

Roman occupation at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey

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SUMMARY

During August and September 1997 the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an archaeological evaluation on the site of the proposed development of poultry houses at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey. The work was commissioned by G. W. Padley Poultry Ltd. Six trenches revealed pits, ditches and gullies containing variable quantities of Romano-British pottery and animal bone. One trench appeared to contain a possibly prehistoric posthole. The frequency of features and the nature of the ceramic and faunal assemblages imply domestic activity in the vicinity of the Roman road of King Street.

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(TF1142 0793)

INTRODUCTION

From 26th August to 2nd September 1997 a team from the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council carried out an archaeological evaluation on the site of the proposed development of poultry houses and a manager's house at Lyndon Farm, High Street, Maxey. The work was commissioned by G. W. Padley Poultry Ltd. in response to a brief for an archaeological investigation issued by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section (Development Control).

The site lies to the west of the village of Maxey and just south of the braided course of the River Welland. The development will affect an area approaching 9000 square metres and lies at approximately 12.5m OD. The underlying geology is alluvium and terrace gravels. Six trenches, between 20m and 70m long were excavated by mechanical digger.

The area was largely covered in hard-core and rubble make-up overlying ploughsoil and alluvium which in turn covers a fine gravel. The area has been used as a poultry farm since the 1960s and service trenches were encountered immediately to the east of existing buildings.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

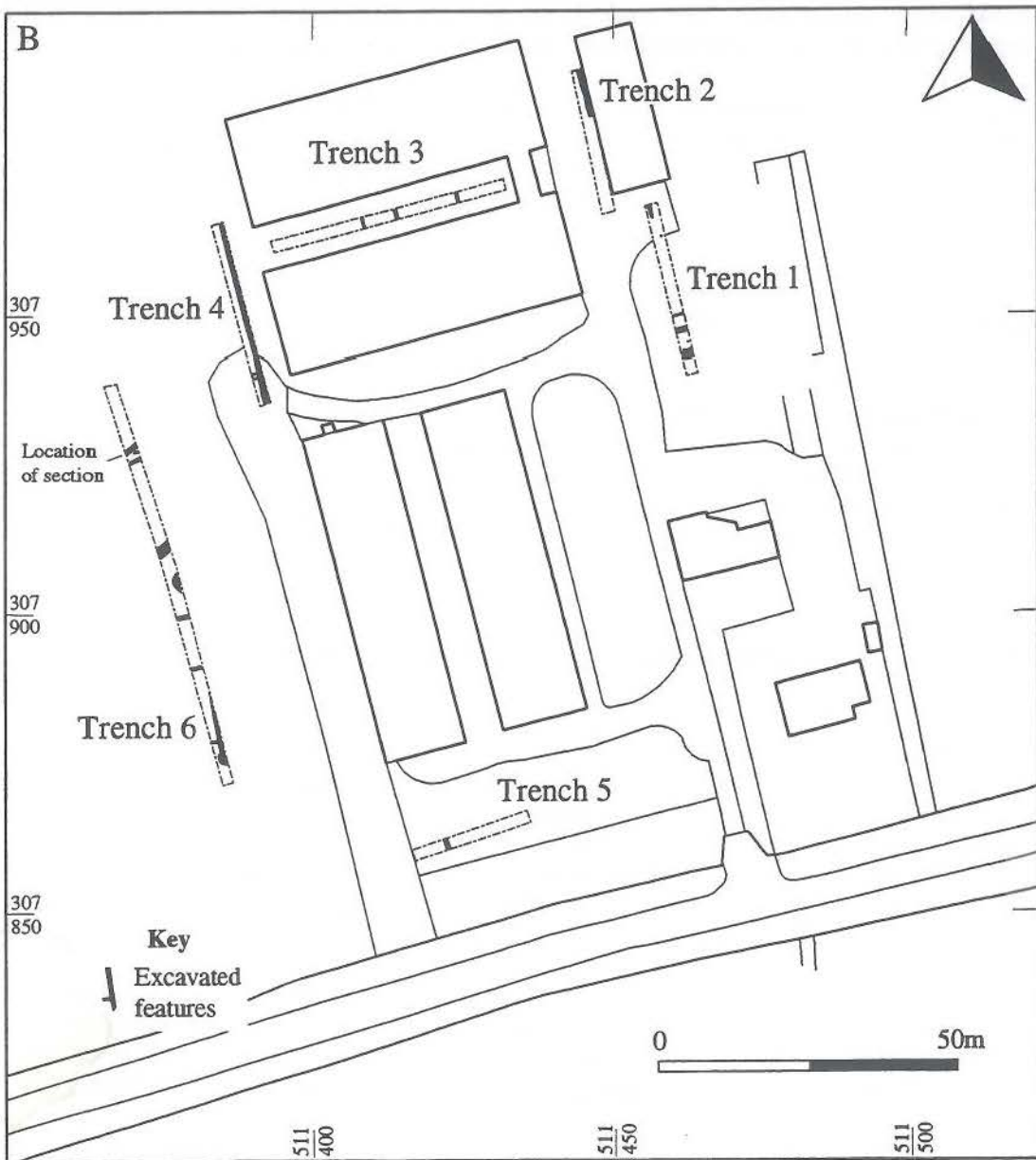
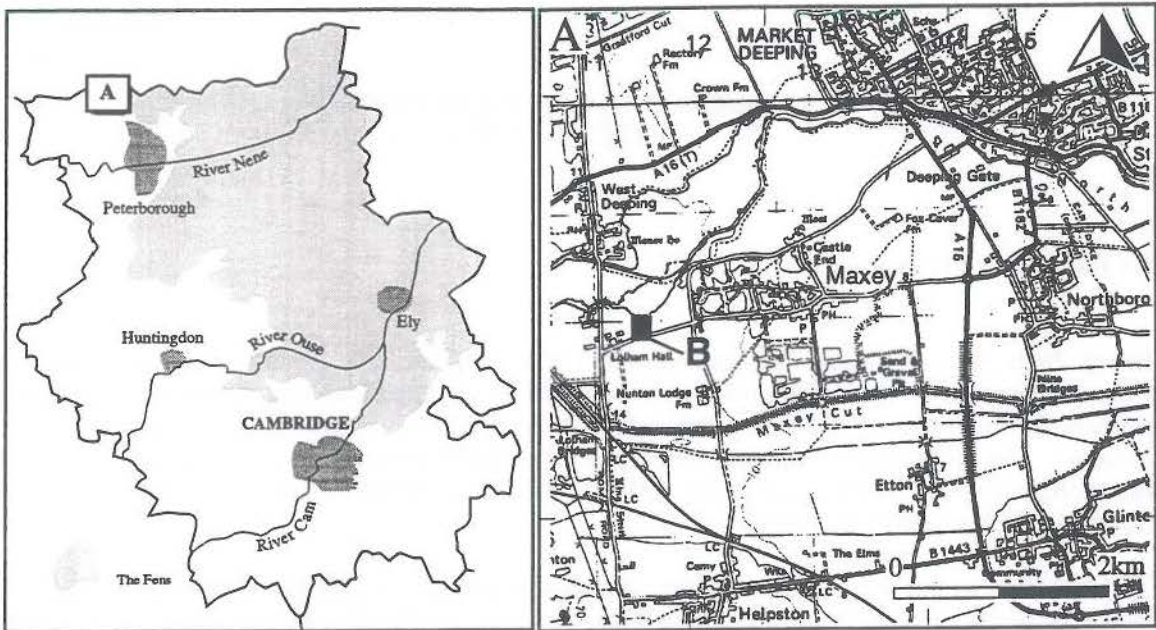
The site is immediately to the south of the present southern course of the River Welland. The development site lies on the edge of the fen and first terrace gravels (overlying Kellaways Clay, BGS 157) and is in turn overlaid by alluvial deposits from the Welland. (BGS 1989). The land slopes gently from the low-lying fenlands to the east of Maxey at a height of 3-5mOD to the limestone uplands to the west of Barnack at a height of over 70mOD.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and medieval remains are recorded in the Cambridgeshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) in the surrounding area and on the subject site. The site is bounded to the east by a nationally important complex of crop marks (Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 191, SMR No. 2428) and other crop mark features (SMR No 08504) extend in to the western part of the development site. Extensive archaeological investigation has previously identified the archaeological importance of this region (Pryor and French 1985).

A north-south Roman road, King Street, runs approximately 500m to the west and Roman pottery and building material, together with Anglo-Saxon pottery have been recovered from the field to the west of the development site (SMR 2151). A deserted medieval village is recorded at Lolham Hall (SMR 1014) at the junction of King Street and High Street.

Archaeological investigations have indicated forest clearance in the area by the late 4th millennium BC with seasonal pastures and cereal growing in the area and construction of monuments in the vicinity (Pryor and French 1985).



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Figure 1 Site location plan

METHODOLOGY

Six trenches were excavated by a mechanical digger with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. The overburden was removed in all trenches until the upper interface of the alluvium was exposed into which archaeological features had been cut. In Trench 5, where no features were noted in the alluvium, the depth of the trench was extended until the underlying gravel was encountered. In other trenches the gravel was exposed at the end of the trench so the geological sequence could be determined.

Trenches were aligned with existing buildings and run just west of north-south in the case of trenches 1, 2, 4 and 6 and just north of west-east in the case of trenches 3 and 5. In the trench descriptions in the Results section directions of features are based on the assumption that the trenches ran approximately north-south and west-east.

A sample of archaeological features was partially excavated and recorded using the pro-forma recording sheets of the Archaeological Field Unit. Fill numbers are shown in plain text and cut numbers in bold. Vertical sections and plans were drawn of the main features and photographs taken. All site levels are above Ordnance Datum, taken from the 12.77m benchmark on Lolham Hall. Conditions for excavation and recording were variable, with rain during part of two days, but being for the most part dry and bright.

RESULTS

Topsoil/ploughsoil extended over the site to a depth of between 0.25-0.35m. In all trenches a sandy silt alluvium was found to cover flint gravels. The depth of alluvium varied between 0.3 and 0.8m, with the greatest depth towards the northern part of the site (in Trench 2), near the river, and the shallowest in Trench 5, adjacent to the High Street.

Trench 1 followed the line of the hard-standing in the eastern part of the site and ran approximately north-south for 28m. The site had been levelled with hard-core (0.1-0.15m deep). This overlay a dark brown clay silt topsoil with occasional fragments of gravel and flecks of brick. This in turn overlay a dark orange brown alluvial deposit into which archaeological features had been cut. Most features penetrated the alluvium but did not cut deeply into the underlying gravel.

At the southern end of the trench no archaeological features were noted so the alluvium was removed to expose natural gravel at a depth of 1m below the present ground surface. Spread over the alluvium was a layer of clay silt (42) 0.03-0.07m deep which contained fragments of animal bone and sherds of shell-tempered pottery and which was cut by pits (43) containing bird bones and modern material, together with sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Beneath the silt spread 42 was a shallow gully (**61**) cut into the alluvium to a depth of 0.13m and 0.58m wide and butt ending 0.35m from the western edge of the trench. This contained a compact dark brown clay silt fill (60) with occasional gravel fragments. Two sherds of shelly Romano-British pottery were recovered from the fill.

To the north of this feature, and covered by the spread 42, was a pit, **65**, which had gradually sloping sides, the base was not exposed during excavation. The fill, 64, was a dark brown slightly sandy clay silt with grit and gravel which contained animal bone, tile and Romano-British pottery. The top of the pit had been cut by a V-shaped gully (**63**) 0.31m deep and 0.38m wide with a very dark greyish brown clay silt fill (62) with large (>0.15m) blocks of limestone.

Also cut into the top of pit 65 was a further gully, 69, running west-east across the trench. This was 0.35m wide and 0.27m deep and contained angular blocks of limestone. The fill (68), to the north of the stone blocks, was a dark greyish brown clay silt fill with animal bone, Romano-British and possibly prehistoric pottery.

Approximately ten metres from the northern edge of the Trench 1 was a roughly circular area of disturbed limestone blocks. These were loose and irregular and did not extend through the alluvium into the underlying gravel.

At the end of the trench a linear feature, 67, running approximately north-south was noted. This had a square profile, 0.15m deep, 0.42m wide and over 3m long. Its fill, 66, was a very dark greyish brown sandy silt which contained fragments of animal bone and Romano-British pottery.

Trench 2 followed the line of hard-standing to the north of Trench 1 and ran approximately north-south for 23.6m. Much of the southern and central part of the trench had been disturbed by modern services. The northern end the trench revealed a property boundary which appears to correspond to that marked on the 1926 Ordnance Survey map. The remains of the boundary consist of a shallow ditch cut through the alluvium into the underlying gravel with a series of postholes along the western edge. A similar parallel feature was noted less than half a metre to the west and this too cut into the gravel natural, over a metre below the present ground surface. This may represent an earlier boundary line.

Trench 3 was excavated between the poultry houses in a west-east direction for a distance of 39m. Three linear features were noted cut into the alluvium at 8-10m intervals. One of these features (52) was excavated and the others were partially excavated. Feature 52 cut through the alluvium but did not reach the gravel and was shallow, 0.06m deep and 0.7m wide. The single fill, 51, was a dark brown sandy silt containing small fragments of very abraded Romano-British pottery. The other two features in this trench were similarly shallow although the westernmost one was 0.11m deep and just reached the gravel.

Trench 4 was 30m long in an approximately north-south alignment, adjacent to the existing buildings and at a right-angle to Trench 3. Initial cleaning by machine showed regularly spaced patches of gravel which after hand cleaning appeared to be undulations in the underlying natural. Along the length of the trench and cutting all features was a ditch, 54, containing a dark brown sandy silt and which appears to follow the hedge line immediately to the south and is presumed to be the property boundary which pre-dated the construction of the existing buildings. The fill (53) of this feature was soft and friable and contained abraded tile.

The ditch 54 appeared to cut several features which crossed the trench in an west-east direction. These features were examined and those towards the north of the trench appear to be the result of natural undulations in the underlying gravel. At the southern end of the trench two linear features were noted. The southernmost was a shallow, U-shaped gully, 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep which contained a single fill, 55, of soft, dark brown sandy clay silt with occasional small stones. This fill contained animal bone and Romano-British pottery.

Immediately to the north of this feature was a slightly wider and shallow gully, 58 (0.55m wide and 0.1m deep), which sloped more steeply on its northern edge. It contained a single fill (57) which was a very dark greyish brown sandy silty clay with occasional small stones. No artefacts were recovered from this fill.

Trench 5 followed the line of the High Street, approximately 15m to the north of it and was located to assess the impact of the construction of the manager's dwelling. In this trench there

appeared to be a dark 'garden soil' beneath the topsoil and overlying the alluvium (approximately 0.3m deep). The trench was 19.5m long. No features were noted in the alluvium but one linear feature (15) oriented in an approximately north-south direction was revealed 7m from the western end of the trench. This feature appeared in the section to have been cut through the alluvium to a depth of 0.32m and contained a single fill, 14, which was a dark yellowish brown sandy silt. No artefacts, other than a piece of mammalian (horse/cow) long bone were recovered from the fill. Metal detecting of the spoil located a small copper-alloy coin and fragments of Romano-British and medieval pottery were also found when the spoil was scanned.

Trench 6 was excavated in the adjacent field, 23m to the west of the existing buildings and parallel to them. It was 70.5m long and features were noted cut into the alluvium along most of its length.

At the southern end of the trench several intercutting features were noted. A linear feature running approximately north-south cut a pit, 7, which was sub-circular (2m long, >0.9m wide and 0.48m deep) with evenly sloping sides and a concave base. The fill, 9, was a dark yellowish brown silty clay with occasional stones and contained bone and shelly (Romano-British and possibly Saxon) pottery. This pit truncated a posthole (12) which had a diameter of 0.6m and was over 0.22m deep (1.07m below the present ground surface but the bottom of this feature was not reached) and had almost vertical sides. The single fill (13) of this posthole was a silty sand with small gravel fragments and contained no artefact or bone.

To the north of this pit was a linear feature running west-east across the trench. This feature was not excavated but the upper fill, 37, was a dark brown clay silt with limestone fragments and appeared to cut a north-south linear feature, 38, which may be a northward extension of pit 7. The fill of this linear feature was a dark yellowish brown clay silt, with small stones and flecks of charcoal, containing fragments of animal bone and sherds of shell tempered pottery.

At 14.5m from the southern end of the trench was the butt end of a shallow west-east oriented gully, 40, which was 0.52m wide and 0.07m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. The fill, 39, was a very dark greyish brown clay silt with small fragments of limestone and flecks of charcoal.

Several features were noted along the trench, these were not excavated but their upper fills were recorded. Approximately one metre to the north of 40 was a linear feature containing a dark greyish brown clay silt, 41, with occasional small fragments of limestone and one sherd of Romano-British pottery.

Two metres to the north of 41 was a further west-east linear feature, 44, approximately 1m wide containing a dark greyish brown clay silt. A further two metres to the north was a shallow west-east running gully, 46, 0.4m wide and 0.12m deep which contained a dark brown clay silt fill, 45, with occasional small stones. At approximately 25m from the southern end of the trench was a further linear feature with an upper fill, 47, of dark brown clay silt with medium sized flint gravels and occasional flecks of charcoal and fragments of animal bone.

Truncated by linear 47 was a large pit, 17, with an apparent width of 7.5m. Because of the size of this pit a slot was dug through it by the mechanical digger. The edges of the pit were not visible but its depth was approximately 1.4m. The pit contained three fills. The basal fill, 35, was a dark yellowish brown silty sand, 0.1m deep, which contained no artefacts or bone. Above this was a dark brown clay silt (some 0.5m deep) with occasional charcoal flecks. The upper fill (16) of this feature was a brown clay silt (0.45m deep) with occasional flint gravels and contained animal bone and Romano-British pottery.

The northern edge of pit 17 was cut by two features. A shallow gully 20 appeared in the trench edge and extended 0.15m into the trench. The small amount of this feature visible in the trench makes it impossible to comment on its shape or fill other than to say it cut the north-western edge of pit 17 and was in turn cut by a west-east running ditch 18. This was 1.34m wide and 0.3m deep with a steeply sloping southern side and more gently sloping northern edge, the base was slightly concave. The fill, 19, was a brown clay silt with a relatively large quantity of limestone and contained animal bone, tile and Romano-British pottery.

Six metres to the north of this complex of features was a ditch, 36, which crossed the trench in a south-west-north-east direction. This ditch was 1.45m wide, >2.6m long and 0.45m deep. The southern edge sloped steeply whilst the northern edge sloped more gradually and was slightly stepped, the base was flat. This ditch contained two fills, the lower of which, 31, was a dark brown sandy clay silt which contained animal bone, stone and Romano-British and possibly Saxon pottery. The upper fill, 30, was a dark brown sandy silty clay which contained animal bone, Romano-British pottery, stone and tile.

Approximately 53m north of the southern end of Trench 6 was a shallow U-shaped gully, 6, running west-east across the trench. This feature was 0.6m wide and 0.28m deep and contained a single fill, 5, a dark yellowish brown clay silt with small quantities of sand and occasional fragments of gravel. This fill contained bone, sherds of possibly Saxon pottery and a small fragment of worked flint.

Three metres north of gully 6 was another U-shaped gully, 4, which had its butt end 1.35m from the eastern edge of the trench and was cut through the alluvium into the underlying gravel. It was 0.63m wide, 0.25m deep and contained a single fill, 3. The fill was a brown clay silt with frequent fragments of limestone (0.05-0.1m), a sherd of Romano-British pottery, struck flint and animal bone.

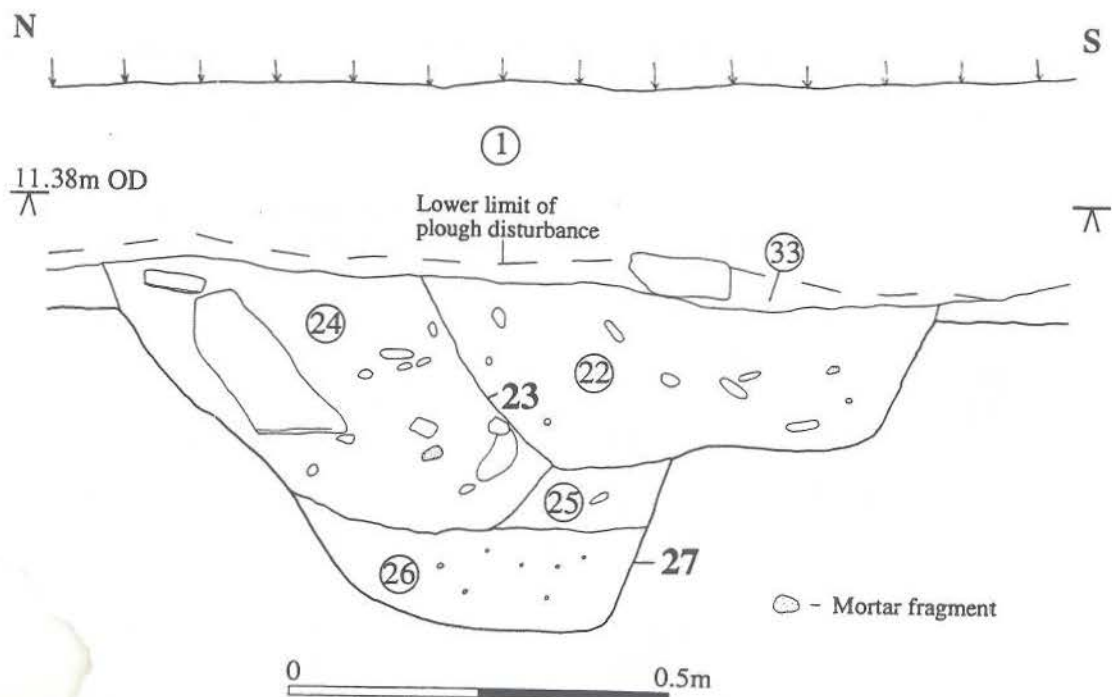


Figure 2 Section drawing of ditch 27 and

The area to the north of gully 4 had been badly disturbed by ploughing. There appeared to be a butt-ended linear feature which was not fully excavated. The upper fill, 29, was the same as fill 3 (see above). Spread over this feature was a layer, 28, of dark brown clay silt with patches of mortar and small fragments of limestone with a modern agricultural feature (0.1m wide) cut across it.

A further complex set of features was located 0.25m to the north and running in a south-west-north-east direction. The original feature in this complex was a ditch, 27, 0.78m wide and 0.43m deep with a steeply sloped northern edge and a more gradual slope on the southern edge. The basal fill, 26, was a dark brown sandy clay silt, 0.18m deep and 0.46m wide which contained small fragments of oolitic limestone, mortar and animal bone. Above this fill, on the northern edge of the ditch was a dark yellowish brown clay silt fill (25) with occasional small rounded stones. Overlying this fill was a dark yellowish brown clay silt containing large angular stones and occasional lumps of mortar and fragments of tile. This fill, 24, was 0.36m deep and appears to have been deposited after the ditch had begun to silt up and contained animal bone, tile and box flue, mortar and abraded Romano-British pottery. Fill 24 was cut by a shallower gully, 23, 0.24m deep and 0.69m wide which had sides sloping at 45° and a concave base. The single fill (22) of this gully was a brown clay silt with medium sized pieces of oolitic limestone and flecks of mortar.

CONCLUSIONS

Alluviation has occurred across the site, varying in depth between 0.3 and 0.8m and most of the features appear to have been cut through these deposits. The shallow depth of topsoil (0.25-0.35m) has meant that some features have been affected by modern agricultural activity. There was evidence of iron-pan busting and ploughing in Trenches 1 and 6. This agricultural activity had, in several cases, cut into archaeological features. Property boundaries were visible in Trenches 2 and 4. The shallow, regularly spaced features in Trench 3 may be the remnant of medieval ridge and furrow, as may be the single linear feature in Trench 5. This is not certain as no clear dating evidence was recovered from the trenches and there is no supporting evidence from aerial photographs.

The posthole in the south of Trench 6 would appear to be prehistoric but no firm dating can be given to this feature. All other features exposed during the evaluation suggest Romano-British occupation of the area. Drainage ditches or property boundaries containing building material appear to have started to silt up and the buildings falling into disuse at a similar time. Pitting in Trenches 1 and 6 may have been later quarrying for gravel.

Prehistoric occupation of the area is well known from aerial surveys and earlier excavations. Post-Roman (Saxon and medieval) settlement is also known from the immediate vicinity but the presence of limestone and tile together with domestic pottery, animal bone and occasional coins supports the evidence for rural settlement, close to Lyndon Farm, associated with surrounding farmland and the nearby Roman road of King Street.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thanks are also due to Carole Fletcher, Bob Hatton and Scott Kenney who worked on site and to Steve Critchley who carried out a metal-detector survey of the trenches and spoil. Will Wall was the Project Manager and edited this report. The illustration is by Jon Cane and the pottery identification by Phil Copleston and Paul Sperry.

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APPENDIX I – Finds Assessment by Phil Copleston

Methodology

This assemblage was examined by eye as complete context groups. This enabled an overview of each context group as well as the whole assemblage to be gained. Finds types within each context group were identified.

Dates

Dating was mainly from the pottery and tile/brick within the context groups. The majority of artefacts were from the Roman period, with a few sherds of pottery of possible Iron Age date. Some sherds of shelly pottery were subsequently considered to be probably of post-Roman or Saxon date by Dr. Paul Spoerry. No sherds were specifically datable, but some were clearly "late Roman" whilst one context (31) may contain sherds of "early Roman" date.

The *terminus post quem* for contexts were as follows:

Prehistoric: none

Roman: 03, 16, 19, 24, 26, 30, 33, 38, 43, 55, 60, 64, 66, 70, 71, and 72

Post-Roman/Saxon: 02, 05, 09, 31, 34, 42, and 68

Undatable: 14, 41, 47, and 53

Condition and Residuality:

Most artefacts were in unabraded condition, but the following contexts are of note:

Abraded: 02, 19, 24, 42, 53, 55, 64, 70, and 72

Burning/Sooting: 02, 09, 33, 38, 43, and 64

Most abraded contexts probably indicate some degree of residuality. Some pottery was also burnt (contexts 02, 33, and 64). Two contexts contained pottery sherds with signs of external sooting or internal food remains (contexts 02 and 64).

General Conclusions:

This assemblage is typically domestic in nature, characterised by cooking pots and food storage and preparation vessels, together with domesticated animal bone (some butchered), and building materials from a building of some status (roof tiles, hypercaust floor tiles and box flue tiles and mortar - contexts 19, 24, 26, 30, 33, 34, 42, 64, 70, and 72). Metal working slag was present in contexts 16 and 64.

Catalogue of Artefacts (all types):

Cntxt	Wt.(g)	Count	Description	Condition (all unabraded, unless indicated)	Date Range (all general Roman period, unless indicated)
Tr3 - Spoil Heap	1	1	Cu coin (?) - cut in half (metal detector)		
Tr5 - Spoil Heap (W.end)	1	1	Cu coin (?) (metal detector)	Worn	poss. Roman
Tr6 - in stubble field between hedge and trench	2	1	Cu coin (metal detector)	Readable	prob. Roman
02	154	24	Bone: bird and pig		
	433	8	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware, wide mouthed jar	Abraded and burnt	
	2	1	Nene Valley Grey Ware	Abraded	
	14	1	Mortarium	Abraded	
	86	5	Shelly ware base (hand made). (Maxey/St.Neots)	Internal sooting/residues	post-Roman
	16	2	Shelly ware (Maxey/St.Neots)		post-Roman
03	12	1	Bone		
	9	1	Struck flint		
	1	1	poss. Oxfordshire ware colour-coated small jar		
05	1	1	Flint blade		
	12	6	Bone		
	20	2	Organic-tempered ware (hand made)		late Iron Age?
	5	1	Shelly ware rim (Saxon?)		post-Roman
09	71	9	Bone	Includes 1 burnt frag.	
	36	5	Shelly ware jar sherds (all same vessel), with grooved decoration on shoulder		
	94	6	Shelly ware, including base (Saxon?)		post-Roman
14	59	1	Bone		
16	994	53	Bone		
	40	2	Slag (could be either Fe or Cu)		
	12	2	Grey ware		
	347	11	Shelly ware jar		
19	366	24	Bone (miscellaneous)		
	325	1	Tegula, with dark colour wash		
	73	4	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware, wide mouthed jar		
	236	6	Nene Valley Grey Ware, narrow mouthed jar	Abraded	
	58	5	Shelly ware		
	8	1	Grey ware flange-rimmed bowl/dish with dark grey colour coat		
	9	1	Cream ware Flagon with shoulder rouletting and light grey colour coat		
	9	1	Fine, grey ware narrow-necked jar with burnished decoration		
24	192	3	Bone (bovine)	Butchered	
	517	5	Tile: 3 frags. tegulae (include. 1 frag. Shelly), 1 frag. Imbrex with top surface colour wash, 1 frag. box-flue		
	18	3	Mortar		
	3	1	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware	Abraded	3rd/4th century
	6	2	Nene Valley Grey Ware	Abraded	3rd/4th century
26	6	1	Bone		
	51	4	Mortar		
30	78	16	Bone		
	227	1	Tegula		
	9	1	Organic-tempered jar base		late Iron Age?
	100	5	Nene Valley Grey Ware		
	6	1	Grey ware jar		
	10	1	Shelly ware jar		
31	476	9	Bone (bovine)		
	21	2	Cream ware with remains of grey colour wash, flagon or narrow-necked jar		1st-2nd century
	14	1	Hard grey ware narrow-necked jar, with burnished dark grey "fuming"		
	53	10	Shelly ware, hand-made - small fragments (Maxey?)		post-Roman
	8	1	Organic tempered ware, hand-made		

33	2	2	Flint blades		
	14	2	Bone (bovine)		
	901	3	Tile: 1 tegula, with chamfered underside margins, 2 plain frags		
	51	1	Nene Valley Grey Ware bowl, base fragment		3rd/4th century
	6	1	Nene Valley Grey Ware jar	Burnt	3rd/4th century
	30	1	Mortarium rim fragment		
34	569	9	Tile: 4 tegulae, 3 imbreces, 1 shelly bipedalis, 1 tile		
	28	6	Bone (bovine)		
	27	4	Nene Valley Grey Ware		
	41	6	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware, incl. 1 sherd with painted decoration		
	26	1	Oxidised ware handle (flagon?)		
	59	4	Shelly ware (St.Neots?)		post-Roman
38	40	8	Bone	incl. 1 burnt frag.	
	36	1	Shelly ware (poss. Harrold Ware)		3rd/4th century
	5	1	Shelly ware		late Iron Age?
41	2	1	Grey ware, small jar		
42	139	3	Bone (bovine)		
	237	6	Shelly ware, hand-made (Maxey?)		post-Roman
	7	2	Tile: brown/grey fabric	Very abraded	
43	17	1	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware		
	22	2	Nene Valley Grey Ware		
	5	1	Shelly ware		
	1	1	Bone	Burnt	
47	10	4	Bone		
53	64	2	Imbrex	Abraded	
55	332	1	Bone (bovine mandible)		
	2	1	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware		
	5	1	poss. Oxfordshire colour coated ware	Abraded	
60	11	2	Shelly ware		
64	423	13	Bone: 2 shafts, poss. Worked; dog mandible; 1 burnt frag.	Some worked or burnt	
	478	3	Hearth slag		
	886	14	Nene Valley Grey Ware, bowls and jars (1 with stamped decoration), dish (almost complete)	Abraded	
	344	3	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware; 1 flagon, 1 wide-mouthed jar, 1 jar or Castor Box frag., 1 bowl ("dog dish", v. Abraded and burnt)	Abrasion and burning	
	7	3	Grey ware		
	21	3	Flagon		
	52	4	Shelly ware	Exterior sooting	
	76	5	Shelly ware (Harrold Ware)		3rd/4th century
	25	2	Tile	Abraded	
	146	1	Tile, with dark brown colour-wash		
	52	3	Tile, tegula		
66	5	5	Bone		
	3	3	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware, with painted decoration		
68	7	3	Oxfordshire colour coated ware		
	34	8	Bone		
	69	3	Nene Valley Grey ware		
	12	2	Nene Valley Colour Coat ware, incl. 1 frag. of folded beaker		
	32	5	Shelly ware (hand made), incl. rim or lug/handle		Prehistoric?
	49	8	Shelly ware, jar base		
	90	4	Shelly ware (poss. Maxey/St.Neots?)		Post-Roman
70	179	2	Tile: 1 Imbrex, 1 Tegula (abraded and poss. reshaped)	Abraded	
	101	1	Fe slag		
	55	1	Nene Valley Colour Coat lid or Castor Box base	Very abraded	
	14	1	Grey ware jar rim		
71	21	2	Shelly ware		
	21	1	Oxidised jar with cream/buff external colour-wash and flat topped rim (lid seating?)		
72	448	4	Tile: 1 frag. Imbrex, 1 frag. flat tile 30mm thick with dark grey colour wash on both sides, 1 shelly frag.	Very abraded	
	35	5	Reduced ware wheel-made flanged-rim bowl (prob. BB2)		3rd/4th century

APPENDIX II – Context List

Context No.	Trench	Description	Above	Below	Finds
1		Topsoil			
2	1	Surface cleaning Trench 1			
3	6	Brown clay silt	4	34	Bone and pot
4	6	Gully	-	3	
5	6	Dark yellowish brown clay silt	6	34	Bone and pot
6	6	Gully	-	5	
7	6	Pit	13	9	
8	6	Natural			
9	6	Dark yellowish brown silty clay	7	34	Bone and pot
10	6	Natural			
11	6	Natural			
12	6	Posthole	-	13	None
13	6	Silty sand and gravel	12	7	
14	5	Dark yellowish brown sandy silt	15	70	Bone
15	5	Shallow ditch	-	14	
16	6	Brown clay silt	32	34	Bone and pot
17	6	Pit			
18	6	Ditch			
19	6	Brown clay silt	18	34	Bone and pot
20	6	Gully	-	21?	
21	6	Not excavated			
22	6	Brown clay silt	23	34	None
23	6	Shallow ditch	24	22	None
24	6	Dark yellowish brown clay silt	25	23	Tile and mortar
25	6	Dark yellowish brown clay silt	26	24	None
26	6	Dark brown sandy clay silt	27	25	Bone and mortar
27	6	Ditch	-	26	
28		Not excavated			
29		Not excavated			
30	6	Dark brown sandy silty clay	31	34	Bone, pot, stone, tile
31	6	Dark brown sandy clay silt	36	30	Bone, pot, stone
32	6	Dark brown clay silt	35	16	Bone and pot
33	6	Cleaning across 22 and 24	22 & 24	1	Bone, pot, tile
34	6	Surface cleaning Trench 6			Bone, pot, stone, tile
35	6	Dark yellowish brown silty sand and gravel	17	32	None
36	6	Ditch	-	31	
37	6	Dark brown clay silt		34	None
38	6	Dark yellowish brown clay silt		34	None
39	6	Very dark grey brown clay silt	40	34	None
40	6	Gully	-	39	
41	6	Dark grey brown clay silt		34	None
42	1	Dark brown clay silt			Bone and pot
43	1	Dark brown clay silt			Bone and pot
44	6	Very dark grey brown clay silt			
45	6	Dark brown clay silt	46	34	None
46	6	Gully	-	45	
47	6	Dark brown clay silt			
48	-	Number not used			
49	-	Number not used			
50	-	Number not used			
51	3	Dark brown sandy silt	52	71	Pot
52	3	Shallow ditch	-	51	
53	4	Dark brown sandy silt	54	72	Pot and tile
54	4	Ditch	55 & 57	53	
55	4	Dark brown sandy clay silt	56	54	Bone and pot
56	4	Narrow gully	-	55	
57	4	Very dark grey brown sandy silty clay	58	54	None
58	4	Ditch	-	57	
59	-	Number not used			
60	1	Dark brown clay silt	61		Pot
61	1	Shallow gully	-	60	
62	1	Very dark grey brown clay silt	63		Bone and pot
63	1	Ditch	64	62	

64	1	Dark brown sandy clay silt	65	63	Bone and pot
65	1	Pit	-	64	
66	1	Very dark grey brown sandy silt	67		Pot
67	1	Gully	-	66	
68	1				
69		Number not used			
70	5	Surface cleaning Trench 5			
71	3	Surface cleaning Trench 3			
72	4	Surface cleaning Trench 4			

