

# Great Bowden Heritage & Archaeology

## Field walking and metal detecting in 2009 and 2017



Field Walking at Webbs Meadow, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough LE16 7JG  
Grid Reference: (centre of field) SP736 887      Date: 9th September 2009



**Location.** Webbs Meadow is a low lying arable field at the bottom of Bowden Ridge in the Burnmill Rd area. (*fig.1 left*) It would have been part of the West Field in the medieval open fields of Great Bowden.

The field walking was carried out during a very dry period making it difficult to see pottery lying on the ground. The field lies below the Waterfield Place site excavated by ULAS in 2011 where an Iron Age Settlement was found. The southern tip of the field lies 265 metres from this excavation site.

The original, natural course of the Gunnsbrook would have been through this field at its lowest level and would have continued across the lower part of Green's Hill on the opposite side of Burnmill Road where no evidence of ridge and furrow earthworks remain. The present day course of the stream is across the northern boundary of the field and the water is piped underground to the north-west corner of Green's Hill where it emerges and flows towards the River Welland.

**Associated documents.** Great Bowden Heritage & Archaeology Field Walking Reports for Lower Green's Hill, Chater's Hill and Russell's Seeds, all fields adjacent to Burnmill Road, Market Harborough [www.greatbowdenheritage.btck.co.uk](http://www.greatbowdenheritage.btck.co.uk)  
Harvey, J. (2011) An Archaeological Evaluation of Land north of Waterfield Place, Market Harborough, Leicestershire (SP 735 883). Leicester: University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), 2011-097. <https://doi.org/10.5284/1022212>

**Method.** Eighteen traverses at 10 metre intervals were walked in an approximately north-south direction starting at the north-east corner of the field nearest the gate. Stints were at 30 metre intervals. This field was walked with several novice field walkers under instruction.

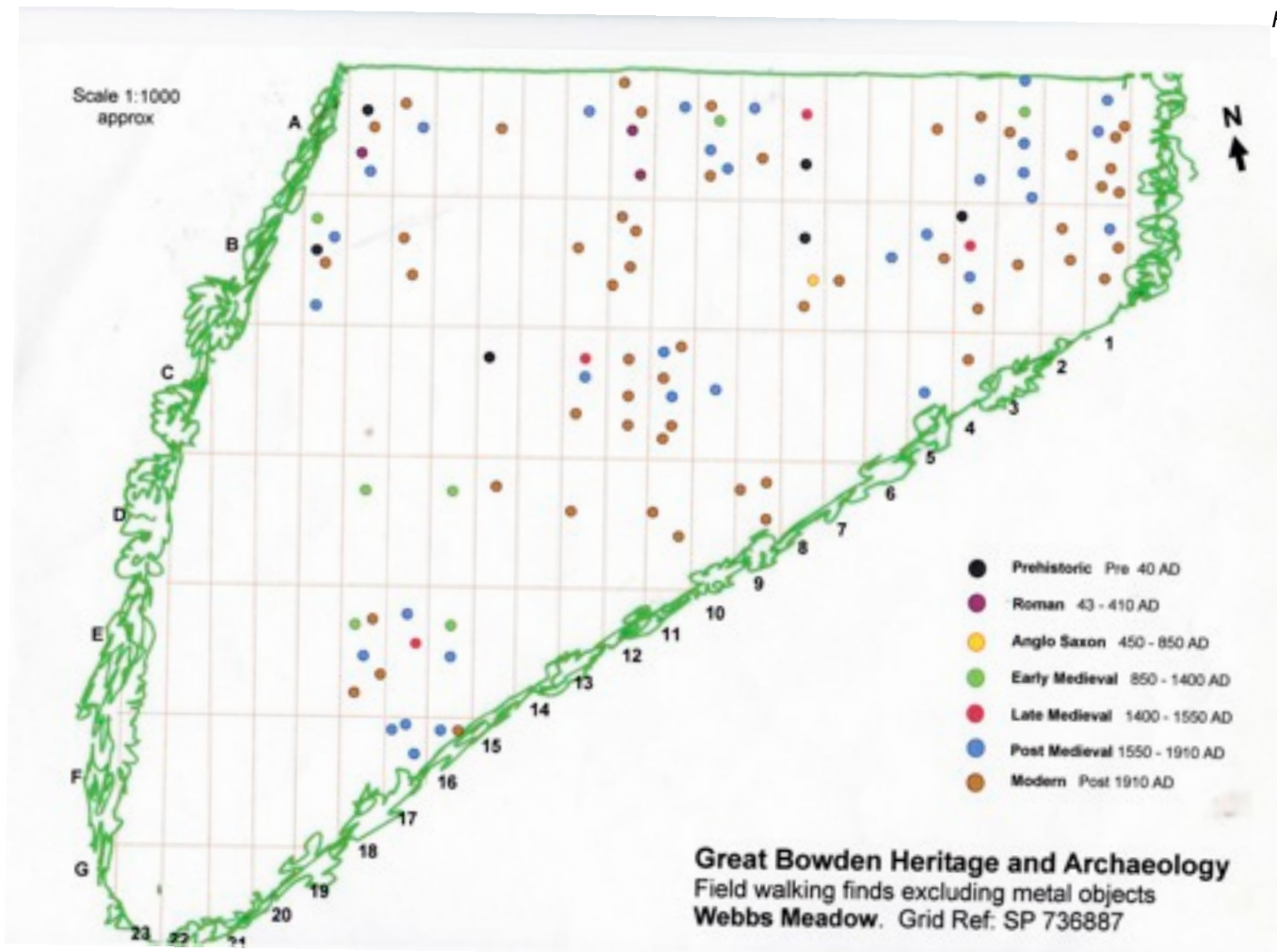


Fig.2 left. Distribution of pottery finds by age.

### GBH2009 WM

#### Pottery & Flint Finds summary.

Prehistoric = 6 flints

Roman = 3 (greyware, whiteware)

Anglo-Saxon = 1 sherd early Anglo-Saxon

Early medieval & medieval = 11 sherds (Gritted ware, sandyware, Midland Purple, Lyveden /Stanion oolitic limestone ware)

Early post medieval and post medieval = 28 sherds (late Midland Purple, earthenwares including pancheons, Midland Black ware, clay pipes, mottled ware, Staffordshire slipware, Midland Yellow)

Modern, white and blue and white sherds not counted.



# Field Walking in Webbs Meadow, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough

## September 2009 - Grid Reference SP736887 - Site Code GBH2009 WM

18 Traverses walked at 10 metre intervals, stints at 30 metres, north-south direction, starting in north-east corner of field.

### Pottery Finds

GW - Roman grey ware Grey ware - the kitchen and cooking pots made throughout the Roman period

WW - Roman white ware

Early A-S - Early Anglo-Saxon

EM gritted - Early Medieval gritted ware

EMed -probably from about the mid Saxon period up to the Saxo-Norman period (included in this chart LY1 - Lyveden Stanion ware 1200-1400)

Med sandy - early in period

MP - Midland Purple hard fired - fabric often dark purple in colour with thick black glaze on inner side. Survives well in the soil.

MB - Midland Black 1550-1700 red fabric, shiny black glaze, softer than Cistercian ware.

MY - Midland Yellow 1550-1700 pale fabric crazed yellow glaze

Mottled - Mottled ware (manganese ware) late 17th-18th century, buff or red fabric, mottled dark brown glaze

SS - Staffordshire Slipware 1640-1750 pale buff fabric, yellow glaze, brown stripes or squiggles

ST - Stoneware hard fired grey fabric, English slipware brown or white glaze

Pan -18-19th century very common large dairy or kitchen bowls, pinkish fabric, orange/red slip and brown glaze.

Mod - Modern Covers china and pottery from about 1800 onwards - a variety of fabrics and styles.

Weights in grams.

Traverse	GW	WW	Early A-S	EM gritted	EMed	Med sandy	MP	MB	MY	Mottled	SS	ST	Pan	Mod	Notes
1A								1=10*						1=11g	*19thC
1B														2=19*	*blue & white
2A														1=1g	
2B														2=1g	
3A						1=2g							1=11g		
3B														1=5g	willow pattern pot

Traverse	GW	WW	Early A-S	EM gritted	EMed	Med sandy	MP	MB	MY	Mott led	SS	ST	Pan	Mod	Notes
4A														1=<1g	
4B							1=2g						1=3g	1=2g	
4C														1=1g	
5A														1=2g	
5B							1=14*								*late in period
6B								1=5g*							*handle
8A							1=4g								
8B			1=2g											1=4g*	*willow pattern
9A										1=1				1=2g	
9D														3=15g	
10A				1=1g						1=3				2=3g	
10D												1=10			late in period
11A														1=11g	
11C														3=4g	
12A	1=11														very abraded
12B														3=3g	
12C														1=2g	
13B														1=4g*	
13C							1=16g*	1=4**						1=8g	* Mid. Purple rim, **overfired
16D				1=2g											
16E				1=4g									1=4g		

Traverse	GW	WW	Early A-S	EM gritted	EMed	Med sandy	MP	MB	MY	Mottled	SS	ST	Pan	Mod	Notes
16F											1=14*			1=3g	*decorative edged slipware square vessel
17A									1=4g						
17B														2=5g	
17E							1=9g					1=10		1=1g	
17F											1=21		2=41g		stoneware later in period
18A		1=3g*											1=4g	1=1g	*highly abraded whiteware pot rim
18B					1=6g*								1=1g		*thin sooted piece
18D					1=10*										* Lyvenden Stanion oolitic ware
18E					1=3g*				1=10						*Lyvenden Stantion oolitic ware



## Field Walking in Webbs Meadow, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough

September 2009 - Grid Reference SP736887 - Site Code GBH2009 WM

18 Traverses walked at 10 metre intervals, stints at 30 metres, north-south direction, starting in north-east corner of field.

### Finds Other than Pottery

Traverse	ceramic other than pot	animal bone	worked stone & flint	metal & metal working	glass	other finds	additional information
1A	1=37g*	1=5g				1=5g slate	*glazed drain,
1B	1=93g*						* glazed drain
2B	1=6g brick						
3A	1=25g* 2=4g clay pipe 1 x 129g **						*terracotta tile fragment **flowerpot base
3B	1=12g brick						
4B			1=22g*			1=1g oyster shell	*retouched edge
4C						1=4g coal	
5B	1=1g clay pipe				1=3g clear, curved		
5C	1=5g brick/tile					1=5g slate	
6B			1 x natural				
7B	1=23g *					1=15g slate	*field drain
8A			1=2g flint flake				
8B			1=3g flint *				*possible core
9C				key=22g broken			
10C	1=12g tile*						*earthenware tile fragment

Traverse	ceramic other than pot	animal bone	worked stone & flint	metal & metal working	glass	other finds	additional information
11C	1=1g clay pipe 1=17g tile*				1=25g **		*earthenware tile fragment ** decorative clear glass
11D				1=39g horseshoe*	2=15g		* very small horseshoe
12A	1=58g Roman* 1=5g clay pipe				1=5g		* Roman terracotta tile piece
12B					1=5g*	1=4g coal	*green bottle glass
12C	1=21g brick 1=32g field drain				1=23g*	1=3g slate	* heavy, green bottle base
13A	1=1g clay pipe						
13B					1=2g		
15A					1=9g*		*milk bottle
15C			1=32g*				* flint core with retouched edge
15D					1=<1g v.fine		
17A	1=39g field drain						
17B	1=20g field drain						
18A			1=12g* 1=13g**				* thumbnail scraper poss. Bronze Age ** struck flint
18B	1=13g *		1=5g 1=15g core		1=5g		* stoneware tile
18E	1=17g field drain				2= 93g*		*very thick dark green bottle glass
Bag 1				4 = 63g aluminium			Metal detecting Bag 1 NE quarter of field (molten at high temperature)

Traverse	ceramic other than pot	animal bone	worked stone & flint	metal & metal working	glass	other finds	additional information
Bag 2				16= 87g			Metal detecting Bag 2 NE quarter of field unidentified metal fragments - some lead, 1 x bronze (greyish/brown in colour)
Bag 3				3= 35g badges* 1=5g belt loop 1 = 6g stud 1=29g machine part			Metal detecting Bag 3 NE quarter of field *3 metal badges possibly military
Bag 4				2 = 4g, 3g coins*			* Metal detecting Bag 4 NE quarter of field * 1 x William III farthing 1694-1702 * 1 x George III halfpenny 1760-1820
Bag 5				3 = 193g lead			Metal detecting Bag 5 NE quarter of field 1 = lead pipe
Bag 6				1 = 7g spent bullet*			Metal detecting Bag 6 NE quarter of field rifle bullet (99mm)





# Metal Detecting (1) at Webb's Meadow, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough LE16 7JG

**Grid reference: SP736887**

**Date: 9th September 2009**

The survey covered the north-east quarter of the field only, and was carried out after Field Walking.

### Fig. 3 *Finds from Metal Detecting*

*Bag 1 = 4 x aluminium, molten at high temperature*

*Bag 2 = unidentifiable metal objects - some of lead; 1 x bronze (greyish/brown in colour)*

*Bag 3 - machine part, modern belt loop, stud, 3 military style metal badges*

*Bag 4 = 2 coins, 1 x George III halfpenny 1760-1820, 1 x William farthing 1694-1702*

*Bag 5 = 2 x white lead, 1 x small lead pipe.*

*Bag 6 = spent rifle bullet (99mm)*





## Metal Detecting (2) at Webb's Meadow, Burnmill Road, Market Harborough LE16 7JG

Grid Reference: SP 736887

Date: 14 October 2017

### Overview



A metal detecting survey was conducted on a small south-east corner of Webb's Meadow running north-west to south-east in rows fully covering the survey area. The field was in a very dry condition, recently ploughed and rolled. Topographically, the survey area covered the lowest point of the field.

*Fig. 4 Webb's Meadow, left, with arrow indicating the area surveyed. This has an altitude of 91-92 metres.*

## Finds



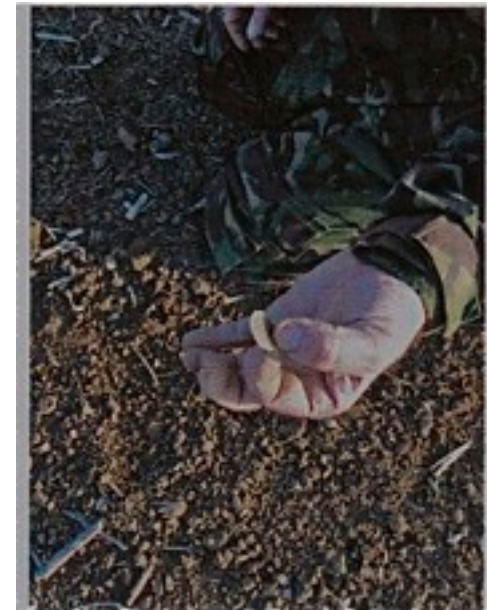
*Fig. 5 above. Decorative lead alloy button with horseman design and lettering - date and origin not known, possibly early 20th century.*

*Found at Lat:52.491°N Long:0.916°W*



*Fig. 6 above. Silver Fob Chain Toggle from pocket watch chain, possibly early 20th century.*

*Found at Lat:52.490°N Long:0.917°W*



*Fig. 7 above. Very worn unidentifiable coin possibly 17th century.*

*Found at Lat:52.490°N Long:0.917°W*



*Fig. 8, left. Copper alloy Horse Tack Buckle, probably mid 19th century.*

*Found at Lat: 52.491°N Long: 0.917°W*

**Fig. 9 (right) Further Finds from Metal Detecting Survey**

- 1 Copper item (unidentified)
- 2 Medieval buckle
- 3 Tudor buckle
- 4 Canvas eyelet
- 5 Crotal bell
- 6 Georgian buckle
- 7 Lead item (Unidentified)
- 8 Alloy button
- 9 Clay pipe fragment
- 10 Pierced copper disc
- 11 Blank copper coin (Georgian)
- 12 Clay pipe bowl
- 13 Lead item(unidentified)
- 14 Modern threaded bracket
- 15 & 16 Molten aluminium



.....