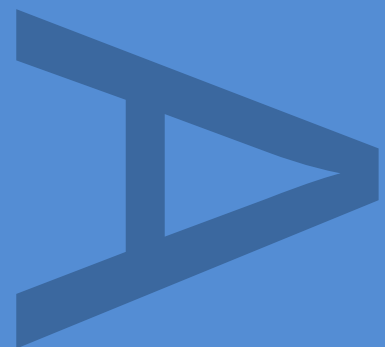


**Land to the rear of 16 School
Lane, Braybrooke,
Northamptonshire, LE16 8LS:
Archaeological Trial Trench
Evaluation**

May 2015



LAND TO THE REAR OF 16 SCHOOL LANE,
BRAYBROOKE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Quality Control

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Land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke, Northamptonshire

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Local Planning Authority: Kettering Borough Council

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke, Northamptonshire, LE16 8LS (NGR SP 76642 84310) between the 8th and the 11th May 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by Michael Lavender Architect Ltd on behalf of ASG Construction Services Ltd in response to a planning condition attached to proposed development of two residential properties. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The earliest activity was evidenced by an earthen bank formed from a series of colluvium deposits, sealed beneath the subsoil and which contained medieval pottery. The soils were naturally deposited and the finds residual, washed down the natural slope in the north-eastern corner of the site.

The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a series of post medieval features, including two ditches, postholes and a truncated cobblestone surface, believed to be part of a yard surface. The findings are in keeping with the results of previous excavations in this part of Braybrooke, which have recorded remains of a large post medieval barn. The cobbled stone floor could relate to a building and yard shown on a map of Braybrooke dated to 1767. It is not clear whether any structural remains survive on site.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke, Northamptonshire, LE16 8LS (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 76642 84310) from the 8th to the 11th May 2015 (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Michael Lavender Architect Ltd on behalf of ASG Construction Services Ltd in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the proposed development of two new residential dwellings (Planning Reference KET/2011/0752).
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Kathryn Brook of PCA (Brook 2015) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Assistant Archaeological Advisor Liz Mordue (Mordue 2015) of Northamptonshire County Council.
- 1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.5 A total of three 20 x 1.8m trial trenches were excavated and recorded.
- 1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at PCA until suitable facilities for deposition are made available.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Whitby Mudstone (British Geological Survey; Website 1). This was formed during the Jurassic period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas, with mainly siliciclastic sediments deposited on mud, silt, sand and gravel.

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The development site is located on the eastern edge of Braybrooke village at the end of a side road leading off School Lane. The site is currently a small over grown grassed field, broadly flat within a gently north south sloping landscape. The majority of the site boundaries are formed of a mix hedgerow with trees and small bushes. There are also a number of large trees in the west and northern portion of the site. A spot height on the entrance to the site is recorded at approximant 104m AOD.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The site lies within the historic settlement core of Braybrooke. The village name derived from the Old English 'brad' broad and 'broc' brook, therefore meaning the place at the 'broad brook' (Poulton-Smith 2010). Two incidences of archaeological evaluation and excavation have been conducted within the immediate vicinity of School Lane; the sites at 12 & 14 School Lane and Firs Farm, to the southeast. This archaeological and historical background has been drawn from the WSI compiled by PCA (Brook 2015), and the available 'grey literature' reports documenting the adjacent archaeological investigations.

3.2 Medieval

3.2.1 The village is recorded as Bradebroc in the Domesday Book of 1086, under two entries; the first noted under the land of St Edmund's and secondly under the land of Grestain Church.

3.2.2 The Church of All Saint is situated in the northern portion of the village and has stood on the site since the 13th century, although it has seen many additions and restorations it still retains some of its original 13th century features.

3.2.3 In addition to the parish church there were two chapels present in Braybrooke during the early medieval period. One of these chapels was known as the 'Chapel of the West Hall' or of the 'Blessed Virgin on the Green' and was founded in 1237 by Peter de Raley, Lord of West Hall Fee in the grounds of his estate (Bridges 1791). It has been suggested that the field in which the proposed development site is located was named 'Chapel Field' by previous owners and therefore it is possible that the lost chapel was formerly located in the vicinity of the site (pers. comm G. Pitcher 2015).

3.2.4 The earthwork remains of a moated medieval manor are preserved approximately 80m northeast of the development site. Known as Braybrooke Castle, it is thought to have been built in the 14th century by Thomas de Latimer and demolished in 1633. The site included numerous fish ponds,

water management works and a number of ditched paddock enclosures associated with the moated manor house.

- 3.2.5 Archaeological evidence of the medieval settlement had been recovered during an excavation undertaken at Firs Farm to the southeast of the proposed development site. A ditch, gullies and postholes along with a small amount of medieval pottery was uncovered during the investigation.

3.3 Post-Medieval

- 3.3.1 Immediately northwest of the development site a post medieval barn was discovered during an archaeological evaluation of what is now 12 & 14 School Lane.

- 3.3.2 An estate map of the area dated 1767 (Figure 3) indicated the proposed site is located in an enclosure, believed to be a freehold, containing a house and yard owned by Mrs Baily (Pers. Comm Geoff Pitcher 2015). The building was demolished by 1886, as it no longer appears on maps after this time.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of three trial trenches, distributed across the site but avoiding standing buildings (Figure 2).
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 14-ton mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.
- 4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.
- 4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).
- 4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.
- 4.1.6 Discrete features such as ditches and postholes were at least 50% excavated.
- 4.1.7 Significant features such as structural remains, including walls and demolition deposits, were recorded in plan but left in-situ pending any future open area excavation.

4.2 Recording Methodology

- 4.2.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.
- 4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20).
- 4.2.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.
- 4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital Photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits.
- 4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (IfA 2001; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are described from east to west or north to south depending on the alignment of the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated. The evaluation identified two ditches, three post-holes, and two cobbled stone surfaces all dating to the post-medieval period. The remnants of a natural earthen bank were also identified with pottery recovered from the deposits within it.

5.2 Trench 1 (Figure 4; Plate 1)

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained one ditch, aligned east to west.

5.2.2 Ditch [104] (Figure 2, Section 7) was located in the centre of the trench. It was 1.32m wide and 0.40m deep with a shallow, U-shaped profile. It had a single fill (103) of blue-grey silty clay.

5.2.3 This feature was likely to be a minor boundary ditch, marking the extent of a post-medieval enclosure.

TRENCH 1	Figures 2-4		Plate 1-2	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 20m	Level of Natural (m OD): 102.21m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		N End	S End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.44m	0.45m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.42m	0.40m	
Natural	(102)	0.86m+	0.86m+	
Summary				
Trench 1 was located close to the north-western boundary of the site.				
The trench contained one ditch, dated to the post-medieval period from pottery recovered.				

5.3 Trench 2 (Figure 3; Plate 3)

5.3.1 The trench contained one ditch, aligned north to south, and two postholes. The ditch and postholes contained minimal material finds and therefore unable to be dated. The trench also contained two cobbled surfaces dated to

- post-medieval period, with a number of finds recovered from one of the deposits.
- 5.3.2 Ditch [114] (Section 10) was 0.73m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately steep straight sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of mid reddish brown silty clay (113), which contained no datable finds.
- 5.3.3 Posthole [112] (Section 9) was located to the east of [114]. It measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.15m in depth with steep straight sides and a U-shaped profile and contained a single fill of grey brown silty clay (111) with no dateable finds present.
- 5.3.4 Posthole [120] (Section 12), measured 0.30m x 0.25m x 0.30m in depth and was located midway along the trench, to the west of [114]. It contained a mid-grey silty clay (119), from which no dateable finds were recovered.
- 5.3.5 Cobbled surface (115) (Figure 4; Plates 4-6) was located to the west of the trench and measured 5.78m x 0.05-0.15m deep (or one cobble depth). The cobbles consisted of sub-angular to rounded flint and sandstone of various sizes. There was no bonding or bedding material but a mid- grey silty clay containing finds of pottery, bone and metal was present between the cobbles. The deposit was dated to the post-medieval period.
- 5.3.6 Cobbled surface (118) was located to east of the trench, just below the topsoil. It measured 4.40m x 2m+ and was the depth of one cobble, or 0.05m-0.15m. The cobbles were rounded to sub-angular and were set into the natural clay. The positioning of some of the cobbles suggested a wall line was present, aligned north to south and through the centre of the deposit.
- 5.3.7 The ditch and two postholes were likely to be associated with boundary divisions in the post-medieval period. The cobbled surfaces also dated to this period and were probably remnants of an external floor surface and associated wall foundation. The arrangement of the cobbles and the fact they lay directly on top of the natural clay suggested they were not part of a substantial structure, but more likely a temporary or crude yard surface.

TRENCH 2	Figures 2-4	Plate 3-6	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 20m	Level of Natural (m OD): 100.65m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NE End	SW End
Topsoil	(100)	0.38m	0.34m
Subsoil	(101)	0.30m	0.32m
Natural	(102)	0.68m+	0.68m+
Cobbled surface	(115)	0.15m	0.15m
Cobbled surface	(118)	0.15m	0.15m
Summary			
<p>Trench 2 was located in the northern part of the site.</p> <p>There were five archaeological features in the trench: one ditch [114] of post-medieval date and two postholes [120], [112], neither of which contained dateable finds. Two cobbled surfaces were also recorded (115) and (118); post-medieval in date, believed to be associated with external structures.</p>			

5.4 Trench 3 (Figure 4; Plate 7)

- 5.4.1 The trench contained a single earthen bank located in the eastern end of the trench.
- 5.4.2 Bank [110] (Figure 4, Section 8) was 2.44m wide and over 0.50m deep, and contained several accumulated colluvial deposits. The earliest deposit (109) lay directly on top of the natural clay and consisted of a red brown silty clay with no dateable finds present. Sealing this layer was a deposit of grey brown silty clay (108) which contained pottery dating to the medieval period. The latest deposit (107) was sealed by the subsoil (101) and was yellow-grey clay with no dateable finds present.
- 5.4.3 The earthen bank [110] was probably a natural build up of colluvial deposits during the medieval period.

TRENCH 3	Figures 2-4	Plate 7	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 20m	Level of Natural (m OD): 100.44m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		E End	W End
Topsoil	(100)	0.44m	0.32m
Subsoil	(101)	0.36m	0.40m
Natural	(102)	0.80m+	0.74m+
Summary			
<p>Trench 3 was located in the southern part of the site.</p> <p>There was one archaeological feature present: an earthen bank (107-110) xxx in date, with pottery recovered from the buildup of deposits forming the bank.</p>			

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 The Pottery

By Chris Jarrett

Introduction

6.1.1 A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (less than one box). The pottery dates to the medieval and post-medieval periods. A small number of sherds show evidence for abrasion, particularly the material recovered from the top soil and the assemblage is generally fragmentary consisting mostly of sherd material, although forms could often be recognised. The most complete vessel is a fragmentary stoneware cylindrical jar, which could be reconstructed as a nearly whole vessel. The pottery was quantified by sherd count (SC) and estimated number of vessels (ENV's), besides weight. Pottery was recovered from six contexts and all are found as small groups (fewer than 30 sherds).

6.1.2 In total the assemblage consists of 61 sherds, 69 ENV, 1.557g (of which one sherd, 1 ENV, 56g are unstratified). The assemblage was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and entered into a database format, by fabric, form and decoration. The classification of the pottery types follows that, as far as possible, for Northamptonshire (1996) and Blinkhorn (1996) and code numbers are prefixed with the letter F, while the vessel shapes follows that of the Medieval Pottery Research Group (1998). The pottery is discussed by its distribution.

The pottery types

6.1.3 The range of pottery types, the forms that occur in them and their quantification are shown in Table 1.

6.1.4 There are a handful of sherds (three sherds/3 ENV/54g) dating to the Late Saxon and early medieval period and found as St Neots type ware (fabrics F100 and less certain F200/330), including a jar rim (context [108]) and a 'hollow' type bowl rim found in Thetford-type ware (fabric F102: context [115]). Medieval wares dated c. 1150-1400 occur as a small quantity of

pottery (fourteen sherds/14 ENV/258g) and are particularly from the local source of Lyveden and Stanion. These consist of shelly limestone tempered wares (fabric F319) and the Oolitic glazed ware (fabric F320). In the latter fabric are green-glazed jug sherds, found in context [100], while the most decorative sherd has a white slip disc with a gridded stamp (recovered from context [115]). A small number of sand- or shell-tempered wares have been coded MCW1-3 as they cannot be paralleled easily with the Northamptonshire fabric series.

Pottery type	Code	Date range	No. sherds	of (ENV)	Weight (g)	Forms
St Neots ware	F100	900-1100	1	1	28	Cooking pot/jar
Thetford-type ware	F102	900-1100	1	1	16	bowl
St Neots ware/shelly coarseware	F200/330	1100-1400	1	1	10	Unidentified
Lyveden/Stanion A ware	F319	c. 1150-1400	3	3	78	Unidentified
Lyveden/Stanion B ware	F320	1225-1400	6	6	129	Unidentified
Medieval (reduced sandy) coarseware	MCW1	c.1200-1450	1	1	4	Cooking pot/jar
(shell-tempered) coarseware	MCW2	c.1200-1400	1	1	11	Cooking pot/jar
Medieval (sandy) coarseware	MCW3	c.1200-1450	3	3	36	Unidentified
Late medieval oxidised ware	F401	c. 1450-1550+	13	12	208	Bowl or dish, unidentified
Midlands Purple ware	F403	1450-1600+	2	2	30	Jug, small rounded, unidentified
Cistercian ware	F404	1470-1550	1	1	2	Drinking form
Midland yellow ware	F406	1550-1700	2	2	38	Bowl or dish
Midland blackware	F411	1550-1700	2	2	151	Jug, small rounded
Manganese glazed ware	F413	1680-1760	5	5	29	Drinking forms, bowl or dish
Staffordshire-type red-slipped-		c.1700-1900	1	1	42	Bowl or dish

Pottery type	Code	Date range	No. sherds	of (ENV)	Weight (g)	Forms
black-glazed ware (Coarse						
Derby/Nottingham stoneware	F417	1700-1800/1900	1	1	4	? jug
Frechen German stoneware	F421	1550-1690	1	1	8	Bartmannen
Local coarse ware (glazed post-medieval redware)	F427	1600/1700-1900	4	4	98	Bowls or dishes
English stoneware with Bristol glaze	ENGS BRST	1830-1900	12	1	580	Jar, cylindrical

Table 1. SLBN15: medieval and post-medieval pottery types and their forms quantified by sherd count (SC), estimated vessel equivalents (ENV) and weight.

- 6.1.5 Late medieval and early post-medieval wares are largely represented by late medieval oxidised ware (fabric F401) and Midlands purple ware (fabric F403) and are mostly represented by fragments of bowls or dishes. These wares may date to the 17th century.
- 6.1.6 A large proportion of the assemblage consist of mostly 16th and 17th-century wares (32 sherds/31 ENV/610g) and these occur mostly in the top soil [100] and deposit [101]. Bowls and dishes are represented in mostly Midlands yellow (fabric F406) and local coarse ware (post-medieval redware) (Fabric F427). Drinking forms, which could not usually be assigned to a specific type, are present in Cistercian ware (fabric F404) and manganese glazed ware (F413), while a small rounded jug was found in Midland blackware (F11) and context [115]. The only imported ware in the assemblage is a German Frechen stoneware (fabric F421) bartmannen jug fragment, surviving with a fairly benign looking applied face on the neck of the vessel (context [101]).
- 6.1.7 The latest pottery types represented in the assemblage are both stonewares and found in context [100]. These consist of a sherd probably from Derbyshire (fabric F17) and a late 19th-early 20th-century dated cylindrical jam or salt jar made in English stoneware with Bristol glaze.

Distribution

6.1.8 Table 2 shows the contexts containing pottery, the trenches the deposit occurs in, the size of the group, the number of sherds, ENV and weight, besides a spot date for the group, for each deposit the material occurs in. A short discussion of the distribution of the pottery is provided.

Context	Trench	Group size	No. of sherds	(ENV)	Weight (g)	Spot date
100	1, 2 and 3	S	26	15	816	Late 19th-early 20th century
101	2	S	20	19	368	1660-1690
103	1	S	5	5	48	1225-1400
107	3	S	1	1	1	c. 1150-1400
108	3	S	3	3	33	1225-1400
115	2	S	5	5	235	1550-1700

Table 2. SLBN15. Distribution of pottery showing individual contexts containing pottery, size of the assemblage, the number of sherds (SC), ENV's and weight, and a suggested deposition date.

6.1.9 Fills [107] and [108] of feature [110] both produced pottery. Fill [108] produced of note a jar rim in St Neots ware (fabric F100), while the most datable sherd is from a jug in Lyveden/Stanion B ware (fabric F320) decorated with a white slip disc stamped with a gridded pattern. The deposit is dated c. 1225-1400, although the jug sherd may be more of a 13th century date. Fill [107] only produced a very small, abraded sherd of a Lyveden/Stanion A ware (fabric F319)0, indicating deposition dated c. 1150-1400.

6.1.10 Deposit [103] is also dated c. 1225-1400 by the presence of small sherd of Oolitic tempered Lyveden/Stanion B ware (fabric F320), which also occurred with sherds of medieval coarse sandy wares (fabrics MCW2 and 3).

6.1.11 Context [115] is dated c. 1550-1700 and it contained local glazed red earthenwares (F427) and two drinking forms, found as fragments of small rounded jugs in Midlands's blackware (F411) and purple ware (F403).

6.1.12 Deposit [100] produced the second largest quantity of pottery in the assemblage (see Table 2) and this consisted of 16th-century wares (fabric F401) and particularly 17th-century pottery types (F406, F411 and F413). The latest pottery type is Manganese glazed ware and together with the Frechen stoneware bartmannen indicate a probable deposition date of c. 1660-90.

6.1.13 The top soil [100] produced the largest quantity of pottery (see Table 2) and a diverse range of pottery types including St Neots ware, Lyveden/Stanion medieval sherds, late medieval and later Midlands oxidised and purple wares. Later post-medieval pottery types include Midland's black or yellow wares. The latest pottery types are the sherds of stoneware from Derby and the Bristol-glazed stoneware cylindrical jar. The implication is that the top soil accumulated pottery from underlying features or material was added to it over a long period of time.

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

6.1.14 The assemblage has some significance at a local level as it contains both medieval and post-medieval pottery types and so indicates activity for these periods on the site. The potential of the pottery is to date the features it was recovered from. The assemblage will aid in a better understanding of the distribution of medieval pottery types in Northamptonshire. There are no recommendations for further work on the pottery at this stage, however in the event of further archaeological work on the site; then the importance of the pottery recovered from the evaluation should be reevaluated with the recovery of new ceramics.

6.2 Faunal Remains

By Kevin Rielly

6.3 Introduction

6.3.1 This site is situated within the central part of Braybrooke, some 4 km south-east of Market Harborough. Three trenches were laid out in an area approximately 70m by 70m adjacent to School Lane. All three trenches provided archaeological features, with a notable concentration in Trench 2,

generally dating to the post-medieval era. The exception is the remains of an earthen bank, found in Trench 3, the make-up of which provided some medieval potsherds. Animal bones were found throughout these features.

6.4 Methodology

6.4.1 The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered.

6.5 Description of the Faunal Assemblage

6.5.1 The excavations provided a total of 15 hand recovered bones, all in relatively good condition. These were recovered from all three trenches (see Table 1), arising from the subsoil (101) above ditch [104] in Trench 1; from the fill (113) of ditch [114] and the nearby truncated cobble surface (115) in Trench 2; and then from one of the make-up levels (108) in the earthen bank [110] in Trench 3. As noted, all but the latter feature has been dated to the post-medieval period, most probably to at least the latter part of the 18th century.

6.5.2 The largest collection (8 bones) was recovered from (101), this with a variety of cattle, equid and sheep/goat fragments, equid represented by a loose tooth. Notably, one of the cattle bones, a metatarsus, was clearly from a very young calf, perhaps denoting an infant mortality and indirect evidence for cattle breeding in this location. Most of the Trench 2 bones were found amongst the cobble surface (115), featuring some cattle and sheep/goat bones, while the ditch [114] provided a near complete cattle axis from an adult individual. Finally the earthen bank [110] deposit produced a sheep/goat radius and another equid tooth.

Trench:	TR1	TR2	TR3
Species			
Cattle	1	3	
Equid	1		1
Cattle-size		1	
Sheep/Goat	4	1	1
Sheep-size	2		
Grand Total	8	5	2

Table 1: Distribution of bones by trench

6.6 Conclusion and Recommendations for Further Work

- 6.6.1 This is a rather small collection and while well preserved, does not suggest a good potential for the recovery of very much more faunal material following further excavation. It is certainly interesting that one of the cattle bones may provide evidence for cattle breeding, particularly concerning the evidence for a late post medieval barn in this locality. There is perhaps greater potential for a study of post medieval animal usage compared to any earlier occupation, although it would be of major interest to recover sufficient faunal material to compare and contrast medieval and post medieval faunal usage within this clearly rural setting.
- 6.6.2 It is recommended, due to the good condition of the bones, that any further work at this site should involve the recovery of bones both by hand and by sieving.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Medieval Activity

7.1.1 The evaluation identified a series of colluvial deposits, which formed part of an earthen bank (Figure 4; Plate 8). These were located in the eastern end of Trench 3. The layers were naturally lain colluvium deposits that had washed down a natural rise in the north eastern corner of the site. Bone and pottery were recovered from one of the deposits and it is likely they are residual; washed down slope with the colluvium.

7.1.2 Although the recorded deposits were deemed to be natural it cannot be ruled out that further medieval archaeology could be discovered in the area relating to the finds recovered.

7.2 Post medieval activity

7.2.1 The principal result of the evaluation was the discovery of a number of post medieval features, including two cobblestone surfaces, thought to be external floor surfaces (Figure 4; Plates 4-6).

7.2.2 The presence of ditches and postholes suggest there are remains of post medieval boundaries on site, as shown in Trenches 2 and 3. The presence of the cobblestone surfaces identified from Trench 2 indicates there may have been the remains of a rudimentary post medieval floor surface surviving. The stones were laid directly on top of the natural clay, with no bonding or bedding material, which suggests that the floor is part of an external 'yard' surface. It is possible that some of the cobble stones in the north-eastern portion of the trench were part of a small wall foundation, aligned north to south. However, no further evidence of building material relating to a wall foundation was recovered and therefore this suggestion cannot be fully ratified.

7.2.3 The results of the evaluation are in keeping with the known archaeology and history of Braybrooke. The yard surface located in Trench 2 correlates with the house and yard depicted in the 1767 map of Braybrooke (Figure 3), whilst the results of an excavation on what is now 12 & 14 School Lane demonstrates that remains of post-medieval out-buildings do survive in the

area.

- 7.2.4 The densest concentration of post medieval features appears to be in the western part of the site, towards the School Lane frontage. Given the limited coverage provided by the trenching, evidence for post-medieval occupation and related activity may extend across the site.
- 7.2.5 It is not clear whether any in-situ structural remains of buildings relating to the yard prevail.
- 7.2.6 Archaeological preservation appears to be relatively good for post-medieval 'phases', with survival of a surface layer rather than just 'negative'/ 'cut' features, despite residing just below the topsoil in Trench 2 (118).

7.3 Conclusions

- 7.3.1 The trial trench evaluation has identified features reflecting a period of activity during the post-medieval period.
- 7.3.2 The archaeological features and deposits are relatively well-preserved with a small collection of finds assemblages relating to domestic/ pastoral activity.
- 7.3.3 The densest concentration of archaeology is in the west of the site, though a trench in the eastern part of site did reveal a post medieval ditch. In view of the limited sample of the site's area provided by the trenching, the apparent lack of features in the north-eastern part of the site may not be 'real'.
- 7.3.4 The character of the post medieval features and the associated finds is in keeping with external structures relating to domestic/pastoral activity. This is not unexpected given the results of previous archaeological work in this part of Braybrooke.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Michael Lavender Architect Ltd for commissioning the work and the plant contractor for operating the excavator. PCA are also grateful to Liz Mordue of Northamptonshire County Council for her advice and for monitoring the work. The author would like to thank Kevin Trott for managing the project. The author would also like to thank the project team: Matthew Jones, Steve Jones and Kevin Trott for their hard work, and finally PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

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9.2 Cartographic Sources

Wings map of Braybrooke: 1767.

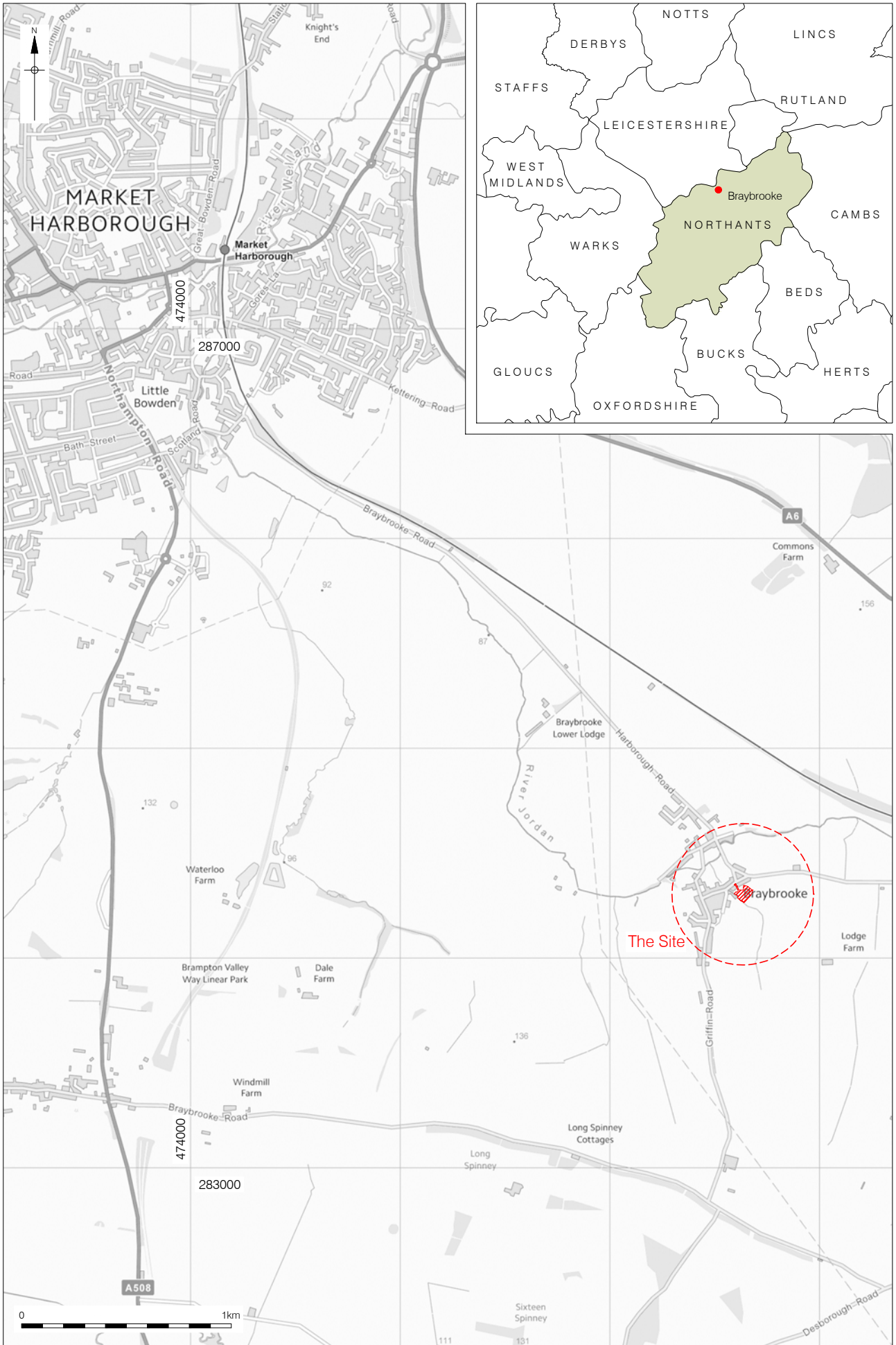
9.3 Websites

1) <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain>. Date accessed 21/05/2015

2) <http://british-history.ac.uk>. Date accessed 21/05/2015

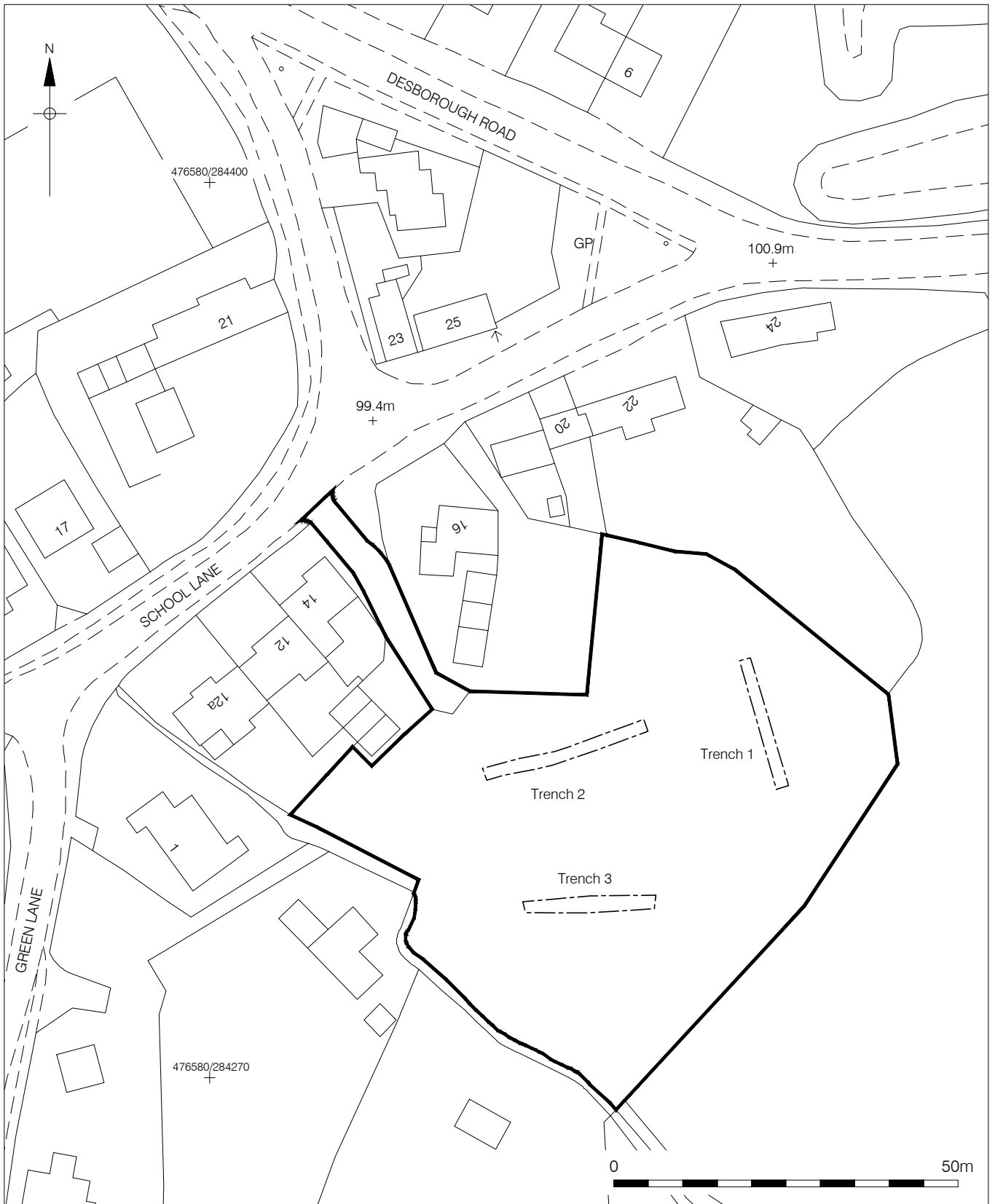
9.4 Personal Communication

Pitcher, G. 2015. Email communication and notes.



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000 & 1:25,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:800 at A4



Figure 3
Wings Map of Braybrooke, 1767 showing Trenches 1 - 3
1:1,250 at A4

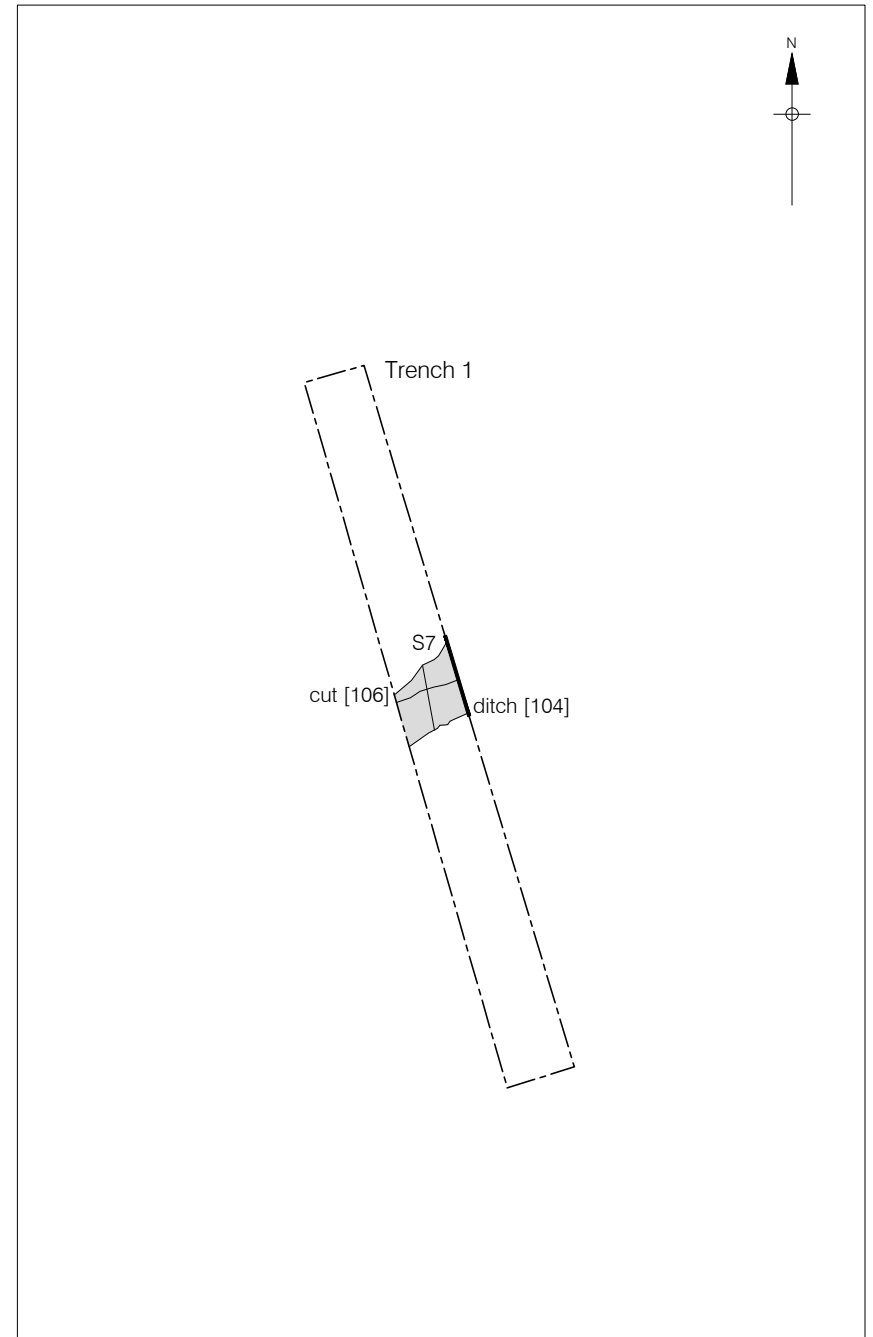
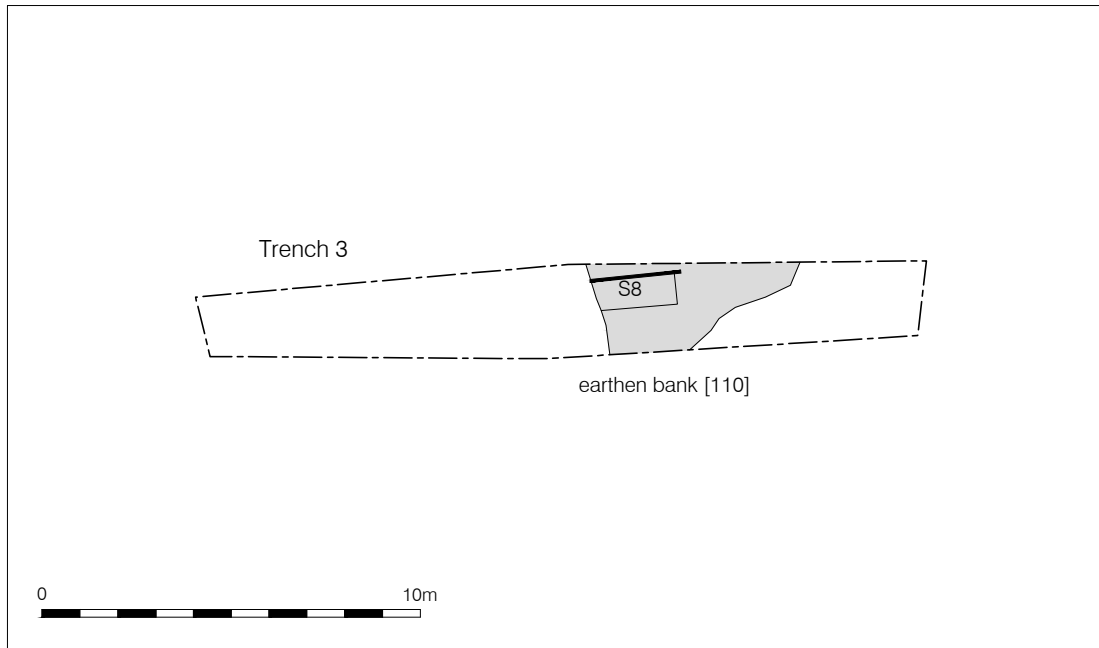
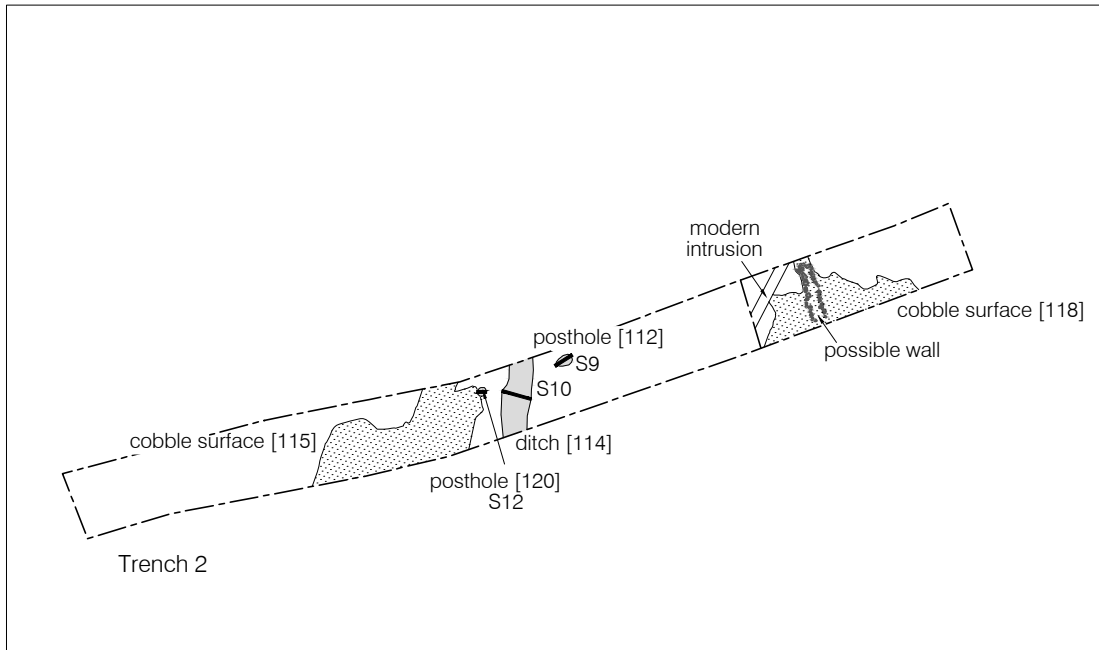
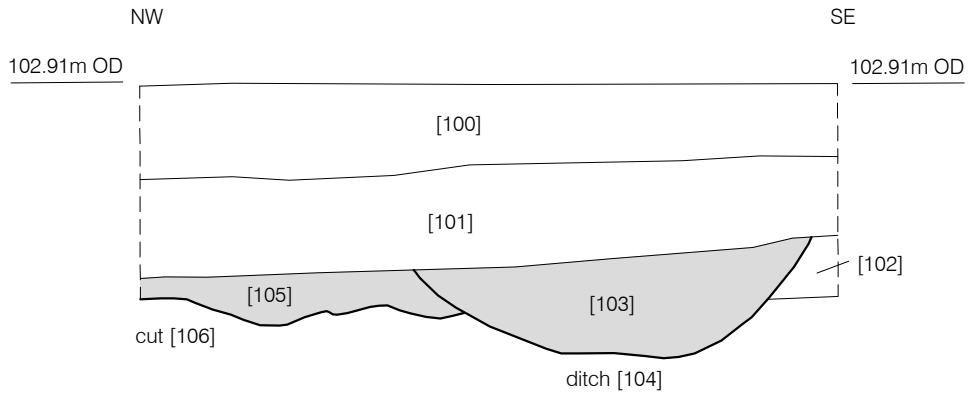
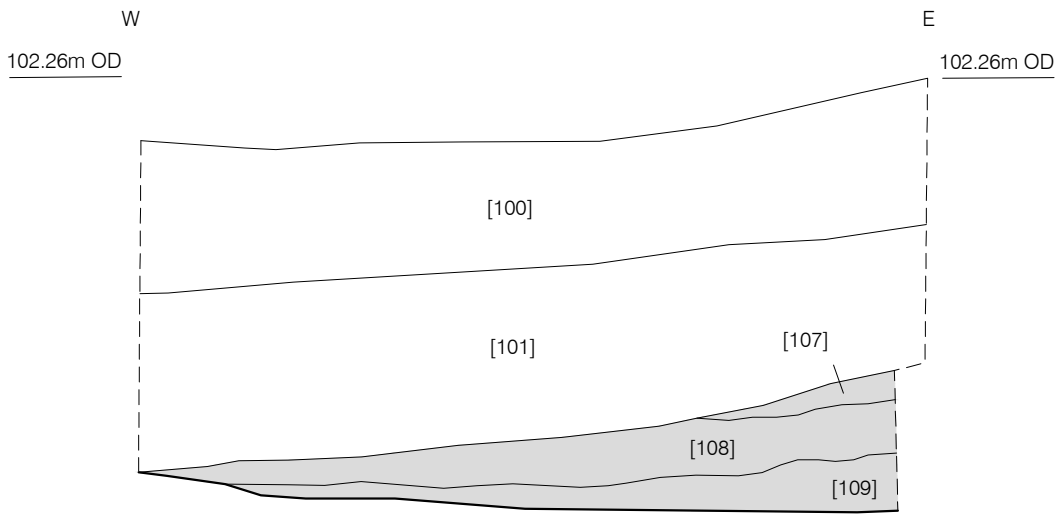


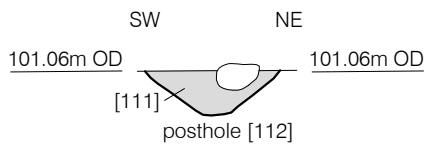
Figure 4
Plan of Trenches 1 - 3
1:200 at A4



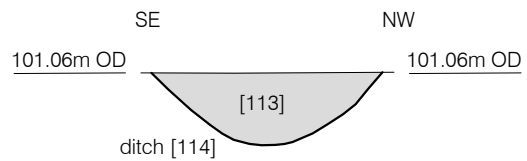
Section 7
Trench 1
Southwest Facing



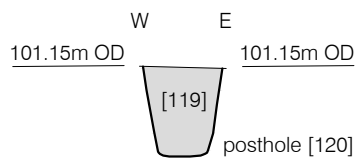
Section 8
Trench 3
South Facing



Section 9
Trench 2
Southeast Facing



Section 10
Trench 2
Northeast Facing



Section 12
Trench 2
South Facing

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Trench 1, view north



Plate 2: Trench 1, view east showing Ditch [104] post-excitation



Plate 3: Trench 2, view west



Plate 4: Trench 2, view east showing layer of cobbles (115), mid excavation



Plate 5: Trench 2, view west showing layer of cobbles (115) post excavation



Plate 6: Trench 2, view south showing layer of cobbles (115) fully excavated



Plate 7: Trench 3, view east



Plate 8: Trench 3, view north showing section through bank [110] post excavation

11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Sitecode	Context Number	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Period	Interpretation	Other Comments	Plan	Section
SLBN15	100	1-3	0	Layer	Topsoil				0	1-6
SLBN15	101	1-3	0	Layer	Subsoil				0	1-6
SLBN15	102	1-3	0	Layer	Natural				0	
SLBN15	103	1	104	Fill	Ditch		Boundary		0	7
SLBN15	104	1	104	Cut	Ditch		Boundary		0	7
SLBN15	105	1	106	Fill	Natural		Hollow		0	7
SLBN15	106	1	107	Cut	Natural		Hollow		0	7
SLBN15	107	3	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Bank		0	8
SLBN15	108	3	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Bank		0	8
SLBN15	109	3	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Bank		0	8
SLBN15	110	3	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Bank	Number for whole feature	0	8
SLBN15	111	2	112	Fill	Posthole		Boundary		0	9
SLBN15	112	2	112	Cut	Posthole		Boundary		0	9
SLBN15	113	2	114	Fill	Ditch		Boundary		0	10
SLBN15	114	2	114	Cut	Ditch		Boundary		0	10
SLBN15	115	2	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Yard surface		115	0
SLBN15	116	0	0				VOID	VOID	0	0
SLBN15	117	0	0				VOID	VOID	0	0
SLBN15	118	2	0	Layer	Buried Soil		Yard surface		118	0
SLBN15	119	2	120	Fill	Posthole		Boundary		0	12
SLBN15	120	2	120	Cut	Posthole		Boundary		0	12

12 APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-211263

Project details

Project name	Land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke, Northamptonshire. The earliest activity was evidenced by an earthen bank formed from a series of colluvium deposits, sealed beneath the subsoil and which contained medieval pottery. The soils were naturally deposited and the finds residual, washed down the natural slope in the north-eastern corner of the site. The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a series of post medieval features, including two ditches, post-holes and a truncated cobblestone surface, believed to be part of a yard surface.
Project dates	Start: 08-05-2015 End: 11-05-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	BACKYARD Post Medieval
Methods techniques	& "Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE KETTERING BRAYBROOKE Land to the rear of 16 School Lane, Braybrooke, Northants

Postcode LE16 8LS
Study area 6300.00 Square metres
Site coordinates SP 76642 84310 52.4509897652 -0.872096658056 52 27 03 N 000 52
19 W Point
Lat/Long Datum Unknown

Project creators

Name of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Organisation

Project brief Northampton County Council
originator

Project design PCA Midlands
originator

Project Kevin Trott
director/manager

Project supervisor Matthew Jones

Type of Architectural Practice
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Michael Lavender Ltd
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive PCA
recipient

Physical Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal"

Digital Archive PCA
recipient

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Survey"

Digital Media "Database","Images raster / digital
available photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"

Paper Archive PCA

recipient

Paper Media "Context
available sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project

bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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