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Report No. 284

**Evaluation Excavation of Allotment Gardens, Creake Road,
Burnham Market**

Andy Crowson

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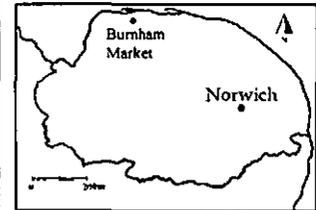
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Location:	Allotment Gardens, Creake Road, Burnham Market
Grid Reference:	TF 8359 4185 (c)
SMR No:	32791 BVM
Date of Work:	16.06.97 - 29.06.97



Summary

Archaeological investigation of allotment gardens situated to the west of Creake Road in Burnham Market was required in advance of a proposed housing development. Evaluation excavation of the affected area demonstrated substantial survival of archaeological remains across the whole of the site. Sealed beneath a sandy overburden, features and deposits produced evidence dated predominantly to two distinct periods: between the second- to-third centuries AD and the tenth-to-fourteenth centuries AD. Roman features comprised essentially ditches aligned from east-to-west in the south-west of the site. Late Saxon and medieval activity was represented by a grid-like layout of ditches, perhaps including a major east-to-west land division, (at least) one post-hole building and a number of pits.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Norfolk Archaeological Unit staff conducted an archaeological evaluation of the allotment site on behalf of clients Hector's Housing ahead of proposed housing construction within the plot (Fig. 1). The project was carried out according to a Brief and Specification issued by the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology Section (Appendix 1) and to comply with a Methods Statement prepared by Norfolk Archaeological Unit (Appendix 2).

1.2 The site is situated on the south side of the modern village in a rectangular plot between Back Lane to the west and north and Creake Road to the east. It is suspected that these roads are of some antiquity, with origins in the medieval period at the latest.

1.3 The allotments occupy a position on the southern valley side of what is now a small stream flowing from west-to-east through the village. This joins with the river Burn which drains into the North Sea. A 10m contour runs through the site, north-west-to-south-east; fairly steeply-ascending slopes to the east and south cradle the site at their confluence.

1.4 Archaeological work was required to build on existing knowledge of an area suspected to be of considerable regional importance from the Early-to-Late Saxon period. A comparative lack of investigations of any kind in the south of the modern built-up area made the allotment site an especially attractive target for excavation. The project aimed specifically to recover evidence of the original site of the village of Burnham Sutton, assumed to be focused around the ruined church of St Ethelbert.

1.5 The site archive is currently held by the Norfolk Museums Service.

Roman material is also well-represented in the area: the site of a Roman building has been identified west of Mill Farm and Roman pottery (including high percentages of third-to-fourth-century grey wares)is common in most local finds assemblages.

2.4 It is the quantity and quality of Early and Middle Saxon finds from the area, however, which suggest that Burnham was becoming a settlement of some significance and status at this time. Finds from along the river to the north-east of Burnham Market may point to the centre of original settlement activity. Aside from a considerable amount of pottery, high quality metal finds - including objects probably imported from the continent - suggest the presence of important, non-domestic, activity. The character of these finds could indicate the existence of a trading centre (which did not survive) on the west and south of the river Burn from the Middle Saxon period onwards. This raises the possibility of comparison with other early ports of trade known as 'wics'.

3.0 Method

3.1 Ten separate trenches (T1 - T10) were opened within the affected area (Fig.2). These were aligned from north-to-south and staggered across the site; three trenches were located along the eastern side, four down the centre and three parallel with the western side. This aimed to test as many parts of the plot as possible within the 2% sample permitted by the Brief. Each trench measured approximately 10m long x 1.50m wide.

3.2 Initial excavation was carried out by JCB with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. Topsoil and other overburden (see below) was stripped down to a level at which natural subsoil or archaeological features were recognised. Exposed surfaces and spoil heaps were prospected with a metal detector. All trench floors were hand-cleaned along with trench sides as necessary.

3.3 Archaeological features were sample excavated to retrieve dating evidence and details of form and in-filling: segments were cut across linear features at appropriate intervals and pits and post-holes were half-sectioned. Spoil from features was scanned for metal finds with a metal detector. All features and deposits were recorded on Norfolk Archaeological Unit pro-forma sheets. Plans were made at 1:20 scale and sections drawn at 1:10. Colour and monochrome photographs were taken of each individual feature and deposit.

4.0 The Excavation

4.1 Across the whole of the site an homogeneous mixed deposit - of medium brown sand (sometimes loamy) with flints and occasional chalk pieces - was seen to underlie c. 0.30m of cultivated topsoil. Its depth was generally between 0.30 - 0.45m, but varied from only a few centimetres thick in the south-west corner of the site (T10, a high point) to as much as 0.65m in the north-west corner (T8, a low-lying point). Whilst it was strongly suspected that features may be cut through this deposit (from somewhere within its profile if not necessarily from its surface) identification of such was extremely unclear and therefore not a realistic target given the constraints of trench excavation and limitations of site-time.

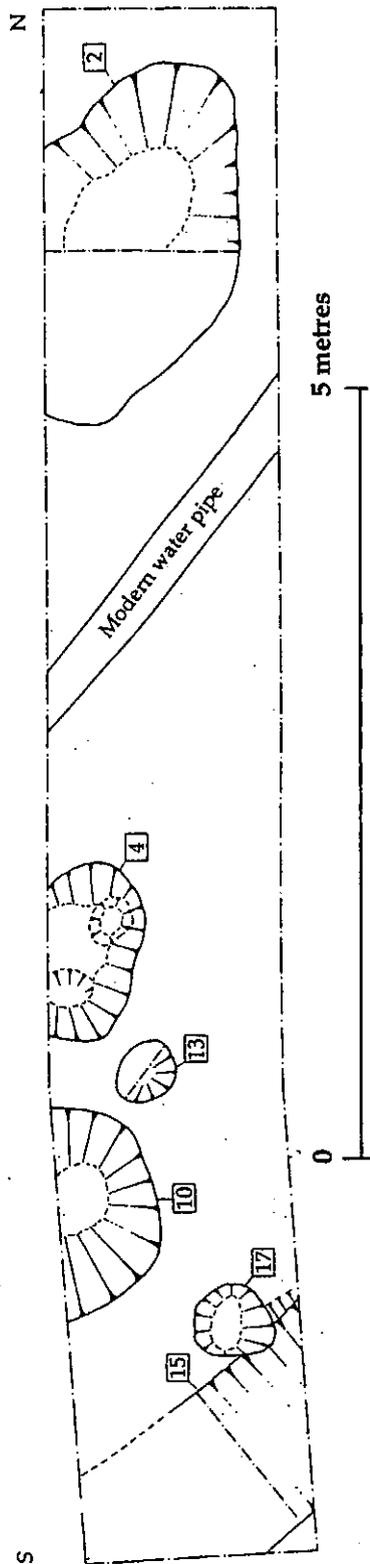


Fig. 3 Plan of Trench 1 Scale: 1:50

4.4.2 In the south-eastern corner of the trench a small part of a probable linear feature [15] aligned from north-east-to-south-west was sampled (Fig. 4). Measuring just over 1m wide and 0.25m deep, the excavated segment showed a gently sloping profile and rounded base. It appeared to have been rapidly back-filled, containing a sterile leached fill [16] of sand and flint. The fill produced a gritty Grimston Thetford-type ware sherd dated to the tenth-to-eleventh centuries and a piece of fired clay. Immediately alongside the ?ditch to its north, a small, sub-circular post-hole [17] became evident only during excavation. Whilst it was felt that the post-hole might be the earlier feature, the stratigraphic relation between the two was too indistinct to be certain.

4.4.3 Post-hole [17] measured 0.50m in diameter and its steeply-sloping sides descended 0.30m to a flat, sloping base. It contained a dark-medium brown sand with no evidence of a post-ghost within the stony soil. A single sherd of Roman grey ware pottery was found in the fill, but this piece is abraded to such a degree that it is felt to be a residual item in a later context.

4.4.4 A second post-hole [13] was located c. 1.30m to the north-east of [17]. Whilst it is possible to speculate that the two together form part of a larger structure (any others in the group could quite feasibly lay outside the limits of excavation), it would be imprudent to make too bold a case for a timber building based on the present evidence. Post-hole [13] tended to an oval plan 0.42m across and was comparatively shallow with gently-sloping sides and a narrow, slightly pointed, base. It was filled with a medium brown sand made loose by the quantity of flints within it. These stones did not appear to provide the required packing around a timber post, but were more likely the result of in-filling/collapse into the void left by an uprooted/demolished upright.

4.4.5 Three ovular pits [2], [4], [10], generally with their longest axis north-east-to-south-west, were excavated along the western edge of T1. Located to the north-west of post-hole [13], feature [4] proved to be the earliest datable pit, gritty early medieval ware suggesting an eleventh-to-twelfth-century in-filling. The smallest of the group, at 1.20m long and only 0.22m deep, it had a very irregular and uneven concave base cut deeper through sandy subsoil and less so where chalk was encountered. It was predominantly filled with angular flints of all sizes, contained in a pale-medium brown sand with chalk flecks [5]. There was a marked lack of organic material in the fill and a single back-filling event is thought likely.

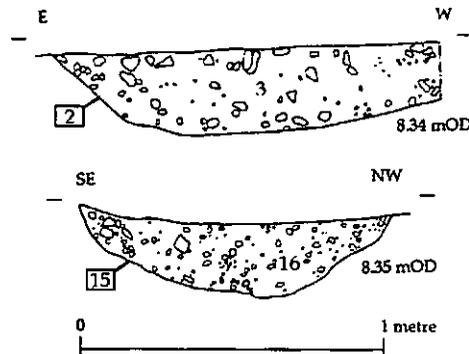
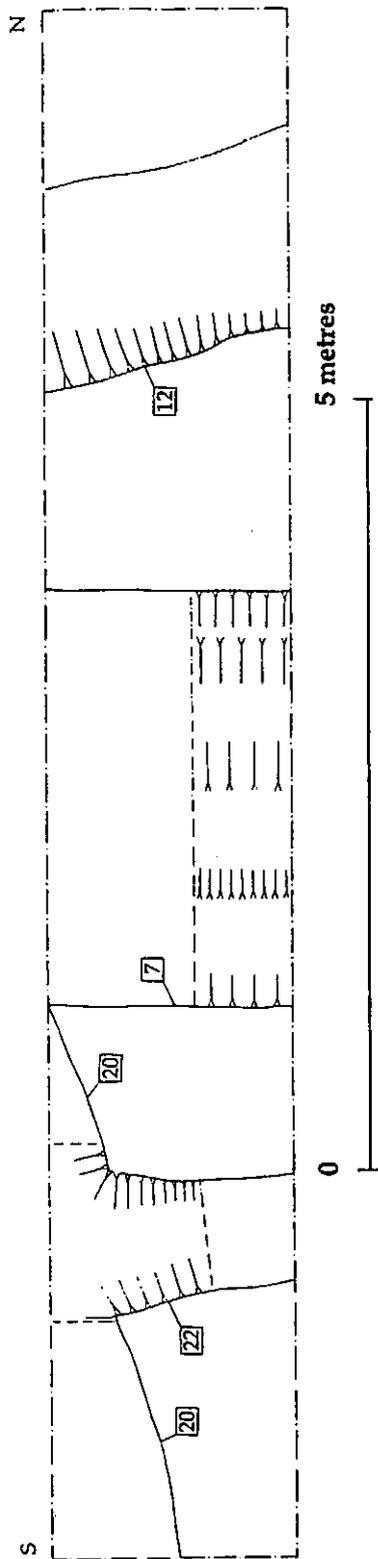


Fig. 4 Sections through pit 2 and ditch 15.
Scale 1:20

4.4.6 To the north, the largest of the three pits [2] measured some 2.50m long and 1.30m+ across (Fig. 4). It had very gently-sloping sides down to an uneven, rounded base. The feature contained a single, sterile fill [3] of brown sand with abundant flints and small lumps and flecks of chalk. The presence of natural chalk within this and other fills illustrates contemporary digging into the subsoil. The nature of the fill suggests a purposeful back-filling with available soil rather than, for instance, progressive erosion of the sides of a long-open feature. A small lead spindle whorl was found by metal-detecting the unexcavated portion of the feature. Although Thetford-type and Grimston Thetford-type Wares were found, early medieval wares indicate a later date for the pit of c. twelfth-to-thirteenth century.

4.4.7 A piece of lava stone, but no datable material, was recovered from pit [10], situated on the western side of the trench between post-holes [13] and [17]. In appearance it was very similar to its neighbours with gently sloping sides down to a small concave base, filled by medium brown sand with frequent flints and small chalk lumps [9]. It was also of a size comparable to pit [4], measuring 1.40 x 0.70+ x 0.23m.

4.4.8 Interpretation of the function of the three pits is not straightforward: even though only the lower profiles of the features has been excavated their shape seems ill-suited to many of the more common uses for pits, and their contents betray no visible evidence of either in-pit working or storage. They all show signs of deliberate in-filling, without natural accumulation or erosion of material along the edges and base. One possibility is that they may be small quarry pits for either sand or chalk, and once extracted they were promptly back-filled with spoil and some domestic rubbish.



4.5 Trench 2 (Fig. 5)

[10m x 1.60m; 4 ditches]

4.5.1 Topsoil [8] over T2 produced a single sherd of Roman pottery and two early medieval sherds. Beneath the sandy overburden [25] four linear features - one aligned roughly from north-to-south and the remainder from east-to-west - were identified cutting an orange-brown sandy gravel with occasional patches of chalk [130].

4.5.2 Emerging from the western side at the southern end of the trench, the north-to-south ditch [20] was the earliest dated feature (Fig. 6). It contained a single sherd of Grimston Thetford-type ware of the tenth-to-eleventh centuries. It proved quite shallow, no more than 0.20m deep, and around 0.80m wide (although the feature was not excavated to full width). The ditch had quite steep sides, a gently rounded base and was filled by a light brown silty sand with occasional gravel and larger flints [19] which yielded a fragment of animal bone.

4.5.3 Ditch [20] was cut by a later linear feature [22] (Fig. 6). This ditch, the southern-most of the three aligned from east-to-west, measured over 1.0m wide and c. 0.60m deep. The ditch sides sloped fairly steeply to a flat base. It was just possible to trace the edges of the feature up through the sandy overburden [25] in the east-facing trench section, although they became increasingly indistinct higher up the profile; the dark brown silty sand [21] infilling the feature was very similar to the make-up of the overburden. Large flints and fine silty sand at the base seem to represent primary weathering and erosion of the ditch sides and suggest that the feature remained open for some time before being back-filled. Numerous pot sherds spot dated on site to the twelfth century were collected from fill [21], but unfortunately 'went missing' before they could be removed for storage.

Fig. 5 Plan of Trench 2. Scale 1:50

4.5.4 Ditch [7] ran from east-to-west approximately through the centre of T2 (Fig. 6). It possessed a stepped or 'shouldered' profile with a shallow ledge on its southern flank and a steeper edge to the north. Its total width was 1.65m and it measured 0.58m deep. It was filled by silty sand with flint gravel and occasional chalk pieces [6] and, like ditch [22], it contained more silty material and large flints on its flat base. The ditch has been spot dated by ceramics from its fill to the late twelfth-to-thirteenth century. A small complete chalk spindle whorl was also recovered from [6] along with three pieces of slag, two pieces of lava, animal bone and seafood shells.

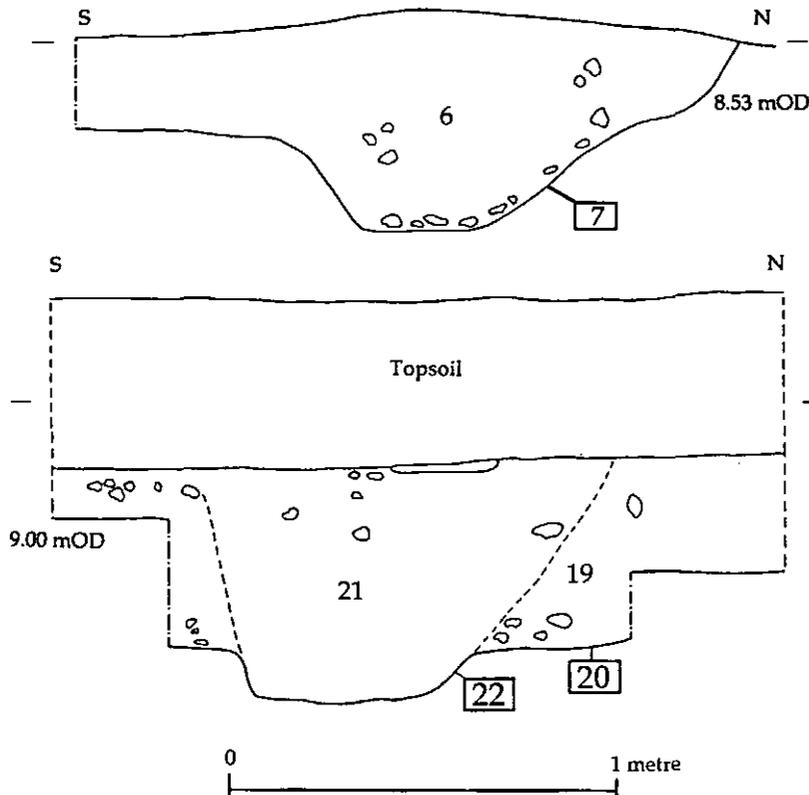


Fig. 6 Sections through ditch 7, and ditches 20 and 22. Scale 1:20

4.5.5 The final feature in T2, ditch [12], was dated (by a similar pottery assemblage to that from ditch [7]) to the late twelfth-to thirteenth century. Laid out roughly from east-to-west at the north end of the trench, it measured 1.20m wide and 0.30m deep. Its sides were variable - cut steeply at the east end of the segment and more gradual to the west - with an irregular base. Similar to the other ditches, its fill [11] of silty sand and gravel became increasingly silty towards the bottom. The deposit produced five fragments of animal bone and is thought to represent primary weathering and accumulation.

4.5.6 Although the ditches would evidently have assisted drainage of what was already a light soil, water management does not appear to have been their fundamental purpose. Their fills do not appear to contain water-borne sediments and are more characteristic of deliberate in-fill (perhaps including banked spoil from their initial digging) than of gradual accumulation. The three east-to-west ditches share a physical nature and a medieval date and can perhaps be seen as replacing an earlier north-to-south system of land division within the plot ([7] and [12] contain

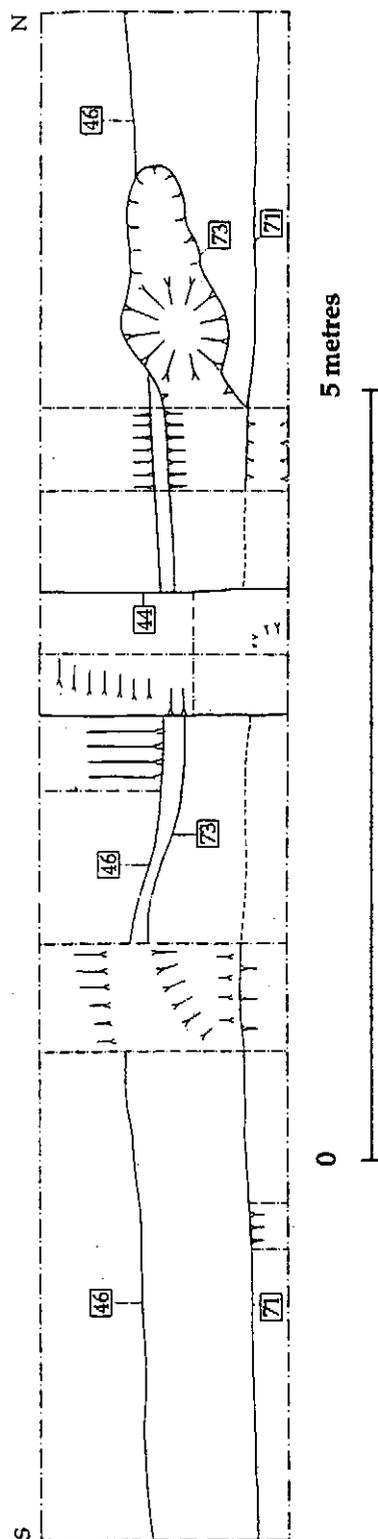


Fig. 7 Plan of Trench 3. Scale 1:50

was somewhat inconsistent in its appearance with moderate-to-steeply-sloping sides and a flat, elsewhere pointed, base. It survived to differing depths, averaging c. 0.30m. It contained a mixed fill of mid-brown loamy sand with occasional gravelly patches [45]. Along the edges and towards the base small-grade gravel indicated weathering of the open ditch sides.

residual Late Saxon and early medieval pottery, the result of continued occupation and work on the site). The ditches are positioned at approximate right angles to the Creak Road and may act as successive property boundary or land use markers. From the evidence seen in the section of ditch [22] they were originally quite deep features with the upper parts of the profiles now largely lost to the agents creating overburden deposit [25]. Given its size, ditch [7] in particular may be fundamental to the pattern of north/south land division within the plot.

4.6 Trench 3 (Fig. 7)

[10m x 1.60m; 4 ditches]

4.6.1 Trench 3 was located towards the south-east corner of the site. Although a piece of fired clay and an iron pin were found in the topsoil [57] no finds were recovered to provide dating evidence for the deposits and features recorded here. Below topsoil and the intermediate overburden [74], ditches were the only feature-type identified. Three ditches inter-cut through orange-brown sand and gravel [75] and aligned from north-to-south were cut by a later east-to-west linear feature.

4.6.2 Phasing of the ditches relied on stratigraphic evidence alone and ditch [73] proved to be the earliest in the sequence (Fig. 8). With only its truncated base surviving, the feature was shallow, at c. 0.15m deep. Its maximum width was 0.65m, having been cut away to its east by ditch [71]. Both a northern and a southern terminus were established in excavated segments, but it is thought that these represent the remains of irregular depth limits of ditch digging rather than actual end points. The ditch was filled by light brown sand with gravel and pea grit [72] weathered down its edges.

4.6.3 Ditches [46] and [71] ran side-by-side c. 0.75m apart down the western and eastern sides respectively of the trench (Fig. 8). Neither could be excavated to maximum width. Ditch [46] was

4.6.4 Only a narrow segment of its eastern counterpart [71] could be seen in the trench floor. With steep sides and a flatish base it survived to 0.20m depth (Fig. 8). A grey-brown silt with gravel [70] suggested a natural in-filling of the bottom of the ditch profile. As with the other two ditches so far discussed, it is evident that only the very base of this feature was observed: all three would have originally been considerably deeper.

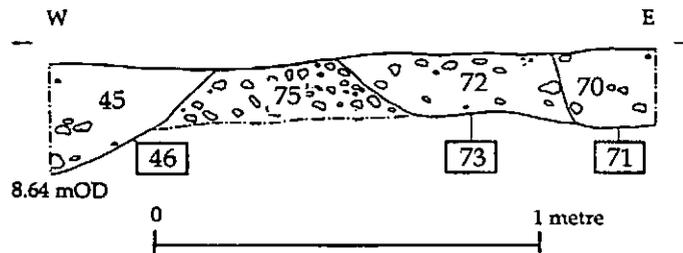


Fig.8 Section through ditches 46, 71 and 73. Scale 1:20

4.6.5 The latest in the sequence, ditch [44], ran across the northern centre of the trench and cut features [46] and [71]. It measured 0.80m wide, 0.26m deep and its moderately-sloping sides formed a tight, concave base. Its single fill [43] was a dark brown sandy loam with occasional gravel, more suggestive of natural accumulation than deliberate back-filling.

4.6.6 Although datable finds were absent from the excavated segments, the sequence of ditch digging in T3 is quite evident, ie. it follows the same pattern as that in T2 to the immediate north, with earlier ditches aligned from north-to-south and later ditches positioned east-to-west. It is not inconceivable that one of the three north-to-south ditches in T3 joins up with that in T2. Again the most appealing interpretation is that they are elements of an agricultural or property division network.

4.7 Trench 4 (Fig. 9)

[9.60m x 1.50m; 1 ditch, 1 post-hole, 4 pits]

4.7.1 The most northerly of the ten trenches, situated as close to the modern street frontage as possible, T4 produced no datable finds from either the topsoil [62] (aside from two prehistoric struck flints) or sandy overburden [90]. A single linear feature, four pits and a small pit or post-hole were identified cut through a subsoil [99] of sand, coarse gravel and chalk at the north end.

4.7.2 The ditch [69] was aligned from east-south-east-to-west-north-west and yielded the only pottery from the trench (Fig. 10). Two sherds of Roman grey ware are considered to be residual in this context (fill [68]), given the presence of an almost complete Late Saxon spiked lamp in the same feature. The ditch measured only 0.67m at its widest point and at 0.20m deep was quite shallow. Its steeply-sloping sides became more gentle to form a rounded, concave base. The feature contained a loamy and humic brown sand with small and medium flints [68] and displayed evidence for a gradual silting up. Its alignment, respecting the street frontage of Back Lane, suggests inclusion with the medieval ditches to the east and

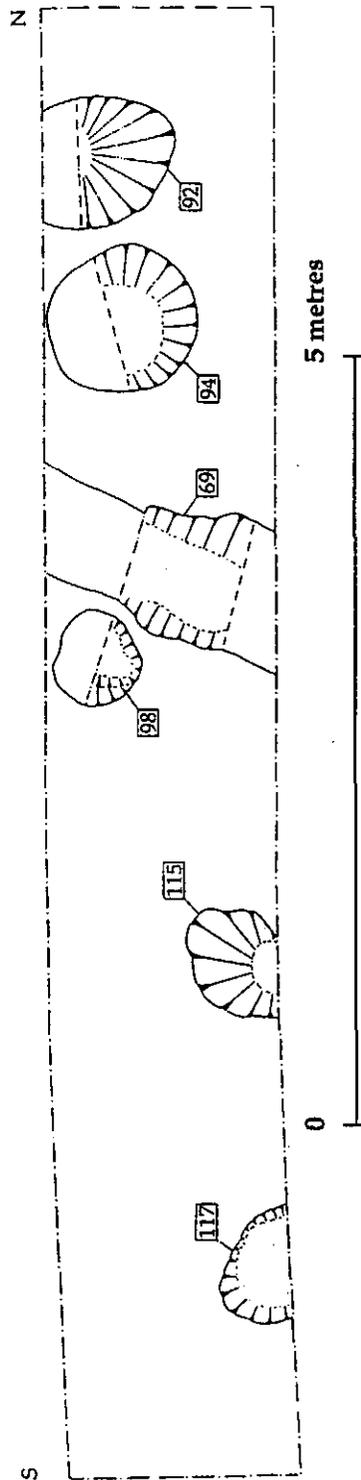


Fig.9 Plan of Trench 4. Scale 1:50

south, but the find of the tenth-to-eleventh century lamp indicates an earlier origin, maybe as part of a ditch system including [15] in T1.

4.7.3 At the north end of the trench were two similar sub-circular pits [92] and [94]. Both measured c. 0.90m in diameter and 0.35m deep. Feature [92] had a steeply-sloping profile to the north, with gentle sides elsewhere and a concave base. It was filled with medium brown loamy sand and flint gravel [91]. Pit [94] immediately alongside to its south, had 'stepped' sides and a flat base. Its fill [93] was comprised of flint gravel, appearing tipped down the edges, in a pale brown sand. The fill also contained chalk 'nuggets' and orange sand inclusions. Both pits [92] and [94] had evidently been back-filled, each with only a single fill and no evidence of silting up or weathering of edges.

4.7.4 Two further pits [115] and [117] were half-sectioned against the eastern edge of excavation in the southern part of the trench. Both tended to an irregular sub-oval shape with generally steep-sloping sides and flat bases. The northern edge of the former [115] had slumped/collapsed inwards, and it contained a fill of orange-brown sandy loam with occasional flints [114]. It measured 0.70m wide and 0.37m deep. Its western edge was somewhat indistinct, however, and proved less steeply cut than elsewhere. The southern end of T4 was badly affected by animal burrowing which hindered feature identification and excavation.

4.7.5 Pit [117] possessed similar dimensions to [115] - 0.77m wide x 0.30m deep - but was defined more clearly. It was filled by a slightly organic pale brown sand [116], and small flints 'trickling' down its southern edge may point to a degree of natural infilling. As with the pits in T1 interpretation of function for the T4 pits remains problematical: the generally sterile nature of the pit fills - the lack of organic matter and finds - indicates that the pits were not used for waste or rubbish disposal. Similarly, the

absence of wood/wattle or clay lining of the edges makes them unlikely candidates as storage facilities. Their characteristically irregular form and single phase back-filling may point to quarrying for sand and gravel.

4.7.6 The remaining feature in T4, a post-hole [98], was located directly to the south of ditch [69]. The two features were sectioned together to determine any relationship. However, at the level at which they were identified only their bases cut through subsoil [99] survived, and any potential relationship that might have been recognised higher up their profiles had been lost. The feature was sub-circular in plan and had generally steep sides with a 'shouldered' edge to the south. It was 0.55m in diameter and 0.16m deep with a rounded base. It was filled predominantly with large flint nodules in a dark brown loamy sand [97], which may feasibly represent stone packing around the base of a timber post. The distortion to its southern edge/profile may be the result of pulling up the post. Whilst the feature seems too substantial to represent part of a fence line, the incidence of only a single post-hole within the limits of the trench makes speculation of a timber-built structure in this area unsound.

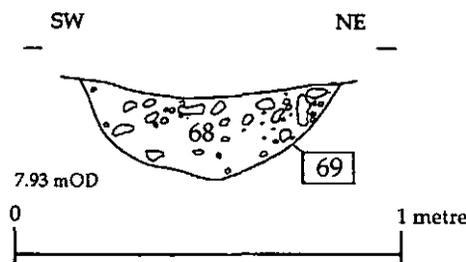


Fig. 10 Section through ditch 69. Scale 1:20

4.8 Trench 5 (Fig. 11)

[10m x 1.50m; 2 ditches]

4.8.1 The only dating evidence produced for T5 was unstratified Romano-British and tenth-to-eleventh-century pot sherds from the topsoil [61]. Beneath sandy overburden [124] two ditches aligned from east-to-west, one cut through the top of the other, were recorded.

4.8.2 The later [127] of the two was a narrow feature 0.50m wide (Fig. 12). It measured 0.45m deep and had a near-vertical-sided U-shaped profile. It was filled by a soft, homogeneous dark brown sandy loam with angular flints [126]. The humic quality of [126] contrasted quite starkly with the typically sterile fills in many features across the site, and may suggest that ditch [127] is quite modern. Whilst its alignment follows the northern side of the earlier ditch [123] below, it is not envisaged that the former is a direct re-cut or replacement of the latter.

4.8.3 Ditch [123] was far more substantial: cut through 'natural' gravel [125] it stretched 2.90m across and attained a depth of 0.75m (Fig. 12). It was filled by a number of deposits most likely derived from silting/accumulation. Fill [122], the primary in-filling, comprised dark orange-brown sand with small flints which appeared to have been washed/eroded into the ditch from the northern side. Overlying this, and reaching the full width of the profile, deposit [128] also appeared to be the product of natural filling up. Constituting brown loamy sand, it contained many flint pebbles and may reflect inward erosion of spoil banks created by the initial ditch digging. The closing fill [129] was also of brown sandy loam, but was markedly less stony.

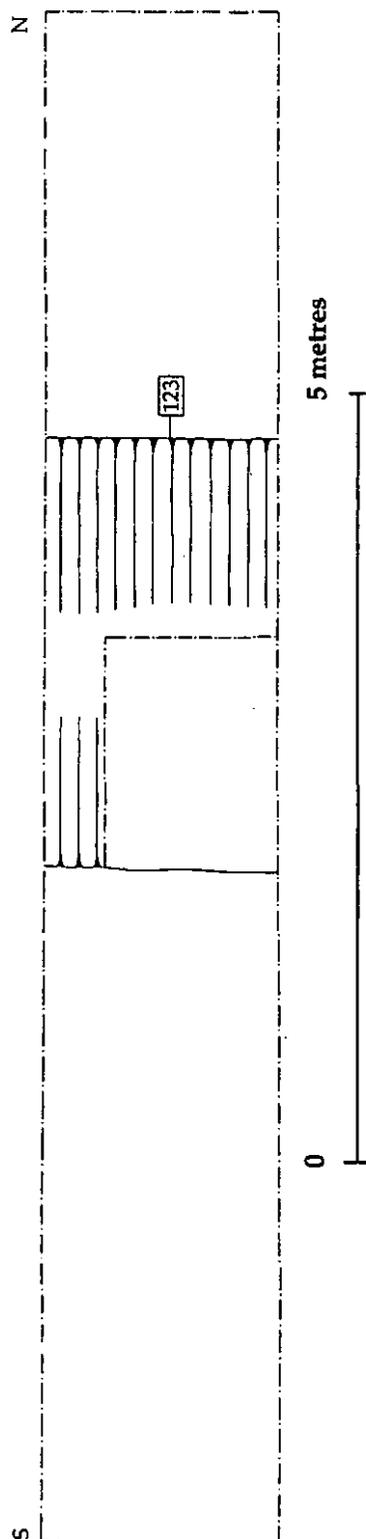


Fig. 11 Plan of Trench 5. Scale 1:50

4.8.4 Ditch [123] was one of the most substantial features recorded on the site. Its size seems over-large to be a drainage or minor land use division line and it is thought that this may represent more fundamental north/south division of the plot bounded by the roads/lanes to the west, north and east. The fact that, unlike many of the features excavated, the ditch filled up naturally, indicates that it was a significant feature allowed to remain open for some time.

4.9 Trench 6

[10m x 1.50m; no features]

4.9.1 Trench 6, in the southern centre of the development area, produced no archaeological finds or features. As in the preceding trenches, sandy grey-brown allotment topsoil [59] overlay an intermediate admixture [120] above 'natural' sand [121]. The sandy overburden [120] was 0.60m deep in this trench; no features could be recognised within it during machining, but its removal may also have removed any shallow features which did not penetrate subsoil.

4.10 Trench 7 (Fig. 13)

[10.20m x 1.50m; 2 ditches, 11 post-holes]

4.10.1 This trench was situated at the south end of the site, close to the modern day plot boundary. Topsoil [26] in T7 produced only post-medieval pottery, pan tile and clay pipe fragments, an unhelpful indicator as to the possible date of the archaeology below. The overburden [78] between topsoil and subsoil [79]/archaeological features was quite thin at this high point, (only 0.20m deep). As in other parts of the site, features may have been cut originally from a level somewhere within this deposit, but could not be recognised in plan during machining. It was recorded as sealing a north-to-south line of eleven post-holes and two ditches.

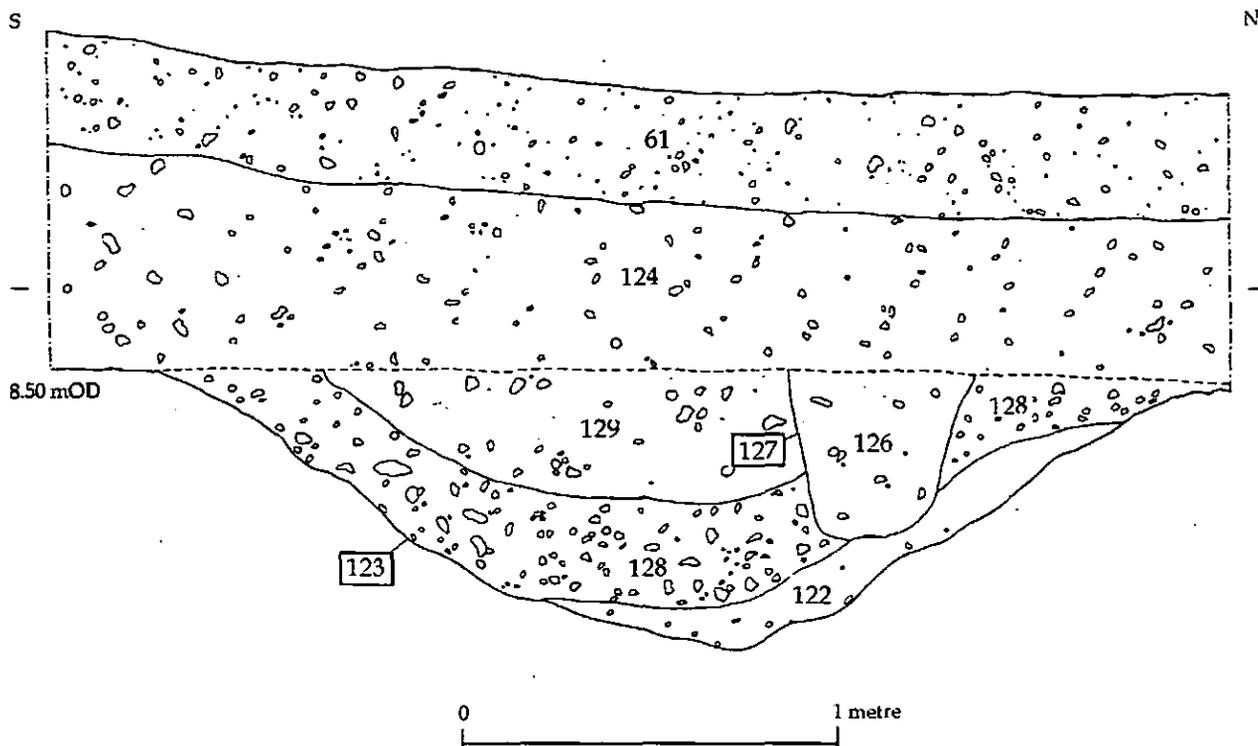


Fig. 12 Section through ditches 123 and 127. Scale 1:20

4.10.2 Stratigraphically, the earliest features were the two ditches [54] and [56] at the north end of the trench (Fig. 14). Both were aligned roughly from east-to-west, with [56] probably serving as a re-cut of [54]. The latter was cut through sand and gravel subsoil [79] and had a wide U-shaped profile with a flat base sloping from south-to-north. It measured 0.65m across and 0.51m deep. The ditch was filled with a pale, sterile, homogeneous sand and gravel with frequent small and medium flints [53] - essentially redeposited 'natural' soil - and produced fired clay, animal bone and oyster shell.

4.10.3 The later ditch [56] had a pronounced V-shaped profile, with a narrow, pointed base, and cut away the centre and southern edge of [54]. Its fill [55] was highly distinct from that of [54], comprising a dark grey-brown loamy sand with considerably fewer flints. With no dating evidence recovered from either ditch it is difficult to group them with any of the other linear features on the site. All that can be said is that they appear to conform to the pattern of an east-to-west land division system within the plot.

4.10.4 The eleven post-holes excavated in T7 are considered as part of the same group: whether they represent one or more timber-built structures or belong to the same period, however, is uncertain without further excavation. What is clear is that nine of the eleven conform to a straight north-to-south line. Four in the southern half of the trench ([28], [32], [34], [40]) and another four in the northern part of the trench ([42], [48], [50], [52]) are fairly equally spaced apart.

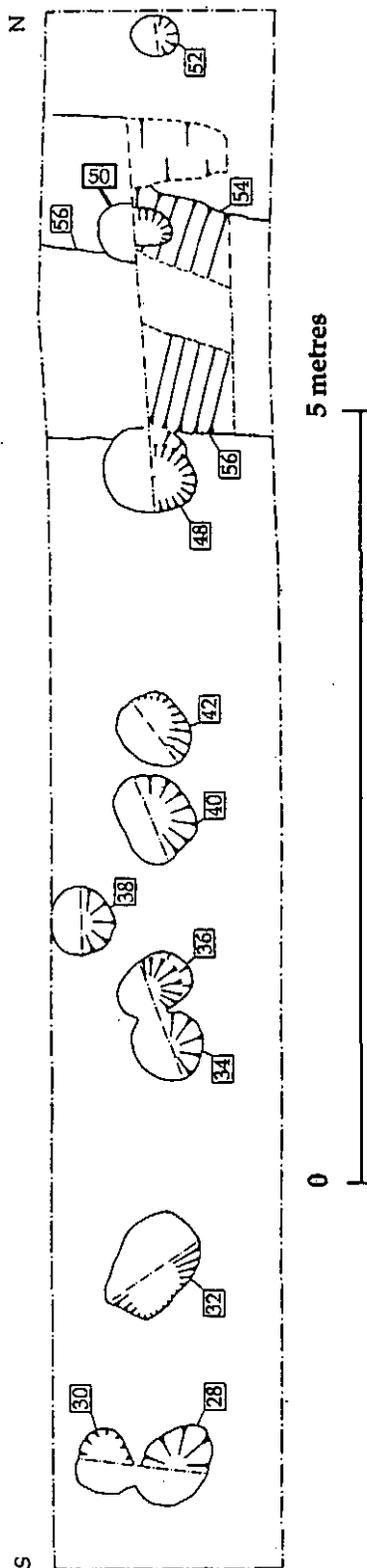


Fig. 13 Plan of Trench 7. Scale 1:50

Whether one post-hole was dug to replace the other or they belong to different structures is uncertain, although the latter option is favoured currently.

4.10.5 At the south end of the trench, two sub-circular post-holes [28] and [30] were identified side-by-side cut through subsoil [79] (Fig. 15). Half-sectioned together, no stratigraphic relationship between the two could be determined. Post-hole [28] contained a single piece of fired clay. Their fills [27] and [29] respectively were both medium brown sands with charcoal flecks, the former with more flints, the latter more loamy. Whilst [28] measured 0.50m across and 0.15m deep, [30] was only 0.39m wide but nearly twice as deep with considerably steeper-sloping sides. Post-hole [30] was situated just to the west of the main north-to-south alignment and may be either the pit from a post replacing [28] or belong to another element of the same or another structure.

4.10.6 Located approximately 1.40m to the north, a sub-rectangular post-hole [32] measured 0.70 x 0.50 x 0.34m (Fig. 15). With somewhat 'stepped' and steeply-sloping sides it was cut through subsoil [79] and filled by an orange-brown loamy sand with charcoal flecks [31]. Although only one soil type could be discerned within the fill, the sectioned feature presented an almost post-ghost appearance: larger flint pebbles occurred around the 'stepped' edges, as though for post packing, whilst smaller grade grit and gravel was seen in the centre of the feature where a post may have stood. Aside from four pieces of undatable fired clay, this feature was the only one of the post-hole group to produce stratified pottery - a probable Thetford Ware sherd dated to the tenth to eleventh century.

4.10.7 A further 1.40m to the north a circular post-hole [34] was excavated with another [36] to its immediate north, both cut through subsoil [79] (Fig. 15). Again, no relationship could be established between the two in section. Each had a medium brown loamy sand fill with charcoal flecks ([33] and [35] respectively), made loose by the quantity of small flints in the soil matrix. Post-hole [34] had a diameter of 0.46m and a gentle, scooped, profile 0.15m deep. Its neighbour [36] tended to a sub-rectangular plan 0.52 x 0.34m with steeper sides and a concave base at 0.20m depth.

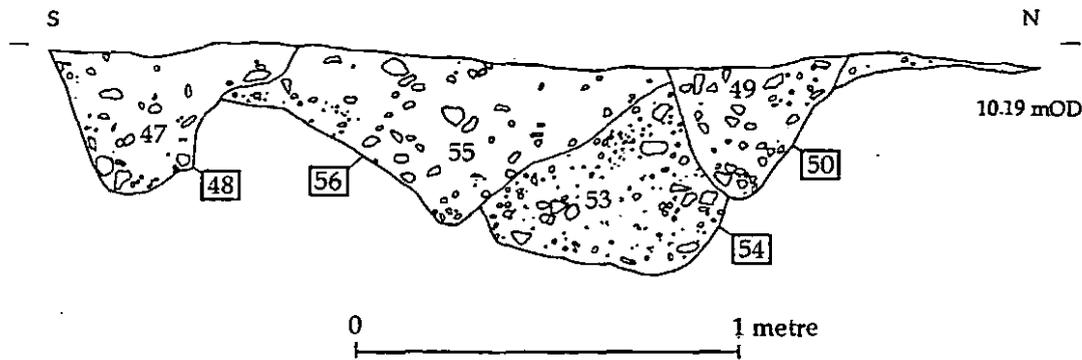


Fig. 14 Section through ditches 54 and 56, and post-holes 48 and 50. Scale 1:20

4.10.8 Located 0.60m to the north-west of [36], a circular post-hole [38] measuring 0.48m across was excavated outside the principal north-to-south line (Fig. 15). Like many of the other post-holes in the trench it contained a fill [37] of medium brown loamy sand with flints and charcoal flecks which produced a piece of fired clay. Cut through 'natural' sand and gravel [79], it had slightly irregular, moderately-sloping edges and reached 0.20m deep. Given the limitations of trench excavation, it can not be determined confidently whether [38] is an element of an east-to-west post line associated with the north-to-south line, or belongs with a completely separate structure.

4.10.9 Post-hole [40] was situated 1.40m north of post-hole [34] (Fig. 15). Sub-rectangular in plan, its dimensions 0.56 x 0.46 x 0.23m were fairly consistent with the other features in the south of the trench. Cut through coarse gravel [79] it had notably 'stepped' and irregular sides down to a flat base. The feature contained an orange-brown loamy sand with flints and charcoal flecks [39]; it appeared similar to fill [31] (post-hole [32]) in as much as there was a higher incidence of gravel around the sides, over the stepped 'shoulders', as though forming stony packing around a central post.

4.10.10 Immediately north of [40], a deep (0.52m) post-hole [42] cutting [79] was excavated along the north-to-south alignment (Fig. 15). Sub-circular, measuring 0.50 x 0.42m, it exhibited very steeply-sloping sides and an abrupt, pointed base. Similar to deposits within the post-holes to the south, it was filled by a brown loamy sand including occasional flint pebbles and charcoal flecks [41] in which a single piece of fired clay was found. It may belong with the remaining post-holes to its north, however, which are spaced 1.60m apart. Taking into account the fact that the tops of the features (?as much as c. 0.20m) have been lost, this would have amounted originally to quite a substantial post-hole.

4.10.11 The following two post-holes to the north, [48] and [50], were also quite sizeable (Fig. 14). Located 1.60m apart, like [42] they had steep-sloping sides and pointed/concave bases. Each was cut through the in-filled ditch [56] and contained grey-brown loamy sands with charcoal and flints ([47], [49] respectively). Fill [47] produced four fragments of fired clay. Post-hole [48] cut the southern edge of [56] and had a partially 'shouldered' profile as though a post had been removed from the north side. It was roughly circular in plan, 0.65m across and reached 0.38m deep. Post-hole [50] measured 0.50m in diameter x 0.35m deep, and its size, general shape and location strongly suggest association with [42] and [48] to the south.

4.10.12 At the extreme north end of T7, a final circular post-hole [52] on the north-to-south line was recorded (Fig. 15). At 0.30 x 0.17m it was the smallest of the excavated group. It was cut through subsoil [79] and showed steep sides with a concave base. The post-hole contained a dark grey-brown loamy sand with occasional gravel [51]. Whilst this feature was as well-preserved as any other in the trench, questions remain over the number, type and date of structures represented.

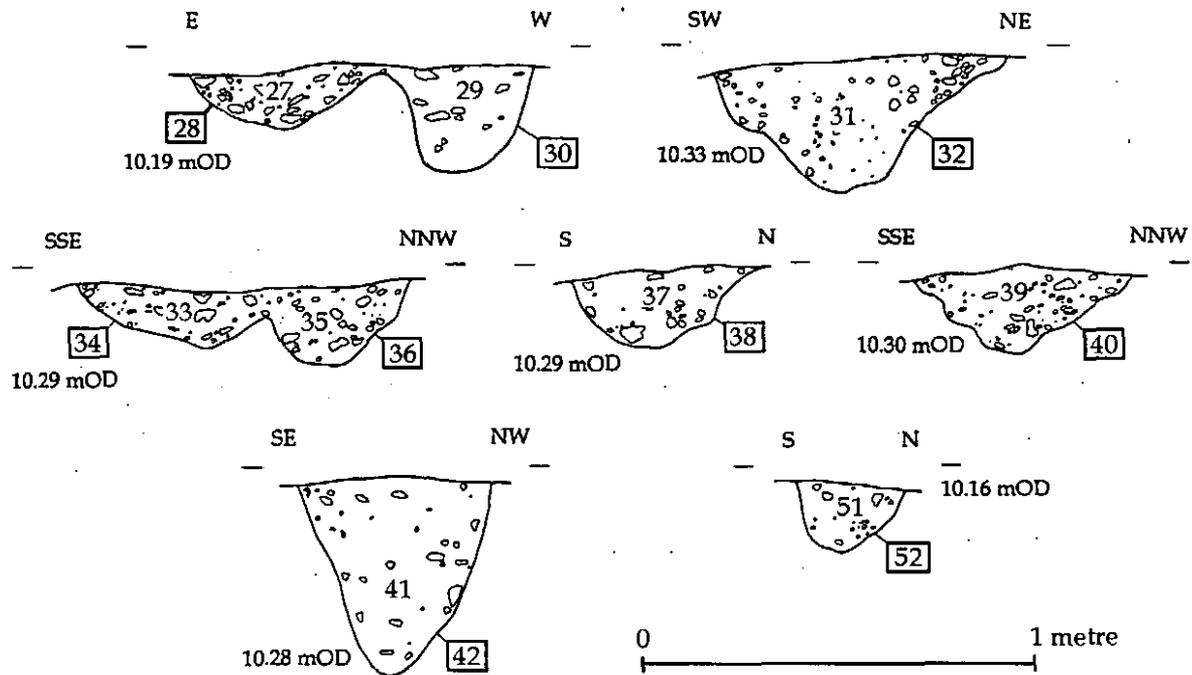


Fig. 15 Sections through post-holes 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, and 52. Scale 1:20

4.11 Trench 8

[8.30m x 1.50m; no features]

4.11.1 In the north-western corner of the site, T8 produced no subsoil evidence of archaeological activity. Neither the topsoil [58] or intermediate sand [118] between [58] and subsoil [119] yielded any datable finds. Deposit [118] was exceptionally deep - 0.65m - in this, low-lying, area of the site. As in T6, the machining of the overburden may have accounted for any features not cut deep enough to penetrate the subsoil. Close inspection of the trench walls revealed no evidence of pits, ditches, or other features, whose presence might be detected in section. This result in itself proves little in regards to the true survival of archaeological features to the north-west. The trench may feasibly have been located within a quarried area, or the processes creating the sandy overburden may have destroyed or masked evidence of historical activity.

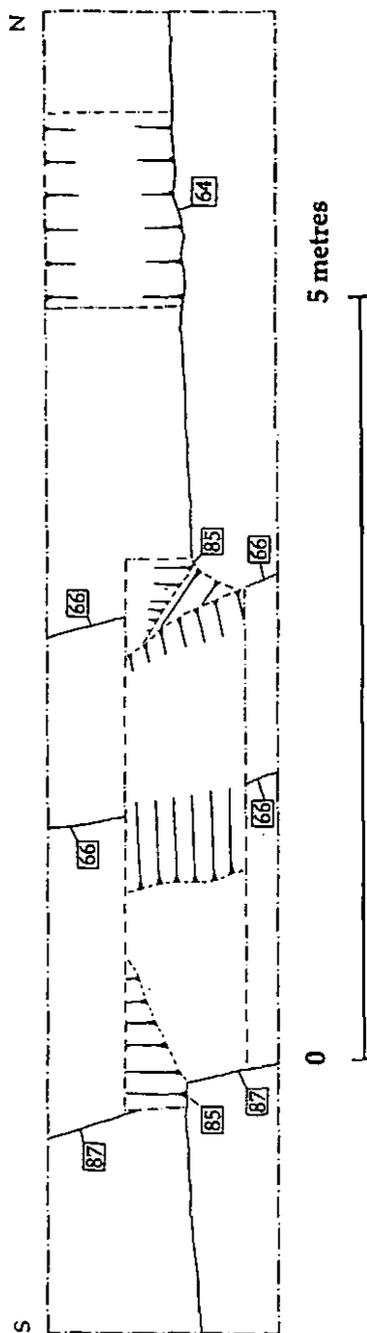


Fig. 16 Plan of Trench 9. Scale 1:50

4.12 Trench 9 (Fig. 16)

[8.70m x 1.50m; 3 ditches]

4.12.1 Situated in the centre-west of the site a single sherd of Romano-British pottery, a pan tile fragment and five pieces of lava stone were retrieved from the topsoil [67]. This overlay 0.45m of sandy overburden [89] which sealed three ditches above 'natural' sand and gravel [88].

4.12.2 The earliest ditch was aligned from north-to-south, running down the entire western side of the trench, and cut subsoil [88]. It was sectioned at two points: a discrete segment [64] in the northern part of the excavation and in the centre-southern part of the trench [85] to demonstrate its relationship with the other two features (Fig. 17). Segment [64] was 0.30m deep and 0.80m wide with its western edge beyond the trench limits. It exhibited a gentle profile with a broad, concave base. Its fill [63] of brown-grey loamy sand with flint pebbles contrasted with the fill [84] of [85] which had a more brown hue and was considerably more stony. The profile of [85] was very similar, with a slightly greater depth of 0.34m. The feature was cut into a slope running downwards from north-to-south: the surface of [64] was some 0.40m lower than that of [85]. Both sections produced second- to third-century Roman grey wares and pieces of animal bone.

4.12.3 Ditch [87] was aligned from east-to-west, cut through ditch [85] and also produced Roman pottery along with ten pieces of animal bone (Fig. 17). It proved to be quite a substantial feature 3.0m wide x 0.62m deep. Its northern edge was very steep down to a flat base, but the southern edge was very shallow and drawn out accounting for 2m of the total width.

The ditch appeared to have been in-filled by natural processes, pale sand and flints [86] weathering in. Subsequent leaching may account for its sterile and barren nature.

4.12.4 Positioned over the northern half of [87], a subsequent east-to-west ditch [66] was cut through its in-filled predecessor (Fig. 17). It is possible that the location of [66] is coincidental and that it is unrelated to [87] - this being difficult to gauge given the limited exposure within the trench confines - but it is currently thought likely that the former is a re-cut of the the latter. Once again, apart from undatable 'building material', animal bone and seafood shell, only Roman pottery was recovered from the feature. Ditch [66] was considerably smaller-scale than ditch [87] measuring 1.25m wide x 0.37m deep. It had moderately-sloping sides and a tight, concave base.

4.12.5 The layout of the T9 ditches is consistent with other linear features investigated across the site. Whilst the dating evidence places them earlier than the T1 - T5 ditches, an organised north-to-south and east-to-west arrangement can be seen to divide the plot from an early date. Property/function division in this instance may again be the most likely scenario.

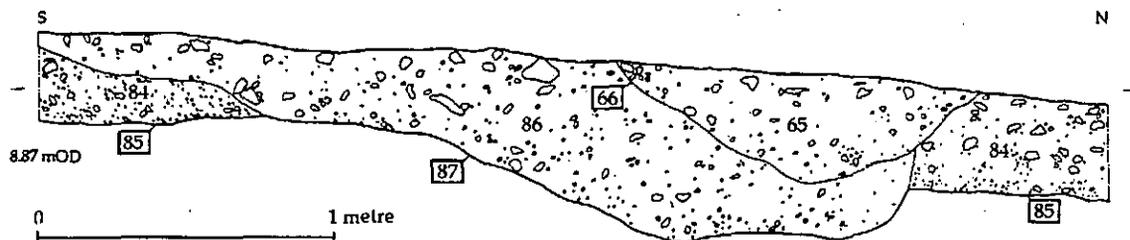


Fig. 17 Section through ditches 66, 85 and 87. Scale 1:20

4.13. Trench 10 (Fig. 18)

[10m x 1.60m; 6 ditches, 2 post-holes, 1 pit]

4.13.1 Trench 10 was positioned to the south-west of the site, a relatively high area. Three Roman and two medieval sherds, along with an undatable iron object and a piece of animal bone, were recovered from allotment topsoil [60]. This overlay a very thin overburden deposit [113]: at no greater depth than 0.10m it was frequently indiscernible from the topsoil. The tops of features survived better in this trench than elsewhere, and were recorded as being sealed by topsoil. A succession of ditches, inter-cut by post-holes, covered the northern part of T 10, whilst other linear features and a pit were cut through subsoil [100] to the south.

4.13.2 In the south-west corner of the trench, a sub-rectangular pit [81] (or possibly the terminus of a north-to-south ditch) was sectioned. Its western end was beyond the limits of excavation, but it was seen to have steeply-sloping sides and a concave base. The maximum excavated width was 0.80m and the feature was cut 0.38m deep. It was filled by [80], a dark grey-brown silty loam, possibly with weathered-in gravel along its east side. The feature produced abundant Roman pottery, including possible continental imports, and domestic material dated between the late second and late third centuries.

4.13.3 To the north of [81], and the first of the six ditches [77] - all aligned from east-to-west - was cut into 'natural' [100] (Fig. 19). A single Roman sherd was also recovered from its fill [76]. The excavated segment showed it to be quite a substantial feature, at c. 1.50m wide and 0.50m deep. It had smooth, moderately-sloping sides and a very flat base. Its sole back-fill [76] was an un-leached grey-brown loam with occasional gravel and many fragments of shell.

4.13.4 Approximately 1m to the north another ditch [96] was cut through subsoil [100] (Fig. 19). It, in turn, was cut on its southern side by ditch [83], through its centre by ditch [103] and by ditch [106] to its north. No dating evidence was recovered from either [96] or any of the features cut through it (however Roman pottery was found in features higher up the stratigraphic sequence). Although mostly cut away by the later ditches Feature [96] remained the largest of all the east-

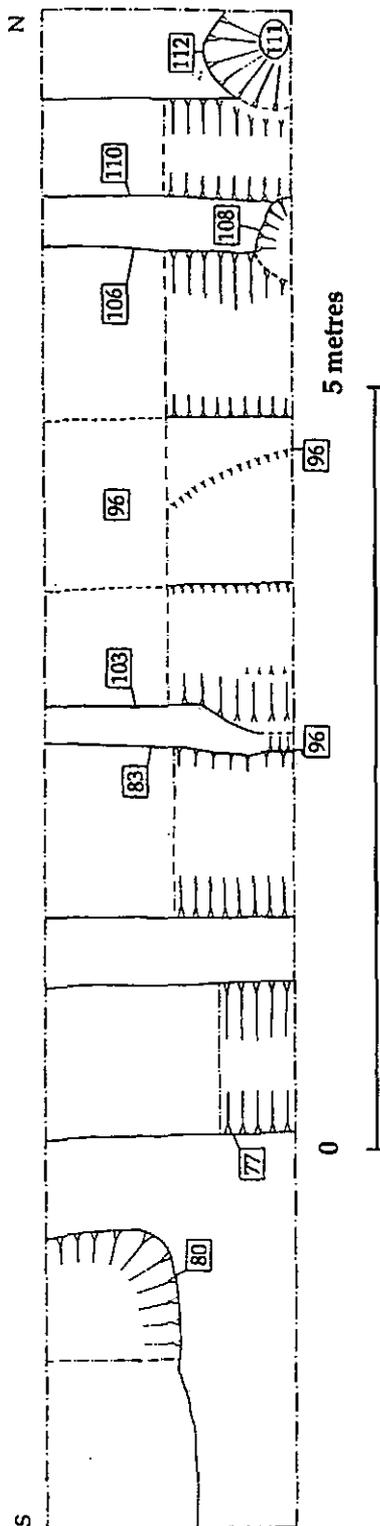


Fig. 18 Plan of Trench 10. Scale 1:50

to-west linears in the group, measuring some 2.0m across and 0.60m deep: It possessed irregular sides, 'stepped' to the south, and a flat base. The fill [95] was a leached orange sand with small grade grit and large flints - probably the primary weathering of the open ditch sides - at the bottom. Some burning had occurred to the south where the edge, in part, was scorched red. Following its in-filling this feature was replaced/re-cut by ditch [103].

4.13.5 This later feature [103] cut through the approximate centre of [96] (Fig. 19). Its edges were difficult to discern all of the way up the trench side section, but appeared steep, producing a regular U-shaped profile 0.80m wide and 0.70m deep. Its upper fill [101] was a thin layer of brown silty loam: this was most likely disturbed and may represent the sandy overburden [113], an ill-defined horizon between feature tops and topsoil. Below [101] a yellow-brown silty sand [102] filled the remainder of the ditch.

4.13.6 A considerably smaller ditch [83] cut the southern edge of [96] (Fig. 19). Presumably the feature was cut from higher than the level at which it survives, but its present dimensions were 0.90m wide x 0.35m deep. It had moderately steep sides, 'stepped' to the south, and a concave base. It contained brown loam with gravel [82]. Although two struck flint flakes were found in the deposit, this is not considered sufficient evidence to attribute a prehistoric date to the ditch.

4.13.7 On the northern side of [96] a ditch sequence of later features was begun by the third ditch to cut it, [106] (Fig. 19). This had an open profile 1.60m wide with a pronounced flat base. Surviving to 0.55m deep, its upper fill [104] was similar to that [101] seen in ditch [103]: a mixed brown silty loam which may have been disturbed/formed by the processes creating overburden deposit [113]. Beneath [104] the principal fill [105] was a buff-brown silty sand with gravel and pea grit eroded in at the base of the ditch.

4.13.8 Ditch [106] was, in turn, cut on its north side by a post-hole [108] (Fig. 19). Sub-circular in plan and 0.46m wide, its eastern side was outside the trench limits. Steep-sided with a pointed base 0.37m deep, it contained a dark sandy loam [107] with flinty gravel collected at the bottom. No finds were retrieved from the feature,

but to its north, second- to third-century ceramics were found in the later ditch [110].

4.13.9 At the north end of the trench ditch [110] cut the northern edge of post-hole [108] (Fig. 19). This was the last in the sequence of east-to-west linear features. It had gently-sloping regular sides and a narrow, flat base measuring a maximum 0.90m wide x 0.44m deep. The ditch contained a brown silty loam [109] with larger flint pebbles than seen in the post-hole to the south. A single sherd of Roman pottery was retrieved from the fill.

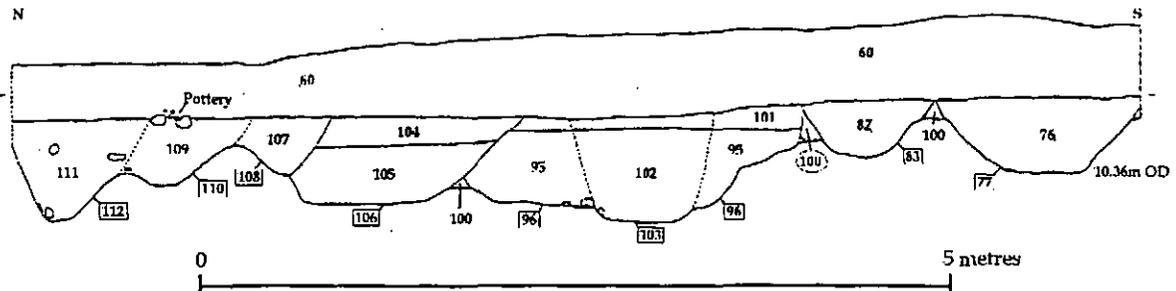


Fig. 19 Section through ditches 77, 83, 96, 103, 106, 110, and post-holes 108 and 112. Scale 1:50

4.13.10 Finally, a large post-hole [112] (or perhaps a pit) was recorded in the north-east trench corner cut into the edge of ditch [110] (Fig. 19). Whilst most of the feature was outside the excavated area, its maximum visible dimensions were 0.90m wide x 0.65m deep. It had steep, regular sides and a small concave base. It was filled by a dark grey-brown silty loam with small grade gravel and occasional larger flints. No evidence of a post-ghost was observed. The feature did, however, produce second- to third-century pottery and animal bone.

4.13.11 Although most of the T10 features failed to yield any dating evidence, pot sherds retrieved from those at the top of the stratigraphic sequence [110] and [112] plus two isolated features [77] and [81] indicate strongly that all activity within the trench can be ascribed to the mid-Roman period. The pottery does not permit any greater definition or phasing of features.

4.13.12 It seems unlikely that the two features recorded as post-holes are related: principally because they are separated stratigraphically by their relationships to ditch [110], but also on grounds of form and in-filling. The ditches, on the other hand, do appear to form a consecutive group. Ditch [96] seems to be (one of) the earliest. Whilst it is superseded by [103], it is also cut away by the digging of [83] and [106] to the south and north respectively. The stratigraphy presented by the section demonstrates that the features become progressively later further north: although a great deal of digging and re-cutting has occurred at this end of the trench to make relationships occasionally difficult to determine, the general premise holds true. It may well be that new ditches were being cut immediately the last one filled up. They may represent a straightforward sequence of replacement and illustrate further (as in T9) the establishment of an east-to-west division of land at an early (pre Late Saxon) date.

5.0 Roman pottery (Alice Lyons)

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of 50 sherds, weighing 0.597kg (43.64% of the total assemblage by weight) of Roman period pottery was retrieved from features and deposits (see Appendix 3 for full details).

Fabric Common Name and Numerical Code	Quantity	Weight (g)	Percentage %
Sandy Grey Ware 97	12	157	26.29
Nar Valley Reduced Ware 17	11	96	16.07
Chalky Ware 59	1	66	11.05
Black Surfaced Red Ware 96	3	54	9.05
Amphora 61	1	50	8.38
South Norfolk Micaceous Grey Ware 27	7	46	7.71
Nene Valley Grey Ware 10	8	44	7.37
Nene Valley White Ware 77	1	36	6.03
Brampton Grey Ware 153	3	30	5.03
Miscellaneous Black Burnished Ware 18	2	14	2.35
Shell Tempered Dales Ware 11	1	4	0.67
TOTAL	50	597	100.00

Table 1. Roman pottery in descending order of percentage of weight.

5.2 Methodology

5.2.1 The assemblage was analysed using the pottery recording procedure described in the Norfolk Archaeological Unit Pottery Recording Manual and following guidelines recommended by the Study Group for Roman Pottery. Based on macroscopic examination and use of a ($\times 20$ power) hand lens all sherds were assigned a fabric type. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme and recorded by context. Each diagnostic sherd was assigned a form type and, where possible, the diameter and percentage of the rims were recorded; presence of decoration, abrasion and sooting were also noted.

5.2.2 All percentages, unless otherwise stated, are of weight.

5.2.3 The pottery and archive are stored by the Norfolk Museums Service.

5.3 Trench 1

5.3.1 Four sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 0.022kg, were recovered from T1.

5.3.2 Roman pottery which was mixed with post-Roman material - and therefore interpreted as residual - was recovered from the topsoil [1] and pit [4]. A small, single sherd of micaceous grey ware (fabric 27) was found within post-hole [17] and its fragmentary nature indicates that this is also likely to be residual.

5.4 Trench 2

5.4.1 Three Roman sherds weighing 0.022kg were collected from T2.

5.4.2 All three sherds are interpreted as residual. A single sandy grey ware sherd (fabric 97) from a medium mouthed jar with a rolled slightly undercut rim (type 4.5) was found in the topsoil [8]. Two fabric 97 vessels with short angular necks and lid-seated or flattened rims (type 4.4) were found with a significant amount of post-Roman pottery in ditch [12].

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 Two sherds of Roman pottery were retrieved from T4 weighing 0.008kg. These, found within ditch [69], were of micaceous grey ware (fabric 27) and Brampton grey ware (fabric 153). This pottery is not closely datable, but can be ascribed to a broad date range between the mid-second to fourth centuries AD.

5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 A single sherd of a Roman sandy grey ware (fabric 97) was identified from topsoil [61], weighing 0.002kg.

5.7 Trench 9

5.7.1 A total of eighteen sherds weighing 0.229kg was collected from T9. A single sandy grey ware (fabric 97) medium mouthed jar with an undercut rim and globular body (type 4.5.3) was recovered from the topsoil [67]. All the remaining pottery was retrieved from stratified deposits.

5.7.2 Ditch [64] (fill [63]) contained three sherds, weighing 0.012kg. These include a single Nene Valley grey ware sherd (fabric 10) with cross-hatched burnished decoration; a shell tempered Dales Ware (fabric 11) sherd (although relatively unusual in Norfolk this fabric was also found in the near by fort at Brancaster. Andrews 1985); and a small single sherd of sandy grey ware (fabric 97).

5.7.3 Ditch [66] contained eight sherds in fill [65] weighing 0.087kg. One black burnished ware (fabric 18) dish sherd with an internal angle (type 6.21.2) was found. Other finds included two sherds of micaceous grey ware (fabric 27) which had been burnt after the vessel had been broken, suggesting that they were part of a rubbish deposit. Also identified was a Nene Valley oxidised mortarium (fabric 77) with a high bead and well rounded flange (type 7.9.3) dated to the later part of the 2nd century AD. Finally, three sandy grey ware (fabric 97) sherds with two separate types of decoration were recorded: one with an area of external burnish (B.2) and the other with oblique lines of rustication (A.6).

5.7.4 Ditch [87] contained three sherds weighing 0.062kg from fill [86]. A single Nene Valley grey ware (fabric 10) base sherd was recovered (type 102.1) as well as two sherds of undiagnostic black-surfaced red ware (fabric 96). This pottery is not closely datable but can be ascribed to a broad range of late first to third centuries AD.

5.7.5 Ditch [85] contained a total of four sherds, weighing 0.022kg, from its solitary fill [84]. Three fabric 10 undiagnostic body sherds were recovered as well as a

Brampton grey ware (fabric 153) medium mouthed jar with a short neck and rolled slightly undercut rim (type 4.5). Again this pottery is not closely datable but can be given a broad date range between the mid-second and third centuries AD.

5.7.6 The pottery recovered from ditches [66], [85] and [87] is not closely datable and has equally a very similar date range (where one can be assigned). This might suggest that the three ditches were constructed and back-filled in a relatively short period of time, between the mid-second and the early part of the third century AD.

5.8 *Trench 10*

5.8.1 Twenty one Roman pot sherds were recovered from T10 weighing 0.292kg.

5.8.2 Roman pottery was recovered from the topsoil [60] in the form of two micaceous grey ware sherds (fabric 27) and a sandy grey ware (fabric 97) dish. The fabric 27 sherds are both decorated, one with an external burnish and the other with incised horizontal lines; one has limescale on the internal surface indicating that its use for boiling water. The fabric 97 dish has angled sides with an external groove just below the rim (type 6.19.4); this vessel is also burnished on all visible surfaces.

5.8.3 A single Brampton grey ware (fabric 153) body sherd was recovered from the only fill [76] of ditch [77].

5.8.4 Ditch [110] also contained only one sherd, a sandy grey ware (fabric 97) vessel base (type 102). Post-hole [112] contained a single sherd of undiagnostic miscellaneous black burnished ware (fabric 18) and a very abraded sherd of amphora (fabric 61) of probable Spanish origin. Whilst post-hole [112] is stratigraphically above ditch [110], the pottery in each feature is not more closely datable than to between the second and third centuries AD.

5.8.5 The majority of pottery from this trench was recovered from fill [80] of pit [81]. Undiagnostic sherds of Nene Valley grey ware (fabric 10) and black-surfaced red ware (fabric 96) were found. Of more interest was the Nar Valley ware (fabric 17) medium mouthed jar with a short neck and rolled undercut rim (type 4.5.3); this vessel was heavily sooted, decorated with oblique lines of rustication and dates between the late second and late third centuries AD. Also from this feature was a large tripartite handle from an oxidised flagon. This was a distinctive fabric containing abundant large chalk inclusions (fabric 59). The source of this material is uncertain, but is from either the south-east of the country (Essex or Surrey) or a continental import.

5.9 *Dating*

5.9.1 The majority of pottery from this assemblage is not closely datable, but falls within a broad range of mid-second to mid-third centuries AD. It is the lack of distinctive early (first century) and late (fourth century) fabrics and forms that indicates a mid-Roman date, rather than positive evidence for this period.

5.10 *Discussion of the Sources of the Pottery*

5.10.1 The supply of pottery to Burnham Market between the second and third centuries seems to have been dominated by two main fabrics: sandy grey ware (fabric 97) and Nar Valley reduced ware (fabric 17). No specific production centre

for fabric 97 has yet been located; similar wares are known to have been produced at Hevingham and Witton in east Norfolk (Andrew 1985 p. 92-93), but on a small scale, and are unlikely to have supplied markets in the west of the region such as Burnham or Brancaster. Fabric 17 has a well-defined source, from the Nar Valley kilns of Shouldham, Blackborough End and Pentney c. 35km south-west of Burnham Market.

5.10.2 Several of the other fabrics identified are common within Norfolk and well-sourced, such as the Brampton grey wares (fabric 153) or the South Norfolk Micaceous grey wares (fabric 27). While others are common within Norfolk their origin is unknown, such as Black Surfaced Red Wares (fabric 96).

5.10.3 Two of the Roman pottery fabrics originate from the Nene Valley, c. 90km to the south-west of Burnham. Grey, oxidised and fine wares were manufactured at this production centre, although, only the grey and white wares were reaching Burnham. It is interesting that the Burnham population had access to Nene Valley wares but did not utilise its most well-known product. Does this reflect low status of the settlement at Burnham Market in that they could not afford fine wares: a second century date - before the production of colour coats became prolific' or that the size of the ceramic sample is too small to be representative?

5.10.4 A single sherd of shell-tempered Dales Wares pottery was identified; this material is produced within the Yorkshire basin and is quite unusual in Norfolk. Its presence has only been recorded previously at Caistor St Edmund, Caister on Sea and Brancaster. The occurrence of this material at Burnham Market must reflect its close physical relationship to the Saxon Shore fort at Brancaster.

5.10.5 The miscellaneous Black Burnished wares (fabric 18) are common throughout Norfolk and their source has yet to be identified. It is similar to BB2 in fabric, but has a different range of forms. Colchester has been suggested as a possible source (Gurney 1995, 101), but there is also an unpublished kiln producing black burnished wares at Brockdish on the Norfolk-Suffolk border. This material is the same as RW11 in the Brancaster fabric series (Andrews 1985, 93).

5.10.6 Two other pottery fabrics were found: the oxidised ware with chalky inclusions (fabric 59) and amphora (fabric 61) which are both non-local fabrics. Fabric 59 is either a regional or continental import, while fabric 61 probably originates from southern Spain.

5.10.7 It is important to note that no Samian or fine wares of any sort were identified within the assemblage, which is unusual even in a small sample such as this. The pottery consists mostly of utilitarian dishes, jars and mortaria, some of which is sooted and limescaled, good evidence for cooking and water boiling.

5.11 Conclusion

5.11.1 This is a small assemblage which consists entirely of reduced and oxidised coarse wares that date between the second and third centuries AD. The pottery is utilitarian, largely from local and regional sources, and has been used for domestic purposes. Some of the pottery has been burnt subsequent to breakage. This material is consistent with domestic rubbish deposited from a low status Roman settlement.

6.0 Post-Roman pottery (Sue Anderson)

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A total of 107 post-Roman sherds weighing 0.875 kg was collected during the evaluation. Table 2 provides a summary of the quantification. A more detailed list is available in Appendix 4.

Fabric Name	Code	Fabric No.	No.	Wt/g	%
Sandy Ipswich Ware	SIPS	2.32	1	18	
Thetford-type Ware	THET	2.50	33	253	
Grimston Thetford-type Ware	THETG	2.54	6	72	
Total Group 2 (MSax-LSax)			40	343	39.2
Early Medieval Ware	EMW	3.10	28	127	
Early Medieval Ware Gritty	EMWG	3.11	11	48	
Early Medieval Ware Chalky	EMWC	3.12	2	18	
Total Group 3.1 (EMed)			41	193	22.1
Medieval Coarse Wares	MCW	3.20	6	19	
Grimston Coarse Ware	GRCW	3.22	14	282	
Total Group 3 (Med)			20	301	34.4
Unprovenanced Glazed	UPG	4.00	1	14	
Grimston-type Ware	GRIM	4.10	3	11	
Total Group 4 (Med glazed)			4	25	2.9
Transfer Printed Earthenwares	TPE	8.00	1	1	
English Stoneware	ESW	8.20	1	12	
Total Group 8 (Late PMed Wares)			2	13	1.5
Total			107	875	

Table 2. Summary of pottery quantification.

6.1.2 The majority of pottery was Thetford-type ware and medieval coarseware. Early medieval ware was also common, but glazed medieval wares were infrequent and only two sherds of later material were collected.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 Quantification was carried out using both sherd count and weight. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is provided as an appendix to this report. As this is a small group, no attempt has been made to record weights for separate body, base and rim sherds, or to quantify by form. Where possible, rim types and forms have been noted in the list. Thetford Ware forms follow Dallas (1984), Grimston-type Wares were identified from Little (1994), and local medieval

unglazed wares from Jennings (1981). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes (similar to that employed in London and Lincoln) together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. SCCAS pottery quantification forms were used, and the results were input onto dBase V.

6.3 Quantification

6.3.1 The number of different rim sherds in this assemblage was 10 and the EVE was 1.62.

6.4 Middle-Late Saxon pottery

6.4.1 One jar rim sherd in smooth Ipswich Ware was found in a topsoil context [26].

6.4.2 Thetford-type Ware, including Grimston Thetford-type Ware, forms 37% of this assemblage by weight and 36% by count. The EVE for this group was 1.11, a large proportion of the total assemblage. Three forms were identifiable, as a medium jar type AB14 [6], a large ?handled jar type AD/E1 [6] and a spiked lamp type DA [69]. No decorated sherds were found.

6.5 Early Medieval Ware and Medieval coarsewares

6.5.1 The total proportion of medieval coarsewares from this site was 18% by count and 34% by weight. Early Medieval Wares (EMW) consisted of 38% by count and 22% by weight.

6.5.2 Fabrics of both were generally sandy, although two sherds contained chalk. Colours ranged from pale buff to brick red with grey cores, and some sherds of both types were dark grey or black externally. Most of the medieval coarsewares and some of the early medieval wares were probably derived from the Grimston production sites.

6.5.3 Part of a small Thetford-type EMW jar with a simple everted rim was collected from ditch fill 06, and a 'ginger jar' rim was found in the same context. Medieval forms included a jar with a thickened everted rim similar to twelfth- to thirteenth-century Norwich examples, two ?Grimston coarseware bowls, and a large Grimston jar similar to type HJB. Body and base sherds were undiagnostic, but were probably from cooking pots or jars, many showing signs of sooting on the exterior.

6.5.4 Decoration was not common. One possible EMW sherd was coil-built and burnished on the exterior, and one large ?Grimston bowl had slash decoration below the rim.

6.6 Medieval glazed wares

6.6.1 Glazed medieval wares formed 3% of the total weight and sherd count.

6.6.2 Only three Glazed Grimston-type sherds were found, occurring in two ditches and a topsoil layer. There was also one unprovenanced glazed ware, a fine sandy uniform pale grey sherd with light olive green glaze and an applied vertical strip. This may be a Grimston variant, but the fabric is not typical.

6.7 Post-medieval wares

6.7.1 Only two post-medieval sherds were collected. One was a transfer printed whiteware, and the other was a rim from a decorated brown-glazed English stoneware bowl.

6.8 The pottery by trench and feature

6.8.1 Pottery was found in six trenches on the site. The total quantities of pottery from each trench are listed in Table 3 below.

Trench	No.	Wt/g	EVE
1	19	179	0.06
2	72	531	0.76
4	9	93	0.68
5	2	31	0.00
7	3	31	0.12
10	2	10	0.00

Table 3. Quantification by trench.

6.8.2 The largest group of pottery was from ditch 07 in Trench 2.

6.8.3 Fourteen features (including topsoil layers) contained pottery and these are listed in Table 4, together with suggested spot dates.

Trench	Feature	Diagnostic sherds	Spot date
1	Topsoil 01 Layer 23 Pit 02 Pit 04 Linear feature 15	TPE THET THETG/GRCW, UPG EMWG THETG	18th-19th c. 10th-11th c. L.12th-13th c. 11th-12th c. 10th-12th c.
2	Topsoil 08 Ditch 07 Ditch 12 Ditch 20	EMWC, GRCW THET, EMW, GRCW, GRIM THET, EMW, GRCW, GRIM THETG?	11th-12th c. L.12th-13th c. L.12th-13th c. 10th-11th c.+
4	Ditch 69	THET	10th-11th c.
5	Topsoil 61	THET/G	10th-11th c.
7	Topsoil 26 Post-hole 32	ESW THET?	L.18th-19th c. 10th-11th c.
10	Topsoil 60	THET, GRIM	13th-14th c.

Table 4. Suggested spot dates for features.

6.8.4 The post-Roman pottery evidence suggests that Late Saxon features included three ditches and a post-hole (15, 20, 69 and 32 respectively). However, only one sherd was collected from each of these features, apart from 69 which contained several sherds of a single lamp. As the latter was probably broken during excavation, it too can be considered a single sherd. The dating evidence for these features is therefore rather weak.

6.8.5 Only one feature, pit 4, was dated to the early medieval period. Like the Late Saxon features, this contained only one sherd of pottery.

6.8.6 Medieval features included pit 2, ditch 7 and ditch 12. All three contained relatively large groups of pottery, some of which was residual. The latter included

Grimston Thetford-type wares and gritty Early Medieval Wares which are very similar in nature to Grimston coarsewares, and some could potentially have been misidentified. However, there is no doubt that a high proportion of Late Saxon and Early Medieval Wares occurs on the site, and that there was activity of these dates in the vicinity despite the paucity of evidence within features.

6.9 *Summary and Discussion*

6.9.1 The post-Roman pottery consists largely of local wares with a date range of the tenth to fourteenth centuries. Very little material was earlier or later. Much of the material probably came from the kilns in the Grimston area, although some Thetford and Early Medieval Wares may be from further afield, and some of the medieval material has good parallels in Norwich.

6.9.2 The range of forms was typical for the period, and included jars/cooking pots, bowls, jugs and a spiked lamp. Many sherds showed evidence for sooting.

6.9.3 The pottery evidence suggests that there was activity in the area from the Late Saxon period to the thirteenth-century. Although some medieval material – particularly the glazed Grimston ware – could be later than this, its association with other pottery types suggests that it probably falls within the early part of its date range. The pottery is concentrated largely in the north-eastern part of the site, and may be related to road-frontage habitation in this area.

7.0 *Flint (Sarah Bates)*

7.1 Description:

[62] Secondary flake (thin), has irregular re-touch, with finer re-touch or wear near distal end;

hinge fracture

Tertiary flake, thick and short; re-touch near distal end; patinated grey

[82] Secondary flake with irregular re-touch

Secondary flake, sharp, edges crumbling

7.2 This is a very small assemblage with no diagnostic pieces. The small, thick flake from context [62] suggests utilisation of surface flint and is of probable later prehistoric date. The sharp flake from [82] may have been created by being hit eg. by machine.

8.0 *Faunal Remains (Trevor Ashwin)*

8.1 Evaluation trenching yielded an assemblage of 71 pieces of animal bone weighing 0.832kg. This material was collected from thirteen contexts, eleven of them deposits contained by Romano-British and medieval ditches and pits.

8.2 Most of the bone was quite solid and well-preserved, although some individual pieces were heavily eroded or iron-stained. Bones of sheep/goat were identified from eight contexts and cattle from four contexts; one deposit also produced fragments of bones of domestic fowl. Most of the fragments were small (generally on account of breakage in antiquity rather than by archaeologists), and many of the

pieces which could be identified to species were in fact loose teeth or tooth fragments.

8.3 Only two deposits produced context assemblages greater than 100g in mass. Context [82] (ditch [83]) contained several pieces of cattle and sheep/goat bone (including an entire s/g femur); superficial knife-cut marks could be seen on two of the sheep/goat bones. Context [86] (ditch [87]) was faunally the most prolific deposit, the total of 0.506kg amounting to 60.8% of the entire site assemblage. Bones recovered from this context included two complete cattle bones (a metatarsal and an immature, unfused ulna), as well as a cow scapula which displayed possible signs of canid gnawing at its distal end.

9.0 Conclusion

9.1 The primary importance of the allotment site evaluation has been to demonstrate the existence of extensive and stratified archaeological deposits across the majority of the development area. Whilst it was not possible to date closely a number of the features, Roman, later Saxon and medieval ceramics are sufficiently well-represented to define a general date range to activities on the site; the low finds count from specific contexts is in part a product of limited feature sampling.

9.2 Whilst stray residual sherds of Roman pottery occur in both topsoil and stratified contexts (which is to be expected from any area occupied during this period) from disparate parts of the site, it is in the south and west that most Roman evidence survives. Dated to between the second and third centuries AD, Roman activity is characterised primarily by ditch digging. This activity needs to be placed in a rural, probably agricultural context, and may represent the division and draining of farmland. It is likely to be part of a 'low status', fairly poor economy domestic settlement.

9.3 Late Saxon pottery finds suggest a tenth to eleventh century date for three ditches in the north-eastern part of the site. These features may well be respecting the rectangular plot which constitutes the site, close to street frontages. In the south of the site the only datable find from the post-holes in T7 is a Thetford ware sherd; this alone is not sufficient to date the entire group with confidence, but may indicate that permanent Late Saxon structures were present on the site.

9.4 Although only a single pit to the north-east of the site has been spot dated to the early medieval period, the quantity of residual eleventh- to twelfth-century sherds strongly suggests continued use of the site following later Saxon times. Medieval pottery is more highly represented in the ceramic assemblage, but still only two ditches and a pit can be securely ascribed to this period. Post-Roman activity in general is most dense on the eastern side of the plot, and the layout of ditching in this area implies division of land based on the line of Creake Road. East-to-west ditches are characteristically later than north-to-south features. The large ditch in the centre of the site [T5], may indicate a more fundamental north/south boundary. Substantial ditch segments excavated in T2 and T9 may form a southern parallel, although only Roman material was retrieved from T9. Medieval pottery types present are utilitarian and domestic rural habitation is suggested. Features dated to this period may belong to the village of Burnham Sutton.

9.5 The sandy overburden through which many of the features are undoubtedly cut is not simply explained. Similar build-ups of sandy soil in west Norfolk have been observed by the present writer at Sedgeford, Castle Rising and Hillington. At Burnham it may be prudent to see it as an evolving, growing deposit: a productive topsoil added to both naturally (colluviation) and artificially (manuring) and repeatedly dug-over. Allotment cultivation is the last phase of this growth.

9.6 The archaeological potential of the site is clear. Discrete periods of occupation and characteristic features have been identified. Whilst much interest lies in the Early and Middle Saxon history of Burnham to the north-east, the current site holds data belonging to settlement activity either side of these periods: the early origins of permanent settlement in the area and later Saxon/post-Conquest expansion southwards from the nucleus to the north. Further interpretation of the nature and function of the site through time requires more excavation than the 'key-hole' views permitted by the evaluation.

Acknowledgements

The writer wishes to express his thanks to the following: the skilled machine operators of Mervyn Lambert Plant Hire; Sarah Percival of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for untiring work and ideas and interpretations on site; Lucy Talbot of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for processing the finds assemblage; Andrew Rogerson of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology Section for spot-dating the pottery and examining the metal finds; Alice Lyons of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for compiling the Roman pottery report; Sue Anderson of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for reporting on the Saxon and medieval ceramics; Sarah Bates of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for assessing the prehistoric flint; Trevor Ashwin of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for examining the animal bone assemblage; Kenneth Penn of Norfolk Archaeological Unit for providing information on the history of the Burnhams.

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Appendix 1: Brief for Archaeological Evaluation

BURNHAM MARKET
NORFOLK

DEVELOPMENT AT
ALLOTMENT GARDENS
CREAKE ROAD/BACK LANE

BY

MR A. CARGILL

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Borough Council of King's Lynn and
West Norfolk
PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: 2/93/0446/0
SMR SITES: 1755, 21281 adjacent
L.A.S. REF: 365

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Summary

The proposed development is in an area of archaeological potential, where remains of the village of Burnham Sutton may be located. An archaeological evaluation by survey and trial trenching should establish the extent, date and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on this site.

Background

The proposed development is for the residential development of 2.08 acres of allotment gardens. This area is shown on an attached plan. Outline Planning Permission for this has been granted.

This site has not been examined for archaeological remains, but its location a short distance to the north of two known archaeological sites suggests that this is an area of archaeological potential. It is reasonable to assume that the original village of Burnham Sutton centred on the now-ruined medieval church of St Ethelbert (Site 1755), which had a tower of circa AD1300 attached to an earlier building. It closed circa 1760. To the south of the church, finds of probable Late Saxon and medieval pottery have been made (Site 21281), and it is possible that similar occupation may be found to the north.

The Project Objectives should be to carry out a desk-top study of appropriate records, and to evaluate the site by means of rapid field survey and trial trenching or test-pitting of 2% of the site. Intervention should be kept to the minimum necessary to establish the date and condition of any subsoil features. The results of the evaluation may indicate that further excavation or a watching brief during the development may be required.

Brief

The Detailed Project Specification or Method Statement should:-

1. Provide a clear statement of the project's aims and objectives.
2. Indicate the range of background, documentary and cartographic research to be undertaken
3. Indicate what geophysical or geochemical site surveys have been considered and which if any will be employed.
4. Present a strategy to assess the artefact content of the topsoil by fieldwalking, metal-detecting or other surveys.
5. Include a scale plan showing the proposed locations and extent of any survey and trenches or test-pits.

The trenching or test-pitting should sample a minimum of 2% of the area of the site.

6. Specify which areas indicated on the scale plan will be excavated to natural, thereby recovering a complete ground plan of any archaeological features within those areas.
7. Indicate how topsoil in those areas will be excavated (i.e. by hand or by machine) and if hand-excavated control areas are proposed.
8. Indicate what levels of sampling are anticipated in the excavation of various types of contexts which may be encountered e.g. buried soils, structures, pits, post-holes, ditches. Minimum intervention is recommended.
9. Include details of:-
 - i) projected duration on site
 - ii) structure of team
 - iii) details of the appropriate knowledge, experience and skills of the project team.
10. Indicate how as much information as possible will be collected on the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of archaeological deposits within the application site. Proposed data collection methods must be described.
11. Indicate that all archaeological contexts and artefacts exposed or examined will be adequately surveyed, sampled, cleaned, planned, excavated and preserved by record on appropriate context, finds and sample sheets, by the production of plans, sections and elevations, and by black and white and colour photographic record. Describe the proposed recording strategy.

12. Provide a provisional programme outlining post-excavation analysis, specifying what staff and time resources have been provisionally allocated to the project. This programme may be subject to review when the excavation results are assessed.
13. Indicate what opportunities are proposed for project monitoring within the project's stages of:-
 - i) fieldwork/excavation
 - ii) assessment
 - iii) analysis and report preparation
 - iv) completion of archive, deposition of archive and finds and dissemination of resultsso that monitoring officer(s) are able to examine and discuss work in progress to ensure that all work is being carried out to appropriate professional standards.
Proposed monitoring points should be specified in any timetable submitted.
14. Include an estimate of the time and resources required for the completion of the project archive and for the production of an Evaluation Report for the client (and for inclusion in the SMR (see Results 6. below) and for submission to the planning authority if appropriate).
15. Show what provision has been made for the identification of artefacts, including specialist reports if appropriate.
Include a list of specialist consultants who might be required to advise or report on finds or other aspects of the investigation.
Finds work should be to accepted professional standards, and adherence to the Institute of Field Archaeologists Guidelines for Finds Work is strongly recommended.
16. Show what provision will be made for inclusion of the results of the project in the County SMR.
17. Indicate that all Site and Context numbering used will be compatible with the Norfolk SMR.
18. Show what provision has been made for conservation.
Specify the number of conservator days/weeks allocated to the project and what facilities will be available.
19. Show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site.
Specify the number of environmentalist days/weeks allocated to the project and what facilities will be available.
Describe the proposed environmental sampling strategy.
Where specifications include a research design for environmental archaeology, this must be submitted to and approved by Peter Murphy, Centre of East Anglian Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich, Norfolk NR4 1TJ.

20. Provide a summary of agreements reached with:-
 - i) the landowner
 - ii) an appropriate museumover the donation and deposition of cultural material and project records in a permanently accessible form and in an acceptable form.

Account must be taken of any reasonable requirements the museum may have regarding the conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage of excavated material and the archive.

In this instance, deposition with the Norfolk Museums Service is appropriate.

The finds and archive should usually be deposited within one year of the completion of the project.
21. Indicate that provision has been made for the microfilming of the excavation archive by the RCHME.
22. Indicate if publication is envisaged, and confirm that the cost implications of editorial and reprographic work have been adequately built into the project.
23. Indicate what contingency arrangements have been made to deal with the unforeseen.

The Evaluation Report

1. Style and format of the Evaluation Report may be determined by the archaeological contractor.
2. A plan at an appropriate scale showing trench layout and features must be included.
3. For each trench, the Evaluation Report should include comprehensive details of features and finds, their state of preservation and interpretation.
4. The Evaluation Report should include an assessment of the finds, and should present an overview of the quality and potential of the finds assemblage.
5. A scale plan of actual and where possible predicted archaeological deposits should be included.
6. A copy of the Evaluation Report will be supplied to the Norfolk SMR within six months of the completion of the project on the understanding that this will become a public document after an appropriate period of time (generally not exceeding six months).
7. The Evaluation Report should not give an opinion on whether preservation or further investigation is considered appropriate.

The Norfolk Museums Service Landscape Archaeology Section will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. The archaeological contractor will give the Landscape Archaeology Section not less than two week's written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.

Archaeological contractors are strongly advised to forward any 'Detailed Project Specification' or 'Method Statement' to the Norfolk Museums Service Landscape Archaeology Section for approval before any proposals are submitted to potential clients.

Any subsequent variation to the Detailed Project Specification or Method Statement must be agreed with the Landscape Archaeology Section prior to its implementation.

This brief is valid for a period of one year from the date shown below. After that time, it may need to be revised to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.

David Gurney
Principal Landscape Archaeologist
29 March 1995

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NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT ALLOTMENT GARDENS CREAKE ROAD/BACK LANE BURNHAM MARKET NORFOLK

by

MR A CARGILL

Planning Authority: Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk
Planning Appl No: 2/93/0446/0
SMR Sites: 1755; 21281 adjacent
LAS Ref: 365
NAU Ref: MS/Eval/95/54

METHOD STATEMENT FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1. The evaluation of this area (Fig 1), which has been identified as archaeologically important for the Late Saxon and medieval periods, will be undertaken to assess the condition and degree of preservation of archaeological deposits, establish (where possible) a chronology and sequence, and characterise the deposits.
2. Background research will comprise a desk study assessment and will include a search of the County Sites and Monuments Record, the Air Photographic Record at Gressenhall and other readily-available records.
3. A metal-detector survey of the topsoil will be undertaken prior to excavation. Geophysical survey is not proposed at this stage.
4. All spoil removed from the excavation site will be monitored by metal-detector.
5. A plan is attached (Fig 1) showing the area of the proposed development. The location of trenches will be determined in consultation with the Landscape Archaeology Section following desk study and field survey.
6. Details of those areas to be excavated to natural will be agreed with the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology Section following preliminary spoil removal and cleaning.

7. Initial excavation will be by machine, using a ditching bucket. This will remove topsoil, which will be monitored by metal detector. Excavation of subsoil features will be undertaken by hand with additional machine excavation as necessary and appropriate.

8. Detailed strategies for levels of sampling of buried soils, structures, pits, post-holes and ditches will be determined on site. Budget allowances will be made for 100% sampling where appropriate; percentage sampling will apply in areas of complex stratified deposits are encountered.

9. i) The total duration of fieldwork should be some two weeks. It will be comprised of field survey, metal-detecting and excavation. Currently it is anticipated that machine excavation will be undertaken as a preliminary exercise, followed by a period of assessment in consultation with the client and the Landscape Archaeology Section before any hand excavation is undertaken.

ii) The staff structure will consist of:
A Project Manager
A Finds Assistant/Experienced Excavator

iii) The Project Manager will have experience of interpreting rural sites and knowledge of sampling strategies. The Finds Assistant will be supported by the NAU Finds Officer (a Project Manager grade). The Experienced Excavator staff will have experience of NAU recording and surveying procedures.

10. Data collection and minimum recording to obtain as much information as possible will include:

distribution map of all metal-detected finds;
detailed recording of all visible archaeological features;
linear features will be sectioned to determine form and relationships;
pits will be initially half-sectioned;
late post-medieval and modern features will be dealt with summarily.

11. The site will be located within the Ordnance Survey grid using appropriate technology. Recording of features and deposits will be undertaken with the aid of proformas (examples deposited in F.A.D. library at Gressenhall). Finds, both hand-collected and sieved, will be processed and recorded during the course of the excavation as far as possible to enable speedy assessment of the material. Overall plans will be made at a scale of 1:50, with provision for 1:20 and 1:10 drawings as appropriate. All sections of small features will be recorded at 1:10, others at 1:20 depending on detail considered necessary. Photographs will be taken for the following reasons:

- a) to record archaeological relationships
- b) to record the specific nature of archaeological features
- c) to record spatial relationships
- d) to record regular progress of the excavation.

12. The proposed post-excavation programme consists of the following:

- a) archive - 3 days
- b) assessment & analysis - 2 weeks

13. The NAU has a policy of following the procedures outlined in the HBMC publication *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991). Monitoring opportunities will therefore be in line with those procedures and are suggested as follows:

- a) during field survey
- b) during evaluation excavation
- c) upon completion of the archive
- d) at the end of the assessment and analysis
- e) upon receipt of the report
- f) upon deposition of the archive

14. Resources will be allocated to enable completion of the archive, the production of a report and the deposition of the archive.

15. Provision will be made for specialist reports (subject to the agreement of the named individuals) as follows:

- a) flints (John Wymer/Peter Robins)
- b) prehistoric ceramics (Sarah Percival/Trevor Ashwin)
- c) Pre-Roman & Roman coins and artefacts (John Davies)
- d) Saxon and medieval small finds (Sue Margeson)
- e) Roman, Saxon & medieval pottery (Irena Lentowicz)
- f) soils/micromorphology (Richard Macphail/C. French)
- g) environmental (Peter Murphy)
- h) slags/furnace remains (Justine Bayley/Jane Cowgill/Phil Andrews)

A small contingency sum will be set aside for any further reports which become necessary. All work on finds is co-ordinated by the NAU Finds Officer. The NAU has a policy of adhering to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Guidelines for Finds Work*.

16. A copy of the report will be sent to the County SMR together with an AM107 form. This will include a reference to the archive and the intended place of deposition of the archive.

17. Note will be taken of any contexts already used by the SMR. All further numbering of the site and individual contexts will be compatible with the Norfolk SMR.

18. Conservation will be undertaken within the Conservation Department at Norwich Castle Museum. The NAU maintains liaison with the Department and allocates resources to conservation within each of its budgets according to a formula agreed with the Conservation Department. This ensures that all necessary conservation will be undertaken using the facilities available at Norwich Castle Museum. Any additional conservation costs necessitated by the use of specialist facilities elsewhere is also covered by the available budget.

19. An assessment to establish an environmental sampling procedure will undertaken in

consultation with the Environmental Archaeologist at the Centre of East Anglian Studies at the University of East Anglia. Resourcing of environmental work is provided by formula in a similar way to that outlined for conservation (Paragraph 18).

20. The NAU will be undertaking work on behalf of Mr A Cargill or his agent. It is proposed that details of access, timing, funding and backfilling will be determined between the NAU and Mr Cargill or agent as appropriate. Further agreement with the landowner will seek donation of the finds to the Norfolk Museums Service. Donation and deposition of such cultural material and the archive will be to the Norfolk Museums Service, to the standards of the Service at the time of deposition.

21. The excavation archive will be prepared in such a form that it can be microfilmed by the RCHME.

22. Budgetary provision will be made for an evaluation report which will be produced with appropriate figures drawn to appropriate scales. Multiple copies will be produced as appropriate for distribution to the client and the Landscape Archaeology Section. Copyright will be retained by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit.

23. Contingency arrangements will be included within the budget to allow for unforeseen additional excavation costs and additional report costs as outlined above in Paragraph 9 and 15.

Brian S. Ayers
Principal Field Archaeologist
16th June 1995

AREA	FEATURE	CUTNO	CTXTNO	FABRIC	DSC	FORM	TYPE	QTY	WT	DIAM	PERC	DEC	AB	SOOT	WR	COMMENTS
9	DITCH	87	86	10	B		102.1	1	12						5	
1	PIT	4	5	10	U			2	8							QUITE MICACEOUS
10	PIT	81	80	10	U			1	10					7		
9	DITCH	64	63	10	D			1	6			B.7				
9	DITCH	85	84	10	U			1	4							
9	DITCH	85	84	10	U			2	4							
9	DITCH	64	63	11	U			1	4							
10	PIT	81	80	17	RUD	JAR	4.5.3	10	86	13	29	A.6			7	
10	PIT	81	80	17	U			1	10							
9	DITCH	66	65	18	R	DISH	6.21.2	1	12	24	4	B.1				FAB = BRANCASTER RW11
10	PHOLE	112	111	18	U			1	2							FAB=BRANCASTER RW11
1	PHOLE	17	18	27	U			1	2					7		SIM. TO THETFORD WARE
1	U/S		1	27	U			1	12					19		BURNT AFTER VESSEL BROKEN
10	U/S		60	27	D			1	6			B.2				LIMESCALED:HAS BOILED H2O
10	U/S		60	27	D			1	2			I.2				
4	DITCH	69	68	27	U			1	2							
9	DITCH	66	65	27	U			2	22					7		SANDY. BURNT POST BREAK.
10	PIT	81	80	59	H	FLAG	H3	1	66							NO PARALELL.?IMPORT.
10	PHOLE	112	111	61	U			1	50				Y			
9	DITCH	66	65	77	R	MORT	7.9.3	1	36	22	6			1		FAB=BRANCASTER M13.
10	PIT	81	80	96	U			1	4							
9	DITCH	87	86	96	U			1	46							THICK, INSIDE FACE GONE
9	DITCH	87	86	96	U			1	4							QUITE SANDY+MICACEOUS
10	U/S		60	97	P	DISH	6.19.4	1	38		0	B.1	Y			TOO DAMAGED TO MEASURE
9	U/S		67	97	R	JAR	4.5.3	1	58	20	11	B.2				THICK WALLED.
2	?PIT	12	11	97	R	MJAR	4.4	1	12	16	9		Y			SIM. TO THETFORD WARE
2	?PIT	12	11	97	R	MJAR	4.4	1	6	11	10			4		SIM. TO THETFORD WARE
2	U/S		8	97	R	MJAR	4.5	1	4	16	6	B.2				
10	DITCH	110	109	97	B		102	1	18				Y			
9	DITCH	66	65	97	B		102	1	10			B.2			7	
5	U/S		61	97	U			1	2							
9	DITCH	64	63	97	U			1	2				Y			
9	DITCH	66	65	97	U			2	1							FRAGMENTS ONLY
9	DITCH	66	65	97	D			1	6			A.6		7		
9	DITCH	85	84	153	R	MJAR	4.5	1	14	24	8	B.2				

Appendix 4: Late Saxon and Medieval pottery catalogue

Allotment Gardens, Burnham Market evaluation (32791 BVM): Pottery by context

Ctxt	Feat.	Fabric	Fabric No.	Count	Weight/g	Type	Rim diam.	%	Comments	Spotdate
01	01	MCW	3.20	1	9	R	c.100	6	Norwich type?	12th-13th c.
01	01	GRCW	3.22	1	28	B			Possibly handmade?	(11)/12th-13th c.
01	01	MCW	3.20	2	5	U			1 buff fabric, red core, poss. EMed?	12th-14th c.
01	01	THET	2.50	1	8	U				10th-11th c.
01	01	TPE	8.00	1	1	D			White glazed, blue ?painted design.	18th-19th c.+
03	02	THETG	2.54	1	17	B			Thick walled, abraded.	10th-11th c.?
03	02	THETG	2.54	1	21	U			Thick walled.	10th-11th c.
03	02	EMW?	3.10	1	7	U			?Coil built, burnished ext.	11th-12th c.
03	02	THET	2.50	1	2	U				10th-11th c.
03	02	MCW	3.20	1	2	U				12th-14th c.
03	02	GRCW	3.22	2	38	U			Red with grey core.	11th-13th c.
03	02	UPG	4.00	1	14	D			Pale olive GG, pale grey uniform fine sandy fabric. Applied strip dec. Poss GRIM, but not usual fab	13th-14th c.?
03	02	EMWG	3.11	2	13	U			Sooted.	11th-12th c.
05	04	EMWG	3.11	1	1	U			Red with grey ext. surface.	11th-12th c.
06	07	THET	2.50	2	59	RU	c.120	38	Type AB14.	10th-11th c.
06	07	THET	2.50	15	52	U				10th-11th c.
06	07	THETG	2.54	1	16	R	c.170	5	Type AD/E1	10th-11th c.
06	07	EMW	3.10	22	104	RUB	c.160	5	One vessel. Sooted.	11th-12th c.
06	07	EMW	3.10	5	16	U			4 vessels.	11th-12th c.
06	07	EMWG	3.11	1	7	R	c.110	4	Red. Ginger jar rim.	11th-12th c.
06	07	EMWG	3.11	6	26	U			Red.	11th-12th c.
06	07	EMWC	3.12	1	4	B			Sagging base.	11th-12th c.
06	07	GRCW?	3.22	2	51	RU	c.340	3	Bowl type BJ? (cf EAA 13 No. 262).	12th-13th c.
06	07	GRCW?	3.22	1	54	R	160	17	Pinkish buff surfaces. Rim type HJB?	11th-13th c.
06	07	GRCW	3.22	5	67	U				11th-13th c.
06	07	GRCW?	3.22	1	28	R	c.360	4	Bowl. Slash dec. below rim. Not a published GRCW type, but fabric looks right.	12th-13th c.?
06	07	GRIM	4.10	1	7	B			Flat base, jug? Base diam between 100-120, 5%. Spots GG, pink surface.	L. 12th-14th c.
08	08	EMWC	3.12	1	14	U			Sooted.	11th-12th c.
08	08	GRCW	3.22	1	7	U				11th-13th c.
11	12	THET	2.50	1	1	U			Abraded.	10th-11th c.
11	12	EMWG	3.11	1	1	U			Abraded.	11th-12th c.
11	12	GRCW	3.22	1	9	U				11th-13th c.
11	12	MCW?	3.20	2	3	U			V. fine, soft, abraded.	12th-14th c.?
11	12	GRIM	4.10	1	2	D			Spots GG. Pink ext. Earlier type?	L. 12th-14th c.
16	15	THETG	2.54	1	10	U			Gritty.	10th-11th c.
19	20	THETG?	2.54	1	3	U			Could be GRCW, but seems finer than that.	10th-11th c.

Allotment Gardens, Burnham Market evaluation (32791 BVM): Pottery (Trench and feature order)

Feat.	Ctxt	Fabric	Fabric No.	Count	Weight/g	Type	Rim diam.	%	Comments	Spotdate
12	11	THET	2.50	1	1	U			Abraded.	10th-11th c.
	11	EMWG	3.11	1	1	U			Abraded.	11th-12th c.
	11	MCW?	3.20	2	3	U			V. fine, soft, abraded.	12th-14th c.?
	11	GRCW	3.22	1	9	U				11th-13th c.
	11	GRIM	4.10	1	2	D			Spots GG. Pink ext. Earlier type?	L. 12th-14th c.
20	19	THETG?	2.54	1	3	U			Could be GRCW, but seems finer than that.	10th-11th c.
Subtotal Trench		2		72	531			76		
<hr/>										
Trench 4										
69	69	THET	2.50	9	93	RU	c.70	68	Almost complete spiked lamp (DA). Sooted int.	10th-11th c.
Subtotal Trench		4		9	93			68		
<hr/>										
Trench 5										
61	61	THET	2.50	1	26	U			Sooted.	10th-11th c.
	61	THETG?	2.54	1	5	U			Or EMWG. Red.	10th-12th c.
Subtotal Trench		5		2	31					
<hr/>										
Trench 7										
26	26	SIPS?	2.32	1	18	R	c.130	5	Square upright rim. Soft blue-grey fine fabric.	8th-9th c.
	26	ESW	8.20	1	12	R	200	7	Bowl? BG, incised (moulded) dec.	L. 18th-19th c.
32	31	THET?	2.50	1	1	U			V. small!	10th-11th c.?
Subtotal Trench		7		3	31			12		
<hr/>										
Trench 10										
60	60	THET	2.50	1	8	U				10th-11th c.
	60	GRIM	4.10	1	2	D			GG. Abraded.	13th-14th c.
Subtotal Trench		10		2	10					
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Total				<u>107</u>	<u>875</u>			162		

Allotment Gardens, Burnham Market evaluation (32791 BVM): Pottery (Fabric order)

Fabric No.	Fabric	Feat.	Ctxt	Count	Weight/g	Type	Rim diam.	%	Comments	Spotdate
2.32	SIPS?	26	26	1	18	R	c.130	5	Square upright rim. Soft blue-grey fine fabric.	8th-9th c.
Subtotal fabric 2.32				1	18			5		
2.50	THET	01	01	1	8	U				10th-11th c.
	THET	02	03	1	2	U				10th-11th c.
	THET	07	06	2	59	RU	c.120	38	Type AB14.	10th-11th c.
	THET	07	06	15	52	U				10th-11th c.
	THET	12	11	1	1	U			Abraded.	10th-11th c.
	THET	23	23	1	3	U				10th-11th c.
	THET?	32	31	1	1	U			V. small!	10th-11th c.?
	THET	60	60	1	8	U				10th-11th c.
	THET	61	61	1	26	U			Sooted.	10th-11th c.
	THET	69	69	9	93	RU	c.70	68	Almost complete spiked lamp (DA). Sooted int.	10th-11th c.
Subtotal fabric 2.50				33	253			106		
2.54	THETG	02	03	1	17	B			Thick walled, abraded.	10th-11th c.?
	THETG	02	03	1	21	U			Thick walled.	10th-11th c.
	THETG	07	06	1	16	R	c.170	5	Type AD/E1	10th-11th c.
	THETG	15	16	1	10	U			Gritty.	10th-11th c.
	THETG?	20	19	1	3	U			Could be GRCW, but seems finer than that.	10th-11th c.
	THETG?	61	61	1	5	U			Or EMWG. Red.	10th-12th c.
Subtotal fabric 2.54				6	72			5		
3.10	EMW?	02	03	1	7	U			?Coil built, burnished ext.	11th-12th c.
	EMW	07	06	22	104	RUB	c.160	5	One vessel. Sooted.	11th-12th c.
	EMW	07	06	5	16	U			4 vessels.	11th-12th c.
Subtotal fabric 3.10				28	127			5		
3.11	EMWG	02	03	2	13	U			Sooted.	11th-12th c.
	EMWG	04	05	1	1	U			Red with grey ext. surface.	11th-12th c.
	EMWG	07	06	1	7	R	c.110	4	Red. Ginger jar rim.	11th-12th c.
	EMWG	07	06	6	26	U			Red.	11th-12th c.
	EMWG	12	11	1	1	U			Abraded.	11th-12th c.
Subtotal fabric 3.11				11	48			4		
3.12	EMWC	07	06	1	4	B			Sagging base.	11th-12th c.

Allotment Gardens, Burnham Market evaluation (3279] BVM): Pottery (Fabric order)

Fabric No.	Fabric	Feat.	Ctxt	Count	Weight/g	Type	Rim diam.	%	Comments	Spotdate
3.12	EMWC	08	08	1	14	U			Sooted.	11th-12th c.
Subtotal fabric 3.12				2	18			0		
3.20	MCW	01	01	1	9	R	c.100	6	Norwich type?	12th-13th c.
	MCW	01	01	2	5	U			1 buff fabric, red core, poss. EMed?	12th-14th c.
	MCW	02	03	1	2	U				12th-14th c.
	MCW?	12	11	2	3	U			V. fine, soft, abraded.	12th-14th c.?
Subtotal fabric 3.20				6	19			6		
3.22	GRCW	01	01	1	28	B			Possibly handmade?	(11)/12th-13th c.
	GRCW	02	03	2	38	U			Red with grey core.	11th-13th c.
	GRCW?	07	06	2	51	RU	c.340	3	Bowl type BJ? (cf EAA 13 No. 262).	12th-13th c.
	GRCW?	07	06	1	54	R	160	17	Pinkish buff surfaces. Rim type HJB?	11th-13th c.
	GRCW	07	06	5	67	U				11th-13th c.
	GRCW?	07	06	1	28	R	c.360	4	Bowl. Slash dec. below rim. Not a published GRCW type, but fabric looks right.	12th-13th c.?
	GRCW	08	08	1	7	U				11th-13th c.
	GRCW	12	11	1	9	U				11th-13th c.
Subtotal fabric 3.22				14	282			24		
4.00	UPG	02	03	1	14	D			Pale olive GG, pale grey uniform fine sandy fabric. Applied strip dec. Poss GRIM, but not usual fab	13th-14th c.?
Subtotal fabric 4.00				1	14			0		
4.10	GRIM	07	06	1	7	B			Flat base, jug? Base diam between 100-120, 5%. Spots GG, pink surface.	L.12th-14th c.
	GRIM	12	11	1	2	D			Spots GG. Pink ext. Earlier type?	L.12th-14th c.
	GRIM	60	60	1	2	D			GG. Abraded.	13th-14th c.
Subtotal fabric 4.10				3	11			0		
8.00	TPE	01	01	1	1	D			White glazed, blue ?painted design.	18th-19th c.+
Subtotal fabric 8.00				1	1			0		
8.20	ESW	26	26	1	12	R	200	7	Bowl? BG, incised (moulded) dec.	L.18th-19th c.
Subtotal fabric 8.20				1	12			7		
Total				107	875			162		



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