

Summary Report of Negative Results

Site Address: Grange Farm, Egginton, Derbyshire DE65 6HR

Planning application: No. SD/9/2008/0158

Date of works: 12th May 2008

Date of report: 19th April 2008

Contractors report No. 22

Location: The site represents an enclosed agricultural grassland to the east of Grange Farm, Egginton, NGR SK 2688 2829 (Figure 1).

The development entailed a site strip to create a rectangular all weather menage that measures 40 x 20m. Planning permission was granted on condition that an archaeological watching brief is undertaken. The site is situated on the gravel terrace of the River Dove and has archaeological potential both from the proximity of medieval sites such as the moated site of Egginton Hall and multiperiod sites such as Willington Quarry, 1km to the south-east.

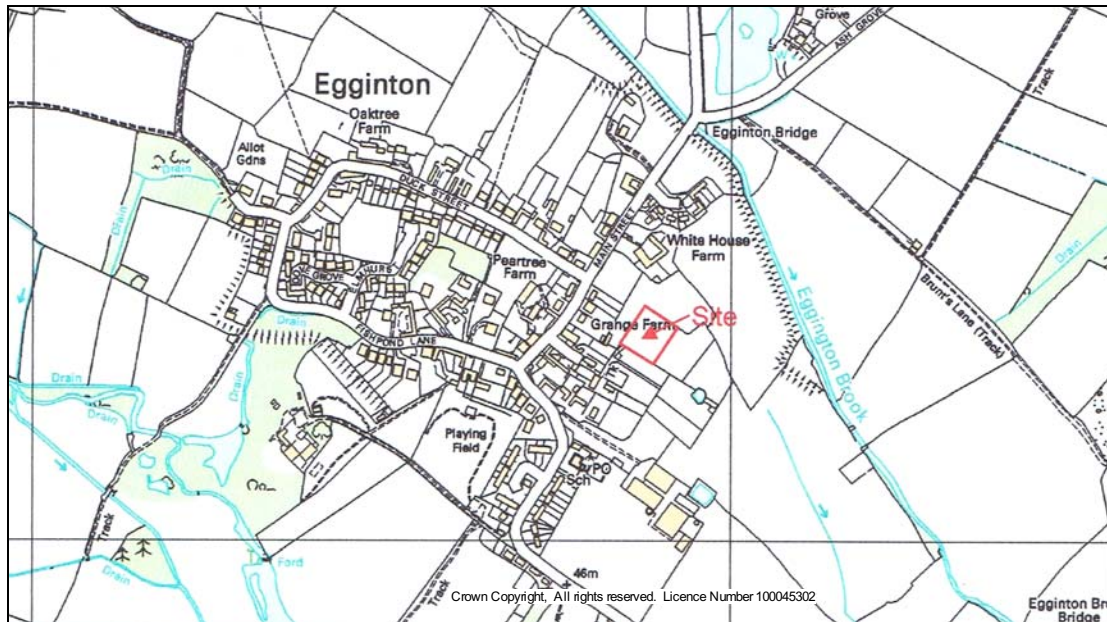


Figure 1

Description of Intervention: This entailed an initial site strip to 0.3m below the pre-existing surface bisecting both the top and subsoils (Plates 1-2), due to the undulating nature of the topography caused by the presence of ridge and furrow across the site.

Results: The site was characterised by extant ridge and furrow and the strip merely shaved the topsoil and truncated the subsoil over the ridges. [Plate 3](#) shows the soil profile along the north-eastern ridge, and this represents the deepest truncation that the site strip reached.

Finds from the top and sub soil consisted of some later post medieval pottery, glass and transfer decorated pottery, no finds pre-dating these periods were recovered. The collected finds will not be retained as part of a site archive. The absence of earlier dating from these levels does not rule out the site's potential for archaeology, only that archaeology was not encountered in the Post Medieval plough soils and that no residual dating material, including firecracked pebbles, were identified.

As additional work, a metal detecting survey was carried out and again nothing of significance (iron nails and horse shoes and a copper alloy shot gun cartridge).

In addition a soakaway was excavated by the 360° excavator, in a furrow, at the southern corner of the site, this also proved negative for archaeological features/finds ([Plate 4](#)).

Recommendations: **No further archaeological work is recommended.**



Plate 1: view of the 360° excavator which undertook the site strip, that involved the reduction of topsoil and in some areas (along the ridges) the truncation of the subsoil



Plate 2: final view of the site strip before it was machine tracked and consolidated prior to laying of the a 'terram' type netting and loose foundation stone



Plate 3: hand excavated sondage to show the underlying natural gravel and the truncated the sub soil which is marked by a line of stones (bisecting the middle of 0.2m scale), looking north-east



Plate 4: view of the soak-away, situated at the site's southern corner, looking north-east