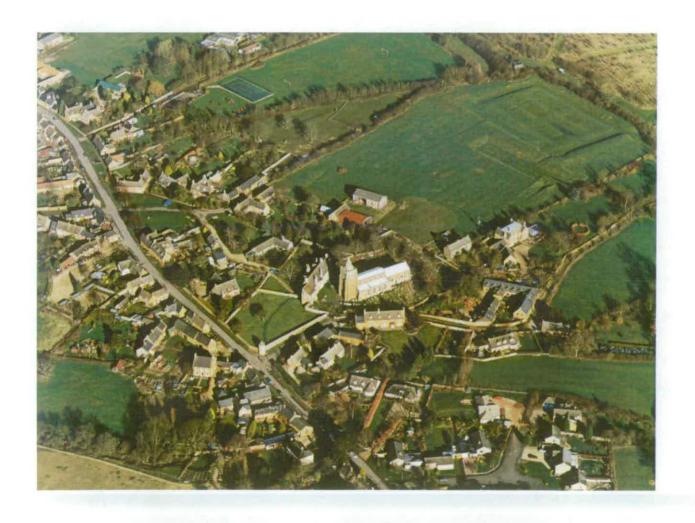
LYDDINGTON BEDE HOUSE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD INVESTIGATION
INTERNAL REPORT
v1.0

Magnus Alexander



CONTENTS

Introduction	
Aims and Objectives	I
Methodology	1
Location and topography	
Geology and soils	2
Acknowledgements	2
Previous research	<u>,</u> 3
The origins of Lyddington	4
Prehistoric and Romano-British	4
Anglo-Saxon	4
A manorial caput	4
The settlement pattern	6
Norman Lyddington	6
The Norman enclosure	7
The settlement pattern	10
The 13th and 14th centuries	10
The medieval precinct:	10
Boundaries	10
Entrances and internal layout	11
The settlement pattern	13
The village layout	13
The road system	13
Post-medieval development	14
The medieval core	15
The wider landscape	17
The Little Park	17
The Great Park	19
The fishponds	19
The main complex	19
The jack pond	21
Another pond?	22
Conclusions	23
References	27
Published sources	
Aerial Photographs	
Appendix:	

INTRODUCTION

Lyddington Bede House (SP 8766 7149) is an English Heritage property within the village of Lyddington, Rutland, about 3km south of Uppingham. It and the surrounding area is a scheduled monument 17156, comprising an early 17th century almshouse situated within the remains of one of the Bishops of Lincoln's medieval palaces. Also associated with the site are an impressive set of medieval fishponds.

During 2009-2010 Properties Presentation Department developed an Interpretation Plan in advance of a re-presentation of Lyddington Bede House planned for the financial year 2010-11. This included a historical report by Chris Thomton, and the Cambridge Archaeological Survey and Investigation team was asked to provide an assessment of the site's development and that of its immediate surroundings, including the village. The research was carried out in spring 2009.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of this project was to provide an assessment of the site's development and that of its immediate surroundings in order to inform the future re-presentation of the site in 2010-11.

The key questions that were identified are detailed in the Appendix.

Methodology

This report presents the results of a field-based investigation of the landscape context of Lyddington Bede house. It focuses on the area defined by Chapel Lane to the north, Church Lane to the South, Main Street to the west and the Lydd to the east, as well as making a broader assessment of the village. It comprises a Level 2 survey of the core study area (EH 2007) with discussion of the wider context as appropriate.

Location and topography

Lyddington is a large parish of about 860 hectares mainly encompassing the valley of a minor tributary of the River Welland. This drains south south-west from a high plateau in the north at over 145m OD down to the Welland Valley at about 45m OD opening out as it drops. The western parish boundary between Lyddington and Stoke Dry generally runs along a well defined ridge currently followed by the A6003 and the main slopes in the parish drop down from this ridge and the plateau to the north. The topography is generally more open to the east though there are two hills (Prestley Hill and Bee Hill) that serve to partially define the boundary here. To the south the landscape opens out into the Welland Valley.

The core of Lyddington, from The Green to St Andrew's church, occupies a unique position within the valley. It consists of a small but well defined north-west to south-east spur with land dropping away on three sides. The church and the Bede House occupy the end of this spur and when viewed from the south can clearly be seen to sit well above the valley floor.

This spur is defined to the north and south by streams running in two shallow valleys and it was probably erosion by these streams that created the spur. The part of the spur that the Bede House and church sit upon is separated from the valley side by another shallow valley. This was probably man made, created by traffic erosion along Main Street; in effect it is a hollow way, albeit an open one. The drop down from the area of the Bede House to Main Street

probably post-dates this route way, its width would indicate that it is of some antiquity, perhaps dating back to the Romano-British period (below).

Geology and soils

The underlying geology for most of the village, from just south of Church Lane northwards, including the spur which the Bede House and church sit upon, is clay. This overlies silt and silty clay seen at the surface to the south of this. Along the Lydd, from about 200m south of the church, the surface geology is clay with occasional (Jurassic) limestone bands (BGS 1978). The overlying layers would appear to be relatively thin as the Woodfields' excavated section (see below, held by R Canadine) records 'Natural rock' at the base, presumably limestone.

Within the Lydd Valley the soils are derived from Jurassic and Cretaceous clay and are generally slowly permeable with only seasonal water logging. To the west, on the higher ground, the soils are derived from drift deposits overlying the clays. These are loamier with less seasonal water logging (SSEW 1983).

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Chris Thornton for access to his detailed historical report and to Rosemary Canadine for access to much useful material.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Several historical articles have been published on the Bede House (see Thornton 2009).

The first known archaeological research on the site took place in the 1970s when Charmian and Paul Woodfield undertook excavations on the line of various drainage trenches between 1976 and 1980 (see Figure ??) and also surveyed the fishponds in 1978 (Woodfield and Woodfield 1983). This work also informed the current guide book to the property (Woodfield and Woodfield 1988).

In 1983, the Central Excavation Unit (CEU) under P Pikes undertook excavations in four areas to the north-west of the Bede House in advance of the construction of a bungalow. A fifth area was excavated in 1985. The physical archive was deposited at the Rutland Museum in the late 1990s (Brian Kerr pers comm). The results were never published but several draft sections by Pikes are in the archive at Rutland Museum (Pikes 1988). Members of Central Archaeology Service (CAS) drafted several other reports on the archive material prior to its deposition, the most useful of which is an anonymous summary report written in 1996. Many of these are available from English Heritage, Fort Cumberland.

The Woodfields undertook another excavation in 1989 within the walled garden that consisted of two trenches against the south wall. Again this has not been published but some parts of the archive are held by R Canadine.

In 1990, a well was exposed and at least partially excavated. The evidence for this is a list of finds from the well supplied by Gareth Hughes (unknown source) and some material held by R Canadine. Nothing appears to have been published and the location is unknown. Though a well is mentioned in CEU area 5 (Anon 1996, 14) it is not clear if this was the same well and the work in this area was also poorly located.

A geophysical survey was carried out by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory (AML) in 1991 (Linford 1991). The results were generally disappointing, mainly due to the depth of deposits, with nothing identified that could be related to any known archaeology.

More recently, Rosemary Canadine examined the bishop's palace at Lyddington as part of an MA thesis in 2003 (Canadine 2003). In 2004 a watching brief was undertaken within the scheduled area but only unstratified material was recovered (Hunt 2004). Dr Chris Thornton has prepared a historical report for the current research for the representation of the Bede House (Thornton 2009).

In summary, very little of the recent archaeological work undertaken at Lyddington has been published and most material exists in relatively inaccessible archives in Rutland Museum. R Canadine also holds original archive material.

THE ORIGINS OF LYDDINGTON

Prehistoric and Romano-British

Relatively little material is known from the Lyddington area of pre-medieval date, none of which definitely demonstrates occupation.

About 1.5km to the north of Lyddington church, near the road to Uppingham a flint core and trimming flake of Mesolithic or Neolithic date has been recorded (Rutland HER MLE7646, SP 871 983). Near this a Neolithic flint knife was also noted (MLE7307, SP 871 983).

About 1.5km to the south of the church a crop mark of a ring-ditch, possibly from a Bronze Age round barrow, has been recorded (MLE5484, SP 878 953).

Not far from this, Romano-British Colour-Coated and Grey Ware pottery has been recovered (MLE8103 SP 875 951). This may be this site as the NMR record for Romano-British pottery recovered during field walking in the same area (NMR SP 89 NE 105). Little information was available but this might suggest manuring of fields close to a settlement site, or possibly the ploughed-out remains of a settlement itself.

Romano-British pottery and slag was recovered during pipeline works about 1.5km to the NNE of the church (NMR SP 89 NE 106, SP 884 985). The presence of slag clearly suggests metal working in the vicinity which in turn implies at least seasonal occupation.

A hoard of coins, mostly gold, was recovered by quarrymen just over 1km WSW of Lyddington church in the 1860s. Though this was not dated, the later Romano-British period might be one possible context for its deposition.

Closer to the Bede House a fragment of a Late Iron Age or early Romano-British grog tempered cup was found close to the junction of Windmill Way and Main street just to the south of the church (MLE6538, SP 8761 9684). Also, a significant amount of Romano-British material has apparently been recovered by a local metal-detectorist, from the field directly to the north of the point where the road turns sharply to the east at the north end of the village (SP 871 976, R Canadine pers comm).

In summary, there is evidence for prehistoric activity in the area but nothing would appear to suggest settlement prior to the Romano-British period and even this is very limited. The topographic position of the Bede House, on a small lowland spur within a valley, would be favourable for early settlement, but it may be that its evidence has been removed by continuous occupation.

Anglo-Saxon

Summarised on Figure 16

A manorial caput

The evidence suggests that there was a late Anglo-Saxon thegaly residence in the immediate vicinity of the Bede House, the caput of a multiple estate. It is also likely that there was also a church in the immediate vicinity, presumably on, or very near, the site of the current church.

Lyddington probably formed part of an Anglo-Saxon estate suggested by Bourne to also include Caldecott and Stoke Dry (in Thornton 2009, 12, fig 2A). It could also have included

Thorpe-by-Water, whose residents attended church at Lyddington (as suggested by Thornton (ibid)). That it was later a part of Seaton does not mean that it was not part of a different unit at an earlier date. The only references to Thorpe in Domesday Book are under the entries for Barrowden (Thorn 1980, EN2) and Seaton (ibid, EN20). Both refer to holdings in Thorpe which may indicate that overall the holding was a part of another entry. It was very unlikely to have been a part of Seaton at this time since the reference within that entry is only to a single socman (freeman) in Thorpe. Large multiple-estates of this form have been dated elsewhere to the middle Saxon period, the 8th or 9th centuries, or even earlier (Faith 1997, 11-14; Muir 2004, 183-4). They began to break up in the later Anglo-Saxon period but within the Danelaw, of which Rutland was a part, they appear to have persisted for longer, but still much fragmented by the Conquest (Faith 1997, 122-3, 155)

The earliest excavated material on the site consisted of 'much decayed fragments of timber planking' lying on a land surface that predated a mound thought to have been constructed soon after the conquest (Pikes 1988, 17, 11, 14-15). This raises the possibility of late Anglo-Saxon buildings on the site, perhaps the remains of a pre-cursor to the Norman works.

At the Bishops of Lincoln's palace at Nettleham there is evidence of precursor structures from the garden to the west of the main medieval buildings, perhaps dated by Saxo-Norman pottery, and Anglo-Saxon pottery and loom weights were also recovered suggesting an even longer period of settlement continuity (Everson et al 1991, 130).

Pikes suggests that the Norman works (below) may have been a form of ring-work (Pikes 1988, 15). If so then this may conform to a pattern whereby 'incoming Norman lords actively chose to build their castles in places that were already of some importance, rather than what we might think of as the best 'tactical' location' (Liddiard 2005, 29). Liddiard has also noted that 'where a castle lies next to a church it is highly likely that this signifies an incoming Norman lord raising his castle over an existing burh or thegnly residence' (ibid, 30). Though not a castle, the Norman enclosure at Lyddington may represent a small-scale and local equivalent, constructed by a minor noble rather than one of the lords of the land.

The first church at Lyddington was probably also early, originating within the framework of the Anglo-Saxon multiple-estate. The church at Caldecott is a daughter church of Lyddington and, as already noted, the residents of Thorpe-by-Water attended the church at Lyddington. Lyddington must therefore have originated before Caldecott's church and before Thorpe became a part of Seaton. The earliest surviving fabric in St John the Evangelist, Caldecott is early 12th century (Page 1935, 179-182) and a small Norman window has been identifed (Pevsner 1984, 461). Thorpe was probably not part of Seaton at the time of Domesday Book (above) but Simon de St Liz, who was granted Seaton in 1235, also dealt with lands and the mill of Thorpe suggesting that the two had been unified by this time (Page 1935, 213-221).

This church was probably located adjacent to the manorial enclosure: 'typically, the church was peripheral to the manor-house, and in a number of cases can be shown to have been built on, or just outside, the bank or ditch enclosing the curial site' (Blair 2005, 388). At Raunds, Northamptonshire, a small 10th century church was placed immediately adjacent to the manorial enclosure. By the early 11th century the manorial enclosure had gone out of use and a churchyard had been established that overlay the earlier enclosure (Blair 2005, 288, fig 45).

The settlement pattern

As well as the manorial caput and its associated church there was probably a nucleated settlement at Lyddington by the later Anglo-Saxon period. There are the remains of extensive ridge and furrow in the parish which was organised into three large fields to the north-west, west, and south of the village (Thornton 2009, 57). Such an arrangement would typically be associated with a nucleated settlement and the medieval village with its manor house and church, surrounded by open fields was a common feature of the medieval landscape of the region (Hall 1995). This pattern probably had its origins in the middle Anglo-Saxon period. 'there seems [.] to be fairly general evidence that land holding in strips dates from the eight or ninth century in the Midland region. It may have occurred as part of major concentration of settlement to fewer sites and abandonment of some smaller ones, so forming the sites, if not the actual structure of the later medieval vills' (Hall 1995, 138). Hall notes that on the clays of Northamptonshire, immediately to the south, 'Saxon remains are located under and within the 'modern' settlement [...] probably because exposures of good soils were limited and the medieval vill continued the exact site of the Saxon settlement'.

There is evidence for occupation during the Anglo-Saxon period from the area to the south of 57-9 Main Street, to the west of the road. Here 'a 10th to 12th century occupation layer was observed along the street frontage area' (Hyam 2008, I). This was thought to be 'evidence for an early episode of use probably starting in the late 10^{th} century' and that the features seen could have been the remains of 'timber structures fronting onto the street' (ibid, 8-9). The roadway itself was not seen, so it is somewhat speculative, but it is possible that this may date Main Street to as early as the 10^{th} century. This is somewhat later than the dates proposed by Hall for the origin of strip fields, and their associated nucleated settlements, and may suggest that this occupation represents expansion on the margins of the main Anglo-Saxon settlement, the core of which may have been to the south, closer to the caput and on the same spur of land.

To the south of the church some Stamford Ware pottery has been recovered from Windmill Way, apparently from close to it's junction with Main Street (Rutland HER MLE6987). Stamford Ware was made at several different sites in Stamford, Lincolnshire between 850 and 1150AD (Lewis 2004-5) and so this might also suggest later Saxon activity on Main Street, to the south of the possible core.

NORMAN LYDDINGTON

At the time of the Conquest Lyddington was held by Bardi 'with full jurisdiction' so apparently a lord in his own right. The estate at this time included Stoke Dry, Caldecot and Snelston, thought to be the deserted settlement to the north of Caldecot shown on Speeds map of 1610 (Thorn 1980 note EN7), and was a part of Northamptonshire. The estate probably came into the hands of the Bishops of Lincoln in about 1070 (Thornton 2009, 13) and by the time of Domesday Book (about 1086) the estate was held by Walter from the Bishop of Lincoln, as a feudal tenant presumably meeting the bishop's knight fee (Thorn 1980, EN7). The 2 hide assessment for this large estate would appear to have been favourable which was not unusual for ecclesiastical lords.

The Norman enclosure

The main excavation evidence is summarized in Figure 15. The Anglo-Saxon and Norman elements discussed are shown on Figure 16.

There appears to have been a Norman enclosure on the site of the later bishops palace though direct evidence for it is limited to its south and west sides. It apparently consisted of a ditch dated to the 11th or 12th century (referred to as a moat by the excavators), it was at least 6m wide, with an internal bank at least 0.9m high, that may have formed an enclosure about 100m across (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983, 3; Pikes 1988, 11-12; Thornton 2009, fig 4A 1).

A substantial ditch was apparently first seen in 1976 in a small trench (about 2m x 3m) in the south-east corner of the walled garden (shown in plan on a drawing by the Woodfields and held by R Canadine). It apparently ran roughly WSW/ENE here but only a very small section was seen, including the bottom of the northem (inner) ditch face. A larger section of what was probably the same feature was seen some way to the west in the Woodfields' 1989 Trench 2 (roughly 5.8m x 1.5m in size). This appeared to confirm the orientation of this feature and suggested a minimum width of about 7m but neither the inner nor the outer top was seen. The Woodfields suggested a width for the moat of 13.3m (shown on plan held by R Canadine), but this clearly needs to be treated with caution as the edges of the feature were not seen. In particular, due to falling land, it is difficult to see how the 'moat' could have extended as far south as they show. The plan and section of the Woodfields' 1989 excavation (held by R Canadine) is labelled '12th century moat silts up through 13th century' and this was overlain by a layer of '14th century clay levelling (landscaping)' that abutted a 14th century wall constructed over the moat and on a different alignment to it running more south-west/north-east.

The geophysical survey of 1991 revealed a low resistance area running NNW/SSE across the garden which was suggested, very tentatively, as a possible continuation of the moat (Linford 1991). This seems unlikely as if this were the case then the comer should have been seen within Woodfields' 1989 Trench 2.

It is possible that the enclosure ditch was seen again west of CEU area 4, excavated in 1983, where there appears to have been some unrecorded excavation. The known trench measured 2.4m by 2.0m but a section of metalling 3.1m wide was recorded in section (Anon 1996, 12). Pikes reported that the metalling of Main Street overlay the fill of the enclosure ditch (Pikes 1988, 7) and this appears to be the only mention of metalling in the CEU excavations so the enclosure ditch apparently ran to the west of CEU Area 4. Pikes certainly felt that it was part of the same feature (Pikes 1988, 11). He reports that this section of the ditch had silted up by the 14th century reflecting the sequence seen to the south (Pikes 1988, 14). Pikes apparently felt that this section of the enclosure ditch ran NW/SE across Main Street (Pikes 1988, 12; Thornton 2009, Fig 4A 1) but since Main Street probably dates to at least the late 10th century (above) and the market was already well established it seems more likely that this metalling relates to road widening or straightening and that the enclosure ditch ran parallel to the street.

Part of a substantial negative feature that may have been a continuation of the western arm of the enclosure ditch was also seen within CEU Area 1. Here, a substantial NNW/SSE wall seen in the west of the trench, that was probably built in or after the 13th century, had a foundation cut on its eastern side but not its west, leading to the conclusion that the ground levels were markedly higher to the east. Two layers that were cut by the foundations of the overlying wall

were also only seen to the east of the wall and it was thought these may have been upcast from the feature to the west. It therefore seems that this feature may have been of 12th century date as were the ditch section excavated by the Woodfields and Pikes to the south. However, only a limited part of this feature was seen and though it may have been a boundary ditch, which its apparent replacement by a wall would seem to suggest, this is not certainly the case. According to the CAS site summary (Anon 1996) this feature was apparently backfilled with material consistent with a 15th century date which is very different to that seen for the other ditch sections so perhaps this was not a part of the same feature. However, it appears that relatively little of this feature was examined so the 15th century material may overly the 13th century silting and/or 14th century make-up seen elsewhere.

Taken together the two linear features examined by the Woodfields and the CEU appear to define the south-western segment of a ditched enclosure but the rest of its circuit remains uncertain.

On its south side Pikes suggested the ditch continued eastwards under the current church and cites the example of Castle Camps, Cambridgeshire where the church was built over an earlier moat (Pikes 1988, 12). Since the church was probably well established by this time it seems likely that the Norman enclosure would respect it and may perhaps have been positioned close to the boundaries of the preceding Anglo-Saxon caput. If the Norman enclosure was on the same alignment as the previous Anglo-Saxon manorial enclosure then this would conform closely to the pattern seen at Raunds and elsewhere where the manorial church was built immediately outside the Anglo-Saxon enclosure (above). Pikes proposed alignment seems to respect this layout reasonably well and reflects the underlying topography, probably contouring around the end of the spur. This alignment would be contrary to the views of the excavators who strongly felt that it ran to the north of the church, close to the Bede House (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983 fig 1B, 2; pers comm R Canadine). This is unlikely as it would create an awkward dog-leg north around the church, and their excavation in 1989 showed that this dogleg would have been even more pronounced than they originally suggested. Their proposal was based upon a 'slight declivity in the ground' (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983, 3), but this is an area that has probable seen burial for several hundred years and has clearly risen above its original level (it is at least 0.30m higher than the Bede House wall footings, see Figure 1). There is also a pronounced, though broad, ridge, probably reflecting the natural topography, running between the church and the Bede House across the line of their declivity, meaning that it would be running over the general lay of the land when it might be expected to follow the contours more closely. A line to the south, below the church, seems much less awkward, fits the evidence better and conforms to the topography of the spur.

Pikes suggested that the western boundary ran north-west from a point on the wall to the north of Church Lane about 15m west of the main churchyard gate to run between CEU Areas I and 4 and on under Main Street. This doesn't appear to reflect the excavation evidence available. Understandably, it does not take into account the later 1989 excavations by the Woodfields which showed that the southern line ran slightly to the north of that which he proposed and any turning northwards must be further to the west. His line also appears to run between the two possible areas of the western ditch seen to the west of CEU Area 4 and perhaps within CEU Area I. Whilst it is perhaps unwise to dismiss the views of the original excavator, his view is based on the assumption that Main Street was first laid out in the 14th

century, an idea that is probably incorrect, and a line parallel to Main Street fits the available evidence better.

To the east of the Bede House Pikes proposed a line curving north about 8m to the west of the former north eastern comer of the churchyard and running north-west from there. This does not appear to be supported by any evidence though.

To the north-west the Woodfields and Pikes both suggest that the enclosure followed a roughly south-west/north-east line that ran immediately to the south of the Manor house on Main Street and 3, The Green. Both apparently orient this line on a gully in the field to the east that they refer to as a 'leat' and the Woodfields also cite a slight hollow and darker strip visible on this alignment on an aerial photograph (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983, 3). Rosemary Canadine however points out that this may well be a sewer and mentions manholes on its line (R Canadine pers comm), though this was not checked in the field.

It has been stated that the 'moat' held water (Pikes 1988, 12) but this seems to be unlikely. A spur is not a good location for a moat intended to hold water, valley bottom sites being preferred, and the fall away of the land around the south end of the spur means that it is likely that the 'moat' would have been rather shallow here. Perhaps more significant is the underlying geology. The section on the Woodfields drawing of their 1989 excavations (held by R Canadine) shows 'Natural rock' at the base of the 'moat'. The underlying geology is Jurassic limestone which tends to be relatively soft and porous and any water in the moat would probably drain away without a lining no evidence for which is mentioned in the published reports.

If this is correct then there is no reason for there to be leats carrying water to, or away from the 'moat' and consequently no reason why the north-eastern arm of the 'moat' would align with the 'leat' in the field to the east. This gully may continue into the garden of 3, The Green, but what is more noticeable is a rise in the ground level in the south and west of the garden here. This suggests that rather than running relatively straight to the north-west before turning to the WSW the boundary may have curved around more steadily on a line to the south of that suggested by the Woodfields and Pikes. If this curving line continued round to meet the line suggested along Main Street then the resulting enclosure would be smaller and more curvilinear in plan than has been previously suggested (see Figure 16).

Such an enclosure, measuring over 90m by about 60m might be rather large for an Anglo-Saxon manorial enclosure (those at Raunds and Goltho were closer to 50m across, Blair 2005, Fig 45, 389) or Norman ringwork (that at Y Gaer, St Nicholas, Glamorgan measures 60m across and is described as 'large', Higham & Barker, fig 7.1. 203) and has perhaps been drawn rather too large. What it may indicate though is that the enclosure was never intended to be defensive in a military sense but primarily to define and protect a high status domestic centre.

It is possible that the enclosure was actually somewhat smaller though. The Green (probably laid out in the early 13th century) may have extended to the south of its current location to front onto a suspected block of properties to the north-east of the Bede House (see 'Village layout' and Fig 18 below). It would be unusual for a lord to give up land in re-planning of this type so perhaps the enclosure was smaller at this date, only later expanding. This suggests an enclosure about 50 or 60m across which is nearer to the size of both the Anglo-Saxon manorial enclosures and Norman ringworks given above and would see the earliest know hall

placed more centrally (shown as a dotted line on Fig 16). This would also fit better with the possible eastwards return of the precinct wall noted in CEU Area 5 (below).

The settlement pattern

What evidence there is suggests that settlement showed continuity from the Anglo-Saxon period through the Norman period and the relationship between the enclosure and associated settlement therefore probably also continued largely unchanged. Some Norman ring-works were built over former properties and this is possible in Lyddington, and development of the settlement as population grew would also be inevitable, but evidence for either of these possibilities would lie to the north of the areas so far excavated.

THE 13TH AND 14TH CENTURIES

The main excavation evidence is summarised on Figure 15. The 13th/14th century elements discussed are shown on Figure 17.

The medieval precinct:

Boundaries

On the western side of the Norman enclosure a NNW/SSE wall was seen in CEU Areas I and 4. This was thought to be a boundary wall, possibly constructed at the top of the enclosure ditch's internal scarp in or after the 13th century (Anon 1996, 5, 12). This wall line appears to have been preserved into the 19th century and was shown on the 1804 enclosure map (Thornton Fig 5b courtesy R Canadine) as being set back from the wall line to the south which, since it runs to the corner tower, is probably that seen today. A south-west facing scarp runs 5-6m behind the existing wall on Main Street, the top of which aligns with the excavated wall line to the north suggesting that this wall line continued south through the area of the walled garden on a line parallel with Main Street. At its northern end a possible eastern return of the wall was seen in CEU Area 5 apparently running at right angles to it (Anon 1996, 14) so it is possible that the north-westerly corner of the enclosure lay in this area.

On the south side of the Norman enclosure, a WSW/ENE wall was seen in the Woodfields' 1989 excavations, and apparently also in their 1976 trench (Woodfields' illustration held by R Canadine). In contrast to the western wall it was constructed over the earlier enclosure ditch on a slightly different alignment to it, rather than within it, and was dated to the 14th century, perhaps later than that seen to the north-west. The largely silted up ditch was apparently levelled up at the time the wall was built, presumably to create a level area within the enclosure. This wall and the associated levelling give the impression of expansion of the precinct over the redundant enclosure ditch rather than its replacement. The second stone hall on the site has also been dated to Bishop Burgesh's episcopy in the 14th century and this hall and the 14th century south precinct wall may be associated with the license to crenellate received by him in 1336 (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983, 5). Pikes also reported that the metalling of Main Street was laid out over part of the ditch in the 14th century (Pikes 1988, 14).

The earliest surviving fabric within St Andrews Church also dates from this time (Pevsner 1984, 481) and it seems likely that a smaller late Anglo-Saxon or Norman church in the vicinity of the chancel of the existing church was rebuilt on a much grander scale to reflect the development of the palace. A larger church would presumably require a larger churchyard and the possible

expansion of the precinct in the area to the west of the church at this time may have been in exchange for a loss of land to the churchyard to the east. It also seems possible that this enlargement led to the diversion of Church Lane southwards at its western end.

Incidentally, the orientation of the church could be explained by it being aligned upon the position of sunset on its saint's day. St Andrew's day is 30th November, at this time the sun sets approximately 20° south of west which accords well with the alignment of the church (Ali & Cunich 2001, Fig 5, 170).

There may have been two phases of development of the precinct wall, that seen to the west and likely to have taken place in the 13th century and that to the south, of 14th century date. The inner side of the southern enclosure ditch was not fully excavated and there might have been an earlier wall constructed within the enclosure ditch, more closely reflecting that to the north-west. These could have formed a part of a smaller walled enclosure laid out within the former ditched enclosure in the 13th century at the time the ditch first went out of use and began silting up rather than some time afterwards. The most likely context for this might be the laying out of a new market place in the early 13th century (below).

Despite the above discussion it is possible that the excavated walls were all contemporary and formed parts of the palace enclosure as laid out in the 14th century. In this case though, the ditched enclosure would only have been replaced by a wall a century after it went out of use, potentially leaving the site open for some time.

The walls of the 14th century enclosure would probably have met at a slightly acute corner about 3m to the north of the door into the 'watch tower' at the south-west corner of the walled garden. This corner may just be shown as a high resistance area on the edge of the geophysical survey (Linford 1991).

As in the Norman period, the evidence defines the SW corner of the palace precinct but the rest remains uncertain. No walls of the medieval precinct appear to survive today, and even those along Main Street and Church Lane are relatively modern (contra Thornton 46).

The eastern boundary of the precinct may be marked by a scarp continuing north from the eastern side of the original churchyard. There is a marked fall from the earlier churchyard to its extension to the east. This scarp continues to the north from its north-east corner and may indicate the line of the eastern boundary of the precinct in this period.

At the Bishops of Lincoln's palace at Nettleham, where earthworks survive, the enclosure appears to have been about 90m, or perhaps more, by 70m and appears to have been extended on its south and east sides to create an enclosure of 150m by 110m (Everson et al 1991, 130). These two phases are undated but it is possible that the palace was also remodelled by Bishop Burgesh under the same license to crenellate, so maybe the developments at Nettleham reflect those at Lyddington.

Entrances and internal layout

It is likely that the palace had a single main entrance marked by a gatehouse, as seen at Nettleham (Everson et al 1991, 130). The location of this gateway is unknown, though it seems most likely that it would either have faced onto Main Street to the west or, perhaps more likely, the marketplace to the north. Gatehouses are found in a variety of locations and so parallels cannot be used as a guide to the position of the gatehouse at Lyddington. The

formal entrance to the palace complex would bring visitors into the main public courtyard but it is uncertain where this was, though both the Woodfields and Pikes have suggested that it was on the north-east side of the hall (Thornton 2009, 38) so the main entrance might have been in the northern quadrant rather than on the western side. Smaller entrances would have served specific needs, for example, access to the church may have necessitated a private gateway and there may also have been one to the west where there appear to have been some elements of a designed landscape laid out.

It is not known if the existing Blue Coat Lane was a main access or internal route contemporary with the bishops' palace. It is uncertain where the southern edge of The Green/marketplace lay but it was probably some way to the south of its present extent (below) so the line of the northern part of Blue Coat Lane may have been determined more by the pattern of encroachment than the layout of the medieval palace complex. In its current form it can only be traced back to the early 19th century (Enclosure Map 1804, courtesy R Canadine (Thomton Fig 5B). The southern part of the lane would also sit rather awkwardly with the hall, being cut off from it by a probable service range (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 7).

Over the last few years increasing numbers of sites such as castles, palaces and manor houses, have produced evidence for gardens and designed landscapes (eg Everson 1998) and it appears that they might be expected to be associated with most high status medieval sites. Those actually within the domestic enclosure typically took the form of herbers, small enclosed gardens designed to please the senses and rich with symbolism, that tended to be located as close as possible to the main domestic apartments, often with direct private access (McLean 1981, 89-113). It has been stated that there was a garden to the west of the bishop's hall and residential block (Thornton 2009, 48), but this is not substantiated by other evidence.

Earthworks in the south east of the walled area very probably represent the site of the former tower thought to have been here (Woodfield & Woodfield 1983, 7). It is also possible to be reasonably certain that the 'earthen bank' behind the wall on Main Street is not the remains of a high level walk but the former line of the enclosure wall here (contro Thornton 2009, 48). No earthworks related to a garden could be made out but this is not surprising since such earthworks tend to be subtle if they survive at all and conditions were not favourable. Resistivity survey has been tried within the walled garden but found disappointing, probably due to the depth of over-burden (Linford 1991).

At Nettleham there is evidence of a garden to the west of the main buildings, probably overlooked by the private chambers. It is suggested that the garden may have been laid out by Bishop Burgesh and associated with his license to crenellate of 1336 (Everson et al 1991, 130), a license that also covered Lyddington.

The octagonal tower at the south comer of the existing walled garden has been dated to the 15th century on the basis of the arms of Bishop Russell (1480-94) though there is some evidence for an earlier date, possibly in the 14th century (Thomton 2009, 46-7). There are two principal suggestions for its role, either a watchtower (eg 1st edn OS 6" map) or an element of a garden design such as a gazebo (eg Woodfield & Woodfield 1988). The former would have been a primarily outward facing structure presumably intended to allow traffic along Main Street to be viewed. The latter would be more inward facing allowing the garden to be viewed and forming a focal point in that garden, though external display would probably have been part of its design (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 3). The latter would appear to be the

preferred interpretation recently, largely on the basis of its position within the area of the garden and the inward facing windows allowing the garden to be viewed from it. However, since the argument for the presence of the garden is largely circular, and since the wall to the north is set forward from its original line and that the wall to the east was on a slightly different orientation (the walls to either side of it both abut it rather awkwardly, particularly that to the east (see Figure 2), at the time of its construction the tower must have projected several metres beyond the enclosure walls. So the windows would not have faced into the garden but along Main Street and Church Lane. This would appear to have enhanced its role as a watchtower and weakens the argument for it being primarily a garden feature. In either case it is unlikely that there would have been towers on the other corners of the enclosure: if it were a garden feature than there would probably not have been gardens to be a part of elsewhere; if a watchtower than there were not the same routes to watch over.

The settlement pattern

The evaluation at 57-9 Main Street revealed 'a significant level of activity between the 10th and early 13th centuries associated with the street frontage in this area' but 'little activity can then be detected until the 17th century when the present house was built [.] which may mirror events elsewhere in the village'. It was thought to be 'possible that the shifting focus of the village took any settlement activity away from this part of the village during the intervening years' (Hyam 2008, 9).

The market at Lyddington was probably established at about the time this occupation ceased. The first reference to the market is from 1285 when the Bishop of Lincoln complained that his market at Lyddington was being injured by that at Uppingham but the market must have already been in existence for some time. It seems most likely that the bishop held his market by virtue of King John's and King Henry III's general grants of the early 12th century (Letters 2007).

The evidence available also suggests that the 'moat' silted up through the 13th century and it is possible that these events were connected. Perhaps The Green was first laid out at this time to accommodate the new market. The new green may have extended as far as the area of settlement at 57-9 Main Street, in the north and may have necessitated a re-planning of the northern part of the Norman enclosure, where the ditch could have been deliberately backfilled and replaced by a formal frontage, making the remainder of the enclosure redundant though not requiring it to be filled in.

As part of this re-planning perhaps, rather than creating formal burgage plots, the village residents moved to the edge of the new green and enclosed a block of land from the surrounding open fields. This would explain the use of arable strips as property boundaries (below).

THE VILLAGE LAYOUT

See Figure 18

The road system

Pikes suggests that the main north/south route always ran along the line of the A6003, the line of the road through Uppingham being a medieval diversion. The archaeological evidence does not support this (above) and suggests that Main Street was probably in existence by the 10th

century or even earlier. Large quantities of Roman-British material have been recovered from the field running away northwards from the point where the modern road turns to the east at the north end of the village (R Canadine, pers comm), where it is thought that the original route to the north ran (Thornton 2009, 6). In this context the name 'Main Street' may be significant; stræt was the Anglo-Saxon place-name element generally used to describe a Roman road (Mills 2003, 526). Pikes' suggestion of a 14th century date for Main Street with the original road running closer to the valley bottom (Pikes 1988, 9) appears to be based on a rather circular argument: that the original core of the village was to the east of the church based on the evidence of a local focus of the road network that he appears to define on the basis of the village centre (ibid, 4, 8). The line taken by the A6003 is rather exposed and follows that of a turnpike road (Canadine, pers comm), the route perhaps chosen to provide a steady gradient suited to wheeled traffic, which was very rare in the medieval period, and which undulates along its northern section, which the original Lyddington to Uppingham road does not.

Pikes also suggests that the line of Chapel Lane is post-enclosure and that the original road ran through the north side of Little Park to the north of the fishponds and then turned northwards to the point where the existing Chapel Lane crosses the Lydd. He also suggests that an even earlier route ran south through the area of the fishponds, through the original village and on to meet up with the line of the road from Caldecott (Pikes 1988, 10) which he says ran along the line of the footpath that meets the road to Gretton, close to where the modern Thorpe Road meets it. This seems to be based upon the same circular argument and leads to a rather convoluted route. The date of the route through the park is not known but the earthworks do not appear to be very old and the poaching at their northern end suggests an agricultural origin and therefore a post-medieval date. Even if this route is earlier, the bishops would have been unlikely to have allowed general access through their Little Park, or so close to their fishponds, so there must have been a public way eastwards from Lyddington, and Chapel Lane would appear to be the most likely route.

More convincing is Pikes' suggestion that the pre-enclosure route to Thorpe-by-Water ran along Church Lane and north of the current road, closer to Bee Hill (Pikes 1988, 8). The existing Thorpe Road certainly cuts through a block of medieval ridge and furrow immediately to the east of the Lydd and there are signs of earthworks from a track running up over the saddle between Bee Hill and Prestley Hill (CPE/UK 1925 3154 16 Jan 1947). It is suggested above that at its western end Church Lane may have been diverted to the south when the enclosure here was constructed in the 14th century. A more northerly line would be straighter and follow the contours more closely. The line of the road is also rather awkward to the south of the church and it may originally have run straighter, perhaps on the line of the drive to the Prebend House, being diverted around to the south at some point when the property boundaries here were expanded, blocking off the former route.

Post-medieval development

Today, Lyddington is a linear settlement stretching for over a kilometre along Main Street from its junction with Thorpe Road in the SSE to a bend just before it crosses the Lydd in the NNW, centred on The Green. This is probably entirely the result of post-medieval development north and south particularly during the 17th and 18th centuries (LB descriptions).

To the north of the Marquess of Exeter public house Main Street runs in a slight hollow-way for over a hundred metres which fades out towards the top of the rise where the drop off

towards the east becomes more pronounced (Figure 3). Several of the houses along this stretch, particularly on the lower east side of the road, sit forward of the slope down to the road. This suggests that they were constructed over the hollow way. The buildings here are mainly 17th century or later (LB descriptions, and see Figure 19) and generally lack features that might suggest the remodelling of earlier buildings seen in the core of the village around The Green (note that LB descriptions need to be treated with caution as later facades can hide earlier cores). The earliest building in this area is part of a late 15th or early 16th century barn now a house at Stoneville Farm (LB UID 428062).

The same pattern of development would appear to be repeated to the south of Church Lane where several properties occupy the valley of a small stream on land probably liable to flooding before modern drainage. Again the majority of listed buildings are probably 17th century or later (LB descriptions, Figure 19). Here, the earliest building is dated 1656 but incorporates at least two earlier late 16th or 17th century phases (Bay House LB UID 427734).

Prior to this later ribbon development, The Green was probably approached by broad 'green lanes', at least from the north and south. As noted above, north of The Green, Main Street runs in a slight hollow way for some distance, the width of which is wider than the present street indicating a wider original roadway. To the south of The Green, Main Street was probably also several metres wider, on its west side several buildings have front portions clearly later than their rear parts suggesting encroachment (Figure 4). There were also encroachments on the east side of the road narrowing it considerably (enclosure map 1804 in Thornton 2009) and though these have been removed, the existing wall line is several metres forward of its medieval position (above).

The medieval core

It is likely that Lyddington was re-planned in the early 13th century to accommodate the newly founded market (above). Its medieval core probably formed a compact block around The Green which was originally larger than today.

The block around 7 The Green (Figure 5) is intrusive but it is not clear how far north the encroachment extends. The road bends westward from just north of Swan House (Figure 6) and it may be that the whole area from here southwards has encroached onto The Green edge. However, the southern boundary of Chapel Lane would appear to reflect the underlying arable strips right up to its junction with Main Street so it may have extended no further than this.

The block around 57 Main Street (Figure 7 and Figure 8) is also intrusive and here it is unclear how far south the intrusion extends. It clearly included 53 Main Street and very probably curved around to meet the line of encroachment to the west of Main Street discussed above and so includes the east end of The White Hart public house.

It is also possible that the triangle of properties north of Stoke Road and west of Main Street, is an encroachment. Stoke Road diverts sharply southwards just as it enters the village and continuing its original orientation aligns closely with Chapel Lane suggesting a through route from Stoke Dry in the west to Seaton in the east. This suggests that the diversion south might be later than the original route and therefore the block of properties would also be later. This is supported by the excavation evidence discussed above which showed occupation on Main

Street going out of use in the very early 13th century. This block is not obviously intrusive however and it may be a fairly early encroachment of the medieval period.

To the south, I The Green and 24 Main Street are probably of 15th century date and reputed to be the former market house (LB description UID 427724). If so, then the market house would most likely have been constructed within the area of the market, which was held on The Green and this would therefore also be an encroachment.

East of The Green is a suggested planned block of properties with 'burgage plots' (Thornton 2009, 65). Within this block are two distinct alignments of property boundaries with the small stream that probably fed the fishponds running between them. The southern group of boundaries appear to align with ridges in the field to the east on visible 1947 aerial photographs, and the properties were probably created by the enclosure of land from the ends of existing arable strips. This was probably also true for the block immediately to the north but the land to the east is shown as being allotments in 1947 which will have removed any traces of ridge and furrow here. They appear to have a common end boundary that does not reflect an earlier block of strips which seems to suggest that they were laid out as a unit over the ridge and furrow here. They are probably not formal 'burgage' plots though which tend to be more regular and do not reflect the underlying strips (see for example Somersham, Cambridge (Taylor 2008, figs 1 and 2)).

This planned block of properties may have originally extended further to the south. The rear boundary of this block of properties aligns with a low bank and shallow ditch running across the ridge and furrow in the field to the south known as Little Park. The bank has been described as a headland (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 12), a bank built up where the plough turned, dropping earth as it did so, but since this feature runs across the ridge and furrow, which can be seen to continue to the west of it, this would seem to be unlikely. Also, headlands did not usually feature ditches, and it seems more likely that this was a boundary, perhaps a continuation of the rear boundary line of the properties to the north. If so, then the area to the west of this feature should have been occupied in the medieval period, and in its northern part the ground is higher, as might be expected of an area occupied for some time, and ridge and furrow cannot be seen, though to the south the ridge and furrow persists. The north-west corner is also occupied by the only medieval building, apart from the church and the Bede House, known in the village (3 The Green (Stoneleigh), LB ID 427725). It is likely therefore, that this area was occupied for some time.

Today access to this area is restricted which suggests two possibilities. Either The Green extended further to the south in the medieval period or there was a lane running from the south-east comer of The Green south along the front of the properties, or perhaps both. It seems unlikely that the properties ran south from the existing lane as the ditch referred to elsewhere as a 'leat' is most likely to be a boundary internal to the block, and clearly reflects the east/west divisions seen in the block to the north.

It has already been noted that originally. The Green probably extended further to the south than today though it is uncertain how far. The northern extent of the palace precinct has not been located archaeologically and is therefore speculative. A line to the south of that proposed by the Woodfields and Pikes is preferred here (above) and it seems likely that the whole of the possible block of properties identified here could have fronted on to The Green if a line about

25m to the south-east of its present southern limit is accepted. This would also fit with the possible eastward return of the precinct wall seen in CEU Area 5.

One feature that requires explanation is the southward continuation of the possible boundary in Little Park beyond the occupied block. Perhaps when the village was re-planned around the new green the Bishop took the opportunity to expand his grounds beyond the existing precinct. This area could have been a pre-cursor to the larger Little Park and fishpond complex that was probably laid out later and may have contained a small orchard. A few areas where the ridge and furrow appeared to have been lost where noted during the project and it is possible that these mark garden features. This suggestion implies that there was no lane along the front of the property block but that they simply fronted directly onto The Green, since any lane would have cut the new land off from the existing precinct.

No similar block can be seen elsewhere in Lyddington and it may be that the village's original (re-planned) form was of a single row of properties fronting onto the east side of a roughly rectangular green with the palace and church at its southern end.

The regular plans of many nucleated settlements in the East Midlands often appear to have been laid out as late as the 12th or 13th centuries. The row settlement at Rockingham was laid out following the grant of a Market charter in 1271 (Lewis 2006, 191).

THE WIDER LANDSCAPE

See Figure 20.

The Little Park

The Little Park was first recorded in a survey of 1348/9 (Thornton 2009, 50) but it is not known when it was established. 'Little parks' are a recognised feature of medieval designed landscapes associated with high status dwellings. Idealised medieval gardens consisted of a sequence of components increasing in size and distance from the main domestic apartments. Within the enclosure was the herber (above) and beyond this, usually immediately accessible would be orchards (and/or vineyards), often intended to provide shady arbours and walkways rather than fruit crops, with the 'little park' beyond. This was intended to present an idealised, and tamed, representation of nature, in contrast to the 'Great Park', the largest element of a designed landscape, where nature was 'red in tooth and claw'. Water pleasances, usually based upon fish stews also appear to have been occasional elements of such a landscape (McLean 1981, 89-113).

The area known today as Little Park or Old Park is the field to the east of the Bede House (and the bishop's palace), running down to the river that includes the fishponds. The 1904 OS plan of the village designates this as field 7213, 3.3ha in size. It appears to have covered a larger area previously though: an 1802 survey (Burghley ref Ex 65/43) records it as 'The Park with a Barn' (perhaps LB 427651, a mid 18th century barn 50m to the north of the Bede House), field 13, 9 acres 3 roods 6 perches (about 3.97 hectares), which agrees with the enclosure map of 1804 (R Canadine, pers comm). This suggests that the whole area between the stream that fed the ponds and Church Lane, excluding the properties facing onto The Green and the prebend house grounds, (about 4ha) could once have been within Little Park. The area to the south of the fishponds was a part of Little Park at this time (R Canadine pers comm) and it seems possible that the garden of the Prebend House could also have been a part of the park being

removed from it in the post-medieval period. This suggests a maximum size for Little Park, including the fishponds, of about 4.6ha.

This sits uncomfortably with the earlier evidence. In the medieval period Little Park was much smaller than the area known as Little Park today and omitted the fishponds. The Old Park listed in the Bishop of Lincoln's survey of 1348-9 (MS 366, Queen's College, Oxford) has 3a 23½p land and 1r 23p meadow (R Canadine, pers comm), a total size of 3a 2r 6½p (1.43ha). In 1547, the Little Park was described as containing a mill, garth, orchard, smithy and garden, covering 3 acres (about 1.2ha) (Thornton 2009, 50). The other elements sound rather functional or agricultural, but this survey is relatively late so perhaps earlier leisurely concerns had given way to more practical considerations.

Based upon the modern extent suggested above, and excluding the fishponds, Little Park would have been about 3.4ha or more in size. This is far too large a difference to be accounted for by a discrepancy with the medieval measurements and medieval Little Park must have covered a much smaller area. If the prebendal house and its associated land go back to the medieval period then this area should also be excluded. It is suggested above that the area to the immediate east of the palace precinct (west of the boundary within the field and south of the suggested property block) had been enclosed before the Little Park and Fishponds were laid out so perhaps this area should also be excluded. This leaves an area of about 1.8ha, perhaps within the range of medieval error, though still rather large. Also excluding the field to the north gives an area of 1.2ha which is almost identical to the 1547 figure of 3 acres. There are several problems with this interpretation though: it does not include the mill or any land suitable for a meadow, nor were any earthworks of a possible garth, smithy or garden seen. which might be expected. Adding the area to the south of the ponds (0.3ha) includes the mill and sufficient suitable meadowland and brings the area up to 1.5ha, only slightly larger than the 1348 figure. This creates a rather awkward shaped area though, and does not explain the absent earthworks.

The ridge and furrow between the Bede House and the fishponds is the remains of medieval cultivation. Whilst the ridges appear to be too short and straight, the construction of the fishponds to the east, and encroachment to the west, has probably shortened them by more than half and removed any evidence of a diagnostic reverse 'S' form. Similar ridges can be seen on aerial photographs (eg CPE/UK 1925 3154 16 Jan 1947) immediately to the west of the fishponds in an area not thought to have been a part of Little Park and in several other places in the immediate vicinity. These ridges continue in the field to the north of that containing the fishponds and some aerial photographs suggest that they may continue within the grounds of the prebend house to the south (ibid) so the whole block was probably under cultivation in the medieval period. It has been suggested that these ridges may be the remains of orchards, and an orchard is mentioned in 1547, but in the later 14th century the bishop's garden at Buckden was producing apples and pears for sale and in 1378/9 7½ bushels of pears were sent to Lyddington (Thornton 2009, 50). This suggests that any orchard at Lyddington at this time was small, perhaps primarily ornamental.

A low ridge and slight gully running north-west to south-east across the western part of the field is unlikely to be a headland, as described in several source. It runs over the ridge and furrow and headlands were not usually associated with ditches (above). It is perhaps significant that it appears to align with the property boundary to the north and the northern part of the

area to the west is devoid of ridge and furrow. It may therefore be related to the re-planning of the village. The supposed leat here, the clear gully running east/west at the north end of this area, is probably a division between properties within this block (above).

A broad gully running along the northern side of the field containing the fishponds probably marks the line of a trackway. This continues around the pond's northern end, over a foot bridge crossing the stream that fed them and on towards the point where Chapel Lane crosses the Lydd. Extensive poaching immediately to the south of this probably marks the position of a ford regularly used by livestock. The date of this route is uncertain but it probably post dates the ridge and furrow which can be seen to north and south and it may overlie the leats that fed the main fishpond complex so probably also post dates their active life.

The Great Park

The Great Park was located in the north of the parish on the edge of the forest of Rutland, less than 2km from the bishop's palace (Cantor & Squires 1997, 12-14). It was held by the Bishops of Lincoln as one of the benefits of their diocese (1bid, 15) and built up over several years, mainly in the early 13th century (Thornton 2009, 55). Its extent can be traced on the ground and a remarkable bank and ditch marks the eastern boundary of the park (ibid, 18; see Figure 9). This is accessible from a public footpath that runs to the south of Brown's Lodge west of the A6003 and north of the Lyddington to Stoke Dry road at NGR SP 8624 9765.

The fishponds

Fish stews (productive fish ponds) were 'almost as integral to the grounds [of castles and palaces] as a well' (McLean 1981, 98) and when 'artistically sited, and perhaps surrounded by trees and walks, it could make a water pleasance' (ibid, 99). The Bishops of Lincoln's palace at Stow, Lincolnshire was described as 'delightfully surrounded with woods and ponds' in about 1186 so the idea of ponds as aesthetic elements associated with palaces was clearly established by this time (Everson et al 1991, 185). It also seems likely that the ponds at Stow had a secondary function as swanneries (ibid).

The fishponds associated with Lyddington Bede House sit across the bottom of the Lydd valley a little over 200m to the north east of the Bede House. They consist of a central group of ponds surrounded by a moat and outer bank, with a large, and probably secondary pond to their south west, sometimes known as the Jack Pond due to the theory that it was used to raise jack pike (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 11-13: NMR 21967/04 05 Feb 2003).

The main complex

The main fishpond complex was apparently constructed as a unified whole and was built across the bottom of the valley in order to make the best use of the topography. Consequently, the Lydd has been diverted around them and on their eastern side runs in a channel that is about two metres deep. The highest point of the underlying topography is at their north-west corner and the lowest at the south-east. The date of their construction is unknown but has generally been attributed to Bishop Burgesh (1320-1340) (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 13), who undertook considerable works at Lyddington (above).

The main stream does not supply the fishponds, instead a minor stream runs from the west and around the northern end of the ponds and it was probably this that fed into them at their north-western corner. At the north-west corner of the moat there is a marked drop down

from the north end of the western arm to the west end of the northern arm. A low ridge here probably marks the position of a dam that would probably have had a sluice to control the flow of water into the northern arm of the moat. It therefore seems that the western arm of the moat and the northern arm of the moat could be controlled separately. From this point the main flow of water ran south along the western arm of the moat, which was higher than the northern arm, but it is not certain whether it then ran along the south arm of the moat before exiting the system at the south-east corner of the ponds or if there was a second small dam to control flow into the southern arm of the moat and the main flow ran out of the south west corner or the complex. The former would require a second dam between the eastern and southern moat arms, the latter a dam between the western and southern arms, if the dam at the north-eastern corner were not to be completely redundant. Either could have been removed to improve drainage but there is no evidence for any dam in the south-east comer. There was though a slight slope down from the western arm to the southern arm in the southwest comer so perhaps the latter layout is more likely. This would mean that water flowed in at the north-eastern comer of the complex, south along the western arm of the moat and out at the south-western corner where there would have needed to be a sluice to control the main outflow. The rest of the complex could have been fed from this higher level and the rest of the moat could have held standing water. In any case there must have been an enclosing bank, presumably with at the south-east comer but the bank has been removed at this point, presumably to improve drainage, and it is not obvious where the material from it has gone.

Within the central area the original arrangement appears to have consisted of six rectangular ponds orientated north/south with three ponds to the north and three to the south, arranged in pairs. The divisions between the pairs of ponds are not all present but the banks around the ponds across the northern half of the complex are slightly higher than those to the south suggesting that these ponds were intended to drain into those to the south. The division between the two eastern ponds remains and hints of a gully between the two, probably the site of a sluice, can just be made out. The division between the central ponds has been breached but enough remains to be fairly certain that it existed and a slight narrowing may mark the site of the original division between the western pair of ponds. It is not clear if these divisions were modified while the ponds were in use, as part of a remodelling of the ponds, perhaps when the jack pond was built, or after the ponds were abandoned, maybe to improve drainage.

It is not obvious where water entered the inner pond complex but it must have been at the north-west comer, from the western arm of the moat. A faint gully is visible in this area. More clearly defined gullies (possibly secondary features) run between the three northern ponds and it seems that these three ponds were interconnected higher and therefore filled first. It may therefore be that the water was fresher in this set of ponds and used to raise species of fish for which this was more important.

The three southern ponds were probably fed from the three northern ponds, perhaps with one sluice from each feeding into its southern equivalent. It is also possible that water could have been taken off the western arm of the moat though no evidence for a gully to allow this was seen. The eastern and western ponds fed into the central pond and this pond drained into the southern arm of the moat. The large breach at the south end of the central pond probably post dates the active life of the ponds though, being pushed through to allow drainage, and when in use the outflow would have been controlled by much smaller gullies and sluices.

seems possible that the southern wall represents expansion over the enclosure ditch and that there might have therefore been an earlier wall to the north, within the enclosure, that was contemporary with the western wall. Church Lane may have been diverted south at this time.

- o To the west, the line of the churchyard marked by an east facing scarp appears to continue beyond the churchyard, perhaps indicating the line of the precinct there
- The locations of the entrances are unknown, although the main entrance may have been towards the market place on The Green, in the north quadrant of the enclosure.
- It is impossible to say if Blue Coat Lane was a main access route contemporary with the bishops' palace, but it seems unlikely.
- Gatehouses are commonly found at the main entrance to the palace complexes, but at Lyddington its location is unknown.
- No earthworks were identified that might relate to a medieval garden. A herber would be expected somewhere within the precinct, perhaps immediately adjacent to the bishops' private accommodation.

The church: how did the first church on the site relate to the palace complex? Was it, as Pikes suggested, an earlier structure to the east? What was the original layout of the churchyard? Can we say anything of how the later 15th century church related to the palace complex? (see Figures 16 and 17)

- The first church at Lyddington probably pre-dates the Norman Conquest and originated as a manorial church attached to the Anglo-Saxon estate caput.
- The most common pattern at this date is of a church placed immediately adjacent to a manorial enclosure (Blair 2005, 388, Fig 45).
- The earliest structure would therefore most likely to be in or close to the area of the current church's chancel.
- The original layout of the churchyard was probably a small enclosure adjacent to the Norman ditched enclosure and its predecessor.
- The current churchyard may pre-date the 14th century when the palace enclosure was probably extended southwards to Church Lane in the area to the west of the church, but apparently respected it elsewhere. The churchyard has been extended to the east in the modern period. Its former limit is marked by a steep east facing scarp.

The ponds: Can survey of this area clarify the water management system discussed by Thornton? How were the ponds fed and emptied, how did they work? What are the watercourses here, and how did the leats work? Can we confirm existence and location of the mill? Does the large pond relate to the mill? (see Figure 20)

 The date of the construction and abandonment of the ponds remains is unknown. Given the lack of other evidence it seems likely that the main access to the central area of fishponds was via the dam(s) though there may have also been light structures such as wooden bridges that also allowed access.

The jack pond

As noted above the jack pond is probably secondary to the main complex. It is on a slightly different alignment to the main complex and its earthworks are sharper with pronounced corners, whereas the main fishponds are much more rounded.

The material from the excavation of the jack pond appears, at least in part, to have been used to raise the level of the bank between it and the main complex, and possibly the southern bank of the main complex which is also higher than the other surrounding banks. A gully, perhaps created by leaving the bank at its original height, may have been intended to act as an overflow into the moat of the main complex and might provide some indication of the intended height of the water in the jack pond. Most of the material from the excavation of the pond must have been used to raise the level of the ground around its south end and to construct a dam to retain water, though most of this has been removed.

It has been suggested that the jack pond was fed by a leat running to its north-west corner. This appears to be incorrect, as the suggested leat apparently continues along the western edge of the pond rather than running into it and is more likely to be an old field boundary.

The jack pond seems to have been fed by a leat running into its north-eastern comer (just visible in the left foreground of Figure 12). A broad gully can be seen on aerial photographs running approximately north/south immediately to the west of the bank of the main pond complex. Though eroded by the track along the northern side of the field it does appear to continue to the north and could have run as far as the stream that fed the main ponds. The later cut through from this area into the main ponds (above) might have been to allow the ponds to be fed from the new leat and suggests the possibility of some remodelling of the main complex at the time the jack pond was constructed. A second gully in the same area but slightly to the west may also have been a leat, suggesting more than one phase of activity, though it is not possible to say which was the earlier.

The suggested building platform at the north end of the jack pond (Thornton 2009, 53) would appear to be largely illusory since aerial photographs show the ridge and furrow continuing through this area. The supposed platform appears to be defined to the west by the field boundary previously thought to be a leat, to the north by the deepened furrow (above) and to the east by the gully of the probable actual leat.

At its south end the jack pond has been disturbed by modern activity. To the south a ramp, presumably to allow vehicular access to the area to the south of the main pond complex, has been cut into the western side of the pond and this whole area is disturbed. This took place after 1947 (CPE/UK 1925 3154 16 Jan 1947) but before 1971 (SP8797/1 318/5 22 Jul 1971). Prior to this the western side of the pond appears to have continued south in a straight line with a uniform slope, probably as far as the boundary with the grounds of the prebend house.

To the east, in the area to the south of the main pond complex, the earthworks are far more complex. It seems likely that the original outer bank of the main pond complex ran south and than returned to the east. The construction of the jack pond seems to have required the

building of a new bank running south from the comer of the earlier ponds. This would probably have had to return to the west in order to retain water within the pond. This western bank has been breached at its southern end. The form of the southern end of the pond is difficult to understand from the surviving earthworks. For the retention of water a large earthen bank would have been required at its southern end. Today, there is no trace of such a bank, the removal of which would appear to involve an inordinate amount of effort in an area of marginal value. Associated with the breach is a gully running into the centre of the pond and there are hints of side branches so it seems possible that proper field-drains were laid to prevent the area becoming too marshy.

The function of the jack pond is open to debate. The jack pond seems to be at least partly integrated into the main ponds which could have been modified at the time it was constructed (above) so it seems likely that it was used to raise fish. As noted above it has been suggested that it was used for the raising of jack pike. These were a delicacy in the medieval period but were aggressive, predatory fish that required deep water and so were usually raised in separate ponds (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 11-13). The jack pond could certainly have been much deeper than the ponds of the main complex. It has also been suggested that rather than having a special function this was simply an additional, though much larger, stock or breeding pond, or perhaps a very large servatoria where fish that were ready for the table were held (Thornton 2009, 53-4). In these latter cases though, the size of the pond would appear to be disproportionately large and the first suggestion seems more likely.

It has also been suggested that it was a mill pond (R Canadine reported in Thornton 2009, 54). In 1547 Little Park contained a mill known as 'Falles Mill' so perhaps it was positioned at the outfall of the pond (ibid). The remains of the bank that are visible suggest that the internal face of the dam bank was relatively uniform apparently continuing the profile seen to the north. The external (east) face is more complex and it is possible that there may be the remains of a building platform (see Figure 13) and perhaps an associated gully here (Figure 14). There is a relatively limited fall here and the water supply to the pond was small so any mill would presumably have had an undershot wheel and only been operated intermittently. The water seems to have been carried away from the supposed mill site by a gully that ran south and apparently rejoined the Lydd about 20m to the south. This is still visible as a rather open and ill-defined damp hollow and may mark the original course of the Lydd rather than a deliberately constructed leat. A gulley is visible running across the next field to the south that is thought to have been a leat and water from the mill may have been carried further on to reduce the risk of flooding when the mill was in use, particularly at the point where Church Lane crossed the river. This could however be a simple flood relief channel dug to mitigate the impact of the mill outfall into the Lydd.

Another pond?

Aerial photographs (NMR SP8797/8, 9, 11) suggest that there might be a further pond in the field to the north of the main pond complex. It is rectangular and measures about 5m by 30m oriented with its long axis roughly parallel to the stream that feds the main complex (ENE/WSW) but to the south of it and a gully can clearly be seen running east from its eastern end, presumably an overflow leat. Its base appears to be rutted, perhaps the result of wheeled traffic across what are probably softer deposits in its silted up base. Other earthworks in this area (to the west), may be related.

Given the lack of other evidence it seems likely that the main access to the central area of fishponds was via the dam(s) though there may have also been light structures such as wooden bridges that also allowed access.

The jack pond

As noted above the jack pond is probably secondary to the main complex. It is on a slightly different alignment to the main complex and its earthworks are sharper with pronounced corners, whereas the main fishponds are much more rounded.

The material from the excavation of the jack pond appears, at least in part, to have been used to raise the level of the bank between it and the main complex, and possibly the southern bank of the main complex which is also higher than the other surrounding banks. A gully, perhaps created by leaving the bank at its original height, may have been intended to act as an overflow into the moat of the main complex and might provide some indication of the intended height of the water in the jack pond. Most of the material from the excavation of the pond must have been used to raise the level of the ground around its south end and to construct a dam to retain water, though most of this has been removed.

It has been suggested that the jack pond was fed by a leat running to its north-west corner. This appears to be incorrect, as the suggested leat apparently continues along the western edge of the pond rather than running into it and is more likely to be an old field boundary.

The jack pond seems to have been fed by a leat running into its north-eastern corner (just visible in the left foreground of Figure 12). A broad gully can be seen on aerial photographs running approximately north/south immediately to the west of the bank of the main pond complex. Though eroded by the track along the northern side of the field it does appear to continue to the north and could have run as far as the stream that fed the main ponds. The later cut through from this area into the main ponds (above) might have been to allow the ponds to be fed from the new leat and suggests the possibility of some remodelling of the main complex at the time the jack pond was constructed. A second gully in the same area but slightly to the west may also have been a leat, suggesting more than one phase of activity, though it is not possible to say which was the earlier.

The suggested building platform at the north end of the jack pond (Thornton 2009, 53) would appear to be largely illusory since aerial photographs show the ridge and furrow continuing through this area. The supposed platform appears to be defined to the west by the field boundary previously thought to be a leat, to the north by the deepened furrow (above) and to the east by the gully of the probable actual leat.

At its south end the jack pond has been disturbed by modern activity. To the south a ramp, presumably to allow vehicular access to the area to the south of the main pond complex, has been cut into the western side of the pond and this whole area is disturbed. This took place after 1947 (CPE/UK 1925 3154 16 Jan 1947) but before 1971 (SP8797/I 318/5 22 Jul 1971). Prior to this the western side of the pond appears to have continued south in a straight line with a uniform slope, probably as far as the boundary with the grounds of the prebend house.

To the east, in the area to the south of the main pond complex, the earthworks are far more complex. It seems likely that the original outer bank of the main pond complex ran south and than returned to the east. The construction of the jack pond seems to have required the

building of a new bank running south from the comer of the earlier ponds. This would probably have had to return to the west in order to retain water within the pond. This western bank has been breached at its southern end. The form of the southern end of the pond is difficult to understand from the surviving earthworks. For the retention of water a large earthen bank would have been required at its southern end. Today, there is no trace of such a bank, the removal of which would appear to involve an inordinate amount of effort in an area of marginal value. Associated with the breach is a gully running into the centre of the pond and there are hints of side branches so it seems possible that proper field-drains were laid to prevent the area becoming too marshy.

The function of the jack pond is open to debate. The jack pond seems to be at least partly integrated into the main ponds which could have been modified at the time it was constructed (above) so it seems likely that it was used to raise fish. As noted above it has been suggested that it was used for the raising of jack pike. These were a delicacy in the medieval period but were aggressive, predatory fish that required deep water and so were usually raised in separate ponds (Woodfield & Woodfield 1988, 11-13). The jack pond could certainly have been much deeper than the ponds of the main complex. It has also been suggested that rather than having a special function this was simply an additional, though much larger, stock or breeding pond, or perhaps a very large servatoria where fish that were ready for the table were held (Thornton 2009, 53-4). In these latter cases though, the size of the pond would appear to be disproportionately large and the first suggestion seems more likely.

It has also been suggested that it was a mill pond (R Canadine reported in Thornton 2009, 54). In 1547 Little Park contained a mill known as 'Falles Mill' so perhaps it was positioned at the outfall of the pond (ibid). The remains of the bank that are visible suggest that the internal face of the dam bank was relatively uniform apparently continuing the profile seen to the north. The external (east) face is more complex and it is possible that there may be the remains of a building platform (see Figure 13) and perhaps an associated gully here (Figure 14). There is a relatively limited fall here and the water supply to the pond was small so any mill would presumably have had an undershot wheel and only been operated intermittently. The water seems to have been carried away from the supposed mill site by a gully that ran south and apparently rejoined the Lydd about 20m to the south. This is still visible as a rather open and ill-defined damp hollow and may mark the original course of the Lydd rather than a deliberately constructed leat. A gulley is visible running across the next field to the south that is thought to have been a leat and water from the mill may have been carried further on to reduce the risk of flooding when the mill was in use, particularly at the point where Church Lane crossed the river. This could however be a simple flood relief channel dug to mitigate the impact of the mill outfall into the Lydd.

Another pond?

Aerial photographs (NMR SP8797/8, 9, 11) suggest that there might be a further pond in the field to the north of the main pond complex. It is rectangular and measures about 5m by 30m oriented with its long axis roughly parallel to the stream that feds the main complex (ENE/WSW) but to the south of it and a gully can clearly be seen running east from its eastern end, presumably an overflow leat. Its base appears to be rutted, perhaps the result of wheeled traffic across what are probably softer deposits in its silted up base. Other earthworks in this area (to the west), may be related.

CONCLUSIONS

In response to the research questions set in the brief the conclusions of this work can be summarised as:

Anglo-Saxon/early Norman Lyddington: How does the village topography fit with analysis of the earliest (i.e. late Anglo-Saxon/early Norman) enclosure at the site? (Thornton 2009 Fig. 4A | & 2; Pikes 1988). What was the sequence of infilling of the moat? (see Figure 16)

- The early village topography appears to conform to a widely seen pattern where a later Anglo-Saxon nucleated settlement sat within its open-fields with a manor house and church immediately adjacent. The early settlement probably grew up along Main Street with the small spur occupied by the manor complex and church providing its focus.
- The excavated enclosure was probably of Norman date and may have directly replaced an Anglo-Saxon manorial enclosure on the site to assert the dominance of a new lord, either an unnamed successor to the Anglo-Saxon Bardi, or the Bishop of Lincoln or one of their tenants.
- The settlement was probably re-organised in the early 13th century with the establishment of an open green to accommodate a new market. This may have led to the adaptation of the Norman enclosure; perhaps the northern part was deliberately back-filled to accommodate The Green and replaced by a wall that ran around within the enclosure though the only place this may have been seen was in CEU Area 1, on the western side of the enclosure.
- On its south side the enclosure ditch silted up during the 13th century, perhaps because it had been made redundant by a precinct wall to the north of the area examined by the Woodfields in 1989and not seen in any archaeological trenches. It was levelled up and replaced by a wall on a different alignment in the 14th century. Perhaps the new wall was intended to increase the size of the palace enclosure. To the west it appears that the ditch was also completely in—filled by the 14th century when metalling for Main Street was laid out over it.

The medieval precinct: Is it possible to define the medieval palace precinct? In particular, the entrances, and any further divisions within the precinct. Was Blue Coat Lane a main access route? Was there a gatehouse here? What is the nature of the garden on the west side of the palace, and what earthworks relate to it? Is geophysical survey desirable here? (see Figure 17)

- It is only possible to partially define the extent of the medieval precinct and it is possible that there were two phases, one in the earlier 13th century constructed within the existing ditched enclosure, and 14th century expansion over the ditch where there was space available.
 - o On the west the precinct appears to have consisted of a wall running parallel to Main Street, constructed sometime in or after the 13th century.
 - o On the south, to the west of the church a wall appears to have run to the north of, and on roughly the same alignment as, Church Lane in the 14th century. It is not clear if this wall was contemporary with that above, it appears to have had a different relationship to the earlier enclosure ditch and may have been later. It

seems possible that the southern wall represents expansion over the enclosure ditch and that there might have therefore been an earlier wall to the north, within the enclosure, that was contemporary with the western wall. Church Lane may have been diverted south at this time.

- o To the west, the line of the churchyard marked by an east facing scarp appears to continue beyond the churchyard, perhaps indicating the line of the precinct there.
- The locations of the entrances are unknown, although the main entrance may have been towards the market place on The Green, in the north quadrant of the enclosure.
- It is impossible to say if Blue Coat Lane was a main access route contemporary with the bishops' palace, but it seems unlikely.
- Gatehouses are commonly found at the main entrance to the palace complexes, but at Lyddington its location is unknown.
- No earthworks were identified that might relate to a medieval garden. A herber would be expected somewhere within the precinct, perhaps immediately adjacent to the bishops' private accommodation.

The church: how did the first church on the site relate to the palace complex? Was it, as Pikes suggested, an earlier structure to the east? What was the original layout of the churchyard? Can we say anything of how the later 15th century church related to the palace complex? (see Figures 16 and 17)

- The first church at Lyddington probably pre-dates the Norman Conquest and originated as a manorial church attached to the Anglo-Saxon estate caput.
- The most common pattern at this date is of a church placed immediately adjacent to a manorial enclosure (Blair 2005, 388, Fig 45).
- The earliest structure would therefore most likely to be in or close to the area of the current church's chancel.
- The original layout of the churchyard was probably a small enclosure adjacent to the Norman ditched enclosure and its predecessor.
- The current churchyard may pre-date the 14th century when the palace enclosure was probably extended southwards to Church Lane in the area to the west of the church, but apparently respected it elsewhere. The churchyard has been extended to the east in the modern period. Its former limit is marked by a steep east facing scarp.

The ponds: Can survey of this area clarify the water management system discussed by Thornton? How were the ponds fed and emptied, how did they work? What are the watercourses here, and how did the leats work? Can we confirm existence and location of the mill? Does the large pond relate to the mill? (see Figure 20)

• The date of the construction and abandonment of the ponds remains is unknown.

- The ponds were apparently filled from a leat at their north-west corner and it appears that the western arm of the moat was maintained at a higher level than the rest of the moat allowing the rest of the system to be fed from it.
- The main out fall was probably at the south-west comer with a second, lesser, outfall at the south east comer.
- The central ponds were probably accessed via dams controlling the flow of water around the moat.
- The central ponds appear to have consisted of three northern ponds that were slightly higher than, and would have drained into three southern ponds.
- The ponds may have been re-modelled during their lifetime, perhaps at the time the jack pond was constructed.
- The jack pond post-dates the main complex.
- It was fed by a leat to its north-east comer, not its north-west.
- Its use for raising jack pike seems to be its most likely function.
- An earthwork platform may mark the presence of a mill at the south end of the jack pond.
- Due to the relatively small size of the jack pond, a mill in location would have been restricted to relatively short periods of operation.
- If the jack pond operated as both a millpond and a fishpond its operation would have to have been carefully coordinated.

Is the ridged cultivation evidence of ridge-and-furrow arable or is it something else (e.g. orchard ridges?)

• The ridge and furrow seen in Little Park is probably the remains of medieval strip cultivation.

What is the relationship of the ridged cultivation to the ponds?

 The ridge and furrow has been cut by the ponds removing evidence of its reverse S form'.

What is the ornamental nature of the Little Park? Do buildings within this landscape relate to its ornamentation? If not, what were they?

- The area of Little Park during the medieval period has not been satisfactorily located.
- No evidence for any ornamental landscape was seen within the probable area of Little Park other than the fish ponds.

Was an approach to the palace complex routed through the Little Park?

• It seems unlikely that a medieval track ran through the Little Park to the bishop's palace, rather this was probably accessed directly from the precinct by a private gateway.

A track may have run south from Chapel Lane from the point where it crossed
the Lydd to the north-westerly comer of the fishponds and from here across
Little Park to the south east comer of The Green. There is no evidence that
this was medieval though and would seem to be more likely to be agricultural
and post-medieval in origin.

The village: What was the earliest layout of the village? How did the village develop in relation to the palace? Does the nucleation of the village around the market place date from the 13th century? At what date did settlement develop along the Uppingham road [Main Street]?

- The earliest layout of the village (mid to late Anglo-Saxon) was probably a linear settlement along Main Street in the area north of the later Norman enclosure (above).
- A reorganisation of the settlement probably took place in the early 13th century, perhaps associated with the foundation of the market and the laying out of a green to accommodate it. This also probably resulted in the end of occupation at 57-9 Main Street and the southern part of the palace enclosure ditch going out of use, suggesting that the newly laid out green extending from 57-9 Main Street to the northern arm of the enclosure which could have been filled in to accommodate it.
- New properties seem to then have been laid out as a planned block along the east side of The Green.
- Some infilling of The Green may have been fairly early, during the later medieval period.
- The village seems to have developed continuously with some properties along Main Street going back to the 15th and 16th centuries.
- The linear appearance of Lyddington probably dates mainly from the 17th and 18th centuries.

REFERENCES

Published sources

Ali J R and Cunich P 2001 'The orientation of churches: some new evidence' in *The Antiquaries Journal*, **81**, 155-93

Anon 1996 'Lyddington Bede House 1983-5 (CAS Project 242)'. Typescript report supplied by C Tsang of Fort Cumberland

BGS 1978 Stamford, Sheet 157, Solid and Drift edition, 1:50 000 series. Southampton: Ordnance Survey for British Geological Survey

Blair, J 2005 The church in Anglo-Saxon society. Oxford: University Press

Canadine, R 2003 'The Bishop of Lincoln's residential manors in the East Midlands during the later medieval and early Tudor period'. Ma thesis, English Local History, Cambridge University

Cantor, L and Squires, A 1997 The historic parks and gardens of Leicestershire and Rutland. Newton Linford: Kairos Press

EH 2007 Understanding the archaeology of landscape: a guide to good practice. Swindon: English Heritage

Everson, P L, Taylor, C C and Dunn, C J 1991 Change and continuity: rural settlement in north-west Lincolnshire. London: HMSO

Faith, R 1997 The English peasantry and the rise of lordship. Leicester. University Press

Higham, R and Barker, P 1992 Timber Castles. Exeter: University Press

Hunt, L 2004 'An archaeological watching brief at Lyddington Bede House, Lyddington, Rutland'. University of Leicester Archaeological Services: report no 2004-079

Hyam, A 2008 'An Archaeological Evaluation at 67-69 Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland'. University of Leicester Archaeological Services, report no 2007-141

Letters, \$ 2007 'Online Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs in England Wales to 1516: [Rutland]'. (http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/gaz/rutland.html accessed 01/06/2009)

Lewis, C 2004-5 'Access Cambridge Archaeology: pottery wares'. (http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/fatpf/potwares.html accessed 17 June 2009)

Lewis, C 2006 'The medieval period (850-1500)' in Cooper, N J The archaeology of the East Midlands: an archaeological resource assessment and research agenda, 185-216. Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, University of Leicester Archaeological Services

Liddiard, R 2005 Castles in context: power symbolism and landscape, 1066 to 1500. Macclesfield: Windgather Press

Linford, N 1991 'Bede House Lyddington, Leicestershire: Report on Geophysical survey, 1991'. Unpublished report, English Heritage Centre for Archaeology, Ancient Monuments Laboratory Report no 103/91

McLean, T 1981 Medieval English gardens. London: Collins

Mills, A D 2003 Oxford dictionary of British place names. Oxford: University Press

Muir, R 2004 Landscape encyclopaedia: a reference guide to the historic landscape. Macclesfield: Windgather Press

Page, W (ed) 1935 A History of the County of Rutland: Volume 2. Oxford: University Press

Pevsner, N 1984 The Buildings of England: Leicestershire and Rutland, second edition, revised by Williamson, E with Brandwood, G K. Harmondsworth: Penguin

Phythian-Adams, C 1980 'The emergence of Rutland and the making of the realm', in *Rutland* Record, 1, 5-12

Pikes, P J 1988 'Lyddington - part 8: the medieval Episcopal palace and township of Lyddington'. Draft typescript report, Oakham Museum, Lyddington Archive (site 242)., box 12.

Sims, R 1955 (1956) 'Lyddington Bede House', Archaeological Journal 112, 184

SSEW 1983 Soils of England and Wales: Sheet 4, Easter England, 1:250 000 series. Harpenden: Soil Survey of England and Wales.

Taylor, C 2008 'New work on old sites: Somersham and Pampisford revisited' in *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, **97**, 121-136

Thom, F 1980 Domesday Book: Rutland. Chichester: Phillimore

Thornton, C 2009 'Lyddington Bede House, Rutland: historical report'. Unpublished report for English Heritage

Woodfield, C and Woodfield, P 1983 'The palace of the Bishops of Lincoln at Lyddington' in Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society Transactions, 57, 1-16

Woodfield, C and Woodfield, P 1988 Lyddington Bede House. London: English Heritage

Aerial Photographs

Verticals

CPE/UK 1925 3153 16 Jan 1947 CPE/UK 1925 3154 16 Jan 1947 73 034 268 22 Mar 1973 73 034 269 22 Mar 1973 73 034 270 22 Mar 1973 93-554A 164 7 Aug 1993 93-554A 165 7 Aug 1993 93-554A 166 7 Aug 1993

Obliques

SP8797/1 318/5 22 Jul 1971 (mono)
SP8797/2 NHC 13147/21 25 Jul 1990 (mono)
SP8797/3 NHC 13147/22 25 Jul 1990 (mono)
SP8797/4 NHC 13147/23 25 Jul 1990 (mono)
SP8797/18 NMR 21903/09 05 Feb 2003 (col)
SP8797/5 NMR 21904/35 05 Feb 2003 (col)
SP8797/6 NMR 21904/36 05 Feb 2003 (col)
SP8797/7 NMR 21904/37 05 Feb 2003 (col)
SP8796/4 NMR 21967/01 05 Feb 2003 (col)

SP8796/5 NMR 21967/02 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/11 NMR 21967/03 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/12 NMR 21967/04 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/14 NMR 21967/06 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/15 NMR 21967/07 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8796/7 NMR 21967/10 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/17 NMR 21967/12 05 Feb 2003 (col) SP8797/8 NMR 21971/11 05 Feb 2003 (mono) SP8797/9 NMR 21971/12 05 Feb 2003 (mono) SP8796/1 NMR 21971/14 05 Feb 2003 (mono) SP8796/2 NMR 21971/15 05 Feb 2003 (mono) SP8796/3 NMR 21971/16 05 Feb 2003 (mono)

APPENDIX:

Brief for archaeological field investigation

Properties Presentation Department are developing an Interpretation Plan in 2009-10 in advance of a re-presentation of Lyddington palace and Bede House in the financial year 2010-11. Following a detailed historical report by Chris Thornton, Archaeological Investigation (Cambridge) will be providing an assessment of the site's archaeology. This will be a field-based investigation of the area shown on plan A, and a broader assessment of the village. It will be presented as a written report, supported by maps, plans and interpretation drawings, focusing on the archaeological and topographical aspects of the site, and using Chris Thornton's historical report as a resource. The main questions to be addressed are:

- Anglo-Saxon/early Norman Lyddington: How does the village topography fit with analysis of the earliest (i.e. late Anglo-Saxon/early Norman) enclosure at the site? (Thornton 2009 Fig. 4A 1 & 2; Pikes 1988). What was the sequence of infilling of the moat?
- 2. The medieval precinct: Is it possible to define the medieval palace precinct? In particular, the entrances, and any further divisions within the precinct. Was Blue Coat Lane a main access route? Was there a gatehouse here? What is the nature of the garden on the west side of the palace, and what earthworks relate to it? Is geophysical survey desirable here?
- 3. The church: how did the first church on the site relate to the palace complex? Was it, as Pikes suggested, an earlier structure to the east? What was the original layout of the churchyard? Can we say anything of how the later 15th century church related to the palace complex?
- 4. The ponds: By means of a re-examination of the earthworks NE of the palace/bede house (by detailed reconnaissance):
 - a. Can survey of this area clarify the water management system discussed by Thomton? How were the ponds fed and emptied, how did they work? What are the watercourses here, and how did the leats work? Can we confirm existence and location of the mill? Does the large pond relate to the mill?
 - b. Is the ridged cultivation evidence of ridge-and-furrow arable or is it something else (e.g. orchard ridges?)
 - c. What is the relationship of the ridged cultivation to the ponds?
 - d. What is the ornamental nature of the 'Little Park'? Do buildings within this landscape relate to its ornamentation? If not, what were they?
 - e. Was an approach to the palace complex routed through the Little Park?
- 5. The village: What was the earliest layout of the village? How did the village develop in relation to the palace? Does the nucleation of the village around the market place date from the 13th century? At what date did settlement develop along the Uppingham road?

Nicola Stacey, 14th April 2009



Figure 1 – The churchyard between the Bede House and the church looking east. Note the raised level with respect to the Bede House footings



Figure 2 - The walls abutting the corner tower, that on Main Street to the left, on Church Lane to the right



Figure 3 - Main Street north of The Green running in a hollow way, looking south.



Figure 4 – An example of encroachment south of The Green, the front part of no 43 Main Street appears to be a later addition to the rear cross wing



Figure 5 – The intrusive block around no 7 The Green (to the left) with the set back line of the cottages to the right, from the south



Figure 6 – The intrusive block around no 7 The Green (to the left) from the north, note the pronounced curve of the road to the right



Figure 7– The intrusive block around 57 Main Street (left) with the set-back line of cottages to the right, from the west



Figure 8 - The awkward junction between 53 Main Street (left) and the earlier houses (right)



Figure 9 - The pale of the Great Park visible from SP 8624 9765, looking north



Figure 10– Aerial photograph from the south-east with the fishponds in the foreground, the Bede House is top left to the right of the church © English Heritage NMC SP 8797/03



Figure 11 – The south end of the main fishpond complex from the west. Note the higher level of the southern (right) bank relative to the east bank (left distance in front of hedge line)



Figure 12 - The jack pond from the north. The gully where the leat may have entered is visible left foreground



Figure 13 - The possible mill site from the north east



Figure 14 – The mill leat or original stream line (reflected in the fence line) and possible mill site (centre right, just beyond yellow flowers) from the east

Research Department Internal Report

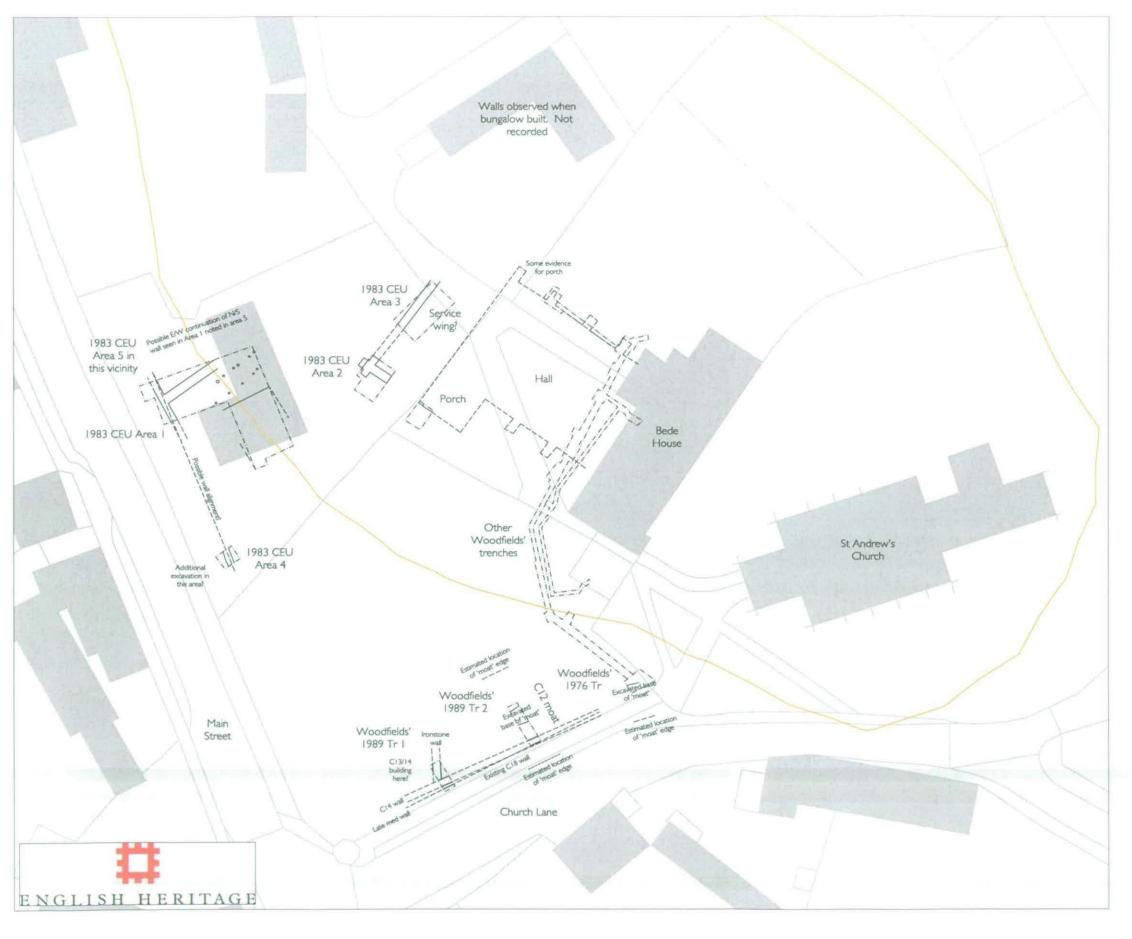
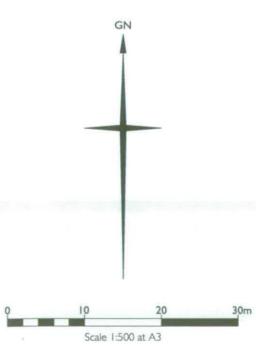


Figure 15 - Excavation evidence

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright and database right 2009, All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 1000 19088

Key

Edge of excavation
Excavated feature
Inferred alignment
65m contour shown



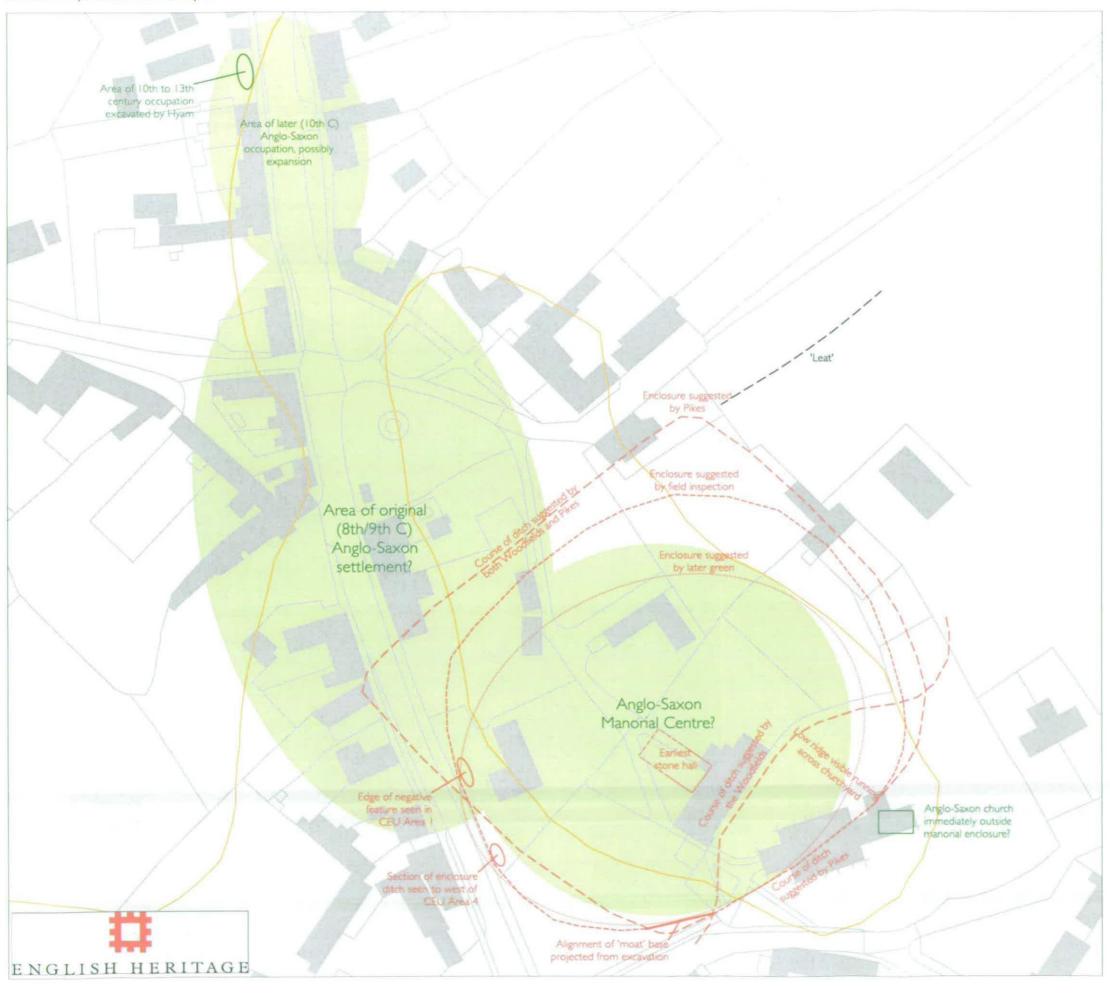


Figure 16 Possible Anglo-Saxon and Norman features

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright and database right 2009. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 1000 19088

Key

Anglo-Saxon elements in green
Norman elements in red
65m contour shown





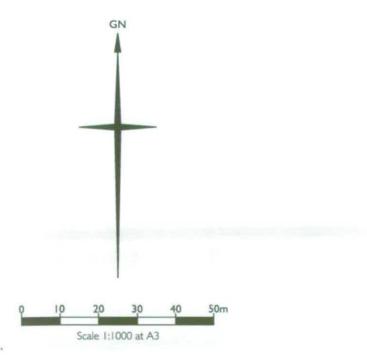
Figure 17 - 13th and 14th century precinct

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office @ Crown Copyright and database right 2009. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088

Key

Suggested Norman enclosures in red (see Figure 16)

65m contour shown



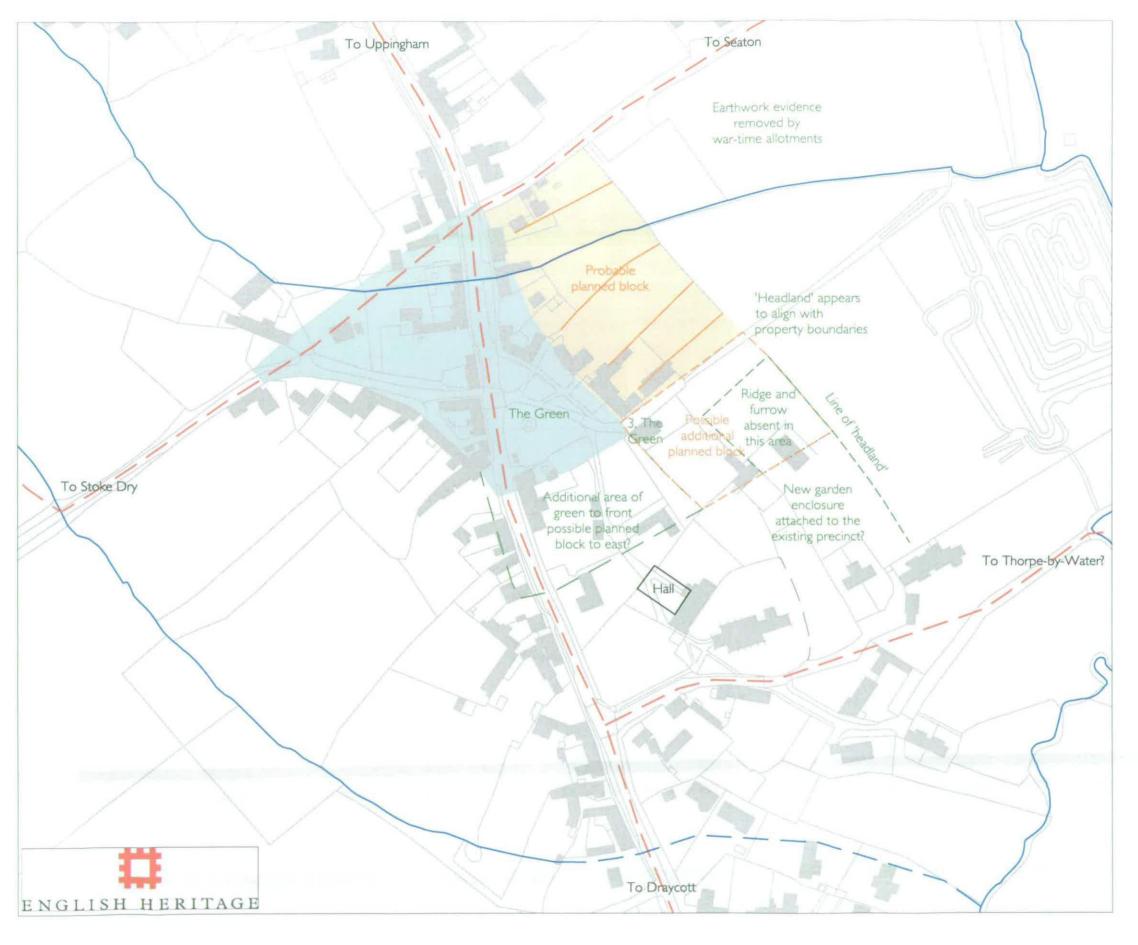


Figure 18 Village plan

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office @ Crown Copyright and database right 2009. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088.

Key

Probable pre-enclosure roads

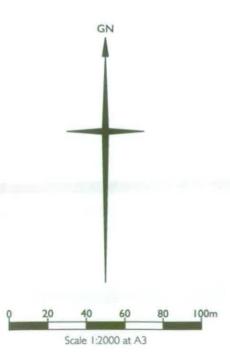
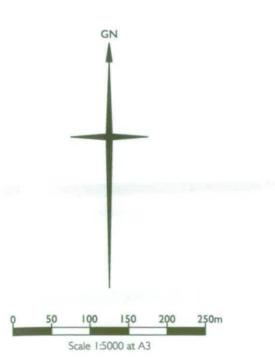




Figure 19 - Listed buildings

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright and database right 2009. All rights reserved, Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088.





Page 47 10/07/2009



Figure 20 Little Park and the fishponds

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of the the Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationary Office © Crown Copyright and database right 2009. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019088.

Key

Extent of Little park c1800 Likely pond areas Possible leats Earthwork banks (dot density indicative of relative height)

