



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LEICESTER**

Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Strip, Map & Sample  
Excavation to the rear of 42-44 Main  
Street, Carlton, Leicestershire**

**NGR: SK 39751 05006**

Nathan Flavell



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**An Archaeological Strip, Map & Sample excavation to the rear of 42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire  
(SK 39751 05006)**

**Nathan Flavell**

**For: Mr P. Page**

**Planning Ref: 18/00124/CONDIT**

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## CONTENTS

Summary .....	1
Introduction .....	1
Geology and Topography .....	1
Historical and Archaeological Background .....	3
Archaeological Objectives .....	4
Methodology .....	4
Results .....	7
The Roman Pottery – <i>Elizabeth Johnson</i> .....	20
The Post Roman Pottery - <i>Deborah Sawday</i> .....	22
The Animal Bones - <i>Joseph Bartholomew</i> .....	25
The Charred Plant Remains - <i>Adam Santer</i> .....	26
Discussion .....	28
Bibliography .....	29
Archive .....	30
Publication .....	30
Acknowledgements .....	32

## FIGURES

Figure 1: Location of the proposed site .....	2
Figure 2: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000) .....	3
Figure 3: Proposed (right) and existing site plan (the SMS area was centred on the bungalow footprint) .....	5
Figure 4: Overall site plan showing all features revealed .....	6
Figure 5: Gully [39] looking east .....	7
Figure 6: Gully [39] section .....	8
Figure 7: Gully [43] and recut [41] looking southwest .....	8
Figure 8: Gully [43] and recut [41] section .....	9
Figure 9: Gully [49] truncated by ditch [47] looking northwest .....	9
Figure 10: Gully [49] truncated by ditch [47] section .....	10
Figure 11: Ditches [32], [34] and [36] looking north-west .....	10
Figure 12: Ditches [32], [34] and [36] section .....	10
Figure 13: Ditches [51], [53] and [55] looking south-east .....	11
Figure 14: Ditches [51], [53] and [55] section .....	11
Figure 15: Gully [45] looking northeast .....	12

Figure 16: Gully [45] section .....	12
Figure 17: Pit [24] looking southwest .....	13
Figure 18: Pit [24] section .....	13
Figure 19: Pit [22] and gully [19] looking north .....	14
Figure 20: Pit [22] and gully [19] section .....	14
Figure 21: Pits [26] & [30] truncating ditch [32] looking southeast .....	15
Figure 22: Pits [26] & [30] truncating ditch [32] section .....	16
Figure 23: Ditch [7] & recut [12] looking southeast .....	16
Figure 24: Ditch [7] & recut [12] section .....	17
Figure 25: Ditch [17] & recut [14] looking northwest .....	17
Figure 26: Ditch [17] & recut [14] section .....	18
Figure 27: Ditch [10] looking northeast .....	18
Figure 28: Ditch [10] section .....	19

## **An Archaeological Strip, Map & Sample excavation to the rear of 42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire (SK 39751 05006)**

*Nathan Flavell*

### **Summary**

*An archaeological Strip, Map and Sample excavation was carried out to the rear of 42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire (SK 39751 05006) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on 29 May- 11 June 2018. The work was undertaken on behalf of Mr. P. Page in advance of a new detached dwelling. A sequence of Roman boundary features and a medieval boundary ditch were uncovered. The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museum Services under the accession number X.A60.2018.*

### **Introduction**

This document constitutes the report for an archaeological strip, map and sample carried out behind 42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire (SK 39751 05006). The work was undertaken on behalf of Mr P. Page by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between the 29th May and the 11th June 2018. Planning permission has been granted for the construction of a new bungalow and redevelopment of a derelict building into a garage. The Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire required a programme of archaeological work comprising a strip, map and sample excavation to determine the impact of the proposed scheme on any buried archaeology and produce a mitigation strategy for the site.

The site lies to the east of Saint Andrew's Church and is within the historic settlement core of the medieval and post-medieval village of Carlton, Leicestershire. The church was burnt down and restored in 1764 and then restored again in 1867 but probably has an earlier origin. The work followed the procedures laid out in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Brown 2018).

### **Geology and Topography**

The site lies to the north east of the church towards the northern end of the historic core of the village. The land is relatively level at a height 115.2m OD

The British Geological Survey website (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>) identifies the bedrock geology of the area as Gunthorpe Siltstone/Mudstone formation, and the superficial geology as sand and gravel.

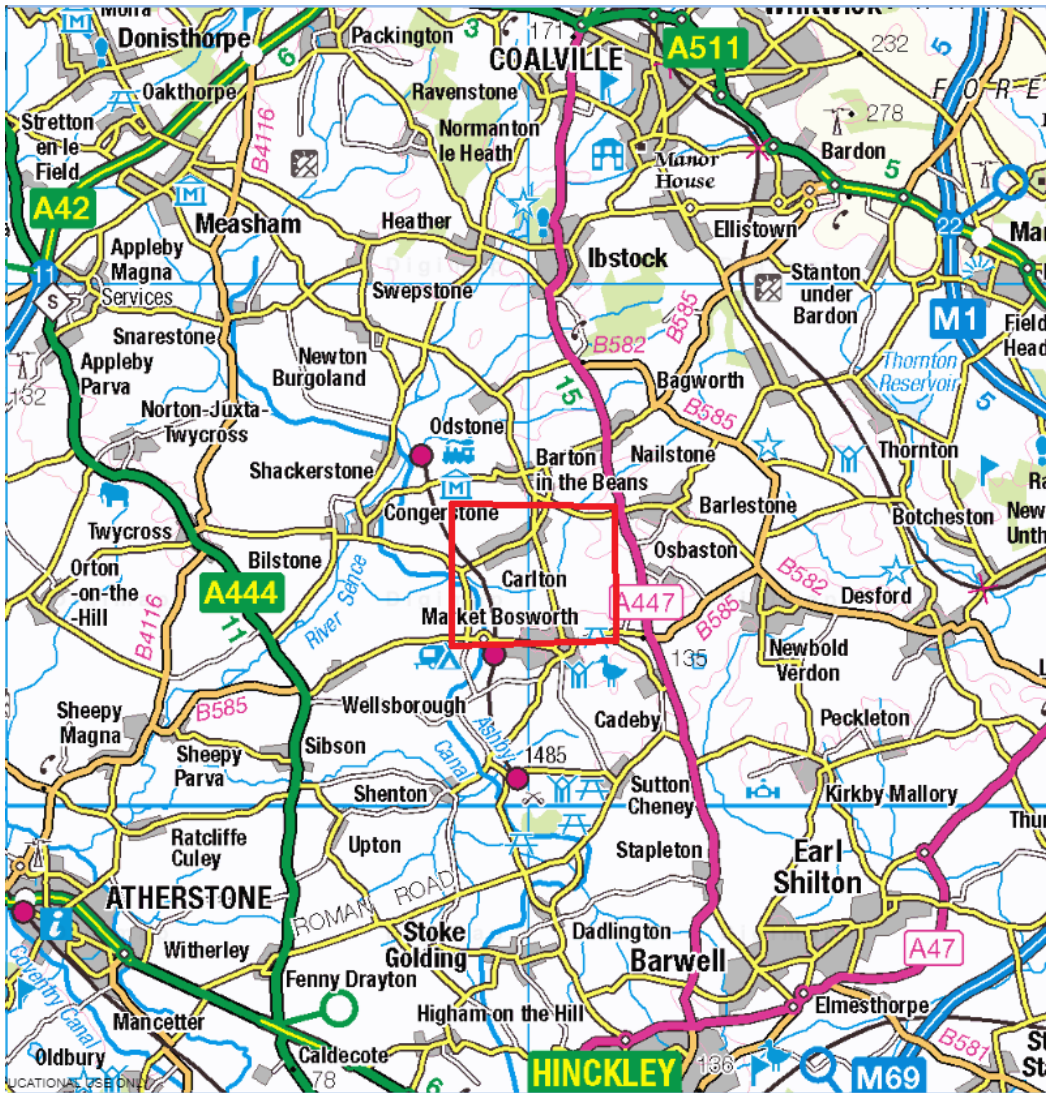


Figure 1: Location of the proposed site

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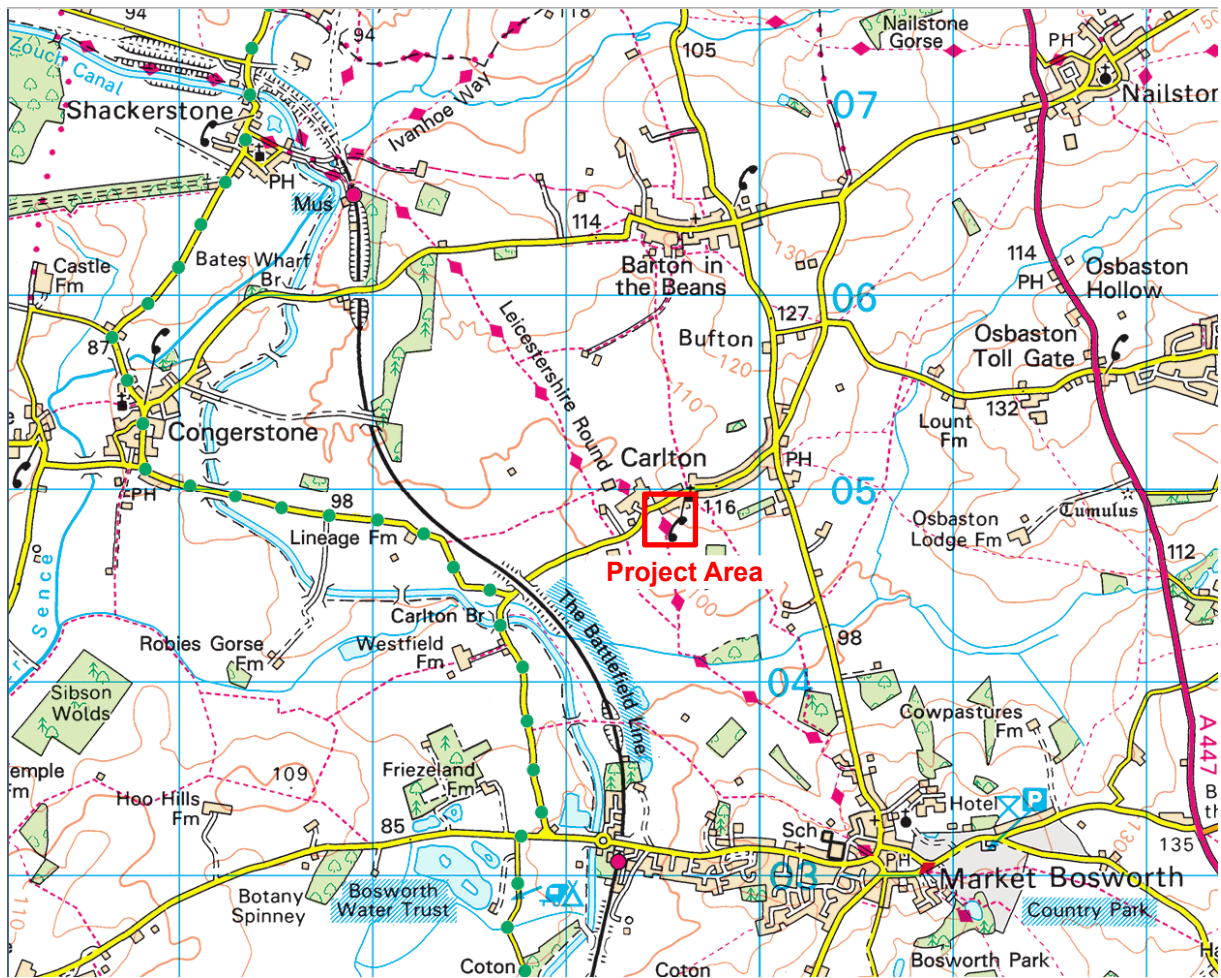


Figure 2: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000)

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## Historical and Archaeological Background

Carlton is first recorded in 1209 as Karlintone in Episcopal Registers. The name appears to be derived from the Old English 'ceorl', a churl, freeman or peasant, and 'tun', a farmstead, village. This is probably a settlement of free peasants that would have been part of a large estate around Market Bosworth (Bourne 2003).

The Historic Environment Record (HER) for Leicestershire and Rutland indicates that the site lies within the medieval and post-medieval settlement core of the village (HER Ref. **MLE2714**) east of the Grade II listed Church of St Andrew (**MLE12121**). Also indicated is the Iron Age/Roman site (possible villa) north-west of Bosworth Hall (**MLE2924**). Roman finds have come from 9 Harcourt Spinney in Market Bosworth (**MLE21016**).

Hall Terrace was locally thought to be the site of Carlton Hall, but there is no evidence linking the land or buildings on it to a hall, and the origins of the local title are unknown. The oldest map of Carlton, an 1836 Tithe map, shows Hall Terrace and an attached Cottage called Penwood Cottage. The map also shows a series of buildings along the western boundary of the development area that may have been agricultural buildings or cottages and which were constructed over the remains of a cellar containing a well. The cellar was partly excavated by amateur archaeologists in 2017 (Liddington 2017). The archaeologists were unable to date it, but suggested it might have functioned as a cool storage space for a substantial residence above,

that was eventually replaced by the cottages. The buildings are now gone and the land is currently a disused garden area to the rear of Hall Terrace. Several further trenches opened in 2017 contained evidence of a cobbled surface and one surviving masonry wall. Unfortunately, although the pottery they found during excavation ranged in date from the Iron Age to the 19th Century, it was all unstratified so could not be used to date the archaeological deposits. There may be further potential for the survival of archaeological remains of at least 18th century date, if not earlier, elsewhere on the site and within the proposed development area.

Hall terrace itself currently comprises three 19th century terraced cottages fronting onto Main Street, and the brickwork of the terrace shows evidence of bricked up arrow slit ventilation holes indicating they had originally been agricultural buildings. To the rear of the terrace is an area of open ground/garden with a derelict 'utility block' and a prefabricated modern garage and this forms the development area. A larger building occupying the southwest corner of the site is an engineering workshop. Access to the land at the rear is off the Main Street, through a wooden gate at the western end of the terrace.

### **Archaeological Objectives**

The main objectives of the archaeological 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 advance understanding of the heritage assets
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

### **Methodology**

Topsoil was removed from the footprint of the house with the aid of a toothless bucketed machine down to natural substratum revealed archaeological features (Fig. 3).

The vertical sections of the stripped area and existing spoil heaps were visually inspected for features and finds. Where present archaeological features were hand cleaned, planned, photographed and sample excavated as detailed in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). All work followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014) and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological field evaluations* (2014).





Figure 3: Proposed (right) and existing site plan (the SMS area was centred on the bungalow footprint)

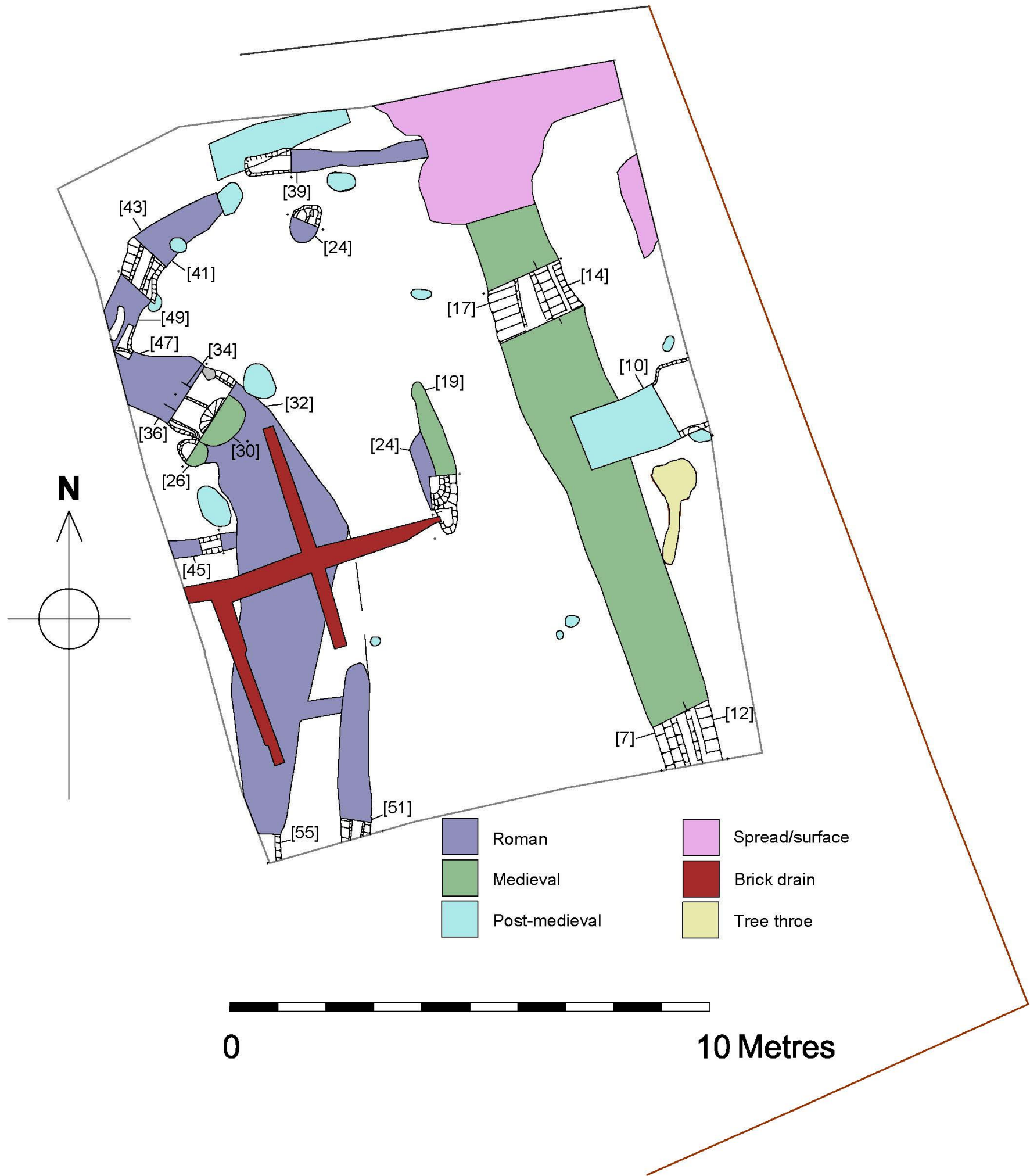


Figure 4: Overall site plan showing all features revealed

## Results

The stripped area contained of a number of recut ditches and gullies and a small number of pits and postholes (Fig. 4).

Natural substrata was a red-orange clay sand. A possible colluvial layer (4) was located in the southwest corner of the area. This consisted of mid-dark grey clay sand with frequent charcoal inclusions, 0.07m thick. A buried soil (3), most likely the original subsoil covered this, consisting of mixed brown-yellow silty sand with frequent charcoal inclusions, 0.05-0.26m thick. This narrowed from the south of the site toward the west and north. This was covered by what was most likely the original topsoil (2), mid grey-brown sandy loam with pebbles and charcoal inclusions 0.06-0.12m thick. This layer also narrowed to the west and seemed non-existent towards the northern end of the site. Topsoil (1), grey-black clay loam covered all of the site, 0.2-0.44m thick, thicker toward the west and east. This was most likely redeposited from the north of the site to the south as an area in the northwest had been levelled for a modern garage.

### *Roman Remains*

The earliest archaeological features appear to be a pair of gullies [39] and [43] at the northern extent of the site. They may have been contemporary with each other, possibly forming the entrance to an enclosure. Gully [39] was aligned east-west with a moderate v-shaped profile, 0.5m wide, 0.18m deep (Figs. 5 & 6). The primary fill (38) was pink-red sandy clay with occasional pebble inclusions 0.09m thick. This was overlain by (37) mixed grey silty sand with pebble and charcoal inclusions, 0.1m thick. This was truncated on its north side by a post-medieval pit, and to the east by a post-medieval spread, most probably associated with the farm.



Figure 5: Gully [39] looking east

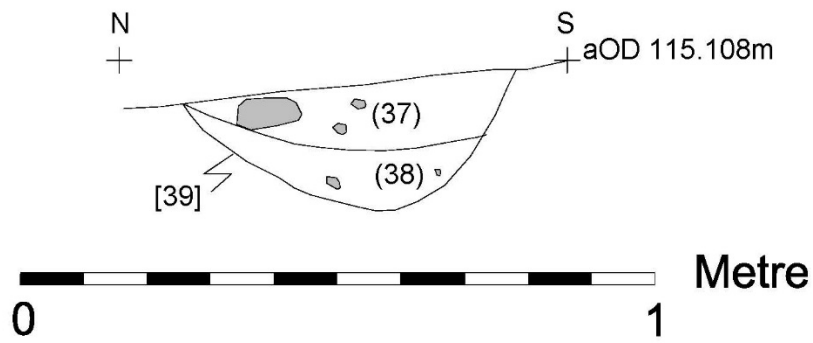


Figure 6: Gully [39] section

The opposing gully [43]/[49] was aligned northeast-southwest with a steep concave profile, 0.7m wide, 0.28m deep (Figs. 7 & 8). It was filled by (42), mixed red-grey silty sand with frequent pebble inclusions. This was truncated by a post-medieval pit at its eastern end. It was also recut by gully [42] along most of its visible length before they separated out into distinct features toward the west edge of the site.



Figure 7: Gully [43] and recut [41] looking southwest

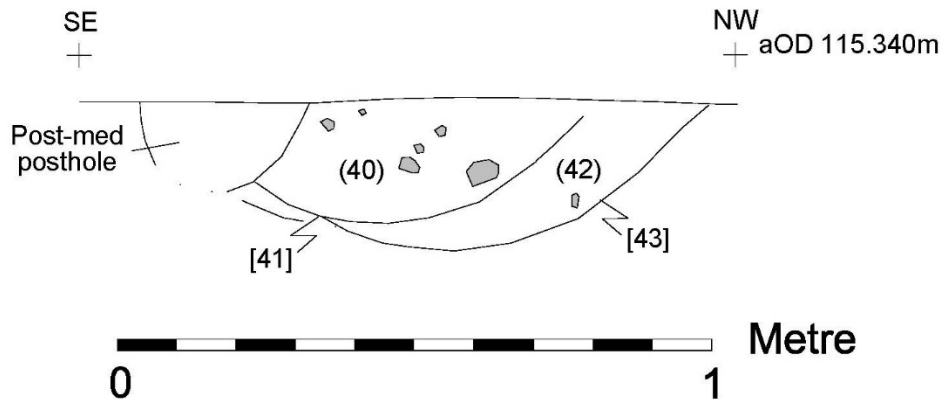


Figure 8: Gully [43] and recut [41] section

Gully [43] was truncated by a curving ditch [32]/[47] (Figs. 9 & 10) that was part of a set of recut boundary ditches (Figs. 11 & 12). The earliest ditch [32]/[47] curved from the south toward the west. It had a steep concave profile with a flat base, measuring 0.8m wide. It was filled by (31), a mixed red-grey silty sand with occasional small pebble inclusions. It was recut on its west side by ditch [34], which had a steep v-shaped profile measuring 0.6m wide x 0.34m deep. It was filled by (33), a mixed grey-red silty sand with occasional pebbles. The final ditch in the phase, [36] had more of a u-shaped profile, measuring 0.3m wide, 0.22m deep. It was filled by (35), a brown-grey silty sand.

Ditch [34] was not clearly defined on the southern side of the area (Figs. 13 & 14). While all three ditches were visible, [51], [53] and [55], none were truncated, therefore it is difficult to ascertain the corresponding relationship with the other ditch sections. Although [36] and [53] did have a similar profile.



Figure 9: Gully [49] truncated by ditch [47] looking northwest

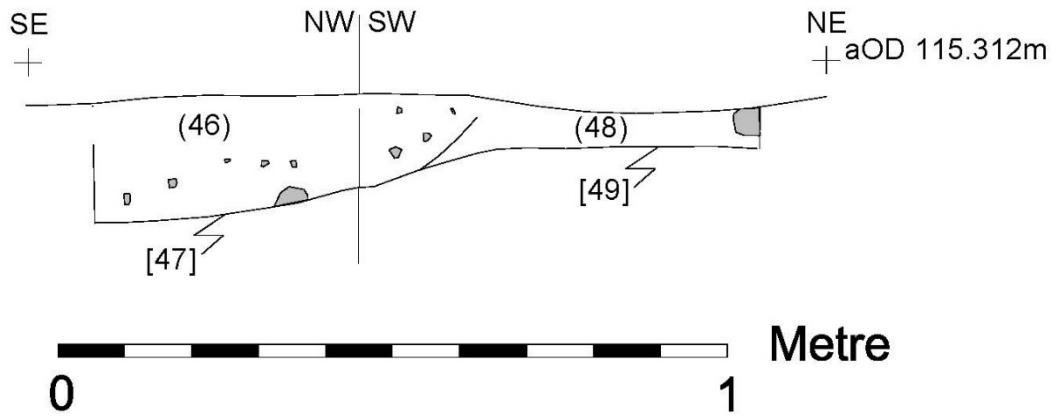


Figure 10: Gully [49] truncated by ditch [47] section



Figure 11: Ditches [32], [34] and [36] looking north-west

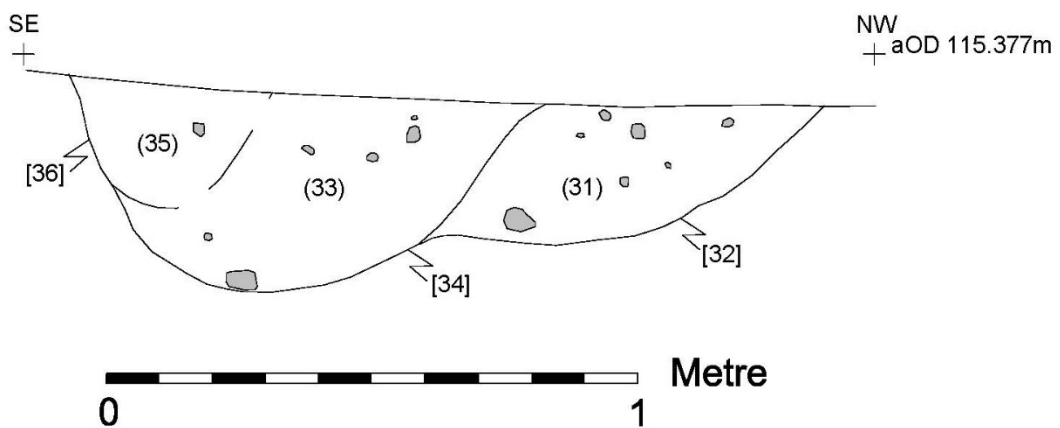


Figure 12: Ditches [32], [34] and [36] section



Figure 13: Ditches [51], [53] and [55] looking south-east

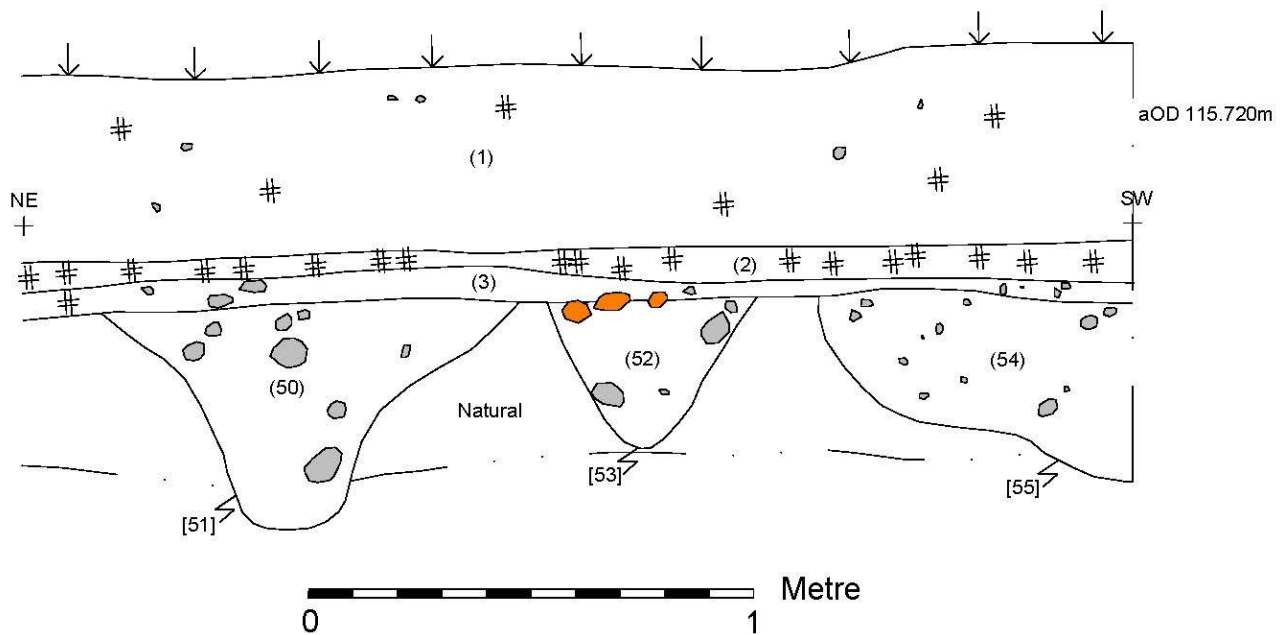


Figure 14: Ditches [51], [53] and [55] section

A small gully [45] was located on the eastern side of the site. This was aligned north-east – south-west with a moderate concave profile, measuring 0.35m wide, 0.15m deep (Figs. 15 & 16). It was filled by (44), a mixed red-grey silty sand. The relationship with the triple boundary ditch was not ascertained.



Figure 15: Gully [45] looking northeast

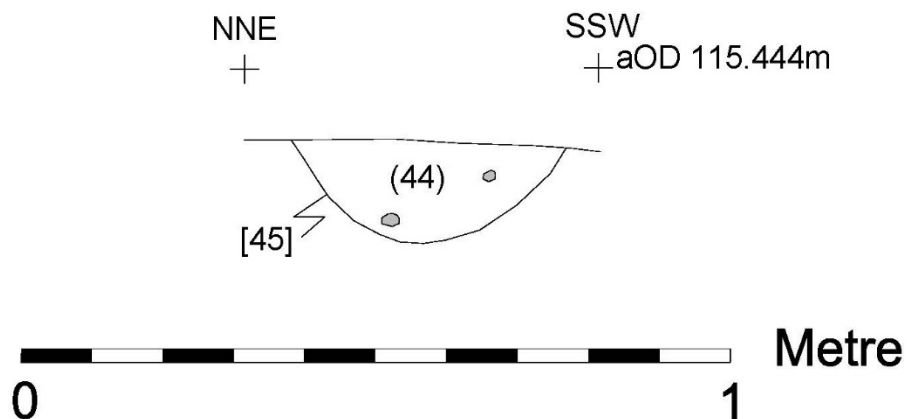


Figure 16: Gully [45] section

A small pit [24] containing Roman pot was located just south of gully [39] (Figs. 17 & 18). It was sub-oval in shape with a moderate concave profile, measuring 0.8 x 0.6m x 0.17m deep. It was filled by (23), a grey-brown silty sand with semi-frequent small pebbles.





Figure 17: Pit [24] looking southwest

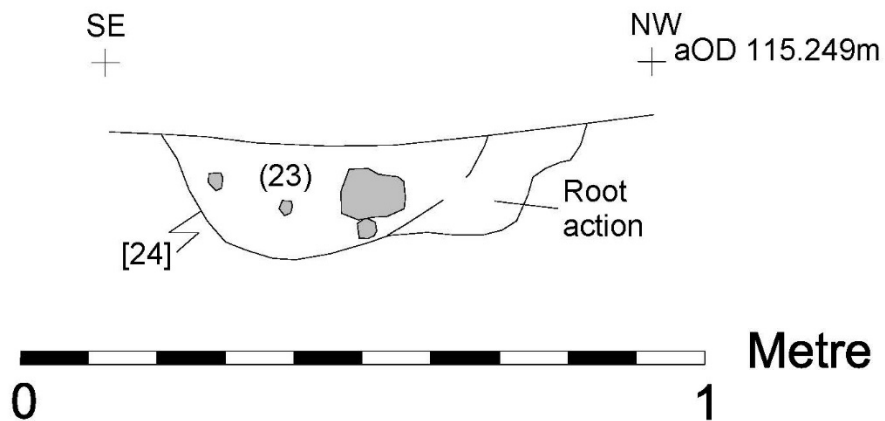


Figure 18: Pit [24] section

Another pit, [22] was located in the middle of the area (Figs. 19 & 20). This was sub-rectangular in plan, with straight, steep sides and a concave base, measuring 1.6 x 0.8m x 0.8m deep and had been truncated by a medieval gully [19].



Figure 19: Pit [22] and gully [19] looking north

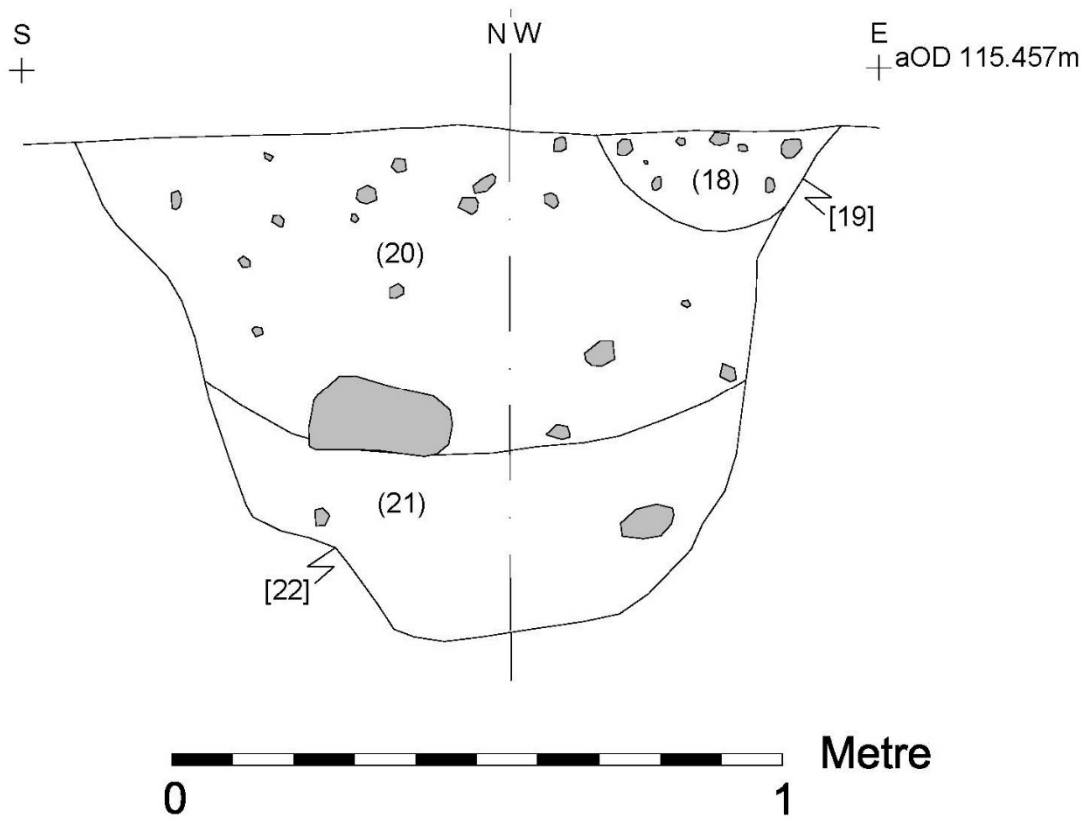


Figure 20: Pit [22] and gully [19] section

### ***Medieval Remains***

The medieval gully [19] was aligned north-northwest-south-south east with a slight curve to its shape. It had a moderately sloping concave profile, 0.3m wide, 0.17m deep and was filled by (18), a deposit of mixed red-brown silty sand with frequent pebble inclusions.

On the west side of the area were two medieval pits [26] and [30]. Pit [26] was on the very south-west side of ditch [36]. It was circular in plan with a steep concave profile, measuring 0.55m diameter and 0.26m deep. It was filled by (25), a brown-red clay-sand with infrequent pebble and charcoal inclusions. Pit [30] was immediately on its north-east side, possibly truncating (Figs. 21 & 22). It also truncated the Roman ditch [32]. The pit itself was most likely circular (although not clear on the surface), with a steep concave profile, 1.1m wide, 0.75m deep. The primary fill (29), grey-red sand erosion, 0.08m. This was overlain by (28), light grey clay-sand with occasional pebble inclusions, 0.32m thick. The final fill (27) mid grey silty sand with occasional pebble inclusions, 0.36m thick.



Figure 21: Pits [26] & [30] truncating ditch [32] looking southeast

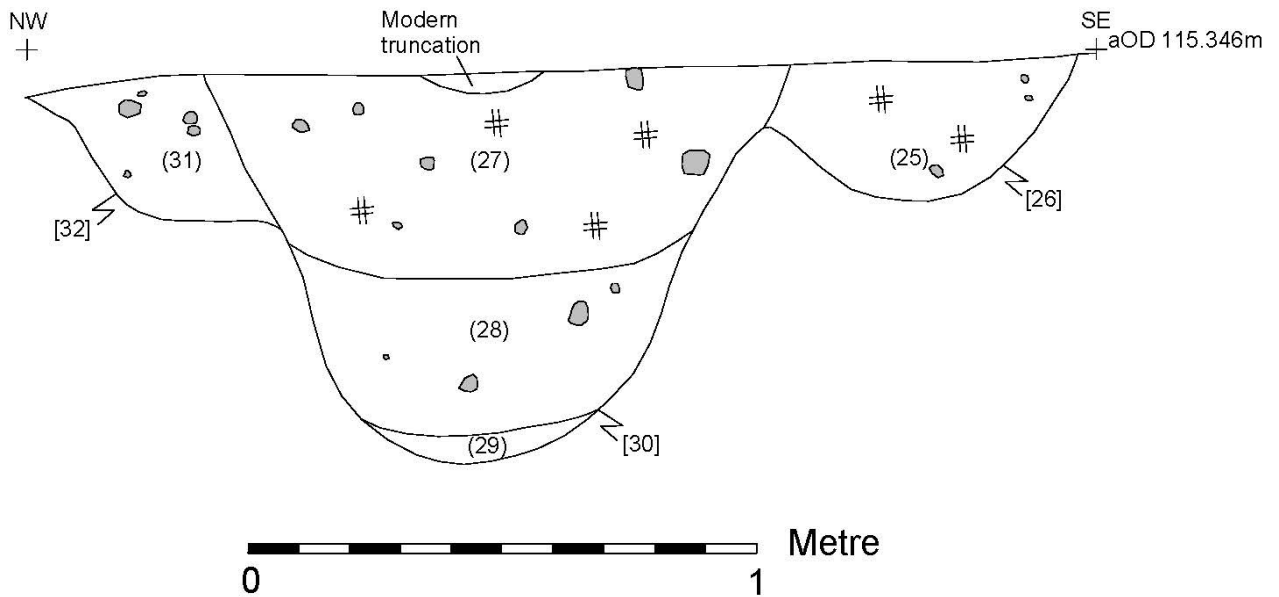


Figure 22: Pits [26] & [30] truncating ditch [32] section

On the eastern side of the area was a medieval ditch [7]/[17] (Figs. 23 & 24), possibly representing a toft or croft boundary. The ditch was aligned northwest-southeast with a moderate to steep sloping profile, measuring 1.25-1.6m wide and 0.36-0.46m deep. The primary fill (6)/(16) varied between mid-grey and red-brown silty sand and was 0.06-0.22m thick. This was overlain by (5)/(15), red-brown-grey silty-sand with pebble inclusions, measuring 0.24-0.27m thick. It was recut on its eastern side by a much smaller ditch [12]/[14] on the same alignment (Figs. 25 & 26). This feature had a steep u-shaped profile with a concave base, measuring 0.5m wide x 0.22-0.29m deep. It was filled by (11)/(13), a deposit of russet mottled brown-grey silty sand with some charcoal inclusions.



Figure 23: Ditch [7] & recut [12] looking southeast

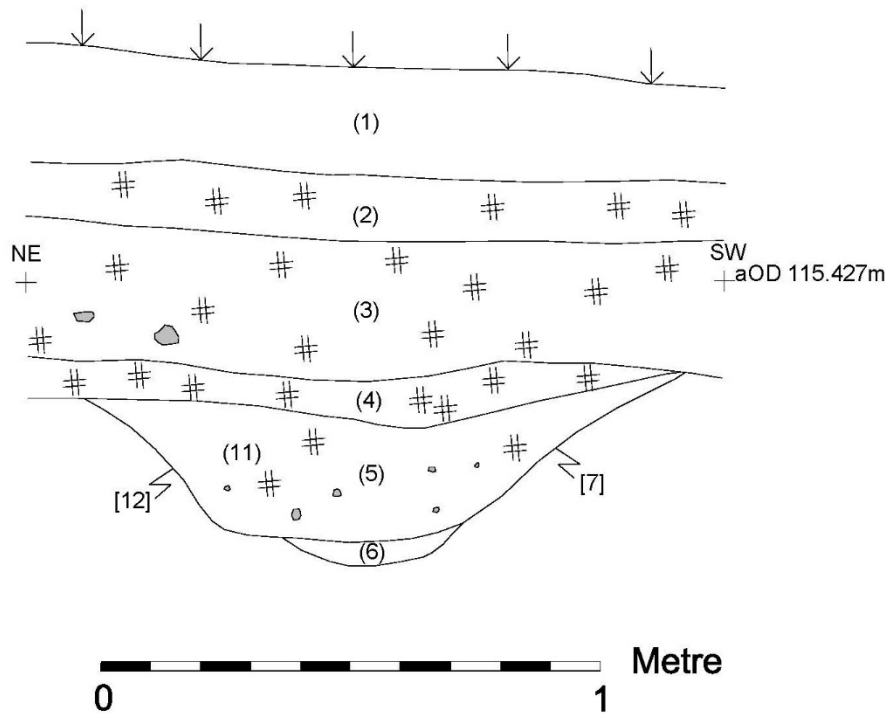


Figure 24: Ditch [7] & recut [12] section



Figure 25: Ditch [17] & recut [14] looking northwest

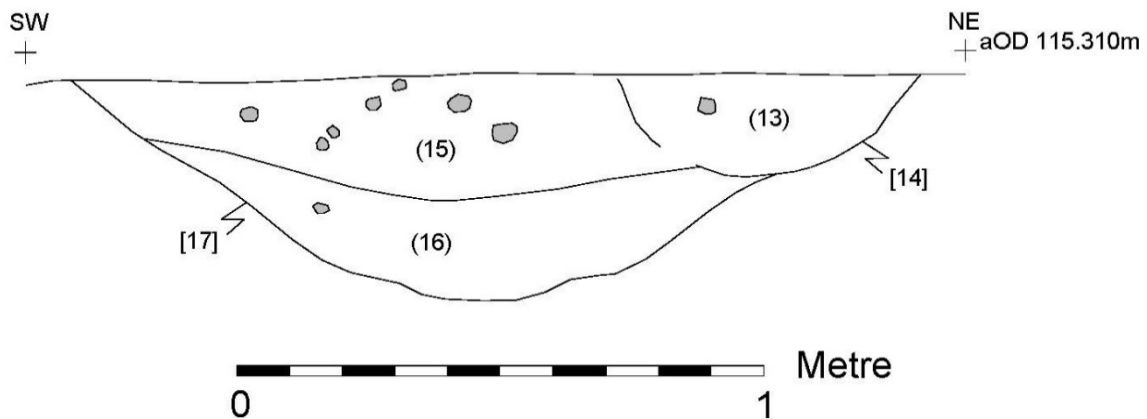


Figure 26: Ditch [17] & recut [14] section

### ***Post-medieval Remains***

Ditches [7] and [12] were truncated by a rectangular linear feature [10] on the eastern edge of the site (Figs. 27 & 28). This was aligned northeast-southwest, with a wide steep profile and flat base, measuring 1.15-1.5m wide x 0.47m deep. The primary fill (9) was mixed red-brown silty sand with clay inclusions, and occasional pebbles and charcoal, 0.19m thick. This was overlain by (8), a grey-brown silty sand with frequent pebbles and charcoal, 0.27m thick. This was cut through layer (3) and included post-medieval pottery in the fill. This would appear to be most likely associated with a boundary on the 1885 edition OS map, possibly associated with an internal boundary ditch within the farm.

In the northwest corner of the site was a spread of pebbles and brick fragments, which truncated gully [39] and ditches [14] and [17]. This was most likely an associated yard surface for the farm.



Figure 27: Ditch [10] looking northeast

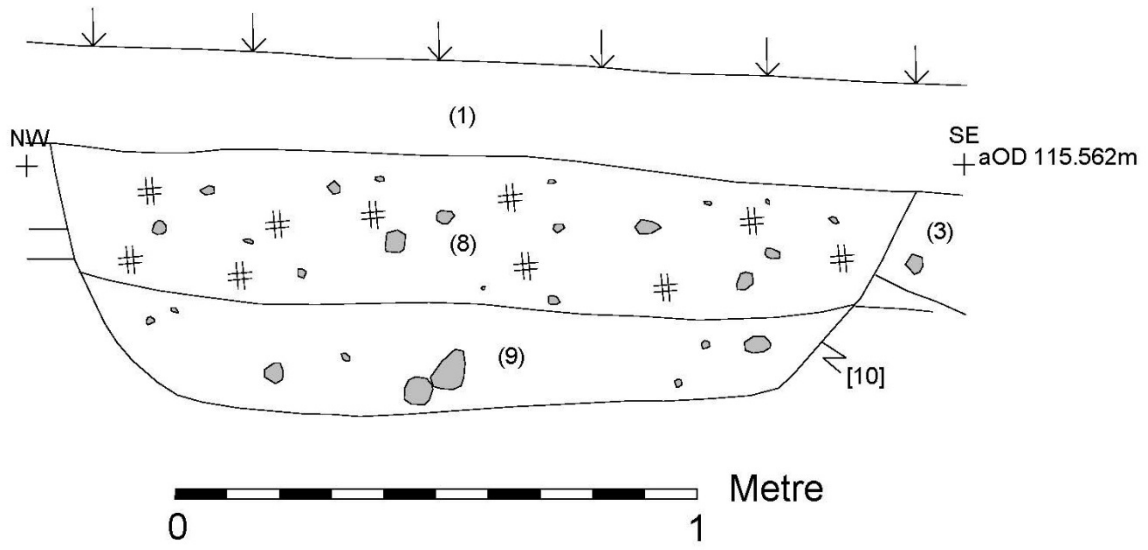


Figure 28: Ditch [10] section

## The Roman Pottery – Elizabeth Johnson

### *Assemblage Size and Condition*

An assemblage comprising 19 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 399g, with an EVEs value of 0.515, was retrieved from the evaluation excavations. The material is in good condition overall, as reflected by the average sherd weight of 21g. Pottery was recovered from eight contexts. In addition, one small fragment (5g) of Roman ceramic building material (CBM), and one sherd (34g) of re-deposited material was also recovered.

### *Methodology*

The pottery was examined in hand specimen using a binocular microscope at x15 magnification and classified using the Leicestershire fabric series for Roman pottery as summarised below (Pollard 1994). Quantification was by sherd count, weight (grams) and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs based on rim values). Vessel forms were assigned where diagnostic sherds allowed, using the Leicestershire Museums form series and other published typologies. The dataset was recorded and analysed within an MS Excel workbook, which comprises the archive record.

Table 1: Summarised Leicestershire Fabric Series (after Pollard 1994).

Fabric Code:	Description:
CGSam	Central Gaulish samian wares.
GW3, GW5, GW6	Fine, medium and coarse sandy grey wares.
MO4	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria.
MO6	Lower Nene Valley mortaria.

### *Stratified Features*

One sherd of pottery (26g) from a grey ware jar with a rounded out-curved rim, was recovered from ditch [14] (13). This type of vessel is very common and is not closely datable, dating from the late 1st-2nd century onwards.

One very small sherd (1g) from a Central Gaulish samian ware dish was retrieved from pit [22] (20). The form is a Drag.18/31 and dates to the first half of the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 32-34). A second pit, [24] (23), produced four sherds (19g) of grey ware representing three vessels. The sherds are all undiagnostic body sherds from jars or bowls, and as such can only be dated from the late 1st-2nd century onwards.

A Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium (one sherd, 30g) was recovered from gully [34] (33). The vessel is a reeded hammerhead form dating from the mid-3rd century to the mid-4th century (Rollo, 1994, 19-20). Gully [39] (37) revealed four sherds (206g) of pottery including a second mortarium (203g), this time from the Lower Nene Valley. The vessel is also a hammerhead form, though not reeded, and there is a trace of orange painted decoration on the flange. It is interesting to note the presence of a Lower Nene Valley product at a site so close to the large Mancetter-Hartshill industry. Both industries were the dominant suppliers of mortaria to the town at Leicester, and perhaps this is an example of a purchase made on a trip to the large town rather than a more local market. The remaining pottery from (37) comprises three very small sherds (3g) of abraded grey ware.

Four sherds (33g) of grey ware representing three vessels were recovered from gully [43] (42). One sherd has a pale fabric that could be from the nearby Mancetter-Hartshill industry. The



material is not closely datable, dating from the late 1st-2nd century onwards. One small and abraded fragment (5g) of Roman ceramic building material was also present.

A single sherd (22g) from a grey ware jar or bowl was recovered from ditch [51] (50). The body sherd is undiagnostic and dates from the late 1st-2nd century onwards. A further two sherds (28g) of grey ware were retrieved from ditch [55] (54). The sherds represent two jars, one of which has a row of impressed decoration. Again, they are not closely datable, dating from the late 1st-2nd century onwards. Three sherds of post-Roman pottery were also present in this feature.

Finally, one sherd (34g) of re-deposited samian ware was recovered from a tree-throw. The vessel is a Drag.33 cup from Central Gaul dating to the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 45).

### ***Discussion***

The evaluation assemblage is very small, however the material is in good condition overall, with the range and variety of material suggesting at least one domestic dwelling in the vicinity. The presence of imported samian ware and regional wares from the Lower Nene Valley indicate access to markets where these products were readily available. The samian wares date within the 2nd century, although this type of fine ware can occur in later features as it tends to be curated. The latest datable vessels are the two mortaria, both of which would not date before the middle of the 3rd century.

### ***Summarised Pottery Catalogue***

<b>Feat</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cont</b>	<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Ves part</b>	<b>Shds</b>	<b>Wgt (g)</b>	<b>Diam (cm)</b>	<b>EVEs</b>	<b>Dating</b>
Ditch	14	13	GW5	Jar	Rim	1	26	13	0.16	late1st-2ndC+
Pit	22	20	CGSam	Dish	Body	1	1			early-mid2ndC
Pit	24	23	GW5	Jar/bowl	Body	4	19			late1st-2ndC+
Ditch	34	33	MO4	Mortarium	Rim	1	30	32	0.03	mid3rd-mid4thC
Gully	39	37	MO6	Mortarium	Rim	1	203	32	0.15	mid3rd-mid4thC
Gully	39	37	GW3	Jar/bowl	Body	1	1			late1st-2ndC+
Gully	39	37	GW6	Jar/bowl	Body	2	2			late1st-2ndC+
Gully	43	42	GW5	Jar/bowl	Body	4	33			late1st-2ndC+
Ditch	51	50	GW5	Jar/bowl	Body	1	22			late1st-2ndC+
Ditch	55	54	GW5	Jar	Body	2	28			late1st-2ndC+
Tree throw	u/s		CGSam	Cup	Rim	1	34	15	0.175	2ndC
Ditch	43	42	CBM			1	5			2ndC+

## The Post Roman Pottery - *Deborah Sawday*

The pottery assemblage was made up of 27 sherds, weighing 363grams, and representing fifteen vessels. All were made up of base and body fragments and consequently no vessel rim equivalent (calculated by adding together the circumference of the surviving rim sherds, where one vessel equals 1.00) was calculable.

### *Methodology*

The pottery was examined under an x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to current guidelines (MPRG 1998, MPRG 2016) and the ULAS fabric series (Davies and Sawday 1999, Sawday 2009). Table 2 lists the pottery by fabric, Table 3 shows the relative proportions of fabrics present and Table 4 catalogues the pottery by context. Co-joining sherds are noted, whilst single sherds are generally counted as one vessel.

### *Condition*

The condition of the pottery was fragmentary and the late Saxon and medieval material had an average sherd weight of only 7.64 grams (Table 3).

Table 2: The medieval and later pottery fabrics.

Fabric	Common Name/Kiln & Fabric Equivalent where known	Approx. Date Range
TO	Torksey ware/type	c.850-c.1200
PM	Potters Marston ware - Potters Marston, Leicestershire	c.1100-c.1400
OS/1	Oxidised Sandy ware -? OS1 Local Northants CTS fabrics 302-305,	c.12th-13th C.
CS	Coarse Shelly ware - ?Northants CTS 330	c.1100-1400
CO2	Coventry fabric A, Warwick CTS SQ202/203	12th-14th C.
CC1	Chilvers Coton A/Ai), Warwick CTS WW01,?WW012, ?SQ51	c.1250-1400
MP1	Midland Purple ware 1 - Chilvers Coton fabric D	c.1375-1550
MP	Unclassified Midland Purple ware – Chilvers Coton/Ticknall, Derbyshire	c.1375-1550
EA2	Earthenware 2 – ‘Pancheon ware’, Chilvers Coton/Ticknall, Derbyshire	17th C-18th C. +

### *The Stratigraphic Record*

The earliest material, a fragment of Torksey type ware, dating from the late 9th century to c.1200 and another in Oxidised Sandy ware, dating from the 12th or 13th centuries, occurred in the back fill of the pit [26]. Potters Marston, dating from the 12th to the later 14th century or 15th centuries, was recovered from the backfill of the medieval boundary ditch, [7] and [17], together with two fragments of mid or later 13th or 14th century Chilvers Coton. Six sherds of Potters Marston were the only medieval finds from the gully [19]. The pit [30] contained a tiny fragment of Potters Marston and sherds of 12th or 13th century Coventry and Oxidised Sandy ware. Fragments of 12th or 13th century Coarse Shelly ware were found in the gully [45]. The latest medieval pottery, two sherds of Midland Purple, with a date range of c.1375 to c.1550 were recovered from the top fill of [55] where they are thought to represent the contamination of a Roman feature from the sub-soil, context (3), above. The sub-soil produced a two large pieces of post-medieval or modern Earthenware and a fragment of post-medieval or modern tobacco pipe stem was also recorded in context (8) [10], which was also cut by context (3).

### *The Ceramic Record*

The assemblage was made up of body and base sherds and all were undiagnostic in terms of the vessel types present. However, the sooting on many of the sherds in Potters Marston, suggested that these had been used for cooking, and most probably came from cooking pots or jars, whilst

the fine wheel thrown sherds in Chilvers Coton and Midland Purple are more likely to represent liquid containers such as jugs; none of the sherds in the latter fabric were sufficiently thick walled to indicate that they may have been from cisterns.

Table 3: The medieval pottery site totals by fabric, sherd number, weight (grams), vessel count, and average sherd weight (ASW).

Fabric	No.	Gr	Vessel No.	ASW	% of medieval total by sherd count
Late Saxon /Earlier Medieval					
TO	1	4	1		
OS/1	2	46	2		
Sub-total	3	50	3	16.66	10.71
Medieval					
PM	11	54	6		
CS	3	7	1		
CO2	3	8	1		
CC1	2	1	1		
Sub-total	19	80	9	4.21	76.0
Later Medieval					
MP1/MP1	3	47	2		
Sub-total	3	47	2	15.6	10.71
Late Saxon/Medieval Sub-Total	25	214	16	7.64	97.42
Post Medieval /Modern					
EA2	2	186	1		
Sub Total	2	186	1	186.0	
Site Totals	27	363	15	13.96	

### ***Discussion***

The assemblage appears to be domestic in nature. The medieval pottery fabrics are typical of the region; Potters Marston, Chilvers Coton and Ticknall in particular were major centres of pottery production at this time. Other sources include Coventry, whilst the Torksey type ware and the Oxidised Sandy and Coarse Selly wares are also thought to be fairly local in origin.

### ***Conclusion***

The earlier material dates from late 9th century to c.1200, whilst the bulk of the pottery is probably 12th or 13th century in date. Only two sherds are later medieval, with a terminal date of c.1550. All these finds are clearly associated with many phases of activity relating to the village throughout the Middle Ages.

Table 4: The pottery by context, fabric/ware, sherd number, weight (grams), and EVES.

Context	Fabric/ware	No	Gr	EVEs	Max Vessel No	Comments
3 sub-soil	EA2	2	186		1	Joining sherds from the base of an internally slipped and glazed vessel, probably a bowl. The base is flat and the exterior base and wall have been knife trimmed.
5 [7]	PM	2	18		1	Flat base.
5	CC1	2	1		1	Body sherds
15 [17]	PM	2	2		1	Body – traces of light external sooting on exterior.
18 [19]	PM	1	34		1	Flat base fragment, externally sooted.
18	PM	2	3		1	Heavily externally sooted fragments.
18	PM	3	6		1	Externally thickened and everted jar or bowl rim fragments.
25 [26]	OS1	1	6		1	Body
25	TO	1	4		1	Body
27 [30]	CO2	3	8		1	Basal angle fragments
27	OS	1	40		1	Concave basal angle, sooted externally
27	PM	1	1		1	Sooted
44 [45]	CS	3	7		1	Body fragments
54 [55]	MP1	1	17		1	Body – spot of glaze
54	MP	2	30		1	Hard fired body, traces of glaze on exterior

## The Animal Bones - *Joseph Bartholomew*

### ***Introduction***

A small bone assemblage (63 fragments) was collected by hand during a strip, map and sample at Carlton. All animal bones were recovered from context (27) which was a fill from a medieval pit. The bones were identified through comparison to reference material held at the University of Leicester and recorded in a catalogue (Table 5). Condition was scored using Harland et al.'s (2003) scale. Identification of tooth wear stages for cattle and sheep/goat followed Grant (1982).

### ***Results***

All bone recovered was described as being in 'very poor' condition, with flaking covering a minimum of 50% of the bones surface. The assemblage was entirely fragmentary, with none identified to species or element. The prevalence of fresh breaks on fragments is indicative of modern damage. General division of the assemblage into major bone types was possible, with (27) classified as long and five as flat bones. No butchery, pathology, burning or gnawing was identified on any fragment in the assemblage.

### ***Discussion***

The assemblage is most likely comprised of food waste disposal, with the high frequency of long bone fragments supporting this assessment. The poor preservation of the assemblage indicates most bones had a degree of exposure before burial. The context has been broadly dated to the medieval period, suggesting it forms part of a single phase of activity.

### ***Statement of Potential***

No further work is required on the assemblage under study. Should further excavation work be carried out at the site, further bone recovery should be expected. However, due to the highly fragmentary nature of material, further study of this material is likely to produce minimal additional information.

Table 5: *Material recovered during excavation*

<b>Context</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Taxon</b>	<b>Fragments</b>	<b>Preservation</b>	<b>Comment</b>
27	Medieval	Flat Bone	Medium Mammal	10	4	Fragments
27	Medieval	Long Bone	Large Mammal	5	4	Fragments
27	Medieval	Long Bone	Medium Mammal	22	4	Fragments
27	Medieval	Indet.		26	4	Fragments

## **The Charred Plant Remains - Adam Santer**

### **Introduction**

During an archaeological evaluation at Carlton seven bulk soil samples (numbered 1 to 7) were taken and processed for the analysis of charred plant remains. Samples 1 and 2 were from the fills (15) and (16) of medieval ditch [17], sample 3 was from the fill (20) of Roman pit [22], sample 4 was from the fill (25) of Medieval pit [26], samples 5 and 6 were from the fills (27) and (28) of medieval pit [30] and sample 7 was from the fill (54) of Roman Ditch [55]. 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.

### **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 low densities of charred plant remains (less than five items per litre). The samples contained mixed proportions of cereal grains and wild seeds. Chaff was found in only two of the samples and in very small numbers. The majority of the cereal grains were either too fragmentary or poorly preserved to be identified.

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

#### ***Grains***

Some cereal grains were found in the samples which were taken from Roman contexts but only one of these was identified as a possible spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta* L.) which was found in sample 7. Two other specimens from sample 7 and five from sample 3 were too poorly preserved to identify.

Four out of five of the samples from the medieval contexts contained cereal grains. Sample 5 contained the highest density of cereal grains. Eleven grains were identified as free threshing wheat; one of which exhibited a sprouting embryo (a sign of germination). Eighteen of the cereal grains were fragmentary or poorly preserved. Free threshing wheat was also found in samples 1, 4 and 6. A single Rye (*Secale cereale* L.) grain was identified in sample 6 along with two other possible Rye grains which were too poorly preserved to identify for certain. Sample 2 contained no grains at all.

#### ***Chaff***

A fragment of bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) rachis was found in sample 6 and two pieces of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.) rachis were found in sample 5. Some wheat straw nodes were

found in samples 5 and 6 but it was not possible to differentiate the specimens between rivet (*Triticum turgidum* L.) and bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.). No chaff was found in the Roman contexts.

### Wild seeds and nut shell

The majority of the wild weed seeds found amongst the assemblage commonly grow in cultivated fields; such as stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula* L.), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.), poppy (*Papava* sp.) as well as small and large grasses (Poaceae). Other wild weeds found in the assemblage grow in varied environments; such as vetches (*Vicia* sp.), medicks (*Medicago* sp.) knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare* L.), and cat's tails (*Phleum* sp.). A single hazel nut shell (*Corylus avalena* L.) was found in sample 3.

Table 6: The charred plant remains found in samples 1-7. \*Denotes that one specimen showed signs of germination.

Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Context	15	16	20	25	27	28	54	
Cut	17	17	22	26	30	30	55	
Feature type	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	
Date	12th to early 15th c. Med	12th to early 15th c. Med	Early/Mid 2nd c. Roman	12th/13th c. Med	12th/13th c. Med	12th/13th c. Med	Late 1st/2nd c. Roman	
Grain								
<i>Secale cereale</i> L.						1		Rye
Cf. <i>Secale cereale</i> L.						2		Cf. Rye
Cf. <i>Triticum spelta</i> L.							1	Cf. Spelt wheat
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	3			6	11*	6		Free threshing wheat
Cereal	4		5	8	18	4	2	Indeterminate cereal grain
Chaff								
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L. rachis						1		Bread wheat rachis
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. rachis internode					2			Barley rachis internode
Straw culm node					3	2		Straw stem node
Nuts								
<i>Corylus avalena</i> L. shell			1					Hazel nut shell
Wild seeds								
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.			1					Stinking chamomile
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	2		7	7	3	1	1	Goosefoots
Cf. <i>Vicia</i> sp.			1	2	2	1		Cf. Vetch
<i>Medicago</i> sp.			1	2				Medicks
<i>Papaver</i> sp.			1					Poppy
Poaceae (small)				3				Small grass
Poaceae (large)	1	1		2	4	1		Large grass
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.							1	Knotgrass
<i>Phleum</i> sp.			1					Cat's tails
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Soil volume (L)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	
<b>% Analysed</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>Items per litre</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>3.33</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>2.11</b>	<b>0.55</b>	

### 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.

## Conclusion

Seven bulk soil samples were taken from Main Street, Carlton and analysed. All of the samples contained low densities of charred plant remains; the highest density being present in sample 4 from the 12th/13th century medieval pit. 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 (Monckton 2003: 24). Due to the small amount and of chaff found in the samples 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 the samples 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 presence of seeds from cereal fields represents residual waste from cereal grain processing. The lack of chaff however, limits this interpretation. It is probable that the hazelnut shell represents food spillage that had become burnt.

A similar assemblage was found during excavations at a 12th-13th century Medieval site Cropstone Lane, Anstey in 2002; in which small amounts of bread wheat rachis, arable seeds and rye were found (Browning and Higgins 2003: 78). The Cropstone Lane assemblage was interpreted as production and domestic waste (*ibid*).

## Statement of potential

Although the sample size was small, the presence of cereal grain and other food items in the assemblage suggests that further sampling at Carlton could be beneficial to the broader understanding of Roman and 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 Carlton 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 excavation has revealed evidence for a long period of activity within this part of the village that can be broken down into three broad periods.

The earliest activity dates from the Roman period and is represented by at least two clear phases of boundary ditches, possibly associated with an enclosure system. The pottery from the ditches does not pinpoint exact dates for this activity, but instead has a more general range from the 1st-2nd Century onwards. The broad span of the pottery dates suggests that the area of the site could have seen continual occupation during the Roman period, although it is difficult to draw conclusions from such limited evidence. It would appear that ditches [39] and [41] form the earliest phase, possibly relating to an enclosure entrance, which was subsequently remodelled with what would appear to be a larger boundary ditch [32] with its own sequence of recuts, [34] and [36].



The only known Roman occupation in the area would appear to be that of Bosworth Villa, located just over 1 mile away southeast off Barton Road, north of Market Bosworth, so this discovery adds new information to understanding of the wider settlement of the area.

There doesn't appear to be any activity on the site until the late Saxon/early medieval period, although this is only represented by one sherd. Most of the pottery seems to range in date from the 12th-15th Centuries. The large ditch, [7]/[17] is most like a boundary ditch, probably for a toft or croft plot delimiting space coming away from Main Street. This boundary was later recut, but by a much smaller gully [12]/[14], thereby increasing the amount of useable land but still maintaining the boundary line.

The latest phase seems to be associated, certainly in date, with the so-called 'Carlton Hall'. From cartographic evidence and excavation work done by Liddington, this complex would seem far more likely to have been a well-to-do farm house with associated buildings, rather than a hall. There is no evidence for demolition of the farmhouse itself, and only a small drainage system made of re-used bricks was revealed during the excavation. It is quite possible that the building material from the farm was sold off following demolition, and some may have been re-used for the washhouse and toilet block that are still extant on the site today.

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## Archive

The site archive for this phase consists of: 2 A4 context index sheets, 48 A5 context sheets, 1 A4 drawing index, 1 A4 drawing record sheet, 1 A4 sample index, 1 A4 photo index sheet, 42 digital photographs and 1 A2 permatrace sheet. It will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museum Services under the accession number X.A60.2018.

## Publication

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York. A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	<b>Oasis No</b>	universi1- 326723
	<b>Project Name</b>	42-44 Main Street, Carlton
	<b>Start/end dates of field work</b>	29-05-18 – 11-06-18
	<b>Previous/Future Work</b>	Evaluation 2017 (unpublished)
	<b>Project Type</b>	Strip, map and sample
	<b>Site Status</b>	
	<b>Current Land Use</b>	Disused garden
	<b>Monument Type/Period</b>	Roman, Medieval
	<b>Significant Finds/Period</b>	Pottery, tile, bone
	<b>Development Type</b>	Residential
	<b>Reason for Investigation</b>	NPPF
	<b>Position in the Planning</b>	Planning condition

	<b>Process</b>			
	<b>Planning Ref.</b>	18/00124/CONDIT		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	<b>Site Address/Postcode</b>	42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire, CV13 0EZ		
	<b>Study Area</b>	179.49 square metres		
	<b>Site Coordinates</b>	SK 39751 05006		
	<b>Height OD</b>	115.2m		
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	ULAS		
	<b>Project Originator</b> <b>Brief</b>	Local Planning Authority (LCC)		
	<b>Project Originator</b> <b>Design</b>	ULAS		
	<b>Project Manager</b>	John Thomas		
	<b>Project Director/Supervisor</b>	Nathan Flavell		
	<b>Sponsor/Funding Body</b>	Mr P. Page		
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVE</b>		<b>Physical</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Paper</b>
	<b>Recipient</b>	Leics MusService	Leics MusService	Leics MusService
	<b>ID (Acc. No.)</b>	X.A60.2018	X.A60.2018	X.A60.2018
	<b>Contents</b>	Pottery, bone,	Photos	Context index, context sheets, photo records, sample record, contact sheet, permatrace
<b>PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>Type</b>	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	<b>Title</b>	Archaeological Strip, Map & Sample behind 42-44 Main Street, Carlton, Leicestershire		
	<b>Author</b>	Flavell, N.		
	<b>Other bibliographic details</b>	ULAS Report No 2018-116		
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