

**LMCB03**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT ON**

**63 St MARY'S ROAD**

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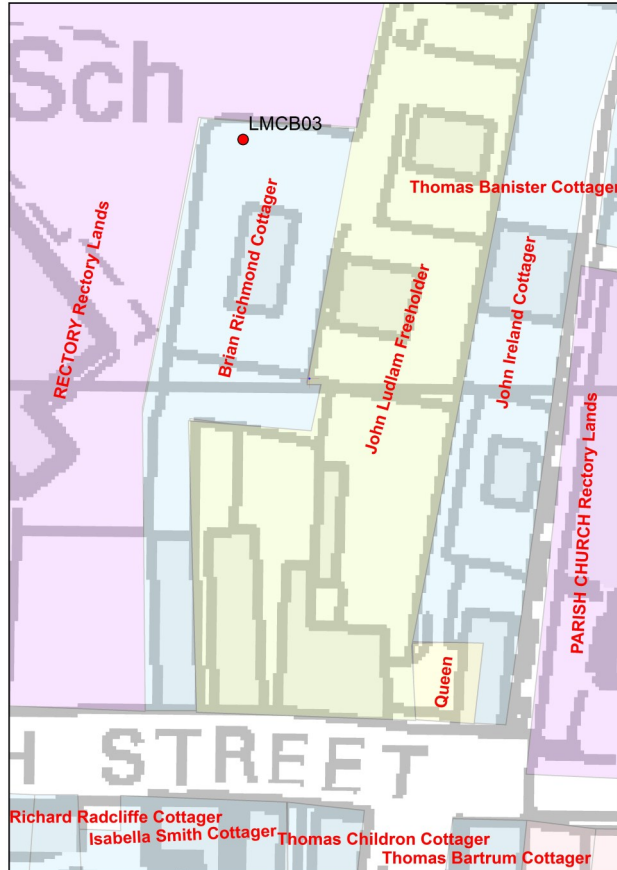
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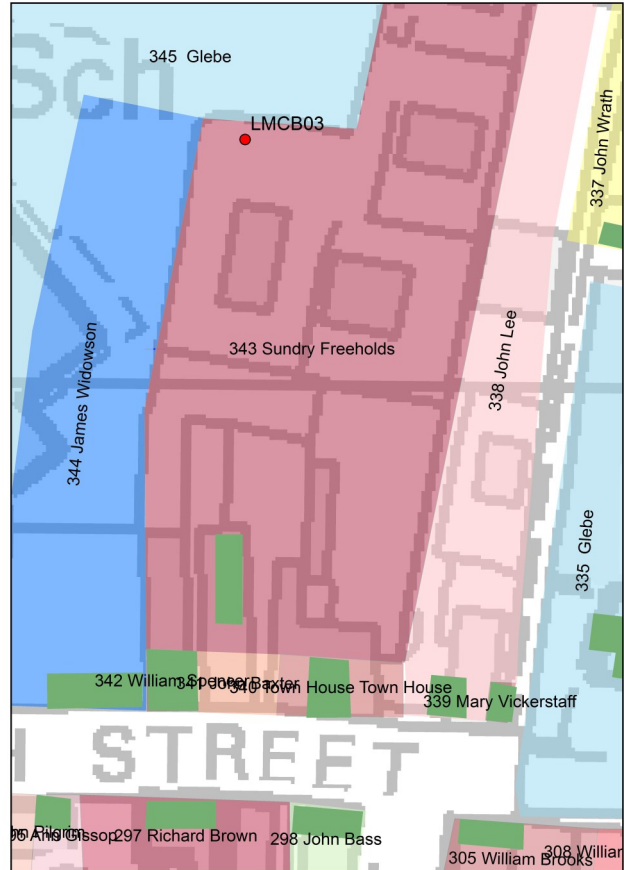
**LMCB03**  
**63St MARY'S ROAD**

**SITE HISTORY**

The pit was in the garden of a bungalow built in 1998 in what was previously the grounds of 7 Church Street. Three other bungalows were built to the east on land formerly part of 19 Church Street. The site has always been on the edge of Bingham village. The area to the north of the original plot, incorporating Butt Field and Parson's Hill, and to the west, now Robert Miles School, was glebe land until modern times.



*Conjectural map for 1586.*



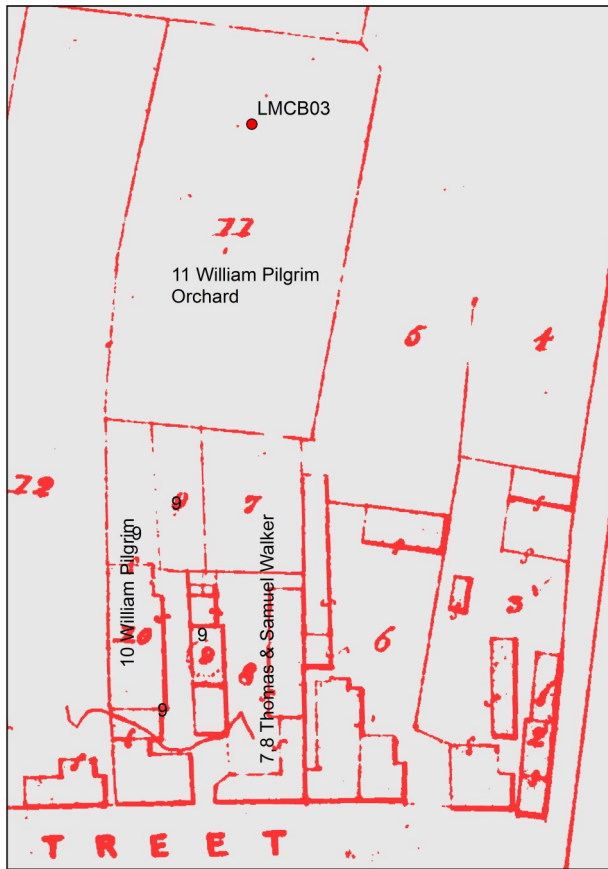
*Map for 1776 made from the estate survey documents.*

*Note: modern topography on all maps by permission of OS Licence No 0100031673*

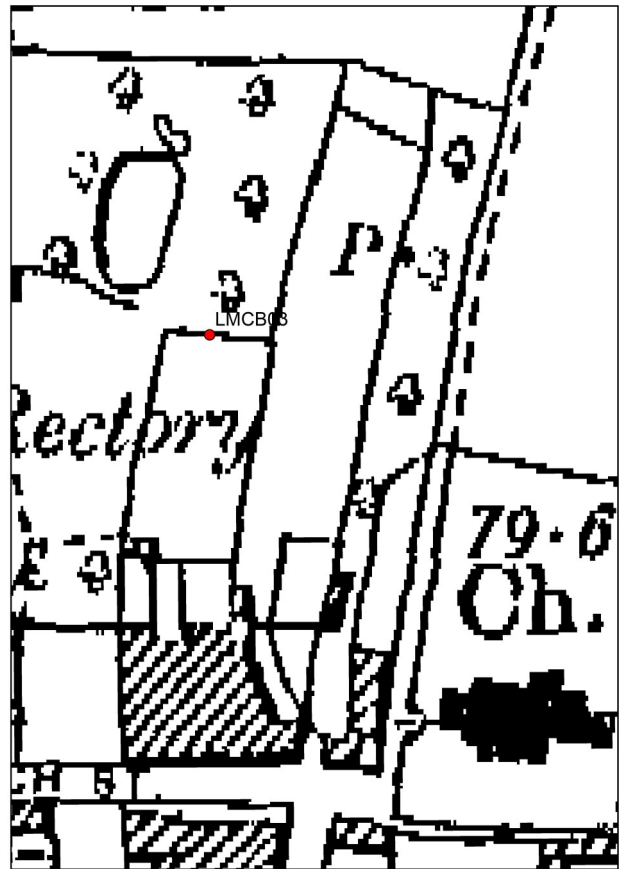
**1586**

Our conjectural map of Bingham based on the 1586 Stapleford Estate survey, a text document without a map, suggests this was a long plot of land which narrowed towards Church Gate (as Church Street was then known) and was in the possession of Brian Richmond, a cottager. He would have had a cottage probably facing onto Church Gate to maximise the usable area of garden. Our map for 1586 relies to a large extent on the plans we do have from 1776.

As a cottager Richmond had no other land holding and would have been self-sufficient. He may have worked for the lord of the manor or may have been tradesman; we have no way of telling. A caveat must be entered on the shape we originally showed for the plot, as would perhaps better mirror the 1776 plan if it was regularly rectangular. In which case it would have been part of John



*Tithe map of 1841*



*O.S. map of 1910*



*Modern map*

Ludlam's freehold. This holding was described as 2 cottages, half bovat of land and a toft in Bingham. As with other freeholders he was liable for military service, which was probably commuted to a monetary payment. He held 60 freehold strips in the four open fields totalling 67 acres.

Ludlam very likely used this plot as pasture and possible for growing vegetables. He also had two freehold tenements elsewhere in Bingham and 8 bovates of land one of which is a newly built cottage (therefore without common) with a croft. He must have lived in one of the four tenements he seems to have owned, but we have no way of telling which one.

**1776**

Several plots of land this area were not part of the large Chesterfield Estate which owned about 85% of Bingham but were in the hands of other freeholders, whose details were not listed individually, just as "sundry freeholds", in the 1776 survey of the Chesterfield Estate. Thus we know nothing of them!

## **1841**

The 1841 tithe map and its accompanying list of land holders (the apportionment) reveals a fairly complex pattern of land holding for this area, based around what are now numbers 7,9 and 11 Church Street.

Plot number 11, on which the test pit LMCB03 was dug, belonged to William Pilgrim, who held the freehold to this and plot 10, the house that is now number 7 Church Street. It was described as a house, malt office and garden. Pilgrim was landlord at the Chesterfield Arms opposite.

Plot 9 (now numbers 9 and 11) Church Street was owned by Pilgrim and occupied by Samuel Marriet. His details are not on the 1841 census so we assume he left the property around then. It might have been a tied cottage for an employee at the Inn.

Plots 7 and 8 were owned and occupied by Thomas and Samuel Walker and are now 11 and 15 Church Street.

From about 1844 to the present day number 7 Church Street has always been occupied (and since 1847 owned) by doctors, until 2002 general practitioners. Until about the 1950s they held their surgeries here.

The northern end of the garden, the site of the bungalow, was used a vegetable plot.

## **LMCB03**

### **LOCATION AND PROTOCOL**

<b>NGR</b>	<b>470663.340042 (mid point north edge)</b>
<b>Height OD (mid point north edge)</b>	<b>22.538 m</b>
<b>Dig dates</b>	<b>24-26<sup>th</sup> April 2013</b>
<b>Pit site</b>	Lawn near the gate of a large garden, sited close to the yew hedge boundary with the junior school
<b>Pit protocol</b>	1-metre pit, 10 cm spits, sieved to spit 5. Did not sieve spits 6 and 7. Resumed at 8. Stopped at 115 cm at natural.

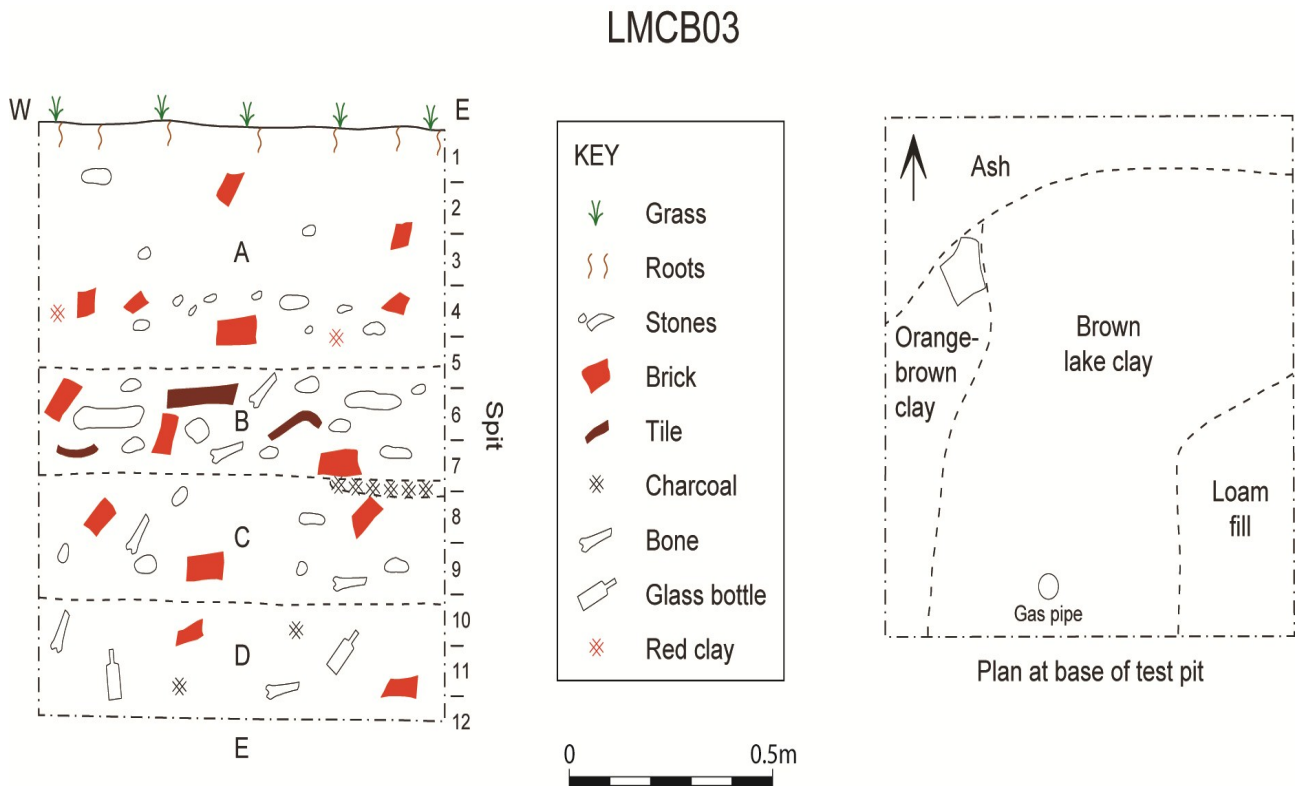
## LMCB03

### ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

#### Description of pit

Although there are several layers with differing content in this pit they all contain 20<sup>th</sup> century rubbish. The sequence is:

Top soil to 45 cm depth  
Rubbish dump to 120 cm  
Natural, basal clay.



- A* Topsoil of brown-grey clay loam with stones to 8 cm, bricks etc. Content increases downwards.
- B* Rubbish dump of dark brown-black sandy loam full of stones, pot, bone, fragments of rhu barb forcing jars etc.
- C* Brown-black sandy loam, same content as B. Layer of coal and charcoal at the top.
- D* Ash layer with egg shells, whole bottles etc
- E* Brown clay, blocky, barren with grey mottles. Bioturbated at the top. Probably lake clay

The topsoil is brown-grey clay loam with stones to 8 cm and a range of modern materials associated with building: bricks and other building material, plastic-coated wire, plastic sheeting, glass, rotted wood and gravel. The pit is sited close to the garage and much of this might be detritus developed during the building phase c 10 years ago and re-deposited to here.

The topsoil overlies what is probably an old rubbish dump sited at the bottom of the garden. There is a huge variety of materials in this stratified deposit all of which is mixed with good soil. The objects range in age through 20<sup>th</sup> C possibly into the late 19<sup>th</sup> C. Layers of coal dust and ash occur



IMG\_2052 at 30 cm. View North.

and there is section of a brick wall with mortar, but one brick course only. It is unclear if this is *in situ* or not. The only items found in this part of the sequence that is not modern is a piece of 2-inch brick and a piece of medieval pottery, a base of coarse sandy ware.

At the base is blocky, dark brown clay with grey mottles, which resembles lake clay seen elsewhere, for example in CB04, the adjacent pit in Robert Miles Junior School. There is a 10cm layer of orange-brown sandy clay on top of it containing pebbles and bits of brick. Charcoal in it might be carbonised rootlets. It is likely that this is the weathered top of the lake clay.

### Finds

The material taken out of the pit was sieved from surface to 50 cm, but was not sieved between 50 and 70 cm though a record of the content was made as it was dug. Below that was also sieved. This means that there is a break in the continuity of the detailed record.

Most classes of find were present throughout the whole depth of the pit, but there were some differences in content between the topsoil and the lower section of the pit.

The finds in the **topsoil** include, among the building materials, slate, garden edging, mortar, floor tile, brick, including whole ones, and ceramic tiles. There is plastic coated wire and plastic bags and rotted wood. Bits of metal include a gas fitting with a screw clamp, a 19<sup>th</sup> C clay pipe stem, a rotted oyster shell and bits of animal bone.

Various pieces of glass in the topsoil include window glass, 3/32nd to c1/8th inch thick, a piece of a mirror with the backing intact, fragments of flat-sided medicine bottles, clear cylindrical bottles, a frosted stopper, a fragment of brown glass possible from a beer bottle and a piece of a pink, opaque vessel. All of this is clearly 20th C.

The **spoil from depths of 50 to 70 cm** was not sieved because it was so densely packed with rubbish, but the content was recorded. The wide variety of content includes: garden labels, plastic pots, needle pots, whole bricks, mortar, dog teeth, Sutton's seed packet, some 20<sup>th</sup> C pot, glass bottles and jars including a Shipham's meat paste jar, stoneware storage jar, glazed tiger eye. Some sections of a brick wall with mortar were found, but one brick course only.

Sieving was restarted at **70 cm depth**. The content was reduced compared with above, but it was equally diverse. It includes pan tiles, small brick pieces, 3-inch bricks, one 2-inch brick, ceramic tiles and clay tiles. There were carbon rods from batteries, cinders, coke, coal, bone, wood, modern black plastic, asbestos sheeting and clay pipes, all from the late 19<sup>th</sup> C. Metal objects include metal rods, bullets, a cartridge case, Gibbs toothpaste tin lid, rusting iron, gas light fitting, lead pipe with 1 cm bore, a metal tube of rawl plug fix. There were legs, arms and a piece of an ear of ceramic dolls and doll's house kit including a tureen, all of which could have been 19th or 20th C.

There was a lot of glass including molten glass droplets. Nearly all of it was clear. Included was window glass, mainly 1/8th, but with 1/16th and 3/32nd inch thickness, jam jar rims, cylindrical embossed bottles, polygonal bottles of unknown number of sides and many medicine bottles,

among them whole bottles. Some of these were graduated in table spoons and came from Seaton's Chemists, Bingham, who had a shop here from 1926 to 1953. There were a Daddie's Sauce bottle, blue poison bottles, a small ink bottle, base of a Marmite jar and decorative coloured glass. One striking piece was a base of a bowl with a frosted relief image of a cherub playing a lute and sitting on a branch.

The **pottery** ranges in age from late post medieval to modern. However, the post medieval, medieval and coarse earthenware sherds were only found below 70 cm depth.

Modern pottery was found at all depths. There were 89 sherds. Around 30% was Art Deco, 30% White Ware, 13% Transfer Print. Other types either in single pieces or no more than 4 sherds are Cane-coloured Ware, Late Brown Glaze, Mocha Ware, Staffordshire White Salt-glaze Stoneware, porcelain and a possible figurine.

The Modern pottery found in the topsoil is fairly limited in its range. Sherds of one very distinctive pale blue-grey and white transfer printed plate was found both in the topsoil and between 90 and 100 cm depth. In addition there was White Ware, Art Deco and Cane-coloured, all singular types not thought to be fitted to anything found deeper. The Art Deco piece is a part of a vase with a striking peaches and leaves design.

A large amount of Modern table ware was recovered from between 70 and 80 cm depth. Some of it is clearly 20th C and there are several bits that fit together or are from a single pot. The best example of this is a total of 13 sherds from an Art Deco vessel. It has straight upper sides, but there appears to be a suggestion of a downward curve towards the base. The diameter of the rim is 9cm, which means that it could be either a cup or a jug, but there is an upper stub scar that looks more cup than jug. The design is classic Art Deco with large, brown flowers, variously coloured fruits and tiny leaves on a cream base. The cup has a black rim. Some of the pieces are clean, others badly stained.

Another six sherds are the same base, cream colour, but have no decoration and are from the base of near it. They may be from the same vessel, but the body is thinner than those with the decoration, which suggests that it may be a different vessel. A lower handle stub is cup size. The maker's mark in the form of a ewer is present on the base with the words MADE IN ENGLAND. So far this mark has not been identified.

Another Art Deco motif consists of fruits (strawberries) and leaves on a white glaze. They are from a bowl 16 cm in diameter, 5.5 cm deep with a slightly out-curving rim

Six sherds of White Ware from this same level could all be from the same plate. Also between 70 and 90 cm depth are three very distinctive sherds of a Late Brown Glaze cup. The glaze is very shiny on the outside, but has been textured inside. The body is deep purple-brown.

Among the other White Ware sherds are some clearly from plates, but there are small bowls and a jar among them. The glaze on some is eroded and others crazed as though they are cheap utility vessels. Gold ornament was present on a bowl sherd and a whole teapot lid. Sherds from lower levels are burnt and encrusted. The Transfer Print sherds are mostly blue and white and include Willow pattern. One such had a gold line through it as though it were a circular pattern within the design on a plate. Two sherds of green and white fit together and there are pale blue and white sherds. One particularly large sherd is a rim piece with a diameter of 50 cm. It has a faded blue transfer print pattern on it and is likely to be a wash bowl.

Other finds from this level include three Cane-coloured Ware sherds and one Mocha Ware. The



Mocha has cane-coloured on one side and blue and white blurred bands on the other. Elsewhere it is thought that some of the cane-coloured pieces are from Mocha Ware jugs because the cane colour and the body are the same and it is possible that this applies here. Two unusual pieces include a single sherd of Staffordshire White Salt-glaze Stoneware. This is an 18th C fabric type (1720-1780) and is probably an heirloom that had the misfortune to be broken in the 20th C. The other is a pale greenish white, lustrous porcelain sherd with a pure white body, which is also likely to be an heirloom from the 18th C.

A small number of pieces of Unglazed Red Earthenware were recovered. There were rhubarb forcers, pot planters and terracotta plant pots, including ones marked Bulwell and Sankey's. These probably were mostly 20th C, but the rhubarb forcers could be earlier.

Three sherds of stoneware with an orange fabric that is characteristic of the Nottingham-made wares in the 1700-1750 period were found and they were present in both the topsoil and below 70 cm. The other stoneware sherds were later types (1850-1950).

There was also a sherd of brown-glaze pancheon ware

A piece of medieval pottery, a base of Nottingham coarse orange/pink sandy ware and a sherd of post-medieval Staffordshire slipware were found here, all low in the sequence

At the bottom of spit 10 a layer of clay subsoil on the southern side has a vertical gas pipe through it that could not be shifted and there was a layer of ash containing lots of egg shells, wood, clinker, beer bottle caps and a white bone thimble.

### **Interpretation**

The basal clay is similar to the basal deposit in pit CB04 in the Robert Miles playing field and is probably the lake deposit. A 10 cm-thick weathered layer overlying it and containing carbonised rootlets seems to be the only part of the original soil section that is left, although the presence of a gas pipe protruding from it shows that it probably has been dug into.

A layer of ash lying on this clay is the base of the rubbish dump above it. This rubbish is around 70 cm thick. There are layers of coal dust, ash and variations in the density of enclosed objects throughout the pile, but the majority of the objects in it vary little in age. Clearly dated objects include the medicine bottle from Seaton's Pharmacy, 1926 to 1953 and many of the other objects found fall easily into this age range. The clay pipe stems are likely to be late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> C. There is a single medieval pottery sherd among the rubbish, but this is not thought to be significant of anything other than the random addition of the object from the surrounding soil. There are, however, several sherds that have an 18th C date of origin. These include slipware, porcelain, Nottingham brown stoneware, Staffordshire White Salt-glaze Stoneware and brown-glazed coarse earthenware as well as some early 18<sup>th</sup> C stoneware. Some of these pieces could be from heirlooms that got broken late in their existence within the family house, while the coarse earthenware might well have been made late.

Throughout the rubbish pile there is garden loam mixed with the other objects and it is likely that the post-medieval and medieval pottery came with it.

Throughout the pit there is evidence of a clear medical association, with many medicine bottles and some metal objects that were not clearly identified but may have been part of medical equipment.

This site was originally near the bottom of the garden behind No 7 Church Street, a house that is

known to have been occupied by doctors since 1844. The lack of a thick soil layer above the lake deposit suggests that the rubbish may have been deposited in a pit dug into the soil and the likelihood is that this was the place where the domestic rubbish from No 7 Church Street was deposited. The date for this is likely to be from the early 20th C. Many of the objects are burnt, including bits of carbonised wood and droplets of molten glass, though there is no unequivocal evidence that there were fires on the site. More likely the fires were elsewhere and the ashes and some of the debris from it were thrown onto this pile of rubbish. Garden soil would have been thrown onto the rubbish pile from time to time, which would explain the medieval and possibly some of the early 18<sup>th</sup> C pottery. These sherds are common in topsoil throughout this area.

It is likely that this rubbish dump ceased to be used in the late 1950s. There is anecdotal evidence that this part of the garden was actually leased off for allotments in the 1960s, but no evidence for this was seen. The considerable amount of garden-related debris like plant labels and so on could have been generated within the doctor's garden.

The next activity recorded in the section relates to the building of the new house in 1998. The top 45 cm of the section in the pit is topsoil mixed with a range of debris including building materials that relate to the recent building phase. Most of the rest of the inclusions can be explained as being from the early rubbish dump or within the contemporary topsoil. This layer has almost certainly been re-deposited here after building the garage.

## PICTURES OF PIT LMCB03



*IMG\_2054 at 55 cm. View North showing the section of a brick wall found within the part of the section through the rubbish dump.*



*IMG\_2055 at 1 m View South. Vertical gas pipe on South side firmly fixed in the clay.*



*IMG\_2057 Close up of gas pipe. Top of pipe is 62 cm from top of pit. View South.*



*IMG\_2058 at 115 cm. Looking North. Loam fill in SE corner is either a post hole or excavation.*



*IMG\_2059 North face of pit. Full depth of pit.*



*IMG\_2062 Close up of north face showing bottle in the ash layer at base.*