



REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AT
SHERBURN CHURCH-OF-ENGLAND PRIMARY
SCHOOL, ST HILDA'S STREET, SHERBURN, NORTH
YORKSHIRE



Archaeology in the base of a strip-foundation trench (Section A),
Sherburn Primary School; and reconstructed 'Iron Age' bowl.

By Chris Fern BA MA FSA

July - November 2010

Fern Archaeology • Aumit House • Aumit Lane • Ampleforth
North Yorkshire • YO62 4EX • Tel. 01439 766080
Mob. 07974 269134 • Email: cjrf100@aol.com

Site: Sherburn Church-of-England
Primary School, St Hilda's Street,
Sherburn

Site Code: SHRB'10

County: North Yorkshire

NGR: SE 95876 77021

Planning Application No: NY/2009/0471/FUL

SMR/HER No:

Development: Extension to form a new front entrance and administration
offices, with the demolition of an external store.

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Site Work by: Chris Fern

Report by: Fern Archaeology
Aumit House
Aumit Lane
Ampleforth
North Yorkshire
YO62 4EX

Tel: 01439 766080
Email: cjrf100@aol.com

On behalf of: Salt Architects Ltd.
Scarborough
YO11 2PW

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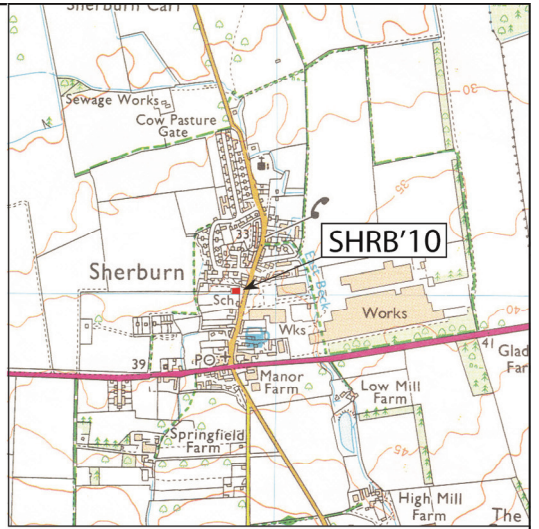
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1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological recording brief was carried out by Fern Archaeology at Sherburn Church-of-England Primary School, St Hilda's Street, in the village of Sherburn, North Yorkshire (**Figure 1**). This was during ground-works for a new extension to the northern side of the existing building. The fieldwork took place in July–August 2010.
- 1.2 Significant archaeology was found on the site at c. 0.65–1.10m below the modern surface. Two main phases of activity were recorded: an 'Iron Age' phase (Phase 2), and a late medieval phase (Phase 3) (**Figure 2**). The quantity and good preservation of the pottery of both phases suggests *in situ* deposition rather than a residual presence. The 'Iron Age' occupation might be associated with locally known, late prehistoric 'ladder' settlement, as identified by the Landscape Research Centre (Powlesland 2003; pers. comm.). At the site this took the form of a buried soil, ditch, pottery spread (**Photo 10**) and small pit (**Figures 3-5**). The late medieval evidence mostly comprised post-holes, which suggest at least one phase of building on the site by the 14th century (**Photos 2-3, 6-7**). This was probably demolished at some point in the early post-medieval period.
- 1.3 The finds mainly comprised pottery, seventy-three sherds in all; forty-six of which are of a calcite-tempered ware (for examples see **Figure 6; Appendices 3-4**). Although direct parallels for this were not found during the assessment undertaken, the evidence overall favours an Iron Age date. In particular, the remains of a rare handled 'tankard' were found that may, by virtue of its unusual nature, have had a ritual function (**Figure 6b**). For the late medieval period, a local pottery fabric is well represented, known as Staxton ware (**Figure 7**). The vessel fragments include parts of cooking pots, as well as jugs. Kilns producing this pottery are known to have been operating in the locality between the 13th and 15th centuries.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological recording brief was carried out by Fern Archaeology at Sherburn Church-of-England Primary School, St Hilda's Street, in the village of Sherburn, North Yorkshire. It took place over six days, on 19th-21st July, and on 5-6th and 10th August 2010.
- 2.2 The archaeological recording was commissioned by Salt Architects Ltd. in response to an archaeological planning condition placed on a development at the school. This comprised an extension (NY/2009/0471/FUL) to the building's northern side.
- 2.3 The archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (see **Appendix 5**) for the site was produced by Fern Archaeology and authorised by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) on 26th May 2010. The archaeological planning condition had been placed on the development by NYCC in November 2009, in accordance with PPG16 (1990) planning guidance. This decreed that:
- 'No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority.'
- 2.4 The archaeologist on site operated in full accordance with professional standards, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA 2008).
- 2.5 The archaeologist on site was Chris Fern, who is also the main author and illustrator of this report.
- 2.6 The site code allocated for the project was SHRB'10.
- 2.7 Significant archaeology was found. Two main phases of activity were recorded: an 'Iron Age' phase (Phase 2), and a late medieval phase (Phase 3) (**Figure 2**). The quantity and good preservation of the pottery of both phases suggests *in situ* deposition rather than a residual presence. The 'Iron Age' occupation might be associated with locally known late prehistoric 'ladder' settlement (Powlesland 2003; pers. comm.).
- 2.8 The site archive is listed in **Appendix 6**; it is hoped that it will be deposited with Malton Museum.



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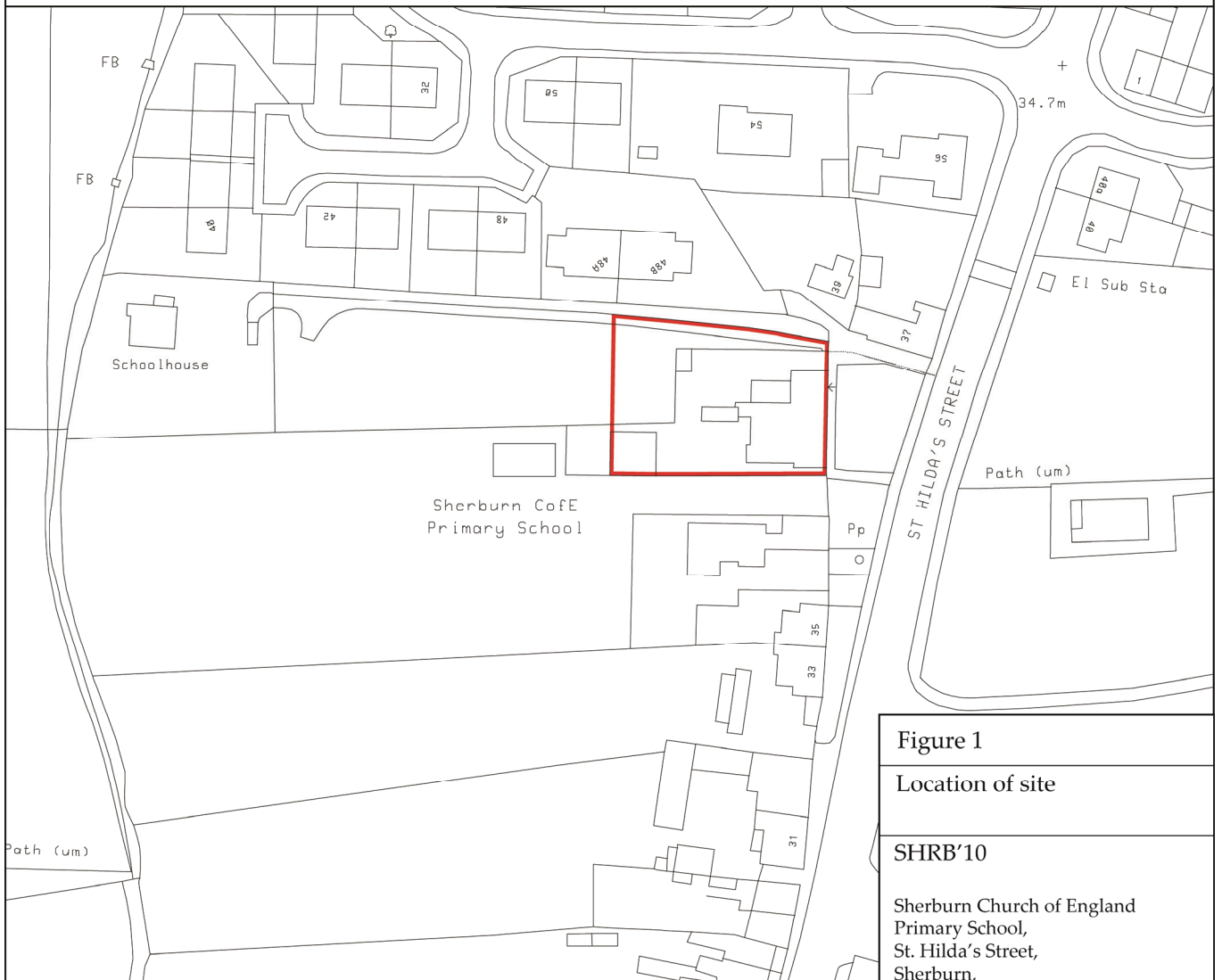


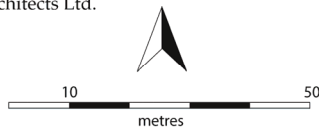
Figure 1
Location of site

SHRB'10
Sherburn Church of England
Primary School,
St. Hilda's Street,
Sherburn,
North Yorkshire

Scales: 1/1250 and 1/25000

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3 SITE LOCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1 The archaeological investigation and recording (i.e. 'watching brief') was undertaken at Sherburn Primary School, in the village of Sherburn, North Yorkshire, Appl. no. NY/2009/0471/FUL. The school is sited on St Hilda's Street, the main road that runs through the village, at National Grid Reference (NGR) SE 95876 77021 (**Figure 1**). Sherburn is approximately 17.5km east of Malton and 42.5km north-east of York. It is located between East Heselton and Ganton on the Malton-to-Scarborough A64 road.
- 3.2 The village occupies the gradually rising slope above the 30m contour, with the school set close to the 35m contour.
- 3.3 The upper geology in this area comprises glacial sand with gravel inclusions. This was recorded during the recording brief as context (C1000), with a Munsell Colour varying from 10YR 5/8 to 10YR 6/6, yellowish-brown or brownish-yellow.
- 3.4 The development comprised an extension on the north side of the existing school building, to include a new entrance lobby, administration room, office and storerooms. The foundations for this new structure were monitored with a permanent archaeological presence. Works for new services, including two new man-holes, were also observed where they were sufficiently deep to threaten archaeology.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The village is recorded in Domesday Book, AD1086, as *Schiresburn*; but the earliest plan does not appear until Jeffreys' Map of 1772.
- 4.2 Archaeological remains have proved extensive throughout the village and surrounding area, with finds from the Neolithic onwards. To the east of the village, Roman settlement is known from excavations in 1928 and 1947, as well as from aerial photography (NYCC HER: MNY11129).
- 4.3 Recently, extensive archaeological survey, undertaken by the Landscape Research Centre (Prof. Powlesland, Yedingham; Powlesland 2003), has demonstrated evidence for a considerable density of past occupation throughout the Vale of Pickering. Using geophysics (magnetometry), features have been detected that are consistent particularly with 'ladder' settlement of the Iron Age, with excavations confirming continued occupation into the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods. It is likely that settlement concentrations of the early medieval period, the c.5th-10th centuries AD (i.e. Anglo-Saxon), gave rise to many of the existing villages along the modern A64 route. This is suggested too for Sherburn, where features indicative of Anglo-Saxon settlement have been recently identified by geophysical survey (Powlesland pers. comm.).
- 4.4 The dedication of the church at Sherburn to St Hilda further supports an early medieval origin for the village. Hilda (d.680) was an important ecclesiastic in the era of conversion in Anglo-Saxon Northumbria, being abbess of Hartlepool and the founder of the famous abbey of Whitby (Lapidge *et al.* 1999, 239). As such, she became a popular saint soon after her death, with a number of early foundations known to have been dedicated to her. The existence of a religious foundation at Sherburn by the 9th century is corroborated further by the presence at the church of a considerable number of late Anglo-Saxon carved stone sculptural fragments (Lang 1991, 27, 201-6, pls. 762-99); though it is possible a simple wooden church existed earlier.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The supervising archaeologist was Chris Fern.
- 5.2 The guidelines for archaeological excavation issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA 2008) were adhered to throughout; as was the Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Recording (WSI) (**Appendix 5**).
- 5.3 Archaeological deposits, layers and features were recorded as follows:
- 1) a single 'context' (C) recording system (starting at C1000) was used, with numbers allocated to each discrete deposit, layer and cut feature; in the text and figures to follow, feature cuts are annotated in *[square brackets]*, while feature fills, layers and other deposits are given in *(round brackets)*;
 - 2) each deposit was separately described by its soil type, *Munsell* colour, inclusions and finds, together with its extents; the site record was maintained digitally; the records are produced in **Appendix 1**;
 - 3) 6-megapixel digital photography was used together with 35mm colour film photography; a register has been produced for the latter, which forms part of the archive, with the former available in the digital archive;
 - 4) a drawn record of the excavations and archaeology was made on *permatrace* paper at 1/10, 1/20 and 1/100 scale; the results have been digitised and are shown in **Figures 2-5**; the original drawings form part of the archive;
 - 5) the excavations have been located accurately to a scaled site plan (**Figure 2**);
 - 6) all finds that pre-dated AD1900 were collected and have been retained; they are listed in **Appendix 2**;
 - 7) metric heights for the ground-works and archaeology were recorded in relation to an Ordnance Survey bench-mark found on the front of the school. However, at a subsequent visit to North Yorkshire County Record Office, no Ordnance Datum value for this bench-mark could be found recorded on either the historic 1854 or 1911 Ordnance Survey maps. Hence, heights given in this report are in relation to a nominal 0.00m, assigned to the unknown bench-mark (**Figures 2**).
- 5.4 Archaeology was recorded immediately that it was apparent. However, inevitably as foundation trenches were rapidly machine excavated to the required depth, some features were cut-away, where they were not straight away observed; though time was subsequently afforded to make a record of them in the standing section of the trenches (i.e. as in Section A; see below).

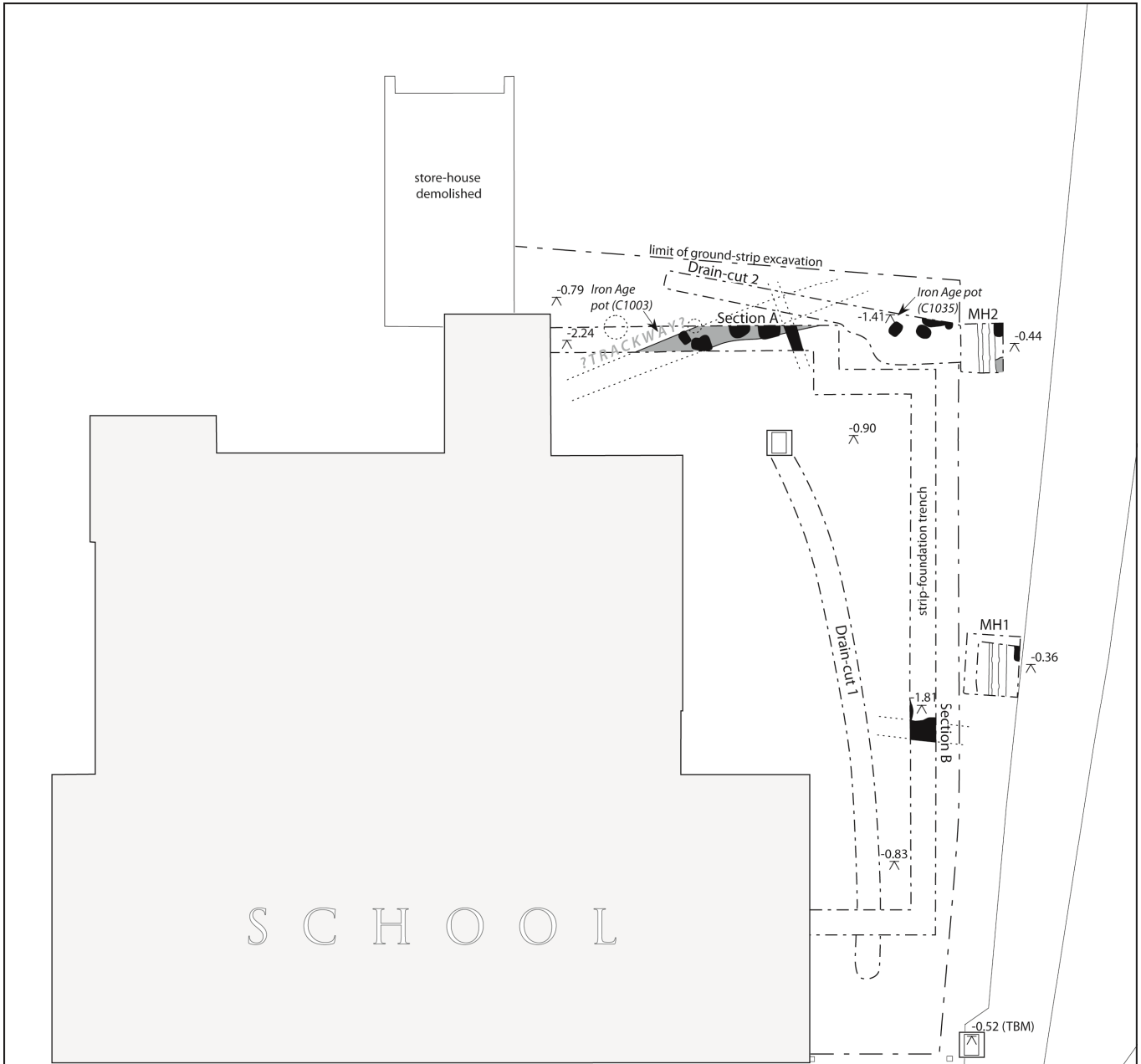
6 FIELDWORK RESULTS

- 6.1 The initially ground-works for the development comprised the stripping of tarmac, concrete and hardcore layers across a 10.5m x 19.5m area (**Figure 2**). These layers comprised a c.0.40m depth of material overlying a buried-soil layer, recorded as (C1001). This surface stood at approximately -0.79-90m, relative to the level of the bench-mark. All the ground-works on the site were undertaken using a JCB mechanical excavator, with sensitive excavations employing a toothless bucket.



Photo 1: View of site following initial ground-strip, looking east.

- 6.2 For ease of understanding, the ground-works monitored have been separated into four descriptive units which accord with the different phases of drainage and foundation works observed, investigated and recorded. They are Drain-cut 1, Drain-cut 2, Man-hole (MH)1, Man-hole (MH)2, and the strip-foundation works – of which two parts, Sections A and B contained archaeological remains. The location of each of these is shown in **Figure 2**.
- 6.3 **Drain-cut 1** (monitored 19th July): this phase of works required the uncovering of an existing length of curving drain, for a 13m length, using a 0.40m bucket, to a 0.50m depth. The ceramic drain is of probable late 19th- or 20th-century date. For the full length of the excavation only the buried-soil layer (C1001) was exposed, which the drain was cut through. This comprised a dark yellow-brown sand, of a slightly silty texture, that contained limestone fragments, occasional gravel and charcoal flecking. This layer covered the whole site. Finds from it included medieval sherds of Staxton-ware type, a sherd of medieval green-glazed jug, and animal bone.



▲ Bench-mark = 0.00m

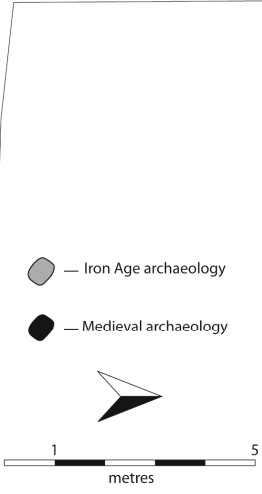


Figure 2
Location of excavations and archaeology
SHRB'10
Sherburn Church of England Primary School, St. Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire
Scales: 1/150
© Fern Archaeology

6.4 **Section A** (monitored 20th-21st July): the strip-foundations for the new extension were roughly L-shaped. They measured approximately 9m x 14.5m in plan, were excavated to a width of 0.60m, and minimum depth of 0.80m from the level of the newly stripped surface. Archaeological deposits were identified in two areas, termed for ease of reference, Sections A and B. Section A represents the westernmost part of the foundation trench, which was aligned north-by-south. In it a sequence of archaeological deposits and features were recorded, both in plan and in the east-facing section (**Figures 2 and 3**).

Uppermost was (C1001): in this instance the deposit was more clayey and notable for its frequency of limestone fragments; it was up to 0.80m deep. It was cut by several ceramic drains, all of late 19th- or 20th-century date, as well as a small pit, full of disarticulated animal bone; this was not recorded in detail due to its late date.

Sealed beneath layer (C1001) was a buried-soil layer, up to 0.40m deep, recorded as (C1002). This comprised a dark yellowish brown silty sand, which, as with the layer above it, was observed in all the workings across the site. Finds from it comprised four sherds of pot: two of probable Iron Age date, and two of medieval Staxton-ware type. This layer was cut through by at least five post-holes (four observable in the east-facing section).

The deepest and largest was post-hole [C1006] (**Photo 2**). This was square in plan, c.0.50m in width, with a gradually tapering profile surviving to a c.1.00m depth. It suggests a substantial squared timber, driven down into the natural sand subsoil, (C1000). It was backfilled with a dark brown silty sand, containing a notable frequency of limestone fragments.



Photo 2: Post-holes [C1004] and [C1006], looking south-west.

In addition, two further post-holes were recorded in the east-facing section, features [C1018] and [C1020]. Neither contained any datable finds. But again they were cut through layer (C1002) and sealed by layer (C1001), and had dark silty (clayey) sand fills, with limestone fragment inclusions. This suggests they are of the same general phase as post-holes [C1004] and [C1006], even if they vary in their form and depth.

Immediately to the south was post-hole [C1004] (**Photo 2**). This was not as deep as post-hole [C1006], and was different in character. It was sub-round in plan and had a U-shaped section. However, it did have a very similar backfill, recorded as (C1005), again with frequent limestone fragment inclusions; but in this instance it also contained a single sherd of purple-glazed late medieval pottery.

Four further features had been more truncated by the machine excavation, but were of a sufficient depth that their lower portions survived in the base of the trench. Three of them together formed a group of small post-holes and one was a gully. Two of the post-holes were inter-cutting, [C1008] and [C1010], the former truncating the latter (**Photos 3 and 7**). Both appeared to have the same broadly rectangular plan, but post-hole [C1008] was deeper, with gradually tapering sides and a flat base. Their fills, contexts (C1009) and (C1011), were again dark brown silty sands containing limestone fragments, as well as pieces of animal bone in the case of (C1009). The eastern edge of post-hole [C1008] was just visible in the west-facing section of the trench (not recorded), showing that like the other post-holes it had been cut down through layer (C1002) and was sealed by layer (C1001). This relationship was not however evident for post-hole [C1010], but it may be suspected.



Photo 3: Post-holes [C1008], [C1010] and [C1012], shown cutting through deposit (C1003) and ditch [C1016].

The third post-hole, feature [C1012], was similar in plan, its lowest 0.41cm surviving, with a tapering profile. It had a very dark grey-brown silty clayey-sand fill, (C1013), containing limestone fragments, again suggesting its association with the other post-holes; but it contained no other finds.

The gully feature, context [C1014], was at the opposite end of the trench, immediately north of post-hole [C1006]. It comprised a narrow channel, 0.27m wide. It had a V-shaped profile with a rounded base and was filled with a brown silty sand, (C1015). It was distinct from the post-holes in Section A, on account of its lighter coloured fill and lack of limestone fragments. Also, it may have been cut at its top edge by post-hole [C1006], but this relationship was not distinct. Possibly, therefore, it is earlier than the post-hole, though it contained no datable finds. In addition, upon removal of the backfill, spade-marks were apparent in the gully's base (**Photo 4**); evocative evidence for the original excavator of the feature.

The oldest archaeology in Section A comprised a buried-soil deposit, (C1003), in which a quantity of 'Iron Age' pottery was found (for an example see **Figure 6c**), and a related

ditch, [C1016]. Both were cut by a number of the post-holes and the gully discussed above. Deposit (C1003) was a yellowish-brown sand. It was sealed by layer (C1002) and overlaid the natural soil, (C1000). In the southern half of the strip-foundation trench, where it was most extensive, a sondage (a small exploratory trench) was excavated to establish its depth and character (**Photo 7**). This revealed a deposit 0.30m in depth, which appeared to fill a hollow. The edge of the deposit has been allocated a 'cut' number, [C1026], as it is possible that this hollow represents a man-made depression, possibly caused by the route of a trackway; however, the limitations of the excavated sample make this suggestion tentative only.



Photo 4: Gully [C1014], showing original spade-marks, with post-hole [C1006] in the background.



Photo 5: Section of ditch [C1016], looking north, with the base of post-hole [C1012] in the foreground.

Following the removal of layer (C1003), ditch [C1016] demonstrated a clear edge, though the fill of this feature, context (C1017), was indistinguishable from that which overlay it (i.e. layer (C1003)) (**Photo 5**; cf. **Photo 7** showing C1003 prior to its excavation). For this reason the exact relationship between the two is uncertain: possibly the 'hollow-way' [C1026] truncated the ditch, or the reverse, the ditch cut layer (C1003). At the very least, since in plan the two appeared to follow the same alignment and had near-identical fills, it seems reasonable to suggest they both belong to the same phase of activity.

At the base of the trench the natural sand geology was encountered, into which many of the features had been cut. This upper drift geology comprised a light yellowish-brown sand with frequent gravel inclusions, allocated context (C1000). It was encountered across the site.

- 6.5 **Section B** (monitored 21st July): archaeological features were identified and recorded approximately 4.5m from the eastern limit of the main east-by-west section of foundation

trench. They comprised a ditch feature with evidence for a palisade-fence and a possible pit (**Figures 2 and 4**).

The ditch, cut feature [C1022], had been partially truncated by the machine excavation of the trench, but enough survived to allow it to be sampled and recorded, albeit in a very short timescale. In haste, it was initially over-cut as it was investigated, prior to its true form becoming apparent. In section the feature had a clear profile, comprising an irregular U-shaped gully, abruptly interrupted by a vertical cut, set at a slight angle, which demonstrated a darker backfill; it was 0.72m at its widest by 0.47m deep. The vertical cut's fill, (C1024), was a dark yellowish-brown silty sand. This was against the mixed yellow and brown fill (C1023) of the ditch, which also contained two sherds of medieval Staxton-ware type pot. The vertical cut appeared to run the length of the excavated section: it is interpreted as evidence for post-hole settings in the base of the feature, possibly representing a palisade-fence. In terms of its chronology, as indicated by the ground stratigraphy, it was probably sealed by layer (C1002), though definition was vague at the interface between the soils.

The ditch was cut at its south-western edge by what appeared to be a possible pit-like feature, recorded as (C1025). As only the very edge of the feature was within the trench, it was not sampled, though a further single sherd of Staxton-ware type pot was retrieved from its surface.

- 6.6 **Man-hole (MH) 1** (monitored 5th August): a square trench, 1.30-40m in width by 1.40m deep, was machine excavated for a new man-hole, to be cited on the course of an existing drain, immediately north of the strip-foundation trench and Section B (**Figures 2 and 4**). A possible post-hole and mortar surface were recorded (**Photo 8**).

Beneath modern track surfaces and a rubble layer, in total some 0.35m deep, layer (C1001) was again encountered. This overlaid a compacted layer of mortar, (C1027), about c.0.10m thick, mixed with clinker and small fragments of ceramic building material; a sherd of post-medieval pottery was found within this layer, indicating a mid 16th- to 18th-century date. This find provides essential evidence for the date of the layers above and below; i.e. layer (C1002) must pre-date it, whilst layer (C1001) must be later.

Cutting layer (C1002), and visible clearly in the recorded south-facing section, was a large post-hole, or small pit, context [C1029] (**Photo 8**). Its upper half had been truncated by the machine excavation, though a small corner of the feature was duly sampled. This hinted at a feature, similar in its form to post-hole [C1006], in Section A, and it is suspected that it too was a post-setting, which in this case was almost 1.00m deep. It was backfilled with a mixed yellow and dark brown silty sand, (C1028); it contained no finds.

As expected, cutting across the full width of the trench, on an east-to-west course was the modern ceramic drain, set in a cut that was the full depth of the excavation, its base filled with concrete. Retrieved from its backfill was the complete base portion of a late post-medieval pot, recorded as context (C1034). A second, smaller iron water pipe followed the same course.

- 6.7 **Man-hole (MH) 2** (monitored 6th August): a square trench, 1.00-20m in width by 1.10m deep, was machine excavated for a new man-hole, immediately north of Drain-cut 2 and Section A (**Figures 2 and 4**); the same two drains intercepted by MH1 were again

encountered. A post-hole, small pit and rough-shaped limestone blocks were recorded (**Photo 9**).

The upper stratigraphy in the trench was the same as for MH1, of track and tarmac surfaces over a rubble layer, in total c.0.40-60m in depth. These overlaid layers (C1001) and (C1002), that were 0.35m and 0.40m deep, respectively. A shard of modern moulded and coloured window glass was recovered from layer (C1001). Of note too were two large limestone blocks, recorded in the trench's south-facing section, which, though weathered, appeared to be rough-shaped. In their encountered position, neither appeared to be *in situ*, though it is likely both derive from a wall or building originally in the vicinity. The largest was contained within layer (C1002), and may feasibly therefore suggest an association with the medieval period or earlier.

A post-hole, feature [C1031], was cut through layer (C1002), in the north-west corner of the trench. It was up to 0.78m deep. It had a dark brown silty sand fill, (C1030), that contained sizeable limestone fragments, together with several iron nails, a fragment of late medieval(?) tile and five sherds of late medieval pottery. Combined, these finds suggest a date after the 15th century for the formation of the post-hole, by the removal of the post and the backfilling of the created void.

In the opposite north-east corner of the trench a small pit was recorded, context [C1033]; it was up to 0.24m deep. The feature, which had been cut into the natural sand, was sealed by layer (C1002). It had a dark yellowish-brown sand fill, (C1032) that contained one sherd of 'Iron Age' pot.

- 6.8 **Drain-cut 2** (monitored 10th August): this was excavated for a new drain to link in with MH2, and was located to the west of Section A (**Figures 2 and 5**). It varied in its width, but was for the most part 0.45m wide, broadening to c.1.00m at its northern end where it met MH2. It was expected that more features associated with those found in Section A might be found. This proved to be the case at the northern end of the trench, where machining reduced the depth to archaeological levels, but as it was excavated southward it rapidly ascended into layers (C1002) and (C1001), effectively leaving the archaeology beneath untouched and preserved. For this reason, monitoring of the rising course of the drain was curtailed. Nevertheless, significant remains were found, including a collection of 'Iron Age' pottery sherds, two further post-holes and a pit (**Photos 6, 10 and 11**).

In the north-west corner of the trench, and extending beyond its limit, was a pair of intercutting pits, features [C1037] and [C1039] (**Photo 11**). Unfortunately, both had been truncated by the initial machine excavation of the trench. The former was very small, and might possibly represent the very bottom of a post-hole. It had been cut by pit [C1039], that again survived only as the scooped base of a larger feature, up to 0.75m wide by 0.45m deep, filled with a very dark greyish-brown sand, context (C1038). Both pit fills contained exclusively medieval pottery of Staxton-ware type (for an example see **Figure 7a**). It appeared that the pit had been cut through layer (C1002), though this relationship was indistinct in places.



Photo 6: Post-holes [C1041] and [C1043], looking north-west, with pit [C1039] in the background.

Just to the south of the pits, at the base of the trench and at its western edge, was a spread of pottery (**Photo 10**). This was assigned the separate context (C1035), though it was contained within the lower portion of layer (C1002). The assessment of this has shown that most of the sherds are from one unusual 'Iron Age' handled vessel (**Figure 6b**; **Appendices 3 and 4**). It would seem that it represents a very fortuitous survival in what is probably a medieval plough-soil (i.e. (C1002)). Further sherds of the same type were recovered from machine spoil from the trench.

To the east of these features was a pair of post-holes, cut features [C1041] and [C1043] (**Photo 6**). They had again been truncated by the machining of the drain trench, with, in each case, the lowest 0.20m of the feature surviving. Both had fills of dark greyish-brown silty sand, contexts (C1040) and (C1042), that contained frequent small fragments of limestone. Fill (C1042), in addition, produced three iron nails, a fragment of later medieval(?) brick and a large sherd of 'Iron Age' pot, possibly part of vessel (C1035). This last find is certainly residual in this feature, which otherwise had the characteristics of the other medieval post-settings. This is further confirmed by the fact that post-hole [C1043] was cut through layer (C1002), which survived as a thin deposit following the machining.

7 FINDS

- 7.1 All finds have been cleaned, marked and packaged as necessary, in accordance with the *First Aid for Finds* manual (Watkinson and Neal 2001). They are detailed in **Appendix 2**. All are archive stable.
- 7.2 A total of ninety-nine finds were collected, the majority comprising seventy-three sherds of pottery.
- 7.3 The pottery has been assessed by Anne Jenner (see **Appendices 3-4**), a ceramic specialist at the York Archaeological Trust. It suggests two significant phases of occupation on the site, in the Iron Age and late medieval period. Most of the sherds of both periods demonstrate limited abrasion, indicating that they have not travelled far from their point of original deposition; hence, suggesting that the related activity on the site in both eras was *in situ* and not residual.

Forty-six sherds of handmade pottery are calcite-tempered. This ceramic fabric was common in the Vale of Pickering from the Bronze Age to the early Anglo-Saxon era. Throughout these periods manufacturing techniques remained relatively unchanged, making dating difficult (Vince and Steane 2008, 34). The forms of the pottery, however, can be used to differentiate cultural origin. It is believed that the examples from this site are most likely to date to the Iron Age. This is on the evidence of two rim forms and an unusual vessel with handles (**Figure 6**). It is speculated that the rare handled 'tankard' vessel (**Figure 6b**) may have had a ritual function.

Most of the twenty-five sherds of late medieval pottery are of the locally produced Staxton-ware type, in use from the 13th to 15th centuries. One example, of a rim form, is shown in **Figure 7b**, with the base of a 'peat pot' cooking vessel also illustrated (**Figure 7a**). Kilns producing this type of pottery are believed to have existed in Sherburn.

A few sherds of different, non-local fabrics are glazed. Two, from (C1005) and (C1030), suggest a date toward the end of the period, perhaps from the 15th century. One is hard fired and purple-glazed, resembling early Langerwehe stonewares, first found in Britain in the 14th century, but more common by the 16th century. These were found in two post-hole backfills, and hence, perhaps suggest the removal of a medieval building around this time; a structure that could, therefore, have stood around the 14th/15th centuries, a date contemporary with the use of the Staxton ware.

By comparison, just three sherds of post-medieval pottery were found.

The pottery specialist recommended that further work be undertaken on the calcite-tempered ware, including thin-section and ICPS chemical analysis. Both are beyond the scope of this current assessment, but should be considered for any future work on the archive.

- 7.4 Fifteen fragments of animal bone were found, of which nine were from 'Iron Age' contexts and three late medieval. Both large ungulates (probably cattle) and ovicaprids (sheep/goat) are present. Such a small assemblage has only very limited potential for further analysis.

- 7.5 Other finds include six iron nails of varying size, between 20-130mm in length. Although heavily corroded some of the shanks appear to be square in section. They were recovered from two late medieval post-hole fills, (C1030) and (C1042), in the former case associated with five sherds of late medieval pottery.

A single piece of slag (iron smelting debris) and two fragments of CBM (ceramic building material) are also dated to this period.

- 7.6 A single waste-flake, a piece of debitage from the manufacture of flint tools, was found in deposit (C1003), together with Iron Age pottery. This is the earliest evidence from the site and, although residual in its find context, is proof of a presence in the vicinity as early as the Neolithic.

8 INTERPRETATION

8.1 The following phased interpretation of the site is suggested (see **Appendix 1** for individual detail):

- Phase N:** (Natural) upper drift geology – (C1000)
- Phase 1:** Neolithic to early Bronze Age: a single flint waste flake from stone tool manufacture is the only evidence for a presence at this period.
- Phase 2:** ‘Iron Age’, sealed by late medieval layer (C1002): layer (C1003); ditch [C1016]; pit [C1033]; and pottery spread (C1035). This last context was probably disturbed by medieval ploughing as it was within layer (C1002).
- Phase 3a:** late medieval – c.13th century AD, sealed by layer (C1002): ditch [C1022].
- Phase 3b:** late medieval – c.13th-14th century AD: layer (C1002).
- Phase 3c:** late medieval – c.14th-15th century AD: ditch [C1014], which cuts layer (C1002), but is cut by post-hole [C1006]; some post-holes could be of this period also.
- Phase 3d:** late medieval – c.15th-16th century AD, which cut layer (C1002) and ditch [C1014]: post-holes [C1004], [C1006], [C1031] and [C1043], some backfilled with glazed pottery and/or CBM. These post-holes, together with others, may represent evidence for a building dismantled at the end of the medieval period.
- Phase 4:** Post-medieval – c. mid 16th-18th century AD: mortar layer (C1027), which seals the medieval archaeology.
- Phase M:** late post-medieval to modern – c. 19th-20th century: layer (C1001), formed throughout the post-medieval period, and incorporating material from multiple periods up to the early 20th century. It had been cut into by the foundations for the Victorian school, and a rubbish pit containing animal bone, as well as by multiple drains dating from this period. It was overlaid by 20th-century layers of rubble, sand, tarmac and concrete.

8.2 A presence on the site is evidenced as early as the Neolithic, assigned as Phase 1, but this evidence is residual only.

8.3 Two main phases of occupation were demonstrated (**Figure 2**): Phase 2, associated with calcite-tempered pottery, believed most likely to represent Iron Age activity; and Phase 3, late medieval, datable from the 13th to 16th centuries.

8.4 If the dating of the calcite-tempered pottery is correct, then significantly there is an absence of Roman and Anglo-Saxon evidence on the site; although it must be stated that the size of the site should caution against too much being concluded from this. Certainly, an Anglo-Saxon heritage for Sherburn village is strongly suggested by the church of St

Hilda's, as well as by the survey work of the Landscape Research Centre (Powlesland pers. comm.).

- 8.5 The 'Iron Age' archaeology of Phase 2, found in the western part of the site (**Figures 2-5**), was sealed beneath a layer of medieval soil (C1002). It comprised a buried soil (C1003) that sealed ditch [C1016]. This is also thought likely to be of this period due to the similarity of its fill to deposit (C1003), though it contained no actual pottery itself. On account of the association of these features, it is thought possible that deposit (C1003) may in fact have represent the fill of a hollow-way (i.e. trackway), though the limitations of the excavation window make this suggestion uncertain. Also of this date was a pottery spread, context (C1035), recorded as a lense within layer (C1002); it is thought probable that this represents material disturbed from the buried soil or 'trackway'. Most of the twenty-two sherds from the spread are from a rare 'tankard' vessel (**Figure 6b**).

Settlement of this era is in keeping with the results of geophysical surveys undertaken in the Vale of Pickering by the Landscape Research Centre (Powlesland 2003; pers. comm.). This has recorded a major late prehistoric trackway and 'ladder' settlement to the north of the modern A64, which runs close to Sherburn and beyond.

- 8.6 The Phase 3 medieval activity on the site (**Figures 2-5**) can be separated into four sub-phases (a-d) on the basis of stratigraphy. The earliest Phase 3a is represented by a single feature, a ditch [C1022], possibly with a palisade-fence, on a north-by-south alignment. This contained Staxton-ware type pottery and so cannot pre-date the 13th century. It was sealed beneath the Phase 3b archaeology, represented by layer (C1002), which, on the evidence of the pottery it contained and the features that cut it, should also date from the 13th to 14th centuries. This soil is likely to represent a cultivation soil. The Phase 3c-d activity comprises features which cut through layer (C1002) and, hence, must logically post-date the 14th century. Most were post-holes. Some were intercutting, whilst the juxtaposition of others, as well as their differing sizes and depths, suggests they were elements of more than one structure. One cut a narrow gully, feature [C1014], which is therefore assigned to Phase 3c. A few post-holes can be assigned to a following period, Phase 3d, on the evidence that they either cut the gully of the preceding phase, or contained late pottery and/or CBM. They are features [C1004], [C1006], [C1031], and [C1043].

It is suggested that the post-holes represent evidence for at least one building on the site in the period, and perhaps multiple structures; these were not necessarily contemporary, but may indicate a sequence of successive dwellings on the same plot, built over perhaps as much as a 200 year period. This is indicated by the somewhat disordered arrangement of the post-holes, as well as by their differing proportions, though any comprehensive interpretation of them is ultimately prevented by the very limited size of the excavation.

The tapering nature of a number of the rectangular features suggests that shaped posts were driven into the soft sand, rather than planted in pre-excavated holes. A number of the post-holes provided further hints as to the nature of the buildings. The bigger ones, such as features [C1006], [C1029] and [C1031] suggest a substantial structure, with many containing remnants of the possible building materials: chiefly fragments of limestone, but also a few iron nails, and pieces of brick and tile. The nails suggest wooden paneling, whilst the limestone may indicate the structure was of part-timbered stone build, which might be expected for a building of the late medieval period. Notably, across the site limestone fragments were most abundant within the post-hole backfills and in the

overlying layer (C1001), suggesting this is demolition material. Pottery suggests that the last of the medieval structures was removed c.AD1550.

The lack of medieval evidence prior to the 13th century suggests that this area of Sherburn was not then developed. Instead, it was probably either under the plough or enclosed pastoral land.

8.7 A presence in the post-medieval period is demonstrated by a compact mortar floor layer (C1027), recorded in Man-hole 1. A sherd of pottery incorporated in it, dates it to the c. mid 16th-18th century AD. This sealed all the medieval archaeology in the trench. It possible represents a yard or floor surface. It was sealed by layer (C1001), which represents a later post-medieval accumulation.

8.8 Principal heights, relative to the nominal bench-mark value for the site, assigned as 0.00m (see Section 5.3), are presented below. These establish the levels of the archaeological sequence across the site:

Description	Context	Trench	Height (m) relative to bench-mark	Approx. height (m) relative to modern ground surface	Archaeological significance and character
Modern ground level (north of extension, on modern trackway).	N/A	MH1, MH2	-0.36–44	0.00	low
Top of buried Victorian/modern topsoil.	C1001	Sections A and B, MH1, MH2	-0.84–1.03	c.-0.45–60	low
Top of post-medieval mortar surface	C1027	MH1	-0.98	c.-0.60	moderate
Top of buried medieval plough-soil; level of preserved medieval archaeology.	C1002	Sections A and B, MH1	-1.06–53	c.-0.65–1.10	high; late medieval archaeology
Top of buried soil; level of preserved 'Iron Age' archaeology	C1003	Section A	-1.91	c.-1.50	high; 'Iron Age' archaeology
Top of natural sand; level of preserved 'Iron Age' and medieval archaeology	C1000	Sections A and B, MH1, MH2	-1.60–2.15	c.-1.20–75	high; 'Iron Age' and medieval archaeology

9 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Significant archaeology of high potential occurred across the site at c. 0.65–1.10m below the modern surface. Given the quantity of remains encountered in the small trenches excavated, a considerable density of archaeology can be predicated for the site as a whole. The findings have been shown to be both significant for our understanding of the early origins of Sherburn and well-preserved.
- 9.2 Two main phases of activity were recorded: an 'Iron Age' phase (Phase 2), and a late medieval phase (Phase 3). The quantity and good preservation of the pottery of both phases suggests *in situ* deposition rather than a residual presence. The 'Iron Age' occupation might be associated with the late prehistoric 'ladder' settlement identified locally by the Landscape Research Centre (Powlesland 2003; pers. comm.). The late medieval evidence mainly comprised post-holes, which suggest at least one phase of part-timbered building on the site by the 14th century. This was probably demolished at some point in the early post-medieval period.
- 9.3 Therefore, any further development on the site, or on sites adjacent, should expect to encounter further archaeological remains at the depths noted above (in sections 8.8, 9.1). Suitable measures should be taken to mitigate the threat to this prehistoric and historic record, either by means of archaeological recording or preservation *in situ*.

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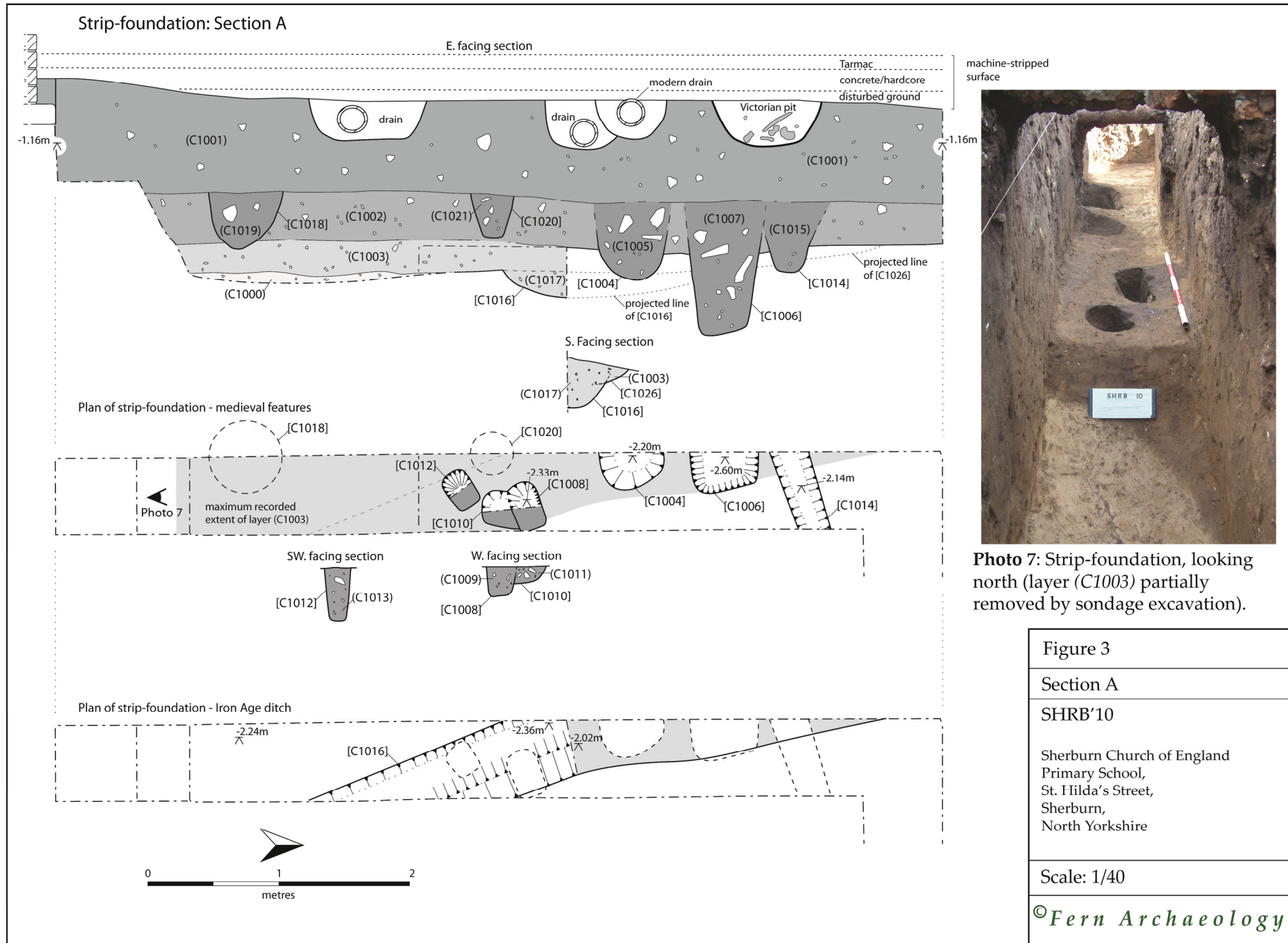


Photo 7: Strip-foundation, looking north (layer (C1003) partially removed by sondage excavation).

Figure 3
Section A
SHRB'10
Sherburn Church of England Primary School, St. Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire
Scale: 1/40
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Strip-foundation: Section B

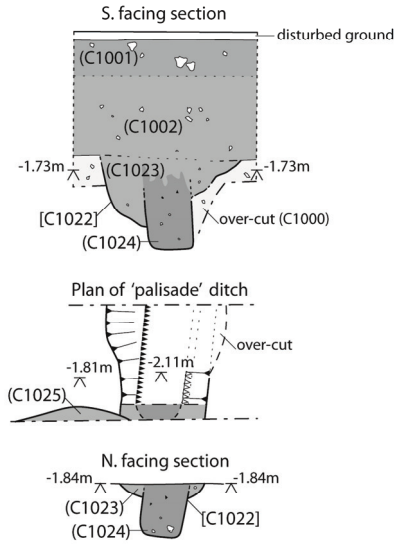


Photo 8: Man-hole 1, south-facing section.



Man-hole (MH) 2

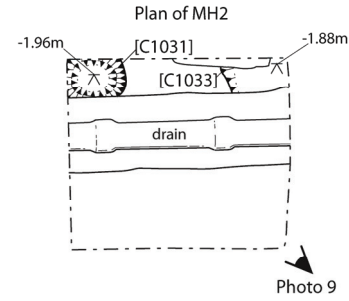
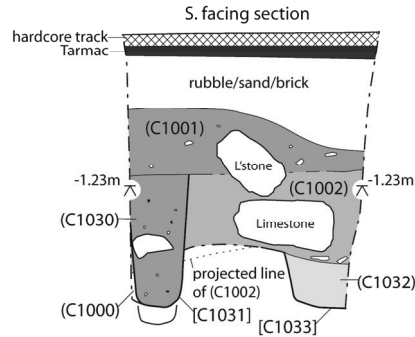


Photo 9: Man-hole 2, looking north-west.

Man-hole (MH) 1

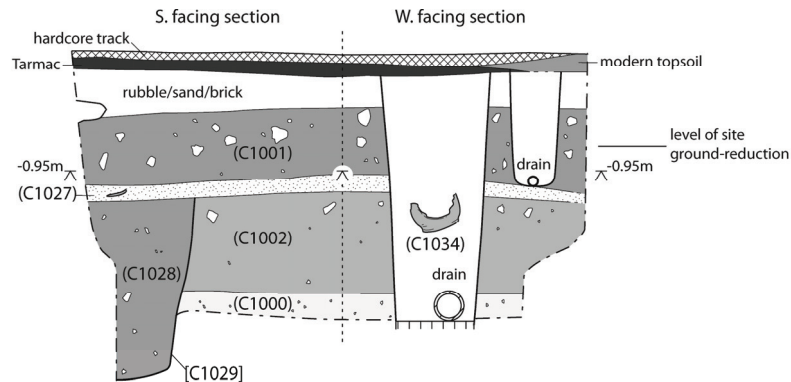
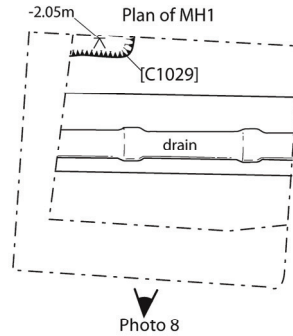


Figure 4
Section B, and MH 1 and 2
SHRB'10
Sherburn Church of England Primary School, St. Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire
Scale: 1/40
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Drain-cut 2

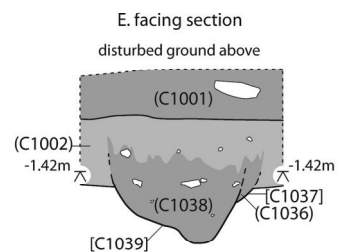


Photo 10: Detail of pottery-spread (C1035).

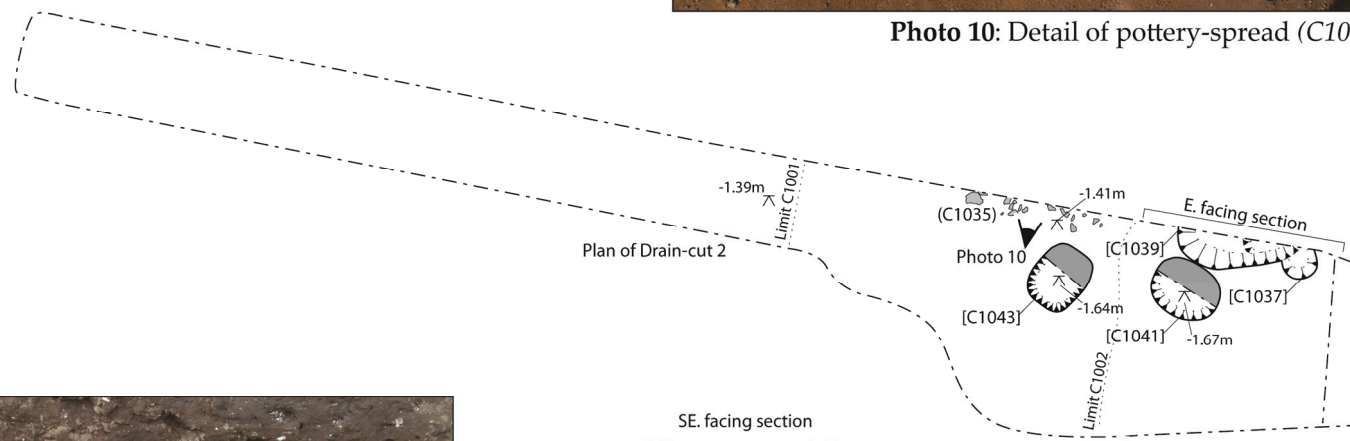


Photo 11: Pits [C1037] and [C1039] after excavation, and post-hole [C1041] pre-excitation, looking west.

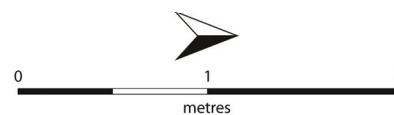
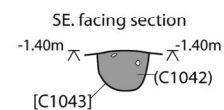
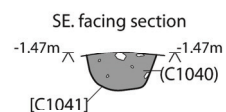
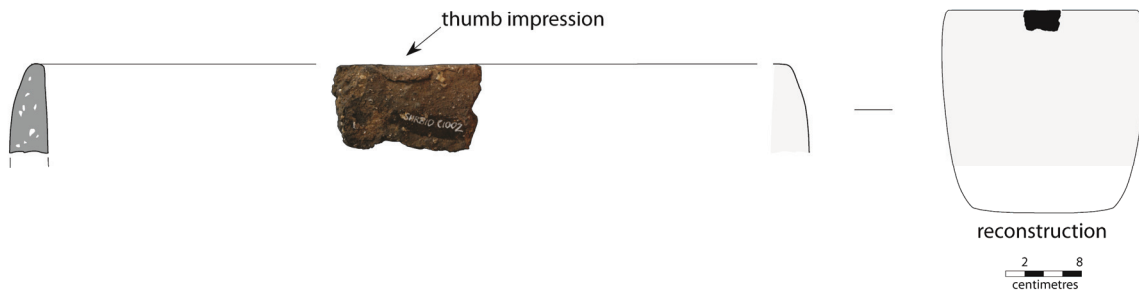
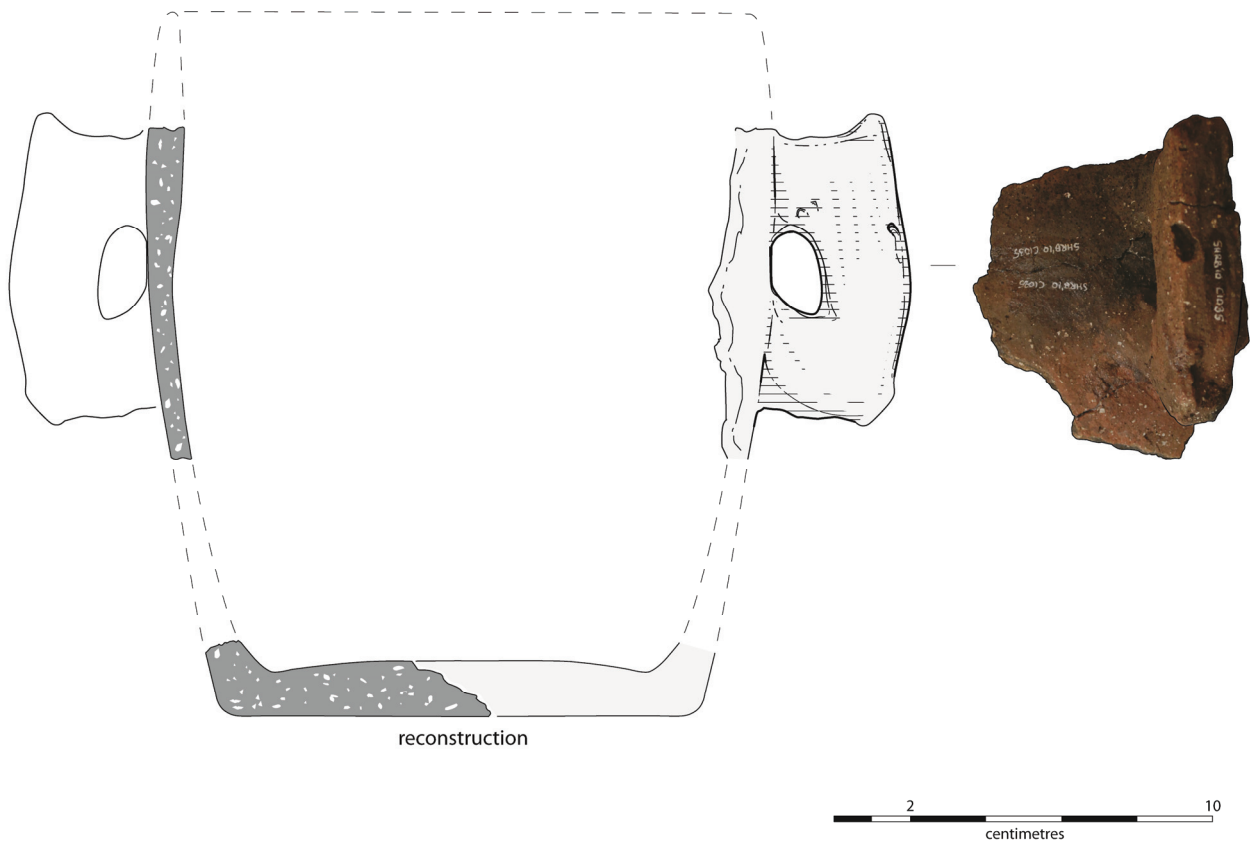


Figure 5
Drain-cut 2
SHRB'10
Sherburn Church of England Primary School, St. Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire
Scale: 1/40
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a. C1002, find no. 6



b. C1035, find no. 21



c. C1003, find no. 8

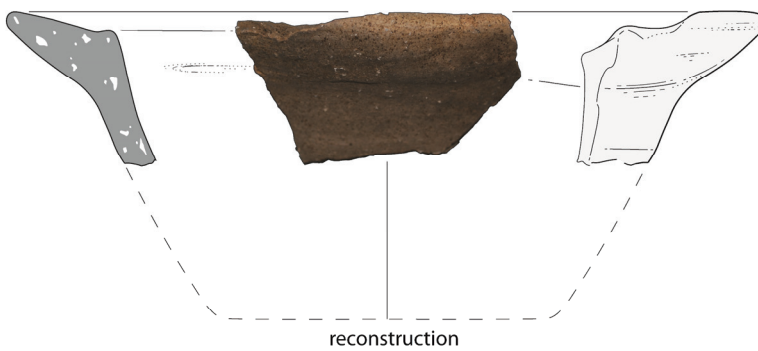


Figure 6

Drawings of select 'Iron Age' pottery

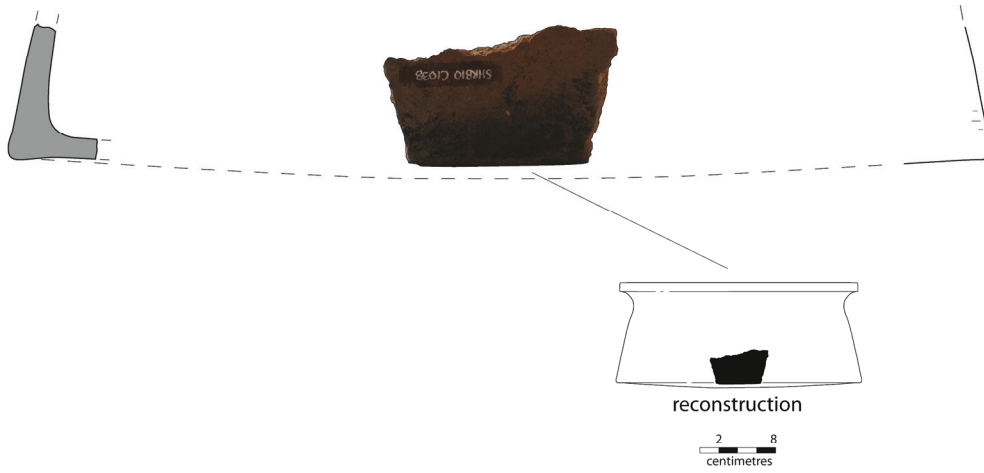
SHRB'10

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St. Hilda's Street,
Sherburn,
North Yorkshire

Scales: 1/2 and 1/8

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a. C1038, find no. 23



b. Unstrat., find no. 2

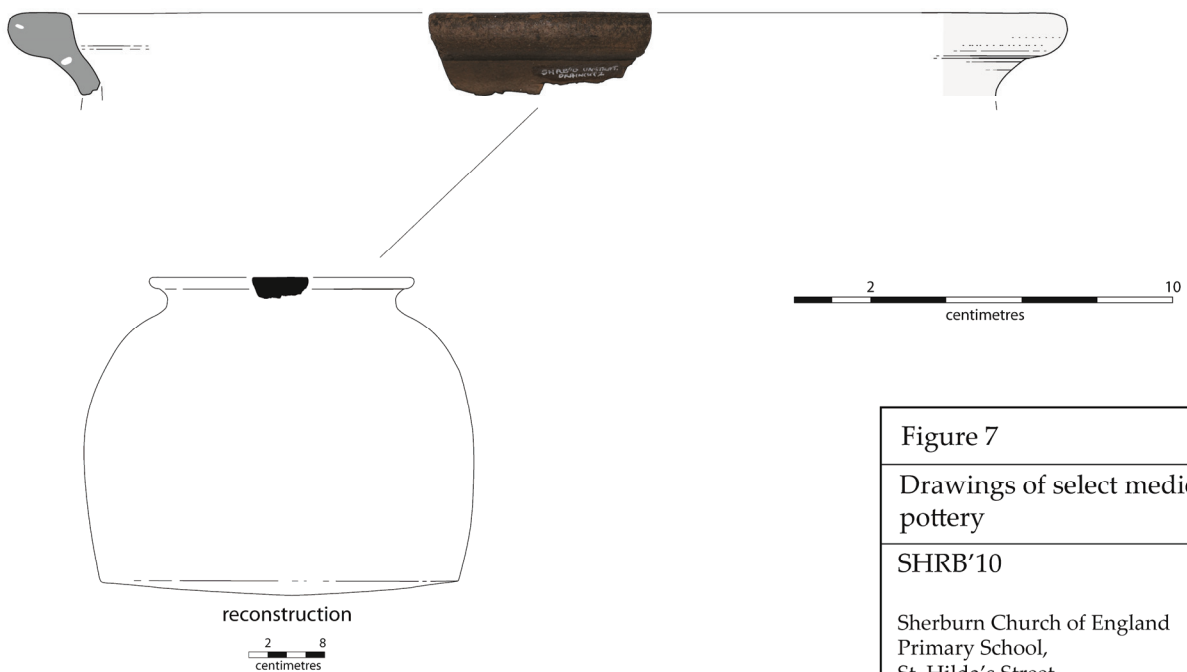


Figure 7

Drawings of select medieval pottery

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Scales: 1/2 and 1/8

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APPENDIX 1: ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Type	Description/ Interpretation	Profile (section)	Plan	Munsell Colour	Stratigraphic Relationship	Soil Type	Inclusions	Dimensions (cm) L – W – D/H	Date (period)	Phase
1000	layer	Natural drift geology.	layer	not seen	10YR 5/8 & 6/6	<u>under</u> : C1001, C1002, C1003; <u>cut by</u> : C1006, C1008, C1012, C1014, C1016, C1022, C1025, C1026, C1029, C1031, C1033, C1037, C1039, C1041, C1043, 'modern drain' in MHs 1 and 2	sand	gravel	** - ** - **	NATURAL	N
1001	layer	Buried soil, covering the whole site; a late post-medieval (Victorian) topsoil, partially derived from a stabilised early post-medieval plough-soil?	layer	not seen	10YR 4/4	<u>under</u> : modern hard-standing; <u>over</u> : C1000, C1002, C1004, C1005, C1006, C1007, C1008, C1009, C1010?, C1011?, C1012?, C1013?, C1014, C1015, C1018, C1019, C1020, C1021, C1022, C1023, C1024, C1025, C1027, C1030, C1031, C1036?, C1037?, C1038?, C1039?; <u>cut by</u> : 'drains' and 'pit' in Section A	silty (occasionally clayey) sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, CBM, animal bone, charcoal flecks, coal frags., pottery, window glass	** - ** - 80	LATE POST-MEDIEVAL/ MODERN	M
1002	layer	Buried soil, covering the whole site?; perhaps originally a stabilised Roman/early medieval topsoil accumulation; the late medieval pottery found in it and its possible relationship to ditch [C1022] suggests it may have been ploughed in the later medieval period; but is was also cut through by late medieval features; it was sealed beneath late post-medieval layers	layer	not seen	10YR 3/3 or 10YR 4/6	<u>under</u> : C1001, C1027; <u>over</u> : C1000, C1003, C1022?, C1023?, C1024?, C1032, C1033; <u>cut by</u> : C1004, C1006, C1008, C1010?, C1012?, C1014, C1018, C1020, C1029, C1031, C1037, C1039, C1041?, C1043 'modern drain' in MHs 1 and 2	silty sand	occasional limestone frags., gravel, animal bone, charcoal flecks, pottery	** - ** - 40	LATE MEDIEVAL	3b

C1027 and C1001.											
1003	fill/ layer?	Buried soil layer, or possible fill of a trackway [C1026?]; in Section A.	fill/layer?	linear?	10YR 5/8	<u>under:</u> C1002; <u>over:</u> C1000, C1016?, C1017?; <u>cut by:</u> C1004, C1006, C1008, C1010, C1012, C1014, C1018; <u>fill of:</u> C1026?	sand	gravel, charcoal flecks, animal bone, pottery	525 - 60 - 30	IRON AGE?	2
1004	cut	Post-hole; sampled by half-section; in Section A.	U-shaped; rounded base	sub-circular	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002, C1003, C1017; C1026 <u>fill:</u> C1005	-	-	55 - 30 - 60	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1005	fill	Fill of post-hole [1004]; in Section A.	U-shaped; rounded base	sub-circular	10YR 3/2	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>fill of:</u> C1004	silty clayey sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery	55 - 30 - 60	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1006	cut	Post-hole; sampled by half-section; in Section A.	tapering; rounded base	square	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002, C1003, C1014?, C1015?, C1016, C1017, C1026; <u>fill:</u> C1007	-	-	58 - 30 - 104	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1007	fill	Fill of post-hole [1006]; in Section A.	tapering; rounded base	square	10YR 3/3	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>fill of:</u> C1006	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks	58 - 30 - 104	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1008	cut	Post-hole; truncated by machining, but lower portion recorded and 100% excavated in the bottom of the strip-foundation trench; in Section A.	tapering; flat base	sub-rectangular	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002, C1003, C1010, C1011, C1016, C1017; <u>fill:</u> C1009	-	-	36 - 27 - 22	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1009	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1008]; in Section A.	tapering; flat base	sub-rectangular	10YR 3/4	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>fill of:</u> C1008	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks, animal bone	36 - 27 - 22	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1010	cut	Post-hole; truncated by machining, but lower portion recorded and 100% excavated in the bottom of the strip-foundation trench; in Section A.	shallow U-shaped; rounded base	sub-rectangular	-	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>cuts:</u> C1002?, C1003; <u>cut by:</u> C1008; <u>fill:</u> C1011	-	-	** - 28 - 12	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1011	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1010];	shallow U-	sub-	10YR 3/3	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>cut by:</u>	silty sand	frequent	** - 28 - 12	LATE	3c-d

		in Section A.	shaped; rounded base	rectangular		C1008; <u>fill of</u> : C1010		limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks		MEDIEVAL	
1012	cut	Post-hole; truncated by machining, but lower portion recorded and 100% excavated in the bottom of the strip-foundation trench; in Section A.	tapering; flat base	sub- rectangular	-	<u>under</u> : C1001?; <u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1002?, C1003, C1016, C1017, C1026; <u>fill</u> : C1013	-	-	33 - 25 - 41	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1013	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1012]; in Section A.	tapering; flat base	sub- rectangular	10YR 3/2	<u>under</u> : C1001?; <u>fill of</u> : C1012	silty clayey sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks	33 - 25 - 41	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1014	cut	Gully; truncated by machining, but lower portion recorded and 100% excavated in the bottom of the strip-foundation trench; spade-marks recorded in base; in Section A.	V-shaped; rounded base	linear	-	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1002, C1003, C1026; <u>cut by</u> : C1006?; <u>fill</u> : C1015	-	-	** - 27 - 53	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c
1015	fill	Fill of gully [C1012]; in Section A.	V-shaped; rounded base	linear	10YR 4/3	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>cut by</u> : C1006?; <u>fill of</u> : C1014	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks	** - 27 - 53	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c
1016	cut	Ditch; in Section A; 90% excavated; associated with layer (C1003).	U-shaped	linear	-	<u>under</u> : C1002?, C1003?; <u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1003?; <u>cut by</u> : C1004, C1006, C1008, C1012, C1014, C1026?; <u>fill</u> : C1017	-	-	140 - 40 - 20	IRON AGE?	2
1017	fill	Fill of ditch [C1016]; in Section A.	U-shaped	linear	10YR 5/8	<u>under</u> : C1002?, C1003?; <u>cut by</u> : C1004, C1006, C1010, C1012, C1014, C1026?; <u>fill of</u> : C1016	silty sand	gravel, charcoal flecks, animal bone	140 - 40 - 20	IRON AGE?	2
1018	cut	Post-hole; truncated by machine and recorded in the standing strip-trench section only; in Section A.	U-shaped; rounded base	not seen	-	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>cuts</u> : C1002, C1003; <u>fill</u> : C1019	-	-	57 - ** - 44	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1019	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1018]; in Section A.	U-shaped; rounded	not seen	10YR 3/2	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>fill of</u> : C1018	silty clayey sand	frequent limestone frags.,	57 - ** - 44	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d

			base					gravel, charcoal flecks			
1020	cut	Post-hole; truncated by machine and recorded in the standing strip-trench section only; in Section A.	U-shaped; flat base	not seen	-	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>cuts</u> : C1002, C1003; <u>fill</u> : C1021	-	-	32 - ** - 32	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1021	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1020]; in Section A.	U-shaped; flat base	not seen	10YR 3/2	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>fill of</u> : C1020	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks	32 - ** - 32	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1022	cut	Ditch with palisade setting; 100% excavated; in Section B.	irregular U-shaped; with vertical cut	linear	-	<u>under</u> : C1002?; <u>cut by</u> : C1025; <u>cuts</u> : C1000; <u>fill</u> : C1023, C1024	-	-	60 - 72 - 47	LATE MEDIEVAL	3a
1023	fill	Fill of ditch [C1022]; in Section B.	irregular U-shaped	linear	10YR 5/8 & 10YR 3/6	<u>under</u> : C1002?; <u>abuts</u> : C1024; <u>fill of</u> : C1022	mixed silty sand	gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery	60 - 72 - 38	LATE MEDIEVAL	3a
1024	fill	Fill of ditch [C1022]; in Section B.	vertical cut	linear	10YR 3/6	<u>under</u> : C1002?; <u>abuts</u> : C1023; <u>fill of</u> : C1022	silty sand	gravel, charcoal flecks	60 - 24 - 47	LATE MEDIEVAL	3a
1025	fill	Pit at southern limit of Section B; not excavated.	not seen	sub-circular?	brown	<u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1002?, C1022, C1023	not recorded	pottery	56 - ** - **	LATE MEDIEVAL?	3c-d?
1026	cut	Edge of linear(?) hollow/depression; in Section A.	shallow, sloping	linear?	-	<u>under</u> : C1002; <u>cut by</u> : C1004, C1006, C1008, C1010, C1012, C1014, C1016?, C1018; <u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1016?; <u>fill</u> : C1003	-	-	525 - 60 - 30	IRON AGE?	2
1027	layer	Compact mortar layer; in MH1.	layer	not seen	mortar	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>cut by</u> : 20th-century drain; <u>over</u> : C1002, C1028, C1029	mortar	gravel, charcoal flecks, clinker, CBM frags., pottery	** - ** - 8	POST-MEDIEVAL	4
1028	fill	Fill of post-hole/pit [C1029]; in MH1.	tapering; flat base	sub-rectangular?/square?	10YR 4/4 & 10YR 5/8	<u>under</u> : C1027; <u>fill of</u> : C1029	mixed silty sand (re-deposited natural)	gravel, charcoal flecks	55 - 11 - 94	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1029	cut	Post-hole or pit; corner part only in trench; in MH1.	tapering; flat base	sub-rectangular?	-	<u>under</u> : C1027; <u>cuts</u> : C1000, C1002; <u>fill</u> : C1028	-	-	55 - 11 - 94	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1030	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1031]; in MH2.	tapering; rounded base	sub-rectangular?	10YR 3/3	<u>under</u> : C1001; <u>fill of</u> : C1031	slightly silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery,	29 - 20 - 78	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d

										Fe nails, CBM	
1031	cut	Post-hole; NW corner of MH2.	tapering; rounded base	sub-rectangular?	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002; <u>fill:</u> C1030	-	-	29 - 20 - 78	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1032	fill	Fill of small pit [C1033]; in MH2.	U-shaped; sharp break of slope to a flat base	not seen	10YR 4/6 & greenish-grey clay inclusions	<u>under:</u> C1002; <u>fill of:</u> C1033	sand & clay inclusions	gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery	34 - 18 - 24	IRON AGE?	2
1033	cut	Small pit; NE corner of MH2.	U-shaped; sharp break of slope to a flat base	not seen	-	<u>under:</u> C1002; <u>cuts:</u> C1000; <u>fill:</u> C1032	-	-	34 - 18 - 24	IRON AGE?	2
1034	find	Base of large jug; from modern drain in MH1.	find	-	-	backfill of modern drain	-	pottery	-	LATE POST-MEDIEVAL	4-M
1035	find	Spread of 'Iron Age' pottery; in Drain-cut 2.	find	-	-	within layer C1002, but close to its base	-	pottery	-	IRON AGE?	2
1036	fill	Fill of small pit [C1037]; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped	sub-circular	10YR 4/3	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cut by:</u> C1039; <u>fill of:</u> C1037	sand	gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery	27 - 13 - 13	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1037	cut	Small pit; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped	sub-circular	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002; <u>cut by:</u> C1039; <u>fill:</u> C1036	-	-	27 - 13 - 13	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1038	fill	Fill of pit [C1039]; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; stepped base	sub-oval	10YR 3/2	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>fill of:</u> C1039	sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks, pottery	67 - 19 - 45	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1039	cut	Pit; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; stepped base	sub-oval	-	<u>under:</u> C1001; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002, C1036, C1037; <u>fill:</u> C1038	-	-	67 - 19 - 45	LATE MEDIEVAL	3c-d
1040	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1041]; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; rounded base	sub-oval	10YR 4/2	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>fill of:</u> C1041	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks	37 - 29 - 20	LATE MEDIEVAL?	3c-d
1041	cut	Post-hole; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; rounded base	sub-oval	-	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>cuts:</u> C1000; <u>fill:</u> C1040	-	-	37 - 29 - 20	LATE MEDIEVAL?	3c-d
1042	fill	Fill of post-hole [C1043]; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; rounded base	sub-rectangular?/ sub-oval	10YR 4/2	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>fill of:</u> C1043	silty sand	frequent limestone frags., gravel, charcoal flecks, CBM, Fe nails, pottery	35 - 28 - 20	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d
1043	cut	Post-hole; in Drain-cut 2.	U-shaped; rounded	sub-rectangular?/	-	<u>under:</u> C1001?; <u>cuts:</u> C1000, C1002; <u>fill:</u> C1042	-	-	35 - 28 - 20	LATE MEDIEVAL	3d

base sub-oval

Munsell Colour	Colour
10YR 3/2	very dark greyish-brown
10YR 3/3	dark brown
10YR 3/4	dark yellowish-brown
10YR 3/6	dark yellowish-brown
10YR 4/2	dark greyish-brown
10YR 4/3	brown
10YR 4/4	dark yellowish-brown
10YR 4/6	dark yellowish-brown
10YR 5/8	yellowish-brown
10YR 6/6	brownish-yellow

APPENDIX 2: FINDS ARCHIVE FOR SHERBURN, SHRB'10

Context	Find No.	Material	Type	quantity	Description	Date
Unstrat. (main site)	1	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Recovered during machining: body sherd of Iron Age? pottery. Not sent to specialist.	Iron Age?
Unstrat. (Drain-cut 2)	2	ceramic	pot	11 sherds	Recovered during machining: one rim sherd of medieval <i>Staxton? ware</i> ; ten sherds of Iron Age? pot.	Iron Age? – late medieval
1001 (main site)	3	bone	animal	3 frags.	Bone fragments from a large ungulate (cattle?).	Victorian – modern
1001 (main site)	4	ceramic	pot	7 sherds	Six sherds of medieval pottery, one with green-glaze, the others <i>Staxton ware</i> , including one rim and a base; one body sherd of abraded Iron Age? pottery.	Iron Age? – late medieval
1001 (MH2)	5	glass	window	1 shard	Man-hole 2; modern press-moulded window glass with a marigold flower pattern; the pettles stained yellow.	modern
1002 (strip-foundation)	6	ceramic	pot	4 sherds	Two sherds of Iron Age? pot, one a rim sherd; two sherds of medieval <i>Staxton ware</i> pottery.	Iron Age? – late medieval
1003 (Section A)	7	bone	animal	6 frags.	Includes large ungulate (cattle?) and ovicaprid tooth.	Iron Age?
1003 (Section A)	8	ceramic	pot	8 sherds	Iron Age? pot, including one rim sherd.	Iron Age?
1003 (Section A)	9	stone	flint	1 piece	Worked flint, waste flake.	Neolithic/ early Bronze Age
1005 (Section A)	10	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of late medieval glazed pot.	late medieval
1009 (Section A)	11	bone	animal	2 frags.	Bone fragments from large ungulate (cattle?) and ovicaprid? Chop-mark on long-bone fragment.	late medieval
1017 (Section A)	12	bone	animal	3 frags.	Bone fragments, including from large ungulate (cattle?).	Iron Age?
1023 (Section B)	13	ceramic	pot	2 sherds	Two sherds of medieval <i>Staxton ware</i> pottery.	late medieval
1025 (Section B)	14	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of medieval <i>Staxton ware</i> pottery.	late medieval
1027 (MH1)	15	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of <i>Redware</i> with interior glaze.	late medieval – early post- medieval
1030 (MH2)	16	ceramic	CBM	1 frag.	Fragment of late medieval? tile.	late

Context	Find No.	Material	Type	quantity	Description	Date
1030 (MH2)	17	ceramic	pot	5 sherds	Four sherds of <i>Staxton ware</i> , including a base sherd; one sherd of medieval pot with green-glaze.	medieval? late
1030 (MH2)	18	iron (Fe)	nail	3 pieces	Three iron nails of varying size, the longest over 130mm; although their form is largely obscured by corrosion, all show hints of having a square-sectioned shank.	late medieval
1032 (MH2)	19	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of Iron Age? pottery.	Iron Age?
1034 (MH1)	20	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	The whole base of a late post-medieval pot with interior and exterior glaze; kiln-stacking scars on base. Found in a 'modern' early? 20th-century drain cut.	late post- medieval
1035 (Drain-cut 2)	21	ceramic	pot	22 sherds	Most, if not all, are the remains of one 'Iron Age' vessel, including two base sherds and a handle (in four pieces); found at the base of layer C1002; they may represent plough-dragged material originating from the area of ditch C1016.	Iron Age?
1036 (Drain-cut 2)	22	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of medieval <i>Staxton ware</i> .	late medieval
1038 (Drain-cut 2)	23	ceramic	pot	7 sherds	DIESEL CONTAMINATION – USE GLOVES. Six sherds of medieval <i>Staxton ware</i> , including the base sherd of one 'peat pot'; one sherd of uncertain type	late medieval
1038 (Drain-cut 2)	24	slag		1 frag.	One small piece of slag; industrial waste.	late medieval?
1042 (Drain-cut 2)	25	bone	animal	1 frag.	Long-bone fragment from a large ungulate (cattle?).	late medieval?
1042 (Drain-cut 2)	26	ceramic	CBM	1 frag.	One small fragment of brick, possibly late medieval?	late medieval?
1042 (Drain-cut 2)	27	ceramic	pot	1 sherd	Body sherd of Iron Age? pottery	Iron Age?
1042 (Drain-cut 2)	28	iron (Fe)	nail	3 pieces	Three iron nails of varying size, the longest 35mm. The smallest has a clear square-sectioned shank.	late medieval?

Abbreviations: CBM = Ceramic Building Material (i.e. brick and tile); Fe = iron

FINDS SUMMARY

Find Type	Neolithic/early Bronze Age (c.3500-2000BC)	Iron Age? (c.800BC-AD70)	late Medieval (c.AD1200-1550)	Post-Medieval (c.AD1550-1900)	Modern (post-c.AD1900)	Total
animal bone	-	9	3	3	-	-
CBM	-	-	2	-	-	2
ceramic pot	-	46	25	3	-	74
Fe nails	-	-	6	-	-	6
glass	-	-	-	-	1	1
slag	-	-	1	-	-	1
flint	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total	1	55	37	6	1	99

APPENDIX 3: POTTERY SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT TABLE
 BY ANNE JENNER, YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST (ed. C. FERN)

Context	Find no.	Fabric	Fab. no.	Part	Form	Decoration	NOSH	Wt (g)	Radius	EVES %	Incl's (mm)	wall width (mm)	join	Comment	Fig.
C1001	4	N-yorks green glazed	1	body	jug?		1	6						light mottled green shiny glaze	
C1001	4	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body	jar		1	5			<1-3			abraded, leached	
C1001	4	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	base	jug	thumbbed	1	102						oxidised surfaces, white deposit	
C1001	4	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	rim	jar		1	51	8	15				sooted externally and over rim	
C1001	4	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar?		1	19							
C1001	4	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar?		1	17							
C1001	4	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar?		1	11							
C1002	6	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	body			1	1						oxidised surfaces and reduced core	
C1002	6	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body			1	6							
C1002	6	calcite-gritted	5	rim			1	11	10	7	<1-2			upright rim, finger mark	6a
C1002	6	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body			1	7			<3				
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, moderate, buff	5.2a	body			1	36			<1-8	10-15		poorly sorted, black surfaces	
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, moderate, reduced	5.2b	body			1	50			<1-2	10		fairly well sorted, black surface	
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, sparse, buff	5.1a	rim	bowl		1	56	10	11.5	<1-2	8		fairly well sorted, grey core	6c
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, moderate, buff	5.1c	body			1	26			<1-3	10		fairly well sorted	
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, reduced, buff	5.2b	base?			3	38			<1-3	8		fairly well sorted, see C1035?	
C1003	8	calcite-gritted, buff	5.1b	body			1	15			<1-3	8		leached, fairly well sorted	
C1005	10	purple-glazed,	6	body			1	6						fine sandy, hard	

Context	Find no.	Fabric	Fab. no.	Part	Form	Decoration	NOSH	Wt (g)	Radius	EVES %	Incl's (mm)	wall width (mm)	join	Comment	Fig.
C1023	13	reduced Staxton-type, reduced	2	body			1	6							
C1023	13	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body			1	1							
C1025	14	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	body			1	2				3		sandy fabric	
C1027	15	post-medieval, red ware	7	body	bowl		1	30						red fabric, greenish glaze inside	
C1030	17	late/post- medieval glazed	8	body	dish?		1	5						shiny, light green glaze	
C1030	17	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	body			2	28						sandy surfaces, reduced core	
C1030	17	?Staxton-type	2	base	jug		1	18						sooted, reduced inside	
C1030	17	Staxton-type, oxidised	3	base?			1	19						oxidised throughout	
C1032	19	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body			1	13			<1-3	11		reduced, leached see C1003	
C1034	20	red earthenware	9	base/body	jar		1	1416	9	100				brown glaze interior, white concretion on exterior body	
C1035	21	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	base			5	73	6		<1-3	13	Y	oxidized surfaces, reduced core	6b
C1035	21	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body/base			9	84			<1-3	13	Y?	oxidised surfaces, reduced core	
C1035	21	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body/handle	tankard		6	1041	8		<1-3	5	Y	oxidised surfaces, reduced core	6b
C1035	21	calcite-gritted, moderate	5	body			1	85			1-<2	10	Y?	oxidised surfaces, reduced core	
C1035	21	calcite-gritted, moderate	5	body			1	94			1-<2	8	Y?	oxidised surfaces, reduced core	
C1036	22	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar		1	17						sandy surfaces, soot	
C1038	23	Staxton-type, reduced	2	base	jar		1	34	13	6				soot over wall, base, join and interior, peat pot	7a
C1038	23	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar		1	25						sooted exterior	
C1038	23	Staxton-type, reduced	2	body	jar		1	5						sooted exterior	
C1038	23	Staxton-type,	3	body	jar		2	15							

Context	Find no.	Fabric	Fab. no.	Part	Form	Decoration	NOSH	Wt (g)	Radius	EVES %	Incl's (mm)	wall width (mm)	join	Comment	Fig.
		oxidized													
C1038	23	?Staxton-type	2	body	jar		2	27						?neck, large white inclusion - 2.5mm	
C1042	27	calcite-gritted, moderate	5	body			1	75			1-2	13		patchy firing, oxidised surfaces	
Dr2 Unstrat.	2	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body			7	60			1-4	5		fair well sorted	
Dr2 Unstrat.	2	calcite-gritted, abundant	5	body			1	7			1-4			poorly sorted	
Dr2 Unstrat.	2	Staxton-type, reduced	4	rim			1	26	14	7				wheel-thrown	7b
Dr2 Unstrat.	2	calcite-gritted, buff	5	body			1	6			1			buff surfaces	
Dr2 Unstrat.	2	leached calcite-gritted?	5	body			1	5						ox surfaces reduced core	

APPENDIX 4: POTTERY SPECIALIST REPORT,
BY ANNE JENNER, YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

INTRODUCTION

A small assemblage of seventy-three sherds was submitted for assessment from a watching brief at Sherburn Church-of-England Primary School, St Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire.

The assemblage incorporates both Iron Age and post-Roman material. Most of the sherds are quite small and of a domestic nature, though one large late post-medieval jar, context (1034), may have had an industrial function, and an 'Iron Age' form from pottery spread (C1035) may have had a ritual use.

This text has been edited by Chris Fern; a copy of the original is available in the digital archive.

METHODOLOGY

The pottery has been grouped into fabric and form types and then weighed and counted, with the results displayed in **Appendix 3**. Where possible, rim and base radii and estimated vessel equivalents (EVES) have been measured following the guidelines outlined in the Cambridge Manual (Orton *et al.* 1993). Selected sherds were examined by Jane Young in Lincoln and by Terry Manby.

This report has been written with the revised recommendations of the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group in mind (PCRG 1997), though time restraints have meant that it has not been possible to follow this advice totally.

In all nine pottery fabrics were identified. Fabrics 1-4 and 6 are medieval, fabric 5 is probably Iron Age and 7-9 are post-medieval. Fabric 5

MINERAL CALCITE-GRITTED WARES

Sherds of calcite-gritted wares were found in contexts (1001), (1002), (1003), (1032) and (1042). In addition, a spread of twenty-two sherds, most or all from one vessel was recorded as context (1035). Sherds from three vessels are illustrated in **Figure 6**.

Although these wares all appear to be tempered with mineral calcite, they vary in colour and in the amounts of inclusions each sherd contains. Colours range from a reduced grey to buff, through to an oxidised red (see below – context (C1035)), although individually they can be of a fairly uniform colour. The surface oxidation this suggests infers that these vessels were probably fired in a bonfire kiln.

Although most examples have moderate to abundant amounts of calcite temper, some have much larger grains mixed in. This gives them the appearance of being less well sorted. These attributes may reflect different potting traditions, and therefore different manufacturing sites, or simply different parts of the same vessel. Others may have had calcite temper added, but this has leached out, leaving voids on the surface.

All examples are handmade using fairly crudely made coils. Some sherds have horizontal marks on them, which could either suggest that they may have been trued on a turn table, or finished

off with a smoothing process. This is particularly noticeable on the rim sherd of a bowl, the only sparsely gritted example from context (C1003) (Figure 6c). It is of a flaring, everted form, but very uneven, suggesting that it was not finished on a turn-table. The only other example of a rim found in this fabric is an upright form from a jar vessel (Figures 6a).

The pot spread (C1035) was found to be mainly of one vessel (Figure 6b). This had a large handle of an unusual form. Terry Manby, an expert on prehistoric ceramic, has been shown this piece and commented that '...the slender proportion and angular shape...[seems] to be imitating a metal prototype – that is, a shape for forging in iron. So it suggests to me [the] skeuomorphic production of a handled tankard form – [comprising a] cylindrical body turned in wood with a pair of iron handles [set vertically], [the] sort of thing about in the later centuries [of the] 1st Millennium BC. It does not show the robustness of the handles with projecting ends that are attached to barrel-shaped pottery jars, like [the] one from Rillington.' He recommended further research on comparable material.

A comparable handle-form was found at Enclosure A, Levisham Moor (Challis and Harding 1975, 28 and fig 49, no 5). The handle is similarly made by 'moulding into the vessel wall', rather than being 'countersunk', but the handle shape is different. The form might have been purely functional, though a case may also be made for a ritual significance.

It is likely that the potters responsible for these wares would have used resources local to this area of East Yorkshire. However, similar looking oxidised wares have been found at East Heslington, York, where they occur as small drinking cups and large jars, making an external source of production possible. Moreover, calcite-gritted wares have been known to extend down from the Wolds as far as Bridlington (Jane Young pers. comm.).

In terms of date, calcite temper is used in vessels dating from the Iron Age, but also continued as a material through the Roman period (Darling & Precious forthcoming), and into the Anglo-Saxon era (Jane Young pers. comm.). It has been noted as an inclusion in pottery from later prehistoric sites in North Yorkshire and the East Riding (Challis and Harding 1975; Stead 1991; Rigby 2004). But it is present too in Anglo-Saxon wares as far south as Caythorpe, near Bridlington (Vince forthcoming). However, both the rim and handle form are best suited to a prehistoric date, though further research might allow for greater confidence in asserting this. For example, close similarities are believed probable with pottery from Knapton (of the 2nd-3rd century BC), though their colouring and firing are thought to be slightly different (Barbara Precious pers. comm.). In addition, comparison with the material from West Heslerton may provide a greater understanding of the pot in its local context. Overall, but tentatively therefore, an Iron Age date if favoured, but no greater chronological refinement within this era is possible based on the current evidence.

MEDIEVAL TO POST-MEDIEVAL

Staxton/Potter Brompton-type ware

The majority of the medieval pottery comprises sherds that are products from a local kiln tradition, known as Staxton ware. This has a coarse, sandy fabric, which varies from light grey, buff to red, sometimes on the same sherd, occasionally with some limestone inclusions (McCarthy and Brooks 1987, 237). The closest parallels are found at Staxton (Brewster 1958; Le Patourel 1979) and Potter Brompton (Brewster 1958), where the industries are believed to have been centred, though a kiln site is reputed to exist in the village of Sherburn itself (Manby pers. comm.). Evidence for potting has been noted from the middle of the 13th century at Potter

Brompton (Earnshaw and Watkins 1984, 35), and at Staxton is thought to have continued into the 15th century (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 237).

The forms represented here are mainly jars, though only one parallel can be found for that from context (C1001), with its globular body, everted neck and flat topped rim, at Wharram Percy (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 238, fig. 135, no. 691; Le Patourel 1979, fig. 34, no. 29). There is one small base sherd (C1030), which splays outwards from the base and another from deposit (C1038) that demonstrates an acute angle. This last example is from a form known as a 'peat pot', a broad-based cooking pot (**Figure 7a**; McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 237, figs. 693-4). The unusual rim sherd found unstratified in Drain-cut 2 is illustrated in **Figure 7b**.

Brompton was mentioned in 1263 in the *Calendar of Patent Rolls* (Smith 1939, 119), with the 'Potter' prefix added in *Kirby's Inquest*, in 1285 (Surt. 49), and again in 1297, in the *Yorkshire Lay Subsidies* (ibid.). In 1347, 'pot-makers' are mentioned in *Yorkshire Deeds* (ibid., 197).

North Yorkshire 'lightly gritted' ware

A single sherd from context (C1001) had a white firing fabric with a reduced core and few visible inclusions; it was decorated with a shiny light green glaze, common on York glazed wares (Brooks 1987, 151). However, the noted fine reduced fabric, with a thick white margin under the glazed surface, is more common on the later Brandsby-type wares (ibid., 153). This might suggest a date anywhere between the late 12th and late 14th centuries.

Post-medieval green-glazed ware

A small sherd from context (C1027) is from a cup or bowl, decorated with an even suspension glaze over both surfaces. It has a white sandy fabric. This vessel may be either late medieval or post-medieval in date.

Purple-glazed Langerwehe-type

A sherd from (C1005) is of a hard fired, purple-glazed fabric, with a grey core that resembles early Langerwehe stonewares, first found in Britain in the 14th century (Hurst 1986, 184-90), although other purple-glazed wares are more common in the 16th century.

Post-medieval red earthenware

A complete jar base was recovered from a modern drain cut, and recorded as context (C1034). It is of a fairly fine, red earthenware, decorated with a brownish-purple internal glaze. It had white concretions on its inner surface, indicating that it may have been used for some sort of agricultural or semi-industrial activity.

POTTERY BY CONTEXT

(C1001)	Uppermost deposit, with limestone fragments	A total of seven sherds: five Staxton-ware type; one North Yorkshire glazed ware; and one mineral calcite-gritted ware which is small, rather abraded and has many of the inclusions leached out. One of the Staxton-ware type jar sherds has been used to cook or heat its contents, as the external surface is
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covered in soot, which extends over the upper rim surface.

The North Yorkshire type glazed ware is reduced with a thick white margin below the glazed external surface. These wares were produced in the Hambleton Hills to the north of York from the late 12th to the early 18th century and small pieces can be difficult to assign dates to. The shininess of the glaze may point towards a medieval variant of York glazed ware, though the fabric is similar to some of the 14th-century Brandsby-types. The sherd is too small to date accurately.

- | | | |
|---------|---|--|
| (C1002) | Buried soil, comprising a silty sand | Four small sherds: two are Staxton-ware type (26mm and 30mm); and two are calcite-gritted (25mm and 40mm). The smaller calcite-gritted ware has larger, less well sorted inclusions, but it is not clear whether they are two distinct types or variants within the same fabric group. |
| (C1003) | Buried-soil deposit | Eight sherds of calcite-gritted ware, but variable by their colour, size and amount of sorting (Appendix 3). Only one rim sherd can be assigned to a form, as a type of bowl. The surfaces of this vessel demonstrate a series of horizontal marks, suggesting that it has been smoothed, though its very uneven rim and ribbed neck indicate that it was handmade using coils. Two with blackened surfaces (5.2a & 5.2b) may have been used as jars for cooking. |
| (C1005) | Fill of post-hole [1004] | The only sherd in this context is a purple-glazed, lightly reduced stoneware, possibly from Langerwehe, in the Rhineland. This type is found in Britain from the late 14th to 16th century. |
| (C1023) | Fill of ditch [1022] | Two small sherds of Staxton-ware type, reduced. |
| (C1025) | A pit-like feature cutting ditch [1022] | One small sherd of oxidised Staxton-ware type. |
| (C1027) | Compact mortar surface | One sherd of a post-medieval green-glazed red earthenware bowl, or pancheon, with internal glaze. |
| (C1030) | Fill of post-hole [C1031] | One piece of ceramic building material. It has two flat surfaces with traces of white slip on them, which may have formed the corner of a tile or brick.
Five sherds: four are of a sandy fabric, probably Staxton-ware type; and a fifth is a late medieval or post-medieval green-glazed ware cup or dish form. It has a fine even, slightly flaking glaze. |
| (C1032) | Fill of pit [C1033] | One small sherd may have had abundant calcite inclusions, but it is abraded and many of them have leached out. |
| (C1034) | Backfill of modern drain | One large complete base and most of the lower body of a fine, red earthenware jar, with a purple-brown glaze on its inner wall surface. It has a patchy white concretion. This type of vessel was used during the late post-medieval and modern periods. |

(C1035)	A spread of pottery within medieval plough-soil (C1002)	Twenty-two sherds of calcite-gritted ware with oxidised surfaces and reduced cores. They are probably all from the same vessel, notable for its unusual handle, that was probably set vertically down the body of a cup or tankard. The inclusions are fairly well sorted and there are few, if any, conclusions over 3mm across.
(C1036)	Fill of small pit [C1037]	One sherd of Staxton-ware type. It has soot over its inside surface.
(C1038)	Fill of small pit [C1039]	Seven sherds of Staxton-ware type.
(C1042)	Fill of post-hole [C1043]	One fragment of a small brick. One sherd of calcite-gritted ware with mainly small calcite inclusions of 1-2mm in length and a patchily fired surface.
Un-stratified	Drain cut 2	Eleven sherds: ten are calcite gritted, though their colouration, size and amount of inclusions vary. Seven are abundantly tempered, though this is distributed throughout the sherds in different quantities. One, with fairly well sorted inclusions, has abundant small pieces of calcite (1 to 2mm) on one surface, interspersed with the occasional larger piece (<4mm across). Hardly any calcite is visible on the opposite surface, perhaps due to the smoothing processes used when finishing the vessel. They are mostly reduced. Three of the calcite-gritted sherds have oxidised surfaces. One small sherd has a reduced core and little, if any, calcite, though voids occur on the surfaces, suggesting that some may have existed but that it has leached out. It has a moderate amount of rounded black iron ore in it, which is perhaps responsible for the dark colour of the core. The other two sherds (7 and 5gms) have poorly sorted calcite within them. One rim sherd is a sandy micaceous, wheel-thrown ware, probably a Staxton-ware type, with reduced surfaces and a coarse sandy buff core (Figure 6c).

FUTURE WORK

Further research on the 'Iron Age' calcite-tempered pot might include thin-section and Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectroscopy (ICPS) to characterise the ware and enable more detailed comparisons with similar types from other local sites, such as West Heslerton. Alan Vince has stated that it is possible to chemically distinguish the Roman from Saxon examples at West Heslerton, as they used different raw materials, but that it is not possible to distinguish these differences by eye (Vince forthcoming).

**APPENDIX 5: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI) FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING: 'WATCHING BRIEF': FOR SHERBURN CHURCH
OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, ST HILDA'S STREET, SHERBURN**

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Recording details a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording, to take place during the ground works associated with the above-named development at Sherburn Church of England Primary School, Planning Application No. NY/2009/0471/FUL.
- 1.2 This document has been produced in accordance with the advice issued by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Historic Environment Team, on 26th November 2009 (Hawkins 2009).

2 THE PLANNING CONDITION

- 2.1 An archaeological condition was placed on the development by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Historic Environment Team, on 26th November 2009 (Hawkins 2009). The condition states: 'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Planning Authority. This is in accordance with PPG16 guidance (para.30; Circular 11/95, Model Clause 55).'
- 2.2 This document is the said 'written scheme of investigation'.
- 2.3 The methodology proposed is that for a standard archaeological 'watching brief'.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The development site lies within the historic core of the medieval village. The area around Sherburn is of major archaeological interest; archaeological work in the area has identified considerable evidence for earlier settlement dating from the prehistoric, Romano-British and early Anglo-Saxon periods. There is potential, therefore, that development in this area could encounter archaeological remains relating to medieval or earlier occupation.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The supervising archaeologist will be Chris Fern.
- 4.2 The guidelines for archaeological excavation, issued by the *Institute for Archaeologists* (2008), will be adhered to throughout.
- 4.3 An archaeologist shall be present to monitor all ground-works associated with the development. This is to include, as necessary: geotechnical works, topsoil stripping, ground levelling, the excavation of foundation and service trenches, and soak-aways.

- 4.4 Monitoring will be fulfilled only in accordance with the following criteria: all ground-works that intrude below the level of the topsoil (or other 'modern' made ground layers) have been completed; all necessary archaeological recording has been completed; it is apparent that the site is archaeologically sterile (*premature cessation of monitoring will only take place with the permission of NYCC Historic Environment Team*).
- 4.5 If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological remains, they should immediately tell the archaeologist.
- 4.6 A two-week notice period of the start of works must be given to both the archaeological contractor and NYCC.
- 4.7 A back-acting mechanical excavator fitted with a *toothless bucket* must be used for all excavations into buried soil, to assist the identification of archaeology. Where necessary it is acceptable for the developer or their agents to use a toothed bucket to remove hard-standing surfaces.
- 4.8 Where archaeology is encountered the archaeologist must be afforded the time necessary to excavate, record and sample exposed features.
- 4.9 Heavy plant is not to be operated in the vicinity of archaeologists engaged in excavation and recording.
- 4.10 No human remains are expected. However, if they are encountered a licence from the Ministry of Justice will be required if they are disturbed or need to be removed. A short delay may occur. Human remains will be treated in accordance with *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (EH 2005). All additional costs pertaining to this are the responsibility of the client/developer.
- 4.11 A standard single context recording system will be used to keep a document record of all archaeology encountered.
- 4.12 Where possible, all archaeological features as a minimum will be sample excavated to the following criteria: ditches 5%; pits 50%; post-holes 100%; burials 100%; linear structures (walls etc.) 5%;
- 4.13 Where possible, all archaeological features will be drawn in plan and section to either 1:10 or 1:20 scales on an archive stable *permatrace*.
- 4.14 Where possible, all archaeological features will be photographed as appropriate using both a 6-megapixel digital colour camera and 35mm colour-film.
- 4.15 All archaeological finds pre-dating c.AD1900 will be collected. Later finds will be noted but not collected.
- 4.16 On completion of work, all records, photographs, finds and samples will be processed, cleaned, conserved, suitably stored and catalogued, in accordance with the *Institute for Archaeologists* guidance (2008) and the *First Aid For Finds* manual (Watkinson and Neal 2001).

- 4.17 Finds will be subject to specialist assessment as appropriate and where statistically significant:
- i) a small pottery assemblage is likely. *Jane Young Pottery Consultancy* will undertake any necessary assessment;
 - ii) in the unlikely event of human remains being discovered, *York Osteoarchaeology* will undertake any necessary analysis;
 - iii) any significant assemblages of flint will be assessed by *Anthony Dickson of AD Archaeology*.
 - iii) any significant assemblages of animal bone will be assessed by *Palaeoecological Research Services*. They are also the nominated specialist if any soils of palaeo-ecological significance are suspected.

4.18 Finds definable as 'treasure' in accordance with the Treasure Acts 1996 and 2003 will be reported to the local coroner. In the unlikely event that they cannot be removed on the day of exposure suitable security will need to be arranged. All additional costs pertaining to this are the responsibility of the client/developer.

4.19 Where unexpectedly complicated or significant archaeological remains are encountered, or where their quantity exceeds that which can be encompassed by a 'watching brief', NYCC Historic Environment Team will be contacted immediately for advice. Such instances may require variations from the WSI and special measures (such as increased staffing) to enable the facilitation of the archaeological condition. Where this becomes apparent the significance of the archaeology will be conveyed to the client/developer as soon as possible. All additional costs pertaining to this are the responsibility of the client/developer.

5 REPORT

5.1 Where possible, a report will be produced within 2 months of the cessation of monitoring. In some instances this deadline may be extended on account of external specialist schedules.

5.2 Hardcopies of the report will be provided to the client/developer, the Local Planning Authority and the Historic Environment Team for inclusion in the Historic Environment Record (HER) (see Section 8.2 below). Digital copies will also be sent to the HER and client/developer.

5.3 A digital copy of the report will be uploaded to the *Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) archive: (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>)

5.4 As a minimum the report will include the following:

- i) Summary;
- ii) Site Code;
- iii) Planning and HER refs;
- iv) Dates of fieldwork;
- v) National Grid Reference;
- vi) Location plan with scale;
- vii) Detail plan showing monitored areas and position of any archaeological features;

- viii) Section and plan drawings of archaeological deposits and features with scales and Ordnance Datum heights (where possible);
- ix) Photographs;
- x) A written description of the methodology employed and analysis of any results, in the context of the known history of the area;
- xi) Specialist reports as necessary.

6 ARCHIVE

- 6.1 The archive, excepting any items of 'treasure' and human remains, is the property of the client/developer. However, it is the expectation of the archaeological planning condition that any archive will be deposited with a suitable local museum, with full ownership transferred.
- 6.2 Malton Museum is identified as the most suitable institution to receive any archaeological archive.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 All staff will operate within health and safety regulations, in accordance with the 1974 *Health and Safety at Work Act*, and will be equipped with the necessary Personal Protective Equipment.

8 COPYRIGHT AND PUBLIC ACCESS

- 8.1 *Fern Archaeology* retains full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents and all other project documents, subject to the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. Copyright will be assigned to the client/developer for reasonable use and for the purposes of the archaeological condition.
- 8.2 The client/developer is hereby informed that in accordance with Environmental Information Regulations 2005 (EIR), information submitted to the Historic Environment Record (HER) becomes publicly accessible, except where disclosure might lead to environmental damage, and reports cannot be embargoed as 'confidential' or 'commercially sensitive'. Requests for sensitive information are subject to a public interest test, and if this is met, then the information has to be disclosed.

9 PUBLICATION

- 9.1 If significant results are found and where possible, a summary text will be submitted to a suitable journal, such as *Medieval Archaeology* or the *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*. All additional costs pertaining to this are the responsibility of the client/developer.

APPENDIX 6: ARCHIVE INDEX

The following articles comprise the archive. The client has given permission for the archive to be deposited with Malton Museum; negotiations are currently on going to this end.

Class	Index No.	Description
Archive CD	1.1	1 x Archive CD comprising 12 folders and 201 files, including 131 digital photos.
WSI	1.2	1 x A4 paper hardcopy of WSI, 6 pages.
Report	1.3	1 x A4 paper hardcopy of Report: <i>Report on Archaeological Recording at Sherburn Church-of-England Primary School, St Hilda's Street, Sherburn, North Yorkshire</i> , 54 pages
Original Site Records	1.4	4 x A3 <i>Permatrace</i> drawings of archaeological sections and plans, at 1/10, 1/20 & 1/100 scale.
Folder of photographic negatives and prints	1.5	47 x 35mm negatives; 47 x colour prints, 6" x 4" format; 2 x photo register
Post-excavation drawing	1.6	1 x A3 <i>Permatrace</i> with drawings of pottery, sketches for the digital final versions.
Historic maps of Sherburn	1.7	3 x maps: 1854 and 1911 OS. Poor copies made from microfilm at NYCRO.
Original Architect Plans	1.8	2 x A3 paper plans of school extension by <i>Salt Architects</i> , 1/100 scale. Note the planned classroom extension shown on the <i>Proposed Block Plan</i> was cancelled.
Original Site Record	1.9	4 x A4 paper copies of level survey. One is the original record sheet and three are duplicates of the configured levels, using the 0.00m allocated BM.
Correspondence documents	1.10	4 x A4 paper copies (5 pages in all) of email correspondence. Two relate to <i>Salt Architects</i> , and two to communications with Jane Young and Terry Manby, concerning pottery found on the site.
Finds	1.11	1 x Box of finds. See Appendices 2-3 for details.

