

Archaeological Services

An Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching at Sysonby Farm and land off Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. NGR: SP 7442 2120.



John Thomas

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An Archaeological evaluation

by trial trenching

at Sysonby Farm and land off Scalford Road,

Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

NGR: SP 7442 2120

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For: Leicestershire County Council.

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Summary	3
1. Introduction	3
2. Background	4
Context of the Project	4
Geology and Topography	5
3. Archaeological Objectives	6
Research aims	6
4. Methodology	6
5. Results	7
5.1. General Observations	9
Land at Sysonby Farm (Fig. 4)	9
Trench 9 (Figures 5 - 7)	10
Land off Scalford Road	12
Trench 17 (Figs 9 & 10)	13
6. Discussion	14
7. Acknowledgements	15
8. Site Archive and Results	15
9. Bibliography	15
Appendix I OASIS Information	16
Appendix II – The Finds	17
The Iron Age Pottery and Fired Clay - Nicholas J. Cooper	17
The Animal Bone - Rachel Small	18
The Charred Plant Remains - Rachel Small	19
The Medieval and Later Pottery and other modern finds - Nicholas J. Cooper	20
The Lithics Lynden Cooper	21

CONTENTS

FIGURES

Figure 1 Location of evaluation area (in box)	4
Figure 2 Geophysical survey interpretation (Allen Archaeology)	5
Figure 3 Overall Trench Location plan - north to top, trenches in blue, overhead power line	S
in red, location of geophysical survey complex in yellow.	7
Figure 4 Locations of Trenches 1 – 15 at Sysonby Farm	9
Figure 5 Plan and Section Drawings for Trench 9	10
Figure 6 Pit [902] partially excavated (0.5m scale)	11
Figure 7 Ditch [905] partially excavated (0.5m scale)	11
Figure 8 Location plan of Trenches 17 – 44 (Land off Scalford Road)	12
Figure 9 Trench 17 Plan and Section Drawings	13
Figure 10 Ditch [1703]	14

TABLES

Table 1	Trench information	8
Table 2	Quantified record of Iron Age pottery from the evaluation	.17
Table 3	Analysis of the animal bones from Sysonby Farm.	.18
Table 4	Medieval and later pottery from Sysonby Farm	.20

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Summary

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken on land at Sysonby Farm and off Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between the 5th & 19th of August 2014. Forty-four trial trenches were excavated in response to outline proposals for residential development.

The results of the work were largely negative, but two trenches contained archaeological features relating to Iron Age occupation in the centre of the evaluation area. The archaeology consisted of two linear features and a small pit that were associated with Iron Age pottery, animal bone and fired clay. Earlier occupation of the area was indicated by a scatter of worked flint dating to the Neolithic – Bronze Age that was present in the Iron Age features and topsoil/subsoil layers across the evaluation site.

A collection of medieval (13th-14th century date) and post-medieval (17th-18th century date) pottery was recovered from topsoil and subsoil contexts across the site. This provides information on the agricultural history of the area.

The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under Accession Number X.A109.2014.

1. Introduction

An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken at land at Sysonby Farm and land off Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray, in response to an outline planning application for residential development. The fieldwork was undertaken on the recommendation of the Principal Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment DCLG March 2012).

The investigation was required in order to provide an adequate sample of the development area and to assess the likely archaeological impact of the development proposals. The agreed scheme was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; ULAS 2014).

This document presents the results of the fieldwork, which was undertaken by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between 5th – 19th August 2014.

2. Background

Context of the Project

The assessment area is located over several fields chosen for development, within the parish of Melton Mowbray, divided between land at Sysonby Farm, and land off Scalford Road (Fig. 1). Sysonby Farm lies *c*.2.1km north-west of Melton Mowbray and comprises a number of agricultural fields and associated farm buildings (SP 61771 94472). The assessment area off Scalford Road comprises three fields owned by Richborough Estates.



Figure 1 Location of evaluation area (in box)

A desk-based assessment (Allen Archaeology 2013) indicated potential for buried archaeological remains within the assessment area. Prehistoric and Roman activity was suggested by nearby cropmark evidence. Antiquarian references also exist to an Anglo Saxon cemetery identified during 19th century quarrying, possibly on the northern edge of the area although the exact location is unclear.

The area appears to have been used as agricultural land during the medieval period and into the 20th century. The northern part of the assessment area was used during the First World War as a landing ground.

A geophysical survey, also undertaken in response to the development proposals, recorded a complex of archaeological anomalies indicating a series of circular and rectilinear enclosures focussed on a possible trackway oriented north-west to southeast (Allen Archaeology 2014, Fig. 2).



Figure 2 Geophysical survey interpretation (Allen Archaeology)

Geology and Topography

The assessment area lies between c.110 - 130m above Ordnance Datum and comprises an irregularly shaped area c. 22.01ha in extent. The British Geological Survey indicates that the bedrock across the site consists of Charnwood Mudstone Formation on the southern half and Dryham Siltstone and Mudstone in the northern half. Superficial geology comprising Oadby Member Diamicton Till, and localised areas of Head deposits in two shallow glacial valleys, also run across the area. (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

3. Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the evaluation, as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological work (ULAS 2014) were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits identified by the geophysical survey.
- To identify the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits and remains not previously identified by geophysical survey.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of archaeological deposits on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development. From this an appropriate method of dealing with any archaeological deposits can be formulated or an appropriate mitigation strategy developed.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area.

Research aims

This work had the potential to contribute to research objectives for the Iron-Age -Roman periods and Anglo-Saxon – medieval periods (Cooper, 2006; Knight, Vyner & Allen, 2012).

4. Methodology

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct in accordance with their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2008). The LCC *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (1997) were also adhered to.

Topsoil and subsoil was removed in level spits, under continuous archaeological supervision, down to the uppermost archaeological deposits by a JCB mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All spoil heaps were inspected for unstratified archaeological material. All trenches were excavated to a width of 2.20m and down to the top of archaeological deposits or the natural substratum in the absence of any archaeological deposits. After recording, the trenches were backfilled and levelled during the course of the evaluation.

Trenches were examined by hand cleaning and any archaeological deposits located were planned at an appropriate scale and sample-excavated by hand as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence. All plans were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Spot heights were taken as appropriate.

Each trench was recorded on a standard ULAS pro-forma trench recording sheet noting soil depths and descriptions. One longitudinal face and the base of each trench

was recorded in this way. Trench locations were recorded and tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

A photographic record of the investigations was prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. Colour digital photographs were taken throughout the evaluation. The photographic record also included 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.



Figure 3 Overall Trench Location plan – north to top, trenches in blue, overhead power lines in red, location of geophysical survey complex in yellow.

5. Results

The evaluation trenches were laid out to provide the best possible coverage of the assessment area (Fig. 3). Slight restrictions on available space were caused by overhead electrical cables on the Sysonby Farm side of the area, but this did not hinder the overall spread of trenches and coverage of the evaluation greatly. Two trenches (9 & 17) contained archaeological remains and both of these were extended slightly to investigate the features more fully. Several other trenches were shorter to compensate for these extensions but otherwise all trenches measured c.30m in length x 2.20m wide. General trench information is shown in Table 1.

1 28.80 0.35 1.05 N-S N Furrows present 2 29.10 0.35 0.90 SW-NE N Furrows present 3 30.00 1.15 2.00 E-W N Furrows present	
1 26.30 0.35 1.05 N-S N Furrows present 2 29.10 0.35 0.90 SW-NE N Furrows present 3 30.00 1.15 2.00 E-W N Furrows present	
2 29.10 0.35 0.90 SW-NE N Fullows present 3 30.00 1.15 2.00 E-W N Furrows present	
4 29.00 0.45 0.55 NNE-55VV N Land drains present 5 20.00 0.25 0.65 NE-55VV N Land drains present	
$\frac{5}{25.09} = 0.55 = 0.05 = \text{NE-SW} = \text{N} = \text{Land drains present}$	
$\frac{10}{23.40}$ $\frac{10.40}{0.40}$ $\frac{10.50}{0.50}$ 10.5	
7 20.50 0.50 0.70 ENE-WSW N Land drains present 9 28.00 0.40 0.45 NE SW/ N Land drains present	
o 20.00 0.40 0.45 NE-SW N Land urallis present	
929.000.400.50NE-SWYDitch/gulty and small pit. Land drains present	
1029.500.500.57E-WNLand drains and plough scars present	
1130.000.450.57N-SNFurrows and land drains present	i
12 30.00 0.45 0.60 E-W N	
13 28.50 0.72 0.90 NNE-SSW N Deep subsoil	
14 29.00 0.35 0.90 N-S N	
15 29.00 0.60 1.00 N-S N Furrows present	
16 29.70 0.35 0.60 ENE-WSW N Plough scars present	
17 27.40 0.50 0.70 N-S Y Ditch/gully	
18 29.00 0.40 0.75 SE-NW N Land drain present	
19 29.70 0.75 1.55 NE-SW N Land drain present	
20 28.30 0.60 0.75 WNW-ESE N Land drain present	
21 30.00 0.30 0.49 SSE-WNW N Land drains present	
22 29.30 0.35 0.50 SSW-NNE N Land drain present	
23 30.00 0.40 0.50 SSW-NNE N	
24 28.10 0.40 0.70 N-S N Land drains present	
25 30.30 0.40 0.60 SW-NE N Land drains and plough scars present	
26 30.80 0.30 0.55 E-W N Land drains	
27 30.30 0.50 0.75 N-S N	
28 30.10 0.40 0.70 ENE-WSW N	
29 30.00 0.40 0.50 E-W N Land drains present	
20 00.00 0.40 0.00 2.00 N Eand drams present 30 13.00 0.22 0.44 N-S N	
31 30.00 0.40 0.50 ESE-WNW N Land drains present	
32 30.00 0.40 0.50 EEE WWW N	
33 29.30 0.40 0.55 E-W N Land drains present	
34 17.00 0.35 0.45 N-S N Slight furrow remains	
35 29.80 0.30 0.55 N-S N Land drains present	
36 29.70 0.45 0.58 NNW-SSE N Land drains present	
37 29.10 0.50 0.60 E-W N	
38 28.00 0.40 0.50 N-S N	
39 29.10 0.40 0.55 NF-SW N	
40 30.00 0.35 0.50 N-S N	
41 26.10 0.45 0.50 F-W N	
42 28.10 0.40 0.65 N-S N Land drains present	
43 28.70 0.40 0.50 N-S N Land drains present	
44 28.00 0.45 0.50 N-S N	

Trench 1 information

5.1. General Observations

• Land at Sysonby Farm (Fig. 4)

Trenches 1–15 were excavated across four fields associated with Sysonby Farm (LCC Numbers 3201, 4801, 7099 & 8681).

Trenches 1-3 in Field 3201 contained furrows running on a north-east to south-west alignment, as indicated by the low earthworks of associated ridges evident across the field. Natural subsoil in the trenches consisted of mixed light grey-brown chalky-clay / orange-brown clay and this was overlain by subsoil and topsoil layers respectively. Trench 3 was much deeper than the others in this field and contained a thick layer of colluvium above the natural substratum.

Trenches 4-10 were located in Field 4801 and were all generally shallow, averaging c.0.50m deep. Natural substratum consisted of mixed greyish brown chalky clay / mid-light yellowish brown clay with ironstone fragments and gravels. This was overlain by yellow-brown silty-clay subsoil and grey-brown topsoil in all trenches. Every trench contained land drains and several had plough scars cutting the natural subsoil. Only Trench 9 contained archaeological remains. Trenches 4-6 were located across a north-south aligned linear geophysical anomaly but only land drains were located. Trenches 11-14 were excavated within an area interpreted as having magnetic debris from the geophysical survey but no evidence of this was located.



Figure 4 Locations of Trenches 1 – 15 at Sysonby Farm

Trench 9 (Figures 5 - 7)

Trench 9 was located in the north-east corner of Field 4801 and lay on a north-west to south-east orientation (Fig. 4). Two archaeological features were revealed in this trench: a small pit [902] and a ditch [905]. Circular pit [902] was located towards the south-eastern end of the trench and measured c.0.73m in diameter with sloping sides and a rounded base. It had a single fill (903) consisting of mid greyish-brown silty-clay which contained Iron Age pottery, several flint flakes, animal bones representing sheep cattle and charcoal flecks.

A narrow ditch [905] was located in the centre of the trench, which was widened to the east to allow further investigation of the feature. Ditch [905] measured *c*.0.75m wide x 0.27m deep, lay on a north-south alignment and was observed for a length of 3m. It had a rounded terminal at the southern end but projected beyond the trench limits to the north. The ditch contained a single fill of dark olive brown silty clay (904) from which 45 fragments of animal bone (cattle and sheep) and several heat cracked stones and pottery flecks were recovered.

No geophysical anomalies were interpreted from the survey in the area of Trench 9 other than possible furrows.



Figure 5 Plan and Section Drawings for Trench 9



Figure 6 Pit [902] partially excavated (0.5m scale)



Figure 7 Ditch [905] partially excavated (0.5m scale)

Trenches 11-15 were located in Fields 7099 & 8681 in the eastern part of the assessment area. These trenches contained evidence for medieval farming in the form of furrows, and more recent land drains. The natural substratum in these trenches consisted of mixed greyish-brown clay / orange-brown clay and was covered with layers of subsoil and topsoil.

• Land off Scalford Road

Trenches 16-44 were excavated in three fields off Scalford Road (Fig. 8). All but one of these trenches was negative.

Trenches 16-27 were located in the westernmost field and were generally of a similar depth, averaging *c*.0.60m deep although Trench was up to 1.5m deep. All contained similar subsoil and topsoil layers covering mixed natural subsoil of banded yellow/brown clays and orange gravels. Field drains and plough scars were evident in most trenches but only Trench 17 contained archaeological remains.



Figure 8 Location plan of Trenches 17 – 44 (Land off Scalford Road)

Trenches 28-34 were located in the central field of this part of the assessment area. These were all of a similar depth, with an average of c.0.50m, and were all negative in terms of archaeological features. Several contained slight traces of furrows and land drains were also evident. The natural substratum in this field consisted of light yellowish brown clay with ironstone fragments. This was overlaid by subsoil and topsoil layers respectively.

The easternmost field in this part of the assessment area contained the final set of trenches, 35-44. These were all of similar depth, averaging at c.0.50m deep and no archaeological remains were encountered. The natural substratum in this field varied from light yellowish brown clay to light greyish brown clay with chalky inclusions.

Several trenches contained land drains cutting into the natural subsoil and this was overlain by subsoil and topsoil layers.

Trench 17 (Figs 9 & 10)

Trench 17 was located close to the western edge of the westernmost field in this part of the assessment area. The trench lay on a north-south orientation and was extended on the eastern side to reveal more of a linear feature [1705]. This feature crossed the centre of the trench on an east-west alignment and was observed for *c*.8.50m before it terminated at its eastern end. [1705] measured *c*.0.80m wide x 0.32m deep, but was shallower towards the terminal where it may have been truncated. [1705] contained two fills, the earliest of which consisted of light brown silty-clay with orange mottles (1704). Towards the western edge of the trench [1705] contained a darker, more burnt looking fill (1702) of mid-dark greyish-brown silty-clay. This contained burnt pebbles, Iron Age pottery, flint flakes, animal bone and fired clay. An environmental sample from this deposit contained small amounts of Spelt wheat chaff and burnt seeds, most likely deriving from hearth sweepings.



Figure 9 Trench 17 Plan and Section Drawings



Figure 10 Ditch [1703]

6. Discussion

The investigation trenches were located across the application area in order to provide a reasonable coverage of the site and assess the potential for archaeological survival.

Two trenches (9 & 17) contained archaeological remains including two ditches/gullies and a small pit in association with Iron Age pottery and animal bone. From the limited quantity of pottery recovered an Early- middle Iron Age date may be suggested (below p. 17). The two trenches were located on higher ground in the centre of the evaluation area and suggest later prehistoric occupation, perhaps on a small scale. These trenches lie approximately 250m east of the large settlement complex revealed by the geophysical survey so it is unlikely that they are connected. However they may lie on the eastern edge of a broader area of prehistoric settlement located to the north of the evaluated area.

No other archaeological features were revealed in any of the remaining 42 trenches. A scatter of worked flint indicated earlier activity across the area from the Neolithic/Bronze Age and furrow remains and a scatter of medieval and later pottery provided evidence of the agricultural history of the area.

7. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Andrew Hyam, John Thomas and Sue Henderson. ULAS would like to thank Francesca Statham and James Forman (Leicestershire County Council), Jonathan Bloor (Richborough Estates), Mr Porter and Mr Hobill (tenant farmers) for their co-operation and assistance during the work. The project was managed by Vicki Score.

8. Site Archive and Results

The archive consists of:

This report,

1 small bag of finds (pottery, flint and animal bone)

44 pro-forma trench recording sheets,

8 pro-forma context sheets,

6 pro-forma site indices sheets (context summary, drawings and environmental sample),

2 A2 permagraph sheets containing plans and section drawings,

13 colour digital photographs,

Photographic record sheets,

1 compact disc of this report and the digital photographs.

The site archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Archaeology Store under the archaeological accession number X.A109.2014. A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of The Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. An OASIS record will also be produced and this report will be uploaded on to the Archaeology Data Service website.

9. Bibliography

Allen Archaeology, 2013 Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment: Sysonby Farm, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. Report No. 2013099.

Allen Archaeology, 2014 Archaeological *Evaluation Report: Geophysical Survey by Magnetometry on land off Sysonby Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.* Report No. AAL2014037.

IfA, 2008 Codes of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.

ULAS, 2011 Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work: Sysonby Farm, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. ULAS document 14/251.

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Appendix I OASIS Information

OASIS INFORMATION	
Project Name	Sysonby Farm, Melton Mowbray
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	V. Score
Project Supervisor	J Thomas
Previous/Future work	DBA, geophysical survey
Current Land Use	Arable Field
Development Type	Residential
Reason for Investigation	Planning Condition
Position in the Planning Process	Preliminary
Site Co ordinates	SP 7442 2120
Start/end dates of field work	05-08-14 to 19-08-14
Archive Recipient	LCCHNET
Study Area	22.01ha

Appendix II – The Finds

The Iron Age Pottery and Fired Clay - Nicholas J. Cooper

Introduction

A total of 35 sherds of Early-Middle Iron Age pottery weighing 75g was retrieved from two contexts (903) and (1703) with a low average sherd weight of 2g. Additionally, 11 amorphous fragments of fired clay were also recovered from (1703), which are likely to be burnt daub from a house structure in the vicinity.

Methodology

The pottery has been analysed by form and fabric using the Leicestershire County Museums prehistoric pottery fabric series (Marsden 2011, 62, Table 1), with reference to the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group's Guidelines (PCRG 1997), and quantified by sherd count and weight.

Results

Sysonby Farm XA109.2014 Iron Age Pottery							
Context	Trench	Fabric	Form	Rim form	Sherds	Weight	Date
903	9	S1	jar	Upright	34	70	E-M Iron Age
1703	17	S1	jar		1	5	E-M Iron Age
Total					35	75	

 Table 1 Quantified record of Iron Age pottery from the evaluation

The sherds from (903), although small and fragmentary would appear to come from a single undecorated, thin-bodied and handmade vessel with a plain, upright flat rim. The single undecorated body sherd from (1703) was abraded but also from a similarly thin-bodied jar. The lack of scored decoration, which if present, would have indicated Middle to Late Iron Age date from around the 3rd century BC to the 1st century AD (Elsdon 1992), may suggest an Early to Middle Iron Age date instead. Although unscored vessels do occur in the later Iron Age, the vessel is similar to one from Beaumont Leys where the assemblage was considered to be Middle Iron Age with some earlier elements present (Marsden 2011, 61 and fig.69.3).

References

Elsdon, S.M., 1992a 'East Midlands Scored Ware' TLAHS 66, 83-91.

Marsden, P., 2011 'The Prehistoric pottery and briquetage' in J. Thomas, *Two Iron Age Aggregated Settlements in the Environs of Leicester: Excavations at Beaumont Leys and Humberstone*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 19, 61-80. Leicester: University of Leicester, School of Archaeology and Ancient History.

PCRG (Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group) 1997. *The study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*. Oxford: PCRG Occasional Papers 1 and 2.

The Animal Bone - Rachel Small

Animal bone was recovered from four contexts (800, 903, 1703 and 9004). Context 9004 contained the most (45 fragments); the other contexts only contained eleven fragments or less. In general, the bone was fragmented and weathered, suggesting it was left exposed for a period of time. A number of specimens exhibited root etching. Contexts (903) and (1703) both contained Iron Age pottery.

Two species were identified: cattle and sheep/goat (Table 3). Tooth fragments were the most common identifiable element because they survive well in archaeological soils as it is made from enamel. However, a range of elements from different bodily areas were represented for example leg bones and vertebrae. Gnawing and butchery marks were not seen. One specimen, a medium mammal long bone shaft, had been signed, indicating burning of refuse.

This sample is typical of refuse from food preparation and consumption. If further work is carried out at the site analysis of the animal bone is highly recommended to shed more light upon on animal husbandry practises.

Context	Species	Element	Notes
9004	Sheep/goat	Metapodial	Distal articulation
9004	Cattle	Tooth	M3 mandibular
9004	Cattle	Tooth	M1/2 mandibular
9004	Cattle	Tooth	M1/2 mandibular
9004	Cattle	Tooth	Fragments x 2
9004	Sheep/goat	Tooth	M1/2 maxillary
9004	Sheep/goat	Tooth	M1/2 maxillary
9004	Large mammal	Mandible	Fragments x 3
9004	Unidentified	Horn	
9004	Medium mammal	Scapula	Articulation
9004	Medium mammal	Scapula	Spine
9004	Sheep/goat	Metacarpal	Proximal articulation
9004	Cattle	Metapodial	Shaft fragments x 2
9004	Sheep/goat	Radius	Shaft fragment with ulna scar
9004	Medium mammal	Long bone shaft	Fragments x 3 one singed
9004	Medium mammal	Vertebrae	Fragments x 2
9004	Unidentified	Unidentified	Fragments x 22
1703	Unidentified	Unidentified	Fragments x 10
1703	Large mammal	Tooth	Fragments x 1
903	Unidentified	Unidentified	Fragments x 3
903	Sheep/goat	Tooth	Premolar
903	Large mammal	Tooth	Fragments x 1
903	Unidentified	Unidentified	Fragments x 1
800	Sheep/goat	Tooth	Premolar mandibular

Table 2 Analysis of the animal bones from Sysonby Farm.

The Charred Plant Remains - Rachel Small

One sample (from context 1702) was wet sieved in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The flotation fraction (flot) was transferred into a plastic box and air dried, and then sorted using a x10-40 stereo microscope. The residue was also air dried and the fraction over 4mm sorted for all finds.

Larger pieces of charcoal (2mm and above) were common in the sample. One grain was found; however, it was too abraded to be identified to species. A piece of *Triticum* sp. chaff was identified suggesting an Iron Age/Roman date which corresponds with the Iron Age pottery evidence. A fragment of a charred seed was found, but it was too small to be identified to species. Modern rootlets and seeds were common in the sample.

This sample probably represents the disposal of hearth sweepings. The grain probably represents a food spillage or waste from food preparation. Perhaps the chaff was used as tinder. If further work is carried out at the site sampling of soil is highly recommended to gain a further understanding of agricultural activity.

The Medieval and Later Pottery and other modern finds - Nicholas J. Cooper

Introduction

A total of 52 sherds of medieval and later pottery was recovered mainly from topsoil, and provide information about the date of recent agricultural exploitation of the land.

Methodology

The material was classified with reference to the Leicestershire County Museums Medieval Pottery Fabric Series (Davies and Sawday 1999 Table 30) and quantified by sherd count and weight.

Results

A total of nine sherds of medieval pottery weighing 161g was retrieved from subsoil and (1301) and four from topsoil contexts (500). The remaining 43 sherds (410g) are of post-medieval or modern date and all from topsoil. The entire quantified record is presented below (Table 4)

Medieval and later pottery from Sysonby Farm XA109.2014					
Context	Fabric	Sherds	Weight g	Date	Other modern finds
200	EA6/7	2	10	16 th -18 th	Modern tile x 1 Modern glass x1;
					clay pipe x 1
300	EA2&8-10	2	2	17 th -19 th	Modern brick x 1; clay pipe x 3
400	EA2&8-10	8	65	17 th -19 th	Modern glass x 1
401	EA2	2	30	17 th -18 th	
500	Medieval	1	15	13 th -14 th	Modern Glass x 1
500	EA2&8-10	2	15	17 th -19 th	Modern Glazed tile x 1
600	EA8-10	1	5	18 th /19 th	Modern glass x 3; clay pipe x 1
700	EA8-10	2	25	18 th /19 th	Clay pipe x 1
800	EA8-10	2	20	18 th /19 th	Modern glass x 2; clay pipe x 1
900	EA8-10	1	2	$18^{th}/19^{th}$	Modern glass x 1; clay pipe x 3
1000	Medieval	1	15	13 th -14 th	
1000	EA8-10	3	20	18 th /19 th	
1301	Medieval	5	70	13 th -14 th	
1400	EA2	2	55	17 th /18 th	1 x 18 th cent glass; clay pipe x 1
1600	EA2	2	35	17 th /18 th	Clay pipe x 1
2200	EA3-5	1	6	1650-1770	Clay pipe x 2
2500	EA2	1	15	17 th -18 th	
2800	EA2	8	105	17 th -18 th	
3100	EA2	3	55	17 th -18 th	
3300	MY	1	45	1500-1725	
3500	Medieval	1	55	13 th -14 th	
4200	Medieval	1	6	13 th -14 th	
Total		52	571		

Table 3 Medieval and later pottery from Sysonby Farm

The majority of the assemblage comprises post-medieval and modern earthenwares (Fabric EA) from a variety of sources including Ticknall and Staffordshire. The medieval pottery requires further classification by a specialist but can be broadly dated to the 13th and 14th century and indicates the manuring of the open fields.

Reference

Davies, S. and Sawday, D., 1999, 'The post-Roman pottery and tile' *in* A. Connor and R. Buckley *Roman and Medieval Occupation at Causeway Lane, Leicester*. Leicester Archaeology Monograph 5, 165-213. Leicester: University of Leicester School of Archaeological Studies.

The Lithics Lynden Cooper

A small collection of worked flint was recovered from across the evaluation area. Much of this was unstratified and recovered from topsoil/subsoil layers but flintwork was also associated with the cut features from Trenches 9 & 17. The technology displayed by the recovered lithics indicated a likely Neolithic – Bronze Age date.

Context	Classification	Date
100	3ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
400	Flake frag.	Neolithic – Bronze Age
903	3ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
903	2ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
903	Flake frag.	Neolithic – Bronze Age
903	shatter	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1701	2ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1703	2ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1703	2ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1703	Flake frag.	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1704	2ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
1704	3ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
2200	Flake frag.	Neolithic – Bronze Age
2500	Flake frag.	Neolithic – Bronze Age
3100	3ry flake	Neolithic – Bronze Age
3701	Burin	Neolithic – Bronze Age

Table 5 – The worked flint

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