OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT 2011

NORMAN (1066-1205)

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Abbreviations

LAA	Oxford Local Authority Area
OHER	Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record
RCHM 1939	An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the City of Oxford, Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, England, HMSO, London.
UAD	Urban Archaeological Database (Event Number unless otherwise stated)
VCH ii	The Victoria History of the County of Oxford Volume 2 (ed. W. Page), 1907, The Victoria History of the Counties of England.
VCH iii	The Victoria History of the County of Oxford Volume 3: The University of Oxford (eds H. E. Salter and M. D. Lobel), 1954, The Victoria History of the Counties of England.
VCH iv	A History of the County of Oxford, Volume 4, The City of Oxford (ed. A. Crossley), 1979, The Victoria History of the Counties of England.
VCH iv (Berks)	A History of the County of Berkshire: Volume 4 William Page and P.H. Ditchfield (eds) 1924

VCH v A History of the County of Oxford: Volume 5 - Bullingdon hundred (ed. M. D. Lobel), 1957, The Victoria History of the Counties of England.

Introduction

This assessment forms part of the resource assessment stage of the Oxford Archaeological Plan for the Local Authority Area (LAA). It is intended to inform resource management in planning and development control as well as aid academic investigation and research.

The Oxford Resource Assessment is designed to compliment the county and regional level resource assessments produced as part of the Solent Thames Research Frameworks (Munby 2007; Munby and Allen 2010). County overviews are also provided by Bond (1986) and Steane (2001). A detailed synthesis of the Norman archaeology of Oxford has recently been produced by Oxford Archaeology (Dodd ed. 2003). This assessment has been produced following an examination of published sources, unpublished commercial archaeological reports, the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (OHER) and the Oxford Urban Archaeological Database (UAD).

Chronology

The Norman period begins in England with the Conquest in 1066. For the purposes of this study the Norman period ends in 1204 when France conquers Normandy, resulting in the dissolution of the Anglo-Norman kingdom. This is also convenient because at the start of the 13th century Norman architecture begins to fall out of favour and is replaced by Gothic styles. The beginning of the 13th century also broadly marks the point at which the University emerged to shape the development of the town. The distinction between the Norman and 'medieval', assessment reports is nevertheless, like most attempts at defining historic periods, arbitrary in the sense that underlying patterns of activity continue.

Oxford was not directly involved in the military campaigns of the Conquest; however the Domesday Survey recorded an unusually high level of waste property in Oxford by 1086, the reason for which remain unclear (See discussion by Munby 2003a: 51-53). The Annals of Osney Abbey state that Oxford Castle was built by Robert d'Oilly in 1071. This was clearly intended to dominate and intimidate the Saxon townspeople and eradicated a large part of the western quarter of the town. The Chronicles of Abingdon Abbey record that d'Oilly also undertook a second great building project in the form of a stone causeway across the Thames floodplain, known as The Grandpont (Great Bridge). D'Oilly and fellow noble Robert d'Ivry were also responsible for establishing the oldest institution for higher education in Oxford, the Collegiate Chapel of St George at the Castle (Barron, 2002). Over the course of the next century and a half several principal streets were re-aligned and a few new streets were laid out. Evidence of pit digging in Castle Street and Church Street in the late 11th century indicate suggest either a period of neglect and decline or perhaps more localised disruption of these areas related to developments at the Castle precinct. In general the late Saxon street grid and defences appear to have been maintained. Investigations of the surviving town wall has not identified any substantial works dating to this period, with the exception of an extension to the circuit at St Michael at the Northgate, built to encompass the cemetery of the church, which may date to the late 11th century (See Warfare and defences below).

The 12th century saw the expansion of civic and religious institutions, for example, the Grandpont causeway was subject to extensive repairs in the late 12th or early 13th century (Dodd ed. 2003: 54). A stone lined drain later known as the Kennel was placed down the centre of the principal streets and important new religious houses, like Osney Abbey and St Frideswide's, were founded and re-founded. New hospitals were founded and a Royal Palace was constructed outside the Northgate by 1132.

Whilst the town appears to have recovered and grown during this period, significant areas of empty intra-mural space remained. Investigations have identified areas that were only substantially developed in the 13th century and further careful investigation

may reveal more of this pattern (Dodd ed. 2003: 59-60). At least three substantial fires are known to have devastated the town in this period; during the Anarchy (1135-1154) two fires broke out in 1138 and 1154 while a third fire is known to have devastated St Frideswide's in 1190. Burnt layers have been recorded in archaeological excavations along Cornmarket Street that may relate to these events and evidence for a late 11th century fire has also been noted at Lincoln College (Kamesh *et al.* 2002: 205). Despite these events the town appears to have experienced limited suburban growth towards the end of the Norman period.

Corn, wool, cloth and leather were the staples of the towns economy during this period with Oxford well located to benefit from the dynamism of other local production centres. A merchant gild was in existence by 1100 and the first known Royal Charter was granted in c1155 confirming existing privileges. Oxford obtained the oldest known municipal seal in Britain in 1191 and the town was formally granted to its citizens by King John in 1199, giving the burgesses the right to elect the two town reeves. Building on the tradition of late 11th century College of St George at the castle, associated with amongst others early 12th century scholars like Geofrey of Monmouth, Oxford became and important clerical centre during the late 12th century, favoured for ecclesiastical courts. The war with France in the 1190s made access to established European universities difficult and provided a stimulus to the local study of canon and Roman law. Hackett estimates that there were more than 70 masters teaching in Oxford in the period 1190-1209 (Hackett 1984; Dodd ed. 2003: 63)

The nature of the evidence base

Several excavations have produced significant evidence for this period relating to occupation of principal street frontage tenements, back lane tenements, suburban tenements, the Castle, Royal Beaumont Palace and Religious foundations. The arte-factual and eco-factual evidence suggests a growing population density and level of wealth in this period compared to preceding Late Saxon assemblages. With regard to the pottery evidence Maureen Mellor's work on pottery fabrics in the Oxford region has provided a comprehensive typology for Late Saxon-medieval pottery (1994b). The problems still inherent with characterising pottery from this period are also summarised by Mellor (1994a).

Substantial areas of Norman fabric remain within the townscape, most visibly in the form of the Castle Motte and the surviving Norman elements of the Oxford's churches and Cathedral. Further visible fabric survives in the supporting arches of the Grandpont and Old Abingdon Road causeways and surviving vaulted undercrofts in the City. Surviving Norman architecture is summarised by Sherwood and Pevsner (1994; also see Standing structures below).

The Norman period is marked by a significant increase in available documentary evidence from the large Domesday entry for Oxford to extensive subsequent cartularies for the religious houses and hospitals, notably the cartularies from Abingdon, Eynsham and St Frideswide's Abbeys, these being significant landowners in the city (Munby 2003a). There are also exceptional collections of 12th and 13th century documents in the college muniments, notably the deeds of the Hospital of St John (Munby 1991) and those of Osney Abbey and St Frideswide's at Christ Church. These documents facilitated the Revd H E Salter's groundbreaking *Survey of Oxford (1955aandb)* mapping tenement plots across the city in the 13th century. For a summary of the documentary resource see Munby (2003b:60-1).

Notable standing structures in the Oxford Local Authority Area

- Oxford Castle Motte (SAM 21701).

- The Grandpont Causeway (SAM 21757) and Old Abingdon Road Causeway (Preston 2009).

- St Frideswide's Priory Church (Christ Church Cathedral) (Halsey 1988).

- Iffley Church - exemplar Romanesque church.(A number of other churches retain notable Norman fabric).
- 12th century vaulted cellars at St George's Tower (Durham 1982), Frewin Hall (Blair, 1978), St Peters in the East (Sturdy 1972).
- Merton College Stables - late 12th or early 13th century stone building. (Poore *et al.* 2006).
- Possible 11th century wall enclosure around St Michael at the North Gate (visible in St Michael at the North Gate Fair Trade shop and in the cellar on No 2 Ship Street).

   Notable Norman sites in the Oxford Local Authority Area

- The Castle Precinct, including St George's Tower and crypt, moat including leatherworking debris (excavation, documentary, pictorial evidence).
- Extension of the town wall around St Michael at the Northgate (excavation).
- Investigations along the Grandpont Causeway including the recording of a Mitre headed (trial trench).
- St Bartholomew's Hospital (documentary evidence, evaluation).
- St John the Baptist Hospital (documentary evidence, excavation).
- The Kings Houses, later Royal Beaumont Palace (documentary evidence, excavation, pictorial evidence).
- Littlemore Priory (documentary evidence, evaluation).
- Osney Abbey (excavation, evaluation, pictorial evidence).
- Godstow Abbey (documentary evidence, excavation, watching brief, pictoral evidence).
- Cowley Templar Preceptory, tentative evidence (evaluation and watching brief)
- Cornmarket Street, former Clarendon Hotel site- evidence for Late Saxon-Early Norman continuity (e.g. use of wells) and possible transitional cellared hall form. Significant Norman pottery assemblage and evidence for leatherworking (excavation).
- 113-119 High Street - example of the continued use of Late Saxon cellar (Excavation).
- 4A Merton Street- rear wing of stone house with garderobes (documentary evidence, excavation).

The landscape

<u>Inheritance</u>

With the exception of the significant impact of the castle in the west end of the burh, the late Saxon street grid and defences were maintained into the Norman period (see Street network below). There is some evidence that properties on the principal street frontages changed in character with the dismantling or backfilling of cellar pits and the construction of new forms. The existing principle routeways were maintained and enhanced. Existing religious institutions were rebuilt and re-founded. No abrupt change in material culture took place, making the identification of early and late 11th century features problematic, for example Late Saxon to Early Medieval ware (OXAC) and Late Saxon to Early Medieval South West Oxon ware (OXBF), the dominant fabrics of the 11th-13th century have been recorded in both pre and post conquest deposits (see Material culture below).

<u>Key characteristics of the landscape</u>

The Domesday Survey records over 400 acres of meadowland attributed to the manors around Oxford with a further 16 acres of woodland, 165 acres of pasture and 42 hides under the plough (A hide being the number of acres sufficient for one plough for a year, sometimes interpreted as equivalent to 120 acres). The royal forest of Shotover covered much of the eastern part of Oxford LAA although its extent in the Saxo-Norman period is unknown; by the 13th century it extended east from St Clements Church to Beckley and north from Horspath to Woodeaton (Roberts 1963: 68). At the close of the medieval period the forest was still substantial, covering 932 acres in 1660 (Lobel 1957: 275). Royal forests were extra-parochial and came under the direct control of the Crown.

Agriculture in the medieval period was governed by the operation of the open field system. The available documentary and archaeological evidence suggests that open fields were well established by the Norman Conquest. Beyond the Domesday figures given above, the exact extent of coverage remains unclear, as do patterns of expansion and contraction. Medieval ridge and furrow survives in several locations around the LAA (See Medieval Assessment for map of surviving ridge and furrow and archaeological evidence for this feature class).

Another key characteristic of the landscape would have been the presence of extensive meadows along the Cherwell and Thames floodplains. The Domesday Survey records that the town burgesses held pasture in common at Port Meadow. This extensive meadow remains notable for the determined defence of related common grazing rights by the burgesses. There is currently little archaeological information relating to the management or manipulation of the meadow or related drainage channels (See below and medieval assessment for information on managed water channels along the Thames).

<u>Agriculture and diet</u>

Systems of open field farming, meadowland and common grazing rights would have been inherited by the new Norman overlords, however there is currently little archaeological evidence from agricultural boundaries or manuring scatters for this period (See *Saxon* and *Medieval Assessments* for further information). The principal evidence for local food production comes from faunal and charred plant remains from within the town and from the Thames crossing.

The animal bone assemblages from Late Saxon sites in Oxford are notably small, the recovery of animal bone from well preserved deposits along the Thames Crossing at St Aldates has demonstrated a sharp increase in the size of assemblages in the Norman period, a pattern of growth which continues into the 13th century (Dodd ed. 2003: 44). It remains to be demonstrated whether this represents a growing

population consuming more meat or a stable population becoming wealthier and better organised.

The faunal assemblages from central Oxford sites are summarised in Wilson, (2003a: 347). Wilson notes the changing pattern of deposition at peripheral sites at 24a St Michael's Street and St Aldates over time, with deposition increasingly coming to resemble localised domestic refuse rather than transported peripheral tips of refuse, as tenements were gradually established adjacent to these locations (Wilson, 2003a: 347). A steady shift in deposition throughout the 10th-12th century indicated a gradual expansion of built structures from the street frontage to the rear of the plots,.

Investigations in St Ebbe's in the 1960's and 70's recorded evidence of typical intramural back street domestic assemblages reflecting intensive settlement activity in the 11th-13th century with evidence of increased butchery activity in the later medieval period (Wilson 1989: 260). Excavations at No's 7-8 and 23-26 Queen Street have produced typical domestic bone assemblages of 10th-13th century date from tenements on a principal street frontage (Wilson and Locker 2003; Rackham 1998: 6). At Hinksey Hall, to the rear of Queen Street a bone assemblage indicated a dwelling of moderate status in the late Saxon period that experienced a gradual decline in status in the medieval period (Wilson *et al*. 1983: 69).

At the Codrington Library, All Souls, located north of the High Street tenements, the faunal remains characteristic of a typical urban domestic site comprising largely of cattle, pig and sheep/goat in the Saxo-Norman period with some evidence for domestic birds (Sykes 2004: 31). The evidence suggests some change in the immediate post conquest period with a shift away from pig to sheep in the diet of the inhabitants (*ibid*, 45). Of note were a particularly high number of cat bones from the 11th-12th century. This may either reflect high urban cat populations or more probably the culling of animals for their fur (*ibid*. 39).

There is documentary evidence for a number of butchers being established along Sleying Lane to the west of St Aldate's by the 14th century (Salter, 1951b). However no distinct faunal assemblages have been produced from this area. At 4a Merton Street, a well preserved assemblage of animal bones allowed for the identification of butchery marks on cattle, sheep, goat and pig. The evidence indicated that from the 11th century the carcasses were divided into right and left sides, pointing to the carcass being hung up and processed by professional butchers using specialist equipment (Worley and Evan 2006: 319). The site also produced horn-working and marrow extraction evidence indicative of specialist activity. Further evidence for specialist carcass processing activity has been recorded at the Castle precinct excavations 1999-2005 which have produced faunal assemblages exhibiting evidence of skinning, dismemberment, marrow extraction and horn working (Evans 2006: 120; Oxford Archaeology forthcoming).

The Merton assemblage provided an insight into the extent of Saxo-Norman animal husbandry, encompassing cattle, horse, sheep, goats, pigs, domestic fowl, ducks, geese, hares and roe deer. Also the presence of black rats, voles and amphibians in the area. At 4a Merton Street 11th-early 13th deposits also contained fish remains with evidence for dace, pike, eel and the remains of herring.

Another notable assemblages was recovered from the Sackler Library site on Beaumont Street in the vicinity of the Kings Houses (Royal Beaumont Palace). Here sheep were the dominant species followed by cattle and pigs. Domestic fowl, goose and pheasant (unusual for early urban sites in Oxford) were also recorded and fish bones for eel, herring and flatfish were present (Charles and Ingrem 2001; Wilson 1996).

An overview of the faunal remains from sites along St Aldates has noted that most of the sheep slaughtered by c1200 were castrates, implying the marketing of surplus weathers (castrated male sheep bred for wool) to the town by this time. Excavations

have also demonstrated that some veal and good quality mutton was available, suggesting the presence of a luxury market in the town (Armour-Chelu 2003: 358). Robinson has noted the unusual abundance of sheep ectoparasite remains from a late 12th century pit at The Hamel suggestive of a density of sheep higher than would be expected from a grazed pasture and therefore either a sheep pen or the processing of sheep skins in the vicinity was proposed (Robinson 1980: 204-5).

Charred plant remains

Charred plant remains have provided evidence of medieval cereal processing debris at a number of Oxford sites. Excavations in St Thomas' Parish, west of the burh, have indicated that agricultural processing activities involving cereals (oats, rye) and hay were occurring in the 12th century prior to the laying out of the suburb in the late 12th-early 13th century (Robinson 1996: 261, 266). Elsewhere chaff-free, perhaps processed, cereal grain (bread type wheat, oats, barley and rye) of early 12th-13th century date were recorded at the Beaumont Palace/Sackler Library site in the northern suburb (Pelling 2001). Taken alongside the limited charred plant evidence from the Classics Centre on St Giles, Pelling suggests that this northern suburban area may have been receiving processed grain for bread and other activities from the 12th-13th century onwards (Pelling 2008).

Evidence for other types of crops comes from The Hamel where 12th century pits produced evidence for arable weeds, plums and celery seeds although it was unclear whether the latter would have been part of the diet (Robinson 1980: 199-206). Elsewhere a late 11th century deposit of charred pea and bean threshing debris was recovered from build up against the Norman causeway on St Aldates (Robinson 1984: 78).

Urban settlement

Documentary evidence

In the Domesday Book of 1086 Oxford is mentioned as a borough with at least 20 burgesses, holding certain rights within and without the city walls. The entries for the town are complicated as there are three distinct categories of land ownership, the King held approximately twenty houses within the walls, major landowners held 180 houses and another 80 are referenced to churches and smaller landowners. It is clear that there was some sort of decline in the prosperity of the town at the time of Domesday and there are frequent references to plots laid to waste. Estimations of the total number of properties in Oxford would suggest 243 houses within and without the burh capable of paying tax to the king and a further 478 houses as waste. The extensive documentation for institutional land holdings in this period is summarised by Munby (2003a: 50; 2003b: 60).

Standing structures

Unsurprisingly no well-preserved examples of Norman halls survive in the City, although the stone built stables at 4A Merton Street may be a rare survival of such a structure, although subject to significant alterations. Stone vaulted cellars, or undercrofts, were primarily a Norman introduction, and numerous examples have been recorded along the main streets of Oxford, seven at least have been recorded on Cornmarket *al*one. Three notable examples of Norman undercrofts survive at Frewin Hall (Blair 1978), St Peter's in the East (Sturdy 1972) and the crypt of St George's Tower (Durham 1982).

The towers of St George at the Castle and St Michael at the Northgate are both thought to be Late Saxon in origin, examples of surviving Norman church architecture are summarised in Sherwood and Pevsner (1974) noteworthy structures include the Priory church of St Frideswide and Iffley Church. For a further discussion of Domestic Norman architecture see Wood (1974) and Browne (1907).

Site	Evidence	UAD	Reference
St George at the Castle,1794	Stone crypt, 12th century	653	UAD
1-3 Queen Street, 1893	Vaulted cellar, 13th century?	1327	UAD
59-61 Cornmarket, 1899	Record of ancient cellar	35	UAD
Clarendon Hotel, 1951	12th century vaulted cellar	1	Jope 1958
52 Cornmarket, 1955	12th century vaulted cellar	14	UAD
13-17 Cornmarket, 1959	Cellar	2	Sturdy and Munby 1985
1-2 Ship Street, 1970	12th century pit or cellar	1539	UAD
Frewin Hall, 1975	12th century cellar	38	Blair 1978
Catte Street, 1980	12th century cellar	333	UAD
Turl Street, 1980	Early medieval cellar	552	UAD
9-10 Queen Street, 1984	12th century cellar or pit	482	UAD
26-27 Cornmarket, 1985	Cellar	67	Munby *et al* 1993
4 Queen Street, 1986	Early medieval cellar	487	UAD
All Souls College, 1991	Early medieval cellar	352	UAD
113-119 High Street, 1992	Early medieval cellar	426	Walker 2000
Jowett Walk, 1993	3 cellars, possibly medieval	304	Roberts 1995
Postmasters Hall, 2000	Cellar	1645	UAD
Christ Church, 2005	Two early medieval cellars	1677	UAD
65-67 St Giles, 2006	Cellar, 13th-15th century	1720	UAD
Knapp Hall, St Aldates	15th century?	?	Pantin, 1951; RCHME, 1939, 174

Table 1: Summary of Norman cellars recorded in Oxford

<u>Archaeological evidence</u>

Archaeological evidence for occupation in the 11th-13th century has been recorded at numerous locations within the city walls. By the end of the Saxon period the main north-south and east west streets through the town were intensively occupied and the creation of a number of additional roads in the late Saxon to medieval period indicate a steady increase in settlement density over time (see Street network; Appendix 2: Saxon to Medieval Street Network below).

Cornmarket Street

Between 1954-7 the redevelopment of the Clarendon Hotel site allowed the investigation of a large frontage block stretching c70m back from Cornmarket Street. The excavation demonstrated that Frewin Lane was opened in the 11th-12th century to allow development to the rear of the Cornmarket tenement plots (Jope 1958). The hotel wine cellar was also recognised and recorded as a 12th century vaulted structure, located at right angles to the Cornmarket close to the frontage. Boundary re-organisation in the 12th century was suggested as the stone cellar did not respect earlier Saxon cellar lines. From the middle of the 12th century the Cornmarket frontage appeared to have been widened to approximately the current line (Jope, 1958, 6). A cellar pit or hall noted some distance back from the frontage and parallel to it, was of particular interest because it was Late Saxon in character but not backfilled until c1100 and was distinct in character from the later 12th century stone vault on the frontage. It is currently the only example of this potentially transitional form recorded in the city (Munby 2003a: 52). The site was also noteworthy for producing a significant assemblage of shoe leather from a cess pit (see below).

Investigations at 13-21 Cornmarket in the late 1950's noted that a few late Saxon pits were superseded by several large shallow basket-lined pits of 12th century date (Sturdy and Munby 1985: 54).The site also produced significant evidence for a late 12th century fire (see above). Investigations in 1970 at 44-46 Cornmarket demonstrated that several Late Saxon rectangular pits were in-filled in the 11th century. Three pits underlay the boundary of No's 44 and 43 suggesting that the boundary was not fixed until the 12th or 13th century (Hassall 1971; Dodd ed. 2003: Gaz 34).

High Street and intramural streets to the north

The available evidence from the High Street suggests that the street frontage was heavily occupied by the 11th century but the evolution of property divisions is not well understood. Excavations at All Saints Church in 1973-4 identified evidence for a stone structure of late 11th century date, probably an early church. At 113-119 High Street an excavation and watching brief demonstrated that a series of cellared structures had fallen into disuse by the mid 11th century and the area was subsequently used for pit digging and the disposal of rubbish including cess (Walker 2000: 394).

To the north of the High Street tenement line at Lincoln College, a cellar pit identified during excavations between 1997 and 2000 was notable as it appeared to date from the second half of the 11th century representing a post conquest example of this form (Kamesh 2002: 276). Further east excavations at the Codrington Library, All Souls in 2001, recorded 11th-12th century cellar pits, reflecting an intensification of frontage development along Catte Street of a slightly later date than noted elsewhere in the burh (Entwhistle and Gray Jones 2004: 55).

A central drain had been established along the principal streets by the 12th century, later known as The Kennel. A sample of 12th century sediment from the bottom of the High Street Kennel indicated that the drain had been open for at least part of its length (Robinson in Dodd ed. 2003: 389). Samples of poppy from the Kennel along the High Street suggest the presence of areas of waste ground nearby in the 12th century (Robinson in Dodd ed. 2003: 389)

Queen Street and the intramural streets near the castle

Excavations at the east end of Queen Street have recorded occupation evidence dating from the late Saxon-Norman period. At 4 Queen Street surfaces, a well and two pits were dated to the early to middle 11th century with several subsequent hearths and areas of burning noted (Dodd ed. 2003: 247). A stone structure was excavated on the site post dating the 11th century activity but could not be closely dated. Excavations at nearby 7-8 Queen Street recorded 11th-12th century activity comprising off several stone structures and associated hearths sealed by a layer of black ashy soil indicating a significant fire. Several floor levels subsequently post dated the fire followed by a substantial structure and hearth.

Excavations on the corner of Queen Street and St Ebbe's Street have recorded evidence of several 11th-12th century pits and possible occupation layers. The absence of pits a close to the Queen Street frontage suggested that it was built up and continuous by this time, however no clear evidence of structural remains were recorded (Sturdy and Munby 1985: 76-90). Later excavations on the same site provided evidence for property boundaries with a series of inter-cutting 12th century pits respecting the later east-west parish boundary (Freke 1998: 8).

At Church Street excavations suggested that property boundaries may have been laid out in the 12th century. No definitive evidence was found but a series of five post holes appeared to respect one boundary (Hassall *et al*. 1989: 97). An oven and it's stoke hole, and numerous pits also dated to this period. The pit distribution across the site, including near the street frontage implied that there was still no continuous frontage in this area at this time (*ibid.*: 100).

An important excavation at Frewin Hall, east of New Inn Hall Street, investigated the under-croft of a Norman stone house located beneath the current 16th century building (Blair 1978: 48). In the Norman period the site consisted of a large land holding located between Cornmarket and New Inn Hall Street, held first by wealthy burgesses before it was occupied by the Austin canons in 1435.

St Aldates (intra mural)

Archaeological investigations at Christ Church near the site of St Frideswide's Priory, have recorded evidence for settlement from the Saxo-Norman period. Excavation in the Cathedral Garden in 1961 indicated that the priory was bordered to the north by St Frideswide's Lane running on an east-west alignment approximately where the main entrance to Tom Quad is now located. To the north of this lane would have been the Jewish Quarter (see The Jewish community below). To the south two kilns or ovens and a number of post holes representing at least three structures were noted, associated with 11th-12th century pottery (Sturdy 1961/2: 20-25). Features have also been recorded to the west of St Frideswide's church. Excavations in the garden of the Canon of the Sixth Stall recorded evidence of 12th century pits in the fill of an earlier course of the Trill Mill Stream as well as occupation layers from the 12th century onwards (Kirk and Case 1955: 92). A watching brief between 2005-7 on new service trenches located west of the cathedral at Christ Church identified structures, pits and ditches dating from 11th-12th century (pers. comm. J Moore; JMHS forthcoming).

Merton Street

No 4a Merton Street (Merton Stables) is a plain stone building of ragstone, however an 18th century drawing depicts it with two late Norman or early gothic windows dated to circa 1200. This structure and the undercroft at Frewin Hall are therefore the best preserved domestic structures of this period in the town. An excavation in 2003 in the yard to the rear of the stables revealed the remains of an undercroft, probably part of a hall set at right angles to No 4a and produced assemblages relating to the domestic use of the hall prior to sites acquisition by Merton College in the 1270's (Score 2003). Substantial quantities of animal horns were also associated with this

phase indicating industrial activity in this location from the 12th century onwards (Poore *et al.* 2006: 215).

Stone houses

Whilst there is documentary and pictorial evidence for the emergence of examples of stone built houses in Oxford as the town prospered from the cloth and wool trade in the late 12th century, little archaeological evidence has been produced to date for these structures. The side wall and fireplace of a stone house were found in 1954-5 in the demolition of the Clarendon Hotel on Cornmarket. The remains were situated over a barrel vaulted cellar dated to 1150-70 (Jope and Pantin 1958). The evidence for stone houses of 12-13th century date is summarised by Munby (2003b).

The Jewish community

A Jewish community may have been present in Britain from Roman times but the documentary evidence for a settled Jewish presence post dates the Norman Conquest. Writing in the 12th century William of Malmesbury recorded that William the Conqueror invited Jews from Rouen to settle in England and an extensive settled presence is thought to date from this event. A Jewish community in Oxford is recorded from the late 11th century and believed to have been concentrated in an area subsequently known as the Old Jewry, located around St Aldates near where the current town hall is situated. St Aldates was known as Great Jewry Street, and appears to have been the focus of Jewish settlement, although evidence for material culture or stone built houses that can be directly linked to Jewish occupation is lacking. Documentary records suggest the synagogue was located beneath Christ Church Tom Quad while a Jewish cemetery was located outside the city walls beneath Magdalen College and the Botanic Garden. An excavation at Magdalen College in 1987 noted a stone built culvert characteristic of 12th century masonry. It has been suggested that the structure could be part of the Mikveh, the ritual bathing place of the Jewish Cemetery (Steane 1996: 263; 2001: 6).

The decorated base of a stone cross currently held by Oxford Museum has been suggested as of 12th century origin, but has also been linked to the 'Jew's Cross' that was required to be paid for by the Jewish community in 1268 (Marples 1973: 308).

For further information see the *Medieval Resource Assessment.*

The suburbs

Political boundaries

The county of Oxfordshire as a political unit probably dates to the 10th century at the earliest when the Burghal Hidage ascribes 2400 hides to the maintenance of the burh at Oxford while a later 11th century County Hidage attributes a similar 2400 hides to the county (VCH, 1939, 429-456). For a summary of the Domesday Book in Oxford see Salzman (1939) and Munby (2003a) and for the origins of the hundred system see Maitland (1897). The evidence for Oxfordshire is complicated by the limited documentation in Domesday on the location villages within the hundreds (Salzman, 1939, 374). By the publication of the Hundred Rolls in 1276 the picture is better understood with the Northgate Hundred a subdivision of the Wootton Hundred and the Briggeset Hundred a subdivision of the Bullingdon Hundred. To the west, the Berkshire Hundred of Hormer included the Hinksey parishes and Seacourt.

The Wootton Hundred encompassed land to the north and west of Oxford including the Botley to Osney area and Wolvercote with the extra-parochial areas of Godstow, Pixey Mead and Cutteslowe (Crossley 1990: 1). Land to the east of the city fell within the Bullingdon hundred, which stretched from the Cherwell out to Headington. The Bullingdon Hundred is not mentioned by name in Domesday, however a reference to a double hundred belonging the royal manor at Headington likely refers

to Bullingdon and the now lost *Soterlawa* Hundred (Lobel 1957: 1). The Briggeset Hundred at St Clements was a subdivision at this (Cam 1936: 120).

The Northgate Hundred appears to have formed out of parts of the Wootton, Bullingdon and Soterlawa Hundred in the later 12th century, the earliest references date to 1155 and 1163 (Lobel 1957b: 2). By 1279 a subdivision of the Wootton Hundred placed North Oxford, Walton and Botley under the Northgate Hundred with Binsey, Medley, Twentyacre and Osney itself in the north-west ward of the city (VCH iv: 265). It would appear however that the boundaries of the Northgate Hundred remained fluid throughout the medieval period with several widely different definitions in use until the late 16th century when it became part of the City borough and thus operated under different courts in the medieval period.

Archaeological evidence

The archaeological and documentary evidence suggest only limited suburban activity until the mid to late 12th century when the increased prosperity of the town led to more substantial suburban growth (Dodd ed. 2003: 62). Suburbs developed around the major roads outside the Southgate at St Aldates, the Northgate at St Giles, the Westgate at St Thomas' and west of the Cherwell outside the Eastgate. The existing settlement at Holywell, north-west of the burh, also expanded in the Norman period.

Holywell Manor

Located north-east of the Saxon burh, Holywell Manor was held by St Peter's Church and was an early suburb. At Domesday the manor comprised 2 hides and a further forty acres of meadow also noting that twenty three men held their own gardens here. St Cross' Church dates to c1100 and remained a dependant of St Peter-in-the-east (VCH iv: 271). The church has recently been the subject of a building and radar survey with further work to follow (Oxford Archaeology forthcoming).

Archaeological evidence for this period has not been located within the poorly understood historic core of the suburb, however excavations to the rear of 1-7 Holywell Street, located to the south of the suburb recorded ditches and pits containing late 11th century pottery. During the 13th century, property boundaries appear to have been laid out and buildings constructed along the street (Roberts 1995).

St Aldates (extra mural) and land to the west

Marshland conditions around St Aldates in the Saxon to medieval period likely inhibited occupation activity in this area and it is not until the 12th century that definite evidence for land reclamation to the extent that occupation was possible is recorded, (Durham 1977: 109). Although it should be noted that undated evidence comprising a clay floor, a hearth and several pits and postholes were noted at the earliest stage of activity at 79-80 St Aldates and was interpreted as a Late Saxon structure (*ibid.*, 100). In the late 12th century the area underwent a significant reorganisation of property boundaries that remained in place until the 20th century (*ibid.*: 189). A series of investigations along St Aldates have demonstrated an expanding sequence of reclamation with rubbish dumping used to reclaim previous river channels at 89-91 St Aldates in the mid 11th century, followed by dumping at 65 St Aldates in the late 12th century and then in the late 12th-early 13th century at 35-40 St Aldates (Hassall 1987:, 38). Reclamation deposits have also been recorded further west at Albion Place in 1973 and at the Westgate Car Park in 2006, although dating the deposits can be complicated by the use of early rubbish tips as source material for the dumping. At Albion Place, a large quantity of dumped stone was recorded to the rear of the properties fronting onto Brewer Street and may represent land reclamation, however no further details are available (UAD 526). At the Westgate Car Park trial trenching has recorded evidence of 11th-12th century land reclamation extending south from the gravel terrace beneath the later site of the Greyfriars precinct (Bashford 2008: 7).

Evidence for 12th-13th settlement along St Aldates comes from several sites. Investigations at No33 St Aldates in 1979 recorded a floor and yard surface and a possible beam associated with 11th-12th century pottery (Durham, 1984). A stone wall and floor surface of late 12th-early 13th century date were recorded at No's 56-60 in 1988-89 (Durham in Dodd e. 2003: Chapter 3). At No's 79-80 investigations in 1970-71 revealed evidence for occupation from the mid 10th century with evidence suggesting a substantial building constructed at this site in the first half of the 12th century (Durham, 1977). At 89-91 investigations in 1982-5 indicated that occupation began in the late 12th century with the construction of a stone walled building (Durham in Dodd, 2003, Chapter 3). A trench at the former Linacre College site in 1971 on St Aldates recorded occupation evidence from the 12th century (Durham 1977: 102, 107).

St Giles'

Archaeological investigation has yet to establish the presence of a Saxon suburb north of the burh, however it is possible that this was relatively small and located close to the north gate. Documentary evidence suggests that the suburban settlement in this area developed in the 11th-12th century (VCH iv: 25). The Church of St Mary Magdalen at St Giles is first recorded in 1074 as an endowment of the College of St George at the Castle, suggesting some suburban expansion here by that date. The foundation of St Giles Church by about 1130 suggests that the suburb expanded rapidly during the 12th century (Jope 1856: 240). It remains possible that St Giles was a planned suburb given the regularity of the tenements, the width of the street and the location and date of the church. Jope notes that a property on or near to 8 Magdalen Street is implied in the Osney foundation charter of c1130 and that Godwinus monetarius referenced may be a descendant of a pre-Conquest moneyer of the same name (*ibid.*). The construction of the Beaumont Palace by 1132 would have provided an additional stimulus to development. This area to the north of the burh belonged to the Northgate hundred, a term first used in contemporary documents in the mid to late 12th century (Cam 1936: 119).

Archaeological excavations at Debenhams, 1-12 Magdalen Street, in 1999 produced evidence for 12th and 13th century activity to the rear of the street frontage, but was not able to closely date the formation of tenement plots as the frontage area had been heavily truncated (Cotswolds Archaeological Trust 2000). Further north excavations at the Ashmolean Museum extension in 2006-7 recorded two late 11th-early 12th century east-west ditches which provided the earliest evidence for land divisions at the site. There appeared to be very little pit digging at this time, although truncation by later features may have been responsible for the apparent absence of features. In the 12th century more pits were dug, probably for gravel extraction and the deposition of refuse and cess. Four clay-lined wells of the same period were recorded which may have served houses fronting on to St Giles (Dodd 2009: 12-13).

Excavation to the north of the Ashmolean at the Classics Centre, 65–67 St Giles, recorded a phase of settlement represented by five 11th-13th century pits, containing domestic pottery, butchery or tanning waste, overlain by a cultivation soil. It is possible that the pits predate the establishment of the property divisions evident in the Hundred Rolls of 1279 for this area (Norton and Cockin 2008).

Excavations at the northern end of St Giles (on the eastern side) at Queen Elizabeth House (St John's new Kendrew Quad) produced evidence for late 11th century activity comprising of domestic rubbish pits. Some of these pits may have been primarily excavated to provide gravel, before being used as rubbish pits. Several gullies were also recorded. Two of these were aligned approximately east-west, at right angles to St Giles, and could represent early property boundaries. A stone-lined well was the most obvious indicator of domestic activity on the site at this time, although its dating was based on just a few sherds of 11th century pottery from the

backfill of its construction cut (Wallis 2010). The Kendrew Quad excavation demonstrates the presence of late 11th settlement activity close to the junctions of the Banbury and Woodstock Road. Whether this was largely rural in character or represented intermittent suburban expansion along St Giles remains unclear. The excavated evidence suggested that activity declined in this area during the 12th century, reviving in the 13th (Wallis 2010: 103).

To the north of St Giles a pit containing 10th-12th century pottery and bone was recorded sealed by later plough soil at the former Acland Hospital site (Oxford Archaeology 2009). Elsewhere on the western edge of St Giles pits containing 11th pottery have been recorded to the rear of 37a (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1998). Furthermore a series of 11th-12th century pits have been recorded to the rear of 69 Woodstock Road (JMHS 2003). These sites provide a background noise of 11th century material centred on St Giles Church (first mentioned in the 12th century) and may represent farmsteads spaced along the Banbury and Woodstock Roads.

The Kings Houses later 'Beaumont Palace'

A royal palace was built outside the Northgate in the 12th century by Henry I. It was presumably completed when the King spent Easter there in 1132 and was known as 'The king's houses' and later as 'Beaumont Palace' (Colvin *et al.* 1963: 120; Dodd ed. 2003: 59); VCH iv: 304). The palace was a resting place on the route from London or Windsor to the palace at Woodstock used as a base for hunting in the Wychwood Forest. According to references in royal building records the palace comprised the king's hall and great chamber, two chapels, a cloister, numerous rooms for the king, his family and entourage, as well as domestic offices, the entire palace was enclosed by a precinct wall (Colvin *et al.* 1963: 986). During the 12th and early 13th century the palace was favoured by the crown but by the late 13th century it was rarely used, perhaps as a result of the waning importance of Oxford. In 1318 the palace was granted by Edward II to the Carmelite White Friars (*ibid.*: 305). Cartographic evidence suggests the Great House was located to the west of the site near the present Worcester College (Agas Map).

The extent of the palace is not definitively known although post medieval maps of the redundant Carmelite precinct show that this extended from Rewley House on Wellington Square at least as far as the Oxford Playhouse on Beaumont Street. Excavations at the Sackler Library in 1997 noted a series of medieval tree-planting pits that probably relate to garden landscaping for the palace (Poore and Wilkinson 2001: 17). In total, 34 pits were excavated each containing a fairly homogeneous backfill indicating they were deliberately in-filled shortly after being dug (*ibid.*, 19). Investigations also revealed evidence for substantial robbed stone foundations parallel to the tree planting pits. The robbed wall was approximately 25m long with 6 buttresses along a roughly east-west alignment and represents a substantial stone structure. Pottery and structural evidence pointed to use from the 13th century onwards. The wall of a second possible building was also recorded in the eastern edge of the excavation (*ibid.*, 24). Further to the east, at the Ashmolean Museum extension evaluation in 2006, two 12th century ditches were recorded at the western extent of the site. These were aligned roughly north-south and possibly formed part of a double ditched boundary perhaps part of a palisaded enclosure defining the palace grounds. A layer of mortar in a ditch fill appeared to indicate that a structure had been built close by perhaps the substantial buttressed wall that was recorded during the Sackler Library excavation (Dodd 2009: 12-13).

St Thomas' parish

This suburb is one of the best studied areas in the medieval town. St Thomas's parish was created out of lands held by Robert D'Oilly and Roger D'Ivri in 1129 and granted to the newly founded Osney Abbey (Palmer 1980: 135). It has been suggested, however, that some settlement already existed in the area in the late

Saxon to Norman period (Dodd ed. 2003: 62). Extramural properties are mentioned in this area in the Domesday book and an estate centred on Osney island is mentioned in the will of Archbishop Alfric at the start of the 11th century (Palmer 1980: 137). St Thomas' Street was probably the ancient approach road to the western end of Oxford. There is currently no archaeological evidence for settlement of this date. The excavated evidence from St Thomas' indicates that significant settlement activity in dates from the late 12th-early 13th century (Norton *et al*. 2006, 386; Moore, 2006: 394). The site of the present church of St Thomas was given to Osney Abbey in c1180 and a chapel was first built there by 1191 and remained a chapel of Osney until the Dissolution (VCH iv: 403). A suggestion of single build 12th century stone and cob cottages made following an evaluation near St Thomas's Church was subsequently revised following more substantial excavation (Moore 2001; 2005).

A mid 12th century ditch, either used for drainage or part of a stock enclosure, was noted to the south of St Thomas' Street at The Hamel in 1975 (Palmer 1980: 207) Ditches of 12th century date, perhaps drainage ditches or part a livestock enclosure, were recorded at St Thomas Street in 1994 (Hardy 1996, 267). The charred plant remains from the site suggests that the area was used for agricultural processing with deposits of cereals and hay evident. However the excavator noted that neither this site, nor excavations at the Hamel produced evidence for St Thomas' Street being in existence at this time. Cartographic analysis suggests a planned layout for the south side of St Thomas' Street with long, narrow tenement plots fronting onto the main street with a back lane for access to the rear, a form typical of the early medieval period (*Palmer 1996*).

Rural settlement

Binsey

Binsey is not mentioned in Domesday however an entry referring to lands held by St Frideswide's, comprising 105 acres of meadow and a spinney of eight acres with eighteen villains, is thought to refer to the land of St Margaret's Chapel at Binsey (Blair, 1988). The place is first mentioned by name in 1122 as *Beneseye* in the foundation charter of St Frideswide's Priory and is thought to derive from a personal name meaning 'Byni's Island' (Gelling 1953: 26). There is also a place called *Thorneberg* mentioned in the 1293 Calendar of Close Rolls, later *Thornebury nunc autem Benseia* in the 15th century, meaning 'thorn-tree hill' (*ibid.*). An alternative possible derivation is *Thornbiri* which can be interpreted as 'thorn fortress' perhaps referring to the oval enclosure around St Margaret's Church (Blair 1994: 67)

St Margaret's chapel and graveyard was first mentioned in the 1122 in connection to Binsey however the documentary evidence would suggest that the chapel was ancient by that time (Blair 1988: 3). An earlier sub-oval earthwork is recorded at the site and it has been suggested as one of the saint's places of refuge. The chapel and it's graveyard are bordered to the south and west by a wide ditch that may form the surviving features of a moated enclosure. The earliest datable features of the chapel itself date to the late 12th century (*ibid.*, 11). Aerial photographic evidence suggests that the surviving traces of earthworks to the south of the present chapel originally enclosed a substantial area 200m across. Medieval ridge and furrow within the enclosure appear to respect the enclosure boundary.

Archaeological investigations carried out in 1987 recorded evidence of a substantial ditch along the south-east side of the sub-oval earthwork enclosure which may have been a later re-use of a Roman or early Saxon fortified enclosure (Blair 1988: 12). Radiocarbon dating from several animal bone fragments recovered from the ditch fills in Trench 1 gave a date between 900-1220 cal AD and 1260-1470 cal AD while the earliest date in Trench 2 was 80-350 cal AD (*ibid.*: 15).

See also *Medieval Resource Assessment*.

Cowley

The name Cowley, meaning Cufa's wood or clearing, indicates an Anglo-Saxon origin for the settlements that grew up on a west-facing slope of the Corallian Ridge. Three manors are mentioned for Cowley in Domesday. These were held by the Bishop of Bayeaux, Miles Crispin and Count Eustace with a combined size of almost 7 hides (c840 acres). The manors possessed one mill (Count Eustace), twelve and a half acres of meadow, two acres of pasture and 5 acres of coppiced woodland. Eight villeins, six borders and six serfs are mentioned. St James' Church in Church Cowley was granted to Osney Abbey in 1149 by Henry D'Oilly (Lobel 1957: 86). By the 12th century Church Cowley was established around the parish church and Temple Cowley around a Templar preceptory. Between them was the hamlet at Hockmore Street which later became known as Middle Cowley (Lobel 1957: 76-96).

Limited excavations within the historic core of Temple Cowley have produced evidence that may relate to the Templar Preceptory (see below) and also small amounts of Saxo-Norman pottery from the site of the later Temple Cowley manor house (Muir and Newell 1999). A ditch producing 12th century pottery was recorded at St Christopher's First School, perhaps a field boundary ditch associated with Temple Cowley Manor to the south. Evidently the boundary did not survive into the later Middle Ages (Hardy 1995).

See also House of Knights Templar below and *Medieval Resource Assessment*

Eastwyke and Westwyke

Eastwyke manor was owned by Abingdon Abbey in the medieval period but is not referenced in the published cartularies. The current Eastwyke Farm sits within a rectilinear pattern of ditches that are poorly understood and may be related to drainage or Civil War activity. No buildings are mentioned when half the manor was conveyed to the Master of University College in 1528 and it remains possible that earlier manor buildings were located within the other half of the holding, located on the opposite side of the road (Stoten 2006; Philpott 2006). The possibility that Eastwke originated as a middle Saxon trading 'wic' (Blair 1994: Fig 55) is no longer considered likely (pers. comm. J Blair ; See also Saxon Resource Assessment).

Godstow

Godstow is first mentioned by documents of St Frideswide's Priory in the later 12th century and can be translated as 'the place of God' referring to the Benedictine nunnery (Gelling 1953: 26). A fair was granted to Godstow Nunnery in 1142 and later confirmed by Henry II (Letters 2005). However it is not clear where the fair was held; possibly at the nunnery itself, at nearby Seacourt village or in Oxford. A reference to Godstow being part of the Manor of Walton cited by Cam (1936).

See also Godstow Abbey below and *Medieval Resource Assessment*.

Headington

At Domesday Headington was held by the King and comprised ten hides (c1200 acres) with six acres of meadow, five fisheries and two mills. The population of the manor included twenty villeins and twenty four borders. The value of the manor was equal to that of Oxford itself at £60 (Salzman 1939, 374). The manor remained with the Crown until it was sold to Hugh de Pluggenait in 1142 (*ibid.*). Although a royal palace probably existed in Headington no trace of it has so far been identified.

St Andrew's Church is first mentioned in 1122 when it was granted to St Frideswide's Priory however it is likely to be earlier (Lobel 1957: 166). A survey carried out in 1993 indicated that the main body of the church was 12th century in date comprising the chancel and aisleless nave (Monckton 1993: 4). For an history of the church buildings see Munby (1987).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Iffley

The Domesday survey records that Earl Aubrey held six hides (c720 acres) in Iffley with a further twenty four acres of meadow, 1 acre of pasture, 2 acres of coppiced woodland and one fishery. The manorial population comprised fourteen villeins, six borders and five serfs. The church of St Mary the Virgin is first recorded in around 1175 as a new foundation by Robert de St. Remy and was a dependant on Osney Abbey until the start of the 13th century when its rights were passed to Kenilworth Priory (Lobel 1957: 196). It is unlikely to have had an earlier foundation as the village may have been served by Cowley Church (Hiller 1995,1). The church is recognised as an outstanding example of Romanesque architecture (Sherwood and Pevsner 1994: 658-61). The scope of the restoration work at the church is discussed by Tyack (2003). A building survey of the church was carried out in 1993 identified the main structure of the church as Norman in origin with architectural elements similar to those recorded at St Ebbe's Church (Spandl 1993: 3). In 1995 a watching brief was carried out during works to the church noted Victorian alterations (Hiller 1995). No significant archaeological remains from this period have been recorded within the historic core of the village to date.

<u>OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT- NORMAN</u> 19

Littlemore

There was no ancient parish of Littlemore, the township was divided at an early date between the parishes of Iffley and St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford. The connection with St. Mary's is thought to date from pre-Norman times and that with Iffley from the 12th century (Lobel 1957: 206-214). A manor in Littlemore held as one knight's fee in the honour of Leicester was granted in the 12th century to the Knights Templar.

Archaeological investigations have recorded Norman period remains at two sites within the township area. A quantity of St Neots type ware was recovered from the Ashurst Clinic site, Sandford Road, Littlemore, indicating 10th-11th century activity in this area (Mellor 1996). Elsewhere, outside the historic core, post holes and pits associated with 11th-13th pottery were recorded at the Oxford Science Park, the density of which suggested settlement in the Saxo-Norman period, perhaps relating to an outlying farm (Grundon 1999).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Marston

The earliest reference to the hamlet comes from a grant of land at *mersc* by Edward the Confessor to Westminster Abbey however this cannot be definitively linked with the present Marston. The rights to the church of St Nicholas were among those granted to St Frideswide's in 1122. The next reference comes from the 1279 Hundred Rolls and is more certain (Lobel 1957: 215). No significant archaeological remains from this period have been recorded within the historic core too date. A desk based assessment by Oxford Archaeology suggests a possible undated moat near the White Hart Inn indicated by features on the 1842 Tithe Map (Oxford Archaeological Unit 2001: 4).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

St Clements'

The late Saxon origin of St Clements is discussed in the Anglo-Saxon resource assessment. The now demolished Church St Clements originated as a royal chapel granted to St Frideswide's' in 1122 remaining with the later abbey in the medieval period (Lobel 1957: 260). Excavations within the historic core of St Clements have revealed limited evidence for activity during this period. Excavations in York Place in 1945 recorded pottery of 12th to 15th century date, with Jope noting that this was the first medieval find spot recorded east of the Cherwell (Jope 1952-3). More recently an evaluation identified a north-south gully containing 12th-early 13th century pottery in Jeune Street, which may be a property boundary running off of St Clements Street (Lewis 2011).

See *Saxon Resource Assessment* and *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Seacourt, formerly Berkshire

The village was extensively excavated in the 1930's and 1950's prior to the construction of the western By-pass road. The village is first mentioned in the charter of Eadwig (c957), however the excavation identified no features earlier than the mid 12th century, although Saxon and later residual pottery was recovered (Biddle 1961/2: 71). The excavation results encountered late 12th century features on the north and western limits of the village which appeared to demonstrate that the village had expanded considerably at this time. The excavator also suggested that the land under plough within the parish is likely to have reached its peak at this time (Biddle 1961-2: 118). The excavation demonstrated that early structures of timber were replaced by stone structures from the mid 13th century to the mid 14th century, The village of Seacourt grew in importance in the Norman to medieval period, perhaps

because of its proximity to Godstow Nunnery and the sacred well of St Margaret at Binsey (Page 1924: 421).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Walton Manor

Walton Manor is mentioned in Domesday as *Waltone* and probably refers to the 'tun by the wall' (Gelling 1953: 23). The manor was held by Roger D'Ivri comprising four hides (c.480 acres) and six acres of meadow, a serf, 13 bordars and a fishery. It was granted by D'Ivri to St George in the Castle, later becoming part of the Osney Abbey estate in the 12th century.

In 1975 a 'midden' or 'pit' to the rear of 75 Walton Street was recorded and included a quantity of sheep and cattle bones, 11th-13th century pottery and a ridge tile post dating the 12th century, suggesting a substantial dwelling nearby. Medieval pottery was also recovered from upper levels. The site of the manor and or later Walton Farmhouse may be located nearby at No 73 Walton Street which had been a three-storey timber-framed building, out of keeping with the others around it. This difference may reflect its earlier position as the house for the medieval farm. Additional medieval finds were made at 82 Walton Street (Inskeep 1998).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Wolvercote and Wyke

Wolvercote is a parish comprising of two settlements, Upper Wolvercote located on the edge of the Summertown Radley gravel terrace and Lower Wolvercote on the Thames floodplain. The evolution of the two settlement 'ends' is poorly understood. At Domesday Roger D'Ivri held a manor of six hides at Wolvercote (c720 acres) with a further 120 acres of meadow and six furlongs of pasture, thirteen villeins and seven borders are also mentioned. In the 12th century a farmstead or small settlement named Wyke or Wycroft 'farm inclosure' is also mentioned on the eastern edge of Port Meadow although it is not mentioned again (Lobel 1957: 308).

At Lower Wolvercote a pit containing domestic pottery of late 11th-13th century date was recorded to the rear of the Mill Street frontage in a 2007 evaluation. Other ditches, post holes and pits were probably associated with medieval properties fronting onto Mill Street (Mumford 2007: 11).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Rural Settlement* for further evidence.

Whitehouse Farm

Evidence for medieval occupation was recorded at an excavation at Whitehouse Farm. This comprised of pits, ditches, gullies and possible postholes producing pottery of 11th-14th century date (Mudd 1993: 53). The features may point to the presence of a farm located close to the Abingdon Road causeway.

Social and administrative organisation

Status

During this period Oxford maintained its rights to a prescriptive market, dating to the Saxon times, and also retained a mint until 1250. A fair was granted to St Frideswide's monastery in 1122 in the re-foundation of the monastery under Henry I although this too was likely prescriptive. The first known charter was made by Henry II in 1155 and confirmed on the burgesses their rights and privileges held under Henry I. In 1191 Oxford was granted a seal, providing them with the right to act as a corporate body. In 1199 the town was formally granted to the burgesses by King John who also granted the rights to the waters and fisheries within its liberty to those who maintained its access and control (VCH iv: 331). The wording of the grant appears to suggest John was confirming prescriptive rights rather than creating new ones (Davis 1968: 56).

Guilds

An early merchant guild is mentioned in around 1100, however little is known about it and it may have served the burgesses alone (Dodd ed. 2003: 63). The Cordwainers and Corvisors Guild was first mentioned in 1130 when it was awaiting its reinstatement from the Exchequer (VCH iv: 312). The Weavers and Fullers Guild were granted a charter by Henry I before 1130 and were given a monopoly of weaving for five leagues (c.5.5km) around the town (*ibid.*, 316).

Mills and fisheries

Five mills are mentioned in the Domesday entry for Oxford (VCH iv: 327). Of these two belonged to Eynsham Abbey and were located close to the Grandpont, and two were near the town, probably one on the Trill Mill Stream and one at the Castle (VCH iv: 327). Further references to other mills appear in the Norman period.

Blackfriars - The Grandpont Mills

Two mills are recorded to the west of Grandpont as belonging to Eynsham Abbey from the start of the 10th century (VCH iv: 329). In around 1247 the mills were passed onto the Blackfriars.

Castle Mill

Castle Mill is first documented in Domesday as part of the manor of Robert D'Oilly and probably passed to the Crown on the death of Henry D'Oilly in 1163. By the end of the 12th century if not before it was a double mill operating two wheels (VCH iv: 328). It originally stood on the west bank of the Castle Mill Stream west of the castle, but moved to the adjacent island in the 16th century. An archaeological watching brief carried out at Castle Mill Stream in 1997 observed sections of the main sluice for Castle Mill and possibly part of the mill itself. Substantial foundations of wood, clay and stone were noted in the western half of the main channel (Dalton and Booth 1997; Oxford Archaeological Unit 1998). The investigation also noted evidence of artificial management in the channels. Two of the timbers were subject to radiocarbon dating giving an estimated felling date range of 1334-1363 [OXCAML 6] and 1296-1307 [OXCAML 28].

Cowley Mills

The parish contained two mills, Temple Mill and Boy Mill. Boy Mill stood close to Milham Ford during the medieval period, and may have been known as Lewin's mill in 1086. From c1143 it was held by the convent at Godstow. After 1358 it was held by St Frideswide's Priory, but it had ceased to operate by the early 16th century (UAD 1587). The Temple Mill stood just below Magdalen Bridge and probably existed before the Norman Conquest. It was held by the Templars until the end of the 15th

century when it passed to St Frideswide's Priory, but by 1512 it was derelict (UAD 1588).

Godstow or Wolvercote Mill

Godstow Mill is recorded in the early 13th century however its exact location is not known (VCH iv: 329). Documentary records indicate that a mill, probably on or near the location of the present Wolvercote Mill, was granted to Godstow Nunnery in 1404 (Mumford, 2007, 2). Archaeological investigations at the site recorded evidence of an earlier stream course active during the 11th-13th century and possibly in-filled when the mill was built in the early 15th century (*ibid.*).

Holywell Mill

Holywell Mill is first documented in around 1200 as a double mill, one of which belonged to Merton College in 1279 and by 1331 the college held both wheels along with the manor of Holywell (Bell 1993: 2).

Headington and Marston Mills

Two water mills are mentioned in Headington at Domesday, one of these probably the King's Mill on the Cherwell which is recorded as in the possession of Magdalen College from the 15th to 19th century. A mill is recorded at Marston in 1279. it was mentioned in the late 15th and early 16th century, and in 1540 was in the possession of Brasenose College (VCH 1957).

Iffley

A mill at Iflley is referenced in the late 12th century. The mill and its lands passed to Lincoln College in 1445. The Mill Estate was described in 1363 as 3 messuages and a toft, with 28 acres of arable, 4 of meadow, and the fishery. There were two mills, i.e. wheels, in 1403. The only evidence of a windmill at Iffley is the field-name 'Windmill Close', shown east of the village on the inclosure map of 1830.

Osney Mill

The mill at Osney is first mentioned in the mid 12th century when the abbey was granted permission to install a weir in the river with a watercourse serving the mill (VCH iv: 330). By the mid 15th century it had been expanded significantly comprising of four newly built mills.

Priory Mill

A mill attached to St Frideswide's was first mentioned in 1158, information about the mill is limited although it may have been located in Bishopsmore Meadow presumably located on the Trill Mill Stream and may have been two separate mills (VCH iv: 330).

Seacourt Mill

In the 12th century William de Seacourt granted the tithes of his two cornmills to Godstow Nunnery. In the 13th century his son Robert granted to the same house the tithes of his two fulling-mills (Page and Ditchfield 1924: 408).

Towles or Hinksey Mill

The site of Towles Mill (variously known as Langford Mill, Hinksey Mill, New Hinksey Mill) recorded from the 12th century has been subject to limited examination (Oxford Archaeology 2006)

Trill Mill

Trill mill appears in the charter of Stephen to St Frideswide's of c1139 (Munby 2003c, 86). This mill was located along the Trill Mill Stream and may be associated with the mill held by Sawold at Domesday (VCH iv: 330). The two phase archaeological evaluation undertaken on the Westgate site produced evidence for a complex system of inter-cutting side channels to the Trill Mill Stream (some timber lined) with one interpreted as a possible Mill race. Demolition material over this feature was

suggestive of an adjacent mill associated with the Greyfriars priory to the north-east (Bashford 2008: 4).

Aldwere

A weir and fishery is associated with the Thames channels, known as Aldwere. Aldwere may be mentioned at Domesday but is first referred to by name in 1141 when it was granted to Osney Abbey (Munby 2003c: 86).

The Hospitals and the Collegiate Chapel of St George

St Bartholomew's Hospital

St Bartholomew's Hospital for lepers was founded by 1129 by Henry I at Cowley Marsh. The hospital was later acquired by Oriel College in 14th century becoming a hospital for sick or infirm members of the college (Knowles and Hadcock 1971: 383). While the exact date of its foundation is known it is thought that it was created when the king began work on Beaumont Palace (*ibid.*). Only a rebuilt 14th century chapel and post medieval farmhouse and house now remain standing. The site has been the subject of limited archaeological investigation. A watching brief carried out at Bartlemas House in 1991 revealed evidence of a medieval ditched and walled boundary between the current 14th century chapel of the leper hospital and Bartlemas House indicating that the house was a later addition and that the hospital structures may lie to the south of the chapel (Durham 1991b: 93). A later investigation at Southfield Road to the north-west of the hospital recorded a linear spread of stonework that may represent a wall foundation possibly associated with St Bartholomew's (Hindmarch and Challis 2002: 6). Here the small assemblage of pottery directly underlying the stonework appeared to date to the late 12th-13th century. A trial trench across the western watercourse believed to have bounded the hospital precinct to the west demonstrated two episodes of re-cutting in the 20th century (Bashford and Leech 2010). More extensive excavation has been recently undertaken by the East Oxford Archaeology and History Project indicating the presence of early structures below the 14th century chapel and the presence of an *in situ* cemetery (EOAP forthcoming). See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Hospitals* for further evidence.

The Hospital of St John the Baptist

On its foundation in 1180 the Hospital of St John the Baptist was granted the land now occupied by Magdalen College including the meadows to the east by Hugh de Malaunay. The original buildings stood against the eastern line of the City Wall near Longwall Street facing the church of St Peter in the East (Steane 1998: 92). The hospital was granted a new site further east in the 13th century. Little is known about the original Norman structures. Archaeological excavations by Oxford Archaeological Unit north of the Longwall Quadrangle, at Magdalen College, in 1995 and 199 recorded a deep ditch ran parallel to Longwall Street. It appeared that for a short period a building encroached on the ditch which was later re-cut, however it could not be determined whether the building was associated with St John the Baptist Hospital (Roberts 1999). A stone built 12th century culvert apparently pre-dating the hospital was recorded at the site during excavations in 1987 (Durham 1991a). See also *Medieval Resource Assessment: Hospitals.*

The Collegiate Chapel of St George

The earliest known college in Oxford is the Collegiate chapel of St George. Founded in 1074 by Robert d'Oilly and Robert d'Ivry it was based at St George in the Castle. The Romanesque chapel and its crypt were attached to the probably late Saxon St George's tower. The chapel was replaced by a prison wing in 1785, the crypt remains. In 1130 the collegiate was confirmed by Henry I who listed its properties as including the church of St Mary Magdalen, three hides in Walton, the church and estate at Cowley as well as a number of other properties scattered across the surrounding counties (Page 1907: 160) (See also the Church of St George). The foundation became part of the Osney Abbey in 1149. A detailed history is provided by Barron (2002).

Transport and communications

The river network

Management of river channels

Agricultural expansion in the late Saxon and Norman period would have led to the channels of the River Thames carrying a higher suspended sediment load creating bodies of slow water and silting of channels. The construction of the Grandpont Causeway is likely to have encouraged sedimentation and by the 12th century a distinct pattern of soil and refuse dumping is notable at St Aldates, again resulting in increased sedimentation (Robinson 2003: 81, 378). Observations of alluviation along channels and islands at the Thames Crossing are summarised by Robinson (2003: 81-2).

The development of the multiple channels south of the town is poorly understood. Munby summarises the documentary and map evidence (2003c: 82-4) and notes that the regularity of the channels as depicted on the earliest maps suggests that the channels are a planned arrangement. Furthermore the implication of Mills and fisheries being in place at the time of Domesday is that some, if not all adjacent tenements located at St Aldate's may have also existed in some form by this time (*ibid*.: 86). (See medieval assessment for further summary of medieval channels).

The Castle Mill Stream and hythe

The Castle Mill Stream, appears to be a canalisation of an earlier and less direct stream, and was partly formed by the embankment of the west side with what became known as 'Waram Bank', occupied by Upper, Middle and Lower Fisher Row. (Prior 1982*; Munby and Rhodes 2008: 25*). A continuation of the Waram Bank further east, to link up with the Trill Mill stream has been proposed by Durham (pers. comm. B Durham). Excavations at Boreham's Yard in 1994 as part of the Oxford Castle project recorded evidence of a pre-existing 'natural' watercourse underlying a cobbled surface adjacent to the castle. Dating evidence from the early phases of the site was limited to 11th-15th century pottery (Booth *et al*. 2003: 241). No evidence of channel revetting was recorded at the Boreham's Yard site although later excavations to the south did record several timbers from the channel walls (Dalton and Booth 1998: 16). The timber revetments could not be closely dated but dendro-chronology dating provided felling date ranges of AD 1296-1307 [Timber OXCAML 28] and AD 1334-1363 [OXCAML 6]. A road from the town's north gate to the western suburbs crossed the castle mill stream at Hythe Bridge. The name hythe may suggest a pre-existing or contemporary landing place here. The first known bridge was built by Oseney Abbey between 1200 and 1210, (VCH iv: 284-95 Squires 1928: 138) however Munby and Roads suggest a Norman date (2008: 25)

Linking channel between Castle Mill Stream/Castle Ditch and Trill Mill Stream?

Between 2007 and 2008 trial trenching was undertaken in Old Greyfriars Street as part of the Westgate Centre evaluation. One trench recorded an east west aligned feature with clay primary fills, through which four timber stakes had been driven. The stakes were overlain by a series of possibly water lain clay rich deposits. The feature was overlain by a clay silt likely to represent 12th-13th century land reclamatrion. The feature could therefore represent an early channel or ditch, potentially related to the burh defences or a channel linking the later castle moat to the Trill Mill stream (pers. comm.. B Durham; Bashford 2008: 18-9).

Holywell Mill Stream

Holywell Mill Stream runs off from the river, which divides around Angel and Greyhound Meadow. The channels merge and re-divide between there and the Thames confluence. The mill existed by c1200. The channel just above Magdalen Bridge was partially diverted along a culvert below part of the Hospital of St John the

Baptist in the 13th century and an aqueduct supplied the hospital with water from the vicinity of the mill (Durham 1991; Durham 1992).

Osney Mill Stream

When Osney Abbey was established in the 12th century it had a mill. There are still the remains of a mill on the Osney Mill Stream, which is a short loop east of the Thames. Excavations in 1975-83 showed that there had been a channel c30 m further east in the 12th century which was filled in during the 13th century. Waterfront development was shown to have moved to the present Osney Mill Stream (Sharpe 1985). Archaeology and documentary evidence suggest that the earlier channel had been the original mill stream, but it is not clear whether this was natural or cut deliberately.

The Trill Mill Stream

The results of a trench placed across the Trill Mill channel at the Westgate Car Park in 2007-8 Indicated that the pre-existing Saxon (and earlier Channel) had silted up by the late 12th-early 13th century, and that the foundation of the Greyfriars precinct may have acted as a stimulus for the re-cutting of the channel. During the late 12th-13th centuries the silted up channel of the proto Trill Mill Stream was re-excavated, clay lined and revetted with wooden stakes. A mixture of early medieval gravel dumps (similar in nature to the reclamation deposits) and re-deposited clays were used to create a straight sided channel that was reinforced in order to reduce bank erosion. The channel was approximately 15m in wide and just over 1m deep (Bashford 2008)

Bridges and fords

Grandpont Causeway

Grandpont is first mentioned in 1180-84 in the Osney Abbey Cartulary as *Grantpunt*. The name has a Franco-Norman derivation meaning 'Great Bridge' (Gelling, 1953, 21). In Oxford, the bridge was in fact a causeway on a series of arches crossing ditches and streams between Folly Bridge and Hinksey Hill. A pre-existing middle-late Saxon ford or bridge was located at or near Folly Bridge (Grandpont) (Dodd ed., 2003: 13-5; Blair 1994: 87) either as a single crossing point or as a series of fords and is thought to be the ford after which the city is named, although this is disputed (Salter 1929; Davis 1973: 258; Sturdy 2004: 18-20).

Archaeological investigations have recorded evidence of the Norman causeway in a number of locations most recently in 2005 when investigations noted well preserved Norman fabric in several places. The causeway was first constructed in locally sourced limestone rubble with voussoir and ashlar dressed stone blocks positioned at the faces of the arches (Preston 2005: 38). Eleven of the recorded multiple arches were rounded, characteristic of Norman architectural styles, however one arch was mitred (triangular) and was more common in the Saxon period and may represent a transitional phase in architectural styles (*ibid.*).

Further south evidence for a continuation of the Norman Grandpont was recorded near 116 Abingdon Road where it crosses the Eastwyke Stream . Although undated, the fragment of ragstone causeway recorded during a watching brief on the Abingdon Road appeared similar to the 11th century evidence recorded at St Aldates (OHER 6626; Babtie 2002).

Site	Evidence	Source
33 St Aldates, 1979 (UAD 1547)	4m section of ragstone structure	Durham 1984
Folly Bridge, 1980 (UAD 553)	Watching brief during repairs to bridge, original features noted	Durham 1984
Folly Bridge, 1981(UAD 628)	Photographic survey of bridge	Bradford and Steane 1980

Grandpont House, 1982 (UAD 550)	Known Norman archways recorded	Recorded Observation
Folly Bridge, 1984 (UAD 481)	Five arches recorded	Recorded Observation
Grandpont, 1998 (UAD 916)	Evidence of ragstone fragments beneath the Abingdon Road	RPS 1999
Grandpont, 2005 (UAD 1717)	Eleven arches of Norman construction	Preston, 2005
116 St Aldates, 1979 (OHER 6626)	Fragment of ragstone causeway	Babtie, 2002

Table 2: Archaeological investigations recording evidence of Grandpont Bridge

Old Abingdon Road Causeway

Recent investigations under the Old Abingdon Road crossing the Hinksey Stream east at Redbridge have recorded evidence for a possible causeway that may form an extension of Grandpont (Preston 2009). Examination of the culvers along the road revealed several phases of construction including a primary phase with architectural elements indicative of Norman construction such as dressed stone courses and rubble stone vaults with dressed stone voussoirs (Preston 2009, 6). Norman construction was identified in Redbridge Culvert No. 2 and possibly at Redbridge Culvert No. 1 while the east and west Stanford Culverts appear to be 12th-13th century in date and may be an extension of the Grandpont. The evidence indicates a road some 7-9m wide extending at least as far as the modern railway bridge at Redbridge (*ibid.*).

Bookbinder's Bridge

Bookbinder's Bridge carries High Street St Thomas over the Wareham or Back Stream. There was a bridge there from the 12th century and the name probably originated from a nearby building where books were bound for Osney Abbey. By the 17th century there was a single stone arch, which was rebuilt in brick c1858 (VCH iv: 286).

Castle Bridge

Castle Bridge was built to connect the road from the West Gate of Oxford with St Thomas' parish, and was probably built soon after the castle which diverted the route. It crossed the Castle Mill Stream to the south west of the castle. Originally maintained by the king, it became the responsibility of St Thomas' parish and then, in 1685, the city. In the 17th century the bridge was supported on stone columns and wide enough for a cart. It was widened in timber in 1871 and rebuilt in brick and masonry in 1895.

Folly Bridge

Folly Bridge was built as part of Grandpont Causeway. During the medieval period it was known as South Bridge. There were four arches with a tower just south of the third arch. The tower, known as 'Friar Bacon's Study, was demolished in 1779 and was the subject of a number of drawings by John Malchair (Harrison 1998). The central medieval part of the bridge remains with post medieval and later additions and repairs. A photographic survey in 1981 recorded three of the southern archways. All showed four phases of development, representing increases in the width of the causeway. Construction was part ashlar and part limestone rubble. The first phase was probably the late 11th century arched bridge followed by a second phase consisting of strengthening for the piers; the other two phases may date to the 18th century (Bradford, and Steane 1980).

Hythe Bridge

Hythe, also called High, Bridge carried a road from the town's north gate to the western suburbs across a branch of the Thames running to Castle mill; its name

denotes a wharf in this location either pre dating or contemporary with the bridge. According to the Victoria County History the first known bridge was built by Oseney abbey between 1200 and 1210 (VCH iv: 284-95). However the bridge has also been proposed as a Norman creation with the bridge crossing the River Thames on a new road alignment past the castle (Munby and Rhodes 2010: 25). The landing place or hythe in this location could date back to the late Saxon period (*ibid*.: 8), although there is currently no archaeological evidence for this.

Magdalen Bridge

Magdalen Bridge carries the eastern road from Oxford over the River Cherwell. Formerly called Pettypont and then East Bridge, some form of crossing existed here from at least 1004. The bridge straddles the town boundary, which made responsibility for its upkeep a problem, until the matter was finally settled by the city in 1665. During the 14th century a drawbridge stood at the east end. By the 16th century the bridge was 166m long, with 20 arches. In the 13th and 17th century houses were built on the bridge, but were soon removed. After a number of major repairs the bridge was finally declared unsafe in 1771. In 1967 a deep culvert was discovered running along the north side of the road in a North West direction. The culvert was covered by a stone arch and blocked at both ends (Benson and Brown 1967: 71; Hassall 1973: 268)

Street network

Several streets are recorded for the first time in the Norman period (see Appendix 2: Saxon to Medieval Street Network). Documentary evidence indicates that streets on the east side of Cornmarket were created through agreement between the monastic orders who owned many of the tenements here (Sturdy and Munby 1985: 52). For example, Market Street was thought to have been opened in the 1120s while a second, now lost, lane or alley may have been created between No. 19 and 17 Cornmarket. A number of roads to the rear of the High Street were also probably laid out in the Norman period. For example Kybald Street is thought to have been added in around 1130 (Radcliffe 1961/2; Poore *et al* 2006: 215).

Excavations at the Cathedral Garden, Christ Church recorded a 12th century metalled road on an east-west alignment that survived until the 14th century when it was overlain by domestic settlement and subsequently by Christ Church College (Sturdy 1961/62: 30). To the east excavations at Corpus Christi College in 1958 recorded evidence that suggested Oriel Street may originally extended further south perhaps as far as the City Wall although no evidence of a *terminus ante quem* could be found for this road (*ibid.*, 31). However the presence of 13th century pits across the projected line of this road further south, noted during excavations behind Corpus Christi bastion in 2008 have subsequently cast doubt on this projected line (Bashford, 2007: 23).

As noted above another significant Norman addition to the town was the construction of a substantial central street drain or conduit in the late 11th to or early 12th century (Dodd ed. 2003, 56). The drain was first recorded in section on Castle Street in 1970, here only the south side of the drain could be accurately identified. The drain has subsequently been recorded on the High Street where it measured approximately 1.2m deep and 0.9m wide, and was possibly timber lined with a number of soakaways leading off it. The fill of the drain suggests its depth was reduced in the 14th-15th century to around 0.2m (*ibid*). The section recorded along the High Street ran from Turl Street to Catte Street following a meandering line that may have mirrored the street frontages (Durham 1982: 160).

Monastic foundations

The Priory of St. Nicholas, Littlemore, known as the Minchery (Benedictine Nunnery)

The Benedictine Priory of Littlemore at Minchery Farm was founded around 1110 by Robert de Sandford, a knight of Abingdon Abbey. The priory appears to have remained small with an initial foundation of six virgates of land. The name Minchery Farm derives from the Saxon *myneceri* meaning 'nuns' (Dudley-Buxton 1937: 120). A conjectural layout of the priory has been suggested by Pantin (1970).

A number of inhumations were recorded at Minchery Farm in the 19th century (Dudley-Buxton 1937: 120). In 2003 an evaluation recorded a structure immediately to the north of the extant priory building. To the east of this evidence for a graveyard was noted, and to the south evidence for agrarian activity and rubbish pitting. The lack of evidence for structures to the southeast and northwest of the extant range suggested that the priory was not extensive and that the extant building very likely forms the east range of a cloister on the south side of the Priory church (Pre Construct Archaeology 2005).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Monastic Foundations* for further evidence.

St Frideswide's (Augustinian)

St Frideswide's Minster was re-founded in 1122 as an Augustinian priory, although it has its origins in the Saxon period (Page 1907: 94). Despite holding a number of churches it appears to have little other land (Halsey 1988: 120). In around 1136 the monastery was given permission to extend its precinct to the north and south on the proviso that it rebuilt and maintained the city defences where these adjoined the precinct (Blair 1988b: 236). Documentary sources indicate that a fire or some catastrophic event occurred in around 1190 that resulted in the destruction of some or all of the church. Reports differ as to the extent of the damage with the Osney Cartulary indicating that the damage was extensive destroying the church and even part of the adjacent town (Page 1907: 100). Halsey, however, suggests this is unlikely as there is little architectural evidence to suggest extensive fire damage, the chapter house and the shrine both survived intact and the fire may have been contained to the roof or cloister (Halsey 1988: 135).

Halsey (1988) provides a detailed history of the architecture of St Frideswide's Church (later Christ Church Cathedral) which is predominately Norman in style with an approximate date from the later half of the 12th century. Nothing appears to survive of the pre Conquest church which may lie partially beneath the cloister (Halsey 1988: 115). Construction of the new priory precinct appears to have been slow with architectural elements that can be dated to the early and late 12th century (*ibid.*: 122).

The 12th century foundations of the church have been observed, along with several graves in the north-east part of the Cathedral that were cut by late 12th century footings (Sturdy 1988: 91). An earlier structure was also recorded on the site of the current Latin Chapel however no further information is available. Investigations within the cloister at St Frideswide's recorded a long sequence of construction from the early 12th century onwards (Scull 1988). The pre-Norman cemetery of St Frideswide's was in its final phase by the early 12th century and it was largely abandoned by the middle of the century to accommodate new structures for the converted monastery. A large pit or quarry was opened in the area of the cemetery at some point in the 12th century disturbing Saxon burials. The area was subsequently levelled, probably in order to create construction levels for the new monastery (*ibid.*: 65). Excavation in the Cathedral garden in 1961 recorded a wall and road surface associated with the rebuilding of the priory in the 12th century (Sturdy 1961/2: 20-5)A 12th century wall painting recorded at Frideswide's is published by Sturdy (1988). A

watching brief between 2005-7 on new service trenches located west of the cathedral at Christ Church identified the precinct wall of the Augustinian Priory, a building against the west precinct wall, a garderobe and burials in the graveyard to the west and north-east of the later Cathedral. A number of undated burials were also recorded (pers. comm. J Moore; JMHS forthcoming).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Monastic Foundations* for further evidence.

Osney Abbey (Augustinian)

The Augustinian Priory of Osney was founded in 1129 by Robert D'Oilly on a large floodplain island west of the city. With its foundation, D'Oilly gave all his lands in Osney, some of his rents in Oxford as well as a number of churches and manors in Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Staffordshire (Page 1907: 90). The Priory was elevated to the status of Abbey in 1154. During the 12th century the abbey continued to grow with the addition of the collegiate chapel of St George's in 1149 following a grant by Henry D'Oilly and the subsequent grant of a weir by Bernard of St Valery in 1182 (Underdown 2009: 6). An ongoing dispute with St Frideswide's over St Mary Magdalen Church also continued throughout the later 12th century until it was finally settled with Osney following an appeal to the king to resolve the dispute (Page 1907: 90).

The abbey was a significant force in the medieval town and was wealthier than St Frideswide's yet it remains relatively obscure. The early Abbey layout is not known although its late medieval extent has been hypothesized, based on literature, documents, cartographic sources (including Agas' map of 1578) and small scale excavations and observations (Squire 1928; Sharpe 1985; VCH iv; Pine 2004).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Monastic Foundations* for more information.

Godstow Abbey (Benedictine Nunnery)

Godstow Abbey was founded by Dame Ediva by 1133. Ediva was a former resident of Winchester who had moved to Binsey 'in search of enlightenment' and subsequently became the first abbess (Page 1907:71). The church was consecrated by 1139. The abbey also held the Church of St Giles in Oxford and in 1139 it was granted a mill at Wolvercote (*ibid.*, 72; King 2008). A 1791 engraving of the abbey ruins, a note of the internal arrangement of the church and a summary was published with references to stone coffins recorded from the chapel and during the excavation of a navigation channel through the grounds to the east of the precinct walls possibly on the site of an early church (anon 1791: 986). Subsequent erosion of the channel banks has revealed a number of stone coffins and artefacts.

Excavations by R. E. Linington in 1959 on the site of the present Wolvercote-Wytham road encountered 'the walls of two timber buildings' which were dated as contemporary with, or soon after the foundation of the nunnery. Previously in the 1880s, Hurst had made drawings of two pieces of masonry with diaper moulding recovered from under the Wolvercote arch of the toll bridge, which may have come from this building. Freeborn, writing in the 1920s, claimed to have seen' pieces of Norman work 'in a cow-house' standing at the north-west angle of the present enclosure (Ganz 1972: 150; Case and Sturdy 1960).

A watching brief undertaken in 1994 on the northern side of the Wytham-Wolvercote Road indicated the presence of a number of substantial stone buildings. The structures were well preserved and may lie at the northern end of the Guest Court of the Abbey. No conclusive dating evidence was recovered (Hiller and Booth 1994: 3).

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Monastic Foundations* for further evidence.

<u>Eynsham Abbey</u>

Eynsham Abbey was re-founded by 1086 under Bishop Remigus but it appears to have lost the rights to St Ebbe's Church by 1091. Although not located within the LAA the Abbey held a significant amount of property within the city (Page 1907).

<u>House of Knights Templar (Temple Cowley)</u>

In 1136 Queen Matilda granted a manor in Cowley to the house of Knights Templars where they built a church and subsequently established a preceptory. When the order was suppressed by the king in 1308 the land passed to their successors the Knights Hospitallers (Page 1907: 106). The exact location of the manor is unknown although it has been suggested it was located on or near Temple Street and the preceptory may have been located on or near to Temple Cowley Manor (Muir and Newell 1999: 2) or further west (Fitzsimons 2008). The preceptory likely reverted to secular use in the mid 13th century however when the Templars removed to a new site at Sandford-on-Thames (*ibid.*). The Hospitallers retained the estate until the Dissolution when the land reverted to the Crown (*ibid.*: 3).

An excavation in 1999 at Temple Cowley Manor House recorded evidence of a substantial building complex predating the 17th century manor which may relate to the Templar Preceptory (Muir and Newell 1999: 17). A significant amount of Saxo-Norman pottery was recorded from the site, however the first structural evidence dated to the 13th century. A group of pits were later replaced by a more substantial stone structure, which was itself truncated by the later manor house. The surviving elements of the building included a shallow wall slot, a possible post hole and an entrance along its northern wall. To the north of the structure, a large circular pit and a curved ditch containing 11th-13th century pottery and to the south east, a small group of pits and postholes may also belong to this phase although dating evidence in this case was inconclusive.

An archaeological watching brief in 2008 identified structural evidence that may relate to the Preceptory, located approximately 200m to the west of the earlier excavation on Cowley Road (Fitzsimons 2008). Three phases of activity were recorded including a pre structural phase dated to the 11th century represented by two ditches that may be part of an enclosure and several pits. A second phase of activity was represented by several walls including the corner of a building constructed of large angular limestone blocks and a second wall on an east west alignment. The final phase of activity post dated the Templar occupation in Cowley and indicated that the site reverted to pasture

See *Medieval Resource Assessment: Monastic Foundations* for further evidence.

<u>Churches</u>

All Saints Church

The church was converted into a library for Lincoln College in 1973 involving the insertion of an underground reading room. Limited archaeological investigations within the church identified six phases of Saxon domestic occupation followed by at least four phases for the church dating from the late Saxon to the medieval period (Hassall 1974: 55). The medieval period saw several phases of expansion and alteration including the addition of a chantry chapel and vaulted crypt in around the 15th century. A further 32 medieval burials were also recorded (Dodd 2003: 231).

St Budoc's Church

St Budoc's Church is first recorded in 1166 and was dedicated to a Breton saint. The first church was located on Castle Street but was destroyed in 1215 to make way for the castle barbican (VCH iv: 376). A new church was then built by the king outside the west gate but the arrival of the Friars of the Sack in 1265 made the church largely redundant and it was granted to the friary as their chapel (*ibid.*). During

archaeological investigations in 1969 in the Westgate area the south wall of the first church was identified along with a stone coffin (Hassall 1970: 18). It has also been suggested that the dedication could relate to the settlement of Cornish or Breton mercenaries.

St Cross Church

St Cross Church in Hollywell has been the subject of a radar survey, Further work is ongoing (Forde 2009).

St Ebbe's

Investigations at St Ebbe's Church in 2004 recorded a total of 16 inhumations dated to the 12th-14th century with a further 13 to the 15th-16th century (Parsons 2004: 7). The inhumations appear to be on a predominately WNW-ESE alignment in contrast to the more usual W-E burials within Christian churchyards. The location of the burials indicated that the churchyard was extended to the south and west in the 12th century Documentary evidence indicates the church was extended to the south and west at around this time.

St Edward's Church

St Edward's Church on Alfred Street was first recorded in the foundation charter of St Frideswide's in 1122 (VCH iv: 380). In 1298 it was combined with the parish of St Frideswide's. St Edwards, where St Columba's United Reform Church now stands, ceased to function in 1390 (Dudley-Buxton 1937: 120). St Edward's Hall on the adjacent plot was known as the 'aula in cemeterio' in early rentals and there is the potential for inhumations in the area (Pantin 1951: 222). A 19th century observation during the installation of gas and drainage pipes along Blue Boar Lane recorded several skeletons and the stone foundations of a building, possibly the church (Hurst 1889: 194).

St Frideswide's Church

The parish church of St Frideswide's, first recorded in 1170-80, was located adjacent to the priory. It survived until 1298 when it was combined with the parish of St Edwards (VCH iv: 381).

St George in the Castle

The church was founded or re-founded as a college of secular canons in 1074 and was subsequently granted to Osney Abbey in 1149. Its location near to the Saxon west gate in an area of 10th century occupation suggests that a church existed here before the castle was built (VCH iv: 381). Its location within the castle during the medieval period led to its dissolution as a parish church and was replaced by St Thomas' in the 13th century. The church originally comprised an aisleless nave, a chancel with a crypt and a west tower of which only the rebuilt 12th century crypt and the Late Saxon tower now survive although excavations during works to the Castle in 1794 recorded evidence of two Romanesque stone capitals and the foundations of a round tower (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1996). Recent excavations (1999-2005) beneath the prison D wing at the castle revealed the likely foundations of the church and also six burials noted at the base of St George's tower are likely to be from the church cemetery (Poore, Norton, Dodd 2009, 13-1). Further Late Saxon or early medieval burials were found during works to the stairs of the crypt (Oxford Archaeological Unit 1996). The history of St George in the Castle is summarised by Barron (2002).

St Giles

St Giles' Church may have originally served as a private chapel to Edwin son of Godegose to whom it was confirmed by Henry I in 1123. In 1139 it was granted by Edwin to Godstow Nunnery with whom it remained until the Dissolution when it passed to the King (VCH iv, 381). A watching brief on test pits along the north wall of

the church in 1992 did not reveal any surviving Norman architectural features above or below ground (Dalton 1992).

St John's Church

The church of St John the Baptist was a parish church in the early medieval period, but in 1292 it fell into the possession of Merton College. A new chapel was constructed immediately north of the church which was demolished by 1307. Burials from the parish church have been found close to the sacristy of the chapel (UAD 1558).

St Mildred's Church

The church was among those granted to St Frideswide's in 1122 but was transferred to Eynsham in 1142. St Mildred's Church was in use until around 1427 when the site was re-used for the foundation of Lincoln College (Dudley-Buxton 1937: 120). Six skulls were recorded during construction work in the 1870s (UAD 102).

St Michael at the South Gate

St Michael at the South Gate was first mentioned in 1122 in the foundation charter of St Frideswide's and remained until 1525 when it was demolished to make way for the great quadrangle at Christ Church (VCH iv: 397). A watching brief between 2005-7 on new service trenches at Christ Church recorded part of a burial and other disarticulated remains west of the Augustinian Priory precinct wall suggesting that the burial was part of the cemetery associated with the church of St Michael at the South Gate (pers comm. J. Moore; JMHS forthcoming).

St Peter in the East Church

St Peter in the East is first mentioned in Domesday as belonging to Robert D'Oilly who granted the church to Osney in around 1154, however it appears that this grant was invalid as it had already passed out of ownership of the D'Oilly family and in 1266 Henry I granted it to Merton College (VCH iv: 398). The church also appears to have had two daughter churches at Holywell and Wolvercote by the late 11th century suggesting that it may also have pre Conquest foundations. A fragment of the Norman font was preserved in the window of the south porch in the 19th century (Swann 1897: 67). Blair has suggested that the church may have originated as a minster (Blair 1994) and Haslam suggests that it was an urban sub-minster associated with the formation of a secondary Late Saxon burh east of a primary burh and discusses the status of the church in some detail (Haslam 2010: 33)

Excavations in 1968 within the church revealed a large number of medieval floor tiles broadly dated to the 14th century (Emden 1969: 29). Later excavations at the site suggested a Saxon origin for the church with excavator suggesting evidence several phases of activity on the site. The earliest occupation evidence consisted of an early 10th century occupation level with insufficient evidence to determine if this was domestic activity or related to an early church. The later 10th century saw the construction of a timber and stone church which may have then be rebuilt or altered in the later 10th century before the current church was built in the 12th century (Sturdy, 1972, 245). A slightly different range of dates have subsequently been suggested by the excavator, e.g. a stone church of c950-1050, an earlier timber church of 800-950 and earlier still post built huts (Sturdy 2004: 52). No detailed excavation report has been published for this site and the details remain unconfirmed.

St Peter le Bailey

The church was among those granted to St Frideswide's in 1122 with whom it remained until the Dissolution. The church was eventually demolished in 1874 to make way from road widening (VCH iv: 403). Excavation in Bonn Square in 2008 revealed 296 burials within the graveyard of the 11th-19th century church. Earlier burial were unconfined or in stone lined cist graves (Webb and Norton 2009).

St Martins

Human remains and a grave slab from the churchyard of St Martins were observed under Cornmarket Street (Hardy 1996b).

<u>Chapels</u>

A chapel at the East gate was granted to St Frideswide's in 1122 and remained with them until it was granted to the Trinitarian friars in 1310 (VCH iv, 406).

Trade and industry

Archaeological remains relating to trade and Industry that can be closely dated to the Norman period are reasonably rare. This section should therefore be read in conjunction with the medieval assessment.

Weavers Guild and evidence for textiles

A weaver's guild is recorded at Oxford by 1130 and the fortunes of the local trade fluctuated until the early 15th century when it declined (Peberdy 2010: 40). Jope recorded bun shaped loom weights in 11th and perhaps early 12th century layers at the Clarendon Hotel, Cornmarket Street. He suggested that this could be evidence for cloth making. Such weights were used on vertical looms and were made redundant by the later introduction of horizontal looms (Jope and Pantin 1958: 73). A small lump of carbonized textile of possible 12th century date were recovered from a stone coffin burial on the site of St. Budoc's church, noted at the time to have close parallels from monastic or clerical graves at Thetford Priory and Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk (Crowfoot 1976)

Butchery, tanning and cordwainery

Excavations at the Classics Centre, at 65–67 St Giles recorded 11th-13th century pits, containing butchery or tanning waste (Norton and Cockin 2008; Poole 2008). Evidence for horn core working and marrow extraction indicating carcass processing have been recovered from similarly dated deposits at 4a Merton Street and the Castle precinct (Worley and Evans 2006: 320; Evans 2006: 120). For a detailed discussion of bone assemblage recovery patterns see Wilson (2003).

The Clarendon Hotel, Cornmarket Street, was located in an area associated with medieval Cordwainery (Shoe making). Excavations at the site produced a significant assemblage of leather from a cess pit producing 12th-ealy 13th century pottery (Sturdy in Jope 1958: 75-8). Sturdy notes that the shoes were close in design to Scandinavian fashions of the time. A significant well stratified deposit of leather shoes of 11th-12th century date was also recovered from the Castle excavations (1999-2005). The assemblage again shows shoe styles warn by the local population and provides evidence for the repair and manufacture of shoes in the locality. Once again an Anglo-Scandinavian-Norman design tradition was noted amongst this group (Norton 2006a: 29; Mould 2006).

Metalworking

Excavations at 79-80 St Aldates recorded several lumps of slag suggesting light forging in the area from deposits contemporary with a coin of Stephen dated to around 1141 (Dodd ed. 2003: 55). Further smithing activity from this period, including a smithing heart cake, was recorded at 1-2 Magdalen Street (Young 2000; Bateman *et al*. 2004). Fragments of copper alloy working debris suggesting craft or industrial activity was recorded in a 12th century ditch that was sealed by the road foundation layer for St Frideswides Lane, the route of which runs below the Christ Church Cathedral Garden (pers comm. J Moore; JMHS forthcoming)

Other evidence for craft working

At Littlegate a rectangular pit produced a few small fragments of tile and 11th century pottery. The pit appears to have been timber lined, and had presumably gone out of use when these timbers had been burnt. Its backfill consisted of a mixture of ash and lime, and although the exact function of the pit could not be ascertained, it was likely to have a craft or industrial use (Hassall and Halpin 1989: 134).

Warfare and defences

The Castle

Summary history

Documentary evidence records that Oxford castle was first built in 1071 by Robert D'Oilly for Edward I and remained with the Crown until 1611 when it passed into private hands. (VCH iv: 296). In 1140, during the Anarchy, Robert D'Oilly (the nephew of the castles founder) declared for the Empress Matilda and the castle was fortified against attacks from the Royal army backing Stephen. When D'Oilly and Matilda settled at the castle in 1142 they were besieged and eventually escaped after which the castle was held by Stephen (VCH iv: 296). At the defeat of Matilda's forces in 1153 the castle was placed in the hands of Roger de Lucy (*ibid.*).

Architectural development

The precise character of the late 11th century castle precinct and its subsequent development is not well understood. The castle layout comprises an extant motte of c.76.2m in diameter and 19.5m high with an outer bailey that originally covered two and a half acres of land, itself surrounded by a rampart and ditch. The tower of St George in the Castle, now thought to be Late Saxon in origin (Norton 2006a; Blair 1994: 167) sits within the castle complex and may have served as a keep for the early fortifications.

Two mounds or mounts shown on 16th century maps, known as Jews Mount and Mount Pelham may be related to either up-cast from the castle moat or later siegeworks associated with the 1142 siege of Queen Matilda at Oxford castle by King Stephen (Munby and Roads 2008: 4). Mount Pelham was levelled c.1650 and Jews Mount when canal constructed in 1790. The extent of the mounds is captured in the line of the northern end of Bulwarks Lane.

There is documentary evidence of continuous rebuilding and repair works to the castle complex almost from its first construction. In 1173 the bailey wall was added and the tower on the motte may have been extended and the original wooden structure replaced in stone as it was reported to large enough to contain several houses. A barbican was added to the east in 1216 resulting in the demolition of the Church of St Budoc's while a new corner tower was added in 1235. There is documentary evidence that the great tower was ruinous by 1239 resulting in the construction of a new tower in 1253. Access to the castle was via two bridges, one from St George's tower west to Osney with the principal entry from the south into town (VCH iv: 297). A map of c.1617 held at Christ Church shows a Sessions House, the Great Tower, St George's Tower with a small gate nearby, at least two further towers and the fortified gate house to the south. A fortified house and garden called Bagwells house was also recorded within the complex. By the 17th century the castle ditch had largely silted up and was bordered on almost all side by houses (Hassall 1976: 253).

Archaeological summary

In 1952 Jope excavated a portion of the mound on the north side of the castle, he noted that the motte ditch had been cut through earlier phases of domestic occupation. A ditch ran directly around the base of the motte with no intervening berm, it was cut into the natural gravel and then padded with a layer of clean blue clay. The ditch was recorded as 16.15m wide and 3.6m deep running parallel to the New Road. The excavation also revealed detail of the motte construction (Jope 1952-53: 81).

Between 1965 and 1972 a programme of archaeological investigation was carried out to the north-west of the castle and between 1969 and 1973 to the east (Hassall 1976). The investigations demonstrated that the motte was constructed largely of up-cast from the ditch. The eastern defences of the castle, the castle moat and the

barbican were also investigated. The excavations exposed the line, profile and form of the castle moat which had been lined first with a layer of hard packed gravel and stone and then with a layer of blue clay up to 10cm thick (*ibid.*: 252), also the detail of the construction of the barbican in 1216 and the probable site of the first church of St Budoc. The results of the archaeological investigations at the castle indicate it was constructed on the edge of the second gravel terrace probably above the medieval flood plain levels.

Investigations at Boreham's Yard in 1994-5 revealed a sequence of eleven phases for the area around the West Gate dating from the 11th century to the modern period (Booth 2003). Three successive cobbled surfaces were recorded close to the Castle Mill Stream and may represent the position of the western defences of the bailey of the castle and perhaps a landing or fording point. The earliest phase of evidence indicated reworking of the Castle Mill Street, which had been realigned to the west. Excavations at Paradise Street in 2006 recorded evidence of the Norman outer bailey ditch, here the earliest phase of the castle construction comprised a series of revetment walls at the point where the ditch joined the Castle Mill Stream (Norton 2006b: 8).

Excavations at the Castle in 2003-2004 recorded sections of the Norman rampart and ditch (Norton 2006). To the east of the motte, a substantial ditch was recorded some 8m deep and containing good environmental evidence including leather and wooden artefacts. Evidence from the fill indicated that the ditch was in use between the 11th-15th century and probably formed part of the bailey. A substantial stone foundation dated to the 12th century, possibly of the castle's curtain wall was also recorded. To the south the castle moat and the earth rampart separating it from the bailey was noted. The rampart was recorded to a height of c.2m and was constructed of gravel capped with clay. Large limestone foundations were also recorded adjacent to the Governor's Office that may represent the foundations of the east gate of the castle. Evidence for the curtain wall was recorded to the west of the precinct at the base of St George's Tower along with six medieval inhumations within the area of the churchyard associated with St Georges Church. The investigations also revealed some evidence of re-use of the Castle chapel for the northwest wing (D Wing) of the post medieval prison. It was notable that the excavation of the castle moat did not produce large quantities of weapons considering the siege history noted above (Norton 2006a: 38)

The Norman Motte has been subject to an earthwork survey (Bradley 2002). In 2008 an archaeological watching brief and excavation was undertaken to record restoration and stabilisation works, revealing the construction of the mound and the remains of the 12th century stone tower on its summit (Mumford 2008). In 2009 a small research excavation on the castle motte investigated the theory that in the 11th century a wooden keep was added to the motte, replaced by a stone keep in the 12th century. The trenches further defined the extent of the stone keep, exposing sections of the limestone foundations. A soil horizon was revealed in the centre of the motte, which was overlain by a compact gravel surface that formed a surface in the 12th century stone keep. The surface was cut by a probable robber trench for an internal stone tower, thought to have been ruined by the 14th century (Norton 2010). (For more information on the castle precinct please see the medieval assessment)

The Town Wall

Whilst it remains possible that the Late Saxon defences were repaired and improved during this period there is currently little archaeological evidence for such works. One significant addition to the circuit was an extension added to the northern defences to enclose the churchyard of St Michael at the Northgate. Thus forming a forward enclosure around the church. An excavation in 1972-3 exposed two phases of wall for the northern enclosure. The first rough ragstone wall appeared to have been short

lived, perhaps because it appeared to have been subsiding into the Saxon burh ditch over which it had been built. A second more robust stone wall line was constructed slightly to the north. The first wall was tentatively dated to the late 11th century with a sherd of twelfth century pottery from the construction cut of the second wall providing the only dating evidence (Durham 1983). The extent to which this forward enclosure represents an expansion of the late Saxon burh remains a matter for debate. Brian Durham has pointed out the location of the St Michael at the Northgate tower door, the thinness of its northern wall and the absence of any trance of gate structure on its western wall indicate that the defensive line must have run to the north of the tower from the time that it was built (pers comm. B Durham; see also Jope 1956: 243). Jope has previously suggested that the parts of the wall in this location might have begun before 1199 based on the land ownership history north and south of the wall (*ibid.*).

Please refer to the Saxon and medieval assessments for more information on the development of the city defences.

Moated Enclosures

Moated sites were established in England from the 12th century, however no confirmed examples are located within the LAA. Possible moated enclosures have been proposed at St Margaret's Church at Binsey (Blair 1988: 11), Eastwyke Farm on Abingdon Road (Philpotts 2006: 24) and east of Oxford Road, Marston (Oxford Archaeological Unit 2001: 40).

Material culture

Pottery

During this period Late Saxon fabrics continued to be used and new regional imports were introduced. Mellor's synthesis (1994b) of Oxfordshire pottery provides a detailed analysis of known fabrics, their distribution and significance. A review of medieval ceramics research was also published in 1994 (Mellor 1994a) noting problems with the current data such as lack of definitive dating and gaps in the chronology of pottery production.

Excavations of deposits predating the castle allowed for the construction of the first Saxo-Norman and early medieval pottery sequence (Mellor 1994: 71). Excavations at the Clarendon Hotel, Cornmarket Street (Jope 1958: 52) and Bodleian Extension (Bruce-Mitford 1939) also produced substantial Saxo-Norman assemblages. Small to moderate assemblages of 11th-12th century pottery have been recovered from excavations at All Souls, Codrington Library site (Blinkhorn, 2004), the Postmasters' Hall at Merton College (Blinkhorn 2003), Peckwater Quad, Christ Church (Blinkhorn 2007), Westgate Centre (Blinkhorn 2008a: 102) and a larger assemblage from the castle precinct (Blinkhorn 2006; 2008a; 2008b).

Late Saxon fabrics that continue into the medieval period include Late Saxon to Early Medieval West Oxon and Early Medieval Oxford ware (OXAC) and Late Saxon to Early Medieval South West Oxon ware (OXBF) both with an approximate date range of late 9th-mid 13th century; Late Saxon to medieval Wallingford wares (WA38), Oxford wares (OXY) and Abingdon wares (OXAG) are all introduced in the mid to late 11th century and remain common until the mid 13th century. The Norman period saw the introduction of locally produced Banbury wares (OX234) and South-East Oxon wares (OX162) in the late 11th-early 12th century and North-West Oxon wares (OXCX) in the late 12th century. Regional imports include Minety type wares from north-east Wiltshire (OXBB) and East Wiltshire wares (OXAQ) in the mid to late 12th century. Post conquest new pottery production traditions emerged north east of Oxford at Ashampstead. By the late 12th century a handmade coarse ware industry centred on Savernake Forest supplied domestic wares at Oxford. From the late 12th century, Brill/Boarstall wares from Buckinghamshire became increasingly common and dominated pottery use from the mid 13th century (Mellor 1994b).

From the Conquest to about 1250 much of the towns pottery supply consisted of cooking pots and dishes, tripod pitchers and jugs. The lack of jug rims in the assemblages from the Sackler Library (Beaumont Palace) and at Oxford Castle may suggest the use of metal and glass service vessels rather than pottery ones by the wealthier occupants (Blinkhorn 2006: 62).

Glass

Notable glass assemblages include painted window glass of 12th-14th century date from the Sackler Library extension, which is significant die to its proximity to the 12th century royal palace and subsequent Whitefriars (Cropper 1998:39-40). The excavations at Seacourt recorded evidence of a fragment of blue glass that may have had an eastern Mediterranean provenance in the 12th century (Harden in Biddle 1961: 185).

Leather

As noted above significant leather assemblages have been recovered from Oxford Castle (Mould 2006) and the Clarendon Hotel (Sturdy in Jope 1958: 75-7, 1-5).

<u>Worked bone</u>

Bone ice skates, in use from the 8th-13th century, have been recorded at several sites across the city including Hinxey Hall (UAD 260), 23-26 Queen Street (UAD 291) and at the Westgate centre (UAD 210).

A single ivory gaming piece of probable 11th-12th century date was recorded during investigations at 24a St Michaels Street (Allen in Dodd ed. 2003: 304) while other chess pieces have been recorded at the Westgate centre in the 1970s (Hassall 1989: 231). A carved ivory casket panel of a probable Norman date was also recorded from the Westgate site (*ibid.*).

<u>Stonework</u>

Notable pieces of 11th-12th century carved stonework are published in the RCHME Volume for Oxford (1939: Plate 9), including an 11th century coffin lid from the Cathedral, currently on display in Oxford Museum. Also on display in the Museum is the base of a large stone cross bearing Old Testament scenes removed from the buttress of Christ Church Cathedral in the 19th century. It is identified in the Museum as of 12th century date. However it has been suggested that it could be the base of a cross that Oxford Jews were ordered to erect in 1268, originally located in the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, on the south side of Merton Street (Marples 1973: 308). Further notable Norman architectural details, including carved column capitals from Iffley Church, the Crypt of St Peter in The East, St Frideswide's Cathedral and the crypt of St George's Tower are published in the RCHM Volume (Plates 16-17 212, 101, 213). A replica of a fine 12th century doorway can be seen at St Ebbes Church, the original was put into storage by the church (Sherwood and Pevsner 1974: 292).

<u>Coins</u>

A few coins of a Norman date have been recorded, at St John's College in 1947 a single coin of Henry II minted in 1168-80 was recorded from the fill of a well (Jope *et al.* 1950: 44). From St Aldates, excavations at No 79-80 recorded a single silver irregular coin of Stephen c1141 (Durham 1977: 140).

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Further resources:

Geology

- Geological Conservation Review

Summary descriptions of site evaluation of geological stratification for the county: http://www.jncc.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2947)
- *British Geological Survey Online Maps:* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

Archaeological Evidence

- Oxford Urban Archaeological Database, Oxford City Council

A database of archaeological records for the historic city centre area. For a map of the area covered by the UAD see visit: http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decP/UrbanArchaeologicalDatabase.htm
To search a version of the database visit: http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/

- Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record, Oxfordshire County Council

A database of archaeological records for the County of Oxfordshire. To search the database visit the Heritage Gateway:
http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/
or Oxfordshire Heritage Search:
http://publicapps.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/portal/publicapps/applications/heritage

- Oxford History Centre (formerly the County Records Office)

Holds large collection of historic maps and historic documents from the medieval period to the present.

http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/oxfordshire-history-centre

- *Oxoniensia*

Archaeological and architectural journal for Oxfordshire
http://www.oahs.org.uk/oxof.php

- Archaeology Data Service.

Holds archive of grey literature by participating archaeological units from c2000 onwards. Also holds complete catalogue of several archaeological journals including Medieval Archaeology as well as complete archive of CBA publications:
http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/.

- Portable Antiquities Scheme

Voluntary scheme recording archaeological objects recorded by members of the public including those by metal-detector users
http://www.finds.org.uk/

Museum Archives

- The Ashmolean Museum:
http://www.ashmolean.org/
Also for ceramics online see the Ashmolean Potweb:
http://potweb.ashmolean.org/PotChron7g.html
- The Pitt Rivers Museum:
http://www.prm.ox.ac.uk/

- Oxfordshire County Museums:

http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/oxfordshire-museum

Appendix 1: Norman Site Gazetteer

1. Cornmarket, Clarendon Hotel. 1954-5. (UAD 1)
12th century vaulted cellar
Sources: Oxoniensia 23: 1-84

2. Cornmarket No 13-21. 1960 (UAD 3)
12th century pits
Source: UAD

3. Cornmarket 52. 1983 (UAD 14)
12th century vaulted cellar with floor levels
Source: UAD

4. Church of St Michael at the Northgate (UAD 15)
Building survey recorded elements of Norman architecture including a doorway and the church tower
Source: UAD

5. St Michael's Street. 1976. (UAD 29)
11th-12th century activity including metalled street surface, finds included early medieval waterlogged wood, leather and some wattle
Source: UAD

6. Frewin Hall. (UAD 38)
The vaulted cellar of Frewin Hall was identified as the undercroft of an important stone house probably built between 1090 and 1150.
Source: UAD

7. Cornmarket Street (UAD 56)
Some 12th century pottery recorded, no further details
Source: UAD

8. Carfax, St Martins Church 1896 (UAD 59)
Medieval church, now demolished. Foundations date from Norman and medieval period
Source: UAD

9. Queen Street 38. 1959 (UAD 69)
Pits containing 11th-12th century pottery, no further details
Source: UAD

10. St Mildred's Churchyard, Brasenose Lane, 1870s (UAD 102)
Number of human skulls recorded, it was estimated that there were six burials
Source: UAD

11. St Edward's Church, Blue Boar Lane, 1870s (UAD 103)
Some human remains recorded including two skulls
Source: UAD

12. St Aldate's. No 117-118. 1937-8 (UAD 121)
11th century architectural fragment with Norman style carving
Source: UAD

13. St Mary's Entry 1894-5 (UAD 160)
12th century enamel roundel, no further details
Source: UAD

14. St Aldates, Christ Church. 1954-5 (UAD 164)
12th century pottery recorded, no further details
Source: UAD

15. Peckwater Quadrangle Christ Church 1956 (UAD 169)
About 1.5 m of 11th and 12th century accumulation overlay the gravel.
Source: UAD

16. Magdalen College School 1958 (UAD 171)
Some pottery recorded, no further details
Source: UAD

17. St John's College. 1959 (UAD 175)
A large sub-rectangular 12th century pit was found
Source: UAD

18. Jowett Walk. 1960 (UAD 180)
12th century pottery was found.
Source: UAD

19. St Aldates, Christ Church. Cathedral Garden. 1961. (UAD 185)
12th century road recorded, also some 11th-12th century pottery.
Sources: Oxoniensia 26/27; 53

20. Corpus Christi College. 1958 (UAD 186)
The 14th century wall of Canterbury College was exposed. Below were remains of the earlier road and the early medieval houses which fronted it. In the occupation layers was 12th and 13th century pottery.
Source: UAD

21. Brasenose Lane, 1961. (UAD 187)
Houses first mentioned here is 1188.
Sources: Sturdy D. 1961. Recent Excavations in Christ Church and nearby. Oxoniensia 26/27: 32.

22. St Aldate's, Christ Church Peckwater Quadrangle. 1964-65 (UAD 203)
Several rubbish pits from the 11th-12th century were recorded along with pottery evidence. Pits indicate domestic occupation in the area prior to the expansion of St Frideswide's
Source: UAD

23. St Aldate's. No 79-80. 1970-1 (UAD 227)
The first structure on the site was of 11th or 12th century date. A single building clearly existed from the late 12th or early 13th century, but had been divided into two before

1279, initially by a wooden partition and then by a stone wall.

24. Alfred Street. No 3. 1971 (UAD 245)
Several rubbish pits with 11th to 14th century pottery
Source: UAD

25. The Hamel. 1975-6 (UAD 281)
A series of medieval occupation and building layers. The first phase consisted of a mid to late 12th century ditch, recut in the late 12th century.
Source: UAD

26. Queen Street. No 7-8. 1985 (UAD 344)
In No 7 were the remains of a backfilled early 11th century cellar, but no cellar structure. Above those were late 11th and 12th century domestic floors. Both buildings contained 13th century fill. The finds point to a late Saxon street frontage, cut into late Saxon gravelled surfaces, possibly from a market area. A substantial depth of metalling was found.
Source: UAD

27. Bulwarks Lane. 1980 (UAD 286)
A pit from around 1100 into which possible occupation layers were subsiding. The upper level was 12th century with two pits. Any burghal rampart must have run on a different line.
Source: UAD

28. Osney Abbey. 1975-83 (UAD 292)
The earliest levels found consisted of pre-monastic stream channels and associated silting. Remains of monastic buildings from the 12th century onwards have been found. The abbey expanded over the marshy site using old water channels as drains.
Source: UAD

29. St Aldates. St Frideswide's Cloister, 1985. (UAD 296)
Early 12th century layers, pits and a gully. Further burials were found. The overlying levels contained pits and post holes from various medieval dates.
Source: UAD

30. St Aldates. Christ Church, Priory House. 1986 (UAD 297)
Removal of panelling and floors revealed the Norman door to the cloister and the steps up to the dormitory. Signs of a fire in 1190 could be seen.
Source: UAD

31. St Thomas' Street. No 54-55. 1994 (UAD 311)
The earliest activity on the site was represented by 12th century ditches crossing what the environmental evidence showed to be open wet pasture. The ditches may have been for drainage or boundaries.
Source: UAD

32. Catte Street. 1980. (UAD 333)
12th century cellar
Sources: South Midlands Archaeology 1981

33. High Street. 1981-1984. (UAD 337)
A trench was dug down the centre of the street for a drain. 12th century pits were found, possibly associated with market trader's. A well constructed drain or 'kennel' was also uncovered. The wall were very straight, suggesting a timber lining. The fill suggests that the deep channel was abandoned in the 12th century.
Source: UAD

34. St Aldates. No. 89-91. 1982. (UAD 340)
11th century dump layer which reclaimed the land on which building began in the 12th century.
Sources: Dodd, A. 2003. Oxford before the University. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 17. Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit

35. Queen Street, No. 7-8. 1985 (UAD 344)
In No 7 were the remains of a backfilled early 11th century cellar, but no cellar structure. Above those were late 11th and 12th century domestic floors. Both buildings contained 13th century fill. The finds point to a late Saxon street frontage, cut into late Saxon gravelled surfaces, possibly from a market area. A substantial depth of metalling was found.
Sources: Dodd, A. 2003. Oxford before the University. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 17. Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit

36. St Aldates. No. 89 1985 (UAD 345)
12th century street frontage buildings.
Source: UAD

37. St Aldates. No. 30-31. 1986-1990. (UAD 346)
A layer of alluvial clay was found which must have formed after 1190 when the stone bridge blocked the channel. Cut into this were pits, probably for quarrying, and a hard standing separated from them by a boundary. 12th-13th century pottery was found in an area probably used as back yards. Stakes seem to have been driven into the channel bed. Rubbish pits also contained leather and plum stones. The silts contained some earlier pottery interpreted as from houses built on stilts when the bridge was new.
Sources: Dodd, A. 2003.

38. St Aldate's. No 56-60 1988 (UAD 349)
Long log revetment, possibly associated with Grand Pont. Alluvial accumulations and land reclamation platforms were found.
Source: UAD

39. St Aldate's for the BT Tunnel. 1991 (UAD 355)
Layer of blue clay with a layer of cobbles on its surface. The clay may be part of the causeway proposed from excavations elsewhere. It has been suggested that the cobbles are part of a middle Saxon trackway. It was cut by large timber piles, part of a raft for the Norman bridge or remains of an earlier timber bridge.
Source: UAD

40. 113-119 High Street 1992-1994 (UAD 365)
Further excavations recorded numerous pits and structural evidence. Animal remains, pottery and metal also recorded
Source: UAD

41. Tidmarsh Lane. 1994-5 (UAD 378)
The major find was a sequence of three medieval cobbled surfaces, the earliest probably late 12th century.

42. Hollybush Row. 1999-2000 (UAD 411)
Early medieval land reclamation dumping. 12th century properties fronting onto St Thomas Street were found. The buildings had stone footings and cob walls. A mortared floor was found in one.
Source: UAD

43. St Thomas's Street. the Lion Brewery, 1999 (UAD 416)
Medieval deposits from the 11th century onwards. There was also a limestone revetment for a watercourse. To the south of the site was a single ditch, backfilled in the early post medieval period.
Source: UAD

44. 113-119 High Street 1991 (UAD 426)
Early medieval pits and a wall were recorded. Some pottery evidence
Source: UAD

45. Grandpont. 2000 (UAD 433)
Evidence of limestone rubble associated with Norman bridgework
Source: UAD

46. Paradise Street. Former Canteen Site. 1993   (UAD 434)
11th and 12th century occupation. To the south the earliest layers show there was a watercourse which silted up in the early medieval period. Some deliberate land reclamation may have occurred and there is a possible revetting wall.
Source: UAD

47. Paradise Street. 1980 (UAD 469)
12th century cobbled street surface
Source: UAD

48. Brewer Street. Pembroke College. 1976 (UAD 464)
12th century pottery
Source: UAD

49. Folly Bridge. 1984 (UAD 481)
Stone causeway
Source: UAD

50. Queen Street. No 9-10 1984 (UAD 482)
12th century cellar or pit
Source: UAD

51. Abingdon Road. 1980 (UAD 523)
The ragstone rubble causeway was seen in most of the holes. To the north the quality of stone and mortar was higher suggesting the remains of d'Oilly's bridge.
Source: UAD

52. Watching brief at Grandpont House. 1982 (UAD 550)
Early medieval archway, possible Norman
Source: UAD

53. High Street. No 90. 1981 (UAD 559)
Medieval pit, 11th and 12th century pottery
Source: UAD

54. Excavations at New Road/Tidmarsh Lane. 1911 (UAD 644)
Evidence of the 12th century moat with timber piles as part of the foundation
Source: UAD

55. Nuffield College. 1957 (UAD 648)
Castle Ditch
Source: UAD

56. Recorded evidence from Oxford Castle. 1794 (UAD 653)
Stone tower and crypt recorded, Norman style architecture. Numerous human remains
Source: UAD

57. Recorded evidence from Oxford Castle. 1794 (UAD 655)
Foundations of stone tower and two capitals recorded near the castle entrance during quarrying
Source: UAD

58. Recorded finds from Salvation Army Citadel, Castle Street. 1888 (UAD 656)
Silted up Castle Ditch recorded
Source: UAD

59. Archaeological Recording of Grandpont. 1998 (UAD 916)
Medieval causeway runs below the modern line of Abingdon Road. At the base of the trench was a layer of ragstone fragments. This may represent a trackway across the causeway, or a rubble surface associated with widening of the causeway.
Source: UAD

60. Recorded finds at St Aldate's. 1883 (UAD 1182)
11th century iron spur
Source: UAD

61. Excavations at St Michael's Street No 22. (UAD 1280)
12th century ceramic lamp
Source: UAD

62. Excavations at Ashmolean Museum. 1960 (UAD 1295)
Early medieval pottery
Source: UAD

63. 1-2 Ship Street (UAD 1539)
12th century pit or in-filled cellar
Source: UAD

64. 33 St Aldate's Street. 1979 (UAD 1547)
Norman Causeway
Source: UAD

65. Watching brief at Balliol College. 2001 (UAD 1611)
Five early medieval pits with mid to late 11th century pottery
Source: UAD

66. Oxford Castle Development Phase 2. 2002 (UAD 1613)
Castle Ditch, bridge abutment, limestone foundations
Source: UAD

67. Step Ground Bridge, Abingdon Road. 2002 (UAD 1641)
The structure, although undated, shares all the characteristics of other fragments associated with the 11th century Grandpont Causeway.
Source: UAD

68. Abingdon Road. 2003 (UAD 1642)
A ragstone rubble construction set within a sandy gravel mortar was observed in three of the four trenches at a depth of between 200 and 300 mm below the present road surface.
Source: UAD

69. Abingdon Road. 2003 (UAD 1643)
The recorded feature appears narrower than the remains expected from the desk based review of the site possibly due to lateral truncation at an unknown date or lack of contrast between the construction of the sides of the feature and the material used to widen the causeway.
Source: UAD

70. Watching brief at Merton College. 2000 (UAD 1645)
Stone built cellar and walls. Associated pottery suggest that both structures date to 11th to 12th centuries. The basement appears to have had a floor, above which domestic debris accumulated. Later medieval pottery was recovered from all

three new test pits. The excavations are notable for a remarkable ceramic assemblage spanning the 11th to 19th centuries.
Source: UAD

71. Excavations at Woodstock Road No 69. 2003 (UAD 1653)
The earliest activity on the site consisted of a series of pits which produced pottery assemblages dating to the late 11th or 12th century. Though these pits were originally dug to extract gravel, they were used subsequently for the disposal of domestic rubbish.
Source: UAD

72. Evaluation at Ashmolean Museum. 2006 (UAD 1690)
Residual evidence of 11th-12th-century activity
There was residual evidence of 11th-12th-century activity, but the first intensive use was dense intercutting pits of 13th-14th centuries presumed to relate to documented tenements fronting St Giles.
Source: UAD

73. Watching brief at Grandpont Causeway. 2005 (UAD 1717)
Earliest phase of activity dated to 11th century, total of twelve arches revealed
Source: UAD

74. Classics Centre, 65-67 St Giles', Oxford. 206 (UAD 1720)
Earliest phase of activity comprised a number of pits dating to the 12th-14th century
Source: UAD

75. St Aldates, Christ Church. Peckwater Quad 2006. (UAD 1739)
11th-12th century pits
Source: UAD

76. Blue Boar Quad, Christ Church. 2007 (UAD 1749)
11th-12th century pit
Source: UAD

77. Castle Mound. 2008 (UAD 1765)
Evidence for the Norman stone tower and motte
Source: UAD

Appendix 2: Saxon to Medieval Street Network

Reference	Name	Documentary Evidence	Archaeological Evidence
1	Alfred Street (St Edwards Street?)	1200 (Gelling, 1954)	Norman Evidence for metalled surface recorded during excavations at Christ Church suggesting road was laid down some time in the 12th century. Originally extended down to St Frideswide's Lane but this section closed in later 12th century (REF)
2	Banbury Road	1388 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
3	Bear Lane	Late Saxon (Salter)	Saxon?
4	Beef Lane (Beef Hall Lane)	1411 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval Metalled surface of small limestone cobbles. No dating evidence (Anon, 1976)
5	Blue Boar Street	Built 1532 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval Possible cobbled surface recorded during borehole survey. No dating evidence (UAD 457)
6	Brasenose Lane (St Mildred's Lane)	1188 (Salter	Norman 12th century road overlying late Saxon evidence (Sturdy, 1961-62)
7	Brewer's Street (Sleying Lane)	1478 (Gelling, 1954)	Late medieval extramural street
8	Broad Street (Horsemonger Street)	1235 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval extramural street. Evidence of early road surface at St Mary Magdalen Church at a depth of 1ft (Sturdy, 1963)
9	Bulwarks Lane (Bullocks Lane)	1578 (Agas Map)	Medieval
10	Castle Street	1661 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon (original alignment) 18 street layers recorded, earliest evidence from 11th century predating the castle (Hassall, 1971; Hassall, Halpin and Mellor, 1989)
11	Catte Street	1210 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon(originally extramural) Early metalled street surfaces recorded in 1978 and 1980 (UAD 538; Durham, 1981a)
12	Church Street (Friars Street)	1490 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon 8 layers of street surfaces recorded during excavations in the 1970s. No dating evidence for lowest two layers (Layer 7, 8) but St Neot's pottery recorded from layer 6 (Hassall, 1971; Hassall, Halpin and Mellor, 1989)
13	Cornmarket (North Gate Street)	1445 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon Metalled surfaces recorded underneath Clarendon Hotel (Jope, 1958)
14	Drapery Lane (off Cornmarket)	1349 (Salter)	Medieval
15	Exeter Lane (between Ship St and Smithgate)	Medieval	Medieval Closed in 17th century to when the Bodleian was extended. Early street surfaces recorded in 19th century excavations at Old Schools Square (Hurst, 1887)

16	Frewen court (Boden's Lane)	12th Century	Medieval
17	George Street (Irishman Street	1251 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval extra mural street
18	Gloucester Green	1555 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
19	The Hamel (St Thomas' parish)	1407 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
20	Hare Hall Lane (closed)	1447 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
21	High Street (Eastgate Street)	1661 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon Undated street metalling recorded Anon, 1977; UAD 616; UAD 617; UAD 758) Late Saxon evidence from All Saints Church (Dodd, 2003), 3 gravel street surfaces from 113-119 High Street (Walker and King, 2000) Deep channel, possibly 12th century central road drain recorded in 1981 (Durham, 1982)
22	Hollybush Row (St Thomas' parish)	1772 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval Medieval street levels recorded during excavations in 1900 (UAD 906)
23	Hollywell Street	1772 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval? Early street surface recorded in 19th century (Hurst, 1887-1914)
24	Hythe Bridge Street	13th century	Medieval Paved way recorded in early 19th century, no dating evidence (UAD 1398)
25	Little Jewry Lane (closed 1545)	1285 (Gelling, 1954)	Norman?
26	Kepeharm Lane (closed 1606)	1325 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
27	Kybald Street (closed 1447)	1215 (Gelling, 1954)	Norman Medieval street surface recorded during excavations at Logic Lane, evidence suggests built post 1120/30 (Radcliffe, 1961-62)
28	Littlegate Street	1241 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
29	Logic Lane (closed)	1247 (Gelling, 1954)	Norman Medieval street surface recorded during excavations at Logic Lane, evidence suggests built post 1120/30 (Radcliffe, 1961-62)
30	Long wall Street	1772 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval extra mural street Number of early street surfaces were recorded to a depth of 1.8m, no dating evidence (UAD 510)
31	Magpie Lane (Grove Street)	1230 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon-Medieval?
32	Market Street	12th century	Saxon? Originally a continuation of St Mildred's Lane, early street surfaces recorded in 1896 but no dating evidence (Hurst, 1887)
33	Merton Street (St John's Street)	c.1200	Saxon? Early street surfaces recorded in 19th century but no dating evidence (Hurst, 1887)

34	New College Lane (closed)	1661 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon-Medieval? Early street surfaces recorded in 19th century but no dating evidence (Hurst, 1887)
35	New Inn Hall Street (North Bailey?)	1399 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon Evidence for late Saxon street surfaces consisting of pebbled surface recorded, dating evidence also noted (UAD 40; Durham, 1981a)
36	Oriel Street (Shidyerd Street)	1210 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon-Medieval? Medieval street surfaces recorded, presence of cellars had destroyed earlier evidence (UAD 486) Evidence of 12th-13th century street frontage occupation, southern part of the road enclosed by 1365 (Sturdy, 1961-62)
37	Overhee Lane (closed) Between St Aldates and Blackfriars	1190 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
38	Paradise Street	1661 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval? Although not documented in the medieval period a 12th century cobbled surface was recorded there in 1980, possibly part of the friary? (UAD 469)
39	Parks Road	1578 (Agas Map)	Medieval Noted on Agas' map as Beaumont Street
40	Pembroke Street (Pennyfarthing Lane)	1363 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
41	Queen Street (Great Bailey)	1260 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon Dated Late Saxon gravel road surfaces recorded in excavations in the 1980s (Durham, 1981b; Halpin, 1983)
42	Queen's Lane		Saxon-Medieval? Early street surfaces recorded but no dating evidence (Anon, 1971) 15th century tiles recorded associated with probable road surface at a depth of c1m (Hurst, 1887)
43	Rose Lane	1250 (Salter)	Medieval extra mural road
44	St Aldate's Street (Fish Street)	1369 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon street surface Early street surfaces recorded in several locations without dating evidence (UAD 1537; Saxon stone street surface recorded (Hurst, 1887), further limestone sets recorded in 1980 (UAD 1538) Evidence for late Saxon gravelled and pebbled street surfaces recorded (Durham, 1981a)
45	St Cross Road (Holywell)	medieval	Originally led to the 11th century church and manor but not beyond
46	St Ebbe's Street		Although in an area of Saxon occupation there is no evidence of Saxon or early street surfaces in the area (UAD Mon 730)
47	St Frideswide's Lane (closed)		Saxon? Closed in 16th century when Christ Church was built, evidence of early street surfaces recorded in 1961 (Sturdy, 1961-62

| 48	St Giles' Street	1279 (Salter)	Undated early street surface recorded in 1895 (Hurst, 1887)
49	St Michaels Street (Bocardo Lane)	1405 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon? Possible Saxon street surfaces recorded in 1976 but no reliable dating evidence (UAD 29)
50	St Thomas Street (St Thomas' parish)	12th century	Several recent excavations have recorded development along the street frontage from the 12th century (Cook, 1999; Grundon, 1999; Moore J, 2000; Moore H, 2006
51	Schools Street (closed 1737)	1275 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
52	Ship Street (Somenors Lane)	1385 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon intra mural road Saxon pottery recorded in early 20th century (UAD 10)
53	Shitbarn Lane (closed 1306)	1290 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
54	Shoe Lane (Sewys Lane (partially closed)	1279 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval
55	Turl Street	1363 (Gelling, 1954)	Saxon Late Saxon and medieval street surfaces recorded indicating slightly different alignment (UAD 52). Early medieval street surfaces also recorded during later watching brief (UAD 552)
56	Worcester Street (Stockwell Street)	1235 (Gelling, 1954)	Medieval street surface on an earlier alignment linking the castle to Beaumont Palace
57	? Closed by 1400	Early medieval	
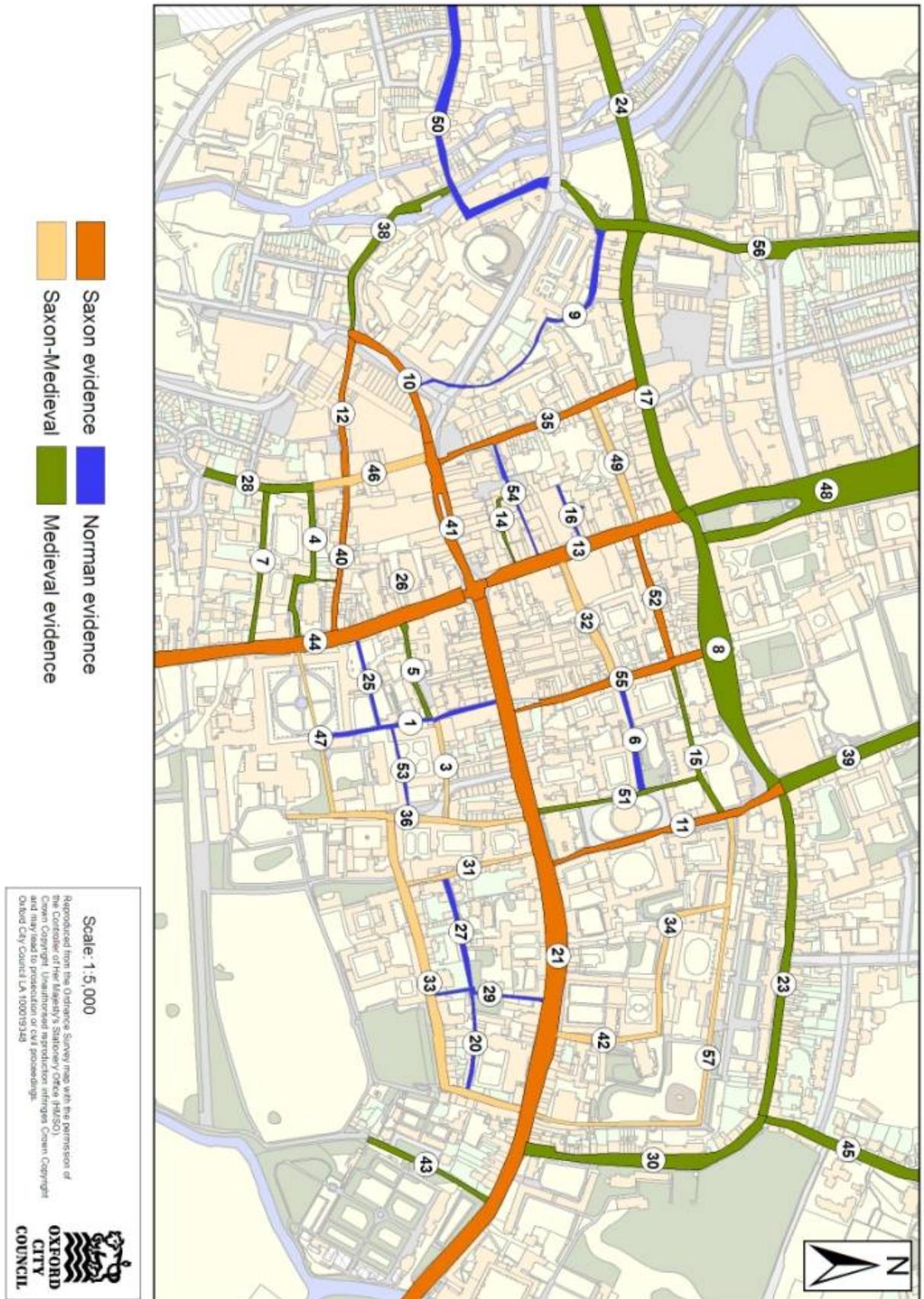
Figure 1: Saxon-Medieval street network