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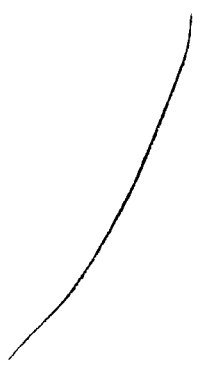
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Pasture View
 Sherburn in Elmet
 North Yorkshire
 SE 4955 3357
 INTERIM
 Archaeological Evaluation
 Trenches 1-14 & Access Roads

MAP
 November 2003



**Pasture View
Sherburn in Elmet
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**Archaeological Evaluation
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1. Background

This interim report has been prepared by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, on behalf of Persimmon Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd to fulfil a condition attached to Outline Planning Consent (8/58/59H/PA – Condition 24 decision notice dated March 2003) for the development of one hectare of land to the west of Pasture View, Sherburn in Elmet (Fig 1 SE 0000 0000)

This document represents the recording of archaeological remains exposed during the topsoil and overburden stripping of a number of evaluation trenches (Fig 2)

2. Site Description

The development area is located to the rear of properties fronting the east side of Low Street and immediately to the west of Pasture View and Copper Close. The southern boundary of the site is the recent development known as The Spinney and to the north is more established residential development. At the time of the evaluation the site was divided by a mature hawthorn hedgerow, with a recently cleared area to the south and overgrown grassland to the north.

3. Historical Background

Pre-Conquest charters are rare and the information they provide on land holdings in this period is very important. In the Sherburn Charter a grant of twenty hides at Sherburn was made in 963 by King Edgar to a nobleman described in the charter as the venerable Aeslac. It has been suggested that the Sherburn Estate may have been lost or forfeited in this period and that the grant by Edgar to Aeslac was a move to return the land to the Church (Long 1993). The boundaries of the hides are described as enclosing a compact area with detached portions of land in a number of surrounding vills. Seven out of the nine identified detached portions named are on the limestone ridge and this area was part of the kingdom of Elmet which developed after the withdrawal of Roman authority. Sherburn was the centre, or caput, of a large estate and its soke. The boundaries of the Estate are described and it has been interpreted that the southern boundary of the holding was Mill Dike, the western boundary following the present A656, the northern boundary the Roman Ridge road.

(which is the boundary between the Wapentakes of Barkston Ash and Skyrack) and the eastern boundary as Bragdale. This interpretation means that the development area lies immediately to the east of the pre-Conquest Estate (Fig. 6).

In the Domesday Survey 'Scireburne' is recorded as "with its berewicks there are, for the King's geld, four score carucates of land, in which sixty ploughs may be. This manor was, and is, in the demesne of the Archbishop of York. In it, he has now seven ploughs in the demesne, and thirty villans and eight bordars with ten ploughs and a half, and six sokemen and fifteen bordars having six ploughs and a half. Two churches are there and two priests with one border having one plough. One mill rendering ten shillings. In the whole manor, three hundred and fifty acres of meadow. Wood, pasturable, eight leugae in length and three leugae in breadth, and underwood, four leugae and one in breadth. Plain, (or champain), land five leugae in length and two (leugae) and one quarenteen in breadth .

Of this land, the Archbishop's knights have fifty-two carucates, where they have in the demesne sixteen ploughs and sixty villanes and seventy-five bordars having thirty-four ploughs. Of the same land, one thane has five carucates and one bovate, where he has two sokemen and six, villanes and eighteen bordars having seven ploughs. Of the same land, two clerks have six carucates, where they have in the demesne two ploughs and a half, and five villanes and five bordars having four ploughs. Of the same land, the Abbat of Salebi (Selby) has seven carucates.

This manor, was worth thirty-four pounds and six shillings; now, the same, and is in Barchestone Wap" - Barkston Ash wapentake (Skaife 1895).

In 1223 a charter was granted for a market to be held weekly on a Wednesday and in 1238 a further charter granted a annual fair to be held on the 13th/14th of September.

In 1318 Robert the Bruce attacked Sherburn and in 1322 Sherburn was raided after the Battle of Myton by the Scots and the Manor House was destroyed. In September 1321 rebels led by Thomas of Lancaster swore to fight until Hugh de Spencer was removed from power. The rebels met at All Saints Church, Sherburn, but they were defeated and beheaded at Pontefract by Edward II.

Surviving documentary evidence indicates that wool was being produced and sold in the Fourteenth century and that wool and flax were in produced in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth centuries.

The suppression of the monasteries in the Sixteenth century created an enormous land bank, many of the old monastic lands were gifted or sold to loyal servants of the crown, as appears to have happened in Sherburn. On the 6th of February in the 36th year of Henry VIII's reign (1545) the manor of Sherburn passed to the Crown from the authority of Archbishop Holgate. William Hungate was at the court of King Henry and in 1545 he purchased the manor of Sherburn. The Hungate family continued to hold the Estate until 1608 when the land was confiscated and granted to Ralph Baldwin and thence to John Lumby in 1609. The Estates were returned to the Hungates under Charles I. The Hungates were staunch Royalists and even financed Charles I to the sum of £300 in 1642. Sir Francis Hungate was killed at the Battle of Chester in 1643 fighting for the Royalist cause.

During the Civil War Lord Digby was captured near Aberford, and there was a series of Civil War skirmishes before the battle at Sherburn. 'On Monday, the 23rd of January 1643 he (Fairfax) marched from Bradford with six troops of horse and three dragoons under Sir Henry Forester and 1000 infantry with 2000 clubmen under his command to assault Leeds, then occupied by Sir William Saville. On the 25th of January intelligence reached Fairfax that the Earl of Newcastle had that day concentrated his scattered forces at Sherburn whence he marched to York with 36 columns, two pieces of canon and 45 baggage wagons the object to meet ammunition brought by the Queen' (Wheater 1882).

Fairfax seized Sherburn and the Estate was confiscated by Parliament from the Hungates, although in 1656 Robert Hungate endowed a school at Sherburn. The Estate was restored to the family during the Restoration in 1662. Estates continued in the Hungate family until 1749 when Mary Hungate daughter of Sir Francis and sister of Sir Philip and Sir Charles inherited the Estates. She was married to Sir Edward Gascoigne. The Estates then passed to the Gascoigne family. Edward Gascoigne died in 1749 and in the same year the land passed to his son Sir Thomas, on his death the Estates went to Richard Olivier who was married to Thomas Gascoigne step daughter and he took the name Gascoigne. Land continued with his line until 1938, when parcels of land were sold off.

4. Archaeological Background

Aerial data for the development area does not exist but cover to the south on the Low Street site is limited to a number of features in Areas A, B, C and D. Within Area A are a series of linears on various alignments and which on occasion appear to form sub-rectangular enclosures. To the north-east of this group is a single linear aligned south-west north-east. Its relationship to the larger grouping is not obvious and it also

appears to be on a totally different alignment to the group in Area A. Within Area C is a single north-south aligned linear with a small enclosure.

Further consideration of the aerial photographic data for the site environs illustrates that the grouping seen in Area A of Low Street continues to the south and there is also a series of enclosures and linears to the west of the A162, east of the Highfields development. Further to the south and east of Home Farm, further linears and possible trackways and enclosures exist.

The land to the south of the Leeds to Selby railway line has a very high density of crop mark features characterised by trackways, enclosures, field boundaries, and a number of circular features possibly representing either hut circles or barrow sites.

To the north of the site the land appears to be much quieter, with the exception of the aerial record of the earthwork site adjacent to the church (Athelstans Palace), this may be explained by the recent increase in development of the village and the changes in the geology. To the far east of the site, evidence for ridge and furrow is available.

The aerial photographic information therefore illustrates the intensity of activity on the landscape adjacent to the developments site, this is even further accentuated by the number and variety of artefacts and archaeological sites which exist within the site's environs.

Spot finds, representing artefacts located by chance consist of a stone axe (SMR 9475), a Roman coin of Vespasian Dupondius (SMR 9391 0001), an engraved ring with "EATHELWITH REGINA" (SMR 9443), and fragments of a stone cross of Anglian date found close to the church (SMR 9391 023). A barb and tanged arrowhead found during hoeing and a small number of Roman coins found during metal detecting at the Low Field site (Bramley pers. Com).

This small collection covers a long period of time from the Neolithic through to the Anglo-Saxon period a time span of over 1000 years.

Excavations and standing monuments extend the information available on the pre-history and history of Sherburn-in-Elmet.

Located at one of the highest points in the village stands the Church of All Saints. The church is not of one build and displays architectural work from the Twelfth to the Nineteenth centuries. The nave is a Norman rebuild dated to the first half of the Twelfth century, the chancel, tower and aisle are of Thirteenth - Fifteenth century date.

with later additions. But perhaps more noteworthy is that the church is mentioned in an early 10th century manuscript which records an inventory of goods for the church as two 'Christ books', two roods, two service books, three other books, a chalice and dish and various vestments, four hand bells and six hanging bells (Minster Library). Additional evidence for an earlier church is provided by the discovery in 1948 by the Rev G W Lane of a fragment of an Anglian cross in the Vicarage garden. The plant decoration places the piece in the Ninth - Tenth century.

At the south-east corner of the church was the Chapel of St Mary's and the Holy Angels. This building was mentioned in the early Thirteenth century and was still in existence in 1502.

To the north of the church stands Hall Garth (SMR 9391 03/9391 031), the putative site for King Athelstan's Palace. The earthworks which survive in Hall Garth are characteristic of a Type A4(?) moated site with no moat on the uphill side (Le Patourel 1973). The moat contained service buildings and dovecote. The residence was in decay in the Fourteenth century and in 1340 was valued at 3s 4d. In 1363 the fabric of the buildings provided some of the stone which was granted for the fabric of York Minster (Surtees Soc 1858). Hall Garth therefore accommodated an ecclesiastical residence well into the Fourteenth century.

The Hall Garth site is not the only moated site in close proximity to Sherburn. To the east of the development site is Rest Park. Originally a Type A2 (d) moated site this was destroyed in 1963. The site has been identified as the Archbishop of York's medieval manor of Rest. Rest was situated in the manor and parish of Sherburn and for administrative purposes was part of the barony of Sherburn. As the importance of the Hall Garth site declined, the palace at Cawood increased and it is at the time when the Hall Garth site is abandoned that Rest Park is first recorded in the ecclesiastical records. Despite the pre-eminence of Cawood it was to Sherburn that Rest Park was appurtenant. The Rest Park estate was only finally sold by the ecclesiastical commissioners in the Twentieth century.

To the south of Rest Park and south-east of the development site is another moated complex known as *Ragged Shaw*. A small Type A1 (a) moat this has been destroyed and now only exists as a crop mark feature. The enclosure map names the site as Reygate Shaw, presumably a reference to the previous owners, the Reygate family, who were important in the Fourteenth century.

Situated to the south-west of the site ^{is} the mins of Steeton Hall and associated earthworks (SMR 9404/9404 01). Steeton Hall is classified as a medieval magnates

residence and manorial centre (EH AA20041/1) Such sites date from the Norman conquest and acted as individual residences for varying periods of time, often dependant on the fortunes of the family in residence The main dwelling on the site was usually occupied by the highest ranking nobles, whether secular or ecclesiastical As is the case with Steeton and the Reygate family who were closely associated with the monarchy in the Fourteenth century The high status of these sites necessitated good communication routes and a prominent setting to construct impressive buildings suitable for status and rank Manorial centres would generally comprises of a series of stone buildings including a great hall, chambers, kitchens, service rooms, lodgings, chapel and a gatehouse arranged around a courtyard In addition, formal and ornate gardens which were both functional and decorative would also have been established

Steeton Hall, purchased by the Reygate family in 1261, was a manorial centre for one of the manors of the Barony of Sherburn William de Reygate, who was Escheator to the King for the County of York, appears to have been based at Steeton and it was probably under his instruction that the Hall and Gatehouse were built in the Fourteenth century The Gatehouse built c 1350-75, and the Hall appear to date prior to this as William de Reygate renewed his licence for a Chapel at Steeton in 1342 Under William de Reygate the manorial centre experienced a period of importance after which the site appears to be neglected until 1642 when it passed to the Foljambe family

After the passing of the Sherburn Estate from ecclesiastical to secular ownership, one of the eminent families were the Hungates In 1619 Robert Hungate founded a school and hospital in the village (SMR 9391 70)

In 1833 during the excavation of the Leeds-Selby railway line a burial of unknown date was uncovered at the point where the bridge crosses the road near the station (SMR 9409)

Despite the apparent wealth of archaeological and historical information for the village and parish of Sherburn, little archaeological work had been undertaken In December 1996 MAP were called out to a residential development site in Garden Lane, Sherburn to record the chance discovery of an inhumation burial with associated stone sarcophagus (MAP 1997a) Further 'Watching' of the site recovered a second sarcophagus burial Although no dating evidence in the form of pottery or artefacts were recovered during the excavation, the materials used and the form of the two sarcophagi strongly suggested that they were of a Roman date The use of plaster in Burial 2 and possibly Burial 1 in the treatment of the body, is seen as an indicator of high status The majority of plaster burials occur in stone or lead coffins, the

earliest securely dated examples in Britain are of Third century with stone coffins becoming more common in the Fourth century. Statistically the chances of plaster burials from Garden Lane being Fourth century is high.

Very little Roman evidence has been recovered from Sherburn in Elmet, this may be due to the fact that very little archaeological excavation has taken place in the area. Two Roman milestones were found at Castleford of which the southern most, found c 0.7 km south of the Roman Fort, gave the distance from York as 22 miles. Following the known route from Castleford to York the distance is far too long. However, using a suggested route by Ramm cutting across country rather than going through Tadcaster would give a distance of 21 miles. This suggested route would mean that the road would have run near to Sherburn and therefore aided Roman settlement in the area with which the burials may be associated. No evidence for this road has been discovered. However there has been so little archaeological work carried out in the area that theories should not be dismissed. In the valley of the Aire and Wharfedale there is evidence of Roman built dikes and drains to improve the marshy and boggy area. In the area surrounding Sherburn there are many dikes and ditches such as Ash Row Dyke and Stream Dyke and it is possible that this may be a Roman drainage system.

A programmed evaluation was undertaken by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd on the Low Street site in 1997. This programme included Field Walking (Area A), Geophysical Survey (Areas A-D) and Trial Trenching (Areas A-D).

Field Walking of Area A produced a flint assemblage consisting of waste material and tools evenly distributed across the whole area and of Late Neolithic - Early Bronze Age date. The Roman period was represented by a small number of pottery sherds. Pottery from the medieval to modern periods in ever increasing quantities indicated that the west of Area A had been under cultivation longer than the eastern half. In addition to the main quantity of finds a small quantity of slate, slag, a limestone roof tile, a quem fragment, glass and clay marbles and a small number of Iron objects (horse shoe fragments and nails) were recorded (MAP 1997b).

Geophysical Survey of Areas A & B by A L Pacitto in April 1997 (Pacitto 1997a) indicated a series of enclosures, some with internal features and some with associated trackways. In addition the survey located numerous circular anomalies ranging from pit like features to possible hut circles. The concentration of features appeared to dissipate towards the east. In addition to features of Prehistoric/Romano British date, evidence for ridge and furrow was also recorded. In Areas C & D the Geophysical Survey by A L Pacitto in September 1997 recorded no obvious pattern of

archaeological features, although a number of linears were interpreted as possible trackways. A single anomaly in Area D was interpreted as a possible hearth/pit (Pacitto 1997b)

Trial Trenching in Areas A & B consisted of five trenches. Trench 1 was located in an area where the geophysical survey had detected three anomalies with high magnetic readings, the nature of which suggested that it might be related to an unexploded bomb or wreckage from a crashed aircraft. Excavation showed that the features responsible for the high readings were a back-filled telegraph pole. The earliest activity was represented by an Iron Age ditch and gully sealed by medieval ridge and furrow. A post-medieval hedge line was also recorded. Trench 2 divided into a northern and southern area concentrated on the relationship of ditch intersections in Trench 2 north, and the interior of an enclosure in Trench 2 south. Excavation showed activity both of Iron Age and Romano-British date, as represented by pottery. Excavation in Trench 2 south also produced an assemblage of Prehistoric and Romano-British finds. Trench 3 provided the opportunity to evaluate an area of enclosures aligned north-south with internal features. In addition to pits and postholes a curvilinear feature and a robbed-out building were recorded, finds in addition to Iron Age and Romano-British pottery consisted of quern fragments, animal bone, burnt clay and burnt stone representing substantial occupation activity. Trench 4 located to investigate a large circular geophysical anomaly produced only evidence of geological features and a medieval field boundary. Trench 5 located over a large circular anomaly produced evidence for a undated deposit of burnt material. The Roman small finds were predominantly first to second century personal ornaments in good condition suggesting deliberate deposition rather than casual loss. It has therefore been suggested that many of the small finds found at this site derived from ritual deposition possibly associated with marking boundaries which considering that the majority of the ornaments came from the excavation of the ditches may well be true. The presence of a silver Iron Age coin also suggests high status occupation in the vicinity of the site in the Iron Age period. The presence of arrow heads and possible axe flakes may be indicative of environmental factors such as deforestation, otherwise the excavation flint assemblage was average lacking in both fine and poor pieces.

Excavation in Areas C and D showed very little archaeological activity in the areas assessed (MAP 1997c). Where ditches were encountered they appeared to be of modern date and primarily associated with land drainage. The natural subsoil is a heavy gleyed lacustrine clay and the site retains water. The widespread use of land drains and the fact that Area D is bordered on the east, west and south by dikes appeared to confirm the drainage problem. The appearance in the stratigraphic record of make-up deposits suggested that the site had been raised in the recent past. The

land drains and drainage ditches constitute the linear anomalies recorded on the Geophysical Survey

Evaluation of Area F through Desk-based Assessment (YAT 1997), Geophysical Survey (GSB 1997) and Trial Trenching (NAA 1998), also illustrated the lack of activity away from the limestone ridge. Only vestigial ridge and furrow was recorded.

Geophysical survey of Area E in February 2000 (Pacitto NY11 2000) located a pattern of superimposed field drainage systems although no recognisable archaeological features were apparent, the alignment of features in the south western corner of the area may indicate other activity.

Three evaluation trenches were excavated at the site of 'The Spinney' to the rear of Low Street (SE 4953 3350 NY201) in August 2000. The westernmost trench (Trench 3) contained no archaeological features. In Trench 2 part of a wall foundation and two truncated pits of the medieval period were encountered in addition to a possible ditch fill deposit containing a number of medieval sherds. A rectilinear ditch running north - south in Trench 1 was cut by a later east to west ditch. Although the ditches could not be securely dated they are possibly the continuation of a Roman 'Ladder Settlement' located to the south of the site (MAP 2000).

An archaeological evaluation at Corble's Garage, Kirkgate (SE 4919 3365 NY475) in January 2002, located an stone lined well associated with the former Early Nineteenth century cottages on the street frontage but no signs of earlier occupation and relatively undisturbed deposits to the south of the development plot, suggesting that the core of medieval and earlier settlement does not extend to this area of Sherburn in Elmet (Sumpter 2002).

A Watching Brief during the excavation of sixty-eight testpits, fifteen sample windows and eighteen boreholes in May 2002 failed to record any archaeological features. However, it should be stressed that care was taken to avoid the sensitive areas as shown by the previous Geophysical Survey and Trial Trenching (MAP 2002).

Work undertaken by YAT to the south of the Pature View site in 2002 recorded a number of ditches and features of medieval date (YAT forthcoming).

3 Objectives

The objectives of the archaeological evaluation were

- To determine by means of trial trenching the nature depth, extent and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits to be affected by the development proposals

8. Method Statement

a. Excavation

- 1 To evaluate the development site fifteen trenches (Trenches 1-14 & 16 Fig 2 & 3) were excavated by a machine with a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision down to the top of archaeological features/deposits or natural dependant on which was the higher

The aims of the trenches were as follows

Trenches 1-5 to evaluate the road alignment

Trenches 6-8 to evaluate the southern boundary of the site close to the previous archaeological evaluations and to assess the potential for the survival of water logged material and possible industrial processes in the vicinity of Trench 8

Trenches 9-13 to evaluate the northern half of the site with specific reference to the degree of disturbance caused by past use as allotments

Trench 16 to evaluate the east west access road

9. Results

- a Assessment of the site prior to the commencement of archaeological works confirmed that the southern half of the site has been cleared down to the top of archaeological deposits Therefore very little material needed to be removed along the southern boundary of the site (Trenches 6-8) other than the removal of areas of modern disturbance left in situ after the demolition and clearance of the site in preparation for redevelopment

- b Not all of the southern half of the site was available for evaluation A large mound of brick rubble was located immediately to the north of Trenches 6 and 7 and a mound of topsoil stood in the south-eastern corner of the site to the east and north of Trench 8 (Fig 2)

Trench 1

Trench 1 was located towards the western end of the access road and measured 16m by 2m and was excavated to a depth of 0.80m (Pl 3). Initially, only two features were observed both cutting the natural clay, these being a sub-circular feature situated along the northern boundary of the trench and a linear feature aligned east to west in the centre of the trench (Fig 4).

Feature 1006 measured 0.67m by 0.40m and survived to a depth of 0.20m. The fills (contexts 1003 & 1007) were both root-disturbed sandy clays with variable amounts of limestone fragments. The general character of cut 1006 suggested that it may represent a natural feature or a tree bowl rather than archaeological activity.

Excavation of Deposit 1005 showed that this deposit represented the upper fill of Ditch 1008, which measured 1.60m in width and had been cut to a depth of approximately 0.60m (Fig 4 Pl 4). Four distinct fills were recorded (contexts 1005, 1009, 1010 and 1011 Fig 4), consisting of sands, sandy clay and clay. The only find recovered from the ditch was a single fragment of animal bone from the latest fill of the ditch (context 1005 Appendices 2 & 3).

Sealing Ditch 1008 and Feature 1006 was a thick deposit of sandy clay with limestone fragment inclusions (context 1002), which apart from slight root disturbance, had not been affected by recent use of the site as a market garden. Deposit 1002 was sealed by a layer of topsoil (context 1001) which varied in depth from 0.27m-0.45m, the greater depth occurring towards the extant hedgerow which bisected the site.

A further phase of evaluation saw the extension of Trench 1 to both the south and north, where an east-west aligned ditch was recorded (Ditch 1014) on the same alignment and respecting the line of the extant hedgerow which bisects the site (Pl 00). This feature measured 3.5m in width and survived to a depth of 0.6m with a shallow 'U' shaped profile. The fills (contexts 1015-1017) were all sandy clays with varying amounts of limestone inclusions. Finds were confined to the upper fill (context 1015) which produced animal bone and a mixed assemblage of pottery, which has been dated to the 12th/13th century. The recovery of a single sherd of Roman pottery is interesting but of more importance is that Ditch 1014 appears to represent a boundary of considerable antiquity and therefore suggests that other ditches recorded during the evaluation and described below may also be attributed to this period of activity.

Trench 2

Measuring 15m by 2m Trench 2 was machine excavated to a depth of 0.80m. The stratigraphy exposed consisted of mixed sandy clays, which represented natural deposits (Context 20000), and above this a deposit of sandy clay (Context 2008), which had been disturbed by two linear features (Contexts 2003 & 2004). Aligned north-south and measuring 1.50m and 1.00m in width, both features contained similar single fills of silty sandy clays (Contexts 2005 & 2006 respectively). The general character of Features 2003 & 2004 suggested that they represented plough furrows. Pottery in section suggested that they were of medieval date, c. 13th/14th century.

A thick deposit of sandy clay with occasional limestone inclusions (Context 2002) and a thin layer of topsoil (context 2001) completed the stratigraphic sequence in Trench 2.

Trench 3

Excavation of Trench 3, which measured 18m by 2m, located two north-south aligned linear features (contexts 3004 & 3010/3012 Fig 5 & Pl 6) and two natural depressions (contexts 3006 & 3008 Fig 5). All of the above features were visible at a depth of 0.70m from the existing land surface.

Ditch 3004, the smaller of the two linears, was located at the eastern end of Trench 3. Measuring 0.80m in width and 0.80m deep with a 'U' shaped profile, it was filled with a single fill of silty clay (context 3005 Pl 7) with occasional limestone and charcoal inclusions, but only a single fragment of animal bone (Appendices 2 & 3).

Ditch 3010/3012 was initially seen as a band of sandy silt (context 3011) bordered on the eastern by band of silty sand and the western edge by fractured limestone (both deposits represented variations in the natural geology of the site). The occurrence of a single limestone block within Context 3011 suggested that the deposit did represent an archaeological feature. A section through Context 3011 revealed a 'U' shaped cut (context 3012), 2.00m wide and 0.65m deep, with two distinct fills (contexts 3013 & 3014 Pl 8). Both fills were compact clays but the primary fill (context 3014) was much darker in colour and contained organic matter (Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*).

Situated in between Ditches 3004 and 3010/12 were two features (contexts 3006/7 & 3008/9) which on excavation proved to be of a non-archaeological nature.

Sealing the above activity was a deposit of sandy clay subsoil (context 3002) and sandy loam topsoil (context 3001).

Trench 4

Archaeological activity in Trench 4 was dominated by the presence of north south aligned linear features (Fig 6 Pl 9) Pre-excavation it appeared that two considerably wide features occupied the majority of the trench with only a modern land drain (context 4006/7) representing other activity Excavation revealed the presence of a ditch in the west of the trench (context 4017) and the recutting of a boundary ditch at least four times (contexts 4021, 4022, 4031, 4054 and 4054) in the east (Fig 6)

Ditch 4017, measuring 0.70m in width and 0.35m deep, was cut into the natural clays with a 'U' shaped profile (Pl 10) It had two silty clay fills (contexts 4020 & 4024), which contained no finds

Approximately 1.85m to the east was a wide band of slightly silty clay with occasional limestone inclusions (contexts 4009/4010), delineated by a deposit of fractured limestone on its eastern and western edges (Pl 10) It was this factor which initially gave the impression of one considerably wide single feature Excavation proved otherwise

The earliest ditch in the sequence was Linear 4053, a straight sided flat bottomed feature which only survived for 0.75m in width and 0.17m in depth as it was truncated by Ditch 4054 to the west, and Ditch 4022 to the east, the upper fills of Ditch 4053 had been removed by Ditch 4022 The only surviving fill of Ditch 4053 was a silty clay with no inclusions (context 4051)

Ditch 4054 measured only 0.75m in width and 0.20m in depth, as the western side of the feature had been removed by Ditch 4021, and its upper fills by Ditch 4022 What little survived of Ditch 4054 suggested that originally it had probably had a shallow 'U' shaped profile The recorded fills (contexts 4049 and 4050) were a silty sandy clay and a sandy clay respectively

Ditches 4053 and 4054 were cut into Deposit 4028, a sandy silty clay Excavation of these two ditches revealed in their bases a series of what at first appeared to be stakes (contexts 4034 – 4038 & 4055), two more were recorded in the eastern side of Ditch 4021 (contexts 4039 & 4041) and in the base of Ditch 4021 (context 4040), it is now considered that they do not represent the remnants of a structure (a possible platform or crossing point) but are remnants of blackthorn bushes which had once grown in and adjacent to the ditches

Ditch 4021 was the largest of the excavated ditches measuring approximately 2.2m in width and 0.6m deep with four distinct fills (contexts 4026, 4025, 4023 & 4044), all

silty clays although Deposit 4026 had a high organic content (Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*) Three limestone blocks were recovered from the base of the deposit Prior to excavation limestone slabs were observed tipping into the western edge of the feature Excavation also recovered a single sherd of 12th/13th pottery from Deposit 4023 suggesting a medieval date for Ditch 4021 and placing Ditches 4053 and 4054 earlier in the chronological sequence

The eastern edge of Ditch 4021 had been removed by Ditch 4022, a shallow 'U' shaped ditch, which measured between 0.85m and 1.2m in width and 0.20m deep The difference in widths may be explained by the section being cut obliquely Five fills were identified (contexts 4046, 4045, 4033, 4047 and 4048) The north facing section of Ditch 4022 shows only one fill (context 4048) a sandy clay, whereas the south facing section recorded four fills Context 4046 was identical to Context 4048 in character and colour but was overlain by a much lighter sandy clay (context 4045) The western side of Ditch 4022 was defined by two distinct fills (contexts 4047 and 4033), a clay, and clay with limestone fragments (Pl 00), which appeared to represent deliberate dumping/backfilling rather than natural silting processes Deposit 4033 closely resembles the material recorded flanking Ditches 4021 and 4031 and therefore may represent re-deposition of bank material

The eastern edge of Ditch 4022 had been removed by Ditch 4031, the latest ditch in the sequence (Pl 11) Measuring up to 1.4m in width and 0.28m in depth with a shallow 'U' shaped profile Ditch 4031 possessed four fills (contexts 4052, 4030, 4032 & 4029) All the fills were clays, with increasing sand inclusions in the basal fills of the ditch and a higher percentage of limestone inclusions in the upper fills No finds were recovered from Ditch 4031

Sealing Ditches 4021, 4022 and 4031 was a thick deposit measuring up to 0.25m in depth of slightly silty clay with a gingerish cast (contexts 4009/4010) This deposit contained fragments of limestone and animal bone (Appendix 3) as well as a single sherd of 12th/13th century pottery This deposit has been sampled (Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*) but is very similar to Context 9047 (PRS 2003/42 - YAT forthcoming), which also was described as possessing 'an orange cast' which is indicative of decayed organics

Above Deposits 4009/4010 was a deposit of sandy clay (context 4002) which represented subsoil This horizon had been disturbed by the insertion of a land drain (context 4006/7) A thick deposit of topsoil (context 4001) up to 0.30m in depth completed the excavated sequence

Trench 5

Trench 5 measured 6m in length and 2m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.80m. Excavation located a single linear feature (Ditch 5009 Fig 7) aligned north to south, the full width of which is unknown as it extended beyond the western edge of the trench. This feature was sealed below a thick deposit of topsoil (context 5001) and subsoil (context 5002). Localised areas of disturbance were represented by a deposit of mortar recorded in the east facing section (context 5003).

Measuring 0.30m in depth and 0.60m in width Ditch 5009 with a steep sided 'U' shaped profile possessed two sterile fills of compact clay (contexts 5007 & 5008). Two sections were excavated into this feature but no associated finds were recovered.

Trench 6

Located along the southern boundary of the site Trench 6 originally measured 4m by 2m, but was later extended to a L shaped trench measuring 7.20m by 5.10m to confirm the extent and alignment of a linear feature (Ditch 6003 Pl 12).

Excavation located a south-west to north-east aligned ditch which had been recut twice during its lifetime. The first phase of activity was represented by a ditch measuring in excess of 1.40m in width and cut to a depth of 0.70m with a 'V' shaped profile (Fig 00 – cut 6003). The fills of Ditch 6003 consisted of soft clays varying in colour from orangey brown to grey brown (Contexts 6017, 6016, 6015 & 6006 – Appendix 1, Fig 8). No finds were recovered from any of the fills and the only inclusions noted were varying percentages of small rounded stones and very occasional charcoal flecks.

Ditch 6003 was recut apparently on an identical alignment and with a very similar profile to the original. The recut, Ditch 6014, measured in excess of 0.72m in width and up to 0.70m in depth. Two fills were recorded (contexts 6013 & 6012 Fig 8) both compact clays with small stone inclusions. The primary fill (context 6013) contained a number of much larger stones. No finds were recovered from this phase of activity.

When Ditch 6014 had silted up to the same level as Ditch 6003 a further episode of recutting was recorded. Ditch 6010, although following the same alignment as Ditches 6003 and 6014, was narrower measuring only 1.05m in width and just over 0.35m in depth. The profile, a shallow 'U' shape was also at variance to the earlier ditches. Ditch 6010 had four fills, all brown or grey brown clays with occasional stone inclusions and no finds (contexts 6009, 6008, 6011, 6018).

The absence of finds from Ditches 6003, 6010 and 6014 make dating of these features difficult. However the marked difference in alignment to other ditches recorded on the site and that the presence of medieval pottery in Deposit 6004 would tend to suggest that all of these ditches are early in the chronological sequence and may equate to features of Prehistoric and Roman date recorded at the adjacent Barratt site to the south.

All three ditches were sealed by a deposit of silty clay (context 6005) and a band of slumping (context 6005) was observed along the eastern edge of the ditch. Both Deposits 6005 and 6007 were sealed by Deposit 6004/6019, another silty clay with associated finds of animal bone and pottery of 12th/13th century date (Appendices 2 & 3).

Cut into Deposit 6004/6019 were an animal burial (context 6020) and a posthole (context 6021) both of modern date.

Previous demolition and clearance of this area of the site had removed all traces of topsoil and subsoil leaving the medieval horizon exposed on the surface.

Trench 7

As with Trench 6 Trench 7 also possessed no topsoil and a thin machine skim of the area of Trench 7 exposed a slightly silty clay (Context 7001 Pl 13), pottery from this horizon was predominantly of 12th/13th century date. Cut into Deposit 7001 were a number of features representing pits, a terminal and two ditches (contexts 7005, 7009, 7011, 7003, 7013 & 7014 respectively Fig 9).

Pit 7005 measured approximately 0.40m in diameter (the southern half of the feature continued outside of Trench 7) with a depth of 0.48m and a single compact clay fill with occasional gravel and limestone fragments (context 7004). A single sherd of modern pottery was recovered (Appendix 2).

As with Pit 7005, Pit 7009 extended beyond the limits of Trench 7. Measuring 0.45m in width and 0.58m in length, this feature was steep sided and flat bottomed with a depth initially considered to be in excess of 0.75m. This was later revised to 0.52m (see Feature 7014). Associated fills were pale compact clays (contexts 7006 & 7007 Fig 9 Pl 14) with a relatively large assemblage of twelve sherds of medieval pottery being recovered from Context 7006 (Appendix 2).

Pit 7011 was sub circular in plan and measured 0.97m by 0.85m with a depth of only 0.12m. The single sterile fill of silty clay (context 7010) contained two tiny sherds of pottery of medieval date and a fragment of animal bone (Appendices 2 & 3).

Feature 7003 measured 0.96m in width and was visible for 1.15m before continuing to the south outside of the southern limit of Trench 7. With a depth of 0.58m, a circular end, steep sides and a flat base, Cut 7003 was interpreted as a possible ditch terminal. The single fill (context 7002) was a sterile compact clay with a higher frequency of limestone inclusions towards the base of the cut. No finds were recovered to date this feature.

Within Trench 7 excavation located two ditches, one aligned north-south (Ditch 7013) and the other aligned east-west (Ditch 7014).

Ditch 7013 measured almost 2m in width and 0.50m in depth, with a 'U' shaped profile, and a single fill of compact clay with occasional limestone inclusions (context 7012). No finds were recovered from this feature.

During the excavation of Pit 7009 a completely different fill was encountered at its base (context 7008). Initially this organic material was seen as the basal fill of a possible cesspit. However, the occurrence of pieces of limestone and further examination of the fill suggested that it related to an earlier feature masked by Deposit 7001. This hypothesis was tested by the excavation of a segment of Trench 7 to the east of Pit 7009 (Fig. 9). Excavation revealed a flat-bottomed feature with sides at a 45° angle. The fills of Ditch 7014 (Contexts 7017, 7016 & 7017) were all silty clays, with a high organic content in Deposit 7017 (Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*). Much of the organics within Deposit 7017 relate to a piece of timber (probably a fallen tree trunk PI 15). Pottery and tile were recovered from Deposit 7015 providing a 12th/13th century date for the latest fill of Ditch 7014.

The full extent of Ditch 7014 is unknown and as this feature appears to be obscured by Deposit 7002 it is therefore entirely possible that Ditch 7014 may represent a natural feature - perhaps a palaeochannel.

Trench 8

Trench 8 was located in the south-eastern corner of the site and was placed specifically to assess the extent of organic material recorded in the previous excavations to the south of the Pasture View site. The trench measured c. 15m north-south with two extensions to the west measuring 10m and 5m in length and 2m in width (Figs 2, 3 & 10 Pls 16 & 17).

Excavation located three linear features (contexts 8012, 8017 & 8018), a posthole (context 8019), pit or modern tree bowl (context 8020), and two recent drains (contexts 8021 & 8022)

Not all of the area covered by Trench 8 possessed topsoil (Context 8001) as with areas to the west demolition and clearance had removed any topsoil along the western boundaries of this trench. Machine excavation in Trench 8 ceased at Deposit 8002 in the west of the trench, this deposit was identical to Deposit 7001 in Trench 7, and Deposit 8004 in the east.

The earliest features stratigraphically appear to be three linear ditches (Contexts 8012, 8017 & 8018). All of these features were aligned north to south and may equate to similar features evaluated in Trench 4 which is situated c. 6m to the north of Trench 8.

Ditch 8012 measured 1m in width and was 0.20m in depth. The fills consisted of a compact clay and a silty clay with limestone inclusions (Contexts 8003/8014 & 8015 respectively). Finds recovered from the later fill (Context 8003/8014) consisted of animal bone and pottery spot dated to the 12th/13th century (Appendices 2 & 3).

Situated to the east of Ditch 8012 a slip trench was excavated into Deposit 8004, a silty clay with a gingerish cast (Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*). Deposit 8004 is almost identical to Deposits 4009/4010 in Trench 4 and Deposit 9020 in Trench 9. The purpose of the slip trench was to establish the presence/absence of any features below what had previously been regarded as a possible flood deposit. Excavation located two linear features (Ditches 8017 & 8018 Pl 18).

Only a very small area of Ditch 8017 was exposed as it appeared to continue to the east into an area that was not available for evaluation (a very large topsoil heap was situated in this area of the site). The uppermost fill of Ditch 8017 was a silty clay (context 8025). Above Deposit 8025 was a thick deposit of clay with orange flecking (decayed organic material), which may or may not be within a later cut feature.

To the west of Ditch 8018 was a much wider ditch (context 8017). This ditch measured in excess of 2.6m in width and was over 0.45m deep. The primary fill (context 8027) was a silty clay which was sealed by a rich organic deposit (context 8026 – Appendix 5 *awaiting specialist report*). Sealing Deposit 8026 was a thick band of clay (context 8023). Finds from this deposit contained animal bone and pottery of 12th to 14th century date.

Later activity in Trench 8 was represented by two drains (contexts 8021 & 8022), a pit/tree bowl (context 8020) and a posthole (context 8019)

Trench 9

Trench 9 was located to the west of the eastern boundary of the site and measured 12m by 2m. After removal of a thick band of clay loam topsoil measuring up to 0.40m in depth (context 9001) and a compact clay subsoil (context 9002) a single linear feature was observed aligned north-west south-east and delineated on its western edge by a number of large flat limestone slabs (Pl 19)

The full extent of Ditch 9011 is unknown as the eastern edge lay beyond the limits of Trench 9, but it did measure at least 1.9m in width and was cut to a depth of 0.75m. Excavation revealed two phases of activity.

The earliest ditch (Ditch 9011 Pl 20) was a steep sided feature with a flat bottom, with two distinct fills. The primary fill (context 9010) was a thick deposit (up to 0.43m deep) of firm clay with no inclusions. Sealing this layer was a slightly silty clay (context 9009). Ditch 9011 had silted up to a depth of 0.55m when a second ditch was cut on the same alignment (Ditch 9008).

Ditch 9008 measured in excess of 0.90m in width and was 0.40m in depth with a 'U' shaped profile. Three fills were identified (contexts 9007, 9006 & 9005). The primary fill (context 9007) was a compact clay sealed by two silty clay deposits (contexts 9006 & 9005). Finds recovered from Deposit 9005 consisted of animal bone and pottery of 13th/14th century date (Appendices 2 & 3).

Ditches 9011 and 9008 were sealed by two deposits (contexts 9004 and 9003 Fig 11). Animal bone and pottery of 16th/17th date were recovered from Deposit 9004.

Four large slabs of limestone were visible slumped into Deposit 9004. The rare occurrence of such stone-work on the site suggested that they may represent the remnants of a stone path which had originally run along side the ditch.

Trench 10

Trench 10 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site (Pl 21). Excavation located a single north south aligned ditch (Ditch 10014 Fig 12.7 Pl 22) sealed beneath 0.50m of clay loam topsoil (context 10001) and a clay subsoil (context 10002) of 0.20m in depth. This greater depth of material can be explained by modern dumping in this area of the site and the previous land use as allotments.

Ditch 10014 was in excess of 1.10m in width and more than 0.25m in depth. The upper most fill (context 10003) was a silty clay with limestone inclusions. Below this deposit was a silty clay with a high organic content (context 10013 - not excavated, recorded in plan).

Ditch 10014 had been cut into Deposit 10004, a silty clay with limestone inclusions. This deposit was almost identical to Deposits 4009/4010 in Trench 4, Deposit 8004 and 8023 in Trench 8 and Deposit 9020 in Trench 9, the presence of orange/ginger flecking in all the above layers indicating decayed organic material probably deposited during a flooding episode (PRS pers com).

Sealing Ditch 10014 and Deposit 10004 were further silty clay deposits (contexts 10006, 10007, 10008 & 10009). All of these deposits were very similar in colour and character to Deposit 10004.

Cut from a higher level into Deposit 10004 was an animal grave (contexts 10010/10011), the fill of which (context 10005) produced a residual sherd of medieval pottery.

Trench 11

Excavation in Trench 11 and the extension of this trench to the south (Figs 2, 3 & 13) located two east-west aligned features (Ditches 11004 & 11009 Pl 23).

The earliest of the two features appears to be Ditch 11009 as it was sealed by Deposit 11007, a relatively compact clay with some limestone inclusions (Fig 00). Ditch 11009 measuring over 2m in depth and 0.50m in width was a steep-sided flat-bottomed feature in profile with a single fill of compact clay and sand inclusions (context 11008). No finds were recovered from this feature.

Ditch 11004 was on a slightly different alignment to Ditch 11009, it measured 2.3m in width and was 0.43m in depth with a steep-sided flat-bottomed profile (Pl 24). Three fills were recorded. Context 11006, the primary fill, was a silty sandy clay with a high organic content, context 11005 a compact clay, and context 11007 a compact clay. Samples have been taken from context 11006 (Appendix 5 - *awaiting specialist report*). Finds recovered from Deposit 11005 consisted of animal bone and pottery of 12th/13th century date.

It is interesting to note that Ditch 11004 is on the same alignment as a hedge line of blackthorn and hawthorn, which suggests that the modern boundary is a reinstatement

of a much older land division. This has already been confirmed by excavation of Ditch 1014 to the south.

Sealing Ditch 11004 was a thick deposit of compact clay with limestone inclusions (context 11003). Finds recovered from this horizon consisted of a large assemblage of pottery of 12th/13th century date and a quarter of a small silver coin.

Above Deposit 11003 was a thick band of clay subsoil (context 11002), which was in turn sealed by a deposit of topsoil (context 11001).

Trench 12

Trench 12 was located in the northern half of the site and measured 10m by 2m. Excavation revealed an east-west aligned linear feature (Ditch 12007) and a later curvilinear feature (Ditch 12008). Both of these features were cut into Deposit 12009, a solid clay (Fig 14 Pls 25 & 26).

Ditch 12007 was 3.60m in width and 0.90m in depth with steep sides and a flat bottom (Fig 00). Three distinct fills were identified (contexts 12006, 12005 & 12004) all compact clays with sand and limestone inclusions. Part of the northern edge of Ditch 12007 had been disturbed by the cutting of a curvilinear feature (Ditch 12008).

Ditch 12008 measured 0.74m in width and 0.30m in depth with a single fill of compact clay (context 12003).

Ditches 12007 and 12008 were sealed by a deposit of subsoil (context 12002), which in turn was sealed by topsoil (Context 12001).

No finds were recovered from this trench to provide dating evidence for any of the excavated features.

Trench 13

Trench 13 originally measured 13m by 2m but was later extended to the south (Trench 1 extension Fig 3) to further evaluate the access road corridor.

Excavation in Trench 13 located three linear features (Ditches 13006, 13009 & 13010 Fig 15 Pls 27 & 28). All of the ditches were on the same north-east-south-west alignment and varied in width and depth, with Ditch 13006 being the largest and Ditch 13009 the smallest. The lack of dating evidence and identical stratigraphic considerations (all the features were sealed by Deposit 13002 and cut into Deposit 13014) made a chronological appraisal of the ditches impossible.

Ditch 13009 measured 0.95m in width with steep sides, a flat base and was 0.20m deep. The fills consisted of a silty sand primary fill (context 13008) and a compact clay secondary and final fill (context 3007).

Ditch 13006 was exceptionally wide, at 3.95m, and deep, at 0.85m, with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 00). The primary fill (context 13005) was a silty sand with a few stone inclusions, a small concentration of which were observed close to the southern edge of the ditch. The secondary fill (context 13004) was a silty clay containing a few c. 0.01m thick bands of silt which appear to represent individual silting episodes. Sealing Deposit 1304 was a compact clay deposit (context 13003).

Ditch 13010 measured 2.40m in width and 0.9m deep with three distinct fills (contexts 13013, 13012 & 13011), vertical sides and a flat base. The primary fill (context 13013) a clayey silt became much sandier towards the southern edge of the feature. In this vicinity a concentration of limestone fragments were also recorded. This is interesting as a similar concentration of stones were recorded in Ditch 13006 at the same stratigraphic level. The secondary fill (context 13012) was a mixed clay deposit with silt banding suggesting periods of heavy rain or flooding. The final fill of the ditch (context 13011) was a compact clay with occasional limestone gravel and some root disturbance.

Ditches 13010 and 12007 are almost identical in character and size and therefore appear to be segments of the same ditch.

The subsoil (context 13002) in Trench 13 was a silty clay measuring up to 0.50m in depth sealed by a clay loam topsoil measuring 0.30m in depth (context 13001).

Trench 14

Excavation in Trench 14 failed to locate any archaeological features or finds. The excavated profile of the trench consisted of a 0.40m thick deposit of subsoil (context 14002) sealed by a 0.60m deposit of topsoil (context 14001). The greater depths of deposits recorded in this trench can be accounted for by its close proximity to the extant hedgeline to the south and previous land use as allotments. Deposits 14003, 14004 and 14005 all represented natural geological deposits.

Trench 15

Trench 15 was situated in the north-western corner of the site which is now no longer within the red line boundary for the site.

Trench 16

Trench 16 (Pl 31) represents the east west road corridor trench which joined together Trenches 2 and 3 (Trench 16 east Fig 16), and 4 (Trench 16 west Fig 17)

At the western end of Trench 16 excavation recorded three postholes (contexts 16016, 16018 & 16020 Fig 16) All three features were of a similar size between 0.40m and 0.50m in diameter, 0.26m – 0.30m in depth with vertical sides and a flat base. The fills (contexts 16015, 16017 & 16019) were all compact clays with small amounts of limestone gravel. No finds were recovered.

Seven features were located within Trench 16 East, these included four ditches, a terminal, a shallow scoop and a ?geological feature (Fig 17)

Three of the ditches (Ditches 16010, 16003 & 16006) were all aligned north-south, whereas Ditch 16012 was aligned north-west-south-east.

Ditch 16014 was the earliest of a succession of ditches in the central area of Trench 16 East. Only a small section of Ditch 16014 survived as the western part of the eastern and northern edges of the feature had been cut away by Features 16010 and 16012 respectively (Fig 16). The fill of Ditch 16014 was a silty clay with a small number of gravel inclusions but no finds. When Ditch 16014 had fully silted up it was recut by Ditch 16010 which represented a terminal of a ditch on the same alignment as Ditch 16014.

Ditch/Terminal 16010 measured 1.08m in width and 0.46m in depth with steep sides and a flattish base. Three fills were recorded (contexts 16009, 16008 & 16007), all silty clays with no associated finds.

Ditch 16012/16028 cut through Ditch 16014 (Pl 32) removing all traces of this ditch along the northern edge of Trench 16 East. Ditch 16012/28 appeared to be 'L' shaped in plan with steep sides and a rounded base. The single fill (context 16011) measuring 0.32m in depth was a silty clay with limestone gravel inclusions but no finds.

Situated to the east of Ditches 16014, 16010 and 16012/16028 were Ditches 16003 and 16006.

Ditch 16003 was steep-sided flat-based measuring 0.70m in width and 0.26m deep filled with clay deposits (contexts 16004 & 16029). Neither fill produced any dating evidence.

Ditch 16006 measured 0.95m in width with sloping sides and a flat base. The single fill (context 16005) a silty clay with limestone gravel was only 0.22m in depth. No dating evidence was recovered.

Features 16023 and 16025 were both sub-circular features but whereas Feature 16025 after excavation was considered to be of geological origin Feature 16023 has been interpreted as a possible pit. With a shallow bowl-shaped profile and a depth of 0.26m this feature contained a single fill of silty sandy clay (context 16024 Fig. 00) with no associated finds.

Sealing all of the features in Trench 16 East was a thick deposit of clay subsoil (context 16002) and topsoil (context 16001).

Summary & Conclusions

Evaluation of the Pasture View site illustrated an uncharacteristically high occurrence of linear features, a total of 40, the majority of which were aligned north to south, with a 2:1 ratio of north-south to the east-west alignment. Many of these ditches were recut highlighting the importance of their role.

The finds assemblage was relatively poor in comparison of quantity to the excavated area. No artefacts of Prehistoric date were recovered. Only two possible Roman sherds of pottery and a fragment of ?Roman ceramic building material were identified with the majority of the pottery being of 12th/13th century date. From the features excavated to date it would appear that the area of land constituting the site was maintained as pastoral land with peripheral activity in this period. Prior to this date there is evidence for earlier activity, again in the form of ditch digging perhaps the establishment of property boundaries. It is clear that alignments were maintained by recutting or reinstatement of the line of a boundary as shown in Trenches 4, 6 and 9.

A major consideration in understanding the Pasture View site is the geology. The site is on clay. Any excavation was hard work and the number of vertical-sided features recorded in 2003 indicated the approach taken by labourers on the site in the past. Clay subsoils mean poor drainage and it is clear that some of the Pasture View ditches were waterlogged for prolonged periods, this taken along with the scarcity of settlement features suggests that the land was marginal and only used as pasture land or for holding animals prior to going to one of the markets held in Sherburn on a regular basis in the medieval period.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the evaluation results was the fact that Ditch 1014 in Trench 1 is an early ditch of 12th/13th century date which still survives today.

as an established land division This was also true of Ditch 11004 the line of which still exists as an established line of hawthorn and blackthorn hedging

As is often the case with evaluations more questions are raised about the archaeology and history of a site than are answered Certain areas of the site were not available for assessment in September 2003, these will come available prior to the commencement of construction work and this along with the construction on certain house plots will provide the opportunity to check assumptions made during the evaluation

Key significance is the date & function of all these ditches

esp in light of what was found to the S



Figure 1. Site Location