

**CB25**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT ON  
9 NEWGATE STREET**

**CONTENTS**

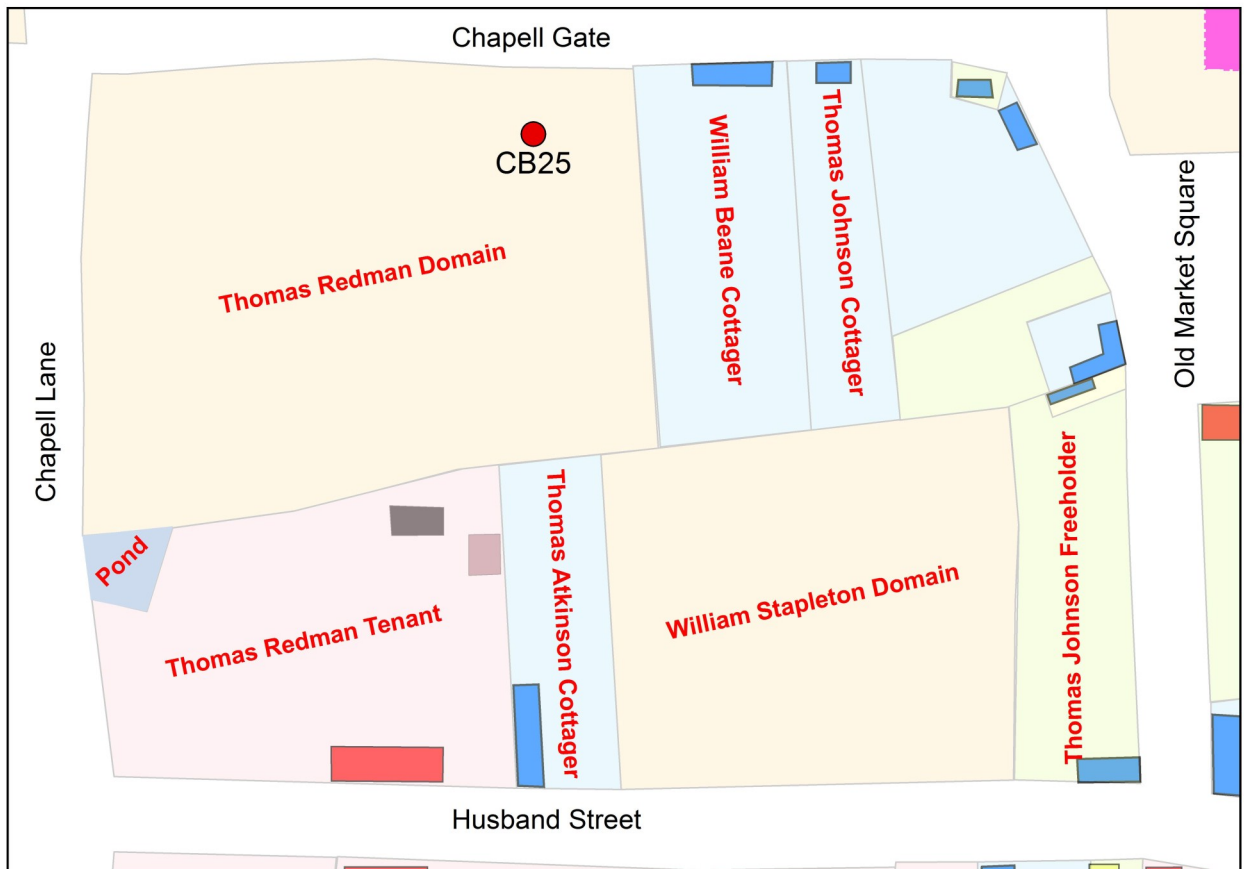
**SITE HISTORY  
LOCATION AND PTOTOCOL  
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS  
    Description of pit  
    Finds  
    Interpretation**

## CB25

### SITE HISTORY 9 NEWGATE STREET

#### 1586

Our conjectural map of Bingham for 1586 shows no housing on the west end of Chappell lane, later Newgate Street. The holding was described as a 'by close' and named *Fair Close*. Thus it would have been a very early enclosure at the time that Bingham was generally farmed by tenants of the Stapleton estate on the basis of four open fields, common meadows and moorland and some enclosed pastures. In 1586 it was held by Thomas Redman who farmed on his own account from a homestead on Husband Street (now Long Acre). Fair Close was described as demesne (domain) land, meaning that Redmond managed it on behalf of the lord of the manor rather than leasing it as

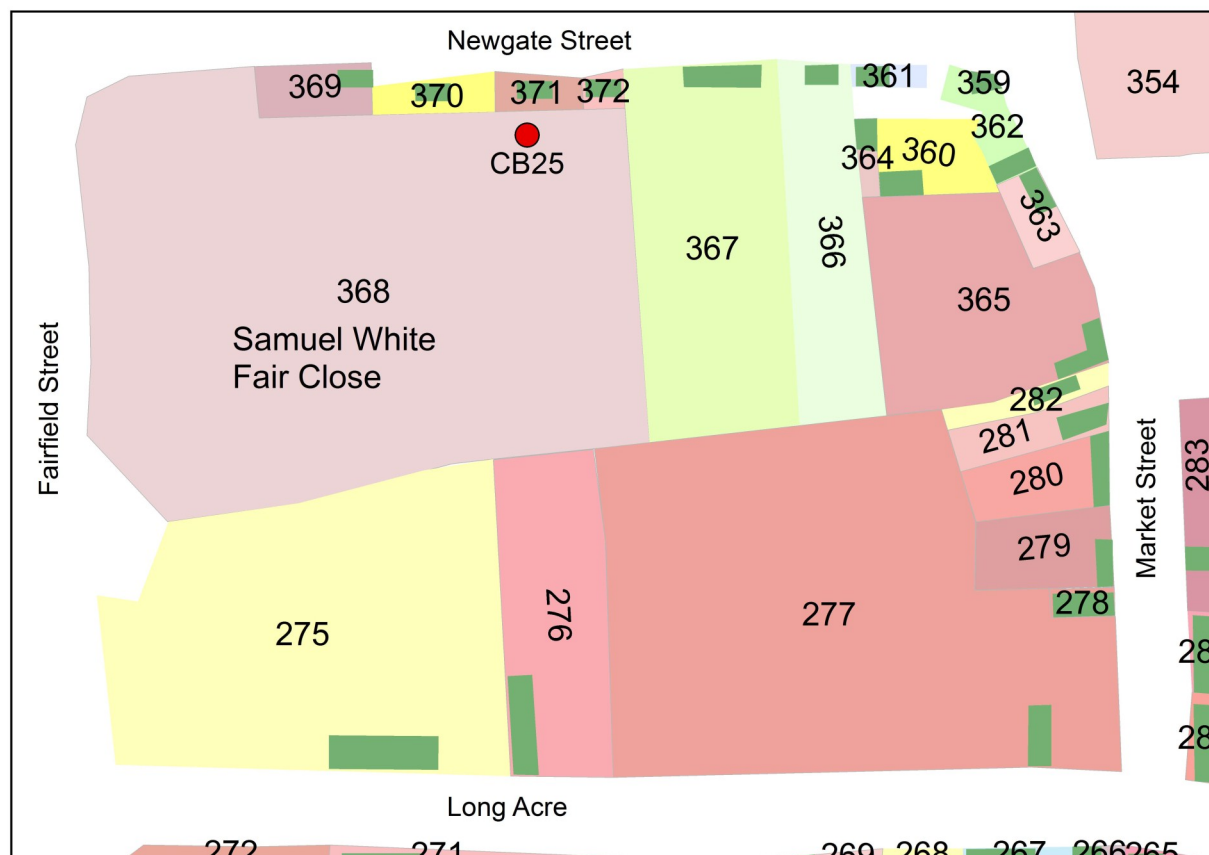


*Conjectural map for 1586*

a tenant. We believe the hiring and horse fairs and other similar events took place here for many years.

#### 1776

By 1776 some houses had encroached on the Fair Close. In the Chesterfield estate survey of 1776 they were described as houses in the waste. These would probably have been built without authorisation from the Estate but the squatters, as they might be called, were allowed to stand and pay rent! The row of houses was occupied by:



Map for 1776 made from the estate survey of that date

369	William	Wheatley	House and Garden
370	Jarvis	Bass	House & Garden on Waste
371	Richard	Miller	House & Garden on Waste
372	William	Roadley	House & Garden on Waste

Number 371 was the forerunner of number 9 Newgate Street. It was occupied by Richard Miller. The parish register records the burial of Richard Miller, described as a woolcomber, in 1778. When he married Martha Hostin in 1759 he was shown as a weaver.

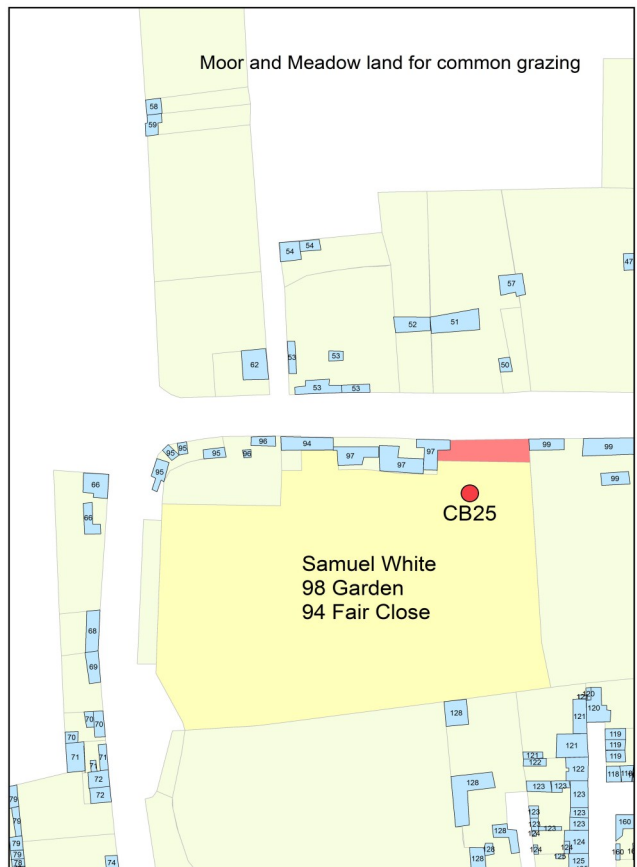
Fair Close was occupied by Samuel White, almost certainly as enclosed pasture. He leased about 70 acres of arable and pasture land around the parish. His homestead and farmhouse were on Long Acre, where the “Tudor” farmhouses are between the entrance to the Chesterfield Arms and Regency Cottage. The family became grocers in the nineteenth century.

### 1841

The tithe maps show an unchanged position in terms of boundaries, but by now Samuel White (son of the 1776 Samuel) held both Fair Close and the garden space Miller’s house seems to have become.

### 1896

On 2 November 1896 the 5th Earl of Carnarvon leased the plot now known as No 9 Newgate Street to Sheldon Marson, a tailor who already lived in Bingham. In the 1896 directory Marson is



*Tithe map of 1841. On the left is a copy of the original; on the right is a reconstruction of that map showing the plot numbers*



*O.S. map for 1910*



*Modern O.S. map  
OS Licence No 0100031673*

listed as a tailor of Market Street but we don't know where. It seems likely that in 1896/7 he would be moving from rented premises to owning his own substantial premises. In this agreement the Earl agrees that as soon as Marson has built his message and tailor's shop he will then lease the property for 99 years at a rent of £2-10-0 per annum. However, the present owners found the date 1895 written on the dining room wall under a layer of wallpaper, so it may be that the house was actually constructed earlier whilst the land was still technically in the occupation of the Earl.

#### **1914**

In 1914 Marson leased an extra plot to the south to use as a garden. Marson was still a leaseholder and paying an annual ground rent. The freehold was sold to him for £62-10-0 on 15th July 1920. The freehold to number 11 next door was sold in June of the same year. This is about the same time as Lord Carnarvon sold other freeholds in Bingham. It would seem that he was raising cash for the digs in Egypt.

This piece was purchased by the Rural District Council to become part of the Newgate Street car park when Eaton Place was developed in about 1960. Before the development of Eaton Place with its new library, the house was home to Bingham library, firstly as a privately run facility and later as the county library.

## CB25

### LOCATION AND PROTOCOL

<b>NGR</b>	470316.339984
<b>Height OD (mid point rim of N face)</b>	26.246 m [error 0.025 m]
<b>Dig dates</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
<b>Pit site</b>	Lawn in back garden.
<b>Pit protocol</b>	1-metre pit, 10 cm spits; each spit sieved. Weather caused delay of nearly a week to finish. Pit orientated N-S. North face sections only described and measured unless otherwise stated. Photographs taken facing north unless otherwise stated.

## CB25

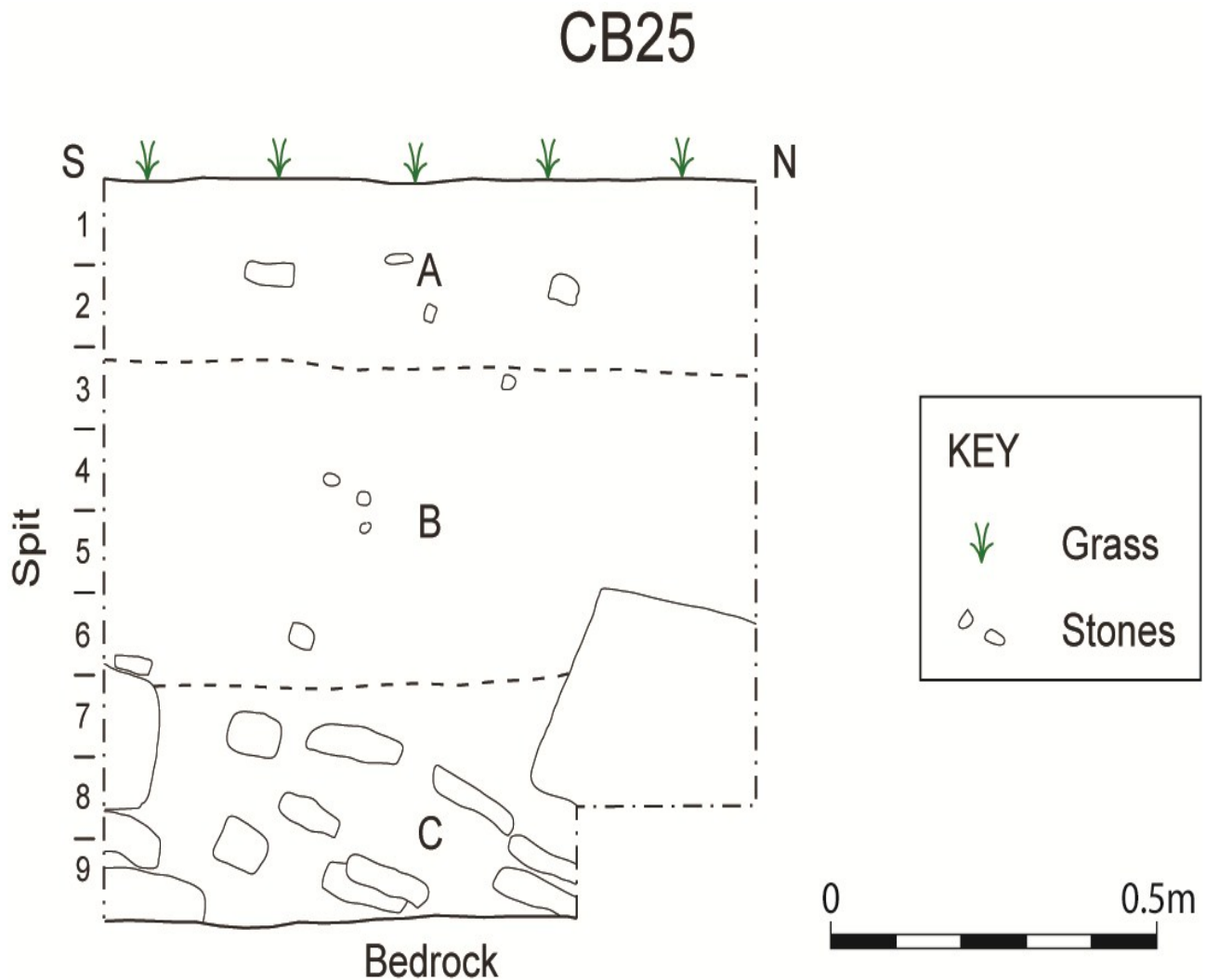
### ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

#### Description of pit

The upper sections of this pit are conventional topsoil and subsoil, but underneath there is a jumble of stones thought to be a collapsed structure of some sort.

Topsoil to 25 cm  
Subsoil to c60 cm  
Stones

The topsoil is dark brown-grey sandy loam with a few small pebbles. The subsoil is dark brown sandy clay loam with occasional small stones. Beneath the subsoil is a pile of stones inclined towards the north packed in a mid orange/yellow-brown sandy clay. The stones were encountered first at 50 cm. The packing varies from clay to sand and looks highly disturbed. The stone structure looks like a collapsed rectilinear cistern that



- A* Topsoil of dark brown-grey sandy loam, occasional small-medium stones.
- B* Subsoil of dark brown sandy clay loam, occasional small stones.
- C* Backfill/packing, compact mid orange/yellow-brown sandy clay with frequent irregular, angular sandstone sloping down to the north.





*P1040952. View north of the topsoil in the wall. The base of the pit is the upper subsoil.*



*P1040958 First view of the stones at 50 cm.*



*P1040973. Bottom of the pit showing how the stones were distributed.*

has been dug into the basal glacial clay.

### **Finds**

No finds were collected from below 60cm depth, meaning that there were none among the stones in the collapsed cistern.

The most unusual find was a flint microlith. Flint was so rarely found in the pits that to find one that was identifiable was a pleasure. Being a microlith it was most likely to be Mesolithic dating from the pre-agriculture days when hunter gatherers roamed the countryside and camped on the margins of the Bingham lake.

The building material was mostly brick pieces and plaster with one fragment each of clay tile and roofing slate. All were found in the topsoil and could be attributed to the building of the current house. The single piece of a clay pipe stem and some buttons were also found in the topsoil.

All except one piece of glass was found in the topsoil. It was mostly clear and there were pieces of 1/8th inch window glass. One 10 mm thick piece of a layered, blue glass bottle shoulder is quite unusual. All of this glass is likely to be 20th C. One molten nodule was found between 50-60 cm depth at the bottom of the topsoil and could not be dated.

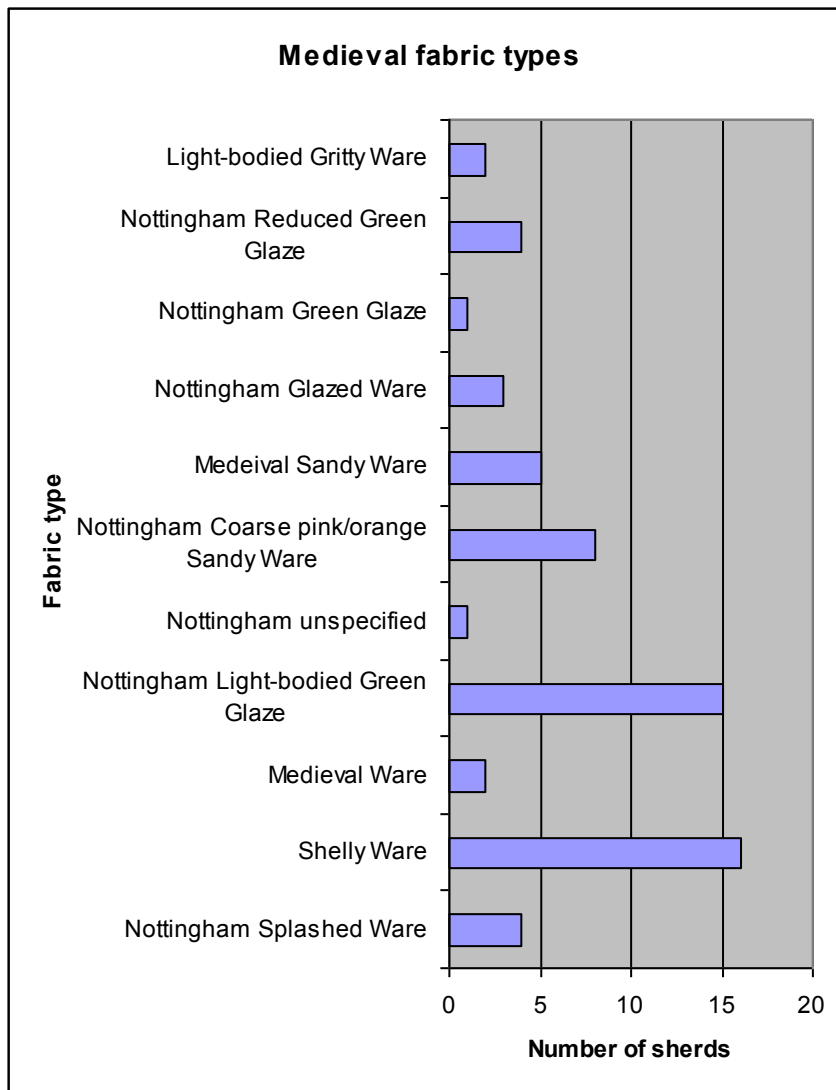
While coal was found only in the subsoil, bones and teeth and metal objects were all found in the topsoil and subsoil.

There were 14 metal objects. Most of them were nails, usually square headed, and one was fused to a washer. There was a piece of lead and another of an unknown metal.

There were two Unglazed Red Earthenware sherds, probably plant pot and eight glazed Modern sherds. Most of these were Cream Ware and probably were from the same plate. Two rim pieces showed it to have a wavy edge. The other two sherds were from White Ware and Cane-coloured Ware. It is likely that these are all early to mid 19th C.

The seven Coarse Earthenware sherds were small, one brown glazed, while all the others were pink-bodied black glazed.

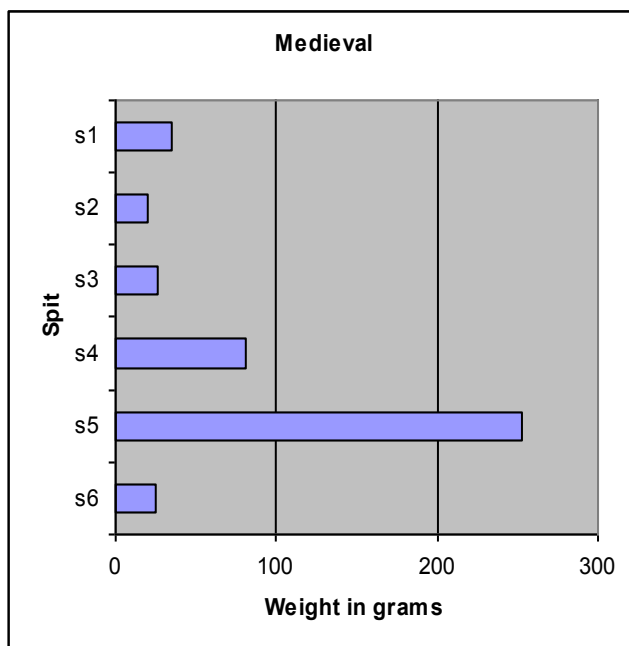




Three sherds of stoneware were all 1720-1790 Nottingham made vessels, form not known.

Of three sherds of post medieval pottery one is Coarse Black Ware and two are Midland Yellow Ware. These two were eroded, but typical of Midland Yellow Ware, dating from the late 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> C. The Coarse Black Ware was a piece of the base of a dish, likely to be the same age range.

There were 66 finds of medieval sherds. These were way the most numerous of all fabric types and age categories. They were present at all depths from topsoil to 60 cm. There were 11 fabric types in total, the most numerous being Shelly Ware (16). They fell within the age range 1200 to 1400, though some could not be dated and the others were rather difficult to tie down. One specially fine fabric was among the earliest, 1100 to 1200. Nottingham



Light-bodied Green Glaze (15) was the next most abundant and also represented several age groups all within the range 1175 to 1375. Nottingham Coarse pink/orange Sandy Ware (8) all fell in the 1200 to 1400 age range. One with a fabric that was close to Splashed Ware was 1200-1300.

The other fabrics were Nottingham Splashed Ware, Nottingham Reduced Green Glaze, Medieval Ware, Medieval Sandy Ware, Nottingham Glazed Ware and a single sherd of Nottingham Green Glaze. One of the sherds of Medieval Ware was a particularly fine fabric with a good glaze and is likely to have been imported.

Most of the sherds were from jugs, jars and a few from bowls. Several sherds of Shelly Ware

were from cooking pots, as were sherds of Nottingham Splashed Ware and Nottingham Coarse pink/orange Sandy Ware. One sherd of Medieval Sandy Ware was from a pot stand.

Two sherds of Stamford Ware fabric A (1000 to 1150) and from a jar were found in the topsoil.

Two Late Saxon sherds were recovered. One a Lincoln kiln-type Shelly Ware 870-1000 and the other a Late Saxon Local Fabric type 870-1100.

Two Anglo-Saxon sherds were both attributed only to the rather broad range 450 to 800. One was a Charnwood type the other and Early Anglo-Saxon Local Ware.

Two sherds of Roman pottery were found. Both are Grey Ware and one is well abraded and micaceous. Neither could be dated.

### **Interpretation**

The stones at the bottom of the pit were mostly flat skerry with one or two sandstone. They were piled up tilted to the north, but distributed in a way that suggested they might have been from a collapsed, rectangular cistern. It was set into the basal clay and there was similar clay among the stones in the pile. There was also some sand. There were no items of archaeological interest with the stones. Though the stones have been identified as being from a man-made object, it cannot be ruled out that they were natural and had been released from the glacial clay by weathering and erosion.

All the sherds and other fragments were found above the cistern. The Roman sherds were near the bottom and the Anglo-Saxon and Late Saxon were just above it. The greater number of medieval sherds were between 40 and 50 cm depth. The post medieval sherds were between 30 and 40 cm depth and all the modern, the unglazed red earthenware, stoneware and coarse earthenware were in the topsoil above 30 cm depth. This suggests a sort of stratigraphy, but the Saxo-Norman sherds and many of the medieval fragments were distributed throughout the sequence. The likelihood is that the old sherds have undergone some vertical redistribution due to ploughing.

The overall implication of the distribution pattern is that, if the stones do represent a collapsed cistern, it was most likely to have been Roman.

The medieval sherds, though numerous, cover a wide range of dates. The presence of 2 sherds of Light-bodied Gritty Ware shows that some sort of activity continued here after the Black Death, but the other 64 sherds were all pre-1348. The oldest included early Shelly Ware and Nottingham Splashed Ware, but the most numerous were Nottingham Light-bodied Green Glaze and Shelly Ware. Both of these included several age groups, but most fell in the range 1175 to 1325.

The older sherds cover the same age range as the pits dug in the core of old Bingham and it seems to suggest that there was a habitation site or agricultural activity near here throughout the same period. The most likely period when there was a habitation is the late 12th to mid 14th C. Because this site is so far to the west of the main core of Bingham it is possible that this area was a satellite development possibly arising out of an original Anglo-Saxon settlement.

After the Black Death there is very little. Apart from the two sherds of Light-bodied Gritty Ware (1350-1450) there is nothing until the Midland Yellow Ware, which has a range late 16th to end 17th centuries. This suggests that there was little activity here in the post Black Death period. The modern pottery that could be dated showed that there was activity here throughout the 18th and early to mid 19th centuries, but the quantity of finds is such that the sherds must represent little more than casual breakages, possibly ending up here as manure spread.