



University of **Leicester**

Archaeological Services



**An Archaeological Evaluation at
44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland**

NGR: SP 874 973

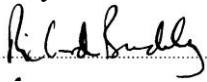
Gavin Speed

ULAS Report No 2010-109
©2010

**An Archaeological Evaluation at
44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland
(SP 874 973)**

Gavin Speed

For: Mr Nick Clark

Approved by	
Signed: 	Date: 17.07/2010
Name: Richard Buckley	

**University of Leicester
Archaeological Services**
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614
www.le.ac.uk/ulas

ULAS Report Number 2010-109
©2010
Accession Number OAKRM.2010.15.

CONTENTS

Summary	2
1. Introduction.....	2
2. Site Description, Topography and Geology.....	2
3. Historical and Archaeological Background.....	4
4. Aims and Objectives	4
5. Methodology	5
6. Results.....	5
7. Discussion	9
8. Archive.....	9
9. Publication	10
10. Bibliography	10
11. Acknowledgements.....	10
Appendix 1: Pottery report (by Deborah Sawday)	11
Appendix 2: Selected archive photographs.....	13

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location.....	3
Figure 2: Trench location plan.....	7
Figure 3: Trench 3 plan and sections	8
Figure 4: Trench 1. Looking north-east, 0.5m scale.....	13
Figure 5: Trench 2. Looking south-west, 0.5m scale.....	13
Figure 6: Trench 3. Looking south-west, 0.5m scale.....	14
Figure 7: Trench 3, archaeological features under excavation, looking north-east.	14

An Archaeological Evaluation of land at 44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland.

Gavin Speed

Summary

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) carried out an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land to the rear of 44a Main Street Lyddington, Rutland (SP 874 973). The work was undertaken as part of an archaeological impact assessment in advance of a proposed development.

The evaluation identified Saxo-Norman activity, consisting of four ditches/gullies and two pits all dated by pottery to the 10th-12th centuries A.D. Residual Roman pottery was also recovered from one of these features.

The archive is to be deposited with Rutland County Museum, under accession number OAKRM.2010.15.

1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by ULAS for Mr Nick Clark on 2nd June 2010 on land to the rear of 44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland (SP 874 973).

Planning permission has been sought for the erection of a steel-framed general purpose building and the construction of an all weather ménage. The work was carried out following advice from Leicestershire County Council, Historic and Natural Environment Team (LCCHNET), as archaeological advisors to the planning authority. They requested an archaeological evaluation to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance.

This report presents the results of the archaeological evaluation by trial trenching, assessing the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological deposits identified.

2. Site Description, Topography and Geology

The site is located on land to the rear of 44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland at SP 874 973. The village of Lyddington lies approximately 2km to the south-east of Uppingham (fig.1.) and place-name evidence suggests that it may have originated in the Anglo-Saxon period. The linear form of the village indicates that it may be evidence for an early planned settlement (Hyam 2007, 1). Number 44a Main Street lies on the eastern side of the main north-south road through the village which slopes gently down to the south. The area to be affected by the development is currently in use as a horse paddock. Ridge and furrow earthworks orientated north-east to south-west are visible across the site. The underlying geology consisted of Mudstone and Upper Liassic Clay. The site lies at a height of c.71.50 m O.D.

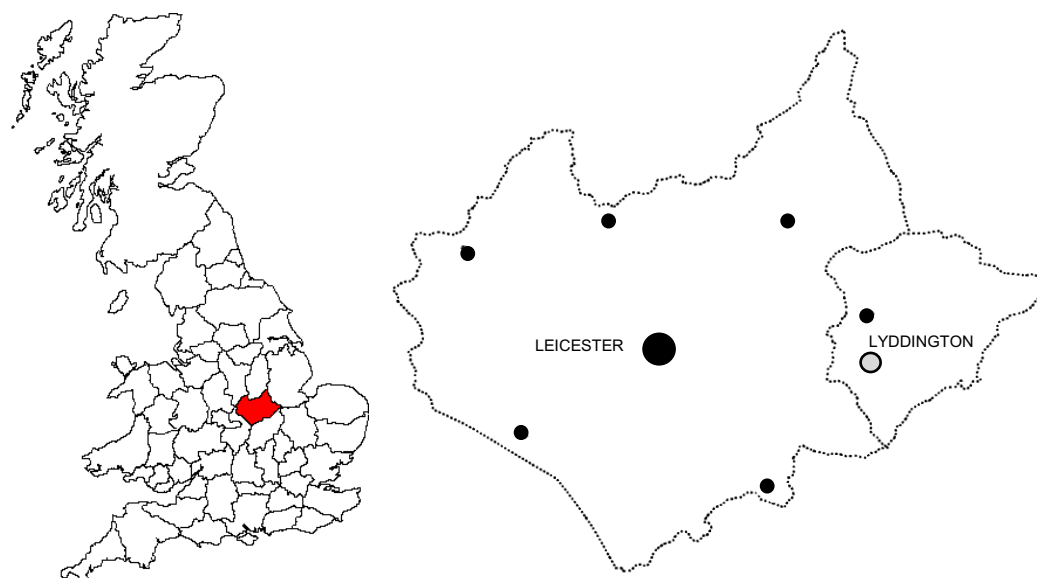


Figure 1 Site location plan within the UK and county of Rutland

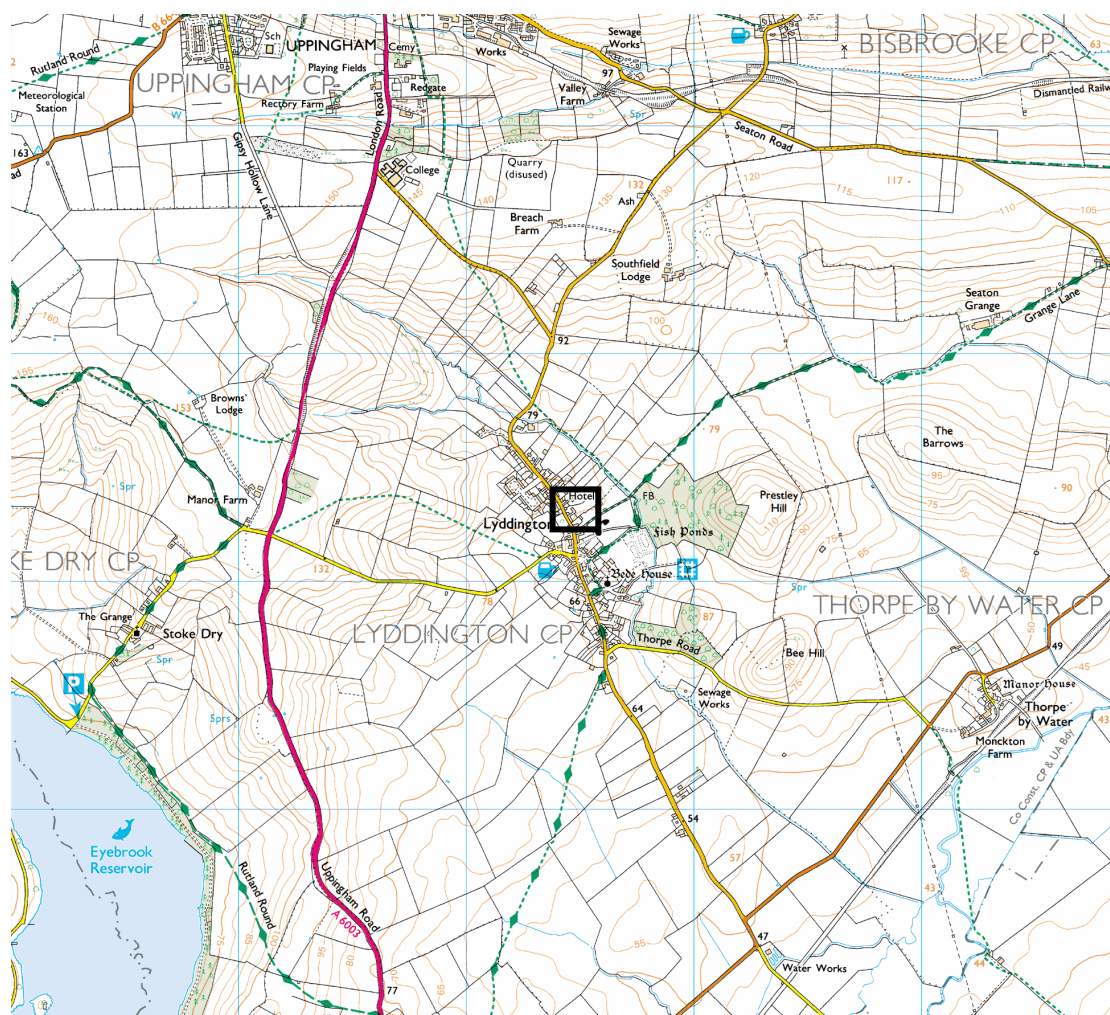


Figure 2: Site Location. 1:25000

Reproduced from the Landranger series by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright 2002. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 10002186.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application site lies within the historic settlement core (MLE9484) and designated Conservation Area (DLE474) of the village of Lyddington and therefore within an area of archaeological potential (Buckley 2010, 1).

It is recorded in the Domesday Book that the bishops of Lincoln held land at Lyddington. They later appear to have expanded their estate here and a bishop's residence was established in 1209. The Bede House represents the survival of part of the palace (Courtney & Smith 1996, 2).

Lyddington Bede House lies 350m south of the development site and the existing building is the eastern cross wing of a great hall, built in the early 14th century most likely by Bishop Burghersh. The stair of this building still exists within the gabled structure projecting from the western side of the building. Previous archaeological observations there have revealed a large enclosure ditch, most likely of late Saxon or Norman origin, which the large precinct wall of the churchyard at Lyddington church seems to respect. The estate passed from Saxon hands to the Bishop of Lincoln in 1085 and remained in their hands throughout the Middle Ages. The proximity to the royal forest of Rockingham, with its hunting and royal connections, along with its situation close to the centre of the diocese led to the Bishops of Lincoln developing their estate at Lyddington. After the Reformation, the house briefly passed into the hands of Lord Cromwell and then William Cecil. It was Cecil's son, Thomas, who converted the palace into an almshouse in 1602. The word Bedehouse means 'house of prayer' and derives from the fact that the inmates were expected to pray for the soul of the founder (Hunt 2004,2).

Closer to the development site, at 67-69 Main Street, archaeological trial trenching revealed a 10th- to 12th-century occupation layer along the street frontage area sealed by a later undated clay layer, a fragmentary stone wall and a brick drain. Subsequent work revealed two post-holes and a truncated gully beneath the 10th- to 12th-century occupation layer (Hyam 2007).

4. Aims and Objectives

The principal aims of the archaeological evaluation were:

- To identify possible areas of archaeological potential liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- To establish the location, extent, date, and significance of any archaeological deposits located.
- To define the quality and state of preservation of these deposits.
- To assess the local, regional and national importance of any deposits.
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

Trial trenching is an intrusive form of evaluation that will demonstrate the existence of earth-fast archaeological features that may exist within the area. This information would allow the County Archaeologist to assess the potential impact of the proposed development upon any archaeological remains.

The objective is to gain an indication of the nature, extent, date and significance of any archaeological deposits in order that an appropriate mitigation strategy may be adopted for remains that may be affected by the development proposals.

5. Methodology

Prior to any machining of trial trenches general photographs of the site areas were taken. The Senior Planning Archaeologist had requested a 5-6% sample to be evaluated in areas available. Three trenches were excavated, one over the site of the proposed building that measured 10 x 1.6m, the other two trenches measured 20m x 1.6m over the proposed ménage.

The trenches were excavated using a JCB 3CX mechanical digger equipped with a 1.6m wide toothless ditching bucket. The topsoil and overlying layers were removed under full archaeological supervision until either the top of archaeology or natural undisturbed substratum was reached. Trenches were examined for archaeological deposits or finds by hand cleaning, the trenches were tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The trenches were backfilled and leveled at the end of the evaluation.

All work followed the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct and adhered to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (2008).

6. Results

Three trenches were excavated: Trench 1 (over the site of the proposed building) measured 10m x 1.6m, the other two trenches (2 & 3) measured 20m x 1.6m over the proposed ménage. Note: Archaeological contexts as a cut are indicated by: [], those that are fills are indicated by: ().

Trench 1 (figures 2, 4)

Trench 1 was orientated north-south, over the area of the proposed barn. Topsoil (1) measuring c.0.3m, and subsoil (2) measuring c.0.25m was removed. No archaeological finds or features were located. Natural mudstone substratum was reached at c.0.45m below the ground level, at c.71.45m O.D.

Trench 2 (figures 2, 5)

Trench 2 was orientated NE-SW, over the eastern-end of the proposed ménage. Within this area ridge and furrow earthworks are visible. These are orientated north-east to south-west. Topsoil (1) measuring c.0.3m, and subsoil (2) measuring c.0.25m was removed. Three sherds of 10th to 12th-century pottery was recovered from the topsoil. No archaeological features were located. Natural clay substratum was reached at c.0.45m below the ground level, at c.71.40m O.D.

Trench 3 (figures 2, 3, 6, 7)

Trench 3 was orientated north-east to south-west, over the western-end of the proposed ménage. Topsoil (1) measuring *c.*0.3m, and subsoil (2) measuring *c.*0.25m was removed. Within the topsoil was a sherd of post-medieval or modern pancheon ware pottery, along with a 10th- to 11th-century sherd of Stamford Ware. Six archaeological features were located within this trench at the same depth as natural substratum at *c.*0.65m below the ground level, at *c.*70.75m O.D.

Towards the southern-end of the trench was a linear feature [3], seen running across the trench, orientated north-west to south-east. At the eastern-edge of the trench, the feature appeared to be curving south. The gully/ditch was 0.95m wide and 0.25m deep. It contained a single deposit of mid-brown silty-clay (4). This contained 5 sherds of pottery dated to the 10th-12th centuries A.D.

Five features were located at the north-end of the trench ([5], [7], [9], [11], [12]). A linear feature [12], was seen running across the trench, orientated north-north-west to south-south-east. The ditch was 1.30m wide and 0.45m deep. It contained a single deposit of mid blue-brown silty-clay (13). This contained 4 sherds of pottery dated to the 10th-12th centuries, a single sherd possibly dated to the 12th-13th century, and two sherds of residual Roman pottery. A further ditch [11] – 0.58m wide, 0.16m deep – lay adjacent to the south and was filled with the same silty-clay (13). A third ditch / gully [9] – 0.55m wide, 0.1m deep – lay on a slightly different orientation, north-east to south-west. This contained a single deposit of mid-brown silty-clay (10). This contained a single sherd of 14th-15th century pottery and an animal tooth. Ditch [9] cut a small sub-oval pit [7]. This contained a silty-clay (8). Within this were 4 sherds of 10th – 12th century pottery. A further small sub-oval pit [5] also contained a silty-clay (6). Within this were 7 sherds of 10th – 12th century pottery, and a fragment of animal bone.



Figure 3: Trench location plan

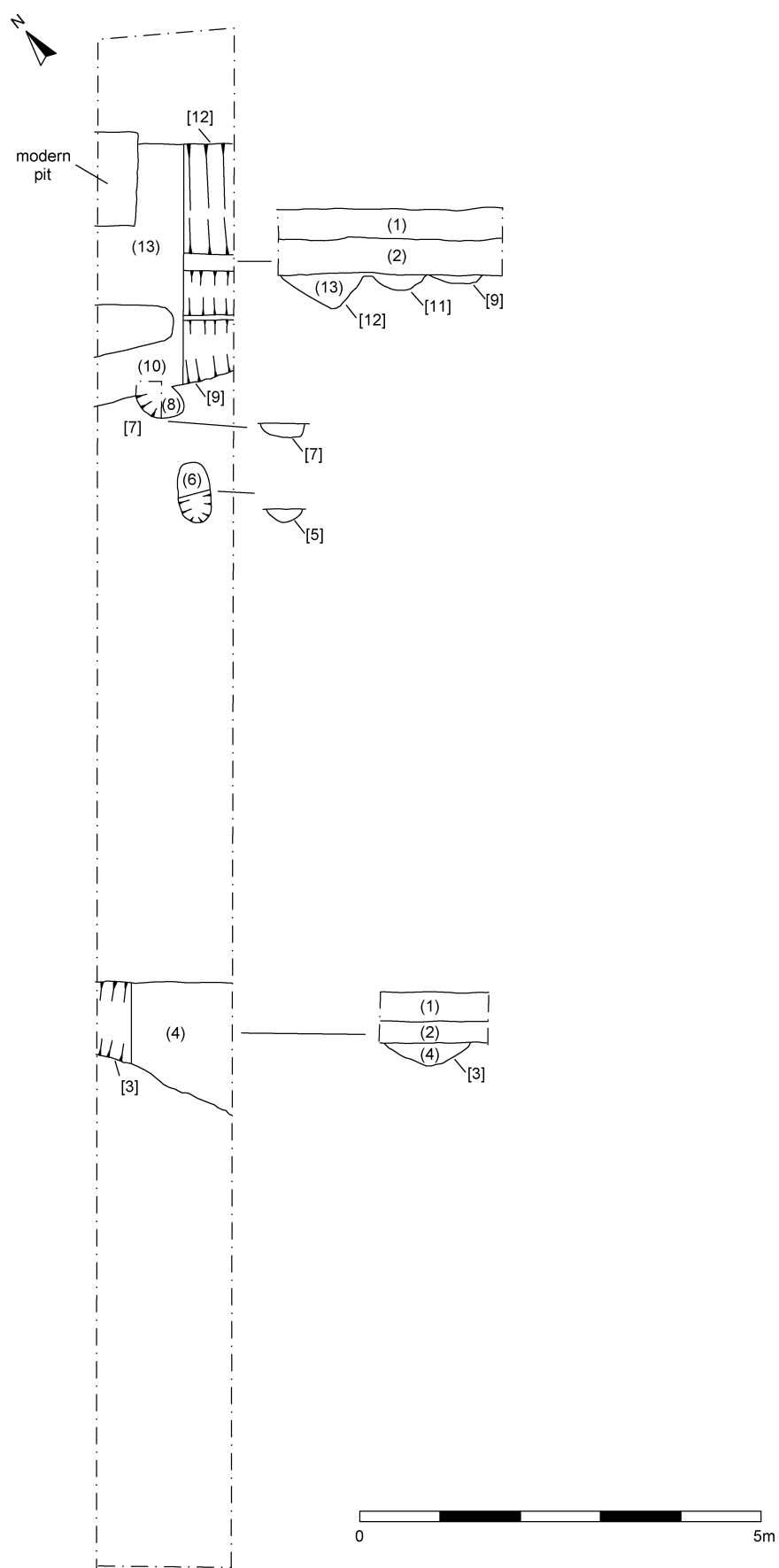


Figure 4: Trench 3 plan and sections

7. Discussion

The evaluation has revealed evidence for Saxo-Norman occupation, along with finds of Roman date. The ditches/gullies may represent rear property boundaries to street frontage activity dating to the 10th to 12th centuries A.D.

8. Archive

Fieldwork was carried out by Gavin Speed, and David Parker. The pottery was identified by Deborah Sawday. Richard Buckley managed the project.

The archive will be deposited with Rutland County Museum, under accession number OAKRM.2010.15.

The archive contains:

- 13 context recording sheets
- 1 context index sheet
- 2 drawing sheets
- 1 drawing sheet index
- 3 trench recording sheets
- 1 photographic recording sheet
- CD containing digital photographs
- 33mm black and white contact sheet and negatives
- Finds: 29 sherds of pottery, 2 animal bone fragments
- Survey notes and plans
- Unbound copy & CD of this report

The report is listed on the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.. Available at: <http://oasis.ac.uk/>

ID	OASIS entry summary
Project Name	44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland
Summary	
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Richard Buckley
Project Supervisor	Gavin Speed
Previous/Future work	Previous: none. / Future: uncertain.
Current Land Use (2009)	Paddock
Development Type	Commercial
Reason for Investigation	PPS15
Position in the Planning Process	as a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 874 972
Start/end dates of field work	03/06/2010
Archive Recipient	Rutland County Museum
Study Area	0.1ha
Associated project reference codes	Museum accession ID: OAKRM.2010.15. OASIS form ID:

9. Publication

A summary of the work will be submitted for publication in the local archaeological journal *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report has been added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database held by the University of York.

10. Bibliography

- Hyam, A. 2007, An Archaeological Evaluation and Strip Plan at 67-69 Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland. ULAS Report 2007-141.
- MAP 2 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (2nd edition). English Heritage.
- MGC 1992 *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992* (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- RFG/FRG 1993 *Guidelines for the preparation of site archives*. Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700.
- SMA 1993 *Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*. Society of Museum Archaeologists.

11. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was undertaken by Gavin Speed and David Parker. The project was managed by Richard Buckley.

Gavin Speed
Senior Archaeological Supervisor
University of Leicester Archaeological Services
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH

gs50@le.ac.uk

Tel: 0116 252 2848

Fax: 0116 252 2614

03/06/10

Appendix 1: Pottery report (by Deborah Sawday)

The pottery, 29 sherds, weighing 313 grams, was catalogued with reference to the ULAS fabric series (Connor and Buckley 1999). The results are shown below, (Table 1). Whilst the presence of both Roman and Saxo Norman pottery within the core of the medieval village is of note, Stamford ware in particular was widely exported throughout the region and beyond, during the Saxo Norman and early medieval period.

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

Context	Fabric/Ware	Nos	Grams	Comments
(1) T2	ST2/3- Coarse/Fine Stamford ware	1	20	Kilmurry lid seated form 3 jar rim, dated generally from c.900-1075 (Kilmurry 1980).
(1) T2	ST2/3- Stamford ware	2	36	Body sherds, one thin yellow glaze internally, c.10th C+
(1) T3	ST3 – Coarse Stamford ware	1	29	Bowl rim, an early type, similar to Kilmurry form 1-10, rough rectangular rouletting on upper flange, late 10th, but more common in the 11th C. (<i>ibid</i> 1980, 137-138).p
(1) T3	EA2 – Earthenware 2	1	24	Post medieval or modern wide mouthed bowl/ pancheon rim fragment.
(4) [3]	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	4	12	Two with thin yellow glaze on the exterior, one sooted externally, another knife trimmed, the fabric is dated generally c. 1050-1200+. Knife trimming dates from the early 10th century & becomes standard at Stamford in the 11th C.
(4) [3]	OL – Oolitic ware	1	3	Convex base, c.1020-1170.
(6) [5]	ST3 – Coarse Stamford ware	7	61	Convex, externally knife trimmed base and body sherds, many burnt/sooted, one rouletted, c.850-1050+. The base dates from the early 10th C or later.
(8) [7]	ST3 – Coarse Stamford ware	2	40	Joining sherds, flat base, knife trimmed externally, c.850+
(8) [7]	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	2	7	One thinnish yellow glaze, c. 1050-1200+
(10) [9]	BO2 – Bourne A/B ware/type ware	1	14	Base fragment, c.1250-1450.
(13)	CG – Calcite Gritted	1	17	Roman, small jar fragment 1st - 4th C. AD.
(13)	OW – Oxidized ware	1	16	Roman 1st - 4th C. AD.
(13)	ST3 – Coarse Stamford ware	4	14	Body sherds, c.850-1050+
(13)	ST2 – Fine Stamford ware	1	20	Form 1, bowl, possibly rim 1-43 rim, (<i>ibid</i> 1980), ?12th – 13th C.
MISC				
(6) [5]	Animal Bone	1		
(10) [9]	Animal Bone	1		Horse tooth

Bibliography

- Connor, A., and Buckley, R., 1999 *Roman and Medieval Occupation in Causeway Lane, Leicester*, Leicester Archaeology Mon. **5**.
- Kilmurry, K., 1980 *The Pottery Industry of Stamford, Lincolnshire, AD 850-1250*. Oxford: Brit. Archaeol. Rep. (Brit. Ser.) **84**.

Appendix 2: Selected archive photographs



Figure 5: Trench 1. Looking north-east, 0.5m scale



Figure 6: Trench 2. Looking south-west, 0.5m scale



Figure 7: Trench 3. Looking south-west, 0.5m scale



Figure 8: Trench 3, archaeological features under excavation, looking north-east.

15. Bibliography

- Buckley, R. 2010, *Design Specification for Archaeological Work at Stone Barn Farm, 44a Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland*. ULAS unpublished document 01/06/2010.
- Courtney, P. & Smith, D. 1996, *An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of the Prebendal Barn at Lyddington, Rutland, Leicestershire*. ULAS unpublished report 1996-003.
- Hunt, L. 2004, *An Archaeological Watching Brief at Lyddington Bede House, Lyddington, Rutland*. ULAS Report 2004-079.
- Hyam, A. 2007, *An Archaeological Evaluation at 67-69 Main Street, Lyddington, Rutland*. ULAS Report 2007-141.

- MAP 2 The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991
- MGC 1992 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- RFG/FRG 1993 Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)
- SMA 1993 Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

Gavin Speed
Senior Archaeological Supervisor

ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel: 0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: gs50@le.ac.uk

© ULAS 03/06/2010

Contact Details

Richard Buckley or Patrick Clay
University of Leicester Archaeological
Services (ULAS)
University of Leicester,
University Road,
Leicester LE1 7RH

T: +44 (0)116 252 2848

F: +44 (0)116 252 2614

E: ulas@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/ulas



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR 2008/9