

8.0 Appendix 1 ~ List of Contexts

Context	Description	Extent	Depth
1000	Topsoil	Site	0.21m-0.55m
1001	Subsoil	Site	c.0.20m
1002	Cut:: Straight-sided, 'V'-shaped ditch cut	c.17.00m x 2.20m	0.70m
1003	Cut:: Convex-sided, 'V'-shaped ditch cut	21.10m x 4.90m	1.70m
1004	Fill: Friable mid reddish brown slightly silty sand containing frequent chalk gravel and occasional chalk pebbles. Fill of cut [1006]		
1005	Skeleton: modern dog burial		
1006	Cut:: vertical-sided, flat-bottomed cut for modern dog burial [1005]		
1007	Fill: Friable mid brown sandy silt containing evenly distributed occasional chalk gravel. Fill of ditch [1003]	21.10m x 2.70m	0.33m
1008	Fill: Friable dark brownish grey sandy silt containing evenly distributed rare chalk gravel. Fill of ditch [1003]	6.50m x 4.12m	0.50m
1009	Fill: Friable mid greyish brown sandy silt containing evenly distributed frequent chalk flecks and gravel. Fill of ditch [1003]	2.80m x 4.35m	0.40m
1010	Fill: Compact mid greyish brown silty sand containing rare chalk fragments and gravel. Fill of ditch [1003]	2.80m x 4.30m	0.20m
1011	Fill: Firm dark brownish grey sandy silt containing rare chalk fragments. Fill of ditch [1003]	2.80m x 0.70m	50mm-0.10m
1013	Fill: Soft mid yellowish brown sand containing occasional chalk gravel, more abundant at the base of the fill. Fill of cut [1014]	2.80m x 0.42m	0.28m
1014	Cut:: Steep-sided. 'U'-shaped cut. Recut/cleaning slot within ditch [1003]	2.80m x 0.42m	0.33m
1015	Fill: Compact light yellowish brown sand and chalk gravel. Fill of [1003]	2.80m x 1.55m	0.30m
1016	Fill: Soft light yellowish brown slightly silty sand containing frequent chalk gravel. Fill of [1003]	2.80m x 0.80m	0.25m
1017	Cut:: Moderate-steep-sided, 'V'-shaped ditch cut	5.86m x 4.50m	1.45m
1018	Natural: Loose yellowish brown, fine-coarse sand and gravel	site	Unknown
1019	Dump: Loose dark brown silty sand containing moderate sand chalk fragments and occasional larger stones and modern debris. Overlies topsoil [1000]	site	0.20m-0.64m
1020	Fill: Loose mixed topsoil [1000] and natural [1018] containing 80mm plastic water pipe surrounded by dark grey chippings in base. Fill of cut [1021]	2.12m x 0.55m- 0.71m	0.80m
1021	Cut: Steep-sided, flat-based cut. Modern land drain cut	2.12m x 0.55m- 0.71m	0.80m
1022	Fill: Loose mid brown silty sand containing evenly distributed occasional chalk fragments. Fill of ditch [1017]	5.86m x 4.50m	0.68m
1023	Fill: Compact dark brown silty sand containing evenly distributed occasional chalk fragments. Fill of ditch [1017]	1.80m x 1.84m	0.10m
1024	Fill: Fine-coarse sand containing occasional chalk gravel. Frequent shallow-concave lenses of coarse sand and fine gravel <2mm thick towards the base of the ditch	1.80m x 2.98m	0.60m
1025	Fill: Loose mid brown silty sand containing evenly distributed occasional chalk fragments. Fill of ditch [1002]	c.17.00m x 2.20m	0.37m
1026	Fill: Loose mid yellowish brown fine-coarse sand and chalk gravel. Fill of ditch [1002]	c.17.00m x 1.90m	0.23m
1027	Fill: Compact dark brown silty sand possibly containing an organic fraction. Contains evenly distributed occasional chalk gravel. Fill of ditch [1002]	c.17.00m x 0.77m	0.15m
1028	Inhumation: Flexed adult skeleton. Fill of grave cut [1030]	-	-
1029	Fill: Compact dark brown silty sand containing evenly distributed occasional chalk gravel and fragments of human and animal bone. Fill of grave cut [1030]	1.46m x 0.67m	>0.39m
1030	Cut:: Steep-sided, flat-based cut. Grave cut	1.46m x 0.67m	>0.39
1031	Clean-up layer over ditch [1003]	c.5.00m x c.3.00m	c.0.10m

9.0 Appendix 2 ~ Archive Index

9.1 Drawing Register

<i>Dwg No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initials</i>
1	Section – ditch cut [1003]	1:10	20/1/99	MGH
2	Plan – ditch cut [1003]	1:20	21/1/99	MGH
3	Plan – ditch cut [1017]	1:20	21/1/99	MGH
4	Plan – ditch cut [1002]	1:20	21/1/99	MGH
5	Section – ditch cut [1017]	1:10	21/1/99	DT
6	Section – ditch cut [1017]	1:10	21/1/99	DT
7	Section – ditch cut [1017], land drain [1021]	1:10	21/1/99	DT
8	Section – ditch cut [1017]	1:10	21/1/99	DT

9.2 Photographic Register

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Initials</i>
Film #1/19199/1030				
1-6	Ditch cut [1002], partially excavated	1x1.00m	19/01/99	DT
7-10	Ditch cut [1002], partially excavated showing alignment across site	1x1.00m	19/01/99	DT
10-12	Ditch cut [1003], partially excavated	1x2.00m, 1x1.00m	19/01/99	MGH
13-15	Ditch cut [1003], post-excavation working shot	1x2.00m	19/01/99	MGH
16-23	Ditch cut [1003], post-excavation	1x2.00m	20/01/99	MGH
24-29	Ditch cut [1017], post-excavation	1x2.00m	20/01/99	DT
30-32	Ditch cut [1002]	1x2.00m	20/01/99	DT
33-37	Detail of Fe blade with inhumation [1028]	1x0.20m	21/01/99	MGH
Film #1/210199/1015				
4-26	Inhumation [1028]	1x0.50m	21/01/99	MGH
27-33	Ditch cut [1002], fully excavated	1x1.00m	25/01/99	MGH

9.3 *Bulk Finds Catalogue*

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Date range</i>
1000	1 sherd STAX	12 th to 15 th centuries AD
	2 sherds HUM	14 th and 15 th centuries AD up until the 17 th century AD
1004	1 sherd YATKD.(Calcite gritted ware)	3 rd /4 th century AD
1005	dog skeleton	modern
1011	1 sherd YATGO.(Greyware)	2 nd century AD
1022	7 fragments of animal bone 2 fragments of human bone	
1025	1 fragment of flint blade 3 fragments of animal bone	Mesolithic to Bronze Age
1028	inhumation	Anglian
1029	2 fragments of animal bone, 5 fragments of human bone	
1031	1 sherd STAX	12 th to 15 th centuries AD

9.4 *Small Finds Catalogue*

<i>Context</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Object No.</i>
1028	Brooch	1
1028	Iron knife blade	2

10.0 Appendix 3 ~ Pottery & Flint from Spital Corner, Staxton.

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10.1 Background

Pottery and a flint flake was submitted for identification and assessment from four contexts: [1004], [1011], [1025] and [1031]. The medieval pottery was identified and recorded using terminology based ultimately on the Museum of London Archaeology Service system and the Roman pottery using the system developed by Jason Monaghan for the York Archaeological Trust.

The flint flake, from context [1025] appears to be a snapped blade, possibly retouched along one edge. It could be Mesolithic, Neolithic or even Bronze Age in date. The two Roman sherds came from contexts [1004] (3rd/4th C) and [1011] (2nd century or later). Neither is particularly fresh and they therefore date the deposits in which they were found to the Roman period or later. Context [1031] produced a sherd of Staxton ware which should date it to the later 12th century or later (Staxton was apparently producing pottery into the 15th century) and context [1000] produced a second Staxton ware sherd together with two sherds of late medieval Humber ware.

10.2 Description

10.2.1 Wares

The wares present are listed in Table One. The two medieval types are likely to be of local origin but with one possible exception (the Blackware from context [1006]) the post-medieval pottery is nonattributable and could be made in Staffordshire, Leeds or elsewhere.

Code:	Full Name	Comments
YATGO	Greyware	2 nd -century or later greyware. Unprovenanced.
YATKO	Calcite gritted ware	3 rd - or 4 th -century calcite tempered ware. Produced in the Vale of Pickering, at kilns in and around Malton.
STAX	Staxton ware	Handmade, oxidized sandy ware produced at Staxton and Potter Brompton in the later 12 th to 15 th centuries.
HUM	Humber ware	Produced at a number of centres, including Cowick and Holme upon Spalding Moor mainly during the 14 th and 15 th centuries. Late Humber wares continue this tradition into the 17 th century.

10.2.2 Forms

The sherds are in general too small to assign to a form. The exception is the sherd of Staxton ware from context [1031] which is from a jar, probably used in cooking.

10.3 Recommendations

The finds indicate prehistoric, Roman and medieval activity. They should be retained for further study and comparison with future finds.

10.4 *Appendix One*

Context:	cname:	Form:	Nosh:	NoV:	Weight:	PART:	Description:
1000	HUM	HOLLOW	2	2	17	BS	PURPLE SHEEN EXT
1000	STAX	HOLLOW	1	1	7		
1004	YATKO	HOLLOW	1	1	7	bs	
1011	YATGO	OPEN	1	1	11	bs	Abr
1025	FLINT	BLADE	1	1	3		POSSIBLE RETOUCH ALONG ONE EDGE;BROKEN
1031	STAX	JAR	1	1	14	B	

11.0 Appendix 4 ~ Metal finds & associated textile from Spital Corner, Staxton

Jane Cowgill¹, Helen Geake² & Penelope Walton Rogers³, edited by Alan Vince

11.1 Introduction

The inhumation found at the Staxton motel site was accompanied by a brooch, located at the neck, and a knife. Pending further study of the brooch it can be said that the burial is likely to date to the 6th or 7th century and, as far as the grave goods are concerned, could have been of either sex and of indeterminate status.

11.2 Brooch. Context [1029]; Registered find 2. (X-radiograph BCR 273)

Helen Geake, full report pending



Front Photograph: *A Vince*



Back Photograph: *A Vince*

Illustration pending

Illustration: *Dave Watt*

The brooch is an annular brooch made of copper alloy, cast in a one-part mould. Visible decoration was incorporated into the mould and consists of groups of parallel lines spaced around the circumference. The possibility of there being finer decoration added after casting is being investigated through the selective cleaning of a part of the brooch. The brooch pin was made of an iron rod wrapped around the brooch and corrosion products on the brooch have preserved traces of the textile to which the brooch was attached.

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11.3 *Textile report*

Penelope Walton Rogers

The pin of the small annular brooch, sf 2, pierces two folded edges of a textile. The textile is a relatively fine linen tabby weave, with 18 x 20 threads per cm. The brooch pin pierces the edge of the first fold, which is jammed against the pin hinge, while the second fold passes diagonally across the pin and is pierced from underneath at the pin tip. The folds in the textile follow the line of the weave with such neatness that it seems likely that they represent the straight edge of a garment, or garment trimming, rather than just loose folds of cloth. The position of the brooch on the body, below the neck, suggests the front neck opening of a linen gown or shift, the fabric being too lightweight for the average Anglo-Saxon cloak (Walton Rogers 1997, 1774, 1826; 1998, 278). Linen tabby-weave textiles of this sort became increasingly common in the late 6th and 7th centuries (Walton Rogers 1998, 275), especially in women's dress (although the sex of the Staxton body is not known). This period also saw a considerable change in costume styles - women, for example, began to wear garments which required fewer clasps than formerly (Owen-Crocker 1986, 99-100). The nature of these later styles of dress is not entirely clear and small pieces of evidence such as this from Staxton are vital in building up a picture of how the new garments were worn.

Catalogue entry

OSA98 EV12 [1028] <2>, small cu/a annular brooch with fe pin

Along the brooch pin, folds of semi-mineralised textile woven in tabby weave; 18 x 20 threads per cm; yarn Z-spun in warp and weft. The fibre is fully processed flax, from the plant *Linum usitatissimum* L. (the fibre identification was achieved by transmitted-light microscopy using a polarising analyser and additional tests). Best preserved area 12 mm along fold x 8mm wide.

11.4 *Knife. Context [1029]; Registered find 1. (X-radiograph BCR 273)*

Jane Cowgill

Iron knife found associated with skeleton [1028]. The tang and blade are complete (length 132mm). The cutting edge was probably originally straight but is now worn from being sharpened. The back curves gradually down towards the tip. Traces of a minerally-preserved handle survive on one side of the tang. The handle is made from a laminate material and the options are bone, ivory or horn. From its structure at x20 magnification the first two appear the most likely. The vertical band across the blade that is mentioned by the conservator (O'Connor, 1999) marks where the handle ends and its survival on one side has affected the degree of corrosion on this part of the blade and tang. This is a practical everyday knife that could have been deposited in either a male or females grave.

11.5 *Acknowledgements*

The finds have been conserved and x-rays produced by Sonia O'Connor. Investigative cleaning was undertaken at Lincoln Conservation Laboratory. Illustrations (pending) are by Dave Watt.

11.6 *Bibliography*

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12.0 Appendix 5 ~ Inhumation & other vertebrate remains, Spital Corner, Staxton

Chuny Johnstone, Helen Speight and John Carrott

Reports from the Environmental Archaeology Unit, York 99/14.

**Report on a human inhumation and other vertebrate remains from Staxton Motel,
North Yorkshire (site code OSA98EV12)**

12.1 Summary

A single human inhumation and a small quantity of other vertebrate remains were recovered from an evaluation excavation at Staxton Motel, North Yorkshire. A brooch was found with the skeleton which, together with other evidence, suggested an Anglian date. Skeleton 1028 represents the poorly preserved remains of an adult (25-35 years old) male, 5'4"-5'7" tall, of relatively gracile build and with no pathological conditions visible on the recovered parts of the skeleton.

The parasite squash undertaken on the abdominal soil sample was devoid of any recognisable organic component. The small quantity and poor preservation of the vertebrate remains from other contexts renders them of no zooarchaeological or interpretative value.

Keywords: STAXTON; N. YORKS; ANGLIAN?; INHUMATION; HUMAN REMAINS; ANIMAL BONE

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12.2 *Introduction*

A single human skeleton and a very small amount of animal and human bone were recovered from an evaluation excavation undertaken by On-Site Archaeology at Staxton Motel (NGR SE 5935 5151) in late 1998/early 1999, in advance of development. The skeleton, together with samples of soil from the cranial and abdominal regions, were submitted to the EAU for analysis. Additional bone from the grave fill and two other contexts was also examined. Dating evidence for the skeleton was scarce but a brooch found in the cranial sample is of possible Anglian date (Pearson *pers. comm.*)

12.3 *Methods*

A small subsample of the abdominal sediment sample was taken for a parasite 'squash' following Dainton (1992). The remainder of the abdominal sample, and the cranial sample, were sieved to 1 mm to recover small bone fragments.

The skeleton was washed where necessary and examined in the EAU laboratory. Detailed notes were made on the skeletal elements present, ageing and sexing criteria and pathology. Estimated age from tooth wear followed Brothwell (1972), whilst stature estimation was calculated using the methods outlined by Trotter and Gleser (1952 and 1958), as given in Bass (1987).

12.4 *Results*

Human skeleton (Context 1028)

Table 1 shows the skeletal elements present. Overall preservation of skeleton 1028 was poor, the articular ends of the long bones in particular being very degraded or entirely missing. The bones were also fragile, especially the cranium, which fragmented prior to and during washing. Most of the bone degradation appeared to have been caused by the acidic nature of the burial environment.

The poor preservation of the material meant that many features of the pelvis and skull used in sex determination could only be provisionally assessed. However, cranial features, the sciatic notch and the linear aspera suggest this individual was probably male (the sciatic notch was relatively wide for a male, but the cranial characteristics were much more clearly defined).

All epiphyses present were fused (including the vertebrae), suggesting an adult individual, although no 3rd molars were present. This lack of 3rd molars could be congenital or a result of late eruption (determination is not possible without an x-ray examination). Therefore, age estimation was undertaken on the basis of tooth wear and indicated an individual of approximately 25 -35 years at death. The individual was probably at the younger end of this age range at death as the tooth wear only just fell into this category and the cranial sutures were very open.

An estimation of stature could only be undertaken using the right femur. The calculation produced an estimate of 163 cm \pm 3.94, giving a height range of 5'4" to 5'7" for this individual. The bones were quite gracile for a male individual but this may be consistent with the relatively short stature.

No pathological conditions were noted on the skeleton. However, the poor condition of the bones, and in particular the absence of articular surfaces, may mean any evidence of pathology had been destroyed in the ground.

Other vertebrate material

Bone material was recovered from three other contexts including the grave fill. Overall preservation was variable but mostly poor, brittle and eroded (acid etched). Colour varied from beige to ginger and angularity (appearance of broken surfaces) was described as 'battered' or 'rounded'. Table 2 details the fragments found in these contexts.

The parasite squash on the abdominal sample showed it to be devoid of recognisable organic material, and hence no evidence of parasite eggs was present.

12.5 *Discussion*

Skeleton 1028

Skeleton 1028 represents the poorly preserved remains of an adult (25-35 years old) male, 5'4"-5'7" tall, of relatively gracile build and with no pathological conditions visible on the remaining parts of the skeleton.

A single poorly preserved human skeleton is of little value in providing information about past populations. However, a previous excavation at Staxton, adjacent to the Motel site, also produced a human skeleton (Dobney and Brothwell 1994). No direct dating evidence was recovered for that individual.

If the dating of both skeletons is Anglian, then the possibility they are part of the Anglian cemetery known to exist in the vicinity (Pearson *pers. comm.*) is increased. An Anglian date would also increase the significance of the finds, as this period is extremely poorly represented both regionally and nationally.

Other vertebrate remains

The presence of human bone fragments in two of the contexts (1022 and 1029) suggests these contexts are rather mixed, incorporating redeposited material. The human mandible and tibia fragments are not part of skeleton 1028 as they duplicate elements already present. However, the phalange shaft fragments from Context 1029 may be part of skeleton 1028. A Beaker burial ground is known to exist near the Staxton Motel site (Pearson *pers. comm.*) and these scattered human remains suggest that intercutting of outlying earlier graves may have taken place.

The very small quantity of animal bone recovered, together with the poor preservation of the material renders the assemblage of no zooarchaeological or interpretative value.

12.6 *Archive*

All material is currently stored in the Environmental Archaeology Unit, University of York, along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

12.7 *Acknowledgements*

The authors are grateful to On-Site Archaeology and in particular Nicky Pearson for providing this material, and archaeological information.

12.8 *References*

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Table 1. Skeletal elements present for the human skeleton from Staxton Motel, North Yorkshire.

Key: I = indeterminate, L = left, R = right, frag/s = fragment/s, vert/s = vertebra/e, phal/s = phalanx/phalanges, dist. = distal, prox. = proximal.

Element	Skeleton 1028
Cranium	Fragmented - occipital, parietals, frontal, temporals, zygomatics mostly complete, sphenoid, basal and R maxilla more fragmented, L maxilla missing (teeth present)
Mandible	L and R tooth rows present, articular parts of ramus broken off but present
Teeth	Lower M2-M2 present. Upper M2-M2 present except for right I2 (?post-mortem loss). M3 either congenitally absent or unerupted.
Cervical verts	Atlas recognisable, 5 other frags
Thoracic verts	Seven were reasonably complete, plus 2 frags
Lumbar verts	Four were reasonably complete
Scapula	R scapula only present, distal and medial parts fragmented
Clavicle	L and R present, articular ends missing
Sternum	Not present
Rib	Six fairly intact right ribs plus 13 fragments not determined to side
Humerus	Both present, R had part of distal articulation missing, L had both ends missing
Radius	R distal end missing. L both ends missing
Ulna	R distal end missing. L both ends missing
Carpals	None present
Metacarpal	Seven shaft fragments present
Manual phalanges	None present
Pelvis	R pelvis only present, most of iliac crest and pubic area missing, several pelvic frags recovered from sample
Sacrum	Possible remnants of one sacral vert present
Femur	R femur relatively intact, parts of proximal and distal ends missing. L femur - shaft only, femoral head in sample
Patella	Neither present
Tibia	L tibia proximal end missing. R tibia shaft only
Fibula	L fibula distal end missing. R tibia shaft only
Tarsals	None present
Metatarsal	One shaft fragment present
Pedal phalanges	None present

Table 2. Other human and animal remains from Staxton Motel, North Yorkshire, by context.

Context	Preservation	Fragments present
1022	Preservation of human material fair to poor. Other fragments poor to very poor. Colour also variable - beige to fawn.	Human tibia shaft fragment. Human vertebra fragment. Dog mandible - right side P4-M2 present, large dog greyhound size but more robust. 6 unidentified fragments.
1025	Preservation of all fragments very poor and eroded (acid soil etched). Beige colour.	Horse 1st phalanx. 2 unidentified shaft fragments.
1029	Preservation variable - fair to poor. Colour also variable fawn to ginger.	Human mandible - left side, C-M1 present and in wear, mental eminence suggests male individual. 3 Human - ?phalanx shaft fragments. Caprovid (sheep/goat) maxillary premolar. Pig tibia fragment - proximal end unfused. 1 unidentified ?human bone fragment.