



Oxford Archaeology Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 20

From 1989 to 1998, Oxford Archaeology investigated an extensive landscape between Yarnton and Cassington, Oxfordshire in advance of gravel extraction. Remains dating from the Neolithic to the post-medieval period were examined, revealing a remarkable story of changing settlement and landscape over five millennia. This volume describes the Saxon to post-medieval discoveries made between 1990 and 1996.

This exciting account traces developments from small-scale, early Anglo-Saxon farmsteads to the medieval village with its large, common open fields and meadows, and reveals the profound changes that occurred at Yarnton in settlement, agriculture and social organisation between the end of the Roman empire and the post-Conquest world. Rare evidence from multi-disciplinary studies shows that many of the key features of this transformation took place during the late 8th and 9th centuries AD, at an earlier date than conventionally believed.



Cover: Part of the Yarnton Anglo-Saxon settlement as it might have appeared in the 9th century AD. This reconstruction is based on the plan of a timber hall with annexe which lay in the north of the settlement, and the adjacent hen house or dovecote represented by three concentric rings of posts. Alternative interpretations of these buildings are discussed in the report. Reconstruction by Peter Lorimer.



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