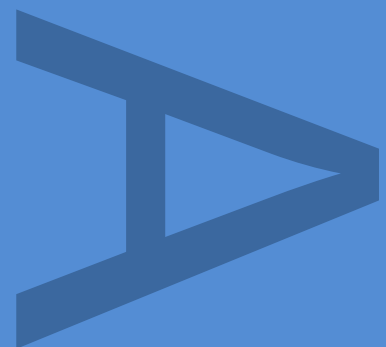


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL  
TRENCH EVALUATION:  
LAND OFF HECADDECK LANE,  
NETHER BROUGHTON,  
LEICESTERSHIRE.**

**JUNE 2016**



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY  
R12520**

LAND OFF HECKADECK LANE, NETHER  
BROUGHTON, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE14 3EZ

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

**Quality Control**

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**Land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire, LE14 3EZ:**

**Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation**

**Local Planning Authority:** Melton 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 off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire (NGR SK 4693 3259) between the 31<sup>st</sup> of May and the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Andrew Granger and Co Ltd in response to recommendations given by the Principal Planning Archaeologist (PPA) of Leicestershire County Council (LCC), Richard Clark as part of the pre-planning process. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.*

*The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a dense complex of Early Saxon through to medieval settlement-related features including boundary and drainage ditches, rubbish pits and postholes, some of which represent fence lines. These features were associated with small quantities of finds including animal bone, pottery of predominantly Early Saxon through to medieval (5th-14th-century) date and fired clay. The finds indicate both domestic and agricultural activity, with the focus of settlement and the densest clusters of archaeological features being located to the south and east, although significant quantities of archaeological remains were also found to the north and west. The findings are in keeping with the results of previous excavations and survey in this part of Nether Broughton, which identified Anglo-Saxon and medieval boundary ditches and other features 100m to the east of the site, as well as a shrunken medieval village comprised of a moated site, enclosures and building platforms clustered around St Marys Church, to the north-east.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire LE14 3EZ (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) SK 4693 3259) from the 31<sup>st</sup> of May to the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 (Figures 1-3).
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Andrew Granger and Co Ltd in response to recommendations given by the Principal Planning Archaeologist (PPA) of Leicestershire County Council (LCC), Richard Clark as part of the pre-planning process. The outline proposal for the site is for a development of 25 new dwellings.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Kathryn Brook of PCA (Brook 2016) in response to the recommendations given by the Principal Planning Archaeologist (PPA).
- 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 any forthcoming development proposals on the site's archaeology.
- 1.5 A total of ten approximately 1.8x20m 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 Leicester Museum Archaeology Store.

## **2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

### **2.1 Geology**

2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Sandstone of the Brandon Sandstone Bed; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 190 to 197 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. (British Geological Survey; Website 1). The superficial deposits of the site were present as a mottled light yellowy-blue/mid orangey-grey clay (101). The overlying soil was a dark greyish-brown sandy silt (100).

### **2.2 Topography**

2.2.1 The site comprises an area of approximately 1.250ha (Figure 2). It is located west of the main historic thoroughfare comprising Middle Lane and Church End which runs north-south through the historic core of Nether Broughton, and immediately east of the road junction of Nottingham Road and Hecadeck Lane. The proposed development site lies to the north of Hecadeck Lane and is a sub-rectangular shaped field. A mature hedge-line/boundary aligned approximately N-S divides the site into two distinct fields, with the smaller land parcel to the west. The site is bounded by road and mature hedgerows to the south and west and by hedged field boundaries to the north and east. Apart from Parnhams Close, a post war cul-de-sac development to the south, the immediate landscape is characteristically a mix of pasture and arable farmland. The site is situated at an elevation of approximately 79-80m OD (above Ordnance Datum). The surrounding area slopes away from the site, with a slight fall in the ground to the south and east of the site towards Old Dalby and a sharper drop in elevation to the north and west towards Upper Broughton. The River Smite is located 1.2km to the east of the site, with The Dalby Brook being located 200m north-west of the site, the site falling between these two river valleys.

### **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 General**

3.1.1 The development site lies within an area of significant archaeological potential relating mainly to the medieval and Saxon periods as highlighted in the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment undertaken by PCA (Garwood 2015). Only a short Summary taken from the DBA will be detailed here.

#### **3.2 Prehistoric**

3.2.1 Despite the proximity to the Dalby Brook, which meanders northwards to the west of the site, and to a landscape recognised as conducive to settlement during the prehistoric and later periods, prehistoric activity recorded within the vicinity of the study site comprises a single chance find of an Iron Age quernstone, found c. 200m to the east of the site within the Vicarage garden, and a fragment of a Bronze-Age palstave axe reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) in the general area of the village.

#### **3.3 Roman**

3.3.1 Very little evidence for Roman activity has been recorded in and around Nether Broughton. The only evidence of Roman activity relates to the discovery of a single copper alloy zoomorphic plate brooch reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). Within the wider area the most significant evidence of Roman activity is the Fosse Way and associated site of Vernemetum, which both lie some distance to the west of Nether Broughton.

#### **3.4 Anglo-Saxon**

3.4.1 The village is listed in the Domesday Book as 'Broctone' from the old English 'Broc and 'tun' meaning 'village by the brook' the Dalby Brook is sited immediately west of the village which forms the county boundary with Nottinghamshire. The village's inclusion with the Domesday Book suggest the village dates back to at least the late Saxon period. The only solid evidence for Anglo Saxon settlement (and subsequent medieval occupation) was uncovered during an archaeological investigation c. 100m to the east of

the site at Staymore, Church End. The presence of small assemblages of Anglo-Saxon and Saxo-Norman ceramics along with a boundary feature may indicate some form of settlement close by.

### **3.5 Medieval**

3.5.1 The village is not recorded as 'Nethyr Broughton' until 1342. 'Nether' meaning 'lower' refers to its topographic relationship with Upper Broughton, some 30m higher in elevation. Evidence from aerial photographic sources and from the inspection/survey of earthworks, demonstrate the presence of a more significant settlement focused around the Church End and the medieval Church of St Mary during this period, and a contraction or shrinking of that medieval village, thereafter. This evidence, which takes the form of a moated enclosure, on which, tradition says, a large hall once stood and a number of small enclosures and several building platforms, lies relatively close to the eastern boundary of the site. The westerly extent of this occupation from Church End and toward Hecadeck Lane was confirmed during an investigation at the Staymore site (c.100m to the east) where long-lived settlement evidence, including boundary features, rubbish pitting and masonry walls, ranging in date from the 11th - 13th and 15th century or later has been discovered. A wealth of medieval coins found in the area of the site also provide further insight into the extent, wealth and longevity of settlement in Nether Broughton.

### **3.6 Post-medieval**

3.6.1 The cartographic evidence demonstrates the study site has been agricultural land since at least the later post-medieval and possibly, given its characterisation as piecemeal enclosure, as open field cultivation from the medieval period. The early OS editions show that the site was much the same in size, layout and character as survives today.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Excavation and Sampling**

- 4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of 10 trial trenches, distributed across the site but avoiding existing hedgerows and treelines (Figure 3).
- 4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket (Plate 1). Topsoil 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 A selection of features were investigated and recorded in order to properly characterise 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. Where the density of features within the trench was extremely high, excavated slots were focused on the edge of large feature clusters in order to investigate their size and type.
- 4.1.6 Where features were identified in plan and not excavated, their location, dimensions and visible fill type were recorded. The unexcavated features were assigned to feature type where possible, based on size, shape and



alignment in plan.

- 4.1.7 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated, depending on the conditions within the trench.

## **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 section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).
- 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 and black and white film photographs were taken when considered appropriate by the excavator and supervisor.
- 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 west to east or south to north depending on the alignment of the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the topsoil. The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a dense complex of Early Saxon to medieval settlement-related features including boundary and drainage ditches, rubbish pits and postholes, some of which represent fence lines. These features were associated with small quantities of finds including animal bone, pottery of predominantly Early Saxon through to medieval (5th to 14th century) date and ceramic building material. The finds indicate both domestic and agricultural activity, with the focus of settlement and the densest clusters of archaeological features being located to the south and east, although significant quantities of archaeological remains were also found to the north and west.

### **5.2 Trench 1 (Plate 2, Figure 4)**

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained three ditches, two were aligned north-west to south-east, and one was aligned north-east to south-west. The trench also contained three pits and three postholes. These features are likely to be boundary ditches and refuse pits.

5.2.2 Ditch [104] was located at the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 1.28m wide and 0.16m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (105) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained a single fragment of fired clay, which may have come from a bar or brick. Ditch [104] is likely to form part of the same ditch line as Ditch [125] in Trench 2, based on shared alignment and profile.

5.2.3 Ditch [106] was located at the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 0.20m wide and 0.06m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (107) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.

- 5.2.4 Pit [117] was located in the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 1.22m long, 0.38m+ wide and 0.14m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (116) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.5 Posthole [119] was located in the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 0.30m long by 0.28m wide and was 0.18m deep. It was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (118) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.6 Posthole [115] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.40m long by 0.38m wide and was 0.07m deep. It was circular in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (114) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.7 Pit [113] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.65m long, 0.58m+ wide and 0.11m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (112) of dark to mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.8 Posthole [111] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.28m long by 0.27m wide and was 0.11m deep. It was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (110) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.9 Pit [109] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.80m long, 0.48m+ wide and 0.08m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (108) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.2.10 Ditch [102] was located at the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.54m+ wide and 0.20m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (103) of light blueish-grey silty clay which

contained a relatively high proportion of seeds from mustards and sedges.

5.2.11 The features in Trench 1 contained no datable material, and were consistently shallow in depth and gentle in profile. This suggests that the archaeological level here had undergone a degree of truncation, which may explain the relative scarcity of archaeological features present. However the lack of finds and surviving deep features also suggests that the north-west of the site is further from the focus of settlement, a view that is supported by the presence of the shrunken medieval village to the north-east of the site area (Garwood 2015), far from Trench 1. The features that were present here are likely to be boundary ditches and rubbish pits. The common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

TRENCH 1	Figure 4		Plate 2	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 25m	Level of Natural (m OD): 78.88m		
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)		
		NNE End	SSW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.28m	0.30m	
Natural	(101)	0.28m+	0.30m+	
<b>Summary</b>				
Trench 1 was located in the north-western corner of the site. The trench contained three ditches, three pits and three postholes. These contained no datable finds, but are likely to belong to the primary archaeological periods present on the site, the Early Saxon through to medieval period.				

### 5.3 Trench 2 (Plate 3, Figure 5)

5.3.1 Trench 2 contained seven ditches, six were aligned north-west to south-east, and one was aligned north-east to south-west. The trench also contained two pits. These features are likely to be boundary ditches and refuse pits. The pottery from features in the trench was 5th to mid-11th century in date.

5.3.2 Ditch [149] was located at the north-west end of the trench. It was 1.10m+ wide and only partly within the trench. Its upper fill (148) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

- 5.3.3 Ditch [125] was located at the north-west end of the trench. It was 1.00m wide and 0.10m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (124) of light brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Pit [123] to the east. Ditch [125] is likely to form part of the same ditch line as Ditch [104] in Trench 1, based on shared alignment and profile.
- 5.3.4 Pit [123] was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.60m+ long, 0.50m wide and 0.08m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (122) of light brownish-grey silty clay which contained a single sherd of 10th to mid-11th century Torksey ware pottery. The pit was truncated by Ditch [125] to the west and Ditch [121] to the east.
- 5.3.5 Ditch [121] was located at the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.40m wide and 0.12m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (120) of light brownish-grey silty clay which contained a single sherd of 5-8th century pottery with incised decoration, as well as a single fragment of fired clay. The ditch truncated Pit [123] to the west.
- 5.3.6 Ditch [279] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 6.70m wide and 0.22m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (278) of mottled mid blue blueish-grey/ mid orangey-brown silty clay which contained a single sherd of 5th to 8th century burnished pottery. The ditch was truncated by Pit [137] to the west and Ditches [135] and [277] to the east. Ditch [279] covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan.
- 5.3.7 Pit [137] (Plate 4, Figure 14, Section 12) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.80m+ long, 0.97m wide and 0.43m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan with near-vertical straight sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (136) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained a single fragment of a doughnut shaped loom

weight of possible Early Saxon Date and twenty-six pieces of animal bone, including examples from horse, cattle sheep and pig. The pit truncated Ditch [279].

5.3.8 Ditch [135] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.3m wide and 0.09m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (134) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [279].

5.3.9 Ditch [277] was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 0.86m wide and 0.63m deep with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (276) of mottled light blueish-grey/ mid greyish-brown silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [279].

5.3.10 Ditch [151] was located at the south-east end of the trench. It was 1.58m+ wide and only partly within the trench. Its upper fill (150) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.3.11 The features in Trench 2 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and although in many cases relatively shallow were densely spread throughout the trench. The presence of Pit [137], which contained a moderate assemblage of animal bone and cut the earlier Ditch [279], indicates that this area was used for refuse deposition, possibly as the ditched boundaries here became less important or were moved elsewhere. This may relate to the suggested shrinking of the medieval settlement focused to the north-east of the site, around St. Marys Church. The features that were present here are likely to be boundary ditches, some of which were re-delineated over time, and rubbish pits. The common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

<b>TRENCH 2</b>	<b>Figures 5, 14</b>	<b>Plates 3, 4</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 17.50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.29m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>

Topsoil	(100)	0.29m	0.29m
Natural	(101)	0.29m+	0.29m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 2 was located close to the south-western boundary of the site. The trench contained seven ditches and two pits. These features dated to the Early to Middle Saxon and Late Saxon periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.			

#### 5.4 Trench 3 (Plate 5, Figure 6)

- 5.4.1 Trench 2 contained five ditches, two were aligned north-west to south-east, one was aligned east to west, one was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west and one was aligned north-east to south-west. The trench also contained five pits and a layer. These features are likely to be boundary ditches and refuse pits. The pottery from features in the trench was 5th to mid-13th century in date.
- 5.4.2 Pit [127] was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 2.4m long, 0.50m+ wide and 0.32m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (126) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Pit [129] to the north-west.
- 5.4.3 Pit [129] was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 1.28m long, 1.18m wide and 0.35m deep. It was oval in plan with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (128) of dark to mid grey silty clay which contained two sherds of early to mid-13th century glazed pottery and 3 pieces of animal bone from a sheep or goat sized animal. The pit truncated Pit [127] to the south and Pit [153] to the north.
- 5.4.4 Pit [153] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.65m long and 0.18m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan. Its upper fill (152) was a light to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Pit [127] to the south. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.4.5 Ditch [155] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 2.3m wide.

Its upper fill (154) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch was truncated by Pit [157] to the north-west. The feature was not excavated.

- 5.4.6 Pit [157] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 2.73m long and 1.5m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (156) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit truncated Ditch [155] to the south-east. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.4.7 Ditch [142] (Plate 6, Figure 14, Section 13) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 2.19m wide and 0.34m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (143) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained four sherds of 5th to 8th century Charnwood type pottery, two fragments of fired clay and seven pieces of animal bone, including those from cattle and sheep sized animals. The ditch truncated Ditch [138] to the south-east and Ditch [140] and Layer (133) to the north-west, and was truncated by Ditch [144] to the north-west.
- 5.4.8 Ditch [138] (Plate 6, Figure 14, Section 13) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.60m wide and 0.42m deep with steeply-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (139) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained a single fragment of fired clay. The ditch was truncated by Ditch [142].
- 5.4.9 Ditch [144] (Plate 6, Figure 14, Section 13) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.76m wide and 0.49m deep with steeply-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (145) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained two pieces of cattle sized animal bone. The ditch truncated Ditch [142].
- 5.4.10 Ditch [140] (Plate 6, Figure 14, Section 13) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.76m+ wide and 0.49m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (141) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained three pieces of animal bone, including those from a horse and a cattle sized animal. The ditch truncated



Layer (133) to the north-west and was truncated by Ditch [142] to the south.

5.4.11 Layer (133) (Figure 14, Section 10) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 1.8m+ wide and 0.08m deep with a flattish base. It consisted of a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The layer was truncated by Ditches [140] and [142] to the south-east, and Pit [132] to the north-west. Layer (133) covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan.

5.4.12 Pit [132] (Figure 14, Section 10) was located at the north-west end of the trench. It was 1.3m long, 1.25m wide and 0.68m deep. It was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It had a basal fill (131) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained seven pieces of animal bone, including those from cattle and sheep sized animals. This was overlain by an upper fill (130) of dark blueish-grey silt clay which contained no finds. The pit truncated Layer (133).

5.4.13 The features in Trench 3 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were densely spread throughout the trench. Similar to Trench 2, the presence of a pit (Pit [132]) containing relatively abundant animal bone which cut the earlier 'Layer' (133), indicates that this area was used for refuse deposition, possibly as the ditched boundaries here became less important or were moved elsewhere. This may relate to the suggested shrinking of the posited medieval settlement focused to the north-east of the site, around St. Marys Church. The features that were present here are likely to be boundary ditches, some of which were extensively re-delineated over time, and rubbish pits. The density and recutting exhibited by the boundary ditches suggests that the enclosures they represent required frequent maintenance. This is indicative of enclosures nearer to settlement, where plot boundaries would have been more contested and fluid. The common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

<b>TRENCH 3</b>	<b>Figures 6, 14</b>	<b>Plates 5, 6</b>
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Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 17.50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.14m	
Deposit	Context No.	Average Depth (m)	
		NW End	SE End
Topsoil	(100)	0.25m	0.28m
Natural	(101)	0.25m+	0.28m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 3 was located in the south-western corner of the site. The trench contained five ditches, five pits and a layer. These features dated to the Early to Middle Saxon and medieval periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.			

## 5.5 Trench 4 (Plate 7, Figure 7)

5.5.1 Trench 4 contained six ditches, two were aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, two were aligned north-west to south-east and two were aligned north-east to south-west. The trench also contained four pits.

5.5.2 Ditch [283] was located at the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.98m+ wide and only partly within the trench. Its upper fill (282) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.5.3 Ditch [285] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 6.30m+ wide. Its upper fill (284) was a mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. Ditch [285] covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan. The ditch was truncated by Ditches [283] and [184] to the west-north-west and Ditch [182] to the east-south-east. The feature was not excavated.

5.5.4 Ditch [184] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 0.32m+ wide and 0.05m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (183) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [285].

5.5.5 Ditch [182] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.5m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded

- base. It had a single fill (181) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [285] to the west-north-west and Pits [180] and [291] to the east-south-east.
- 5.5.6 Pit [287] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.34m long and 0.30m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (286) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.5.7 Pit [289] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 30m long and 23m+ wide and was circular in plan. Its upper fill (288) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.5.8 Pit [180] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.96m long, 0.66m wide and 0.28m deep. It was oval in plan with near vertical straight sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (179) of mid blueish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds. The pit truncated Pit [291] to the east-south-east and was truncated by Ditch [180] to the west-north-west.
- 5.5.9 Pit [291] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.95m+ long and 0.80m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan. Its upper fill (290) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [182] and Pit [180] to the west-north-west. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.5.10 Ditch [281] (Plate 8) was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 4.6m+ wide and 0.48m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (280) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained a relatively high proportion of seeds from mustards and sedges. The ditch was truncated by Ditch [293] to the east-south-east. Ditch [281] covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan.
- 5.5.11 Ditch [293] was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 4.85m wide. Its upper fill (292) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [281]. The feature was not

excavated.

5.5.12 The features in Trench 4 contained no datable finds, and were densely spread throughout the trench. Similar to Trenches 1 and 2, the features here (especially to the north-west end of the trench) were generally shallow, with gentle profiles. This indicates the archaeological level has undergone a greater degree of truncation in the north-west corner of the site. However, smaller features such as pits do still survive, albeit heavily truncated. The features that are present here are likely to be boundary ditches and rubbish pits, associated with settlement plots orientated off the focus of settlement to the north-east, nearer Church End. The common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

<b>TRENCH 4</b>	<b>Figure 7</b>		<b>Plates 7, 8</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 20.50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.20m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>	
Topsoil	(100)	0.29m	0.32m	
Natural	(101)	0.29m+	0.32m+	
<b>Summary</b>				
Trench 4 was located near the north-western boundary of the site. The trench contained six ditches and four pits. These contained no datable finds, but are likely to belong to the primary archaeological period present on the site, the Early Saxon through to Medieval period.				

## 5.6 Trench 5 (Plate 9, Figure 8)

5.6.1 Trench 5 contained five ditches, two were aligned east to west, two were aligned north-west to south-east and one was aligned west-north-west to east-south-east. The trench also contained three pits and two postholes. The pottery from features in the trench was predominantly 5th to 14th century in date.

5.6.2 Ditch [249] (Plate 10, Figure 14, Section 39) was located at the south-south-

west end of the trench. It was 8m+ wide and 0.79m deep with steep to moderately-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a basal fill (248) of light orangey-grey clay which contained no finds. This was overlain by a middle fill (247) of mid blueish-grey clay which contained five sherds of 5th to 6th century pottery, which had incised groove and chevron decoration, as well as a single residual sherd of possible Mid to Late Iron Age Scored ware. The fill also contained five pieces of unidentified and cattle sized animal bone. This was overlain by a middle fill (246) of light to mid brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. Finally this was overlain by an upper fill (245) of mid blueish-grey clay, which contained three pieces of unidentified and cattle sized animal bone. The ditch was truncated by Pit [300] to the south-south-west. Ditch [249] covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan.

- 5.6.3 Pit [300] was located at the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 2.28m long and 1.00m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan. Its upper fill (299) was a light yellow grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit truncated Ditch [249]. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.6.4 Posthole [251] (Plate 10) was located in the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 0.30m long by 0.26m wide and was 0.10m deep. It was circular in plan with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (250) of dark to mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.6.5 Ditch [186] (Figure 14, Section 17) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.57m wide and 0.33m deep with steep to moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (185) of mid to light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained two sherds of 10th to mid-11th century pottery, including a sherd from an Early Stamford ware jar.
- 5.6.6 Ditch [188] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.99m wide and 0.16m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It

had a single fill (187) of light to mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Pit [190] to the north-north-east.

- 5.6.7 Pit [190] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.40m long, 0.90m+ wide and 0.25m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (189) of light to mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [188] to the south-south-west and Ditch [192] to the north-north-east.
- 5.6.8 Ditch [192] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.72m wide and 0.13m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (191) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained a single bone from an unidentified animal. The ditch truncated Pit [190] to the south-south-west and Posthole [297] to the north-north-east, and was truncated by Ditch [194] to the north-north-east.
- 5.6.9 Posthole [297] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.50m+ long and 0.28m wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (296) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [192] to the south-south-west. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.6.10 Pit [295] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.55m+ long and 0.40m wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan. Its upper fill (294) was a mid grey clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [194] to the north-north-east. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.6.11 Ditch [194] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 1.36m wide and 0.75m deep with gently to moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (193) of dark brownish-grey clay which contained three sherds of pottery, dating from the mid-10th to 14th century, including a sherd from a Stamford ware jar, as well as four fragments of fired clay and seventeen pieces of animal bone, including those from cattle and sheep or goat sized animals. The ditch truncated Pit [295] to

the south-south-west.

5.6.12 The features in Trench 5 contain pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were densely spread throughout the trench. The features that were present here are likely to be boundary ditches, some of which were re-delineated over time, and rubbish pits. The density exhibited by the boundary ditches suggests that the enclosures they represent required frequent maintenance. This is indicative of enclosures nearer to settlement, where plot boundaries would have been more contested and fluid. The common alignment of most of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary. Several of the earlier, shallower ditches share an alignment different to most of the other boundaries present on the site and as such may represent a slightly different orientation of the landscape in the early phase of the enclosure plots.

<b>TRENCH 5</b>		<b>Figures 8, 14</b>		<b>Plates 9, 10</b>	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSE		Length: 21.25m		Level of Natural (m OD): 79.67m	
<b>Deposit</b>		<b>Context No.</b>		<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
				<b>NNE End</b>	<b>SSE End</b>
Topsoil		(100)		0.30m	0.30m
Natural		(101)		0.30m+	0.30m+
<b>Summary</b>					
Trench 5 was located in the centre of the site. The trench contained five ditches, three pits and two postholes. These features dated to the Early Saxon, Late Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.					

## 5.7 Trench 6 (Plate 11, Plate 9)

5.7.1 Trench 6 contained four ditches, three were aligned north-north-west to south-south-east and one was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. The trench also contained six pits and a single posthole. The pottery from features in the trench was predominantly 10th to 14th century in date.

5.7.2 Ditch [302] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 0.42m wide. Its upper fill (301) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which

contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

- 5.7.3 Ditch [158] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.33m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (159) of mid yellowy-grey clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Posthole [160].
- 5.7.4 Posthole [160] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 0.28m long by 0.28m wide and was 0.11m deep. It was circular in plan with near-vertical concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (161) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The posthole was truncated by Ditch [158].
- 5.7.5 Pit [178] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1m+ long, 0.32m+ wide and 0.40m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (177) of mid grey clay which contained two pieces of sheep sized animal bone. The pit truncated Pit [178] to the south-south-east. Pit [178] formed part of a large area of the trench that consisted of archaeological deposits, which probably represented a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were generally not visible in plan.
- 5.7.6 Ditch [163] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.56m wide and 0.47m deep with steep straight to convex sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (162) of dark brownish-grey silty clay which contained a relatively large (22 sherds) assemblage of pottery, dating from the 10th to 14th century. This included Stamford ware and sand tempered sherds. The fill also contained a single fragment of fired clay and seven pieces of cattle or sheep sized animal bone, a deer metacarpal and a relatively high proportion of seeds from charred wheat and barley. The ditch truncated Pits [167], [169] and [171].
- 5.7.7 Pit [169] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.70m long, 1m+ wide and 0.50m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be rectangular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (168) of light to mid yellowy-grey clay which



contained no finds. The pit truncated Pits [171] and [176], and was truncated by Ditch [163] as well as Pits [178] and [167]. Pit [169] formed part of a large area of the trench that consisted of archaeological deposits, which probably represented a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were generally not visible in plan.

- 5.7.8 Pit [176] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.54m long, 0.44m+ wide and 0.40m+ deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan; the base was not reached due to health and safety considerations. It had a basal fill (175) of dark grey silty clay which contained frequent charcoal flecks. This was overlain by a middle fill (174) of mid greyish-yellow silty clay which contained no finds. This was overlain by a middle fill (173) of dark grey silty clay which contained frequent charcoal flecks and fragments of small mammal bone. Finally this was overlain by an upper fill (172) of light to mid blueish-grey clay, which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Pits [169] and [171]. Pit [176] formed part of a large area of the trench that consisted of archaeological deposits, which probably represented a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were generally not visible in plan.
- 5.7.9 Pit [171] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.54m long, 0.40+ wide and 0.40m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (170) of light yellowy-grey clay which contained no finds. The pit truncated Pit [176], and was truncated by Ditch [163] and Pit [169]. Pit [171] formed part of a large area of the trench that consisted of archaeological deposits, which probably represented a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were generally not visible in plan.
- 5.7.10 Pit [167] (Plate 12, Figure 14, Section 39) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.10m+ long, 1m+ wide and 0.68m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be rectangular in plan and had a flattish base. It had a basal fill (166) of dark to mid grey silty clay which contained frequent charcoal flecks. This was overlain by a middle fill (165) of light yellowy-grey clay which contained no finds. Finally this was overlain by an

upper fill (164) of light to mid brownish-grey clay, which contained a single sherd of mid-12th to 14th century pottery and a single cattle tooth. The pit truncated Pit [169] to the west-north-west, and was truncated by Ditch [163] to the west-north-west. Pit [167] formed part of a large area of the trench that consisted of archaeological deposits, which probably represented a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were generally not visible in plan.

- 5.7.11 Ditch [147] was located in the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.20m wide and 0.60m deep with steep convex sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (146) of dark brownish-grey clay which contained frequent charcoal flecks and nine sherds of pottery, dating from the 11th-13th century. This included St Neots, Stamford and Rutland wares. The fill also included a single fragment of fired clay and ten pieces of animal bone, including those from cattle and sheep or goat sized animals. One of these pieces was the majority of a cow skull.
- 5.7.12 Ditch [304] was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.38m+ wide and only partly within the trench. Its upper fill (303) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.7.13 The features in Trench 6 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were extremely densely spread throughout the trench. Trench 6 contained large areas of dense pitting, which were of a substantial depth. Where relationships were visible, the boundary lines cut through the pits. This suggests that the area of Trench 6 was a focus for pitting activity prior to or during the establishment of the plots represented by these ditch lines. Contrary to most of the pits present in the other trenches, the large size, rectangular shape and steep profiles of the pits in Trench 6 indicates they may have had a function apart from simple refuse deposition, such as cess deposition, quarrying or soil enrichment. Ditch lines were still frequent within the trench, which suggests that the enclosures they represent required frequent maintenance. This is indicative of enclosures nearer to settlement, where plot boundaries would have been more contested and fluid. The

common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

<b>TRENCH 6</b>	<b>Figures 9, 14</b>	<b>Plates 11, 12</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 21.30m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.51m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil	(100)	0.35m	0.31m
Natural	(101)	0.35m+	0.31m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 6 was located near the south-eastern boundary of the site. The trench contained four ditches, six pits and a single posthole. These features dated to the Saxo-Norman and early medieval periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.			

## 5.8 Trench 7 (Plate 13, Figure 10)

- 5.8.1 Trench 7 contained five ditches, four were aligned north-east to south-west and one was aligned north-west to south-east. The trench also contained three pits and three postholes. The pottery from features in the trench was predominantly 5th-14th century in date.
- 5.8.2 Ditch [210] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.20m wide and 0.56m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (209) of dark yellowy-grey clay which contained rare charcoal flecks, a single tiny sherd of 13th to 14th century pottery and four pieces of cattle sized animal bone.
- 5.8.3 Pit [306] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.1m long and 0.48m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (305) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [210] to the west-north-west. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.8.4 Pit [212] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 0.60m long, 0.62m wide and 0.05m deep. It was circular in plan with gently-sloping

- concave sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (211) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.8.5 Pit [308] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.83m long and 20m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (307) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.8.6 Posthole [214] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.23m long, 0.21m wide and 0.08m deep. It was circular in plan with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (213) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.8.7 Posthole [216] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.25m long, 0.24m wide and 0.11m deep. It was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (215) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.8.8 Posthole [224] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.22m long, 0.22m wide and 0.10m deep. It was circular in plan with steep concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (223) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.8.9 Ditch [219] (Plate 14, Figure 14, Section 29) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.97m wide and 0.48m deep with moderately-sloping to steep convex sides and a flattish base. It had a basal fill (218) of light yellowy-grey clay which contained rare charcoal flecks, a single tiny sherd of 11th to 14th century pottery, a single fragment of fired clay and three pieces of cattle sized animal bone. This was overlain by an upper fill (217) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay, which contained occasional charcoal flecks. The ditch was truncated by Ditch [222] to the north-east.
- 5.8.10 Ditch [222] was located in the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.13m wide and 0.38m deep with moderately-sloping straight to convex sides and a flattish base. It had a basal fill (221) of light yellowy-grey clay which contained rare charcoal flecks, a single sherd of 5th-8th century

pottery and two pieces of animal bone, one of which was from a cow. This was overlain by an upper fill (220) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay, which contained occasional charcoal flecks. The ditch truncated Ditch [219] to the south-west, and was truncated by Ditch [310] to the south-east.

5.8.11 Ditch [310] was located in the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.08m+ wide. Its upper fill (309) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [222] to the south-west. The feature was not excavated. Ditch [310] is likely to form part of the same ditch line as Ditch [239] in Trench 10, based on shared alignment.

5.8.12 Ditch [312] was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 0.46m+ wide and only partly within the trench. Its upper fill (311) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.8.13 The features in Trench 7 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were relatively densely spread throughout the trench. Although having a similar character in plan to features in to Trench 4, the features here were generally deeper and seemingly more 'complete' in terms of profile. This indicates the archaeological level has undergone a lesser degree of truncation. Possibly as a result of this, smaller features such as postholes survive, although this may also represent an increasing complexity of plot subdivision closer to the settlement focus towards the north-east. The common alignment of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

<b>TRENCH 7</b>	<b>Figures 10, 14</b>	<b>Plates 13, 14</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 18.50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.65m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil	(100)	0.31m	0.26m
Natural	(101)	0.31m+	0.26m+
<b>Summary</b>			

Trench 7 was located near the north-western boundary of the site. The trench contained five ditches, three pits and three postholes. These features dated to the Early to Middle Saxon and medieval periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.

## **5.9 Trench 8 (Plate 15, Figure 11)**

5.9.1 Trench 8 contained eight ditches, four were aligned north-west to south-east, two were aligned north-east to south-west, one was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and one was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west. The trench also contained four pits. The pottery from features in the trench was predominantly 10th to mid-13th century in date.

5.9.2 Ditch [206] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.42m wide and 0.36m deep with moderately-sloping straight sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (205) of light yellowy-grey silty clay which contained two pieces of 10th-mid 13th century pottery, comprising a single Stamford ware and Rutland Medieval Glazed ware sherd, as well as a single cattle bone and a sheep tooth.

5.9.3 Ditch [314] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 0.92m wide. Its upper fill (313) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [316] to the east-south-east. The feature was not excavated.

5.9.4 Ditch [316] was located in the west-north-west end of the trench. It was 1.62m wide. Its upper fill (315) was a mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated pit [318] to the north-east, and was truncated by Ditch [314] to the west-north-west. The feature was not excavated.

5.9.5 Pit [318] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.6m long and 1.00m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (317) was a light to mid blueish-grey clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [316] to the west-north-west. The feature was not excavated.

5.9.6 Pit [201] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.58m long,

- 0.39m+ wide and 0.28m deep. It was circular in plan with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (202) of mid brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The pit was truncated by Ditch [195].
- 5.9.7 Ditch [195] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.12m wide and 0.12m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (196) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [197] and Pit [201], and was truncated by Ditch [199] to the east-south-east.
- 5.9.8 Ditch [197] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.16m wide and 0.06m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (198) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch was truncated by Ditch [195].
- 5.9.9 Ditch [199] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.20m wide and 0.18m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a flattish base. It had a single fill (200) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [195] to the west-north-west.
- 5.9.10 Pit [203] was located in the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 0.80m long, 0.70m+ wide and 0.23m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (204) of mid brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.9.11 Pit [207] was located in the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.35m+ long, 1.00m+ wide and 0.12m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be oval in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (208) of mid yellowy-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.9.12 Ditch [322] was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was 1.32m+ wide. Its upper fill (321) was a light grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch was truncated by Ditch [320] to the north-east. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.9.13 Ditch [320] was located at the east-south-east end of the trench. It was

1.16m+ wide. Its upper fill (319) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch truncated Ditch [322] to the south-east. The feature was not excavated.

5.9.14 The features in Trench 8 contained pottery and animal bone, and were densely spread throughout the trench. The features that are present here are likely to be boundary ditches, some of which were re-delineated over time, and rubbish pits. The density exhibited by the boundary ditches suggests that the enclosures they represent required frequent maintenance. This is indicative of enclosures nearer to settlement, where plot boundaries would have been more contested and fluid. The common alignment of most of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary. The pits here are more typical of the site, in that they are more sporadic, rounded in plan and shallower, which suggests a more ad hoc process of pit digging and refuse deposition.

<b>TRENCH 8</b>	<b>Figure 11</b>	<b>Plates 15</b>	
Trench Alignment: WNW-ESE	Length: 23m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.64m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>WNW End</b>	<b>ESE End</b>
Topsoil	(100)	0.30m	0.29m
Natural	(101)	0.30m+	0.29m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 8 was located near the south-eastern boundary of the site. The trench contained eight ditches and four pits. These features dated to the early medieval period and contained pottery and animal bone.			

## 5.10 Trench 9 (Plate 16, Figure 12)

5.10.1 Trench 9 contained five ditches, three were aligned north-east to south-west, one was aligned east-north-east to west-south-west and one was aligned north-west to south-east. The trench also contained a single pit and a single posthole. The pottery from features in the trench was predominantly 5th to 12th century in date.



- 5.10.2 Pit [236] (Plate 17, Figure 14, Section 36) was located in the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 2.70m+ long, 1.40m wide and 0.56m deep. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be rectangular in plan and had a flat base. It had a single fill (235) of mid yellowish-grey silty clay which contained occasional charcoal flecks.
- 5.10.3 Ditch [238] was located in the south-south-west end of the trench. It was 0.64m wide and 0.13m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (237) of dark brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.10.4 Ditch [234] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.00m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately to gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (233) of mid brownish-grey clay which contained rare charcoal flecks and four pieces of unidentified and cattle sized animal bone.
- 5.10.5 Ditch [225] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 1.24m wide and 0.18m deep with gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (226) of mid yellowy-brown silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.10.6 Ditch [227] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.45m wide and 0.11m deep with moderately to gently-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (228) of mid blueish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.10.7 Posthole [232] was located in the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 0.26m long, 0.26m wide and 0.07m deep. It was circular in plan and had a flat base. It had a single fill (231) of mid brownish-grey silty clay which contained no finds.
- 5.10.8 Ditch [230] was located at the north-north-east end of the trench. It was 1.2m+ wide and 0.26m deep with gently to moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (229) of mid to light brownish-grey silty clay which contained four sherds of pottery, which dated from the

5th to 12th century and a single fragment of fired clay.

5.10.9 The features in Trench 9 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were relatively densely spread throughout the trench. The features that were present here are likely to be boundary ditches, some of which were re-established over time, and a large pit. The density exhibited by the boundary ditches suggests that the enclosures they represent required frequent maintenance. This is indicative of enclosures nearer to settlement, where plot boundaries would have been more contested and fluid. The common alignment of most of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary. The large pit present in the trench is atypical for the site, in that it is relatively large, steep sided and rectangular. Due to the posited proximity of this area of the site to the medieval settlement core, it is possible that this pit had a more specialized function than simple refuse deposition.

<b>TRENCH 9</b>	<b>Figures 12, 14</b>	<b>Plates 16, 17</b>	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSW	Length: 20.50m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.08m	
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>	
		<b>NNW End</b>	<b>SSW End</b>
Topsoil	(100)	0.31m	0.29m
Natural	(101)	0.31m+	0.29m+
<b>Summary</b>			
Trench 9 was located in the north corner of the site. The trench contained five ditches, a single pit and a single posthole. These features dated to the Early to Middle Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.			

## 5.11 Trench 10 (Plate 18, Figure 13)

5.11.1 Trench 9 contained three ditches, all of which were aligned north-east to south-west. The trench also contained twenty-five postholes. The pottery from features in the trench was medieval in date.

5.11.2 Ditch [348] was located at the south-east end of the trench. It was 1.8m+ wide. Its upper fill (347) was a mid to dark grey silty clay which contained no

finds. The feature was not excavated.

- 5.11.3 Ditch [255] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 1.8m wide and 0.48m deep with moderately-sloping concave sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (254) of mid greyish-yellow silty clay which contained no finds. The ditch was truncated by Posthole [253] to the north-west.
- 5.11.4 Posthole [253] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 40) was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 0.44m long, 0.42m wide and 0.20m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (252) of mid yellowy-grey clayey silt which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Ditch [255].
- 5.11.5 Posthole [275] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 0.32m long, 0.30m wide and 0.28m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (274) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds.
- 5.11.6 Posthole [346] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east of the trench. It was 0.43m long and 0.37m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (345) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.11.7 Posthole [273] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east end of the trench. It was 0.55m long, 0.55m wide and 0.30m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base, which contained a step to the west. It had a single fill (272) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds.
- 5.11.8 Posthole [344] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east of the trench. It was 0.55m long and 42m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (343) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The posthole was truncated by Posthole [342], to the north-east. The feature was not excavated.
- 5.11.9 Posthole [342] (Plate 19) was located in the south-east of the trench. It was

54m long and 52m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (341) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Posthole [344], to the south-west. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.10 Posthole [271] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 45) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.50m long, 0.45m wide and 0.30m deep. It was circular in plan and had a flattish base, which contained a step to the west. It had a single fill (270) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds.

5.11.11 Posthole [269] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 44) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.30m long, 0.40m wide and 0.30m deep. It was oval in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (268) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained a single medieval sherd of pottery and two fragments of fired clay. The posthole was truncated by Posthole [267] to the south-west.

5.11.12 Posthole [267] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 44) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.50m long, 0.50m wide and 0.30m deep. It was circular in plan and had a flattish base. It had a single fill (266) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Posthole [269] to the north-east.

5.11.13 Posthole [332] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.36m long and 30m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (331) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.14 Posthole [340] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.48m long and 0.45m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (339) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.15 Posthole [330] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.32m long and 0.28m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (329) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not

excavated.

5.11.16 Posthole [328] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 30m long and 0.26m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (327) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.17 Posthole [338] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.41m long and 0.37m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (337) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.18 Posthole [336] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.28m long and 0.25m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (335) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.19 Posthole [326] (Plate 19) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.26m long and 0.25m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (325) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.20 Posthole [334] was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.70m long and 41m+ wide. It was only partly within the trench but appeared to be circular in plan. Its upper fill (333) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.21 Posthole [265] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 43) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.75m long, 0.75m wide and 0.25m deep. It was circular in plan and had a flat base. It had a single fill (264) of dark greyish-brown clayey silt which contained a single piece of animal bone from an unidentified animal. The posthole was truncated by Postholes [261] and [263].

5.11.22 Posthole [261] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 43) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.40m long, 0.35m wide and 0.35m deep. It was

circular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (260) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Postholes [263] and [265].

5.11.23 Posthole [263] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 43) was located in the central part of the trench. It was 0.30m long, 0.25m wide and 0.40m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base. It had a single fill (262) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Postholes [265], and was truncated by Posthole [261].

5.11.24 Posthole [259] (Plate 19) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.37m long, 0.30m wide and 0.25m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base, which contained a slight step to the east. It had a single fill (258) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds.

5.11.25 Posthole [324] (Plate 19) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.32m long and 0.29m wide. It was circular in plan. Its upper fill (323) was a dark to mid grey silty clay which contained no finds. The feature was not excavated.

5.11.26 Posthole [257] (Plate 19, Figure 14, Section 41) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.35m long, 0.30m wide and 0.28m deep. It was circular in plan and had a rounded base, which contained a step to the west. It had a single fill (256) of dark brownish-grey clayey silt which contained no finds.

5.11.27 Posthole [243] (Plate 19) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.80m long, 0.69m wide and 0.10m deep. It was oval in plan and had a flat base. It had a single fill (244) of mid-yellowish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The posthole truncated Ditch [239], to the north-west and Posthole [241].

5.11.28 Posthole [241] (Plate 19) was located in the north-west end of the trench. It was 0.24m long, 0.24m wide and 0.20m deep. It was circular in plan and had a flat base. It had a single fill (242) of mid-yellowish-grey silty clay which contained no finds. The posthole was truncated by Posthole [243].

5.11.29 Ditch [239] was located at the north-west end of the trench. It was 3.10m+ wide and 0.50m deep with moderately-sloping convex sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (240) of dark yellowy-grey silty clay which contained two fragments of fired clay, as well as three pieces of bone from cattle and an unidentified animal. The ditch was truncated by Posthole [243]. Ditch [239] covered a large area of the trench and probably represents a number of features, the edges and relationships of which were not visible in plan. Ditch [239] is likely to form part of the same ditch line as Ditch [310] in Trench 7, based on shared alignment.

5.11.30 The features in Trench 10 contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone, and were extremely densely spread throughout the trench. The ditches that were present, similar to the rest of the site are likely to be boundary ditches, subdividing settlement plots. The common alignment of most of the ditches of this trench to that found in other examples throughout the site suggests that they are broadly contemporary. Trench 10 differs from the rest of the site in that it contained extremely large numbers of postholes, which formed two fence lines. Many of the postholes of these arrangements had been re-established, in one case three times. Although where relationships were present the postholes cut into the ditches, the fence lines did not seem to continue past them, indicating that the fence lines were complimentary to the ditch enclosures. The presence of these more elaborate subdivisions in the landscape in this area of the site supports the idea of a focus of settlement near to this area, to the north-east. Although interpreted as a fence line, it is possible that the posthole alignments form part of a wider structure not fully visible in the limited area of the trench.

<b>TRENCH 10</b>	<b>Figures 13, 14</b>		<b>Plates 18, 19</b>	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 19m	Level of Natural (m OD): 79.78m		
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Average Depth (m)</b>		
		<b>NW End</b>	<b>SE End</b>	
Topsoil	(100)	0.30m	0.30m	
Natural	(101)	0.30m+	0.30m+	
<b>Summary</b>				

Trench 10 was located in the north-east corner of the site. The trench contained three ditches and twenty-five postholes. These features dated to the medieval period and contained pottery, fired clay and animal bone.



## 6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 The Pottery

By Ian Rowlandson and Jane Young

#### Introduction

6.1.1 In total, sixty-three sherds of pottery representing forty-six vessels, weighing 0.411kg were submitted for examination. The identifiable pottery recovered probably ranges in date from the mid to late Iron Age to medieval periods and is representative of twenty-seven different known ware types and two unclassified sherds (MISC).

Ceramic period	Trench 02	Trench 03	Trench 05	Trench 06	Trench 07	Trench 08	Trench 09	Trench 10	Totals
Iron Age ?	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Roman/medieval	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Anglo-Saxon	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	7
Late Saxon	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	5
Saxo-Norman	0	0	1	9	0	1	2	0	13
Early medieval	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Medieval	0	1	2	8	2	1	0	0	14
Totals	3	3	7	24	3	2	3	1	46

Table 1: Total quantities of pottery by ceramic period with sherd and vessel count

6.1.2 The pottery was catalogued by ware (common name) and fabric type using Lincolnshire (Young et al.) fabric codenames with a concordance to Leicestershire codenames (see Table 2 and Connor and Buckley 1999). The pottery was identified using a x20 binocular microscope. The assemblage was quantified within each context by ware and fabric type with three measures: number of sherds, estimated vessel count using sherds obviously belonging to a single vessel and weight. Estimated vessel equivalent by percentage of rim present (REVE) was not suitable for this assemblage. Every effort was made to reconstruct cross-context vessels although none were found. The ceramic data including attributes such as decoration, condition and usage was entered on a Microsoft Access Database using ceramic codenames and a copy of this is available in the archive. Recording of the assemblage was in accordance with the guidelines laid out in

Slowikowski, et al. (2001) and forms were identified using the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of forms (MPRG 1998; 2001)

6.1.3 The pottery is mostly in a slightly abraded to abraded condition with sherd size entirely falling into the small to medium size range (below 50grams). Several sherds retain evidence for use in the form of soot or carbonised residues. The calcareous inclusions are leached from the surfaces of all of the calcareous-tempered sherds and in a few vessels the internal fossil shell temper has also begun to decay.

6.1.4 A range of twenty-seven, identifiable post-Roman pottery ware types and two uncertain sherds were identified; the type and general date range for these fabrics are shown alphabetically in Table 2. The post-Roman pottery ranges in date from the Early Saxon to medieval periods. Ceramic types can mainly be paralleled on other sites in the local area, at Oakham in Rutland (Young 2012) or in South Lincolnshire.

Lincolnshire codename	Leicestershire codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	Total sherds	Total vessels
CHARNT	SX	Charnwood ware	450	800	4	2
ECHAF	SX	Early to mid Anglo-Saxon vegetal-tempered ware	450	800	1	1
EMHM	MS	Early Medieval Handmade ware	1100	1250	1	1
EMLOC	MS	Local Early Medieval fabrics	1150	1230	1	1
ERRA	SX	Erratic-tempered	450	800	5	1
ESAXLOC	SX	Early Anglo-Saxon Local wares	450	650	1	1
EST	ST3	Early Stamford ware	870	1010	1	1
LFS	LI	Lincolnshire Fine-shelled ware	970	1200	1	1
LSAX	RS	Late Saxon	870	1120	2	2
LSLOC	CG	Late Saxon Local (Lincolnshire) Fabrics	850	1050	1	1
MEDLOC	MS	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	3	2
MEDX	MS	Non Local Medieval Fabrics	1150	1450	1	1

MISC	-	Unidentified types	400	1900	2	2
NSP	SP2	Nottingham Splashed ware	1100	1250	1	1
PMAR	PM	Potters Marston	1100	1300	1	1
PSHW	CG	Peterborough Shelly Ware	1175	1400	1	1
RMSF	CG	Rutland Medieval Shell and Iron	1140	1300	2	1
ROAMG	MS	Rutland Oakham Area Medieval Glazed ware	1180	1300	2	2
SLBTOL	CG	South Lincolnshire Baston-type Oolitic	1180	1350	1	1
SLQO	CG	South Lincolnshire Quartz & Oolitic	1100	1230	1	1
SLSO	CG	South Lincolnshire Shell & Oolite	1000	1230	1	1
SNEOT	SN	St Neots-type ware	870	1200	2	2
SST	SX	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	550	800	1	1
SSTMG	SX	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered (carboniferous sandstone)	450	750	1	1
ST	ST2	Stamford Ware (Fabrics B & G)	970	1200	11	6
ST	ST7	Stamford Ware (Fabric A)	970	1200	4	4
STANLY	LY1	Oolitic-tempered Stanion/Lyveden ware (Fabric B)	1180	1300	2	2
STANLY	LY4	Shell-tempered Stanion/Lyveden ware (Fabric A)	1150	1250	7	3
TORK	RS	Torksey ware	850	1100	1	1

Table 2: Pottery codenames and date ranges with total quantities by sherd and vessel count

#### Uncertain

6.1.5 Two of the sherds recovered from the site are of uncertain type. A handmade quartz-tempered sherd recovered from ditch 249 (fill 247) in Trench 5 is fired to an un-oxidised mid to light grey colour (19g). The fabric includes moderate medium sized quartz and sparse moderate to coarse ferrous rich inclusions as well as possible decayed grog or iron-rich rock

fragments. This sherd had been decorated with an irregular group of vertical lines more similar to the mid to late Iron Age Scored ware tradition. Such decoration has been considered to have been created with a sharp tool or brushing with twigs or fibres to provide the distinctive surface finish (Elsdon 1992, Knight 2002). The sherd may therefore be of a mid to late Iron Age date and it is fortuitous that it was recovered with sherds from a decorated vessel of an Anglo-Saxon date. The other very abraded sherd is in an oxidised fine to medium sandy fabric also containing moderate to common iron-rich grains. This vessel was recovered from posthole 269 (fill 268) in Trench 10 and could potentially be of Roman or medieval date.

#### Anglo-Saxon

- 6.1.6 Thirteen sherds representing seven vessels are of Anglo-Saxon type. Only one vessel has diagnostic decoration of the Early Saxon period. The fabrics used for the other vessels are in use between the 5th and 8th centuries in the East Midlands. Four sherds are from two Charnwood-type vessels of potential 5th to 8th century date. Both vessels were recovered from ditch 142 (fill 143). A small vegetal-tempered sherd found in ditch 279 (fill 278) in Trench 2 has a burnished external surface. The five Erratic-tempered sherds recovered from ditch 249 (fill 247) in Trench 5 come from a jar with incised neck grooves and incised chevron decoration. This jar is likely to be of 5th or 6th century date. A single small sherd with an internal carbonised deposit is in a local quartz-tempered fabric. The jar or bowl was recovered from ditch 230 (fill 229) in Trench 9. Ditch 222 (fill 221) in Trench 7 produced a small very abraded sherd tempered with leached shell and coarse aggregated sandstone. Also in the fabric are occasional rounded iron-rich grains and carbonised organics. A sherd found in ditch 121 (fill 120) in Trench 2 has traces of incised decoration and is tempered with coarse angular sandstone.

#### Late Saxon

- 6.1.7 Five sherds, each representing a separate vessel, are of wheel-thrown late Saxon type. Only two of the sherds come from recognised industries. The small unglazed jar sherd found in ditch 186 (fill 185) is in Early Stamford ware Fabric A and dates to between the mid 10th and pre-conquest mid 11th

centuries. Pit 123 (fill 122) produced a Torksey ware sherd from a jar or a bowl of 10th to pre or peri-conquest mid 11th century date. The small quartz and shell-tempered jar rim found in ditch 186 (fill 185) is undoubtedly of Lincolnshire 10th to mid 11th century manufacture (LSLOC) but is too abraded and leached to attribute to any one industry. Two wheel-thrown reduced light grey sandy sherds (LSAX) are from jars or bowls of probable similar date. They also are from an unrecognised industry probably based in the East Midlands.

#### Saxo-Norman

- 6.1.8 Eighteen sherds representing thirteen vessels are in long-lived ware types (late 9th to 12th century) and can be assigned to the Saxo-Norman period. Three ware types are represented of which vessels in Stamford ware are the most common to occur. The ten Stamford ware vessels occur in three fabrics (Fabrics A, B and G). None of the sherds are demonstrably of pre-conquest date, although the four Fabric A and three of the four Fabric G vessels could potentially belong to the pre-conquest period (Kilmurray 1980). Only the two glazed jars or pitchers in Fabric B and a glazed collared pitcher in Fabric G are of definite post-conquest date. Vessels forms represented include small unglazed jars, glazed jars or pitchers and a large unglazed bowl. Two sherds are in shell-tempered St Neots-type ware (NEOT). This Shell-tempered ware is found in several Midland counties (Hunter 1979) and was undoubtedly produced at several centres between the late 9th to mid 12th centuries, The sherds found on this site in ditch 147 (fill 146) have leached surfaces and the fossil shell temper has begun to decompose. A tiny sherd is from an 11th to 12th century Lincolnshire Fine-shelled ware jar or bowl.

#### Early Medieval

- 6.1.9 Five sherds, each representing a single vessel and ware type, can be considered to be of early medieval type. Early medieval wares often have their origins in the peri-conquest or post-conquest 11th century whilst others start in the early to mid 12th century. They have all usually died out by the early/mid to mid 13th century having been replaced by high medieval-types, although some continue to be used until as late as the mid/late 13th century.

A sherd from an Early Medieval handmade jar is in Bourne Fabric E and is likely to have been made in the town between the mid 12th and early/mid 13th centuries. A Nottingham Splashed ware jug is in a fine fabric typical of early/mid to mid/late 12th century production. The only other glazed sherd in the group is from the base of a jug in what is probably a fairly local fabric. This jug has a spalling splashed-type glaze and is likely to date to between the mid 12th and mid 13th centuries. The other two sherds were recovered from ditch 163 (fill 162). One sherd is from a small jug or jar with traces of an un-matured splashed-type glaze. The vessel is in a shell and oolite-tempered fabric dating to between the mid/late 12th and early/mid 13th centuries. The other sherd comes from a quartz and oolite-tempered jar or bowl of 11th to early/mid 13th century date. Both vessels are probably of South Lincolnshire origin.

#### Medieval

- 6.1.10 Overall, nineteen sherds representing fourteen vessels recovered from the site can be dated to the medieval period, between the mid 12th and 14th centuries. At least nine local and regional ware types are represented. Seven of the vessels are fineware jugs or jars from industries in the East Midlands. Two sherds from a small jug or jar and a jar with spots of glaze are in Rutland Oakham Area Medieval Glazed ware (*Ibid.*). Products in this ware type are thought to mainly date to between the mid/late 12th and early/mid 13th centuries. The two oolitic-tempered Stanion/Lyveden type sherds in Fabric B come from a jug and a jug or jar of 13th or 14th century date. Two glazed vessels are in fabrics that suggest a possible local source (MEDLOC). The two sherds from pit 129 (fill 128) come from a jug with a glaze that has not fully matured. The jug is likely to date to between the early and mid 13th century. The other sherd was recovered from ditch 194 (fill 193) and comes from a jar or bowl of mid/late 12th to 13th century date. This vessel has spots of yellow glaze internally. A very abraded thin-walled sherd from a small jug or a jar recovered from ditch 219 (fill 218) is probably a regional import of 11th to 14th century date. Five shell-tempered vessels include a large jar and two jar or bowls of mid 12th to 14th century date in Stanion/Lyveden Fabric B (Steane and Bryant 1975). Another large jar is of

Peterborough Shelly ware type (Spoerry 1998; Appendix A, 96-109) dating to between the mid 12th and 14th centuries whilst the two basal sherds from a jar recovered from ditch 147 (fill 146) are in a Rutland Shell and Iron-tempered fabric (mid 12th to 13th). A quartz and oolitic-tempered sherd from ditch 163 (fill 162) is of Baston in South Lincolnshire mid/late 12th to mid 14th century production. A small sherd from a Potters Marston jar was also recovered from ditch 163 (fill 162).

The site sequence

6.1.11 The pottery was recovered from seventeen features across eight of the trenches on the site. These features are discussed here by feature following as far as possible the site report. No significantly large groups occur and only eight of the vessels recovered from the site are represented by more than a single sherd. There is some difficulty in estimating the amount of residuality due to the longevity and conservative nature of some of the industries.

Trench 2

6.1.12 Pit 123 (fill 122) produced a single sherd from a Torksey ware jar or a bowl of 10th to pre or peri-conquest mid 11th century date.

6.1.13 A single coarse sandstone-tempered (SSTMG) Anglo-Saxon sherd with incised decoration was recovered from ditch 121 (fill 120). The sherd is of 5th to 8th century date.

6.1.14 A single sherd from a 5th to 8th century vegetal-tempered (ECHAF) vessel with a burnished external surface was recovered from ditch 279 (fill 278).

Trench 3

6.1.15 Pit 129 (fill 128) contained two basal sherds from a jug of probable local manufacture (MEDLOC). The jug, which has an un-matured glaze, dates to between the early and mid 13th century.

6.1.16 Four sherds from two jars or bowls in Anglo-Saxon Charnwood-type fabrics were recovered from ditch 142 (fill 143). The vessels are of 5th to 8th century date.

#### Trench 5

- 6.1.17 Ditch 249 (fill 247) produced six sherds of pottery. Five of the sherds come from an Erratic-tempered jar with incised neck grooves and incised chevron decoration. The decoration suggests that the jar is likely to be of 5th or 6th century date. These sherds are quite fragmentary and abraded. A second handmade vessel in this ditch is in a slightly fresher condition. This sherd had been decorated with an irregular group of vertical lines more typically ascribed to the mid to late Iron Age Scored ware tradition.
- 6.1.18 Two late Saxon wheel-thrown sherds were recovered from ditch 186 (fill 185). One sherd is from a small Early Stamford ware jar whilst the other shell and quartz-tempered rim sherd (LSLOC) is from a jar produced at an unknown but probably Lincolnshire centre between the 10th and pre-conquest mid 11th centuries. The Stamford ware jar is of mid 10th to mid 11th century date.
- 6.1.19 Ditch 194 (fill 193) produced three sherds of mixed type. The earliest vessel is a small Stamford ware jar of late 10th to mid 12th century date. A small and abraded sherd is from a jar or bowl with internal spots of glaze (MEDLOC). This vessel is of mid/late 12th to 13th century date. The other glazed sherd comes from an oolitic-tempered Stanion/Lyveden Fabric B jug of 13th or 14th century date.

#### Trench 6

- 6.1.20 The largest group of pottery to be recovered from the site came from ditch 163 (fill 162). Twenty-two sherds representing eighteen vessels include eleven ware types. Few sherds can directly be identified as being residual in the group due to the long life of many of the fabrics. The group includes two wheel-thrown light grey sandy sherds (LSX) of probable 10th to mid 11th century date. The two Stamford ware vessels in Fabric A and a jar or bowl in Fabric G are of pre-mid 12th century date. The latest types present in the group could date into the 14th century, however all of the later (post mid 12th century) pottery types could be current between the last quarter of the 12th and the first quarter of the 13th century.



6.1.21 A single sherd from a large Peterborough-type Shelly ware jar of mid 12th to 14th century date was recovered from pit 167 (fill 164).

6.1.22 Ditch 147 (fill 146) produced ten sherds representing five vessels. The group contains two ST Neots ware jars or bowls, two Stamford ware vessels in Fabrics B and G and a jar in a Rutland Shell and Iron fabric. All of these vessels could be contemporary in the mid 12th century.

#### Trench 7

6.1.23 Ditch 210 (fill 209) contained a tiny sherd from an oolitic-tempered Stanion/Lyveden-type jug or jar in Fabric B. The vessel is of 13th or 14th century date.

6.1.24 A single tiny and abraded sherd from a small jug or jar of potential 11th to 14th century date (MEDX) was recovered from ditch 219 (fill 218).

6.1.25 Ditch 222 (fill 221) produced a small and very abraded sherd from a sandstone-tempered (SST) vessel of probable 5th to 8th century date.

#### Trench 8

6.1.26 The two sherds recovered from ditch 206 (fill 205) comprise a residual unglazed small Stamford ware jar and a Rutland Oakham Area Medieval Glazed ware jar of mid/late 12th to early/mid 13th century date.

#### Trench 9

6.1.27 All three vessels recovered from this trench were recovered from ditch 230 (fill 229). The two Stamford ware vessels in Fabric G include a small glazed collared pitcher of mid/late 11th to mid 12th century date. The ditch also produced a small sherd from a quartz-tempered small jar or bowl of Anglo-Saxon 5th to 8th century date (ESAXLOC).

#### Trench 10

6.1.28 A single very abraded unidentifiable sherd (MISC) of Roman or medieval date was recovered from posthole 269 (fill 268).

#### Summary and recommendations

6.1.29 A small but significant group of pottery was recovered from the site. The

range of forms and fabrics present in the assemblage suggests that occupation took place in the area of the site over a long period. The assemblage is too small to determine if occupation was continuous, or whether there were periods when the area was not used for rubbish disposal.

6.1.30 The material recovered is largely typical of that found on other sites in the area but there is a wide range of types present for such a small assemblage. The material is entirely domestic in nature with no industrial or craft-specific pottery occurring.

6.1.31 The material recovered is largely typical of that found on other sites in the area but there is a wide range of types present for such a small assemblage.

6.1.32 No further work is needed on the assemblage but it should be retained for any future analysis of ceramics types in the area.

## **6.2 The Fired Clay**

### **By Jane Young**

6.2.1 Eighteen fragments of fired clay weighing 0.205kg in total were recovered from the site. With two exceptions the material is represented by un-featured flakes and abraded to very abraded formless lumps. The material was examined at x20 binocular magnification and the fabrics are described in the archive. All fragments thought to belong to the same original object were weighed and counted together as a single object.

6.2.2 Most fragments are in oxidised fine micaceous or fine quartz-tempered fabrics that contain varying amounts of iron-rich grains. One of the micaceous fragments (found in ditch 105) has two flattened surfaces at right angles and may have come from a bar, hand-formed brick or prop/pedestal.

6.2.3 Two of the pieces are in reduced vegetal-tempered fabrics. That recovered from pit 137 is part of a doughnut-shaped loom weight of Saxon type. The completed weight would have been about 11cm in diameter with a central hole of about 5cm diameter and a thickness of about 4cm. The formation of this weight is rather unusual as unlike the majority of Saxon doughnut-

shaped weights it has not been formed from a round piece of clay with a hole pushed through, rather it has been formed from one or two rolled sausages. The external profile has a central thumbed groove around the weight and internal thumb-pressing. The weight falls into the ‘annular’ type suggesting that it is of Early Saxon date (Holden 1976). It has a dark reduced, almost black semi-burnished surface with a fabric containing abundant flattened vegetal void and some carbonised grain and grass or straw. The second fragment in this fabric is an inner flake recovered from ditch 142 and may have come from a similar object.

Feature	Fabric	Features	Fragments
104	fine micaceous oxidised	Possible bar, brick, prop	1
121	fine micaceous marbled	Un-featured	1
137	vegetal-tempered	Loom weight	1
138	fine oxidised sandy	Un-featured	1
142	vegetal-tempered	Un-featured	1
142	fine micaceous OX/R/OX	Un-featured	1
147	fine micaceous OX/R/OX	Un-featured	1
163	OX/R fine	Un-featured	1
194	Light OX/light R fine sandy + fe	Un-featured	2
194	OX/R fine-medium sandy	Un-featured	1
194	OX/R/OX fine sandy	Un-featured	1
219	OX/R fine-medium sandy	Un-featured	1
230	fine micaceous OX/R/OX	Un-featured	1
239	OX/R marbled fine	Un-featured	1
239	fine micaceous oxidised	Un-featured	1
269	OX/R/OX fine sandy	Un-featured	1
269	fine micaceous oxidised	Un-featured	1

Table 3: Summary of fired clay arranged by feature

6.2.4 The material in the main appears to represent different usage of locally available clays. Unfortunately due to the fragmentary and abraded nature of most fragments it is not possible to offer an identification of the material with the exception of a possible bar, hand-formed brick or prop/pedestal recovered found in ditch 105 and the Anglo-Saxon loom weight recovered from pit 137.

## 6.3 Faunal Remains

**By Stephanie Emra**

Introduction

6.3.1 The assemblage results from an archaeological evaluation carried out by

PCA on the land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire. The site had a NISP (number of identified specimens) of 1,866 bone fragments with a total weight of 3,988g. 268 (14.4%) fragments were identified down to an animal size category of which 66 (3.5%) were identified down to a species level. The majority of the remains were well preserved but heavily fragmented, due to the difficulty in removing fragile animal bone from the stiff clay fills of the site.

#### Assemblage chronology

- 6.3.2 The archaeological evaluation revealed a dense complex of features both domestic and agricultural dating to the early medieval period. Features were dated to this period with reference to some small quantities of pottery and ceramic building material. This dating is consistent with previous survey and archaeological excavations in the nearby vicinity with identified Anglo-Saxon and medieval features, including a shrunken medieval village approximately 100m east of the site. Little dating information was available but it was considered however that trenches 1, 2, 3 in the SW part of the site may possibly be of an earlier date than the rest of the site. Considering this, the taxa from trenches 1, 2 and 3 (SW part of site) have also been grouped together and compared with trenches 4,5,6,7,8,9 and 10 which are in the NE part of the site, closest to the village. Where dating information from spot dating of pottery, this has also been grouped. Contexts with a solid Medieval date, in this case the 12th – 15th century are (128) [129], (162) [163], (164) [167] and (218) [219]. Contexts that were dated to Iron Age – Saxon were also grouped for comparison, these being (136) [137], (143) [142] and (247) [249]. The spot-dated finds come from across the site, rather than the NE-SW split proposed by the archaeologists, but few contexts have been dated, and the dating that has been given is imprecise, so it had hard to see the general dating trend across the site from these alone.

#### Methodology

- 6.3.3 The assemblage was recovered by hand collection. The assemblage was identified with reference to a modern reference collection as well as reference to Hillson (1999), Schmid (1972) and France (2008). All

anatomical elements were identified to species where possible, any unidentifiable fragments were assigned to general size or taxonomic categories (e.g. Cattle sized, bird etc.). Where appropriate the following information was recorded for each fragment; element, anatomical zone, tooth eruption/wear (after Grant 1982, Payne 1987, Levine 1982, Greenfield & Arnold, 2008, Hillson 2008), butchery marks, metrical data (after von den Driesch 1976), gnawing, burning, surface weathering and pathology.

- 6.3.4 Caprines (sheep/goat) were differentiated based on the criteria of Boessneck (1969), Halstead et al. (2002), Payne (1987), Prummel and Frisch (1986) and Zeder and Lapham (2010). The sexing of pelvises followed Greenfield (2006).

Assemblage Composition:

- 6.3.5 Table 4 shows a comparison of the trenches in the North-eastern part of the site, which is likely to be dating to the early medieval period and that of the trenches from the SW part of the site, which may be slightly earlier. In the SW context (146) [147] there are 52 fragments from a cattle sized skull, whilst these could not be re-fitted, it is quite likely they are from the same skull, so has been counted as 1 fragment as with such a small assemblage size it would significantly change the relative proportions of taxa.
- 6.3.6 Table 4 demonstrates that sheep and sheep sized animals are extremely dominant in the earlier SW part of site whilst cattle and cattle sized animals are far more dominant in the NE. This may represent a change of time from a more sheep focused economy to one of cattle. It may also instead reflect a change of butchery practice/ disposal practice in relation to an area within or close to the village and an area outside of it.

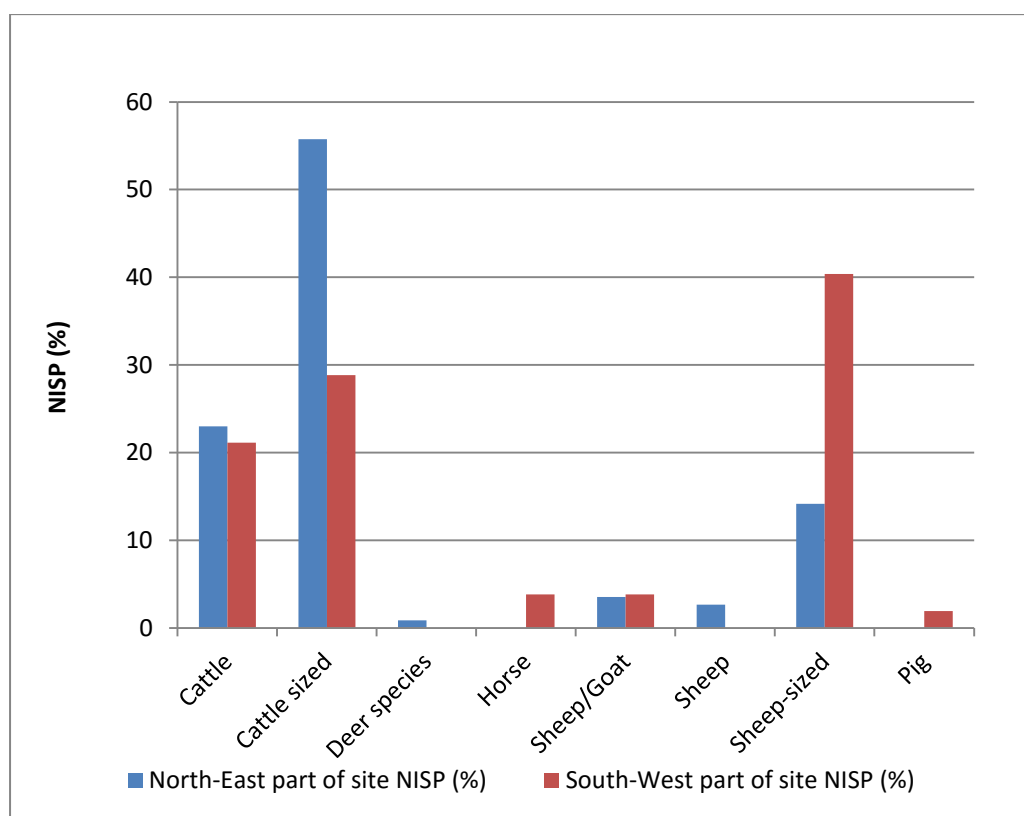


Table 4: A comparison of the percentage (%) of taxa between the NE (NISP=113) and SW (NISP=104) part of the site.

6.3.7 Table 5 compares the spot-dated contexts Iron Age – Saxon (NISP=59) to Medieval contexts (NISP = 65). The NISP is very small in both sets of contexts, but may give an indication of what may be expected in further excavation. Table 5 seems to show the reverse of Table 4, where the earlier Iron Age/Saxon contexts seem to be more dominated by cattle than moving towards sheep and sheep-sized animals in the Medieval period. The context size however is extremely small and may not be generally representative of the rest of the site.

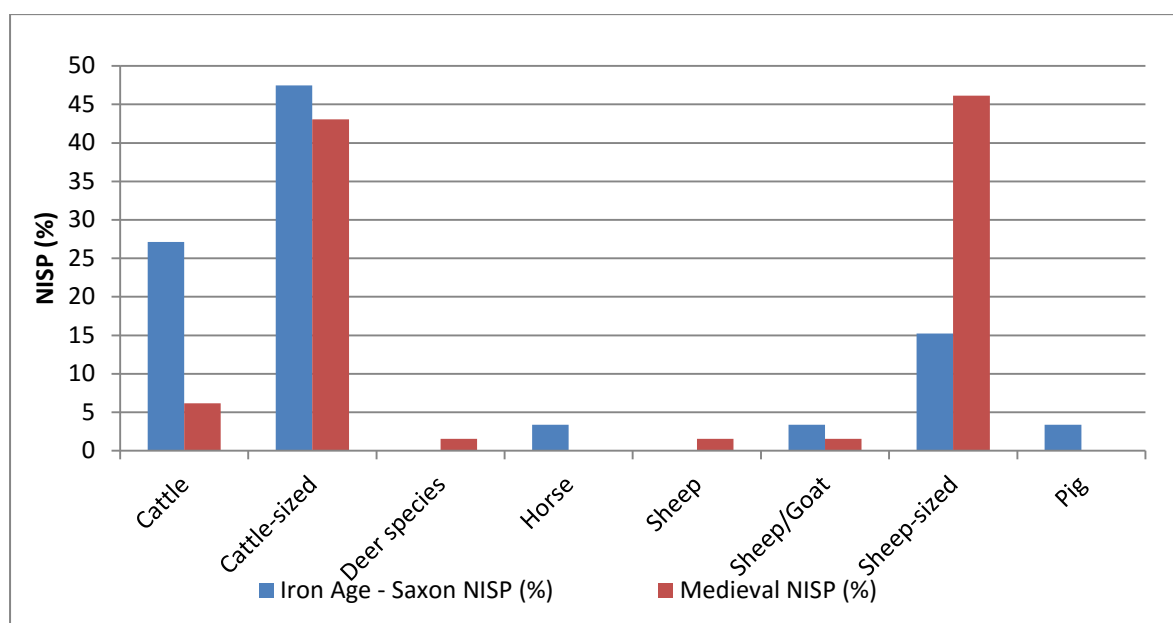


Table 5 A comparison of the percentage (%) of taxa between Iron Age – Saxon contexts (NISP=59) and the Medieval contexts (NISP=65).

Summary and recommendations:

6.3.8 Element distribution, fusion, butchery evidence and attrition information have been recorded but will not be presented here as the assemblage is too small and fragmented to make any of this information statistically significant, however it may be added to future reports of material yet to be excavated. Few conclusions can be drawn from this assemblage due the highly fragmented nature of this small assemblage.

6.3.9 However, preliminarily in the two of areas of the site it may be said that there is a general dominance of sheep or sheep-sized animals in the SW part of the site. Cattle also likely also make up a significant proportion of the taxa. There then seems to be shift in the likely later NE section, where there appears to be a dramatic shift from sheep-sized remains to cattle-sized remains. This may be due to a number of reasons, for example, a difference of animal disposal practice between an area close to the village and an area further away or a change in focus of economy and subsistence strategy. Pigs seem to be entirely missing from the later north-eastern part of the settlement, with only one fragmented identified as pig from the south-western part. This may of course be due to pig being recorded as a ‘sheep-

sized' animal, further excavation will be able to give a clearly picture as to the true nature of the relative amount of sheep/goat and pigs.

6.3.10 The spot-dated however give the opposite picture with cattle and cattle-sized animals dominating the assemblage in the Saxon period moving to a sheep-sized dominated assemblage in the medieval periods. It would be particularly interesting to see if this trend does continue once a larger sample size has been obtained through further excavation, as with this time period, as well as the presence of a nearby shrunken village, this may be evidence of inclosure and a switch to a more profitable wool economy which led to many shrunken villages at this time. However, this change is likely only due to an extremely small sample size. Overall further excavation is recommended needed in order to understand the changing economy of Nether Broughton over time, in order to understand whether these apparent changes are from disposal practices, from a small sample size or abrupt changes in pastoral practices.

## **6.4 Plant Macrofossils**

**By Kate Turner**

Introduction

6.4.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of flot residues from 13 bulk samples submitted for review. These were taken from a series of Early Medieval pits, ditches and postholes at a site on Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton. The aim of this assessment is to gauge the environmental potential of these samples and to establish whether any additional work is required.

Methodology

6.4.2 The flot residues were scanned under a low-power binocular microscope in order to identify and quantify any environmental material, in the form of seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. These were recorded using a non-linear scale to denote abundance where '1' indicates the occasional occurrence of an ecofact (1-10 items), '2' indicates that it is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' more frequent (31-100 items) and '4' abundant (>100 items). A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for



example roots and modern plant material. The results of this assessment are shown in Appendix 5.

#### Results and Discussion

- 6.4.3 With the exception of sample <1>, wood charcoal was found in varying concentrations throughout the assemblage; though in all cases material was too small to allow for species identification to be carried out. The majority of the residues also contained the un-charred seeds of flowering plants, in a very good state of preservation; in conjunction with the large quantities of root material present in the sample set this could be a sign of modern contamination, as a result of bioturbation. Samples <1> and <4> contained the highest concentration of seeds, the main taxa represented being *Brassica* spp. (mustards) and *Carex* spp. (sedges). Seeds and spiklets of grasses from the Poaceae family were also identified in samples <3>, <4>, <5>, <6> and <9>, preliminary identification of which suggests a type of brome grass (*Bromus* spp.). The remainder of the seed assemblage consisted largely of weed species, including *Chenodium album* (fat hen) and *Rumex* spp. (docks/sorrels) as shown in Appendix 6.
- 6.4.4 Small amounts (<30 specimens) of charred grain were identified in around 50% of the sample set; some of which is too badly charred to identify, indicating material may have been subject to prolonged, high-temperature burning. Low concentrations of *Triticum* spp. (indeterminate wheat) and *Hordeum* spp (barley) are present however, the highest frequency being in sample <5>. *Carex* species, present in 7 out of 13 samples, generally prefer waterlogged environments, whilst cereals and grasses suggest a more arable environment; this may indicate changes in land use, or perhaps use of multiple soil types for cultivation (Wyles 2015).
- 6.4.5 Samples <1> and <2> contained molluscs; specimens of *Nesovitrea hammonis*, *Oxychilus alliarius* and *Vitrea crystallina*, which look to be modern. Low concentrations of modern insect remains were also found in samples <1>, <2>, <3>, <5>, <6>, <7>, <8>, <9> and <10>. Along with, as previously mentioned, the root material occurring throughout the assemblage this constitutes substantial evidence of bioturbation, which should be taken

into account when considering whether any further work is necessary on this material. Two fragments of bone were also found in sample <6>, likely to belong to small mammal species such as mice or shrews.

#### Recommendations for Further Work

- 6.4.6 Though there may be some environmental information to be gained from these samples there is also significant evidence of modern contamination and bioturbation. As a result of this no further assessment is recommended; the material should be considered heavily compromised, and thus discarded.

## **7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS**

### **7.1 Early Saxon to Medieval Activity**

7.1.1 The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a dense complex of Early Saxon through to medieval settlement-related features including boundary and drainage ditches, pits and postholes, some of which represent fence lines. These features were associated with small quantities of finds including animal bone, pottery of Early Saxon through to medieval (5th-14th century) date and fired clay. The ceramic evidence suggests that the activity is of predominantly Late Saxon to early medieval (10th-13th century) date; however, this dating may only show the site at its peak, with 'quieter' phases of activity not represented within the relatively small sample provided by the trial trenching. Although the finds assemblages are small and many features cannot be closely dated, the datable material is spread relatively evenly over the site area. This suggests that the boundary system(s) present on the site and the activities associated with it were relatively long-lived and continued through the whole of the site sequence as represented by the pottery. The limitations of the finds assemblages do not generally allow for specific areas to be assigned to specific phases. Having noted this, a general trend for the ditches to the south-west in the site area can tentatively be suggested. These ditches where dated belong to the Early to Middle Saxon phase, whereas the pits in this area where dated loosely belong to later periods. This may indicate that the ditch system here was established at an earlier date, or was not modified as much in later periods. This would support the idea that settlement in the local area was focusing around the area to the north-east of the site, away from the south-east in the site area as time progressed.

7.1.2 The finds and environmental evidence indicate both domestic and agricultural activity, with the focus of settlement plots and the densest clusters of archaeological features being located to the south and east, although the settlement related activity, represented by significant quantities of archaeological remains were also found to the north and west. The site contains a large number of similarly aligned ditches, which generally do not

directly join up from trench to trench. This is suggestive of a highly subdivided landscape of small plots, which in turn is indicative of a position within the settlement itself, not within the settlements agricultural hinterland. Based on the results of the evaluation, the evidence for occupation and related activity extend across the entirety of the site area.

7.1.3 The type and density of features points to the site area being within the bounds of a relatively densely occupied rural settlement. The finds assemblages do not show any indications of high status, instead showing a relatively typical focus on mixed agriculture and the consumption of local or regional products, although the conclusions that can be drawn from the small assemblages recovered from the evaluation must be treated with caution. The samples recovered from features were generally subject to a degree of modern contamination, given this however the environmental evidence suggests an open arable landscape, with areas of waterlogging. Although large numbers of medieval coins have been found in the general area of the site, no metalwork finds were recovered during the course of the evaluation. This accurately reflects the rural status of the site, as shown by the recovered finds. This paucity may also be due to the economic and trading focus of medieval Nether Broughton being located further to the north-east, near the Church of St Mary which would have functioned as the heart of the village.

7.1.4 The results of the evaluation are in keeping with the results of previous excavations and survey in this part of Nether Broughton, which identified long lived settlement evidence, such as Late Anglo-Saxon and medieval (11-13th and 15th century) boundary ditches and other features 100m to the east of the site, as well as a shrunken medieval village comprised of a moated site, enclosures and building platforms clustered around St Marys Church, to the north-east. The evaluation did uncover limited assemblages of Early to Middle Saxon pottery, which suggests that occupation in the area of Nether Broughton began earlier than was indicated in previous archaeological investigations.

7.1.5 The current site represents a part of a long-lived settlement area which

began in the Early to Middle Anglo-Saxon period and formed a part of the settlement activity identified to the north-east in later periods.

- 7.1.6 Archaeological preservation appears to be relatively good, with survival of relatively deep and relatively shallow 'negative'/ 'cut' features. There are indications of a more significant degree of truncation of the archaeological level to the north-west corner of the site, although significant amounts of archaeology still survives there.

## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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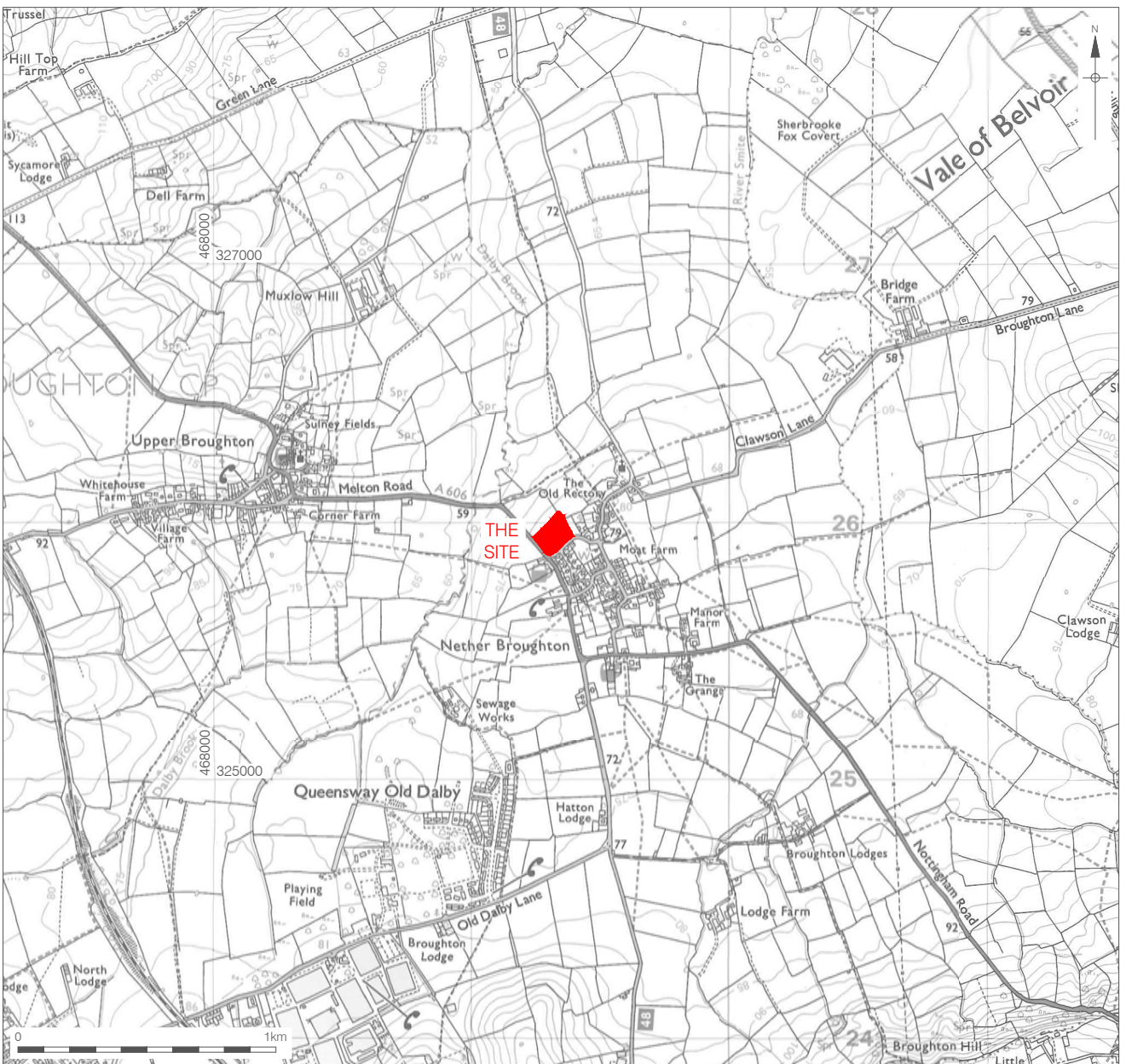
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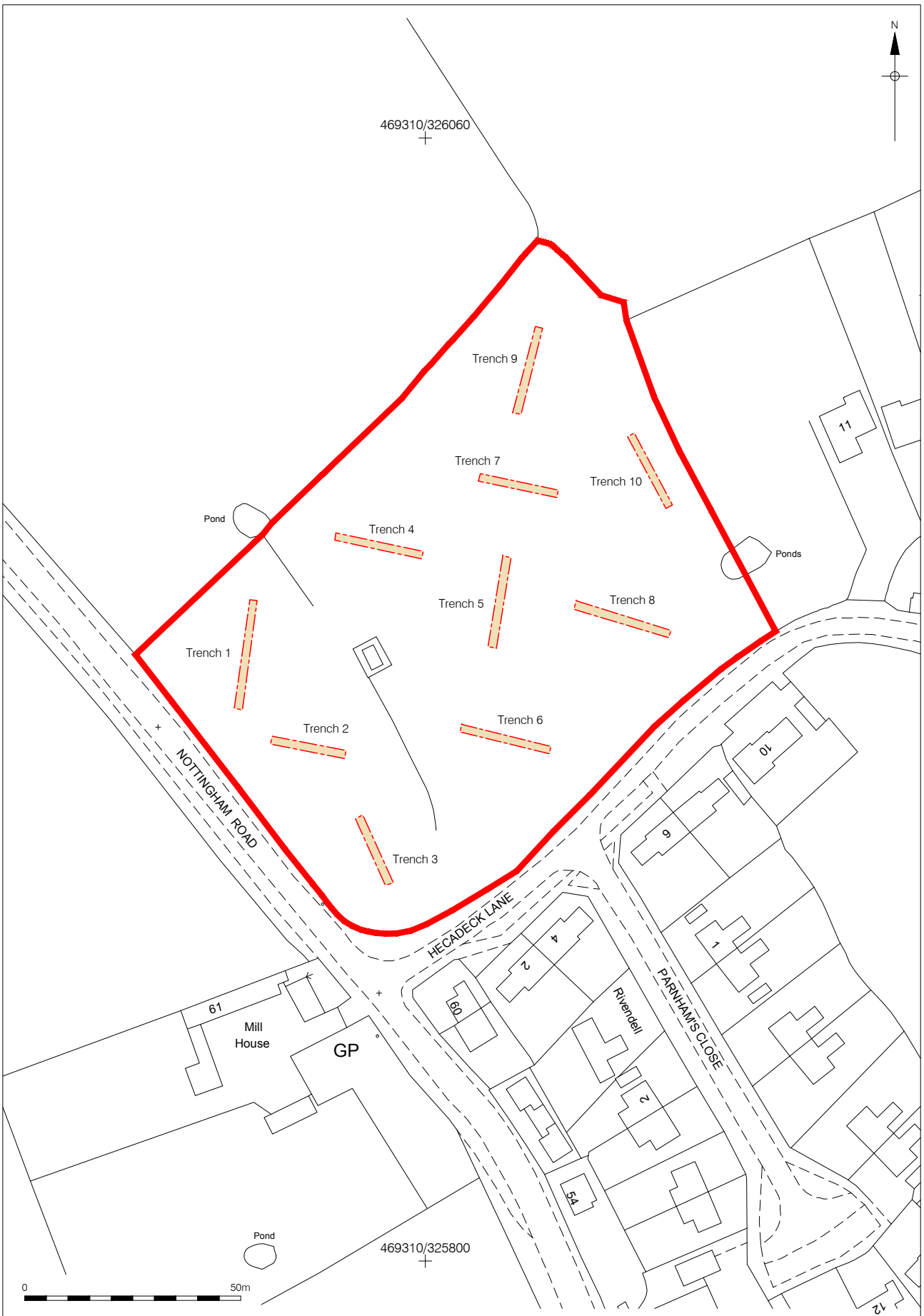
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Figure 1  
 Site Location  
 1:2,000,000; 250,000 & 25,000 at A4



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Figure 2  
 Trench Location  
 1:1,250 at A4

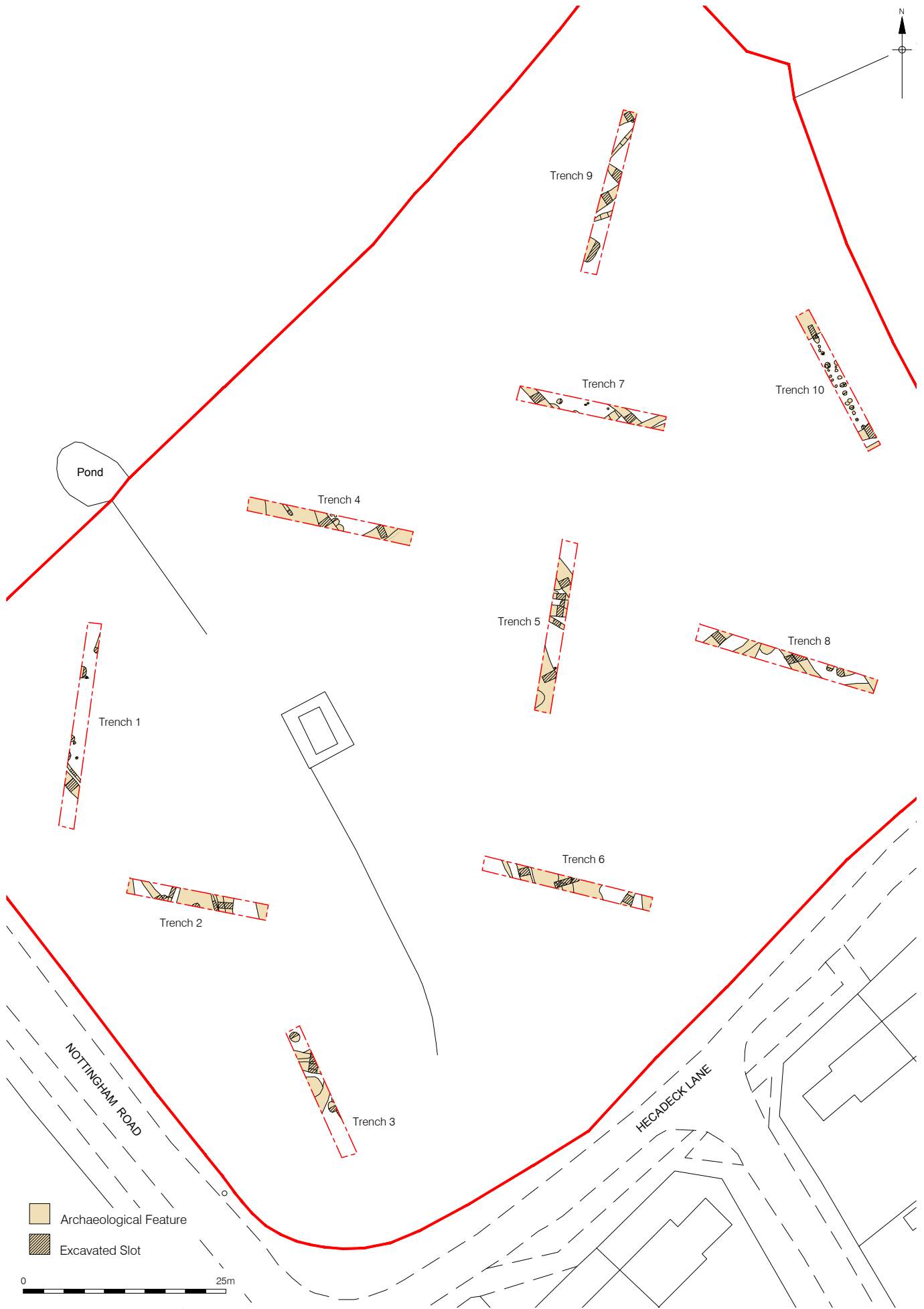
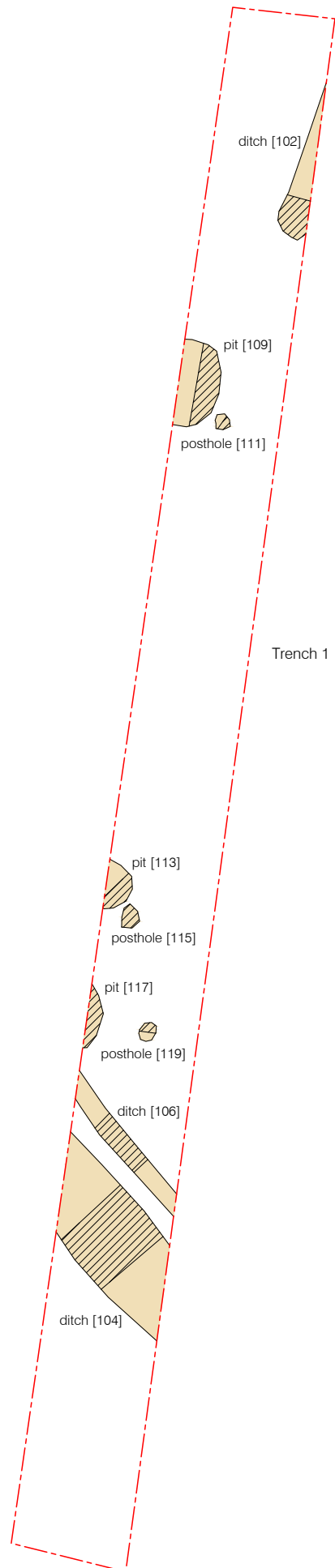


Figure 3  
 Trench Location showing plan of all Archaeological Features  
 1:625 at A4

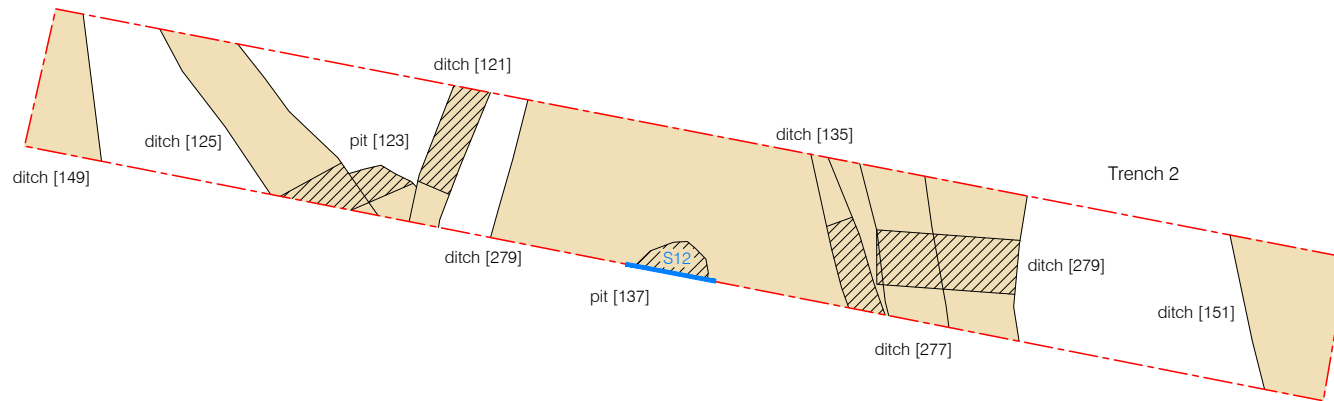




- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Slot

0 5m

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Figure 4  
Plan of Trench 1  
1:100 at A4

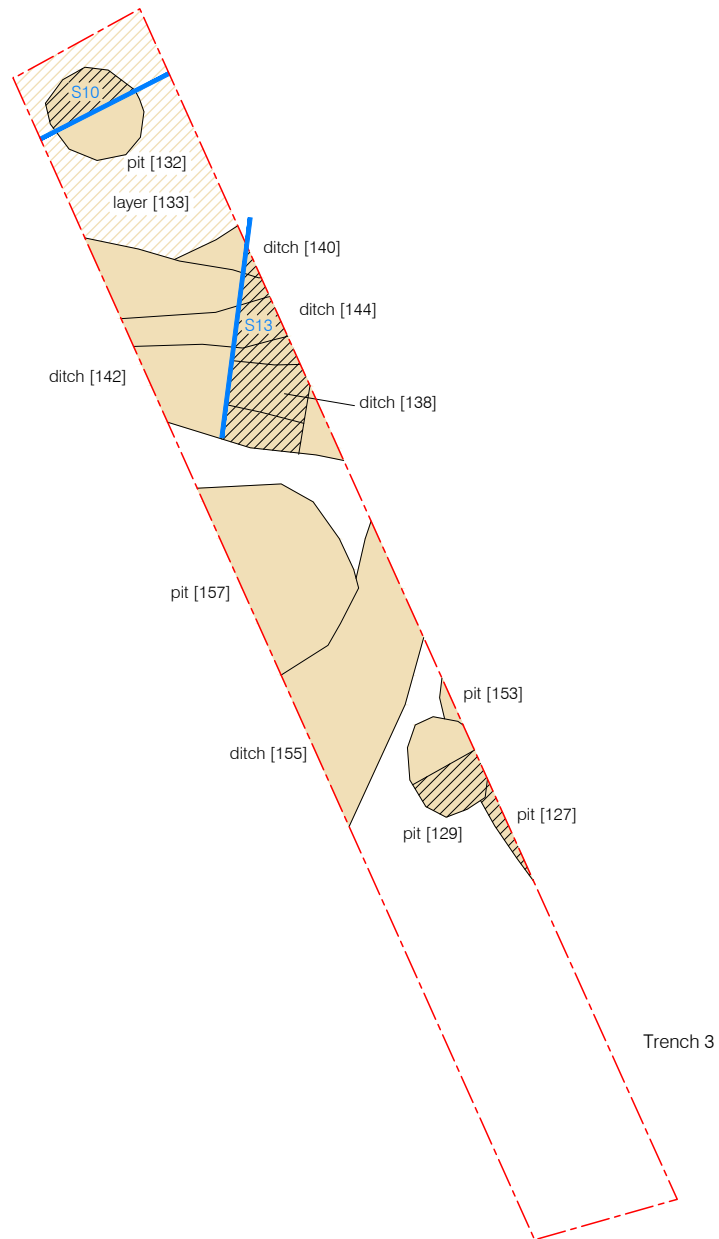




-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot

0  5m

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Figure 5  
Plan of Trench 2  
1:100 at A4



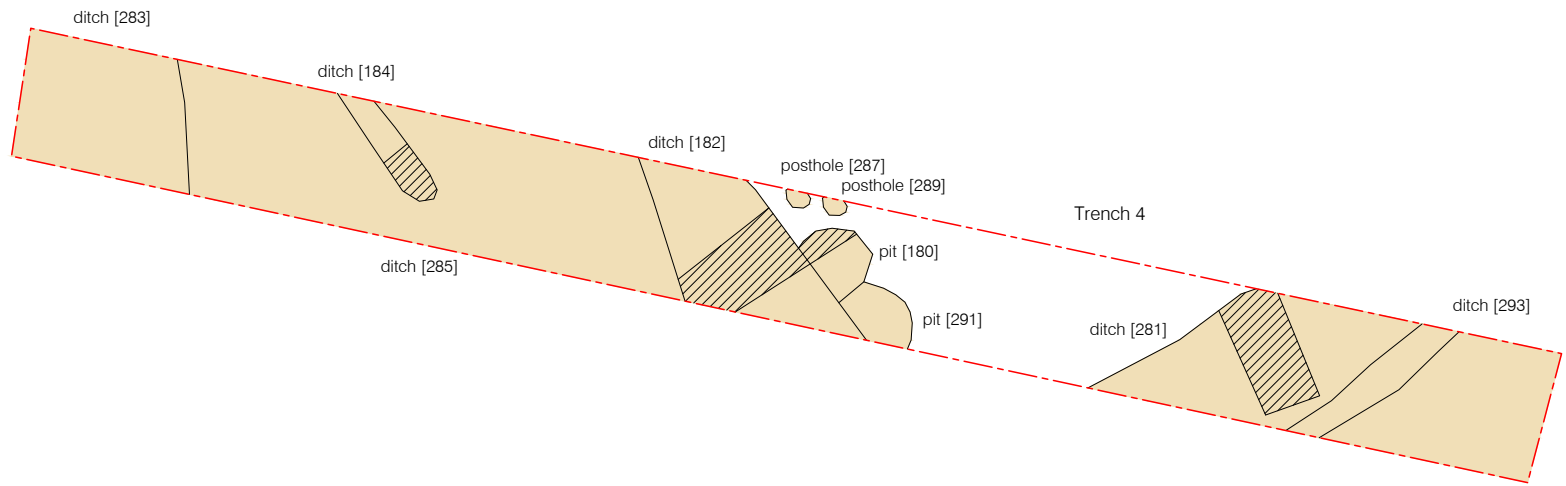
-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot
-  Archaeological Layer

0  5m

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Figure 6  
Plan of Trench 3  
1:100 at A4



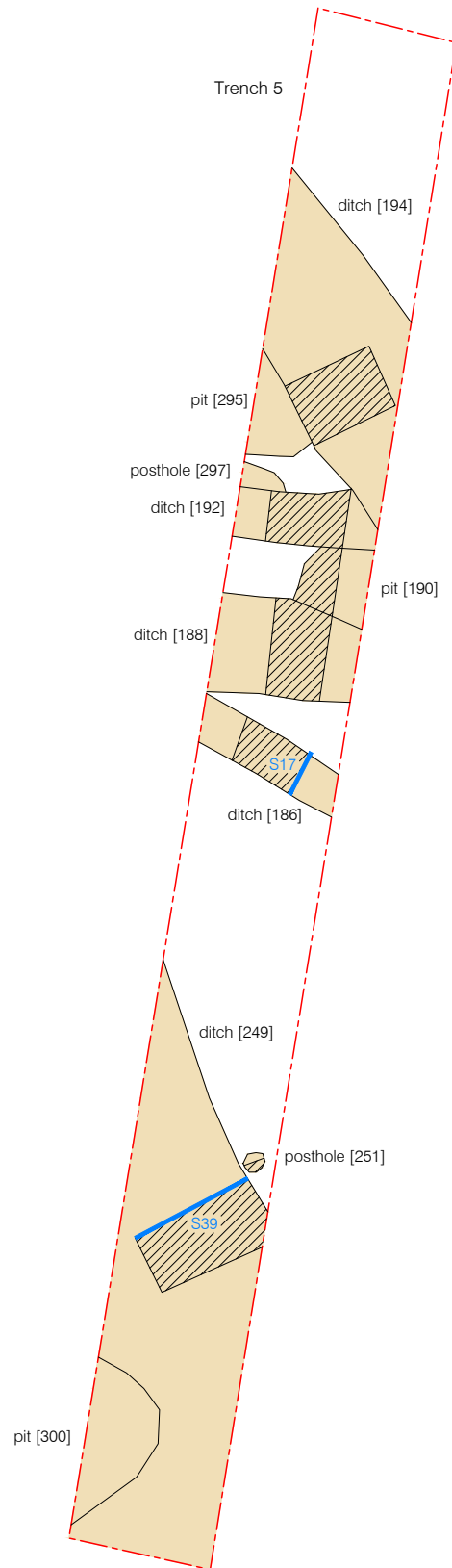
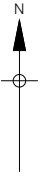


- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Slot

0 5m

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Figure 7  
Plan of Trench 4  
1:100 at A4

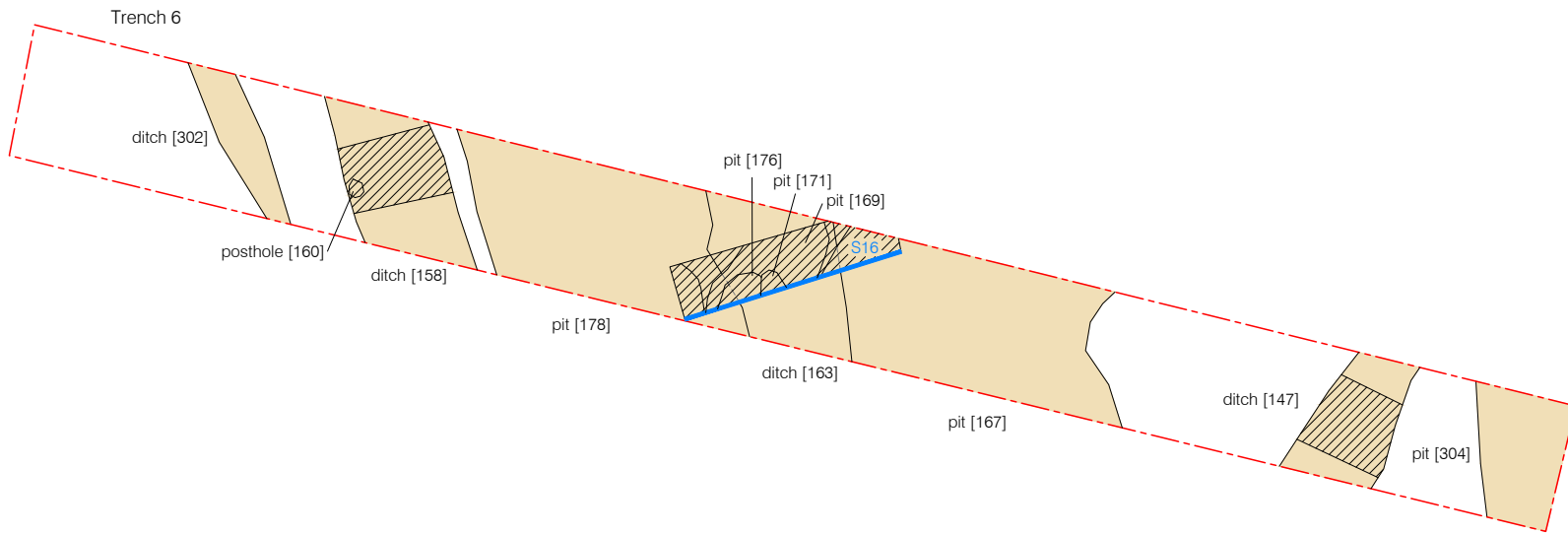




- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Slot



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Figure 8  
Plan of Trench 5  
1:100 at A4

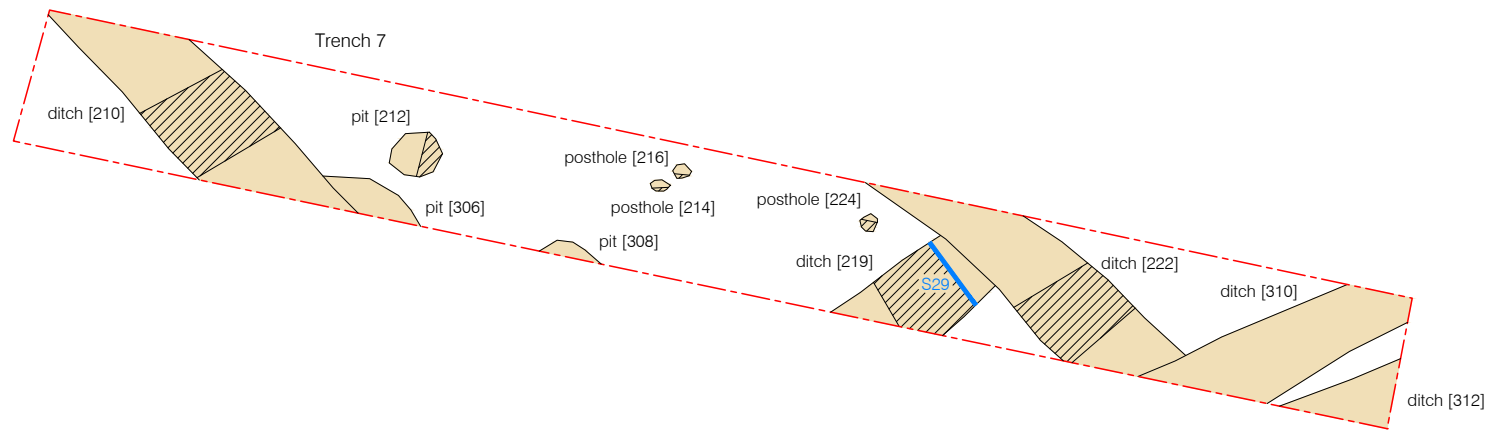




-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot



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Figure 9  
Plan of Trench 6  
1:100 at A4

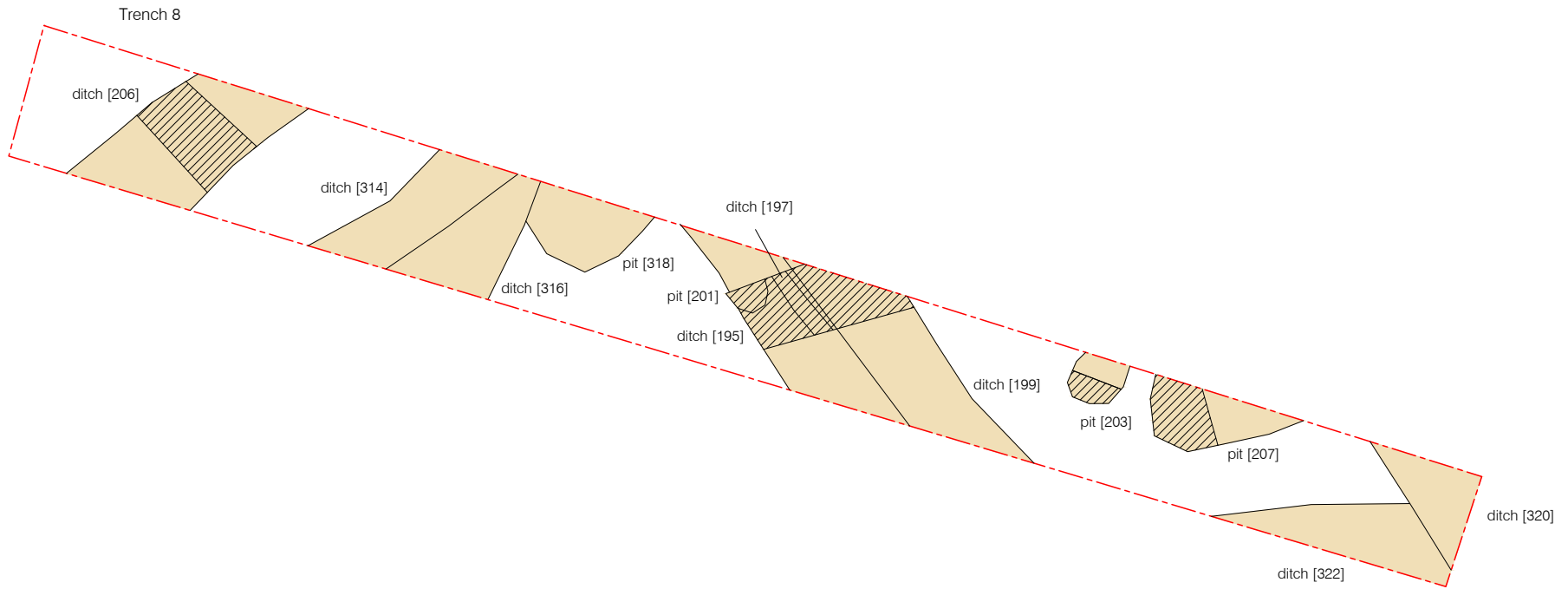


-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot



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Figure 10  
Plan of Trench 7  
1:100 at A4

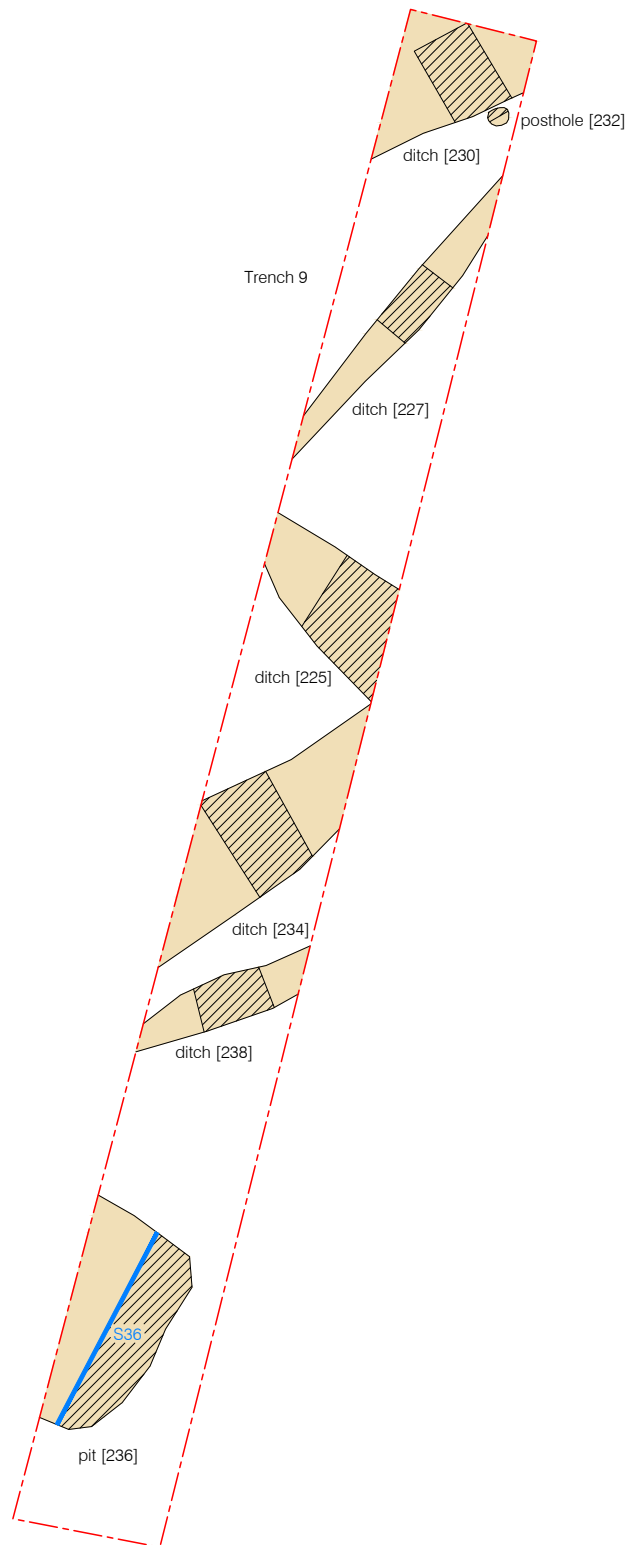




- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Slot

0 5m

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Figure 11  
Plan of Trench 8  
1:100 at A4

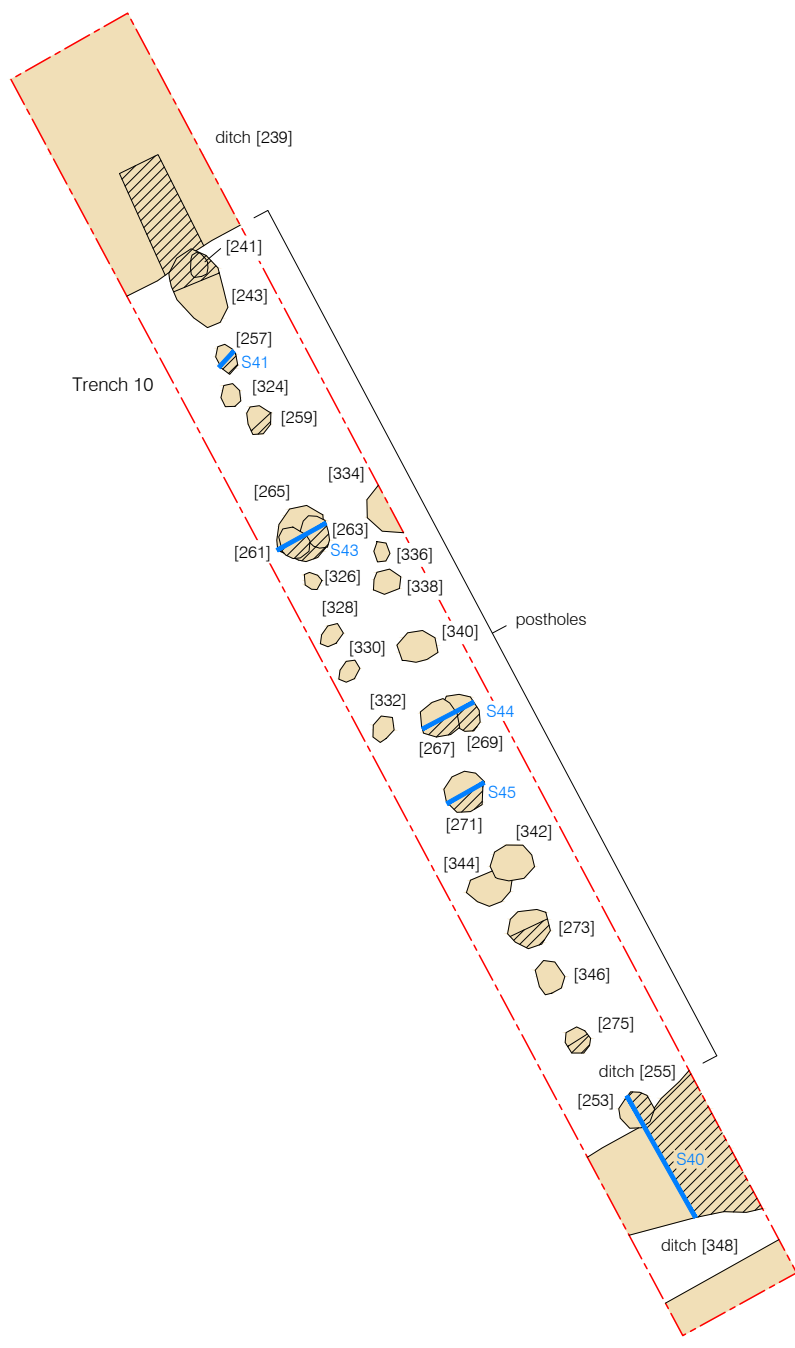




-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot



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Figure 12  
Plan of Trench 9  
1:100 at A4

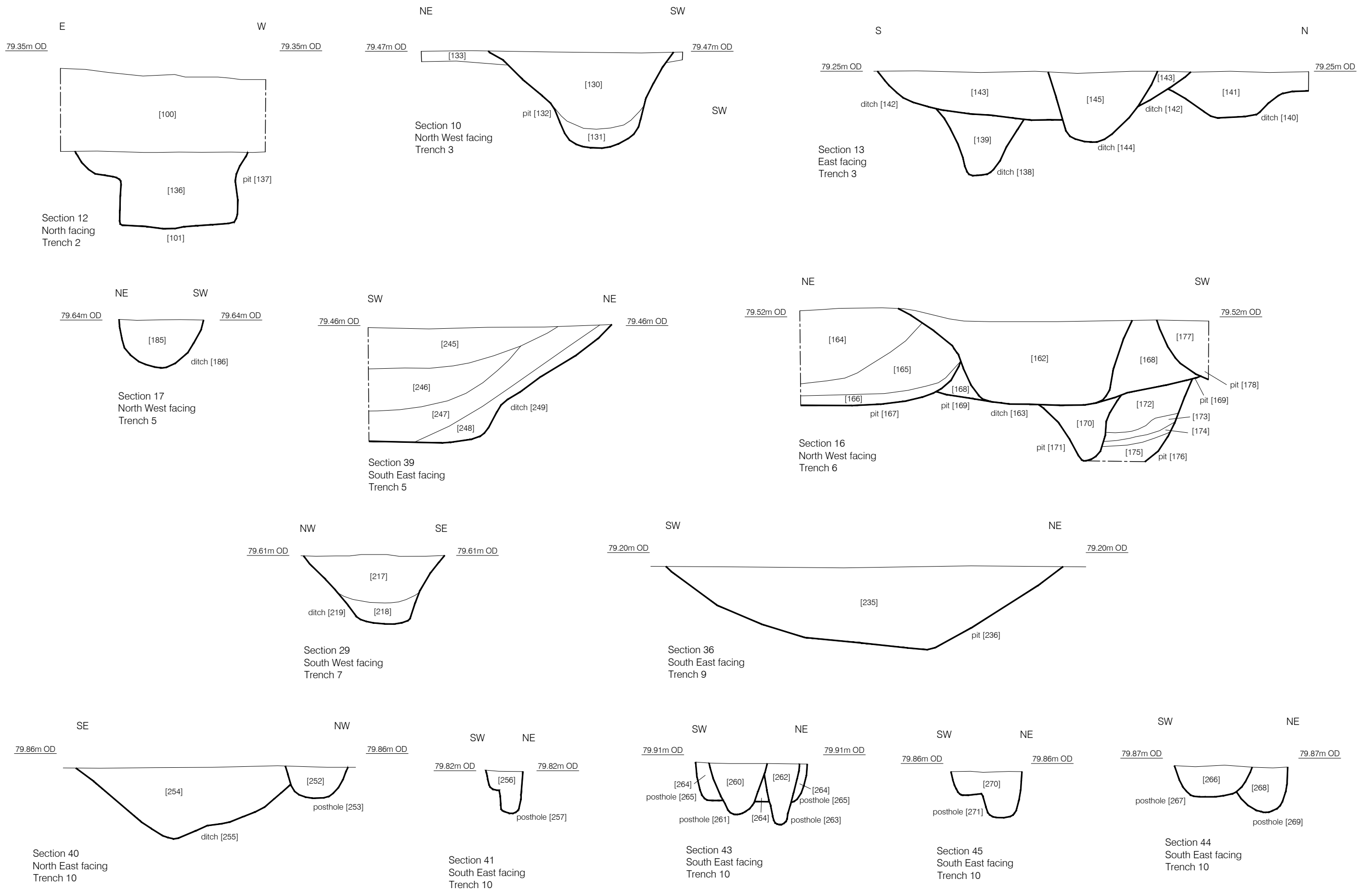


-  Archaeological Feature
-  Excavated Slot



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14/06/16 HB

Figure 13  
Plan of Trench 10  
1:100 at A4





## 10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES



Plate 1: Machining, view north



Plate 2: Trench 1, view south-south-west





Plate 3: Trench 2, view west-north-west



Plate 4: Pit [137], Trench 2, view south-south-west





Plate 5: Trench 3, view south-east



Plate 6: Ditches [138], [140], [142] and [144] Trench 3, view west-north-west





Plate 7: Trench 4, view east-south-east



Plate 8: Ditch [281], Trench 4, view south-west





Plate 9: Trench 5, view north-north-east



Plate 10: Ditch [249], Posthole [251], Trench 5, view north-north-west





Plate 11: Trench 6, view west-north-west



Plate 12: Ditch [163], Pits [167], [169], [171], [176] and [178], Trench 6, view south-south-east





Plate 13: Trench 7, view west-south-west



Plate 14: Ditch [219], Trench 7 view north-east





Plate 15: Trench 8, view west-north-west



Plate 16: Trench 9, view north-north-east





Plate 17: Pits [236], Trench 9, view north-west



Plate 18: Trench 10, view north-west



Plate 19: Trench 10, post excavation, view north-west

## 11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context Number	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Period
100	0	0	Layer	Topsoil	
101	0	0	Layer	Natural	
102	1	102	Cut	Ditch	
103	1	102	Cut	Ditch	
104	1	104	Cut	Ditch	
105	1	104	Fill	Ditch	
106	1	106	Cut	Ditch	
107	1	106	Fill	Ditch	
108	1	109	Fill	Pit	
109	1	109	Cut	Pit	
110	1	111	Fill	Posthole	
111	1	111	Cut	Posthole	
112	1	113	Fill	Pit	
113	1	113	Cut	Pit	
114	1	115	Fill	Posthole	
115	1	115	Cut	Posthole	
116	1	117	Fill	Pit	
117	1	117	Cut	Pit	
118	1	119	Fill	Posthole	
119	1	119	Cut	Posthole	
120	2	121	Fill	Ditch	E-M AS
121	2	121	Cut	Ditch	E-M AS
122	2	123	Fill	Pit	Late Saxon

123	2	123	Cut	Pit	Late Saxon
124	2	125	Fill	Ditch	
125	2	125	Cut	Ditch	
126	3	127	Fill	Pit	
127	3	127	Cut	Pit	
128	3	129	Fill	Pit	Med
129	3	129	Cut	Pit	Med
130	3	132	Fill	Pit	
131	3	132	Fill	Pit	
132	3	132	Cut	Pit	
133	3	0	Layer	Layer	
134	2	135	Fill	Ditch	
135	2	135	Cut	Ditch	
136	2	137	Fill	Pit	
137	2	137	Cut	Pit	
138	3	138	Cut	Ditch	
139	3	138	Fill	Ditch	
140	3	140	Cut	Ditch	
141	3	140	Fill	Ditch	
142	3	142	Cut	Ditch	E-M AS
143	3	142	Fill	Ditch	E-M AS
144	3	144	Cut	Ditch	
145	3	144	Fill	Ditch	
146	6	147	Fill	Ditch	S-N/ Early Med
147	6	147	Cut	Ditch	S-N/ Early Med



148	2	149	Fill	Ditch	
149	2	149	Cut	Ditch	
150	2	151	Fill	Ditch	
151	2	151	Cut	Ditch	
152	3	153	Fill	Pit	
153	3	153	Cut	Pit	
154	3	155	Fill	Ditch	
155	3	155	Cut	Ditch	
156	3	157	Fill	Pit	
157	3	157	Cut	Pit	
158	6	158	Cut	Ditch	
159	6	158	Fill	Ditch	
160	6	160	Cut	Posthole	
161	6	160	Fill	Posthole	
162	6	163	Fill	Ditch	LS/ S-N / Early Med
163	6	163	Cut	Ditch	LS/ S-N / Early Med
164	6	167	Fill	Pit	Med
165	6	167	Fill	Pit	
166	6	167	Fill	Pit	
167	6	167	Cut	Pit	Med
168	6	169	Fill	Pit	
169	6	169	Cut	Pit	
170	6	171	Fill	Pit	
171	6	171	Cut	Pit	
172	6	176	Fill	Pit	

173	6	176	Fill	Pit	
174	6	176	Fill	Pit	
175	6	176	Fill	Pit	
176	6	176	Cut	Pit	
177	6	178	Fill	Pit	
178	6	178	Cut	Pit	
179	4	180	Fill	Pit	
180	4	180	Cut	Pit	
181	4	182	Fill	Ditch	
182	4	182	Cut	Ditch	
183	4	184	Fill	Ditch	
184	4	184	Cut	Ditch	
185	5	186	Fill	Ditch	Late Saxon
186	5	186	Cut	Ditch	Late Saxon
187	5	188	Fill	Ditch	
188	5	188	Cut	Ditch	
189	5	190	Fill	Pit	
190	5	190	Cut	Pit	
191	5	192	Fill	Ditch	
192	5	192	Cut	Ditch	
193	5	194	Fill	Ditch	S-N/ Med
194	5	194	Cut	Ditch	S-N/ Med
195	8	195	Cut	Ditch	
196	8	195	Fill	Ditch	
197	8	197	Cut	Ditch	

198	8	197	Fill	Ditch	
199	8	199	Cut	Ditch	
200	8	199	Fill	Ditch	
201	8	201	Cut	Pit	
202	8	201	Fill	Pit	
203	8	203	Cut	Pit	
204	8	203	Fill	Pit	
205	8	206	Fill	Ditch	Early Med
206	8	206	Cut	Ditch	Early Med
207	8	207	Cut	Pit	
208	8	207	Fill	Pit	
209	7	210	Fill	Ditch	Med
210	7	210	Cut	Ditch	Med
211	7	212	Fill	Pit	
212	7	212	Cut	Pit	
213	7	214	Fill	Posthole	
214	7	214	Cut	Posthole	
215	7	216	Fill	Posthole	
216	7	216	Cut	Posthole	
217	7	219	Fill	Ditch	
218	7	219	Fill	Ditch	Med
219	7	219	Cut	Ditch	Med
220	7	222	Fill	Ditch	
221	7	222	Fill	Ditch	E-M AS
222	7	222	Cut	Ditch	E-M AS

223	7	224	Fill	Posthole	
224	7	224	Cut	Posthole	
225	9	226	Cut	Ditch	
226	9	226	Fill	Ditch	
227	9	227	Cut	Ditch	
228	9	227	Fill	Ditch	
229	9	230	Fill	Ditch	E-M AS / S-N
230	9	230	Cut	Ditch	E-M AS / S-N
231	9	232	Fill	Posthole	
232	9	232	Cut	Posthole	
233	9	234	Fill	Ditch	
234	9	234	Cut	Ditch	
235	9	236	Fill	Pit	
236	9	236	Cut	Pit	
237	9	238	Fill	Ditch	
238	9	238	Cut	Ditch	
239	10	239	Cut	Ditch	
240	10	239	Fill	Ditch	
241	10	241	Cut	Posthole	
242	10	241	Fill	Posthole	
243	10	243	Cut	Posthole	
244	10	243	Fill	Posthole	
245	5	249	Fill	Ditch	
246	5	249	Fill	Ditch	
247	5	249	Fill	Ditch	M-L IA?/E-M AS



248	5	249	Fill	Ditch	
249	5	249	Cut	Ditch	M-L IA?/E-M AS
250	5	251	Fill	Posthole	
251	5	251	Cut	Posthole	
252	10	253	Fill	Posthole	
253	10	253	Cut	Posthole	
254	10	255	Fill	Ditch	
255	10	255	Cut	Ditch	
256	10	257	Fill	Posthole	
257	10	257	Cut	Posthole	
258	10	259	Fill	Posthole	
259	10	259	Cut	Posthole	
260	10	261	Fill	Posthole	
261	10	261	Cut	Posthole	
262	10	263	Fill	Posthole	
263	10	263	Cut	Posthole	
264	10	265	Fill	Posthole	
265	10	265	Cut	Posthole	
266	10	267	Fill	Posthole	
267	10	267	Cut	Posthole	
268	10	269	Fill	Posthole	Med?
269	10	269	Cut	Posthole	Med?
270	10	271	Fill	Posthole	
271	10	271	Cut	Posthole	
272	10	273	Fill	Posthole	

273	10	273	Cut	Posthole	
274	10	275	Fill	Posthole	
275	10	275	Cut	Posthole	
276	2	277	Fill	Ditch	
277	2	277	Cut	Ditch	
278	2	279	Fill	Ditch	E-M AS
279	2	279	Cut	Ditch	E-M AS
280	4	281	Fill	Ditch	
281	4	281	Cut	Ditch	
282	4	283	Fill	Ditch	
283	4	283	Cut	Ditch	
284	4	285	Fill	Ditch	
285	4	285	Cut	Ditch	
286	4	287	Fill	Pit	
287	4	287	Cut	Pit	
288	4	289	Fill	Pit	
289	4	289	Cut	Pit	
290	4	291	Fill	Pit	
291	4	291	Cut	Pit	
292	4	293	Fill	Ditch	
293	4	293	Cut	Ditch	
294	5	295	Fill	Pit	
295	5	295	Cut	Pit	
296	5	297	Fill	Posthole	
297	5	297	Cut	Posthole	

298	5	300	Fill	Pit	
299	5	300	Fill	Pit	
300	5	300	Cut	Pit	
301	6	302	Fill	Ditch	
302	6	302	Cut	Ditch	
303	6	304	Fill	Pit	
304	6	304	Cut	Pit	
305	7	306	Fill	Pit	
306	7	306	Cut	Pit	
307	7	308	Fill	Pit	
308	7	308	Cut	Pit	
309	7	310	Fill	Ditch	
310	7	310	Cut	Ditch	
311	7	312	Fill	Ditch	
312	7	312	Cut	Ditch	
313	8	314	Fill	Ditch	
314	8	314	Cut	Ditch	
315	8	316	Fill	Ditch	
316	8	316	Cut	Ditch	
317	8	318	Fill	Pit	
318	8	318	Cut	Pit	
319	8	320	Fill	Ditch	
320	8	320	Cut	Ditch	
321	8	322	Fill	Ditch	
322	8	322	Cut	Ditch	

323	10	324	Fill	Posthole	
324	10	324	Cut	Posthole	
325	10	326	Fill	Posthole	
326	10	326	Cut	Posthole	
327	10	328	Fill	Posthole	
328	10	328	Cut	Posthole	
329	10	330	Fill	Posthole	
330	10	330	Cut	Posthole	
331	10	332	Fill	Posthole	
332	10	332	Cut	Posthole	
333	10	334	Fill	Posthole	
334	10	334	Cut	Posthole	
335	10	336	Fill	Posthole	
336	10	336	Cut	Posthole	
337	10	338	Fill	Posthole	
338	10	338	Cut	Posthole	
339	10	340	Fill	Posthole	
340	10	340	Cut	Posthole	
341	10	342	Fill	Posthole	
342	10	342	Cut	Posthole	
343	10	344	Fill	Posthole	
344	10	344	Cut	Posthole	
345	10	346	Fill	Posthole	
346	10	346	Cut	Posthole	
347	10	348	Fill	Ditch	

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348	10	348	Cut	Ditch	
-----	----	-----	-----	-------	--

## 12 APPENDIX 3: MEDIEVAL POTTERY CATALOGUE

trench	feature	context	Lincolnshire cname	form type	sherds	decoration	part	description	date
Trench 2	121	120	SSTMG	jar/bowl	1	incised decoration	BS		5th to 8th
Trench 2	123	122	TORK	jar/bowl	1		BS	abraded	10th to mid 11th
Trench 3	129	128	MEDLOC	jug	2		BS	glaze not fully matured;abundant fine background quartz moderate round to subround quartz mainly 0.4-0.6mm	early to mid 13th
Trench 3	142	143	CHARNT	jar/bowl	3		BS		5th to 8th
Trench 3	142	143	CHARNT	large jar/bowl	1		BS		5th to 8th
Trench 6	147	146	SNEOT	jar/bowl	1		BS	leached;abraded	11th to mid 12th
Trench 6	147	146	SNEOT	jar/bowl	1		BS	leached;abraded;flake	11th to mid 12th
Trench 6	147	146	RMSF	jar	2		base	leached surfaces	mid 12th to 13th
Trench 6	147	146	ST	small jar/pitcher	1		BS	spalling ext glaze	early/mid 11th to mid 12th

Trench 6	147	146	ST	jar/pitcher	5		BS	thin ext glaze	mid/late 11th to mid 12th
Trench 6	163	162	ST	large bowl	1		rim	flanged rim;soot	late 10th to 11th
Trench 6	163	162	STANLY	large jar	4		BS	high fired;leached surfaces	mid 12th to 14th
Trench 6	163	162	SLBTOL	small jar	1		BS	leached surfaces;common quartz	mid/late 12th to mid 14th
Trench 1	163	162	LFS	jar/bowl	1		BS	soot;leached surfaces;int carbonised deposit	11th to 12th
Trench 6	163	162	STANLY	jar/bowl	1		base	soot;leached surfaces	mid 12th to 14th
Trench 6	163	162	STANLY	jar/bowl	2		BS	soot;leached surfaces	mid 12th to 14th
Trench 6	163	162	EMHM	jar	1		BS		mid 12th to early/mid 13th
Trench 6	163	162	SLSO	small jug/jar	1		BS	traces unmaturred splashed glaze	mid/late 12th to early/mid 13th
Trench 6	163	162	ROAMG	small jug/jar	1		BS	splashed glaze	mid/late 12th to

									early/mid 13th
Trench 6	163	162	NSP		1		BS	splashed glaze	early/mid to mid/late 12th
Trench 6	163	162	ST	small jar	1		base	soot	late 10th to mid 12th
Trench 6	163	162	LSAX	jar/bowl	1		base	abundant mixed but mainly fine round to subround quartz 0.1-0.6mm	10th to mid 11th ?
Trench 6	163	162	ST	jar/bowl	1		rim	folded rim; thin glaze on int rim	early/mid 11th to mid 12th
Trench 6	163	162	ST	jar/pitcher	1		BS	glaze	mid/late 11th to 12th
Trench 6	163	162	EMLOC	jug	1		base	spalling splashed glaze; soot; very mixed round to subround quartz 0.2-1.6mm moderate fe & rare flint	mid 12th to mid 13th
Trench 6	163	162	LSAX	jar/bowl	1		BS	abundant mixed but mainly fine round to subround quartz 0.1-0.6mm	10th to mid 11th ?
Trench 6	163	162	SLQO	jar/bowl	1		BS	soot	11th to early/mid 13th



Trench 6	163	162	PMAR	jar ?	1		BS		12th to 13th
Trench 6	167	164	PSHW	large jar	1		rim	rounded rim;leached surfaces;decomposing shell;? ID	mid 12th to 14th
Trench 5	186	185	LSLOC	jar	1		rim	wheelthrown;abraded;leached surfaces;EVERA3 rim	10th to mid 11th
Trench 5	186	185	EST	small jar	1		BS	no glaze	mid 10th to mid 11th
Trench 5	194	193	ST	small jar	1		BS	abraded;unglaze;soot	late 10th to mid 12th
Trench 5	194	193	MEDLOC	jar/bowl	1		BS	abraded;yellow glaze spots int;abundant mixed but mainly fine round to subround quartz moderate to common fine fe occ fine ca	mid/late 12th to 13th
Trench 5	194	193	STANLY	jug	1		BS	abraded;glazed;high fe content	13th to 14th
Trench 8	206	205	ROAMG	jar ?	1		BS	internal soot;spots yellow glaze int	mid/late 12th to early/mid 13th
Trench 8	206	205	ST	small jar	1		base	abraded;soot;unglazed	late 10th to mid 12th

Trench 7	210	209	STANLY	jug/jar	1		BS	abraded	13th to 14th
Trench 7	219	218	MEDX	smal jug/jar ?	1		BS	very abraded;abundant fine quartz moderate fine fe occ cream clay pellet;int soot;fabric similar to ST A but too fe rich	11th to 14th ?
Trench 7	222	221	SST	?	1		BS	very abraded;leached shell & coarse aggregated sandstone occ rounded fe & carbonised organics	5th to 8th ?
Trench 9	230	229	ST	small collared jar/pitcher	2		BS	thin yellow glaze	mid/late 11th to mid 12th
Trench 9	230	229	ST	small jar/pitcher	1		BS	no glaze	early/mid 11th to mid 12th
Trench 9	230	229	ESAXLOC	small jar/bowl	1		BS	int carbonised deposit;abundant fine round to subround quartz common carbonised flattened & grain voids	5th to 8th

Trench 5	249	247	ERRA	jar	5	incised neck grooves & chevron	BS	abraded;fabric includes carbonised vegetal matter & voids	5th to 6th
Trench 5	249	247	MISC	jar/bowl	1	close vertical scoring	BS	HM;mod med sized quartz & sparse mod to coarse fe rich & ? grog  medium sized quartz and sparse moderate to coarse ferrous rich inclusions & possible grog  medium sized quartz and sparse moderate to coarse ferrous rich inclusions & possible grog	IA ?
Trench 10	269	268	MISC	?	1		BS	very abraded;abundant mixed round to subround quartz & moderate to comm fe;Roman or medieval	Roman or medieval
Trench 2	279	278	ECHAF	?	1		BS	burnised ext surface	5th to 8th

## 12.1 APPENDIX 4: FIRED CLAY CATALOGUE

trench	feature	context	fabric	frags	weight	description	date
Trench 1	104	105	fine micaceous oxid	1	8	abraded;two flattened surfaces at right angles;poss bar/support etc;abundant fine	-
Trench 2	121	120	fine micaceous marbled	1	1	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant fine quartz	-
Trench 2	137	136	vegetal-tempered	1	136	loom weight;doughnut-type;abundant flattened vegetal void & some	Saxon
Trench 3	138	139	fine oxid sandy	1	10	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant mixed mainly fine quartz sparse fe occ flint	-
Trench 3	142	143	OX/R/OX micaceous fine	1	9	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant very fine quartz	-
Trench 3	142	143	vegetal-tempered	1	4	abraded inner flake;reduced;abundant flattened vegetal void & some	-
Trench 6	147	146	OX/R/OX micaceous fine	1	6	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant very fine quartz + occ fe & occ carbonised	-
Trench 6	163	162	OX/R fine	1	6	abraded un-featured inner flake;abundant fine quartz with some flattened vegetal	-
Trench 5	194	193	OX/R fine-med sandy	1	5	very abraded un-featured flake;common mixed mainly fine quartz occ flint sparse fe	-
Trench 5	194	193	OX/R/OX fine sandy	1	1	abraded un-featured flake;abundant fine quartz;hard fired	-
Trench 5	194	193	Light OX/light R fine sandy + fe	2	1	same piece ?;abraded un-featured flakes;common fine quartz & moderate to	-
Trench 7	219	218	OX/R fine-med sandy	1	1	very abraded un-featured flake;mixed mainly fine quartz	-
Trench 9	230	229	fine micaceous OX/R/OX	1	4	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant very fine quartz occ larger round to	-

Trench 10	239	240	fine micaceous oxid	1	4	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant very fine quartz	-
Trench 10	239	240	OX/R marbled fine	1	4	very abraded un-featured lump;abundant very fine quartz sparse carbonised	-
Trench 10	269	268	fine micaceous oxid	1	1	abraded un-featured flake;fine micaceous clay	-
Trench 10	269	268	OX/R/OX fine sandy	1	4	very abraded un-featured lump;mixed mainly fine quartz + moderate fe	-

### 13 APPENDIX 5: PLANT FLOTATION ASSESSMENT

Sample number	Context number	Feature	Feature Type	Vol (ml)	Flot						
					Charcoa l >1mm	Charcoa l <1mm	Seeds (uncharred)	Seeds (charred)	Grain	Mollusca	Other
1	103	104	Ditch	780			4			1	Roots (4) Coal (1) Insect remains (1)
2	136	137	Pit	110	3	4	3		1	1	Roots (3) Insect remains (1)
3	139	138	Ditch	80	2	3	2				Roots (3) Insect remains (1)
4	280	281	Ditch	130	3	3	3				Roots (2)
5	162	163	Pit	100	2	3	2		2		Roots/modern grasses (4) Insect remains (1)
6	173	176	Pit	150	3	4	1		1		Insect remains (1) Animal bone (1)
7	175	176	Ditch	200	4	4	1		1		Roots (2) Insect remains (1)
8	205	206	Ditch	150	2	3	1		1		Roots (2) Insect remains (1)
9	193	194	Ditch	150		2	3				Roots (2) Insect remains (1)
10	218	219	Posthole	100	1		1				Roots (3) Insect remains (1)

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11	260	261	Posthole	20	1				1		Roots (1)
12	268	269	Posthole	30	1	3					Roots (3)
13	272	273	Ditch	21	1	2	1				Roots (2)

## 14 APPENDIX 6: SEEDS AND SNAILS IDENTIFICATION

Sample Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13
Uncharred seeds												
Brassica spp.	68	3						3	2			
Carex spp.	43	21	12	41	12				23			5
Chenopodium album									3	2		
Juncus spp.	2											
Nuphar spp. (seed case)								6				
Poaceae spp.	8	4										1
Poaceae spp. (spikelet)			2	4	1	1			1			
Polygonum spp.		2										
Rubus fruticosus					1							
Rumex spp.	1		3	5	8	1	1		3			1
Sambucus nigra	1		1		1				1			
Silene spp.		1										
Veronica spp.		2		3					1			
Charred Grain												
Triticum spp.					6							
Hordeum spp.					7	1	1	4				
No ID		1			10	2		6			1	
Snail species												
Nesovitrea hammonis		1										
Oxychilus alliarius		1										
Vitrea crystallina	1											



## 15 APPENDIX 7: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-254694

### Project details

Project name Land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire, LE14 3EZ:  
Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Short description of the project This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire (NGR SK 4693 3259) between the 31st of May and the 8th June 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Andrew Granger and Co Ltd in response to recommendations given by the Principal Planning Archaeologist (PPA) of Leicestershire County Council (LCC), Richard Clark as part of the pre-planning process. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area. The principal result of the evaluation was the recording of a dense complex of Early Saxon through to medieval settlement-related features including boundary and drainage ditches, rubbish pits and postholes, some of which represent fence lines. These features were associated with small quantities of finds including animal bone, pottery of predominantly Early Saxon through to medieval (5th-14th-century) date and fired clay. The finds indicate both domestic and agricultural activity, with the focus of settlement and the densest clusters of archaeological features being located to the south and east, although significant quantities of archaeological remains were also found to the north and west. The findings are in keeping with the results of previous excavations and survey in this part of Nether Broughton, which identified Anglo-Saxon and medieval boundary ditches and other features 100m to the east of the site, as well as a shrunken medieval village comprised of a moated site, enclosures and building platforms clustered around St Marys Church, to the north-east.

Project dates Start: 31-05-2016 End: 08-06-2016

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes HLN16 - Sitecode

Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	POSTHOLE Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Medieval
Significant Finds	LOOMWEIGHT Early Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Recommendations from LCC
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

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Project location

Country	England
Site location	LEICESTERSHIRE MELTON BROUGHTON AND OLD DALBY Land off Hecadeck Lane, Nether Broughton, Leicestershire
Postcode	LE14 3EZ
Study area	1.25 Hectares

Site coordinates SK 4693 3259 52.888392599779 -1.302429642896 52 53 18 N 001 18  
08 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 0.28m Max: 0.31m

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Project creators

Name of PCA

Organisation

Project brief Leicestershire County Archaeology Office

originator

Project design PCA Central

originator

Project Taleyna Fletcher

director/manager

Project supervisor Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne

Type of Land Agent

sponsor/funding

body

Name of Andrew Granger and Co Ltd

sponsor/funding

body

---

Project archives

Physical Archive Leicestershire Museums Service

recipient

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

Digital Archive Leicestershire Museums Service

recipient

Digital Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental"

Digital Media "Database","Spreadsheets","Text"

available

Paper Archive Leicestershire Museums Service

recipient

Paper Contents "Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental"

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

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Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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