

Archaeological Report No.: 15

Site Code: GFB05 LCCM Accession No.: 2005.206 Planning Application No.: n/a

NGR: SK 9110/6005

A Report to NDC Group Ltd.

April 2006

Land at Grange Farm, High Street, Bassingham, Lincolnshire

By K Wragg

Archaeological Evaluation

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Land at Grange Farm, High Street, Bassingham, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Non-Technical Summary

- This project was prompted by plans to develop an area of land in the village of Bassingham, Lincolnshire. The village lies in the administrative district of North Kesteven, approximately 12km south-west of Lincoln.
- The site lies close to the centre of the village, and comprises areas of former farmyard and adjoining paddocks covering a total area of approximately 0.8 hectares. It is bounded by existing farm and residential properties on all sides, with access to High Street gained via a rough metalled driveway at the south-eastern corner of the site.
- Development proposals involve the construction of eight new dwellings and the conversion of redundant farm buildings to form a further four properties, together with a new shared access road and a number of detached garages.
- Given the proximity of the proposed development to known archaeological sites and/or findspots, North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) requested that an archaeological evaluation be carried out in advance of any planning determination. The NKDC Heritage Officer, Ms. J. Hambly, produced an archaeological project brief on the 12th of July 2005 which outlined their requirements for a programme of trial trenching on the site. The brief indicated that the site is considered "sensitive for its potential to contain archaeological remains and for the contribution its present historic buildings make to the conservation area in Bassingham". In view of this, it was hoped that the results of this evaluation would provide information to allow the local planning authority to firstly reconcile the development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains, and to then make an informed and reasoned decision on any subsequent planning application.
- Lincs Archaeo-tech was commissioned by the current prospective developers, NDC Group Ltd., on the 30th of September 2005 to carry out the required archaeological services in accordance with a specification approved by the NKDC Heritage Officer.
- Site attendance and investigation was undertaken between the 17th of October and the 3rd of November 2005, and without exception, archaeological remains were revealed in each of the eight trial trenches excavated across the site, with relatively complex, datable, activity present in several of the trenches. In terms of the aims and objectives set out in the project brief, therefore, the evaluation strategy has been successful, and can be considered to have been an appropriate response to the development proposals.
- While the deposits and features revealed in trenches 7 and 8 appeared to relate only to the more recent past - almost certainly representing evidence for post-medieval or modern sand and gravel extraction on a considerable scale - the remaining trenches demonstrated preserved remains that indicate the possibility of Romano-British, Saxon and early medieval occupation on, or in close proximity to, the site.
- Unfortunately, individual features and deposits were often not closely dated, but the few that were, together with significant quantities of unstratified material collected from each trench, have allowed at least a tentative interpretation of the nature of the occupation to be made.
- Firstly, the large number of linear and curvilinear features revealed on the site suggests predominantly agrarian activity, and probably represent a complicated, multi-phased arrangement of field boundaries and drainage ditches. The less common post-holes also seem to support this interpretation, again probably relating to the sub-division of fields, but possibly also indicating the presence of semi-permanent structures on the site, perhaps in the form of animal shelters, stores or similar buildings. There is, however, no compelling evidence for any focus of habitation actually on the site itself, although the results of the soil sampling do clearly suggest that contemporary occupation is located in very close proximity to the sampled areas.

- From the ceramic record, supported in parts by the environmental samples and the other recovered artefacts, it appears likely that the earliest occupation on the site dates from the Roman period, most probably during the 2nd and 3rd centuries, but possibly beginning as early as the 1st century. On the basis of the distribution pattern of the finds, it seems that the focus for this activity lies in the areas covered by Trial Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 (*i.e.*, the south and east of the site), where deposits and features likely to belong to the Roman period appear at a depths of between 350mm and 600mm below the existing ground surface.
- There is very little evidence for any continued Roman occupation into the 4th century, and it would therefore seem likely that the site lay abandoned between the end of the 3rd century and possibly the 5th or 6th centuries, when Anglo-Saxon influence began to assert itself. Pottery of early, mid and late Saxon date present in the evaluation trenches suggests Saxon occupation, if not actually on the site itself, then at least very close to it, as refuse of this period is usually discarded close to settlements. As none of the early Saxon pottery fabrics are likely to have been produced in the Bassingham area, it also appears that the inhabitants of the settlement were trading with similar groups to the east and southwest during this period.
- ❖ Occupation seems to have continued throughout the mid and late Saxon periods (7th to late 10th centuries), with further 'imported' fabrics in evidence, and although Saxon pottery was recovered from almost all of the trial trenches, its concentration in Trenches 3, 5 and 6 suggests that any focus of activity from this period was in this part of the site. In these areas, deposits and features possibly dating to the Saxon period are present from a depth of approximately 400mm below the existing ground surface.
- Settlement also appears to continue into the 11th and 12th centuries, with pottery of this period present in Trenches 1 and 4, while samples from Trenches 1 and 3 also suggest a late Saxon or early medieval date.
- After this, however, only two pottery vessels can be attributed to the later medieval period (13th to 15th centuries), which suggests a probable hiatus in occupation after the 12th century, and indeed there is no ceramic evidence for activity on the site again until the late 17th or more probably 18th century, when agriculture recommences, and mineral extraction possibly begins.
- Notwithstanding the positive results achieved by the evaluation, however, it should be noted that truncation of the upper parts of many of the features was widespread (probably as a result of repeated ploughing over many years), and the majority of the fill deposits were found to be remarkably homogenous, with distinction between neighbouring contexts only being possible in terms of texture, compaction or inclusions, rather than immediate appearance. It was therefore generally very difficult (if not impossible) to determine the presence of archaeological features until they were revealed in the surface of the contrasting natural sands and gravels, by which time the majority of the feature had often been destroyed. Almost exclusively, the more complex stratigraphic relationships were only visible through detailed study of trench sections and were not visible in 'plan-view' as the trench was being excavated.
- Should any further archaeological investigation be recommended for the site, these factors perhaps need to be taken into account when formulating a strategy and methodology for subsequent work. In a similar vein, if further excavation is to be undertaken, a controlled and systematic programme of environmental sampling perhaps should be implemented, targeted at the recovery of charred plant remains and animal bone, in an attempt to identify the character of the site in the Roman, Saxon and medieval periods.

Land at Grange Farm, High Street, Bassingham, Lincolnshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1.0 Introduction

This project was prompted by plans to develop an area of land in the village of Bassingham, Lincolnshire. The village lies in the administrative district of North Kesteven, approximately 12km south-west of Lincoln.

The site lies close to the centre of the village, and comprises areas of former farmyard and adjoining paddocks covering a total area of approximately 0.8 hectares. It is bounded by existing farm and residential properties on all sides, with access to High Street gained via a rough metalled driveway at the south-eastern corner of the site (see Figure 1).

Development proposals involve the construction of eight new dwellings and the conversion of redundant farm buildings to form a further four properties, together with a new shared access road and a number of detached garages (see Figure 2).

Given the proximity of the proposed development to known archaeological sites and/or findspots (see 2.0, below), North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) requested that an archaeological evaluation be carried out in advance of any planning determination. The NKDC Heritage Officer, Ms. J. Hambly, produced an archaeological project brief on the 12th of July 2005 which outlined their requirements for a programme of trial trenching on the site. The brief indicated that the site is considered "sensitive for its potential to contain archaeological remains and for the contribution its present historic buildings make to the conservation area in Bassingham". In view of this, it was hoped that the results of this evaluation would provide information to allow the local planning authority to firstly reconcile the development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains, and to then make an informed and reasoned decision on any subsequent planning application.

Lincs Archaeo-tech (LAT) was initially approached by JH Walter on the 17th of January 2005 to provide advice on the archaeological implications of the proposed development. LAT was subsequently commissioned by the current prospective developers, NDC Group Ltd., on the 30th of September 2005 to carry out the required archaeological services in accordance with a specification approved by the NKDC Heritage Officer. Site attendance and investigation was undertaken between the 17th of October and the 3rd of November 2005.

Notes:

- 1) This document is presented on the understanding that further data pertaining to this site may subsequently emerge, which may affect the conclusions drawn herein. Lincs Archaeo-tech, its employees, and/or principals cannot therefore be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising from use of any information contained in this report.
- 2) Lincs Archaeo-tech has adopted, and subscribes to, the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and its Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
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2.0 Planning Background

A planning application to redevelop the site for residential use, including conversion of a number of existing farm buildings, is currently being prepared for submission to North Kesteven District Council (NKDC). The current development proposals involve the construction of a block of five new attached dwellings, three new detached properties, and four dwellings converted from redundant barns & farm buildings. In addition, a new shared access road is proposed, together with a number of associated new and converted detached garages (see Figure 2).

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The village of Bassingham lies at a nominal elevation of 10m OD, on alluvial deposits consisting of soils of the *Fladbury 2* Association - mottled clayey soils and subsidiary loamy soils developed in greyish and brownish river alluvium; and the *Blackwood* Association - which most commonly consists of slightly stony, typical sandy gley soils. These overlie a solid geology of *Lias* clays or limestone (Hodge *et al*, 1984).

The name Bassingham probably derives from a combination of the Old English group-name *Basingas* 'the family...' or 'followers of Basa' and the Old English *hām*, and is literally translated as 'the homestead...' or 'the estate of the Basingas' (Cameron, 1998).

At the beginning of the medieval period, the *Domesday Book* of 1086 refers to land at *BASINGEHĀ*, showing the major landowner as Earl Morcar, although some land is also claimed directly by the King (Morgan and Thorn, 1986).

Within an approximate radius of 1km around the site, thirty-three findspots and/or known (or suspected) areas of archaeological potential are recorded in the Lincolnshire County SMR, together with other evidence derived from aerial photographs. In brief, the SMR results can be summarised as follows:

60385 SK90802/59729 Fragments of Anglo-Saxon sculpture from S ^{t.} Michael' 60501 SK9077/5964 Roman pottery found in a garden, Newark Road 60576 SK9095/6010 Roman remains from Hall Field, Water Lane 60577 SK9095/6003 Anglo-Saxon pottery from Hall Field, Water Lane 60578 SK9095/6010 Medieval & Post-medieval manor at Hall Field, Water 60611 SK9095/5990 Settlement of Bassingham	
60576 SK9095/6010 Roman remains from Hall Field, Water Lane 60577 SK9095/6003 Anglo-Saxon pottery from Hall Field, Water Lane 60578 SK9095/6010 Medieval & Post-medieval manor at Hall Field, Water	Lane
60577 SK9095/6003 Anglo-Saxon pottery from Hall Field, Water Lane 60578 SK9095/6010 Medieval & Post-medieval manor at Hall Field, Water	Lane
60578 SK9095/6010 Medieval & Post-medieval manor at Hall Field, Water	Lane
	Lane
60611 CV 0005/5000 Cottlement of Passingham	
SK9095/5990 Settlement of Bassingham	
60701 SK9077/5964 Undated finds from Newark Road	
60705 SK9081/5959 Roman pottery sherd from Newark Road	
60787 SK9104/6010 Post-medieval quarries & pits, Water Lane	***
62594 SK9097/5994 Undated, possibly Romano-British, pits & postholes, H	Iall Wath
62596 SK90972/59953 Undated clay object, Hall Wath	
62660 SK9095/6018 An early Anglo-Saxon potsherd off Water Lane	
62851 SK90805/59727 Church & churchyard of S ^{t.} Michael and All Angels, N	ewark Road
62853 SK91090/60028 The Grange, High Street (built c. 1700)	
62854 SK90896/59806 The Old Manor House & outbuilding (built early 18 th c	entury)
62855 SK909/598 Ivy House (built early 18 th century)	
62856 SK90793/59472 Manor Farmhouse (built early 19 th century)	
62857 SK9101/5975 Corner Cottage & outbuilding (built late 17 th century)	
62859 SK91145/60018 Green's Stores, High Street (built early 18 th century)	
62860 SK91162/60022 House attached to N of Green's Stores, High St. (built	ate 18 th century)
62861 SK90847/59734 Church House, Newark Road (built late 17 th century)	
62862 SK90994/60025 Manor House, Water Lane (built late 17 th /early 18 th cer	itury)
62866 SK909/597 Bronze Age stone axe	
62867 SK9096/5962 Roman coin - Dupondius of Domitian, AD 81-96	
62870 SK907/596 Neolithic antler pick	
62871 SK9108/5977 Methodist chapel, Carlton Road (built early 19 th centur	y)
62872 SK90772/59493 Holmedene (built late 18 th century)	
62873 SK90872/59719 The National School, Newark Road (built 1855)	
62874 SK90918/59799 War Memorial, Lincoln Road (erected post World War	One)
62875 SK90918/59799 Blacksmith's shop (on site of present War Memorial), I	Lincoln Road
62876 SK91241/60234 Forge Cottage, Linga Lane (built late 19 th century)	
62877 SK9130/5997 Site of Primitive Methodist church, Eastgate (built mid	
62878 SK9114/5998 Wesleyan Methodist chapel, High Street (built mid 19 th	century)
62891 SK9101/5990 Searchlight battery emplacement (World War Two)	

In addition, a number of archaeological investigations have also been carried out in Bassingham in recent years. Projects in the vicinity of the site have included five watching briefs centred around Water Lane, and a larger scale investigation, at Hall Field (between Water Lane and the River Witham).

While the watching briefs revealed predominantly post-medieval or later remains (although some Roman, Anglo-Saxon, and medieval pottery was also found), the work at Hall Field (sitecode BWL95/10.95; SK 909/601; SMR No. 60576-60578) uncovered features and artefacts dating to the Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods, together with evidence for post-medieval quarrying.

The earliest discoveries were parts of a Roman field system with ditches and gullies, an overlying 3rd century enclosure (possibly part of a farm), and part of a cemetery. Disturbed Anglo-Saxon finds were also present, possibly indicating the close proximity of a settlement from this period.

The bulk of the discoveries, however, dated to the medieval period, initially comprising a series of east-west oriented boundary ditches or land divisions.

These were replaced in the 13th century by a large moat adjoining the River Witham. In the centre of the moated area, a rectangular structure was present with an aisled hall, garderobe chamber, and a further small room, with a circular dovecote present beyond the moat. The remains and finds suggested a high-status group of buildings, with the hall appearing to be the centre of a manorial complex.

The site appeared to have been abandoned for unknown reasons during the 15th and 16th centuries, but was refurbished during the 17th century when the aisled hall was extended and a new floor laid.

The re-occupation of the complex was evidently relatively short-lived, however, as by the 18th century the site had been extensively robbed away, with quarry pits for sand & gravel extraction now present along the eastern boundary (all refs., Cope-Faulkner, 1995).

On the site itself, a map of Bassingham from the mid- 17^{th} century shows buildings in the locations of the existing barns, in addition to buildings fronting onto the High Street, which are no longer present. The neighbouring Grade II listed farmhouse does not appear on the map, and is dated in the listing to c. 1700 (Hambly, 2005).

4.0 Methodology

This scheme of pre-determination archaeological trial trenching was designed in accordance with the requirements of the *Archaeological Project Brief for Trial Trenching* produced in respect of this site by the NKDC Heritage Officer. It also conformed to the requirements of the *Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook* issued by Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Services.

The evaluation was designed to:

- a) Establish the presence or absence, nature, date and relative quality of survival of any archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site, and assess their importance;
- b) Assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that detrimental impact could be avoided or minimised;
- c) Provide information that would allow the local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains, and make an informed and reasoned decision on the planning application;
- d) Provide site-specific archaeological information, which (if necessary) would allow the design, costing, and implementation of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of, or during, any subsequent development programme;
- e) Produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum together with a client report;
- f) Provide information for accession to the County Sites and Monuments Record.

Ten evaluation trenches, each measuring nominally 20m x 1.6m, were initially required to be excavated across the proposed development site, including two situated in a detached paddock to the north-east. Trench locations were agreed in advance with the NKDC Heritage Officer, and the total area to be investigated (320m²) represented a 4% sample of the site (see Figure 3). Subsequently, however, it was decided by the prospective purchasers of the site that the paddock would not feature in the present planning application, and therefore the evaluation ultimately comprised only the eight trenches located across the main body of the proposed site.

Each trench was initially machine-excavated (using a toothless ditching bucket) under archaeological supervision. All topsoil, subsoil and other non-archaeological deposits were removed in c. 20cm thick 'spits' until the first archaeologically-significant or natural (i.e., geological) horizon was exposed.

The trenches were then closely inspected for archaeological deposits, features, and/or artefacts. A representative sample of each identified archaeological feature was then excavated by hand in an attempt to determine its extent, date, and purpose.

Each discrete archaeological deposit or feature was issued with a unique context number (e.g., context [100]), and described on pro-forma recording sheets, specifically in terms of its physical appearance, composition, and interrelation with other contexts. Photographs were also taken, and plan and/or section drawings produced, as required. Finally, level readings were taken at selected points across the site area, and all drawing locations were referenced to the British National Grid.

5.0 Results

The results from the evaluation trenching are presented below on a trench-by-trench basis. In each case the stratigraphic sequence is described from earliest (i.e., oldest) to latest. For more comprehensive context descriptions, and for details of the artefacts and ecofacts recovered, see $Appendices\ C$ to K, below.

5.1 Trial Trench 1 (see Figures 3, 4 & 8; Colour Plates 1-3)

This trench was oriented approximately north-south, and situated towards the south-western corner of the site. This area was most recently used as a paddock, and while generally flat, visibly slopes away towards the south.

The earliest deposit encountered in this Trial Trench was [119]/[248], an extensive layer of sand & gravel, which ranged in colour from bright orange, through mid-orange/mid-brown, to light grey, and was at least 1m thick to the limit of excavation (L.O.E.). It was present throughout the trench (and indeed, across the entire site), and represents the upper boundary of the natural (i.e., geological) strata on the site.

[119] was present from a depth of approximately 700mm beneath the modern ground surface (at a nominal height of 12.15m OD), and was sealed by a phase (or more likely, phases) of probable Roman period occupation.

It was initially cut by two separate linear features, [231] and [261], both situated in northern half of the trench. While [261] was oriented east-west, however, [231] followed a north-south alignment, but each was filled with a similar deposit of mid-grey silty sand containing only small pebble inclusions ([260] and [230], respectively). [231] appeared to have a possible east-west return at its northern end, but truncation by later features made this impossible to confirm.

Approximately 1.5m from its northern end, [231] was cut by a post-hole, [138], which was 500mm in diameter and 300mm deep. This was filled by [137], a moderately compacted, mid grey/brown-grey sandy silt, which contained occasional-moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, and part of a broken flint blade of possible prehistoric date.

This fill was itself sealed by a further north-south linear cut feature, [229], which possibly represents a re-cut of the earlier ditch [231]. [229] was filled by a dump of mid-light grey sandy silt, [136], containing occasional-moderately frequent large pebbles, frequent small pebbles, and occasional limestone fragments.

A 250mm thick subsoil layer, [256], was then present across much of the trench at a nominal height of 11.95m OD. This comprised a moderately compacted, mixed yellow/green to pale grey-brown silty sand with small-medium sized pebble inclusions.

Above [256], six cut features were in evidence, including: east-west ditch [118]; curvilinear ditch [122]; east-west gully [125]; post-holes [127] and [129]; and possible east-west ditch [259].

[118] was located towards the southern end of the trench, and measured at least 2m wide, with a surviving depth of up to 700mm. It was infilled by two deposits: [121], a 100mm thick layer of light grey sand and gravel (colour-leached natural); and [111], a mid-grey sandy silt up to 400mm thick. This upper fill contained quantities of small-medium sized pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional charcoal flecks, bone fragments, and twenty-three sherds of mid to late 3rd century Roman pottery.

Immediately to the north of [118], [122] was revealed, initially following a NW-SE alignment before curving slightly to adopt a more northerly attitude. It also appeared to possibly intersect with [118] to the east, but any such meeting point lay beyond the excavated area.

[122] contained three fill deposits, which comprised: [228], a 300mm thick layer of mid-light grey sandy silt; [267], a mid-grey sandy silt, 200mm thick; and finally, [115], a layer of mid brown-grey sandy silt, which contained pebbles, limestone fragments, charcoal flecks, bone fragments, a piece of fired clay, four sherds of 2nd to 3rd century Roman pottery, and a single piece of 5th to mid 9th century Anglo-Saxon pottery (which in this context is probably intrusive).

Continuing northwards, [125] was recorded in the east-facing section - a possible east-west gully, up to 400mm wide and 200mm deep - together with its fill deposit, [124], a mid-dark grey sandy silt containing only occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Post-holes [127] and [129] were situated on the eastern side of the trench, with their respective fills: [126], a mid-dark brown-grey sandy silt containing pebbles, small limestone fragments, and charcoal flecks; and [128], a mid-dark grey sandy silt with similar inclusions.

The last remaining feature in this group, [259], was then visible in the east-facing trench section, possibly representing a re-cut of the conjectured east-west return of ditch [231], but this could not be confirmed. It was filled by [258], a light-mid grey silty sand, which was itself cut (along with the previously described [260]/[261]) by a larger ditch, [135].

This crossed the trench in an east-west direction approximately 5.5m from its northern limit, and measured up to 2m wide and 500mm deep. It was filled by four different deposits, which included: [134], a mid-light brown-grey mixed silt and sand containing animal bone and two pieces of 3rd century Roman pottery; [133], a 150mm thick layer of mid grey-brown sandy silt with pebble, burnt limestone, and charcoal inclusions; [132], a dump of mid brown-grey sandy silt containing pebbles and charcoal flecks; and [131], a 300mm thick layer of mid-dark grey sandy silt, which contained small-medium sized pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional pieces of animal bone, and eight fragments of Roman pottery.

The last two features of possible Roman origin were then present, comprising a large NE-SW oriented ditch, [130], and a smaller east-west gully, [123].

[130] was situated to the north of [131], and was up to 1.5m wide and 400mm deep. It was filled by a single deposit, [113] - a mid-grey sandy silt containing pebbles, limestone fragments (some burnt), charcoal flecks, animal bone, and four pieces of mid to late 3rd century pottery.

[123] crossed the trench approximately 8m from the southern end, cutting through the previously described [115]/[122]. It was only 500mm wide and 300mm deep, but contained three distinct fills: [266], a 100mm thick layer of mid grey sandy silt; [257], a 50mm thick lense of mid-dark grey sandy silt; and [112], a mid (slightly brown) grey sandy silt up to 200mm thick, which contained pebbles and limestone fragments, a small quantity of animal bone, a fragment of a Roman quern stone, and eight sherds of mid 3rd century or later Roman pottery.

A large 'L-shaped' ditch, [117], was then revealed at the southern end of the trench, possibly in part a re-cut of the Roman ditch [118]. It contained a sequence of five fill deposits, comprising: [254], a 250mm thick accumulation of mid-dark grey sandy silt; [253], a dump of light-mid grey silty sand and gravel; [265], a small dump of mid brown-grey sandy silt; [116], a mixed light brown/light grey sand and gravel; and finally, [264], a 300mm thick dump of mid grey-brown sandy silt.

Unfortunately, no dating evidence was recovered from this feature directly, but a soil sample taken from [116] (Sample <1>) indicated a likely late Saxon or medieval date. The contents of the sample also implied the feature was in close proximity to both domestic and craft/industrial occupation.

A substantial subsoil deposit, [252], subsequently covered both this ditch and a number of the probable Roman features described earlier. This comprised a mid-dark brown/grey sandy silt up to 400mm thick, which was present, together with a further deposit of yellow-brown clay and mid-dark brown/grey sandy silt, [251], from a depth of c. 400mm below the modern ground level (at a nominal 12.20m OD).

The final feature revealed in Trial Trench 1 was then present, cutting through [252] in the southern half of the trench. This was a possible pit, [269], which appeared to be up to 2m in diameter and 500mm deep, but was only revealed in east-facing trench section. It was filled by [255], a lense of mixed yellow-brown clay and silty sand, and [268], a 300mm thick layer of mixed yellow-green/grey sandy silt.

The remaining deposits recorded in the trench comprised: one further subsoil layer, [250] - a 200mm thick dark brown/grey sand and silt containing three sherds of residual Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery; a gravel lense, [249]; and [120], the present topsoil deposit found across the site - a mid-dark grey-brown, slightly sandy, humic soil, which is up to 170mm thick and bears a mixed covering of turf and weeds at its upper boundary.

Context [101] was allocated to unstratified finds from this trench, which included: eight sherds of mid to late 3rd century Roman pottery; one sherd of mid-late 10th to 13th century pottery, and two from the 12th to mid 13th century; a fragment of late 18th to 20th century brick; a piece of animal bone; and modern concrete, mortar and sandstone building materials.

5.2 Trial Trench 2 (see Figures 3, 4 & 9; Colour Plates 4 & 5)

This trench was situated immediately to the east of Trial Trench 1, in the same general area of the site, and was also oriented approximately north-south.

Further multi-phase features were encountered during the course of the excavation, but unfortunately, dating evidence was far more limited than from the preceding trench, with only two of the features producing datable artefacts.

As with Trench 1, the earliest deposit in evidence in this trench was the natural sand & gravel layer, [119], which appeared at a depth of c. 700mm below the modern ground surface (nominally 11.85m OD).

Towards the southern end of the trench, [119] was cut by a number of east-west oriented features of indeterminate date, including a ditch or gully, [160], and two narrow 'channels', [206] and [207]. Of these, [160] was the most substantial, measuring up to 1.1m wide with a depth of 140mm. It was filled by [159], a mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil, which was in turn cut by a further narrow channel, [208], very similar in appearance to [206] & [207].

Each of these latter three features was approximately 200mm wide and 100mm deep, and lay approximately parallel to one another. All terminated at a similar point in the base of the trench, and given these circumstances it appears most likely that they represent the remains of plough-marks.

To the north of gully [160], a 300mm thick layer of mottled mid grey-brown/light yellow-brown sandy, silty subsoil, [152], was then revealed. It was present throughout the remainder of the trench, and was cut by a total of seven further features, including: post-hole [142]; small pit or post-hole [212]; large pit [156]; and east-west linear gullies/ditches [140], [144], [148], and [281].

Of these features: [142] was approximately 450mm in diameter and 400mm deep, and was found at the extreme northern end of the trench. It was filled by [141], a moderately compacted mid grey-brown silty soil mixed with redeposited natural [119]; [212] was situated close to the western section at the approximate midpoint of the trench. It was not fully excavated, but was at least 200mm deep, and was filled by [211], a mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil containing only pebble inclusions at the base of the deposit; and [156] was approximately 1.5m wide and was present across the full width of the trench. It had a depth of at least 400mm, and was infilled by [154], a mid grey-brown silty soil up to 200mm thick, and [153], a well compacted, mid-light yellow-brown clay containing pebbles and small isolated patches/lenses of burnt soil, which was up to 400mm thick.

The four east-west cuts were between 600mm and 1.3m wide, and all tended towards a generally round-bottomed profile, with similar fills of mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil. From north to south, the features were as follows: [144] was 500mm deep and filled by [143]; [148] had a depth of 300mm, and was infilled by

[147]; [140] - the most substantial of the group at 1.3m wide and 600mm deep - was filled by [139]; and finally, [281] was 400mm deep and filled by [280].

Unfortunately dating evidence was very limited throughout this entire group of features, with only two sherds of late 2nd to 3rd century Roman pottery recovered from fill [139].

Further features were then in evidence above this possible phase of Roman activity, with a large pit seen to cut through fill [280], and a NW-SE oriented linear feature shown to truncate [147].

The pit, [158], was generally circular, with a diameter of 2m and a depth of 700mm, and was filled by [157], a mid grey sandy, silty soil, while the linear feature, [214] was at least 1m wide, with a depth of 350mm, and was filled by [213], a further deposit of mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil.

[213]/[214] was itself subsequently cut by two more east-west ditches: [150], which was up to 1.1m wide and 350mm deep, and filled by two deposits - a mid grey-brown slightly sandy silt, [149], and a mid-grey, slightly sandy, silty soil, [279]; and a substantially larger feature, [146], which was up to 1.8m wide and 700mm deep, and filled by [145], a mid brown sandy, silty soil, and [278], a mid grey, slightly sandy, soil. Above this, a thin lense of mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, soil containing occasional patches of mid-light brown clay, [277], was seen to overlay [278] at its southern edge.

A shallow depression, or possible cut, [155], was then partially revealed in the section close to the mid point of the trench, and this, together with the majority of the preceding features was overlain by a 400mm thick layer of mid-grey slightly sandy subsoil, [151], which produced two sherds of pottery, dating to the late 17th to 18th, and 18th to mid 19th centuries, respectively.

[151] was present throughout the trench at heights of between 12.15m and 12.65m OD, and was cut by the remaining two features seen in Trench 2, which comprised: [210]/[209] - a possible circular pit seen in the north-western corner of the trench; and [216]/[215] - a NW-SE linear cut uncovered at the southern end of the trench. A single piece of mid 9^{th} to 11^{th} century pottery was recovered from [215], but unfortunately appears to be residual in this context, with a post-medieval date (or later) most likely for this feature.

Two layers of mid grey, slightly sandy, humic subsoil were then present across the trench, [276] and [217], with a single sherd of 18th to 19th century pottery recovered from [217]. Finally, both deposits were sealed beneath [120], the topsoil layer seen across the site.

Unstratified finds recovered during the course of the excavation were collected as context number [102], and presented an eclectic range of material, which included: one piece of animal bone; five sherds of Roman pottery; two sherds from a 6th century 'Buckelurn'; a single piece from a 13th to 14th century Lincoln glazed ware jug; and a pottery sherd and brick fragment dating from between the 17th and 19th centuries.

5.3 Trial Trench 3 (see Figures 3, 5 & 10; Colour Plates 6 & 7)

Trial Trench 3 was located towards the centre of the site, immediately to the east of an existing barn/machinery shed, and was oriented approximately east-west.

The stratigraphic sequence in this trench was more straightforward than that seen in trenches 1 and 2, with only two linear cut features, and four pits/post-holes in evidence.

The earliest deposit revealed was the natural sand and gravel layer, [119]/[275], as seen previously in trenches 1 and 2, which was present from a depth of approximately 500mm below the modern ground surface (nominally 13.30m OD).

Above this was a series of undated cut features, comprising: a possible pit, [170], filled by [169], a mixed mid-brown/grey-brown sandy silt; [172], a circular post-hole, 300mm in diameter, filled by a mid brown-grey sandy silt, [171]; a 450mm diameter post-hole, [174], infilled with a mid brown-grey sandy silt, [173]; and [176], a oval post-hole measuring 750mm x 500mm, filled by [175], a mid-dark grey sandy silt containing occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks.

Also present at this point was a further series of possible cut features, collectively identified as context [315], which were visible only in the south-facing section. It could not be determined whether this group of six, possibly seven, cuts represented discrete features, or were actually the remains of possible ploughmarks, but all appeared to be infilled by a single deposit, [274]. This was a moderately compacted, mixed mid-dark

brown silty sand, between 150mm & 300mm thick, which contained pebbles and occasional limestone fragments.

At the western end of the trench, [274] was then cut by an 850mm deep, NE-SW oriented, linear cut feature, [168], which measured at least 7.5m long and was 1.5m wide. It was infilled by [114], a further deposit of mid-dark brown-grey sandy silt, which was present from a depth of c. 350mm below the modern ground surface (13.45m OD). This contained pebbles, charcoal flecks, animal bone, pottery fragments, and other artefacts, with the pottery ranging in date from the mid 6^{th} to the 11^{th} century, suggesting a likely late Saxon date for the deposit. This was confirmed by a soil sample (Sample <2>) taken from the context, which again produced clear evidence for possible late Saxon or early medieval activity in the vicinity.

All these features and deposits were overlain by [273], a layer of mid-dark grey sandy silt subsoil, which was up to 300mm thick, and was in turn sealed by the topsoil layer [120], as seen in trenches 1 and 2.

Context [103] was issued to identify unstratified finds from Trial Trench 3, and produced three sherds of pottery of mid 6th to 9th, mid 9th to 11th, and 17th to 18th century date, respectively.

5.4 Trial Trench 4 (see Figures 3, 5, 11 & 15; Colour Plates 8-10)

Trench 4 was situated on the eastern side of the site, immediately to the north of the largest existing barn, and was again oriented approximately east-west.

In common with the surrounding trenches, the earliest deposit in Trial Trench 4 was the natural sand & gravel layer [119], which was present at a depth of only 300mm to 400mm below the existing ground level (nominally 13.10m OD).

This deposit was cut by a total of thirteen features, including three linear gullies or ditches, two pits, and eight possible post-holes.

The three linear features ([178], [180] and [182]) were present in the western half of the trench, and were all oriented north-south. Each was of a similar profile and size to its neighbour, and each was filled with a moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy silt containing only pebble inclusions ([177], [179] and [181], respectively). While these features have been initially interpreted as drainage ditches, it might also be possible that they represent plough-marks indicating the position of furrows in a cultivated field.

The two possible pit features were located at the eastern end of the trench. The larger of the two, [300], was situated close to the southern limit of excavation, and measured at least 400mm (N-S) x 2m (E-W), with a depth of up to 300mm. It had been heavily truncated by later features, but a fill of well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt with pebble and charcoal inclusions, was clearly visible in the north-facing trench section. The second possible pit lay in the extreme north-eastern corner of the trench, and had again been truncated by later features. The part that remained was approximately 250mm deep with sides sloping at c. 45° and a rounded base. It was filled by [167], a mid brown-grey sandy silt, which contained frequent rounded and subrounded pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, part of possible prehistoric flint blade, and five sherds of pottery dating from between the mid-late 10^{th} and mid 15^{th} centuries.

In contrast, however, the post-holes ([184], [186], [188], [190], [194], [201], [203], and [319]) were all undated, and appeared to conform to no obvious pattern(s) or alignment(s). They ranged in size/diameter from 250mm to 750mm, and, with the exception of [194], were all filled with a single similar fill of mid grey sandy silt containing only small-medium sized pebbles (contexts [183], [185], [187], [189], [200], [202], and [318]).

[194] was filled by a sequence of three distinct deposits, comprising: [193], a mid grey sandy silt containing frequent pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks; [304], a mid grey (brown) sandy silt containing only pebbles; and [303], a mixed mid-brown to grey sandy silt, again containing only small-medium sized rounded and subrounded pebbles. It was also subsequently truncated by a later post-hole, [192], which was 300mm in diameter and 550mm deep, and itself filled with a mid grey sandy silt, [191].

To the north-west of [194], post-hole [318]/[319] was then sealed by a further post-hole, [320]/[321], which was 600mm in diameter and 190mm deep, while at the eastern end of the trench, pits [167]/[196] and [299]/[300] were both truncated by a large pit, [198]. This was possibly circular in shape, measuring at least 2m in diameter and 700mm deep, and was filled by [197], another deposit of mid-dark grey sandy silt with

pebble and charcoal inclusions. Three sherds of pottery recovered from [197] were all of mid-late 10th to 13th century date.

Overlying most of these features was [298], a layer of mid grey-brown silty subsoil up to 350mm thick, which contained only well-distributed small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, and was present throughout the trench.

[298] was in turn cut by [195], a large 2m diameter pit present in the north-eastern corner of the trench, which was filled with a dump of mid-brown sandy silt, [166]. This fill contained pebbles and stone fragments, charcoal flecks, animal bone, two sherds of 10th to 13th century pottery, and a piece of late post-medieval/early modern period brick, and was itself cut by a further pit, [302], and its associated mid brown sandy silt fill, [301].

Finally, the surface deposit in this trench was again the mid-dark grey-brown, slightly sandy, humic topsoil, [120], seen across the site.

Context [104] was issued to unstratified finds from this trench, which included: a piece of unworked flint, and two possible prehistoric flint flakes; a single sherd of Roman pottery; two sherds of mid 5th to 9th century Saxon pottery; four sherds dating to the mid-late 10th to 13th centuries; a piece of a 12th century bowl; one sherd of mid 12th to mid 15th century pottery; and a piece of a small 14th to 15th century drinking jug.

5.5 Trial Trench 5 (see Figures 3, 6 & 12; Colour Plates 11 & 12)

Trial Trench 5 was located immediately to the north of Trench 4, and was oriented approximately north-south.

The earliest deposit uncovered was again [119], the layer of natural sand and gravel, which in this trench appeared at a depth of between 600mm and 900mm below the present ground level (nominally 13.10m to 13.20m OD).

Close to the centre of the trench, [119] was cut by [316], a possible ditch oriented NW-SE. This feature was only partially excavated, but seemed to share a common alignment with ditch [246]/[247] in Trial Trench 6. The feature in Trench 6 appeared to date from the Roman period, but unfortunately no dating evidence could be found in [316] to support this.

[316] was then overlain by [263], a 150mm thick layer of mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, silty subsoil containing only occasional small pockets of rounded & subrounded pebbles.

This layer was largely concentrated in the northern half of the trench, and was cut by two east-west oriented ditches, [270] and [232].

The more northerly of the pair, [270], was approximately 1.3m wide and up to 500mm deep. It was filled by a sequence of four deposits, including: [199], a mixed light-mid orange coarse sand and mid-grey sandy earth; [164], a mid-dark grey-brown sandy, silty earth up to 150mm thick; a very well compacted, mixed mid orange-brown sand and mid grey-brown sandy earth, [163]; and [272], a mid yellowish-grey sandy, silty soil up to 200mm thick.

Dating evidence for the feature was limited to a single flint flake of possible prehistoric date recovered from [199], and two sherds of pottery dating to the 1st to 2nd, and 5th to mid 9th centuries, respectively.

The second feature, [232], lay closer to the centre of the trench, and appeared to be at least 2m wide, with a depth of 300mm. Its fill, [262], was virtually indistinguishable from the overlying subsoil, and unfortunately no dating evidence was revealed.

A series of eight post-holes was then revealed, all concentrated in the southern half of the trench with the exception of [204], which lay immediately to the north of the previously described ditch [316]. [204] was also the largest of the group, with a diameter of approximately 600mm, and was filled by [205], a mixed dark grey-brown sandy earth and redeposited natural sand, which contained two sherds of pottery of mid 5th to 9th, and mid 9th to 11th century date, respectively.

The remaining seven features included: [222]/[223] - 320mm in diameter and 500mm deep, with a single sherd of mid 5th to 9th century pottery recovered from the fill; [235]/[236] - 250mm in diameter and 300mm

deep; [237]/[238] - approximately 350mm in diameter and 300mm deep; [226]/[227] - a diameter of 280mm, depth of 300mm, and a sherd of 5th to mid 9th century pottery from fill [227]; [220]/[221] - 270mm in diameter and 250mm deep, with fill [221] containing two sherds of mid 5th to mid 8th century pottery; [233]/[234] - 300mm in diameter, but only 100mm deep; and [239]/[240], with a diameter of 250mm and a depth of 200mm. A further possible feature, [241], perhaps associated with this group, was revealed at the extreme southern end of the trench, but not fully excavated.

Several of the post-holes possibly followed common alignments, but in general no cohesive pattern could be determined to indicate the presence of any particular structure. Given the relative density of exclusively Saxon pottery produced from many of this group, however, it is likely that these features indicate some form of activity from this general period.

Above this zone of activity, the final two features and remaining deposits all appear to be of post-medieval or later date, indicating an apparently long hiatus in occupation in this area of the site.

The features were both oriented east-west, and comprised: [317] a 500mm wide and 200mm deep possible gully, which crossed the trench approximately 4.5m from its southern end; and [165], an apparent re-cut of the much earlier ditch [270], present c. 4m from the northern end of the trench.

While [317] was filled by the overlying subsoil, [165] contained two fill deposits: [162], a 200mm thick (very) dark grey-brown sandy, slightly clayey earth; and [161], a dark grey-brown sandy, slightly clayey earth up to 400mm thick.

[161] contained a small quantity of animal bone, a piece of 18th century (or later) clay tobacco pipe, 2 pieces of modern window glass, two fragments of brick dating to between the 16th and 20th centuries, and four sherds of late 18th to 20th century pottery.

Finally, a 600mm thick undated layer of mid grey-brown subsoil, [271], was recorded, which in turn was sealed by the topsoil layer common to all trenches, [120].

Only two unstratified artefacts (collected as context [105]) were recovered during the excavation of this trench, comprising a piece of probably modern metal-working slag, and a sherd of 17th to 18th century pottery.

5.6 Trial Trench 6 (see Figures 3, 6 & 13; Colour Plates 13 & 14)

Trench 6 was oriented approximately east-west, immediately to the north of Trench 5.

As with previous trenches, the earliest deposit encountered was again [119], the layer of natural sands and gravels, which in this trench appeared at a nominal height of 13.40m OD (approximately 600mm - 800mm below the modern ground surface).

At the eastern end of the trench, [119] was cut by a post-hole of indeterminate date, [244]/[245], while to the west, a linear cut oriented NW-SE was present. This feature, [247], was up to 900mm deep, and possibly represents a continuation of ditch [316] as seen in Trench 5.

[247] was infilled by [246], a moderately compacted, mid-brown to grey-brown sandy silt, which contained frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, together with a flint flake of possible prehistoric date, and several tiny fragments of stone and fired clay.

While no accurately datable artefacts were revealed in [246], a soil sample (Sample <3>) did provide evidence of spelt or emmer wheat, probable rye, and chicken bone, which all suggested that the fill might be Roman in date. In common with the previous samples from trenches 1 and 3, the relative 'richness' of the inclusions in the Sample <3> was thought to clearly indicate nearby domestic and craft/industrial occupation (although in this case dating to the Roman period rather than Saxon).

A 150mm thick layer of subsoil, [312], was then present to the east of [246]/[247], at a nominal height of 13.60m OD, and this was in turn cut by a further two features.

At the extreme eastern end of the trench, a linear cut feature oriented north-south was revealed, [219], which measured at least 750mm wide and was up to 300mm deep. It was filled by [218], a mid-dark grey sandy silt containing pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, a small quantity of animal bone, and two pieces of possible Roman quern stone.

[225] was also oriented north-south, but was situated close to the centre of the trench, and measured 1m wide and 500mm deep. It was infilled with [224], a deposit of mixed mid grey-brown sandy silt and mid-brown sand, which contained frequent small-medium sized pebbles, and a single sherd of Northern Maxey-type ware pottery dating to the Middle Saxon period (680-870).

[224] and the previously mentioned [246], were then both overlain by a further layer of subsoil, [311], comprising orange-brown sand and gravel mixed with grey-brown sandy silt. This contained no obvious inclusions, and was up to 400mm thick at the eastern end of the trench (at a height of c. 13.97m OD), gradually diminishing and falling away towards the west to become approximately 200mm thick (at a nominal height of 13.45m OD) at the westernmost limit of excavation.

At a point approximately 2.5m from the western end of the trench, subsoil [311] was cut by two features: [243], a 900mm wide, 580mm deep, linear cut which extended north-south across the trench, and was filled by [243], a mid-grey/brown sandy silt; and [314], a possible pit or post-hole seen only in the north-facing section, which was up to 300mm deep, and was filled by [313], a moderate-well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt.

At the eastern end of the trench, [311] was cut two possible pits: [307], which appeared to be up to 2m in diameter, and up to 500mm deep; and [309], which was smaller at c. 1.25m in diameter, and 350mm deep.

Both of these features could only be clearly identified in the north-facing section, and both were filled with similar deposits of moderately compacted, brownish-grey sandy silt ([306] and [308], respectively).

Two further layers of subsoil were then present overlying all of the preceding deposits and features, comprising: [310], a mid-dark brownish-grey sandy silt, containing only occasional-moderately frequent pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks; and [305], a mid greyish-brown sandy silt containing no obvious inclusions.

[310] was present across the westernmost two-thirds of the trench, and was up to 350mm thick, while [305] featured in the eastern third of the trench, but was only up to 120mm thick.

Finally, both of these layers lay immediately beneath the topsoil deposit present across the site, [120], which in this trench was up to 170mm.

Unstratified material recovered from the excavated spoil was collected as context [106], and included eight pieces of pottery and a single fragment of tile. Seven of the eight pottery sherds were found to originate from vessels of Anglo-Saxon type, while the final sherd and the piece of tile were of probable 18th or 19th century date.

5.7 Trial Trenches 7 & 8 (see Figures 3, 7 & 14; Colour Plates 15 & 16)

These trenches were situated towards the north-western corner of the site, and revealed the remains of two large, possibly rectangular, cut features.

In Trench 7, excavation was halted at 1.2m-1.5m to allow safe access for recording of the fill deposits, and as a result, the full depth of the features was not identified. Trench 8, however, was excavated to reveal the base of the northernmost cut, which was found to be at a depth c. 2m below the existing ground level (nominally 11.90m OD).

In common with the other areas, the earliest deposit encountered in these two trenches was again [119], the layer of natural sands and gravels. At its highest point, this appeared at a depth of c. 600mm below the existing ground surface (nominally 13.20m OD), and was cut by two large features, [293] and [294].

[293] was only partially revealed in Trench 7, but measured at least 8.5m (N-S) x 3.2m (E-W). Its actual shape in plan and full extent could not be determined, however, with only a small section of the northern edge of the feature present at the limit of excavation (L.O.E.)

[294] appeared in both Trench 7 and Trench 8, measuring 3m+ (N-S) x 18m+ (E-W), although again its shape in plan and full extent are not known. Its southern edge was generally straight, but its profile was not investigated, while the western and northern edges lay beyond the excavated areas; the eastern side, however, was seen to be steep, almost vertical. The base of the feature was generally flat towards the east, but at a point approximately 13m from the eastern side, it began to slope down towards the west. As a result, while the

depth along the eastern side was 650mm, it reached almost 2m (c. 11.90m OD) at the western end of Trial Trench 8.

Both of these cut features were filled by the same deposit, [289], a mid (very slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil, containing only occasional small pebbles, and very occasional small fibrous rootlets. This was at least 600mm thick, and was itself sealed by several different deposits. These included: a series of four dump/fill layers seen in Trench 7 ([288]/[286]/[285]/[284]), which produced quantities of pottery and tile of 17th to 19th century date; and two isolated lenses of sand and gravel recorded in Trench 8 ([296] and [297], respectively).

Further dump deposits were then in evidence, with [283], a mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, soil containing pottery dating to the late 18th to 19th century, and [287], an orange/orange-brown sand and gravel, present in Trench 7; and [292], a mid (slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil, up to 650mm thick, present in both trenches. [287] and [292] were in turn sealed by [291], a mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, silty soil, which itself was overlain by [295], a thin layer/lense of mid brown/yellow-brown mottled sandy soil mixed with fine 'pea-gravel' & modern rubbish.

The final deposits recorded in these two trenches were: [120]/[282], a layer of topsoil up to 200mm thick, identical to that seen in other parts of the site; and [290], a mixed dump of topsoil and modern rubble (bricks, concrete, roof tile, plastic, etc.), which was up to 550mm thick.

Unstratified material collected from Trench 7 as context [107] produced four sherds of pottery and a single piece of brick, all dating to the 18th and 19th centuries.

Contexts allocated to identify any unstratified finds from Trial Trench 8 (context [108]), and the general site area (context [100]) produced no datable artefacts.

6.0 Discussion of Results and Conclusions

Without exception, archaeological remains were revealed in each of the eight trial trenches excavated across the site, with relatively complex, datable, activity present in several of the trenches. In terms of the aims and objectives set out in the project brief, therefore, the evaluation strategy has been successful, and can be considered to have been an appropriate response to the development proposals.

While the deposits and features revealed in trenches 7 and 8 appear to relate only to the more recent past - almost certainly representing evidence for post-medieval or modern sand and gravel extraction on a considerable scale - the remaining trenches have demonstrated preserved remains indicating the possibility of Romano-British, Saxon and early medieval occupation on, or in close proximity to, the site.

Unfortunately, individual features and deposits were often not closely dated, but the few that were, together with significant quantities of unstratified material collected from each trench, have allowed at least a tentative interpretation of the nature of the occupation to be made.

Firstly, the large number of linear and curvilinear features revealed on the site suggests predominantly agrarian activity, and probably represent a complicated, multi-phased arrangement of field boundaries and drainage ditches. The less common post-holes also seem to support this interpretation, again probably relating to the sub-division of fields, but possibly also indicating the presence of semi-permanent structures on the site, perhaps in the form of animal shelters, stores or similar buildings. There is, however, no compelling evidence for any focus of habitation actually on the site itself, although the results of the soil sampling do clearly suggest that contemporary occupation is located in very close proximity to the sampled areas.

From the ceramic record, supported in parts by the environmental samples and the other recovered artefacts, it appears likely that the earliest occupation on the site dates from the Roman period, most probably during the $2^{\rm nd}$ and $3^{\rm rd}$ centuries, but possibly beginning as early as the $1^{\rm st}$ century. On the basis of the distribution pattern of the finds, it seems that the focus for this activity lies in the areas covered by Trial Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 (*i.e.*, the south and east of the site), where deposits and features likely to belong to the Roman period appear at a depths of between 350mm and 600mm below the existing ground surface.

There is very little evidence for any continued Roman occupation into the 4th century, and it would therefore seem likely that the site lay abandoned between the end of the 3rd century and possibly the 5th or 6th centuries, when Anglo-Saxon influence began to assert itself. Pottery of early, mid and late Saxon date present in the evaluation trenches suggests Saxon occupation, if not actually on the site itself, then at least very close to it,

as refuse of this period is usually discarded close to settlements. As none of the early Saxon pottery fabrics are likely to have been produced in the Bassingham area, it also appears that the inhabitants of the settlement were trading with similar groups to the east and southwest during this period.

Occupation seems to have continued throughout the mid and late Saxon periods (7th to late 10th centuries), with further 'imported' fabrics in evidence, and although Saxon pottery was recovered from almost all of the trial trenches, its concentration in Trenches 3, 5 and 6 suggests that any focus of activity from this period was in this part of the site. In these areas, deposits and features possibly dating to the Saxon period are present from a depth of approximately 400mm below the existing ground surface.

Settlement also appears to continue into the 11th and 12th centuries, with pottery of this period present in Trenches 1 and 4, while samples from Trenches 1 and 3 also suggest a late Saxon or early medieval date.

After this, however, only two pottery vessels can be attributed to the later medieval period (13th to 15th centuries), which suggests a probable hiatus in occupation after the 12th century, and indeed there is no ceramic evidence for activity on the site again until the late 17th or more probably 18th century, when agriculture recommences, and mineral extraction possibly begins.

Notwithstanding the positive results achieved by the evaluation, however, it should be noted that truncation of the upper parts of many of the features was widespread (probably as a result of repeated ploughing over many years), and the majority of the fill deposits were found to be remarkably homogenous, with distinction between neighbouring contexts only being possible in terms of texture, compaction or inclusions, rather than immediate appearance. It was therefore generally very difficult (if not impossible) to determine the presence of archaeological features until they were revealed in the surface of the contrasting natural sands and gravels, by which time the majority of the feature had often been destroyed. Almost exclusively, the more complex stratigraphic relationships were only visible through detailed study of trench sections and were not visible in 'plan-view' as the trench was being excavated.

Should any further archaeological investigation be recommended for the site, these factors perhaps need to be taken into account when formulating a strategy and methodology for subsequent work. In a similar vein, if further excavation is to be undertaken, a controlled and systematic programme of environmental sampling perhaps should be implemented, targeted at the recovery of charred plant remains and animal bone, in an attempt to identify the character of the site in the Roman, Saxon and medieval periods.

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LCC, 1998 Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook: A Manual of Archaeological Practice, Lincolnshire County Council, Lincoln

9.0 Summary of Site Details

Site Code:GFB05Museum Accession Number:2005.206Planning Application Number:n/a

Supervising Archaeologist: K. Wragg
NGR: SK 9110/6005
Civil Parish: Bassingham

SMR Number: n/a

Date of Intervention: 17th October to 3rd November 2005

Type of Intervention: Archaeological Evaluation

Undertaken for: NDC Group Ltd., Wellingore Hall, Hall Street, Wellingore, Lincolnshire,

LN5 0HX

Archive Deposition

The archive comprises:

No.	Description
1	Site diary
222	Context records
15	Scale drawings
2 copies	Interim Report (plus digital copy on CD)
2 copies	Report (plus digital copy on CD)
1 set	Colour photographic negatives
1 assemblage	Roman pottery (as detailed in Appendices D & E)
1 assemblage	Post-Roman pottery and ceramic building material (as detailed in Appendices F & G)
1 assemblage	Registered finds (as detailed in Appendix H)
1 assemblage	Bulk finds (as detailed in Appendix I)
1 assemblage	Animal Bone (as detailed in Appendix J)
1 'assemblage'	Environmental sampling residues (as detailed in Appendix K)
Various	Miscellaneous supporting documentation

The primary archive material, as detailed above, is currently held by:

Lincs Archaeo-tech, 50 High Street, Martin, Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT

It is intended that transfer to the City and County Museum, 12 Friars Lane, Lincoln, LN2 5AL, in accordance with current published requirements, under Museum Accession Number 2005.206, will be undertaken following completion of this project.

Colour Plates



Plate 1: Overall view of Trial Trench 1 - looking south



Plate 2: General view of ditch cuts [117] & [118], Trial Trench 1 - looking west



Plate 3: General view of ditch cut [130], Trial Trench 1 - looking west



Plate 4: Overall view of Trial Trench 2 - looking south-east



Plate 5: General view of cut features [144], [146] & [148], Trial Trench 2 - looking east



Plate 6: Overall view of Trial Trench 3 - looking west



Plate 7: General view of ditch [114]/[168], Trial Trench 3 - looking east



Plate 8: Overall view of Trial Trench 4 - looking west



Plate 9: General view of cut features [191] & [194], Trial Trench 4 - looking south-east



Plate 10: General view of multiple cut features [195], [196] & [198], Trial Trench 4 - looking north-east



Plate 11: General view of Trial Trench 5 - looking south



Plate 12: General view of ditch cuts [165] & [270], Trial Trench 5 - looking west



Plate 13: Overall view of Trial Trench 6 - looking south-east



Plate 14: General view of ditch [246]/[247], Trial Trench 6 - looking south



Plate 15: Overall view of Trial Trench 7 - looking south-west



Plate 16: General view of stratigraphic sequence in north-facing section, Trial Trench 8 - looking south-east

Context Listing

Context No.	Location	Description
[100]	Site	General unstratified finds
[101]	TT1	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 1
[102]	TT2	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 2
[103]	TT3	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 3
[104]	TT4	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 4
[105]	TT5	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 5
[106]	TT6	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 6
[107]	TT7	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 7
[108]	TT8	Unstratified finds from Trial Trench 8
109	TT9	Unused
[110]	TT10	Unused
[111]	TT1	Fill of ditch [117] - moderately compacted, mid-grey sandy silt; contains moderate-frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional charcoal flecks, occasional pot & bone fragments; up to 400mm thick
[112]	TT1	Fill of gully [123] - moderately compacted, mid (slightly brown) grey sandy silt; contains occasional small-medium pebbles & limestone fragments, occasional pot & bone fragments; up to 200mm thick
[113]	TT1	Fill of ditch [130] - moderately compacted, mid-grey sandy silt; contains moderate-frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small-medium sized limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional charcoal flecks,
[114]	TT3	occasional pot fragments; up to 400mm thick Fill of ditch [168] - moderately compacted, mid-dark brown-grey sandy silt; contains moderate-frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional pot fragments; up to 800mm thick - Sample
[115]	TT1	Tertiary fill of ditch [122] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments, occasional charcoal
[116]	TT1	flecks, occasional pot & bone fragments; up to 500mm thick Fill of ditch [118] - moderately compacted, mixed light brown/light grey sand & gravel; contains occasional
[117]	TT1	small-medium sized limestone fragments; up to 600mm thick - Sample <1> Linear/curvilinear cut feature - 'L' shaped in plan, oriented NE-SW & E-W; steep sides at c. 45° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a rounded base; dimensions: 3m+ (NE-SW) x 1.5m+
[118]	TT1	(E-W) x 400mm+ (depth) Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 45° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to
[119]	Site	form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.8m (N-S) x 1.5m+ (E-W) x 700mm (depth) Natural sand & gravel - moderate-well compacted, friable, sand & gravel; colour varies from bright orange,
[119]	Site	through mid-orange/mid-brown, to light grey; gravel comprises small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded smooth pebbles together with infrequent-moderately frequent angular flint pieces; at least 1m thick to L.O.E., and present across entire site
[120]	Site	Turf/topsoil - moderate-well compacted, friable, mid-dark grey-brown, slightly sandy, humic topsoil; bears covering of turf & weeds at its upper boundary; contains occasional small rounded pebble inclusions; up to 170mm thick
[121]	TT1	Primary fill of ditch [118] - moderately compacted, light grey sand & gravel; no inclusions; up to 100mm thick
[122]	TT1	Curvilinear cut feature - oriented NW-SE & N-S; steep sides at between c. 60° and 45° to the horizontal, breaking sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a rounded base; dimensions: 5.5m (length) x 800mm (width) x 600mm (depth)
[123]	TT1	Linear cut feature/gully - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 45° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a rounded base; dimensions: 1.5m+ (E-W) x 500mm (N-S) x 300mm (depth)
[124]	TT1	Fill of cut [125] - moderate-well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains occasional small rounded & angular pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks; up to 200mm thick
[125]	TT1	Linear cut feature/gully - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 45° break gently from the surface, and turn gradually to form a rounded base; dimensions: 1.5m+ (E-W) x 400mm (N-S) x 200mm (depth)
[126]	TT1	Fill of post-hole [127] - moderately compacted, mid-dark brown-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments, occasional charcoal flecks; up to 200mm thick
[127]	TT1	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 400mm in diameter & 200mm deep
[128]	TT1	Fill of post-hole [129] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains occasional small-medium pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[129]	TT1	Post-hole cut - part/half-circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 480mm in diameter & 300mm deep
[130]	TTI	Linear cut feature - oriented NE-SW; north side slopes at c. 30°, south side has shallow step; sides break gently from the surface, and turn gradually to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 3.5m+ (NE-SW) x 1.5m (NW-SE) x 400mm (depth)
[131]	TT1	Fill of ditch [135] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains moderate-frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional pot fragments; up to 300mm thick
[132]	TT1	Fill of ditch [135] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks, up to 200mm thick

Context No.	Location	Description
[133]	TT1	Fill of ditch [135] - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional small limestone fragments (some burnt), occasional charcoal flecks; up to 150mm thick
[134]	TT1	Primary fill of ditch [135] - moderately compacted, mid-light brown-grey mixed silt & sand; contains moderately frequent small-medium pebbles; up to 100mm thick
[135]	TT1	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 60° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.5m+ (E-W) x 2m (N-S) x 500mm (depth)
[136]	TT1	Layer/dump - moderately compacted, mid-light grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent large pebbles, frequent small pebbles, occasional limestone fragments; up to 300mm thick
[137]	TT1	Fill of post-hole [138] - moderately compacted, mid grey/brown-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[138]	TT1	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 500mm in diameter & 300mm deep
[139]	TT2	Fill of ditch [140] - moderate-well compaction, friable, mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, evenly distributed throughout the soil matrix; up to 600mm thick
[140]	TT2	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 60° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a slightly rounded base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 1.3m (N-S) x 600mm (depth)
[141]	TT2	Fill of post-hole [142] - moderately compacted, friable, mixed mid grey-brown silty soil & redeposited natural [119]; contains only gravel inclusions; up to 400mm thick
[142]	TT2	Post-hole cut - slightly irregular, generally oval shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 450mm in diameter & 400mm deep
[143]	TT2	Fill of cut [144] - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey-) brown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent gravel inclusions, ranging in size from 'pea-grit' to c. 30mm in diameter, and small isolated patches of redeposited natural [119]; up to 500mm thick
[144]	TT2	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 60°-70° break sharply from the surface, and turn gradually to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 800mm (N-S) x 500mm (depth)
[145]	TT2	Fill of cut [146] - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey-) brown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent-frequent gravel inclusions, ranging in size from 'pea-grit' to c. 20mm in diameter; up to 400mm thick
[146]	TT2	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 60° break gently from the surface, and merge gradually to form an uneven base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 1.8m (N-S) x 700mm (depth)
[147]	TT2	Fill of cut [148] - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent pebble inclusions, and small isolated patches of redeposited natural [119]; up to 300mm thick
[148]	TT2	Linear cut feature/gully - oriented E-W; fairly shallow sides slope at c. 30°-45°; break at surface not clear, but sides merge gradually to form a slightly rounded base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 600mm (N-S) x 300mm (depth)
[149]	TT2	Fill of cut [150] - moderately compacted, slightly friable, mid grey-brown slightly sandy silt; contains frequent pebble inclusions, 'pea-grit', and small isolated patches/lenses of redeposited natural [119]; up to 200mm thick
[150]	TT2	Linear cut feature/gully - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 60° to the horizontal break sharply from the surface and merge to form a rounded base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 1.1m (N-S) x 350mm (depth)
[151]	TT2	Subsoil layer - moderately compacted, mid grey slightly sandy soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent well-distributed small-medium sized pebble inclusions, and very occasional small flint pieces; up to 400mm thick
[152]	TT2	Subsoil/buried soil layer - moderately-well compacted, friable, mottled mid grey-brown/light yellow-brown sandy, silty soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent, well distributed, small-medium sized pebble inclusions; up to 300mm thick
[153]	TT2	Clay fill of [156] - well compacted, mid-light yellow-brown clay; contains occasional small rounded pebbles and small isolated patches/lenses of burnt soil; up to 400mm thick
[154]	TT2	Primary fill of [156] - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey-brown slightly sandy, silty soil; contains only occasional small rounded/sub-rounded pebble inclusions; up to 200mm thick
[155]	TT2	Possible cut feature - only partially revealed in trench section; almost vertical side to south
[156]	TT2	Possible linear cut, oriented E-W, or possible oval/circular pit - steep sides at between 45° and 60° to the horizontal break sharply from the surface and merge to form a very slightly rounded base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 1.5m (N-S) x 400mm (depth)
[157]	TT2	Fill of cut [158] - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent
[158]	TT2	small rounded pebble inclusions, some 'pea-grit', and occasional flint pieces; up to 700mm thick Cut for circular/oval pit - steep sides at c. 45° break gently from the surface and merge to form a slightly
[159]	TT2	concave base; c. 2m in diameter, and up to 700mm deep Fill of cut [160] - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil; contains only isolated pockets of
[160]	TT2	rounded pebbles; up to 140mm thick Linear cut feature/gully - shallow cut, oriented E-W; sides at c. 30° to the horizontal break gently from the
1611	TT5	surface and merge to form a concave base; dimensions: 1.6m+ (E-W) x 1.1m (N-S) x 140mm (depth) Fill of ditch [165] - moderately compacted, dark grey-brown sandy, slightly clayey earth; contains
[161]	113	moderately frequent rounded pebbles, patches of orange-brown sand, and very occasional small pieces of coal; up to 400mm thick
[162]	TT5	Fill of ditch [165] - moderate-well compacted, (very) dark grey-brown sandy, slightly clayey earth; contains frequent-moderately frequent rounded pebbles up to 30mm in diameter; thickness c. 200mm
[163]	TT5	Fill of ditch [270] - very well compacted, mixed mid orange-brown sand & mid grey-brown sandy earth;

Context No.	Location	Description
[164]	TT5	Fill of ditch [270] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey-brown sandy, silty earth; contains only occasional small rounded pebbles; up to 150mm thick
[165]	TT5	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; steep sides at c. 70° to the horizontal (stepped side to south) break sharply from the surface and turn sharply to form a flat base; dimensions: 1.8m (N-S) x 1.6m+ (E-W) x 900mm (depth)
[166]	TT4	Fill of ditch [195] - moderate-well compacted, mid-brown sandy silt; contains frequent rounded pebbles, moderately-frequent angular stone fragments, occasional-moderately frequent charcoal flecks, occasional pofragments; up to 750mm thick
[167]	TT4	Fill of ditch [196] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains frequent rounded and subrounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 250mm thick
[168]	TT3	Linear cut feature - oriented NE-SW; uneven sides at c. 45° or less break gently from the surface and turn gently to form an uneven base; dimensions: 7.5m (NE-SW) x 1.5m (NW-SE) x 850mm (depth)
[169]	TT3	Fill of cut [170] - moderately compacted, mixed mid-brown/grey-brown sandy silt; contains frequent-moderately frequent small-medium pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 350mm thick
[170]	TT3	Possible pit cut - generally oval shape in plan, oriented approximately E-W; sides at c. 30° to the horizontal break gently from the surface and merge to form a 'V'-shaped base; dimensions: 500mm+ (N-S) x 1.75m (E-W) x 350mm (depth)
[171]	TT3	Fill of post-hole [172] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & angular pebbles; up to 80mm thick
[172]	TT3	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 300mm in diameter & 80mm deep
[173]	TT3	Fill of post-hole [174] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small rounded & angular pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[174]	TT3	Post-hole cut - semi-circular shape in plan; sides slope at c. 45° and break gently from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 450mm in diameter & 300mm deep
[175]	TT3	Fill of post-hole [176] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[176]	TT3	Post-hole cut - rounded/rectilinear shape in plan; steep, almost vertical, sides break sharply from the surface and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 750mm x 500mm & 300mm deep
[177]	TT4	Fill of ditch [178] - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy silt; contains frequent-moderately frequent rounded & angular pebbles; up to 200mm thick
[178]	TT4	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides at 45°-60° to the horizontal break gently from the surface and turn gradually to form a flat base; dimensions: 1.65m+ (N-S) x 750mm (E-W) x 200mm (depth)
[179]	TT4	Fill of ditch [180] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[180]	TT4	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface and turning gradually to form a flat base; dimensions: 1.5m (N-S) x 950mm (E-W) x 350mm (depth)
[181]	TT4	Fill of ditch [182] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains frequent-moderately frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 350mm thick
[182]	TT4	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface and turning gradually to form a flat base; dimensions: 1.5m (N-S) x 1m (E-W) x 500mm (depth)
[183]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [184] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 350mm thick
[184]	TT4	Post-hole cut - sub-circular shape in plan; sides slope at between 45° & 70° to the horizontal, and break sharply from the surface, turning to form a rounded base; dimensions: 750mm in diameter & 350mm deep
[185]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [186] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent large, & frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 350mm thick
[186]	TT4	Post-hole cut - oval/circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 750mm (N-S) x 600mm (E-W) & 350mm deep
[187]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [188] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[188]	TT4	Post-hole cut - oval/circular shape in plan; near vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a flat base; dimensions: 600mm (N-S) x 450mm (E-W) & 300mm deep
[189]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [190] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 280mm thick
[190]	TT4	Post-hole cut - semi-circular shape in plan; vertical sides break sharply from the surface & turn to form a flat base; dimensions: 250mm in diameter & 280mm deep
[191]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [192] - moderate-well compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, and occasional small pot fragments; up to 550mm thick
[192]	TT4	Post-hole cut - semi-circular shape in plan; vertical sides break sharply from the surface & turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 300mm in diameter & 550mm deep
[193]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [194] - moderate-well compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 550mm thick
[194]	TT4	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; vertical sides break sharply from the surface; base not revealed; dimensions: 650mm in diameter & 800mm+ deep
[195]	TT4	Possible pit feature - sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface and turning gradually to form ar uneven base; dimensions: 1m (N-S) x up to 2m (E-W) x 500mm (depth)
[196]	TT4	Possible pit/cut feature - possibly circular shape in plan; remnant sides slope at c. 45°, turning gradually to form a rounded base; heavily truncated by [198]

Context No.	Location	Description
[197]	TT4	Fill of ditch [198] - moderate-well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 800mm thick
[198]	TT4	Possible pit/cut feature - possibly circular shape in plan; steep sides break sharply from the surface and turning gradually to form a flat base; dimensions: 2m in diameter & 700mm deep
[199]	TT5	Primary fill of ditch [270] - moderate-well compacted, mixed light-mid orange coarse sand & mid-grey sandy earth; contains frequent small-medium rounded pebbles & 'pea-grit'; up to 150mm thick
[200]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [201] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 80mm thick
[201]	TT4	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 260mm in diameter & 80mm deep
[202]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [203] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 100mm thick
[203]	TT4	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 260mm in diameter & 100mm deep
[204]	TT5	Possible pit cut - shape in plan not known, but assumed to be circular; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn sharply to form a flat base; dimensions: 600mm (N-S) x 300mm+ (E-W) & 500mm deep
[205]	TT5	Fill of pit [204] - moderately compacted, mixed dark grey-brown sandy earth & redeposited natural sand; contains moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded pebbles & very occasional pieces of burnt limestone; up to 500mm thick
[206]	TT2	Fill & cut for linear feature (possible ploughmark) - oriented approximately E-W; shallow sides slope at 30° or less, to the horizontal, breaking sharply from the surface, and merging to form a rounded, uneven base; dimensions: 200mm (N-S) x 1.6m+ (E-W) & 100mm deep. Filled with moderately compacted, mid greybrown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent small pebble & 'pea-grit' inclusions; up to 100mm thick
[207]	TT2	Fill & cut for linear feature (possible ploughmark) - oriented approximately E-W; shallow sides slope at 30° or less, to the horizontal, breaking sharply from the surface, and merging to form a rounded, uneven base; dimensions: 200mm (N-S) x 1.6m+ (E-W) & 100mm deep. Filled with moderately compacted, mid greybrown sandy, silty soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent small pebble inclusions; up to 100mm thicl
[208]	TT2	Fill & cut for linear feature (possible ploughmark) - oriented approximately E-W; shallow sides slope at 30° or less, to the horizontal, breaking sharply from the surface, and merging to form a rounded, uneven base; dimensions: 200mm (N-S) x 1.6m+ (E-W) & 100mm deep. Filled with moderately compacted, mid greybrown sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent small rounded pebble inclusions; up to 100mm thick
[209]	TT2	Fill of possible pit [210] - well compacted, slightly friable, redeposited natural [119] (90%) mixed with redeposited [151] (10%); no other obvious inclusions - not excavated
[210] [211]	TT2 TT2	Possible circular pit cut - only seen in trench section, not excavated Fill of possible pit [212] - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded pebbles at base of deposit; up to 200mm thick - not fully excavated
[212]	TT2	Possible circular/oval pit cut - only partially revealed, not excavated
[213]	TT2	Fill of cut [214] - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey-brown sandy, silty soil; contains occasional small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 350mm thick
[214]	TT2	Possible linear cut feature or pit - oriented approximately NW-SE; gently sloping N side (at c. 30° to the horizontal), truncated to S; break from surface not visible owing to further truncation; base generally flat; dimensions: 1.6m+ (NW-SE) x 1m+ (NE-SW) x 350mm (depth)
[215]	TT2	Fill of ditch [216] - moderately compacted, mid-grey, slightly sandy, silty soil; contains occasional small flint pieces, moderately frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, & one piece of pot; up to 600mm thick - not excavated due to flooding/waterlogging; only recorded in section & plan
[216]	TT2	Linear cut feature - oriented NW-SE; north side slopes at c. 45° & breaks gently from the surface; S side & base not revealed; dimensions: 1.6m+ (NW-SE) x 1.4m+ (NE-SW) x 600mm (depth) - not excavated due to flooding/waterlogging; only recorded in section & plan
[217]	TT2	Subsoil/buried soil layer - well compacted, friable, mid grey (-brown), slightly sandy, slightly humic soil; contains only very infrequent small-medium sized pebbles & isolated pot fragments; up to 200mm thick
[218]	TT6	Fill of ditch [219] - moderately compacted, friable, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[219]	TT6	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slopes at c. 45° & break gently to form a generally flat base; break at surface not visible owing to truncation; dimensions: 1.5m (N-S) x 750mm (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[220]	TT5	Post-hole cut - sub-circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 270mm (N-S) x 350 (E-W) x 250mm (depth)
[221]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [220] - mixture of redeposited subsoil & natural sand & gravel [119]; contains very infrequent pottery inclusions; up to 250mm thick
[222]	TT5	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a rounded base; dimensions: 320mm (N-S) x 330 (E-W) x 500mm (depth)
[223]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [222] - mixture of redeposited subsoil & natural sand & gravel [119]; contains very infrequent pottery inclusions; up to 500mm thick
[224]	TT6	Fill of ditch [225] - moderately compacted, mixed mid grey-brown sandy silt & mid-brown sand; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 500mm thick
[225]	TT6	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slopes at between 45° & 70° to the horizontal, breaking gently from the surface & turning to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.5m (N-S) x 1m (E-W) x 500mm (depth)

Context No.	Location	Description
[226]	TT5	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides to north, south side at approximately 60° to the horizontal; sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a generally rounded base; dimensions: 280mm (N-S) x 270 (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[227]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [226] - mixture of redeposited subsoil & natural sand & gravel [119]; contains very infrequent pottery inclusions; up to 300mm thick
[228]	TT1	Primary fill of ditch [122] - moderately compacted, mid-light grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent large pebbles, frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles, & occasional limestone fragments; up to 300mm thick
[229]	TT1	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface & turning to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 5m (N-S) x 600mm (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[230]	TT1	Fill of ditch [231] - moderately compacted, mid-grey silty sand; contains occasional-moderately frequent small rounded pebbles; up to 400mm thick
[231]	TT1	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface & turning to form a rounded base; dimensions: 2.5m (N-S) x 880mm (E-W) x 400mm (depth)
[232]	TT5	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface & turning to form an irregular base; dimensions: 2m (N-S) x 1.7m+ (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[233]	TT5	Post-hole cut - circular/oval shape in plan; vertical sides to north & west, south & east sides slope at approximately 45°; sides break sharply from the surface (with some truncation), and turn to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 300mm (N-S) x 300 (E-W) x 100mm (depth)
[234]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [233] - identical to subsoil [271]
[235]	TT5	Post-hole cut - irregular, generally circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides (with slight 'step' to south) break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a concave, uneven base; dimensions: 250mm (N-S) x 250 (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[236]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [235] - identical to subsoil [271]
[237]	TT5	Post-hole cut - generally circular shape in plan; upper sides slope at between 30° and 45° and break gently from the surface; lower sides are steep, almost vertical, and merge to form a concave base; appears to have a smaller stake-hole in its south-west quadrant; upper part of the feature removed by machining, but seen in trench section; dimensions: 350mm (N-S) x 300 (E-W) x 300mm (depth)
[238]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [237] - identical to subsoil [271]
[239]	TT5	Post-hole cut - slightly irregular, generally circular shape in plan; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and merge to form a concave, uneven base; dimensions: 250mm (N-S) x 200 (E-W) x 200mm (depth)
[240]	TT5	Fill of post-hole [239] - identical to subsoil [271]
[241]	TT5	Subsoil or possible fill deposit - identical to subsoil [271]; not excavated
[242]	TT6	Fill of ditch [243] - moderately compacted, mid-grey (occasionally brown) sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 580mm thick
[243]	TT6	Linear cut feature - oriented N-S; steep sides break sharply from the surface & turning to form a rounded base; dimensions: 1.5m (N-S) x 900mm (E-W) x 580mm (depth)
[244]	TT6	Fill of post-hole [245] - moderately compacted, mid-grey sandy silt; contains frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 80mm thick
[245]	TT6	Post-hole cut - circular shape in plan; upper parts heavily truncated with only a concave base remaining; dimensions: 350mm in diameter & 80mm deep
[246]	TT6	Fill of ditch [247] - moderately compacted, mid-brown to grey-brown sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 900mm thick - Sample <3>
[247]	TT6	Linear cut feature - oriented NW-SE; sides slope at c. 45°, breaking gently from the surface & turning to form a rounded base; dimensions: 2.4m (width) x 900mm (depth)
[248]	TT1	Natural sand lense - mixed off-white to yellow-orange sand and gravel
[249]	TT1	Gravel lense - c. 50mm thick accumulation of small pebbles at the interface between topsoil [120] & subsoil [250]
[250]	TT1	Subsoil/buried soil layer - moderately compacted, dark brown/grey sand & silt; contains occasional large pebbles, & moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 200mm thick
[251]	TT1	Layer/lense - discontinuous patches of moderately compacted, yellow-brown clay & mid-dark brown/grey sandy silt; contains occasional small rounded pebbles; up to 100mm thick
[252]	TT1	Subsoil layer - moderately compacted, mid-dark brown/grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[253]	TT1	Fill of [117] - moderately compacted, light-mid grey silty sand & gravel; up to 100mm thick
[254]	TT1	Primary fill of [117] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains occasional small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 250mm thick
[255]	TT1	Clay lense/primary fill of [269] - moderately compacted, mixed yellow-brown clay & yellow/off-white silty sand; contains occasional small rounded pebbles; up to 80mm thick
[256]	TT1	Subsoil/buried soil layer - moderately compacted, mixed yellow/green to pale grey-brown silty sand; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized pebbles; up to 250mm thick
[257]	TT1	Lense/fill of [122] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains occasional small pebbles; up to 50mm thick
[258]	TT1	Fill of cut [259] - moderately compacted, light-mid grey silty sand; contains moderately-frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[259]	TT1	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; sides slope at between 70° & 45°, breaking sharply from the surface & turning to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.1m (width) x 300mm (depth)
[260]	TT1	Fill of cut [261] - moderately compacted, mid-grey silty sand; contains moderately-frequent small rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 400mm thick

Context No.	Location	Description
[261]	TT1	Possible linear cut feature - oriented E-W; sides slope at 45° & turn to form a generally flat base; upper sides truncated; dimensions: 400mm (width) x 150mm (depth)
[262] [263]	TT5	Fill of cut [232] - identical to subsoil [271] Sand deposit/fill? - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, silty soil; contains only occasional small pockets of small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 150mm thick
[264]	TT1	Fill of [117] - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[265]	TT1	Fill of [117] - moderately compacted, mid brown-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 150mm thick
[266]	TT1	Fill of [122] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains occasional small rounded pebbles; up to 100mm thick
[267]	TT1	Secondary fill of ditch [122] - moderately compacted, mid-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 200mm thick
[268]	TT1	Fill of [269] - moderately compacted, mixed yellow-green/grey sandy silt; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[269]	TT1	Possible pit cut - shape in plan not seen (only revealed in east-facing trench section); sides slope at 45°, breaking sharply from the surface & turning to form a rounded base; dimensions: 2m (diameter) x 500mm (depth)
[270]	TT5	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; south side slopes at c. 45°, north side is almost vertical; sides turn gradually to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 1.3m (N-S) x 1.7m+ (E-W) x 500mm+ (depth)
[271]	TT5	Subsoil - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown, slightly friable, slightly sandy, silty soil; contains well-distributed small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, and very occasional small pieces of (unworked) flint; up to 600mm thick
[272]	TT5	Upper fill of [270] - moderately compacted, mid yellowish-grey sandy, silty soil; contains frequent small rounded pebbles; up to 200mm+ thick
[273]	TT3	Subsoil - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains frequent-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, and occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[274]	TT3	Subsoil - moderately compacted, mixed mid-dark brown silty sand; contains frequent-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, and occasional limestone fragments; between 150mm & 300mm thick
[275]	TT3	Natural sand & gravel - same as [119]
[276]	TT2	Subsoil - moderately compacted, mid-grey (brown), slightly sandy, slightly humic soil; contains frequent-moderately frequent well-distributed small rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 250mm thick
[277]	TT2	Dump/lense - moderate-well compacted, mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, soil; contains occasional patches of mid-light brown clay, & moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 80mm thick
[278]	TT2	Dump layer/fill - moderately compacted, friable, mid (brown) grey, slightly sandy, soil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[279]	TT2	Secondary fill of cut [150] - moderately compacted, mid-grey (brown), slightly sandy, silty soil; contains moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles & occasional 'pea-grit'; up to 200mm thick
[280]	TT2	Fill of [281] - moderately compacted, friable, mixed grey-brown, slightly clayey, silty soil with light-mid grey sandy silt patches, & some redeposited natural [119]; contains pockets/patches of small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional 'pea-grit'; up to 400mm thick
[281]	TT2	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; south side slopes at c. 60° to the horizontal, north side is almost vertical; sides break sharply from the surface & merge to form a concave base; heavily truncated to the west by later pit; dimensions: 200mm+ (E-W) x 1.1m (N-S) x 400mm (depth)
[282]	TT7	Topsoil layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, topsoil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional fibrous roots; up to 200mm thick - same as [120]
[283]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, slightly friable, mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, soil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional small-medium sized fibrous roots & rootlets; up to 200mm thick - virtually identical to [282]
[284]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil; contains moderately-frequent small rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional small-medium sized fibrous roots & rootlets; up to 300mm thick
[285]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent small rounded pebbles; up to 300mm thick
[286]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly brown) grey, sandy, silty soil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles, some isolated (unworked) flint pieces, & occasional small
[287]	TT7	fibrous rootlets; up to 450mm thick Sand & gravel dump - moderate-loose compaction, friable, orange/orange-brown sand (50%) & gravel (50%); up to 200mm thick
[288]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles, small isolated pockets of 'pea-grit', very infrequent small irregular (unworked) flint pieces, & very occasional small fibrous rootlets; up to 400mm thick
[289]	TT7	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (very slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil; contains occasional small rounded & subrounded pebbles, & very occasional small fibrous rootlets; up to 200mm thick
[290]	TT7; TT8	Topsoil layer/dump - moderately compacted, friable, mid-dark grey-brown, sandy, silty soil; contains up to 50% modern rubble (bricks, concrete, roof tile, plastic, etc.), & pockets of plant & root remains; up to 550mm thick

Context No.	Location	Description
[291]	TT7; TT8	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, slightly friable, mid grey-brown, slightly sandy, silty soil; contains very infrequent small rounded & subrounded pebbles, brick & tile flecks, & occasional small-medium sized fibrous roots; up to 300mm thick
[292]	TT7; TT8	Fill/dump layer - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly grey) brown, sandy, silty soil; contains occasional-moderately frequent small/very small rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional small fibrous roots; up to 650mm thick
[293]	TT7	Cut for sand extraction pit - shape in plan not known (only small part of northern edge revealed at L.O.E.); north side appears generally straight, but follows a 'stepped' or 'dog-leg' profile; very small 200mm deep sondage showed upper side to slope at between 60° and 70° to the horizontal; base not revealed; dimensions: 8.5m+ (N-S) x 3.2m+ (E-W) x 200mm+ (depth) - not fully excavated
[294]	TT7; TT8	Cut for sand extraction pit - shape in plan not known (only partially revealed); southern edge appears generally straight, but profile not investigated; western and northern edges lay beyond the excavated areas and were therefore not identified; eastern side is steep, almost vertical, breaking sharply from the surface & turning abruptly to form a generally flat base; approximately 13m from the eastern side the trench begins to deepen, sloping downwards at c. 30° to the horizontal towards the west; dimensions: 3m+ (N-S) x c. 18m+ (E-W); depth between 650mm (eastern side) & 1.7m (western side) - not fully excavated
[295]	TT8	Sand & gravel dump/fill - thin layer/lense of moderately compacted, friable, mid brown/yellow-brown mottled sandy soil; mixed with up to 50% fine 'pea-gravel' & modern rubbish (plastic bags, etc.); up to 100mm thick
[296]	TT8	Sand & gravel dump/lense - moderately compacted, friable, mid (slightly orange) brown silty sand; contains up to 30% fine 'pea-gravel'; up to 100mm thick
[297]	TT8	Sand & gravel dump/lense - moderate-loose compaction, orange/orange-brown sand & gravel, mixed with up to c. 10% mid-brown sandy, silty soil; up to 100mm thick - largely redeposited natural [119]
[298]	TT4	Subsoil - moderately compacted, mid grey-brown, slightly friable, slightly sandy, silty soil; contains well-distributed small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 350mm thick
[299]	TT4	Fill of [300] - well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; truncated; up to 250mm thick
[300]	TT4	Cut for possible pit - shape in plan not known; shallow, uneven sides slope at c. 30° to the horizontal, breaking gently from the surface, and turning to form a generally flat base; dimensions: 400mm+ (N-S) x 2m+ (E-W) x 300mm (depth) - heavily truncated by later features
[301]	TT4	Fill of [302] - moderately compacted, mid brown sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 600mm thick
[302]	TT4	Cut for possible circular/oval pit - sides slope at between 45° and 70° to the horizontal, breaking gently from the surface and merging to form a flat base; c. 1.75m in diameter, and up to 500mm deep
[303]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [194] - moderately compacted, mixed mid-brown to grey sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 200mm thick
[304]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [194] - moderately compacted, mid grey (-brown) sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 150mm thick
[305]	TT6	Subsoil layer/lense - moderately compacted, mid greyish-brown sandy silt; contains no obvious inclusions; up to 120mm thick
[306]	TT6	Fill of [307] - moderately compacted, mid-dark grey-brown sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles; up to 500mm thick
[307]	TT6	Cut for possible pit - shape in plan not known; steep sides break sharply from the surface and merge to form a flat base; c. 2m in diameter, and up to 500mm deep
[308]	TT6	Fill of [309] - moderately compacted, mid brownish-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 350mm thick
[309]	TT6	Cut for possible pit - shape in plan not known; steep sides slope at c. 70° to the horizontal, breaking sharply from the surface and merging to form a flat base; c. 1.25m in diameter, and up to 350mm deep
[310]	TT6	Subsoil layer - moderately compacted, mid-dark brownish-grey sandy silt; contains occasional-moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 350mm thick
[311]	TT6	Subsoil layer - moderately compacted, orange-brown sand & gravel mixed with grey-brown sandy silt; contains no other obvious inclusions; up to 400mm thick
[312]	TT6	Subsoil layer - moderately compacted, orange-brown sand & gravel mixed with light brownish-grey sandy silt; contains no other obvious inclusions; up to 150mm thick
[313]	TT6	Fill of [302] - moderate-well compacted, mid-dark grey sandy silt; contains moderately frequent small-medium sized rounded & subrounded pebbles, & occasional charcoal flecks; up to 300mm thick
[314]	TT6	Cut for possible pit/post-hole - shape in plan not known; steep sides break sharply from the surface and merging to form a rounded base; c. 500mm in diameter, and up to 300mm deep
[315]	TT3	Possible ploughmark(s) - oriented north-south; visible predominantly only in section
[316]	TT5	Fill of possible ditch - moderately compacted, mid-brown to grey-brown sandy silt; contains frequent small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; not excavated - probably same as [246]/[247] (TT6)
[317]	TT5	Linear cut feature - oriented E-W; sides slope at c. 45° & turn gradually to form a rounded base; dimensions: 400mm-500mm (N-S) x 1.7m+ (E-W) x c. 400mm (depth)
[318]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [319] - moderately compacted, mid grey sandy silt; contains occasional small-medium sized rounded & sub-rounded pebbles; up to 140mm thick
[319]	TT4	Post-hole cut - oval shape in plan, with long axis oriented NE-SW; steep, almost vertical sides break sharply from the surface, and turn to form a flat base; dimensions: 600mm x 400mm & 140mm deep
[320]	TT4	Fill of post-hole [321] - identical to [318]; up to 190mm thick

Roman pottery: Archive Report

Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

Quantity And Condition

The Roman pottery consists of 66 sherds, weighing 1.598kg, from 11 contexts. The condition is average, although context [111] had fresh sherds, and no problems are anticipated for long term storage. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery*. The database and archive code definitions are below, in *Appendix E*.

Trial Trench	Cut number	Deposit	Context number	Sherds	Weight	Date (century)	Comments
1		Unstrat	[101]	8	165	Mid to late 3 rd	
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	23	641	Mid to late 3 rd	Fresh joining sherds; links to [112] & [113]
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	8	350	Mid 3 rd +	F.fresh; link to [111]
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	4	135	Mid to late 3 rd	Link to [111]
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	4	116	2 nd to 3 rd	BCAR?; more likely 2 nd century?
1	[135]	Ditch	[131]	8	43	Roman	
1	[135]	Ditch primary	[134]	2	25	3 rd ?	Unusual type; not closely dated
2		Unstrat	[102]	5	71	Roman	er entra er eller de la contra la la la contra
2	[140]	Ditch	[139]	2	34	Late 2 nd to 3 rd	Probably 3 rd century; earlier type BWM
4	-	Unstrat	[104]	1	3	Roman	
5	[270]	Ditch	[164]	1	15	1 st to 2 nd ?	Butt-beaker?
	Part I		Totals	66	1598		Free Control of the C

Table 1: quantities and dating by trench and context

Sherd links occur between ditch [117], gully [123] and ditch [130].

Fabric	Code	Sherds	%	Weight	%
Shell-gritted dales ware	DWSH	8	12.12	310	19.40
Grey ware	GREY	55	83.33	1236	77.35
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	NVCC	1	1.52	32	2.00
Oxidized	OX	1	1.52	15	0.94
Shell-gritted	SHEL	1	1.52	5	0.31
Totals		66	100	1598	100

Table 2: fabrics represented

Apart from dales ware coming from the Humber area, the only sherd from outside the area is a fragment from a bowl or dish in Nene Valley colour-coated ware, unstratified in Trench 1.

Discussion

Most of the pottery came from Trench 1, with sound dating based on a wide-mouthed bowl from ditch [117], of which another sherd came from ditch [130], alongside a dales ware shell-gritted jar from gully [123]. A possibly earlier vessel is represented by a carinated body sherd from ditch [122], a type more commonly found in the 2nd century.

Trench 2 also contained fragments of wide-mouthed bowls, too fragmentary to date closely, but certainly within the range of late 2nd to mid 3rd century.

While trench 4 produced a single undatable grey body sherd, an oxidized body sherd from a closed form with fine rouletting, from ditch [270] in Trench 5, is very reminiscent of a butt-beaker, normally of 1st century date, and unlikely to extend far, if at all, into the 2nd century. The oxidized fabric is not recognized. There is therefore the possibility of earlier occupation in the area, but it rests on the tenuous evidence of this single sherd.

Otherwise occupation appears to be mainly in the later Roman period, essentially 3rd century, with the possibility of some 2nd century activity. The only sherd which might extend the date into the 4th century is the Nene Valley colour-coated sherd, but this is from a type, probably a dish, which starts in the later 3rd century and continues into the 4th century.

Appendix E

Roman pottery: Archive Database

Margaret J. Darling, M.Phil., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

Trial Trench	Cut number	Deposit	Context number	Fabric	Form	Manufacture	Vessels	Altn	Drwg. No.	Details	Link	Sherds	Weight (g)
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	BFL		1			rims/part wall; RB fabric; dk grey surfaces; no visible dec		5	121
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	CPL?	LO	1	-		body sherd; obtuse lattice	7	1	20
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	JL?	LO	1	-		base/part wall J sherds; string marked; same	[112]	11	350
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	BWM		1			rim/neck; undercut; heavy; almost definitely same	[113]	1	95
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	CLSD			-		body sherd; burnished ext	[113]	1	21
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	GREY	CLSD	-		-	-	body sherds	-	1	34
1	[117]	Ditch	[111]	ZDATE	-	-		-	-	Mid to late 3 rd century	-	4+	34
1		Ditch			1-	-		-	-		-		
1	[117]		[111]	ZZZ	17.0		-	-		fresh joining sherds; links to [112]; [113]	F1117	-	47
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	GREY	JL?		-	-		base frag; same in	[111]	1	47
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	body sherd; burnished ext; JL or BWM	-	1	21
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	DWSH	JDW	HM	1?	-	-	base & body sherds; typical indent underside base	-	6	282
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	- '	Mid 3 rd century+	-	-	-
1	[123]	E-W gully	[112]	ZZZ	-	-	-	-	-	F fresh; link to [111]	-	-	-
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	GREY	DPR	-	-	-	-	complete profile; burnish; undec; later type	-	1	62
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	GREY	BDEXR	-	-	-	-	rim/part wall; BB2 FM type?	-	1	21
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	GREY	BWM	-	-	-	- 11 1	rim/neck; almost definitely same in	[111]	1	44
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	GREY	BD?		-	-	- UK 5 - h	body sherd; close BB1	-	1	8
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	-	Mid to late 3 rd century	-	-	-
1	[130]	Ditch	[113]	ZZZ				-	-	link to [111]		-	
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	GREY	BCAR?		-	-4 -41	-	body sherd; unusual cordon carination; diam c. 16; burnish above	9 33	1	70
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	GREY	BD		1	-	-	base frags; probably dish	-	2	41
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	GREY	-	1.1.23.1.2	-	-	- 31 8 1	body sherd		1	5
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	ZDATE	-	-	-	-		2 nd to 3 rd century	1 - 1	1-, 7	-
1	[122]	Ditch	[115]	ZZZ	- 1	1	-	-	- 1-12	BCAR?; more 2 nd century?	9	-	-
1	[135]	Ditch	[131]	GREY	-	-	-	-	-	body sherds; none diagnostic	- 10	8	43
1	[135]	Ditch	[131]	ZDATE	- 11			_		Roman	-	-	-
1	[135]	Ditch primary	[134]	GREY	JB	1 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12	-		-	rim upright rounded; tall neck; diameter ?16	1	1	21
1	[135]	Ditch primary	[134]	GREY		1-8 7-8 7	_	_	-	Flake		1	4
1	[135]	Ditch primary	[134]	ZDATE	_		-	-		3 rd century?	-	-	-
1	[135]	Ditch primary	[134]	ZZZ	STATE OF	Table 1	_	-		unusual type; not closely dated		-	-
1		Unstrat	[101]	NVCC	BD			-	-	base frag; CR-BN fabric	-	1	32
1		Unstrat	[101]	GREY	DPR					complete profile; curved wall; undecorated		1	33
1		Unstrat	[101]	GREY	-	_		_	- body sherds			4	72
1		Unstrat	[101]	DWSH	JDW	HM	22			rim frags		2	28
1		Unstrat	[101]	ZDATE	DIII	HIVI				Mid to late 3 rd century		-	20

Roman pottery: Archive Database (continued)

Trial Trench	Cut number	Deposit	Context number	Fabric	Form	Manufacture	Vessels	Altn	Drwg. No.	Details	Link	Sherds	Weight (g)
												Marine St.	
2	/	Unstrat	[102]	GREY	-	-	-	abr	-	body sherds; abraded		4	66
2	-	Unstrat	[102]	SHEL	-	-	-	burnt	- 1	body sherd; burnt; not def DWSH	-	1	5
2		Unstrat	[102]	ZDATE	-	-			-	Roman	-	-	- 1
2	[140]	Ditch	[139]	GREY	BWM	-	-	-	-	rim frag; F. heavy curv	-	1	19
2	[140]	Ditch	[139]	GREY	JBEV		-	-	- 11 13	rim frag; diameter 20; grey-brown surface		1	15
2	[140]	Ditch	[139]	ZDATE	-	-		-	-	Late 2 nd to 3 rd century	-	- 10	- 4
2	[140]	Ditch	[139]	ZZZ	-	- 1	-	-	-	probably 3 rd century; earlier type BWM	-	-	-2
4	-	Unstrat	[104]	GREY	-	-		-		body sherd	-	1	3
4	- 300	Unstrat	[104]	ZDATE	-	-	-	-	- 10-13-13	Roman	-	- 100	
5	[270]	Ditch	[164]	OX	JBK?	ROUZ	-	-	- 12 15 11	body sherd; light grey fabric; RB; cort/surfs; Basal>dec; fine ROUZ	-47	1	15
5	[270]	Ditch	[164]	ZDATE	-	-	-		-	1st to 2nd century?	-	- tolt	- 40154
5	[270]	Ditch	[164]	ZZZ	-	-	- 1	-	-	butt-beaker?	-	- 1	-7-20 4 5

Key to Fabric codes:

DWSH	Shell-gritted dales ware
GREY	Miscellaneous grey wares
NVCC	Nene Valley colour-coated ware

OX Oxidized SHEL Shell-gritted

Key to Form codes:

BCAR?	Bowl or jar carinated
BD	Bowl or dish
BDEXR	Bowl or dish expanded-rim
BFL	Bowl flat-rimmed
BWM	Bowl wide-mouthed
CLSD	Closed form
CPL?	Cooking pot late?
DPR	Dish plain-rim
JB	Jar or bowl
JBEV	Jar or bowl everted rim
JBK?	Jar or beaker
JDW	Jar dales ware
JL?	Jar large

Key to Manuf+ codes:

HM	Hand-made
LO	Lattice obtuse
ROUZ	Rouletted zone

Post-Roman pottery & ceramic building material: Archive Report

Alan Vince & Jane Young, Ceramic Consultants

Introduction

In total, seventy-nine sherds of pottery representing sixty-nine vessels, six fragments of brick, two fragments of roof tile, one pantile and one miscellaneous fragment of fired clay were recovered from the site. The pottery ranges in date from the Anglo-Saxon to early modern periods whilst the ceramic building material is entirely of late post-medieval to early modern date. The pottery assemblage was quantified by three measures: number of sherds, weight in grams and vessel count within each context and the building material by fragment count and weight. Fabric identification of some of the pottery and building material was undertaken by x20 binocular microscope. The ceramic data was entered on an *Access* database using fabric codenames agreed locally and nationally.

Condition

The pottery is in a slightly abraded to abraded condition with sherd size mainly falling into the small to medium range (below 100g). Only eight vessels are represented by more than one sherd. Most of the shell-tempered sherds have been completely leached. A number of vessels have external soot residues suggesting that they have been used over an open fire and at least three of the Anglo-Saxon vessels have internal soot residues that may represent a more specialist use. The ceramic building material is in a poor condition, consistent with plough damage.

Provenance

Only small amounts of pottery, much of it occurring residually, were recovered from each trench (Table 1).

Trench 1 produced six vessels, all dating to the 12^{th} century or earlier, one fragment of fired clay and one early modern brick. The two *LFS* vessels recovered from this trench are undiagnostic and may date anywhere between the late 10^{th} and late 12^{th} centuries whilst the two glazed *NSP* vessels are of mid/late to late 12^{th} century date. Anglo-Saxon sherds were recovered from subsoil [250] and fill [115] of ditch [122].

Trench 2 produced a small mixed group of seven vessels including one residual Late Saxon sherd and one unstratified Anglo-Saxon sherd as well as an early modern brick. The latest sherds from this trench date to between the 18^{th} and 19^{th} centuries.

Nine vessels, eight of which are of Saxon date were recovered from Trench 3. Fill [114] of ditch [168] produced a mixed group of two Anglo-Saxon, one Middle Saxon and one Late Saxon vessels. The other vessels from this trench, including a 17th to 18th century sherd were unstratified.

The largest group of pottery came from Trench 4 (15 sherds), although six of the vessels including the two Anglo-Saxon sherds were unstratified. Two 11th to 12th century vessels were found in fill [166] of ditch [195] along with post-medieval to early modern building material. Six further 11th to 12th century vessels came from fill [197] of ditch [198], stratified with a medieval vessel of probable 12th century date. A single fragment of a late post-medieval brick was also found in this trench.

Trench 5 produced a mixed group of ten vessels ranging in date from the Anglo-Saxon to early modern periods and two late post-medieval or early modern bricks. Single Anglo-Saxon vessels were recovered from five features; post-hole fills [221], [227] and [223], pit fill [205] and ditch fill [164]. Pit fill [205] also produced a Late Saxon vessel. The remaining vessels are of late 18th to 19th century date.

Seven of the eight unstratified vessels found in Trench 6 are of Anglo-Saxon type. The eighth vessel is an 18th or 19th century slipware bowl. A single stratified Middle Saxon sherd came from fill [224] of ditch [225].

Trench 7 produced only late post-medieval to early modern pottery and ceramic building material.

Ceramic period	TT1	TT2	TT3	TT4	TT5	TT6	TT7	Total vessels
Anglo-Saxon (5 th to 8 th)	2	1	4	2	5	7	0	21
Mid-Saxon (late 7 th to mid 9 th)	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Late Saxon (late 9 th to late 10 th)	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	5
Saxo-Norman (11 th to 12 th)	2	0	0	11	0	0	0	13
Early medieval (12 th)	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Medieval (13 th to 15 th)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Post-medieval (17 th to 18 th)	0	4	1	0	1	1	10	17
Early modern (late 18 th to 19 th)	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	6
Total vessels	6	7	9	15	10	9	13	69

Table 1 Summary of pottery by ceramic period by Trench

The Pottery

In total sixty-nine vessels in twenty-two identifiable post-Roman pottery ware types were recovered. (Tables 1). The range of pottery vessel form types is fairly limited with examples of various types of jug, jar and bowl forming the main body of the assemblage.

Codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	Sherds	Vessels
BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	2	2
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	13	12
CHARN	Charnwood ware	450	800	9	9
CREA	Creamware	1770	1830	3	3
ENGS	Unspecified English Stoneware	1750	1900	1	1
ESGS	Early to mid Anglo-Saxon Greensand quartz tempered	550	800	2	2
FE	Ironstone tempered	550	800	1	1
LFS	Lincolnshire Fine-shelled ware	970	1200	14	10
LKT	Lincoln kiln-type shelly ware	850	1000	5	5
LSW2	13th to 14th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	1200	1320	1	1
LSW3	14 th to 15 th century Lincoln Glazed Ware	1280	1450	1	1
MAX	Northern Maxey-type ware	680	870	2	2
MEDX	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	1150	1450	2	2
NOTS	Nottingham stoneware	1690	1900	1	1
NSP	Nottingham Splashed ware	1100	1250	2	2
PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	3	2
RQCL	Central Lincolnshire Early to Mid Saxon Rounded Quartz Fabric	450	750	3	2
SLIP	Unidentified slipware	1650	1750	1	1
SSQCL	Anglo-Saxon Central Lincolnshire Shell Silt and Quartz	450	800	3	3
SST	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	550	800	6	4
ST	Stamford Ware	970	1200	3	3
STMO	Staffordshire/Bristol mottled-glazed	1690	1800	1	1

Table 2 Pottery types with total quantities by sherd and vessel count

Anglo-Saxon

Twenty-four sherds of early to mid Anglo-Saxon date were recovered, representing no more than twenty-one vessels and weighing 448g in total. The fabric of the sherds was examined at x20 magnification and could be grouped into six groups:

- a) sherds containing fragments of biotite-rich igneous rock, probably Mountsorrel granodiorite, (CHARN)
- b) sherds containing polished quartz grains of Lower Cretaceous origin (ESGS)
- c) sherds containing a mixed sand/gravel which includes sandstones and limestone fragments (SSQCL)
- d) sherds containing predominantly sandstone inclusions (SST)
- e) sheds containing large angular fragments of clay/ironstone (FE)
- f) sherds containing a mixed sand/gravel which includes rounded quartz grains (RQCL)

All the sherds probably come from jars, two of which were decorated, one with incised lines and the other with stamps, arranged in zones. The latter vessel is likely to be of later 5^{th} or 6^{th} century date. The remaining sherds can only be broadly dated, between the mid 5^{th} and the 8^{th} centuries.

None of these fabrics are likely to have been produced in the Bassingham area and indicate that the inhabitants of the settlement were in contact with groups to the east and southwest. A similar range of fabrics was found at the Glebe Farm, Brough site discovered during the dualling of the A46 about 6 miles to the west of Bassingham.

Middle Saxon to Late Saxon

Two vessels are of Middle Saxon Northern Maxey-type ware and date to between the late 7th and mid/late 9th centuries. Neither of the sherds is diagnostic of a specific form type, although one vessel is a large lugged jar. One of the vessels is in the more common Fabric B whilst the other is in a fine-shelled fabric, possibly Fabric A, although it is difficult to be certain, as the shell-tempered has been almost entirely leached from the surfaces of the sherd.

Five Late Saxon vessels dating to the period between the late 9^{th} and late 10^{th} centuries were also recovered. All four of the vessels are shell-tempered Lincoln products (*LKT*) and include two possible bowls.

Saxo-Norman to Early medieval

Sixteen vessels date to the period between the late 10th and late 12th centuries. Ten of the vessels are shell-tempered coarse wares (*LFS*), which are difficult to date as none of the sherds have any diagnostic features. The ware is in use from the late 10th through to the late 12th centuries. Three Stamford ware (ST) vessels are in fabrics that suggest a late 11th to 12th century date. The other vessels comprise mid/late to late 12th century jugs from Nottingham (*NSP*) and an unknown production centre (*MEDX*).

Medieval

Only two of the pottery vessels submitted for examination are of medieval to late medieval type and can be dated to the period between the early 13th and mid 15th centuries. Both vessels are Lincoln ware jugs (*LSW2* and *LSW3*). The *LSW2* jug has a date range of early 13th to early/mid 14th century and the smaller *LSW3* jug of late 13th to mid 15th century.

Post-medieval to Early Modern

The earliest post-medieval pottery on the site is probably of 18^{th} century date although stylistically several vessels are of mid 17^{th} to 18^{th} century type. These late coarsewares (fourteen vessels in *BL* and *LERTH*) are most likely to date to the 18^{th} or early 19^{th} centuries, although these wares were still in use into the first half of the 20^{th} century. Five industrial fineware vessels (*CREA* and *PEARL*) of late 18^{th} to mid 19^{th} century date, two 18^{th} -century slipwares (*SLIP* and *STMO*) and two 18^{th} or 19^{th} century stoneware vessels (*ENGS* and *NOTS*) are also present.

Ceramic Building Material

Six brick fragments were recovered from the site; all are of late post-medieval to early modern type and likely to date to between the 17th and 20th centuries. A single fragment of an early modern pantile was recovered as well as two miscellaneous fragments of late post-medieval to early modern flat roof tile.

Discussion

It is impossible to make precise statements about the status or function of the site due to the limited size of the assemblage and the nature of the deposits encountered. It is possible however to suggest that Anglo-Saxon to Late Saxon occupation occurred either on, or very close to the site, as pottery of this period is usually discarded close to settlements (there is very little evidence for field manuring or dumping of refuse at any distance from settlements at this period, and the sherds are quite large and unabraded). The concentration of Anglo-Saxon pottery in Trenches 3, 5 and 6 suggests that the activity of this period was in this area. It is also worth noting that Bassingham, like Brough, lies at the western edge of a Maxey-type ware pottery-using area in the later 7th to mid 9th centuries and that there is a possibility that some of the Anglo-Saxon-type sherds are from occupation on the site during the mid Saxon period.

Vessels of 11^{th} to 12^{th} century date are confined to Trenches 1 and 4 suggesting activity involving rubbish disposal at this date was confined to these areas. Only two vessels can be attributed to the medieval period and this suggests a change in use of the area after the 12^{th} century. There is no ceramic evidence for activity on the site again until the late 17^{th} or more probably 18^{th} century. None of the ceramic building material is of pre-late post-medieval or early modern date.

The entire assemblage should be kept for future study.

Appendix G

Post-Roman pottery & ceramic building material: Archive Listings

Jane Young, Ceramic Consultant

Post-Roman Pottery Archive

Trench Number	Context Number	Cname	Sub fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Weight (g)	Decoration	Part	Ref no.	Description	Date (century)
TT1	[101]	LFS		Jar/bowl	1	1	1		BS			
TT1	[101]	NSP	Sandy	Jug/jar	1	1	4	Commence of the Commence of th	BS		Abraded	
TT1	[101]	NSP	Sandy	Jug	1	1	16		BS		?ID as quite light coloured glaze	
TT1	[115]	SSQCL	Address pro-grant	Jar?	1	1	13		BS	34-11-5	Abraded; leached; soot; comm shel & ca mod organic	
TT1	[250]	CHARN	+ triassic quartz sst & ca	Small jar/bowl	1	1	15	profession.	BS		Thick walled	
TT1	[250]	LFS		Jar/bowl	2	1	4	The state of	BS		Leached; very abraded	
TT2	[102]	BL	light fabric	Large jar	1	1	78		BS		Red-slipped; int black glaze; hard fired	17 th to 18 th
TT2	[102]	LSW2		Jug	1	1	66		Handle		Strap handle with central hollow; ?ID as quite heavy for size	
TT2	[102]	SST	+ ca	Buckelurn	2	1	37	Zoned dec; stamped Briscoe F2ai & H1aiii	BS	DR1	Horizontal & diagonal grooves; abraded; 6 th ; fresh breaks; fabric incl ca fine aggregate sst a light pink rock similar to siltstone & carbonised veg	6 th
TT2	[151]	BL		Bowl	1	1	70		Base		I see the second of the second	18 th to mid 19 th
TT2	[151]	BL		Jar	1	1	15		BS		Part soot on break	late 17 th to 18 th
TT2	[215]	LKT		Jar	1	1	9		Rim	No. 1	EVERA3 rim; leached	
TT2	[217]	BL		Large jar	1	1	52		BS		Int glaze	18 th to 19 th
TT3	[103]	BERTH		Bowl?	1	1	12		BS		Abraded	17 th to 18 th
TT3	[103]	LKT		Jar	1	1	20		Base		Abraded; leached	
TT3	[103]	SST		Small jar	1	1	17		BS		Semi burnished ext	
TT3	[114]	ESGS		?	1	1	1		BS	Sample 2		
TT3	[114]	FE	+ chaff & rounded quartz	Large vessel	1	1	9		BS	Sample 2		
TT3	[114]	LKT		Jar	1	1	18		BS		Leached; abraded	that have the time.
TT3	[114]	LKT		Small jar/bowl	1	1	2		BS		Leached; abraded	
TT3	[114]	MAX	fine shelled U/A	Large lugged jar	1	1	57	that was the	Lug hole	15	Very abraded; leached; fresh break; soot patches	
TT3	[114]	SST	+ shell	Jar/bowl	2	1	15		BS		Abraded; leached; quartz shell ca & organic	
TT4	[104]	CHARN	+ triassic quartz	Large jar	1	1	23		BS		Thick walled; abraded	
TT4	[104]	CHARN	+ triassic quartz	Jar/bowl	1	1	19		BS		Thick walled; soot int	
TT4	[104]	LFS		Jar/bowl	1	1	1		BS		Leached	
TT4	[104]	LFS		Jar/bowl	1	1	6		Base		Leached	
TT4	[104]	LFS	2 1	Jar/bowl	1	1	8		BS		Leached	
TT4	[104]	LFS		Small jar	1	1	12		BS		Leached; soot	
TT4	[104]	LFS		Bowl	1	1	12		Rim		Everted rim; soot	12 th

Post-Roman Pottery Archive (continued)

Trench Number	Context Number	Cname	Sub fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Weight (g)	Decoration	Part	Ref no.	Description	Date (century)
TT4	[104]	LSW3		Small jug/ drinking jug	1	1	8		BS		Thick walled; ?ID or POTTG	
TT4	[104]	MEDX	dull oxid; med sandy	Jug	1	1	33	Multi neck/ shoulder cordons	BS	Vessel 1	Thick light brown suspension glaze; comm mixed fine-med round- subround quartz occ fine ca mod fe occ aggregate very fine sst in light cement	
TT4	[166]	LFS		Small jar	1	1	4	Light Edit Head	BS		Abraded; leached	and playing
TT4	[166]	ST	В	Jar	1	1	6		BS		Soot	Carlotte Carlo
TT4	[167]	LFS		Small jar	3	1	8		BS	-	Leached; soot	A Property of
TT4	[167]	MEDX	dull oxid; med sandy	Jug	1	1	7		BS	Vessel 1		
TT4	[167]	ST	B/C	Jar/pitcher	1	1	10		BS		Glaze	Managers 1 &
TT4	[197]	LFS	Cally a service	Small jar	2	1	3		BS		Leached	
TT4	[197]	ST	C	Jar/pitcher/bowl	1	1	20		BS	100	Part int & part ext soot with opposing patterns; unglazed	
TT5	[105]	BL	Staffs?	Jug	1	1	78		Base		Near vitrified	17 th to 18 th
TT5	[161]	ENGS		Large jar/flagon	1	1	183		BS		Large fresh frag	19 th to 20 th
TT5	[161]	PEARL		Small bowl/cup	2	1	3	Blue transfer print	Rim			
TT5	[161]	PEARL		Small dish	1	1	8	Blue transfer print	Profile			
TT5	[164]	SSQCL		Jar	1	1	122		BS		Thick walled; leached soot; mod fine-med round-subround quartz comm shell & ca mod-comm organic	
TT5	[205]	CHARN	Den Specific to	Jar/bowl	1	1	18		BS		Thick walled	STATE OF THE STATE OF
TT5	[205]	LKT		Jar/bowl	1	1	2		BS		Leached; soot	
TT5	[221]	ROCL		Jar/bowl	2	1	3		BS		Fabric includes carbonised veg	
TT5	[223]	CHARN	+ triassic quartz	Jar/bowl	1	1	13		BS		No. of the control of	1
TT5	[227]	SSQCL		Jar	1	1	8	Incised line dec	BS	DR4	Dec similar to that found on MAX at Flixborough & CHARN at Riby	
TT6	[106]	CHARN		Small dish/bowl	1	1	62		Rim	DR2	Very crude; thick int soot	
TT6	[106]	CHARN	+ sst	Large jar/bowl	1	1	36		BS	No.	Internal soot	
TT6	[106]	CHARN	+ RQ & SST	Small jar	1	1	5		BS		Semi-burnished ext	1270 497/54
TT6	[106]	CHARN	+ RQ	Jar/bowl	1	1	9		BS		Abraded	
TT6	[106]	ESGS	+ flint	Jar	1	1	13		Rim	DR3	The second secon	The Residence of
TT6	[106]	RQCL	+ occ biotite	Jar/bowl	1	1	8		BS		Soot	
TT6	[106]	SLIP		Bowl	1	1	11		Rim	No. 19	Hooked rim; white slipped; brown bands	18 th to 19 th
TT6	[106]	SST	+ occ biotite	Jar/bowl	1	1	11		BS	THE PE	Abraded; thin walled; post-firing small hole; soot int?	
TT6	[224]	MAX	В	Jar/bowl	1	1	10		Base		Leached; ?ID; thick walled	
TT7	[107]	BL	P 1975 1 1 10	Large bowl	1	1	97		Rim			mid 18th to 19th
TT7	[107]	BL		Bowl	2	1	331		Base & rim		Odd rim; inclusion hole	18 th to mid 19 th
TT7	[107]	BL	Staffs?	Large bowl	1	1	78	Mary Barrier	Rim	1977	Light firing; red slipped	18 th to mid 19 th
TT7	[283]	BL	10 mg	Large bowl	1	1	22	The state of the state of	BS	14	Int glaze	late 18 th to 19 th
TT7	[283]	BL		Large bowl	1	1	14		BS	122 - 140	Int glaze	late 18 th to 19 th
TT7	[284]	BL		Jar	1	1	19		BS		Flaked int glaze	late 18 th to 19 th

Post-Roman Pottery Archive (continued)

Trench	C-22	Cname	Sub fabric	Form type	Sherds	Vessels	Weight	Decoration	Part	Ref no.	Description	Date (century)
Number	Number						(g)					
TT7	[286]	STMO		Cup	1	1	23		Base		Fresh; poss not Staffs	
TT7	[288]	BERTH		Jar	1	1	15	- Marine Day	BS			late 17 th to 18 th
TT7	[288]	BL		Large bowl	1	1	171		Base			mid 18 th to 19 th
TT7	[288]	CREA		Cylindrical jar	1	1	124	41 S b 12 W	Rim			
TT7	[288]	CREA		Dish	1	1	33		Base			
TT7	[288]	CREA		Small dish?	1	1	2	TH. 1244 1	Base			
TT7	[288]	NOTS		Jar?	1	1	79		Base			

Pottery glossary

BERTH	Brown-glazed earthenwares (1550-1800)	LKT	Lincoln kiln-type shelly ware (850-1000)	RQCL	Central Lincolnshire early-mid Saxon rounded quartz fabric (450-750)
BL	Black-glazed wares (1550-1750)	LSW2	13 th - 14 th century Lincoln glazed ware (1200-1320)	SLIP	Unidentified slipware (1650-1750)
CHARN	Charnwood ware (450-800)	LSW3	14 th - 15 th century Lincoln glazed ware (1280-1450)	SSQCL	Central Lincolnshire Anglo-Saxon shell silt and quartz (400-850)
CREA	Creamware (1770-1830)	MAX	Northern Maxey-type ware (680-870)	SST	Early-mid Saxon sandstone-tempered (550-800)
ENGS	Unspecified English stoneware (1750-1900)	MEDX	Non-local medieval fabrics (1150-1450)	ST	Stamford ware (970-1200)
ESGS	Early-mid Anglo-Saxon Greensand quartz tempered (550-800)	NOTS	Nottingham stoneware (1690-1900)	STMO	Staffordshire/Bristol mottled glazed (1690-1800)
FE	Ironstone tempered (550-800)	NSP	Nottingham splashed ware (1100-1250)		
LFS	Lincolnshire Fine-shelled ware (970-1200)	PEARL	Pearlware (1770-1900)		

Ceramic Building Material Archive

Trench Number	Context Number	Cname	Fabric	Fragments	Weight (g)	Description	Date (century)
TT1	[101]	BRK		1	939	Very worn upper surface with red paint; 111 x ? x 36mm; hard red fabric mod large inclusions	Late 18 th to 20 th
TT1	[115]	FIRED CLAY	Silty	1	3	Local?; fabric includes siltstone & shell; possible daub	
TT2	[102]	BRK		1	2241	Shaped brick; handmade; poorly mixed fabric; moulded indentation; for door/window; sanded underside; struck upper; moulded edges	Late 17 th to 19 th
TT4	[166]	BRK		1	62	Handmade?; sanded base	Late post-medieval to early modern
TT5	[161]	BRK		1	320	Handmade; poorly mixed red & light firing fabric with large shale? inclusions; struck upper; sanded base; ?slop moulded; 64-68mm thick	16 th to 18 th
TT5	[161]	BRK		1	56	Abraded; handmade?	17 th to 20 th
TT6	[106]	PNR	Hard red fabric	1	157	Comm white clay inclusions; corner	Late post-medieval to early modern
TT7	[107]	BRK		1	261	Poor fabric; large light mudstone inclusion; struck upper surface; handmade	17 th to 19 th
TT7	[288]	PNR	Hard red fabric	1	32	Some laminates of white clay; bedded on sand & white clay? fragments	Late post-medieval to early modern
TT7	[291]	PANT		1	25		Late 18th to 20th

Ceramic building material glossary

BRKBrick PANTPantile FIRED CLAY Fired clay

PNRPeg, nib or ridge tile

Appendix H

Registered finds: Archive Listing

Yvonne Rose, Lincs Archaeo-tech

Registered Finds Archive

Context number	Finds number	Material	Name	Comments
[112]	1	Stone	Quern	Roman; fine millstone grit or sandstone; fragment of upper stone of rotary quern; reused?
[218]	2	Stone	Quern	Roman+; (Niedermendig?) lava; fragment
[104]	3	Flint	Flake	Prehistoric
[104]	4	Flint	Flake	Prehistoric; heavily corticated
[167]	5	Flint		Prehistoric; possible blade; heavily corticated
[137]	6	Flint	Blade	Prehistoric; both ends broken
[199]	7	Flint	Flake	Prehistoric; possible blade or scraper
[246]	8	Flint	Flake	Prehistoric; ex sample <3>

Appendix I

Bulk finds: Archive Listing

Yvonne Rose, Lincs Archaeo-tech

Bulk Finds Archive

Context number	Category	Count	Comments/Weight (g)
[104]	Stone	1	2g heavily corticated unworked flint
[105]	Slag	1	Modern? plano-convex hearth bottom?
[111]	Stone	2	Natural pebbles; discarded
[114]	Stone	1	Worked? flint flake; ex sample <2>
[114]	Fired clay	4	14g; ex sample <2>
[116]	Fired clay	4	<1g; ex sample <1>
[161]	Tobacco pipe	1	Modern; 18 th century+; stem; discarded
[161]	Window glass	2	Modern; 2mm thick; 1 corner; discarded
[246]	Stone	3	<1g; tiny fragments; ex sample <3>
[246]	Fired clay	20	2g; ex sample <3>

Appendix J

Non-ceramic Building Material: Archive Listing

Yvonne Rose, Lincs Archaeo-tech

Non-ceramic Building Material Archive

Context number	Form Code	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Subform	Fabric	Comments/Date
[101]	Concrete	1	712	N-districts of		Modern; discarded
[101]	Mortar	1	62	- 0.02	-	Modern; 1 chamfered edge; discarded
[101]	Stone tile	1	178		Sandstone	18mm thick; no original edges; discarded

Appendix K

Bone finds: Archive Listing

Yvonne Rose, Lincs Archaeo-tech

Bone Archive

Context number	Count	Type	Comments
[101]	1	Animal	
[102]	1	Animal	
[111]	14	Animal	-
[112]	3	Animal	- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (- (
[113]	3	Animal	-
[114]	1	Animal	
[115]	3	Animal	- 1_ 1
[131]	14	Animal	-
[134]	5	Animal	-
[139]	2	Animal	-
[161]	5	Animal	
[166]	20	Animal	-
[218]	3	Animal	

Environmental Archaeology Assessment Report

D. James Rackham & Gemma Martin, The Environmental Archaeology Consultancy

1.0 Introduction

Three samples were submitted from ditches excavated by Lincs Archaeo-tech during the evaluation of a site at Grange Farm, High Street, Bassingham. One ditch was dated to the late Saxon or early medieval period and the other two were undated. Each sample comprised 30 litres of excavated sediment.

2.0 Methods

The soil samples were processed in the following manner. Sample volume and weight was measured prior to processing. The samples were washed in a 'Siraf' tank (Williams, 1973) using a flotation sieve with a 0.5mm mesh and an internal wet sieve of 1mm mesh for the residue. Both residue and flot were dried and the residues subsequently re-floated to ensure the efficient recovery of charred material. The dry volume of the flots was measured and the volume and weight of the residue recorded. A total of 90 litres of soil was processed in this way.

The residue was sorted by eye, and environmental and archaeological finds picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged independently. A magnet was run through each residue in order to recover magnetised material such as hammerscale and prill and a count made of the number of flakes or spheroids of hammerscale collected. The residue was then discarded. The flot of each sample was studied using x30 magnifications and the presence of environmental finds (*i.e.*, snails, charcoal, carbonised seeds, bones etc) was noted and their abundance and species diversity recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the sorted residue, constitute the material archive of the samples.

The individual components of the samples were then preliminarily identified and the results are summarised below in Tables 1 and 2.

3.0 Results

All three samples produced clear evidence of domestic occupation debris and also some craft/industrial activity in the near vicinity. Archaeological finds from the samples include pottery, tiny brick or tile fragments, fired earth, fuel ash slag, an iron nail(?), hammerscale, animal bone and charred cereal grain (Tables 1 and 2).

The presence of bread type wheat and probable rye in undated context [116] suggests that this is likely to be late Saxon or medieval in date. A Romano-British sample this rich in cereal grain would be expected to have spelt wheat. The occurrence of spelt or emmer in ditch fill [246] and the presence of probable rye and chicken bone suggests that this undated ditch fill may be Roman in date, although the spelt/emmer could be residual in the context. While it is inappropriate to be too confident the cereals can sometimes be a guide to the date of the deposits. The charred assemblages are dominated by charred grain, with very little chaff, and a few larger weed seeds. This suggests the charred plant remains derive from processed grain probably ready for consumption and its abundance in the samples implies proximity to occupation. Bread wheat and hulled barley are the main cereals in contexts [116] and [114]. The vetches may derive from crops grown for fodder (Campbell, 1988) or be contaminants in the cereal crop. The relatively rich hammerscale component in the samples from contexts [116] and [114] also suggests proximity to iron smithing further supporting an inference that the occupation responsible for this debris is located nearby.

Two of the samples produced remains suggesting a late Saxon or medieval date, while the third is possibly Roman in date. All three samples are relatively rich, with context [116] producing the richest assemblage. The samples clearly suggest that contemporary occupation is located very nearby and that this occupation is of both domestic and industrial in character.

4.0 Recommendations

The results indicate that there is a settlement nearby, quite possibly on the site, and certainly within a few metres of the trenches from which the samples were recovered. The material from context [116] and [114] could derive from the same site, but that from [246] presumably represents an earlier phase of activity on the site. Without further dating evidence for context [116] no further work can be recommended on the samples from the evaluation but should further excavation be required on the site then clearly a programme of sampling needs to be implemented.

This sampling should be targeted at the recovery of charred plant remains and animal bone and the results used to identify the character of the site in the Roman and the late Saxon/medieval period (*i.e.*, farmstead, village smithy, other). The agricultural economy of the site and the diet of the occupants should also be addressed. Such objectives fit with Monckton's (2003) proposed environmental research agenda for the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods in the East Midlands.

5.0 Acknowledgments

I should like to thank Trude Maynard for the sample processing and sorting.

6.0 Bibliography

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Williams, D, 1973 Flotation at Siraf, Antiquity, 47, 198-202

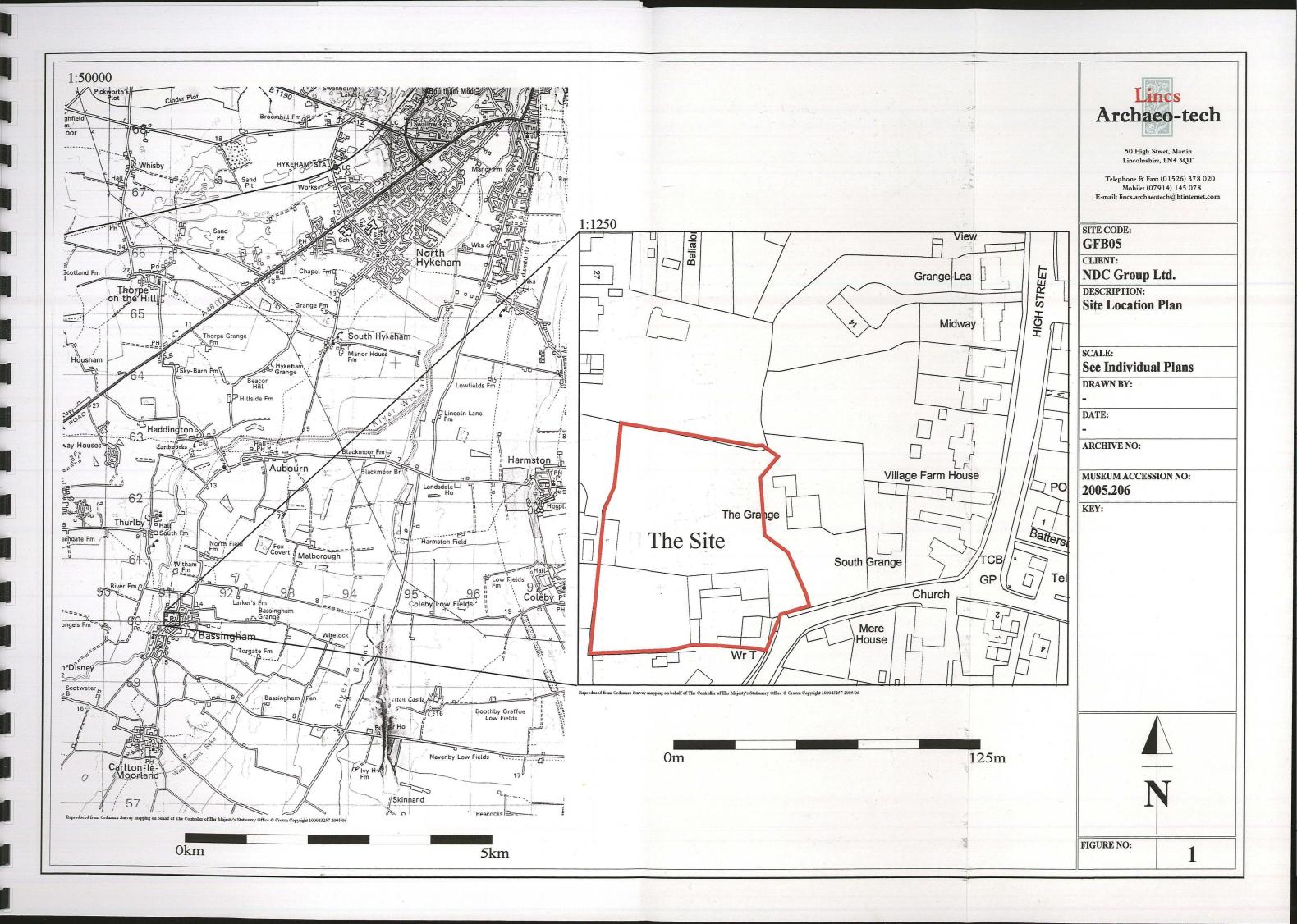
Table 1: Grange Farm, Bassingham - Finds from the processed samples

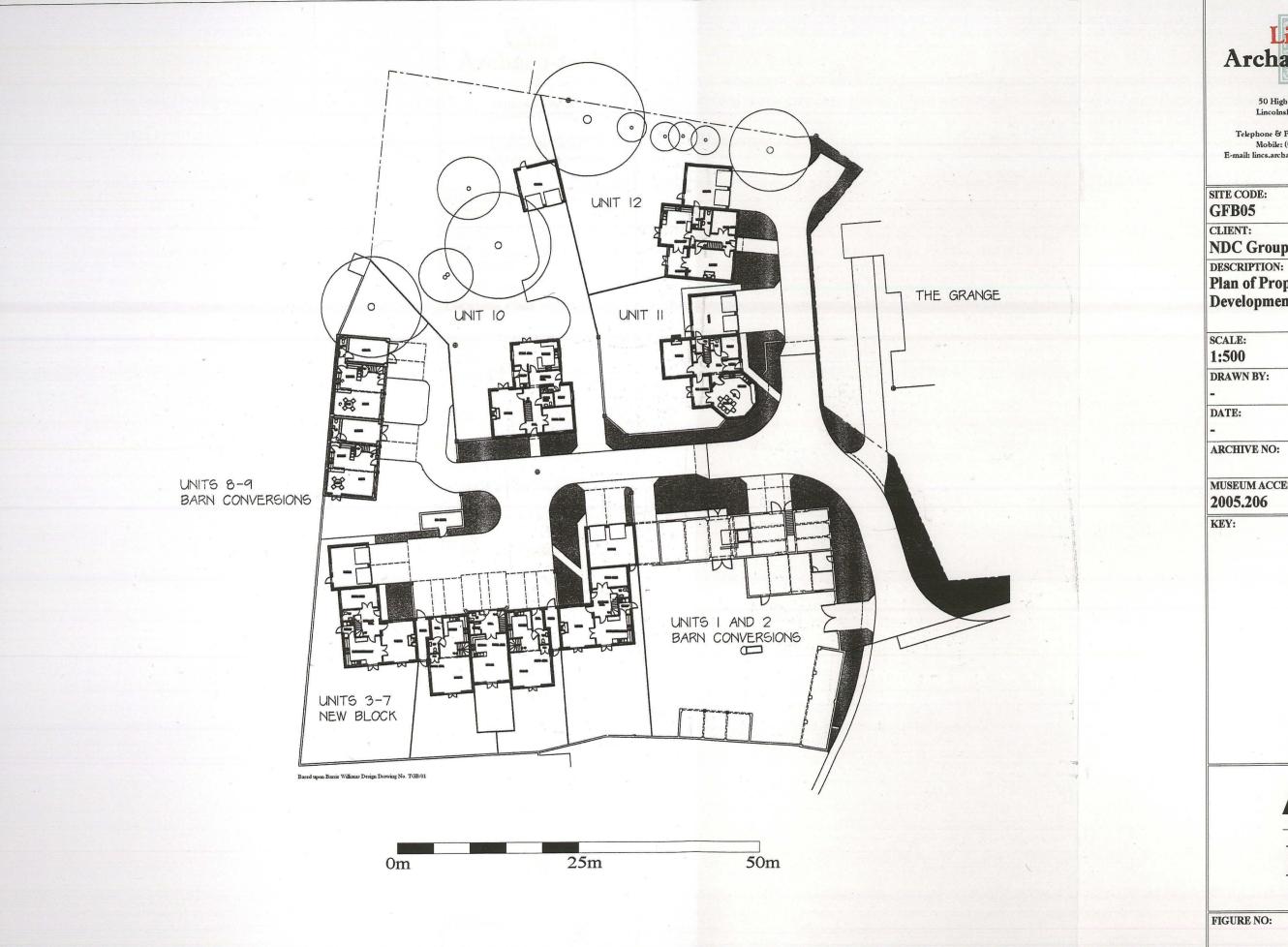
Sample	Context	ALC: THE		Sample	residue	pot	flint	brick/tile	fired earth	fuel ash	hammer-	bone	Others
no.		1.25	7	vol. l.	vol. (l)	no/wt (g)	100	wt. g.	wt. g.	slag wt. g.	scale no.	wt. g.	
1	116	Undated	Ditch fill	30	15		150	<1		+	85	<1	Sheep, frog/toad, poss glass chip
2	114	L.Sax/E.med	Ditch fill	30	7	3/11	1/1		14	+	59	2	Sheep tooth, iron nail
3	246	undated	Ditch fill	30	6.8		4/3.5		3	+	13	1	chicken

Table 2: Grange Farm, Bassingham - Botanical remains from the samples

	Sample no/context	<1>/[116]	<2>/[114]	<3>/[246]
	Date		LSax/EMed	Und
	Feature	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch
	Sample volume	301	301	301
	Flot vol. ml		13	8
Cereal grain	Score *	5	3	3
Triticum cf spelta/dicoccum	Spelt/emmer wheat?		15	+
Triticum cf aestivo-compactum	Bread type wheat	+	+	1
Triticum sp.	Wheat	+	+	+
Hordeum sp. var. vulgare	Barley, hulled	+	+	+
cf Hordeum	Barley?	+ .		
Triticum/Hordeum	Wheat/barley	+	100	
Avena sp.	Oats	+ ***		+
cf Avena sp.	Oats?	+		
cf Secale cereale	Rye?	+		+
Cereal frags >2mm		++		
Cereal frags <2mm		++	+	
Cereal chaff	Score *	1		1
Triticum sp.	Wheat glume base	p -		
Hordeum sp.	Barley rachis internode			+
Weed seeds	Score *	3	3	1
Raphanus cf raphanistrum	Wild radish?	+		
Anthemis cotula	Stinking mayweed	+	+	
Carex sp.	Sedges	+		
Vicia/Lathyrus sp.	Vetch/vetchling	+	+	+
Compositae	Daisy family		+	
Charcoal	Score *	5	5	5
Uncharred seeds	Uncharred probably contaminant seeds *	3	5	5

^{*}frequency 1=1-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-150; 4=151-250; 5=>250







50 High Street, Martin Lincolnshire, LN4 3QT

Telephone & Fax: (01526) 378 020 Mobile: (07914) 145 078 E-mail: lincs.archaeotech@btinternet.com

NDC Group Ltd.

Plan of Proposed Development

MUSEUM ACCESSION NO:

