



**Trial Trench Evaluation
on land off Daventry Road
Kilsby
Northamptonshire
September 2014**

Report No. 14/228

Author: Chris Chinnock

Illustrator: James Ladocha



**Trial Trench Evaluation
on land off Daventry Road
Kilsby
Northamptonshire
September 2014**

Report No. 14/228

Quality control and sign off:

Issue No.	Date approved:	Checked by:	Verified by:	Approved by:	Reason for Issue:
1	[25.11.14]	Pat Chapman	Adam Yates	Andy Chapman	Draft for client review

Author: Chris Chinnock

Illustrator: James Ladocha

© MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) 2014

MOLA
Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton
NN4 8BN
01604 700 493
www.mola.org.uk
sparry@mola.org.uk

STAFF

Project Manager: Adam Yates BA MIfA

Text: Chris Chinnock BA, MSc, PIfA

Fieldwork: Chris Chinnock

David Haynes

James Ladocha BA

Will Morris BA

Pottery: Paul Blinkhorn BTech

Animal bone: Adam Reid BSc MSc

Charred plant macrofossils and other remains: Val Fryer BA MIfA

Ceramic tile: Pat Chapman BA AIfA

Metalworking debris: Andy Chapman BSc MIfA FSA

Illustrations: James Ladocha BA

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		OASIS No: molarnort1 - 195817	
Project name	Archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire		
Short description (250 words maximum)	MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Strutt and Parker LLP to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land east of Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire prior to proposed potential development of the site. Seven trenches were excavated. A series of ditches and pits, dated to the 12th century AD were identified as well as later post-medieval bank and ditch earthworks. Dumped waste material and other disturbance associated with the construction of the M45 motorway, which lies immediately south of the site, was present across much of the site.		
Project type (eg DBA, evaluation etc)	Evaluation		
Site status (none, NT, SAM etc)	None		
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	Geophysical survey (Walford 2014), Desk-based assessment (Walker 2014)		
Current Land use	Pasture/horse paddock		
Future work (yes, no, unknown)	Unknown		
Monument type/ period	Extant medieval earthworks, medieval ditches and pits		
Significant finds (artefact type and period)	Medieval pottery		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County	Northamptonshire		
Site address (including postcode)	Land east of Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire		
Study area (sq.m or ha)	c. 2.3ha		
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. letter code)	SP 563 707		
Height OD	Approx. 135-145m aOD		
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation	MOLA Northampton		
Project brief originator	Assistant County Archaeological Advisor NCC		
Project Design originator	MOLA Northampton		
Director/Supervisor	Chris Chinnock		
Project Manager	Adam Yates		
Sponsor or funding body	Strutt and Parker LLP		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date/End date	02/09/2014 - 05/09/2014		
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)	
Physical	MOLA Northampton Offices: ENN107528	Pottery animal bone and other finds	
Paper	MOLA Northampton Offices: ENN107528	Site file	
Digital	MOLA Northampton Offices: ENN107528	Mapinfo plans, Word report	
BIBLIOGRAPHY			
Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (MOLA report)			
Title	Archaeological trial trench evaluation on land off Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire, September 2014		
Serial title & volume	14/228		
Author(s)	Chris Chinnock		
Page numbers			
Date	25.11.14		

Contents

- 1 INTRODUCTION
 - 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
 - 3 BACKGROUND
 - 3.1 Topography and geology
 - 3.2 Historical and archaeological background
 - 4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY
 - 5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE
 - 5.1 Trench 1
 - 5.2 Trench 2
 - 5.3 Trench 3
 - 5.4 Trench 4
 - 5.5 Trench 5
 - 5.6 Trench 6
 - 5.7 Trench 7
 - 6 THE FINDS
 - 6.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn
 - 6.2 Animal bone by Adam Reid
 - 6.3 Charred plant macrofossils and other remains by Val Fryer
 - 6.4 Ceramic tile by Pat Chapman
 - 6.5 Metalworking debris by Andy Chapman
 - 6.6 Other finds by Tora Hylton
 - 7 DISCUSSION
- BIBLIOGRAPHY
- APPENDIX: CONTEXT INVENTORY

Tables

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Table 2: Charred plant macrofossils and other remains

Figures

Front cover: Bank (411), (412) and ditch [405], looking north-west

Back cover: Extended area of Trench 2 looking north-west

Fig 1: Site location

Fig 2: Trial trench locations with earthwork survey results

Fig 3: Ditches [105] and [107] pre-excitation, looking west-north-west

Fig 4: Trench 2, colluvial deposits, looking south-south-west

Fig 5: Ditch [218], looking west

Fig 6: Ditch [220], looking east-south-east

Fig 7: Extended area at north end of Trench 2, looking north-west

Fig 8: Trench 3 showing overburden and unexcavated ditch [305], looking east-south-east

Fig 9: Trench 4, bank (411) and ditch [405], looking north-west

Fig 10: Ditch [405], looking north-north

Fig 11: Trench 7 representative section, looking west-north-west

Fig 12: Plans of trenches 1-4

Fig 13: Sections 1-7

Fig 14: Sections 8-13

Fig 15: Sections 14 and 15

Fig 16: Trench 1, general view, looking south-south-west

Fig 17: Trench 2, general view, looking north-west

Fig 18: Trench 3, general view, looking south-south-west

Fig 19: Trench 4, general view, looking east-south-east

Fig 20: Trench 5, general view, looking west-north-west

Fig 21: Trench 6, general view, looking north-east

Fig 22: Trench 7, general view, looking north-north-east

**Trial trench evaluation
on land off Daventry Road
Kilsby, September 2014
Northamptonshire**

Abstract

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Strutt and Parker LLP to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land east of Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire prior to proposed potential development of the site. Seven trenches were excavated. A series of ditches and pits, dated to the 12th-century AD were identified as well as later post-medieval bank and ditch earthworks. Dumped waste material and other disturbance associated with the construction of the M45 motorway, which lies immediately south of the site, was present across much of the site.

1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA Northampton was commissioned by Strutt & Parker LLP to carry out an archaeological earthwork survey and trial trench evaluation of c.2.3ha of land east of Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire (NGR SP 563 707).

The Assistant Archaeological Advisor for Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) had advised that a programme of archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to determine the nature and extent of any archaeological remains within the Development Area (pers comm Mordue, August 2014). The requirements were outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by MOLA (2014).

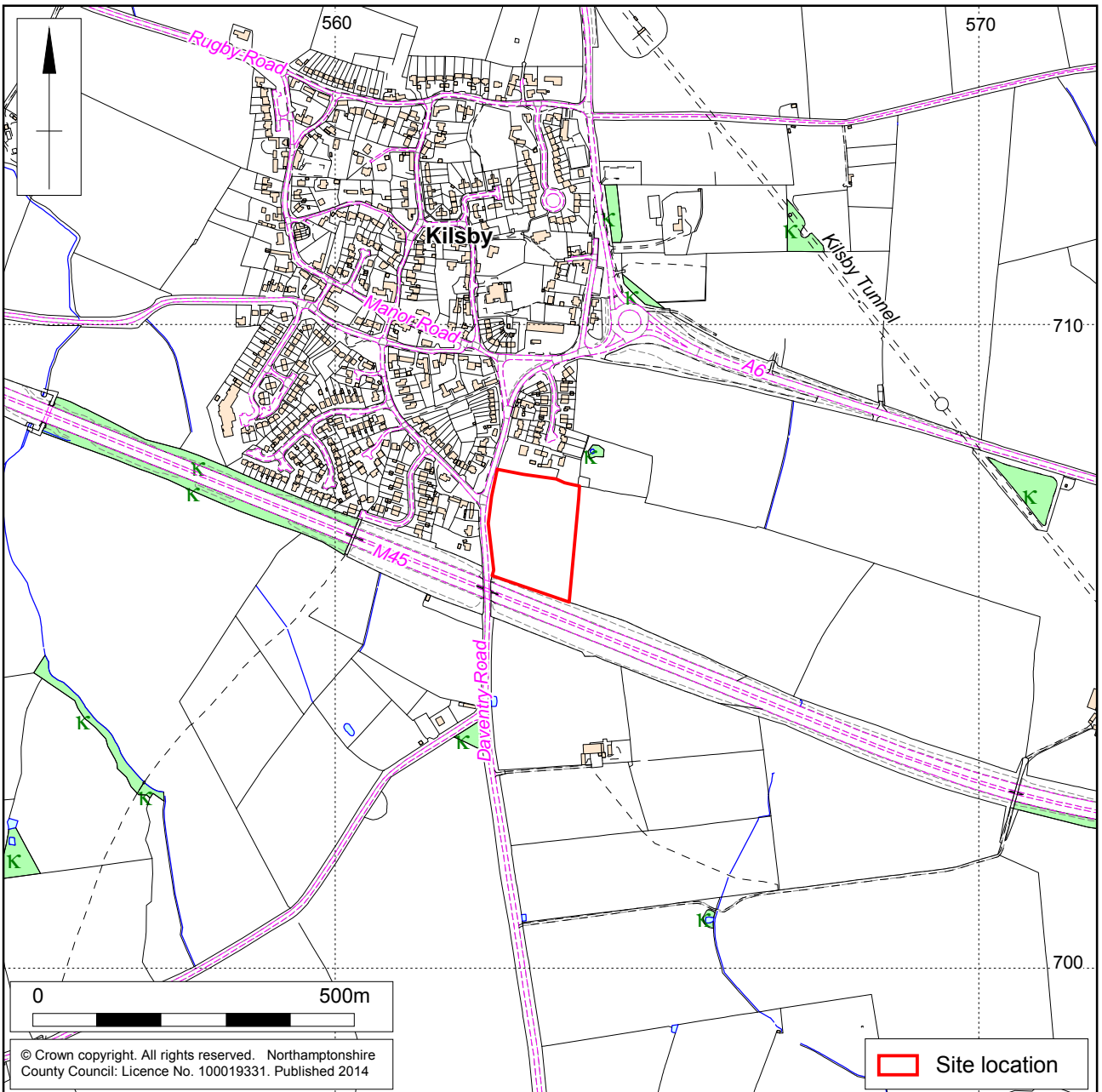
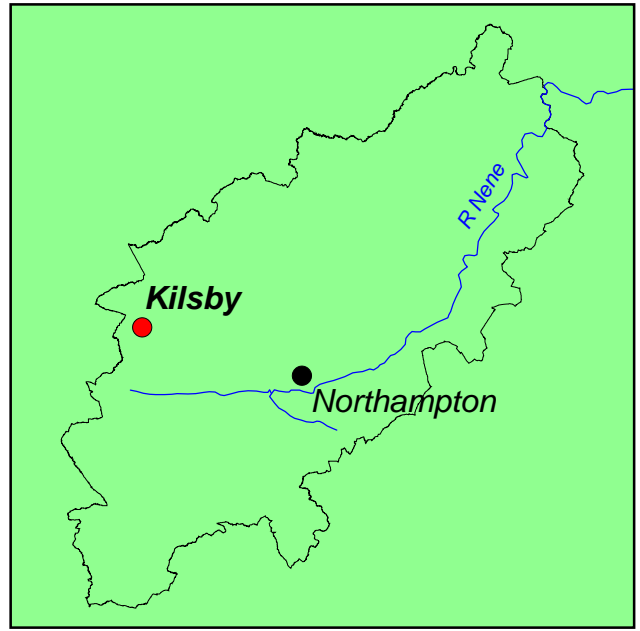
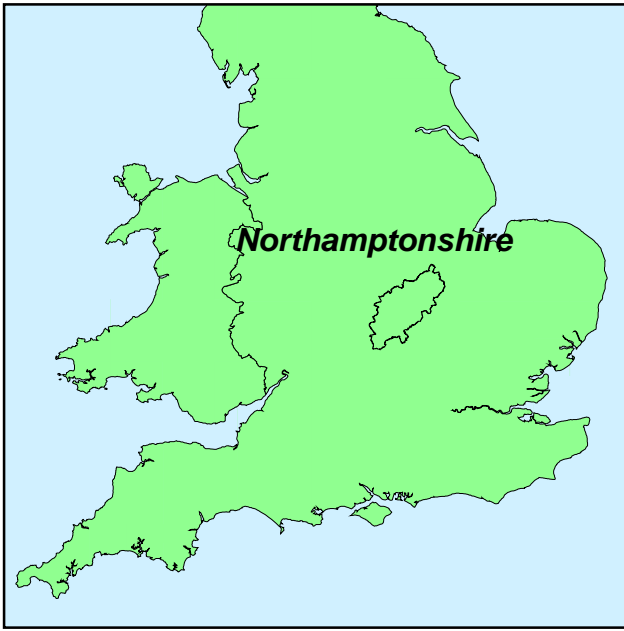
Work was completed on Friday 5th September and was observed by the Assistant Archaeological Advisor for Northamptonshire County Council before completion.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The evaluation of the site was designed to provide information that will allow for the effective targeting of further investigation of the site, if required, prior to or during the early phases of its development.

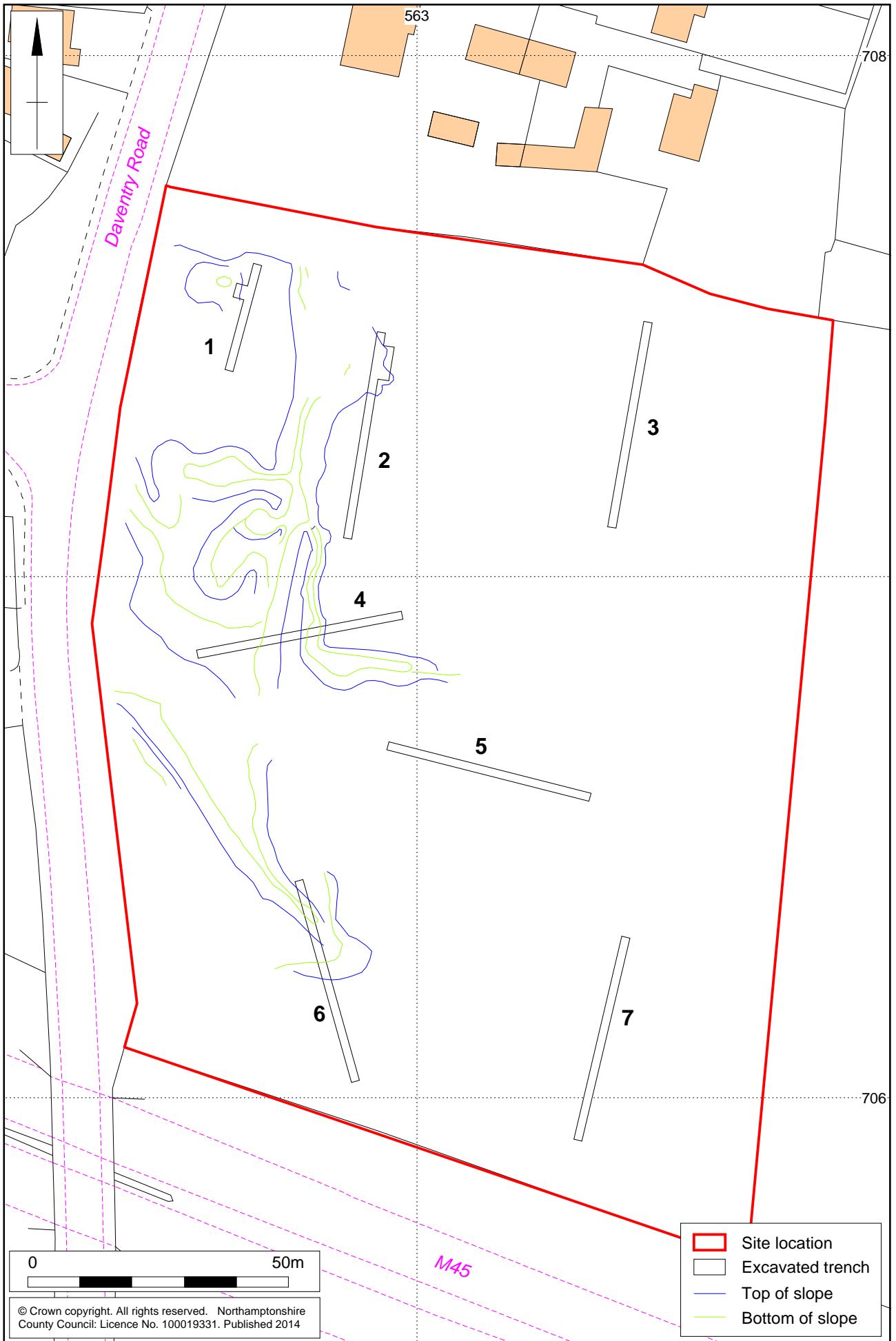
The following information was required to allow the development of a strategy for further investigation of the site:

- *The location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;*
- *The integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present.*



Scale 1:10,000

Site location Fig 1



1:1000 (A4)

Trial trench locations with earthwork survey results Fig 2

The evaluation was carried following the guidelines suggested by the IfA's *Standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008), the MOLA Fieldwork Manual (2014) and the East Midlands regional framework (Knight *et al* 2012).

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Topography and geology

The survey area consisted of a rectangular pasture field located on the south-eastern edge of Kilsby. It lies immediately east of Daventry Road and is bounded to the south by the M45 Motorway. At the time of the survey the field was in a rough condition, with some patches of nettles and other tall weeds.

The survey area lies on a north-west facing slope between the 135m and 145m contour lines and contains a small slade which drains northwards through the northern part of the field. The geology of the area is recorded as Dyrham Formation (Middle Lias) mudstone with an overlying drift of Hillmorton Sand (BGS 2014).

3.2 Historical and archaeological background

A desk-based assessment of the survey area (Walker 2013) noted that the site lies *c* 500m north-west of a cropmark which is believed to represent an Iron Age or Roman enclosure. No other prehistoric or Roman remains have been identified in the near vicinity, although an extensive Iron Age settlement has been excavated at the Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal (DIRFT), 2km to the north-east, in advance of development from the 1990s onwards.

The survey area lies outside the known limits of Saxon and medieval settlement at Kilsby, and the 19th-century mapping of the area shows it as largely undeveloped agricultural land with only one small barn or animal shelter in its south-eastern corner (Walker 2013, Fig 9). However, there are some irregular earthworks along the Daventry Road frontage of the field, and these could represent medieval or post-medieval settlement features. Alternatively, they may indicate an area of disturbed ground associated with the construction of the M45 motorway (Walker 2013, 18).

A geophysical survey, (Walford 2014), of the site in advance of the trial trench evaluation concluded that a set of parallel linear features in the northern part of the survey area could be tentatively interpreted as a set of medieval or post-medieval property boundaries extending back from the road frontage. A less coherent set of features in the north-western field corner are very poorly diagnostic but could conceivably indicate an area of former settlement.

The survey results also suggested that parts of the survey area may have seen considerable modern disturbance. Two sections of pipes and three separate patches of modern debris were detected in the western half of the area, and it appeared that much of the eastern half of the area may be covered with a layer of made ground.

An earthwork survey conducted immediately prior to the trial trench evaluation mapped a series of extant earthworks in the north and north-western parts of the field (Fig 2). The results of the survey will be discussed alongside the results of the trial trench evaluation.

4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

Seven trenches were excavated using a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.6m-wide toothless ditching bucket. The topsoil and subsoil were removed under archaeological direction to reveal natural substrate. The topsoil and subsoil were stacked separately at the side of the excavated area. All procedures complied with MOLA Health and Safety provisions and MOLA Health and Safety at Work Guidelines.

The excavated area was cleaned sufficiently to define any features. The excavated area and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

All archaeological deposits encountered during the course of the excavation were fully recorded, following standard MOLA procedures (MOLA 2014). All deposits were given a separate context number in a sequence assigned to each trench. They were described on *pro-forma* context sheets to include details of the context, its relationships and interpretation. Unstratified animal bones and modern material were not retained.

All trench locations were recorded using Leica Viva Global Positioning System (GPS) survey equipment using SMARTNET real-time corrections, operating to a 3D tolerance of $\pm 0.05\text{m}$. A full photographic record comprising both 35mm black and white negatives and digital images was maintained. The field data from the evaluation has been compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

The evaluation conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised Oct 2008). All stages of the project were undertaken in accordance with English Heritage, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (EH 2006). The evaluation was carried out in accordance with Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by MOLA (2014).

All trenches were backfilled with their up-cast, lightly compacted by the mechanical excavator.

5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

5.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located in the north-western corner of the field and targeted geophysical anomalies tentatively described as being of archaeological interest (Fig 2). A portion of the trench toward the southern end, could not be excavated due to extremely soft/waterlogged ground surrounding a watering hollow. A small extension to the trench was excavated at its northern end to further investigate two linear features identified there (Fig 3 and Fig 12: Plan 1).

The natural substrate existed approximately 0.60 – 0.75m below the present ground surface. The subsoil was mid-brown-yellow silty sand and the natural substrate comprised mid-light yellow-brown sandy clay with frequent small angular stones throughout. The topsoil in this trench was notably different to that recorded elsewhere in the field. The topsoil layer (101) was much thicker, approximately 0.40 – 0.55m thick and comprised a sandy loam compared to the silty clay observed

elsewhere. It is suggested that soil has been imported onto the site in this area in order to raise the ground level to its current state.



Ditches [105] and [107] pre-excavation, looking west-north-west Fig 3

Two ditches, [105] and [107], were present at the north end of the trench (Fig 3). A small extension to the trench further delineated these features.

Shallow ditch [105] was aligned west-south-west to east-north-east. The ditch was 0.65m wide and 0.10m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and concave base (Fig 13: Section 4). The fill, (104), comprised mid grey-brown sandy silt. One fragment of Stamford ware and one fragment of Shelly coarseware were recovered from the fill and date the ditch to the 12th-century AD.

Ditch [107] was aligned north-west to south-east. The ditch was 0.98m wide and 0.51m deep with a U-shaped profile and concave base (Fig 13: Section 5). The fill, (106), comprised mid grey-brown sandy silt. No artefacts were recovered from the fill. Any relationship that may exist between these two ditches does not appear in the trench and appears to lie immediately beyond the western edge of the extended area.

5.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located in the central northern part of the field and targeted a number of linear features aligned east-west (Fig 2). Due to the extreme density of archaeological remains at the northern end of the trench it was agreed that a small extension would be excavated in order to further establish the character and extent of the archaeological features in this area (Fig 7 and Fig 12: Plan 2).

A thick deposit, 0.18 – 0.65m, of mid brown silty clay colluvium was present at the northern end of the trench (Fig 4). This tapered off towards the south and was not present at the southern end of the trench. Some modern material, similar to that observed in the trenches to the east and south, was noted mixed in with the topsoil in Trench 2.

A number of linear ditches were present throughout the trench which seems to represent medieval plot or field boundaries. A concentration of features including ditches and pits was present at the northern end of the trench though the high density of features and limited area restricted intervention at this time. One later ditch [210],

probably post-medieval, existed at the northern end of the trench at a much higher level and was removed to reveal the 12th-century remains which lay beneath (Fig 14: Section 13).



Trench 2, colluvial deposits, looking south-south-west Fig 4

At the southern end of the trench a large linear ditch, [218], aligned approximately east to west, was present (Fig 2, Fig 5). The ditch was 2.35m wide and 0.94m deep with a wide U-shaped profile, an eroded upper southern edge and a concave base (Fig 13: Section 7). The ditch was filled with a series of silt deposits; (215), (216) and (217). The lack of almost any domestic material and the homogeneity of the silty clay fills suggests this ditch was left to silt-up naturally rather than deliberately backfilled. Two small abraded fragments of Roman period pottery and three fragments of Shelly coarseware were recovered from the upper fill of the ditch. It is likely that the Roman period pottery is residual material deposited in the fill; the Shelly coarseware has been dated to the 12th-century AD.



Ditch [218], looking west Fig 5

In the central part of the trench a ditch aligned north-north-east to south-south-west aligned and two ditches aligned west-north-west to east-south-east may be part of a plot or enclosure the form of which is not clear within the limit of the trench (Fig 12: Plan 2).

At the south-western end the ditch, [220], was investigated to try and ascertain whether the southern and western edges of the possible plot were contemporary or in fact two separate phases of activity. No relationship could be seen in plan or section and the intervention was extended to give a full profile of the ditch (Fig 6 and Fig 14: Section 10). The ditch was 0.81m wide and 0.32m deep with a U-shaped profile and concave base. The fill, (219), comprised mid brown silty clay, similar to the surrounding natural. The ditch is likely to have filled slowly through a series of natural deposits. No artefacts were recovered.

At the north-eastern end a relationship could be seen which, though by no means clear, suggests that ditch [204] cut ditch [206] (Fig 13: Section 3). Ditch [204] was 0.95m wide and 0.20m deep with a wide but shallow U-shaped profile and concave base with an eroded upper north-eastern edge. Ditch [206] was, at least, 0.75m wide and 0.07m deep with a wide shallow U-shaped profile and wide flat base. The fill of both ditches comprised mid brown silty clay with few inclusions, broadly reflecting the surrounding natural and are likely to have occurred through gradual natural deposition.



Ditch [220], looking east-south-east Fig 6

At the northern end of the trench, a complex series of ditches and pits was uncovered. A small extension to the trench was excavated to further delineate the features and establish the correct archaeological horizon (Fig 7). In this limited area it was not possible to fully establish the stratigraphic sequence. However, a small number of interventions were excavated to establish the key relationships. An interpretive plan of the area can be seen alongside the excavation plan in Figure 12.

Broadly speaking, the earliest features in the sequence are a ditch aligned north-west to south-east, [224], and a pit, [227], both of which are largely truncated by later features. This was followed by ditch [236] aligned north-north-east to south-south-west which extends to the south-west into an indistinct spread of material which could not be further investigated at this time.



Extended area at north end of Trench 2, looking north-west Fig 7

Two large ditches, [239] and [244], cut across the majority of the other features in this area. Ditch [244] was the earlier of the two, 1.27m wide and 0.87m deep (Figure 15: Sections 14 and 15). The ditch had a wide U-shaped profile and a concave base. A series of mid-dark grey brown slightly humic silting deposits are recorded though a thin lens of charcoal rich material, (242), was present immediately overlying the initial silting/stabilisation fill of the ditch, (243). This lens indicates that part of the fill was made up from deliberately deposited domestic waste material. Fragments of Shelly Coarseware, dated to the the 12th-century AD, were recovered from the fill of this ditch.

Ditch [239] may have been a later re-cut of ditch [244] though it is not clear within the limits of the trench. The ditch was 1.60m wide and 0.56m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and concave base (Fig 15: Section 15). The fill of the ditch is similar in character to that of ditch [244] comprising a series of mid-dark grey slightly humic silting deposits. A sample taken from fill (237) contained a large amount of organic material including charred seeds and other plant macrofossils. Further fragments of 12th-century Shelly Coarseware were recovered from this ditch.

At least two pits were present as the latest archaeological features in this sequence, one of which, [234], was partially excavated (Fig 15: Section 14). The pit was at least 0.95m in diameter and approximately 0.45m deep with a deep bowl-shaped profile and flat base. A thin layer of charcoal rich material, (233), at the base of the pit suggests that the pit was not open for long before material began to be deposited in it. As with the other features in the sequence, the humic fill material suggests a significant amount of organic waste was deposited within these ditches and pits. Shelly Coarseware, dated to the 12th-century AD, was recovered from the fill of the pit.

A ditch [210], at the northern end of the trench was seen at a much higher level and cut through the colluvial material which overlies the 12th-century remains (Fig 14: Section 13). Though no dateable evidence was recovered from the fill of the ditch, it is probable that the feature dates to the post-medieval period.

5.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located in the north-eastern corner of the field (Fig 2). The natural substrate was compact mid brown-orange sand clay, with patches of clay and stone, between 0.80 and 0.95m below the present ground surface. Subsoil, (302), was approximately 0.15m thick and comprised mid brown-orange silty clay-sand with occasional stone inclusions. A thick deposit, c 0.60m, of modern waste material, (304), was present and comprised a mixture of compact blue-grey clay, brown clay and patches of stone and sand (Fig 8). The dumped material was more evident toward the southern end of the trench and less so toward the northern. The topsoil, (301) comprised dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional stone inclusions throughout.

Two ditches, [305] and [307], were present in the trench though neither could be fully excavated due to the depth of the trench. Ditch [305] was 2.50m wide, aligned approximately east to west and was not excavated. In the trench section it appears as though the ditch may cut through the subsoil slightly which would suggest a later date (Fig 8). Additionally very small fragments of brick or tile were noted during machine excavation of the trench which may have come from the upper fills of the ditch.

Ditch [307] was partially excavated, to the maximum safe working height. The ditch was approximately 5m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.37m (Fig 13, Section 1). No artefacts were recovered from the fill. A modern field drain was cut into the top of the ditch on a different alignment and comprised unmortared bricks arranged to create a capped rectangular channel.



Trench 3 showing overburden and unexcavated ditch [305], looking east-south-east
Fig 8

5.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the central western part of the field and was placed to investigate the extant earthworks identified in the topographical survey.

The natural substrate in the trench, (409), comprised compact mid brown-orange silty clay with frequent angular stone throughout and occasional patches of red-pink clay. The western end of the trench comprised waterlogged blue-grey clay. The subsoil, (402), was mid-grey-brown friable clay silt, approximately 0.05 – 0.15m thick. The topsoil was friable dark brown-grey silty clay, approximately 0.15 – 0.17m thick.

The extant earthworks comprised a bank and partially filled ditch aligned north to south, approximately 30m long. To the south the earthworks turn approximately 90 degrees to the east where they extend for a further 30m.

The bank construction appears to be one deposit of mid orange-brown silty clay, (411), approximately 2.95m wide and 0.54m thick. Further bank material, (412), comprised mid brown-orange silty clay, approximately 4.60m wide and 0.58m thick.

This material is soil which has washed down or slumped from the main bank thus reducing its height and expanding its width over time (Fig 9 and Fig 14: Section 9).

The ditch [405] is approximately 2.50m wide and 0.92m deep with a wide U-shaped profile and narrow concave base (Fig 10 and Fig 14: Section 8). The fill of the ditch comprised a series of silting deposits, (410) and (406) followed by a dump of clay containing post-medieval glass and tile and further deposits of slightly more humic silty clay, (408) and (409). More recently an attempt has been made to largely fill the ditch with deposits of waste building material, (404) and (403), possibly associated with the construction of the adjacent M45 (Fig 10 and Fig 14: Section 8).



Trench 4, bank (411) and ditch [405], looking north-west Fig 9



Ditch [405], looking north-north-east Fig 10

5.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located in the central part of the field, aligned west-north-west to east-south-east (Fig 2). Midway along the trench the ground slopes up sharply to the east and the present ground surface lies between 140.76m aOD, at the western end, to 143.19m aOD, at the eastern end.

The natural substrate, (503), comprised compact mid orange-brown silty clay with occasional stone throughout. The subsoil, (502), was firm mid yellow-brown silty clay with frequent rounded cobbles throughout, approximately 0.11 – 0.17m thick. A thick deposit of modern construction debris, 0.12 – 1.00m, was present in the eastern half of the trench, (504), thickest at the eastern end sloping toward the west. The topsoil, (501), comprised friable dark grey-brown silty clay and was approximately 0.10 – 0.14m thick.

5.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located in the south-western corner of the field, aligned north-east to south-west (Fig 2). Midway along the trench a shallow dip is present followed by a rise in gradient to the south-west. This was identified in the topographic survey and was identified as another possible medieval earthwork. This appears not to be the case due to the presence of modern construction debris recorded throughout the trench. It is suggested that this area has been heavily remodelled during the construction of the adjacent M45 motorway. The present ground surface lies between 140.51m aOD, at its north-eastern end, to 141.91m aOD, at its south-western end.

The natural substrate, (603), comprised compact mid orange-brown silty clay. Toward the south-western end of the trench, a large deposit of concrete crush was present overlying the natural. The subsoil, (602) was compact mid orange-brown clay

loam approximately 0.10 – 0.18m thick though it appeared intermittently throughout the trench. The topsoil, (601), comprised friable mid grey-brown silty loam with rare small stone inclusions throughout and was approximately 0.08 – 0.20m thick.

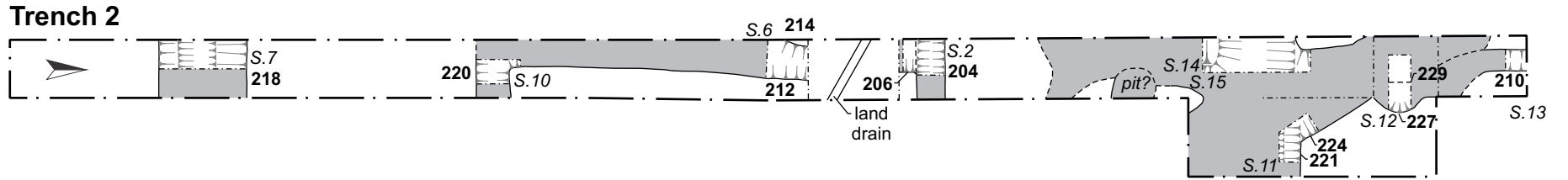
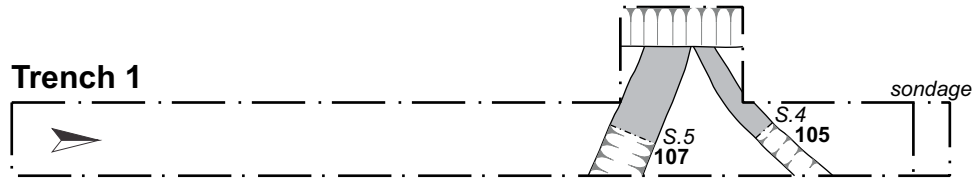
5.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was located in the south-eastern corner of the site, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west (Fig 2). The ground level in this area had been raised significantly with material associated with the construction of the M45 motorway immediately to the south of the site. In this part of the field the material appears to have been levelled across this area and immediately overlies the previous ground surface (Fig ?).

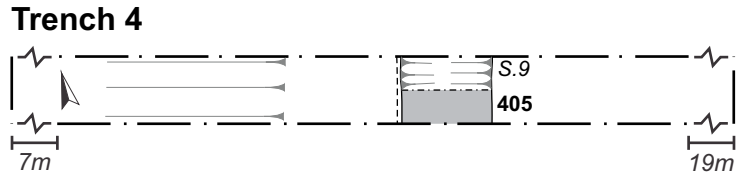
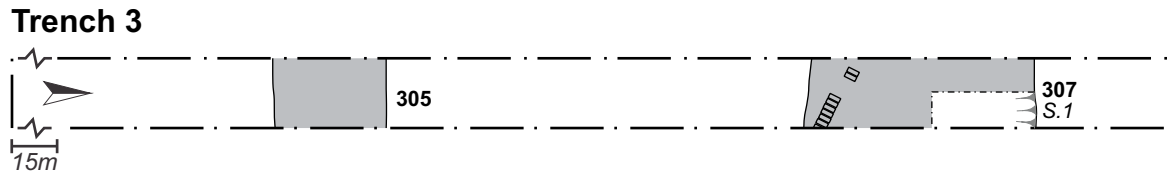
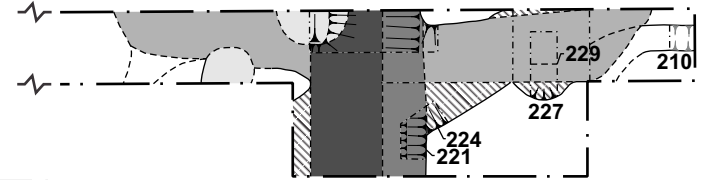
The natural substrate, (705), comprised compact mid orange-brown silty clay. The subsoil, (704), was firm brown-orange silty clay between 0.09 – 0.18m thick. The buried topsoil, (703), was firm mid-dark brown-grey silty clay, approximately 0.08 – 0.15m thick. The deposit of road construction debris, (702), was approximately 0.23 – 0.29m thick and comprised mixed compact mid orange-brown clays and patches of sand. The present topsoil, (701), was friable dark grey-brown silty clay, approximately 0.10 – 0.21m thick.

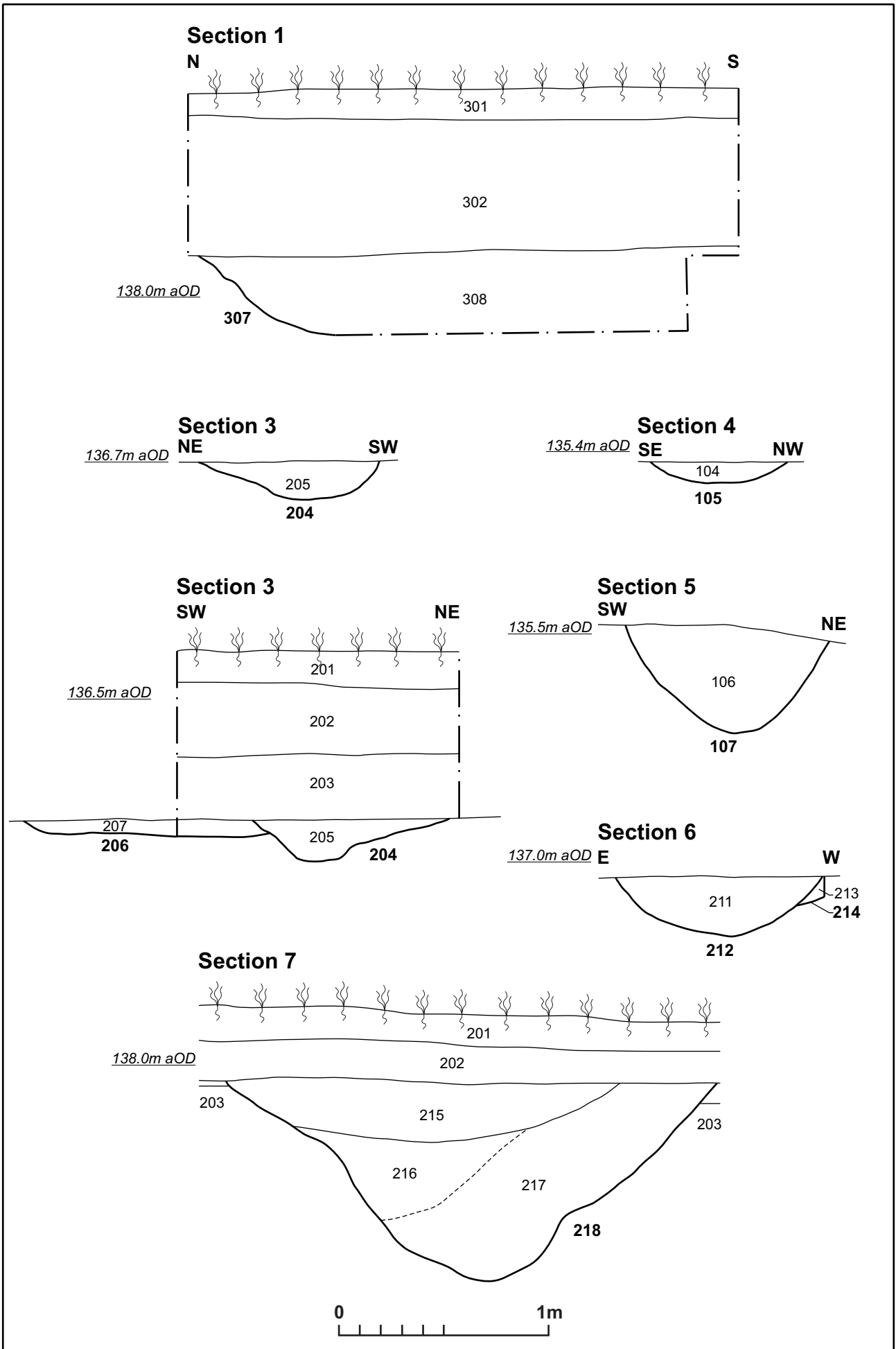


Trench 7 representative section, looking west-north-west Fig 11



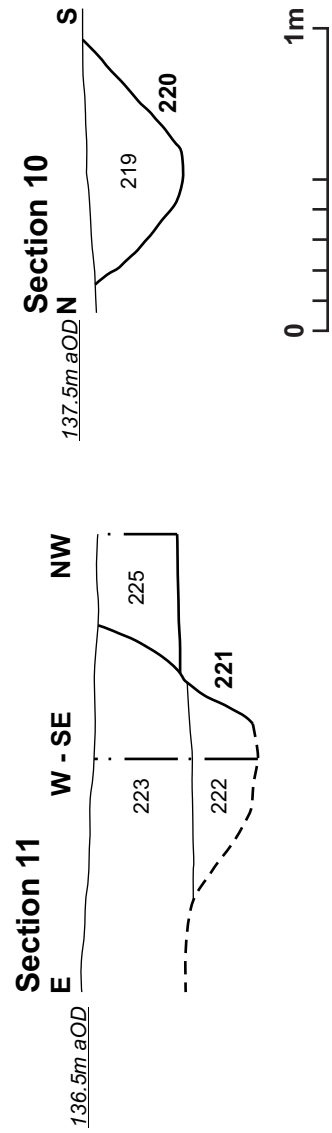
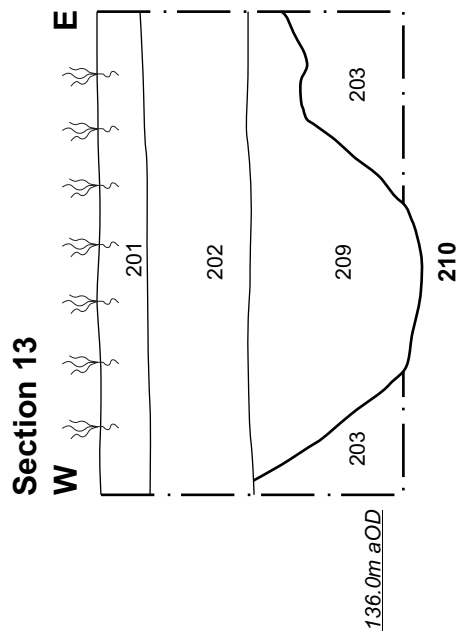
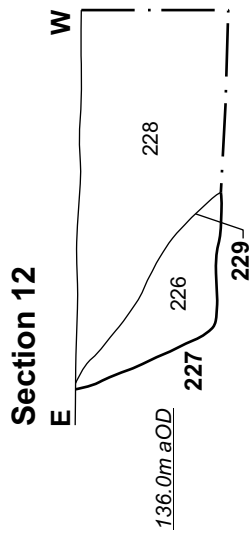
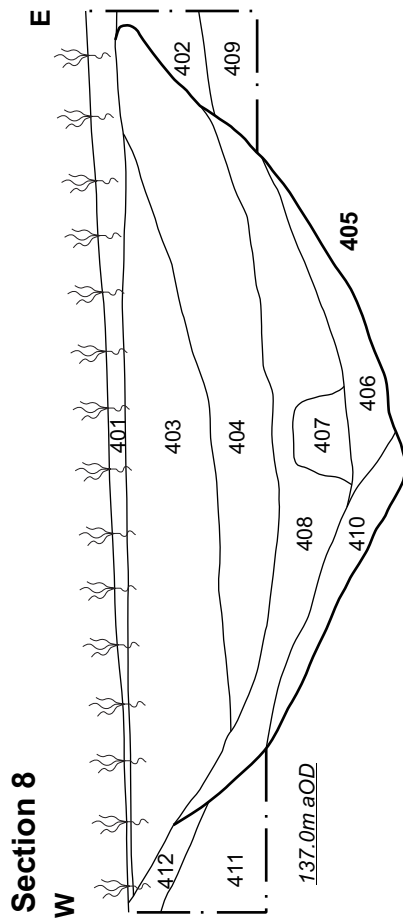
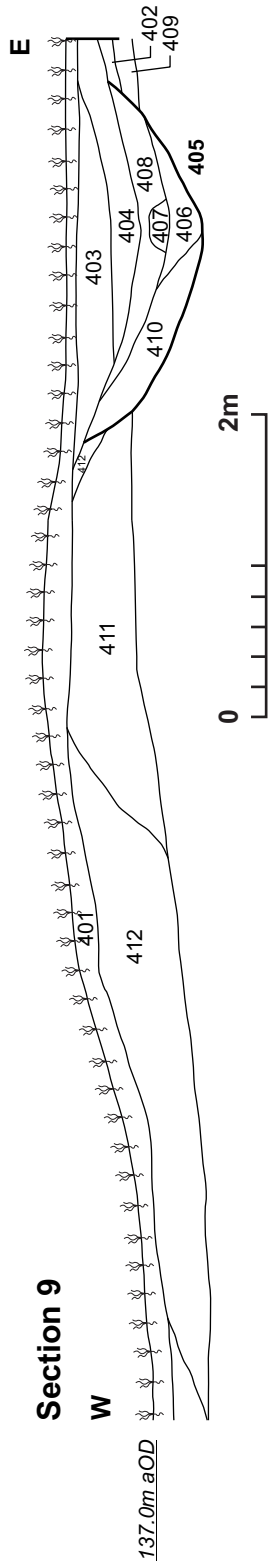
Trench 2 interpretation



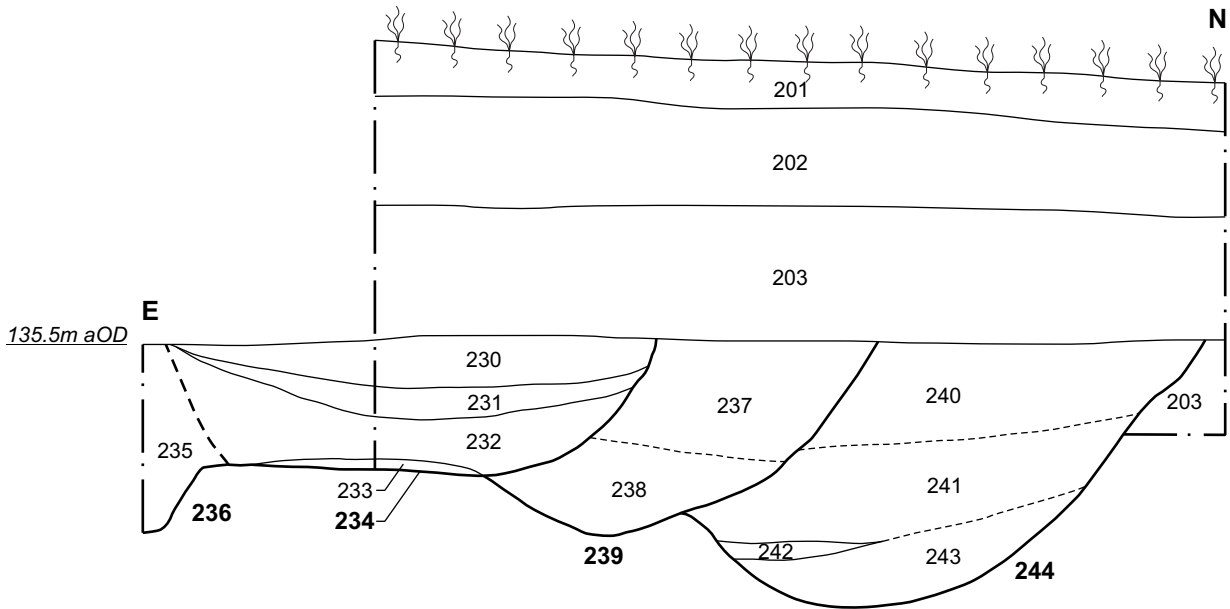


Scale 1:25

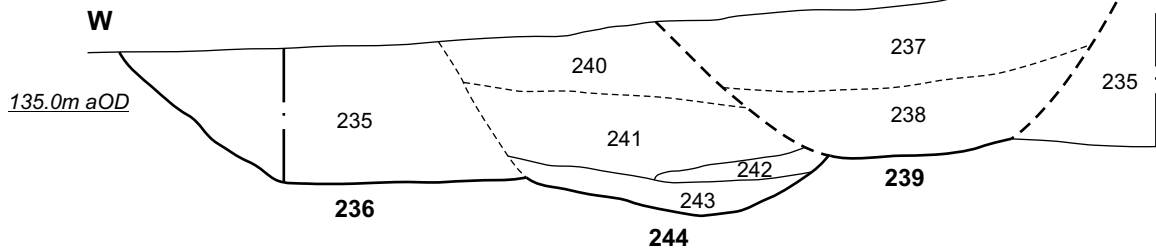
Sections 1-7 Fig 13



Section 14



Section 15



6 THE FINDS

6.1 Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 32 sherds with a total weight of 249g. It was all of early medieval date, other than two small sherds of residual Romano-British material. The post-Roman wares were recorded using the conventions of the Northamptonshire County Ceramic Type-Series (CTS), as follows:

F205: Stamford ware (AD850-1250), 1 sherd, 2g

F330: Shelly Coarseware (AD1100-1400), 27 sherds, 230g

F361: Potters Marston Ware (12th – 14th century), 2 sherds, 12g

F1001: Miscellaneous Romano-British wares, 2 sherds, 5g

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region (eg Blinkhorn 2010), and suggests that post-Roman activity was limited entirely to the 12th-century. Certainly, common 13th – 14th century glazed wares such as the products of the Lyveden and Stanion industries are entirely absent. The assemblage is in good condition, and appears reliably stratified. Most of the sherds from context 237 are from a single vessel, suggesting a primary deposit. The material is all fragments of jars, bowls, and jugs, including a handle from a jug in fabric F330. These are mainly of 12th-century date. The two sherds from context 241 are from the base of a single vessel, and have a very thick, black, burnt residue on the inner surface.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Fabric	F1001		F205		F330		F361		Date
	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	
Context fill / cut									
101 / topsoil	-	-	-	-	6	106	2	12	12th-century
104 /105 gully	-	-	1	2	1	31	-	-	12th-century
215 / 218 ditch	2	5	-	-	3	18	-	-	12th-century
232 / 234 pit	-	-	-	-	5	23	-	-	12th-century
237/ 239 ditch	-	-	-	-	10	46	-	-	12th-century
241 /244 ditch	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	12th-century
Total	2	5	1	2	27	230	2	12	

6.2 Animal bone by Adam Reid

A total of 260g of animal bone was recovered from two different contexts during the course of the evaluation. The single fill of post-medieval boundary ditch [210] provided a total of fourteen fragments including four that could be identified to species (cattle scapula, cattle metatarsal, pig humerus and pig femur). The fragment of pig femur also demonstrated possible signs of butchery in the form of several small cut marks. A single horse tooth was also recovered from the upper fill of boundary ditch [218].

The small assemblage provides only a very limited indication of human-animal interactions at the site but the presence of identifiable bone fragments may indicate the potential for further faunal analysis, should further work take place in the area.

6.3 Charred plant macrofossils and other remains by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from the fills of ditches [227] (sample 1) and [239] (sample 2).

The samples were bulk floated and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 2. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots and seeds were also recorded.

Results

Cereal grains, chaff and seeds of common weeds and wetland plants are present at a moderate to high density within both assemblages. Preservation is generally good, although some grains and seeds are puffed and distorted, probably as a result of exposure to high temperatures during combustion.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded, with wheat being predominant within both assemblages. Of the wheat grains, most are of a rounded hexaploid form and bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes are also recorded. However, occasional elongated 'drop' form grains of possible spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) type are also noted, most particularly within the assemblage from sample 1. Oat grains are relatively common, but in the absence of any diagnostic floret bases, it is impossible to state whether they are of a wild or cultivated variety. Cereal chaff is present at a low density, but most pieces are very abraded and fragmentary. Other potential crop plant remains include a large, angular legume of probable field bean (*Vicia faba*) type and a cotyledon fragment of an indeterminate large pulse (Fabaceae).

Seeds of common segetal weeds and grassland herbs are moderately common within both assemblages. Taxa noted include stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), brome (*Bromus* sp.), fig-leaved goosefoot (*Chenopodium ficifolium*), small legumes (Fabaceae), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), grasses (Poaceae), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). Small sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlets are present within both assemblages and sample 2 includes a possible spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) fruit, but these are the only wetland plant macrofossils recorded. A single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell is recorded from sample 1. Comminuted charcoal/charred wood fragments are present within both assemblages along with pieces of charred root/stem, culm nodes and indeterminate inflorescence fragments.

Other remains are scarce, but small fragments of bone are recorded along with a small number of black porous and tarry residues. The latter are almost certainly derived from the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at extremely high temperatures.

Discussion

Although only two relatively small assemblages are recorded, both contain moderate to high densities of cereal grains and weeds, possibly indicating that both are derived from cereal processing detritus. Which particular stage of processing may be represented is slightly more difficult to ascertain, as although cereals (and most particularly wheat) are abundant, chaff is relatively scarce. However, free threshing

glume bases are dominant within the chaff assemblage and, in addition, many of the weed seeds are small. These two factors may indicate that the remains are largely derived from early stage processing waste, some or all of which may have subsequently been used as fuel.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, both of the recorded assemblages from Kilsby would appear to be derived from dross generated during the initial stages of the processing of batches of wheat. Although other cereals and pulses are also recorded, it is considered most likely that these were contaminants of the main crop, and possibly relicts of earlier cropping regimes. The abundance of wheat within the assemblages is quite common, as a percentage of the grains would have been wasted during every stage of the processing. As processing waste was frequently used as fuel for a variety of purposes, this may explain why some remains display evidence for very high temperatures of combustion.

The composition of the weed assemblages from these samples is of particular note. Firstly, the abundance of seeds from free standing species may suggest that the grain was harvested by cutting low down the stem and close to the ground (cf Stevens 2003). However, it is the abundance of stinking mayweed seeds which is of particular note. This particular plant is most commonly found growing on heavy clay soils which, although well suited to the production of wheat, are very hard to plough. As a result, stinking mayweed seeds are rarely seen within assemblages which pre-date the introduction of the heavy plough during the Romano-British period.

Although both assemblages do contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), it is currently unclear whether the analysis of two samples in isolation would be beneficial to the interpretation of the site. The assemblages are significant, if only as indicators of nearby agricultural activity during the medieval period, but it is suggested that further discussions with the excavators are required before any additional work is undertaken.

Table 2: Charred plant macrofossils and other remains

Sample No.	1	2
Context	228	237
Feature	227	239
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch
Cereals and other potential crop plants		
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)	xx	xx
(awn frags.)	-	x
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	x	x
<i>Hordeum/Secale cereale</i> type (rachis nodes)	x	x
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xxxx	xxx
(glume bases)	x	-
(spikelet bases)	x	-
(rachis node frags.)	x	-
(rachis internode frags.)	x	x
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis nodes)	x	xx
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	xx
(detached sprouts)	x	-
<i>Vicia faba</i> L.	x	-
Large Fabaceae indet.	x	-
Dry land herbs		
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	xx	xx
<i>Bromus</i> sp.	xx	x
<i>Centaurea</i> sp.	x	-
<i>Chenopodium ficifolium</i> Sm.	x	x
Chenopodiaceae indet.	x	x
Fabaceae indet.	x	xx
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.)A.Love	x	x
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	x	-
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> L.	-	x
<i>Malva</i> sp.	-	xcf
<i>Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus</i> sp.	-	xcf
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i> L.	x	-
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	-	x
Small Poaceae indet.	x	xx
Large Poaceae indet.	-	x
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	x	x
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> L.	-	x
<i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus</i>	-	x
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	x	x
<i>R. acetosella</i> L.	-	x
<i>Silene</i> sp.	-	x
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.)Schultz-Bip	x	xcf
<i>Valerianella dentata</i> (L.)Pollich	-	x

Sample No.	1	2
Context	228	237
Feature	227	239
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch
Wetland plants		
<i>Carex</i> sp.	x	x
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp.	-	xcf
Tree/shrub macrofossils		
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x	-
Other plant macrofossils		
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	xx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x
Charred root/stem	x	x
Indet. culm nodes	x	x
Indet, inflorescence frags.	xx	x
Indet seeds	x	x
Other remains		
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	xx
Black tarry material	x	x
Bone	x	x xb
Burnt/fired clay	-	x
Sample volume (litres)	40	40
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens, xx = 11 – 50 specimens, xxx = 51 – 100 specimens

xxxx = 100+ specimens; cf = compare, b = burnt

6.4 Ceramic tile by Pat Chapman

Ten tile sherds, weighing 343g, come from fill (408) of ditch [405]. They are made from coarse orange sandy clay with ironstone inclusions from 2-12mm long.

Two sherds are 15mm thick, each with a small narrow flange, 10mm thick and 12mm high. One sherd is curving slightly down from the flange. There are eight fragments from at least two curved items, 45mm and 75mm in diameter and 10-12mm thick.

These appear to be types of handmade tiles, most likely used for shelters or as wall protectors, and are early 18th to early 19th century in date.

A tiny fragment of fired clay, weighing 1g, comes from fill (216) ditch [218].

6.5 Metalworking debris by Andy Chapman

From the fill (237) of ditch [239] there is a single small fragment, weighing 10g, of undiagnostic ferrous slag.

6.6 Other finds by Tora Hylton

The finds recovered include an iron object, two glass stoppers and two clay tobacco-pipe stems. Chronologically the earliest object is an undiagnostic amorphous fragment of iron; it was recovered from the fill of ditch (239), together with a small assemblage of 12th-century pottery.

The remaining finds were recovered from the fill of a ditch present as an extant earthwork, [408]. Two abraded pipe stem fragments join together to form a stem measuring c 64mm in length. The bore of the stem measures 4/64's of an inch suggesting a late 18th/19th century date. Two complete moulded glass bottle stoppers, comprising a finial and shank were also recovered. The stoppers are identical, with a flat circular top (finial) and a tapered circular-sectioned shank. Originally a cork sheath would have been placed around the shank to create a tight seal. Typologically stoppers of this type are known as 'club sauce type stoppers', and as the name suggests they were generally used for sauce bottles. Often the upper surface of the stopper would have been embossed with the brand name of the contents, but these examples are plain, suggesting that they may have been used with bottles containing other substances.

7 DISCUSSION

The results of the trial trench evaluation confirmed that, as indicated in the geophysical data, much of the eastern and southern parts of the field were covered with a deposit of clay, sand and other waste material from the construction of the M45 motorway, which lies immediately to the south of the site. Generally this has had little impact on any archaeological features as in parts it appears as if the material was dumped directly onto the topsoil. Some disturbance was present in the south-west corner where features identified as possible earthworks in the topographic survey seem more likely to be either natural features in the landscape or further disturbance associated with the road construction.

In the northern and north-eastern parts of the field there is much less disturbance to the ground level though some soil does appear to have been imported to raise the ground level in the north-eastern corner. Additionally a thick layer of colluvium was present in this part of the field.

A series of linear ditches and some pits were present in the central northern part of the field, the majority of which have been dated to the 12th-century AD based on ceramic evidence. Samples taken from two of these ditches indicated that preservation of charred plant macrofossils and other environmental remains was good with most of the remains deriving from cereal processing waste. Due to the density of archaeology remains in this area it was not possible to fully establish the stratigraphic sequence without opening a larger area.

The majority of the observed archaeological features appear to be linear and arranged on an axis aligned approximately east to west and may be medieval plot boundaries and/or enclosures. Some features in the northern and north-eastern parts of the field are on other alignments and may relate to earlier phases of activity though still broadly dated to the 12th-century AD.

Bank and ditch earthworks identified during the topographic survey were dated to the post-medieval period from material recovered from the fill of the ditch, though the construction of these features may pre-date this period. The alignment of the earthworks is broadly comparable with the earlier, medieval remains to the north. The earthworks appear to be part of an enclosure, the majority of which has been levelled/filled in.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Blinkhorn, P, 2010 The Saxon and medieval pottery, in A Chapman *West Cotton, Raunds. A study of medieval settlement dynamics: AD450-1450. Excavation of a deserted medieval hamlet in Northamptonshire, 1985-89* Oxbow, Oxford, 259-333

DCLG 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department of Communities and Local Government

EH 2006 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide*, English Heritage

IfA 2008 *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists

Knight, D, Vyner, B, and Allen, C, 2012 *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, Nottingham Archaeological Monographs, 6, York Archaeological Trust

MOLA 2014 *Archaeological Fieldwork Manual*, MOLA Northampton

MOLA 2014 *Written Scheme of Investigation for Trial Trench Evaluation on land off Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire*, MOLA Northampton

Stace, C, 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*, 2nd edition: Cambridge University Press

Stevens, C J, 2003 An Investigation of Agricultural Consumption and Production Models for Prehistoric and Roman Britain, *Environmental Archaeology*, 8, 1, 61 – 76

Walford, J, 2014 *An archaeological geophysical survey of land at Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire*, MOLA Northampton report, 14/114

Walker, C, 2013 *Archaeological desk-based heritage assessment of land at Daventry Road, Kilsby, Northamptonshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeology report, 13/240

WEBSITES

<http://bgs.ac.uk/> (accessed 15th November 2014)

MOLA
25 April 2014

APPENDIX: CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, NNE end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
1	NNE-SSW 1.6m x 40m		136.13m	0.60 – 0.75m 135.53 – 135.38m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Context type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Artefacts/Samples</i>
101	Topsoil	Soft-friable dark grey sandy silt-clay with occasional small stones, water content high.	0.40 – 0.55m thick	-
102	Subsoil	Soft-friable mid brown-yellow silty sand with occasional small stones throughout.	0.20 – 0.25m thick	-
103	Natural	Compact mid-light yellow-grey sandy clay with moderate amount of small stones throughout.	-	-
104	Fill of [105]	Friable mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded stones throughout.	0.65m wide and 0.10m deep	Pottery
105	Gully	Linear gully aligned north-east to south-west. Shallow U-shaped profile and concave base.	0.65m wide and 0.10m deep	-
106	Fill of [107]	Friable mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded stones throughout.	0.98m wide and 0.52m deep	-
107	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-east to south-west with steep-sided U-shaped profile and concave base.	0.98m wide and 0.52m deep	-



Trench 1, general view, looking south-south-west Fig 16

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, SSW end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
2	NNE-SSW 1.6m x 40m		138.47m	0.43 – 1.15m 138.03 – 137.32m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
201	Topsoil	Friable-loose dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small stones throughout.	0.10 – 0.20m thick	-
202	Subsoil	Friable mid brown-orange silty sand/clay.	0.15 – 0.30m thick	-
203	Colluvium	Firm mid brown sandy clay/silt with occasional small stones throughout.	0.18 – 0.65m thick	-
204	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned approximately east to west with irregular shallow U-shaped profile and concave base.	0.95m wide and 0.20m deep	-
205	Fill of [204]	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay.	0.95m wide and 0.20m deep	-
206	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-east to south-west with steep sided but shallow U-shaped profile and flat base.	1.10m wide and 0.07m deep	-
207	Fill of [206]	Firm light brown-grey silty clay.	1.10m wide and 0.07m deep	-
208	Natural	Compact mid brown-orange clay with areas of red sandy clay toward southern end. Occasional small stones throughout.	-	-
209	Fill of [210]	Friable dark grey-black silty clay with occasional small rounded pebbles throughout.	1.30m wide and 0.56m deep.	Animal bone
210	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-south. Wide U-shaped profile and concave base. Recorded in trench section only exists higher than the medieval archaeological horizon.	1.30m wide and 0.56m deep.	-
211	Fill of [212]	Compact mid grey with orange mottling, silty clay and occasional small angular fragments of sandstone.	0.99m wide and 0.28m deep	-
212	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north to south with wide U-shaped profile and concave base.	0.99m wide and 0.28m deep	-
213	Fill of [214]	Compact mid grey-brown silty clay.	0.10m of width visible and 0.11m deep	-

KILSBY, DAVENTRY ROAD

214	Ditch	Possible terminal of north-south aligned ditch, heavily truncated, profile not clear.	0.10m of width visible and 0.11m deep	-
215	Fill of [218]	Firm – friable mid brown silty clay with rare sub-rounded small stones throughout.	1.87m wide and 0.29m thick	Pottery and animal bone
216	Fill of [218]	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay with rare rounded stones throughout.	1.12m wide and 0.38m thick	Pottery
217	Fill of [218]	Firm mid brown-red-pink clay with rare small rounded stones throughout.	1.60m wide and 0.64m thick	-
218	Ditch	Large linear ditch aligned roughly east to west. Wide U-shaped profile and concave base.	2.35m wide and 0.94m deep	-
219	Fill of [220]	Compact mid brown-grey silty clay with occasional small angular stones throughout.	0.81m wide and 0.32m deep	-
220	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned east to west with splayed U-shaped profile and concave base.	0.81m wide and 0.32m deep	-
221	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned east to west with irregular U-shaped profile. Base not reached.	0.45m of width visible in section and 0.55m of depth visible.	-
222	Fill of [221]	Friable mid yellow-grey sandy silt with moderate sized flint and rounded stones throughout.	0.45m of width visible in section, 0.22m thick	-
223	Fill of [221]	Firm dark yellow-grey silty clay with occasional small-mid-sized rounded flint pebbles and rare charcoal flecks throughout.	0.45m of width visible in section, 0.33m thick	-
224	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-west to south-east. Full profile not visible in section.	0.50m of width visible in section, 0.26m deep	-
225	Fill of [224]	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay.	0.50m of width visible in section, 0.26m deep	-
226	Fill of [227]	Compact dark grey silty clay with occasional small angular stones throughout.	0.45m of width visible in section, 0.44m deep	-
227	Pit	Semi-circular remaining part of truncated pit with steep sides and flat base.	0.45m of width visible in section, 0.44m deep	-
228	Fill of [229]	Compact dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional small angular stones throughout.	1.24m of width excavated, 0.47m of depth excavated.	Pottery

KILSBY, DAVENTRY ROAD

229	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-south with wide U-shaped profile. Full profile not excavated.	1.24m of width excavated, 0.47m of depth excavated.	-
230	Fill of [234]	Firm-friable mid grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones throughout.	0.95m of width excavated, 0.18m thick.	-
231	Fill of [234]	Firm mid grey-yellow silty clay.	0.90m of width excavated, 0.10m thick	-
232	Fill of [234]	Firm dark grey silty clay with rare small sub-rounded stones throughout.	0.86m of width excavated, 0.18m thick	Pottery
233	Fill of [234]	Friable dark grey-black silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks throughout.	0.36m of width excavated, 0.04m thick	-
234	Pit	Unclear in plan. Probably a large sub-circular pit with U-shaped profile and flat base.	0.95m of width excavated, 0.45m deep	-
235	Fill of [236]	Firm-friable dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones throughout.	0.26m of width excavated, 0.62m deep	-
236	Ditch	Not clear in plan. Possible linear ditch with steep sided V-shaped profile and concave base.	0.26m of width excavated, 0.62m deep	-
237	Fill of [239]	Firm dark grey silty clay with rare small rounded stone inclusions.	1.60m wide and 0.38m thick	Pottery
238	Fill of [239]	Firm dark grey-brown silty clay.	1.16m wide and 0.20m thick	-
239	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned approximately east to west with wide U-shaped profile and concave base.	1.60m wide and 0.58m deep	-
240	Fill of [244]	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions throughout.	1.10m wide and 0.21m thick	-
241	Fill of [244]	Firm-friable mid brown silty clay with rare small stone inclusions throughout.	1.14m wide and 0.32m thick	Pottery
242	Fill of [244]	Friable dark brown-black silty clay.	0.50m wide and 0.06m thick	-
243	Fill of [244]	Firm-friable mid brown-grey silty clay with occasional small stone inclusions throughout.	1.15m wide and 0.21m thick	-
244	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned east to west with a wide U-shaped profile and concave base.	1.27m wide and 0.87m deep	-



Trench 2, general view, looking north-west Fig 17

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, NNE end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
3	NNE-SSW 1.6 x 40m		138.97m	0.80 – 0.95m 138.17 – 138.02m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
301	Topsoil	Friable dark grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small stones throughout.	0.10 – 0.20m thick	-
302	Subsoil	Friable mid brown-orange silty sand with occasional small stones throughout.	0.10 – 0.15m thick	-
303	Natural	Compact mid-light orange-brown sandy clay with patches of clay and moderate amount of small stones throughout.	-	-
304	Overburden	Variable dark grey-brown sandy silt-clay with occasional small stones and patches of sand and clay throughout.	0.60m thick	-
305	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned east to west. Unexcavated due to depth of overburden.	2.50m wide	-
306	Fill of [305]	Compact mid brown-grey silty clay small fragments of brick/CBM noted but not retained.	2.50m wide	-
307	Ditch	Wide linear ditch aligned east to west. Gently sloping edges. Not fully excavated due to depth of overburden.	Aprox. 5m wide, 0.37m of depth excavated	-
308	Fill of [307]	Compact mid brown-grey silty clay with frequent rounded pebbles throughout.	Aprox. 5m wide, 0.37m of depth excavated	-



Trench 3, general view, looking south-south-west Fig 18

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, WNW end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
4	WNW-ESE 1.6 x 40m		136.94m	0.17 – 0.31m 136.77 – 136.63m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Context type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Artefacts/Samples</i>
401	Topsoil	Friable dark grey-brown silty clay.	0.12 – 0.16m thick	-
402	Subsoil	Friable mid grey-brown clay-silt.	0.05 – 0.15m thick	-
403	Fill of [405]	Compact mid brown-orange sandy clay with frequent stone/rubble.	2.50m wide and 0.33m thick	-
404	Fill of [405]	Compact light blue-grey clay with rare small rounded stones throughout.	2.35m wide and 0.30m thick	-
405	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-south with wide U-shaped profile and concave base.	2.50m wide and 0.92m deep	-
406	Fill of [405]	Firm mid grey-brown clay-silt.	1.10m wide and 0.14m thick	-
407	Fill of [405]	Firm mid brown-orange silty clay.	0.30m wide and 0.19m thick	Clay pipe, brick/tile and glass

KILSBY, DAVENTRY ROAD

408	Fill of [405]	Friable dark brown-grey silty clay.	2.40m wide and 0.14m thick	-
409	Natural	Compact mid brown-orange silty clay with frequent angular stone throughout. Occasional patches of red-pink clay.	0.05 – 0.06m visible	-
410	Fill of [405]	Firm mid grey-yellow sandy clay.	1.15m wide and 0.13m thick	-
411	Bank deposit	Firm-friable mid orange brown silty clay. Core of bank material.	2.95m wide and 0.54m thick	-
412	Bank deposit	Firm-friable mid brown-orange silty clay. Washed-out bank material.	4.60m wide and 0.58m thick	-



Trench 4, general view, looking east-south-east Fig 19

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, ESE end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
5	WNW-ESE 1.6 x 40m		143.19m	0.33 – 1.31m 142.86 – 141.88m
<i>Context</i>	<i>Context type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Artefacts/Samples</i>
501	Topsoil	Friable dark grey-brown silty clay.	0.10 – 0.14m thick	-
502	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow-brown silty clay with frequent rounded cobbles throughout.	0.11 – 0.17m thick	-
503	Natural	Compact mid orange-brown silty clay.	-	-
504	Overburden	Mixture of rubble, orange gravels and compact mid grey-brown clays. Only present in eastern half of the trench.	0.12 – 1.00m thick	-



Trench 5, general view, looking west-north-west Fig 20

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, NE end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
6	NE-SW 1.6 x 40m		140.51m	0.18 – 0.38m 140.33 – 140.13m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
601	Topsoil	Friable mid grey-brown silty loam with occasional small stone inclusions.	0.08 – 0.20m thick	-
602	Subsoil	Compact mid orange-brown clay-loam. Intermittent throughout trench.	0.10 – 0.18m thick	-
603	Natural	Compact mid orange-brown clay.	-	-



Trench 6, general view, looking north-east Fig 21

Trench No.	Length, width & alignment		Surface height, NNE end (aOD)	Depth & height of natural (aOD)
7	NNE-SSW 1.6 x 40m		144.45m	0.50 – 0.83m 143.95 – 143.62m
Context	Context type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/Samples
701	Topsoil	Friable dark grey-brown silty clay.	0.10 – 0.21m thick	-
702	Overburden	Compact mid orange-brown silty clay with patches of sand, concrete crush and other construction debris.	0.23 – 0.29m thick	-
703	Buried topsoil	Firm mid brown-grey silty clay loam.	0.08 – 0.15m thick	-
704	Subsoil	Firm light grey-brown silty clay with orange mottling.	0.09 – 0.18m thick	-
705	Natural	Compact mid orange-brown clay.	0.10m visible	-



Trench 7, general view, looking north-north-east Fig 22



MOLA
Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Northampton
NN4 8BN
01604 700 493
www.mola.org.uk
business@mola.org.uk