THORPE CASTLE HOUSE, THORPE WATERVILLE, KETTERING, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

NGR:	TL 022 814
PCAS job no.	1342
Site code:	KTCM 15
HER number:	ENN 107916

Prepared for

Wythe Holland Limited on behalf of Mr & Mrs Venn

by

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March 2015

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Summary

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (PCAS) were commissioned by Wythe Holland Limited on behalf of their clients, Mr & Mrs Venn, to undertake a scheme of archaeological evaluation trenching in support of a Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application for a proposed garden room at Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Kettering, Northamptonshire. Thorpe Castle Lies within the grounds of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Castle earthworks and barn at Thorpe Waterville (SAM NN136).

The evaluation initially consisted of a 3m x 2m trench in the area of an existing patio; however the area in which the trench was positioned was too small for a trench of this size. Therefore it was decided, after consulting English Heritage, that a 1.5m x 1.5m test pit would be sufficient to evaluate the archaeological potential.

The test pit exposed modern and post-medieval deposits, overlying moat deposits beneath: three moat deposits were indentified towards the base of the test pit. They contained a large amount of limestone fragments, suggesting they were part of the backfilling of the moat. Pottery from these deposits has been dated to the medieval period.

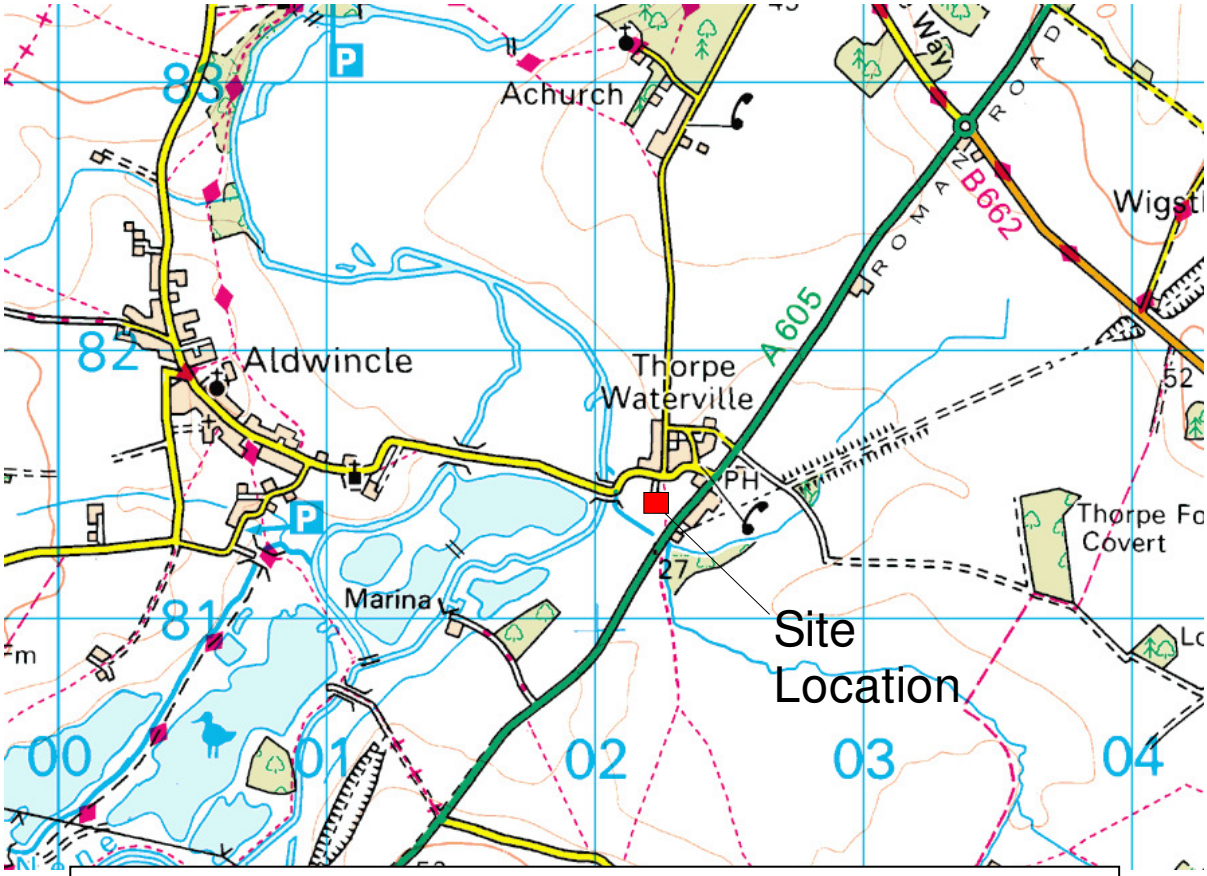

Figure 1: Location plan of the site. The position of the proposed development site is marked in red. OS mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. PCAS licence no. 100049278.

1.0 Introduction

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (PCAS) were requested by Wythe Holland Ltd on behalf of Mr & Mrs Venn to undertake a scheme of archaeological evaluation trenching in support of a Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application for a proposed Garden Room at Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Northamptonshire. Thorpe Castle House lies within the grounds of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Castle Earthworks and Barn at Thorpe Waterville (SAM NN136).

English Heritage was consulted at the pre-application stage concerning the archaeological issues involved with the proposed works and were advised that the proposals are acceptable in principle, subject to the design of footings and services being informed by archaeological investigations.

2.0 Location and description (Figs. 1 and 2)

The proposed area for the new Garden Room lies adjacent to Thorpe Castle House, within a plot of land historically known as Thorpe Castle in the village of Thorpe Waterville; c. 14km east of Kettering and c. 3km north of Thrapston in Northamptonshire. The Garden Room will form an extension to the west side of Thorpe Castle House, covering an area of c. 36m2.

The central NGR for the development site is TL 022 814.

3.0 Soils and Geology

The predominant soil type identified in the area comprises freely draining, loamy shallow lime-rich soils over chalk or limestone (Magic.co.uk). The underlying geology consists of the Cornbrash Formation (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk).

4.0 Planning Background

English Heritage had been consulted by the clients at a pre-application stage concerning the archaeological issues involved with the works. English Heritage advised that the proposals for the Garden Room were acceptable in principle subject to the design of footings and services being informed by archaeological investigations. Therefore, a programme of archaeological trial excavation was recommended by English Heritage, the results of which are presented in this report and will be used to inform the planning process.

On 27 March 2012, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) replaced PPS5. The NPPF places the responsibility for dealing with heritage assets affected by development proposals with the developer. Local planning authorities now need to be assured by those applying for planning permission that heritage assets are not under threat. Where such assets are under threat, developers are required to provide methods of mitigating the effects of development on the historic environment within the planning process.

5.0 Archaeological and historical background

A desk based assessment (Evans 2014) undertaken prior to the scheme of archaeological trial excavation highlighted the potential archaeological and heritage assets within the proposed development area. The findings of this assessment are briefly summarised below.

The area of the proposed Garden Room lies within the grounds of the scheduled Castle earthworks and barn (SAM NN136). Further to this a search through the Northamptonshire HER (NHER) identified that there were no heritage assets recorded within the specific area of the proposed Garden Room; however there are forty-four heritage assets recorded within

the wider study area. These assets range from the prehistoric through to the post-medieval period.

Twenty-three assets of prehistoric date are recorded in the NHER under two main entries, NHER 2248 and NHER 2249. NHER 2248 consists of an undated cropmark enclosure in addition to a second undated enclosure. NHER 2249 is a probable Bronze Age Burial site known as The Thorpe Station Complex located to the south-west of the castle. This complex includes possible enclosures, ditches, pits and barrow cemeteries.

Although there are no known heritage assets of medieval date within the area of the proposed Garden Room, it is situated, as previously mentioned, within the grounds of the Scheduled medieval Thorpe Castle earthworks and barn (SAM NN 136). Additionally, there are nineteen assets of medieval date recorded on the NHER within the grounds of the castle and the wider study area around the development zone.

Castle Barn (NHER 2247/1/9), which lies c.50m to the north-east of Thorpe Castle House, is a Grade I listed building which appears to originally have been a medieval domestic building, believed to have incorporated the shell of the former Great Hall of Thorpe Waterville Castle (NHER 2247/1). This building is thought to have been largely destroyed during a siege in 1461.

Thorpe Castle House (NHER 2247/1/10), the building to which the proposed Garden Room would be attached, is a Grade II listed 17th century Manor House with probable medieval origins.

A geophysical survey, undertaken by Northamptonshire Archaeology in 2009, produced good evidence for the location of the castle remains, revealing potentially substantial structures such as towers, associated buildings alongside the castle, in addition to evidence for a moat (2447/1/1) surrounding the main castle. These remains lie to the west of the present-day buildings (NHER 2247/1/9 and NHER 2247/1/10).

A watching brief undertaken during the construction of a new septic tank to the north of the proposed Garden Room exposed a series of westerly sloping deposits towards the centre of the moat. The deposits exposed were identified as silting and infill of the upper levels of the moat. Artefacts recovered from these deposits included a sherd of medieval pottery, glazed floor tile and roof tile, as well as post-medieval finds of pottery, window glass and part of a glazed brick from the upper deposits of the moat (Foard-Colby 2006).

Within the grounds of the castle and the wider study area there are four assets of post-medieval date recorded on the NHER, two of which concern the Castle Barn and Thorpe Castle House.

The previously mentioned Castle Barn (NHER 2247/1/9) and Thorpe Castle House (NHER 2247/1/10) most likely have medieval origins, however they are architecturally of 16th to 17th century character. The house was restored and additions made during the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

6.0 Methodology

It was initially agreed that the trench would be 2m x 3m in size; however this was subsequently deemed to be too large. Upon consultation with English Heritage it was determined that a 1.5m x 1.5m test pit would be sufficient to evaluate archaeological potential below the patio.

The broad aims of the evaluation were:

- To determine the presence/absence, nature, date, depth, quality of survival, importance, extent, form and function of any archaeological features/deposits; to inform the proposed development;
- To recover stratified dating evidence;
- To establish the sequence of archaeological remains;
- To interpret the archaeology in the context of known remains in the vicinity.

The trial pit was located by triangulation, and it was excavated by hand.

The evaluation trench was drawn in plan at a scale of 1:100, and a section was drawn at scale 1:20. Ordnance Datum levels were taken using a Global Positioning System. Deposits were recorded on standard PCAS record sheets, and an excavation site diary was also maintained; a digital photographic record, supplemented by colour slide, was made, and extracts from this are reproduced in Appendix 1. Finds were stored in labelled bags prior to their removal to the offices of PCAS for initial processing. Stable finds were washed, marked and segregated and dispatched to specialists for assessment.

The fieldwork was carried out by Michael Rowe and took place between the 4th - 6th February 2015. Weather conditions were cold and frosty, with snow encountered at times.

7.0 Results

Initial excavations involved the removal of patio slabs and the hand excavation of underlying deposits. The test pit was excavated to a depth of 1.5m below original ground level. A full description of the deposits exposed are presented in Appendix 1, whilst a selection of photos taken during excavation are included in Appendix 2.

The patio consisted of three deposits, comprising the modern slabs, (001), a stone mortar mix sub-floor, (002) and a further stone mortar mix foundation layer, (003). These were approximately 0.35m thick in total and overlay a number of deposits which have been attributed to 18th – 19th century levelling.

The highest of the levelling deposits was a heavily mixed dark brown silt-loam (004), beneath which was a thin layer of mid red-brown silty sand subsoil (005). Directly below these deposits was a rough stone surface, (006), consisting of small fragments of limestone set into a mid brown sandy silt matrix. At 0.12m thick, this may have been an earlier yard surface.

Two further layers, (007) and (008) were located beneath the surface. Context (007) was a mix of mid brown silt and small limestone fragments, whilst (008) was a deposit of limestone rubble, more concentrated towards the NW (moat side) of the excavation. Except for context (005), each of these deposits contained post-medieval artefacts, including pottery, glass, iron and CBM. Collectively, these deposits were approximately 0.7m thick.

Beneath the 18th and 19th century deposits, three layers of the upper moat were exposed; (009), (010) and (011). These appeared to be backfilled deposits, rather than silting. Context (009) was very similar in composition to the soil matrix of (008) and (007), but was sandier. It contained frequent limestone fragments, which were denser at the base, which sloped to the NW. Context (010) was a mid yellow brown silty sand, whilst (011) was a mid brown silty sand which contained occasional limestone fragments. Both deposits sloped to the NW.

Medieval finds were recovered from contexts (009) and (010) and include pottery and tile, in addition to shell and animal bone. The glass recovered from (009) was attributed to two differing vessels, in addition to fragments of window glass. These were all dated to the 17th

century. A total of seven fragments of animal bone were recovered; five of these could only be attributed to size category and were from medium and large mammals, whilst the other two were from birds. These deposits were approximately 0.75m thick.

In addition to the test pit excavation, a further 0.7m of stratigraphy was sampled by use of an auger. This was initially undertaken in order to gauge the depth of the moat backfill deposits, and to establish if organic remains are preserved towards the base of the feature. However, due to the high incidence of rubble within the upper deposits the exercise was not successful.

8.0 Discussion and Conclusions

The scheme involved the excavation of a single 1.5m x 1.5m test pit; located in the centre of the proposed Garden Room development. This exposed a total of 11 deposits, three of which have been identified as the upper infilling of the moat, whilst the other eight made up the modern patio surface and ground levelling dated to between the 18th and 19th century.

A large amount of limestone fragments were observed within the three moat deposits, suggesting they were part of a deliberated backfilling process, rather than being associated with natural silting. The date for the majority of the finds, including the pottery, from the three moat deposits is late medieval.

9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

Archaeological evaluation has been effective in demonstrating the presence and condition of the archaeological deposits in the vicinity of the proposed new Garden Room. The test pit excavation and subsequent auguring indicate that there is at least 0.7m of post-medieval and modern overburden on top of the moat deposits, in addition to 1.2m+ of moat backfill. The body of data thus produced will be sufficient to inform the planning and development process.

10.0 Acknowledgements

Pre-Construct Archaeological Services would like to thank Wythe Holland Limited for this commission.

11.0 References

http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

Evans, P. 2014. *Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*. Unpublished Client Report. 1342.

Foard-Colby, A. 2006. *Archaeological Watching Brief at Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Northamptonshire*. Northamptonshire Archaeology Client Report.

Figure 2: Section (1:20) and Plan (1:100) of test pit

Appendix 1 – Context Summary

Context No.	Type	Description	Finds
001	Stone Slabs	Modern imported stone slabs lay onto mortar sand base. 0.15m thick.	
002	Layer	Stone and mortar mix. Sub-floor located beneath stone slabs of the patio. Reddish sandstone and yellow limestone sealed by light mid grey mortar cement mix. 0.1m thick.	
003	Layer	Stone and mortar mix. Foundation layer made up of small and moderate sized stones. Mostly yellow limestone rubble lay at base and sealed with flint mixed concrete. 0.1m thick.	
004	Layer	Mixed layer. Heavily churned up dark brown silt-loam. Contains a moderate amount of small stone fragments. 0.1m thick.	Pottery, glass and iron.
005	Layer	Thin layer of mid red-brown silty sand subsoil. Partly mixed with (004). 0.05m thick.	
006	Surface	Rough stone surface. Made up of small fragments of limestone. Heavily disturbed to the SE. Occasional brick fragments throughout. Set into a mid brown sandy silt matrix. 0.12m thick.	Pottery, CBM, iron and glass.
007	Layer	Mix of mid brown silt and small limestone fragments. 0.2m thick.	Pottery and CBM.
008	Layer	Limestone rubble. Small to moderately sized limestone. More concentrated to the NW (moat side) in a matrix the same as (007). 0.25m thick.	Pottery, shell, CBM and pipe.
009	Layer	Very similar to the soil matrix of (008) and (007) but slightly more sandy. Common limestone fragments throughout. Denser stone towards base of layer. 0.2m thick.	Glass, shell, pottery and bone.
010	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty sand. Layer slopes down to the NW. 0.35m thick.	Tile and bone.
011	Layer	Mid grey brown silty sand with occasional limestone fragments. 0.2m thick (limit of excavation).	

Appendix 2 – Colour Plates

Plate 1 – Patio area prior to excavation (looking north).

Plate 2 – Patio slabs lifted (looking north).

Plate 3 – Cobble surface (006) (looking north-west).

Plate 4 (above) – Rubble layer (008) (looking north-west).

Plate 5 (left) –Northern section of test pit (looking north-west).

Thorpe Church House, Kettering, Northamptonshire (KTCM15)

THE CERAMIC FINDS

Dr Anne Irving

THE POTTERY

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski *et al.* (2001). A total of 105 sherds from 73 vessels, weighing 677 grams was recovered from the site. Two vessels are cross-context.

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. A summary of the pottery is included in Table 1, with an archive list in Catalogue 1. The pottery dates from the Saxo-Norman to the early modern period.

Results

Table 1, Summary of the Pottery

Period	Cname	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	NoS	NoV	W (g)
Saxo-Norman	SNEOT	St Neots-type ware	870	1200	1	1	27
Medieval	MEDLOC	Medieval local fabrics	1150	1450	1	1	12
Late Medieval	BONC	Bourne/Colne Type ware	1450	1650	1	1	5
	CIST	Cistercian-type ware	1480	1650	1	1	2
	MP	Midlands Purple ware	1380	1600	1	1	7
Post Medieval	BERTH	Brown glazed earthenware	1550	1800	5	4	124
	BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	12	11	130
	LERTH	Late Earthenwares	1750	1900	1	1	2
	PMERTH	Post Medieval Earthenware	1600	1800	1	1	21
	SLIP	Unidentified slipware	1650	1750	1	1	37
Early Modern	BS	Brown stoneware (generic)	1680	1850	5	4	42
	CREA	Creamware	1770	1830	2	2	4
	ENPO	English Porcelain	1750	1900	1	1	4
	MODBL	Modern Blackware	1800	1900	2	1*	11
	NCBW	19th-century Buff ware	1800	1900	11	5	61
	PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	12	11	37
	SWSG	Staffordshire White Saltglazed stoneware	1700	1770	1	1	2
	WHITE	Modern whiteware	1850	1900	46	25*	149
				TOTAL	**105**	**73**	**677**

** Denotes cross-context vessel*

Discussion

All the pottery types present in the assemblage are typical for the area. Two vessels, a Whiteware plate or bowl and a Modern Blackware teapot occur in contexts (007) and (008). The small number of Saxo-Norman and medieval wares are present in the assemblage are all residual.

Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage.

THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Introduction

All the material was recorded at archive level in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the ACBMG (2001).

Methodology

The material was laid out and viewed in context order. Fragments were counted and weighed within each context. The ceramic building material was examined visually and using x20 magnification. This information was then added to an Access database. An archive list of the ceramic building material is included in Table 2.

Results

Table 2, Ceramic Building Material Archive

Cxt	Cname	Full name	Fabric	NoF	W (g)	Description	Date
006	BRK	Brick	Gault	1	484	End; handmade; traces of mortar	18th to 20th
006	BRK	Brick	Calcareous inclusions	1	393	End; soot; handmade; struck upper	18th to 20th
006	MODTIL	Modern Tile		3	478	Pierced; malting tile?; handmade	18th to 20th
006	MODTIL	Modern Tile	Gault	1	69	Pantile?	
007	PEG	Peg Tile		3	253	Same tile; sand bedded; one peg hole present	

Potential

No further work is required on the assemblage. The modern fragments can be discarded but the peg tile from (007) should be retained.

SPOT DATING

The dating in Table 3 is based on the evidence provided by the finds detailed above.

Table 3, Spot dates

Cxt	Date	Comment
004	19th to 20th	
006	19th to 20th	
007	19th to 20th	
008	19th	
009	Mid 16th to 18th	

ABBREVIATIONS

ACBMG	Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group	NoF	Number of Fragments
BS	Body sherd	NoS	Number of sherds
CBM	Ceramic Building Material	NoV	Number of vessels
CXT	Context	TR	Trench
LHJ	Lower Handle Join	UHJ	Upper Handle Join
		W (g)	Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

~ 2001, *Draft Minimum Standards for the Recovery, Analysis and Publication of Ceramic Building Material*, third version [internet]. Available from <http://www.geocities.com/acbmg1/CBMGDE3.htm>

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, The Pottery

Cxt	Cname	Fabric	Form	NoS	NoV	W (g)	Part	Description	Date
004	BS		Bottle/jar	1	1	5	BS		
004	LERTH		Garden pot	1	1	2	BS		
004	NCBW		Hollow	1	1	4	BS	Abraded	
004	PEARL		Jar	2	1	9	Rim + BS	Upright rim; blue tinge fabric	
004	SNEOT		Jar/ bowl	1	1	27	BS	Very thick fabric; abraded	
004	WHITE		Open	1	1	5	BS	Blue transfer print	
004	WHITE		Open	5	5	10	Rim + BS		
004	WHITE		Open	2	2	7	Rim	Blue transfer print	
004	WHITE		Open	1	1	1	BS	Blue wash transfer print	
006	BERTH		Small hollow	1	1	3	BS		18th to 19th
006	BL		Jar/ bowl	1	1	12	BS	Abraded	
006	BS		Bottle	1	1	10	Neck		
006	BS		Bottle	1	1	14	BS		
006	NCBW		Hollow	1	1	3	BS	Blue slip line	
006	PEARL		Open	6	6	14	BS + Rim	Blue transfer print	
006	WHITE		Open	5	5	14	BS	Some flakes	
007	BS		Bottle/ jar	2	1	13	BS		
007	MODBL		Teapot	1	1*	4	BS	Moulded decoration; V02	
007	NCBW		Hollow	3	1	5	BS	Flakes	
007	WHITE		Plate/ bowl	8	1*	28	Rim + BS	Blue transfer print pattern - lines and floral motif; V01	
007	WHITE		Open	2	2	8	BS	Blue transfer print	
007	WHITE		Plate/ dish/ bowl	4	4	18	Rim + BS	Blue transfer print chinoiserie	
007	WHITE		Hollow	3	3	6	BS	Flakes; some soot	

008	BERTH		Bowl	1	1	79	Rim	Long everted rim	
008	BERTH		Jar/ bowl	1	1	8	BS	Abraded	
008	BL		Open	9	9	103	BS		Mid 18th to 19th
008	BL		Jug/jar	2	1	15	BS + Handle		17th to 18th
008	CIST		Drinking vessel	1	1	2	BS with HJ		
008	CREA		?	2	2	4	BS		
008	ENPO		Tea cup/ bowl	1	1	4	BS	Blue transfer print	
008	MODBL		Teapot	1	1*	7	BS with HJ	V02	
008	MP		Jar	1	1	7	BS		
008	NCBW		Hollow	1	1	7	BS	Slip mocha decoration	
008	NCBW		Hollow	5	1	42	Base + BS		
008	PEARL		Hollow	4	4	14	Base + BS	Blue transfer print	
008	PMERTH		Jar	1	1	21	Rim	Rounded inverted rim; no glaze	
008	SLIP	Buff	?	1	1	37	Base	Odd form - possibly a lamp?; joggled yellow and brown slip	
008	SWSG		Hollow	1	1	2	BS		
008	WHITE		Plate/ bowl	12	1*	47	BS	Blue transfer print pattern - lines and floral motif; V01	
008	WHITE		Hollow	3	1	5	BS	Blue sponge decoration	
009	BERTH		Bowl	2	1	34	Base + BS		
009	BONC		Jug/ jar	1	1	5	BS	No glaze; ?ID	
009	MEDLOC	Medium quartz; dull oxidized with reduced core	Jug	1	1	12	Rim	Unturned rim; spots of amber glaze; possible BONC	

** Denotes cross-context vessel*

Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville,
Kettering, Northamptonshire (KTCM 15)
The Animal Bone
By Jennifer Wood

Introduction

A total of 7 (21g) refitted fragments of animal bone were recovered by hand during archaeological works undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Services Ltd at Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Kettering, Northamptonshire. The remains were recovered from layer (009) and layer (010), both provisionally dated from the early modern period.

Results

The remains were generally of a good overall condition, averaging at grade 2 on the Lyman criteria (1996).

No evidence of burning, butchery, working or gnawing was noted on the remains.

Table 1, Summary of Identified Bone

Context	Cut	Taxon	Element	Side	Number	Weight	Comments
009	N/A	Medium Mammal Size	Long Bone	X	3	5	
		Large Mammal Size	Rib	X	1	9	
		Medium Mammal Size	Rib	X	1	2	
		Bird	Long Bone	X	1	1	Midshaft
010	N/A	Bird	Radius	X	1	4	Midshaft, Large bird, goose size

As can be seen, only unidentified bird remains were identified, the remaining assemblage was only identifiable to size category.

The assemblage is too small to provide meaningful information on animal husbandry and utilisation on site, save the presence/use of the animals on site.

References

Lyman, R L, 1996 *Vertebrate Taphonomy*, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

Appendix [5]

THE FINDS

GLASS
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Fifteen pieces of glass weighing a total of 73g were recovered.

Condition
Although naturally fragile the glass is in good condition. However, the assemblage is all small fragments. Additionally, much of the material exhibits iridescent decay, in some cases severe.

Results
Table 1, Glass Archive

Cxt	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
004	Colourless bottle, early-mid 20th century	1	2	early-mid 20th century
	Dark olive green bottle, late 19th-mid 20th century	1	5	
006	Very pale green window, moderate iridescence	2	1	18th century
007	Dark olive green bottle	2	38	early-mid 19th century?
009	Colourless vessel, probable pedestal beaker with in-turned rim, heavy iridescence, 16th-mid 17th century	2	1	early-mid 17th century
	Pale green vessel, neck and mouth of probable decanter or flask, very heavy iridescence, early-mid 17th century	1	22	
	Very pale green window, including probably rectangular/diamond-shaped quarry, grozed edges, heavy iridescence, 17th century	6	4	

Provenance
The glass was recovered from a mixed layer (004), a surface (006), and layers (007) and (009).

Range
A mixture of window and vessel glass was recovered, all of it post-medieval to early modern in date.

There are fragments of window glass of probable 18th century date from (006), and 17th century from (009). The latter includes pieces of probable square or diamond-shaped quarries with grozed (trimmed by nipping) edges.

A drinking vessel with a slightly enclosed mouth was retrieved from (009). This is probably part of a pedestal beaker and similar examples of 16th-mid 17th century are known (Wilmott 2002, 114-5).

The same context also yielded the upper neck of a probable decanter of 17th century date. The flared lip to the top is also similar to Dutch bottles of about the same 17th century period (Van den Bossche 2001). The form is also comparable to flasks of the first half of the 17th century (Wilmott 2002, 122-3).

Potential
The glass is of moderate potential. In particular, the material from (009), indicates medium-high status occupation of probably 17th century date, with the drinking glass and decanter/flask being items whose use and ownership would largely be restricted to upper levels of society. The 17th and 18th century window glass also indicates the presence of buildings of these periods on or close to the site.

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.

Results
Table 2, Clay Pipes

Context no.	Bore diameter /64"					NoF	W(g)	Comments	Date
	8	7	6	5	4				
008		2				2	7	stems only	17th century

Provenance
The clay pipe was recovered from a rubble layer (008). The pieces are probably relatively local products, perhaps made in nearby Kettering.

Range
Two stem fragments, both of 17th century date, were recovered.

Potential
Other than providing dating evidence the clay pipe is of limited potential.

WORKED STONE
By Paul Cope-Faulkner

Two fragments of worked stone were recovered from works undertaken at Thorpe Castle House. They were retrieved from a limestone rubble layer (008) and a silty sand layer (010).

Both fragments are derived from the Upper Lincolnshire Limestone. That from (008) is an even textured oolite comparable to material quarried at Ketton and Stamford (*c*. 26km to the north). The remaining stone is a fissile 'slate', presumably from Collyweston, some 21km to the northwest.

Weighing 555g, the stone from (008) is a simple fragment of ashlar with three partial faces visible. It is fairly non-diagnostic and could date from the Roman period onwards.

The tile from (010) is a small fragment (weighing 17g) but has the partial peg hole preserved. It measures between 6-8mm thick. Previous investigations have indicated that late medieval slates are generally about 20mm thick with uneven surfaces, while post-medieval examples are much thinner, as little as 5mm (RCHME 1984, xxlvii). As this falls within the narrower range, a post-medieval date is probable.

OTHER FINDS
By Gary Taylor

Introduction
Twenty-two other finds weighing a total of 947g were recovered.

Condition
The other finds are in moderate condition though all are corroded.

Results

Table 3, Other Materials

Cxt	Material	Description	NoF	W (g)	Date
004	iron	nails, circular-sectioned shaft, rounded head, 2 bent	3	33	20th century
	iron	nails, flattened rectangular shafts and chisel points, 4 bent	6	95	
	iron	wire, bent in S-shape	1	2	
	copper alloy	shotgun cartridge case base, late 19th-mid 20th century	1	6	
006	iron	nail	1	18	post-medieval
	iron	cast iron, probable fire back/surround, 3 pieces with straight flanges edges, post-medieval	8	785	
007	copper alloy	shotgun cartridge case base, stamped 'BRAUDELL & SON BELFAST No 12'	1	6	late 19th-mid 20th century
009	lead	Window came, fine	1	2	

Provenance

The other finds were recovered from a mixed layer (004), a surface (006), and layers (007) and (009).

Range

All of the other finds are of metal. Nails are fairly abundant, providing almost half the assemblage. Two types are evident, wire-drawn examples with circular shafts and smithed forms with flattened rectangular shafts. It seems likely that these separate types were used for slightly differing functions, though they were probably both broadly used is fixing structural timbers together. Many are bent indicating they were drawn out of the timbers they had been inserted into, indicating dismantling of structures.

Other evidence of structures at the site is presented by a came from a leaded window and part of a probable cast iron fireback. Firebacks were used throughout the post-medieval period and earlier examples, in particular, were luxury items used by higher status households. They protected the rear of the fireplace from heat damage but also absorbed the heat from the fire and radiated this out providing further warmth to a room, particularly as the fire began to die down.

Two shotgun cartridge detonator caps were recovered. These would have been fitted with paper cases, a type that was produced from about 1870 onwards, indicating the earliest date for the items.

A piece of wire was also recovered.

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
004	early-mid 20th century	based on glass
006	18th century	based on glass
007	late 19th century?	
008	17th century	based on clay pipe
009	early-mid 17th century	based on glass
010	post-medieval	based on 1 stone

ABBREVIATIONS

CXT Context
NoF Number of Fragments
W (g) Weight (grams)

REFERENCES

Davey, P. J., 1981, Guidelines for the processing and publication of clay pipes from excavations, *Medieval and Later*

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Van den Bossche, W., 2001 *Antique Glass Bottles Their History and Evolution (1500-1850)*, Antique Collectors' Club

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OASIS ID: preconst3-205552

Project details

Project name	Thorpe Castle House, Thrope Waterville, Kettering
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd (PCAS) were commissioned by Wythe Holland Limited on behalf of their clients Mr and Mrs Venn to undertake a scheme of archaeological evaluation trenching in support of a Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application for a proposed garden room at Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Kettering, Northamptonshire. Thorpe Castle Lies within the grounds of the Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Castle earthworks and barn at Thorpe Waterville (SAM NN136). The evaluation initially consisted of a 3m x 2m trench in the area of the present patio, however the area in which the trench was positioned was too small for a trench of this size. Therefore it was decided, after consulting English Heritage, that a 1.5m x 1.5m test pit would be sufficient to evaluate the archaeological potential. The test pit exposed a number of modern and Post-medieval deposits overlying the moat beneath. In addition, three moat deposits were indentified towards the base of the test pit. These contained a large amount of limestone fragments, suggesting they were part of the backfilling phase of the moat.
Project dates	Start: 04-02-2015 End: 06-02-2015
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	KTCM 15 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	MOAT Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Uncertain
Significant Finds	CBM Uncertain
Significant Finds	TILE Uncertain
Methods & techniques	"Test Pits"

Development type	Small-scale extensions (e.g. garages, porches, etc.)
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE THORPE ACHURCH Thorpe Castle House, Thorpe Waterville, Kettering, Northamptonshire
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SD 4667 3088 53.7713087636 -2.80924086984 53 46 16 N 002 48 33 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
Project brief originator	English Heritage/Department of Environment
Project design originator	Pre-Construct Archaeological Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Will Munford
Project supervisor	M. Rowe
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Not yet known
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Glass"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Not yet known
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Glass"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section"

Entered by	Leigh Brocklehurst (leigh@pre-construct.co.uk)
Entered on	9 March 2015

OASIS:

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 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012
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