

A1 ROAD WIDENING SCHEME

FIELD 163 LEATHER

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DESCRIPTION

Field 163 central Burial 99 (12966AA) RF 14542

Eight small fragments of leather were recovered during Burial 99 sample processing. They have not been conserved. The largest fragment measured approximately 17mm x 9mm, but the remaining fragments were about half the size. They were extremely thin with the largest measuring approximately 0.1mm in thickness. Two of the smaller fragments may have had intact edges, as if from a strap or thong, but the remaining fragments did not.

It is unusual that this fragment of leather survived, given that the land at Bainesse were not waterlogged, but this may be related to the variable survivability of human remains. It is not clear whether the leather would have originated from an object contained within the coffin, or whether it was in the backfill. If it originated from within the grave, it could have been from an object of clothing, or accessory, such as a belt, shoes, or bag.