



Gibbs Mew, 68 Gigant Street Salisbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Excavation

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Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

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INTRODUCTION

An extension to the Gibbs Mew brewery in 68 Gigant Street gave an opportunity for a small excavation to be carried out prior to construction. These excavations took place during June and July 1987 and lay within Trinity Chequer, centered on SU 14710 29820. At the time of the excavations the property was owned by Gibbs Mew plc.

Due to very poor recording there is little or no stratigraphic evidence from this site, despite this the excavators were able to define phases and sub-divisions of these. There is no evidence to support these claims but the broad groups will have to be used here in order to give some order to the excavated deposits. The phases will be dealt with in terms of phase 1, excavators phase 1, phase 2, excavators phases IIa to IIc, phase 3, excavators phase IIe and phase 4, excavators phases III to V.

It would appear that these phases can be roughly aligned with the following periods, Phase 1-Medieval, Phase 2-Medieval/Post-Medieval, Phase 3-Post-Medieval, Phase 4-Modern. At this stage these are only a rough approximation

Results

Phase 1: The phase 1 deposits recorded are comprised of a layer of "dark earth", (042), (110), (114), (116) and (117) which was found over the whole site. This may be a natural soil accumulation or a garden soil and produced pottery of Medieval date although only in small quantities.

Phase 2: This phase contains two clay layers, (103) and (104), overlaying the "dark earth" and a row of stake-holes, [093], [095], [097], [099] and [101]. These were laid in a north-south alignment and produced surviving timber stakes as well as a few sherds of Medieval pottery.

Also from this phase is the first structural evidence on the site. There is no clear indication as to whether this structure is contemporary with or post-dates the stake-holes but it will be considered here as its associated contexts have produced pottery of Medieval date. The structure, [053], was situated on the street front of Gigant street and was comprised of a main flint and mortar wall, (048), internal divisions, (050) and (081), and floors, (054)=(085) and (059). Also associated with this building was a wall of flint and mortar, (063), which ran to its west and make-up/demolition layers, (045), (046), (047) and (084).

phase 3: Phase 3 is comprised of a single demolition/leveling layer, (027), which represents the end of the phase 2 structure. It is not clear at exactly what date this occurs but it may be well within the Post-Medieval period as this layer appears immediately before the construction

of two new brick structures, one, [035] at the western end of the trench and the other, [072], In the backlands at the eastern end of the trench. Structure [035] had brick and mortar walls, (006) and (036), a brick floor, (011), and a circular brick feature within it, (008). Structure [072] had brick walls, (074), (080), (067) and (068), of which the last two form the sides of some kind of passageway, [069].

Phase 4: This phase represents the modern deposits on the site which includes demolition/levelling layers, rubbish pits and service trenches.



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

