Excavation Report

Medieval settlement along Central Avenue RAF Brampton Cambridgeshire

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Medieval settlement along Central Avenue, RAF Brampton, Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Excavation

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Summary

From September to October 2016 Oxford Archaeology East undertook a series of excavations and evaluations on the site of the former RAF Brampton. This phase of work followed on from an excavation conducted in March and April 2016 where features dating to the Iron age, Roman and post-medieval periods were uncovered including eight Roman pottery kilns. This second phase of work targeted potential areas of preserved archaeology under former roads which were due to be removed. Much of RAF Brampton has previously been built on leading to the ground conditions being poor and many archaeological features being badly truncated. However areas of preservation were recorded during this phase of work.

After evaluation, an area along Central Avenue measuring 35m x 54m was excavated. The remainder of Central Avenue was badly truncated by modern buildings and services and any archaeology which was present had been destroyed. An evaluation along Farendon Road also identified no preservation of any archaeological remains.

The excavation area contained a number of features dating to the medieval period. These included pits, enclosure ditches, beam slots and a large well which yielded finds such as pottery, bone, CBM and stone as well as a wooden structure at its base. Two main phases were identified, Medieval Phase 1 dated from the 12th to 14th century. This phase comprised Structure 1 in the centre of the site consisting of a number of beam slots on a north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west alignment. An enclosure was also noted along the east end of the site comprising two ditches with a north-east to south-west alignment and a single ditch with a north-west to south-east alignment. A number of pits have also been assigned to this phase, most likely used for gravel extraction or rubbish disposal.

*A phase of activity dating from the 14th to 16th centuries (Medieval Phase 2) is recorded in the north and south of the site. This phase consisted of pits, ditches, beam slots and well **453** to the north. This well appeared to be in use from the 15th to 16th century with a wooden structure at its base consisting of a number of planks and stakes that seem to have been re-used from other wooden structures, perhaps the earlier structures. This well was capped in the post-medieval period. The partial remains of Enclosure 2 has been assigned to this phase too due to its difference in alignment to the earlier enclosure and structure.*

*Approximately 15% of the excavation area was truncated by deep modern features related to the construction of RAF Brampton. However this small excavation area provides evidence for two phases of occupation on the site from the 12th to the 16th centuries. The first phase of activity (12th to 14th century) comprises Structure 1, Enclosure 1 and a series of gravel extraction pits with the pottery assemblage being typical of rural occupation during the medieval period. The second phase (14th to 16th century) comprised Structure 2, Enclosure 2 and well/tank **453** and was spatially different to phase 1and perhaps represented activity taking place on the periphery of a domestic settlement. The archaeological features uncovered and their phases appear to directly correlate to the activity recorded at Brampton House throughout the medieval and into the post-medieval period.*

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 Archaeological trenching and strip, map and sample excavation was conducted along Central Avenue and Farendon Road at the former RAF Brampton site, Brampton, Cambridgeshire (Fig.1; TF 2087 7007). The work was commissioned by Campbell Buchanan on behalf of JCAM Commercial Real Estate Property VII Limited, ahead of residential development at the site (Planning Application15/00368/OUT).

1.1.2 The investigation followed on from an earlier archaeological evaluation at the site (Stocks-Morgan 2015), and was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council (dated 19/02/2016), and an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Oxford Archaeology East (Brudenell 2016).

1.1.3 This report provides a detailed description of the results of the investigation, focusing on the area of excavation along Central Avenue. The report has been conducted in accordance with the principles identified in Historic England's guidance documents Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, specifically The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide (2015) and PPN3 Archaeological Excavation (2008).

1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the Cambridgeshire County Council in due course,

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site is located on the southern outskirts of Brampton, c. 2.7km south-west of Huntingdon within the former envelope of the RAF Brampton site. This phase of work was undertaken on and immediately adjacent to Central Avenue and Farendon Road, in Zones A and J of the site (Brudenell 2016).

1.2.2 The solid geology of the site consists of Jurassic clays of the Oxford Clay Formation Mudstones. These are overlain by superficial deposits of Quaternary River Terrace sands and gravels. The site lies at about 10m OD and is relatively flat. (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html)

1.3 Archaeological and historical background (Fig. 2)

1.3.1 Research into the archaeological and historical context of the site has previously been undertaken in various heritage desk-based assessments (Atkinson 2013; Daniell and Brown 2011; Ferguson 2013; Ryan 2015). The following section, which is based on the archaeological background included in the Written Scheme of Investigtaion (Brudenell 2016), draws on and summarises some of the findings in these reports, further supplemented with data supplied by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (CHER; Fig. 2).

Prehistoric

1.3.2 Brampton lies in the Ouse Valley which has several known early prehistoric monuments and finds spots. Palaeolithic finds were uncovered from a site 1km to the south which consisted of mammoth and other animal bones and worked flint comprising flakes and scrapers. Neolithic axeheads have been recovered 800m west of the site (CHER 02548). To the north of the village a number of Bronze Age features and cropmarks have been identified including a barrow, ditches, pits and post-holes (CHER 02117),

evidence for cremations were also found at this site. Approximately 1km north-west of the site an Early Bronze Age cremation pit was uncovered alongside Bronze Age Beaker pottery (CHER 11176). A square enclosure believed to date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age has been identified 1km to the south-west, which contained residual Middle Bronze Age pottery (CHER 10066).

Iron Age and Roman

1.3.3 Iron Age features were revealed 1km to the south-west of the site and comprise ditches, enclosures, pits, a watering hole and a field system (CHER MCB20046). Iron Age finds have also been recovered from a site 1km to the south (CHER 02498A).

1.3.4 A number of Roman finds have been uncovered in the area, particularly to the west and the south. Several cropmarks interpreted as being of Iron Age or Roman origin are present to the south and west of the site, comprising ditches, enclosures and pits (CHER 4475), with further ditches, enclosures and a possible trackway also visible (CHER 05765). Other cropmarks identified 950m south-west of the site are also thought to be Iron Age or Roman in date (CHER MCB18443).

1.3.5 Roman field systems have been identified 1km to the south of the site, alongside ditches, enclosures and a possible droveway (CHER MCB17492), with Roman pottery also being recovered near to this site (CHER MCB18426).

1.3.6 A Roman coin depicting Antonius Pius, dating to AD 145 was uncovered 400m to the east (CHER 00951). Roman quern fragments have been recovered 750m to the north (CHER 00952), while further to the north (1.3km) approximately 20 Roman pots were recovered from a site (CHER 02556). Evidence for contemporary activity has also be found 1.5km north-west of the site, represented by pits containing Roman pottery and tile (CHER CB15265).

1.3.7 The remains of a substantial Roman settlement have been identified to the north of Brampton village, consisting of a series of enclosures along with buildings, a corn dryer and an associated cobbled surface (MCB 20033).

1.3.8 Of particular interest is the discovery of a Roman pottery kiln dating to the mid/late 1st century AD, which was revealed but not fully excavated approximately 1km to the west of the site (Jones & Panes 2014).

Anglo-Saxon and medieval

1.3.9 Brampton is a parish and village located to the south-west of Huntingdon. Evidence of an Anglo-Saxon settlement has been identified approximately 1km to the south of the site, represented by pits and sunken featured buildings (CHER 02498C). The village was known as ‘Brantune’ in the 11th century, ‘Brantone’, ‘Bramptone’ and ‘Brauntone’ in the 12th and 13th centuries, and finally ‘Brampton’ from the 13th century (Ryan 2015).

1.3.10 The core of the medieval village is centred in the area around the modern day High Street and is noted in the Domesday Book of AD 1086. At this time the village is recorded as having a manor house and two mills, suggesting an established and prosperous settlement.

1.3.11 To the north-west of the site, evidence for medieval buildings has been uncovered along with medieval pottery (CHER 02550). Further afield, a number of medieval sites and find spots are recorded approximately 900m to the north of the site, comprising medieval pottery sherds recovered alongside post-medieval finds (CHER 07667) and architectural fragments in the form of large limestone carved blocks (CHER 07707). Medieval ponds were found just to the east of Manor Farm (CHER 02653), while a

medieval cross dating to the 13th/14th century was located at West End (CHER 02549) and a medieval dovecote 250m north-east of the site (CHER 02731).

1.3.12 St Mary's church 900m north-east of the site contains elements that originate from the 12th century (CHER 02706) and medieval pits have been uncovered near to the church boundary (CHER CB14753). Extensive ridge and furrow has been identified 1km to the north-west (CHERs 11501, 11502), 1km north-east (CHER 02746, 07690) and 1.3km north of the site (CHER 09259) respectively.

Post-Medieval

1.3.13 Activity dating to the post-medieval period largely relates to Brampton Park and features associated with it, with further remains of this date recorded to the north-east of the site. A post-medieval bridge is located near to the church, some of which has been rebuilt but 17th century masonry still remains (CHER 02553). A windmill depicted on a map from 1757 is known 1km north-east of the site (CHER 02555). Pepys House is located 1.3km north-east of the site is a two storey timber house dating to the 16th century (CHER 02705). Manor Barn is recorded 1km north-east and comprises a hall, two parlours, a kitchen, a pantry and four chambers. This was attached to a barn, a stable, a cow house and a garden (CHER 02708).

Brampton Park

1.3.14 Brampton House and Park (MCB15297) lies partially within the development area. The first house, the location of which is now lost, had 12th century origins but by 1328 had fallen into disrepair and ruin (Page and Proby 1936). Brampton Park and gardens includes the current RAF base. The park is believed to have been larger than the current site, extending a little to the west - to include the dovecote - and to the north incorporating the fields between the modern boundary and the southern limit of the village. These fields are recorded in the HER as medieval strip fields that are evident on aerial photographs. As it would be unusual to have working fields within a formal park, the emparkment probably dates from the post-medieval period and may be associated with wider enclosure of the landscape.

1.3.15 In the 16th century the house and park were acquired by the Throckmorton family who rebuilt the house. In the 19th century the house was owned by Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow who commenced a series of building and landscaping works, designing the entranceway, woodland area and formal gardens. Two other buildings erected at this time are also listed; the first is the gate lodge (Listed Building No. 54529), which is constructed of brick with a hipped thatched roof. The second is a coach house and stable block adjacent to the house. The structure is Grade II listed (Listed Building No. 54531). The building is two storeys and has a tiled hipped roof. To the south-west there is a tiled one storey former stable block. Following the death of Lady Olivia in 1863 and until 1907, the house was used as an institute for the treatment of speech impediment, referred to at the time as curing stammers (Daniell 2011, 12). In 1907 a devastating fire broke out in the grand eastern wing of the house, completely destroying this section of the building. A considerably smaller replacement was built and whilst sympathetic in design, the gothic detailing was not replicated. At this time the estate became home to Lord Mandeville (Ryan 2015, 9).

1.3.16 Fragments of the park survive, albeit overlain by the RAF base, with elements including a number of standard trees, some of them exotics, such as Douglas Fir and Cedar of Lebanon, which indicate a 19th century design. In addition, several garden features

survive, including brick and stone benches, steps and terraces to the north and south of the house (Daniell 2011, 12). Within the wider landscape, evidence of a post-medieval icehouse exists which is shown on 1st edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey maps of the 1860s and on the 1926 edition OS map (not illustrated). In the vicinity of the icehouse is the dovecote, of which the mound survives, which lies outside RAF Brampton's perimeter but is likely to have been associated with the house; now the Officers' Mess.

Modern

1.3.17 The Park was occupied by the military during the Great War (1914-1918) and used as a camp for German Prisoners of War. Following the end of hostilities the house was restored to Lord Mandeville, the civilian owner, who let the property, first as a domestic house and then as a nursery, providing a location for a London children's home that was situated away from bombing (Daniell 2011).

1.3.18 In 1942 RAF Brampton was commissioned as an intelligence centre for the Royal Air Force, comprising an area of 20.6 ha. The base was built to house RAF Support Command and JARIC: The National Imagery Exploitation Centre. Historical maps (not illustrated) detail the development of the site with the construction of the majority of amenity buildings shown to have occurred in the late 1940s to early 1950s.

Previous work at RAF Brampton

1.3.19 In March and April 2016 an excavation was undertaken on the playing fields at RAF Brampton some 300m to 550m south-west of the current sites. This excavation area yielded archaeology dating to the Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval periods. The Iron Age phase consisted of an enclosure in the south-west corner of the site which was only partially visible alongside pits of the same phase. A total of eight Roman pottery kilns were uncovered, dating to 60 to 80 AD these kilns produced large quantities of kiln furniture including clay plates and pedestals alongside Roman pottery. These kilns were producing lid seated jars with their associated lids. A small number of other features were identified dating to the Roman period, including a ditch and some pits. Post-medieval features comprised a series of inter-cutting ditches to the north of the site. Trackway ditches which signify the original Park Lane, the former southern boundary to Brampton park were also uncovered along with other ditches thought to be plot boundaries outside the Park (Nicholls 2016).

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Andy Girvan of Campbell Buchanan, who commissioned the work on behalf of JCAM Commercial Real Estate Property VII Limited. Thanks also to Breheny for providing a machine and other assistance on site.

1.4.2 The project was managed by Matthew Brudenell and monitored by Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire County Council. The fieldwork was carried out on site by the author and James Fairbairn with the assistance of Matt Brooks, Ed Cole, Peter Dearlove, and Toby Knight. Site survey was carried out by Dave Brown and Gareth Rees.

2 Aims and Methodology

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Brief and Written Scheme of Investigation (Thomas 2016; Brudenell 2016).

2.1.2 The main aims of this excavation were:

- To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
- To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

2.1.3 The aims and objectives of the strip, map and sample were general due to the lack of knowledge for this specific area of the site. It was stated that further, more specific aims would be developed upon completion of the work and would be developed with reference to National, Regional and Local Research Agendas (Medlycott 2011). These are listed below.

2.2 Regional Research Aims

2.2.1 The origins and development of the different rural settlement types need further research, also the dynamics of medieval settlement. Much of the region has primarily a dispersed pattern, not nucleated, and more small hamlets are being discovered all the time. More data will add to our understanding of the way places appear, grow, shift and disappear (Medlycott 2011:70)

2.3 Site Specific Research Objectives

2.3.1 *Chronology*: To determine whether there are distinct phases of occupational activity on the site

2.3.2 *Site function*: Does the material and environmental evidence from the site, in particular the well/tank, tell us anything about the nature of activities being carried out here during the medieval period?

2.3.3 *Location*: Do the features dating to the medieval period have any correlation to Brampton House?

2.4 Methodology

2.4.1 The methodology used broadly followed that outlined in the Brief (Thomas 2016) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Brudenell 2016). Whilst the original aim had been to strip the entire line of Farendon Road and Central Avenue east of Brampton House, a combination of live services, ground contamination, changes to proposed new road construction methods along sections of Central Avenue, and Tree Preservation Orders made this impossible. In consultation with Andy Thomas of CHET, it was therefore agreed that the accessible sections of the road line would be trenched first, and decisions made on the need to expand areas into excavation zones on the basis of the preliminary results.

2.4.2 The initial trial trenching occurred along the former road line of Central Avenue and the extant eastern verge of Farendon Road (Fig. 3). Archaeological remains were revealed

in one area of Central Avenue, and following further consultation with Andy Thomas of CHET, five addition trenches were the excavated in the vicinity to define the limits of preservation and establish an area for excavation. The defined area was irregular in shape measuring c.35m by 54m and was limited on all sides by zones with Tree Protection Orders, building footings and services (Fig. 4, Area B).

2.4.3 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360 type excavator using a 1.8m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.4.4 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.

2.4.5 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.

2.4.6 Environmental sampling took place on a number of different features across the site. Contamination from any modern truncations were noted where necessary.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

Trial Trenching (Fig. 3)

3.1.1 Three initial trenches were excavated along Central Avenue and Farendon Road to establish the presence of archaeological preservation along the route of former roads. Trench 37 was excavated along Central Avenue and measured 170m long, this trench could not be extended further west due to contaminated ground. Trenches 38 and 39 were excavated alongside Farendon Road which remained in use at the time of evaluation. These trenches measured 55m (Trench 38) and 30m long (Trench 39).

3.1.2 Trenches 38 and 39 were found to contain no archaeology, most likely due to the disturbance from buildings related to the former RAF base. Trench 37 also contained areas of truncation and contamination (Plate 1) but an area of archaeological preservation was observed just to the north of the former Forster Road measuring 35m in length. A further five trenches (40-44) were excavated to the north and south of this area to identify the limits of the surviving archaeology (Fig. 4), the results of which are tabulated below (Table 1).

Trench No	Location	Dimensions (LxWxD)	Orientation	Description
37	Central Avenue	150m x 1.8m x 1m	E-W	Trench could not be fully excavated at eastern end. Contamination and modern truncation throughout. Area of archaeology observed
38	Farendon Road	55m x 1.8m x 0.85m	N-S	Modern building footings throughout
39	Farendon Road	30m x 1.8m x 0.7m	N-S	Modern building footings throughout
40	North of Central Avenue		N-S	Two ditches on a NE-SW orientation observed. No modern truncations
41	South of Central Avenue	13m x 1.8m x 1.2m	E-W	Intercutting features observed, no modern truncations
42	South of Central Avenue	10m x 1.8m x 1m	N-S	No archaeology observed, modern truncations present.
43	South of Central Avenue	18m x 1.8m x 1.05m	N-S	Modern truncations observed throughout
44	South of Central Avenue	11m x 1.8m x 1m	E-W	No archaeology observed, modern truncations present

Table 1: summary of trial trenches

3.1.3 Archaeology was observed in Trenches 40 and 41 in the form of ditches and pits which were left unexcavated at this stage, and are discussed below in sections 3.2 and 3.3. An area measuring c. 35m by 54m was subsequently stripped for excavation, the extent of which was limited on all four sides by modern truncation from buildings, tree protection zones and live services (Fig. 4).

Excavation

3.1.4 A 35m by 54m (1836m2) area was stripped for excavation along and to the north and south of Central Avenue after two initial phases of trial trenching. Archaeological features uncovered comprised ditches, pits, beam slots and a tank-like feature all of which dated to the medieval period (Fig. 5). The pottery recovered from site dated from the early medieval to post-medieval period. Two main phases of activity have been identified. Medieval Phase 1 consist of the 12th to 14th centuries and Medieval Phase 2 comprises the 14th to 16th centuries.

3.1.5 The natural on site varied from a light to mid yellow orange clayey sandy gravel, this was overlain by a layer of subsoil which consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt that measured up to 0.5m deep to the south of the site where the preservation was at its best. Overlying this was often a series of modern layers related to construction of buildings and roads related to RAF Brampton (Section 210, Fig. 7).

3.1.6 The following section describes the results of the fieldwork by phase, supplemented by a context list (Appendix A) and overall phase plans, in addition to a selection of sections and photographs. Cut features such as ditches or pits are shown in **bold** in the text. Finds and environmental remains are noted in the descriptions where relevant, with summaries provided at the end of the Section that give an overview of the specialist reports included as Appendices B and C. The excavation results are discussed within their wider context and with reference to the project's research aims and objectives in Section 4.

3.2 Medieval Phase 1 – 12th-14th Century

3.2.1 Features within the central area of the site have been assigned to a 12th to 14th century phase, largely on the basis of ceramics recovered (Fig. 6). The principle features include the remains of a beam slot structure (Structure 1), a double ditched enclosure to the east (Enclosure 1), and a series of possible gravel quarry pits. Some of these features contained large assemblages of early to high medieval pottery.

Structure 1

3.2.2 A series of four truncated beam slots were partially exposed in the centre of the site on a north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east alignment (beam slots **550**, **554/552**, **489/460** and **474**).

3.2.3 To the south, beam slot **460/489** had a north-west to south-east alignment, measuring 6m long, 0.4m-0.48m wide, and 0.16m-0.22m deep, with steep sides and a flat base (Section 218, Fig. 7). The beam slot was truncated on its north-east side, but may have terminated at pit **458** to the south-east (described below). The beam slot was filled with a mid grey brown sandy silt sand, with context 490 yielding a single sherd of 11th to 13th century pottery (18g) and one sheep/goat bone (7g).

3.2.4 Running north-east to south-west from the centre of **460/489** was beam slot **474.** This survived to a length of 2.6m, and was truncated at its northern end. The slots measured 0.3m wide and 0.14m deep, and displayed vertical sides and a flat base (Plate 2). Its single fill (475) consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained no finds.

3.2.5 Beam slot **552/554** ran parallel to **474**, 4.2m to the west. The exposed section of the beam slot was 5.5m long, and measured 0.4m-0.5m wide and 0.1m-0.15m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base (Section 232, Fig. 7). Its single fill (553/555) consisted of a mid green brown to grey-bown silty sand that contained no finds.

3.2.6 Beam slot **550** ran perpendicular to **552/554** on a north-west to south-east alignment, and is possibly a western continuation of the truncated beam slot **460/489**. Only a short section of the bean slot was exposed. This measured 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Like **552/544**, its single fill (551) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

3.2.7 To the south of Structure 1 were two post-holes (**462** and **464**) which may be related to the building. Post-hole **462** measured 0.24m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (463) consisted of a light grey brown sandy silt that contained a single sherd of 12th-13th century medieval pottery (18g). Post-hole **464** measured 0.26m wide and 0.18m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (465) contained no finds.

Enclosure 1

3.2.8 Immediately east of Structure 1, and orientated on the same north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east alignment, was the corner of a possibly rectilinear enclosure with a c. 5m wide entrance in the west.

3.2.9 The north-west arm of Enclosure 1 was defined by two closely spaced, shallow parallel ditches **447/472/487** and **470/485**. These had a north-east to south-west alignment (Plate 3) extending out from the western baulk of the excavation area for approximately 17m. The easternmost ditch of the pair (**470/485**) measured 0.84m-0.94m wide and 0.22m-0.37m deep. It displayed moderately steep sides and a concave base, the southern terminal of which was slightly in-turned on a north-south alignment. The ditch contained a single fill (471 and 486) comprising light to mid grey brown sandy silt that yielded a single sherd of 12th to 14th century pottery (25g) and a dog or fox bone (24g). The western ditch (**447/472/487**) measured 0.65m-0.78m in width and 0.1m-0.28m in deep and had sloped sides and concave base. Its single fill (473, 488 and 448) consisted of a light to mid grey brown sandy silt that contained no finds.

3.2.10 The south-west arm of Enclosure 1 was defined by ditch **509**. This was located approximately 5m south of the terminals of **447/472/487** and **470/485**, and was aligned north-west to south-east. The exposed section of the ditch was 4.7m long and measured 0.84m wide and 0.24m deep, with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (510) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. Although the north-west end of **509** was truncated, the ditch was narrowing at this point suggesting only the tip of the terminal was lost. The spatial relationship between **509** and the terminals of the **447/472/487** and **470/485** indicate the presence of a c. 5m wide entrance to Enclosure 1 in the western corner.

Other ditches

3.2.11 At the western side of the excavation area was ditch **438**, which had a north-east to south-west alignment. The exposed section of the ditch was 11m long, and measured 1.6m wide and 0.28m deep with sloped sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill (439) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt that contained nine sherds of 12th-14th century pottery (195g) and animal bone (64g). This ditch was truncated on its north-western side by pit **440** (described below).

3.2.12 Ditch **438** terminated adjacent to north-south aligned ditch **511** which measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (512) consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay that contained no finds. At the southern end of the site the ditch was truncated by pit **513** (described below).

3.2.13 The only other possible ditch was **505**, located to the south of ditch **438**. The linear feature was aligned east-west, perpendicular to ditch **511**. It measured 0.64m wide, 0.15m deep, and had a concave profile filled by a single deposit (506) of mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds. Only a short length survived and it was truncated on its eastern end by pit **507** (described below).

Pits and post-holes

3.2.14 Eleven pits (**430**, **432/455**, **434**, **440**, **443**, **451**, **458**, **507**, **513**, **519** and **544**) and two post-holes (**449** and **503**) were assigned to Phase 1, with all but three of the features (pits **513**, **519** and **544**) being distributed across the central area of the site along a distinct band of gravel.

3.2.15 In the western central area of the site was pit **443**. This measured 1.15m wide and 0.28m deep with sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (444) consisted of a mid brown grey clayey silt that contained 60 sherds (745g) of 12th to 14th century pottery including Huntingdon Early medieval ware, Lyveden A ware and shelly ware, alongside pig bone (27g). A soil sample from the fill contained free threshing wheat grain.

3.2.16 South of pit **443** was pit **440**. This truncated ditch **438**, and measured 1.8m wide and 0.6m deep with steep sides and a concave base. The pit contained two fills; its basal fill (441) consisted of a mid brown blue grey clayey silt that contained a single sherd (4g) of 11th to 12th century pottery. Overlying this was fill 442, which consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt that contained no finds.

3.2.17 Post-hole **503** was observed to the south of pit **440,** which measured 0.55m wide and 0.1m deep with gently sloped sides and a flat base. Its single fill (504) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

3.2.18 East of the post-hole was pit **507**, which cut possible ditch **505**. The pit measured 1.16m wide and 0.32m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (508) consisted of a light grey brown silty sand that contained no finds.

3.2.19 Five further pits were located in the centre of the site. Pit **434** measured 1.2m wide and 0.86m deep with vertical sides and an uneven base (Plate 4. Section 202, Fig.7). This pit contained three fills. The basal fill (435) measured 0.4m deep and consisted of a compact light grey orange brown mottled sandy silt that contained occasional flint inclusions and no finds.A soil sample from fill 435 contained a wide range of charred remains including oats, rye grain, free threshing wheat grain. Vetch, pea and bean were also present along with some dry land herbs which would have grown amongst cereal crops and a hazelnut shell. Overlying this was fill 436 which measured 0.27m deep and consisted of a dark grey sandy silt that contained a single sherd (8g) of 12th to 14th century pottery. The uppermost fill (437) measured 0.19m deep and consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained no finds.

3.2.20 To the south-west, pit **451** measured 1.65m wide and 0.58m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (452) consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained an abraded fragment of possible late medieval brick (326g). This fill was environmentally sampled and contained free threshing wheat grain.

3.2.21 Pit **458** was located directly east of Structure 1. This pit measured 0.78m wide and 0.26m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This pit contained a single fill (459) which consisted of a mid brown grey sandy silt that contained two sherds (2g) of medieval pottery. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained a moderate amount of charred cereals including oats, barley, rye and free threshing wheat.

3.2.22 South of these pits was a slightly curved elongated feature which measured 7m long (**432/445**). Thought to be an elongated pit, both terminal ends were excavated. The western end (**432**) measured 1.1m wide and 0.29m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (433) consisted of a dark grey brown sandy silt that contained cow bone (86g). The eastern end (**445**) measured 1.14m wide and 0.48m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 5. Section 207, Fig. 7). Its single fill (446) consisted of a mid bluey brown grey clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions and contained animal bone (187g). This fill was environmentally sampled and contained cereal grains and evidence for small seeded grass.

3.2.23 Pit **432/445** truncated pit **430** which measured 0.89m wide and 0.18m wide with moderate sides and an uneven base (Section 200, Fig. 7). Its single fill (431) consisted of a dark grey brown sandy silt that contained two sherds (6g) of medieval pottery and pig and cow bone (121g).

3.2.24 The only feature in the central area of the site was post-hole **449**, located north of pit **451**. This post-hole measured 0.3m wide and 0.16m deep with vertical sides and a concave base. Its single fill (450) consisted of a mid grey brown clayey silt that contained no finds.

3.2.25 At the southern end of the site were a series of three inter-cutting pits (Plate 6; Section 224, Fig. 9b). A feature was identified (**572**) which had been heavily truncated by a series of pits and ditches, this feature contained a single fill (518) which measured 0.6m deep and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

3.2.26 Cutting the above mentioned feature and the fill of ditch **511** was large pit **513**, which measured 0.8m wide and 0.9m deep with very steep sides and a slightly concave base. This pit contained four fills. The basal fill (514) measured 0.05m thick and consisted of a band of light whitish grey silty clay with gravel inclusions. Overlying this was fill 515, which measured 0.1m thick, and consisted of a mid yellow silty clay that contained. Fill 516 measured 0.2m thick and consisted of a dark blue grey silty clay that contained rare gravel inclusions. This was sealed by the uppermost fill (517), which measured 0.6m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from the pit.

3.2.27 Pit **513** was truncated on the east by pit **519** which measured 1m wide and 0.4m deep with gently sloped sides and a concave base. Its single fill (520) consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay that contained no finds.

3.2.28 Pit **544** was identified to the north of pit **513**, this pit measured 0.8m wide and 0.8m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This pit contained three fills, the basal fill (545) measured 0.1m deep and consisted of a light brown grey silty clay with frequent gravel inclusions. Overlying this was 546 that measured 0.3m thick and consisted of a dark blue grey silty clay. The uppermost fill measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay. None of these fills contained any finds.

3.3 Medieval Phase 2 – 14th - 16th Century

3.3.1 Features assigned to the 14th to 16th centuries were primarily located in two areas at the northern and southern ends of the site, with minimal truncation to the earlier features (Fig. 7). At the northern end was a large well/tank (Tamk 1), pits, a ditch and a possible structure (Structure 2). A large amount of late medieval pottery was recovered from some of these features. At the southern end of the site the partial remains of an enclosure (Enclosure 2) were recorded.

Well/Tank 1

3.3.2 The most prominent feature of Phase 2 was large well or tank **453** exposed along the north-eastern edge of the excavation (Fig. 8)**.** The feature contained a number of fills and a preserved an *in-situ* timber revetment structure at its base (**476**).

3.3.3 The well/tank **453** measured 4m wide and 1.2m deep with gradually sloping sides to the north and steep sides to the south leading to a slightly concave base (Plate 7). The basal fill of the feature (457/565) measured 0.52m deep and consisted of an organic mid grey brown clayey silt that yielded three sherds (264g) of 14th to 15th century pottery, dog bone (36g), brick and tile (3714g) and an iron nail (SF 35). Two architectural fragments thought to be of high status, were also recovered from this fill (Appendix B3, Plate 10). This fill was environmentally sampled and contained seeds from a number of obligate aquatic plants such as pondweed and water crowfoot commonly found growing in wells/waterlogged features (Appendix C1).

3.3.4 Although the basal fill of the well/tank was no longer visibly waterlogged at the time of excavation, it nonetheless preserved the remains of a sub-rectangular wooden structure **476,** measuring 1.70m by 2.25m. Three side of the oak revetment structure survived *in-situ*, with a total of 21 timbers recorded. Each side comprised three upright stakes (spaced between 0.5m-1.0m apart) supporting horizontal planking connected via a combination of iron nails and wooden dowels. At the corners of the revetment, extra timbers including uprights and planks were added for shoring and stability. The pointed ends of the stakes were driven into the underlying gravels to a depth of c. 0.30m, with the largest stake measuring 1.3m (see Appendix B.5)

3.3.5 Fill 456 (same as 492/493) lay above 457. It measured 0.36m deep and consisted of dark blue grey clayey silt that contained a single sherd (1g) of residual 11th to 13th century pottery, a lead spindle whorl (SF 33) and an iron object (SF 37). This fill was environmentally sampled and contained cereal grains and a number of waterlogged remains including hemlock and gyspywort. Brambles and elder were also present. The presence of a grape seed along with evidence of plums and bramble is an indicator that imported fruits were being consumed alongside those found in the wild (Appendix C1).

3.3.6 Fill 455/491 overlay 456 and may have been deliberately placed to cap the feature after use. It measured 0.22m deep and consisted of a mid red brown sandy silt with frequent sub angular stone inclusions. The fill yielded 12 sherds of pottery (495g) dating from the 15th century to the post-medieval period, alongside a variety of animal bone (1261g), and seven iron nails. Ceramic building material comprising five bricks and one flat tile (1687g) dated from the medieval to post-medieval periods. The uppermost fill (454) measured 0.24m deep and consisted of a mid grey brown sandy silt that contained four sherds (54g) of 16th century pottery.

Structure 2

3.3.7 At the north-west corner of the site was a possible rectangular structure (Fig. 7) which was only partially exposed. The structure comprised a continuous beam slot **530/532**, and was aligned north-west to south-east and south-west to north-east.

3.3.8 The east arm of the beam slot (**530**) was aligned north-west to south-east. The exposed section measured 9.3m long, 0.35m wide and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (531) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay that contained no finds. The southern arm (**532**) was aligned north-west to south-east, was exposed for a length of 2.8m and measured 0.35m wide and 0.05m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill (533) consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay that contained no finds.

3.3.9 Within the interior of Structure 2 was a large elongated feature (**537**) which was only partially revealed in the north-east corner of the site. Thought to be a large pit or well, **537** measured at least 1.7m wide and 1.4m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Plate 8. Section 235, Fig. 7). The shape of the features and its position within the beam slot structure suggest the two were related.

3.3.10 Feature **537** contained five fills. The basal fill (538) measured 0.15m deep and consisted of a dark brown grey silty clay that contained 15g of 15th to 16th century pottery, animal bone (20g), a single fragment of medieval tile (58g), a piece of residual Iron Age or Roman quern stone (2058g) and a fragment of copper alloy belt fitting. Overlying this was a band of weathered natural (560) which measured 0.15m deep and consisted of a light brown yellow silty sand with occasional gravel inclusions that contained no finds. Above was fill 561, which measured 0.3m deep and consisted of a dark blue grey silty clay that contained 15g of medieval pottery, animal bone (51g), shell (11g) and an iron object and nails. This fill was environmentally sampled and was found to contain waterlogged remains that included henbane, nettles and docks (Appendix C1). Another slump of natural (fill 562) occurred above 561 and measured 0.4m deep and consisted of a light yellow brown silty clay with occasional gravel inclusions and no finds. Finally the uppermost fill (563) measured 0.6m deep and consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay that contained 11 sherds (156g) of 14th to 15th century pottery, bone, shell and Iron nails. This fill was environmentally sampled and contained carbonised remains including charred mixed cereal grains and peas/beans (Appendix C1).

Enclosure 2

3.3.11 At the southern end of the site part of an enclosure with a curved corner was exposed, aligned broadly north to south and east to west. The northern arm of the enclosure was defined by ditch **501/556** which had an east to west alignment. To the east (**556**) the ditch measured 1.5m wide and 0.5m deep and displayed a splayed v-shape profile (Plate 9; Section 233, Fig. 7). Here, its single fill (557) consisted of a mid grey brown silty clay that contained animal bone (446g).

3.3.12 To the west (**501**), at the junction with the western arm of the enclosure, ditch **501/556** was truncated, with dimensions measuring 0.8m in width and 0.2m in deep. Here the ditch displayed gentle sides and a concave base (Section 220, Fig. 7), with its single fill (502) yielding no finds.

3.3.13 The west arm of the enclosure was defined by north to south aligned ditch **495/497/499/521**. To the north (**499**) the ditch measured 1.4m wide and 0.48m deep with steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill (500) consisted of a mid grey brown silty sand that contained animal bone (17g). The ditch extended beyond the north arm

of the enclosure, ending in a rounded terminus (**495**) measuring 1.18m wide and 0.4m deep that displayed moderate sides and a concave base. Its single fill (496) contained no finds. Where excavated as **497** its single fill (498) contained 377g of animal bone.

3.3.14 Further south the ditch was recorded as **521** where it was much larger and measured 1.5m wide and 0.8m deep with steep sides and a concave base (Section 224, Fig. 7). Here the ditch contained three fills. The basal fill (522) measured 0.15m thick and consisted of a light yellow grey silty clay that contained no finds. Overlying this was fill 523 which measured 0.1m thick and consisted of a dark blue grey silty clay that contained no finds but was environmentally sampled and contained occasional elderberry seeds. The uppermost fill (524) measured 0.5m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay that contained three sherds (137g) of generic medieval pottery and animal bone (48g).

3.3.15 At the southern end of the site the Enclosure 2 ditch was truncated by pit **525** which measured 0.9m wide and 0.5m deep with steep sides and a concave base. This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (526) measured 0.5m thick and consisted of a mid yellow brown silty clay that contained no finds. Overlying this was fill 527 which measured 0.4m thick and consisted of a dark blue grey clayey silt that contained no finds.

3.3.16 A single pit was uncovered within Enclosure 2, immediately south of the northern enclosure arm. Pit **558** measured 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep with gentle sides and a concave base. Its single fill (559) consisted of a mid brown grey silty clay that contained no finds.

Other features

3.3.17 Recorded toward the northern limits of excavation, and sharing the same north-west to south-east alignment as Structure 2, was ditch **528**. The ditch was exposed for a length of 3.1m, and measured 1m wide, 0.3m deep with a square terminal. The ditch displayed steep sides and a flat base and was filled with a single deposit (529) of a mid brown grey silty clay that yielded 10 sherds (144g) of 15th to 16th century pottery, animal bone (10g), oyster shell (10g) and an unidentifiable iron object.

3.3.18 East of the ditch were two pits. Pit **466** measured 0.8m wide and 0.16m deep with gradual sides and a flat base. Its single fill (467) consisted of a mid brown grey sandy silt that contained one sherd (8g) of 15th to 16th century pottery. To the north, Pit **468** measured 0.84m wide and 0.19m deep with moderate sides and a concave base. This pit was only partially exposed and its single fill (469) consisted of a dark brown grey sandy silt that contained no finds.

3.3.19 Only partially uncovered alongside the western limits of excavation was pit **548** which measured 0.44m wide and 0.22m deep. This pit contained two fills, the basal fill (549) consisted of a light red brown sandy silt that contained one sherd (6g) of 14th to 15th century pottery, overlying this was fill 564 which consisted of a mid brown grey sandy silt that contained no finds.

3.4 Finds Summary

3.4.1 A total of 147 sherds (2416g) of pottery was recovered from the site, dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods. However, the vast majority of the pottery was medieval in date, with post-medieval pottery only recovered from the uppermost fill of well/tank **453**. Brick and tile was recovered in small quantities but has also been dated to the medieval period, particularly the 13th to 15th centuries.

3.4.2 A total of 32 metal objects were recovered from site, the majority of which were iron nails. The small number of other artefacts include a lead spindle whorl, a possible iron agricultural implement and a copper alloy belt fitting.

3.4.3 Two pieces of worked stone, thought to be of high status were recovered from fill 565 of tank **453**. A piece of quern stone was also recovered from fill 538 of pit/well **537**. Thirteen pieces of CBM (weighing 5785g) were recovered from three features on site, including a glazed floor tile from tank/well **453** which is thought to be of high status and dates from the 13th to 15th century.

3.4.4 The anaerobic conditions in the well/tank allowed the preservation of two pieces of leather from fill 492 and 21 pieces of wood from structure 476 at the base of tank **453** which comprised planks and stakes.

3.5 Environmental Summary

3.5.1 Environmental remains were preserved in both Phase 1 and 2 features. Phase 1 pits yielded charred cereal grains and legumes. These represent staple foods of the period, with the remaining becoming incorporated into the backfill of features by chance. Phase 2 features, such as well/tank **453** and pit **537,** yielded waterlogged remains which both consisted of weeds that indicate an areas of damp and disturbed ground typically found nearby to wells.

3.5.2 A total of 43 fragments of animal bone were recovered (2962g), 30 of which were identifiable to species although preservation of these varied. Cattle was most prominent with low pig numbers and an absence of birds characteristic of a domestic rural assemblage.

4 Discussion and Conclusions

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 A number of features were uncovered from a small excavation area measuring 35m by 54m, these features comprised pits, ditches, beam slots representing structures and a large well or tank feature containing a wooden structure at its base.

4.1.2 Whilst the full impacts of truncation are difficult to accurately model, the construction and demolition of Central Avenue and the various RAF buildings that stood to the north and south of the road may have truncated the archaeology by at least 0.30-0.40m, with the building footings and services penetrating far deeper into the underlying geology. In fact, around 15% of the area exposed is covered by these deep modern features.

4.1.3 The pottery assemblage recovered from the site indicated two distinct phases of activity. The features identified allows for a discussion of the chronology of the site alongside its possible function which may be related to its location within the vicinity of Brampton Park.

4.2 Chronology

4.2.1 A basic objective of the investigation was to determine whether any distinct phases of occupational activity could be recognised on the site. Pottery has provided key evidence in meeting this objective and coupled with some limited stratigraphic associations and key differences in alignment, two distinct phases of activity can be recognised.

4.2.2 Although less than half (15) of the excavated features produced datable ceramics, this was sufficient to provide a framework for dating the features and attempting to phase them. The earliest pottery includes a residual Thetford ware sherd (from well/tank **537**) indicating a Late Saxon presence but not an identifiable phase of activity. Similarly, pre-12th century activity is hinted at by the recovery of Huntingdonshire Early Medieval wares from pit **443**, these sherds were retrieved alongside later wares in the same context, making it unlikely that the site saw any significant occupation before AD 1100. I

4.2.3 Early medieval wares represented approximately 34% of the assemblage with medieval wares representing 56% and late medieval wares only 10% of the assemblage suggesting the main period of domestic activity fell between the 12th and 14th century. This phase of activity comprised the greatest density of features which also generally followed a north-east to south-west alignment. Undated features that either followed this pattern or were stratigraphically or otherwise spatially associated were assigned to Phase 1.

4.2.4 Although the quantity of material dating to the later medieval/early post-medieval period is far less (approximately 10% of the pottery assemblage) it was found in specific features that both differed from Phase 1 in terms of alignment and also type, being possibly more industrial in character.

Phase 1: 12th-14th century

4.2.5 The features dated to this phase consisted of pits, ditches, beam slots and post-holes. All features that indicate a building and associated features. The remains of the building (Structure 1) comprised four beam slots partially exposed in the centre of the site on a north-east to south-west and north-west to south-east alignment. The beam slots displayed steep or vertical sides with flat bases measuring 0.30m-0.50m wide, but

survived to depths of just 0.10m-0.22m. The exact size and shape of the structure is impossible to reconstruct, as it was completely truncated on its northern side, with the western end falling outside of the excavation area. However, the building was almost certainly rectangular, with the eastern end terminating by the edge of Enclosure 1.

4.2.6 The spatial relationship between Structure 1 and Enclosure 1 certainly suggests that these two components were contemporary. The beam slots **489/460** and **550** were orientated perpendicular to ditch **447/472/487** of Enclosure 1, with the eastern end of the structure neatly aligned on the terminal of the ditch. This itself formed part of the c. 5m wide entrance through Enclosure 1.

4.2.7 Although only partially exposed in the excavation area, the alignment of the ditches suggest that Enclosure 1 was rectilinear in form. The ditches themselves were of slight construction (even allowing for truncation), and measured just 0.65-0.94m wide and 0.10-0.37m deep. The presence of the doubled ditched north-western arm of the may suggest that this boundary was re-cut at some point, though the space between the ditches may equally have been banked and hedged.

4.2.8 The dating of Enclosure 1 and Structure 1 rests on the recovery of just two sherds (43g) from beam slot **489** and ditch **470**, with a combined date range of c. 1050-1400. Almost all of the other features yielding pottery were pits located in the central area of the site. In total, 11 pits (**430**, **432/455**, **434**, **440**, **443**, **451**, **458**, **507**, **513**, **519** and **544**) and two post-holes (**449** and **503**) were assigned to Phase 1, with all but three of the features (pits **513**, **519** and **544**) being distributed across the central area of the site. With the exception of elongated pit **432/455,** all the pits fully exposed in plan were broadly sub-circular, with diameters ranging from 0.78m-1.80m and depths of 0.18m-0.90m.

4.2.9 The pits yielded the bulk of the Phase 1 finds, with the largest assemblage of pottery deriving from pit **443** (60 sherds, 745g – 69% of the Phase 1 pottery by weight). The assemblage includes fragments of at least six different vessels dated 1150-1400, all of which were externally sooted suggesting use in food preparation and cooking. Pit **443** and other Phase 1 pit sampled for environmental remains (**434**, **445**, **451** and **458**) also yielded charred cereal grains and legumes, comprising free-threshing wheat, barley, rye, oats, peas and beans. These represent staple foods that would have been prepared and consumed on a daily basis in the medieval period. Their inclusion in the pits was incidental; grains accidentally charred and incidentally incorporated into generalised waste that was used to fill redundant features. These pits were no doubt conveniently placed to dispose of kitchen waste such as broken pottery, sweeping of charred grains, hearth waste, and other food waste including animal bone.

4.2.10 In general, the quantities of such material are relatively small for a medieval site, which suggests this was not a focus of such activities. Indeed, the primary function of many of the pits in this central area of the site may have been gravel extraction. These pits clustered along a distinct gravel-rich band of natural, this may explain the elongated shape of pit **432/445**, which was perhaps cut to exploit this seam.

4.2.11 The only other features assigned to Phase 1 were ditches **438**, **505** and **511**. Linear ditches **511** and **505** were on a north to south and east to west alignment, whilst ditch **438** was curvilinear in form. However, this ditch appeared to terminate immediately west of **511**, suggesting they are contemporary. The only finds dating this network of ditches were the nine sherds (195g) of pottery recovered from ditch **438** dated 1150-1400.

Phase 2: 15th-16th century

4.2.12 The Phase 2 archaeology was primarily distributed at the northern and southern extremities of the site, away from the central area where most of the Phase 1 activity was located. This shift in focus was accompanied by a change in the composition of feature types, with the Phase 1 emphasis on pitting being less predominant (just five pits in Phase 2 (**466**, **468**, **525**, **548** and **558**) as opposed to 11 in Phase 1. Instead, the principle features of Phase 2 were a beam slot structure (Structure 2) and large well/tank at the northern end of the site, and ditches forming Enclosure 2 at the southern end of the site.

4.2.13 Enclosure 2 was only partially exposed, and was heavily truncated. However, the remaining sections suggest it was loosely rectilinear in shape, albeit with a curved corner, aligned north to south and east to west. The western arm of the enclosure (**495/499/521**) – which had a distinct terminus – was aligned parallel to the Phase 1 ditch **511**, suggesting this boundary may still have been visible. Although a number of slots were excavated into Enclosure 2, only three sherds (137g) of generic medieval pottery dated 1150-1500 were recovered from **521**. With the exception of pit **558**, the interior of the enclosure was also devoid of features, making it difficult to draw any firm conclusions about its function.

4.2.14 Equally enigmatic was Structure 2 at the northern end of the site, again, partially exposed. Defined by beam slot **530/532**, which measured 0.35m wide and just 0.05-0.10m deep, the structure surrounded a large elongated pit/well-type feature **537**. This was at least 1.4m deep. Environmental samples taken from lower fill 561 contained waterlogged plant remains including henbane, nettles and docks, whilst charred cereal grains and peas/beans were recovered from the upper fill 563 alongside 15 sherds (156g) of pottery dating from 1350-1500 and animal bone (180g). The spatial association between the beam slots of Structure 2 and pit/well **537** implies that the two are functionally related, with the beam slot perhaps supporting a timber screen or shed-type building partially enclosing the pit/well. The alignment of ditch **528** to the east also followed that of Structure 2 and the elongated form of pit/well **537**, suggesting contemporaneity.

4.2.15 The largest and most impressive feature of Phase 2 was well/tank **453,** located at the northern end of the site. This feature contained a series of use and disuse fills overlying the preserved remnants of a once rectangular wooden revetment structure (**476**) at its base. The structure was formed from re-used oaks, planks and stakes. Grooved gauges, housing and round nail/dowel holes were recorded on the timbers. These are typical of medieval carpentry techniques, and relate to the previous use of the timbers in buildings or carts. Such expedient re-use of wood was common place, and whilst it is tempting to suggest that the timbers derived from an abandoned building close by, such as Structure 1, this cannot be proved.

4.2.16 Also uncertain is the exact function of well/tank **453**. Whilst clearly constructed as a water holding feature, it appears too small to be a well, but has no base or lining characteristic of a tank. A number of these wood lined and unlined tanks have been excavated in Huntingdon (Thatcher 2015; forthcoming) although none were preserved as well as the example here. Likewise, it is plausible that the water was used in some industrial process, but there are no obvious indications from artefact repertoire recovered from the site to gauge what this might have been.

4.2.17 The lower fills of **453** (456 and 457) contained pottery dating to the 14th and 15th centuries. Environmental samples from these yielded evidence of aquatic plants such as pond weed and water crowfoot, and egg cases of water fleas indicative of stagnant

water. Fill 456 also contained a grape seed and four plum stones and bramble seeds, the finding of which indicates the consumption of imported food in addition to those sourced locally. Other finds of note from lower fills include two pieces of architectural stone, comprising a fragment of a possible granite column and Greensand column base. These were accompanied by pieces of brick and floor tile, indicating the presence of a high status building in the vicinity. Two leather shoe repair patches were also recovered, the most complete example deriving from the heel end of a left foot shoe sole.

4.2.18 The lower fills of the well were capped by a dump of gravel (455), which marks the final abandonment of the feature. Ceramics recovered from this deposit and that immediately above (454) yielded the largest Phase 2 pottery assemblage comprising 33 sherds (810g) derived from a minimum of 23 different vessels. As with the Phase 1 assemblage, the wares are largely utilitarian, the date of which suggests the well/tank was capped/closed post-c.1550.

4.3 The Nature of Activities on the Site

4.3.1 The second objective of the investigation was to determine whether the material and environmental evidence from the site, in particular the well/tank, tell us anything about the nature of activities being carried out here during the medieval period.

4.3.2 The narrow window of the excavation, coupled with the high degree of truncation, inevitably limits the possibility of understanding the nature of activities and the function of different features at the site. That being said, sufficient evidence survives to provide a general impression of the site and the character of occupation.

4.3.3 As summarised above, the key components of the Phase 1 site were a beam slot structure (Structure 1), a ditched enclosure (Enclosure 1) with various external ditches, and an area of pitting located toward the centre of the site. The paucity of finds from Structure 1, the adjacent ditches of Enclosure 1, and indeed most of the pits in close proximity, suggest that the building was unlikely to be a domestic dwelling. Instead, the layout and character of the features, and the nature of the find assemblages imply that the site may have been located towards the edge of a settlement focus, perhaps backing onto field boundaries represented by Enclosure 1 and other ditches.

4.3.4 In terms of the pottery recovered, the Phase 1 assemblage is small (80 sherds, 1080g) and includes vessels used in the processing of food and drink; fragments of a rural, domestic kitchen-table repertoire. Whilst deposits such as that from pit **443** suggest material derived from deliberate rubbish deposition associated with adjacent occupation, the condition of pottery from other features could have resulted from incidental inclusion via middens or manuring practices.

4.3.5 A similar picture emerges from the environmental record, with only a small faunal assemblage recovered. This includes bones of cattle, sheep/goat, pig and dog/fox, with hints that livestock was raised in the vicinity. Equally, small quantities of charred grains, weed seeds and legumes were retried from samples taken from the Phase 1 pits. Like most of the pottery, this material appears to have become incidentally caught in the backfill of features, blown or swept in during processing activities or simple waste disposal. Again, the activities themselves are likely to have been spatially removed from the site, adding to the impression that the main focus of domestic occupation lay elsewhere.

4.3.6 In terms of proximity to settlement, the evidence from Phase 2 is broadly comparable; the principle features of this phase being the beam slot structure (Structure 2), a

second ditched enclosure (Enclosure 2), and the large pit/tank features **453** and **537.** As discussed above, Structure 2 was not a domestic building, but is likely to have been a shed or screen around pit/well **537**, which was only partially exposed. Indeed, few of the features from this phase yielded finds or significant environmental remains, except well/tank **453**.

4.3.7 This feature is the main source of information about the nature of activity in Phase 2. The waterlogged environmental remains from its fills create a picture of damp, disturbed ground, growing with nettles, thistles and dock. The finds assemblages is the most varied, but is again characterised by a detritus from typical domestic activities – the artefacts mostly relating to the residues of cooking and consumption. The pottery was dominated by coarsewares with fragments of various kichenware vessels typical of the period, whilst the faunal assemblages was livestock dominated. Butchery was recorded on a number of the bones, with cattle-sized ribs cut in to pot sized pieces for cooking and consumption, with other cut and chop marks indicative of meat removal and marrow extraction. In all, this is characteristic of domestic waste generated from medieval occupation, but is relatively small, suggesting a fairly peripheral location, and the dumping of rubbish in a redundant feature.

4.4 Relationship with Brampton House

4.4.1 Given the location of the excavation it was thought that medieval features may have been associated with Brampton House.The history of Brampton Park, and probably that of the house, goes back to the 12th century, and was originally referred to as a manor (Page and Proby 1936). No details are known about the first house or its exact location, but by 1328 it had reportedly fallen into disrepair and ruin (Page and Proby 1936).

4.4.2 The medieval remains uncovered in the excavations along Central Avenue are contemporary with the first historic records of the house. Whilst there was no direct evidence for the house itself in the area examined, nor in that from previous archaeological investigations at RAF Brampton (Stocks-Morgan 2015; Nicholls 2016), the remains exposed could relate to a wider manorial complex of buildings, fixtures and other dwellings likely to have existed in its vicinity. The overall character of the archaeology (discussed above) is one of non-domestic buildings and features on the edge of a settlement focus. In fact most of the finds are largely typical of a generalised medieval occupation, and would not be indicative of a high status presence. Yet, this is perhaps to be expected in an area away from the manor house itself, likely to have been used for a range of utilitarian activities based around everyday demands of agrarian and domestic tasks.

4.4.3 That being said, there are indications of proximity to a higher status dwelling. The evidence came in the form of the fragments of 13th-15th century brick, tile and architectural worked stone recovered from well/tank **453**. The most notable items included the fragment of a green-glazed medieval floor tile, and two pieces of worked stone that were possibly part of a decorative column and column base. These were expensive fittings in a medieval building, suggesting they probably derived from the manor house itself, perhaps during the period in which it fell into a ruinous state.

4.4.4 Other tempting links between the archaeology and history of Brampton House and Park relate to the end of activity in the excavation area. The last datable event at the sites was the deliberate backfilling and capping of well/tank **453** with a dump of gravel (fill 455/491). The pottery recovered from this layer suggests that the infilling took place in mid to late 16th century, with no later activity recorded across the whole site. This date broadly coincides with the time that the Throckmorton family acquired the park and

rebuilt the house (Page and Proby 1936), suggesting the two events may be linked in a wider programme of estate reorganisation.

4.5 Conclusion

4.5.1 Despite heavy truncation, this small excavation has identified the first significant area of medieval activity at the former RAF base, contemporary with the earliest records of Brampton House. The excavations along Central Avenue revealed an area of medieval occupation with two phases of activity that began in the 12th century and ended in the 16th century. Both included non-domestic structures, ditched enclosures and pits of varying magnitude and density, interpreted as lying toward the periphery of a manorial complex of the first Brampton House. Overall, this small excavation has allowed the first identification of activity contemporary with the earliest record of Brampton House which continues into the 15th and 16th centuries until Brampton House was rebuilt.

4.5.2 The earliest phase of activity was dated to the 12th-14th centuries, with remains including a remnant beam slot structure, a swathe of pits possibly dug for gravel extraction, and the corner of a ditched rectilinear field plot. The recovered finds assemblage was small but typical of the rural occupation in medieval period, with waste from the cooking and consumption of food and drink.

4.5.3 Use of the site continued into the 15th and 16th centuries, although the orientation of the ditches and structure indicate that the site was reorganised, and possibly took on a different use. There was no further gravel pitting, but two large well/tanks features were constructed, the exact function of which remains uncertain. In terms of wider location, the activities still appear to have been on the periphery of a domestic-settlement focus, though a greater range of finds were recovered, including tiles, stones brink which probably derived from the original Brampton House itself.

4.5.4 Activity at the site ceased in the 16th century with the capping of well/tank **453**. This date is thought to be significant as it coincides with the time that Throckmorton family acquired the park and rebuilt Brampton House. The backfilling of the well/tanks **453** may therefore have been associated with this wider programme of building and reorganisation of the estate.

Appendix A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory

Context	Same as	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Phase
430		**430**	cut	pit	rubbish pit	0.89	0.18	1
431		**430**	fill	pit	natural silting	0.89	0.18	1
432	445	**432**	cut	ditch	boundary?	1.1	0.29	1
433		**432**	fill	ditch	disuse	1.1	0.29	1
434		**434**	cut	pit	unknown	1.2	0.86	1
435		**434**	fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.4	1
436		**434**	fill	pit	use	1.2	0.27	1
437		**434**	fill	pit	disuse	1	0.19	1
438		**438**	cut	ditch	boundary?	1.6	0.28	1
439		**438**	fill	ditch	disuse	1.6	0.28	1
440		**440**	cut	pit	unknown	1.8	0.6	1
441		**440**	fill	pit	disuse	1.6	0.4	1
442		**440**	fill	pit	disuse	1.4	0.2	1
443		**443**	cut	pit	rubbish?	1.15	0.28	1
444		**443**	fill	pit	natural silting	1.15	0.28	1
445	432	**445**	cut	ditch terminus	unknown	1.14	0.48	1
446		**445**	fill	ditch terminus	disuse	1.14	0.48	1
447		**447**	cut	gully	unknown	0.65	0.1	1
448		**447**	fill	gully	disuse	0.65	0.1	1
449		**449**	cut	post hole	structural	0.3	0.16	1
450		**449**	fill	post hole	disuse	0.3	0.16	1
451		**451**	cut	pit	storage?	1.65	0.58	1
452		**451**	fill	pit	disuse	1.65	0.58	1
453		**453**	cut	pit/well	well	4	1.2	2
454		**453**	fill	well	capping	4	0.24	2
455		**453**	fill	well	capping	4	0.22	2
456		**453**	fill	well	disuse	4	0.36	2
457	491	**453**	fill	well	disuse	4	0.52	2
458		**458**	cut	pit	unknown	0.78	0.26	1
459		**458**	fill	pit	disuse	0.78	0.26	1
460	489	**0**	cut	slot	structural	0.4	0.16	1
461		**460**	fill	slot	disuse	0.4	0.16	1
462		**462**	cut	post hole	structural?	0.24	0.18	1
463		**462**	fill	post hole	disuse	0.24	0.18	1
464		**464**	cut	post hole	structural?	0.26	0.18	1
465		**464**	fill	post hole	disuse	0.26	0.18	1
466		**466**	cut	pit	unknown	0.8	0.16	2
467		**466**	fill	pit	disuse	0.8	0.16	2
468		**468**	cut	pit	unknown	0.84	0.19	2
469		**468**	fill	pit	disuse	0.84	0.19	2
470	485	**470**	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure	0.94	0.37	1
471		**470**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.94	0.37	1
472	487	**472**	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure	0.78	0.28	1
473		**472**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.78	0.28	1
474		**474**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.3	0.14	1
475		**474**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.3	0.14	1
476		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment/shoring	2.25	0.7	2

Context	Same as	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Phase
477		**453**	timber	tank	revetment	0.1	0.04	2
478		**453**	timber	tank		0.32	0.03	2
479		**453**	timber	tank	revetment	0.15		2
480		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.32	0.04	2
481		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.2	0.03	2
482		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment	0.12	0.04	2
483		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment	0.12	0.08	2
484		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment	0.16	0.07	2
485	470	**485**	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure	0.84	0.22	1
486		**485**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.84	0.22	1
487	472	**487**	cut	ditch	boundary/enclosure	0.72	0.24	1
488		**487**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.72	0.24	1
489	460	**489**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.48	0.22	1
490		**489**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.48	0.22	1
491	455	**453**	fill	well	disuse			2
492	456	**453**	fill	well	disuse			2
493	456	**453**	fill	well	disuse			2
494		**453**	fill	well	disuse			2
495	497, 499	**495**	cut	ditch terminus	boundary?	1.18	0.4	2
496		**495**	fill	ditch terminus	disuse	1.18	0.4	2
497	495, 499	**497**	cut	ditch	enclosure	1.12	0.38	2
498		**497**	fill	ditch	disuse	1.12	0.38	2
499	495, 497	**499**	cut	ditch	enclosure	1.4	0.48	2
500		**499**	fill	ditch	disuse	1.4	0.48	2
501		**501**	cut	ditch	enclosure	0.8	0.2	2
502		**501**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.8	0.2	2
503		**503**	cut	post hole	structural	0.55	0.1	1
504		**503**	fill	post hole	disuse	0.55	0.1	1
505		**505**	cut	ditch	unknown	0.64	0.15	1
506		**505**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.64	0.15	1
507		**507**	cut	pit	unknown	1.16	0.32	1
508		**507**	fill	pit	disuse	1.16	0.32	1
509		**509**	cut	ditch	unknown	0.84	0.24	1
510		**509**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.84	0.24	1
511		**511**	cut	ditch	enclosure	0.7	0.2	1
512		**511**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.7	0.2	1
513		**513**	cut	pit	lime processing?	0.8	0.9	1
514		**513**	fill	pit	disuse	0.6	0.05	1
515		**513**	fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.1	1
516		**513**	fill	pit	disuse	0.75	0.2	1
517		**513**	fill	pit	disuse	0.8	0.6	1
518		**0**	layer	redeposited natural	spread	1	0.6	1
519		**519**	cut	pit	lime processing?	1	0.4	1
520		**519**	fill	pit	disuse	1	0.4	1
521		**521**	cut	ditch	unknown	1.5	0.8	2
522		**521**	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.15	2
523		**521**	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.1	2
524		**521**	fill	ditch	disuse	1	0.5	2
525		**525**	cut	pit	unknown	0.9	0.5	2

Context	Same as	Cut	Category	Feature Type	Function	Breadth	Depth	Phase
526		**525**	fill	pit	disuse	0.9	0.5	2
527		**525**	fill	pit	disuse	0.4	0.4	2
528		**528**	cut	ditch terminus	boundary?	1	0.3	2
529		**528**	fill	ditch terminus	disuse	1	0.3	2
530		**539**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.35	0.1	2
531		**530**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.35	0.1	2
532		**532**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.35	0.05	2
533		**532**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.35	0.05	2
534		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment	0.08	0.03	2
535		**453**	timber	tank/well	revetment	0.06		2
536		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.16	0.08	2
537		**537**	cut	pit/well	unknown	1.7	1.4	2
538		**537**	fill	pit/well	use?	0.6	0.15	2
539		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.12	0.14	2
540		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.2	0.03	2
541		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.12	0.06	2
542		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.14	0.05	2
543		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.1	0.04	2
544		**544**	cut	pit	unknown	0.8	0.8	1
545		**544**	fill	pit	disuse	0.5	0.1	1
546		**544**	fill	pit	disuse	0.6	0.3	1
547		**544**	fill	pit	disuse	0.8	0.4	1
548		**548**	cut	ditch	unknown	0.44	0.22	1
549		**548**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.44	0.06	1
550		**550**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.3	0.2	1
551		**550**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.3	0.2	1
552		**552**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.4	0.1	1
553		**552**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.4	0.1	1
554		**554**	cut	beam slot	structural	0.5	0.15	1
555		**554**	fill	beam slot	disuse	0.5	0.15	1
556		**556**	cut	ditch	enclosure	1.5	0.5	2
557		**556**	fill	ditch	disuse	1.5	0.5	2
558		**558**	cut	pit	unknown	0.7	0.25	2
559		**558**	fill	pit	disuse	0.7	0.25	2
560		**537**	fill	pit/well	disuse	1	0.15	2
561		**537**	fill	pit/well	disuse	1.1	0.3	2
562		**537**	fill	pit/well	disuse	1.7	0.4	2
563		**537**	fill	pit/well	disuse	1.7	0.6	2
564		**548**	fill	ditch	disuse	0.44	0.14	1
565		**453**	fill	well	disuse			2
566		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.28	0.03	2
567		**453**	timber	well/tank	revetment	0.1	0.8	2
570		**453**	timber	tank	revetment	0.16	0.02	2
571		**453**	timber	tank	revetment	0.08	0.01	2

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By James Fairbairn

Introduction and methodology

B.1.1 The small finds assemblage comprises of four objects; a lead spindle whorl of medieval date, A belt fitting of probable medieval date, one small iron nail and a large unidentifiable iron object.

B.1.2 A further 28 small iron objects with a total weight of 260g were recorded in five different contexts (Table 2). These comprised of small nails and two unidentifiable pieces of fragmentary iron. All pieces were heavily corroded and concreted.

Results

B.1.3 SF 33 (Fill 456, Cut **453**) A lead alloy spindle whorl of medieval date. The objects is circular in plan with a convex base and a central circular perforation which is slightly offset of 11mm. The weight is undecorated and has a grey patina. Similar examples of spindle whorls have reportedly been found in contexts dated from the Roman through to the Post-Medieval period although the majority are typically dated broadly to the medieval period c.1100-1500. Diameter: 33mm, Width: 10mm, Weight 49.85g.

B.1.4 SF 35 (Fill 457, Cut **453**) A complete cast iron nail or tack of medieval. The nail has a flattened circular head and a circular shaft. The shaft tapers to a worn point. The length is 26mm, the width is 6mm and the weight 2.14g.

B.1.5 SF 37 (Fill 493, Cut **453**) A heavily corroded and concreted unidentified iron object found within well fill 493. The object is incomplete. A broken circular elbow is flattened to form a prong which tapers to a blunt point. The object resembles a fork prong and probably belongs to a small agricultural implement. Length: 134mm, Width: 7mm, Thickness 7mm, Weight: 186g.

B.1.6 SF 38 (Fill 538, Cut **537**) A crude copper alloy medieval, single sheet strap end dating to the period AD 1350-1600. The strap end is rectangular and consists of a single metal sheet folded lengthways with the corners folded over. It is of a rectangular shape, with two rivet holes punched through near the upper edge. One of the rivets is still in place. A larger hole is located centrally toward the end of the object. The strap end is smooth and undecorated and the rear has been left unfinished. This suggest a purely utilitarian use. The strap end measures. Length: 35.5mm, Width: 34mm, Thickness 2.5mm, Weight: 13.47g.

Small Find Number	Cut	Context Number	Material	Object Name	Total No. of items	Other Comments
33	**453**	456	Pb (lead)	Spindle whorl	1	
35	**453**	457	Fe (iron)	Nail	1	
37	**453**	493	Fe (iron))	Iron object	1	Possible agricultural implement
38	**537**	538	Cu alloy	Fitment	1	Belt fitting

Table 2: Small Finds

Context	Cut	Objects	Quantity	Weight (g)	Comments
455	**453**	Nails	4	36.06	
491=455	**453**	Nails	3	32.04	
529	**528**	Unidentifiable iron object	1	53.45	Iron object with protruding nail
561	**537**	Unidentifiable iron object and nails	7	131.33	
563	**537**	Nails	14		

Table 3: Other metal finds by context

B.2 Medieval Pottery

By Carole Fletcher

Introduction and methodology

B.2.1 The excavations produced a small-moderate pottery assemblage of 147 sherds, weighing 2.416kg, including unstratified material. The assemblage is predominantly medieval, dating from the 12th to the end of the 15th century. Also present are a small number of Late Saxon-early medieval sherds, a quantity of early medieval pottery, and a small assemblage of late medieval and post-medieval fabrics.

B.2.2 The condition of the overall assemblage is moderately abraded to abraded. The sherds originating from occupation close to the area of excavation have undergone some reworking and represent rubbish disposal on the site. The average sherd weight is moderate at approximately 16g. For the purpose of this report the total phased and stratified assemblage is 145 sherds, weighing 2.366kg.

Methodology

B.2.3 The Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP), The Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG), 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology* and the MPRG *A guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (MPRG, 1998) act as standards.

B.2.4 Recording was carried out using OA East's in-house system based on that previously used at the Museum of London. Fabric classification has been carried out for all previously described medieval and post-medieval types using where appropriate Cambridgeshire's type series (Spoerry 2016). All sherds have been counted, classified and weighed on a context-by-context basis. The assemblage is recorded here in a summary catalogue. The pottery, full catalogue and archive are curated by Oxford Archaeology East until formal deposition.

Sampling Bias

B.2.5 The open area excavation was carried out by hand and selection made through standard sampling strategies on a feature by feature basis. There are not expected to be any inherent biases. Where bulk samples have been processed for environmental remains, there has also been some recovery of pottery. Where there is no other dating evidence available these have been recorded if possible; otherwise these small quantities of pottery are abraded, undiagnostic, not closely datable and are therefore not considered in this report.

The Assemblage

B.2.6 Ceramic fabric abbreviations used in the summary catalogue and the total sherd count and weight of all fabrics (including unstratified material) are given in Table 1.

Fabric Name	Fabric Code	Minimum Number of Vessels (MNV)	No. Sherds	Weight (kg)
Bourne 'D' ware	BOND	3	3	0.041
Colne type ware from Caxton and Bourn	CONCAX	1	2	0.059
Developed St Neots	DNEOT	1	1	0.018

Fabric Name	Fabric Code	Minimum Number of Vessels (MNV)	No. Sherds	Weight (kg)
East Anglian Redwares	EAR	1	1	0.005
East Anglian Redwares/ East Anglian Redwares (late medieval)	EAR/LEAR	1	1	0.014
Frechen Stoneware	FREC	1	1	0.006
Huntingdon Late Medieval Calcareous ware	HUNCAL	2	2	0.018
Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware	HUNEMW	9	52	0.795
Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware/Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware	HUNEMW/HUNFSW	2	2	0.014
Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware	HUNFSW	3	3	0.051
Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy wares	OSW	7	12	0.179
Late Medieval Reduced ware	LMR	3	4	0.057
Lyveden A ware	LYVA	7	21	0.201
Lyveden/Stanion glazed ware (Lyveden B)	LYST	1	1	0.029
Medieval Sandy Coarseware	MSW	8	10	0.160
Medieval Sandy Grey ware	MSGW	5	16	0.258
Post-Medieval Black Glazed ware	PMBL	1	1	0.114
Post-Medieval Redware	PMR	1	1	0.012
Shelly wares	SHW	5	9	0.088
Thetford ware	THET	1	1	0.033
Unprovenanced Glazed ware	UPG	1	3	0.264
Total		**64**	**147**	**2.416**

Table 4: Pottery fabrics present in the assemblage including unstratified material

Pottery By Ceramic Period

B.2.7 A small amount of Late Saxon-early medieval pottery was recorded, a single sherd from a Thetford ware jar, recovered from pit/well **537** and forming less than 2% of the total assemblage by weight. It is unusual that no Stamford or St Neots wares were recovered as, alongside Thetford ware, these fabrics form the triumvirate of Late Saxon fabrics that are found across much of Cambridgeshire in the 10th-12th centuries.

B.2.8 This sherd may indicate some low levels of Late Saxon activity in the vicinity of the site. However it is possible that the Thetford ware is post-conquest and dates from the mid

11th century. No features of Late Saxon date were identified within the area of excavation.

B.2.9 Early medieval wares were also present, forming approximately 34% of the total assemblage (by weight). These are mainly Huntingdonshire Early Medieval wares, representing a minimum of nine vessels. The presence of early medieval fabrics indicate some level of pre-12th century occupation nearby, and pre-12th century features were identified within the area of excavation. The majority of the early medieval sherds (43 sherds weighing 0.623kg) were recovered from pit **443**, representing a minimum of three vessels. The feature also contained slightly later material. The amount of pottery recovered suggests mainly middening scatters and possibly rubbish deposition within pit **443**.

B.2.10 Medieval fabrics (*c*.1150-1500) comprise approximately 56% of the assemblage by weight, representing a minimum of 43 vessels (MNV), recovered from a wide range of features across the site. There are a limited number of medieval glazed sherds within the assemblage, representing an MNV of only two, including a single sherd from an East Anglian Redware jug and Unprovenanced Glazed ware jug sherds. Unglazed vessels predominate, including jugs, with coarseware fabrics the most common. These include Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware, Lyveden A-type ware, Medieval Sandy Greywares, Medieval Sandy Coarsewares and two sherds from a Colne-type ware (from Caxton and Bourn) bowl. The redwares present in the assemblage have, unless a specific fabric identification was made, been grouped together as East Anglian redwares. These redwares form part of a medieval tradition across East Anglia that continues into the late medieval and post-medieval period and includes the various redwares produced over much of Essex.

B.2.11 Within the medieval assemblage are a small number of Huntingdon Late Medieval Calcareous ware sherds (*c*.1300-1450), however, definitively late medieval ceramics (within the medieval assemblage) are present only in moderate numbers, approximately 10% of the total assemblage by weight. These include Late Medieval Reduced ware and Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy wares. In addition to the medieval assemblage, Bourne 'D' ware sherds (*c*.1430-1630) were recovered, although the other material these sherds were recovered with suggests they are 16th century or later and they have been recorded as part of the post-medieval assemblage. Post-medieval fabrics comprise approximately 7% of the assemblage by weight, and include a single Post-medieval redware sherd, a Post-Medieval Black Glazed ware sherd and a single sherd of Frechen stoneware. There are no 18th-20th century ceramics; the single sherd of Post-medieval Redware is likely to be mid 16th-17th century, suggesting the site was not used for domestic refuse deposition after 1650-1700.

Provenance

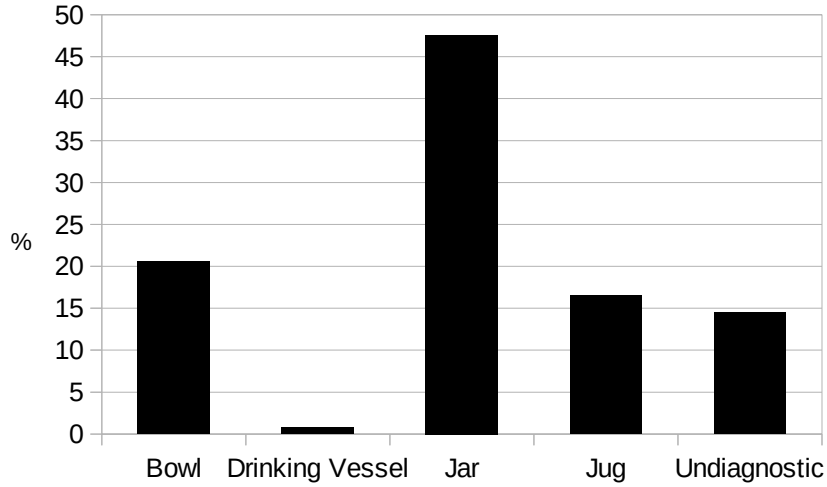
B.2.12 There is a moderate range of fabrics of local and non-local origin present in the assemblage from a limited range of sources with one obvious exception - there are few imported wares. A single sherd of Frechen forms the entire imported assemblage.

B.2.13 The bulk of the assemblage is from Cambridgeshire and includes Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware, Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware, Huntingdon Late Medieval Calcareous ware and Colne-type ware from Caxton and Bourn. Much of the assemblage, consisting mainly of coarsewares, could not be assigned a specific origin. For these fabrics, the exact origins of which could not be pinpointed, the ‘catch-all’ terms of Medieval Sandy Coarseware and Medieval Sandy Greyware have been used. These fabrics are most common in the High Medieval period but their occurrence

probably spans the 12th to 15th centuries and includes pottery made in multiple locations. Pottery from Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire is also present, yet there are few if any glazed wares, while coarsewares from these same pottery production areas are present. These ratios suggest this is a kitchen-table assemblage, possibly of only moderate status. The low levels of medieval glazed wares supports this and the paucity of imported wares and lack of mid 18th century and later pottery, indicate the site was little used by the end of the 16th century.

Form

B.2.14 The vessels present in the assemblage are primarily domestic in nature, comprising mainly jars (approximately 48% of the assemblage by weight), followed by bowls (approximately 21%), with jugs only making up approximately 17% of the assemblage; the majority of these were unglazed vessels. No specialised vessel forms were identified and the overall medieval assemblage appears to be domestic, perhaps representing a rural kitchen-table group.



Graph 1: Vessel form present as a percentage of the entire assemblage by weight

The Assemblage In Relation to Archaeological Features

B.2.15 The site was divided into two main periods. Table 2 indicates the size of the assemblage within each period both periods.

Phase	Date Range	No. Sherds	Weight (kg)	MNV	% of Assemblage by weight (kg)
Medieval Phase 1	12th-14th century	80	1.08	19	46
Medieval Phase 2	14th-16th century	65	1.29	43	54

Table 5: Pottery assemblage by stratigraphic period and phase

B.2.16 The levels of residuality are difficult to address, in particular as the production dates of some fabrics present span both Phase 1 and 2, this factor also results in low levels of apparent intrusiveness.

B.2.17 The size of both phases by weight is similar, however it is clear that there are a greater number of vessels represented in Phase 2, including glazed wares absent in Phase 1. Although represented by fewer sherds, the pottery from Phase 1 may relate to

deliberate rubbish deposition associated with occupation close to the area of excavation or use of Structure 1. The material from Phase 2 may also relate to general rubbish deposition, with the material recovered from the well **453** relating to casual loss or deliberate deposition at the end of the feature's life. The remaining material recovered was probably the result of middening and manuring with the incorporation of the material into a wide range of features. The bulk of the material in both phases is domestic kitchen-table wares.

Phase 1 (c.12th-14th century)

Structure 1

B.2.18 Pottery was recovered from a single beam slot associated with this structure, the fill of **489** produced a single, moderately abraded base sherd from a Developed St Neots-type ware (*c*.1050-1250) vessel. Post hole **462**, also associated with the structure, produced a sooted body sherd from a Shelly ware jar (*c*.1150-1500). It is possible that both of these sherds could be residual and have become incorporated into the features after their abandonment and are therefore not reliable dating for the structure.

Enclosure 1

B.2.19 The features that define or relate to this enclosure produced some pottery. Ditch **470** produced a rim sherd from a Lyveden A-type ware bowl, which was sooted externally suggesting it was used for the preparation of food.

Other Features

B.2.20 Ditch **438** produced nine sherds of pottery (0.195kg, MNV 4) including two Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware jars the rim forms of which are near identical to a vessel illustrated in *The Production and Distribution of Medieval Pottery in Cambridgeshire*, 'hand-built., wheel finished jar with an everted externally thickened rounded rim' (Spoerry 2016, EM136, 151, fig 9.32). 'Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware is found in quantities in Huntingdon and in most settlement centres within a 10–15km distance of the town […] (with) Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware being manufactured in Huntingdon itself' (Spoerry 2016,148). Pit **440** also produced a sherd of Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware.

B.2.21 Pit **430** produced two sherds of Medieval Sandy Coarseware, including a sooted jar sherd. Pit **434** also produced two sherds of pottery from a Lyveden A-type ware vessel recovered from sample <127>.

B.2.22 Pit **443** contained the largest assemblage of pottery recovered from Phase 1. The single fill produced 60 sherds of pottery, representing a MNV of 6 vessels, of which 43 sherds (0.623kg) were from a minimum of three Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware jars. Also present were Lyveden A-type ware jar sherds and sherds from a Shelly ware bowl. All the vessels were sooted externally and were most likely used in the preparation, cooking and possibly serving of food. Pit **458** contained two sherds of Medieval Sandy Coarseware recovered from sample <133>.

B.2.23 With the exception of pit **443**, the amount of pottery recovered suggests that although this assemblage is domestic in nature, the buildings from which it derives are close to, but not within, the area of excavation.

Phase 2 (c.14th-16th Century)

B.2.24 The larger assemblage from this phase produced a wider range of fabrics than present in Phase 1 and again the bulk of the assemblage was recovered from a single feature, a

well as opposed to the pit in Phase 1, again this suggests that the occupation to which this material may relate is not within the area of excavation.

B.2.25 At the northern end of the site, the beam slots that formed Structure 2 contained no pottery, however feature **537**, which the excavator describes as being encompassed by Structure 2 (Section 3.3.6), did produce pottery from three contexts, of which the basal fill (538) produced a small residual sherd of Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware and a body sherd from a Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy ware vessel. The majority of the pottery was recovered from the upper fill (563), 11 sherds weighing 0.156kg, and representing a MNV of 9 and included a single sherd from a Thetford-type ware jar, alongside other residual sherds from Huntingdonshire Early Medieval ware vessels. Also present was a sherd from a Huntingdonshire Fen Sandy ware and a Late Medieval Reduced ware bowl. Overall the context dates to the mid 14th-end of the 15th century. However, most of the material is moderately abraded and none could be considered primary deposition.

B.2.26 A large well, **453**, produced the largest assemblage from this phase producing 33 sherds weighing 0.810kg representing an MNV of 23, including material from the capping contexts 454 and 455. These contexts both contained post-medieval pottery suggesting that the well was capped post-*c*.1550. Context 454 produced a single sherd from a Post-Medieval Redware drinking vessel alongside Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy wares and a residual sherd from a Huntingdonshire Early Medieval vessel. In context 455 the assemblage was more mixed. Material present includes a sherd from an East Anglian Redware jug, three sherds from Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy ware bowl and a Bourne 'D' ware jar. The latest material recovered from this context was a sherd from a Post-Medieval Black Glazed ware baluster jug and the only sherd of imported ware recovered from the excavation, a sherd from a Frechen Stoneware (*c*.1550-1700) a drinking vessel. Context 457 produced three glazed sherds from a 14th century or later pedestalled bowl.

B.2.27 Context 491 is the equivalent of 455. The context contained a wide range of material of medieval date including some late medieval fabrics (13 sherds weighing 0.238kg, MNV of six). The assemblage included a sherd from the strap handle of a Medieval Sandy Greyware jug, a rim from a Lyveden A-type ware jar, and a rim sherd from a Huntingdon Late Medieval Calcareous ware (*c*.1300-1450) jar. Also present were two sherds from a flared bowl, tentatively identified as Colne-type ware from Caxton and Bourn (*c*.1300-1400). The latest pottery present within the context is a single sherd from a Bourne 'D' ware vessel (*c*.1430-1650).

B.2.28 At the southern end of the site, Enclosure 2 only produced pottery from the southern ditch **521**, from the upper fill, context 523, which contained sherds from a Medieval Sandy Greyware jug and jar. This type of pottery was in production between the mid 12th and the end of the 15th century and as a result may be contemporary with the feature, or residual material incorporated into the upper fill.

Other features

B.2.29 Ditch **528**, produced 10 sherds of pottery (MNV of five) including sherds from a Medieval Sandy Greyware jug, a Medieval Sandy Coarseware bowl and four sherds from a Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy ware flared bowl and pit **466** which also produced a sherd from a Late Medieval Oxidised Sandy ware bowl. For both features the pottery suggests a date of mid 15th-mid 16th century.

Discussion

B.2.30 Being domestic in nature, the assemblage suggests that there was some early medieval activity close to the area of excavation, with activity continuing until some time after the end of the 16th century. The overlapping dates of the phases rather blur the lines regarding the main period of pottery deposition as the production dates for many of the fabrics span Phase 1 and 2, as previously stated.

B.2.31 The whole assemblage is predominantly composed of vessels used in the processing of food and drink, with few glazed vessels suggesting that the Phase 1 assemblage is perhaps a rural domestic kitchen-table group rather than relating to the 12th-13th century Brampton House. If the assemblage was of manorial status it would likely have contained a greater number of glazed 13th century and later vessels.

B.2.32 The Phase 2 also contains few glazed vessels and is again one used for processing of food and drink and, although this is the larger assemblage, it is still relatively small, suggesting that the focus of occupation lay elsewhere. Most assemblages from sites that are active during the late 15th through to the end of the 16th century produce moderate assemblages of imported stonewares, sherds of *Raeren* (1480-1550) and more commonly *Frechen* (1550-1700). The presence of only a single sherd of Frechen and the relatively small number of post-medieval sherds suggest a change of land use, which did happen in the 16th century with the acquisition of the land by the Throckmorton family.

Pottery Catalogue

Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	MNV	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight	Assessment date range for context
431	**430**	MSW		1	1	0.028	1150-1500
		MSW	Jar	1	1	0.032	
436	**434**	LYVA		1	2	0.008	1150-1400
439	**438**	HUNEMW		1	1	0.017	1150-1400
		HUNEMW	Jar	2	4	0.138	
		SHW	Jar	1	4	0.040	
441	**440**	HUNEMW		1	1	0.004	1050-1200
444	**443**	HUNEMW	Jar	3	43	0.623	1150-1400
		LYVA	Jar	2	15	0.105	
		SHW	Bowl	1	2	0.017	
454	**453**	HUNEMW/HUNFSW		1	1	0.013	1580-1650
		OSW		2	2	0.029	
		PMR	Drinking vessel	1	1	0.012	
455	**453**	BOND		1	1	0.015	1580-1650
		BOND	Jar	1	1	0.020	
		EAR	Jug	1	1	0.005	
		EAR/LEAR	Jug	1	1	0.014	
		FREC	Drinking vessel/jug	1	1	0.006	

Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	MNV	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight	Assessment date range for context
		LMR		1	1	0.010	
		LYVA		1	1	0.007	
		OS		1	1	0.012	
		OSW	Jar	1	3	0.050	
		PMBL	Jug	1	1	0.114	
456	**453**	HUNEMW/HUNFSW		1	1	0.001	1050-1300
457	**453**	UPG	Bowl	1	3	0.264	1300-1500
459	**458**	MSW		1	2	0.002	1150-1500
463	**462**	SHW	Jar	1	1	0.018	1150-1500
467	**466**	OSW		1	1	0.008	1450-1550
471	**470**	LYVA	Bowl	1	1	0.025	1150-1400
490	**489**	DNEOT		1	1	0.018	1050-1250
491	**453**	BOND		1	1	0.006	c.1430-1650
		CONCAX	Bowl	1	2	0.059	
		HUNCAL	Jar	1	1	0.012	
		HUNFSW		1	1	0.005	
		LYVA	Jar	1	1	0.035	
		MSGW			5	0.016	
		MSGW	Jug	1	1	0.058	
		MSW		1	1	0.047	
524	**521**	MSGW	Jug	1	2	0.125	1150-1500
		MSW	Jar	1	1	0.012	
529	**528**	MSGW	Jug	1	2	0.035	1450-1550
		MSW		2	3	0.028	
		MSW	Bowl	1	1	0.011	
		OSW	Bowl	1	4	0.070	
538	**537**	HUNFSW		1	1	0.005	1450-1550
		OSW		1	1	0.010	1450-1550
549	**548**	HUNCAL		1	1	0.006	1300-1450
561	**537**	MSGW		1	5	0.015	1150-1500
563	**537**	HUNEMW		1	1	0.005	1350-1500
		HUNEMW	Jar	1	2	0.008	
		HUNFSW	Jug	1	1	0.041	
		LMR		1	2	0.007	
		LMR	Bowl	1	1	0.040	
		MSGW		1	1	0.009	
		SHW		2	2	0.013	
		THET	Jar	1	1	0.033	

Context	Cut	Fabric	Basic Form	MNV	Sherd Count	Sherd Weight	Assessment date range for context
99999		LYST	Jug	1	1	0.029	1225-1400
		LYVA	Bowl	1	1	0.021	
Total				***64***	***147***	***2.416***	

Table 6: Pottery by context

B.3 Stone

By Sarah Percival

B.3.1 Three fragments of worked stone weighing 6.09kg were recovered from two contexts.

B.3.2 Fill 565 from Well **453**, produced two undated architectural fragments. A granite cylinder, perhaps from a column shows some signs of having been burnt prior to deposition. A second fragment in Greensand has curved surfaces and may be from a column base (Plate 10).

B.3.3 A piece of millstone grit perhaps from a quern or millstone has one surface smoothed through use. The incomplete fragment, which weighs 2,058g, came from fill 538 from pit/well **537** and is probably later Iron Age or Roman.

B.4 Ceramic building material

By Ted Levermore

Introduction and methodology

B.4.1 Archaeological works produced a small assemblage (13 fragments, 5785g) of Ceramic Building Material (CBM). The assemblage is broadly medieval to post-medieval with some fragments more closely associated with the 13th to 15th centuries.

Methodology

B.4.2 The assemblage was quantified by context, fabric and form and counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Fabrics were examined using a x20 hand lens and were described by main inclusions present. Width, length and thickness were recorded where possible. The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the site archive. A summary of the catalogue can be found in Table 7.

Fabric

B.4.3 The assemblage comprises incomplete brick and flat tile fragments in nine fabrics (table 6). The variability in these fabrics but the similarities in object form suggest these bricks are probably local variants of medieval brick standards.

Code	Colour	Matrix	Fine inclusions (1mm-3mm)	Coarse inclusions (>3mm)	Moulding sand	Comments
A	Light Reddish Orange	Dense Quartz Clay	Very common rounded quartz, common rounded voids, and rare angular flint	Rare angular flint	Fine	
B	Light Orange	Dense Clay	Common rounded quartz, uncommon sub rounded voids, flint and iron pellets	Rare angular flint	Fine	
C	Dark Reddish Brown	Dense Quartz Clay	Very common rounded quartz, common rounded voids, and rare angular flint	Rare large rounded flint, common angular flint	Coarse	Poorly mixed clay
D	Light orange and yellow mix	Dense Clay	Common rounded quartz, sub rounded iron pellets and calcareous inclusions	Rare calcareous chunks	Fine	Very poorly mixed
E	Mid Orange	Dense Quartz Clay	Rare rounded voids	Rare iron pellets	Fine	
F	Mid Orange	Dense Quartz Clay	Common rounded quartz, occasional rounded voids, flint, iron pellets and calcareous	Rare angular flint and calcareous inclusions	Fine	
G	Buff with mid orange-buff mixed core	Dense Clay	Common rounded voids and rare iron pellets	Rare calcareous flecks	No visible	Poor mixing
H	Yellowish Grey	Dense Clay	Common quartz and angular flint	Slag pellets	Coarse?	
I	Mid Orange with grey core	Dense Clay	Common sub rounded voids and calcareous flecks	No visible	Coarse	

Table 7: Summary of CBM fabrics

B.4.4 The fabrics are largely sandy clays fired to mid oranges and dark reds ranging in inclusion type and density, some are notably very densely tempered. Fabric H is interesting because it has been abundantly tempered with slag pellets (2-5mm). This was most likely to aid manufacturing where slag tempers reduce the energy needed for firing when compared to standard silicate based bricks (Malhotra & Tehri 1996). The functional intention for this fabric type, however, is unknown.

Assemblage

B.4.5 The majority of the CBM assemblage was recovered from Well **453**. A total of 11 fragments, 5401g, came from this feature and are medieval to early post-medieval in date range. The following is a discussion of the most notable and closely dated fragments.

B.4.6 One brick fragment, from fill 565, had the flat and wide form of 13th century brick (115mm width, 45mm thickness). Two other fragments, from fills 565 and 455, were given a broader date of 13th to 15th century; these shared similar characteristics with the 13th century piece but were more fragmentary (Seen in Woodforde 1976, 17; Hammond, 1981). Interestingly, these three bricks are made of as many fabrics (B, C and F respectively). Also from fill 565, was a fragment of medieval brick with slight

lateral warping and a smoothed inner surface. It is partly vitrified and is the only example of CBM made from the slag tempered fabric (H).

B.4.7 A triangular floor tile fragment (Fabric I), from fill 565, with thick dark brown-green glaze on upper face with thick patches on two stretcher faces (Plate 11). It shows some wear. Decorated and glazed floor tiles were used from the mid 13th to 16th centuries, after which they went out of fashion (Betts 1985, 534 referenced in McComish 2015).

B.4.8 Pit/well **537** produced a single fragment of medieval to post-medieval flat tile and Pit **451** produced an abraded fragment of possible late medieval brick.

Discussion

B.4.9 This assemblage is fragmentary and largely medieval in date. The forms and fabrics suggests the majority of this CBM is from the middle part of this era, the 13th to 15th centuries, and later. Most fragments were, however, not closely dated.

B.4.10 The brick and tile found here is related to construction and demolition that pre-dates the disuse of the features on this site. The CBM recovered from Well **453** are an interesting collection of objects due to the variability in the fabrics used. Whilst probably showing temporal variation they may also demonstrate a disperse set of local brick making traditions. The deposition of this CBM is related to the demolition and discard of building material from the vicinity. Those found in the other features are related to subsequent dispersal through the landscape.

The glazed floor tile implies some scale and significance to the building in which it was used (McComish 2015). The shape of the tile suggests it is from a decorated floor where dark triangles were part of a larger design. The combination of this and the bricks recovered from the same context, within Well **453,** suggest there was a high status building in the vicinity of this site during the mid 13th to 15th centuries.

Cut	Fill	Feature	Brick	Tile	Total	Weight (g)
451	451	Pit	1		1	326
453	455	Well	3	1	4	1119
	491		2		2	568
	565		2	3	5	3714
537	538	Pit/well		1	1	58
		Grand Total	**8**	**5**	**13**	**5785**

Table 8: Quantity and weight of CBM types by feature

B.5 Worked Wood

By Matthew Brooks

Introduction and methodology

B.5.1 This report describe the twenty-one pieces of waterlogged wood retrieved from well/tank **453,** Brampton RAF, in terms of species identification, woodland management/reconstruction, woodworking technology analysis, conservation and retention.

Provenance

B.5.2 The wood was retrieved during excavations of the basal fill (457) of well/tank **453** (Table 9). This feature contained the only evidence of waterlogged wood on the site and has been dated to the Late Medieval period.

Feature	Context	Feature type	Provisional date	Frequency of wood
476	453	Tank	Late Medieval	21

Table 9: Quantification of wood

B.5.3 The structure was given a master number of **476** with timbers labelled individually (Timber nos. 477-484, 534-543, 566-567, 570-571). When fully excavated three revetment groups were clearly visible to the west, north and east of the base of **453**. Each revetment group consisted of at least three upright stakes and two horizontal planks and connected through a range of metal and wooden nails or dowels. To south no timbers were visible, and was possibly robbed out. At each corner of the north revetment, extra timbers both uprights and planks were added for shoring and stability. Spacing within the north revetment provides evidence of a potential entrance. A total of twenty stakes and planks have been identified for this structure.

Methodology

B.5.4 This document has been written alongside the guidelines of Historic England, regarding the recording and conservation of waterlogged wood (Brunning and Watson 2010).

B.5.5 Each item was recorded individually using a *pro forma* 'wood recording form', developed from York Archaeological Trust's 'post-excavation wood record sheet' (Brunning and Watson 2010, 14). This information was then input into a database, with results displayed in Tables 10 and 11.

B.5.6 Metric data for each item was measured using hand tools such as hand and long tapes. Any tool marks or points of interest were measured using a calliper.

B.5.7 Timbers which could be identified to the species oak (*Quercus sp.*) were noted through morphological traits visible to the naked eye and hand lens. Those which were uncertain and of importance have been sub-sampled enabling later identification if appropriate.

Range and variation

B.5.8 The majority of the assemblage is made up of timber sub types (Table 10). These include stakes and adjoining planks. A small collection of driftwood and broken branches were assessed on site and deemed to have been debris. They were subsequently discarded. One piece of roundwood was also recovered. Table 11 details each item of the assemblage recovered. Revetment shoring was primarily used in three area groups, western, northern and eastern. Decay/fungus was also potentially present as well as beetle damage.

Wood type	Frequency	% of assemblage
Stakes	9	0.43
Planks	10	0.47
Roundwood	1	0.05
Artefact	1	0.05
Total	***21***	***100***

Table 10: Frequency of wood

Timber No.	Cut	Revetment group	Species	Discard	Decay/ fungus	L (m)	W (m)
477	**476**	Western	Oak (*Quercus sp.*.	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining). Soft rot (blue staining).	1.66	0.1
		Horizontal plank. NE-SW alignment. damage at SE edge. Radial cracking evident. Upper plank above 478.					
478	**476**	Western	Undetermined	Retained	Wet rot (white staining). Beetle damage	1.5	0.32
		Horizontal plank. NE-SW alignment. Damage at SE edge in antiquity and also excavation. Metal nails in situ at NE, 0.01m×0.01m, 0.02m×0.02m. Lower plank below 477.					
479	**467**	Western	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	None	1.12	
		Upright stake leaning east. Complete, minimal damage. Branch. Tapered to stake point. Debarked. Furthest SW stake.					
480	**467**	Northern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Retained	Beetle damage	1.95	0.32
		Horizontal plank. Moved out of situ. E-W alignment. Full extend of length present. Damage at lower edges. Lower edge diagonally fashioned. Squared off at length ends. Lap housing at top of plank 0.12m x 0.32m x 0.04m. Small crossing cut marks also at top intent. Upper plank above 481. Six dowel / nail holes present average dimensions – 0.02m x 0.02m, one wooden dowel still in situ (square dowel 0.01m x 0.01m) inserted into circular hole.					
481	**476**	Northern	Undetermined	Retained	Beetle damage. Wet rot (white staining)	1.76	0.2
		Horizontal plank. Slightly NE-SW alignment, moved out of situ. Heavy damage in both antiquity and excavation. Broken into six pieces. Five dowel / nail holes evident (average 0.02m x 0.02m) One wooden square dowel still in situ 0.01m x 0.01m and one metal nail still in situ 0.01m x 0.01m. Below plank 480.					
482	**476**	Western	Undetermined	Discarded	None	0.28	0.12
		Horizontal plank. NW-SE alignment. Appears to be still in situ. Tapered end driven into natural at near vertical sides of feature cut.					
483	**476**	Western	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot	0.73	0.12
		Upright stake. Branch. Leaning eastwards. Damaged/missing at tapered stake end.					
484	**476**	Western	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot(white staining)	1.12	0.16
		Upright stake. Leaning eastwards. Damaged at highest point. Branch cut away. Tapered end to point. Middle post of western revetment. De-barked					
534	**476**	Unknown	Undetermined	Retained	None	0.24	0.08
		Horizontal plank. Out of situ and heavily damaged. NE-SW alignment Possibly used as extra shoring to secure western and northern revetment.					
535	**476**	Northern	Undetermined	Discarded	None	0.5	
		Upright roundwood. Used as extra upright shoring. De-barked. Damaged at lower end. Branches cut away.					
536	**476**	Northern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining). Soft rot (blue staining) Orange staining.	1.3	0.16
		Upright stake. Complete branch fashioned to tapered point at lower end. Damaged at					

Timber No.	Cut	Revetment group	Species	Discard	Decay/ fungus	L (m)	W (m)
		highest point by machine. Still containing bark.					
539	**476**	Northern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining)	1.3	0.12
		Upright stake. Whole branch. Sub branches cut away. Tapered end to point. Bark present.					
540	**476**	Northern	Undetermined	Discarded	None	1.1	0.2
		Horizontal plank. E-W alignment. Broken at west. Possibly deliberate to make way for entrance. Plank securing northern revetment stakes.					
541	**476**	Eastern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining). Orange staining.	1.13	0.12
		Upright stake. Fashioned into rectangle. Tapered at end to point. Grooved fashioning near tapered end 0.12m x 0.04m x 0.01m. Most likely concave straight gouge tool used. Re-use potential is high.					
542	**476**	Unknown	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining).	0.86	0.14
		Upright stake. Out of situ in NE-SW alignment. Fashioned into rectangle. Extra upright shoring for northern and eastern revetment.					
543	**476**	Eastern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Retained	Beetle damage. Wet rot (white staining).	1.12	0.1
		Upright stake. Fashioned into rectangle. Excavation damage. Squared off at top. Tapered to point at end. Grooved fashioning near tapered end 0.06m x 0.02m x 0.01m. Most likely concave straight gouge tool used. Re-use potential is high. De-barked					
566	**476**	Eastern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining) Orange staining	1.64	0.28
		Horizontal plank. NW-SE alignment. Length is complete. Damage at lowest edge. Radial cracks evident. Diagonally shorne at both width edges, squared at length ends. Five dowel/nail holes evident, no nails or dowels present. Average nail/ dowel dimensions 0.02m x 0.02m.					
567	**476**	Eastern	Undetermined	Discarded	Wet rot (white staining).	1.08	0.1
		Upright stake. Fashioned into rectangle. Damaged at top end. Branches cut away. De-barked. Radial cracks evident.					
570	**476**	Eastern	Oak (*Quercus sp.*).	Discarded	Soft rot (blue staining)	1.63	0.16
		Horizontal plank. NW-SE alignment. One in situ metal nail 0.02m x 0.02m. One dowel hole without dowel 0.03m 0.03m. Top. plank above 566					
571	**467**	N/A	Undetermined	Retained	Orange staining	0.14	0.04
		Broken into two pieces. Smooth consistency, possibly sanded. Rounded edges, squared at widths. Wider at top rounded edge, becoming straighter at bottom edge. No inscriptions or scoring evident. Straight grained. Within fill 456.					

Table 11: Database of complete wood assemblage.

Condition of material

B.5.9 Using the condition scale table (Table 12), developed by the Humber Wetlands Project (Van de Noot, Ellis, Taylor and Weir 1995, Table 15.1), the wood assemblage from Brampton scores an average of 3.

	Museum conservation	Technology analysis	Woodland management	Dendro-chronology	Species identification
5	+	+	+	+	+
4	-	+	+	+	+
3	-	+/-	+	+	+
2	-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+
1	-	-	-	-	+/-
0	-	-	-	-	-

Table 12: Condition scale used for this report.

Condition Score	Frequency	% of assemblage
5 Excellent	0	0
4 Good	9	0.43
3 Moderate	5	0.24
2 Poor	7	0.33
1 Very poor	0	0
0 Non-viable	0	0

Table 13: Condition of wood

B.5.10 This score implies an assemblage which is preserved to a moderate extent and thusly an assessment of woodland management practices and species identification of undetermined timbers is possible, if appropriate, with most of the material. Technological analysis would also prove to be possible.

B.5.11 Though the condition of some of the assemblage suggests suitability for dendrochronology, the items do not display enough growth rings for this type of study.

Discussion

B.5.12 A total of twenty one individual timber pieces were recovered, recorded and analysed. Timbers have been given a moderate rating in terms of preservation and the structure was in use during the Late Mediaeval period. Most timbers have been identified as oak.

B.5.13 The structure consisted of ten stakes and ten planks. Some were rectangular fashioned, cut from the trunk of a tree, whilst others were fashioned from complete and semi complete branches. All have been tapered at one end using an axe (Plate 14) to a point and driven into the natural gravels. Most stakes lengths are in the region of 1.08m – 1.3m taking into account truncation and damage. Planks have been radially cut from tree trunks and consist of upper and lower pieces which were nailed into adjoining stakes using circular metal nails (Plate 10; these were hammered back into the plank once through the housing hole). Larger dowel holes were fashioned to house square wooden dowels (Plate 12).

B.5.14 Decay and fungus growth appear to be evident (Plate 13), including a range of staining which could be indicative of reactions between the iron rich natural and tannins within the wood. Blue staining could indicate iron tannate or could be a result of fungi. There is potential for various forms of rot being present before its re-use in this feature. The decay and staining is most probably from its tank related use and resulting conditions.

B.5.15 The carpentry present, in the form of grooved gauges, housing and round nail/dowel holes (Plate 11 and 13) is typical of the period and all seems to relate to previous use of

timbers, probably in timber framed buildings or carts that have subsequently been re-used for tank revetments. Square wooden dowels being placed within round nail housing could also relate to re-use.

B.6 Leather

By Quita Mould

Introduction and methodology

B.6.1 This report is based on examination of the wet leather undertaken on 16th January 2017. The leather has been identified and a record for the site archive has been made including measurement of relevant dimensions and species identification where possible. The information gathered has been correlated with the available contextual information and summarized below. All measurements are in millimetres (mm). No allowance has been made for shrinkage. The shoe terms employed are those in common use in the archaeological literature (Grew and de Neergaard 1988 and Mould, Carlisle and Cameron 2003 for example). Leather species were identified by hair follicle pattern and thickness using a low-powered magnification.

Condition

B.6.2 The leather was wet and had been washed when examined. It was robust and in good condition. It is currently stored wet in double self-sealing polythene bags in an air-tight plastic containers.

Catalogue

B.6.3 **SF34.1 Leather clump seat repair, left foot, adult size**. Complete clump seat, broken at the top left corner with an irregularly cut, concave edge on the right side. Worn tunnel stitching present around the edge on the flesh side. Leather worn cattle hide c. 2.5mm thick. Length 70mm, width 61mm.

B.6.4 **SF34.2 Leather clump repair**. Rectangular piece with two cut and two worn edges with a group of three worn stitch holes on the right hand side and a single stitch hole on the left. Wear and nature of the stitch holes suggests it was cut from a second clump repair piece; subsequently it may have been used as midsole packing. Leather worn cattle hide c. 2.5mm thick. Length 29+mm, width 49mm

Summary

B.6.5 Two pieces of leather (SF34) were recovered from fill **492** (same as 456=492/493) in well/tank **453**. The features is attributed to Medieval Phase 2, dated to the 14th-16th centuries, and the fill relates to its disuse. The leather comprised a complete repair patch, known as a clump, for a shoe sole and a piece cut from a second example. The complete repair patch came from the seat (the heel area) and the wear present suggested it had been sewn to a left foot shoe sole. The irregularity of the right edge indicated it had been cut from either recycled leather or an offcut. It is likely that these two pieces of leather are cobbling waste discarded during the repair or refurbishment of old shoes. Clump repairs of this type were used throughout the medieval period and the 16th century and there is no reason to think that the leather is not contemporary with the feature in which it was found. They lack any diagnostic features that would allow closer dating.

APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.1.1 Ten bulk samples were taken from features within the excavated area along Central Avenue, RAF Brampton, Cambridgeshire in order to examine the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to contribute to the research aims of the project. The features sampled include medieval ditches, pits and a well.

Methodology

C.1.2 A single bucket (up to 10L) of each bulk samples was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and a list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 1. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* (Cappers et al. 2006) and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.1.3 For the purpose of this report, items such as seeds, cereal grains and legumes have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

= 1-5, ## = 6-10, ### =11-25 specimens

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal has been scored for abundance

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

Results

Phase 1: 12th-14th Century

C.1.4 Samples were taken from five medieval pits **434**, **443**, **445**, **451** and **458** and were found to contain a scatter of charred plant remains that are typical for this period. They include charred grains of the four main cereal types; free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* s.l.), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), rye (*Secale cereale*) and oats (*Avena* sp.). Pit **434** (fill 435) produced the most grain and the sample also contains several legumes that are peas (*Pisum*/*Lathyrus* sp.) and/or small beans (Fabaceae). Charred weed seeds include corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum)* and cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.) which are all plants that would have grown amongst the

cereal crops. The samples from the other pits produced smaller quantities of grain that are either wind-blown or accidental inclusions during backfill of the features.

Phase 2: 14th-16th Century

C.1.5 Preservation of plant remains from Phase 2 features is by both carbonisation and waterlogging. Two of the deposits within well/tank **453** were sampled. Fill 457 overlay the basal wooden structure of the well and contains seeds of a number of obligate aquatic plants such as pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.) and water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus* subgenus *batrachium*) that would have been growing within the water in the well, in addition to plants that prefer damp environments such as henbane (*Conium maculatum*) and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) which may represent plants that were growing around the well. Eppiphium (egg cases) of the water-flea (*Daphnia* sp) are indicative of standing water and ostracods (small bivalve crustaceans) were noted. There are also seeds of other plants that were either growing locally and have blown into the well or have been introduced by other means (such as on the base of a bucket) and include stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*), thistles (*Carduus*/*Cirsium* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.), prickly sow-thistle (*Sonchus asper*), dead-nettles (*Lamium* sp.) and self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*). Subsequent fill 456 also contains several of these plant species in addition to a grape/raisin seed (*Vitis vinifera*), four plum (*Prunus domestica*) fruit stones and several bramble (*Rubus* sp.) seeds that have all been preserved by waterlogging.

C.1.6 Samples were taken from fills 563 and 561 of feature **537** which was located at the edge of the site and only partially-revealed. Lower fill 561 contains waterlogged plant remains that include henbane, nettles and docks. Fill 563 is clearly above the water-table and contains carbonised remains is the form of occasional charred mixed cereal grains and peas/beans.

C.1.7 Fill 523 of ditch **521** also appears to have been waterlogged although preservation of organic remains is poor and the flot consists of fine rootlets with occasional elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seeds.

Discussion

C.1.8 The environmental evidence of the first phase of activity at this site is restricted to the chance preservation of charred cereal grains and legumes that have been included in the backfill of several pits. These represent staple foods that would have been prepared and consumed on a daily basis resulting in spillages that are likely to have been swept into a hearth and subsequently buried. The later phase of activity has produced waterlogged plant remains that have the potential to provide different evidence of environmental conditions. Waterlogging occurs when a deposit has remained wet either as a result of being below the water table or in a sealed organic deposit such as within a deep pit/well. A waterlogged environment is anoxic in that oxygen is excluded which inhibits the decay-causing bacterial leading to the preservation of organic remains such as plants, insects and wood. Preservation of waterlogged remains may be differential; a fluctuating water table will result in the more robust, woody plants preserving whereas more fragile material such as stems and leaves will decay (Green 1982). Each of the waterlogged deposits produced evidence of weeds that indicate a local habitat of damp and disturbed ground that would be expected in the area around a well. The finding of a grape/raisin seed along with less exotic fruits of plum and bramble is an indicator of the consumption of imported fruit in addition to the those that can be collected from the wild.

C.1.9 The preservation of the plant remains at this site is not particularly good and the species diversity and density are typical of a rural medieval site. It is not considered that further work on these samples would significantly add to this interpretation.

Sample no.		127	128	129	130	133	131	132	134	135	136
Context no.		435	444	446	452	459	456	457	523	563	561
Feature no		**434**	**443**	**445**	**451**	**458**	**453**	**453**	**521**	**537**	**537**
Feature type		Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Well	Well	Ditch	Pit	Pit
Volume processed (l)		8	8	8	8	7	8	8	7	7	7
Phase		1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
Cereals											
***Avena* sp. Caryopsis**	Oats [wild or cultivated]	#				#				#	
***Hordeum vulgare* l. caryopsis**	Domesticated barley grain					#					
***Secale cereale* L. caryopsis**	Rye grain	#				##				#	
Free-threshing *Triticum* sp. caryopsis	Free-threshing wheat grain	##	#		#	##				##	
Cereal indet. Caryopsis	Unidentified cereal grain	###		#			#			#	
Other food plants											
Legume <2mm	Vetch/wild pea	#									
Legume 2-4mm	Pea/small bean	##									
Legume >4mm	Bean	##					#			#	
***Prunus domestica* l. seed**	Plum						#w				
***Vitis vinifera* l. seed**	Grape/raisin						#w				
Dry land herbs											
***Agrostemma githago* l. seed**	Corncockle	#									
***Carduus//Cirsium* sp. achene**	Thistles							#w			
Caryophyllaceae indet. <2mm seed	Small-seeded pink family							#w			
***Centaurea* sp. achene**	Cornflower-type	#									
***Cerastium* sp. Seed**	Mouse-ear chickweed						#w				
***Chenopodium* sp. Seed**	Goosefoots										#w
***Lamium* sp. nutlet**	Dead-nettles						#w	#w			
Small Poaceae indet. [< 2mm] caryopsis	Small-seeded grass family			#							
***Polygonaceae* indet. achene**	Dock family							#w			
***Polygonum aviculare* L. achene**	Knotgrass						#w	#w			
***Prunella vulgaris* L. nutlet**	Selfheal							#w			
***Raphanus raphanistrum* L.capsule**	Wild radish seed-case segment	#									
***Rumex* sp. Achene**	Small-seeded						#w	##w			#w

Sample no.		127	128	129	130	133	131	132	134	135	136
Context no.		435	444	446	452	459	456	457	523	563	561
Feature no		**434**	**443**	**445**	**451**	**458**	**453**	**453**	**521**	**537**	**537**
Feature type		Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Well	Well	Ditch	Pit	Pit
Volume processed (l)		8	8	8	8	7	8	8	7	7	7
Phase		1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
	docks										
***Sonchus asper* l. Hill achene**	Prickly sow-thistle							##w			
***Stellaria media L.* Vill. Seed**	Common chickweed						#w				#w
***Urtica dioica* L. seed**	Common nettle						###w	##w			##w
***Viola sp.* Seed**	Violet										#w
Wetland/aquatic plants											
***Conium maculatum* L. mericarp**	Hemlock						#w	#w			##w
***Lycopus europaeus* L. nutlet**	Gypsywort						#w	#w			
***Potamogeton* sp. achene**	Pondweed							##w			
***Ranunculus* subgenus *batrachium* L achene**	Water-crowfoot							#w			
Tree/shrub macrofossils											
***Corylus avellana* L. nut**	Hazelnut shell	#									
***Rubus subgen. Rubus* seed**	Brambles						##w				
***Sambucus nigra* L. seed**	Elder						#w	#w	##w		
Other plant macrofossils											
Charcoal volume (ml)		10	0	0	0	<1				2	
Charcoal <2mm		+++				+				++	
Charcoal >2mm		++								++	
Waterlogged root/stem							######	########	########		########
Other remains											
Ostracods								#			
Cladoceran ephippia								#			
Waterlogged arthropod								#			
Volume of flot (mls)		**15**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**25**	**80**	**300**	**15**	**50**

Table 13: summary of environmental remains

C.2 Animal bone

By Vida Rajkovača

Introduction and methodology

C.2.1 The report offers a discussion of the results following a zooarchaeological analysis of faunal remains recovered from a range of medieval features scattered across a small

area. Some 43 assessable specimens were recorded (with a combined weight of 2.8kg), 30 of which were identified to species. Although the bone was fragmented, surface preservation ranged from moderate to quite good.

C.2.2 The assemblage was split into chronological sub-sets in order to study the site. The earlier sub-set (Phase 1, 12-14th century) derived from several contexts excavated from pits and ditches, with the slightly more abundant later material (Phase 2, 14-16th century) mostly coming from wells and pits.

Methodology

C.2.3 The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Most, but not all, caprine bones are difficult to identify to species however, it was possible to identify a selective set of elements as sheep or goat from the assemblage, using the criteria of Boessneck (1969) and Halstead (Halstead et al. 2002). Age at death was estimated for the main species using epiphyseal fusion (Silver 1969) and mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982, Payne 1973). Sexing was only undertaken for pig canines, based on the bases of their size, shape and root morphology (Schmid 1972: 80). Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

Summary of the results

Phase 1 (12th-14th century)

C.2.4 Good preservation allowed for almost all of the bone to be assigned to species level (Table 14), with an exception of cattle-sized radius shaft and a sheep-sized limb bone fragments recovered from 439 and 446 respectively. The radius from 439 had a scoop mark indicative of meat removal. Cow and pig metacarpi from 431 both indicated these individuals were slaughtered before the age of two, suggesting livestock was raised on site or locally.

Phase 2 (14th-16th century)

C.2.5 Later material came mostly from contexts excavated from wells and pits, with 491 containing somewhat more bone than other contexts NISP=9 (27% of the sub-set by count) and 0.74kg (26% of the assemblage by weight). Livestock species dominated the sub-set (Table 14), again, highlighting the heavy reliance on domestic sources of food during the period, with a range of skeletal elements being represented. Butchery was also recorded, on a total of seven different specimens and a range of actions were noted: cattle-sized ribs were cut to pot sizes and meat removal and marrow extraction were also recorded from several specimens. Ovicapra long bones were rather slender, though it was not possible to obtain any measurements as the material was fragmentary. Biometrical data was available from a complete cow metatarsus (491); however, giving the shoulder height of 116cm.

C.2.6 It would be problematic to discuss economic strategies or even changes over time based on such small numbers. The importance of cattle highlights the significance of this animal both as a meat provider and as working animal, as no doubt that their power was used in preparation of fields for crop production. Numbers for sheep/ goat and pigs are low, and it is difficult to see if and to what extent the wool played part in their

economy, as well as to discuss site's status in light of small pig numbers. Low pig numbers and absence of birds and, both characteristics often used to signify high status, do not feature in the assemblage. This, the scarcity of wild faunal remains and the character of butchery actions all seem to paint a picture of a domestic rural assemblage (Albarella 1994).

Taxon	NISP		Total NISP
	Phase 1 (12-14th century)	*Phase 2 (14-16th century)*	
Cow	3	13	16
Sheep/ goat	1	4	5
Pig	2	3	5
Horse	.	1	1
Dog	.	1	1
Dog/ Fox	2	.	2
Sub-total to species	**8**	**22**	**30**
Cattle-sized	1	10	11
Sheep-sized	1	1	2
Total	**10**	**33**	**43**

Table 14. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts – breakdown by phase

Cut	Context	Species	Context Weight (g)
430	431	Cow, Pig	121
432	433	Cow	86
438	439	Large Mammal	64
443	444	Pig	27
445	446	Cow, Medium Mammal	187
453	455	Large Mammal, Sheep/Goat, Cow, Pig	514
	457	Dog	36
470	471	Dog/Fox	24
489	490	Sheep/Goat	7
453	491	Horse, Cow, Sheep/Goat, Large mammal	747
497	498	Cow, Large mammal	377
499	500	Large mammal	17
521	524	Large mammal	48
528	529	Large mammal	10
537	538	Large mammal	20
556	557	Cow	446
537	561	Pig, Sheep/Goat, Medium mammal	51
	563	Cow, Large mammal, Pig	180
	99999	Horse, Medium mammal	700
	Total		***2962***

Table 15: species by context

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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-270450		
Project Name	Medieval settlement, Zones A and J, RAF Brampton		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	29-09-2016	Finish	28-10-2016
Previous Work (by OA East)	Yes	Future Work	

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	BRARAF16	Planning App. No.	15/00368/OUT
HER No.	ECB 4681	Related HER/OASIS No.	oxfordar3-262636

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Planning condition

Please select all techniques used:

☐ Field Observation (periodic visits)	☐ Part Excavation	☐ Salvage Record
☐ Full Excavation (100%)	☐ Part Survey	☐ Systematic Field Walking
☐ Full Survey	☐ Recorded Observation	☐ Systematic Metal Detector Survey
☐ Geophysical Survey	☐ Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	☐ Test Pit Survey
☒ Open-Area Excavation	☐ Salvage Excavation	☒ 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
pit	Medieval 1066 to 1540	pottery	Medieval 1066 to 1540
ditch	Medieval 1066 to 1540	bone	Medieval 1066 to 1540
well	Medieval 1066 to 1540	CBM	Medieval 1066 to 1540

Project Location

County	Cambridgeshire	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Huntingdonshire	RAF Brampton Brampton Cambridgeshire	
Parish	Brampton		
HER	Cambridgeshire		
Study Area		National Grid Reference	TF 2087 7007

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	Andy Thomas
Project Design Originator	Matt Brudenell
Project Manager	Matt Brudenell
Supervisor	Kathryn Blackbourn

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
CCC	OA East	CCC
ECB 4681	BRARAF16	ECB 4681

Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Bones	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☐	☐	☐
Stratigraphic		☒	☒
Survey		☒	☒
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☒	☒	☒
Worked Bone	☐	☐	☐
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☒	☒
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media	Paper Media
☒ Database	☐ Aerial Photos
☐ GIS	☒ Context Sheet
☐ Geophysics	☐ Correspondence
☒ Images	☐ Diary
☒ Illustrations	☒ Drawing
☐ Moving Image	☐ Manuscript
☒ Spreadsheets	☒ Map
☒ Survey	☒ Matrices
☒ Text	☐ Microfilm
☐ Virtual Reality	☐ Misc.
	☐ Research/Notes
	☒ Photos
	☒ Plans
	☒ Report
	☒ Sections
	☒ Survey

Notes:

beam slot - Medieval
Quern stone - Medieval
Stone - Medieval
Wood - Medieval

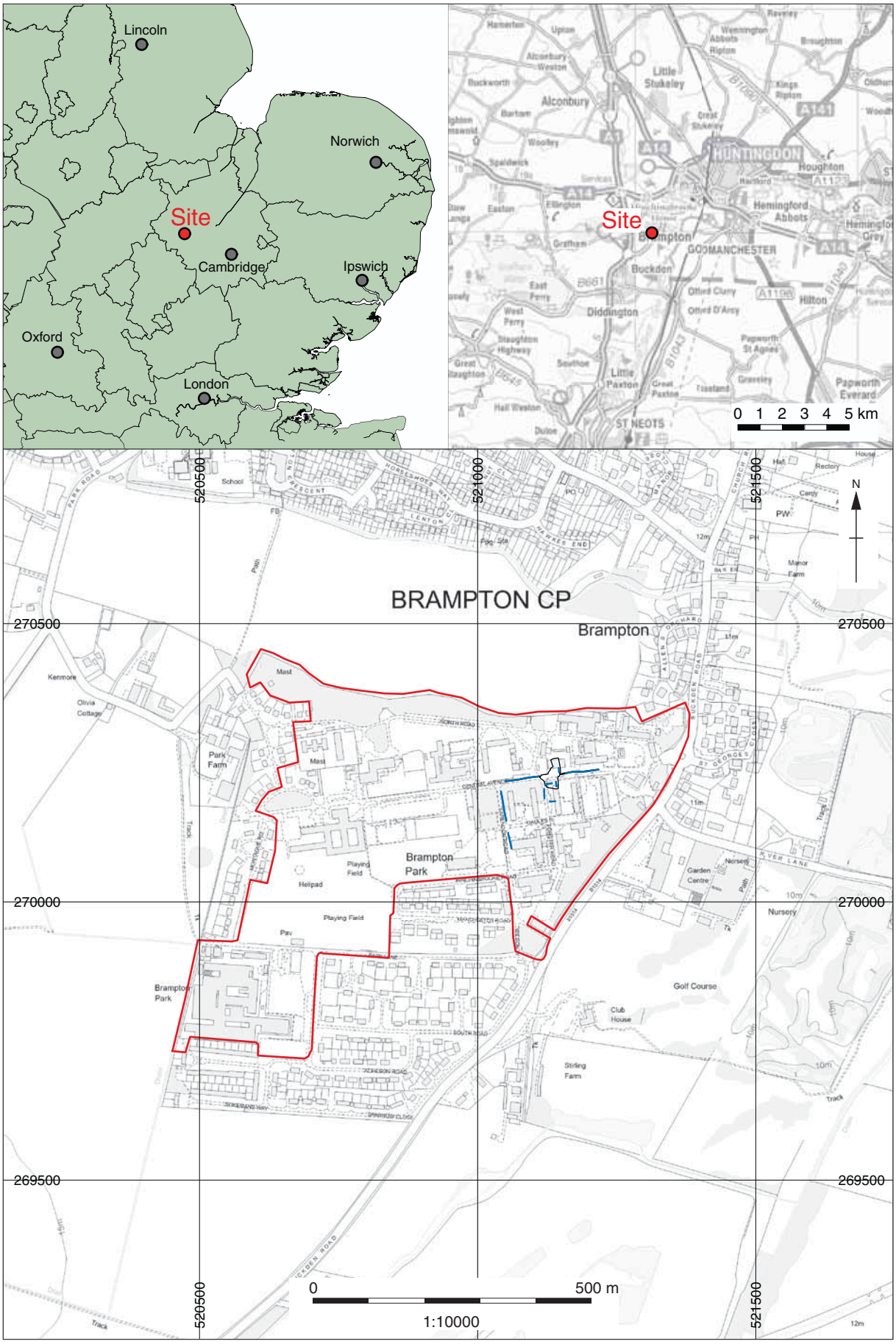

Figure 1: Site location map showing excavation area (black), evaluation trenches (blue) and development area (red)

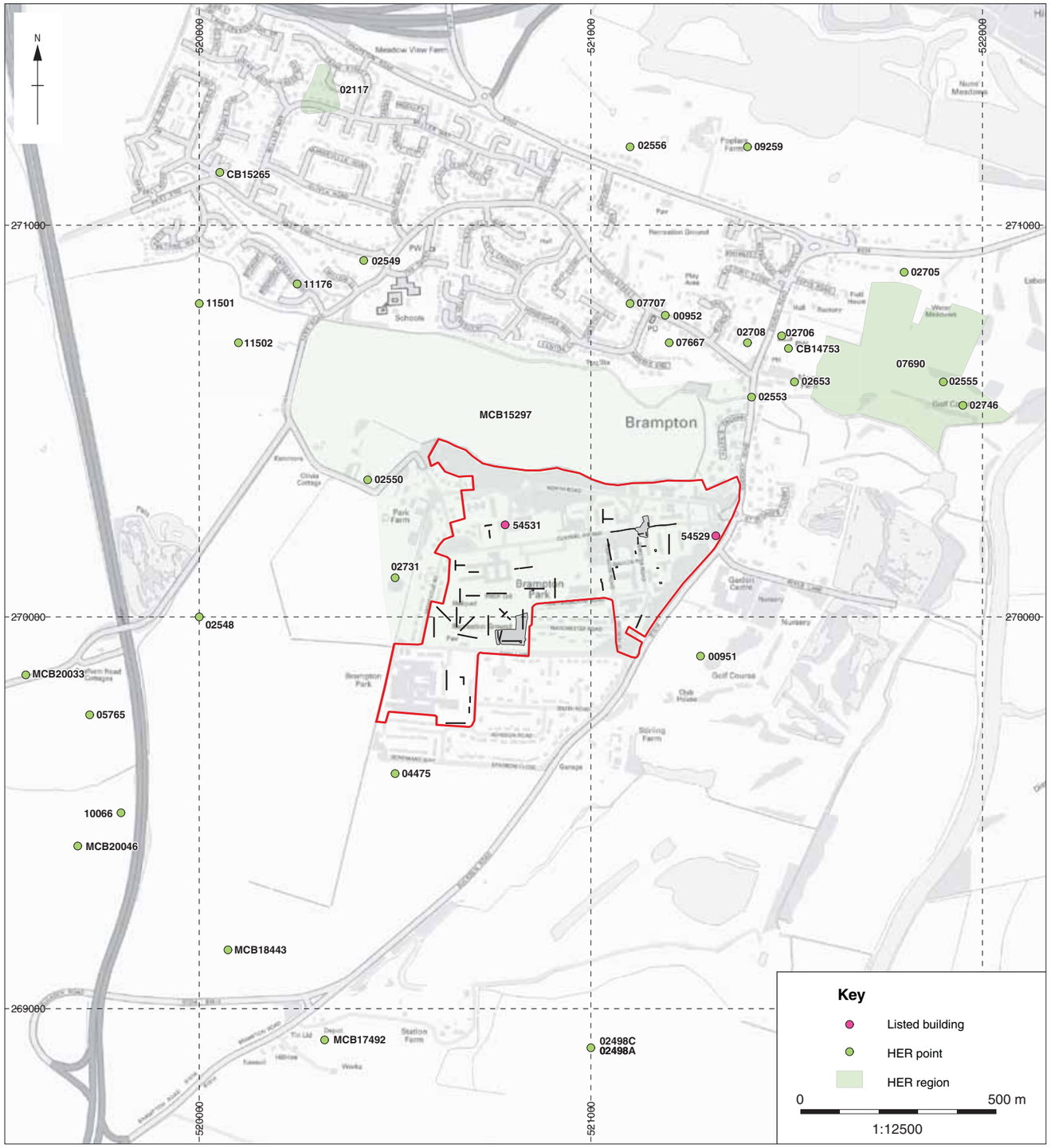

Figure 2: HER data

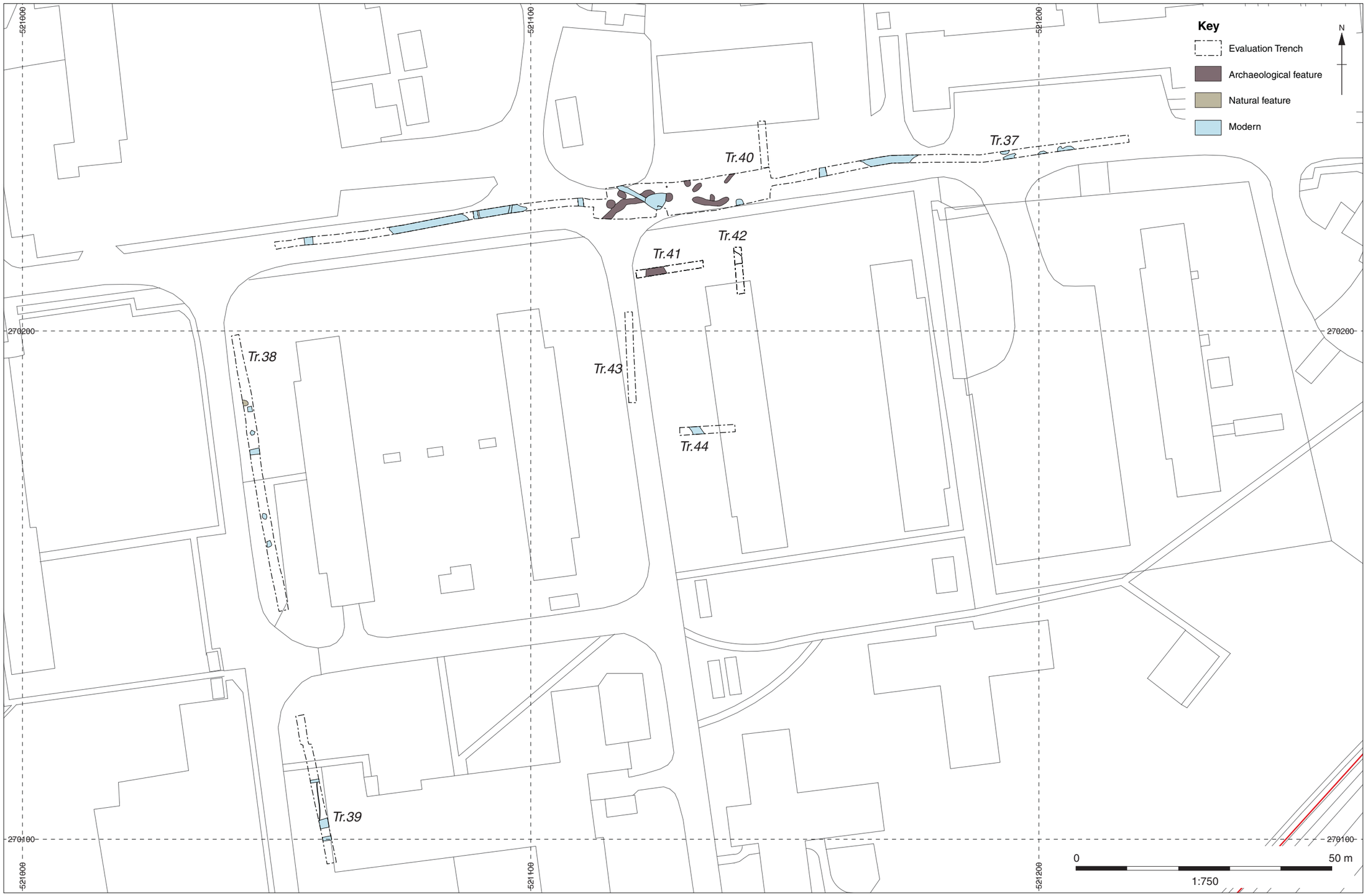

Figure 3: Initial phase of trial trenching

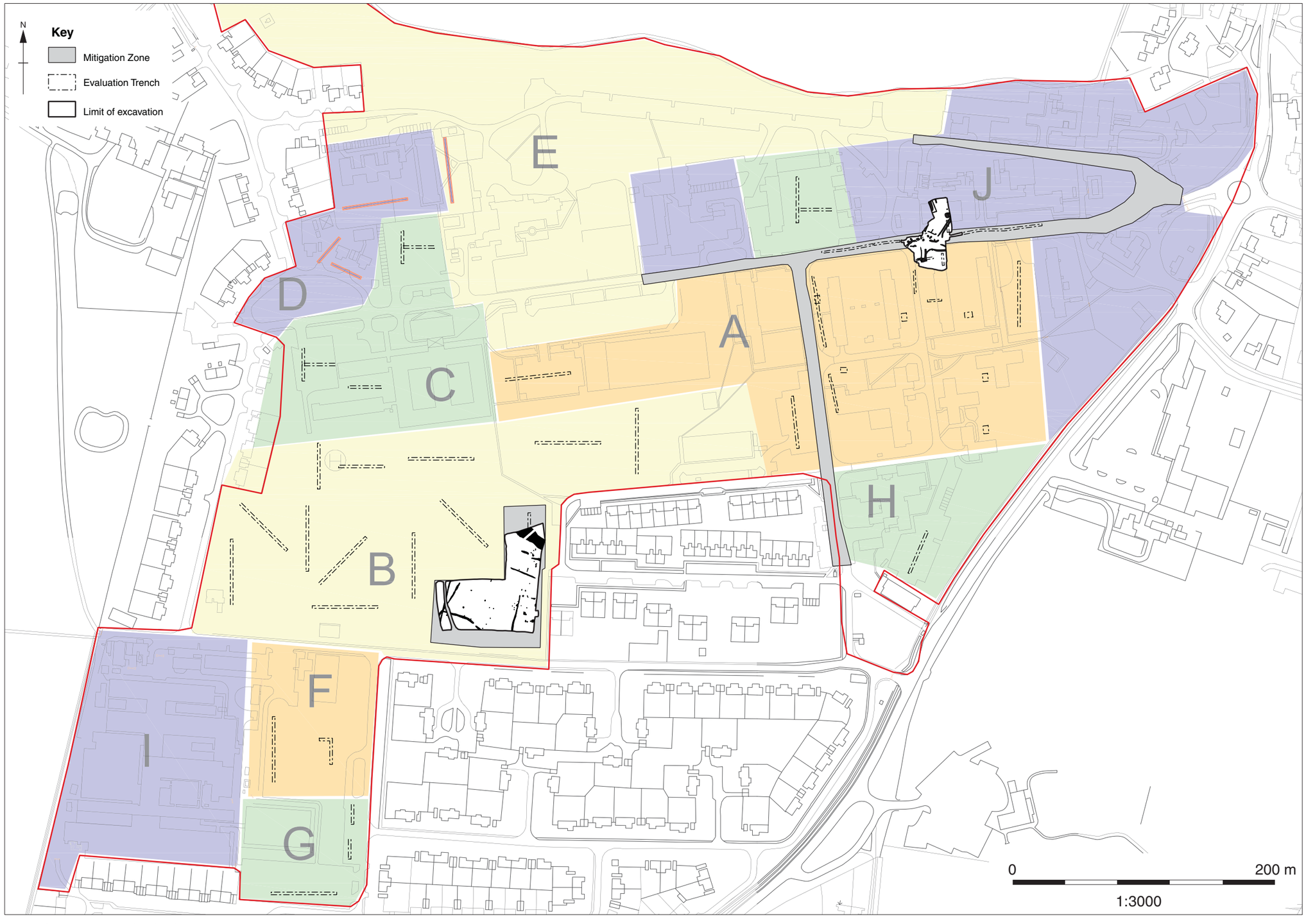

Figure 4: Map of area of mitigation

Figure 5: All features plan

Figure 6: Medieval phase 1 - 12th-14th Century AD

Figure 7: Medieval Phase 2 - 14th-16th Century AD

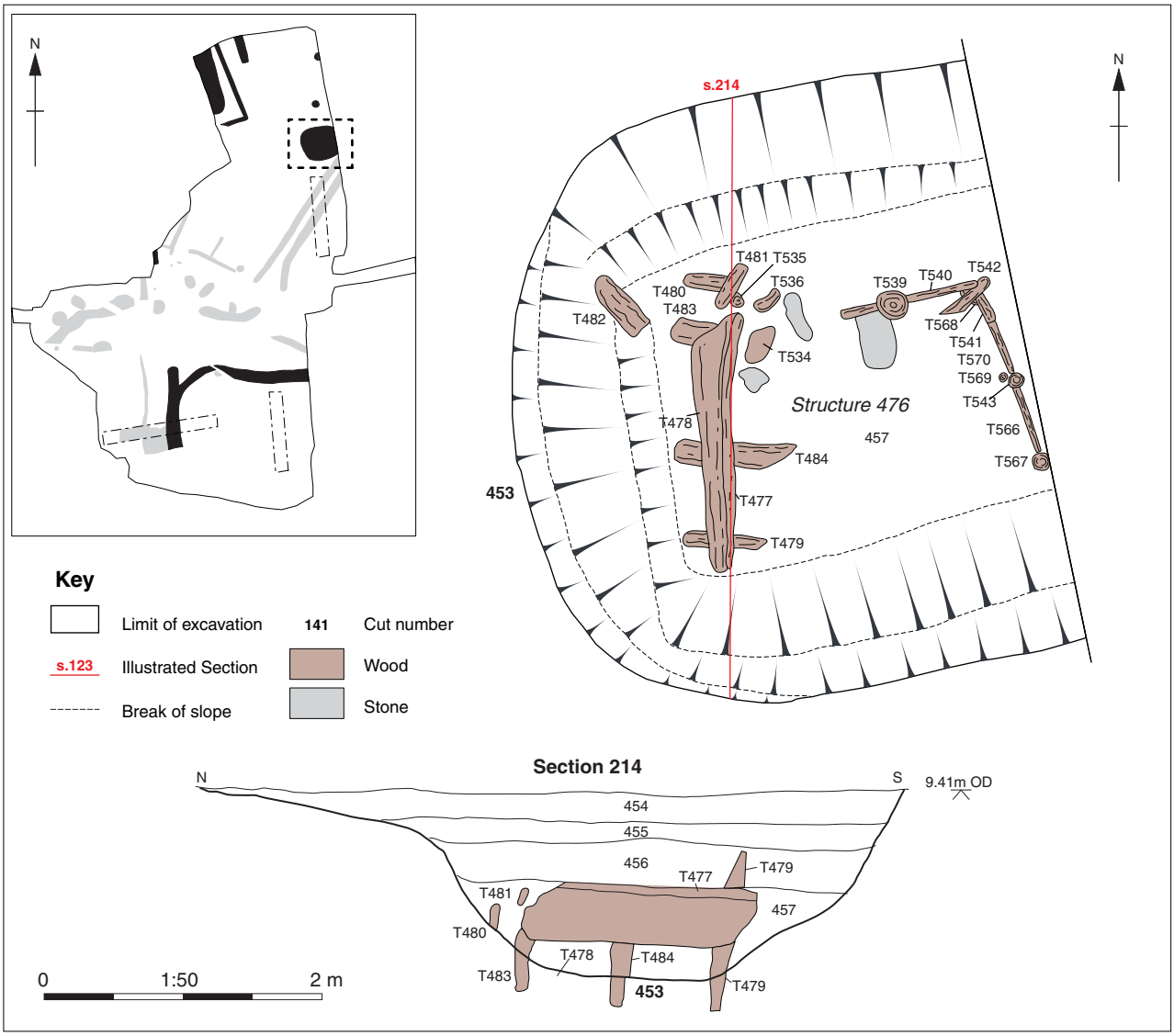

Figure 8: Plan of wooden structure 476

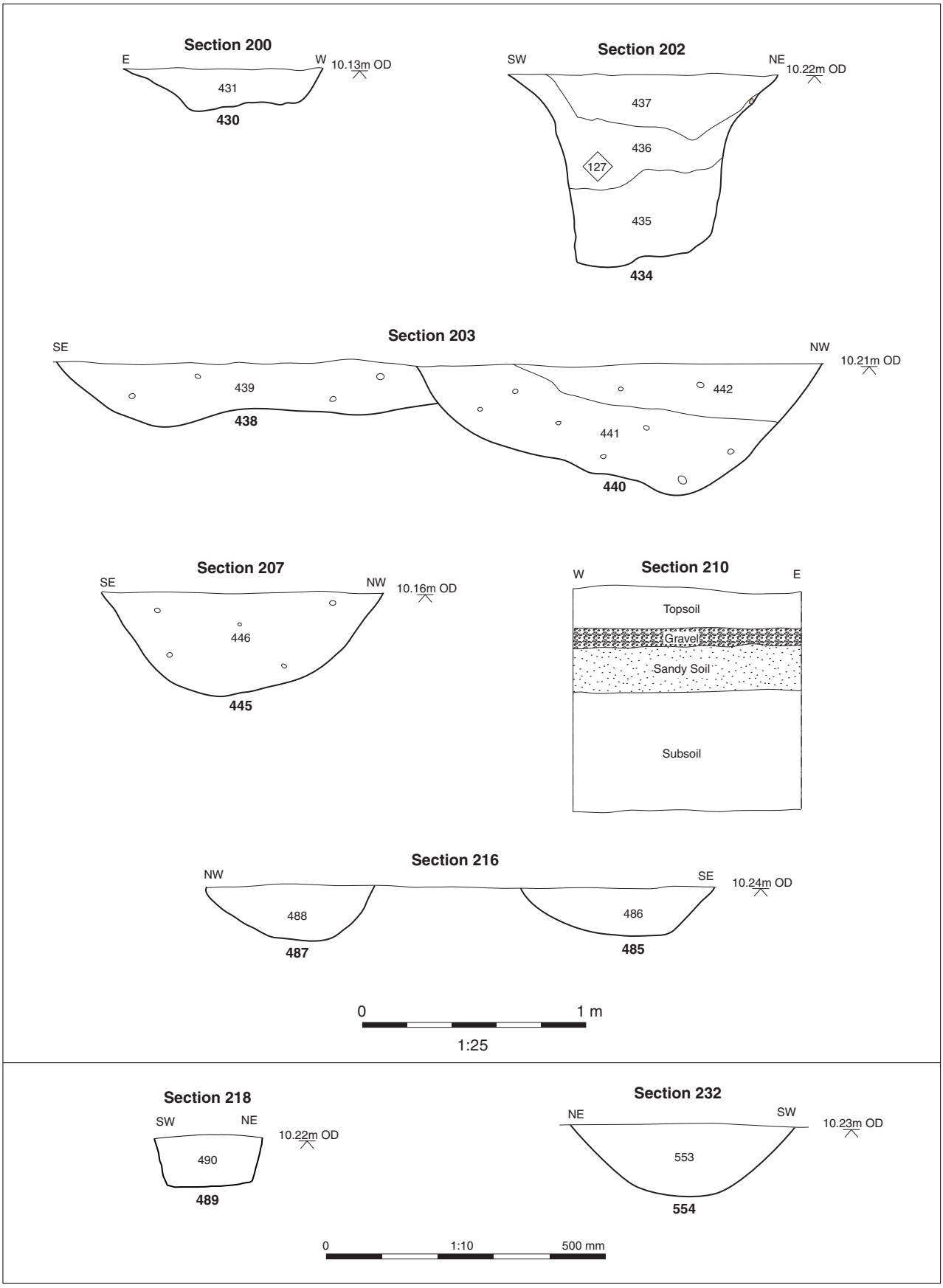

Figure 9a: Phase 1 Sections

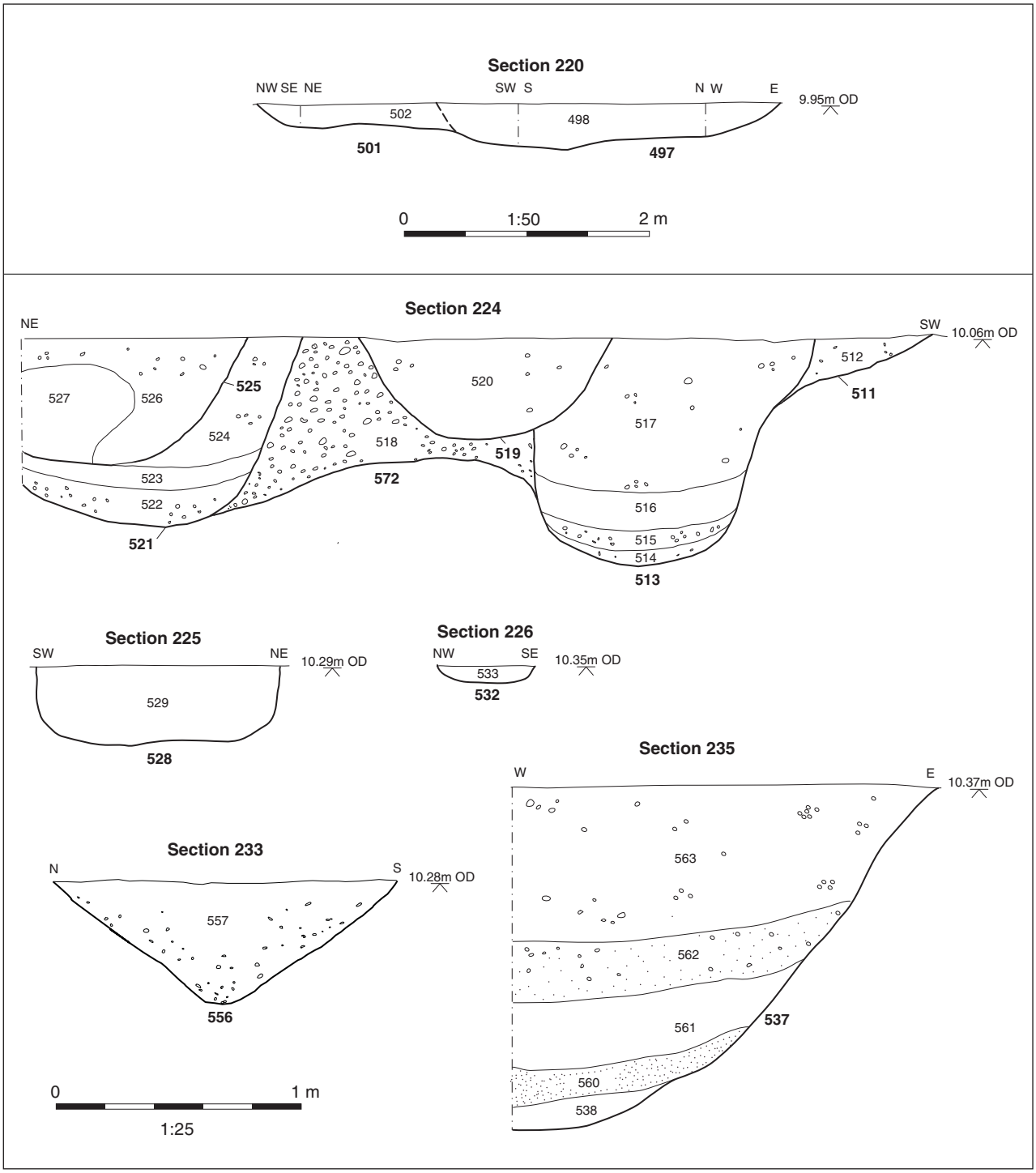

Figure 9b: Phase 2 Sections

Plate 1: Evaluation of Central Avenue, looking west from the eastern end

Plate 2: Beamslot **474**, phase 1, looking south-west

Plate 3: Ditches **485** and **487**, phase 1, looking north-east

Plate 4: Pit **434**, phase 1, looking north

Plate 5: Elongated Pit **445**, phase 1, looking south-west

Plate 6: Inter-cutting pits and ditches, looking south-west

Plate 7: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2, looking north

Plate 7a: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2, looking south-east

Plate 7b: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2 (timbers 477, 478 and 484)

Plate 7c: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2 (timbers 480, 481, 535, 539 and 540)

Plate 7d: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2 (timbers 477 and 484)

Plate 7e: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2 (timbers 477. 479, 483 and 484)

Plate 7f: Wooden structure **476** in well/tank **453**, phase 2, looking east

Plate 8: Ditch **537**, phase 2, looking north

Plate 9: Ditch **556** (Enclosure 2), phase 2, looking east

Plate 10a: Worked stone fragment from well/tank **453**

Plate 10b: Worked stone fragment from well/tank **453**

Plate 11: Tile fragment from well/tank **453**

Plate 12: T478 in situ metal nails

Plate 13: T480 joint housing

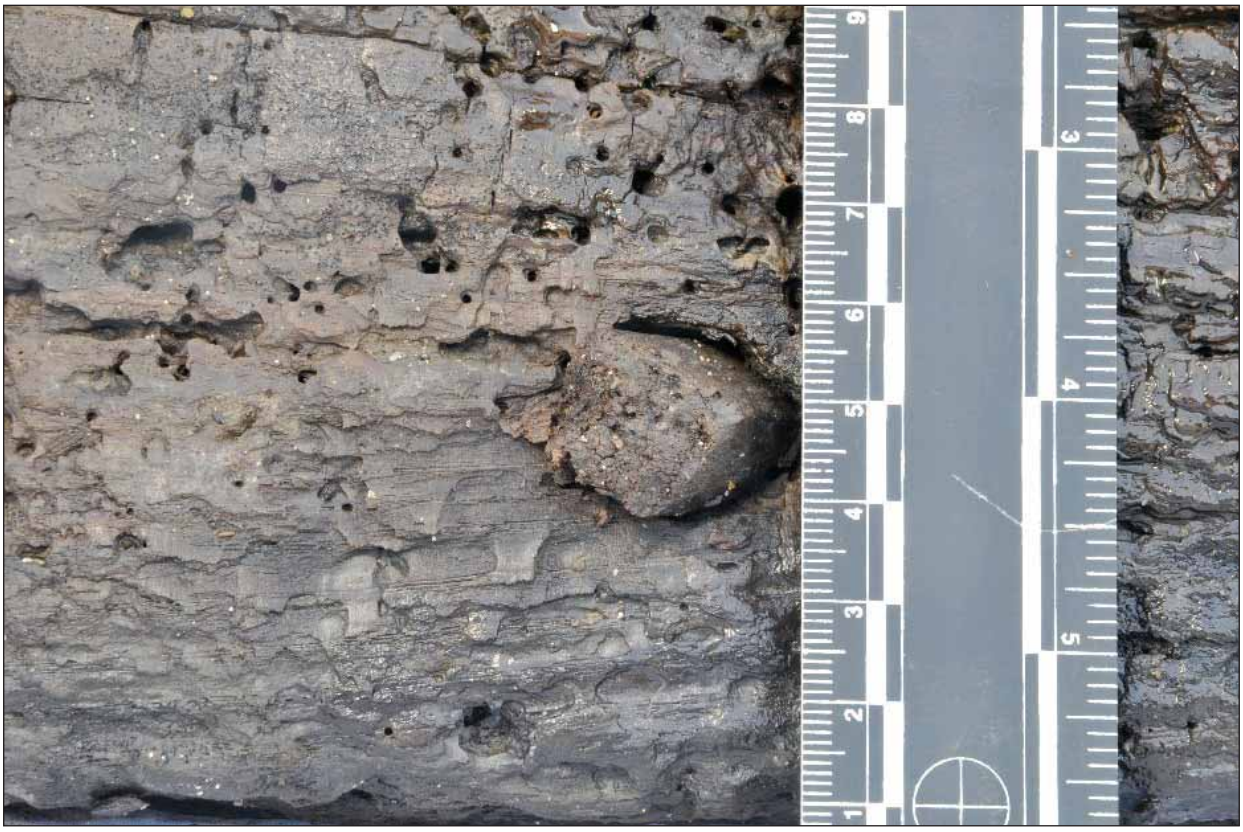

Plate 14: T481 wooden dowel and beetle damage

Plate 15: T534 grooved fashioning and wet rot (white staining)

Plate 16: T541 axe fashioning stake

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