



Archaeological Test Pit Excavations in Ipswich, Suffolk, 2011

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1 Summary

This report presents the results of the 'Dig and Sow' programme of the excavation of seven 1m² archaeological 'test pits' in the People's Community Garden in the Maidenhall area of Ipswich, in the early autumn of 2011. The excavations were part of 'On Landguard Point' an arts project funded by Arts Council England via its 'Artists taking the Lead' programme for the Cultural Olympiad of the London 2012 Olympic Games. The aim of 'Dig and Sow' was to enable members of the public to experience places familiar to them in a new way by excavating in private gardens and other open spaces within living East Anglian communities, searching for archaeological evidence left by people who lived in those communities in the past. Over a single day, more than 20 people took part in the excavations in Ipswich which produced thousands of finds and provided new evidence for the development of settlement in the area from the prehistoric period onwards.

The results of the excavations showed that the landscape in Maidenhall immediately to the west of the River Orwell in Ipswich had likely settlement on site during the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Iron Age and was again settled in the 9th century as the Saxon town expanded further south. This continued through the medieval, when occupation was at its peak until the Black Death swept through the town during the 14th century.

By successfully involving members of the public of all ages and backgrounds from within, across and beyond the community of Maidenhall in Ipswich in planning, organising and undertaking the excavations, the 'Dig and Sow' excavations enabled participants to find out more about their local heritage, take part in the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad and enjoy a community event while generating new evidence to inform understanding of the past development of their homes, their community and its wider landscape.

2 Introduction

In early autumn 2011, a series of seven 1m² archaeological test pits were excavated in the Maidenhall area of Ipswich town in SE Suffolk over a single day on the 18th September 2011. Excavations were undertaken by residents of Ipswich and members of the public participating in a 'Dig and Sow' Community Dig under the supervision of Access Cambridge Archaeology (University of Cambridge). The excavation was funded by The Arts Council England as part of their On Landguard Point project and was undertaken under the direction of Access Cambridge Archaeology, based in the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge, who provided on-site instruction and supervision. All seven pits were dug in an area of the Maidenhall community garden allotments, an area chosen by the arts company responsible for devising and delivering 'On Landguard Point', the 'Artists Taking the Lead' project for the eastern region of England.

2.1 On Landguard Point

The On Landguard Point project, orchestrated by the Pacitti Company, is a project about "the places we call home; what we think of as home and what it means to host others in our home"¹. The whole project involved a series of live large scale outdoor events through 2011 and early 2012 across the east of England, including Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire and was funded by the Arts Council England as part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

The test pitting was part of the 'Dig and Sow' experience, involving a mass public excavation of 205 test pits in the eastern region (one for each country competing in the Olympics), in search of traces of home. After the test pits were excavated (and prior to backfilling) a silver clay charm was placed in the base of each test pit. 205 symbols were created and were taken directly from 'A People's Encyclopaedia for the East of England'².

One village was chosen from each of the six counties, Clavering in Essex, Potton in Bedfordshire, Peakirk in Cambridgeshire, Ashwell in Hertfordshire, Paston in Norfolk and Ipswich in Suffolk and a total of 147 test pits were excavated across the region.

2.2 Access Cambridge Archaeology

Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) (<http://www.access.arch.cam.ac.uk/>) is an archaeological outreach organisation based in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology in the University of Cambridge which aims to enhance economic, social and personal well-being through active engagement with archaeology. It was set up in 2004 and specialises in providing opportunities for members of the public to take part in purposeful, research-orientated archaeological investigations including excavation. Educational events and courses range in length from a few hours to a week or more, and involve members of the public of all ages.

Thousands of members of the public have taken part in scores of programmes run by ACA, including teenagers involved in Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) test pit excavation programmes intended since 2005 to build academic skills, confidence and aspirations. More widely, ACA has involved thousands of members of the public of all ages and backgrounds, including those with special needs, in a wide range of archaeological

¹ <http://www.onlandguardpoint.com/?cat=9> (Accessed October 2012)

² http://www.onlandguardpoint.com/?page_id=58 (Accessed August 2012)

activities including field-walking, excavation, analysis and reporting. These have included projects funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and events in 2011-12 as part of the Cultural Olympiad for the 2012 London Olympic Games.

2.3 Test pit excavation and rural settlement studies

Rural settlement has long been a crucial area of research for medieval archaeology (Gerrard 2003; Lewis et al 2001, 5-21), notably since the pioneering work of W. G. Hoskins, Maurice Beresford and John Hurst in the 1940s and 1950s (Hoskins 1955; Beresford 1957; Beresford & Hurst 1971). Until recently, however, attention has focused largely on the minority of medieval settlements that are presently deserted or extensively shrunken. Currently occupied rural settlements (CORS), archaeological sites now overlain by domestic housing and related buildings of living secular communities – the villages, hamlets and small towns of today – were generally largely disregarded as targets for research-driven excavation. Very few regions have seen any systematic research-driven primary investigation aimed at CORS, and most of that which has taken place has not involved excavation, for example those of a survey based nature (Roberts 1987; Roberts and Wrathmell 2000; Roberts and Wrathmell 2003). Recent attempts to redress this bias in favour of the majority of still-inhabited medieval rural settlements have opened up new areas for debate, which are beginning to call into question established theories about the development of rural settlement in the historic period (Aston & Gerrard 1999; Jones & Page 2007). Despite these recent advances, however, the number of CORS to have seen methodical research-orientated investigation that includes excavation remains very small.

In order to begin to resolve this problem, Access Cambridge Archaeology, working with members of the public including school pupils, has carried out test pit excavations in more than 30 CORS, most in eastern England. This new research is contributing towards developing the evidence-base upon which our knowledge and understanding of the origins and development of the medieval rural settlement pattern of eastern England is based, generating a new overall dataset that is more representative of the entire range of medieval settlements, not just on the minority of currently deserted archaeological sites (Lewis 2005, 2006; 2007a; 2007b, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013 and 2016).

3 Aims, objectives and desired outcomes

3.1 Aims

The aims of the test pit excavations in Ipswich were as follows:

- To engage with local communities and widen the participation of people in the heritage of the valley.
- To allow local community participants to develop a wide range of practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the setting, origins and development of Ipswich and its environs.
- To inform future interpretation and presentation of the monument.
- To increase understanding of the area to support employment, sustainable tourism and encourage inward investment.

3.2 Objectives

The objectives of test pit excavations in Ipswich were as follows:

- To investigate the archaeology of the environs of Ipswich through test-pitting carried out by members of the community in properties throughout the town.
- To provide the opportunity for a minimum of 30 volunteers to learn new practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To support and engage with members of local communities through involvement with the project.

3.3 Outcomes

The desired outcomes of the test pit excavations in Ipswich were as follows:

- A minimum of 80 people with new archaeological skills.
- A minimum of 150 people with an enhanced understanding and awareness of Ipswich.
- An engaged and informed local population.
- An improved knowledge and understanding of the archaeological resource of the town of Ipswich.

4 Methodology

The test pitting in Ipswich was organised by ACA in conjunction with The People's Community Garden in Maidenhall, with both the excavation and recording following the standard Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) instruction handbook and recording booklet.

The test pit digging took place over one day, with volunteers beforehand given the recording booklets to familiarise themselves with the excavation procedure. On the day of the excavation families mainly dug together but if there were extra volunteers, ACA organised people into teams of at least three people, some with more. Additional equipment was provided by ACA for those who did not own a full set of digging tools.

The test pits are all 1m² and the turf, if present, was removed in neat squares by hand. Each test pit is excavated in a series of 10cm spits or contexts, to a maximum depth of 1.2m. The horizontal surface of each context/spit is then drawn at 1:10 scale before excavation, a photograph taken and the colour recorded with reference to a standardised colour chart, included in the written handbook. A pro-forma recording system was used by the students to record their test pit excavation. This comprises a 16-page pro-forma *Test Pit Record* booklet which has been developed by ACA for use with students as well as members of the public with no previous archaeological experience. The site code is IPS/11.

During the excavation 100% of the spoil is sieved through a 10mm mesh (with the occasional exception of very heavy clay soils which have to be hand-searched). All artefacts are retained, cleaned and bagged by context. Cut and built features are planned at 1:10 and excavated sequentially with latest deposits removed first. Pottery and most other finds are identified promptly by archaeological experts who are on site for the duration of the excavation and visit the test pits regularly; and at the same time provide advice and check that the excavation is being carried out and recorded to the required standard. Test pits are excavated down to natural or the maximum safe depth of 1.2m, whichever is encountered first. A minority of test pits will stop on encountering a feature, (ancient or modern) which archaeological staff deem inadvisable or impossible to remove, and occasionally excavation may cease at a level above natural due to time constraints. On completion of each test pit excavation, all four sections are drawn at 1:10 along with the unexcavated base of the test pit prior to backfilling by hand and the turf replaced neatly to restore the site.

After the excavation, the archaeological records and finds (all of which are kept and cleaned on site) are retained by ACA at the University of Cambridge for analysis, reporting, archiving and submission to HER's, publication and ongoing research into the origins and development of rural settlement. Ownership of objects rests in the first instance with the landowner, except where other law overrides this (e.g. Treasure Act 1996, 2006, Burials Act 1857). ACA retain all finds in the short term for analysis and ideally also in the longer term in order that the excavation archives will be as complete as possible, but any requests to return finds to owners will be agreed.



5 Location

Ipswich is a large town situated in southeast Suffolk at the mouth of the river Orwell, centred on TM 161425 (figure 1). The town, which is the county capital, lies 16km inland from the port at Felixstowe, 26km NE from Colchester city centre, 74km SE from Cambridge city centre and 106km NE from London city centre. Today the Borough of Ipswich covers 15.2 square miles & the population in the 2011 census was 133,400^{3,4}.

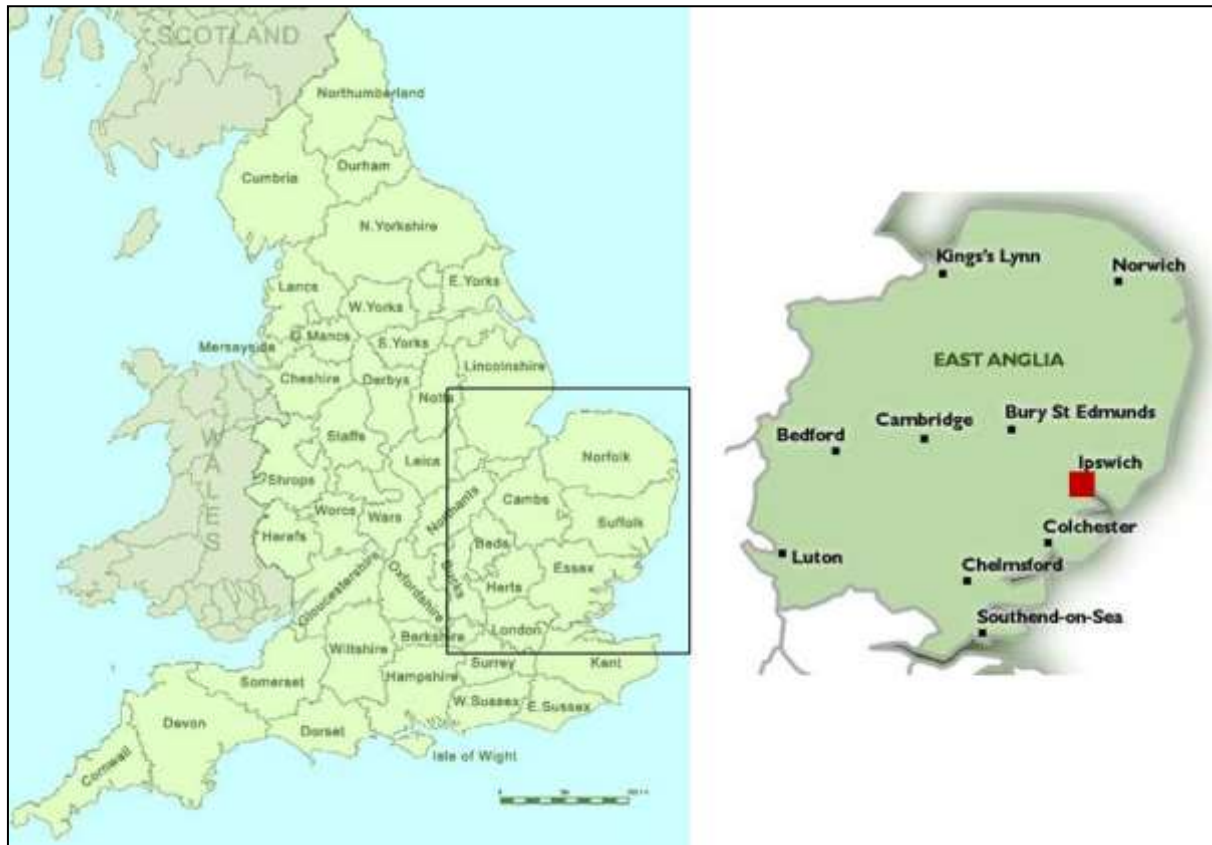


Figure 1: Map of England with a close up insert of East Anglia with the town of Ipswich highlighted in red

The river Orwell snakes just to the south and west of the main area of settlement in Ipswich. The Maidenhall area containing the allotments where the test pit excavations took place is sited just south and west of a bend in the river in the south west part of the modern parish of Ipswich, immediately west of the Great Eastern Main railway line that run between London Liverpool Street and Norwich, at the junction of Halifax Road and Montgomery Road (figure 2). The whole area is looped to the south and west by the A14 road.

Central areas of Maidenhall today are comprised largely of post-World War II era housing, while the area between the railway line and the river is dominated by wharfs and container parks. Stoke Park in SE Maidenhall comprises a small area of open ground lightly covered in trees. The civic buildings include Halifax Primary School, Stoke High School and a sports centre. Religious buildings include the medieval church of St Mary's at Stoke located beside Stoke Bridge, Stoke Green Baptist church on Halifax Road founded in June 1955⁵, and St Francis Anglican church on Hawthorn Drive built in 1957⁶.

³ <http://www.planetsuffolk.com/suffolkenland.htm#706983647> (accessed October 2012)

⁴ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

⁵ <http://www.stokegreenbaptist.org.uk/Pages/History.aspx> (accessed October 2012)

⁶ <http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/stfrancisipswich.htm> (accessed October 2012)



Figure 2: The modern district of Ipswich town, showing the district of Maidenhall in the SW of the town, inside the bend of the River Orwell © Crown Copyright/database right 2017. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service

6 Geology and Topography

Suffolk is a coastal county in East Anglia, and is bordered by Essex to the south, Cambridgeshire to the west, Norfolk to the north and the North Sea east.

Ipswich is situated 16km inland from the North Sea coast in SE Suffolk straddling the River Orwell where the river begins to widen into a river estuary, joining the estuary of the river Stour before opening out into the North Sea. The town lies on a series of deposits truncated by the down cutting of the River Orwell, including sand and silty clays of the Palaeogene period which overlie basal Cretaceous chalk. The River Orwell has shifted its position slightly through time, including during the Last Interglacial period c.120,000-90,000 years ago (referred to locally as “the Ipswichian”) where the so-called “Stoke Bone Bed” was laid down, but it has not moved significantly in recent times. The banks on either side of the river where the town now lies rise in places quite rapidly to between 40-50m OD.

7 Archaeological and Historical Background

Ipswich town appears to have been founded as a trading port during the early Saxon period (by c.7th century AD latest), at a point where the Orwell estuary could most easily be forded, close to the present location of Stoke Bridge. The origins of the name 'Ipswich' may be traced via its entry in the Domesday Book where it is listed as *Gipeswic*, while other textual documents record it as *Gippeswiche*, or *Gypewici*. Although spelt with a 'G' this was silent when the name was pronounced and the spelling thus evolved through *Yppyswyche* into *Ipswiche*, and finally into the spelling we know today. There are two possible origins for the name; the first stems from the fact that the Old English verb to yawn was *Gipian*, suggesting that the town could have been named after a seventh century Saxon called 'Gippa the yawner' (or Gipe the yawner). The other more straightforward possibility is that the name comes from joining *Gipa* meaning opening or estuary, with the word *Wic* meaning a town, dwelling or settlement⁷.

Evidence for pre-Saxon settlement in the vicinity of Ipswich is rather limited, and relates mainly to Palaeolithic finds made in the river gravels and flood deposits associated with the River Orwell. Sporadic finds of Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation show ephemeral activity during these early periods, which continued into the Roman era when the main occupation evidence is represented by a large villa complex on Castle Hill to the NW of Ipswich town centre, and a possible river crossing point associated with a handful of buildings on the modern day Handford Road⁸. Following its founding by the Saxons, however, the town seems to have grown quickly and by the late 7th or early 8th century Ipswich was, along with Southampton and London, one of the most important trading centres in Britain. The reason for the town's rise during this period is the easy access it had to goods traded to and from the continent, which encouraged the growth of markets and brought substantial wealth and population settlement. The famous burial site of Sutton Hoo, including the ship burials (6th-7th centuries) is located just 13km NE of Ipswich, a clear sign of the importance of ships to the culture of the time and the wealth accumulating in this coastal region. Ipswich is also located right on the border between the two Anglo Saxon kingdoms of Essex and East Anglia, which may have given it some political prominence as well.

Another sign of the importance of Ipswich from the Middle Saxon period onwards is the development and spread of Ipswich Ware, a kiln-fired plain sandy greyware finished on a slow turn-table in use between 650-850 AD. In the previous two centuries most pottery manufactured locally in Britain had been simple hand-formed bonfire-fired jars, most of which were manufactured at a domestic level, with little evidence that full-time, professional potting took place⁹. The development of Ipswich Ware thus reflects the use of a more sophisticated technology not seen in England since the making of Romano-British pots, and similar to the techniques used to make thinner, fast-wheel-thrown pots on the continent. Ipswich Wares were usually grey and smooth, in appearance, and proved popular in England, spreading quickly. Within a few decades they were used almost exclusively all over East Anglia and have been found at sites across England from Kent to York; it had a far greater distribution than any other contemporary English pottery type¹⁰. Ipswich Ware was eventually superseded by another type made primarily in Ipswich, this time a finer, thinner sandy greyware pottery turned on a fast wheel known rather counter-intuitively as Thetford Ware (in use between 850-1150 AD).

⁷ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

⁸ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

⁹ http://www.academia.edu/401957/STRANGER_IN_A_STRANGE_LAND_MIDDLE_SAXON_IPSWICH_WARE (accessed October 2012)

¹⁰ *Ibid*

The village burgeoned rapidly in the 9th century into a thriving town of c.50 hectares (Hill et al. 2008), reflecting the fact that by the time of the Norman conquest Suffolk was one of, if not the, most heavily populated county in England¹¹. Early written references to Ipswich town record that the inhabitants were under threat from Danish raiders, with major attacks in 919, 991, 1010 and in 1069¹². Another early written record comes from 970 AD when King Edgar made a land grant of parts of Ipswich including Stoke to the Prior of Ely¹³. Sometime around this period the town was also granted a royal licence to operate a mint, and the earliest coins bear the head of King Edgar and the names of the minters, Leofric and Lifringe¹⁴. Minting continued in Ipswich though the Norman Conquest up until 1215, when King John shut the mints down.

Ipswich continued to thrive following the Norman invasion and is recorded in the Domesday Book as having 12 churches, testifying to its size and importance. On 25th May 1200 the town was granted a town charter by King John, giving it the right to self-government. Ipswich temporarily had a wood-built castle in the 11th-12th centuries, erected by the then Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, Roger Bigod. However the castle was soon ordered demolished by King Henry in 1176 as a punishment following a series of disputes and treasons against successive kings by the owners, and although the town was later defended with a ditch and ramparts no castle has been built again since CHECK¹⁵.

Ipswich continued to grow throughout the medieval period, driven by successful trade and commerce industries. Aside from pot-making, other key trade items in Ipswich included cloth made in centres across Suffolk. Later in the medieval and post-medieval period, shipbuilding also became a key activity in Ipswich, an industry driven by the town's proximity to Europe coupled with the easy navigability of the Orwell River which together facilitated the flourishing maritime and riverine trade activities. The ship-building industry seems to have been important in Ipswich from at least the end of the 12th century, as the town seal (dating from 1200 AD) depicts a ship similar in design to the collier ships or 'Ipswich Catts' as they became known, with a tower at either end (figure 3). Ipswich went on to become a leading national centre for shipbuilding during the late 16th century, due partly to the excellent quality of the local Suffolk timber and partly due to the threat from the Spanish Armada¹⁶. Ship-building likely took place initially in St Clement's parish on the eastern shore of the Orwell (in the vicinity of today's University Campus Suffolk building), before expanding to many areas of the riverside down river of Stoke Bridge.

¹¹ <http://www.the-orb.net/encyclop/culture/towns/ipswich1.html> (accessed October 2012)

¹² <http://www.the-orb.net/encyclop/culture/towns/ipswich1.html> (accessed October 2012)

¹³ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

¹⁴ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

¹⁵ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

¹⁶ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

Throughout the Medieval and into the Post-medieval period, Ipswich was thus a flourishing commercial town connecting British merchants with those from the continent, and known



Figure 3: The town seal, showing a ship with castles mounted at the front and back.
From: <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm>

specifically for its relatively high-quality pottery, its access to Suffolk timber and cloth and later for its shipbuilding industry. This rich cultural setting provided inspiration first for Geoffrey Chaucer who satirised the merchants of Ipswich in the *Canterbury Tales* (dated around 1380), and much later during the Industrial Revolution the town was used by Charles Dickens as a setting for his novel *The Pickwick Papers*. Other famous residents include Cardinal Thomas Wolsey who was born in Ipswich around 1475 and founded a college in the town in 1528, and Lord Nelson who moved to the town in 1797 and was appointed High Steward of Ipswich in 1800¹⁷.

Today the Borough of Ipswich covers 15.2 square miles and the population in 2008 was estimated at 122,300. The long history of the town is testified by the c.600 listed buildings that still survive in Ipswich. Further information on the history of Ipswich in general and the parish of Stoke can be found online at <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm>, or at <http://www.the-orb.net/encyclop/culture/towns/ipswich1.html>.

During medieval times, the central core of Ipswich town was encircled within earthen ramparts and a defensive ditch system, thought to enclose an area correlating approximately with the modern borough of Ipswich¹⁸. The areas of the town outside these

¹⁷ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ipswich> (accessed October 2012)

¹⁸ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

ramparts were split into four hamlets or holdings: Wicks Bishop (SE holding), Wicks Ufford (NE holding), Brookes (NW holding) and Stoke (SW holding, the only part of the town south of the River Orwell). As the test pits were excavated in Maidenhall within the medieval parish of Stoke, the remainder of this summary concentrates on the history of the Stoke area.

7.1.1 *The parish of St Mary Stoke*

The name Stoke comes from the Old English *stoc*, meaning an outlying farm or place, usually one held by a religious house – in this case the Abbey of Ely. The boundaries of the former parish of Stoke were formed by the river Orwell from Stoke Bridge to Bourne Bridge, then along Belstead Brook before diverting away towards the holy well in the vicinity of today's Holcombe Crescent, probably re-joining the river somewhere west of Handford Bridge (figure 4). Parts of the parish of Stoke were likely settled at a very early date, during the 8th century when the Stoke Bridge crossing was created¹⁹ with a small hamlet clustered around the bridgehead (testified by the finds noted on the Suffolk HER, noted below). In 970 AD King Edgar then granted Stoke to the Abbey of Ely, however the abbey played little role in managing things on the ground and remained content to reap the income afforded from the farmland in the parish. Certainly, however, by the time of the Norman conquest the church of St Mary at Stoke had been founded and endowed at Stoke Hill (a few yards south of Stoke Bridge), granting them income from most of the parish lands which were rented out to farmers. These developed into substantial holdings in their own right, but never into small hamlets. By the 11th century a second parish had appeared in Stoke, the parish of St Augustine, which was located somewhere on a strip of land near the river, precise location unknown (IPS 140). This second parish appears to have been small and of relatively minor importance, the last known reference to which is made in 1459. Overall, however, the impression is of a busy thriving merchant town located on the north bank while the south bank, composed of low gently undulating hills, was occupied by farmers who overlooked the busy town life across the river. The main road to London left Ipswich via the bridge at Handford avoiding Stoke altogether, and the parish thus retained a more independent character.²⁰

The medieval mansion of Stoke Park (now demolished) once stood in the present area of the park, and formed a separate entity to the land managed by the Abbey at Ely. The first record of Stoke Park dates to 1651, although it is possible the manor had existed since the early 16th century²¹. Also during the medieval period a leper hospital known as St Leonard's had stood somewhere near the river Orwell and Bourne bridge (IPS 145), but this land was purchased by the corporation of Ipswich in 1722 and by 1800 there was a small hamlet around Bourne Bridge called *Halifax*, connected with a shipbuilders yard in this area of the same name²². During the 17th century the parish of Stoke also expanded towards the southwest to include Gusford Hall and its estates, although this area was also mostly farmland. Population across Stoke parish thus remained low and spread out throughout the whole medieval, post-medieval and Victorian periods.

¹⁹ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

²⁰ <http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/stmaryatstoke.htm> (accessed October 2012)

²¹ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

²² <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

Beginning around the 18th century or possibly a bit before and continuing until relatively recently, the western banks of the river Orwell in Stoke parish between Stoke Bridge and

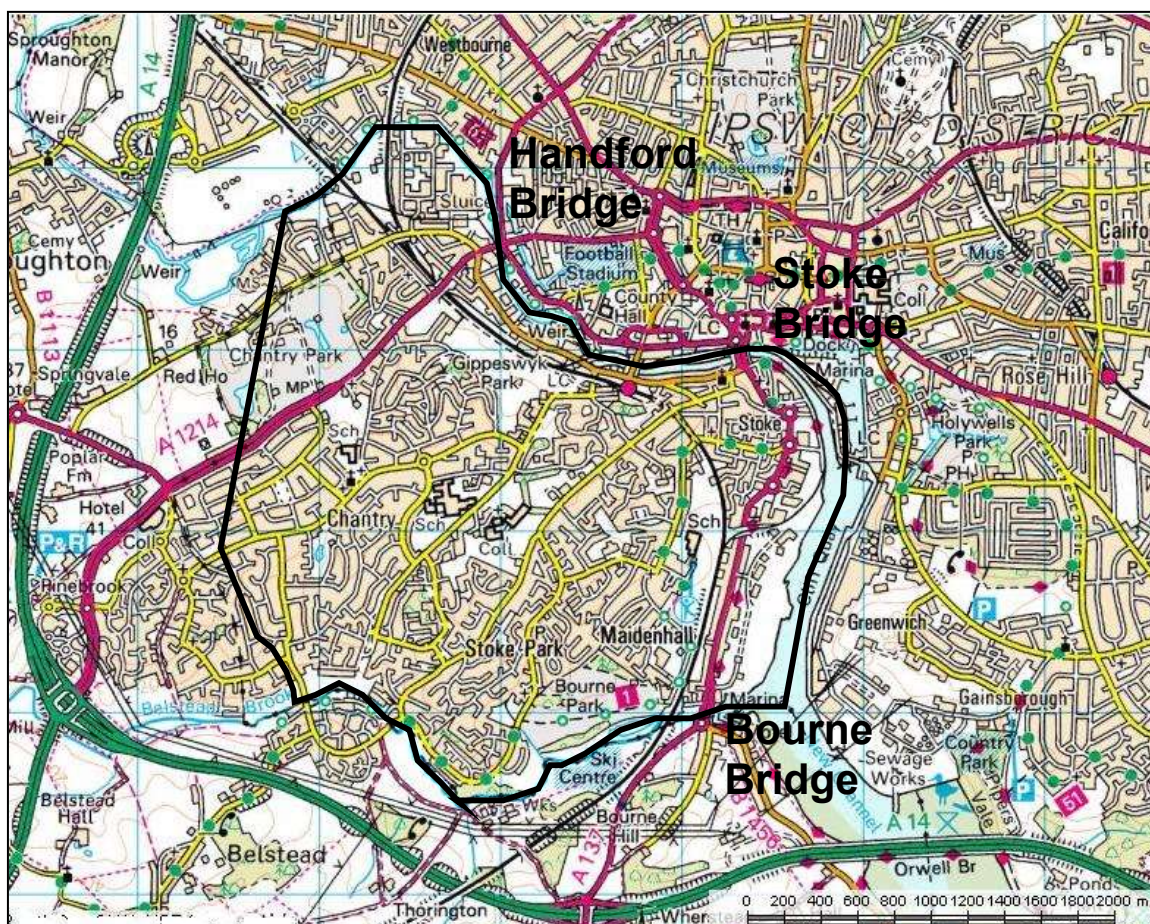


Figure 4: Approximate boundaries of the former parish of Stoke © Crown Copyright/database right 2017. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service

Bourne Bridge seems to have been dominated by ship-builders yards. One of the earliest was St Peter's shipyard, located close to Stoke Bridge. Further south in the area now known as the West Bank Terminal (across the railway line from Maidenhall where the test pitting sites were located) was formerly the Nova Scotia ship-building yard. It remains unclear when this ship-yard was established, but there are records of it being sold to a new owner in 1713²³. Next to this was another shipyard known as Halifax, located close to Bourne Bridge, and in the early 19th the workers of this shipyard (over 100 in number) settled a small hamlet by Bourne Bridge, also known as Halifax.

7.1.2 Maidenhall

Maidenhall, the area where the test pits were excavated, is located in the east of the Parish of Stoke more than 1km away from Stoke Hill where the parish church once stood by Stoke Bridge, near to the river Orwell along a stretch once colonised by ship-builders yards. The medieval church of St Augustine probably once stood somewhere within or very close by to Maidenhall, although the actual location is not known. No medieval settlement is known in the Maidenhall area and with the exception of the former isolated Maiden Hall residence, the Maidenhall area is also depicted as virtually devoid of settlement on the Ordnance Survey map of 1887, when it is shown as an area of fields traversed by the Colchester stretch of the Great Eastern Railway line (figure 5). Sometime during the 19th century, however, a new farm was built by the owners of the Stoke Park estate on a site virtually on

²³ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

top of the current Stoke High School (figure 5). This farm was known as Maiden Hall Farm (i.e. not yet old), which went on to give the estate its name.

The first known substantial housing in the Maidenhall area dates to the immediate post-World War II era, when a council estate was built and the present street pattern established. House-building then continued throughout the district for the remainder of the second half of the 20th century. Maidenhall today is divided by the railway line, and



Figure 5: Stoke parish, as recorded on the 1871 Ordnance Survey map, showing the location of Maiden Hall and the test pitting sites in red © Crown Copyright/database right 2017. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service

dominated to the west by dense residential housing across most of its territory, and to the east by wharfs and container parks close to the river.

Although Maidenhall is close to the important Anglo-Saxon settlement of Ipswich, archaeological finds from the area include a large number of important Palaeolithic finds, mostly derived from the Stoke bone bed where excavations have produced faunal remains including mammoth, along with a small number of worked flints. Archaeological evidence for later periods is clustered mostly in the vicinity of the bridgehead to Stoke Bridge. A summary of all archaeological finds listed on the Suffolk HER within 1km of Stoke Park is given below²⁴.

7.2 Prehistoric activity

There is significant evidence for Palaeolithic activity in the vicinity of Ipswich. The main finds have come from the Stoke bone bed, a layer of sediments laid down during the Ipswichian Interglacial c. 110,000-80,000 years ago by the equivalent of the River Orwell that flowed through this area at the time. It is thought the sediments were laid down in a meander of the river where the water lapped up against a cliff during periods of flooding, possibly trapping animals and killing them. Finds include mammoth bones, including one animal whose feet had become stuck in silt, other animal bones including red deer, horse, wolf, bird, fish and rodents, and some lithics including a Levallois flake (IPS 163). Other finds probably from the same sedimentary deposit include some mammoth bones and worked Palaeolithic flints found during the construction of the Stoke Hill Tunnel, where a

²⁴ http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Advanced_Search.aspx? (searched October 2012)

black layer of bones and flints was identified (Suffolk HER number: IPS 072). Further Palaeolithic finds in the area include an Acheulean hand axe and other lithic tools (IPS 060, IPS Misc.). One lithic find has been attributed to the Mesolithic, a 13cm long blade found in Belstead Road (IPS 006).

Evidence for Neolithic activity in Maidenhall suggests small-scale occupation in the area. The main find comprises a Neolithic activity floor with hearth, pottery, polished flint axe head and other cultural objects that was excavated in Kesteven Road, north Stoke (IPS 057). Other Neolithic-era finds comprise a greenstone axe from Orwell works (IPS 059), a flint pick and other worked flint tools found at Maidenhall School (IPS 019), and a polished flint axe head that was dredged from the river Orwell adjacent to the bridge by Princes Street Bridge (IPS 021).

Moving into the Bronze Age, ephemeral activity is testified by a find of three small Bronze Age funerary urns at St Joseph's College in central Stoke (IPS 070), a possible perforated stone axe-head from Maidenhall School (IPS 019), and a Late Bronze Age socketed bronze spear-head from Hog Highland (IPS 060).

7.3 Roman activity

A Roman villa is known to have existed in north Ipswich at this time, but otherwise the area was only minimally occupied during this period and the nearest main occupation centre was located to the south in Colchester. Despite this, finds from the Maidenhall area include a silver Roman coin and some pottery including Samian Ware (IPS 052), discovered in the vicinity of Gippeswyk Hall near the river (now owned by the Red Rose Chain theatre group). Another Roman coin and some Roman pottery were also found just to the east of Stoke Bridge in Great Whip Street (IPS 143). Further Roman pottery has been excavated from Halifax County Primary School during the construction of the school playground (IPS 074), situated within 500m of the area where the allotments where the test pits were dug. Together these finds suggest some ephemeral activity was taking place in this area during the Roman period, possibly connected with farming activities controlled by the local villa, and/or local small isolated farmhouses.

7.4 Saxon Settlement

The settlement at Ipswich was founded sometime during the 7th century AD, and there is good evidence for increased levels of disturbance and occupation across the northern areas of Maidenhall and Stoke around Stoke Bridge at this time. The main evidence comes from a large excavation conducted in the 1970s over a 500m² area in the vicinity of Vernon Street, just to the south of Stoke Bridge (IPS 141). Finds included ditch and post hole features, lots of middle Saxon pottery and metal Saxon items such as iron shears, bronze tweezers, and a bronze bell. Further pottery finds of Saxon wares such as Ipswich Ware have been made in the area around the bridgehead (IPS 140; 142), and the church of St Mary's Stoke was built in this period, prior to the Norman conquest (IPS 139). A possible Saxon-era cemetery is also recorded SW of Stoke Bridge in Philip Road (IPS 141; 414), with further pottery finds in Kesteven Road further to the west (IPS 057). Overall the distribution suggests a small area of more intensive occupation around the bridgehead of Stoke Bridge, with scattered occupation along the banks of the river both the south and west.

7.5 High and Later Medieval period

Evidence for occupation continues in the vicinity around Stoke Bridge represented by finds including pottery and metal objects such as needles, pins and rings (e.g. IPS 139; 141; 142;



143; 144). Medieval sherds have also been found in Wherstead Road, just to the east of the test pitting site near the river (IPS 294) and a medieval finger ring was found in Maidenhall Approach immediately west of the test pitting site (IPS Misc.). The chapel of St Augustine is also known to date to this period; a possible location has been suggested as the junction of Great Whip Street and Vernon Street, although there no archaeological evidence was found to support this suggestion during excavations in the area (IPS 140). A medieval lodge located north of Stoke Park may also date to this period (IPS Misc.).

7.6 Post-Medieval period

During the late 16th century Ipswich became a leading centre for shipbuilding, due partly to the excellent quality of the local Suffolk timber and partly driven by the threat from the Spanish Armada²⁵. The Nova Scotia and Halifax shipyards in Maidenhall was in use from at least the early 18th century (IPS 265; 266), located along the river Orwell close to the test-pitting sites. A lime kiln (IPS 480) and Kings Cooperidge (IPS 270) are also shown ancient survey maps within the area of Stoke. Specific archaeological finds include further evidence of occupation in the vicinity of Stoke Bridge (IPS 141), mentions of Victorian-era foundations in Wherstead Road (IPS 294).

²⁵ <http://www.planetipswich.com/ipswichengland.htm> (accessed October 2012)

8 Results of the test pit excavations in Ipswich

The approximate locations of the seven 1m² test pits excavated on the 18th September 2011 can be seen in figure 6, all located in the Maidenhall community allotments. This location was chosen by the arts company responsible for devising and delivering ‘On Landguard Point’, the ‘Artists Taking the Lead’ project for the eastern region of England. The excavation of such a small number of pits in an area with little evidence for historic settlement might have been expected to produce little of interest, but this did not in fact prove to be the case. The data from each test pit is discussed in this section and set out in numerical order. Most excavations were undertaken in spits measuring 10cm in depth, but in cases when a change in the character of deposits indicated a change in context, a new spit was started before 10cm.

An assessment of the overall results, synthesizing the data from all the pits, including deductions about the historic development of Ipswich and the potential of the buried heritage resource of the village is presented in the following Discussion section (Section 9). Finds from each test pit are discussed in summary in this section, and listed in detail in the relevant appendices (Section 13). Photographs of sites under excavation and of all finds are included in the archive, but not included in this report for reasons of space.

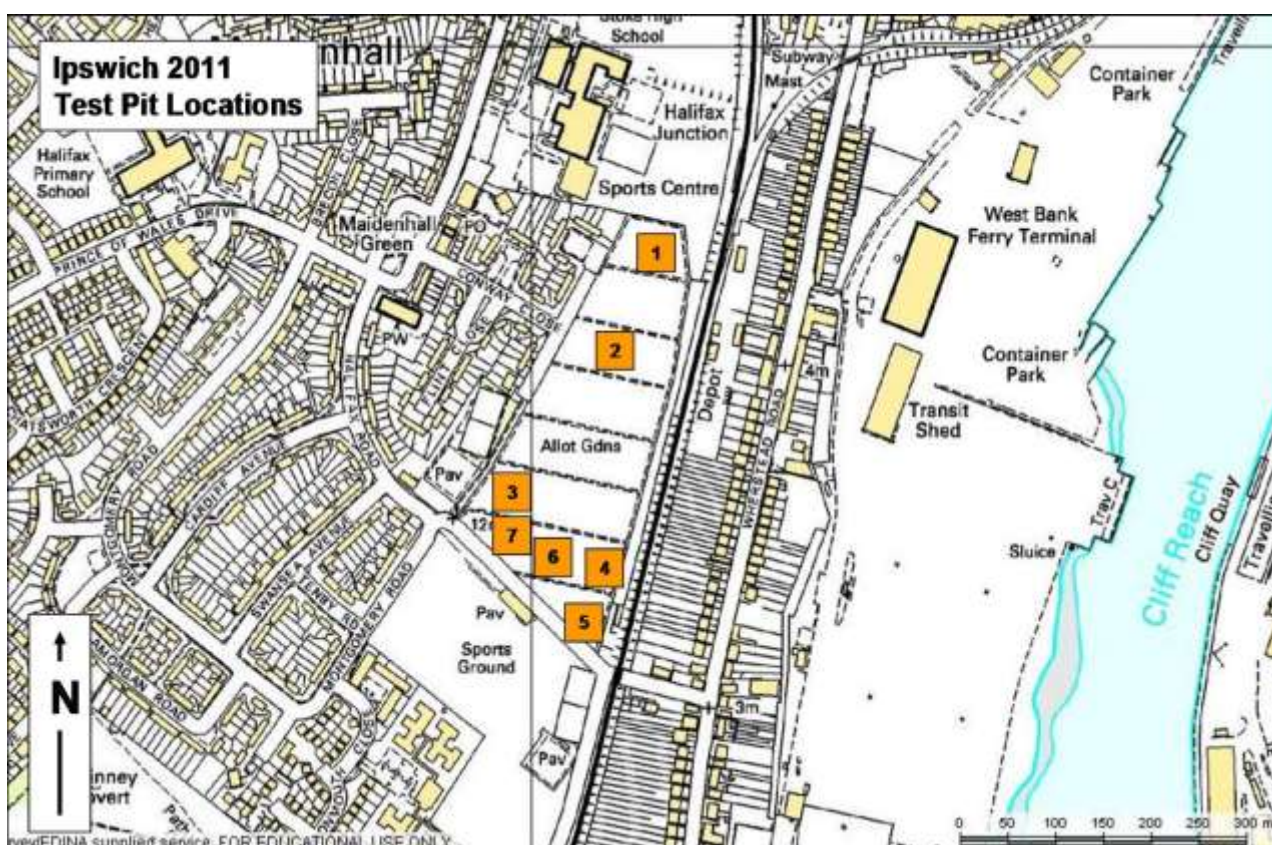


Figure 6: Location map for the seven test pits excavated in Ipswich in 2011 – NB test pits not shown to scale © Crown Copyright/database right 2017. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service

Test Pit one (IPS/11/1)

Test pit one was excavated in the far north of the allotments in the former bee garden (The Bee Garden, Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616158 242790).

Test pit one was excavated to a depth of 0.7m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

Single sherds of both Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Tudor Green Ware were excavated from IPS/11/1. Seven sherds of Victorian pottery were also recovered from the upper contexts.

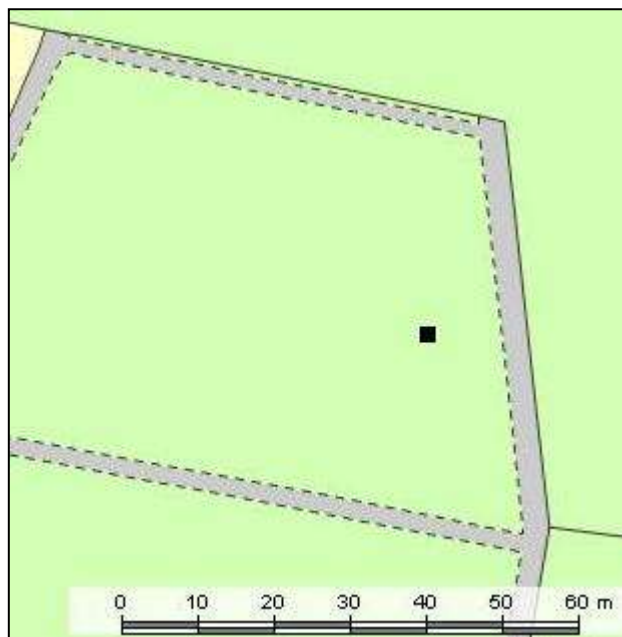


Figure 7: Location map of IPS/11/1

Test Pit	Context	EMW		TUDG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	1					3	11	1800-1900
1	2					4	9	1800-1900
1	4	1	1	1	2			1100-1550

Table 1: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/1

The presence of early medieval pottery from IPS/11/1 suggests that there was likely limited activity at that time in this part of Ipswich, despite its location close to the river, the area could likely have been kept as open fields. After which it appears to have been abandoned until the 19th century, but was most probably still utilised as open fields while the railway line was being built immediately to the west and until the surrounding housing estates were built in the mid-20th century. The finds consist of thin glass tube fragments, CBM, coal, pieces of scrap metal, clay pipe, slate, glass and a large piece of slag, suggestive of metal working close to site. Two secondary and one tertiary flint flakes were recorded through the upper three contexts of the test pit with a flint blade and a small piece of burnt stone.

Test Pit two (IPS/11/2)

Test pit two was excavated in plot 154a of the allotment gardens (Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616069 242636).

Test pit two was excavated to a depth of 0.8m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

A number of Late Saxon Thetford Ware sherds and Early Medieval Sandy Ware were both excavated from IPS/11/2. These were mixed in with single sherds of both Glazed Red Earthenware and Delft Ware, plus a number of Victorian wares.

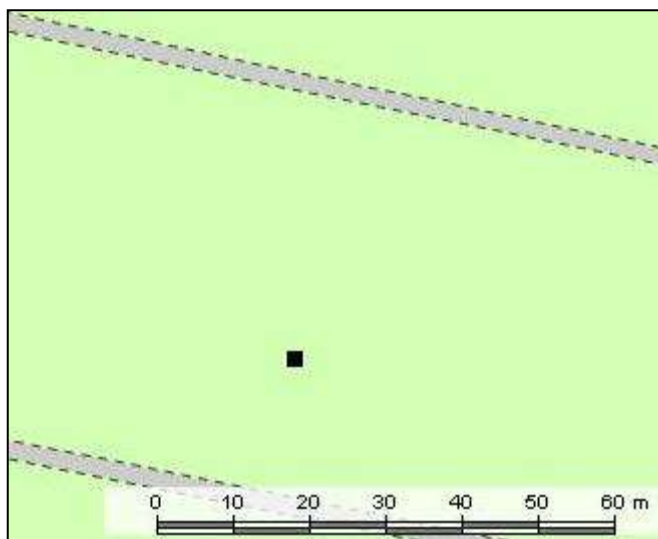


Figure 8: Location map of IPS/11/2

Test Pit	Context	THET		EMW		GRE		DW		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
2	2									1	1	1800-1900
2	3			1	3	1	6	1	2	5	8	1100-1900
2	4	3	6	1	1					2	4	850-1900
2	5	1	6	1	1							850-1200

Table 2: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/2

The Late Saxon pottery identified in IPS/11/2 was the only Late Saxon activity recorded in the allotments through the test pitting strategy. This suggests that the core of the Late Saxon town of Ipswich to the north, had extended activity to this area, although potentially just as open fields, which actually continued into the high medieval. There appears to have been a lack of activity after the 13th century, this area was probably generally abandoned until the railway line came through and some rubbish was starting to be dumped in this area. The finds consist of coal, a piece of felt, clay pipe, iron nails, CBM, a metal button, a possible glass bead, tile and slate. Five secondary flint flakes were also recovered through the test pit from contexts three, four, five and six as well as one sheep-sized fragment of animal bone from context three.

Test Pit three (IPS/11/3)

Test pit three was excavated in plot 192 of the allotment gardens (Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 615972 242562).

Test pit three was excavated to a depth of 0.9m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The vast majority of the pottery excavated from IPS/11/3 dates to the Victorian period, although a number of sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, Glazed Red Earthenware and Delft Ware were also recovered.

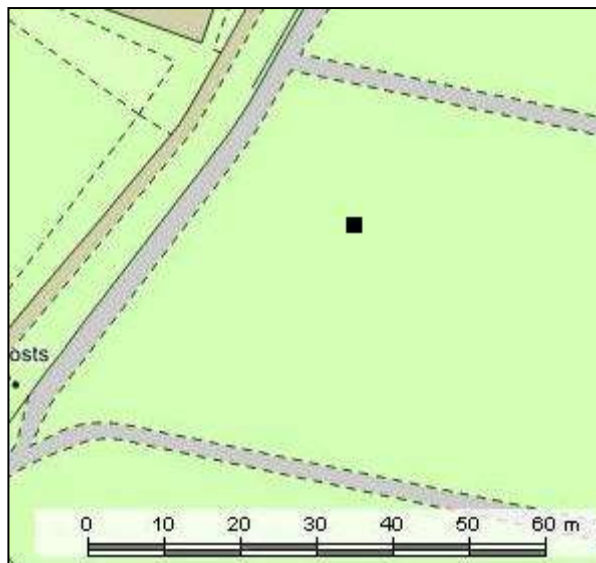


Figure 9: Location map of IPS/11/3

Test Pit	Context	EMW		GRE		TGE		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
3	1	1	1					3	12	1100-1900
3	2							2	2	1800-1900
3	3	1	4	1	1	3	4	8	18	1100-1900
3	4							13	32	1800-1900
3	5	3	12					2	5	1100-1900
3	6			1	1			1	1	1550-1900
3	7	1	4	1	2					1100-1600

Table 3: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/3

A spread of high medieval activity has been recorded through the test pits in the allotment gardens, suggesting the potential for a farmstead or similar dwelling somewhere close to the allotments that was however abandoned into the 13th century. There was minimal use on site after that, until the railway was built in the 19th century and there is an increase in the disposal of domestic rubbish on site. The finds consist of coal, CBM, iron nails and screws, slate, silver foil, pieces of concrete, oyster shell, glass, a slate pencil, modern CBM, tile, pieces of scrap metal, clay pipe, a glass bottle stopper and a number of pieces of slag, suggestive of metal working on or very close to site. Three secondary and two tertiary flint flakes were also recorded through the test pit with a single flint blade and two pieces of burnt stone as well as bird, fish and sheep sized animal bone fragments which were found though the upper four contexts of the test pit.

Test Pit four (IPS/11/4)

Test pit four was excavated in plot 252 of the allotment gardens (Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616086 242470).

Test pit four was excavated to a depth of 0.7m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

A small amount of both Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Late Medieval Ware were excavated with post medieval wares of Staffordshire Slipware and Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed Stoneware. The majority

of the pottery recovered from IPS/11/4 however dates to the Victorian period.

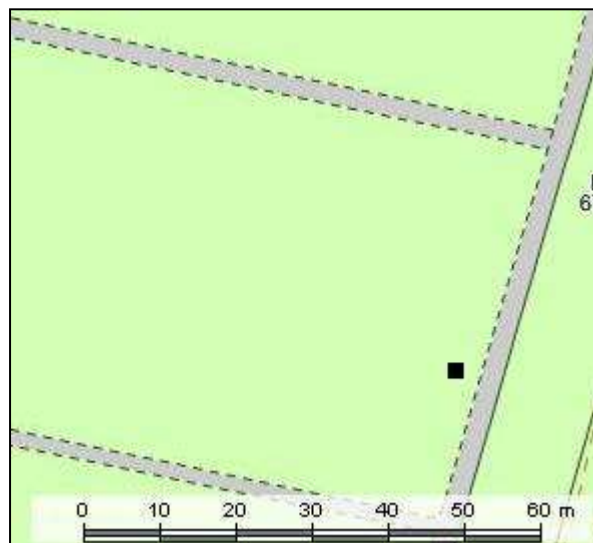


Figure 10: Location map of IPS/11/4

Test Pit	Context	EMW		LMT		SS		SWSG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
4	1					1	1			5	5	1650-1900
4	2									4	5	1800-1900
4	3									5	7	1800-1900
4	4							1	4	1	1	1720-1900
4	5	1	4	1	31					2	4	1100-1900
4	6	1	5							2	9	1100-1900

Table 4: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/4

There is a continuation of high medieval occupation evidence from the results of IPS/11/4, which also for the first time continues into the later medieval period suggesting the site was not totally abandoned into the 15th century, just scaled back. Again the limited activity continues into the post medieval and peaks into the 19th century after the construction of the nearby railway the area was utilised for the disposal of rubbish. A large number of finds were excavated from test pit four and include CBM, glass, iron nails and bolts, asbestos, a fragment of blue plastic wire cover, tile, clay pipe, concrete, mortar, slate, fragments of plastic, oyster shell, fragments of plastic wrappers, modern nails and screws, thin metal wire, washing line cord, modern tile and CBM, pieces of scrap metal and a number of pieces of slag, suggesting metal working close to site. One primary, eight secondary and three tertiary flint flakes were also recovered through the test pit with two flint blades and five pieces of burnt stone. Fragments of bird and sheep-sized animal bone were also found with seven fragments of pig bone that were also mixed through all the contexts of the test pit.

Test Pit five (IPS/11/5)

Test pit five was excavated in plot 245 of the allotments, in the community garden (Community Garden, Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616062 242432).

Test pit five was excavated to a depth of 1m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

Single sherds of both Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Ipswich Glazed Ware were both excavated from IPS/11/5, with a number of sherds of Victorian pottery.

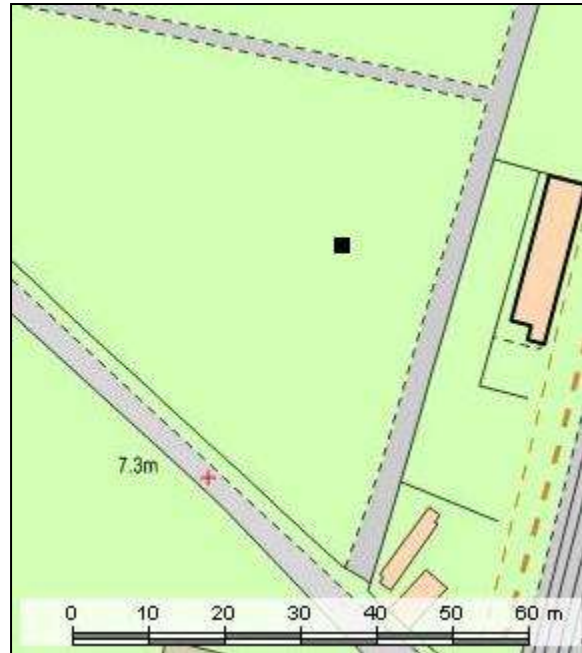


Figure 11: Location map of IPS/11/5

Test Pit	Context	EMW		IGW		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
5	2					2	7	1800-1900
5	3					5	14	1800-1900
5	4	1	4			4	7	1100-1900
5	5			1	5	1	2	1275-1900
5	6					1	1	1800-1900

Table 5: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/5

The location of IPS/11/5 appears to be peripheral to the main focus of high medieval activity further north that has been identified through the test pitting strategy in the allotment gardens. This area was likely open fields during the 12th century with very little activity until the 19th century and a change in land use, particularly with the railway line. The finds excavated from test pit 5 consist of slate, glass, iron nails, fragments of plastic, CBM, asbestos, clay pipe, pieces of scrap metal, coal, plastic wrappers, pieces of wool, twine, silver foil, metal screws, metal buttons and pieces of shell. Three secondary and two tertiary flint flakes were also recorded through the test pit with eight pieces of burnt stone, as well as pig and donkey bone fragments that were recorded with both cattle-sized and sheep-sized animal bone.

Test Pit six (IPS/11/6)

Test pit six was excavated in plot 247 of the allotment gardens (Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616037 242488).

Test pit six was excavated to a depth of 1m, at which natural was found. Excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was excavated from the lower half of IPS/11/6. This was found with sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, Ipswich Glazed Ware, Glazed Red Earthenware and Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed Stoneware. A number of sherds of

Victorian pottery were also recovered.

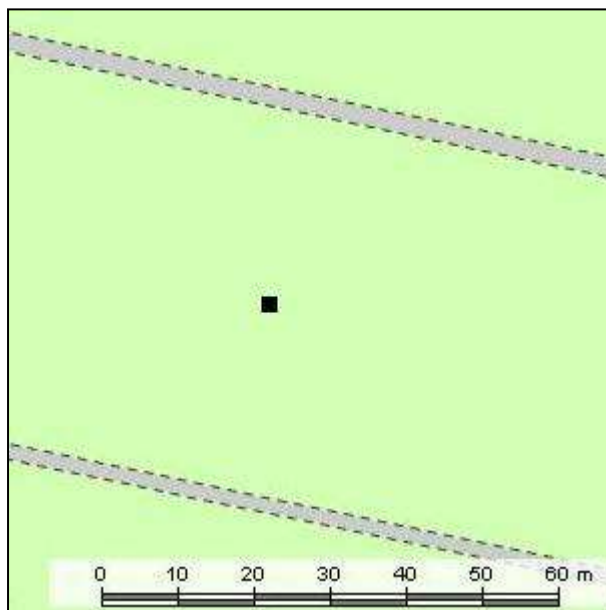


Figure 12: Location map of IPS/11/6

Test Pit	Context	IA		EMW		IGW		GRE		SWSG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
6	1			1	1					1	2	3	17	1100-1900
6	2							1	1			9	14	1550-1900
6	3			1	5			1	10	1	2	2	2	1100-1900
6	4					1	7					3	8	1275-1900
6	6	1	4	1	3									800BC-1200

Table 6: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/6

The only sherd of Iron Age pottery that was excavated from the test pits on the allotment gardens was identified from IPS/11/6, hinting at the presence, albeit limited, activity on site at that time. The medieval pottery also recovered supports the theory of a likely farmstead or houses on site at that time until the 13th century when there was a real drop off of activity until the 19th century. The finds excavated consist of tile, modern bolts, glass, oyster shell, clay pipe, coal, fragments of plastic, CBM, iron nails, pieces of silver foil, slate, shell, pieces of scrap metal and a number of pieces of slag, suggestive of metal working on or close to site. Five secondary and two tertiary flint flakes were also recorded through the upper half of the test pit with 11 pieces of burnt stone.

Test Pit seven (IPS/11/7)

Test pit seven was excavated in a plot to the south western corner of the allotment gardens (Maidenhall Allotments, Halifax Road, Ipswich. TM 616015 242512).

Test pit seven was excavated to a depth of 0.8m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The vast majority of the pottery excavated from IPS/11/7 dates to the Victorian period, although single sherds of both Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Glazed Red Earthenware were also identified.

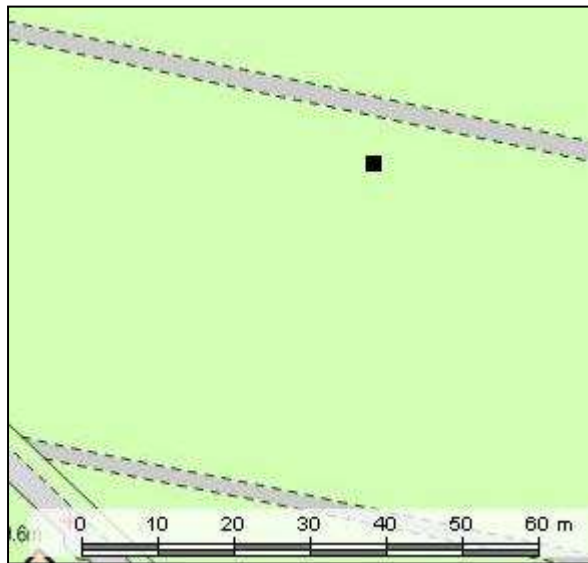


Figure 13: Location map of IPS/11/7

Test Pit	Context	EMW		GRE		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
7	1					1	12	1800-1900
7	2					2	17	1800-1900
7	3					5	12	1800-1900
7	5			1	2			1550-1600
7	6					4	8	1800-1900
7	7	1	5			1	2	1100-1900

Table 7: The pottery excavated from IPS/11/7

The location of IPS/11/7, much like that of IPS/11/5 appears to be peripheral to the main focus of high medieval activity identified through the test pits on the allotments and was also marginally utilised again in the 16th century. The main period of activity was from the 19th century and later as a mix of finds were excavated through the test pit, suggesting also a lot of disturbances. The finds consist of half a glove, a piece of green plastic wire cover, plant tags, tile, CBM, pieces of plastic, glass, coal, metal wire, pieces of wool, mortar, twine, pieces of black roof lino, iron nails and rods, pieces of scrap metal, modern nails, shell, mortar, clay pipe and a few pieces of slag, suggestive of metal working close to site. Two secondary flint flakes were recorded from contexts four and six with six pieces of burnt stone from the lower half of the test pit and a single piece of sheep-sized animal bone was also recorded from context six.

9 Discussion

The excavation of such a small number of pits in an area with little evidence for historic settlement might have been expected to produce little of interest, but this was not in fact the outcome, and a number of observations can be made of the retrieved data.

A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from IPS/11/6, but a number of worked flints were also found through all seven of the test pits excavated on the allotments, the earliest being four blade based removals of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. The presence of further later Neolithic activity suggests that there was likely a settlement in the area at that time, which then continued into the Bronze Age, given the flake based material present. The simple manufacture approach may also indicate later prehistoric activity into the Iron Age, which would also support the notion of continued activity in the area, given the Iron Age pottery also recovered. There is also evidence of trade or travel to this settlement given the type of flint found from IPS/11/2 that is not available locally and the settlement here may have had connections with groups in the south of England.

Aside from the Iron Age pottery, the earliest ceramic material was Thetford Ware, dating to the mid-9th to late 11th century, four sherds of which were recovered from the lowest excavated spits of IPS/11/2. Thetford ware was made in Ipswich from c.850 AD, so it might be expected to turn up in larger numbers than might be expected on sites further from its site of manufacture, but nonetheless the discovery of this number of sherds from an apparently undisturbed deposit does hint at the presence of settlement, or at least some fairly intensive activity, in the vicinity at this time.

Even more notable was the discovery of pottery of 12th – 14th century date, which was found in all of the excavated Maidenhall test pits, with a significant number derived from layers with no evidence of recent disturbance. None of the pits produced very large amounts of pottery of this date, but IPS/11/3 and IPS/11/6 produced slightly more than others (seven and four sherds respectively), possibly hinting at an increase in intensity towards the west of the excavated area. Overall, it is difficult to dismiss this volume of pottery as likely to derive simply from medieval manuring, and so it is deemed likely to indicate some more intensive activity, possibly settlement, at this date in the vicinity. It is possible this relates to the area around an antecedent of the now destroyed Maiden Hall, which lay less than 500m to the north-west of the excavated area. No evidence has to date been found to link this to the site of the lost medieval church of St Augustine.

As is the case with many of the sites where test pitting has been carried out in the eastern region, the Maidenhall pits display a sharp decline in the volume of post-14th century pottery recovered – sharper indeed, than most: just one sherd of this date was recovered from the allotment pits, from IPS/11/4, on the eastern side of the allotments. Whatever activity was causing pottery to be discarded on this site in the 12th – 14th centuries seems to cease, probably entirely, in the later period. Although the sherd count picks up a little in the late 16th – 18th centuries, it remains low, with very little glazed redwares and just a few sherds of finewares suggesting the area is not in intensive use at this time. Only in the 19th century does the picture begin to change, with larger numbers of sherds recovered. These are doubtless a consequence of the rapid expansion of the area once the nearby railway depot was established.

10 Conclusion

Overall, the archaeological test pit excavation programme carried out in Ipswich in 2011 was very successful. It fulfilled its aim of providing an opportunity for members of the public to get involved in excavating within their own community and take part in part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. Residents in the Maidenhall area of Ipswich engaged with the project and gained new archaeological skills and a new appreciation of the heritage under their feet. Feedback from those involved was also immensely positive.

The archaeological evidence gained from the excavations have advanced the knowledge and understanding of the Maidenhall area of the town, from the Mesolithic period onwards with evidence for activity on the western banks of the River Orwell until the later Iron Age. The extent of the Saxon town of Ipswich also extended to the site of the allotments by the 9th century and continued to grow into the medieval period with intense occupation noted on site until the Black Death swept through the town during the 14th century.

These excavations have provided new evidence for the likely extent of surviving archaeological evidence under the People's Community Garden in Maidenhall, Ipswich and should be of use in managing this resource in the future.

11 Acknowledgements

The 2011 test pit excavations at Ipswich were funded as part of 'On Landguard Point' by Arts Council England through Artists taking the Lead for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad and their support is gratefully acknowledged. Additional funding support was also gratefully received from the D M McDonald Fund, administered by the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge. The Ipswich excavations were directed by Carenza Lewis and supervised by Catherine Collins (nee Ranson), with help from Matthew Collins (CAU) and John Newman. Paul Blinkhorn analysed the pottery, Vida Rajkovača looked at the faunal remains and Lawrence Billington the Lithics. The Pacitti Company devised and directed 'On Landguard Point' and were responsible for pre-excavation arrangements, and thanks for this are due to Robert Pacitti and his team and especially to Ellie Carter from SGA productions who committed a huge amount of time and energy to making the 'Dig and Sow' projects happen.

In Ipswich thanks are due to Susannah Robirosa who is the team development officer for The People's Community Garden in Maidenhall and secured the sites in the allotments to excavate and all those who took part in the excavations.

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13 Appendices

13.1 Pottery report from Ipswich test pits – *Paul Blinkhorn*

IA: Iron Age. Sandy hand-built ware, 800-100BC

THET: Thetford ware. So-called because archaeologists first found it in Thetford, but the first place to make it was Ipswich, around AD850. Potters first began to make it in Thetford sometime around AD925, and carried on until around AD1100. Many kilns are known from the town. It was made in Norwich from about AD1000, and soon after at many of the main towns in England at that time. The pots are usually grey, and the clay has lots of tiny grains of sand in it, making the surface feel a little like fine sandpaper. Most pots were simple jars, but very large storage pots over 1m high were also made, along with jugs, bowls and lamps. It is found all over East Anglia and eastern England as far north as Lincoln and as far south as London.

EMW: Early Medieval Sandy Ware: AD1100-1400. Hard fabric with plentiful quartz sand mixed in with the clay. Manufactured at a wide range of generally unknown sites all over eastern England. Mostly cooking pots, but bowls and occasionally jugs also known.

IGW: Ipswich Glazed Ware. AD1275 – 1350. Medieval sandy ware, usually in the form of jugs with a green or orange glaze, so vessels have white slip stripes as decoration.

TUDG: Tudor Green Ware, AD1380-1550. Fine, white fabric with a bright green glaze. Vessels usually in the form of cups or drinking-bowls.

LMT: Late medieval ware. 1400 – 1550. Very hard red pottery with lots of sand visible in the clay body. Main type of pots were big glazed jugs, some with geometric designs painted on them in white liquid clay ('slip').

GRE: Glazed Red Earthenwares: Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, usually on the inner surface. Made at numerous locations all over England. Occurs in a range of practical shapes for use in the households of the time, such as large mixing bowls, cauldrons and frying pans. It was first made around the middle of the 16th century, and in some places continued in use until the 19th century.

DW: Delft ware. The first white-glazed pottery to be made in Britain. Called Delft ware because of the fame of the potteries at Delft in Holland, which were amongst the first to make it. Soft, cream coloured fabric with a thick white glaze, often with painted designs in blue, purple and yellow. First made in Britain in Norwich around AD1600, and continued in use until the 19th century. The 17th century pots were expensive table wares such as dishes or bowls, but by the 19th century, better types of pottery was being made, and it was considered very cheap and the main types of pot were such as chamber pots and ointment jars.



SS: Staffordshire Slipware. Made between about AD1640 and 1750. This was the first pottery to be made in moulds in Britain since Roman times. The clay fabric is usually a pale buff colour, and the main product was flat dishes and plates, but cups were also made. These are usually decorated with thin brown stripes and a yellow glaze, or yellow stripes and a brown glaze.

SWSG: Staffordshire White Salt-Glazed Stoneware. Hard, white pottery with a white glaze with a texture like orange peel. Made between 1720 and 1780, pots usually table wares such as tea bowls, tankards and plates.

VIC: 'Victorian'. A wide range of different types of pottery, particularly the cups, plates and bowls with blue decoration which are still used today. First made around AD1800.

Results

Test Pit 1

Test Pit	Cntxt	EMW		TUDG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
1	1					3	11	1800-1900
1	2					4	9	1800-1900
1	4	1	1	1	2			1100-1550

Test Pit 2

Test Pit	Cntxt	THET		EMW		GRE		DW		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
2	2									1	1	1800-1900
2	3			1	3	1	6	1	2	5	8	1100-1900
2	4	3	6	1	1					2	4	850-1900
2	5	1	6	1	1							850-1200

Test Pit 3

Test Pit	Cntxt	EMW		GRE		TGE		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
3	1	1	1					3	12	1100-1900
3	2							2	2	1800-1900
3	3	1	4	1	1	3	4	8	18	1100-1900
3	4							13	32	1800-1900
3	5	3	12					2	5	1100-1900
3	6			1	1			1	1	1550-1900
3	7	1	4	1	2					1100-1600



Test Pit 4

Test Pit	Cntxt	EMW		LMT		SS		SWSG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
4	1					1	1			5	5	1650-1900
4	2									4	5	1800-1900
4	3									5	7	1800-1900
4	4							1	4	1	1	1720-1900
4	5	1	4	1	31					2	4	1100-1900
4	6	1	5							2	9	1100-1900

Test Pit 5

Test Pit	Cntxt	EMW		IGW		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
5	2					2	7	1800-1900
5	3					5	14	1800-1900
5	4	1	4			4	7	1100-1900
5	5			1	5	1	2	1275-1900
5	6					1	1	1800-1900

Test Pit 6

Test Pit	Cntxt	IA		EMW		IGW		GRE		SWSG		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
6	1			1	1					1	2	3	17	1100-1900
6	2							1	1			9	14	1550-1900
6	3			1	5			1	10	1	2	2	2	1100-1900
6	4					1	7					3	8	1275-1900
6	6	1	4	1	3									800BC-1200

Test Pit 7

Test Pit	Cntxt	EMW		GRE		VIC		Date Range
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	
7	1					1	12	1800-1900
7	2					2	17	1800-1900
7	3					5	12	1800-1900
7	5			1	2			1550-1600
7	6					4	8	1800-1900
7	7	1	5			1	2	1100-1900

13.2 Faunal report – *Vida Rajkovaca*

A small faunal assemblage was recovered from a series of test pits excavated Maidenhall in 2011. A total of 28 assessable specimens were recorded, of which 13 were identified to species level. The material was fragmented, yet overall moderately preserved. Almost half of the assemblage was recorded as juvenile and porous, with even fine bird rib fragments surviving. Pig remains identified from test pits 4 and 5 are most likely to be part of two individuals, both of which were slaughtered as piglets (i.e. before they reached 2 and 6 months respectively). One pig scapula displayed a deep chop mark consistent with disarticulation; implying shoulder joint was separated from the rest of the carcass. Birds were represented by the unidentifiable fragments of shafts and ribs, thus making any further identification impossible. One large and porous coracoid, however, could tentatively be assigned to goose, based on its morphology and size.

The presence of a few domesticates, and possible utilisation of poultry and fish, coupled with traces of butchery on pig remains, all point to assemblage's domestic character and the existence of a nearby settlement. The exploitation of livestock species and occasional contribution of birds and fish to diet are in keeping with the period.

Taxon	Test pit 2	Test pit 3				Test pit 4					Test pit 5		Test pit 7
	[3]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[6]	[2]	[4]	[6]
Pig	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	1	.	5	.
?Donkey	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Sub-total to species	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	4	1	1	5	.
Cattle-sized	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
Sheep-sized	1	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	1
Mammal n.f.i.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bird n.f.i.	.	1	1	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Fish n.f.i.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	4	1	3	7	1
	1	7				9					10		1

Table 8: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all seven test pits; the abbreviation n.f.i denotes that the specimen could not be further identified

13.3 Lithics – *Lawrence Billington*

All of the seven excavated test pits at Ipswich produced lithic material; the assemblage consists of 43 worked flints and 33 unworked burnt flints. With an average of six worked flints per test pit the densities at Ipswich are relatively high and potentially indicate intensive prehistoric exploitation of the area. The assemblage is quantified by context and type in the table 9 below.

Test Pit No.	Context	primary flake	secondary flake	tertiary flake	blade	retouched flake	total worked	unworked burnt flint no.	unworked burnt flint weight (g)
1	1		1				1	1	2.7
	2				1		1		
	3		1	1			2		
2	3		1				1		
	4		1				1		
	5		2				2		
3	6		1				1		
	1			1			1		
	2		1				1		
	3		1	1			2	1	11
4	4				1		1	1	20
	6		1				1		
	1		1	1			2	2	9.7
	2		1		1		2	2	3.9
	3						0		
5	4		1	2			3	1	1.5
	5	1	2		1		4		
	6		3				3		
	2			1			1	1	4.3
	3		1				1	1	57.2
6	4		1	1			2	4	27.6
	5						0	1	21.1
	7						0	1	43.5
	9		1				1		
7	2		1				1		
	3		2				2	2	21.2
	4		2	2			4	4	48.3
	5						0	4	33
	6						0		1
	8						0	1	13.7
	9						0		
7	1						0		
	4		1				1		
	5						0	1	3.1
	6		1				1	2	13
	7						0	3	10.3
totals		1	28	10	4		43	33	346.1

Table 9: All the lithics from the Ipswich test pitting

The struck flint assemblage is made up exclusively of unretouched flakes with a complete absence of retouched tools. As such, little of the assemblage is closely chronologically diagnostic although the variety of technological traits and condition indicate the assemblage is chronologically mixed. The earliest prehistoric activity is represented by four blade based removals of Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. Although some of the other flakes may represent less diagnostic pieces of similar date the technological traits of the vast majority of the flakes suggest a later date. The flakes in the assemblage are dominated by relatively squat hard hammer struck removals. Striking platforms are invariably unprepared and several flakes have been struck from cortical platforms. Secondary flakes dominate the



assemblage, with relatively few 'inner' (non-cortical) tertiary flakes. This probably reflects both the small size of the nodules being worked and the relatively unsystematic manner in which they were worked with few removals being made from any one core. This said it is somewhat unusual that no cores are present in the assemblage although this may largely be a function of the small sample size provided by the assemblage. This flake based material is characteristic of post earlier Neolithic lithic assemblages and is likely to reflect activity from the later Neolithic and Bronze Age. The technological traits of some pieces, indicating a particularly expedient and simple approach to core reduction might suggest a later Bronze Age or even Iron Age date for some of the assemblage (Ford et al 1984, Humphrey 2004).

The colour and surviving cortical surfaces of the worked flint suggests the assemblage is largely made up of flint derived from secondary fluvial gravel sources, probably the local terrace gravels flanking the river Orwell. One flake from test pit 2, context 6, is made on a dark flint with a distinctive orange band beneath its dark cortex, known as Bullhead flint, this material is not available locally, occurring in chalk deposits in southern England (Shepherd 1972, 114) and was probably imported to the site.



13.4 Other finds from Ipswich test pitting – Catherine Collins

Test Pit 1	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x5 =16g	thin glass tube fragment =2g, clear container glass x6 =29g, clear flat glass x16 =68g, green bottle glass x3 =11g	corroded iron rod =28g, large metal handle =116g, fragment of aluminium? =<1g	coal x6 =54g	orange rubber bung? with two thin glass tubes through it =37g, clear plastic tube =6g
C. 2	clay pipe stem =2g, red CBM x8 =32g	reinforced clear flat glass with wire through it x4 =60g, clear flat glass x10 =25g	corroded iron scraps x3 =4g, slag =25g	coal x14 =36g	slate =2g
C.3	red CBM x10 =71g	clear flat glass x2= 2g	corroded iron scrap =6g	coal x12 =11g	
C.4	red CBM =9g				

Table 10: The finds excavated from IPS/11/1

Test Pit 2	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
C. 2	red CBM =1g, clay pipe stem =3g		corroded iron nail =2g	coal x2 =9g	felt? =<1g
C.3	red CBM x5 =30g, clay pipe stem x3 =14g, dirty yellow CBM =4g		corroded iron nails x5 =16g, metal button =3g	coal x4 =5g	
C.4	red curved tile =50g, red CBM =4g			coal x8 =11g	slate =2g
C.5		orange glass? bead =2g		coal =1g, iron stone? x3 =91g	

Table 11: The finds excavated from IPS/11/2



Test Pit 3	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x5 =26g	clear container glass x2= 1g	corroded iron screw =2g, silver foil =<1g, corroded iron nails x2 =15g	coal x4 =12g	slate =2g, concrete? x2 =10g, oyster shell x2 =3g, slate pencil =2g, shell =<1g
C. 2	red CBM x7 =52g, modern red/yellow CBM =13g	green bottle glass x2 =5g	corroded iron nail =3g, slag x2 =4g		slate =6g, shell =<1g
C.3	red flat tile x3 = 32g, red CBM x6 =29g, clay pipe stem =3g	clear flat glass x6 =9g, orange glass bottle stopper =22g, clear container glass x2 =5g	slag x2 =11g, corroded iron nails x8 =48g, modern screw =3g, scrap lead? =4g	coal x23 =55g	concrete x4 =35g, slate x2 =7g, shell x3 =6g
C.4	red flat tile =20g, red CBM x6 =24g, cream glazed red tile/pot =13g, clay pipe stem x3 =7g	green bottle glass x2 =4g, clear container glass =2g		coal x13 =14g	shell =2g, concrete x4 =45g
C.5	clay pipe stem x2 =3g, red CBM x2 =10g	clear container glass x2 =28g	corroded iron nails x2 =7g, slag x4=15g	coal x5 =4g	wool? =<1g
C.6			corroded iron scraps x2 =2g	coal x4 =6g	oyster shells =<1g
C.7	red flat tile =13g		corroded iron nail =3g, slag x2 =4g		
C.8			corroded iron scraps x2=3g	coal x2 =<1g	
C.9					oyster shell =<1g

Table 12: The finds excavated from IPS/11/3



Test Pit 4	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x6 =22g, red flat tile =3g, clay pipe stem =4g	clear flat glass x2=5g, green bottle glass x2=1g, clear container glass x6 =10g, orange bottle glass =8g	corroded iron nails x6 =37g, large corroded iron bolt with round head and hole through centre =98g, slag =31g		asbestos =4g, blue plastic cover over wire =<1g, concrete x5 =82g, grey plastic tube =2g, mortar =12g, slate =1g
C. 2	red flat tile =26g, red CBM x3 =34g, clay pipe stem x2 =5g, modern white glazed flat tile =3g, modern grey glazed flat tile =1g	clear flat glass x7 =18g, green bottle glass x3 =3g, clear container glass x4 =8g	corroded iron nail x3 =10g, corroded iron scraps x4 =5g	coal x3 =<1g	mortar =29g, oyster shell =<1g, shiny red plastic wrapper=<1g
C.3	red CBM x10 =65g, red flat tile x3 =34g, clay pipe stem =2g	clear flat glass x3 =10g	corroded screw =9g, corroded iron nail =2g, tiny modern screw =1g, modern nail =2g, thin metal wire =<1g		slate =1g
C.4	red flat tile =14g, modern grey glazed flat tile =4g, red CBM x11 =52g, clay pipe stem =2g, pink/orange CBM =16g	clear container glass =2g, clear flat glass x3 =2g	corroded iron nails x4 =14g, slag =9g, modern nail =3g	coal x4 =1g	burnt? yellow plastic coated wire (washing line?) =2g, asbestos =26g, mortar =6g, slate =1g
C.5		green bottle glass x2 =7g, clear flat glass x2 =4g	corroded iron nails x2 =7g, slag? =<1g	coal =1g	
C.6	red CBM x2 =4g, grey glazed modern flat tile =1g	clear flat glass =3g	corroded iron nail =2g, corroded iron scraps x2 =2g	coal x5 =10g	

Table 13: The finds excavated from IPS/11/4



Test Pit 5	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C.2	modern pink CBM =22g, red CBM x2 =2g	orange bottle glass =17g, clear container glass x11 =31g, clear flat glass x20 =29g, green bottle glass =3g	corroded iron nails x1 =8g	coal x3 =26g	slate x9 =110g, yellow plastic =<1g, asbestos x2 =30g
C.3	clay pipe stem =1g, red CBM =6g	clear flat glass x2 =20g, clear container glass x3 =9g, green bottle glass =2g	corroded iron scraps x5 =219g	coal x6 =13g	shell =3g, slate =3g
C.4	red flat tile =24g, modern thin grey tile x2 =30g, red CBM x6 =18g	clear glass bottle neck =14g, green bottle glass =2g, clear flat glass x23 =70g, clear container glass x4 =35g	purple and silver foil =<1g, corroded iron nails x7 =22g, lead? curved rod =29g	coal x12 =9g	purple and yellow wrapper x2 =<1g, green/blue wool =<1g, clear plastic sheet fragment =<1g, grey twine =1g, yellow plastic =1g, shell x6 =10g
C.5	red flat tile =14g, red CBM =2g, thin modern tile =6g	clear container glass x5 =9g		coal x2 =4g	white wrappers x2 =<1g, asbestos =6g, shell x5 =10g, silver wrapper =<1g, white glass/Perspex =2g, clear wrapper =<1g
C.6	red CBM =3g	clear container glass =7g, clear flat glass x2 =4g	metal screw =7g, metal button =1g, pink and silver foil =<1g	coal x3 =3g	oyster shell =1g

Table 14: The finds excavated from IPS/11/5



Test Pit 6	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile x2 =40g, clay pipe stem x3 =4g	green bottle glass x2 =3g, clear flat glass x9 =20g, clear container glass x9 =17g	modern bolts x2 =40g, slag? =72g	coal x 7 =14g	oyster shell x2 =7g, clear plastic =<1g
C. 2	red flat tile x3 =26g, red CBM =7g	clear flat glass x14 =19g, clear container glass x5 =7g	slag =11g, corroded iron nails x8 =24g, silver foil =<1g, corroded iron scraps x4 =13g	coal x10 =26g	shell =1g, oyster shell =<1g
C.3	red flat tile x4 =54g, red CBM x4 =16g	blue container glass =2g, clear flat glass x2 =2g	corroded iron plate =25g, thin strip metal =1g, corroded iron scraps x4 =5g	coal x3 =4g	slate =1g, shell =1g
C.4	clay pipe stem =2g	clear container glass x3 =14g, clear flat glass =<1g	slag? x2 =67g	coal x2 =2g	
C.5	red and black flat tile =25g, red CBM =3g	clear container glass =2g		coal x2 =7g	
C.6		clear container glass =<1g			

Table 15: The finds excavated from IPS/11/6



Test Pit 7	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile =10g, red CBM x3 =68g, dirty yellow CBM =36g, thin dark red plastic plant pot fragment? =<1g	clear flat glass x6 =15g, clear container glass =5g	metal cross fixing =4g	coal =5g	half a glove =10g, green plastic covered wire x2 =5g, half a 'French Marigold – Bonanza Bee' plant tag =2g, bright red plastic =<1g, black plastic x2 =2g, clear plastic =1g, white plastic =1g, slate =2g, cream plastic tag? =1g
C. 2	pink CBM/mortar? =12g, clay pipe stem =4g, red CBM x2 =10g	clear flat glass x2 =7g, orange bottle glass =20g, clear container glass x2 =12g	metal wire =10g		grey plastic straps ties around packages? =10g, brown wool rug fragment? =4g, red wool material =12g, oyster shell =3g, black roof lino? =<1g, grey twine =1g, orange twine =2g
C.3	red flat tile x4 =102g, red CBM x3 =12g	clear flat glass x9 =35g, clear container glass =7g, orange bottle glass =7g, green bottle glass =8g	large U shaped iron rod =19g, corroded iron nail =15g, corroded iron scraps =25g, slag? =33g	coal x3 =8g	black plastic tube =7g, clear plastic sheet fragments =<1g, black plastic bag fragment =<1g, green plastic bag fragment =<1g, half a tomato plant tag =<1g, fragment of 'Alicante' plant tag =<1g, clear plastic x2 =<1g, blue plastic conical lid =2g, white plastic wrapper =<1g, fragment of cloth =2g, nail through clear plastic =2g, fragment of sweet wrapper =<1g, white plastic x2 =1g, plant tag fragments x2 =<1g
C.4	flat red tile =73g, flat dirty yellow tile =63g, red CBM x2 =4g	orange bottle glass =1g, clear flat glass =2g, clear container glass x5 =16g	modern nail =<1g, slag? x3 =50g	coal x5 =25g	partially burnt red plastic =8g, fragment of lino? =4g, shell =2g
C.5	red CBM x5 =21g	green bottle glass x5 =5g, clear flat glass =5g, clear container glass =2g	corroded iron scrap =1g, slag? x2 =5g		
C.6	red CBM x5 =17g, clay pipe stem =3g	green bottle glass x2 =4g, clear flat glass x4 =8g, clear container glass =2g	slag? x2 =12g	coal x2 =4g	mortar? =12g
C.7	red flat tile =34g, clay pipe stem =3g, dirty yellow CBM =20g, red CBM x7 =25g	clear container glass =9g	corroded iron scrap =16g	coal x6 =5g	

Table 16: The finds excavated from IPS/11/7



13.5 Maps

Much of the value of test pit data from currently occupied rural settlements are derived from a holistic consideration across the entire settlement. Maps showing a range of the data from the test pit excavations in Ipswich in 2011 are included below. These may be read in conjunction with relevant sections of the main report. Some of these maps are available online at <http://www.access.arch.cam.ac.uk/reports/suffolk/ipswich> and these can be used, if wished, to prepare maps showing the distribution of other classes of data not depicted in this appendix.

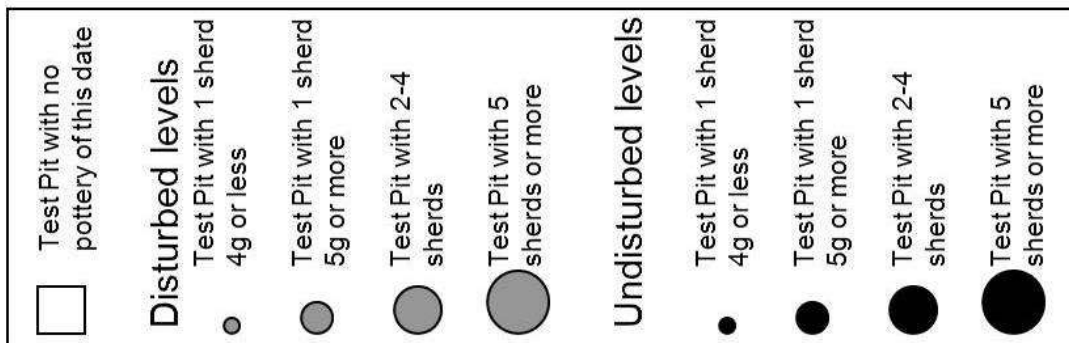
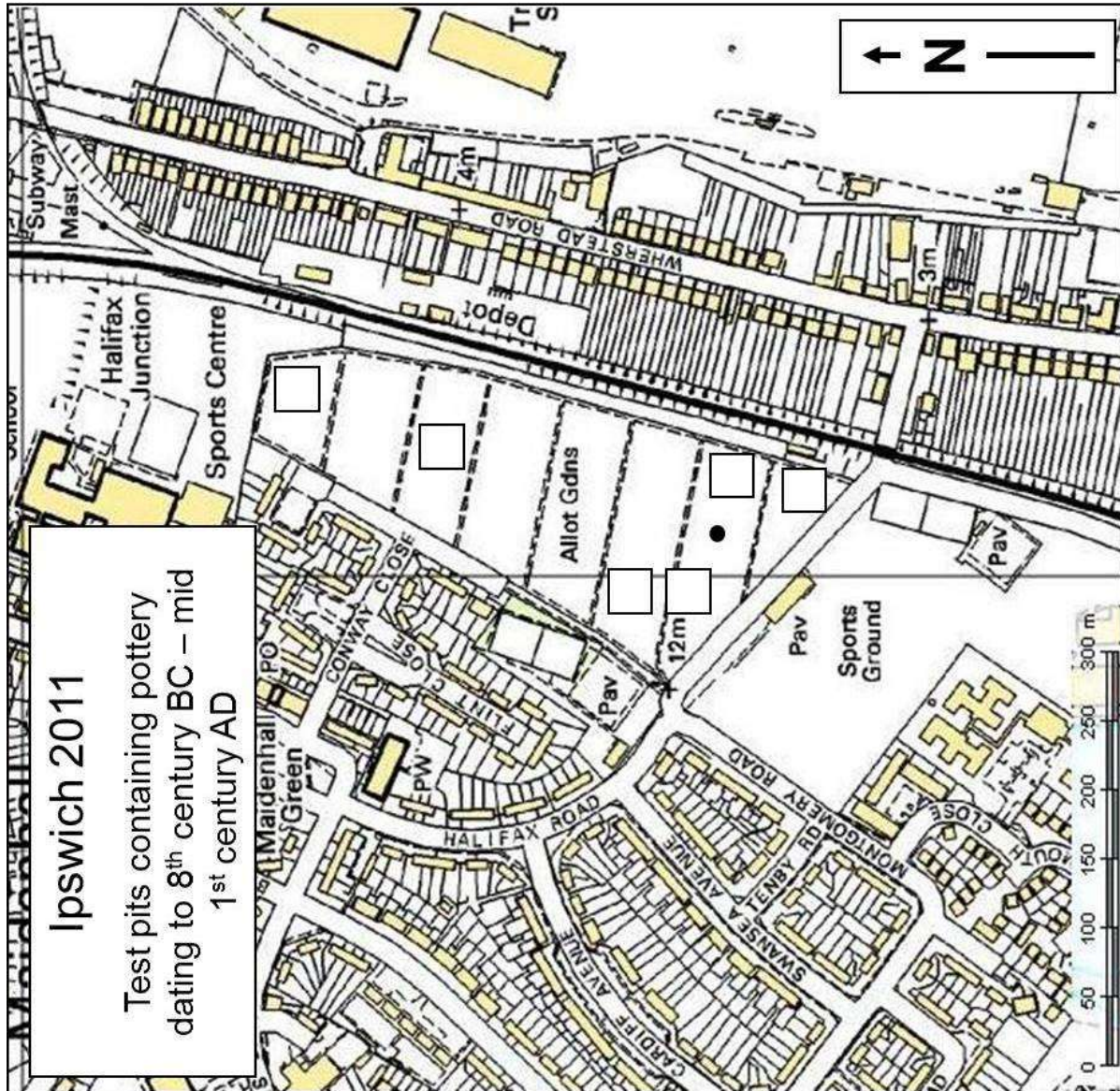


Figure 14: The Iron Age pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

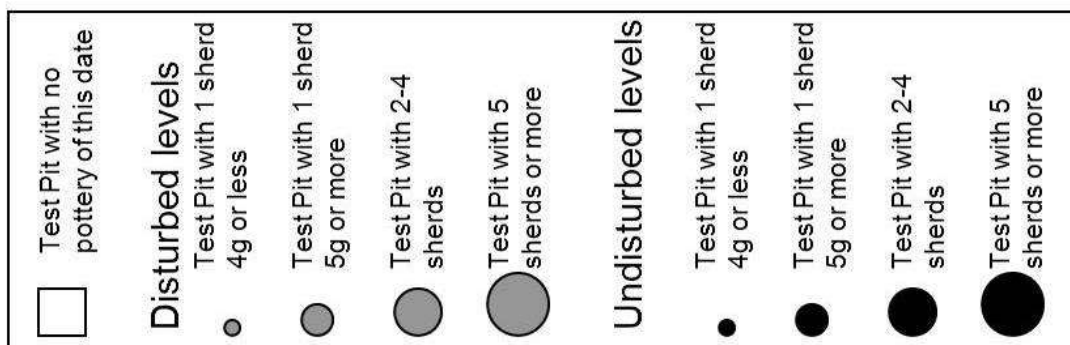
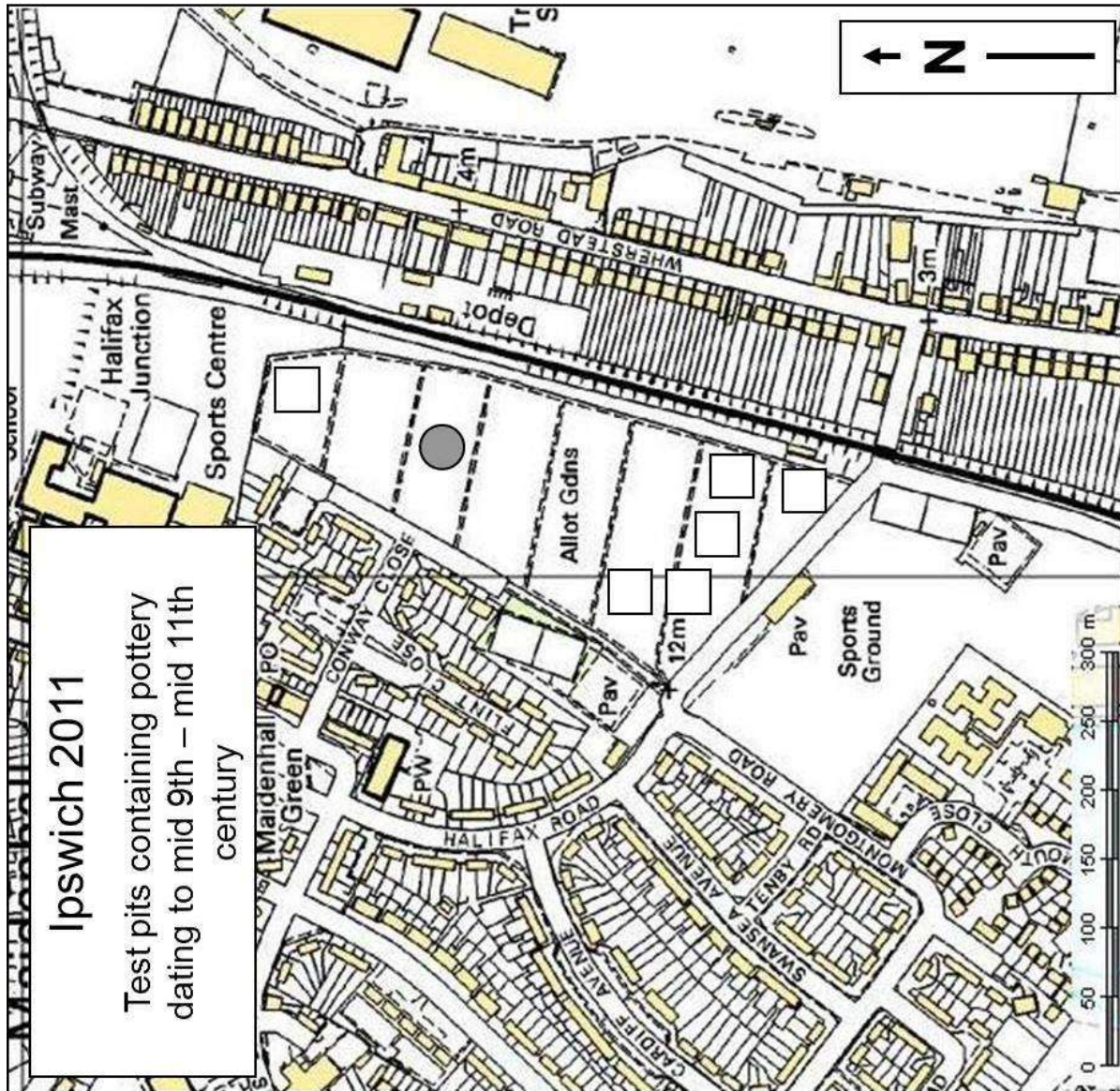


Figure 15: The Late Saxon pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

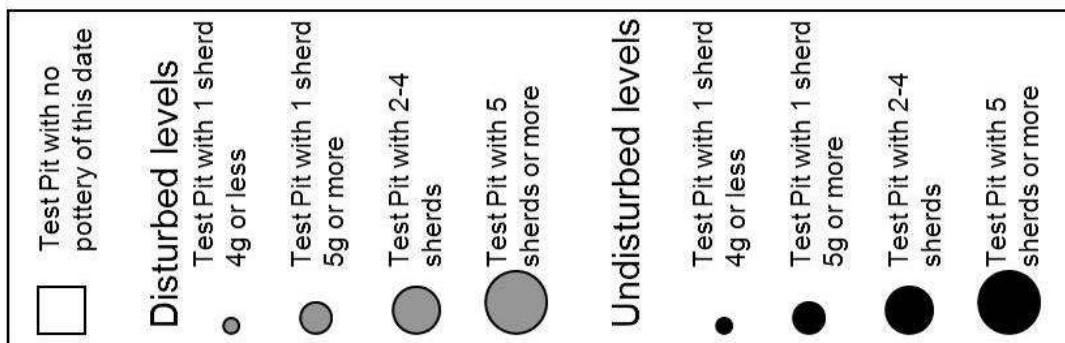
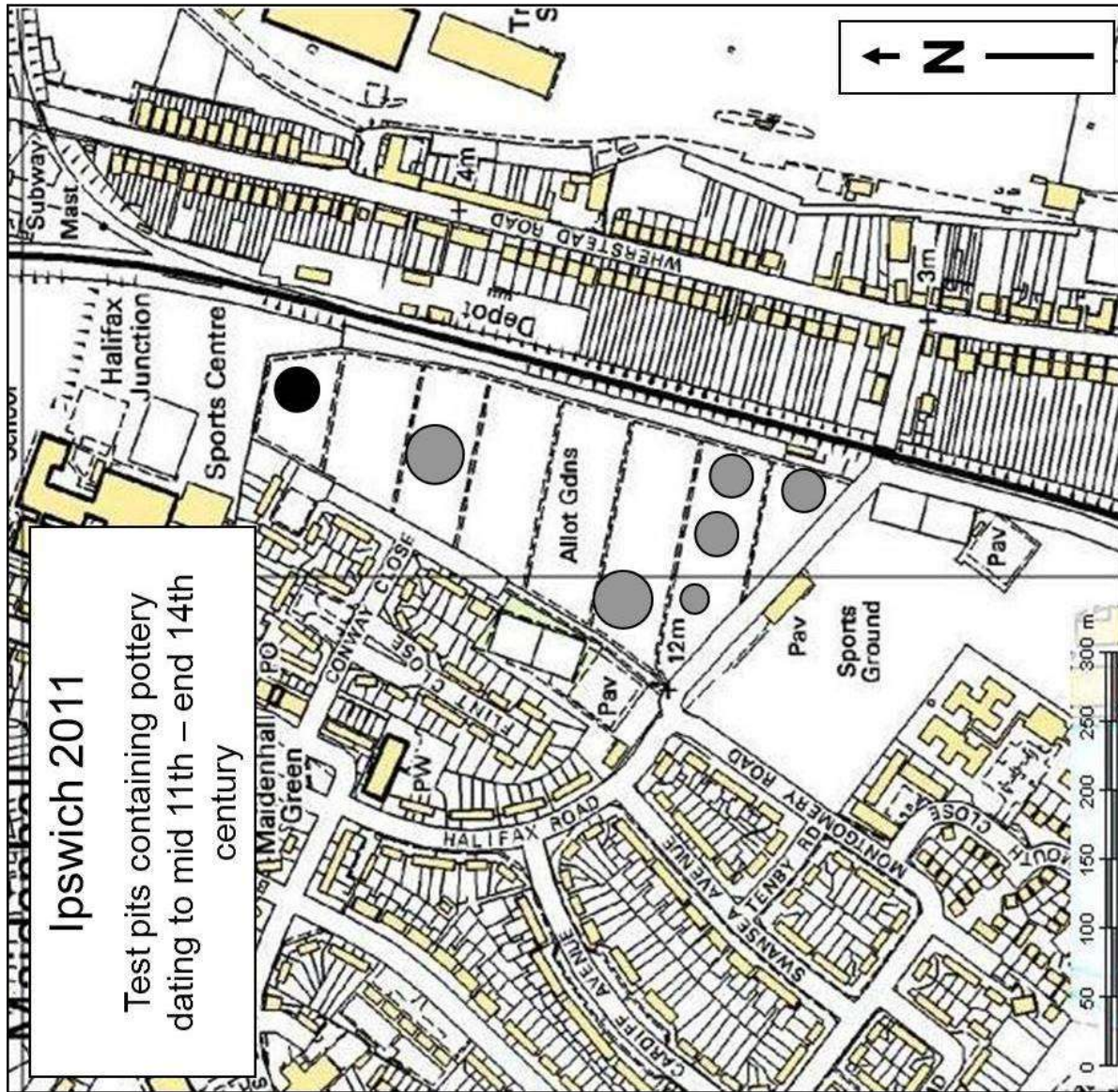


Figure 16: The high medieval pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

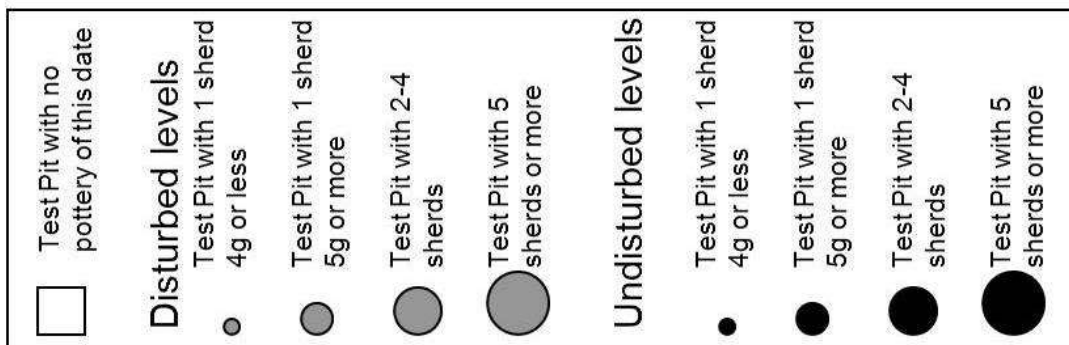
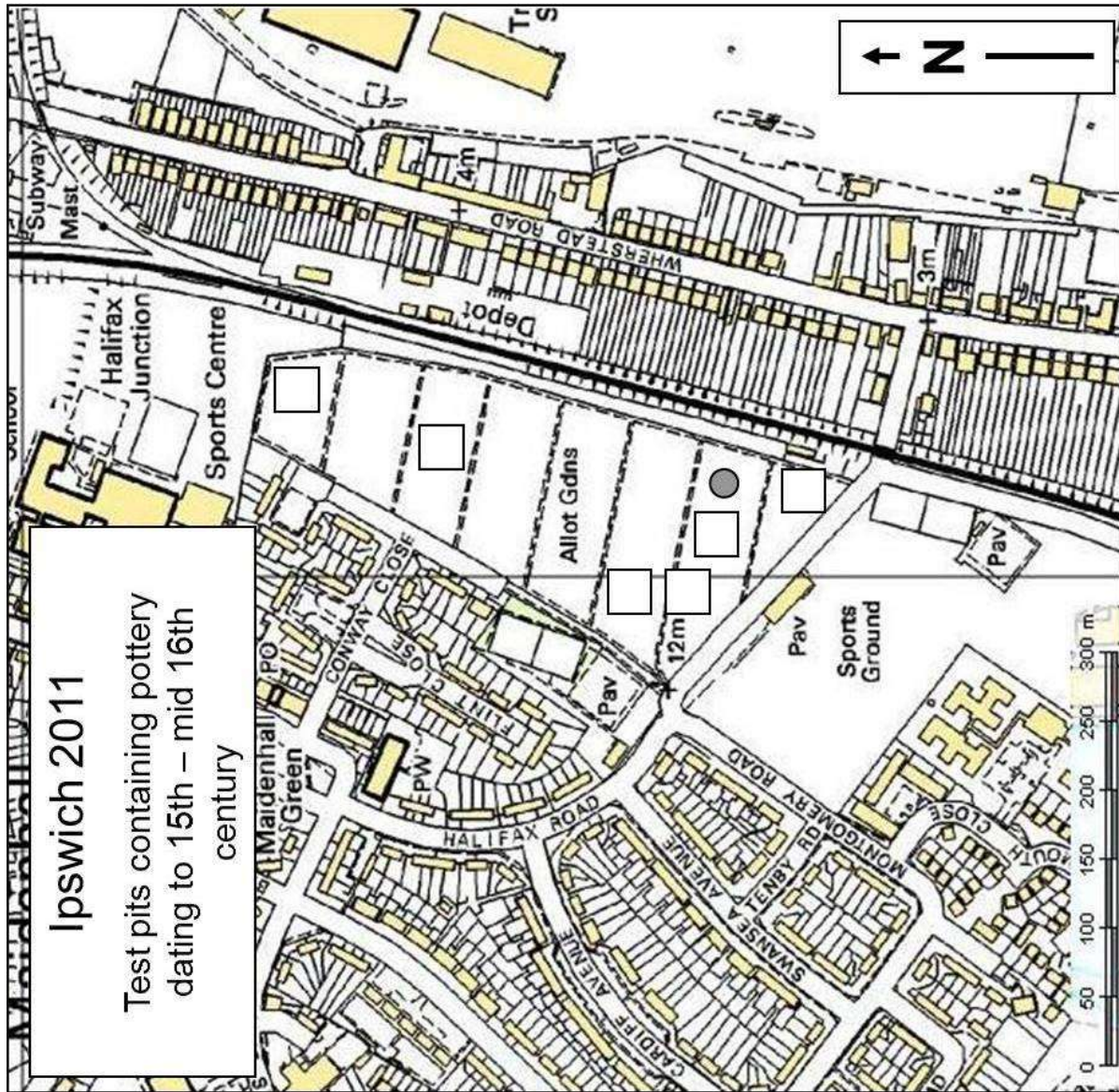


Figure 17: The late medieval pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

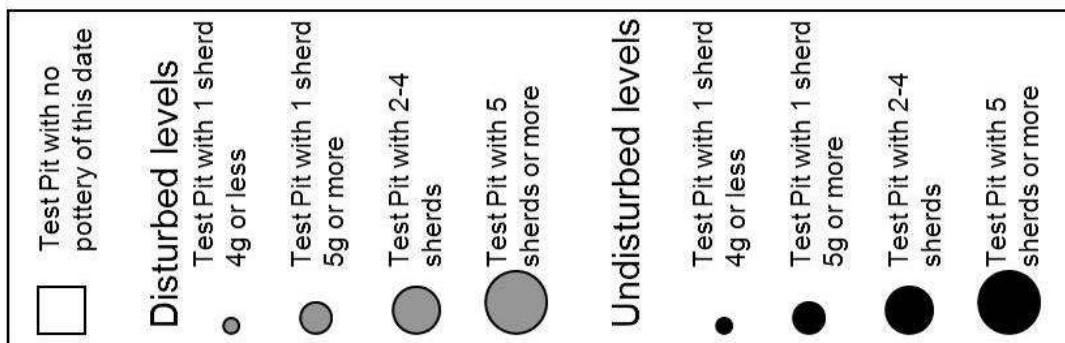
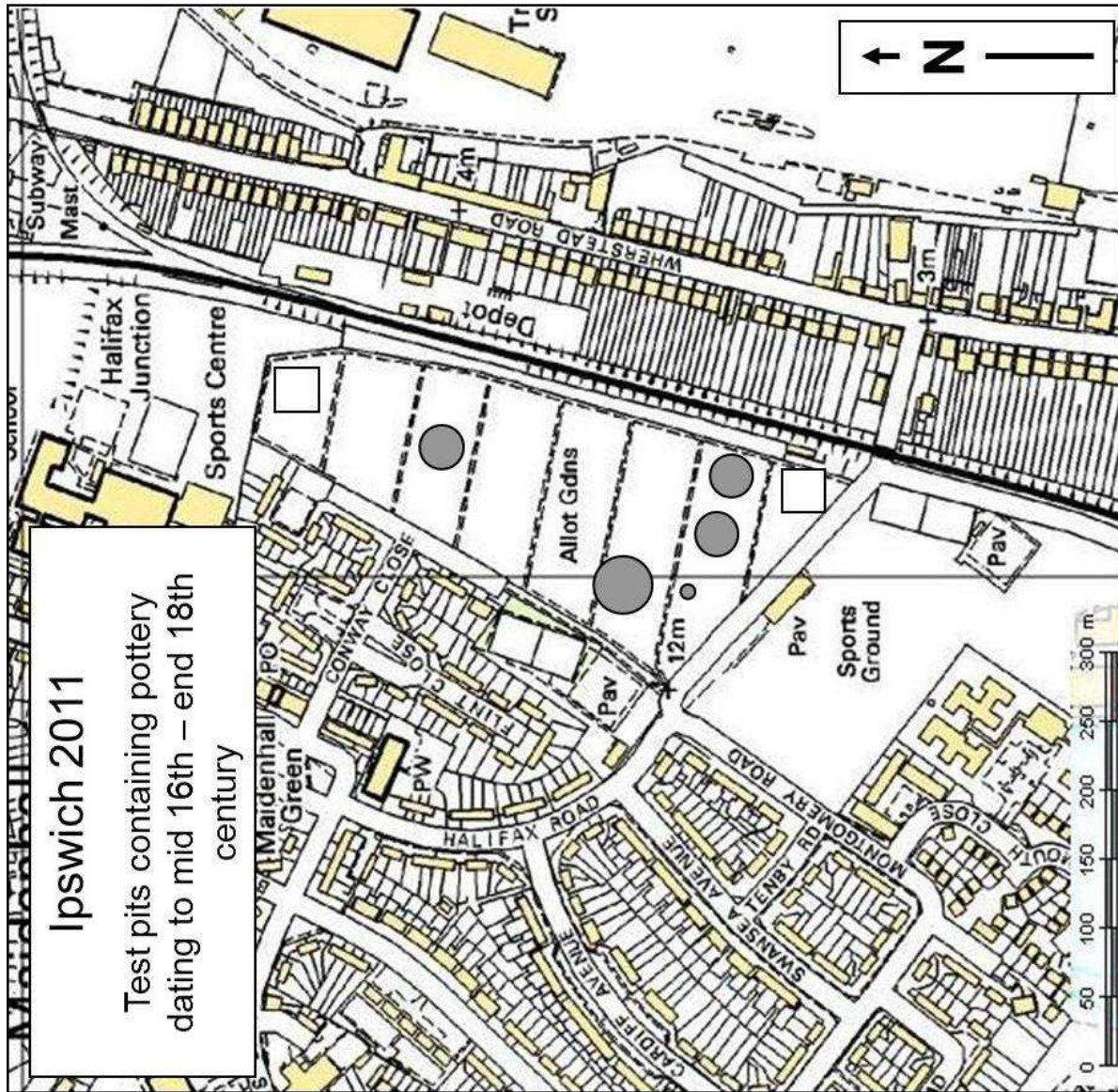


Figure 18: The post medieval pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

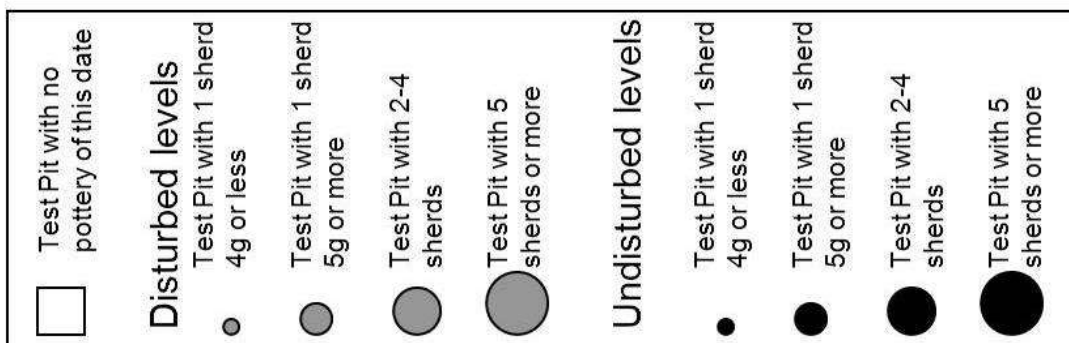
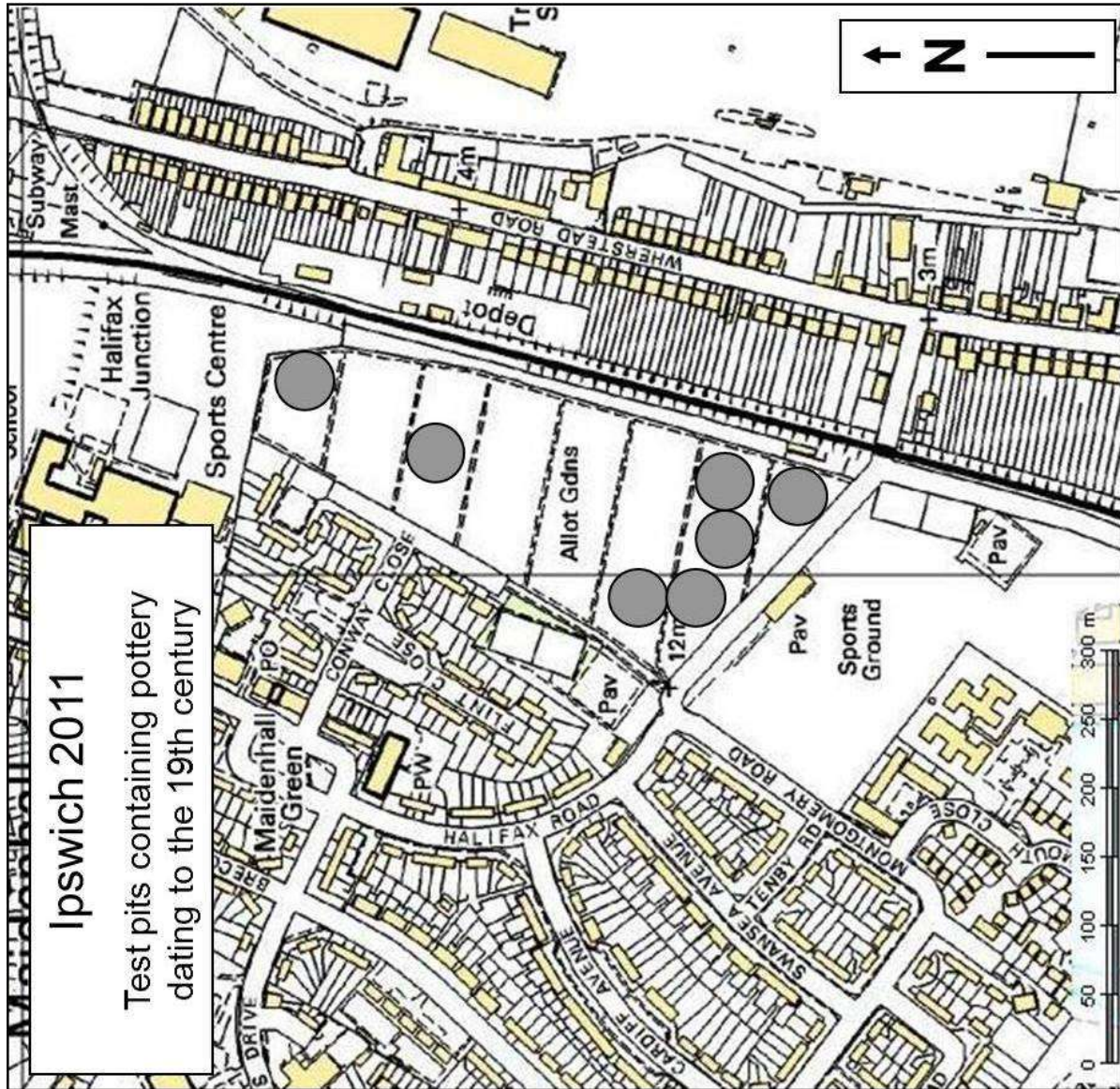


Figure 19: The 19th century pottery distribution map for the Ipswich test pits

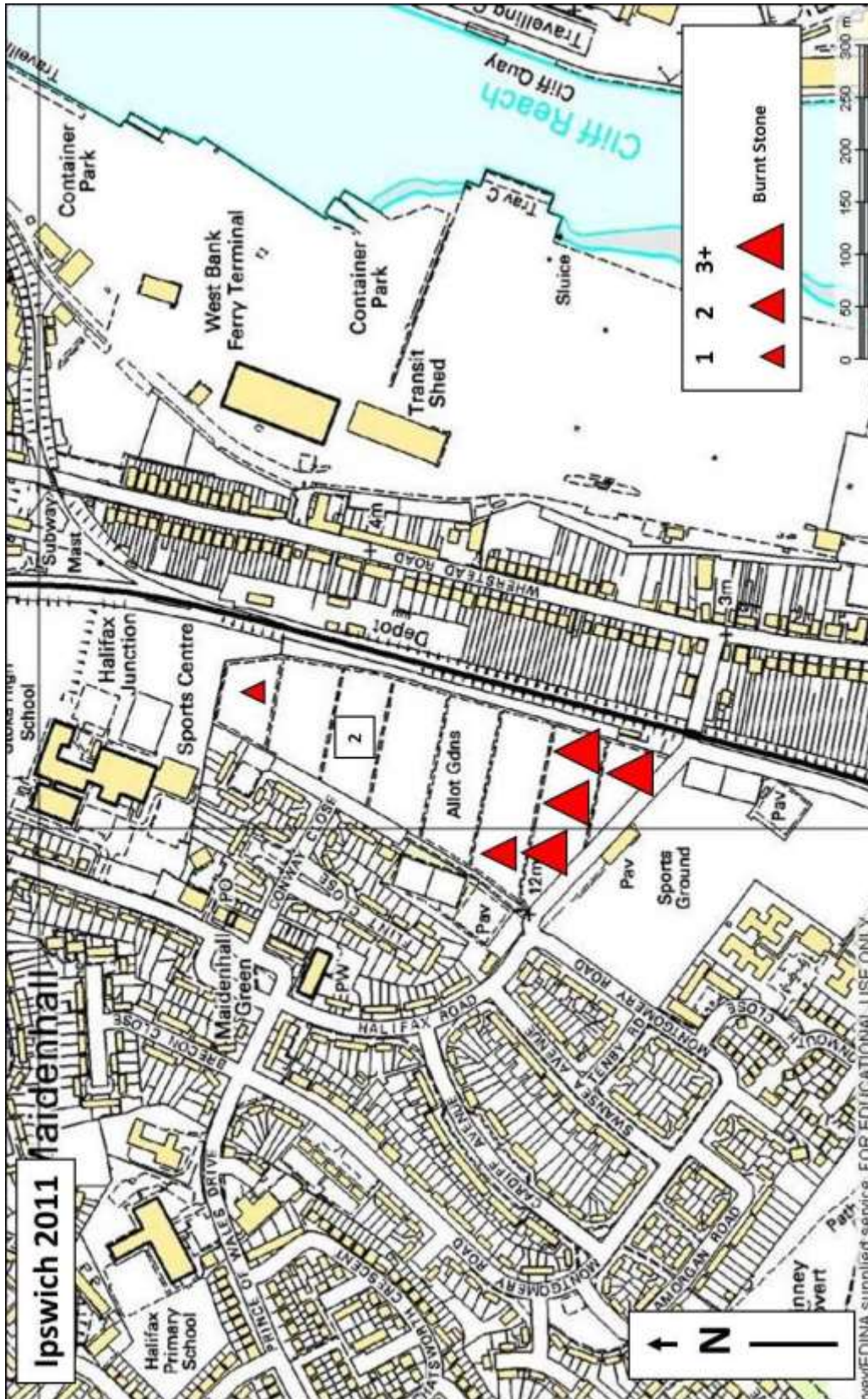


Figure 20: The distribution of burnt stone from the Ipswich test pits

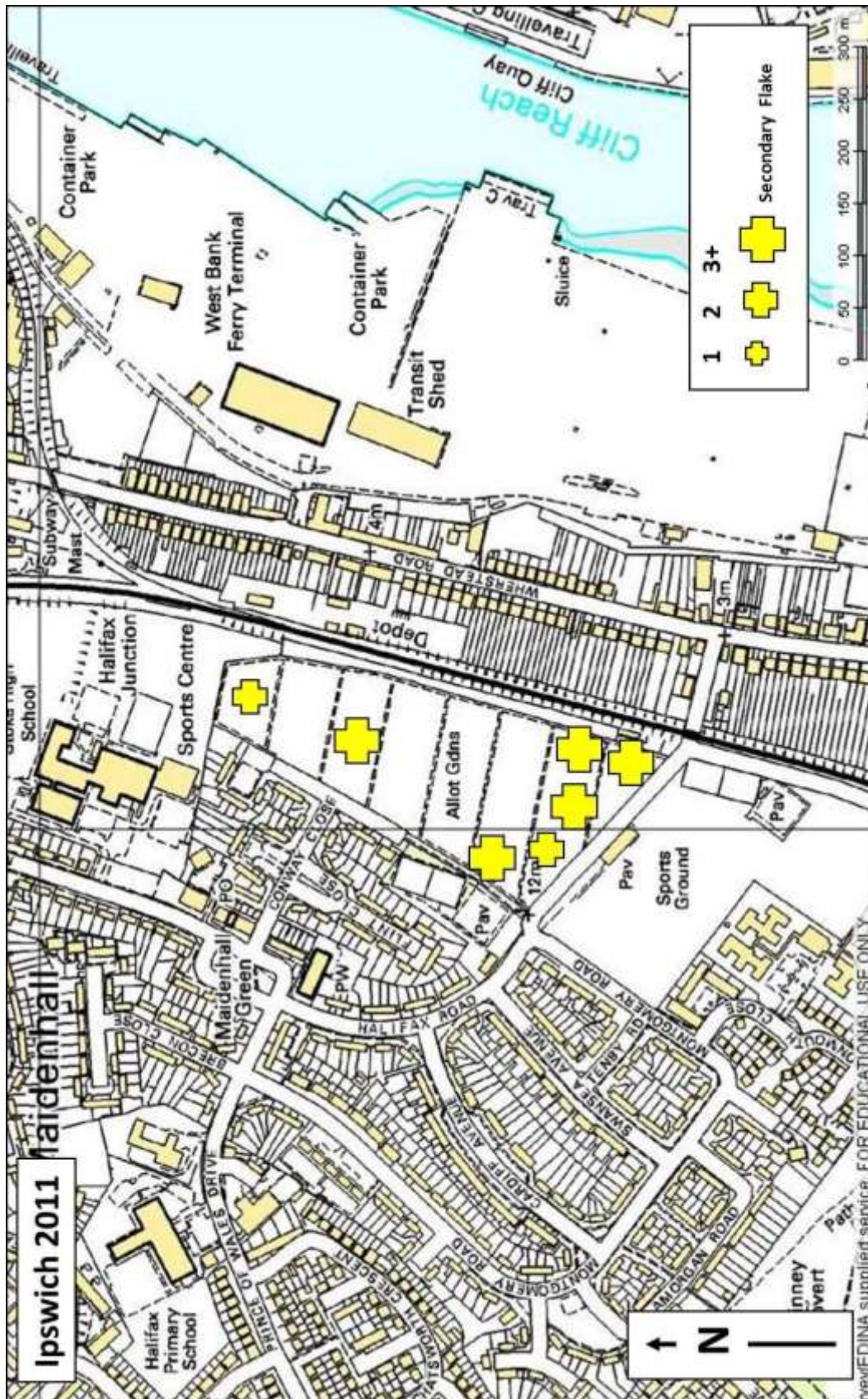


Figure 22: The distribution of secondary flint flakes from the Ipswich test pits



Figure 23: The distribution of tertiary flint flakes from the Ipswich test pits



Figure 24: The distribution of flint blades from the Ipswich test pits

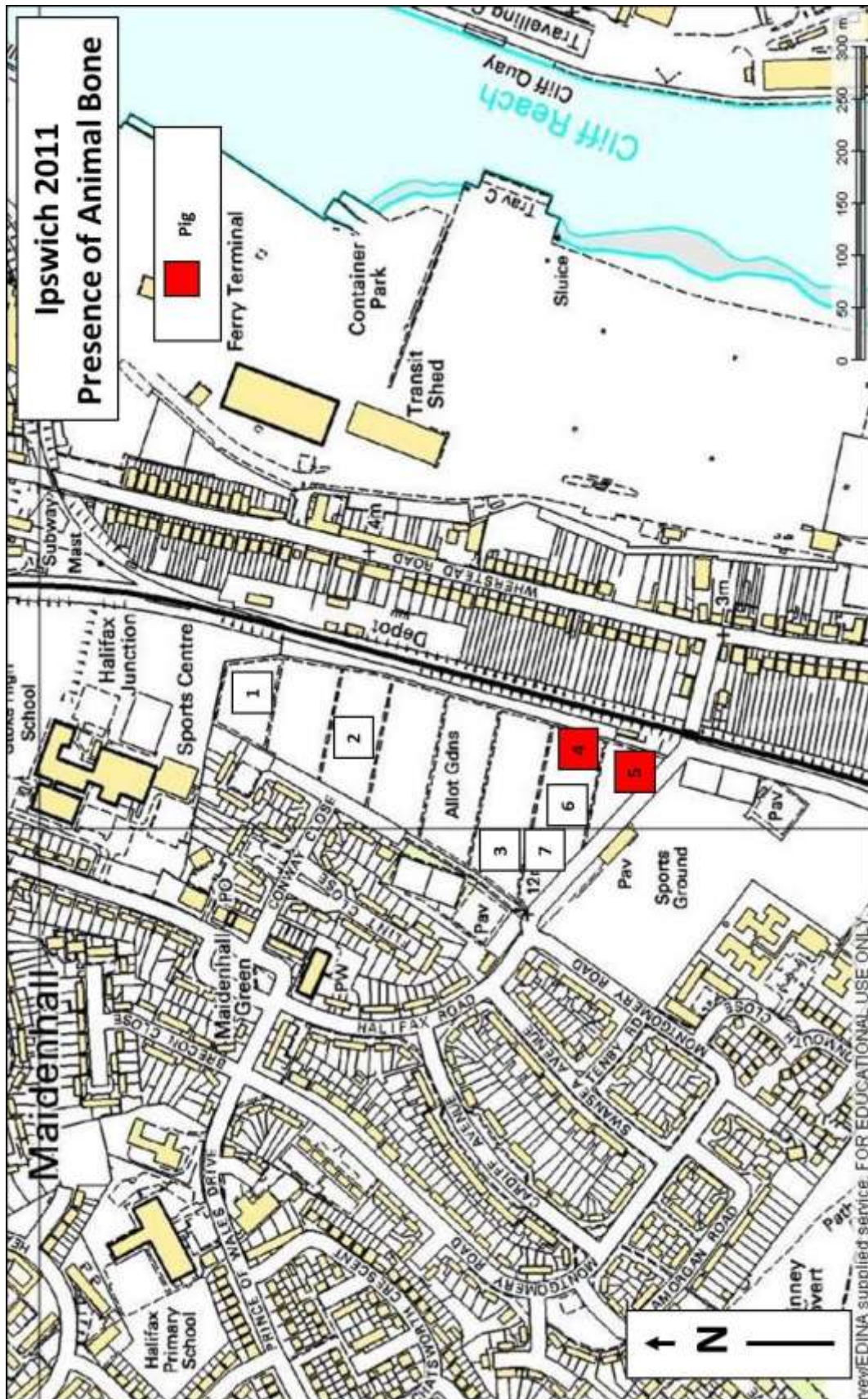


Figure 25: The presence of pig bones from the Ipswich test pits

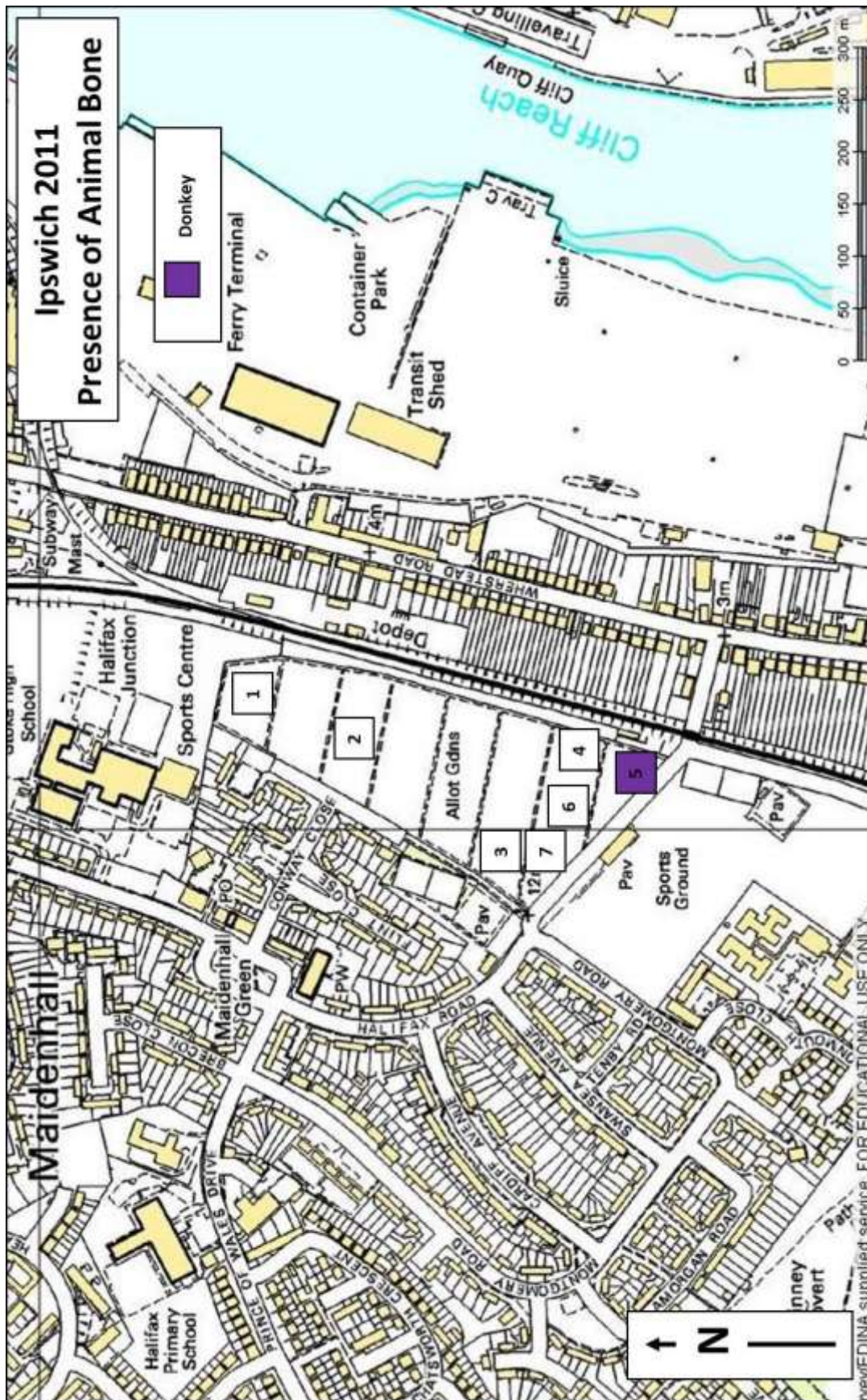


Figure 26: The presence of donkey bones from the Ipswich test pits

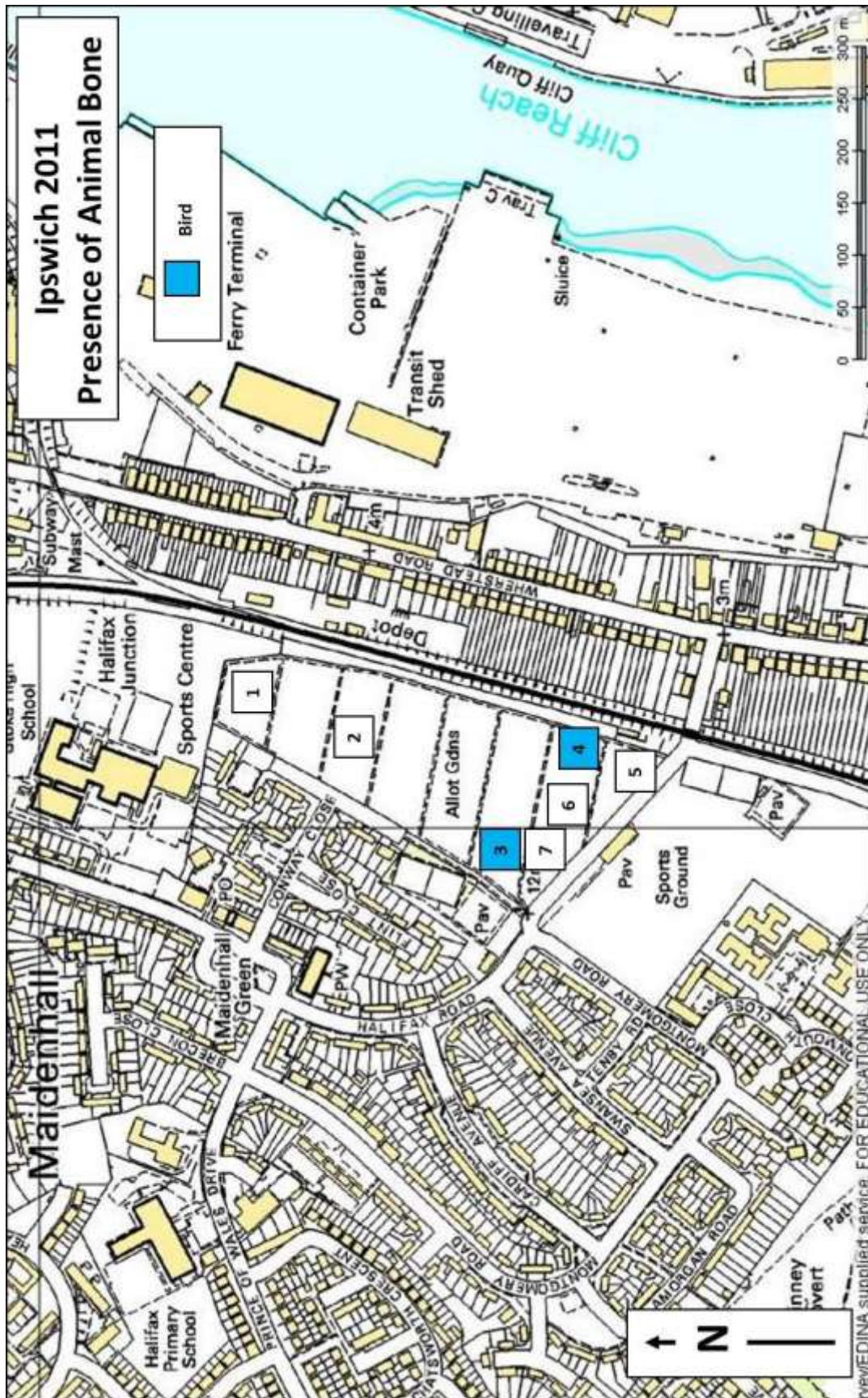


Figure 27: The presence of bird bones from the Ipswich test pits

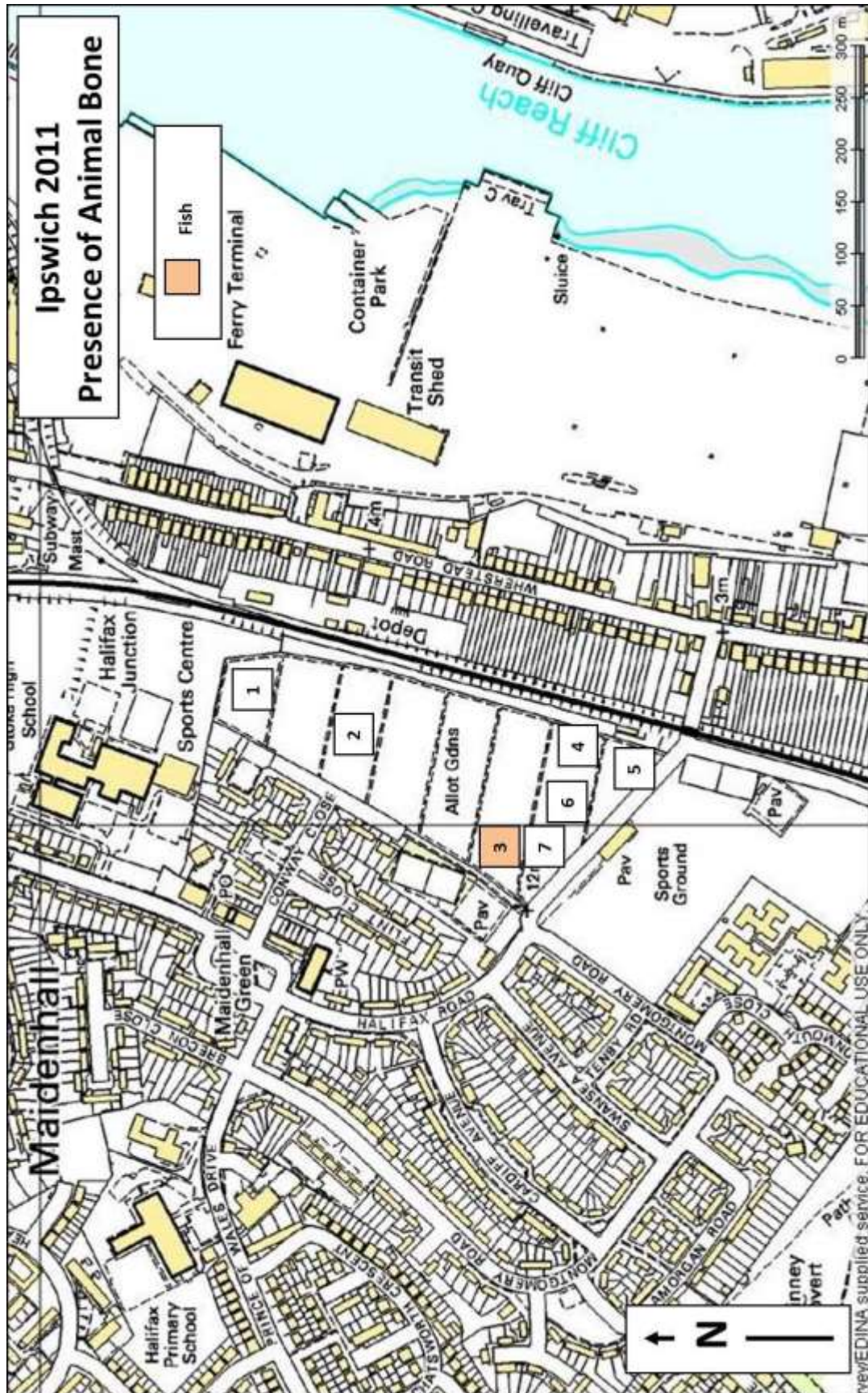


Figure 28: The presence of fish bones from the Ipswich test pits