

Saxo-Norman and Medieval Activity at Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire Archaeological Excavation Report

July 2019

Client: CgMs Ltd on behalf of Keir Living

Issue No: 1 OAE Report No: 2325 NGR: TL 2225 4888





Version 1

Client Name:	CgMs Ltd on behalf of Keir Living	
Document Title:	Saxo-Norman and Medieval Activity at Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire	
Document Type:	Excavation Report	
Report No:	2325	
Grid Reference:	TL 2225 4888	
Planning Reference:	CB/13/00921/OUT	
Site Code:	BEDFM2016.07	
Invoice Code:	XBDPOT16	
Receiving Body:	The Higgins Bedford	
Accession No:	BEDFM2016.07	
OASIS No:	oxfordar3-277460	
OA Document File Location:	X:\Active Projects_Use KT\Bedfordshire\XBDPOT16\Project Reports\Grey Lit	
OA Graphics File Location:	X:\Active Projects_Use KT\Bedfordshire\XBDPOT16\Project Data\Graphics\Acrobat\Grey_Lit_Figs	
Issue No:	1	
Date:	30th July 2019	
Prepared by:	Graeme Clarke (Post-Excavation Project Officer)	
Checked by:	Aileen Connor (Senior Project Manager)	
Edited by:	Rachel Clarke (Post-excavation Editor)	
Approved for Issue by:	Paul Spoerry (Regional Manager)	
Signature:		

D D gow

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

OA South Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East 15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridge CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk w. oxfordarchaeology.com Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627 OA North Mill 3 Moor Lane Mills Moor Lane Lancaster LA1 1QD t. +44 (0)1524 880 250





Saxo-Norman and Medieval Activity at Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire

Archaeological Excavation Report

Written by Graeme Clarke BSc PIfA and Chris Thatcher BA

With contributions from Paul Blinkhorn BTech (Hons), Zoe Ui Choileain MA MSc BABAO, Carole Fletcher HND BA ACIfA, Rachel Fosberry HNC ACIfA, Anthony Haskins BSc MSc ACIfA, Ted Levermore BA MA and illustrations by Katie Hutton MA

Contents

List o	f Figuresv	
List of Platesv		
List of Tablesv		
Summaryvii		
Ackno	owledgements viii	
1	INTRODUCTION1	
1.1	Location and scope of work1	
1.2	Topography and geology1	
1.3	Archaeological and historical background2	
1.4	Previous work	
2	EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY	
2.1	Aims6	
2.2	Local and Regional Research Objectives6	
2.3	Site Specific Research Objectives	
2.4	Additional Research Objectives7	
2.5	Fieldwork Methodology7	
3	RESULTS	
3.1	Introduction	
3.2	Residual material8	
3.3	General soils and ground conditions9	
3.4	Overview of results (Fig. 5)9	
3.5	Period 1: Saxo-Norman (<i>c</i> .AD1066-1150)9	
3.6	Period 2: early-late medieval (c.AD1150-1540)15	
3.7	Period 3: post-medieval (<i>c</i> .AD1540-1900)17	
3.8	Finds summary	



		Version 1	
3.9	Environmenta	l summary20	
4	DISCUSS	SION	
4.1	Introduction		
4.2	The Saxo-Norman remains21		
4.3	Medieval to post-medieval land use26		
4.4	Significance		
5	PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING		
5.1	Dissemination of the results of excavation		
APPI	ENDIX A	CONTEXT INVENTORY	
APPI	ENDIX B	FINDS REPORTS	
B.1	Metalwork		
B.2	Slag		
B.3	Glass		
B.4	Flintwork		
B.5			
B.6	Ceramic buildi	ng material49	
B.7	•		
B.8	Clay tobacco p	ipe52	
APPI	ENDIX C	ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS	
C.1	Faunal remain	s53	
C.2	Mollusca		
C.3	Environmenta	l bulk samples	
APPI	ENDIX D	BIBLIOGRAPHY	
APPI	ENDIX E	GAZETTEER OF BEDFORDSHIRE HER ENTRIES	
APPI	ENDIX F	OASIS REPORT FORM	



List of Figures

- Fig. 1 Site location showing archaeological excavation areas (black) development area (red) and evaluation trenches (blue)
- Fig. 2 Albion Archaeology trial trenches overlain on the results of the geophysical survey (reproduced from Keir and Koziminski 2012, fig. 3)
- Fig. 3 Map showing location of BHER monuments and events
- Fig. 4Albion Archaeology trial trenches and excavation areas overlaid onto 1832Inclosure map of Potton (reproduced from Keir and Koziminski 2012, fig. 9)
- Fig. 5 Overview of excavation results
- Fig. 6 Area A: phase plan
- Fig. 7 Area C: phase plan
- Fig. 8 Detailed plan of Saxo-Norman settlement remains (Area C)
- Fig. 9 Area B: phase plan
- Fig. 10 Area A selected sections
- Fig. 11 Area B selected sections
- Fig. 12 Area C selected sections

List of Plates

- Plate 1 Excavation of Period 1 Structure 1, looking west
- Plate 2 Period 1 pit **3865** within Structure 1, looking north
- Plate 3 Period 1 hearths **3915** and **3919**, looking south
- Plate 4 Period 1 hearths **3915** and **3919**, looking west
- Plate 5 Period 1 possible SFB **3832**, looking west
- Plate 6 Period 1 Corn Dryer 1 (**3833**), looking south
- Plate 7 Period 3 quarry pit **3632**, looking west
- Plate 8 Working shot of Area A, looking southwest

List of Tables

- Table 1: Context inventory
- Table 2: Metalwork finds by material
- Table 3: Slag
- Table 4: Glass
- Table 5: Medieval ceramic phase chronology, occurrence and defining wares
- Table 6:Pottery occurrence by number and weight (g) of sherds per context by fabric
type
- Table 7: CBM catalogue
- Table 8:Fired clay catalogue
- Table 9: Clay tobacco pipe
- Table 10: Animal bone
- Table 11: Mollusca
- Table 12: Samples from Area A
- Table 13:Samples from Area B
- Table 14:Samples from Area C



Table 15:	Gazetteer of Bedfordshire HER monuments
Table 16:	Gazetteer of Bedfordshire HER events

 Table 17:
 Gazetteer of Bedfordshire Designated Buildings



Summary

Between the 25th February and 4th April 2016 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out excavations on land east of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire. In total *c*.0.9ha was investigated by three areas of excavation (Areas A to C).

The works uncovered ditched boundaries, pits and post holes associated with Saxo-Norman (*c*.AD1066-1150) and early medieval (*c*.AD1150-1250) occupation of the site. Saxo-Norman features were present in both Area A (adjacent to Biggleswade Road) and Area C, immediately south of Home Farm; possibly the site of one of Potton's two medieval manorial farms. The remains in Area A comprised part of a rectilinear ditched enclosure which surrounded a number of pits containing refuse and oven waste suggestive of domestic settlement. Significantly, Area C appeared to have uncovered part of an agricultural complex of buildings and features that probably relate to corn-drying activities. Both areas of Saxo-Norman occupation appeared to have been largely abandoned by the early medieval period with only a further short-lived episode of settlement evident in Area A.

The remains uncovered by the excavation are of local and regional significance. A rarely excavated group of Saxo-Norman remains related to arable agriculture have been documented that may shed some light on the corn-drying process being carried out in Potton during this period. The significance of these remains may be further strengthened by a possible association with a potential manorial estate centred on the adjacent Home Farm.



Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank Myk Flitcroft of CgMs Ltd for commissioning the work and Keir Living who funding the project. Thanks are extended to Martin Oake who monitored the work on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council for his advice and guidance. The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology East by Aileen Connor. The fieldwork was directed by Chris Thatcher with the assistance of Emily Abrehart, Zoe Clarke, Richard Higham, Toby Knight, Paddy Lambert, the late Chris Swain and Tam Webster. Survey and digitising were carried out by Dave Brown. The illustrations were produced by Katie Hutton. Thanks are extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the direction of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Kat Hamilton.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 Between 25th February and 4th April 2016, Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) was commissioned by CgMs Ltd for Keir Living to carry out a series of archaeological excavations to the east of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire (TL 2225 4888; Fig. 1). These works were conducted in advance of the redevelopment of the *c*.7.5ha site for mixed residential and commercial use along with public amenities, open space and a new access road linking the development with Biggleswade Road (Planning Application: CB/13/00921/OUT). The site is located to the south of the historic core of the village of Potton and in an area with a number of known historical and archaeological sites and remains.
- This archaeological excavation was governed by a Brief issued by Martin Oake of 1.1.2 Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Team (CBC/AT 2015). Previously, a Brief was issued by CBC/AT for 'Stages I and II' of the archaeological investigations on the site (2011) carried out by Albion Archaeology. Firstly, a geophysical survey of the site was carried out by Stratascan between 19th and 21st March 2012 that identified a number of former field systems as well as several pit-like anomalies (Biggs 2012; Fig. 2). The findings of this survey were presented along with the results of the archaeological evaluation of the site conducted by Albion Archaeology between 11th and 26th June 2012 (Keir and Koziminski 2012; Fig. 2, Trenches 1-35). The latter revealed these features to be of medieval, post-medieval and modern origin. The evaluation phase of the investigation was incorporated within a Heritage Asset Assessment for the site that concluded the majority of medieval features were associated with agricultural land division, away from any main settlement focus. However, two possible areas of settlement activity were identified where more substantial amounts of pottery were recovered from pits. The post-medieval and modern land divisions were deemed to be of lesser significance.
- 1.1.3 This report deals solely with the 2016 excavation undertaken by OA East at Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire. The previous phases of geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation work on the site (Keir and Koziminski 2012) will be referred to in this report where appropriate.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with The Higgins Bedford under the Site Code BEDFM2016.07 in due course. The proposed dissemination of the results of the excavation is described in Section 5.1 below.

1.2 Topography and geology

1.2.1 The site lies on land east of Biggleswade Road in the parish of Potton, Bedfordshire (Fig. 1). It comprises two agricultural fields between approximately 35m and 45m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The majority of the site lies on a south-facing slope above the Potton Brook, whose historic route passed through the development's southeastern part, prior to its diversion to its current course along the eastern edge of the development in the 19th century.



- 1.2.2 On the southern fringe of the historic core of the village, it is bounded to the north by residential properties, to the west by Biggleswade Road with residential properties beyond, to the south by The Hollow Football Ground, and woodland to the east.
- 1.2.3 The geology beneath the sloping ground to the north of the former course of Potton Brook is sandstone of the Cretaceous Woburn Sands Formation. The bedrock geology is overlain by alluvium deposits on the flat, lower lying part of the site, that comprises the site's southeastern extent (British Geological Survey (http://mapapps.bgs. ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html, accessed 13th May 2019).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Introduction

1.3.1 A full search of the Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) of a 1km radius centred on the site was commissioned with the following being a summary based on the pertinent results. The full list of HER entries is shown on Figure 3 and is given in Appendix E, Tables 15-17.

Later prehistoric and Roman (c.4000BC-c.AD410)

- 1.3.2 The site lies in a landscape that contains evidence of human activity potentially dating back to the prehistoric period. A series of sub-rectangular and rectilinear cropmarks (HER15083) in the field to the east of the Potton Brook are partially obscured by alluvium and as yet undated, but it is possible they date to the prehistoric period.
- 1.3.3 The alluvial deposits associated with the historic route of Potton Brook in the southeastern part of the site have been shown to be up to 1.85m thick (Saunders 2006) and may mask earlier prehistoric and Roman features. The line of a Roman road, Viatores 224 (HER738), was identified by the Viatores project to run west to east through Potton, leading from Bedford, via Cockayne Hatley, to Wimpole in Cambridgeshire (The Viatores 1964). Many of the Viatores roads have since been discounted but the line of Viatores 224 has retained some credibility, mainly due to cropmarks identified between Cardington and Willington to the west of Sandy. Its line east of Sandy is still disputed (Simco 1984).

Anglo-Saxon (c.AD410-1066)

- 1.3.4 Potton is first recorded in a series of charters of the mid-10th and mid-11th centuries. For example, a cartulary records that in AD988 a man named Alfelinus died and gave both Oakley and Potton to Ramsey Abbey (Electronic Source 1). There is also a record of a grant by Ælfhelm to Leofsige, his goldsmith, of land at Potton, Bedfordshire (S1218a; Electronic Source 2).
- 1.3.5 No finds or sites belonging to the Anglo-Saxon period have been recorded in this locality. In 1066 the manor of 'Potune' was held by Earl Tostig. He was a brother of King Harold, and was killed fighting against him on the side of Norwegian king Harald Hardrada at Stamford Bridge in 1066 (Electronic Source 3).



Medieval (c.AD1066-1540)

- Two manors were listed in Potton in the Domesday Survey of 1086, held by Countess 1.3.6 Judith, a niece of the King. The principal manor of Potton Regis was a very large estate counting 37 households and a water mill on the River Ivel, to the west of Potton (Electronic Source 3). The lesser manor of Potton Rectoria was presumably attached to St Mary's Church. In 1237, as a result of fragmentation of the estate through inheritance, the four manors of Potton Regis, Potton Much Manured, Potton Burdetts and Potton Rectoria are recorded (Bedfordshire County Council (BCC) and English Heritage (EH) 2003, 9; Electronic Source 4). The location of any of these manorial sites is currently unknown, with Home Farm, adjacent to the north of the site, being a possible candidate site. One of the potential manor sites, John O'Gaunts Hill, lies to the south of the site in Sutton Park and is a scheduled monument (HER515; HER11767 not illustrated). A number of rectilinear earthworks (HER10802) within the site (encompassed by excavation Area C) may represent boundaries and building platforms related to the medieval settlement of Potton or a manorial site speculated to be centred on Home Farm (HER2210, see below). These earthworks respect a knoll of higher ground to the south of Horne Lane, previously known as Mill Lane.
- 1.3.7 A market charter was granted to Potton by William II in 1094 and the settlement developed around a small market place. In 1202 a weekly market was recorded, but it must have been in existence before that date as the market day is recorded as being changed at that time. This would suggest that Potton was functioning as a town by the late 12th century. A marketplace is referred to in 1373 (BCC and EH 2003, 9; Electronic Source 4).
- 1.3.8 The eastern part of the site contains a series of earthwork and cropmark features (HER 10802). It has been suggested that some of these relate to Potton Brook, while others may be associated with a former manorial site based on Home Farm (HER 2210); possibly the lesser manor of Potton Much Manured (Parry 1996; BCC and EH 2003, 12; Electronic Source 4).
- 1.3.9 An archaeological evaluation to the northeast of the site demonstrated that the valley of the Potton Brook contained extensive alluvial deposits (Saunders 2006; EBD146). These were not investigated in detail but did have the potential to mask archaeological remains belonging to earlier occupation of the valley. They also had the potential to contain well preserved environmental and organic remains which could provide important environmental evidence for the area.
- 1.3.10 This evaluation identified features on the western edge of the site, towards Home Farm, at the top of the slope above the valley. This area was subject to further, detailed investigation (Saunders 2007) which found a series of five intercutting pits that produced an assemblage of horn cores to evidence tanning at the site. The pottery recovered dated to the 13th-15th centuries. A now demolished tannery and parchment works lay immediately to the north (HER 7898), dating from the 18th century onwards. The excavated evidence suggests that tanning activity in this area was substantially earlier in origin and may have covered a wider area than was previously thought.



1.3.11 Further earthworks identified to the south of the site may represent garden features, probably related to Sutton Park (HER7005), which was laid out in the 16th century. Much of the landscape of the park has been altered and modernised in recent years by the John O'Gaunt Golf Club.

Post-medieval and modern (c.AD1540-present)

- 1.3.12 The four manors (see Section 1.3.6 above) were finally recombined by the Burgoyne family between 1544 and 1637 by progressive purchase (Electronic Source 5). The site lies relatively close to the medieval and post-medieval core of Potton (HER17164), which is part of the Potton Conservation Area (DBD3404) immediately to the north of the site. The Conservation Area contains a fairly large number of historic buildings which are locally designated heritage assets in the HER and listed buildings on the National Heritage List for England. Home Farm, immediately to the north of the site, has a Grade II listed farm house (HER2210) dating to the 17th century and a post-medieval barn and corn dryer (HER7120). The farm house is now converted into a private residence.
- 1.3.13 The Inclosure Award map 1832 shows the investigation area comprised of a series of rectangular fields enclosed by boundary ditches. The previous trenching investigation of the site conducted by Albion Archaeology encountered many of these former boundaries (Fig. 4; Keir and Koziminski 2012). The map also shows the former course of Potton Brook prior to its canalisation along its current route in the latter part of the 19th century.
- 1.3.14 There are a number of WWII defences in the form of pill boxes, tank traps and spigot mortar bases in the Potton area. A small WWII brick-built hut (HER17959) described as a warden's post stands in the eastern part of the site.

1.4 Previous work

- 1.4.1 The development site itself was subject to a programme of archaeological trial trenching by Albion Archaeology in 2012 as part of the planning application process (Keir and Koziminski 2012; Fig. 2). This work also incorporated a geophysical survey (Biggs 2012; Fig. 2) and a Heritage Asset Assessment.
- 1.4.2 The geophysical survey identified a range of anomalies of potential archaeological interest throughout the site, including both linear features and areas of pitting.
- 1.4.3 The programme of trial trenching was designed to investigate the range geophysical anomalies and apparently blank areas within the site. Twenty-three of the 31 trenches excavated in the evaluation contained archaeological features or deposits, mainly comprising ditches and pits dating from the medieval to modern periods. As with the evaluation to the northeast of the site (see Section 1.3.8), the low lying southeastern extent of the site encompassed deposits associated with the floodplain of Potton Brook.
- 1.4.4 Three concentrations of features of medieval date were identified in the area of Trenches 5-7 and 12; Trenches 14 and 15 and Trenches 26, 30 and 31. These comprised ditches that probably represented land divisions and included a curving enclosure in the north-eastern part of the site (Trenches 5-7 and 12). A series of pits and quantities



of pottery found in some of the features suggested that there was settlement activity in the vicinity.

- 1.4.5 The majority of the features identified in the evaluation were of post-medieval or modern date and broadly represented land boundaries or drainage features. A series of substantial features at the foot of the slope in the southern and eastern parts of the site appeared to relate to earlier courses of the Potton Brook shown on 19th century maps.
- 1.4.6 A number of features remain undated since they did not produce any datable finds or could not be related to features that were dated elsewhere on the site. The majority of these were found in the northwest corner of Field 2.



2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 In general, the purpose of a scheme of archaeological investigation in the context of Development Management is to record and enhance understanding of the significance of heritage assets before they are lost (wholly or in part). This is achieved by determining and understanding the nature, function and character of an archaeological site in its cultural and environmental setting. These characteristics are what form the significance of a heritage asset and from which its value for this and future generations is derived (as defined by the *National Planning Policy Framework 2012*, Annex 2).

2.2 Local and Regional Research Objectives

- 2.2.1 The local and regional research contexts are provided by Oake (2007), Glazebrook (1997), Brown and Glazebrook (2000) and Medlycott (2011). The archaeological resources identified in the evaluation were remains of medieval and post-medieval land division and boundaries with evidence of small-scale medieval settlement on the southern edge of the town of Potton which is known to have its origins in at least the Late Saxon period.
- 2.2.2 The development site forms part of the hinterland of Potton, meaning that the following research objectives must be considered:
 - The impact of small towns on their hinterland, including their economic and social impact in the medieval period (Ayers 2000, 31; Oake *et al.* 2007, 14);
 - The relationship between towns and their hinterland and the surrounding countryside in the medieval period (Ayers 2000, 31; Brown 2000, 45; Oake et al. 2007 14; Medlycott 2011, 70);
 - The characterisation and understanding of the origins and development of medieval rural settlement (Wade 2000, 25; Oake *et al.* 2007, 14; Medlycott 2011, 70); and
 - The origins and development of field systems and land boundaries in the medieval period (Wade 2000, 24; Oake *et al*. 2007, 14).

2.3 Site Specific Research Objectives

- 2.3.1 The site specific aims of the investigation comprised:
 - establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation within the development area;
 - establishing the relationship of any remains found to the surrounding contemporary landscapes; and
 - recovering palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.



2.4 Additional Research Objectives

- 2.4.1 Completion of the post-excavation assessment showed that all the original aims and objectives of the excavation could be met through the analysis of the excavated materials.
- 2.4.2 A single objective, to supplement the original aims and objectives, was identified as a result of the assessment process, drawing upon the research agendas listed in Section 2.2.1.
 - To understand the development of the medieval field systems in relation to the roadside settlement.
- 2.4.3 Rural settlement diversity and the definition of the actual medieval settlement patterns across the region has been identified as a principal research requirement for the region (Glazebrook and Brown 2000). Furthermore, a pattern of decline and agricultural recession in the 14th century has been identified in Bedfordshire (Oake *et al.* 2007).
- 2.4.4 Further study of the medieval artefact and stratigraphic evidence, specifically the plot and field boundaries, and documentary research into the wider contemporary landscape has been identified as a research objective that will contribute to understanding the pattern of land use at the site.

2.5 Fieldwork Methodology

- 2.5.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (CBC/AT 2015) and detailed in the WSI (Connor 2016) which required that *c*.0.9ha in total (Area A encompassing 3323m²; Area B encompassing 820m²; and Area C encompassing 5325m²) be machine stripped to the level of natural geology or the archaeological horizon.
- 2.5.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360° type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.5.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET.
- 2.5.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metaldetected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.5.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and high resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.5.6 A total of 23 bulk samples were taken from the excavated features. These each totalled up to 40L and were processed by flotation at OA East's environmental processing facility at Bourn.
- 2.5.7 Site conditions were good, with rain at times.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The proposed development area was subject to three open-area excavations (Areas A-C) totaling c.0.9ha. The phasing presented below is based on stratigraphy and spatial associations, with similarity of morphology of features also considered. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts.
- 3.1.2 Summary descriptions of the features identified and artefacts recovered are given in this section supplemented by a full context inventory presented in Appendix A, Table 1. Finds and environmental reports are given in Appendices B and C respectively.
- 3.1.3 An overview of the excavation results is shown on Figure 5. Phased excavation plans of Areas A-C are given as Figures 6, 7 and 9 with a detailed plan of the Saxo-Norman remains probably relating to corn-drying on Figure 8. Selected sections of each excavation area are included as Figures 10-12.
- 3.1.4 Three main periods of activity have been identified:

Period 1: Saxo-Norman (c.AD1066-1150)

Period 2: early-late medieval (c.AD1150-1540)

Period 3: post-medieval to modern (*c*.AD1540-1900)

3.2 Residual material

- 3.2.1 A small assemblage of three residual struck flints of Early Neolithic date was recovered from the site that falls outside the scope of the research aims for the project (see Section 2). This material is likely to have derived from transient occupation along the Potton Brook corridor and subsequently reworked into Period 1-3 feature fills. The flintwork is described in the results section below along with an Appendix report but as this assemblage falls outside the scope of research aims for the project they are not considered further.
- 3.2.2 A single fragmentary piece of Roman box flue tile was found in a Period 1 feature during the excavations. The poor condition of this item indicates it was not located near to its primary site of deposition and had been subject to post-depositional disturbance from the medieval period onwards, probably as a result of waste management/manuring activity. This item is described in the results section below and included within the appropriate Appendix report but as it falls outside the scope of research aims for the project (see Section 2) this item is not considered further.
- 3.2.3 Three residual sherds (26g) of Early/Middle Saxon pottery were recovered from Period 2 Ditch 6 in Area C. As highlighted in the desk-study (see Section 1.3.5), no previous finds or sites belonging to the Anglo-Saxon period have been recorded in this locality.



3.3 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.3.1 The three excavation areas revealed the upper horizon of the natural Woburn Sand Formation sloped generally south-eastwards across the site by a drop of *c*.5m in elevation towards the Potton Brook.
- 3.3.2 The natural geology (3602) was overlain by topsoil (3600) up to 0.25m thick and subsoil. A sherd of pale olive-green glass from a possibly medieval fine glass vessel (SF 2) was recovered from the topsoil.
- 3.3.3 Ground conditions throughout the excavation were generally good and the excavation areas remained dry. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.4 Overview of results (Fig. 5)

3.4.1 The archaeological works uncovered evidence for activity spanning the Saxo-Norman, early-late medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. The Saxo-Norman occupation uncovered on the site was focussed on Areas A and C. The remains in Area A comprised a large rectangular ditched enclosure that extended southwards and eastwards, beyond the limit of excavation. Area C uncovered remains relating to settlement activity consisting of post-built and sunken-featured buildings along with associated pits and enclosure ditches. This settlement activity appeared to have ceased by the early medieval period when a further episode of settlement activity sprang up in Area A, alongside Biggleswade Road.

3.5 Period 1: Saxo-Norman (*c*.AD1066-1150)

Area A (Figs 5 and 6)

Enclosure 1

3.5.1 Area A partly revealed the northern extent of a large rectilinear ditched enclosure or field system, aligned west-north-west to east-south-east. Internal divisions within this enclosure were delineated by further ditches that extended southwards from its outer circuit on the same axis or perpendicular to it. When taken as a whole, these ditches probably delineate a large plot of enclosed land to the south, that although of unknown extent, was perhaps confined to the relatively level stretch of land above the 40m OD contour to the east of Biggleswade Road (Fig. 5).

Ditch 1

3.5.2 The earliest boundary was Ditch 1 (comprising cuts **3680**, **3714**, **3715** (Fig. 10, Section 141), **3736** and **3740**), an L-shaped ditch that presumably formed the northern and eastern arms of a plot or enclosure extending eastwards from Biggleswade Road. It measured between 1-1.3m wide and 0.32-0.38m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The northern arm of this ditch (**3715** and **3736**) was observed to have been truncated and reinstated with Ditch 2 (see below). The fills (3681, 3713, 3716, 3737 and 3741) consisted of dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions that produced 8 sherds (36g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1100), 17 fragments (38g) of fired clay, a brick fragment (87g) and two animal bone fragments. The fired clay



displayed flattened or wiped surfaces to suggest these were structural fragments (Appendix B.7.5). An intrusive fragment (3g) of clay tobacco pipe was also recovered from the fill of cut **3740**.

Ditch 2

3.5.3 The main northern boundary was reinstated and extended by Ditch 2 (comprising cuts **3709**, **3717** (Fig. 10, Section 141), **3726**, **3738** and **3745**), which measured between 0.8-1.4m wide and 0.26-0.4m deep, with a U-shaped profile. Each cut contained a single fill (3710, 3718, 3725, 3739 and 3744) which varied between light to dark orange brown and mid red brown silty sand with occasional ironstone gravel inclusions. This ditch line was observed to cut the northern arm of Ditch 1 in the section of cuts **3717** and **3738**. A total of five sherds (27g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1150) and two animal bone fragments were recovered from the fills of this ditch.

Ditches 3-4

- 3.5.4 To the south of Ditch 2, two linear ditches were partly revealed following the same axis. These ditches extended south, west and east beyond the limit of excavation. The resultant gaps between their parallel and perpendicular alignments probably represent the successive remodelling of internal divisions, controlled access points and/or possibly a trackway along the northern edge of the enclosure.
- 3.5.5 Two slots (comprising cuts **3719** (Fig. 10, Section 141) and **3757**) were excavated into Ditch 3 that measured between 0.4-0.8m wide and 0.2 m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3720 and 3758) consisted of greyish/orange brown silty sand with occasional ironstone inclusions. This ditch was observed to be truncated by Period 3 Ditch 14.
- 3.5.6 Extending westwards from Ditch 3, Ditch 4 (comprising cuts **3636** and **3660**) lay on a parallel (10m apart) alignment to Ditch 2. It measured between 0.91-1.34m wide and 0.18-0.27m deep, with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3637 and 3661) consisted of mid-dark orange brown sand with some ironstone inclusions. These fills yielded intrusive items comprising a small sherd each of post-medieval pottery (5g) and 18th century bottle glass (28g).

Pit Group 1

- 3.5.7 A total of 12 pits phased to the Saxo-Norman period were scattered across the area. Two of the pits (3721 and 3724) encroached upon the earlier alignment of Ditch 1. A further two pits (3724 and 3743) were observed to have been truncated by Ditch 2. Five of the pits (3684, 3721 (Fig. 10, Section 141), 3724 (Fig. 10, Section 142), 3743 and 3759) lay to the south of Ditches 1 and 2. Five further pits (3650, 3654, 3656, 3662 (Fig. 10, Section 123) and 3670) were located to the south of Ditch 4, while two pits (3634 and 3648) lay to the north of Ditches 1 and 2.
- 3.5.8 Each pit was sub-circular in plan but varied considerably in size (0.6-2m in diameter and 0.18-0.44m deep) and all contained a single backfill (3635, 3647, 3649, 3653, 3655, 3669, 3685, 3721, 3723, 3742 and 3760). The fills similarly consisted of light to dark yellowish/orange brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Five of the pits (**3656**, **3662**, **3670**, **3721** and **3759**) produced a combined total of 20 sherds (113g)



of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1150), five fragments (33g) of fired clay and three cattle bone fragments.

3.5.9 Significantly, the fill of pit **3656**, located close to the western edge of the excavation, produced 13 fragments (53g) of fired clay that displayed both flattened/wiped surfaces and voids from burnt out vegetable matter to indicate these were structural fragments (Appendix B.7.5). Furthermore, the fill contained charred heather and weed seeds. It is possible these remains may represent the disposed remains of a bread oven (Appendix C.3.8).

Area C (Figs 5, 7 and 8)

Ditch 5

- 3.5.10 This ditch extended from the southeast close to from where it (presumably) met the former course of Potton Brook, and ran directly northwest towards the group of buildings, crop dryers and pits at the crest of the hillside (see below). Respecting the layout of these remains, it turned to the west for a short distance before passing northwards between two corn dryers on a curving path that continued beyond the excavation's northern limit.
- 3.5.11 Comprising cuts **3776**, **3783** (Fig. 12, Section 164), **3795**, **3879**, **3886** (Fig. 12, Section 197), **3888**, **3890**, **3935** and **3937**, Ditch 5 measured between 0.46-1.6m wide and 0.22-0.7m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3777, 3784, 3796, 3880, 3887, 3889, 3891, 3936 and 3938) varied between dark reddish brown sandy silt and mid to dark greyish brown silty sand with ironstone gravel inclusions. The fills of two of the cuts (3879 and **3886**), located adjacent to Structure 1 and Corn Dryer 1 respectively, produced a total of 24 sherds (373g) of pottery dated to the Saxo-Norman period (date range of *c*.AD1100-1150), a fragment of glassy slag/hearth lining (9g) and a fragment of animal bone.
- 3.5.12 The fill of cuts **3879**, **3888** and **3935** also produced a total of 28 sherds (149g) of late medieval pottery (date range of *c*.AD1350-1550) to indicate this ditch may have remained partially open and was backfilled during this later period.

Ditch 6

- 3.5.13 This ditch (comprising cuts **3844**, **3928** (Fig. 12, Section 208) and **3930**) extended in a southeasterly direction, from its northwestern terminus adjacent to Corn Dryer 2 and Pit Group 3 (see below), to meet the former course of Potton Brook at the base of the hillside. A further element of this ditch line entered the excavation area from the north to converge with the dominant alignment a short distance to the east of cut **3930**. The ditch measured between 0.9-1.48m wide and 0.34-0.52m deep with a U-shaped profile. The single backfill generally consisted of a mix of mid brown/orange/greyish brown silty sand (3845, 3929, 3931 and 3934) with rare ironstone and charcoal inclusions. It produced residual artefacts, including three sherds (26g) of Early/Middle Saxon pottery (date range of *c*.AD400-900) and a worked flint blade fragment of Early Neolithic date. Furthermore, the fills contained four fragments (13g) of fired clay.
- 3.5.14 Ditch 6 appears to have subsequently been incorporated as part of the northeastern boundary to Enclosure 2, described below.



Enclosure 2 (Fig. 7)

- 3.5.15 This partly revealed ditched enclosure was defined to the northeast by Ditch 6, described above, and to the northwest and southwest by Ditch 7. This small, rectangular (at least *c*.20m x 12m) plot of land extended beyond the southeastern limit of Area C towards the former course of Potton Brook (Fig. 5).
 - 3.5.16 Four sections of Ditch 7 (**3766/3768**, **3769**, **3774** (Fig. 12, Section 161) and **3778**) were excavated, that measured between 1.36-2.1m wide and 0.24-41m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3765/3767, 3771, 3775 and 3779) consisted of light to medium orange brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Section **3769** also contained a 0.22m-thick blackish brown basal fill (3970). Evidence for the recutting/clearing out/maintaining of this enclosure ditch was observed in one of the ditch sections (**3766** cutting **3768**). Ditch cut **3769** also contained a sherd (84g) of high medieval pottery (date range of *c*.AD1250-1350) to suggest this enclosure may have remained open into this later period.
 - 3.5.17 This enclosure also contained two similar sub-circular pits (**3790** and **3792**), that measured 1.1m in diameter and 0.3m deep. Neither of the mid orange brown silty sand fills (3789 and 3791) produced any artefacts.

Structure 1 and associated features

- 3.5.18 Positioned upon an elevated knoll of land above the 40m OD contour to the west of Ditch 5, lay the remains of a post-built structure that encompassed a rectangular area of 9m x 5m (Figs 5 and 8). No clearly discernible wall elements were present, although six post holes (3857, 3859, 3906, 3908, 3910 and 3912) appeared to broadly define the northwestern end of the building. These measured between 0.25-0.5m in diameter and 0.2m deep, all with U-shaped profiles. There was also four internal post holes (3851, 3914, 3924 and 3926) arranged around a shallow internal pit (3865). The internal post holes measured between 0.24-0.35m in diameter and 0.1-0.4m deep with U-shaped profiles. The fills (3852, 3858, 3860, 3905, 3907, 3909, 3911, 3913, 3925 and 3927) consisted of either mid brownish grey or dark brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Two of the post hole fills produced a total of eight sherds (134g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1100-1200).
- 3.5.19 A shallow sub-rectangular pit (**3865**) lay within the footprint of the structure, perhaps suggesting the presence of a sunken-floor (Plates 1 and 2). It measured 3.3m long and 2.4m wide by 0.2m deep and contained a sequence of five stratified deposits (3866-3870). These fills consisted of alternate, 0.05-0.2m thick, layers of mid orange/yellow brown and dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered from any of these deposits.

Hearths/ovens **3915** and **3919**

3.5.20 Immediately to the southeast of pit **3865** lay two neighbouring discrete patches of burnt ground (**3915** and **3919**; Fig. 12, Sections 204 and 205; Plates 3 and 4). Excavation of these features revealed them to be shallow pits and therefore probably together represent the heavily truncated remains of hearths or ovens within the building. Each contained evidence for a fired clay lining and a burnt backfill containing varying quantities of charcoal.



- 3.5.21 Sub-circular pit **3915** measured up to 1.1m in diameter and 0.17m deep. The surviving *in situ* fired, light reddish yellow grey silty clay hearth lining (3918) measured a maximum of 0.1m thick. The lining was found to contain two sherds (5g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1100-1150). The hearth base was overlain by a thin layer (0.03m thick) of charcoal (3917). The backfill deposit (3916) consisted of mid red brown silty sand that contained fragments of fired clay.
- 3.5.22 Neighbouring hearth/oven **3919** lay 0.5m to the west. It comprised a sub-rectangular pit that measured up to 1.3m in diameter and 0.11m deep. It contained a succession of thin tips of red/yellow/black and brown silty sand backfill material (3920-3922) with frequent inclusions of charcoal and fired clay. There was no evidence for any surviving *in situ* lining. Its fills produced a small charred plant assemblage, including heather (Appendix C.3.15).

Possible sunken-featured building

3.5.23 Immediately adjacent to Structure 1, on its northern side lay a large, sub-rectangular pit (**3832**) that possibly represents an associated sunken-featured building (SFB) (Fig. 12, Section 182; Plate 5). It measured 4.08m long, 3.68m wide by 0.4m deep and contained a single backfill. The fill (3831) consisted of mid greyish/orange brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions that produced only a single sherd (7g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1100-1150). This fill also produced occasional to moderate amounts of charred grain related to crop processing.

Corn Dryer 1

3.5.24 Approximately 12m to the southeast of Structure 1 lay a sub-rectangular pit (**3833**) that measured 2.9m long, 1.8m wide and 0.38m deep (Fig. 12, Sections 191 and 192). It was found to have a regular, square-cut, profile that contained a sequence of three fills. A patch of sand on the base of the cut was observed to be scorched (3834, Plate 6) and produced charred remains of small seeds (grasses, poppy and mayweeds). This was overlain by a tip of burnt material (3835) that consisted of dark grey silt with frequent charcoal inclusions and which produced 12 fragments (9g) of fired clay. This fill also contained some charred cereal grain legumes and weed seeds (Appendix C.3.13). The uppermost backfill (3836) comprised a dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional charcoal and ironstone inclusions that contained 10 fragments (120g) of structural fired clay that displayed wattle impressions. An animal bone fragment was also recovered.

Gully **3881**

3.5.25 The possible corn dryer lay within an area defined to the south by a short gully (**3881**) that lay on the same west-south-west to east-north-east axis as the pit; and met Period 1 Ditch 5 at its eastern end. The gully measured 9m long, 0.3m wide and 0.18m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 12, Section 195). Its single fill (3882) consisted of dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional ironstone inclusions.

Pit Group 2

3.5.26 A total of eight pits were revealed around the periphery of the settlement area to the west of Ditch 5. These sub-circular and sub-rectangular features (3787, 3797, 3818, 3837, 3848, 3897, 3901 and 3932) were similarly filled with light to dark



greyish/yellowish brown silty sand (3788, 3798, 3816/3817, 3838, 3846/3847, 3898, 3902 and 3933 respectively) with varying gravel content. Other than an animal bone fragment from pit **3837**, these fills did not produce any artefacts. Each measured between 0.6-2.46m in diameter and 0.13-0.55m deep.

Corn Dryer 2

3.5.27 To the east of Ditch 5, and *c*.12m to the northeast of Corn Dryer 1, lay a similar subrectangular pit (**3800**; (Fig. 12, Section 172)) that measured 3m long, 1.4m wide and 0.4m deep. It was also found to have a regular, square-cut, profile which contained a thin primary fill consisted of yellowish brown silty sand (3804) overlain by a mid brown silty sand backfill (3801). The upper backfill yielded 19 sherds (221g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1100) and eight animal bone fragments. This fill also produced a small assemblage of mixed cereal grain (Appendix C.3.15).

Gully 3808/3820/3904

3.5.28 In a similar arrangement and orientation to Corn Dryer 1, this feature lay in an area bounded to the south by a short gully. This gully measured 12m long, between 0.68-0.86m wide and 0.22-0.32m deep, with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 12, Section 179). Its single fill (3807/3819/3903) consisted of mid orange brown silty sand. The fills produced 27 sherds (235g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1150), an incomplete single-edged iron blade (SF 6) and a further heavily corroded iron object (SF 7) along with a fragment of fuel ash slag (20g).

Pit Group 3

- 3.5.29 To the north of the corn dryer lay a group of eight sub-circular pits (**3822**, **3824**, **3825**, **3827**, **3829**, **3839**, **3940** and **3842**), in a 9m x 5m area, to the east of the rise of higher ground above the 40m OD contour and Ditch 5. The pits measured between 0.56m-1.1m in diameter and 0.14m-0.6m deep, with U-shaped profiles. The fills (**3821**, **3823**, **3826**, **3828**, **3830**, **3840**/**3841**, **3939**/**3942**-4 and **3843** respectively) generally consisted of light orange/yellow brown or dark greyish brown silty sand with rare gravel inclusions. Combined, three of the pits fills (**3825**, **3839** and **3940**) produced a total of 47 sherds (**184g**) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1150).
- 3.5.30 Adjacent to Corn Dryer 2, pit **3940** contained a total of four stratified deposits (3939, 3941-4), that generally consisted of greyish brown silty sand with many large ironstone inclusions and which produced an assemblage of 42 sherds (119g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1000-1150). The fills also produced an assemblage of fully processed charred wheat grain that probably represents a deliberate dump of accidentally burnt cereal (Appendix C.3.11). In addition, an oval, ring shaped iron object (SF 9) was also found.
- 3.5.31 Pit **3839**, also adjacent to Corn Dryer 2, produced mixed an assemblage of occasional to moderate amounts of charred grain.

Pit Group 4

3.5.32 A total of Six pits (**3773**, **3799**, **3802**, **3805**, **3813** and **3877**) were revealed around the periphery of the settlement area, downslope from the corn-drying features. Five of these pits yielded combined total of five sherds (9g) of pottery and 12 fragments of

tile (659g) and fired clay (64g). Irregular pit **3773**, which also contained a twisted iron chain (SF 11) in its greyish brown silty sand fill (3772), possibly represented a natural tree-hole feature located close to the brook.

- 3.5.33 Of the features that yielded Saxo-Norman pottery, pits **3799** and **3802** were circular in plan and measured between 0.4-0.9m in diameter by 0.36-0.4m deep. Pit **3813** was sub-rectangular and measured 2.1m long, 0.84m wide and 0.42m deep.
- 3.5.34 Whereas pits **3802** and **3805** contained only single backfills (3803 and 3806) that consisted of dark blackish brown and dark brown silty sand respectively, larger pits **3799** and **3813** each contained two fills that contained burnt material. The primary backfill (3811) of pit **3799** consisted of mid brownish red silty sand with occasional burnt stone inclusions. This was overlain by a dark brownish grey sandy silt (3812) with occasional charcoal inclusions that yielded an incomplete iron spike or tool (SF 5) and occasional charred grains of vetches and peas (Appendix C.3.11). The primary fill (3814) of pit **3813**, a light orange brown sandy silt with large pebble inclusions, was overlain by dark brown silty sand (3815) that contained abundant charcoal inclusions and the occasional pebble.

3.6 Period 2: early–late medieval (*c*.AD1150-1540)

Area A (Figs 5 and 6)

3.6.1 There was some evidence for reorganisation in this phase, represented by the cutting of new boundary ditches, some of which cut across the earlier ditches, along with a structure and associated settlement features.

Ditches 8-10

- 3.6.2 A new north-north-east to south-south-west ditch alignment, defined by Ditches 8-10, probably delineated an early medieval boundary between occupation fronting onto Biggleswade Road to the west and agricultural fields to the east. The three elements forming this ditch alignment were separated by a 15m-wide gap, probably representing an entranceway between the main occupation area and the fields beyond. A shallow spread of orange brown silty sand (3734), up to 0.25m thick, extended through the entranceway as a result of trampling and produced a sherd (13g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1100-1150).
- 3.6.3 The southern ditch (Ditch 8, comprising cuts **3652**, **3663** (Fig. 10, Section 124) and **3668**), that entered the excavation area from the south, measured between 0.74-0.95m wide and 0.21-0.42m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3651, 3664 and 3667) consisted of mid pinkish/orange brown sandy with occasional gravel inclusions that yielded a single sherd (43g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1200-1250).
- 3.6.4 The northern ditch (Ditch 9, comprising cuts **3628** and **3732**), extending into the excavation area from the north, measured between 1.3-1.92m wide and between 0.21-0.6m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3627 and 3733) consisted of mid to dark orange brown silty sand with occasional gravel and ironstone inclusions. Fill 3627 was found to contain the most substantial cache of animal bone recovered from the excavation. Totaling 20 fragments, the identifiable species ranged from horse, dog, cattle and sheep/goat. The horse bones originate from a single individual (Appendix



C.1.3). The only pottery recovered from the feature consisted of a single small sherd (13g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1350-1550).

3.6.5 Immediately to the west lay parallel Ditch 10 (**3626**) that measured 0.85m wide and 0.25m deep with a U-shaped profile. It contained a mid greyish brown silty clay fill with occasional ironstone inclusions.

Ditch 11

3.6.6 A 23m-long section of ditch (comprising cuts **3658** (Fig. 10, Section 123), **3687** and **3730**) appears to have been placed across the entrance, on an oblique, southwest to northeast alignment, perhaps to deflect the traffic passing through the entrance away from the settlement activity (Structure 2 and well) described above. It measured between 0.94-1.4m wide and 0.12-0.24m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3657, 3686 and 3731) consisted of light to dark greyish/reddish brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions and produced two sherds (22g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1150-1200) along with a residual fragment (251g) of Roman box flue tile.

Ditch 12

3.6.7 Possible internal divisions of the agricultural land extending to the east of the excavation area were suggested by Ditch 12 (comprising cuts **3677**, **3679** and **3690**). This ditch, on a perpendicular axis to Ditches 8-10, was revealed within the excavation area extending from the east before terminating *c*.8m to the east of Ditch 8. This gap to presumably afforded access between the enclosed land to the north and to the south. It measured between 0.88-1m wide and 0.2-0.26m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fills (3676, 3678 and 3691) consisted of light to mid orange/yellowish brown silty sand with rare gravel inclusions and yielded a sherd (18g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1200-1250).

Structure 2

3.6.8 Evidence for a partly revealed post-built structure (Structure 2), uncovered in the southwestern extremity of the excavation area, that probably extended beyond its western limit towards Biggleswade Road. This structure comprised four post holes (**3699**, **3701**, **3703** and **3711**), that measured between 0.66m-0.91m in diameter and between 0.12m-0.52m deep, with U-shaped profiles. The (presumed) northern and eastern walls formed the only surviving elements of this structure that would have encompassed a rectangular area of at least 10m x 8m. The single fills (3700, 3702, 3704 and 3712 respectively) consisted of dark orange brown sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Only three small intrusive fragments of CBM (19g) and post-medieval pottery (1g) along with an animal rib bone fragment were recovered from these fills.

Pit 3729 and Well 3746

- 3.6.9 Located 10m to the northeast of Structure 2 lay a circular pit (**3729**; (Fig. 10, Section 151)) that measured up to 2.8m wide and 1m deep. Its primary fill (3727) consisted of reddish brown silty sand with greater proportion of burnt soil towards the base of the pit. This was overlain by a light yellowish brown silty sand backfill (3728).
- 3.6.10 Truncating the northern side of pit **3729** was a circular well (**3746**), 2.5m in diameter (Fig. 10, Section 151). Its fill produced early medieval pottery to suggest the nearby,

and presumably associated, building belonged to this period. The single backfill (3673), excavated to a depth of 1.2m below ground level, consisted of mid greyish brown silty sand with rare gravel inclusions. The base of the cut was not encountered and probably extended to the water table at an unknown depth beneath the site. The fill contained three sherds (23g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1200-1250).

3.7 Period 3: post-medieval to modern (*c*.AD1540-1900)

Area A (Figs 5 and 6)

Quarry pits 1

3.7.1 A group of at least three large inter-cutting pits (**3632** (Fig. 10, Section 112; Plate 7), **3644** and **3646**) were revealed to the north of Ditch 14. These may represent quarries into the underlying sand and measured between 1.16-4.3m wide by 0.6-1.2m deep. Each contained a series of between one and four backfills (3629/3630/3631/3633, 3643 and 3645) that yielded finds including a fragment (22g) of post-medieval tile. The fills generally consisted of light to medium pinkish/brownish/greyish orange sand with occasional gravel inclusions.

Ditches 13-14 and gully 3665

- 3.7.2 Ditch 13 (comprising cuts **3692** and **3707**) entered the excavation area from the east before terminating. It measured between 0.9-1m wide by 0.2-0.23m deep and was filled by dark brown silty sand (3693 and 3708) with ironstone gravel inclusions that produced residual Saxo-Norman and medieval pottery sherds (8 sherds, 54g) along with a post-medieval sherd (16g). In addition, fragments of brick (40g), fired clay (9g) and an iron nail (SF 1) were also recovered.
- 3.7.3 To the north, between Ditch 13 and the quarry pits, lay a further short section of ditch (Ditch 14, comprising cuts **3748**, **3750** and **3755**), on a north-south alignment that cut Period 1 Ditch 3. It measured 9m long, between 0.6-0.8m wide and 0.16-0.26m deep with a U-shaped profile. Its fill (3747, 3749 and 3756) consisted of mid to dark brownish grey silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions. This fill produced six sherds (69g) of post-medieval pottery, six fragments of brick and tile (228g), a copper alloy shoe buckle fragment (SF 4; dated to *c*.1720-1790), an incomplete iron blade (SF 8, an iron nail (SF 3), two animal bone fragments and two edible oyster shells.
- 3.7.4 To the west of Ditch 13 lay a short length of gully (**3665**) that extended beyond the western limit of the excavation. It measured 2.4m long, 0.44m wide and 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile. Its fill (3666) consisted of greyish brown sand with occasional gravel inclusions that produced two fragments (54g) of post-medieval brick and tile along with a small sherd of bottle glass.

Area B (Figs 5 and 9)

Quarry pits 2

3.7.5 Excavation of Area B partly uncovered a similar arrangement of intercutting pits (3613, 3616 and 3621) to the group revealed in Area A that may represent a further episode of quarrying activity into the underlying sand. Measuring up to 1.6m in diameter and



0.26m deep, each pit was similarly filled with dark brown silty sand (3614, 3617 and 3622 respectively). A mixed assemblage of 12 sherds (207g) spanning the medieval period (date range of *c*.AD1200-1550) was recovered from the fills along with a bird bone and a residual Early Neolithic worked flint. Fill 3614 also produced a small assemblage of mixed charred cereals and peas with occasional weed seeds (Appendix C.3.10).

Ditch 15

3.7.6 Immediately to the east of the quarry pits lay a boundary ditch (comprising cuts **3603** (Fig. 11, Section 100), **3611** and **3794**) on a north-south alignment. Although no finds were recovered from its fill of dark brown sand (3604, 3612 and 3793), this field boundary is shown on the 1832 Inclosure Award map (Fig. 4; see Section 1.3.13 above). It measured between 1.4-1.6m wide and 0.32-0.5m deep with a U-shaped profile.

Ditches 16 and 17

3.7.7 Two slightly curving linear ditches (Ditch 16 comprising cuts **3606** and **3608** (Fig. 11, Section 102); Ditch 17 comprising cut **3619**) were partly uncovered along the southern boundary of the excavation that may have defined the northern extent of enclosures extending south across the flood plain towards Potton Brook. Although the ditch fills did not produce any datable artefacts, the dark brown/mid orange brown sand fills (3605, 3607 and 3618) bore a greater similarity to Period 3 features than to the features belonging to Periods 1 and 2. Furthermore, as the only datable activity identified within Area B comprised the Period 3 quarrying activity, these ditches have also been very tentatively placed within this period. However, the possibility remains that they may represent part of an earlier phase of land division. These shallow features measured between 1-1.5m wide and 0.4-0.8m deep, with U-shaped profiles.

Area C (Figs 5 and 7)

Ditch 18

- 3.7.8 This ditch (comprising cuts **3884**, **3893** and **3896** (Fig. 12, Section 200)) entered the excavation area from the south and ran northwards to terminate adjacent to Period 1 Structure 1. It measured between 0.76-1.14m wide and 0.18-0.44m deep with a U-shaped profile. The fill (3885, 3892 and 3883 respectively) consisted of mid orange/light pinkish brown silty sand with varying gravel content that produced residual artefacts including five sherds (37g) of pottery (date range of *c*.AD1150-1200), a fragment (4g) of CBM, an animal bone fragment and an Early Neolithic flint flake.
- 3.7.9 This field boundary is on a different alignment to earlier ditches and shown on the 1832 Inclosure Award map (Fig. 4; see Section 1.3.13 above). Evidence for the recutting/clearing out/maintaining of this boundary ditch was observed at the northern terminus with cut **3893** observed to truncate cut **3896**.

Ditch 19

3.7.10 A short section of ditch (**3899**) was uncovered in the northwestern extremity of the excavation area, on the same north-south alignment as Ditch 18. Entering the excavation area from the north before terminating, it measured 0.54m wide and 0.1m



deep with a U-shaped profile. Its fill (3900) consisted of light greyish brown silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions.

3.8 Finds summary

Introduction

3.8.1 Finds were recovered from all of the excavated areas and consisted of: residual Early Neolithic flintwork, Romano-British box flue tile and Early/Middle Saxon pottery; Saxo-Norman slag, structural fired clay and pottery; early-late medieval pottery; post-medieval pottery, CBM, glass and clay tobacco pipe; and not closely datable metalwork.

Metalwork (Appendix B.1)

3.8.2 The excavation produced a small assemblage of nine metallic artefacts. The fragment of copper alloy shoe buckle recovered from Period 3 Ditch 14 (**3755**) can be dated to the 18th century. Otherwise, dating is uncertain for the remaining iron artefacts.

Slag (Appendix B.2)

3.8.3 The excavation produced three fragments of slag from two Period 1 ditches. Ditch 5 (3886) produced a single fragment of glassy slag/hearth lining while the material from gully cut 3904 associated with Corn Dryer 2 is probably fuel ash slag and may be related to fuel burning for domestic rather than industrial processes.

Glass (Appendix B.3)

3.8.4 The excavation produced three fragments of glass. These comprise an intrusive 18th century bottle sherd in Period 1 Ditch 4 (**3636**) and a further bottle sherd in Period 3 gully **3665** along with a fragment recovered from the topsoil.

Flintwork (Appendix B.4)

3.8.5 Three residual Early Neolithic flint flakes were recovered from Period 1 Ditch 6 (**3930**) and pit **3932** (Pit Group 3) and from Period 3 Ditch 18 (**3896**).

Pottery (Appendix B.5)

3.8.6 The pottery assemblage comprises 242 sherds with a total weight of 2127g. It is mostly Saxo-Norman and medieval in origin along with small quantities of Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon and post-medieval material. The bulk of pottery deposition took place between the 11th – mid 12th centuries. This assemblage is generally of rather poor quality, consisting in the main of small, fragmented sherds which are the product of secondary deposition. The range of utilitarian vessel types present, typical of sites in the region, reflects this observation. Glazed jugs, which are generally 13th- century or later in the region, are scarce, with jars being by far the most common vessel type, along with smaller quantities of bowls.

Ceramic building material (Appendix B.6)

3.8.7 The excavations produced 29 fragments (1364g) of CBM from eleven contexts. The assemblage is fragmentary and abraded and therefore not closely datable. The fragments are, however, broadly late medieval to late post-medieval. Period 2 Ditch 11 (3687) produced a residual fragment of Roman box flue tile with abraded but visible



cross-hatching. In Area A, most of the post-medieval brick and tile was produced by the Period 3 Quarry pits. The only CBM datable to the late medieval to post-medieval period is a double peg tile fragment recovered from Period 1 Pit Group 3 (**3773**).

Fired clay (Appendix B.7)

3.8.8 A total of 67 fragments (339g) of fired clay was recovered from the site, comprising 61 (258g) amorphous and six (81g) structural fragments. The structural fragments, recovered from Period 1 Ditch 1 (**3740**) and pit **3656** in Area A, exhibit wiped/flattened surfaces and include burnt-out vegetable voids. Similar structural fragments from Period 1 Corn Dryer 1 (pit **3833**) in Area C also displayed wattle impressions. These fragments therefore indicate the presence of kilns, ovens or hearths in these two areas.

3.9 Environmental summary

Faunal remains (Appendix C.1)

3.9.1 A total of 2.135kg of animal bone was recovered from the site. The most represented species were cattle and equid (horse) with lesser proportions of dog, sheep/goat and bird. The majority of the equid bone derived from cut **3628** of Period 2 Ditch 9 and represents a single individual. The tooth wear, osteophytes on the vertebrae and evidence for osteoarthritis suggests an older horse. The dog bone present in the same dump of bone in the ditch also originated from a single adult. The overall bone assemblage appears to represent the disposal of domestic waste that included the remains of working animals.

Mollusca (Appendix C.2)

3.9.2 Two edible examples of oyster were collected from Period 3 Ditch 14 (**3755**). These represent discarded food waste items.

Environmental bulk samples (Appendix C.3)

3.9.3 Twenty-three bulk samples were taken from Saxo-Norman, early-late medieval and post-medieval/modern deposits during the excavation of the site. Occasional charred cereal grains and weed seeds predominate in the samples taken from features in Area A. Perhaps more significantly, in Area C, the samples taken from three of the pits (including possible Corn Dryer 2) and the SFB produced moderate assemblages of mixed charred grain.



4 **DISCUSSION**

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Analysis of the excavated remains and their resulting materials inform the research aims given in Section 2 into aspects of the Saxo-Norman and medieval hinterland of Potton. Although the overall poor dating of features hampers the development of a firm chronology, it is possible to establish a broad sequence of land use and associated settlement activity, possibly driven by manorial associations. This activity was probably further influenced by the presence of Potton Brook to the east and Biggleswade Road to the west of the site. The two groups of intercutting sand quarries (Quarry pits 1 and 2) and seven linear boundaries (Ditches 13-19) that produced post-medieval and modern material do not contribute to the research aims for the project and will not be discussed further. The following discussion focuses on the evidence for Saxo-Norman and medieval land-use, with reference to the project's research aims and objectives outlined in Section 2.

4.2 The Saxo-Norman remains

Area A: roadside settlement to the east of Biggleswade Road

- The date range for the pottery assemblage from the ditch fills related to Enclosure 1 4.2.1 and associated ditches is tightly focussed on the period c.AD1000-1150, broadly contemporary with the occupation remains revealed in Area C (see below). These ditches were placed on the relatively flat tract of land above the 40m OD contour to the east of Biggleswade Road (Fig. 5). It is possible the excavation of Area A has uncovered part of a Saxo-Norman 'close', established to the east of Biggleswade Road. Further evidence of Saxo-Norman occupation was evidenced by the group of pits (Pit Group 1) excavated within its perimeter. A fair proportion (15%) of the Saxo-Norman pottery from the site was recovered from the internal pits and ditches to support the interpretation of a domestic (backyard?) setting for these remains. Along with the recovery of pottery sherds, a dump of structural fired clay was found in pit 3656 to reinforce this. It is possible these fired clay fragments represent the disposed remains of a bread oven (Appendix C.3.8). The fill of the pit was also found to contain charred heather, possibly representing the fuel or tinder used for baking. A further dump of structural fired clay from a possible oven was also found in the fill of Ditch 2 (3740) forming the northern boundary.
- 4.2.2 To balance this view, only a small number of animal bone fragments were recovered from feature fills; only three bone fragments identifiable as cattle. There was a similar paucity of ecofacts from environmental samples. However, the lack of remains may also be due to the acidic sandy soils on the site that have possibly adversely affected the preservation of organic remains. The acidic soils also appear to have affected the preservation of pottery with the predominantly shelly wares observed to be highly friable; the majority of their calcareous inclusions leached out (Appendix B.5.4).
- 4.2.3 Therefore, although only a small range of artefacts was recovered from the pit fills, it remains likely they were primarily excavated to receive midden waste from occupation probably located closer to the road frontage. Although the nature and status of this

occupation is impossible to determine, it is worthy of mention that excavated *c*.12-13th century examples of roadside closes associated with manorial sites are present in the wider archaeological record such as Moreteyne Manor, Marston Mortaine, Bedfordshire (Crick 1999, 122-3, fig. 4) and Covens Moat, Chesterton, Cambridge (Greef 2019).

Area C: rural economic activity in the hinterland of Potton

4.2.4 The substantial group of features excavated in Area C more directly evidence Saxo-Norman occupation of the site. The pottery from the discrete groups of related settlement features (corn dryers, structures and pit groups) date exclusively from the 11th to 12th centuries, with little evidence for activity before or after this. The range of utilitarian pottery wares present is typical of sites in the region (Appendix B.5.3). The three residual Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon sherds recovered from associated Ditch 6 is the only evidence to allude to earlier activity in the vicinity of the site. A proportion of the pottery assemblage (25% by weight) recovered from the fill of Ditches 5 dates to the later medieval period, which suggests that although this feature clearly respected the Saxo-Norman settlement features, this boundary may have been maintained or at least was still partially open into the later medieval period after the occupation of this site ceased; at some point towards the end of the 12th century.

Crop processing and associated activities

- 4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were not recovered in any substantial quantities, however, these items do shed some light on the activities being undertaken on the site at this period. In particular, the presence of burnt remains, comprising assemblages of charred grain and structural fired clay along with a piece of fuel ash slag are telling indicators of crop processing activities, possibly relating to corn/crop drying. There was a notable absence of quern in the finds assemblage to suggest the grinding of grain to make flour took place elsewhere.
- 4.2.6 Two similarly arranged sets of features (Corn Dryers 1 and 2) were uncovered in the northern part of Area C. Each consisted of a sub-rectangular pit (*c*.3m x 1.6m x 0.4m) flanked to the south by a *c*.10m long gully. The base of the western pit (**3833**; Corn Dryer 1) was found to be scorched and was backfilled with successive tips of charcoal rich material that contained structural fired clay fragments displaying wattle impressions. The environmental bulk sample taken from the eastern pit (**3800**; Corn Dryer 2) contained a small assemblage of mixed charred grain. Its accompanying gully also yielded a piece of fuel ash slag.
- 4.2.7 It is interesting to note that there was no evidence for either of these 'structural' pits having been housed within a building. The presence of the gullies, down-slope from their respective ovens, would suggest these were excavated to provide drainage for each working area. The gully associated with Corn Dryer 2 (**3904**) also contained an incomplete single-edged iron blade (SF 6) and a further heavily corroded artefact (SF 7) that probably represent discarded, broken tools.
- 4.2.8 A cluster of pits (Pit Group 3) lay close-by Corn Dryer 2, the nearest of which (**3940**) produced a large assemblage of predominantly charred wheat grain with very few contaminants. This grain appeared to have been fully processed prior to being

accidentally burnt and disposed of. A further pit (**3839**) also produced a more mixed charred grain assemblage. The lack of cereal chaff in these assemblages suggests the grain was brought into the site (Appendix C.3.17). The wider scatter of pits around the settlement comprising Pit Group 4 only produced a few more sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery, a fragment of an iron spike or tool (SF 5) and a few links of an iron chain (SF 11).

- 4.2.9 The presence of fired clay, fuel ash slag, charcoal and charred cereal grains associated with these groups of features indicate that pits **3800** and **3833** possibly represent the below ground remains of corn dryers. The original extent, shape and form of their above ground superstructures is impossible to determine due to their complete destruction and truncation by the plough. It appears these surviving below ground pit substructures were never lined.
- 4.2.10 The wider literature on this class of archaeological feature provides parallels on the nature of survival of such below ground remains and clues to their function. For example, the excavation of a Late Saxon settlement at Springfield Lyons, Essex brought to light a 'rectangular slot' within a building described as the remains of a possible kiln structure (Murphy 2005, 162; Blakeney 2017, 80). Excavations at Warren Lane, Kent revealed two corn-drying features dated to the late 12th to mid-13th century. These features each survived as a 'bottle-shaped' pit that could be resolved further into a main chamber, firing pit and flue (Atkins and Webster 2012, 277). To one side, the firing pit, where the heat was generated to dry the grain, had scorched and hardened the underlying natural geology. The short flue, that carried the hot air to the grain within the main sub-circular chamber, or the main chamber itself, did not display any evidence of burning. The crops to be dried are described as having been laid on a raised surface to allow hot air to circulate underneath. Their charcoal rich backfills contained a few beans, vetch, grains of barley and wheat (with an absence of chaff), and weed seeds. Neighbouring pits contained burnt material likely to have derived from the corn-drying ovens (Ibid., 278). At St Mary's Grove, Stafford, four mid-9th century 'key-hole shaped' corn-drying ovens were discovered sunk through a cobbled surface without any evidence of an associated shelter (Moffett 1994, 60; Blakeney 2017, 86). A 'pear-shaped' corn-drying pit dating from the 9th-11th century is also described on excavations at Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland without any evidence of an encasing structure (Blakeney 2017, 82).
- 4.2.11 The examples described above demonstrate that the morphology of the surviving below ground substructures interpreted as corn dryers (typically recorded through excavation as pits containing burnt remains) varies greatly in the record. Therefore, the two sub-rectangular structural pits (**3800** and **3833**) uncovered on the site possibly also represent two further examples of *in situ* corn-drying chambers. These would have been excavated to provide an open space beneath a suspended floor to aid ventilation of the grain. The long axis of the pits and the gullies were probably deliberately orientated towards the prevailing wind to the southwest. The remains of their respective firing pits and flues had presumably been completely truncated, with the recovery of only a single piece of fuel ash slag surviving to attest to their presence. The structural fired clay fragments clearly demonstrate the superstructures were made of wattle and daub. Corn-drying would appear to have been an outdoor activity,

as there was no evidence for associated shelters, probably to minimise the risk of fire. It has been suggested that this activity was as a rule carried out at a distance from main settlement areas and has resulted in its limited presence in the archaeological record (Hamerow 2012, 155). Another limiting factor in the record was the relative dryness of the period, a climactic optimum that occurred between *c*.AD1000-1200. Corn-drying ovens are documented more frequently in the northern part of the country where the climate was generally wetter (Atkins and Webster 2012, 286-287).

4.2.12 The recovery of a few clean, fully processed charred grain assemblages from this group of features also supports the above interpretation and provides further clues to the drying process. The lack of significant amounts of crop remains within the corn-drying pits themselves is likely due to the periodic raking-out of detritus (Blakeney 2017, 90). The mixed varieties of cereals allude to multiple drying events taking place in the ovens (Stevens 2011). Free-threshing wheat comprised the largest proportion of the cereal crops to tentatively suggest this was the dominant crop being produced and dried on the farm estate, along with smaller proportions of oats, rye and barley (Appendix C.3.7). It is clear from the associated weed seeds that a range of soil types were being cultivated including heavy clay soils for free-threshing wheat and acid soils for heather and rye (Appendix C.3.18). The drying of this variety of wheat (that came to prominence over the Anglo-Saxon period) was an important step in its preparation for storage, being particularly vulnerable to insect pests and bacterial/fungal mould (Stephens 2011, 98; Atkins 2012, 284). Burnt remains from two of the wider scattering of pits (3799 and 3813) also allude to the possible drying of vetches and peas. Importantly, no partly germinated barley grains (malt) were identified which suggests these ovens were not also employed for malting/brewing; a closely allied process in the archaeological record (Moffett 1994, 61). References to malt production in England date back to the 11th century when the green malt was possibly cured in in domestic ovens (Patrick 2004, 4). Dedicated ovens constructed for this purpose during the medieval period are described as usually having been housed in backplot buildings rather than outdoors (Atkins and Webster 2012, 284). The charred grain demonstrates accidental burning of the crop periodically took place. Drying of cereal crops to prevent it from germinating only required gentle heating with higher temperatures required to harden grain to make it more suitable for milling (Ibid., 284). Damp grain would turn to mush and clog up the grooves on the grinding surfaces of millstones (Johnson et al. 2009, 20). Parching the grain could also have a beneficial effect on the flavour of the flour after milling (Moffett 1994, 61). The scorched base of Corn Dryer 1 (3833) further indicates the periodic burning down of superstructures and oven floors was an everpresent hazard.

Buildings

4.2.13 Heavily truncated structural remains were clustered upon a knoll of higher ground that probably equates to the possible building platform described on the site in the HER (see Section 1.3.5). The presence of these structures adjacent to the corn-drying ovens raises the possibility of these having been associated agricultural buildings, forming part of a wider agricultural/crop processing complex. The presence of the SFB with its suspended-floor configuration may be of particular significance. The moderate amount of grain recovered from the backfill provides a tentative link to the corn-drying



activity perhaps providing a useful, well ventilated, grain-store or workshop. The presence of the hearths/ovens within nearby Structure 1 is indicative of a more domestic setting, perhaps even representing a shelter and/or a detached kitchen for the agricultural workers carrying out the crop drying tasks.

Land boundaries and other ditches

4.2.14 The most significant proportion of the Saxo-Norman pottery recovered from the site (32% by weight) was recovered from the meandering path of Ditch 5 through the agricultural complex. One of the updated research objectives was to understand the development of the medieval field systems in relation to the roadside settlement. However, as both Ditches 5 and 6 were aligned to the topography, these features probably represent drainage channels to take away any surface water from the working area directly downslope towards Potton Brook. Ditch 6 was observed to have a more ephemeral profile towards the brook, possibly accentuated by natural processes such as water run-off from up-slope. This interpretation is therefore considered to be more plausible than these shallow features having acted as formal land/property/field divisions. The small enclosure (Enclosure 2), partly revealed along the southeastern limit of the excavation probably also dates to this period. Its location along the bank of the brook may be of significance as water management was a very important activity in the medieval period (Edgeworth 2007, 101-2). However, no firm conclusions as to the purpose of this enclosure can be made.

The site within the hinterland of Potton: a possible Saxo-Norman manorial farmstead?

- 4.2.15 Based on the above discussion, the group of Saxo-Norman features uncovered in Area C may be described as possibly forming part of an agricultural complex centred on two corn-drying ovens. The layout of these features and their associated structures suggests this complex probably extended beyond the northern excavation limit towards Home Farm. The location of either of Potton's two manors (or associated mill) listed in the Domesday Survey of 1086 is currently unknown (see Section 1.3.5). The possible house platform earthwork (HER10802) on the knoll is described in the HER as part of a possible manorial site. The neighbouring Home Farm has further been suggested as a candidate for the lesser manor of Potton Much Manured (see Section 1.3.8). The current farm building is located *c*.70m to the north of Area C and the Saxo-Norman remains. The fragmentation of Potton into four manorial estates, including Potton Much Manured, took place in 1237 (see Section 1.3.6).
- 4.2.16 Within the wider archaeological record crop drying remains have been excavated and speculated to have formed part of manorial farm estates. The limited search undertaken for the current site into parallel examples in Bedfordshire has proved elusive. The Warren Lane crop drying remains in Kent introduced above (see Section 4.1.7) were considered to possibly form part of Repton Manor's estate, with the manor house lying some 400m from the ovens (Atkins and Webster 2012, 277). The presence of a possible grain store building may tentatively suggest processing on a sufficient scale for redistribution, which could possibly signify a higher status farm (Blakeney 2017, 96). Mention must also be made of the associated network of contemporary ditches uncovered in both Areas A and C. As discussed above, a useful parallel of



ditches defining a possible close adjacent to a *c*.12th-13th century manorial site was uncovered in Bedfordshire at Marston Mortaine (see Section 4.1.1; Crick 1999, 122-3, fig. 4). Within the county, limited search of the archaeological record has further identified the excavated sites at Stanbridge (Abrams 2010), The Bury and Biddenham Ford End (Luke 2016, 350-359) that uncovered enclosures and fields associated with nearby manors.

4.3 Medieval to post-medieval land use

Early medieval reorganisation of the roadside settlement

4.3.1 This settlement plan in Area A was apparently reorganised and replaced during the early medieval period. The new enclosure or plot to the east of Biggleswade Road extended both to the north and south of the excavation area. A gap between two sections of this ditch clearly defined an entranceway that led to open fields to the east. A further short section of ditch was encountered across this gap that suggests a controlled access, deflecting stock animals away from the probable domestic dwelling and well. The large spread of material observed to extend across the entrance signifies heavy hoof and foot fall. Immediately to the southwest of this entrance lay vestiges of a rectangular post-built structure alongside a probable well. These features proved to be poor in artefactual evidence, with only three pottery sherds of the period recovered from the well. The collection of horse bone remains revealed in Ditch 9 may be more significant when considering the status of these (possibly roadside) settlement remains. The presence of horse is an indicator of wealth and social importance for the medieval period when they were primarily used for riding (Timby *et al.* 2007, 205).

Evidence for agricultural decline?

4.3.2 In contrast, there was a lack of evidence for the continued occupation of Area C into the succeeding medieval period. The presence of later medieval ceramics in the fill of one of the Saxo-Norman drainage channels (Ditch 5) and from Enclosure 2 (Ditch 7) suggests that these features were either maintained or were merely left open to gradually silt up naturally in this later period.

After the episode of early medieval settlement in Area A, the site as a whole appears to have left the domestic sphere and lay firmly within the agricultural fields of Potton until the modern period. The previous evaluation trenching of the intervening ground between the excavation areas uncovered only evidence for an evolving network of post-medieval and modern field sub-division and drainage ditches (Keir and Koziminski 2012, 15). The paucity of archaeological remains dating from the later medieval period may be taken as further evidence for decline and agricultural recession previously identified in Bedfordshire across the later medieval period (Oake *et al.* 2007). This corresponds with a climatic deterioration with many wet summers between AD1250 and AD1400 (Beresford 1975). However, this apparent abandonment or shift in settlement focus may be related to other unknown factors. Evidence for a 13th shift in the wider settlement pattern, to the north of Potton, was identified through excavation of remains at Myers Farm (Albion Archaeology, BCAS Project No.599). This shift was perceived to have been driven the nucleation of Potton at this time as a result



of the creation of a market in the centre of the village (Edgeworth 2007, 100; see Section 1.3.7).

4.4 Significance

- 4.4.1 The remains uncovered by the OA East excavations at Biggleswade Road are of local and regional significance. This excavation has further demonstrated the diversity of Saxo-Norman and medieval settlement, including the development of a possible close or toft adjacent to Biggleswade Road and a more agricultural/processing area to the east, closer to the river.
- 4.4.2 Of particular note is the rarely excavated group of Saxo-Norman remains related to arable agriculture, which have shed some light on the corn-drying process being carried out in Potton during this period. These remains may prove of even greater significance if any further evidence for a manorial estate centred on the adjacent Home Farm comes to light.



5 PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING

5.1 Dissemination of the results of excavation

- 5.1.1 A publication proposal will be submitted to South Midlands Archaeology with the aim of publishing a short note on the Saxo-Norman and early medieval remains. The article to be published will be submitted by the end of 2019.
- 5.1.2 Any publication of the current site excavated by OA East will include illustrations of selected pottery and metalwork items, although the pottery is so small and fragmentary that illustrations may not prove to be possible. The incomplete single-edged iron blade (SF 6) will also be considered for illustration.
- 5.1.3 It is anticipated that the archive for the project will be deposited with The Higgins Bedford in 2020 under site code BEDFM2016.07.



APPENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
	3600				Layer	topsoil							
	3601				Layer	subsoil		Dark reddish brown	Silty sand	Natural ironstone		0.34	
	3602				layer	natural		Light brownish yellow to mid orange	Sand				
В	3603	3603	Ditch 15	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.4	0.4	linear
В	3604	3603	Ditch 15	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Sand		1.4	0.4	
В	3605	3606	Ditch 16	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Sand	None present	1	0.2	
В	3606	3606	Ditch 16	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1	0.2	linear
В	3607	3608	Ditch 16	3	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orange brown	Sand	Occ. stone	1.5	0.4	
В	3608	3608	Ditch 16	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.7	0.4	curvilinear
В	3611	3611	Ditch 15	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.6	0.5	linear
В	3612	3611	Ditch 15	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Sand		1.6	0.5	
В	3613	3613	Quarry pits 2	3	cut	pit	quarry				0.8	0.26	sub-circular
В	3614	3613	Quarry pits 2	3	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brown	Silty sand		0.8	0.26	
В	3616	3616	Quarry pits 2	3	cut	pit	quarry				1.6	0.22	Irregular
В	3617	3616	Quarry pits 2	3	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brown	Silty sand				
В	3618	3619	Ditch 17	3	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orange brown	Sand		1.06	0.18	
В	3619	3619	Ditch 17	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.46	0.18	linear
В	3621	3621	Quarry pits 2	3	cut	pit	quarry				1.1	0.22	sub-circular
В	3622	3621	Quarry pits 2	3	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brown	Silty sand		1.1	0.22	
A	3625	3626	Ditch 10	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid greyish brown.	Silty clay	Occ. stone	0.85	0.25	
A	3626	3626	Ditch 10	2	cut	ditch	boundary				0.85	0.25	linear
A	3627	3628	Ditch 9	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Occ. stones at base	1.3	0.6	



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
A	3628	3628	Ditch 9	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1.3	0.6	linear
A	3629	3632	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	Mid pinkish orange	sand	Occ. med stone	3.66	0.58	
A	3630	3632	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brownish orange	sand	Occ. small/med stones.	2.4	0.3	
A	3631	3632	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	Light greyish orange	sand	Occ. stones	3.68	0.72	
A	3632	3632	Quarry pits 1	3	cut	pit	quarry					1.2	Oval
A	3633	3632	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brownish orange	Sand	-	1.52	0.68	
A	3634	3634	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.47	0.14	circular
A	3635	3634	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark orange brown	Silty sand	One piece of sandstone.	0.47	0.14	
Α	3636	3636	Ditch 4	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.91	0.27	linear
Α	3637	3636	Ditch 4	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid brown	Sand	Some small stones.	0.91	0.27	
A	3643	3644	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	mid brownish orange	Sand	Occ. stones	0.68	0.48	
A	3644	3644	Quarry pits 1	3	cut	pit	quarry				0.68	0.6	Sub-oval
A	3645	3646	Quarry pits 1	3	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish orange	Sand	Occ. stone.	1.02	0.68	
A	3646	3646	Quarry pits 1	3	cut	pit	quarry				1.02	0.68	Oval
Α	3647	3648	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orange brown	Silty sand	Very occ. stones at base.	1.2	0.5	
A	3648	3648	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.2	0.5	sub-circular
Α	3649	3650	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	-	0.7	0.25	
A	3650	3650	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.7	0.25	circular
A	3651	3652	Ditch 8	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid pinkish brown	Sand	Occ. medium, angular stone conc.	0.84	0.42	
A	3652	3652	Ditch 8	2	cut	ditch	boundary				0.84	0.42	linear
A	3653	3654	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Light orange brown	Silty sand	-	0.64	0.24	
A	3654	3654	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.2	0.24	Sub-oval



Version 1

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
A	3655	3656	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	mid orange brown	Silty sand	Occ. med stones and burnt clay/CBM and charcoal	0.94	0.44	
A	3656	3656	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.94	0.44	circular
A	3657	3658	Ditch 11	2	fill	ditch	silting	Light greyish orange	Slightly silty sand	Some rooting	1.1	0.2	
A	3658	3658	Ditch 11	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1.1	0.2	curvilinear
A	3659	3662	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown:	Sand	Occ. stone	1.16	0.44	
A	3660	3660	Ditch 4	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.34	0.18	curvilinear
A	3661	3660	Ditch 4	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark orangey brown	Sand	Small sandstone/ironstone	1.34	0.18	
Α	3662	3662	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.16	0.44	Oval
Α	3663	3663	Ditch 8	2	cut	ditch	boundary				0.95	0.21	linear
A	3664	3663	Ditch 8	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown	Sand	Small pebble inclusions	0.95	0.21	
A	3665	3665		3	cut	gully	unknown				0.44	0.2	linear
A	3666	3665		3	fill	gully	backfill	Greyish brown	Sand	Small stone inclusions	0.44	0.2	
A	3667	3668	Ditch 8	2	fill	ditch	silting	Light orangey brown	Sand	Very occ. medium stones	0.74	0.3	
A	3668	3668	Ditch 8	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1.1	0.3	linear
A	3669	3670	Pit Group 1	1	fill	Ditch terminus	backfill	Light yellowish orange	Fine sand	Very occ. stones		0.4	
A	3670	3670	Pit Group 1	1	cut	Ditch terminus	unknown				2	0.4	curvilinear
A	3673	3746	Well	2	fill	pit	backfill	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	Very occ. small stones	2.4	1.2	
A	3676	3677	Ditch 12	2	fill	ditch	silting	Light orang brown	Silty sand	-	0.88	0.26	
A	3677	3677	Ditch 12	2	cut	ditch	boundary				0.88	0.26	linear
A	3678	3679	Ditch 12	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orange brown	Coarse sand	Very occ. stones.	0.74	0.16	
Α	3679	3679	Ditch 12	2	cut	ditch	boundary						linear
A	3680	3680	Ditch 1	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1	0.32	linear
Α	3681	3680	Ditch 1	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Silty sand	Charcoal flecks at <5%.	1	0.32	
A	3684	3684	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.8	0.18	linear
A	3685	3684	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brownish grey	Silty sand		0.8	0.18	
A	3686	3687	Ditch 11	2	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	Coarse sand, slightly humic.	Occ. stones.	0.5	0.12	



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
A	3687	3687	Ditch 11	2	cut	ditch	boundary				0.94	0.12	linear
A	3690	3690	Ditch 12	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1	0.2	linear
A	3691	3690	Ditch 12	2	fill	ditch	silting	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Soft	1	0.2	
A	3692	3692	Ditch 13	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1	0.23	linear
A	3693	3692	Ditch 13	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Silty sand	Ironstone	1	0.23	
A	3699	3699	Structure 2	2	cut	post hole	structure				0.84	0.14	circular
A	3700	3699	Structure 2	2	fill	post hole	disuse	Dark orange brown	sand	Chalk flecks and very small stones.	0.84	0.14	
A	3701	3701	Structure 2	2	cut	post hole	structure				0.66	0.12	sub-circular
A	3702	3701	Structure 2	2	fill	post hole	disuse	Dark orange brown	Sand	Very small amounts of chalk inclusions and pieces of brick.	0.66	0.12	
A	3703	3703	Structure 2	2	cut	post hole	structure				0.91	0.21	circular
A	3704	3703	Structure 2	2	fill	post hole	disuse	Dark orange brown	Sand	Very few small ironstone inclusions.	0.91	0.21	
A	3707	3707	Ditch 13	3	cut	ditch	boundary				0.9	0.2	linear
A	3708	3707	Ditch 13	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown with patches of light brown.	Silty sand		0.9	0.2	
A	3709	3709	Ditch 2	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.4	0.4	linear
A	3710	3709	Ditch 2	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid reddish brown	Sandy silt	A few small pieces of ironstone	1.4	0.4	
A	3711	3711	Structure 2	2	cut	post hole	structure				0.71	0.52	Oval
A	3712	3711	Structure 2	2	fill	post hole	disuse	Dark orange brown	Sand	Large ironstone pebbles.	0.71	0.52	
A	3713	3714	Ditch 1	1	fill	ditch	silting	Slightly patchy: mid brownish grey	Silty sand	Mod. inclusions	0.64	0.38	
A	3714	3714	Ditch 1	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.3	0.38	curvilinear
A	3715	3715	Ditch 1		cut	ditch	boundary				1.3	0.4	linear
A	3716	3715	Ditch 1		fill	ditch	silting	Dark orangey brown	Silty sand	Occ. ironstone	1.3	0.4	
A	3717	3717	Ditch 2	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.2	0.4	linear
A	3718	3717	Ditch 2	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark orangey brown	Silty sand	Occ. ironstone	1.2	0.4	
A	3719	3719	Ditch 3	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.4	0.2	linear
A	3720	3719	Ditch 3	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Occ. ironstone	0.4	0.2	
A	3721	3721	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.9	0.2	sub-circular
A	3722	3721	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark orangey grey	Silty sand	Occ. ironstone	0.9	0.2	



Version 1

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
A	3723	3724	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	unknown	Mid orangey brown.	Silty sand	Occ. burnt clay	2.36	0.5	
A	3724	3724	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	backfill				2.36	0.5	sub-circular
A	3725	3726	Ditch 2	1	fill	ditch	boundary	Light orangey brown	Silty sand	Occ. stones	1.02	0.32	
А	3726	3726	Ditch 2	1	cut	ditch	silting				1.02	0.32	linear
А	3727	3729		2	fill	pit	backfill	Reddish brown	Silty sand	Layer of 'burnt' material at base of deposit.		0.1	
A	3728	3729		2	fill	pit	backfill	Light yellowish brown: mixed.	Silty sand		2.7	0.3	
А	3729	3729		2	cut	pit	unknown				2.8	1	sub-circular
A	3730	3730	Ditch 11	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1.4	0.24	linear
A	3731	3730	Ditch 11	2	fill	ditch	unknown	Mid reddish brown	silty sand	Occ. small stones	1.4	0.24	
A	3732	3732	Ditch 9	2	cut	ditch	boundary				1.92	0.21	linear
А	3733	3732	Ditch 9	2	fill	ditch	silting	Dark orangey brown	Silty sand	Flat ironstone pieces.	1.92	0.21	
А	3736	3736	Ditch 1	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.1	0.5	linear
А	3737	3736	Ditch 1	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark blackish brown	Silty sand	Rooting at	1.1	0.5	
A	3738	3738	Ditch 2	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.7	0.24	sub-circular
A	3739	3738	Ditch 2	1	fill	ditch	silting	Light yellowish brown, with patches of mid brown.	Silty sand		0.7	0.24	
A	3740	3740	Ditch 1	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.7	0.2	curvilinear
A	3741	3740	Ditch 1	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Silty sand		0.7	0.2	
А	3742	3743	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	light yellowish brown.	Silty sand	-	1.9	0.18	
A	3743	3743	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.9	0.18	Oval
А	3744	3745	Ditch 2	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	-	0.8	0.26	
A	3745	3745	Ditch 2	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.26	linear
A	3746	3746	Well	2	cut	pit	well				2.5	1.2	circular
A	3747	3748	Ditch 14	3	fill	ditch	silting	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	-	0.5	0.16	
A	3748	3748	Ditch 14	3	cut	ditch	boundary				0.72	0.16	linear
A	3749		Ditch 14	3	fill	ditch	silting	Mid brownish grey	Silty sand		0.74	0.26	_
A	3750		Ditch 14	3	cut	ditch	boundary				0.74	0.26	linear
A	3755		Ditch 14	3		ditch	boundary				0.6	0.25	linear
A	3756	3755	Ditch 14	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brownish grey	silty sand	Occ. small stones	0.6	0.25	



French	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
А	3757	3757	Ditch 3	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.2	linear
А	3758	3757	Ditch 3	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	Occ. small stones	0.8	0.2	
А	3759	3759	Pit Group 1	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.6	0.2	circular
A	3760	3759	Pit Group 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brown	Silty sand	Occ. flecks of charcoal	0.6	0.2	
С	3765	3766	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown:	Quite fine silty sand	Very occ. stone	2.1	0.24	
С	3766	3766	Ditch 7	1	cut	ditch	boundary				2.1	0.24	linear
С	3767	3768	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Light orange brown: quite homogenous.	Silty sand	Occ. small stones	1.06	0.56	
С	3768	3768	Ditch 7	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.06	0.56	curvilinear
С	3769	3769	Ditch 7	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.56	0.41	curvilinear
С	3770	3769	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Blackish brown	Silty sand	Sandstone inclusions	0.98	0.22	
С	3771	3769	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Sandstone inclusions	1.56	0.38	
C	3772	3773	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brownish orange with an occ. patch of yellow.	Silty sand		1.44	0.8	
С	3773	3773	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.44	0.8	Irregular
С	3774	3774	Ditch 7	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.5	0.38	linear
С	3775	3774	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark orange brown	silty sand	Occ. small pieces of ironstone and patches of charcoal.	1.5	0.38	
С	3776	3776	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.5	0.65	linear
С	3777	3776	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	Dark reddish brown	Sandy silt	Freq. small and med pieces of ironstone.	1.5	0.65	
С	3778	3778	Ditch 7	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.36	0.32	curvilinear
С	3779	3778	Ditch 7	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand		1.36	0.32	
С	3783	3783	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.6	0.7	linear
С	3784	3783	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	dark reddish brown	sandy silt	frequent ironstone inclusions			
С	3787	3787	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				2.24	0.42	sub-circular
C	3788	3787	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	disuse	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	Large amount of chert pebbles, ironstone and sandstone.	2.24	0.42	
C	3789	3790		1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orange brown	Silty sand		1.1	0.3	
С	3790	3790		1	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.3	sub-circular



Version 1

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
С	3791	3792		1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orange brown	Silty sand	-	1.1	0.35	
С	3792	3792		1	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.35	sub-circular
В	3793	3794	Ditch 15	3	fill	ditch	silting	Dark brown	Sand	-	1.4	0.32	
В	3794	3794	Ditch 15	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.4	0.32	linear
С	3795	3795	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.8	0.22	linear
С	3796	3795	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	-	0.8	0.22	
С	3797	3797	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.82	0.28	sub-circular
С	3798	3797	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	disuse	Light yellowish brown	Silty sand	-	0.82	0.28	
С	3799	3799	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.3	0.4	circular
С	3800	3800	Corn dryer 2	1	cut	pit	oven				1.2	0.34	sub- rectangular
С	3801	3800	Corn dryer 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brown	Silty sand	Ironstone at	1.2	0.34	
С	3802	3802	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.4	0.36	sub-circula
С	3803	3802	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark blackish brown	Silty sand		0.4	0.12	
С	3804	3800	Corn dryer 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Light yellowish brown	Silty sand		0.38	0.1	
С	3805	3805	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.9	0.38	sub-circula
С	3806	3805	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brown	Silty sand		0.9	0.38	
С	3807	3808	Corn dryer 2	1	fill	gully	silting	Mid orange brown	Silty sand	-	0.86	0.22	
С	3808	3808	Corn dryer 2	1	cut	gully	drainage				0.86	0.22	linear
С	3811	3799	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid brownish red	Silty sand	Occ. burnt stones	1.3	0.4	
C	3812	3799	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Sandy silt	A few med sub-rounded stones and occ. charcoal flecks.	1.3	0.4	
C	3813	3813	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.84	0.42	sub- rectangular
С	3814	3813	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Light orangey brown	Sandy silt	Large flint pebbles	0.1	0.08	
С	3815	3813	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brown	Silty sand	A lot of charcoal as well as some small pebbles.	0.78	0.32	
C	3816	3818	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Freq. small/med size stones.	1.4	0.55	
C	3817	3818	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	-	1.4	0.55	
C	3818	3818	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.4	0.55	sub-circular
С	3819	3820	Corn dryer 2	1	fill	gully	silting	Mid orange brown	Silty sand		0.68	0.32	



French	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
С	3820	3820	Corn dryer 2	1	cut	gully	drainage				0.68	0.32	linear
С	3821	3822	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Patchy light orangey brown	Silty sand	Very occ. small stones.	0.56	0.14	
С	3822	3822	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.56	0.14	sub-circular
C	3823	3824	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Mod. small stones and patches of charcoal.	0.78	0.2	
С	3824	3824	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.78	0.2	Oval
С	3825	3825	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.96	0.23	sub-circular
С	3826	3825	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark greyish brown	Silty sand	Flint inclusions	0.96	0.23	
С	3827	3827	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.58	0.18	circular
С	3828	3827	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark greyish brown	Silty sand	Small pebbles and charcoal	0.58	0.18	
С	3829	3829	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.6	0.14	circular
C	3830	3829	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark greyish brown	Silty sand	Small pebbles and charcoal	0.6	0.14	
C	3831	3832	SFB	1	fill	pit	backfill	Patchy: mid greyish/orange brown	Silty sand	Occ. stones.	3.68	0.4	
С	3832	3832	SFB	1	cut	pit	structure				3.68	0.4	sub- rectangular
C	3833	3833	Corn dryer 1	1	cut	pit	oven				1.8	0.38	sub- rectangula
C	3834	3833	Corn dryer 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Sandy silt	-			
C	3835	3833	Corn dryer 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark grey	Silt	Freq. flecks of charcoal		0.1	
C	3836	3833	Corn dryer 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Sandy silt	Occ. flecks of charcoal and small pieces of ironstone.		0.25	
C	3837	3837	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.55	0.3	circular
C	3838	3837	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Sandy silt	Occ. small stones		0.3	
С	3839	3839	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.6	sub-circula
С	3840	3839	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand		1.08	0.6	
С	3841	3839	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Light yellowish brown	Silty sand	Small ironstone pieces at <10%.	0.32	0.6	
С	3842	3842	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.6	0.2	sub-circula
C	3843	3842	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill	Light yellowish brown: patchy.	Silty clay		0.6	0.2	
С	3844	3844	Ditch 6	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.9	0.52	linear



Version 1

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
C	3845	3844	Ditch 6	1	fill	ditch	silting	Patchy: mid brown/orange (water impacted).	Silty sand	Scarce natural ironstone	0.9	0.52	
C	3846	3848	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orangey brown	Silty sand	Very occ. small stones	1.6	0.3	
C	3847	3848	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	-		0.12	
C	3848	3848	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.6	0.45	sub-circular
C	3851	3851	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure				0.35	0.1	sub-circular
C	3852	3851	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse	Mid brownish grey	silty sand	Occ. small stones	0.35	0.1	
C	3857	3857	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure				0.3	0.2	sub-circular
C	3858	3857	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse	Mid greyish brown	Silty sand	Occ. small stones	0.3	0.2	
C	3859	3859	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure				0.25	0.18	sub-circular
C	3860	3859	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse	Mid brownish grey	Silty sand	Occ. stones	0.25	0.18	
С	3865	3865	Structure 1	1	cut	pit	sunken- feature				3.3	0.2	Irregular
C	3866	3865	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orange brown	Silty sand	Rare small stones	0.6	0.1	
C	3867	3865	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Silty sand	Rare stones	0.55	0.05	
C	3868	3865	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid yellowish brown	Silty sand	Occ. small stones	0.6	0.05	
C	3869	3865	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Dark brownish grey	Silty sand	Rare stones	0.6	0.05	
C	3870	3865	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	Mid orange brown	Silty sand	Occ. stones	0.6	0.2	
C	3877	3877	Pit Group 4	1	cut	pit	unknown				0.6	0.19	circular
C	3878	3877	Pit Group 4	1	fill	pit	backfill	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	occ med stones		0.19	
C	3879	3879	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.2	0.31	curvilinear
C	3880	3879	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	sandy silt	occ small iron stone frags		0.31	
C	3881	3881	Corn dryer 1	1	cut	gully	drainage				0.3	0.18	linear
C	3882	3881	Corn dryer 1	1	fill	gully	silting	dark brownish grey	sandy silt	occ small pieces of iron stone		0.18	
C	3883	3896	Ditch 18	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid oraney brown	silty sand	freq flint, occ stone	2.34	0.64	
C	3884	3884	Ditch 18	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.14	0.44	linear
C	3885	3884	Ditch 18	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid orangey brown	silty sand	freq flint, occ stone	1.14	0.44	
C	3886	3886	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.94	0.25	linear
C	3887	3886	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	dark reddish brown	sand	mod stones, ironstone		0.25	
C	3888	3888	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.85	0.28	linear



Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
C	3889	3888	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting					0.28	
C	3890	3890	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.5	0.32	curvilinear
C	3891	3890	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	dark reddish brown	sand	mod stones, ironstone		0.32	
C	3892	3893	Ditch 18	3	fill	ditch	silting	light pinkish brown	silty sand	occ small stone	1.12	0.36	
C	3893	3893	Ditch 18	3	cut	ditch	boundary				1.12	0.38	linear
C	3896	3896	Ditch 18	3	cut	ditch	boundary				3.14	0.64	linear
C	3897	3897	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.1	0.13	circular
C	3898	3897	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	light greyish brown	silty sand	occ flint, pebbles	1.1	0.13	
C	3899	3899	Ditch 19	3	cut	ditch	boundary				0.54	0.1	linear
C	3900	3899	Ditch 19	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	flint	0.54	0.1	
C	3901	3901	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.18	0.42	sub-circular
С	3902	3901	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	patchy dark brown with patches yellow	silty sand		1.18	0.42	
С	3903	3904	Corn dryer 2	1	fill	gully	silting						
C	3904	3904	Corn dryer 2	1	cut	gully	drainage						
C	3905	3906	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse						
C	3906	3906	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure						
C	3907	3908	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse						
C	3908	3908	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure						
C	3909	3910	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse						
C	3910	3910	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure						
C	3911	3912	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse						
C	3912	3912	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure						
C	3913	3914	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse						
C	3914	3914	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure						
C	3915	3915	Structure 1	1	cut	pit	hearth/oven				1.1	0.17	sub-circular
C	3916	3915	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	Silty sand		1.1	0.07	
C	3917	3915	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	black with red patches	clayey sand	charcoal	1.1	0.03	
C	3918	3915	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	hearth lining	light reddish yellowish grey	silty clay with sparse sand	fired clay	0.29	0.1	



Version 1

Trench	Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Shape in Plan
С	3919	3919	Structure 1	1	cut	pit	hearth/oven				1.3	0.11	sub-circular
С	3920	3919	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	dark reddish black	silty sand	fired clay			
С	3921	3919	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	dark reddish brown	silty sand	soft	0.72	0.09	
С	3922	3919	Structure 1	1	fill	pit	backfill	dark yellowish brown	silty sand	occ fired clay,	1.3	0.07	
C	3924	3924	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure				0.26	0.28	sub-circular
С	3925	3924	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse	dark brown	silty sand		0.26	0.28	
C	3926	3926	Structure 1	1	cut	post hole	structure				0.24	0.4	sub-circular
C	3927	3926	Structure 1	1	fill	post hole	disuse	dark brown	silty sand		0.24	0.4	
С	3928	3928	Ditch 6	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.39	0.34	linear
C	3929	3928	Ditch 6	1	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand	charcoal	1.39	0.34	
C	3930	3930	Ditch 6	1	cut	ditch	boundary				1.48	0.52	linear
C	3931	3930	Ditch 6	1	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty sand		1.48	0.52	
C	3932	3932	Pit Group 2	1	cut	pit	unknown				1.28	0.31	sub-circular
C	3933	3932	Pit Group 2	1	fill	pit	backfill	mid greyish brown	silty sand		1.28	0.31	
C	3935	3935	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.46	0.27	linear
C	3936	3935	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	Greyish brown	silty sand	small amount of small pebbles	0.46	0.27	
C	3937	3937	Ditch 5	1	cut	ditch	boundary				0.62	0.24	curvilinear
С	3938	3937	Ditch 5	1	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	silty sand	small amount of ironstone inclusions	0.62	0.24	
С	3939	3940	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill						
С	3940	3940	Pit Group 3	1	cut	pit	unknown						
C	3941	3940	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill						
C	3942	3940	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill						
С	3943	3940	Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill						
С	3944		Pit Group 3	1	fill	pit	backfill						

Table 1: Context inventory



APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.1.1 Archaeological excavation produced a small assemblage of nine metallic artefacts. The fragment of copper alloy shoe buckle recovered from Period 3 Ditch 14 (**3755**) can be dated to the 18th century. Otherwise, dating is uncertain for the majority of the artefacts.
- B.1.2 The copper alloy buckle is in a relatively stable condition, the iron artefacts are corroded to varying degrees. All objects are packaged in crystal boxes or polythene bags, with foam support. All bags or boxes are stored in Stewart boxes with silica gel.

The assemblage by material

B.1.3 The minimum number of objects by material is shown in Table 2.

Material	Number
Copper alloy	1
Iron	9

Table 2: metalwork finds by material

Catalogue

B.1.4 The functional categories used are those defined by Crummy in 1983 and 1988.
Categories present in the assemblage are 1, Objects of personal adornment or dress, 10, Tools, 11, fastenings and fittings and 18, Objects the function or identification of which is unknown.

Category 1

SF4 (3756) fill of Ditch 14 slot **3755**, Period 3. A rounded corner fragment from a two piece, cast, curved, copper alloy, rectangular, openwork shoe buckle with moulded scrolled and grooved surface decoration on the upper surface. On the reverse a portion of the spindle mount survives. c.1720-1790. Surviving dimensions: length 30mm, width 24mm, width of frame 9mm, weight 3.2g.

Category 10

SF 5. (3812), fill of Pit Group 4 pit **3799**, Period 1 (Area C). Incomplete tapering iron artefact, possibly a spike or tool, with a rectangular sectioned tapering shank 11mm wide and 4mm thick at head, tapering to a slightly pointed tip. Surviving length 98mm.

SF6. (3903), fill of Period 1 gully **3904** (Corn Dryer 2 group), Area C. Incomplete plain single-edged narrow tapering iron blade missing end and tip, with part of the sub rectangular tang, heavily encrusted and corroded, the back of the blade appears straight, the blade appears slightly curved. Length including tang 56mm.



SF 8. (3749), fill of Ditch 14 slot **3750**, Period 3 (Area A). Incomplete, corroded, slightly tapering iron blade, both the back and edge of the blade are straight. A second fragment of iron is also present and may be part of the same blade. Length of longer section 52mm, shorter section length 22mm.

Category 11

SF 3. (3756), fill of Ditch 14 slot **3755**, Period 3 (Area A). Incomplete, slightly tapering, iron nail, with a rectangular sectioned shank 7mm by 6mm wide at broken tip, with a flat or rectangular head, the shape is unclear due to the level of corrosion. Surviving length 61mm.

Category 18

SF 1. (3708), fill of Ditch 13 slot **3707**, Period 3 (Area A). Incomplete, bent, broken, flaking, flattened tapering, rectangular sectioned shank from an iron artefact, possibly a nail. Length 54mm.

SF7. (3903), fill of Period 1 gully **3904** (Corn Dryer 2), Area C. Iron artefact heavily corroded and encrusted, appears incomplete, with a ?rectangular shank flattening towards a tapering point. Length 74mm

SF9. (3939) fill of Pit Group 3 pit **3940**, Period 1 (Area A). Complete with corroded surfaces, oval ringshaped iron object with somewhat flattened surfaces. and an off-centre hole. Length 49mm, width 45mm, diameter of off-centre hole approximately 23mm, thickness 8-10mm.

SF11. (3772) fill Pit Group 4 pit **3773**, Period 1 (Area C). Incomplete, corroded and twisted iron chain, five links are relatively clearly defined and look similar to a curb chain link. Total (twisted) length 104mm, length of each link approximately 12mm, width 11mm, 3-4mm thick.

B.2 Slag

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

B.2.1 The excavation produced three fragments of slag, from two ditches, Period 1 Ditch 5 (3886) produced a single fragment of glassy slag/hearth lining while the material from Period 1 ditch 3904 (Corn Dryer 2 group) is likely fuel ash slag and may be domestic in origin (Table 3). The slag appears to have been incorporated into the ditch fills as general rubbish rather than deliberate deposition and the low levels of material recovered suggest that the slag is likely to have been related to fuel burning for domestic rather than industrial processes.

Area	Group	Cut	Ctxt	Period	No.	Wgt (kg)	Description	Date
С	Ditch 5	3886	3887	1	1	0.009	Irregular fragment of almost black, glassy slag with fine & medium sized vesicles within the slag matrix. Reverse of fragment is a thin layer of fired or burnt clay. ?Hearth lining.	Not closely datable
С	Corn Dryer 2	3904	3903	1.1	2	0.020	Pale surfaces, darker green glassy material: light & full of small and medium vesicles. Fuel ash slag.	Not closely datable

Table 3: slag



B.3 Glass

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

- B.3.1 The excavation produced three shards of glass (Table 4). One is a neck shard from a mid olive green glass bottle, possibly early to mid 18th century, the second, although an undiagnostic body shard, is also probably from a bottle. The final shard, recovered from the topsoil, is from a fine glass vessel, of pale olive green glass that is clear and unweathered. The upper surface has three uneven ?wavy applied/moulded rounded lines or ribs upon its surface. The green colour of the glass is similar to that of English Forest or potash glass, suggesting it could be from a Venetian-type glass beaker. However, this type of glass tends to decay in the burial environment and this shard is in near pristine condition, suggesting an alkali or soda glass, which also allows for the possibility that the glass may be Roman; the exact form is uncertain.
- B.3.2 The bottle glass appears to have been incorporated into the ditch fills as general rubbish rather than deliberate deposition.

Area	Group	Cut	Ctxt.	Period	No.	Wgt. (kg)	Form and Description	Date
-	Topsoil	-	3600	-	1	<0.001	SF 2, irregular body shard of clear, very pale olive green glass. Few faults or vesicles. Upper surface has applied/ moulded, slightly wavy lines. Both surfaces unweathered & polished feel. 1mm thick body, 2mm on raised lines	Uncertain
A	Ditch 4	3636	3637	1	1	0.028	Partial neck shard, short tapering neck - mid green clear glass. Surfaces clouded- slightly encrusted	?18th century
A	-	3665	3666	3	1	0.004	Mid olive green shard of glass from a cylindrical glass bottle	NCD

Table 4: glass

B.4 Flintwork

By Anthony Haskins

- B.4.1 Three residual struck flints were recovered from the site (23g). Another natural, thermally fractured flint was recovered from the fill of Period 3 quarry pit 3621 in Area B. The three worked flints were struck from a mid to dark greyish to yellowish-brown pebble flint with a thin mid yellowish-brown abraded cortex.
- B.4.2 A single secondary flake was recovered from the fill (3883) of Period 3 Ditch 18 slot3896. A secondary blade-like flake was recovered from the fill (3933) of Period 1 PitGroup 4 pit 3932 in Area C.
- B.4.3 Finally, a 57mm long utilised secondary blade fragment, missing the proximal end, was recovered from ditch fill (3931) of Period 1 Ditch 6 (**3930**) in Area C. The blade fragment



has a cortical surface along the left hand side and use wear along the non-cortical right hand side.

B.4.4 All pieces recovered are likely to date to the Early Neolithic.

B.5 Pottery

By Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction and methodology

- B.5.1 The pottery assemblage comprised 242 sherds with a total weight of 2127g (Table 6). The estimated vessel equivalent (EVE), by summation of surviving rimsherd circumference was 2.34. It was mostly Saxo-Norman and medieval, but small quantities of Romano-British, Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon and post-medieval material were also noted.
- B.5.2 It was recorded using the conventions of the Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service type-series (*e.g* Baker & Hassall 1977), as follows:

A18: Fine Quartz 5th – 9th century. 3 sherds, 26g, EVE = 0.02.

B01A: T1 (2) type St. Neots Ware *c*.AD1000-1200. 111 sherds, 630g, EVE = 1.16.

B07: Medieval Shelly Ware AD1100-1400. 41 sherds, 295g, EVE = 0.25.

B09: Lyveden/Stanion 'B' Ware *c*.AD1225-?mid 14th century. 1 sherd, 2g, EVE = 0.

C01: Light Orange Sandy Ware 12th – 13th century. 2 sherds, 4g, EVE = 0.05.

C09: Brill/Boarstall Ware 13th – 15th century. 1 sherd, 6g, EVE = 0.

C10: Potterspury Ware mid 13th – 15th century. 1 sherd, 80g, EVE = 0.10.

C12: Stamford Ware *c*.AD900-1200. 1 sherd, 80g, EVE = 0.14.

C17: Hedingham-type ware 13th – 15th century. 3 sherds, 107g, EVE = 0.

C59b: Sandy Ware 12th - 13th century. 36 sherds, 608g, EVE = 0.43.

C60: Hertfordshire Greyware mid 12th – mid 14th century. 6 sherds, 44g, EVE = 0.07

E01: Late medieval Reduced Ware mid 14th–16th century. 28 sherds, 155g, EVE = 0.12.

P03: Black-glazed Earthenware late 16th – 19th century. 3 sherds, 44g.

P06: Slip-decorated earthenware 17th century. 1 sherd, 36g.

P37: White Salt-glazed Stoneware early-mid 18th century. 1 sherd, 5g.

P38: Creamware mid 18th – 19th century. 1 sherd, 1g.



P56: Mass-produced White Earthenware 19th – 20th century. 1 sherds, 1g.

F1001: All Romano-British 1 sherd, 3g.

- B.5.3 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Appendix 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is typical of sites in the region, and very similar to that from a site at Biggleswade Road, Potton (Albion Archaeology 2012/101), with the bulk of the pottery from that site also being of Saxo-Norman and earlier medieval date *(ibid.* 27).
- B.5.4 Here, most of the context-specific assemblages consist of small quantities of small sherds. The shelly wares are all in fairly poor condition, with the majority of the calcareous inclusions leached out. This seems likely to be due to acidic soil conditions, but it has left the bulk of such sherds highly friable, hence the generally low mean sherd weights, particularly for the Saxo-Norman and early medieval groups (Table 5).

Chronology and pottery occurrence

B.5.5 Each stratified, context-specific pottery assemblage was given a ceramic phase ('CP') date based on the range of ware and vessel types present. The chronology, defining wares and the amount of pottery per phase is shown in Table 5.

Phase	Defining wares	Date	No Sherds	Wt. Sherds	Mean Sherd Wt
E/MS	A18	5 th – 9 th C	3	26g	8.7g
SN	B01A, C12	11 th C	81	351g	4.3g
CP1	B07, C59b	Early – mid 12 th C	89	866g	9.7g
CP2	C60	Mid – late 12 th C	13	228g	17.5g
СРЗ	B09, C09, C17	Early – mid 13 th C	9	101g	11.2g
CP4	C10	Mid 13 th – mid 14 th C	4	250g	62.5g
CP5	E01	Mid 14 th – mid 16 th C	32	175g	5.5g.

Table 5: Medieval ceramic phase chronology, occurrence and defining wares

- B.5.6 The table indicates that the bulk of pottery deposition took place between the 11th mid 12th centuries, but also that the assemblages of such date are highly fragmented, and largely the product of secondary deposition.
- B.5.7 The range of vessel types present reflects this. Glazed jugs, which are generally 13th-century or later in the region, are scarce, with jars (EVE = 1.71) being by far the most common vessel type, along with smaller quantities of bowls (EVE = 0.39). Just two jug rims were noted (EVE = 0.25), one being Stamford Ware and the other Potterspury-type. The Stamford Ware vessel has a type 5 rim-form (Kilmurry 1980, Fig. 50), a fairly common product of the industry from the 11th mid/late 12th century (ibid. 140). A single handle from a Shelly Ware example was also noted. These are typically of 12th-



century date. The only other vessel types present were the base and lower body of a St Neots Ware pedestal lamp, a fairly rare product of the tradition (Denham 1985, 53), and a few fragments of a medieval sandy ware storage jar which was decorated with incised wavy lines and thumbed applied strips.

Discussion

B.5.8 This assemblage is generally of rather poor quality, consisting in the main of small, fragmented sherds which are the product of secondary deposition. The range of wares is typical of sites in the region, and the range of vessels and fabrics has very little potential to enhance our understanding of the site in any areas other than chronology.



					F3	F20	0	F205	5	F301	1	F36	3	F33	0	F30	0	F30	2	F32	0	F32	4	F32	9	F36	5	F41	2	F42	6	F43	33	F43	36	F10	00	
Area	Ctxt	Cut	Group	Period	NoWt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Nol	Nt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
, cu																																						
A	3639	3638	Ditch 2	1		4	17																															SN
	3718	3717				1	10																															SN
	3713	3714				5	19																													Ī		SN
	3737	3736	Ditch 1	1								1	14	2	3																					T		CP1
	3637	3636	Ditch 4	1																												1	5	,		T		PM
	3655	3656	Pit Group	1										15	88																	Ī		Ī		T		CP1
	3669	3670										1	15																							T		CP1
	3760	3759				İ				1	1																									Ħ		CP1
	3722	3721	ĺ	1		3	9																															SN
С	3826	3825	Pit Group	1		1	12																							<u> </u>			<u> </u>	Ī				SN
	3840	3839	3	1		Ì						1	4	1	1	1	2	1	46																			CP1
	3939	3940	ĺ			36	99																							<u> </u>			<u> </u>	Ī				SN
	3942	3940	ĺ									6	20																							\square		CP1
	3916	3915	Hearth /oven	1								1	4	1	1																							CP1
	3831*	3832	SFB	1								1	7																	<u> </u>			<u> </u>			П		CP1
	3925	3924	Structure	1		Ì						5	38		<u> </u>															<u> </u>			<u> </u>			\square		CP1
	3927	3926				Ì						2	91			1	5													<u> </u>						Ħ		CP2



Version 1

					F3		F200)	F20	5	F30	1	F36	3	F33	0	F30(0	F30	2	F32	0	F32	4	F32	9	F36	5	F41	2	F42	6	F43	3	F43	6	F1000)
Area	Ctxt	Cut	Group	Period	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	ΝοΜ	t Date
	3801	3800	Corn Dryer	1	Π		2	4					1	69			T																				Π	CP2
	3804	3800					16	148																													Π	SN
	3807	3808	ĺ				5	17																														SN
	3903	3904	ĺ				20	126	1	80			1	12																								CP1
	3812	3799	Pit Group 4	1			2	3																													Π	SN
	3814	3813					1	1									Ĩ																				Π	SN
	3878	3877	Ì												1	4																						CP1
	3803	3802					1	1									Ĩ																					SN
	3879	3879	Ditch 5	1																							19	67										CP5
	3880	3879]										5	146	16	174	Ĩ																					CP1
	3887	3886	Ì				1	3					2	50																								CP1
	3889	3888	ĺ										2	18	1	1											3	47										CP5
	3936	3935															Ĩ										3	16										CP5
	3931	3930	Ditch 6	1	3	26											Ĩ																				Π	E/MS
	3770	3769	Ditch 7	1			1	84																														CP4
A	3702	3701	Structure 2	2																																	1	1 PM
	3673	3746	Well	2											1	9	1	8					1	6														СР3



					F3		F20)	F20	5	F301	1	F363	3	F33	0	F30	0	F30	2	F32	0	F32	4	F32	9	F36	5	F41	2	F42	26	F43	3	F43	6	F1000	
		-		1										-																								
Area	Ctxt	Cut	Group	Period	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No۱	Иt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	NoWt	Date
	3735	3734	trample	2									1	13																			Γ				Π	CP1
	3667	3668	Ditch 8	2															1	43													Ī					CP3
	3627	3628	Ditch 9	2																							1	13					I					CP5
	3686	3687	Ditch 11	2									1	12			1	10															I					CP2
	3678	3679	Ditch 12	2															1	18													Ī				Ħ	CP3
	3693	3692	Ditch 13	3			2	39																							1	16					Ħ	PM
	3708	3707	Í	Ì			6	15																									Ī				††	SN
	3747	3748	Ditch 14	3			1	2																					1	36							Ħ	PM
	3756	3755	Í										1	2																	2	28			1	1	İΤ	PM
В	3614	3613	Quarry pits	3							1	3	2	7	1	8	1	8			1	2																CP3
	3617	3616	ipits										2	86											1	80												CP4
	3622	3621		Ì			1	1																			2	12										CP5
С	3883	3896	Ditch 18	3			2	20							2	6	1	11															<u> </u>					CP2
	Total		I		3	26	111	630	1	80	2	4	36	608	41	295	6	44	3	107	1	2	1	6	1	80	28	155	1	36	3	44	1	5	1	1	1	1

Table 6: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (g) of sherds per context by fabric type (*produced the single sherd of Romano-British pottery)



B.6 Ceramic building material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.6.1 Archaeological work produced 29 fragments (1364g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM) from eleven contexts. The assemblage is fragmentary and abraded and therefore not closely datable. The fragments are, however, broadly late medieval to late post-medieval.

Methodology

- B.6.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible.
- B.6.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 7.

Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Area	Feature	Brick	Tile	Undiag.	Weight (g)	Comment
3629	3632	Quarry Pits	3	A	Pit		1		22	Post-med, incs undated frags
3666	3665	-	3	A	Gully	1	1		54	Post-med
3686	3687	Ditch 11	2	A	Ditch		1		251	Roman Box Flue Tile
3693	3692	Ditch 13	3	A	Ditch	1			40	Undated
3700	3699	Structure 2	2	A	Post hole			1	11	Undated
3702	3701	Structure 2	2	A	Post hole			1	8	Undated
3713	3714	Ditch 1	1	A	Ditch	1			87	Undated
3749	3750	Ditch 14	3	A	Ditch	1			33	Undated
3756	3755	Ditch 14	3	A	Ditch	3	2		195	Undated
3772	3773	Pit Group 4	1	с	Pit		6	1	659	Undated
3883	3896	Ditch 18	3	С	Ditch			1	4	Undated
Total						7	11	4	1364	

Table 7: CBM catalogue



Assemblage

B.6.4 This assemblage is made up of flat tile, brick and undiagnostic fragments from two areas.

Area A

B.6.5 The majority of the CBM from Area A was not dated because it was too fragmentary and abraded. The fragments that could be dated came from three contexts. Period 3 Quarry pit 3632 and gully 3665 produced post-medieval brick and tile and Period 2 Ditch 11 slot 3687 produced a fragment of Roman box flue tile with abraded but visible cross-hatching.

Area C

B.6.6 This area also produced some undateable CBM. Of the fragments that could be dated some late medieval to post-medieval tile fragments were recovered from Period 1 Pit Group 4 pit **3773**. These include a double peg tile that may originate from the late medieval period. It was noted that this feature may possibly have been a natural tree-hole feature, possibly grubbed-out in the post-medieval period.

Discussion

- B.6.7 The Roman CBM originates from brick and stone buildings of the Romano-British period in the area. The fragment recovered is related to a hypocaust system and suggests there was a degree of wealth or significance to the settlement or structure from which it derives.
- B.6.8 The later CBM recovered here is related to the discard of medieval and post-medieval building material and subsequent dispersal through the landscape. It represents little more than background noise within the modern landscape.

B.7 Fired clay

By Ted Levermore

Introduction

B.7.1 Archaeological work, including sampling, produced 67 fragments (339g) of fired clay, comprising 61 (258g) amorphous and six (81g) structural fragments. The structural fragments exhibit flattened surfaces and a piece has wattle impressions.

Methodology

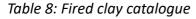
- B.7.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gramme. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present.
- B.7.3 The quantified data and fabric descriptions are presented on an Excel spreadsheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue is provided in Table 8.



Assemblage

Ctxt	Cut	Period	Group	Area	Count	Weight (g)	Comment
3741	3740	1	Ditch 1	A	17	38	Includes wiped/flattened surfaces
3655	3656	1	Pit Group 1	A	13	53	Includes fragments with vegetable voids
3708	3707	3	Ditch 13	A	1	9	
3760	3759	1	Pit Group 1	A	5	33	
3812	3799	1	Pit Group 4	В	5	64	
3835	3833	1	Corn Dryer 1	С	12	9	
3836	3833	1	Corn Dryer 1	С	10	120	Includes wattle impressions
3931	3930	1	Ditch 6	С	1	3	
3934	3844	1	Ditch 6	С	3	10	
Total	L	<u>I</u>			67	339	

B.7.4 Seven contexts, in two areas, produced fired clay, in five fabrics.



Area A

B.7.5 Excavations produced 31 fragments, 87g, of amorphous and five fragments, 46g, of structural fired clay from two pits, a post hole and a ditch. The structural fragments were recovered from Period 1 Ditch 1 slot **3740** and Period 1 Pit Group 1 pit **3656** and are made up of flattened or wiped surfaces. Pit **3656** also produced amorphous pieces with voids from burnt out vegetable matter.

Area C

B.7.6 Excavations produced 27 fragments, 161g, of amorphous and one fragment, 35g, of structural fired clay from three pits and a ditch. The structural fragment was recovered from Corn Dryer 1 (**3833**) and has two perpendicular wattle impressions

Discussion

B.7.7 None of the fired clay was found in situ and therefore any information pertaining to exact use is lost. These fragments therefore provide little information beyond indicating the historic presence of kilns, ovens or hearths in the area.



B.8 Clay tobacco pipe

By Carole Fletcher

B.8.1 A single fragment of white ball clay tobacco pipe stem, weighing 0.003kg, was recovered from Period 1 Ditch 1 slot **3740** (Table 9). This intrusive fragment is probably a casually discarded pipe that has subsequently been reworked as the site was developed. The pipe fragment does little other than to indicate the consumption of tobacco on or in the vicinity of the site, some time after *c*.1580.

Cxt.	Cut	Period	Form	Weight (kg)	No. stem frags.	Description	Date
3741	3740	1	Fragment of pipe stem	0.003		Length 26mm, slightly oval stem broken just before the heel	NCD <i>c</i> .1580- 1910 (intrusive)

Table 9: Clay tobacco pipe



APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal remains

By Zoe Ui Choileain

Introduction

C.1.1 A total of 2.135kg of animal bone was recovered during the excavations (Table 10). Most identifiable material was from medieval or post-medieval ditches and pits.

Methodology

C.1.2 All identifiable elements were recorded using a version of the criteria described in Davis (1995). Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972) and France (2009), together with use of the OAE reference collection. Preservation condition was evaluated using the 0-5 scale devised by Brickley and McKinley (2004).

Results of analysis

- C.1.3 The most represented species were cattle and equid (horse). The majority of the equid bone does, however, derive from context 3627, the fill of Period 2 Ditch 9 slot **3628** and represents a single individual. Canis and sheep/goat bone were also present in context 3627. A single bird humerus was recovered from context 3622, the fill of Period 3 quarry pit **3621**.
- C.1.4 On average, the overall surface condition of this assemblage was grade 2-3 on the McKinley (2004) scale. Most bones were fragmented however some biometry is possible on the ends of long bones. There were no signs of butchery on any of the material and the only pathology visible was on the horse bone from context 3627.

Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period	Element	No. of frags	Taxon	Erosion	Biometry	Burnt	Age
3622	3621	Quarry pits	3	Humerus	1	bird	2	Yes	No	Yes
3627	3628	Ditch 9	2	Radius	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
			-1	Calcaneus	1	canis	2	Yes	No	Yes
				Femur	1	Canis	2	Yes	No	Yes
				Mandible	1	Canis	2	No	No	Yes
				Maxilla	1	Canis	2	No	No	Yes
				Scapula	1	Cattle	1	Yes	No	Yes
				Astragalus	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
				Calcaneus	1	equid	1	No	No	Yes
				Mandible	1	equid	2	No	No	Yes
				PH1	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes



Cxt.	Cut	Group	Period		No. of frags	Taxon	Erosion	Biometry	Burnt	Age
				PH2	3	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
				РНЗ	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
				Scapula	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
			-	Tibia	5	equid	1	No	No	Yes
				Ulna	1	equid	1	Yes	No	Yes
				Indet	5	Large mammal	2	No	No	No
				Radius	1	equid	2	Yes	No	Yes
				Rib	1	Large mammal	1	No	No	Yes
				Vertebra	1	Large mammal	1	Yes	No	Yes
				Metatarsus	1	Sheep/Goat	2	Yes	No	Yes
3741	3740	Ditch 1	1	Vertebra	1	Large mammal	3	No	No	No
3659	3662	Pit Group 1	1	Radius	1	Cattle	2	Yes	No	Yes
				Ulna	1	Cattle	2	No	No	Yes
				Long bone	5	Large mammal	2	No	No	No
3693	3692	Ditch 13	3	Loose max cheek tooth	1	Cattle	4	No	No	Yes
				Metacarpus	1	Cattle	4	No	No	No
			-	Metatarsus	1	Cattle	4	No	No	No
3700	3699	Structure 2	2	Rib	1	Large mammal	2	No	No	No
3713	3714	Ditch 1	1	Long bone	1	Large mammal	2	No	No	No
3744	3745	Ditch 2	1	Mandible	1	equid	2	No	No	Yes
				Vertebra	1	Large mammal	1	No	No	Yes
3756	3755	Ditch 14	3	Rib	2	Medium mammal	2	No	No	No
3836	3833	Corn Dryer 1	1	Long bone	1	Large mammal	2	No	Yes	No
3838	3837	Pit Group 2	1	Long bone	1	Large mammal	3	No	No	No
3880	3879	Ditch 5	1	Indet	1	Large mammal	3	No	No	No
3883	3896	Ditch 18	3	Long bone	1	Large mammal	3	No	No	No
3903	3904	Corn Dryer 2	1	Long bone	8	Large mammal	3	No	No	No

Table 10: Animal bone



Erosion grades (simplified version of Brickley & McKinley 2004, 14-15):

- 0= surface morphology clearly visible, fresh appearance
- 1= light and patchy surface erosion
- 2= more extensive surface erosion than grade 1
- 3= most of bone surface affected by some degree of erosion
- 4= all of bone surface affected by erosive action
- 5= heavy erosion across whole surface, completely masking normal surface morphology
- C.1.5 As stated above context 3627 (which filled Period 2 Ditch 9 (**3628**)) contained a large quantity of equid bone which probably all represent the same individual. The tooth wear suggests an older horse and this is corroborated by osteophytes on the vertebrae and osteoarthritis which has caused the first and second phalanx on one leg to fuse together. Mobility would definitely have been restricted for a period of time. There is no evidence of butchery and the progression of osteoarthritis suggests that some level of care had been accorded after the working life of the horse. This context also contained the mandible, femur and calcaneus of a relatively large dog. Tooth wear on the permanent dentition indicates an adult animal.
- C.1.6 Context (3622) the fill of Period 3 quarry pit **3621** contained a single bird humerus. This represents an immature columbiform (domestic pigeon/woodpigeon).
- C.1.7 Overall this would appear to represent a combination of domestic waste and the disposal of working animals in a rural environment. The assemblage is too small to draw any detailed conclusions.

C.2 Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

- C.2.1 A total of 0.005 kg of oyster shells were collected by hand during the excavation, from Period 3 Ditch 14 slot **3755** (Table 11). The shells recovered are all edible examples from estuarine, shallow coastal waters and intertidal zones.
- C.2.2 The shell is relatively well preserved and does not appear to have been deliberately broken or crushed. The shells were weighed and recorded by species (Electronic Source 6). The minimum number of individuals was not recorded due to the small size of the assemblage.
- C.2.3 The oyster shells recovered are general discarded food waste, and were probably incorporated into the ditch a relatively short time after they were eaten and, although not closely datable in themselves, may be dated by their association with other finds recovered from the ditch.

Cxt.	Cut	Phase	Species	Common name	Habitat		Total Weight (kg)
3756	3755	3	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	2	0.005

Table 11: Mollusca



C.3 Environmental bulk samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.3.1 Twenty-three bulk samples were taken from Saxo-Norman, early medieval and postmedieval/modern deposits during the excavation of the site. The purpose of this report is to determine whether plant remains are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value with regard to domestic, agricultural and industrial activities, diet, economy and rubbish disposal.

Methodology

- C.3.2 The samples were processed by tank flotation using modified Siraff-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. The waterlogged samples had a portion examined whilst still wet and were then allowed to dry for subsequent assessment and quantification.
- C.3.3 A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues prior to sorting for artefacts and ecofacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. Preserved plant remains found in the heavy residues were extracted and have been included in this report.
- C.3.4 The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Tables 12-14. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (2010) for other plants. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.3.5 For the purpose of this analysis, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

C.3.6 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant



Version 1

Results

Preservation of by plant remains is by carbonisation and charred plant remains were C.3.7 recovered from all of the samples in all three areas. Charred cereal grains are frequent and include all of the four main cereal types: free-threshing wheat (Triticum aestivum s.l.) predominates and there are lesser quantities of oats (Avena sp.), rye (Secale cereale) and barley (Hordeum vulgare). Legumes are present in most assemblages as represent peas (*Pisum/Lathyrus* sp.) and vetches (*Vicia* sp.). Charred weed seeds are common and are mostly seed of plants that would have been growing on cultivated ground and harvested along with the crops such as stinking mayweed (Anthemis cotula), corncockle (Agrostemma githago), cornflower (Centaurea cyanus), corn gromwell (Lithospermum arvense), sheep's sorrel (Rumex acetosella) and black bindweed (Fallopia convolvulus). Seeds that have a wider habitat that also include disturbed soil include thistles (Cirsium/Carduus sp.), grasses (Poaceae), docks (Rumex sp.) and poppies (*Papaver* sp.). There are also occasional seeds of sedges that may suggest the use of wetland plants for thatching/fuel. Heather (cf. Calluna vulgaris) was noted in two samples and may represent its use for bedding and/or fuel.

Area A

- C.3.8 Five samples were taken from Area A. Charred cereal grains predominate and the assemblages all contain mixed cereals along with occasional weed seeds. Fill 3655 of pit Period 1 Pit Group 1 pit **3656** contains charred heather and wheat grains. Weed seeds are infrequent but it is interesting that both stinking mayweed and sheep's sorrel are present as each species has specific habitats; stinking mayweed grows on clay soils and is likely to have been a contaminant of the wheat, whereas sheep's sorrel grows on acid soils and must have been collected with the heather. This deposit also contained fired clay and (tentatively) may represent the disposal of the remains of a bread oven.
- C.3.9 There does not appear to be any other clear distinction between the deposits suggesting that the features have all been used for rubbish disposal.

Sample No.		5	4	8	9	3	6	7
Context No.		3708	3655	3737	3760	3641	3700	3727
Feature No.		3707	3656	3736	3759	3740	3699	3729
Group		Ditch 13	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Structure 2	Pit
Period	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	
Sample volume (L)		9	7	9	8	8	8	8
Volume of flot (litres)		10	50	10	10	90	15	10
Cereals								
Avena sp. caryopsis	Oats [wild or cultivated]	#		#	#		##	#
Hordeum vulgare L. caryopsis	domesticated Barley grain			##	#	#	##	#



Sample No.		5	4	8	9	3	6	7
Context No.		3708	3655	3737	3760	3641	3700	3727
Feature No.		3707	3656	3736	3759	3740	3699	3729
Group		Ditch 13	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Structure 2	Pit
Period		3	1	1	1	1	2	2
Sample volume (L)		9	7	9	8	8	8	8
Volume of flot (litres)		10	50	10	10	90	15	10
Cereals			1			<u> </u>		
Secale cereale L. caryopsis		1	#	#		<u> </u>	#	
free-threshing <i>Triticum</i> sp. Caryopsis	free-threshing Wheat grain	##	##	##	##	##	##	#
cereal indet. caryopsis	indeterminate		###		##	###	##	#
Legumes	1		1	1	1	1	I	<u> </u>
small <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp. [<2mm] seed	small-seeded Vetches/Peas/Garden Peas				#			#
medium <i>Pisum/Lathyrus</i> sp. [2- 4mm] seed	medium-seeded Peas/Garden Peas	#		#	#	#		
Dry land herbs		1				1		
Agrostemma githago L. seed	Corncockle							
Anthemis cotula L. seed	Stinking Chamomile		##		#	#		
Bromus spp. caryopsis	Bromes					#		
Centaurea cyanus L. achene	Cornflower							
Centaurea sp. achene	Cornflower-type				#	#		
Chenopodiaceae indet. seed	Goosefoot Family		##					
Fallopia convolvulus (L.) Á. Löve achene	Black-bindweed			#				
Lithospermum arvense L. nutlet	Corn Gromwell		#					
Lolium cf. temulentum L. caryopsis	Darnel					#		
<i>Malva</i> sp. nutlet	Mallows			#				
medium Poaceae indet. [3-4mm]	medium-seeded Grass Family							#
Polygonaceae indet. achene	Dock Family					#		
Rumex acetosella L. achene	Sheep's Sorrel		##			#		



Version 1

Sample No.		5	4	8	9	3	6	7
Context No.		3708	3655	3737	3760	3641	3700	3727
Feature No.	3707					3740	3699	3729
Group	Ditch 13	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Pit Group 1	Ditch 1	Structure 2	Pit	
Period		3	1	1	1	1	2	2
Sample volume (L)	9	7	9	8	8	8	8	
Volume of flot (litres)	10	50	10	10	90	15	10	
Cereals			1					
Wetland/aquatic plants								
medium trigonous <i>Carex</i> sp. (2- 3mm) nut	Common / Slender Spike- rush				#			
elongate lenticular <i>Carex</i> sp. (>2mm) nut	elongate & flat-seeded Sedges				#			
Tree/shrub macrofossils	<u> </u>		I					
Sambucus nigra L. seed	Elder			#				
Other plant macrofossils	I						1	
Estimated charcoal volume (ml)		<1	30	<1	<1	1	<1	<1
Charcoal <2mm	++	+++	++	++	++	+	+	
Charcoal >2mm	+	+++	++	+	++	+		
Charcoal >10mm						+		
cf Calluna vulgaris L stems	Heather		+++					

Table 12: Samples from Area A

Area B

C.3.10 Two samples were taken from pits within Area B. Fill 3622 of Period 3 quarry pit **3621** produced a single barley grain which is probably a wind-blown accumulation. Fill 3614 of Period 3 quarry pit **3613** yielded a small assemblage of mixed charred cereals and peas with occasional weed seeds.



Sample No.		2	1
Context No.		3614	3622
Feature No.		3613	3621
Group		Quarry pits	Quarry pits
Period		3	3
Sample volume (L)		8	7
Volume of flot (litres)		80	120
Cereals			
Avena sp. caryopsis	Oats [wild or cultivated]	#	
Hordeum vulgare L. caryopsis	domesticated Barley grain	##	#
Secale cereale L. caryopsis	Rye grain	#	
free-threshing Triticum sp. Caryopsis	free-threshing Wheat grain	##	
cereal indet. caryopsis	indeterminate	###	
cf. cereal indet. culm node	Cereal stem-joint [indicates straw]	#	
Legumes			
Pisum/lathyrys sp. [2-4mm] seed	medium-seeded Peas/Garden Peas	##	
Dry land herbs			
Anthemis cotula L. seed	Stinking Chamomile	#	
Centaurea sp. achene	Cornflower-type	#	
Chenopodiaceae indet. seed	Goosefoot Family	##	
small Trifolium spp. (<1mm) seed	small-seeded Clovers	#	
Other plant macrofossils	I		
Estimated charcoal volume (ml)		1	<1
Charcoal <2mm		++	+
Charcoal >2mm		++	+
Charcoal >10mm		+	

Table 13: Samples from Area B

Area C

C.3.11 Samples were taken from twelve features within Area C. The earliest features were Period 1 Pit Group 1 pits **3799** & **3813** and Pit Group 3 pit **3940**. The primary fill (3812) of pit **3799** produced a small flot that contained occasional charred grains, vetches and peas. Fill 3814 of pit **3813** was unproductive. The sample from pit **3940** produced a significant assemblage of charred grain that was predominantly wheat with very few contaminants suggesting that the grain had been fully processed prior to being

accidentally burnt. This quantity of grain would not be expected to have accumulated in a post hole whilst the post was in-situ and must represent a dump of material.

- C.3.12 Corn dryer 1 (pit **3833**) and hearth **3919** produced no finds but have been assigned to Period 1.
- C.3.13 Pit **3833** was the largest and three samples were taken from two of the fills. Sample 14 taken from a layer of in-situ burnt sand (3934), probably representing the base of the feature, contains the charred remains of small seeds (grasses, poppy, mayweeds) that may have been burnt and were small enough to work their way through the burnt sand layer. The fill above (3835) was sampled spatially; Sample 15 produced a smaller assemblage of charred cereals that Sample 103 which appears to represent a concentration of charred grain that is predominantly wheat and rye, Sample 15 contains more legumes than sample 103 but the weed seed assemblage is less diverse. The variation in the distribution may represent separate depositions within the feature and almost certainly represent backfill after the feature has gone out of use.
- C.3.14 Hearth **3919** did not produce a large charred plant assemblage but it did include charred heather.
- C.3.15 Other Period 1 features include ditch 3904 (part of Corn Dryer 2 group), hearth 3915, Pit Group 3 pit 3839 and SFB pit 3832 that all produced mixed assemblages of occasional to moderate amounts of charred grain that are of little interpretable value. Corn Dryer 2 (pit 3800) similarly produced a small assemblage of mixed grain and Ditch 7 slot 3769 of Enclosure 2 does not contain significant preserved remains.

Sample No.		102	11	20	21	12	16	17	18	19	10	13	14	15
Context No.		3812	3814	3939	3903	3916, 3917, 3918, 3923	3840	3831	3801	3885 <i>,</i> 3883	3770	3920, 3921, 3922	3934	3835
Feature No.		3799	3813	3940	3904	3915	3839	3832	3800	3896	3769	3919	3833	3833
Group		-	Pit Group 4	Pit Group 3	Ditch (Corn Dryer 2 group)	Hearth	Pit Group 3	SFB	Corn Dryer 2	Ditch 18	Ditch 7	Hearth	Corn Dryer 1	Corn Dryer 1
Period		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Sample volume (L)	6	5	10	8	7	8	9	8	10	9	7	7	9
Volume of flot (lit	res)	1	1	80	25	35	30	1	25	20	15	20	15	15
Cereals						1								
Avena sp. caryopsis	Oats [wild or cultivated]	#		###	#	#	#		##		##	#		
Hordeum vulgare L. caryopsis	domesticated Barley grain			##	#	#	#			#	##	#		
Secale cereale L. caryopsis	Rye grain			##		##		#	##		##		#	##

C.3.16 The latest feature in this area, Period 3 Ditch 18 slot **3896** also produced mixed grain.



Sample No.		102	11	20	21	12	16	17	18	19	10	13	14	15
Context No.		3812	3814	3939	3903	3916, 3917, 3918, 3923	3840	3831	3801	3885, 3883	3770	3920, 3921, 3922	3934	3835
Feature No.		3799	3813	3940	3904	3915	3839	3832	3800	3896	3769	3919	3833	3833
Group		Pit Group 4	Pit Group 4	Pit Group 3	Ditch (Corn Dryer 2 group)	Hearth	Pit Group 3	SFB	Corn Dryer 2		Ditch 7	Hearth	Corn Dryer 1	Corn Dryer 1
Period		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Sample volume (L))	6	5	10	8	7	8	9	8	10	9	7	7	9
Volume of flot (lit	res)	1	1	80	25	35	30	1	25	20	15	20	15	15
Cereals				<u> </u>	1	I	<u>I</u>	1		<u> </u>	1	I	I	1
free-threshing Triticum sp. Caryopsis	free-threshing Wheat grain	##		#####	#	##	##		###		###			###
cereal indet. caryopsis	indeterminate	##	#	###	##	##	###	##	#		###	##		##
cf. cereal indet. culm node	Cereal stem-joint [indicates straw]					#								
Legumes				L			I					L	I	I
small Vicia/Lathyrus sp. [<2mm] seed	small-seeded Vetches/Peas/Garden Peas	##												##
medium Pisum/Lathyrus sp. [2-4mm] seed	medium-seeded Vetches/Peas/Garden Peas	##				#		#				#		##
Dry land herbs				L			I					L	I	I
Agrostemma githago L. seed	Corncockle			#	#									#
Anthemis cotula L. seed	Stinking Chamomile										##	#	#	#
Carduus/Cirsium sp. achene	Thistles													#
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> L. achene	Cornflower												#	#
<i>Centaurea</i> sp. achene	Cornflower-type	#									#			
Chenopodiaceae indet. seed	Goosefoot Family										#			
Fallopia convolvulus (L.) Á. Löve achene	Black-bindweed										#			
<i>Galium aparine</i> L. nutlet	Cleavers		#											



Version 1

Sample No.		102	11	20	21	12	16	17	18	19	10	13	14	15
Context No.		3812	3814	3939	3903	3916, 3917, 3918, 3923	3840	3831	3801	3885, 3883	3770	3920, 3921, 3922	3934	3835
Feature No.		3799	3813	3940	3904	3915	3839	3832	3800	3896	3769	3919	3833	3833
Group		Pit Group 4	Pit Group 4	Pit Group 3	Ditch (Corn Dryer 2 group)	Hearth	Pit Group 3	SFB	Corn Dryer 2		Ditch 7	Hearth	Corn Dryer 1	Corn Dryer 1
Period		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Sample volume (L))	6	5	10	8	7	8	9	8	10	9	7	7	9
Volume of flot (lite	res)	1	1	80	25	35	30	1	25	20	15	20	15	15
Cereals		I												
Galium sp. L. nutlet (small seed)	small-seeded Goosegrasses												#	
<i>Lapsana communis</i> L. achene	Nipplewort													
Lithospermum arvense L. nutlet	Corn Gromwell													
Lolium cf. temulentum L. caryopsis	Darnel						#				#			
Papaveraceae indet. Seed	Poppy family												##	
small Poaceae indet. [< 2mm] caryopsis	small-seeded Grass Family												#	
medium Poaceae indet. [3-4mm]	medium-seeded Grass Family										#			
Raphanus raphanistrum ssp. raphanistrum L. mericarp	Wild Radish seed- case segment													#
<i>Rumex cf. cripus</i> L. achene	Curled Dock					#						#		
Tripleurospermum inodorum (L.) Sch. Bip. achene	Scentless Mayweed												#	
Other plant macro	ofossils													
Estimated charcoa	ll volume (ml)	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	2	<1	<1	1	<1	2
Charcoal <2mm		+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+++	+	++	++	+	++
Charcoal >2mm		+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+



Sample No.	102	11	20	21	12	16	17	18	19	10	13	14	15
Context No.	3812	3814	3939		3916, 3917, 3918, 3923	3840	3831	3801	3885, 3883	3770	3920, 3921, 3922	3934	3835
Feature No.	3799	3813	3940	3904	3915	3839	3832	3800	3896	3769	3919	3833	3833
Group	Group	Pit Group 4	Pit Group 3	Ditch (Corn Dryer 2 group)	Hearth	Pit Group 3	SFB	Corn Dryer 2		Ditch 7	Hearth	Corn Dryer 1	Corn Dryer 1
Period	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Sample volume (L)	6	5	10	8	7	8	9	8	10	9	7	7	9
Volume of flot (litres)	1	1	80	25	35	30	1	25	20	15	20	15	15
Cereals													
cf <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> Heather L stems											++		

Table 14: Samples from Area C

Discussion

- C.3.17 Charred cereal grains are predominant within the individual assemblages and are an indication of the importance of cereals in the medieval diet. Wheat was commonly used for grinding into flour for bread and rye was also used as a cheaper flour that produced a poorer quality loaf. Barley and oats were often grown as a mixed crop (dredge) and used for animal fodder although they were also consumed in soups, stews and porridge. The lack of cereal chaff suggests that fully processed grain was brought into the site. It is highly likely that the ovens/kilns would have been used for baking bread and cooking food, even if they also had other functions.
- C.3.18 There is little variation between the individual assemblages and it appears that domestic, culinary waste was being deposited in pits, ditches that were convenient depositories for such waste. Due to the mixing of the material prior to deposition it is not possible to assign weeds to a particular crop although it is clear that a range of soil types were being cultivated including heavy clay soils (probably for wheat) and acid soils for heather and rye.



APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abrams, J. 2010 Archaeological investigations at Stanbridge Manor, Stanbridge, Bedfordshire. Bedfordshire Archaeology 26, 405–20

Albion Archaeology 2012/101 Land East of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire: Archaeological Field Evaluation and Heritage Asset Assessment

Atkins, R. and Webster, M. 2012 *Medieval corn-driers discovered on land probably once part of Repton Manor, Ashford*. Archaeologia Cantiana Vol. 132

Ayers, B. 2000. 'Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Post-Medieval (Urban)' in Brown, N. and Glazebrook, J. (eds) *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. research agenda and strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8. pp. 27–32.

Baker, E and Hassall, E, 1979 The Pottery in D Baker, E Baker, J Hassall and A Simco Excavations in Bedford 1967-1977 *Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal* 13, 147 – 239

Bedfordshire County Council and English Heritage, 2003 *Extensive Urban Survey for Bedfordshire: Potton Archaeological Assessment*. Report prepared for Bedfordshire County Council by Albion Archaeology. Document 2000/29: Project 510, dated March 2003 (edited January 2005)

Beresford, G. 1975 *The Medieval Clay-Land Village: Excavations at Goltho and Barton Blount*. The Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph Series: No. 8

Biggs, M. 2012 Geophysical Survey Report: Land east of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire, in 'Keir, W & Koziminski, M. 2012 Land east of Biggleswade Road Potton, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Field Evaluation and Heritage Asset Assessment', Stratascan Job No: J3076, dated March 2012

Brickley, M., & McKinley, J., (eds.), 2004 Guidelines To The Standard For Recording Human Remains. *IFA Paper 7* (Reading: IFA/BABAO)

Blakeney, Rebecca A. 2017 On food and fodder: archaeobotanical investigations of Bamburgh Castle's west ward, 9th through 12th centuries. MSc(Res) thesis, University of Nottingham.

Brown N and Glazebrook J (eds) 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. Research Agenda and Strategy*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 8, Norwich

Cappers, R.T.J, Bekker R.M, and Jans, J.E.A. 2006 Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands Groningen Archaeological Studies 4, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde, The Netherlands. <u>www.seedatlas.nl</u>

```
©Oxford Archaeology Ltd
```



CBC/AT 2011. Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Field Evaluation of Land East of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire. 25th August 2011, MKO. DCLG 2010.

CBC/AT 2015. Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication on Land on the East Side of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire. 13th May 2015, v.2.0 MKO.

Crick, J. 1999 *Evidence for medieval settlement from Marston Moretaine*. Bedfordshire Archaeology Vol. 23, pp118-134. Bedfordshire Archaeological Council

Crummy, N., 1983 *The Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-9*, Colchester Archaeological Report 3 (Colchester)

Crummy, N., 1988 *The post-Roman small finds from excavations in Colchester 1971-85*, Colchester Archaeological Report 5 (Colchester)

Davis S.J 1995, The Archaeology of Animals Routledge

Denham, V, 1985, The Pottery in JH Williams, M Shaw and V Denham *Middle Saxon Palaces at Northampton* Northampton Development Corporation Monograph Series 4, 46-64

Edgeworth, M. 2007 'Anglo-Saxon' and medieval Bedfordshire AD400-1550. In M. Oake, M. Luke, M. Dawson, M Edgeworth and P. Murphy (eds) *Bedfordshire archaeology. Research and archaeology:Resource assessment, research agenda and strategy*. Beds. Monograph 9. 87-118

English Heritage, 2006, Management of Research Projects, The MoRPHE Managers' Guide

English Heritage, 2008, Management of Research Projects, PPN3: Archaeological Excavation

France, D.L 2009 Human and Non-human Bone Identification. A colour Atlas, Taylor and Frances

Glazebrook, J. (ed) 1997 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 1. resource assessment.* East Anglian Archaeol. Occas. Pap 3

Glazebrook, J. and Brown, N. (eds) 2000 *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. research agenda and strategy.* East Anglian Archaeol. Occas. Pap 8

Greef, A. 2019 Iron Age and Medieval Settlement Adjacent to Covens Moat, East Chesterton, Cambridge. Archaeological Excavation Report. Oxford Archaeology East Report No. 2276, dated February 2019 (unpublished)



Hamerow, H., 2012. *Rural Settlements and Society in Anglo-Saxon England*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Jacomet, S. 2006 Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites. (2nd edition, 2006) IPNA, Universität Basel/Published by the IPAS, Basel University.

Keir, W & Koziminski, M. 2012 Land east of Biggleswade Road Potton, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Field Evaluation and Heritage Asset Assessment. Albion Archaeology Project BR1564, dated 16th August 2012. Accession No. BEDFM: 2012.05

Kilmurry, K, 1980 The Pottery Industry of Stamford, Lincs. C. AD850-1250 British Archaeology Report British Series 84

Luke, M. 2016 Close to the Loop: Landscape and settlement evolution beside the Biddenham Loop, west of Bedford. East Anglian Archaeology Report No. 156

Medlycott, M. (ed) 2011. *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24.

Moffett, L., 1994. Charred cereals from some ovens/kilns in late Saxon Stafford and the botanical evidence for the pre-burh economy, 55-64 in J. Rackham (ed.), *Environment and Economy in Anglo-Saxon England*. York: Council for British Archaeology

Murphy, P., 2005. Environmental Evidence, 149-163 in S. Tyler and J. Major (eds), *The Early Anglo-Saxon Cemetery and Later Saxon Settlement at Springfield Lyons, Essex*. Chelmsford: Essex County Council

Oake, M., Luke, M., Dawson M., Edgeworth, M. and Murphy, P. 2007 *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Srtategy.* Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9

Parry, N. 1996 *Potton - Land Usage and Enclosure*. Potton History Society Research Report 5

Patrick, A. 2004 Strategy for the Historic Industrial Environment Report No. 1: *Maltings in England*. English Heritage

Saunders, G. 2006. Land to the rear of Braybrooks Drive, Potton, Bedfordshire. Archaeological Evaluation. Heritage Network Ltd report no. 366

Saunders, G. 2007. *Land to the rear of Braybrooks Drive, Potton, Bedfordshire*. Stage 2: Archaeological Assessment Report. Heritage Network Ltd report no. 380

Schmid, E 1972 Atlas of Animal Bones Elsevier Publishing Company

Simco, A. 1984. Survey of Bedfordshire. The Roman Period.

©Oxford Archaeology Ltd



Stace, C., 1997 New Flora of the British Isles. Second edition. Cambridge University Press

Stevens, C. J., 2011. "Charred Plant Remains", 95-105 in P. Andrews, L. Mepham, J. Schustertand C. J. Stevens, *Settling the Ebbsfleet Valley: High Speed Excavations at Springhead and Northfleet, Kent. The Late Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, and Medieval Landscape.* Volume 4: Saxon and Later Finds and Environmental Reports. Oxford: Oxford Wessex Archaeology

Stratascan 2012. Geophysical Survey Report. Land East of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire.

Thatcher, G. 2017 *Medieval activity at Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire. Post-Excavation Assessment*. Oxford Archaeology East Report No. 2053, dated July 2017 (unpublished)

The Viatores, 1964 Roman Roads in the South East Midlands. London

Timby, J, Brown, R, Hardy, A, Leech, S, Poole, C, and Webley, L 2007b, *Settlement on the Bedfordshire Claylands: Archaeology Along the A421 Great Barford Bypass*. Bedfordshire Archaeol Monogr 8.

Wade, K. 2000 'Anglo-Saxon and Medieval (Rural)' in Brown and Glazebrook (eds) 2000, 23-26

Zohary, D., Hopf, M. 2000 Domestication of Plants in the Old World – The origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the. Nile Valley. 3rd edition. Oxford University Press

Electronic Sources

1) https://oakleyvillage.co.uk/history/oakley-village-history/early-medieval-oakley, accessed 13th May 2019

2) http://www.esawyer.org.uk/browse/num_witnesses/1.html, accessed 13th May 2019

3) Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service\Community Archives\Potton Index of Pages. <u>http://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityArchives/Potton/PottonIn1086.aspx,</u> consulted on 17/06/19

4) http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-674-

<u>1/dissemination/pdf/Potton/fulltext/Potton_Assessment.pdf</u>, [English Heritage] consulted on 17/06/19

5) https://www.pottontowncouncil.co.uk/history/, consulted on 17/06/19

6)

https://oystersetcetera.files.wordpress.com/2011/03/oystershellmethodsmanualversion1 1.pdf, consulted on 16/11/2016



APPENDIX E GAZETTEER OF BEDFORDSHIRE HER ENTRIES

Mon. UID	Mon. Record	Pref. Ref.	Name	Mon. Type
MBD10704	MON	10704	OLD SAND PIT	SAND PIT
MBD10705	MON	10705	OLD SAND PIT	SAND PIT
MBD20236	PAS	18694	IRON AGE COIN, Potton Parish	FINDSPOT
MBD21943	FS	19798	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 33 Horslow Street	FINDSPOT
MBD21944	FS	19799	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 4 Sun Street	FINDSPOT
MBD21945	FS	19800	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 25 Royston Street	FINDSPOT
MBD15391	BLD	15330	OUTBUILDINGS - 9 Chapel Street	OUTBUILDING
MBD7060	BLD	7060	15-21 HORSLOW STREET	TERRACE
MBD7058	BLD	7058	1 HORSLOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD1752	BLD	1752	POTTER ALMSHOUSES, Horslow Street	BUILDING
MBD7061	BLD	7061	35 HORSLOW STREET	SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
MBD2858	BLD	2858	COTTAGES, Meeting Lane	BUILDING
MBD7063	BLD	7063	6 HORSLOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD7086	BLD	7086	14-20 SUN STREET	HOUSE
MBD14497	BLD	14497	6 BROOK END (Munkmans)	BUILDING
MBD2201	LB	2201	3 & 5 SUN STREET	BUILDING
MBD2217	LB	2217	12 SUN STREET	BUILDING
MBD7084	LB	7084	FORMER PASSENGER BUILDING OF POTTON RAILWAY STATION, 48 Station Road	HOUSE
MBD1685	BLD	1685	DOVECOTE, 23 Horslow Street	DOVECOTE
MBD7064	BLD	7064	8 HORSLOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD7065	BLD	7065	CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE, 10 Horslow Street	PUBLIC HOUSE
MBD10565	BLD	10565	CONSERVATIVE CLUB, 34 Brook End	POLITICAL CLUB
MBD7899	LB	7899	MILESTONE, 10m east of centre of Market Square	MILESTONE
MBD7050	BLD	7050	2 BULL STREET	SHOP
MBD2204	BLD	2204	1 & 2 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD7048	BLD	7048	OLD FIRE STATION, Brook End	FIRE STATION
MBD15706	BLD	15651	16 KING STREET	BUILDING
MBD21946	MON	19801	RIDGE AND FURROW, Land east of Biggleswade Road, Potton	RIDGE AND FURROW
MBD21971	BLD	19824	POTTON FIRE STATION	1
MBD2174	BLD	2174	DOVECOTE, 28 King Street	DOVECOTE
MBD2175	LB	2175	28 KING STREET	BUILDING
MBD7075	BLD	7075	26 KING STREET	HOUSE
MBD7074	BLD	7074	24 KING STREET	HOUSE
MBD2176	LB	2176	20 & 22 KING STREET	BUILDING
MBD5875	LB	5875	LINDEN LODGE, 9 King Street	BUILDING
MBD22322	BLD	20089	11 KING STREET	BUILDING
MBD7068	BLD	7068	STABLES TO LINDEN LODGE, King Street	STABLE
MBD5874	LB	5874	5, 5a, 7 & 7a KING STREET	BUILDING



Mon. UID	Mon. Record	Pref. Ref.	Name	Mon. Type
MBD5873	LB	5873	3 KING STREET	BUILDING, BUILDING
MBD5872	BLD	5872	THE HOLLIES, 14 King Street	BUILDING
MBD2177	LB	2177	6 & 8 KING STREET	BUILDING
MBD2178	LB	2178	GEORGE & DRAGON PUBLIC HOUSE, 2 & 4 King Street	PUBLIC HOUSE, ARCH
MBD2211	LB	2211	BROOK HOUSE, 24 Royston Street (formerly 14)	BUILDING
MBD2198	LB	2198	25 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD2205	LB	2205	4 SUN STREET, Sun House	INN, ARCH, BUILDING
MBD2186	LB	2186	8 & 10 BULL STREET	BUILDING
MBD2195	LB	2195	6 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD19822	PAS	19462	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 22 Station Road	FINDSPOT
MBD19796	PAS	19461	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 46 The Ridgeway	FINDSPOT
MBD19792	PAS	19459	VICTORIAN POTTERY, 46 Biggleswade Road	FINDSPOT
MBD21217	PAS	19479	POST MEDIEVAL POTTERY, Burgoyne Middle School	FINDSPOT
MBD21216	PAS	19478	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 22 Sutton Mill Lane	FINDSPOT
MBD19660	PAS	19477	POST MEDIEVAL/VICTORIAN POTTERY, 34 Sandy Road	FINDSPOT
MBD19656	PAS	19476	VICTORIAN POTTERY, 42 Bury Hill	FINDSPOT
MBD21211	PAS	19470	VICTORIAN POTTERY, 28 King Street	FINDSPOT
MBD21200	PAS	19469	VICTORIAN POTTERY, 10 Bury Hill	FINDSPOT
MBD20993	PAS	19467	POST MEDIEVAL AND VICTORIAN POTTERY, Playing Fields, Brook End/Royston Street	FINDSPOT
MBD20992	PAS	19466	MEDIEVAL POTTERY, Henry Smith Playing Fields	FINDSPOT
MBD7083	MON	7083	26 STATION ROAD	HOUSE
MBD2208	LB	2208	THE ROYAL OAK PUBLIC HOUSE, 4 & 6 Biggleswade Road	PUBLIC HOUSE
MBD2209	LB	2209	6 BIGGLESWADE ROAD	PUBLIC HOUSE
MBD7087	MON	7087	2 WOLLOW ROAD	SHOP
MBD1750	MON	1750	COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, Chapel Street	SCHOOL, BUILDING, BUILDING
MBD2207	LB	2207	THE COTTAGE, 2 Biggleswade Road	BUILDING
MBD17943	BLD	17962	WW2 PILLBOX	PILLBOX
MBD7047	MON	7047	3 BROOK END	HOUSE
MBD2212	LB	2212	8 BROOK END	PUBLIC HOUSE, HOUSE
MBD7898	MON	7898	TAN YARD	TANNERY
MBD2191	LB	2191	GRANVILLE HOUSE, 33-35 Royston Street	BUILDING
MBD18240	BLD	7124	SMALL BARN to rear of Home Farm	BARN
MBD17940	BLD	17959	WWII WARDEN'S POST, South of Home Farm	AIR RAID WARDENS POST
MBD17944	BLD	17963	WW2 SPIGOT MORTAR BASE	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT
MBD2196	LB	2196	2 BROOK END (Post Office) & 21 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING, POST OFFICE
MBD2197	LB	2197	22, 23 & 24 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD2199	LB	2199	26 & 26A MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING



Version 1

Mon. UID	Mon. Record	Pref. Ref.	Name	Mon. Type
MBD2200	LB	2200	27 & 28 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD12727	MON	12727	21 SUN STREET	SHOP
MBD2206	LB	2206	6 SUN STREET	BUILDING
MBD2218	BLD	2218	10 SUN STREET	BUILDING
MBD7085	MON	7085	CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Sun Street	CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL
MBD2210	LB	2210	HOME FARMHOUSE, 5 Horne Lane	BUILDING
MBD7122	MON	7122	OLD COTTAGE, Home Farm, Horne Lane	FARM LABOURERS COTTAGE
MBD7122	BLD	7123	WEATHERBOARDED BARN, Home Farm, Horne Lane	BARN
MBD7121	MON	7121	TIMBER-FRAMED BARN, Home Farm, Horne Lane	BARN
MBD7120	BLD	7120	CORN DRYER & BARN, Home Farm, Horne Lane	BARN, CORN-DRYING OVEN
MBD7057	MON	7057	4 HORNE LANE	HOUSE
MBD7056	MON	7056	2 HORNE LANE	HOUSE
MBD2213	BLD	2213	5 BLACKBIRD STREET	BUILDING
MBD2214	BLD	2214	7 BLACKBIRD STREET	BUILDING
MBD2215	BLD	2215	9 BLACKBIRD STREET	BUILDING
MBD7052	MON	7052	2 CHAPEL STREET	HOUSE
MBD2216	LB	2216	6 & 8 CHAPEL STREET	BUILDING
MBD15738	MON	15783	BUILDING, 16 Chapel Street, Potton	BUILDING
MBD7082	MON	7082	14 STATION ROAD	HOUSE
MBD2189	BLD	2189	22 & 24 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD6547	MON	6547	22 CHAPEL STREET, Westbury Lodge	LODGE
MBD5870	LB	5870	53 & 55 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD5871	LB	5871	57 & 59 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD2181	MON	2181	26 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD4809	BLD	4809	TIMBER YARD, formerly Kitchener's Foundry, Willow Road	ENGINEERING WORKS, TIMBER YARD
MBD2202	LB	2202	5 MARKET SQUARE & 1 BULL STREET	BUILDING
MBD5869	BLD	5869	47, 49 & 51 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING, CARRIAGEWAY
MBD7062	MON	7062	4 HORSLOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD10680	MON	10680	HYDRANT	WATER PUMP
MBD17933	BLD	17952	WW2 SPIGOT MORTAR BASE	SPIGOT MORTAR EMPLACEMENT
MBD10681	MON	10681	BRIDGE	BRIDGE
MBD17934	BLD	17953	WW2 TANK TRAP, West of Potton Bank Bridge	TANK TRAP
MBD9260	BLD	9260	PARISH ROOM, Brook End	VILLAGE HALL
MBD16398	MON	16444	THE MILL, Brook End	BUILDING
MBD5868	BLD	5868	3 BULL STREET	BUILDING
MBD16388	BLD	16434	THE RED LION	PUBLIC HOUSE
MBD2179	LB	2179	16 & 17 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD2192	LB	2192	18 MARKET SQUARE, Tysoe & Son	BUILDING
MBD2193	LB	2193	19 & 20 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING



Mon. UID	Mon. Record	Pref. Ref.	Name	Mon. Type
MBD2194	LB	2194	ROSE & CROWN HOTEL, (No 12) & 13 MARKET SQUARE	PUBLIC HOUSE, BUILDING
MBD2188	LB	2188	9,10,11 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD7076	MON	7076	POTTON LIBRARY, Market Square	CLOCK TOWER, LIBRARY
MBD7077	MON	7077	7 & 8 MARKET SQUARE, Lloyds Bank	BANK (FINANCIAL)
MBD2187	BLD	2187	THE GREEN MAN PUBLIC HOUSE, 6 Bull Street	BUILDING, PUBLIC HOUSE, ARCH
MBD7051	MON	7051	12 BULL STREET	DETACHED HOUSE
MBD7049	MON	7049	15 BULL STREET	HOUSE
MBD12728	MON	12728	14 BULL STREET	HOUSE
MBD2203	BLD	2203	3 & 4 MARKET SQUARE	BUILDING
MBD2219	BLD	2219	2 SUN STREET	BUILDING
MBD1753	BLD	1753	METHODIST CHAPEL, Chapel Street	METHODIST CHAPEL
MBD7059	MON	7059	BAPTIST CHAPEL, Horselow Street	BAPTIST CHAPEL
MBD9013	MON	9013	BAPTIST CHURCHYARD	BAPTIST BURIAL GROUND
MBD16410	MON	16456	DOVECOTE, off Horslow Street	DOVECOTE
MBD2185	LB	2185	CHIGWELL HOUSE, 2 Horslow Street	BUILDING
MBD2184	BLD	2184	31 & 33 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD7066	MON	7066	14 & 16 HORSELOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD7067	MON	7067	18 & 20 HORSELOW STREET	HOUSE
MBD2183	LB	2183	37-39 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD2182	LB	2182	41 HORSLOW STREET	BUILDING
MBD11307	MON	11307	ROMAN COIN, Sutton Mill Road	
MBD7078	BLD	7078	1 NEWTOWN, Bricklayer's Arms	PUBLIC HOUSE
MBD4486	MON	4486	GALLEY HILL	GALLOWS
MBD17978	BLD	17998	WW2 ARMY CAMP	MILITARY CAMP
MBD1944	LB	1944	FORMER RAILWAY ENGINE SHED, off Biggleswade Road	ENGINE SHED
MBD10683	BLD	10683	POTTON STATION	RAILWAY STATION
MBD7080	BLD	7080	11 STATION ROAD	HOUSE
MBD17935	BLD	17954	WW2 TANK TRAPS	TANK TRAP
MBD17937	BLD	17956	WW2 PILLBOX	PILLBOX
MBD738	MON	738	ROMAN ROAD (Viatores no. 224)	ROAD
MBD10671	MON	10671	TILE KILN LANE	ROAD
MBD10678	MON	10678	OLD BEDFORD ROAD	ROAD
MBD5100	MON	5100	ROAD, past Mill to Woodbury	ROAD
MBD10802	MON	10802	EARTHWORKS, South of Home Farm	MANOR?, PIT, PIT, DITCH, PIT, PIT, PIT
MBD17117	MON	17164	POTTON TOWN	TOWN, POST HOLE, PIT, DITCH
MBD10673	MON	10673	OLD SAND PIT	SAND PIT
MBD10685	MON	10685	CROPMARKS, East of Town	FIELD SYSTEM
MBD15148	MON	15083	CROPMARKS, South of Bury Hill	LINEAR FEATURE, RECTILINEAR ENCLOSURE
MBD4808	MON	4808	POTTON GASWORKS, (site of) Brook End	DOVECOTE, GAS WORKS
MBD4478	MON	4478	OLD SAND PITS, Galley Hill	SAND PIT

©Oxford Archaeology Ltd



Version 1

Mon. UID	Mon. Record	Pref. Ref.	Name	Mon. Type
MBD7005	MON	7005	SUTTON PARK	LANDSCAPE PARK
MBD11767	MON	11767	EARTHWORKS, Sutton Park	EARTHWORK
				RAILWAY SIDING, SAND
MBD10706	MON	10706	SAND PIT/SIDING	PIT
MBD15170	MON	15105	LINEAR CROPMARK, North of Galley Hill	SITE

Table 15: Gazetteer of Bedfordshire HER monuments

Event UID	Event Type	Name
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1049	EVT	Test pitting, Potton
EBD1157	EVP	2 Horslow Street, Potton; Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
EBD43	EVT	Land adjacent to Crown Cottage, Market Square
EBD146	EVP	Land to the rear of Braybrooks Drive, Potton
EBD1146	EVS	Land East of Biggleswade Road, Potton; Geophysical Survey Report
EBD1147	EVP	Land east of Biggleswade Road, Potton; Archaeological Field Evaluation and Hertiage Asset Assessment

Table 16: Gazetteer of Bedfordshire HER events

Designated UID	Pref. Ref.	Name	Grade
DBD3404		Potton Conservation Area	
DBD553	1779/12/54	Ailestone, approx 10m east of centre of Square	
DBD1586	12/37	No 3	П
DBD1587	12/38	Nos 5, 5a, 7 and 7a	П
DBD1588	12/39	No 9 (Linden Lodge)	П
DBD3831	1779/12/42	No 5 (Lion Court) and No 1 Bull Street	П
DBD555	12/56	Nos 33 and 35 (Granville House), formerly listed as Granville House, Brook End	П
DBD3824	12/47	No 18 (Tysoe and Son)	
DBD547	1779/12/48	19 & 20 Market Square	П



Designated UID	Pref. Ref.	Name	Grade
DBD548	12/49	No 21 and No 2 (Post Office) Brook End (formerly listed as Nos 21 and 22)	П
DBD554	1779/12/55	24 Royston Street (Brook House), formerly listed as no 14 (Brook House)	П
DBD521	1779/12/26	8 Brook End	П
DBD2392	1779/5/25	Former Railway Engine Shed	П
DBD3817	1779/12/34	41 Horslow Street	П
DBD3818	1779/12/33	2 Horslow Street (Chigwell House)	П
DBD519	1779/12/23	2 Biggleswade Road (The Cottage)	П
DBD3834	12/24	Nos 4 and 6 (Royal Oak Public House)	П
DBD2417	1779/5/57	48 Station Road (main passenger building of the former Potton Railway Station)	П
DBD558	1779/12/59	4 Sun Street (Sun House)	П
DBD3833	12/60	No 6 (formerly listed as one item with no. 4)	П
DBD530	1779/12/32	5 Horne Lane (Home Farmhouse), formerly listed as No 3 (Home Farm)	П
DBD3835	1779/12/61	12 Sun Street	П
DBD551	1779/12/52	26 & 26a Market Square	П
DBD3826	12/43	No 6	П
DBD3822	1779/12/44	9, 10 & 11 Market Square	П
DBD3812	12/36	Nos 6 and 8	П
DBD3811	12/40	Nos 20 and 22	П
DBD3813	12/35	Nos 2 and 4 (The George and Dragon Public House)	П
DBD3814	1779/12/46	16 & 17 Market Square (Lindsay's Bakery & Claytons)	П
DBD3819	1779/12/10004	No 8	П
DBD3825	1779/12/45	12 (Rose and Crown Public House) and 13 Market Square	П
DBD522	1779/12/27	6 & 8 Chapel Street	П
DBD3810	12/41	No 28	П
DBD3828	1779/12/53	27 and 28 Market Square	П
DBD3827	12/51	No 25	П
DBD549	1779/12/50	22, 23 & 24 Market Square (formerly listed as nos 23 and 24)	П
DBD557	12/58	Nos 3 and 5	П

Table 17: Gazetteer of Bedfordshire Designated Buildings



APPENDIX F OASIS REPORT FORM

Projec										
OAS	IS Number	Oxfo	Oxfordar3-277460							
Proj	ect Name	Saxo	-Norm	an and Mediev	al activity at Bi	gglesw	ade Ro	ad, Potton, Bedfordshire		
Star	t of Fieldwork	25/02	2/16		End of Fieldwork			04/04/16		
Prev	Previous Work No				Future Work			No		
					-					
Proje	ct Reference Codes				_					
Site	Code	BEDF	M201	6.07	Planning App. Number			CB/13/00921/OUT		
HER	Number	BEDF	M201	6.07	Related Num	nbers				
					-					
Pror	npt	D	irectio	on from Local Pl	anning Author	ity				
Deve	elopment Type	R	Rural Residential							
Techr	niques used (tick all tha	it apply	/)							
	Aerial Photography –		\boxtimes	Open-area exe	cavation		Salva	age Record		
	interpretation									
	Aerial Photography -	new		Part Excavatio	n		Syste	ematic Field Walking		
	Field Observation			Part Survey			Syste	tematic Metal Detector		
							Surv	ey		
	Full Excavation			Recorded Obs	ervation		Test	-pit Survey		
	Full Survey			Remote Opera	ated Vehicle		Wate	ching Brief		
				Survey						
	Geophysical Survey			Salvage Excav	ation					

Monument	Period	Object	Period
pit	early medieval	fired clay	early medieval
hearth	early medieval	pottery	early medieval
ditch	early medieval	animal bone	early medieval
well	early medieval	ceramics	modern
post hole	early medieval	Clay tobacco pipe	modern
pit	post-medieval	glass	modern
ditch	post-medieval	animal bone	modern
pit	modern	Iron metalwork	modern
ditch	modern	Copper-alloy metalwork	modern

Project Location

County	Bedfordshire	
District	Central Bedfordshire	
Parish	Potton	
HER office	Bedfordshire	
Size of Study Area	c.7.5 ha	
National Grid Ref	TL 2225 4888	

Address (including Postcode)

Land East of Biggleswade Road, Potton, Bedfordshire, SG19 2FB

Project Originators

Organisation Project Brief Originator Project Design Originator Project Manager Project Supervisor

OA	A East
M	lartin Oake (CBC/AT)
Ail	ileen Connor (OA East)
Ail	ileen Connor (OA East)
Ch	nris Thatcher (OA East)



Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	The Higgins Bedford	BEDFM2016.07
Digital Archive	OA East	XBDPOT16
Paper Archive	The Higgins Bedford	BEDFM2016.07

Physical Contents	Present?		Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork with Finds	associated
Animal Bones	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Ceramics	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Environmental	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Glass	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Human Remains					
Industrial					
Leather					
Metal	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Stratigraphic					
Survey					
Textiles					
Wood					
Worked Bone					
Worked Stone/Lithic	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
None					
Other					
Digital Media			Paper Media		
Database		\boxtimes	Aerial Photos		
GIS		\boxtimes	Context Sheets		\boxtimes
Geophysics			Correspondence		\boxtimes
Images (Digital photos)		\boxtimes	Diary		
Illustrations (Figures/Plat	tes)	\boxtimes	Drawing		\boxtimes
Moving Image			Manuscript		
Spreadsheets		\boxtimes	Мар		
Survey		\boxtimes	Matrices		
Text		\boxtimes	Microfiche		
Virtual Reality			Miscellaneous		\boxtimes
			Research/Notes		\boxtimes
			Photos (negatives/prints,	/slides)	\boxtimes
			Plans		\boxtimes
			Report		\boxtimes
			ē		_

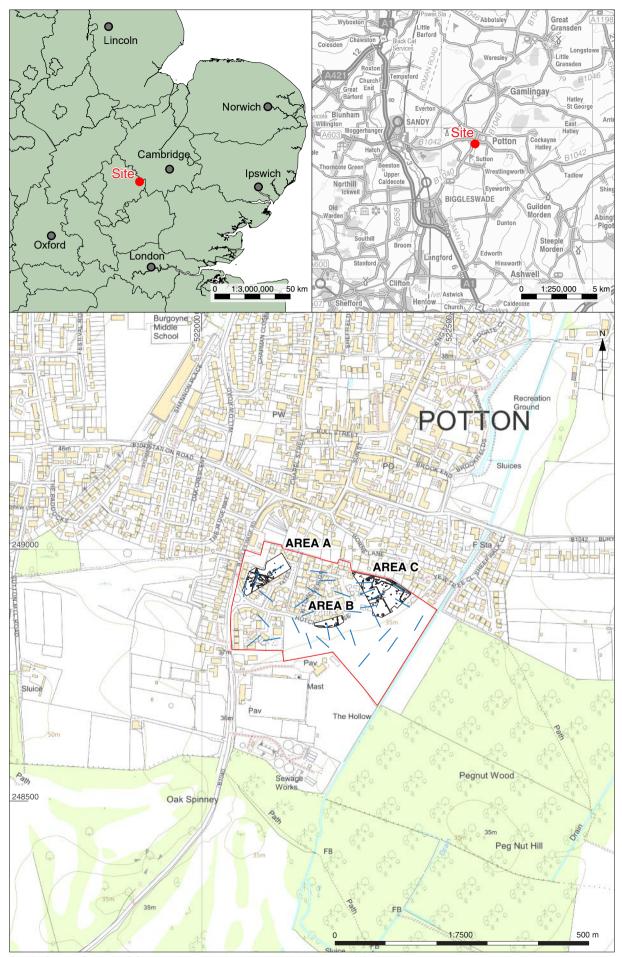
Further Comments

Sections

Survey

 \boxtimes

 \boxtimes



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019. All rights reserved. CM 08810701 Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological excavation areas (black), development area (red) and evaluation trenches (blue).

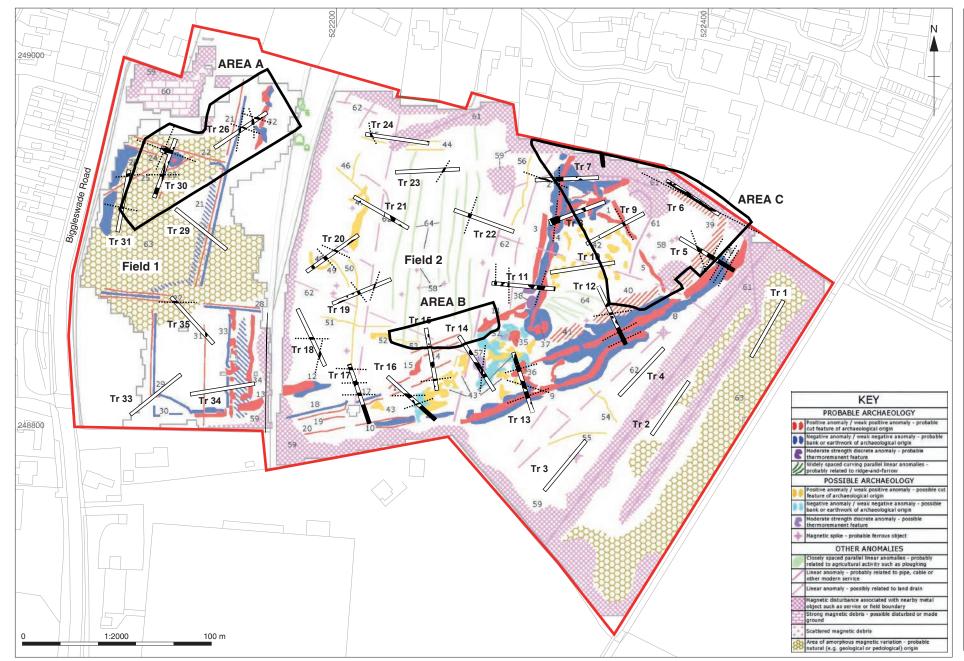
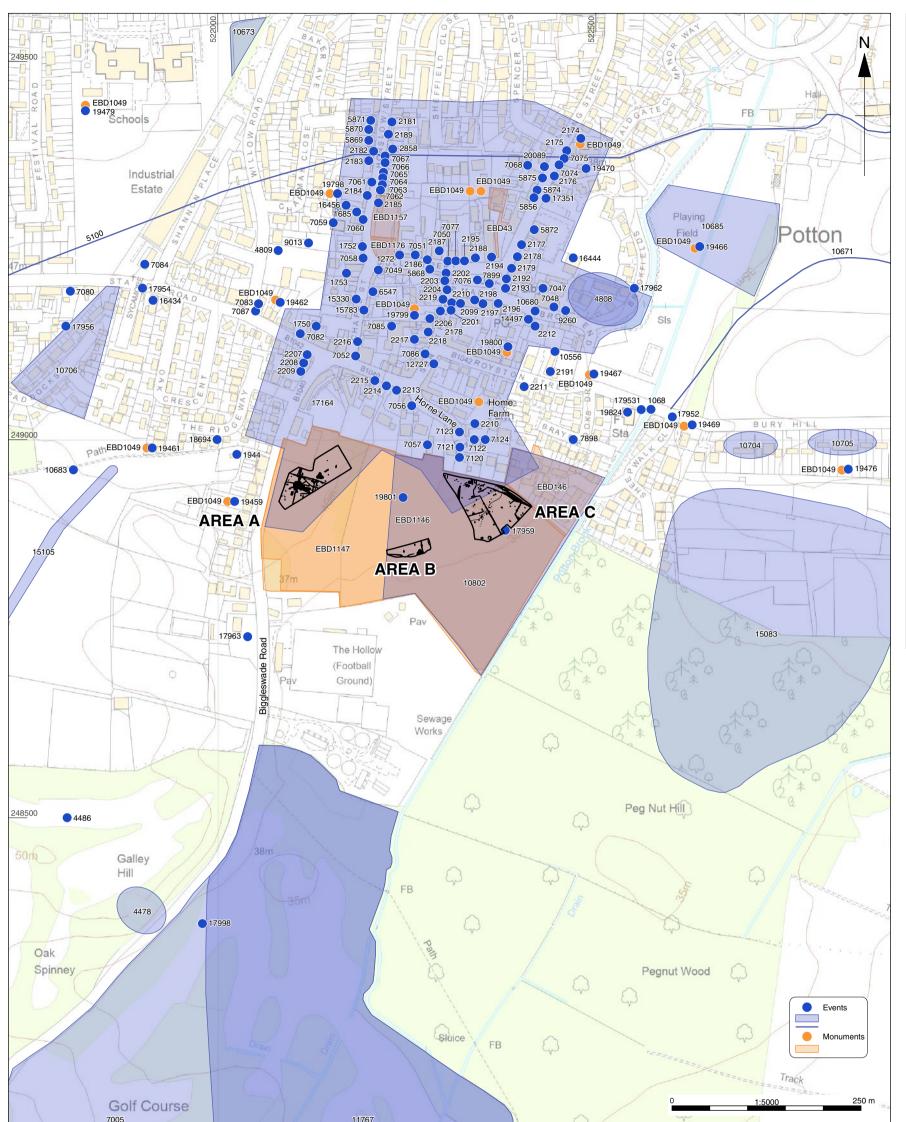


Figure 2: Albion Archaeology trial trenches overlain on the results of the geophysical survey (reproduced from Keir and Koziminski 2012, fig. 3)

east east east

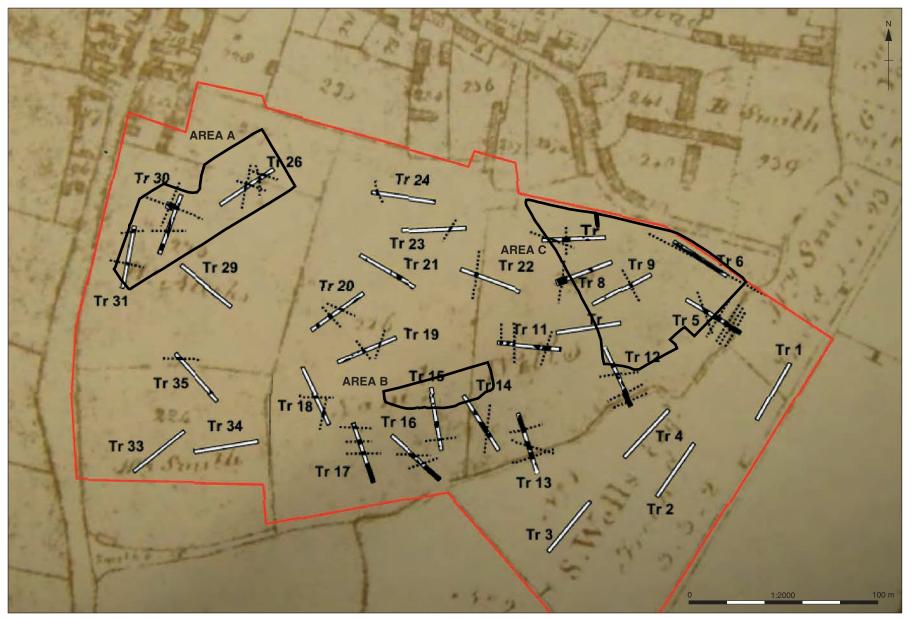
© Oxford Archaeology East



east east

7005	11767	
1 .==	Contains Ordnance Su	Invey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019. All rights reserved. Centermaps reference 10001998

Figure 3: Map showing location of BHER monuments and events

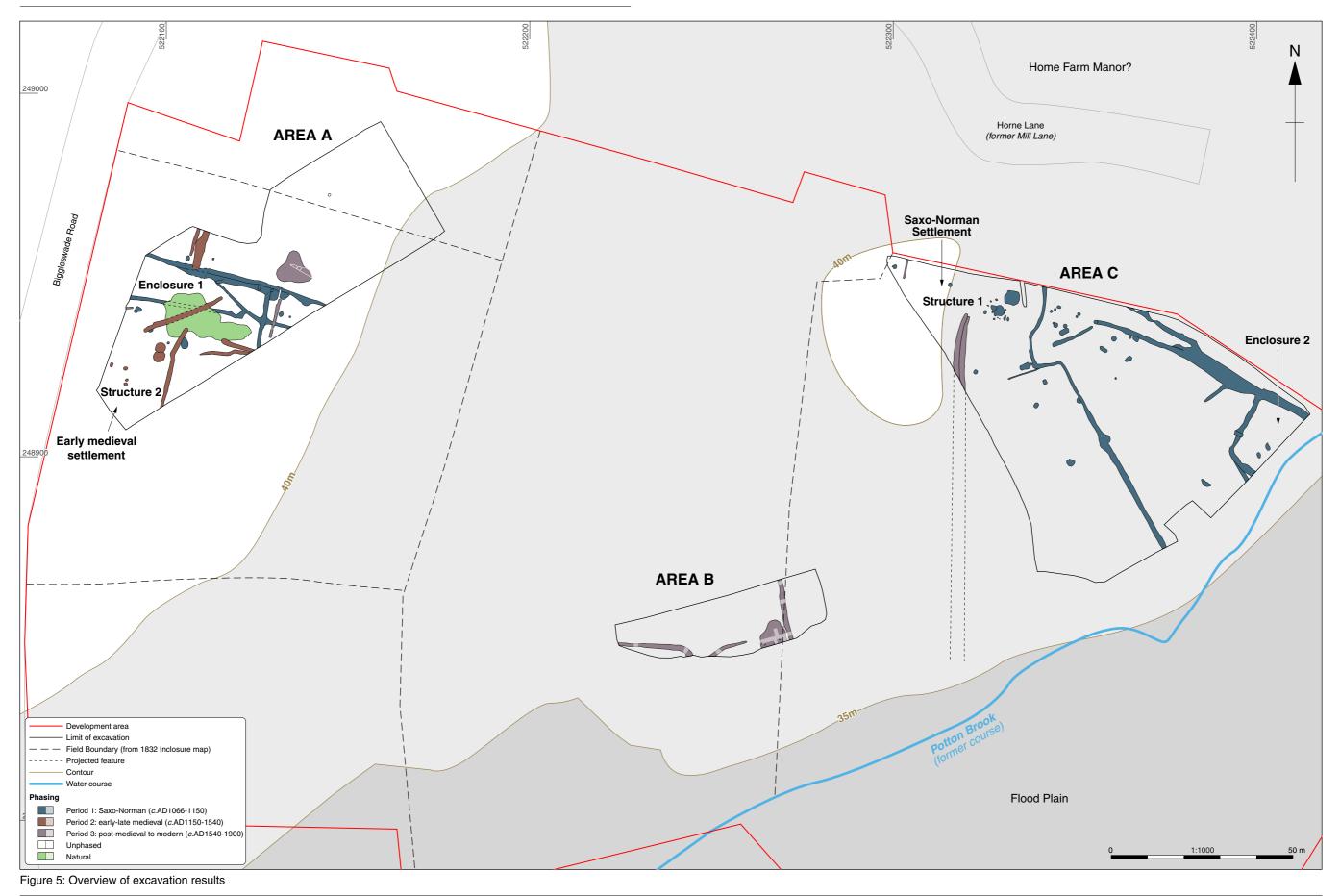


east

east

Figure 4: Albion Archaeology trial trenches and excavation areas overlaid onto 1832 Inclosure map of Potton (reproduced from Keir and Koziminski 2012, fig. 9)

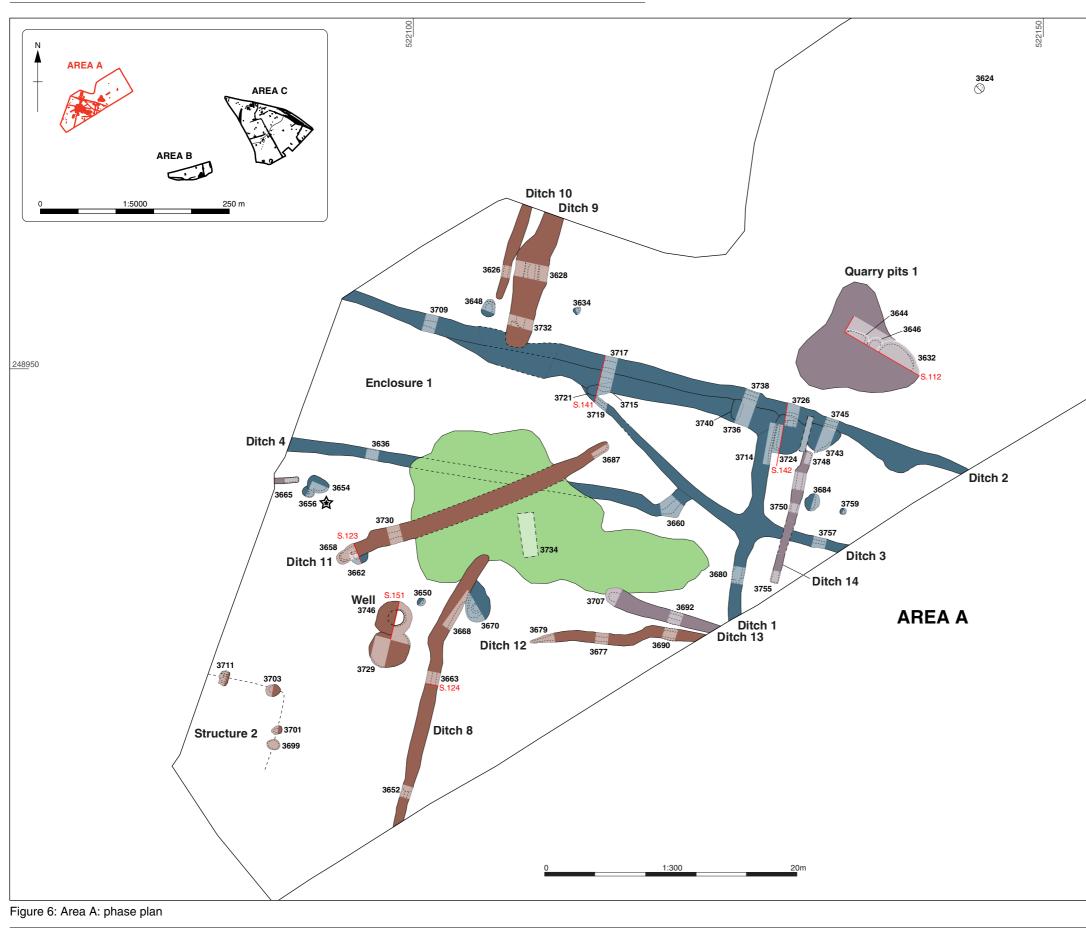




[©] Oxford Archaeology East

Report Number 2325

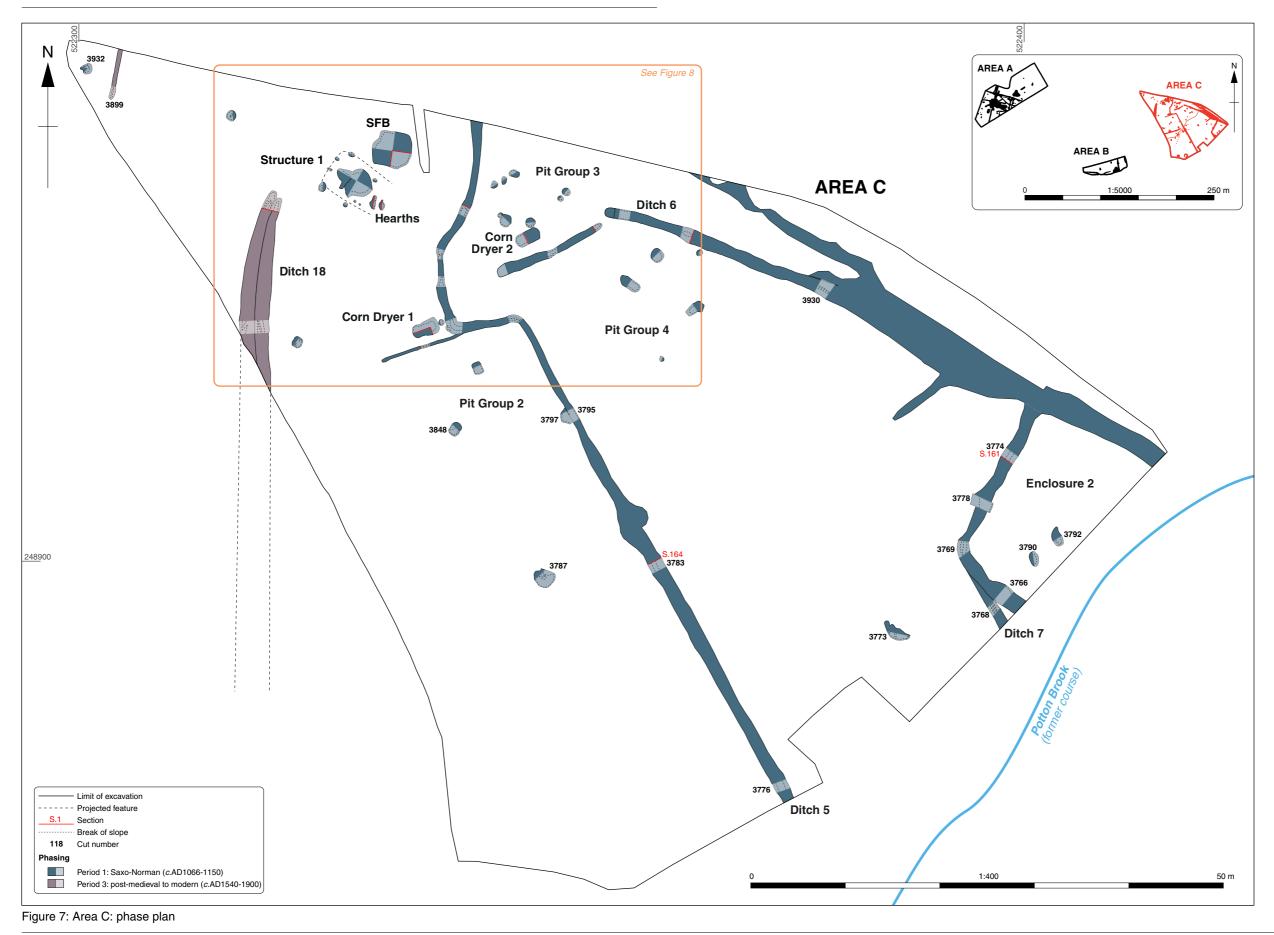






		N
		\setminus
		\mathbf{A}
ĺ		Limit of excavation
		Geological pit Projected feature
		Truncation Section
		Break of slope
	118 Phasing	Cut number
		Period 1: Saxo-Norman (c.AD1066-1150) Period 2: early-late medieval (c.AD1150-1540)
		Period 3: post-medieval to modern (<i>c</i> .AD1540-1900) Unphased
	•	Natural Fired/structural clay
ί	M	





© Oxford Archaeology East

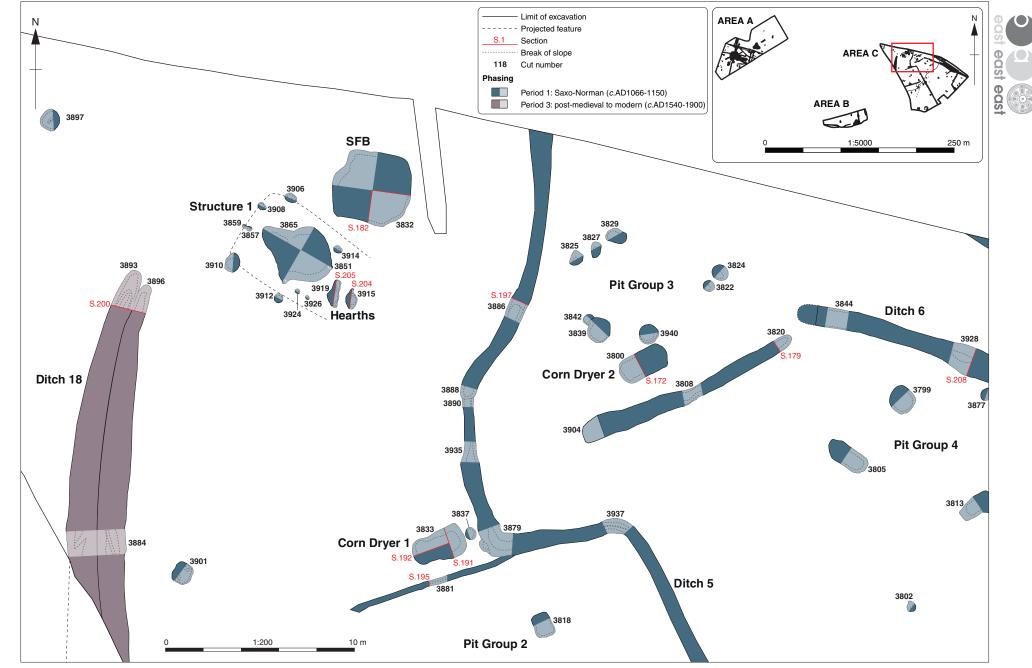
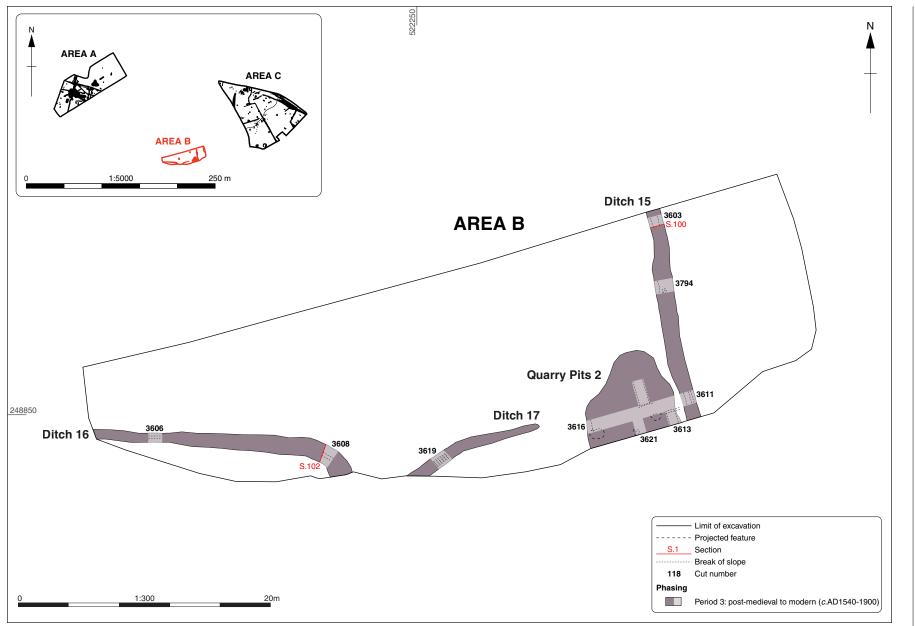


Figure 8: Detailed plan of Saxo-Norman settlement remains (Area C)





eos

east

east

Figure 9: Area B: phase plan



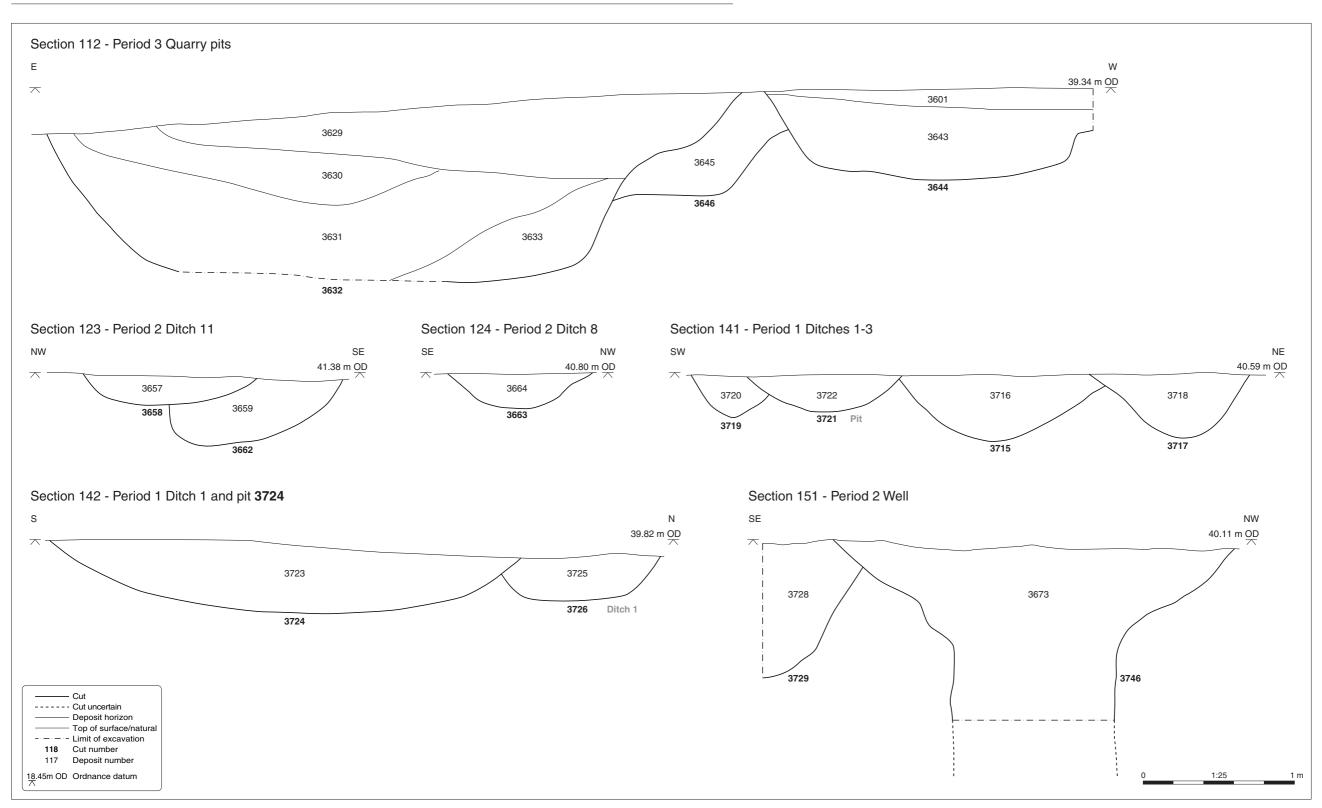


Figure 10: Area A selected sections



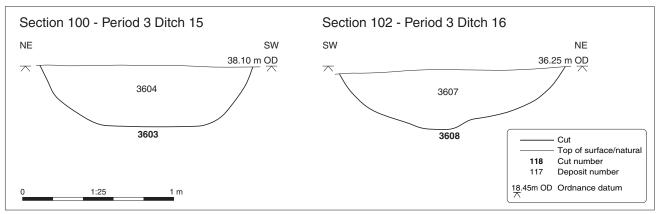


Figure 11: Area B selected sections



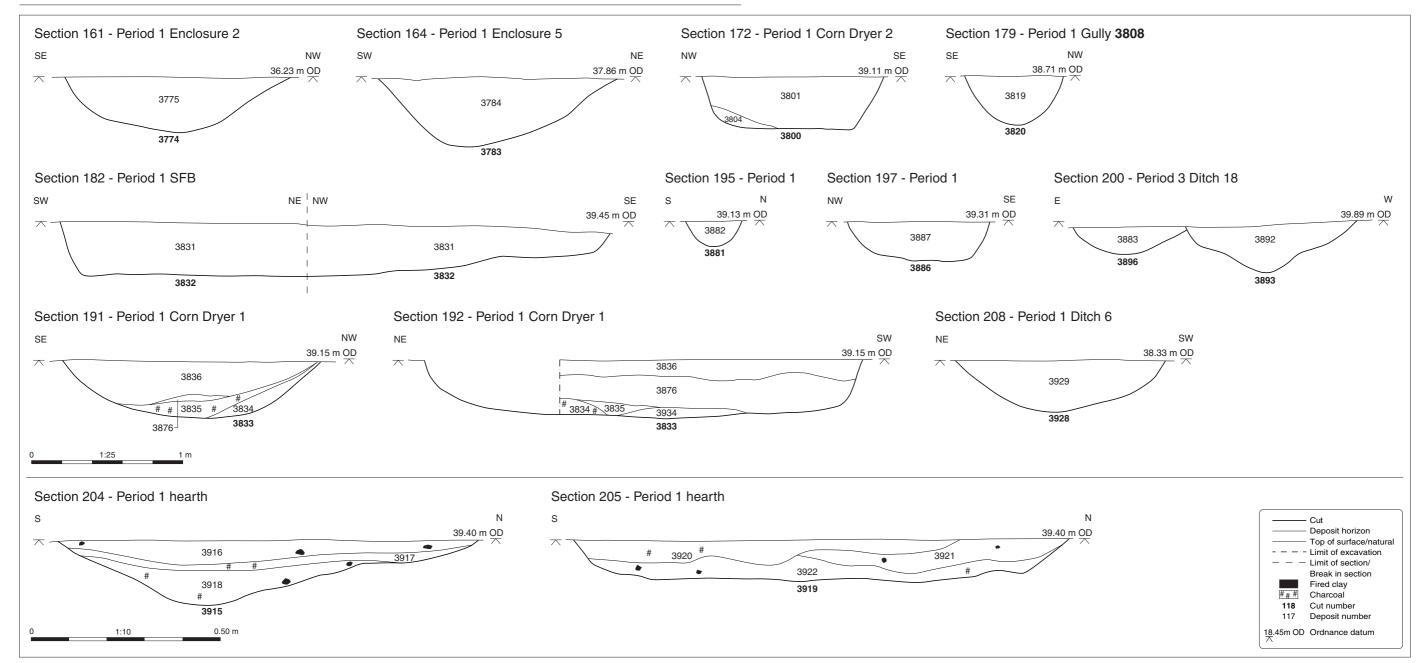


Figure 12: Area C selected sections



Plate 1: Excavation of Period 1 Structure 1, looking west

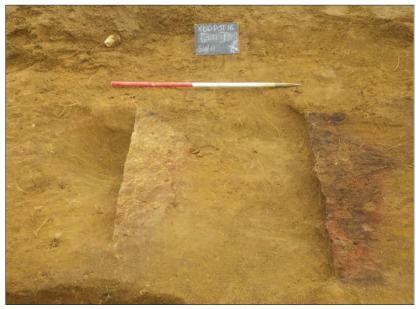


Plate 3: Period 1 hearths **3915** and **3919**, looking south



Plate 2: Period 1 pit 3865 within Structure 1, looking north



Plate 4: Period 1 hearths 3915 and 3919, looking west





Plate 5: Period 1 possible SFB 3832, looking west



Plate 6: Period 1 Corn Dryer 1 3833, looking south



Plate 7: Period 3 quarry pit **3632**, looking west



Plate 8: Working shot of Area A, looking southwest









Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX20ES

t:+44(0)1865263800 f:+44(0)1865793496 e:info@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OANorth

Mill 3 MoorLane LancasterLA1 1QD

t:+44(0)1524541000 f:+44(0)1524848606 e:oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OAEast

15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB238SQ

t:+44(0)1223 850500 e:oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIfA Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a Private Limited Company, N⁰: 1618597 and a Registered Charity, N⁰: 285627