UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER
Archaeological Services

An Archaeological Evaluation on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire, DE74 2FF

NGR: SK 48615 26901

Lucy Brown

ULAS Report No. 2018-093

An Archaeological Evaluation on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire, DE74 2FF

NGR: SK 48615 26901

Client: Mr & Mrs J Marriott

Planning Authority: North West Leicestershire District Council

Planning Ref: 16/01210/OUT

Filename/Version	Checked by	Date
2018-093		**21/05/2018**

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ULAS Report Number 2018-093

Accession Number

X.A54.2018

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between the 8th and 10th May 2018 on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire. The work took place as a condition of planning permission for the erection of three dwellings with vehicular access and parking. The assessment area lies within the historic settlement core of Kegworth, with several known archaeological sites dating from the Iron Age to post medieval periods located close to the site. The site is also immediately west of a suspected Anglo-Saxon 'burh' preserved within the present line of Borough Street. Two 15m long evaluation trenches identified late Saxon to early medieval activity across the site likely to be associated with burgage plots attached to the medieval high street. Other undated features of possible earlier origin were also identified within the southern area of the site.

The report and archive will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums under Accession Number X.A54.2018

Introduction

In accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 12 *Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment* this document presents the results of an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire. Under planning application No. 16/01210/OUT, it is intended for the erection of three dwellings with vehicular access. Such work would have an impact upon any buried archaeological remains should any be present. Therefore the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council requested that a programme of archaeological trial trenching be undertaken prior to any construction work taking place.

Background

The assessment area lies within the core of the village approximately 60m east of the medieval high street (Derby Road, A6) at an average height of around 39m AOD. The site consisted of a combination of turf, gravelled car park and unmanaged scrub vegetation. The land was moderately sloping from east to west with residential buildings to the north and a footpath immediately to the south. The British Geological Survey indicates that the underlying bedrock geology throughout the site is likely to consist of Tarporley Siltstone Formation formed approximately 242 to 250 million years ago.

The place name of Kegworth (or Cacheworde, Caggworth or Cogga) is Anglo-Saxon in origin and is derived from the Old English personal name 'Caegga'or 'Kaggi', twinned with the Old Scandinavian 'worth', meaning enclosure or village. It is,

therefore ‘the settlement associated with Caegga' (Mills 2003). The name ‘Kaggi’ is the Danish name for Redbeard.

It was recorded in the Doomsday Book that Cacheworde was held by Earl Harold Godwin, who became the last of the Saxon kings. After Harold's defeat at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 the Earl Hugh of Chester was given the land by William the Conqueror.

There is little known about the village after this until 1265 when the Royalists defeated Simon de Montfort and estates gained by the Earl of Gloucester included land in Kegworth. A market charter was granted in 1290 and the market place lies due south of the church.

Roman

The line of a Roman Road running from the Roman Town at Red Hill, may run past the site around 50m to the east on what is now the Nottingham Road (See Figure 2).

Medieval

The site lies within the medieval settlement core of Kegworth (**MLE4637**) and immediately to the west of a large circular enclosure, defined by earthworks to the east of the site and by the opposite curve at Borough Street to the west (**MLE16643**). The enclosure is clear on most of the early OS maps of the town. It is undated, but is likely to be the remains of the Anglo-Saxon, ‘burh’ (fortified town), although there is a possibility that it is prehistoric.

An area of well-preserved village earthworks containing hollow ways, building platforms, enclosures, pillow mounds, and a possible ford (**MLE4650**), dating from the medieval period lie at The Wymeshead, 500m south-east of the site (**MLE4649**). The area is a scheduled monument (**SM 1018359**).

The medieval market place for Kegworth lies 300m south east of the site (**MLE4639**). The remains of a burgage plot were discovered here in 2011 (**MLE19794**).

Post-medieval

There are a number of post-medieval buildings in the town, which are of interest, but have little relevance to this assessment as they are obscured by modern development. The site was probably part of the historic village core and its location close to the Main Street at the centre of the village suggested that the site may have had a high potential for medieval and post-medieval remains. The 1779 enclosure map indicates that the site was part of the gardens behind the high street and subsequent Ordnance Survey maps show no additional structures built upon the assessment area (see Figure 3).

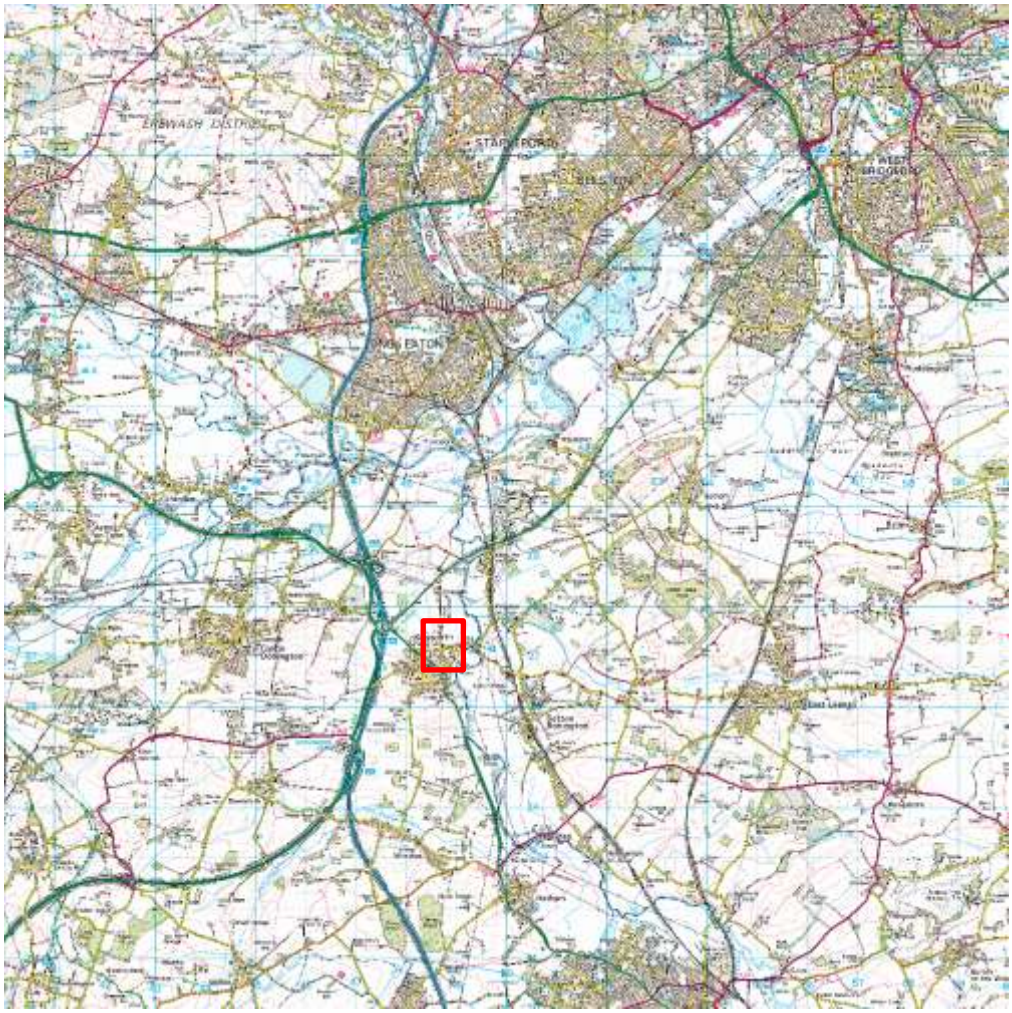

Figure 1: Site location (shown in red)

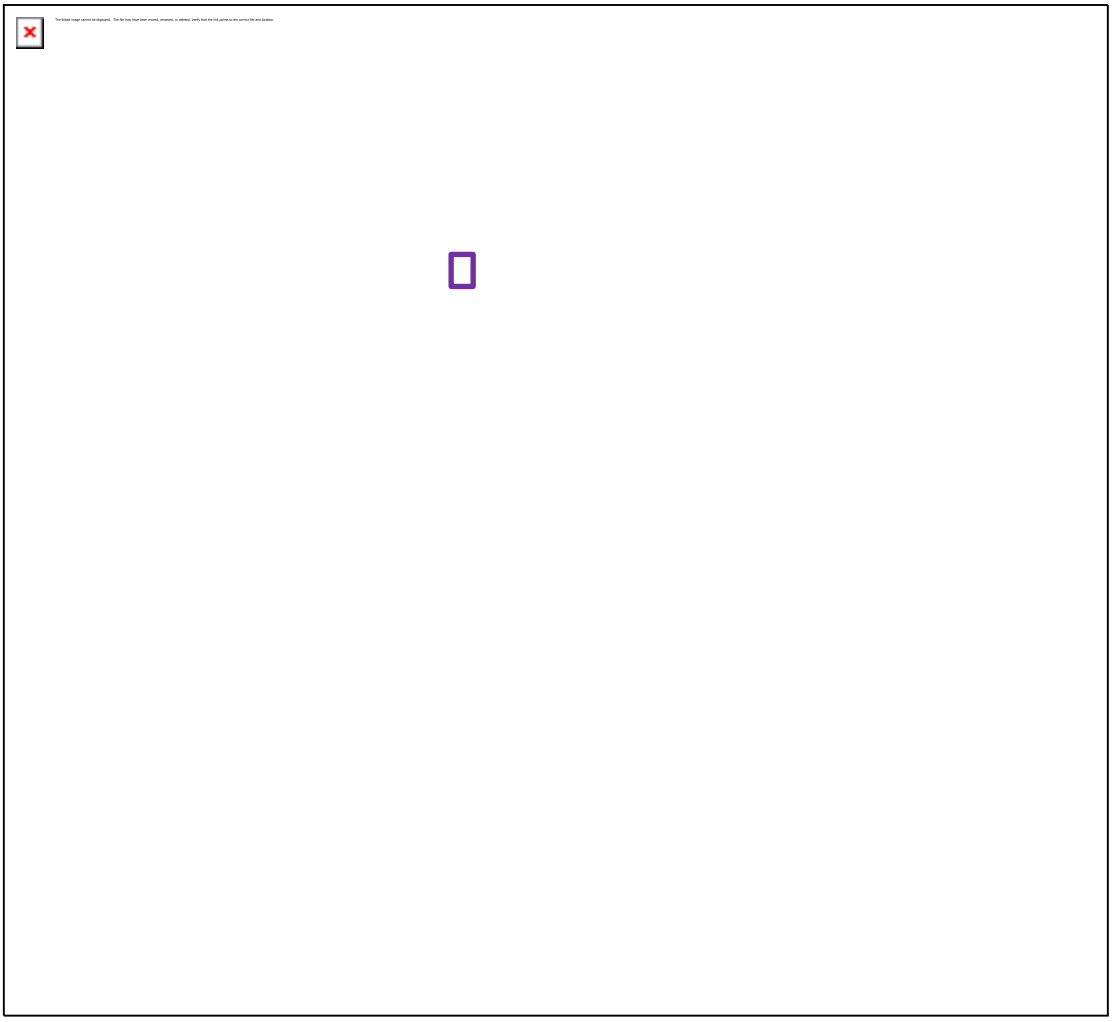

Figure 2: Location of the site within Kegworth (highlighted purple). HER data courtesy of Leicestershire County Council

Figure 3: 1779 Enclosure map of Kegworth (with site shown in purple)

Figure 4: General view of site, looking south. Area to contain a single bungalow with an associated driveway and parking.

Figure 5: General view of the site, looking north. Area to the east of the photograph to contain two semi-detached dwellings.

Objectives

The overall objectives and research agenda are detailed in the ULAS Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the rear of 3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire.

The specific objectives for this programme of work were:

- To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- To record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- To establish the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscape.
- To recover artefacts and ecofacts to compare with other assemblages and results.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.
- To ascertain the nature and extent of any further mitigation works required prior to development commencing.

Methodology

The methodology used throughout the evaluation is discussed in detail in the ULAS WSI. For this evaluation a JCB 3CX mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless 1.5m ditching bucket was used whilst under constant archaeological supervision. The machine was supplied and operated by the client and the trenches will be backfilled at a time convenient to the client.

The evaluation trenches were laid out using measuring tapes and their positions were confirmed by referring to the architectural drawings supplied by the client. Environmental samples of three suitable archaeological features were taken.

The excavation took place between the 8th and 10th May 2018. The weather was sunny and dry throughout the excavation, with some rainfall during the evening of the 9th of May.

Results

As noted above, two 1.5m wide trenches were placed across the proposed development site and were targeting the plan of the proposed buildings (See Figure 6). Trench 1 was relocated, in consultation with the client, to preserve an existing gravel car park in use by residents, instead targeting the locations of the proposed foundation trenches for the bungalow. Trench 2 was located across the footings of the semi-detached building to the north.

The topsoil consisted of a dark grey-brown sandy loam with charcoal inclusions and moderate quantities of brick and rubble. The subsoil was a dark red-brown sandy clay also containing charcoal and brick fragments as well frequent large tree roots.

The natural substratum across the site consisted of a mid brown-red sandy clay with intermittent mid yellow-brown sand intervals. Bioturbation was present across both trenches with evidence of tree throws and roots within the natural substratum.

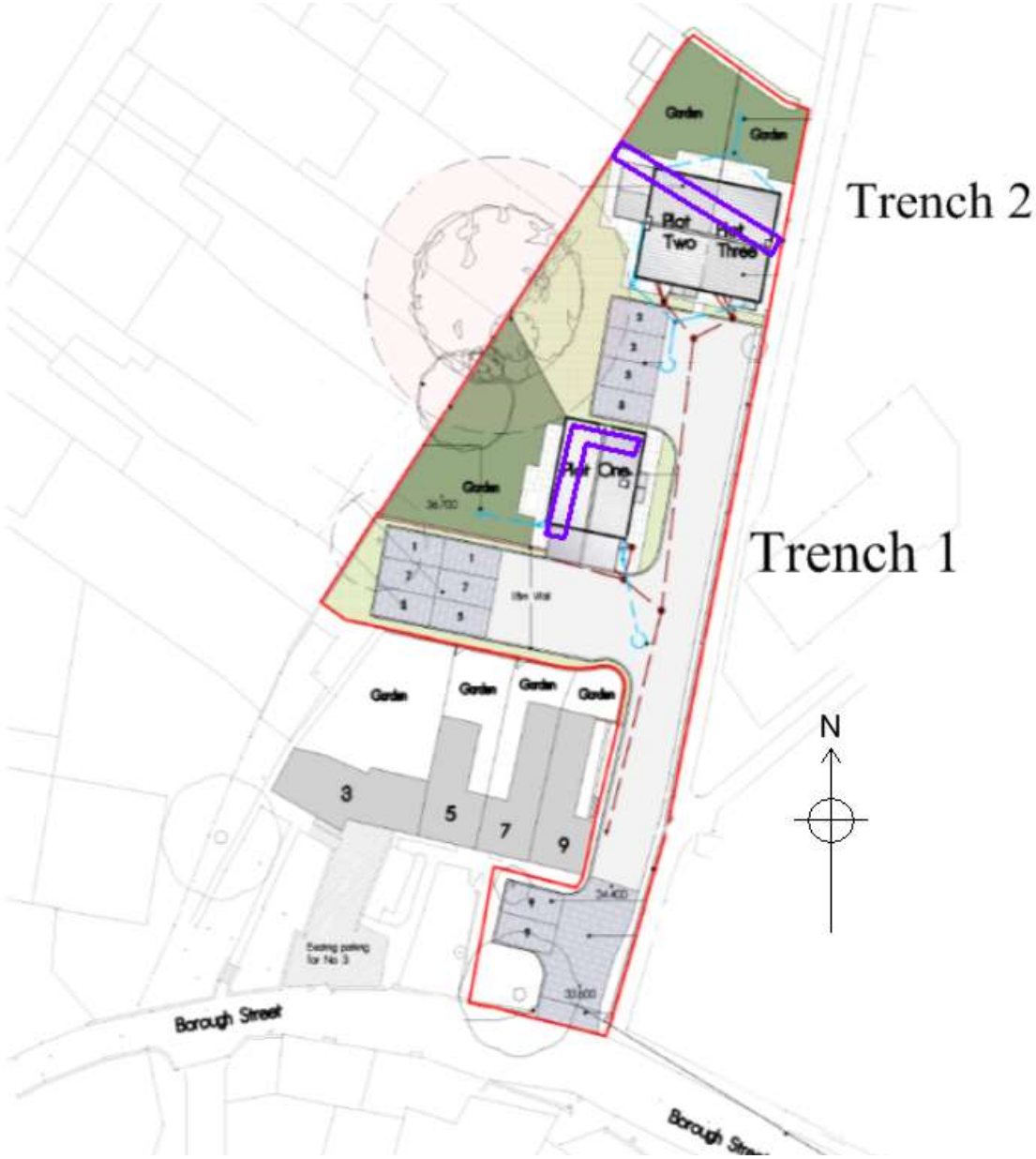

Figure 6: Final trench locations (Shown in purple) with proposed development, base map supplied by client

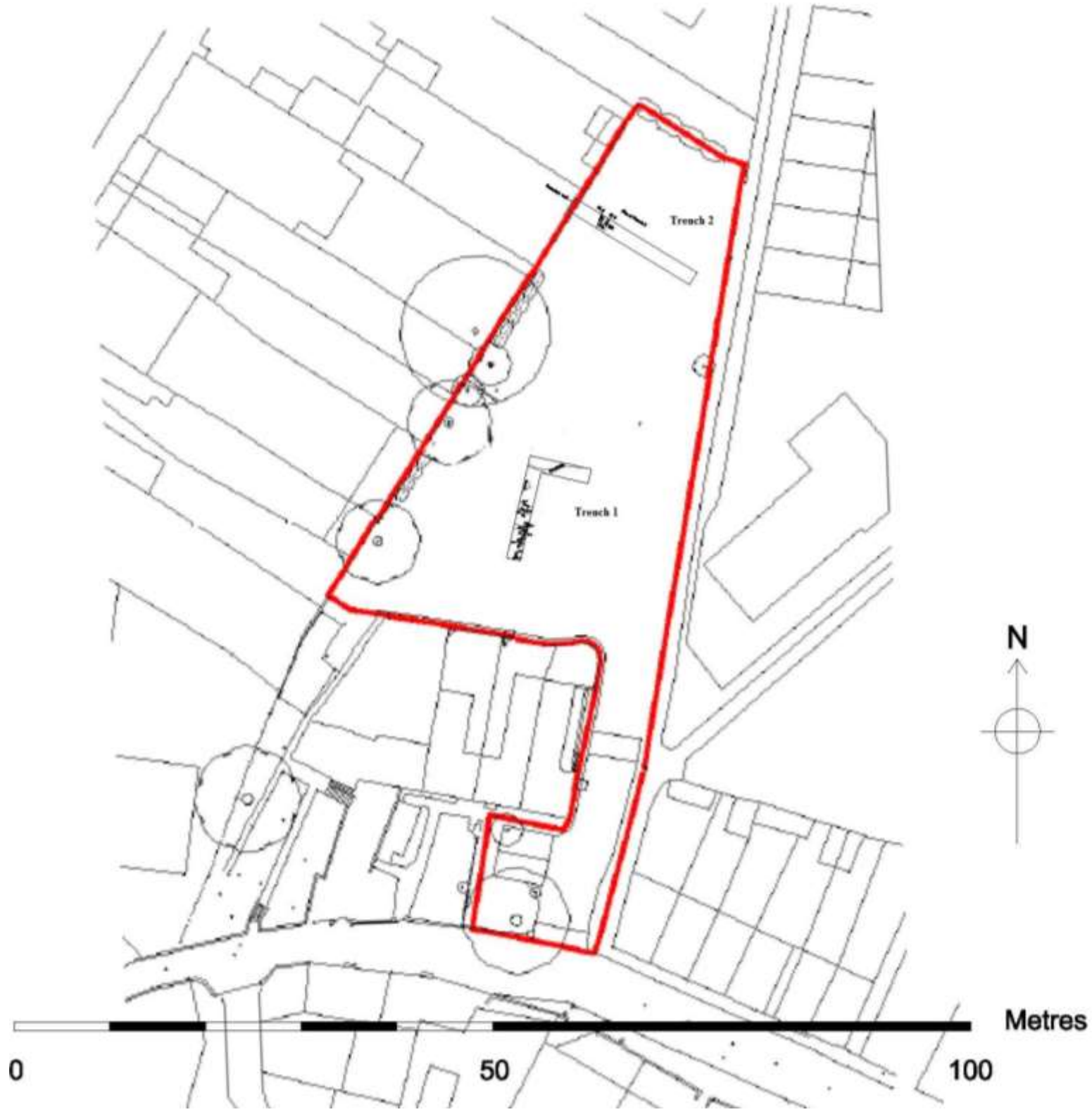

Figure 7: Plan of Trenches 1 and 2 with features.

Trench 1

Contexts: Post holes [1], [2] and [5], gully [3] and shallow ditch [4]

Orientation: N-S and E-W
Length: 15m
Width: 1.5m
Min. depth: 0.95m
Max. depth: 1.28m
Average depth to top of natural: 0.96m

Interval (m) from end	0	3	6	9	11	12.5 (Turn)	14	17.5
Topsoil depth	0.52	0.45	0.52	0.62	0.43	0.65	0.64	0.43
Subsoil depth	0.6	0.49	0.33	0.41	0.52	0.25	0.34	0.44
Top of natural	1.12	0.94	0.85	1.03	0.95	0.9	0.98	0.87

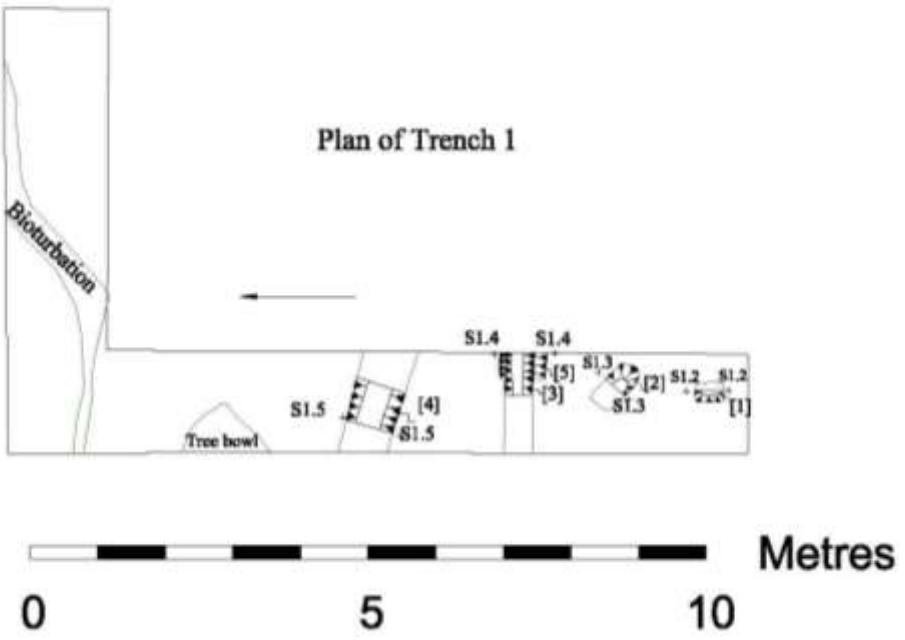

Figure 8: Plan of Trench 1 with features

Figure 9: Trench 1, looking north (pre-excavation of east-west area)

Figure 10: Trench 1, looking west (post excavation of east-west area)

Features [3], [4] and [5]

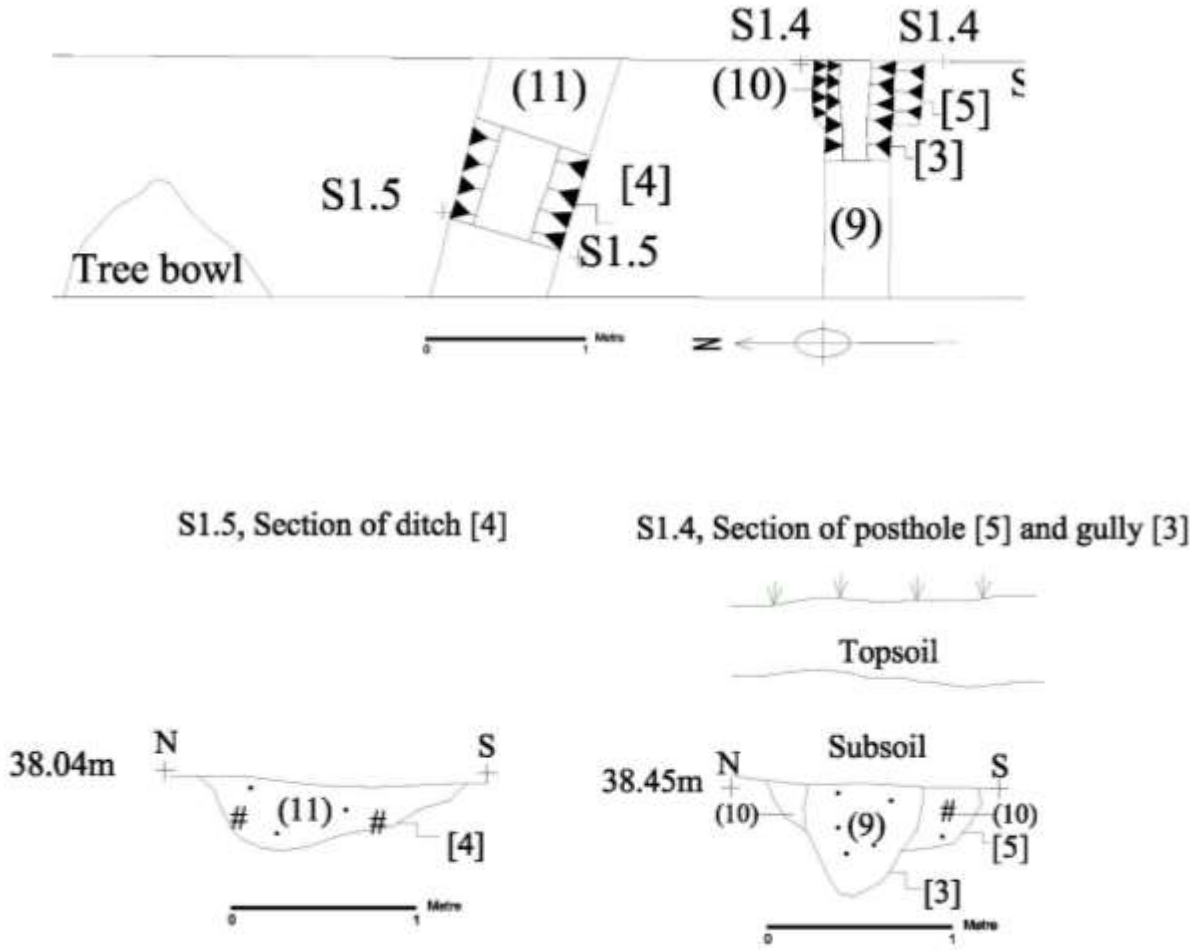

Figure 11: Trench 1, ditch [4], gully [3] and post hole [5], plan and sections

Trench 1 formed an 'L-shape' around the edge of the existing car park and was situated over the proposed foundation trenches of the buildings. The north-south area of the trench contained several features including a shallow ditch [4]. There were three sherds of Nottingham Light Bodied Green Glazed ware, dating from c.1230-1350, found within the single fill (11) of ditch [4] (p.22). This ditch was located to the northern end of the north-south area and was orientated east-west across the trench (see

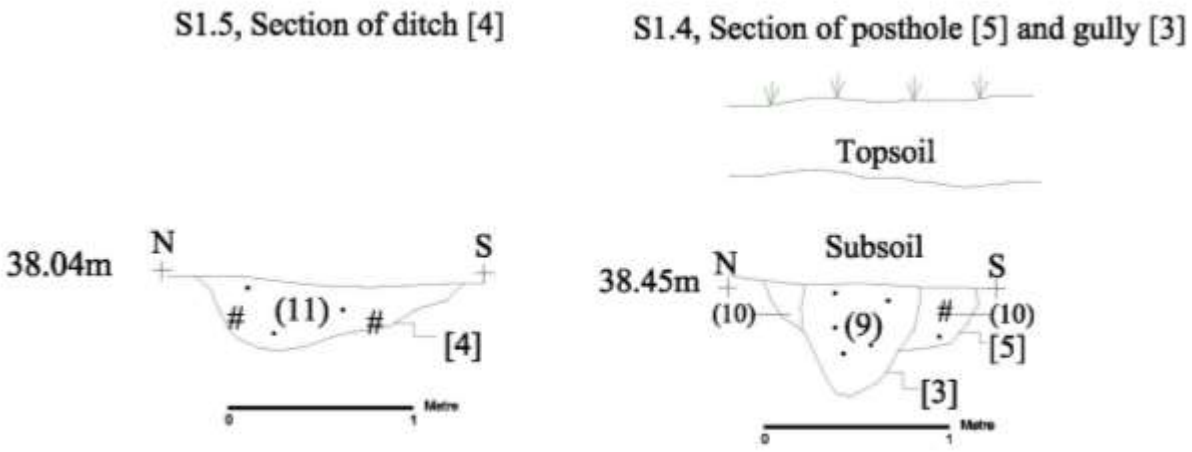

Figure 11). The single fill (11) was a dark red-brown sandy clay with charcoal inclusions and medium-sized unworked sandstones (see Figure 12). A sample (Sample 2, p.25) was taken of fill (11) and analysis of the charred plant remains indicated the presence of cereal residue prepared for consumption and exposed to hearth-burning No dating was found in the remaining features of this trench.

Figure 12: Section of ditch [4], looking north west

South of ditch [4] was gully [3], also orientated east-west across the trench and cutting a rectangular feature [5]. This feature [5] appeared to be a large rectangular posthole however the full shape was not confirmed due to truncation by the gully [3] and its location at the edge of the trench. The fill of gully [3] was a mid orange-brown silty sand (9) and the fill of the posthole [5] was a dark orange-brown silty sand with charcoal inclusions (10) (see Figure 13). An environmental sample (Sample 1, p25) was taken of gully [3] which contained charred plant remains likely to represent residue from the preparation of cereal grains for consumption that had burnt on a hearth (same as Sample 2).

Figure 13: Section of post hole [5] and gully [3], looking west.

Features [1] and [2]

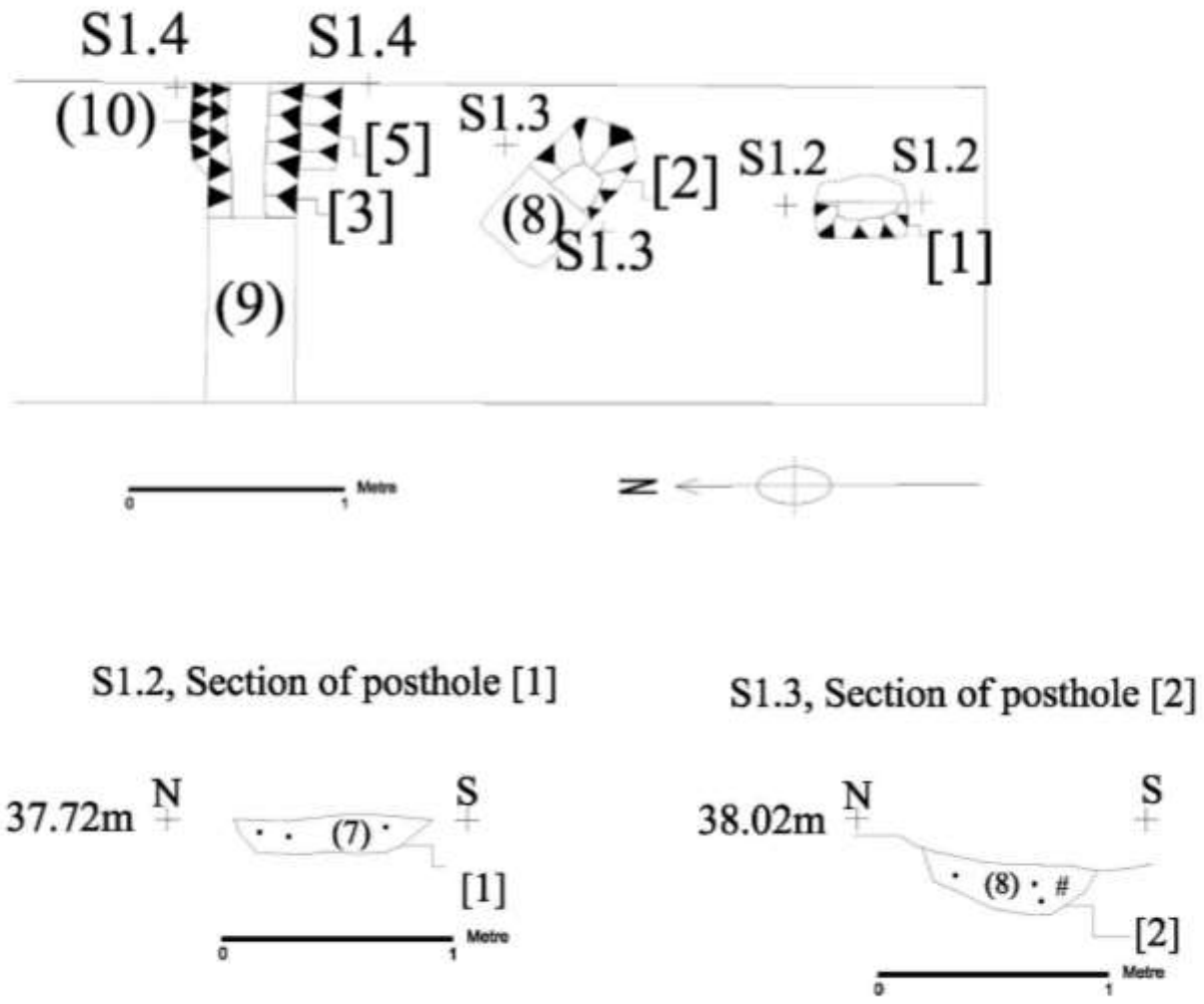

Figure 14: Trench 1, post holes [1] and [2], plan and sections

To the south of gully [3] were two rectangular postholes [1] and [2] (see Figure 14). Post hole [1] was in the same orientation as post hole [5] and contained a single mid orange-brown silty sand fill with charcoal inclusions (7) (seeFigure 15). Posthole [2] was larger and orientated north-east to south-west. The single fill was also a mid orange-brown silty sand with charcoal inclusions (8).

Figure 15: Plan of post hole [1], looking east

Figure 16: Plan of post hole [2], looking north west

Trench 2

Contexts: Ditch [6]

Orientation: E-W
Length: 15.08m
Width: 1.50m
Min. depth: 0.9m
Max. depth: 1.21m
Average depth of top of natural: 0.85m

Interval (m) from end	0	3	6	9	12	15
Topsoil depth	0.42	0.56	0.51	0.48	0.64	0.55
Subsoil depth	0.30	0.32	0.25	0.22	0.34	0.51
Top of natural	0.72	0.88	0.76	0.70	0.98	1.06
Base of trench	0.90	1.04	0.90	0.85	1.21	1.13

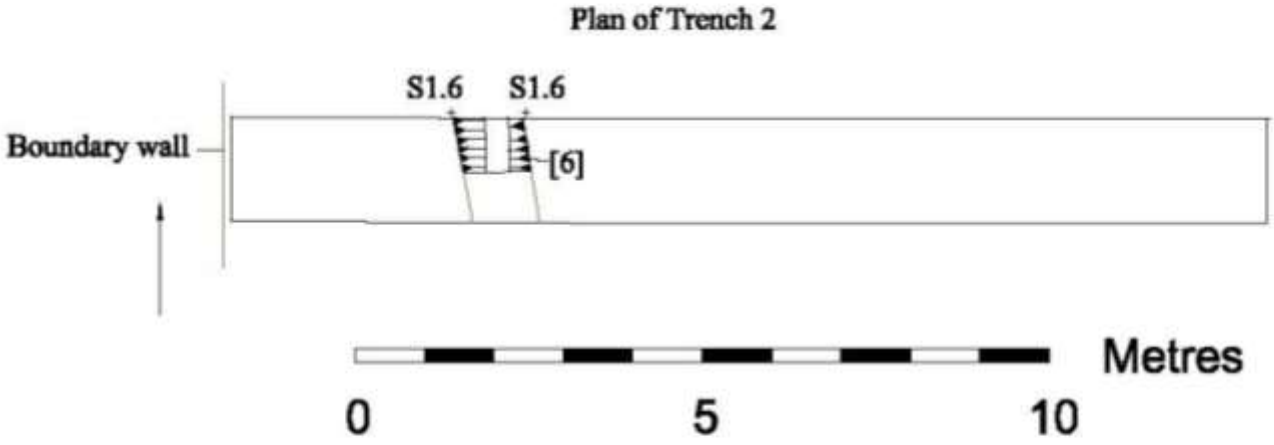

Figure 17: Plan of Trench 2 with features

Figure 18: Trench 2, looking west

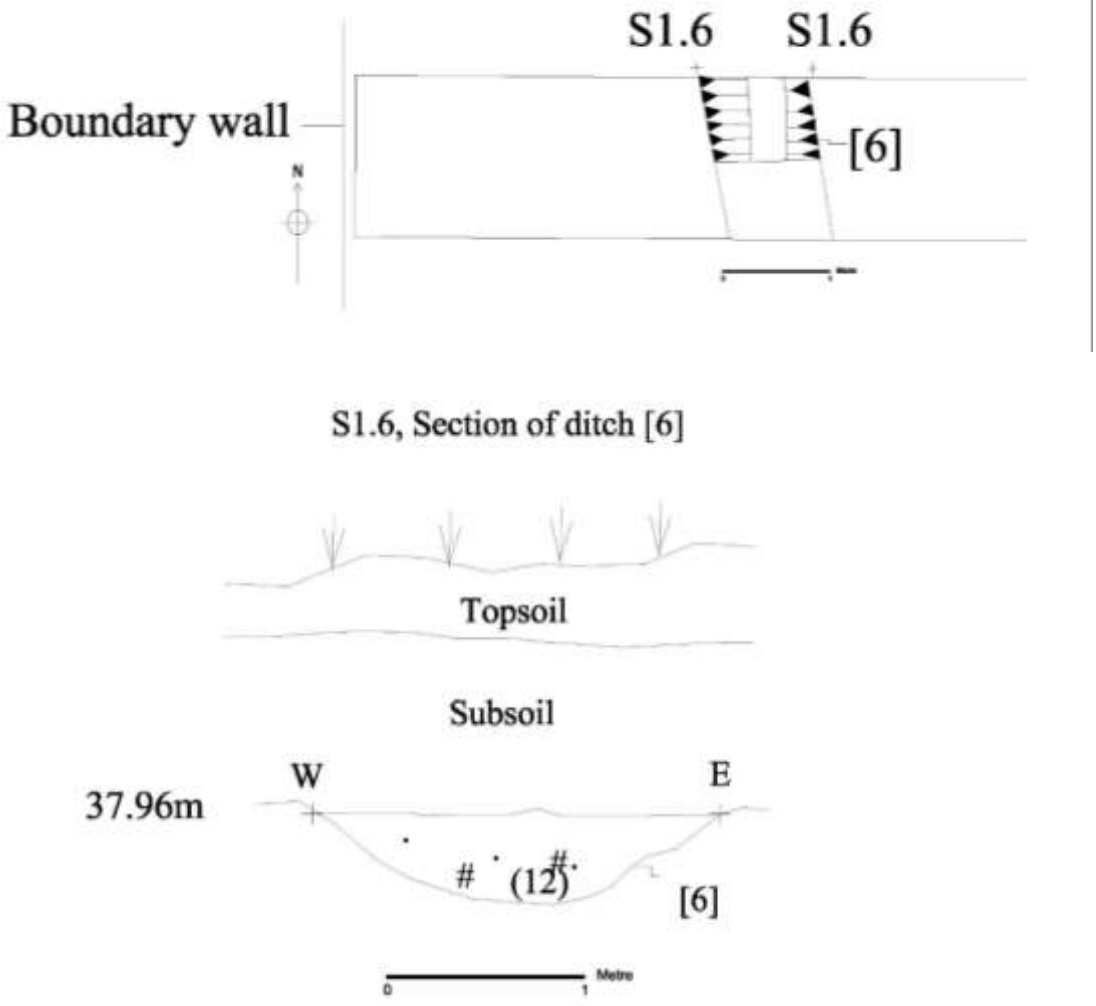

Figure 19: Ditch [6], plan and section

Trench 2 was located east-west across the northern end of the site and reached both boundary fences. This trench contained multiple instances of tree bowels as well a ditch [6] running north to south across the trench. This ditch contained a single fill (12) of dark red-brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions and rare daub fragments. A variety of late Saxon to medieval pottery sherds were contained within this fill, ranging in date from c.850 to c.1300+ and are consistent with a domestic assemblage (p22). There were also 2 sherds of Potters Marston found which is notable due to its rarity this far north in the county. Samples from fill (12) (Sample 3, p25) showed possible evidence for cereal grain processing on the site. The sample also contained hazelnut shells, legumes and possible barley grains which are likely to result from food spillage and preparation waste subjected to burning.

Figure 20: Trench 2, section of ditch [6], looking south

Pottery Report

Deborah Sawday

The Ceramic Finds

The pottery assemblage was made up of thirteen sherds, weighing <179g. The assemblage represented ten vessels with a vessel rim equivalent of 0.125 (calculated by adding together the circumference of the surviving rim sherds, where one vessel equals 1.00). A fragment of fired clay, weighing two grams, was also recorded

Condition

The condition of the pottery was relatively good with little abrasion and an average sherd weight of approximately 13.7 grams. A few co-joining sherds were also noted.

Methodology

The material was examined under a x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to current guidelines (MPRG 1998, MPRG 2016) and the ULAS and Nottingham fabric series (Davies and Sawday 1999, Sawday 2009, Nailor and Young, 2001).

Table 1: The medieval pottery fabrics.

Fabric	Common Name/Kiln & Fabric Equivalent where known	Approx. Date Range
ST2	Stamford - fine, fabrics G B/(A) (1)	c.1050-12th C.
TO	Torksey ware/type (2)	c.850-c.1200
RS	Reduced Sandy wares-? Local /Nottingham (3)	c.850-c.1200+
SP2	Nottingham fine, early, Splashed ware (3)	1100-1150
PM	Potters Marston ware - Potters Marston, Leicestershire (4)	c.1100-c.1300/50+
NO3	Nottingham Light Bodied Green Glazed ware NOTGL (3)	Early/mid 13th+

(1) Kilmurry 1980, Leach 1987	(3) Nailor and Young 2001, Nailor*et al* 2005
(2) Barley 1964, 1981	(4) Sawday 1991

The Ceramic Record

The fabric codes and sources – where known – are shown in the fabric list, table 1. Table 2 gives the pottery totals by period and average sherd weight (ASW), and table 3 lists the pottery by context, fabric, sherd number, weight (grams), EVES and vessel number and class where known. Co-joining sherds are noted, whilst single sherds are generally counted as one vessel

The Site Record

The two pottery assemblages were recovered from the back-fill of two ditches, contexts (11) [4] and (12) [6] in trenches 1 and 2 respectively. That from the former consisted of three sherds of Nottingham Light Bodied Green Glazed ware in fabric NO3, dating from c.1230-1350. The ten sherds from context [6] were in late Saxon or early medieval fabrics, save for the two sherds of Potters Marston, which are generally dated from c. 1100 to 1300+.

Discussion

The three identifiable vessels comprised a jar and two jugs. Many of the other sherds were externally sooted and these vessels had evidently been used for cooking. The group is typical of domestic assemblages of this date.

Not surprisingly, given the proximity of the village to Nottingham and the local nature of much of the medieval trade in ceramics, Nottingham wares predominated, with Nottingham Splashed and Green Glazed wares making up almost half of the assemblage by sherd count. The three sherds of Reduced Sandy ware may also originate from Nottingham, whilst Stamford ware was widely traded in the region. The presence of Potters Marston is of interest as this pottery is more commonly found to the south and west of the county and has not previously been identified by the author in Kegworth.

Table 2: The medieval pottery site totals by fabric, sherd number, weight (grams), minimum vessel count and average sherd weight (ASW).

Fabric	**No.**	**Gr**	**EVEs**	**Vessel No.**	**ASW**
Late Saxon/Early Medieval					
ST2	1	4	0.05	1	
TO	1	<1		1	
RS	3	85		1	28.3
SP2	3	52	0.075	3	17.3
Sub Total	8	<142	0.125	6	<17.75
Medieval					
PM	2	17		1	
NO3	3	20		3	
Sub Total	5	37		4	7.4
Site Totals	13	<179	0.125	10	<13.7

Conclusion

This, albeit small, assemblage of medieval pottery provided evidence of activity in the vicinity from the 11th or 12th centuries, if not earlier, until at least the 13th century. Whilst the average sherd weight is not that large, the presence of some quite sizeable fragments, notably in Reduced Sandy and Splashed ware, and of co-joining sherds, suggests that relatively undisturbed archaeological levels may survive in the vicinity.

Table 3: The pottery by context, fabric/ware, sherd number, weight (grams), EVEs and vessel count.

Context	Fabric/ware	No	Gr	EVEs	Vessel No	Comments
11 [4] T1	NO3	1	11		1	Fine pale pink/buff fabric, sooted externally.
11	NO3	1	2		1	Coarser than the above, spots of lead glaze and sooting on the exterior.
11	N03	1	7		1	Jug neck, apple green glaze,.
12 [6] T2	ST2	1	4	0.05	1	Jar rim fragment, sooted/burnt externally and on interior of rim. Estimated diameter c.160mm,i
12	TO	1	<1		1	Body
12	RS	3	85		1	Hand built, concave base, sooted burnt ext. base, joining fragments,
12	SP2	1	20	0.075	1	Wheel thrown jug with evidence of handle base attached to the top of the rim, patchy lead glaze. Simple squared rim, similar at Nottingham in splashed ware (Coppack 1980, fig.62.16). Estimated EVES, diameter not measurable.
12	SP2	1	30		1	Wheel thrown. Traces of lead glaze on exterior abraded.
12	SP2	1	2		1	Body
12	PM	2	17		1	Hand built. Sooted externally, limescale on interior.
MISC.						
12	EA	1	2			Fired clay

Environmental Sample Report

Adam Santer

Introduction

During an archaeological evaluation at Kegworth three bulk soil samples (numbered 1 to 3) were taken and processed for the analysis of charred plant remains. Sample 1 was from the fill (9) of an undated gully [3] whereas samples 2 and 3 were from the fills (11) and (12) of Medieval ditches [4] and [6]. The analysis of the charred plant remains recovered from the samples is presented here, together with a discussion of what this can potentially tell us about past diet, crop husbandry strategies and environment at the site. Gully [3] and ditch [4] were located in Trench 1 while ditch [6] was located in Trench 2.

Methodology

The samples consisted of a mostly mid-brown clayey silt and were processed in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm sieve. The flotation fractions (flots) were sorted for plant remains and other artefacts under an x10-40 stereo microscope. The residues were air dried and the fractions over 4mm were sorted in their entirety whilst the fraction under 4mm was only scanned for remains. Plant remains were identified by comparison to modern reference material available at ULAS and their names follow Stace (1991). Each whole grain or those representing over 60% of the specimen was counted as one.

Results

Composition

All of the samples contained charred plant remains. One of the samples had a low density of remains (under 5 items per litre) and the other two had a medium density (over 5 items per litre). Sample 3 contained the most plant remains at 15.11 items per litre and it was from the fill (12) of Medieval ditch [6] located within Trench 2. The charred plant remains were very fragmentary and distorted from burning at high temperatures. While this hindered to the identification of specimens to species it was still possible to identify 69% of the remains to genus/species.

The samples contained mixed proportions of cereal grains and wild seeds. While grains were present in samples 1 and 2 in similar numbers no wild seeds were found in sample 1; whereas nine were found in sample 2. Cereal grains were common in sample 3 but a greater proportion of the remains were wild seeds.

Chaff was found in all of the samples but in very small numbers. Wheat (*Triticum* spp.) glume base was found in each of the samples and a single wheat straw node was found in sample 3. Legumes and nut shell fragments were also found in sample 3.

Each category of plant remains will now be discussed in more detail:

Grains

Free-threshing wheat (Triticum spp.) was the only type of grain which could be identified with any degree of confidence. Two possible barley (C.f *Hordeum vulgare* L.) grains were found in sample 3 but the specimens were very poorly preserved. It was therefore, impossible to tell whether or not these grains were 'twisted' which would be indicative of six-rowed barley. No signs of germination on the grains were noted.

Chaff

Few glume base fragments were found in all of the samples and a single glume base was found in sample 1. A wheat straw node was found in sample 3. It was not possible to differentiate the specimens between rivet (*Triticum turgidum* L.) and bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.).

Legumes and Nut shell

Legumes and nut shell fragments were only found in sample 3. With the exception of two peas (*Pisum sativum* L.) the heavily fragmentary nature of the specimens (the burning at high temperatures had removed the outer seed coating and hilum) meant that it was only possible to identify some the legumes to genus rather than species. However, judging by the spherical shape of three of the specimens it is likely that they represent peas. The larger/bloated and slightly ovoid profile of two other specimens likely represent beans (Cf. *Vicia* sp.). Two fragments of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana* L.) was also recovered from sample 3.

Wild seeds

The most commonly occurring species of wild seed was stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula* L.) which typically grows as a weed of cultivated cereal fields and is tolerant of heavy soils (typically clay). This has been taken to be suggestive of the cultivation of marginal lands and the use of improved agricultural equipment (Monckton 2003: 18). Some large grass seeds (Poaceae) were present in samples 2 and 3. These could represent poorly preserved oat grans (wild or cultivated). Small grass seeds were also present in sample 3. Other wild seeds present in lower numbers included bramble (*Rubus* sp.) which is a plant from deciduous forests and shrubberies, a possible common knapweed (Cf. *Centaurea nigra* L.) which commonly grows in grasslands, and a goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) which grows amongst wasteland vegetation. Other seeds which grow in a variety of environments; such as vetch (*Lathyrus* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), possible Knotgrasses (Cf. *Polygonum* spp.) were also present. A single flax seed (*Linum* sp.) was found in sample 3 which strongly resembled the domesticated type (*Linum Usitatissimum* L.) rather than the wild type (*Linum catharticum* L.).

Sample	**1**	**2**	***3**	
Context	**9**	**11**	**12**	
Cut	**3**	**4**	**6**	
Feature type	**Gully**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	
Date	**Unknown**	**Medieval**	**Medieval**	
Grain				
Cf. *Hordeum vulgare* L.			2	Cf. Barley
Triticum spp.	1	3	24	Free threshing wheat
Cereal	2	2	24	Indeterminate cereal grain
Chaff				
Glume base fragments	1	1	2	Glume base frags
Triticum sp. glume base	1			Wheat glume base
Straw colmn node			1	Straw colmn node
Nuts				
Corylus avellana L. nut shell fragments			2	Hazelnut shell fragments
Legumes				
Cf. Vicia sp.			2	Cf. Bean
Pisum sativum L.			2	Pea
Cf. *Pisum sativum* L.			3	Cf. Pea
Wild seeds				
Anthemis cotula L.		4	45	Stinking chamomile
Chenopodium sp.			1	Goosefoots
Lathyrus sp.			3	Vetch
Linum Cf. *Usitatissimum* L.			1	Flax Cf. domesticated
Poaceae (large)		1	18	Large garss
Poaceae (small)			3	Small grass
Rubus sp.		3		Bramble
Rumex sp.		1		Dock
Cf. *Centaurea nigra* L.			1	Cf. Common knapweed
Cf. *Polygonum* sp.			2	Cf. Knotgrass
Total	**5**	**15**	**136**	
Soil volume (L)	**7**	**6**	**9**	
% Analysed	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	
Items per litre	**0.71**	**5.72**	**15.11**	

*Table 1: The charred plant remains found in samples 1-3. * denotes that one Triticum sp. grain, six indeterminate grains, one Cf. Pisum fragment, two Lathyrus sp. seeds and one small Poaceae seed was found in the under 4mm residue.*

A note on charcoal

Some charcoal was found in all of the samples but very few pieces measured over 2mm in diameter, and are therefore would not be deemed suitable for radiocarbon analysis.

Discussion/Conclusion

Three bulk soil samples were taken from 3-9 Borough St, Kegworth and analysed. All three of the samples contained a low to medium density of charred plant remains; the highest density being present in sample 3. The specimens were heavily distorted and

fragmentary from burning at high temperatures which hindered the identification process.

Free-threshing wheat was the dominant crop found. Rivet wheat would have been a favoured crop for the production of biscuit whereas bread wheat would have been used to produce wheat flour (*ibid*: 24). Due to the small amount and fragmentary nature of the chaff found in the sample it is impossible to differentiate between the two. Chaff is generally removed during the earlier stages of processing the grain for consumption (e.g. threshing). The lack of chaff may either be indicative that crop processing was not carried out at the site or it could be down to high firing temperatures. Free-threshing wheat chaff is typically the first part of the crop to be destroyed once it is burnt.

The low density of charred plant remains found in samples 1 and 2 likely represents residue from the preparation of cereal grains for consumption that had burnt on a hearth. The ash from the hearth would have formed a general scatter across the site collecting in the open features.

It is possible that the presence of cereal grains, the small amounts of chaff and the abundance of stinking chamomile seeds in sample 3 represents residual waste from cereal grain processing. The lack of chaff however, limits this interpretation. It is probable that the hazelnut shells, legumes and possible barley grains represent food spillage and preparation waste that had become burnt.

A similar assemblage was found in the medieval and post medieval contexts during excavations at Oundle Road, Woodston, Peterborough (Monckton 2006), where little chaff was found but legumes and hazelnut shell were present along with stinking chamomile seeds.

Statement of potential

Although the sample size was small, the presence of cereal grain and other food items in the assemblage (in sample 3 in particular) suggests that further sampling at Kegworth could be beneficial to the broader understanding of Medieval diet and crop husbandry strategies of rural East Midlands proposed by the environmental research framework put forward by Monckton (2003). For example, more data recovered from Kegworth in terms of food items could help to expand upon the current understanding of the supply of food to nearby towns. If more chaff can be recovered and identified to species, then it would be possible to gain better understanding into the use and spread of rivet wheat and oats as newly introduced crops. Wild plant seeds from heavier/clayey soils were found in this assemblage and further finds from future work would be an indicative of the practice of crop rotation (see *ibid*: 36).

Discussion

The trial trench evaluation has revealed a potential for several phases of activity on the site, including evidence associated with late Saxon or early medieval occupation as well as undated features of a possible earlier date. The pottery indicates a domestic assemblage possibly associated with the burgage plots from the medieval high street immediately to the west of the site. Map evidence and the preservation of the Anglo Saxon 'burh' within the street pattern of Borough St would suggest that the southern end of the site has been occupied prior to the existing 19th century buildings. The features within Trench 1 are therefore possible evidence of domestic occupation within the assessment area.

The area surrounding Trench 1 has shown the greater potential for archaeology, with a medieval ditch and several post holes that may indicate structures related to an earlier phase of occupation. The environmental samples from this trench (Samples 1 and 2) indicate the presence of cereal grains associated with domestic consumption and hearth-burning which could suggest the presence of medieval buildings within the near vicinity.

Trench 2 also indicated some medieval activity in the form of a single shallow ditch [6] which ran north-south across the trench. This feature is potentially evidence for burgage plots associated with the medieval highstreet which lies directly to the west of the site and is along the same orientation as ditch [6]. The environmental samples from this Trench are suggestive of cereal processing and would therefore concur with this assessment.

The depth of the archaeology indicates that there is likely to be good preservation of remaining archaeological deposits across the rest of the site. This is supported by map evidence which suggests that the site has remained undisturbed by buildings from the 18th century onwards.

Archive

The archive consists of:
This report,
2 pro-forma trench recording sheets,
12 context sheets,
1 drawing sheet,
1 photo record sheet,
1 contact sheet of digital photographs,
CD of digital photographs taken during the evaluation.

Publication

A record of the project will be submitted to the OASIS project. OASIS is an online index to archaeological grey literature.

Acknowledgements

The project was managed by J. Thomas and the fieldwork carried out by L. Brown. Thanks are due to the clients Mr and Mrs Marriott for their co-operation with the excavations. The work was monitored by Richard Clark, Principal Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council on behalf of the planning authority.

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Appendix 1 OASIS Information

PROJECT DETAILS	**Oasis No**	universi1- 317165		
	Project Name	Evaluation on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough St, Kegworth		
	Start/end dates of field work	Start: 08-05-2018 End: 10-05-2018		
	Previous/Future Work	No/ Not known		
	Project Type	Evaluation		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Other 5 -Garden		
	Monument Type/Period	Ditches –c.850-1300 Post holes –uncertain Gully –uncertain		
	Significant Finds/Period	Late Saxon/Early medieval		
	Development Type	Residential		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition		
	Planning Ref.	16/01210/OUT		
PROJECT LOCATION	**Site Address/Postcode**	3-9 Borough Street, Kegworth, Leicestershire, DE74 2FF		
	Study Area	811m2		
	Site Coordinates	SK 448664 326900		
	Depth	Min: 29m Max: 29m		
PROJECT CREATORS	**Organisation**	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	Local Planning Authority (LCC)		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	J. Thomas		
	Project Director/Supervisor	L. Brown		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Land owners –Mr and Mrs Marriott		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		**Physical**	**Digital**	**Paper**
	Recipient	Leicestershire County Council Museums Service		Leicestershire County Council Museums Service
	ID (Acc. No.)		LMARS_XA54.2018	LMARS_XA54.2018
	Contents			Trench recording sheets, photo record sheets, context sheets, drawings, general notes, unpublished report
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	**Type**	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	An Archaeological Evaluation on land to the rear of 3-9 Borough St, Kegworth		
	Author	L. Brown		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2018-093		
	Date	2018		

	Publisher/Place	University of Leicester Archaeological Services / University of Leicester
	Description	Developer Report A4 pdf

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