

Medieval Activity on Land Between 3-11 Mortimers Lane, Foxton



Excavation Report



March 2010

Client: Amber Homes (St Ives) Ltd.

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Medieval Activity on Land between Nos 3-11 Mortimers Lane, Foxton

Archaeological Excavation

By Chris Thatcher BA & Gareth Rees BA MA AIFA

*With contributions by Alasdair Brooks (BA MA DPhil), Chris Faine (MA MSc AIFA);
Carole Fletcher (HND BA); Nina Crummy (BA FSA); Rachel Fosberry (HNC (Cert Ed))
and Ruth Shaffrey*

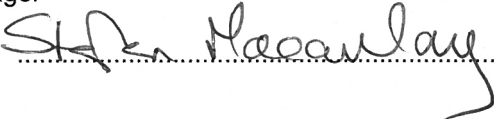
Editor: Steven Macaulay BA MPhil MIFA

Illustrator: Louise Bush BA MA PIFA

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Site Name: Nos 3-11 Mortimers Lane, Foxton
HER Event No: ECB 2737
Date of Works: 19th November -19th December 2007
Client Name: Amber Homes (St Ives) Ltd
Client Ref: -
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Prepared by: Chris Thatcher and Gareth Rees
Position: Project Officer and Project Supervisor
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Checked by: Steven Macaulay
Position: Project Manager
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Signed: 

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Oxford Archaeology East,
15 Trafalgar Way,
Bar Hill,
Cambridge,
CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500
f: 01223 850599
e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

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Summary

Between the 19th of November and 19th of December 2007 OA East (formerly CAM ARC) conducted an archaeological excavation on land between 3 and 11 Mortimers Lane, Foxton, Cambridgeshire (TL 4141 4846). The work was originally commissioned by G McKenzie 1919 Ltd in advance of the construction of three dwellings, garages, access and new services. This report however was commissioned by Amber Homes Ltd. Several phases of archaeological activity were identified during excavation ranging from the Iron Age to the late 19th century.

Evidence for human activity comprised cut features and deposits spanning the Late Iron Age (100BC - AD43) to Post medieval periods, with a gradual intensification of settlement from the Late Saxon period (AD 800 onwards) onwards culminating in the appearance of structural remains dated to the post medieval period (AD 1600 – 1800). Many of the boundaries recorded on the site remained virtually unchanged throughout the life of the settlement.

The artefactual evidence for occupation on the site suggests that the settlement was of relatively low status, the recovered assemblages were very utilitarian and indicative of a largely agricultural economy and lifestyle that remained largely unchanged throughout the period.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted at Land at 3-11 Mortimer's Lane, Foxton.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Eliza Gore of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC; Planning Application S/1674/04/O), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (formerly Cambridgeshire County Council's CAM ARC).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by CCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 During October 2007 an archaeological evaluation was conducted on the site. The work was originally commissioned by G McKenzie 1919 Ltd and a total four trenches were excavated that revealed medieval remains including structural deposits adjacent to the modern street and evidence for domestic activity. A subsequent excavation was also commissioned by G McKenzie 1919 Ltd, however ownership of the site changed hands after the excavation and the new owners Amber Homes (St Ives) Ltd commissioned the post-excavation work.
- 1.1.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the junction of the West Melbury Marly Chalk and the Totternhoe Chalk at a height of approximately 17mOD (British Geological Survey, Sheet 205). In addition the 1st and 2nd Terrace river gravels lie to the immediate north of the development site. Hoffer Brook, a tributary of the River Cam is situated 450m to the east of the site.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 Foxton lies south of the River Cam, to the west of Hoffer Brook and to the east of Shepreth/Foxton Brook. Occupation of the river valleys in south-west Cambridgeshire is characterised in the Iron Age, Roman and medieval periods by settlements paired on either side of a ford. Foxton and Barrington are an example of this type of settlement pattern.
- 1.3.2 The presence of extensive crop marks, including those associated with substantial Iron Age and Roman rural settlement excavated in 1993, to the south and west of the present site (Herod's Farm, Foxton - Macaulay 1995) suggests considerable prehistoric and early historic activity in the area. To the west of the village, excavations along the line of a pipeline uncovered further significant prehistoric and Roman remains (Maynard et al. 1994),
- 1.3.3 Early Saxon cemeteries have also been found along the major river valleys in South Cambridgeshire (Malim & Hines 1998) and another Anglo-Saxon cemetery has been identified in the eastern part of the Cam valley at Foxton. Saxon burials are recorded on the CHER to the west (MCB4858) and southeast (MCB 4889) of the development site).

- 1.3.4 The proposed development sites lies between the medieval parish church of St Lawrence (200m to the southwest) and the medieval moated manor of Mortimer's Farm (MCB1619).

Site Specific

- 1.3.5 An archaeological evaluation, comprising four trenches located across the development, was undertaken on the site in October 2007 (G. Rees 2007: *medieval Occupation on Land at Mortimer's Lane, Foxton, Cambridgeshire: An Archaeological Evaluation*, CAMARC report 975). All trenches contained the remains of medieval occupation at the site, including a structure (possible house) adjacent to the modern street and other evidence of domestic activity including property boundaries. Pottery recovered from the features dated the activity to the 10th to 19th centuries, although the majority of features are dated to the 11th-13th centuries.

Prehistoric and Roman

- 1.3.6 Prehistoric activity in Foxton is attested to by Palaeolithic and Neolithic axes found to the south west of the village at West Hill (Malim 1990). Later prehistoric activity has been identified to the west in the form of a Bronze Age ring ditch and Bronze axe.
- 1.3.7 The presence of extensive crop marks to the south and west suggest that a considerable prehistoric settlement existed. Archaeological investigation of these crop marks in 1993 has shown them to be part of a substantial Iron Age and Roman rural settlement (Herods Farm, Foxton - Macaulay 1995). During the pipeline excavations conducted tot eh west of the village, at least four roundhouses, tentatively dated to either the Late Bronze Age or Iron Age period were recorded (Maynard et al. 1994).
- 1.3.8 Roman finds have been located all around the south and west of the village. Field systems, established in the first century AD, along with associated structures, such as possible industrial and domestic buildings, one of which contained a flue system for heating, were recorded during the pipeline excavations (Maynard et al. 1994).
- 1.3.9 During the second and third centuries little activity was noted apart from the establishment of a Roman cemetery containing 24 burials . This was followed, in the fourth century by a marked upturn in activity and the laying out of a rectangular field system associated with a number of contemporary buildings located to the west of the stream. It appeared that the cemetery continued to be used throughout this period (Maynard et al. 1994). This activity appeared to form part of a wider ;andscape that included the settlement at Herods Farm as well as with the villa discovered further to the west at Shepreth.

Saxon

- 1.3.10 Early Saxon cemeteries have been found along the major river valleys in South Cambridgeshire (Malim & Hines 1998) and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery has been identified in the eastern part of the Cam valley at Foxton. Saxon burials are recorded to the west (MCB4858) and southeast (MCB 4889) of the development site.
- 1.3.11 It is possible that the layout of the modern settlement dates back to this period. The town brook, or 'common stream', seen to the south of the village on aerial photographs, joins the Shepreth Brook in the west to the Hoffer Brook in the north east. This stream continued in use at least until the construction of the medieval moated site in the 12th century.

Medieval

- 1.3.12 The proposed development sites lies between the medieval parish church of St Lawrence (200m to the southwest) and the medieval moated manor of Mortimers Farm (MCB1619). It is possible that the moat was fed by the town brook, the northern arm of which may have run down the south eastern side of Mortimers Lane before joining the moat and finally flowing into the Hoffer Brook.
- 1.3.13 The name Foxton is first mentioned in the Domesday survey as *Foxetune* (EPNS 1973), interpreted as 'Farm where foxes abound'. The name appears to have changed by 1396 to Foxston and again by 1549 to Faxton.
- 1.3.14 Mortimers manor derived from one hide held in 1086 by two knights of Count Alan, lord of Richmond. After 1697 the manor was sold to Thomas Bendyshe, and descended thereafter with the Bendyshe's Barrington estate. The remaining manors in Foxton were acquired his grandson Richard, lord from 1777. His son John owned almost half the parish and the property stayed in the family until Richard's grandson Capt. J. N. Bendyshe sold it in 1928. The purchaser, J. H. Stevens, tenant of Bury farm, resold 260a. In 1929 when Mortimers farm was acquired by the Walstons of Newton Hall, where it remained as part of their Thriplow estate.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Amber Homes Ltd, specifically Neil Roe, who commissioned and funded the archaeological work, also G MacKenzie 1919 Ltd and builder Richard Fison. Eliza Gore wrote the excavation brief and visited and monitored the site. The project was managed by Steve Macaulay. Chris Thatcher and Gareth Rees directed and supervised the fieldwork with the assistance of Steve Graham, Thomas Lyons, Lucy Offord, Nick Pankhurst and Daniel Wheeler. The illustrations were produced by Louise Bush.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objective of this excavation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.
- 2.1.2 The excavation will be focussed on those areas where archaeological remains will be compromised by the proposed development (see plan). Specifically the area of excavation is to be at front section of the site (c30m from roadside) where all three building foundations and associated service trenches and access roads will be constructed.

Research Aims

- 2.1.3 The archaeological investigation of the site aims to contribute towards English Heritages Primary Aims (English Heritage 1998), and takes into consideration the research agenda for the Eastern Counties (Brown & Glazebrook 2000) and Policy on Research, Survey, Conservation and Excavation of Medieval Rural Settlements (Medieval Settlement Research Group 1996). National, Regional and Site based research issues will be addressed.

Contribute towards understanding Rural Settlement Diversity

- 2.1.4 The principle research required is for the definition of the *actual* medieval settlement patterns across the region; the dating of each element in the settlement patterns; and the relationship of the medieval pattern to any earlier pattern (Wade in Brown & Glazebrook eds. 2000;24).
- 2.1.5 Specific objectives relating to this aim include:
- Attempt to classify the structures and boundaries at Mortimer's Lane and relate these to the known medieval village pattern and potential earlier street pattern in relation to the moated manor located to the immediate east of the site (Mortimer's Moat)

Contribute towards an understanding of the medieval household

- 2.1.6 The Medieval Settlement Research Group (Medieval Rural Settlements -A Policy on their Research, Survey, Conservation and Excavation) states that the household is a subject until recently neglected by archaeologists and there is an opportunity to examine the experiences of builders and users of medieval houses by the study of building and settlement plans, and artefacts and their distribution. This field of research has the potential to throw light on such fundamental issues as consumption and the family, including gender relationships.

Contribute to the understanding of the Transition from medieval to post medieval traditions (c.1300-1700 AD).

- 2.1.7 English Heritage (1998) has cited periods of transition as an opportunity to focus on aspects of continuity and change. Eight periods of change are listed including the transition from medieval to post-medieval traditions (c.1300-1700 AD).
- 2.1.8 Specific project objectives which relate to this aim are:
- Establish a chronology for the start and end of the occupation.

- Attempt to characterize the type of occupation and assess its potential to contribute towards knowledge about the processes of change.

English Heritage Research Priorities

2.1.9 There are a number of national research priorities which English Heritage (English Heritage Archaeology Division Research Agenda 1997) identify which provide the framework for investigation and apply to Foxton.

'Themes'

2.1.10 The collection of artefacts, ecofacts and structural evidence from sites with well understood depositional processes and with good and consistent sampling techniques has been identified as a critical factor in the study of settlement hierarchies and interaction (English Heritage Research Agenda 1997). In addition the understanding of rural settlements, relict field systems and patterns of craftsmanship & industry (including agriculture).

'Landscapes'

2.1.11 Medieval rural settlement patterns are the key to understanding the economic, social and political structures of rural England, and in extending our knowledge of change.

2.2 Methodology

2.2.1 The Brief required that a total area of 0.13ha be subject to open area excavation.

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.5 A total of 56 environmental samples were taken from features across the site.

2.2.6 The site was excavated during a spell of cold and wet weather. The water table was recorded at less than a metre below ground level, which precluded the full excavation of a number of the larger features.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Evidence for human activity comprised features and deposits spanning the Late Iron Age to Post medieval periods, with a gradual intensification of settlement from the Late Saxon period (AD 800 onwards) onwards culminating in the appearance of structural remains dated to the post medieval period (AD 1600 – 1800).

3.2 Provisional Site Phasing

3.2.1 As with many rural sites very little complex stratigraphy was present, although the concentration of archaeological remains was fairly dense and several areas of inter-cutting ditches and pits were recorded across the site. The chronological phasing presented in this work is largely based on stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and, to a certain extent, similarity in alignment of linear features. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts, primarily pottery. Four main periods have been identified and these are outlined below.

Period 1: Late Iron Age (100BC - AD43)

3.2.2 Several of the features located in the eastern part of the site were dated to this period. These comprised a several shallow ditches, the remnants of two ring gullies and a cluster of shallow pits.

Period 2: Saxo Norman (AD900 - AD1250)

3.2.3 During this period a series of enclosure and boundary ditches that traversed the entire site were laid out on northwest to southeast and southeast to northwest alignments. A number of pits and postholes attributed to this period.

Period 3: Medieval (AD1200 - AD1400)

3.2.4 A similar pattern of occupational activity to that of Period 2 was in evidence during the medieval period. Furthermore, the ditches and gullies dated to this period appeared to represent refinements and re-workings of the pre-existing boundaries. The remnant of a possible post-built structure dated to this period were recorded on the eastern side of the development area.

Period 4: Late medieval (AD1400 - AD1600)

3.2.5 This period was marked by a number of relatively large pits, scattered across the site with little evidence of ditching. It might be assumed that Periods 3 & 4 are sub-divisions of a more general phase of occupation and that there was a continuity in land use throughout the wider period.

Period 5: Post medieval (AD1600 – AD 1800)

3.2.6 As with the preceding periods, very little change in the overall pattern of habitation was recorded. Of particular note were two rectangular structures recorded at opposing ends of the site.

3.3 Period 1: Late Iron Age (100BC – AD43)

Ring Gully 436

- 3.3.1 Close to the centre of the site the southern arc of a shallow ring gully was recorded. The northern part of this feature was entirely truncated by a later east to west aligned ditch. Two sections were excavated through this feature (**436, 438**) which revealed it to be 0.30m in width by 0.10m deep, no finds were recovered from its single fill (437, 439), however its stratigraphic relationship with the other features on the site, size and proportions suggested that it was dated to the Late Iron Age period (Fig 5).

Ring Gully 474

- 3.3.2 The remnant of a second shallow gully (**474**) was recorded to the northeast. This feature was heavily truncated by later activity but appeared to have a similar arc to **436** suggesting that it would have been similar in size to that feature.

Ditches 124, 240 & 440

- 3.3.3 A northwest to southeast aligned boundary was recorded traversing the centre of the site that was formed of three shallow ditches **240, 440** and an unexcavated segment that ran beyond the limit of the southern baulk. The ditches were on average 0.50m in width and 0.20m deep. No finds were recovered from their fills, making absolute dating uncertain but they appeared to respect the alignment of the ring gully **436** (Para. 3.3.1), terminating just short of its southern limit.
- 3.3.4 Aligned perpendicular to **240, 440** was a shallow ditch (**124**) that was truncated to the east and west by later activity. Ditch **124** was of very similar proportions to those described above and contained no finds.
- 3.3.5 These features appeared to form part of an enclosure system that would have extended to the north, west and east beyond the limit of the development area.

Pit Cluster

- 3.3.6 A group of inter cutting pits of various sizes were recorded in the northernmost corner of the site (**299, 300, 301, 463, 465 & 472**). These features were all fairly shallow and flat based, with the exception of pit **299**, a steep sided feature whose base extended below the water table. This pit was the latest feature in the sequence and no dating evidence was recovered from either of its fills (467 & 468). However the fill of pit **300** (469) did contain a single sherd of flint and sand tempered pottery of probable Iron Age provenance.

3.4 Period 2: Saxo Norman (AD900 – AD1250)

Boundary and enclosure features

- 3.4.1 During this period a series of enclosure and boundary ditches were laid out whose basic alignments were adhered to throughout the medieval period (Fig 6).
- 3.4.2 Ditch **280** ran parallel to the existing road, through the western part of the excavation. Its primary fill (285) contained relatively large quantities of chalk, which suggested that it represented a bank, pushed back into the ditch once it had fallen out of use. This feature petered out to the south of a perpendicularly aligned ditch that appeared to run the length of the excavation area (**186**). Ditch **186** was 0.50m in width by 0.15m deep. Approximately four metres to the northeast of **186** a second ditch, of very similar

proportions was recorded on the same alignment (**94**). These two ditches formed a possible trackway, aligned northwest to southeast.

- 3.4.3 To the immediate northeast of the trackway lay what may have formed the western corner of a second enclosure (**115**). The sections excavated through this feature produced finds dated to the 12th and 13th Century.

Pits and postholes

- 3.4.4 A total of seven shallow pits were recorded arranged along the northern edge of the trackway (**118, 120, 122, 128, 144, 196 & 209**). Very few finds were recovered from this group of features but pit fill 208 (of **209**) was found to contain a sherd of St Neots ware, dated to the 11th to mid 12th century.
- 3.4.5 Towards the western part of the site a further cluster of five pits was recorded (**278, 283, 304, 402 & 409**) close to boundary ditch **280**. No finds were recovered from these fairly shallow and ephemeral pits.

3.5 Period 3: Medieval (AD1200 - AD1400)

- 3.5.1 The evidence for activity during this period suggested a continuity in the level and nature of occupation on the site. Many of the features appeared to represent re-cuts of pre-existing boundary and enclosure features (Fig 7).

Boundary and enclosure features

- 3.5.2 A relatively shallow ditch (**279**) was recorded running alongside ditch **280** from the preceding period (Para 3.4.2). In comparison to **280** this feature was fairly small, being on average only 0.70m wide by 0.30m deep and no evidence for bank material was recorded filling the ditch. The northeastern limit of this feature (**455**) with another ditch of similar proportions that was aligned perpendicular to its course. This ditch (**454**) ran the full length of the site, turning onto a northeast to southwest course at the southeastern limit of the excavation area that ran parallel to the existing road. It seems likely that ditch **454** delineated a property boundary fronting Mortimers Lane with ditch **270/455** representing an internal subdivision of the plot. The primary fill of **454** contained a bowl sherd dated to the mid 12th to 14th century.
- 3.5.3 It appears that the existing boundaries on the eastern side of the development area were also re-defined during this period. Ditches **109 & 447**, dated from their finds to the 12th or 13th Century, superseded ditch **115** to form the western corner of an enclosure that extended beyond the eastern limit of the site. These were in turn replaced by ditch **478** whose fills yielded pottery sherds dated to the 13th and 14th Century.

Post Built Structure

- 3.5.4 The corner of a putative post built structure was recorded lying within the limit of the enclosure demarcated by ditch **109**. This structure comprised five postholes, posthole **204** formed a corner post with **198** and **200** radiating outwards in a north easterly direction and **134** and **202** forming a section of southeast to northwest aligned wall. The post holes were all very shallow, with an average depth of 0.10m and it is quite possible that the rest of the foot print of the structure had not survived as a result of the fairly high frequency of intrusive activity on this part of the site.

Pitting

- 3.5.5 A number of shallow pits were attributed to this phase. Their distribution close to the boundary and enclosure ditches mirrored the pattern of feature distribution recorded during earlier periods and although their functions remain largely indeterminate it is suggested that functionally, no significant change in activity was taking place.
- 3.5.6 Pits **182**, **191**, **194** & **212** all lay in close proximity to the post built structure. Pit **212** contained a large fragment of lava rotary quern that may have originally been a millstone, subsequent to this it was used as a whetstone (Appendix B.4).

3.6 Period 4: Late medieval (AD1400 – AD1600)

- 3.6.1 The features attributed to this period comprised a series of pits recorded across the site that appear to lie within the enclosures laid out during the preceding period (Fig 7).
- 3.6.2 In the far northwestern corner of the site a sequence of intercutting pits (**347**, **349**, **351** & **355**) were recorded that varied in depth from 0.20m to up to 0.90m. The deepest of these, **355**, was interpreted as a well. A number of sherds of later medieval pottery were recovered from these features.
- 3.6.3 Approximately ten metres to the east of this sequence another large pit (**331**), whose fills contained later medieval pot sherds was excavated, this feature was up to 0.80m deep and steep sided and may have served as a well. Further to the east and continuing beyond the limit of the excavation a large, wide based pit (**153**) was recorded that contained a relatively high frequency of pot sherds dated to the 16th Century.

3.7 Period 5: Post medieval (AD1600 – AD 1800)

- 3.7.1 During this period the first direct evidence for habitation within the development area was recorded. The foundations for two small dwellings were recorded at opposing ends of the site. These lay within the bounds of the existing enclosures, suggesting that some of the boundaries dated to the earlier periods were extant and still functioning as plot boundaries at the time of the buildings construction. Furthermore, given the apparent spatial correlation between the location of the buildings and the ditches these post-medieval structures may have replaced earlier structures located in the same place.
- 3.7.2 The two buildings recorded for this period were both aligned with their long axis perpendicular to Mortimers Lane, it is suggested that the buildings lay within plots recorded fronting the lane.

Building 90 (Fig 3, Section 44)

- 3.7.3 In the southwestern corner of the site a sub-rectangular cut (**90**) was recorded that was 8.50m long and continued beneath the excavation baulk meaning that its full width was not recorded. It was 0.72m deep and filled with a succession of fills (88, 89, 214, 215, 216, 217 & 218), that comprised alternating layers of hard packed chunks of chalk and brick rubble with softer clay layers, fill 218 was found to contain pottery dated to the 17th Century.
- 3.7.4 A number of other structural features were recorded in association with the foundation cut. These included posthole (**101**), cut into the upper packing fills that may have served to house a supporting timber and the cut for a beam slot (**87**) that was 0.50m in width by 0.16m deep, and ran along the eastern side of foundation cut **90**.

Building 229 (Fig 3, Sections 46 & 47)

- 3.7.5 At the eastern limit of the site a second foundation cut was recorded. Further investigation of this structure was carried out and the overburden was removed in this corner of the site in order to reveal the full extent of the feature.
- 3.7.6 The cut for this feature (**229**) was sub-rectangular in plan, c.7m in length by 5.5m wide and 0.35m deep. A total of three deposits were recorded filling the feature (231, 232 & 233), pottery dated to the 17th Century was recovered from fill 233. Fills 231 and 233 were composed of a mixture of chalk and clunch, whilst 232 was a firm clay silt. A number of patches of fairly dense charcoal were recorded in the upper layer (232) and these may have related to burnt out post pads.
- 3.7.7 Three postholes (**176, 178, 189**) were recorded running along the southwestern edge of foundation cut that may have represented part of the buildings superstructure.

Well 342

- 3.7.8 To the northwest of Building **90** a particularly large, steep sided cut (**342**) was recorded. In plan it was sub-circular in shape, measuring 3.60m in diameter and extending to at least 1.30m below ground level before the water table precluded further excavation. Significant quantities of post medieval pottery were recovered from the fills of this feature suggesting that it was perhaps contemporary with the structure to the south. The steep, shaft like sides of the feature suggest that it may have served as a well

Boundaries

- 3.7.9 During this period the main northwest to southeast aligned boundary was re-instated on the same alignment as it was during the previous phases. Ditch **188** was cut immediately adjacent to the east of its precursor and was very similar in size and proportions to the pre-existing ditches being 0.60m in width by 0.14m deep.
- 3.7.10 The corner of an enclosure was also recorded the northwestern part of the site whose eastern boundary lay on the same alignment as **188**. The southern limit of this feature (**411**) passed close to the northern edge of Building **90**.

3.8 Finds Summary

Small Finds

- 3.8.1 A small assemblage consisting of 51 objects dating from the early medieval to modern periods was recovered. The most common artefact type was Iron nails with Horse-gear and copper alloy personalia also recorded and the assemblage was typical of suggest a semi-rural environment.

Pottery and Clay Pipes

- 3.8.2 A pottery assemblage of 568 sherds, weighing 10.851kg, was recovered from 95 contexts. The bulk of material recovered was mid 12th to mid 14th century in date with a small number of contexts producing 18th and 19th century ceramics. In addition 2 sherds of handmade prehistoric pottery were recovered and 3 sherds of Roman pottery.
- 3.8.3 The assemblage was small and fairly abraded, making accurate dating problematic but the presence of this material is indicative of continuous activity on or close to the site from the mid 11th century to the 17th century.

- 3.8.4 A small assemblage of post-1800 serving and utilitarian storage vessels was recovered that suggest either a very low status domestic function or that the assemblage was associated with a kitchen.

Worked Stone

- 3.8.5 Five lava quern fragments and one Norwegian Ragstone whetstone fragment, representative of general domestic activity, were recovered from the site.

3.9 Environmental Summary

Faunal Remains

- 3.9.1 A total of 91 “countable” bones and 200 fragments not identifiable to species, were recovered from the site. The assemblage was dominated by domestic mammals, with cattle being most prevalent, followed by sheep, goat and horse smaller quantities of pig, dog and cat remains, along with domestic fowl and geese, were also recorded. Whilst the assemblage was relatively small sample size it was possible to infer that the Adult cattle were kept primarily for traction and also meat, as were the horses. Sheep/Goats were kept for meat and possibly breeding rather than wool production. Pigs were raised for meat.

Environmental Samples

- 3.9.2 Forty samples were taken during the excavation. Preservation was general poor but the plant remains that were recovered were dominated by crop plants, both cereals and legumes. Relatively low frequencies of plant remains were recorded, which suggests that they probably represent debris blowing around the site rather than the remnants of crop production in the immediate vicinity. With this in mind it appears that whilst the local arable economy may have been founded upon the production of cereals and legumes, the development area itself may have been given over to other activities such as pasture and animal husbandry.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

4.1.1 A sequence of continuous occupation from the Late Saxon through to the Post medieval period was revealed by the excavations at Mortimer's Lane. Below, these findings are discussed by period in relation to the original aims laid out in Section 2.

Late Iron Age landscape

4.1.2 The evidence from this period suggests a low level of activity that included possible settlement in the form of putative roundhouse gullies with some evidence for enclosure boundaries. There is a growing body of evidence for occupation around Foxton during this time and the finds from the pipeline project to the south and west of Foxton uncovered a similar pattern of features, with sparse associated artefactual evidence (Maynard et al. 1994).

Saxo Norman settlement

Settlement layout

4.1.3 One of the principle research aims of the project was to define the relationship of the medieval settlement pattern to any earlier settlement patterns (Wade in Brown & Glazebrook eds. 2000; 24). The evidence recorded by the excavation suggested that the basic layout of the modern settlement was indeed derived from a pattern first set out in the Saxon period.

4.1.4 Many of the boundaries recorded on the site that dated to this period remained extant or were re-worked on the same alignments all the way through to the Post medieval period. It is quite possible that such a layout was initially determined by topographic factors such as the town brook, whose northern arm may have run down the south eastern side of Mortimers Lane.

4.1.5 Also of note was the increase in feature density towards the eastern part of the site and this may be explained by proximity to Mortimer's Farm, the site of the manor, which was established in the immediate Post-Conquest period (Wright *et al*, 1982).

Medieval to Late medieval continuity

Settlement layout

4.1.6 During this period there was an apparent continuity in land use from the Saxo-Norman period that was marked by a series of refinements and re-workings of the pre-existing boundaries with little evidence for an intensification of use.

4.1.7 The boundaries themselves were all very similar in profile and overall dimensions across periods, with no apparent deepening over time that might suggest a shift from drainage to purely boundary markers. The water table on site was relatively high and the close proximity of the site to the brook suggests that these features may have partially served to drain the land in order for it to be practically used for cultivation or livestock.

4.1.8 One of the original aims of the project was to relate the structures and boundaries at Mortimer's Lane to the moated manor located to the immediate east of the site and, as with the preceding period, an increase in feature density was noted towards the eastern limit of the development area. It seems likely that this is as a result of the site falling

within the bounds of the land associated with the moated manor to the east (Wright *et al*, 1982).

Social and economic conditions

- 4.1.9 The excavation also sought to contribute towards an understanding of the medieval household with particular reference to their associated artefacts and distribution. Furthermore, the need to elucidate settlement hierarchies and interaction in order to understand rural settlements, relict field systems and patterns of craftsmanship & industry (including agriculture) was highlighted (English Heritage Research Agenda 1997).
- 4.1.10 In the event, the pottery and domestic artefact assemblages recovered for this period were fairly small, which somewhat reduced the research value of the assemblage (Appendix B.3). Also, very little evidence for actual habitation within the development area was recorded for this period, although the presence of a possible post-built structure close to the eastern limit of the site raises the possibility that some habitation took place that may have been truncated by the structural evidence dating from the Post medieval period. Despite these factors, the nature of the assemblages, specifically the small number of personal artefacts in relationship to a preponderance of nails and other utilitarian pieces did attest to the relatively low status nature of the settlement, as did the relatively small size of the pottery assemblage, which was comprised primarily of utilitarian and storage vessels (Appendix B.3).
- 4.1.11 The faunal and environmental remains also enabled certain conclusions about the nature of the local economy to be drawn. The environmental samples revealed a floral environment dominated by crop plants including both cereals and legumes (Appendix C.2). It seems likely, given the relatively low frequencies of plant remains identified, that whilst crop production was certainly in evidence within the local landscape, the immediate environs was given over to pasture and animal husbandry.
- 4.1.12 This conclusion is corroborated by the animal bone assemblage, which was dominated by adult cattle and horse remains. Analysis of these remains revealed that these two species were used primarily for traction and meat (Appendix C.1). The presence of a swivel-ring, which may have been part of a snaffle bit, vehicle chain or related to horsegear appears to support such a conclusion (Appendix B.1).

Post medieval habitation

- 4.1.13 As with the preceding periods, very little change in the overall pattern of habitation was recorded. Of particular note were two rectangular structures recorded at opposing ends of the site. These mark the first definitive evidence for habitation on the site, although as stated above it is possible that the construction of these dwellings entirely truncated earlier evidence.
- 4.1.14 The appearance of buildings during the Post medieval period may however mark a shift in land use, this may have been prompted by an improvement in ground conditions on site or as a result of the changing demands of the manor, perhaps even a decline in its influence.
- 4.1.15 The recovered assemblage from this period consisted almost entirely of serving and utilitarian storage vessels rather than objects more oriented towards the consumption of food and it may be possible that the two small buildings recorded within the development area in fact represented ancillary buildings or quarters associated with the nearby manor, for instance kitchens rather than *bona fide* dwellings.

- 4.1.16 A stated aim for the project was to focus on aspects of continuity and change during the post medieval and in this particular case it appears that a process of gradual change towards the settlement pattern in evidence today on Mortimer's Lane began during the 1700s. This was marked not so much by any significant reworking of the landscape itself. The alignments of the boundaries established during the Saxo-Norman period are still largely adhered to to this day; the major shift appears to be the first use of the land encompassed by the development area for habitation rather than agriculture.

4.2 Conclusion

- 4.2.1 This excavation contributes to the growing body of archaeological evidence from around the village that is adding to our understanding of the development of Foxton, in this instance specifically throughout the Post Roman period.
- 4.2.2 Together with the other excavations in and around the village this enables us to trace the development of the medieval agricultural system, but also to gain an insight into how much the layout of the present day village has been determined by factors and influences that date back to the beginning of the previous millennium. The results at Mortimers Lane, Foxton have clearly demonstrated that there is a persistence of occupation and ownership from the medieval into Post medieval periods.

APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Length	Width	Depth
1		layer	natural	0		
2		layer	natural	0		
3	4	fill	ditch	1.5	0.8	0.2
4	4	cut	ditch	1.5	0.8	0.2
5	6	fill	post hole	0.28	0.21	0.05
6	6	cut	post hole	0.28	0.21	0.05
7	8	fill	post hole	0.5	0.35	0.07
8	8	cut	post hole	0.5	0.35	0.07
9	10	fill	ditch	1.5	1.2	0.12
10	10	cut	ditch	1.5	1.2	0.12
11	12	fill	ditch	1.5	0.75	0.1
12	12	cut	ditch	0.8	1.5	0.15
13		layer		0	7.25	0.4
14		fill		0	0.3	0.32
15		fill	surface (external)	2.1	1.5	0.2
16	16	cut	post hole	0	0.34	0.07
17	16	fill	post hole	0	0.34	0.07
18	18	cut	ditch	0.6		0.23
19	18	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.23
20	20	cut	ditch	0	0.78	0.23
21	20	fill	ditch	0	0.78	0.23
22	22	cut	ditch	0	1.15	0.28
23	22	fill	ditch	0.7	1.15	0.28
24	24	cut	ditch	0.7	1.08	0.4
25	24	fill	ditch	0.7	0.65	0.16
26	24	fill	ditch	0.7	1.08	0.26
27	27	cut	ditch	0.7	0.64	0.28
28	27	fill	ditch	0.7	0.64	0.28
29	29	cut	ditch	0	1.78	0.22
30	29	fill	ditch	0	1.78	0.22
31	31	cut	pit	0.42	0.58	0.48
32	31	fill	pit	0.42	0.58	0.48
33	33	cut	pit	0	0.6	0.58

34	33	fill	pit	0	0.6	0.58
35	35	cut	ditch	0	1.4	0.6
36	35	fill	ditch	0	1.4	0.6
37	38	fill	ditch	0	0.55	0.1
38	38	cut	ditch	0	0.55	0.1
39	40	fill	post hole	0	0.2	0.1
40	40	cut	post hole	0	0.2	0.1
41		fill	post hole	0	0.22	0.14
42	42	cut	post hole	0	0.22	0.14
43	44	fill	post hole	0		
44	44	cut	post hole	0	0.3	0.05
45	46	fill	pit	0	0.6	0.1
46	46	cut	pit	0	0.6	0.1
47	48	fill	pit	0	0.4	0.2
48	48	cut	pit	0	0.4	0.2
49	50	fill	ditch	0	0.5	0.1
50	50	cut	ditch	0	0.5	0.1
51	53	fill	ditch	0	3.8	0.6
52	53	fill	ditch	0	1.4	0.2
53	53	cut		0	3.8	0.6
54	56	fill	ditch	0	2.3	0.3
55	56	fill	ditch	0	1.5	0.3
56	56	cut	ditch	0	2.4	0.6
57	58	fill	pit	0	0.65	0.2
58	58	cut	pit	0	0.65	0.2
59	60	fill	post hole	0	0.25	0.08
60	60	cut	post hole	0	0.25	0.08
61	62	fill	ditch	0	1.5	0.22
62	62	cut	ditch	0	1.5	0.22
63	64	fill	pit	0	0.88	0.3
64	64	cut	pit	0	0.88	0.3
65	66	fill	pit	0	0.9	0.15
66	66	cut	pit	0	0.9	0.15
67	68	fill	ditch	0	0.5	0.3
68	68	cut	ditch	0	0.5	0.3
69	70	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.46

70	70	cut		0	0.6	0.46
71	72	fill	pit	0	5	0.26
72	72	cut	pit	0	5	0.26
73	74	fill	post hole	0	0.3	0.14
74	74	cut	post hole	0	0.3	0.14
75	76	fill	pit	0	1.38	0.14
76	76	cut	pit	0	1.38	0.14
77	78	fill	pit	0	1.1	0.12
78		cut	pit	0	1.1	0.12
79	80	fill	pit	0	1.6	0.12
80	80	cut	pit	0	1.6	0.12
81		fill	pit	0	0.3	0.06
82		cut	pit	0	0.3	0.06
83		fill	surface (external)	1.5	2.25	
84	85	fill	pit	0.75	0.25	
85	85	cut	pit	0.75	0.25	
86	87	fill	ditch	3.7	0.3	0.28
87		cut	ditch	7.7	0.6	0.28
88	90	fill	pit	3.8	2.5	0.12
89	90	fill	pit	8.2	2.4	0.4
90		cut	pit/ trench	8.5	2.4	0.72
91	92	fill	pit	0	1.3	0.24
92		cut	pit	0	1.3	0.24
93	94	fill	ditch	0	0.52	0.12
94		cut	ditch	0	0.52	0.12
95	97	fill	ditch	0	1.55	0.28
96	97	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.2
97		cut	ditch	0	1.5	0.35
98	99	fill	pit	0	1.22	0.08
99		cut	pit	0	1.22	0.08
100	101	fill	pit	0	0.47	0.31
101		cut	pit	0	0.47	0.31
102	90	fill	pit	1.1	1.1	0.26
103	90	fill	pit	0	1.1	0.36
104	213	fill	foundation trench	7	3	0.1
105		cut	post hole	0	0.65	0.4

106	105	fill	post hole	0	0.65	0.4
107		cut	post hole	0	0.18	0.18
108	107	fill	post hole	0	0.18	0.18
109		cut	ditch	0	0.62	0.28
110	109	fill	ditch	0	0.62	0.28
111		cut	ditch	0	0.92	0.42
112	111	fill	ditch	0	0.92	0.42
113		cut	ditch	0	0.76	0.3
114	1130	fill	ditch	0	0.76	0.3
115		cut	ditch	0	0.54	0.35
116	115	fill	ditch	0	0.54	0.35
117	118	fill	pit	0	0.53	0.06
118		cut	pit	0	0.53	0.06
119	120	fill	pit	0	0.73	0.06
120		cut	pit	0	0.73	0.06
121	122	fill	pit	0	0.3	0.03
122		cut	post hole	0	0.3	0.03
123		fill	ditch	0	0.58	0.32
124		cut	ditch	0	0.58	0.32
125	126	fill	post hole	0	0.23	0.05
126		cut	post hole	0	0.23	0.05
127	128	fill	post hole	0	0.35	0.08
128		cut	post hole	0	0.35	0.08
129	130	fill	ditch	0	0.8	0.28
130		cut	ditch	0	0.8	0.28
131	132	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.18
132		cut	ditch	0	0.6	0.18
133	134	fill	stake hole	0	0.13	0.23
134		cut	stake hole	0	0.13	0.23
135	136	fill	post hole	0	0.19	0.04
136		cut	post hole	0	0.19	0.04
137	138	fill	ditch	0	0.4	0.12
138		cut	ditch	0	0.4	0.12
139	140	fill	post hole	0	0.26	0.08
140		cut	post hole	0	0.26	0.08
141	142	fill	ditch	0	0.74	0.54

142		cut	ditch	0	0.74	0.54
143	144	fill	pit	0	1.08	0.05
144		cut	pit	0	1.08	0.05
145	146	fill	ditch	0	0.52	0.09
146		cut	ditch	0	0.52	0.09
147	148	fill	gully	0	0.29	0.04
148		cut	gully	0	0.29	0.04
149	150	fill	post hole	0	0.2	0.08
150		cut	post hole	0	0.2	0.08
151		layer		2.2	1.2	0.07
152	153	fill	pit	0	1.2	0.27
153		cut	pit	1	1.2	0.27
154	155	fill	pit	0	1.3	0.23
155		cut	pit	1	1.3	0.23
156	157	fill	pit	1.8	1.1	0.2
157		cut	pit	0.7	1.7	0.18
158	159	fill	pit	0	1	0.19
159		cut	pit	1.1	1.1	0.2
160	161	fill	pit	0	0.7	0.31
161		cut	pit	0	0.7	0.31
162	163	fill	ditch	1	0.7	0.33
163		cut	ditch	1	0.7	0.32
164	165	fill	ditch	0	0.3	0.1
165		cut	ditch	0.4	0.3	0.1
166	167	fill	post hole	0	0.4	0.28
167		cut	post hole	0	0.4	0.27
168	169	fill	post hole	0	0.2	0.19
169		cut	post hole	0	0.2	0.14
170	171	fill	post hole	0	0.3	0.17
171		cut	post hole	0	0.3	0.17
172	173	fill	ditch	0	0.75	0.12
173		cut	ditch	0	0.75	0.12
174	213	fill	foundation trench	7	2.6	0.15
175	176	fill	post hole	0	0.39	0.28
176		cut	post hole	0	0.39	0.28
177	178	fill	post hole	0	0.36	0.22

178		cut	post hole	0	0.36	0.22
179		layer	demolition/backfill	2.55	1.25	0.1
180		cut	post hole	0.3	0.3	0.3
181	180	fill	post hole	0.3	0.3	0.3
182		cut	pit	0.8	0.5	0.22
183	182	fill	pit	1.1	0.85	0.13
184	182	fill	pit	1.25	0.75	0.22
185	186	fill	ditch		0.58	0.13
186		cut	ditch	0	0.58	0.13
187	188	fill	ditch	0	0.58	0.14
188		cut	ditch	0	0.58	0.14
189	190	fill	ditch	0	0.85	0.27
190		cut	ditch	0	0.85	0.27
191		cut	pit	1.07	1.1	0.22
192	191	fill	pit	1.1	1.07	0.22
193	194	fill	pit	0	0.68	0.3
194		cut	pit	0	0.68	0.3
195	196	fill	post hole	0	0.35	0.09
196		cut	pit/posthole	0	0.35	0.09
197	198	fill	post hole	0	0.2	0.08
198		cut	post hole	0	0.2	0.08
199	200	fill	post hole	0	0.19	0.09
200		cut	post hole	0	0.19	0.09
201	202	fill	stake hole	0	0.12	0.12
202		cut	stake hole	0	0.12	0.12
203	204	fill	stake hole	0	0.09	0.18
204		cut	stake hole	0	0.09	0.18
205	206	fill	post hole	0	0.19	0.09
206		cut	post hole	0	0.19	0.09
207	213	fill	ditch	0	1.1	0.1
208	209	fill	pit	0	0.65	0.19
209		cut	pit	0	0.65	0.19
210	212	fill	pit		0.3	0.4
211	212	fill	post hole	0	0.6	0.3
212		cut	post hole	0	0.8	0.4
213		cut	ditch	0	2.8	0.25

214	90	fill	pit	0	1.75	0.86
215	90	fill	pit	0	2.06	0.2
216	90	fill	pit	0		0.06
217	80	fill	pit	0		0.1
218	90	fill	pit	0		0.18
219	220	fill	ditch	1.8	0.2	0.12
220		cut	ditch	1.8	0.6	0.2
221	222	fill	post hole	0	0.25	0.35
222		cut	post hole	0	0.25	0.35
223	87	fill	ditch	3.7		0.28
224	220	fill	ditch	1.8	0.3	0.2
225	226	fill	post hole	0	0.45	0.39
226		cut	post hole	0	0.45	0.39
227	228	fill	ditch	1		0.05
228		cut	ditch	1		0.05
229		cut	structure	7	4.5	0.35
230	229	fill		0	7	0.1
231	229	fill	packing	3.8	7	0.12
232	229	fill	foundation trench	7	3	0.3
233	224	fill	foundation trench	7	2.6	0.2
234	276	fill	ditch	0	0.7	0.24
235		cut	pit	0.5	0.95	0.17
236	237	fill	pit	0		0.2
237		cut	pit	0		0.2
238	235	fill	pit	0.5	0.95	0.17
239	240	fill	ditch	0	0.71	0.23
240		cut	ditch	0	0.71	0.23
241	242	fill	ditch	0	0.58	0.12
242		cut	ditch	0	0.58	0.12
243	245	fill	post hole	0	0.56	0.22
244	245	fill	post hole	0	0.42	0.22
245		cut	post hole	0	0.56	0.34
246	248	fill	ditch	0	1	0.22
247	248	fill	ditch	0	0.72	0.19
248		cut	ditch	0	1	0.32
249	250	fill	pit	2.24	1	0.13

250		cut	pit	2.24	1	0.13
251	252	fill	pit	0	0.87	0.1
252		cut	pit	0	0.87	0.1
253	254	fill	post hole	0	0.27	0.11
254	253	cut	post hole	0	0.27	0.11
255	256	fill	post hole	0	0.25	0.09
256		cut	post hole	0	0.25	0.09
257	258	fill	post hole	0	0.26	0.1
258		cut	post hole	0	0.26	0.1
259	260	fill	post hole	0	0.45	0.24
260		cut	post hole	0	0.45	0.24
261	264	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.19
262	264	fill	ditch	0	0.78	0.06
263	264	fill	ditch	0	0.8	0.18
264		cut	ditch	0	0.88	0.4
265	266	fill	post hole	0		
266		cut	post hole	0	0.4	0.11
267	268	fill	post hole	0		
268		cut	post hole	0	0.4	0.1
269	270	fill	pit	0	0.4	0.09
270		cut	post hole	0	0.4	0.09
271	272	fill	ditch	0.9	0.32	0.2
272		cut	ditch	0.9	0.32	0.2
273	274	fill	ditch	0.9	1.4	0.35
274		cut	ditch	0.9	1.5	0.34
275	276	fill		0	1.4	0.45
276		cut	ditch	0.7	1.75	0.45
277	278	fill	pit	0	0.44	0.13
278		cut	post hole	0	0.44	0.17
279		cut	ditch	1	0.74	0.27
280		cut	ditch	1	1.67	0.4
281		cut	pit	1.28	1.28	0.43
282	283	fill	pit	0	0.65	0.12
283		cut	post hole	0	0.65	0.12
284	279	fill	ditch	1	0.74	0.27
285	280	fill	ditch	1	1.67	0.26

286	280	fill	ditch	1	1	0.19
287	281	fill	pit	1.28	1.28	0.43
288	276	fill	ditch	0	1.5	0.25
289	291	fill	post hole	0	0.14	0.2
290	291	fill	post hole	0	0.25	0.23
291		cut	post hole	0	0.39	0.23
292	293	fill	pit	0	0.95	0.07
293		cut	pit	0	0.95	0.07
294	295	fill	post hole	0	0.26	0.06
295		cut	post hole	0	0.26	0.06
296	297	fill	post hole	0	0.17	0.05
297		cut	post hole	0	0.17	0.05
298	274	fill	ditch	0		0.26
299		cut	pit	1.5	1.78	1.65
300		cut	pit	1.2	2	0.24
301		cut	pit	1.08	1	0.37
303	304	fill	pit	0	0.45	0.08
304		cut	posthole	0	0.45	0.08
305	274	fill	ditch	0		0.34
306	307	fill	ditch	0	0.12	0.25
307		cut	ditch	0	0.12	0.25
308	309	fill	pit	0	2.2	0.14
309		cut	pit	0	2.2	0.14
310	311	fill	ditch	0	0.5	0.18
311		cut	ditch	0	0.5	0.18
312	313	fill	ditch	0	0.7	0.4
313		cut	ditch	0	0.7	0.4
314	315	fill	ditch	0	2.3	0.42
315		cut	ditch	0	2.3	0.42
316	317	fill	ditch	0	0.64	0.22
317		cut	ditch	0	0.64	0.22
318	319	fill	pit	0	0.42	0.1
319		cut	pit	0	0.42	0.1
320	321	fill	ditch	0	0.48	0.24
321		cut	ditch	0	0.48	0.24
322	323	fill	pit	0	0.8	0.5

323		cut	pit	0	0.8	0.5
324	325	fill	pit	0	0.9	0.1
325		cut	pit	0	0.9	0.1
326	327	fill	ditch	0	0.6	0.2
327		cut	ditch	0	0.6	0.2
328	331	fill	pit	0	2.28	0.48
329	331	fill	pit	0	1.59	0.1
330	331	fill	pit	0	1.3	0.28
331		cut	pit	0	2.28	0.8
332		fill	ditch	4.5	0.2	0.1
333		cut	ditch	4.5	0.2	0.1
334	335	fill	pit	1.5	0.7	0.42
335		cut	pit	1.5	0.7	0.42
338	342	fill	well	0	3.5	0.36
339	342	fill	well	0	3	0.52
340	342	fill	well	0	1.4	0.4
341	342	fill	well	0	3.6	0.8
342		cut	pit	0	3.6	1.3
343	342	fill	natural	0	0.9	0.65
344	345	fill	pit	0	0.5	0.17
345		cut	pit	0	0.5	0.17
346	347	fill	pit	0	1	0.21
347		cut	pit	0	1	0.21
348	349	fill	pit	0	1.9	0.4
349		cut	natural	0	1.9	0.4
350	351	fill	pit	0	0.9	0.43
351		cut	pit	0	0.9	0.43
352	355	fill	pit	0	1.2	0.5
353	355	fill	pit	0	1	0.4
354	355	fill	pit	0	0.78	0.17
355		cut	pit	0	1.2	0.9
356	357	fill	pit	0	0.65	0.28
357		cut	pit	0	0.65	0.28
358	359	fill	pit	0	0.66	0.1
359		cut	pit	0	0.66	0.1
360	361	fill	ditch	0	0.7	0.13

361		cut	ditch	0	0.7	0.13
362		cut	pit	0	0.62	0.26
363	362	fill	pit	0	0.62	0.26
364		cut	pit	0	0.82	0.14
365	364	fill	pit	0	0.82	0.14
366		cut	ditch	0	0.45	0.2
367	366	fill	ditch	0	0.45	0.2
368		cut	ditch	0	0.82	0.2
369	368	fill	ditch	0	0.82	0.2
370	371	fill	pit	0	0.41	0.17
371		cut	pit	0	0.41	0.17
372	373	fill	ditch	0	0.4	0.14
373		cut	ditch	0	0.4	0.14
374	375	fill	ditch	0	0.25	0.29
375		cut	ditch	0	0.25	0.29
376	377	fill	pit	0	0.93	0.38
377		cut	pit	0	0.93	0.38
378	379	fill	pit	0	1.2	0.14
379		cut	pit	0	1.2	0.14
380	382	fill	ditch	0	0.5	0.22
381	382	fill	ditch	0	0.44	0.08
382		cut	ditch	0	0.5	0.3
383	387	fill	pit	0	1.36	0.4
384	387	fill	pit	0	0.28	0.22
385	387	fill	pit	0	0.48	0.4
386	387	fill	pit	0	1.1	0.18
387		cut	pit	0	1.4	0.58
388	389	fill	post hole	0	0.7	0.22
389		cut	post hole	0	0.7	0.22
390	391	fill	pit	0	1.4	0.2
391		cut	pit	0	1.4	0.2
392	393	fill	pit	0	1	0.15
393		cut	pit	0	1	0.15
394	395	fill	ditch	0	0.9	0.21
395		cut	ditch	0	0.9	0.21
396	397	fill	ditch/pit	0	0.7	0.2

397		cut	ditch/pit	0	0.7	0.2
398	400	fill	ditch	0	0.53	0.3
399	400	fill	ditch	0		
400		cut	ditch	0	0.53	0.4
401	402	fill	pit	0	1.5	0.15
402		cut	pit	0	1.5	0.15
403	404	fill	post hole	0	0.32	0.15
404		cut	post hole	0	0.32	0.15
405	406	fill	post hole	0	0.62	0.1
406		cut	post hole	0	0.62	0.1
407		cut	pit	0		
408	409	fill	pit	0	0.7	0.09
409		cut	pit	0	0.7	0.09
410		cut	pit	0.43	0.4	0.5
411		cut	ditch	0	1.55	0.41
412		cut	pit	3.1	1.95	0.42
413		cut	pit	3.1	0.67	0.21
414		cut	ditch	0	1	0.6
415				0		
416		cut	pit	1.3	0.96	0.35
417		cut	pit	0.65	0.4	0.18
418		cut	pit	0.85	0.7	0.49
419		cut	pit	3	1.3	0.15
420	419	fill	pit	3	1.3	0.15
421	410	fill	post hole	0.43	0.4	0.05
422	411	fill	ditch	1	1.55	0.41
423	412	fill	pit	3.1	1.95	0.42
424	413	fill	pit	3.1	0.67	0.21
425	414	fill	ditch	1	0.35	0.3
426		fill	ditch	1	0.86	0.31
427	414	fill	ditch	1	0.73	0.4
428	415	fill	pit	0		0.15
429	415	fill	pit	0		0.1
430	415	fill	pit	0		0.2
431	416	fill	pit	1.3	0.96	0.35
432		fill	pit	0.85	0.4	0.18

433	418	fill	pit	1	0.7	0.1
434		fill	pit	1.05	0.7	0.47
435	407	fill	pit	0	0.6	0.24
436		cut	ditch	1	0.3	0.07
437	436	fill	ditch	1	0.3	0.07
438		cut	ditch	0.78	0.25	0.09
439	438	fill	ditch	0.78	0.25	0.09
440		cut	ditch	0.49	0.45	0.06
441	440	fill	ditch	0.49	0.45	0.06
442	443	fill		0	1.1	0.18
443		cut	pit	0	1.1	0.18
444	445	fill	ditch	0	1.21	0.24
445		cut	ditch	0	1.21	0.24
446	447	fill	ditch	0	1.4	0.4
447		cut	ditch	0	1.4	0.4
448	449	fill	pit	0	0.9	0.2
449		cut	pit	0	0.9	0.2
450	451	fill	pit	0	0.6	0.1
451		cut	pit	0	0.6	0.1
452		fill	ditch	0	1	
453		cut	ditch	0	1	
454		cut	ditch	1	0.7	0.5
455		cut	ditch	0.85	0.6	0.15
456	454	fill	ditch	1	0.7	0.22
457	455	fill	ditch	1	0.7	0.25
458		fill	ditch	0.85	0.6	0.15
459		fill	pit	0	0.3	0.12
460		cut	pit	0	0.3	0.12
461		fill	pit	0	0.67	0.08
462		cut	pit	0	0.67	0.08
463		cut	pit	0.61	0.6	0.11
464	463	fill	pit	0.61	0.6	0.11
465		cut	natural	0.85	0.9	0.03
466	465	fill	natural	0.85	0.9	0.03
467		fill	pit	1.62	1.4	0.35
468	299	fill	pit	1.5	1.78	1.2

469	300	fill	pit	1.2	2	0.24
470	301	fill	pit	1.08	1	0.37
471	472	fill	pit	1.6	2	0.29
472		cut	pit	1.6	2	0.29
473	474	fill	ditch	0	1	0.2
474		cut	ditch	0	1	0.2
475	476	fill	ditch	0	0.9	0.38
476		cut	ditch	0	0.9	0.38
477	478	fill	ditch	0	0.78	0.26
478		cut	ditch	0	0.78	0.26
479	480	fill	pit	0	1.16	0.14
480		cut	pit	0	1.16	0.14
481	482	fill	ditch	0	0.16	0.17
482		cut	ditch	0	0.16	0.17

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Small Finds Assessment

By Nina Crummy

Summary

- B.1.1 A minimum of 51 objects of mainly medieval or post-medieval date were examined. Most are of iron, and the assemblage appears to be of semi-rural character.

Condition

- B.1.2 The objects are generally in a stable condition. The copper-alloy objects are only lightly covered by corrosion products. The corrosion on the ironwork incorporates much pale clay, which in some cases is so thick as to obscure the form of the objects.
- B.1.3 Objects of all materials are packed to a high standard of storage in crystal boxes or polythene bags, supported by pads of foam. The bags and boxes are stored in either larger crystal boxes or airtight Stewart boxes with silica gel.

The assemblage

- B.1.4 Table 1 shows the assemblage divided by metal type. The number of iron objects is a minimum, as some bags contain more than one object. The predominance of iron over lead and copper alloy shown in Table 1 points to a largely rural environment.

copper alloy	5
lead	1
iron	45
Total	51

Table 1. Foxtton metalwork by metal type.

- B.1.5 The items are briefly listed and, where possible, broadly spot-dated in Appendix 1. Although the term 'medieval' strictly applies to the entire period from the early 5th century to the late 15th, it is here used to indicate the period from the conquest to the late 15th century in order to highlight those objects that might be pre-conquest. In the Appendix each object has been assigned to one of the functional categories defined in Crummy 1988. The functional categories represented in this assemblage are: 1..dress and dress accessories; 3..textile manufacture and working; 6...weighing and measuring/accounting equipment; 8...transport; 10...tools; 11...general fittings; 12...agriculture/horticulture; and 18...miscellaneous.
- B.1.6 Table 2 shows the assemblage divided the functional category. Where the identification of an object is obscure and it might belong to more than one category, the most likely one is shown.

1: dress accessories	2
3: textile working	2
6: weighing/measuring/accounting	3
8: transport	5
10: tools	4
11: general fittings	32
12: agriculture/horticulture	1
18: miscellaneous	2
Total	51

Table 2. Foxton metalwork by functional category.

- B.1.7 The assemblage characteristics demonstrated by Table 2 suggest a semi-rural environment. There are only a few copper-alloy dress accessories or other small personalia present and no household equipment, while the presence of a spade (category 12) and five horseshoes (category 8) highlights rural activities. Three possible punches (category 10) may relate to smithing, but they are encrusted with corrosion and X-radiography may show them to be nails.
- B.1.8 Items of a domestic nature are restricted to a button and buckle, two thimbles, a jeton and a small weight. Given their paucity of objects, the two thimbles (category 3) form an unusual element within the assemblage; both are factory-made post-medieval types and of a size to match a female finger. They may have been carried in a purse or reticule as essential personal equipment. The weight is a small annular lead piece. It may be as early as Late Saxon, but, in the absence of other metalwork datable to this period, is most likely to be post-Conquest. The jeton would have been used for reckoning accounts, but could have been fraudulently passed off as a coin. Most examples come from either Nuremberg or France, and this example should be identifiable after conservation.
- B.1.9 The bulk of the assemblage consists of iron nails. Most are small, suggesting a use in furniture or in light wooden structures such as fences. Other fittings are fragments of probable strap-hinges, again from furniture or light wooden structures, and a pintle or hinge pivot, used for gates, doors, shutters, windows or hatches. These items often form part of medieval assemblages. A swivel-ring is allocated in Appendix 1 to category 11 (general fittings), but it may be part of a snaffle bit or from a vehicle chain or horsegear (category 8); X-radiography will allow it to be accurately identified.

Recommendations

- B.1.10 If the site stratigraphy merits progression to a publication level report, then this should include a summary of the metalwork. A quotation for this work is attached to this assessment.
- B.1.11 Dependent on 1 above, a limited number of the iron objects should be X-rayed and the jeton should be cleaned and stabilised by a professional conservator in order to facilitate accurate description and illustration at report stage. It is recommended that this work be carried out at Colchester Museum, contact emma.hogarth@colchester.gov.uk
- B.1.12 Dependent on 1 above, after conservation or X-ray a maximum of 14 items should be drawn for the published report. This figure will probably be reduced at report stage once conservation/X-ray has allowed a more detailed analysis of the objects. Objects certain

to require illustration are indicated in Appendix 1 of this assessment with a 'y' in the relevant column, the others are marked '?'.
 Reference

Reference

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

Tables

Copper-alloy

SF	Context	Identification	Conserve	Illustrate	Category	Date
38	336	jeton	y	-	6	late medieval/ early post- medieval
17	001	thimble	-	y	3	early post medieval
16	001	thimble	-	y	3	post-medieval
24	104	button, flat	-	-	1	post- medieval/modern
18	001	buckle fragment	-	-	1	post-medieval

Lead

SF	Context	Identification	Conserve	Illustrate	Category	Date
19	001	annular weight	-	y	6	Late Saxon/medieval

Iron

SF	Context	Identification	X-Ray	Illustrate	Category	Date
2	28	nail	-	-	11	-
1	51	nail	-	-	11	-
3	26	2 nails	-	-	11	-
10	174	spade, split socket, round shoulders, blade partly missing	-	y	12	post-medieval
12	110	strip fragment (? blade)	y	?	18/10	-
13	174	nail	-	-	11	-
14	174	nail	-	-	11	-
15	174	nail	-	-	11	-
20	174	nail	-	-	11	-
21	174	nail	-	-	11	-
22	104	nail	-	-	11	-
23	104	nail	-	-	11	-
25	219	nail	-	-	11	-
27	286	?punch	y	?	10?	-
28	346	nail	-	-	11	-
29	346	nail	-	-	11	-
30	346	nail	-	-	11	-
31	339	curved bar fragment, ?nail shank	y	-	11?	-

32	338	2 strip fragments, ? knife blade	y	?	10?	medieval/post- medieval
33	338	nail	-	-	11	-
34	338	punch?	y	?	10?	-
36	398	nail	-	-	11	-
39	435	nail	-	-	11	-
42	422	swivel-ring (?snaffle bit fragment)	y	y	11/8	medieval+
46	234	nail	-	-	11	-
47	152	nail	-	-	11	-
48	152	punch?	y	?	10?	-
49	312	nail	-	-	11	-
50	86	nail	-	-	11	-
51	265	horseshoe fragment, with calkin	y	-	8	medieval+
52	218	nail	-	-	11	-
53	218	pintle	y	y	11	medieval+
54	338	3 nails	-	-	11	-
55	274	horseshoe fragment	y	-	8	medieval+
56	88	2 nails	-	-	11	-
57	152	strap-hinge?	y	?	11?	-
58	312	horseshoe fragment	y	-	8	medieval+
59	312	horseshoe	y	-	8	medieval+
60	218	3 nails	-	-	11	-
61	218	strap-hinge fragment?	y	?	11	-
62	218	bar fragment, ?nail shank	y	-	11?	-
63	218	?steelyard fragment	y	y	6?	-
64	275	3 nails	-	-	11	-
65	275	plaque fragment	-	-	18	-
66	308	horseshoe, ?with calkins	y	-	8	medieval+

B.2 Small Finds Report

By Nina Crummy

Introduction and methodology

- B.2.1 This small assemblage dates from the early medieval to modern periods and is of mixed character, with horsegear being chiefly indicative of a rural site and small personalia suggesting an urban setting.

Description

- B.2.2 Probably the earliest object is a small annular lead weight (Fig. 000, SF 19) that may date to as early as the Late Saxon period (Kruse 1992, 79). Small weights were used throughout the medieval period for weighing out small quantities of expensive commodities such as spices or the ingredients of medicines. Similar weights are often found in unstratified rural contexts in Cambridgeshire, carried from the nearest town in midden waste used for manuring the fields. A later object associated with commerce is a 15th-century Shield of France jeton used for reckoning accounts (SF 38), although sometimes jetons were fraudulently passed off as coin (Mitchiner 1988, 17, 20-1). Two post-medieval thimbles (Fig. 000, SFs 16 and 17) and a late post-medieval or modern buckle and button (SFs 18 and 24) probably derive from domestic occupation.
- B.2.3 The ironwork contains several pieces of horsegear of varying date. One horseshoe and a fragment of a second example, both with square-cut heels (SFs 59 and 51), date to the 13th or 14th centuries, while a shoe with tapered heels is a later medieval type (SF 66). A fourth may also be late medieval while a fifth fragment is late post-medieval or modern (SFs 55 and 58). Also modern is a cheekpiece from a pelham bit (SF 63). A swivel-ring with looped swivel hook may come from the harness of a driven animal, or could be part of a suspension chain for a cauldron or similar large piece of domestic equipment (Fig. 000, SF 42).
- B.2.4 Structural ironwork is represented by two iron pintles (SFs 53 and 57), used as hinges on wooden shutters, gates, doors or large pieces of furniture. An iron strap fragment (SF 32) is probably from a chest or similar large item of furniture, as may be two smaller strip fragments (SFs 12 and 61). A number of iron nails from the site, with heads of various shapes and sizes, would also have been used in timber structures ranging from furniture and fences to buildings.
- B.2.5 The tools consist of a fragment of a saw blade (SF 65), a possible rake tine fragment (SF 48), and part of a spade with an integral socket for a wooden handle (SF 10). Socketed spades first appeared in the late 18th or early 19th century, and the lack of a tread (a thickened and blunted area at the top of the blade) on this example suggests that it is an early piece, treads having been developed in the 19th century to avoid the user having to wear iron-plates or iron-plated boots to prevent the blade cutting into the feet (Campbell 2006, 203).

Catalogue

Copper-alloy

- SF 38. (336). Shield of France jeton, with a double-stranded straight-armed cross fleuretty on the reverse, with rows of pellets between the strands; as Mitchiner

1988, 230. The general type dates to the 15th century and this example, with the unusual design for the arms, may be late within that period. Diameter 27 mm, weight, 2.75 g.

- Fig. 000, SF 16. (1). Thimble with the sides set at a sharp angle from the slightly domed head, wheel-made round pits and three broad grooves at the rim, which is damaged. Height 24 mm, diameter 19 mm. Early post-medieval.
- Fig. 000, SF 17. (1). Crushed thimble of the same form as SF 16 but with machined round pits. The rim is thickened and has a plain border. Height 22 mm, diameter approximately 17 mm. Post-medieval.
- SF 18. (1). Polygonal buckle fragment, with dome-headed studs set at the two surviving angles. Length 20 mm, width 30 mm. Post-medieval to modern.
- SF 24. (104). Plain button with integral loop, now missing. Diameter 25 mm. Late post-medieval to modern.

Lead

- Fig. 000, SF 19. (1). Small annular weight, with random linear impressions on both faces. Diameter 18 mm, thickness 6 mm. Probably early medieval.

Iron

- Iron nails or nail shank fragments are listed in archive.
- SF 10. (174). Spade with a split socket to take a wooden handle. The shoulders of the blade are rounded and have no tread. The lower part of the blade is missing. Total length 325 mm, surviving length of blade 111 mm, width 175 mm; upper diameter of socket 38 mm.
- SF 59. (312). Very worn horseshoe with six worn rectangular nail holes, at least two retaining nail fragments. Length 125 mm, maximum width 128 mm. The heels are square-cut. Late medieval, as Clark's Type 3, which dates to the 13th or 14th centuries (1995, 96).
- SF 51. (265). Horseshoe fragment with three close-set worn rectangular nail holes. The heel is square-cut and probably also of Clark's Type 3 (1995, figs. 84-5). Length 100 mm.
- SF 66. (308). Horseshoe with six small rectangular nail holes, three retaining nail fragments, and one worn circular hole close to one heel. The heel itself on that side is irregularly bent upwards (*i.e.* is not calkined) and must represent the point of damage that caused the nail in the adjacent hole to be ripped out. The other heel is tapered. Length 126 mm, maximum width 107 mm. The form is similar to Clark's late medieval Type 4 (1995, 96-7, figs 86-7)
- SF 55. (274). Horseshoe fragment with three rectangular nail holes. The heel is tapered. Length 98 mm.
- SF 58. (312). Horseshoe fragment with four small rectangular nail holes, one retaining a thin nail shank. The outer edge is rebated. Length 125 mm. Late post-medieval to modern.
- SF 63. (218). One cheekpiece from a pelham bit, with two rein rings (one mostly missing) and a third ring for a curb chain; only a short part of the mouthpiece remains. Length 146 mm. Modern.

- Fig. 000, SF 42. (422). Oval swivel-ring with the swivel hook bent fully round to form a loop; part of a suspension chain, either with a domestic use or from harness. Length 118 mm, diameter of ring 69 mm.
- SF 53. (218). Pintle with round-section pivot and square-section spike. Length of pivot (incomplete) 36 mm, length of spike 70 mm.
- SF 57. (152). Pintle with long strap, bent near an attachment nail. Most of the pivot is missing. Length (bent) 160 mm, strap width 15 mm.
- SF 65. (275). Fragment of a saw blade; most of the teeth are missing, the two undamaged ones that remain are set 6.6 mm apart. Length 79 mm, width 38 mm.
- SF 32. (338). Narrow tongue-ended strap, with three nails for attachment. Length 93 mm, width 13 mm.
- SF 12. (110). Wide strip fragment, tapering to a slight hook at one end. Length 110 mm, width 25 mm.
- SF 61. (218). Strip fragment. Length 52, width 26 mm.
- SF 48. (152). Spike fragment, possibly from a long-tined rake. Length 88 mm.

References

- Campbell, S 2006 *A history of kitchen gardening* (London)
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- Kruse, S 1992 'Late Saxon balances and weights from England', *Medieval Archaeol* 35, 67-95
- Mitchiner, M 1988 *Jetons, medalets and tokens: the medieval period and Nuremberg* (London)

B.3 Post-Roman Pottery and Clay Pipes

By Alasdair Brooks BA, MA, DPhil and Carole Fletcher BA, AIFA.....

Summary

- B.3.1 The evaluation and subsequent excavation at Mortimers Lane, Foxton, Cambridgeshire produced a pottery assemblage of 568 sherds, weighing 10.851kg, including unstratified material, from 95 contexts. Pottery was recovered from pits, ditches, foundation trenches, postholes, and a well. The majority of the pottery was recovered from pits and ditches and the bulk of material recovered is mid 12th to mid 14th century in date. A small number of contexts produced mainly 18th and 19th century ceramics these have been identified by Dr Brooks and will be discussed by him. In addition 2 sherds of handmade prehistoric pottery were recovered and 3 sherds of Roman pottery, Stephen Wadeson provided identifications and fabric codes for these sherds. The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded and the average sherd from individual contexts is moderate at 19g.

Methodology

- B.3.2 The basic guidance in the Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2) has been adhered to (English Heritage 1991).
- B.3.3 In addition the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) documents Guidance for the processing and publication of medieval pottery from excavations (Blake and Davey, 1983), A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms (MPRG, 1998) and Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics (MPRG, 2001) act as a standard.
- B.3.4 Dating for medieval and early post-medieval materials was carried out using CAM ARC's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described types. All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed. All the pottery has been spot dated on a context-by-context basis.
- B.3.5 The 18th-century advent of increased ceramic standardisation through industrial mass-production often requires a different approach to later post-medieval ceramics than that used for earlier periods; methodology, terminology and dating for later post-medieval ceramics therefore additionally draw on co-author Brooks' own book on the identification of later post-medieval ceramics (Brooks 2005). Dates often refer to the traditional most common period of production rather than definitive start and end dates; the transition from creamware and pearlware to whiteware from c.1820-c.1830, for example, is a gradual process rather than a sudden shift from older types to the newer type.
- B.3.6 The clay pipe terminology used in this report was taken from Bradley (2000). The pipe bowls, considered the most diagnostic part of this small assemblage, were identified and dated using the standard typology for English pipe bowls, as featured in this case in Orser and Fagan (1995:104). This is a broad international typology, rather than a local Cambridgeshire-based one, but the basics of date and type usually hold across regions.
- B.3.7 The pottery and archive are curated by CAM ARC until formal deposition.

The Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Assemblage

- B.3.8 The assemblage covers a broad range of dates, Prehistoric, Roman, early medieval, medieval, post medieval and historical ceramics are all present and can be summarised by ceramic period, which broadly breaks down into periods of approximately 200 years. Unfortunately six contexts recorded as containing pottery are recorded by the excavator as cut numbers, in addition a context that does not appear on the post excavation database also contains pottery. While this has no bearing on the number of contexts assigned to each dated ceramic phase this will need to be addressed before further work is undertaken on the assemblage. .
- B.3.9 Ceramic fabric abbreviations used in the following text and dating table for the medieval and early post-medieval materials are:

BICR	Bichrome redware
COLST	Colchester type ware
CONC	Colne C ware
CSTN	Cistercian ware
DNEOT	Developed St Neots ware
EMEMS	Early Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware
EAR	East Anglian Redwares
ESMIC	Essex Micaceous wares
FREC	Frechen stoneware
HEDI	Sible Hedingham
LMR	Late medieval reduced ware
MEL	Medieval Ely ware
MEMS	Medieval Essex Micaceous Sandy ware
METTS	Metropolitan type slipware
MGC	Mill Green Coarse ware
NVCC	Nene Valley Colour coat (Roman)
NEOT	St Neots ware
PMR	Post-medieval Red wares
RAER	Raeren stoneware
SGW	Sandy Grey ware (Roman)
SHW	Shelly ware
THET	Thetford ware
TRAN	Transitional Redwares

Pre-Roman and Roman Pottery

- B.3.10 The earliest material present are two sherds of flint and sand tempered pottery of indeterminate date, though likely to be prehistoric, recovered from contexts 13 and 469. A single sherd of Roman SGW pottery was recovered as a residual element in a mid 12th-13th-century context (63). A second Roman sherd was recovered from context 338, dated to the early 17th century; this context forms part of the backfilling of a well, **342**. The final Roman sherd a small fragment of NVCC was recovered from context 424, a later 12th to late 14th century context.

Early Medieval

- B.3.11 Sixteen contexts in the pottery assemblage are dated to the early medieval phase (mid 10th to mid to late 12th century) consisting of 44 sherds weighing 0.643kg, including an intrusive sherd of CREA. These include sherds of NEOT, THET and STAM, the main fabric types present in the county during this period. Few of the sherds are clearly pre-conquest and it is likely that the majority of the pottery was manufactured in the 11th

rather than the 10th century. The presence of EMEMS in the assemblage further supports an 11th to late 12th century date for the earliest phase of post Roman activity on the site. The sherds present in this phase are either undiagnostic body sherds or appear to be from jars. This early medieval material was recovered from pits and ditches; the pottery in the latter features may not represent primary deposition.

Medieval

B.3.12 A further 41 contexts span the late 12th, 13th and 14th centuries; the main fabrics present in these contexts are DNEOT which forms the largest group of sherds by weight, and count, EAR, HEDI, HUNFSW MEL, MEMS the second largest group of sherds, SHW, SCSW and the earlier EMEMS which form the third largest group of sherds. The evaluation produced only two glazed medieval sherds from this phase, the excavation produced 35 sherds from these contexts including the thumbled base of a MEL jug and 16 sherds from several HEDI jugs. This phase represents the main period of occupation of the site and a total of 236 sherds weighing 4.725kg, including residual material were recovered from ditches pits and a single post hole.

Late Medieval and Earlier Post-Medieval

B.3.13 Late medieval fabrics, that is those that date from the mid 14th to mid to end of the 15th century such as LMR are present alongside early post medieval and transitional fabrics, those demonstrating both medieval and post medieval characteristics such as TRAN and CONC, vessel forms present are bowls, jugs, and jars..Ten contexts fall into this group and produced 40 sherds weighing 0.622kg including residual material all recovered from ditches, pits and the well **342**.

B.3.14 There are 14 contexts that are 16th- and 17th-century in date; of these eight are 17th century in date and contain CSTN, PMR, PMBL and METTS. In addition the continental stoneware FREC was recovered from two contexts one dated mid 16th to late 17th the other dated to the 17th century. This group of contexts produced a disproportionately large weight of sherds 3.765kg, 191 by count. This is due in part to the large number of residual medieval sherds and to the larger and heavier sherds of PMR present which have an average sherd weight of 35g.

B.3.15 Forms present include forms not seen in earlier phases including drinking vessels common in CSTN, PMBL and PMR fabrics, bowls are also common in PMBL and PMR. Jugs and jars are mainly, though not exclusively in residual fabrics. The sherds were recovered from ditches, pits, features identified as foundation trenches by the excavator and the well **342** which may have gone out of use by the mid 16th century.

Dating for Medieval and Earlier Post-Medieval Pottery

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
3	NEOT		1	0.002	10th to mid 12th century
13	Flint & sand temp pottery		1	0.003	Prehistoric
15	FREC		1	0.042	17th century
	TRAN		1	0.01	
	METTS	Bowl	19	0.233	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
	PMR	Bowl	8	0.279	
	PMR	Jar	1	0.036	
21	NEOT		1	0.026	10th to mid 12th century
23	COLST/Tran	Jug	3	0.152	15th to mid 16th century
	LMR		1	0.012	
26	DNEOT	Jar	3	0.057	Mid 12th to mid 14th century
	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.031	
	EMEMS		1	0.003	
	EMEMS (shell)		1	0.004	
	MEL/HUNFSW	Jar	3	0.011	
	NEOT	Jar	1	0.007	
30	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.014	13th century
	MEL	Jug	1	0.021	
	UNK		1	0.024	
36	NEOT		1	0.003	10th -mid 12th century
	THET		2	0.006	
51	CREA	Bowl	1	0.003	Mid 11th to mid 12th century (intrusive 18th c)
	EMEMS		1	0.004	
	NEOT		1	0.002	
	NEOT	Jar	1	0.005	
54	HEDI	Jug	2	0.002	early 15th century
	MEMS		1	0.004	
	TRAN/PMR		2	0.017	
57	NEOT		1	0.001	10th to mid 12th century
61	DNEOT		1	0.003	13th to mid 14th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.007	
63	DNEOT		1	0.002	Mid 12th to mid 14th century
	NEOT		1	0.001	
	SGW (Roman)		1	0.003	
	SHW		1	0.005	
65	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	1	0.003	13th to mid 14th century
	HEDI	Jug	1	0.001	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
69	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.015	13th century
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.007	
	NEOT		1	0.008	
	THET	Jar	1	0.008	
	THET		1	0.01	
83	CSTN	Drinking Vessel	1	0.004	16th century
93	THET		1	0.017	10th to late 12th century
95	EMEMS		1	0.007	Late 12th to late 14th century
	MEMS		3	0.016	
	MEMS	Jar	3	0.027	
	SHW		2	0.017	
	THET		1	0.005	
	UNK		1	0.003	
102	PMR	Bowl	1	0.005	16th century-17th century
104	EMEMS/MEMS		1	0.015	Later post-medieval/late 12th to early 13th century
	whiteware	Bowl	1	0.003	
110	SCSW		1	0.007	Mid 12th to mid 14th century
112	EMEMS		1	0.016	12th to early 13th century
114	DNEOT	Jar	1	0.038	early 13th to mid 14th century
	HEDI		1	0.007	
	HEDI	Jug	1	0.011	
	MEMS	Jar	9	0.14	
152	CONC		1	0.008	16th century
	CONC	Bowl	1	0.007	
	EAR		3	0.037	
	EAR	Jug	1	0.016	
	EMEMS		2	0.008	
	MEMS	Jar	2	0.02	
	PMR	Drinking Vessel	1	0.01	
	SCSW		2	0.015	
	TRAN/EAR		1	0.039	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
	TRAN/EAR	Bowl	3	0.017	
154	TRAN/EAR	Bowl	2	0.007	15th to late 16th century
157	NEOT	Jar	1	0.004	10th to mid 12th century
159	DNEOT/SHW		4	0.068	13th to mid 14th century
	EMEMS		1	0.006	
	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.014	
	SCSW		2	0.015	
160	EAR		2	0.006	Early 13th century
	EMEMS		1	0.023	
	NEOT		1	0.001	
	NEOT	Bowl	1	0.013	
163	MELT	Bowl	1	0.045	Mid 12th to end of 14th century
173	EMEMS		2	0.027	13th to mid 14th century
	HEDI		11	0.122	
	MEMS	Jar	1	0.015	
	RSW		1	0.004	
174	CSTN	Drinking Vessel	2	0.01	17th century
	EAR		1	0.002	
	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.007	
	FREC	Jug	2	0.226	
	METTS	Bowl	2	0.145	
	NEOT		1	0.005	
	PMBL	Drinking Vessel	1	0.001	
	PMR		4	0.011	
	PMR	Bowl	4	0.412	
	PMR	Jar	2	0.038	
175	PMR		1	0.014	16th to end of 18th century
183	MEMS	Jar	2	0.011	Late 12th to mid 14th century
	SHW		1	0.002	
185	EAR	Jug	1	0.02	13th to late 14th century
189	HUNFSW	Bowl	1	0.012	Mid 12th (to mid 14th century)
	NEOT	Jar	1	0.005	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
	NEOTT	Jar	1	0.01	
	STAM	Jug	1	0.007	
207	BICR/TRAN	Bowl	3	0.054	17th century
	CSTN	Drinking Vessel	1	0.006	
	PMR	Jar	4	0.189	
208	NEOTT	Jar	1	0.007	11th to mid 12th century
211	MEMS	Jar	1	0.002	Late 12th to mid 14th century
	NEOT	Jar	2	0.074	
	SCSW	Jar	1	0.007	
218	EAR		1	0.006	17th century
	METTS	Bowl	4	0.111	
	PMR	Bowl	3	0.146	
	PMR	Jar	1	0.014	
	TRAN	Bowl	2	0.014	
233	MEMS		1	0.001	17th century
	PMR		1	0.01	
	PMR	Bowl	1	0.033	
	SHW		1	0.002	
242	EAR		1	0.013	Mid 14th to mid 16th century
249	MEMS	Jar	3	0.042	Late 12th to late 14th century
	NEOT		2	0.007	
261	NEOT	Jar	1	0.022	10th to mid 12th century
274	PMR	Bowl	1	0.071	16th-17th century
	STONEWARE		1	0.011	
277	EMEMS		1	0.003	Mid 11th to early 13th century
284	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.011	Mid 13th to late 14th century
	MEMS	Jar	4	0.061	
285	HEDI	Jug	2	0.009	13th to mid 14th century
	NEOT		1	0.002	
286	MEMS	Jar	4	0.107	13th to mid 14th century
287	EAR	Bowl	1	0.014	Mid 14th to mid 16th century
	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.009	

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
	MEMS		1	0.003	
	MGC		1	0.003	
	NEOT		1	0.003	
	SHW		1	0.008	
308	HEDI	Jug	1	0.04	13th to mid 14th century
312	EAR		1	0.007	Mid 14th to mid 16th century
314	EAR	Lids	1	0.008	15th to mid 16th century
	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.031	
	MEMS		1	0.007	
	STAM	Jug	2	0.025	
	TRAN	Bowl	3	0.205	
	TRAN/EAR		2	0.024	
330	MEMS		1	0.011	15th to mid 16th century
	EAR		1	0.005	
	ESMIC		1	0.002	
	HEDI	Jug	1	0.005	
336	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.069	Mid 12th to late 14th century
	SCSW	Jug	2	0.022	
338	CONC		3	0.014	early 17th century
	CONC	Bowl	8	0.08	
	CSTN	Drinking Vessel	1	0.002	
	EAR		16	0.23	
	MEMS		2	0.018	
	MGC		1	0.028	
	NEOT	Jar	1	0.005	
	PMBL	Drinking Vessel	4	0.035	
	PMBL	Jug	1	0.018	
	PMR	Drinking Vessel	1	0.06	
	ROMAN		1	0.005	
	SCSW		1	0.021	
TRAN		14	0.155		

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
339	CONC	Bowl	10	0.12	early 17th century
	CONC	Jar	2	0.011	
	EAR		1	0.007	
	EAR	Jug	1	0.006	
	PMBL	Drinking Vessel	1	0.027	
	RAER		1	0.017	
341	CONC	Bowl	1	0.01	15th-16th century
	EAR		1	0.002	
	THET		1	0.015	
344	MGC		1	0.036	Mid to late 14th century
	EAR		1	0.005	
	EMEMS		1	0.007	
	OSW		1	0.004	
346	EMEMS		4	0.044	Mid 13th to mid 16th century
	EAR		5	0.331	
	EAR	Jug	1	0.037	
	EMEMS	Jar	3	0.039	
	NEOT	Jar	1	0.004	
348	EAR		1	0.005	Mid 14th to 16th century
	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.013	
363	EMEMS	Jug	1	0.028	Late 12th to mid 13th century
	MEMS	Jar	2	0.22	
369	HEDI	Jug	1	0.005	13th to late 14th century
374	NEOTT		4	0.02	11th to late 12th century (intrusive 18th c)
376	MEMS	Jar	1	0.009	Late 12th to mid 13th century
378	MEMS	Jar	1	0.004	Mid 13th to late 14th century
383	MEMS		1	0.002	Late 12th to late 14th century
386	hand built SHW	Jar	1	0.01	10th -mid 12th century
	NEOT		2	0.106	
392	MEMS	Jar	1	0.021	Late 12th to late 14th century

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
398	STAM	Jug	1	0.003	Mid 9th to mid 12th century
	NEOT		1	0.008	
422	EAR		1	0.02	Mixed later post-medieval and medieval
	Ironstone	Bowl	1	0.014	
	MEMS		1	0.012	
	NEOT		1	0.002	
	NEOTT		2	0.032	
	ESMIC		1	0.048	
423	ESMIC		1	0.01	Mid 13th to mid 14th century
424	EMEMS	Jar	1	0.01	Late 12th to late 14th century
	MEMS	Jar	2	0.004	
	NVCC		1	0.012	
425	DNEOT		1	0.003	mid 12th to mid 13th century
	EMEMS		1	0.004	
	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.074	
	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	10	0.131	
426	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	10	0.144	12th to mid 13th century
430	SW	Jug	3	0.046	13th to 15th century
435	DNEOT	Jar	43	1.62	mid 12th to mid 14th century
	EMESW		2	0.015	
442	EAR		6	0.188	mid 13th to mid 16th century
	EAR	Jug	2	0.02	
446	EMEMS	Jar	15	0.36	mid 11th to early 13th century
448	EMEMS	Jar	9	0.187	mid 12th to mid 14th century
	MEL	Jar	1	0.036	
452	FREC		1	0.006	16th century
	MEL	Jug	1	0.003	
	TRAN	Bowl	1	0.007	
456	HUNFSW	Bowl	1	0.057	mid 12th to mid 14th century
458	EMEMS		1	0.002	mid 11th to mid 12th century
	NEOT		1	0.003	
461	EMEMS		1	0.016	Late 12th to mid 13th century

Context	Fabric	Basic Form	Number of sherds	Weight in Kg	Date Range for Context
469	Flint & sand temp pottery		1	0.004	Prehistoric
475	EMEMS		2	0.012	12th to mid 13th century
	EMEMS/MEMS	Jar	2	0.065	
477	EMEMS	Jar	2	0.021	13th to mid 14th century
	HEDI	Jug	1	0.004	
	MEMS		1	0.022	
	MEMS	Jar	5	0.062	
	RSW		2	0.006	
	SCSW		1	0.005	

Later Post-Medieval Ceramics

The Assemblage

B.3.16 The later post-medieval ceramics assemblage consists of thirty one fragments across nine basic ware types from five different contexts. The assemblage consists entirely of British-made materials, and dates from the second half of the 18th century through to the second half of the 19th century. There are also two clay pipe fragments, one bowl and one stem, both made from white ball clay (sometimes inaccurately referred to as 'kaolin' clay), and most likely English in manufacture. As noted in section 2, a different approach is taken to presenting this data given the different methodological approaches used on later post-medieval materials internationally.

Dating

B.3.17 All of the contexts featuring later post-medieval ceramics and clay pipes feature a broadly similar mixture of materials largely post-dating 1820. Given that no real difference in depositional period is visible, the following discussion is organised by context, arranged in numerical order, rather than date.

Context 28:

B.3.18 This context contains 18 ceramic sherds from a minimum of ten vessels across seven ware types. The assemblage is typical of the first half of the 19th century, particularly of the period c.1820-c.1850. Listed by ware type, the materials are:

B.3.19 3 fragments of **yellowware** (c.1820+) from a minimum of two vessels. These include:

- 1 bowl rim with white annular decoration.
- 1 bowl / chamberpot body with blue on white debased mocha pattern.
- 1 utilitarian hollow rim, undecorated.

B.3.20 4 fragments of **whiteware** (c.1820+) from a minimum of 3 vessels. These include:

- 2 mending rim and body sherds from a child's plate decorated with black UGTP (underglaze transfer print) educational/moralising design. There are strong

similarities between the decoration on these fragments and a c.1809 to c.1834 'Aesop's Fables' design in Riley (1995:86-87). Transfer prints based on the Fables were extremely common in this period (Grigsby 1994), making precise dating and attribution difficult beyond stating that this whiteware example most probably probably post-dates 1820.

- 1 polygonal or ovoid serving platter rim with willow pattern UGTP
- 1 hollow vessel pierced lid with marble-type pattern UGTP (typically c.1840+)

B.3.21 1 fragment of **pearlware** (c.1780-c.1830). This consists of:

- 1 undecorated unidentified hollow vessel base.

B.3.22 1 fragment of **jackfield-type** (probably c.1810-c.1840). This consists of:

- 1 jackfield-type body Rockingham-type glaze polygonal lid with platinum lustre exterior (the lustre decoration providing the probable date)

B.3.23 1 fragment of **glazed black basalt** (mid 19th century+). This consists of:

- 1 glazed and moulded black basalt lid, probably from a teapot. Note that glazed black basalt is typically mid 19th-century or later, while unglazed black basalt is 18th-century

B.3.24 2 fragments of **refined red earthenware** (19th century) from a minimum of 1 vessel. These consist of:

- 2 unidentified hollow body sherds with polychrome annular & enamelled decoration
- 6 fragments of undatable glazed **post-medieval redware** from a utilitarian hollow vessel (minimum of 1 vessel).

B.3.25 Context 28 also includes 2 **clay pipe fragments**. One of these is datable, and may have been made in Cambridge. These include:

- 1 pipe bowl of a style most typical of the period c.1690-c.1750. The bowl is marked; 'AP'; a pipe maker named Alice Page was active in Cambridge in 1723 (Oswald 1960: 85), though it cannot be confirmed that she was the maker of this specific bowl.
- 1 pipe stem.

Context 100:

B.3.26 This context contains a single fragment of **brown saltglazed grey-bodied post-medieval stoneware**. Precise dating is impossible, though it is either 18th- or 19th-century.

Context 221:

B.3.27 This context contains five sherds from a minimum of three vessels across three ware types. Listed by ware type, the materials are:

- 3 fragments of an undecorated **yellowware** large utilitarian bowl (c.1820+).
- 1 fragment of a **whiteware** cup or mug with an earthtone mocha decoration (c.1820-c.1840).
- 1 fragment of a blue UGTP hollow **pearlware** vessel, possibly a lid (c.1805-c.1830; the print is stippled)

Context 234:

- B.3.28 This context contains two sherds from two utilitarian ware types; the only one which can be dated firmly is 19th-century. Listed by ware type, the materials are:
- 1 fragment from an undecorated **yellowware** bowl base c.1820+
 - 1 fragment from a **slip-decorated post-medieval redware** utilitarian bowl base.

Context 246:

- B.3.29 This context contains a single fragment of **whiteware** with a lightly-flown black floral underglaze transfer print (c.1845+).

Context 275:

- B.3.30 This context contains five ceramic sherds from a minimum of five vessels across four ware types. The assemblage is typical of the first half of the 19th century, particularly of the period c.1820-c.1850. Listed by ware type, the materials are:
- B.3.31 2 fragments of **yellowware** (c.1820+) from a minimum of two vessels. These include:
- 1 polychrome annular bowl rim
 - 1 granulated, blue annular and moulded jug body and base, including a moulded handle base.
- B.3.32 1 fragment of **whiteware** (c.1820+). This consists of:
- 1 floral moulded & enamelled child's plate rim; this decorative motif was so common on plates for children that further identification is impossible through Riley (1995) given the lack of body decoration.
- B.3.33 1 fragment of **Westerwald-type stoneware** (18th century +). This consists of:
- 1 small unidentified hollow body sherd with a fragment of characteristic blue decoration; the fragment is too small for further identification.
- B.3.34 1 fragment of **redware**. This consists of:
- 1 unusual moulded, crimped hollow vase or jug base; lead-glazed. This is not in the typical later post-medieval redware tradition, and is perhaps an example of localised production or an example of residual earlier material.

Discussion

Discussion of Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Material

- B.3.35 The assemblage is not large few features have more than one context containing pottery. Dating has however indicated early medieval activity on the site, unfortunately much of the material of this date is abraded having been reworked and redeposited, it may not therefore accurately date the features from which it was recovered. However the presence of this material is important in indicating activity on or close to the site from the mid 11th century onwards. There is also a significant level of medieval domestic activity on the site and the pottery suggests a continuation of this activity into the 16th, and 17th centuries.

Discussion of Later Post-Medieval Material

- B.3.36 Taken as a whole, this is a small post-1800 assemblage consisting almost entirely of serving and utilitarian storage vessels rather than objects more oriented towards the

consumption of food. The focus is mostly on less expensive yellowwares (minimum of six vessels – 26%) and redwares (minimum of three vessels – 13%), and assorted other ware types used for storage and serving (minimum of six vessels – 26%). The refined whitebodied earthenwares (whiteware and pearlware at this site) that are typically used for consumption-oriented vessels, such as plates, cups and saucers, comprise 35% (minimum of 8 vessels) of the assemblage. While this is a plurality of the total, even here only one vessel – a mocha-decorated cup or mug – is definitely consumption-oriented. The refined whitebodied earthenwares do also include two child-oriented plates, but at least one of these – the ‘moralising’ whiteware plate – may have been intended for education and moral purposes rather than actual use.

- B.3.37 If this is a domestic assemblage, then it would seem most likely to be associated with a household that did not use or could not afford refined whitebodied earthenwares. The lack of 19th-century bone china, which does maintain status associations, even after it becomes relatively more affordable (Brooks 2003, 2005; Brooks and Connah 2007), is particularly relevant in this regard. The other possibility is that the assemblage is associated with kitchen- rather than dining-oriented activity, which would also account for the lack of consumption-oriented vessels.

Recommendations

- B.3.38 Were this a larger assemblage where continuity of occupation could be proved from the early medieval period through to the end of the 19th-century would have provided an excellent opportunity to study material culture development in south Cambridgeshire across a broad period. As it is, the small size of the later-post medieval assemblage, and a probable gap in occupation between the 17th and later 18th centuries reduces the research value of the assemblage. No further analysis is recommended at this point.

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B.4 The Worked Stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Introduction

- B.4.1 The excavations at Foxton, Mortimer's Lane produced a small assemblage of typical medieval worked stone comprising five lava quern fragments and one Norwegian Ragstone whetstone fragment.

Description

- B.4.2 One of the five lava rotary quern fragments recovered is a tiny fragment (51) and three are small but sufficiently well preserved to show that they were crudely worked to provide pitted surfaces (from fills of ditches 313, 414 and 454). One of these is so well used that the grinding surface is polished but with peck marks still showing.
- B.4.3 The fifth fragment is more substantial; this measures at least 560mm diameter but is damaged around its interior and exterior edges; it may have been a millstone but it is not possible to be sure (SF 26). Following the end of its use for grinding it was reused first as a whetstone, as indicated by a large linear groove from whetting on one face and then as a post-pad in pit 212 where it was finally deposited.
- B.4.4 The single small fragment of Norwegian Ragstone whetstone was found in fill of pit 153 (152) (SF 43). It appears to have a rounded profile and was probably shaped.

Conclusions

- B.4.5 The worked stone represents general domestic activity and the multiple reuse of the largest lava fragment demonstrates careful use of available resources.

Catalogue of worked stone

Upper millstone or rotary quern

- B.4.6 Lava. Circumference and inside of eye are heavily damaged but the stone is of a slightly angled slightly tapered disc. Both faces are heavily tooled but not grooved. The lower surface has a wide worn groove from whetting. Measures >560mm diameter x 36mm max thickness. SF 26. Ctx 210. Used as a post pad post pit 212.

Rotary quern fragment

- B.4.7 Lava. No centre. Rough damaged edges. One rough face, the other is crudely and deeply tooled but has been worn very smooth so that it is polished all over. Measures 32mm thick. SF 45. Ctx 312. Fill of ditch 313

Rotary quern fragment

- B.4.8 Lava. Small fragment with heavy tool marks. Measures 26mm thick. SF 44. Ctx 426. Fill of ditch 414

Rotary quern fragment

- B.4.9 Lava. Rough damaged edges. One rough face, the other is crudely and deeply tooled. Measures 33mm thick. SF 67. Ctx 456. Fill of ditch 454

Whetstone

B.4.10 Norwegian Ragstone. Small fragment with curved smoothed surface that appears consistent enough to have been shaped or caused through use. SF 43. Ctx 152.

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

Introduction

- C.1.1 A total of 91 “countable” bones were recovered from the Mortimers Lane, Foxton excavation, with a further 200 fragments not identifiable to species, (68.7% of the total sample). All bones were collected by hand apart from those recovered from environmental samples; hence a bias towards smaller fragments is to be expected. Residuality appears not to be an issue and there is no evidence of later contamination of any context. Faunal remains were recovered from a variety of contexts including pits and ditches dating from the medieval period. Material from sieved samples is not included in this report.

Methodology

- C.1.2 All data was initially recorded using a specially written MS Access database. Bones were recorded using a version of the criteria described in Davis (1992) and Albarella & Davis (1994). Initially all elements were assessed in terms of siding (where appropriate), completeness, tooth wear stages (also where applicable) and epiphyseal fusion. Completeness was assessed in terms of percentage and zones present (after Dobney & Reilly, 1988). Initially the whole identifiable assemblage was quantified in terms of number of individual fragments (NISP) and minimum numbers of individuals MNI (see table 1). The ageing of the population was largely achieved by examining the wear stages of cheek teeth of cattle, sheep/goat and pig (after Grant, 1982). The states of epiphyseal fusion for all relevant bones were recorded to give a broad age range for the major domesticates (after Getty, 1975). All measurements were carried out according to the conventions of von den Driesch (1976). Measurements were either carried out using a 150mm sliding calliper or an osteometric board in the case of larger bones.

The Assemblage

- C.1.3 Table 1 shows the broad species distribution for the entire assemblage. As one would expect the domestic mammals dominate the assemblage, with cattle being the dominant species in terms of fragments (NISP) and number of individuals (MNI). Sheep/Goat are the next most prevalent taxa along with horse and lesser amounts of pig. Limited numbers of dog and cat remains are also present, along with domestic fowl and geese.
- C.1.4 As mentioned above cattle are the most prevalent taxa. Figure 1 shows the body part distribution for the cattle assemblage. Although a small sample, some information can be gained from these patterns of distribution. Taking into account bias due to preservation and recovery, there appear to be little variation in the frequency of the various elements. As is common in archaeological cattle bone assemblages, hind limb elements are more common due to their greater survivability (Albarella et. al, forthcoming). However, the roughly equal numbers of metacarpals and metatarsals suggests that the frequency of front and hind limbs was relatively equal. The wide distribution of elements suggests that animals were locally reared or brought to the area for slaughter/processing whole. The lack of cranial elements is to be expected, as these

are often the first elements removed from dressed carcasses. The lack of scapulae could indicate certain cuts of meat being disposed of elsewhere. Figure 4 shows the age range of the population using epiphyseal fusion. As one can see the assemblage consists entirely of adult animals. The dominance of older cattle in the early to high medieval periods is well documented, when cattle were mainly used for traction (Trow-Smith, 1957). However, by as early as the 12th century horses began to replace oxen as draught animals, leading to change in cattle husbandry practices from traction/secondary products to meat production (Ibid).

- C.1.5 There is limited data available on the sex and size of the population due to the small sample size. However, metrical analysis of two intact metacarpals suggests one female and one ox are at least present in the assemblage. Withers heights are within the range given for other contemporary sites (Albarella & Davis, 1994).
- C.1.6 Unfortunately the sheep/goat sample size is extremely small (NISP: 19). Only one goat was identified via morphology of the metacarpus after Payne (1969). This is unsurprising as goats are not as well adapted to the northern European climate as sheep and therefore are rare in British archaeological assemblages. Figure 2 shows the body part distribution for the sheep population. As one can see very few remains were recovered, with the more robust metapodia, tibiae and distal humerus being most prevalent. Unfortunately this distribution is more indicative of preservation/sampling factors than anything else. Metrical analysis of the available metapodia gives an average withers height of 54.6cm. This falls within the middle of the range given for other contemporary sites (Albarella & Davis, 1994). The epiphyseal fusion data shown in figure 5 shows the animals being killed around 2- 2 ½ years of age; a pattern consistent with a meat based husbandry strategy, again indicative of the early rather than late medieval period, when wool production (and hence older animals) becomes more prevalent (Albarella et al, forthcoming).
- C.1.7 As mentioned above horse remains were also recovered from the site. As with cattle a variety of the more robust elements were recovered such as teeth and the hind limbs. Fifty percent of these elements show signs of butchery. As mentioned above horses were kept for traction as early as the 12th century, with horsemeat often eaten by dogs and (despite papal proscriptions), people (Hollis, 1946).
- C.1.8 Very few pig remains were recovered from the site, these consisting of a number of butchered long bones and two mandibles from animals around 1-2 years of age. The killing of pigs at a younger age than other domesticates is a common trend throughout the archaeological record, as meat as always been the primary product from pigs.
- C.1.9 The domestic bird remains are common in medieval sites of all kinds and most likely represent food remains. Both dog and cat remains represent commensal species.

Conclusion

- C.1.10 Despite the relatively small sample size several conclusions can be drawn. Adult cattle were kept primarily for traction and to a lesser extent meat, with the body part distribution suggesting on site processing of complete carcasses. Sheep/Goats were kept for meat and possibly breeding rather than wool production. Pigs were raised for meat. Horses again provided traction with the possibility of being eaten when no longer useful.

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	NISP	NISP%	MNI	MNI%
Domestic Mammals				
Cattle (<i>Bos</i>)	37	40.8	20	37
Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capra</i>)	19	20.8	9	16.7
Horse (<i>Equus caballus</i>)	15	16.5	7	13
Pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)	6	6.6	6	11.2
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	5	5.4	5	9.3
Dog (<i>Canis familiaris</i>)	3	3.3	2	3.7
Goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>)	1	1.1	1	1.8
Cat (<i>Felis sylvestris</i>)	1	1.1	1	1.8
Birds				
Domestic Goose (<i>Anser sp.</i>)	2	2.2	1	1.8
Domestic Fowl (<i>Gallus sp.</i>)	2	2.2	2	3.7
Total:	91	100	54	100

Table 1: Species distribution for the entire assemblage

Taxon	Element	GLI	Bd	DI
B	AS		355	
B	AS	620	415	340
B	AS		430	
B	AS		426	

Taxon	Element	GL	GLC	BT	HTC	SD	Bd
B	HUM			245	450		710
B	HUM						384
S/G	HUM					113	
CAP	HUM	652					146
CAP	HUM	610					125

Taxon	Element	GL	BD	SD	BatF	Dd	Bp
B	MC		540		490		
B	MC		550		335		
B	MC	1970	610	330	552	320	607
B	MC	1740	490	260	418	264	475
B	MC			251			450
B	MC		570		510	310	

Taxon	Element	GL	BD	SD	WC	WT	Dd	Bp
OVA	MC	1150	229	121	125	110		
OVA	MC		270	140	111	91		
OVA	MC	1111	250	132				
OVA	MC	1105	250	140			115	220
S/G	MC			121				
S/G	MC			141				232
S/G	MC			130				210
S/G	MC			140				
S/G	MC			140				
S/G	MC			120				
S/G	MC			132				

Table 2: Metrical data for the whole assemblage

Taxon	Element	GL	LI	Bd	SD	Dd
EQ	MC1	2100	1900	446	326	290

Taxon	Element	GL	Bd	SD	BatF	Bp
B	MT	2320	510	210	485	485
B	MT		570	210		

Taxon	Element	SD
S/G	MT	112

Taxon	Element	LAR	Rim ht
S/G	PE	150	100

Taxon	Element	Bp	SD	MSD
EQ	RA	650	350	
CAF	RA	204		125

Taxon	Element	Bd
S/G	TI	230
S/G	TI	209
S/G	TI	250

Taxon	Element	GL	LI	Bd	Bp	SD	Dd
EQ	TI	4100	3950	760	1000	428	475

Taxon	Element	Glpe	Bp	SD	Bd
B	P1	530	290	250	286

Taxon	Element	Glpe	Bp	SD	Bd
B	P2	320	213	210	210

Table 2: Metrical data for the whole assemblage (contd.)

Key to measurements:

- B: Cattle
- CAF: Dog
- CAP: Goat
- OVA: Sheep
- EQ: Horse
- S/G: Sheep/Goat

C.1.11 All measurements follow Von den Driesch (1976)

C.2 Environmental Assessment

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction and Methods

- C.2.1 Forty samples were taken from various features across the excavated area including pits, ditches, a ring gully and a well that were all provisionally dated as medieval. Previous samples from the evaluation of this site had proved largely unproductive.
- C.2.2 The samples were soaked in a solution of Decon 90 for four weeks prior to processing in order to break down the heavy clay.
- C.2.3 Ten litres of each sample were processed by tank flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The flot was collected in a 0.5mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 1mm sieve. Both flot and residue were allowed to air dry. The dried residue was passed through 5mm and 2mm sieves and a magnet was dragged through each resulting fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification.

Results

- C.2.4 Preservation is by charring and is generally poor to moderate. Charcoal fragments are present in all of the samples in small quantities. Other charred plant remains consist of cereal grains, predominantly wheat (*Triticum* sp.) with occasional grains of barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and oats (*Avena* sp.). Cereal grains occur in the majority of the samples in low numbers (up to ten grains per 10 litre sample) with only three samples, Sample 13, Context 88, Sample 21 Context 239 and Sample 49 Context 398, containing higher numbers (less than 50) of charred grains. Legumes and weed seeds are extremely rare.
- C.2.5 Modern contaminants in the form of rootlets and snail shells are present in most of the samples. Mussel shell fragments were present in low quantities in several of the residues. Occasional fragments of animal bones and pottery sherds were also recovered from the residues.

Discussion

- C.2.6 The plant remains recovered from this site are dominated by crop plants, both cereals and legumes, along with other dietary refuse in the form of mussel shells. The low frequencies of plant remains from this site suggest that they probably represent debris blowing around the site. The results of this assemblage compare with those from a nearby site in Foxton High Street (V. Fryer 2002) which produced a similar low density scatter of cereal grains and small charcoal fragments.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- C.2.7 The samples examined from excavation closely resemble those taken from the evaluation in that they were largely unproductive. The flots produced a low abundance of charred material in the form of cereal grains and sparse charcoal fragments suggesting that the samples represent general scatters of burnt debris rather than discrete purposeful deposits.

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APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-49343		
Project Name	Land at Mortimers Lane, Foxton		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	19-11-2007	Finish	19-12-2007
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	FOX MOL 07	Planning App. No.	S/1674/04/O
HER No.	ECB 2737	Related HER/OASIS No.	cambrig1_34107

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Settlement	Medieval 1066 to 1540		Select period...
Structures	Post Medieval 1540 to 1901		Select period...
	Select period...		Select period...

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible) 3-11 Mortimers Lane, Foxton, Cambridgeshire, CB22 6RR	
District	South Cambridgeshire		
Parish	Foxton		
HER	Cambridge		
Study Area	0.13ha	National Grid Reference	TL 4242 4846

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Eliza Gore
Project Design Originator	Stephen Macaulay
Project Manager	Stephen Macaulay
Supervisor	Chris Thatcher and Gareth Rees

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CCC store	OA East	CCC store
FOX MOL 07	FOX MOL 07	FOX MOL 07

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



Figure 1: Location of excavation (black) with the development area outlined (red)



Figure 2: Extract from 1830 enclosure map showing development area

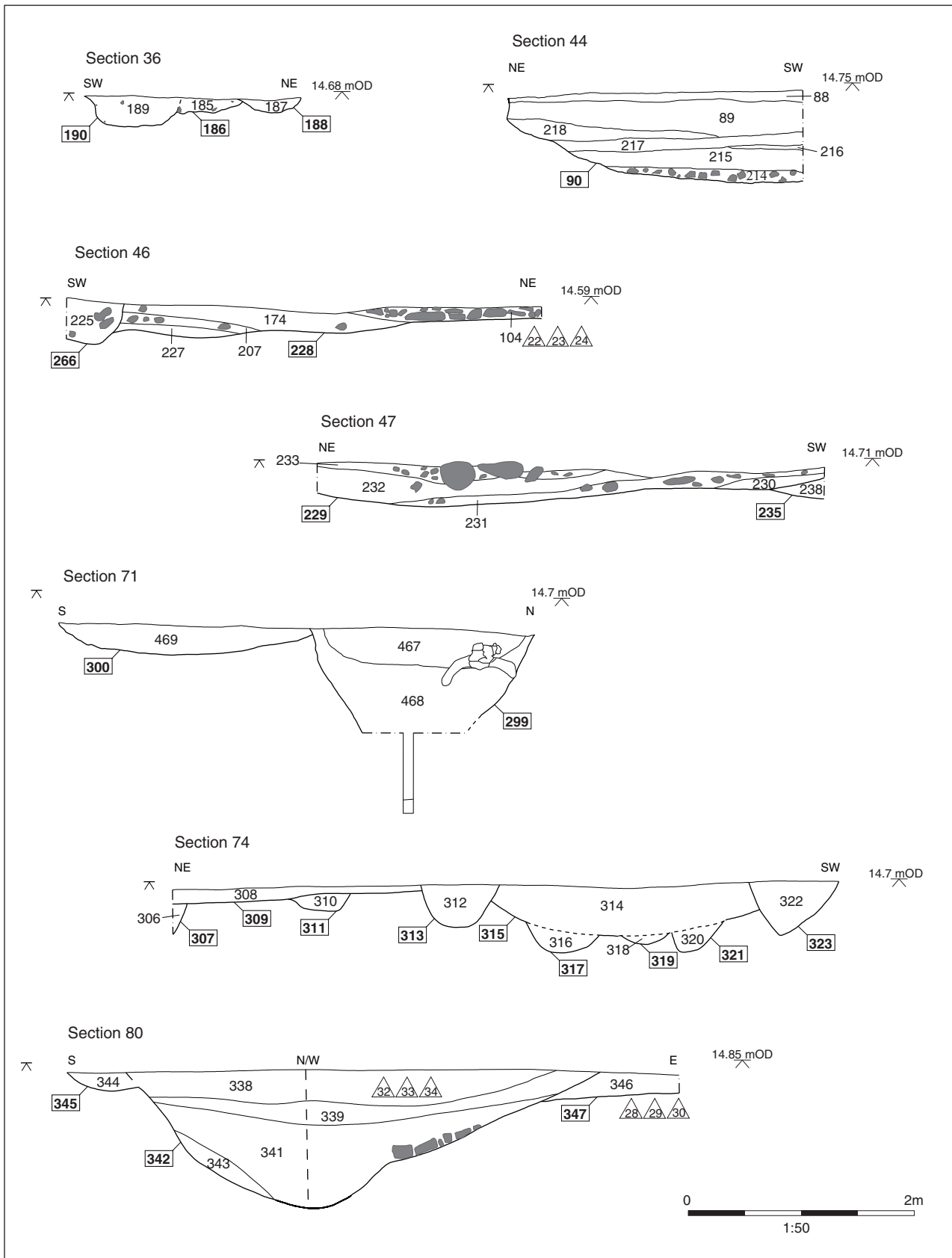


Figure 3: Selected sections

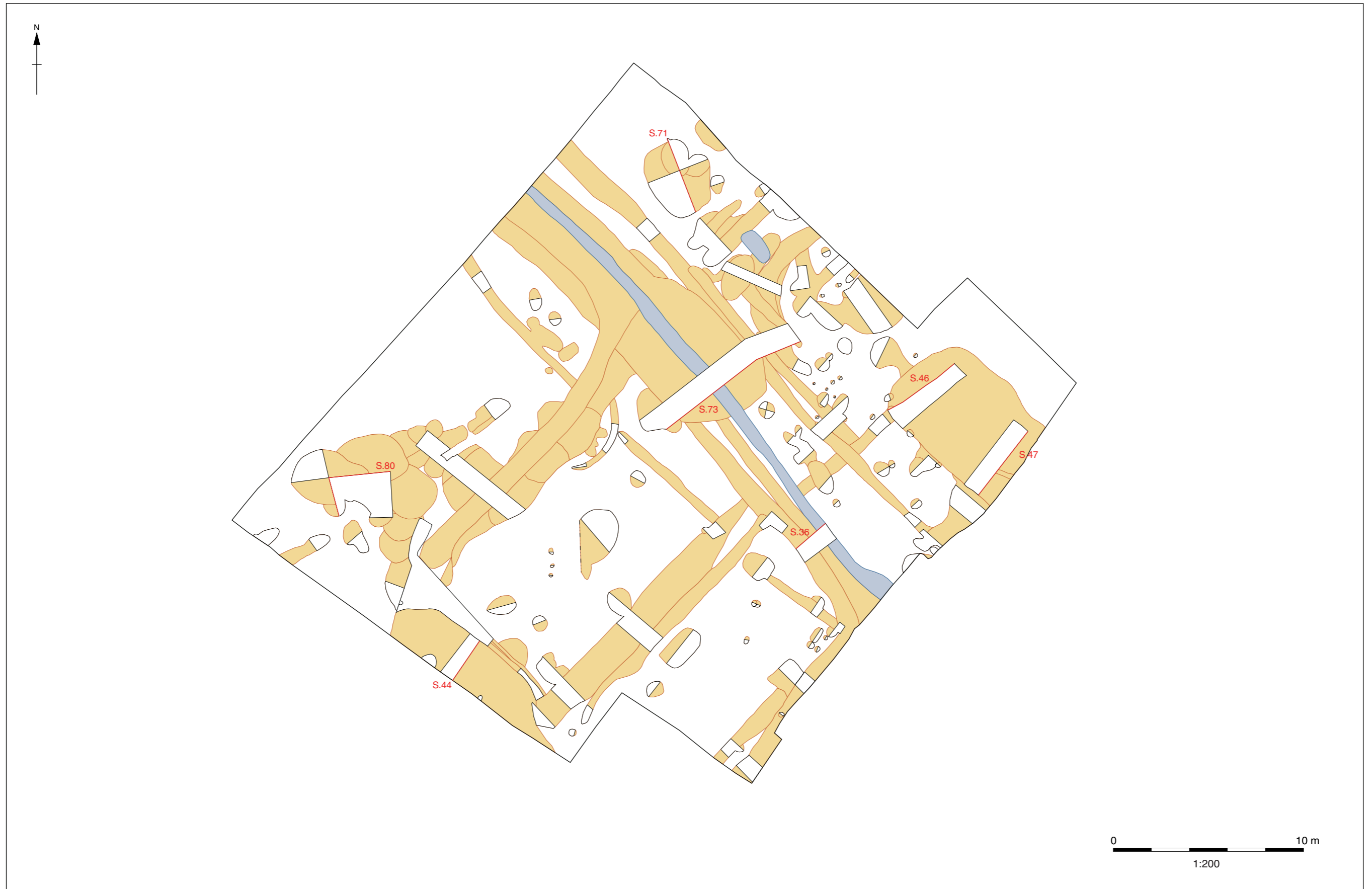


Figure 4: Trench Plan (all phases)



Figure 5: Plan of period 1

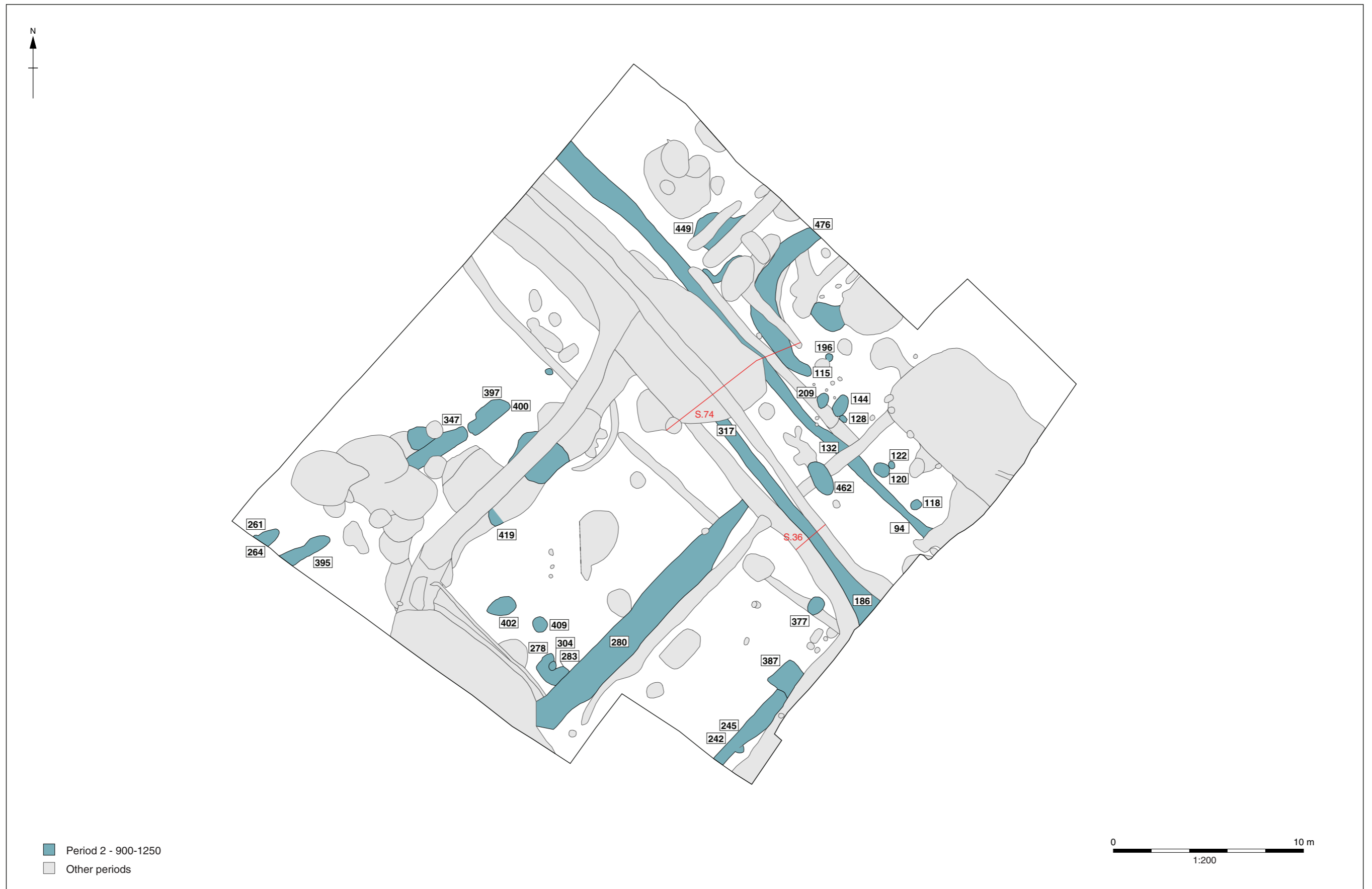


Figure 6: Plan of period 2

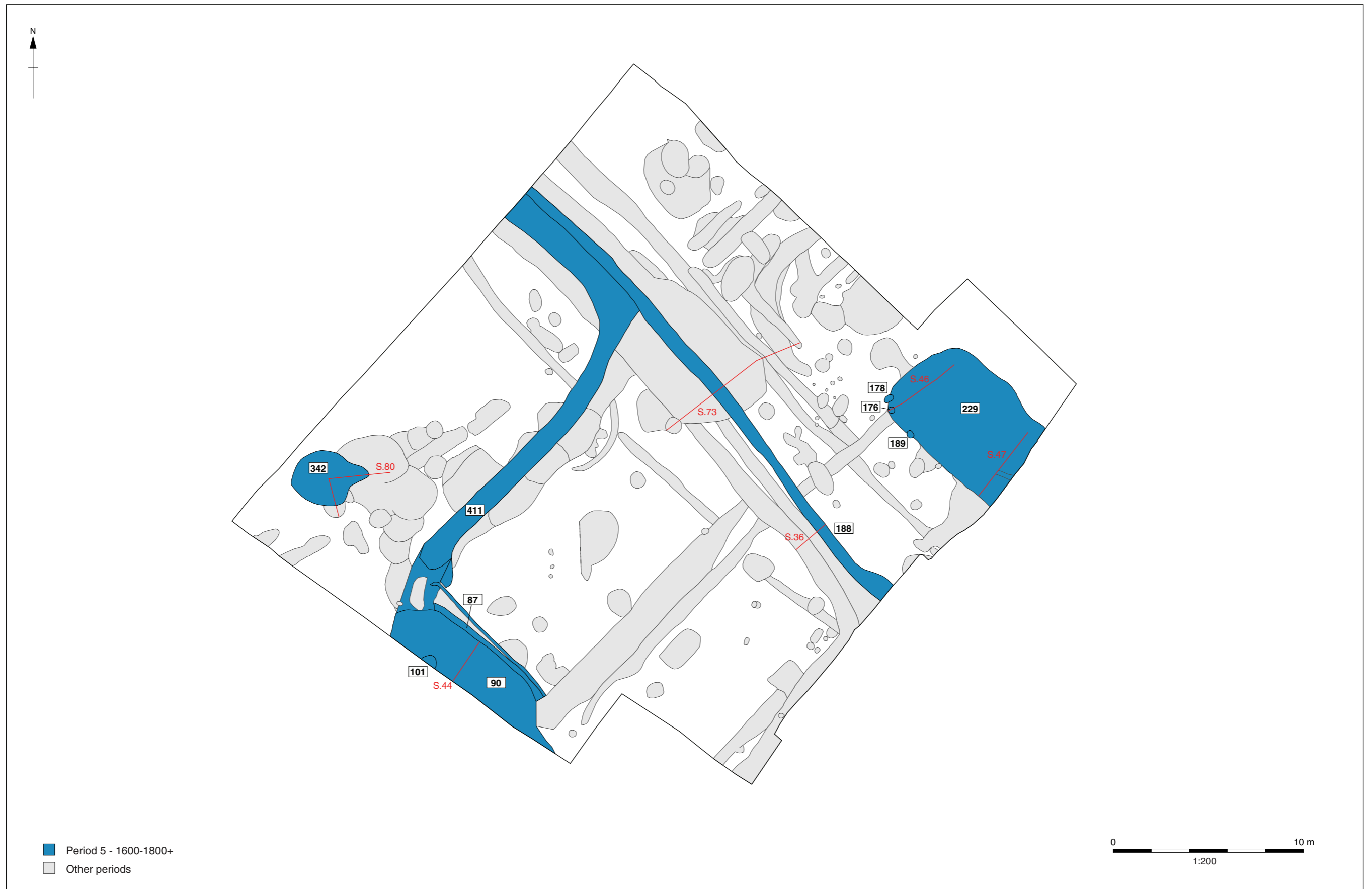


Figure 8: Plan of period 5



Plate 1: Pit 299

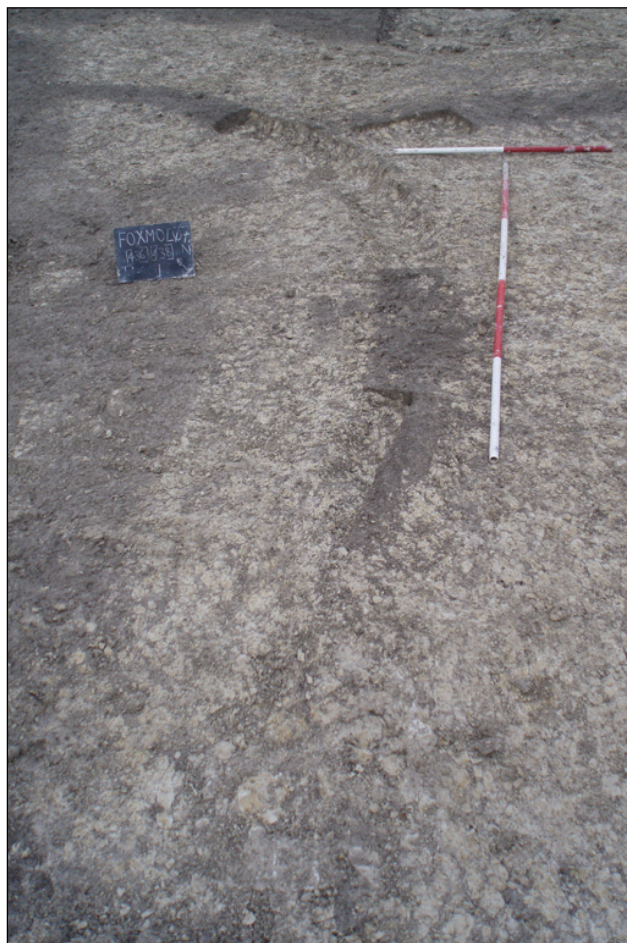


Plate 2: Partial ring gully 436



Plate 3: Ditches 252 and 248, parallel to the modern road



Plate 4: Pit 387



Plate 5: Ditches 311, 313 and 317



Plate 6: Ditches 138 and 142; Posthole 140 and pit 144



Plate 7: Pit 250



Plate 8: Post-built structure 1



Plate 9: Pit 281



Plate 10: Well 242 and pit group 4



Plate 11: Post-medieval footing for structure 4



Head Office/Registered Office

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@thehumanjourney.net
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1GF

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oanorth@thehumanjourney.net)
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
f: +44 (0) 1223 850599
e: [oaeast@thehumanjourney.net](mailto: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net)
w: <http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast>

OA Méditerranée

115 Rue Merlot
ZAC La Louvade
34 130 Manguio
France

t: +33 (0) 4.67.57.86.92
f: +33 (0) 4.67.42.65.93
e: [oamed@oamed.fr](mailto: oamed@oamed.fr)
w: <http://oamed.fr/>



Director: David Jennings, BA MIFA FSA

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