

Report 2013/1280



nps archaeology

**Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at  
5, 6 and 6b Beckham Place, Edward Street, Norwich**

ENF131521



**Prepared for**  
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<i>Issue 1</i>		

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Location:	5, 6 and 6b Beckham Place, Edward Street, Norwich
District:	Norwich
Grid Ref.:	TG 2304 0953
Planning Ref.:	10/01156/F
HER No.:	ENF131521
OASIS Ref.:	154442
Client:	Mr and Mrs Hedges
Dates of Fieldwork:	7-14 May 2013

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## **Summary**

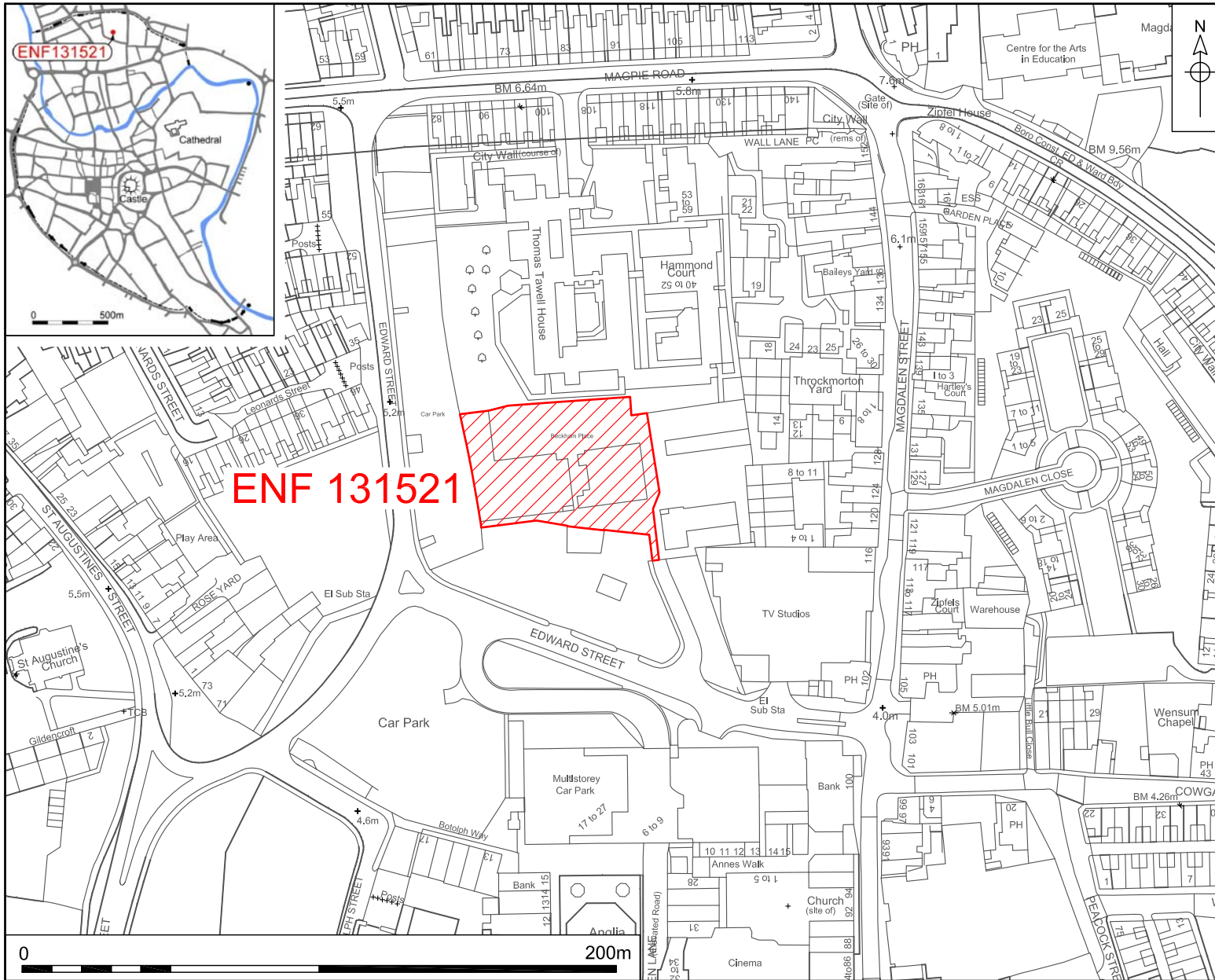
*An archaeological evaluation was conducted by NPS Archaeology for Mr and Mrs Hedges ahead of proposed redevelopment at Beckham Place, Edward Street, Norwich, Norfolk. The site is located in the north of Norwich and is currently occupied by light industrial units and surface car parks. This report presents the findings of two evaluation trenches (Trenches 1 and 2). A further four trenches located under currently standing buildings will be the subject of evaluation at a later date. A third trench originally specified as part of the current works was not examined due to the proximity of sub-surface electrical cables. The evaluated trenches measured 4.00m by 4.00m in plan and were excavated to a maximum depth (in Trench 2) of 2.24m below ground level. The current ground level in the vicinity of both trenches is c.4.0m OD.*

*In both trenches the more significant archaeological remains were sealed below a depth of soils thought to be associated with site levelling during modern construction works. A small collection of worked flint from the evaluation was not diagnostic; some might result from medieval and later building work though it might equally indicate low level prehistoric activity on or in the vicinity of the site.*

*Trench 1 in the south of the site recorded a feature of possible Late Saxon date. Not fully exposed by the evaluation trench, this feature is interpreted as a pit or possible ditch and dated by a small collection of pottery from its upper fill. Post-holes thought to be related to its use were also recorded. A tentative interpretation is that this feature, if actually a ditch, might be associated with the defences of the Late Saxon town. Considered to have been set out in the early 10th century, these defences took the form of a large ditch encircling the nascent town north and south of the River Wensum. A robbed-out wall of post-medieval date was also present in Trench 1, with modern levelling of possibly older soils making up the remainder of the archaeological sequence.*

*Trench 2 in the north of the site contained large intercutting pits, some early examples were perhaps quarries but later pits clearly had another purpose, perhaps of an industrial nature though with no indication for what purpose here.*

*Environmental sampling highlighted the survival of plant macrofossils in archaeological deposits at the site. Overall, few finds of any period were recovered and the general impression is of a marginal area perhaps used from the Late Saxon period onwards for quarrying and industrial activity at the periphery of known settlement.*



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Figure 1. Site location. Scale 1:2000

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The archaeological evaluation at Beckham Place was undertaken to fulfil planning requirements set by Norwich City Council (10/01156/F) and a Brief issued by Norfolk Historic Environment Service (Ken Hamilton, 13 January 2009, CNF41514). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NPS Archaeology (01-04-13-2-1280). This work was commissioned and funded by Mr and Mrs Hedges.

The programme of work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area following guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority about the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by NPS Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service (NMAS), following the relevant policies on archiving standards.

## **2.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

The site is located in the north of Norwich (Fig 1) within the area of the city walls which were constructed from the late 13th century. The line of the city wall is positioned around 100m to the north of the site.

The site lies on alluvial deposits of sand and gravel river terraces within the valley of The Dalymond, a former tributary stream of the Wensum. While much of the form of this valley has been obscured by development, at least some impression of its slope can be seen if looking eastwards from Edward Street where it heads in a northerly direction.

The site has been artificially levelled by modern development associated with construction of industrial premises and the laying out of surface car parking. The current height of these surfaces is at around 4.20m OD.

## **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The proposed development lies within the Area of Main Archaeological Interest as defined in the Norwich Local Plan. A Desk Based Assessment (Hutcheson and Penn 2007) provides a comprehensive overview of the site setting which it is considered unnecessary to replicate here.

A search of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record database recovered a total of 18 records within a 100m radius of the site, centred on TG 2304 0953. These records are presented in summary form below.

*NHER 18 - 71-73 Botolph Street*

Finds of medieval and post-medieval pottery from found in 1955.

*NHER 86 - Former site of Mayfair Cinema*

In 1963 the site was redeveloped and a 13th-century rubbish pit with pottery sherds and a 17th-century tag were recovered. This building has recently been converted into a nightclub.

*NHER 170 - 46 to 58 St Botolph Street*

Excavations in 1974 revealed evidence of medieval buildings and recovered excellent groups of medieval and post-medieval pottery from a large number of pits. In the late 16th century the site was divided into five or more tenements and in the 18th-19th centuries the street frontage was rebuilt. Subsequent to an earlier archaeological assessment (Penn 1997), a further desktop study confirms a likely early gateway in the Late Saxon defences where Botolph Street enters. The area on the north-east side of Botolph was open for some centuries; the town ditch seeming to have survived as a recognisable landmark, although mostly infilled and converted into a lane recorded in the medieval Enrolled Deeds. A small area on Magdalen Street may have lain at the south end of a former market area, overlooked by St Botolph's church, now completely lost through infilling and the modern loss of Botolph Street.

*NHER 281 – 49-63 Botolph Street*

Excavations in 1975 by J. Roberts for Norwich Survey revealed a possible section of the city's Late Saxon defensive ditch and evidence of 13th- and 14th-century iron-working. A 15th-century timber building to the rear of the site was later replaced by stone structures and gradually extended into a complex of yards and buildings including a bakehouse. The site was largely abandoned after the plague of 1578, re-laid on different alignments in the early 17th century.

*NHER 566 - site of St Margaret's Church, Magdalen Street*

The Church of St Margaret is known to have existed close to the Magdalen Gate, the discovery of a graveyard just to the south (NHER 780) confirming its location here. Although the foundation date of this church is unclear, it is known to have been demolished in 1547 when the parish was united with St Pauls.

*NHER 780 - 130 and 132 Magdalen Street, site of graveyard of St Margaret Fyebridgegate*

Excavations in 1987 took place on the site of the Church of St Margaret Fyebridgegate and associated graveyard, known to be in use between AD 1254 and 1468. A total of 431 articulated skeletons were recovered, some in groups, some lying prone or facing west (rather than east), and some from two pits containing haphazard internments. There were also 600 disarticulated or semi-articulated skeletons, and very few child burials were identified. Very little evidence for the church building was recovered. A 9th-century disc brooch with the motif of a backward turning animal was also recovered from the site.

*NHER 26026 - 71 Botolph Street, medieval undercroft,*

The site of 'The Britannia' public house, now a 20th-century shop, beneath which is a 15th-century brick undercroft of single order with chamfered diagonal and cross ribs with side chambers extending beneath the pavement. The undercroft is Grade II\* as one of an important group within the city walls. The date of the undercroft is possibly about 1425.

*NHER 26260 - 5 St Augustine's Street*



A three-storey street range with a carriage entry on the left-hand side that leads to Rose Yard. The yard is flanked by a long two-storey building made up of three separate properties. Alterations in the 19th and 20th century, especially when the building was used as a pub, make the complex difficult to date. The street front is faced with 18th- or 19th-century brick, but could conceal a 17th-century timber frame. The block adjoining the street range and the end block probably date to the 17th century, but in the middle block nothing earlier than the 19th century survives.

*NHER 40810 – 120-122 Magdalen Street*

Excavation of three trial holes revealed post-medieval to modern wall foundations and possible infilled cellar and floor surfaces. No archaeological finds were associated with these deposits. The current factory was built in 1906, but architectural evidence shows it was constructed over an older building (cellars were discovered in 2007). City directories list this property as a maltings in 1867. Maps from before 1867 show no building on the site whilst maps from 1885 onwards do. The only remains of the malthouse are incorporated into the ground floor of the newer factory. The part adjacent to the road was built over with all traces of the malthouse demolished before construction.

*NHER 45467 - Anglia Square and Cinema*

Anglia Square is a central square of shops. The main part of this complex was built in 1971 by Alan Cooke Associates, and may represent Britain's first 'mega-structure'. The Square was initially designed with a canopy over the central courtyard. Towering above the square are a multi-storey car-park and a cinema. The main auditorium of the cinema seats over a thousand people and opened in 1971. The square was designed as part of the regeneration of this part of Norwich, though its future may be in doubt as further regeneration work is proposed.

*NHER 49737 - former site of Hunter's Squash Club, Edward Street*

In 2006 an evaluation investigated whether the proposed line of the Saxon defensive ditch was present on this site. There was no evidence for the ditch and no other archaeological remains were encountered.

*NHER 50583 - Botolph Street/Anglia Square.*

An evaluation in 2007 revealed post-medieval features. The earliest activity recorded on the site were extractive or quarry pits of probable post-medieval date. These were sealed by deposits of post-medieval garden soil. Documentary sources confirm until the latter part of the 19th century this area was open ground known as St Margaret's Croft. The remains of brick-built terraced houses were also encountered, and these are likely to have been identical to those on Leonard and Esdelle Streets north of the excavated area. These terraces remained until the 1940s or 1950s when they were demolished.

*NHER 50584 - Botolph Street/Anglia Square*

An archaeological evaluation (Percival and Westall 2007) was carried out here in 2007. A large proportion of the features recorded in this area relate to the extraction of sand in the medieval and post-medieval periods. In addition, a medieval clay floor was recorded and included evidence of burning suggesting that this was the site of a building with a central hearth. In some areas the earlier features are sealed by post-medieval garden soils, or have been truncated by the

construction of buildings with cellars in the late 19th century. In 2010 a large possible medieval (13th-/15th-century) quarry pit cut by later medieval (15th-/16th-century) pits was recorded.

*NHER 50586 - Late Saxon defensive ditch, medieval and post-medieval features*

A desk-based assessment in 2007 indicated that the site is located within the Late Saxon town and the medieval city walls. In 2010 an archaeological evaluation (Wallace 2010) revealed part of the Late Saxon defensive ditch, possible medieval quarry and post-medieval wall footings and boundary walls.

*NHER 51870 - 67-69 St Botolph Street*

Sketch plans of property with cellar; now demolished.

*NHER 52832 - Magpie Road*

Site with no archaeological finds or features on Magpie Road

*NHER 53667 - residential streets in Norwich*

Large, hut-like World War Two surface air raid shelters are visible as extant structures/buildings on 1940s aerial photographs of Norwich. They are predominantly located in residential streets.

### **Recent Archaeological Work**

The most informative archaeological investigations relating to the current site were undertaken as part of an evaluation of Anglia Square (Percival and Westall 2007).

As part of this work an evaluation trench (Trench 13) (Percival and Westall 2007, 27) was located in a car park south-west of Beckham Place and north of Edward Street. This trench revealed modern disturbance including a large concrete structure which had truncated any pre-existing archaeological remains to a depth of 1.20m below ground level, corresponding to 3.00m OD. The same evaluation also highlighted the likely location of an Anglo-Scandinavian defensive ditch of early 10th-century date running to the south of Edward Street. Another nearby archaeological evaluation at the former Hunter's Squash Club to the south-east of the current site close to the Edward Street frontage recorded only modern disturbance.

The area of the present development is shown to have been partially built up in the 18th and 19th centuries with open areas behind.

## **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

The Brief required a total of seven trenches be examined at the site, each being 4.00m by 4.00m in plan. Of these, three were to form part of the current phase with the remaining four, in areas of standing buildings, to be evaluated at a later date following demolition of the standing buildings. Of the three trenches forming part of the current work one could not be evaluated because of the proximity of live electrical cables. As a result Trenches 1 and 2 were the only ones opened at this stage (Fig. 2, Plates 1 and 2).

Machine excavation was carried out with a hydraulic 360° excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket and operated under constant archaeological supervision.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds other than those which were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

A single environmental sample (Sample <01>) was taken.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NPS Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales. Monochrome and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits where appropriate.

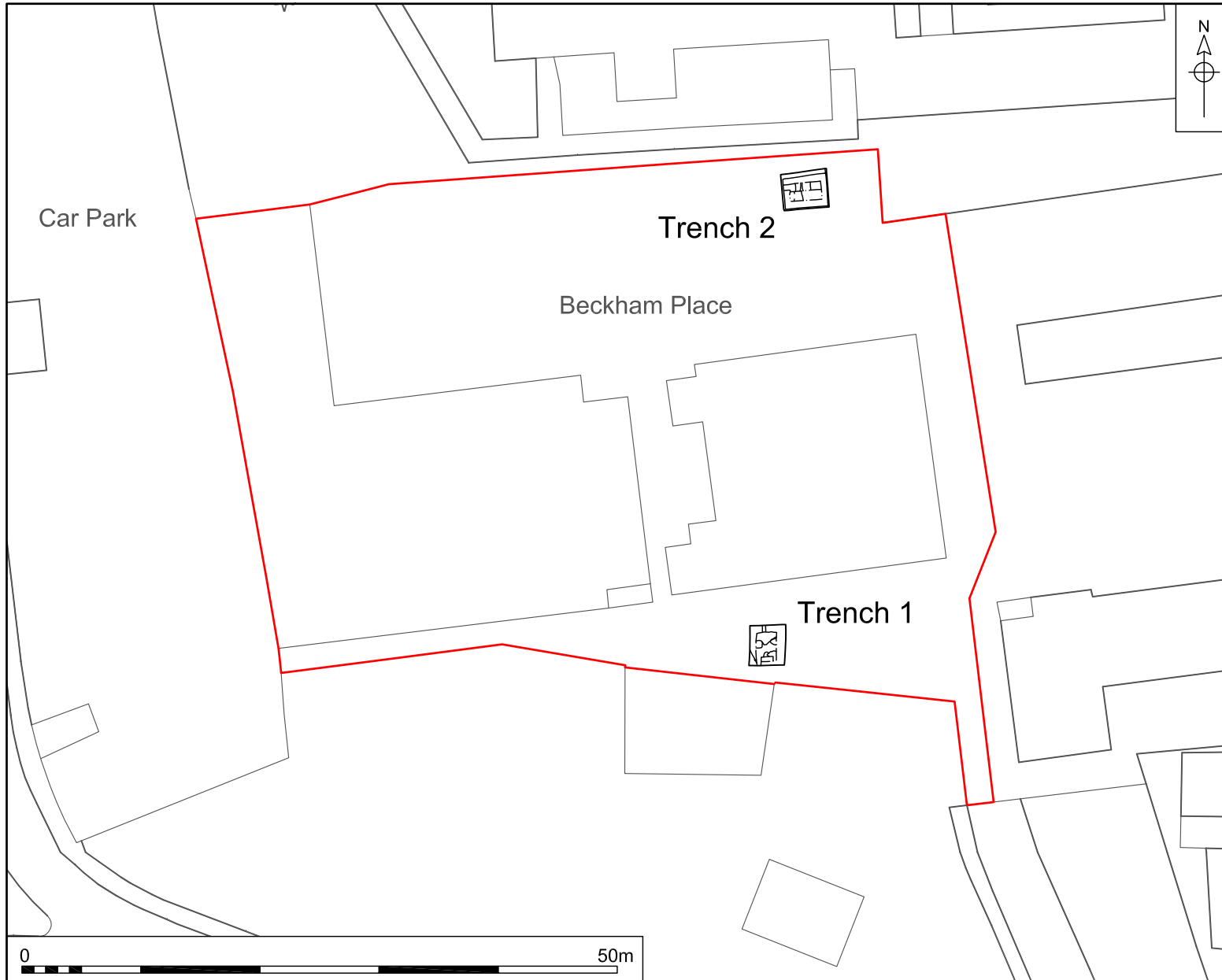
A temporary benchmark of 4.26m OD used during the course of this work was established by GPS. Site conditions were good, with the work taking place in fine weather.



Plate 1. Trench 1, location, looking west



Plate 2. Trench 2, location, looking north-east



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Figure 2. Location of trenches. Scale 1:500

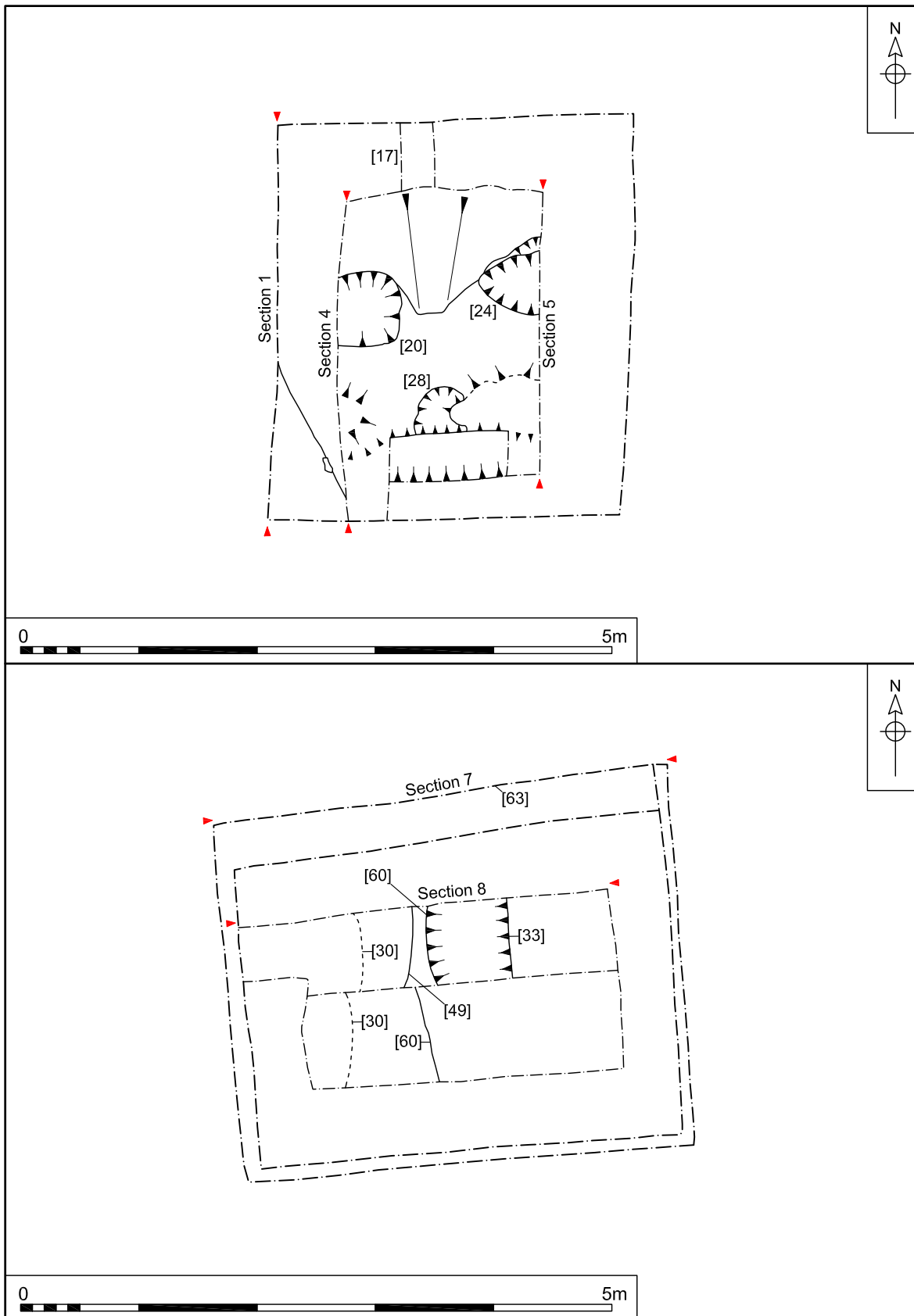


Figure 3. Trenches 1 and 2, plans. Scale 1:50

## 5.0 RESULTS

### Trench 1



Plate 3. Trench 1, working shot, looking south-west

**Figs 2 3 and 4; Plates 3-6**

**Location**

Orientation N/A

**Dimensions**

Length 4.00m

Width 4.00m

Depth 2.00m

**Levels**

East top 3.80m OD

West top 3.80m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Height OD
01	Deposit	Tarmac	0.10m	3.80m OD
02	Deposit	Hoggin	0.10m	3.73m OD
03	Deposit	Crushed brick	0.25m	3.68m OD
04	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.60m	3.53m OD
05	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.35m	3.23m OD
06	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.35m	2.97m OD
07	Masonry	Robbed out wall	0.70m	2.93m OD
08	Cut	Construction cut	0.20m	2.63m OD
09	Deposit	Early soil	0.40m	2.63m OD
10	Deposit	Same as (6)?	0.40m	3.66m OD
11	Deposit	Ashy layer	0.20m	3.56m OD
12	Deposit	Dumped soil	0.30m	3.38m OD
13	Cut	Demolition cut	1.0m	3.08m OD
14	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.70m	3.46m OD
15	Deposit	Stony fill of [17]	0.30m	2.40m OD
16	Deposit	Primary fill of [17]	0.26m	2.28m OD
17	Cut	Large cut of uncertain purpose	0.50m	2.34m OD
18	Deposit	Lower horizon of soil (09)	0.25m	2.58m OD

<b>Trench 1</b>				
19	Deposit	Lower fill of post-hole [20]	0.45m	2.08m OD
20	Cut	Post-hole?	0.45m	2.08m OD
21	Deposit	Fe concreted sand	0.10m	2.03m OD
22	Deposit	Geological sands and gravels	-	2.34m OD
23	Deposit	Geological sands and gravels	-	2.13m OD
24	Cut	Post-hole?	0.45m	2.50m OD
25	Deposit	Fill of (24)	0.45m	2.50m OD
26	Deposit	Dark orange geological sands	-	2.08m OD
27	Deposit	Fill of post-hole (28)	0.25m	1.98m OD
28	Cut	Post-hole	0.25m	1.98m OD
62	Deposit	Fill of [17]	0.20m	2.28m OD

### **Discussion**

Three distinct geological deposits were present at the base of evaluation Trench 1. Geological deposit [22] consisted of a yellow sand and gravel with iron concretions with deposit [23] an orange yellow silt and gravel. Deposit [26] was dark orange sand silt with frequent rounded pebbles that was present between [22] and (23). Cutting these deposits was feature [17] (Plates 4-6), the form of which was difficult to define due to the loose nature of the geological deposits which it cut. The northern edge of this feature sloped gradually down to a base which was uneven to slightly concave in profile along its north-south axis. The southern edge of this feature was not fully exposed within the evaluation trench, but is possible it lay not far southwards as this cut appeared to be rising up at the southern limit of the trench. The dimensions of this feature as exposed in the evaluation trench were a minimum length of 2.50m and width of 2.00m with a depth of 0.50m. The fills of this feature were generally stony in character and contained very little cultural material of any sort. The primary fill [16] was a mid to dark grey brown silt sand with patches of paler sand and iron concreted sands that were dark reddish black in colour. It also contained occasional moderate stones and rounded flint gravels. An environmental sample (Sample <01>) was taken of this deposit.

Overlying this primary fill was a very stony grey deposit ([15]). Approximately 80% of this deposit was formed from pebbles with small rounded flint gravels and stones between 2cm and 7cm in size. This material was within a matrix of grey sand silt with grits. Extremely sparse charcoal flecks were the only cultural inclusions noted from the considerable quantity of this deposit excavated. This fill had the appearance of a layer which was up to 0.37m in depth in the western section (Fig. 4 Section 4) attenuated at its northern and southern limits, this maximum depth defining its approximate centre. One tentative interpretation for this deposit is that it might have identified a trackway or path. Its appearance in the eastern elevation of feature [17] was less convincing in regard to such an interpretation, though here its appearance in profile is thought to have been affected by possible cutting features. Overlying this stony deposit was mid brown stony humic sand silt [09]=[18] which was 0.45m in depth and present across the whole of the upper part of feature [17]. A small quantity of pottery of Late Saxon date was recovered from this deposit which also contained very occasional charcoal fragments. Associated with this feature were two post-holes with a further possible example also recorded. The best defined example of these ([02]) was present in the western side of the feature [17]. This was circular or sub-circular in plan with steep, slightly irregular sides to a concave base. It measured 0.70m in diameter and had a depth of 0.45m. Its fill ([19]) was mid grey brown silt sand with iron concretions present at its interface with the underlying geological deposits. A sloping horizon of gravels and stones in the upper part of this deposit might indicate the slumping in of deposit [15]. In the eastern side of the trench post-hole [24] was probably sub-circular in plan with a diameter of 0.50m and depth of 0.45m. Vertically sided with a concave base, its fill was dark brown humic silt sand [25] which contained



## Trench 1

moderate rounded/sub-rounded flint pebbles. This feature cut fill [15] of feature [17]. A possible post-hole [28] was recorded at the south of the same feature. Somewhat indistinct in plan and profile, this interpretation as a post-hole is not certain. Sub-circular in plan with a length of 0.60m and width of 0.40m, it was 0.25m in depth. Its fill was grey brown silt sand [27] which contained moderate pebbles and frequent iron concretions. This feature cut the base of feature [17] and appeared to be sealed by deposit [15].

Overlying deposit [09]=[18] were a series of soil layers thought to be associated with relatively recent landscaping at the site. Cutting [09]=[18] were the remains of a mostly dismantled wall ([07]) which was aligned approximately north-west to south-east. This was constructed from red brick and large flint cobbles bonded by a yellow lime mortar. Measuring 0.50m in width with a surviving height of 0.70m, this wall had been robbed out and destroyed down to its foundation.

Cutting this wall was extensive feature [13] interpreted as the result of actions associated with modern levelling of the site, probably during construction of industrial units which currently occupy the site. This cut was a minimum of 3.25m in width with a depth of 1.00m. It contained several fills ([04], [05], [06], [10], [11], [12]), [the latter three not illustrated]. These fills were mid grey brown humic silt sands with occasional stones, chalk fragments, stones and charcoal flecks. They are interpreted as garden soils or similar humic soils that had been remobilised during levelling. It is conceivable that the original cutting of feature [13] resulted in the destruction of wall [07].

Sealing this feature were layers of brick rubble, sands, gravels and tarmac ([01], [02], [03]) with a combined depth of 0.45m. These deposits made up the modern car park surface.



Plate 4. Trench 1, showing excavated feature [17], looking west, 1m scale



Plate 5. Trench 1, showing excavated feature [17], looking east, 1m scale



Plate 6. Trench 1, showing excavated feature [17], looking south, 1m scale

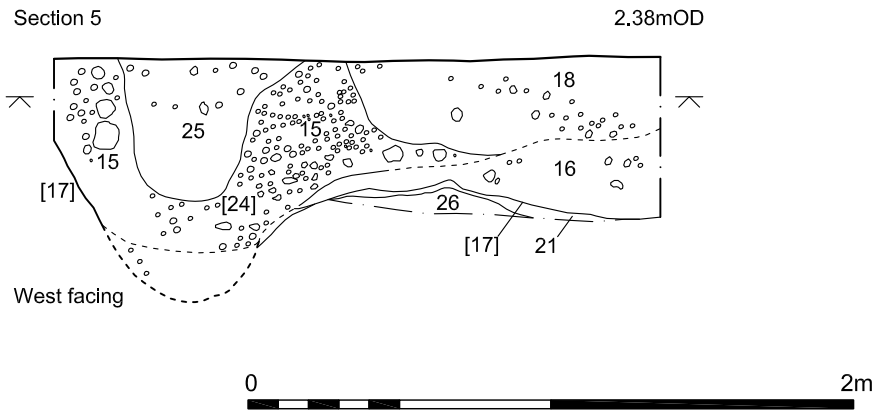
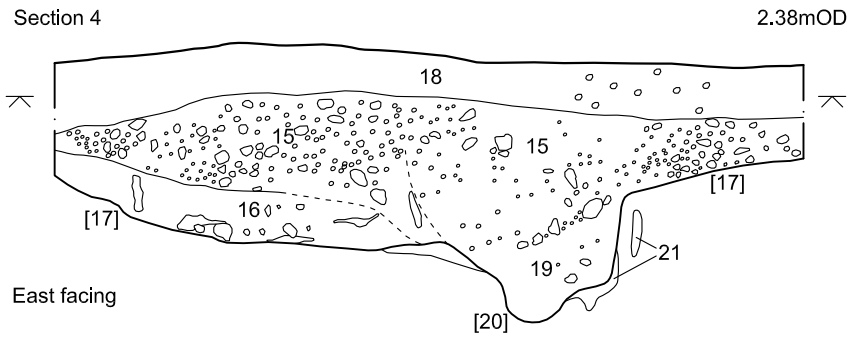
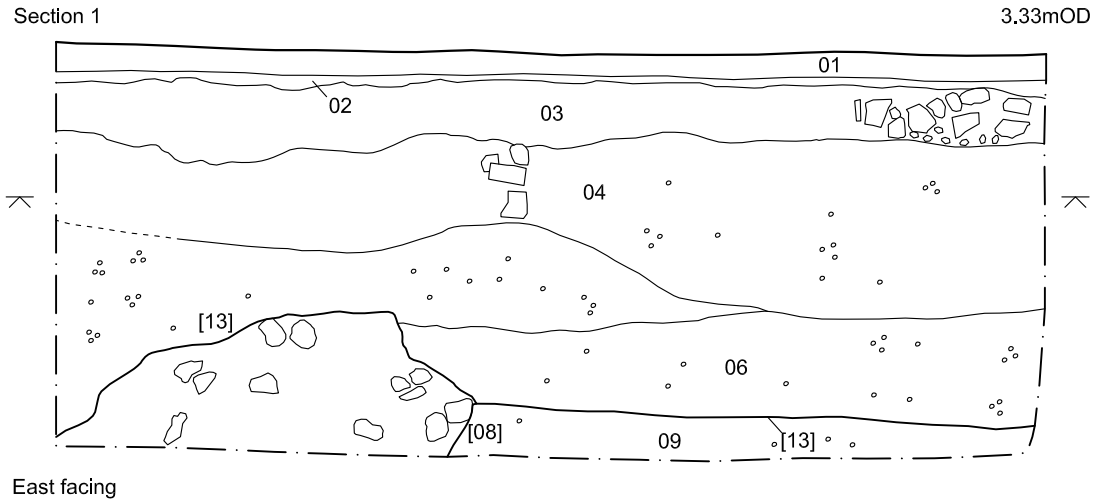
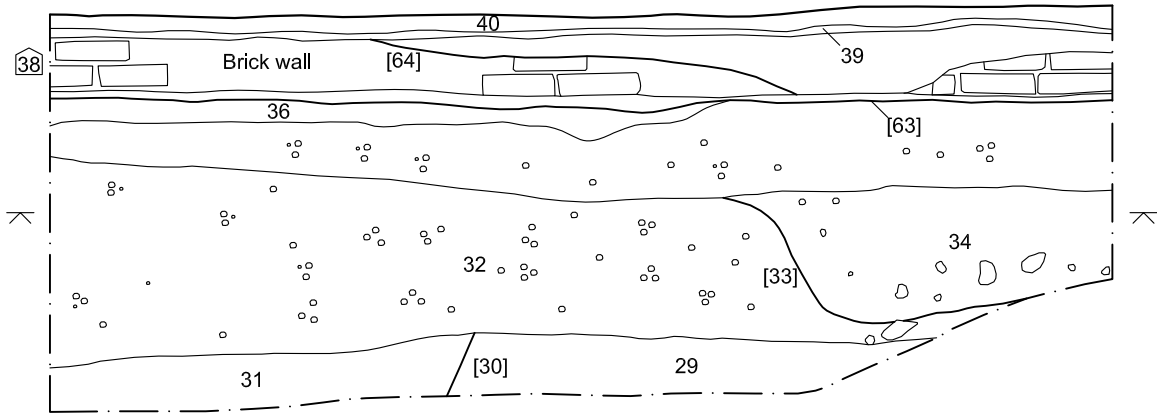


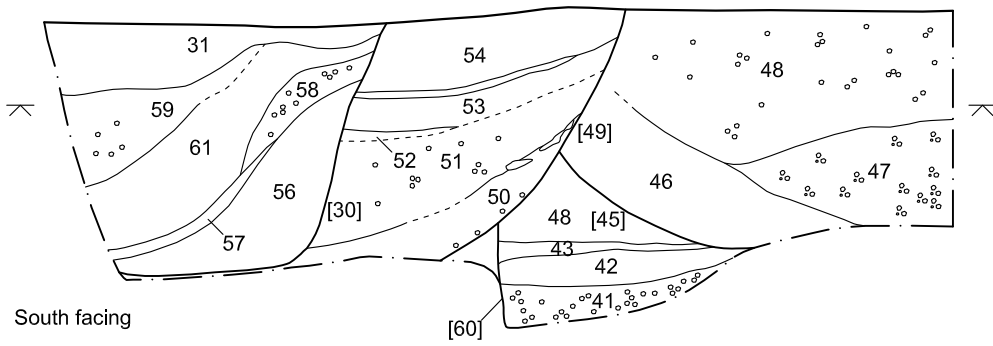
Figure 4. Trench 1, sections. Scale 1:25

Section 7 3.33mOD



South facing

Section 8 2.49mOD



South facing



Figure 5. Trench 2, sections. Scale 1:25

## Trench 2



Plate 7. Trench 2, working shot, looking east

**Figs 2, 3 and 5; Plates 7 and 8**

### Location

Orientation N/A

### Dimensions

Length 4.00m

Width 4.00m

Depth 2.24m

### Levels

North top 3.98m OD

South top 4.00m OD

Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Thickness	Height OD
29	Deposit	Fill of pit [49] same as (29)	0.20m	2.93
30	Cut	Pit Cut	1.0m	2.93
31	Deposit	Pit fill of [55]=[30]	0.40m	2.93
32	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.60m	2.93
33	Cut	Modern wall or services cut	0.45m	3.53
34	Deposit	Fill of [33]	0.45m	3.43
35	Deposit	Redeposited garden soil	0.30m	3.71
36	Deposit	Ash rich modern make-up	0.10m	3.70
37	Deposit	Cement screed below wall (38)	0.05m	3.73
38	Masonry	Modern east-west wall	0.20m	3.90
39	Deposit	Hoggin below (40)	0.07m	3.95
40	Deposit	Car park tarmac	0.10m	4.00
41	Deposit	Stony lower fill of pit [60]	0.13m	1.89
42	Deposit	Lower fill of [60]	0.10m	2.01
43	Deposit	Fill of [60]	0.05m	2.04
44	Deposit	Fill of [60]	0.25m	2.33
45	Cut	Pit cut	0.80m	2.33
46	Deposit	Fill of [45]	0.30m	2.59
47	Deposit	Fill of [45]	0.35m	2.44
48	Deposit	Upper fill of [45]	0.50m	2.79
49	Cut	Pit cut	1.0m	2.93
50	Deposit	Fill of pit [49]	0.18m	2.44

<b>Trench 2</b>				
51	Deposit	Fill of pit [49]	0.28m	2.59
52	Deposit	Geological fill of [49]	0.05m	2.39
53	Deposit	Fill of [49]	0.12m	2.69
54	Deposit	Fill of [49] (54) = (29)	0.25m	2.93
55	Cut	Pit =[30]	1.0m	2.93
56	Deposit	Primary fill of [55]	0.55m	2.56
57	Deposit	Fill of [55]	0.04m	2.34
58	Deposit	Fill of [55]	0.10m	2.65
59	Deposit	Fill of [55]	0.30m	2.70
60	Cut	Earliest of pit cut sequence	0.50m	2.09
61	Deposit	Fill of [55]	0.40m	2.69
63	Cut	Modern construction cut	0.20m	3.90
64	Cut	Modern demolition cut	0.20m	3.90
<b>Discussion</b>				
<p>Large pits present in the base of this evaluation Trench 2 had truncated geological deposits to a depth of at least c.1.74m OD. Material thought to be redeposited geological deposits within these pits suggested geological deposits consisted of mid yellow sands with gravels.</p> <p>As a consequence of excavation limits and later truncating features within the evaluation trench, the earliest pit ([60]) in a sequence of intercutting pits was only partly visible in plan and section. It appeared to be steep sided with a surviving width of 0.80m and depth of 0.50m. Its base was not revealed. Its basal fill within the excavated sequence ([41]) was dull yellow brown sand with sub-angular and rounded gravels. This contained no cultural inclusions and was interpreted as redeposited geological material. The remaining deposits in this feature ([42], [43], [44]) were a mixture of mid grey brown silts sands with occasional charcoal flecks. Deposit [43] contained moderate charcoal flecks and might represent weathered in material within the upper infilling sequence of this pit.</p> <p>Cutting these fills in the east of the evaluation trench was pit [45]. As with the previous pit it was truncated by later features of a similar nature. Its surviving dimensions were a width of 1.30m and depth of 0.80m. Appearing to have gradual sides, its base was not revealed. Containing fills [46], [47] and [48], the earliest of these ([46]) is interpreted as a weathered-in material, consisting of dark brown silt sand with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks. Overlying this deposit was mid yellow brown sand with coarse gravels [47] thought to be a tip of redeposited geological material. The upper fill of this pit ([48]) was a mid brown sand silt with occasional chalk flecks and moderate small stones. Cutting this deposit to the west was further pit [49]. The revealed dimensions of this feature were a width and depth of 1.00m. It appeared to have gradual sides while its base was not exposed. A series of fills ([29], [50], [51], [52], [53] [54]) were recorded from this pit. The earliest of these deposits ([50]) was mid yellow brown silt sand with frequent coarse gravels and elongate sand lens. Thought to identify redeposited geological material, overlying this deposit were further fills, of which (51), a mid brown silt sand with occasional small gravels, was very similar to deposit [54]=[29], the upper fill of this feature. Deposit [54]=[29] contained a small quantity of pottery of 10th to 11th century date. Cutting this deposit to the west was pit [30]=[55] which represented the latest in the pit sequence described here. This had a width and depth of 1.00m. Its sides were steep and its base flat. Its contained fills [31], [56], [57], [58], [59] [61]. The primary fill ([56]) of this feature was a mid brown sand silt with occasional chalk flecks and moderate small gravels. A small quantity of abraded Thetford ware pottery of 10th-/11th-century date was recovered from this deposit.</p>				

## Trench 2

The remaining fills of this pit are characterised as dark grey brown sand silts with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks (deposits [31], [59], [61]) or thin layers of yellow brown sand and gravels ([57], [58]) with the appearance of redeposited geological deposits. The upper fill ([31]) of this pit contained a small quantity of pottery of 16th- to 18th-century date as well as residual pottery of 10th- to 11th-century date.

Overlying the upper fills of pits [30]=[55] and [30] was a layer of mid grey sand silt ([32]) that was 0.60m in depth and present across the full extent of the evaluation trench. Interpreted as a cultural soil or possibly a levelling deposit, it contained occasional coal fragments, chalk and charcoal flecks. A small quantity of tile of post-medieval date was recovered from this context. Cutting this layer were modern features including a north-south aligned services trench [33] with a fill [34] of crushed mortar debris mixed with soil that was sealed by a series of modern levelling deposits ([35], [36], [37]) which contained finds of 20th-century date. These deposits formed part of the construction of east-west aligned wall [38] which sat on a concrete screed ([63]). This wall had been truncated by cut [64] prior to the setting down of the current car park, the base material and tarmac of which was recorded as contexts [39] and [40] respectively.



Plate 8. Trench 2, pits [30], [45], [49] looking north, 1m scale

## 6.0 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL

Finds were processed and recorded by count and weight, and information including broad dating entered on an Excel spreadsheet. Each material type has been considered separately and is presented below organised by material. A list of finds ordered by context can be found in Appendix 2a.

### 6.1 Pottery

by Sue Anderson

#### 6.1.1 Introduction

Nineteen sherds of pottery (94g) were recovered from eight contexts. Table 1 provides quantification by fabric. A summary catalogue is included in the Appendix 3.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	8	30		8
Thetford Ware (Grimston)	THETG	2.57	1	5		1
Late Saxon import?	LSIM	7.72	1	21		1
Local medieval unglazed	LMU	3.23	2	8		2
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	3	12		3
Local early post-medieval wares	LEPM	6.13	1	3		1
Tin glazed earthenwares	TGE	6.30	2	4		1
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	8.01	1	11		1
<b>Totals</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>18</b>

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric

The assemblage comprises Late Saxon to modern material spanning the 10th/11th to 19th/20th centuries.

#### 6.1.2 Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Post-medieval wares were identified following Jennings (1981). Form terminology for medieval pottery is based on MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an MS Access database.

#### 6.1.3 Pottery by period

##### 6.1.3.1 Late Saxon

Nine sherds of Thetford-type ware, including one Grimston or similar product, were collected from five contexts, two of which contained later pottery. The fragments were all undecorated body sherds and some showed signs of abrasion.



One larger body sherd from pit fill [56] may be an import of this period. It is in a fine fabric with grey surfaces and slightly buff-coloured core. Voids are present in the section. The external surface appears burnished, although the sherd is slightly worn and abraded.

#### 6.1.3.2 Medieval

Two sherds were local medieval unglazed coarsewares, both undecorated body sherds.

#### 6.1.3.3 Late medieval and post-medieval

There were three sherds of late medieval and transitional ware. A tiny sherd from garden soil [06] was green-glazed with combed lines. A sherd from pit fill [31] was also combed but had clear glaze externally. One unglazed sherd of LMT and a copper green glazed body sherd of local early post-medieval ware of 16th-century date were also recovered from this context.

Two flakes of tin-glazed earthenware, both with white unpainted glaze, were found in pit fill [31].

#### 6.1.3.4 Modern

One fragment of a plant pot was recovered from redeposited soil [35].

### 6.1.4 Pottery by context

A summary of the pottery by feature is provided in Table 2.

Context	Identifier	Fabric	Spotdate
06	Layer	LMT	15th/16th c.
09	Layer	THET	10th/11th c.
18	Layer	THET, LMU	11th-14th c.
19	Fill of pit [20]	THET	10th/11th c.
29	Fill of pit [30]	THET, THETG	11th c.
31	Fill of pit [30]	THET, LMU, LMT, LEPM, TGE	18th c.
35	Layer	LPME	19th/20th c.
56	Fill of pit [35]	LSIM?	10th/11th c.?

Table 2. Pottery types present by context

Much of the Thetford ware appears to be redeposited in later contexts, although the sherd from the primary fill of pit [35] may suggest a Late Saxon date for this feature. Pit [20] may be of similar date. Pit [30] is of post-medieval date and also contained post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM).

### 6.1.5 Discussion

Although a high proportion of the assemblage was redeposited, it provides evidence for activity on the site from the Late Saxon period onwards. One pit containing only Late Saxon pottery is likely to be of 10th-/11th-century date. The range of wares present is typical of the city, but the assemblage is too small for further comment.

## 6.2 Ceramic Building Material

by Sue Anderson

### 6.2.1 Introduction

Six fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 133g were collected from three contexts.

The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured where possible, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Forms were identified from work in Norwich (Drury 1993), based on measurements. Other form terminology follows Brunskill's glossary (1990). A full catalogue is included in the Appendix.

### 6.2.2 The assemblage

Table 3 shows the quantification by type and form.

Type	Form	Code	No	Wt(g)
Roofing	Pantile?	PAN?	2	12
	Plain roof tile: post-medieval	RTP	3	73
Flooring	Quarry floor tile?	QFT?	1	48

Table 3. CBM by form

#### 6.2.2.1 Roofing

Three fragments of plain roof tile in fine and medium sandy fabrics were found in pit fill [31] and linear fill [34]. Two flakes of fine sandy ?pantile or plain roof tile (surfaces were lost) were found in layer [32]. All are of post-medieval date.

#### 6.2.2.2 Flooring

A base flake of a white-firing grog-tempered ?floor tile was recovered from pit fill [31], and is likely to be of 18th-/19th-century date.

### 6.2.3 Summary

All material in this assemblage was post-medieval and included roof and flooring material which is typical of the city. The group is too small for further comment.

## 6.3 Clay Pipe

by Rebecca Sillwood

A single fragment of clay tobacco pipe (2g) was recovered from probable re-deposited soils in Trench 1 ([14]), and was the only find from this context. The piece is an undecorated and undiagnostic fragment of stem, and as such cannot be more closely dated than post-medieval.

## 6.4 Iron

by Rebecca Sillwood

A fragment of iron (10g) was recovered from pit fill [19]. The piece is roughly flat and rectangular, but cannot be identified as to form or function. It was found alongside Late Saxon pottery, and so could feasibly be of this date.

## **6.5 Flint**

by Rebecca Sillwood

Four pieces of worked flint (20g) were recovered from three contexts. The pieces consist of flakes of varying size, all in sharp, unabraded, condition. Three of the pieces came from pit [30], with one in pit fill [29] and two in pit fill [31]. One fragment was recovered from an earlier soil ([09]).

All of the worked flint was found in association with Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery, and therefore it seems unlikely that these pieces are of prehistoric date. They are more likely to be of later date, and associated with the dressing of flint for a wall.

## **6.6 Animal Bone**

by Rebecca Sillwood

Two contexts containing animal bone were recorded on site, with one small fragment (1g) from a probable levelling layer ([06]), and ten (300g) from a pit fill ([31]).

The small fragment is not closely identifiable, but there are several identifiable pieces from the pit fill. This includes three horse teeth, part of the upper jaw of a dog, part of a limb bone from a large mammal and various other smaller pieces. It seems likely that much of the animal bone in this assemblage was the remains of food waste, with some possible skinning and scavenger pieces, represented by the horse and dog remains. The context from which these pieces come is rather mixed, with pottery of Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date present, and so it is possible that the animal bone came from a variety of sources before deposition.

## **6.7 Finds Conclusions**

The largest quantity of finds came from pit [30], and included Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery, post-medieval ceramic building material (cbm), flint, shell and animal bone. The latest date given for the finds in this pit is a piece of cbm possibly of 18th-/19th-century date, although the latest date for the pottery is 18th century. It certainly appears that this pit is a waste pit of post-medieval date, certainly no later than 19th century.

Two pits were possibly of Late Saxon date, given the fact that they only contained Late Saxon pottery (pits [55] and [20]).

Much of the remainder of the layers and features appear to be rather mixed, and are probably of post-medieval date.

## **7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains**

by Val Fryer

#### **7.1.1 Introduction and method statement**

A single sample (Sample <01>) for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from basal fill ([16]) of large feature [17].

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed below in Appendix 5. All plant macrofossils were charred. Modern fibrous roots were also recorded. The non-floating residue was collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and to be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts have been retained for further specialist analysis.

#### **7.1.2 Results**

The recovered assemblage is small (<0.1 litres in volume) and largely composed of charcoal/charred wood fragments, black porous and tarry residues and small pieces of coal (coal 'dust'). However, two cereal grains are also present along with a number of pieces of charred root or stem. Preservation of the cereals is quite poor, with both being severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

#### **7.1.3 Plant Macrofossil Conclusions**

In summary, the current assemblage is somewhat sparse and appears to contain a number of modern contaminants, including the coal fragments and the porous and tarry residues (both of which are likely to be derived from the combustion of coal). However, these remains are small (<2mm), and it should be noted that such intrusive materials commonly occur where deposits have been disturbed by either natural agents (i.e. animal, snail, earthworm or root activity) or by the intensive use of land over a protracted period of time.

Although other remains are scarce, the cereal grains, charcoal fragments and pieces of root/stem are of importance as they demonstrate that plant macrofossils, possibly derived from scattered domestic detritus, are preserved within the archaeological horizon in this area of Norwich.

## **8.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

The site at Beckham Place occupied land that lay between the medieval city walls and the northern edge of a Late Saxon defensive circuit thought to have been constructed sometime in the early 10th century (Ayers 2009). The key topographic feature within this area is the former course of the Dalymond, the site located within the base of its now dry valley.

A small number of worked flints from the site were not sufficiently diagnostic in form to differentiate them from being either prehistoric in date or the result of preparing medieval flint building material. Based on the site setting the possibility of low level prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is considered likely though.

The most significant archaeological remains of the evaluation were revealed in Trench 1 where feature [17] has been dated to the Late Saxon Period (10th-11th centuries) based on a small assemblage of pottery. Also collected from the final infilling material ([09]=[18]) of this feature was a single pottery sherd of 11th- to 14th-century date; the earlier end of this date range being compatible with the Late Saxon date posited for this feature.

Though the form and function of this particular feature were not precisely discerned, its location in respect to the likely line of the Late Saxon defences (Percival and Westall 2007, 3) combined with its possible linear aspect might suggest some association or connection with these defences. On current understanding the defensive ditch in this part of Norwich consisted of a ditch and rampart, the ditch having a width of c.6.00-8.00m (Hutcheson and Penn 2007). In the vicinity of the evaluation this ditch is thought to have been aligned broadly east-west and close to the line of Edward Street, and so to the south of the current evaluation. Might feature [17] therefore represent a further defensive line, not necessarily of great size but perhaps defining an area of defended ground? While such interpretation is speculative, it is interesting to note that fills of this feature contained almost no cultural material, indicating it had been set out in an area presumably marginal to more developed areas of the town. Post-holes thought to be associated with this feature proved difficult to integrate within what was understood of the stratigraphic sequence, in particular the infilling sequence of feature [17]. The evaluation recorded post-settings had been both cut by the excavation of [17] (in the example perhaps of [20] and [24]) while post-hole [24] seemed to clearly cut the infilling material of [17]. Thus the purpose of these posts in relation to the function of feature [17] is presently not understood, as at it would appear they have the potential to both pre-date and post-date the use of [17]. The base of feature [17] lay at 1.88m OD.

Trench 2 recorded a series of large pits which for their size contained relatively few finds. The fills of these features seemed to consist mainly of redeposited geological deposits interspersed with periods during which the features had silted up with accumulations of soils. Though quarrying for sands and gravels provides a plausible explanation for the earliest pits recorded, the intercutting nature of later pits infers this was not the case and that they served some other purpose. Unfortunately no indication of what this purpose might be was provided by the evaluation. It is possible that these features were considerably deeper and might have been able to access groundwater for some industrial purpose. In medieval Norwich leather tanning and textile production, both activities requiring water, were the two most important trades, and in the 1300s these activities are documented as taking place in the sub-leet of St Clement Fybridge (Priestly 1983, 17-18) an area including the evaluation site. Other activities including metalworking are also recorded as taking place in this sub-leet.

The evaluation provided little indication of dates for this pitting, a small quantity of Late Saxon pottery in abraded condition thought to be residual and the upper fill of the latest pit in the sequence ([30]) containing material of 16th- to 18th-century date. It is possibly that this pitting spanned a considerable period of time, and based on what is known of the site and the available dating evidence it is suggested these features date broadly span the period from the late medieval to the post-medieval, perhaps in a range from the 15th to 18th centuries, though the earlier date of this range has no supporting evidence. That this date cannot be

better refined reflects the paucity of datable material and this would seem to suggest that this pit digging occurred within a comparatively unoccupied setting, perhaps in an area peripheral to occupation and domestic dwellings.

In summary, the evaluation demonstrated that features of probable Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date survive at the site, with these features covered by a considerable depth (1.20m-1.40m) of soils thought to have been reworked during modern building works. While large pits of broadly medieval and post-medieval date are relatively well documented from Norwich, Late Saxon activity (particularly if it relates to the possible defences) is considerably less so.

Recommendations for further mitigation work (if required based on the evidence presented in this report) will be made by Norfolk Historic Environment Service.

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Finds were processed, recorded and reported by Rebecca Sillwood. Pottery and CBM was reported on by Sue Anderson. Environmental samples were processed by Rob Fryer and reported on by Val Fryer.

This report was illustrated by David Dobson and edited by Jayne Bown.

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## Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	Trench
1	Deposit			Tarmac - car park surface	Modern	1
2	Deposit			Hoggin - car park surface	Modern	1
3	Deposit			Crushed brick - car park surface	Modern	1
4	Deposit			Re-deposited garden soils - levelling	Modern	1
5	Deposit			Re-deposited garden soils - levelling	Modern	1
6	Deposit			Re-deposited garden soils - levelling	Modern	1
7	Masonry		8	Wall - part demolished	Post-medieval	1
8	Cut	Wall cut		Wall cut	Post-medieval	1
9	Deposit			Earlier soil - stony	Late Saxon ?	1
10	Deposit			Re-deposited garden soils - levelling - possibly same as (6)	Modern	1
11	Deposit			Ashy layer	Modern	1
12	Deposit			Dumped soil	Modern	1
13	Cut	Demolition cut		Demolition cut	Modern	1
14	Deposit			Re-deposited soils	Modern	1
15	Deposit		17	Stony fill of [17]	Late Saxon ?	1
16	Deposit		17	Iron rich lower fill of [17]	Late Saxon ?	1
17	Cut	Ditch/?Pit		Ditch or possible pit	Late Saxon ?	1
18	Deposit			Lower deposit of soil [09]	Late Saxon ?	1
19	Deposit		20	Fill of pit [20]	Late Saxon ?	1
20	Cut	Pit/?Post-hole		Pit or post-hole	Late Saxon ?	1
21	Deposit			Iron concreted sands	Late Saxon ?	1
22	Deposit			Natural sand and gravel	Unknown	1
23	Deposit			Natural yellow silt and gravel	Unknown	1
24	Cut	?Post-hole		?Post-hole	Late Saxon ?	1
25	Deposit		24	Fill of post-hole [24]	Late Saxon ?	1
26	Deposit			Dark orange natural sand and gravel	Unknown	1
27	Deposit		28	Fill of post-hole [28]	Late Saxon ?	1
28	Cut	Post-hole		Post-hole	Late Saxon ?	1
29	Deposit		30	Fill of pit [30] - same as [54]	Unknown	2
30	Cut	Pit		Post-medieval pit - same as [55]	Post-medieval	2
31	Deposit		30	Fill of pit [30]	Post-medieval	2
32	Deposit			Re-deposited garden soil	Post-medieval	2
33	Cut	Wall/Services cut		Modern wall/services cut	Modern	2
34	Deposit		33	Fill of wall/service cut [33]	Modern	2



Context	Category	Cut Type	Fill Of	Description	Period	Trench
35	Deposit			Re-deposited soil - construction make-up?	Modern	2
36	Deposit			Ash-rich modern make-up layer	Modern	2
37	Deposit			Cement base of wall	Modern	2
38	Deposit		63	Modern E-W wall	Modern	2
39	Deposit			Hoggin layer	Modern	2
40	Deposit			Tarmac layer	Modern	2
41	Deposit		60	Lower stony fill of pit [60]	Unknown	2
42	Deposit		60	Lower fill of pit [60]	Unknown	2
43	Deposit		60	Fill of pit [60]	Unknown	2
44	Deposit		60	Fill of pit [60]	Unknown	2
45	Cut	Pit		Pit	Unknown	2
46	Deposit		45	Fill of pit [45]	Unknown	2
47	Deposit		45	Fill of pit [45]	Unknown	2
48	Deposit		45	Upper fill of pit [45]	Unknown	2
49	Cut	Pit		Pit	Unknown	2
50	Deposit		49	Fill of pit [49]	Unknown	2
51	Deposit		49	Fill of pit [49]	Unknown	2
52	Deposit		49	Re-deposited natural fill of pit [49]	Unknown	2
53	Deposit		49	Fill of pit [49]	Unknown	2
54	Deposit		49	Fill of pit [49]	Unknown	2
55	Cut	Pit		Pit - same as [30]	Unknown	2
56	Deposit		55	Primary fill of pit [55]	Unknown	2
57	Deposit		55	Fill of pit [55]	Unknown	2
58	Deposit		55	Fill of pit [55]	Unknown	2
59	Deposit		55	Fill of pit [55]	Modern	2
60	Cut	Pit		Pit - earliest in sequence	Unknown	2
61	Deposit		55	Fill of pit [55]	Unknown	2
62	Deposit		17	Upper fill of ditch [17]	Late Saxon ?	1
63	Cut	Construction cut		Wall construction cut for wall [38]	Modern	2
64	Cut	Demolition cut		Demolition of wall [38]	Modern	2
65	Deposit			Car park surface	Modern	2

## Appendix 1b: OASIS Feature Summary

Period	Feature	Total
?Late Saxon	Pit	2
	Ditch/pit	1
	Post-hole/pit	1
Post-medieval	Pit	1
	Wall	1
Modern	Wall/demolition cut	1
	Demolition cut	2
	Construction cut	1
Unknown	Pit	4

## Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Qty	Wt	Period	Notes
06	Animal Bone	1	1g	Unknown	
06	Pottery	1	1g	Med./Post-Med.	LMT; 15th-16th century
09	Flint – Struck	1	1g	Unknown	
09	Pottery	2	3g	Late Saxon	THET; 10th-11th century
14	Clay Pipe	1	2g	Post-medieval	Stem only
18	Pottery	1	9g	Late Saxon	THET; 10th-11th century
18	Pottery	1	5g	Medieval	LMU; 11th-14th century
18	Shell	1	6g	Unknown	Whelk; DISCARDED
19	Iron	1	10g	Unknown	Fragment
19	Pottery	1	2g	Late Saxon	THET; 10th-11th century
29	Flint – Struck	1	6g	Unknown	
29	Pottery	2	9g	Late Saxon	THET; 10th-11th century
31	Animal Bone	10	300g	Unknown	
31	Ceramic Building Material	1	23g	Post-medieval	Roof tile fragment
31	Ceramic Building Material	1	48g	Post-medieval	Floor tile fragment; 18th-19th century
31	Flint – Struck	2	13g	Unknown	
31	Pottery	3	12g	Late Saxon	THET; 10th-11th century
31	Pottery	1	3g	Medieval	LMU; 11th-14th century
31	Pottery	3	14g	Med./Post-Med.	LEPM; LMT; 15th-16th century
31	Pottery	2	4g	Post-medieval	TGE; 16th-18th century
31	Shell	1	20g	Unknown	Oyster; DISCARDED
32	Ceramic Building Material	2	12g	Post-medieval	Roof tile fragments
34	Ceramic Building Material	2	50g	Post-medieval	Roof tile fragments
35	Pottery	1	11g	Modern	Plantpot; 18th-20th century
56	Pottery	1	21g	Late Saxon	LSIM; 10th-11th century

## Appendix 2b: OASIS Finds Summary

Period	Material	Total
Late Saxon	Pottery	10
Medieval	Pottery	2
Med./Post-Med.	Pottery	4
Post-medieval	Ceramic Building Material	6
	Clay Pipe	1
	Pottery	2
Modern	Pottery	1
Unknown	Animal Bone	11
	Flint – Struck	4
	Iron	1
	Shell	2

## Appendix 3: Pottery Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Fabric date range
06	LMT			1	1	15th-16th c.
09	THET			2	3	10th-11th c.
18	LMU			1	5	11th-14th c.
18	THET			1	9	10th-11th c.
19	THET			1	2	10th-11th c.
29	THET			1	4	10th-11th c.
29	THETG			1	5	10th-11th c.
31	LEPM			1	3	16th c.
31	LMT			2	11	15th-16th c.
31	LMU			1	3	11th-14th c.
31	TGE			2	4	16th-18th c.
31	THET			3	12	10th-11th c.
35	LPME	plantpot		1	11	18th-20th c.
56	LSIM			1	21	10th-11th c.

## Appendix 4: CBM Catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Comments	Date
31	ms	RTP	1	23		pmed
31	wfx	QFT?	1	48	base flake	18/19
32	fs	PAN?	2	12	or RTP, surfaces mainly lost	pmed
34	fs	RTP	2	50	=1 tile	pmed

## Appendix 5: Plant macrofossils and other remains

<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>Context No.</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Feature No.</b>	<b>17</b>
Cereal indet. (grains)	x
Charcoal <2mm	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx
Charred root/stem	x
Black porous and tarry residues	xx
Small coal fragments	xx
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Key:

x = 1–10 specimens; xx = 11–50 specimens, xxx = 50+ specimens

**Appendix 6: OASIS Report Summary**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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**OASIS ID: norfolka1-154442**

## Project details

Project name	Beckham Place, Norwich EVAL
Short description of the project	The site is located in the north of Norwich, currently occupied by light industrial units and surface car parks. This report presents the findings of two evaluation trenches (Trenches 1 and 2). The evaluated trenches measured 4.00m by 4.00m in plan and were excavated to a maximum depth (in Trench 2) of 2.24m below ground level. The current ground level in the vicinity of both trenches is c.4.0m OD. A small collection of worked flint from the evaluation was not diagnostic; some might result from medieval and later building work though it might equally indicate low level prehistoric activity on or in the vicinity of the site. Trench 1 in the south of the site recorded a feature of possible Late Saxon date. This feature was a pit or possible ditch, dated by pottery from its upper fill. Post-holes thought to be related to its use were also recorded. This feature, if a ditch, might be associated with the defences of the Late Saxon town. A robbed-out wall of post-medieval date was also present in Trench1, with modern levelling of possibly older soils making up the remainder of the archaeological sequence. Trench 2 in the north of the site contained large intercutting pits, some early examples were perhaps quarries but later pits clearly had another purpose, perhaps of an industrial nature though with no indication for what purpose here. The general impression is of a marginal area perhaps used from the Late Saxon period onwards for quarrying and industrial activity at the periphery of known settlement.
Project dates	Start: 07-05-2013 End: 14-07-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	ENF131521 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	PIT Early Medieval
Monument type	POST-HOLE Early Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	DEMOLITION CUT Modern
Monument type	CONSTRUCTION CUT Modern

Significant Finds	POT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Modern
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK NORWICH NORWICH 5, 6, 6b Beckham Place, Edward Street,
Study area	2400.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TG 2304 0953 52 1 52 38 13 N 001 17 48 E Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	NPS Archaeology
Project brief originator	Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Project design originator	NPS Archaeology
Project director/manager	David Whitmore
Project supervisor	David Adams
Type of sponsor/funding body	Private Individual
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr and Mrs Hedges

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	NPS Archaeology
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service



Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"  
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation at 5, 6 and 6b Beckham Place, Edward Street, Norwich  
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## OASIS:

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