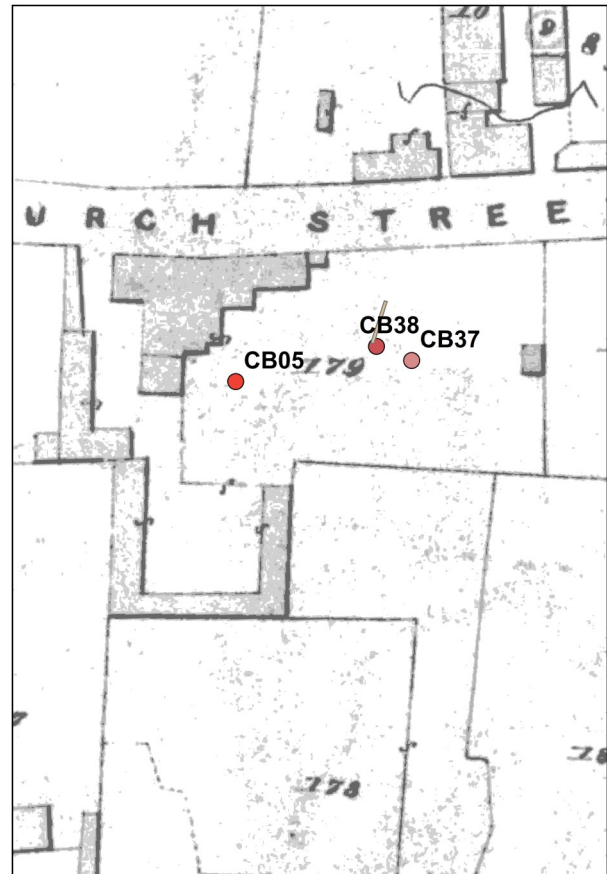
John Worthington - "a cottage and garden".

John Wyverton, cottage with no land.

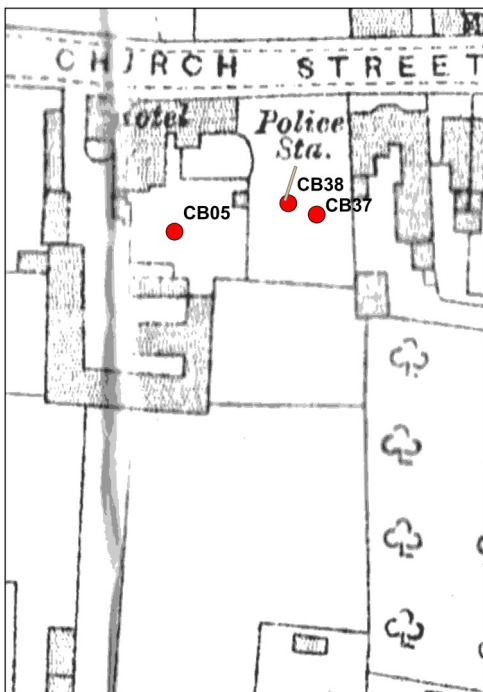
Isabella Smyth - "A cottage with garden and small toft in Church Gate".



Map for 1776.



Tithe map for 1841.



OS map from 1910.

1776

The 1793 trades directory describes John Pilgrim as an innkeeper, thus we can say there has been an inn on this site since at least 1776. Pilgrim's holding was described in the survey of 1776 as a house etc. He also rented a small area of grazing on the moor.

Similarly Richard Brown had a small amount of grazing as well as the house. Ann Gissop had about 7 acres of grazing and the cottage.

By comparison, Samuel White had about 60 acres of arable land around the parish and about 10 acres of grazing.

1841

By the time of the Tithe map, William Pilgrim (property number 179) held all three of the plots in the northern section as shown on the 1776 map and was described as an innkeeper. Samuel White (178), a substantial farmer, held the southern portion.

The Chesterfield Arms continues to the present day. The modern flat roofed extension was probably added in the 1950s, but we have no record of it.

CB05

CHESTERFIELD ARMS

LOCATION AND PROTOCOL

NGR	470609.339905
Height OD	23m (on map)
Address	Chesterfield Arms
Dig dates	11 th –13 th July 2016
Pit site	Lawn at the back of the pub.
Pit protocol	1-metre pit, N-S orientated, 10 cm spits, everything sieved. A 50 x 50 cm shallow sondage dug in the NE corner into the weathered clay top.



Test pit CB05 is the nearest, CB37 the most distant. At the time of this picture CB 38, which was situated between the two, had not been started.

CB05

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Description of pit

The pit was dug on the western end of the lawn in the garden at the back of the Chesterfield Arms when the pub was temporarily closed.

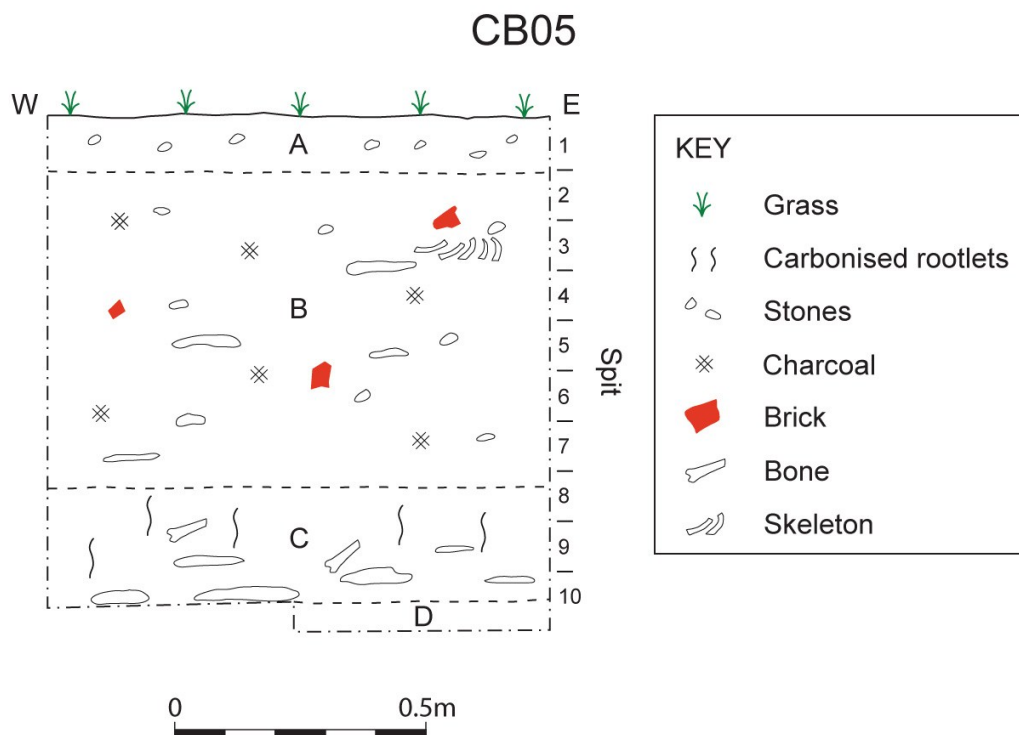
The soil profile was fairly straight forward with three clear contexts above the basal clay:

Topsoil to 11 cm depth

Subsoil to 75 cm depth

Grey-brown clay soil to 98 cm with Skerry below 85 cm

Weathered top to the Mercia Mudstone, basal clay at 98 cm



- A Dark brown topsoil under turf. Rounded pebbles 1 cm 1-2%. Glass, pot, modern coins etc.
- B Dark brown-grey clay soil becoming lighter downwards. Gradational upper and lower boundaries. Charcoal, carbonised roots, flat skerry stones to 14 cm, rounded smaller pebbles, brick pieces. Stones to 2%. Animal burrows on south side; 2 ½ inch wide. Skeleton of small animal in spit 3.
- C Greyish brown clay soil with vertical carbonised roots and flat stones to 18cm, also bones.
- D Red-brown and green-grey intermixed clay with skerry embedded in the top, 10 cm max. Vertical carbonised roots. Some brown clay mixed in with it. Weathered top to the Mercia Mudstone.

The topsoil is a dark brown loam with a few small pebbles, glass, bits of pottery, coins etc under turf. There is a downward gradation into the subsoil, which is a dark brown-grey clay soil becoming lighter in colour downwards. Charcoal, carbonised roots, brick pieces, stones to 14 cm long comprise a small proportion (c2%), but there were also some animal burrows. At around 75 cm depth there is a marked context change and the colour becomes greyish brown and the soil very clayey. Abundant flat skerry stones are present in the lower levels immediately above the weathered top to the basal Mercia Mudstone clay. The top of the Mercia Mudstone is gradational and there is some mixing. The overall impression given is that the whole sequence from weathered basal clay to the topsoil is natural and undisturbed.



The completed pit, showing the shallow deepening to prove the downward persistence of the basal context.



The north face of the pit showing the gradual transition of the three contexts into each other.

Finds

Building materials found at all levels down to 70 cm were entirely brick pieces, none measurable, and plaster, while the **metallic** objects, also found down to 70 cm depth, were predominantly nails with a few washers, screws, bolts and metal fixings.

Miscellaneous items included modern coins and a piece of plastic in the topsoil and fossil shells in the subsoil down to 50 cm. One oyster shell was recovered from 30-40 cm depth.

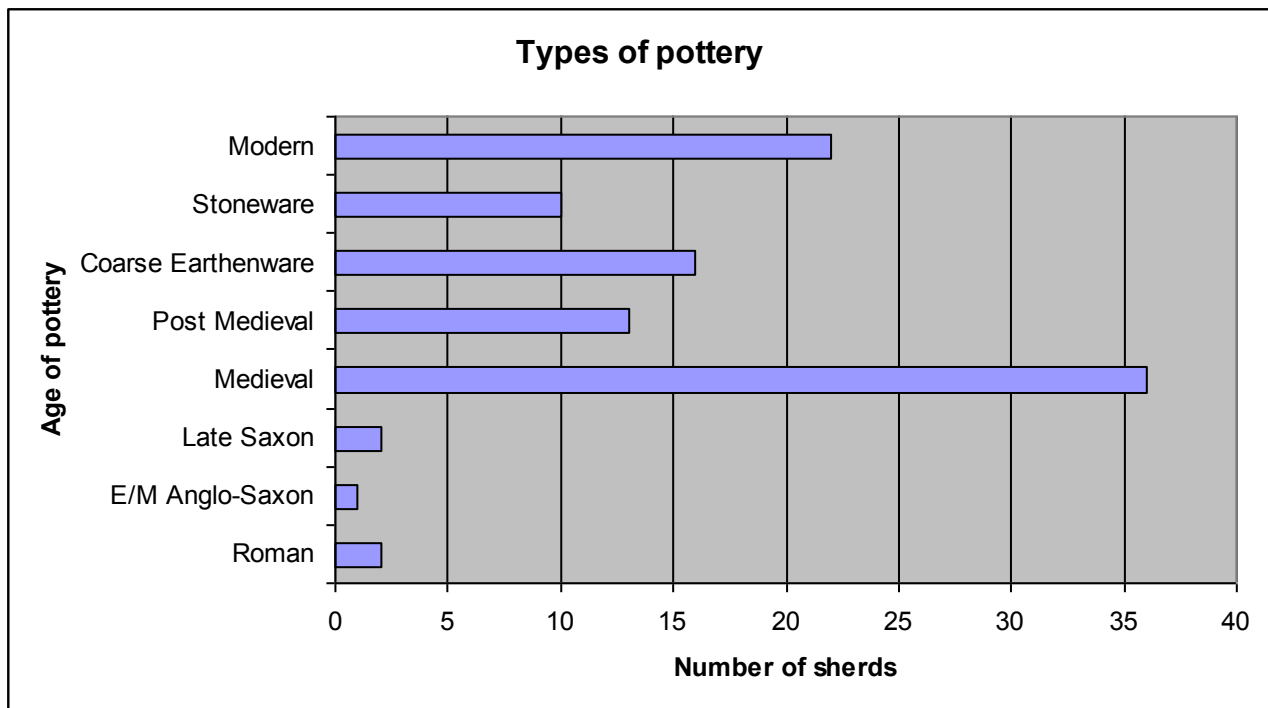
About 40% of the **glass** found was clear and present down to 70 cm depth. It included bottle glass, drinking vessels and window glass. Most of the latter was 1/8th inch thick, but among 1/16th inch glass was a piece with a stained rim either from being embedded in putty or in a leaded window. The majority of the rest was green bottle glass. One or two pieces of aqua 1/16th inch window glass and a molten piece, probably from a fire, were found. None of this glass looked like it was older than mid 19th C.

All the **clay pipe** fragments were found above 70 cm. There were 18 fragments, mostly stem, but including four bowl fragments. Three of the stems and one bowl fragment were dated as most likely to be 17th or early 18th C. Some of the fragments had been burnt and were not easy to identify. All the others were from the late 18th -19th C, though three of the bowl fragments were difficult to tie down.

Animal **bones and teeth** were found down to 100 cm depth. They were mostly from large animals, some clearly butchered. Among the small animals were around 50 bones thought to be from rats.

There is a full range of **pottery** from Roman to Modern. In overall abundance the medieval pottery is dominant (36 sherds, 320 grams). Modern pottery comes next in terms of number of sherds (22 sherds, weight 71 grams), but coarse earthenware, with 16 sherds weighed 103 grams.

The **Modern** pottery was all found above 40 cm depth and consists entirely of Transfer Printed wares and Cream Ware. Plates, bowls and a Transfer Printed chamber pot were identified. Though Cream Ware was being made from 1740 it is unlikely that any of this pottery dated from earlier than the 19th century. Several sherds of Unglazed Red Earthenware, all plant pots were collected from the top 30 cm. One rim sherd is clearly 20th century.

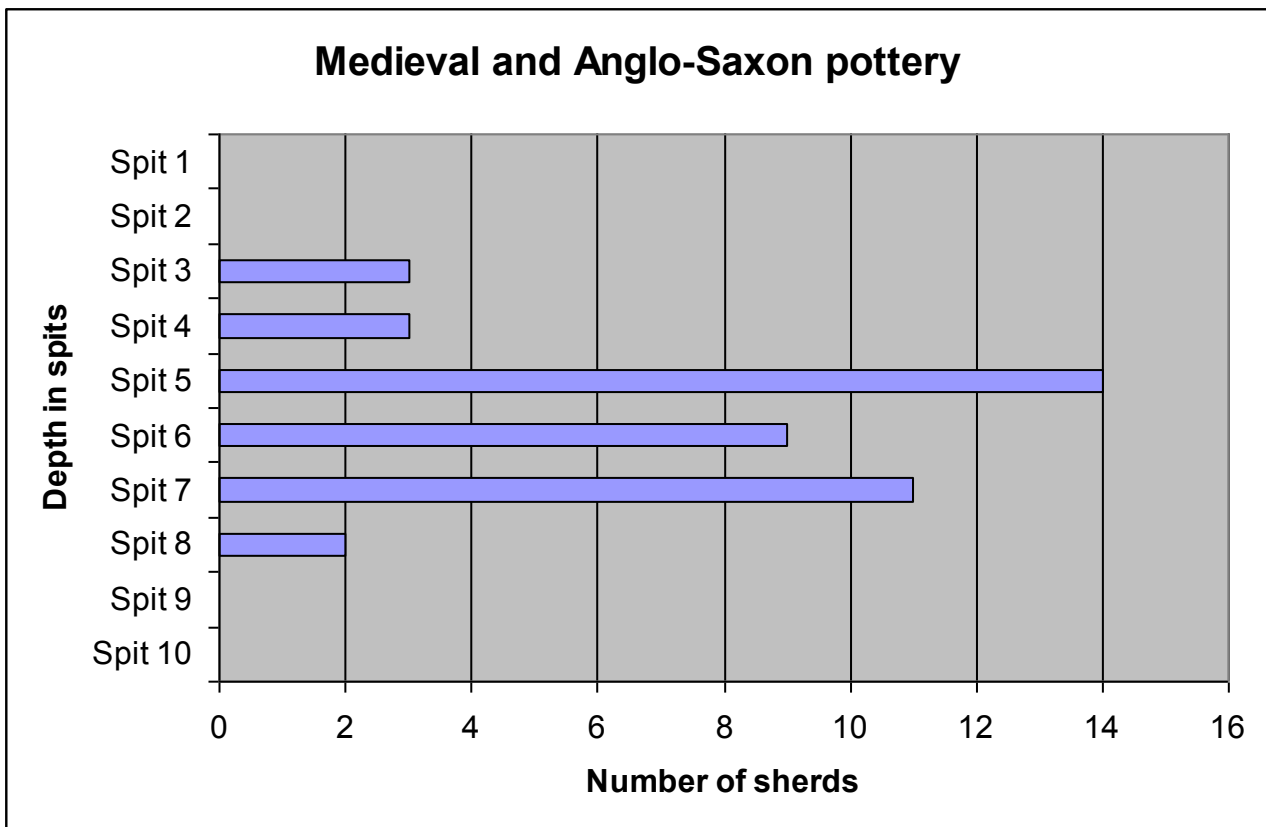


Only ten pieces of **Stoneware** were recovered, all from the top 70 cm. There was one piece of 19th century stoneware. All the rest were 18th century with half the total having the orange fabric that characterises pottery made in Nottingham between 1700 and 1725. The remainder were characteristically 18th century. There was no stratigraphical order to them.

Of the 16 sherds of **Coarse Earthenware**, only one was red bodied. Two were Brown glazed, but all the rest were Pink-bodied Black Glazed Coarse Earthenware. No rim pieces were found and only one base, so it is not known whether they represented pancheons. The two brown-glazed sherds had light bodies and in one the glaze, which was light brown was applied directly onto the body. On the pink-bodied sherds the glaze was mostly very dark brown. Elsewhere, the pink bodied coarse earthenware tends to be earlier than red bodied and may be 18th C. In this pit the abundance was highest in the fifth spit (40-50 cm depth).

Post-medieval pottery was present down to 70 cm depth, but was most abundant in spit 3. There were several types represented including: Mottled Ware and Slipware (with one sherd of Black Slipware) from the late 17th and early 18th centuries, Midland Black Ware from late 16th to early 18th C, Midland Yellow Ware (1575-1700), Cistercian Ware (1450-1550) and Coarse Black Ware with has a very long range (1550-1800). The Midland Yellow Ware is typically glazed on one side only and the body is very light, almost chalky. Two of the Mottled Ware sherds have horizontal ribbing, which is usually found near the base of tankards

Medieval pottery was most abundant between 40 and 70 cm depth. 36 sherds were recovered. Ranging in types that spanned the Black Death.. The earliest is a sherd of Stamford Ware Fabric B, which has a date range of 1050 to 1180. Stamford Ware first appeared in Late Saxon times, but this type, Fabric B, characterises the period immediately after the Norman Conquest. Later varieties of Stamford Ware found here include Developed Stamford Ware with a dark green glaze (1180—1230) and another variety with a yellow glaze (1150—1300). Interestingly there are no sherds of Nottingham Splashed Ware, which is the most common 12th century ware type in Bingham. Ware types characteristic of the 13th and 14th centuries dominate the collection. Among the pre-Black Death varieties are several pieces of Early Nottingham Green Glaze (1200-1230), all from the same vessel. A single sherd of a Non-local Medieval Fabric (1150-1450) is a fairly cheap



sort of ware type. Several sherds of Nottingham Light-bodied Green Glaze Ware (mostly 1200-1350) were found. Several fabrics characterise wares that spanned the Black Death and have long date ranges. Among these are Coarse Sandy Ware (1275-1400), Nottingham Reduced Green Glaze (1200-1500), Nottingham Coarse Pink/Orange Ware (1275-1400). Wares that are distinctly after the Black Death are Nottingham Light-bodied Gritty Ware (1380-1480) with a speckled glaze and Midland Purple Ware. An orange coloured early type of Midland Purple has a date range of 1380-1450, though most of it ranges to as late as 1600. An unusual type, not found elsewhere, is Coal Measures White Ware which is Late medieval/early post medieval (1450-1550).

There were two sherds of **Late Saxon** pottery. These were Torksey Ware and Lincoln kiln-type Shelly Ware, both with a date range 850-1050.

A single sherd of **early-middle Anglo-Saxon Ware** was full of voids and had a blackened residue probably of organic origin embedded in it, probably indicating it was used as a cook pot.

There were two **Roman** sherds, both Grey Ware and not easily distinguishable in terms of age.

Interpretation

The soil profile is natural with little disturbance and was dug to 98 cm. The top 70-75 cm was a single context with a 12 cm-thick organic topsoil merging downwards into a lighter coloured loam. Nearly all the finds except the bones were found in this context. The barren layer beneath 75 cm seems to be derived from the underlying Mercia Mudstone, the weathered top of which was encountered at the pit bottom at c 98 cm. The large stones in the lowest parts of the pit are typical weathered products above the Mercia Mudstone seen in many other pits.

Only two finds, both medieval, were found between 70 and 80 cm depth, with only the bones and teeth below that and these were present to the bottom of the pit. The depth range of the pottery types above and below the level of maximum abundance suggests that there has been some turning

of the soil, probably during cultivation. Overall, however, the depth of maximum abundance for each type follows stratigraphical rules:

Maximum abundance of sherds by weight

Modern	spit 2
Post medieval	spit 3
Coarse earthenware	spit 4
Medieval	spit 5

The coarse earthenware is interesting in that the maximum abundance occurs below the post medieval. It is predominantly pink bodied, which elsewhere is usually 18th C or earlier. The medieval distribution is bimodal in that there is a maximum at spit 5 (130gms) and a secondary maximum below it at spit 7 (92 gms). The only Roman finds were in spit 5, which is the medieval maximum and implies soil turning during medieval times at this site. In CB37 the bimodal distribution of medieval pottery and coarse earthenware indicated that there might have been deep ploughing up to the 16th C, but garden cultivation only from the mid 18th C. This interpretation may also apply here.

Regarding the pottery types there are indications that there has been activity at this site from Roman times. The paucity of Roman pottery in a site that is so close to the rich Roman centre on Cherry Street indicates that it is outside the limits of the Roman development. Later types including early/middle Anglo-Saxon and Late Anglo-Saxon probably do indicate habitation nearby. During the Anglo-Saxon period pottery was not used as much as in later times and indications from the field walking done over the parish suggest that finds from this period occurred in small clusters around habitation sites. The fact that they are present here indicates habitation.

The post-Conquest medieval finds are particularly abundant here. Several of them are sharply broken and six of the Early Nottingham Green Glaze Ware pieces are from a single vessel. Dating from 1200 to 1230 these must indicate that the test pit is close to a domestic rubbish dump with a house nearby. There is continuity in dating into the post-medieval period and spanning the Black Death. There is evidence elsewhere of a 40% drop in pottery usage after the Black Death and this seems to be replicated here. Among the later pottery types there was only one sherd of Nottingham Light-bodied Gritty Ware, the typical post-Black Death ware type, but several Early Midland Purple Ware sherds (1380—1450). These are possibly from the same vessel and would have been used instead of the Light-bodied Gritty Ware. Later ware types, such as the Coal Measures White-ware, an uncommon type in Bingham, continue into the Post-medieval period.

The post-medieval pottery ranges in type from Cistercian Ware through to Mottled Ware. This covers the period from c1450 to 1750 and there are representatives from each of the periods within this range. Included here is the salt-glaze stoneware, which except for a single 19th c sherd is 18th century with some pieces attributable with certainty to the period 1700-1725. Mottled Ware, elsewhere in Bingham, was often used for tankards and mugs and would be expected at the back of a pub. Found here it suggests that there may have been a pub on this site from at least the early 18th century.

Some of the clay pipe stems are early 17th-18th century and occur down to 70 cm, but only one of the bottle glass pieces appears to be associated with the post-medieval pottery and this may be due to turning during cultivation.

There was relatively little pottery from the late 18th and 19th centuries. The rubbish dumps for this period must be elsewhere.

In summary, the first signs of habitation on the site of the Chesterfield Arms is during the Anglo-Saxon period and it continued to the present. The wealth of medieval pottery is unusual and signifies a habitation close by. By the post-medieval period, however, the documentary evidence from 1586 shows that the area in which CB05 was dug was occupied by a cottager. The pub is likely to have appeared at some time during the period 1700-1750. There was clearly cultivation of the ground in the medieval period, possibly by ploughing in the medieval period. From the early 18th century cultivation was probably horticultural and did not involve deep ploughing

CB37

CHESTERFIELD ARMS

LOCATION AND PROTOCOL

NGR	470634.339908
Height OD	23 m (on the map)
Address	Chesterfield Arms Hotel
Dig dates	11 th –13 th July 2016
Pit site	Narrow strip of grass alongside the Astro turf pitch on the eastern side of the back garden to the pub.
Pit protocol	1-metre pit, N-S orientated, 10 cm spits, everything sieved.

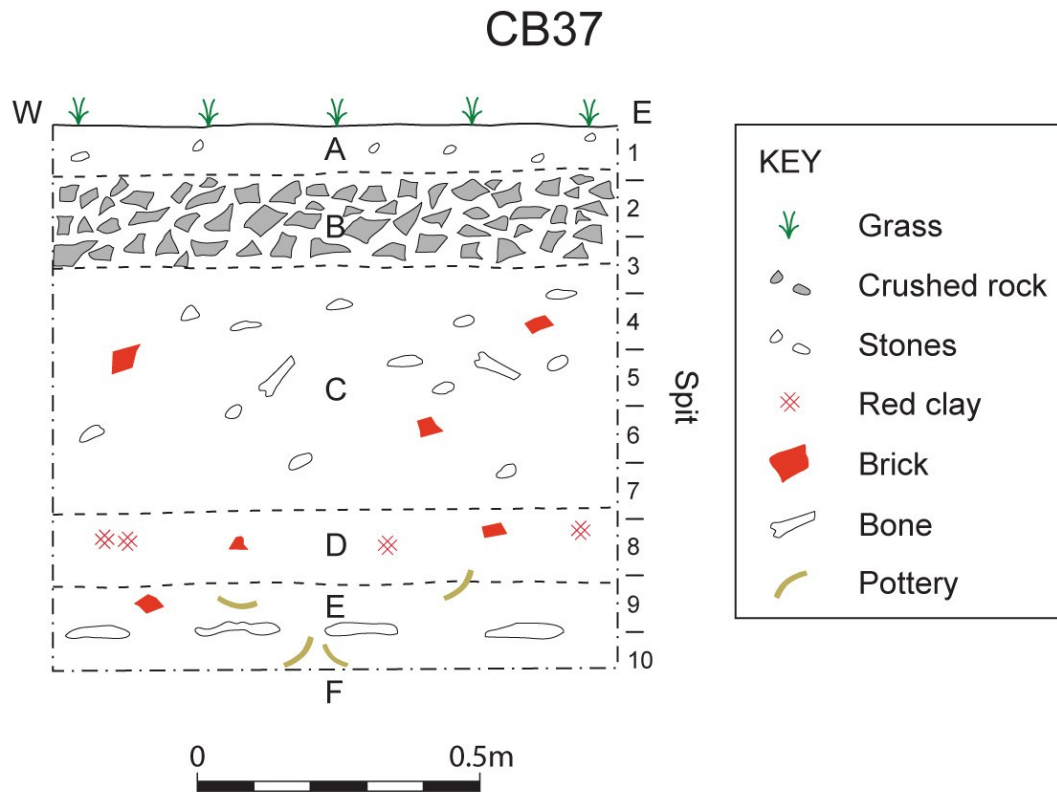


CB37

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Description of pit

The pit was dug at the back of the Chesterfield Arms in a narrow strip of grass between a fence and a small playing area covered with Astroturf.



- A Dark brown topsoil with some rounded pebbles. Barren.
- B Red-brown crushed rock; all grades. Large pieces are Charnwood granite. Described in some parts of the country as 'quarry bottom'.
- C Dark brown-black clay soil. Rounded pebbles, flat skerry stones to 5 cm and small brick pieces, some pot, nails, glass, butchered bones. Max 5%. Concentration of nails in the eastern third in spits 3 and 4.
- D Lighter grey-brown clay soil; gradational boundary above. Lumps of red-brown clay to 5 cm long, brick pieces. Grey clay and organic soil at the base with orange sand in NE corner. Passes down into:
- E Red-brown clay with grey clay patches with vertical worm tubes and mixed with organic soil. Flat skerry stones up to 12 cm long, brick pieces and pot in spit 9. Several bits of pancheon in the middle of the pit at 97 cm depth.
- F Basal red-brown clay with large patch grey-green clay in the middle of the test pit. Natural channels revealed radiating from the centre. Dark soil in them. Seems to be till.

The barren, dark brown topsoil with a few rounded pebbles had been imported and laid on a 17 cm -layer of red-brown crushed rock and fines consisting of Charnwood granite pieces that was probably laid as a foundation to the Astroturf-covered play area. The natural succession begins below this.

Immediately beneath the crushed rock layer dark brown-black clay soil is probably the original topsoil. It passes gradually down into lighter grey-brown clay soil which itself grades into red-brown clay. This lower unit, containing pottery and flat skerry stones at 97cm depth is mixed with organic soil. The red-brown clay beneath it has natural channels in it filled with dark soil, suggesting a sharp boundary between the two contexts. Although the basal clay has a grey-green reduction patch in it the material is more like till than Mercia Mudstone.



The completed pit showing flat Skerry stones and red clay mixed with organic soil.



The north wall showing the complete section.

Finds

The top 25 cm were barren. Finds only began to appear at the base of the crushed rock layer.

Brick pieces are predominant among the **Building materials** with a few bits of roof tile, floor tile, plaster, modern drain and slate. They were found at all depths to the base of the pit.

Metallic objects were almost entirely nails, with the largest proportion found just below the crushed rock layer in the eastern third of the pit. Among them were screws, bolts and a piece of lead. 21 pieces of slag were recovered, two pieces over 170 gms in weight. This is possibly waste from the furnace that heated the pub.

Half of the **glass** was found in the 15 cm immediately below the layer of crushed rock. It was predominantly clear glass, mostly bottles, but with some 1/16th inch and 1/8th inch window glass. There were 2 bits of green bottle glass and four amber. Below this level there was a change. 35% of the glass was green with five aqua, one amber and the rest clear, again mostly bottles. A Codd bottle and medicine bottle could be identified. Both 1/16th and 1/8th inch window glass was found. The Codd bottle dates the glass to the late 19th and early 10th centuries.

Bones and teeth, many from butchered animals, were found at all depths below spit 3. Some were thought to be dog bones from a grave.

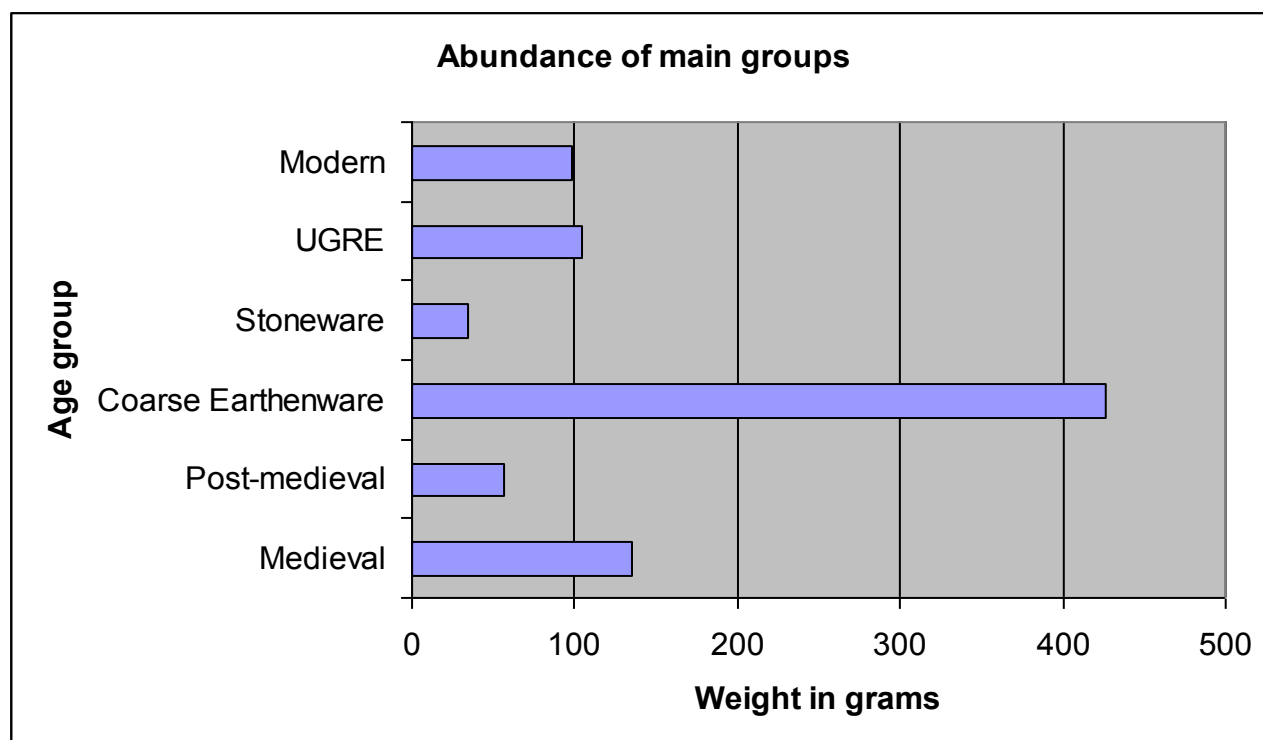
Clay pipes were found to 70 cm depth. All except three were late 18th and 19th centuries, most likely later in that period. One of these was a bowl fragment with a pattern of plain leaves along the seam is a definite 19th century piece. Of the three exceptions two were thick stems from early 18th or late 17th C pipes. The third was a bowl fragment dated to the 17th century.

Among the **miscellaneous items** there was a button and a piece of gypsum.

The **pottery** was recovered from just below the crushed rock layer to the bottom of the pit with representatives of all types present in the lowest 15 cm. The **Modern** pottery, including Unglazed Red Earthenware and Stoneware, was most abundant in spit 6. The **Post-medieval** pottery was also most abundant in spit 6, but with another peak in spit 9. **Coarse earthenware** was mostly found in spit 8 and again in much higher amounts in spit 10. The **medieval** maximum is in spit 10. Overall, in terms of weight, the most abundant find was coarse earthenware, largely because the

sherds are usually large, heavy pieces. Medieval finds were next, though when the Modern, Unglazed Red Earthenware and Stoneware are combined there is a larger total than for medieval.

Among the **Modern** pottery Cream Ware and Transfer Printed wares were most abundant. Some of the Cream Ware sherds were clearly from plates, others from bowls. All the Transfer Printed wares were blue and white. There was a small number of finds of Mocha Ware, Flow Blue, Cane-coloured Ware and one sherd from a porcelain bowl. All the Unglazed Red Earthenware was plant pot. Two were measured as 4 inch and 5.5 inch diameter; the latter from spit 7 having a rough sandy body and possibly the oldest piece found. It is likely that all of this pottery came from the 19th century.



There were ten sherds of **Stoneware** between the depths of 40 and 100 cm. There were three 19th and 20th century sherds in spits 5 and 6. All the rest below these were 18th century and among them two had the orange fabric typical of Nottingham-made pottery in the period 1700 to 1725.

Three of the **Post-medieval** pottery sherds were of a type not previously seen in collections from Bingham, but all the rest were from recognisable ware types. The most abundant were Black Ware and Mottled Ware. There were sherds of Black Slipware, Staffordshire Slipware and Slip-trailed Ware. One sherd each of Midland Yellow Ware and Coarse Black Ware were found from the bottom of the test pit. While the Coarse Black Ware is not easy to date, the Midland Yellow Ware dates from 1575 to 1700 and all the rest from c1675 to mid/late 18th C.

Among the **Coarse Earthenware** red-bodied and pink-bodied types were roughly equal in proportion, with only two brown glazed sherds. Both the pink and red had a dark brown-black glaze. Some of the sherds were large rim pieces from pancheons measuring 40, 44 and 52 cm in diameter. Both wide everted and clubbed rim types were seen. Many of the other pieces were probably also from pancheons. One of the pink-bodied sherds was over-fired.

Only nine sherds of **Medieval** pottery were found. The earliest is Yorkshire Gritty Ware (1050—1250), though the identification is uncertain and the piece may be Nottingham Light-bodied Green

Glaze with a date range 1220-1320. There was one definitely identified piece of Light-bodied Green Glaze Ware. A long-ranged fabric type is Non Local Medieval Fabric, similar to the finds from CB05 (1150-1450). Also long ranging is Coal Measures Whiteware, similar to the find from CB05 (1250-1550). Several pieces of the orange, early form of Midland Purple Ware, again the same as CB05, (1380-1450) were recovered as well as long ranging Midland Purple. One of the latter was a large piece of a rim from either a cistern or a large, lidded jar.

One piece of **Late Saxon** Torksey-type Ware was recovered and a piece of undiagnostic, hand-made early/middle Anglo-Saxon ware. However, the most important find here was a **middle Anglo-Saxon** piece of Maxey-type Shelly Ware. This was made between 670 and 800.

One sherd of **Roman** Grey Ware was found.

Interpretation

The present topsoil was probably brought onto the site some 20 years ago to finish off the re-design of the play area when the hard core was laid to make the playing surface adjacent to the test pit site. The layer of hardcore (crushed rock) extends under the play ground and forms its foundation. The topsoil and crushed rock make up the top 25 cm of the soil profile, which was devoid of any archaeological content.

The dark brown-black soil immediately beneath the crushed rock layer is likely to be the original topsoil. This passes down gradually into a lighter coloured grey-brown clay subsoil, which itself passes into a red-brown clay overlying the basal clay. The basal clay is red-brown with grey spots and appears to be till. This whole sequence below the crushed rock layer down to the basal clay appears to be a natural soil profile, but the distribution of finds of different age throughout it suggests that there has been some disturbance to it, probably through cultivation. While the lowest part of this soil profile looks like a weathered version of the basal clay the presence of natural channels in the basal clay, filled with dark soil, shows that the soil immediately above the basal clay is not *in situ*.

Most of the glass, which is largely clear and modern, and the metal work (mainly nails) was found in the top 15 cm below the crushed rock layer, and probably represents 20th century rubbish. Everything else was found at all depths. In particular it is noticeable that all the pottery finds types except Medieval, occur throughout the full depth range. The most abundant layer for Modern, Unglazed Red Earthenware, Stoneware and Post-medieval pottery is between 50 and 60 cm depth. The highest concentration of Post-medieval pottery, however, is spread over the depth range 50 to 70 cm, which extends it below the Modern peak. As with CB05 there are two maxima for the coarse earthenware, the upper one being in spit 8 (70 – 80 cm depth), which is below the Post-medieval maximum, and the lower one is in the lowest 10 cm (90 – 100 cm depth). There are two medieval maxima, also; one between 50-60 cm depth and the lower, bigger one between 90 and 100 cm depth. All three Anglo-Saxon sherds came from below 70 cm depth, though there was a piece of late Midland Purple Ware among them. The distribution pattern for the coarse earthenware and medieval pottery suggests that there was extensive turning of the soil by deep ploughing up to the early 18th C taking broken pancheons to the base of the soil profile (spit 10) and bringing up the medieval material, which has a secondary peak in spit 6. Cultivation continued after this, but not deep ploughing. Very likely it was garden cultivation in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The Chesterfield Arms dates from mid 18th C.

The absence of Roman pottery in this test pit is an indication that the area is outside the Roman settlement that generated so much Roman pottery in the Cherry Street test pits, LA09 in particular. Later than the Roman period there is continuity, but there is not the abundance of medieval pottery

that characterises CB05. However, the presence of similar types of pottery in both pits suggests a common source, possibly the same habitation. In 1586 the three test pits were on three different plots of land, but the evidence here is that up to the time that the orange Midland Purple Ware was in use (1380-1450) it may have been occupied by a single tenant.

After that there is nothing in the abundances of the finds of various date ranges to suggest habitation. However, the land was cultivated by ploughing probably from the mid 16th century . After the mid 18th century the land was dominated by activities associated with the public house immediately to the north of it.

CB38

CHESTERFIELD ARMS

LOCATION AND PROTOCOL

NGR	470628.339910
Height OD	23 m (on map)
Address	Chesterfield Arms
Dig dates	12 th –13 th July 2016
Pit site	Lawn at the back of the pub.
Pit protocol	A half pit was dug on the eastern side of a partly buried wall. The pit eventually measured 60 wide by 100 cm along the wall. It was dug to explore the wall, which was partly exposed under grass and expose it to its base. Soil was removed in 10 cm layers for spits 1 and 2. Below this the pit was dug for depth and sieved only selectively.

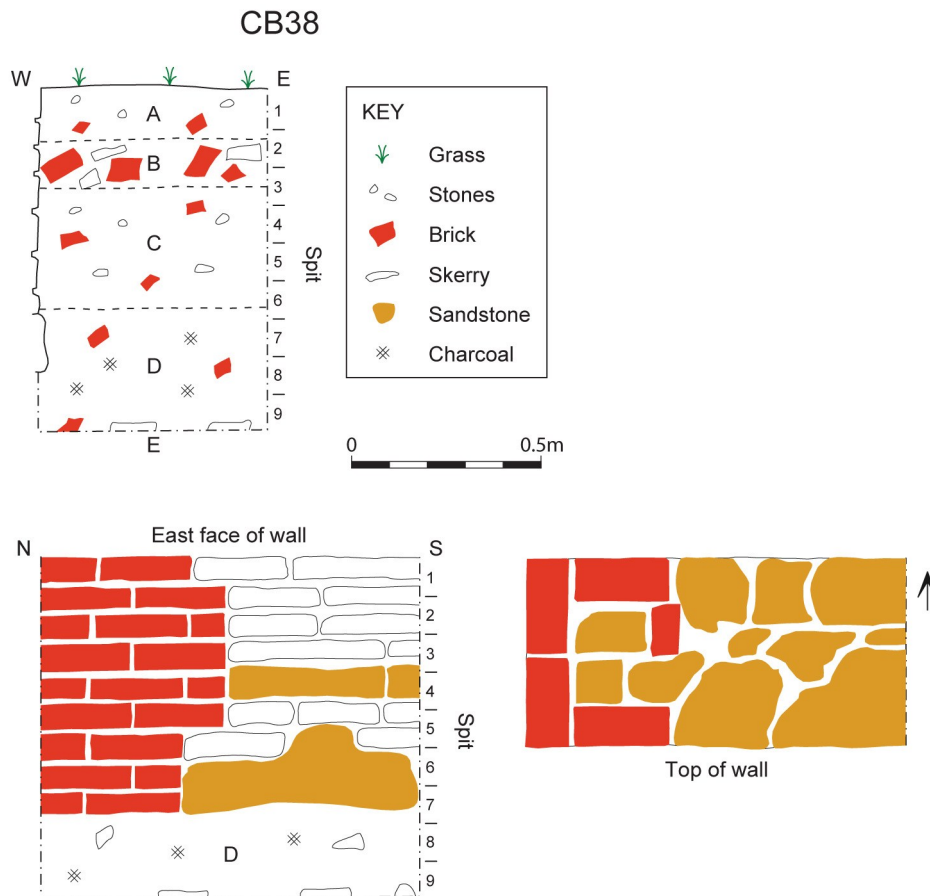


CB38

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Description of pit

Dark brown topsoil with pebbles and pieces of brick was laid on building rubble consisting of whole bricks, lumps of mortar and dressed stone. This is possibly debris from a demolished small building shown nearby on the old maps.



- A Dark brown topsoil with pebbles, brick pieces to 6 cm.
- B Building rubble, whole bricks, dressed stone, mortar.
- C Dark brown clay soil with stones, gypsum lumps, brick pieces; all small.
- D Grey brown clay soil, charcoal, brick pieces, clay lumps 1-3 cm.. Top is gradational.
- E Red-brown clay with grey mottles. Bricks and skerry embedded in the top; organic soil mixed with it. Grey clay on the south side of the pit. Fibrous root network in both types of clay. Probably Mercia Mudstone.

Beneath the rubble is dark brown clay soil with small brick pieces lumps of gypsum and stones. There has quite clearly been some disturbance to this layer. It overlies grey-brown clay soil containing charcoal, brick pieces and clay lumps and this also looks disturbed.

The underlying red-brown clay with grey mottles has brick and stones embedded in the top and organic soil mixed with it. It is also well penetrated with fibrous rootlets and must have been a soil. It is probably Mercia Mudstone, similar to CB05.

The wall, which forms the western side of the pit, is 50 cm wide and about 6 m long. It is made of local stone; mostly skerry with some Hollygate Sandstone. The pit was situated at the southern

end of the wall and shows a brick pillar constructed at the end of it. This is about 50 cm square. The dimensions of the brick are clearly Victorian and though the facing is brick the interior fill in the pillar is stone.



The test pit at 20 cm depth. The wall on the left has only partly been cleaned up.



The completed pit showing the wall on the western side.



Close up of the top of the end pillar of the wall.

The wall

The wall is 6 m long, 49.5 cm wide and 65 cm high. The brick pillar at the end extended for a max of 48.5 cm along the wall.

The wall was thought to be Roman by the pub owner, who also thought that it lined up with the tile-roofed mud wall on the north side of Church Street that marks the eastern boundary of the school property. The two walls do not line up, nor does this one have the same orientation as the mud wall. The materials used to build the wall are not Roman.

The base of the wall is at the same level as the ground to the north immediately in front of the pub. This area is separated from the garden by a wall about one metre high with steps up to the garden. This suggests that much of the soil against the wall is backfill that has been banked against it during landscaping to create a level recreational area.

The wall is essentially made of local sandstone, including skerry and Hollygate Sandstone with skerry the majority. Some stones are dressed; the large sandstone piece at the bottom of the wall is not. The stones are set in mortar.

Only the end of the wall is made of brick. The bricks are 9 3/8 inches long, 4 3/8 inches wide and 2 3/8 inches deep and they are set with mortar. The lowest courses are smeared with mortar on the inside of the wall. The bricks seem to have been used only for facing because stones are used for infill in the pillar. The end face was not excavated.

Finds

Building materials were found throughout the full depth of the pit, but there was a large concentration in the rubble layer beneath the topsoil. The rubble is mostly pieces of brick with a range in thickness of 2.5, 2.725, 2.75 and 2.875 inches. One 2-inch brick had mortar attached. Some free mortar, pieces of concrete and dressed stone were also found. A channel brick 13cm wide, 7 cm deep had a 4 cm deep channel through it. The brick continued to be found down to the bottom of the pit.

The **metallic** material is predominantly rusted nails, but with a length of rod, a washer and wire. Most of it was found in the topsoil; three pieces only from spit 8. There was a large amount of clinker concentrated in the lower 30 cm of the pit. A piece from within the rubble layer was fused to a bone fragment. It is probably all from the furnace that provided heating in the pub.

The **glass** was mostly from the topsoil with a few pieces in the rubble layer. Most of it consisted of pieces of clear bottle glass, some pieces with embossed numbers and lettering. One fragment with the letters ...IPSTONE clearly is from a Shipstone brewery beer bottle. Fragments of a wine glass, four from amber beer bottles and both 1/16th inch and 1/8th inch window glass were also retrieved.

Miscellaneous items include modern coins and parts of modern light bulbs.

Bones and teeth occur at all depths and include two tusks below 60 cm depth.

The **clay pipe** fragments found in the topsoil are 19th to early 20th C. One short stem dated 17th or early 18th C was recovered from between 60 and 70 cm depth.

There was a rather low yield of **pottery** from this pit. The **Modern** pottery was mainly Cream Ware and White Ware, two sherds of Black Basalt, and a single sherd each of blue and white Transfer Print and porcelain. Identifiable vessels include plates, cups, a bowl and a dish. All the

Unglazed Red Earthenware was identifiable as plant pot. One rim piece was chunky and had an inside diameter of 20 cm. This may have been from a rhubarb forcing pot. There were only two brown salt-glaze **Stoneware** sherds. Both were recovered from the topsoil. One was 19th century; the other had the orange fabric characteristic of Nottingham-made pottery dated to the period 1700 to 1725.

Only four sherds of **Coarse Earthenware** were recovered. These were two pink bodied, one red bodied and one light bodied. One of the pink-bodied sherds had in it two holes and may have been from a colander or a cheese press. The other pink-bodied sherd was a rim piece from a pancheon 38 cm in diameter.

Three **post-medieval** sherds were Mottled Ware, Midland Black Ware with a red body and a small piece of black-glazed ware with a red-purple body that may be Cistercian Ware.

There were only three sherds of **medieval** pottery. These were all Midland Purple Ware, two of which were the early orange type found in the other two pits. The third had a longer time range and was probably younger.

There were two sherds of **Roman** Grey Ware.

Interpretation

None of the soil in this pit is *in situ*. On the tithe map (1841) all three of the pit sites are within property owned by the pub, but on the 1883 and 1910 maps the eastern half of the land now occupied by the pub was under separate ownership (or tenancy). CB37 and CB38 were on this separate plot. There are no buildings shown on it in 1883, but in 1910 there is a small building within the Chesterfield Arms plot, situated on its eastern boundary about 10 metres away from CB38. It is difficult to be sure of the source for the rubble in CB38, but the outbuilding shown on the 1910 map is the most likely source. The range in thickness of the bricks found in this layer, the thinnest being 2 inches, suggests that the building might have been made using recycled bricks from buildings as old as Tudor. The majority size suggests that it may have been built in the 18th C. When this building was demolished is not known, except that it was after 1910.

The materials used to make the wall show that it is either 19th or early 20 century in age. All the soil taken out was banked against it and the basal clay was disturbed: modern pottery was embedded in it and Roman sherds were found above it. It is suggested that the wall lost its function at some time after 1910 and the ground around it was remodelled. There is no record available to give any information about when this may have happened. However, there are two extensions to the eastern side of the pub. One possibly done in the 19th century and the other, the flat-roofed dining and kitchen area, after World War II. The redesign of the garden probably took place during the second extension.

The source of the soil used for this may not be far away. The pottery within it, though not *in situ* is essentially the same as the material found in the other pits.