



UNIVERSITY OF
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Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Strip, Plan & Sample
Excavation & Watching Brief on land
adjacent to Laburnum Cottage, High
Street, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire**

NGR: SP 398 9971

Nathan Flavell



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**An Archaeological Strip, Plan & Sample Excavation & Watching
Brief on Land Adjacent to Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke
Golding, Leicestershire
(SP 39842 97144)**

**Nathan Flavell
For: A. R. Cartwright Ltd
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An Archaeological Strip, Plan & Sample Excavation & Watching Brief on Land Adjacent to Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire (SP 39842 97144).

Nathan Flavell

Summary

An archaeological Strip, Plan and Sample excavation and watching brief was carried out on land adjacent to Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire (SP 398 971) by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) on 5th November-7th December 2018 and intermittently between 21st January and 26th February 2019. The work was undertaken on behalf of A. R. Cartwright Ltd in advance of a new five house residential development. A sequence of medieval and post-medieval boundary features were uncovered. The site archive will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museum Services under the accession number X.A120.2018.

Introduction

This document constitutes the report for an archaeological strip, map and sample and watching brief carried out on land adjacent to Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire (SP 39842 97144) (Fig. 1). The work was undertaken on behalf of A. R. Cartwright by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) between the 5th November to 7th December 2018, and intermittently between 21st January and 26th February 2019. Planning permission has been granted for the construction of a new five house development. Following a trial trench evaluation in 2016 the Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council required a programme of archaeological work comprising a strip, map and sample excavation and watching brief to mitigate the impact of the proposed scheme on any buried archaeology across 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 Stoke Golding, Leicestershire (Fig. 2). The work followed the procedures laid out in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Hanes 2018).

Geology and Topography

The assessment area lies on the southern side of High Street in the centre of Stoke Golding. The site consists of a large garden, incorporating lawns, trees and hedges adjacent and to the rear of Laburnum Cottage and the associated outbuildings. The total area of the site, is around 0.3ha (Fig. 3). The land is mostly flat but undulating and lies at a height of around 110m aOD.

The British Geological Survey of Great Britain website indicates that the underlying geology consists of Diamicton overlying Gunthorpe Member Mudstone.



Figure 1: Location of the proposed site

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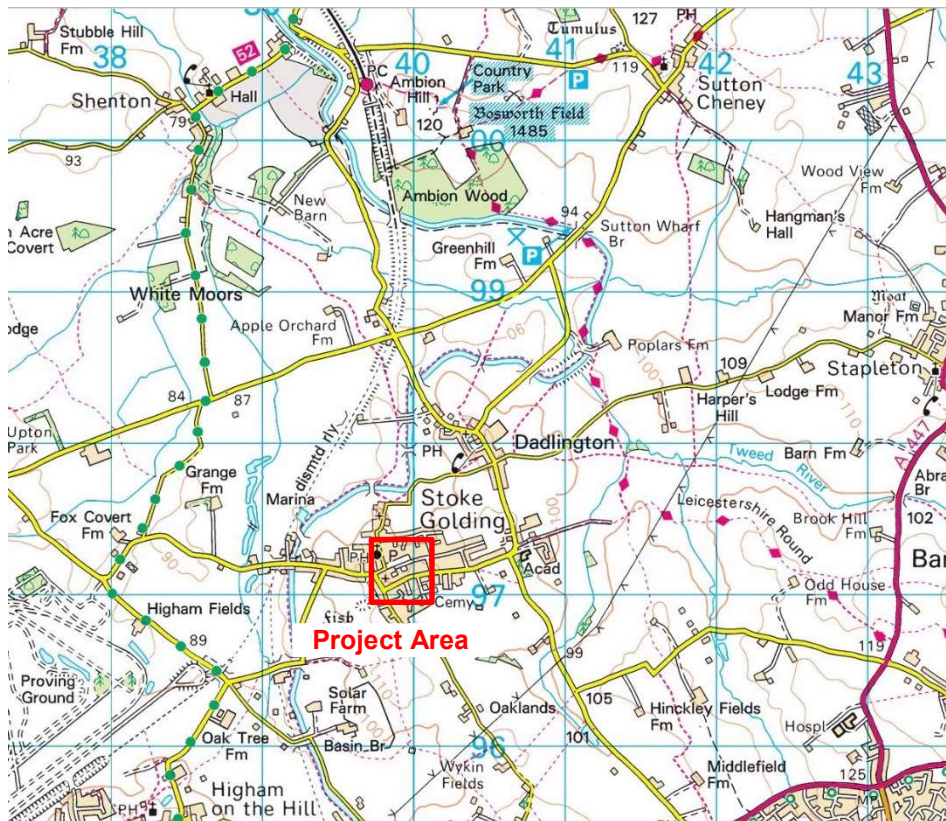


Figure 2: Site Location (Scale 1:50 000)

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Historical and Archaeological Background

A desk-based assessment was prepared for the site (Hunt 2016). The site lies within the historic medieval core of the village, within the Conservation Area of Stoke Golding, and adjacent to Woodyard Cottage, a Grade II listed building dating from the early to mid-18th century.

Prehistoric and Roman artefacts have been discovered within and in the vicinity of the village and there is a known Anglo-Saxon burial mound within a medieval Scheduled Monument site 100m south-west of the assessment area. There are also known Anglo-Saxon remains within the village close to the assessment area.

Early maps of the site show that until the mid-20th century there was a group of buildings along the street frontage close to the north-eastern edge of the site, which is now a small lawn, which are likely to be of a similar age to Woodyard Cottage, if not earlier.

The trial trenching undertaken in 2016 consisted of five trenches laid out across the site and showed demolition from the foundations of a cottage and a post-hole in the north-east; two intercutting parallel linear features in the south-west; and another linear feature with a U-shaped profile in a parallel south-western trench. The remaining two trenches did not produce any archaeological features. No environmental samples were taken (Higgins 2017).

The finds from the trial trenching consisted of pottery and animal bone. There were 11 pottery sherds representing a maximum of two vessels of Potters Marston ware and Chilvers Coton ware, both local medieval types.

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

The strip, plan and sample excavation focused on two areas: one for the new access road from High Street in the northeast quarter of the site, and a separate area near the back of Laburnum Cottage, covering the western housing footprint (Fig. 4 - blue). This work was followed by observation of groundworks in the watching brief areas covering the frontage access to High Street, the rest of the access road to the rear and other house footprints (Fig. 4 orange)

Topsoil was removed from the access road area and footprint of the houses with the aid of a JCB mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision. The overburden was removed until either the natural substratum or top of archaeological features was revealed (Fig. 5). The vertical sections of the stripped area and existing spoil heaps were visually inspected for features and finds. 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 Excavation* (2014).



Figure 3: Location of the site within the village

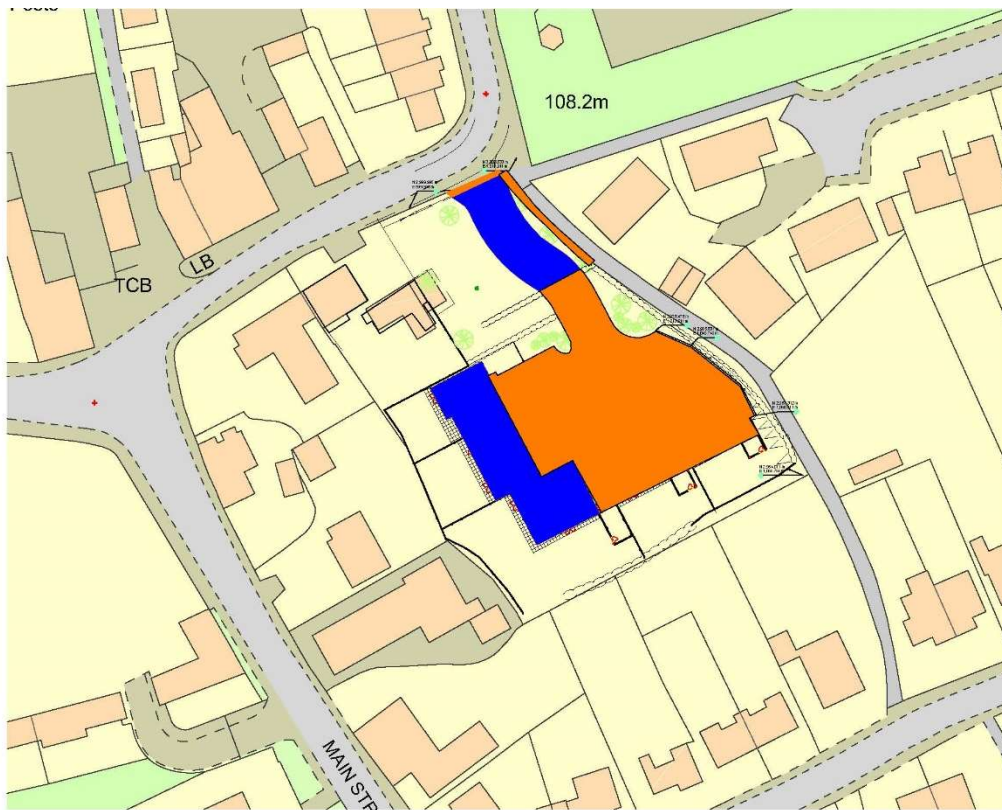


Figure 4: Site location showing the strip, plan and sample areas (blue) and watching brief area (orange)

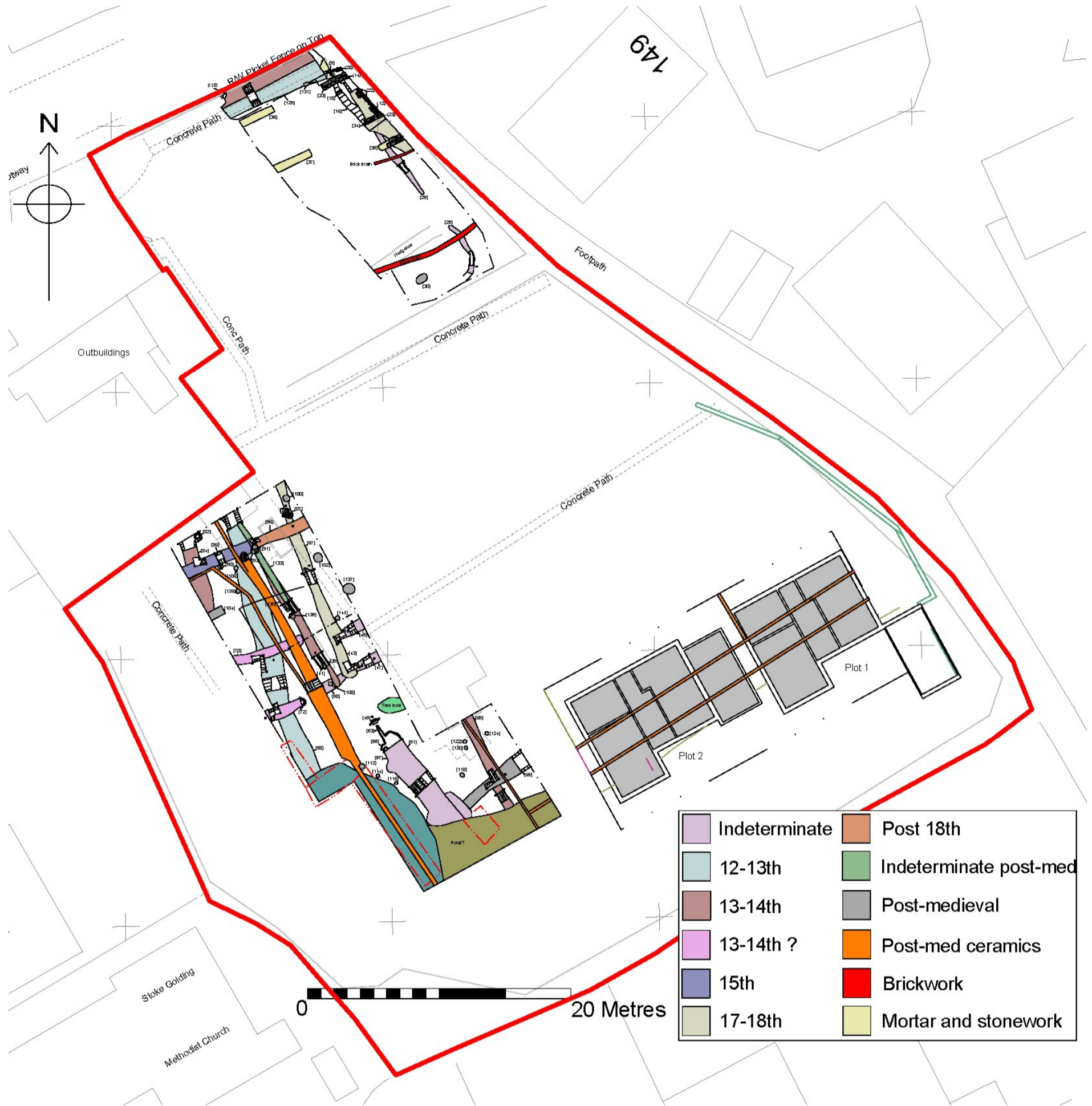


Figure 5: Overall site plan showing all features



Figure 6: NE excavation area adjacent to the High Street frontage.



Figure 7: Western excavation area

Results

Strip, plan & sample excavation: north-eastern area

The stripped area contained a gully, ditch and the remains of post-medieval stone walls and post holes (Fig. 6).

Natural substratum was a pink-red clay changing to a sand to the north-west of the area. Cut into this on the eastern edge was an undated segmented gully [25]. It was aligned northwest-southeast, parallel with the eastern site boundary, and curved toward the south, with termini forming an entrance. It had a moderate u-shaped profile, 0.4m wide, 0.15m deep (Figs. 8 & 9) and was filled by (26) pale brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. A single undated post hole [18] was located near the north-east corner. This was circular with a steep concave profile, 0.11m diameter, 0.2m deep (Figs. 10 & 11). It was filled by (19) mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking. This may be related to the post hole found in evaluation trench 1 ([14] Higgins 2017). Neither features were dated.



Figure 8: Gully [25] looking north-west

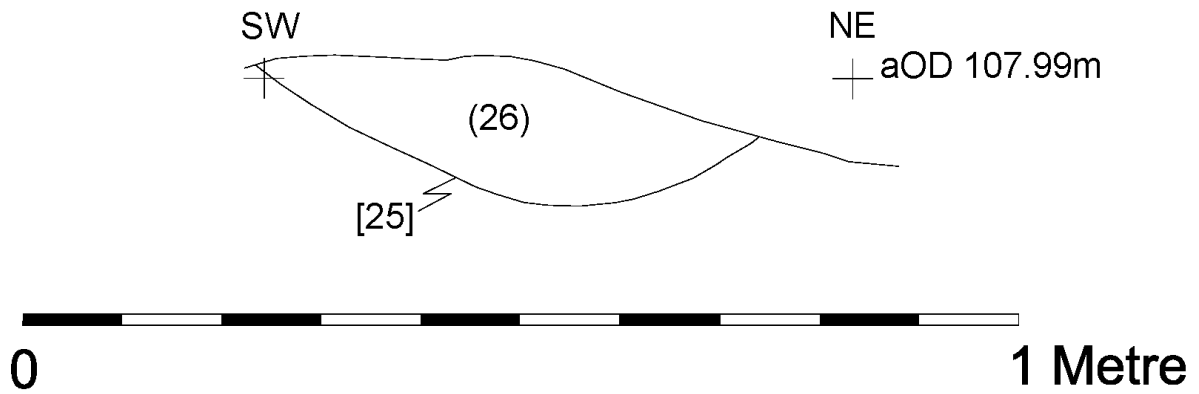


Figure 9: Gully [25] section



Figure 10: Post hole [18] looking north-east

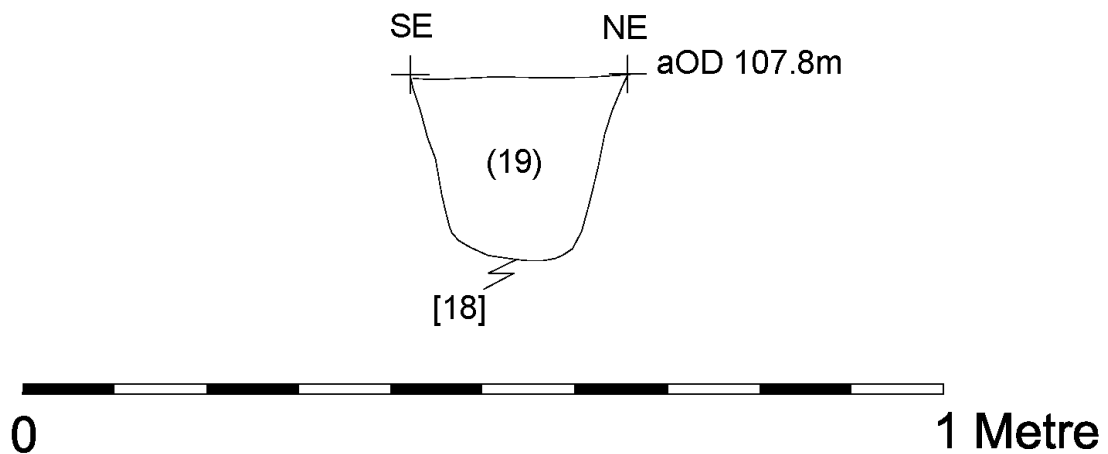


Figure 11: Post hole [18] section

Truncating the gully and post hole was ditch [16]. Where visible this ditch appeared to be aligned northwest-southeast with a steep sloping side (although not fully excavated) (Fig. 12). It was filled by (17), mid brown silty clay with very occasional charcoal, and contained a mixed assemblage of 13th-14th century pottery and 17th-18th century pottery. Although it had later pottery in the fill, the ditch was not fully excavated, so this material may have been introduced during levelling of the site prior to the cottage being built and the ditch itself may have been medieval in origin. This may have formed the eastern boundary to the site.



Figure 12: Ditch [16] looking southeast

The very edge of a ditch [129] was also encountered along the northern edge of the excavation area and was eventually fully exposed during the watching brief. Overlying this was layer (4), a mid-pale grey-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and a small amount of 13th-14th century pottery (Fig. 13). This layer appeared to cover most of the site, and generally measured c.0.25m thick, but became increasing deeper toward the south of the area. Cut into this in the northwest corner was a pit [6] only visible in section. It may have been circular with a sloping moderately concave profile, measuring 1.8m wide, 0.22m deep (Figs. 14 & 15). It was filled by (5) a grey-brown clay sand with frequent charcoal and pebble inclusions with similarly dated pottery to that found in layer (4).



Figure 13: Ditch [129] and layer (4) looking northwest



Figure 14: Pit [6] looking northwest

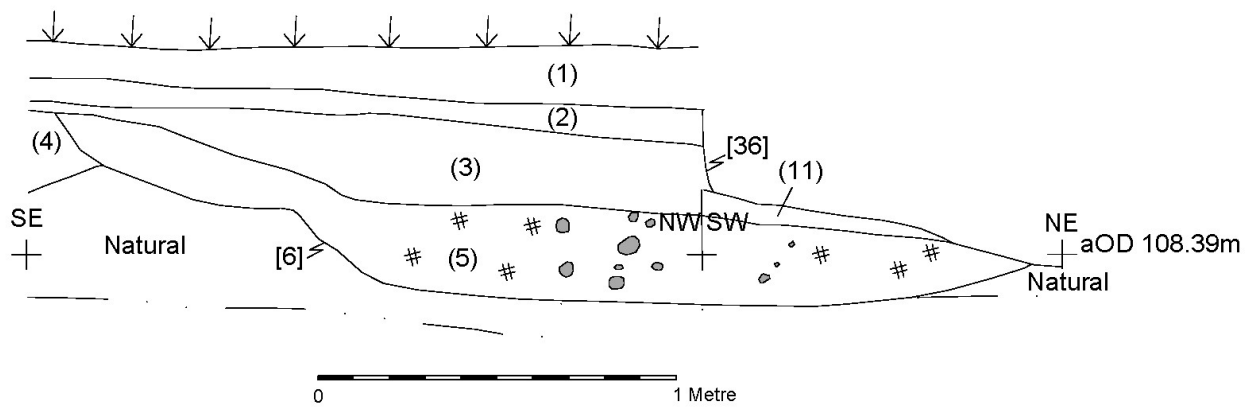


Figure 15: Pit [6] section

Truncating pit [6] was [36]/[33], the foundation cut a for a wall aligned northwest-southeast and parallel with the northern edge of the site. It was 0.5m wide, and appeared to have been robbed of stone toward the southwest and subsequently backfilled by (11), a mid yellow-grey mortar and soil mix. Toward the northeast end, where the site naturally sloped downward, the stonework (14) remained *in situ*. This was made up of roughly cut but slightly faced limestone blocks, typically measuring 0.12 x 0.4 x 0.15m in size. Where exposed it was at least five courses deep, and cut into the backfill (17) of ditch [16]. (Fig. 16).



Figure 16: Wall (14) looking northwest

Approximately 3.3m further southeast was another section of partially robbed out wall (29) [37] and *in situ* wall (23) [34], parallel with the front wall. Foundation cut [37] was 0.5m wide, filled by (29), which was a similar deposit to (11). Foundation cut [34] was 0.4m wide, filled by *in situ* limestone (23) similar of that to (14) (Fig. 17).



Figure 17: Wall (23) overlying ditch [16], looking southeast

Remnants of a third wall, (24) [35], running parallel to (23) [34] were observed 1.9m further southeast (Fig. 18). It was 0.58m wide filled with remnants of *in situ* wall (24) made of limestone blocks typically measuring 0.38 x 0.24 x 0.05m. These walls correspond to a building on the site that was recorded on the 1888 edition OS map (Fig. 58) and seem likely to be its remains.



Figure 18: Wall (24) looking northeast

Along the eastern edge, 1.6m north from wall (23), were two small outcroppings of limestone (22), within a cut [21]. This feature measured 1m length x 0.24m wide and was may have been part of a fireplace or chimney stack. In the middle of these was a brick hearth structure (27) which appears to have been a later addition to the stone chimney structure (22). On the south side of this was another hearth feature (12), also made of brick with limestone fragments. The brick part measured 0.18 x 0.1 x 0.1m and the limestone area measured 0.12 x 0.1 x 0.1m and were set in a semi-circular shape (uncovered), 1.4m wide (Fig. 19). A layer (13) of dark black-brown silty clay with very frequent charcoal fragments, and leather off-cuts lay above this.



Figure 19: Hearth (12) and stone structures (22) looking southeast

On the north side of wall (14) was a probable contemporary soil layer (8), comprising mid grey-brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecking, 0.3m thick containing 17th-18th century clay pipe bowl fragments. Truncating this was a brick drain (28), with associated cut [9] and fill (10). There were two other brick drains located south of wall (24), both aligned northeast-southwest, both truncating gully [25].

A small post-medieval pit [30] was located near the southwest corner of the area (Fig. 20). It was sub-oval in shape with a u-shaped profile, measuring 0.6 x 0.5m x 0.18m deep. It was filled by dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional mortar and charcoal flecking containing 18th-19th century pottery. This feature was probably associated with occupation of the former cottage.



Figure 20: Pit [30] looking southwest

Demolition layers (2) and (7) covered most of the site in and around the remains of the cottage. Layer (2) comprised a beige pink mortar 0.06-0.1m thick. This was slightly different to (7) which seemed prevalent in the northeast corner which was a white-grey silty clay which included mortar and brick and tile inclusions, 0.38m thick. This contained 18th-19th century domestic ware pottery.

This was covered by a post-demolition subsoil (32), mid-dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking, 0.4m thick. This was overlain by topsoil, (1), dark brown sandy loam, 0.15-0.2m thick.

Watching Brief

Archaeological monitoring was carried out when the modern retaining stone wall on the site frontage was removed and soils at the northern edge of the site excavated down to the natural substratum. This revealed two ditches, [128] and [129] (Fig. 21). The edge of ditch [129] had previously been seen during the first phase of work but it was unclear as to the nature and extent

of the feature. The ditch was aligned northeast-southwest with a concave profile, measuring at least 0.8m wide. It was filled by (15), grey-red-brown clay sand with infrequent pebble inclusions, 0.35m thick (Figs. 22 & 23). This contained a single shred of 13th century Chilvers Coton ware pottery.



Figure 21: Frontage ditches looking northeast



Figure 22: Ditches [128] & [129] looking northeast

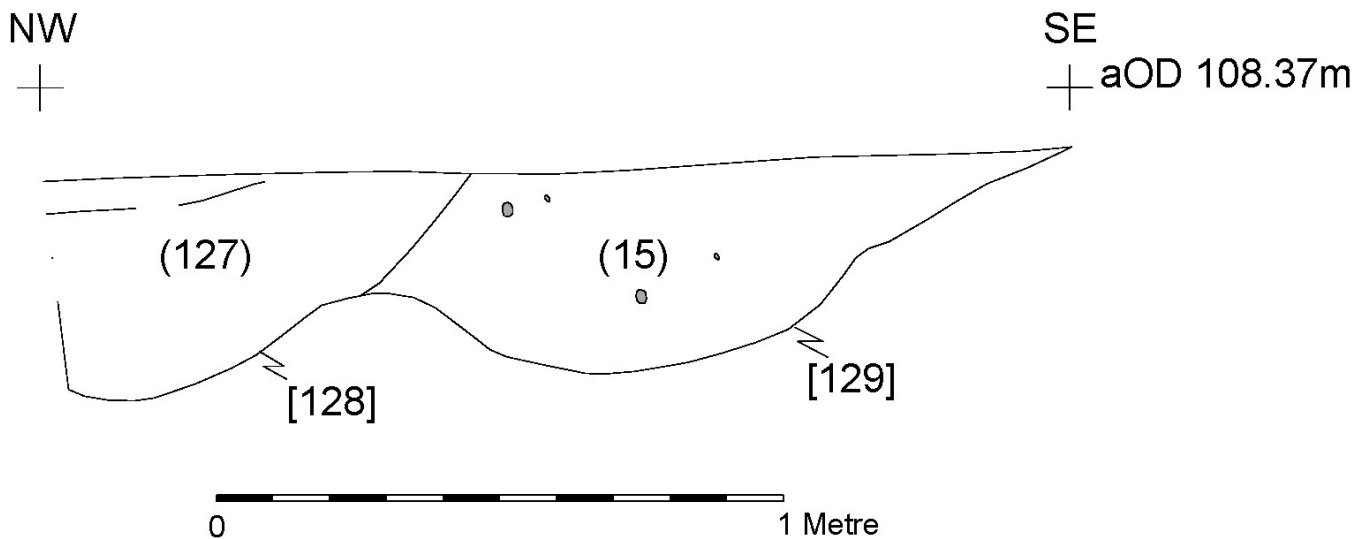


Figure 23: Ditches [128] & [129] section

Ditch [129] truncated this on the north side. It was also aligned northeast-southwest, but seemed to be realigned and was parallel with High Street. It had a moderately concave profile, at least 0.8m wide. It was filled by (127), mid brown-red clay sand with patches of red clay, 0.38m thick containing a single sherd of 13th-14th century Chilvers Coton ware. This could suggest a deliberate backfilling, most likely prior to construction of the cottage.

Boundary Wall

The north-eastern boundary of the site with the adjacent jitty was defined by a stone wall. This was believed to be the remnants of the cottage wall, however further cleaning and investigation revealed that the wall had been rebuilt and rested on a concrete plinth (Fig. 24). Excavating down to path level further south along the line of the wall below the plinth revealed some *in situ* limestone and brickwork (Fig. 25).



Figure 24: Boundary wall



Figure 25: Rebuilt wall on original foundations

Strip, plan & sample excavation: Western Area

The second excavation area lay on the western side of the site, to the rear of Laburnum Cottage. Stripping of this area revealed the presence of medieval linear features as well as a number of intercutting post-medieval linear features and post holes (Fig. 7). Initially the immediate area around an upstanding tree could not be excavated, but this was subsequently undertaken during the watching brief, but it is included here. The natural substratum was a mixed pink-red-yellow clay.

Medieval Features

Ditch [58] lay on the western side of the area and ran on a north-south alignment. It had a steep u-shaped profile, measuring 1.67m wide, 1.18m deep. The primary silting fill (61) was pale grey-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and small pebbles, 0.4m thick. This contained 12th-13th century Potters Marston and 13th Century Chilvers Coton ware pottery. This was overlain by (60), orange-brown silty clay with only very occasional charcoal flecking, measuring 0.42m thick. This contained 12th-13th century oxidised sandy ware. The final fill (59) was mottled brown mid grey silty clay with occasional small pebble inclusions, 0.25m thick (Figs. 26 & 27). This contained the same pottery wares as the lower two fills.



Figure 26: Ditch [58] looking south

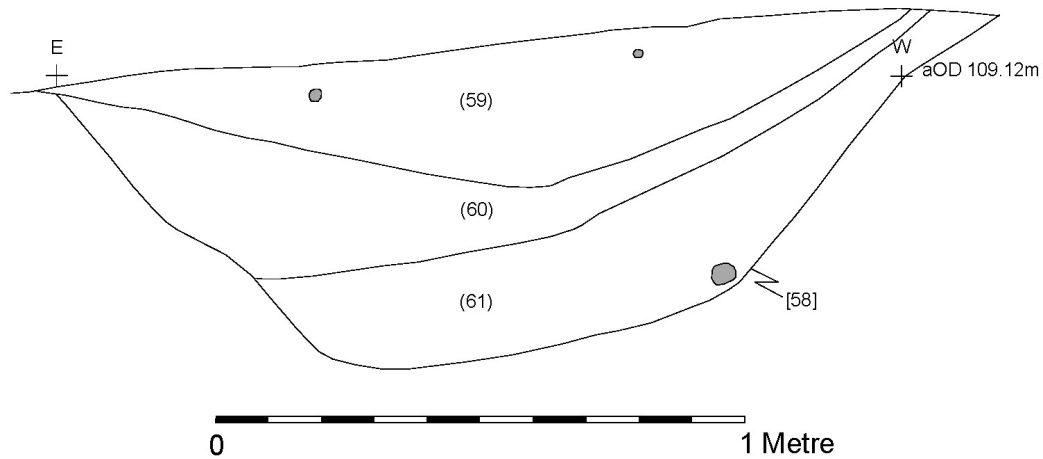


Figure 27: Ditch [58] section

Ditch [84] was located in the northwest corner of the area, and also aligned north-south. It had a moderately concave profile, measuring 1.1m wide and was filled by (83), a mixed grey-brown silty clay with occasional pebble inclusions, 0.16m deep (Figs.28 & 29). This contained fragments of three different 13th-14th century Chilvers Coton ware pottery vessels.



Figure 28: Ditch [84] & pit [86] looking northwest

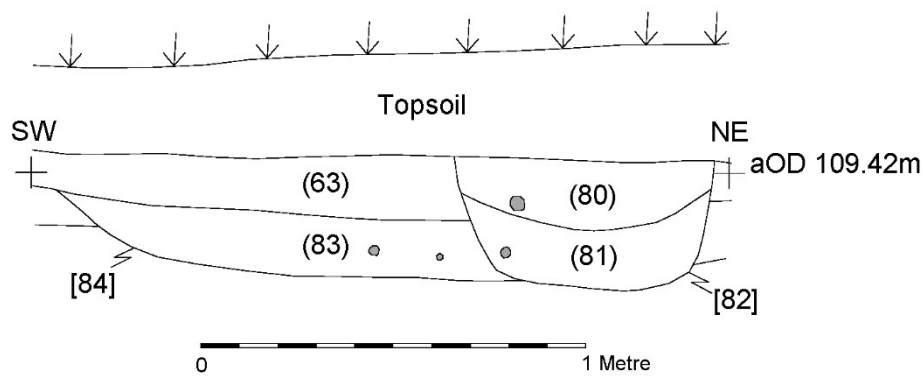


Figure 29: Ditch [84] & pit [86] section

A small gully [69] was located in the southeast area, aligned northwest-southeast. It had a steep v-shaped profile, 0.6m wide and was filled by (68), a green tinted grey-brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal and pebble inclusions, measuring 0.24m thick (Figs. 30 & 31). This contained Stamford ware pottery, and two types of Chilvers Coton and Potters Marston ware pottery dating from the 13th-14th centuries.



Figure 30: Gully [69] looking northwest

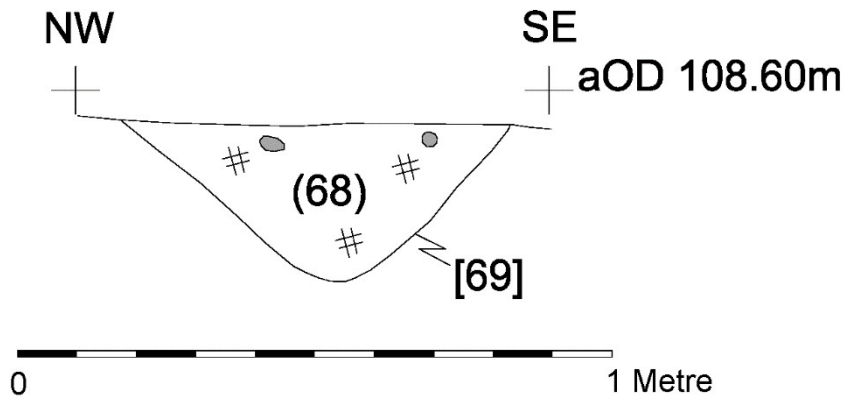


Figure 31: Gully [69] section

These medieval linear features were truncated by various other possible medieval features. A pair of segmented gullies were located across the middle of the area. Gully [70] was curving in from the west, terminating to the northeast, truncating ditch [58] (Figs. 32 & 33). It had a moderately u-shaped profile, measuring 0.72m wide. It was filled by (71), mid-pale grey mixed orange-brown silty clay with occasional CBM and charcoal, 0.18m thick, which contained a single fragment of 13th century Chilvers Coton tile which may be residual. This gully seemed to continue further east as [45], which was aligned northeast-southwest, with a shallow concave profile, 0.7m wide. It was filled by (44), red-brown-grey sandy clay with infrequent pebbles, 0.06-0.1m thick.

A short distance to the south were three segmented gullies [72], [98] and [47]. Gully [72] was aligned west-northeast, terminating just beyond where it truncated ditch [58], 0.84m wide, 0.12m deep. It was filled by (73), dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal and small pebbles (Figs. 34 & 35). It included a single sherd each of two different types of 13th-14th century Chilvers Coton ware pottery. This continued as a short section of gully [98], 0.5m wide, filled by (97), a brown-grey sandy clay. This feature continued northeast after a small gap as gully [47], with a shallow concave profile, 0.7m wide. It was filled by (46), a red-brown-grey sandy clay with infrequent pebbles. These could represent a southern shift of a boundary.



Figure 32: Gully [70] truncating ditch [58] looking east

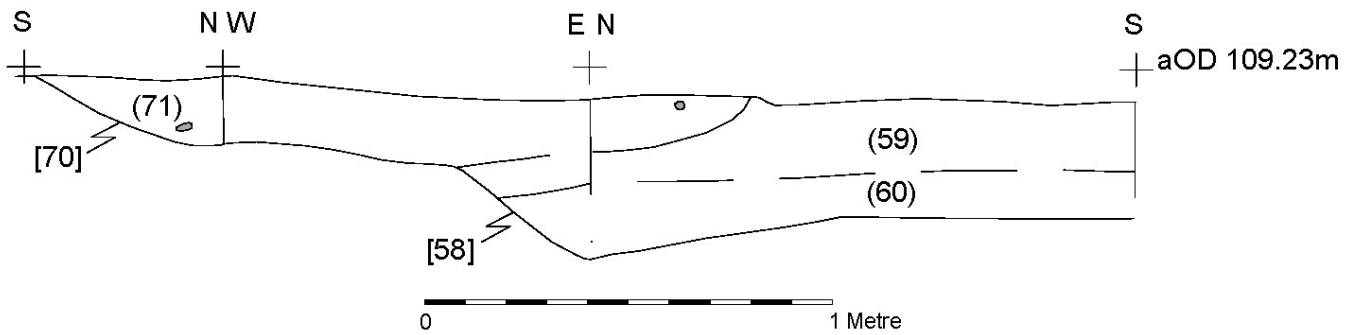


Figure 33: Gully [70] truncating ditch [58] section



Figure 34: Gully [72] truncating ditch [58] looking east

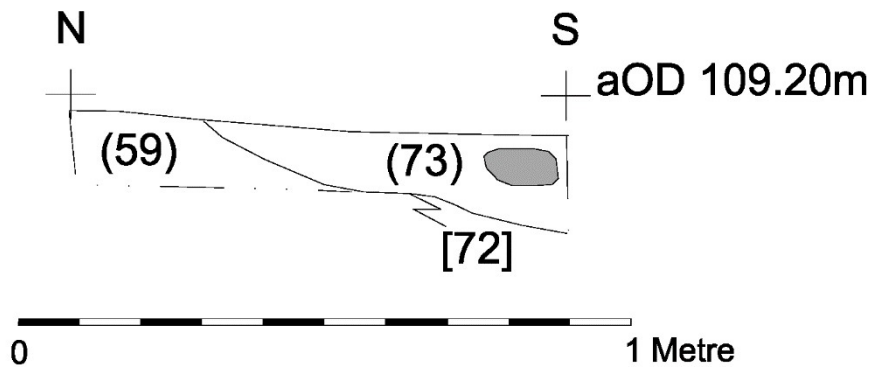


Figure 35: Gully [72] truncating ditch [58] section

A series of three parallel gullies lay perpendicular to features described above and may represent an eastwards shift of a boundary, in much the same way the others indicated a shift to the south. Gullies [41] and [139] were segmented with [41] almost truncating the terminus of [70]. Gully [41] had a moderate to steep profile, measuring 0.45m wide. It was filled by (40), a grey-brown silty clay, 0.13m thick with a single sherd of 13th century Chilvers Coton pottery. The northern segment [139] was at least 0.3m wide, with a shallow profile, filled by (138), a red-brown silty clay with two sherds of 13th-14th century Chilvers Coton ware. Both of these were truncated on their eastern edge by gully [39]. This was also aligned northwest-southeast with a moderately concave profile, 0.4m wide. It was filled by (38) a grey-brown silty clay with occasional pebble inclusions, 0.11m thick, with a single sherd of 13th century Chilvers Coton roof tile (Figs. 36 & 37).

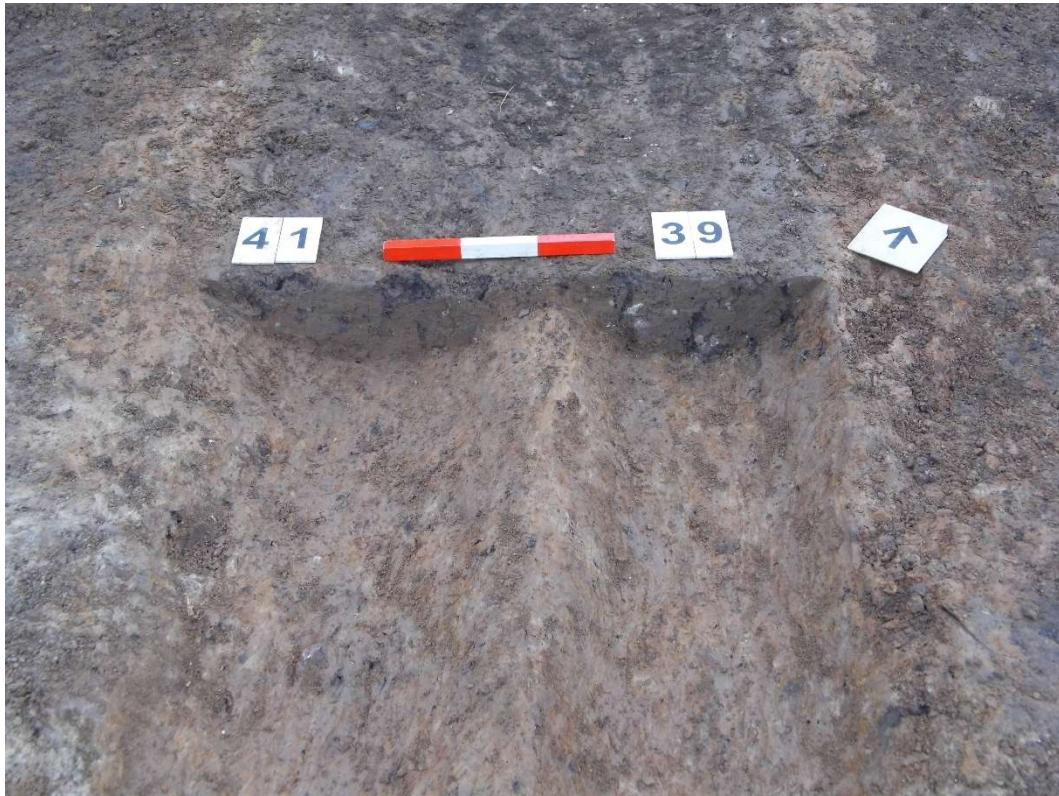


Figure 36: Gullies [39] & [41] looking northwest

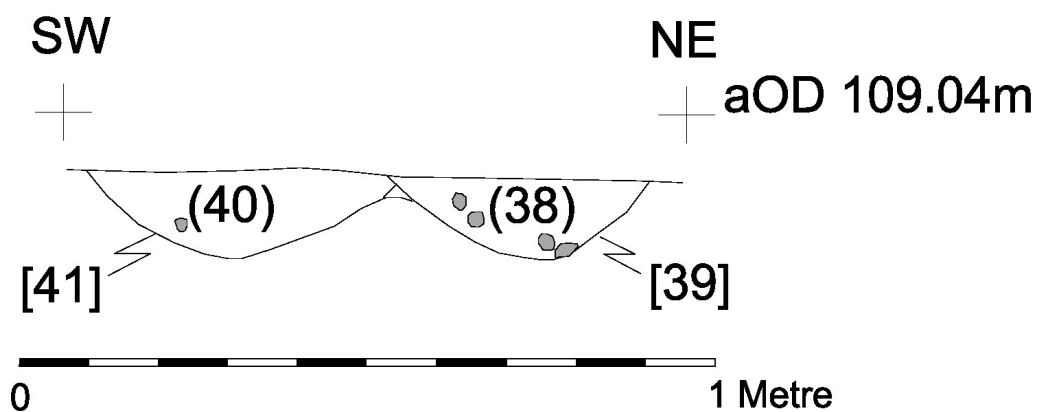


Figure 37: Gullies [39] & [41] section

Nearly parallel to this was gully [43]/[67], which had a shallow concave profile, 0.8-1m wide. It was filled by (44)/(66), a grey-brown silt with occasional charcoal and stone fragments in the top of the fill, 0.15m thick. It contained sherds of 17th-18th century pottery and some residual 13th Century Chilvers Coton ware pottery. The feature truncated gullies [45] and [47].

These three gullies may represent an entrance with a sequence of gullies on the same alignment in the south of the area. The earliest in the sequence was [57], which had a steep concave profile, 0.4m wide. It was filled by (56), a green tinted grey sandy clay with occasional charcoal, 0.2m thick. It was recut by [55] on the same alignment, with a similar profile, 0.6m wide, filled by (54), a green tinted red-grey sandy clay with occasional pebbles and charcoal,

0.1m thick (Figs. 38 & 39). These were cut on the east side by gully [53], with a concave shallow profile, 0.15m wide. It was filled by (52), a red-brown sandy clay. This was in turn cut by [51] again a shallow concave profile, 1.1m wide, filled by (50), a mixed pink grey sandy clay with infrequent charcoal and pebbles, 0.06m thick (Figs. 40 & 41). A small possible post hole [49] was located at the northern end of gully [53]. It was sub-oval in shape with a shallow profile, 0.8x0.6m. It was filled by (48) a green-grey silty clay, 0.06m thick.



Figure 38: Gullies [51], [53], [55] & [57] looking southeast

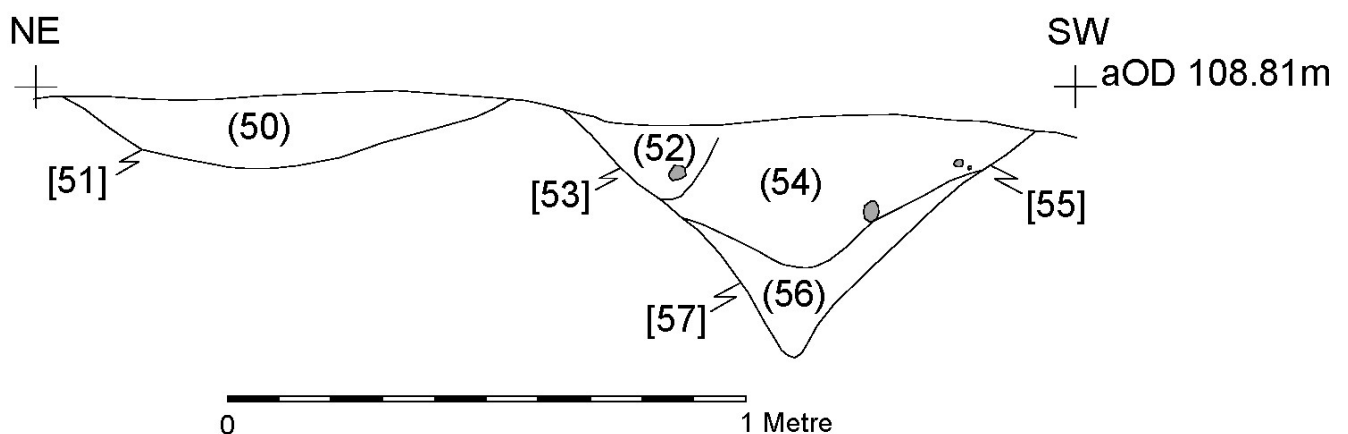


Figure 39: Gullies [51], [53], [55] & [57] section



Figure 40: Gullies [51], [53], [55] & [57] termini looking southeast

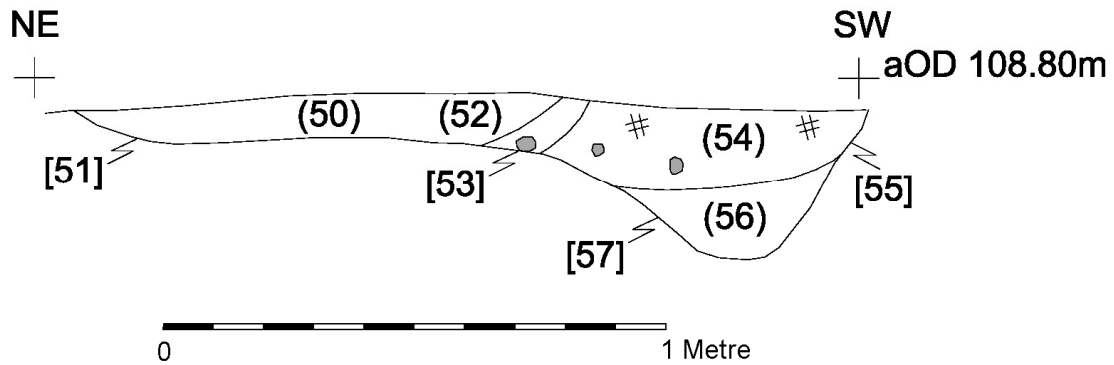


Figure 41: Gullies [51], [53], [55] & [57] termini section

Perpendicular to these in the south-eastern area was ditch [65], truncating gully [69] (Figs. 42 & 43). It was aligned northeast-southwest, with a moderate concave profile measuring 1.7m wide. It was filled by (64), brown-grey sandy clay, 0.23m thick. From the section it would appear to truncate layer (63), a light brown grey silty clay. This is likely to represent the original subsoil (Figs. 44 & 45). Unfortunately the relationships between [65] and sequence [51]-[57] is unknown.

A pit [82] or possible ditch terminus located near the northwest corner of the site also appeared to truncate layer (63). It also truncated ditch [84] to the west. It had fairly steep profile, 0.7m wide, and 0.33m deep (Figs. 28 & 29), and contained three different types of Chilvers Coton ware from the 13th-14th century pottery.



Figure 42: Ditch [65] truncating gully [69] looking southeast

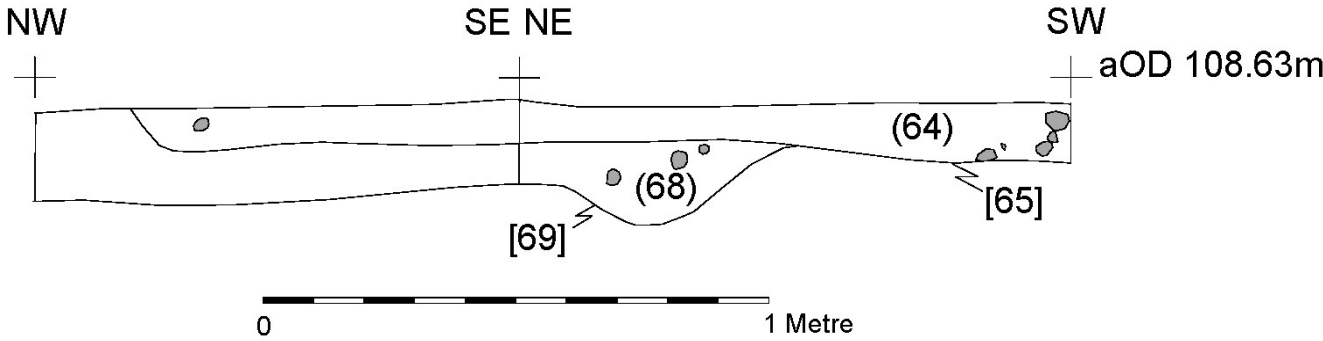


Figure 43: Ditch [65] truncating gully [69]



Figure 44: Ditch [65] looking northeast

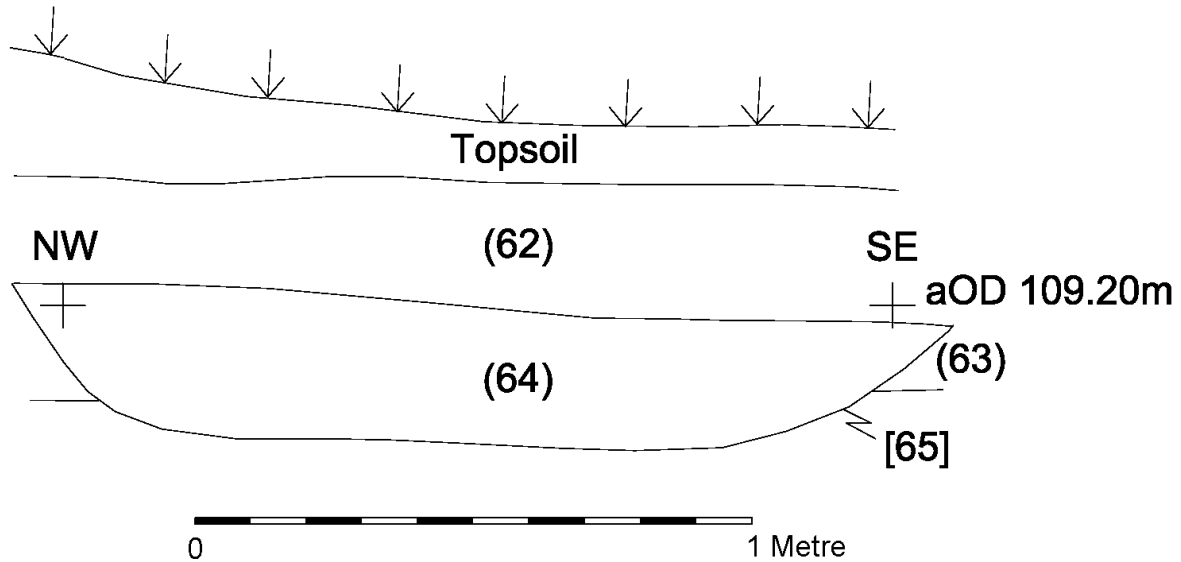


Figure 45: Ditch [65] section

Also at the northern end of the area, and truncating ditch [84], was ditch [86], which had a moderate concave profile, measuring 0.9m wide. It was filled by (85), a mixed brown-grey sandy clay, 0.2m deep. This terminated to the southeast within the backfill of ditch [58], which produced a single sherd of 15th century Cistercian ware pottery. Truncating [86] was the terminus of ditch [96], continuing the northeast alignment and truncated gully [67]. It was 0.6m wide with a moderately concave profile, 0.6m wide, filled by (95), a mixed red-brown-grey sandy clay containing residual Chilvers Coton ware tile. These termini were in turn cut by gully

[133] (Figs. 46 & 47). This gully was aligned northwest-southeast, terminating near the terminus of [139], also truncating [39] and most likely completely truncated by it to the north, 0.4m wide, 0.26m deep (Figs. 48 & 49). It was filled by (132) a mid brown sandy clay with charcoal flecking and pebbles and 13th-14th century Chilvers Coton ware pottery, the latter likely residual due to its having been cut through three different features.



Figure 46: Gullies [86], [96] & [133] looking southeast

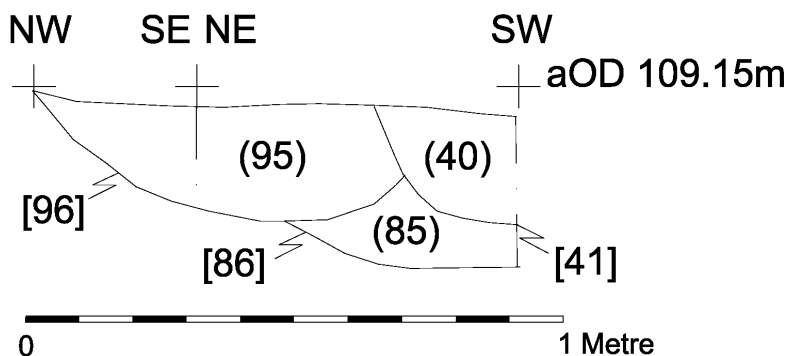


Figure 47: Gullies [86], [96] & [133] section



Figure 48: Gullies [39], [133] & [139] looking northwest

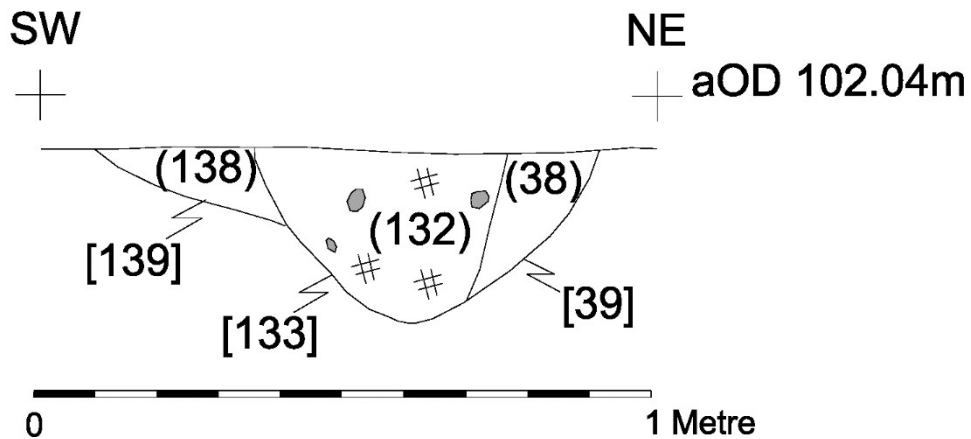


Figure 49: Gullies [39], [133] & [139] section

Post Medieval Features

A series of post pads were also located in the northern part of the area. Post pad [87] truncated ditch [87]. It was sub-oval in shape, measuring 0.92 x 0.6m. It was filled by (88), containing frequent limestone fragments, generally 0.2m wide. Pads [91] and [93] were next to each other. Pad [91] truncated [96] and [133]. It was sub-circular, 0.6m in diameter. It was filled by (92) dark grey-brown silty clay with occasional charcoal with limestone and tile (Fig. 50). Pad [93] was also sub-circular, 0.6m in diameter and truncated [86]. It was filled by (94) a dark grey-brown silty clay with brick and tile inclusions (Fig. 51). Pad [90] was possibly a post hole,

0.38m diameter. It was filled by (89), a grey-brown silty clay with large possibly ironstone fragments (Fig. 52). These features may all represent structural elements of the same building.

A series of small post-medieval pits, [100], [102], [104] and [137] were located in the north of the area. There were also a small number of post holes, [106], [108], [126] and [135], scattered across the area.

A series of post holes in the south of the area may have formed one or two fence alignments. Post holes [118], [120], [122] and [124] appeared to form an L-shape north of ditch [65]. Post holes [112], [114] and [116] were on a northwest-southeast alignment and may have formed a barrier with a large post-medieval backfilled pit to the south of the area. This in turn had truncated the backfill of another pit or pond in the southeast corner of the area. The latest features appeared to represent a series of land drains running down the middle of the site and which appeared to truncate most features.



Figure 50: Post pad [91] looking northwest



Figure 51: Post pad [93] looking northwest



Figure 52: Post pad/hole [90] looking northwest

Watching brief

The foundation trenches for housing plots 1 and 2 did not reveal any positive archaeology. The topsoil and subsoil depths appeared to increase further to the east. This could be a product of land levelling due to natural sloping. There was a potential ditch or possible colluvial silting layer visible in the southern foundation trenches although given the restricted view it was difficult to fully interpret. This deposit was at least 1m wide and consisted of green tinted grey-brown silty clay (Fig. 53). The deposit was also evident in the pipe trench dug along the southern boundary of the site (Fig. 54). This might be a natural place to locate a Holloway or rear boundary to a toft/croft as the land significantly rises up southwards towards Hinckley Road.



Figure 53: Possible alluvial silting layer in foundation trench looking southwest



Figure 54: Possible alluvial layer in southern boundary pipe trench

The Post Roman Pottery - *Deborah Sawday*

The Ceramic Finds

The pottery assemblage was made up of 165 sherds, weighing 6.200 kg, representing 71 vessels and a vessel rim equivalent of 0.65 (calculated by adding together the circumference of the surviving rim sherds, where one vessel equals 1.00). One fragment, three grams, of Roman Grey ware was also recorded in a medieval context. Twenty five fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 2.018kg, were also present.

Condition

The condition of the pottery was good with relatively little abrasion and an average sherd weight of 37.5 grams. The average weight for the ceramic building material was 80.72grams.

Methodology

The pottery and ceramic building material was examined under an x20 binocular microscope and catalogued with reference to current guidelines (MPRG 1998, MPRG 2016) and the ULAS fabric series (Sawday 2009). The results are shown below (tables 1-5).

The Ceramic Record

The fabric codes and sources – where known – are shown in the fabric list, table 1. Tables 2 and 3 give the medieval and later pottery and ceramic building material totals by fabric, number, weight (grams), and for the pottery, EVES and average sherd weight (ASW). Tables 4 and 5 list the pottery and ceramic building material and miscellaneous finds by context. Co-joining sherds are noted, whilst single sherds are generally counted as one vessel

Table 1: The pottery and ceramic building material fabrics.

Fabric	Common Name/Kiln & Fabric Equivalent where known	Approx. Date Range
ST2	Fine Stamford ware	c.1050-1200
OS	Oxidised Sandy ware	c.12th-13th C.
OL	Oolitic ware	c.1100-1300
CO2	Warwick CTS SQ202/203	12th-1300
PM	Potters Marston ware - Potters Marston, Leicestershire	c.1100-c.1300/50+
CC1	Chilvers Coton A/Ai, Warwick CTS WW01	c.1250-1325/1400
CC2	- Chilvers Coton fabric C, Warwick CTS SQ30	Later 13 th -1475
CC5	Chilvers Coton fabric B/Bi, Warwicks CTS STR20	c.1250-1300
MS	Medieval Sandy ware	c.1250-1400+
CW2	Cistercian ware 2 -? Ticknall, Derbyshire	c.1450/1475-1550
MY	Midland Yellow ware - ?Ticknall, Derbyshire	c.1500-1725
EA1	Earthenware 1 – Coarse Post Medieval Earthenware - Chilvers Coton/Ticknall, Derbyshire	c.1500-1750
EA2	Earthenware 2 – ‘Pancheon ware’, Chilvers Coton/Ticknall, Derbyshire	17th C-18th C. +
EA3-5	Mottled ware	1680-1780
EA6	Earthenware 6/ Black ware	1650--1750
EA8/10	Fine Cream/ White Earthenware/China	1730-1850+
EA	Earthenware	Post Med/Mod
SW5	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1670-1900+

The Site Record

Amongst the earliest material from the excavations, part of a jar rim in the late Saxon or early medieval Stamford ware, fabric ST2, was residual, together with post-medieval finds in the back-fill of the gully [67]. Those contexts with pottery dating by the presence of CC5, Chilvers Coton fabric B, which is thought to date from c.1250 to c.1300, include the single sherd from the back-fill of the ditch [129] on the street frontage. A fragment of CC1, which dates from c.1250 into the 13th century if not later, occurred in the re-cut [128] of the same ditch. Single sherds of 12th or 13th century CO2, Coventry A ware, and CC5 were found in the gully [72]. Another fragment of CC5 occurred in the gully [41] together with a sherd in an early medieval Oxidised sandy ware and also a fragment of post medieval hand-made brick. Taken together, of course, the evidence here is too limited to provide reliable dating for these contexts.

A much more substantial group, which represented just over half of the pottery assemblage from the site by sherd count, was recovered from the back fills, contexts 59, 60 and 61 of the ditch [58]. The bulk of this, sixty five sherds in all, made up the profile of a rounded jug in CC5, although unfortunately the lower half of the vessel was too fragmentary to reconstruct here (plates 1 and 2). Similar vessels are recorded during the earliest stage of production at Chilvers Coton, for instance at the wood-fired kiln 20 on site 3 (Mayes and Scott 1984, table 1, fig.3.141). Part of a pulled lip and thumbed handle base, and two other glazed fragments, suggested the presence of at least three more jugs in the same fabric in this context. Three sherds of Potters Marston, Oolitic ware and CO2, Coventry A ware complete the group which could well have a terminal date in the mid or later 13th century. Three fragments of ceramic building material in a fine red Medieval Sandy ware, in context 61, may be of a similar date.



Plates 1 and 2: Wheel thrown rounded jug in CC5, Chilvers Coton fabric B, from the back-fill of the ditch [58]. The jug has a pulled lip and a strap handle, triple thumbed at the base.

A single glazed fragment of white bodied CC1, Chilvers Coton A ware, dating from the mid-13th into the 14th century, was the only pottery find in the gully [133], together with two fragments of ceramic building material in CC2, of possibly slightly later date. Two more sherds occurred in the same white bodied fabric in the gully [39]; part of a double thumbed and vertically combed strap handle base with dark green glaze, probably from a jug. Similar decoration was found on a phallus in fabric A, on site 3 kiln 18, dating from the 13th century (Mayes and Scott 1984, table 1, fig.99.100).

The layer 4, the pits [6] and [82], the gully [69] and the ditch [84] all contained sherds of CC2, Chilvers Coton fabric C, dating from c.1300, and also CC1, Chilvers Coton fabric A, save in context [69] which only contained the former. Contexts [82] and [84] also produced fragments of flat roof tile, one with part of a nib, in red bodied CC2. The difficulties in differentiating between these fabrics has been noted at Coventry (Colls and Mitchell 2013, 58, Ratkai 2013). The yellowish or pale orange hard fired body sherds found here, often with an olive green glaze, appear to tie in with the range of colours at nearby sites in Warwickshire, which indicate that these are much more typical of Chilvers Coton C ware than the red sandy fabric described by Mayes and Scott (1984). However, once again the dating evidence is limited by the small sizes of the assemblages from each context, which all contained less than ten sherds in total.

A single fragment of late medieval dark brown glazed Cistercian ware, dating from the mid or later 15th century, occurred in the back-fill context 85, of the ditch [86].

Post medieval pottery, including EA2 and the Mottled wares or their imitations in fabric EA3 – EA5, which date from c.1680 occurred in the ditch [16]. A similar range of fabrics together with two tiny fragments of cream ware, EA8, the latter perhaps dating from c.1730 were found in the layer context 20, and in the gully [67], which also produced part of an 18th century stoneware ink bottle.

Modern pottery, including a flowerpot and two pieces of later 19th century transfer printed blue under glaze pottery were found in the pit [30] and the layer 7. The latter also contained part of an abraded bowl in post medieval Midland Yellow ware.

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

Fabric	No.	Grams	EVEs	Vessel count	ASW grams	% of total by sherd count
Earlier Medieval						
ST2	1	4	0.045	1		
OS	1	4		1		
OL	1	3		1		
CO2	2	5		2		
Sub Total	5	16	0.045	5	3.2	3.03
Medieval						
PM	5	66		4		
CC5	90	5010	0.165	18	55.66	
CC1	18	301	0.09	11		
CC2	9	88		9		
CW2	1	4		1		
Sub Total	123	5470	0.255	43	44.78	74.5
Post Medieval/Modern						
EA2	10	213		6		
EA3-5	9	95		8		
EA6	10	238	0.14	3		
EA8	3	48		2		
EA10	3	20		2		
EA	1	52	0.21	1		
SW5	1	48		1		
Sub Total	37	714	0.35	23	19.29	22.42

Site Totals	165	6200	0.65	71	37.5	99.95
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Table 3: The ceramic building material.

Fabric	No.	Gr.	
CC5	3	409	Flat roof tile, 12-15mm thick, with one example of a nib. Similar at Chilvers Coton but with the addition of peg holes, (Mayes and Scott 1984, Fig .116).
CC5	1	25	Brick/tile
CC2	4	804	Flat roof tile, 15-18mm thick; with one example of the broken edge of a nib.
CC2/MS	9	150	Brick/tile
EA	8	630	Brick
Site Totals	25	2018	

The fabric of the flat roof tiles appears to be in CC5 and CC2, Chilvers Coton fabrics Bi and C, with a further three fragments in a very fine red sandy fabric classified here as a Medieval Sandy ware, although these too may well be products of the Chilvers Coton kilns.

Flat roof tile predominantly in fabric C, with nibs and/or perforated holes for pegs, was made at the Chilvers Coton kilns in Nuneaton, which lies some 10km to the south west of the village (Mayes and Scott 1984, 41, table 3). The tile first occurred on Site 16, kiln 36 a-b at Chilvers Coton, dating from the mid-13th century (ibid 1984, table 1). However, the Stoke Golding tiles were very fragmentary, and there was no evidence for any peg holes, unlike examples from Chilvers Coton (ibid 1984, figs.116 and 118) whilst no examples of flat roof tiles in fabric B were recorded at the kiln site. The thickness of the tiles varied between approximately 12 and 15 mm for fabric CC5, and 15 and 20 mm, for fabric CC2. Similar dimensions were recorded for the latter at Chilvers Coton, in fabric C, with those in fabric CC5 being slightly less thick.

The remainder of the ceramic building material is fragmentary. The bricks identified in fabric EA appear to be hand-made and are probably post-medieval in date.

Conclusion

The medieval and early post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material fabrics are typical of the region; Stamford, Potters Marston and Chilvers Coton were major centres of pottery production at this time. The minor Oxidised Sandy, Oolitic and Coventry wares are also representative of smaller local industries. Many of the vessels were sooted externally, suggesting that they had been used for cooking and food preparation. This and the range of vessel types present are indicative of domestic occupation in the vicinity.

The ceramic evidence provided by this relatively small sample does indicate both the nature and the duration of the occupation in the vicinity within the historic core of the village.

The Miscellaneous Finds

Two pieces of worked flint, a secondary flake with bladelet like removals and a core with one or two removals (W. Jarvis, pers. comm.) were found in medieval or later contexts. Glass, including late 17th or 18th century bottle glass was found in the layers, contexts 7 and 20. The latter context also produced fragments of green painted wall plaster. The clay tobacco pipe in contexts 7, 8, 10, and [78] included part of a bowl possibly dating from the late 17th or early 18th century.

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

Context	Fabric/ware	No	Gr	EVEs	Max Vessel No	Comments
POT						
4 soil	CC1	1	14		1	White bodied, splashes of green glaze.
4	CC1	1	8		1	Base fragment, dark green glaze internally, light sooting on exterior.
4	CC2	4	50		4	Yellowish pale orange hard fired body sherds. Three with olive green glaze, two externally sooted. The range of colours at nearby sites in Warwickshire indicate that these are much more typical of Chilvers Coton C ware than the red sandy fabric described by Mayes and Scott (1984) (Ratkai 2013).
4	CC5	1	43	0.05	1	Everted abraded jar rim and neck, rim diameter 250mm,
4	CC5	1	20		1	Body, heavily sooted on exterior
5 [6] pit	CC1	3	48		1	Jug shoulder, glazed, with horizontal combing/rilling at base of neck, white bodied, joining sherds.
5	CC2	2	25		2	Buff/orange bodied, on glazed and sooted on exterior.
5	CC5	1	15		1	Lightly sooted externally.
7 layer	MY	1	19	0.065	1	Bowl rim, abraded, diameter approx. 240mm.
7	EA2	4	27		1	Body/base sherds, internally glazed under an iron rich slip
7	EA8	1	41		1	Flat base fragment.
7	EA10	1	3		1	Transfer printed dark blue under glaze. Late 19th C.
15 [129] ditch frontage c	CC5	1	14		1	Combed wavy line decoration
17 [16] ditch	CC1	3	58		1	Jug shoulder, glazed, with deeply incised horizontal combing at base of neck, white bodied and joining sherds.
17	CC1	1	7		1	White bodied, broken jar rim fragment
17	EA5	2	10		1	Slipped under glaze, cup body
17	EA4	1	21		1	Strap handle – ribbed
17	EA2	1	39		1	Internally glazed, thick walled, probably contemporary with the mottled wares
20 layer	EA3	1	16		1	Body, – glazed both surfaces probably a cup
20	EA5	2	16		2	Slipped under glaze, join
20	EA4	1	22		1	Large hollow ware vessel, possibly a jar.

20	EA2	4	107		3	Thick walled sherds, probably contemporary with the mottled wares
20	EA8/10	2	7		1	Join
31 [30] pit	EA	1	52	0.21	1	Flowerpot, rim diameter 180mm.
31	EA10	2	17		1	Transfer printed blue under glaze, later 19 th C, makers mark 'stone' 'Stoke....[on Trent']
31	EA6	6	123		1	Wheel thrown, lead glazed light brownish green on the interior. Very fine sandy light reddish brown (2.5 YR7/3-7/4 and 6/4).
31	EA6	2	76	0.03	1	Jar rim fragment, diameter 210mm, and base, wheel thrown, internally slipped and glazed brown.
31	EA6	2	39	0.11	1	Externally thickened wheel thrown jar rim, diameter 310 mm
40 [41] gully	CC5	1	5		1	External sooting.
59 [58] ditch	GW4	1	3		1	Roman
59	CC5	65	4647	0.085	1	Jug profile, diameter approximately 125mm, rim chipped.
59	CC5	5	112		1	Jug rim/lip and thumbed handle base fragments
59	CC5	2	16		2	One possible jug fragments with spots of lead glaze on both surfaces.
59	PM	3	45		2	Body/base frags, two join
59	OL	1	3		1	Base fragment, sooted underneath
59	CO2	1	4		1	Fragment, burnt
60 [58] ditch	OS	1	4		1	Body
61 [58]	CC5	3	40		1	Joining sherds, base, sooted burnt
61	CC5	1	27		1	Convex basal angle, sooted externally.
61	CC5	1	1		1	body
61	PM	1	15		1	body
66 [67] gully	CC5	2	14		2	Body/base fragments, both externally sooted
66	EA2	1	40		1	Broken wide mouthed bowl/pancheon rim
66	EA3	1	4		1	body
66	SW5	1	48		1	Ink bottle fragment – 18th C.
68	ST2	1	4	0.045	1	Jar rim, estimated diameter, 80mm sooted internally.
68 [69] gully	CC5	3	16		1	body
68	PM	1	6		1	Body, heavily sooted externally
68	CC2	1	3		1	Pale buff body, lightly sooted externally
73 [72] gully	CO2	1	1		1	
73	CC5	1	10		1	Three externally sooted, two sherds join
79 [78] gully	EA3	1	6		1	Small cup fragment, glazed
81 [82] pit	CC2	1	3		1	
83 [84] ditch	CC1	2	2		1	Thin walled white bodied base fragments, internally glazed and sooted externally
83	CC1	2	116	0.09	1	Very pale buff body with fine sandy inclusions and very pale orange surfaces. Jar, with everted rim and thumbed

						applied clay strip. Rima diameter 420mm, ,
83	CC5	1	17		1	Body, traces of external sooting, narrow bodied vessel form.
83	CC2	1	7		1	Jug shoulder, horizontal rilling under glaze, grey/buff body.
85 [86]ditch	CC5	1	13	0.03	1	Jar rim fragment , estimated rim diameter 290mm
85	CW2	1	4		1	Body – glazed, both surfaces
127 [128] ditch	CC1	1	6		1	Body – coarse sandy fabric, traces of thin lead glaze
132 [133] gully	CC1	1	6		1	Body – glazed
138 [139]gully	CC1	2	34		1	Double thumbed and vertically combed strap handle base – probably from a jug. Similar decoration found on a phallus in fabric A at Chilvers Coton (Mayes and Scott 1984, 54, fig.99.100). White bodied, atypical dark green glaze.

Table 5: The miscellaneous finds by context, material, number and weight (grams)

CBM		No.	Gr	
7 layer	mortar			Painted wall plaster
7	EA	1	263	Brick c. 70mm wide, mortar and green paint at one end, hand-made, ?post medieval
17 [16] ditch	CC5	1	104	Flat roof tile, c.12mm thick sooted on smooth surface
20 layer	EA	1	36	Brick, hand-made.
20	CC2	1	87	Flat roof tile, mortar on smooth side, c.15mm thick.
38 [39] gully	CC5	1	133	Flat roof tile, with nib on smooth side.
40 [41] gully	EA	1	21	?hand-made brick
61 [58] ditch	MS	3	41	Brick/tile – very fine sandy fabric
71 [70] gully	CC5	1	172	Flat roof tile, c.15mm thick
81 [82] pit	CC2	1	226	Flat roof tile c.17mm thick
81	CC2	1	5	cbm
85 [84] ditch	CC2	2	92	cbm
85	CC2	1	268	Flat roof tile with broken edge of nib, c.17-18mm thick.
85	CC2	1	223	Flat roof tile, c.17-18mm thick
85	EA	1	240	Brick – encased in mortar
95 [96] ditch	CC5	1	25	cbm
132 [135] p. hole	CC2	3	12	Buff bodied, fine sandy fragments
134	EA	4	70	Misc. hand-made brick fragments
Clay Pipe				
7 layer	China clay	1		Tobacco pipe stem
8 topsoil	China clay	2		Tobacco pipe bowl frags, ?late 17th – early 18th C.
10 layer	China clay	2		Tobacco pipe stems
79 [78] gully	China clay	1		Tobacco pipe stem
Glass				

7 layer	Bottle glass	1		Base of wine bottle with kick up, dark green, thick walled, 18th C.?
7	Bottle glass	1		Body of wine bottle
20 layer	Bottle glass	4		Joining fragment wine bottle base with pronounced 'kick up' dark green thick walled c.10mm, late 17th -18th C.?
132 [134] p. hole	Glass	1		Fragment only
MISC.				
7 layer	Wall plaster	6	562	Fragments all painted green
15 [129] ditch	flint	1		Secondary flake with bladelet like removals.
68 [gully] 69	flint	1		Core with 1-2 removals

The Animal Bones - *Joseph Bartholomew*

Introduction

A small assemblage (64 fragments) of bone was recovered by hand during excavations at Stoke Golding. The bone derived from seven contexts including five ditch fills; (17), (59), (60), (64), (85), one gully fill; (54) and a demolition layer; (7). The majority of the contexts were dated to the medieval period on the basis of associated pottery finds whilst one context, (17) contained post-medieval material. The demolition layer (7) contained material including both worked flint and 17th/18th century glass.

Methodology

The fragments were identified through comparison with reference material held at the University of Leicester and recorded in a catalogue (Table 6). Condition was scored using Harland *et al.*'s (2003) scale. Ageing by fusion was carried out using data from Reitz and Wing (2008).

Results

The bones showed mixed preservation with the majority of the fragments (74%) described as 'fair' with flaking present on up to 50% of the bone surface. The remaining bones were in a 'good' condition with flaking present only in localised areas. Preservation did not impact identification and 39% of the fragments were able to be identified to the species level and a further 25% were identified to element. The bones identified to species predominantly belonged to cattle accounting for 80% of the identified fragments across eight specimens covering elements from across the body including long bones, vertebrae and cranial elements. Sheep/goat were represented by a tibia from (7) and humerus (64) and pig by a radius and mandible both from (85). A single equid bone, a metatarsal fragments, was recovered from (59).

The presence of young animals was attested to by cattle metatarsal from (85) which had an unfused distal end, therefore deriving from an animal under 24 months old.

The sheep/goat tibia from (7) was fusing at the distal end so came from an animal of between 15-24 months. Butchery was also observed on the sheep/goat tibia from (7) which had been sawn through the mid-section of the shaft. Two bones showed evidence of pathological changes, both in the form of periosteal growth. The sheep/goat tibia from (7) had a large area of grey compact bone on the lateral and posterior surfaces of the shaft, covering the distal third of the shaft and extending up to the sawn end. The cattle metatarsal from (85) had a small area of woven bone on the posterior surface of the distal third of the shaft.

Discussion

The bone deposits likely represent domestic waste with the main domesticates of cattle, sheep/goat and pig contributing the vast majority of finds. The single find of an equid metatarsal likely derived from a working animal and was incorporated within the general waste from the site. The range of elements present may represent that carcass processing was being carried out in the vicinity.

Table 6. Catalogue of hand collected animal bone presented by specimen

Context	Cut	Feature	Period	Element	Taxon	Fragments	Comment
7		Demolition layer		Tibia	Sheep/goat	1	Shaft sawn, distal fusing, periosteal bone growth
17	16	Ditch fill	Post medieval	Scapula	Cattle	4	Fragments from base
54	55	Gully fill		Humerus	Cattle	1	
54	55	Gully fill		Lumbar vertebra	Large mammal	2	Fragment of base and neural arch
54	55	Gully fill		Indet	Indet	2	
59	58	Ditch fill	Medieval	Metatarsal	Equid	1	Fragment of proximal shaft
59	58	Ditch fill	Medieval	Mandible	Cattle	1	M3 present - wear stage e
59	58	Ditch fill	Medieval	Incisor	Large mammal	1	Possibly associated with mandible
59	58	Ditch fill	Medieval	Indet	Indet	2	
60	58	Ditch fill	Medieval	M3	Cattle	3	
64	65	Ditch fill		Humerus	Sheep/goat	1	Shaft fragment
64	65	Ditch fill		Indet	Indet	3	
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Mandible	Cattle	7	Highly fragmented, M1, M2 present
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Femur	Cattle	2	Distal fragments, fused, very large
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Metatarsal	Cattle	1	Complete, distal unfused, mild periosteal bone growth
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Cervical vertebra	Cattle	1	Split down body
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Thoracic vertebra	Large mammal	1	Spinous process
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Radius	Pig	1	Shaft fragment, canine gnawing
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Mandible	Pig	1	M2 present
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Rib	Large mammal	1	Shaft fragment
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Skull	Large mammal	11	Fragments
85	84	Ditch fill	Medieval	Indet	Indet	16	
Total						64	

The Charred Plant Remains - Adam Santer & Rachel Small

Introduction

During an archaeological evaluation at Stoke Golding, Leicestershire eight samples were taken from medieval features. The analysis of the charred plant remains from the samples are presented here, together with a discussion of what this can potentially tell us about past diet, crop husbandry strategies and environment at the site.

Phasing

Sample 1 was taken from the fill (68) of gully [69], samples 2-6 and 8 were taken from the fills (54, 59, 61, 85, 84 and 15) of ditches [55, 58, 86, 83 and 129], and sample 7 was taken from the soil (59) within a CC5 wheel thrown jug found in ditch [58].

Most of the samples dated to the late 13th century. The exception was sample 5 which dated to the late 15th century and sample 2 which had no dateable finds retrieved from the context and was therefore given a broad medieval date.

Methodology

The samples consisted mostly of a mid-brown clay 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 heavy 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).

Results

All the samples contained charred plant remains in low densities. Modern rootlets, uncharred seeds and insect remains were also common in all the samples indicating modern disturbance to the contexts.

Small amounts of cereal grain were present, the majority of which were identified as free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* spp.). It was however possible to identify one grain as barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.). Only one piece of indeterminate rachis was found, and this was from sample 1. A few wild seeds were identified and comprised large grass (Poaceae) and vetch (*Vicia* spp.). The highest density of remains were found in sample 1, which totalled 3.18 items per litre.

Charcoal was present in all the samples but much of it was poorly preserved, heavily fragmentary and vitrified. It was therefore not suited to further analysis. Other finds present included two fish scales in sample 8.

Table 7: the charred plant remains found in the samples.

Sample	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Context	68	54	59	61	85	84	59	15	
Cut	69	55	58	58	86	83	58	129	
Feature type	Gully	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pot SF1	Ditch	
Date	Late 13th C.	Medieval	Late 13th C.	Late 13th C.	Late 15th C.	Late 13th C.	Late 13th C.	Late 13th C.	
Grain									
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.				1					Barley
<i>Triticum</i> sp. Free threshing	15	1	3	1	1	1	1		Free threshing wheat
Indeterminate cereal	12	1					2	1	Indeterminate cereal
Chaff									
Indeterminate rachis internode	1								Indeterminate rachis internode
Wild seeds									
Poaceae (large)	4			1			3		Large grass
<i>Vicia</i> sp.	3	1						1	Vetch
Total	35	3	3	3	1	1	6	2	
Soil volume (L)	11	7	9	5	6	7	45	7	
Items per litre	3.18	0.43	0.33	0.60	0.17	0.14	0.13	0.29	

Statement of potential

The charred plant remains present likely represent day-to-day waste from processing food for consumption. This would have become burnt on a hearth and the ash would have formed a general scatter across the site collecting in open features (such as the gully and ditches). The low density of remains limits interpretation as to diet and agricultural strategies at the site and how this may have changed throughout the medieval period. The assemblage therefore has low potential and no further work is recommended.

Discussion

The excavation has revealed evidence for a long period of continued activity within this area of the historic village core from the early medieval period through to the post-medieval period, largely illustrated by a complex series of changing boundaries.

The earliest features discovered were the frontage ditch [129] (although with only a single sherd of pottery it is uncertain), and what would appear to be a boundary ditch [58] of 12th-13th Century date. Ditch [58] itself is interesting because of the apparent 'placing' of a 12th Century Chilvers Coton ware jug (Figs. 55-57), which appeared to have been buried intact although collapsed in on itself. It has a peculiar round hole on one side that looks suspiciously like it was used for target practice, although this could also have been a result of post-depositional factors.

Slightly later medieval ditches, [69], [84] and [39] lay on similar alignments, with [39] recut by [41]. Similarly ditch [129], lying on the High Street frontage, was recut and possibly realigned by [128]. This could reflect a general realignment of boundaries as reflected by [39] and [41] which are northwest-southeast rather than north-south.

There seems to have been a continued trend for remodelling and moving boundaries both to the south and west reflecting general reorganisation of the area over time. Ditch [67] could be the property boundary for Laburnum Cottage shown on the 1845 map (Fig. 58). None of the features seem to have survived by the 1888 OS map (Fig. 59).

The 1845 map does show the building (perhaps a series of 3 cottages) on the High Street frontage where the demolished remains were uncovered (Figs. 58 & 59). They are still present on the 1929 OS map but appear to have been demolished by 1962 (Fig. 60). Dating evidence for occupation layers around the stonework, and the fact the foundations are dug into a 17th-18th Century ditch, suggest a construction date of late 18th to early 19th Centuries. A single photograph provides a tantalising glimpse of what they looked like (Fig. 61).



Figure 55: Chilvers Coton ware jug *in situ* in ditch [58]



Figure 56: Reconstructed Chilterns Coton ware jug showing the curious hole



Figure 57: Reconstructed Chilvers Coton made jug showing thumbing on the handle



Figure 58: Detail of 1845 tithe map of Stoke Golding, site boundary highlighted.
Scale unknown

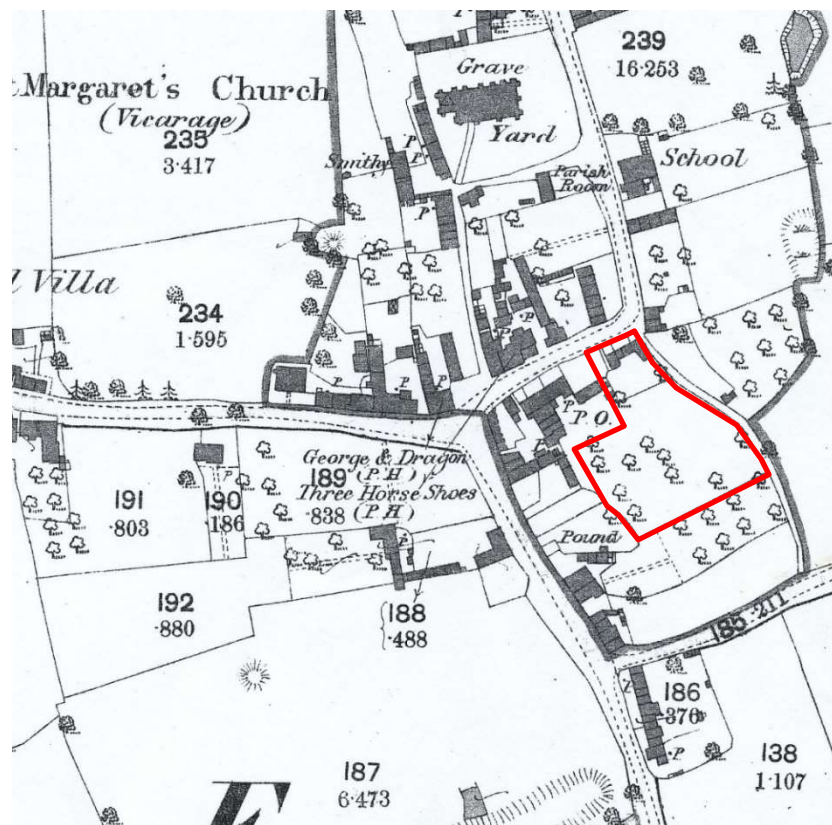


Figure 59: Detail of 1888 Ordnance Survey map, sheet XXXV.14. Original Scale 25 inch to 1 mile

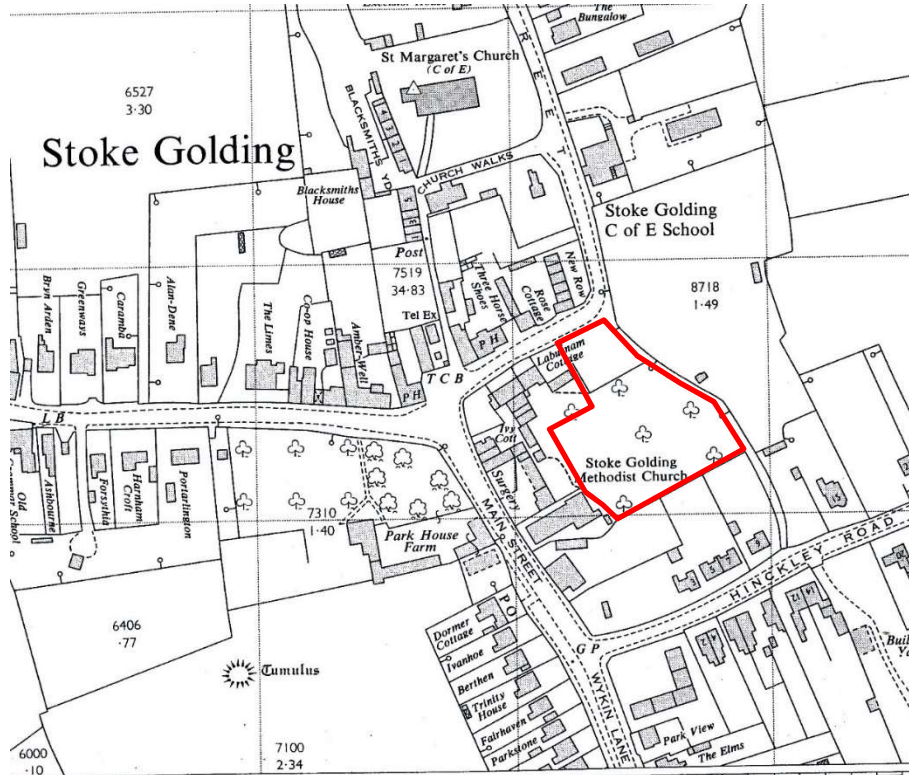


Figure 60: Detail of 1963 Ordnance Survey map, sheet SP 3997. Scale 1: 2500



Figure 61: Close-up of photo showing the cottage that once stood on the corner of High Street.
(Taken from the Church Tower)

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Archive

The site archive for this phase consists of: 3 A4 context index sheets, 136 A5 context sheets, 1 A4 drawing index, 2 A4 drawing record sheets, 1 A4 sample index, 1 A4 small find index sheet, 5 A4 watching brief sheets, 3 A4 photo index sheets, 42 digital photographs and 6 A2 permatrace sheets. It will be held by Leicestershire County Council Museum Services under the accession number X.A120.2018.

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.

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universil-
	Project Name	Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding
	Start/end dates of field work	05-11-18 – 07-12-18, 21-01-19 - 24-01-19, 28-01-19 – 29-02-19, 13-02-19, 22-02-19, 26-02-09
	Previous/Future Work	DBS 2016, Evaluation 2016 (unpublished)
	Project Type	Strip, plan and sample and watching brief
	Site Status	
	Current Land Use	Disused garden
	Monument Type/Period	Medieval, post-medieval
	Significant Finds/Period	Pottery, tile, bone
	Development Type	Residential
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition
	Planning Ref.	15/00575/OUT
PROJECT LOCATION	Site Address/Postcode	Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding, Leicestershire, CV13 6HE
	Study Area	0.3ha
	Site Coordinates	SP 39842 97144
	Height OD	110m
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS
	Project Originator Brief	Local Planning Authority (LCC)
	Project Originator Design	ULAS
	Project Manager	John Thomas
	Project	Nathan Flavell

	Director/Supervisor			
	Sponsor/Funding Body	A R. Cartwright Ltd		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient	Leics MusService	Leics MusService	Leics MusService
	ID (Acc. No.)	X.A120.2018	X.A120.2018	X.A120.2018
	Contents	Pottery, tile, bone,	Photos	Context index, context sheets, photo records, sample record, contact sheet, permatrace
PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
	Title	Archaeological Strip, Plan & Sample & Watching Brief Next to Laburnum Cottage, High Street, Stoke Golding Leicestershire		
	Author	Flavell, N.		
	Other bibliographic details	ULAS Report No 2019-064		
	Date	2018-2019		
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22/05/2019



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