•cambridgeshirearchaeology

archaeological field unit

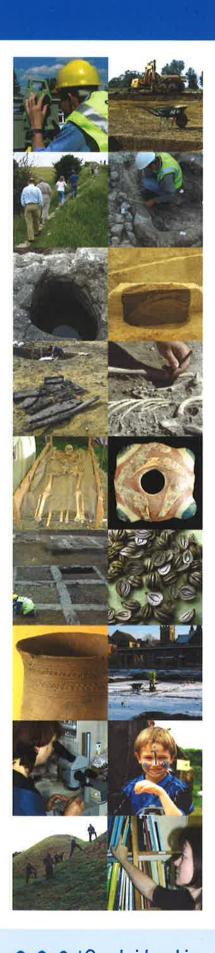
CCC AFU Report Number 843

Roman Ditches at Norton Low Wood, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

Thomas Lyons

December 2005





Cover Images

Machine stripping, Soham	On-site surveying
Roman corn dryer, Duxford	Guided walk along Devil's Dyke
Bronze Age shaft, Fordham Bypass	Medieval well, Soham
Human burial, Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery	Timbers from a medieval well, Soham
Blue enamelled bead, Barrington	Bed burial reconstruction, Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
Aethusa cynapium 'Fool's parsley'	Medieval tanning pits. Huntington Town Centre
Digging in the snow, Huntingdon Town Centre	Beaker vessel
Face painting at Hinchingbrooke Iron Age Farm	Environmental analysis
Research and publication	Monument Management, Bartlow Hills



AFU Reports Distribution List: Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

Site Nar	ne: Comes Pitches at	Norti	LOW Word, Norton Duney, Lines
			Date Sent:
	Author(s)		Relevant Specialists (please list:)
4	Client (how many copies?)		
l	Project Archive		
	Office Library		
	Principal Archaeologist, SMR Office, Room A108, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 OAP Box No.: ELH1108 County Archivist, County Records Office, Room 001, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 OAP Box No.: RES 1009 Chris Jakes, Cambridgeshire Collection,		A. Baker, Librarian, Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3DZ Huntingdon Sites ONLY: Local Studies Librarian, Huntingdon Library, Princess Street, Huntingdon PE1 1RX Fenland Sites ONLY: Local Studies Librarian, Wisbech Library,
	Central Library, Lion Yard, Cambridge CB2 3QD		1 Ely Place, Wisbech PE13 EU
	Felicity Gilmour, National Monument Record, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ		
x 2	Peterborough Reports ONLY: Ben Robinson, Archaeological Officer, Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough PE1 1LF		For English Heritage projects: Philip Walker, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage, Brooklands, 24 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2BU
	For developer funded reports via the Cambs planning process send to: Andy Thomas,		For English Heritage projects: Chris Scull,
x 3 (inc. SMR)	Principal Archaeologist, Land-Use Planning Room A107, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 OAP Box No.: ELH1108		Archaeology Commissions, English Heritage, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB

CCC AFU Report Number 843

Roman Ditches at Norton Low Wood, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire

An Archaeological Evaluation

Thomas Lyons BA

With contributions by Margaret Darling MPhil FSA MIFA and Rachel Fosberry

Site Code: NOD05

Museum Accession Number: 2005.237 Date of works: 14th-18th November 2005

Grid Ref: SK 8880 6040

Editor: Elizabeth Shepherd Popescu BA MIFA

Illustrator: Carlos Silva

Summary

Between the 14th and 18th November 2005, Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit (CCC AFU) conducted an archaeological evaluation at Norton Low Wood quarry, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire (SK 8880 6040). The work was commissioned by Cotswold Archaeology on behalf of Cemex with Cotswold Archaeology acting as the consultants.

Eighteen trenches were excavated (a total of 1856m, c.2% of the total site) using a 360° mechanical excavator with a 2.2m wide ditching bucket. In the south-eastern corner of the site, the evaluation identified two ditches possibly forming part of a short-lived Roman settlement dating from the later 1st century AD to early 2nd century. The ditches were a continuation of enclosure ditches encountered immediately to the east of the site during an excavation in 2003 (McDaid et al 2004). One ditch was butt ended, mirroring a ditch recorded in the 2003 excavation and probably representing a c.3m wide entranceway into the northern part of the enclosure. An interesting collection of pottery was recovered from the end of the ditch, consisting of fragments of fourteen vessels, many of which were conjoining sherds representing a single deposit of domestic pottery.

Within the remainder of the site post-medieval field boundaries were represented by a few scattered ditches. Most of the ditches were dated through map evidence as well as by 18th- or 19th-century pottery.

Contents

1	Introd	uction	1
2	Geolo	gy and Topography	1
3	Archa	eological and Historical Background	1
	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4	Introduction to previous archaeological work in the adjacent area Overview of Roman remains in the area Overview of medieval and undated remains in the area Historic map evidence	1 3 3 5
4	Metho	odology	5
5	Result	ts	6
	5.1	Introduction	6
	5.1.2 5.1.3 5.1.4 5.1.5 5.1.6 5.1.7 5.1.8	Trench 1 Trench 2 Trench 3 Trench 4 Trench 6 Trench 9 Trench 10 Trench 11 Trench 13	6 7 7 7 7 9 9
6	Discus	ssion	9
7	Concl	usions	12
	Ackno	owledgements	12
	Biblio	graphy	13

List of Figures

Figure 1:	Site location showing position of trenches and development area	2
Figure 2;	Known archaeology and previous archaeological work	4
Figure 3:	Trench plans	8
Figure 4:	Section drawings	10
List of Ta	bles	
Table 1:	Lengths of archaeological trenches	6
Table 2:	Pottery by context	17
List of Ap	pendices	
Appendix 1	: Pottery report by Margaret J. Darling	15
Appendix 2	: Environmental appraisal by Rachel Fosberry	18
Annendiy 3	· Context summary	19

Drawing Conventions

L	occions	I	Plans
Limit of Excavation		Limit of Excavation	
Cut	:	Deposit - Conjectured	
Cut-Conjectured		Natural Features	(*************************************
Soil Horizon		Intrusion/Truncation	
Soil Horizon - Conjectured		Sondages/Machine Strip	
Intrusion/Truncation		Illustrated Section	S-14
Top of Natural		Archaeological Deposit	
Top Surface	=======================================	Excavated Slot	
Break in Section	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	Post-Medieval Deposit	
Cut Number	118	Cut Number	118
Deposit Number	117	Small Finds	
Ordnance Datum	18.45m ODN	Auger Holes	\otimes

1 Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 14th and 18th November 2005 (SK 8880 6040; Fig. 1) at Norton Low Wood, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire. The work was carried out in accordance with a specification written by Cotswold Archaeology (Alexander 2005) and approved by Jim Bonner, former Senior Built Environment Officer for Lincolnshire County Council. The proposed trench locations for the site were agreed by Dr Beryl Lott, the present Senior Built Environment Officer for Lincolnshire County Council before the start of the evaluation.

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16 - Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit (CCC AFU) and will be deposited with Lincoln Museum with the museum accession no. 2005.237; site code NOD 05.

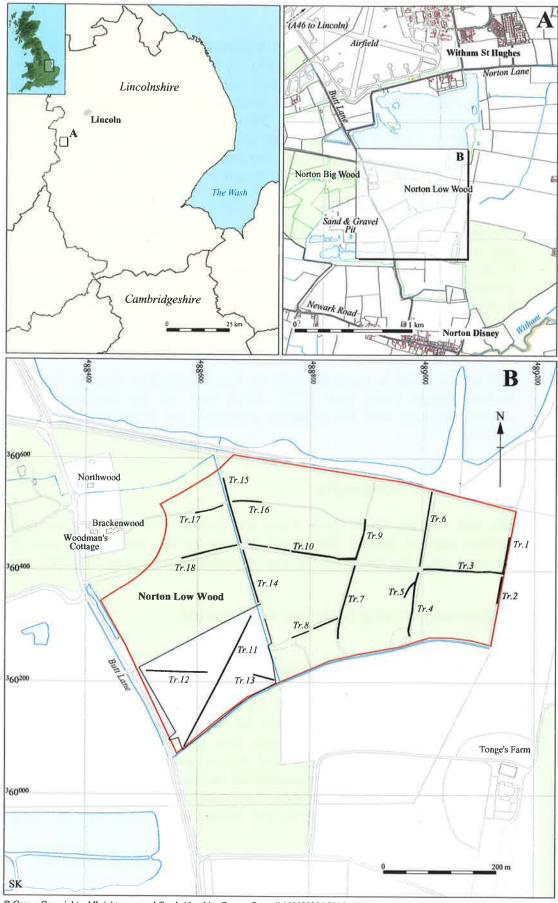
2 Geology and Topography

The site overlies Older River Sand and Gravel of the Pleistocene and Recent periods (British Geological Survey 1973). Within the area of the evaluation the land was flat and lay between 11m and 12m OD.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 Introduction to previous archaeological work in the adjacent area

A geophysical survey was carried out approximately 1km to the south-west of subject site and revealed no archaeological features (OAT 1994). An assessment of the site was carried out in 1999 which identified post-medieval ridge and furrow earthworks (OAA 1999). Several programmes of archaeological works have been undertaken adjacent to the site at Tonge's Farm before aggregate extraction (McDaid *et al* 2004, Tann 2005 and Jordan *et al* 2005; Fig. 2). This



© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved Cambridgeshire County Council 100023205 2005

Figure 1 Site location showing position of trenches (black) and development area (red)

comprised three watching briefs and an excavation carried out directly to the east and south of the subject site. In 2003 and archaeological watching brief and an excavation was carried out to the east and three sites to the south (McDaid *et al* 2004). Two separate watching briefs were conducted to the south (Tann 2005; Jordan *et al* 2005). In 2005 the Cotswold Archaeological unit produced a cultural heritage assessment of the Norton Low Wood (Stoten 2005).

3.2 Overview of Roman remains in the area

The site is 1.5km to the south-east of the Fosse Way which runs on a south-west/north-east alignment towards Lincoln (Margary 1973; Fig 2). But Lane, on the western boundary of the site, is conceivably part of a putative Roman route that joined the Fosse Way to the north (OAA 1999, 19).

Immediately to the east of the site was part of a Romano-British enclosure that may have been associated with, or very close to, a Roman army encampment (McDaid *et al* 2004; Figs. 2 and 3). This enclosure was defined by three east/west ditches and a north/ south ditch which runs into the current subject site. These ditches survived up to 0.95m wide and 0.35m deep and contained pottery from the late 1st to early 2nd centuries. Within the northern end of the enclosure were two truncated possible inhumations surviving on average just 0.05m deep. No articulated human remains were found in either grave although a fragment of possibly human bone was present.

A quantity of pottery was recovered (146 sherds, weighing 2.982kg) from the excavations. This was largely deposited in distinct areas of the ditches, with many joining sherds implying primary disposal. The assemblage was of a homogenous date and appears to have been deposited in a single event (Precious 2004). Several vessels, rarely used for cooking purposes, had soot adhering to them and this may indicate ritual use or destruction. Some of the pottery is of the type frequently found in military assemblages, for example, military groups in Lincoln and York (Precious 2004).

A Roman villa dating from the 1st century AD to the end of the 4th century AD was found approximately 2.5km to the west of the site (Oswald 1937), 0.5km to the south of the Fosse Way. Intensive occupation was evident from the late 1st century in the form of timber huts (Todd 1991).

3.3 Overview of medieval and undated remains in the area

Ridge and furrow earthworks of medieval date were present in the vicinity of the site, as well as some undated earthworks. Those recorded 700m to the south-east of the site (Fig. 2) are presumably associated with the medieval village of Norton Disney. Undated ridge

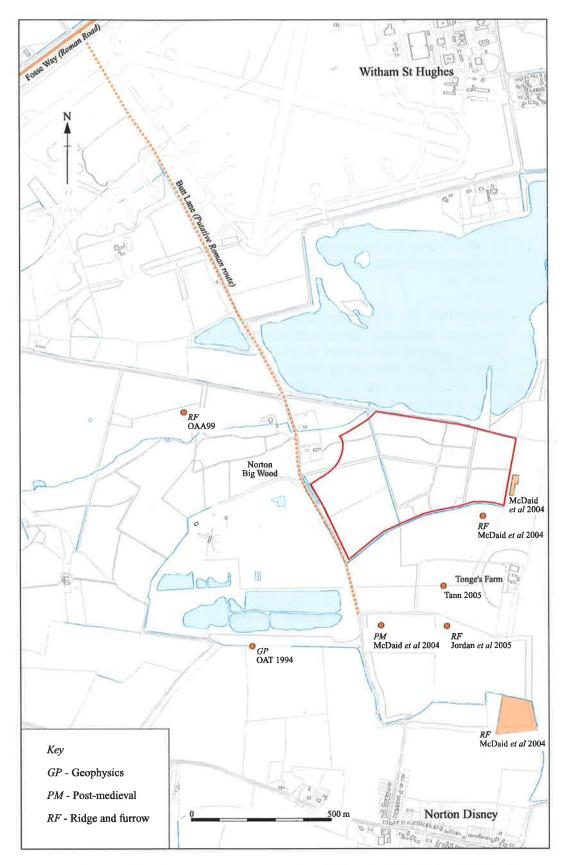


Figure 2 Known archaeology and previous archaeological works (after Stoten 2005, fig.2)

and furrow was discovered in Norton Big Wood to the west (Fig. 2; OAT 1994).

Further undated features were found in excavations to the south and east of the site. These were thought to be field boundaries and drainage ditches and contained ceramics from the 17th to 20th centuries (McDaid *et al* 2004). Those immediately to the east of the site appear to continue into the present development site (Fig. 2).

3.4 Historic map evidence

The earliest cartographic record of the site is the 1839 Norton Disney Tithe Map (Stoten 2005, fig. 4), which shows the boundaries of the site to be the same as those in use today. The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map from 1891 shows further 19th-century subdivision of the site which are probable pre-plantation field boundaries. Three of these boundaries are still defined by ditches. Ditches have been observed running along three boundaries within the site, which were depicted on a 1924 map (Stoten 2005, fig. 4).

4 Methodology

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area (Alexander 2005). Of particular interest was the extent of a Roman settlement found to the east of the site.

In recent years the plantation has been the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. Trenches were located to avoid damage to protected trees and were therefore restricted to the rides within the plantation as well as open areas. The locations of the trenches were determined during a site visit in consultation with David Kolebuk, Tree Officer, North Kesteven District Council. The proposed trench plan was approved by the Senior Built Environment Officer, Dr Beryl Lott.

Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 360° mechanical excavator using a 2.2m wide toothless ditching bucket. The lack of access for and manoeuvrability of the mechanical excavator within the plantation was a hindrance and as a result a few of the proposed trench locations were not evaluated as trees would have been adversely affected. To increase the amount of trenching some trenches were lengthened in the larger rides (Fig. 3).

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

Due to the lack of artefacts found in the evaluation 100% of most of the ditches were sampled in the evaluation and a representative sample of all natural features were dug. One environmental sample was taken from context 2, which contained the only Roman material recovered.

The evaluation was conducted in excellent dry conditions. An EDM survey was carried out with the trenches located in relation to the Ordnance Survey grid.

5 Results

5.1 Introduction

Eighteen evaluation trenches were excavated. Eight contained archaeological remains, although only feature 3 in Trench 2 contained pottery pre-dating the post-medieval period (Figs. 3 and 4). All trenches were machined to underlying natural deposits, between 0.4m and 0.6m beneath present ground level. Table 1 below lists the trench measurements.

Trenches	Length (m)	Archaeological Features
Trench 1	67	Undated ditch but corresponds to boundary on 1839 and 1891 maps
Trench 2	39	Two Roman ditches-part of Roman settlement
Trench 3	142	Undated ditch
Trench 4	126	Undated ditch but corresponds to boundary on 1839 map
Trench 5	32	No archaeology
Trench 6	134	A single possible pit but probably a tree throw
Trench 7	138	No archaeology
Trench 8	80	No archaeology
Trench 9	77	Undated ditch but corresponds to boundary on 1891 map
Trench 10	188	Undated ditch but corresponds to boundary on 1891 map
Trench 11	261	Post-medieval ditch and recut
Trench 12	107	No archaeology
Trench 13	38	Post-medieval ditch
Trench 14	99	No archaeology
Trench 15	122	No archaeology
Trench 16	53	No archaeology
Trench 17	51	No archaeology
Trench 18	102	No archaeology
Total	1856	

Table 1: Lengths of archaeological trenches

5.1.1 Trench 1

This trench contained an undated recut ditch on a north to south alignment which corresponds with the boundary shown on the 1839

and 1891 maps (Stoten, fig. 4). Ditches **21** and **23** lay at the south end of the trench and were 0.62m+ and 1.4m wide and 0.44m and 0.59m deep respectively (Fig. 4, S1). Approximately 16m to the north were ditches **13** and **17**. These had a combined width of 1.3m and were 0.25m and 0.4m deep respectively. All the ditches were filled with mixed sandy silts.

5.1.2 Trench 2

This trench contained two ditches on an east to west alignment. Ditch 3 was 0.55m wide and 0.15m deep (Fig. 4, S2). Ditch 7 was over 0.8m wide and 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, S3). Ditch 3 contained a large quantity of Roman pottery (Appendix 1). The ditch butt ended on its eastern side which appears to represent a c.3m wide entrance way at this point (mirrored by another butt ended ditch in the 2003 excavation). It was filled with a orange brown sandy silt. Ditch 7 was undated but is of probable Roman date since it formed a continuation of the northern boundary of the enclosure found in the 2003 excavation. It was filled with a dark brown silty sand.

5.1.3 Trench 3

This trench contained one undated ditch on a north to south alignment and is not shown on any post-medieval maps. Ditch **9** was 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a dark brown silty sand.

5.1.4 Trench 4

This contained a single undated east to west oriented ditch (11) which seems to correspond with the 1839 boundary. It was 0.62m wide and 0.32m deep and filled with a mid yellow brown sandy silt (Fig. 4, S4).

5.1.5 Trench 6

A possible feature (15) diameter 0.40m survived to a depth of 0.20m. It was undated and was probably a small tree-throw.

5.1.6 Trench 9

This trench contained one undated ditch on an east to west alignment which corresponds with a boundary on the 1891 map. Ditch **27** was 0.75m wide and 0.14m deep (Fig. 4, S5) and was filled with a brown silty sand.

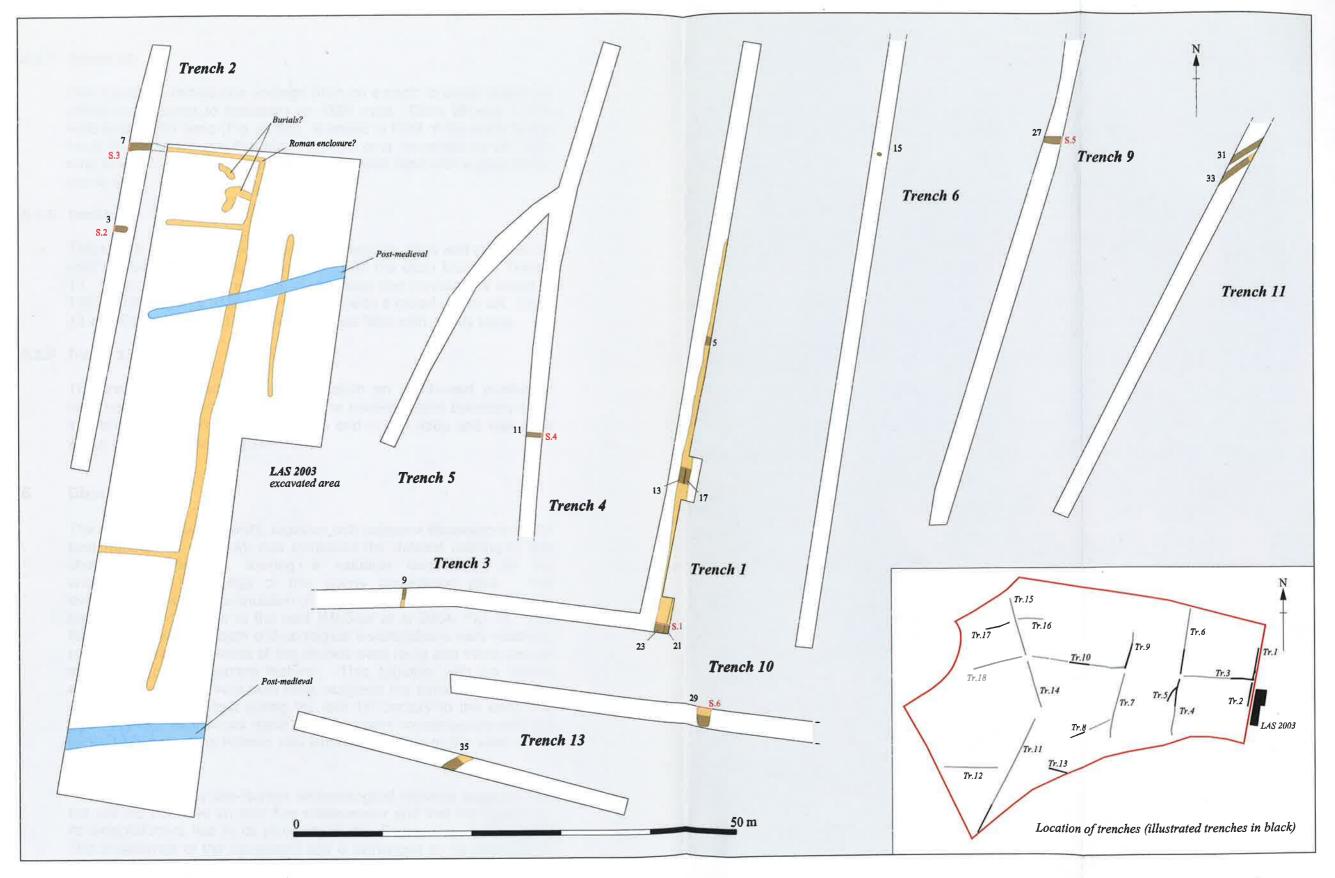


Figure 3: Trench plans (see insert for locations)

5.1.7 Trench 10

This trench contained one undated ditch on a north to south alignment which corresponds to boundary on 1891 map. Ditch **29** was 1.37m wide and 0.25m deep (Fig. 4, S6). It ended in front of the north facing baulk of the trench and therefore respects or is respected by the main east to west ride through the plantation. It was filled with a grey brown sandy silt.

5.1.8 Trench 11

This trench contained a post-medieval boundary ditch and recut on an east to west alignment which joins up with the ditch found in Trench 13. Ditch **31** was 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep and contained a sherd of 18th or 19th century pottery. It was filled with a mixed sandy silt. Ditch **33** was 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep. It was filled with a grey sand.

5.1.9 Trench 13

This trench contained one undated ditch on south-west north-east alignment, forming a continuation of the post-medieval boundary ditch in Trench 11. Ditch **35** was 1m wide and 0.14m deep and was filled with a dark brown sandy gravel.

6 Discussion

The present evaluation work, together with adjacent excavations to the east (McDaid *et al* 2004), has increased the dataset relating to this short-lived settlement, making a valuable contribution to the archaeological knowledge of this poorly understood area. The evaluation found the continuation of the Roman enclosure excavated in the 2003 less than 2m to the east (McDaid *et al* 2004; Fig. 3). The features recovered in both archaeological investigations were relatively sparsely distributed. None of the ditches were recut and there was an absence of pits or discrete features. This, together with the narrow ceramic date ranges from both sites, suggests the settlement was very short-lived and occurred during the late 1st century to the early 2nd century. This date would make the settlement contemporary with the earliest phases of the Roman villa excavated 2.5km to the west of the site (Oswald 1937).

The absence of any pre-Roman archaeological remains suggests that the site did not have an Iron Age predecessor and that the reason for its establishment lies in its proximity to the Fosse Way to the north. The importance of the excavated site is enhanced by its proximity to this route which was in use from the 1st century (Margary 1973, 219-221). Butt Lane, which bounds the western edge of the site (Fig. 2),

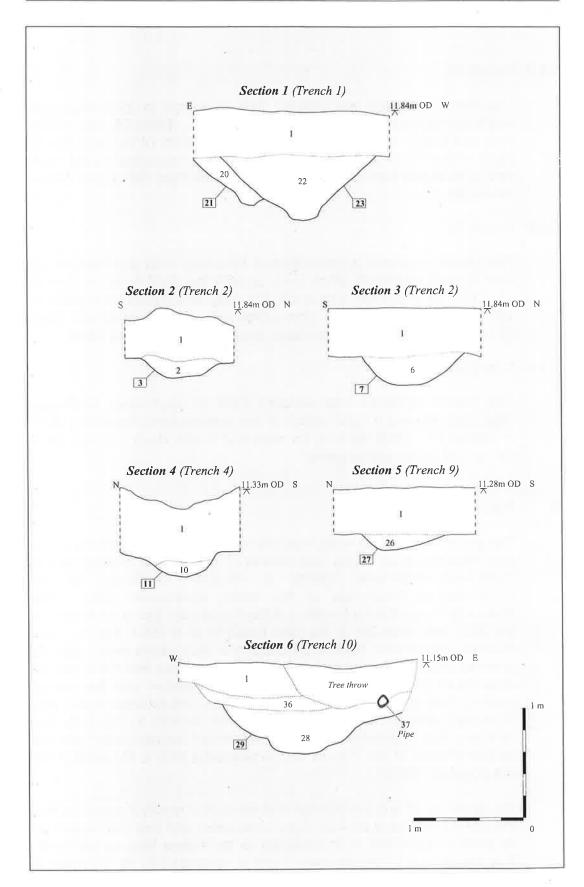


Figure 4: Section drawings

may be an original Roman route leading to the Fosse Way (McDaid et al 2004, 8).

The two east to west ditches found in Trench 2 align with ditches found in the excavation. The butt end of ditch 3 corresponds with the butt end from the 2003 excavated ditch c.3m to the east and may represent an entrance way. The precise western limit of this enclosure is unidentified; evidence for which might exist between Trenches 2, 3 and 4, as might further evidence pertaining to the original function of the site. It is possible that undated ditch 9 formed part of this settlement.

Parts of at least fourteen vessels were recovered from the butt end of ditch 3 — many of these vessels contained joining sherds. This corresponds with the pottery found during the 2003 excavations. Both ceramic assemblages were of a homogenous date and give further credence to Precious's theory that the 2003 pottery deposition was a single event (Precious 2004). Unlike the pottery from the 2003 excavation there was no soot adhering to any sherds in the evaluation so any possible ritual deposition cannot be confirmed by the present evaluation.

There has been relatively little securely datable ceramic material recovered from sites on the Fosse Way (Margaret Darling, pers. comm.) and the material recovered from the enclosure is therefore important and will add to the understanding of pottery in this area. The narrow time period of use/disposal of the vessels sometime within the late 1st to early 2nd century period is particularly significant since it provides a good primary deposit of pottery showing the range and character of vessels used. The vast majority of settlements excavated are multi-period and so the pottery recovered from contexts is often contaminated by residuality and intrusiveness. The 2003 excavation material has been drawn (Margaret Darling, pers. comm.) and Margaret Darling has recommend a further three vessels should be drawn from this evaluation. Thin-sectioning was recommended in the 2003 excavation material and further thin sectioning would be useful from the present collection.

The type of settlement is still uncertain, whether it was associated with military or civilian use. Some of the pottery from the 2003 excavation is of the type frequently found in military assemblages (Precious 2004) but the discovery of possible inhumation burials east of the site within the enclosure is perhaps more indicative of a civilian farmstead (Stoten 2005). The present evaluation did not recover any evidence of any further burials.

The 2003 excavation found six fragments of possible Roman brick and tile pieces but only one brick fragment (from one of the possible burials) came from a context with Roman pottery. The brick and tile may be medieval or post-medieval in date (Precious 2004). No brick

or tile pieces were recovered from the 2005 evaluation and it remains uncertain if a Roman structure stood nearby.

The enclosure continues into the plantation to the west of Trench 2. In the rides and the open areas features have survived relatively well beneath *c*.0.40m of topsoil. It is uncertain how well the features survive under the present plantation. The highly acidic natural subsoil has unfortunately meant that bone does not survive or does so in very poor condition (as seen in 'burials' in the 2003 excavation). The sample taken from the evaluation also failed to produce environmental remains.

The Roman and post-medieval ditches appear to be on roughly the same east/ west and north/ south alignment which might be a coincidence but could also be indicative of long-term continuity or hitherto unidentified land divisions in the intervening period.

The lack of post-Roman pottery and features shows that the vast majority of the site was not occupied. Ridge and furrow uncovered directly to the south implies that the site lay within the medieval and post-medieval fields of Norton Disney. Several undated ditches were discovered and seem to align with some of the boundaries shown on 1839 Tithe and later maps (Stoten 2005, fig. 4).

7 Conclusions

This evaluation found part of a short-lived early Roman settlement in the extreme south-eastern corner of the subject site. The value of the settlement is further enhanced by the need to understand settlements along the Fosse Way. Numerous questions remain to be answered. Is the site, for example, linked to the military activity or was this a civilian settlement?

The evaluation has shown that for the vast majority of the site no important archaeological remains were encountered.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Cemex who commissioned and funded the archaeological work especially Andrew Hindmarsh who helped organised the evaluation and ensured the smooth running of the work, Brian Morris (quarry manager) and his assistant, Roger Chaplin, kindly supplied Health and Safety information, site accommodation and toilet facilities. Stuart Clements and Steve Mapplethorpe gave survey information on the plantation which greatly helped surveying in the archaeological works.

Mary Alexander of Cotswold Archaeology greatly helped in the smooth running of the project. Dr Beryl Lott, Lincolnshire Senior Built Environment Officer monitored the evaluation and Mark Bennett of Lincolnshire HER kindly supplied SMR data on previous archaeological work in the area.

The evaluation team comprised Rob Atkins, Louise Bush, Spencer Cooper, Adam Loden, Tom Lyons, Claire Martin and Clionadh McGarry. The project was managed by Dr Paul Spoerry.

Crane Begg organised and prepared the digital data supplied by Cemex and Cotswold Archaeology. The EDM survey on site was carried out by Rachel Clarke assisted by Claire Martin. The illustrations were prepared by Carlos Silva. The pottery was reported on by Margaret Darling and environmental samples by Rachel Fosberry. The report was edited by Liz Popescu.

Bibliography

Alexander, M.,	2005	Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation Cotswold Archaeological Project No. 1960 dated 18th August 2005 (unpublished)
British Geological Survey	1973	(unpublisheu)
Darling, M.J.,	2004	Report 156 on pottery from Gallows Nooking Common, GNC01, GNCT91 and GNCT01 and GNC02, for Trent & Peak Archaeological Unit, February 2004 (unpublished)
Jordan, M., Tann, G. and Rowlandson, I.,	2005	Tonge's Farm, Norton Disney, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire Lindsey Archaeological Services Report No. 853 (unpublished)
Margary, I. D.,	1973	Roman Roads in Britain
McDaid, M., Pullen R., Rowlandson, I. and Tann, G.	2004	Tonge's Farm, Norton Disney Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation. Report for RMC Aggregates. Lindsey Archaeological Services Report No. 736 (unpublished)
OAT (Oxford Archaeological Technologies)	1994	Land south-east of Norton Big Wood, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire, Topsoil Magnetic Susceptibility and Gradiometer Survey, Typescript report No. 0341193.
OAA (Oxford Archaeological Associates)	1999	Land at Tonge's Farm, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire. Environmental Statement, Cultural Heritage Issues.
Oswald, A.	1937	A Roman Fortified Villa at Norton Disney, Lincolnshire, Antiquaries Journal 17, 138-78.
Precious, B. J.,	2004	'Report on the Roman Pottery from Tonge's Farm' in McDaid, M. Pullen, R. Rowlandson, I. and Tann, G. Tonge's Farm, Norton Disney Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief and Evaluation.

		Report for RMC Aggregates. Lindsey Archaeological Services Report No. 736 (unpublished)
Stoten, G.	2005	Norton Low Wood, Norton Disney, Lincolnshire. Cultural Heritage Assessment for Cemex. CA report 05079
Tann, G.	2005	Tonge's Farm, Norton Disney Quarry, Norton Disney, Lincs. Archaeological Watching Brief. Report for RMC Aggregates. Lindsey Archaeological Services Report No. 794.
Todd, M.	1991	Peoples of Roman Britain: The Coritani.

Appendix 1: Pottery Report

by Margaret J. Darling

1 Quantity and condition

The Roman pottery consists of fifty two sherds, weighing 0.900kg, from a single context. The condition is generally poor and abraded, but the group contains many joining sherds. No problems are anticipated for long term storage. The pottery has been archived using count and weight as measures according to the guidelines laid down for the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery*, using the computer archive codes and format set up for the City of Lincoln and Lincolnshire Roman pottery. The database is below in Table 2 and will be curated for future study.

2 Discussion

This is a curious group from a single context 002, a shallow ditch, comprising probably fourteen separate vessels, nine of which are composed of joining sherds, in a range of coarse fabrics. There are no fine wares. Three vessels have been recommended for illustration

Vessel 1 is a complete profile of a small beaker in a coarse fabric (IASA), burnt externally, the type, reminiscent of later Iron Age forms, and fabric suggesting an early Roman date, possibly 1st century but a type likely to continue into the 2nd century. Vessel 2 is the rim of a large jar or bowl in a coarse fabric (COAR), with a simple everted rim, again likely to date to the late 1st or earlier part of the 2nd century (similar type to Oswald 1937, fig 1, 5). Vessel 3 is the rim of a grey bowl, possibly carinated, with a groove on the interior, similar to one from Norton Disney villa (Oswald 1937, fig 1, 7), dated by Oswald to the Flavian period, but again a type which continues later. There is also a fragment of a base of a grey open form, almost certainly a platter or dish, with grooves on the interior at the junction of the base and wall, and in the centre. Without the rim this is impossible to date closely, but is reminiscent of platters occurring widely in Lincolnshire, broadly based on Gallo-Belgic types, the dating of which straddles the 1st and 2nd centuries, some dependent on type, occurring relatively late in the 2nd century.

A group of eight grey body sherds come from a probable jar with a bulging shoulder between grooves, and a cordoned zones, either towards the neck or basal zone. A cordon also occurs on a sandy grey group of sherds. A further larger group of grey sherds (14 sherds) comes from a probable jar with a footring base, decorated with a burnished wavy line. Other probable jars are represented in gritty Iron Age tradition fabrics (IAGR), comprising a plain base and body sherds with classic pimply surfaces common in the Trent Valley and north

Lincolnshire. A plain jar base in a sandy fabric (IASA) has a furrowed wall, a common feature of the pottery from the villa site (Oswald 1937, fig 1, nos 1-3, 5).

On such sparse evidence, dating has to be tentative, but while the possible range covers the later 1st and into the 2nd century, a deposition date in the early part of the 2nd century seems most likely. The dating and fabrics appear to be very similar to those from excavations in the same area by Lindsey Archaeological Services (Precious 2004). Such a group with numerous joining sherds is likely to be a single deposit of rubbish, as appears to be the case with similar deposits in ditches from the Lindsey Archaeological Services excavations in the area. The possibility of further excavation, combined with these earlier excavations, makes the pottery more valuable to build up a representative assemblage from this area. particularly for the interface between the Late Iron Age and Early Roman periods. The similarity to early pottery from the villa site is also of interest, particularly as there are possible parallels to a large late Iron Age site adjacent to the Fosse (Darling 2004), and these groups will add to the understanding of early settlement adjacent to the Fosse Way.

3 Fabric definition

All these are fabric groups rather than discrete fabrics. It is unfortunate that the pottery from Oswald's excavations (1937), which produced a range of fabrics and types relevant for this area, is currently unavailable for reference.

COAR Coarse tempered fabrics, usually in a Iron Age pottery tradition, often poorly mixed clay with quartz, limestone, grog and other inclusions.

GREY Grey, undifferentiated quartz-gritted grey fabrics, hard wares with sparse to common sub-rounded quartz inclusions.

GRSA Grey, with common to abundant quartz sand inclusions.

IAGR Coarse tempered, often pimply with grog and other inclusions, IA tradition fabric, which continues in use into the Roman period, cf. Trent Valley ware.

IASA Sand-tempered IA tradition. Quartz-gritted fabrics used for forms of late Iron Age type, usually continuing into the Roman period.

Cxt	=abric	Form	Manuf+	Ve	Altn	DNo	Details	Link	Link Shs Wt	Wt	
	COAR	JBEV	9.	١.	SOOTED	002	RIM/PT SHLDR;DKGRY LAMIN FB;V SPARSE QTZ;DIAM22	*:	τ-	62	
Ŭ	3REY	CLSD))	<u>_</u>	×	ж	BSS J; SHLDR BULBOUS BETW GROOVES; NONJ NECK/BASAL CORDON BSS	20	ω	53	
_	3REY	BCAR?	•	—		003	RIM/PT NECK; GROOVE INT RIM; RB FB; DKGRY S; DIAM 19-20	(0)	2	21	
_	3REY	۵		1	•	•	BASE FR; GROOVED INT BASE/WALL JUNC; CENTRE; RB FB; DKGRY S; SMTH INT	•1	_	17	
_	3REY	CLSD		œ			BS BASAL ZONE LGE J OR BOWL; DKGRY FEW QTZ	x	_	8	
_	3REY	5		•	(i)	æ	BASE FTRG:NON BSS INC BULG.SHLDR;LAMIN FB	0	14	212	
002 G	3REY	ر ج	ij	-	ė	6	BSS NECK/PT SHLDR	63	2	13	
_	3REY	CLSD		90	×	(*)	BS V THIN WALL > 2MM	90	~-	4	
_	RSA	72		*	3	æ	BASE PLAIN;QTZY RB;DKGRY S	0.0	7	93	
_	RSA	JBCOR?		•	á	(0)	BSS RB FB;GRYBN;1 W CORDON	6	က	10	
002	4GR	5		ĸ	É	•	BASE PLAIN SL. VESIC COAR POOR MIX DKGRY, POSS HM	ж	-	64	
002 IA	4GR	CLSD		-	7	30	BSS DKGRY V FEW QTZ;PIMPLY GRYBN EXT	,	4	47	
_	4SA	BKEV		۳-	BURNT EXT	001	COMP PROF;RIM DIAM 11?;DKGRY SPARSE QTZ;GRYBN SURF	300	က	93	
002 IA	4SA	~		-	2	¥(BASE PLAIN; FURROWED WALL; QTZY COAR FB		4	130	
002 Z	DATE		•	¥	·	,	E2 PROB				
002 Z	77.		į	ä	ī	0	MANY JOINS; DATE RANGE L1E2				
									52	52 900	

Table 2: Pottery by context

	Bowl carinated Beaker everted-rim Closed Dish Jar Jar or bowl cordoned Jar or bowl everted-rim Burnished wavy-line
Key:	BCAR? BKEV CLSD D J JBCOR? JBEV BWL

Appendix 2: Environmental Appraisal

by Rachel Fosberry

1 Introduction and Methods

A single ten-litre sample was processed by bucket flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The flot was collected in a 0.5mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through a 1mm sieve. The flot was examined under a binocular microscope at x16 magnification.

2 Results

No plant macrofossils were recovered other than modern contaminants in the form of rootlets.

3 Conclusions and Recommendations

The absence of charred plant macrofossils in this sample precludes the identification of any specific activity that may be associated with the feature.

Appendix 3: Context Summary

Context No.	Trench	Category	Туре	Finds
4		T	-	
2	2	Topsoil	Layer Ditch	Dettern
3	2	Fill of (3)	Ditch	Pottery
4	1	Fill of (5)	Ditch	
5	1	Cut	Ditch	
6	2	Fill of (7)	Ditch	
7-	2	Cut	Ditch	
8	3	Fill of [9]	Ditch	
9	3	Cut	Ditch	
10	4	Fill of (11)	Ditch	
11	4	Cut	Ditch	
12	1	Fill of (13)	Ditch	
13	1	Cut	Ditch	
14	6	Fill of (15)	Pit or tree throw	
15	6	Cut	Pit or tree throw	
16	1	Fill of (17)	Ditch	
17	1	Cut	Ditch	
18	5	Fill of (19)	Modern field drain	
19	5	Cut	Modern field drain	
20	1	Fill of (21)	Ditch	
21	1	Cut	Ditch	
22	1	Fill of (23)	Ditch	
23	1	Cut	Ditch	
24	5	Fill of (25)	Modern field drain	
25	5	Cut	Modern field drain	
26	9	Fill of (27)	Ditch	
27	9	Cut	Ditch	
28	10	Fill of (29)	Ditch	
29	10	Cut	Ditch	
30	11	Fill of (31)	Ditch	
31	11	Cut	Ditch	
32	11	Fill of (33)	Ditch	Pottery
33	11	Cut	Ditch	
34	13	Fill of (35)	Ditch	
35	13	Cut	Ditch	
36	10	Fill of (29)	Ditch	
37	10	Fill	Modern field drain	







Cambridgeshire County Council's **Archaeological Field Unit** undertakes a wide range of work throughout the county and across the eastern region.

Our key purpose is to increase understanding of the rich heritage of the region.

We are keenly competitive, working to the highest professional standards in a broad range of service areas. We work in partnership with contractors and local communities.

We undertake or provide:

- surveys, assessments, evaluations and excavations
- popular and academic publications
- illustration and design services
- heritage and conservation management
- education and outreach services
- volunteer, training and work experience opportunities
- partnership projects with community groups and research bodies

cambridgeshirearchaeology

Fulbourn Community Centre Site Haggis Gap Fulbourn Cambridge CB1 5HD

Tel: 01223 576201 Fax: 01223 880946

email: arch.field.unit@cambridgeshire.gov.uk web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/archaeology

