# LAND AT BUTCHERS GARDEN, NORTHALL WALGRAVE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

# Albion archaeology





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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

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# **Contents**

<b>T</b> • .	0.77. 1.1	
List (	of Tables	2
Non-	Technical Summary	
1. IN	TRODUCTION	7
1.1	Planning Background	5
1.2	Site Location and Description	7
1.3	Archaeological Background	8
1.4	Historical Maps	8
2. MI	ETHOD STATEMENTS	10
2.1	Methodology	10
2.2	Aims and Objectives	11
2.3	Research Aims and Objectives	11
3. RE	ESULTS	12
3.1	Introduction	12
3.2	Overburden and Geological Strata	12
3.3	Archaeological Remains	12
3.4	Summary	17
4. BI	BLIOGRAPHY	19
5. AF	PPENDIX 1: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS	20
6. AF	PPENDIX 2 - FINDS SUMMARY	25
6.1	Introduction	25
6.2	Pottery	25
6.3	Animal Bone	20
6.4	Other Finds	26



#### List of Tables

Table 1: Summary of archaeological features by Trench

Table 2: Finds summary by Trench and Feature

Table 3: Pottery Type Series

# List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location map

Figure 2: Trenching strategy, with details of historical maps

Figure 3: All-features plan and sections

Figure 4: Trench 1 – Selected images 1 and 2

Figure 5: Trench 1 – Selected images 3 and 4

Figure 6: Trench 1 – Selected images 5 and 6

Figure 7: Trench 2 – Selected images 7 and 8

Figure 8: Micrographs of selection of charred grain recovered from the fill of Saxo-Norman pit [111]

The figures are bound at the back of the document.



#### Preface

Every effort has been made in the preparation and submission of this document and all statements are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.

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1.0	9th November 2012	n/a

# Key Terms

Throughout this document, the following terms or abbreviations are used:

AAA Assistant Archaeological Advisor

Client Dr C Garret

HER NCC Historic Environment Record

IfA Institute for Archaeologists
LPA Local Planning Authority

NCC Northamptonshire County Council

Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork, 2nd ed, 2001

Albion Archaeology



#### Non-Technical Summary

The client has commissioned Albion Archaeology to undertake a programme of archaeological works associated with a condition attached to planning consent DA/2012/0003 for residential development on land at Butchers Garden. The development area is located towards the north end of Northall, a lane at the northern margin of Walgrave. This is a short distance from the North Hall Manor moated site — a scheduled monument of national significance, which backs on to the opposite site of Northall.

The roughly rectangular land parcel is centred on grid ref 480252 272232, extending up to 42m by 34m. It comprises areas of mown grassland, mainly in the central and western parts, with areas of scrub / woodland in the east and at the northern margins.

The site is within the bounds of the medieval and post-medieval settlement. Historical maps indicate that it was the site of a post-medieval farmstead, which had been demolished by 1900.

The two trenches were located to investigate the proposed revised house plan. Trench 1 was L-shaped, situated towards the front of the plot. Below a cultivation soil, a complex sequence of features was revealed, with evidence of activity ranging from the Saxo-Norman to early medieval and post-medieval to modern periods. The features included pits, ditches, smaller gullies, postholes, a possible structural beamslot, as well as ironstone wall footings and drains — the latter stone structures probably relating to the post-medieval farmstead. All of these later features had been subject to at least an element of robbing to recover building stone. The evidence indicates the presence of both timber and more substantial stone buildings.

In contrast, Trench 2 situated to the rear of the plot revealed modern surfaces, which based on their insubstantial construction, formed a path rather than a track, with limited evidence for earlier features. The surfaces contained a variety of modern finds, including glass, which showed crushing damage rather than fracture, probably due to the material being trampled into the surface. This activity was probably associated with the farmstead.

The evaluation has revealed at least two phases of activity in the Saxo-Norman to early medieval and post-medieval to modern periods. This site has potential to add to the understanding of the medieval settlement pattern in the vicinity of the moat, as well as the later utilisation of the site. Although the site is at the margin of the current settlement, earthwork evidence in particular suggests that the settlement expanded and contracted, particularly in the medieval period. It is not clear from the evaluation if the site was abandoned in the later medieval period.



# 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Planning Background

A condition has been attached to planning consent DA/2012/0003 for residential development on land at Butchers Garden, Northall, Walgrave.

Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor (AAA) prepared two briefs, one for the programme of archaeological investigation required to address the condition (2012a). The documents outlined the three-stage approach to be employed:

- Stage I: Archaeological field evaluation;
- Stage II: Appraisal of the results of the evaluation and their significance with regard to the proposed development. This may lead to the next stage;
- Stage III: Implementation of an agreed programme of archaeological investigation and recording. If required, this stage of work will be secured by a separate brief.

The brief for field evaluation (2012b) required approximately 25 linear metres of trial trenching within the area of the proposed development. The trenching proposal approved by the AAA comprised two trenches with a combined length of 27m. These were to identify and assess the significance of any surviving archaeological deposits, features and structures, so that sufficient information was available to determine the need for and development of design solutions and / or mitigation schemes.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned to carry out the trial trenching, the approach to which was specified in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Albion Archaeology 2012).

# 1.2 Site Location and Description

Situated on the eastern side of a small, north-south flowing tributary stream of the River Nene, the development area (DA) occupies gently sloping ground, which falls from c. 105m OD in the east to c. 101m OD adjacent to the northern end of Northall. The roughly rectangular land parcel is centred on grid ref SP (4)80252 (2)72232.

The DA extends up to 42m by 34m and contains areas of mown grass and scrub / woodland. Large trees occupy the eastern and northern parts of the site, with a linear screen of trees adjacent to the footpath marking the northern continuation of Northall. A small garage and traces of a path are situated in the western part of the site. The southern margin of the site is a grassed track which slopes down to the lane, forming a cutting in the west as the general ground level is significantly higher than Northall. A mixture of brick and stone walls are still standing towards the eastern margin of the site. A rock-cut well is also present, in an overgrown area towards the NE boundary. The upper c. 1m of the well is lined with ironstone, below which the ironstone solid geology is exposed.



The site is at the intersection of a series of geological deposits, with a tongue of Northampton Sand comprising ironstone and sandy limestones extending along the valley to the north. This overlies Upper Lias mudstone, whilst to the west drift deposits of Boulder Clay are present (British Geological Survey, Sheet 185 Northampton Solid and Drift, 1:50,000).

# 1.3 Archaeological Background

The DA contains no sites recorded by the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (NHER). The earliest evidence for human activity in the vicinity of the DA recorded by the NHER is late Iron Age / Roman activity, focused on the higher ground between the valleys.

The distribution of Saxon artefact findspots suggests that in this period activity was focused on the higher ground in the vicinity of St Peter's church, situated to the south-east of the DA.

In the medieval period, documentary evidence and, particularly, earthworks indicate that the settlement went through periods of expansion and contraction. The moated site of North Hall Manor (formerly know as Walgrave Moated Site — a scheduled monument of national significance (number 13626) — is located a short distance to the NW of the DA on the other site of the valley. The moated site was the headquarters of the 13th- and 14th-century manor before it moved to a new location in the post-medieval period. The earthworks associated with the moat seem to be confined to the western side of the stream — not extending to the eastern side of the valley in the vicinity of the DA. The surviving earthworks suggest that only drainage ditches extend to the west towards the present stream.

In the post-medieval period the western part of the DA was occupied by a farmstead. It is not known when this building originated, but historical maps give an indication of the form and lifespan of the building in the post-medieval to modern period (see section 1.4 below).

# 1.4 Historical Maps

The post-medieval Estate Map of 1778 (Figure 2: detail 1), produced after enclosure of the former open fields, shows the DA occupied by a farmstead comprising a large L-shaped building located in the western part of the plot, with two elongated ancillary buildings occupying its northern margin. This is the only building on the lane corresponding to Northall. A perpendicular lane defines the southern boundary of the plot.

The first edition OS map of 1886 indicates that the southern lane had been incorporated into the plot, apparently forming the access to the main house, with a northern continuation of the access extending up to and around the E-W wing (Figure 2: detail 2). A single ancillary building was located at the northern margin of the DA, directly north of the northern wing of the main building. This appears to be of contrasting form to those depicted on the previous map. A cluster of trees are located immediately east of the building adjacent to the northern plot boundary.



The farmstead had been demolished by the time of the second edition OS map of 1900.



# 2. METHOD STATEMENTS

## 2.1 Methodology

The investigation was undertaken between 17th and 23rd October 2012, in a period of variable weather, which included periods of heavy and persistent rain.

The revised form of the house is currently being finalised for submission to the local planning authority. The revised plan was utilised for the trenching strategy (Figure 2). Trench 1 had an L-shaped form, to investigate the front of the building including proposed sunken garage and associated access. Trench 2 was located further to the east, giving a total of 27 linear metres of trench. The trenches were positioned to avoid standing trees and associated root disturbance, as well as to avoid compromising the lines of the proposed external walls of the new dwelling.

The trenches were opened using a mechanical excavator fitted with a flatedged bucket, operated by an experienced driver under close archaeological supervision. All excavation and recording was carried out by experienced Albion staff in accordance with standard guidelines.

Throughout the project the standards set out in the following documents were adhered to:

- Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records* (2001);
- Archaeological Archive Forum *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (2007);
- If A's Code of Conduct (2010);
- If A's Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (2008);
- English Heritage's Management of Archaeological Projects (1991);
- English Heritage Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (2006)
- English Heritage' Environmental Archaeology (second edition 2011).

The deposits and any potential remains were cleaned, excavated by hand and recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. Given the complexity of the deposits, the location of excavation sections was determined in consultation with the AAA on her first visit to the site on the afternoon of 17th October. The objective was to investigate a variety of features without compromising the integrity of the remains, if further investigation was subsequently required. All deposits were recorded using unique recording number sequences commencing at 100 for Trench 1 and 200 for Trench 2. The AAA visited the site again on 23rd October to inspect the trenches prior to backfilling.

The project archive will be deposited in Northamptonshire, once an approved repository is available.



# 2.2 Aims and Objectives

The general aims of the trial trenching programme were:

- To establish the date, nature and extent of past activity within the DA;
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits encountered;
- To provide sufficient information to allow assessment of the impact of development on the significance of surviving archaeological remains;
- To inform formulation of a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To produce a site archive for future deposition with an appropriate museum, and to provide information for accession to the Northamptonshire HER.

As the footprint of the new building appeared to correspond to the location of the earlier farmstead, the trial trenching had potential to provide information on:

- The character and origins of the farmstead depicted on the 1778 Estate Map;
- The location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the DA;
- The integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that might be present within the DA.

# 2.3 Research Aims and Objectives

The research context for Northamptonshire is provided within *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight *et al* 2012).



# 3. RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

The results of the evaluation are summarised below, integrating the finds and ecofact data. However, dating of the features is problematic as rooting, particularly from the trees and saplings had affected larges parts of the DA, possibly allowing finds from the topsoil to be incorporated into earlier deposits. More detailed information on the deposits revealed in the trenches and finds can be found in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

Contexts in brackets refer to deposits recorded on site; with cut features in square brackets for example pit [111], with deposits show in curved brackets such as associated pit fills (112) or layers such as undisturbed geological strata (102) in Trench 1.

# 3.2 Overburden and Geological Strata

The dark brown topsoil was homogenous in character across the DA, varying from 0.25–0.3m thick. The thickness would suggest a cultivation soil associated with a garden. Below this in the NW part of Trench 1, and in Trench 2, mid grey brown subsoil, 0.06–0.1m thick, was revealed. In the rest of Trench 1 the topsoil was removed to reveal archaeological deposits and patches of the underlying geological strata.

The geological deposits comprised mid brown-orange silty ironstone gravel in the east of the site, becoming less stony and more yellow-brown to the east. Root disturbance extended across the area, being particularly heavy in Trench 2 and the eastern part of Trench 1.

#### 3.3 Archaeological Remains

There was a marked contrast between the two trenches, probably due to their locations relative to the street frontage (see Table 1 and Figure 3); these will be discussed separately. Figure 3 shows an all-features plan of the two trenches, colour-coded for clarity, with associated sections, whilst Figures 4–8 contain selected images.

Trench	Ditch/ gulley	Pit	Posthole	Foundation trench / wall	Robber trench	Drain	Other	Total
1	4/4	7	2	2	4	2	Beamslot 1 Layer 1	27
2	1/-	2	-	-	-	-	External surface 4 Layer 1	8
TOTAL	5/4	9	2	2	4	2	7	35

Table 1: Summary of archaeological features by Trench

#### 3.3.1 Trench 1

A dense concentration of activity was revealed comprising 27 features (Table 1 and Figure 4: image 1), with a variety of feature types being recorded. As there is a marked contrast in features either side of the masonry wall footing



(146), the results will be discussed by location and were possible, stratigraphic sequence from earliest to latest.

#### 3.3.1.1 Features west of the wall footing

#### Layer

Located immediately west of the masonry wall, layer (155) was a light yellow-brown deposit, aligned roughly NNW-SSE (Figure 3 – yellow). The limits appear to be the result of later truncation, though the deposit did not continue in the area to the east of the wall. Although post-medieval pottery was recovered from the surface of the deposit, it is uncertain if this provides accurate dating of the feature.

#### **Pits**

Four possible pits were identified west of the wall (Figure 3 – brown features). The full extent of none of these features was revealed, hindering interpretation. It is not clear if they were contemporary, as their stratigraphic relationships could not be linked, although two were truncated by later activity.

Forms ranged from early oval pit [111] which was intermediate between a gulley and a ditch, possibly defining the same boundary (Figure 3: section 1 and Figure 4: image 2). The pit was 0.7m wide and 0.22m deep, filled with dark grey-black sandy silt which contained a small quantity of finds (Table 2), including Saxon-Norman pottery. Sample <1> from this deposit contained a large assemblage of charred cereal grain, weed seeds and other charred material (Figure 8: micrographs 1 and 2).

Pits [117] and [151] were larger with more angular forms, 1–1.6m long by at least 1m wide, whilst the form of [135] in the NW corner of the trench is uncertain. A section through pit [117] revealed a concave northern edge up to 0.17m deep (Figure 3: section 2). The fill contained 48g of early medieval pottery. Post-medieval finds including clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the surface of the fill of [151], though it is not clear if this provides reliable dating for the feature, as it would appear to be truncated by a stratigraphically early feature — gulley [149].

# Early gullies

Three gullies were identified in this area (dark green features on Figure 3). In the west gulley [109] aligned NNE-SSW was masked by later activity on a similar alignment (Figure 3: section 1 and Figure 4: image 1). It was 0.5m wide with a concave profile, 0.21m deep, filled with mid yellow-brown clay sandy fill which contained no finds. Further east, the very truncated remains of a perpendicular gulley [115] were revealed. This was insubstantial, 0.27m wide, with a very shallow concave profile (Figure 3: section 2). Further east gulley [149] was up to 0.4m wide, with a contrasting NW-SE alignment (Figure 3). This gulley also appeared to truncate a large early pit, whilst being truncated by a larger ditch. The gullies had similar brown clay silt fills, with no finds being recovered.



#### **Ditches**

At c. 1.2m across these features were considerably wider than the gullies. The corners of three ditches were identified. The stratigraphically earliest example [153]/[156], which was bisected by later activity, extended at least 3m roughly E-W before turning to the north (Figure 3: light green features). It was mostly obscured by later features, though the fill was similar to other ditch fills in the vicinity. Post-medieval finds, comprising pottery and clay tobacco pipe, were recovered from the surface of the unexcavated fill of the southern element of the feature (157). Due to later disturbance in the vicinity, it is not clear if this provides reliable dating of the feature.

Further west, the corners of two opposed angular ditches [103] and [113] were identified in the shorter arm of the trench; they had slightly contrasting alignments (Figure 3 – light green features). They were separated by a gap of at least 0.5m. Sections were excavated through both ditches (Figure 3: sections 1 and 3, Figure 5: image 3). It is possible that gulley [109] was an earlier form of this boundary, being redefined by [113] (Figure 3: sections 1). Whilst only the base of [113] was identified, ditch [103] to the south had a more substantial concave profile, up to 0.23m deep, with an asymmetrical lower lighter grey-brown clay fill derived from the interior of the defined area (Figure 3: section 3). The profile of [103] indicates that it was not a bedding trench for a garden.

Animal bone was recovered from the fill of northern ditch [113]; this may be associated with the articulated spine of medium-sized animal (165), identified immediately to the south, within the unexcavated continuation of the fill. The skeleton was left *in situ*. No other datable finds were recovered from the fill of this feature. Both fills of the southern ditch [103] contained small quantities of animal bone and Saxo-Norman pottery.

#### **Beamslot**

Aligned roughly N-S, the southern end of a narrow linear feature [161] (orange feature on Figure 3) was tentatively identified as a beamslot, based on the profile and associated stones, which may be packing for the timber beam. It was at least 1m long with a concave profile, 0.35m wide and 0.1m deep. The brown-grey sandy silt fill contained packing stones and early medieval pottery. No associated structural features were identified in the vicinity.

# Stone-lined drain

Aligned roughly E-W, drain [137] extended across this part of the trench (Figure 3 - blue feature and Figure 4: image 1). Ironstone blocks (138) had been used to line both edges of the cut (Figure 4: image 2), to define a central drainage channel 0.3m wide (6 inches). This was capped by a series of large slabby ironstone capstones (139) which extended across the width of the cut. Above this was a clay capping (140) and then backfill of the remainder of the construction trench (141). The drain had subsequently filled up to the level of the capstone with a dark grey-brown silt (142); only the upper part of this deposit in the west was excavated, during cleaning of the trench. Postmedieval finds were recovered from the backfill of the construction cut (141), including pottery and clay tobacco pipe.



Later robbing trench [158] had removed the capstones in the western 2.5m of the drain. This trench was visible in the west-facing baulk section of the trench, being visible against the subsoil; though the fill was identical to the topsoil.

#### Drain

Aligned roughly N-S, drain [143] was located at the east end of roughly perpendicular stone-lined drain [137] (Figure 3 – blue feature). The unexcavated feature was *c*. 0.3m wide, being considerably less substantial than [137]. It had a converging alignment with the masonry wall (146) immediately to the east.

#### **Ironstone** wall footing

Aligned roughly N-S, the ironstone wall footing (146) was 0.6m wide comprising ironstone blocks up to 50cm long by 20cm wide, defining the wall faces with a central rubble core (Figure 3 – grey feature and Figure 5: image 4). There is evidence to suggest that a lower course, where present, defined a stepped footing within the 0.7m wide construction cut [145]. The upper part of the wall footing and wall had subsequently been robbed [160].

#### 3.3.1.2 Features east of the wall footing

The features were concentrated in the area towards the wall (Figure 3). This area was heavily disturbed by tree and sapling roots.

#### **Pits**

Three pits were identified [106], [124] and [131] (brown features on Figure 3). The stratigraphic evidence suggests that they were the earliest features, with a small quantity of early medieval pottery (29g) being recovered from the lower fill of the northern pit [106]. This was at least 1m long by c. 0.7m wide with steep sides and a flat base (Figure 3: section 4 and Figure 6: image 5), though heavily disturbed by later activity.

The other two pits [124] and [131] were intercutting and were heavily truncated by later activity, with only the northern edges surviving (Figure 3: sections 4 and 5 and Figure 6: image 5). The pits were at least 1m long, with shallow concave northern edges up to 0.19m deep. The fill of pit [124] was unusual, consisting of firm clay. No finds were recovered from these features.

#### **Postholes**

Truncating the pits were two postholes [129] and [133] (red features on Figure 3). Only the northern example was fully revealed, having a roughly rectangular form, 0.45m long by 0.4m wide and 0.24m deep, with steep sides and a shallow concave base (Figure 3: section 6). The other example would appear to be longer, though truncated by later activity to the south. It is not clear if they were associated with the wall footing immediately to the west, although the close proximity may suggest that they were not.



#### Gulley

A single gulley [119] aligned NW-SW was roughly parallel to gulley [149] *c*. 3.7m to the west, beyond the wall (Figure 3: dark green features). In section, the feature had a concave profile 0.25m wide and 0.17m deep (Figure 3: section 4). A small fragment of modern brick recovered from the fill is considered to be intrusive as the gulley is truncated by deposits apparently associated with the ironstone wall footings.

#### **Ironstone** wall footing

Located at the southern edge of the trench, traces of a probable wall (128) were defined by at least four horizontal courses of ironstone slabs (Figure 3 - grey feature and Figure 6: images 5 and 6). The wall is intermittent but these remains together with associated robber trench [163] indicate a roughly E-W alignment. Whilst only a small part of the feature was exposed, continuing south of the trench, the horizontal coursing of slabs and their alignment parallel with the construction trench suggests the face of a rubble core wall rather than the lining of another drain.

#### **Robber trenches**

Two parallel trenches [121] and [163] were identified to the east of the main ironstone footing (146) (grey hatched area on Figure 3). Aligned roughly E-W trench [121] is interpreted as a robber trench, on the basis of form and fill. To the south trench [163] is more clearly a robber trench with fragments of the associated wall footing surviving (see (128) above).

#### 3.3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was situated in the eastern part of the DA; a total of eight features were revealed (Table 1 and Figure 7: image 7). This area had been heavily disturbed by rooting associated with a series of well-established fruit trees. The canopies of these trees had required the trench to be repositioned slightly. Due to the insubstantial nature of the deposits and the problems with surface water, it was agreed with the AAA to limit investigation of these deposits, to avoid possible damage. However, the investigation was able to determine the general sequence.

#### Layer

Located in the northern part of the trench, the mid grey-brown deposit (207) extended at least 2.3m by 1.5m to the east of the path (Figure 3 - yellow feature). No finds were recovered from the surface of the deposit.

#### **Pits**

Pits [210] (in the north) and pit [212] (in the south) showed considerable contrast in size, although both would appear to predate the external surface (Figure 3 - brown features). At more than 2.3m long, pit [210] was substantial compared to the 0.48m diameter of pit [212]. Small quantities of pottery and clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the surface of [210], indicating a post-medieval date (Table 2).



#### **External surface**

Aligned roughly N-S, a series of layers (203), (204), (205) and (206) defined a path (Figure 3 - grey mottle and Figure 7: images 7 and 8). This was composed mainly of small stones / ironstone fragments, though with an area of bricks (Figure 3 - brick orange). Later rooting disturbance allowed a section to be revealed through the deposits (Figure 3: section 7) indicating a thin metalled surface up to 0.07m thick; the insubstantial nature of this would indicate a path rather than a trackway. A variety of modern finds were recovered from the surface of the deposits including pottery, vessel glass and window glass (Table 2). The damage to the glass items suggests that they had been ground/trodden into the surface.

#### Ditch

Situated immediately to the west of and roughly parallel with the external surface, ditch [208] would appear to be associated (Figure 3 - light green feature and Figure 7: image 7). A variety of modern artefacts were recovered from the surface of the fill during cleaning, including pottery and clay tobacco pipe (Table 2). This suggests that the ditch and path may have been contemporary.

# 3.4 Summary

Below a cultivation soil which formed after demolition of the farmstead, a complex sequence of features was revealed. The investigation suggests activity extending from the Saxo-Norman to early medieval and post-medieval to modern periods. The main focus of activity would appear to be in the west, towards the street frontage, with pits, ditches, gullies and postholes, as well as ironstone wall footings and drains. It is probable that the stone structures relate to the post-medieval farmstead. All of these later features had been subject to at least an element of robbing, to recover building stone. The earlier activity includes clusters of pits; excavation of a selection of these recovered small quantities of pottery and animal bone as well as evidence of charred plant remains, which have the potential to add to the understanding of the economy of the area.

A series of ditches and gullies appear to subdivide the area into a number of smaller units. These features also contained small quantities of pottery and animal bone. An animal skeleton appeared to have been deposited in one of the ditches.

Structural remains, including a possible beamslot, postholes, ironstone wall footings, associated robber trenches and drains, have the potential to reveal a structure sequence relating to the utilisation of the site over time.

In contrast, Trench 2 situated to the rear of the plot revealed modern surfaces, which based on their insubstantial construction formed a path rather than a track, with limited evidenced for earlier features. This activity is probably associated with the farmstead.

The evaluation has revealed at least two phases of activity in the Saxo-Norman to early medieval and post-medieval to modern periods. This has



potential to add to the understanding of the medieval settlement pattern in the vicinity of the moat and later utilisation of the site. It is not clear from the evaluation if the site was abandoned in the later medieval period.



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# 5. APPENDIX 1: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPOSITS



Max Dimensions: Length: 16.00 m. Width: 1.90 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.32 m.

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP** (Easting: 80246: Northing: 72230)

**OS Grid Ref.: SP** (*Easting: 80257: Northing: 72235*)

Reason: L-shaped trench to evaluate area near the street frontage for the presence of archaeological

remains.

<b>Context:</b>	Type:	pe: Description:		<b>Excavated: Finds Present:</b>		
100 Topsoil		Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small stones Up to 025m thick. Pottery and clay tobacco pipe recovered from the deposit.	<b>V</b>	✓		
101	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones Up to 0.08m thick. Layer visible only in NW corner of the trench.	<b>V</b>			
102	Natural	Compact mid brown orange silty gravel frequent small-medium stones				
103	Ditch	Curving linear N-S sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.23m, max depth 0.23m, max length 2.m	<b>V</b>			
104	Lower fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small stones, occasional medium stones Asymmetrical deposit on west side of cut, tapering with depth, up to 0.12m thick. Pottery and animal bone recovered.	✓	✓		
105	Upper fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones Up to 0.23m thick. Pottery, animal bone and charcoal recovered.	✓	<b>✓</b>		
106	Pit	Sub-oval sides: near vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.68m, max depth 0.34m, max length 1.05m	<b>~</b>			
107	Lower fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt frequent small stones Up to 0.12m thick. Pottery and clay tobacco pipe recovered.	$\checkmark$	<b>✓</b>		
108	Upper fill	Friable mid grey brown silty gravel Up to 0.25m thick.	$\checkmark$			
109	Gulley	Linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.21m, min length 0.75m	$\checkmark$			
110	Fill	Firm mid yellow brown clay sand occasional small stones	<b>✓</b>			
111	Pit	Oval sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, max depth 0.22m, min length 0.8m	$\checkmark$			
112	Fill	Friable dark grey black sandy silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones Ecofact sample <1> taken from the fill. Pottery and animal bones was recovered from the deposit.	✓	<b>✓</b>		
113	Ditch	Curving linear NNE-SSW sides: concave base: flat dimensions: max breadth 1.18m, max depth 0.07m, min length 3.5m	✓			
114	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, frequent small-medium stones, occasional large stones Animal bone recovered from the deposit.	$\checkmark$	<b>✓</b>		
165	Animal skeleton	Articulated spine of animal skeleton was visible in the ditch. It was preserved in situ. For protection it was covered with teram before backfilling.				
115	Gulley	Linear E-W $$ sides: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.27m, max depth 0.04m, min length 0.5m $$	✓			
116	Fill	Friable light brown clay silt occasional small stones	<b>✓</b>			
117	Pit	Rectangular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.m, max depth 0.17m, min length 0.7m	<b>V</b>			
118	Fill	Friable dark grey brown sandy silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Pottery was recoverd from the deposit.	<b>~</b>	✓		
119	Gulley	Linear NW-SE $$ sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.17m, min length 1.75m	<b>~</b>			
120	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt moderate small stones A small fragment of modern brick was recovered from the deposit.	V	<b>✓</b>		



Max Dimensions: Length: 16.00 m. Width: 1.90 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.32 m.

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP** (Easting: 80246: Northing: 72230)

**OS Grid Ref.: SP** (*Easting: 80257: Northing: 72235*)

Reason: L-shaped trench to evaluate area near the street frontage for the presence of archaeological

remains.

Context: Type:		Description:	<b>Excavated: Finds Present:</b>		
121	Robber trench	Linear E-W sides: steep base: flat dimensions: min breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.2m, min length 2.m Only one edge of the feature was visible in the trench. This is the robber trench for a possible E-W wall.	✓		
122	Lower fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones Up to 0.20m thick. Not clear if (123) is an upper fill or just part of a mixed deposit.	$\checkmark$		
123	Upper fill	Friable light brown grey clay silt frequent small-medium mortar $\mbox{Up to }0.14\mbox{m}$ thick.	V		
124	Pit	Irregular sides: concave base: flat dimensions: min breadth 1.m, max depti 0.11m, min length 0.75m	h 🗸		
125	Fill	Firm light yellow blue clay	<b>✓</b>		
126	Foundation trench	Linear ENE-WSW sides: vertical dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min dept 0.2m, min length 3.3m	h 🗌		
127	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt Pottery, clay tobacco pipe and fragments of window glass recovered from the deposit.		✓	
128	Wall	Ironstone rubble core wall probably associated with farm building. Only N face partially uncovered. Four uneven courses visible. No bonding material observed. Most of the upper part of the wall had been robbed for stone.			
129	Posthole	Sub-circular sides: vertical base: flat dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.24m, max length 0.45m	V		
130	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional small stones No packing material visible.	$\checkmark$		
131	Pit	Sub-circular sides: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, min depth 0.19m, min length 1.25m	✓		
132	Fill	Friable mid brown clay silt moderate small stones, occasional large stones	$\checkmark$		
133	Posthole	Sub-rectangular dimensions: max breadth 0.41m, max length 0.45m			
134	Fill	Friable dark grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones A small quantity of coal was recovered from the deposit.		✓	
135	Pit	dimensions: min breadth 0.3m, min length 0.9m Only small part of the feature visible within the trench, thus it is not possible to give more detailed description.			
136	Fill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt			
137	Drain	Linear E-W sides: vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, min length 7.1	m $\square$		
138	Stone structure	Ironstone lining the construction cut of the drain to define a central drainage channel . Stones are of various sizes.			
139	Stone structure	Capping stones. Ironstone slabs covering the drain. Dimensions of slab: c. $0.4\mathrm{by}$ $0.7\mathrm{m}$			
140	Fill	Firm light yellow blue clay Sealing layer up to 0.06m thick, on the top of the capping stones.	V		
141	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, moderate small-larg stones At least 0.05m thick. Backfill of the construction cut of the drain. Conatins pottery, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and an iron hinge.	€ 🗸	<b>✓</b>	



Max Dimensions: Length: 16.00 m. Width: 1.90 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.25 m. Max: 0.32 m.

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP** (Easting: 80246: Northing: 72230)

**OS Grid Ref.: SP** (*Easting: 80257: Northing: 72235*)

Reason: L-shaped trench to evaluate area near the street frontage for the presence of archaeological

remains.

<b>Context:</b>	Type:	Description:	Excavated: Finds l	Present:
142	Fill Friable dark grey brown sandy silt moderate flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Deposit defining drainage chanael 0.3m wide (6 inches). The deposit was at least 0.05m thick, not fully excavated. Silting up of the drainage channel.			
143	Drain	Linear NNW-SSE dimensions: max breadth 0.32m, min length 1.9m		
144	Fill	Firm light yellow blue clay With patches of mid grey brown silt.		
145	Foundation trench	Linear N-S sides: vertical dimensions: max breadth 0.36m, min depth 0.2m, min length 1.9m		
146	Wall	Ironstone wall footing with rubble core. Outer faces arranged in horizontal courses with ironstone rubble core. Two slightly stepped courses survived on the W side. The upper part of the wall was robbed for stone.		
147	Fill	Firm mid yellow blue clay		
149	Gulley	Linear NW-SE dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min length 0.55m		
150	Fill	Friable mid brown silty silt moderate flecks charcoal, frequent small stones		
151	Pit	Sub-rectangular NE-SW dimensions: min breadth 1.m, min length 1.6m		
152	Fill	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones With inclusions of blue clay. Contains pottery and clay tobacco pipe.		<b>✓</b>
153	Ditch	Curving linear E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.6m, min length 3.m Possible the same feature as [156].	у	
154	Fill	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-large stones		
155	Layer	Friable light yellow brown clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small medium stones Mixed deposit, which contains pottery.	l- 🗌	<b>✓</b>
156	Ditch	Curving linear E-W dimensions: min breadth 0.5m, max length 2.5m Possibly the same feature as [153] but may be more than one feature.		
157	Fill	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small-medium stones Pottery, animal bone and clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the deposit.		<b>✓</b>
158	Robber trench	Linear E-W sides: vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.7m, ma depth 0.33m, min length 2.25m Trench to rob capping stones from drain [13		
159	Backfill	Friable mid brown grey clay silt moderate small-medium stones Pottery, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and vessel glass were recovered from the deposit.	$\checkmark$	✓
160	Robber trench	Linear N-S sides: vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.75m, max depth 0.2m, min length 1.9m Robber trench for N-S wall footing (146).	<b>✓</b>	
148	Fill	Friable mid grey brown sandy silt Contains pottery and clay tobacco pipe.		<b>✓</b>
161	Beamslot	Linear N-S sides: near vertical base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.35m, max depth 0.1m, min length 1.m	<b>✓</b>	
162	Fill	Friable mid brown grey sandy silt moderate medium-large stones Contains several possible packing stones as well as pottery.		<b>✓</b>
163	Robber trench	Linear ENE-WSW sides: vertical base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, min depth 0.04m, min length 7.4m Trench to rob stone from E-W wall footing (128).	V	
164	Backfill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional large stones	$\checkmark$	



Max Dimensions: Length: 11.00 m. Width: 1.90 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.38 m. Max: 0.4 m.

**Co-ordinates: OS Grid Ref.: SP** (*Easting: 80268: Northing: 72230*)

OS Grid Ref.: SP (Easting: 80264: Northing: 72233)

Reason: To evaluate area to rear of site.

<b>Context:</b>	Type:	Description:	<b>Excavated:</b>	Finds Present:
200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown grey clay silt moderate flecks charcoal, moderate small stones Up to 0.31m thick.	<b>✓</b>	
201	Subsoil	Friable mid grey brown clay silt moderate small stones Up to 0.08m thick.	<b>✓</b>	
202	Natural	Compact mid brown orange silty gravel		
203	External surface	Surface mainly consisting of small-medium stones firmly set in light orange brown clay silt. Together with (204), (205) and (206) seems to be part of a metalled path orientated roughly N-S. Up to 0.06m thick . Pottery, animal bone and Ceramic Building Material recovered from the surface of the deposit.		V
204	External surface	Uneven surface mainly consisting of small-large stones and a number of bric fragments firmly set in dark grey brown clay silt, up to 0.1m thick. Together with (203), (205) and (206) seems to be part of a metalled path orientated N-S. Pottery, animal bone as well as vessel and window glass were recovered from the surface of the deposit.		<b>✓</b>
205	External surface	Surface consisting of moderate amount of small-medium stones firmly set in light brown clay silt. Together with (203), (204) and (206) seems to be part of a metalled path orientated N-S.		
206	External surface	Uneven surface of medium-large stones firmly set in mid brown grey clay sil Together with (203), (204) and (205) seems to be part of a metalled path orientated N-S. Vessel glass was recovered from the surface of the deposit.	t. 🗆	✓
207	Layer	Friable mid grey brown clay silt frequent small-large stones		
208	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE dimensions: min breadth 0.4m, min length 2.2m		
209	Fill	Friable light grey brown clay silt occasional small-medium stones Pottery and clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the surface of the deposit.		<b>✓</b>
210	Pit	Sub-circular dimensions: min breadth 1.5m, min length 2.3m Part of the feature is covered by surface [206].		
211	Fill	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional flecks charcoal, occasional small stones Pottery and clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the surface of the deposit.		✓
212	Pit	Circular dimensions: max diameter 0.48m		
213	Fill	Firm mid orange brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones		



# 6. APPENDIX 2 - FINDS SUMMARY

#### 6.1 Introduction

The evaluation produced a finds assemblage comprising mainly animal bone and pottery. A small quantity of clay tobacco pipe, vessel and window glass fragments, and an iron object were also recovered. The material was examined to ascertain its nature, condition and, where possible, date range (Table 2).

Tr.	Feature	Description	Context	Spot Date	Finds Summary
1	100	Topsoil	100	Modern	Pottery (11g); clay tobacco pipe (1g)
	103	Ditch	104	Saxo-Norman	Pottery (20g); animal bone (426g)
	103	Ditch	105	Saxo-Norman	Pottery (7g); animal bone (9g); charcoal (1g)
	106	Pit	107	Early medieval	Pottery (29g); clay tobacco pipe (2g)
	111	Pit	112	Saxo-Norman	Pottery (4g); animal bone 1g
	113	Ditch	114	Undated	Animal bone (145g)
	117	Pit	118	Early medieval	Pottery (48g)
	119	Ditch	120	Modern	Brick (7g)
	126	Foundation trench	127	Post-medieval	Pottery (13g); clay tobacco pipe (1g); window glass (2g)
	133	Post hole	134	Undated	Coal (1g)
	137	Drain	141	Post-medieval	Pottery (20g); clay tobacco pipe (2g); iron hinge pivot x 1; animal bone (6g)
	151	Pit	152	Post-medieval	Pottery (103g); clay tobacco pipe (10g)
	155	Layer	155	Post-medieval	Pottery (42g)
	156	Ditch	157	Post-medieval	Pottery (16g); clay tobacco pipe (1g); animal bone (11g)
	158	Robber trench	159	Post-medieval	Pottery (1g); clay tobacco pipe (14g); vessel glass (9g); animal bone (3g)
	160	Robber trench	148	Modern	Pottery (15g); clay tobacco pipe (1g)
	161	Beam slot	162	Early medieval	Pottery (5g)
2	203	External surface	203	Modern	Pottery (111g); brick or tile (16g); animal bone (9g)
	204	External surface	204	Modern	Pottery (75g); vessel glass (7g); window glass (2g); animal bone (18g)
	206	External surface	206	Modern	Vessel glass (27g)
	208	Ditch	209	Modern	Pottery (53g); clay tobacco pipe (2g)
	210	Pit	211	Post-medieval	Pottery (11g); clay tobacco pipe (3g)

**Table 2:** Artefact Summary by trench and feature

# 6.2 Pottery

Seventy sherds, weighing 584g, were recovered from seventeen features. The assemblage was examined by context and quantified using minimum sherd count and weight. The pottery is generally fragmented, with a low average sherd weight of 8g, and survives in moderate condition. Fifteen fabric types were identified in accordance with the Northamptonshire Ceramic Type Series (Table 3).

Fabric Code	Common name	Sherd No.	Context/Sherd No.
Saxo-Noman/medieval			
100	T1 (1) type St Neots Ware	4	(104):1, (105):1; (112):1
200	T1 (2) type St Neots Ware	3	(118):3
207	Cotswolds oolitic	1	(162):1
330	Shelly coarse ware	2	(107):2
360	Sandy coarse ware	1	(107):1



403	Midland purple ware	2	(141):1, (148):1
Post-medieval			
409	Staffordshire slipware	4	(141):2, (152):2
417	Nottingham stoneware	4	(203):3, (204):1
426	Iron-glazed earthenware	17	(127):1, (141):1, (152):3, (155):2, (157):1 (203):2, (204):5, (209):1, (211):1
Modern			
415	Creamware	5	(203):3, (209):2
416	Transfer-printed ware	16	(100):1, (157):1, (203):8, (204):5, (209):1
418	Pearlware	1	(159):1
430	White earthenware	7	(148):3, (203):1, (204):1, (209):1, (211):1
432	Mocha ware	1	(203):1
1000	Miscellaneous 19th-20th century wares	2	(204):1, (209):1

**Table 3:** Pottery Type Series

#### 6.2.1 Saxo-Norman and early medieval

Seven sherds of wheel-thrown, shell-tempered St Neots ware (79g) were recovered from the fills of pits [111], [117], and ditch [103]. The ware is represented by variants T1 (1) (c. 900-1100) and T1 (2) (c. 1000-1200). The sole diagnostic element is a rim from a hammerhead bowl, with a diameter of 280mm. Single body sherds of Cotswold oolitic ware, early medieval sandy coarse ware and two shelly coarse ware sherds (total weight 34g) occurred in pit [107] and beam slot [162].

#### 6.2.2 Transitional late medieval to post-medieval

Two sherds of Midland purple ware (c. 1450-1600) occurred as residual finds in later features; drain [137] and robber trench [160].

#### 6.2.3 Post-medieval and modern

Eighty-three percent of the assemblage (by sherd count) is of 17th century and later date. Pottery comprises utilitarian wares; plates, dishes, bowls, mugs; in Staffordshire slipware, Nottingham stoneware and local iron-glazed earthenwares. A standard range of modern tablewares (transfer-printed ware, Mocha ware, creamware *etc.*) completes the assemblage.

## 6.3 Animal Bone

Thirty-two animal bone fragments (628g) were collected from eight features, the largest assemblage (435g) deriving from the fills of Saxo-Norman ditch [103]. Individual pieces are small, with an average weight of 20g and survive in fair condition. Identifiable species are sheep/goat, dog and domestic fowl. Diagnostic bone elements are mainly limb bones, including a sawn example, from large and medium mammals. Vertebrae, scapula, teeth and skull fragments are also present.

#### 6.4 Other Finds

Ceramic building material recovered from modern features [119] and [203] comprises a piece of modern brick (7g) and an indeterminate brick or roof tile fragment (16g) of post-medieval or later date.

Sixteen pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem, and a bowl fragment with a milled rim (total weight 37g) were collected. One represents an intrusive find in early



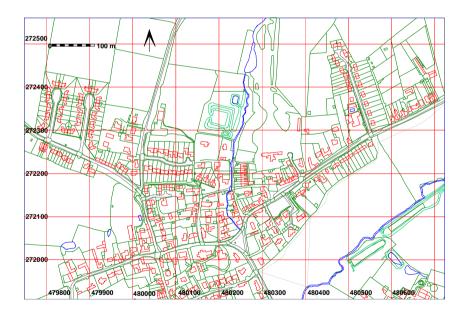
medieval pit [106], and the remainder occurred in post-medieval and later features.

Two pieces of post-medieval window glass (2g) were recovered from foundation trench [126] and two post-medieval or modern fragments (2g) from external surface (204). Modern vessel glass comprises an amber coloured glass body sherd from a bottle (robber trench [158]); a moulded glass ?butter dish cover; and a blue-green glass bottle or phial base (external surfaces (206) and (204) respectively).

Post-medieval drain [137] yielded an incomplete L-shaped iron hinge pivot.







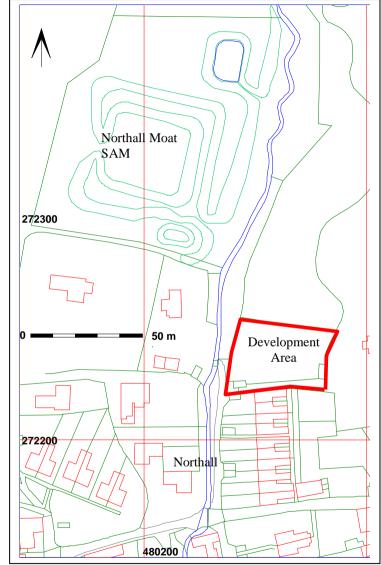


Figure 1: Site location map

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



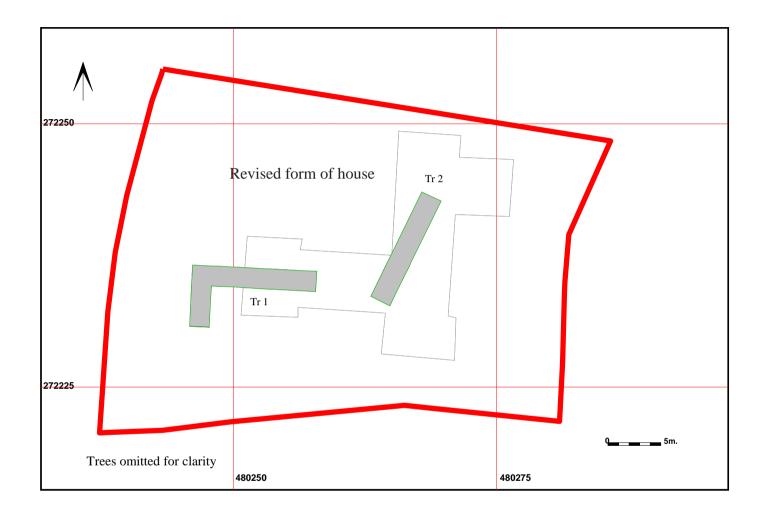


Figure 2: Trenching strategy, with details of historical maps

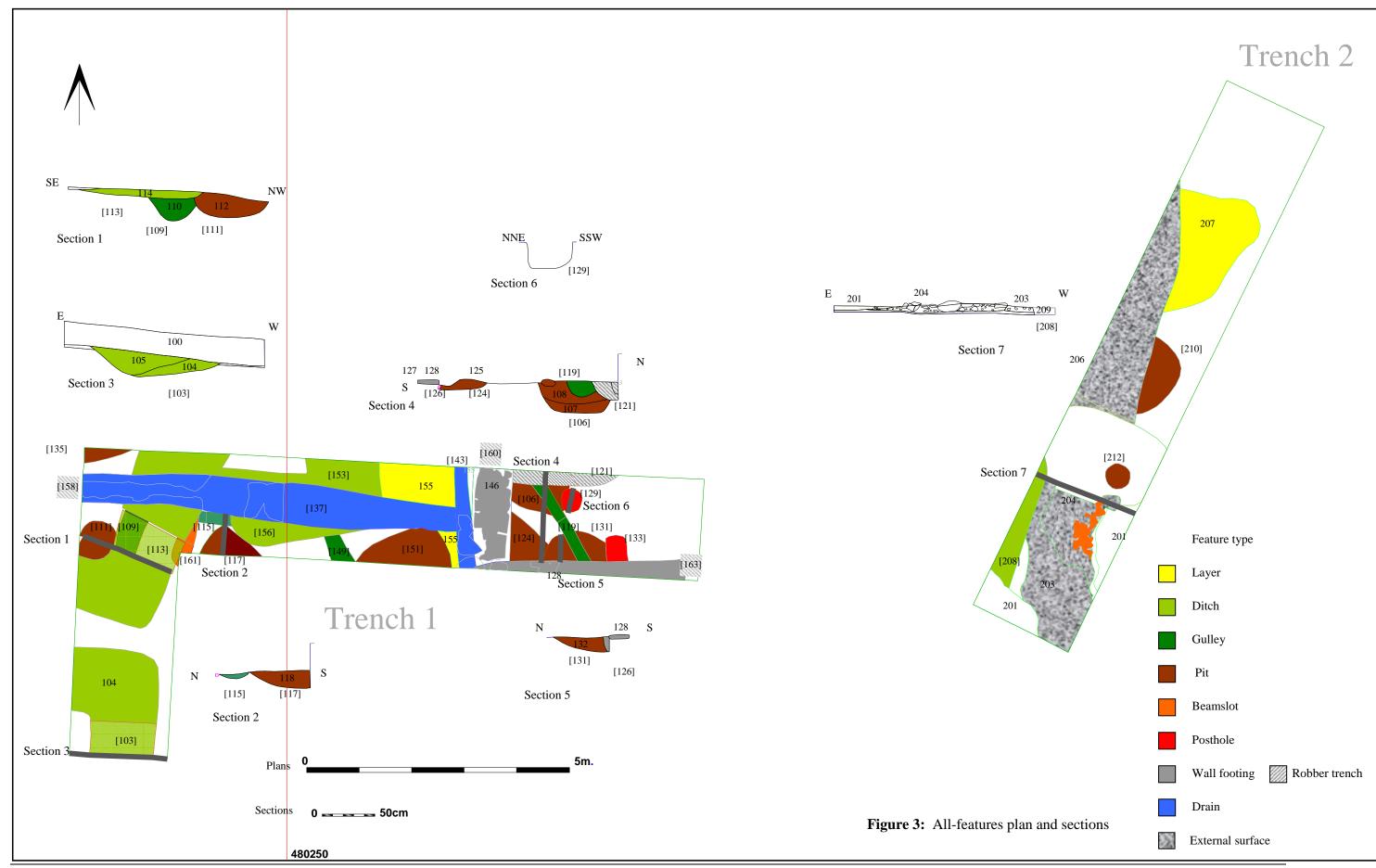


**Detail 1**: Estate Map of 1778 showing Farmstead Walgrave 1778 CRO F/S 72/74 With approximate location of DA.



**Detail 2:** First edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886





Land at Butchers Garden, Northall, Walgrave, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Field Evaluation





**Image 1:** General view of E-W arm of Trench 1, looking east, with stone-lined drain [137] in the centre of the trench. Few patches of orange-brown geological strata are discernable. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



**Image 2:** Section through pit [111] to right and gulley [109] immediately to the left and wide shallow ditch [113]. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

**Figure 4:** Trench 1 – Selected images 1 and 2





**Image 3:** Section through angular ditch [103]. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



**Image 4:** Ironstone wall footing (146), comprising a rubble core with facing stones. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

**Figure 5:** Trench 1 – Selected images 3 and 4





**Image 5:** General view of area to east of ironstone wall footing (146), with trace of perpendicular wall (128) at left edge of trench. The excavated section to the right revealed a series of intercutting features comprising: gulley [119]; posthole [129] towards the camera; and pit [106], the fills of which can be seen in the section. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



**Image 6:** Elevation of face of ironstone wall footing (128) to south of main wall (146). Segments of this footing had been extensively robbed. The linear coursing suggests that it is a wall face rather than the lining of a drain. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

**Figure 6:** Trench 1 – Selected images 5 and 6





**Image 7:** General view of Trench 2, looking to the north. The area of yellow brown geological strata just beyond the photographic scale was disturbed by roots associated with a small sapling. Dark features are visible in the area immediately to the north. Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.



**Image 8:** Detail of the surfaces at the southern end of the trench, showing a variety of deposits including brick (203) - (206). Scale 1m in 50cm divisions.

**Figure 7:** Trench 2 – Selected images 7 and 8





**Micrograph 1**: The charred grains are approximately 3mm across, with occasional smaller rounded weed seeds visible.



**Micrograph 2:** Charred grain along with fragments of other charred material including possible glume base and rachis.

**Figure 8:** Micrographs of selection of charred grain recovered from the fill of Saxo-Norman pit [111]



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