

BUGB/01



# LAND AT MILLENNIUM GREEN, BUGBROOKE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

commissioned by Sally Bramley-Brown,  
Bugbrooke Parish Council

August 2014



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project info

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**PARISH** Bugbrooke  
**LOCAL AUTHORITY** Northamptonshire Council  
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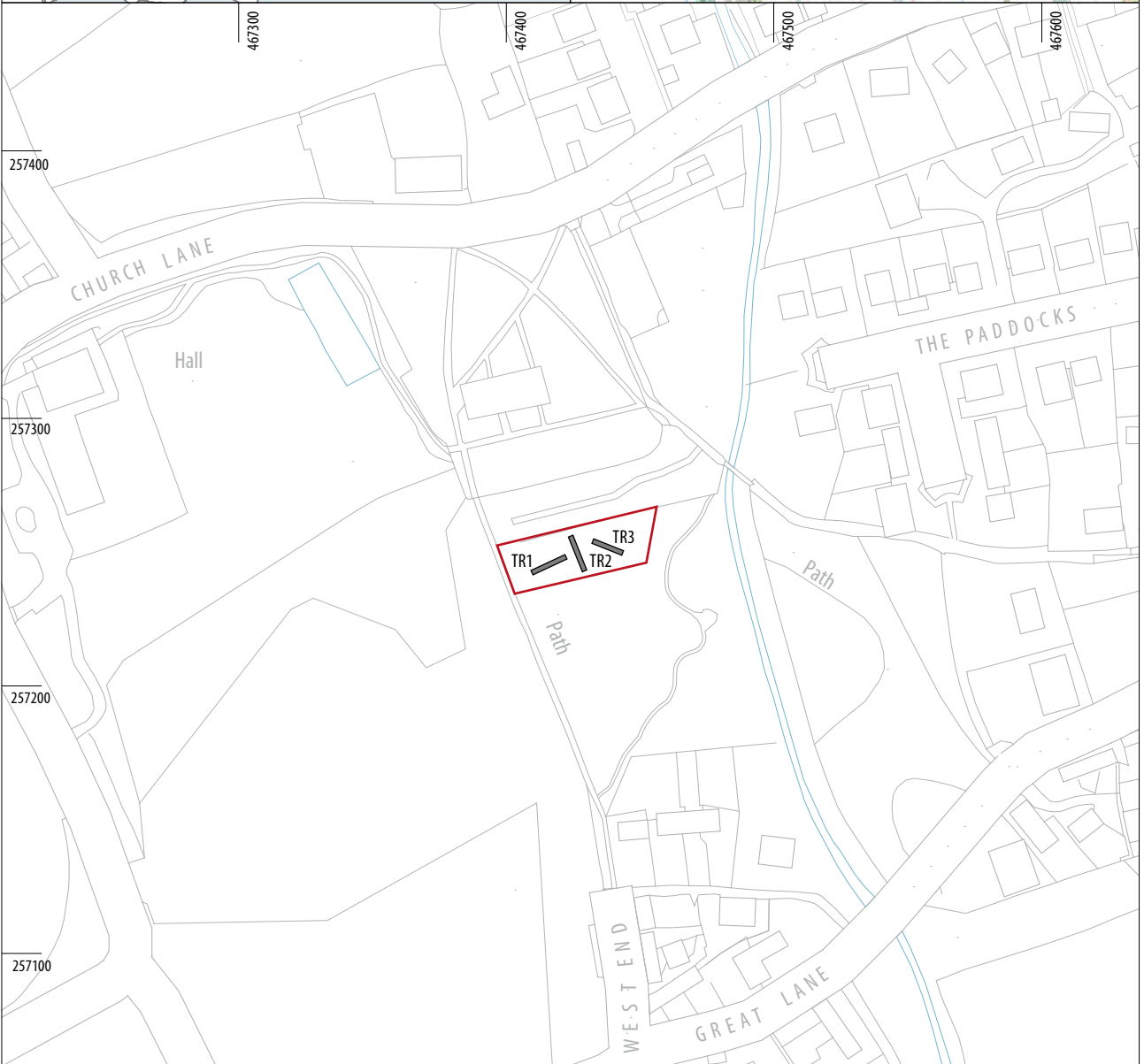
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BUGBROOKE GRAVEYARD  
land at Bugbrooke  
Northamptonshire  
East Midlands



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ILLUS 1  
Site location

# LAND AT MILLENNIUM GREEN, BUGBROOKE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

## Archaeological Evaluation

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd conducted a trial-trench archaeological evaluation on land at Millennium Green, Bugbrooke, Northamptonshire, as part of a programme of archaeological evaluative works carried out in support of a planning application for the extension of an existing cemetery. Trial trenching revealed evidence for medieval (12th century) activity, consisting of a series of ditches, narrower linear features, a pit, and a possible post-pit. It is thought that these may be the remains of the earlier village of Bugbrooke.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1 Bugbrooke Parish Council are preparing a planning application in connection with the proposed extension of the cemetery at St Michael and All Angels Church, Bugbrooke, Northamptonshire, NGR SP 67424 57249. This land is henceforth referred to as the Development Area (DA) and covers c.700m<sup>2</sup>. In support of the planning application, the developer has been required to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site comprising a trial trench investigation.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation is being carried out in order to assess the extent, nature and survival of archaeological features within those parts of the site where intrusive development will take place. The results will allow the Archaeological Advisor at Northamptonshire County Council (AO) to determine the significance of any archaeological remains within the DA.
- 1.1.3 Mrs Sally Bramley-Brown, acting on behalf of Bugbrooke Parish Council, has commissioned Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd to carry out the trial trenching evaluation and produce a report on the results. Following completion of the trial trenching the AO will have all the necessary information with which to determine the significance of any archaeological remains and determine the impact

of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Decisions on the type and scope of mitigation measures (if required by the AO) will be based on the results of field evaluation.

- 1.1.4 The remit of the archaeological trial trenching programme has been outlined by the AO in a brief (Northamptonshire County Council 2014b). A 'Written Scheme of Investigation' was compiled by Headland Archaeology before the fieldwork started, including the trench plan, and was agreed with the AO (Headland Archaeology 2014). A systematic array of trenches has been designed to effectively evaluate the DA, orientated on varying alignments (Illus 2). All evaluative works were carried out with the agreement of the AO.

### 1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 1.2.1 The DA is located on the western side of Bugbrooke Village, to the south of the Church of St Michaels and All Saints (centred at NGR SP 67424 57249). It is bounded by the existing church burial ground to the north, Millennium Green to the east and south, and a tree-lined path to the west (beyond which lies the grounds of New Creation Hall).
- 1.2.2 The DA consists of a currently open area of land, part of Millennium Green. It covers an area of approximately 700m<sup>2</sup> and is reasonably level, at around 78mOD.





- 1.2.3 The solid geology of the DA is the Dyrham Formation, a mixture of siltstone and mudstone sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 183-190million years ago in the Jurassic Period. Overlying this are alluvial deposits, however these are only found in the eastern part of the DA towards the river (bgs.ac.uk)

### 1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.3.1 The following section has been compiled from information gained via the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (search results provided on 31.7.2014), alongside additional information gained from other sources.

- 1.3.2 Some evidence for prehistoric activity has been uncovered in the general Bugbrooke area. This includes individual findspots within the parish, such as a Neolithic axe (HER: MNN20539); a possible prehistoric stone mace (HER: MNN26640); and Neolithic flint scrapers (Pastscape: Monument No 341502). Aerial photos have also indicated the presence of prehistoric features in the area, including one ring ditch and three potential others in the south-western part of the parish (SP 661 566) (British History Online). Two small circular enclosures set within an incomplete circular feature c.50m wide, and with traces of linear ditches around, were also identified in the southern part of the parish (SP 671 562) (British History Online). An interesting 19th century reference in the HER to a possible tumulus, uncovered with several skulls and a curious reference to a "petrified crocodile", may also attest to prehistoric activity (HER: MNN3217). Archaeological excavation has provided more robust evidence for prehistoric activity, including a possible Neolithic pit uncovered during work at Ace Lane (HER: Event ENN106462) and evidence for Iron Age activity at Peace Hill (HER: Event ENN105718; ENN107019). This indicates that the area was utilised in the prehistoric period in some way.

- 1.3.3 There also appears to have been some Roman activity in the vicinity of Bugbrooke – unsurprising considering its positioning on Watling Street (the present A5), a known Roman route. Unstratified Roman pottery sherds have been uncovered in various locations in Bugbrooke recorded through the Portable Antiquity Scheme (HER: MNN101). A scatter of Roman pottery, fragments of tile, and building stone, was also uncovered to the south-east of the village in 1975 (SP 686 567) (British History Online).

- 1.3.4 There was a settlement at Bugbrooke in the Saxon period, as the village was named in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as 'Buchebruc', with a mill (the third-highest rated mill in England) being recorded (domesdaymap.co.uk). Individual finds of medieval date have been uncovered within the parish and attest to medieval activity, including a silver penny (HER: MNN11643). The medieval manor house was positioned to the north

of the village and is thought to have been uncovered during excavations in 1972 (HER: MNN1935). The remains of medieval fishponds, terracing, and earthwork banks associated with this manor house are visible as earthworks and were recorded during an aerial survey in the 1990s (HER Event: ENN14249; ENN14250). The earthwork remains of ridge and furrow cultivation can also be seen across the parish, including an area directly to the west of the DA (HER: MNN133). The Church of St Michael, directly to the north of the DA, is believed to date from the 13th century (Listed Building: DNN1687), with a medieval metal surface being uncovered in the church car-park (HER: MNN1935). However, the layout and origins of this early settlement are unclear – early plans show an unusual layout with a single street on the eastern side of the stream and the church almost isolated on the western side (Enclosure Map 1779). It is possible, therefore, that the early medieval village was positioned around the church (i.e. in the area around the DA). Recent archaeological work at Ace Lane, to the south-east of the DA, has uncovered medieval pits and a possible medieval beam-slot, supporting the suggestion that there was some medieval occupation in this general area (HER Event: ENN106462).

- 1.3.5 The village of Bugbrooke expanded hugely in the 17th century, with a number of listed buildings dating from this period. The 18th century saw further development, presumably because of Bugbrooke's proximity to Northamptonshire's shoe and boot industry. The Grand Union Canal (HER: MNN3497; MNN15707), constructed in the late 18th century to the west of the DA, brought further people to the village, with the London to Birmingham Railway (HER: MNN13441), constructed in 1832, increasing this further. These new forms of transport diversified the types of occupations taking place within Bugbrooke, a trend which continued into the 19th century (Bugbrooke Conservation Area Appraisal). The archaeological remains of some of these post-medieval features have been uncovered during investigations, with a trial trench evaluation at 6 Church Lane, to the north of the DA, uncovering the remains of late 17th and early 18th century wasters and kiln furniture related to a clay tobacco pipe maker (HER: Event ENN105287).

- 1.3.6 The area of the DA is shown as open on all maps from at least the late 19th century (1886-1891 OS Map; accessed via old-maps.co.uk). It is depicted as being positioned to the south of the church, in an area of open land. The village of Bugbrooke itself is also depicted in broadly the same way as it remains today.

- 1.3.7 Some archaeological work has already been carried out within Millennium Green. This includes an earthwork survey of the land behind the church carried out in 1996 (HER: Event ENN14661). This identified a series of features including a former watercourse (HER: MNN31244); uncertain earthworks including two possible ringworks (HER: MNN31241); a possible medieval holloway (HER:



MNN312); and a possible medieval enclosure (HER: MNN3124).

- 1.3.8 A magnetometry survey was also carried out on a strip running north-south along the eastern side of Millennium Green, including the far eastern part of the DA. The results of this have been studied by Headland Archaeology. This identified a number of potential archaeological features including a possible northeast to southwest orientated ditch in the northern area and a denser concentration of possible features towards the south. It is not clear precisely what these features are or what date they are, however the survey does show the existence of buried archaeological features in this area.
- 1.3.9 It is also apparent from visual inspection of Millennium Green that buried archaeological remains are probably present. There are earthworks over the area, indicating that the landscape was probably utilised in the past and that archaeological remains could be found.

## 2 METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 OBJECTIVES

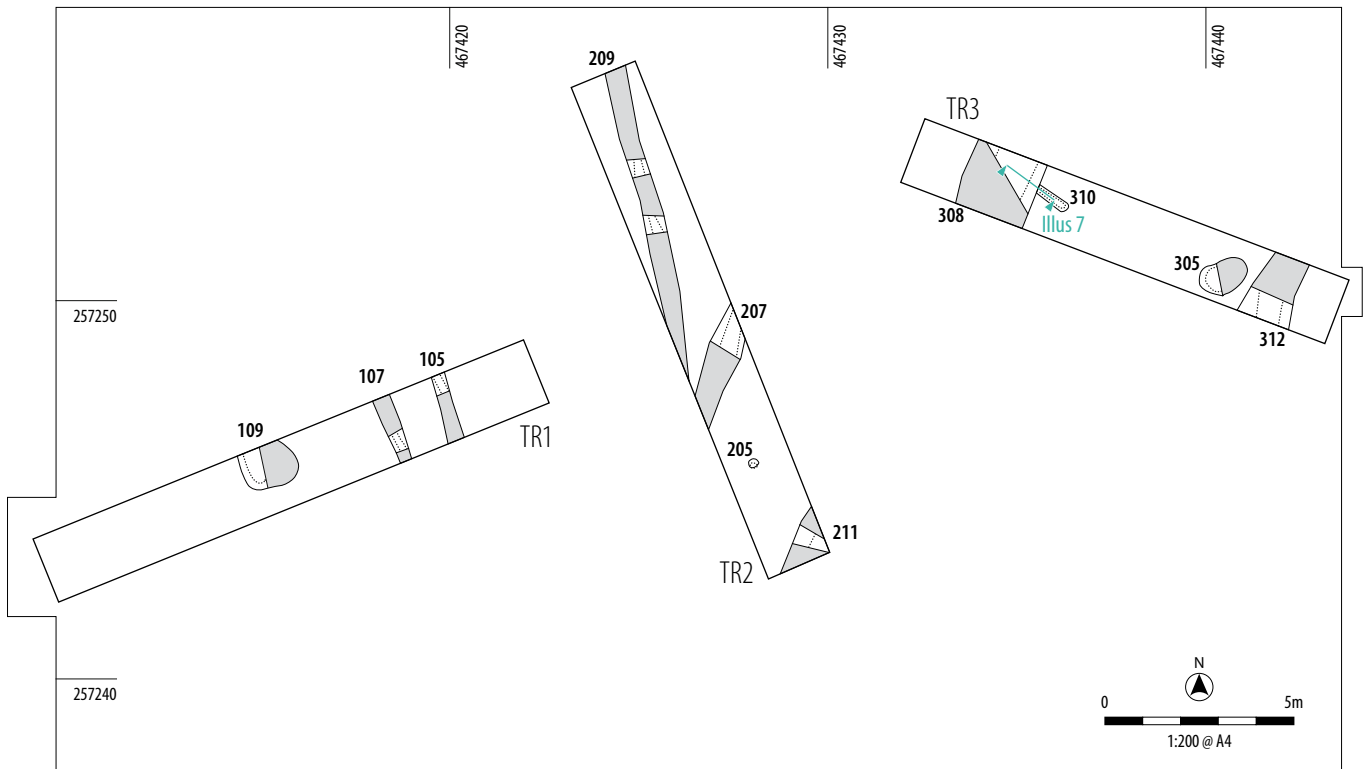
- 2.1.1 The general aim of the trenching evaluation was to obtain useful information concerning the presence, character, date, status and level of preservation of surviving archaeological remains. It also allows the curatorial authority to determine the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource, and to discuss the necessity for the preservation by record and/or the possibilities which may exist (via Masterplanning changes) to preserve certain areas of archaeological remains in-situ if appropriate and thus determine their significance.
- 2.1.2 The archaeological investigations were carried out in order to:
- assess extent, layout, structure and date of features and deposits of archaeological interest;
  - place, where possible, the identified features within their local and regional context;
  - place the findings in the context of the results of earlier work in the surrounding area.
- 2.1.3 The local and regional research contexts are provided by the *The East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework: Resource Assessment and Research Agenda* (Cooper 2006) The following areas of research were considered of particular relevance for this project:
- The origins of the nucleated village (Medieval Period, p.9)
  - The detailed pattern and evolution of rural settlements (Medieval Period, p.10)

### 2.2 METHODOLOGY

- 2.2.1 Trial trenching was carried out between 30th July and 1st August 2014. A total of three trenches were excavated across the DA – two (Trenches 1 and 2) measuring 14m in length by 1.8m in width, and one (Trench 3) measuring 12m by 1.8m.
- 2.2.2 The remit of the archaeological trial trenching programme was outlined by Headland Archaeology in their 'Written Scheme of Investigation' (Headland Archaeology 2014), and agreed with the AO. The trench layout was designed to evaluate the DA using a systematic trenching array, with the trenches spread across the DA and positioned on varying alignments to pick up any anomalies. Trench 1 had to be moved to the east when on site, due to the presence of trees and tree roots.
- 2.2.3 A 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket was used to remove topsoil under direct archaeological control. Excavation continued until clean geological sediments or archaeological deposits were encountered.
- 2.2.4 Further excavation required to satisfy the objectives of the evaluation was continued by hand. A representative sample, sufficient to meet the objectives of the evaluation, of identified features was investigated by hand and all features were recorded. The stratigraphy of each trench was recorded in full.

### 2.3 RECORDING

- 2.3.1 All recording was in accordance with the code of practice of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and in line with the approved WSI (Headland Archaeology 2014). All trenches and contexts were given unique numbers. All recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological standards. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.
- 2.3.2 An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was recorded by digital survey using a differential GPS.
- 2.3.3 A full photographic record comprising colour slide and black and white print photographs was taken, supplemented with digital photography. A metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs.



## ILLUS 2

Trench plan

# 3 RESULTS

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Full trench descriptions, including orientation, length, and depth as well as technical details of individual contexts are presented in Appendix 1. Contexts are numbered by trench number: i.e. Trench 1 (101), Trench 2 (201). Cut features are shown as [101] whilst their fills are expressed as (102), for example.

3.1.2 Undisturbed natural deposits comprised an orange-brown sandy deposit (the Dyrham Formation), affected by root disturbance in places. This was observed between 0.5 and 0.65m beneath the ground-surface (at a higher level towards the western end of the DA).

3.1.3 The topsoil, a loose grey-brown silty deposit with frequent root disturbance, was observed in all trenches across the DA and was between 0.15 and 0.3m thick. This overlay the subsoil – a brown-orange silty-sand, with root disturbance, pebbles, ceramic building material / pieces of brick, post-medieval and modern pottery (dated broadly to the 19th century), and pieces of concrete. This subsoil deposit was between 0.3 and 0.4m in thickness, and dates to the post-medieval / modern period.

3.1.4 Archaeological features were uncovered in all trenches across the DA. These consisted of a series of ditches and smaller linear features, a pit, and a possible post-pit. The remains uncovered may represent an area of occupation,

particularly considering the discovery of a post-pit which indicates the possible existence of a building, and the quantity of domestic pottery recovered. Some of the larger ditches may represent boundary ditches, with the smaller ones potentially being smaller property demarcations, and the pit [305] potentially representing a backyard pit or similar. However it is also possible that this may represent activity on the outskirts of the village – field systems with some associated activity.

3.1.5 The pottery recovered from these features (aside from [109]) is all dated to the medieval period, and more closely to the 12th century. This suggests that activity in this area was part of, or associated with, the medieval settlement of Bugbrooke, and pre-dating the existing standing Church.

3.1.6 It is apparent that slightly different phases of activity are represented by the archaeological remains uncovered – seen in the truncation of gully [310] by ditch [308]. The pottery dating does not add much information to help refine these potential differing phases.

3.1.7 These archaeological features were more concentrated in the eastern part of the DA (towards the stream), with Trench 1 (in the west) containing no archaeological features in the western half of the trench, then a modern pit [109], and two small linears [105] and [107] in the eastern 4m of the trench. This suggests that activity was generally concentrated in the eastern part of the DA. The area to the south of the DA, within Millennium Green, also contains a number of probable earthwork features,



ILLUS 3

View showing the excavation area (the area of long grass), with the Church of St Michael and All Angels behind

which indicate that buried archaeological remains could also be found there.

### 3.2 EARLIER ACTIVITY

3.2.1 Two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered during the evaluation – from contexts (307) and (311). These both occur in contexts which also contained medieval pottery, and so they are thought to be residual. Nonetheless, it is of interest in confirming that there was some 1st century Romano-British activity in the area – supporting the picture gained through other find-spots of Roman pottery in Bugbrooke.

### 3.3 MEDIEVAL ACTIVITY

3.3.1 The archaeological evidence recovered across the DA provides a picture of activity dating to the 12th century. This consists of a series of ditches (broadly orientated northeast to southwest), smaller linear features (orientated north-south), one large pit, and a possible post-pit. These will all be discussed in turn.

#### Ditches

3.3.2 The remains of three large ditches were excavated across the DA, all orientated on a broadly northeast –

southwest alignment. They contained pottery dated to the 12th century and significant quantities of charcoal. They are thought to represent the remains of boundary ditches or similar.

3.3.3 The largest of these – [308] – measured 2.1m in width by 0.57m+ in depth (continuing deeper but prevented from further excavation due to health and safety considerations), and contained two fills, both with pottery dating to the medieval period (12th century). This was significantly wider than any of the other ditches excavated across the DA. This truncated linear [310] (see discussion below). Ditch [211] is presumed to be a continuation of this, measuring 0.6m+ in width (continuing into southern and eastern sections) and 0.6m in depth, although no finds were retrieved from this.

3.3.4 The second largest ditch, [312], measured 1.2m in width by 0.55m in depth. This had regular sides and a flat base and, like the other ditches, contained significant quantities of charcoal and pottery dated to the 12th century. It is believed that this ditch is the same as that identified on the magnetometry survey running northeast to southwest in this area.

3.3.5 The ditch [207] was smaller, measuring 0.55m in width by 0.2m in depth. Nonetheless, it contained a sherd of





**ILLUS 4**  
Trench 3, looking NW, showing unexcavated pit [305] and ditch [312] in the foreground



**ILLUS 5**  
Trench 2, looking N, showing unexcavated ditch [207] (directly behind the scale), post-pit [205] (in front of the scale), and ditch [211] in the foreground



**ILLUS 6**  
Ditch [207], looking SW

pottery dated to between 1100 and 1400AD, and so is thought to belong to the same medieval (and probably 12th century) phase of activity. It also contained a similar silty-clay fill as the other ditches, and was orientated on the same alignment.

3.3.6 It is interesting that all of these larger ditches are aligned on a broadly similar northeast to southwest alignment. They may have formed part of the same layout of features and phase of activity. It is possible that they functioned as boundary ditches, separating different properties or areas of occupation – although the size of some of these (particularly [308]) raises doubts about this. Alternatively, they may have functioned as trackways across the landscape.

with a sherd of the same type of pottery (T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware) being recovered from fill (306) and (309). Nonetheless, it could still be suggested that some of the smaller linear features may be slightly earlier in date than the larger ditches.

3.3.9 The function of these linear features is unclear. Their size could suggest that they were drainage ditches, however their regular alignment suggests otherwise. Instead, they may have functioned as property divisions, separating the land into a series of north-south plots, although the varying distances between them may suggest they belong to different phases of this. Alternatively, they may have functioned as field boundaries.

### Smaller linear features

3.3.7 Four smaller linear features were excavated. Two of these – [105] and [107] – ran north-south across the eastern end of Trench 1, and were both 0.4m in width (although [107] was deeper, 0.18m, than [105], 0.08m). Another – [310] – was also orientated north-south, and was a similar size (0.4m in width by 0.06m in depth), although only ran for 0.45m in length (being truncated by ditch [308] to the north and petering out to the south). The final example – [209] – ran for a distance of c.6m along Trench 2 (on a broadly north-south alignment), and was 0.45m in width by 0.12m in depth. The fact that these were all on the same alignment, and were of a similar size and shape, may suggest that they belonged to the same phase of activity.

3.3.8 Linear [310] was truncated by ditch [308]. This suggests that [310] was earlier in date than the ditch, and therefore belonged to a slightly earlier phase of activity. However both contexts produced examples of medieval pottery,

### Pit [305]

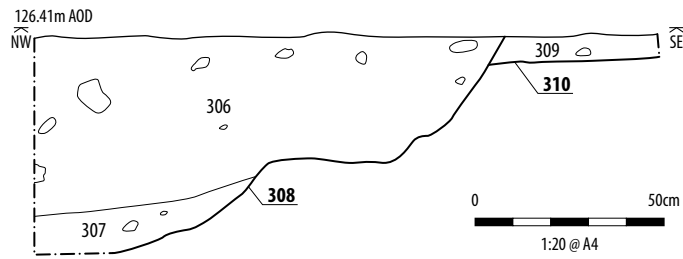
3.3.10 One large sub-oval pit, measuring 1.45m by 0.9m by 0.35m in depth, was excavated towards the southern end of Trench 3. This contained quantities of pottery dated to the 12th century, alongside relatively frequent pieces of charcoal, small pebbles, and flints.

3.3.11 This pit may have functioned as a backyard rubbish pit related to the occupation in this area. Alternatively, it may have had a function in relation to the agricultural activity taking place. No other pits were uncovered. However, it is possible that other examples lie within the DA but outside the excavated trench areas.

### Post-Pit [205]

3.3.12 A single sub-square possible post-pit, measuring 0.3m by 0.23m by 0.02m in depth, was uncovered towards the southern end of Trench 2. This had near-vertical sides and a flat base, and was filled by a friable grey silty-

**ILLUS 7**  
SW facing section of ditch [308] and gully [310]



sand with occasional small flints and pebbles. No finds were recovered from it, however the similarity in fills between this and the other features in the DA, alongside the fact that it was uncovered at a similar level to the other features, implies that it belongs to the same broad period of activity.

- 3.3.13 The discovery of a possible post-pit may imply the existence of a building in this area, although no other post-pits were uncovered – they may lie outside the trench edges or have been truncated by later activity.

### 3.4 LATER ACTIVITY [109]

- 3.4.1 Later activity on the site is represented by the general post-medieval pottery (and brick and concrete) collected from the subsoil deposits (particularly (102)). This reflects the fact that this area consisted of open land during the post-medieval period (next to the church), as is shown on historic maps since the late 19th century.

- 3.4.2 One feature was excavated which has been assigned to this later phase of activity - the sub-oval pit [109]. This had irregular sides and base, and was filled by a grey-brown silty-clay with large flints and stones in. Pieces of concrete were recovered from the fill of this pit, proving that it was a modern intrusion. Aside from this, no other modern features were observed across the DA.

**ILLUS 8**  
Post-pit [205]





## 3.5 FINDS

### 3.5.1 Pottery

PAUL BLINKHORN

3.5.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 46 sherds with a total weight of 539g. The assemblage was mostly early medieval but also included two residual Romano-British sherds and some modern pottery. A catalogue is included as Appendix 2.

Trench	Context	Pottery (RB)	Pottery (medi)	Dating
1	102	–	5	19thC
2	206	–	1	12thC
3	304	–	6	12thC
3	306	–	16	12thC
3	307	1	2	12thC
3	309	–	1	12thC
3	311	1	14	12thC
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>44</b>	

TABLE 1

Quantification of pottery by context, with spot dating

3.5.2 The post-Roman material was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Northamptonshire County Ceramic Type-Series (CTS), as follows:

F100	T1(1) type St Neots Ware
F200	T1 (2) type St Neots Ware
F207	Cotswolds-type Oolitic ware
F330	Shelly Coarseware
F360	Banbury Ware
F413	Manganese Glazed Ware

F415	Creamware
F1000	Misc 19th and 20th century wares

3.5.3 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in **Table 2**.

3.5.4 The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region (eg McCarthy 1979) and shows that all the medieval activity at the site was limited to the 12th century, and thus pre-dates the foundation of the church. The assemblage is in good condition, and appears reliably stratified. All the rimsherds were from jars and bowls, which is typical of sites of the period. Two joining rimsherds from a F200 bowl were present in contexts 306 and 309, indicating that the two deposits are broadly contemporary.

## 3.6 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

DR EMMA TETLOW

3.6.1 Palaeoenvironmental samples were taken from three features – two ditches and one pit. Samples were processed in laboratory conditions using the standard method of flotation outlined by Kenward (et al, 1980). Any plant macrofossils were at magnifications of x10. Where necessary, identifications were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al (2006). The results of the sample processing are provided in Appendix 3 (Flot and Heavy Residue). Suitable material for AMS dating is also identified within each table.

3.6.2 No identifiable seeds or other plant remains were identified in any of the samples discussed. Charcoal fragments were present in all three samples. Only sample from (304) contained material which may be deemed suitable for wood identification or AMS dating. A single fragment of charcoal from (304) is of a size suitable for identification and/or AMS dating. Other material from these samples is restricted to a potsherd, which appears

Tr	Context	RB		F100		F200		F207		F330		F360		F413		F415		F1000	
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
1	102	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	24	2	55	1	5
2	206	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	304	–	–	–	–	2	28	–	–	3	31	1	12	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	306	–	–	–	–	12	163	1	7	3	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	307	1	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	309	–	–	–	–	1	33	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	311	1	11	2	3	5	39	1	26	5	31	1	37	–	–	–	–	–	–
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

TABLE 2

Fabric quantification



to be from the base of a vessel and a fragment of bone which is possibly from a fish.

- 3.6.3 The reconstructive potential of this material is limited; much of the charcoal found in these samples is too small for wood identification. Whilst several fragments of charcoal are suitable for AMS dating, given the probable age (12th century) and the abundance of pottery found in these samples, the application of this technique is mitigated by the existing data. This particular method would also be working at the upper boundary of its accuracy.
- 3.6.4 The processed samples have provided little information on the nature of human activity at the site. No palaeobotanical evidence was found and the diminutive size of much of the burnt wood precludes further identification. One fragment of fishbone was recovered. A single sample <304> contained material suitable for AMS dating, given that dateable potsherds were recovered from these contexts application of this technique is not advised. Therefore no further work on this material is recommended.

### 3.7 ANIMAL BONE REPORT

DR EMMA TETLOW

- 3.7.1 The animal bone assemblage comprised 14 hand-recovered specimens from eight contexts, detailed in Appendix 4.
- 3.7.2 This assessment aims to quantify and characterise the assemblage and identify the potential, if any for further investigation or full analysis. All identification should be considered provisional and firm conclusion can only be reached by further full analysis. To quantify the assemblage all fragments, whether identifiable or indeterminate, were recorded. Comment was also included the state of preservation and any signs of modification of the bone in order to further facilitate determining the potential of this assemblage. Where possible, fragments were identified to species level, where levels of bone fragmentation precluded identification, the bone was recorded as indeterminate.
- 3.7.3 The assemblage comprised 14 fragments, from three contexts, weighing 475g in total. The preservation of this material was good. Overall fragmentation was heavy, yielded two specimens and both ancient and modern breaks were visible. The bone from context (206) and context (311) were restricted to single specimens, the latter consisted of the humerus, possibly of ovi/caprid origin (sheep/goat). The distal epiphysis is unfused and missing from the bone which suggests a juvenile individual. The bone recovered from (206) was indeterminate but had clearly been subject to substantial butchering. The material from context 306 was well preserved but highly fragmented, only one specimen

was identifiable to species level and this is thought to be the ulna of a cow. Further, more intensive examination of the bone may reveal further fine cut marks not identified by this assessment.

- 3.7.4 The presence of sheep/goat and cattle in this assemblages and the evidence of butchery clearly suggest that the provenance of this assemblage is likely to have been domestic waste. Either discrete episodes of dumping in the ditches, either directly or after accumulation in a midden. This theory is further supported by quantities of charcoal and potsherds.

### 3.8 DESCRIPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HERITAGE ASSETS

- 3.8.1 The local and regional research contexts for the Medieval period are provided by The East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework: Resource Assessment and Research Agenda (Cooper 2006).
- 3.8.2 In Section 2.1 of this document we identified research aims relating to the Medieval period. Having completed the fieldwork we have identified the following heritage assets.

Description of HA	Trench	Feature no(s)	Significance of HA (Low, Medium, High) and of local, regional, national, international interest
HA1 is evidence for medieval occupation	1, 2, 3	105, 107, 205, 207, 209, 305, 308, 310, 312	Medium archaeological significance of local and regional interest
HA2 is evidence for later (post-medieval to modern) activity	1	109	No archaeological significance

TABLE 3

Heritage Assets recorded during intrusive evaluation

- 3.8.3 HA1 consists of the evidence for medieval activity, potentially occupation or activity on the outskirts of occupation. This is considered to have medium significance, both in a local and regional sense, as little evidence (aside from the features recently excavated at Ace Lane) has been found for the location of medieval occupation in Bugbrooke. It is therefore of potential interest in relation to the early development of this village, and the development and changing locations of villages over time. HA2 consists of the post-medieval to modern activity on the site, and is considered to have no archaeological significance.





## 4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.8.1 The archaeological trial-trenching evaluation uncovered evidence for activity dating to the medieval period (12th century). This consisted of a series of ditches, one large pit, and a possible post-pit, alongside significant quantities of domestic pottery.
- 4.8.2 It is believed that this represents activity from different phases, reflected in the truncation of [310] by [308]. It may reflect occupation (i.e. the location of the early village), or agricultural activity on the outskirts of settlement.
- 4.8.3 The evidence recovered from this evaluation adds to the previous work undertaken in this area – particularly the earthwork survey which identified numerous earthwork features including a potential enclosure and holloway; and the magnetometry survey which identified a northeast to southwest orientated ditch in the eastern part of the DA and further buried archaeological features to the south of the DA. Visual inspection of Millennium Green during the trial-trenching evaluation also confirmed the likelihood that further buried archaeological remains, in the form of lowlying earthworks, presumably related to medieval activity are present in this area.
- 4.8.4 The results from this evaluation are of medium local and regional interest, contributing to knowledge about the early history of Bugbrooke village. It is of particular interest as may represent the earlier location of the medieval village.

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## 6 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1 SITE REGISTERS

#### Trench register

Trench	Orientation	Description	Length (m)	Depth of overburden (m)	Max depth (m)
1	E-W	Topsoil (101) overlying subsoil (102) over natural (103). Two gullies [105] and [107] at the eastern end of the trench, and one modern pit towards the centre of the trench [109].	14	0.5	0.6
2	N-S	Topsoil (201) overlying subsoil (202) over natural (203). Three ditches [207], [209], and [211] (on various alignments and various shapes and sizes); and one post-pit [205].	14	0.65	0.7
3	NE-SW	Topsoil (301) overlying subsoil (302) over natural (303). Two large ditches [308] and [312]; one pit [305]; and one small gully [310].	12	0.55	0.6

#### Context register

Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions	Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
101	1	Topsoil: loose dark brown-grey silty deposit, with root disturbance.	0–0.2m	204	2	Fill of post-pit [205]. Grey friable silty-clay with occasional small flints and pebbles.	0.3m (NE-SW) 0.23m (NW-SE) 0.02m (depth)
102	1	Subsoil: compact mid brown-orange silty-sand, with concrete, brick, and post-medieval pottery.	0.2–0.5m	205	2	Cut of post-pit. Sub-square with regular near-vertical sides and flat base.	0.3m (NE-SW) 0.23m (NW-SE) 0.02m (depth)
103	1	Natural: mid orange-brown sandy deposit, with some root disturbance.	0.5m+	206	2	Fill of ditch [207]. Mid grey friable silty-clay with occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks.	2.5m (NE-SW) 0.55m (NW-SE) 0.2m (depth)
104	1	Fill of linear [105]. Mid-light grey friable silty-clay, with occasional small pebbles and charcoal flecks.	1.8m+ (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.08m (depth)	207	2	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Regular gently sloping sides and flat base.	2.5m (NE-SW) 0.55m (NW-SE) 0.2m (depth)
105	1	Cut of north-south orientated linear. Regular gradually sloping sides and flat base.	1.8m+ (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.08m (depth)	208	2	Fill of ditch [209]. Light grey-brown friable silty-clay, with large pebbles and flints, and occasional charcoal flecks.	6m (NW-SE) 0.45m (NE-SW) 0.12m (depth)
106	1	Fill of linear [106]. Mid grey friable silty-clay, with occasional ceramic building material flecks, charcoal flecks, and small stones.	1.8m+ (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.18m (depth)	209	2	Cut of NW-SE orientated ditch. Regular gently sloping sides with a flat base.	6m (NW-SE) 0.45m (NE-SW) 0.12m (depth)
107	1	Cut of north-south orientated linear. Regular sides and flat base.	1.8m+ (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.18m (depth)	210	2	Fill of ditch [211]. Mid grey-brown friable silty-clay, with charcoal flecks.	1.2m+ (NE-SW) 0.6m (NW-SE) 0.6m (depth)
108	1	Fill of pit [109]. Mid grey-brown silty-clay with large flints and pebbles.	1.2m (E-W) 1m (N-S) 0.2m (depth)	211	2	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Regular steep sides.	1.2m+ (NE-SW) 0.6m (NW-SE) 0.6m (depth)
109	1	Cut of broadly-oval pit. Irregular sides and base.	1.2m (E-W) 1m (N-S) 0.2m (depth)	301	3	Topsoil: grey-brown silty deposit, with root disturbance.	0–0.15m
201	2	Topsoil: loose dark brown-grey silty-sand.	0–0.25m	302	3	Subsoil: mid brown-orange silty-sand, with root disturbance, pebbles, and ceramic building material.	0.15–0.55m
202	2	Subsoil: brown-orange sandy deposit, with concrete and brick.	0.25–0.65m	303	3	Natural: orange-brown sandy deposit.	0.55m+
203	2	Natural: orange-brown sandy deposit.	0.65m+				



Context	Trench	Description	Dimensions
304	3	Fill of pit [305]. Mid grey-brown friable silty-clay with charcoal, small pebbles, and flints.	1.45m (NW-SE) 0.9m (NE-SW) 0.35m (depth)
305	3	Cut of sub-oval pit. Regular gently sloping sides and irregular base.	1.45m (NW-SE) 0.9m (NE-SW) 0.35m (depth)
306	3	Upper fill of ditch [308]. Mid grey-brown friable silty-clay with charcoal inclusions.	1.8m+ (E-W) 2.1m (N-S) 0.47m (depth)
307	3	Lower fill of ditch [308]. Mid grey-brown friable silty-clay with charcoal flecks and occasional small stones.	1.8m+ (E-W) 2.1m (N-S) 0.1m+ (depth)
308	3	Cut of east-west orientated ditch. Regular steep sides, concave base (not fully revealed).	1.8m+ (E-W) 2.1m 0.57m+ (depth)
309	3	Fill of gully [310]. Mid grey-brown friable silty-clay with charcoal and small stones.	0.45m (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.06m (depth)
310	3	Cut of shallow gully. Gradually sloping sides with concave base. Cut by [308].	0.45m (N-S) 0.4m (E-W) 0.06m (depth)
311	3	Fill of ditch [311]. Mid brown-grey friable silty-sand with pebbles, flints, and charcoal.	1.8m+ (NE-SW) 1.2m (NW-SE) 0.55m (depth)
312	3	Cut of NE-SW orientated ditch. Regular sides with flat base.	1.8m+ (NE-SW) 1.2m (NW-SE) 0.55m (depth)

## Photographic register

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Direction facing	Description
001	01/36	02/36	0793	–	ID shot
002	–	–	0794	N	Excavation area
003	–	–	0795	N	Excavation area
004	–	–	0796	NW	Excavation area
005	–	–	0797	NW	Excavation area
006	01/35	02/35	0798	NW	Trench 3 general shot
007	–	–	0799	SE	Trench 3 general shot
008	01/34	02/34	0800	N	Trench 2 general shot
009	–	–	0801	S	Trench 2 general shot
010	01/33	02/33	0802	W	Trench 1 general shot
011	–	–	0803	E	Trench 1 general shot
012	01/32	02/32	0804	S	Linear [105]
013	–	–	0805	N	Linear [107]

Photo	Colour	B&W	Digital	Direction facing	Description
014	01/31	02/31	0806	N	Linear [107]
015	01/30	02/30	0807	NE	Post-pit [205]
016	–	–	0808	NE	Post-pit [205]
017	01/29	02/29	0809	SW	Ditch [207]
018	–	–	0810	SW	Ditch [207]
019	–	–	0811	N	Post-pit [205]
020	–	–	0812	N	Post-pit [205]
021	01/28	02/28	0813	SE	Pit [305]
022	01/27	02/27	0814	E	Ditch [308] and gully [310]
023	01/26	02/26	0815	W	Ditch [308] and gully [310]
024	–	–	0816	S	Ditch [308] and gully [310]
025	–	–	0817	SE	Ditch [312]
026	–	–	0818	SW	Ditch [312]
027	01/25	02/25	0819	NE	Ditch [209]
028	–	–	0820	W	Ditch [211]
029	–	–	0821	W	Ditch [211]
030	–	–	0822	E	Pit [109]
031	–	–	0823	N	Trench 1 backfilled
032	–	–	0824	S	Trench 3 backfilled

## Drawing register

Drawing	Plan	Section	Description
001	1:10	S	West-facing section through ditch [308] and gully [310]

## Sample register

Sample	Context	Description
001	206	Bulk sample (40litres) of ditch fill
002	304	Bulk sample (40litres) of pit fill
003	306	Bulk sample (40litres) of ditch fill

## APPENDIX 2 FINDS CATALOGUE

Context	Qty	Weight (g)	Material	Fabric code	Description	Spot Date	Period
102	1	5	Pottery	F1000	Miscellaneous	19th-20th C	Modern
102	2	24	Pottery	F413	Manganese Glazed Ware	AD1680-1750	Post-medieval
102	2	55	Pottery	F415	Creamware	AD 1740-1820	Modern
206	1	2	Pottery	F330	Shelly Coarseware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
304	2	28	Pottery	F200	T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware	AD1000-1200	Medieval
304	3	31	Pottery	F330	Shelly Coarseware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
304	1	12	Pottery	F360	Banbury Ware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
306	12	163	Pottery	F200	T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware	AD1000-1200	Medieval
306	1	7	Pottery	F207	Cotswolds-type oolitic ware	AD975-1350	Medieval
306	3	13	Pottery	F330	Shelly Coarseware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
307	1	13	Pottery	F330	Shelly Coarseware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
307	1	6	Pottery	RB	—	—	Romano-British
309	1	33	Pottery	F200	T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware	AD1000-1200	Medieval
311	2	3	Pottery	F100	T1 (1) type St. Neots Ware	AD850-1100	Medieval
311	5	39	Pottery	F200	T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware	AD1000-1200	Medieval
311	1	26	Pottery	F207	Cotswolds-type oolitic ware	AD975-1350	Medieval
311	5	31	Pottery	F330	Shelly Coarseware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
311	1	37	Pottery	F360	Banbury Ware	AD1100-1400	Medieval
311	1	11	Pottery	RB	—	—	Romano-British



## APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL TABLES

### Flotation results

Context	Sample	Vol (ml)	Charcoal		Material available For AMS	Comments
			Qty	Max size (cm)		
206	1	5	++	>.1	–	–
304	2	50	++	>.5	Yes	Charcoal includes roundwood
306	3	5	+	>.1	–	–

### Residue results

Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Pottery	Charcoal		Animal bone	Material available For AMS	Comments
				Qty	Max size (cm)			
206	1	8	–	+	>1	–	–	–
304	2	1.5	+	++++	1.5	+	Yes	Poss. Fishbone
306	3	1.5	–	++	1->1	–	–	–

Key: + = rare, ++ = occasional, +++ = common and ++++ = abundant

NB charcoal over 1cm is suitable for identification and AMS dating

## APPENDIX 4 ANIMAL BONE

Context	Trench	Weight (g)	Total number of fragments	Bos spp. Cattle	Ovi/caprid Sheep/goat	Indet
206	2	200	1	–	1	–
306	3	200	11	1	–	10
311	3	75	1	–	–	1
<b>Total</b>	–	<b>475</b>	<b>14</b>	–	–	–





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