

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION COMPRISING MONITORING AND RECORDING OF GROUNDWORKS ON LAND AT INGOLMEAD 96 STATION ROAD SNETTISHAM NORFOLK (ENF 149298)

# Work Undertaken For WEST NORFOLK GLASS LIMITED

May 2021

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APS Report No. 19/21





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#### 1. **SUMMARY**

A programme of archaeological mitigation comprising monitoring and recording of groundworks was carried out at Ingolmead, 96 Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk. This was because the development site lies within an area of archaeological interest close to known Iron Age and Roman remains.

However, the monitoring and recording revealed only a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits.

Finds from the topsoil comprised late postmedieval to early modern pottery, clay pipe and glass.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Planning Background

Planning permission (20/00741/F) was granted for the construction swimming pool enclosure subject to a programme of archaeological mitigation, comprising monitoring and recording of groundworks under archaeological supervision and control. Archaeological Project Services (APS) was commissioned by West Norfolk Glass Limited to undertake this work which was carried out on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation prepared by **APS** and approved Norfolk Historic bv Environment Service.

#### 2.2 Topography and Geology

Snettisham is located 14km north of King's Lynn close to the east coast of The Wash (Fig. 1). The site is situated in the southwestern part of Snettisham, to the south of Station Road, at National Grid Reference TF 67786 33400 (Fig. 2).

The site lies at a height of c. 8m AOD on level ground to the north of the River

Ingol, which flows northeast to southwest through the area. Local soils are of the Blackwood Association, typically sandy gleys (Hodge et al. 1984, 121). These are developed on Head Deposits which in turn seal a solid geology of sandstones and mudstones of the Dersingham Formation (BGS 1978).

#### 2.3 Archaeological Setting

Much evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation and religious activity has been recorded around Snettisham. A Romano-British temple has been identified, and significant hoards of both Bronze Age and Iron Age metalwork, including a major collection of torcs, have been found (Lyons 2004).

Cropmarks of Iron Age and Romano-British field systems, rectangular enclosures, trackways, curvilinear features and pits or kilns have been recorded a short distance to the west and south of the site, mostly between the A149 bypass and the village, though also extending west of the bypass (NHER 18236, 26626). There is a probability of such features extending into the site. Major sites of Roman date, including circular houses, have been excavated on the line of the bypass just north of the site (Flitcroft 2001). Roman pottery sherds have been recovered northwest of the site (NHER 11993).

About 750m north of the development site, three 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman coins were discovered during the excavation of drainage trenches. To the north of this an earlier archaeological evaluation (Mellor 2005) uncovered features associated with both Roman and medieval agricultural activity.

Investigations in the former railway station yard immediately west of the site confirmed that ditches surviving on the site correlated with elements of the historic landscape mapped from aerial photographs to the southwest. Artefacts recovered from the excavated features confirmed a  $1^{st}$  to  $2^{nd}$  century Romano-British date (Moulis 2016).

The station, on the Lynn and Hunstanton Railway, was in operation between 1862 and 1969.

#### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the work was to record and interpret the deposits and any archaeological features exposed during the development groundwork.

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- Determine the form and function of the archaeological features encountered;
- Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features encountered;
- As far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features;
- Establish the sequence of the archaeological remains present on the site.

#### 4. METHODS

The footings for the conservatory were opened by mechanical excavator to the depths required by the development.

Following excavation, selected sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Each deposit was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their descriptions appears as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled and sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10. Recording was undertaken according to standard

Archaeological Project Services' practice.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2).

#### **5. RESULTS** (Figs 4, 5)

Archaeological contexts are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field.

The earliest deposit revealed in the footings was an at least 0.1m thick natural mid yellow sand (003) with occasional medium to large carstone fragments. This was overlain by a 0.75m thick layer of mid brown sandy silt subsoil (002) above which was a 0.65m thick topsoil (001) (Fig. 4, Sections 1, 2; Plates 2, 4) which contained late 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery, 20<sup>th</sup> century glass and 19<sup>th</sup> century clay pipe. There were no archaeological features.

#### 6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprising yellow sand were overlain by a sequence of subsoil, probably a former ploughsoil and a very thick topsoil or garden soil.

The lack of archaeological features meant the site did not contribute to the research agenda for the East of England (Medlycott 2011).

#### 7. CONCLUSION

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out on land at Ingolmead, 96 Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk as the site was in the vicinity of known Iron Age and Roman remains.

In the event, the monitoring and recording revealed only a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits.

Finds comprised late post-medieval to early modern pottery, clay pipe and glass.

#### 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wishes to acknowledge the assistance of West Norfolk Glass Limited for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. The work was co-ordinated by Paul Cope-Faulkner who also edited this report.

#### 9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Paul Cope-Faulkner

Site Supervisor: Mark Peachey Finds Processing: Denise Buckley

Photographic reproduction: Mark Peachey

CAD Illustration: Mark Peachey

Post-excavation analysis: Mark Peachey

Archiving: Denise Buckley

#### 10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Flitcroft, M, 2001 Excavation of a Romano-British Settlement on the A149 Snettisham Bypass, 1989, East Anglian Archaeology **93** 

Hodge, CAH, Burton, RGO, Corbett, WM, Evans, R, and Seale, RS, 1984 *Soils and their use in Eastern England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales **13** 

Lyons, A, 2004, Romano-British Industrial Activity at Snettisham, Norfolk: Archaeological Investigations at Strickland Avenue and Station Road, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 18

Medlycott, M (ed.), 2011, 'Research and

Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England', East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24

Mellor, V, 2005, Archaeological Evaluation on Land West of Mill View Court, Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk. unpublished APS Report No. 44/05

Moulis, CJ, 2016, Archaeological Investigations on land at Old Station Yard, Beach Road, Snettisham, Norfolk (ENF 140333) unpublished APS Report No. 59/16

#### 11. ABBREVIATIONS

AOD Above Ordnance Datum

APS Archaeological Project Services

NHER Norfolk Historic Environment Record

NHES Norfolk Historic Environment Service

SM Scheduled Monument

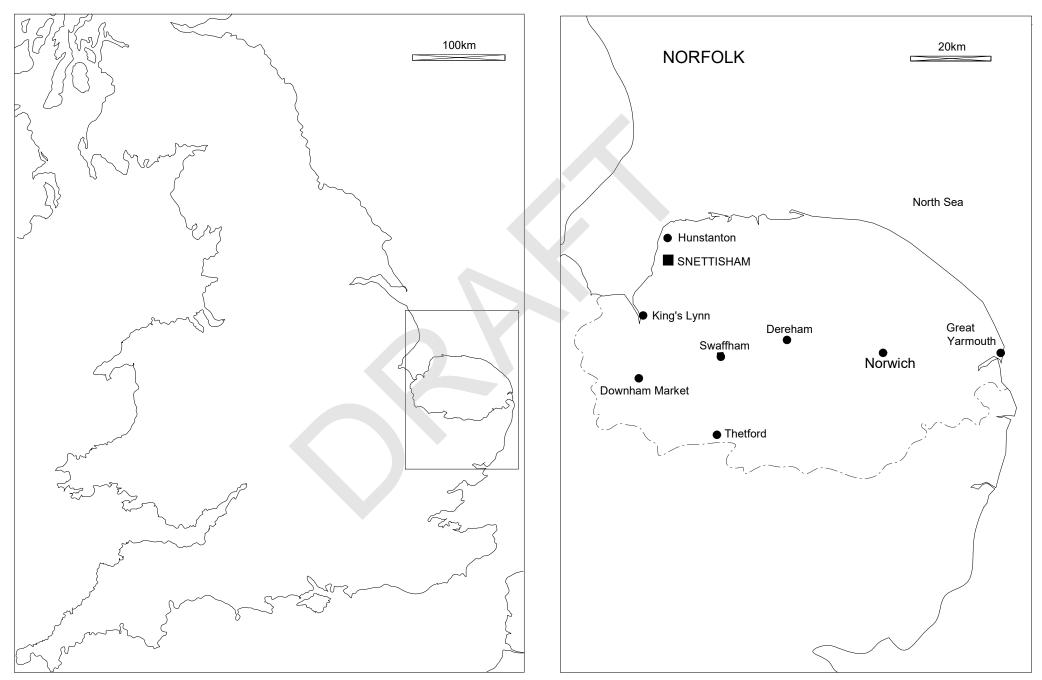


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

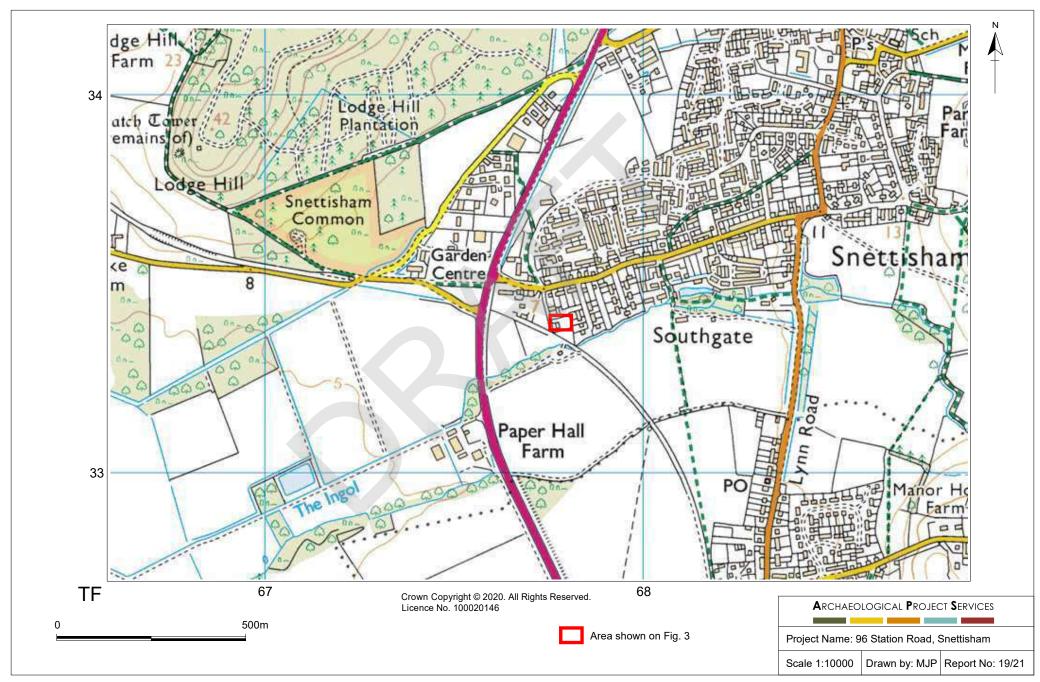


Figure 2. Site location plan



Figure 3. Site plan

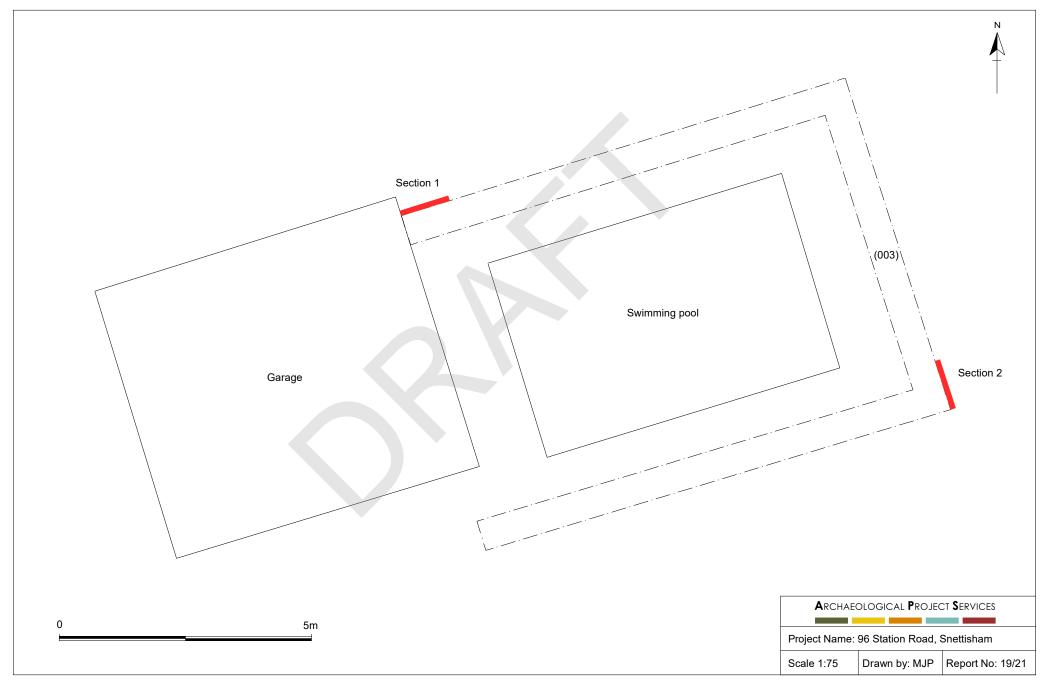


Figure 4. Plan of the footings

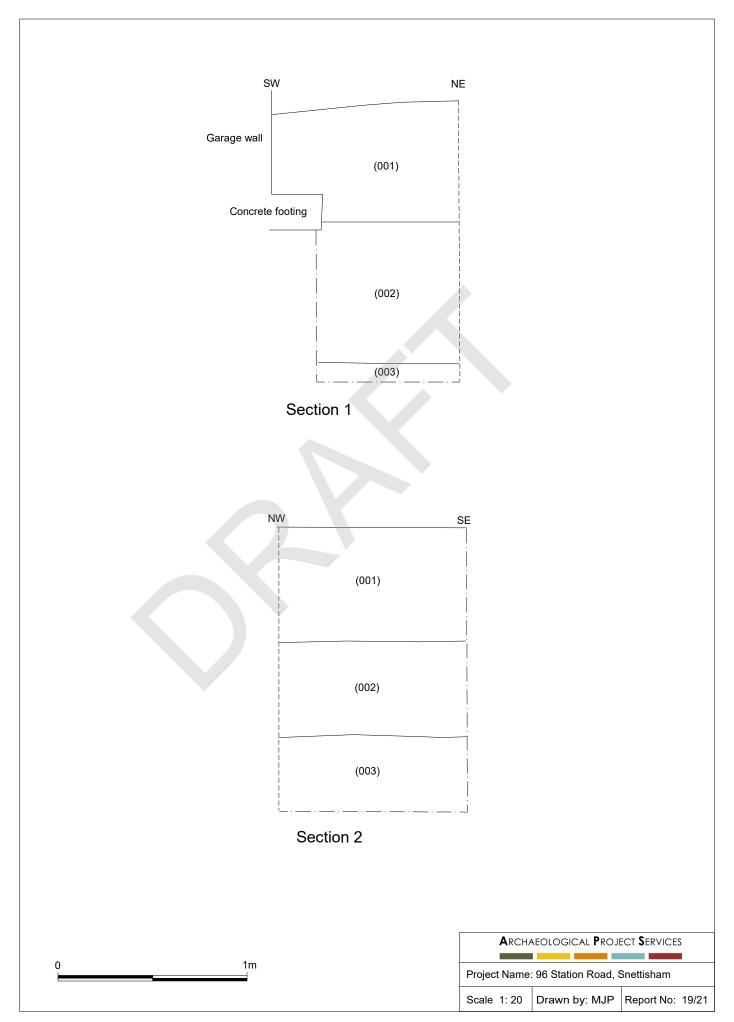


Figure 5. Sections



Plate 1. The site, prior to the excavation of the footings, looking southwest



Plate 2. Representative Section 1, looking north



Plate 3. Excavating the footings, looking south



Plate 4. Representative Section 2, looking northeast



Plate 5. General view of the footings, looking northwest

## CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Description	Interpretation
no.		
001	Friable mid greyish brown clayey silt, 0.65m thick	Topsoil
002	Friable mid brown sandy silt, 0.75m thick	Subsoil
003	Loose mid yellow sand with frequent small chalk flecks and occasional medium to large carstone fragments, at least 0.1m thick	Natural



#### THE FINDS

#### POST ROMAN POTTERY

By Jane Young and Johanna Gray

#### Introduction

Five sherds of pottery representing four vessels, weighing 0.149kg in total were submitted for examination. The pottery recovered is of late post-medieval to early modern type with dating falling into the period between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The pottery was catalogued by ware (common name) and fabric type using mnemonic Norfolk codenames (Table 1). Early modern types were identified visually; earlier fabrics were identified using a x20 binocular microscope. The assemblage was quantified within each context by ware and fabric type with three measures: number of sherds, estimated vessel count using sherds obviously belonging to a single vessel and weight. The ceramic data including attributes such as decoration, condition and usage was entered on a Microsoft Access Database using ceramic codenames and a copy of this in available in Archive Catalogue 1. Recording of the assemblage was in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, *et al.* (2001) and a Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (2016). Vessel forms were identified where possible using the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of forms (MPRG 1998; 2001).

#### **Condition**

The pottery is mostly in a slightly abraded condition with recovered sherd size falling into the small to medium size range (below 40grams).

#### **Overall Chronology and Source**

A range of four, identifiable post-Roman pottery ware types were identified; the type and general date range for these fabrics are shown in Table 1. The post-Roman pottery ranges in type from the late post-medieval to early modern periods. The assemblage falls within a limited range of vessel types including identifiable examples of bowl and garden pot.

Table 1: Pottery codenames and date ranges with total quantities by sherd, vessel count and weight in grams

Norfolk codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	Total sherds	Total vessels	Total weight
LGRE	Late Glazed Red Earthenware	1750	1960	1	1	19
LPME	Late Post-medieval Earthenware	1750	2000	1	1	32
PMSW	Post-medieval Slipware	1600	1950	1	1	36
REFW	Refined Whiteware	1800	2000	2	1	62

#### **The Site Sequence**

The post-Roman pottery was recovered entirely from topsoil layer 001. A sherd in a late Glazed Red Earthenware fabric (LGRE) has an internal mid brown glaze and comes from a vessel with a narrow neck such as a jar, flagon or costrel. No exact parallels could be found for the vessel, which has a single grooved line around the shoulder and is most likely to date to between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. A sherd from a large late Slipware jar (PMSW) with an internal white slip has an applied lugged handle set against the body and is of late 18<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century date. Two sherds in an early modern white earthenware fabric (REFW)

are from a large curved bowl or chamber pot of late 19<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century date. The vessel is decorated with pink and gold painted decoration and may have been part of a toilet set. A fragment from a late earthenware (LPME) garden pot is of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### **Summary and Recommendations**

A mixed group of late post-medieval and early modern pottery dating to between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries was recovered from the site. The range of fabrics present in the assemblage is not remarkable but the Late Red Earthenware vessel is of unusual shape.

The assemblage, with the exception of the Late Glazed Red Earthenware and Slipware sherds, could be discarded.

#### **GLASS**

By Denise Buckley

#### Introduction

Two glass items, together weighing 609g, were recovered during archaeological works at Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk. The material was recorded in January 2021.

#### Condition

Both items are in good, stable condition.

#### Results

Table 2, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
001	Base of very pale green utility/preserving jar. Raised embossed letters (very unclear) – possibly "CS & Co.LD"  Dark green beverage bottle (complete), with metal screw top lid; 240mm high. Batch mark "A924 S 8 UCB" on base. Cap has "WHITE HORSE DISTILLERS" embossed around the edge, with a horse in the middle and "EstaB1742" underneath		131 478	1892- 1913 Early to mid 20th
Totals		2	609	

#### Range

Two glass items were retrieved from the topsoil (001) – the base of a preserving/utility jar and a bottle.

The utility jar base has "CS & Co.LD", and possibly a number as well, stamped on the base, although it is very feint. This refers to Cannington Shaw & Co., glassmakers based at St. Helen's, Lancashire between 1875 and 1913. This particular form of the stamp dates to 1892 to 1913.

The other item is a small whisky bottle from the White Horse Distillery. The distillery started on the Island of Islay around 1742. At the beginning of the 19th century, the Graham-Family took over the small Lagavulin distillery and around 1850, John Logan Mackie became a partner. When John Mackie retired from the business in 1890, his nephew Peter Mackie took over the management of the company and it was he who had the idea of the name White Horse Distillery, after a coaching inn on Canongate in Edinburgh, also owned by the Mackie family. The whisky was originally known as "Mackie's White Horse Cellar Scotch Whisky" when it was introduced in the late 1880s. Peter Mackie died in 1924, two years before White Horse became the first whisky to dispense with corks and use a screw cap, the result of which was a hugely successful doubling of sales (euvs.org). In 1927 White Horse Distillers Ltd. was taken over by the Distillers Company Ltd (DCL). DCL withdrew White Horse blended whisky from its home market, concentrating on overseas sales, and, although

the whisky itself is still produced, new owner Diageo dissolved White Horse Distillers Ltd. as a company in 2010(scotchwhisky.com). Further information can also be found at <a href="https://mywhiskyjourneys.com/pages/white-horse-story">https://mywhiskyjourneys.com/pages/white-horse-story</a>

#### **Potential**

As relatively modern items retrieved from the ploughsoil, apart from dating evidence and social history interest, the glass is of no further potential and has been discarded.

#### **CLAY PIPE**

By Denise Buckley

#### Introduction

Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table. It was recorded in January 2021.

#### **Condition**

The clay pipe is in stable condition.

#### Results

Table 3, Clay Pipes

Context	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
no.	8	7	6	5	4				
001		1				1	4	Stem ; plain.	1650-1680
Totals		1				1	4		

#### Range

A single plain stem fragment dating to the mid to late 17<sup>th</sup> century was recovered. Dating was taken from the bore size using the Harrington scale. As it has no discerning marks and is from the ploughsoil (001), it is of no further potential and can be discarded.

#### **SPOT DATING**

The dating in Table 4 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 4, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
001	Late 18th to 20th	

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ACBMG Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group

BS Body sherd

CBM Ceramic Building Material

CXT Context

LHJ Lower Handle JoinNoF Number of FragmentsNoS Number of sherdsNoV Number of vessels

PCRG Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group

TR Trench

UHJ Upper Handle Join W (g) Weight (grams)

#### **REFERENCES**

~ 2002, Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material, version 3.2 [internet]. Available at http://www.tegula.freeserve.co.uk/acbmg/CBMGDE3.htm

Davey, P. J., 1981, Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval* and Later Pottery in Wales 4, 65-88

www.euvs.org/en/collection/spirits/bottle/white-horse-cellar-scotch-whisky

Lindsey, B., Lockhart, B., Schreiver, B., & Serr, C., 2014, Cannington Shaw & Co., available at *sha.org* MPRG 1998; 2001. *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*, Medieval Pottery Research Group, Occas Paper 1

A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology. 2016. Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, Study Group for Roman Pottery and the Medieval Pottery Research Group

https://scotchwhisky.com/whiskypedia/2929/white-horse-distillers

Slowikowski, A. M., Nenk, B., and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

#### **ARCHIVE CATALOGUES**

Archive catalogue 1, Post Roman Pottery

Cxt	Norfolk codename	sub fabric	form type	No S	No V	W(g)	decoration	part	description	date
001	LGRE	fine orange	jar/bottle/	1	1	19	decoration	shoulder	shoulder; narrow necked; int light brown glaze; high fired; looks like a flowerpot fabric	late 18th to mid 20th
001	LPME	micaceous orange fne-med sandy	garden pot	1	1	32		rim	fresh break no joining sherds. Discard	19th to 20th
001	PMSW	red medium sandy	large handled jar	1	1	36		BS	int white slip giving yellow glaze; ext brown glaze	late 18th to mid 20th
001	REFW		large rounded bowl/chamber pot	2	1	62	ext pink & gold lustre painted incl leaf & lattice design	BS	part of a toilet set ? Discard	late 19th to mid 20th

#### **GLOSSARY**

Bronze Age A period characterised by the introduction of bronze into the country for tools,

between 2250 and 800 BC.

**Context** An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For

example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretation of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the

report text by brackets, e.g. [004].

**Cut** A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench,

etc. Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.

Fill Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be

back-filled manually. The soil(s) that become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as

its fill(s).

**Iron Age** A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, and

subsequent home production, between 800 BC and AD 50.

Layer A layer is an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut

**Medieval** The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.

Natural Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence

of human activity

**Post-medieval** The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.

**Romano-British** Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.

#### THE ARCHIVE

#### The archive consists of:

- 1 Context register sheet
- 3 Context record sheets
- 1 Photographic record sheet
- 1 Plan record sheet
- 1 Section record sheet
- 2 Daily record sheets
- 2 Sheets of scale drawings
- 1 Bag of finds

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services The Old School Cameron Street Heckington Sleaford Lincolnshire NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Norwich Castle Museum Castle Meadow Norwich Norfolk NR1 3JU

Norfolk Historic Environment Event Number: ENF 149298

Norfolk Museums Accession Number: NWHCM: 2021.234

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: SNSR 20

OASIS Record No: archaeol1-421948

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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## **Summary for archaeol1-421948**

OASIS ID (UID)	archaeol1-421948
Project Name	Archaeological Monitoring and Recording at Ingolmead, 96 Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk
Activity type	WATCHING BRIEF
Project Identifier(s)	
Planning Id	20/00741/F
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Archaeological Project Services
Project Dates	22-Sep-2020 - 23-Sep-2020
Location	Land at 96 Station Road, Snettisham, Norfolk
	NGR : TF 67786 33400
	LL: 52.8719112014449, 0.491473990064258
	12 Fig : 567786,333400
Administrative Areas	Country : England
	County : Norfolk
	District : King's Lynn and West Norfolk
	Parish : Snettisham
Project Methodology	Monitoring of the footings for a new swimming pool building revealed a sequence of natural, subsoil and topsoil deposits.
Project Results	This was not collected in OASIS IV when this record was originally created
Keywords	
HER	Norfolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - ENF149298
Archives	Digital Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Norfolk
	Museums and Archaeology Service