ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT PALES GREEN, CASTLE ACRE, NORFOLK ENF 126596

Work Undertaken For
Martin Hall Associates
on behalf of
7th Earl of Leicester's 1966 Settlement

June 2011

Report Compiled by
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National Grid Reference: TF 8171 1509
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES

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1. SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Pales Green, Castle Acre, Norfolk. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of proposed development at the site.

The site lies within an area of archaeological interest, just within the outer bailey of the medieval (AD 1066-1540) castle, which contained the earliest planned town, and close to the church of St James which has elements dating to the 14th century. Pales Green was the site of a market during the medieval period. A previous investigation near the site recorded Late Saxon (AD 850-1066) pottery and a ditch.

The evaluation identified a sequence of natural, undated, medieval and recent deposits. A single undated pit was identified but its similarity to an adjacent medieval pit may indicate they are contemporary. A small medieval quarry pit was also identified along with an extensive former topsoil that sealed the earlier remains.

The largest category of finds retrieved from the evaluation comprises pottery of medieval date. Post-medieval glass and a clay pipe were also retrieved along with a fragment of metalwork.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation is defined as '*a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, quality and preservation, and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate'* (IfA 2008).

2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Martin Hall Associates on behalf of the 7th Earl of Leicester's 1966 Settlement to undertake a programme of archaeological investigation in advance of proposed development at Pales Green, Castle Acre, Norfolk. The evaluation was undertaken on the 25th May 2011 in accordance with a specification prepared by Archaeological Project Services (Appendix 1) and approved by the Planning Archaeologist, Historic Environment Service, Norfolk County Council.

2.3 Topography and Geology

Castle Acre is located 6km north of Swaffham and 20km east of King's Lynn in the administrative district of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Norfolk (Fig. 1).

The site is located 125m northeast of the centre of the village as defined by the parish church of St James at National Grid Reference TF 8171 1509 (Fig. 2). Situated on the west side of Pales Green, the site lies at a height of *c*. 44m OD on land that slopes down to the south towards the valley of the River Nar.

Local soils are of the Newmarket 2 Association, typically brown rendzinas (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 268). These are developed on the boundary between glacially derived till and Cretaceous Upper Chalk Formation.

2.4 Archaeological Setting

Castle Acre is located in an area of known

archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period to the present day. A fragment of a Neolithic flint axehead was found to the east of the village in 1959.

A Roman road, Peddar's Way, passes through Castle Acre, which lies on its route between Ixworth, to the southeast, and Holme next the Sea (Margary 1973, 258-60). The stretch of the Peddar's Way from the northwest of Castle Acre to Holme next the Sea is almost all still in use as a road or lane. However, where the road passes through the village and for *c.*5km southeast beyond it, its course is no longer apparent, although, it can be assumed that the road would have continued along a straight line (Margary 1973, 258-60).

An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found during the construction of a new bank dividing the parishes of Castle Acre and West Acre (Kennett 1980, 18). The cemetery was found in 1857, and further investigated in 1891 and 1961, with urns being discovered from fields in both parishes, apparently from the same cemetery. These discoveries were made approximately 2.5km from Castle Acre village centre, and a similar distance from the centre of West Acre (Kennett 1980, 18).

In May 2001, five graves were discovered at the Eyrie and are believed to be of Late Saxon date. In addition, traces of Middle Saxon (8^{th}/9^{th} centuries) activity have been uncovered at the priory. Monitoring of a water pipe trench at the site between Pales Green and the church recorded Late Saxon pottery and a ditch.

Castle Acre is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of *c.* 1086. Referred to as *Acra* and *Acre*, the name is derived from the Old English '*æcer*' meaning a field (Ekwall 1989, 2). At the time of Domesday, Acre was held by William de Warenne, the abbey of Ely and Ralph of Tosny and contained 19 acres of meadow, 6 and a half mills, 2 fisheries and a number of salt-houses (Brown 1984).

Castle Acre was a planned settlement centred on the de Warenne, earls of Surrey holdings. A gridded street pattern was enclosed by a rampart and ditch and a motte and bailey castle constructed immediately east of the town (Wade-Martins 1994, 72). The ruins and earthworks of the castle still survive and are a Scheduled Monument.

From its location, close to where the Peddars Way crosses the River Nar, this settlement was expected to flourish as a market town. In the event, the nearby town of Swaffham emerged to fulfil this role, and by the end of the medieval period had become the principal town of this area of the county. It is the construction of the castle and planned settlement that are thought to have diverted Peddar's Way (Wade-Martins 1994, 72).

Excavations at the castle in the 1970s uncovered the remains of a substantial stone-built 'country house', which predated the large fortified enclosure. This was the original hall of William de Warenne, and was only lightly defended by a bank and palisade (Platt 1984, 18).

Pevsner considered the castle to be one of the grandest motte and bailey castles in England, covering a total area of 15 acres (1990, 115). The earthworks are of considerable size, with a drop of over 30m from the top of the bank to the bottom of the ditch (Kennett 1980). In addition to the motte, bailey and keep is a substantial outer bailey, comprising the whole area between the inner bailey at the east, and the church at the west. The surviving north gate of the outer bailey, at the north of Bailey Street, dates to the 13^{th} century (Pevsner 1990, 115). The proposed development site lies within the outer bailey of the castle, and the Bailey Gate is located *c.*65m to the

northeast. Pales Green is believed to have been the principal market place for the town until a new market was established outside the town walls in the 15th century in Stocks Green.

William de Warenne also founded the Cluniac priory dedicated to St Mary and SS Peter and Paul, located southwest of the village, between 1087 and 1089, making it subject to his earlier foundation at Lewes, Sussex (Page 1906, 356). The surviving remains include the ruined monastic church, primarily of 12th century date with 15th and 16th century additions, including the west range and the gatehouse.

Other extant medieval remains include the church of St James which has origins of *c*. 1300 with 14th and 15th century additions, and the 15th century gable of Abbey Cottage (Pevsner 1990, 111).

3. AIMS

The aim of the evaluation was to gather information to establish the presence or absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits in order to enable the Norfolk Planning Archaeologist to formulate a policy for the management of archaeological resources present on the site.

4. METHODS

A single trench measuring 10m long by 1.5m wide was excavated to the surface of archaeological deposits. The trench was located within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling and away from existing services (Fig. 3).

Removal of overburden was undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. The exposed surfaces of the trenches were then cleaned by hand and inspected for archaeological remains. The excavated area and the spoil generated by the excavation was examined with a metal detector.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. A list of all contexts and their interpretations appears as Appendix 2. A photographic record was also compiled and sections and plans were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 respectively. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

The location of the excavated trench was surveyed in relation to fixed points on boundaries and on existing buildings.

Following excavation, finds were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 3). The records were also checked and a stratigraphic matrix produced. Phasing was based on the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them and supplemented by artefact dating.

5. RESULTS

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

The earliest deposit encountered during the evaluation was a layer of light yellow and white chalk (005) of the underlying geology. In areas, this had been eroded to a brown sandy silt with chalk fragments (011).

Cut into the chalk towards the southeast of the trench (Fig. 4) was a sub-circular pit (004). This measured 2.02m long, over

1.16m wide and 0.56m deep (Fig. 5, Section 1; Plate 3). A single fill of brown silty sand (003) containing large flint and chalk fragments was recorded from which pottery of 12th to 14th century date was retrieved along with an iron strap hinge.

Located 2.5m to the northwest were two pits or large postholes. The first (006) was over 0.46m wide and was 0.43m deep (Fig. 5, Section 2; Plate 4) and contained a fill of brown sandy silt (008) from which a single sherd of 13th – 15th century Grimston ware pottery was retrieved.

The second (007) was over 0.58m wide by 0.44m deep. A single fill of orange brown sand and sandy silt (009) was recorded.

Sealing these two features was a spread of brown sandy silt (010) that was up to 0.35m thick extending over 3.4m along the length of the trench. As well as sealing the two pits, it also masked an area of animal or root disturbance.

Sealing all deposits was a former topsoil of brown sandy silt (002) that measured up to 0.6m thick (fig. 5, Section 1). Finds from this deposit include a single sherd of medieval pottery from Lincolnshire along with a 17th century clay pipe and 20th century glass.

Sealing the former topsoil was a succession of bitumen surfaces (001) for the playground. These had a combined thickness of 0.18m.

6. DISCUSSION

Natural deposits comprise the upper weathered surface of the underlying solid geology of Cretaceous Upper Chalk.

A pit located at the southern end of the trench was dated to the 12th – 14th century and may well have originated as a small quarry for the underlying chalk and flint

The two northerly pits or postholes are similar in appearance, and though one is undated, the other is perhaps medieval, and they are likely to be contemporary. These lay beneath a deposit suggesting disturbance to the upper part of the pits, possibly through animal or root action.

The paucity of medieval remains at the site may indicate that this was not an overly settled area within the planned town or that it may have formed backyards to properties fronting Pales Green. Furthermore, the area may have been truncated in the past.

A former topsoil, which contained artefacts of medieval, post-medieval and recent dates, overlay the medieval features and was evident throughout the trench. The range of artefacts and thickness suggests that it may have developed over an extended period further suggesting that this part of the town was relatively unoccupied during the post-medieval period.

Finds retrieved from the investigation comprise pottery dating from the 12th to the 15th centuries, a medieval iron strap hinge, a 17th century clay pipe and modern glass. Faunal remains, probably food waste, comprised shellfish remains and a single fragment of bone.

7. CONCLUSIONS

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Pales Green, Castle Acre, as the site lay within a medieval planned town and in an area of known archaeological remains of the Late Saxon period.

However, no Late Saxon remains were encountered during the evaluation. Instead,

the earliest features recorded dated to the medieval period and comprise three pits. These were sealed beneath a thick former topsoil layer which contained finds of medieval, post-medieval and 20th century date.

Finds retrieved from the investigation include medieval pottery and metalwork, post-medieval clay pipe and modern glass as well as a small number of faunal remains.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services wish to acknowledge the assistance of Mr M Hall of Martin Hall Associates for commissioning the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of 7th Earl of Leicester's 1966 Settlement. The work was coordinated by Gary Taylor who edited this report along with Tom Lane. Dave Start allowed access to the library maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

9. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Gary Taylor
Site Staff: Paul Cope-Faulkner, Bryn Leadbetter
Finds Processing: Denise Buckley
Photographic reproduction: Sue Unsworth
Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner
Post-excavation Analyst: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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11. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

IfA Institute for Archaeologists

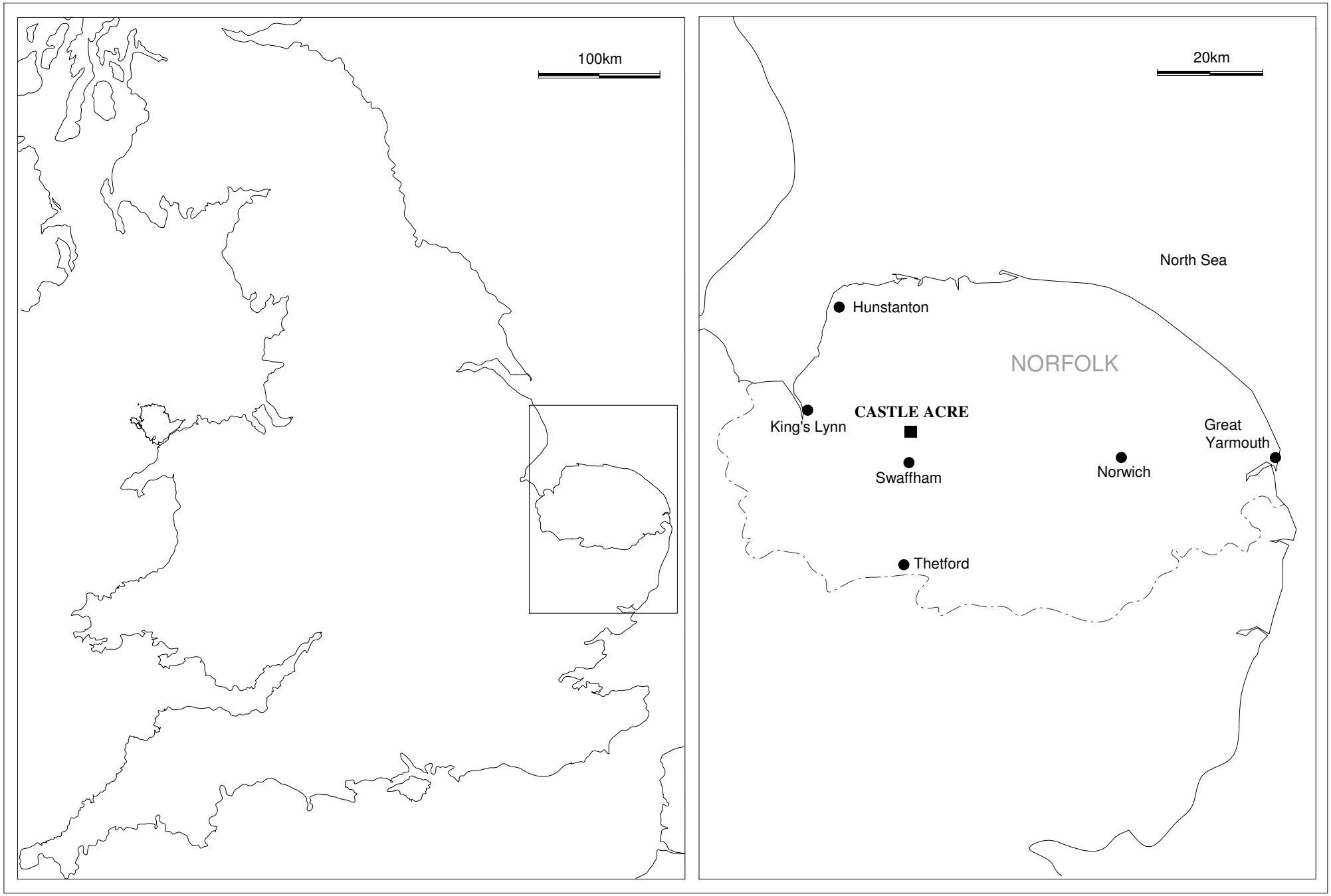
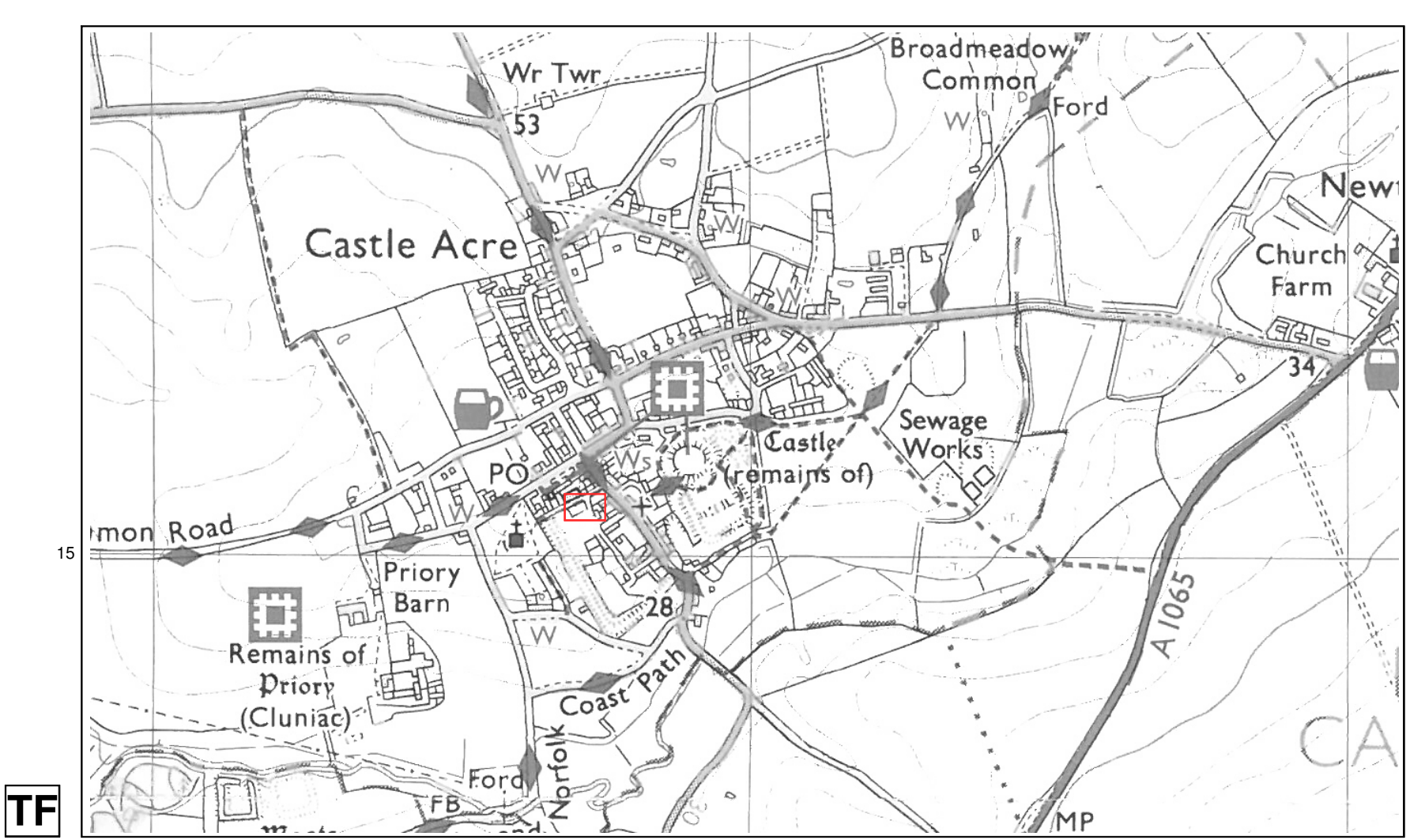


Figure 1 - General location plan



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. HTL Ltd Licence No. AL5041A0001

Area detailed in Figure 3

Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Pales Green, Castle Acre ENF126596		
Scale 1:10000	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 60/11

Figure 2 - Site location plan

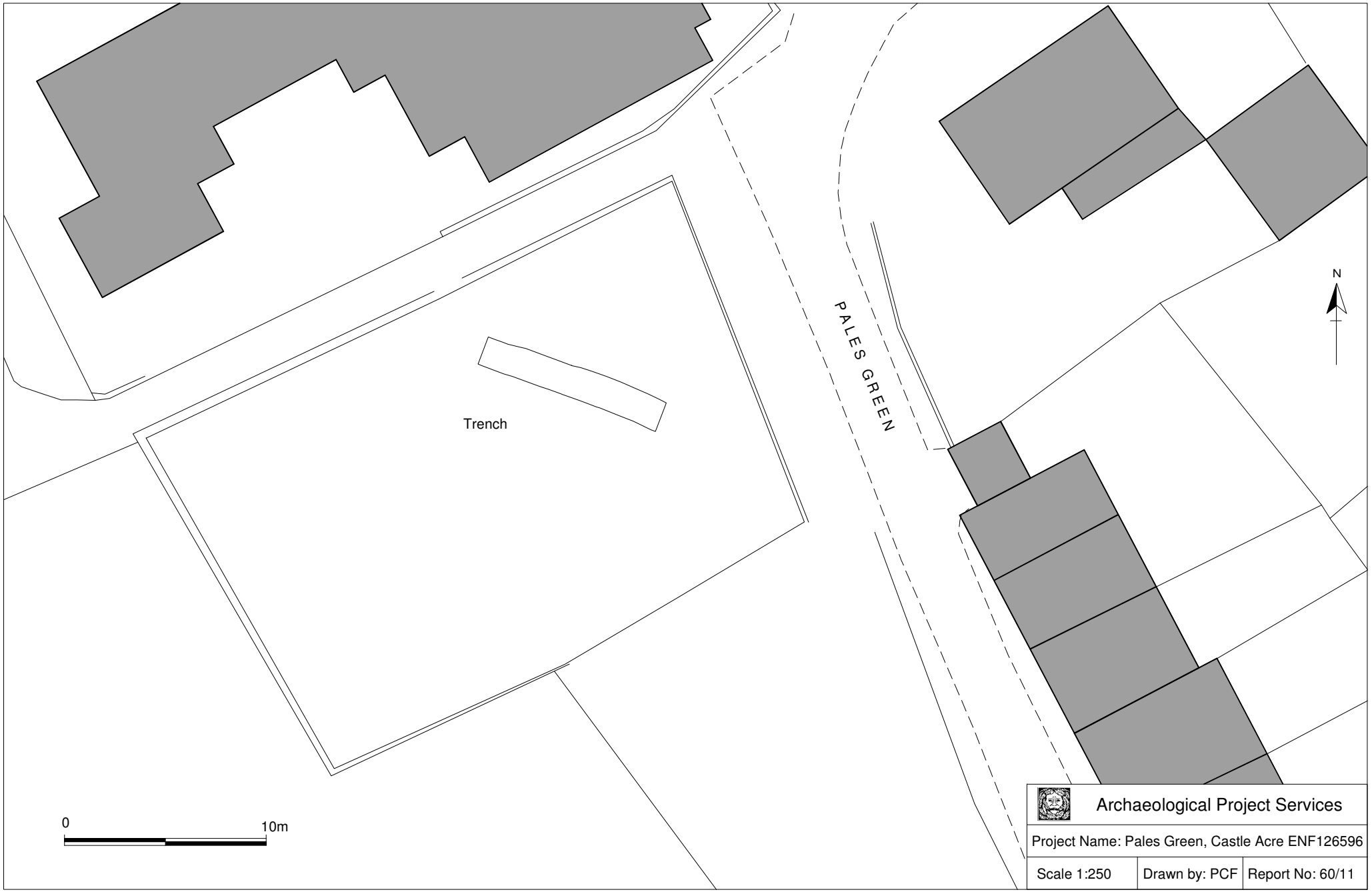


Figure 3 - Trench location plan

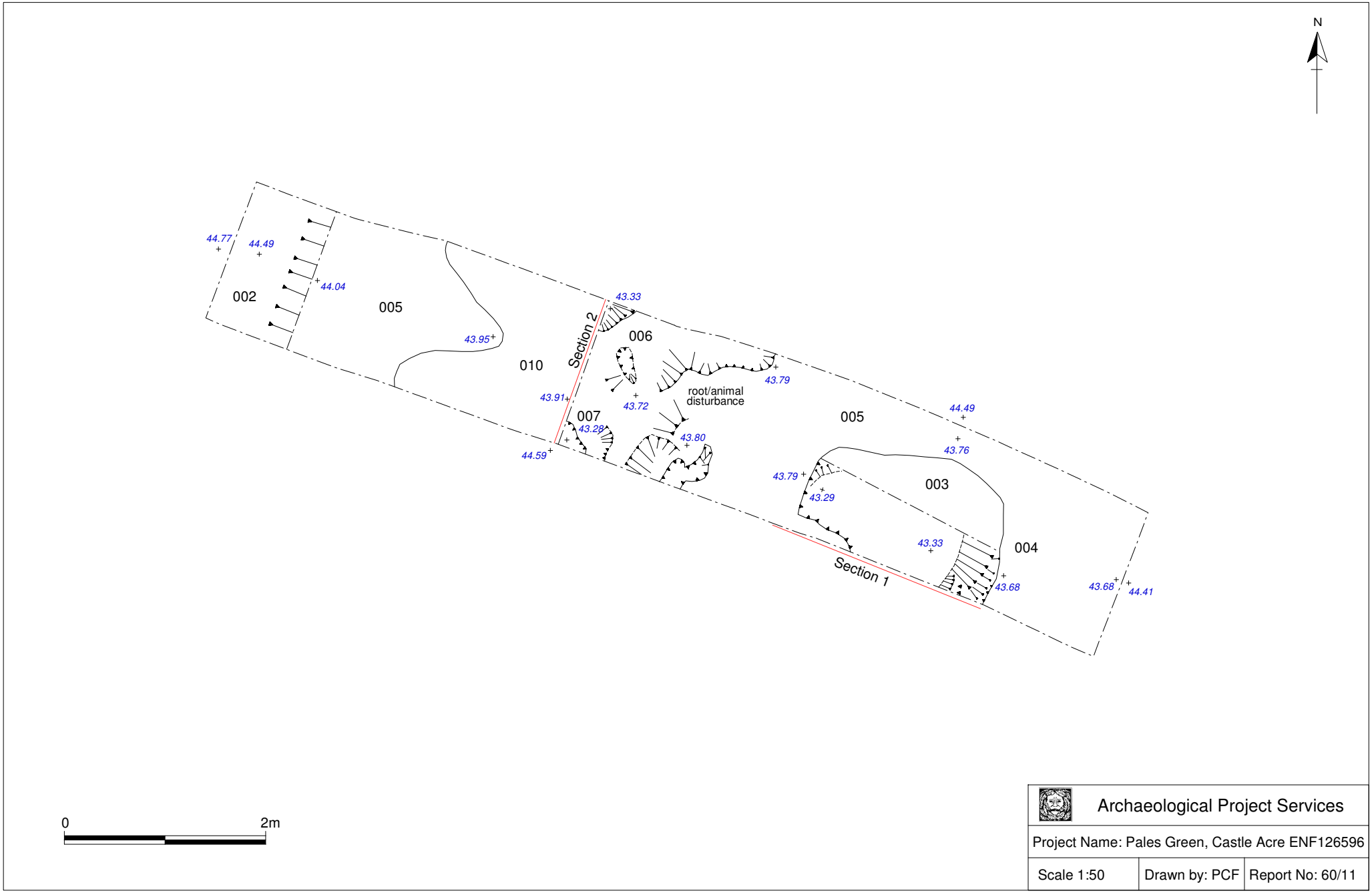
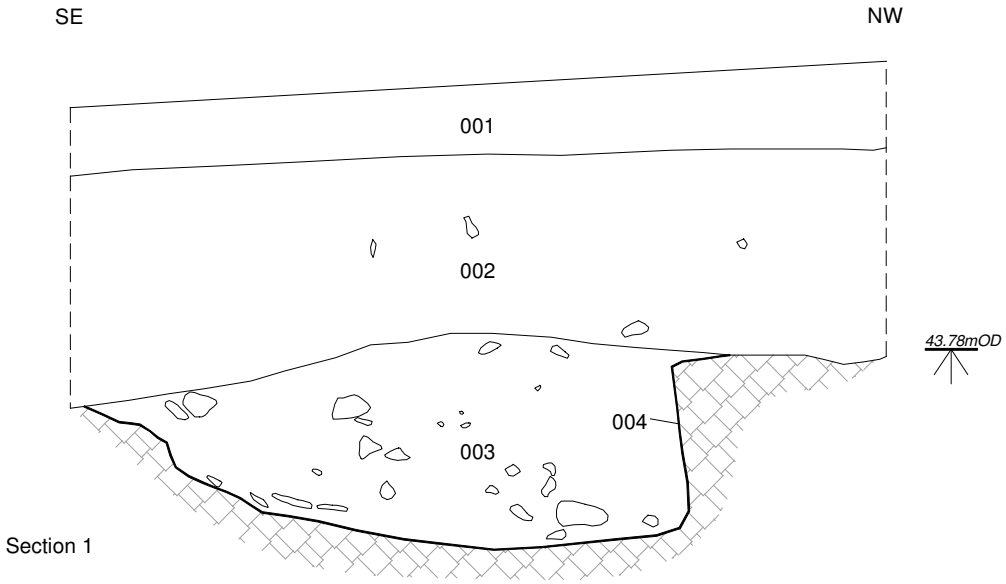
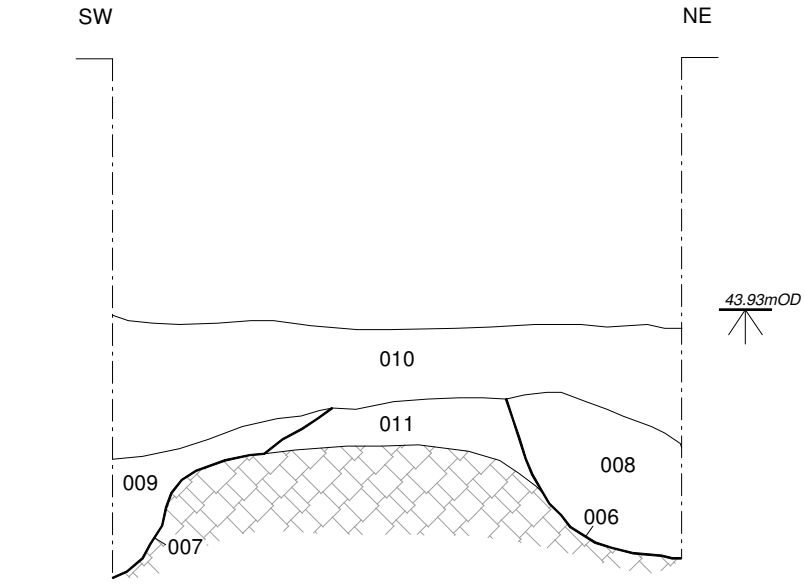


Figure 4 - Trench plan



Section 1



Section 2

Natural geology (005)

0 1m

Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Pales Green, Castle Acre ENF126596		
Scale 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 60/11

Figure 5 - Sections 1 and 2

Plate 1 – General view across the development area, looking west

Plate 2 – Trench after cleaning, looking northwest

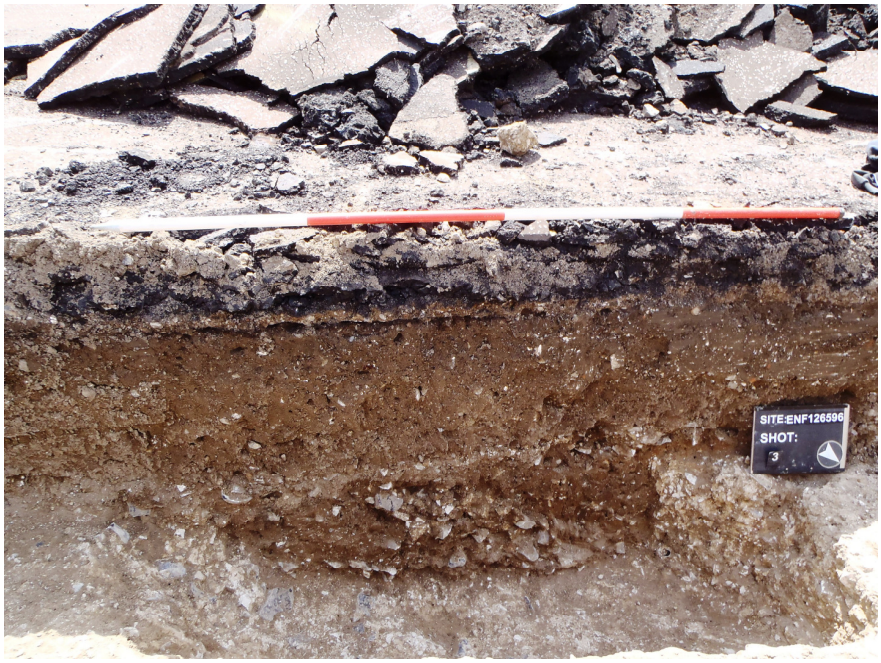


Plate 3 – Section 1 showing pit (004), looking southwest

Plate 4 – Section 2 showing pits (006) and (007), looking northwest

Appendix 1

LAND AT PALES GREEN, CASTLE ACRE, NORFOLK - SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

1 SUMMARY

1.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological investigation at Pales Green, Castle Acre, Norfolk.

1.2 The area is archaeologically sensitive, located within the walled area of the planned medieval town, close to the castle. Observation of a pipe trench across the area recovered pottery of Late Saxon and medieval date and revealed a Late Saxon ditch and other undated remains.

1.3 A programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is required at the site.

1.4 On completion of the fieldwork a Heritage Statement report (in accordance with PPS5) will be prepared detailing the findings of the investigation. The report will consist of a text describing the nature of the archaeological deposits located and will be supported by illustrations and photographs.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This document comprises a specification for the archaeological investigation at Pales Green, Castle Acre, Norfolk.

2.2 The document contains the following parts:

2.2.1 Overview

2.2.2 The archaeological and natural setting

2.2.3 Stages of work and methodologies to be used

2.2.4 List of specialists

2.2.5 Programme of works and staffing structure of the project

3 SITE LOCATION

3.1 Castle Acre is located 6km north of Swaffham and 20km southeast of King's Lynn in the administrative district of King's Lynn and West Norfolk. The site is located 100m northeast of the parish church, on the west side of Pales Green, at National Grid Reference TF 8171 1509.

4 PLANNING BACKGROUND

4.1 A planning application will be made for the construction of a dwelling at the site. Norfolk Historic Environment Service has advised that a Heritage Statement, incorporating the results of an archaeological evaluation, is submitted with the planning application in accordance with PPS5.

5 SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 The site stands at a height of *c*. 45m OD on land that slopes down to the south, towards the valley of the River Nar. Local soils are of the Newmarket 2 Association, typically brown rendzinas (Hodge *et al.* 1984, 268). These are developed on the boundary between glacially derived till and Cretaceous Upper Chalk Formation.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

6.1 Castle Acre sits astride the Peddars Way Roman thoroughfare and Roman coins have been

found in the parish. Several graves, believed to be Late Saxon, have been found a short distance to the west at The Eyrie, on Back Lane. Castle Acre was a planned settlement centred on the holdings of the de Warennes, earls of Surrey. A gridded street pattern was enclosed by a rampart and ditch and a motte and bailey castle constructed immediately south of the town. The ruins and earthworks of the castle still survive and are a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The nearby church of St. James was built *c*. 1300. A medieval market was located at Pales Green. Previous monitoring of a pipe trench across the area revealed a Late Saxon ditch and other undated features and yielded Late Saxon and medieval pottery.

7 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 The aim of the work will be to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to be able to formulate a policy for the management of the archaeological resources present on the site.

7.2 The objectives of the work will be to:

7.2.1 Establish the type of archaeological activity that may be present within the site.

7.2.2 Determine the likely extent of archaeological activity present within the site.

7.2.3 Determine the date and function of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.4 Determine the state of preservation of the archaeological features present on the site.

7.2.5 Determine the spatial arrangement of the archaeological features present within the site.

7.2.6 Determine the extent to which the surrounding archaeological features extend into the application area.

7.2.7 Establish the way in which the archaeological features identified fit into the pattern of occupation and land-use in the surrounding landscape.

8 LIAISON WITH THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CURATOR

8.1 Close contact will be maintained with the archaeological curator throughout the investigation to ensure that the scheme of works fulfils their requirements.

9 TRIAL TRENCHING

9.1 Reasoning for this technique

9.1.1 Trial trenching enables the *in situ* determination of the sequence, date, nature, depth, environmental potential and density of archaeological features present on the site.

9.1.2 The trial trenching will comprise a single 10m long trench across the footprint of the proposed building.

9.2 General Considerations

9.2.1 All work will be undertaken following statutory Health and Safety requirements in operation at the time of the investigation.

9.2.2 The work will be undertaken according to the relevant codes of practice issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). *Archaeological Project Services* is an IfA Registered Archaeological Organisation (No. 21) managed by a member (MIfA) of the institute.

9.2.3 All work will be carried out in accordance with accordance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and any revisions of such received up to the acceptance of this specification. Additionally, the work will be undertaken in

consideration of, and with reference to, the regional research agenda (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

9.2.4 Any artefacts found during the investigation and thought to be 'treasure', as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, will be removed from site to a secure store and the discovery promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

9.2.5 Excavation of the archaeological features exposed will only be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature. Not all archaeological features exposed will necessarily be excavated. However, the investigation will, as far as is reasonably practicable, determine the level of the natural deposits to ensure that the depth of the archaeological sequence present on the site is established.

9.2.6 The area of the trench is enclosed by fencing. Subject to the consent of the archaeological curator, and following the appropriate recording, the trenches, particularly those of excessive depth, will be backfilled as soon as possible to minimise any health and safety risks.

9.3 Methodology

9.3.1 Removal of the topsoil and any other overburden will be undertaken by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket. To ensure that the correct amount of material is removed and that no archaeological deposits are damaged, this work will be supervised by Archaeological Project Services. Should excavations extend below a safe depth (nominally 1.2m but dependent on the nature of the soil conditions) then the trenches will be stepped.

9.3.2 On completion of the removal of the overburden, the nature of the underlying deposits will be assessed by hand excavation before any further mechanical excavation that may be required. Thereafter, the trenches will be cleaned by hand to enable the identification and analysis of the archaeological features exposed. Investigation of the features will be undertaken only as far as required to determine their date, form and function. The work will consist of half- or quarter-sectioning of features as required and, where appropriate, the removal of layers. Should features be located which may be worthy of preservation *in situ*, excavation will be limited to the absolute minimum, (*ie* the minimum disturbance) necessary to interpret the form, function and date of the features.

9.3.2 The archaeological features encountered will be recorded on Archaeological Project Services pro-forma context record sheets. The system used is the single context method by which individual archaeological units of stratigraphy are assigned a unique record number and are individually described and drawn.

9.3.3 Plans of features will be drawn at a scale of 1:20 and sections at a scale of 1:10. Should individual features merit it, they will be drawn at a larger scale.

9.3.4 Throughout the duration of the trial trenching a photographic record consisting of black and white prints (reproduced as contact sheets) and colour slides will be compiled. The photographic record will consist of:

9.3.4.1 the site before the commencement of field operations.

9.3.4.2 the site during work to show specific stages of work, and the layout of the archaeology within individual trenches.

9.3.4.3 individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.

9.3.4.4 groups of features where their relationship is important.

9.3.4.5 the site on completion of fieldwork

9.3.5 Should human remains be encountered they will be left *in situ* and excavation will be

limited to the identification and recording of the remains. Should removal of the remains be necessary the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence will be obtained before exhumation takes place. Additionally, if appropriate, the environmental health department, coroner and police will be notified.

9.3.6 Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered ready for later washing and analysis.

9.3.7 The spoil generated during the investigation will be mounded along the edges of the trial trenches with the topsoil being kept separate from the other material excavated for subsequent backfilling.

9.3.8 The precise location of the trenches within the site and the location of site recording grid will be established by a GPS and/or EDM survey.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

10.1 If appropriate, during the investigation specialist advice will be obtained from an environmental archaeologist. The specialist will visit the site and will prepare a report detailing the nature of the environmental material present on the site and its potential for additional analysis should further stages of archaeological work be required. The results of the specialist's assessment will be incorporated into the final report.

11 POST-EXCAVATION AND REPORT

11.1 Stage 1

11.1.1 On completion of site operations, the records and schedules produced during the trial trenching will be checked and ordered to ensure that they form a uniform sequence constituting a level II archive. A stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site will be prepared. All photographic material will be catalogued: the colour slides will be labelled and mounted on appropriate hangers and the black and white contact prints will be labelled, in both cases the labelling will refer to schedules identifying the subject/s photographed.

11.1.2 All finds recovered during the trial trenching will be washed, marked, bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to the Conservation Laboratory at Lincoln.

11.2 Stage 2

11.2.1 Detailed examination of the stratigraphic matrix to enable the determination of the various phases of activity on the site.

11.2.2 Finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.

11.3 Stage 3

11.3.1 On completion of stage 2, a report detailing the findings of the investigation will be prepared. This will consist of:

11.3.1.1 A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation.

11.3.1.2 A description of the archaeological setting of the site.

11.3.1.3 Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.

11.3.1.4 Description of the methodologies used during the investigation and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.

11.3.1.5 A text describing the findings of the investigation.

11.3.1.6 Plans of the trenches showing the archaeological features exposed. If a sequence of archaeological deposits is encountered, separate plans for each phase will be produced.

11.3.1.7 Sections of the trenches and archaeological features.

11.3.1.8 Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.

11.3.1.9 Specialist reports on the finds from the site.

11.3.1.10 Appropriate photographs of the site and specific archaeological features or groups of features.

11.3.1.11 A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria.

11.4 Heritage Statement

11.4.1 The evaluation report will be incorporated in a Heritage Statement, to be submitted with the planning application, in accordance with PPS5. The archaeological and historical context will be defined by the evaluation report, while the remainder of the Heritage Statement will identify potential impacts to heritage resources and make recommendations regarding the need, or otherwise, for any further archaeological work or mitigation measures.

12 ARCHIVE

12.1 The documentation, finds, photographs and other records and materials generated during the evaluation will be sorted and ordered in accordance with the procedures in the Society of Museum Archaeologists' document *Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums* (1994), and any additional local requirements, for long-term storage and curation. This work will be undertaken by the Finds Supervisor, an Archaeological Assistant and the Conservator (if relevant). The archive will be deposited with the receiving museum as soon as possible after completion of the project, and within 12 months of that completion date.

12.2 The archive will be microfilmed. The silver master will be transferred to the RCHME and a diazo copy will be deposited with the Norfolk Historic Environment Record.

12.3 Prior to the project commencing, Norfolk Museums Service will be contacted to obtain their agreement to receipt of the project archive and to establish their requirements with regards to labelling, ordering, storage, conservation and organisation of the archive.

12.4 Upon completion and submission of the evaluation report, the landowner will be contacted to arrange legal transfer of title to the archaeological objects retained during the investigation from themself to the receiving museum. The transfer of title will be effected by a standard letter supplied to the landowner for signature.

13 REPORT DEPOSITION

13.1 Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client; to Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (3 hard copies and 1 digital on CD) - two copies for Norfolk Historic Environment Record and one for the local planning authority; and the English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.

14 PUBLICATION

14.1 Details of the investigation will be input to the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS).

14.2 A note will also be submitted for publication to the journal *Norfolk Archaeology*.

14.3 Notes or articles describing the results of the investigation will also be submitted for publication in the appropriate national journals: *Medieval Archaeology* and for medieval and later remains, and *Britannia* for discoveries of Roman date.

15 CURATORIAL MONITORING

15.1 Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological work undertaken on the site lies with Norfolk Historic Environment Service. They will be given written notice of the commencement of the project to enable them to make monitoring arrangements.

16 VARIATIONS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEME OF WORKS

16.1 Variations to the scheme of works will only be made following written confirmation from the archaeological curator, the client and their consultant.

16.2 Should the archaeological curator require any additional investigation beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

17 STAFF TO BE USED DURING THE PROJECT

17.1 The work will be directed by Tom Lane MIfA, Senior Archaeologist, Archaeological Project Services. The on-site works will be supervised by an Archaeological Supervisor with knowledge of archaeological evaluations of this type. Archaeological excavation will be carried out by Archaeological Technicians, experienced in projects of this type.

17.2 The following organisations/persons will, in principle and if necessary, be used as subcontractors to provide the relevant specialist work and reports in respect of any objects or material recovered during the investigation that require their expert knowledge and input. Engagement of any particular specialist subcontractor is also dependent on their availability and ability to meet programming requirements.

Task	Body to be undertaking the work
Conservation	Conservation Laboratory, City and County Museum, Lincoln.
Pottery Analysis	Prehistoric: Dr D Knight/D Trimble, APS Roman: A Beeby, APS/B Precious, independent specialist Post-Roman: Dr A Boyle, APS
Other Artefacts	J Cowgill, independent specialist/G Taylor, APS
Human Remains Analysis	J Kitch, independent specialist
Animal Remains Analysis	J Kitch, independent specialist/P Cope-Faulkner APS
Environmental Analysis	Environmental Archaeology Consultancy/V Fryer, independent specialist
Radiocarbon dating	Beta Analytic Inc., Florida, USA
Dendrochronology dating	University of Sheffield Dendrochronology Laboratory

18 PROGRAMME OF WORKS AND STAFFING LEVELS

18.1 Fieldwork will be undertaken by appropriate staff, including supervisors and assistants, and to take about 1 day.

18.2 Post-excavation analysis and report production will take about 5 days. A project officer or

supervisor will undertake most of the analysis, with assistance from the finds supervisor, CAD illustrator and external specialists.

19 INSURANCES

19.1 Archaeological Project Services, as part of the Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, maintains Employers Liability insurance to £10,000,000. Additionally, the company maintains Public and Products Liability insurances, each with indemnity of £5,000,000. Copies of insurance documentation are enclosed.

20 COPYRIGHT

20.1 Archaeological Project Services shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

20.2 Licence will also be given to the archaeological curators to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes.

20.3 In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Archaeological Project Services. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Archaeological Project Services to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Archaeological Project Services that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 and may result in legal action.

20.4 The author of any report or specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes or for further publication.

21 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Gurney, D, 2003 *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, ALGAOEE

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**

Appendix 2

CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Description	Interpretation
001	Three layers of indurated black bitumen and stone, 0.18m thick	Playground surface
002	Firm mid brown silty sand with moderate chalk flecks, 0.6m thick	Former topsoil
003	Friable mid brown silty sand with flint cobbles and chalk fragments	Fill of (004)
004	Sub-circular feature, 2.02m long by >1.16m wide and 0.56m deep, vertical to steep sides and flattish base	Pit
005	Indurated light yellow to white chalk, >0.56m thick	Natural deposit
006	Possible circular feature, >0.46m wide by 0.43m deep, steep sides and concave base	Pit/posthole
007	Possible circular feature, >0.58m wide by 0.44m deep, steep sides and concave base	Pit/posthole
008	Friable mid brown sandy silt	Fill of (006)
009	Friable mid orange brown sand and sandy silt	Fill of (007)
010	Friable mid brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick	Layer
011	Firm to friable light to mid brown sandy silt with frequent chalk, 0.15m thick	Eroded natural

Appendix 3

THE FINDS

POST ROMAN POTTERY
By Anne Irving

Introduction
All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). The pottery codenames (Cname) are in accordance with the Post Roman pottery type series for Lincolnshire, as published in Young *et al.* (2005) which also covers surrounding counties. A total of eight sherds from three vessels, weighing 58 grams was recovered from the site.

Methodology
The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Sherds were counted and weighed by individual vessel within each context. The pottery was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the pottery is included in Table 1.

Condition
All the sherds are in fairly fresh condition.

Results
Table 1, Post Roman Pottery Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
002	BOUA	Bourne medieval ware	B	Jug/ jar	1	1	1	BS		12th to 14th
003	EMHM	Early Medieval Handmade ware		Jar	6	1	41	Base + BS	Flat bottom; soot	Mid 12th to 14th
008	GRIM	Grimston ware		Jar?	1	1	16	BS	Soot	13th to 15th

Provenance
Pottery was recovered from former topsoil (002) and fills of pits [004] and [006].

Potential
The pottery is stable and poses no problems for long-term storage. No further work is required on the assemblage.

Summary
A small assemblage of medieval pottery was retrieved from the site. This contains a range of ware types which are typical for this area.

GLASS
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Three pieces of glass weighing a total of 55g were recovered.

Condition
Although naturally fragile, the glass is in good condition.

Results
Table 2, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
002	Green bottle	3 (all same vessel)	55	20th century

Provenance
The glass was recovered from a former topsoil.

Range
Several pieces of a single 20th century bottle were recovered.

Potential
Other than providing dating evidence the glass is of very limited potential and can be discarded.

CLAY PIPE
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Analysis of the clay pipes followed the guidance published by Davey (1981) and the material is detailed in the accompanying table.

Condition
The clay pipe is in good condition, but slightly abraded.

Results
Table 3, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
002			1			1	2	Stem only	17th century

Provenance
The clay pipe was recovered from a former topsoil. It is probably a fairly local product of the Castle Acre area.

Range
A single stem of probable 17th century date was found.

Potential
The clay pipe is of limited potential and could be discarded.

OTHER FINDS
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
A single other find weighing 48g was recovered.

Condition
The other find is in moderate condition but corroded and encrusted.

Results
Table 4, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
003	iron	Unidentified rectangular strip, possibly part of a strap hinge	1	48	

Provenance
The artefact was recovered from a pit fill.

Range
A single piece of metal was the only other artefact retrieved. It may be part of a strap hinge.

Potential
The other find is of limited potential.

FAUNAL REMAINS
By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Introduction
A total of 4 (20g) fragments of faunal remains were recovered from stratified contexts.

Provenance
Faunal remains were retrieved from a former topsoil (002) and the fills of pits (003), (008).

Condition
The overall condition of the remains was good to moderate.

Results
Table5, Fragments Identified to Taxa

Cxt	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	W (g)	Comments
002	medium mammal	long bone		1	3	
003	mussel	shell		1	1	
008	oyster	shell	bottom	1	12	
	cockle	shell		1	4	

Summary
The animal bone and mollusc shells are probably food waste. They are stable and should be retained as part of the site archive.

SPOT DATING
The dating in Table 6 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 6, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comments
002	20th	Date on glass; contains earlier material
003	Mid 12th to 14th	Date on a single sherd
008	13th to 15th	Date on a single sherd

ABBREVIATIONS

BS	Body sherd
CXT	Context
NoS	Number of sherds
NoV	Number of vessels
W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

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

Slowikowski, AM, 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**

Young, J, Vince, AG and Nailor, V, 2005 *A Corpus of Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln* (Oxford)

Appendix 4

GLOSSARY

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 interpretations 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) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
Layer	A layer is a term to describe 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.
Neolithic	The 'New Stone Age' period, part of the prehistoric era, dating from approximately 4500-2250 BC.
Post-medieval	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
Prehistoric	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1st century AD.
Romano-British	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
Saxon	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 410-1066 when England was largely settled by tribes from northern Germany.
Till	A deposit formed after the retreat of a glacier. Also known as boulder clay, this material is generally unsorted and can comprise of rock flour to boulders to rocks of quite substantial size.

Appendix 5

THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

11	Context sheets
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Section record sheet
1	Plan record sheet
1	Daily record sheet
3	Sheets of scale drawings
1	Bag of finds
1	Stratigraphic matrix

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:

Norfolk Museums Service
Union House
Gressenhall
Dereham
Norfolk
NR20 4DR

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *County Standards for Field Archaeology in Norfolk*, produced by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

Norwich Castle Museum Accession Number: NWHCM:2011.417

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.