Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Excavation at Gunthorpe Hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland, September-October 2011

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QUALITY CONTOL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Gunthorpe Hall New Access Road	
Short description	In September and October 2011, Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook archaeological mitigation works in advance of the construction of a new access for Gunthorpe Hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland. The works recorded a series of earthwork and buried remains associated with the deserted medieval village of Gunthorpe. Evidence for activity dating from the late Saxon and medieval periods was present associated with a low status rural economy. Activity on the site appears to have ceased by the late 14th century.	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Earthwork survey (Hartley 1983), Heritage statement (NA 2011)	
Current land use	Pasture	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type and period	Medieval earthworks	
Significant finds	Pottery	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Rutland	
Site address	Gunthorpe Hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland	
Easting Northing	SP 486905 305600	
Area (sq m/ha)		
Height aOD	110maOD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA)	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	NA	
Director/Supervisor	Jason Clarke (NA)	
Project Manager	Adam Yates (NA)	
Sponsor or funding body	Alistair Heywood	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	12/09//2011	
End date	04/10/2011	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Contents**
Physical	Oakham Museum Acc No:	Flint, Pottery, animal bone, slag
Paper		Site records (1 archive box)
Digital		Client report PDF. Survey Data, Photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Title	Archaeological Excavation at Gunthorpe hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland. September-October 2011	
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT GUNTHORPE HALL, GUNTHORPE, RUTLAND SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2011

Abstract

In September and October 2011, Northamptonshire Archaeology undertook archaeological mitigation works in advance of the construction of a new access for Gunthorpe Hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland. The works recorded a series of earthwork and buried remains associated with the deserted medieval village of Gunthorpe. Evidence for activity dating from the late Saxon and medieval periods was present associated with a low status rural economy. Activity on the site appears to have ceased by the late 14th century.

1 INTRODUCTION

In September to October 2011 an archaeological survey and excavation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) on the route of a new access for the farm at Gunthorpe Hall, Gunthorpe, Rutland (NGR 486905 305600, Fig 1). The work was carried out for Mr Alistair Heywood in order to fulfil the planning application (planning application number FUL/2010/0754). The works were overseen by Merriman Ltd.

The scope of works was outlined and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA 2011) in accordance with the Brief prepared by the Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council (Clark 2011) and PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (DCLG 2010).

The objectives of the excavation were to determine the presence of any archaeological features or deposits within the application area and to date and characterise their extent, depth of burial and state of preservation.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Location and geology

Location

The development area comprised a new access road linking the farmyard to the north of Gunthorpe Hall to the A6003. The land comprises the northerly side of an east-west ridge on which Gunthorpe Hall stands. The ground slopes moderately sharply to the north towards a dry stream valley.

Geology by Steve Critchley

The site is on rocks belonging to the Lower Jurassic Inferior Oolite and Lias Groups. The older Lias Group rocks belong to the Whitby Mudstone Formation and were seen to consist of pale grey to blue grey mudstones when fresh and weathered to a grey brown at surface exposures. Occasional thin yellow brown blocky limestone beds were also noted.

The upper portion of the site is underlain by beds belonging to the Inferior Oolite, Northampton Sand Formation and consists of weathered ferruginous sandstones and thin oolitic limestone, these were exposed on the western part of the road strip, on the plateau on which the current farm is situated.

2.2 Historical and archaeological background

The site was previously examined as part of a Heritage Statement undertaken in support of the original planning application (Yates 2010) in accordance with *PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (DCLG 2010). This comprised an examination of data from the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER), readily available historic maps and published sources together with a walkover survey.

The earliest evidence for human activity in the area is in the form a flint scatter recovered during fieldwalking to the east of Gunthorpe Hall (MLE8507). To the east of Gunthorpe geophysical survey has detected the features possibly associated with Iron Age settlement (MLE17765, Butler et al 2008).

Roman occupation at Gunthorpe is indicated by the recovery of pottery from the field to the south of the drive (MLE8508 and MLE 8509), which may be associated with cropmarks to the west shown on aerial photographs.

Gunthorpe may be one of the unnamed *berewicks* of the manor of Oakham, which is recorded in Domesday as being held by Queen Edith, widow of Edward the Confessor in 1066 (Page 1935). Edith probably held it until her death in 1075 and the land reverted to the crown. Late Saxon pottery has been recovered from the field to the south of Colt Bungalow (MLE8510).

Henry I created Oakham as a barony and granted it to the Earls of Warwick. It was subsequently inherited by the de Mortimer family, reverting again back to the crown in 1252. By the 12th century there was a chapel at Gunthorpe, a dependant on the church at Oakham, although this was in ruins by 1534. The manor of Gunthorpe was held in the late 12th century by Alexander de Boville or Beville and his family until it passed through marriage to John de Hotot in 1223; his descendants appear in the records for the manor until 1346.

The next record for Gunthorpe is in 1434, when it is recorded as being left by a John Sapcote in his will. It descended through the Sapcote family before passing through marriage to James Harington of Ridlington in the late 16th century. A windmill appurtenant to the manor of Gunthorpe is mentioned in 1632. In 1655 James Harrington, grandson of the earlier James, sold the manor to the Ducie family. By 1684 the manor had been sold to John Flavell a London merchant, but it appears to have been very sparsely populated, as a shepherds cottage was the only dwelling.

In 1738 it was sold by Sir Joseph Eyles to Sir John Heathcote, in whose family it remained until at least 1862. In 1846 there were only eight inhabitants listed, and the only dwelling was at Gunthorpe Lodge.

On the ridge to the south of the Hall are a series of earthworks thought to be related to the medieval hamlet (MLE5346). A survey of these has been published by Hartley (1983, 21) who describes them as follows:

> *'The drive to Gunthorpe Hall is paralleled on its north side by a partly filled hollow way. Adjoining this are some unintelligible earthworks and a rectangular enclosure.'*

Hartley's plan is reproduced as Figure 2.

Forming the eastern boundary of the site is the Syston-Peterborough section of the Midland Railway constructed between 1845-8 (MLE16080). Mill Field to the south of the site is thought to be the site of a Post-medieval water mill (MLE5349) and two undated mounds have been identified from aerial photographs at Southbridge (MLE5348).

The earliest map examined was the 1810 provisional Ordnance Survey 2-inch map (Fig 3). This shows a small cluster of buildings, probably a farm, on the site of the current Hall and two ponds to the south of the old drive, which itself is to the south of the

current drive, although its route is largely preserved in a still extant trackway. The development area is open fields, and is virtually identical to the current layout. Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps dating to 1886, 1904 and 1931 depict the construction of the Hall on the site of the farm shown on the 1810 map and the development and expansion of the farm complex to the north of the Hall, these showed little change from the current layout along the route of the access road, with the exception of the plantation of shrubs and trees along the driveway and the establishment of the western tree plantation in the first quarter of the 20th century.

The walkover survey confirmed the survival and extent of the earthwork remains and plotted their positions. The Heritage Assessment determined that the construction of the new access road would impact on these earthwork remains.

3 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

In order to mitigate the impact of the development a two-phase programme of mitigation was required in the Brief prepared by the Senior Planning Archaeologist, of Leicestershire County Council acting as archaeological; advisor to the Local Planning Authority (Clarke 2011). This comprised an initial earthwork survey of features directly affected by the development followed by archaeological excavation of the road corridor. The methodologies were set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA 2011). All works were conducted in accordance with the following procedural documents:

- English Heritage 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects,* 2nd edition
- English Heritage 2002 *Environmental archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*
- English Heritage 2006 Management *of Research projects in the Historic Environment*
- Institute for Archaeologists 2008 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*
- Institute for Archaeologists 2010 Code *of Conduct*

The principal objective of the works was to mitigate the impact of the development through preservation by record.

In addition the project had the potential to contribute to wider research aims, particularly those set out in Cooper (ed 2006). Of particular relevance were those aims related to medieval rural settlement (Lewis 2006, 190-194). These include the following themes:

- Nucleated villages: In particular the works may contribute to the corpus of data about the variations in form and layout
- Origins of nucleated villages: In particular whether there is any evidence for a Danish origin, as indicated by the *thorpe* place name.
- Nucleated settlement plans: The works have the potential to contribute to information about settlement plans.
- Buildings: What materials were being used in building and what form did buildings take?
- Settlement desertion: What factors may have lead to the abandonment of Gunthorpe and at what date did activity cease?

3.1 Measured earthwork survey

The earthwork survey recorded the form and extent of the earthwork remains within a corridor 5m either side of the new access road. It will comprised detailed survey supplemented by written description and photography.

Survey was undertaken by means of Leica System 1200 Global Positioning System (GPS) operating using SMARTNET real-time corrections. The top and bottoms of slopes were identified and recorded along with sufficient data to generate an image of the natural topography.

The survey data was used to generate a series of hachure plans and drawings accurately locating the remains in relation to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. Detailed plans at a scale of 1:1000 or 1:2500 to show the overall form of the remains, with larger plans used as necessary to illustrate areas of complexity. This is supplemented by profiles appropriate scales and by a written description incorporating the following elements:

- Type of the archaeological field monument being investigated and its period;
- Accurate locational information including the National Grid Reference, as a minimum to six-figure accuracy, and the Civil Parish, District and County. Reference made to an national or local references, including the Historic Environment Record, NMR refs., etc;
- Name of the compiler, the date of the investigation, reason for survey, details of site ownership and present land use;
- Any key source for the monuments identification;
- A summary statement describing the salient features of the monument;
- The topographic setting of the site and its relationship to other archaeological sites and landscapes, and to the historic buildings in the immediate vicinity.

All features were photographed using a digital camera. The earthworks were placed into their context by examination of information from relevant sources and their significance assessed in with regard to their origin, purpose and status.

3.2 Archaeological excavation

The route of the road was set out on the ground by the Principal Contractor (Merriman Ltd) and plotted using Leica system 1200 GPS.

A 360^{o} tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide ditching bucket was used to remove overburden to archaeological levels or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. The excavated area was cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification and definition of archaeological features. A hand-drawn plan of all archaeological features was made at scale 1:50 or 1:100 and was related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Archaeological deposits were examined by hand excavation to determine their nature following the requirements of the Brief (Clarke 2011) and WSI (NA 2011).

Recording followed standard NA procedures as described in the *Fieldwork Manual* (NA 2006). Deposits were described on *pro-forma* sheets to include measured and descriptive details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds. Context sheets were cross-referenced to scale plans, section drawings and photographs. Photography was with 35mm black and white film and colour slides, supplemented with digital images. Sections were drawn at scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate and related to Ordnance Survey datum. The stripped area, spoil heaps and features were scanned with a metal detector to maximise the recovery of metal objects.

4 MEASURED EARTHWORK SURVEY

The earthwork survey examined in more detail the features identified during the Heritage Statement (Yates 2010). For ease of comparison the same numbering system was retained. A gazetteer of features is included as Table 1 and illustrated on Figures 4 and 5.

Table 1: Earthwork survey features

Feature	NGR	Type	Description
1	487278 305853	Terrace	Terrace cut into west-facing slope, approximately 9m wide and 1m high, may be geological in origin or line of former trackway
2	487197 305823	Bank and ditch	Bank with ditch to the east aligned north-south. Bank is approximately 6.3.m wide and 0.3m high, ditch is 3.5m wide and 0.2m deep. Depicted as a scarp on Hartley's plan of 1983.
3	487169 305809	Ridge and furrow	Ridge and furrow earthworks. Interval between ridges is 6-8m, and the height is up to 0.3m. Position and alignment indicated on Hartley's plan of 1983.
4	487114 305824	Enclosure bank and ditch	Enclosure bank with external ditch. Bank is 7m wide and 0.3m high, ditch is 5m wide and 0.4m deep. Shown on Hartley's plan of 1983. Together with feature 5 forms the perimeter of a rectangular enclosure on the side of a dry valley, the northern limit of which runs along the valley base.
6	487047 305799	Enclosure bank and ditch	Continuation of F4 in pasture field. Bank survives better, and in places is up to 0.7m high towards the south.
7	487014 305810	Ridge and furrow	Ridge and furrow earthworks. Interval between ridges is 6-8m, and the height is up to 0.3m

The principal feature is a rectangular enclosure on the side of a dry valley (**4** and **6**), associated with a series of earthworks probably related to the medieval settlement at Gunthorpe on the crest of the ridge to the south. A bank and ditch (**2**) may be a field division. Other remains comprise the remnants of ridge and furrow cultivation (**3** and **7**) and a possible trackway (**1**).

5 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

The phasing described below is based on the stratigraphic relationships observed during the excavation and the ceramic phasing (CP) framework identified in the pottery report (see Blinkhorn below). It is readily apparent from the pottery analysis that there is a significant amount of residuality on site, many of the features dating to later phases produced sometimes significant amounts of earlier material, particularly Stamford ware. Only features which produced solely early wares are assigned to early phases, however, it is possible that pottery in some of these features is residual and they may in fact belong to later phases of activity. A full list of contexts is contained in Appendix 1. An overall phase plan is reproduced as Figure 6.

5.1 Bronze Age

Two flints, comprising the distal end of a blade and a thumbnail scraper, were recovered and probably date from the early Bronze Age. The blade from fill (60 is residual, the scraper was from fill (15) of pit [16], which did not produce any artefactual material. This was flat-based and ovoid in plan, measuring 0.7m by 0.6m and was 0.1m deep, filled with firm dark grey clay (15).

5.2 Late Saxon (10th-11th centuries)

Initial activity on the site appears to have commenced in the 10th-11th centuries.

Parallel gullies [36/38] and [34/75] were aligned approximately north-south and were 3m apart, probably defining the edges of a track or droveway (fig 6). Both gullies were interrupted along their lengths, although this appeared to be as a result of the truncation of these very shallow features rather than as a deliberate artefact. Both were U-shaped in profile (fig 7). Gully [36/38] was no more than 0.5m wide and up to 0.15m deep. The fill (35/37) was mid brown sandy clay containing a few limestone fragments. Gully [34/75] was up to 0.4m wide and 0.16m deep. The fills were of mid grey-brown sandy clay (33/76). Both features produced solely Stamford ware (900-1150AD). Sample 5 from fill (76) produced cereal and herb seeds, together with charcoal.

Crossing the road corridor was three ditches aligned north-south that may represent property or other boundaries (fig 6). Ditch [13] was 0.63m wide and 0.17m deep and had a shallow V-shaped profile (fig 7). It was filled by mid brown silty clay (14). Pottery from this feature comprised two sherds of South Lincolnshire Oolitic Ware (975-1150AD).

Ditch [22/52] was 1.6m wide and 0.34m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a flat base, filled with dark grey-brown clay (fig 7). Pottery comprised two sherds of Stamford ware.

Ditch [28/39] was 1.3m wide and 0.5m deep with a shallow V-shaped profile (fig 7). The fills comprised hard light silty clay (29/40) overlain by dark grey-brown clay (27) containing bone from cattle and sheep/goat. Dating for this feature is problematic. The lower fill four produced sherds of Stamford ware and two sherds of Shelly wares (1100-1400AD), the upper fill produced one sherd of Potter's Marsden ware (1100-1300AD), indicating a 12th century date for the feature (CP3). However during excavation it was cut by east-west ditch [31], through which a number of sections were cut, all of which produced solely Stamford ware. It is possible that the later wares encountered are intrusive and this is an 11th-century feature.

Ditch [50] (fig 6) is the original cut of a ditch aligned east-west along the southern edge of the road corridor, later recut as ditch [41/31/44/72]. This later recut appears to have almost totally removed the original cut as it was only seen in one of the excavated sections (fig 8). Where visible it was 0.51m wide and 0.46m deep, filled with orange-brown clay (51) which produced some fuel ash slag.

Recut [41/31/44/72] was only partly contained within the road corridor, although the whole of the northern edge, the base and part of the southern edge were apparent (fig 8). At its western end it gradually diverged from the road corridor, its eastern end appeared to be a terminal or a right-angled turn in the alignment of this feature to the south. It was up to 2m wide and 0.69m deep. The basal fill comprised grey brown silty clay (43/49/73/45), which produced cattle and horse bone. A sample from fill (49) produced charred cereal grain, herb seeds and charcoal (sample 2). Overlying this in

the central and western part of the ditch was dark grey-brown clay containing significant amounts of unshaped limestone and ironstone, charcoal and cattle bone (48). In contrast to other ditch fills seen on site which all appeared to have derived from silting, this appears to represent a deliberate dump of material, either as disposal or a deliberate attempt to infill the ditch. Overlying this was grey silty clay (42/32), which produced bones from cattle and sheep/goat. A sample from fill (32) produced charred cereal grain, herb seeds and charcoal (sample 3).

Ditches [50] and [41/31/44/72] may represent a re-establishment of the northern limit of the boundaries of the properties on the ridge to south, further up the side of the dry valley, which may originally have been further to the north. It may be that the lower slopes were considered too wet to be worth the effort of continuing to drain and maintain them.

5.3 Medieval (12th century)

The 12th century appears to have seen an elaboration or formalisation of earlier medieval property boundaries with the construction of a substantial earthwork enclosure.

Ditch [19] was aligned north south (figs 6 and 9). It was 1.12m wide and 0.38m deep, with sloping sides and a flat base, filled with orange brown silty clays (20 and 21). Pottery recovered from (20) included two sherds of Stamford ware and one sherd of Shelly ware. This appears to have been a precursor to the western arm of the earthwork enclosure bank which directly overlain it. A sample from fill (21) produced charred cereal grain, herb seeds and charcoal (sample 1).

The bank (6) was 9.86m wide and up to 0.38m high (fig 9), constructed directly on top of the natural clays (12). There was no trace of any buried soil. It was constructed from two dumps of material. The lower of these (17) was reddish brown gritty clay containing lumps of ironstone and some pebbles. Five sherds of Stamford ware were recovered together with cattle bone. This was overlain by orange-brown gritty clay (18), containing abundant fragments of ironstone. One sherd of Chivers Coton A ware dated to 1250-1300AD was recovered from this deposits, perhaps indicating it was a 13th-century repair or enhancement.

The bank (4), marking the eastern arm of the earthwork enclosure was 11.5m wide and up to 0.52m high (figs 6 and 10), and comprised two deposits of material built straight on top of the natural clay. As with bank (6) there was no trace of a buried soil. The lower of the two deposits forming the bank (60) was orange-brown sandy clay with occasional ironstone fragments which produced seven sherds of Stamford ware and 1 sherd of South Lincolnshire Oolitic ware. This was overlain by (54); orange brown sandy clay which produced 1 sherd of Medieval Sandy ware (1100-1400AD) and 7 sherds of Shelly wares.

Immediately to the east of bank (4) was ditch [57] (fig 10), which was 2.16m wide by 0.84m deep, with a U-shaped profile with a square-cut slot at the base, possibly for cleaning. The basal fill (58) was dark grey-brown silty clay which produced one sherd of medieval Shelly ware. Sample 6 from fill (58) produced cereal and herb seeds, together with charcoal. Overlying this was light grey brown silty clay (59) which produced one Sherd of shelly ware, five sherds of Lyveden/Stanion B ware (1200-1400AD), three sherds of Potter's Marsden ware, one sherd of Chivers Coton A ware, one sherd of Bourne A ware (13th-14th century) and bone from horse and cattle. It seems likely that this ditch was cut in the 12th century as part of the earthwork enclosure and was gradually silted up over the next century or so.

5.4 High medieval (13th-14th centuries)

This period saw the maintenance and possible repair/reinforcement of the earthwork enclosure represented by banks (4) and (6), partly already described above. In addition to the repair/reinforcement of bank 96), ditch [55] was cut along the interior edge of bank (4). This was 2.3m wide and 0.95m deep (fig 10). The primary fill of dark grey brown silty clay (56) produced two sherds of Lyveden/Stanion B ware, cattle bone and two pieces of slag perhaps the result of secondary iron smithing.

Overlying this ditch and ditch [57] east of bank (4) were spreads of light grey-brown gritty clay (61) which appear to have derived from slumping of bank material, which produced one sherd of Stamford ware.

To the east of the earthwork enclosure was bank (2). This was 5.59m wide and 0.27m high (fig 11), and was constructed from light grey-brown silty clay (74) which produced seven sherds of Shelly ware and eight sherds of Lyveden/Stanion B ware. Upon excavation it was apparent that rather than being a constructed bank as such, it was probably the remains of a particularly pronounced ridge or small headland, whose profile was enhanced by a natural break of slope.

5.5 Late medieval/early post-medieval (14th-16th centuries)

Ditch [69] was cut immediately to the west of bank (4), parallel to and outside the earthwork enclosure (figs 6 and 12) This was 3.6m wide and 1.18m deep. The basal fill (68) comprised light grey-brown silty clay and was overlain by dark orange-brown silty clay (67). A sample from fill (68) produced charred cereal grain, herb seeds and charcoal (sample 4). Later fills comprised yellow brown silty clay (66) and loose grey-brown clay (65). Two sherds of Midland Purple ware (1375-1550AD) and animal bone were recovered from fill (66) and one sherd of late 17th century pottery and animal bones from cattle and sheep/goat came from fill (65). This indicates a late medieval or early post-medieval date for the final infilling of this ditch, although its original construction may have been earlier.

5.6 Later post-medieval, modern and undated features

The excavation was crossed by a wide variety of stone, ceramic and plastic land drains together with two electricity cables which intersected the stripped area several times. At the western end of the road corridor in an area of woodland numerous modern rubbish pits were present.

Where the road corridor cut across terrace (1) identified from the earthwork survey, a deposit of compacted clay containing loose stone, modern brick and modern pottery was noted, and it seems likely that this feature represented, or had at least been used as, a recent trackway.

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Worked flint by Yvonne Wolframm-Murray

Two pieces of worked flint were recovered, comprising the distal end of a blade and one thumbnail scraper.

The flint was in a good condition with slight post-depositional edge damage consisting of the occasional nick. The flints were a vitreous light grey-brown and an opaque light grey colour, with a light brown coloured cortex. The source of the raw material was possibly local gravel flint.

The thumbnail scraper had invasive retouch on distal end and one lateral edge, leaving some of the mid brown cortex on the dorsal surface. The scraper is typical of the Early Bronze Age.

6.2 The pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery was initially bulk-sorted and recorded on a computer using DBase IV software. The material from each context was recorded by number and weight of sherds per fabric type, with featureless body sherds of the same fabric counted, weighed and recorded as one database entry. Feature sherds such as rims, bases and lugs were individually recorded, with individual codes used for the various types. Decorated sherds were similarly treated. In the case of the rimsherds, the form, diameter in mm and the percentage remaining of the original complete circumference was all recorded. This figure was summed for each fabric type to obtain the estimated vessel equivalent (EVE).

The terminology used is that defined by the Medieval Pottery Research Group's Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms (MPRG 1998) and to the minimum standards laid out in the Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of post-Roman Ceramics (MPRG2001). All the statistical analyses were carried out using a DBase package written by the author, which interrogated the original or subsidiary databases, with some of the final calculations made with an electronic calculator. Any statistical analyses were carried out to the minimum standards suggested by Orton (1998-9, 135-7).

Fabrics

The pottery assemblage comprised 188 sherds with a total weight of 1597g. The estimated vessel equivalent (EVE), by summation of surviving rimsherd circumference was 1.02. It was recorded, where possible, using the conventions of the Leicestershire County type-series (eg Sawday 1994), as follows

CC1: Chilvers Coton ‘A’ Ware, AD1250-1300. 1 sherd, 3g EVE = 0
CC2: Chilvers Coton ‘C’ Ware, 1300-1475. 2 sherds, 37g EVE = 0
CW2: Cistercian Ware, 1475-1550. 1 sherd, 9g, EVE = 0
EA6: Post-medieval Blackwares, late 17th century +. 1 sherd, 36g
EA10: Modern Earthenwares, 1800+. 7 sherds, 214g
LY3: Lyveden/Stanion ‘B’ Ware, 1200-1400. 15 sherds, 95g EVE = 0
LY4: Shelly Wares, 1100-1400. 20 sherds, 126g EVE = 0.02
MP1: Midland Purple Ware, 1375-1550. 2 sherds, 39g, EVE = 0.11
PM: Potter’s Marston Ware, 1100-1300. 5 sherds, 37g, EVE = 0.05
MS1: Medieval Sandy Ware, 1100-1400. 1 sherd, 47g EVE = 0
RS: Late Medieval Reduced Ware, L 14th – 15th century. 1 sherd, 28g EVE = 0.06
ST: Stamford Ware, 900-1150. 121 sherds, 812g, EVE = 0.42
ST2: Developed Stamford Ware, 1150 – 1250. 1 sherd, 13g EVE = 0

The following, not covered by the Leicestershire type-series, were also noted:

BA: Bourne 'A' Ware, 13th – 14th centuries (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 259). 3 sherds, 47g, EVE = 0.12

CO: South Lincolnshire Oolitic Ware, c AD975 – 1150 (Blinkhorn 2010, 268). 7 sherds, 54g, EVE = 0.25

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 2. The range of fabric types is typical of contemporary sites in the region, being dominated in the late Saxon and earlier medieval period by Stamford Wares, then by a wide range of material from relatively localized sources in Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Warwickshire in the high and later medieval period.

Chronology

Each context-specific assemblage was given a ceramic phase-date (CP) based on the range of ware-types present. The basis of the scheme and the chronology, along with the bulk pottery occurrence and mean sherd weight per phase (in g) is shown in Table 2. The pottery occurrence per medieval ceramic phase, by weight of sherds per fabric type, is shown in Table 2.

The data in Table 2 show that the main period of activity at the site was from around the end of the 10th century to the early 14th century, after which time there was a sharp drop-off in pottery disposition, and the site was probably abandoned by the early 15th century. The earliest groups, from CP1 (10th century), may be later than the bare dating suggests, as they are all small groups of very small sherds, and may be all residual.

Table 2: Late Saxon and medieval ceramic phase chronology

CP	Defining Wares	Date	No	Wt (g)	EVE	Mean Wt (g)
CP1	ST	E – L 10th C	10	46	0	4.6g
CP2	ST, CO	L 10th – 11th C	55	468	0.55	8.5g
CP3	LY4, MS1, PM	12th C	32	261	0.03	8.2g
CP4	LY3	13th – E 14th C	44	223	0.09	5.1g
CP4a	CC1	M 13th – E 14th C	19	110	0.02	5.8g
CP5	CC2	E – L 14th C	1	27	0	27.0g
CP6	MP1, RS	L 14th – M 16th C	13	170	0.34	13.1g
		Total	**174**	**1305**	**1.03**	

The data in Table 3 show a pattern which is generally to be expected for the region, with Stamford Ware dominating the earlier phases, and other wares becoming more common from the 13th century onwards. However, residuality is generally quite high from CP4 onwards, with around 50% of the pottery from 13th century contexts comprising redeposited Stamford Ware, indicating that there was either considerable disturbance of earlier strata at that time, or late Saxon and early medieval features were back-filled using midden material, and the site subject to major reorganization. Residuality was still high in the latest medieval ceramic phase (CP6), with over half the pottery (by weight) being redeposited earlier material.

Table 3: Pottery occurrence by fabric type per ceramic phase, major fabrics only

CP	CP1	CP2	CP3	CP4	CP4a	CP5	CP6
ST	100%	90.4%	50.6%	52.0%	42.7%	0	21.8%
CO	-	9.6%	0	0	0	0	0
LY4	-	-	24.9%	18.8%	2.7%	0	9.4%
PM	-	-	6.5%	0	10.9%	0	4.7%
MS1	-	-	18.0%	0	0	0	0
LY3	-	-	-	29.1%	27.3%	0	0
BA	-	-	-	0	13.6%	0	18.8%
CC1	-	-	-	-	2.7%	0	0
CC2	-	-	-	-	-	100%	5.9%
MP1	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.9%
RS	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.5%
Total	**46**	**468**	**261**	**223**	**110**	**27**	**170**

Discussion

As shown above, the assemblage generally comprises a range of wares from relatively local sources, all of which are well-known in this area of the country. It is generally fairly highly fragmented, and with a significant amount of residual material, suggesting that most of the pottery is the product of secondary deposition, perhaps midden material which was incorporated into the backfill of earth-cut features during a re-organization of the site.

The range of vessel types is also typical. The Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman groups (CP1 – CP2) consist largely of fragments of jars and pitchers in Stamford Ware, along with a single CO jar rim. A few handles from other Stamford Ware pitchers were also noted. The earlier medieval assemblage (CP3), residual material aside, consists entirely of fragments of unglazed jars, which is typical of the period, with the high medieval material, CP4/4a – CP5, comprising mainly fragments of glazed jugs, along with a smaller quantity of jars. The latest medieval material is fragments of jugs and jars, which again is fairly typical. The developed vessels of the 15th – 16th century, such as skillets, dripping dishes and cisterns, are entirely absent, indicating that there was very little activity at the site after the end of the 14th century, and it may even have been abandoned at that time.

Overall, the assemblage is a very typical domestic group of the period, with no suggestion of any status or function which could be regarded as out of the ordinary.

6.3 Metalworking debris by Andy Chapman

A total of 580g of slag was recovered from two ditches dated to the medieval period. The fill (56) of ditch [55], contained two pieces, weighing 500g, of undiagnostic dense and vesicular ferrous slag, perhaps a product of secondary iron smithing. The fill (51) of ditch [50] contained a single piece, weighing 80g, of light and vesicular fuel ash slag, which derives from iron working or some other high temperature process.

6.4 Other finds by Tora Hylton

A small crudely-made lead weight was recovered from subsoil. The weight is plano-convex in shape with an off-centre circular perforation, it measures 22mm in diameter, 7mm high and weighs 14g. Such weights may have had any number of uses, and they are often recovered from sites of medieval date. A similar example is known from Norwich (Margeson 1993, fig 103, 937).

6.5 Animal bone by Lazlo Lichtenstein

A total of 115 (NISP, 1.284kg) animal bone elements and fragments was collected from a range of features and trenches during the excavation. Following cleaning and drying all fragments of these hand collected animal bone were recorded, using standard zooarchaeological methods. This material was analysed to determine the taxa present, state of preservation and it is potential to provide evidence on the function and economy of the site. A full catalogue can be found in Appendix 2.

Method

The animal bone was identified using Northamptonshire Archaeology's and the author's vertebrate reference collection, and further guidelines from Schmid (1972), Driesch (1979), Sisson & Grossman (1953) and Feher (1990). Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat the criteria set out by J. Boessneck (1969) were used to separate the two species. Ageing data and tooth eruption and wear were categorised according to Grant (1982), Hillson (2005) with the identification of juvenilis after Amorosi (1989) and Schmid (1972).

The following were recorded for each bone: species, anatomical element, fragmentation, side, fusion and animal teeth marks.

Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (large ungulate size: cattle or horse sized, small ungulate size: pig or sheep/goat). Presence of large and medium vertebrae and ribs was recorded for each context, although these were not counted. These identified to species and were counted.

All teeth and a restricted suite of parts of the postcranial skeleton were recorded and used in counts.

Results

Employing standard zooarchaeological methodological procedures 115 specimens (76.1% of the total NISP) were identified to taxa and parts of anatomy, representing 3 mammalian (Equus/horse, Bos/cattle; Ovicaprid/sheep or goat) species (Table 4). The majority of bones came from cattle (66.6%) and sheep/goat (7%). No avian, fish or amphibian bones were recovered.

Table 4: Species present in the animal bone assemblage by fragment count (including teeth) in the medieval period

Species/taxa	Number	Percentage
Equus caballus L. (Linne 1758)	3	2.6%
Bos taurus L. (Linne 1758)	64	66.6%
Ovicaprid	8	7%
Large ungulate size	19	16.5%
Small ungulate size	5	4.4%%
Unidentificated	16	13.9%
Total	**115**	**100%**

Taphonomy

The bones were generally in good condition, but the fragmentation was high (Table 5), with the majority (71.1%) being less than 50 mm in size. The surface abrasion was at a low level. No complete long bones recorded, because the proximal and the distal end were damaged, but some measurements were noted. Taphonomic factors affecting the

material were recorded including gnawed and recently broken bones. Some bones were smashed in antiquity signifying a chosen method of disposal and many bones showed signs of fresh breaks. More than 50 % showed signs of fresh breaks.

Canid gnawing was seen on 5.2% of bone, which is relatively high. Canid gnawing on bones was noted on cattle metacarpus (17), metatarsus and pelvis (49) fragments; sheep or goat diaphysis fragment of radius (40) and humerus (49) and on small ungulate size animals diaphysis fragments of long bone (40).

No evidence for burning, butchery or bone working was observed.

Table 5: Size of the animal bone assemblage (without the teeth) in the medieval period

Size (mm)	Number	Percentage
<20	18	16.5%
20-50	54	55.2%
50-100	17	17.5%
100-150	7	8.4%
150-200	2	2.4%
Total	**98**	**100%**

Ageing

Little ageing data was available from the cattle teeth wear and eruption (Table 6).

Tooth wear evidence of a cattle severely worn down molars indicating an adult beast in context (48). Deciduous premolars indicating a young animal in context (56) and some severely worn down molars indicating another adult/mature beast remains on the site.

Table 6: The ageing data after the teeth eruption in the medieval period

Context	Species	Years
48	cattle	Adultus (TWS k, 15 years)
56	cattle	Juvenilis (TWS u, 5 years)

The horse and sheep/goat teeth bone fragments were part of a mature animal.

Table 7: Minimum individuals identified in the animal bone assemblage in the medieval period

Common name	MNI
Cattle	3
Horse	1
Sheep/Goat	1

Discussion

The state of preservation for bone on the site was generally good, but the fragmentation was high. Many bones were smashed recently. 76.1% of the assemblage could be identified to species. The assemblage is dominated by cattle 66.6%, followed by lower numbers of sheep/goat 7%. The presence of horse teeth and bones was 2.6%. The dominance of cattle is not unusual of this period (Table 7). Its presence was the result of domestic waste disposal.

The dog gnawing was of relatively very high frequency (5.2% of the total NISP). None of the hand-collected bones from the contexts was burnt, none of them shown evidence for butchery or pathological condition. Evidence for burning was not seen on bones, suggesting that this was not a preferred method of disposal.

The presence of canid gnawing on bones suggests that they were left with access of dogs before being buried. This is an indicator that dogs were present on the site despite none of their bones being recorded in the faunal assemblage from this period.

Conclusion

Due to the paucity of material little can be said of the animal husbandry and economy. Cattle were the most important species in terms of food value on account of the much greater carcass weight in this period. Due to the anatomical similarities between sheep and goat it could not be separated these species bones in this assemblage, but in this case the ovicaprid remains came from sheep almost certainly this specie was present at the settlement.

The bones and teeth of horses were common at the Medieval sites. All the horse teeth and long bone was part of a mature animal. None of the horse bones had any evidence of butchery, it seem the horse was working animals only, reached the maturity.

Although the size of this assemblage not enough for conclusive analysis, the bone appears to represent kitchen waste. The species present and their relative proportions appear to be typical for the medieval period.

6.6 Charred plant remains by Val Fryer

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from ditch and gully fills, and six were submitted for assessment. The samples were bulk floated by NA and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 8. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded.

Although plant macrofossils were present throughout, quantification of the assemblages was not undertaken and, therefore, the density of material is expressed in the tables as follows: x = 1 – 10 specimens, xx = 11 – 50 specimens, xxx = 51 – 100 specimens and xxxx = 100+ specimens. Other abbreviations used in the table are explained at the end of the text section (Table 8).

Table 8: Plant macrofossil data

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**
Context No.	***21***	***49***	***32***	***68***	***76***	***58***
Feature No.	**19**	**31**	**31**	**69**	**75**	**57**
Feature type	***Ditch***	***Ditch***	***Ditch***	***Ditch***	***Gully***	***Ditch***
Cereals and other food plants						
Avena sp. (grains)	x	xx	x	xcf	x	x
Hordeum sp. (grains)	-	x	x	-	x	-
Hordeum/*Secale cereale* type (rachis node)	x	-	-	-	-	-
Secale cereale L. (grains)	xcf	x	x	-	xcf	xcf
Triticum sp. (grains)	xx	xxx	x	x	xx	-
T. aestivum/*compactum* type (rachis nodes)	x	x	x	-	x	-
Cereals indet. (grains)	xx	xx	xx	x	x	x
(detached embryo)	-	x	-	-	-	-
Vicia faba L.	-	xcf	-	-	-	x
Large Fabaceae indet.	x	-	-	-	x	-
Herbs						
Anthemis cotula L.	-	x	-	-	x	-
Atriplex sp.	-	-	x	-	-	-
Bromus sp.	-	x	-	-	-	-
Chenopodiaceae indet.	-	x	-	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet.	x	x	x	-	x	x
Hyoscyamus niger L.	x		-	-	-	-
Small Poaceae indet.	x	x	-	-	-	-
Rumex sp.	x	-	x	x	-	x
Scleranthus annuus L.	-	-	-	-	-	x
Stellaria media (L.)Vill	x	-	-	-	-	-
Tripleurospermum inodorum (L.)Schultz-Bip	-	-	x	-	-	-
Tree/shrub macrofossils						
Corylus avellana L.	-	-	x	-	-	-
Malus/*Pyrus* sp.	-	-	-	-	xcf	-
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xxx	xxxx	x	xxx	xx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x	xx	x	xxx	xx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x	x	-	x	-
Charcoal >10mm	-	-	-	-	x	-
Charred root/stem	x	x	-	-	x	-
Charred twig frags.	-	x	-	-	-	-
Indet.seeds	x	-	-	x	x	-
Other remains						
Black porous 'cokey material	x	xx	x	-	x	-
Black tarry material	x	x	x	x	x	-
Bone	x	x	x	-	-	-
Burnt/fired clay	x	-	-	-	-	-
Small mammal/amphibian bone	-	x	-	-	-	-
Vitreous material	-	x	x	-	-	-
Volume of flot (litres)	**0.2**	**0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**0.2**	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**50%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**50%**	**100%**

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens, cf = compare

Results

Cereal grains and seeds of common weeds were present at a low to moderate density within all six assemblages. Preservation was generally quite poor, with a high proportion of the grains being puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, with wheat occurring most frequently. Chaff was extremely scarce, but individual bread wheat (*T. aestivum*/*compactum*) type rachis nodes were noted within the assemblages from samples 1 (ditch [19]), 2 and 3 (both from ditch [31]) and 5 (gully [75]). Other potential food crop remains occurred infrequently, but possible large, angular cotyledons of field bean (*Vicia faba*) type were noted within samples 2 and 6 (ditch [57]). Such plants frequently grew in field margins, where they were possible relicts of an earlier cropping regime.

Although weed seeds were recorded within all five samples, most were present as single specimens within an assemblage. Common segetal weeds, including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), small legumes (Fabaceae), grasses (Poaceae), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and knawel (*Scleranthus annuus*), were predominant, although a single seed of henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*), a weed common on or adjacent to dung heaps, was also noted. A single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell was noted within sample 3 and sample 5 contained a possible charred apple or pear (*Malus*/*Pyrus* sp.) 'pip'. Charcoal/charred wood fragments, including some large pieces >5mm, were present throughout, although rarely at a very high density. Other plant macrofossils included fragments of charred root or stem and small pieces of twig, some with buds still attached.

The fragments of black porous and tarry material were all probable residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereals) at very high temperatures. Other remains were scarce, but did include pieces of bone and globules of vitreous material, with the latter again probably being a product of the high temperature combustion of organic remains or ash.

Conclusions

Although the density of material differs from sample to sample, the composition of the assemblages is reasonably uniform, possibly indicating that all have a common source. Cereals, and particularly wheat, are predominant throughout, and it would appear most likely that the assemblages are partly or wholly derived from one or more batches of semi-cleaned prime grain. How such material came to be charred is unknown, but it is tentatively suggested that the assemblages represent material, which was either accidentally burnt during drying or culinary preparation, or deliberately burnt as 'dross' after the cleaning of a grain store. The burnt remains were then probably deposited within the nearest available open feature, possibly indicating that the excavated contexts were at least adjacent to a focus of domestic/agricultural activity, if not at their centre. The composition of the weed assemblage suggests that the cereals were being grown on both heavy clay soils (well suited to the production of wheat) and some lighter land, and the near consistent presence of small legume seeds may indicate that attempts at improving land impoverished by over-production and a poor manuring regime were being made by the rotational cropping of nitrogen fixing pulse crops. Evidence for this practise is now widespread across East Anglia and the east midlands.

6 DISCUSSION

Pit [16] potentially comprises the earliest feature on site, producing only a single Bronze Age flint scraper, although this may be a residual find.

Occupation appears to have commenced on site in the 10/11th centuries, there was no evidence for any Viking activity on site despite the *Thorpe* place name. Initially a trackway led up the slope of a dry valley towards the ridge upon which the earthwork remains thought to be associated with the medieval village are situated. Shallow ditches running down the valley side marked a series of boundaries. In the later 11th century a ditch was excavated along the valley side, perhaps marking a repositioning of the rears of the properties. The extent of the late Saxon/early medieval settlement may be greater than the earthwork remains would attest, as pottery of this period has been found in the field to the south. The foundation date corresponds broadly with the probable start of occupation at Martinsthorpe to the south, where excavations on the Hall produced Stamford ware pottery (Wacher 1964).

In the 12th century the construction of an earthwork enclosure formalised the extent of the occupied space, separating the village from the areas of open field within which ridge and furrow cultivation was taking place. The western arm of this enclosure was situated along the crest of a ridge above the dry valley, and its northern arm ran down its base. Part of the function of the enclosure appears to have been to funnel water around and away from the occupied down the stream valley, funnelled through a spillway in the enclosure's north-eastern corner. There was no evidence for occupation or activity within the enclosure, and it may have served as a corral for stock or as protection for high value cultivation (orchards/vegetables). This enclosure was maintained into the 13th century and bears a superficial similarity to a series of earthwork enclosures associated with the deserted medieval village at Martinsthorpe Hall to the south (cf Wacher 1964 plate 1, fig 2), which as at Gunthorpe, were respected by the ridge and furrow cultivation.

The ceramic evidence indicates that activity associated with the deposition of pottery was at its height early in the history of the settlement in the 10/11th century. This continued at a reasonable level into the 12th and 13th centuries. The presence of a chapel in the 12th century may indicate that settlement was now well established and stable. However, activity appears to have declined markedly from the 14th century onwards, and the fact that the chapel was in ruins by 1534 indicates that by then the settlement was effectively abandoned, although the manor continued to exist, at least as a legal entity. This is a pattern seen repeatedly throughout England, and has been ascribed to a number of causes including plague, the replacement of arable cultivation with sheep rearing for the wool trade and declining harvest yields.

The pottery sources were almost entirely local, indicating that whilst Gunthorpe was tied into the economy of the area, although there were no signs of wider imports. The lack of coins, or indeed any worked metals may indicate a level of wealth not far raised from subsistence.

Given the residuality in the pottery assemblage, it is likely that similar residuality occurs in the animal bone and charred plant remains, limiting us to general comments about the settlement's economy during its history. Isolated finds of slag probably derive from ad-hoc craft activities. Animals were being raised both as a food source (cattle/sheep) and also as work animals (cattle/horses). There was also probably a significant presence of dogs on site. The charred cereal remains probably derive from food waste, accidental burning or perhaps as a fuel source or disposal, rather than grain processing. The presence of ridge and furrow indicates agricultural cultivation on the clay soils immediately adjacent to the site, also indicated by the weed seed

assemblage. It is likely that this grain was being processed elsewhere, probably at a mill site in the vicinity. The seed assemblage also contained evidence for attempts to improve crop yields on these soils, implying that harvests were a source of concern during the life of the settlement. It may be possible that declining harvests were indeed a factor in its decline and eventual abandonment.

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APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
1	Earthwork	Cut for cast iron waterpipe		
2	Earthwork	Possible plough headland		
3	Earthwork	Ridge and furrow		
4	Earthwork	Bank and ditch		
5	Earthwork	Ridge and furrow		
6	Earthwork	Bank and ditch		
7	Earthwork	Ridge and furrow		
8	Earthwork	Bank and ditch		
9				
10	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown sandy clay	0.30m thick	
11	Subsoil	Light grey-brown sandy clay	0.20m thick	
12	Natural	Mid blue-brown clay and ironstone capping the high ground		
13	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, V-shaped profile, Filled by (14)	0.63m wide 0.17m deep	
14	Fill of [13]	Mid brown silty clay		Medl pottery
15	Fill of [16]	Dark grey-brown silty clay		Flint
16	Cut of pit	Sub-circular shaped, filled by (15)	0.70m diam 0.10m deep	
17	Layer within bank 6	Mid red-brown clay	9.86m wide 0.28m deep	Medl pottery animal bone
18	Layer within bank 6	Mid orange-brown clay. Overlies 17	9.86mwide 0.10m deep	Medl pottery
19	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, U-shaped profile, filled by (20) and (21)	1.20m wide 0.38m deep	
20	Fill of ditch [19]	Mid orange-brown silty clay. Primary fill	0.67m wide 0.33m deep	
21	Fill of [19]	Mid red-brown clay. Overlies (20)	1.0m wide 0.34m deep	Medl pottery. Sample 1
22	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (23)	0.34m deep	
23	Fill of [22]	Dark grey-brown sandy clay. Cut by [24]		Medieval pottery
24	Cut of land drain	N-S aligned U-shaped profile. Filled by (25). Cuts (23)		
25	Land drain cuts ditch [24]			
26	Fill of land drain			
27	Fill of [28]	Dark grey-brown sandy clay	1.30m wide 0.25m deep	Medieval pottery
28	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, V-shaped profile. Filled by (27) (29)	1.30m wide a0.50m deep	
29	Fill of [28]	Light brown silty clay	1.30m wide 0.25m deep	Medieval pottery
30				

Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
31	Cut of ditch	E-W aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (32), (48) (49)	2.14m wide and 0.69m deep	
32	Fill of [31]	Dark grey-brown silty clay. Overlies (48)	0.84m wide 0.36m deep	Medl pottery. Sample 3
33	Fill of [34]	Mid grey-brown sandy clay		
34	Cut of gully	NW-SE aligned, concave sides and flat base profile. Filled by (33)	0.40m wide 0.05m deep	
35	Fill of [36]	Mid brown-grey sandy clay		Medl pottery
36	Cut of gully	NW-SE aligned, concave sides and flat base profile. Filled by (35)	0.50m wide a0.15m deep	
37	Fill of [38]	Mid brown-grey sandy clay		Medl pottery
38	Cut of gully	NW-SE aligned, concave sides and flat base profile	0.30m wide 0.08m deep	
39	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, V-shaped profile. Filled by (40). Cuts [41]	1.20m wide 0.55m deep	
40	Fill of [39]	Mid grey-brown silty clay.		Medl pottery
41	Cut of ditch	E-W aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (42)(43)	1.74m wide and 0.40m deep	
42	Fill of [41]	Mid grey-brown silty clay. Overlies (43)	1.74m wide 0.35m deep	Medieval pottery
43	Fill of [41]	Mid orange-grey silty clay. Overlain by (42)	1.74m wide 0.15m deep	
44	Feature	Natural hollow. Filled by (45)	2.10m wide (seen) 0.30m deep	
45	Fill of [44]	Dark grey-brown silty clay		Medl pottery animal bone
46	Cut of ditch	E-W aligned, same as [31]. Filled by (47)	0.50m wide (seen)	
47	Fill of [46]	Dark grey silty clay. Unexcavated		
48	Fill of [31]	Dark grey-brown silty clay with frequent stone rubble inclusions. Overlain by (32)	1.96m wide 0.45m deep	Medl pottery, animal bone
49	Fill of [31]	Dark grey-brown clay.	0.83m wide 0.12m deep	Medl pottery, animal bone. Sample 2
50	Cut of ditch	E-W aligned. Filled by (51)	0.51m wide 0.46m deep	
51	Fill of [50]	Mid orange-brown silty clay		Medl pottery, animal bone slag
52	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (53). Same as [22]	0.32m deep	
53	Fill of [52]	Dark grey-brown silty clay. Cut by [31]		
54	Fill of bank 4	Orange-brown sandy clay.	6.88m wide 0.34m deep	Medl pottery, flint
55	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (56) (61)	2.30m wide 0.95m deep	
56	Fill of [55]	Dark grey-brown silty clay. Overlain by (61)		Medl pottery, animal bone slag

Context	Context type Feature & type	Description	Dimensions	Artefacts/ Samples
57	Cut of ditch	N-S aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (58) (59) (62)	2.16m wide 0.84m deep	
58	Fill of [57]	Dark grey-brown silty clay. Overlain by (59)	0.70m wide 0.10m deep	Medl pottery. Sample 6
59	Fill of [57]	Light grey-brown silty clay. Overlain by (62)	1.30m wide 0.43m deep	Medl pottery animal bone
60	Fill of bank 4	Mid orange-brown clay	7.70m wide 0.22m deep	Medieval pottery
61	Material redeposited from bank 4	Light grey-brown clay	0.3m deep	Medieval pottery
62	Material redeposited from bank 4	Light grey-brown clay	0.24m deep	Medieval pottery
63	Land drain			
64	Land drain			
65	Fill of [69]	Mid grey-brown clay. Overlies (66)	0.02m deep	Medieval pottery
66	Fill of [69]	Mid yellow-brown silty clay. Overlies (67)	0.40m deep	Medl pottery animal bone
67	Fill of [69]	Dark orange-brown silty clay. Overlies (68)	0.80m deep	
68	Fill of [69]	Light grey-brown silty clay. Primary fill	1.18m deep	Sample 4
69	Cut of ditch	Ditch to bank 6. NE-SW aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (65-8)	3.60m wide 1.18m deep	
70	Cut of ditch	NE-SW aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (71)	2m wide (seen) 0.45m deep	
71	Fill of [70]	Mid orange-brown silty clay. Cut by [72]		
72	Cut of ditch	NE-SW aligned, U-shaped profile. Filled by (73). Cuts (71). Same as (31)	1.50m wide 0.40m deep	
73	Fill of [72]	Dark grey-brown silty clay		Medl pottery & animal bone
74	Fill of bank 2	Light grey-brown silty clay. Plough headland	5.59m wide 0.27m deep	
75	Cut of gully	NE-SW aligned, U-shaped profile. Same as [34]	0.47m wide 0.16m deep	
76	Fill of [75]	Mid blue-grey clay		Medl pottery. Sample 5

APPENDIX 2: CATALOGUE OF ANIMAL BONE

(17) Layer within bank (6), 108g
Bos, pd, 4 fragments of 1 praemolares decidui M2?, juvenilis, broken. 30g
Bos, 2 proximal epiphysis fragments of metacarpus, sinister. 20g
Bos, 6 diaphysis fragments of metacarpus, sinister. Animal teeth mark on 1 fragment. 58g

(32) Fill of ditch [31], 111g
Bos, M2, maxillaris, molar of the upper jaw, sinister, slightly worn down, juvenilis, broken, in 2 pieces. L:27.3mm B:18.1mm. 27g
Bos, 4 acetabulum fragments of pelvis, sinister, broken. 31g
Ovicaprid, fragment of molar, broken.1g
Large ungulatte size animal, 4 fragments of corpus costae. 30g
Large ungulate size animal, 7 diaphysis fragments of long bone. 21g
Fragment of cranium, animal specie unidentifiable. 1g

(40) Fill of ditch [39], 42g
Bos, p2, premolar, mandibularis, sinister, worn down, adultus. 6g
Ovicaprid, diaphysis fragment of radius. Animal teeth mark on it. 11g
Large ungulate size animal, 3 diaphysis fragments of metacarpus. 19g
Small ungulatte size animal, 3 diaphysis fragments of long bone. Animal teeth mark on 1 fragment. 6g

(48) Fill of ditch [31], 107g
Bos, M1, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, severely worn down, adultus (TWS k, 15 years). L:19.9mm B:12.8mm. 7g
Bos, M2, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, severely worn down, adultus (TWS k, 15 years). L:21.9mm B:13.3mm. 11g
Bos, M3 mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, severely worn down, adultus (TWS k, 15 years). L:32.2mm B:13.5mm. 19g
Bos, 5 fragments of mandible, ramus, sinister, broken. 62g
Bos, fragment of mandible, angle, sinister. 8g

(49) Fill of ditch [31], 366g
Bos, P1, premolar, maxillaris, sinister, worn down, adultus, broken. 6g
Bos, M2, maxillaris, molar, sinister, severely worn down, adultus. L:23.5mm B:18.7mm. 20g
Bos, M3 mandibularis, molar, severely worn down, adultus. L:26.3mm B:19.3mm. 24g
Bos, 4 fragments of maxilla, broken. 2g
Bos, 3 diaphysis fragments of metacarpus, dexter, broken. 36g
Bos, 2 fragments of metatarsus, diaphysis and proximal epiphysis, dexter, broken. Animal teeth mark on it. 70g SD:20.6mm
Bos, fragment of metatarsus, diaphysis and proximal epiphysis, sinister, broken. Animal teeth mark on it. 97g SD:25.2mm
Bos, fragment of pelvis, acetabulum and partly ilium, dexter, broken. Animal teeth mark on it. 64g
Bos, 2 proximal epiphysis and diaphysis fragments of humerus, dexter, broken. 38g
Ovicaprid, diaphysis fragment of femur. Animal teeth mark on it. 9g

(56) Fill of ditch [55], 124g
Bos, pd, praemolares decidui, p1, juvenilis. L:16.8mm B:9.1mm. 3g
Bos, pd, fragments of mandibula with p2, praemolares decidui, juvenilis. 12g
Bos, M1, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, tooth erupted almost at full height but unworn, juvenilis (TWS u, 5 years). L:23.2mm B:11.2mm. 12g
Bos, M2, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, tooth erupted almost at full height but unworn, juvenilis (TWS u, 5 years). L:26.7mm B:11.7mm. 19g
Bos, fragment of mandibula with M3, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, tooth erupted almost at full height but unworn, juvenilis (TWS u, 5 years). L:32.5mm B:-mm. 28g
Bos, 6 fragments of mandible, ramus, sinister, broken. 26g
Ovicaprid, 4 diaphysis fragments of femur. 24g

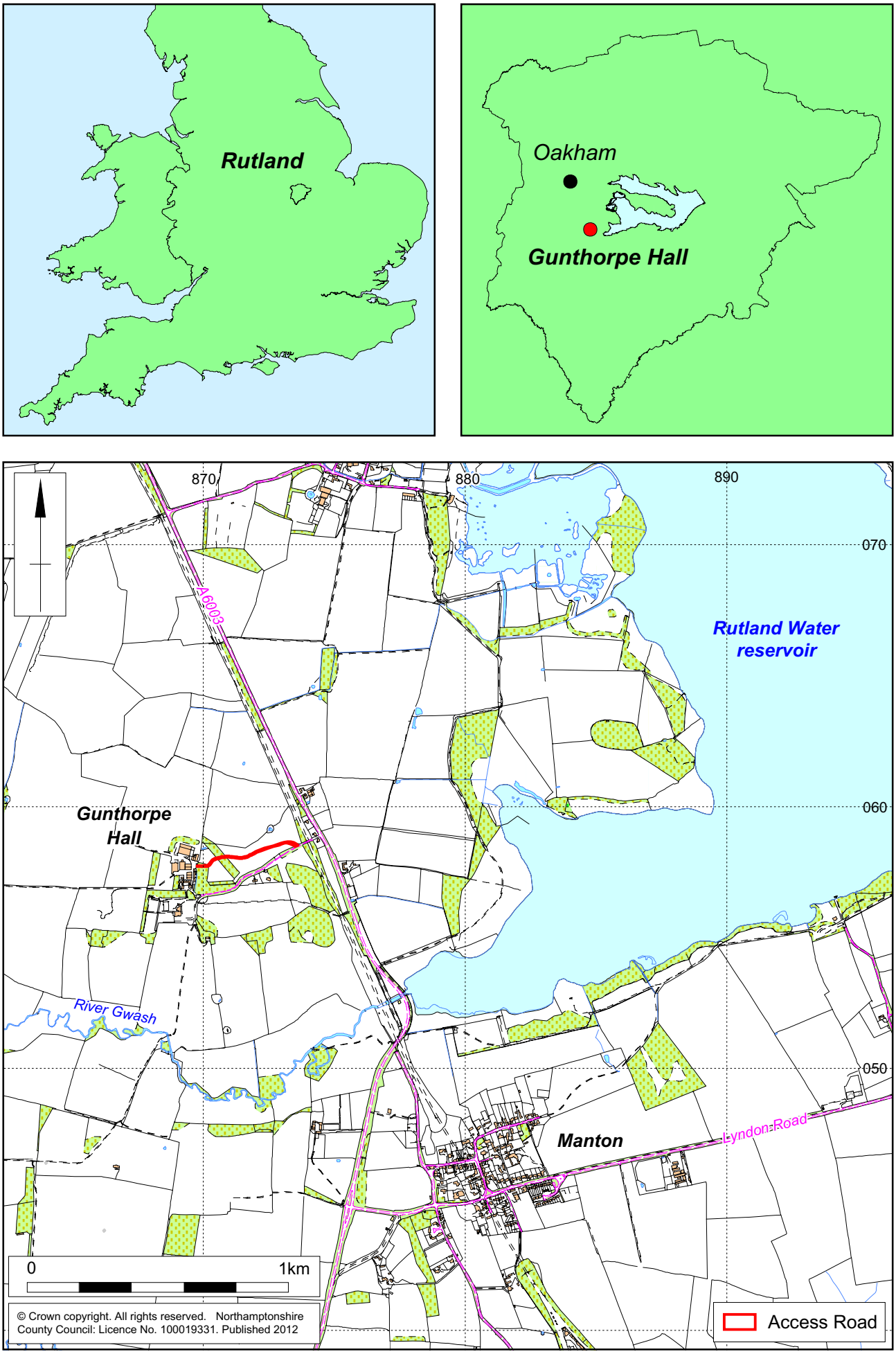
(59) Fill of ditch [57], 320g
Equus, M3, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, severely worn down, maturus. L:30.4mm B:14.3mm 17g
Equus, fragment of mandible, sinister. 5g
Bos, 13 fragments of one femur, proximal end, diaphysis, distal end, sinister, broken. 275g SD: 28.3
Large ungulate size animal, fragment of proximal epiphysis, broken. 12g
Large ungulate size animal, diaphysis fragment of long bone. Bone type are unidentifiable. 8g
Small ungulate size animal, diaphysis fragments of humerus. 2g
Unidentifiable bone fragment. 1g

(65) Fill of ditch [69], 16g
Bos, M2, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, dexter, adultus, broken (TWS *c*8 years). L:24.4mm B:11.9mm. 13g
Ovicaprid, M3, mandibularis, broken. 3 g

(66) Fill of ditch [69], 25g
5 epiphysis fragments of long bone. 11g
8 diaphysis fragments of long bone. 6g
Unidentifiable bone fragments. 8g

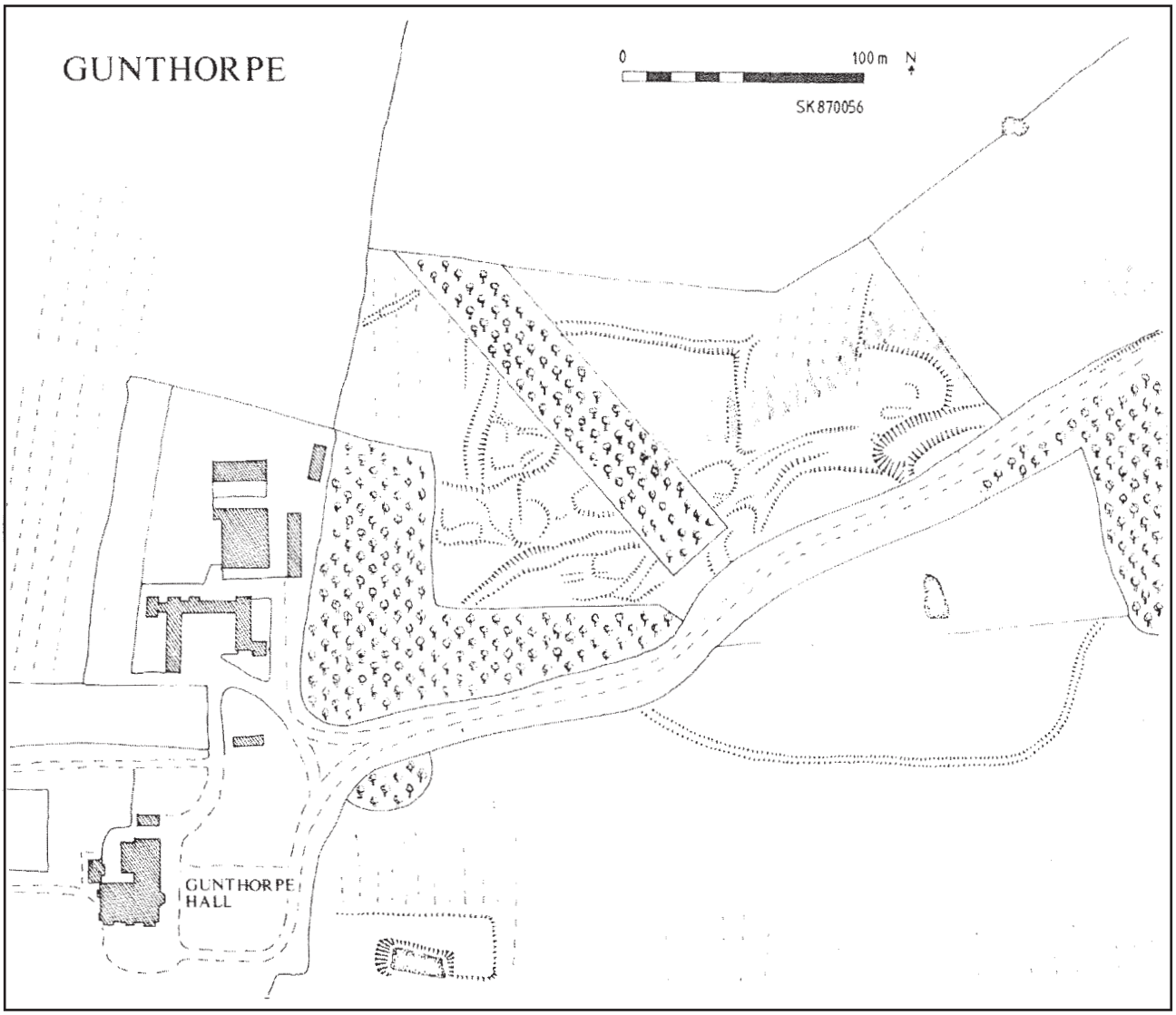
(73) Fill of ditch [72], 65g
Equus, M2, mandibularis, molar of the lower jaw, sinister, worn down, adultus. L:25.6mm B:14.8mm. 32g
Bos, M2, maxillaris, molar, severely worn down, adultus. L:26.6mm B:19.9mm. 20g
Large ungulate size animal, 3 diaphysis fragments of long bone. Bone type unidentifiable. 11g
Small ungulate size animal, diaphysis fragment of long bone. 2g
Small ungulate sized animal – sheep/goat, sus

B – breadth
L – Length
Large ungulate sized animal – cattle or horse
SD – Smallest breadth of the diaphysis
TWS – tooth wear stages, after Grant (1982)

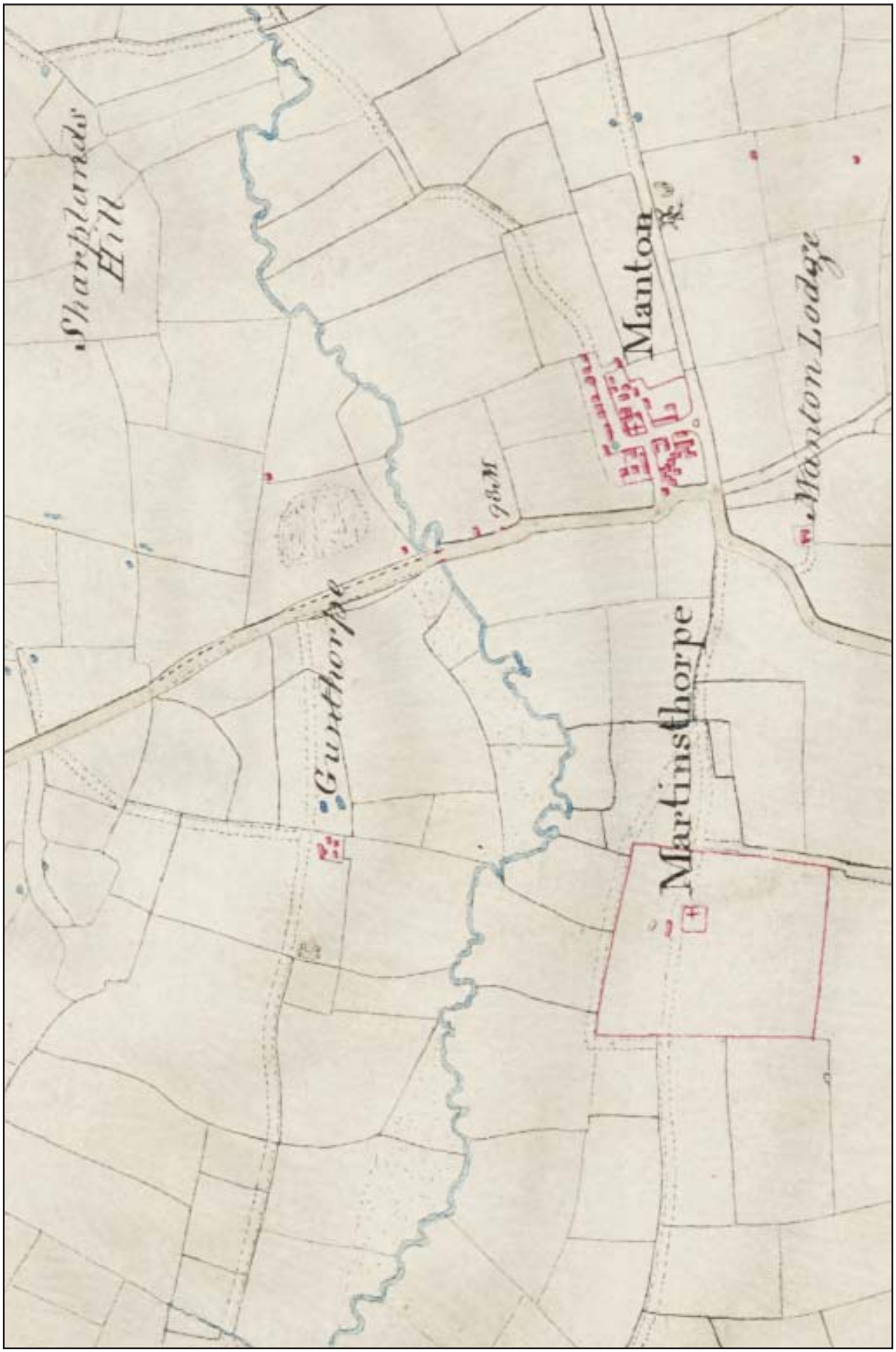


Scale 1:20,000

Site location Fig 1



Earthwork survey after Hartley 1983 Fig 2



Extract from 1810 Ordnance Survey provisional 2 inch map Fig 3

870
871
872
873
059
058
057
1
2
3
3
4
6
7
Haul road
Ridge
Furrow
Top of slope
Bottom of slope
0
50m

Scale 1:1000 (A3)

Earthwork survey results Fig 4

Feature 1, looking south-east

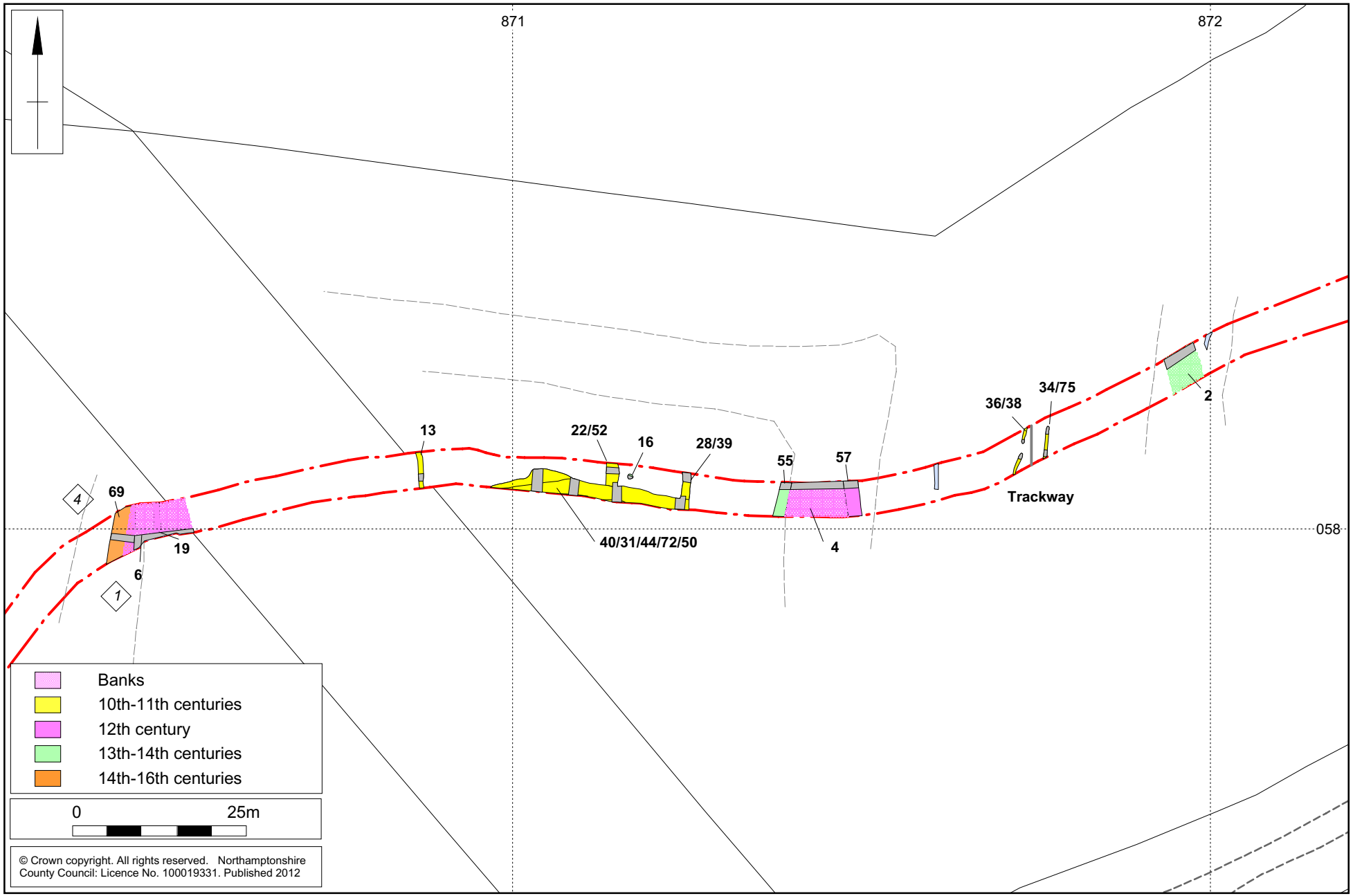
Bank 2, looking south

Bank 4, looking west

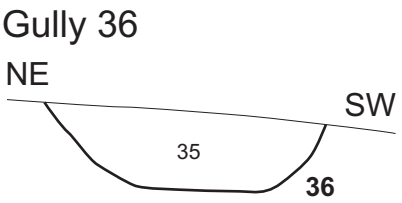
Bank 6, looking south

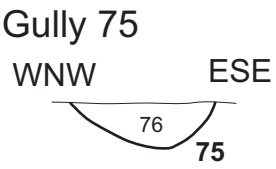
Ridge and Furrow, looking north

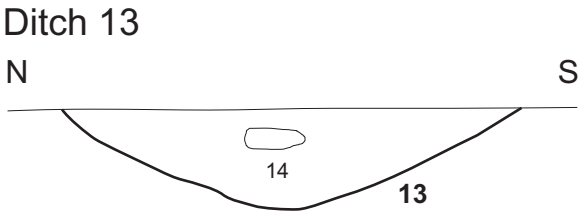
Scale 1:750 (A4)

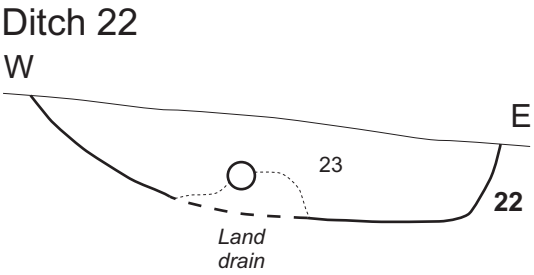


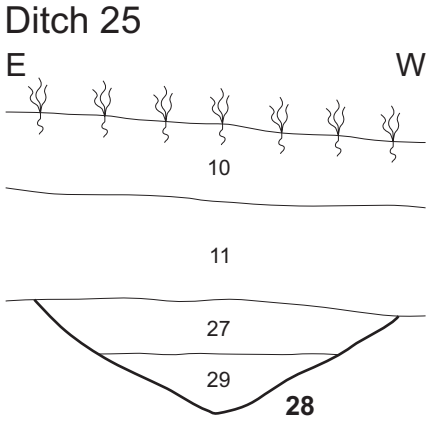
General plan Fig 6











Gullies 36/38, looking east

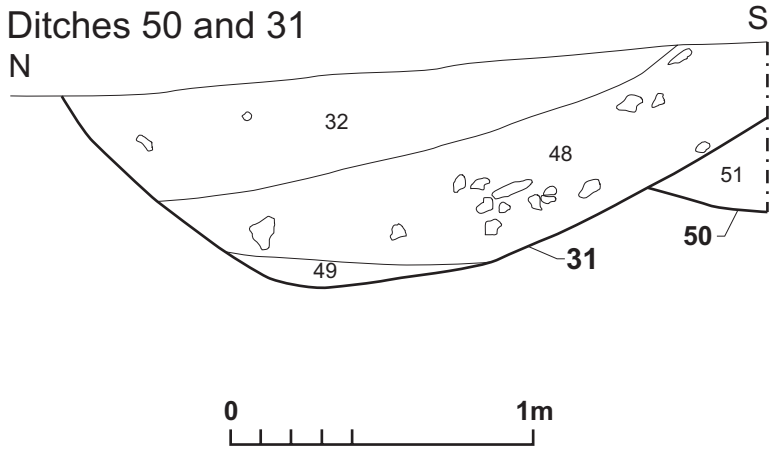
Ditch 13, looking north

Ditch 22, looking north

Ditch 28, looking north

Scale 1:25 (A4)

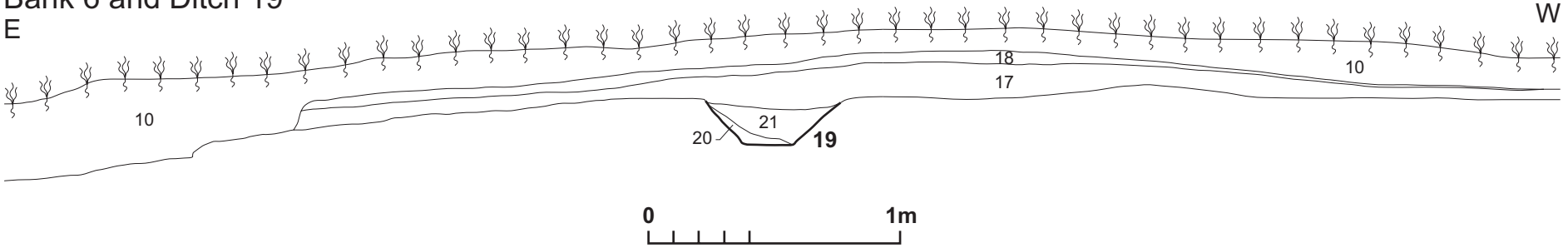
Gully and ditch sections Fig 7



Ditches 50 & 31, looking east

Scale 1:25 (A4)

Bank 6 and Ditch 19



Ditch 19, looking north

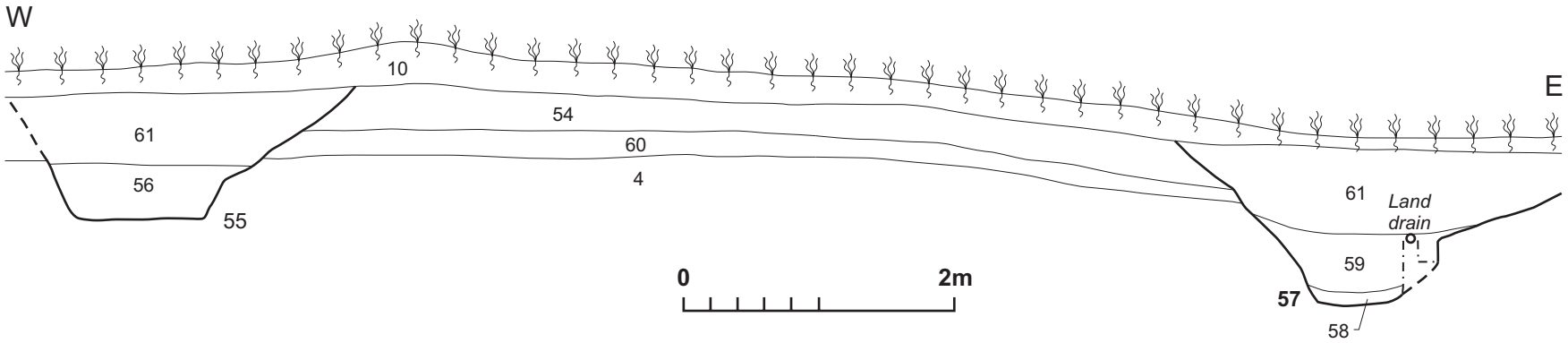
Ditch 19 and Bank 6, looking east

Bank 6, before excavation, looking south-east

Bank 6 and Ditch 19 Fig 9

Scale 1:50 (A4)

Bank 4 and Ditches 55 & 57



Bank 4 and Ditch 55, looking north

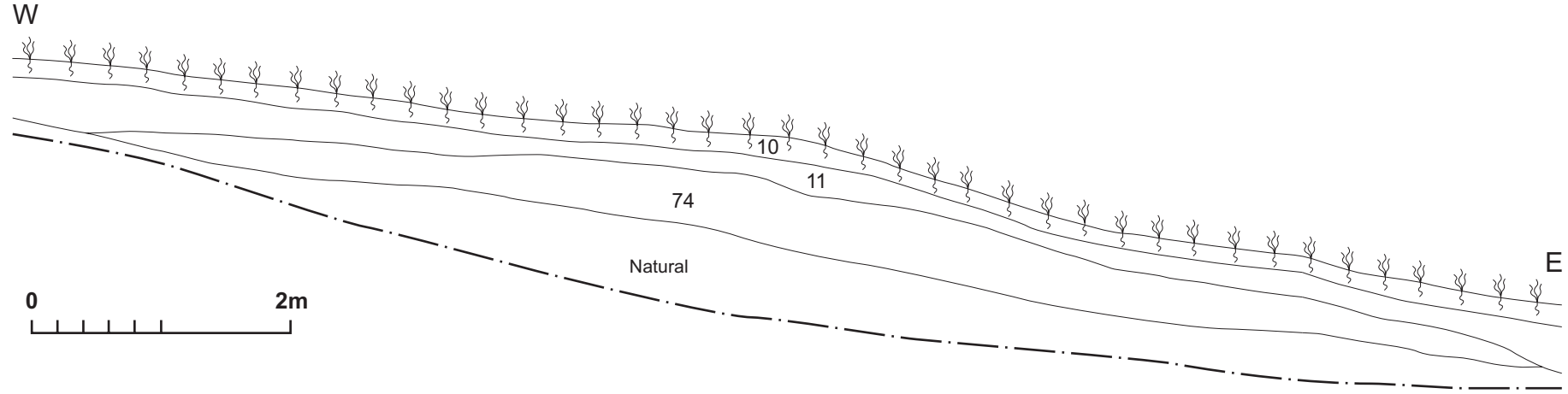
Bank 4 and Ditch 57, looking north-west

Bank 4 and Ditches 55 &57, looking north-east

Bank 4 and Ditches 55 & 57 Fig 10

Scale 1:50

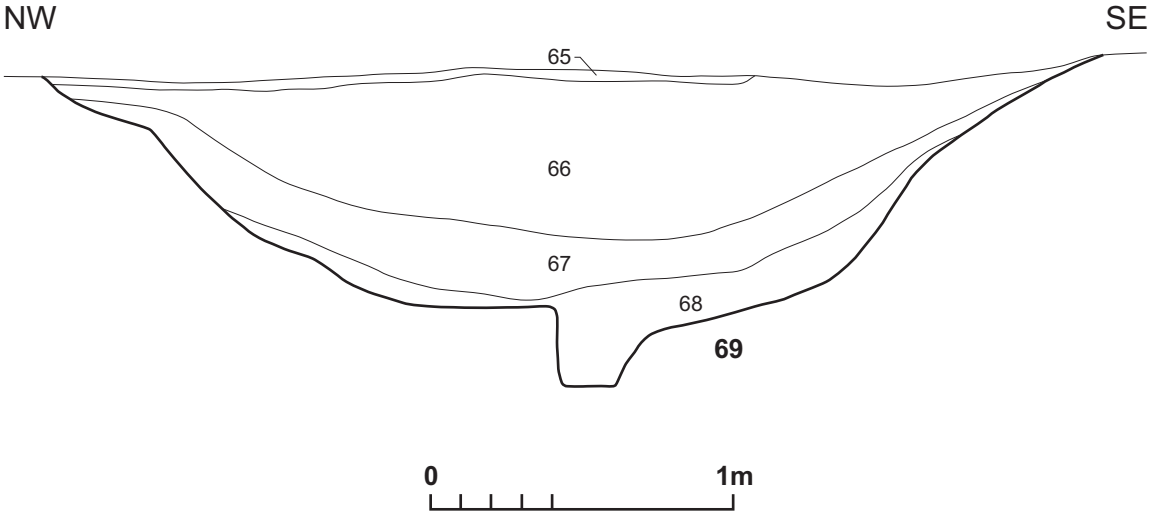
Bank 2



Bank 2, looking south west

Bank 2 Fig 11

Ditch 69



Ditch 69, looking south-west

Ditch 69 and Bank 6, looking south-west

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