LAND ADJACENT TO MANOR FARM COMPLEX, MANOR ROAD, DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK

PCA REPORT NO: 12941

SITE CODE: ENF142229

NOVEMBER 2017

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

LAND ADJACENT TO MANOR FARM COMPLEX, MANOR ROAD, DERSINGHAM

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K5033
Report Number	R12941

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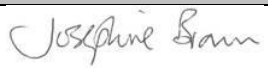
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		July 2017
Project Manager Sign-off:	Peter Crawley		November 2017

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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Land Adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Local Planning Authority:	**Kings Lynn and West Norfolk**
Planning Reference:	**Pre-Application**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TF 6936 3027**
Site Code:	**ENF142229**
Report No.	**R12941**
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November 2017

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk (NGR TF 6936 3027) between the 19th and the 22nd June 2017. The archaeological work was commissioned by Nicholas Jackson prior to a proposed new residential development. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

Archaeological features were found in all four evaluation trenches. The principal result of the evaluation was the discovery of a series of medieval to Post-medieval features including ditches, pits, post-holes, three walls and associated demolition layers. There was evidence of several phases of building within Trench 3. The pottery assemblage dated from the late 12th to 14th century, with a smaller quantity of 10th to 12th century. It is common for there to be a degree of residuality on such village-centre sites and it is likely that the evident building was of later medieval to Post-medieval date, as suggested by some of the retrieved CBM. A relatively large quantity of iron slag recovered from the site could suggest that there is a smithy in close proximity and several of the possibly burnt surfaces may have been connected with this activity.

The site is located at the heart of the medieval village of Dersingham with St Nicholas's Church (NHER 1581) to the north-west and the site of the former medieval manor to the south-west (NHER 1579), and as such, the archaeological remains are very much in keeping with what would be expected. The site is surrounded by earthworks with those to the east NHER 31059, perhaps the most relevant. Two ditches unearthed within Trench 3 do appear to relate to the overall axis of the earthworks, but as the evaluation consisted of a relatively small sample of the proposed development site, further comparisons cannot be made at this time.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR TF 6936 3027) from the 19th to the 22nd June 2017 (Figure 1).

1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Nicholas Jackson prior to a proposed new residential development.

1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Peter Crawley of PCA (Crawley 2017) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by James Albone (Albone 2017) of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service (NCC HES).

1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.5 A total of four 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 Norwich Castle Museum.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Sandstone and Mudstone; sedimentary bedrock which formed approximately 125 to 134 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period when the local environment was dominated by shallow seas (British Geological Survey; Website 1). There are no recorded superficial deposits.

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site is located on the south side of the junction of Church Lane and Manor Road, on the east side of the village of Dersingham. The site lies at the 20m OD contour and the topography slopes upward to the east. There are no major rivers in close vicinity to the site, although small unnamed streams running off the higher land are recorded on OS mapping.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

(Plate 1)

3.1.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance, as recorded in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER). This archaeological and historical background has been drawn from the NHER, the archaeological design brief (Albone 2017) and the Dersingham Parish Summary (Website 2).

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 The earliest prehistoric evidence recorded on the NHER comes in the form of a variety of worked flints, found approximately 350m to the east, as part of a multi-period spread. Fieldwalking within this field recovered a range of finds, including possible Upper Palaeolithic, blade, Mesolithic blade and blade cores, and further struck flints of Early Neolithic and Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. The flints were found with many other finds of later date which are discussed below (NHER 14353).

3.2.2 A multi-period spread (NHER 28798 - MNF28798) unearthed approximately 430m to the south within Dersingham Wood presented a large amount of worked flint dated from Mesolithic through to Bronze Age date. The flints included blade cores, blades and finished microliths and they provided clear evidence for a small-blade based industry on the site. Of particular note was an Early Neolithic flint arrowhead. Several sherds of Beaker and Bronze Age pottery were also recovered amongst later materials.

3.2.3 A further multi-period spread 500m to the south-east of the site (NHER 28651) also presented early prehistoric flint. These included three of unspecified type, four flakes and one identified Mesolithic flint blade.

3.2.4 There are also single spot-finds within the study area, for example a barbed and tanged arrowhead of Early Neolithic to Beaker date has been recovered as a spot-find close to NHER 28651 and to the south of Doddshill Road (NHER 1565).

3.2.5 A further spot-find included a Neolithic axehead which was found in a garden 130m to the north-west, closer to the centre of the village at Chapel Road, but this seems relatively isolated, and many of the other finds of Neolithic to Bronze Age date also tend to favour the higher ground to the east (17919 - MNF17919).

3.2.6 Much of the evidence for prehistoric activity is in the form of scatters of finds, however there is a possible ring-ditch recorded approximately 300m to the north-east of the site (16498 - MNF16498). The evidence for such a feature was derived from aerial photographs.

3.2.7 Approximately 90m to the south-west of the proposed development site an undated artificial mound has been recorded. The mound is thought to represent a Bronze Age barrow, although it could also represent a mill mound (NHER 31963).

3.3 Iron Age and Roman

3.3.1 There does appear to be at least two foci of activity of Iron Age and Roman date to the east of the site, and this was probably to take advantage of the higher well-draining slopes.

3.3.2 The first of these was located approximately 350m to the east of the proposed development site (NHER 38276). It consisted of a series of Late Iron Age and Roman ditched features with an enclosure, two ring ditches and several pits, all of which are visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. These features cover the area of multi-period finds recorded NHER 14353 and mentioned above. Roman pottery sherds probably derived from a disturbed Roman pit were recovered. Other notable finds include a possible Roman kiln fire bar fragment and Roman coins, indicative of more complex settlement activity.

3.3.3 Secondly a continuation of, or further focus of Roman period activity was located approximately 450m to the south-east (NHER 28651). Located amongst an assemblage of multi-period finds, previously mentioned, a central spread of good quality Roman pottery indicated Roman settlement foci. Further amounts of ubiquitous medieval pottery and some Mesolithic

struck flints were also found within the same field. A rectangular enclosure within the field (NHER 59925) is likely to be associated with the evidence for Roman settlement.

3.3.4 There are several spot-finds within the study area of this date. Of note was a Roman coin (and some medieval pottery) which was found just to the south of Doddshill Road, approximately 300m south of the proposed development site NHER 16497).

3.4 Anglo-Saxon to Medieval

3.4.1 The Domesday survey 1086 records that Dersingham was a very large settlement. It had 115 households with an assessed taxable value of 6.9 geld units with the value to lord in 1066 recorded as £2. By 1086 the value was £3.3 reducing again to £2 by 1070. Of the households, there were 14 smallholders and 30 free men. The manpower operated one lord's plough teams and four men's plough teams and there was additionally 18 acres of meadow. Archbishop Stigand was the overlord in 1066 and Peter of Valognes was the overlord in 1086. (Phillimore reference: 66,87)

3.4.2 The proposed development site is located at the heart of the village, adjacent to the site of the former Dersingham Manor, where earthworks include a moat, associated gardens and yards (NHER 1579) and across the road from the medieval St Nicholas' Church (NHER 1581). The densest core of the manor complex is scheduled and lay approximately 30m to the south-west. The preserved manorial site remains largely free of development.

3.4.3 The earthworks recorded as NHER 31059 are perhaps the most relevant for the present site. The map polygon for this entry actually covers the south-eastern corner of the proposed development site. An east to west aligned channel within site NHER 31059 is thought to be part of a feeder channel for the moated manor. To the south of the moat are a series of irregular east to west and north to south aligned channels that are almost certainly a system of post medieval water meadows. A series of banks and ditches evidenced as earthworks are likely to be field-boundaries however on account of their valley bottom location they could also be related to water management, and

may be connected with the water meadows to the west (NHER 1579)

3.4.4 The main centre of the settlement of Dersingham appeared to be gathered around the medieval St Nicholas' Church (NHER 1581) a short distance along Manor Road from the proposed development site. The earliest parts of the structure of the church dates to c. 1300 and it was constructed using local carstone. Rebuilding was undertaken in the 14th-century in Decorated style with Perpendicular style windows inserted in the 15th-century. As is common, the church was heavily restored in the 19th-century when the roofs were replaced.

3.4.5 Further medieval earthworks have been recorded closer to Sherbourne Road to the north consisting of a series of likely medieval banks and ditches including the remains of probable structures and houses (NHER 17436). Aerial photographs of the area indicate that Post-medieval extraction pits may be present at the site. Fragments of pottery from Iron Age to Post-medieval date have been found from the site. At the southern end of this area was the possible site of a medieval watermill represented by a rectangular enclosure (NHER 20341). This enclosure lay approximately 400m to the east of the proposed development site. Survey carried out here recovered Middle and late Saxon pottery with hearth lining and iron slag.

3.4.6 A further medieval moated manor, Snaring Hall was located just north of Sherborne Road, approximately 100m to the north of the site (NHER1577). It consisted of part of a possible medieval moat and water channel, visible as earthworks on aerial photographs. The site has been partly built on. Documentary sources quoted on the NHER indicate that there was a little lordship called Snaring Hall, held on Valoins, in the reign of Henry II (1154-89) by Jeffrey de Snaring, and by Philip, one of the family in the reign of Henry III (1216-72). It was in the possession of James Host of Sandringham about 1809.

3.4.7 A chapel recorded on old maps, was located within the churchyard of St Nicholas Church across Manor Road to the north-west. This is thought to be the chapel of St Andrew or St Mary which was built in 1264 by Sir Thomas

Gelham. Foundations of the chapel were often found when graves were dug in the churchyard (NHER 1578).

3.4.8 Medieval pottery has been found at NHER 14356 with Late Saxon and medieval pottery unearthed at NHER14362 approximately 180m to the south-west of the site.

3.4.9 Field walking to the south has identified a multi-period finds scatter approximately 430m to the south-west. Finds of all major periods were recovered (NHER 28798). Perhaps the most notable finds recovered within this assemblage was a quantity of good quality Early Saxon pottery (Mesolithic flints were also notable).

3.5 Post-medieval

3.5.1 Aerial photographs of the area indicate that Post-medieval extraction pits may be present at the site. Fragments of pottery of Post-medieval date have been found from the site.

3.5.2 There are many historic buildings dotted around the village of Dersingham, but the majority of these are less relevant for the present site. Of most relevance are the two historic buildings situated at Manor Road

3.5.3 The former Dersingham School is one of these relevant buildings. It was built to two storeys at Dodd's Hill Road in an 1850's style. The main building is composed of a single classroom and a large hall, with a two-storey House attached to the western end. There is a joined, but separate extension to eastern end of the building, containing a single classroom, built in the same style as the rest of the building, and it is likely to have been built only a few years after the original. 1960's flat-topped extensions obscure some of the detail of the building (NHER 56691).

3.5.4 Across the street from the former school is a Methodist Chapel dated 1851. This chapel incorporates parts of an earlier structure built of rubble with brick dressings. The building has a three-bay gabled front (HER 58078).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of four trial trenches (Figure 2).

4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 7-ton wheeled mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.

4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.

4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).

4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

4.1.6 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

4.1.7 Significant features such as structural remains, including walls and demolition deposits, were recorded in plan but left in-situ pending any future open area excavation.

4.2 Recording Methodology

4.2.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.2.2 Manual section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale. (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50). Planning was undertaken using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit. Hand planning was undertaken at the eastern end of Trench 2 where the individual deposits were more numerous.

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 (CIfA 2014; 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 subsoil, unless otherwise stated. The evaluation identified features, including structural remains, demolition deposits, boundary ditches and pits, mainly of Post-medieval date.

5.2 Trench 1

(Plate 2 and 3)

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained four pits, four ditches; three aligned east to west and one north to south, two medieval postholes and a surface of likely medieval date. One of the pits and two of the ditches represent medieval activity, while three of the pits, and two of the ditches were Post-medieval in date.

5.2.2 Layer (96) was seen throughout the trench and represented a 'dirty' natural at the base of the trench. It was truncated by all the archaeological features present in the trench and consisted of a greyish-yellow slightly silty sand with charcoal inclusions. It was recorded directly above the natural and was approximately 0.10m thick, as observed within the walls of the features which truncated it.

5.2.3 Pit [25] (Figure 4, Section 6) was located at the north end of the trench, extending into the northern and eastern baulks, and was truncated by Pit [23] to the south. It was 0.82m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (24) of mid orange-brown silt sand which contained three sherds (13.5g) of late 12th to 14th century pottery and five fragments of animal bone.

5.2.4 Pit [23] (Figure 4, Section 6) was located just south of [25], truncating its southern edge, and extending beyond the east baulk. It was 0.40m wide and 0.37m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (22) of mid grey-brown silt sand, containing one sherd (3g) of late 12th to

14th century pottery, a fragment of carbonised material and fragments of animal bone.

5.2.5 Pit [27] (Figure 4, Section 6) was located at the north end of the trench, truncated from above by Pits [25] and [23]. It was 0.45m wide and 0.13m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (26) of mid grey-brown silt sand, which contained a small amount of animal bone and an iron nail.

5.2.6 Surface (93) (Figure 4) was located at the north end of Trench 1. It was 1.80m+ wide and of unknown depth. It consisted of a pink red clay silt and a sandy mortar, with chalk and charcoal inclusions, reflecting burning activity. Two sherds (61.5g) of 12th to 14th-century pottery were collected from this feature.

5.2.7 Posthole [44] (Figure 4, Section 3) was located midway through the trench, extending beyond the west baulk. It measured 0.60m wide by 0.30m deep and had near vertical sides with a flat base. It contained a single fill (43) of mid orange- to yellow-brown sand with chalk fragments throughout. This feature contained no finds.

5.2.8 Posthole [19] (Figure 4, Section 2) was located to the east of Posthole [44], extending beyond the east baulk. It measured 0.83 wide and 0.40m deep with moderately sloping sides and a narrow concave base. It had two fills; a basal fill (18) of mid grey-brown sand and an upper fill (17) of mid grey-brown mixed clay and sand. This feature contained five sherds (178.5g) of Grimstone Ware pottery (14th to 15th-century), taken from the upper fill, and a small amount of animal bone and shell. This feature was truncated by Pit [21] on its northern side.

5.2.9 Pit [21] (Figure 4, Section 2) was located just to the north of Posthole [019], truncating its northern side and extending beyond the east baulk. It measured 0.30m wide and 0.12m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (20) of mid grey sand clay.

5.2.10 Ditch [46] (Figure 4) was located midway through the trench, extending

beyond the east and west sections. It was 0.51m wide and 0.17m deep with moderately sloping sides and a wide concave base. It had a single fill (45) of mid orange-brown silt sand, containing one fragment of animal bone.

5.2.11 Ditch [62] (Figure 4, Section 8) was located in the southern half of the trench, aligned north to south. It was 0.42m wide and 0.19m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (61) of mid grey-brown silt sand.

5.2.12 Ditch [64] (Figure 4, Section 9) was located at the south end of Ditch [62], perpendicularly aligned east to west and extending into the west baulk. It was 0.46m wide and 0.15m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (63) of mid grey-brown silt sand, containing two sherds (57g) of late 12th to 14th century pottery.

5.2.13 Layer (84) was located at the south end of the trench, truncated by Ditch [82] to the south and a modern drain to the north. It measured 2m+ and 0.40m deep, was a mid brown slightly silt sand with occasional charcoal flecks, and contained no finds.

5.2.14 Ditch [82] was located at the south end of the trench, truncating Layer (84) and extending beyond the east and west baulks and aligned east to west. It measured 0.74m wide and 0.33m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (83) of mottled mid orange and light brown silt sand, and contained two sherds (22.5g) of Thetford Ware pottery of 10th to 11th century date and two sherds of late 12th to 14th century pottery (11g).

5.2.15 These features are largely dated as medieval. These include two postholes, indicating a possible structure, a small pit, a ditch and a possible surface at the north end of trench 1. Two larger truncations interpreted as pits, two small drainage ditches and a ditch at the south end of the trench were undated but are likely to be medieval to Post-medieval in date. This later activity is likely related to the small unnamed stream aligned parallel with Trench 1 and located close by.

TRENCH 1	**Figure 4**		**Plate 2 and 3**	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 30m		Level of Natural (m OD): -N/A	
Deposit		**Context No.**	**Average Depth (m)**	
			N End	**S End**
Topsoil		(1)	0.28m	0.46m
Subsoil		(2)	0.28m	0.98m

Summary

Trench 1 was located close to the south-east boundary of the site.
The trench contained medieval features: two postholes, a pit, an east to west aligned ditch and a burnt mortar surface, all containing a range of finds. All these features truncated Layer (96) seen across the trench, which must also be considered medieval at the latest date/ Two drainage ditches, two pits, and a larger ditch were Post-medieval in date. Two modern drains were found aligned east to west, truncating the Layer (96) only. Ditch [82] appeared to have the earliest date.

5.3 Trench 2

(Plate 4, 5 and 6)

5.3.1 The trench contained seventeen deposits, representing a combination of medieval and some Post-medieval burning and demolition activity, below the topsoil. A modern pipe aligned north to south truncated three of these layers. A pit was identified which may be medieval in date. Natural geological sand was observed at the base of three excavated sondages which were recorded with sections 1, 20 and 21.

5.3.2 Layer (87) (Figure 5) was located at the west end of the trench, extending beyond the south, west and north baulks. It was 2m+ wide and 0.34m deep, and was a mid to dark brown-yellow slightly silt sand with charcoal inclusions. No finds were collected from this feature. It was truncated by Pit [85].

5.3.3 Pit [85] was located at the west end of the trench, extending into the south baulk. It was 1.52m wide and 0.40m deep with near vertical sides and an irregular base sloping down to the east. It had a single fill (86) of mottled yellow and light brown silt sand.

5.3.4 Layer (16) was located just to the east of (87) at the west end of the trench, extending beyond the north and south baulks. It was 0.63m wide and 0.12m deep, and consisted of mid orange-brown silt sand with charcoal and seashell flecks. No finds were present in this deposit.

5.3.5 Layer (15), located immediately adjacent to (16) in the west, extended beyond the north and south baulks. It was 0.90m wide and 0.45m deep. It consisted of mid grey-brown sand silt and contained a small amount of animal bone and one potsherd of 11th to 12th century date (5g).

5.3.6 Layer (14) was located immediately above (15). It was 0.75m+ wide and 0.02m deep. It consisted of mid to light yellow sand and contained no finds.

5.3.7 Layer (13) was located immediately above Layer (14) and measured 0.75m+ wide and 0.03m deep. It consisted of mid to dark grey-brown sand with no finds present. This layer and (14) are deposits of naturally weathered or washed-in material.

5.3.8 Layer (12) was located immediately above (13) and extended beyond the north and south baulks. It was 2m wide and 0.39m deep, and consisted of a mottled mid to light grey-brown and yellow silt. This feature contained no finds.

5.3.9 Demolition layer (42) was located in the west half of the trench, immediately adjacent to (12) and extending beyond the north and south baulks. It measured 4.50m wide and its depth was not determined in the evaluation. It consisted of a light yellow-brown mortar with chalk and brick building material throughout. No finds were collected from this feature and it was truncated at its eastern edge by a modern pipe. The generally small and fragmentary nature of the CBM fragments meant that they were not retained for inspection.

5.3.10 Burnt Layer (41) was located immediately to the east of the modern pipe. It was 0.36m wide and its depth undetermined in the evaluation. It was dark brown mottled with red-orange silt, with significant charcoal inclusions. No finds were present in this feature.

5.3.11 Burnt layer (40), immediately to the north of Layer (41), was 0.64m wide and its depth was not established during the evaluation. It consisted of mottled dark red with black-brown silt, and no finds were present. It was truncated by the modern pipe to the west.

5.3.12 Layer (39) was located to the north and east of layers (40) and (41), its western edge truncated by a modern pipe. It extended beyond the north and south baulks, measuring 3.20m wide. Its depth was not established during the evaluation and no finds were collected from this feature. It consisted of mid to dark orange-brown sand silt, with chalk, charcoal and ceramic building material fragments included.

5.3.13 Demolition layer (38) was located to immediately to the east of (39), extending beyond the south baulk. It measured 1.50m wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of pale pink-yellow sandy mortar with chalk fragments, but no finds were present.

5.3.14 Layer (37) was located immediately to the north of (38), extending diagonally in a rough northwest to southeast alignment beyond the north and south baulks. It was 0.25m wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of mid to light brown-orange silt sand with no finds present.

5.3.15 Layer (36) was located immediately north of (37) and extending beyond the north baulk. It measured 0.80m wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It was a mid to light grey-brown silt sand, no finds were present.

5.3.16 Layer (34), to the east of (36) and (37) and extending beyond the south baulk, measured 2.30m wide and 0.25m deep. It consisted of mid orange-brown sand silt and contained no finds.

5.3.17 Layer (33) was located to the north of (34) and extended into the north baulk. It measured 1.62m wide and 0.17m deep, and was a mid to dark red-brown sand silt. A relatively large amount of animal bone was found within the layer, along with a large amount of CBM fragments 10+. An abundance of

charred cereals were recorded in sample <2> taken from this deposit.

5.3.18 Layer (90) was located immediately below (33) and (34), measuring 1.15m+ wide and 0.13m deep. It consisted of mottled yellow and pink flecked clay, with no finds present.

5.3.19 Layer (91), immediately below (90), was 1.15m+ wide and 0.12m deep. It consisted of mid grey sand and clay silt, with no finds present.

5.3.20 Layer (92), immediately below (91), was 1.15m+ and 0.19m deep. It consisted of a mid grey sandy and clay silt. No find were present.

5.3.21 Layer (32) was located just to the east of (33) and was a narrow area roughly aligned north to south and extending beyond these baulks. It was 0.20m wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of mid orange-brown clay silt.

5.3.22 Layer (30) was located immediately to the east of (32), extending into the south baulk. It measured 1.90m+ in width and 0.12m in depth and consisted of mid grey-brown sand silt with significant seashell fragments and charcoal. one sherd (17g) of late 12th to 14th century pottery of medieval date and three fragments of animal bone were recovered from this feature.

5.3.23 Layer (31) was located to the north of (30) and extended into the north baulk. It measured 1.60m wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of a pale orange-yellow sandy mortar with frequent chalk and ceramic building material fragments were seen. No finds were present in this feature. The small and fragmentary nature of the CBM fragments meant that they were not retained for inspection.

5.3.24 Burnt layer (29) was located at the east end of the trench, extending into the east baulk. It measured 0.90m+ wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of a mottled mid to dark red with black-brown silt, and contained charcoal flecks but no finds.

5.3.25 Demolition layer (28) was located at the east end of the trench, extending into the east baulk. It measured 0.34m wide and its depth was not

investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of a mid to light yellow-brown sandy mortar with large chalk inclusions. No finds were present in this feature.

5.3.26 The series of deposits below the topsoil in this trench reflect burning, dumping of refuse and demolition activity from the medieval period onwards. Medieval pottery featuring in layers (15) and (30) indicates the presence of medieval activity, perhaps in the form of refuse dumping and the construction of earthworks involving the re-deposition of natural material.

TRENCH 2	**Figure 5**		**Plate 4, 5 and 6**	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 20m		Level of Natural (m OD):- 1.40m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			E End	**W End**
Topsoil	(1)		0.20m	0.44m
Subsoil	(2)		N/A	1.08m
Natural	(3)		N/A	1.40m+
Summary Trench 2 was located in the north-west corner of the site, parallel with the north boundary. There were sixteen archaeological deposits in the trench directly under the topsoil, two of which contained medieval pottery, and fourteen may be Post-medieval in date. A pit was also found at the west end which is likely medieval. A modern pipe aligned north to south truncated the archaeology midway through the trench.				

5.4 Trench 3

(Plate 7, 8, 9 and 10)

5.4.1 The trench contained two Post-medieval walls aligned east to west and eight deposits representing demolition or refuse dumping activity, of Post-medieval date. Two small pits with no dateable material present were also found.

5.4.2 Wall 47 was located at the north end of the trench. It was 0.50m wide and 0.08m deep, consisting of roughly hewn chalk blocks and CBM fragments. No finds were collected from it. A retrieved brick was allocated a late medieval to earlier post medieval date range (1400-1700).

5.4.3 Demolition layer (48) was located just to the south of Wall 47 below topsoil, measuring 1.8m wide and 0.05m deep. It was comprised of chalk and CBM fragments in a mid grey silt sand, and represents the destruction of Wall 47. A small amount of animal bone were present in this feature.

5.4.4 Layer (49) was located immediately below Wall 048 and Demolition layer (48). It measured 0.5m+ in width and 0.22m deep, consisting of an orange-brown sand. It is likely a levelling layer of re-deposited natural sand relating to building demolition. Layer 49 contained 152g of slag and was truncated by Pit [52].

5.4.5 Layer (50) was located immediately below Layer (49). It measured 0.50m+ wide and 0.18m deep, consisting of a mid grey sand clay with medium chalk fragments. Layer (50) contained 628g of slag and was truncated by Pit [52].

5.4.6 Pit [52] was located at the north end of the trench, below Layer (48), truncating Layers (49) and (50). It measured 0.46m wide and 0.21m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (51) of dark grey sand silt and no finds were present in this feature.

5.4.7 Wall 53 was located in the northern half of the trench aligned east to west, and to the south of Layer (48). It was 1m wide and 0.40m deep and consisted of chalk blocks and red unfrogged bricks. No finds were collected from this feature. A retrieved brick was allocated a late medieval to earlier post medieval date range (1400-1700).

5.4.8 Layer (88) was located south of Wall 53 measured 1.80m+ wide and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It comprised a mid orange silt sand and contained no finds.

5.4.9 Layer (89) was adjacent to Layer (88) in the northern half of the trench, extending beyond the east and west baulks. It measured 1.8m+ and its depth was not investigated during the evaluation. It consisted of a cream-white crushed mortar, with no finds present.

5.4.10 Demolition layer (54) located in the southern half of the trench, below topsoil.

Extending beyond the east and west baulks, it was 1.8m+ wide 0.05m deep and consisted of chalk and CBM fragments in a mid grey silt sand. One sherd of 11th to 12th century pottery (51g) was collected from this feature, which appears to be a continuation of (48). An amount of slag was recovered from this layer.

5.4.11 Layer (55) was located at the southern half of the trench. It was 1m wide and 0.25m deep. It consisted of orange-brown sand with occasional chalk flecks, likely a re-deposited natural sand layer. One sherd of late 12th to 14th century pottery as well as a small amount of CBM were present in this feature. It was truncated from above by Pit [59]. As with many of the layers within this trench there was a large quantity of slag recovered from the deposit, here amounting to 1606g.

5.4.12 Pit [59], in the southern half of the trench below Demolition Layer (54), was 0.29m wide and 0.30m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (58) of mid grey clay sand, and no finds were present. This feature truncated Later (55).

5.4.13 Surface (57) was located at the southern half of the trench, against the east baulk. It was 1m wide and its depth was not established during the evaluation. It consisted of a mid grey sand clay with burnt purple-grey, charcoal-rich areas.

5.4.14 Layer (56), overlying possible surface (87), was 1m wide and 0.09m deep. It consisted of a light to mid grey sand containing a small amount of animal bone and slag.

5.4.15 Posthole [67] was located at the southern end of the trench. It was 0.33m wide and 0.37m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It contained two fills; a lower fill (66) of orange-brown, mottled grey sand and an upper fill (65) of mid grey-brown silt sand. A large quantity of carbonised material and some animal bone was recovered from fill (65). Sample <1> taken from (65) produced no significant diagnostic material.

5.4.16 Most of the features in this trench indicate Post-medieval construction and

demolition of earlier structures, combined with refuse dumping activity. The two pits and postholes contained no dateable evidence.

TRENCH 3	**Figure 6**		**Plate 7, 8, 9 and 10**	
Trench Alignment: N-S	Length: 20m		Level of Natural (m OD): N/A- 0.46m+	
Deposit		**Context No.**	**Average Depth (m)**	
			N End	**S End**
Topsoil		(1)	0.18m	0.18m
Subsoil		(2)	0.28m	0.46m
Natural		(3)	N/A	0.46m+
Summary Trench 1 was located in the northeast quadrant of the site. The trench contained a series of eight layers, relating to demolition of earlier structures, and two walls, of Post-medieval date. Two pits and a posthole were undated.				

5.5 Trench 4

(Plate 11 and 12)

5.5.1 The trench contained five postholes and two pits, and a chalk wall at the western end, all of Late Medieval or Post-medieval date.

5.5.2 Wall 5, within construction cut [4], was located at the western end of the trench, aligned north to south. It measured 1m wide and 0.25m deep and was constructed of rough-hewn chalk blocks. No finds were collected from this feature.

5.5.3 Posthole [77] was located in the western half of the trench. It was 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (76) of mid grey-brown sand.

5.5.4 Posthole [79] was located in the western half of the trench, measuring 0.20m wide and 0.09m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (78) of mid grey-brown sand, containing no finds.

5.5.5 Posthole [81] was located in the western half of the trench, measuring 0.27m wide and 0.19m deep with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had

two fills; a lower fill (94) of orange-brown and mottled grey slumped natural sand, and an upper fill (80) of mid grey-brown sand. No finds were present in this feature.

5.5.6 Pit [75] was located approximately midway through the trench, extending into the northern baulk. It was 0.70m wide and 0.57m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had two fills; a lower fill (95) of yellow-brown mottled grey slumped sand, and an upper fill (74) of mid grey-brown sand. A single piece of carbonised material was recovered from fill (74).

5.5.7 Posthole [73] was located in the eastern half of the trench, extending into the south baulk. It was 0.38m wide and 0.44m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill (72) of mid grey-brown sand, containing two sherds of pottery, one Post-medieval and the other a sherd of Thetford ware of 11th to 12th century date.

5.5.8 Pit [71] was located in the eastern half of the trench, extending into the south baulk. It was 1.06m wide and 0.44m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. It had a single fill (70) of mid grey-brown silt sand.

5.5.9 Posthole [69] was located just east of Pit [71], measuring 0.03m wide and 0.40m deep. It had steeply sloping sides with a flat base and a single fill (68) of mid grey-brown sand.

5.5.10 The trench contained five postholes of Post-medieval date and two garden feature pits, also of Post-medieval date. The wall was undated.

TRENCH 4	**Figures 7**		**Plate 11, and 12**	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 20m		Level of Natural (m OD): N/A- 0.46m+	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			N End	**S End**
Topsoil	(1)		0.18m	0.18m
Subsoil	(2)		0.28m	0.46m
Natural	(3)		N/A	0.46m+
Summary **Trench 1 was located near the southern boundary of the site.**				

The trench contained five postholes, two pits and a chalk wall aligned north to south.

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Prehistoric Pottery

(Sarah Percival Pers. Comm)

6.1.1 One sherd recovered from context (74) is Iron Age and two further very small sherds from (45) are too small to give a good identification, but could also be Iron Age.

6.2 Post Roman Pottery

(By Clare Jackson)

6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounts to 31 sherds, weighing 552g recovered from four trenches located at the Manor Farm site, close to the medieval core of the village of Dersingham in Norfolk. The majority dates from the late 12th to the 14th century, although a small number of Saxon and post medieval sherds were also recovered (Table 1). The material was recorded and quantified for each context by fabric, vessel form and decoration using sherd count and weight. The fabrics were examined under x10 magnification and recorded using codes taken from the Norfolk Ceramic Type Series. The Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics was followed for recording and the forms were identified in accordance with the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of forms (MPRG 1998, 2001). The data has been entered onto an Access Database, a copy of which is held with the archive. A summarised catalogue of the pottery by context, with date ranges and suggested spot dates appears at the end of the report (Table 1).

6.2.2 The range of fabrics recovered is typical of the area (Blinkhorn 2005) and the following were noted on the site;

6.2.3 Thetford Type Ware: 10th-12th century. (Six sherds, 129.5g). Found residually in a context [82] (Trench 1) that contained medieval coarseware and Grimston-Type ware, but also recovered from Layers (15), (54) and (92) in trenches 2 and 3.

6.2.4 Medieval coarseware: Late 12th to 14th century. (Seven sherds, 83g, Trench 1). The majority of the sherds comprised a black, fine sandy fabric with rare flint and iron-oxide inclusions and a reduced grey or buff surface which occasionally showed evidence of sooting. The majority of the coursewares are likely to be of local origin and are similar to those recorded at nearby Snettisham (Blinkhorn 2005). The majority of the sherds are likely to come from jars or cooking pots and is indicative of domestic settlement in the area.

6.2.5 Grimston-Type ware: Late 12th to 14th century. (15 sherds, 320.5g). A large number of the sherds recovered from the site were Glazed Grimston-Type ware, with little decoration and ranged in size from small to medium. The main dating indicators of the ware are through its form and decoration; slender narrow jugs decorated with applied pellets and raised strips are indicative of the earlier Grimston Type, whereas plainer, more globular jugs with wide, multiple ridged strap handles are more indicative of 14th to 15th century vessels (Jennings 1981). Glazing of Grimston wares can also help with dating; earlier vessels tend to be glazed only on the top two thirds whereas pottery dating to the 14th and 15 centuries is generally glazed to the base, and internal glazing is more common. A single sherd from context [19] shows evidence of glazing at the base, whilst two sherds from contexts [64] and (91) are from wide multi-ridged strap handles, thus dating these sherds to the 14th century. A sherd of Grimston-Type ware from Layer (55) in Trench 3 has applied decoration which can also date it to the 14th century. Other sherds recovered were too small to definitively date.

6.2.6 Unprovenanced Glazed Ware: Late 12th to 14th century. A single sherd of green-glazed ware (17g) was recovered from Layer (30) in Trench 2 and comprised of a hard light grey to creamy white sandy fabric with rare iron oxide and flint inclusions. The glaze is a light olive green.

6.2.7 A rim sherd (2g) of Post-medieval unglazed fine ware pottery, likely a cup or small jar was recovered in the fill of posthole [73], Trench 4.

6.2.8 The majority of the coarsewares and Thetford-Type wares were small in size (212.5g) and had moderate to high abrasion, indicating they were

redeposited, possibly through Post-medieval activity on the site. Two coarseware sherds from layer (93) Trench 1 however showed little abrasion, indicating a sealed context. The Grimston-Type ware sherds were mainly large, with little abrasion, therefore indicating little movement and a close proximity to settlement. Normally the presence of such glazed wares suggest high status occupation, however the close proximity of the site to Grimston means these wares were more easily attainable and are not such a definitive indicator of status.

6.2.9 The pottery attests to the presence of settlement on or close by the site from at least the 12th to the 14th century, though little further on the understanding of nature of the site. The medieval coarseware was all recovered from Trench 1, to the west of the site, whilst the Grimston-Type ware was concentrated to the north, indicating that this is the area of settlement. The Late Saxon ware was found across the site and indicates there was some form of Saxon activity in the area. No pottery of medieval date was found in Trench 4, to the south of the south, supporting the supposition that the settlement activity was consigned to the north. The range of fabrics and forms are well paralleled in the region.

Context Number	Cut	Trench	Fabric	Form	SC	Weight	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Spot Date
15		2	THET	JAR	1	5	900	1100	900-1100
17	19	1	GRIM	JUG	6	188	1175	1400	1175-1400
22	23	1	MCW		1	3	1175	1400	1175-1400
24	25	1	GRIM	JUG	3	19.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
			MCW	CP	3	13.5	1175	1400	
30		2	UPG	JUG	1	17	1175	1400	1175-1400
54		3	THET		1	51	900	1100	900-1100
55		3	GRIM	JUG	1	10.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
57		3	GRIM		1	6.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
63	64	1	GRIM	JUG	2	57	1175	1400	1175-1400
72	73	4	PMR		1	2	1540	1900	1540-1900
			THET	JAR	1	7	900	1100	
83	82	1	GRIM	JUG	1	6	1175	1400	1175-1400

83	82	1	MCW	CP	1	5	1175	1400	1175-1400
			THET		2	22.5	900	1100	
91		2	GRIM	JUG	1	33	1175	1400	1175-1400
92		2	THET		1	44	900	1100	900-1100
93		1	MCW	CP	2	61.5	1175	1400	1175-1400

Table 1: Summary catalogue of pottery by context. SC = Sherd count. Wg = Weight in grams

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

6.3.1 (By Kevin Hayward)

6.3.2 The ceramic building material from the site consisted of unfrogged red brick recorded in–situ along with chalk blocks from two parallel walls [47] and [53] in Trench 3 and a demolition layer [42] in Trench 2. Given the identification of late medieval to earlier post medieval (1400-1700) red unfrogged bricks at another site from Dersingham (Hayward 2017), these are likely to date from this period too. Indeed, the light calf brown (lime) mortar with which the brick and chalk are bonded to is a common early Post-medieval recipe in red brick structures throughout southern England and London (Hayward pers. Obs.).

6.3.3 It is worthy of note that the same construction technique using red bricks along with chalk blocks was recorded in a structure across the street beneath the 1851 Methodist Chapel.

6.4 Flint

(By Barry Bishop)

6.2.1 There is a natural looking flake from (33) <2> but from context [92] is a nicely struck prismatic blade of mottled dark brown flint retaining a small patch of worn cortex. It is not been retouched but technologically is dateable to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. It is in a slightly chipped condition, suggesting it might be residual but hasn't experienced much post-depositional damage so was probably discarded close to where found.

6.5 Metalwork

(By Ruth Beveridge)

6.5.1 A total of ninety-seven objects were recovered from the evaluation; of these, five are iron objects. The remainder are pieces of slag and carbonised material. These finds have been recorded in the catalogue below. They have been examined with the assistance of low level magnification, but without the aid of radiographs. They are discussed below by material type. They were recovered from twelve contexts, four of which are pit fills, one is the fill of a posthole, one is a masonry wall and the remainder are layers. Overall, the condition of the iron objects is poor with all being corroded, and some being encrusted in dirt.

6.5.2 **Iron**

The evaluation produced five objects, all probable nails. The shank diameter of the nails ranges from 3 - 9mm and their head diameter is between 9 and 14mm, although such measurements are affected by the levels of corrosion and concretion. It can be suggested however, that such iron nails were small to medium in size with only the medium ones being for structural use. One of the nails was from fill 26 of pit 27, one from the masonry wall 53, two from layer 56 and one from fill 70 of pit 71. There is nothing intrinsically datable about any of these nails.

6.5.3 Carbonised material

A total of thirty-two pieces of carbonised material were recovered from the evaluation. One piece from fill 22 of pit 23; thirty pieces from fill 65 of posthole 67 and one piece from fill 74 of pit 75. The material is lightweight, non-magnetic and has a laminated or vesicular structure. It is possibly coke or a similar industrial by-product.

6.5.4 Slag

Fifty-seven pieces of slag were recovered from eight contexts in the evaluation. These are summarised by weight in table 2.

Context	Trench	Weight of slag (g)
Layer 33	2	159
Layer 49	3	152

Layer 50	3	628
Layer 54	3	61
Layer 55	3	1606
Layer 56	3	191
Fill 65 of post hole 67	3	6
Layer 70	4	4

Table 2: weight of slag per context

The slag recovered is concentrated in the layers and post hole fill from trench 3. The pieces tend to have molten/glassy surfaces and a vesicular structure, typical of ironworking slag. Some of the slag could be fragments of smithy hearth bottoms.

6.5.5 Discussion

The small assemblage of slag and related debris is likely to have been produced by secondary smithing activities that has then been redeposited amongst the demolition and refuse deposits in trench 3.

6.6 The Animal Bone Assembly

(By Kevin Rielly)

6.6.1 Introduction

This site is situated at the south-eastern perimeter of the village of Dersingham, this located about 10km north-east of Kings Lynn in the north-western corner of Norfolk. 4 trial trenches were excavated within an area measuring some 70m north to south and 65m west to east, this situated just to the east of the intersection of Church Lane and Manor Road. This area lies within the former medieval close to Dersingham Manor and across the road from the medieval church of St Nicholas. The trenches revealed evidence for medieval and Post-medieval activity, the pot dates indicative of mainly earlier rather than later deposition. Walls and associated demolition layers were discovered within the northern parts of the site, while a series of pits, possibly garden features, were visible in the southern part.

6.6.2 Small quantities of animal bones were found in each of the four trenches.

These were principally recovered by hand although there were also some bones from a few bulk samples. The bones were generally well preserved with a moderate level of fragmentation.

6.6.3 Methodology

The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered. The sample collections were washed through a modified Siraf tank using a 1mm mesh and the subsequent residues were air dried and sorted. A concerted effort was undertaken to refit as many bones as possible, noting the actual number of fragments prior to refitting.

6.6.4 Description of faunal assemblage

The hand recovered collection amounted to just 43 bones while there is 65 from a single bulk sample. Each trench provided minor quantities of hand collected bones (see Table 3), the sieved assemblage taken from layer (33) in Trench 2. It can be seen that most of the bones were recovered from as yet undated/unphased deposits, including the sample collection. Phasing here is based entirely on the available pot dating evidence, with further separation awaiting completion of the stratigraphic analysis. Notably the datable deposits, a total of 6, are all medieval with a single collection from layer (15) (Trench 2) dated AD900-1100 with the remainder between AD1175-1400. While the number of pot sherds is rather small it could perhaps be assumed that the greater part of the site may date to the latter part of the medieval period.

Trench:	1	2	3	4	All
Phase/Feature					
Medieval					
Layer		4	5		9

Pit	8				8
Posthole	4				4
Undated					
Ditch	2				2
Layer		2(65)	3		5(65)
Pit	1			2	3
Posthole			12		12
Total	15	6(65)	20	2	43(65)

Table 3. The distribution of animal bones by phase, feature, trench and recovery; where the sieved bone totals are in brackets.

Trench:	1	2	3	4	All
Phase/Species					
Medieval					
Cattle	8	3	1		12
Cattle-size	1		3		4
Sheep/Goat	3	1	1		5
Undated					
Cattle		1		1	2
Cattle-size		(10)	2	1	3(10)
Sheep/Goat		(1)			(1)
Pig	1		1		2
Sheep-size	1	1(50)	10		12(50)
Hare		(1)			(1)
Rabbit	1				1
Small rodent		(1)			(1)
Chicken			1		1
Chicken-size		(1)	1		1(1)
Fish		(1)			(1)

Table 4. Species distribution by phase and trench and recovery; where the sieved bone totals are in brackets.

6.6.5 The medieval dated collection was mainly taken from cut features in trench 1, the rest retrieved from layers in trenches 2 and 3. The undated bones were taken from a greater variety of deposits, these generally providing rather fewer bones (1 or 2 compared to 3 to 5 from the medieval contexts) with the exception of 12 bones from the posthole fill (65) (trench 3) and the 65 bones from the sieved contents of layer (33) in trench 2. There is general

mix of cattle and sheep/goat skeletal parts in the dated collection, the quantities are too small to warrant comment in the undated part. The latter clearly provided a greater range of species, with pig, rabbit and chicken by hand collection and hare, small rodent and fish from the sample. The latter species has yet to be identified. There was a high proportion of ageable bones amongst the domesticate collections (13 out of 25) but very few measurable items (2).

6.6.6 Conclusion and recommendations for further work

This collection is potentially well dated, suggestive of evidence related to the medieval village. Quantities are rather small; however, there were some minor concentrations indicative perhaps of areas worthy of further excavation, especially in the northern part of this site. Good preservation and an absence of high levels of fragmentation are certainly suggestive of the likelihood of the recovery of more bones following further work in this area. Obviously this should be accompanied by a sieving programme, hoping to increase the quantity of the smaller species, especially birds and fish. This excavation follows another in this immediate area, just to the west adjacent to Doddshill Road, where preservation was less favourable and where the dating is perhaps suggestive more of Post-medieval rather than medieval activity (Rielly 2017). Neither of these two sites provided large quantities of animal bones and it can perhaps be assumed that further excavation is unlikely to produce major assemblages, with limited potential for information concerning animal usage in this eastern part of Dersingham. However, together, they could provide some indication of changes in such usage through an important period of agrarian history (and see Albarella et al 2009).

6.7 Environmental Assessment

(By Kate Turner)

6.7.1 Introduction

This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of two bulk samples taken during the excavation of land adjacent to Manor Farm,

Dersingham. These samples were taken from a depositional layer and the fill of a posthole, the context information for which is given in table 5.

The aim of this assessment is to:

1. Give an overview of the contents of the assessed samples;

2. Determine the environmental potential of these samples;

3. Establish whether any further analysis is necessary.

Context No.	Cut	Context type	Context category	Trench number	Interpretation
33		Layer		2	
65	67	Fill		3	Posthole

Table 5: Context information for environmental samples, ENF142229

6.7.2 Methodology

Two environmental bulk samples were processed using the flotation method; material was collected using a 300µm mesh for the light fraction and a 1mm mesh for the heavy residue. The heavy residue was then dried, sieved at 1, 2 and 4mm and sorted to extract artefacts and ecofacts. The abundance of each category of material was recorded using a non-linear scale where '1' indicates occasional occurrence (1-10 items), '2' indicates occurrence is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' indicates presence is frequent (31-100 items) and '4' indicates an abundance of material (>100 items).

6.7.3 The light residue (>300 µm), once dried, was scanned under a low-power binocular microscope to quantify the level of environmental material, such as seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. Abundance was recorded as above. A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material.

6.7.4 Results and Discussion

Residues

Of the two assessed samples, sample <1> contained no artefacts or

environmental remains in the heavy fraction. Potential was greater in sample <2>, taken from a layer of dark earth, which contained a moderate amount of fragmented charcoal (30-100 pieces), some of which was of a size suitable for species determination. Marine molluscs were also reported; fragments of common mussel (Mytilus edulis) were the most abundant, with fragmented and complete shells of common cockle (Cerastoderma edule) and Colchester native oyster (Ostrea edulis) also present in lesser concentrations. Several of the fragmented cockle and mussel shells showed evidence of being burnt.

6.7.5 In addition, cultural artefacts, in the form of broken tile, iron nails and slag were found in this deposit, though concentrations were universally low (<30 pieces). A moderate concentration of small animal bone was also identified. A full account of the material reported in the residues is given in table 6.

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	65	33
Feature No.	67	
Volume of bulk (liters)	10	36
Method of processing	F	F
HEAVY RESIDUE		
Charcoal		
Charcoal <2 mm		1
Charcoal 2-4 mm		2
Charcoal >4 mm		3
Molluscs		
Ostrea edulis ((left valve)		1
Ostrea edulis (frags)		1
Cerastoderma edule		1
Cerastoderma edule (frags)		2
Cerastoderma edule (burnt)		1
Mytilus edulis (frags)		3
Mytilus edulis (burnt)		2
Other material		
Small animal bone		3

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	65	33
Feature No.	67	
Tile		2
Iron nail		1
Slag		1
Struck flint		1

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

Table 6: Assessment of environmental residues

6.7.6 Flots

Both of the processed samples produced flot residues, of 25 ml and 98 ml in volume respectively. Fragmented wood charcoal was present in both flots, though only sample <2> yielded any sizeable pieces (>4 mm in length/width).This deposit was also found to contain a large quantity of charred cereals; wheat (Triticum sp.) was the most abundant, with over one hundred individual specimens observed. A lesser amount of millet (Panicum miliaceum) was also observed, along with a high concentration of grains that were too heavily distorted and broken to be identified, possibly as a result of prolonged, high temperature combustion. Weed seeds were reported in both samples, with the greatest density recognised in sample <1>, which contained small to moderate amounts of elder (Sambucus sp.), rushes (Juncus sp.), great water-parsnip (Sium latifolium) and goosefoot (Chenopodium sp.).

6.7.7 Sample <2> contained between thirty and one-hundred terrestrial mollusc shells, a large proportion of which were juvenile specimens. Small numbers of adult shells, of the types Carychium tridentatum, Cecilioides acicula, Lauria cylindracea and Vallonia sp. were also recognised, along with low frequencies of snail eggs and shell fragments. Several specimens showed signs of burning. A minimal amount of cecilioides acicula shells were reported in sample <1>.

6.7.8 Other environmental remains, in the form of broken eggshell, fragmented animal bone, ostracods and/or insects were reported in both samples <1>

and <2>, in very low concentrations. Both samples were also found to contain moderate concentrations of combustion debris, including coal, hammer-scale and vitreous material. Evidence for possible contamination (roots and modern snails and grasses) was identified in each of the residues, with the largest proportion in sample <2>.

A full account of the material reported in the flots is given in the appendix.

6.7.9 Conclusions

6.7.10 To summarise, the preservation of environmental remains in the Dersingham assemblage was mixed. An abundance of charred cereals were recorded in sample <2>, taken from a depositional layer, this being the only collection of a significant size (>100 specimens) in the sample set. As this deposit also contained a moderate amount of charcoal, along with scattered slag, burnt shells, coal and hammer-scale it could be indicative of the waste of a domestic hearth. The frequency of broken marine shell and small animal bone may also indicate a domestic waste assemblage. Specialist assessment of the grain is recommended, as this may provide a significant insight into diet, cultivation practices and resource exploitation during the period of occupation. If appropriate cultural material is not available, identification of suitably sized pieces of charcoal from this feature is also recommended, as these could be used to refine the chronology of the site, using radiocarbon dating.

6.7.11 Sample <1> contained no significant diagnostic material, therefore further analysis is not recommended on this deposit. A summary of the results should however be included in any subsequent site publications.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Prehistoric Activity

7.1.1 The earliest activity at the site was represented by a worked flint of likely Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date found within layer (33), almost certainly residual.

7.1.2 An Iron Age to Roman focus of activity is recorded on the HER to the east of Dersingham (NHER 38276), and three small sherds of abraded Iron Age pottery from (74) and (45) are likely to reflect this locality. Although merely 'background noise' it would be unsafe to rule out similarly dated finds or features surviving elsewhere on the site.

Pre-settlement activity

7.1.3 A 'dirty' though essentially naturally deposited layer was observed across the trenches, and this may reflect the earlier use of the land. Its composition varied from an orange-brown sand with occasional chalk flecks where it was recorded as Layer (55) Trench 3, to a greyish yellow/brown silty sand at the north end of Trench 1, recorded as (96), although overall it tended to have a reddish tinge, possibly influenced by the underlying carrstone natural bedrock. A sherd of 12th to 14th century pottery was found within it along with other dumped material, possibly worked into the ground by horticultural/agricultural practices.

7.2 medieval and Post-medieval Activity

7.2.1 The principal result of the evaluation was the discovery of a series of medieval to Post-medieval features including ditches, pits and post-holes (connected with horticultural activity?) and walls/ demolition layers indicating the presence of medieval to Post-medieval settlement activity. The ceramic evidence is largely of a 'tight' timeframe of generally late 12th to 14th century date, with a few sherds of Thetford Ware of 10th to 11th century date. It is common on such village-centre sites for there to be a degree of residuality, and that much of the activity is likely later than the ceramic evidence suggests. The CBM recovered from structures and demolition layers is generally later medieval to Post-medieval. It could be postulated that an

early medieval plot, close to the centre of the village possibly utilised for agriculture/horticulture, may have been subjected to dumping of waste associated with manuring throughout the 12th to 14th century which was then developed in the later medieval and Post-medieval periods reflecting a growing village population. The evidence from Trench 3 does suggest that there may have been more than one phase of building present.

Structural evidence

7.2.2 Perhaps of most importance were the two parallel (and probably contemporary) walls (53 and 47) aligned approximately east to west within Trench 3. These walls, likely to be themselves foundations, were approximately parallel to the northern edge of the plot. They were constructed of chalk blocks with occasional red unfrogged bricks (two-dated from 1400 to 1700) and various amounts of CBM fragments appearing to form a corridor, and it is highly likely that further elements of the building extend beyond the limits of the trench. A further undated north to south orientated wall 5, constructed of un-bonded chalk, in Trench 4 lay on a different axis to 53, and 47 and was unrelated, possibly belonging to a garden feature rather than a building. Without seeing more of the building further considerations as to its form and function are limited at present.

7.2.3 The demolition of this building was recorded as layer 48=54, at the top of the sequence. Layers 88 and 89, sand and mortar rich layers appeared to be linked with the demolition. A sherd of 11th to 12th century pottery within demolition 54 was likely to be residual.

7.2.4 The evaluation has indicated that there are multiple levels of settlement activity potentially surviving at the site and demolition present, particularly within Trench 3. Here wall 47 of the aforementioned-building had been constructed upon Layers 49 and 50, previous demolition layers from an earlier building, and below these layers was an earlier surface (57). The burnt purple-grey, charcoal-rich heat affect on much of the surface, is similar to surface 93 located at the north end of Trench 1.

7.2.5 Clay layer 93 also bore traces of having been burnt, it contained two sherds

of unabraded late 12th to 14th century pottery indicative of a sealed context suggesting the surface was probably of this date and less likely to be earlier. Could surfaces, 57 and 93, be associated with hearths of domestic or industrial use? Within the confines of the evaluation it is not possible to say at present. A reasonable quantity of slag recovered from across the site could lend supporting evidence to a smithy being located in the vicinity.

7.2.6 Trench 2 presented two sequences of interleaved dumped layers strongly suggesting that a demolished building was located close-by. Towards the north-western end of the trench Demolition layer (42) contained light yellow-brown mortar with chalk and brick building material throughout, and represented the destruction of a medieval or early Post-medieval building. Other layers included (16) (14) (15) (13) (12) (41) (40) (39) (37) (38) (36) and (37). There were few finds associated with these layers. A potsherd of 11th to 12th century date was recovered with some fragments of demolished building

7.2.7 At the southeastern end of the site were a series of further layers and dumps of gritty and sandy clays (demolition material), it was not clear within the confines of the trench, if several of the layers were located within a wide pit or depression. Layer (30) produced dating of 12th to 14th century pottery of medieval, although again many of the other dumps did not present much pottery. Layers included (34) (33) (90) (91), (92), (32) and (30). Layer 30 for example was grey-brown sand silt with significant seashell fragments and charcoal (31).

Pits, ditches and post-holes

7.2.8 A north-east to south-west orientated ditch [82] located at the southern end of Trench 1 was a possible plot boundary, which contained some pottery of late 12th to 14th century date, and two sherds of Thetford ware 10th to 11th century, possibly indicating something of its longevity as a feature finally infilling in the late 12th to 14th century. The boundary approximately orientates to the modern backwall of the plot adjacent to the road, though slightly off-angle and may align on the same axis as many of the earthworks recorded to the east (NHER 31059). Ditch 46, within Trench 1, orientated at

a right angle to ditch 82.

7.2.9 Pits [23], [25] and [27] at the northern end of Trench1 and a similar pit [85] at the north-western end of Trench 2 are likely to represent the 'backyard activity' often associated with medieval plots, however they are not necessarily refuse pits. Medieval pottery uncovered at the site appears also to favour the northern and western sides of the site, around Trenches 1 and 2. Several other more isolated pits were found elsewhere, so it is likely that more pits are located at the site.

7.2.10 Several small irregular linear features [62] and [64] at the centre of Trench 1 could be associated with horticultural activity. There are also several loose groupings of post-holes at the site which showed no obvious pattern. For example pits/post-holes [19], [21] and [44] located at the centre of Trench 1 and a similar grouping of post-holes [77] [79] [81] [73] [69] located towards the centre of Trench 4. The dating from these was mixed with one sherd of Post-medieval and another of Thetford ware of 11th to 12th century date. Without an obvious regularity and pattern they too are likely to have supported posts linked with agricultural/horticultural practices. These features had similar deep and irregular profiles.

7.3 Conclusions

7.3.1 In keeping with the position of the site, close to the medieval church of St Nicholas (NHER 1581), the site of the medieval manor (NHER 1579) and extensive recorded earthworks (NHER 31059), the site produced an expected quantity of medieval remains with evidence for a medieval to Post-medieval building and perhaps several phases of building activity. The medieval pottery was found in locations favouring the northern and western parts of the site, possibly closer to areas of more intensive settlement, with a lessening of activity in south (Trench 4). The relatively large quantity of slag recovered during the project was noteworthy and may suggest that there was a smithy in close proximity to the site.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Nicholas Jackson for commissioning the work and Bryn Williams for providing and operating for operating the excavator. PCA are also grateful to James Albone of Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Services for his advice and for monitoring the work. The authors would also like to thank the project team: Mary-Anne Slater, Laura Malric-Smith and Chelsea Cordell for their hard work, and finally PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

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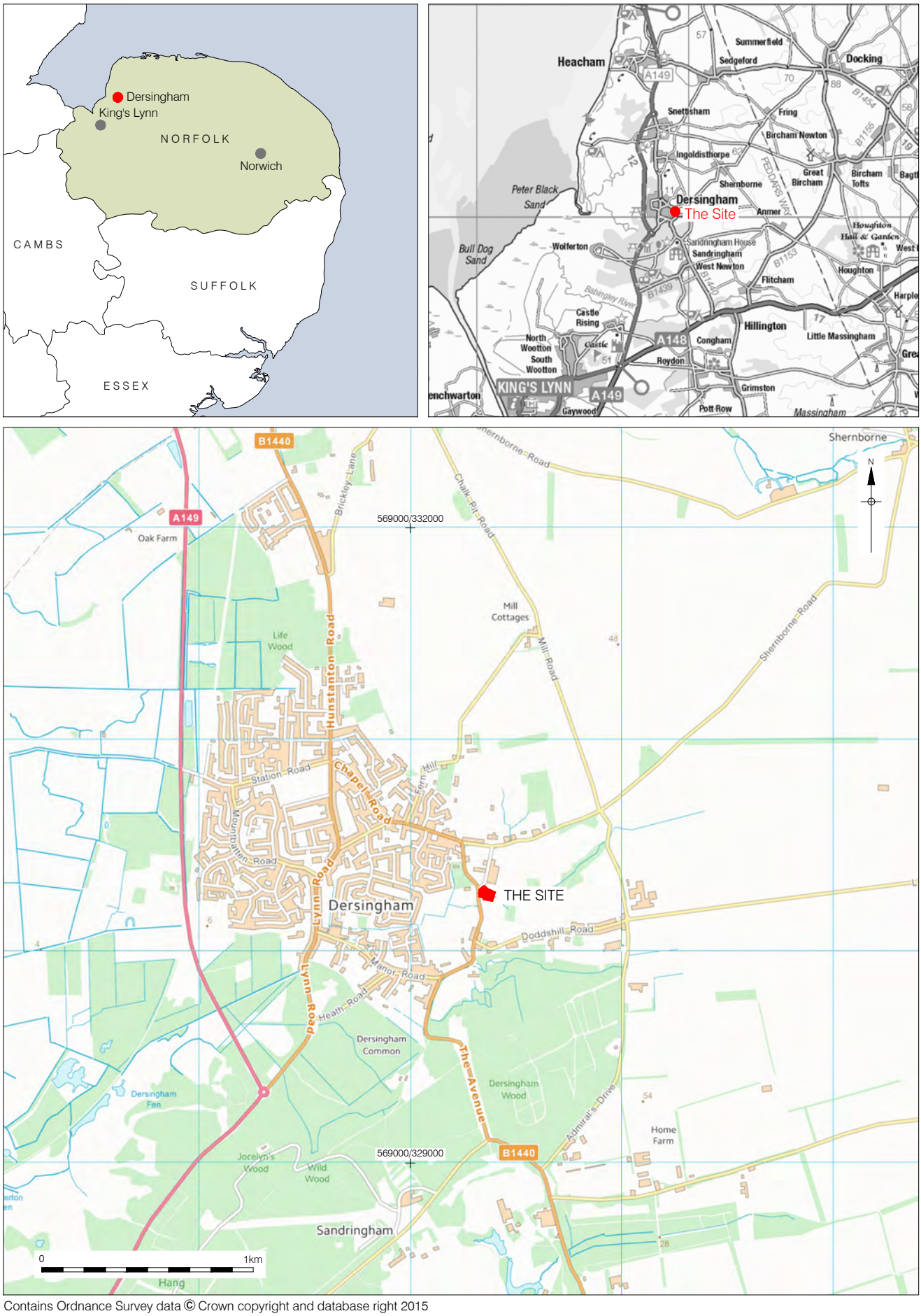

03/07/17 TC

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

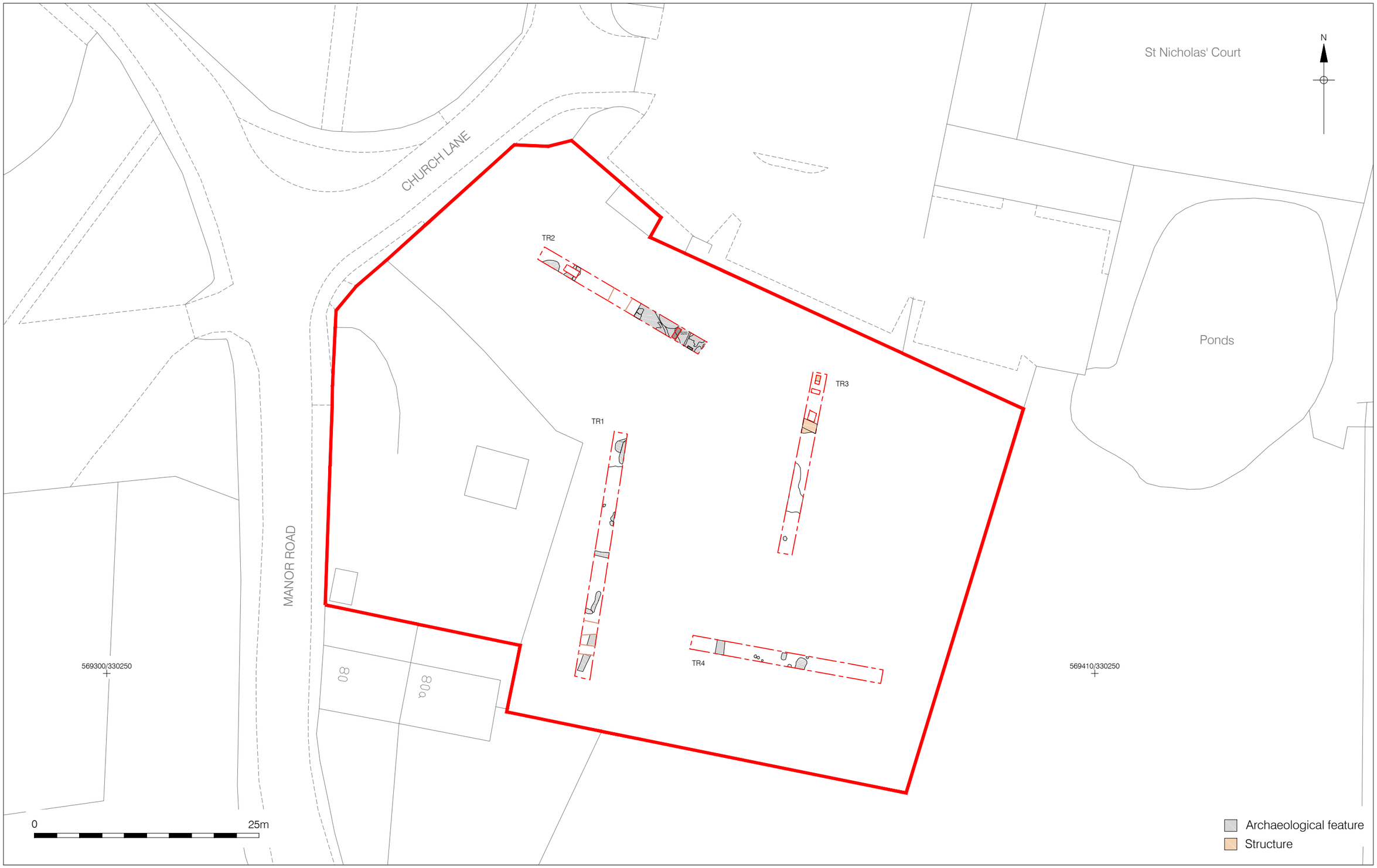

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Figure 2
Trench Location
1:400 at A3

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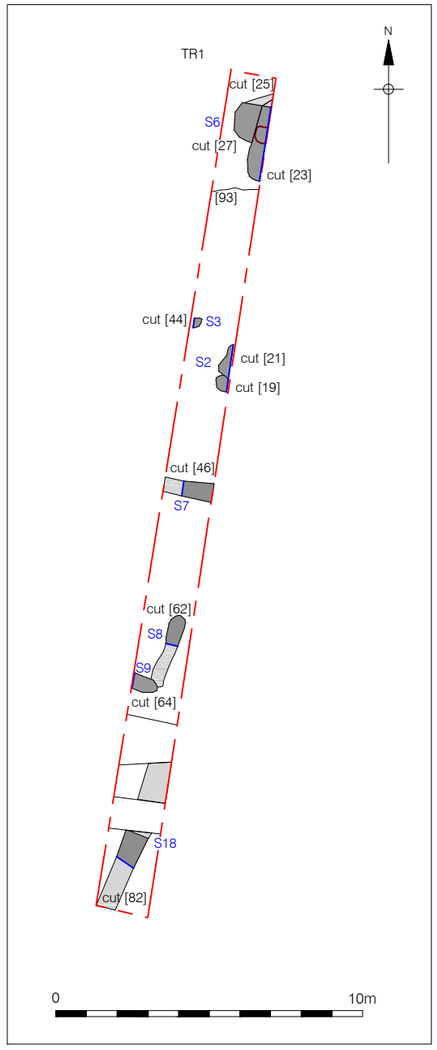
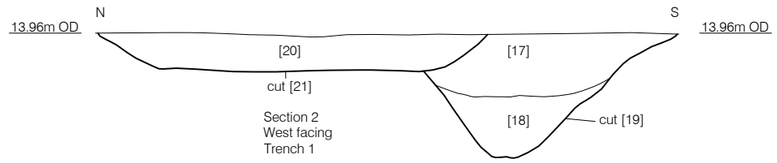
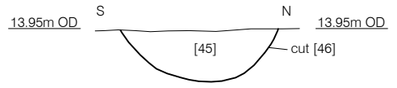
Figure 3
Earthwork locations showing site location
1:2,000 at A3





Section 2
West facing
Trench 1

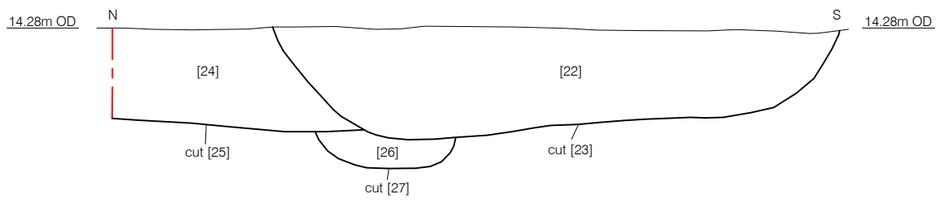
Section 3
East facing
Trench 1



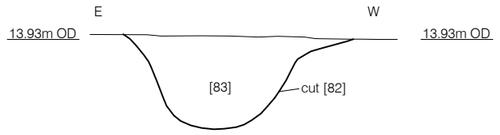
Section 7
East facing
Trench 1

Section 8
North facing
Trench 1

Section 9
East facing
Trench 1



Section 6
West facing
Trench 1



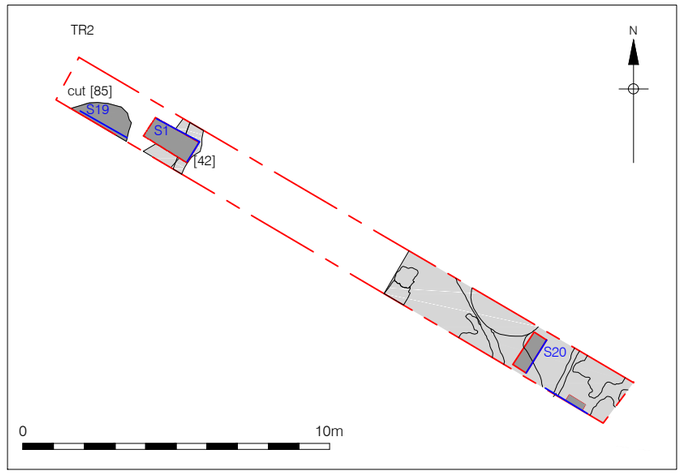
Section 18
North facing
Trench 4

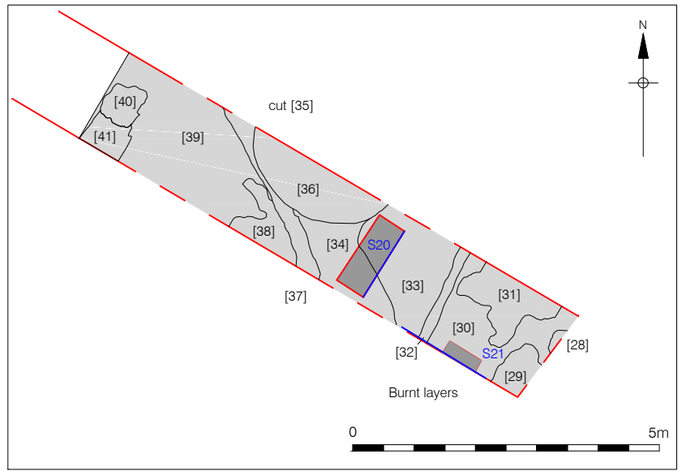
0 1m

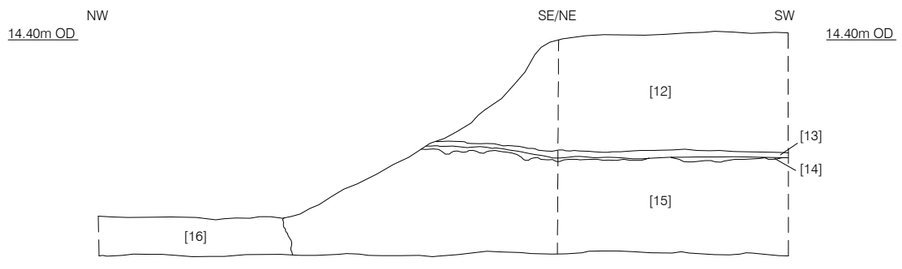
Archaeological feature: excavated/ unexcavated

03/07/17 TC

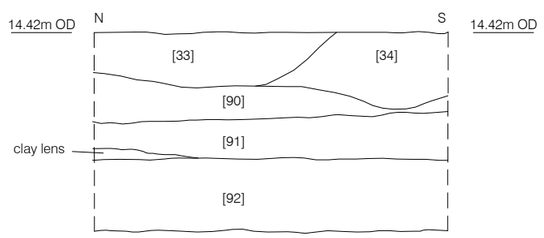
Figure 4
Trench 1: plan and sections
Plan at 1:200 and sections at 1:20 at A3



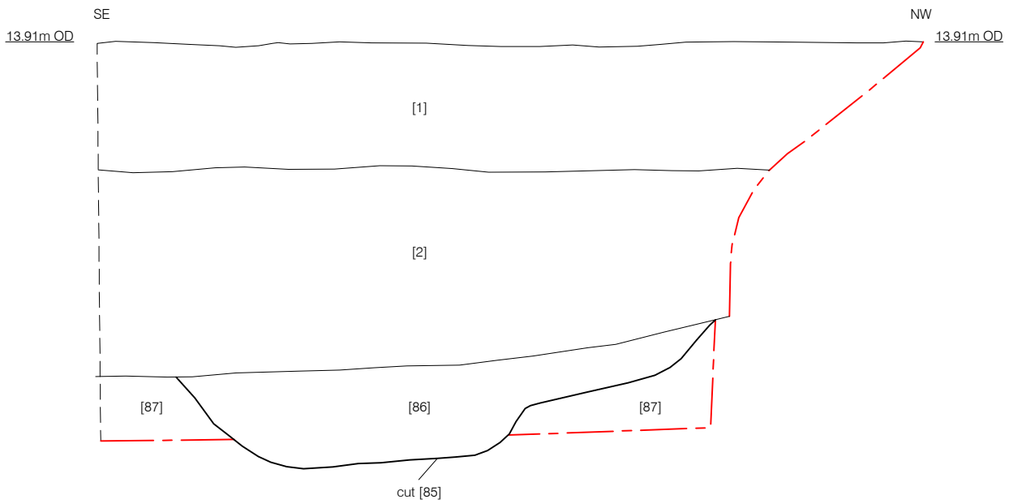




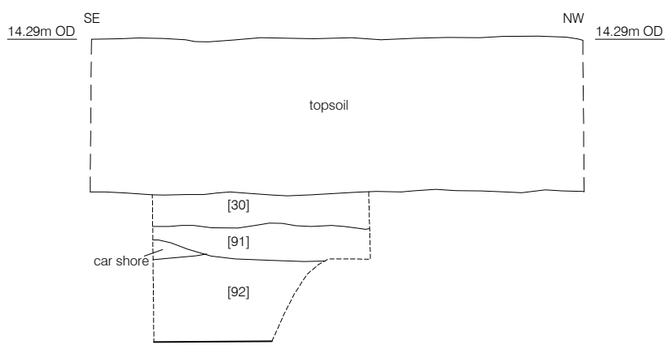
Section 1
South and west facing
Trench 2



Section 20
West facing
Trench 2



Section 19
North facing
Trench 2



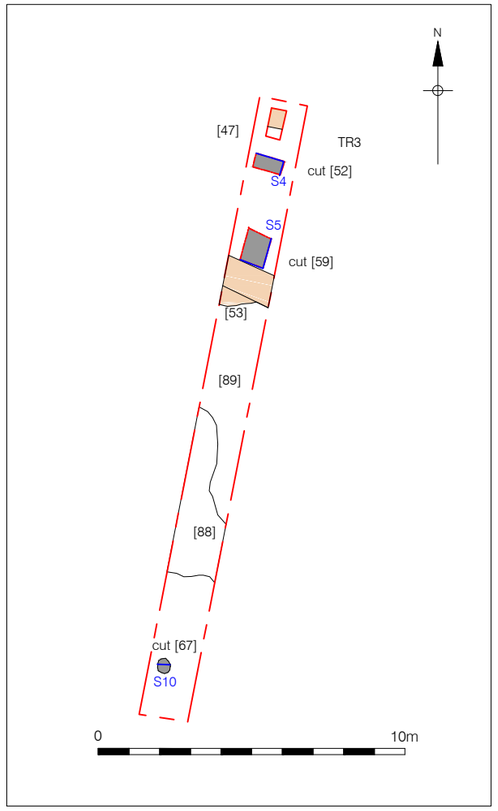
Section 21
Northeast facing
Trench 2

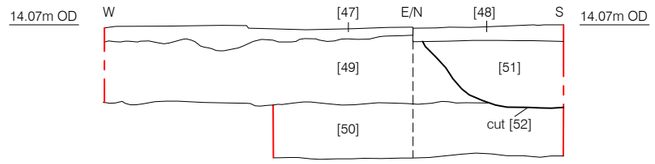
0 1m

Archaeological feature: excavated/ unexcavated

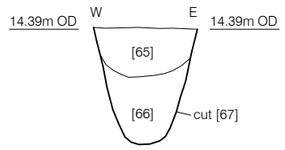
04/07/17 TC

Figure 5
Trench 2: plan and sections
Plan at 1:200 and section at 1:20 at A3

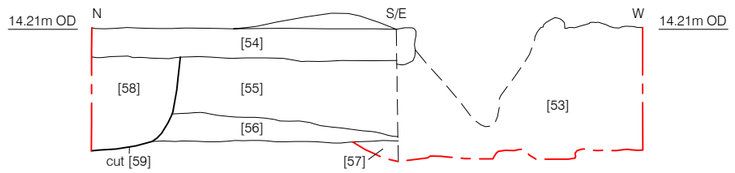




Section 4
South and west facing
Trench 3



Section 10
South facing
Trench 3

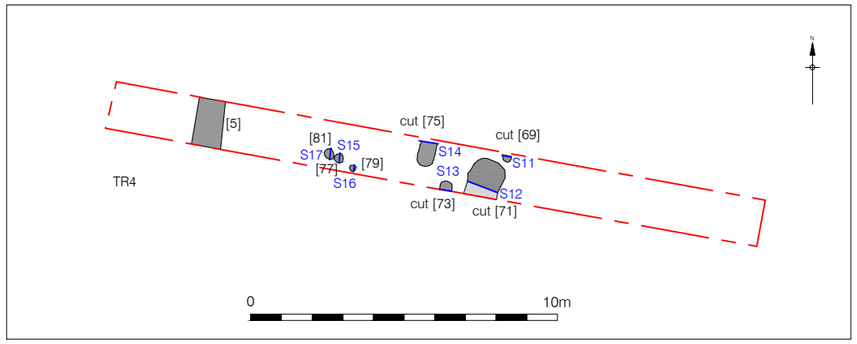


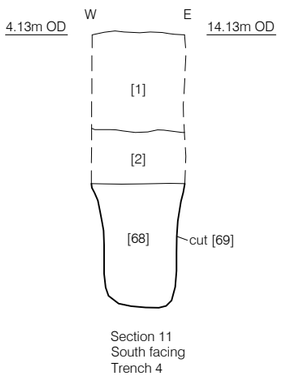
Section 5
North and west facing
Trench 3

0 1m

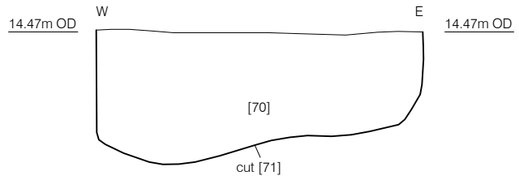
Archaeological feature: e
Structure

Figure 6
Trench 3: plan and sections
Plans at 1:200 and sections at 1:20 at A3

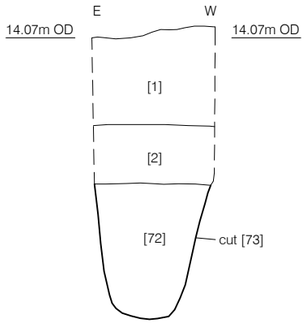




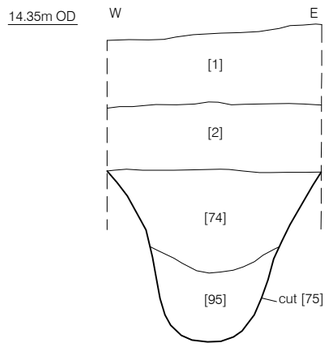
Section 11
South facing
Trench 4



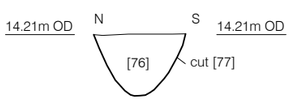
Section 12
North facing
Trench 4



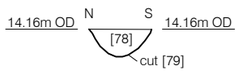
Section 13
North facing
Trench 4



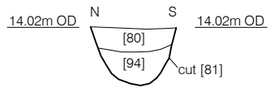
Section 14
South facing
Trench 4



Section 15
West facing
Trench 4



Section 16
West facing
Trench 4

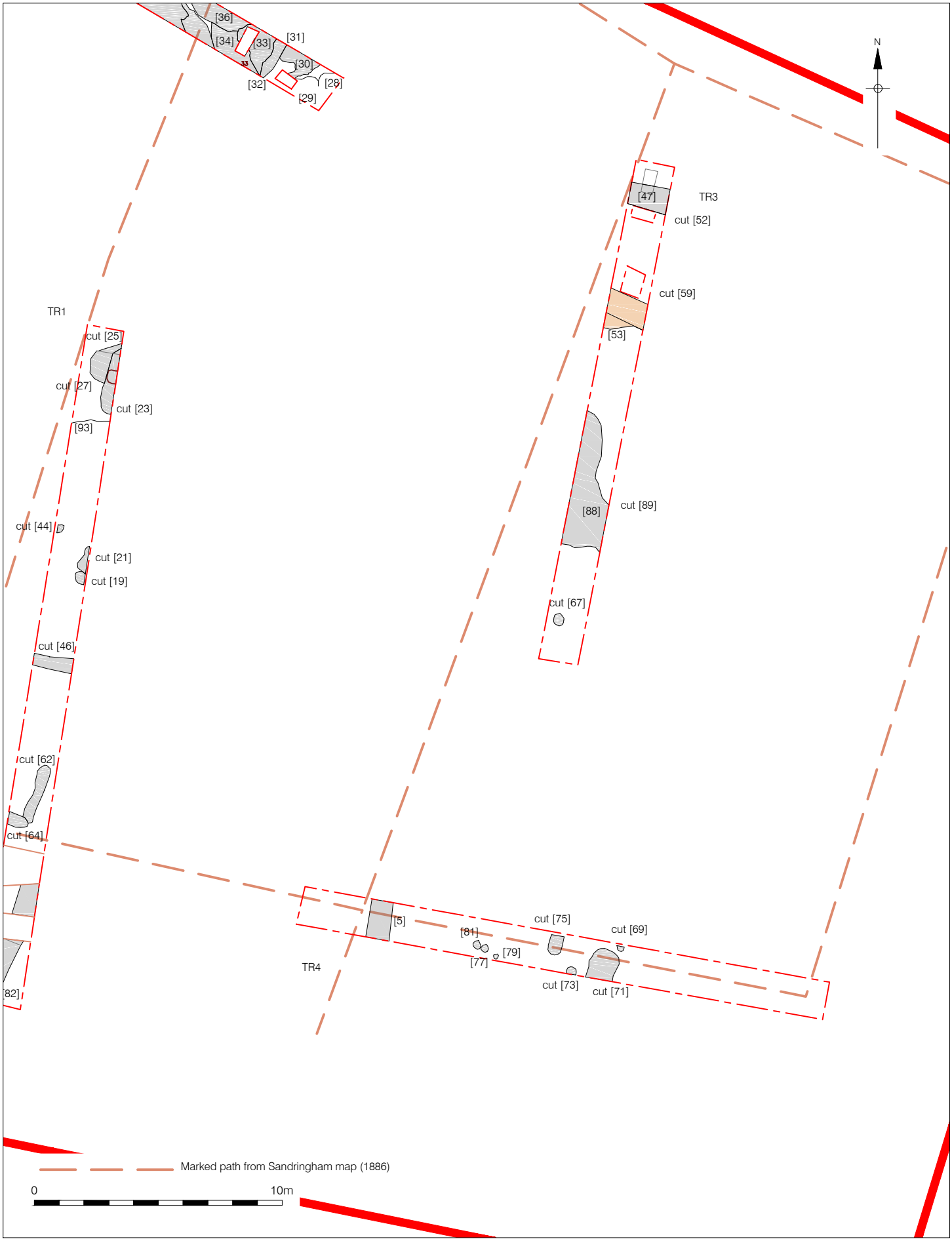


Section 17
West facing
Trench 4

0 1m

Archaeological feature: excavated/ unexcavated

Figure 7
Trench 4: plan and sections
Plans at 1:200 and sections at 1:20 at A3



05/07/17 TC

Figure 8
Archaeological features in relation to marked path (Sandringham map 1886)
1:200 at A4

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: The site, view north-west

Plate 2: Trench 1, view south showing surface (93) and pits [25] and [23] in foreground before excavation

Plate 3: Trench 1, view north showing Ditches [64] and [62]

Plate 4: Trench 2, view east

Plate 5: Trench 2, view west showing layers (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33) and (34)

Plate 6: Trench 2, Sondage excavated through layers (33), (34), (90) and (91), natural observed at the base. View east

Plate 7: Trench 3, view north

Plate 8: Trench 3, view north showing Wall 53.

Plate 9: Trench 3, view east showing possible surface (57) and Pit [59] in sondage

Plate 10: Trench 3, close-up of wall 53, view south

Plate 11: Trench 4, view east showing Wall 5 in foreground

Plate 12: Trench 4, view south showing Pit [71]

]

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Cut	Type	Category	Trench Number
1		Deposit	Topsoil	
2		Deposit	Subsoil	
3		Deposit	Natural	
4	4	Cut	Construction	4
5	4	Masonry	Wall	4
6		VOID	Wall	3
7		VOID	Demo	3
8		VOID	Demo	3
9		VOID	Wall	3
10		VOID	Wall	3
11		VOID	Demo	3
12		Deposit	Demo	2
13		Deposit	Layer	2
14		Deposit	Layer	2
15		Deposit	Layer	2
16		Deposit	Layer	2
17	19	Fill	Posthole	1
18	19	Fill	Posthole	1
19	19	Cut	Posthole	1
20	21	Fill	Pit	1
21	21	Cut	Pit	1
22	23	Fill	Pit	1
23	23	Cut	Pit	1
24	25	Fill	Pit	1
25	25	Cut	Pit	1
26	27	Fill	Pit	1
27	27	Cut	Pit	1
28		Deposit	Layer	2
29		Deposit	Layer	2
30		Deposit	Layer	2
31		Deposit	Layer	2
32		Deposit	Layer	2
33		Deposit	Layer	2
34		Deposit	Layer	2
35		VOID	VOID	
36		Deposit	Layer	2
37		Deposit	Layer	2

38		Deposit	Layer	2
39		Deposit	Layer	2
40		Deposit	Layer	2
41		Deposit	Layer	2
42		Deposit	Layer	2
43	44	Fill	Posthole	1
44	44	Cut	Posthole	1
45	46	Fill	Ditch	1
46	46	Cut	Ditch	1
47		Masonry	Wall	3
48		Deposit	Layer	3
49		Deposit	Layer	3
50		Deposit	Layer	3
51	52	Fill	Pit	3
52	52	Cut	Pit	3
53		Masonry	Wall	3
54		Deposit r	Layer	3
55		Deposit	Layer	3
56		Deposit	Layer	3
57		Deposit	Layer	3
58	59	Fill	Pit	3
59	59	Cut	Pit	3
60		VOID	VOID	2
61	62	Fill	Ditch	1
62	62	Cut	Ditch	1
63	64	Fill	Ditch	1
64	64	Cut	Ditch	1
65	67	Fill	Posthole	3
66	67	Fill	Posthole	3
67	67	Cut	Posthole	3
68	69	Fill	Posthole	4
69	69	Cut	Posthole	4
70	71	Fill	Pit	4
71	71	Cut	Pit	4
72	73	Fill	Posthole	4
73	73	Cut	Posthole	4
74	75	Fill	Pit	4
75	75	Cut	Pit	4
76		Fill	Posthole	4

77		Cut	Posthole	4
78		Fill	Posthole	4
79		Cut	Posthole	4
80		Fill	Posthole	4
81		Cut	Posthole	1
82		Cut	Ditch	1
83		Fill	Ditch	1
84		Layer	Layer	2
85		Cut	Pit	2
86		Fill	Pit	2
87		Deposit	Layer	3
88		Deposit	Layer	3
89		Deposit	Layer	2
90		Deposit	Layer	2
91		Deposit	Layer	2
92		Deposit	Layer	1
93		Deposit	Layer	4
94		Fill	Posthole	4
95		Fill	Pit	4
96		Deposit	Layer of 'dirty' natural	4

APPENDIX 3: POST-ROMAN POTTERY

Context Number	Cut	Trench	PRP_Fabric	PRP_Form	SumOfPRP_SC	SumOfPRP_Weight	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Spot Date
17	19	1	GRIM		1	10.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
24	25	1	GRIM	JUG	3	19.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
17	19	1	GRIM	JUG	2	73	1175	1400	1175-1400
17	19	1	GRIM	JUG	2	92.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
63	64	1	GRIM	JUG	1	54.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
63	64	1	GRIM		1	2.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
17	19	1	GRIM		1	12	1175	1400	1175-1400
83	82	1	GRIM	JUG	1	6	1175	1400	1175-1400
83	82	1	MCW	CP	1	5	1175	1400	1175-1400
22	23	1	MCW		1	3	1175	1400	1175-1400
24	25	1	MCW	CP	3	13.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
93		1	MCW	CP	2	61.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
83	82	1	THET	-	1	1.5	900	1100	900 -1100
83	82	1	THET	JAR	1	21	900	1100	900 -1100
91		2	GRIM	JUG	1	33	1175	1400	1175-1400
15		2	THET	JAR	1	5	900	1100	900-1100
92		2	THET		1	44	900	1100	900-1100
30		2	UPG	JUG	1	17	1175	1400	1175-1400
57		3	GRIM		1	6.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
55		3	GRIM	JUG	1	10.5	1175	1400	1175-1400
54		3	THET		1	51	900	1100	900-1100
72	73	4	PMR		1	2	1540	1900	1540-1900

72	73	4	THET	JAR	1	7	900	1100	1540-1900

APPENDIX 4:SMALL FINDS AND METALWORK CATALOGUE

SF	Context	Material	Object	Description	Date	Width	Length	Depth	Weight	Extent	Recommendation
	022	Carbonised material	Waste	A piece of carbonised material, possibly coke or a similar industrial by-product. It is lightweight and has a laminated structure.		27mm	35mm	5.5mm	4g		
	26	Iron	Object	Elongate object, rectangular in cross section. Possibly shank of a nail. Corroded.		7mm	42mm	8mm	7g	Incomplete	X-ray
	33 <2>	Slag	Waste	Twenty-nine pieces of ironworking slag. All but three pieces have molten surfaces and a vesicular structure. Of the three remaining pieces two are sherds of pottery and one is lightweight - could be coke.		52mm	58mm	30mm	159g		
	49	Slag	Waste	Piece of ironworking slag with molten surface and vesicular structure.		65mm	86mm	33mm	152g		
	50	Slag	Waste	Four pieces of ironworking slag with molten/glassy		98mm	146mm	54mm	628g		

SF	Context	Material	Object	Description	Date	Width	Length	Depth	Weight	Extent	Recommendation
				surfaces and a vesicular structure. Some areas are magnetic. Organic impressions on the surface of the largest piece. Largest piece measured.							
	53 <2>	Iron	Nail	Elongate object with flat, circular head and tapering shank, square in section.		9mm	20mm	3mm	Ig	Incomplete	X-ray
	54	Slag	Waste	Piece of blast furnace slag with glassy surface and vesicular structure.		51mm	54mm	31mm	61g		
	55	Slag	Waste	Fifteen pieces of ironworking slag with molten/glassy surfaces and a vesicular structure. Some areas are magnetic. Organic impressions on the surface of the largest piece. Four pieces also have fired clay layers and could be part of smithy hearth bottoms. Largest piece measured.		124mm	120mm	35mm	1606g		
	56	Iron	Nails	Two elongate objects. The		14mm	41mm	9mm	7g	Incomplete	X-ray

SF	Context	Material	Object	Description	Date	Width	Length	Depth	Weight	Extent	Recommendation
				first has a flat, rectangular head and tapering shank that is rectangular in section, becoming flatter at the tip. The second is a tapering shank, square in section.			37mm	5mm	3g	Incomplete	X-ray
	56	Slag	Waste	Four pieces of ironworking slag. Two pieces have a molten surface; all have a vesicular structure. Largest piece measured.		52mm	55mm	44mm	191g		
	65	Slag	Waste	Five amorphous pieces of ironworking slag. The surfaces are molten and vesicular. Largest piece measured.		13mm	17mm	8mm	6g		
	65	Carbonised material	Waste	Thirty pieces of carbonised material possibly coke, fuel ash slag or a similar industrial by-product. It is lightweight, non-magnetic and has a vesicular structure. Largest piece measured.		15mm	17mm	10mm	5g		

SF	Context	Material	Object	Description	Date	Width	Length	Depth	Weight	Extent	Recommendation
	70	Slag	Waste	Piece of blast furnace slag with glassy surface and vesicular structure.		20mm	25mm	10mm	4g		
	70	Iron	Object	Elongate object , with tapering shank, square in section. Corroded. Possible nail.		13mm	36mm	8mm	9g	Incomplete	X-ray
	74	Carbonised material		A piece of carbonised material, possibly coke or a similar industrial by-product. It is lightweight and has a laminated structure.		19mm	21mm	14mm	3g		

APPENDIX 5: CBM

Cut	Fill	Sample	Structure No.	Material	No. Of fragments	Dimensions	Weight (g)	Dates	Comments
19	17			CBM	1	N/A	27.5		Undiagnostic
23	22			Brick	1	N/A	111.5	1400-1700	Early post medieval brick
	33			Peg Tile	2	N/A	42	1400-1700	Medieval to early post medieval peg tile with partial peg hole (sandy fabric)
	33	2		Tile	11	N/A	55.5	1200-1600	Medieval course moulding sand tile
42	41			Mortar	1	N/A	22.5	1875+	Roman cement
	49			Brick	2	Thickness=50mm	353.5	55-400+	Roman brick, with lime mortar, possibly re-used
	50			Brick	3	Thickness=55mm	1679.5	1400-1600	Tudor brick with loose mortar, same mortar as that of structure 53 (loose and sandy mortar)
	55			Brick	1	Thickness=50mm; Width=110mm	1874	1400-1700	Late medieval tudor brick with sunken margin
	55			Glazed floor tile	1	Thickness=25mm	106	1300-1600	Medieval plain glazed floor tile (with local fabric)
62	61			CBM	2	N/A	18		Undiagnostic
67	65			Mortar	1	N/A	5	1600+	Post medieval lime mortar
67	65			CBM	16	N/A	19.5		Undiagnostic
71	70			Peg tile	7	Thickness=10mm	51.5	1600-1900	Post medieval peg tile (gault fabric)
71	70			CBM	2	N/A	19		Undiagnostic
77	76			CBM	1	N/A	4		Undiagnostic
	91			CBM	1	N/A	16.5		Undiagnostic
	92			Brick	1	Thickness=45mm	194.5	55-400+	Roman brick

			53	Mortar	N/A	N/A	59.5	1450-1600	Medieval to early Post-medieval mortar that is loose and sandy
			53	Brick	2	Thickness=50mm; Width=110mm	3687	1400-1700	Late medieval tudor brick

APPENDIX 6: PLANT MACROFOSSILS

Sample No.		1	2
Context No.		65	33
Feature No.		67	
Volume of bulk (liters)		10	36
Volume of flot (milliliters)		25	98
Method of processing		F	F
FLOT RESIDUE			
Charcoal			
Charcoal > 1mm		2	4
Charcoal < 1mm		2	3
Frags. of ID size		X	□
Seeds			
Chenopodium sp.	Goosefoots	1	
Juncus sp.	Rushes	2	1
Rumex sp.	Docks		1
Sambucus sp.	Elder	2	
Sium latifolium cf.	Great water-parsnip	1	
Solanum sp.	Nightshades		1
Broken seeds		1	
Charred seeds			
Poaceae undiff. (small)	Grasses		1
Grain			

Sample No.		1	2
Context No.		65	33
Feature No.		67	
Triticum sp.	Wheat		4
Panicum miliaceum	Common millet		1
Broken/distorted (no I.D)			4
Other plant macrofossils			
Roots		1	
Lolium cf. spikelets	Rye-grasses		1
Modern grasses			2
Molluscs			
Carychium tridentatum	Terrestrial		1
Carychium tridentatum (burnt)	Terrestrial		1
Cecilioides acicula	Terrestrial	1	1
Lauria cylindracea	Terrestrial		1
Vallonia sp.	Terrestrial		1
Snail eggs		1	1
Juveniles (no sp. ID)			3
Juveniles (no sp. ID) burnt			1
Broken shell			2
Other remains			
Insect remains		1	
Eggshell			1
Ostracods			1
Bone fragments			1

Sample No.	1	2
Context No.	65	33
Feature No.	67	
Coal	3	3
Slag/burnt coal		1
Vitreous material	3	2
Hammer-scale	1	2

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: preconst1-290306

Project details

Project name	Land Adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk: 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 adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk (NGR TF 6936 3027) between the 19th and the 22nd June 2017. The archaeological work was commissioned by Nicholas Jackson prior to a proposed new residential development. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.
Project dates	Start: 19-06-2017 End: 22-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF142229 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 2 - Undisturbed Grassland
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	LAYER Medieval
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"

Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK DERSINGHAM Land Adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham
Postcode	PE31 6JD
Study area	0.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 6936 3027 52.842894252069 0.514950180682 52 50 34 N 000 30 53 E Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 20m Max: 20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Project design originator	PCA Central
Project director/manager	Peter Crawley
Project supervisor	Clare Jackson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Sandringham Estate
Name of sponsor/funding body	Sandringham Estate

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Map","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land Adjacent to Manor Farm Complex, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jackson, C. Malric-Smith, L. Crawley, P
Other bibliographic details	R12941
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Pampisford
Description	Grey literature

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