Report on a watching brief on drainage replacement works at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire.

SK 8150 7657

September and November 2010

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Nottinghamshire County Council

Contents:

Summary:

A watching brief was carried out on the excavation of two 1.8m x 1.8m x c.1.4m deep soakaways and associated drainage trenches to the east of the Church of St. Peter, Church Laneham, during September and November 2010.

The watching brief recorded the inhumations of three adults and one juvenile of probable post medieval (17th or 18th century) date. Additionally, redeposited in the grave soil were a quantity of disarticulated human and some animal bone and a variety of artefacts, including some rare and significant finds. The artefacts recovered included a prehistoric flint core and pottery of Roman, early to mid and late Saxon, Saxo-Norman, medieval, post medieval and modern date. The re-deposited artefacts also included quantities of fragmentary brick and tile of Roman date.

In addition to the artefacts, several features of unknown date were recorded. They were only observed in section and their function and origin could not be determined.

The finds indicate that this locally raised 'island' in the Trent flood plain beside the river has proved an attractive location for human activity for thousands of years and suggest that the site of the present village of Church Laneham has been a focus for settlement from the Romano-British period onwards. However, insufficient evidence was recovered to indicate whether this represents an unbroken continuum of settlement from Roman times to the present day, or merely sporadic episodes of occupation, attracted to this topographically advantageous location.

Consideration of the finds, along with analysis of the plan of the settlement and its topography, suggest that what is now Church Laneham is the original focus of settlement in the parish and is at least Saxon in origin. Top Laneham (or latterly, Laneham), to the west, is likely to have been a later development. The regular and classic plan of main street and back lanes with tofts and crofts at right angles to the main street as seen at Top Laneham probably originated in the medieval period when the settlement of Church Laneham became too big for the island upon which it was founded and settlement leapfrogged across boggy ground to the dry land to the west.

The excavation of the soak away pits destroyed archaeology and disturbed human remains. Due to the nature of the soils and the resultant, far from ideal, methods of excavation, the watching brief was not able to fully mitigate the impact of the works, although it did allow most of the human remains to be carefully and sensitively removed for reburial. Given the nature of the site, it is likely that only excavation of the soak away pits by archaeologists could have fully mitigated the impact of the works. However, even given the above limitations it is felt that the watching brief yielded significant results which greatly enhance the understanding of the development of the settlements of Laneham through time (including very rare and important evidence for early medieval (Saxon) domestic activity) and it is suggested that the watching brief should, therefore, be considered a success.

Introduction:

A programme of essential drainage works was undertaken in late 2010 at St Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire. The works were part funded by Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme programme, which also paid for the watching brief. The drainage works were necessary as the old system (a French drain installed in 1984 (PCC secretary, 2010, pers comm..)) had ceased to function, leading to a build up of water around the foundations which was getting into the fabric and rising through the floor, causing damage to the structure and threatening the future of the building (plate 1 and 2). The drainage works consisted of the excavation of two soakaways to the east of the church and the installation of drainage pipes from the existing fall pipes on the north and south sides of the church to the soakaways.

Faculty was granted for the works with a condition that an archaeological watching brief should be maintained during the excavations. This was to ensure that any human remains, archaeological finds or features which may be encountered should be recorded and treated appropriately.

The soakaways were excavated by contractors experienced at digging in churchyards in the area and the project was managed by Mr. Steve Philp, builder, of Laneham. The drainage trenches were hand dug by Mr Philp. The watching brief was undertaken by David Budge of Nottinghamshire County Council who also wrote this report.

The excavation of the soakaways was monitored on 11/09/2010 while construction of the drainage trenches was observed on 06/11/2010.

Geology and topography:

The village of Laneham is located on the west bank of the River Trent in the former South Clay division of Bassetlaw in North Nottinghamshire (figure 01 and figure 04). The settlement consists of two parts, the larger to the west being called Laneham on modern maps and existing as a linear village extending along the east - west aligned Main Street. The smaller settlement now known as Church Laneham lies approximately 500m to the east and is mainly north-south aligned (figure 02).

The underlying geology is mid to late Triassic Mercia Mudstone and the settlement occupies two locally raised 'islands' just above the 5m contour in the floodplain of the Trent. The two parts of the village are divided by a band of Quartenary alluvium. Church Laneham occupies the top of an island of glacio-fluvial sand and gravel which was deposited on the Mercia Mudstone during the middle Pleistocene, between the Cromerian and the end of the Ipswichian (approximately 500,000 to 114,000 years ago).

This island was later dissected by a western meander of the Holocene River Trent (so at some point in the last 10,000 years) and the eastern boundary of the churchyard appears to consist of a low cliff cut by this incursion. The British Geological Survey (BGS) have recorded that the western half of the churchyard lies on the middle Pleistocene glaciofluvial sands and gravels, while the eastern half is mapped as being on the Mercia Mudstone (figure 02).

Just to the south of the settlement a remnant of the Holme Pierrepont terrace sand and gravel is mapped. The Holme Pierrepont sand and gravel is interpreted as (the remains of) a late Devensian sandur (White et al, 2007, pp19, 20). A sandur is a plain created by the deposition of sediments by meltwater downstream of a glacier. The Devensian glaciation spans the time frame from approximately 110,000 to 10,000 years ago.

Observation on the site suggests that the church occupies one of the higher parts of the settlement (figure 07). The eastern boundary of the church yard consists of a low cliff cut by water action (plate 03), while to the north the ground falls away more gently to the floodplain. To the west the ground falls away very gently towards the alluvium filled channel of the stream, while to the south trees prevented examination.

Visible in the Holocene floodplain in the field to the east of the church are a number of earthworks which, from their sinuous linear nature, seem most likely to represent palaeochannels (relict silted up former channels of a river or stream).

Archaeological and historical background and previous work:

Laneham is recorded as Lanum in the Domesday Book (1086). Its name is derived from the Old English word 'lane'. This name is considered to mean 'place where the lanes meet' (Gover et al, 1940) or 'at the lanes' (Gelling, 1984, p 78). While Gover et al interpret 'lane' as meaning road, Gelling sees Laneham as being no more obviously at a road junction than any of its neighbours and argues that 'lane' in this context refers to slowly moving water, the 'hollow course of a large rivulet in meadow-land; a brook whose movement is scarcely perceptible; the smooth, slowly moving part of a river'. She therefore suggests that Laneham is '(place) at the slow streams' (Gelling, 1984, p294).

At Domesday the parish belonged to Thomas, the Archbishop of York. The manor of Laneham had Askham, Beckingham, Saundby, Bole, West Burton, Wheatley and Leverton as outliers. There were "9 Caracates and 5 bovates of taxable land. Land for 27 ploughs, 10 bovates in the lordship of the hall, the rest in the jurisdiction. Archbishop Thomas had 4 and a half ploughs, 35 villagers, 6 smallholders who have 16 ploughs. A church and a priest; 2 fisheries, 8/-, 1 mill, 16/-, woodland pasture 3 leagues long and 1 and a half leagues wide, meadow 100 acres. In the said outliers are..." (Morris, 1977, p283)

From the sources consulted it would appear that the division of the settlement into Laneham and Church Laneham is a relatively recent one. Medieval documents refer exclusively to Laneham (with various different spellings, see EPNS 1940) and on Chapman's 1774 Map of Nottinghamshire (figure 04) both sections of the village are shown but are referred to as Laneham. By Sanderson's "Map of the Country 20 miles around Mansfield" of 1835 (figure 05) Church Laneham is referred to as Laneham while modern Laneham is marked Top Laneham. By the first edition Ordnance Survey County Series map of 1885 (figure 06), the settlements are named in a similar fashion to the present, with both given the general appellation "Laneham" but with Church Laneham specifically picked out as such.

The two parts of the settlement are divided by a stream which flows to the south of Laneham before cutting north between the two, then flowing north of Church Laneham to the point at which it joins the River Trent. The stream appears to have become considerably more regular between 1774 and 1835 and by 1835 it is shown to be feeding the village mill (Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record (HER) M4735, located to the south west of Top Laneham (figure 08)). It is probable that the stream was straightened when the floodbanks which protect the village from it were built. The cartographic evidence suggests that this may have taken place between the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Though the water mill only appears on maps from 1835, the Domesday Book records that the Archbishop of York had a mill worth 16/- in the settlement (Notts HER M4735) and while the location of this mill is not known, it is possible that it may have occupied the same site as the modern mill.

Examination of historic maps shows that, aside from some small scale later 20th century developments, the form of the settlement has barely changed since the late 18th century. No earlier maps were consulted since the purpose of this investigation was not an exhaustive examination of all available sources. The earliest buildings recorded in Laneham are of 17th century date and are Willow Tree Farmhouse (Notts HER building no. 1.31.14) and a range of outbuildings 5m east of Endon House (Notts HER building no. 1.31.15). The oldest building in Church Laneham is the church, of which the earliest recognisable masonry is Norman. The remainder of historic buildings recorded on the HER in both settlements are 18th century and later.

The HER records a number of sites within a 5km radius of Laneham (see figure 08 for those closest to the core of the settlement). The most relevant for the present investigation are the following:

Saxo-Norman pottery (Torksey wares and shell tempered wares) was found roughly 180m to the west of the church 'in the garden of Brough House and SE corner of the adjacent field to the west' (HER L5954).

Slightly over 200m to the south the Holme Pierrepont sand and gravel has revealed cropmarks of a 'palisade line ... a complex of subrectangular enclosures running N-S' (HER L4700) along with cropmarks of intersecting pit alignments (HER L8723). These cropmarks are almost exclusively visible on the Holme Pierrepont terrace.

200m to the southeast, Romano-British pottery was found on the river bank in 1956. At the time of finding this was considered to be a 'wash down' from one of the Ro sites on the Lincs bank of the Trent (HER L8727).

1.4km to the west, at the westernmost extent of (top) Laneham, a ploughed out moat which was possibly the remains of a manor house belonging to the Archbishop of York and containing a chapel was reported. After deep ploughing, 'no foundations or finds were located. Mr B. A. Minnitt has done some private research ... and is inclined to think that the original source is dubious' (HER M5854). Local legend suggests that the 'palace' was actually to the north of the settlement near SK 814 770 and that remains of the structure may have been found incorporated into the cellars of a building here (Laneham residents, pers comm., 2010).

In the wider area, 2.3km to the north was a large, multiperiod settlement at Rampton (HER M4698). Excavation here revealed late Neolithic / early Bronze Age artefacts and some features but the site was mainly occupied in the Iron Age to Romano-British periods.

3.2km to the northeast, on the east bank of the Trent, is Torksey. This was a major pottery producer in the Romano-British and Saxo-Norman periods and was also an important Saxon Burh (a major town).

6km to the north is the remains of the Roman town known as Segelocum (HER M5033). This was situated beside a ford where the road from Lincoln to Doncaster crossed the Trent. The settlement still exists, though on a smaller scale, and is now known as Littleborough.

The Church:

The church of St Peter (HER M4740) is a grade 1 listed building. It consists of a chancel and nave with a north aisle and a western tower. The earliest recognisable masonry is of Norman date, consisting of an impressive south door (plate 04), a wide chancel arch (plate 05) and a Romanesque door into the tower at the west end of the nave. Sections of herringbone masonry (with occasional orange tile) are visible around the south door and in the chancel's north wall (plate 06). The font is also of Norman date. Pevsner states that the tower is Norman, with the buttresses and battlements being C15 additions (Pevsner, 1979).

A number of additions were made in the medieval, post medieval and modern periods to this large Norman building. The HER records that the north arcade is of early 13th century date whilst the north aisle and the windows in the north wall of the chancel are of 14th century date. The chancel was raised in height in the 15th century (HER, M4740). The south porch was a timber construction of 14th century date but was rebuilt in the 1930s, though some of the original timbers were included in the rebuild (unknown author, no date, plaque on wall of porch).

The church retains only three small groups of probable medieval stained glass. These are located in the upper sections of two adjacent windows in the south wall of the nave. The only figurative panel is in the upper section of the easternmost of the nave windows (plate 06) and depicts a seated and crowned female figure (the Virgin Mary). To her right kneels an angel. Around these figures are a number of apparently re-set fragments (plate 07). Beneath this panel the upper part of the central light of the window retains a section of in-situ glass. This features a golden border and the upper parts of three crocket finials. The finial design is often found in canopies above a saint or other figure (see similar designs of 14th century date at Tewksbury Abbey, Gloucestershire, Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucestershire,

the priory church of St Mary, Deerhurst, Gloucestershire and St Nicholas, Stanford on Avon, Northamptonshire, pers. obs) and it is suggested that this glass is most likely to be of 14th century date.

The final fragment of probable medieval glass is a shield located at the top of the central light of the adjacent window to the west. It consists of a blue ground with red 'blobs', three in the top line, three below, two below that and a single example at the bottom. Very similar heraldic designs were used to decorate the inlaid floor tiles of the 'Nottingham group' in the 14th century. A number of different designs based upon this general theme were produced by this industry. Based on the theories regarding who the arms on heraldic tiles in ecclesiastical sites may represent and how they were used (eg see Stopford, 2005), it is possible that this fragment of stained glass is a representation of the coat of arms of a benefactor of the church.
The glass is probably not in-situ as it could reasonably be supposed that this area should originally have shown finials like the window to the east.

The rest of the glazing consists of borders of clear glass surrounding diamonds of aqua blue glass. It is likely that the stained glass was destroyed during the reformation; the aqua glass might then have been its replacement.

Internally, set within the masonry high in the south wall of the nave above the door is a fragment of carved stone (plate 09). This is re-used, having been cut down from a larger piece and squared off to make it suitable for use as a building stone. It appears to have formerly been part of a cross slab (or grave cover) and what remains of the incised design appears to be identical to a slab from Southwell illustrated by Butler (Butler, L A S, 1952, figure 1). Butler places this design within his 'type 1 – geometric' category of cross slabs and considers it to represent the common local form of the 12th century, listing eight examples in Nottinghamshire at the time of the article (Butler, L A S, 1952).

Fittings within the church include an impressive wooden chest said to be 13th century along with other wooden features including a 17th century pulpit and 17th and 18th century pews (unknown author, no date, information panel inside church), one pew bearing graffiti (most of which is located behind one of the columns of the aisle, out of sight of the vicar!) with letter forms typical of the 17th or 18th century (Plate 10).

Previous archaeological work:

Though several earlier drainage schemes have been carried out in the churchyard, no archaeological investigation has ever taken place.
There are also no records on the HER of any systematic archaeological investigations in the wider area, within the core of the village of Laneham and Church Laneham. Though the HER does record finds of pottery, these were casual finds and were not recovered during the course of archaeological work.

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of the watching brief was to monitor the groundworks associated with the construction of the new drainage system in order to record any archaeological features exposed by the works and to ensure their preservation by record. Additional aims were to excavate and lift any burials encountered with due respect and to attempt to recover as much human material disturbed by the works as possible for later re-interment, to prevent possible distress which may be caused by the presence of human remains left on spoil heaps. Also to examine the spoil heaps to recover any artefacts which may shed light on the past history of the area.

Methodology:

The works were to involve the excavation of two soakaway pits to the east of the church along with trenches linking these to the existing down pipes around the church, as per the method statement and plan supplied by Mr. Philp (appendix 01). In the event, it was found that the drainage trenches around the church could be constrained entirely to the existing gravel fill of the (failed) French drain (plate 11), thus only the c.5m length of drainage trenches running from the edge of the French drain at the east end of the church to the new soakaway pits required monitoring (figure 09).

Soakaways:

The two soakaway pits were excavated by contractors using a combination of mini digger with a toothed bucket and hand excavation. The toothed bucket was considered necessary due to the stiffness of the soil (the contractors were experienced grave diggers and commented that the ground in St Peter's churchyard was amongst the hardest to dig in the area (pers comm. 2010)). Once into the subsoil the machine, even with its toothed bucket, had great difficulty digging and was in danger of dragging itself into the hole so the contractors switched technique to loosening the ground by hand (using mattock and shovel) and then removing the spoil with the machine. Spoil was heaped around the Pit edges on planks, in order to preserve the grass. Following excavation, sections were cut straight by spade.

These methods resulted in a depth of disturbed soil in the centre of the pits and uneven sides (plate 12) and were not therefore conducive to the prompt recognition of in-situ archaeological remains. Due to this most of the inhumations encountered were in the process of being truncated or had already been truncated by the time they were seen. Such a method of excavation will usually mean that discreet archaeological features, such as post holes and ditches, are not recognised in plan and may not be identified unless they occur in section.

When human remains were encountered, the area around was rapidly hand cleaned by the archaeologist to determine whether they were part of an in-situ inhumation or were disarticulated bone which had been previously disturbed. Disarticulated remains were collected and placed together in bags by context for reburial by the vicar, whilst articulated remains were hand excavated, recorded and photographed prior to lifting. Recognisable individuals were bagged separately for subsequent individual re-interment. By agreement with the vicar, inhumations which were only partially revealed within the trench were excavated as far as the edge of the trench. It was considered that extending the trench to recover the complete skeleton may result in the disturbance of other inhumations and unnecessary damage to the remains and was, therefore, neither practical nor desirable.

Drainage trenches:

Initial investigations by Mr Philp demonstrated that the excavations for the new drains around the church could be constrained entirely within the existing gravel fill of the French drains. The French drains had been installed in a trench which extended up to 1m from the walls of the church and which was in excess of 0.75m deep (it was not bottomed during the present works, pers comm., Philp 2010). Hence only the sections of trench east of the church, linking the new soakaways to the new drains around the church, required monitoring (plate 13). These trenches were around 5m in length. Excavation was by hand using a ditching spade and a shovel and was carried out by Mr. Philp.

In both cases (trenches and pits) the excavations were observed as they progressed in order to identify any in-situ archaeology or human remains, the spoil heaps were also examined regularly for finds or disarticulated human remains. Additionally, whilst removing the spoil from the soakaway excavations, Mr Philp discovered a number of additional artefacts from this material which he kindly collected.

It should be noted that compete monitoring of the two, simultaneously excavated, soak away pits was not possible as at times the archaeologist was involved with excavating and recording inhumations in one pit while the contractors continued work in the other.

Recording:

All layers, cuts and fills were assigned an individual context number and details of their nature were recorded in the site notebook. However, due to the limitations imposed by the method of excavation, cut features could mostly only be recognised in section following conclusion of the excavations. These were therefore assigned context numbers retrospectively. Certain contexts which could not be detected but which must have been present (eg grave cuts for inhumations) were also provided with context numbers during post excavation analysis.

The locations of the soakaways and drainage trenches were measured using 50m tapes and plotted onto pre-gridded plans of the churchyard at a scale of 1:100. Following cleaning, inhumations were photographed vertically with two one penny coins used as reference markers. The markers were plotted on to sketch plans of the soak away pits at 1:10 so that the photographs could be georeferenced to the plans during post processing. This reduced delays to the excavation which would have been caused by having to draw measured plans of the burials on-site prior to lifting.

Sketch sections were drawn of the most interesting or representative sections, although given the depth of the soakaway pits (around 1.5m with no ladders for access) this was done from ground level. Levels were taken using a dumpy level (and the kind assistance of Mr Philp) to ground level beside the trenches and linked to a temporary bench mark (TBM) on the foundation stone of the south eastern buttress of the church (plates 14a and b), since the bench mark depicted by the Ordnance Survey on the church tower could not be located. Initially, it was not possible to tie the levels in to height above Ordnance Datum and they were recorded as height above or below the TBM. However, during the Laneham landscape project in May 2012, it was possible to tie the TBM into the British National Grid. This was done using a Leica Viva survey grade realtime kinetic rover GPS system. Due to the proximity of the TBM to the structure of the church, resulting in reduced satellite reception, it was only possible to record the point with a three dimensional accuracy of +/-20mm. The TBM was found to be at 9.481m AOD. Re-calculated levels were rounded to two decimal places.

It was noted that when these data were downloaded the TBM location as recorded by the GPS was 1.356m south east of the south east corner of the church as mapped by the Ordnance Survey (OS MasterMap, last updated 30/11/2011). This suggests an inaccuracy in the Ordnance Survey mapping in this area, with features being offset around 1m from their true location (allowing approximately 0.4m for the estimated length of the buttress). As the co-ordinates for the excavations quoted in this document were derived by plotting the pits relative to the church as depicted on the Ordnance Survey map, it was suspected that their true location may be similarly offset. This was confirmed by GPS readings on the south west corners of the soakaway pits, indicating the true spatial position of the excavations was just less than 1m south east of the position mapped using the Ordnance Survey base map, while also confirming the accuracy of the site plan in relative terms.

Due to trees growing along the churchyard boundary severely limiting satellite reception and the re-growth of the turf making it impossible to precisely locate the edges of the excavations it was not possible to re-survey the excavations using the GPS.

A colour digital photographic record of the excavations was maintained throughout, using a Canon EOS 500d digital SLR. Images were stored as maximum quality .jpgs

Results:

Pit01: This was the northern soakaway pit and measured 1.8m x 1.8m x 1.4m deep (at the western section). Ground level at the south eastern corner of the Pit was 8.89m AOD (TBM 9.481m, BS 0.71m, FS 1.3m). Centre of the Pit was at SK81500 76580 (plate 24).

The stratigraphy was as follows:

(001) was the topsoil, a soft, dark brown sandy clay approximately 0.28m deep. It featured common roots from the nearby hedge to the east. It was relatively stone free and clean but did yield two sherds of black glazed ware of mid 17th to 19th century date and one residual abraded body sherd of Nottingham Light Bodied Green Glazed ware (13th century), along with a fragment of Roman tegula (roof tile). (001) sealed:

(004). A 'graveyard soil'. Stiff reddish brown sandy clay with common ill sorted angular grey stone fragments and charcoal. Clearly heavily disturbed and mixed it contained areas of stiff red clay which appeared to be lumps of the underlying Mercia Mudstone. (004) contained many pieces of disarticulated human skeletal material and fragments of pottery, the latter including material of Roman, Saxon, Saxo-Norman, late medieval and post medieval date. It also contained a later prehistoric flint core. (004) was cut by a number of graves but grave cuts were virtually impossible to identify except where they cut through 'natural' Mercia Mudstone (005), having being backfilled shortly after excavation with the same material they were cut through. Four in-situ inhumations were discovered, all were aligned east – west with heads to the west. All extended beyond the edge of the trench and consequently were not fully excavated.

At the interface of (004) and (001) was (002), a 0.2m thick layer containing abundant ill sorted angular crushed grey stone (possibly limestone or skerry) in a matrix which appeared to be the same as (004).

The graveyard soil (004) was developed on a stiff reddish clay which appeared to be the natural Mercia Mudstone. However, this lay upon:

(006), a clean yellow sand. This is considered likely to have been a fluvio-glacial deposit.

Burials:

All burials were sealed by the stony layer (002).
They occurred in two separate groups, with stratigraphic relationships visible within the groups but not between the groups. See Appendix 04 for full details of post excavation skeletal analysis.

SK05 (grave cut [012], fill (013)). This individual was only recognised in section once excavation was complete. They had been buried at a depth of 1m below current ground level. The bones visible in section appeared to be the distal ends of the femurs, with the skeleton most likely truncated below the knee. The narrow and fairly irregular grave cut was visible where it cut the 'natural' Mercia Mudstone, (005).

SK01 (cut [007], fill (003), plate 15), a juvenile of possibly 4-5 years old at death, was buried at a depth of 0.4m from present ground surface and was almost directly above SK05. The legs up to the pelvis had been disturbed by the machine prior to recognition but the upper body was recovered in-situ. The shoulder blades and most of the skull remained beyond the section. Though the upper body appeared to be in-situ and was excavated archaeologically, no trace of the right humerus was evident. This may have been due to unrecognised earlier disturbance and is unlikely to have been pre or peri-mortem as the lower arm was present. The skull fragment found in the region of the chest, should it actually belong to this individual, could also indicated previous disturbance. The fill (003) of the grave contained a number of fragments of abraded Roman tile. Additionally, during post excavation analysis of the bones, the block of soil within which the spine of SK01 had been lifted was found to contain further CBM and a body sherd from an early / mid Saxon sandstone tempered ?jar.

The second stratigraphic sequence (plate 16) featured:

SK03 (cut [008], fill (009) (plate 17)) was an adult male of approximately 45 – 49 years of age at death, buried at around 0.9m below current ground level. The pelvis showed signs of Spina Bifida Occulta. The individual was present in the soak away pit from just above the pelvis down, though his lower legs and feet had been removed by contractors prior to being spotted by the archaeologist. His hands rested just below the pelvis and the limbs were close to the body. The slightly irregular base and possibly 'u' shaped profile of the grave cut [008] could just be discerned where it cut the 'natural' Mercia Mudstone (005).

SK04 (cut [010], fill (011)) was buried immediately above and slightly to the north and west of SK03, at a depth of 0.8m below current ground level. This individual was present from just above the patella (knee cap) down. The individual was adult, but no further details on age or sex could be determined. The legs were close together. In the grave fill (011), directly beneath SK04, was a fragment of Roman tile or brick with lime mortar adhering to its surface.

Other cut features:

Pit [018]. The identifier SK02 had been assigned to what originally appeared to be an inhumation represented by a skull visible in the west facing section (plate 18, plate 25). On further investigation this proved to be an irregular sided pit [018] which was filled (019) with the remains of at least 6 individuals, including juveniles of 1-2 and 15 – 18 years of age, along with a number of adults. 14 pieces of animal bone were also present. Pit [018] was sealed by (001) but it was not possible to determine if it was also sealed by the layer of stones (002) or was cut through it, as (002) was difficult to see in the west facing section.

Pit [020]. This feature was only seen in section at the end of excavation, once contractors had neatened the sides of the soak away pit which had previously concealed it. Its fill, (021), was visually similar to the grave soil (004), while at its base was a jumble of apparently disarticulated bone, similar to the situation in pit [018].

Soak away [014]. This was an almost vertical sided cut which extended to almost the full depth of the present soak away pit. It was filled with angular debris (015) consisting of brick, tile and stone, which was capped with a brown sandy clay (016). Sealing the capping was (017), a layer of re-laid turf deriving originally from (001), through which the soak away had been cut. At least one of the poor quality machine made bricks from (015) could be seen to have the company name "Cafferata" stamped into its shallow frog (plate 19). Though some of the other bricks had different inscriptions none were decipherable.

On the spoil heap was found one sherd from the base of a jar or bowl in a non-local late Saxon fabric. It was not possible to securely assign a context to this fragment, though it is most likely to have come from layer (004), the graveyard soil.

Trench 01:
(Plate 20)

This trench linked Pit 01 to new drains in the gravel fill of the French drain surrounding the church. It was around 5m in length, 0.3m wide and was excavated to a consistent 0.35m below present ground level, which undulated slightly and was at 9.71m AOD (FS 0.48m) at the western end, falling to 9.22m AOD (FS 0.97m) at the eastern end where it joined soakaway Pit01. No cut features were identified. The uppermost two contexts previously seen in Pit 01 were encountered, the trench being excavated through (001) and just into the top of (002). (001) yielded a body sherd of late 18th to mid 19th century transfer printed earthenware and a piece of a Roman brick with post firing shaping.

A human long bone was encountered aligned roughly E-W at 3.6m west of the east end of the church, in context (002). No other bones were noticed in association with it and it is likely to have been re-deposited, however, excavation ceased at this depth (0.35m below modern ground) and the bone was left in situ (plate 21).

At the western end of the trench the gravel of the French drain was encountered, extending 1m from the wall of the church. The trench did not penetrate to the base of the gravel. Monitoring of the trench ceased when it entered the gravel fill.

Pit02:

This was the southern soak away pit and was 1.8m x 1.8m x 1.5m deep at its western edge. Within the 1.8m of the soak away pit the ground surface fell by 0.45m from the west to the east. The base of the pit was dug level and thus, while the pit was 1.5m deep from ground level in the west the base was only 1m below ground level in the east. The ground surface at the south eastern corner of the pit was 8.32m AOD (FS 1.87m). Centre of the pit was at SK81505 76572 (plate 25)

No articulated remains and few finds were recovered during the excavation of this pit, however, much of the pit was excavated while the author was recording remains in soak away Pit01 and thus archaeological monitoring was limited.

The stratigraphy was as follows:

The topsoil consisted of a sandwich of layers (101), (113), (114), (115), and (116). These were 0.34m thick in total. (101), (114) and (116) were relatively clean dark brown sandy day. (101) was a laid turf layer. At 0.1 and 0.25m below modern ground surface bands of dark brown sandy clay with sub-angular ill sorted crushed mortar or granular stone and occasional crushed fragments of brick / tile up to 0.01m thick ((113) and (115)) occurred.

Beneath the topsoil layers was (102), a stiff, mixed, reddish brown sandy clay with common ill sorted angular grey stone fragments. This was disturbed graveyard soil akin to (004). It contained fragments of human and animal bone and teeth (including two molars from large herbivores, possibly cow or horse), along with two sherds of Beverley Orange Ware of 13th century date.

In the northern part of the pit, (102) overlay (103), a stiff reddish clay considered to be the Mercia Mudstone, similar to (004). In turn, beneath (103) was:

A clean yellow sand (104), probably the same fluvio-glacially deposited natural as (005).

Cut features:

Drainage pipe:

An orange ceramic drainage pipe (119) was seen in the western section. It was located within a trench of indeterminate form [105], filled with a dark brown sandy clay (100) visually indistinguishable from (101). The trench [105] cut the lower layers of the 'topsoil' ((116), (115)) but appeared to be sealed by the uppermost stony layer (113). The pipe was aligned west east and may have been associated with:

Soakaway pit:

Soakaway [117]. This was very similar to the soak away [014] seen in Pit01. The cut [117] consisted of near horizontal, slightly irregular sides and seemed to extend below the maximum depth of excavation of

Pit02. The shape in plan could not be determined with certainty as it was only partially exposed within the excavated area, but the cut in the base of Pit02 suggested it was probably square or rectangular. The single fill (118) consisted of angular debris including stone and un-frogged bricks. Adhering to the western face of [117] appeared to be a 'dribble' of concrete, (119).

Concrete surface:

Concrete surface (107). This was only exposed in the southern section. Its surface was horizontal and it was around 0.12m thick except at the western end of the exposed area where it became thicker, filling a more irregular and deeper cut. It was sealed by (116) while its cut, [106], cut the graveyard soil (102).

Ditch or pit:

Feature [108]. Seen in the western section of the trench was one side of a large, probably flat bottomed, probably 'u' shaped feature. This cut the 'natural' (103) and may possibly have just cut the top of the sand (104). The edges were difficult to discern but the fills ((109), (110), (111)) were primarily distinguished from the 'natural' (103) by the presence of common poorly sorted sub-angular pieces of grey stone, which appeared to be almost entirely absent from (103). What could be distinguished of the cut suggested it was flat bottomed with a side angled around 60 degrees from horizontal. The part visible in the section was c. 1m wide and around 0.5m deep.

The primary fill (109) was a stiff clay which was slightly pinker than the orangey brown natural (103). It featured common moderately sorted angular and subangular grey stone and was around 0.3m deep.
Overlying it was what appeared to be a concave lens of abundant grey stone and occasional rounded / sub rounded quartzite cobbles (110).
Overlying the lens was another stiff reddish brown clay (111), similar to (109) but slightly less pink.
An apparent intermittent very narrow band of clean red clay (112), similar in colour and appearance to the 'natural' (103), appeared to lie on top of (111).
All this was sealed by the graveyard soil, (102), which was slightly more brown than any of the fills of feature [108].

In the north facing section the fills seen in the adjacent section were visible at the very western corner of the soak away pit, where they appeared to be sloping gently down towards the east. However, they quickly became indistinct and by the middle of the section only the red clay, (112), could be discerned, and then only very faintly. A slight ledge in the section covered with spoil prevented this layer being traced any further east.

Possible grave cut:

Feature [120]. An apparent dip in the base of (102) towards the northern edge of the soakaway pit, combined with a discontinuity in layer (112) in this area appears to represent a cut feature, possibly an otherwise un-recognised burial cut. The fill, (121), was indistinguishable from the general graveyard soil (102).

Finds:

Human remains were less common in this pit than in Pit01, with only a small quantity of disarticulated human remains recovered. As they were retrieved by the contractors it is not possible to be certain which context they came from. However, examination of the sections indicated that human remains were present throughout (102) but none were noticed in the contexts below, which is also apparent on the photographs. The remains included a minimum of two adults and one juvenile.
10 pieces of animal bone were also present and included two molar teeth from large herbivores, possibly cow or horse.

When the spoil heap was being removed, Mr Philps discovered a large fragment of Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium of mid second to mid fourth century AD date.

Trench 02 (plate 22):

This trench linked the southern soak away pit (Pit 02) to the new drain dug into the gravel fill of the French drain. It was roughly 5.5m in length and was 0.3m wide by up to 0.35m deep. Ground level fell from 9.33m AOD (FS 0.86m) at the western end to 8.77m AOD (FS 1.42m) at the eastern end, where it joined soakaway Pit02. The stratigraphy was the same as the upper levels encountered in Pit 02. The trench was mostly excavated through the topsoil sandwich (101), (113), (114), (115) and (116) and just scraped the top of the graveyard soil (102). The stony bands (113) and (115) became less concentrated towards the west (plate 23), so (113) was visible but could only just be discerned at the western end of the trench, while the lower band (115) was virtually invisible by half way along the trench, where it was represented by the occasional stone.

Artefacts consisted of part of a brown glass bottle stopper (19th or 20th century), the base of a footed pearlware bowl or dish (late 18th – mid 19th century), two fragments of day pipe stem (late 16th century to c.1750) and a body sherd of black glazed earthenware (18th – 19th century). All these artefacts were recovered from the spoil heap and consequently it was not possible to assign them to a particular layer within the topsoil 'sandwich'. A few fragments of disarticulated bone were also encountered, these were re-interred in the fill of soak away Pit 01.

Discussion:

Underlying geology:

The earliest deposit encountered in the excavations was the clean yellow to orange sand (006) and (104). This had all the appearance of a naturally deposited layer. It may be either the middle Pleistocene glacio-fluvial sand and gravel mapped by the BGS at c.20m to the west of the exposed sections, could be part of the Holme Pierrepont sand and gravel of late Devensian age, mapped c.30m to the east of the exposed sections by the BGS. As the cliff which forms the eastern boundary of the churchyard looks to have formed by fluvial action and as the top of the sand in the pit was above the level of the floodplain to the east of the churchyard, it is suggested that (006) and (104) are most likely to be part of the middle Pleistocene glacio-fluvial sand and gravel mapped by the BGS to the west. This was laid down at some time between the Cromerian Complex and the Ipswichian Interglacial. The discrepancy between the BGS mapping and the true extent of the deposit on the ground is unsurprising given the scale at which the maps were produced. Recent work in the county at Farndon Fields near Newark (Cotswold Wessex Archaeology, forthcoming) has demonstrated the high margins of error there can be between the mapped and actual extent of geological deposits on the ground.

The interpretation of the sands raises questions about the identity of the 'Mercia Mudstone' deposits (005) and (103). These deposits overlay the sands and cannot, therefore, represent in-situ Mercia Mudstone bedrock. However, when re-deposited, Mercia Mudstone clays may appear virtually identical to undisturbed in-situ Mercia Mudstone bedrock. At Pancake Hill, East Bridgford, what was initially considered to be an undisturbed natural Mercia Mudstone was found to be a re-deposited layer (Spence, U, pers comm. 2010) which contained Romano-British brick and tile and was interpreted as a Romano-British levelling layer (ULAS, 2007). It is therefore suggested that (005) and (103) represent re-deposited Mercia Mudstone. The slightly sandy appearance and yellowish colour of (103) would also seem to support this. The date of deposition is unknown but the absence of finds from these layers and the presence of Neolithic to modern finds in the levels above suggest it was likely to be prior to human activity on the site, probably as a result of geological processes rather than human activity.

Burials:

A number of inhumations were discovered Pit 01. These were all aligned east – west, with the heads to the west and were not furnished with grave goods. This, combined with their location, in a churchyard, indicates they are likely to be Christian. Context (004) represents a 'graveyard soil'; a highly disturbed soil containing disarticulated human bones. Such soil is often encountered in churchyards and is the result of many centuries of repeated digging over of the ground for burials. As the graves were cut into the graveyard soil and backfilled shortly afterwards with the same it proved very difficult to recognise grave cuts when they did not penetrate the Mercia Mudstone. This situation is common in graveyards located on the Mercia Mudstone (eg Inker, P, 2007). Due to the relative positions of the inhumations in section however, it was possible to divide the burials into two groups which could be phased relative to each other. The first group includes the juvenile, SK01, and the probable adult seen only in section, SK05. Within this group, SK05 was the earliest burial.

The second group consisted of SK03 and SK04. The close proximity of SK03 and SK04 (with the bones of SK04 practically resting on top of those of SK03) suggests that when the grave of SK04 was under excavation the remains of SK03 were discovered and, instead of disturbing this earlier burial, excavation ceased and SK04 was laid to rest just above SK03. This would imply that by the time of burial of SK04 the location of SK03's grave was unknown and the close proximity of the two bodies suggests that no trace of a coffin for SK03 remained (otherwise one might expect that the excavators would have realised there was a burial and ceased excavation earlier, when they uncovered the coffin). An alternative explanation could be that SK04 was deliberately interred with SK03. Examples of this are certainly known from Georgian and Victorian times, where inscriptions on grave stones often reveal that one partner died and was buried years or even decades after their spouse. However, for this to be the case the location of the

grave must be marked in some way and the spatial discrepancy between the two burials in plan (the knees of SK04 were near to the pelvis of SK03) suggest that this is unlikely in this case.

Due to the evidence for the late post medieval or modern landscaping seen in both soak away pits (contexts (001), (101) and (113) - (116)) little can be read into the depths of burial beneath the modern ground surface. The landscaping works are likely to have involved levelling of the ground surface and therefore an unknown depth of material may have been removed, making it impossible to determine the ground level at the time of the burials.

Pit [018], originally suspected to be another inhumation, was found to contain the remains of at least six individuals along with quantities of animal bone. These burials were disturbed during works in the graveyard on some previous occasion. During the works they were collected up (along with the animal bones) and then a pit was dug to re-inter the remains, much as the remains from this watching brief will be re-interred. Given the apparently disarticulated jumble of bones at its base, pit [020] is likely to have served a similar purpose, though as it was only seen in section at the end of excavation it is not possible to know.

Burial Practice:
It is probable that the burials were in shrouds rather than coffins. No coffin nails or other coffin fittings were recovered during the excavations. However, all of the inhumations encountered extended beyond the excavated area and the upper parts of the bodies were not seen, while the lower legs and feet in all cases had been disturbed by the contractors. Coffin nails or brackets are most likely to be encountered at the feet or near the head; as these areas were not excavated archaeologically it is possible that such evidence may have been missed, though it is also notable that no coffin fittings were encountered on either spoil heap. The apparently very narrow and fairly irregular shape of the grave cuts, along with the close proximity of SK03 and SK04, would seem to argue against the presence of coffins. Within a coffin the bones are able to spread out somewhat as decay progresses and the hands and feet often loll out from the body, while when a shroud is used the legs will usually remain close together and the arms close to the body. The latter appeared to be the case at Laneham.
No shroud pins were recovered. However, the stiff and intractable nature of the clay soil, which had a tendency to come out in lumps, will have severely reduced the chances of identifying such objects.

Dating:
Several of the inhumations were closely associated with Roman CBM and juvenile SK01 had a piece of Saxon pot immediately beneath the spine. All these ceramics were more or less abraded, suggesting they were not deposited in the graves immediately after breakage but that they had been re-deposited from their original contexts. The most recent ceramics found in the grave soil (004) were Glazed Red Earthenware (mid 16^{th} – 17^{th} century) and Black Glazed Earthenware (mid 17^{th} – 18^{th} century). While grave cuts could mostly not be discerned, this pottery must have come either from the soil into which the graves were cut, or from the soil filling the graves. The burials are therefore likely to be contemporary with or later than the pottery. The topsoil (001), which sealed the grave soil, contained ceramics with a date range of mid / late 17^{th} to 19^{th} century date. As context (002), the line of stones at the interface of (001) with (004), appeared to be continuous this would suggest it, and context (001), must have been deposited after the people were buried and so the burials should be earlier than the artefacts in (001).

This suggests that the inhumations are most likely to be of 17^{th} or possibly 18^{th} century date.

Edge of the graveyard:

Only the lower parts of the skeletons of the burials encountered during the works were present and no inhumations were noted in the eastern half of the soak away pits. The soak away pits were both situated close to the cliff (Pit 01 was within 2.5m, Pit 02 within 2m) forming the eastern boundary of the church yard. It is likely that the inhumations encountered in the excavations represent the easternmost extent of burial in the churchyard. While it might have been possible to squeeze more burials in to the east of

these it may not have been considered sensible due to the proximity of the cliff and, had the edge of the church yard been defined by a wall, fence or hedge (as today) then it may not have been possible due to a lack of space. It is also probable that the cliff may have migrated east slightly over time due to dumping of excess spoil over the edge of the cliff, as occurred during these excavations and as has been known to happen in the recent past (local parishioners, pers comm. 2010). In soakaway Pit02 the apparent spread of grave soil (102) over the fill of feature [108] may represent dumping of material in order to fill a depression and level up the ground surface.

Archaeology of soakaway Pit 02:

In soakaway Pit 02, the 'Victoria sandwich' of topsoil layers probably represents a succession of ground surfaces ((116), (114)) onto which layers of ?rubble were spread or had built up ((115), (113)), probably during phases of building work or landscaping in the church yard and to the church. The presence of (107), a concrete platform, over which (116) appears to continue without disruption, suggests a relatively modern (probably 19th or early 20th century) date for these layers. The drain pipe (119) is highly likely to be associated with the earlier soakaway (118) and is dug through the earliest topsoil layers (116), (115) but appears to be sealed by layer (113) and certainly by the modern turf (101).

The lack of recorded inhumations in soakaway Pit 02 could be a result of them being removed unnoticed while recording and excavation of the inhumations in soakaway Pit 01 was taking place. However, the lack of truncated bone in the sections and the absence of large quantities of bone in the spoil heaps suggest this was probably not the case. Indeed, the quantity of disarticulated human bone recovered from this pit was far less than that recovered from soakaway Pit 01 and also included a quantity of animal remains, largely bones from animals used for food and probably deriving from food waste.

This suggests that this part of the grave yard may have been used differently to that further north in soakaway Pit 01.

Nearby is a gate permitting access to the churchyard from the floodplain. This entrance is located around 3m to the east of the pit and has existed from at least the late 19th century, when the Ordnance Survey County Series maps show a footpath running north - south and entering the church grounds at this point (Figure 10). While the footpath is depicted as keeping against the eastern boundary of the church yard and exiting in the south eastern corner, not continuing up to the south entrance of the church, it is possible that at some point in time a route or path may have continued from this entrance up to the church. If the modern path from the west church yard gate were extended in a straight line it would line up almost perfectly with the gate at the eastern side. The presence of a path would generally preclude the excavation of graves along its length and could therefore explain the lack of inhumations here. However, the disturbed churchyard soil ((102) – analogue to (003)) is present in this pit, but does not appear to be as deep as was seen in soakaway Pit 01 (only about 0.4m thick compared to 0.7m in soakaway Pit 01).

Feature [108], only seen in section, is quite difficult to explain with confidence. It appears to cut the 'natural' Mercia Mudstone (103). Due to its width, lack of human remains and sloping side, by comparison with the graves in soakaway Pit 01 it seems unlikely to represent a grave cut. The layers (109), (110), (111) and (112) suggest it may have filled over an extended period or in several discreet episodes. It might be an east – west aligned ditch or hollow way, or a pit. Once it had filled in, a deposit of graveyard soil built up or was deposited on top of it, perhaps to raise the ground level.

Unfortunately, feature [108] could only be observed in the east facing section as any traces in the west facing section had been obliterated by the earlier soakaway (118). Also, it was not possible to trace the layer of stones, (110), in the north facing section, though there were hints that (112) was visible at least as far as halfway along the section (and its invisibility further east may have been due to a small spoil covered ledge in the section created during excavation) and that it fell away to the east, towards the floodplain. If (110) represented a layer of metalling at the base of a hollow way it might be expected that it should be visible as a continuous layer in the north facing section. Ultimately, it seems most likely that

feature [108] was a linear feature rather than a pit and, given the proximity of the modern gate exiting the church yard, feature [108] could represent part of an early hollow way type path leading from the gate to the south door. The cliff is relatively steep here and steps have been cut into it to allow the modern path to access the church yard. A hollow way could have developed here just through use of this entrance, or one could have been cut in order to lessen the gradient. Within the context of this explanation, of a route into or out of the churchyard from the floodplain, the later concrete platform (107) could similarly be interpreted as surfacing at the end of a path, with, perhaps, concrete steps down to the gate (though the existence of these is purely conjectural).

It is worth noting the two (joining) sherds of Romano-British mortaria recovered from this soakaway pit. They were found unstratified on the spoil heap. Unlike the rest of the pottery from the excavation, which had broken into quite small pieces and become abraded as the grave soil was dug over time and again, the mortaria sherds are large. Their size and freshness suggests they have not been subject to the same level of disturbance as the other ceramics. As the only cut feature of any antiquity which was not burial related encountered during the works, feature [108] has to be considered a possibility for the origin of the Roman sherds. However, as the sherds were found in the spoil heap rather than in-situ during the excavation, it is now impossible to determine if a Roman origin for feature [108] is at all likely.

Earlier soakaways:

The earlier brick and rubble filled soakaways, seen in soakaway pit 01 and soakaway pit 02, along with the ceramic drain pipe exposed in the western section of soakaway pit 02 are likely to be contemporary and represent a previous attempt to provide drainage for the church. A brick stamped "Caffe rata" in the frog was used in the fill of one. The Cafferata Company of Newark was making bricks from the mid 19th century through to about 1962. (Caffe rata, 2010). These bricks could have been re-used but the vast majority showed no signs of mortar. Though the bricks could have been old stock, it is suggested that the soakaways and the ceramic drain pipe represent a drainage system which pre-dates the 1980s French drains (with their plastic pipes) and was probably constructed at some point between the mid 19th and mid 20th centuries.

The 'dribble' of concrete (119) down the wall of soakaway [117] suggests the soakaway may have been contemporary with the concrete surface, or that the concrete post-dates the soak away and the soak away was exposed during the laying of the concrete, in order for wet concrete to be able to run down into the cut of the soak away. If the latter scenario were correct it would perhaps be expected that the concrete would have been continued over the top of the soak away, however, this was not observed to be the case.

Conclusions about the wider area based on the findings of the watching brief:

The geology and topography of the site on which Church Laneham is built are the most likely reasons for human activity on the site for at least the last 4000 years or so.

Locally raised 'islands' within the floodplain near to river channels appear to have been sought out as favourable places for settlement and other activities throughout time. Within the Trent Valley, many instances of prehistoric settlement in such locations are known, with important examples of Later Mesolithic settlement at Tiln (TPAT 1994a), Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement at Collingham (TPAT 1994b, 1994c) and Mesolithic and later Neolithic / Bronze Age settlement and burial at Besthorpe (pers. obs, ongoing excavation by the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the University of Salford). Such islands were generally better drained and drier than the surrounding floodplain, with an elevation of even a few metres making a difference, while the proximity of readily available fresh water from the river and the improved views due to the slightly elevated topography will have added to the appeal.

That Church Laneham occupies such an island may well account for the presence of the broken flint core, probably left here in the late Neolithic or Bronze Age. It is likely that the knapper was attempting to make

some tools for expedient use by working a small piece of raw material they had found locally. This is probably the result of a single episode of activity rather than evidence of settlement in this location as in the latter case many more pieces of worked flint might be expected to have been found.

Iron Age and Romano-British activity:

The large (221g total mass) and relatively unabraded (joining) sherds of Romano-British mortaria (generally considered to have been used for preparing foodstuffs) are unlikely to have travelled far from their place of use. They suggest the presence of Romano-British domestic activity in the immediate vicinity (and perhaps even related to the cut feature [108]). The cropmarks mapped to the south of the church might show remains of settlement and field systems of Iron Age and Romano-British date which are likely to continue on to the island on which Church Laneham sits. The hand made sherd of late Iron Age or Romano-British pottery is smaller and more abraded so has suffered more degrees of disturbance from its original context, but there is no reason to suspect that it was not also related to occupation in the immediate vicinity.

While the Roman pottery suggests occupation on or in the immediate vicinity of the site, the fairly large quantity of Roman roof tile and building brick are likely to have come from a relatively high status, probably stone built, structure. This may have been situated on or close by the site. However, the presence of the medieval church (discussed below) raises the possibility that the tiles may actually have been imported to the site from elsewhere at a date later than the Roman period.

Early medieval:

The recovery of two sherds of early to mid Saxon pottery and two sherds of late Saxon pottery from the very small area examined is unusual. These pots are considered to be domestic, rather than funerary, in origin (appendix 02). Early to mid Saxon settlement tends to prove elusive in Nottinghamshire. A search of the HER revealed fewer than 20 records for the whole of the county relating to finds of early or middle Saxon domestic pottery. Late Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery is more common, but is still rarely found and is usually not encountered at any great distance from a settlement.

These finds indicate Saxon domestic occupation on or in the immediate vicinity of the site. The evidence is insufficient to suggest whether this was continuous throughout the period (and possibly having its origins in Roman times) or due to sporadic re-occupation, though the former is perhaps somewhat more likely.

Re-use of Roman material in Saxon or Norman church buildings:

The watching brief recovered a surprising quantity of fragments of Roman brick and tile. Six of the eleven pieces were diagnostically Roman, while the majority of the remainder were considered most likely to be of Roman origin (appendix 03).

The fabric of the church also includes orange tiles within the herringbone masonry (plate 06) and elsewhere. Though located too high within the structure to be measured during the current works (owing to the absence of step ladders), they appear visually similar to Roman brick or tile.

Re-use of Roman building materials in the Saxon and Norman periods is well known. Regarding Saxon construction "where there was a ready supply of Roman brick or stone which could be employed to dress openings and quoins - and at the same time to give them added strength-advantage was taken of this" (Rodwell, 1986, p160).

For the Norman period it has been suggested that, at least in Essex and probably in other areas similarly lacking in good building stone, supplies of Roman tiles for re-use may have been exhausted by the first half of the 12th century (Drury, 1981). Locally there are a number of examples of Roman material being

incorporated into Norman buildings, including the small Church of St. Nicholas at Littleborough, Sturton le Steeple, on the site of the Roman town of Segelocum (HER L8771).

The above perhaps gives the impression that the salvage of Roman materials was for purely functional reasons. However, it seems unlikely that the incorporation of a few Roman tiles within a piece of early Norman herringbone masonry would have provided any structural benefit. Tim Eaton has suggested that the re-use of Roman material was largely not for functional reasons but was instead a technique used by the early church in Saxon times and then by the Norman elite (both of these being effectively new institutions) in an attempt to portray themselves to the English people as the natural successors of the Roman Empire, to 'buy' legitimacy and kudos. (Eaton, 2000)

If the re-use of the material was for practical purposes then it is likely material would not be transported far. In the latter case however, the importation of Roman material from a more distant source, such as the ruins of the former town of Segelocum (Littleborough), 6km away, would seem plausible.

Such effort is, perhaps, more likely to have been expended on the larger and more important settlements. The surviving Norman masonry within the present church suggests the Norman church was a structure of significant size, probably roughly the same size as the present building. The Domesday entry for Laneham also seems to indicate a settlement of considerable size and significance (though unfortunately the value of the place prior to the Conquest and at the time of the survey are omitted) and shows it was one of the larger settlements in this part of Bassetlaw.

It seems most likely that the Roman material was brought to the site from somewhere where ruined stone built Roman structures were available to be quarried (such as the Roman town now known as Littleborough) and was incorporated into the Norman church. This church has been subject to considerable modification in the years since its construction and little herringbone masonry now remains. The broken fragments of Roman CBM recovered by the watching brief are likely to have been removed during buildings works and, being too small and irregular to re-use, spread in the churchyard, where they became incorporated into the graveyard soil.

However, if the size and importance of Laneham at Domesday gives any indication of its status prior to the Conquest, another explanation should be briefly considered. This is that the Roman material was originally incorporated into a stone built Saxon church on the site and possibly then re-used in the Norman structure. The Domesday Book records that the settlement had a church and priest and the finds indicate the presence of domestic settlement throughout the Saxon period. At the western edge of Bassetlaw, at St John the Evangelist, Carlton in Lindrick, Roman brick is present in the tower and south chancel wall (HER M4775). The date of the tower is much debated, being variously considered late Saxon, Saxo-Norman or early Norman. Importantly, while suggesting that the tower could not be pre-Norman, Hamer and Scott considered that the Roman brick was most likely a survivor from the earlier church ((Hamer, D and Scott, F S, 1954).
While there is no positive evidence for this at Laneham, for the reasons detailed above it does not seem entirely out of the realms of possibility that a Saxon stone church once stood on the site.

Medieval:

The watching brief demonstrated an early or middle Saxon occupation around the area of the present church. This habitation continued into the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman period, while further evidence of a Saxo-Norman presence was recorded in chance finds of pottery of this date around 180m to the west (L5954).

With its apparently fairly random street plan, the settlement of Church Laneham, located atop its gravel island, is of Saxon origin at the latest. By the late Saxon or Saxo-Norman period, with finds of this date coming from both its eastern and western margins, the settlement probably occupied the whole of the island.

On the contrary, the settlement of Top Laneham bears all the hallmarks of a classic planned medieval village, with main street and back lanes and tofts and crofts between these (figures 05 and 06). This is at some distance from the Church settlement, with approximately 600m of 'empty' space between the two.

The geology (figure 03) and topography (figure 07) of the site appear to be the reasons for this separation. Essentially, the island beside the river on which the original settlement is located was probably full by the late Saxon or early Norman period. Unlike most villages, which could expand organically, the presence of the river, streams and low lying and probably boggy or periodically flooded land around the island meant expansion of settlement into these areas would be undesirable.
As a result, the village leapfrogged onto the nearby Mercia Mudstone outcrop to the west.

Examining the village of Laxton, Challis suggested that the regular, planned appearance of the settlement arose as a result of a deliberate enlargement and posited this was most likely to have occurred in the 12th century (Challis, 2002, 67). While it is not possible, based on the current evidence, to determine when Laneham expanded, the author would suggest, particularly given the apparent size of Laneham at Domesday, that a similarly early date is possible.

Conclusions:

The evidence recovered during a watching brief is inevitably of lesser quality than that from a full excavation undertaken under archaeological conditions. Watching briefs represent a compromise, an attempt to balance cost / speed of works with the need to record the archaeological evidence which is permanently destroyed by those works. Consequently, there were many problems with this watching brief and archaeological information was certainly destroyed without record, however, the watching brief was able to record important information which sheds light on the archaeology of the area.

As soak away Pit 02 was mostly excavated by the contractors while the archaeologist was excavating and recording inhumations in Pit 01, monitoring of Pit 02 was limited. This may account for the significantly fewer artefacts recovered from this pit than from Pit 01 and is unfortunate when the possible nature of the archaeological features revealed in the sections is considered. However, given the method of excavation it is unlikely that features would have been seen in plan even if complete monitoring had been possible. The lack of inhumations from this pit is also suspicious; however, this is believed to reflect a genuine absence rather than a lack of discovery or reporting.

The excavation of the soak away pits destroyed archaeology and disturbed human remains. Due to the nature of the soils and the resultant, far from ideal, methods of excavation, the watching brief was not able to fully mitigate the impact of the works, although it did allow most of the human remains to be carefully and sensitively removed for reburial. Given the nature of the site, it is likely that only excavation of the soak away pits by archaeologists could have fully mitigated the impact of the works. However, even given the above limitations, the watching brief yielded significant results which greatly enhance the understanding of the development of the settlements of Laneham through time and it is suggested that on balance the watching brief should, therefore, be considered a success.

Archive:

The site archive is held by the Nottinghamshire Historic Environment Record at Nottinghamshire County Council. Following study, the human remains were reburied as close to the original burial location as possible by the vicar. Other artefacts were returned to the Church for display.

Guidelines published by the Church of England suggest that finds "may be kept in the church. However, better standards of care and conservation are normally achieved if the finds ... are deposited in an appropriate museum, and this is strongly recommended" (Morris, R, 1978, 18). Given the significance of the ceramic assemblage and the recommendations of the ceramic specialist that the material should be included in any future scientific study of the region (Young, this volume), it is strongly recommended that it be kept or displayed in such a manner that it remains accessible to future researchers and is not dispersed, but all kept together, along with a copy of this document. Should the Church find it no longer has a use for the assemblage, it is strongly recommended that, in the first instance, it should be deposited in the local museum with the collecting remit for the area (at the time of writing this is likely to be the Bassetlaw Museum in Retford), along with a copy of this document. Failing this it should be offered to any registered / accredited museum with an interest in the area, in order to ensure it is preserved for the future and remains available for researchers and any other interested parties.

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Thanks are due to all the persons who made the watching brief possible, along with those who provided helpful discussion and useful information.

In no particular order, some of them are listed below (apologies to those whose names I did not catch or have forgotten):

The Reverend Felicity Ferriter, for all her help and interest, Steve Philp for recovering finds from the spoil heap, cutting a straight section and being generally helpful, Andy Gaunt for useful discussion and figure 07, Shani Lambert the project officer, for supply of plates 01 and 02, apologies you had to wait so long for this report! Hurtons Funeral Directors of Retford for supplying a venue for the post excavation examination of the bones.
Also all the local people who stopped by and provided useful information and discussion.

Apologies to anyone I may have un-intentionally omitted.

Plates 01 and 02 were supplied by Shani Lambert, NCC.
Figure 07 was produced by Andy Gaunt, NCC.

Most importantly, particular gratitude is extended to the grave diggers, for not burying the author in the bottom of one of the soakaways when he stopped them digging to rescue yet another skeleton…

Appendix 01
Method Statement
Steve Philp

Steve Philp Builder

Binge Farm, Main Street
Laneham
Retford
DN22 0NA
01777 228633/07827331585

Date : 28th August 2010

To Whom It May Concern

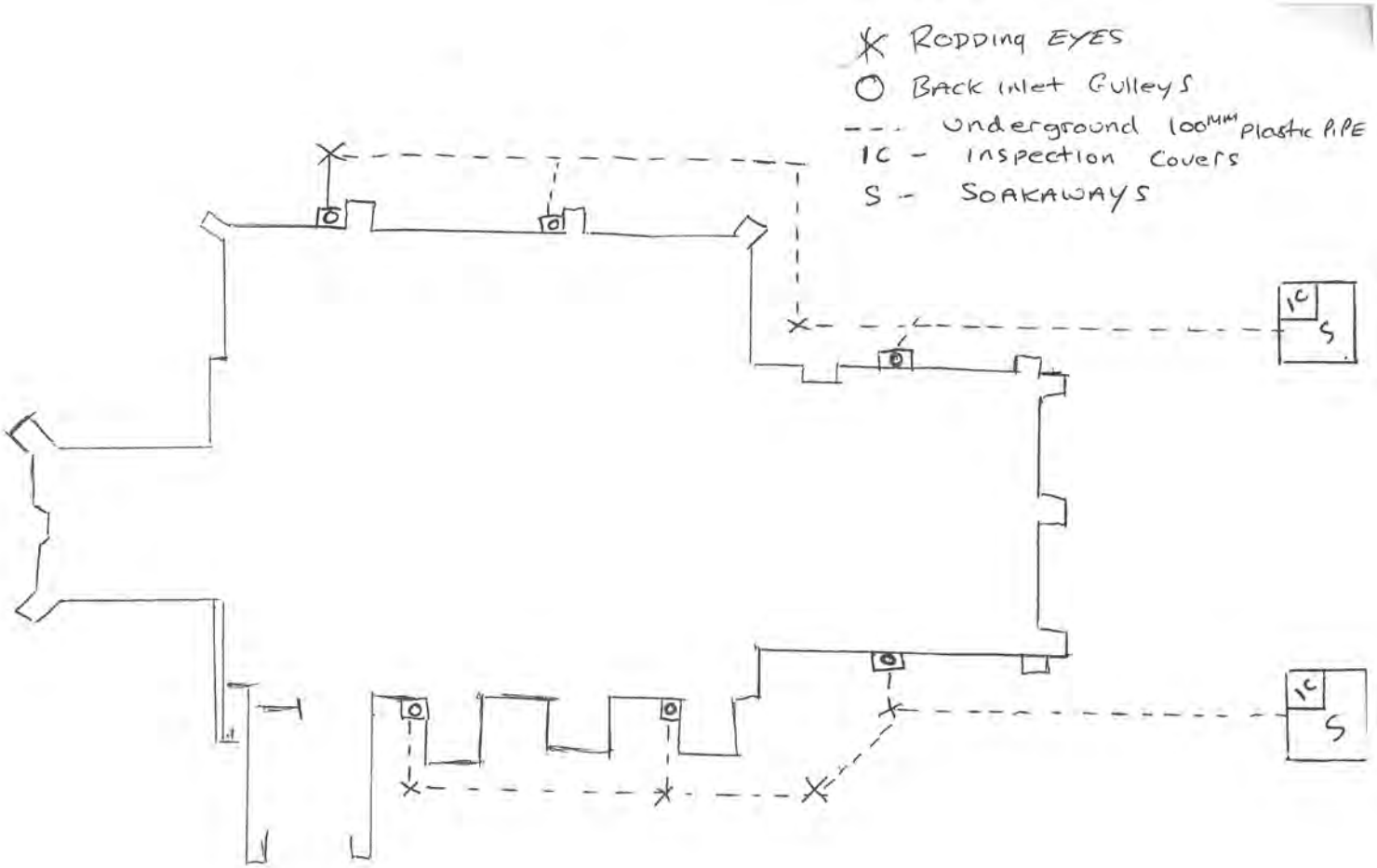
Re : New Drainage at St Peter's Church Laneham

It is my intention that work to the Church surface water drainage will commence on Saturday 11th September 2010.
Work will begin by excavation of the two soakaways which will be positioned at the furthest point from the church building. There will be two holes approx 1.8m square and 1.5m deep. Digging will then cease until the soakaways are built and backfilled. The soakaways will be dug using a mini excavator and driver who has experience of digging within the Church grounds for the graves. They will be built on a concrete strip foundation and will be built out of foundation blocks finished with concrete slabs below ground. One corner will be brought up to ground level with an inspection chamber.
The trenches will be dug by hand working from the soakaways to the existing fall pipes. New gulleys will be fitted with roding eyes nearby incase of any blockages from leaves etc. The drain will be rigid plastic, bedded and surrounded by pea gravel. This work will commence shortly after the soakaways have been completed.
All work will be in accordance with the schedule from The Church of England dated 3rd August 2010, although I have not received copies of the architects report dated 25th May 2010 which may include more specific guidelines.
If an archaeologist is to be present it would be helpful if I could have a contact number so that I can advise when I will be on site.
As previously stated the work will commence on site on 11th September 2010 at approx 8.30am. I would be grateful if you could arrange for the security post at the main gates to be removed for access for the mini excavator.
I trust this provides you with the information you require, however please feel free to contact me on the above numbers should you have any more questions.

Yours faithfully

S. Philp

Steve Philp



NOT TO SCALE

STEVE PHILP

Appendix 02

Roman and Post Roman Pottery

Jane Young and Ian Rowlandson

THE POTTERY FROM A WATCHING BRIEF ON DRAINAGE WORKS AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CHURCH LANEHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (LAN 10)

JANE YOUNG AND IAN ROWLANDSON CERAMIC CONSULTANTS

INTRODUCTION

A group of twenty-three pottery sherds recovered from the site were examined for this report. A summary of the pottery by ceramic period is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 ***Pottery summarised by ceramic period with sherd and vessel count***

Ceramic Period	Total sherds	Total vessels
Roman	3	2
Anglo-Saxon (5th to mid 9th)	2	2
Late Saxon (late 9th to mid 11th)	2	2
Early medieval (mid 12th to early/mid 13th)	1	1
High medieval (13th to 14th)	3	3
Medieval to late medieval (late 13th to mid 16th)	1	1
Post-medieval (mid 16th to 18th)	9	6
Early modern (18th to 20th)	2	2
Total vessels	23	19

In total, twenty-three sherds of pottery representing nineteen vessels were recovered from the site. The pottery ranges in date from the Roman to the early modern period. The pottery has been fully archived to the standards for acceptance to a museum and within the guidelines laid out in Slowikowskki, *et al.* (2001) and the minimum archive by *The Study Group for Roman Pottery* (Darling 2004). The pottery was examined both visually and using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by three measures: number of sherds, weight and vessel count within each context. Every effort was made to identify cross-context joins, of which none were found. The resulting pottery data was entered on an access database using post-Roman fabric codenames (see Table 1) developed for the Lincoln Ceramic Type Series (Young, Vince and Nailor 2005) and the City of Nottingham Type Series (Nailor and Young 2001). The Roman codes follow those developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit- CLAU (see Darling and Precious *forthcoming).*

CONDITION

The pottery is in a variable condition although most sherds are in a slightly abraded to abraded condition with sherd size mainly falling into the small to medium size range (3 to 50 grams). Only two vessels are represented by more than one sherd and no cross-contextual joins were noted.

THE RANGE AND VARIETY OF MATERIALS

A range of eleven different, identifiable post-Roman and two Roman pottery ware types were identified; the type and general date range for these fabrics are shown in Table 2. The post-Roman pottery ranges in date from the Anglo-Saxon to early modern periods and includes local and regionally imported vessels. A narrow range of vessel types was recovered with forms mainly limited to various types of jugs, jars and bowls.

Table 2 ***Pottery types with total quantities by sherd and vessel count***

Codename	Full name	Earliest date	Latest date	Total sherds	Total vessels
BEVO1	Beverley Orange ware Fabric 1	1100	1230	1	1
BEVO2	Beverley Orange ware Fabric 2	1230	1350	1	1
BL	Black-glazed wares	1550	1750	8	5
ESAXLOC	Early Anglo-Saxon Local wares	450	650	1	1
GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware	1500	1650	1	1
HUM	Humberware	1250	1550	1	1
IAGR	Iron-Age Tradition Gritty (Roman)	40	400	1	1
LSX	Non-local late Saxon fabrics	870	1080	1	1
MOMH	Mancetter/Hartshill Mortaria (Roman)	150	350	2	1
NOTGL	Light Bodied Nottingham Green Glazed ware	1220	1320	2	2
PEARL	Pearlware	1770	1900	2	2
SST	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	550	800	1	1
TORKT	Torksey-type ware	850	1100	1	1

Roman

Three sherds of Roman pottery were presented for study. Pit 2 produced two joining fragments from the base of a Mancetter/Hartshill type mortarium (MOHM) with fired clay trituration grits which showed signs of use wear. This vessel should be dated to between AD150-350. A single shell and grog tempered sherd was present in context 004 which could only be broadly dated to the Roman period (IAGR). This vessel is of Trent Valley type.

Anglo-Saxon (5th to mid 9th century)

Two handmade sherds are of Anglo-Saxon type. Both came from soakaway pit 1. The Sandstone-tempered sherd (SST) found in context (003) in association with Skeleton 3 is possibly from a large jar. The second handmade sherd from context (004) is likely to be of more local type (ESAXLOC). This sherd is also probably from a large jar and is tempered with a Trent Valley sand. Little work has been done on the patterning of Early to Middle Saxon pottery in Nottinghamshire and consequently these sherds came only be dated to a broad period between the 5th and mid 9th centuries, although they are most likely to be of 5th to 8th century date.

Late Saxon (late 9th to mid/late 11th century)

Two vessels of Late Saxon type were identified amongst the assemblage. One of the vessels is a product of late 9th to mid/late 11th century kilns producing vessels in the Torksey ware tradition (TORKT). The jar sherd, which was recovered from context (004) in soakaway pit 1, contains sparse calcareous grains and fragments of shell within the fabric. Whilst this does not preclude the vessel from being an actual Torksey product no similar fabrics have yet been recovered from Torksey itself. The other sherd is the base of a jar or bowl in a reduced quartz-tempered fabric (LSX). Similar sherds were found at Flaxengate, Lincoln in mid/late 9th to early 10th century deposits and have also been noted at Thurgaton, Nottinghamshire. The vessel, which was also recovered from soakaway pit 1 (unstratified in spoil) has a polished external surface and a wiped internal surface. It also has a wear mark around the basal edge.

Early Medieval (mid 12th to early/mid 13th century)

A single sherd is of early medieval type. The sherd is from an early to mid 13th century jug in Beverley 1 ware, Fabric A (BEVO1). The undecorated sherd has a pocked copper-mottled glaze and is likely to have been produced in Beverley in East Yorkshire (Watkins, 1991, 80 and Didsbury and Watkins 1992). This vessel was recovered from context (102) in soakaway pit 2.

Medieval (13th to mid 16th)

Four vessels in three different ware types are of medieval-type. Two of the jugs are in Light-bodied Nottingham Green Glazed ware (NOTGL) and date to the 13th century. One of these jugs

came from context (001) in soakaway pit 1 whilst the other sherd was found unstratified in the spoil heaps. Another jug sherd is in Beverley 2 Fabric B (BEVO2). This vessel is also of 13th century date and came from context (102) in soakaway pit 2.

The sherd from a large Humberware jug (HUM) found in context (004) in soakaway pit 1 is of later type. Humberware (HUM) was produced at several centres in East Yorkshire (Watkins 1987, 98 and Watkins 1993, 76-90), in York at Blue Bridge Lane (Vince and Steane 2005) and probably also in North Lincolnshire from the late 13th century onwards. This ware type remained in production until about the middle of the 16th century and single sherds are often hard to closely date.

Post-medieval (mid 16th to 18th century)

Six of the vessels examined are of mid 16th to 18th century date. The five Black-glazed Earthenware vessels (BL) found on the site are of mixed date, although they are all likely to have been manufactured in the East Midlands between the mid 17th and mid 20th centuries. Two of the vessels, both from soakaway pit 1, are of Nottinghamshire/Staffordshire/Derbyshire type and date to between the mid 17th and 18th centuries. Both are large-sized vessels with that from context (001) being a bowl and the basal sherd from context (004) coming from a bowl or jar. Another bowl recovered from context (001) in soakaway pit 1 is in a fine red sandy fabric and dates to between the late 17th and 19th centuries. The other two Black-glazed vessels were found unstratified and are of 18th to 19th and late 18th to mid 20th century date.

A single Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE) vessel is a type more commonly found in East Anglia and Lincolnshire between the mid 16th and 18th centuries. These vessels reflect Flemish or Dutch influence and production sites in Lincolnshire include Boston, Bolingbroke, Grimsby and Toynton St Peter. The sherd from this site was found in soakaway pit 1 (context (004)) and could come from a small jug or jar of mid 16th to 17th century date.

Early modern (18th to 20th century)

Two of the vessels examined are of late 18th to mid 19th century date. Both vessels are in Pearlware (PEARL) and were found unstratified. One is the footring base of a small bowl or dish and the other sherd, which has blue transfer-printed decoration, is probably from a cup.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This is a small assemblage, which provides us with an opportunity to look at some of the pottery types in use in the area, but is too small to provide other useful information. The assemblage suggests Roman, Saxon and medieval occupation in the area of the site. The entire assemblage should be kept for future study and the less common types should be included in any scientific analysis of pottery in the area.

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Pottery Archive for a Watching brief on Drainage Works at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire (LAN 10)

Jane Young and Ian Rowlandson

trench	context	cname	full name	sub fab	form	sherd	vessel	weig	part	description	date
	u/s topsoil	NOTGL	Light Bodied Nottingham Green		jug	1	1	17	BS	cu speckled glaze	13th
Pit 1	001	BL	Black-glazed wares	OX/R/OX medium sandy	large bowl	1	1	62	BS	hard fired;internal glaze;Derbs/Staffs/Notts	mid 17th to 18th
Pit 1	001	BL	Black-glazed wares	fine red sandy	bowl	1	1	9	BS	internal glaze	late 17th to 19th
Pit 1	001	NOTGL	Light Bodied Nottingham Green	oxidised	jug	1	1	3	BS	abraded;cu glaze	13th
Pit 1	003	SST	Early to mid Saxon sandstone-tempered	fine to med	large jar ?	1	1	17	BS	moderate to common fine to medium quartz sparse aggregate sst moderate to common carbonised veg voids	5th to mid 9th
Pit 1	004	ESAXLOC	Early Anglo-Saxon Local wares	reduced;medium sandy	large jar ?	1	1	10	BS	smoothed internal surface;Trent Valley;abundant subround to round cloudy quartz moderate fe sparse ca	5th to mid 9th
Pit 1	004	TORKT	Torksey-type ware		jar	1	1	6	BS	fabric includes occ shell & ca;internal white deposit	mid/late 9th to mid 11th
Pit 1	004	HUM	Humberware		large jug	1	1	21	base		14th to mid 16th

trench	context	cname	full name	sub fabric	form	sherd	vessel	weig	part	description	date
Pit 1	004	BL	Black-glazed wares	OX/R/OX medium sandy	large jar/bowl	1	1	39	base	hard fired;internal metallic glaze;Staffs/Derbs/Notts	mid 17th to 18th
Pit 1	004	R	Roman pottery	IAGR	?	1	1	6	BS	oxidised;Trent Valley type;abraded	Roman
Pit 1	004	GRE	Glazed Red Earthenware		small jug/jar	1	1	3	BS	internal & external glaze;quite sandy but very fine fabric	mid 16th to 17th
Pit 1	u/s	LSX	Non-local late Saxon fabrics	reduced;medium sandy	jar/bowl	1	1	33	base	worn basal angle;abundant mixed round to subround quartz 0.2 to 0.8mm occ up to 1.2mm moderate fe moderate carb veg;thick walled base;wiped int surface;polished ext surface;sim vessels found at Flaxengate &	mid/late 9th to early 10th
Pit 2		R	Roman pottery	MOMH	M	2	1	221	base	joining sherds;worn internal surface	AD 150-350
Pit 2	102	BEVO1	Beverley Orange ware Fabric 1	Fabric A	jug	1	1	4	BS	pocked cu mottled glaze	early to mid 13th
Pit 2	102	BEVO2	Beverley Orange ware Fabric 2	Fabric B	jug	1	1	8	BS	cu mottled glaze over white slip	13th
Pit 2	u/s	BL	Black-glazed wares	fine buff fabric	rectangular dish	4	1	199	base	spalling internal & external glaze	late 18th to 20th
Trench 1	001	PEARL	Pearlware		cup ?	1	1	3	BS	blue transfer print	late 18th to mid 19th
Trench 2	u/s	PEARL	Pearlware		small bowl/dish	1	1	6	base	footring base	late 18th to mid 19th
Trench 2	u/s	BL	Black-glazed wares	coarse orange	jar	1	1	11	BS	internal glaze	18th to 19th

Appendix 03
Ceramic Building Material
Jane Young

ASSESSMENT OF THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND FROM A WATCHING BRIEF ON DRAINAGE WORKS AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH, CHURCH LANE HAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (LAN 10)

JANE YOUNG CERAMIC CONSULTANT

INTRODUCTION

A total of seven fragments of ceramic building material weighing 514 grams and ranging in date from the Roman to possibly the early modern period were recovered from the site. The material was examined under x20 binocular microscope and then recorded using locally and nationally agreed codenames. The resulting archive was then recorded on an Access database and complies with the guidelines laid out in Slowikowski, et al. (2001).

CONDITION

The material is in variable condition with most fragments showing a fair degree of abrasion. Fragments range from large-sized (437 grams) to tiny (1 gram).

OVERVIEW OF THE CERAMIC MATERIAL

A limited range of ceramic building material including roof tile and brick was found on the site (Table 1).

Table 1: Ceramic material codenames and total quantities by fragment count and weight

Codename	Full name	Total fragments	Total weight in grams
IMB	Imbrex	1	28
RBRK	Roman brick	1	437
RTIL	Roman tile	3	45
RTMISC	Roman or post-Roman tile	2	4

ROMAN

Five Roman tile fragments, all found in Pit 1, were recovered from the site. The identifiable collection is limited to examples of Roman building brick (RBRK) and Imbrex (IMB). Three fragments are of definite Roman date but are too fragmentary to identify (RTIL). Most of the tile has quartz inclusions that are consistent with a Trent Valley source, but the Imbrex is in a fabric that is similar to that used for post-medieval Bourne ware and may have been manufactured in Lincolnshire.

UNCERTAIN

Two small flakes may be of Roman or post-Roman date (RTMISC), but are most likely to be Roman.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ceramic building material recovered from this site can mainly be dated to the period. The material should be retained for further study.

REFERENCES

Slowikowski, A. Nenk, B. and Pearce, J. 2001. *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*. Medieval Pottery Research Group, Occasional Paper 2.

Ceramic Building Material Archive for a Watching brief on Drainage Works at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire (LAN 10)

Jane Young

trench	context	cname	full name	fabric	frags	weight	description	date
Pit 1	003	RTMISC	Roman or post-Roman tile	oxid med sandy	1	2	thin flake;very mixed with patches of clean clay and light firing streaks otherwise common subround to round quartz 0.2 to 0.6mm moderate fe	Roman/post Roman
Pit 1	003	RTMISC	Roman or post-Roman tile	oxid fine + ca	1	2	thin flake;common fine quartz moderate ca	Roman/post Roman
Pit 1	003	RTIL	Roman tile	oxid fine	1	1	thin flake;sparse quartz 0.2 to 0.4 moderate fine ca common fine fe sparse grog;similar to post-med fabric BOU;hard fired;flake;IMB	Roman
Pit 1	003	RTIL	Roman tile	oxid fine	1	3	sparse quartz 0.2 to 0.4 moderate fine ca common fine fe sparse grog;similar to post-med fabric BOU	Roman
Pit 1	003	IMB	imbrex	fine oxid	1	28	sparse quartz 0.2 to 0.4 moderate fine ca moderate fine fe;similar to post-med fabric BOU	Roman
Pit 1	011	RTIL	Roman tile	dull oxid fine-medium sandy	1	41	brick?;abundant fine round to subround quartz 0.1 to 0.2mm occ up to 0.4mm moderate fe	Roman

trench	context	cname	full name	fabric	frags	weight	description	date
Trench 1	u/s	RBRK	Roman brick	dull oxid medium sandy	1	437	33mm thick;abundant fine background quartz below 0.1mm common round to subround quartz 0.4 to 0.8mm some fine aggregated sst or cry staline quartz moderate fine ca mode fe;odd as one edge appears to have post-firing smoothing forming an	Roman

Note: during final editing and checking of the watching brief report it was discovered that several fragments of CBM had been missed out of the specialist report. Brief archive details of the missing pieces are therefore recorded below using the standard codes and methodology as detailed in the specialist report, however, it should be noted that the author of this addendum (Budge) is not a CBM specialist and the identifications, descriptions and dating have not been checked or otherwise endorsed by the specialist (Jane Young).

Additional tile archive for LAN10. D Budge.

Trench	Context	Cname	Fullname	Fabric	Frags	Mass (g)	Description	Date
Pit01	001	TEG	Tegula	Oxid fine	1	72.3	22mm thick. Part of flange surviving. Smoothed upper surface, sanded base. Sparse quartz 0.2 – 0.5mm, rare sub-rounded poorly sorted fine grained sandstone <5mm, sparse moderately sorted platy grog <8mm, rare sub angular poorly sorted Fe <4mm, rare fine ?ca. Rare grass or straw impressions. Similar fabric to imbrex from (003) but with more sandstone.	Roman
Pit01	004	PANT	Pantile	Oxid sandy	1	16.5	13mm thick, smoothed upper surface, sanded base, curved, from near the edge of tile. Common rounded well sorted quartz mostly in the range 0.1 – 0.3mm, occasionally up to 0.6mm, rare sub rounded brown Fe <0.6mm.	P med - mod
Pit01	004	RTMISC	Roman or post Roman tile	Oxid fine	1	18.4	No surfaces surviving. Rare well sorted sub-rounded transparent quartz <0.3mm. Rare poorly sorted sub-rounded red Fe. Probably Roman?	?Roman
Pit01	004	RTMISC	Roman or post Roman tile	Oxid med sandy	1	6.7	No surfaces surviving. Moderate poorly sorted sub-rounded quartz (transparent, white and Fe stained) 0.1 – 0.5mm. Rare poorly sorted well rounded red Fe 0.2 – 1.6mm. Rare sub-rounded brown Fe <0.3mm. Very abraded so probably not modern?	Roman – modern

Appendix 04
Human Skeletal Material
Lorraine Horsley

Laneham.
Report on Human Skeletal material from watching brief.
Lorraine Horsley.

Pit 1 Articulated burials

SK01

SK01 was an in situ burial of a juvenile, aligned West-East. The elements recovered were post-cranial with one small piece of cranium (the right zygomatic bone). The remainder of the cranium is assumed to be in the edge of the trench. The majority of vertebrae and ribs were recovered, along with arms, pelvis and some leg. The rest of the lower body was missing, possibly due to previous disturbance. All bones had unfused epiphyses showing the young age of the child. Estimation from the complete unfused left humerus gives an age of 4-5 years, although this could be an underestimation due to delayed development. There are no signs of pathology on the extant bones.

SK03

The second in situ burial was aligned West-East and only the mid-section was recovered including lower arms, vertebrae, ribs, pelves, sacrum, femora (proximal only) and hands. Although few indicators remained for sexing the pelvis, particularly the Greater Sciatic Notch, indicates male. Examination of the left and right pubic symphyses and left and right auricular surfaces gives an age at death in the range 45-49 years. The man would have stood at 5'7"-5'10", calculated from the length of the radius and ulna. The sacrum shows incomplete fusion of the neural arches of 3rd, 4th and 5th sacral vertebrae, a condition called Spina Bifida Occulta. This would likely have had little or no effect in life.

SK04

Recovery of SK04 included the lower legs only. The burial was West-East and skeletal elements above the knees were beyond the edge of excavation. The bones were fully fused so represented an adult but no other age or sex indictors were extant. Stature estimated from the length of the tibia gives 5'4"-5'8" if male or 5'3"-5'6" if female. There is a medium sized neoplasm evident on the anterior surface of the proximal right tibia. This is a benign slow growing bone tumour which, although painful, was unlikely to have been the cause of death.

Portions of 3 in situ burials uncovered – 2 adults and one young child. The rest of the remains represented all skeletal elements and were a mix of adult and juvenile. No re-uniting possible given fragmentary condition of bones.

SK02

SK02 was deemed to be disarticulated remains rather than an in situ burial. The remains represented all skeletal elements and included adult and juvenile. The Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) was recorded for the separate bags recovered.
Bag 1 – MNI 2 adults. 4 animal bones.
Bag 2 – MNI 2 adults (one female), 1 juvenile 1-2 years, 1 juvenile 15-18 years). The juvenile bones from bag 2 could not be matched to SK01 given a clear difference in age. 10 animal bones.

Pit 2

No articulated burials were recovered from Pit 2. The MNI of the recovered bone was 2 adults and 1 juvenile. There were also 10 animal bones.

Appendix 05
Lithic Material
David Budge

Report on lithic material from a watching brief at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire.

David Budge.

Introduction:

One piece of worked flint was recovered from context (004), graveyard soil, in soakaway pit 01 during a watching brief at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham. The piece is debitage and, while not closely datable, is most likely to be of late Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Methodology:

The piece was examined by eye without the aid of magnification. Measurements of length, breadth and width were taken to the nearest millimetre using digital callipers, while mass was measured using a digital balance to the nearest 0.1g.

Description:

Though shattered, the condition of the piece is otherwise fair, with little abrasion or similar damage to the surface. The flake surfaces are fresh and no re-cortication can be seen. One area of damage may represent post discard damage (such as being hit by a spade during grave digging activities), but could also relate to a failed attempt to remove flakes from a new platform in prehistory, while another area of crushing and associated small flake detachments nearby is likely to relate to post discard damage.

The assemblage:

1. Shattered fragment of a multi-platform flake core. 33mm x 15mm x 13mm maximum dimensions. Mass 5.7g, Raw material is translucent dark grey / black flint. The cortex is thin, smooth and water worn. The surviving part of the core face preserves the scars of the distal parts of two flakes, detached from platforms angled about 60 degrees apart. The earlier of these flakes terminated in a hinge fracture. Two natural frost fracture surfaces are present, one slightly corticated and probably forming an original outer surface of the nodule, the other being located originally within the body of the core and likely to have been the reason the core shattered.

Discussion:

The flint is part of a flake core which has shattered. The translucent grey / black flint with the water worn cortex used for this core is typical of the flint which can be found in the Trent gravels, where it usually occurs as small pebbles. These pebbles often have frost fractures and other inherent flaws which may cause them to shatter or become unworkable; even so they were extensively exploited by Stone Age people in the Trent Valley, particularly in later prehistory as people began to settle down and did not range over such large territories. Hinge fractures are a type of termination often produced by unskilled knappers due to poor technique, though they can happen to more experienced knappers if the raw material is too small to hold and support properly. There is a general decline in the effort and skill put into every day flint working in later prehistory, with less preparation and more haphazard working, along with the expedient use of locally sourced raw material, which may be of poor quality.

While the core has no specific chronologically diagnostic features the combination of the type of raw material, the lack of cortication, the apparent fairly haphazard removal of flakes and probable lack of skill of the knapper, along with the flake technology represented, suggest the piece is most likely to have originated in the late Neolithic or Bronze Age.

The shattering of the core probably occurred during knapping as a result of the presence of the frost fracture within the nodule. However, it is also possible that the core survived, was worked to exhaustion then discarded, with the shattering possibly being the result of post discard processes, such as shovel impact during grave digging.

Appendix 06
Clay Pipes and Glass
David Budge

Report on glass and clay pipes from a watching brief at St. Peter's Church, Church Laneham, Nottinghamshire.

David Budge

One piece of glass and two fragments of clay pipe stem were recovered from topsoil in trench 02.

The glass is part of a mould made brown glass bottle stopper and is of modern date, 19th - 20th century.

The pipe stems are fragments from two different pipes. Plain pipe stems in general cannot be closely dated. However, within the general date range for the manufacture of clay pipes (late 16th to 20th century), Peter Hammond (quoted on the Bingham Heritage Trails website) suggests that before the middle of the 18th century pipes tended to be made from off white clay with stems having a bore of around 3mm and an external diameter close to 9mm, while later than this the clay tends to be white and the bore under 2mm.
It seems likely therefore that both stems come from pipes manufactured prior to the middle of the 18th century.

Catalogue:

Glass:

Trench	Context	Type	Dimensions	Mass	Details	Date
T02	Topsoil	Glass bottle stopper	28mm dia, 7mm thick, stopper dia. 16mm.	12.5g	Mould made solid brown glass bottle stopper. Cap and stopper moulded as one piece, stopper later snapped off leaving a scar on the surviving cap. Abraded, with the upper surface heavily abraded (deliberately?)	19th – 20th century

Clay tobacco pipe:

Trench	Context	Part	Diameter	Bore diameter	Length	Mass	Details	Date
T02	Topsoil	Stem (fragment)	(oval) 8.5mm – 9.5mm	3mm	32mm (frag)	3.4g	Slightly yellowish clay with rare angular red ?Fe inclusions. No sign of tar or smoke blackening in bore, lightly used?	Pre 1750
T02	Topsoil	Stem (fragment)	5 – 6mm	2.5mm	32mm (frag)	3.4g	Bluish white clay. No sign of tar or smoke blackening to bore, lightly used?	Late 16th – 20th century, probably pre 1750

Figures

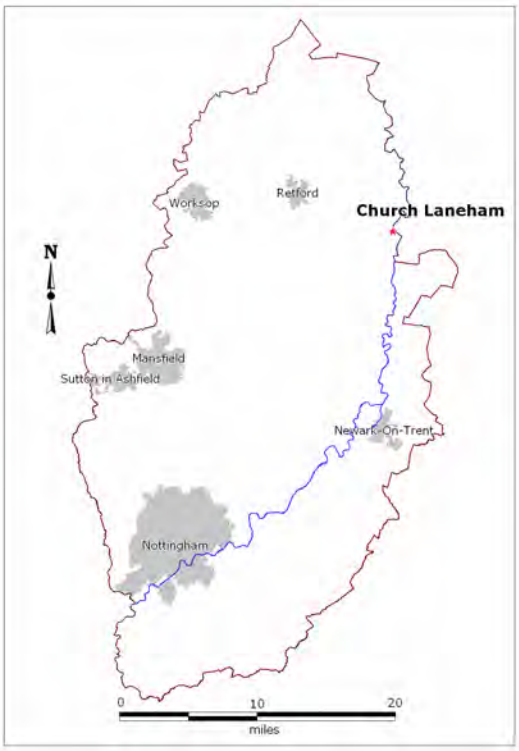


Figure 01 – map of Nottinghamshire showing the location of Church Laneham

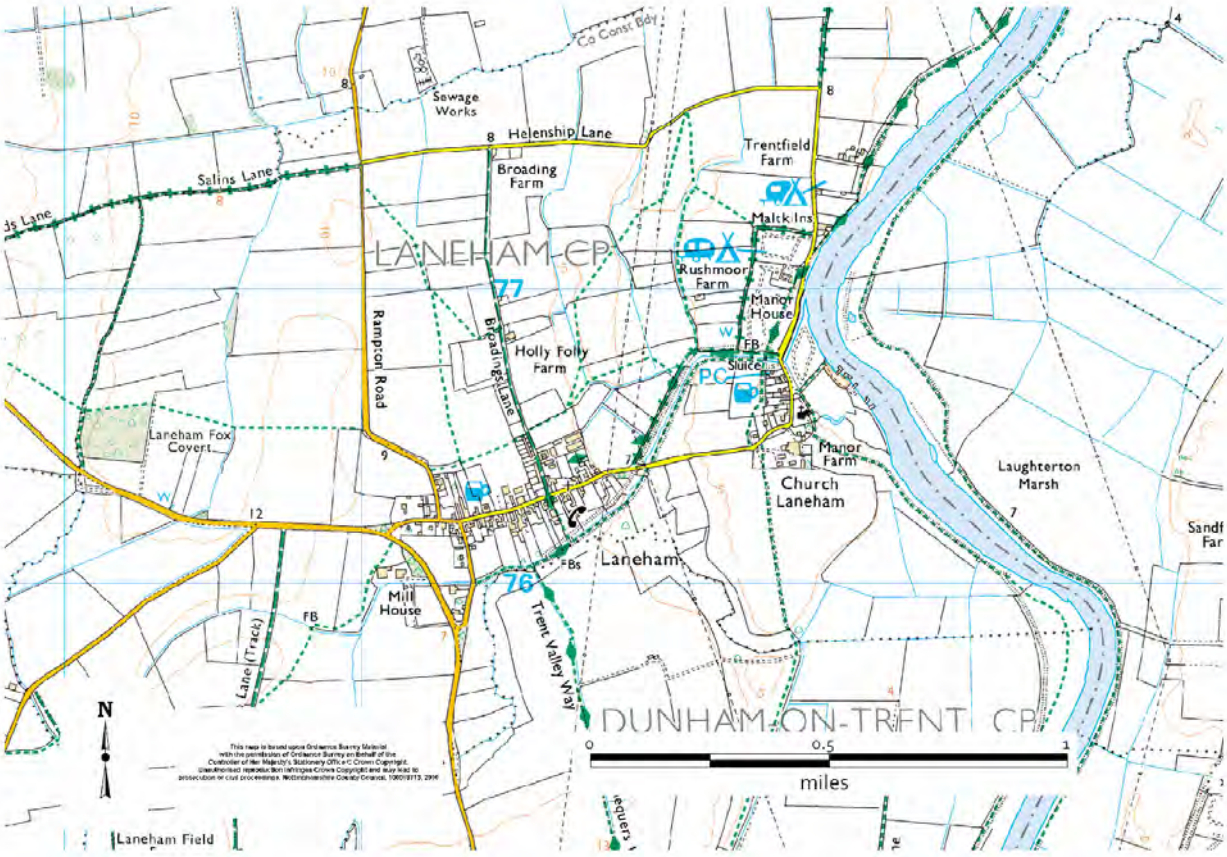


Figure 02 – map showing the settlement of Laneham and location of Church Laneham

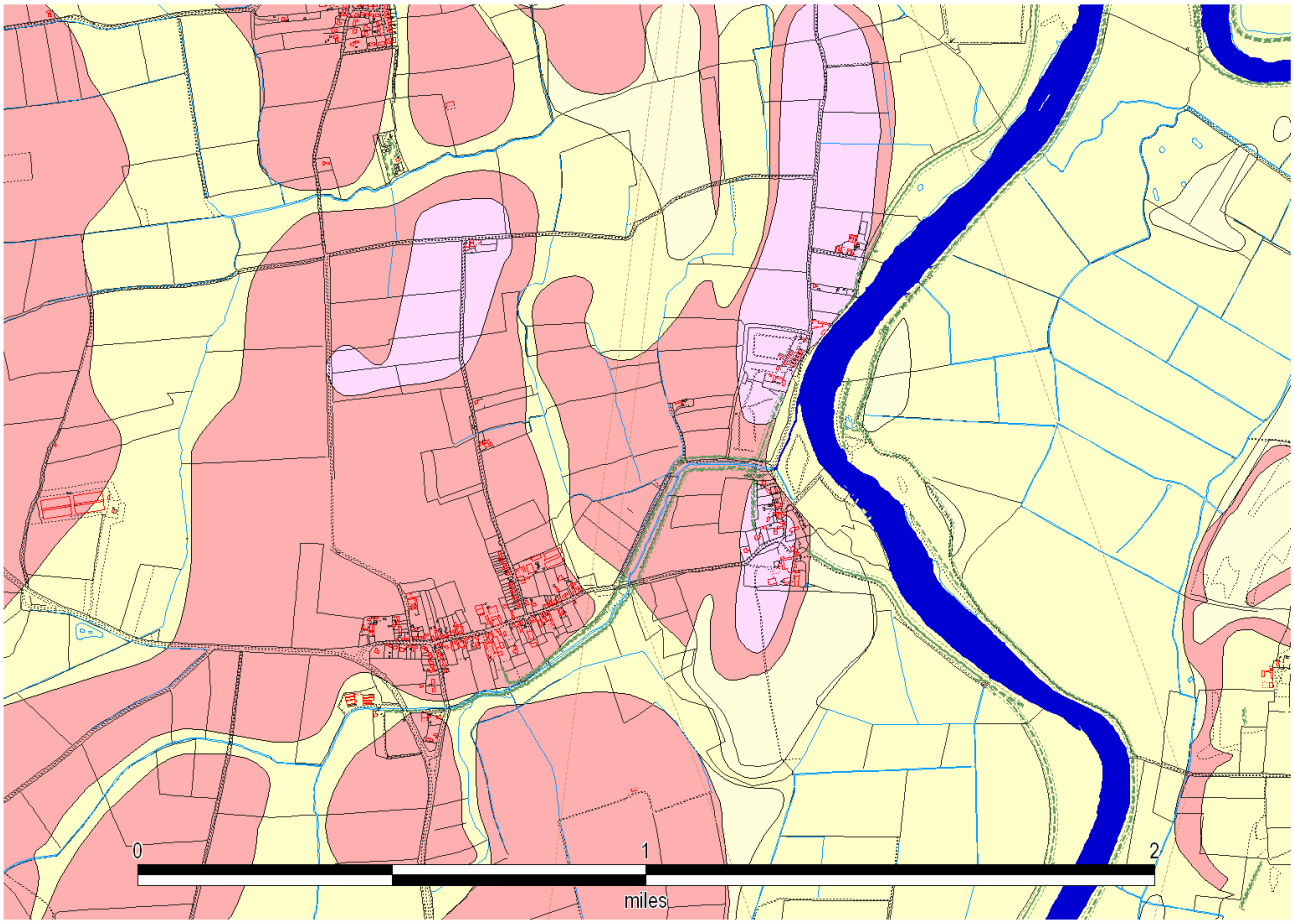


Figure 03 – Geology of the Laneham area.

Key: Pink : Bedrock - Mercia Mudstone Group

Purple: Superficial - Glaciofluvial Deposits, Mid Pleistocene sand and gravel

Yellow: Superficial - Alluvium, Clay, Silt, Sand, Gravel

Light yellow: Superficial - Holme Pierrepont sand and gravel

Blue: river / water

Figure 04 – extract from Chapman's map of Nottinghamshire, published in 1777.

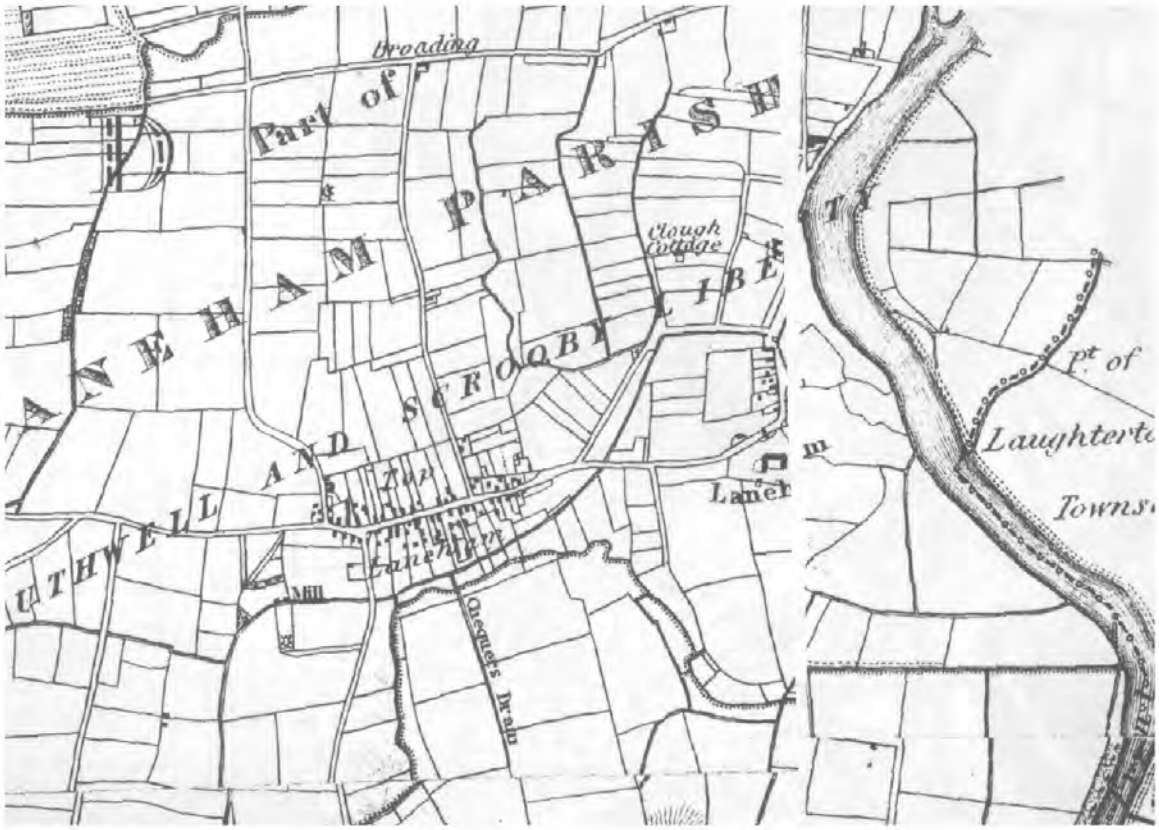


Figure 05 – part of Sanderson's Map of the Country 20 miles around Mansfield, 1835.

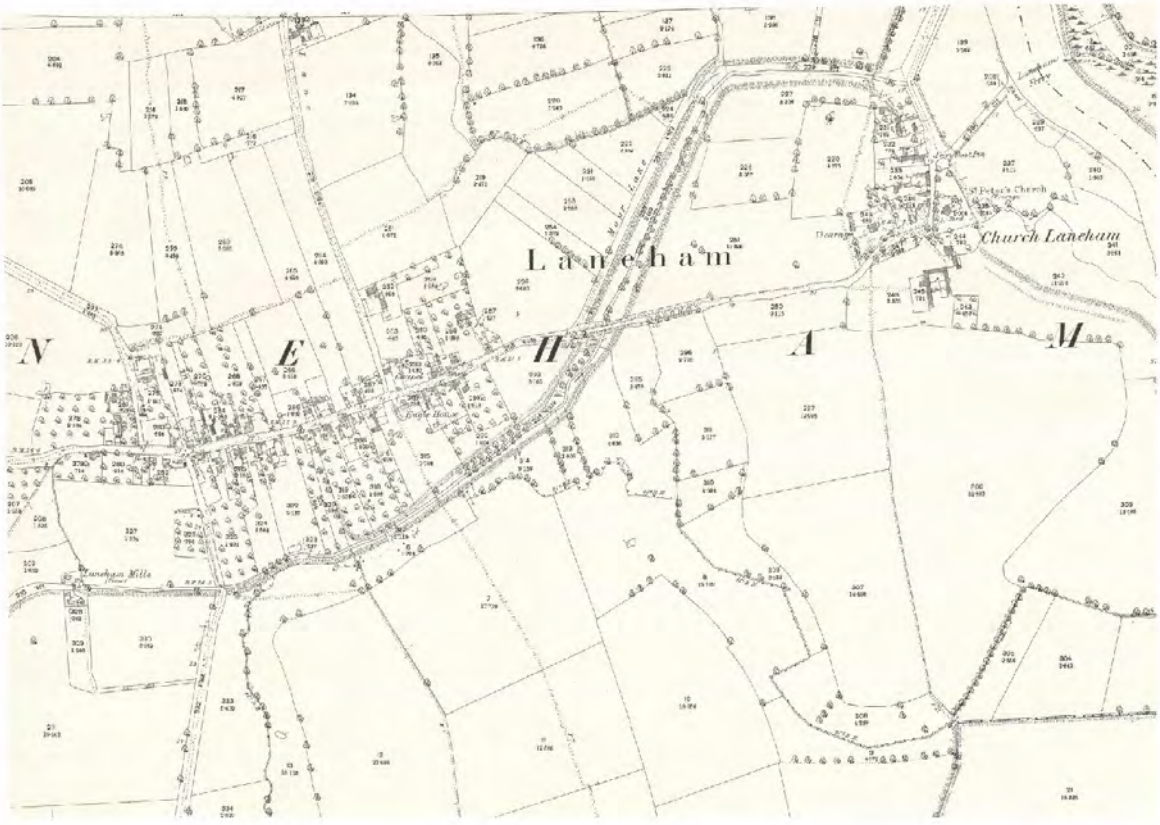


Figure 06 – part of the first edition County Series Ordnance Survey map of 1885

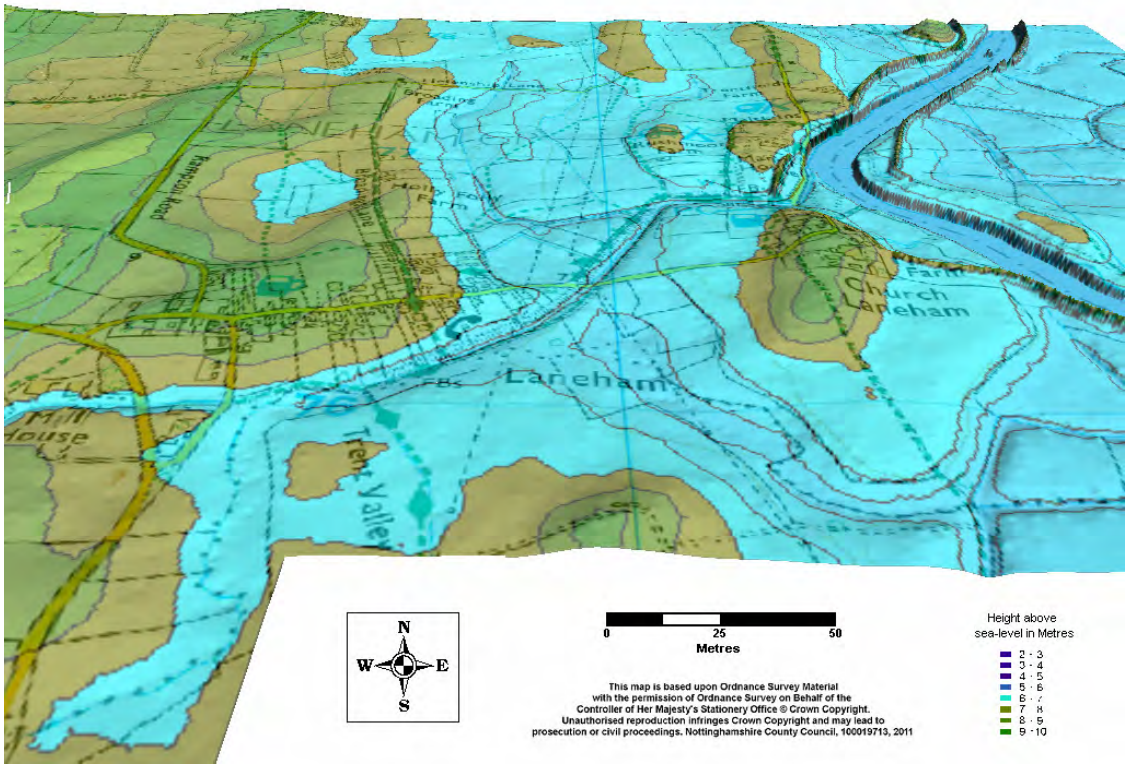


Figure 07 – exaggerated topographical map showing the settlement in relation to surface topography. Map produced by Andy Gaunt, NCC.

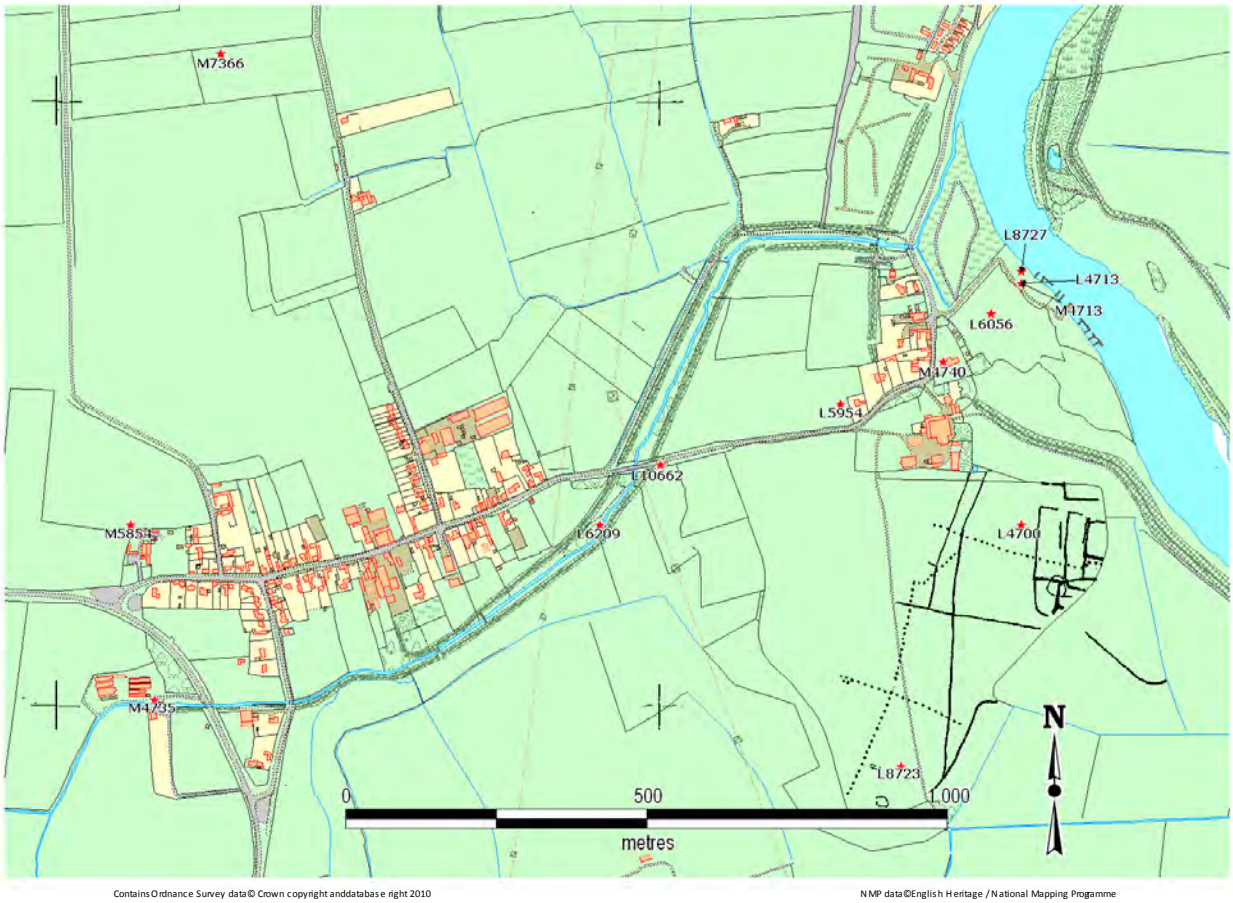


Figure 08 – NMP plot and HER points in the vicinity of Laneham village cores.

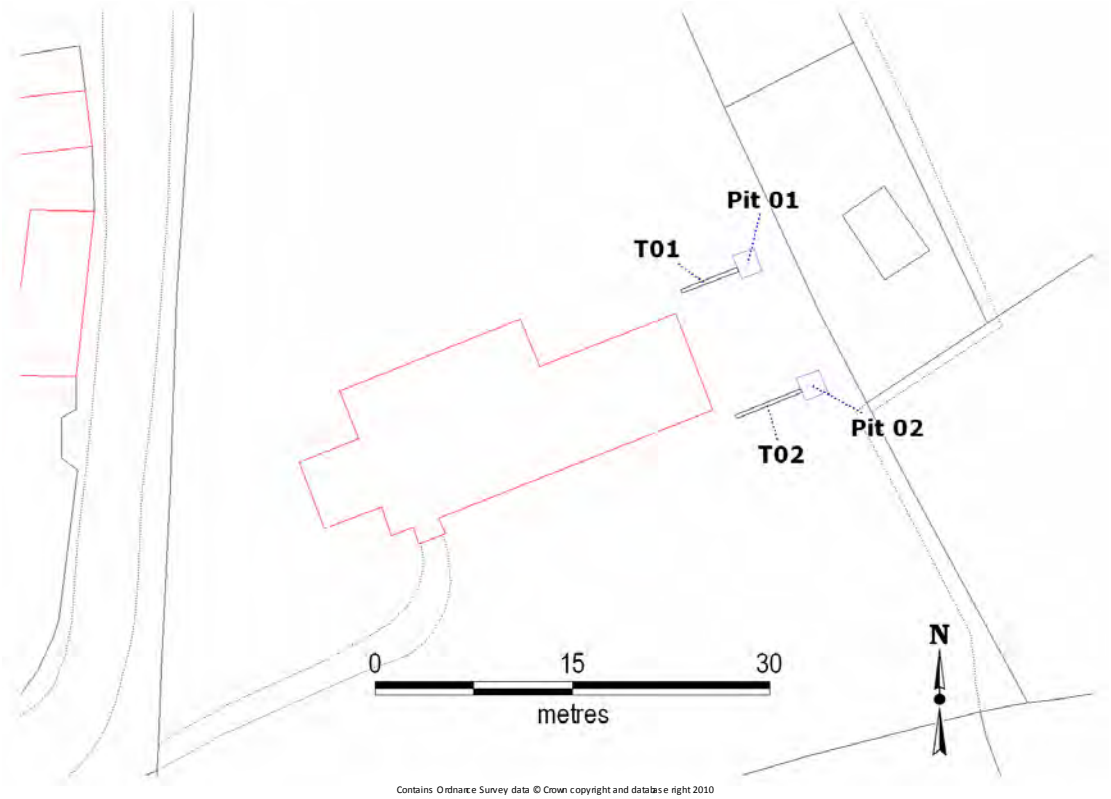


Figure 09 – map showing location of excavations monitored by the watching brief.

Figure 10 – extract from First Edition County Series Ordnance Survey map showing footpath entering the graveyard in the vicinity of soakaway pit 02.

Plates

Plate 01 – standing water in drain beneath downpipe

Plate 02 – water damage to the stonework of a monument in the church, also showing algal growth caused by damp conditions.

Plate 03 – St. Peter's looking west from the floodplain, with the shed in front of the church built up against the former river cliff which forms the eastern boundary of the churchyard.

Plate 04 – Romanesque south nave door, looking north.

Plate 05 – interior of St. Peter's looking east, showing Romanesque chancel arch.

Plate 06 – herringbone masonry and orange tile in north chancel wall. Photographed looking south.

Plate 07 – interior of church, upper part of easternmost nave window in the south wall, showing locations of surviving fragments of medieval stained glass. Looking south.

Plate 08 – close up of panel showing Virgin Mary in the window shown in plate 07. Looking south.

Plate 09 – fragment of probable 12th century grave slab re-used high up in the nave wall over the south door. Looking south.

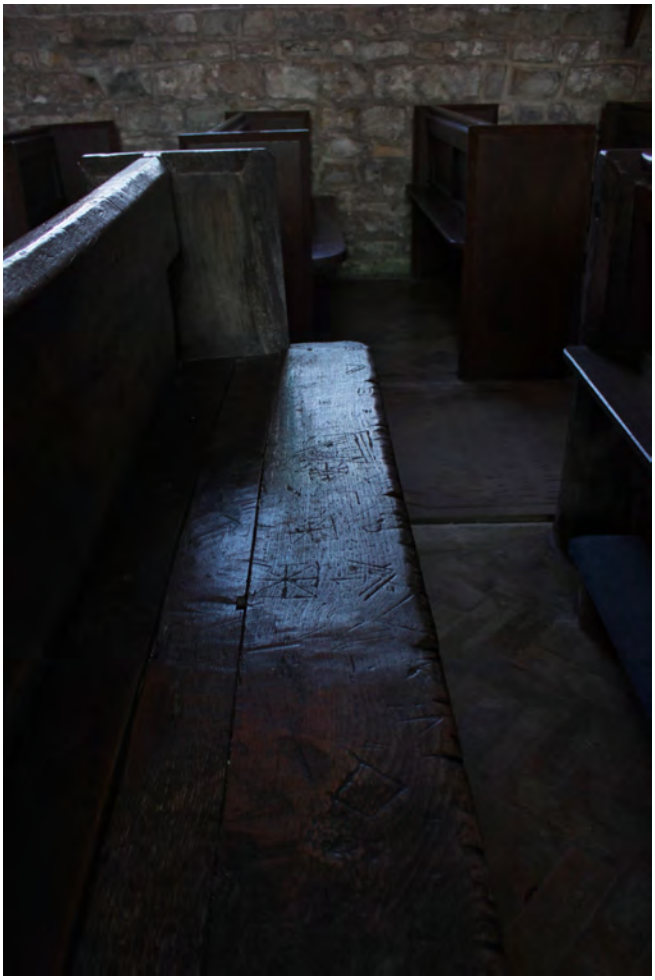


Plate 10 – graffiti on pew near north aisle, looking north

Plate 11 – new drain installed within the existing fill of the previous French drain. Ranging rod 1m long. Looking west.

Plate 12 – excavation of soak away Pit 01 showing depth of disturbed soil in base and very uneven sides. Looking east.

Plate 13 – northern end of Trench 01 looking south showing the point at which the trench met the existing French drain. Scale 0.5m, stone in upper right corner of frame is the north east corner of the chancel buttress.

Plate 14a – general location of TBM, looking north.

Plate 14b – close up of the TBM location, also showing gravel fill of French drain.

Plate 15 – soakaway pit 01 looking west, showing remains of SK01. Ranging rod 1m long.

Plate 16 – soakaway pit 01 looking west, showing pelvis and lower arm of SK03 lying on the Mercia Mudstone base of the grave, with the lower legs of SK04 lying immediately above and slightly to the right.

Plate 17 – soakaway pit 01 looking west, showing SK03 following removal of SK04.

Plate 18 – soakaway pit 01 looking east, showing pit [018], originally thought to be an inhumation, along with disarticulated bone retrieved from the machine bucket.

Plate 19 – Cafferata brick from earlier soakaway [014].

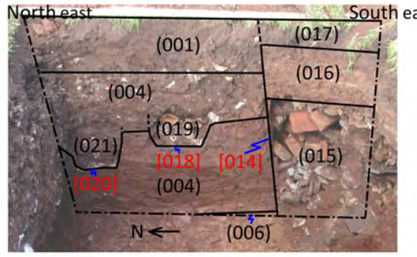
Plate 20 - trench 01 looking west. Ranging rods 1m each.

Plate 21 – central sections of trench 01 looking east, showing disarticulated human long bone in the top of context (002). Divisions on ranging rod = 50cm each.

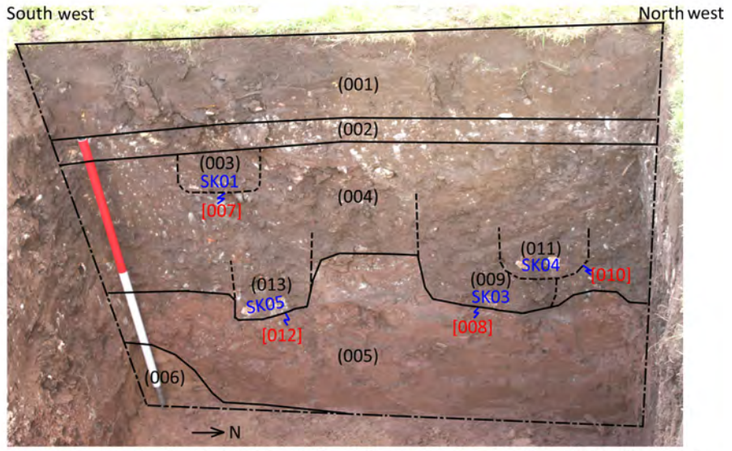
Plate 22 – trench 02 looking west. Ranging rods are each 1m long

Plate 23 – central section of trench 02 looking south, showing stony bands (113) and (115)

Above - east facing section of soakaway Pit01, looking west. Ranging pole = 1m.

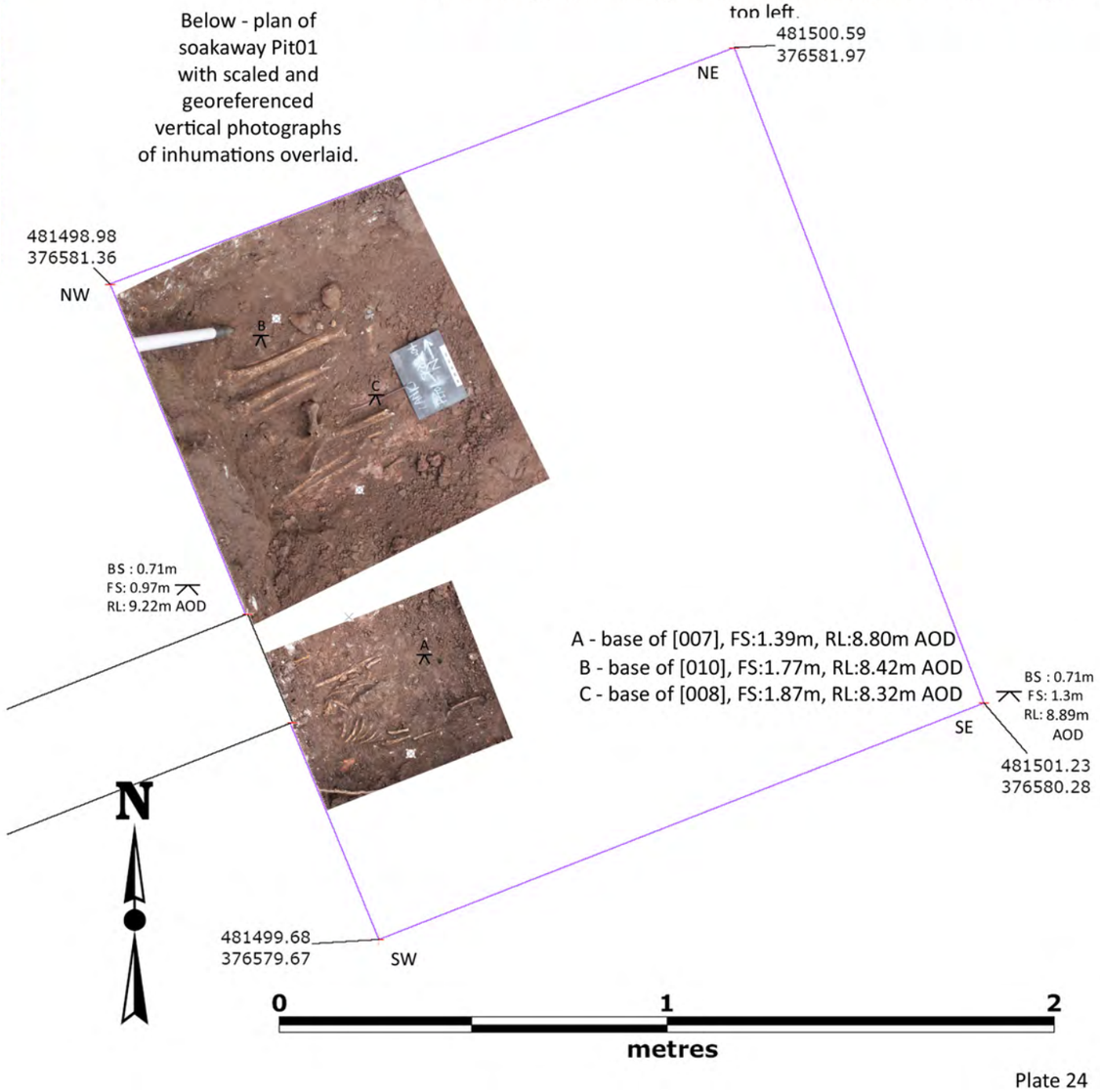


Above - rough sketch interpretation of west facing section, Pit 01. See photograph bottom left.



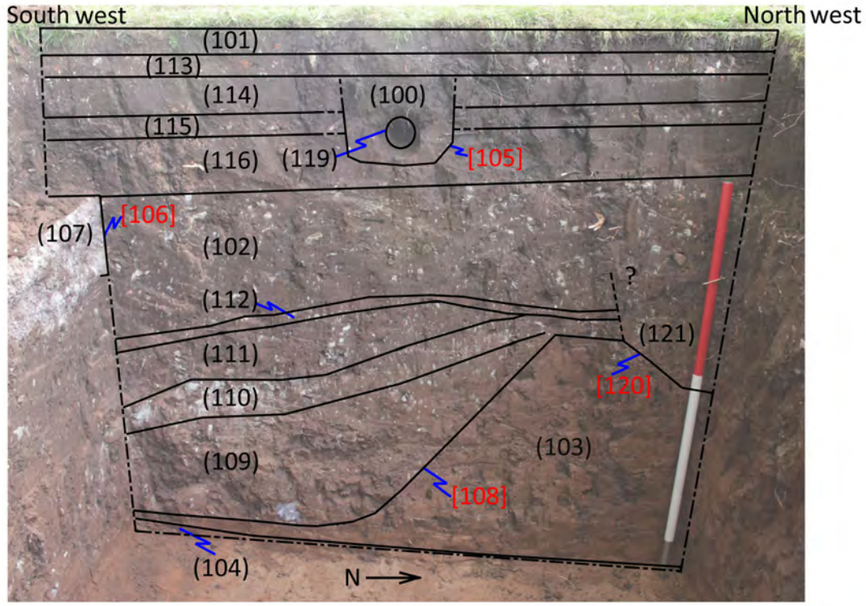
Above - rough sketch interpretation of east facing section, Pit01. See photo top left.

Below - plan of soakaway Pit01 with scaled and georeferenced vertical photographs of inhumations overlaid.



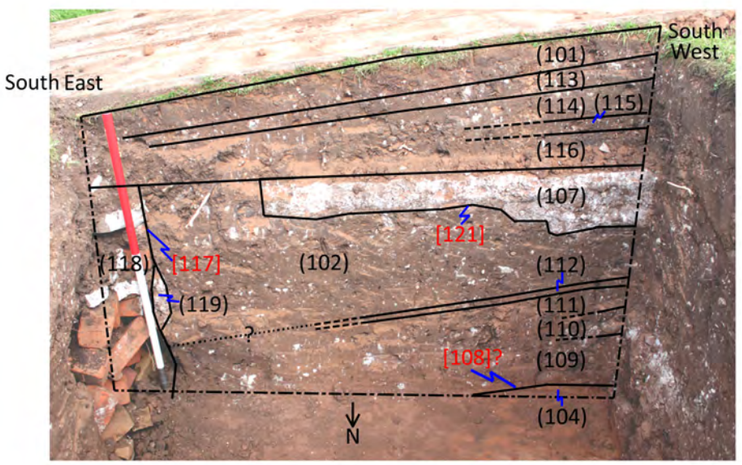
Above - west facing section of soakaway Pit01, looking east. Ranging rod = 1m.

Plate 24



Above - rough sketch interpretation of east facing section, Pit02. See photograph top left.

Left - east facing section of soakaway Pit02, looking west. Ranging pole = 1m.



Left - north facing section of soakaway Pit02 looking south. Ranging pole = 1m

Above - rough sketch interpretation of north facing section, Pit 02. See photograph bottom left

Plate 26 – selection of artefacts recovered during the watching brief. From left to right, prehistoric flint core fragment, IA / Roman pot, Roman pottery, bricks and tile, Saxon pottery, Saxo-Norman pottery, medieval pottery, post medieval pottery and clay pipe stems, modern pottery and glass.