

# New Place; Stratford-upon-Avon. Shakespeare's '*Medieval Residence*'



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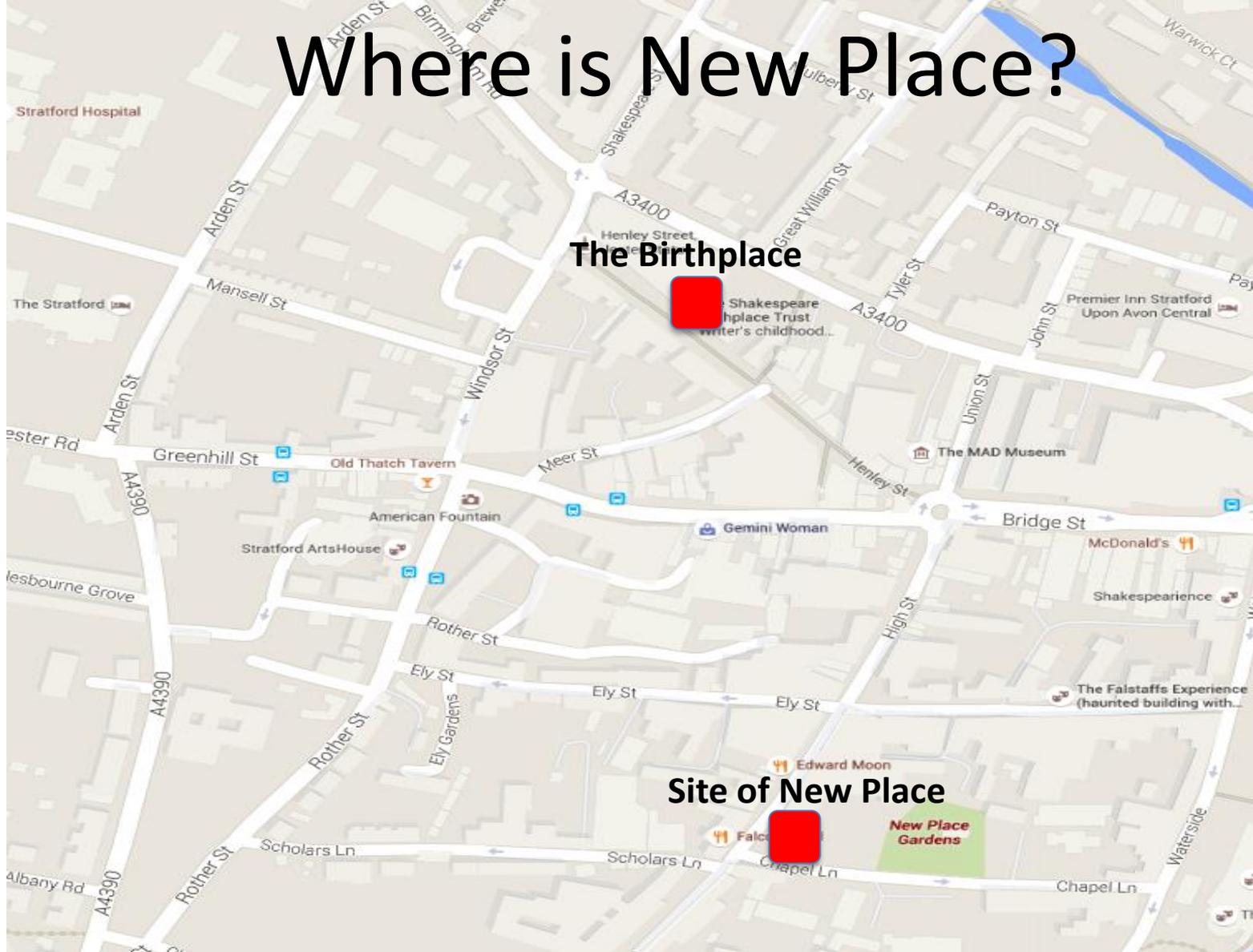


William Mitchell



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# Where is New Place?



# Finding New Place



# New Place revealed

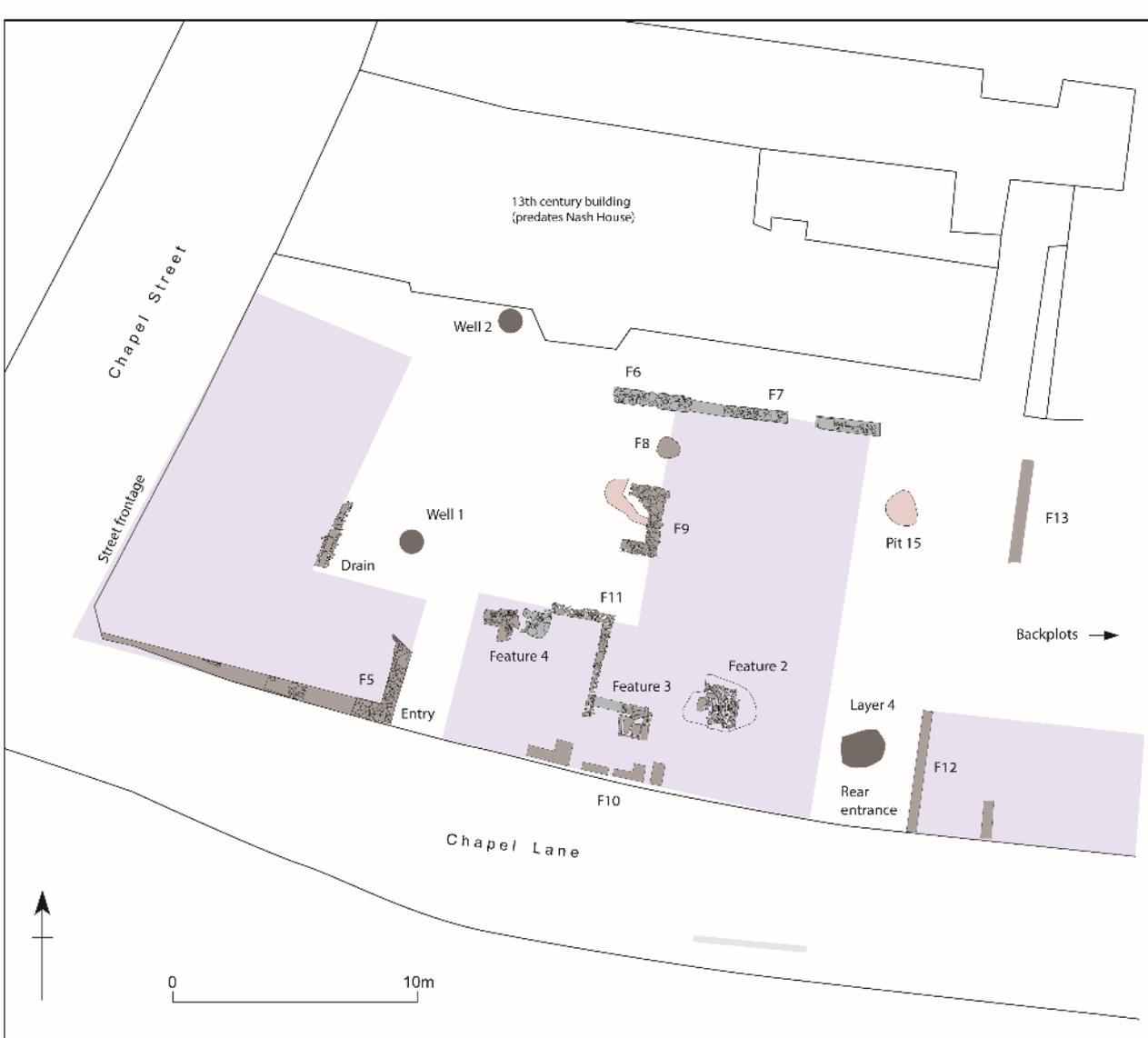


# Hugh Clopton's 'Grete House'



## Hugh Clopton 1440-1496

- Belonged to an influential Warwickshire family
- Merchant of the woolstaple
- Became Alderman, Sheriff, Member of parliament and Lord Mayor of London



# Hugh Clopton's 'Grete House'

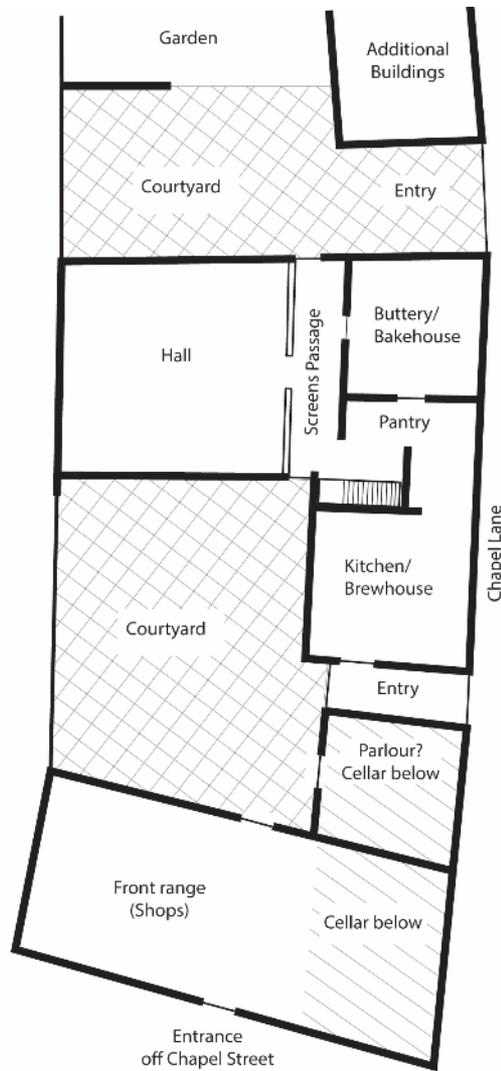
## Schematic Plan

Grand medieval house.

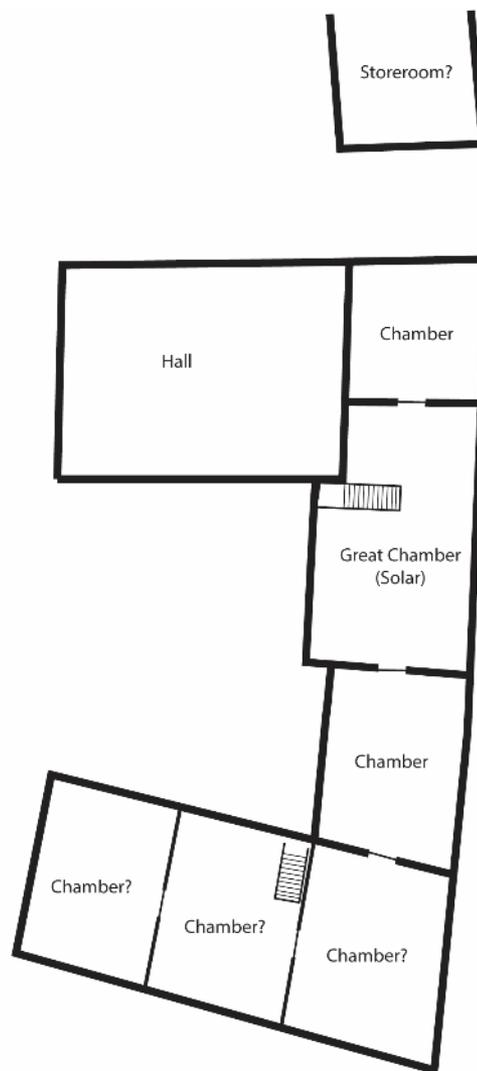
Built around a  
courtyard.

Open hall set back from  
the frontage.

Frontage let as shops.



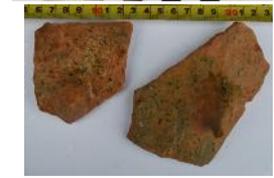
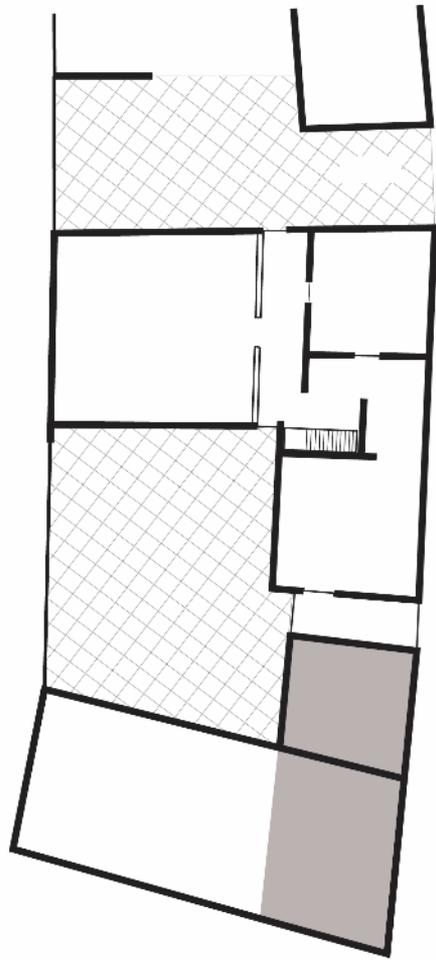
Ground Floor

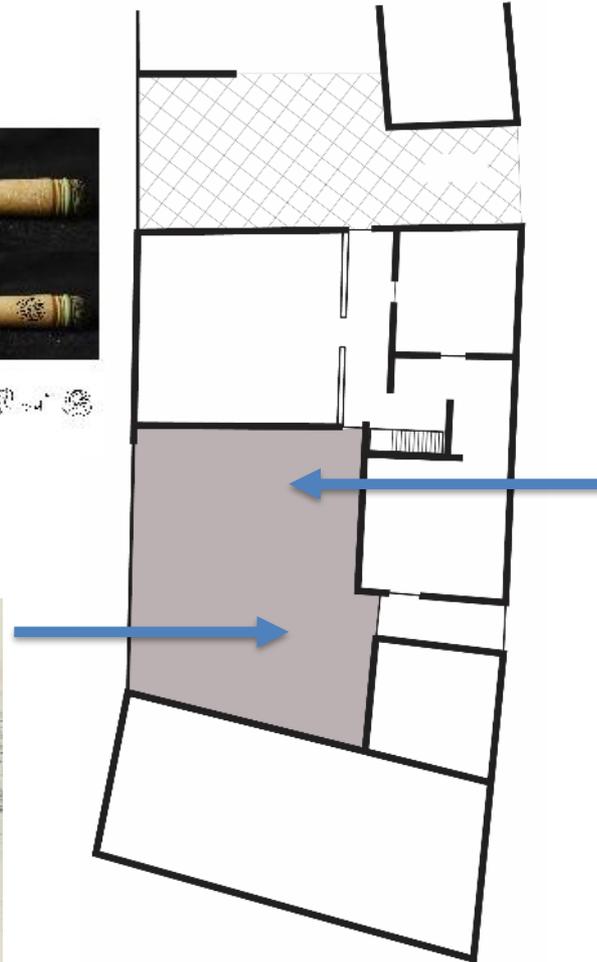
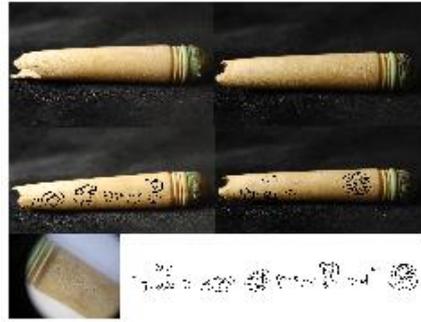


First Floor

# A Walkthrough of New Place

The front range and cellar  
(Shops and chambers)



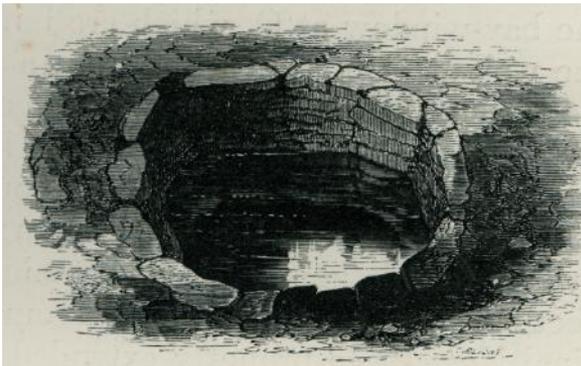


The courtyard

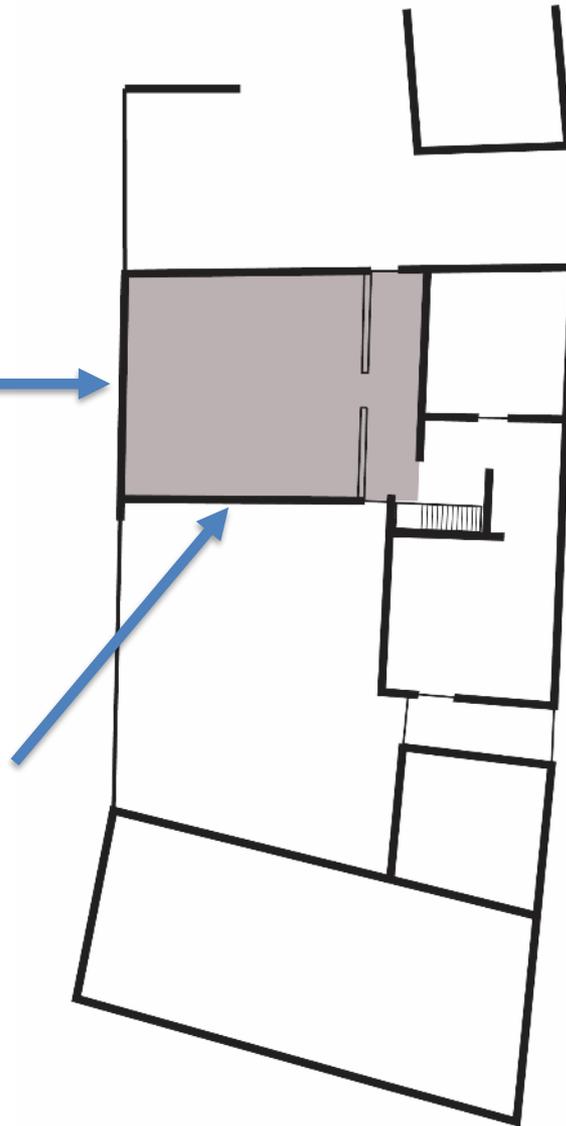


Mid to late sixteenth century pits

The well



# The Open Hall Building



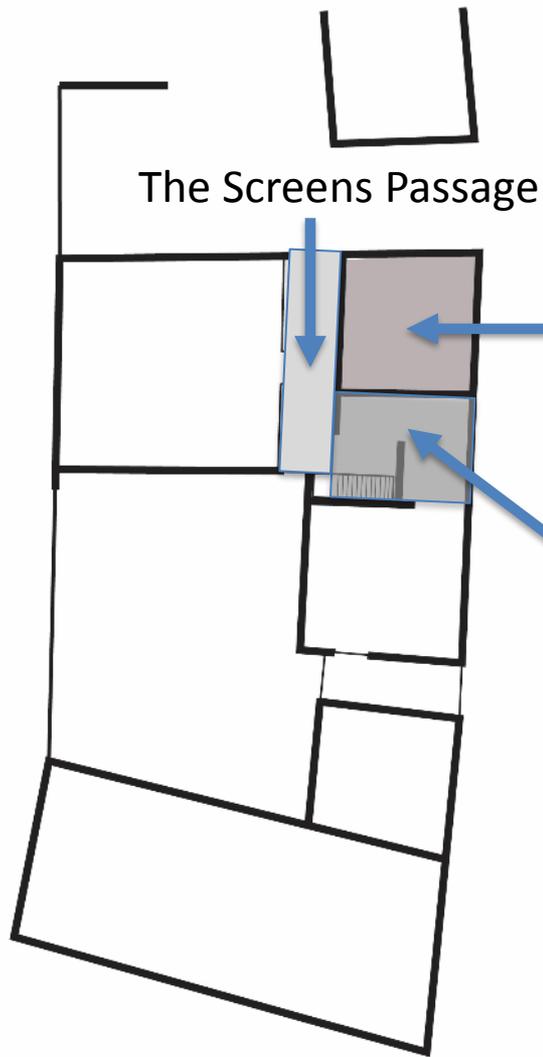
Comparative interior example;  
The Commandery, Worcester

# Open Halls

## 15<sup>th</sup> Century Background



# The Screens Passage, Buttery and Pantry

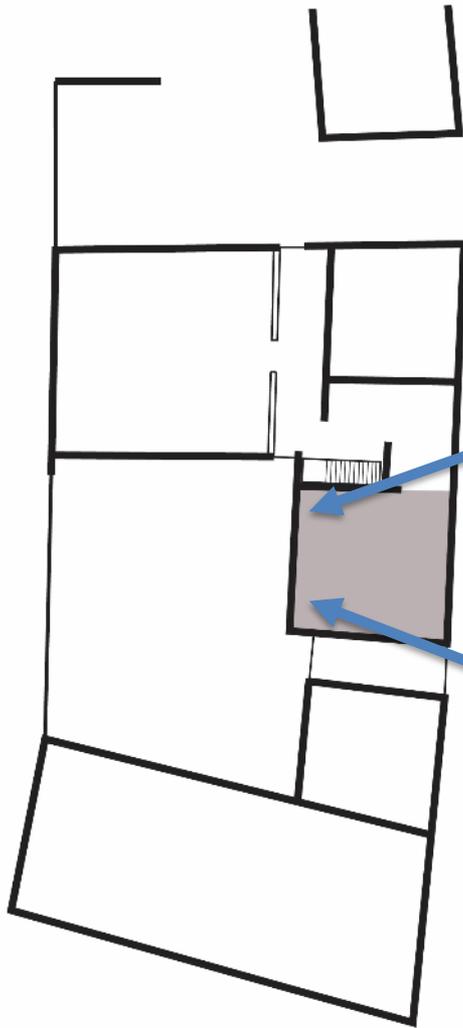


The oven (within the Buttery/ Bake-house)



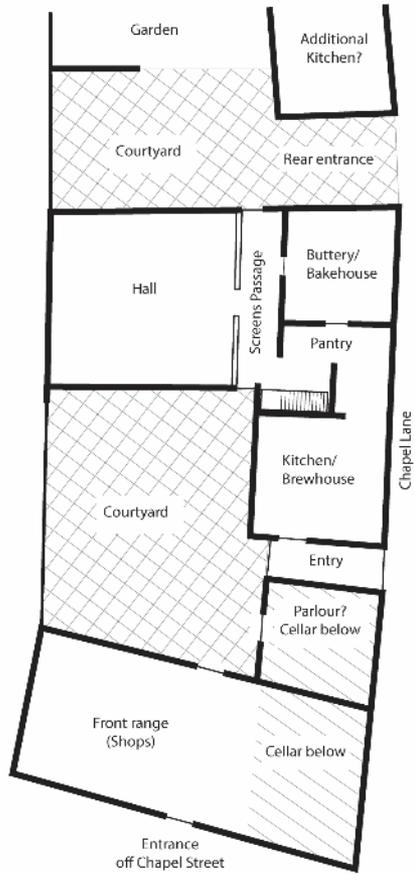
The storage tank (within the Pantry)

# The Kitchen (brew-house)

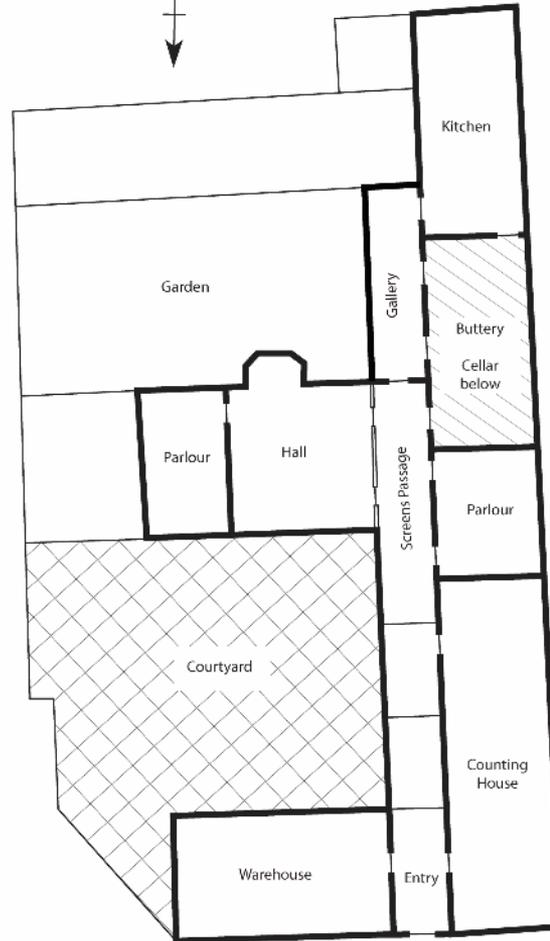


Hearth and Vat bases

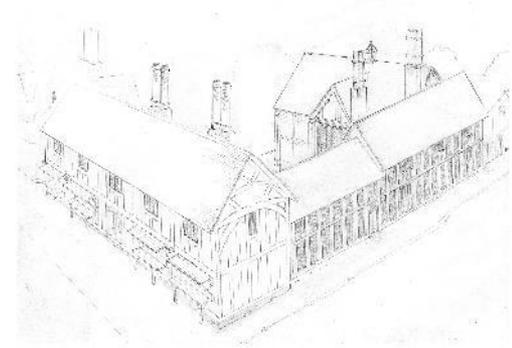
New Place,  
Stratford upon Avon



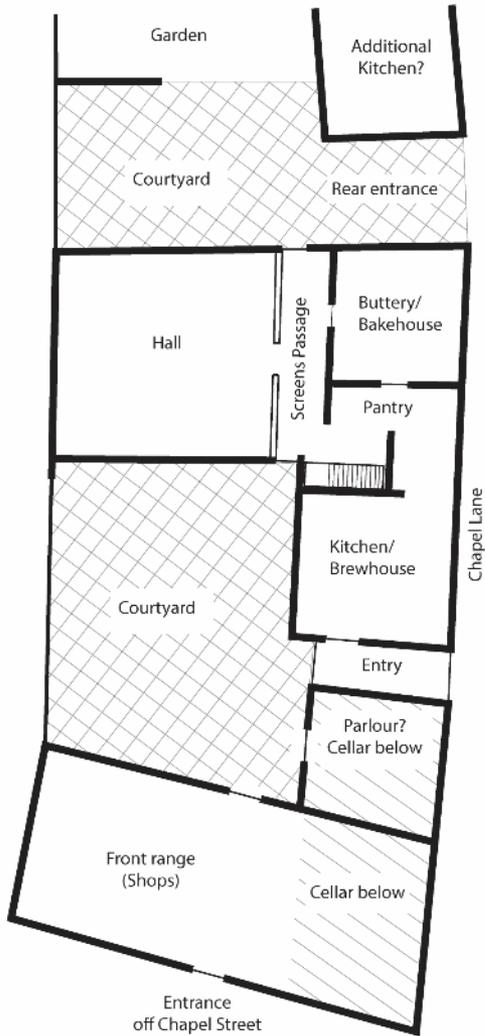
Suckling's House-  
Norwich



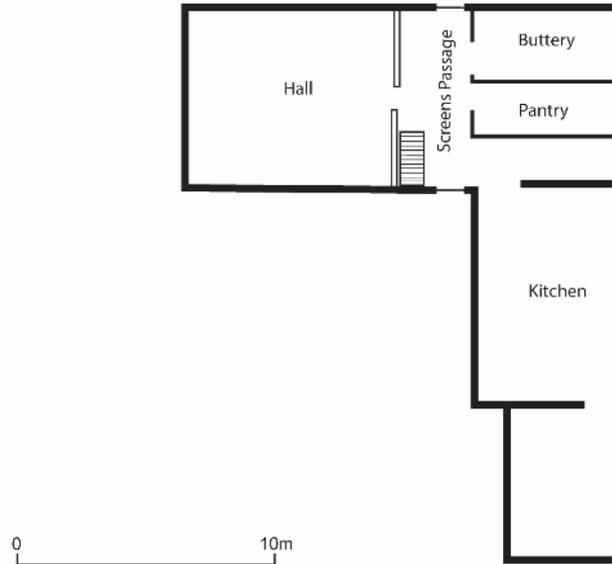
Comparative  
courtyard houses



# New Place



# Hams Barton Devon



# An almost identical hall house

Both late fifteenth  
Century in origin

# The house after Hugh Clopton

- 1496-New Place left to Hugh Clopton's Great Nephew William Clopton (1481-1521)
- 1521-William Clopton dies. New Place left to his wife Rose
- 1543-1549-New Place let to Thomas Bentley at which time it is described as being *'in great ruyne and decay and unrepyryd'*
- 1563-William Bott purchases property
- 1567- Site purchased by William Underhill for £110
- 1583- New Place abandoned by William, William Underhill's son after 'family misfortunes'
- 1583-1597-Unknown ownership (abandoned?)

# William Shakespeare's Renovations

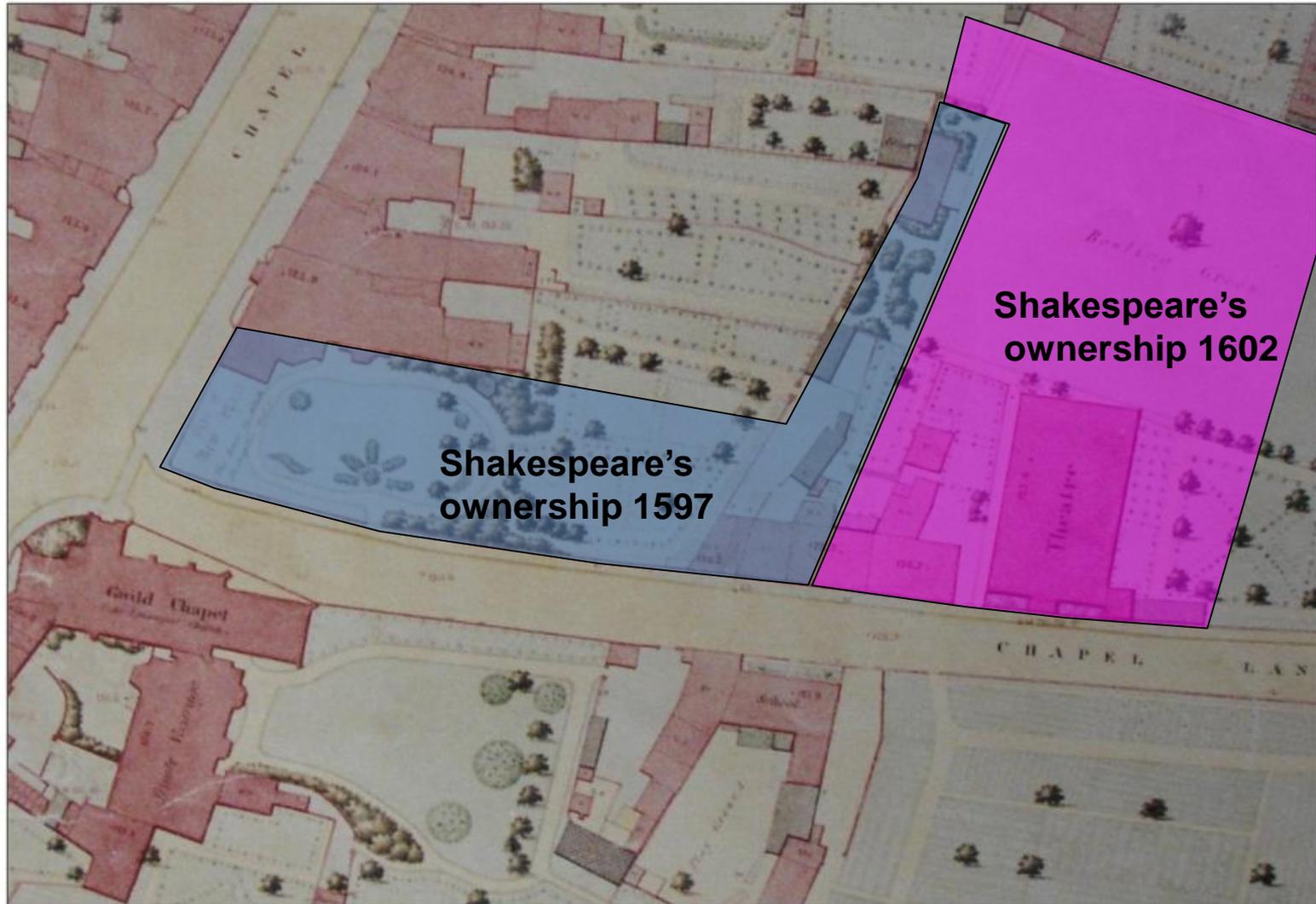
- In 1597 Shakespeare purchased New Place, for himself and his family for £60 (probably double this)
- Stratford-upon-Avon was a four day ride by horse from London, so he is very likely to have lived between these two places from this time.
- 1597- *'de uno mesuagio, duobus horreis, et duobus gardinis'*  
(one messuage, two barns and two gardens).
- 1598- *'pd to mr Shaxspere for on lod of ston xd'*  
Money paid by the corporation of Stratford to Shakespeare
- 1602- *'de uno mesuagio, duobus horreis, et duobus gardinis et duobus pomariis cum pertinciis'*  
(one messuage, two barns, two gardens and two orchards).

Messuage= dwelling house, outbuildings and land

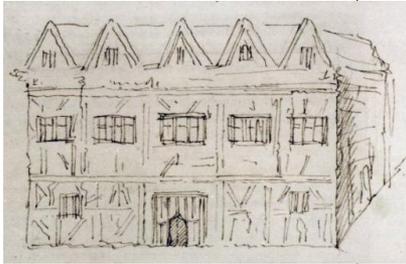


The estate fine for New Place

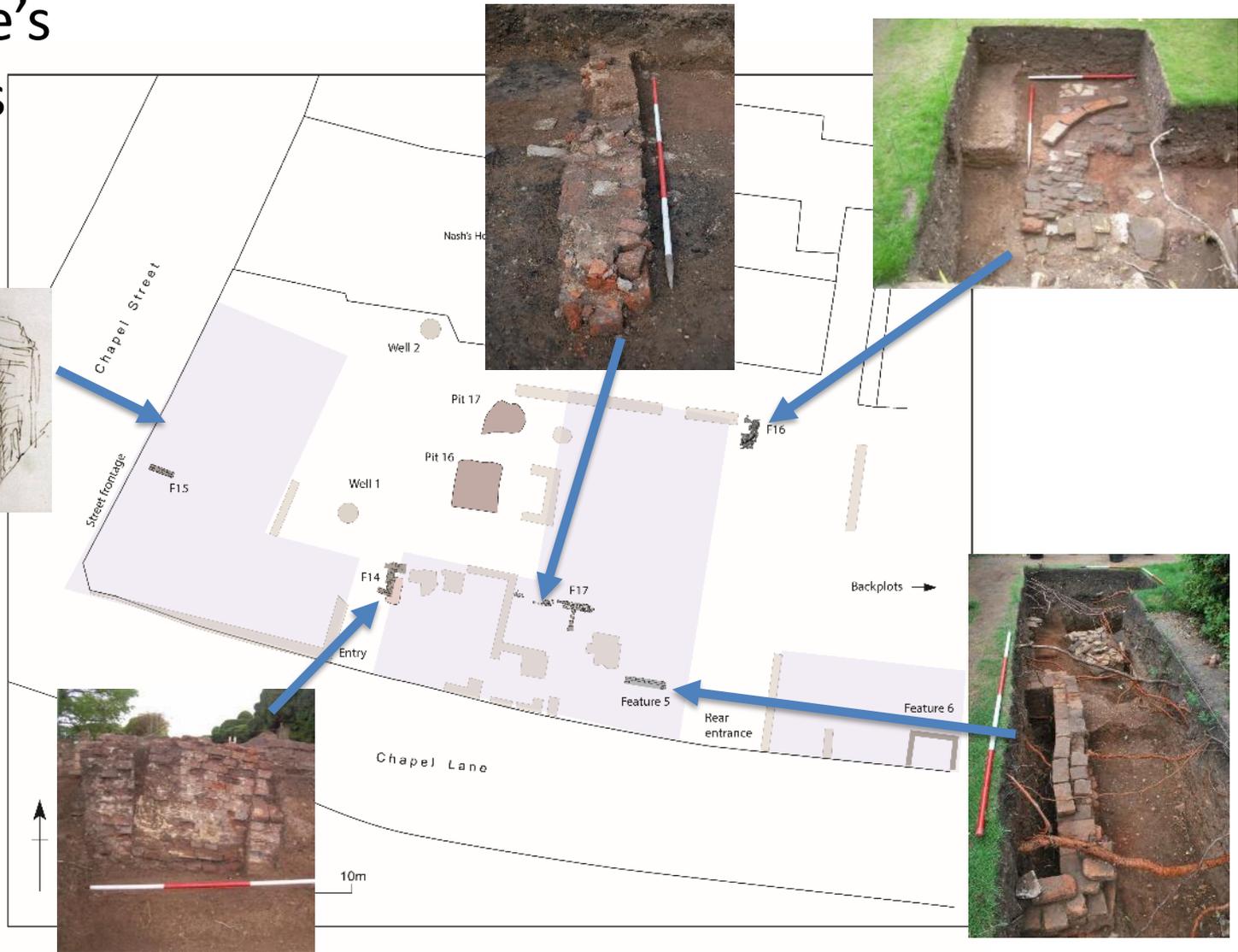
# Shakespeare's purchases



# Shakespeare's Renovations

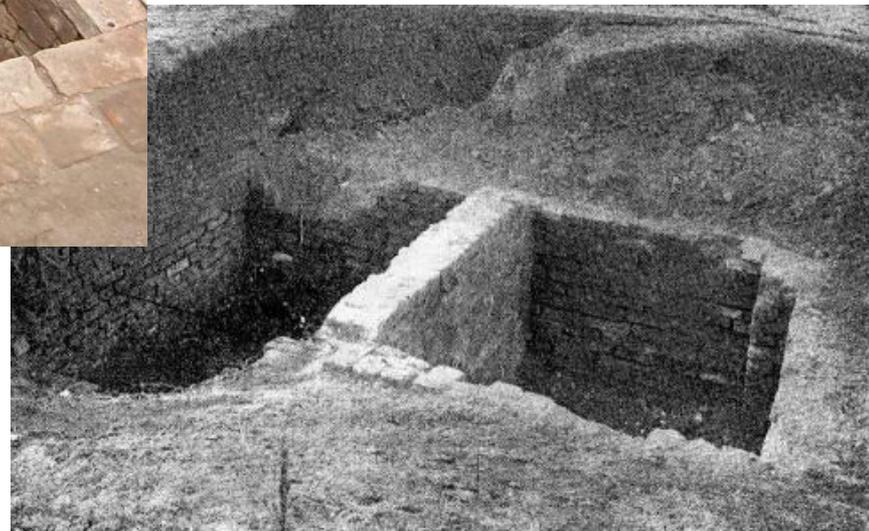


Late 16<sup>th</sup> to early 17<sup>th</sup> century ceramics recovered from construction cut





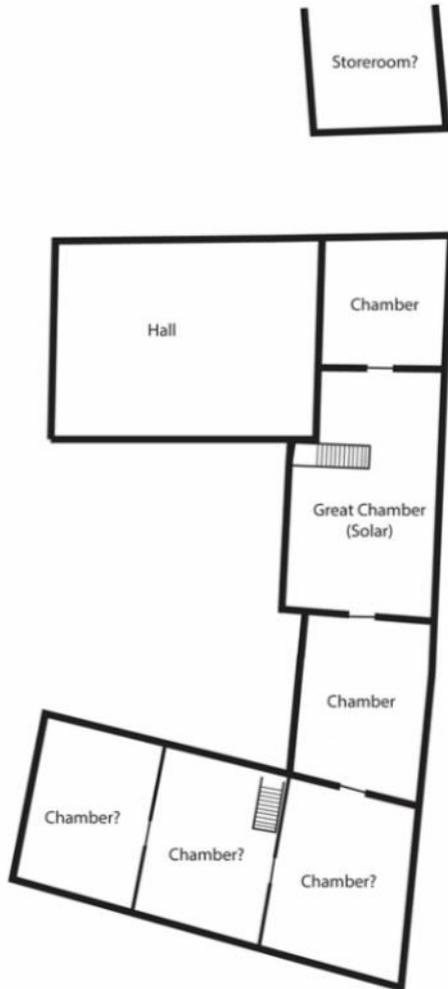
Tudor Brick Pit c.16th-18th century  
Excavated in 1922





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# Shakespeare's Long Gallery



# Continued use of the Hall



# Comparative houses

The Shakespeare Hotel, Stratford



Tudor House, Long Itchington, Warwickshire



New Place



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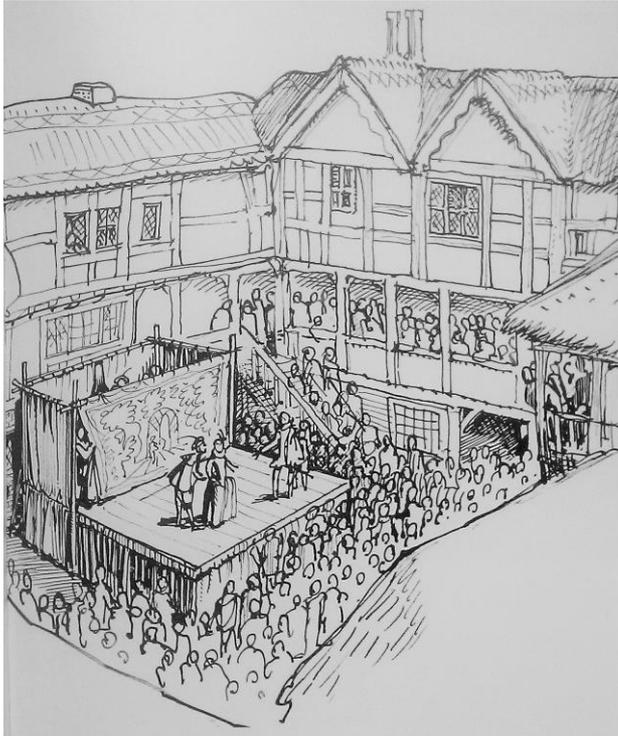
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# Shakespeare's motivations

- Symbolic associations
- Pursuit of status
- Desire for investment
- Obligation to his family



# Symbolic associations and pursuit of status



Performance being held at a courtyard inn

- Hugh Clopton- merchant's house, Influence of New place within the town, Shakespeare's mercantile connection.
- The courtyard inn and performance space possibilities.



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# Artefacts



Pins



Loom weight



Spindle Whorl



Textile working Bobbin



Thimbles

## Cottage industries



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# Artefacts



**16<sup>th</sup>/ 17<sup>th</sup> century lead tokens**



**16<sup>th</sup> century  
Rose and crown  
Half groat**



**15<sup>th</sup> century  
Neuremborg  
Jeton**



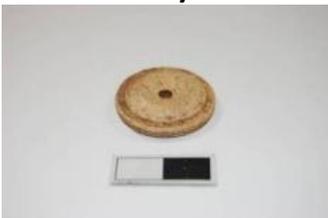
# Artefacts



17<sup>th</sup> century ceramics



c.17<sup>th</sup> century cribbage peg



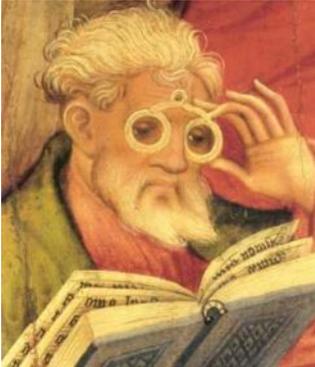
Bead/ button making and buttons



Dice



Instrument tuning pegs

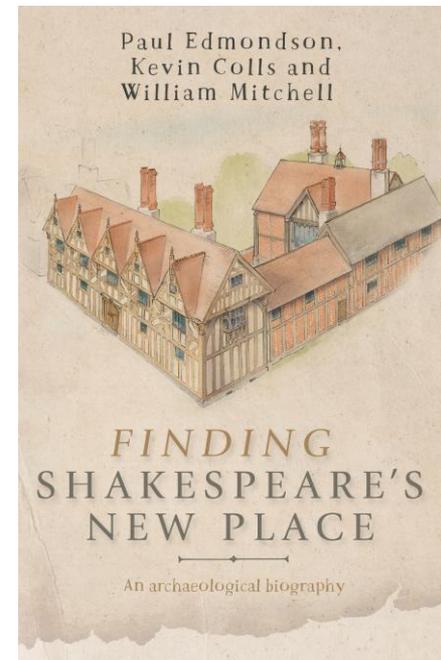


Eye glass frame

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