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PARTNERS IN PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE

LAND TO THE EAST OF IVY HOUSE, 38 HIGH STREET, SPALDWICK, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SEPTEMBER 2021

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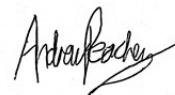
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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) was commissioned by Partners in Planning and Architecture Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching houses on land adjacent to the east of Ivy House, 38 High Street, Spaldwick, Cambridgeshire, centred at National Grid Reference (NGR): TL 1315 7271. The evaluation was required as a condition of planning consent. The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced in response to a brief prepared by members of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

The archaeological work was undertaken over five days between the 5th and the 10th 2021, and comprised the excavation of two trenches. The data recovered indicated past activity on the site primarily dating to the mid-12th to 14th centuries, with the pottery assemblage conceivably most consistent with a mid-13th to mid-14th century chronological range. This activity was represented by a series of ditches, gullies, and two probable waste pits. The archaeological remains identified appear to be contemporaneous, or subsequent to, the wholesale reorganisation of the village in the medieval period, from the 12th century onwards.

Although no structural remains were encountered during the evaluation, the pottery recovered from the fills of the linear features and pits is wholly consistent with a domestic assemblage - including several cooking pot sherds that retained evidence of sooting. The ditches encountered likely functioned as boundaries extending from the High Street, which is known to have origins in at least the Saxon period, and yielded the detritus from nearby activity. The two waste pits identified during the investigation are of particular interest, with their medieval deposits containing a high concentration of carbonised cereals. The remains are likely derived from cleaned cereal crop, perhaps prior to final hand sorting to remove larger contaminants. The high density of remains in the pits could imply the debris is the result of a drying or storage accident. A small number of grains from other cereals, pulses and hazelnut shell were also present, indicating domestic residues.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) thanks the Partners in Planning and Architecture Ltd for commissioning the project, and for all their assistance throughout the work. Also, WA thank the members of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team involved with the project.

The archaeological evaluation was supervised by Gareth Barlow and the report written by Liam Podbury. The figures were produced by Kathren Henry. The finds assessment was undertaken by Luke Harris and palaeoenvironmental assessment by Dr John Summers. The project was managed by Rhodri Gardner and the report edited by Andy Peachey.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Between the 5th and 10th of August 2021, Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) undertook an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the east of Ivy House, 38 High Street, Spaldwick, Cambridgeshire, centred at National Grid Reference (NGR): TL 1315 7271. It was commissioned by the Client who intends to construct a pair of semi-detached houses for which a planning consent has been granted by Cambridgeshire County Council (planning reference: Hunts DC Approval Ref. 19/00211/FUL).

1.1.2 The site is situated within the curtilage of the Grade II listed Ivy House which dates to the late 17th century (NHLE 1165318). Previous archaeological investigations conducted within the village core have revealed evidence of Iron Age, Saxon and medieval occupation and industrial activity, including charcoal roasting pits and the remains of timber buildings of Saxo-Norman date at two different sites to the north-west of the proposed development at Thrapston Road (CHER MCB19832; CB14594). Further evidence of medieval activity has also been identified to the south-west at Ferriman Road (CHER CB14593), and a 14th century gilded brass crucifix was previously uncovered directly opposite the proposed development site in the grounds of no.41 High Street (CHER 00734).

1.2 Project Documentation

1.2.1 The project conforms to a brief prepared by the Historic Environment Team at Cambridgeshire County Council (*Land East of Ivy House, High Street, Spaldwick: Design Brief for Archaeological Evaluation* dated 8th July 2020). A WSI (WA 2021) was then produced to provide a specific methodology based on the brief for a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation. This was approved by the archaeological planning advisor prior to the fieldwork taking place. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (MHCLG 2021).

1.2.2 This report outlines the work undertaken on site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological evaluation.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Standards and Guidance

2.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for field evaluation* (2020a), and in accordance with the WA fieldwork manual (2021).

2.1.2 The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the *Standard and guidance for field evaluation* (CIfA 2020a) and the *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020b).

2.2 Archaeological Evaluation

2.2.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of two trenches measuring 17.00m in length by 1.80m in width across the proposed development area that measured c.1200m². The trenches were placed using a random grid array. Representing a 5% sample of the overall site. The trenches and features were surveyed utilising a Leica Viva Survey Grade RTK GPS using SMARTNET real-time corrections, operating to a 3D tolerance of $\pm 0.05\text{m}$ to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum.

2.2.2 The general aims of these investigations were:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;
- to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
- to assess the impact of the application on the archaeological site;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
- to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survives in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.

2.2.3 In particular, the study of the following was as set out in Section 3.4 of the brief:

- the presence/absence of palaeosoils and old land surface soils/deposits;
- the character of deposits and their contents within negative features;
- palaeochannels; and
- site formation processes generally.

- 2.2.4 Deposits considered not to be significant were removed by a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, under close archaeological supervision. All possible features or deposits were inspected, and selected deposits were excavated by hand to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples. Once completed all features were recorded according to the WA standard procedure as set out in the Excavation Manual (WA 2021).
- 2.2.5 A one-metre square of topsoil and subsoil were bucket sampled and sorted by hand at each end of the trenches to characterise their artefact content. Soil from this sampling procedure was kept separate from the main spoil heaps. Site records were completed to reflect this exercise and an on-site record was made of the finds recovered. A metal detector was used to enhance finds recovery. The metal detector survey was conducted when the trenches were opened, and the detector was not set to discriminate against iron. The spoil tips were also surveyed.
- 2.2.6 All finds encountered were retained on site and returned to the Bury St Edmunds office where they were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* was then produced for each stratified context under the supervision of the WA Finds Officer, and the dates were used to help determine the broad date phases for the site. On completion of this project, the finds were cleaned and packaged according to standard guidelines (Watkinson and Neal 1998).
- 2.2.7 On completion the evaluation trenches were reinstated by replacing the excavated material.
- 2.3 Site Archive**
- 2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project specification, and the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will also adhere to the Guidelines for the deposition of archaeological archives in Cambridgeshire (2020), with regards to the deposition of the archive into the County Council's Archaeological Archive Facility. The archive will be deposited following the gaining of the transfer of title.
- 2.3.2 Following acceptance by CHET, a copy of the approved evaluation report in digital form will be submitted to the CHER via the OASIS website. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier:: ECB6525.
- 2.3.3 As required by the design brief (Section 6), a digital data management plan was produced for the project (WA 2021: Appendix 1). The data management policy follows

the 'Dig Digital' DigVentures guidance and template for managing and producing digital archives & data management plans (<https://digventures.com/projects/digital-archives/>), as well as implementing standards and guidance from CifA & the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The site's digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service, a publicly accessible CoreTrustSeal certified repository, upon completion of the archaeological programme.

- 2.3.4 Wardell Armstrong LLP supports the **Online AccesS** to the Index of Archaeological Investigation**S** (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by WA as a part of this national project. The OASIS reference for the project is: wardella2- 502299.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Location and Geological Context

3.1.1 The site is located at National Grid Reference (NGR): TL 1315 7271. The site lies on the southern side of the High Street, in the historic settlement core of Spaldwick village, approximately 10.00km to the west of Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. The site's environs comprise part of the residential garden plot/curtilage of the adjacent Ivy House to the west and extends to some 0.12ha overall. The site is bounded to the north the High Street, while further residential developments are present beyond the eastern and southern boundaries of the site. The area of investigation lies at a height of c.20m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) within the relatively low-lying environs of the valley of the Ellington Brook.

3.1.2 The underlying solid geology within the area of investigation is mapped as mudstone of the Oxford Clay group deposited during the Jurassic Period some 157 to 166 million years ago. This is overlain by superficial deposits of river terrace gravel and sands (BGS 2021). The natural substrate observed during the current phase of works comprised a firm, pale yellow red mixture of gravel and clayey sand, which is wholly consistent with the mapped superficial deposits noted above.

3.1.3 The site lies within the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Claylands National Character Area (Natural England 2014). This area is characterised as a broad, gently undulating, lowland plateau dissected by shallow river valleys that gradually widen as they approach The Fens in the east.

3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.2.1 The Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER) notes that the site lies within an area of archaeological potential, within the garden curtilage of the Grade II listed late 17th century Ivy House (NHLE 1165318). Several archaeological investigations have taken place in the village, revealing evidence of occupation and industry in the Iron Age, Saxon and medieval periods. These include evidence of charcoal roasting pits and the remains of timber buildings of Saxo-Norman date on two sites to the north west of Ivy House at Thrapston Road (CHER MCB19832 & CB14594). Medieval activity in the forms of ditches and potential ridge and furrow cultivation was found at Ferriman Road to the south west by Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust in 1997 (CHER 14593). A 14th century gilded brass crucifix has also been found in the grounds of 41 High Street directly opposite Ivy House (CHER 00734).
- 3.2.2 Evidence for pre-Iron Age prehistoric activity on the claylands surrounding the site is sparse, comprising a utilised flint blade (CHER 00735), potentially of Upper Palaeolithic to early Neolithic date.
- 3.2.3 Excavations on Thrapston Road (CHER MCB19832) recorded the presence of a middle to late Iron Age settlement at Spaldwick that continued into, then declined and ceased in the Roman period. The evidence included a track way and settlement enclosure ditches, associated with domestic debris including pottery and a saddle quern. Ditches which also contained pottery, bone and carbonised material indicative of late Iron Age to early Roman domestic activity, potentially associated with an adjacent settlement or farmstead, have been recorded in the village (HER 02070). Further Romano-British remains are limited to pottery sherds (CHER MCB27083).
- 3.2.4 Excavations at Thrapston Road found beam slots and postholes representing at least two buildings, and a series of associated ditches and pits dating to the late Saxo-Norman/Early Medieval period (CHER CB14594; MCB19832). These are thought to represent settlement in Spaldwick before the founding of the Bishops Palace and foundation of demesne estate centre immediately to the south. This earlier phase of occupation appears to be aligned differently to those of the present day, supporting the theory that the village underwent wholesale replanning when the palace was founded in the mid-12th century.
- 3.2.5 At the time of the Domesday Survey, the manor of Spaldwick was held by the Abbey of Ely, who in 1106 granted it to the Bishop of Lincoln as part of a compensation

payment. The medieval village and rampart at Danesfield, evidenced by earthworks, is recorded in the area comprising an enclosure, mound and a series of fishponds (CHER 00719; 00719A). The area has been interpreted as the mid-12th century site of a palace of the medieval Bishops of Lincoln, which was also the centre of a considerable estate. In 1215 the Bishop was also granted permission to 'inclose and inpark' his wood at Spaldwick. The medieval village appears to have been centred on the church of St. James (c.100m to the northwest (CHER 04549), with the Bishop's Palace complex adjacent to the west at 'Danesfield' (CHER 00719). The village was part of a medieval landscape that also included the (deserted) settlement at Upthorpe to the south (CHER 00718) and a possible medieval mill further southwest in 'Bury Close' (HER 00720). Medieval earthworks of ridge and furrow are also known in the area (CHER 08658; 09039; 09853; 09855; 09856; CB14593; MCB21296; MCB21297; MCB24962). On a smaller scale, a medieval gravestone (CHER 00721), a 14th century gilded brass crucifix (CHER 00734), and a plague or hundred stone (CHER 00911) are also known in Spaldwick.

- 3.2.6 Several undated features and finds have been recorded in the area, including the cropmarks of ring ditches (CHER 10808), a series of gullies (CHER MCB20479) and a series of rectilinear enclosures (CHER MCB27705).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was undertaken between the 5th and 11th of August, with 2 trenches excavated across the proposed development site (Figure 2; Plates 1 & 2). The trenches were placed using a random grid array to investigate a representative area of the proposed development.

4.2 Results

4.2.1 **Trench 1 (Figure 3)** was the northernmost trench excavated during the investigation and was aligned on a northeast to southwest orientation. The trench measured 18.00m in length and 1.80m in width. It had a minimum depth of 0.49m and maximum depth of 0.50m. The natural substrate (**1002**) consisted of firm, pale yellow red mixture of gravel and clayey sand. This was in turn overlain by a 0.18m to 0.30m thick deposit of subsoil (**1001**); a firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with very occasional small sub-angular flint. The trench was sealed by a 0.20m to 0.31m layer of topsoil (**1000**), which comprised a compact, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay with frequent modern building rubble and floral turbation. Nine archaeological features were exposed across the trench [**1003**] [**1005**] [**1007**] [**1009**] [**1011**] [**1013**] [**1015**] [**1017**] [**1019**], all of which yielded datable material evidence. It is not, however, clear which feature represents the earliest archaeological context, as within the confines of the excavated trench stratigraphic relationships between several parallel linear features and discrete features in close proximity could not be defined, with the chronological range of pottery sherds contained therein overlapping significantly.

4.2.2 Potentially the earliest feature encountered within the trench, ditch [**1017**], was identified at the northern end of the trench (Plate 3). It extended beyond the eastern limit of the trench on an east to west orientation. The ditch also terminated within the trench, culminating with a sub-rectangular terminus. Where exposed, it measured 0.60m in width and cut into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.15m. A deposit (**1018**) of firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay infilled the feature. Four sherds of mid-12th to 14th century pottery (62g), in addition to a diminutive assemblage of animal bone (3g), were recovered from the fill. The regularity and proportions of this ditch, including its terminus and shallow flat base, may not preclude it being a beam slot but this remains a tentative interpretation. The ditch [**1017**] was subsequently cut, and largely truncated, by a relatively sizable pit [**1019**] (Plate 3). The pit, which was sub-oval in

form, measured 1.55m in diameter and cut into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.59m. A single fill (**1020**) of firm, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay was exposed within the feature. Pit [**1019**] yielded a considerable material assemblage, with twenty-nine sherds of mid-12th to 14th century pottery (461g) and animal bone being recovered from its fill. The feature likely functioned as a waste pit and appears to have been rapidly backfilled with a fairly mottled and heterogenous deposit.

- 4.2.3 At the southern end of the trench a series of intercutting linear features were exposed (Plate 4). The stratigraphically earliest of these features was ditch [**1005**]. The ditch traversed the trench on a north to south orientation but was cut along both its eastern and western edge by two further linears features [**1003**] [**1011**]. The stratigraphically earliest ditch [**1005**], where preserved, measured some 0.82m in width and cut into the natural geology to a depth of 0.23m. A singular deposit (**1006**) infilled the feature, which comprised firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay. Eight sherds of 13th to 14th century pottery (140g) and a small assemblage of animal bone (76g) were recovered from the deposit. The ditch [**1005**] was cut along its eastern edge by a further linear feature, ditch [**1003**], which extended parallel to the aforementioned feature. Ditch [**1003**] measured 0.97m in width and cut into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.22m. It contained a deposit (**1004**) of firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay. The deposit contained a relatively sizable material assemblage, yielding twenty-nine sherds of pottery indicative of a mid-12th to 14th date (496g) and animal bone (75g). The ditch [**1003**] was in turn cut by a further parallel ditch [**1007**], the northern sub-rounded terminus of which was exposed within the bounds trench. It had a depth of 0.09m and measured 0.67m in width. Its fill (**1008**) consisted of firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with frequent redeposited natural geology. Four sherds of 12th to 14th century pottery (51g), in addition to a small assemblage of animal bone (59g), were recovered from the deposit.
- 4.2.4 Along its western edge the stratigraphically early ditch [**1005**] described above was cut by ditch [**1011**]. The ditch was of similar form to the parallel ditches [**1003**] [**1005**] to the east. It measured 0.77m in width and cut into the natural geology to a depth of 0.25m. Its fill (**1012**), however, differed slightly from the eastern pair of ditches and comprised a firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay. Three sherds of pottery (25g) consistent with a 13th to mid-14th century date and animal bone (59g) were recovered from the deposit. The ditch [**1011**] was subsequently cut by a post-medieval field drain [**1009**], which is described in more detail below, with the consistency of alignment

suggesting these features may represent a boundary and drainage ditch that was repeatedly recut throughout the medieval period and beyond.

- 4.2.5 A relatively sizable pit **[1013]** was exposed near the centre of the trench, approximately 2.00m to the southwest of waste pit **[1019]** (Plate 5). The sub-rounded pit **[1013]** extended beyond the southern limit of the trench, measuring 1.85m in diameter and cutting into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.30m. It had gradually sloping sides that led to a slightly stepped and irregular base. It contained a deposit **(1014)** that comprised a firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay. Like waste pit **[1019]** it also contained a relatively considerable material assemblage, yielding thirty-two sherds (813g) of early-13th to mid-14th century pottery and animal bone (44g); the feature likewise functioned as a waste disposal pit.
- 4.2.6 Approximately 1.00m to the southwest of the aforementioned pit **[1013]** a relatively sizable ditch **[1015]** was encountered extending on a southeast to northwest orientation (Plate 6). The ditch measured 1.15m in width and cut into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.18m. It contained a deposit **(1016)** that consisted of firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay. A notably sizable material assemblage was recovered from the feature, including fifty sherds of early 13th to 14th pottery (886g), animal bone (227g), and a single fragment (56g) of medieval peg tile that retained traits typical of those produced between the late 12th and 14th centuries.
- 4.2.7 As noted above, ditch **[1011]** was cut by a field drain **[1009]**. The field drain extended broadly parallel to the ditch on a broad north to south alignment. It had near vertical sides that led to a flattish base. The feature measured 0.16m in width and had a depth of 0.28m. Its singular fill **(1010)** comprised a firm, dark grey brown silty clay that surrounded a 120mm ceramic pipe. The deposit contained six sherds of late 18th to 19th century pottery (123g) and two fragments of peg tile (131g) consistent with a 17th to 19th century date.
- 4.2.8 **Trench 2 (Figure 4)** was the southernmost trench excavated during the investigation and was aligned on a north-northwest to south-southeast orientation. The trench measured 18.00m in length and 1.80m in width. It had a minimum depth of 0.52m and maximum depth of 0.53m. The natural substrate **(1002)** consisted of firm, pale yellow red mixture of gravel and clayey sand. This was in turn overlain by a 0.24m to 0.26m thick deposit of subsoil **(1001)**; a firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with very occasional small sub-angular flint. The trench was in-turn sealed by a 0.26m to 0.29m layer of topsoil **(1000)**, which comprised a compact, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay

with frequent modern building rubble and floral turbation. Four archaeological features were exposed across the trench **[1021]** **[1023]** **[1025]** **[1027]**, the fill of only one of which yielded datable material evidence.

- 4.2.9 At the southern end of the trench probable sub-oval pit **[1021]** was found to extend beyond the western limit of Trench 2 (Plate 7). The pit measured some 0.80m in width and cut into the natural geology to a depth of 0.50m. It contained a deposit **(1022)** of friable, pale blue grey silty/sandy clay that was devoid of datable material evidence. A relatively diminutive gully **[1023]** subsequently cut the pit **[1021]** on its northern edge. The concaved gully, which traversed the trench on an east to west orientation, measured 0.40m in width and had a depth of 0.14m. A singular deposit **(1024)** infilled the feature, which comprised a friable, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay. Like many of features encountered within Trench 1 to the north the fill of the gully contained three sherds of mid-12th to 14th century pottery (27g).
- 4.2.10 Approximately 4.00m to the north of the gully **[1023]** a further linear feature **[1025]** was exposed, traversing the trench on an east to west orientation (Plate 8). It cut into the natural substrate to a depth of 0.12m and measured some 0.50m in width. A deposit **(1026)** of firm, mid grey brown sandy/silt clay infilled the linear feature. No finds were encountered within the deposit. To the north of the aforementioned ditch **[1025]** a pit **[1027]**, or potentially a ditch terminus, was identified extending beyond the western limit of the trench. It measured 0.55m in width and cut into the natural geology to a depth of 0.16m. It contained a firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay fill **(1028)** which was devoid of datable material remains.

5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A range of artefacts, weighing 4445g, were recovered from ten contexts.

5.2 Methodology

5.2.1 All finds were dealt with according to the recommendations made by Watkinson & Neal (1998) and to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014b). All artefacts have been boxed according to material type and conforming to the deposition guidelines recommended by Brown (2011) and Cambridgeshire Archaeology Archive.

5.2.2 The material archive has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and for its potential to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.

5.2.3 The finds assessment was compiled by Luke Harris. Quantification of finds by context is provided in Table 1.

Feature	Context	Tr.	Description	Spot Date (Pot Only)	Pot Qty	Pot (g)	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other Material	Other Qty	Other (g)
1003	1004	1	Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-14th C	29	496		75			
1005	1006	1	Fill of Ditch	13th-14th C	8	140		76			
1007	1008	1	Fill of Ditch	12th-14th C	4	51		59			
1009	1010	1	Fill of Field Drain	Late 18th-19th C	6	123	131				
1011	1012	1	Fill of Ditch	13th-mid 14th C	3	25		436			
1013	1014	1	Fill of Pit	Early 13th-mid 14th C	32	813		44			
1015	1016	1	Fill of Ditch	Early 13th-14th C	50	886	56	227			
1017	1018	1	Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-14th C	4	62		3			
1019	1020	1	Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	29	461		253			
1023	1024	2	Fill of Gully	Mid 12th-14th C	3	27					

Table 1: Concordance of finds

5.3 The Pottery by Pete Thompson

5.3.1 The archaeological evaluation recovered 168 sherds weighing 3.084 kg from 10 features, including field drain [1009] which contained five late post-medieval sherds (123g), which aren't mentioned further in the text (Table 2). The remaining 163 sherds weighing 2.961 kg from nine features were all medieval.

Fabric Code	Ware	Date	Sherd Number	Fabric Weight (g)
MSW	Medieval Sandy ware	12 th -14 th	1	3
SSHW	Medieval Sandy Shelly ware	12 th -14 th	2	9
SHW	Medieval Shelly ware	12 th -14 th	21	274
PSHW	Peterborough Shelly ware	12 th -mid 14 th	19	459
LYVA	Lyveden A ware	Mid 12 th -14 th	115	2,117
CONM	Colne medieval ware	13 th -mid 14 th	1	10
LYST	Lyveden Stanion ware	Early 13 th -14 th	2	74
UPG	Unprovenanced Glazed	13 th -15 th	1	15
PMBL	Post-medieval Black Glazed Red Earthenware	17 th -19 th	1	19
ENGS	English Stoneware	18 th +	1	41
RWE	Factory made Refined White Earthenware	Late 18 th +	3	46
TPW	Transfer Printed ware	Late 18 th +	1	17
			168	3,084

Table 2: Quantification of Sherds by Ware/Fabric

5.3.2 The sherds were examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded according to the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Barclay et al 2016; Table 3). Fabric codes are those used for the Cambridgeshire County Council pottery type series (Spoerry 2016).

5.3.3 All but three of the 163 medieval sherds are coarsewares, and all bar four of the coarsewares are medieval shelly/calcareous wares. The commonest group comprising 115 sherds (70%) is probably all Lyveden A ware, indicated by, five jar and two bowl rims. The former provide good examples of Lyveden A rim forms with upright beads and small finger decorated cordons. This pottery was present in ditches **[1003]**, **[1015]**, **[1017]**, **[1019]**, gully **[1023]** and pit **[1013]**. Another group of nineteen sherds present in ditch **[1019]** and pit **[1013]**, are Peterborough type Shelly ware indicated by fabrics generally a little coarser than the Lyveden A ware, and including two flared bowl rims with finger decoration, and a roulette decorated sherd and a combed sherd, which are traits found in Peterborough Shelly ware. The remaining 21 unprovenanced medieval shelly ware sherds were present in ditches **[1003]**, **[1005]**, **[1007]**, **[1011]**,

[1015], [1017] and pit [1013]. Diagnostic sherds included a thickened jar rim, a folded jar not typical of the named wares above, but similar to forms found in Medieval Brill ware, (although this is a different industry). There was also a jug rod handle and a jug rim with a neck rib.

- 5.3.4 The remaining coarsewares comprised two body sherds of medieval sandy shelly ware, a single sherd of Medieval Sandy ware, and a pale orange/buff sherd of Colne medieval ware in a fine fabric with sparse fine calcareous inclusions from ditch [1011]. Two of the three glazed sherds were highly decorated oolitic limestone tempered Lyveden B wares from pit [1013] and ditch [1015]. The third sherd was an unprovenanced thick oxidized body sherd with green glaze in a fine sandy fabric, which could be an East Anglian Red ware although it has no slip, and is rare beyond Cambridge (Spoerry 2016, 233).
- 5.3.5 The forms, including several cooking pot sherds with sooting indicating use, show that the assemblage is of a domestic nature. Two nearby archaeological excavations have been carried out on Thrapston Road, Spaldwick, which produced Saxon and early medieval pottery, and probably predate the Ivy House site. The latest sherds produced at Number 33 were a small number of sandy coarseware sherds of 12th-13th centuries date (Clelland 2010, 11). The other excavation near the Bishop's Palace recovered Lyveden A ware pottery (Spoerry 1996, Spoerry 2016, 203-5). The Ivy House assemblage generally fits well with pottery found in west Cambridgeshire. Lyveden ware from Northamptonshire and other shelly wares are common in this area (Spoerry 2016, 203); Peterborough Shelly ware is generally very local to Peterborough, but has been found at Ramsey (Spoerry 2016, 206), and Colne ware has been recovered at Huntingdon (Spoerry 2016, 180). The medieval assemblage all fits within a mid 12th-14th centuries date range, but conceivably could represent a more limited chronological range focussed within a mid 13th-mid 14th century bracket.

Feature	Context	Description	Quantity	Date	Comment
1003	1004	Ditch	26x447g LYVA 1x6g SSHW 2x43g SHW	Mid 12 th -14 th	LYVA: round shouldered jar with everted thumb, x2 sooted impressed rim 24cm diam 0.08 reve SHW: rod handle approx 1.5cm diam
1005	1006	Ditch	7x125g SHW 1x15g UPG	13 th -14 th	SHW: folded/hooked jar rim, not typical of LYV or PSHW 18cm diam. 0.06 reve. x1 jug rim, slightly thickened and slightly everted, 18cm diam, 0.07 reve UPG: thick oxidised sherd with external green glaze, fine sandy fabric with rare other inclusions including rounded red iron ore, possibly EAR.
1007	1008	Ditch	4x51g SHW	12 th -14 th	SHW: small beaded jug rim rib on neck 14cm rim (0.07 reve)
1009	1010	Field Drain	1x19g PMBL 3x46g RWE 1x41g ENGS 1x17g TPW	Late 18 th -19 th	
1011	1012	Ditch	2x15g SHW 1x10g CONM	13 th -mid 14 th	SHW: thickened everted jar rim 0 cm diam, (0.02 reve)
1013	1014	Pit	6x189g PSHW 23x594g LYVA 2x20g SHW 1x10g LYST	Early 13 th -mid 14 th	PSHW: x1 roulette decorated, x1 combed LYVA: shouldered jar with simple slightly outturned rim with large upright beaded upright; x1 large clubbed rim 28cm diam, 0.05 reve; x1 everted jar rim 0 cm diam 0.03 reve; x5 sooted body sherds LYST: brown slip lines, green glaze

1015	1016	Ditch	4x20g SHW 45x802g LYVA 1x64g LYST	Early 13 th -14 th	LYVA: jar rim with pronounced rounded shoulder and pie crust cordon flat topped everted rim typical of Lyveden A ware – 18cm diam, 0.28 reve, sooting on body; thickened flat topped everted bowl rim 24cm diam 0.05 reve; 5 body sherds with sooting LYST: green glaze a braded yellow slip line
1017	1018	Ditch	4x62g LYVA	Mid 12 th -14 th	
1019	1020	Pit	14x185g LYVA 13x270g PSHW 1x3g SSHW 1x3g MSW	Mid 12 th -14 th	PSHW: flared shallow bowl with simple upright rim with external finger deco, similar to Peterborough shelly ware forms 44cm diam, 0.08 reve; x1 flared bowl with finger deco on inner rim 30cm diam, 0.05 reve, x3 sooted
1023	1024	Gully	3x27g LYVA	Mid 12 th -14 th	LYVA: jar rim 20cm diam (0.09 reve), short everted rim with upright flat topped bead, as Lyveden jar rims

Table 3: Quantification of pottery by context and fabric

5.4 **The Ceramic Building Material** by *Andrew Peachey*

- 5.4.1 Excavations recovered a total of 3 fragments (187g) of moderately fragmented CBM, comprised of varying types of peg tile.
- 5.4.2 Ditch **[1015]** contained a single fragment (56g) of medieval peg tile; manufactured in a fabric with pale orange surfaces that fade to a mid grey core, with common shell-temper (<3mm; vesiculated). The tile is 13mm thick, with a thicker knife trimmed edge that also exhibits finger impressions; traits typical of peg tile produced between the late 12th and 14th centuries.
- 5.4.3 Field drain **[1009]** contained two fragments (131g) of post-medieval peg tile; manufactured in a very hard fired pale red fabric with inclusions of sparse shell (<2mm, vesiculated). The tile is consistently 12mm thick with sharp edges and faint striations on the upper surface; likely produced in the 17th to 19th centuries.

5.5 **The Animal Bone** by *Julie Curl*

- 5.5.1 A summary assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992) and Baker and Worley, 2014. Bone was identified using a range of comparative reference material wherever possible. Where bone could not be identified to species, they were grouped as, for example, 'mammal'. Counts and weights were noted for each context and counts made for each species. Information was recorded directly into Excel for production of tables and quantifications and a summary catalogue is in the appendix of this report.
- 5.5.2 A total of 1173g of bone, consisting of 86 elements was recovered, with the totals quantified by feature, trench, count and weight in Table 4.
- 5.5.3 Six species were positively identified in the assemblage with one species (equid) that was identified with only worked bone (see *Worked Bone*). The assemblage is quantified by species, context and NISP in Table 5. Bone was recovered from a variety of ditch and pit fills from Trench 1 and found with medieval pottery. The remains are in good condition, although they are fragmented from butchering and some gnawing. Canid gnawing was seen from pit fill **(1014)** and ditch fill **(1016)**, which would suggest some scavenging or meat waste was given to domestic or working dogs. Invertebrate (insect, isopod, mollusc) damage was low, which would suggest waste was rapidly buried.

- 5.5.4 **Sheep/goat** were found in seven fills. Ovicaprid bone was distinguished as sheep or goat where possible using reference material and following guidelines by Albarella and Salvagno (2017).
- 5.5.5 **Goat** were positively identified in two fills with a butchered radius, skull fragments and upper molar from ditch fill **(1012)** and mandible fragments and chopped tibia shaft from pit fill **(1014)**. Goat were in the decline in the Medieval period (Dyer, 2004; Salvagno, 2014), but a small number would have been kept for their good milk yields and for meat. **Sheep** were seen in five fills with a range of butchered meat bones and teeth. All of the ovicaprid bone was from adult animals, which suggests a life of milking, breeding and wool prior to meat.
- 5.5.6 **Cattle** bones were recorded in four deposits with butchered limb, scapula and jaw bones from ditch and pit fills. Heavy canid gnawing was seen from the ditch fill **(1016)**, which suggest some of the meat waste was given to dogs. All cattle remains were from adult animals, which would suggest a life of traction and breeding prior to use for meat and by-products. **Pig/boar** were produced from a single deposit, with a juvenile upper jaw in ditch fill **(1008)**.
- 5.5.7 Birds were represented by a **Fowl** (chicken/pheasant) coracoid from ditch fill **(1016)**. A single small mammal bone was yielded from ditch fill **(1006)** and identified as a **rabbit** tibia, which had been cut.
- 5.5.8 **Equid** remains were seen from fill **(1020)**, but the piece of metapodial was worked and is discussed under '*Worked Bone*'.
- 5.5.9 The remains in this assemblage are from a range of secondary butchering and meat waste. There is no clear evidence of the initial processing, including skinning, in these remains. The porcine remains are juvenile as these are an animal with little use beyond meat and results in their early culling age. The adult ages of the other stock animals in this assemblage suggest a range of uses, cattle for traction, sheep for wool for the increasing wool trade in medieval Britain and goats for milk. The fowl was probably used for meat, but would have been kept for a supply of eggs. The rabbit in the assemblage suggests an animal bought for meat at market at this time, with the rabbit largely farmed in medieval Britain, the rabbit remains suggest some high status eating or perhaps meat for a special occasion. The equid identified in this assemblage may have been from a local animal and used for working on site, but may have been brought to site – see *Worked Bone*.

Trench	Context	Total Weight	Total Count
1	1004	75g	9
1	1006	76g	12
1	1008	59g	12
1	1012	436g	16
1	1014	44g	6
1	1016	227g	15
1	1018	3g	2
1	1020	253g	14
Totals		1173g	86

Table 4: Quantification of the faunal remains by trench, context, weight and count

Species	Context and NISP								Totals
	1004	1006	1008	1012	1014	1016	1018	1020	
Bird - Fowl						1			1
Cattle		1		1		3		4	9
Mammal	8	3	10	11	3	9	2	8	54
Pig/boar			1						1
Sheep/goat	1	7	1	4	3	2		2	20
Small mammal - Rabbit		1							1
Equid (worked)								1	1
Totals	9	12	12	16	6	15	2	14	86

Table 5: Quantification of the faunal remains by context and species

Context	Trench	Type	Date	Ctxt Qty	Wt (g)	Species	NISP	Adult	Juv	Neo	Element range	Measureable	Count	Butchering	Burnt	Gnaw	Comments
1004	1	Ditch	Medieval	9	75	Sheep/goat	1	1			pelvis	1	1	chopped			
1004	1	Ditch	Medieval			Mammal	8				fragments, including rib and skull						
1006	1	Ditch	Medieval	12	76	Sheep/goat	7	1			mandible fragments, isolated lower M2 and 3, humerus shaft, radius		1	chopped, cut			teeth worn
1006	1	Ditch	Medieval			Cattle	1	1			intermediate phalange		0.5				
1006	1	Ditch	Medieval			SM - Rabbit	1	1			tibia shaft			cut			
1006	1	Ditch	Medieval			Mammal	3				fragments						

1008	1	Ditch	Medieval	12	59	Pig/boar	1		1		upper jaw					M1 and 2 erupted, but little wear
1008	1	Ditch	Medieval			Sheep/goat	1	1			humerus shaft					distal end and mid shaft chopped
1008	1	Ditch	Medieval			Mammal	10				fragments					
1012	1	Ditch	Medieval	16	436	Cattle	1	1			radius	1	1	chopped, cut		distal, chopped shaft, cuts along shaft fram meat removal
1012	1	Ditch	Medieval			Sheep/goat	4	1			skull fragments, upper molar 2, radius		1	chopped, cut		GOAT skull fragments
1012	1	Ditch	Medieval			Mammal	11				fragments					
1014	1	Pit	Medieval	6	44	Sheep/goat	3	1			mandible fragments, tibia shaft		1	chopped, cut		GOAT mandible
1014	1	Pit	Medieval			Mammal	3				fragments				1	1 fragment with

																	gnawing, one eroded (acid?)
1016	1	Ditch	Medieval	15	227	Cattle	3	1			2 radius, distal fragment of tibia		1	chopped, cut		1	one radius has distal end missing - heavy canid gnawing
1016	1	Ditch	Medieval			Sheep/goat	2	1			tibia and radius shafts			chopped, cut			
1016	1	Ditch	Medieval			Bird - Fowl	1	1			coracoid		1				
1016	1	Ditch	Medieval			Mammal	9				fragments			chopped, cut			
1018	1	Ditch	Medieval	2	3	Mammal	2				fragments						
1020	1	Pit	Medieval	14	253	Cattle	4	1			scapula articular end and part of blade, mandible condyle, 2 ribs		1	chopped, cut			
1020	1	Pit	Medieval			Sheep/goat	2	1			upper molars 1 and 2						

1020	1	Pit	Medieval			Mammal	8				fragments			butchered			one piece of worked bone removed
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Table 6: Summary catalogue of the animal bone

Key: NISP = Number of Individual Species elements Present

Measurable following Von Den Driesch, 1976

Countable following Davis, 1992

5.6 The Worked Bone by Julie Curl

5.6.1 A fragment of 42.6mm long of bone handle, weighing 6.8g was found from pit fill (1020) . The piece is made from a sawn length of equid metatarsal shaft, with additional saw cut on end of outer shaft, other end of piece is broken. Trimmed on outside of bone to form round handle, sawn end trimmed around outer edge with small knife shavings to make the sawn end more rounded. Some hollowing of inside of bone. The handle is too large for a table knife and suggests this was perhaps a handle for a larger kitchen tool. There are no traces of iron or any other metalwork on the inside of the bone, so it is possible that this was from an unfinished piece.

Context	Feature	Material	Qty	Weight	Length Max	Length Min	Width	Thickness	Diameter	Description
1020	Pit	Animal bone, Equid metatarsal	1	6.8g	42.6mm	20mm	33.1mm	6.9mm	Originally (complete) 33mm	Handle fragment

Table 7: The Worked Bone

6 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 During the archaeological evaluation of land east of Ivy House, Spaldwick, three bulk samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed. Two samples were from medieval deposits, while the third was from an undated context. The aim of the bulk sampling exercise was to determine the nature of preservation and distribution of ecofactual macrofossil remains within the archaeological deposits at the site. The environmental assemblage has been assessed for its local, regional and national potential and for its potential to contribute to the relevant research frameworks.

6.1.2 Archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological material was assessed by Dr John Summers.

6.2 Archaeobotanical Methodology

6.2.1 Samples were processed at the WA facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were sorted under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded using reference literature (Cappers et al. 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979; Kerney 1999) and a reference collection of modern seeds was available as necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

6.2.2 For the purpose of the assessment, all samples >10 litres were 50% sub-sampled. Samples <1> and <2> produced rich light fractions and the remainder of these will be fully processed, with the resulting light fractions retained in the site archive.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 The data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 8. Preservation of plant macrofossils was by carbonisation only, with no evidence for anaerobic waterlogging or mineralisation. Some shells of terrestrial molluscs were preserved but the range of taxa was limited, despite the local lime-rich soils.

6.3.2 Sample <1> of pit fill **(1020)[1019]** contained abundant carbonised plant macrofossils, predominantly cereal grains. Free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*) was the main taxon identified, with a single rachis internode of bread wheat

(*Triticum aestivum*) suggesting that this was the main wheat variety. This is in keeping with the medieval period in England, during which time bread wheat was the main cereal for flour and bread (e.g. Stone 2006), much as it is today. Smaller numbers of oat (*Avena* sp.) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) were also present, along with seeds of pea/bean (large Fabaceae). Seven fragments of hazelnut shell were also present and likely to represent food debris in the form of shells discarded into domestic hearths. However, it is possible that hazelnuts were also present with fuel wood.

- 6.3.3 Numerous seeds from non-cereal taxa were also present, the majority of which were vetch/ tare (*Vicia/ Lathyrus* sp.) and indeterminate medium Fabaceae (vetch/ tare type). These larger seeds are similar in size to cereal grains and can be retained through late stages of crop processing. Common vetch was often cultivated during the medieval period as a fodder and as part of crop rotation regimes (e.g. Moffett 2006, 53), although preservation was insufficient to positively identify the remains to species. Nitrogen fixing plants such as vetches used in crop rotation would be expected to persist as weeds within subsequent crops (e.g. de Moulins 2007, 393-395). Dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot (*Galium* sp.) were also present and are common arable weeds. Meadow/ bulbous buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/ bulbosus*) is more likely derived from grassland habitats, such as vegetation used as kindling, although a range of origins is possible. Cereal chaff was represented by three wheat rachis internodes and a single barley rachis internode. The number of wheat rachis internodes was too low to indicate the presence of crop processing by-products.
- 6.3.4 Sample <2> of pit fill **(1014)[1013]** was less rich than Sample <1> but was similar in composition. Grains of free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum* type) were dominant, accompanied by hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.), oat (*Avena* sp.) and pulses (large Fabaceae). Non-cereal taxa included a number of medium Fabaceae (vetch/ tare type) seeds and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), both of which are large-seeded and often retained with processed cereals. Cereal chaff was represented by a single cereal-size culm node (straw fragment).
- 6.3.5 Sample <3> was from undated gully fill **(1026)[1025]** and contained no identifiable ecofactual remains and the light fraction was overwhelmingly dominated by modern rootlets.
- 6.3.6 It is apparent from the remains in pits **[1013]** and **[1019]** that carbonised cereals are present in medieval deposits at the site in high concentrations. The samples were dominated by wheat grains, with small amounts of chaff but numerous large-seeded

weed taxa. The remains are likely derived from cleaned cereal crop, perhaps prior to final hand sorting to remove larger contaminants. The high density of remains in Sample <1> could imply debris from a drying or storage accident. A small number of grains from other cereals, pulses and hazelnut shell were also present, indicating domestic residues.

Sample number	Context	Feature	Description	Trench	Spot date	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Flot (g)	Carbonised cereals			Carbonised non-cereal taxa		Carbonised hazelnut shell	Charcoal		Molluscs		Contaminants				Other remains	
										Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes		Charcoal > 2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects		Earthworm
1	10 20	10 19	Fill of Pit	1	Medieval	4 0	2 0	50 %	3 8	XX X	X X	Notes HB (2), FTW (24), Trit (43), Oat (7), NFI (42), BW rachis (1), FTW rachis (2), Hord rachis (1)	Seeds Large Fabaceae (3), <i>Vicia</i> / <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. (4), Medium Fabaceae (23), <i>Ranunculus</i> <i>acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> (1), <i>Rumex</i> sp. (2), <i>Galium</i> sp. (1), Asteraceae (1)	Notes Large Fabaceae (3), <i>Vicia</i> / <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. (4), Medium Fabaceae (23), <i>Ranunculus</i> <i>acris</i> / <i>bulbosus</i> (1), <i>Rumex</i> sp. (2), <i>Galium</i> sp. (1), Asteraceae (1)	7	Charcoal > 2mm X	Notes Diffuse porous	Molluscs X	Notes <i>Carychium</i> sp., <i>Oxychilus</i> sp., <i>Vallonia</i> sp., <i>Vertigo</i> sp.	Roots XX	Molluscs X	Modern seeds -	Insects -	Earthworm -	Other remains -

2	10 14	10 13	Fill of Pit	1	Medie val	4 0	2 0	50 %	1 0	XX	X	HB (1), Hord (3), FTW (17), Trit (16), Oat (1), NFI (14), Culm (1)	X X	Large Fabacea e (1), Mediu m Fabacea e (6), Small Fabacea e (1), <i>Bromus</i> sp. (1), Large Poacea e (1)	-	X X	<i>Quer cus</i> sp., Diffus e poro us	X	<i>Valloni a</i> sp.	XX	X	X	-	-	Carboni sed bud (1)	
3	10 26	10 25	Fill of Gul ly	2	-	4 0	2 0	50 %	7 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	XX X	X	X	X	-	-	

Table 8: Results from the bulk sample light fractions from land east of Ivy House.

Abbreviations: HB = hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.); Hord = barley (*Hordeum* sp.); BW = Bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*); FTW = free-threshing type wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*); Trit = wheat (*Triticum* sp.); Oat (*Avena* sp.); Rye (*Secale cereale*); NFI = not formally identified (indeterminate cereal grain)

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Interpretation

- 7.1.1 During the archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to the east of Ivy House, two trenches were excavated over the proposed 0.12ha development area. The purpose of the evaluation was to establish the nature and extent of below ground archaeological remains within the vicinity. All trenches were excavated down to the top of the natural substrate. The survival of the archaeological features was good, and does not appear to have been influenced by past ploughing or later phases of development.
- 7.1.2 Archaeological remains were found in both of the trenches, though a higher concentration of features were encountered within the northernmost trench. The data recovered indicated past activity on the site primarily dating to the mid-12th to 14th centuries, with the pottery assemblage conceivably more specifically consistent with a mid-13th to mid-14th century bracket. This activity was represented by a series of ditches and gullies, including a possible beam slot, and two probable domestic waste pits.
- 7.1.3 As noted by Taylor (1989), Spaldwick is an example of a village that acquired its form as a result of conscious planning, rather than a process of 'organic' accumulative growth. The principal foci of Saxo-Norman to early medieval activity in the village was located to the west of Ivy House, within a D-shaped enclosure that contained the parish church and the earthwork traces of a possible windmill, a substantial building and numerous ponds (Schlee 1996). According to Taylor (1989), Spaldwick underwent re-planning from the 12th century, after the ownership of the village was transferred to the Bishops of Lincoln in 1109 and the Bishops Palace was founded in the mid-12th century. This interpretation is largely in concurrence with excavations identifying the construction of buildings to the north and south of Thrapston Road, and near the Bishops Palace, following the 12th century (Schlee 1996; Spoerry 1996; Clelland and Mepham 2014; Spoerry 2016). The archaeological remains identified during the investigation adjacent to Ivy House appear to be contemporaneous with, or subsequent to, the wholesale reorganisation of the village. The identification of a possible beam slot truncated by a probable waste pit could conceivably represent evidence of this process. The site, however, is probably best characterised as peripheral to the primary foci of activity to the west.

7.1.4 Although only a single very tentatively identified beam slot or gully was encountered during the current evaluation, the pottery recovered from the fills of the linear features and pits is wholly consistent with a domestic assemblage arising from occupation and structures in the close vicinity - including several cooking pot sherds that retained evidence of sooting. The ditches encountered, including a boundary that may have been re-cut multiple times, likely functioned as boundaries extending perpendicular from the High Street, which is known to have origins at least in the Saxon period (Taylor 1988), and yielded detritus from nearby activity. The two waste pits identified during the investigation are of particular interest, with their medieval deposits containing a high concentration of carbonised cereals. The remains are likely derived from cleaned cereal crop, perhaps prior to final hand sorting to remove larger contaminants. The high density of remains in from pit [1019] could imply debris from a drying or storage accident. Furthermore, a small number of grains from other cereals, pulses and hazelnut shell were also present, indicating domestic residues.

7.2 Significance

7.2.1 The archaeological remains encountered on land adjacent to the east of Ivy House are of local significance and contribute to our understanding of the medieval village of Spaldwick. Indeed, the findings can assist in the characterisation of medieval rural settlement morphology and evolution; research topics highlighted in the East of England Research Framework (EERF 2021).

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Trench 1

Length: 15.00m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: NE-SW

Maximum Depth: 0.50m

Minimum Depth: 0.49m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
1000	Topsoil	Compact, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay with frequent modern CBM and floral turbation.	0.00-0.20m	According to locals the previous owner imported a considerable quantity of soil to level the site for a tennis court.
1001	Subsoil	Firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with very occasional small sub-angular flint.	0.20-0.50m	-
1002	Natural Substrate	Firm, pale yellow red mixture of gravel and clayey sand.	0.50m+	-
1003	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated SSE-NNW, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (2.00m+ x 0.97m x 0.22m)	0.22m	-
1004	Fill of Ditch [1003]	Firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.22m	-
1005	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated SSE-NNW, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (2.00m+ x 0.82m+ x 0.23m)	0.23m	-
1006	Fill of Ditch [1005]	Firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.23m	-
1007	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated SSE-NNW, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (2.00m+ x 0.67m x 0.09m)	0.09m	-
1008	Fill of Ditch [1007]	Firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with frequent redeposited natural substrate.	0.09m	-
1009	Cut of Field Drain	Linear in plan, orientated SSE-NNW, with near vertical sides and a flattish base (2.00m+ x 0.16m x 0.28m)	0.28m	-

1010	Fill of Field Drain [1009]	Firm, dark grey brown silty clay surrounding a 120mm ceramic pipe.	0.28m	-
1011	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated SSE-NNW, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (2.00m+ x 0.77m x 0.25m)	0.25m	-
1012	Fill of Ditch [1011]	Firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.25m	-
1013	Cut of Pit	Sub-rounded in plan with gradually sloping sides and an irregular concave base (1.20m+ x 1.85m x 0.30m)	0.30m	-
1014	Fill of Pit [1013]	Firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay.	0.30m	-
1015	Cut of Pit	Linear in plan, orientated SE-NW, with gradually sloping sides and an uneven concave base (2.00m+ x 1.15m x 0.18m)	0.18m	-
1016	Fill of Pit [1015]	Firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay.	0.18m	-
1017	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated E-W, with moderately sloping sides and a flattish base (2.00m+ x 0.60m x 0.15m)	0.15m	-
1018	Fill of Ditch [1017]	Firm, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.15m	-
1019	Cut of Pit	Sub-oval in plan with steep sides and a concave base (1.20m+ x 1.55m x 0.59m)	0.59m	-
1020	Fill of Pit [1019]	Firm, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.59m	-

Trench 2

Length: 15.00m

Width: 1.80m

Orientation: NNW-SSE

Maximum Depth: 0.53m

Minimum Depth: 0.52m

Context Number	Context Type	Description	Height/Depth	Discussion
1000	Topsoil	Compact, dark grey brown silty/sandy clay with frequent modern CBM and floral turbation.	0.00-0.29m	According to locals the previous owner imported a considerable quantity of soil to level the site for a tennis court.

1001	Subsoil	Firm, pale grey brown silty/sandy clay with very occasional small sub-angular flint.	0.29-0.53m	-
1002	Natural Substrate	Firm, pale yellow red mixture of gravel and clayey sand.	0.53m+	-
1021	Cut of Pit	Sub-oval in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (0.80m x 1.25m+ x 0.50m)	0.50m	-
1022	Fill of Pit [1021]	Friable, pale blue grey silty/sandy clay.	0.50m	-
1023	Cut of Ditch	Linear in plan, orientated E-W, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (2.00m+ x 0.40m x 0.14m)	0.14m	-
1024	Fill of Ditch [1023]	Friable, mid grey brown silty/sandy clay.	0.14m	-
1025	Cut of Gully	Linear in plan, orientated E-W, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (1.00m+ x 0.50m x 0.12m))	0.12m	-
1026	Fill of Gully [1025]	Firm, mid grey brown sandy/silt clay.	0.12m	-
1027	Cut of Pit	Sub-rounded in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (0.40m+ x 0.55m x 0.16m)	0.16m	-
1028	Fill of Pit [1027]	Firm, mid grey brown sandy/silty clay	0.16m	-

APPENDIX 2: PLATES



Plate 1; Pre-excitation view of Trench 1, looking to the southwest.



Plate 2; Pre-excitation view of Trench 2, looking to the northwest.



Plate 3; Ditch [1017] and pit [1019], within Trench 1, looking to the south.



Plate 4; Ditches [1003] [1005] [1007] [1011] and field drain [1009], looking to the southeast.



Plate 5; Pit [1013], looking to the southeast.



Plate 6; Ditch [1015], looking to the southeast.

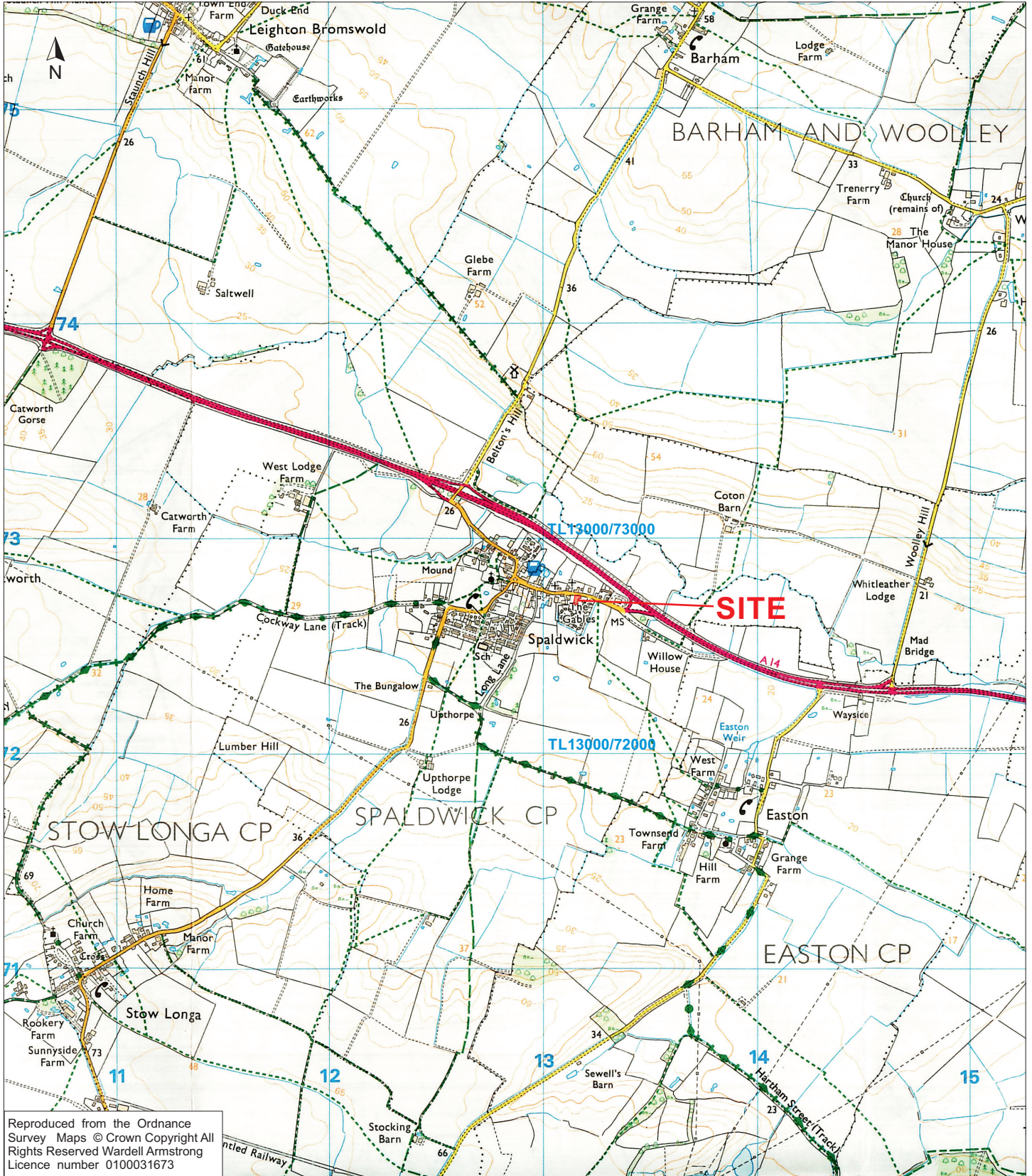


Plate 7; Pit [1021] and gully [1023], looking to the west.




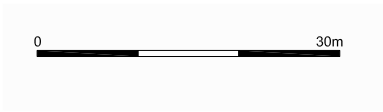
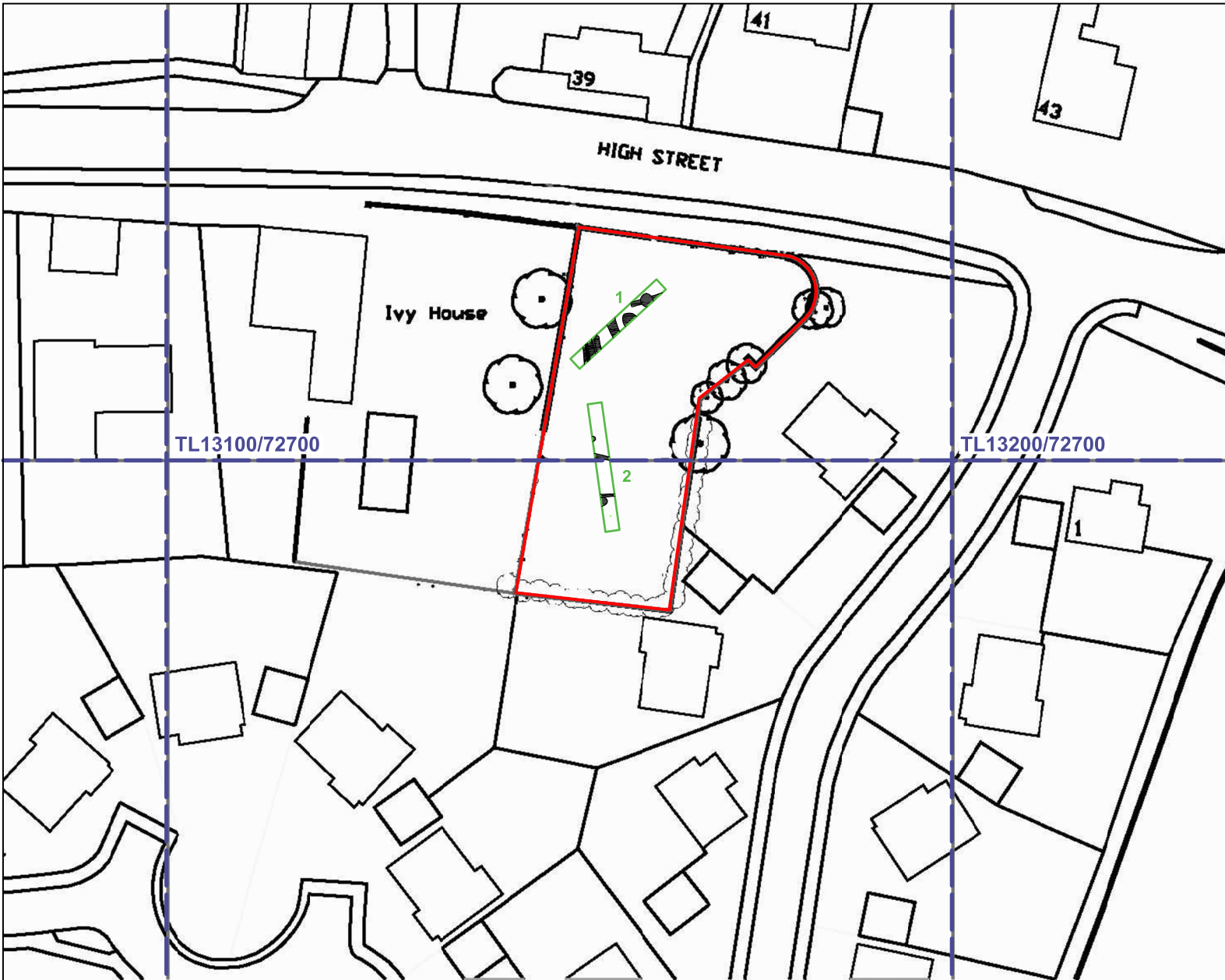
Plate 8; Gully [1025], looking to the east.

APPENDIX 3: FIGURES



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DRAWING TITLE	Figure 1 Site Location Plan		DRAWN BY	DHH	CHECKED BY	LP		APPROVED BY	RG											
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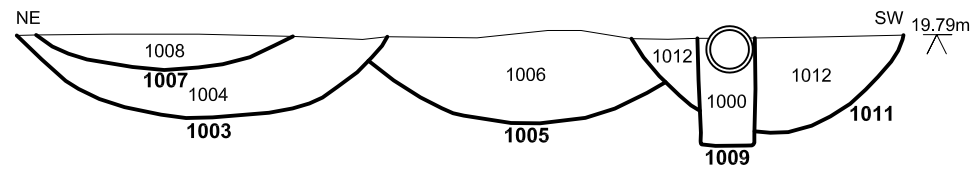
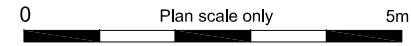
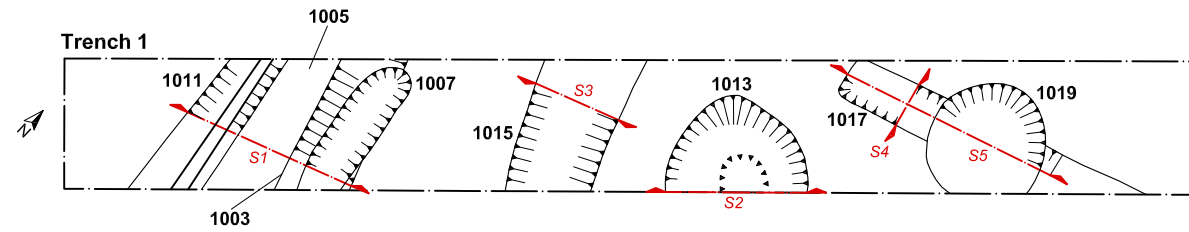
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Detailed site location plan

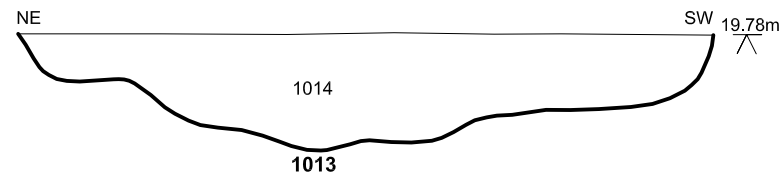
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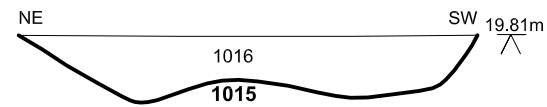
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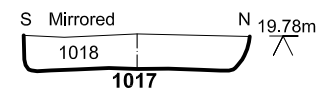
S1: Northern facing section of ditches 1003, 1005, 1007, 1011, and field drain 1009



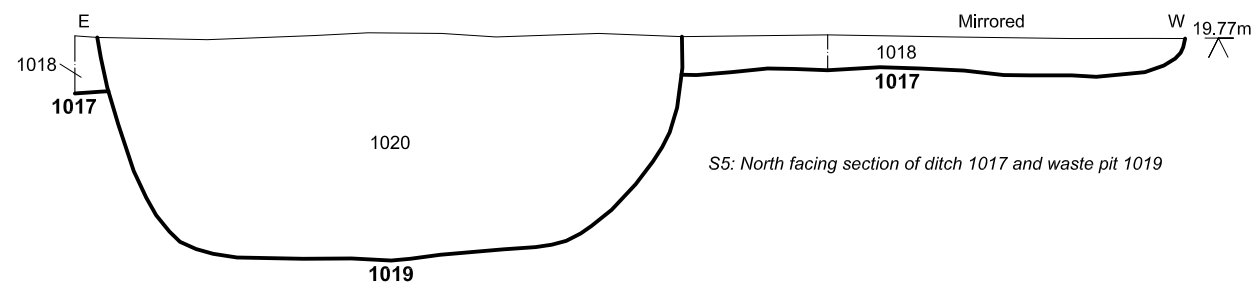
S2: North-west facing section of waste pit 1013



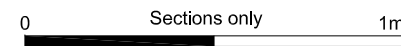
S3: South facing section of ditch 1015



S4: East facing section of ditch 1017



S5: North facing section of ditch 1017 and waste pit 1019



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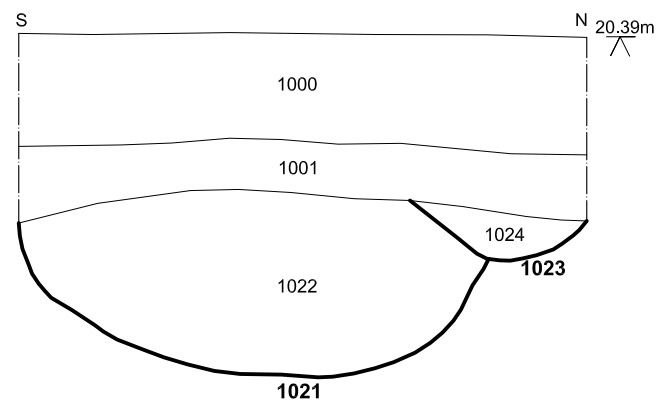
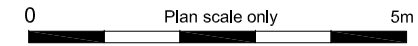
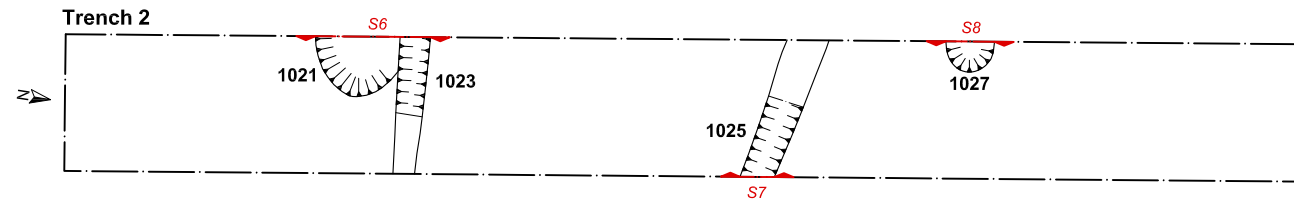
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Figure 3:
Trench 1 Plans and Sections

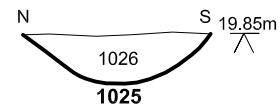
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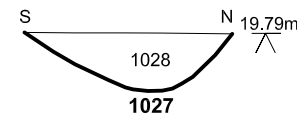
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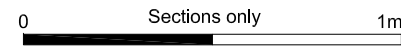
S6: East facing section of pit 1021 and gully 1023



S7: West facing section of gully 1025



S8: East facing section of pit or ditch terminus 1027



REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRN	CHKD	APP'D

CLIENT

PROJECT
Land East of Ivy House,
38 High Street, Spaldwick

DRAWING TITLE
Figure 4:
Trench 2 Plans and Sections

DRG No. BE10099-103 REV A

DRG SIZE A3 SCALE 1:20; 1:100 DATE 12.08.2021

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Summary for wardella2-502299

OASIS ID (UID)	wardella2-502299
Project Name	Trial Trench at Land East of Ivy House, 38 High Street
Activity type	Trial Trench
Project Identifier(s)	BE10099
Planning Id	19/00211/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Wardell Armstrong Archaeology
Project Dates	05-Aug-2021 - 10-Aug-2021
Location	Land East of Ivy House, 38 High Street NGR : TL 13160 72700 LL : 52.340714889423, - 0.340425874270889 12 Fig : 513160,272700
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Cambridgeshire District : Huntingdonshire Parish : Spaldwick
Project Methodology	The archaeological evaluation was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for field evaluation (2020a), and in accordance with the WA fieldwork manual (2021). The fieldwork programme was followed by an assessment of the data as set out in the Standard and guidance for field evaluation (CIfA 2020a) and the Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (CIfA 2020b).

Project Results	<p>The data recovered indicated past activity on the site primarily dating to the mid-12th to 14th centuries, with the pottery assemblage conceivably most consistent with a mid-13th to mid-14th century chronological range. This activity was represented by a series of ditches, gullies, and two probable waste pits. The archaeological remains identified appear to be contemporaneous, or subsequent to, the wholesale reorganisation of the village in the medieval period, from the 12th century onwards.</p> <p>Although no structural remains were encountered during the evaluation, the pottery recovered from the fills of the linear features and pits is wholly consistent with a domestic assemblage - including several cooking pot sherds that retained evidence of sooting. The ditches encountered likely functioned as boundaries extending from the High Street, which is known to have origins in at least the Saxon period, and yielded the detritus from nearby activity. The two waste pits identified during the investigation are of particular interest, with their medieval deposits containing a high concentration of carbonised cereals. The remains are likely derived from cleaned cereal crop, perhaps prior to final hand sorting to remove larger contaminants. The high density of remains in the pits could imply the debris is the result of a drying or storage accident. A small number of grains from other cereals, pulses and hazelnut shell were also present, indicating domestic residues.</p>
Keywords	<p>Ditch - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Gully - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Pit - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Cooking Vessel - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Animal Remains - MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p>
HER	Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	ECB6525

Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeological Store
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