

ATTENBOROUGH VILLAGE EXCAVATION

Report of an Archaeological Excavation in Advance of New Flood Defences

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Excavation at Church Field, Attenborough, Nottinghamshire.

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Summary

- Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Black and Veatch on behalf of the Environment Agency to carry out an excavation at Church Field, Attenborough, Nottinghamshire centred on SK 51971 34341.
- The excavation was carried out in advance of the construction of flood defences around the village which were part of the wider Nottingham left bank Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- The flood alleviation scheme on the Trent's left bank was part of a national programme of work undertaken by the Environment Agency who had contracted Trent & Peak Archaeology to carry out the archaeological investigation of the site.
- Church Field, the site, is immediately to the east of medieval fish ponds at Attenborough which are a designated scheduled monument.
- The excavation uncovered a series of pits and ditches mainly dating to the medieval period with some early post medieval features towards the eastern end of the site.
- Some three hundred medieval pottery sherds (mainly from the 12th to the 14th centuries but with some dating to the early and middle Anglo-Saxon period), were recovered from excavated features on the site with a much smaller assemblage of post medieval pottery.
- Although most of the features can be dated to the medieval period some phasing was apparent. A large ditch orientated north east/south west down the centre of the site turned to the north west and appears to form one corner of what may have been a substantial enclosure. This is the earliest linear feature on the site with a number of ditches, also medieval and orientated north west/south east, cutting it.
- The earlier ditch has been interpreted as a boundary, only a section of which was uncovered within the excavated area, whilst the later ones may well have been associated with drainage.
- Numerous pottery finds were recovered from the excavated features and from the stripped surface. Collectively they encompass a date range from the early/middle Anglo-Saxon period to the early post medieval. Their condition and lack of any chronological stratification in the excavated features suggests that they are re-deposited. The lack of chronological stratification presents difficulties in closely dating and phasing features on the site.
- The base of a post medieval stone lined drain was recorded in the north east corner of the site with a similar orientation to the medieval drainage features suggesting that water logging was a concern to those using the field whether for arable or pasture over a considerable period of time.
- Environmental samples from the site have produced wheat grain suggesting that some arable production was associated with the site in the medieval period.
- There was no evidence of structural remains on the site although some medieval tile suggests that buildings were close by. There was nothing to indicate that the medieval features on the site were connected with the fish ponds although the two sites are probably contemporary.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology was contracted by Black and Veatch on behalf of the Environment Agency to carry out an archaeological excavation at Church Field, Attenborough, Nottinghamshire centred on SK51971 34341.(Figure 1)

1.2 Church Field, the site, lies to the east of known medieval fish ponds which are a designated Scheduled Monument, National Monument number 29922. Immediately to the north west is St Mary's church parts of the fabric of which date to the 13th century.

1.3 The excavation took place on land whose current use is pasture. The site is bounded on the north and the east by 19th century housing.

2. PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 The excavation took place in advance of the construction of flood defences around the village of Attenborough.

2.2 The flood defences were a part of the wider Nottingham left bank Flood Alleviation Scheme running from Sawley in the west to Colwick in the east.

2.3 The flood alleviation scheme on the Nottingham left bank was part of a nation programme of work undertaken by the Environment Agency. The design consultants were Black and Veatch and the construction work was undertaken by Jackson's Civil Engineering.

3. ARCHEAOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 A number of archaeological discoveries from the wider area were made during phases of quarrying. These included a Mesolithic harpoon head (Bishop 2006) which provides the earliest evidence of human activity in the area Quarrying and chance finds suggest that activity extended throughout later prehistory. Discoveries included Neolithic stone axes, leaf shaped arrow heads, Bronze Age metal work (1966 EMAB no 9,35) and pottery (1974 EMAB no 10, 40). Iron Age and Romano-British pottery has been recovered from previous quarrying activity (1974 EMAB no 10 40-43). Activity in the medieval period is demonstrated by pottery and a silver coin hoard. (Binns 2012).

3.2 Attenborough is situated on the opposite bank of the Trent to Clifton which may have been a riverside settlement of some local importance in the middle and later Bronze Age, for a timber revetment of the river bank was found here as well as three canoes (Todd, 1979).

3.3 The church of St Mary Magdalene which is immediately to the north west of the site exhibits fabric dating the 13th century with further work in the 14th century. The chancel was largely re-built in the 19th century (Pevsner 1979).

3.4 Fish ponds believed to date to the early 13th century, (National Monument number 29922) lie to the west of the site and belonging to Felley and Lenton Priors add further to our knowledge of activity in the medieval period.

3.5 A grade 2 listed building dating to the 16th century stands to the west of the church. Known as Ireton House it is reputed to be the birth place of Henry Ireton (1603- 1659), a Parliamentary commander in the Civil War and Oliver Cromwell's son in law. Ireton House is thought to be on the site of a medieval lodge connected to the fish ponds. (Broxtowe Borough Council).

3.6 Site geology: **Bedrock:** Gunthorpe Member Mudstone; **Superficial:** Holm Pierrepoint sand and gravel. (BGS 2013).

3.7 Prior to the excavation taking place Archaeological Project Services and Trent & Peak Archaeology had jointly undertaken a programme of trial trenching along the line of the proposed flood bank. Two of the trial trenches were within the limits of the excavation. These trenches had recorded a number of undated features and finds of Medieval and Post Medieval pottery. (Bradley-Lovekin and Walker 2006).

3.8 **Topography.** The excavated area was situated on pasture in a field whose east west axis was, for the length of the site, at 26.5mOD. The north/south axis was on a pronounced slope. The northern limit of excavation was 27.00mOD compared to the most southerly feature on site which was at 26.043mOD.

3.9 The area of the site subject to excavation was 1117m². Church Field continues to the north of the site and covers an area of 2175m² before meeting with the property boundaries of the modern (19th century) housing. The unexcavated area to the north of the site was also pasture.

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 The preservation by record archaeological deposits uncovered by soil stripping

4.2 To compare the results of the trial trenching with those of the excavation.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 All top and subsoils were stripped by a tracked 360° tracked excavator to archaeological horizons. Top and sub soil stripping was carried out under continuous archaeological supervision.

5.2 All archaeological features were recorded using a Leica TCR705 Total Station EDM and their positions marked on the site plan. All features were given a unique context number e.g., 0001.

5.3 All finds were given a unique finds code, e.g. AAA. The position of finds located on the stripped surface were plotted using the EDM and their locations marked on the site plan. Finds recovered from the excavation of excavated features were marked on the relevant section drawing.

5.4 Sections of excavated features were drawn at a scale of 1:20 on and plans drawn at a scale of 1:50. All excavated sections were photographed using digital images and 35mm black and white film.

5.6 The excavation of features was conducted using hand tools. All excavations were carried out in 100mm spits and the position of finds recorded. Samples for environmental analysis were taken from all excavated features. Samples comprised a minimum of 30 litres from each identifiable layer within the fill of the feature.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Topsoil, (0001), brown silty loam, was stripped to an average depth of 250mm and subsoil, (0002), mid yellowish brown silty loam, to an average depth of 200mm to reveal the archaeological horizon.

6.2 A total of sixty seven identifiable archaeological features were observed, recorded and excavated across the site ranging from medieval pits and ditches to Post Medieval pits and ditches.

6.3 The medieval features were concentrated to the west and central portions of the site, becoming less dense towards the eastern extent of the site. Such features as could be dated with confidence to the post medieval period were all in the eastern part of the site. (Figure 2).

6.4 Features of all periods were shallow and may have been truncated by activity in the past or the upper portions being invisible in the top and subsoil were removed during the soil stripping. Although some relationships were visible pre excavation not all were clearly evidenced by excavation. Where this is the case then the relationship has been inferred from the pre excavation visual appearance of the relationships.

Ditches and Gullies.

6.5 One of the earliest feature identified on site, (0080), has been interpreted as a north east/south west orientated boundary ditch extending along the centre of the site for a distance of 42.5m. It is cut by all other features with which it comes into contact. Only part of the ditch was revealed within the excavated area. At its eastern end it extended beyond the limit of excavation. Its western end turned and follows a north west/south east orientation for a distance of 8m. (Figure 2)

6.6 The ditch was sampled by excavation at six separate points along its exposed length. Its depth and shape were variable over its extent from a minimum of 180mm (cut 015) to a maximum of 600mm (cut 014). Generally its sides sloped but the base varied from being flat to rounded (Figure 3).

6.7 Finds recovered from the excavated sections of 0080 comprised pottery which specialist analysis has dated to between the 12th and 14th centuries. The majority of the finds were recovered from the upper fills of the ditch. The various types of pottery can be identified and a date range given for them, (Appendix 2). Pot from different centuries in the medieval period was not stratigraphically separated in the ditch fill. The individual shards can be dated with confidence but the lack of stratigraphic relationships mean that the date of deposition and therefore the ditch itself is less clear.

6.7.1 At one point the excavation of the ditch (0080, cut 007) an assemblage of early to middle (4th to 9th century) Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered. As with the medieval pottery from the other cuts across the ditch these finds were concentrated in the upper fills of the ditch and are probably redeposited from a no longer existing feature. Whilst they do not help to clarify the dating of the ditch they, along with other Anglo-Saxon pottery of the same date from one of the pits, (0078), constitute an indication of pre-conquest activity close to the site.

6.8 The boundary ditch, (0080), is intersected by a narrow gully, (0070), 5m along its north west/south east section. The gully survived for a distance of nearly 4m before fading out probably as a result of truncation either due to the machine stripping or earlier activity on the site. The gully was very shallow, 100mm, with a splayed 'U' shaped profile.

6.9 Excavation of the intersection of 0070 and 0080 was unable to establish the relationship between the two features. The fills of both the ditch, (0080), and the gully, (0070), a brown silty clay were indistinguishable from each other. Finds from 0070 are dated to between the 12th century and the 15th century making it broadly contemporary with 0080.

6.10 Four further gullies, (0007, 0022, 0023 and 0030), intersected the boundary ditch, (0080). All of them are orientated north-north west/south-south east. The length of the gullies varied. 0007 had an observed extent of 11m, its northern extent being beyond the limit of excavation. 0022 was 7m in length, 0023 9m and 0030 8.7m. Their profiles were generally a splayed 'U' with the base occasionally flattened. (Figure 4)

6.11 Excavation of the intersections indicated that the gullies cut 0080 although this was not clear in all cases. The pottery recovered from the excavation of sections has been dated to between the 12th century and the 14th century. Although excavation indicated that the gullies cut the boundary ditch (0080) the pottery dates from the gullies and the ditch would suggest that they are all broadly contemporary.

6.11.1 The pottery finds recovered from the excavation of the gullies came in the main from the upper fills with earlier fabrics being mixed with later ones. This is the case with 0007 cut 022 where Stamford Ware (10th -12th century) was recovered in association with Nottingham Splashed Ware (12th -13th century) and Burley Hill type wares (12th-15th century) giving an earliest possible date for deposition and for the gully, (0007), in the 12th century. A similar pattern is observable in the single fill of 0022. Stamford Ware is found in the upper fill along side Nottingham Splashed Ware with the same distribution in the lower portion of the same fill. The same pattern was noted in 0023 where Nottingham Splashed Ware, Burley Hill type wares were recovered from both spits of a single fill. Stamford Ware along with Burley Hill Ware and locally produced medieval pottery were recovered from the lower spit. A single piece of Brown Glazed Earthenware was recovered from the upper spit. Only three pottery shards were recovered from 0030 comprising Burley Hill Ware, Nottingham Splashed Ware and Stamford Ware all from the upper parts of the ditch fill.

6.11.2 Parts of a plated copper alloy object was recovered from 0022, cut 004, (Figure 6). The plating is of a white metal probably tin. It has incised decoration and a squared off end has a rivet hole. The object has been provisionally interpreted as a rectangular mount possibly dating the 12th /13th century, (Elliot, L. pers com), although it may be older.

6.12 The function of the gullies (0007. 0022, 0023 0030) is uncertain. They may be associated with drainage or possibly structural, possibly indicating the presence of an animal shelter. The interpretation of them as structural is weakened by the fact that there are no post holes associated with them and no building material, (brick, stone, daub, timber or nails), was recovered from the excavation of them or nearby on the site.

6.13 The boundary ditch, (0080), was cut by 0057 an 'L' shaped ditch broadly orientated north-west/south-east and north-east/south-west. Its north-west/south-east arm is irregular with a part of it orientated north-east/south-west before continuing north-west/south-east. This irregular arrangement suggests that the feature only partially survives. The north-east/south-west arm has an average width of 1.6m, similar to that of the boundary ditch, (0080), whilst the remainder of 0057, at 1.1m is similar to the widest of the gullies, (0030), that cut 0080 to the south-west. That the two parts of the ditch, (0057), may be different features could not be demonstrated by excavation.

6.14 Pottery finds were recovered from the excavated sections of the ditch, (0057), with a date range spanning the late 12th century to the early 15th century. The assemblage comprised Burley Hill type Wares, (late 12th century to 15th century), along with Nottingham Splashed Ware, (12th century to mid 13th century), and early Nottingham Glazed Ware, (early 13th century to mid 13th century). There was no stratigraphic separation between the pottery finds recovered from the excavation. Much of it was abraded suggesting re deposition from other locations beyond the limit of excavation.

6.15 A small curvilinear gully (0019) was partially uncovered with much of it extending beyond the limit of excavation. Its observed length was 1.6m and its width 300mm. On excavation it was shown to have a maximum depth of 100mm. Pottery recovered from 0019 has been shown to have a date range of between the 12th century and the 13th century and is broadly contemporary with the pot assemblages from the surrounding medieval features. Its precise function and its relationship with the other medieval features is unclear.

6.16 A north east/south west orientated ditch, (0060), was recorded in the north east quadrant of the site. This was cut by the base of a stone lined post medieval drain, (0071), and butt ended, (0082), immediately beyond it. On excavation 0060 did not produce any finds or other datable material. From the butt end, (0082), two shards of pottery were recovered, one dating to the 13th century the other between the 14th and 16th centuries.

6.17 Immediately to the north east of 0082 a further ditch, (0083), orientated north west/south east, was revealed. Its observed length was 3m but it clearly extended further to the north west beyond the limit of excavation. The butt end of the ditch, (0083), was excavated along

with its revealed length. Two shards of pottery dating to between the 14th and 16th century were recovered from the excavation.

Pits and Post holes.

6.18 A total of thirty one pits were recorded scattered across the site. Many of these did not contain any finds and therefore cannot be dated with any certainty. The arrangement of these pits appears to be random, with the exception of 0053 – 0056 and 0063 – 0067. These may be interpreted as fence posts. 0063 – 0067 are orientated towards the modern field entrance and are possibly early modern in date.

6.19 The remainder of the pits/post holes do not show any arrangement that could be interpreted as structural or forming a boundary. Of the thirty one pits/post holes six produced datable finds on excavation. In the remainder, numbering, twenty five, there were no finds present.

6.20 Amongst the pits that produced finds 0078 is the most noteworthy. On excavation a group of pottery shards, totalling 26 small pieces, probably from two smashed shards, dating to between the 5th century and the 9th century were recovered along with two medieval shards. Of the medieval shards one had been identified as Stamford Ware with a date range of between the 10th century and the end of 11th century, conceivably within the late Anglo-Saxon period.

6.21 It is likely that the pottery recovered from the pits/post holes, in common with those from the ditches, comprises re-deposited material and therefore does not necessarily date the features apart from the fact that their deposition took place within the medieval period.

Post Medieval Stone Lined Drain

6.21 At the north-east of the site the base of a stone lined drain, (0071), was recorded. Orientated north-west/south-east, the base was made up of irregularly shaped stone slabs. The remains of uprights were still in place on the north-eastern edge of the drain, (Figure 5). In the section at the edge of the excavation there was no sign of *in situ* uprights or capstones and the drain was probably partially demolished subsequent to its going out of use. Pottery finds from the surface of 0071 comprise one shard of Midlands Yellow and one shard of Cistercian Ware which date to the 16th /17th centuries and these broadly date the drain, (0071). The existence of the drain, (0071), suggests that drainage was a continuing matter of concern into the early Post Medieval period. A possible interpretation is that settlement close to the site continued into the 16th/17th centuries. Once settlement moved further away and the area became pasture it is likely that the drain, no longer needed, was demolished with the usable material re-cycled and only the base and parts of the uprights remaining in place.

Environmental Evidence

6.22 Environmental samples were taken from all excavated features. In the case of the ditches a minimum of 30L was taken. The smaller features whose fill comprised less than 30L 100% samples were taken.

6.23 Organic remains were very poorly preserved. A small amount of animal bone was recovered, in very poor condition, and has been identified as either sheep or goat. Some wheat grains were also recovered indicating crop production in the vicinity of the site. As with the pottery both the bone and wheat grains are likely to be re-deposited and therefore will not date the features.

Brick and Tile

6.24 An assemblage of brick and tile was recovered from the site during the course of the excavation. All of this was broken, i.e. no complete bricks or tiles were present. The assemblage has been provisionally assessed by Lee Elliott of Trent & Peak Archaeology.

6.25 One piece of Roman roof tile was recovered from the stripped surface, 0002. This comprises the only Roman find on the site. It may have made its way to Attenborough from the known villa site at Barton- in- Fabis which lies on the opposite side of the Trent to Attenborough. An historic ferry crossing point of the Trent between Attenborough and Barton is known to exist. Barton ferry is marked on the O.S. as late as 1971, and what is now Barton Lane is recorded as Barton Ferry lane. Material from the villa may well have been 'robbed out' and incorporated into medieval structures in Attenborough.

6.26 Twenty abraded pieces of medieval roof tile were recovered from the stripped surface and a smaller assemblage from excavated features. They are characterised by soft firing. Two of the pieces, ANP and ACZ, have vestigial traces of glaze on their surfaces. One piece ATQ may be part of a ridge tile.

6.27 A dump of post medieval roof tile, all broken, was recovered from a shallow depression 1m from the terminus of the stone lined drain, (0071). Dating to the 17th or 18th century the tile would appear to be broadly contemporary with the drain. It may have been part of a soakaway at the end of the drain or part of the structure of it and dumped there when the drain was demolished, (Figure 5). Two of the pieces have applied or pinched nibs.

6.28 Three fragments of early brick, probably 16th century, were recovered from the stripped surface. None of these preserved complete profile either along the length or width. The depth of the brick measures 350mm/1½' (AHQ) and 400mm/1¾' (APU). One further piece, AHM, identifiable as an early brick by the fabric, was too incomplete to obtain a measurement.

6.29 The quantity of brick and tile from both the medieval period and the post medieval period suggest that there were buildings in the immediate area of the site. There was no evidence of structures on the site itself. The brick and tile evidence points in the same direction as the pottery in as much as they have found their way to the site from nearby domestic contexts that have gone out of use and been demolished.

Flint.

6.30 A small assemblage of flint, (Appendix 4) was recovered from the site. Comprising four flakes in total, all the flint originated from knapping to form tools and have been dated to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

6.31 The assemblage is too small for any conclusions to be drawn from it and it adds little to our knowledge of the prehistoric period in and around Attenborough.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 All the ditches identified as belonging to the medieval period appear to be broadly contemporary and in use between the 12th and 14th centuries based on the analysis of the pottery recovered from the excavation.

7.2 Excavation indicated that the boundary ditch (0080) probably preceded the four gullies, (0007, 0022, 0023 and 0030), that cut it. The shallowness of the surviving features and the similarity of the various fills created difficulties in clearly establishing the relationship between the boundary, 0080, and the gullies. Pre excavation visual appearances of the relationships between the boundary and the gullies perhaps provide the best interpretation of the

relationships. Immediately after the soil was stripped the gullies could be seen to cut the boundary but this distinction quickly faded on exposure to the atmosphere.

7.3 The function of the gullies is not immediately clear. Drainage from the higher ground to the north of the site is a possibility as is that they are drip gullies associated with an agricultural structure such as a cow shed or sheep pen. If this is that case then it should be noted that the excavation did not recover any other structural evidence, e.g. lines of post holes associated with the gullies.

7.4 Many of the pottery shards had soot and carbonised food residues on their surfaces indicating their use in domestic activities such as cooking (Appendix 2). This suggests that there was occupation close to the site. No evidence was observed during the excavation for the location of a settlement, e.g. house platforms, arrangements of post holes etc, but the higher level ground immediately north of the site, and beyond the limit of excavation, is a possibility.

7.5 The early to middle Anglo-Saxon pottery appears to be redeposited in all cases being found alongside latter medieval ceramics. A possible exception is pit 0078 where 25 shards were recovered from the excavation alongside two later medieval shards.

7.6 The Anglo-Saxon pottery also had soot and carbonised food residues adhered to their surfaces. These pottery remains are likely to have come from domestic activities and suggest that there was settlement nearby in the early to middle Anglo-Saxon period which may signal the earliest beginnings of Attenborough village.

7.7 As well as locally produced wares from Nottingham the medieval pottery originates from sources outside the immediate area of Attenborough. These include South Yorkshire or Derbyshire in the case of the Coal Measures fabrics and fabrics similar to those produced at Burley Hill.

7.8 The presence of animal bone and wheat grains suggests food production in the vicinity of the site. Along with the soot and other residues on some of the pottery domestic food processing is also indicated close to the site. The occasional nail and the recovery of a small copper alloy artefact (undated) add to the evidence of a nearby settlement.

7.9 The view of the pottery specialist is that the finds from the excavation are probably re-deposited and whilst date ranges for the pot can be identified this does not date the features themselves. The latest date for the pottery from the site is the 16th century and this does provide the latest possible date when the features, or some of them, were still open.

7.10 All the pottery from the excavation showed signs of significant abrasion suggesting that its deposition in the features was of a secondary character. The location of its primary deposition is currently unconfirmed. It has probably come from nearby domestic contexts. The land immediately to the north of the excavation which was untouched by the development may be the site of the primary deposition of the pottery. The inclusion of early to middle Anglo-Saxon pottery in the overall assemblage may indicate that the earliest settlement of the village lies in close proximity to the excavation.

7.11 Like the pottery the brick and tile indicate the presence of structures close to the site. No structural evidence was present on the site and the material may have found its way into the excavated area as a result of the clearance of redundant structures with unusable material being dumped. The provisional dating of the brick and tile co-ordinates with that of the medieval pottery and probably has the same origin.

8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 The pottery evidence recovered from the site indicates a span of activity stretching from the early to middle Anglo-Saxon period to the early post medieval period.

8.2 The Anglo-Saxon pottery cannot with confidence date any of the features from which it was recovered and in all probability is re-deposited. The assemblage, comprising thirty two shards, which probably come from no more than two vessels, makes up over 10% of the pottery assemblage recovered from the site. Although the pottery does not date any of the features it never the less strongly suggests a level of activity in the pre conquest period.

8.3 A level of intense activity is indicated in the medieval period with a substantial boundary ditch, only a part of which was seen, demarcating what was probably a large enclosure, cut by a number of gullies, perhaps associated with drainage. Pottery recovered dates to between the 12th and 15th centuries. The pottery is probably re deposited and therefore does not date the ditches and gullies themselves. The latter pottery, i.e. 15th century, indicates a probable latest date when the ditches were open.

8.3 The presence of structures near to the site is suggested by the building material, tile and brick, recovered from the stripped surface and from excavated features. The medieval tile covers a similar date range to the medieval pottery and both are likely to originate from the demolition of domestic buildings

8.4 Evidence for continuing activity in the early post medieval period came from some of the pits and a stone lined drain at the eastern end of the excavation. Some of the gullies that cut the boundary ditch may also have functioned as drainage indicating that during the period in which the site was adjacent to settlement excess water was a continuing issue. The stone drain, (0071), which arguably goes out of use in the late medieval/early post medieval probably, marks the latest phase of settlement activity near to the site.

8.5 The later post medieval period, 18th and 19th century is almost absent with the possible exception of two lines of post holes which may be interpreted as being associated with the modern field entrance.

8.6 Although no direct evidence was found for buildings or other structures much of the pottery had soot on the outer surfaces and food residues on the inside and probably originated in domestic contexts close to the site.

8.7 Following a continual period of activity in the early medieval to the post medieval periods the site has probably had little other use than as pasture on the edge of the village, a use which has continued to the present day.

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0004/00 08	ADK	Spit 01	Cut 001	BURLFE		Jar/ bowl	1	1	8	Base		12-15
0004/00 8	ADP	Spit 01	Cut 001	BURLFE		Jug/ jar	1	1	18	Base	Abraded	12-15
0004/00 08	AIY	Spit 01	Cut 015	NSP	Fine	Jar/ bowl	1	1	4	BS	Soot	12-13
0004	ADQ	Spit 02	Cut 001	BURL		Bowl	1	1	32	BS	Abraded	12-15

0005/00 80	AOY	Spit 01		NSP	Fine	Jar/ bowl	1	1	7	Base		12-13
0005/00 80	AIM	Spit 02	Cut 016	TEG			1	1	30	Flange	Flake	
0005/00 80/0070	AOG	Spit 01	Cut 015	NOTGR		Jug	1	1	11	Rim	Square and inturned profile; stacking scar on rim top	13-15

0026	ALM	surface	Cut 007	BURLFE		Jar	1	1	31	Rim	Long everted	12-15
0026/00 80	AGL	Spit 01	Cut 007	EMSAX		Straight sided jar/bowl	1	1	10	BS	Tight curvature	4-9
0026/00 80	AGM	Spit 01	Cut 007	EMSAX		Jar/ bowl	1	1	20	Base	Internal carbonised deposit	4-9
0026/00 80	AGN	Spit 01	Cut 007	EMSAX		Straight sided jar/bowl	1	1	48	Rim	Flat top upright rim	4-9
0026/00 80	AGX	Spit 01	Cut 007	EMSAX		Jar/ bowl	1	1	16	BS		4-9

Church Field, Attenborough, Nottinghamshire (AVE)

CERAMIC FINDS

Dr Anne Irving

THE POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). A total of 309 sherds from 292 vessels, weighing 4587 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Archive Catalogue 1, with a summary included in Table 1. The pottery ranges in date from the Anglo-Saxon to the early modern period.

Condition

All of the pottery appears to be re-deposited and shows signs of abrasion. Soot and carbonised food deposits indicate vessels were used for domestic tasks such as cooking. A single fragment from Subsoil 0002 appears to come from a crucible, suggesting some industrial activity. Twelve of the Burley Hill-type wares with an iron rich fabric (BURLFE) have unmatured lead pellets adhering to their surface, indicating they were not fired to a sufficient temperature in the kiln to produce a glaze. This was also a feature of Burley Hill-types from Church Wilne (Irving 2011), perhaps suggesting a common source for the wares found at Church Wilne and at Attenborough. Further microscopic and chemical analysis of sherds from these sites would be required to determine the relationship between the three.

Results

Period	Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
Early to Middle Saxon	EMSAX	Early or Middle Saxon wares (generic)	400	870	32	32	137
Late Saxon	EST	Early Stamford ware	870	1010	1	1	23
Early Medieval	ST	Stamford Ware	970	1200	16	16	130
	NSP	Nottingham Splashed ware	1100	1250	15	14	278
Medieval	BURL	Burley Hill Type ware	1175	1400	21	20	439
	BURLFE	Iron Rich Burley Hill-type ware	1175	1400	120	117	1935
	BURLG	Gritty Burley Hill-type ware	1175	1400	14	14	144
	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	19	14	264
	NOTG	Nottingham glazed ware	1250	1500	9	8	276
	NOTGE	Early Nottingham Glazed ware	1200	1230	7	7	76
	NOTGI	Nottingham Glazed ware with Iron	1200	1230	2	2	67
	NOTGL	Nottingham Light Bodied Glazed ware	1220	1320	8	8	76
	NOTGR	Nottingham Reduced Glazed ware	1280	1420	2	2	33
	CMO	Coal Measures Orangeware	1300	1550	8	8	74
	CMP	Coal Measures Purpleware	1400	1600	1	1	9
Late medieval	CMW	Coal Measures Whiteware	1250	1550	5	5	59
	CIST	Cistercian-type ware	1480	1650	2	2	57

	MP	Midlands Purple ware	1380	1600	4	3	115
Post medieval	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	5	5	103
	BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	6	6	150
	MY	Midlands Yellow ware	1550	1650	1	1	11
Early Modern	BS	Brown stoneware (generic)	1680	1850	1	1	32
	NCBW	19th-century Buff ware	1800	1900	6	1	26
Unknown	MISC	Unidentified types	-	-	3	3	37
	CRUC				1	1	36
				TOTAL	309	292	4587

Range

Saxon

Thirty-two sherds of possible Anglo-Saxon pottery are present, all of which contain abundant fine to medium quartz. Twenty-five of these weigh less than one gram. A single example of Late Saxon pottery, Early Stamford ware (EST), is also present.

Medieval

Early medieval pottery accounts for 30 vessels (c.10% of the assemblage) comprising Nottingham Splashed wares (NSP) and Stamford ware (ST).

Medieval wares represent the largest group of pottery: 216 sherds from 206 vessels comprising c.70% of the post-Roman assemblage. Nottingham types (NOTG, NOTGE, NOTGI, NOTGL and NOTGR) are present, as are Coal Measure fabrics (CMO, CMP, CMW) which were produced in South Yorkshire or Derbyshire, for example at Rawmarsh, Brackenfield or Ticknall. Burley Hill-type wares occur in several fabrics and account for at least 151 sherds. All the Shell-Tempered wares (included in the MEDLOC category) are leached and in very poor condition.

The medieval assemblage from Attenborough shares many similarities in its composition to that recovered from Church Wilne and, as at that site, indicates further work is required to understand the relationship between fabrics produced at Burley Hill (BURL) with those that appear similar visually but may be manufactured at other production sites (here covered by the codes BURLFE and BURLG).

Late-Post Medieval and Early Modern

A total of seventeen late- and post-medieval wares include types commonly found in assemblages of this date, spanning the mid 16th to late 18th century. Two early modern wares take the chronological span of pottery on the site into the early 20th century.

Three sherds were in poor condition and could not be identified, although they are probably medieval. A possible crucible (CRUC) came from Subsoil 0002.

Provenance

Subsoil 0002

A total of 200 sherds, from 186 vessels, weighing 3272 grams came from subsoil 0002, including seven multi-sherd vessels. The pottery present in the subsoil dates from the Early/Middle Saxon to Early Modern period. A single fragment of post-medieval brick (CBM) weighing five grams also came from this deposit.

Ditch 0004

AVE: Attenborough Village Excavation

Environmental Archaeology Assessment

Alison Wilson

Introduction:

This report provides an initial assessment of the palaeo-environmental samples retrieved during an archaeological evaluation carried out by Trent & Peak Archaeology as part of the Nottingham Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme, commissioned by Black and Veatch on behalf of the Environment Agency.

As part of the environmental sampling strategy, a total of 41 samples were taken from various contexts. The sample size was 30 litres when possible, although 10 litre samples were taken when features were too small for full sampling.

The samples are listed in table form below, with a brief description of the deposit from which the samples were taken and any environmental material found.

Method:

The soil samples were processed in the following manner; Sample weight and volume was measured prior to processing and a sub-sample was removed in case any further analysis should be required. The samples were then processed using a 'Siraf' flotation tank (Williams 1973), using a sieve with a 250µ mesh and an internal 1mm mesh for the residue.

Both the residues and flots were dried. A total of 468.5 litres of soil were processed in this way.

The weight and volume of the residue was recorded, before it was sorted by eye for any environmental and archaeological finds. These were picked out, noted on the assessment sheet and bagged. A magnet was run through the residue in order to recover any magnetised material such as hammerscale. The residue has been kept as part of the archive record.

The flot of each sample was studied using 10x magnification and the presence of environmental finds noted and their abundance and species recorded on the assessment sheet. The flots were then bagged and along with the finds from the residue constitute the material archive of the samples.

Table 1: environmental finds from context: 0006

Context description: Pit/post-hole, containing no finds.

Environmental sample no: 01

Sample volume before processing: 1 litre

Sample weight before processing: 1 kilogram

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Nothing in flot	0

Table 2: environmental finds from Context: 0008

Environmental sample no: 02

Context description: Pit/post-hole, charcoal flecks, containing no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 8 litres

Sample weight before processing: 8 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. 2 identifiable grains of barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>),
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 1 Hazel fragment (<i>Corylus Avelanus</i>), Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)

Table 3: environmental finds from context: 0047

Environmental sample no: 03

Context description: Post-hole, containing no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 1 litre

Sample weight before processing: 1 kilogram

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Nothing in flot	0

Table 4: environmental finds from context: 0046

Environmental sample number: 04

Context description: Pit/post-hole, containing no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 3 litres

Sample weight before processing: 3 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Nothing in flot	0

Table 5: environmental finds from context: 0011

Environmental sample number: 05

Context description: Pit/post-hole, containing no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 2 litres

Sample weight before processing: 2 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.

Table 6: environmental finds from context: 0021

Environmental sample number: 06

Context description: Pit/post-hole, containing no finds

Sample volume before processing: 0.5 litres

Sample weight before processing: 0.5 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Nothing in flot	

Table 7: environmental finds from context: 0010**Environmental sample number: 07****Context description:** Pit/post-hole, containing no finds.**Sample volume before processing:** 1 litre**Sample weight before processing:** 1 kilogram**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>)

Table 8: environmental finds from context: 0045**Environmental sample number: 08****Context description:** Pit, containing no finds**Sample volume before processing:** 6 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 6 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments, <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. 1 identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>)

Table 9: environmental finds from context: 0044**Environmental sample number: 9****Context description:** Pit/post-hole**Sample volume before processing:** 5 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 5 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 51-150 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. 1 identifiable as barley(<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 <i>Polygonum</i> family

Table 10: environmental finds from context: 0033a**Environmental sample number: 10****Context description:** Pit, charcoal flecks and fired clay, no finds.**Sample volume before processing:** 23 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 23 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments, <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile(<i>Anthemis</i>)

	<i>sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shells (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).

Table 11: environmental finds from context: 0033b

Environmental sample number: 11

Context description: Pit, charcoal flecks and fired clay, no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 7 litres

Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments, <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 51-150 degraded indet. Some identifiable as barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 1 identified as Blackberry (<i>rubus fruticosus</i>), Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)

Table 12: environmental finds from context: 0070

Environmental sample number: 12

Context description: Ditch/gulley, charcoal flecks, contained medieval pottery.

Sample volume before processing: 12 litres

Sample weight before processing: 12 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-150 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 indet. Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shells (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).

Table 13: environmental finds from context: 0003

Environmental sample number: 13

Context description: Probable in-filled natural hollow, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 17 litres

Sample weight before processing: 17 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some identifiable as barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)
Bone	Fragments of large and small mammal bone <1g

Table 14: environmental finds from context: 0007**Environmental sample number: 14****Context description:** Ditch/gulley, charcoal flecks, contained medieval pot and bone.**Sample volume before processing:** 18 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 18 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Hazel (<i>Corylus Avelanus</i>), Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>)
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliaris</i>).

Table 15: environmental finds from context: 0034**Environmental sample number: 15****Context description:** Pit/post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.**Sample volume before processing:** 17 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 17 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 151-250 indet. comminuted fragments, some >2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile(<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), <i>Polygonum</i> family
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliaris</i>).

Table 16: environmental finds from context: 0035**Environmental sample number: 17****Context description:** Pit, charcoal flecks and fired clay, no finds.**Sample volume before processing:** 19 litres**Sample weight before processing:** 19 kilograms**% of processed sample examined:** 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. Some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliaris</i>).

Table 17: environmental finds from context: 0060a

Environmental sample number: 18

Context description: Ditch, contained medieval and post-medieval pot.

Sample volume before processing: 20 litres

Sample weight before processing: 20 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments, <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some identifiable as barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Mollusc	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Fragments of large and small mammal bone <1g

Table 18: environmental finds from context: 0026a

Environmental sample number: 19

Context description: Ditch, Contained medieval pot and bone.

Sample volume before processing: 21 litres

Sample weight before processing: 21 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance >250 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance >250 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Hazel (<i>Corylus Avelana</i>), Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), <i>Polygonum</i> family, Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Fragments of large and small mammal bone – 28g inc tooth. Fish bone – 1 vertebra and 1 scale

Table 19: environmental finds from context: 0026b

Environmental sample number: 20

Context description: Ditch, Contained medieval pot and bone.

Sample volume before processing: 19 litres

Sample weight before processing: 19 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 151-250 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 50-150 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 <i>Polygonum</i> family, Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>)
Bone	Fragments of large and small mammal bone – 6g inc tooth.

	Fish bone – 1 vertebra
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Table 20: environmental finds from context: 0026c

Environmental sample number: 21

Context description: Ditch, Contained medieval pot and bone.

Sample volume before processing: 17 litres

Sample weight before processing: 17 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell(<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>)
Bone	Large and small mammal bone - 2g

Table 21: environmental finds from context: 0014a

Environmental sample number: 22

Context description: Pit/post-hole, contained flint and medieval pot.

Sample volume before processing: 7 litres

Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>)
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 22: environmental finds from context: 0014b

Environmental sample number: 23

Sample volume before processing: 7 litres

Context description: Pit/post-hole, contained flint and medieval pot.

Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 51-150 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Hazel (<i>Corylus Avelana</i>), Camomile(<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 23: environmental finds from context: 0078

Environmental sample number: 24

Context description: Pit, charcoal flecks, bone and medieval pot.

Sample volume before processing: 63 litres

Sample weight before processing: 63 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 51-150 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Camomile(<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), <i>Polygonum</i> family
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Large and small mammal bone – 29g Inc. human tooth

Table 24: environmental finds from context: 0069

Environmental sample number: 25

Context description: Pit/post-hole, contained flint and medieval pot.

Sample volume before processing: 15 litres

Sample weight before processing: 15 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), <i>Polygonum</i> family, Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell(<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>)
Bone	Small vertebrate bone - <1g

Table 25: environmental finds from context: 0056

Environmental sample number: 26

Context description: Post-hole, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 2 litres

Sample weight before processing: 2 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain:	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.

Table 26: environmental finds from context: 0038

Environmental sample number: 27

Context description: Pit cut into 0026, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 6 litres

Sample weight before processing: 6 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-51 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>)
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 27: environmental finds from context: 0074

Environmental sample number: 28

Context description: Pit/post-hole, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 7 litres

Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), <i>Polygonum</i> family, Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>), Chickweed (<i>Stellaria sp.</i>).
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 28: environmental finds from context: 0039

Environmental sample number: 29

Context description: Pit, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 6 litres

Sample weight before processing: 6 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 29: environmental finds from context: 0055

Environmental sample number: 30

Context description: Post-hole, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 21 litres

Sample weight before processing: 21 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
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Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus</i> sp.), Camomile(<i>Anthemis</i> sp.), <i>Polygonum</i> family, Fat Hen (<i>Chenopodia</i> sp.), Vetch (<i>Vicia</i> sp.),
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 30: environmental finds from context: 0064

Environmental sample number: 31

Context description: Post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 5 litres

Sample weight before processing: 5 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus</i> sp.), Camomile (<i>Anthemis</i> sp.),
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).

Table 31: environmental finds from context: 0065

Environmental sample number: 32

Context description: Post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 13 litres

Sample weight before processing: 13 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus</i> sp.), Camomile (<i>Anthemis</i> sp.) Brome (<i>Bromus</i> sp), Vetch (<i>Vicia</i> sp.)
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 32: environmental finds from context: 0066

Environmental sample number: 33

Context description: Post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 4 litres

Sample weight before processing: 4 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-51 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10, too degraded to identify

Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>),
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).

Table 33: environmental finds from context: 0054

Environmental sample number: 34

Context description: Post-hole, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 12 litres

Sample weight before processing: 12 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis Cotula sp.</i>).

Table 34: environmental finds from context: 0063

Environmental sample number: 36

Context description: Post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 4 litres

Sample weight before processing: 4 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>).

Table 35: environmental finds from context: 0067

Environmental sample number: 37

Context description: Post-hole, charcoal flecks, contained no finds.

Sample volume before processing: 7 litres

Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Bone	Small vertebrate bone - <1g Fish bone – 1 vertebra

Table 35: environmental finds from context: 0072a

Environmental sample number: 38

Context description: Ditch, contained bone and medieval tile fragments.

Sample volume before processing: 19 litres

Sample weight before processing: 19 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	>250 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 1-10 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Camomile (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Large mammal bone - 20g

Table 36: environmental finds from context: 0072b

Environmental sample number: 39

Context description: Ditch, contained bone and medieval tile fragments.

Sample volume before processing: 21 litres

Sample weight before processing: 21 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance >250 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare L.</i>) and spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>) identifiable.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Hazel (<i>Corylus avelana</i>), Camomile(<i>Anthemis sp.</i>) Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)
Molluscs	Abundance 1-10 complete Garlic Snail shell (<i>Oxychilus alliarius</i>).
Bone	Large mammal bone - <1g

Table 37: environmental finds from context: 0057

Environmental sample number: 40

Context description: Ditch, contained medieval and post-medieval pot.

Sample volume before processing: 19 litres

Sample weight before processing: 19 kilograms

% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 11-50 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet. some identifiable as spelt (<i>Triticum aestivum spelta</i>).
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Camomile(<i>Anthemis sp.</i>) Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)

Table 38: environmental finds from context: 0082

Environmental sample number: 41

Context description: Ditch, contained no finds.
Sample volume before processing: 7 litres
Sample weight before processing: 7 kilograms
% of processed sample examined: 100%

Material	Quantity
Charcoal	Abundance 1-10 indet. comminuted fragments <2mm
Charred grain	Abundance 11-50 degraded indet.
Charred seed	Abundance 1-10 Camomile, (<i>Anthemis sp.</i>), Brome (<i>Bromus sp.</i>), Vetch (<i>Vicia sp.</i>)

Results:

Residues:

The samples washed down to produce residues of varying proportions of sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel, mostly between 1mm and 1cm in size. The artefact assemblage produced by the residues was relatively small, consisting of quantities of ceramic building material, bone and medieval pottery.

Flots:

The flots all contained charcoal in varying quantities, but mostly unidentified, comminuted fragments measuring less than 2mm.

The charred botanical remains include cereal grains, which despite the poor level of preservation were identifiable in some instances as spelt (*Triticum aestivum spelta*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare L.*). The flot also contained weed seeds, identified as Camomile (*Anthemis sp.*) Brome (*Bromus sp.*), Vetch (*Vicia sp.*), members of the *Polygonum* family, Fat Hen (*Chenopodia sp.*) and Chickweed (*Stellaria sp.*). The charred remains of Hazelnut shell (*Corylus Avelana*) were also present.

A number of Garlic snail shells (*Oxychilus allarius*) were recovered from the flot, a species particularly ubiquitous in woods and arable areas.

Conclusion:

In summary, the environmental remains suggest the growing and processing of crops of spelt wheat and barley as well as the harvesting of nuts. The small quantity of fish bone could be explained as re-deposition by a bird (Dr A. Jones pers. com.) and the presence of a human tooth as re-deposition from the churchyard adjacent to the site.

There is a concentration of charred grain in context number 0026. This context is a ditch, however, given the number of pits/post-holes in the surrounding area it seems likely that the grain was in either a storage pit or cooking area, the defining edges of which have been lost.

The seeds are all common weeds typical of grassy places and arable land, although some of them have been used medicinally in the past and their presence may be reflecting this practice.

The state of preservation is quite poor making definite identification difficult. However, given the importance of the site and the quantity of archaeobotanical remains, a full assessment will be of considerable value to the overall interpretation of the site.

As the contexts are undisturbed, the charred grain and seeds will be useful in obtaining a radiocarbon date should one be needed.

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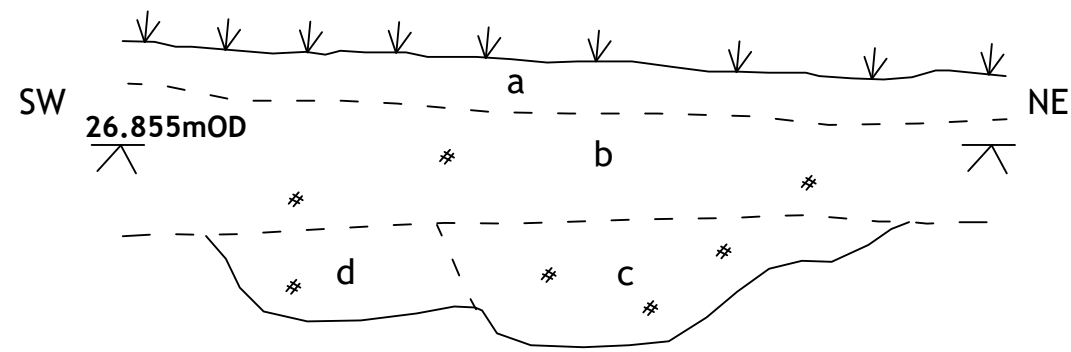


Church Field, Attenborough.

Barton Lane, marked on earlier O.S. as Barton Ferry Lane.

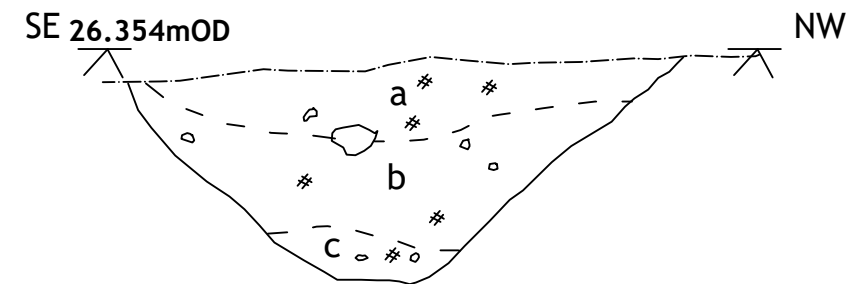


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	Scale at A3: 1:200	Description: Working plan of site as at printed date	Drawing No:	
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			Digitized by:	Date of Digitization:



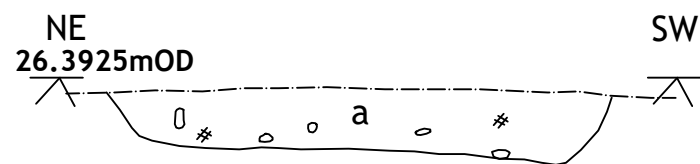
a topsoil, brown silty loam
 b subsoil, yellow silty loam
 c silty clay
 d silty clay
 * coal fragments

Figure 3 a. South east facing section of 0080, cut 001.



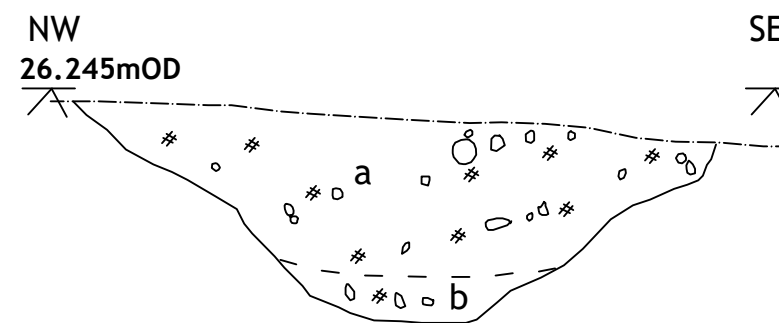
a brownish yellow clay loam
 b yellowish brown silty clay
 c yellowish grey silty clay
 * coal fragments

Figure 3 b. North east facing section of 0080, cut 007.



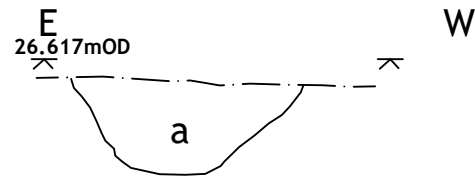
a brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones.
 * coal fragments

Figure 3 c. South east facing section of 0080, cut 015.



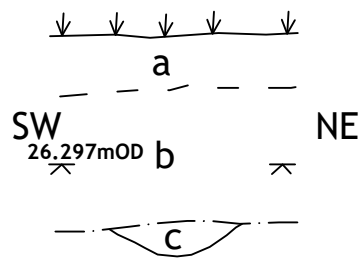
a Brown clay loam
 b Mid brown clay loam
 * coal fragments

Figure 3 d. South west facing section of 0080, cut 014.



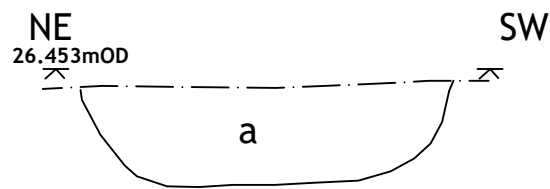
a Grey/brown silty loam

Figure 4a North facing section of 0007



a Topsoil, brown silty loam
b Subsoil, yellowish brown silty loam
c Grey/brown clay loam

Figure 4b South east facing section of 0019



a Mid grey/brown silty clay

Figure 4c North east facing section of 0023

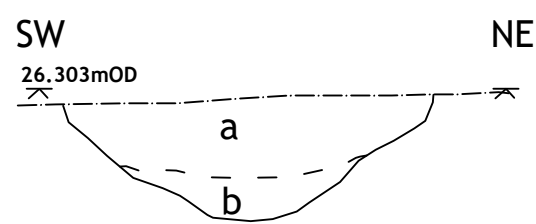


Figure 4d South east facing section of 0030

a Yellowish grey silty clay loam
b Grey silty clay loam

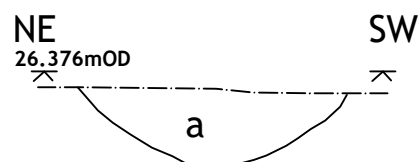


Figure 4e South east facing section of 0022

a Grey silty clay

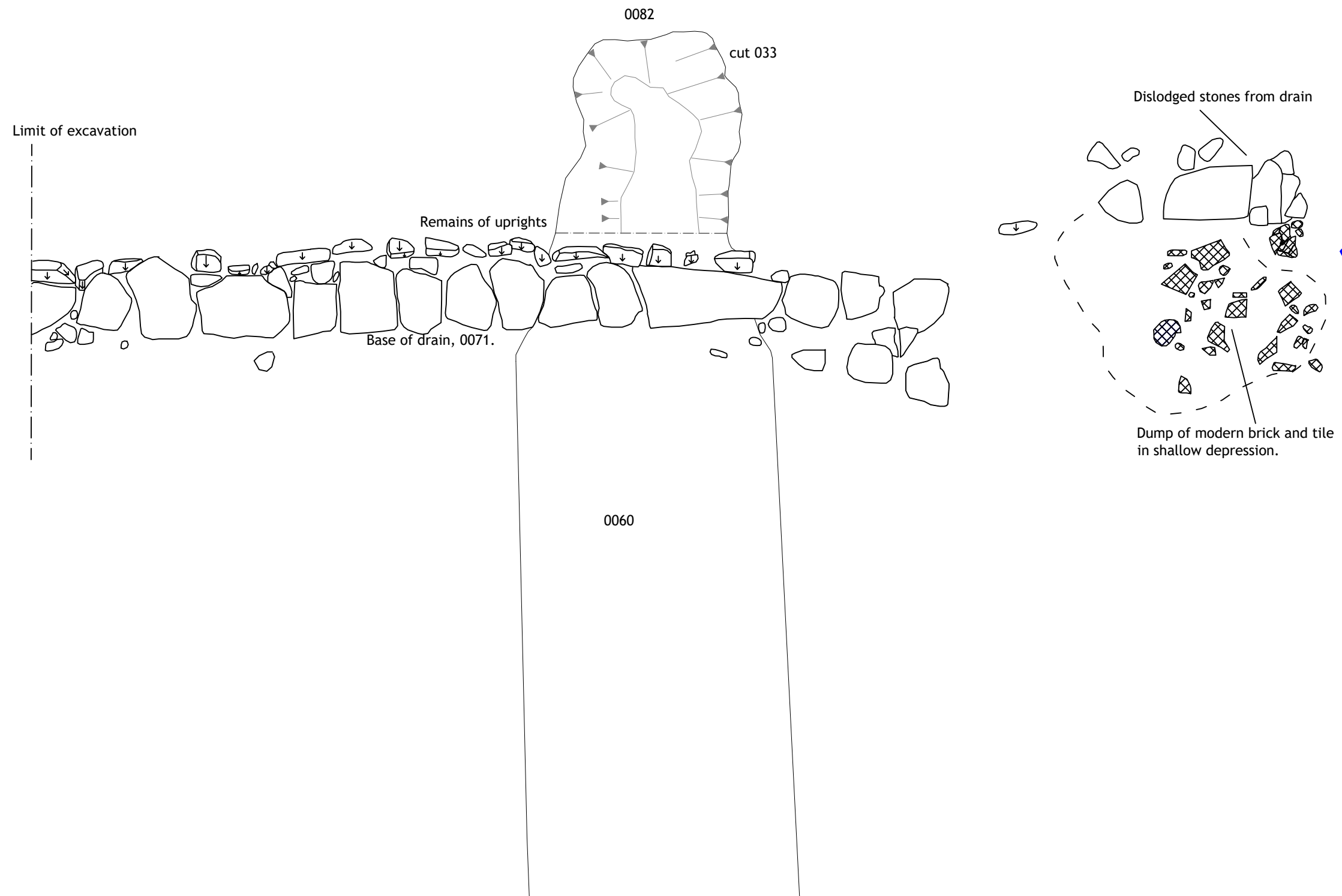






Plate 1. Start of the top soil strip. Looking west.



Plate 2. Section of boundary ditch 0080, cut 001. Looking south west.



Plate 3. Recording surface finds after soil strip. Looking south east.



Plate 4. Section of gully, 0007. cut 002, Looking south-south east.



Plate 5. Section of gully 0022, cut 004. Looking south east.



Plate 6. Boundary ditch 0080, cut 007. Looking north east.



Plate 7. Section of 0023, cut 011. Looking south east.



Plate 8. Section of gully 0030, cut 023. Looking north west.



Plate 9. Soil stripping at the north east end of the site. Looking south east.



Plate 10. Base of stone drain, 0071, Looking south east.



Plate 11. Section of 0057, cut 26. Looking north east.



Plate 12. Recording on site. Looking north east.



Plate 13. Recording on site. looking north



Plate 14. excavating at the north east end of the site. Looking north.



Plate 15. Excavation on site. Intersection of 0030 and 0080 in foreground. Looking north east.