

Great Bowden Heritage & Archaeology

Field Walking on the lower part of Green's Hill, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough



Date: 10th September 2011

Site Code: GBH2011 LGH Area walked: approx. 5 hectares

Grid Reference: centre of field, SP73729 88605



LOCATION: Green's Hill is the field to the right of Burnmill Road at the bottom of the hill approaching from the south. The ploughed area has been extended recently and now covers approximately 60-70 per cent of the field leaving only the top area of the field under grass. (see Fig 1 left)

In previous field walking Late Iron Age and Roman pottery has been found in the fields on the other side of Burnmill Road, including Russell Seeds, Chater's Hill and Webbs Meadow. The field is just outside the parish of Great Bowden. The parish boundary between Market Harborough and Great Bowden follows the northern hedge line of the field. There is a north-south footpath running through the field linking Burnmill Road with The Ridgeway.

In 2011 an extensive area at the top of the ridge to the south of the field and at a distance of about 250 metres was excavated as part of a housing development by Persimmon Homes, off Waterfield Place. The excavation was carried out by Leicester University (ULAS) and found extensive evidence of mid to late Iron Age settlement.

Associated Documents: Great Bowden Heritage & Archaeology field walking reports for Russell Seeds (2005 and 2008) Chater's Hill (2009) and Webbs Meadow (2009). University of Leicester Archaeological Services Report 2011-097

Method: The field was walked using the traverse and stint method. 20 traverses at 10 metre intervals were made starting at the south-east corner of the ploughed section travelling approximately east-west. Stints changed at 30 metre intervals along the traverses. (See Fig.2 right)

Finds: These were initially identified by the Heritage Group and verified by Leicestershire Community Archaeologist.

Finds summary:

Prehistoric = 9 flints

Roman = 3 sherds (Greyware)

Early medieval and medieval = 47 sherds (mostly Lyveden Stanion oolitic limestone ware and Midland Purple)

Early post medieval and post medieval = 193 sherds (mostly earthenware including some pancheons, some earthenware EA1,EA2, Staffordshire slipware, Cistercian ware, Midland Black, stoneware)

Modern, white and blue and white sherds not counted.

Detailed tables of pottery and other finds are given below.





Field Walking - (Lower) Green's Hill, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough, September 2011

Grid Reference: centre of field SP73729 88605

Site Code GBH2011 LGH

20 Traverses at 10 metre intervals, stints every 30 metres Direction of traverses east to west starting at south-east corner of ploughed section.

Pottery Finds Key

GW - Roman Grey ware. common kitchen ware through Roman period

E Med - Early Medieval no further ID made

CC/Nun - Chilvers Coton/ Nuneaton ware. Hard, sandy fabric, white fabric with bright green glaze 1250-1300 or grey, red, buff fabric with dark green purplish glaze 1300-1400. Mostly glazed jugs..

PM - Potters Marston 1100-1350. Can feel the crushed granite in the fabric, cooking pots & jugs.

LY - Lyveden Stanion oolitic limestone ware 1200-1400 or similar from same potteries. LY B, grey fabric with buff or orange surfaces, pots & jugs with greenish glaze. LY A 1150-1400 - cruder, handmade, plus shell in fabric, wheel finished.

BO - Bourne ware D, from Bourne, S.Cambs. 1450-1637. Site destroyed by fire 1637. Hard smooth, brick red, sometimes grey core.

Some flecks of shell or chalk in fabric. Jugs and bowls, clear glaze over white slip.

MP - Midland purple, 1375-1550. Very hard fabric, quite thick and coarse, fabric reddish, purplish, glaze dark purple to black. Jars, bowls and jugs.

CW Cistercian ware, 1475-1700, thin, hard, made in coal fired kilns, fabric, brick red or purple, dark brown to purplish-black glaze on both surfaces.

EA1 - early post medieval hard fired earthenware. 1500-1750 developed out of MP, grey or purple fabric, less coarse than MP.

EA2 - (later) early post medieval hard fired earthenware, oxidized and therefore orange/red fabric, 17thc-18thc

MB - Midland black ware 1550-1700, thin, smooth, bright red fabric with shiny black glaze on both surfaces. Usually cups, jugs, bowls, tygs.

Mott - Mottled ware (manganese ware) 1650-1780. fine, buff or red fabric, distinctive mottled brown or purple glaze, mugs, chamber pots.

MY - Midland yellow ware 1550-1700, white, buff, sandy fabric, thick crazed yellow glaze.

SS - Staffordshire Slip ware 1640-1750, made in moulds, pale buff fabric, distinctive yellow glaze with brown trailing lines. Plates common also cups.

ST - English Stoneware, end of 17thc-19thc, very hard grey fabric with white or grey surface. Bottles and jars common.

Pan - Pancheons, large dairy or kitchen bowls 18th-20thc.

China - post medieval and modern, blue & white, white and other china

NR = Not retained. Mostly large sherds of pancheon which were noted and then discarded to save storage space

Traverse	GW	E Med	CC/ Nun	PM	LY	BO	MP	CW	EA1	EA2	MB	Mott	MY	SS	ST	Pan	China	
1A																1(NR)		
1B									2=21g								1(NR)	
1C																1(NR)		
1D											1=15g base						3(NR)	
1E																	1(NR)	
1H									1=11g							1(NR)		
2A																	1(NR)	
2B															1(NR)	2(NR)		
2C																1(NR)		
2D																1(NR)		
2E					1=3g						1=7g						2(NR)	
2F					1=7g												2(NR)	
2G							1=7g										1(NR)	
2H					2=7g												1(NR)	
2I										1=13g		1=<1g		1=8g				
3A									1=12g								2(NR)	
3B																	2(NR)	1(NR)
3C														1=5g			1(NR)	

Traverse	GW	E Med	CC/ Nun	PM	LY	BO	MP	CW	EA1	EA2	MB	Mott	MY	SS	ST	Pan	China
4F							1=23g		2=10g							1(NR)	1(NR)
4g		Un-ID miss'g					1=15g									3(NR)	
4H		1=12g ?															
4I									1=85g 1=16g bases		1=8g					2(NR)	
5A									1=5g								
5B							2=40g		2=? miss'g							1(NR)	
5C																1(NR)	
5D						1=4g	1=14g								1(NR)		1(NR)
5E									1=45g base	1=20g	1=5g					3(NR)	
5F					1=14g	1=4g			1=22g						1=5g	1(NR)	
5G					1=8g			1=6g								3(NR)	
5H	1=32g														1=7g	1(NR)	
5J							1=6g									1(NR)	
6B															1(NR)	3(NR)	
6C			1=3g		1=3g											2(NR) 1 rim= 59g	
6D					1=6g											2(NR)	

Traverse	GW	E Med	CC/ Nun	PM	LY	BO	MP	CW	EA1	EA2	MB	Mott	MY	SS	ST	Pan	China
9H																2(NR)	
9I					1=5g								1=12g				
9J					1=4g											1(NR)	
10A																1=52g	
10B							1=37g base									3(NR)	
10D																3(NR)	
10F									1=6g								
10G								1=11g									
10H					2=29g			1=6g base			1=3g					1(NR)	
10I					? 1=35g												
11B					1=8g												
11C																4(NR)	
11D									1=8g							2(NR)	1(NR)
11E					1=3g											2(NR)	
11G							1=63g									1(NR)	
12A																1(NR)	
12B															1=6g		
12D																1(NR)	

Traverse	GW	E Med	CC/ Nun	PM	LY	BO	MP	CW	EA1	EA2	MB	Mott	MY	SS	ST	Pan	China
12E									1=11g							1(NR)	1(NR)
12F																2(NR)	
13H																	1(NR)
14A																1(NR)	
14D																1(NR)	
15B																2(NR)	
16C							1=44g								1=20g rim	2(NR)	
17F					1=10g												
20A															1=19g handle	1(NR)	
20B																1(NR)	

4G ? burnt shellyware rim with recent break - sent for identification.



Field Walking - (Lower) Green's Hill, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough September 2011
 Grid Reference :centre of field SP73729 88605
 Site Code GBH2011 LGH

20 Traverses at 10 metre intervals; stints every 30 metres. Direction of traverses east to west starting at south-east corner of ploughed section.

Finds Other than Pottery

(NR indicates the find was not retained due to lack of storage space)

Traverse No.	Ceramic other than pottery	Animal Bone	Worked stone & Flint	Metal & Metal working	Glass	All other finds
1C	post med 2 x clay pipe stems 5g, 2g					
1H	post med, 1 x clay pipe stem 6g					
1J				1 x large nail (NR)		
3C	post med 1 x clay pipe stem, 2g					
3G	post med 1 x clay pipe stem 3g					
4D	post med 1 x clay pipe stem 1g					
4H	post med 1 x clay pipe stem 4g					
5C					1 x glass age? 6g	
5D	post med 1 x clay pipe stem 6g		prehist 1 x flint scraper 30g			
5F				1 x corroded iron 81g		
6E			prehist 1 x struck fragment 23g			
6G	modern 1 x stoneware tile 50g		prehist retouched potlid 30g			
6H			prehist 1 x struck flint fragment 44g			
7A			prehist 1 x flint core 12g			

Traverse No.	Ceramic other than pottery	Animal Bone	Worked stone & Flint	Metal & Metal working	Glass	All other finds
7G	post med 1 x clay pipe bowl (early, mid 17thC) 6g				1 x fine glass frag 1g	
8E			prehist 1 x flint (blade like flake) 11g			
9B	post med 2 x clay pipe stems 5g 4g					
9F	post med clay pipe stem 2g					
10H					1 x glass knob (NR)	
11C			prehist flint, struck fragment 35g			
11G				1 x large nail (NR)		
12A					1 x fine curved glass 2g	
13H	post med clay pipe stem 3g					
14A				metal blade x 3 42g		
14D		1 x bone + cut marks (NR)				
15B			prehist 1 x flint core 29g			
16C					1 x thick brown glass (NR)	
20A	post med 1 x clay pipe stem 3g					