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Prepared by:	Malgorzata Kwiatkowska (Project Officer)
Checked by:	Gareth Rees (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by:	Tom Phillips (Senior Project Manager, Post-Excavation)
Approved for Issue by:	Elizabeth Popescu (Head of Post-Excavation & Publications)
Signature:	

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.....

OA South Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 OES

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

Acclaim SS P

OA North

Mill 3 Moor Lane Mills Moor Lane Lancaster LA1 1QD t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

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Medieval remains at Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk

Archaeological Excavation Report

Written by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska BA (Hons) MA

With contributions from Sue Anderson BA MPhil PGD MCIfA FSA Scot, Carole Fletcher HND BA (Hons) ACIfA, Rachel Fosberry ACIfA, Hayley Foster BA MA PhD, Quita Mould BA (Hons.) MA, Hannah Pighills BA MSc, Denis Sami PhD

Illustrations by David Brown BA, Valerio Pinna BA MA and Sara Alberigi BA

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Summary

Between 1st of June and 2nd of July 2020 Oxford Archaeology East was commissioned by NPS Property Consultants to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk (centred TF 7244 1917) ahead of construction of a new school. The area had been the subject of a phased programme of archaeological investigation, including an earthwork survey (Hutton and Rees 2019) and trial trenching evaluation (Wallis 2019). The excavation, located to the south-west of the development area uncovered remains dating from the Anglo-Saxon to post-medieval periods, with the majority of the remains dated to the medieval period.

Activity on the site appears to have begun in the Late Saxon period with pottery recovered from evaluation Trenches 11 and 13 on higher ground in the centre of the development area. Several Late Saxon features were tentatively identified in the excavation; however, only a single sherd of Late Saxon Thetford ware was recovered.

The majority of features on the site dated to the medieval period with four phases of boundary ditches probably demarcating the development of at least four small scale agro-pastoral plots. The remains of these plots had been previously identified by the earthwork survey. Although the majority of the plots were devoid of features, evidence of a possible post-built structure was uncovered within the south-westernmost enclosure. The main ditch dividing the excavation area, aligned north to south, was first established during this period. The remains of a possible trackway lay to the south. A well and a pit, both with waterlogged deposits, suggest agro-pastoral activity around the plots.

The land divisions became more regular over time with a series of three well defined rectangular plots identified between east to west aligned ditches running across the site.

Activity decreased after the 14th century. However, it seems that the area remained arable land into the modern era, with a large boundary ditch **1710** established during the 18th century.

A significant medieval pottery assemblage was recovered from the plot boundary ditches, whilst a small faunal assemblage is indicative of food waste and disposal of farm surplus. Perhaps the most interesting finds were recovered from waterlogged contexts; that of the sole of a medieval leather turnshoe preserved in the basal fill of a ditch and a fragment of jointed structural timber recovered from a pit. Given the waterlogged conditions of some features the environmental remains provided only sparse evidence for the economy of the site with cereal cultivation forming part of an agropastoral regime. The majority of the environmental remains are indicative of the disposal of domestic refuse.



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The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Gareth Rees. The fieldwork was directed by Malgorzata Kwiatkowska, who was supported by loannis Thanos, Rory Coduri and James Green. Survey and digitising was carried out by Gareth Rees and Valerio Pinna. Thanks are also extended to the teams of OA staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the supervision of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the supervision of Katherine Hamilton. The report was edited by Tom Phillips.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by NPS Property Consultants to undertake an excavation at the site of Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk (Fig. 1, centred on TF 7244 1917).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken ahead of the development of a new school (planning ref. FUL/2019/0053). A brief was set by John Percival outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by OA (Connor 2020) detailing the methods by which OA proposed to meet the requirements of the brief.
- 1.1.3 A Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design (Kwiatkowska, 2020) was compiled immediately following the completion of field work. This document updated the research aims set out in the WSI and also proposed the production of this full archive report along with a summary in the Norfolk Archaeology Journal as adequate reporting and publication.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores under the Site Code ENF 148241 and the accession code NWHCM:2019.327 in due course.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site occupies a central location within the present village of Gayton with the medieval village centre to the east and a modern housing estate to the west. It is bounded to both the north and south by fields laid to pasture.
- 1.2.2 The area of the proposed development consists of four fields presently laid to pasture. The northern boundary of the site is formed by Vicarage Lane and a public bridleway (and former lane leading to Gayton Common), which links the older and newer parts of the village.
- 1.2.3 In general, the site is fairly flat at *c*.18m OD, although low earthworks are visible across parts of the site. These had been surveyed and reported on (Hutton and Rees 2019) prior to the evaluation trenching.
- 1.2.4 The underlying geology is recorded as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html). However, the interface between the West Melbury Chalk and the mudstone of the Gault Formation lies just to the west of the site. Trenching revealed the natural deposits to be mixed with areas of chalk, chalk marl, and sand.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The site has been the subject of a phased programme of archaeological investigation as recommended by NCCES in order to provide information to inform the planning application. Figure 2 shows the location of NHER references mentioned in the text.



- 1.3.2 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) (NPS Archaeology 2018) identified the presence of extant earthworks and placed the site in its wider archaeological and historical context. A detailed account can be found in the report produced by NPS Archaeology (2018).
- 1.3.3 In summary the report identified prehistoric evidence for the surrounding area including a possible Bronze Age barrow cemetery *c*.600m to the north-east (NHER55864) and Iron Age occupation *c*.200m to the south (NHER11776). Roman occupation (NHER61948) has been identified *c*.300m to the east. A number of Early and Late Saxon sites have been recorded across the parish of Gayton including an Early Saxon cemetery (NHER61948).
- 1.3.4 Also noted were the presence of earthwork remains of two manorial sites lying in relatively close proximity to the area of development, one to the north-west (NHER3748; NHER11830), which is possibly the site of Westhall manor and the other, a moated site (NHER3771), lay to the south-east. Evidence of medieval settlement has been found adjacent to the site (NHER35474) and the earthworks which occupy the site are also thought to be medieval in date. Post-medieval farm buildings occupied much of the area in the north of the site.
- 1.3.5 Late Saxon settlement in this area has been attested by Gayton's entry in the Domesday Book and a number of finds of this date have been found in and around the village. The medieval development of the area is more complex with at least two manors known to exist; Westhall located to the north-west of the site and the moated site probably held by Wendling Abbey to the south-east (NHERs 3748 and 3771). The fabric of the present church is 14th-century in date but almost certainly replaced an earlier ecclesiastical building. Early maps of this part of the village (for example the 1726 Map of Gayton Thorpe; NPS 2018; Fig. 4) indicate that a series of closes or fields extended between the edge of Gayton Common to the west and the village to the east. Faden's map of 1797 shows that the site spanned both sides of a lane (now the bridle path) that connected the village to the common, with some buildings shown along the lane (outside the site) (NPS 2018; Fig. 5). The parish church of St Nicholas is located approximately 550m east of the excavation area (NHER 3770). The construction dates predominantly to the 14th century with a later 15th century chancel, however resused stonework in the fabric suggests that there was an earlier church on the site.

Earthwork Survey

1.3.6 Based on the DBA, Oxford Archaeology were commissioned to carry out an earthwork survey of the site. This identified the presence of sub-square plots defined by ditches which were thought to represent garden or building plots of possible medieval or early post-medieval date (Hutton and Rees 2019).

Trial Trench Evaluation

1.3.7 There followed a trial trench evaluation comprising 17 trenches set out to test earthworks and areas where no earthworks were present. The results are set out in detail in OA Report No 2396 (Wallis 2019). The trial trenching produced interesting



results relating to settlement in this area from the Late Saxon and into the medieval periods, the survival of earthworks across the site adding another dimension to the picture.

1.3.8 Most of the features identified by the evaluation trenching seemingly predate the historic maps and suggest that much of the site was under pasture/agriculture after the 13th century, with continued digging of boundary and drainage ditches until relatively recently.

Previous Investigations

1.3.9 In December 2015 Oxford Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation at land north of Back Street, Gayton, Norfolk (Nicholls 2016) located to the south and southwest of the current investigation area. This evaluation largely uncovered ditches, although pits, post holes and other deposits were also identified. A series of linear features was uncovered together with a large square enclosure. Both of these were most likely medieval in date. Post-medieval or early modern field boundaries were also identified. A number of earthworks were present in the western end of the site, one of which was investigated. These features were related to the earthworks investigated as part of the current development project. A small assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site, the majority of which was medieval in date. There were also a few sherds of Iron Age and Roman date, suggesting land-use began in the Roman period or earlier.

1.4 Historic maps

- 1.4.1 A more detailed study of historical maps of the area formed part of the archaeological desktop-based assessment (NPS Archaeology 2018). A summary of this account is provided below.
- 1.4.2 Extracts from the 1726 Map of Gayton Thorpe (Fig. 4; NPS Archaeology 2018, fig. 6) indicate that a series fields extended between the edge of Gayton Common to the west and the village to the east. Vicarage Lane and the existing bridle path are not visible, and no buildings are present within the four fields covered by the proposed development area.
- 1.4.3 Faden's map of 1797 shows that the site spanned both sides of a lane (now the bridle path) that connected the village to the common (Fig. 5; NPS Archaeology 2018, fig. 7). Two buildings are shown along the bridal pathway, but they do not appear on later maps. These structures could be associated with Westhall Farm.
- 1.4.4 An extract from the 1813 Gayton Enclosure Map (Fig. 6, NPS Archaeology 2018, fig. 8) shows a cluster of buildings in the area now occupied by Westhall Farm, south of the track, following the line of Vicarage Lane and north-east of the excavated area. The track appears to end in the farmyard area.
- 1.4.5 An extract from the 1838 Gayton Tithe Map (Fig. 7, NPS Archaeology 2018 fig. 11) shows farm buildings at Westhall Farm in a similar layout except for a new east to west structure on the north side of the area west of the main farm buildings. The road or track along the line of Vicarage Lane appears to terminate in the farmyard.

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2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The project aims and objectives were as follows:
 - i. To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
 - ii. To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.
 - iii. Contribute to an understanding of village development from the Late Saxon to medieval periods, in particular an understanding of the development of the village closes and their origins.
 - iv. Contribute to an understanding of diet and land usage.
 - v. Contribute to an understanding of the light craft or light industrial activities taking place in the vicinity of the site.
 - vi. Contribute to our understanding of Gayton's place in the wider trading network in the medieval period as well as a better understanding of the status and character of the Westhall Farm site itself.
 - vii. Contribute to the understanding of Late Saxon and medieval rural development, with reference to continuity and change throughout these periods.
 - viii. Provide data that could contribute to future research priorities relating to landuse and the development of rural settlements, as outlined in the Regional Research Framework Review:

http://eaareports.org.uk/assets/uploads/RRF2017_Medieval_Rural_Draft.pdf

2.1.2 The post-excavation assessment statement (Kwiatkowska 2020) showed that some of the original aims and objectives of the excavation stated above could be met through the analysis of the excavated materials.

2.2 Fieldwork Methodology

- 2.2.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the brief and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Connor 2020).
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360 type excavator using a 2.2m wide flatbladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.2.3 All mechanical excavation work within 6m horizontal clearance of the overhead cables took place using plant restricted to a maximum height (including arm reach) of 4.8m. No work took place within 2m of the conductors.
- 2.2.4 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.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA's pro-forma sheets. Sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

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2.2.6 Surveying was done using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.



3 **RESULTS**

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the excavation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the archaeological remains. Details of all contexts are included in Appendix A, with finds and environmental reports presented in Appendices B and C respectively.
- 3.1.2 Cut numbers appear in **bold** and features are described from west to east and north to south. Where multiple interventions have been excavated through a single feature, the feature is referred to by the lowest cut number, which has been emphasised on the relevant plans. Where appropriate features have been grouped together (*e.g.* Posthole group 1795).
- 3.1.3 The excavation area was located within the western half of the proposed development area (Fig. 8), incorporating a zone of visible earthworks, suggestive of platform buildings. However, no such structures were identified by this project.

Site phasing

- 3.1.4 Phasing of the site was based on a combination of the analysis of dateable material recovered from features (mostly pottery) and of stratigraphic and spatial relationships. Although a small proportion of features remain unphased, the preference has been to include features into defined phases. Many of the excavated features produced few finds. Dating and stratigraphic relationships uncovered during the evaluation suggested that there at least three phases of activity on the site, beginning in the Late Saxon period (Trench 3, 11 and 13) and continuing in to the 14th century with a further phase of 19th century drainage truncating these features. With no dating evidence for earlier activity, the first dated phase (Phase 1) of this excavation is also dated to the Late Saxon period given its more limited coverage than the evaluation.
- 3.1.5 Excavations at the site uncovered a series of ditches forming trackways and agropastoral plots of Late Anglo-Saxon through to medieval date, with a small number of posthole groups were phased to Late Anglo-Saxon and early medieval periods (Fig. 3). Overall, features at the site can be separated into six distinct phases (Fig. 9):
 - Phase 0: Natural and unphased features
 - Phase 1: Late Anglo-Saxon (10th-11th century)
 - Phase 2: Late Saxon early medieval (11th-12th century)
 - Phase 3: Early medieval medieval (12th-13th century)
 - Phase 4: Medieval (13th-14th century)
 - Phase 5: Late medieval: post-14th century
 - Phase 6: Post-medieval modern



3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The natural geology of chalky sand was overlain by a topsoil with an average thickness of 0.30m.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the excavation were generally good, and the site remained dry throughout. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 Phase 0: natural and unphased features (Fig. 10)

- 3.3.1 Since the area had remained largely uncultivated, having been used as grazing pastures, patches of buried subsoil survived across the excavated area. The largest of these (1779) was located in the north-eastern quadrant of the site and was truncated by all other features identified within this area. A second much smaller layer (1831) was located towards the western half of the site.
- 3.3.2 Tree throw **1713** (Fig. 15a, Section 1041) was identified in the north-western corner of the site. This natural feature was 3.30m long, 2.44m wide and 0.08m deep with imperceptible sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish-grey silty sand.
- 3.3.3 Buried soil layer 1779 (=1787 =1802 =1829; Fig. 15b, Section 1048) was located in the north-eastern quadrant of the excavated area and covered an area of 10m in diameter, measuring between 0.08m and 0.17m thick. It was characterised by a homogenous deposit of light brownish-grey silty sand. A single sherd of 11th 13th century pottery was recovered from this deposit (Appendix B.2). This layer continued to the east (1782; Fig. 15b Section 1048) and beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Two sherds of 11th 12th century pottery were recovered from the eastern portion of this layer.
- 3.3.4 Another patch of buried soil (1831; Fig. 15b, Section 1052, Plate 3), measuring up to 2m in diameter and 0.08m thick, consisted of a light brownish-grey silty sand deposit and was located in the west of the excavation area.
- 3.3.5 Located in the centre of the site, tree root hollow **1837** was amorphous in shape with irregular sides and an irregular base. This natural feature measured up to 2.50m in diameter and 0.25m deep and was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish-grey with red mottling silty sand.
- 3.3.6 Tree root hollow **1806** was located towards the centre of the southern half of the excavated area. It was amorphous in plan with gently sloping sides and a concave base, measuring up to 1.65m in diameter and 0.19m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of dark grey silty sand.
- 3.3.7 Tree root hollow **1855** was identified towards the southern limit of excavations. This amorphous feature with gently sloping sides and an irregular base measured 2.26m in diameter and 0.18m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand. A further small pit (**517**) was uncovered to the south-west during the evaluation (Trench 5).



3.4 Phase 1: Late Anglo-Saxon (10th – 11th century, Fig.10)

- 3.4.1 Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered during the trial trenching evaluation from Trench 3, 30 m to the east of the excavation area, as well as larger assemblages from Trenches 11 and 13 further to the east. Only a single sherd of Thetford ware was recovered from the excavation area (Pit **1860**) with the majority of features in this phase dated stratigraphically, or by their relationship with Phase 1 features from the evaluation. These features all contained single deposits of light to medium brownish grey silty sand.
- 3.4.2 Ditch **1744** (=**1832** Fig. 15b Section 1052, Plate 3) was identified towards the western end of the excavation area on an east to west alignment. This gully measured 0.56m wide and 0.14m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was also identified in Trench 5, gully **504** (Wallis 2019).
- 3.4.3 In the south-east corner of the site, two parallel ditches were identified on a northwest to south-east alignment, possibly part of a trackway. The western of these features was ditch **1873** which measured 0.57m wide and 0.08m deep, while the eastern gully (**1853** =**1922**; Fig. 15b Section 1085) was up to 0.48m wide and 0.20m deep. Both of them had gently sloping sides and concave bases, and were also identified in evaluation Trench 6, located outside of excavation area, as features **606** and **604** respectively.
- 3.4.4 Ditch **1783** (Fig. 15b Section 1049) was identified to the north of pit **1904**, orientated north-east to south-west. It was 0.46m wide, 0.18m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This feature was filled by a dark brownish grey silty sand deposit. It was also identified in Trench 4 as gully **406** and **408**.

Posthole group 1795

3.4.5 This posthole group (Plate 1) was identified north of ditch **1783**. It was made up of postholes **1795** (Fig. 15b Section 1049), **1906**, **1934**, **1936** and **1938** (Fig. 15b Section 1058). These features measured between 0.32m and 0.80m in diameter and were up to 0.22m deep with steep, nearly vertical sides and concave bases. They were filled by homogenous deposits of dark to mid brownish grey silty sand. Posthole **1795** contained a single sherd of 12th – 13th century pottery, whereas posthole **1938** contained a single sherd of 12th – 14th century pottery.

Discrete features

- 3.4.6 Two discrete features (**1813** and **1825**) were located in the centre of the site. These sub-circular pits (Fig. 15c Section 1083) measured between 0.73m and 0.80m in diameter and up to 0.26m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. They were filled by homogenous deposits of light brownish grey silty sand.
- 3.4.7 Pit **1860** (Fig. 15a Section 1013) which was truncated by Phase 4 ditch **1702**, measuring up to 1.35m in diameter and 0.29m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit of light greyish brown silty sand. A single sherd of 10th to 11th pottery was recovered from this feature.

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3.4.8 Two pits (**1904 and 404** (evaluation Trench 4)) were identified in the south-eastern quadrant of the site, towards the eastern limit of excavation. The westernmost pit was uncovered during the evaluation whilst that to the east (**1904**) measured 1m in diameter, up to 0.34m deep and had very steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish-brown silty sand.

3.5 Phase 2: Late Anglo-Saxon – early medieval (11th – 12th century, Fig.11)

3.5.1 During this phase of occupation the agricultural plot system was first established. Four initial plots (A-D) were orientated roughly north to south and west north-west to east south-east. In addition, a group of postholes was identified in the south-western quadrant of the site. These features were characterised by predominantly homogenous deposits of mid greyish-brown silty sand.

Plots A and Plot B

- 3.5.2 Plot A, located in the north-western corner of the site, was formed by ditches **1742** and **1750** to the south and ditch **1817** to the east. The northern and western extents lay beyond the limits of excavation. Ditch **1742** (=**1746** =**1834** Fig. 15b Section 1052, Plate 3), identified in the western half of the site, was aligned west to east. This feature measured up to 1.12m wide and 0.38m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Changes within the deposit were identified in intervention **1834**, where two deposits were identified: a fill of dark grey silty sand was overlain by a dark reddish-brown silty sand deposit. This ditch formed a possible southern entryway into the plot where terminus **1746** met terminus **1750**.
- 3.5.3 Ditch **1750** (=**1932** Fig. 15a Section 1016; =**1797** Fig. 15b Section 1049; =**1940** Fig. 15b Section 1058, =**1980**) was aligned west south-west to east north-east. It measured up to 1.12m wide, 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. This feature continued east for 27m before disappearing beyond the eastern baulk. Two sherds of 11th 13th century pottery were recovered from this feature.
- 3.5.4 Ditch **1817** (Fig. 15c Section 1083, Plate 2) was located towards the centre of the excavation area. It was aligned north north-west to south south-east and was truncated by Phase 3 ditch **1820**. This feature measured 2.1m wide and 0.60m deep with steep sides and an irregular base. It was filled by two deposits including a basal fill of dark brownish-grey silty clay containing pottery dating to the medieval period (Appendix B.2). Five sherds dated to 11th mid 13th century and four to the 13th 14th century (including Fig. 16a, no. 2). A large quantity of cereal grain including oats, rye, barley and wheat was recovered from an environmental sample from this ditch (Appendix C.1) and a single fragment of a mussel shell was also recovered (3g; Appendix C.3).
- 3.5.5 Located to the east, Plot B was formed by ditch 1817 to the west, ditch 1750 to the south and ditch 1780 to the east. Ditch 1780 (Fig. 15b Section 1048, Plate 7, =1900 Fig. 15b Section 1054, Plate 4) was located in the north-east corner of the site and was aligned north-west to south-east. This feature measured up to 1.78m wide, 0.42m



deep with irregular sides and a flat base. It was truncated by Phase 6 feature **1902** (see below).

Plot C and Plot D

- 3.5.6 Plot C and Plot D lay to the south of ditches **1742** and **1750**. Ditch **1888** (Fig. 15c Section 1203, =1968), located in the south-west corner of the site, formed the southern boundary of Plot C. It was aligned from west south-west to east north-east. This ditch measured up to 1.8m wide, 0.20m deep and had gently sloping sides and a V-shaped base. It was filled by two deposits, a basal fill of mid greyish-brown silty sand overlain by a dark greyish-brown silty clay.
- 3.5.7 A shallow gully (**1810** Fig. 15b Section 1051) was identified within Plot C. The gully was aligned north-west to south-east. It was 0.60m wide, 0.06m deep with indistinct sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand. This feature was most likely a continuation of ditch **510** (evaluation Trench 5) which together would have formed a narrow feature, 7.40m long.
- 3.5.8 A group of ten postholes (Posthole Group 1926, Plate 6) was also located in Plot C, formed by two parallel lines on a north-west to south-east axis. The western line was formed by postholes **1948**, **1950**, **1952**, **1954** (Fig. 15b Section 1063), **1926**, and **1928**, while the eastern line was formed by postholes **1957**, **1959**, **1961** and **1963**. These features measured between 0.30m and 1.12m in diameter (an average of 0.62m) and up to 0.48m deep with steep sides and concave bases. They were filled by mid greyish-brown silty sand deposits, with only posthole **1954** displaying evidence of a possible post-pipe. Posthole **1963** produced a single sherd of 11th mid 13th century pottery. Two of these postholes contained a small number of cereal grains perhaps indicating a function for storage or processing in this structure (Appendix C.1).
- 3.5.9 Feature **1908** (Plate 5, =**1930** =**1976** Fig. 15a Section 1018) was identified towards the southern edge of the site and formed the divide between Plots C and D. Aligned northwest to south-east with gentle sloping sides and an irregular base, it was filled by a single deposit of dark greyish brown clayey silt. This feature did not produce any finds; however, it was aligned on the same axis as posthole Group 1926. The similarity between the fill of this feature and deposits infilling ditch **1888** to the south-west are suggestive of their contemporaneity.
- 3.5.10 Ditch **1881** (=**1978**) formed the eastern boundary of Plot D and was aligned north to south with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch measured 0.70m wide and up to 0.21m deep and was filled by a single deposit of dark grey silty sand (1882) containing 12th to 13th century pottery (14 sherds, including Fig. 16a, no. 3). Slot **1881** was truncated by Phase 3 pit **1883**.

Discrete features

3.5.11 Postholes **1897** and **1974** were encountered to the south of ditch **1888** and are not considered to be a part of Posthole Group 1926. These two features measured 0.48m and 0.40m in diameter, and were up to 0.28m deep with moderately sloping sides and concave bases. They were filled by homogenous deposits of mid greyish-brown silty sand.



3.6 Phase 3: Early-medieval (12th – 13th century, Fig.11)

3.6.1 A total of six linear features were assigned to this phase. Spread across the site, they formed at least three rectangular plots (E-G) with ditches aligned east north-east to west south-west and north to south. The largest plot covering the eastern half of the excavated area (Plot F) contained a large pit (**1776**). A second area of significant activity was identified within the south-western quadrant of the excavation area (Plot G) where a well (**1839**) and a second large pit (**1965**) were identified. The southern side of Plot G extended parallel with another boundary ditch 7m to the south, the two of which may have formed part of a trackway.

Plots E and F

- 3.6.2 Plot E was formed by ditch **1725** to the south-west and ditch **1815** to the east with the south-eastern boundary possibly formed by the remains of Phase 2 ditch **1750**. Ditch **1725** (Fig. 15a Section 1041) and ditch **1727** (=**1808**, Plate 10) formed a single linear feature with a possible intersection or recutting in the area of interventions **1725** and **1808**. This feature measured up to 1.10m wide and 0.28m deep and had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Both **1725** and **1727** were filled by a homogenous deposit of mid brownish-grey silty sand.
- 3.6.3 Ditch **1815** (Fig. 15c Section 1083) was identified as a re-establishment of Phase 2 ditch **1817**. It was aligned north to south and was characterised by gently sloping sides and a concave base. It measured 1.22m wide and up to 0.30m deep, and was filled by a single homogenous deposit of mid greyish-brown clayey-silt.
- 3.6.4 Lying in the north-eastern corner of the site, Plot F was separated from Plot E by ditch **1815** and bounded to the north by ditches **1768** and **1758**, and to the south by ditch **1785**. Ditch **1768** (=**1770**) was located at the northern edge of the excavation area and was aligned from north-east to south-west. This ditch measured between 0.87m and 1.03m wide, and up to 0.13m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light grey silty sand.
- 3.6.5 Ditch **1758** was identified in the north-eastern corner of the site. Aligned east northeast to west south-west, it measured 1.24m wide and 0.24m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish grey silty sand.
- 3.6.6 Ditch **1785** (Fig. 15b Section 1049, =**1890** =**1912**, evaluation Trench 4 ditch =**410**, evaluation Trench 5 ditch =**514**) extended across the southern part of the excavation area on a north-east to south-west alignment and formed the southern boundary of Plot F and Plot G. This ditch measured between 1.14m and 2m wide, and up to 0.59m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Two deposits were recognised across this feature. The basal fill of mid brownish-grey silty sand was overlain by light to mid reddish-brown silty sand. This ditch ran parallel to ditch **1871** to the south and was truncated by Phase 4 pit **1893** in the south-western corner of the excavated area.
- 3.6.7 Pit **1776** (Fig. 15b Section 1048, Plate 7, =**1875**) was located within Plot F. This subcircular pit measured 2.48m long, 2.14m wide and up to 0.52m deep, with steep sides

and a concave base. This pit was filled by three deposits. The basal fill of dark greyishbrown clayey sand contained four sherds of 11th – 13th century pottery (Appendix B.2). It was overlain by a mid brownish-grey silty sand; a total of seven sherds of 12th – 14th century pottery and four sherds of 11th – 13th century pottery were recovered from this fill (Fig. 16b, no. 5), together with a single mussel shell (4g; Appendix C.3) and a small number of cereal grains (Appendix C.1). The feature was capped by a firm deposit of mid reddish-brown silty sand.

Plot G

- 3.6.8 Plot G was ill-defined due to later truncation but was broadly trapezoidal in shape and located in the south and south-western part of the excavation area. Its southern boundary was formed by ditch **1785** whilst only a fragment of the northern boundary (**1725**) was visible. Five features were located within the plot.
- 3.6.9 A pit (1748) and a posthole (1774) were identified in the north of the plot. Pit 1748 truncated the terminus of Phase 2 ditch 1742. This feature measured up to 0.90m in diameter and was 0.20m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. it was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish-brown silty sand.
- 3.6.10 Posthole **1774** measured up to 0.58m in diameter and up to 0.16m deep with irregular sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of light yellowish-grey silty sand.
- 3.6.11 Located close to the western excavation baulk, pit **1849** measured up to 1.12m in diameter, and was 0.10m deep with gently sloping sides and a shallow base. It was filled by a single deposit of mid grey with red mottled silty clay.
- 3.6.12 Well **1839** (Fig. 15c Section 1201, Plates 6 and 9, =**1945**) was sub-circular in shape measuring 3.83m long, 1.40m wide and 1.04m deep reaching the level of the water table. It had steep sides, a flat base and was filled by a total of six deposits. The primary deposit of mid grey silty clay (with dark lenses at the base) was overlaid by mid grey with light yellow mottled silty clay, which in turn was covered by a slump deposit, on the northern side, of light brownish yellow sand. This fill was covered by a dark grey silty clay deposit (1843), which contained a single sherd of 11th 12th century pottery (Appendix B.2). It was overlain by a light grey sandy silt, while the uppermost deposit consisted of firm light grey with yellowish red and white mottled sandy silt, which capped the well. The feature was truncated by Phase 4 pits **1849** and **1851** and ditch **1849**. All of the fills of this pit contained relatively large quantities of barley, rye and wheat grains, perhaps indicating that all of these species may have been growing or stored nearby as the pit filled up (Appendix C.1).
- 3.6.13 Pit **1965** (Fig. 15b Section 1068), located in the south-west corner of the plot, was subcircular in shape, measuring 2.30m wide and 0.36m deep. It had steep sides, a flat base and was filled by two deposits. A basal fill of dark brown silty sand was overlain by a compacted deposit of mid yellowish-brown silty sand.

Features to the south of Plot F

3.6.14 Ditch **1871** (=**1885** Fig. 15b Section 1089, Plate 8) was identified in the south-east corner of the excavated area and ran parallel to ditch **1785** on a north-east to south-



west alignment. It measured up to 1.80m wide and up to 0.50m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch was filled by two deposits with a dark grey silty sand basal fill overlaid by light to mid greyish-brown silty sand. This ditch may have continued to the south-west where a similar feature was uncovered in evaluation Trench 5 (521) (Wallis 2019).

- 3.6.15 Pit **1883** was identified in the south-eastern quadrant of the site. This subcircular pit, with gently sloping sides and a concave base, measured up to 1.68m in diameter and was 0.25m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of mid brownish-grey silty sand. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 3.6.16 Sub-circular pit **1920** was identified truncating Phase 1 ditch **1922**. It measured 0.86m in diameter and 0.22m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This pit was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish-brown silty sand.

3.7 Phase 4: Medieval (13th – 14th century, Fig. 12)

3.7.1 Activity in this phase took the form of a series of small sub-rectangular plots in the northern part of the excavation area and three pits identified along the western limit of excavation. The uppermost deposit of the majority of the features assigned to this period was characterised by brown\red mottled deposits.

Plots H, I and J

- 3.7.2 These three sub-rectangular plots were bounded to the north by ditch 1702 (=1718 Fig. 15a Section 1041, Plate 10, =1735 =1761), which extended east north-east to west south-west across the entire site. It measured between 2.20m and 2.98m wide and was up to 0.95m deep with steep sides and a concave base, significantly larger than the other two ditches of this series of plots. Ditch 1702 was filled by up to six deposits. The primary soft deposit of mid grey silty sand contained 14g of mussel shells (Appendix C.3). It was overlain by a friable fill of mid reddish-brown silty sand. Sealing this was a soft mid brownish-grey silty sand containing occasional charcoal flecks (Appendix C.1). A total of three sherds of 13th – 14th century pottery (Appendix B.2), 7g of mussel shells and cereal grains (Appendix C.1) were recovered from this fill (1705). It was overlaid by a narrow layer of dark brown clayey sand. These natural silting up deposits were covered by backfill deposits of light grey silty sand (1723), which contained two sherds of 12th – 14th century pottery (Appendix B.2), together with a single fragment of a mussel shell (1g; Appendix C.3). It was capped by a firm fill of mid greyish-red silty sand.
- 3.7.3 The southern boundary of this series of plots was formed by ditch **1799** (Fig. 15b Section 1049, =**1917** Fig. 15a Section 1016, =**1846** Fig. 15c Section 1201, Plate 9, evaluation Trench 5 =**506**), which also extended across the middle of the site from east north-east to west south-west. It measured up to 1.42m wide and 0.44m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This ditch contained two deposits, a basal fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand overlaid by a mottled light grey silty sand deposit, from which late 12th 14th century pottery (two sherds), 11th 13th century pottery (four sherds, including Fig. 16a, no. 4) and mussel shells (three fragments; 8g) were recovered.



- Plots H and I were divided by ditch 1729 (Fig. 15b Section 1043), located within the 3.7.4 western half of the excavation area. It was aligned north north-west to south-south east, measuring 1.74m wide and 0.32m deep with steep sides and a flat base. A basal fill of mid grey silty sand was overlaid by a friable deposit of mid greyish-brown silty sand.
- The boundary between Plot I and J was formed by ditch 1732 (=1820 Fig. 15c Section 3.7.5 1083, Plate 2) which was aligned north north-west to south south-east. This ditch was still visible as an earthwork prior to the excavation. It formed the final re-cut of Phase 2 ditch 1817. Measuring up to 1.5m wide and up to 0.91m deep with steep sides and concave a base, it was filled by up to four deposits. The primary, basal fill of this feature consisted of dark greyish-brown silty clay (1824), which contained a single leather sole from a left shoe, probably of 13th-early 14th century date (SF 21; Appendix B.4), as well as part of a wooden plank with a mortise joint (Appendix B.5). An articulated sheep skeleton was also recovered from this deposit along with a large quantity of mixed cereal grains (see below, Appendix C.1-C.2) and a single fragment of a mussel shell (3g; Appendix C.3). The basal fill was overlaid by a mid greyish-brown silty sand deposit, which in turn was covered by mid greyish-brown silty clay. The upper deposit of this ditch consisted of light brownish-grey silty sand.
- 3.7.6 The only internal feature within plots H-J was a single pit (1851) in the south-western corner of Plot H. Pit 1851 (Fig. 15c Section 1201, Plate 9) measured 0.98m in diameter and 0.36m deep with moderate sides and an irregular base. This pit was filled by a single deposit of mid grey with red mottled silty clay.

Plot K and Plot L

- 3.7.7 These plots were formed by ditch 1799 to the north, whilst no southern boundary was uncovered during the excavation or the evaluation. The plots were divided by ditch **1857** (=**1866** Fig. 15a Section 1013; evaluation Trench 4 =**413** =**418**), which ran south south-east from the point where Plots I, J, K and L intersected. Measuring 3.40m wide and 0.15m deep, this ditch contained two silty sand fills. Excavation of this feature during the evaluation recovered four sherds of 12th - 13th century pottery (see Anderson in Wallis 2019).
- A single feature was located in the south-western corner of Plot K. Pit 1893 measured 3.7.8 1.19m in diameter and 0.19m deep with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a single deposit of mottled mid grey silty clay.

3.8 Phase 5: Late medieval (post-14th century, Fig. 12)

- 3.8.1 By the late medieval period renewal of the plot system appears to have ended, although, judging by the size of the preserved earthworks, the boundaries must have still been a major feature on the site. The majority of late medieval activity was in the north-west quadrant of the site, where levelling deposits were recognised. In addition, a quarry pit (1862) was identified.
- 3.8.2 The levelling deposits were located immediately north of ditch 1702 (intervention 1718). They measured 3.98m wide and 0.14m deep and filled a shallow cut (1715 Fig. 15a Section 1041, Plate 10) with imperceptibly sloping sides and a flat base. A total of

V.1

two distinct deposits was recognised. The basal deposit (1716) of soft mid grey silty sand was characterised by chalk and charcoal inclusions, together with two sherds of 11th-12th century pottery, 16g of cockle shell and 79g of oyster shells (Appendix C.3). This deposit was overlaid by firm light yellowish-brown silty sand (1717), which contained three sherds of 15th to 16th century pottery (Appendix B.2), together with 59g of oyster shells. The compaction of the later deposit might have been the result of works relating to the power supply to the neighbouring houses.

- 3.8.3 A pit (**1764**, Fig. 15a Section 1006, Plate 11) of uncertain function was identified north of Phase 4 ditch **1702**. This pit continued beyond the baulk surrounding the telegraph pole. It measured up to 2.55m in diameter and 0.53m deep with steep sides and a concave base. It was filled by three deposits; a basal fill of dark grey silty sand was overlaid by a mid yellowish-brown silty sand. The uppermost deposit of this pit consisted of light grey silty sand. This feature contained no dateable artefacts but was phased due to its location north of ditch **1702** and because it was similar in appearance to dated Phase 5 feature **1715**.
- 3.8.4 Quarry pit **1862** (Fig. 15a Section 1013) was identified towards the southern limit of excavation in the south-eastern corner of the site. It truncated Phase 4 ditch **1732** and measured up to 2.90m in diameter and 0.75m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Containing three deposits, the basal fill of very dark greyish-brown silty sand was overlaid by a mid greyish-brown silty clay with rare chalk inclusions. The uppermost fill consisted of light grey silty sand.

3.9 Phase 6: Post-medieval – modern (Fig. 13)

- 3.9.1 Phase 6 marked the most recent occupation of the site. It was characterised by a system of chalk filled field drains and a small number of discrete features.
- 3.9.2 A boundary ditch and its re-cut (**1708/1710** Fig. 15a Section 1040), still in use today, was first established along the northern limit of excavation. Aligned east north-east to west south-west, the earlier ditch (**1708**) measured 0.6m wide and was only 0.14m deep. It had steep sides and a concave base and was filled by a single deposit of light brownish grey silty sand.
- 3.9.3 A re-cut of this ditch (1710) was 2m wide and 0.64m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by two deposits including a basal fill of mid brownishgrey silty sand that contained four fragments of brick (751g; Appendix B.3) including two pieces of white-firing post-medieval brick. One of these brick fragments indicated a 19th-century date. The basal fill was overlain by dark brownish-grey silty sand, which contained modern rooting from vegetation growing on either side of the ditch.
- 3.9.4 A system of chalk filled field drains (1729 and 1932) were investigated, one truncating Phase 4 ditch 1729 (Fig. 15b Section 1043) and another truncating Phase 2 ditch 1932. The field drains were also assessed during the evaluation phase of the project with interventions in Trenches 4 (drain 415) and Trench 6 (drain 611).

Posthole groups

3.9.5 Three groups of small postholes were uncovered, each group running broadly north to south. The western series (Posthole Group 1752) extended across the centre of the



excavation area. Postholes **1970**, **1752**, **1972** (Fig. 15b Section 1059) and **1924** all measured between 0.20m and 0.30m in diameter and were up to 0.25m deep with very steep sides and a concave base. They were filled by homogenous deposits of dark grey silty sand.

- 3.9.6 The second series (Posthole Group 1740) was identified towards the eastern limit of excavation and was made up of postholes **1740**, **1756**, **1827**, **1772** and **1803**. Postholes **1740**, **1827** and **1756** had gently to moderately sloping sides and concave bases. They measured between 0.47m to 0.57m in diameter and up to 0.14m deep and were filled by homogeneous deposits of dark greyish brown silty sand. Post hole **1772** (Fig. 15a Section 1009) measured 0.5m in diameter and 0.5m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. This feature was filled by a dark grey silty sand deposit, which contained the remains of a wooden post.
- 3.9.7 Posthole Group 1754 comprised two postholes (1754 and 1879) running close to the eastern limit of excavations. Postholes 1754 and 1879 measured between 0.51m and 1.04m in diameter and were up to 0.28m deep with irregularly sloping sides and concave bases. They were filled by homogenous dark brownish grey silty sand deposits.
- 3.9.8 A further two larger postholes (1789 and 1791) were identified south of posthole 1740. On the basis of the similarity of their fills to those of postholes 1756 and 1772 they were also assigned to this phase of occupation. These features measured 0.90m and 1m in diameter respectively and were up to 0.50m deep with steep sides and concave bases. Posthole 1789 was filled by a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty sand. Posthole 1791 contained the dark greyish brown silty sand remains of a postpipe, while the main deposit consisted of mid greyish brown silty sand with lenses of redeposited natural.

Discrete features and deposits

- 3.9.9 A modern test pit (**1942**) was uncovered truncating Phase 3 well **1839**. This feature was 0.61m in diameter, 1.01m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. It was filled by two deposits: the basal fill of very dark gey silty sand was overlaid by light grey silty sand.
- 3.9.10 Deposit (1812) was identified in the south-western quadrant of the site, sealing Phase 2 gully **1810** (Fig. 15b Section 1051). This layer of light brownish grey silty sand deposit was 3m long, 2m wide and 0.06m deep.
- 3.9.11 Feature **1902** (Fig. 15b Section 1054, Plate 4) was identified towards the north-eastern corner of the excavated area, truncating Phase 2 ditch **1900**. This sub-circular feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base was up to 0.90m in diameter and 0.12m deep. It was filled by a single deposit of dark reddish brown silty sand with fragments of mussel shells (21g; Appendix C.3).



3.10 Finds summary

3.10.1 A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the excavation phase.

Metalwork (Appendix B.1)

3.10.2 Excavation produced a small assemblage of six iron artefacts. The metalwork was metal detected from the topsoil and it is poorly preserved with items showing thick rust and encrustations. The assemblage comprises two complete horseshoes, two large loops and two fragments of metal slab all possibly from a plough.

Pottery (Appendix B.2)

3.10.3 Sixty-seven sherds of pottery weighing 1630g were collected from 20 contexts during the excavation. Together with the small quantity of sherds from the evaluation, this assemblage suggests continuous activity on the site between the 11th and 13th centuries, with ditches and pits containing a range of pottery of local origin.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM, Appendix B.3)

3.10.4 Four fragments (751g) of CBM were collected from ditch **1710** (Phase 6), fill (1711). These comprised a small piece of possible estuarine clay brick with no original surfaces, a heavily abraded fragment in a soft fine sandy micaceous and clay pellet fabric which had a shallow relief line and was possibly part of a moulded brick, and two pieces of white-firing post-medieval brick. One of the latter was 66mm thick and the other was 113mm wide and 64mm thick, probably indicating a 19th-century date.

Leather (Appendix B.4)

3.10.5 A turnshoe sole (SF21) for the left foot was recovered from fill (1824) at the base of a waterlogged ditch (1820, Phase 4) and is likely to date between the 12th – 14th centuries. The leather is in good, robust condition but being wet it is easily torn and broken.

Wood (Appendix B.5)

3.10.6 One wooden item was recovered from boundary ditch **1820** (Phase 4). The item was situated to the east in a waterlogged basal deposit (1824) of the feature. The item is also charred, which has enabled organic preservation. It has been identified as a jointed structural timber, which appears to have been split tangentially from a larger timber, the sapwood and bark hewed (leaving primarily heartwood) to form a plank with a mortise joint. No other wooden artefacts were retrieved from this feature, although a leather shoe was found within the same waterlogged deposit.

3.11 Environmental summary

Environmental remains (Appendix C.1)

3.11.1 A total of thirty-three bulk samples were taken from deposits within the excavated areas. Samples taken during the evaluation (Fosberry 2019) indicated that charred plant remains from medieval deposits were well preserved with excellent density and

diversity in parts of the site. However, subsequent excavation did not extend to the area where preservation was highest. The environmental samples from this site have produced plant remains that are consistent with the plant resources commonly recovered from medieval sites in this area.

Faunal remains (Appendix C.2)

3.11.2 The assemblage is of a small size, with 1.59 kg of bone from hand collection, together with material recovered from bulk soil samples. The number of recordable fragments totals 20. Animal bone is from ditches, pits and a tree throw. Faunal material was retrieved from Phases 2, 3, 4 and 5. As the sample size is small it is not possible to make interpretations regarding continuity or changes in husbandry practices between periods.

Marine shell (Appendix C.3)

3.11.3 A total of 215g of shells were collected by hand from ditches, a pit and a tree throw. These are in addition to 457g of shells that were collected by hand during the evaluation. The shells recovered are all edible species: oyster Ostrea edulis, from estuarine and shallow coastal waters, mussel *Mytilus edulis* and cockle *Cerastoderma edule*, both from the intertidal zone.



4 **DISCUSSION**

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 4.1.1 Due to the proposed development of part of Westhall Farm as a new educational facility, OA East was commissioned to investigate this untested area of the village of Gayton in Norfolk. The proposed development area is located within a larger archaeological landscape of prominent earthworks of two manorial sites (NHER3748 and NHER35474).
- 4.1.2 In general, most of the archaeological features were relatively shallow in nature, with some larger, deep features. Most of the features contained multiple fills dominated by mid greyish-brown silty sand. Features were clearly visible against the natural geology and the weather and ground conditions were good throughout the site work. The area had not been ploughed which resulted in good preservation of both earthworks and underlying shallow deposits. Features of Late Saxon to medieval date were present across the development site, often being sealed by later, post-medieval and modern features. There was a strong correlation across the entire site between features surviving as earthworks and sub-surface features. Similarly, all features identified during the evaluation in Trenches 4 and 5 were uncovered during the excavation.

4.2 Phase 0

4.2.1 The area remained largely unoccupied until the Late Saxon period, having possibly been used for animal pasture, with patches of buried subsoil identified throughout the excavated area. The largest of these was located in the north-eastern quadrant of the site. This area was referred to in the earthworks survey report (Hutton and Rees 2019) as feature 14 – a possible platform. It was truncated by all other features identified within this area (Plate 12). The second, smaller patch was identified towards the western half of the excavated area and was truncated by a Phase 1 ditch (1744).

4.3 Phase 1: Late Anglo-Saxon land use (10th – 11th century)

- 4.3.1 Based on the Late Anglo-Saxon presence uncovered across the site during the evaluation as well as stratigraphic relationships with early medieval features and an additional sherd of Thetford Ware, the earliest evidence of concerted activity within the excavation area was dated to the Late Anglo-Saxon period (Fig. 14). It consisted of a small number of ditches perhaps representing hedge lines forming small enclosures and a probable trackway leading in from the south-east corner. These ditches were on a north-west to south-east and a north-east to south-west alignment with an additional ditch (ditch 1744) on a west north-west to east south-east axis in the western half of the excavated area.
- 4.3.2 Posthole Group **1795** was located towards the eastern edge of the excavated area. It was made up of five features, which did not form a recognisable structure.
- 4.3.3 Five other discrete features were identified throughout the excavation area. No dating evidence was recovered from the majority of these features with only a single sherd of 10th-11th century pottery recovered from pit **1860** (Fig. 16a, no. 1), located west of the trackway.



4.3.4 A total of 25 Late Saxon pottery sherds were recovered from Trenches 11 and 13 of the evaluation (Wallis 2019). These trenches were located towards the eastern limit of the proposed development area, and were not uncovered by the excavation.

4.4 Phase 2: Late Saxon – early medieval plot system (11th – 12th century)

- The later part of the 11th century and early part of the 12th century saw the 4.4.1 establishment of a series of small plots. At least four plots (Plots A to D) were located around a central north north-west to south south-east aligned ditch (1817). The plots in this phase contained very few features, probably suggesting an agro-pastoral function.
- 4.4.2 The largest of these was Plot A, in the north-west corner of the site. It measured 28m by 17m. No internal features associated with this period had been recognised within this enclosure, although the presence of a modern telegraph pole supporting high voltage overhead power lines meant that this area was not fully excavated.
- 4.4.3 Plot B was located in the north-east corner of the site, measuring 20m by 12m. No further features relating to this period were recognised within it, although large quantities of cereal grain recovered from the western boundary ditch may indicate that cereal cultivation was occurring within it or nearby.
- 4.4.4 Plot C was in the south-western corner of the site, measuring 18m by 13m. A series of postholes forming two parallel lines (Posthole Group 1926) was uncovered within this enclosure. These may have been the remains of a small rectangular structure, measuring c.2.5m x 4.3m. East of this group was a linear feature or a hollow (1908), which formed a tapering area, possibly for livestock control. A single sherd of 12th -13th century pottery was recovered from posthole 1963.
- Plot D was located to the east of Plot C and measured 13m by 13m. No further remains 4.4.5 associated with this phase of occupation were recognised within it. Another plot, located in the south-eastern corner of the excavation area, was only partially exposed but may be indicative of this system spreading further east beyond the limits of excavation.

4.5 Phase 3: 12th – 13th century plot system

- 4.5.1 Phase 3 of occupation at the site saw another slight realignment of linear features. However, ditch 1815 followed the field boundary established by ditch 1817 of Phase 2. The plots in this phase were formed by ditches aligned from north-east to south-west and north to south. The new boundaries formed three plots distinct from those of the previous phase (Plots E to G).
- 4.5.2 Plot E was located in the north-western part of the site and measured 26m by 12m. No further features were recognised within it.
- 4.5.3 Plot F covered roughly the same area as Phase 2 Plot B, suggesting a continuation of use. It measured 20m by 17m and contained a large pit (1776). Although medieval pottery - predominantly of 11th to 13th century date - was recovered from this feature, no other finds or ecofacts were recovered that could be suggestive of its purpose.

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- 4.5.4 A second area of activity was identified within the south-western quadrant of the excavation area, within Plot G, where a well (**1839**) and a second large pit (**1965**) were excavated. The well measured 3.83m in diameter and 1.04m deep reaching the level of the water table. It was filled by a total of six deposits, with the lower ones waterlogged.
- 4.5.5 A single pit, of similar properties, with waterlogged remains was identified in Field D Trench 3 (pit **309**) during the evaluation phase of the project (Wallis 2019).
- 4.5.6 A possible trackway was identified within the southern limit of the excavation area. It was orientated north-east to south-west, following the general alignment of the agricultural plot system. It was formed by two ditches (ditch **1785** and ditch **1871**), separated by 7m.

The plots in this phase were distinctly different from those of Phase 2, primarily due to the large pits or wells located within them perhaps indicative of a more pastoral function. It should be noted however, that the ditches of both Phase 1 and Phase 2 were very shallow and so to function as effective boundaries for animals they would have needed an associated bank, fence, hedge or a combination of these.

4.6 Phase 4: 13th – 14th century agricultural plot system

- 4.6.1 During the 13th-14th centuries the plots were re-aligned once again in a more formal pattern, reusing only the northern and western boundary lines of Plot B\F. The boundaries in this phase were uniformly deeper than those of the previous phases and due to this factor, these features tended to survive as earthworks (Hutton and Rees 2019). While the evaluation phase suggested an earlier dating of the visible earthworks assigning them to the 12th to 13th century (Wallis 2019) the results of the excavation strongly suggest a slightly later origin.
- 4.6.2 Features of the Phase 4 Plot system followed the general alignment of those of Phase 3. However, the system appeared to be more regular in layout, with a series of three rectangular plots between ditches 1702 and 1799 running across the site (Plots H, J and I). The large east to west boundary ditch (1702) was established and ditch 1732 continued to follow the land division created by ditch 1817 of Phase 2 and reestablished by ditch 1815 of Phase 3. The uppermost deposit of the majority of features assigned to this period were characterised by brownish or reddish mottling. The most significant finds were recovered from intervention 1820 in ditch 1732, which consisted of an oak plank fragment, a single leather shoe sole and a sheep burial.
- 4.6.3 The rectangular plots measured between 12m x 9m to 16m x 11m and were largely devoid of further archaeological features. This suggests that the use of the area as agricultural plots continued into the 14th century. In addition, three pits were excavated along the western limit of the development area; however, their function remained unknown.
- 4.6.4 Occasional cattle bones were recovered from features of this phase as well as mussels shells. However, this assemblage is too small to make any further assumptions about diet or economy of the site. Most of the features contained waterlogged deposits with burnt domestic and culinary refuse, suggesting that in this phase the plots may have been used as yard areas.



- 4.6.5 A 2015 evaluation of the area directly to the south and south-west of the proposed development uncovered further linear features and a possible rectangular enclosure (Nicholls 2016). These features produced a small amount of late 12th to 14th century pottery and were interpreted as representing agricultural areas rather than the remains of a settlement. Ditches identified were either on an east to west or east north-east to west south-west alignment, suggesting their contemporality with this phase of activity at the current site.
- 4.6.6 The ditches excavated in this phase were deeper than those of previous phases and tended to reach the water table leading to water-logged deposits in some circumstances. The resulting plots created by these ditches were relatively small and contained few features, although it is clear from the earthwork survey that Plot K (Fig. 8; Hutton and Rees 2012, Feature 15, Profile 1), in the south-west of the area, measured 30m from north-west to south-east and in excess of 37m from north-east to south-west. The increase in the depth of the ditches seems unlikely in this case to be associated with animal management since the plots are so small and may instead have been a reaction to a rising water table and an effort to exploit otherwise marginal land for agriculture. The digital elevation model (Hutton and Rees 2019, fig. 3) illustrates that this area was low and in fact lower than those plots uncovered at the Back Road evaluation to the south-east (Nicholls 2016), lying below the 18m contour. It is notable that the Late Saxon remains were primarily located on the higher ground to the east, perhaps also in order to avoid flooding in this area.

4.7 Phase 5: Post-14th century land use

- 4.7.1 Activity at the site decreased after the 14th century, suggesting it may have remained in agricultural use, but as marginal land with no requirement to construct new ditches. A total of three features were identified as belonging to this phase. A deposit of apparent levelling material (1717 and 1716) containing pottery of 15th 16th century date was located in the north-west corner of the area. However, the compaction of this material might have been a result of later activity at the site. This area was referred to as feature 13, a possible platform, in the earthworks survey report (Hutton and Rees 2019). The results of the excavation disproved this theory.
- 4.7.2 In addition, two quarry pits were identified. Pit **1764** was located to the north of ditch **1702**, with the second pit (**1862**) located towards the southern end of the excavated area, truncating Phase 4 ditch **1857**.

4.8 Phase 6: Post-medieval to modern land use

4.8.1 There is no doubt, given the scale of the earthworks, that the plot boundaries from Phase 4 remained a feature of this area and presumably acted as functional drainage for some time until the more recent chalk lined drains were constructed, often in the base of the surviving earthworks. Ditch **1710**, which marked the northern limit of excavations, was dated to the 19th century by pottery but may date as early as the 18th century, possible appearing on the 1726 'Map of Gayton Thorpe' (Fig. 4). This feature remained part of the landscape into the modern era and was recognised on the earthwork survey as feature 7 (Hutton and Rees 2019). It followed the alignment



of Phase 4 ditch **1702**, suggesting this field boundary remained in use since the medieval period.

- 4.8.2 Three lines of postholes (Posthole Groups 1740, 1752 and 1754), aligned north to south, were identified across the eastern half of the excavation area, suggesting fence lines dividing the field.
- 4.8.3 Later post-medieval and modern features including wall foundations and a well were present in the north-west field (Trenches 1, 2, 15-17) and modern chalk-filled French drains were recorded in the south-west field (Trenches 3, 4, 6 and 7). These drains were mainly located within and followed the lines of the earthwork ditches a pattern confirmed by the excavation phase of the project.

4.9 Research aims

4.9.1 The archaeological investigations aimed to address research aims identified in WSI (Connor 2020, see above Section 2.1)

To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence.

4.9.2 The evaluation and excavation of the proposed development area identified archaeological dating evidence, predominantly pottery, spanning from the Late Anglo-Saxon period to modern era, with the majority of evidence dating to the medieval and late medieval periods.

Contribute to an understanding of village development from the Late Saxon to medieval periods, in particular an understanding of the development of the village closes and their origins of earlier features.

- 4.9.3 Excavations identified ditches related to agricultural activity, suggesting the area of main settlement was in the vicinity of the excavated area. Only a single possible structure of Phase 2 was identified. It is possible that the need to exploit this area of badly drained land is symptomatic of a more general pressure on space and resources increasing up until mid-14th century.
- 4.9.4 Within the wider landscape it is clear that similar types of plots existed near by (Nicholls 2016; NHER3748; NHER11830) and in the case of those to the north-west (NHER3748) they were closely associated with Westhall Manor. The site name itself, Westhall Farm, as well at the central location in the village between medieval manors and within sight of the church tends to suggest that the plots uncovered here were part of a larger production network. The small size of the plots, however, may indicate that the network was fed by smaller household units each following a similar method of production.
- 4.9.5 The Late Saxon features are among very few that have been located in the village, although surface finds have been relatively common. It appears that enclosure of land in this area began to occur at this time and may lend support to the assertion that St Nichols church had a pre-14th century predecessor (NPS 2018, 42). A recent find of a Late Saxon pottery kiln in the parish (see Anderson below) is indicative of increased activity at this time.



Contribute to an understanding of diet and land usage.

- 4.9.6 The plots uncovered at this site are indicative of an agro-pastoral regime supplemented by imported marine foods. Evidence of cow and sheep remains as well as oyster, mussel and cockle shells were recovered from features of Phases 2, 3, 4 and 5; however, their scarcity does not allow for further interpretation in regard to diet and the animal-based economy. These animals were likely the mainstay of the food economy. However, the size of the assemblage does not allow for solid interpretations to be made regarding farming practices.
- 4.9.7 Some tentative evidence of animal husbandry was identified in the south-western part of the excavated area. A tapering feature **1908** of Phase 2 formed a possible narrow holding pen, large enough for a single animal. Environmental evidence also demonstrates that cultivation of cereals was common throughout the life of the site.
- 4.9.8 Significant assemblages of cereal grains were recovered from medieval contexts (Trenches , 11 and 13) during the evaluation along with possible remains of an oven (Fosberry 2019, 34) indicating that cereals were a major part of the economy of this site.
- 4.9.9 The results of the investigation show the area was used as plots located beyond an area of settlement from the early medieval period to the mid-late 14th century. As stated above the exploitation of more marginal areas, potentially for agricultural use, may be a sign of population pressure forcing expansion in to an area otherwise not ideal for cultivation. In spite of this marginal land use, there was evidence for the import of marine shell fish entering the diet in all phases of activity, which perhaps is indicative of manorial oversight in the construction of the plot system rather than an organic development by a local community.

Contribute to an understanding of the light craft or light industrial activities taking place in the vicinity of the site.

4.9.10 Fired clay recovered from Trench 11 during the evaluation has been tentatively interpreted as the remains of a possible oven (Fosberry 2019), however no other evidence for light craft or light industrial activity was recognised at the site.

Contribute to our understanding of Gayton's place in the wider trading network in the medieval period as well as a better understanding of the status and character of the Westhall Farm site itself.

4.9.11 The only minor evidence of trade was the presence of marine molluscs recovered from features of Phases 2, 3, 4 and 5, which indicates that this site was linked to a larger scale exchange of local and regional resources.

Contribute to an understanding of Late Saxon and medieval rural development, with reference to continuity and change throughout these periods.

4.9.12 Although the area covered by the project did not uncover settlement remains, the excavation has revealed that the basis of a field division system established during Late Saxon – early medieval (Phase 2) occupation at the site continued in use in subsequent phases. Agricultural plots of later periods (medieval, later medieval, post-14th century and even post-medieval) followed not only the general alignment of the earlier plots,



but the subsequent re-cuts of major ditches only shifted those field boundaries by a few metres (Fig. 14). The trend over time on this site was one of relative continuity of land use whilst adapting to local and environmental factors.



5 PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING

5.1 **Publication**

5.1.1 Excavations at Westhall Farm, Gayton uncovered medieval remains of agro-pastoral plot systems. It is proposed that the results of this project are summarised in the annual fieldwork summaries published in *Norfolk Archaeology*.

5.2 Archiving, Retention and Dispersal

5.2.1 The site archive comprises one bulk finds box, two small finds boxes and one paperwork box. Excavated material and records are to be deposited with, and curated by, Norfolk County Council Stores under the Site Code ENF148241 and Accession No. NWHCM:2019.327. A digital archive is to be deposited with ADS.



APPENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1700	layer	topsoil	0		0	0	0		0.3	dark grey	silty sand	some small sub- rounded stones			
1701	layer	natural	0		0	0	0			light whitish yellow	silty sand	some chalk			
1702	cut	ditch	1702	1703 1704 1705 1706 1707	4	1702	1702	2.2	0.91				linear	gradual	U-shaped
1703	fill	ditch	1702		4	1702	1702	0.8	0.09	dark brownish grey	silty sand	none			
1704	fill	ditch	1702		4	1702	1702	0.96	0.1	light brownish grey	silty sand	occ flints, sub- rounded pebbles			
1705	fill	ditch	1702		4	1702	1702	1.42	0.19	mid greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1706	fill	ditch	1702		4	1702	1702	3.2	0.34	light yellowish grey	silty sand	chalk inclusions			
1707	fill	ditch	1702		4	1702	1702	2.43	0.26	mid orangey grey	silty sand	some chalk inclusions			
1708	cut	ditch	1708	1709	6	0	1708	0.6	0.14				linear	moderate	truncated U- shaped?
1709	fill	ditch	1708		6	0	1708	0.6	0.14	light brownish grey	silty sand	occ stone			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1710	cut	ditch	1710	1711, 1712	6	0	0	2	0.64				linear	gentle	wide V-shape
1711	fill	ditch	1710		6	0	0	1.26	0.28	mid brownish grey	silty sand	freq small sub- rounded and sub-angular stones			
1712	fill	ditch	1710		6	0	0	2	0.38	dark brownish grey	silty sand	some small sub- rounded and sub-angular stones, modern roots			
1713	cut	tree throw	1713	1714	5	1713	1713	2.44	0.08				amorphous	imperceptible	imperceptible
1714	fill	tree throw	1713		5	1713	1713	2.44	0.08	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some sub- rounded stones			
1715	cut	bank material	1715	1716, 1717	5	0	0	3.98	0.14				linear	imperceptible	wide and flat
1716	fill	bank	1715		5	0	0	2.64	0.08	mid grey	silty sand	some small sub- rounded stones, chalk lumps, charcoal, shells			
1717	fill	bank	1715		5	0	0	3.98	0.06	light yellowish brown	silty sand	some sub- rounded stones			
1718	cut	ditch	1718	1719, 1720, 1721, 1722, 1723, 1724	4	1702	1702	2.98	0.92				linear	sharp	U-shape

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Category Filled Master Depth Shape in Break of Context Feature Cut Phase Group Breadth Colour Fine Coarse Profile Туре By Number component component Plan Slope 1719 fill ditch 1718 4 1702 1702 1.14 0.26 mid grey silty sand some small subrounded stones 1720 fill 1718 1702 1702 0.44 0.18 small ditch 4 mid silty sand freg reddish and medium subbrown rounded stones, gravel occ charcoal 1702 1702 silty sand 1721 fill ditch 1718 4 1.04 0.18 mid flecks, brownish 000 gravel grey some small 1722 fill ditch 1718 1702 1702 2.24 0.08 4 dark clayey sand brown subrounded stones 1702 fill 2.74 silty sand 1723 ditch 1718 4 1702 0.14 light grey some small subrounded to sub-angular stones, occ charcoal flecks 1724 fill ditch 1718 1702 1702 2.3 0.32 silty sand some small 4 mid greyish and medium red stones 1725 1725 1726 3 1725 1725 0.94 0.28 U-shape cut ditch linear moderate 1726 fill 1725 3 1725 1725 0.94 0.28 ditch mid silty sand some small brownish subrounded grey stones, gravel, occ medium sub-angular stones 1725 1727 ditch 1728 3 1725 0.08 cut 1727 1.1 linear imperceptible imperceptible

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1728	fill	ditch	1727		3	1725	1725	1.1	0.08	mid brownish grey	silty sand	none			
1729	cut	ditch	1729	1730, 1731	4	1702	1729	1.74	0.32				linear	sharp	wide U-shape
1730	fill	ditch	1729		4	1702	1729	1.34	0.1	mid grey	silty sand	some gravel, occ small stones			
1731	fill	ditch	1729		4	1702	1729	1.74	0.24	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small sub- rounded and sub-angular stones			
1732	cut	ditch	1732	1733, 1734	4	1702	1732	1.3	0.28				linear	gradual	U-shape
1733	fill	ditch	1732		4	1702	1732	0.89	0.15	dark grey	silty sand	some chalk			
1734	fill	ditch	1732		4	1702	1732	1.29	0.14	light grey	silty sand	none			
1735	cut	ditch	1735	1736, 1737, 1738, 1739	4	1702	1702	1.4	0.93				linear	gradual	U-shaped
1736	fill	ditch	1735		4	1702	1702	0.68	0.5	yellowish grey	silty sand	none			
1737	fill	ditch	1735		4	1702	1702	0.5	0.14	dark grey	silty sand	heavy rooting			
1738	fill	ditch	1735		4	1702	1702	1.22	0.4	orangey brown	silty sand	none			
1739	fill	ditch	1735		4	1702	1702	1.4	0.24	light grey	silty sand	none			
1740	cut	post hole	1740	1741	6	1740	0	0.48	0.12				sub-circular	moderate	U-shape
1741	fill	post hole	1740		6	1740	0	0.48	0.12	dark greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1742	cut	ditch	1742	1743	2	1742	1742	1.04	0.12				linear	imperceptible	wide and flat
1743	fill	ditch	1742		2	1742	1742	1.04	0.12	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small sub-angular stones, occ			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
												medium angular stone			
1744	cut	ditch	1744	1745	1	0	1744	0.34	0.14				linear	sharp	V-shaped
1745	fill	ditch	1744		1	0	1744	0.34	0.14	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some small angular and sub-angular stones, some gravel			
1746	cut	ditch	1746	1747	2	1742	1742	0.44	0.2				linear	sharp	V-shape
1747	fill	ditch	1746		2	1742	1742	0.44	0.2	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some small and medium sub-angular stones			
1748	cut	pit	1748	1749	3	0	0	0.88	0.2				circular	gradual	wide U-shape
1749	fill	pit	1748		3	0	0	0.88	0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some medium sub-angular stones			
1750	cut	ditch	1750	1751	2	1742	1750	1.12	0.2				linear	gradual	wide U-shape
1751	fill	ditch	1750		2	1742	1750	1.12	0.2	mid brownish grey	silty sand	occ large sub-angular stone, some pea gravel			
1752	cut	post hole	1752	1753	6	0	0	0.2	0.1				circular	sharp	U-shaped
1753	fill	post hole	1752		6	0	0	0.2	0.1	dark grey	silty sand	occ gravel			
1754	cut	post hole	1754	1755	6	1754	0	0.51	0.24				circular	moderate	U-shaped
1755	fill	post hole	1754		6	1754	0	0.51	0.24	dark greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1756	cut	post hole	1756	1757	6	1740	0	0.47	0.14				circular	moderate	U-shaped

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1757	fill	post hole	1756		6	1740	0	0.47	0.14	dark greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1758	cut	ditch	1758	1759	3	1758	1758	1.24	0.42				linear	gradual	U-shape
1759	fill	ditch	1758		3	1758	1758	1.24	0.42	mid brownish grey	silty sand	freq medium stones			
1760		VOID	0		0	0	0								
1761	cut	ditch	1761	1762, 1763	4	1702	1702	0.94	0.95				linear	moderate	V-shaped
1762	fill	ditch	1761		4	1702	1702	0.94	0.26	dark greyish brown	silty sand	freq medium stones			
1763	fill	ditch	1761		4	1702	1702	0.51	0.66	light brownish grey	silty sand	freq medium stones			
1764	cut	pit	1764	1765, 1766, 1767	5	0	0	2.55	0.53				circular	moderate	U-shaped
1765	fill	pit	1764		5	0	0	1.89	0.17	dark grey	silty sand	none			
1766	fill	pit	1764		5	0	0	1.17	0.17	yellowish brown	silty sand	none			
1767	fill	pit	1764		5	0	0	2.55	0.3	light grey	silty sand	none			
1768	cut	gully	1768	1769	3	1725	1768	0.87	0.13				linear	gradual	wide U- shaped
1769	fill	gully	1768		3	1725	1768	0.87	0.13	light grey	silty sand	none			
1770	cut	ditch	1770	1771	3	1725	1768	1.03	0.13				linear	gradual	U-shaped
1771	fill	ditch	1770		3	1725	1768	1.03	0.13	light grey	silty sand	none			
1772	cut	post hole	1772	1773	6	1740	0	0.95	0.5				circular	moderate	U-shaped
1773	fill	post hole	1772		6	1740	0	0.95	0.5	dark grey	silty sand	some charcoal, some small stones, gravel			

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Category Filled Master Depth Shape in Profile Context Feature Cut Phase Group Breadth Colour Fine Coarse Break of Туре By Number Plan Slope component component 1774 1774 1775 3 1748 1774 0.58 0.16 sub-circular stepped stepped Ucut post hole shape 1775 fill 1774 3 1748 1774 0.58 0.16 light silty sand freq post subhole yellowish angular and angular grey medium stones at the top, some stones within the fill 1776 1777, 2.14 0.52 wide U-shape 1776 3 1776 1776 sub-circular moderate cut pit 1778 1777 3 fill 1776 1776 1776 1.74 0.18 clayey sand some small pit dark greyish and medium brown subrounded stones, some charcoal flecks 1778 1776 1776 1776 0.26 some small fill pit 3 2.14 mid silty sand brownish sub-angular stones, grey some charcoal 1779 buried 0 0 0 0 0.08 light silty sand freq small layer soil brownish subrounded to grey sub-angular stones 1780 1781 2 1742 1780 0.9 0.16 gradual wide and flat 1780 cut ditch linear 1780 2 1742 1780 1781 fill ditch 0.9 0.16 mid silty sand some small greyish stone, gravel, occ brown charcoal

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1782	layer	buried soil	0		0	0	0	0.6	0.06	light brownish grey	silty sand	freq small sub- rounded to			
												sub-angular stones			
1783	cut	ditch	1783	1784	1	0	0	0.46	0.18				linear	gradual	wide and flat/ imperceptible
1784	fill	ditch	1783		1	0	0	0.46	0.18	dark brownish grey	silty sand	some small sub-angular stones			
1785	cut	ditch	1785	1786, 1794	3	1725	1785	2	0.22				linear	S: sharp N: gradual	irregular V- shape
1786	fill	ditch	1785		3	1725	1785	1.4	0.14	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some medium sub-angular stones, some gravel			
1787	layer	buried soil	1787	1788	0	1779	0	1.28	0.21				amorphous	gradual	shallow
1788	layer	buried soil	1787		0	1779	0	1.28	0.21	mid greyish brown	silty sand	few small stones			
1789	cut	pit	1789	1790	6	0	0	0.9	0.4				sub-circular	sharp	U-shape
1790	fill	pit	1789		6	0	0	0.9	0.4	mid brownish grey	silty sand	few small stones			
1791	cut	post hole	1791	1792, 1793	6	0	0	1	0.5				sub-circular	sharp	U-shape
1792	fill	post hole	1791		6	0	0	0.6	0.5	medium greyish brown	silty sand	mixed in lenses of redeposited natural			
1793	fill	post hole	1791		6	0	0	0.4	0.48	dark greyish brown	silty sand	freq small stones			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1794	fill	ditch	1785		3	1725	1785	1.74	0.08	mid reddish brown	silty sand	some sub- rounded to sub-angular stones			
1795	cut	post hole	1795	1796	1	1795	1795	0.34	0.22				circular	sharp	U-shape
1796	fill	post hole	1795		1	1795	1795	0.34	0.22	mid brown	silty sand	rare small sub-angular stones			
1797	cut	ditch	1797	1798	2	1742	1750	0.6	0.04				linear	imperceptible	imperceptible
1798	fill	ditch	1797		2	1742	1750	0.6	0.04	mid greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1799	cut	ditch	1799	1800, 1801	4	1702	1799	0.88	0.28				linear	moderate	wide U-shape
1800	fill	ditch	1799		4	1702	1799	0.6	0.16	dark brownish grey	silty sand	some sub- angular and sub- rounded small stones, some gravel			
1801	fill	ditch	1799		4	1702	1799	0.42	0.12	light yellowish brown	silty sand	freq small sub- rounded stones			
1802	layer	buried soil	0		0	0	0		0.17	light greyish brown	silty sand	occ sub- angular and angular flints			
1803	cut	post hole	1803	1804, 1805	6	0	0	0.6	0.33				sub-circular	moderate	U-shape
1804	fill	post hole	1803		6	0	0	0.55	0.2	light greyish brown	silty sand	none			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1805	fill	post hole	1803		6	0	0	0.6	0.16	light orange grey	silty sand	none			
1806	cut	tree throw	1806	1807	0	0	0	1.65	0.19				amorphous	gradual	U-shape
1807	fill	tree throw	1806		0	0	0	1.65	0.19	dark grey, almost black	silty sand	none			
1808	cut	ditch	1808	1809	3	1725	1725	0.94	0.2				linear	gentle	wide and shallow
1809	fill	ditch	1808		3	1725	1725	0.94	0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some gravel			
1810	cut	gully	1810	1811	2	1742	1810	0.6	0.06				linear	imperceptible	imperceptible
1811	fill	gully	1810		2	1742	1810	0.6	0.06	light grey	silty sand	freq sub- rounded and sub-angular stones			
1812	layer	subsoil	0		6	0	0		0.06	light brownish grey	silty sand	some gravel, occ small subrounded stones			
1813	cut	pit	1813	1814	1	0	0	0.62	0.17				sub-circular	gradual	shallow U- shape
1814	fill	pit	1813		1	0	0	0.62	0.17	light brownish grey	silty sand	freq small stones			
1815	cut	ditch	1815	1816	3	1725	1815	1.22	0.3				linear	gradual	U-shape
1816	fill	ditch	1815		3	1725	1815	1.22	0.3	mid greyish brown	silty clay	freq small stones			
1817	cut	ditch	1817	1818, 1819	2	1742	1817	2.1	0.6				linear	gradual	U-shape
1818	fill	ditch	1817		2	1742	1817	0.96	0.31	mid brownish grey	silty sand	few small stones			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1819	fill	ditch	1817		2	1742	1817	2.1	0.6	dark brownish grey	silty clay	few medium stones			
1820	cut	ditch	1820	1821, 1822, 1823, 1824	4	1702	1732	1.55	0.91				linear	sharp	steep U-shape
1821	fill	ditch	1820		4	1702	1732	1.08	0.21	light brownish grey	silty sand	some small stones			
1822	fill	ditch	1820		4	1702	1732	1.54	0.48	mid greyish brown	silty clay	few medium stones			
1823	fill	ditch	1820		4	1702	1732	1.39	0.51	mid greyish brown	silty sand	few small stones			
1824	fill	ditch	1820		4	1702	1732	0.88	0.23	dark greyish brown	silty clay	few small and medium stones			
1825	cut	pit	1825	1826	1	0	0	0.8	0.26				linear	sharp	U-shape
1826	fill	pit	1825		1	0	0	0.8	0.26	light brownish grey	silty sand	few small stones			
1827	cut	post hole	1827	1828	6	0	0	0.43	0.08				circular	gradual	shallow U- shape
1828	fill	post hole	1827		6	0	0	0.43	0.08	mid greyish brown	silty sand	few small stones			
1829	layer	buried soil	0		0	0	0		0.1	light brownish grey	silty sand	few small stones			
1830		VOID	0		0	0	0				1				
1831	layer	buried soil	0		0	0	0		0.08	light brownish grey	silty sand	freq gravel			
1832	cut	ditch	1832	1833	1	0	1744	0.56	0.14	9' <i>~</i> J	1	1	linear	gradual	wide V-shape

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1833	fill	ditch	1832		1	0	1744	0.56	0.14	light greyish brown	silty sand	occ sub- rounded small stones			
1834	cut	ditch	1834	1835, 1836	2	1742	1742	1.12	0.38				linear	moderate	U-shape
1835	fill	ditch	1834		2	1742	1742	0.68	0.2	dark grey	silty sand	some small and medium sub- rounded stones			
1836	fill	ditch	1834		2	1742	1742	0.8	0.21	dark reddish brown	silty sand	some small stones			
1837	cut	tree throw	1837	1838	1	0	0	2.5	0.25				amorphous	irregular	irregular
1838	fill	tree throw	1837		1	0	0	2.5	0.25	mid brownish grey with red mottling	silty sand	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1839	cut	pit	1839	1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845	3	1839	1839	0.98	1.04				sub-circular	gradual	irregular
1840	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.16	mid grey with dark lenses at base, some with yellow mottling	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel, occ small sub- angular chalk pieces, occ sand patches			
1841	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.27	mid grey with light	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel, occ			

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Context	Category	Feature	Cut	Filled	Phase	Group	Master	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine	Coarse	Shape in	Break of	Profile	
Jontont	outogory	Туре	- Cur	By	i nuse	Croup	Number	Dioduin	Dopui	Joiou	component	component	Plan	Slope		
	1									yellow		sand, occ				
										mottling		small sub-				
										0		angular				
												chalk pieces				
1842	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.22	light	sand	freq small				
										brownish		chalk pieces				
										yellow						
1843	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.24	dark grey	silty clay	occ small				
												sub-angular				
												chalk pieces,				
												occ small				
												sub-angular				
												gravel, occ				
												charcoal				
												flecks				
1844	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.17	light grey	sandy silt	occ small				
												sub-angular,				
												gravel, chalk				
1845	fill	pit	1839		3	1839	1839		0.26	light grey	sandy silt	freq sub-				
										with		angular				
										yellowish		gravel, small				
										red and		sub-angular				
										white		chalk				
104/		all the la	104/	1047	4	1700	1700	1.40	0.00	mottling			line e en			
1846	cut	ditch	1846	1847, 1848	4	1702	1799	1.42	0.38				linear	imperceptible	shallow	U
1047	fill	ditale	104/	1848	4	1700	1799		0.10						shape	
1847	1111	ditch	1846		4	1702	1/99		0.19	dark grey	silty clay	occ small				
												sub-angular				
1848	fill	ditch	1846		4	1702	1799		0.2	light grou	cilty clay	gravel, chalk				
1040	1111	ditch	1840		4	1702	1/99		0.2	light grey	silty clay	occ small				
										with reddish		sub-angular				
										yellow		gravel, chalk				
										mottling						
1849	cut	nit	1849	1850	4		1849	0.8	0.1	morning			sub-circular	imperceptible	shallow	U-
1047	cui	pit	1049	1000	4		1047	0.0	0.1				Sub-circuial	imperceptible		0-
															shape	

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1850	fill	pit	1849		4		1849		0.1	mid grey with red mottling	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1851	cut	pit	1851	1852	4	0	0	0.98	0.36				sub-circular	imperceptible	irregular
1852	fill	pit	1851		4	0	0		0.36	mid grey with red mottling	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1853	cut	ditch	1853	1854	1	0	1853	0.48	0.19				linear	gradual	U-shape
1854	fill	ditch	1853		1	0	1853	0.48	0.19	light brown grey	silty sand	few small stones			
1855	cut	tree throw	1855	1856	0	0	0	2.26	0.18				amorphous	moderate	irregular
1856	fill	tree throw	1855		0	0	0	2.26	0.148	light grey	silty sand	none			
1857	cut	ditch	1857	1858, 1859	4	1702	1732	0.65	0.34				linear	moderate	imperceptible
1858	fill	ditch	1857		4	1702	1732	0.45	0.17	dark grey	silty sand	none			
1859	fill	ditch	1857		4	1702	1732	0.65	0.19	light orangey brown	silty sand	none			
1860	cut	pit	1860	1861	1	0	0	1.35	0.22				circular	moderate	wide U-shape
1861	fill	pit	1860		1	0	0	1.35	0.29	light greyish brown	silty sand	rare chalk flecks			
1862	cut	pit	1862	1863, 1864, 1865	5	1862	1862	2.9	0.75				sub-circular	moderate	U-shaped
1863	fill	pit	1862		5	1862	1862	2.36	0.46	dark greyish brown, almost black	silty sand	none			
1864	fill	pit	1862		5	1862	1862	2.33	0.3	mid greyish brown	silty sand	rare chalk			
1865	fill	pit	1862		5	1862	1862	2.9	0.24	light grey	silty sand	none			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1866	cut	ditch	1866	1867, 1868	4	1702	1732	1.5	0.45				linear	moderate	imperceptible
1867	fill	ditch	1866		4	1702	1732	1.5	0.3	light greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1868	fill	ditch	1866		4	1702	1732		0.21	light grey	silty sand	none			
1869		VOID	1869	1870	0	0	0	0.58	0.05				sub-circular	gradual	U-shaped
1870		VOID	1869		0	0	0	0.58	0.05	light grey	silty sand	none			
1871	cut	ditch	1871	1872, 1982	3	1725	1871	1.4	0.5				linear	gradual	wide U-shape
1872	fill	ditch	1871		3	1725	1871	1.4	0.5	dark greyish brown with orange mottling	silty sand	freq small stones			
1873	cut	ditch	1873	1874	1	0	0	0.57	0.08				linear	gradual	shallow, wide, U shape
1874	fill	ditch	1873		1	0	0	0.57	0.08	light greyish brown	silty sand	few small stones			
1875	cut	pit	1875	1876, 1877, 1878	3	1776	1776	1.76	0.42				sub-circular	moderate	wide V-shape
1876	fill	pit	1875		3	1776	1776	1.18	0.16	dark greyish brown	clayey sand	some small and medium sub- rounded stones, some charcoal flecks			
1877	fill	pit	1875		3	1776	1776	1.64	0.14	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some small sub-angular stones, some charcoal			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1878	fill	pit	1875		3	1776	1776	1.44	0.1	mid reddish brown	silty sand	rare small sub- rounded stones			
1879	cut	post hole	1879	1880	6	1754	0	1.04	0.28				circular	sharp	stepped U- shape
1880	fill	post hole	1879		6	1754	0	1.04	0.28	dark brownish grey	silty sand	freq large nodules of chalk, occ charcoal			
1881	cut	ditch	1881	1882	2	1742	1881	0.7	0.12				linear	gradual	U-shape
1882	fill	ditch	1881		2	1742	1881	0.7	0.12	light brownish grey	silty sand	few small stones			
1883	cut	pit	1883	1884	3	0	0	1.68	0.25				sub-circular	gradual	wide U-shape
1884	fill	pit	1883		3	0	0	1.68	0.25	mid brownish grey	silty sand	freq small stones			
1885	cut	ditch	1885	1886, 1887	3	1725	1871	1.8	0.44				linear	gradual	wide U-shape
1886	fill	ditch	1885		3	1725	1871	1.8	0.25	light greyish brown	silty sand	freq small stones			
1887	fill	ditch	1885		3	1725	1871	1.02	0.31	dark greyish brown	silty sand	freq small stones			
1888	cut	ditch	1888	1889, 1899	2	1742	1888	1.8	0.2				linear	imperceptible	V-shape
1889	fill	ditch	1888		2	1742	1888		0.07	dark greyish brown	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1890	cut	ditch	1890	1891, 1892	3	1725	1785	1.14	0.59				linear	imperceptible	V-shaped
1891	fill	ditch	1890		3	1725	1785		0.4	mid grey with light grey lenses	silty sand with sand lenses	occ small sub-angular gravel, occ chalk			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1892	fill	ditch	1890		3	1725	1785		0.19	light brownish yellow, with brownish red mottling	sandy silt	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1893	cut	pit	1893	1894	4	0	1893	1.19	0.18	Ŭ			amorphous	imperceptible	U-shape
1894	fill	pit	1893		4	0	1893	1.19	0.18	mid grey with whiteish red mottling	silty clay	chalk lenses, occ small sub-angular gravel			
1897	cut	post hole	1897	1898	2	1897	1897	0.48	0.28				sub-circular	imperceptible	U-shape
1898	fill	post hole	1897		2	1897	1897	0.48	0.28	mid grey	silty sand	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1899	fill	ditch	1888		2	1742	1888	1.8	0.13	mid greyish brown with red mottling	silty sand	occ small sub-angular gravel, rare medium sub-angular gravel			
1900	cut	ditch	1900	1901	2	1742	1780	1.78	0.42			9	linear	moderate	stepped wide U-shape
1901	fill	ditch	1900		2	1742	1780	1.78	0.42	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small stones, gravel, occ charcoal			
1902	cut	tree throw	1902	1903	6	0	0	0.66	0.12				sub-circular	gradual	U-shape
1903	fill	tree throw	1902		6	0	0	0.6	0.12	dark reddish brown	silty sand	freq mussels shells			
1904	cut	pit	1904	1905	1	1904	1904	1	0.34				sub-circular	sharp	flat based U- shape

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Contout	Catagori	Facture-	Cut	Filled	Dhaar	Crow	Maatar	Ducadat	Dand	Colour	Fine	Cooree	Chana in	Dreak of	Drafila
Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1905	fill	pit	1904		1	1904	1904	1	0.34	mid greyish brown	silty clay	freq small stones			
1906	cut	post hole	1906	1907	1	1795	1795	0.57	0.21				circular	sharp	U-shape
1907	fill	post hole	1906		1	1795	1795	0.57	0.21	mid brownish grey	silty sand	some small sub- rounded stones, occ charcoal			
1908	cut	hollow	1908	1909, 1910, 19011	2	1742	1908	2.54	0.74				amorphous	imperceptible	irregular
1909	fill	hollow	1908		2	1742	1908		0.02	mid grey with yellow mottling	clay	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1910	fill	hollow	1908		2	1742	1908		0.06	dark brown	silty clay	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1911	fill	hollow	1908		2	1742	1908		0.06	light grey with reddish yellow mottling	sandy silt	occ small sub-angular gravel			
1912	cut	ditch	1912	1913	3	1725	1785	1.64	0.17				linear	imperceptible	imperceptible
1913	fill	ditch	1912		3	1725	1785		0.17	light grey with reddish yellow mottling	sandy silt	occ small sub-angular gravel, chalk			
1914	cut	ditch	1914	1915, 1916	4	1702	1799	2.09	0.57				linear	moderate	U-shaped
1915	fill	ditch	1914		4	1702	1799	1.43	0.38	dark grey, almost black	silty sand	none			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1916	fill	ditch	1914		4	1702	1799	2.09	0.25	light grey with orange patches	silty sand	small sub- rounded flints			
1917	cut	ditch	1917	1918, 1919	4	1702	1799	1.37	0.44				linear	moderate	U-shaped
1918	fill	ditch	1917		4	1702	1799	1.3	0.25	dark grey	silty sand	none			
1919	fill	ditch	1917		4	1702	1799	1.37	0.23	light grey with orange patches	silty sand	none			
1920	cut	pit	1920	1921	0	0	0	0.86	0.22				sub-circular	gradual	U-shape
1921	fill	pit	1920		0	0	0	0.86	0.22	mid greyish brown	silty clay	few small stones			
1922	cut	ditch	1922	1923	1	0	1853	0.37	0.2				linear	gradual	U-shape
1923	fill	ditch	1922		1	0	1853	0.37	0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand	freq small stones			
1924	cut	post hole	1924	1925	6	0		0.2	0.16				sub-circular	imperceptible	U-shape
1925	fill	post hole	1924		6	0		0.2	0.17	light grey with red mottling	sandy silt	occ very small sub- angular gravel			
1926	cut	post hole	1926	1927	2	1926	1926	0.71	0.14				circular	imperceptible	U-shape
1927	fill	post hole	1926		2	1926	1926		0.14	mid grey	silty clay	freq small sub-angular gravel			
1928	cut	post hole	1928	1929	2	1926	1926	0.58	0.07				sub-circular	imperceptible	U-shape
1929	fill	post hole	1928		2	1926	1926		0.07	light grey with yellow mottling	sandy silt	occ small sub-angular gravel			

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Context	Category	Feature	Cut	Filled	Phase	Group	Master	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine	Coarse	Shape in	Break of	Profile
context	category	Туре	Cut	By	Filase	Group	Number	Dieauth	Depth	Coloui	component	component	Plan	Slope	FIOINE
1930	cut	ditch	1930	1931	2	1742	1908	0.62	0.08				linear	imperceptible	shallow U- shape
1931	fill	ditch	1930		2	1742	1908		0.08	dark brown	silt clay	rare small sub-angular gravel			
1932	cut	ditch	1932	1933	2	1742	1750	0.4	0.17				linear	moderate	U-shape
1933	fill	ditch	1932		2	1742	1750	0.4	0.17	light greyish brown	silty sand	none			
1934	cut	post hole	1934	1935	1	1795	1795	0.3	0.12				circular	moderate	U-shape
1935	fill	post hole	1934		1	1795	1795	0.3	0.12	mid brownish grey	silty sand	occ sub- rounded small stones, occ charcoal			
1936	cut	post hole	1936	1937	1	1795	1795	0.4	0.14				circular	sharp	U-shape
1937	fill	post hole	1936		1	1795	1795	0.4	0.14	mid brownish grey	silt sand	occ sub- rounded and sub-angular small stones			
1938	cut	post hole	1938	1939	1	1795	1795	0.8	0.19				sub-circular	sharp	wide U-shape
1939	fill	post hole	1938		1	1795	1795	0.84	0.19	dark brownish grey	silty sand	some sub- rounded and sub-angular small and medium stones			
1940	cut	ditch	1940	1941	2	1742	1750	0.57	0.06				linear	gradual	wide and shallow
1941	fill	ditch	1940		2	1742	1750	0.57	0.06	light grey	silty sand	some small sub- rounded stones			

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1942	cut	test pit	1942	1943, 1944	6	0	0	0.61	1.01				circular	sharp	U-shape
1943	fill	test pit	1942		6	0	0	0.3	0.39	dark grey, almost black	silty sand	none			
1944	fill	test pit	1942		6	0	0	0.61	0.63	light grey	silty sand	none			
1945	cut	pit	1945	1946, 1947	3	1839	1839	1.4	1.04				sub-circular	moderate	U-shape
1946	fill	pit	1945		3	1839	1839	0.66	0.21	yellowish brown	silty sand	none			
1947	fill	pit	1945		3	1839	1839	1.36	0.73	light grey with orangey patches	silty sand	none			
1948	cut	post hole	1948	1949	2	1926	1926	0.28	0.13				sub-circular	sharp	U-shape
1949	fill	post hole	1948		2	1926	1926	0.328	0.13	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small and medium sub- rounded and sub-angular stones			
1950	cut	post hole	1950	1951	2	1926	1926	0.45	0.1				circular	moderate	wide and flat
1951	fill	post hole	1950		2	1926	1926	0.45	0.1	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occ sub- rounded stones, occ gravel			
1952	cut	post hole	1952	1953	2	1926	1926	0.3	0.08				truncated sub-circular	gradual	wide and shallow
1953	fill	post hole	1952		2	1926	1926	0.3	0.08	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occ small stones			
1954	cut	post hole	1954	1955, 1956	2	1926	1926	0.6	0.48				sub-circular	sharp	V-shape
1955	fill	post hole	1954		2	1926	1926	0.42	0.24	dark brown	clayey silt	some gravel, some			

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V.1

Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
												charcoal flecks			
1956	fill	post hole	1954		2	1926	1926	0.6	0.24	mixed mid greyish brown and mid yellowish brown	silty sand	freq gravel, some sub- rounded stones			
1957	cut	post hole	1957	1958	2	1926	1926	0.47	0.17				sub-circular	sharp	U-shape
1958	fill	post hole	1957		2	1926	1926	0.47	0.17	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occ charcoal, some gravel, some small sub- rounded stones			
1959	cut	post hole	1959	1960	2	1926	1926	0.52	0.24				circular	moderate	U-shape
1960	fill	post hole	1959		2	1926	1926	0.52	0.24	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some gravel, occ small sub- rounded stones, occ charcoal			
1961	cut	post hole	1961	1962	2	1926	1926	0.34	0.1				sub-circular	sharp	U-shape
1962	fill	post hole	1961		2	1926	1926	0.34	0.1	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occ small stone, some gravel			
1963	cut	post hole	1963	1964	2	1926	1926	0.54	0.43				sub-circular	sharp	irregular U- shape

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Context

1964

1965

1966

1967

1968

1969

1970

1971

1972

Medieval remains at Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk

post

hole

post

hole

post

hole

1970

1970

1972

1971

1973

6

6

6

0

0

0

0

0

0

0.3

0.3

0.26

0.25

0.25

0.15

Category

fill

cut

fill

fill

cut

fill

cut

fill

cut

Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
post hole	1963		2	1926	1926	0.54	0.43	mid greyish brown	silty sand	some small and medium sub- rounded and sub-angular stones, some gravel, occ charcoal			
pit	1965	1966, 1967	3	0	1965	1.48	0.36				sub-circular	moderate	wide U-shape
pit	1965		3	0	1965	1.36	0.16	dark brown	silty sand	some small stones, some gravel			
pit	1965		3	0	1965	1.48	0.2	mid yellowish brown	silty sand	some medium and small sub- rounded and sub-angular stones			
ditch	1968	1969	2	1742	1888	1.7	0.14				linear	gradual	wide and shallow
ditch	1968		2	1742	1888	1.7	0.14	dark greyish	silty sand	some small and medium			

brown

dark grey

silty sand

subrounded and sub-angular stones

subrounded stones

some small

circular

sub-circular

sharp

moderate

V.1

U-shape

U-shape

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Context	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Filled By	Phase	Group	Master Number	Breadth	Depth	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Shape in Plan	Break of Slope	Profile
1973	fill	post hole	1972		6	0	0	0.26	0.15	very dark brownish grey	silty sand	chalk flecks and lumps, freq charcoal, occ sub- angular small stones			
1974	cut	post hole	1974	1975	2	1897	1897	0.4	0.09				circular	moderate	wide V-shape
1975	fill	post hole	1974		2	1897	1897	0.4	0.09	mid greyish brown	silty sand	occ small stones, some gravel			
1976	cut	ditch	1976	1977	2	1742	1908	1.3	0.14				linear	moderate	wide and shallow
1977	fill	ditch	1976		2	1742	1908	1.3	0.14	dark brownish grey	silty sand	some gravel and occ chalk lumps			
1978	cut	ditch	1978	1979	2	1742	1881	0.57	0.21				linear	moderate	U-shaped
1979	fill	ditch	1978		2	1742	1881	0.57	0.21	dark grey	silty sand	some small chalk lumps			
1980	cut	ditch	1980	1981	2	1742	1750	0.83	0.24				linear	moderate	U-shaped
1981	fill	ditch	1980		2	1742	1750	0.83	0.24	dark grey	silty sand	some small chalk inclusions			· · ·
1982	fill	ditch	1871		3	1725	1871		0.24	mid greyish brown	silty sand	freq small stones			



APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Denis Sami

- B.1.1 Excavation produced a small assemblage of six iron artefacts. The metalwork was metal detected from the topsoil and it is poorly preserved with items showing thick rust and encrustations. The assemblage comprises two complete horseshoes, two large loops and two fragments of metal slab all possibly from a plough.
- B.1.2 The assemblage has a strong agricultural character and finds can be connected with modern rural activity on site. All items are modern in date.
- B.1.3 Further work on this assemblage is not required. The finds have no archaeological potential and they can be dispersed following approval of this report.

B.2 Pottery

By Sue Anderson

Introduction

- B.2.1 The evaluation pottery report can be found in Anderson 2019, but key contexts relating to the excavated features are noted below. During the evaluation fifty-four sherds of pottery weighing 1213g were collected from thirteen contexts. Twenty-five sherds were of Late Saxon date, the majority of which was Thetford-type ware, dominated by the locally-produced Grimston-type version. Twenty-nine sherds of medieval coarseware were identified, including the handmade types classified as EMW (although some of these were made well into the 13th century) and Grimston coarsewares. A summary catalogue of the evaluation results by context is included as Table 4.
- B.2.2 During the excavation 67 sherds of pottery weighing 1630g were collected from 20 contexts. Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Table 3.

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt (g)	Eve	MNV
Thetford Ware (Grimston)	THETG	10th-11th c.	1	39	0.10	1
Early medieval ware	EMW	11th-12th c.	8	45		8
Blackborough End ware	UGBB	12th-13th c.	14	314	0.25	7
Medieval coarseware	MCW	12th-14th c.	3	15		3
Grimston coarseware	GRCW	12th-13th c.	23	803	0.22	17
Ely-type coarseware	ELCW	12th-14th c.	2	5		1
Grimston glazed ware	GRIM	L.12th-14th c.	1	26		1
Grimston-type glazed ware	GRIMT	L.12th-14th c.?	5	59		4
Barton Bendish glazed ware	BBGW	13th-14th c.?	1	13		1
Ely glazed ware	ELYG	12th-14th c.+	2	43		2
?Late Toynton-type ware	TOYL	M.15th-16th c.	3	203		1
West Norfolk Bichrome	WNBC	16th-17th c.	1	6		1
Pearlware	PEW	L.18th-M.19th c.	1	38		1



Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt (g)	Eve	MNV
Refined white earthenwares	REFW	19th-20th c.	1	7	0.04	1
Unidentified	UNID	LSax or Med?	1	14		1
Total			67	1630	0.61	50

Table 1 Pottery quantification by fabric

Methodology

B.2.3 Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series. Grimston, Blackborough End and Barton Bendish fabrics were identified based on samples from the kiln site. Form terminology for medieval and later pottery follows MPRG (1998) and fabrics follow Jennings (1981). Data were input directly onto an MS Access database, which forms the archive database.

Pottery by period

Late Saxon

B.2.4 Although a high proportion of the evaluation assemblage was Grimston Thetford-type ware (Anderson 2019), in the excavation group only one sherd was identified. This was a rim fragment of a large storage vessel. The beaded rim form was similar to Little's (1994) HJB form, but without additional applied thumbed strips (Fig. 16a, no. 1). The sherd was the only find from pit fill (1861), pit 1860.

Medieval

- B.2.5 Fifty sherds of medieval coarseware were identified, including the handmade types classified as EMW and Blackborough End ware, and Grimston and Ely coarsewares which were more commonly wheelmade. Other medieval sherds were of uncertain origin (MCW), but included two with moderate to abundant very fine calcareous inclusions which were only visible microscopically.
- B.2.6 Six rims were present. One was a simple everted jar form in Blackborough End ware, dated 12th-13th century. The other five were all Grimston coarsewares and comprised two shallow bowl/dishes with beaded and flat-topped everted rims (Figs 16a, nos 2–3), a bowl with a square beaded rim (similar to Little's form GBB; Fig. 16a, no. 4) and thumbing on the internal edge, a jar with a flat-topped everted rim and a handled jar or pitcher with a beaded rim, wide strap handle and applied thumbed strips (Fig. 16b, no. 5). One other wide strap handle was also recovered.
- B.2.7 Nine sherds of medieval glazed ware were found. By sherd count, this represents 15.3% of the medieval group, which is a relatively high proportion for a rural group. No rims were present. The Grimston-type vessels in this group were in non-typical fabrics, which tended to appear streaky in cross-section and contained more ferrous oxide than is typical of the Pott Row production sites. It is possible that these were made more locally, perhaps even in Gayton, given the recent discovery of a Late Saxon kiln in the parish (P. Thompson, pers. comm.) and the possibility that production carried on into the medieval period. There is a hint of this in the current assemblage, with one of the GRIMT vessels having poor glaze which was not fully fused.



Late medieval and later

- B.2.8 Three large fragments of a base in a bright orange sandy fabric with traces of thin slip externally are likely to be a ?late Toynton-type ware from south Lincolnshire. These were from levelling **1715** fill (1717).
- B.2.9 Post-medieval and modern wares were recovered from topsoil (1700), and comprised a small body sherd of West Norfolk bichrome earthenware, a large fragment of a transfer-printed willow pattern pearlware bowl, and a refined whiteware plate rim with a floral transfer print.

Pottery by context

B.2.10 The majority of the pottery of all periods was recovered from topsoil. Table 2 shows the distribution by period across the trenches and contexts.

Feature	Context	Description	Fabrics	Spotdate	Cross-links
-	1700	topsoil	WNBC PEW REFW	19th c.+	
1702	1705	ditch	GRCW ELYG BBGW	13th-14th c.	1881
1715	1716	levelling	EMW	11th-12th c.	
1717	1717	levelling	TOYL?	M.15th-M.16th c.?	
1718	1723	ditch	ELCW	12th-14th c.	
1776	1778	pit	EMW GRCW MCW	12th-13th c.	1877
-	1782	subsoil?	EMW UNID	11th-14th c.	
1795	1796	post-hole	UGBB	12th-13th c.	
-	1802	subsoil	GRCW	12th-13th c.	
1817	1818	ditch	GRCW UGBB GRIMT	13th-14th c.	
1839	1843	pit	EMW	11th-12th c.	
1846	1848	ditch	GRIM GRIMT	13th-14th c.	
1860	1861	pit	THETG	11th c.	
1875	1876	pit	EMW UGBB GRCW	12th-13th c.	
1875	1877	pit	EMW GRCW MCW	12th-13th c.	1778
1881	1882	ditch	GRCW UGBB ELYG	12th-13th c.	1705
1914	1916	ditch	GRCW	13th c.	
1938	1939	post-hole	MCW	12th-14th c.	
1940	1941	ditch	GRCW	12th-13th c.	
1963	1964	post-hole	GRCW	12th-13th c.	

Table 2 Pottery distribution by fabric and context.

B.2.11 Most of these contexts contained between one and five sherds each, with only ditch fills 1818 (9 sherds) and 1881 (14 sherds) producing larger quantities.

Discussion

B.2.12 Together with the small quantity of sherds from the evaluation, this assemblage suggests continuous activity on the site between the 11th and 13th centuries, with ditches and pits containing a range of pottery of local origin, much of it comparable with pottery made at the known production sites in Pott Row, Grimston and Blackborough End, Middleton. However, as a Late Saxon kiln has now been identified in Gayton, there is a possibility that production of pottery in the village may have extended into the medieval period. This may account for some of the non-typical Grimston-type glazed wares recovered from the site (and for some of the unusual Grimston Thetford-type wares noted in the evaluation assemblage).



B.2.13 The evaluation assemblage was dominated by Late Saxon and medieval pottery, not extending much beyond the 13th century. This group contains a higher proportion of medieval wares and includes a small quantity of later material, most of which was from topsoil. However, it still seems likely that most of the activity represented by the pottery had ended before the middle of the 14th century.

Illustration catalogue (Fig. 16a-b)

1. A large storage vessel, Grimston Thetford-type ware, 10th-11th century, fill (1861), pit **1860**, Phase 1

2. A shallow bowl/dish with beaded and flat-topped everted rim, Grimston coarsewares, 13th-14th century, fill (1818), ditch **1817**, Agricultural Plots System 1742, Phase 2

3. A shallow bowl/dish with beaded and flat-topped everted rim, Grimston coarsewares, 12th-13th century, fill (1882), ditch **1881**, Agricultural Plots System 1742, Phase 2

4. A bowl with a square beaded rim, Grimston coarsewares, 13th century, fill (1916), ditch **1799**, intersection **1914**, Agricultural Plots System 1702, Phase 4

5. A handled jar or pitcher with a beaded rim, wide strap handle and applied thumbed strips, Grimston coarsewares, 12th- 13th century, fill (1877) pit **1875**. Phase 3

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Date range
1700	WNBC			1	6	1	16th-17th c.
1700	PEW	bowl		1	38	1	L.18th-M.19th c.
1700	REFW	plate	everted	1	7	1	L.18th-20th c.
1705	GRCW			1	27	1	11th-M.13th c.
1705	ELYG			1	29	1	Med-LMed
1705	BBGW			1	13	1	Med
1716	EMW			2	9	2	11th-12th c.
1717	TOYL			3	203	1	M.15th-M.16th c.
1723	ELCW			2	5	1	Med
1778	EMW			1	3	1	11th-12th c.
1778	MCW			1	3	1	L.12th-14th c.
1778	GRCW	jar	flat-top everted	1	15	1	11th-M.13th c.
1778	GRCW			1	10	1	11th-M.13th c.
1778	GRCW			1	16		11th-M.13th c.
1778	GRCW			1	7	1	11th-M.13th c.
1782	EMW			1	2	1	11th-12th c.
1782	UNID			1	14	1	LSax/Med?
1796	UGBB			1	4	1	12th-13th c.
1802	GRCW			1	20	1	11th-M.13th c.
1818	UGBB			1	1	1	12th-13th c.
1818	GRIMT			1	4	1	13th-14th c.?
1818	GRIMT			1	16	1	13th-14th c.?
1818	GRIMT			2	29	1	13th-14th c.?

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Pottery catalogues



Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Date range
1818	GRCW	bowl/dish	bead	3	65	1	11th-M.13th c.
1818	GRCW			1	97	1	11th-M.13th c.
1843	EMW			1	7	1	11th-12th c.
1848	GRIM			1	26	1	L.12th-14th c.
1848	GRIMT			1	10	1	13th-14th c.?
1861	THETG	large jar	bead	1	39	1	10th-11th c.
1876	EMW			2	20	2	11th-12th c.
1876	GRCW			1	6	1	11th-M.13th c.
1876	UGBB			1	2	1	12th-13th c.
1877	EMW			1	4	1	11th-12th c.
1877	GRCW	jar/pitcher	bead	2	237	1	11th-M.13th c.
1877	GRCW			1	15	1	11th-M.13th c.
1877	MCW			1	6	1	L.12th-14th c.
1881	UGBB			2	54	1	12th-13th c.
1881	UGBB			4	106	1	12th-13th c.
1881	UGBB	jar	simple everted	4	116	1	12th-13th c.
1881	UGBB			1	31	1	12th-13th c.
1881	GRCW			1	3	1	11th-M.13th c.
1881	GRCW	bowl/dish	flat-top everted	1	28	1	11th-M.13th c.
1881	ELYG			1	14	1	Med-LMed
1916	GRCW			1	15	1	11th-M.13th c.
1916	GRCW	bowl	square bead	3	134	1	11th-M.13th c.
1939	MCW			1	6	1	L.12th-14th c.
1941	GRCW			2	24	2	11th-M.13th c.
1964	GRCW			1	84	1	11th-M.13th c.

Table 3: Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Fabric date
105	GRCW	jug		1	78	uale	range 12th-M.13th c.
311	THETG	jag	4	1	36		10th-11th c.
311	EMWBE	Jai	4	2	18		11th-13th c.
311	MCW	jar	simple everted	2	31	11-13	12th-14th c.
419	GRCW	Jai	simple evented	1	65	11-15	12th-M.13th c.
						10.10	
419	GRIM	jug	bead	1	77	12-13	L.12th-14th c.
419	GRIM			1	25		L.12th-14th c.
419	GRIM			1	13		L.12th-14th c.
1105	THETG			1	14		10th-11th c.
1105	EMWBE			4	70		11th-13th c.
1105	EMWBE			1	5		11th-13th c.
1105	EMWBE			1	12		11th-13th c.
1111	EMWBE			1	9		11th-13th c.
1111	EMW			1	2		11th-12th c.
1111	EMWFL			1	8		11th-12th c.
1123	THET			1	40		10th-11th c.
1123	THETG			1	72		10th-11th c.
1123	THETG	jar	4	1	64		10th-11th c.
1124	THETG	jar	cavetto	1	51	11	10th-11th c.
1124	THETG	jar or	in turned	2	33	11	10th-11th c.
		spouted pitcher					

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Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot	Fabric date
						date	range
1124	THETG			5	33		10th-11th c.
1124	THETG			1	11		10th-11th c.
1124	STNE			1	13		850-1150
1126	GRCW	bowl	in turned	1	21		12th-M.13th c.
1127	THETG			5	122		10th-11th c.
1127	THETG	bowl	in turned	1	101	11	10th-11th c.
1127	EMSW			1	14		11th-12th c.
1127	EMWBE			2	14		11th-13th c.
1307	MCW			1	25	12-13?	12th-14th c.
1309	THETG			1	6		10th-11th c.
1314	GRCW			2	11		12th-M.13th c.
1314	GRCW			6	103		12th-M.13th c.
1314	EMSW			1	9		11th-12th c.
1317	THET			1	7		10th-11th c.

Table 4 Evaluation pottery catalogue

B.3 Ceramic Building Material

By Sue Anderson

B.3.1 Four fragments (751g) of CBM were collected from Phase 6, ditch 1710, fill (1711) (Table 5). These comprised a small piece of possible estuarine clay brick (EB) with no original surfaces, a heavily abraded fragment in a soft fine sandy micaceous and clay pellet fabric which had a shallow relief line and was possibly part of a moulded brick (MB), and two pieces of white-firing post-medieval brick (LB). One of the latter was 66mm thick and the other was 113mm wide and 64mm thick, probably indicating a 19th-century date.

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Abr	Width (mm)	Height (mm)	Comments	Date
1711	est	EB?	1	5	++			no surfaces	C13-15?
1711	fsmcp	MB?	1	31	++			relief strip on slighly convex surface	Pmed
								convex surface	-
1711	wfs	LB	1	70			66		C19
1711	wfs	LB	1	645		113	64	sooted on surface &	C19
								base	

Table 5: CBM catalogue. Fabrics: est – estuarine clays; fsmcp – fine sandy micaceous with clay pellets; wfs – whitefiring fine sandy



B.4 Leather

By Quita Mould

Methodology

- B.4.1 This report is based on examination of a wet, un-conserved piece of leather. The leather has been identified and a basic record for the site archive is appended to the end of this document. A working drawing of the leather is provided.
- B.4.2 All measurements are in millimetres (mm). A '+' indicates a measurement of an incomplete dimension (*i.e.* the object is broken). No allowance has been made for shrinkage. The size has been calculated according to the modern English Shoe-Size Scale, continental sizing is given in brackets, from measurement of the sole, rounded up to the nearest shoe size as necessary. The grain surface of the leather is worn and compacted but is assumed to be of cattle hide because of the thickness and robust nature.

Condition

B.4.3 The leather was wet and had been washed when examined. It is in good, robust condition but being wet it is easily torn and broken. It is currently stored wet in double, self-sealing polythene bags in an airtight plastic storer.

Summary

B.4.4 A turnshoe sole (SF 21) for the left foot was recovered from fill (1824) at the base of a waterlogged ditch (1820, part of ditch 1732, Phase 4) likely to date between the 12-14th century. The sole, of Adult size 6(39), has been repaired with patches to the tread and seat, and small fragments broken from those patches, known as clumps, are present. The sole is of medieval date but cannot be more closely dated as it lacks the shoe upper so that the style of the shoe is unknown. It has an oval toe, a natural-shaped tread, a medium waist and medium/wide seat and is more likely to date to the 13th or earlier 14th century; it is not so wide and shapeless as to suggest an 11th or 12th century date.

Catalogue description

SF21. Leather turnshoe sole, left foot, adult size. Complete sole with oval toe, natural tread, medium waist and medium/wide seat. Edge/flesh seam, stitch length 6mm.The sole is worn away at the lateral side of the seat and has small holes at the toe and the centre of the tread. Tunnel stitching to attach a clump repair are present at the tread and to attach two different clumps at the seat. The leather is beginning to delaminate. Leather presumed cattle hide. Length 260mm, tread width 95mm, waist width 50mm, seat width 68mm. Estimated modern shoe size Adult 6(39).

Leather clump repair fragment. Sub-circular fragment of compacted leather with broken edges and worn tunnel stitching running along two sides and worn/torn stitching in other areas. Leather presumed cattle hide. 44+x53+x2mm.

Leather clump repair fragments. Small fragments of compacted leather with all edges broken. The largest fragment 36+x30+x2.25mm has a tunnel stitch surviving. Six other small fragments broken from the clump.

Condition: wet and washed. Packed in a double self-sealed polythene bag supported with foam.



B.5 Wood

By Hannah Pighills

Introduction and methodology

- B.5.1 This document's aim is to analyse a waterlogged wood assemblage in terms of woodworking technology, woodland reconstruction, decay analysis, species identification, dendrochronology, and conservation and retention. One wooded item was recovered from Phase 4 medieval boundary ditch **1820**. The item was recovered from a waterlogged basal deposit (1824) of the feature which created anaerobic conditions essential for organic preservation. The item is also charred, which has also enabled organic preservation. No other wooden artefacts were retrieved from this feature, although a leather shoe was found within the same waterlogged deposit (Appendix B.4). The deposit also contained animal bone.
- B.5.2 This report has been produced in accordance with Historic England guidelines for the treatment of waterlogged wood (Brunning and Watson 2010) and recommendations made by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993) for the retention of waterlogged wood. The item was recorded using a pro forma 'wood recording sheet', based on the sheet developed by the Fenland Archaeological Trust for the post-excavation recording of waterlogged wood.
- B.5.3 The system of categorisation and interrogation developed by Taylor (2001), the condition scale developed by the Humber Wetlands project (Van de Noort *et al.* 1995, table 15.1) have been adopted within this report. Joints have been recorded in accordance with the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (Spence 1994). Tool marks have been recorded using a digital caliper. Where possible, species identification using morphological traits visible with a hand lens oak (*Quercus sp.*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) were noted.

Factual Data

B.5.4 The aforementioned condition scale (Table 6) is predominantly based of the clarity of the surface data. The item is given a score which is dependent on the types of analyses which can be carried out, given the preservation state. The condition score reflects the possibility of a given type of analysis but does not consider if the item is suitable for the given process. If the preservation varies within the item, the section with the highest level of preservation is considered with the item is given a condition score.

Condition Score	Museum Conservation	Technology Analysis	Woodland Management	Dendro- chronology	Species Identification
5 Excellent	+	+	+	+	+
4 Good	-	+	+	+	+
3 Moderate	-	+/-	+	+	+
2 Poor	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+
1 Very Poor	-	-	-	-	+/-



Condition	Museum	Technology	Woodland	Dendro-	Species
Score	Conservation	Analysis	Management	chronology	Identification
0 Non-Viable	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6: Wood Condition Scale

- B.5.5 The item has been assessed as incomplete and truncated, with a condition score of moderate to good and with minor charring. It has been identified as a jointed structural timber, which appears to have been split tangentially from a larger timber, the sapwood and bark hewed (leaving primarily heartwood) to form a plank with a mortise joint.
- B.5.6 The charring has been observed on both faces, on the intact edge, and on the truncated section.
- B.5.7 Modern damage has been subjected to the timber, meaning the true size and shape is unknown. This damage has predominantly been made to the "upper" section and the lower face. In addition, the piece was truncated on the lower section before charring occurred. The item shows no evidence of wormwood or other insect interference; suggesting the timber was not exposed for a long period before it was deposited. Mild abrasion has been recorded, but the charring has enabled its moderate preservation standard.
- B.5.8 The item's dimensions are as follows: 280mm in length, 122mm in width and 60mm in thickness. The mortise measures as 400mm by 320mm.
- B.5.9 It has been observed that item has 3 chop marks on the intact upper face (14mm, 18mm and 20mm), one on the most intact edge (44mm) and 2 on the lower face (18mm and 22mm). These chop marks suggest it has been shaped with an axe which has got caught within the wood. No tool marks have been observed within the mortise joint.
- B.5.10 The mortise suggests that this item belonged to a larger structure, with a mortise and tenon arrangement, but as there was no other wood found on site no further statement can be made.
- B.5.11 After macroscopic analysis the wood species has been identified as oak (*Quercus sp.*).

Retention and disposal

B.5.12 This wooden item may be discarded following the approval of this report.



APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental remains

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.1.1 A total of thirty-three bulk samples were taken from deposits within the excavated areas at Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk in accordance with the sampling strategy for this site which aimed to maximise the recovery of ecofacts and small artefacts from all feature types, phases and areas. Samples taken during the evaluation (Fosberry 2019) indicated that charred plant remains from medieval deposits were well preserved with excellent density and diversity. The results of these samples are included in this report as subsequent excavation did not include all of the evaluation trenches, some of which had produced significant assemblages.
- C.1.2 The main phases of occupation of the site are from the 11th through to the 14th century and are well-represented by the sampling strategy. Samples taken from later deposits produced preserved plant remains, but these have been interpreted with caution as there may have been mixing of material from earlier phases through subsequent pit digging. A few samples were taken from undated or natural features, but these were unproductive and have not been included in this report.

Methodology

- C.1.3 The samples were processed by tank flotation using modified Sīraf-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. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds.
- C.1.4 The waterlogged samples were scanned whilst wet for initial identification of plant remains and then allowed to dry for quantification. The dried flots from all samples were subsequently scanned using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and the results tabulated (Table 7).
- C.1.5 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.1.6 Items such as cereal grains and seeds have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

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

C.1.7 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = occasional, ++ = moderate, +++ = frequent, ++++ = abundant

Results

- C.1.8 Preservation of plant remains is predominantly by carbonisation (charring) along with preservation by waterlogging in some of the deeper deposits that have remained below the water-table. Mineralised remains, which would have indicated cess disposal, are absent. Untransformed seeds of bramble (*Rubus* sp.) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) may be contemporary with the deposits sampled due to their tough outer coat (testa) which is particularly resistant to decay. Snail shells are present in all of the samples, some having been burnt whilst attached to vegetation.
- C.1.9 The majority of the food plant remains are preserved by carbonisation which only occurs under certain conditions when plant material is incompletely burnt and reduced to pure carbon. It is important to note that any surviving charred remains will only represent a small proportion of the original material being burnt. The preservation of the carbonised remains is variable with many of the cereal grains appearing abraded suggesting that they had accumulated in a midden heap prior to burial. All four cereal types are present; barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and rye (*Secale cereale*) predominate with lesser quantities of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum s.l.*) and oats (*Avena* sp.). The preservation of the cultivated variety. All of the assemblages contain at least two of these cereal varieties indicating mixed material which could also be due to accumulations in middens prior to burial. Pulses such as peas and beans are very rare, possibly as these food types are less likely to be exposed to fire as cereals are.
- C.1.10 There is very little chaff present as evidence of the processing of whole ears of cereals, but this most likely took place in designated threshing barns and the waste products used as fodder. Occasional chaff items may represent the burning of whole ears of cereals that have been used as thatch or may even represent the burning of dung.
- C.1.11 The charred weed seed assemblage includes species that are likely to have been growing as contaminants of the cereal crop such as corncokle (*Agrostemma githago*), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*), cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) and clover (*Trifolium* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), rye-grass (Lolium sp.), docks (Rumex sp.) and grasses (Poaceae). Occasional cereal grains display evidence of having germinated and there is a wheat grain that is swollen (with no ventral groove present) into a form that is reminiscent of infection by the ear-cockle nematode (*Anguina tritici*). Occasional legumes present appear to be of the wild species vetch/tare (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.).



- C.1.12 Pit **1124** (evaluation Trench 11, 11th-12th century) produced the most abundant assemblage of charred plant remains. Charred grain is abundant with a mixture of wheat, cultivated oats, barley and rye. Rye chaff is present in small amounts along with common crop weeds. This sample also contains frequent sedge seeds with several species represented and frequent charred stems of common reed (*Phragmites australis*). There is a high content of silicates/fuel ash slag which is indicative of the burning of silica-rich reeds, possibly in the form of peat and wood charcoal is abundant with the survival of larger fragments, some of which are worked.
- C.1.13 Charred cereal remains are not restricted to pits, as 11th-12th century ditches 306 (Trench 3) and 1780 also produced significant quantities of charred grain. In addition, 12th-13th century pits 309 (Trench 3), 1308 (Trench 13) and 1839 and 13th-14th century ditch 1820 produced more moderate amounts, and post-medieval-modern post hole 1756 produced abundant charred grain.
- C.1.14 The preservation of plant remains by waterlogging has enabled identification of a range of flora that would have been growing locally to the features sampled. The seeds and other plant parts are unlikely to have travelled far, unlike pollen which can be wind-blown from a considerable distance. The dominant taxa within the waterlogged samples include plants that grow on disturbed soils consistent with an area in which pits and ditches have been dug such as poppies (*Papaver* spp.), dead-nettles (*Lamium* sp.), fumitory (*Fumaria* sp.), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) and stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*). There is an indication that the land in this area was damp through the presence of plants such as pale persicaria (*Persicaria lapathifolia*), wild celery (*Apium* sp.) and hemlock (*Conium maculatum*).
- C.1.15 Some of the seeds in these samples would have originated from plants that were growing within the water such as pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) and water crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *Batrachium*). Other wetland plants such as sedges and spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) may have been growing in the watery margins of the features or these species may have come from further afield if they have been deliberately discarded into the features by human means. Black bog-rush (*Schoenus nigricans*) is a plant that grows on damp peaty soils (Stace 2010, 950) so is unlikely to have been growing at this site. Flooring, thatching and stable waste are examples of the sort of material that may be dumped along with domestic waste in the form of pottery and animal bone.
- C.1.16 Wood charcoal volumes are generally very low suggesting that other fuel sources were utilised. There are sparse remains of heather (cf. *Calluna* sp.) in addition to the wetland plants which also includes Great Fen sedge (*Cladium mariscus*).
- C.1.17 Seeds of rambles (*Rubus fructicosa* agg.) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) are present in most of the samples and were probably exploited for their fruit although these plants are common colonisers of abandoned ground and they are also high seed producers. The only other fruit species represented is a single seed/stone of damson/plum (*Prunus domestica*).

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Discussion

- C.1.18 The environmental samples from this site have produced plant remains that are consistent to the common plant resources commonly recovered from medieval sites in this area (Moffett 2006, Van der Veen et al., 2013; Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019). Cereals would have been the dietary staple with bread wheat most likely to have been used for milling to produce flour to make bread although the cheaper rye bread may have been more common among the peasant class. During the medieval period some crops were occasionally grown together; wheat and rye were cultivated as a mixed crop known as 'maslin' and would have been sown in the autumn. In the 13th century barley and rye were the most important cereals with wheat increasing in importance in the 14 century (Dyer 1994, 88). Barley and oat could both have been consumed as whole grains in pottage, stews etc. and both cereals were valued as fodder crops which is possibly a more likely explanation for their preservation through carbonisation on this site, as stable waste may have been collected and burnt. Barley was the preferred malting grain and there is evidence of germinated barley grains in a few samples. Home-brewed ale or 'small-beer' had a low alcohol content and was drunk throughout the day as the main liquid content of the daily diet.
- C.1.19 Cereal diseases would have been prevalent in medieval England. Ear cockle nematode, known as 'purples' and 'wheat galls', in a parasitic nematode that lies dormant in soil until the cereal (wheat or rye) develops and the juveniles move up the plant in a film of water, and penetrate a cereal grain. The nematode develops and lays eggs within the grain which becomes a swollen gall that desiccates and would eventually drop to the ground to complete the life-cycle (Agrios 2005, 866). Ear-cockle nematode infection would have been a serious cause of concern for the farmer as it results in stunted growth of the plant. Charred wheat galls have been found in medieval contexts from a number of sites including Wharram Percy, North Glebe Terrace (Carruthers 2010) and West Cotton, Raunds (Campbell and Robinson, 2010) and from a number of medieval sites in Cambridgeshire such as Manor Farm, Colne (Fosberry 2010) and Coldham's Lane (Fosberry 2012). The author is unaware of any other findings of ear cockles in Norfolk.
- C.1.20 The charred seeds represent weed taxa are most likely derived from plants that have been harvested along with the crop, as reaping in the medieval period usually involved cereals being cut at ground level with sickles (Jones, 1988). The species present indicate that at least one of the crops, most likely the wheat, was grown on heavy clay soils as stinking chamomile has this particular habitat.
- C.1.21 The remains of fruits and flavourings are largely absent. This may be due to lack of preservation as the remains of these are most commonly preserved as mineralised fossils in cess deposits. The features excavated at Westhall Farm do not appear to have been utilised for the disposal of latrine waste, possibly it was collected as night soil and used as fertiliser. Vegetables would have been in important contribution to the medieval diet, but their remains are unlikely to be preserved.
- C.1.22 There is no evidence of a change in cereals throughout the occupation of the site. There is an increase in the evidence of rushes and straw in the 12th-14th century



which may be indicative of the disposal of flooring material but this is a tentative interpretation.

- C.1.23 There is very little evidence of fuel other than occasional seeds of putative plants such as heather, black bog rush, Great Fen sedge and wood. Dried peat would have been an obvious fuel choice, but it is almost impossible to identify in charred assemblages without obtaining AMS dates on the seeds of the peat-forming plants. Peat would be expected to contain stems, leaves and seeds of wetland plants but only the tougher fragments such as the culm nodes and seeds are likely to survive burning. Saw-sedge leaves are the exception as they are commonly found in charred wetland assemblages and seem to survive the burning process. Analysis of the fuel used at Castle Mall, Norwich by Murphy (1991, 1034) concluded that peat-burning residues are largely 'archaeobotanically inconspicuous' and he was only able to interpret the use of peat as fuel in some of the medieval industrial/refuse pits. Wetland resources would have been of great economic importance for their use in basketry, thatch as well as for fuel. Great Fen sedge which was one of the major vegetation types of the Fen and was commonly used for thatching and as fuel and it was particularly favoured for the use in bread ovens (Rowell 1986).
- C.1.24 In summary, the charred plant remains recovered from plots at Westhall Farm represent the disposal of burnt domestic, culinary refuse in back yard plots. The waterlogged plant remains indicate that the plots would have been busy, muddy areas that were fully utilised throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods.



Catalogue

Sample No.		5	1	4	11	16	21	25	30	31	32	33	6	3	2	15	18	19	20	7	8	10	22	23	24	27	9	26	14	35
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Rumex sp.	small-seeded																													
achene	Docks	#		#									#W			#W						#W				-	#W		#	
Silene sp. Seed	Campions												#W																	
Solanum nigrum	Black																													
L. seed	nightshade															#W				#W	#W	#W		#W						
Stellaria media	Common																													
(L.) Vill. Seed	Chickweed															#W					#W			#W				#W		
Trifolium spp.	small-seeded																													
seed	Clovers			#																										
	large-seeded																													
Trifolium/Medica	Clovers/Medic	,,																												
go sppseed	ks	#																												
Urtica dioica L.	Common Nettle		## #W										##																	
seed Urtica urens L.	Nettie		# VV										W					##		##	##			##			##			
seed	Small Nettle												#w					W		W	## W			W			W			
	Narrow-																													
Valerianella	fruited																													
dentata L. seed	cornsalad	#																												
wetland/aquatic																														
plants:																														
Small trigonous	small																													
<i>Carex</i> spp.	triangular-																													
(<2mm) nut	seeded Sedges			#									#W				#W													
elongate	elongate &																													
lenticular Carex	flat-seeded			##																										
sp. (>2mm) nut	Sedges			##																										
Cladium mariscus (L.) Pohl nut	Great Fen-	#																												
(L.) PONENUL	sedge	#	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>											<u> </u>												
Eleocharis sp. nut	Spike rush			#									#w																	
<i>Juncus</i> sp. seed	Rush															#w	#w	#w	#w	## W	## W	## W		#w			## W			
54.7043 Sp. 3004	Raon		##															// v v				~~								
			##																											
<i>Lemna</i> sp. fruit	Duckweed		#W																											
<i>cf.Phragmites</i> sp.				++																										
Stem	Reeds			++																	1				1	1				

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Sample No.		5	1	4	11	16	21	25	30	31	32	33	6	3	2	15	18	19	20	7	8	10	22	23	24	27	9	26	14	35
Context No.		30	11	11	17	17	18	18	19	19	19	19	31	13	13	17	18	18	18	17	17	17	18	18	18	19	171	186	17	17
Cut no.		7 30	10 11	24 11	51 17	81 17	19 18	35 18	55 19	60 19	64 19	69 19	1 30	09 13	14 13	77 17	43 18	41 18	40 18	03 17	05 17	19 17	21 18	24 18	24 18	15 19	6 171	3 186	57 17	73 17
		6	09	17	50	80	17	34	54	59	63	68	9	08	13	76	39	39	39	02	02	18	20	20	20	14	5	2	56	72
<i>Potamogeton</i> sp. achene	Pondweed																	#w				#w		#w				#w		
Ranunculus																														
<i>subgenus Batrachium</i> L.	Water																					##								
achene	crowfoot																					#w								
<i>Schoenus</i> <i>nigricans</i> L. nut	Black bog rush							#w																						
<i>Calluna</i> sp. stems	Heather	#																												
Prunus domestica	Plum/damson			#																										
Rubus fructicosa	Brambles						#u															//					//			
agg. seed Sambucus nigra L.	Brampies	-	##	-	-		#u						#W ##		#u							#W				#W	#w	┝──┦		
seed	Elder		W	#u			#u		#u		#u		#w		#u		#w				#W	#w	#w				#W	#W		#u
Other plant macrofossils																														
Flot Charcoal volume (ml)		1	0	12 0	0	<1	<1	0	<1	<1	<1	<1	10	10	0	0	<1	<1	<1	0	0	0	<1	0	50	<1	<1	0	1	<1
				++																										
Charred stems				++																										
waterlogged			##																											
root/stem			#W																											<u> </u>
Indet.culm nodes													## #W																	
Roseaceae thorn																					#w						#w			
				++																										
Fuel ash slag				++ +																										
Other remains				Ŧ																										
				++																					++				J	
			++	/+	++	++	++		++	++	++	++		++	++	++	++					++	++		/+	++			++	++
molluscs	small, shelled	++	++	b	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	b	+	+++	┝──┦	+	+
Ostracods	crustaceans			#	#										#	#						#		#						
Cladocera ephippia egg																##		##												
cases	water-fleas		#W					#W								W		W	#W	#W	#W			#W					L	

Table 7 Catalogue of environmental remains

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C.2 Animal Bone

By Hayley Foster

Introduction and Methodology

- C.2.1 This report details the analysis of the animal bone recovered from Westhall Farm, Gayton, Norfolk. The assemblage is of a small size, with 1.59kg of bone from hand collection and environmental samples. The number of recordable fragments totals 20. Animal bone is from ditches, pits and a tree throw. Faunal material was retrieved from Phases 3 (Early medieval), 4 (medieval) and 5 (Late medieval).
- C.2.2 The method used to quantify this assemblage was based on that used for Knowth by McCormick and Murray (2007) which was modified from Albarella and Davis (1996). NISP (number of identifiable specimens) and MNI (minimum number of individuals) were calculated for all species present. MNI estimates the smallest number of animals that could be represented by the elements recovered. For the main domestic mammals, only the atlas and axis were counted for vertebrae.
- C.2.3 Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972) and von den Driesch (1976) were used where needed for identification purposes.
- C.2.4 Ageing could only be carried out using the state of epiphyseal fusion as no dental wear data could be ascertained from the assemblage. The state of epiphyseal fusion is determined by examining the metaphysis and diaphysis of a bone. Fusion was recorded according to Silver (1970) and Schmid (1972).
- C.2.5 Taphonomic processes were recorded for fragments where evidence was present.
- C.2.6 Measurements were taken according to von den Driesch (1976), using digital callipers and large bones were measured using an osteometric board. Withers' heights of sheep were calculated using Teichert (1969).

Results of Analysis

- C.2.7 The assemblage is generally in a fair to good condition with moderate levels of fragmentation. However, material from ditch **1820** was in excellent condition and contained the remains of a partially articulated sheep skeleton.
- C.2.8 The assemblage overall consisted of material retrieved from four phases and eight different features.

Species	NISP	NISP%	MNI	MNI%
Sheep/Goat	14	70	2	40
Cattle	5	25	2	40
Horse	1	5	1	20
Total	20	100	5	100

Table 8 Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and minimum number of specimens (MNI) of the total assemblage



Species	Phase 1.2	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
Sheep/Goat	13			1	14
Cattle		1	3	1	5
Horse	1				1
Total	14	1	3	2	20

Table 9 Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) by species and phase

- C.2.9 The assemblage comprised three of the main domesticates (Tables 8-9). The ageing data for the assemblage is minimal as all elements that could be assessed for epiphyseal fusion consisted of fused or fusing epiphyses.
- C.2.10 The sheep skeleton (ditch **1820**, Phase 4) contained fusing proximal humeri epiphyses indicating an animal around 3-3.5 years of age at death. Those complete long bones that could be measured have estimated wither's height calculated. The wither's height of the sheep appears to be between 47.3cm and 51.6cm. The sheep appears to have been buried articulated and is very well preserved.
- C.2.11 The only taphonomic change noted was a butchered cattle metatarsal from ditch **1729** (Phase 4). The heavy chop marks to the shaft and proximal indicates a clumsy attempt to separate the joint and possible attempt at extracting marrow.

Discussion

- C.2.12 As the sample size of faunal material is small it is not possible to make interpretations regarding continuity of husbandry practices between periods. As the site is close to a medieval settlement, remains are likely food waste and a disposed surplus animal.
- C.2.13 At Westhall Farm, domestic mammals are likely the mainstay of the food economy. The size of the assemblage unfortunately does not allow for solid interpretations to be made regarding farming practices as the majority of the remains retrieved are from one well preserved sheep burial. Very little can be concluded about husbandry and economy at the site, besides the clear presence of three domestic species.

Retention, Dispersal and Display

C.2.14 As the faunal remains are from phased consecutive periods it would be recommended that they are retained as they could add to the broader understanding of husbandry in this area of Norfolk in conjunction with other assemblages.



Animal remains catalogue

Context	Cut	Feature	Phase	Species	Element
1707	1702	Ditch	4	Cattle	Humerus
1714	1713	Tree Throw	5	Cattle	Loose Maxillary Tooth
1731	1729	Ditch	4	Sheep/Goat	Humerus
1731	1729	Ditch	4	Cattle	Metatarsal 1
1777	1776	Pit	3	Cattle	Cranium
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Humerus
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Calcaneus
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Scapula
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Pelvis
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Metatarsal 1
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Femur
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Femur
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Humerus
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Radius
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Radius
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Tibia
1824	1820	Ditch	4	Sheep	Tibia
1843	1839	Pit	3	Horse	Scapula
1858	1857	Ditch	4	Cattle	Tibia
1881	1882	Ditch	2	Sheep/Goat	Scapula

Table 10: List of Identifiable fragments by period.

Context	Species	Element	Bd	Вр	GL	SLC	GLC	EWH (cm)
1824	Sheep	Humerus	25.7	30.6	116.6			49.9
1824	Sheep	Calcaneus			46.3			49.9
1824	Sheep	Femur	32.3	36.7	136.4			48.1
1824	Sheep	Femur	32.1	37	135.6			47.9
1824	Sheep	Humerus	27.1	30.1	115.2			49.3
1824	Sheep	Radius	24.3	26.9	120			48.2
1824	Sheep	Radius	23.9	26.6	120.7			48.5
1824	Sheep	Tibia	21	35.1	157			47.3

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Context	Species	Element	Bd	Вр	GL	SLC	GLC	EWH (cm)
1824	Sheep	Tibia	21.5	34.9	157			47.3
1824	Sheep	Metatarsal 1	21.1	17.3	113.7			51.6
1843	Horse	Scapula				65.5		
1858	Cattle	Tibia	52.7					

Table 11: List of measurements (mm)

Abbreviation	Description
GL	Greatest length
Bd	Greatest breadth of distal end
Вр	Greatest breadth of proximal end
SLC	Smallest breadth of collum
GLP	Greatest length of glenoid process
EWH	Estimated Wither's Height (in cm)

Table 12: Abbreviations for table of measurements.

C.3 Marine Mollusca

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction

C.3.1 A total of 215g of shells were collected by hand from ditches, a trackway, a pit, and a tree throw in excavation Area 1 (Table 13). These are in addition to 457g of shells that were collected by hand during the evaluation. The shells recovered are all edible species: oyster *Ostrea edulis*, from estuarine and shallow coastal waters, mussel *Mytilus edulis* and cockle *Cerastoderma edule*, both from intertidal zones. The shell recovered from the evaluation was moderately well preserved, while that of the excavation was mostly poorly preserved and has suffered post-depositional damage.

Methodology

C.3.2 The shells were weighed and recorded by species, with right and left valves noted, when identification could be made, using Winder (2011 and 2017) as a guide. The minimum number of individuals (MNI) was not established, due to the small size of the assemblage from most features.

Assemblage

C.3.3 The shells from the evaluation were recovered from ditches and a single pit, across Trenches 11 and 13. Pit **1117** in Trench 11 produced four large oyster shells, one right valve and three left valves, one of which has a small V-shaped hole on the outer edge



of the shell, caused by a knife during the opening or 'shucking' of the oyster, prior to its consumption.

- C.3.4 Two ditches in Trench 13 produced shell. From ditch **1308**, a single large oyster shell was recovered and from ditch **1316**, a moderate assemblage of small-medium mussel shell, from which, prior to processing during post-excavation, three examples of paired shells were recovered. This suggests that they did not open when cooked, and the shells appears to be stacked on top of each other or nested together, left valve on top of left valve or right valve on top of right valve. Not all of the shells were arranged in this way, although enough were, to suggest this was a deliberate deposition of shell.
- C.3.5 The shell recovered from the excavation was sparsely distributed, although it produced further quantities of mussel shell.
- C.3.6 Trackway **1715** contained 18 cockle shells and 13 oyster shells or fragments of mainly medium shells, producing the largest and only mixed assemblage of shell species. The shells are a mix of edible species, the only group of shells that might represent a single meal, however, the shell is likely to have been distributed widely within the ditch fill.
- C.3.7 Pit **1776** contained 1 mussel shell or fragment of medium shell.
- C.3.8 The excavated ditches all produced small quantities of mussel shell, of these ditches 1702 contained the second largest group of 14 mussel shells or fragments of mainly medium shells. Ditches 1718, 1776, 1799, 1817 and 1820 all produced five or fewer mussel shells or fragments of mainly medium shells.
- C.3.9 The final feature to produce shell was tree throw **1902**, which contained 24 mussel shells or fragments, of mainly medium shells.

Discussion

- C.3.10 The shell assemblage is one of moderately damaged shells in poor condition, only two shell fragment showing evidence of 'shucking', suggesting most of the oysters recovered were probably cooked prior to consumption. The shells are a mix of edible species, with ditches **1316** and **1715** producing what might represent a single meal, in the case of ditch **1316**, this was very probably a deliberate deposition of shell, however, the shell from **1715** is likely to have been distributed widely within the ditch fill. Alongside the other shell collected, this represents general discarded food waste, although one representing species other than just oyster, which is more commonly recovered, collected therefore for different areas of the shore. The shell indicates transportation of a marine food source, from the nearby coast, to the site forming part of the diet and their subsequent disposal as general rubbish.
- C.3.11 The shells, although not closely datable in themselves, may be dated by their association with pottery or other material also recovered from the features.



Marine Mollusca Catalogue

Context	Cut	Species	Common Name	Habitat	No of shells or frags	No. of shucked shells	No. of left valves	No. of right valves	No. of indeter- minate valves	Description/Comment	Total Weight (kg)
1121	1117	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	1		1			Near-complete moderately thick, older, large left valve with damage to the ventral margin, mostly on the posterior side of the midline. Light to moderate damage to the shell by burrowing marine worms and sponges	0.085
1127		Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	1		1			Near-complete slightly powdery, medium-large left valve, with some damage to the ventral margin around the midline	0.045
					1	1	1			Near-complete large left valve with damage along most of the ventral margin, including what appears to be a shucking mark on the posterior ventral margin, slightly beyond the midline	0.066
					1			1		Incomplete large right valve, missing all the anterior ventral portion of the shell which is very probably post-depositional damage. The shell is otherwise in relatively good condition with some survival of horny scale	0.036
1309	1308	Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and shallow coastal water	1			1		Near-complete large right valve in good condition, with damage to the posterior ventral margin	0.061
1317	1316	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	85		45	36	4	Small-medium shells, both left and right valves are present. Three pairs of valves were still joined prior to cleaning. Three complete and two near-complete left valves survive. The remaining left valves are all incomplete, mainly having suffered damage to the ventral margin or ventral and posterior ventral margin. One complete and one near-complete right valve survives, the remainder having suffered similar damage to the left shells along the ventral or ventral and posterior ventral margin Four fragments of shell could not be assigned a valve type	0.164
1703 <7>	1702	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	10		5	5		One complete medium right valve, a near-complete medium right valve, two incomplete medium right valves, and a fragment of right valve. Two complete medium left valves, two near-complete medium left valves and an incomplete medium left valve	0.014
1705 <8>		Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	4		3	1		A complete medium right valve. Two complete medium left valves and an incomplete medium left valve	0.007
1716 <9>	1715	Cerastoderma edule	Cockle	Intertidal zone	12		5	7		Four complete right valves, two partial right valves and a fragment of right valve. Four complete left valves and a partial left valve	0.011



V.1

Context	Cut	Species	Common	Habitat	No of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	Description/Comment	Total
			Name		shells	shucked	left	right	indeter-		Weight
					or	shells	valves	valves	minate		(kg)
171/		O	Quality	la tanti dal mana	frags		2	2	valves	A complete sight other constitution to the other and a forement of	0.005
1716		Cerastoderma edule	Cockle	Intertidal zone	6		3	3		A complete right valve, a partial right valve and a fragment of right valve.	0.005
		eaule								A complete left valve, a partial left valve, and a fragment of left	
										valve	
		Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and	5		5	1		One near-complete medium right valve, somewhat powdery,	0.079
		osti ca caalis	Oyster	shallow coastal	J J		5			damaged on ventral edge.	0.077
				water						One near-complete large left valve, relatively thick, older shell,	
										two incomplete medium left valves damaged on ventral edge, one	
										with parasite damage.	
										A partial large left valve with marine worm boring damage and	
										damaged from ventral edge midline to posterior margin.	
1717		Ostrea edulis	Oyster	Estuarine and	8	1	6	2		One near-complete medium right valve, powdery, with a	0.059
				shallow coastal						relatively large irregular hole in the middle of the shell, possibly	
				water						caused by a knife or a trowel and damage to ventral margin. Five	
										powdery fragments of small-medium right valves, one with a	
										possible shucking mark.	
										Two near-complete powdery, medium left valves, one with a	
										small neat, sub-triangular hole near the hinge, it is unclear if this is	
										accidental damage. There is minor exterior worm damage to the shell without the hole and both have damage to the ventral	
										margin.	
1723	1718	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	2		1	1		A fragment of medium right valve and a fragment of medium left	0.001
					_					valve	
1777	1776	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	1		1			Near-complete medium left valve	0.004
<15>		-									
1801	1799	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	5			3	2	Three incomplete small/medium right valves, and two fragments	0.008
										of mussel shell, unable to determine handedness	
1818	1817	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	1			1		One near-complete medium right valve	0.003
1824	1820	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	2		1			One near-complete medium left valve in two fragments	0.003
1903	1902	Mytilus edulis	Mussel	Intertidal zone	24		6	8	10	A complete medium left valve, an incomplete medium left valve	0.021
										and four fragments of medium left valve. Two near-complete	
										medium right valves, one with surviving lining detached, two	
										incomplete medium right valves, and four fragments of right	
										valve. Ten fragments of mussel shell, unable to determine	
Total					170	2	84	70	16	handedness	0.672
		lallussa hu santau	1		170	۷ ک	ŏ4	70	10		0.072

 Total
 I

 Table 13: Marine Mollusca by context and cut

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APPENDIX E	OAS	IS REPORT F	OR	M					
Project Details									
OASIS Number	3-510779	-510779							
Project Name	Westhal	l Farm, Gayton,	Nor	folk					
· · [-					
Start of Fieldwork	01/06/2	020			of Fieldwork	02/07/2020			
Previous Work	Yes			Futu	ire Work	No			
Project Reference (
Site Code	ENF1482				ning App. No.	FUL/2019/0053			
HER Number	ENF1482	ENF148241			ted Numbers	ENF146470			
Prompt		NPPF							
Development Type		Public Building	1						
Place in Planning Pro	ocess	0			nation (eg. As a condition)				
Ŭ		L				· ·			
Techniques used (tick all that apply) □ Aerial Photography – ⊠ Open-area ex- interpretation						Salvage Record			
 Aerial Photography Field Observation 	/ - new	 Part Excav Part Surve 		n		Systematic Field Walking Systematic Metal Detector Survey			
Full Excavation		□ Recorded		ervation		Test-pit Survey			
Full Survey Remote Ope)pera	ated Vehicle 🔲 Watching Brief					
□ Geophysical Surve	V	Survey Salvage Ex	xcava	ation					
Monument	Perio	0		Obje	ct	Period			
Ditch	Medieval (1066 to 1540)			Pottery		Medieval (1066 to 1540)			
					5				
Post hole	Medieval (1066 to 1540)			Bone		Medieval (1066 to 1540)			
Ditch	Post	Medieval		Leather shoe sole		Medieval (1066 to 1540)			
	(1540 to 1901)								
					k	Medieval (1066 to 1540)			
Insert more lines as a	ppropriat	te.							
Project Location									
County	Norfolk	C 11				uding Postcode)			
District	West No	ortoik			Vicarage Lane Gayton				
Parish HER office	Gayton Norfolk				Norfolk				
Size of Study Area	0.15 ha			PE32 1PD					
National Grid Ref	TF 7244	1917							
	11 7217				L				
Project Originators									
Organisation		Oxford Archaeo	logy	' East					
Project Brief Origina		John Percival							



Project Archives

	Location	ID	
Physical Archive (Finds)	NMAS	NW	HCM:2019.327
Digital Archive	NMAS	NW	HCM:2019.327
Paper Archive	NMAS	NW	HCM:2019.327
Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files	Paperwork
		associated with	associated with
		Finds	Finds
Animal Bones	\boxtimes		
Ceramics	\boxtimes		
Environmental	\boxtimes		
Glass			
Human Remains			
Industrial			
Leather	\boxtimes		
Metal	\boxtimes		
Stratigraphic			
Survey			
Textiles			
Wood	\boxtimes		
Worked Bone	\boxtimes		
Worked Stone/Lithic			
None		\boxtimes	\boxtimes
Other			

Digital Media

0	
Database	\boxtimes
GIS	\boxtimes
Geophysics	
Images (Digital photos)	\boxtimes
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	
Moving Image	
Spreadsheets	
Survey	\boxtimes
Text	\boxtimes
Virtual Reality	

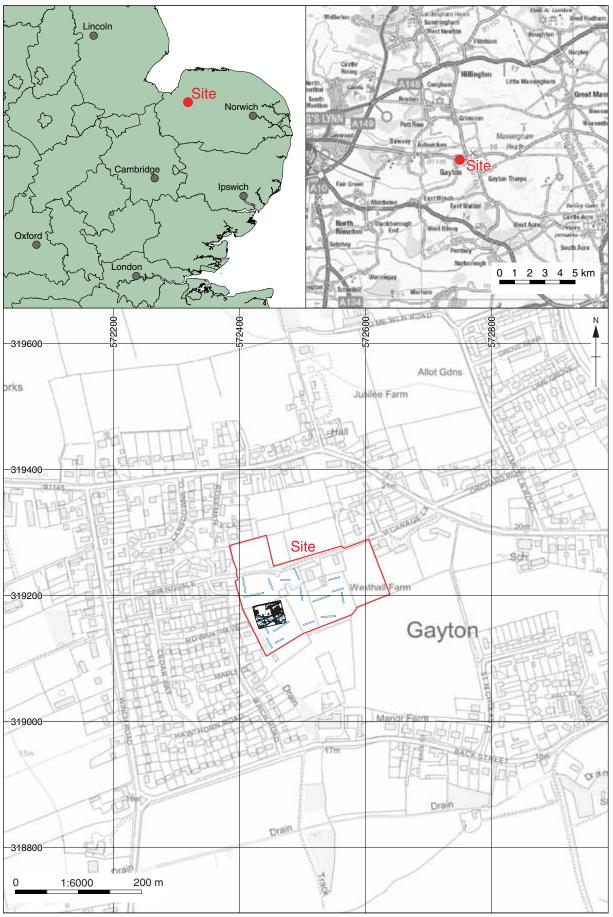
Paper Media

i upor moulu	
Aerial Photos	
Context Sheets	\boxtimes
Correspondence	
Diary	
Drawing	
Manuscript	
Мар	
Matrices	
Microfiche	
Miscellaneous	
Research/Notes	
Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	
Plans	
Report	\boxtimes
Sections	\boxtimes
Survey	

Further Comments

None





Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2021. All rights reserved. License No. AL 10001998 Figure 1: Site location showing evaluation trenches (blue) and excavation area (black) in development area (red)

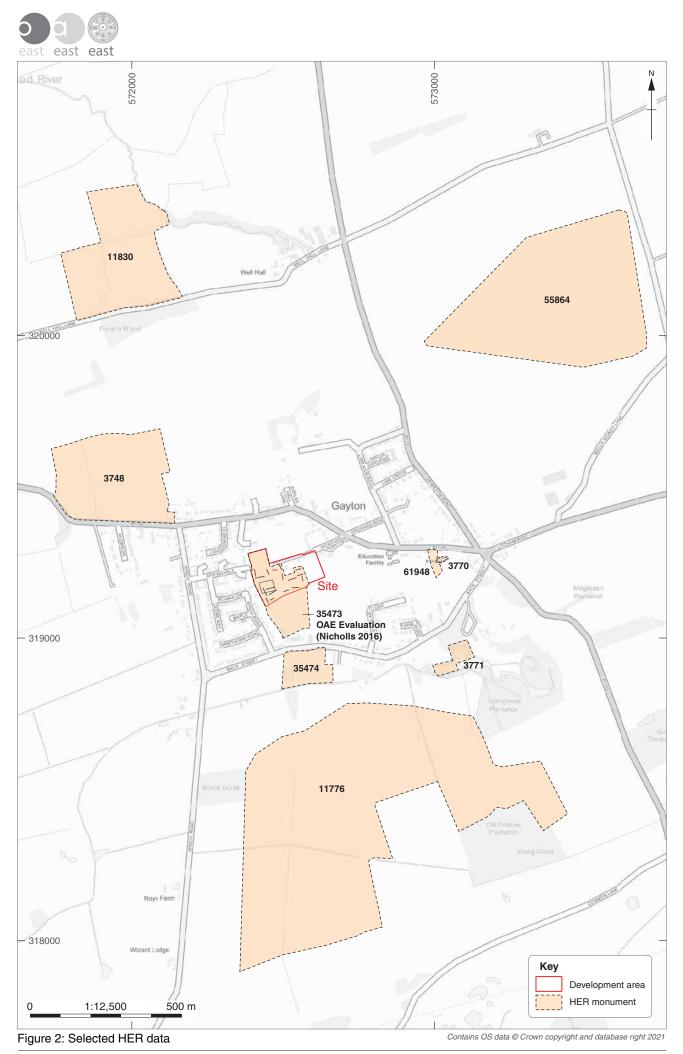








Figure 4: Extract of 1726 Map of Gayton Thorpe

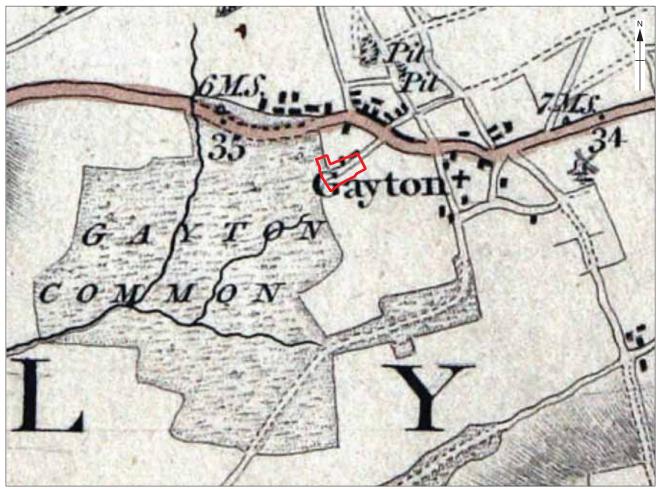


Figure 5: Extract from Faden's 1797 map of Norfolk





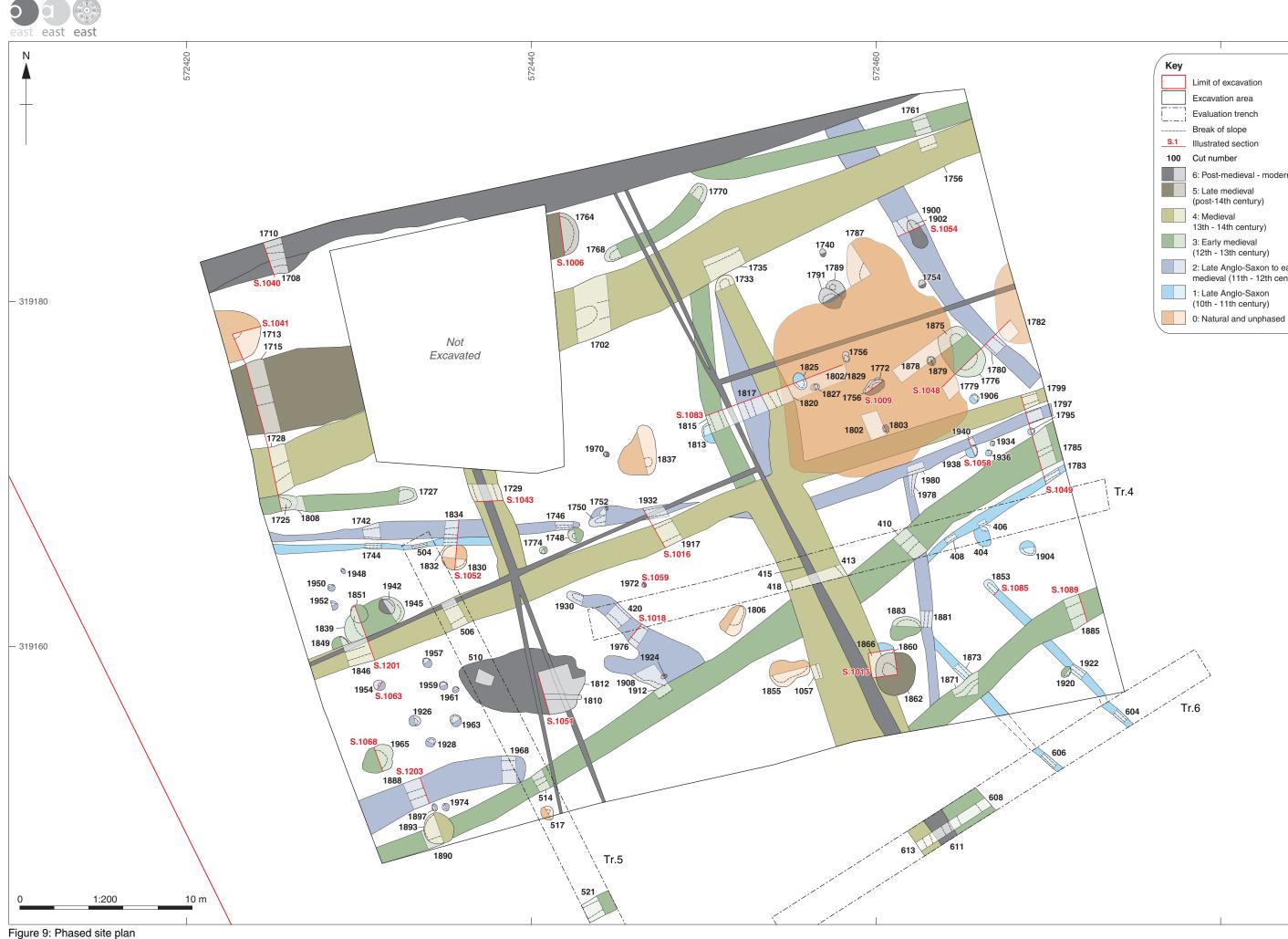
Figure 6: Extract from 1813 Gayton Enclosure Map

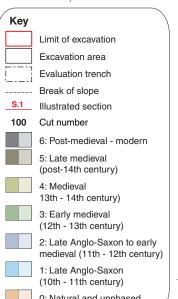


Figure 7: Extract from 1838 Gayton Tithe Map

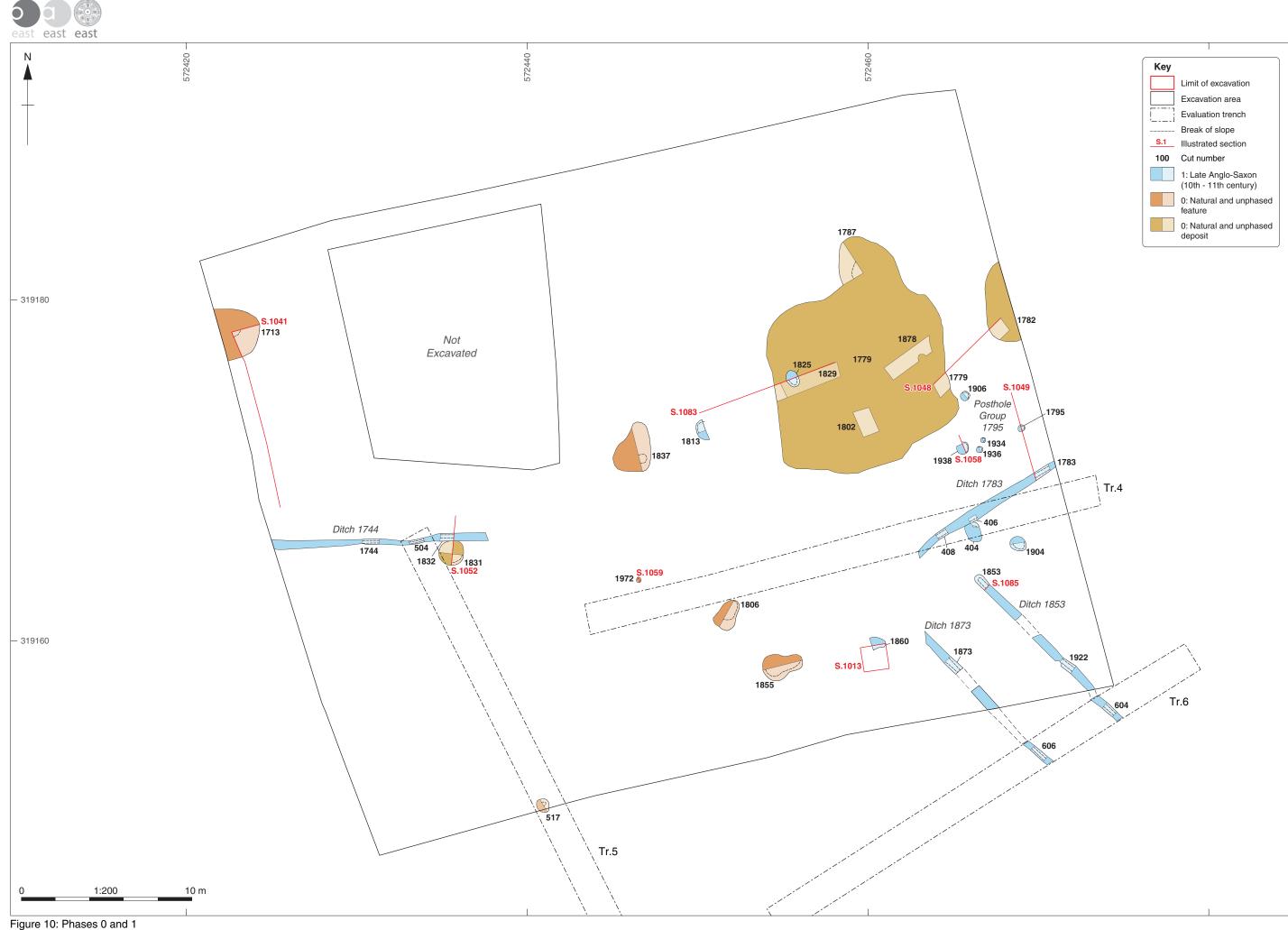




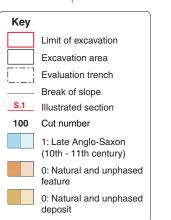


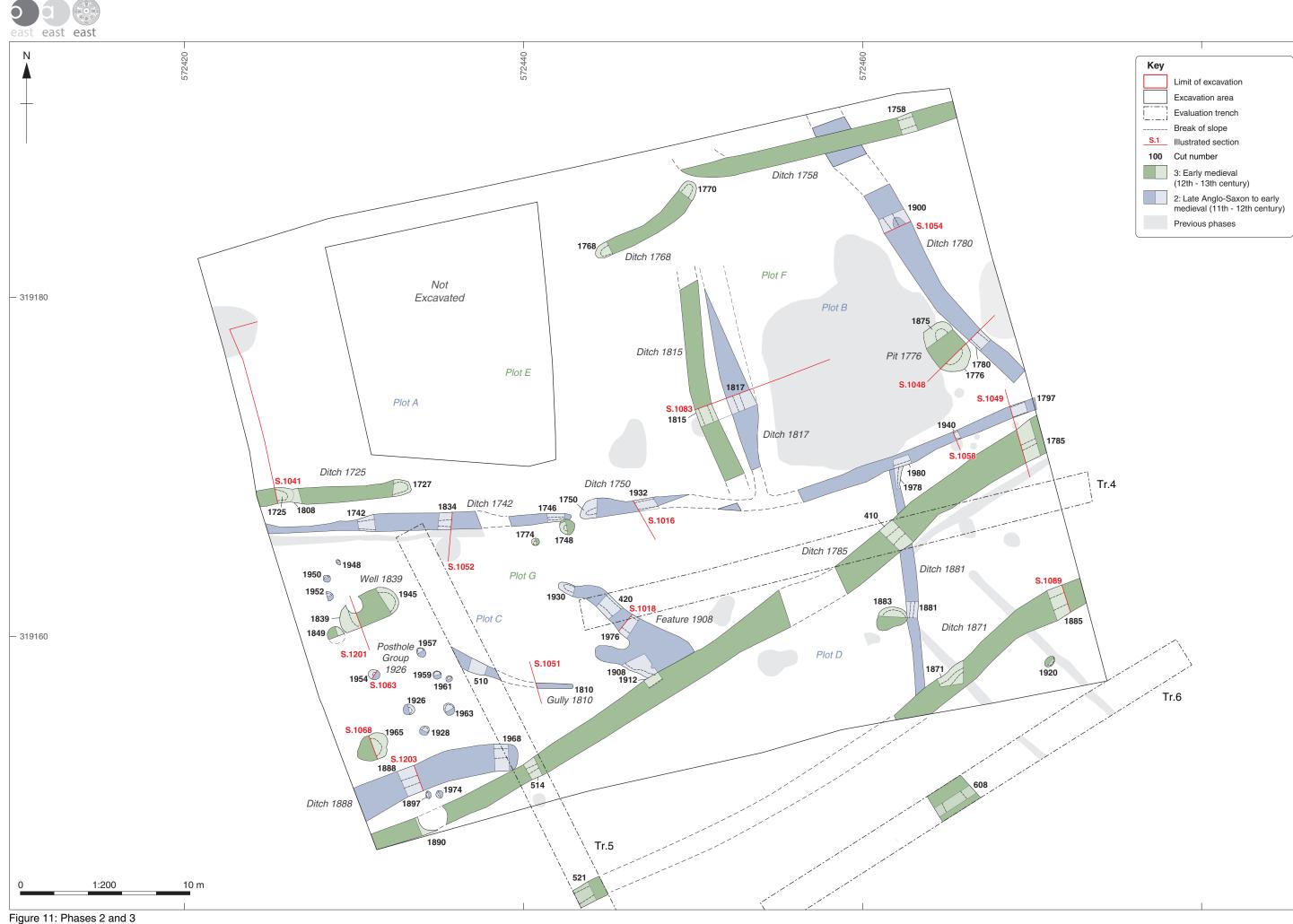


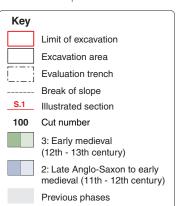




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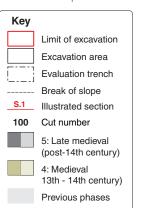






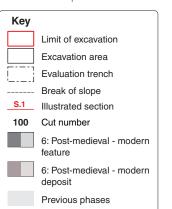


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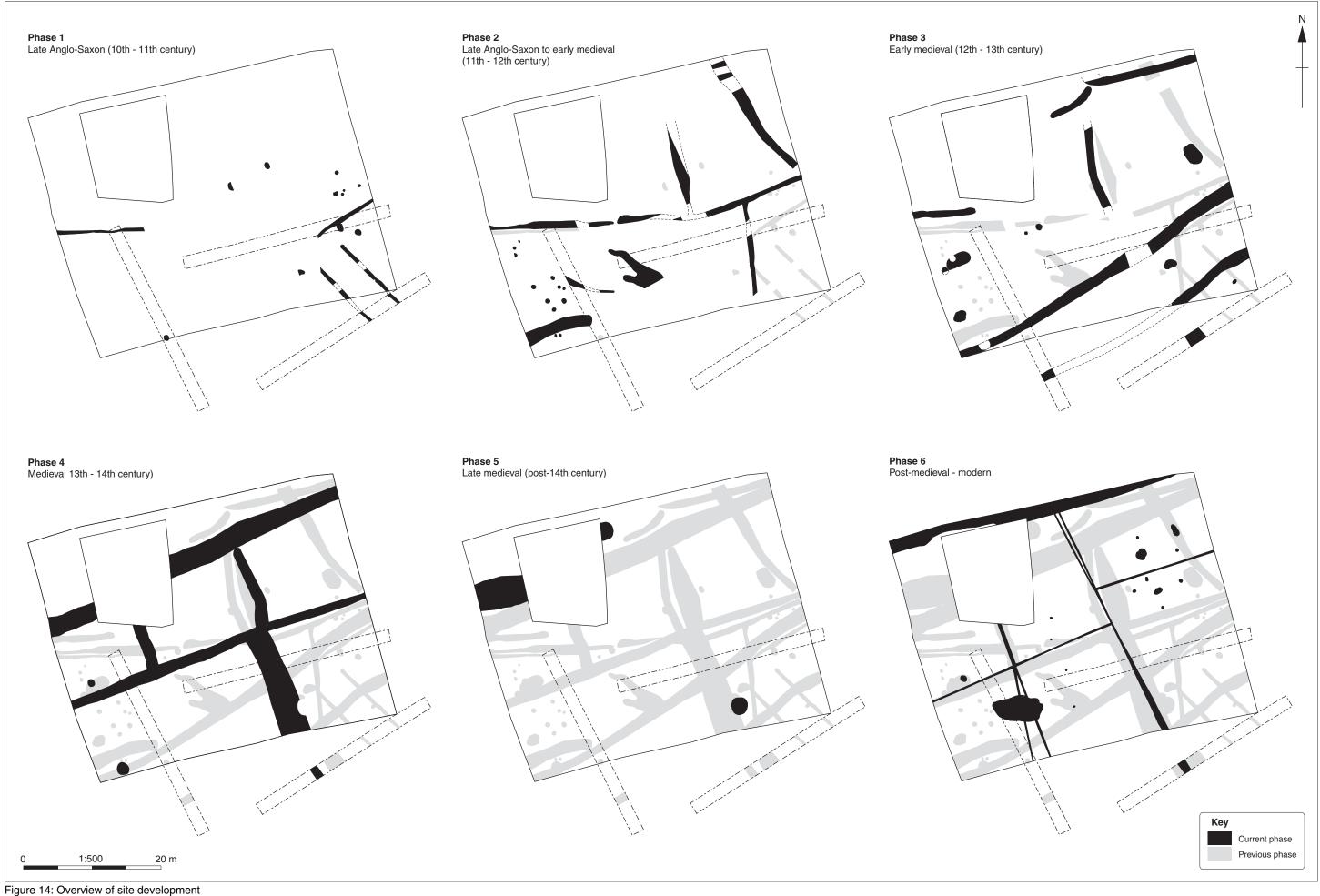














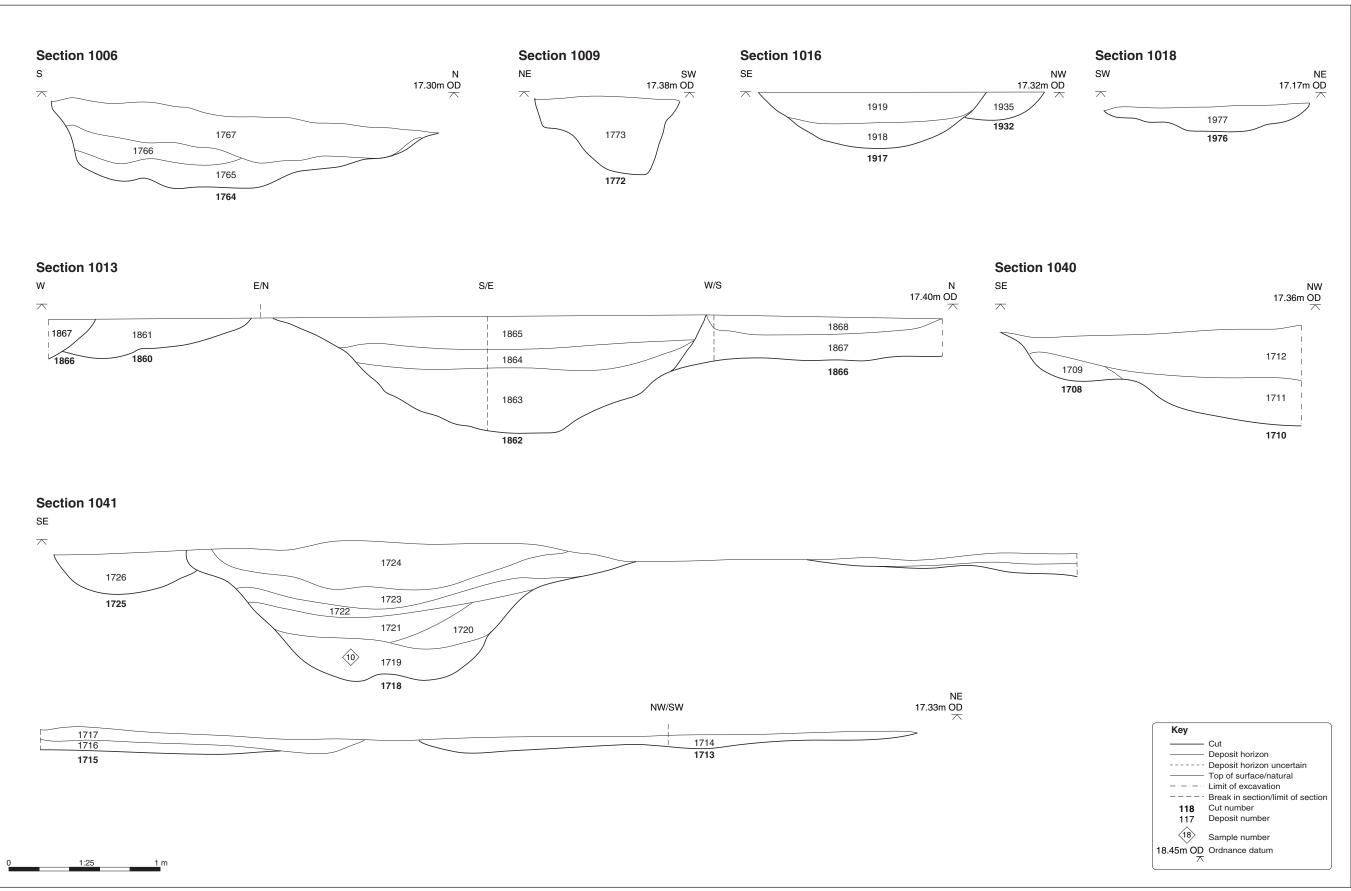


Figure 15a: Selected sections (sheet 1 of 3)



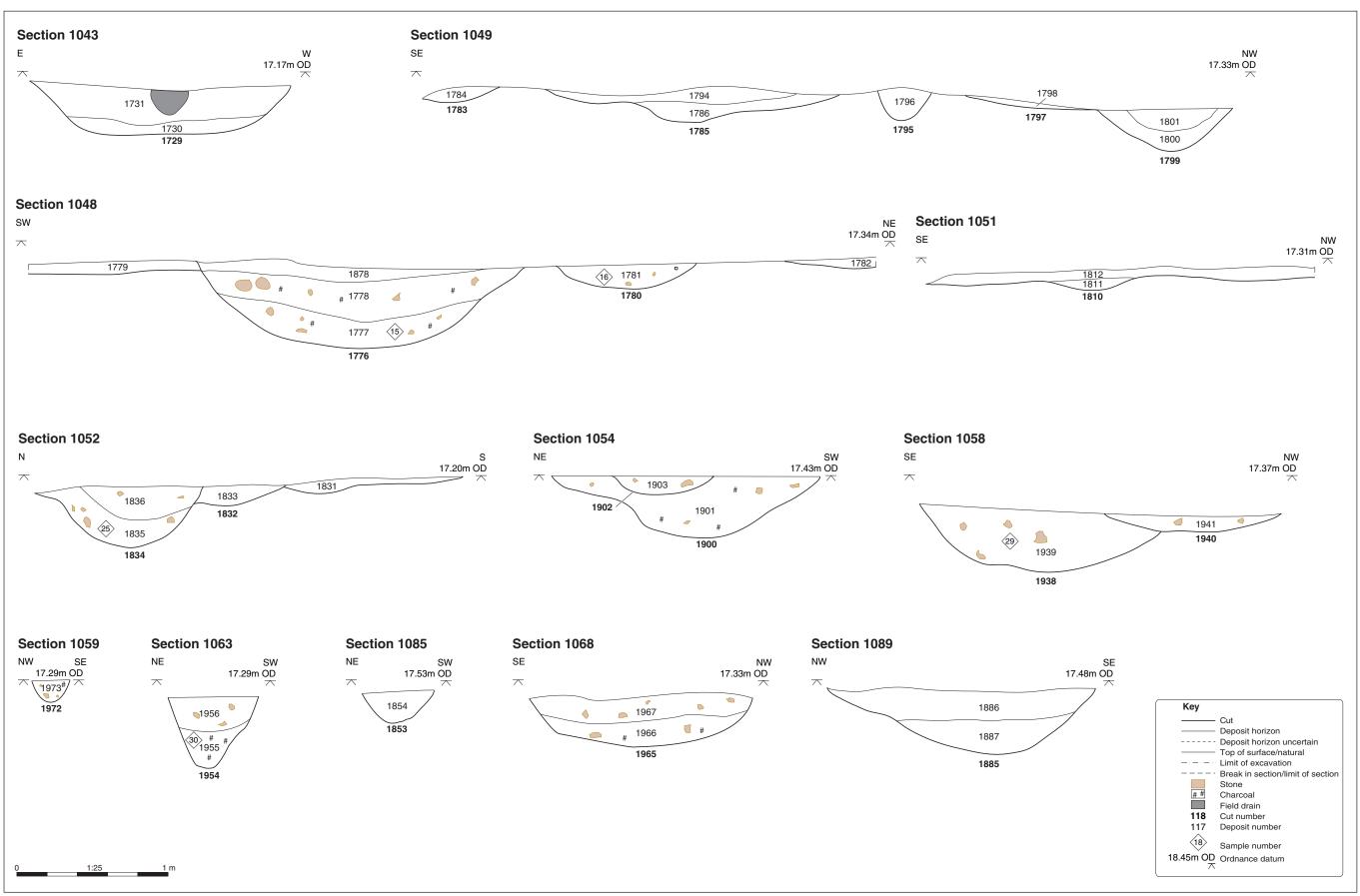


Figure 15b: Selected sections (sheet 2 of 3)



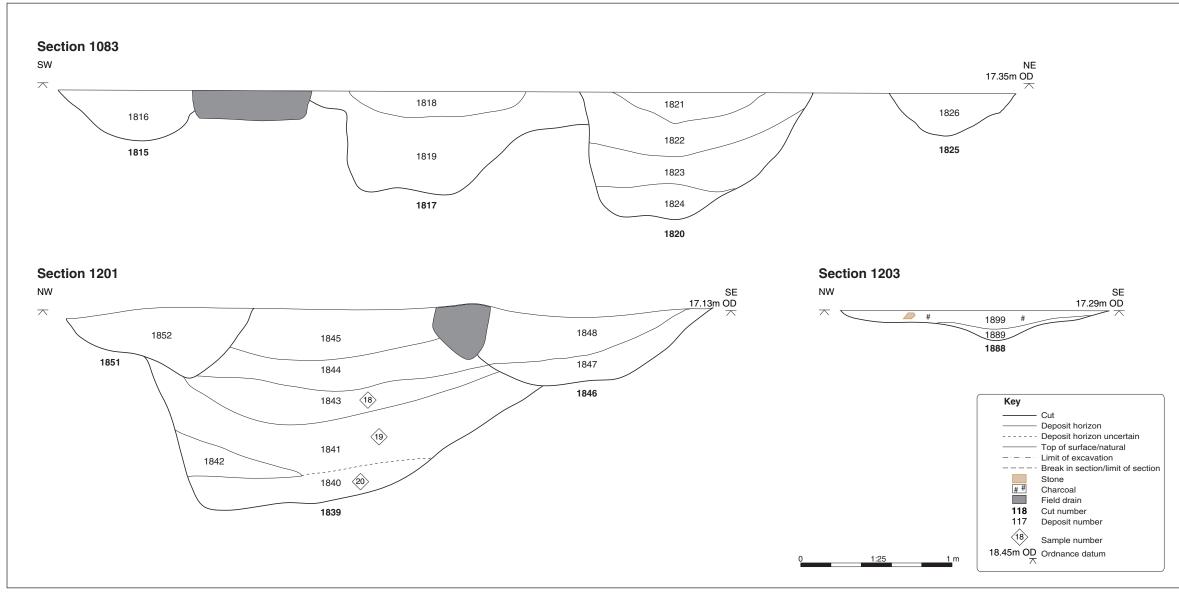


Figure 15c: Selected sections (sheet 3 of 3)



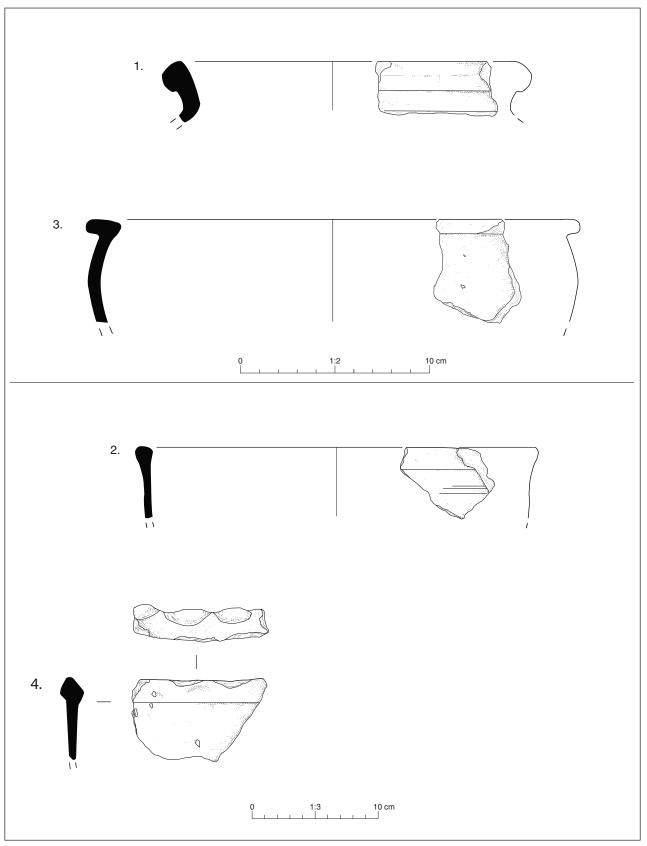


Figure 16a: Medieval pottery (sheet 1 of 2)



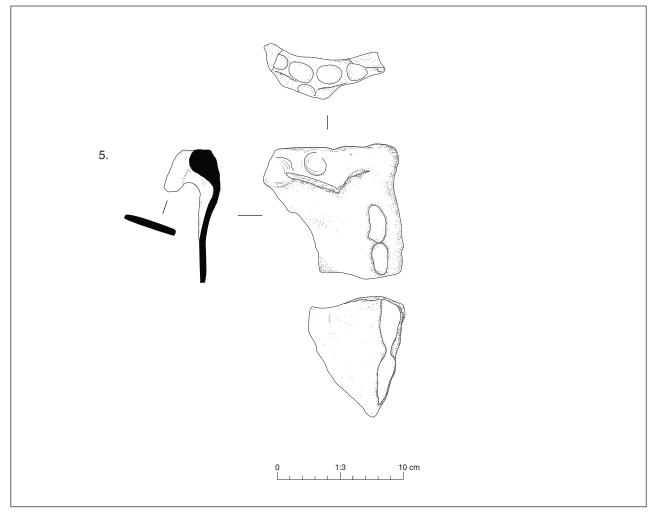


Figure 16b: Medieval pottery (sheet 2 of 2)





Plate 1: Posthole Group 1795, Phase 1, looking west



Plate 2: Ditch 1817, Phase 2 and ditch 1820, Phase 4 looking north





Plate 3: Ditch **1834**, Phase 2 truncating ditch **1832**, Phase 1, truncating natural deposit 1831, Phase 0, looking north-east



Plate 4: Feature 1902, Phase 6 truncating ditch 1900, Phase 2, looking south





Plate 5: Feature 1908, Phase 2, looking south-east



Plate 6: Posthole Group 1926, Phase 2 and well 1839, Phase 3, looking south





Plate 7: Ditch 1780, Phase 2 and pit 1776, Phase 3, looking west



Plate 8: Ditch 1885, Phase 3, looking west





Plate 9: Ditch 1846 and pit 1851, Phase 4 truncating well 1839, Phase 3, looking south-east



Plate 10: Ditch 1808, Phase 3, ditch 1718, Phase 4 and levelling deposits 1716-1717, Phase 5, looking north-east





Plate 11: Pit 1764, Phase 5, looking west



Plate 12: North-eastern quadrant of the site, looking north-west





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 LancasterLA11QD

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