

CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY– CIA2 (NWT09)

REPORT ON A LIMITED EVALUATION EXCAVATION OF A ROMAN TEMPLE AT NINE WELLS, WHITTLESFORD - 2009

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Summary

In 2003 to 2009 the Archaeology RheeSearch Group conducted magnetometer and resistivity surveys.

This data showed extensive features over an area of approximately 120 by 40 metres with, in the northern part of the survey, a U- shaped feature approximately 12.2 by 8.4 metres almost identical to the Roman temple shown on the aerial photograph taken in 1928 of Caistor St. Edmunds (Venta Icenorum).

Therefore a limited excavation was made at this site in August to October 2009. Trenches were placed across the supposed walls of the feature. They revealed flint stone foundations which corresponded to the resistivity survey.

The layout of the building was not like the usual Roman temple which had a central square cella surrounded by a corridor walkway/portico. Instead it had apparent corridors in a rectangular inverted U shape with the bottom of the U possibly bounded by columns or a single wall.

About 16 kg of finds were recovered, consisting of roof tiles, red, grey and white tesserae, pottery, oyster shells, and, significantly, fragments of white, red, black and beige/yellow coloured wall plaster.

1. Background

The area was surveyed by the Archaeology RheeSearch group using magnetometry and resistivity equipment. This area is adjacent to the scheduled sites of a possible Roman villa and Roman barrows (see reference 1).

This data showed extensive features over an area of approximately 120 by 40 metres (see Figure 1). A U-shaped feature with dimensions of approximately 12 by 8 metres is almost identical to the Roman temple shown on the aerial photograph taken in 1928 of Caistor St. Edmunds (Venta Icenorum).

The area is in the parish of Whittlesford (see Figure 2 for site map and Figure 3 for photograph). It has a local name of Chronicle Hills, which is thought to refer to either the conical shape of the Roman barrows that existed here or to the scatter of pottery, i.e. Chrocklehull (“hill where pottery found”). The site is close to a trackway of the Icknield Way that appears to ford the Hoffer Brook and then head westwards to just north of Thriplow parish church. This trackway has been traced by geophysical survey, again undertaken by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group.

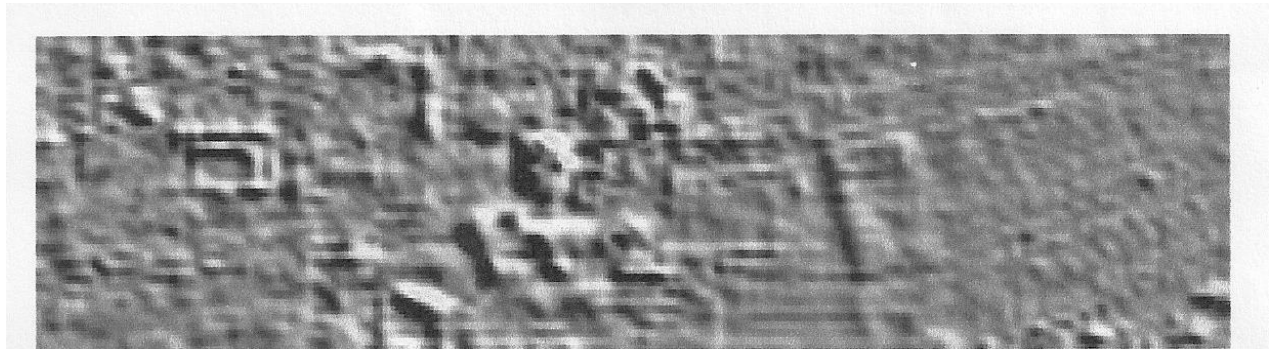


Figure 1 Resistivity survey of site (160 by 40 metres) by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group

The excavated building, with “U” shaped corridor, is to the left (grid reference TL 4511 4762). A complex of rectangular features can be seen to the right, i.e. to the south of the excavated building. These may be indications of a villa/bathhouse.

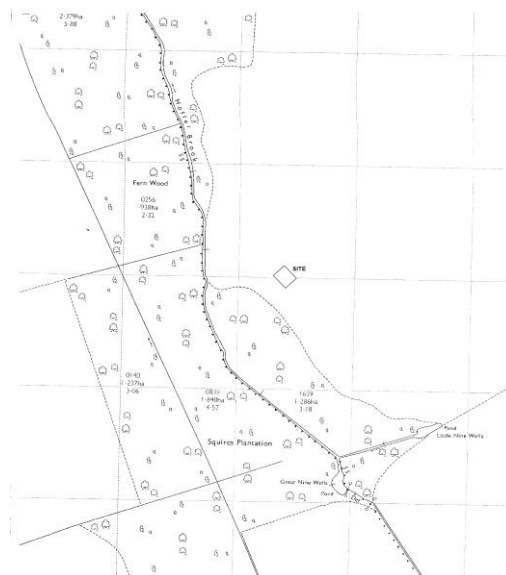


Figure 2 Site map



Figure 3 The excavation site, looking south

The area had for some time been thought to have some special significance relating to the springs in the area. There were probably nine of these springs, which is why the area is also known as Nine Wells. Maynard, a local historian who lived in Whittlesford, wrote extensively about the area and even illustrated in his notebook a painting of “Water Nymphs at Nine Wells”.

The site is on a gentle slope downwards from East to West at a height of about 24 metres above sea level. The slope then levels out about 35 metres to the West and remains substantially level to the course of the Hoffer Brook about 100 metres away. Also the resistivity survey indicates that it appears to be on a high resistance area surrounded by low resistance. This is interpreted as the site being on a chalky spur surrounded by a peaty bog area. It should be noted that until recent times (say less than 50 years ago) the flat area to the west of the site was always boggy. The water table in recent years has been dramatically lowered due to extraction by the local water company. This is consistent with the discovery of a deep bog like area just outside the southern portico wall in trench B (see later for more details).

2. Excavation

This was based on the resistivity survey done in August 2009 to accurately locate the feature (see Figure 20).

Initially trenches A, B, C, G and H were dug (see plan, Figure 4). As features were revealed, these were extended by E, F. Then trench D, extended by I and J, K, L, M, N were dug. Finds were recorded in levels, i.e. L1 = 0 – 20 cms depth, L2 = 20 – 40 cms depth etc.

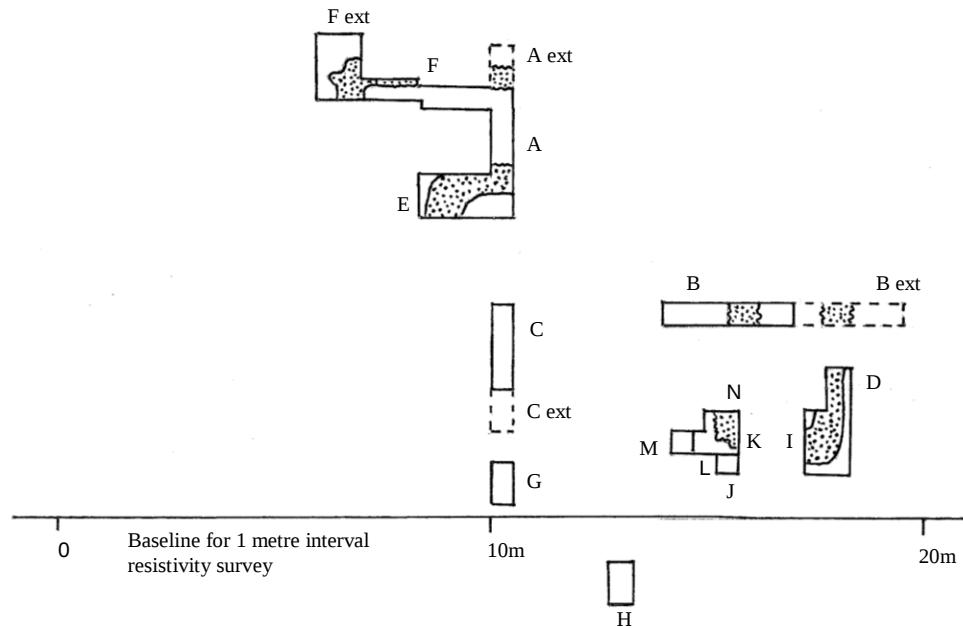


Figure 4 Trench plan

Trench A was dug to locate the two walls of the eastern ambulatory corridor/portico.

Trench B was dug to locate the two walls of the southern ambulatory corridor/portico and trench C to locate the western single wall.

It was found necessary to extend trench A by 1 metre to the East to pick up the most easterly wall and trench B by 2.5 metres to the South to pick up the southernmost wall.

Trench G was dug to check if there was actually a southwestern portico wall if the temple was of a conventional layout, i.e. a central cella surrounded by portico. No trace of wall was found.

Trench H was dug to investigate a small area of high resistivity shown on the survey. Nothing was found to explain this high resistivity.

3. Trenches A, E and F

Trench A revealed the flint stone pebble foundations of the eastern arms of the cella and portico walls (see Figure 5). These foundations rested on the natural chalk at 46 - 70cm depth. Top of the foundation was 36 - 40cm below the current ground surface. The foundation flints had been consolidated by a sandy/gravel mix and the top layers with a clay mix.

Trench A was extended by trench E to locate the northeastern corner of the cella wall (see Figure 5). The corner was located and here it was curved. It is reasonable to presume that the corresponding southeastern corner that was not excavated was also curved. Trench F was also extended from trench A and located the northeastern corner of the portico wall. This corner had a recess on the outside which may have been where a timber support was located. This type of recess was also found at the northwestern corner of the western wall foundation in trench K. Trench F was also dug to check if there was any reason for the high resistance outside of the northeastern corner of the portico wall (see Figure 5). However no feature was found outside of this corner to explain the high resistivity reading. See Figures 6, 7, 8 and 9 for photographs of the wall foundations.

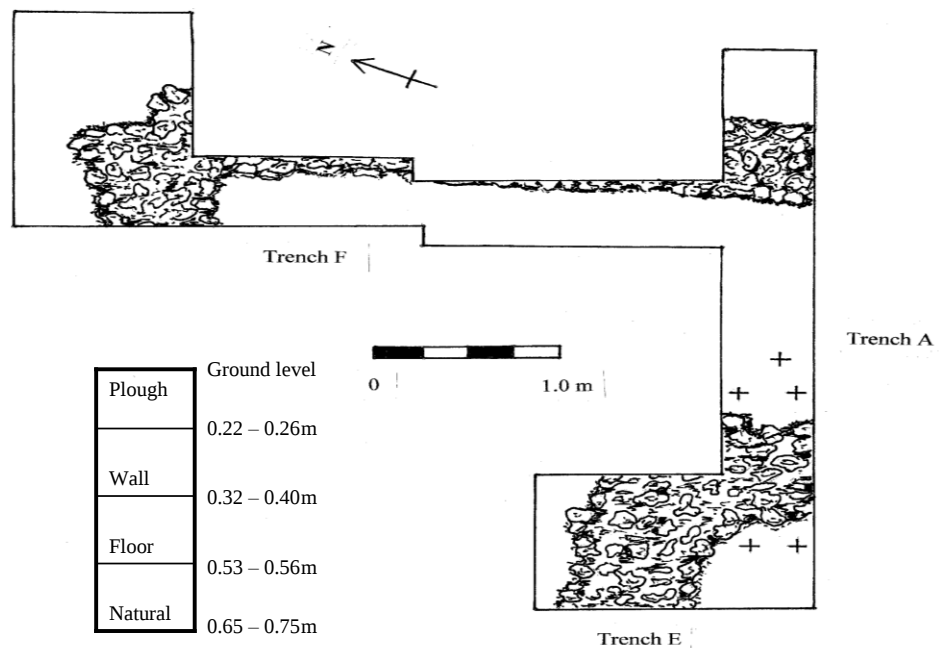


Figure 5 Plan of Trenches A, E and F revealing pebble wall foundations of northern corner and “back corridor”

Depth of brown plough soil 0.22 – 0.26m, with lighter, sandier earth below; depth to top of wall foundation 0.32 – 0.40m; depth to hard packed, brown, chalky “floor” 0.53 – 0.56m; depth to Natural 0.65 – 0.75m. Oyster shells at depth 0.40 – 0.48m, marked “+”.



*Figure 6 Photograph of “back wall” foundation revealed in Trench A
The pebbles have a diameter typically in the range 8 – 15cm.*



Figure 7 Photograph of (inner) corner foundation revealed in Trench E



Figure 8 The curved wall foundation revealed in Trenches A and E



Figure 9 Photograph of (outer) corner foundation revealed in Trench F



*Figure 10 Sample of oyster shells from Trench A
(the common marine oyster, ostrea edulis)*

4. Trench B

The inner southern cella and the southern outer ambulatory/portico flint wall foundations were similarly revealed (see Figure 11). Just south of the southern ambulatory/portico wall, i.e. at the end of the extension of the trench, it was excavated down to a depth of 1.05 metres into softish, black, peaty earth from 0.99 metres deep. As this is at the same level as the bottom of the wall foundation in trench D (found by excavating a sondage in the wall) it is concluded that this southern outer portico wall had to have deep foundations because of this deep bog-like earth.

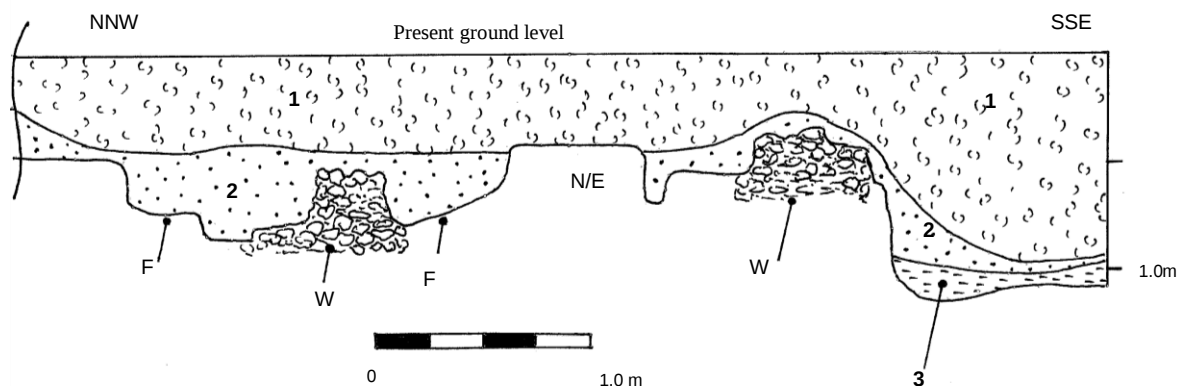


Figure 11 Trench B cross section showing pebble wall foundations of southern arm of building. The pebbles have a clay capping and are bedded in with gravel. The floor comprises packed chalky clay. W = wall foundation, F = floor, N/E = not excavated. 1 = plough soil, 2 = lighter, sandier soil, 3 = silty, dark soil.

5. Trench C

Trench C was placed to locate the front western single wall as shown by the resistivity survey. No wall foundations were found but at the western end of the extension to the trench a quantity of roof tile etc. was found, and these may have been part of a rough foundation for a possible roof support timber or column.

6. Trenches D and I

Once the southern portico wall was located in trench B, trench D was placed to follow the wall to the West and locate the southwestern corner where it met the “front” western wall. Trench I was dug to fully locate the extent of this corner (see Figure 12). The end (western) wall foundation in trench I was wider (about 75 cms) compared to the side wall foundation and to those of other trenches (53 – 68 cms). See Figure 13 for photograph of wall foundation at the corner.

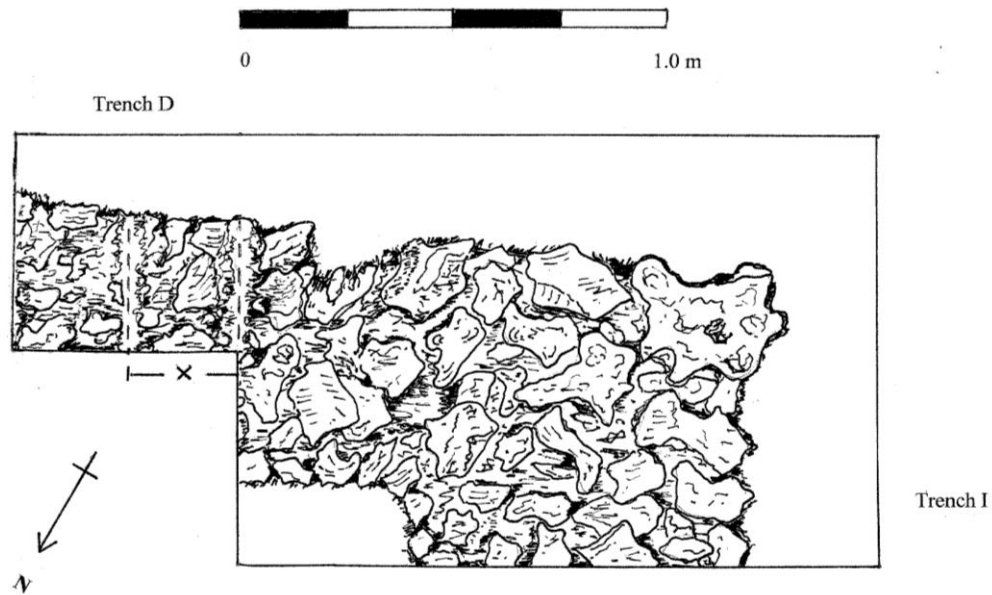


Figure 12 Plan of Trenches D and I revealing pebble wall foundation of southern (front outer) corner

Depth to top of wall foundation 0.35 – 0.37m; depth to hard packed, brown “floor” 0.55 – 0.57m. Pebbles bedded in with gravel. X = position of sondage dug through wall foundation that goes down to a depth of ca. 1 metre onto dark, silty Natural. Layer of yellow mortar/plaster at depth 0.40 – 0.50m along wall foundation..



Figure 13 Photograph of wall foundation at the southern corner revealed in Trench I
Note (a) the large flint nodule (approximately 25 cms square and 15 cms thick) at the very corner and (b) the paler band in the sides of the trench which is the mortar and plaster from the collapsed wall.

7. Trenches J to N

As it was found that the wall in trench D turned 90 degrees and extended northwards, trenches J,K,L,M and N were dug to locate the junction of this ambulatory/portico western wall with the southern wall of the cella (see Figure 18). These trenches revealed that it did meet the cella wall but that there was no trace of it continuing northwards along the front of the building. This part of the wall was of similar size to that in trench I. It is concluded that the resistivity survey, which appeared to show a possible single continuous front wall, may in fact show that there were columns and timber roof supports spaced along the front rather than a continuous wall.

8. Finds

Finds are recorded in Tables 1 – 13.

Most numerous by number and weight were roof tile sherds found in all trenches, in total 116 pieces over 20 grams and many small pieces of lower weight (identified in find tables as X) with total weight of 11,633 grams. Only three pieces that could clearly be identified as brick were found. Mortar was found in most trenches, with a total weight of 2,630 grams.

The pottery total was 149 pieces weighing 1,348 grams, mainly black, grey and buff coarse ware, but a relatively significant quantity of black burnished fine ware was found in trench C (100 grams). One piece of Samian pottery of less than 1 gram was found in trench A and one piece in trench B of 6 grams and one piece of 4 grams in F. One piece of Nene Valley colour coated ware of less than 1 gram was in trench A.

Wall plaster attached to mortar was found in trench B near to both cella and portico wall foundations, and also in trenches D and I alongside the portico wall (see Figure 14 for photograph). Smaller quantities were also found in trenches C, E and G. The colour of plaster was mainly white but there were also pieces of pink, red, purple, white and red, white and black, red and white and beige/yellow and black. In all there were four single colours and three colour combinations indicating that the panel paintings were not just simple overall colours. To give an appreciation of the amount of plaster recovered, some of the plaster from trenches B and mainly D was photographed and then analysed using a software program (Pixcavator IA) that measured the outline of each piece and gave the area in pixels. This was then compared with a known control area in the photograph (a label of 10 square cm) and hence the actual area of each piece was derived. These were totalled for each trench and thus gave a better measure of the amount recovered rather than just number of pieces (see Table 13). These measured plaster pieces account for about half the total number of pieces. Therefore, the total area of plaster found is approximately twice that of the measured pieces.

One large piece of white plaster attached to mortar was found on the side of trench B about 20 cm from the southern end, at a depth of only 15 cm (see Figure 15 for photograph). This was removed complete with the surrounding earth, but upon removal of the earth during cleaning it was found that it was broken into many small pieces. The fact that it was broken up is not too surprising as it was very close to the surface and had probably been turned over by ploughing many times in the past. What is remarkable is that it had survived for probably 1,700 years without being completely destroyed.



Figure 14 Detail of the side of Trench I near southern corner showing layer of mortar with plaster coating facing downwards



*Figure 15 Large chunk of mortar extracted from side of Trench B
The thin white line of plaster can be seen uppermost.*

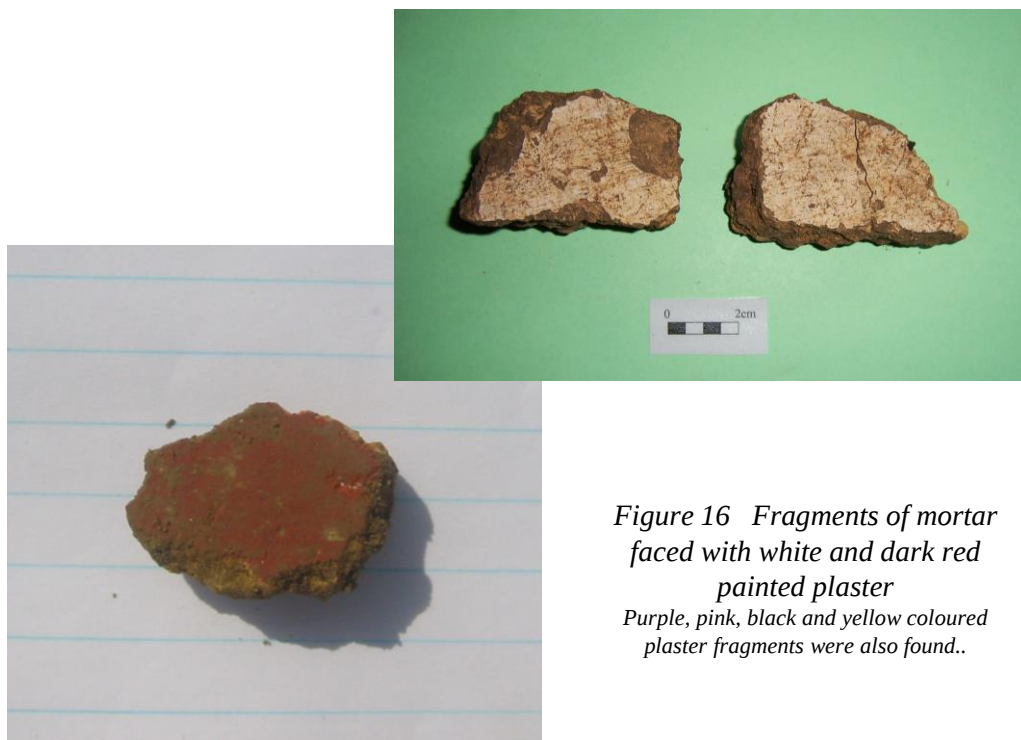
It is clear from these plaster finds that some of the walls were painted in panels. One piece from trench D had a red area alongside a white area and a beige/yellow area that was separated by a black band. Also of interest was a pink piece which had a line of brown dots. Another piece also had three colours, white separated from beige/yellow by a black line. See Figures 16 and 17 for photographs of some of the plaster fragments.

Tesserae were found in all trenches except C, K, L and N, with a total of 39 pieces. They were of red recycled tile; grey natural stone and white hard chalk. See Figure 25 for photograph of some tesserae.

In trench A, a number of oyster shells were found adjacent to the cella wall (see Figure 10 for photograph). It is thought that they had been deliberately placed there, possibly having some “ritual” significance. However individual oyster shells were also found in many other locations.

Other finds were nails (1 in trench A, 2 in trench D and 1 in trench H). Some 22 plus bones weighing 222 grams were found in trenches A, B, C, E, G and H. Five small fragments of opus signinum weighing 64 grams were in trenches C and G.

One piece of flat (window?) glass was in trench B below 40cm depth.



*Figure 16 Fragments of mortar
faced with white and dark red
painted plaster
Purple, pink, black and yellow coloured
plaster fragments were also found..*

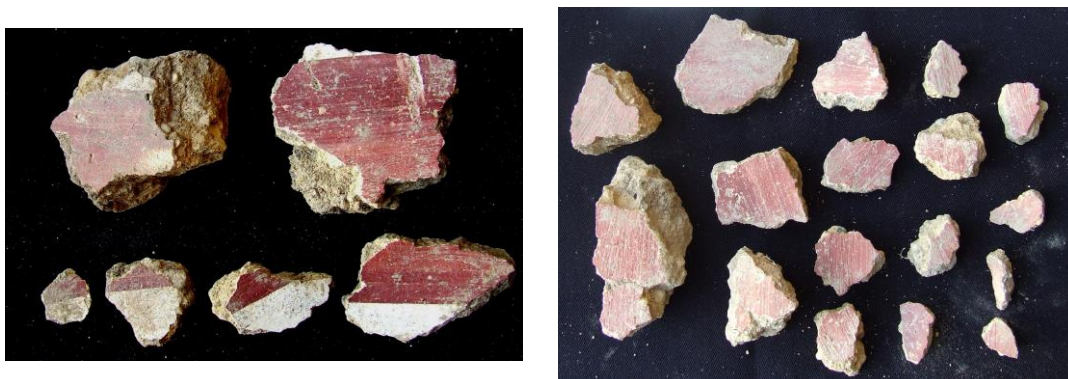


Figure 17 Red/white and pink plaster fragments from Trench D

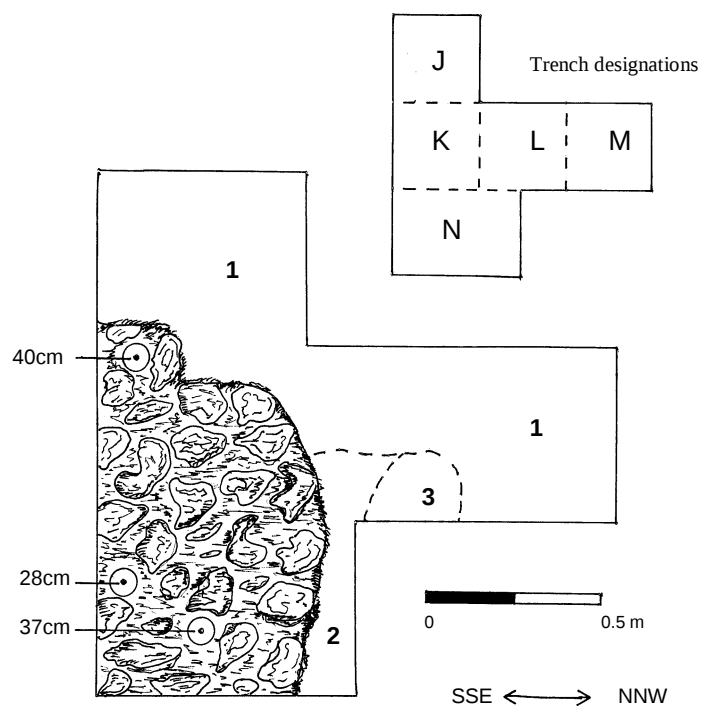


Figure 18 Wall foundation of southern (front inner) corner, with spot depths to top of foundation
Excavation here showed that the foundation does not continue across the front (western) side of the building. 1 = dark brown earth at depth 0.55 to 0.60 m, 2 = mortar scatter, 3 = mortar and loose pebbles.



Figure 19 Rim sherds of a grey ware pot found near the southern corner, in Trench M

9. Discussion

We trust that throughout this report we have made it clear where we are sure of the facts and our interpretation, and that equally we have also made it clear where we have speculated. Many of the unsubstantiated comments should be clarified when further excavations are made.

It is interesting to speculate why this shrine was located here. We believe that it was because the location had a number of springs, with the number varying dependent on distant past rainfalls. This variation, possibly considered to be magical, was somehow linked to the veneration of a possible water god. Indeed, it is known that the Goddess Senuna, Goddess of the River Rhee or Henny, was worshipped in the area. A gold plaque bearing her image was found close to a spring near to Baldock, which is not too far from Ashwell and the source of the Rhee (Reference 3). Thus the shrine was set up and we believe the area also had other shrines. There is another similar shaped feature to the south of the site excavated. The area then attracted other buildings, one of which may be a villa. It is highly unlikely that the area would have been chosen for a villa initially as such buildings tend to be placed on higher ground, even though they would be near to a water supply. Also the area of the site consisted of a number of spurs and valleys which were levelled in the 19th century so would not have been a first choice for a villa.

As known from recent history, the number of springs varied, but presumably at some time in the past it was considered that there were nine wells or springs, hence the name for the two remaining existing springs of Great

and Little Nine Wells. Both of the wells have formed ponds. However in recent years there has been a lowering of the water table due to extraction and these ponds, if not the springs, have diminished or entirely dried up.

The layout of the building does not conform to the conventional layout of Roman temples/shrines as it does not have a totally enclosed cella surrounded by ambulatory walkways/portico on all sides. It appears to have an open west side of the cella fronted by columns and no walkway/portico on the west.

Wall foundations were found which indicate a building of approximately 12.2 metres by 8.4 metres, with outside corridor width of approximately 3 metres. These dimensions are our best estimate. Precise sizes cannot be given because only four points of reference were available. Also the limited excavation did not reveal long lengths of wall so we cannot be sure that the sizes revealed in the trenches are absolutely representative of all the walls, for all their length. It should be noted that the excavation suggests that the building is slightly skewed from the resistivity survey grid by between 4 - 7 degrees clockwise. This apparent skew could be due to the limitation of the resistivity survey resolution and plotting and setting out errors. The foundations were formed of irregularly shaped flint pebbles, mostly with a diameter in the range 8 – 15cm. A particularly large flint, about 28cm square and 15 cm thick, had been placed at the very tip of the southwestern corner. The pebbles had been bedded in with sand/gravel.

As the building material that was found consisted of only roof tile with possibly just three brick fragments and mortar, it would seem that the walls were not brick built. The plastered mortar that was found adjacent to the flint foundations in a layer of depth 40 – 50cm was all that remained of the walls, whatever had been the material of their construction. It is possible that any bricks had been removed and taken away when the building was demolished.

It is clear that the building was systematically taken down or robbed as no fallen walls, timber supports, floor surfaces or burning were found. The presence of a layer of wall plaster attached to mortar in the southwestern corner of trench I outside the portico wall lying with the plaster side down indicates that it might have fallen off the wall which was then subsequently removed. This possibly indicates a period of ruin before the dismantling (see Figure 14 for photograph).

The painting on the wall plaster supports the theory that it was a building of some importance.

The presence of plaster found outside of the southernmost foundation indicates that there was a wall there and thus the ambulatory/portico was not open with columns on the outside as was often the case in conventional shrines/temples. The height of this outer wall cannot be assessed, and it may have been only a few feet in height with columns on top of it, supporting the roof. Likewise, the inner walls of the cella may also have been a few feet in height. This would give the whole structure a very open feeling, particularly as the west side was open with no wall, possibly only columns.

We believe that the curved wall foundations in trenches A and E, which are probably mirrored in the southeastern corner of the cella, possibly indicate that the cella was meant to be viewed from the west.

The pottery finds were relatively limited. The presence of a small quantity of fine black burnished ware and a relative lack of domestic type coarse ware pottery and bones may indicate that the site was not domestic. This, plus the presence of deposits of oyster shells, is suggestive that it was a religious building located near to the Nine Wells and that probably some god or gods were worshipped there. These oysters probably came from the

East Coast, e.g. from Colchester or the Wash area. They would not be inexpensive and it is likely that they were sold at the site and the consumption had some religious significance.

It should be noted that although some form of financial transactions probably took place at the site (e.g. selling oysters), no coins were found at the site or, indeed, in the surrounding area although it was surveyed using a metal detector. It is known that the area has been extensively metal detected in the past and this may explain the lack of coins now. Another possibility is that any coins were “ritually” deposited in the nearby waters of the Hoffer Brook/ Nine Wells.

The whole area may be a complex of buildings somehow related to the wells or springs here. There is a possible second temple of very similar size (12.5 by 9 metres) and shape located about 55 metres to the South, oriented at 90 degrees to this building, and an open air bath with associated buildings about 35 metres to the South.

It should be recorded that Taylor and Arbon (Reference 4) acknowledge that the building could be a temple but say that it is too small for such an interpretation and quote Lewis 1960, Rodwell 1980, and Wilson 1975 (References 5,6 and 7, respectively). They then make the suggestion that it was a small rectangular enclosed pool bounded by a colonnade set in the centre of a courtyard and this courtyard might have been a garden attached to a building to the South. We do not subscribe to this interpretation as the size of the building is comparable to temples at many other locations throughout England albeit they are of conventional layout of inner cella surrounded on all sides by ambulatory/portico walkways. In particular the temple at Hockwold, Norfolk, grid reference TL6888, only has an outside length of 7.93 metres, i.e. considerably smaller. Also, if the central area was a pool then, unless the linings of the pool were completely taken away, the remaining debris would have shown up on the resistivity survey. None indeed was picked up. But, crucially, no sign of such a pool was found in trench C, which was located in that central area.

Casual fieldwalking over this area for about 1 hour picked up over 7 kg of roof tile, pottery and ridged floor tile which could possibly be non-slip tile from the bath area 35 metres to the South. Of particular note was the find of an amphora handle, stamped, in two lines, “MVNAS TH...SSE”. This provides another indication of high-status living. A lead pot-mend was found by metal detection. See Figures 23, 24 and 26 for photographs of finds.

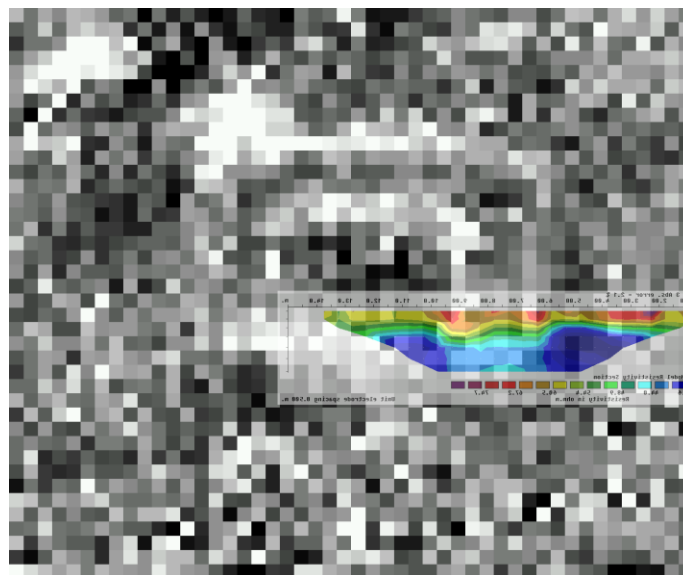
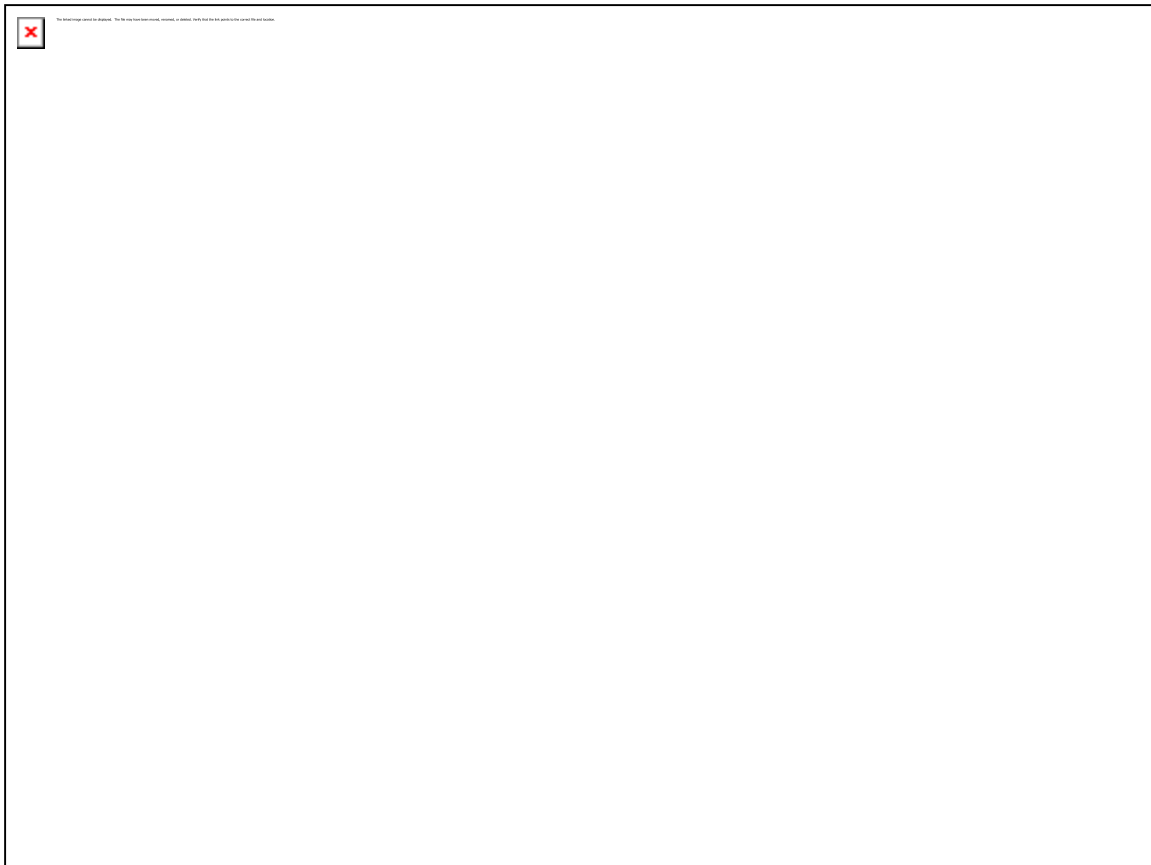


Figure 21 Resistivity gradiometric image providing a vertical “slice” across the walls of the southern side of the building

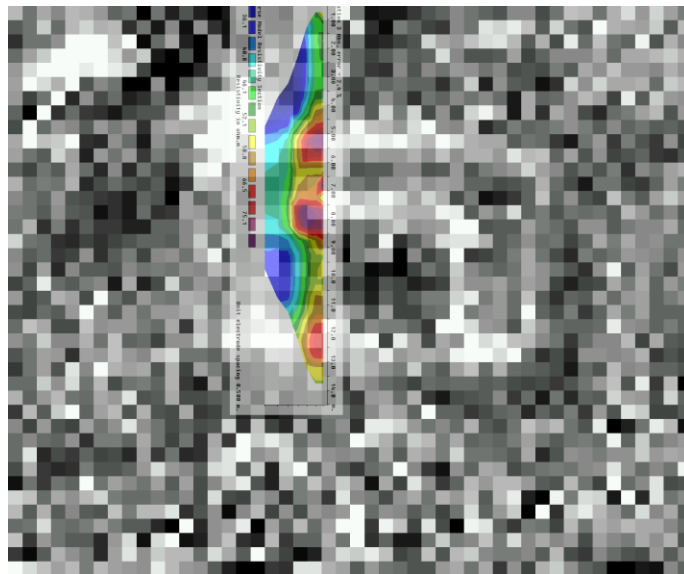


Figure 22 Resistivity gradiometric image providing a vertical “slice” across the walls of the eastern (back) side of the building



Figure 23 A sample of tile fragments found on the ploughed field surface approximately 30 metres to the south of the excavation area



Figure 24 Handle of an amphora found on the ploughed field surface to the south of the excavation area
The handle is stamped. Some letters can be discerned (MVNAS ... TH...SSE?) in two lines



Figure 25 A sample of the many tesserae found on the surface around the excavation area



Figure 26 A lead “pot mend”, a surface find about 30 metres south of the excavation area

10. References

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11. Acknowledgements

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The Archaeology RheeSearch Group is particularly thanked for the surveys made, without which the project would not have existed.

Stephen Reed and Robert Skeen, fellow members of the Cambridge Archaeology Field Group, were valued excavators in the team.

TRENCH			NINE	WELLS	2009		CODE	NW09										
A																		
LEVEL	ACK	BURN	LACK	STD.	GREY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SERA	MORTAR					
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt		OTHER
L1					2	4	1	1	1+X	178				2	R			1 RED POT 6g; 1 SAMIAN <1g
														1	G			
L2			2	6					1	1								2 BONE 12g; 1 LEAD; 1 NAIL
L2			2	18			1	6										1 NENE VAL. <1g
L2			4	12	7	42	9	78	1+X	90	14			4	G			1 RED POT 32g; 1 BONE 4g; (2 GREY RIMS); 1 STONE TILE
A.E. EXT L2			1	<1			2	10	X	36				1	G			1 RED POT <1g
TOTAL L2			9	36	7	42	12	94	2+X	126	14			5	G			ALL ABOVE L2
L3			2	12							4							
TOTAL			11	48	9	46	13	95	3+X	301	18			2	R			2 RED POT 39g; 3 BONE 16g; 1 NV POT<1g; 1 SAMIAN <1g; 1 LEAD, 1 NAIL
														6	G			(2 GREY RIMS)

Table 1 Finds from Trench A

TRENCH				NINE	WELLS	2009		CODE/NW09										
B																		
LEVEL	BLACK	BURN	LACK	STD.	GREY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR					
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	colour	No	colour	Wt				OTHER
L1				1	6	1	14		4+X	218	1	3	W			52		1 MODERN RED POT
L3									1	228	1			2 G				(1 BRICK)
L3									8+X	716								
L3									1	22		1	W					CHARCOAL 2g; MORTAR NOT WEIGHED
L1	1M EXT								3+X	310		7	R		1 R			
L1	1-2M EXT								3+X	288					1 R			
L1	2-2.5M EXT								X	34								
L2	1M EXT							1	18	62	1	1	R		1 R	68		1 SAMIAN 6g; 1 RED POT 4g (1 BUFF RIM)
L2	1-2M EXT								X	18		1	W			12		2 RED POT 32g; 1 FLINT
L2	2-2.5M EXT										1	1	W		2 R			
L2	2-2.5M EXT														1 W			
L3	1M EXT			1	14						1					76		CHARCOAL
L3/L5	1-2M EXT					2	12	2	10			1	2	R		40		1 BONE; 1 SNAIL; (1 BUFF RIM)
L3	2-2.5M EXT					1	22			1	12	1						
L4	2-2.5M EXT									1	12							BONE 5+X 26g
L3/6	2-2.5M EXT									1+X	52							1 RED POT 4g; 2 BONE 110g; 1 GLASS; CHARCOAL 2g
TOTAL				2	20	4	48	3	28	23+X	1972	7	6	W	2	G	248	4 RED POT 40g; 1 SAMIAN 6g
												10	R		5	R		
															1	W		

Table 2 Finds from Trench B

TRENCH				NINE	WELLS	2009		CODE/NW09										
C																		
LEVEL	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GREY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR					
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt			OTHER
L1							1	8	4+X	262								1 FLINT; (1 BUFF RIM)
L2					1	68			1+X	136								CHARCOAL < 2g; (1 POT BASE)
L3									3	1052								(2 BRICK + 1 IMBREX)
L3									1	42								(1 FLOOR TILE)
L3									2+X	172		2		W				2 CHARCOAL
L3	X	100			5	20	2	4	2+X	308	2	1		W		1 G	150	6 RED POT 20g; 2 BONE; 2 SIG. 50g; (1 GREY RIM)
L3									4+X	318	1	1		W			126	1 NAIL; (1 FLUE TILE 116g)
											1		W/R					
WALL																	658	
SODAGE																		
TO NAT.									1	22	1							1 BONE
TOTAL	X	100			6	88	3	13	18	2312	4	4		W			934	6 RED POT 20g
												1		W/R				

Table 3 Finds from Trench C

TRENCH	D		NINE	WELLS	2009		CODENW09										
LEVEL	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GREY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR				
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	colour	No	colour	Wt			
																	OTHER
L1																	1POST MED. RIM; 1GREEN GLASS MODERN?
L2								4+X	262			1 G		72			PLASTER 4W, 1R/W
40cm												1 R		80			2 NAILS; 1 STONE TILE FRAGMENT?
40cm																	PLASTER 14W, 13P, 1R/W, 1R
10-50CMFROM EAST			END											188			PLASTER 4W, 1P, 2W/BLK, 2W/BLK/BE WALL SONDAJE
43cm																	PLASTER 18W, 6P, 1W/BLK, 4R, 1R/W, 1R/W/BE/BLK
TOTAL								4+X	262		40 W	1 G		268			
											3 R/W	1 R					
											3 W/BLK						
											2 W/BLK/BE						
											20 P						
											5 R						
											1 R/W/BE/BLK						

Table 4 Finds from Trench D

TRENCH		NINE	WELLS	2009		CODENW09											
LEVEL	ACK	BURN	LACK	STD.	GREY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SSERAM	MORTAR				
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt		
																	OTHER
L1			2	16			1	<1	2+X	288			4 G				(1 BLACK RIM)
2. EXT L1							1	20	2+X	116			1 R				1 BUFF FLOOR TILE 58g
L2			6	16	4	30			1+X	58	2	2	2 G				BONE 4g; COAL 10g (1 BLACK RIM WITH WHITE DOTS); 2 TEETH 6g.
TOTAL			8	16	4	30	2	20	5+X	462	2	2	6 G				ALL ABOVE
													1 R				

Table 5 Finds from Trench E

TRENCH				NINE	WELLS	2009		CODENW09											
F																			
LEVEL	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GR EY	BU FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR							
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	area	colour	No	colour	Wt	OTHER	
L1	1	<1	1	4	1	4			2+X	182					1 R		12	1 RED POT 6g; 1 SAMIAN RIM 4g	
															2 G				
EXT L1						2	4			2+X	84				1 R				
															1 G				
EXT L2				5	36			2	12	3+X	156	2			1 G			(1 BLACK BASE, 1 BUFF BASE)	
															1 R			1 RED POT 4g	
EXT L2				7	34			5	32	X	20	7					14		
TOTAL	1	<1	13	74	2	4	7	44	7+X	440	9				3 R			2 RED POT 10g; 1 SAMIAN RIM 4g	
															4 G		26		

Table 6 Finds from Trench F

TRENCH				NINE	WELLS	2009														
G																				
LEVEL	ACK	BURN	LACK	STD.			GR EY		BU FF		B & T		OYSTER		PLASTER		TES	SSERA	MORTAR	
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	area	colour	No	colour	Wt	OTHER
ALL					2	28				11+X	1068	1	2				1 R			1 RED POT 6g; BONE 8g; 1 NAIL 40g; 1 FLINT; 1 STONE TILE; 1 SNAIL; 1 SIG.<1g
TO 75 CM																	2 G			1 RED POT 6 g; 1 SIG. <1g
60-80CM										6+X	600						2 W	14		SIG. 12g; BONE 4g; CHARCOAL< 1g; 1 SNAIL; 1UNC.
TOTAL					2	28				17+X	1668	1	2				1 R	14		2 RED POT 12g
																	2 G			
																	2 W			

Table 7 Finds from Trench G

TRENCH			NINE	WELLS	2009			CODE	NW09										
H																			
LEVEL	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GR	EY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR					
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt		OTHER
L1			1	1					X	4									
L2			2	6					1+X	222					2	G			1 SNAIL
L3			4	18			1	36			5				1	R	12		BONE 20g (1 BLACK RIM, 1 BUFF RIM)
L3					1	6			11+X	938	4				3	G	64		3 BONE 12g; 1 GLASS; 3 STONE TILE? 166g
L3									10	612									
L3									X	278									
L3									4	690									
TOTAL			7	25	1	6	1	36	26+X	2744	5				5	G	76		
															1	R			

Table 8 Finds from Trench H

TRENCH			NINE	WELLS	2009			CODE	NW09										
I																			
LEVEL	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GR	EY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR					
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt		OTHER
L1					1	8			X	48					1	R			(1 GREY BASE)

Table 9 Finds from Trench I

						NINE	WELLS	2009			CODE	NW09								
TRENCH	LEVEL	BLACK	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GR	EY	BU	FF	B & T	OYSTER	PLASTER	TES	SRAE	MORTAR					
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	area	colour	No	colour	Wt			OTHER
J	L1									X	18				2 R					
J	L2					1	14			1+X	62						124			1 RED POT <2g
J+K	L3									X	18						166			
K	L1									X	14	1								
K	L2									1+X	160						250			
L	L1					1	10			1+X	52				2 R					
															1 W					
L	L2									1+X	344						330			
L	L2			12	140	4	18			1+X	120	1					80			
M	ALL			4	44	7	84			3+X	172	1			2 R		42			3 RED POT 6g; (2 BLACK BASES; 2GREY RIMS)
N	ALL									5+X	464						248			
TOTAL				16	184	13	126			13	1424	3			6 R		1240			4 RED POT 7g
															1 W					

Table 10 Finds from Trenches J, K, L, M and N

			NINE WELLS 2009			CODE/NW09													
TRENCH	BLK.	BURN	BLK.	STD.	GREY	BUFF	B & T		DYSTER	PLASTER	TESSERA	MORTAR							
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	No	No	No	No COLOUR	No	Wt				OTHER
A			11	48	9	46	13	95	3+X	301	18			2R+6G					2 RED POT 39g; 3 BONE 16g; 1 NV POT<1g; 1 SAMIAN <1g; 1 LEAD, 1 NAIL;(2 GREY RIMS)
B			2	20	4	48	3	28	23+X	1972	7		6W+10R	5R+2G+1W					4 RED POT 40g; 1 SAMIAN 6g
C	X	100			6	88	3	13	18	2312	4		4W+1W/R			934			6 RED POT 20g
D									4+X	262			SEE OTHER COLUMN	1R+1G		340			PLASTER 46W+4R/W+3W/BLK+2W/BLK/BE+20P+5R+1R/W/BE/BLK
E			8	16	4	30	2	20	5+X	462	2		2W	1R+6G					
F	1	1	13	74	2	4	7	44	7+X	440	9			3R+4G		26			2 RED POT 10g; 1 SAMIAN RIM 4g
G					2	28			17+X	1668	1		2W	1R+2G+2W		14			2 RED POT 10g
H			7	25	1	6	1	36	26+X	2744	5			1R+5G		76			
I					1	8			X	48				1R					
J-N			16	184	13	126			13	1424	3			6R+1W		1240			4 RED POT 7g
TOTAL	1+X	101	57	367	42	384	29	236	116+X	11633	49		63W+16R+5R/W	21R+16G+4W		2630			20 RED POT 126g; 3 SAMIAN 10g; 1 NENE VALLEY<1g
													20P+3W/BLK						
													2W/BLK/BE+1R/W/BE/BLK						

Table 11 Trench totals (1)

		CODE	NW09		NINE	WELLS	2009		
TRENCH	POTTERY		BONE		NAILS	CHARCOAL	GLASS	OPUS	OTHER
	Rims	Bases	No	Wt				SIG.	
A	2 GREY		6	32	1				1 LEAD
B	2 BUFF		6+X	136		YES	1		
C	1GREY;1BUFF		1			YES		2pc 50g	1 FLUE TILE; 2 BRICK;1 FLOOR TILE
D					2				
E	2 BLACK		3	10					1 BUFF FLOOR TILE
F	1 SAMIAN	BLACK;1 BUFF							
G			2	12	1	YES		3pc 14g	
H	BLACK;1 BUFF		4	32			1		
I		1 GREY							
J-N	2 GREY	2 BLACK							
TOTAL	5 GREY	1 GREY	22	222	4	YRS	2	5pc 64g	
	4 BUFF	1 BUFF							
	3 BLACK	2 BLACK							

Table 12 Trench totals (2)

			NINE	WELLS	PLASTER	AREAS	RENCHES	B & D	SQ. CMS	
TRENCH	COLOUR	No	SUM	AVERAGE						
B	RED/WHITE	8	26.49	3.21						
D	RED	17	74.57	4.39						
D	RED/WHITE	7	61.07	10.18						
D	WHITE	19	66.13	3.48						
D	MIXED	12	47.61	3.97						
	GRAND SUM	63	275.87	4.38						
	ALL TRENCHES									
	WHITE	63								
	PINK	20								
	RED	16								
	RED/WHITE	5								
	WHITE/BLACK	3								
	W/BLK/BEIGE	2								
	R/W/BE/BLK	1								
	TOTAL	110								

Table 13 Plaster fragments – number and area sum