

Archaeological Monitoring at *Valley Side*, Chimney Street, Castle Acre, Norfolk.



Prepared on behalf of Mr Andrew Pugh

Giles Emery
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Archaeological Monitoring at *Valley Side*, Chimney Street, Castle Acre, Norfolk. PE32 2AB.

Location:	Castle Acre
Grid Ref:	TF 8172 1491
NHES Event No:	ENF143417
Dates of fieldwork:	16 th , 18 th , 15 th April & 20 th June 2018

1.0 Introduction

Norvic Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Andrew Pugh to undertake a programme of Archaeological Monitoring during construction of a new store and garage at Valley Side, Chimney Street, Castle Acre. The site lies directly to the west of the medieval town defences where they survive as a substantial ditch up to 3m deep with an earthwork bank up to 3m tall. The defences were constructed following the Norman Conquest and are a Scheduled Monument, the boundary of which is contiguous with the development plot.

The archaeological monitoring was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by the Historic Environment Service (HES Ref: CNF46542) on behalf of the Borough of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (Planning Ref: 17/02047/F – a variation of 16/00006/F).

The aim of the monitoring work was to record the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and features identified during groundworks during development of a c. 270m² area. This report presents a brief description of the methodology followed and an archaeological interpretation of the results

On completion of the project, the site archive will be offered for long term deposition with Norfolk Museums Service (Accession No. 2018.239).

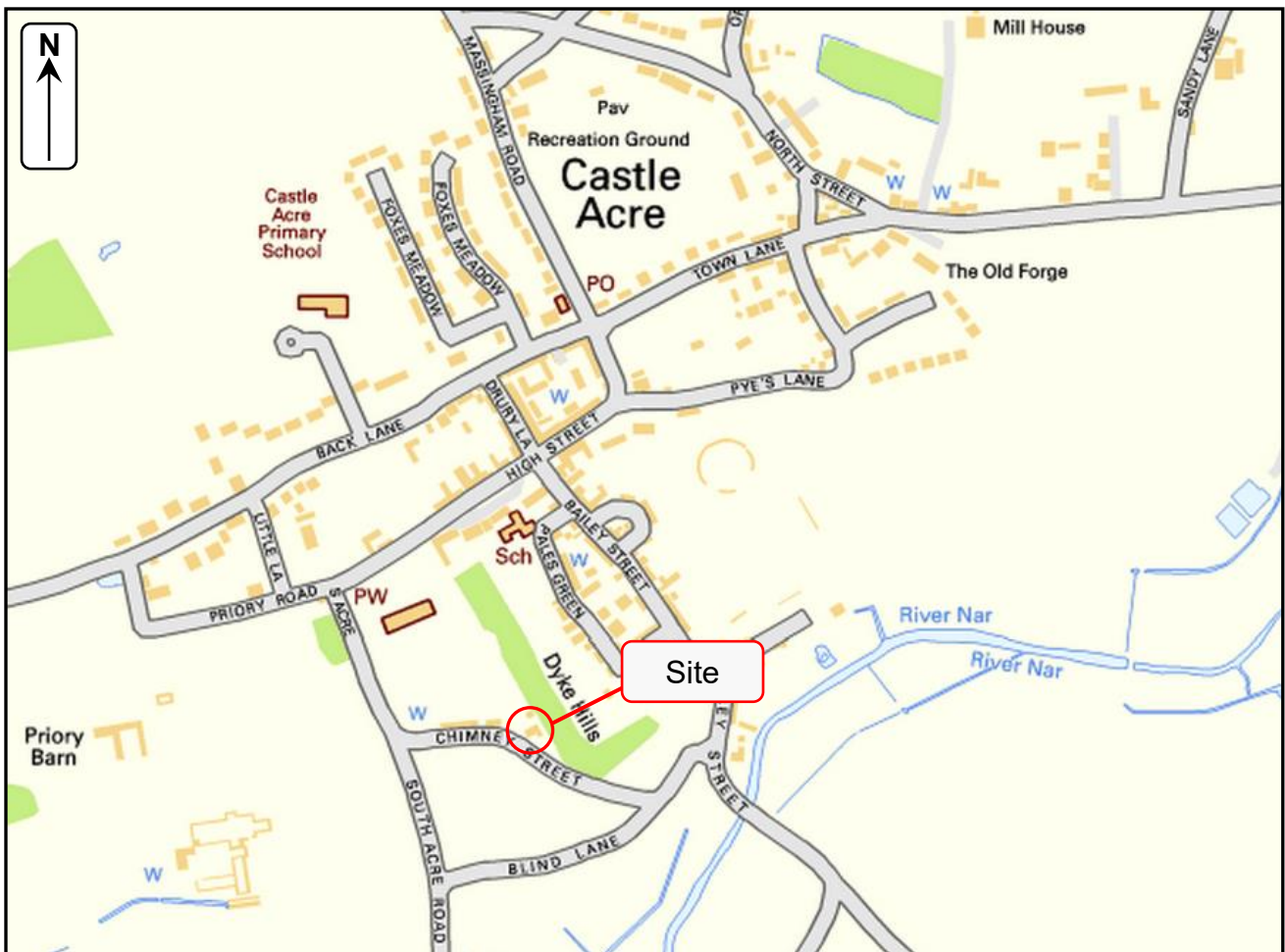
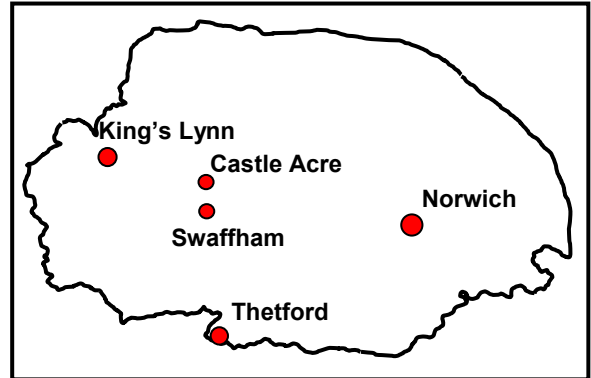
2.0 Summary of Results

Where subsoil was machine-stripped to the natural chalk in the north-eastern area of the development, several periglacial solution scars were recorded. A very shallow pit was identified, which contained a mix of soil, raw clay and burnt clay which may be the remnants of a deconstructed oven or hearth of Late Saxon or medieval date. The few residual finds collected from it include a single sherd of Late Saxon pottery and a pierced oyster shell, which may have served as a loom weight. A possible flint packed post-pit of uncertain date was recorded within the confines of a new soakway trench.

Below the modern topsoil was a cleaner subsoil which yielded a surprising number of metal finds ranging from medieval to post-medieval date, with several of a 15th to 16th date range. A range of pottery sherds were also collected from the subsoil showing a history of waste mixing into the soil here, which included a small number of Romano-British and Late Saxon to Early medieval sherds and a range of medieval to post-medieval sherds. The pottery assemblage is concentrated toward the high and later medieval period, fairly consistent with the metalwork bias. Although some of the metalwork could be attributed to casual losses, the spreading of night soil and ditch clearances on an area of former agricultural land adjacent to the town-ditch could well account for the presence of the finds here.

The copper-alloy finds include suspension rings, a decorated suspension loop for a purse bar, two buckles, a strap-end, a mount for leather/textile, a fragment of rim from a bronze vessel, two matching ?casket mounts and a hexagonal knife terminal decorated with a simple incised six-armed cross. Lead finds amounted to a single piece of lead window came and two lead spindle whorls. A 13th-century silver penny, a 16th century Nuremberg Jetton and a Victorian halfpenny were also collected from the subsoil.

Figure 1. General Site Location



3.0 Geology and Topography (Figure 1)

Castle Acre is a small village located c.8km north of Swaffham just off the A1065, with Kings Lynn located c.20km to the west.

The well preserved remains of a Cluniac Priory are situated to the west of the village and the castle with its impressive earthworks is on the eastern side, with the bailey gate between them at Stocks Green. The village is sited on relatively high ground at a bend in the River Nar overlooking a fording point.

Valley Side is an address along Chimney Street, located at c.38m OD, immediately adjacent to the medieval town ditch and earthworks. Chimney Street slopes down to the south-east and the flood plain of the River Nar at c.27.5m OD, where it meets Blind Lane, leading to a bridge crossing at the southern end of Bailey Street c.200m from Valley Side.

The underlying geology is Upper Chalk (cretaceous period), partly overlain by areas of sand and gravel glacial outwash deposits (quaternary) with alluvium deposits further to the south in the area of the River Nar channel - Geology of Britain Viewer at a scale of 1:50 000 (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

4.0 Brief Archaeological and Historical Background (Figures 1 & 2)

The site is located in west Norfolk, in the parish of Castle Acre, which lies amongst a relatively rich historic landscape that has provided evidence of human occupation from a variety of historic periods. A parish summary of the large amount of information held for Castle Acre's Historic Environment can be viewed on the Norfolk Heritage Explorer website. The parish has generated well over 200 records which give evidence of human occupation and activity of most periods in the form of find scatters, cropmarks, listed buildings and excavated sites.

Prehistoric activity has been identified close to the River Nar where a Mesolithic flint working site (NHER 3890) was identified through surface finds in the very west of the parish and a hearth site (NHER 25930) was revealed during excavations to the east of the Castle for modern sewers in 1985, close to where further flints of possible Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flints have since been found (c. 450m east of the site; NHER 59922).

Scatters of prehistoric flint tools have also been collected as surface finds from ploughed fields including axeheads. Bronze Age metal work is also known from the parish, with a number of Bronze Age axeheads and palstaves recorded since the 19th century. A small number of excavated features of prehistoric date are currently known, which include pits containing pottery fragments found along Back Lane during modern sewer works (NHER 25927). Two ring ditches identified from aerial photographs may be the remains of Bronze Age barrows, both in the north-east area of the parish; one on Broadmeadow Common (NHER 18819) and the other to the east of Lodge Farm (NHER33815).

The Peddars Way is an ancient route way which runs across the parish as part of a Roman roadway (NHER 1289) and is believed to ford the River Nar at Castle Acre. Although the castle earthworks have been mistakenly identified as a Roman fort in the past (labelled as such on early Ordnance Survey plans), no significant focus of Roman settlement has yet been identified within the parish, although tantalisingly a tessellated floor suggesting a villa or high status farmstead was reported to have been partly uncovered in the 19th century but its location remains unknown (NHER 12362). Occasional surface finds of coins and pottery have been reported from fields across the parish and within the area of the castle.

A large Early Saxon cremation cemetery (NHER 3781) was discovered in the 19th century along the parish border with West Acre. Excavations recovered burial urns, human cremations and metalwork, including Early Saxon brooches. Other Early Saxon cremations

and brooches (NHER 19640) have been found close to the site of the cemetery, suggesting that it extends over a much larger area than that revealed in the 19th century. Middle Saxon pottery has also been found at this site as well as at the site of the Castle (NHER 3449) and Priory (4096).

The term Acre is derived from Old English meaning a land parcel or newly cultivated land (Mills, 1998). Castle Acre was formerly a prosperous medieval market town, Domesday describes a substantial and wealthy settlement with the majority of land previously held as an estate by a Saxon thegn named Toki prior to 1066. It is generally accepted that Toki was responsible for the development of a Late Saxon hall site or burgh which was replaced by a stone building when William of Warrene, 1st Earl of Surrey was granted the land shortly after the Norman Conquest. The estate continued to prove lucrative and the grand house continued to prosper as a country house, becoming Warrene's principal house of his 145 Norfolk manors. In response to the civil war between Stephen and Matilda (1135AD to 1154AD), the house was later replaced by a keep (c. 1140AD) with much stronger defences (accounting for the impressive earthworks and motte) and the outer rectangular bailey was reorganised into a fortified town with a market at Pale's Green. The outlines of a great hall and chapel are visible as earthworks inside the bailey. The remains of a 12th century gatehouse survive with evidence of the draw bar for securing the gates and the slot for the portcullis. The section of town wall located partly in and adjacent to the rear garden of Limekiln Cottage dates to this 12th century building project.

Castle Acre may have had a second market place at St James' Green (NHER 32918). By the later medieval period, the nearby town of Swaffham overtook Castle Acre as a major centre of trade and the town went into an unrecoverable decline. The estate was transferred several times in the later 13th and 14th centuries. The castle fell into ruin by the 14th century and a survey of the Earl of Arundel's holdings at the time of his execution for treason in 1397 gave its value as nil (Cocksedge and Staszewska 5, 1994). It was later held by the Dukes of Norfolk and was sold in 1558 to Sir Thomas Gresham for agricultural land. In 1615, Thomas Coke purchased the estate for £8000 and the Coke family granted the Castle site to the Department of the Environment in 1971. Since 1984, the site has been managed by English Heritage. Large scale excavations focused on the motte site from 1974 to 1982 revealed the possible sequence of development from Saxon Hall through to castle, with the Medieval Hall only partially altered from a rectangular keep.

The substantial remains of a Cluniac Priory are situated c. 500m to the south-west of the Castle (NHER 4096). The Priory was founded in 1089 by William of Warenne, and building began on the site before 1090. The Romanesque façade of the 12th century monastic church survives to almost full height and the ruins include the remains of the 12th century cloisters and the 14th century Prior's chapel and lodgings, which were altered in the 15th and 16th centuries. The Priory was dissolved in 1537 and many of the post-medieval houses in the village contain reused medieval stonework.



Plate 2. Valley Side (looking NW)

St James' Church, located c. 300m to the north-west of the site (NHER 4068), is a large parish church dating mainly to the 14th and 15th centuries. It is on the site of a much earlier stone building, the only remnant of which is a blocked Norman opening over the later

medieval priest's door. Abbey Cottage (NHER 5270) is located to the west of the church, dates from the 15th century and may have been the almoner's chapel.

Valley Side occupies a triangular plot of land sandwiched between the impressively deep medieval town ditch on its eastern side and Chimney Street along its other long boundary, with garden allotments to its north. The current house is of late 1960s to early 1970s date (named as Valley Rise on the 1974 OS plan). Aside from extension work the house, along with a series of storage and outbuildings along the north-western boundary, remain similar to the 1974 layout. Earlier OS plans show that in 1885 a former cottage occupied the site, along with a series of outbuildings and a lost well within the area that now forms the lower terrace and garden of the modern plot. By the 1905 OS plan, the site had been cleared and is shown as an empty plot. During the monitoring work it was noted that a remnant of flint & mortar masonry along the boundary with Chimney Street relates to the former cottage, which has been repointed and retained as a garden feature by the current owners (Plate 3).



Plate 3. Former cottage remains (looking SW)
[1x2m Scale]

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Sites in the immediate proximity or of particular relevance or interest which fall in close proximity to the site include:

The following information has been sourced from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER)

NHER 43123: Castle Acre planned town. A planned town laid out around Pales Green in the 12th century in the outer bailey of the castle (to the west of the castle). The town was surrounded by a substantial bank and ditch and walls with gates on the north and south sides. Some sections of the bank and ditch survive as earthworks, and parts of the town wall are still standing. To the north of the town is the Bailey Gate, a large flint and stone gate with twin drum towers and inner and outer arched gates, with a slot for a portcullis (NHER 46817).

The bank and ditch on the west side and along much of the south side survive as substantial earthworks, known as Dyke Hills. The earthworks along the northern side have been levelled, but evidence recorded during installation of sewers has confirmed that the ditch survives as a buried feature beneath Stocks Green and the High Street (NHER 25925) and, at the eastern end, the inner edge of the ditch and traces of the outer edge can still be traced, curving southwards to meet the ditch around the inner ward of the castle. See NHER 25924, 25925, 25928 and 25931.

Little remains standing of the town wall except the eastern end on the south side, blocking the castle ditch, but other remains, including foundations, are likely to be preserved below the surface of the bank around the western side. Broken stubs of the wall can also be seen on the eastern side of the partly ruined northern gate, known as the Bailey Gate, which stands at the northern end of Bailey Street. This is massively built of mortared flint with stone dressings and, although now roofless, still stands to full height, with twin drum towers fronting recessed inner and outer arches. On the inner faces of the walls are remains of the slots for a portcullis. [the site borders the western side of the town ditch]

NHER 3449: Castle Acre Castle. The substantial ruins of a Norman castle, which were extensively excavated during the 1970s and 1980s. A Late Saxon hall with modest defences, which was held by a Saxon thegn called Toki, was replaced by a stone building after the Conquest when the castle was held by William of Warenne. This building was more like a country house than a castle, and was replaced by a keep in the 12th century, when the defences were also strengthened. The outer bailey was also replanned in the 12th century, and turned into a planned market town, which had a market place at Pale's Green. The castle became derelict later in the medieval period, probably by the 14th century. [c. 270m NE]

NHER 4096: Castle Acre Priory. The substantial remains of a Cluniac Priory, founded in 1089 and dissolved in 1537. The impressive and important Romanesque façade of the 12th century church survive almost to full height, and the ruins include the remains of the 12th century claustral buildings, as well as the earthworks of other monastic buildings and enclosures. [c. 250m WSW]

NHER 1289: The Peddar's Way: A Roman road, visible as an earthwork and cropmark on aerial photographs. Some sections of the road are open to the public as a long distance footpath. The road enters Norfolk at Brettenham, where a possible stretch visible on aerial photographs has been recorded as NHER 54566, and follows a very direct line with only a slight bend at Hockham to the north Norfolk coast at Holme next the Sea, where its original destination has probably been lost through erosion. There may have been a ferry crossing to Lincolnshire, near Skegness. It is likely to be early Roman in date, and was probably of military origin. At Castle Acre the route follows the Massingham Road into the village with another length indicated by cropmarks in fields to the south, with a presumed ford close to the present bridge over the Nar.

NHER 30914: Ship House. A post-medieval house containing reused medieval stone and brickwork. [c. 145m NE]

NHER 50310: Late post-medieval wall. A garden wall to Limekiln Yard along Bailey Street dated to the 18th/19th century contains many reused limestone fragments including carved and shaped pieces. [c. 170m ENE]

NHER 21072: Nos. 63 and 64 Bailey Street (Grade II Listed). The remains of an impressive medieval flint and stone building, with a later timber framed house attached to the surviving medieval north wall, which had a corner tower. The function of the building is unknown, it may have been a pilgrims' hospice, or a fish house associated with a nearby medieval fishpond. Excavation in 2007 revealed many medieval and post medieval pottery sherds, window glass and a post medieval jetton. [c. 190m E]

NHER 30915: No. 59 Pales Green A late 18th century house containing reused medieval stonework, almost certainly from the priory but possibly including some from the castle. [c. 130m NE]

NHER 30916: The Homestead, Pales Green. A post-medieval house and boundary wall containing reused medieval stonework. [c. 110m NEW]

NHER 5268: Tudor House or Lodgings on Bailey Street (Grade II* Listed). A fine 16th century flint and brick house, with a 16th century barn and dovecote. The house contains original first floor garderobes. [c. 120m ENE]

NHER 30013: Medieval to Post-medieval finds and features. An evaluation by excavation carried out at Pales Green by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit in 1993 revealed several pits and post holes containing medieval and post medieval pottery, a post medieval buckle and a clay pipe. [c. 90m NE]

NHER 4095: Bronze Age Axehead. A Bronze Age socketed axehead, made of copper alloy, found in 1970 on open land off South Acre Road and Blind Lane. [c. 115m SW]

NHER 35128: Post-medieval foundations and pottery. An excavation carried at Backview, Pales Green out by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit in 2000 revealed the foundations of a 19th century house, and medieval and post-medieval pottery. [c. 115m NE]

NHER 4068.: St James' Church, Castle Acre. A large medieval parish church, dating mainly to the 14th and 15th centuries. The church contains a painted 15th century pulpit, and painted panels from a medieval screen which have been incorporated into stalls in the chancel. Other notable features include the font cover and 'ride in' door. [c. 140m NW]

NHER 28575: Medieval to post-medieval finds. Medieval and post medieval pottery, medieval roof tile and post-medieval bricks collected from trench works to the rear of No.2 Pale Green in 1991. [c. 160 NNE]

NHER 4039: Roman Coin. A Roman coin of Trajan, found in the school playground in 1948. [c. 190m N]

NHER 50565: Finds Scatter. Stray finds from the rear garden of NO. 63 and 64 Bailey Street include prehistoric flint flakes, medieval and post medieval pottery and several pieces of worked limestone. [c. 200m E]

NHER 4141: Medieval coffin lids. Several relatively early medieval stone coffin lids were recovered from the River Nar before 1900 when the bridge was rebuilt, having been reused within the foundations. Three of the lids are now in St James' Church, see NHER 4068. [c. 220m SE]

NHER 5270: Abbey Cottage. A 15th century building, now used as a house on the corner of Priory Road and South Acre Road (close the St James' Church). The building may have been used as an almonery

chapel during the medieval period. On 18th century maps in the British Museum and the Norfolk Record Office the site is called 'Almoner's garden' or 'Chapel Close'. [c. 220m NW]

NHER 33556: Roman coin and medieval ampulla. During the 1990s, a Roman coin and a medieval lead ampulla of likely 13th century date were found in a garden to the rear of Castle House. [c. 225m NE]

NHER 60371: Medieval pottery sherds. Fieldwalking in 2013 and 2014 just to the NW of St James Church recovered medieval pottery sherds. [c. 225m NW]

NHER 4049: Iron Spearhead. An iron spearhead of unknown date was found in the Vicarage garden in 1963. [c. 240m NE]

NHER 60430: Multi-period Finds. Fieldwalking off Cuckstool Lane in 2013 and 2014 recovered a Neolithic/Bronze Age blade as well as Late Saxon to post-medieval pottery sherds.[c. 250m ENE]

5.0 Methodology (Figures 2 and 3)

The objective of the archaeological monitoring was to record any archaeological evidence revealed during groundworks for the development. Soil stripping and trenching was carried out by a 2.5-ton 360^o tracked machine, with a wide ditching bucket. Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector (Minelab XTerra 705). All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Norvic Archaeology *pro forma* sheets. The trench location, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and digital images were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

All levels were tied to the OS benchmark of 44.4m located on the north-west corner buttress of the tower of St James' Church.

Initial work involved stripping the eastern area of the site in preparation for the excavation of a concrete pad to support the new garage building. Further ground reduction at the front of the site only reduced the ground in the area of the pad for the storage building a minimal amount with no deeper excavation work required. The trench for a new soakway between these two area was also monitored.

6.0 Results (Figures 3 to 6) (Appendix 1a)

- **'Natural and lateral deposits'**

Natural chalk, with occasional pockets of clean yellow to orange sand (19) was exposed by gradual machine scraping across the north-east corner of the site.

The subsoil (16) consisted of a friable, mid-orangy-brown silty-sand with moderate flecks of chalk and occasional charcoal flecks. It measured between 0.15m and 0.2m thick and was sealed below a modern topsoil of c.0.3 to 0.4m depth. The topsoil (15) was a mid-brownish-grey sandy-loam with moderate flecks and pieces of charcoal, along with occasional pieces of modern rubbish from bonfire activity.

The subsoil yielded a surprising number of metal objects. The majority of the finds are of copper-alloy and range from medieval to post-medieval date, with several of a 15th to 16th date range, which appear to suggest a focus of activity or deposition within this historic period. A range of pottery sherds were collected from the subsoil showing a history of waste mixing into the soil here, which include a small number of Romano-British and Late Saxon to Early medieval sherds and a range of medieval to post-medieval sherds. The pottery assemblage is particularly concentrated toward the high and later medieval period, fairly consistent with the metalwork bias. Although some of the metalwork could be attributed to

casual losses, the spreading of night soil and ditch clearances on an area of former agricultural land adjacent to the town could account for the presence of the finds here.

- ***'Shallow Late Saxon or medieval feature'***

The base of a shallow oval pit ([01]) measuring c. 0.85m long by 0.7m wide was identified and fully excavated, close to the eastern boundary of the site. This feature measured just 120mm deep, with a slightly concave profile. It contained a soft, mid-greyish-brown silty-sand mixed with large lumps of greyish-yellow clay, small lumps of burnt clay and rare pieces/flecks of charcoal (02). The size and shallow form of this feature, combined with the presence of both raw clay and burnt clay suggests that it may have formed part of a deconstructed oven or hearth base.

A very few residual finds collected from the fill include a single small sherd of Late Saxon pottery, an oyster shell, a pig bone and a single piece of fired daub. The oyster shell was pierced and may have served as a loom weight.



Plate 4. Pit [01] (looking NW – St James' Church tower in view) [Scale 1x0.5m]

- ***Flint-packed ?post-pit***

A seemingly linear feature ([09]) was investigated within the soakaway trench which contained a sterile orangey-brown silty-sand above a densely packed arrangement of fractured flint cobbles (10) set within an irregularly concave base. A thin layer of silty-chalk appeared to seal the top of the feature (17), which may have suffered from bioturbation, making the true form of the feature hard to define. It measured c. 0.27m deep and 0.8m wide but its true length remains unclear. The feature is tentatively interpreted as some form of elongated pit, with the flint packing possibly meant to serve as a post-pad.



Plate 5. Feature [09] (looking NW) [Scale 1x1m]

- **Natural features**

Several sterile features of natural and probable natural origin were recorded below the subsoil, at the interface with the chalk. These include two parallel tapering linear peri-glacial features ([03] & [07]) up to 1.2m wide. Both contained a sterile, soft mid-orangey-brown silty (clay) sand with frequent flints of around 10cm in size.

Adjacent to feature [09] was a fairly amorphous shallow feature ([13]), thought to be the result of archaic root action, along with a shallow concave feature which resembles a shallow posthole base ([11]) but which may also be the result of natural disturbance to the chalk here.

- **Modern post-holes**

Several modern post-holes containing decayed timber from the cleared outbuilding in the north-eastern area of the site were noted within the topsoil/subsoil. A single post-hole of slightly greater depth was recorded with truncated into the chalk natural in this same area ([05]). It survived to a depth of 0.3m and contained a firm, mid-brownish-grey silty-clay (06) from which a piece of plant-pot was recovered

7.0 Finds Analysis *(Appendix 2a)*

- **Pottery** *(Appendix 4)*
By Sue Anderson

Introduction

Thirty-nine sherds of pottery (747g) were recovered from four contexts. Table 1 provides a quantification by fabric. A summary catalogue is included in Appendix 4. The assemblage is dominated by Late Saxon to medieval material which spans the 11th to 14th centuries. Some sherds of earlier and later pottery are also present.

Description	Fabric	Date Range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
RB Greyware	RBGW	RB	2	24	0.19	2
Nar Valley greyware	NARV	RB	1	4		1
Thetford Ware (Grimston)	THETG	10th-11th c.	6	36		6
Early medieval ware	EMW	11th-12th c.	1	4		1
Grimston coarseware	GRCW	11th-M.13th c.	5	75		5
Grimston-type ware	GRIM	L.12th-14th c.	9	100		8
Late Grimston-type ware	GRIL	14th-15th c.?	4	192	0.20	4
Non-local late medieval	NLLM	15th-16th c.	1	9		1
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	16th-18th c.	5	239		5
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	18th-20th c.	1	7		1
English Stoneware	ESW	17th-19th c.	1	19		1
English Stoneware Nottingham-type	ESWN	L.17th-L.18th c.	2	26		2
Porcelain	PORC	18th-20th c.	1	12		1
Grand Total			39	747	0.39	38

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, which includes

East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Medieval and later wares were identified following Jennings (1981). Form terminology for medieval pottery is based on MPRG (1998).

Pottery by period

Roman

Three sherds of Roman coarsewares were recovered from subsoil 16. These comprised a rusticated body fragment of Nar Valley-type greyware and two rims of unsourced Roman greywares. The latter comprised a small fragment of a beaded dish rim and a flaring rim fragment of a jar.

Late Saxon

Six sherds of Grimston Thetford-type ware were collected from three contexts, one from pit fill 02, one from subsoil 16 and one unstratified (context 18). The fragments were all body sherds.

Medieval

One body sherd of early medieval ware was recovered from subsoil 16. The majority of medieval pottery was of Grimston type and included both unglazed and glazed wares. One coarseware rim was present, a fragment of a bowl/dish with a tapered everted rim in subsoil 16. Other coarseware fragments were body and base sherds. Glazed wares were probably all parts of jugs and included three sagging bases and several body sherds with spots of green glaze externally.

Late medieval

Several sherds of Grimston ware appeared to be late types, including a pipkin handle and a possible lid (or dish) with deep knife trim marks in subsoil 16, both unusual types (see illustrations 1 and 2). One bodysherd had external green glaze and very fine combing, which is seen on the late Grimston jugs from Ashwicken Road, Pott Row (Wade 1994, figs 55–56). All were recovered from subsoil 16.

Also, probably of late medieval date, was a sherd of a very fine pale greyware with an oxidised dark red external surface and traces of white slip. The source of this sherd is unknown.

Post-medieval

Five sherds of glazed red earthenware were subsoil finds from 16. They included a body/handle sherd from a ?jug, and a pipkin handle. All sherds had orange or orange-brown glaze on one or both surfaces, as is typical of this ware.

Modern

Two sherds of late 18th–19th-century Nottingham-type stonewares were found in subsoil 16 and as an unstratified find, and there was another body sherd of a white-firing English or German stoneware in subsoil 16.

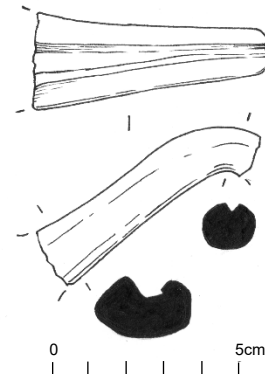


Illustration 1. GRIL Pipkin handle (16)

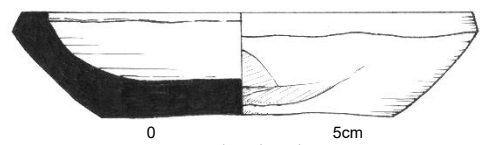


Illustration 2. GRIL Dish/lid (16)

A fragment of plant pot was recovered from post-hole fill 06. A transfer-printed willow pattern porcelain base sherd was an unstratified find (18). These sherds are probably of late 19th or 20th-century date.

Distribution

With the exception of one small body sherd of Grimston Thetford-type ware from a pit and a fragment of plant pot from a post-hole, all pottery was recovered either from subsoil or as unstratified finds.

Discussion

Although a high proportion of the assemblage was unstratified or redeposited in subsoil, it provides evidence for pottery use in the town from the Late Saxon period onwards, particularly concentrated in the high and late medieval period. The range of pottery found at this site is similar to that recovered in much larger quantities from excavations at the castle (Milligan 1982), although early medieval wares were significantly more common than Grimston Thetford-type wares on the site, and glazed Grimston ware represented only a very small proportion of the assemblage.

The current assemblage is small, but the pottery present appears to suggest continuous occupation on or near the site from the Late Saxon period onwards. However, given its position outside the medieval town ditch, there is potential for this material to relate to rubbish disposal or distribution of night soil outside the town by its inhabitants, rather than to activity on the site itself. Only two features contained pottery, and neither can be considered securely dated on the basis of this evidence.

- **Metal Objects**

A surprising number of metal objects, which include numerous items of similar medieval to post-medieval date range, were collected during the course of the monitoring, via metal detection from the subsoil (16). A total of 16 small finds are catalogued below, with a 13th-century silver penny (SF17), a Victorian halfpenny (SF18) and a 16th century Nuremberg Jetton (SF19) described in the following section of this report.

The majority of the finds are of copper-alloy and range from medieval to post-medieval date, with several of a 15th to 16th date range, which appear to suggest a hiatus of activity or deposition within this transitional late medieval to early post-medieval historic period. Although some could be attributable to casual loss and rubbish disposal associated with occupation at the site, the spreading of night soil and ditch clearances on an area of former agricultural land adjacent to the town ditch could account for the presence of the finds here.

The copper-alloy finds include suspension rings, a decorated suspension loop for a purse bar (illustration 3), two buckles, a strap-end, a mount for leather/textile, a fragment of rim from a bronze vessel, two matching casket mounts (illustration 4) and a hexagonal knife terminal decorated with a simple incised six-armed cross (illustration 5). A single piece of 16th century or lead window came and two lead spindle whorls were also found.

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
01	16	Cu Alloy	Purse bar suspension loop	C15th to 16th
<p>A relatively robust copper alloy (brass) purse bar suspension loop in fair condition. The loop (21mm W, 35m H; frame is 8mm W, 3mm T) has an elongated ovoid pendant shaped frame with a conical fustrum shaped collar (9mm diam. 7mm H) at the base, from which extends the thick pin (slightly bent; 5mm diam.) that would form the swivel for the purse bar (missing its bottom knob). The sides of the frame are decorated with fine diagonal incised hatching inlaid with a silver rich niello, contained by transverse lines above and below. An additional line wraps around the base block. The top of the loop is slightly narrower from regular use-wear. This is a fairly good example of a relatively common find of late medieval to early post-medieval date. Swivelling loops allowed purses with frames to be hung attached to a bar, seemingly popular from the 15th century onwards, a is the use of cross-hatching decoration inlaid with niello (Margeson pp40 1993 EAA 58).. Total object L 59mm. Weight 17.08g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
02	16	Cu Alloy	Suspension ring	Med. to Post-med
A copper-alloy (brass) circular ring of 31mm diam. and a circular cross-section (4mm diam.). Such objects may serve a variety of uses such as for straps (both dress and horse harnessing) or for suspension straps/chains. This example has no clear signs of use-wear. Weight 8.00g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
03	16	Cu Alloy	Suspension ring	Med. to Post-med
A simple copper-alloy (bronze) suspension-ring, fairly crude crafted with bevelled edges and a single flat side forming the cross section with noticeable file marks still present (roughly hexagonal in cross section). These are relatively common find from urban deposits dated to the late medieval to early post-medieval periods and probably provided a variety of functions, with these thin rings probably issued for curtain and wall hangings (examples with thread still wound around them are known, such as from Oak Street in Norwich – NHER 351 (Margeson 1993, 82). 26mm diameter, thickness of 2mm. ring width 4mm. 4.43g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
04	16	Cu Alloy	Suspension ring	Med. to Post-med
A simple copper-alloy (bronze) suspension-ring, fairly crude crafted with bevelled edges and a single flat side forming the cross section with noticeable file marks still present (roughly hexagonal in cross section). These are relatively common find from urban deposits dated to the late medieval to early post-medieval periods and probably provided a variety of functions, with these thin rings probably issued for curtain and wall hangings (examples with thread still wound around them are known, such as from Oak Street in Norwich – NHER 351 (Margeson 1993, 82). 26.5mm diameter, thickness of 2mm. ring width 4mm. 3.85g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
05	16	Cu Alloy	Buckle	C15th to C16th
A neatly made small double-looped frame buckle with copper-alloy pin still in place on the central bar. The frame is decorative, of two ovals formed within a triangular D-shaped frame edged with 7 small teeth like nibs. This may have served as a shoe-buckle or part of a fine strap. 20mm L, H 14mm (max), T 2mm (max) Weight 1.43g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
06	16	Cu Alloy	Buckle plate/Clip	Med.-post-med.
An incomplete and damaged buckle plate or 'clip', with two crude copper rivets (oversized for purpose and folded/flattened). This appears to be a roughly made object manufactured from reused materials. 23mm L, 38mm W. 8.11g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
07	16	Cu Alloy	Strap-end	Med.-post-med.
A simple two-part strap end (bent into an L-shape), secured with a single copper rivet for a narrow leather or textile strap. Elongated tongue shaped. W 8mm (max), L c. 32mm (if straight) , weight 1.15g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
08	16	Cu Alloy	Mount	Early post-medieval
A small and thin decorative mount with a symmetrical butterfly like design, with an open hole on each side secured by two fine copper rivets (one in place) located at the top and bottom of the central axis. Despite the fairly fine stamped design the edges have been crudely trimmed to shape. This could have been mounted along with numerous others to decorate worn leather or textile (such as girdles and straps) 18mm W, 14mm H <0.5mm T, Weight 0.49g				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
09	16	Cu Alloy	Vessel (rim)	L.med. to Post-med.
A simple everted rim fragment from a copper-alloy (bronze) vessel with sooted exterior. The rim is c. 2.5mm thick. Weighing 10.36g.				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
10	16	Cu Alloy	?Casket mount	Med. to Post-med.
<p>A simple 'imperfect' rectangular copper-alloy plate with slightly rounded corners and traces of surface gilding, secured onto ?wood/leather by two copper rivets (both complete and in place) at either end. In the centre is a small circular suspension loop (diam. 9mm) made of 1.5mm thick copper wire (closed but unsoldered) held in place by a copper split pin. Robust copper mounts such as this are likely to be from caskets or small boxes (J.Brenan in Egan 1998 pp65) although it is possible they were part of another item, such as dress items or leather/textile. A twin to this object was found at the same site (missing its loop), possibly indicating that they both served to attach a form of strap/chain handle to a casket lid. 32mm W, 16mm H, 1.5mm T. Weight 4.90g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
11	16	Cu Alloy	?Casket mount	Med. to Post-med.
<p>A simple 'imperfect' rectangular copper-alloy plate with slightly rounded corners and traces of surface gilding, secured onto ?wood/leather by two copper rivets (both complete and in place) at either end. In the centre is a copper split pin – missing a small suspension loop (see SF10). Robust copper mounts such as this are likely to be from caskets or small boxes (J.Brenan in Egan 1998 pp65) although it is possible they were part of another item, such as dress items or leather/textile. A twin to this object was found at the same site (retaining its loop), possibly indicating that they both served to attach a form of handle to a casket lid. 32mm W, 16mm H, 1.5mm T, 5.19g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
12	16	Cu Alloy	Ferrule 'cap'/knife terminal	Medieval to Post-medieval
<p>A flat topped hexagonal shaped ferrule of copper alloy made from a thin sheet of metal(<0.5mm), simply decorated with incised lines of – the sides are decorated with two horizontal lines to create a top and bottom band, the top line of which is crossed by 8 vertical lines of variable lengths. Three more incised lines form a rough six-armed cross on the top of the ferrule. The ferrule still retains fragments of snapped wood, preserved through contact with both metal salts. 4.78g 17mm by 13mm by 18mm H. Two small copper -alloy rivets are present on either-side, flush with the surface. The nature of the object this item once formed part of is uncertain, although similar sized, decorated caps for knife terminals of late medieval to post-medieval date are known and remain a fair possibility for this object. Relevant examples of hexagonal and octagonal copper-alloy sheet metal knife terminals on the PAS database suggested to be of Dutch origin include SUR-08A552 & SUR-592F76, the first of which also retains a wooden core for with an incised religious motif design – possibly representing saints.</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
13	16	Cu Alloy	Button	C19th
<p>A simple copper-alloy discoidal button with a rear soldered suspension loop and traces of gilding. 19mm diam. Traces of lettering on the reverse may read 'LONDON GILT' Weight 3.86g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
14	16	Lead	Window came	C16th +
<p>A small folded scrap of milled lead window came (H-shaped profile. Weight 3.83g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
15	16	Lead	Spindle Whorl	Med. to Post-med.
<p>A discoidal loom weight of lead (30mm diam.) with a central circular hole (12mm diam.) Thickens of 7mm to 8mm (tapers in thickens). Fairly patinated and 'battered' surface. Its relatively heavy weight indicates a slower spin for use with wool. 47.22g</p>				

SF	Context No.	Material	Object	Object Date
16	16	Lead	Spindle Whorl	Med. to Post-med.
<p>The remains of a discoidal loom weight of lead (estimated 30mm diam.) heavily distorted and damaged by heat and possible trimming. Much of the central circular hole survives (13mm diam.) Thickness of 8mm 18.67g. This item bears a similarity in size and form to another complete example collected from the same subsoil.</p>				

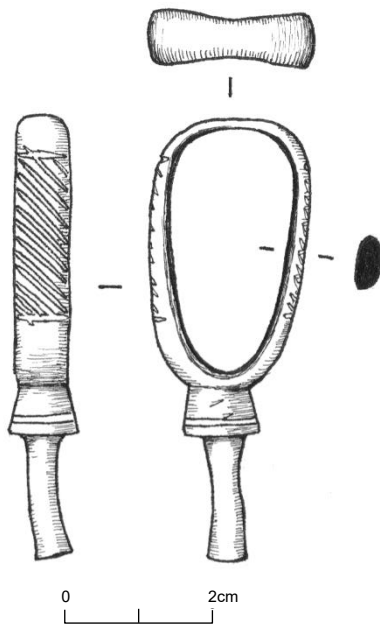


illustration 3. SF01.
Purse-bar suspension loop

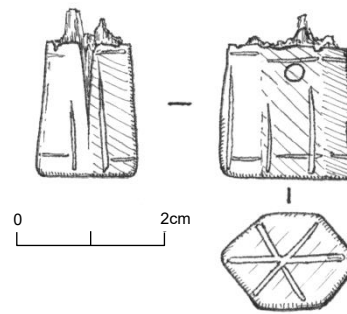


illustration 4. SF12. ?Knife terminal

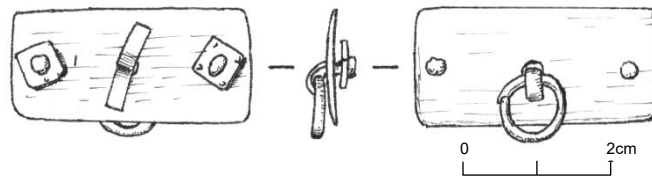


illustration 5. SF110. Casket mount

- **Coins and tokens** (Appendix 5)
By Andy Barnett

Two coins and a single jetton were recovered via metal detection, during the removal of topsoil and a layer of subsoil prior to the commencement of building work on the site. All three can be classified as stray losses. A detailed catalogue of the items is given in Appendix 5 with a brief summary description below:

- ❖ **SF17:** The silver long-cross medieval penny is very worn and little of obverse and none of the reverse inscription can be read. It is most likely Kings Edward I, II or III, 1272-1377.
- ❖ **SF18:** The 1861 'Young Head' Halfpenny of Victoria is legible with some surface corrosion.
- ❖ **SF19:** The Lion of Saint Mark Jetton from Nuremberg is quite worn with a sparsely legible fictitious inscription. It dates from the period 1500 to 1570 AD. Nuremberg tokens are relatively common finds, although currently only six finds of this particular type have been reported on the PAS website.

- **Clay tobacco pipe**

Two snapped pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem (weighing 5g) of broadly 17th to 19th century date were collected during the monitoring from the topsoil/subsoil spoil (18).

- **Fired Clay**

A single small fragment of fired clay (7g) was collected from the fill (02) of a shallow pit ([01]), of possible Late Saxon to medieval date. The fabric is relatively hard, of fine sandy clay in a pale orange hue, with one slight impression of a possible withie indicating its use as daub.

- **Oyster shell**

Two near complete oyster shells (*Ostrea edulis*) were collected, both lids of oyster shell. One was recovered from the fill (02) of a shallow pit ([01]), weighing 29g and the other is from the subsoil (16), weighing 63g.

The shell lid from (02) exhibits part of drilled hole, possibly one of a pair close to the edge lip of the shell. This is a small hole which appear to be drilled through from the inside surface (3mm narrowing to 2mm) and along the break on the shell two or three more in parallel can be discerned, each spaced c. 13mm apart. The fact the hole was made on the inside surface and that the damage is so small appears to rule out raking damage from harvesting. This shell may have been intended to be suspend from a cord – possibly as a form of weight for a weaving braid. Piercings on scallops are usually interpreted as pilgrim shells with pierced usually oysters attributed more mundane reasons such as an example found within a Sunken Feature Building in association with a Saxon bone weaving/textile comb at Heacham (NPS Report 2016/1009; Hickling 2016) and classified as a loom weight (Juile Curl *pers comm*).

- **Animal bone**

A small assemblage of eight fragments (weighing 321g) of animal bone was collected during the monitoring work, which aside from a single piece were all sourced to the subsoil (16). The majority of the assemblage is relatively well-preserved with frequent evidence of butchery and some de-fleshing cut marks. The bone has been identified to species where possible and examined for pathology, butchery and other modifications (see table below). Overall, this assemblage represents evidence of meat consumption and minor processing on a domestic level. The residual nature of the assemblage and the butchery methods present grant only a broad medieval to post-medieval date to the overall assemblage. A single butchered pig bone was sourced from a shallow pit of possible Late Saxon to medieval date.

Context	Quantity	Wt (g)	Species	Adult	Juv.	Elements	Ch	C	Comments
02	1	9	Pig	1		Ulna (proximal fragment)	1		
16	1	6	Pig	1		Tooth			
16	5	222	Cattle	1		Tooth	1		Small unhealed infection site. Poss. traction stress.
			Cattle	1		Carpal			
			Cattle	2		Rib	2	1	
			Cattle	1		Humerus	1	1	
			Cattle	1		Ulna	1		
16	1	84	Sheep/goat	1		Ulna			
			Sheep/goat	1		Tibia	1		
			Sheep/goat	1		Jaw	1		
			Sheep/goat	1		Humerus	1		

Key: Age – a = adult, j = juvenile (older than 1 month) Butchering = c = cut, ch = chopped (and number of elements affected)

8.0 Conclusions

Where subsoil was machine-stripped to the natural chalk in the north-eastern area of the development several periglacial solution scars were recorded. Aside from a modern posthole, only two archaeological features of note were uncovered. One of these proved to be a very shallow pit, surviving to a depth of just 120mm. It contained a mix of soil, raw clay and burnt clay and may be the remnants of a deconstructed oven or hearth of Late Saxon or medieval date. A very few residual finds collected from the fill include a single small sherd of Late Saxon pottery, an oyster shell, a pig bone and a single piece of fired daub. The oyster shell was pierced and may have served as a loom weight. A second feature was identified within the confines of the soakaway trench, which was difficult to define due to archaic root or animal disturbance. It appeared to have served as some form of elongated post-pit of uncertain date, the base of which was densely packed with flint cobbles.

Below a topsoil littered with modern rubbish and evidence of bonfire activity was a cleaner subsoil which measured up to 0.25m thick and yielded a surprising number of metal finds. The majority of these are of copper-alloy and range from medieval to post-medieval date, with several of a 15th to 16th date range, which appear to suggest a hiatus of activity or deposition within this historic period. A range of pottery sherds were collected from the subsoil showing a history of waste mixing into the soil here, which include a small number of Romano-British and Late Saxon to Early medieval sherds and a range of medieval to post-medieval sherds. The pottery assemblage is particularly concentrated toward the high and later medieval period, fairly consistent with the metalwork bias. Although some of the metalwork could be attributed to casual losses, the spreading of night soil and ditch clearances on an area of former agricultural land adjacent to the town-ditch could well account for the presence of the finds here.

The copper-alloy finds include suspension rings, a decorated suspension loop for a purse bar, two buckles, a strap-end, a mount for leather/textile, a fragment of rim from a bronze vessel, two matching ?casket mounts and a hexagonal knife terminal decorated with a simple incised six-armed cross. Lead finds amounted to a single piece of lead window came and two lead spindle whorls. A 13th-century silver penny, a 16th century Nuremberg Jetton and a Victorian halfpenny were also collected from the subsoil.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Andrew Pugh who commissioned Norvic Archaeology to carry out this work. The on-site monitoring work was carried out by Andy Barnett and the author. Post-excavation analysis work was carried out by the author with contributions by Sue Anderson (pottery) and Andy Barnett (coins/tokens). Julie Curl kindly provided comment on the pierced oyster shell. NHER data was supplied by the Historic Environment Service.

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Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Fill of	Brief Physical Description	Interpretation	Period
01	Cut		Oval, 0.85m L, 0.70 W, 0.12m deep only, slightly concave base. Aligned N-S.	Shallow-Pit	<i>L.Saxon/Medieval</i>
02	Deposit	[01]	Soft, mid-greyish-brown silty-sand, mod. stones, occ. chalk flecks/pieces, occ. burnt clay lumps (up top 100mm), rare charcoal pieces/flecks. mod. lumps of greyish-yellow clay.	Pit-fill	<i>L.Saxon/Medieval</i>
03	Cut		Tapering linear, max. 1.2m wide, c. 0.4m deep	Natural feature	-
04	Deposit	[03]	Soft, mid orange/brown, silty-clay-sand, mod. root, freq. stones (c. 20%), rare chalk flecks. sterile.	Fill	-
05	Cut		Sub-circular, U-shaped profile with slightly concave base. 0.3m diam. 0.25m deep.	Posthole	<i>Modern</i>
06	Deposit	[05]	Firm, mid-brownish-grey silty-clay, mod. chalk flecks, occ. stones.	PH fill	<i>Modern</i>
07	Cut		Edge of a feature v. similar too [03] and parallel to it	Natural feature	-
08	Deposit	[07]	Similar to 04	Fill	-
09	Cut		Linear, c. E-W, profile near vertical sides become uneven concave sides, c.0.27m deep, 0.8m wide.	?post-pit	<i>Uncertain</i>
10	Deposit	[09]	Firm (dense), mid-orangey-brown silty-sand, mod. chalk flecks/pieces, occ. stones, freq. larger cobbles in base, sterile.	Fill	<i>Uncertain</i>
11	Cut		?Oval, concave profile, max 0.15m deep	?PH/Nat. feature	-
12	Deposit	[11]	Firm (dense), mid-orangey-brown silty-sand, mod chalk, occ. flint.	Fill	-
13	Cut		Irregular natural feature, max.0.15m deep	Natural feature	-
14	Deposit	[13]	Firm (dense), mid-orangey-brown silty-sand, mod chalk, occ. flint.	Fill	-
15	Deposit		Firm (dry), mid-brownish-grey sandy-loam (silt>clay), mod. charcoal flecks/pieces, occ. modern rubbish from bonfires and outbuilding demolition, mod stones. c. 0.3 to 0.4m deep	Topsoil	<i>Modern</i>
16	Deposit		Friable, mid-orangey-brown silty-sand, mod. chalk flecks. occ. charcoal flecks, c. 0.15 to 0.2m deep	Subsoil	<i>Post-medieval +</i>
17	Deposit	[09]	Hard, pale brownish/orangey yellow silty-chalk lens within (10) up to 50mm thick.	Lens	<i>Uncertain</i>
18	Unstratified			Topsoil/Subsoil spoil	-
19	Deposit		Hard, white chalk with occasional mid-yellow/orange sand pockets	Natural chalk	-

Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Unknown	?Post-pit	1
Late Saxon (851 to 1065AD)*	Pit	1

* or Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)

Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Quantity	Weight (g)
02	Animal bone	1	9
02	Fired clay	1	7
02	Pottery	1	2
02	Shell – oyster	1	29
06	Pottery	1	7
16	Animal bone	7	312
16	SF01; Cu Alloy: Purse bar suspension loop	1	17.08
16	SF02; Cu Alloy: Suspension ring	1	8
16	SF03; Cu Alloy: Suspension ring	1	4.43
16	SF04; Cu Alloy: Suspension ring	1	3.85
16	SF05; Cu Alloy: Buckle	1	1.43
16	SF06; Cu Alloy: Buckle plate/clip	1	8.11
16	SF07; Cu Alloy: Strap-end	1	1.15
16	SF08; Cu Alloy: Mount	1	0.49
16	SF09; Cu Alloy: Copper Alloy Vessel Rim	1	10.36
16	SF10; Cu Alloy: ?Casket Mount	1	4.90
16	SF11; Cu Alloy: ?Casket Mount	1	5.19
16	SF12; Cu Alloy: Ferrule 'cap'/knife terminal	1	4.78
16	SF13; Cu Alloy: Button	1	3.86
16	SF14; Lead Window Came	1	3.83
16	SF15; Lead Spindle Whorl	1	47.22
16	SF16; Lead Spindle Whorl	1	18.67
16	SF17; Silver Coin	1	0.81g
16	SF18; Cu Alloy Jetton	1	5.35g
16	SF19; Cu Alloy Coin	1	3.90g
16	Pottery	28	636
16	Shell – oyster	1	63
18	Clay tobacco pipe	2	5
18	Pottery	9	102

Appendix 2b: Finds summary table

Period	Material	Qty
Roman (42 to 409AD)	Pottery	3
Late Saxon (851 to 1065AD)	Animal bone	1
	Fired clay	1
	Pottery	6
	Shell – oyster	1
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Animal bone	7
	Copper alloy object: SF1: Purse bar suspension loop	1
	Copper alloy object: SF2, SF3, SF4: Suspension ring	3
	Copper alloy object: SF5: Buckle	1
	Copper alloy object: SF6: Buckle plate	1
	Copper alloy object: SF7: Strap-end	1
	Copper alloy object: SF8: Mount	1
	Copper alloy object: SF9: Vessel rim	1
	Copper alloy object: SF10, SF11: Casket mount	2
	Copper alloy object: SF12: Knife terminal	1
	Copper alloy token: SF19 Jetton	1
	Pottery	20
	Lead object SF15, SF16: Spindle Whorl	2
	Silver coin: F17:long-cross penny	1
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Clay tobacco pipe	2
	Copper alloy object: SF13: Button	1
	Copper alloy coin: SF18: Halfpenny	1
	Lead window came	1
	Pottery	9
Modern (1900 to 2050 AD)	Pottery	1

Appendix 3: Factual Archive summary table

Factual Type	Quantity
Site diary sheets	1
Permatrace drawing sheets	4
Context register sheets	1
Context Sheets	12
Plan/Section register sheet	1
Photo Index sheets	1
Digital Images	23
Dwg. CAD file	1

Appendix 4: Pottery

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Fabric date range
02	THETG			1	2	1	10th-11th c.
06	LPME	Plantpot		1	7	1	18th-20th c.
16	EMW			1	4	1	11th-12th c.
16	ESW			1	19	1	17th-19th c.
16	ESWN			1	18	1	L.17th-L.18th c.
16	GRCW			2	59	1	11th-M.13th c.
16	GRCW			2	6	2	11th-M.13th c.
16	GRCW	Bowl/dish	tapered everted	1	10	1	11th-M.13th c.
16	GRE			3	109	1	16th-18th c.
16	GRE	Jug?		1	83	1	16th-18th c.
16	GRE	Pipkin		1	47	1	16th-18th c.
16	GRIL			2	97	1	14th-15th c.?
16	GRIL	Dish/lid?	upright flat-topped	1	72	1	14th-15th c.?
16	GRIL	Pipkin		1	23	1	14th-15th c.?
16	GRIM			2	17	1	L.12th-14th c.
16	GRIM			2	17	2	L.12th-14th c.
16	NARV			1	4	1	RB
16	NLLM			1	9	1	15th-16th c.
16	RBGW	Dish	bead	1	9	1	Romano-British
16	RBGW	Jar	flaring	1	15	1	Romano-British
16	THETG			3	18	3	10th-11th c.
18	ESWN			1	8	1	L.17th-L.18th c.
18	GRIM			5	66	1	L.12th-14th c.
18	PORC			1	12	1	18th-20th c.
18	THETG			2	16	2	10th-11th c.

Appendix 5: Coins & Tokens

SF No.	Context	Metal	Type	Context Type
17	16	Silver	Penny	Subsoil
Denomination: Penny				Obverse Description: Crowned bust facing
State: England				
Period: Medieval				
Ruler: Edward I, II or III 1272-1377				Obverse Legend: Illegible
Date: 1279-1377				
Mint: -				
Weight: 0.81g				Reverse Description: Long Cross with three pellets in each angle
Diameter: 16.4mm				
Comments: Worn almost smooth on the obverse and around the outer edge on the reverse.				Reverse Legend: Illegible
Reference: The English Long Cross Coinage 1279-1489. Wren. Plantagenet Books 1995				

SF No.	Context	Metal	Type	Context Type
18	16	Copper Alloy	Halfpenny	Subsoil
Denomination: Halfpenny				Obverse Description: Bust left
State: Great Britain				
Period: Victorian ('modern')				
Ruler: Queen Victoria 1837-1901				Obverse Legend: VICTORIA D:G: - BRITT:REG:F:D
Date: 1861				
Mint: -				
Weight: 5.35g				Reverse Description: Britannia seated right
Diameter: 25.5mm				
Comments: Worn with some surface corrosion				Reverse Legend: Half - Penny. 1861 in exergue.
Reference: British Copper, Tin and Bronze Coins in the British Museum. Peck. BM 1964. Page 432, 1759-1767				

SF No.	Context	Metal	Type	Context Type
19	16	Copper Alloy	Jetton	Subsoil
Denomination: Lion of St Mark – Jetton				Obverse Description: Lion of Saint Mark standing left
State: Nuremberg				
Period: Post-medieval				
Ruler: -				Obverse Legend: Fictitious
Date: 1500-1570 AD				
Mint: Nuremberg				
Weight: 3.90g				Reverse Description: Imperial orb within double stranded tressure. Pellets in angles.
Diameter: 27.3mm				
Comments: Worn and corroded. Illegible in places.				Reverse Legend: Fictitious
Reference: Jetons, Medalets & Tokens Vol I Seaby 1988. Page 363, 1117				

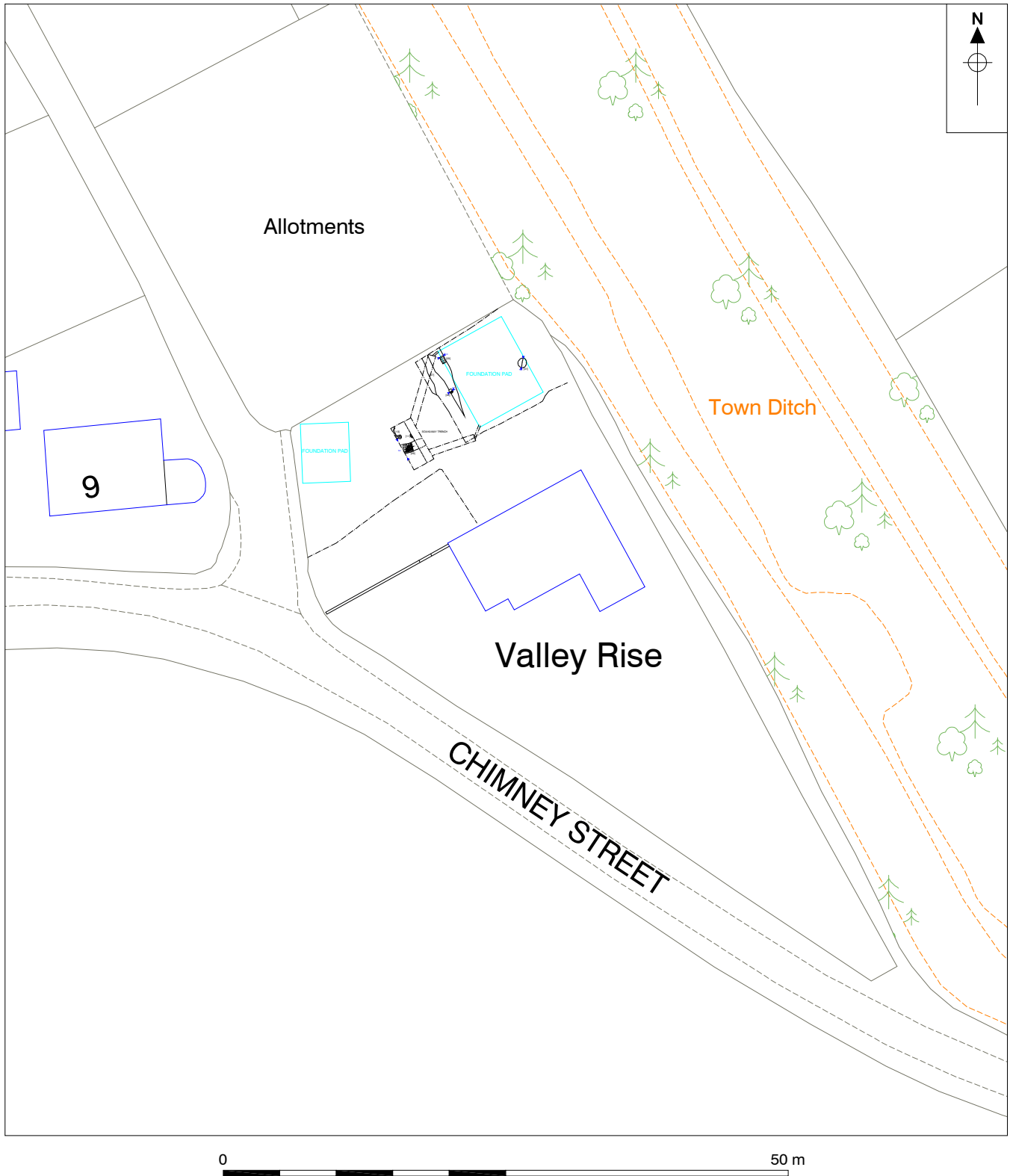


Figure 2. Site location plan. Scale 1:500.

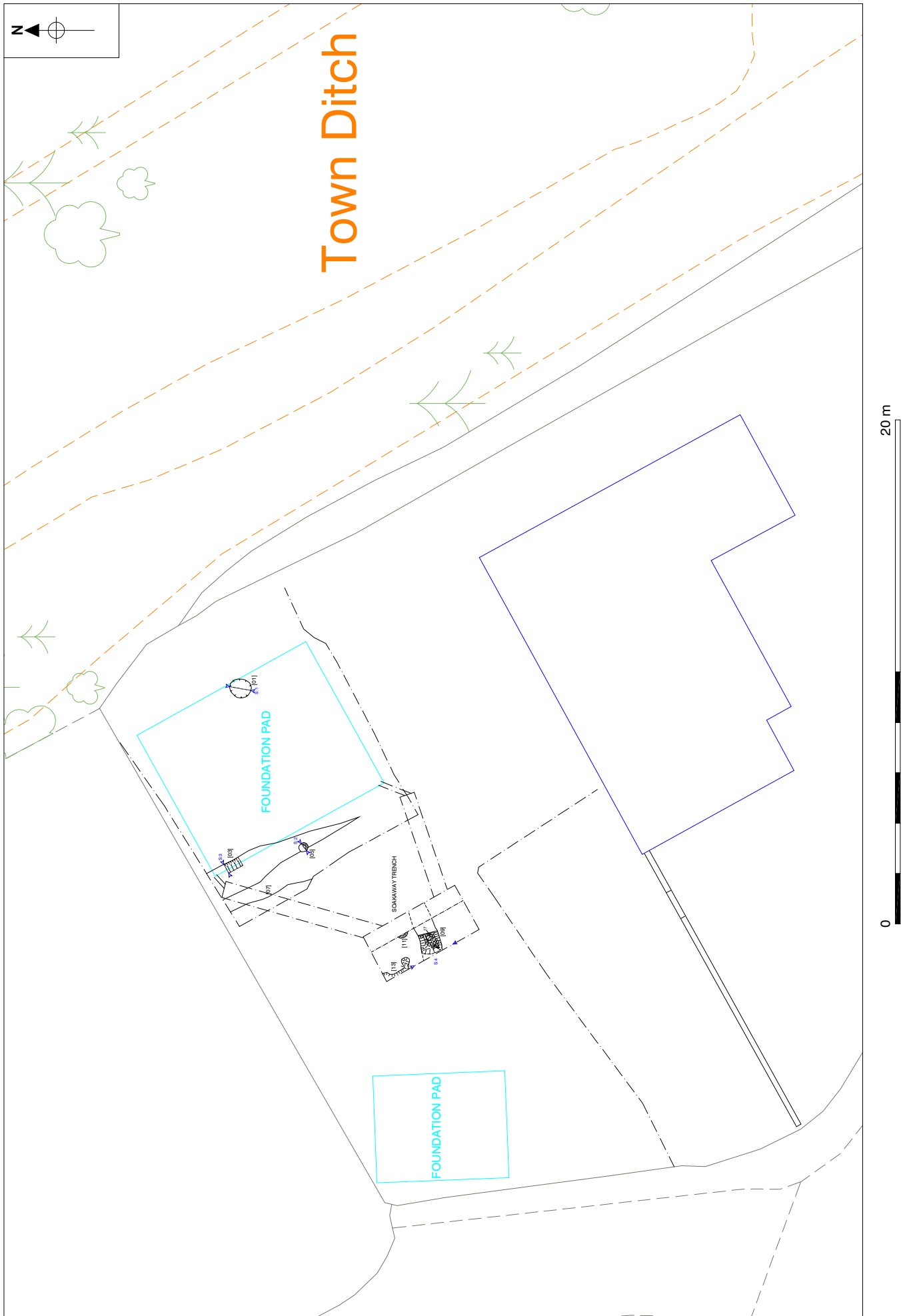


Figure 3. Site plan. Scale 1:500

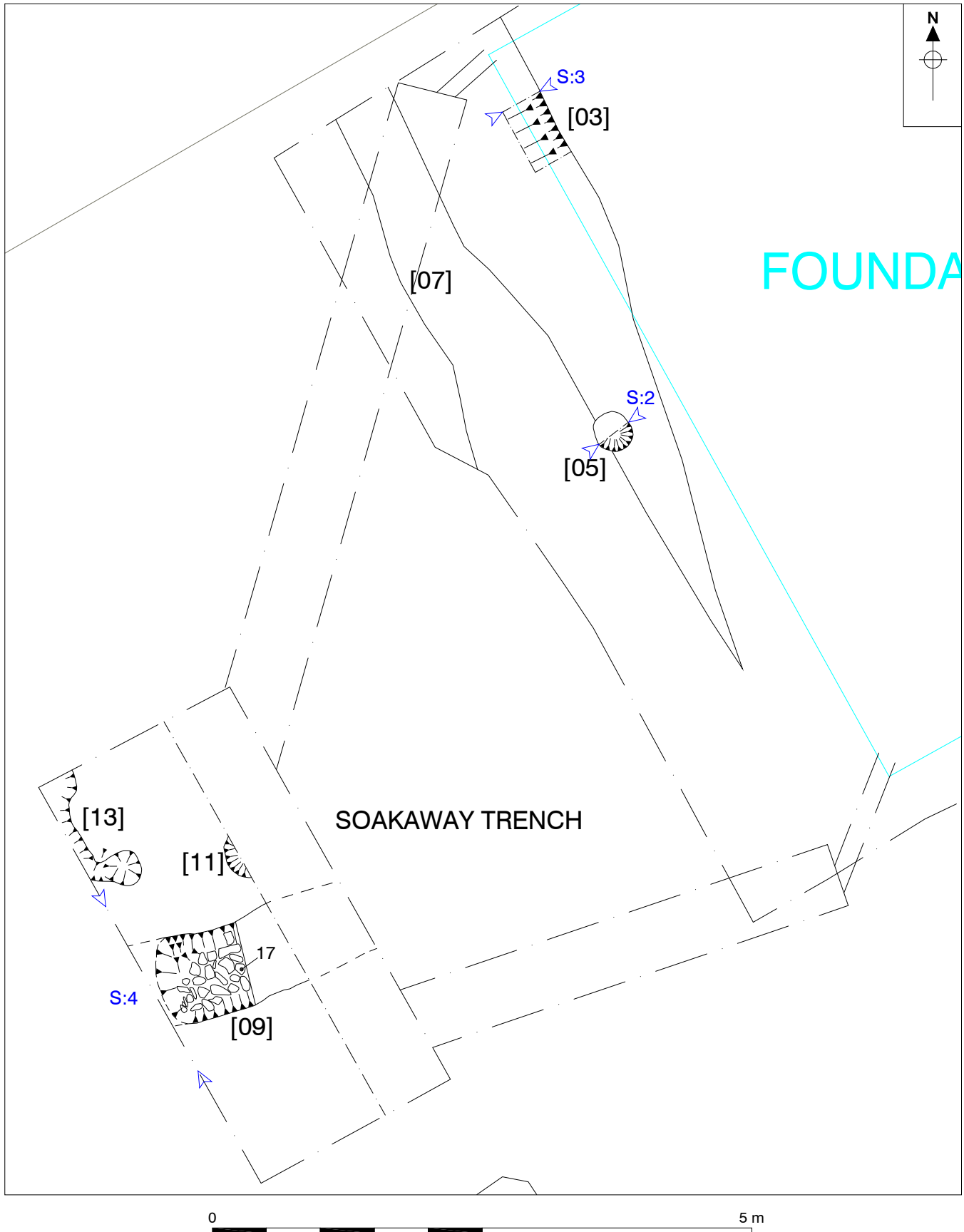


Figure 4. Features - plan A. Scale 1:50.

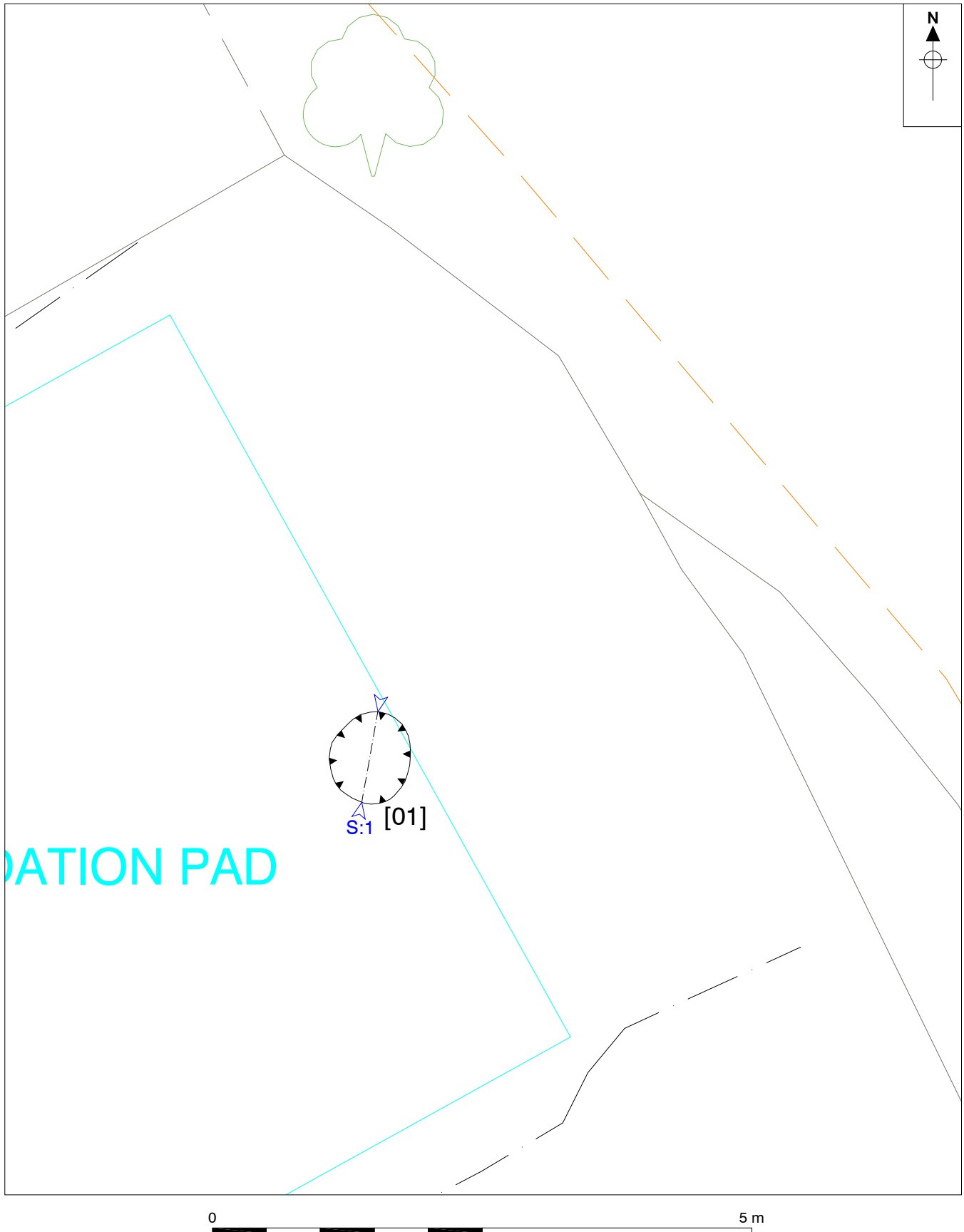


Figure 5. Features - plan B (Pit [01]). Scale 1:50.

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OASIS ID: norvicar1-329983

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Monitoring at Valley Side, Chimney Street, Castle Acre, Norfolk.
Short description of the project	The results of archaeological monitoring during construction of a new store and garage at Valley Side, Chimney Street, Castle Acre. The site lies directly to the west of the medieval town defences where they survive as a substantial ditch up to 3m deep with an earthwork bank up to 3m tall. The defences were constructed following the Norman Conquest and are a Scheduled Monument, the boundary of which is contiguous with the development plot. Where subsoil was machine stripped to the natural chalk in the north-eastern area of the development, several periglacial solution scars were recorded. A very shallow pit was identified, which contained a mix of soil, raw clay and burnt clay which may be the remnants of a deconstructed oven or hearth of Late Saxon or medieval date. The few residual finds collected from it include a single sherd of Late Saxon pottery and a pierced oyster shell, which may have served as a loom weight. A possible flint packed post-pit of uncertain date was recorded within the confines of a new soakway trench. Below the modern topsoil was a cleaner subsoil which yielded a surprising number of metal finds ranging from medieval to post-medieval date, with several of a 15th to 16th date range. The pottery assemblage is particularly concentrated toward the high and later medieval period, fairly consistent with the metalwork bias. The copper-alloy finds include suspension rings, a decorated suspension loop for a purse bar, two buckles, a strap-end, a mount for leather/textile, a fragment of rim form a bronze vessel, two matching ?casket mounts and a hexagonal knife terminal decorated with a simple incised six-armed cross.
Project dates	Start: 16-04-2018 End: 20-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ENF143417 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	17/02047/F - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	NVC/2017/315 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	?POST PIT Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY CASKET MOUNT Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY KNIFE TERMINAL Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY JETTON Medieval

Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	LEAD SPINDLE WHORL Medieval
Significant Finds	SILVER COIN Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY TOBACCO PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY BUTTON Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY HALFPENNY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	LEAD WINDOW CAME Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Early Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRE CLAY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Medieval
Significant Finds	SHELL - OYSTER Early Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY PURSE BAR SUSPENSION LOOP Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY SUSPENSION RING Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY BUCKLE Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY BUCKLE PLATE Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY STRAP END Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY MOUNT Medieval
Significant Finds	COPPER ALLOY VESSEL RIM Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK CASTLE ACRE Valley Side, Chimney Street, Castle Acre, Norfolk.
Postcode	PE32 2AB
Study area	270 Square metres
Site coordinates	TF 8172 1491 52.700909384992 0.689757583808 52 42 03 N 000 41 23 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Norvic Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Norvic Archaeology
Project director/manager	Giles Emery
Project supervisor	Giles Emery
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding	Mr A Pugh

body

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	NMAS and Norvic Archaeology
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	NMAS
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	NMAS
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Monitoring at Valley Side, Chimney Street, Castle Acre, Norfolk.
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Other bibliographic details	Norvic Archaeology Report No. 116
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