



Nether Poppleton, City of York, Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



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Summary

In June 2004 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's Time Team in the village of Nether Poppleton, City of York, Yorkshire, as part of a community archaeological project (centred on NGR SE 562 549) to investigate the origins and development of the village.

The evaluation was concentrated within the village focusing on the land around St. Everilda's church, Manor Farm and a series of earthworks, representing a moated site and associated fishponds at the eastern end of the village and in the gardens of the houses within the village itself. The earthworks to the north and east of the parish church are designated as a Scheduled Monument, centred on NGR SE5645 5513 (English Heritage Scheduled Monument 28234), and as such enjoy statutory protection.

The aims of the evaluation were to determine whether the village had its earliest foundations in the Anglo-Saxon period and developed focussing on a 7th century monastic complex centred on the church of St. Everilda. The project aimed also to test the hypothesis that the village in its current form had been planned in the Norman period and whether analysis of archaeological evidence and pottery distribution throughout the village would be able to shed light on the village's development.

A series of twelve trenches were excavated on the land around St. Everilda's, with a further four trenches dug within the gardens of the village to the west. These were excavated to evaluate the location, extent, character, date and significance of any underlying archaeology. A total of 32 test pits were hand dug by the community throughout the village for the recovery of pottery to create a distribution map of dateable finds. Any patterns in the distribution were then used to try and ascertain information about the development of the village.

The archaeological evaluation was successful in achieving a number of the aims of the project, including establishing the presence of part of the *vallum monasteria*, the surrounding boundary ditch which encompassed monastic sites. This ditch contained sherds of pottery dated to c. AD 450-850 and is likely to date to the Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon period.

The trenches around St. Everilda's were also able to provide new information about the later development of the manorial complex which arose during the 12th century. The medieval moated manor house, within the Scheduled earthworks was probably superseded in the Tudor period by a new building to the south east, before moving once more, in the 18th century, to its present position.

Analysis of the pottery recovered from the 1m by 1m test pits did show a distinct concentration of medieval pottery along Main Street within the village. However no distinct pattern of distribution could be determined. Many of the gardens could be seen to have undergone considerable levelling and recent landscaping with materials having been brought in from outside the village to act as levelling deposits. As the pottery from the test pits was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil there was no way to ascertain whether finds recovered originated from the village or had been brought

in with the landscaping material. It is therefore difficult to use the pottery distribution in interpreting the development of the village.

Analysis of the current layout of the village indicates that Nether Poppleton was probably a planned settlement, established along a single main street to the west of the church during the Norman period. Pottery recovered from the trenching within the village points to its medieval origins, but no significant structural or archaeological evidence was recovered to shed further light on the origins or development of the village layout. The oldest buildings lining the old main village street appear to date to the 17th and 18th centuries, and are likely to have been built on the sites of their medieval predecessors. Some are still aligned with their gables to the road, possibly fossilising earlier, medieval, building patterns. The best evidence for the medieval village layout lies in the survival of many of the early boundary plots along Main Street and Church Lane.

Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Zarina Dick and Melinda Smith (Executive Producers), Oliver Twinch (Development Researcher) and Kate Edwards (Researcher) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work. The collaborative role of John Oxley, County Archaeologist, City of York Council and Keith Emerick, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage who provided much assistance throughout, is gratefully acknowledged.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater and staff from GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Dr Henry Chapman, University of Hull, and the landscape survey by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was conducted by Mick Aston, Bristol University. The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson, assisted by Andy Armstrong of Wessex Archaeology. The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists with help from Phil Abramson, Emma Allen, Adrian Bailey, Martin Bartlett and Maria Vinnells. On site pottery identification was undertaken by Paul Blinkhorn. The archive was collated, and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson, with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mephram (finds) and Stephanie Knight (animal bone). The illustrations were prepared by Kitty Brandon. The post excavation project was managed by Nicholas Cooke.

The progress and successful completion of the work also benefited from discussion on site with Jonathan Clark, buildings archaeologist from the York Archaeological Trust, Phil Harding of Wessex Archaeology and Mick Aston of Bristol University. Steve Thompson would like to thank Theresa Hall for the slide used as a cover illustration.

Finally thanks are extended to all householders in the village of Nether Poppleton and the Poppleton Parishes Archaeological Project who allowed access for geophysical survey and especially those who granted permission to dig and took part in the excavation of test pits themselves.

Nether Poppleton, City of York, Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Description of the Site

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology were commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the village of Nether Poppleton within the bounds of the City of York, North Yorkshire (Figure 1). 'Time Team' were invited to the village by the local archaeological society, and the aim was to undertake a community project examining the origins of the village.
- 1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works, along with recommendations for further analysis and dissemination.
- 1.1.3 The village of Nether Poppleton, approximately centred on NGR SE 562 549, lies on the banks of the river Ouse, some 5km to the northwest of York city centre, and within the bounds of the modern extents of the City of York. The village lies at a height of approximately 15m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), with the land sloping down to the north at around 10m aOD on the south bank of the Ouse. The underlying geology of the village is Glacial Sands giving way to Warp and Lacustrine Clay, with a band of alluvium running along the course of the River Ouse. (BGS, 1983, sheet 63).
- 1.1.4 The evaluation concentrated on two main areas of investigation within the village. The first area focussed on the eastern end of the village around the area of St Everilda's church and Manor Farm, where a series of earthworks are clearly visible (Figure 2). These earthworks: a moated site and associated fishponds, are considered of national importance and have been designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument (National Monument No. 28234).
- 1.1.5 The second avenue of enquiry was concentrated in the gardens of the houses along Main Street and Church Lane in the village, to the west of area of the church and the moated complex.

1.2 Historical Background

- 1.2.1 Recent work has established that the area around Nether Poppleton has a long history of human inhabitation, with recent work identifying areas of prehistoric and Roman activity (Falkingham 1989). The origins of the modern village probably lie in the post-Roman period, with the village probably owing its origins to the presence of an Anglo-Saxon manorial and ecclesiastical establishment, possibly established as early as the 7th century AD.

- 1.2.2 The original focus for the development of the village is believed to lie in and around St. Everilda's church and the earthworks of the Scheduled Monument to its north. This area of medieval earthworks and the moated site are believed to have been preceded by an Anglo-Saxon settlement complex associated with the foundations of St. Everilda's. Place name evidence also suggests an Anglo-Saxon foundation as the 'farmstead on pebbly soil', or *popel* and *tun* in Old English.(Mills 1991)
- 1.2.3 St Wilfred, the Bishop of York (c.660-691) is said to have received the site as a Northumbrian royal estate, which he later passed on to Everilda. She was a convert of Bishop Birinus, and had travelled from the Kingdom of Wessex to Northumbria to seek out a religious house in which she could take refuge - as there were no suitable houses in Wessex (Arnold-Fraser 1899). By the time of St. Everilda's death in *circa*. AD 700 the nunnery which she founded had some 80 inhabitants. (EH 1996).
- 1.2.4 The church in Nether Poppleton is one of only two medieval churches dedicated to St. Everilda, the other being in the village of Everingham some 25km south east of York. This has led to some discussion over the likely location of her nunnery, with each village claiming it lies within their village boundaries.
- 1.2.5 Documentary evidence and evidence from the Church itself would suggest that Nether Poppleton was the site of the nunnery of St. Everilda and that it was this foundation that led to the growth of the village. The earliest documentary reference to '*Poppeltune*' is c.972 from Walter de Gray Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum: a collection of charters relating to Anglo-Saxon history (1885-1887)*, and later the Domesday Book states that St. Everilda's may have been a Minster as it was in the receivership of prebends. This was the only church within the county to receive this stipend, supporting the suggestion that the church was part of a monastic complex.(Ryder 2000)
- 1.2.6 The Domesday Book also states that there were two separate villages of '*Popleton*' and '*Altera Popleton*' with a priest residing at the former and a deacon at the latter. The deacon Odo or Oddi is known to have held a substantial estate, a '*manor in duabus Popletunis*' inferring a manor complex was in place prior to the Norman Conquest, and this land was Everilda's.
- 1.2.7 The present building of St. Everilda's is largely Norman in origin and is believed to have been built to a cruciform pattern - an indication of high status, such as that associated with a monastic centre. A monastic complex would have included a large number of buildings including domestic dwellings as well as the religious buildings themselves, and it would appear that the location of this complex subsequently influenced the layout of the village itself. (Videotext 2004)
- 1.2.8 The core of the modern village of Nether Poppleton was probably laid out during the mid-12th century, and may have been tied in to a rebuilding of the church. Much of the church fabric dates to this period. This followed the handing over of the church and manor to the Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary's of York by Osbern de Arches in 1088. The construction of the

manorial moated site and fishponds is also likely to post date this transition, probably taking place sometime between the 12th and 13th centuries.

- 1.2.9 The construction of this moated site, was a display of wealth and prestige and this increased wealth in the area appears to have given rise to the growth of the village. The village appears to have grown up along the line of a single high street, which continued on from Church Lane, which at its eastern end can be seen to dogleg around the buildings complex which exists there today. This change in road alignment may be further evidence of the presence of a pre-Conquest complex of buildings prior to the main growth of the village (Figure 3).
- 1.2.10 The 16th century saw the passing of the Poppleton lands of St. Mary's to the Archbishop of York following the Dissolution, and in turn leased to the Lawson family, merchants and Lord Mayors of York. It is possible the building known as the 'Tithe Barn' was constructed around 1542 or 1543 following the Lawson's take-over. In 1590 the land passed to the Hutton family, and many burial monuments to members of the Hutton family can be seen in the churchyard of St. Everilda's (Ryder 2000). For the first time since the Saxon period, the balance of power in the parish had shifted away from the church to the secular.
- 1.2.11 During the 17th century it is said that following Prince Rupert's seizure of a bridge of boats built across the Ouse by Parliamentary forces, three hundred Royalist troops billeted at the 'Tithe Barn' prior to their defeat at the Battle of Marston Moor in 1644, giving rise to the tradition of the Barn being known as 'Rupert's Barn'. The Civil War saw further involvement of Poppleton when Thomas, the 3rd Lord Fairfax billeted his two hundred 'Yorkshire Gentleman' at the Barn, prior to the second bloodless Battle of Marston Moor in 1660, as a result of his family connection with Dorothy Hutton of Poppleton. This confrontation and the events that followed led to the Restoration of Charles II. (Ryder 2000)
- 1.2.12 The 17th and 18th centuries saw building in brick becoming more common, and many of the timber-framed buildings of Yorkshire were replaced in brick. This pattern appears to be reflected at Nether Poppleton where a number of brick buildings probably occupy the plots and even the footprints of earlier buildings. (Videotext 2004) The mid-18th century also saw the construction of the present Manor farmhouse, replacing the earlier Manor.

1.3 Previous Archaeological Work

- 1.3.1 There has been a limited amount of archaeological work carried out, in and around the village of Nether Poppleton, with no formal excavation having occurred in the area of the Scheduled Monument. A brief summary of the previous work is described here.
- 1.3.2 In January 1833, during the digging of field trenches on land between Nether and Upper Poppleton, a large stone coffin was uncovered by the workmen. On opening it a '*mass of clotted hair*' was revealed. '*This was the only indication of its having been the depository of any mortal remains*'. It was

later recorded as a possible gypsum burial, a relatively common, Christian burial type of late 4th century Roman occupation around York. (Falkingham 1989)

- 1.3.3 In October 1973, the area of earthworks north of St. Everilda's was included in the schedule of monuments as 'Nether Poppleton Moated Site', (Yorkshire No. 1072, National Monument No. 28234). (EH 1996)
- 1.3.4 In January 1988, Gail Falkingham undertook a field walking survey of the field directly east of St. Everilda's churchyard and revealed a large quantity of Mesolithic flintwork and a pottery assemblage representing two distinct phases dating from the 12th to 14th centuries, and the 17th century onwards. Later in the year she undertook an earth work survey of the moated site. (Falkingham 1989)
- 1.3.5 In 1998-2000, the 'Tithe Barn' was restored with the aid of Lottery Funding. Prior to this, a survey of the structure and a number of watching briefs were undertaken which revealed a number of possible yard surfaces. (Ryder 2000)
- 1.3.6 In 1999-2001 the Poppleton Parishes Archaeological Project undertook a survey of the earthworks and the churchyard.
- 1.3.7 No formal work has been undertaken within Nether Poppleton to determine the form and layout of the village and how it may have developed from its earliest foundations. There have, however, been a number of detailed investigations into village patterns, identifying those which show deliberate organisation and planning and those which have formed an agglomeration. (Hooke. 1985)

2 METHODS

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Videotext Communications Ltd (Videotext 2004), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

2.2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.2.1 The project was instigated by the local archaeology society and provided the opportunity for the community of Nether Poppleton to actively take part in an investigation into the origins and development of their village, and provide the basis for further work.
- 2.2.2 The investigation was to be divided in to two areas of work: the earthworks within the Scheduled area and the land around St. Everilda's to the east, and the village to the west, centred on Church Lane. (Figures 4a and 4b)
- 2.2.3 The project aimed to test the hypothesis that the village had an Anglo-Saxon origin associated with either an ecclesiastical or manorial complex centred on the church of St. Everilda. Investigation into the Scheduled area also aimed

to establish the location, date, extent, character and significance of any underlying archaeological remains revealed and so provide information which could be used in the future management and interpretation of the Site.

- 2.2.4 The work within the village aimed to test the hypothesis that the current plan of Nether Poppleton was established during the early medieval period and attempt to determine whether there had been earlier activity in this area, and if so, identify the nature, date and character of that activity.

2.3 Fieldwork Methodology

The Land around St. Everilda's Church and the Scheduled Area

- 2.3.1 Prior to the commencement of the fieldwork Scheduled Monument Consent was obtained from English Heritage.
- 2.3.2 The fieldwork began with an extensive landscape survey of the Scheduled area undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The results of this are discussed further below.
- 2.3.3 This topographical survey was then followed by geophysical survey of a total of seven areas around the church, using a combination of magnetic and resistance survey. Full details and results of the geophysical survey are contained within GSB Prospection's report. (GSB 2004) The geophysical survey revealed a number of anomalies which were then targeted for the positioning of evaluation trenches.
- 2.3.4 The land around St. Everilda's was divided in to the following areas for geophysical survey and had the following trenches opened across anomalies identified (Figure 4b)

St. Everilda's churchyard.	Trench 1.
Millennium Field.	Trenches 2 and 10.
Manor Farm Orchard.	Trenches 4, 5 and 14.
North of the Orchard.	Trenches 7, 8, 11 and 12.
The Tithe Barn.	Trench 6.
Moat Site.	No Trench.
The Paddock	No Trench.

- 2.3.5 A further trench was positioned on the land around St. Everilda's which did not undergo geophysical survey.

Manor Farm Front Garden.	Trench 9.
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- 2.3.6 Twelve evaluation trenches of varying sizes were excavated after consultation between the on-site director Mick Aston and other associated specialists. Their precise locations were determined in order to investigate geophysical anomalies or topographical features in order to answer the specific aims and objectives of the project design. Of the twelve evaluation

trenches, three were excavated by machine with the remaining nine being hand dug.

- 2.3.7 All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological deposits, or where natural geology was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits excavated.

The Village

- 2.3.8 The field work within the village began with hand digging of 1m by 1m test pits by the house owners under the supervision of Time Team's retained archaeologists. The test pits were excavated initially to a depth of 0.30m from the ground surface to identify topsoil and subsoil deposits, they were then excavated to a maximum depth of 0.60m. The purpose of these test-pits was primarily to facilitate the recovery of pottery and dateable finds so that a distribution map of finds recovered could be created. Analysis of these patterns of distribution could be used to provide information about the development of the village layout.
- 2.3.9 These test pits were numbered and recorded in the field according to the number or name of the house in which they had been excavated. Where the test pits revealed evidence of archaeological features they were subsequently enlarged and given a unique Trench number from the sequence used in recording the trenches (Figures 4a and 4b).
- 2.3.10 A total of 37 test pits were excavated within the village with 4 of the test pits being expanded and becoming trenches. A list of those houses which had test pits excavated in their gardens is contained in Appendix 2. Those test pits expanded to trenches excavated in the village were positioned thus:

Saxe-Dane Lodge.	Trench 3.
20 Main Street.	Trench 13
36 Church Lane.	Trench 15
24 Church Lane	Trench 16.

- 2.3.11 All trenches excavated in the village were dug by hand except for Trench 3, which was machine dug, again under constant archaeological supervision.
- 2.3.12 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principle strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.
- 2.3.13 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising colour transparencies, black and white negatives (on 35mm film) and digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the

detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

- 2.3.14 All test pits were located using the same Trimble survey system. No further recording of the test pits took place except to record what finds recovered from the topsoil and subsoil deposits. Finds recovered the Topsoil were assigned the number **01** and Subsoil **02**. Test pits were recorded by house numbers and street name in the field, and were later assigned unique Test Pit numbers (Test Pits 17 to 49) in post-ex. (see Appendix 2)
- 2.3.15 At the completion of the work, all trenches around the area of St. Everilda's were reinstated using the excavated spoil and turf re-laid. A number of the Trenches and test pits in the village remained open at the request of the house owners, the remainder were backfilled.
- 2.3.16 All artefacts were transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report. The excavated material and archive, including plans, photographs and written records are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under project code 55756. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited at York Museum.
- 2.3.17 The work was carried out on the 22nd – 25th June 2004.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, a full geophysical report (GSB 2004) and results of the artefact analysis are retained in the archive. However, detailed summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in Appendix 1, whilst the results of the geophysical survey are incorporated here.
- 3.1.2 The results of the fieldwork are divided in to two sections. The first concentrates on the results obtained from the geophysical survey and excavated trenches in the area around St. Everilda's church and the Scheduled area as detailed above, and the second concentrating on the results from the test pitting and limited trench excavation within the remainder of the village.

THE LAND AROUND ST. EVERILDA'S AND THE SCHEDULED AREA

3.2 Geophysical Survey

- 3.2.1 The results of the resistance and magnetic survey were of limited value as many of the anomalies identified were incoherent and interpretation was difficult, though they did provide the basis for the targeting of those

anomalies which appeared most promising. A summary is provided below of the results of the geophysical survey area by area (Figure 5)

St. Everilda's Church

- 3.2.2 Resistance survey at the eastern end of the church was undertaken to attempt to locate any earlier buildings on the Site, three large areas of high resistance were located, which may represent areas building rubble, though they may be variations in natural geology.

Millennium Field

- 3.2.3 Magnetic survey was conducted over the majority of the field, with resistance survey undertaken adjacent to the churchyard wall. Numerous anomalies were identified as potentially archaeological, however no clear patterns could be discerned and therefore may have been natural or agricultural. A large east-west aligned anomaly of low resistance was revealed in the resistance survey, which was identified on excavation of Trench 2 as a large ditch. Other high resistance anomalies were also noted.

Manor Farm Orchard

- 3.2.4 The resistance survey identified areas of high resistance similar to those identified in the churchyard and may therefore be areas of building rubble. A north-south low resistance anomaly was identified and on the excavation of Trenches 4 and 14 as a large ditch.

North of the Orchard

- 3.2.5 Numerous high resistance anomalies were identified in this area which on excavation revealed the footprint of a large building (Trenches 7 and 12) and potential courtyard and gardens (Trench 11). Other high resistance anomalies were revealed on excavation to be areas of burning and building material, indicating evidence of demolition (Trench 8).

The Tithe Barn

- 3.2.6 This area of resistance survey was conducted to try and clarify the nature of a wall revealed in Trench 6. This was not successful.

Moat Site

- 3.2.7 Several anomalies were identified on the raised platform of the moated area; these are interpreted as archaeological due to their position, though no clear patterns could be discerned.

The Paddock

- 3.2.8 The resistance survey undertaken at this location revealed anomalies of a potentially archaeological nature due to their proximity to the moated site, again no discernible pattern could be identified.

3.3 Landscape Survey

- 3.3.1 A landscape study of the area in the region of the St Everilda's and the Scheduled Monument. This involved a detailed study of available maps of the area combined with a walkover study of the area. This included the creation of a sketch survey of the visible earthworks (see Figure 6)
- 3.3.2 This measured survey has identified further extant remains of the earthworks within the study area. On the basis of this survey, a number of new theories concerning the history of this area of the village have been suggested (Ainsworth, pers comm.)
- 3.3.3 The earliest of these concerns the likely line of the early route from York (Figure 6 A) to St Everilda's. It is likely curving line of a boundary marked on the early mapping represents the line of the original York road, probably leading to a ferry crossing at a point within the area of the Scheduled Monument. This route is likely to be associated with the establishment of the Anglo-Saxon nunnery, with the road adapted and diverted to the west to follow its present course and becoming the high street of the newly formed village. The ferry crossing moved to its current position as a result of this diversion.. Elements of the line of this route to the north and south of the river are evident fossilised in early maps of the area.
- 3.3.4 The core of the nunnery is likely to have lain to the north-east of the current church, although the precinct is likely to have been fairly large – part of its western edge is defined by the altered line of the York road, whilst traces of the ditch which probably formed part of the eastern precinct and southern boundary are still evident in the earthwork complex. (Figure 6, B).
- 3.3.5 The medieval manor house is likely to have stood within the main moated enclosure (Figure 6, C) to the north-west of the church of St Everilda's. Three rectangular fishponds to the east of this are likely to date to the medieval period, although they may have first been built as part of the nunnery complex (Figure 6, D).
- 3.3.6 A rectangular platform to the north of St Everilda's appears to mark the site of a later building, probably associated with the 'Tudor' or Post-medieval manor house (Figure 6, E). This is was provided with a series of formal gardens which can be seen to overlie the monastic earthworks in the field to the north and east (Figure 6, F). These landscaped gardens may have been fairly extensive, and may have involved some remodelling of the earlier earthworks such as the medieval moat and the fishponds. This new building platform was probably approached via a hollow way leading off church lane (Figure 6, G) and also had a prominent approach or avenue leading down to the river.

3.4 Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.4.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the archive and within Appendix 1. Below is a summary of the evaluation by trench.

Trench 1. St. Everilda's Churchyard. Figure 7

- 3.4.2 Trench 1 was hand-dug and 2.90m long by 1.20m wide by a maximum of 0.87m in depth and aligned east-west, and positioned against the southeast corner of the church of St. Everilda. The southern wall of the church shows considerable signs of alteration and repair, with the eastern wall having been completely replaced. Trench 1 was positioned to try and locate evidence of the church's plan prior to this alteration and investigate the possibility of it having once had a cruciform shape during the early medieval period. Trench 1 also hoped to reveal evidence of an Anglo-Saxon timber phase. As the churchyard has been used for interments for hundreds of years the size of the trench was limited so as to limit the disturbance which may be caused to any inhumations located. This area of the churchyard had been badly disturbed by the excavation of modern water pipe along the southern wall of the church, and the presence of a large stone slab against the wall also reduced the area of the trench which could be worked.
- 3.4.3 Following the removal of 0.14m of **101**, the current turf and topsoil of the churchyard, the subsoil **102** was encountered. **101** was a mid to dark brown silty clay, which contained common small fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) as well as a single prehistoric flint waste flake. The subsoil was a mid yellow brown silty clay and a highly disturbed mix of topsoil, subsoil and natural alluvium as result of repeated disturbance by the excavation of inhumation burials. This deposit contained frequent fragments of disarticulated human bone and CBM.
- 3.4.4 Following the partial removal of the subsoil **102** against the southern wall, an inhumation burial was revealed within this deposit. The cut **108** of the inhumation was not seen until the skeleton **109** was revealed due to the disturbed nature of the subsoil deposit. **109** was an infant or neonate inhumation and once the extent of the burial was identified, no further excavation of this area took place, with no further disturbance to the burial.
- 3.4.5 A small sondage was dug within Trench 1 through **102** against the eastern wall of the church as to identify the depth of the subsoil. This revealed a second inhumation burial, cut **105**, and skeleton **106**, there had been no evidence of the cut until the skeleton was exposed. **106** was an adult inhumation aligned east west with only the skull partially revealed. No further excavation of the inhumation occurred.
- 3.4.6 No human remains from either of the inhumations were removed, and all disarticulated human remains were reinterred following the recording of the trench, prior to the backfilling.
- 3.4.7 The sondage revealed the foundation stone for the southeastern corner of the church, **111** was an Ashlar stone block of limestone and could be seen to have had later alteration wall **112** constructed upon it. It would appear that

this was an original foundation stone for the church construction at this end of the church. There was no evidence of an early extension of the church extending to the east at this point, and no evidence that a building had been demolished, and the existing building being a shortened version of the original.

- 3.4.8 The southern wall of the church shows a number of blocked archways and Trench 1 was positioned as to investigate the possibility of an extension to the south. The presence of the infant/neonate inhumation and the modern water pipe meant that limited excavation could take place. A small sondage excavated against the southern wall revealed similar Ashlar stone block foundations as seen in the sondage on the eastern wall, and this was interpreted as the same foundations as those seen for the eastern wall. The geophysical survey of the churchyard indicated three areas of high resistance which may have represented archaeology, although these could not be investigated through excavation.
- 3.4.9 Despite the small size of Trench 1 it could be seen that there did not appear to be any evidence to suggest that an extension to the church existed either to the east or the south, though it is apparent that the entire eastern wall was rebuilt on the earlier foundations of a demolished wall. Much of the church fabric is believed to date to the 12th century and it is possible that the foundation corner stone revealed represents construction from that period. No evidence of a construction cut for this foundation was noted.
- 3.4.10 The foundation of St. Everilda's is believed to be of Anglo-Saxon date and therefore would have surely been a timber construction. Unfortunately no evidence of a timber phase of the church was identified due to the size of Trench 1. Locating the presence of postholes or beamslots would have been very difficult in such a small evaluation trench, whilst the amount of disturbance which has occurred as a result of the inhumation burials may also have removed all evidence of such features.
- 3.4.11 Trench 1 established that no evidence survives for an eastern or a southern extension to the church. The absence of remains relating to the timber foundations of any Saxon church is not surprising given the size of the trench excavated or the heavy truncation of much of this area by subsequent burials.

Trench 2. Scheduled Ancient Monument: Millennium Field. Figure 8.

- 3.4.12 Trench 2 was machine-dug and 9.60m long by 1.40m wide by a maximum of 1.56m in depth and aligned roughly north-south. The trench had been positioned to target a linear geophysical anomaly aligned east-west, identified on the survey in the area known as Millennium Field to the east of St. Everilda's church.
- 3.4.13 Following the removal 0.32m of turf and topsoil **201** and 0.10m of mid grey brown sandy silt clay subsoil **202** both which contained sherds of Romano-British pottery and a single prehistoric flint waste flake, a large east-west aligned ditch nearly 4m wide was revealed cutting through the natural alluvium. This ditch, **204**, was a wide 'U' shape in profile, with steep

concave sides and an irregular concave base and excavated to a depth of 1.14m and at close to 4m wide was a substantial ditch feature. It could be seen that the ditch was filled with a single homogenous fill **205**, representing a gradual accumulation of material over a long period of time, with no evidence of deliberate backfilling. Two sherds of Saxon pottery, broadly dated to AD 450 – 850, were recovered from this fill.

- 3.4.14 To the south of ditch **204** was revealed a second feature **206**. This was 1.26m in length and 1.40m wide and excavated to a depth of 1.60m and was initially believed to be a pit or very large post-hole, but showed no evidence of deliberate dump deposits or any sign of post-packing within it. Therefore it is possible it represents the terminus of a large ditch similar to **204**, potentially on a northwest-southeast alignment, but this is uncertain as only a small area of the feature was revealed and no true orientation could be discerned. Anglo-Saxon pottery was also recovered from this feature in the form of a single sherd, dateable to AD 450 - 850.
- 3.4.15 One of the main aims of the evaluation had been to try and discover whether the belief that Nether Poppleton had its foundations in the Anglo-Saxon period was correct and that the village grew from the presence and growth of a complex of buildings connected with the church of St. Everilda. The results from Trench 2 would seem to support this.
- 3.4.16 The flat bottomed profile of ditch **204** suggests that this is not a defensive feature. It is possible that this forms part of an enclosure surrounding a Saxon complex, possibly a manorial complex rather than an ecclesiastical complex. Monasteries were often surrounded by a relatively small bank and ditch, the *vallum monasteria* which rather than being defensive, was more of a conceptual barrier between the ecclesiastical and the secular. Manor enclosures were often very large and more a symbol of power and wealth than a defensive enclosure. Without further work, however, such a conclusion must be viewed as tentative.
- 3.4.17 The recovery of Saxon material from the land to the east of St. Everilda's from within sealed contexts provides definite confirmation of activity around the area of the church during the Anglo-Saxon period. Whether it was associated with an ecclesiastical centre or a manorial complex however remains unclear.

Trench 4. Manor Farm Orchard. Figure 9

- 3.4.18 Trench 4 was a hand-dug 2m by 2m trench excavated to a maximum depth of 1.40m which had been targeted upon a north south aligned low resistance anomaly identified in the geophysical survey in the orchard of Manor Farm.
- 3.4.19 Following the removal of 0.27m of **401**, the current turf and topsoil, and a 0.36m thick deposit of subsoil **402**, both of which produced prehistoric flint waste flakes, two features were identified cutting through a layer of mid yellow brown sandy silt **404**. **404** was identified as a possible Anglo-Saxon or early medieval subsoil deposit which could be seen to seal the natural silty sand geology **407**.

- 3.4.20 **405** was an irregular shaped feature cutting **404** and was roughly 1m by 0.60m and 0.24m in depth. The irregular nature indicated this was a possible tree-throw, which had been used for the deliberate placing of an animal skeleton. Two sherds of pottery were recovered from this feature dating it to the 11th to 13th century. **405** also revealed further evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity within Nether Poppleton from the recovery of pottery dating to c. 450-850 AD.
- 3.4.21 Trench 4 also revealed a north south aligned ditch **408** which could be seen to cut the possible buried Anglo-Saxon subsoil deposit **404**. Only the western half of the ditch was revealed within the trench due to the trench's size, and if fully exposed would have been some 2m wide and 0.77m in depth. The lower fill of this feature was a low energy natural silting deposit caused by the slow erosion of the feature edges and surrounding landscape. **409** was the result of repeated depositions of similar material over time creating a thick homogenous deposit. This deposit had then been sealed by **403** a deliberate dump of waste material which had been used as a levelling and backfilling deposit to fill the remaining hollow left by ditch **408**. **403** contained pottery dated to the medieval period c.11th or 12th century as well as post-medieval pottery and abundant fragments of CBM c.15th or 16th century.
- 3.4.22 The date and function of ditch **408** is unknown, though it was deliberately backfilled most likely during the 16th century from the CBM fragments and pottery recovered. It is therefore possible **408** represents a ditch associated with the Anglo-Saxon complex of buildings believed to be present on Site, and so associated with ditch **204** from Trench 2. **204** can be seen to be at a right angle to **408**, but no other discernible pattern can be identified. The geophysical survey was unable to show any connection between the two features.
- 3.4.23 **408** can be seen to have been partially silted up, as a result of slow natural erosion of the ditch edges, signifying a period when the ditch was not being maintained such as following the abandonment of the monastic complex. The date of the digging of this ditch is unknown, and further work is necessary to determine whether it dates from either the Anglo-Saxon period or is associated with the early medieval period, and the 12th century moated site and fishponds.

Trench 5. Manor Farm Orchard. Figure 2

- 3.4.24 Trench 5 was a hand-dug 1m by 1m trench excavated to a depth of 1m and positioned in the orchard of Manor Farm and was targeted on an area of high resistance identified in the geophysical survey.
- 3.4.25 Following the removal of 0.45m of current turf and topsoil **501** and a further 0.46m of sub soil and natural mix **502** a small oval pit was revealed cutting the natural silty sand **505**. **504** was 0.75m long by 0.32m wide and 0.26m deep, and appeared to have been used for the disposal of domestic waste. The initial function of the pit is unclear and it may be that waste

disposal was its primary function. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered dating from between the 16th and 20th century.

Trench 6. The Tithe Barn. Figure 10

- 3.4.26 Trench 6 was a hand-dug 1.30m long by 1m wide by 0.55m deep trench positioned in the garden at the back of the Tithe Barn.
- 3.4.27 Following the removal of 0.15m of turf and topsoil **601** and a further 0.20m of subsoil **602** a thick deposit of demolition material was revealed, this was potentially a levelling deposit used when the area was landscaped. The geophysical survey which followed the opening of the trench revealed areas of high resistance which could also be interpreted as landscaping events.
- 3.4.28 The landscaping deposit **603** could be seen to overlie a north south aligned wall **604**. **604** was a wall foundation constructed from reused late 13th century ecclesiastical moulded stonework, and Tudor brick. The wall foundation was partially revealed in the eastern section of Trench 6 and could be seen, on the removal of **603**, to have extended to the east at a right angle from the existing wall, this extension had been robbed out, leaving only the foundation cut visible.
- 3.4.29 The ecclesiastical stonework revealed in foundation wall **604** was seen to be similar to stone work noted at St Leonard's Hospital and St Mary's Abbey in York and infers that the material arrived at Nether Poppleton following the Dissolution and the destruction of major ecclesiastical sites in the city. (Clark *pers comm*) The high quality of the stone works suggests it is either the springing from vaulting or if the stone work is one piece it may be the top of a pier.
- 3.4.30 The Tudor brickwork would also suggest a post-Dissolution date for the construction of wall **604** and it is possibly contemporary with structures and buildings identified in Trenches 7, 11 and 12. It is possible this is part of an earlier phase of the Manor House complex which was demolished around the time of the construction of the existing manor House in the mid 18th century.

Trench 7. Scheduled Ancient Monument: North of Orchard. Figure 11

- 3.4.31 Trench 7 was a hand-dug 2m long by 1m wide by 0.80m deep trench aligned north south and positioned over a visible east west aligned earthwork running along the northern boundary of Manor Farm orchard where it joins the scheduled area.
- 3.4.32 Following the removal of 0.22m of turf and topsoil, wall **702** was revealed. **702** was east west aligned and survived to a height of six courses at 0.60m and could be seen to be 0.90m wide at the base where the brick foundation could be seen to step out by a bricks width. The original width at ground surface could not be determined, as the wall had been robbed, on its northern side exposing a broken brick and rubble core.

- 3.4.33 The wall would appear to be 16th century in date and would seem to be the southern wall of building extending to the north onto a earthwork platform identified by Stewart Ainsworth, to the south east of the main moated site. This wall can be seen to continue to the west where it was revealed in Trench 12. This wall possibly represents part of the Manor House building or it at least buildings within the Manor complex, prior to its demolition and the building of the 18th century Manor House which can be seen today.
- 3.4.34 The size and thickness of this wall would suggest it is the outer wall of a building and not an internal wall or garden wall, though no northern wall for the building could be identified upon the earthwork platform. The wall was clearly narrower within Trench 12 where it dog-legged to the north and continued to the west.
- 3.4.35 On the northern side of wall **702** lay deposit **703**, a demolition layer of broken brick and mortar. This may indicate that bricks had been robbed from the wall and cleaned on site before being taken away, which would account for the amount of mortar contained within this deposit.
- 3.4.36 The geophysical survey possibly identified the remaining walls of the structure, however, this is by no means clear.

Trench 8. Scheduled Ancient Monument: North of Orchard. Figure 12

- 3.4.37 Trench 8 was a machine-dug trench 2.3m long by 1m wide by 1.40m deep and aligned roughly north south and targeted upon an area of high resistance identified in the geophysical survey.
- 3.4.38 Following the removal of 0.22m of turf and topsoil, a dump deposit of industrial waste, with common slag, charcoal and CBM was revealed. Deposit **802** was sealing a further CBM rich deposit **803**. Both deposits would appear to be deliberate dumps of waste material acting as levelling and landscaping deposits. Below some 0.50m of levelling was deposit **803** a mixed deposit of natural silting and some isolated dumping. On further investigation it could be seen these deposits were fills within a large east west aligned ditch. The sloping nature of the deposits **802**, **803** and **804**, provided the evidence that they were in fact fills within a ditch, despite no evidence of the ditch edges themselves being revealed. The final deposit revealed before excavation stopped appeared to be a natural silting deposit **804**.
- 3.4.39 It is possible the ditch within Trench 8 is contemporary with the ditch revealed in Trench 4 (**408**) and Trench 14 (**1403**), which showed evidence of a period of natural silting before being deliberately backfilled as to level the ground surface. This ditch would also be at right angles to the ditch from Trench 4 and 14 and so possibly formed part of an enclosure, potentially associated with the monastic complex.
- 3.4.40 This trench was not completely excavated and so the true nature of this feature could not be determined.

Trench 9. Manor Farm Front Garden. Figure 2

- 3.4.41 Trench 9 was a hand-dug 1m by 1m trench excavated to a depth of 0.48m and positioned in the front garden of Manor Farm. It was positioned to the north of Trench 6 at the back of the Tithe Barn in an attempt to locate the continuation of wall **604**. This was unsuccessful.
- 3.4.42 Following the removal of 0.32m of topsoil a thick deposit of demolition material was revealed it would appear this had been used as a levelling deposit. **902** was excavated to a depth of 0.48m and no evidence of walls was seen, and due to time constraints the base of this deposit was not seen.

Trench 10. Scheduled Ancient Monument: Millennium Field. Figure 2

- 3.4.43 Trench 10 was a machine-dug trench 5.60m long by 1.50m wide by 1.06m deep and aligned north south immediately north of Trench 2 within the Millennium Field. It was positioned in an attempt to locate evidence of the bank belonging to the *vallum monasteria* which had been located in Trench 2. This was unsuccessful, and only natural deposits were revealed.

Trench 11. Scheduled Ancient Monument: North of Orchard. Figure 13.

- 3.4.44 Trench 11 was a hand-dug trench 3.86m long by 2.22m wide and 0.40m deep and aligned north south and targeted on a high resistance anomaly identified in the geophysical survey.
- 3.4.45 Following the removal of 0.23m of turf and topsoil **1101** a thin layer of CBM and charcoal rich silty clay was revealed. **1102** was interpreted as a mix of subsoil and demolition material and overlay all features within Trench 11.
- 3.4.46 Aligned east west across Trench 11 was robbed out wall **1103**, this was possibly once faced with either brick or stone but has now been completely robbed of all usable material leaving a wall foundation of limestone mortar and crushed CBM 0.50m wide. A possible extension to the wall can be seen to extend south but this is possibly the base of a decorative buttress rather than a second wall.
- 3.4.47 Following the partial removal of **1102** on the southern side of wall **1103**, a fragmentary surface was uncovered, **1104** had been constructed from old peg tile and had been laid to form a platform butting up to wall **1103**.
- 3.4.48 On the northern side of **1103** was another possible surface **1106** sealed beneath **1102**. However this was very fragmentary and was most likely a bedding deposit for garden deposits.
- 3.4.49 The features exposed within Trench 11 would indicate a possible viewing platform comprising paved surface **1104** and associated garden wall **1103** to the north of the main Manor House revealed in Trench 7 and Trench 12. Its position overlooking the river Ouse would have been a perfect position for such a veranda.

- 3.4.50 There was no evidence of the northern wall of the potential Manor House either from the geophysical survey or the excavated trenches.

Trench 12. Scheduled Ancient Monument: North of Orchard. Figure 14

- 3.4.51 Trench 12 was a hand-dug trench 2.40m long by 2.10m wide and 0.20m in depth and positioned just to the west of Trench 7 across the same east west aligned earthwork.
- 3.4.52 Following the removal of 0.06m of turf a demolition layer **1202** was revealed, this deposit was not removed and only defined, and whole sections of collapsed brick wall could be identified. This demolition layer could be seen to partially overlie a series of small walls. **1203** was east west aligned and bonded at its western end to the southern end of north south aligned wall **1204**. **1204** was bonded at its northern end to the eastern end of wall **1205**.
- 3.4.53 All three walls are constructed of Tudor brick, and appear to be roughly 0.30m wide, though the true dimensions are unknown as the walls were only defined and not excavated.
- 3.4.54 These walls are believed to belong to the same range of buildings as wall **702** from Trench 7, despite the difference in size at the surface. As they were not completely exposed, the true nature of this wall is unknown and so the reasons for the different sizes of walls cannot be ascertained. It is thought they represent the southern wall of a Tudor mansion, with the northern wall not found and a small veranda exposed to the north in Trench 11.

Trench 14. Manor Farm Orchard Figure 2

- 3.4.55 Trench 14 was a hand-dug trench 1m by 1m and excavated to a depth of 0.70m. It was positioned to try and locate a putative southern wall of the potential Manor House. The failure to find any such remains supports the contention that **702** itself is actually the southern wall of the building.
- 3.4.56 Following the removal of 0.24m of turf and topsoil and 0.33m of very mixed deposit **1402**, the edge of a feature was revealed. The upper fill of **1403** had a complete articulated cow burial placed in it and so due to time constraints this was not excavated.
- 3.4.57 Due to small nature of the trench it was impossible to ascertain the true nature of feature **1403**, however its position does suggest it is the continuation of ditch **408** from Trench 4 and so therefore **1403** is possibly part the enclosure ditch around the monastic complex.

THE VILLAGE.

- 3.4.58 The work within the village was targeted initially on the land along Church Lane and Main Street and began with a review of the cartographic evidence and the current layout of Nether Poppleton. This was followed by the hand digging of 33 1m by 1m test pits for the recovery of dateable pottery to see if any information about the development of the village could be ascertained

from the distribution of finds. A further 4 test pits were excavated and these were then expanded into trenches, a summary of the results the test pitting and trenching is contained below.

3.5 The Test Pits.

- 3.5.1 Following the retrieval of pottery and other dateable finds from the test pits within the village a discard policy was instituted by Paul Blinkhorn. This involved discarding all material except for pottery predating the 19th century. Therefore the following analysis does not include of the collected metalwork and slag, flint, CBM, clay pipe, glass and animal bone or any of the 19th or 20th century pottery.
- 3.5.2 A number of the gardens could be seen to have undergone considerable landscaping and levelling with material having been brought in from outside the village to act as levelling deposits. It is therefore possible that the finds recovered from those gardens did not originate in the village.
- 3.5.3 The earliest material recovered from across the Site were a number of prehistoric flint waste flakes, from Trenches 1, 2 and 4 around the area of St. Everilda's church.
- 3.5.4 The earliest material retrieved from the test pits were a number of Romano-British pottery sherds dated to AD 43-410 - due to their abraded nature a more precise date could not be ascertained. The Romano-British material was recovered from Test Pit 22 (11 Church Lane), Test Pit 34 (Lord Nelson Inn) and Test Pit 36 (3 Main Street). The latter two test pits were in neighbouring properties, producing a small concentration of material on the southern side of Main Street at the western end of the village. However as only five sherds in total were recovered from the test pits with a further two recovered from Trench 2, the Romano-British finds must be viewed as residual. It is not surprising that material from this period was recovered in the light of the proximity of the village to York, and the previous recovery of Romano-British finds from the area.
- 3.5.5 A single sherd of Saxon pottery, tentatively dated as AD 450-850, was recovered from Test Pit 38 (25 Main Street) at the very western end of the village. This was perhaps rather surprising as it had been expected for Saxon material to occur in concentration on the land around St. Everilda's church at the eastern end of the village. However a single very abraded sherd of Saxon pottery recovered from the topsoil is likely to be residual.
- 3.5.6 Medieval pottery was recovered from 16 of the 33 test pits excavated with a date range from the 10th century through to the early 14th century. The earliest medieval pottery came from four test pits with material dated to the 10th and 11th century and was concentrated on the northern side of the village from Test Pit 37 (16 Main Street), Test Pit 17 (5 Church Lane) and Test Pit 22 (11 Church Lane). The fourth test pit was Test Pit 32 (15 Hillcrest Avenue) close to the original backlane of the planned medieval village.

- 3.5.7 Sixteen test pits (including the previous four) also produced material dated from the 12th to early 14th century. This material represents residual finds within topsoil and subsoil deposits but does reveal a concentration of finds, with 29 of the 88 sherds recovered coming from only five test pits along Main Street. The remaining 11 test pits produced 59 medieval sherds between them.
- 3.5.8 The distribution of finds was able to provide further information about the village in showing a spread of activity during the 10th to 14th centuries, during which time the planned village was established. However the distribution was unable to provide significant information concerning the detailed development and evolution of the village in terms.

3.6 The Trenches

Trench 3. Saxe-Dane Lodge. Figure 2

- 3.6.1 Trench 3 was machine-dug and 15m long by 1.50m wide and a maximum of 2.20m in depth and aligned roughly north south. This trench was positioned in an area of waste ground at the back of Saxe-Dane Lodge at the western end of Main Street in order to locate any evidence of earlier structures on the Site.
- 3.6.2 Following the removal of 0.30m of turf and topsoil **301**, a very thick deposit of natural alluvial flood and river borne material was revealed which was machined through to a depth of 2.20m where the natural clay geology was encountered. Alluvial deposit **302** could be seen to have built up over some period of time, and was a thick homogenous deposit of light to mid grey brown silty clay. No archaeology was revealed in Trench 3.

Trench 13. 20 Main Street. Figure 2

- 3.6.3 Trench 13 was a hand-dug trench 5m long by 1m wide and 0.82m deep in the back garden of 20 Main Street. It was expanded from a 1m by 1m test pit following the discovery of rubble layer **1302** directly below the 0.28m of topsoil and turf removed. This rubble layer was identified as a levelling deposit, most likely from the landscaping the current garden.
- 3.6.4 Revealed below **1302** was a potential buried ground surface **1303** on which a possible metallised surface had been lain. This has been tentatively dated to the 19th century.

Trench 15. 36 Church Lane. Figure 15.

- 3.6.5 Trench 15 was a hand-dug trench 2m long by 1m wide by 0.58m deep and was expanded from a 1m by 1m following the discovery of **1505**, a north south aligned brick wall which survived to 3 courses, and lay directly upon metallised surface **1503**.
- 3.6.6 **1505** was built from 16th or 17th century bricks, though it is not clear whether they are re-used. As there was no clear foundation cut for this wall, it seems

reasonable to suggest it was some form of garden wall, not designed for load-bearing. However, only one side of the wall was exposed and so its true width is not known and therefore its true function cannot be ascertained.

- 3.6.7 **1503** was a metalled surface formed of small water-worn pebbles, and a slot excavated through this surface revealed a possible foundation deposit **1504**, which may have been an earlier phase of metalling. A number of sherds of pottery were recovered from the surface of **1503** dating to the 15th and 16th century, though none were recovered from the foundation levels.
- 3.6.8 It would appear **1503** is an external courtyard surface possible related to earlier structures which once stood on the site prior to the construction of the mid-18th century cottages and the late-18th century threshing barn within the grounds of 36 Church Lane. The date of wall **1505** can be seen to post-date the metalled surface **1503**, and if the bricks have not been re-used, could also be of Tudor date.

Trench 16. 24 Church Lane. Figure 2

- 3.6.9 Trench 16 was a hand-dug 1m by 1m trench excavated to a depth of 0.26 and positioned on an existing gravel pathway at the back of 24 Church Lane. Following the removal of 0.15m of current gravel path **1601** and a further 0.11m of path make up **1602**, metalled surface **1603** was revealed.
- 3.6.10 **1603** was constructed of large water worn cobbles, with even larger cobbles forming an edging for the surface. This surface could be seen to have been set on a bedding of fine yellow sand **1604**, which in turn lay on a deposit of slag and cinder **1605**. No dating evidence was retrieved from this trench; though the surface likely dates to the late 19th century when the area was used for the storage of steam traction engines.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Finds were recovered from a number of trenches and test pits, located in various locations in Nether Poppleton. These include trenches located in the area at the eastern end of the village designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), and also a number of test pits excavated by the residents of the village in individual gardens.
- 4.1.2 Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate. All finds data are currently held on an Access database.
- 4.1.3 This section presents an overview of the finds assemblage, on which is based an assessment of the potential of this assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site in its local and regional context. The assemblage is

largely of medieval to post-medieval date, with a handful of earlier material (prehistoric worked flint; Romano-British and Saxon pottery sherds).

4.2 Pottery

- 4.2.1 The pottery assemblage has been quantified by ware type, following the local type series. There are a handful of Romano-British and early/mid Saxon sherds, but otherwise the assemblage is all of medieval to post-medieval date. **Table 2** gives the breakdown of the assemblage by ware type and period.

Table 1: Pottery totals by ware type

Date Range	Ware Type	Date Range	Code	No. sherds	Weight (g)
ROMANO-BRITISH	Romano-British wares	AD C1-C4	1001	7	19
EARLY/MID SAXON	Sandy wares	AD 450-850	1	6	43
LATE SAXON / EARLY MEDIEVAL	Torksey ware	C10/C11	201	4	34
	Stamford ware	C10-C12	205	1	1
MEDIEVAL	York glazed ware	late C12/C13	300	51	411
	Gritty ware	C11/C12	301	25	236
	Lightly gritted ware	C13/C14	302	3	17
	Humber ware	late C13-C16	303	2	5
	Splashed ware	C11-mid C13	304	2	20
POST-MEDIEVAL	Hambleton ware	C15/C16	403	12	131
	Cistercian ware	late C15-C17	404	12	38
	German stoneware	C16/C17	405	6	56
	Purple glazed ware	mid C14-C17	406	3	60
	Tinglazed earthenware	C17/C18	407	7	53
	Redware	C16-C20	425	85	1668
	Ryedale ware	late C16/C17	426	4	57
	Blackware	late C16/C17	427	11	256
	Staffordshire slipware	mid C17/C18	428	9	66
	Staffordshire manganese	late C17/C18	429	5	20
	White salt glaze	early C18		1	2
MODERN	Refined whiteware	C19/C20		65	328
	TOTAL			321	3521

- 4.2.2 A handful of Romano-British sherds (comprising greywares, oxidised wares and whitewares) and Saxon sherds (coarse, sandy wares) were identified, all of them were small, abraded and undiagnostic body sherds. All of the Romano-British sherds were residual finds within contexts from Trench 2 (Millennium Field), Test Pit 22 (11 Church Lane), Test Pit 34 (Lord Nelson Inn) and Test Pit 36 (3 Main Street). Of the six Saxon sherds, four were recovered from contexts in Trench 2 (Millennium Field), one from topsoil (**201**), two from the fill of ditch **204**, and one from feature **206**. All of these sherds are in coarse, handmade, sandy fabrics which can only be broadly dated as Early/Middle Saxon (c. AD 450-850). The other two Saxon sherds, again both undiagnostic body sherds, in similar sandy fabrics, came from

Trench 4 (Manor Farm orchard; cut **405**) and Test Pit 38 (25 Main Street; topsoil) respectively.

4.2.3 The Late Saxon/medieval assemblage includes a limited range of local and regional wares. Within the date range of 10th to 12th century, sherds of Torksey ware and Stamford Ware came from Trench 10 (Millennium Field), Test Pit 17 (5 Church Lane), Test Pit 22 (11 Church Lane) and Test Pit 32 (15 Hillcrest Avenue), all residual in topsoil contexts. None of these sherds are diagnostic. York types appear from the 11th century (Gritty ware and Splashed ware), with York Glazed ware and Lightly Gritted ware developing later. Two sherds of Humber ware (possibly from the kilns at West Cowick) are also present. There is little diagnostic material here, just a few jar rims. Medieval sherds were found in trenches across the village, mostly in residual contexts (topsoil and subsoil), with a small concentration in Main Street (29 of the 88 sherds recovered). Only one feature can be tentatively dated as medieval (12th/13th century) on the basis of pottery sherds – cut 405 (Manor Farm orchard).

4.2.4 The majority of the pottery assemblage is of post-medieval date. The most common wares present are redwares – this general term encompasses a range of individual types probably from several different sources with a wide date range (16th to 20th century), although at least two specific types with more restricted date ranges (Hambleton ware and Ryedale ware) have been recognised. Humber ware (see above) has a potential date range which extends into the post-medieval period (to the 16th century), and Purple Glazed ware is evidently a later development of this ware, again with a probable source at West Cowick. Another early post-medieval type present in small quantities, and probably deriving mainly from drinking vessels, is Cistercian ware; later blackwares are sometimes difficult to distinguish. The only definite imports are a handful of German stonewares; the tinglazed earthenwares (including one decorated wall tile) are more likely to be of British manufacture. Staffordshire wares are represented by the 17th/18th century slipwares and manganese wares, with one sherd of early 18th century white salt glaze. Modern refined whitewares, as might be expected, are fairly common.

4.3 Ceramic Building Material

4.3.1 Ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered in some quantity, in particular from the trenches at the eastern end of the village, within and adjacent to the Scheduled Ancient Monument. Much of this material is fragmentary, although two complete bricks and one complete roof tile were recovered.

4.3.2 All the bricks appear to be unfroged. This form, and the dimensions of the complete examples, suggest a date no later than the early 19th century, and probably within the range of 17th/18th century, which would be consistent with the rebuilding of timber framed structures at this period (Videotext 2004).

4.3.3 The rest of the assemblage comprises roof tiles, of which the majority are flat peg tiles; no complete examples survive. Although no fabric analysis was carried out, the visual scan indicated that a range of fabric types (and hence potentially sources) is represented, some of the coarser, less hard-fired variants possibly of medieval date.

4.3.4 As well as peg tiles, there are a small number of pantiles (late 17th century or later) and two fishscale tiles, one complete (both from Trench 8 within the SAM).

4.4 Metalwork

4.4.1 There is nothing amongst the metalwork assemblage which is necessarily earlier than post-medieval. This includes objects of lead (waste, window came, shot), copper alloy (stud/boss, cog wheel, wire) and iron (small key, nails and other structural objects).

4.5 Other Finds

4.5.1 Other Finds comprise small quantities of glass (post-medieval vessel and window), clay pipe (plain stems, one plain and two decorated bowls), worked flint (five prehistoric waste flakes), slag (industrial waste of uncertain date and origin), stone (limestone and sandstone building materials) and oyster shell.

4.6 Animal Bone

4.6.1 A total of 137 fragments of animal bone was recovered by hand from eleven trenches, although 41 of these were from topsoil and an additional 39 from contexts that contained residual pottery. Eleven were from contexts that contained only medieval pottery, and 40 were from post-medieval contexts. The remaining bone fragments were from undated or modern contexts.

4.6.2 Overall the bone was in reasonable condition, although all 11 medieval period bones were in very poor condition, and two topsoil contexts recorded as being in poor condition. Only nine bones were in good condition. This was mainly due to chemical decay, as the number of gnawed bone was small (4%), and erosion from trampling thought to be limited; only 4 loose teeth were present.

4.6.3 50% of bones were identified to species, most sheep or goat (but no positive identification of goat), with smaller and relatively equal numbers of cattle, pig and dog. Ten of the dog bones were from Trench 4 and probably originate from one individual; an articulating pelvis and proximal femur and paired distal femora and proximal tibia were present within cut **405**. Small numbers of horse and bird bone were recovered (all bird bone was from trench 4 topsoil and resembled fairly large domestic fowl), and one young rabbit bone was found in Trench 13 (**1304**), a possible Victorian pathway.

Table 2: Species list and percentages (NISP)

Context	Horse	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Dog	Bird	Small Mammal	Unidentified	Total
NISP	3	12	27	11	11	3	1	69	137
% of identified species	4	18	40	16	16	4	1		

4.6.4 No neonatal animals were represented, but 26% of all bones could be aged. 10% could be measured, and one very large pig humerus was found in Trench 9 topsoil. An ossified tendon on a sheep metacarpal in Trench 8 topsoil indicates an old individual. The sheep and cattle bones seemed to be of a relatively large size, typical of modern breeds, as did one of the dogs. The other dog was average in size. One stout metacarpal from Trench 11 topsoil probably belonged to a bull.

4.6.5 Only one bone, from Trench 13 topsoil, was burnt, but 21 (15%) were butchered. Saw marks, typical of modern butchery practice, were noted on bones in Trenches 12 and 13. Chops and cuts for disarticulation, filleting and portioning up the carcass were recorded, as well as possible skinning marks on a sheep/goat radius shaft and evidence for removal of a sheep horncore. All three of the horse bones were complete, suggesting that this animal had not been eaten although one displayed cut marks from disarticulation of the hoof, perhaps made during skinning.

4.6.6 In Trench 8 topsoil an articulating sheep atlas and axis were recovered, with sheep skull fragments possibly also belonging to this animal. It appears that the animal had been decapitated by knife, after several attempts at the skull-atlas joint, at the atlas-axis joint. The vertebrae, probably still in articulation although slightly twisted, seem them to have been chopped through longitudinally in order to split the carcass into two halves.

4.6.7 Apart from the partial dog skeleton, four articulating parts of a sheep hindlimb were found in Trench 8 (levelling layer **802**). This comprised the distal tibia, astragalus, calcaneum and navicular-cuboid, the latter bearing marks from the disarticulation of the hoof. These bones presumably entered the deposit in articulation as butchery waste, and have not been subject to reworking.

4.7 Potential and Recommendations for Further Work

4.7.1 The finds assemblage has very limited potential for further investigation. Datable artefacts (primarily pottery) have served to demonstrate Anglo-Saxon origins for the village, and its subsequent medieval development. However, these elements of the assemblage are of insufficient size, and are too insecurely stratified, to warrant further analysis. The level of detail recorded as part of the assessment phase would be suitable for publication of the finds assemblage, either as a separate report within a journal article, or as data integrated within a synthesised report.

4.7.2 It is recommended that, subject to the agreement of the various landowners, that certain categories of material are subjected to selective or total discard – modern (19th/20th century) pottery, ceramic building material (with the exception of complete and/or unusual examples), clay pipe stems, glass, slag,

iron objects, animal bone from topsoil or other contexts containing residual or modern material, and oyster shell.

Table 3: All finds by trench (number / weight in grammes)

CBM = ceramic building material; Cu = copper alloy; Fe = iron; Pb = lead

Property	Tr/TP	Roman Pottery	Saxon pottery	Med Pottery	Post-med Pottery	CBM	Animal Bone	Metal	Other Finds
Millennium Field (SAM)	2	2/6	4/22		2/2	4/311		1 Fe; 2 Pb	1 worked flint
Millennium Field (SAM)	10			2/23					
North of Orchard (SAM)	7					1/3000			
North of Orchard (SAM)	8			1/3	19/780	48/10,685	61/1323	5 Fe; 1 Cu	1 oyster shell; 3 clay pipe; 3 stone
North of Orchard (SAM)	11			1/3	11/113	19/1052	17/348	23 Fe; 2 Pb	12 glass; 2 clay pipe; 1 stone
North of Orchard (SAM)	12				1/12	37/8267	1/17	6 Fe	2 glass
Manor Farm (garden)	9			2/21	3/9	56/4014	12/173	1 Fe	
Manor Farm (orchard)	4		1/15	8/52	4/32	62/3030	26/120	4 Fe; 1 Pb	2 slag; 3 worked flint
Manor Farm (orchard)	5			1/15	3/121	19/2001		3 Fe	1 slag; 1 clay pipe; 1 stone
Manor Farm (orchard)	14			1/6	3/44	9/1279	8/80	1 Fe	1 glass
St Everilda's churchyard	1			1/19					1 worked flint
Tithe Barn	6			6/28	3/34	31/2029	8/104	4 Fe	2 glass
1 Main Street	35				2/22				
3 Main Street	36	1/3		5/20	3/6				
16 Main Street	37			13/126	1/7				1 stone
20 Main Street	13			3/62	58/813	14/599	7/26	15 Fe; 1 Pb	1 oyster shell; 7 glass; 6 clay pipe; 1 stone
25 Main Street	38		1/6	9/127					
5 Church Lane	17			1/16					
8 Church Lane	18			1/7	3/21			19 Fe	
10 Church Lane	19				3/13			1 Fe	
10 Church Lane	20				2/31			26 Fe; 3 Cu	
11 Church Lane	21			5/18	1/2				
11 Church Lane	22	1/4		3/8					
18 Church Lane	23				4/12				
24 Church Lane	16				1/10				
26 Church Lane	25				2/15				1 clay pipe
27 Church Lane	26			1/15					
32 Church Lane	27			3/10	9/80				
32 Church Lane	28				3/22				
34 Church Lane	29				1/2				
36 Church Lane	15				26/204	9/183	1/24	3 Fe	
36 Church Lane	31			2/43	34/206	6/203	6/22	7 Fe	6 glass; 2

									clay pipe
15 Hillcrest Avenue	32			5/14	1/2				
6 Poppleton Hall Gardens	39			1/2	1/2				
6 Poppleton Hall Gardens	40				2/6	1/14			1 clay pipe
7 Poppleton Hall Gardens	41				1/8				
7 Poppleton Hall Gardens	42			4/41	2/42				2 clay pipe
Lime Tree House	33			1/2	1/2			4 Fe	
Lord Nelson Inn	34	3/6		6/38	4/22				1 glass
Old Stables	49				2/13	3/74	1/22		
Post Office	48			2/5	1/1				
Reynard House	43				1/3				
Saxe-Dane Lodge	3				1/1				
Saxe-Dane Lodge	46				1/20				
TOTALS		7/19	6/43	88/724	220/2735	319/36,741	148/2259	123 Fe; 4 Cu; 6 Pb	

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The archaeological evaluation within Nether Poppleton offered an opportunity for the community to actively take part in an investigation into the origins of their village. The work was able to test a number of hypotheses concerning the foundation, growth and development of the village using a multidiscipline approach incorporating, topographical survey, geophysical survey, archaeological evaluation and pottery distribution mapping.

5.1.2 The previous understanding of the Site had come from documentary evidence and limited fieldwork and survey. This evaluation sought to expand upon this previous work and aimed to establish the location, date, extent, character and significance of any underlying archaeological remains and so provide information which could be used in the future management and interpretation of the site, and provide a springboard for further community based investigation.

5.2 Results

5.2.1 The geophysical survey was only partially successful in the defining the underlying archaeology due to the considerable landscaping and levelling which had occurred across the Site. Despite this, some anomalies were identified through the survey, which allowed the excavation of investigative trenches.

5.2.2 The work undertaken during this evaluation has provided important new information concerning the development and origins of the village of Nether Poppleton. Analysis of previous work accompanied with the recent evaluation has been able to identify the growth of the village began with the construction of a monastic site during the 7th century, this appears to have developed into a large complex of buildings, which during the 11th century led to the deliberate planned construction of the village along Church lane. The large complex of buildings would appear to have developed into a manorial complex with the construction of a moated manor site during the 12th century. Following the Dissolution we see further construction, with the movement of the manor house from the moated site to a new position to the southeast. The ‘Tithe Barn’ was possibly built at the same time. There then follows during the 17th and 18th centuries a period of widespread rebuilding of earlier timber framed buildings in brick and at which point we see the construction of a new manor house and the abandonment and demolition of the Tudor manor house. The later phases of the village can be seen from the evidence of 19th and 20th century surfaces and pathways revealed in the test pits. This new information can now be used in the future management and interpretation of the site and as the basis for future community based investigation

Roman

- 5.2.3 The recovery of pottery from the village had been able to show there was some Romano-British activity in the area, but all of these finds were residual within topsoil deposits and could not be associated with features or structures.

Anglo-Saxon

- 5.2.4 The main aim of the investigation was to test the hypothesis that Nether Poppleton had its foundations in the Anglo-Saxon period. The evaluation was successful in identifying an Anglo-Saxon origin for the village through the recovery of dateable material from the features exposed in Trench 2 and from finds recovered from Trench 4 and Test Pit 38. The location and nature of ditch **204** suggests that it could represent part of large enclosure surrounding a complex of buildings in the vicinity of St Everilda's. It is impossible however to establish whether such a complex may have been ecclesiastical or secular from the limited evidence recovered during this exercise. Given the early date of the likely Saxon complexes in question and the small size of the trenches excavated the identification of any Saxon features and material must be viewed as a success.
- 5.2.5 Whilst the evidence recovered during this exercise cannot prove that the site of the nunnery of St. Everilda was at Nether Poppleton, the presence of Saxon material of the same date in the vicinity of the church dedicated in her name, clearly supports this attribution. The documentary evidence outlined in section 1.2 above states that Everilda received land from St. Wilfred, Bishop of York in the 7th century and reference to '*Poppletune*' in c.972 shows a Pre-Conquest foundation for the village. The Domesday Book then suggests that St. Everilda's developed into a Minster with an attached monastic complex as it was in the receivership of prebends. The position of the complex on a promontory next to the River Ouse might also support the interpretation of the site as monastic.
- 5.2.6 The landscape survey identified the likely line of the early road from York, leading to a ferry crossing within the area of the Scheduled Monument, the course of which was altered with the establishment of the monastery of St Everilda's. It also traced some of the likely course of the eastern boundary of the ecclesiastical precinct.
- 5.2.7 An Anglo-Saxon church and associated complex of buildings would have been constructed from timber, of which only postholes and beamslots are likely to have survived. It is possible that they may have been built on stone foundations with a timber superstructure, but no evidence to support either a timber or stone foundation was identified.. Work on the site of known Saxon churches has shown that in many cases the construction of new structures within the footprint of the old is a common practice. It is therefore quite likely that the existing 12th church of St. Everilda is built upon the site of the foundations of the earlier Anglo-Saxon timber church. This would have occurred as part of the '*Anglo-Norman building boom*' (Morris. 1985) which saw the modernisation of existing churches and the building of new ones.

Equally, heavy use of the churchyard surrounding the present church in the medieval and Post-medieval periods is likely to have significantly truncated surviving archaeological remains in this area.

- 5.2.8 The excavation of Trench 1 established that the current east wall of the church is a later addition, and that it was built on an earlier course of foundations on the same line. No evidence was recovered for any further extension of the current stone building to the east. The absence of evidence for a timber structure within such a small trench need not be of significance. This area was heavily truncated by later inhumations, and only a small area of undisturbed natural was exposed where such features might be identified.
- 5.2.9 The trenches opened in the orchard of Manor Farm, behind the Tithe Barn and in the scheduled area north of the orchard, showed considerable depth of made ground, and evidence of landscaping and levelling for the construction of later buildings. This work can be seen to have masked the earlier earthworks and may have removed evidence of the earlier timber built structures.

Medieval

- 5.2.10 The work carried on the land around St. Everilda's church has been able to identify several phases of occupation and construction from the foundation of the village during the Anglo-Saxon period. The moated site and associated fishponds are believed to have been constructed between the 12th and 13th centuries following the accession of the complex to St. Mary's of York in 1088. It can now be shown that features, which would have been earthworks contemporary and associated with the moated site, such as those identified in Trench 4 and Trench 8, may have been landscaped and levelled for the construction of a Tudor Manor house. These landscaping activities may have removed evidence of the early medieval period structures and features of the village.
- 5.2.11 Although the project design (Videotext, 2004) identified the surviving earthworks to the north of the village as an area for investigation through trenching, this investigation was not undertaken as part of the evaluation. As a result, no further evidence regarding the origins, extent and nature of this complex was recovered. However, a walkover survey of the area by Stewart Ainsworth was undertaken as part of the programme. This supported the prevailing view that the complex represents a moated manorial site with associated earthworks such as fishponds.
- 5.2.12 The work within Nether Poppleton shows that the layout of the settlement in the medieval period was deliberately planned. There is a significant corpus of work regarding the development of villages in the medieval period. (Roberts. 1985) Three main forms of medieval village plans have been identified, the main elements of which are summarised here. Two of these refer to deliberately planned settlements, whilst the third involves the evolution of small isolated farmsteads into a larger settlement.

- 5.2.13 The first of the deliberately planned forms of village involves the development of the village along a single main street. Houses were constructed on one or both sides of the street, with strips of land extending to the rear (Steane 1985). These plots of land to the rear were often also accessible from a backlane, which provided secondary access to the tofts. The growth of these villages was often inhibited by the existence of a church or manor house at one end preventing growth in that direction. This form of village planning with evenly spaced regulated sized plots has been linked to need to divide between the community the rights to land and the taxes payable upon that land, so that total taxes demanded from entire settlements was divided into fair, equal portions with inhabitants receiving the same tax assessment as their neighbour. (Platt. 1978)
- 5.2.14 The second form of planned village was established around a central village green. The greens can be seen to be an integral part of the village layout and acted as a place where the inhabitants would have been able to bring their cattle and other animals to protect them. The roads leading away from the central green allowed the building of further properties and expansion of the village as the population grew. (Steane. 1985)
- 5.2.15 The third form is that of the agglomeration, where isolated farmsteads and small hamlets of houses become incorporated into a larger settlement, with no evidence of deliberate organisation.
- 5.2.16 Nether Poppleton falls into the first category of planned village, having developed along a single roughly east west aligned high street to the west of the church, with houses built on either side of the road facing each other with enclosed areas of land extending to the north and south. Those houses on the southern side of the road were provided with a backlane providing access to the land at the rear of the properties, whereas the houses on the northern side have excellent access to the Ouse. The position of St. Everilda's church and the complex of buildings close to the River Ouse had prevented the expansion of the village to the east. The river can be seen to turn sharply to the south at the eastern end of the village and this would have restricted the size of the area on which homesteads could be established (Figure 3)
- 5.2.17 This form of village planning with equal sized pockets of land per property is generally thought to have been in decline by the 13th century (Platt 1978). This suggests that the core of the village was established in its current form during the 11th or 12th centuries. There have been several modern phases of house building within the village including Poppleton Hall Gardens and Fox Garth and these housing developments can be seen to have been placed within the planned layout of the Norman period (Figures 4a and 4b)
- 5.2.18 The excavated trenches were unable to provide further information for the development of the medieval village plan, as no structural remains were uncovered that were earlier than the 18th century when the village was well and truly established. It is known that throughout Yorkshire during the 17th and 18th centuries there was widespread rebuilding of earlier timber framed buildings in brick. This is also likely to be the case in Nether Poppleton with the construction of new buildings on the footprints of the old. Though the

medieval buildings have been replaced the survival of medieval boundary plots can still be seen along Main Street and Church Lane. (*Aston pers comm*) The test pitting, however, did provide a widespread distribution pattern for the medieval pottery recovered. Indeed, the pattern of medieval pottery loss matches fairly closely the presumed extent of medieval settlement (Figures 3, 4a and 4b)

Tudor

- 5.2.19 The discovery of the remains of a Tudor manor house revealed in Trenches 7, 8, 11 and 12 has provided new information about the history of the manorial complex. The earliest known manor house is likely to have lain on the moated site to the north of the church and its origins probably date to the 11th or 12th centuries. This manor house probably remained in use into the Late Medieval period, when it was probably abandoned in favour of the 'Tudor' manor house identified in this evaluation. The landscape survey undertaken as part of the project identified that this 'Tudor' manor house lay within an complex of extensive landscape gardens. This was probably replaced in turn by the present manor house during the 18th century.
- 5.2.20 The discovery of a mid-16th century building and possible veranda, and associated evidence of landscaping and levelling of pre-existing ditches and features provides valuable information concerning the development of the landscape. The extensive landscaping associated with this may in part explain the apparent dearth of earlier earthworks across this area of the Site. The identification of this 'Tudor' manor house, along with associated information on the shifting location of the manor house must count as one of the major successes of the project.

Post medieval

- 5.2.21 The project has also helped to chart the Post medieval expansion and development of the village. The test pitting exercise provided plenty of evidence for the extent of the post-medieval activity, whilst an associated study of the older buildings in the centre of the village confirmed that the majority were built in the 17th or 18th century, as part of a widespread rebuilding in the region.

5.3 Recommendations for further work.

- 5.3.1 This post-excavation assessment has established that the archaeological evaluation undertaken by Time Team has revealed evidence with the potential to make a contribution to our understanding of the history of human exploitation of the village of Nether Poppleton.
- 5.3.2 It is therefore recommended that a programme of further analysis be undertaken with a view to publication of the results of the evaluation as a note in an appropriate journal (to be decided in consultation with English Heritage). Such a programme need not be prohibitively expensive, as little further analysis would be required.

5.3.3 This programme of analysis should be structure with the intent of producing a short publication focussing on:

- The evidence for a Saxon complex in and around the church of St Everilda's
- The evidence for the planned development of the village in the medieval period,
- The evidence for the shifting position of the manor house in the 'Tudor' and Post-medieval period.

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APPENDIX 1. TRENCH SUMMARIES

Trench 1. St Everilda's Church Yard.

Max Depth: 0.87m		Length: 2.90m	Width: 1.20m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, grass covering of churchyard, mid to dark brown silty clay, considerable bioturbation.	0-0.14m
102	<i>Layer</i>	Very mixed deposit of subsoil, which has been repeatedly disturbed for inhumation burials with reworked natural mixed in, predominately light to mid yellow brown, silty clay.	0.14-0.75
103	Cut	Cut of modern water pipe aligned roughly E-W, can be see to cut layer 102. Not excavated, pipe exposed.	-
104	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 103 including ceramic water pipe, and iron pipe which is sealed under stone slab which runs along southern wall of church 112.	-
105	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned adult grave. Grave cut not clear and depth not known, only upper part of skull of skeleton 106 was exposed.	-
106	<i>Skeleton</i>	Skeleton within grave cut 105.	-
107	<i>Deposit</i>	Backfill material which was covering skeleton 106 within grave 105.	-
108	Cut	Cut of infant/neonate grave, most likely aligned E-W, cut not well defined, only partly exposed.	-
109	<i>Skeleton</i>	Infant/neonate skeleton within grave cut 108.	-
110	<i>Deposit</i>	Backfill material which was covering skeleton 109 within grave 108.	-
111	<i>Masonry</i>	Foundation corner stone of south and eastern elevation walls of St Everilda's church. Ashlar stone.	-
112	<i>Masonry</i>	Southern and eastern elevation wall of St. Everilda's church showing evidence of rebuilding and alteration.	-

Trench 2. Scheduled Ancient Monument. Millennium Field.

Max Depth: 1.56m		Length: 9.60m	Width: 1.40m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Topsoil and turf, current ground surface within Scheduled Ancient Monument, light to mid grey brown sandy silt, considerable bioturbation between subsoil 202.	0-0.32m
202	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid grey brown sand silt	0.32-0.42m
203	<i>Natural</i>	Natural alluvium deposit, light to mid yellow brown silty sand. Archaeology cuts this deposit.	0.42m+
204	Cut	Cut of large roughly E-W aligned ditch, 3.98m wide and 1.14m deep, probable vallum ditch around monastic site.	0.42-1.56m
205	<i>Deposit</i>	Fill of ditch 204, single large homogenous fill, natural silting.	0.42-1.56m
206	Cut	Cut of feature of unknown function, possible pit or very large post-hole, perhaps terminus of ditch.	0.42-1.45m
207	<i>Deposit</i>	Fill of 206, large homogenous deposit of mid brown sandy silt.	0.42-1.45m

Trench 3. Saxe-Dane Lodge

Max Depth: 2.20m		Length: 15m	Width: 1.50m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current turf and topsoil of garden mid-dark grey brown silty clay with very few inclusions small sub rounded pebbles <0.04m	0-0.30m
302	<i>Deposit</i>	Very large, thick deposit of natural flood deposited material, light to mid	0.30-2.20m

		brown silty clay alluvium deposit.	
303	<i>Natural</i>	Natural light grey clay deposit	2.20m+

Trench 4.
Manor Farm Orchard.

Max Depth: 1.40m		Length: 2m	Width: 2m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Topsoil and turf, current ground surface within Orchard, dark grey brown silty sand, quite a humic layer, lots of bioturbation	0-0.27m
402	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid grey brown sandy silt	0.27-0.63m
403	<i>Deposit</i>	Fill of ditch 408. Upper fill, potentially a deliberate backfill material, lots of CBM, perhaps use for levelling and landscaping.	0.63-1.02m
404	<i>Deposit</i>	Potential Saxon subsoil and topsoil mixed deposit, mid yellow brown sandy silt overlying natural.	0.54-0.65m
405	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of irregular shaped feature which contained dog skeletal remains	0.55-0.66m
406	<i>Deposit</i>	Fill of feature 405, light to mid yellow brown sandy silt.	0.55-0.66m
407	<i>Natural</i>	Natural light yellow sand silt	0.65m+
408	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of N-S aligned ditch, approximately 2m wide and 0.77m deep, potentially a ditch associated with the monastic site, shows evidence of early natural silting followed by later deliberate backfilling.	0.54-1.40m
409	<i>Deposit</i>	Lower fill of ditch 408 , low energy deposit, homogenous fill, repeated depositions of similar material, feature edge erosion.	1.02-1.40m

Trench 5.
Manor Farm Orchard.

Max Depth: 1m		Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Topsoil and turf, current ground surface within Orchard, mid to dark brown sandy silt. Quite humic.	0-0.45m
502	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mixed subsoil and alluvium layer, well mixed and highly bioturbated. Mid grey brown and light grey brown sandy silt.	0.45-0.90m
503	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of small feature 504 . Dark grey brown silty sand, domestic waste deposit.	0.90-1.16m
504	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of small oval pit, used for domestic waste dumping	0.90-1.16m
505	<i>Natural</i>	Natural silty sand, mid to light yellow	0.90m+

Trench 6.
Tithe Barn.

Max Depth: 0.55m		Length: 1.30	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, mid orange brown moderately compact sandy loam with occasional fragments of CBM and small rounded pebbles.	0-0.15m
602	<i>Subsoil</i>	Pale brown grey firm silty sand with common small rounded stones	0.15-0.35m
603	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid orange moderately compact sandy silt layer. Contains common fragments of CBM, potential destruction/backfill layer.	0.35-0.58m
604	<i>Wall</i>	North south-aligned wall foundation, constructed of re-used 13 th century ecclesiastical stonework, ceramic roof tiles and brick, potentially 16 th century construction.	0.24-0.55
605	<i>Cut</i>	Foundation cut for wall 604. 'L' shaped aligned N-S and E-W at the S end, seen to cut natural but would have been from higher, only became visible following removal of 603.	-
606	<i>Fill</i>	Fill within foundation cut 605 , very mixed deposit, highly disturbed. Robbing of wall foundation and subsequent backfilling.	-

Trench 7.
Scheduled Ancient Monument. North of Orchard.

	Max Depth:0.80m	Length: 2m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf. mid brown silty loam, very rare small subrounded pebbles	0-0.22m
702	<i>Wall</i>	East west aligned brick wall, most likely southern wall of building, with 6 courses of bricks, flush pointing, with rubble core, evidence of robbing,	0.02-0.80m
703	<i>Deposit</i>	Demolition layer. Light grey silty sandy clay. Mortar removed during brick robbing resulting in this deposit.	0.20-0.36m
704	<i>Deposit</i>	Potentially early subsoil layer, reworked. Mid yellow brown silty clay.	0.30-0.60m
705	<i>Deposit</i>	Potentially early subsoil/natural mix layer.	0.60m+
706	<i>Deposit</i>	Material which has been backfilled up against wall 702, on the southern side.	0.30-0.80m

Trench 8.
Scheduled Ancient Monument. North of Orchard.

	Max Depth:1.40m	Length: 2.3m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf. Mid to dark grey brown moderately compact sandy loam, occasional rounded stones CBM fragments.	0-0.22m
802	<i>Deposit</i>	Dumped deposit of black silty sand, with abundant charcoal, slag fragments an CBM. Most likely a levelling layer to fill a depression.	0.22-0.30m
803	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid grey brown firm clayey sand with common CBM and angular stones. Common mortar fragments. Demolition/levelling layer. Potentially fill of ditch. Though edges not seen.	0.30-0.71m
804	<i>Deposit</i>	Pale yellow grey firm clayey sand with occasional charcoal flecks, small stones and CBM fragments. Potentially fill of ditch but edges not seen.	0.71-1.40m
805	<i>Deposit</i>	Light yellow grey sand with common charcoal fragments, not excavated. Potentially fill of ditch.	1.40m+

Trench 9.
Manor Farm Front Garden.

	Max Depth:0.48m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil, mid brown grey firm sandy loam with common subrounded stones and occasional CBM fragments.	0-0.32m
902	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid-light yellow brown firm sandy clay, with common medium to large rounded stones. Contains some rubble and CBM and so suggests demolition deposit, but this is unclear.	0.32-0.48m

Trench 10.
Scheduled Ancient Monument. Millennium Field.

	Max Depth: 1.06m	Length: 5.60m	Width: 1.50m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
1001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, mid to light grey sandy silt.	0-0.30m
1002	<i>Deposit</i>	Horizon deposit between topsoil and natural, river washed material affected by bioturbation.	0.30-0.50m
1003	<i>Natural</i>	Alluvium layer, river washed material, high energy deposit, containing some large sub rounded stones, mid yellow brown silt	0.50-1.06m

1004	<i>Natural</i>	Alluvium deposit, river washed, light yellow brown with slight orange tinge, sandy silt.	1.06m+
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Trench 11.
Scheduled Ancient Monument. North of Orchard.

Max Depth: 0.40m		Length: 3.86m	Width: 2.22m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
1101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil, mid brown grey firm sandy loam, with occasional small rounded pebbles and CBM fragments.	0-0.23m
1102	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid grey compact clayey sand with occasional charcoal fragments, CBM and small rounded stones	0.23-0.27m
1103	<i>Wall</i>	Wall foundation, mix of lime mortar and crushed CBM and crushed limestone, highly robbed out, or possible footing for a garden wall, too insubstantial to be a building wall.	0.23m+
1104	<i>Structure</i>	Possible paved area, composed of broken roof tiles.	0.23m+
1105	<i>Deposit</i>	Mid grey compact clayey sand with occasional charcoal fragments, CBM and small rounded stones, similar to 1102.	0.23-0.42m
1106	<i>Deposit</i>	Possible surface, or remains of structure, mid to pale brown grey firm sandy loam, a lot of rubble. Not fully excavated.	0.42m+

Trench 12.
Scheduled Ancient Monument. North of Orchard.

Max Depth: 0.20m		Length: 2.40m	Width: 2.10m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
1201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, thin layer overlying 1202, mid to dark grey brown loam, considerable bioturbation.	0-0.06m
1202	<i>Deposit</i>	Demolition layer, mixed mid brown silty clay with abundant CBM fragments and mortar flecks. With collapse of whole sections of wall downslope. Overlies walls 1203, 1204 and 1205. Deposit not removed.	-
1203	<i>Wall</i>	East west aligned wall, 3 courses of bricks, pale yellow sandy mortar, bonded to 1204 at W end. Potentially connected to Wall 702, in Trench 7	0.06-0.26m
1204	<i>Wall</i>	North south aligned brick wall, 2 courses seen, pale yellow sandy mortar. Bonded to 1203 at the S end and 1205 at the N.	0.06-0.26m
1205	<i>Wall</i>	East west aligned wall bonded to N end of 1204. Brick with some Ashlar limestone blocks, pale yellow sandy mortar, 2 courses seen.	0.06-0.26m
1206	<i>Deposit</i>	Mortar foundation for 1203, possible top of foundation but not fully excavated and so unclear.	0.26m+
1207	<i>Deposit</i>	Mortar and CBM fragment mix foundation for 1205, possible top of foundation but not fully excavated and so unclear.	0.26m+

Trench 13.
20 Main Street.

Max Depth: 0.82m		Length: 5m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth
1301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, moderately compact dandy loam with occasional small CBM fragments	0-0.28m
1302	<i>Deposit</i>	Rubble layer/make up layer pale orange brown firm silty sand, with common CBM and medium sub rounded stones.	0.28-0.34m
1303	<i>Layer</i>	Buried soil layer, mid brown grey firm sandy loam layer.	0.34-0.60m
1304	<i>Deposit</i>	Possible surface of cobbles and CBM, possible Victorian pathway.	-
1305	<i>Natural</i>	Natural, pale orange brown firm silty clay. Equal to 1306 and 1316.	0.60-0.82m
1306	<i>Natural</i>	Natural, pale orange brown firm silty clay. Equal to 1305 and 1316.	0.60-0.82m
1307	<i>Natural</i>	Natural, pale orange brown firm silty clay. Equal to 1317.	0.60-0.82m

1316	<i>Natural</i>	Natural, pale orange brown firm silty clay. Equal to 1306 and 1305.	0.60-0.82m
1317	<i>Natural</i>	Natural, pale orange brown firm silty clay. Equal to 1307.	0.60-0.82m

Trench 14.

Manor Farm Orchard.

	Max Depth: 0.80m		Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
1401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf layer, ground surface. Mid to dark grey brown silty clay, very humic, with lots of bioturbation	0-0.37m	
1402	<i>Subsoil</i>	Very mixed deposit, blurred horizons with overlying topsoil and underlying natural, mid yellow brown sandy silt.	0.37-0.70m	
1403	<i>Cut</i>	Feature clipped in edge of Trench. Appears to be north south aligned, and possible equal to ditch 408 in Trench 4. Not fully excavated due to time constraints, revealed possible cow burial.	-	
1404	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of feature 1403 , mid grey brown sandy silt.	-	

Trench 15.

36 Church Lane.

	Max Depth: 0.58m		Length: 2m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
1501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf, ground surface. Mid to dark grey brown sandy silt, very few inclusions, some small sub rounded pebbles.	0-0.24m	
1502	<i>Deposit</i>	Very diffuse horizon with 1501 and 1502, lots of bioturbation, overlies metal surface 1503, built up against 1505. Pale yellow brown sandy silt subsoil deposit.	0.24-0.58m	
1503	<i>Structure</i>	Metal surface, waterworn pebbles and larger stones creating deliberately laid surface. Date and Function unclear.	0.50-0.70m	
1504	<i>Structure</i>	Large cobbles below 1503, possible foundation for metal surface, or perhaps earlier phase of metalting	0.70m+	
1505	<i>Wall</i>	North south aligned brick wall, full width not seen. Survives to 3 courses, mid yellow limestone mortar, rests directly upon 1503, no foundation seen and so possibly foundation itself.	0.30-0.50m	

Trench 16.

24 Church Lane

	Max Depth: 0.26m		Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
1601	<i>Deposit</i>	Current ground surface, mixed gravel and mid to dark grey brown silt. Pathway or levelling layer.	0-0.15m	
1602	<i>Deposit</i>	mid brown silty clay with common CBM fragments, make up layer for pathway.	0.15-0.26m	
1603	<i>Structure</i>	Metal surface, large waterworn cobbles, with large cobbles for edging, potentially part of roadway for steam engines which were once used on the site in the late 19 th century.	-	
1604	<i>Deposit</i>	Light yellow sand deposit, bedding for 1603.	-	
1605	<i>Deposit</i>	Cinder and slag deposit below 1604, make up/waste dump of material.	-	

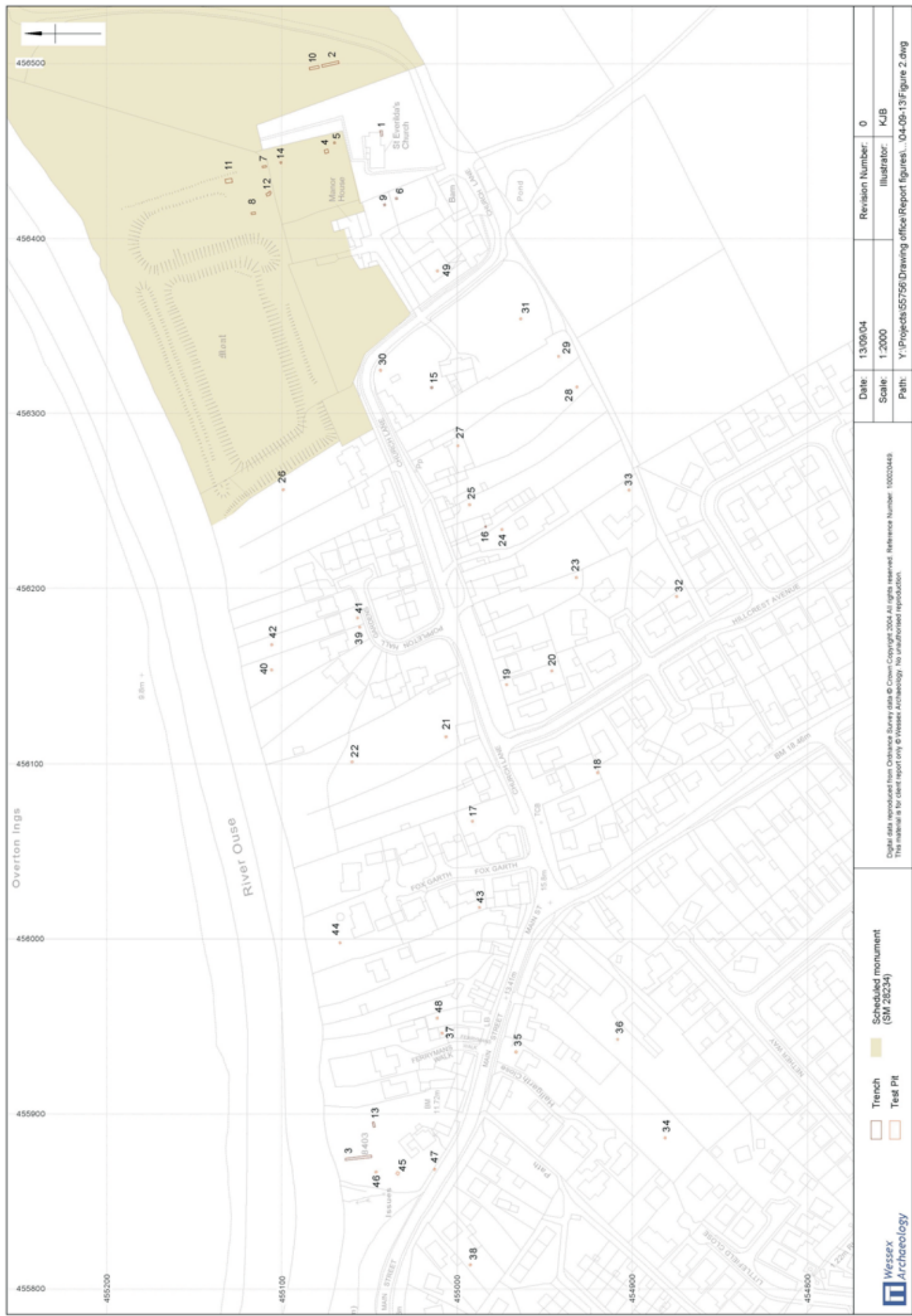
APPENDIX 2. HOUSE NUMBER/NAME AND TEST PIT NUMBERS

The houses within Nether Poppleton that had 1m by 1m test pits excavated for pottery recovery. A, B, C indicates where more than one test pit was excavated. FRONT and BACK refers to which garden.

HOUSE NO/NAME	TEST PIT No.
5 CHURCH LANE	17
8 CHURCH LANE	18
10 CHURCH LANE 'A' BACK	19
10 CHURCH LANE 'B' FRONT	20
11 CHURCH LANE (VICARAGE) A	21
11 CHURXH LANE (VICARAGE) B	22
18 CHURCH LANE	23
22 CHURCH LANE	24
26 CHURCH LANE	25
27 CHURCH LANE	26
32 CHURCH LANE 'A' FRONT	27
32 CHURCH LANE 'B' BACK	28
34 CHURCH LANE	29
36 CHURCH LANE 'A' FRONT	30
36 CHURCH LANE 'B' BACK	31
15 HILLCREST AVENUE	32
LIME TREE HOUSE	33
LORD NELSON INN	34
1 MAIN STREET	35
3 MAIN STREET	36
16 MAIN STREET	37
25 MAIN STREET	38
6 POPPLETON HALL GRDNS 'A' FRONT	39
6 POPPLETON HALL GRDNS 'B' BACK	40
7 POPPLETON HALL GRDNS 'A' FRONT	41
7 POPPLETON HALL GRDNS 'B' BACK	42
REYNARD HOUSE	43
OAK HOUSE	44
SAXE-DANE LODGE 'A'	45
SAXE-DANE LODGE 'B'	46
SAXE-DANE LODGE 'C'	47
POST OFFICE	48
OLD STABLES	49



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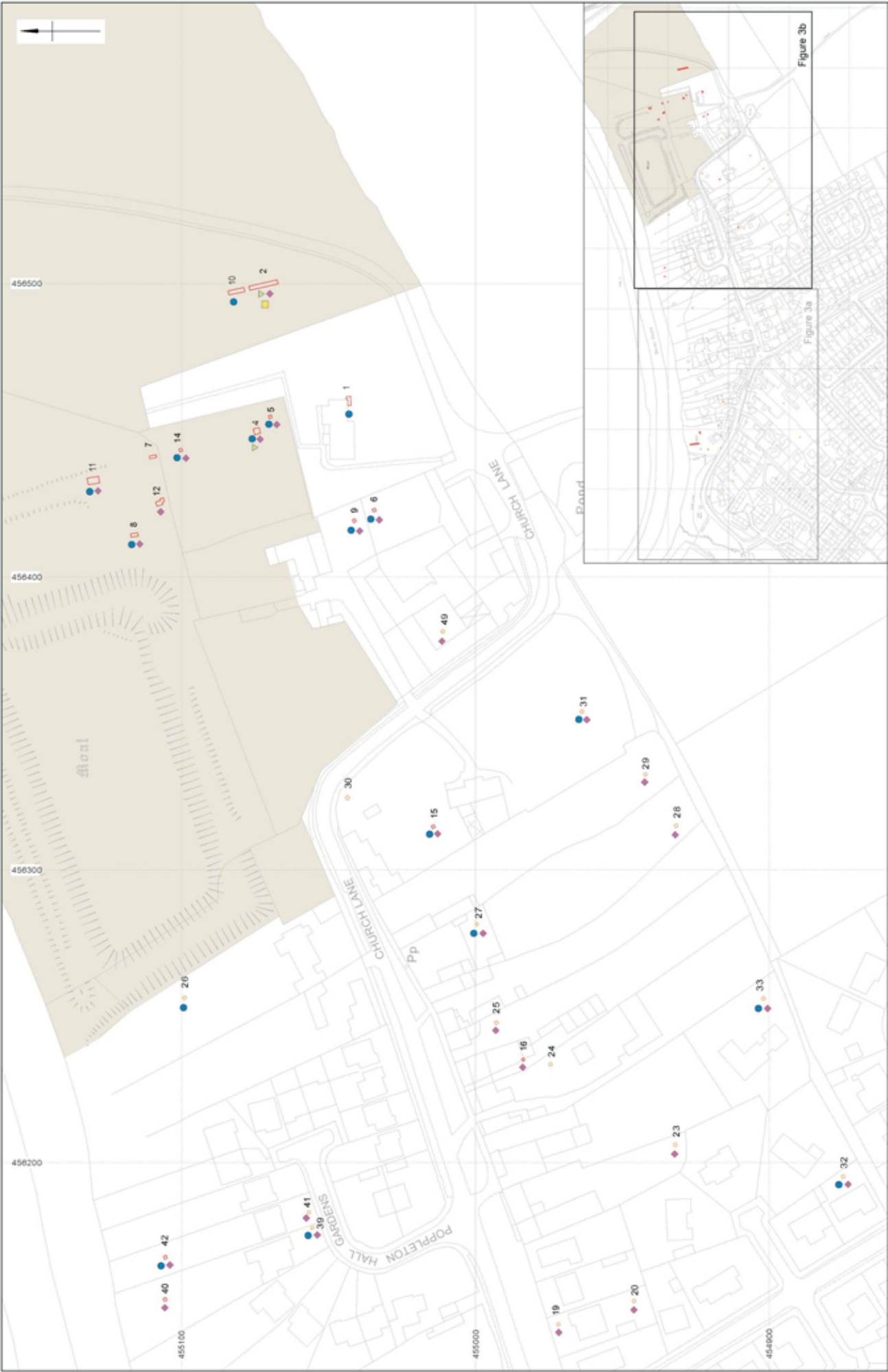
Trench location plan



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		Test Pit		Saxon		Post-medieval		Scale:	1:1250	Illustrator:	KJB
		Scheduled monument (SM 28234)						Path:	Y:\Projects\65756\Drawing office\Report figures\...04-09-13\Figure 3.dwg		

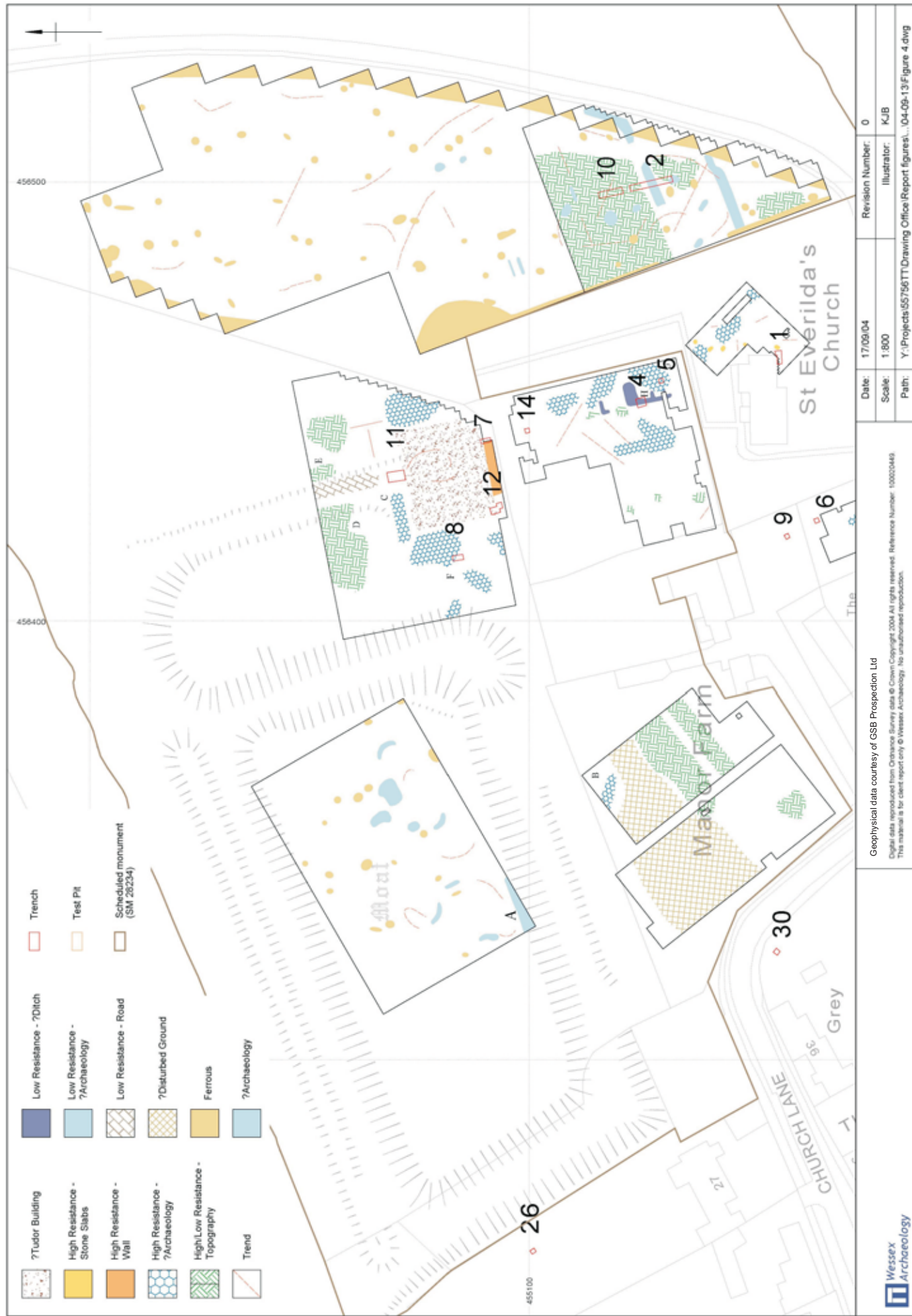
Distribution of pottery (West end of village)

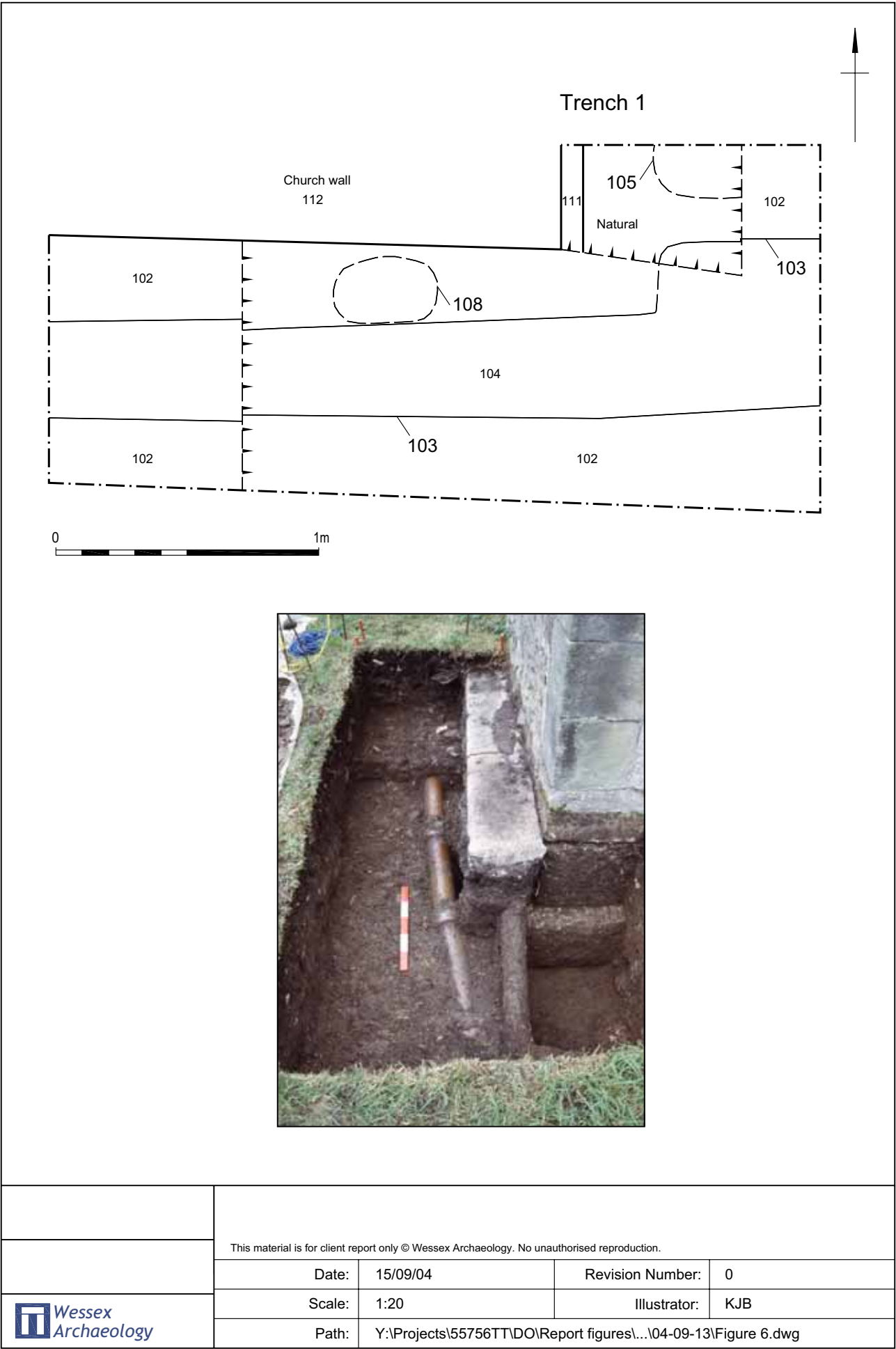
Figure 3a



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Distribution of pottery (East end of village)



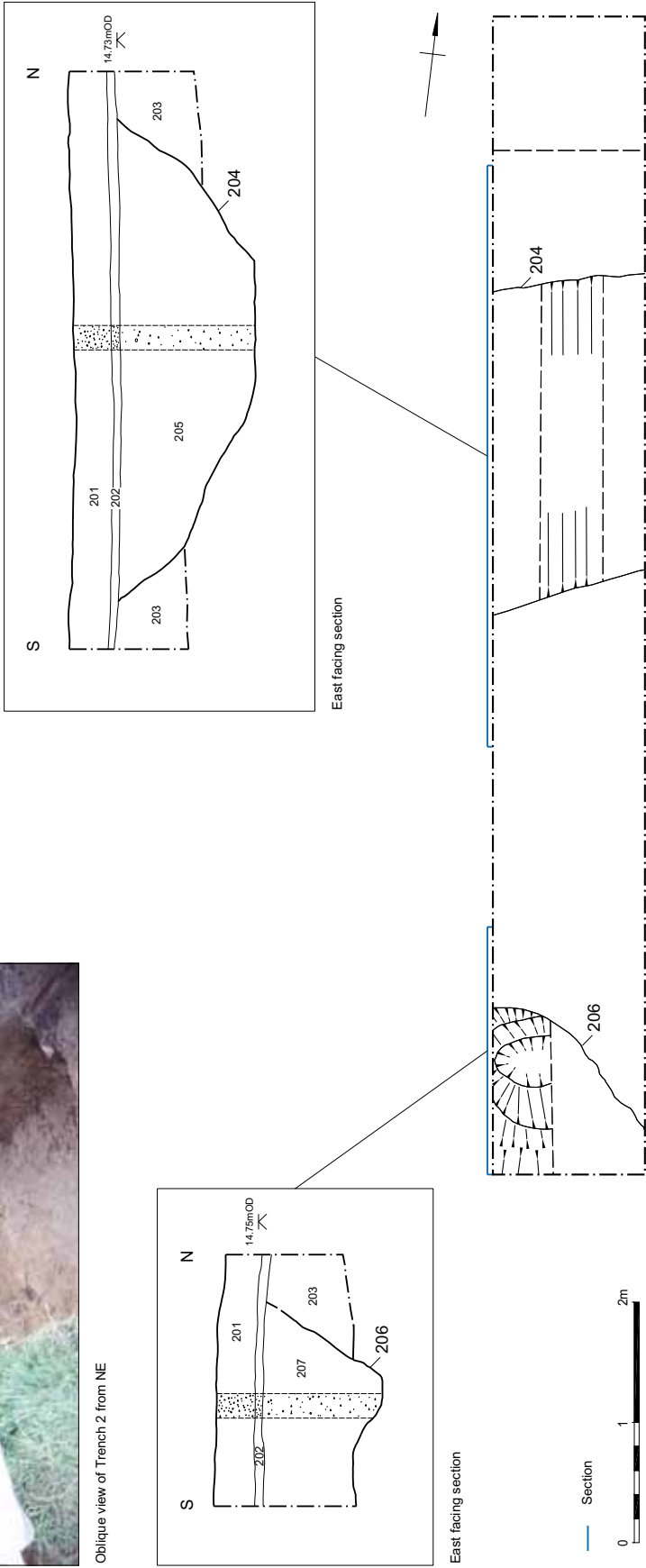


Plan of Trench 1 with grave of neonate/infant burial 108 below modern stone slab

Figure 6

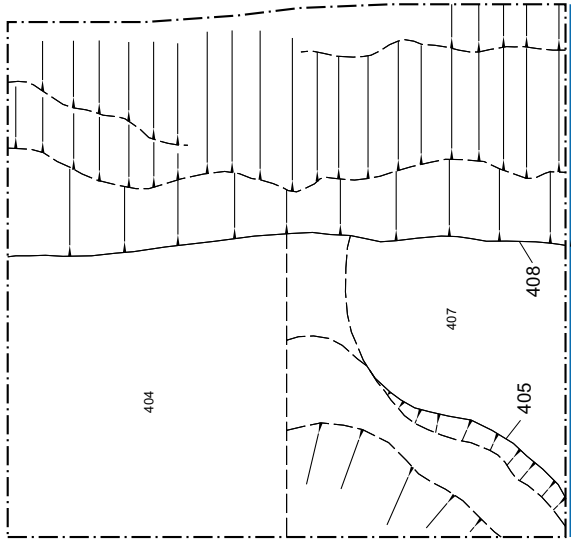


Oblique view of Trench 2 from NE



Trench 2

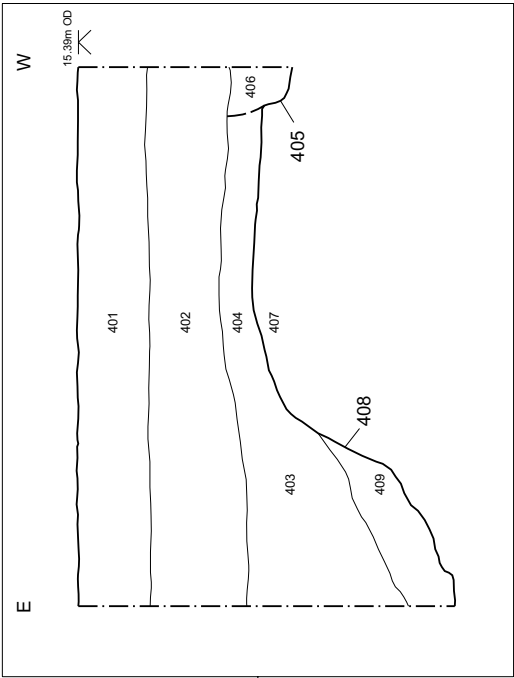
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Trench 4

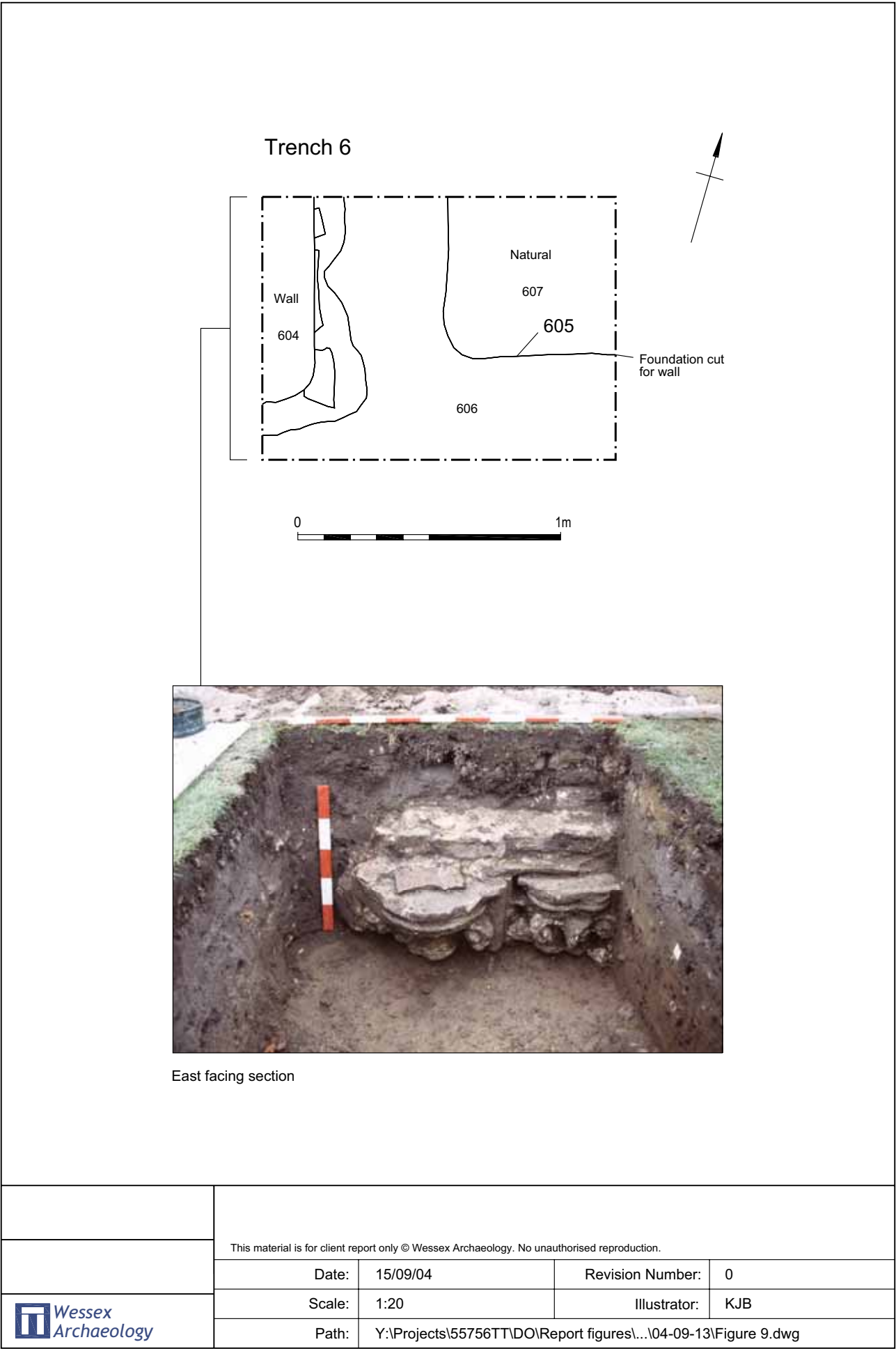


North facing section of Trench 4



North facing section of Trench 4

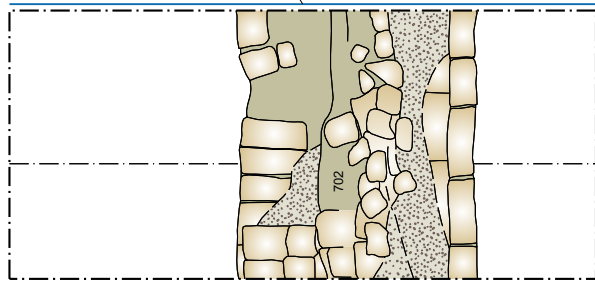
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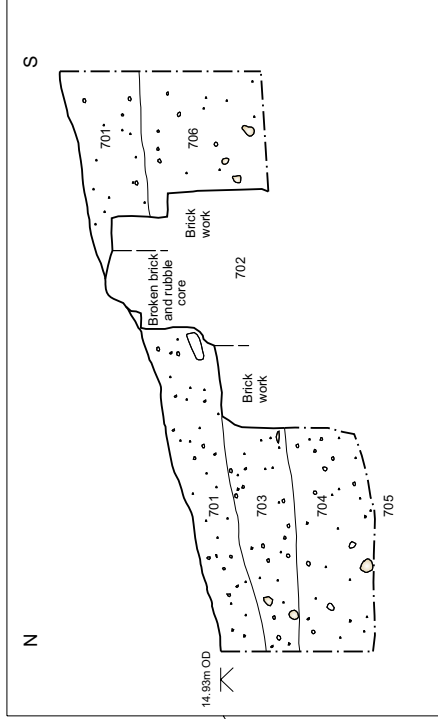
Trench 6

Figure 9

Trench 7



- Brick
- Rubble
- Section

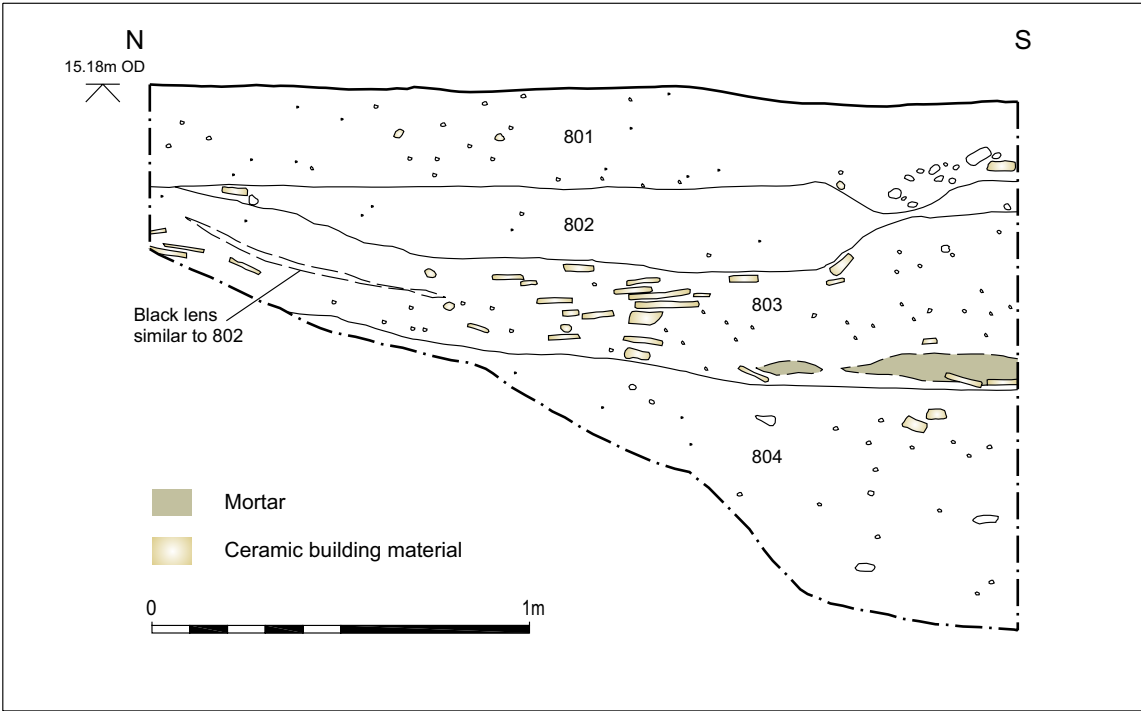



West facing section of Trench 7



West facing section of Trench 7

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West facing section of Trench 8

Figure 11

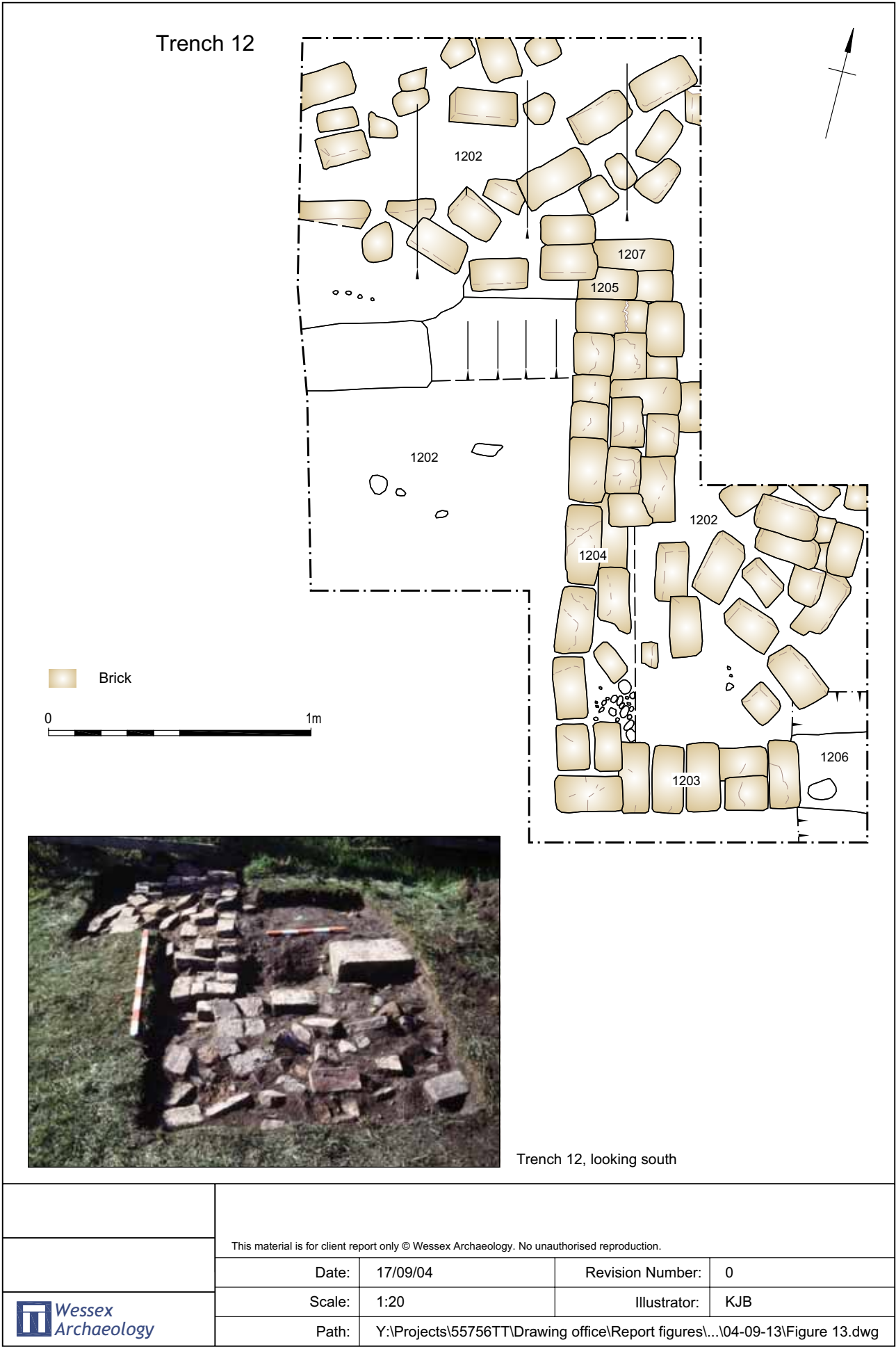
Trench 11



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Plan of Trench 11

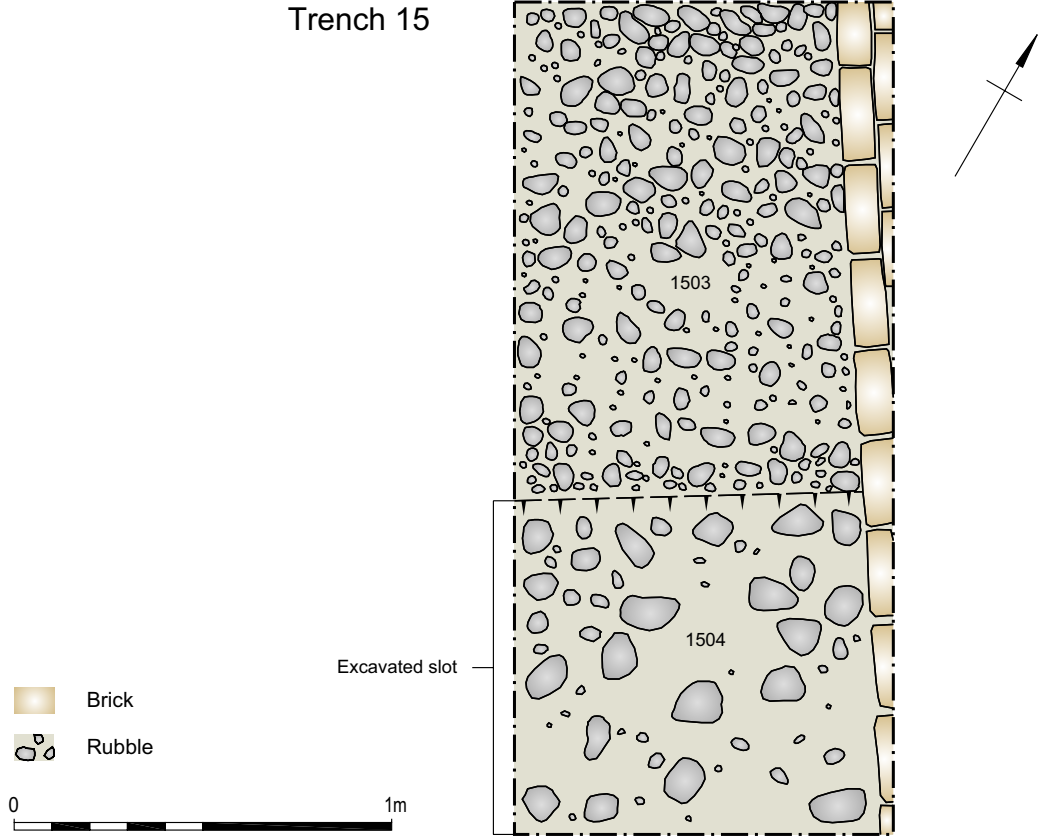
Figure 12




Plan of Trench 12

Figure 13

Trench 15



West facing section of Trench 15

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Summary of archaeological results with provisional phasing



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