





# Archaeological Test Pit Excavations in Paston, Norfolk, 2012

Catherine Collins and Alex Pryor













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(Front cover image: excavations at test pit 5 © ACA)









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## 1 Summary

This report presents the results of the 'Dig and Sow' programme of excavation of 24 1m<sup>2</sup> archaeological 'test pits' in the north Norfolk village of Paston in the spring of 2012. The excavations were part of 'On Landguard Point', an arts project funded by Arts Council England via its 'Artists taking the Lead' programme for the Cultural Olympiad of the London 2012 Olympic Games. The aim of 'Dig and Sow' was to enable members of the public to experience places familiar to them in a new way by excavating in private gardens and other open spaces within living East Anglian communities, searching for archaeological evidence left by people who lived in those communities in the past. Over a single day, about 40 people took part in the excavations in Paston which produced thousands of finds and provided new evidence for the development of settlement in the area from the prehistoric period onwards.

The prehistoric activity in Paston was mainly in the form of flint tool production potentially from the Mesolithic period onwards with small scatters of lithics and quantities of burnt stone that are likely later prehistoric in date. The evidence was limited for both Roman and Late Anglo-Saxon activity within the study area and it seems that the village of Paston was particularly at its peak during the medieval period, although it was quite severely affected by the Black Death. The village recovered into the post medieval but it stayed a small rural settlement on the north Norfolk coast.

By successfully involving members of the public of all ages and backgrounds from within, across and beyond the community of Paston in planning, organising and undertaking the excavations, the 'Dig and Sow' excavations enabled participants to find out more about their local heritage, take part in the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad and enjoy a community event while generating new evidence to inform understanding of the past development of their homes, their community and its wider landscape.









# 2 Introduction

In spring 2012, a series of 24 1m<sup>2</sup> archaeological test pits were excavated in the village of Paston and the surrounding environs in north east Norfolk over a single day on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012. The majority of the pits were excavated in residential gardens, but pits were also dug on common land at Stow Hill, in areas of farmland surrounding the village, and one pit was dug just outside the parish of Paston in a residential property located near Knapton. Excavations were undertaken by residents of Paston and members of the public participating in the 'Dig and Sow' Community Dig under the supervision of Access Cambridge Archaeology (University of Cambridge). The excavation was funded by The Arts Council England as part of their On Landguard Point project and was undertaken under the direction of Access Cambridge Archaeology, based in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Cambridge, who provided on-site instruction and supervision.

# 2.1 On Landguard Point

The 'On Landguard Point' project, orchestrated by the Pacitti Company, is a project about "the places we call home; what we think of as home and what it means to host others in our home"<sup>1</sup>. The whole project involved a series of live large scale outdoor events through 2011 and early 2012 across the east of England, including Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire and was funded by the Arts Council England as part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

The test pitting was part of the 'Dig and Sow' experience, involving a mass public excavation of 205 test pits across the eastern region (one for each country competing in the Olympics), in search of traces of home. After the test pits were excavated (and prior to backfilling) a silver clay charm was placed in the base of each test pit. 205 symbols were created and were taken directly from 'A People's Encyclopaedia for the East of England'<sup>2</sup>.

One village was chosen from each of the six counties, Clavering in Essex, Potton in Bedfordshire, Peakirk in Cambridgeshire, Ashwell in Hertfordshire, Paston in Norfolk and Ipswich in Suffolk and a total of 147 test pits were excavated across the region.

#### 2.2 Access Cambridge Archaeology

Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) (<u>http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/</u>) is an archaeological outreach organisation based in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Cambridge which aims to enhance economic, social and personal well-being through active engagement with archaeology. It was set up in 2004 and specialises in providing opportunities for members of the public to take part in purposeful, research-orientated archaeological investigations including excavation. Educational events and courses range in length from a few hours to a week or more, and involve members of the public of all ages.

Thousands of members of the public have taken part in scores of programmes run by ACA, including teenagers involved in Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) test pit excavation programmes intended since 2005 to build academic skills, confidence and aspirations. More widely, ACA has involved thousands of members of the public of all ages and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.onlandguardpoint.com/?cat=9</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.onlandguardpoint.com/?page\_id=58 (Accessed August 2012)





backgrounds, including those with special needs, in a wide range of archaeological activities including field-walking, excavation, analysis and reporting. These have included projects funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and events in 2011-12 as part of the Cultural Olympiad for the 2012 London Olympic Games.

#### 2.3 Test pit excavation and rural settlement studies

Rural settlement has long been a crucial area of research for medieval archaeology (Gerrard 2003: Lewis et al 2001, 5-21), notably since the pioneering work of W. G. Hoskins, Maurice Beresford and John Hurst in the 1940s and 1950s (Hoskins 1955; Beresford 1957; Beresford & Hurst 1971). Until recently, however, attention has focused largely on the minority of medieval settlements that are presently deserted or extensively shrunken. Currently occupied rural settlements (CORS), archaeological sites now overlain by domestic housing and related buildings of living secular communities - the villages, hamlets and small towns of today - were generally largely disregarded as targets for researchdriven excavation. Very few regions have seen any systematic research-driven primary investigation aimed at CORS, and most of that which has taken place has not involved excavation, for example those of a survey based nature (Roberts 1987; Roberts and Wrathmell 2000; Roberts and Wrathmell 2003). Recent attempts to redress this bias in favour of the majority of still-inhabited medieval rural settlements have opened up new areas for debate, which are beginning to call into question established theories about the development of rural settlement in the historic period (Aston & Gerrard 1999; Jones & Page 2007). Despite these recent advances, however, the number of CORS to have seen methodical research-orientated investigation that includes excavation remains very small.

In order to begin to resolve this problem, Access Cambridge Archaeology, working with members of the public including school pupils, has carried out test pit excavations in more than 30 CORS, most in eastern England. This new research is contributing towards developing the evidence-base upon which our knowledge and understanding of the origins and development of the medieval rural settlement pattern of eastern England is based, generating a new overall dataset that is more representative of the entire range of medieval settlements, not just on the minority of currently deserted archaeological sites (Lewis 2006; 2007a; 2007b, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014).





# 3 Aims, objectives and desired outcomes

## 3.1 Aims

The aims of the test pit excavations in Paston were as follows:

- To engage with local communities and widen the participation of people in the heritage of the valley.
- To allow local community participants to develop a wide range of practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the setting, origins and development of Paston and its environs.
- To inform future interpretation and presentation of the monument.
- To increase understanding of the area to support employment, sustainable tourism and encourage inward investment.

#### 3.2 Objectives

The objectives of test pit excavations in Paston were as follows:

- To investigate the archaeology of the environs of Paston through test-pitting carried out by members of the community in properties throughout the town.
- To provide the opportunity for a minimum of 30 volunteers to learn new practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To support and engage with members of local communities through involvement with the project.

#### 3.3 Outcomes

The desired outcomes of the test pit excavations in Paston were as follows:

- A minimum of 80 people with new archaeological skills.
- A minimum of 150 people with an enhanced understanding and awareness of Paston.
- An engaged and informed local population.
- An improved knowledge and understanding of the archaeological resource of the village of Paston.





# 4 Methodology

The test pit excavation strategy used at Paston involved members of the public excavating 1m<sup>2</sup> test pits under the direction of experienced archaeological supervisors. This method of sampling currently occupied rural settlements (CORS) was developed during the Shapwick Project in Somerset in the 1990s (Gerrard 2010), employed effectively by the Whittlewood Project in Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire in the early 2000s (Jones and Page 2007) and has been used extensively by ACA in their Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) programme and in community excavations within in East Anglia since 2005 (Lewis 2005, 2006, 2007a, 2007b, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013). These projects have shown that carrying out very small excavations within CORS (in gardens, playgrounds, driveways, greens etc.) can produce archaeological data which, although largely unstratified, can be mapped to reveal meaningful patterns which allowed the development of more robust hypotheses regarding the spatial development of the settlement in question. The more sites that can be excavated, the more refined, and therefore more reliable, the resulting picture is.

Test pits locations were chosen based on wherever members of the public in Paston and the surrounding environs could offer sites for excavation and was organised by ACA in conjunction with members of the Paston Heritage Society, with both the excavation and recording following the standard Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) instruction handbook and recording booklet.

The test pit digging took place over a single day, which begins with an initial talk explaining the aims of the excavation, the procedures in digging and recording the test pit and the correct and safe use of equipment. Participants are then divided into teams of three or four individuals, and each team is provided with a complete set of test pit excavation equipment, copies of the HEFA instruction handbook and a record booklet into which all excavation data are entered.

The test pits are all  $1m^2$  and the turf, if present, was removed in neat squares by hand. Each test pit is excavated in a series of 10cm spits or contexts, to a maximum depth of 1.2m. The horizontal surface of each context/spit is then drawn at 1:10 scale before excavation, a photograph taken and the colour recorded with reference to a standardised colour chart, included in the written handbook. A pro-forma recording system was used by the students to record their test pit excavation. This comprises a 16-page pro-forma *Test Pit Record* booklet which has been developed by ACA for use with students and members of the public with no previous archaeological experience. The site code is PAS/12.

During the excavation 100% of the spoil is sieved through a 10mm mesh (with the occasional exception of very heavy clay soils which have to be hand-searched). All artefacts are retained, cleaned and bagged by context. Cut and built features are planned at 1:10 and excavated sequentially with latest deposits removed first. Pottery and most other finds are identified promptly by archaeological experts who are on site for the duration of the excavation and visit the test pits regularly; and at the same time provide advice and check that the excavation is being carried out and recorded to the required standard. Test pits are excavated down to natural or the maximum safe depth of 1.2m, whichever is encountered first. A minority of test pits will stop on encountering a feature, (ancient or modern) which archaeological staff deem inadvisable or impossible to remove, and occasionally excavation may cease at a level above natural due to time constraints. On completion of each test pit prior to backfilling by hand and the turf replaced neatly to restore the site.





After the excavations are completed, the archaeological records and finds (all of which are kept and cleaned on site) are retained by ACA at the University of Cambridge for analysis, reporting, archiving and submission to HER's, publication and ongoing research into the origins and development of rural settlement. Ownership of objects rests in the first instance with the landowner, except where other law overrides this (e.g. Treasure Act 1996, 2006, Burials Act 1857). ACA retain all finds in the short term for analysis and ideally also in the longer term in order that the excavation archives will be as complete as possible, but any requests to return finds to owners will be agreed.





# 5 Location

The village of Paston is situated in NE Norfolk 1km inland from the North Sea coastline, 12km SE of Cromer, 5km NE of North Walsham, and 26km NE of Norwich, centred on TG322345 (Figure 1). Paston lies on the B1159 (Bacton Road) between Bacton and Mundesley. The nearest main road is the A149, 7km west of the village, and the nearest railway station is at North Walsham. The closest fresh water source is the Mundesley Beck, running through nearby Mundesley town.



Figure 1: Map of England with a close up insert of East Anglia and the village of Paston highlighted in red

Paston lies within a civil parish that extends 1.6km along the coast between Mundesley in the north and Bacton gas terminal in the south, and 5km inland towards North Walsham to the southwest. The residential housing within the parish is highly dispersed, but may be grouped into three main clusters. The first south-eastern cluster lies along Bacton Road and comprises Paston Hall, the Great Barn and the village church, St. Margaret's. The second cluster lies 300m northwest of here (Mundesley Road, Chapel Road Bears Road and Vicarage Road), separated from the first cluster by an expanse of field and is composed entirely of more closely spaced residential housing. More spread out housing continues northwards from this cluster along Mundesley Road, giving way to open fields for a stretch of c.450m before reaching a handful of properties clustered around Stow Mill, an area of the village referred to as 'Stow Hill'. The third main area of settlement lies southwest of Paston Hall and the first cluster, and is known as Paston Green; this is now occupied almost entirely by Green Farm and associated farm cottages. South of Paston Green, the parish gives way to open fields, broken hedges and the occasional farm cottage. A network of minor unnamed country roads run through the village with two major junctions, one located





by Paston Hall and the other at Paston Green, where the road divides heading west towards Knapton and south towards North Walsham.



Figure 2: The county parish of Paston © Crown copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/Edina supplied service, 1: 40,000 OS Map

Other features in the landscape include a disused Victorian railway line just to the west of Paston Green, the gas terminal on the coast east of Paston Hall, and a junction between a minor road and the Paston Way track in the far south of the parish that has been labelled Dead Man's Grave on all Ordinance Survey maps since 1886. In the 2001 census, Paston was home to 239 residents, down from 265 at the 2001 census<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paston, Norfolk</u> (Accessed January 2018)





# 6 Geology and Topography

Norfolk is a coastal county in East Anglia, and is bordered by Suffolk to the south, Cambridgeshire to the southwest, Lincolnshire to the northwest, and the North Sea to the north and east.

Paston is situated 1km inland on the North Walsham Plain, on Quaternary and Neogene sand and gravel bedrock deposits, part of the Happisburgh Glacigenic formation<sup>4,5</sup>. It lies around 23m OD at the base of a slope rising to 35m just north of the village, towards Stow Hill. The ground remains at about 20m OD until it reaches the coast, where low cliffs meet the sea. The nearest high ground lies at just over 45m OD at Knapton, c.2km west of Paston.

The surrounding landscape is gently undulating with long uninterrupted views, used primarily for arable farming and is divided up by hedgerows and ditches settled by small, nucleated villages and is classified as National Character Area Profile 79: North East Norfolk and Flegg<sup>6</sup> that covers three areas of northeast Norfolk, interspersed by the Broads National Park. Paston is also included in the Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?location=paston norfolk</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>http://www.northnorfolk.org/ldf/documents/Draft\_Landscape\_Character\_Assessment\_</u> Consultation\_Document (WEB).pdf (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4543880858959872?category=587130</u> (Accessed January 2018)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk/content/maps/pdfs/eastern.pdf (Accessed January 2018)





# 7 Archaeological and Historical Background

The name Paston (*pastuna*) comes from the old English for 'enclosure by the small pools'<sup>8</sup>, although there is no indication today of where these pools might have stood previously. Records from the Domesday Book of 1086 show that it was already an established, middle-sized village in the 11<sup>th</sup> century (30.5 households), worth 2.5 geld units in tax to the crown from land that was administered by three lords<sup>9</sup>. The main tenant landowner was William de Warenne (1.3 geld), who controlled many estates across East Anglia. Another major landowner in NE Norfolk, St Benets Abbey of Holme, also controlled 1 gelds worth of resources while William of Ecouis controlled 0.2 geld. The records also mention the church and a mill in the parish. At this time, it is believed that Paston village was centred on the field to the south of St Margaret's church (Care and Earl 2009).

The village is best known as the home of the Paston family, who rose from humble origins within two generations in the 15<sup>th</sup> century to become wealthy members of the aristocracy. The family lived until 1597 in an earlier building on the site of the present Paston Hall (now a 19<sup>th</sup> century construction), when Sir William Paston (1528-1610) moved the family 15km SW from Paston to Oxnead, a now-deserted village on the River Bure (four miles SE of Aylsham). The rise of this family began with Clement Paston (who took his name from the village), who used his initiative following the peak of the Black Death (c.1350) to build up a substantial landholding in and around Paston. With this, Clement saved and borrowed enough money to have his son, William Paston (1378-1444), educated as a lawyer. William went on to become a judge and, aided by a favourable marriage to Agnes Berry, William led the family to grow in wealth and influence, acquiring lands all across England. A large collection of c.1000 private and business letters written between 1422 and 1509 have survived, spanning three family generations and the reigns of three kings, Henry VI, Edward IV and Richard III, giving a unique insight into the life of the family during the Wars of the Roses, including legal disputes, castle sieges and personal family affairs. Many of the letters centre around Margaret Paston, either as writer or recipient. They constitute the first record of private correspondence to survive in Britain, and as such they offer a unique insight into the successes, concerns and fears of a very upwardly mobile family at a time of huge social upheaval<sup>10</sup>. They offer a first-hand testimony to the trials and social benefits the plague brought to the peasantry, the chaotic effects of the Wars of the Roses on the general populace and the individual impact that the Black Death could have on a family.

The Paston family contributed lots of money to building projects in the area around Paston, for example the Paston Grammar School in 1606 in North Walsham (Knee, *pers comm*), and they were also patrons of nearby Bromholm Priory in Bacton (John Paston was even elected Prior of Bromholm for a short period in 1418 AD; Page 1906:360, although this has subsequently been shown to have been an imposter of the Paston family, a John Wortes (Knee, *pers comm*)). When John Paston died in 1466, his body was carried back for burial at Bromholm, where a specially-hired barber spent five days giving the monks a makeover; twenty pounds of gold was also changed into small coins and thrown to the poor, while 40 barrels of beer and ale, 15 gallons of wine and several hundred gallons of malt were also distributed. The only surviving 'Paston' building in the village is the thatched Paston Great Tithe Barn (HNER 6896), located next to the church and originally built in 1581 by Sir William Paston<sup>11</sup> and now defined as a Special Area of Conservation<sup>12</sup>; yet the impact of this family on the community at Paston and the surrounding area was clearly very

<sup>11</sup> <u>http://www.literarynorfolk.co.uk/paston.htm</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?TNF1304</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> http://domesdaymap.co.uk/place/TG3234/paston/ (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> <u>http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/middle\_ages/pastonletters\_01.shtml</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> <u>http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/protectedsites/sacselection/sac.asp?EUcode=UK0030235</u> (Accessed October 2012)





significant. This importance is further demonstrated as many members of the Paston family are buried in St. Margaret's Church at Paston, including several lavish funerary monuments; yet the Paston family members largely gave their money to Bromholm Priory instead of Paston church, which thus remained a relatively poorly funded establishment<sup>13</sup>. A detailed account of the Paston family's rise to influence may be found at: <u>http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/middle\_ages/pastonletters\_01.shtml</u>.

The church in Paston (HNER 6913) is dedicated to St Margaret, and falls on the pilgrims' route between Bromholm Priory (in modern Bacton), Stow Hill where a hostel and medieval chapel once stood, and Walsingham. The location of the church is unusual, lying in a dip in the landscape rather than on a hill as is more typical for religious structures, and it is possible that the church marks the location of a 'holy field' (Care and Earl 2009). The present Grade I listed building dates from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century, and is constructed in flint. 15<sup>th</sup> century wall paintings have been discovered in the church, and the church organ (made by Norman and Beard in 1889) is on the register of historic organs as being "an instrument of importance to the national heritage"<sup>14</sup>.

The Paston church was formerly part of the holdings of St Benet's of Holme, as listed in the Domesday Book in 1086. It then passed eventually to Bromholm Priory (founded in 1113 AD), being confirmed to the priory in 1295 by Pope Celestine (Page 1906:359). Bromholm was destroyed during the dissolution of the monasteries, and responsibilities for the congregation were then taken up by the headmasters of Paston Grammar School after its founding in 1620 by William Paston (Care and Earl 2009:22). Paston church did not have a permanent residing vicar until the coming of the Mack family in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, who eventually acquired the Paston estate, and built the present 19<sup>th</sup> century version of Paston Hall. A list of the vicars and a brief history of the church at Paston may be found here: http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=78744&strquery=.

One of the details recorded in the Paston Letters is that in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century, Sir William Paston diverted the main road of 'King's way' away from Paston Hall to reduce disturbance to himself and the family. This diversion moved the road from running south of the Hall and Paston church to its present position north of these structures, meaning visitors now approached the church from the 'wrong' side. Yet the diversion caused friction between the church rector and the Paston family for several decades<sup>15</sup>, and left a lasting impact on the layout and development of the village. Medieval Paston had previously been located to the south of the church where the old road lay, with the church forming the centre of the town. When the Pastons built Paston Hall and diverted the road, they also began moving their neighbours and tenants away from the area into specially constructed new residences, including Green Farm (Paston Green), The Limes Farm (Bears Road) and Poplar Farm (now named Dayspring; see TP 20); only Hall Farm remained in the vicinity of the hall and church. This episode, at least in part, helps explain the very dispersed settlement pattern at Paston. The former roadway still survives as the carriageway to Paston Hall, and can be seen lying between the churchyard and a field and heading towards the present Bacton Road; the old entrance to the church from the road also still remains, marked by a thatched gateway (the lynch gate). The former village of Anglo Saxon and Medieval Paston used to lie to the south of St Margaret's church and use this access way (Care and Earl 2009:8), and it is thus possible that archaeological evidence for the main Medieval settlement core at Paston today lies under the fields to the south of Paston Hall.

Later modifications to the road layout have also been made more recently. The ordinance survey map of 1886 shows Bacton Lane passing to the north of Paston Hall before turning north to skirt round the edge of a field (figure 3); it is not until an ordinance survey map

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?MNF6913</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>http://www.pastonchurch.org.uk/index.php/history</u> (Accessed October 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> http://www.pastonchurch.org.uk/index.php/history (Accessed October 2012)





compiled in 1938 that the road is shown following its present course in a sinuous line across the fields to Poppy House.



Figure 3: 1880's ordinance survey map showing Paston, Paston Green and Paston Street © Crown copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/Edina supplied service, 1: 10,000 OS Map

Only a few archaeological finds have previously been reported in the immediate vicinity of the residential areas at Paston. These include two Roman pottery sherds excavated in a house garden beside Stow Mill (NHER 6880), and some pottery sherds of later date excavated during the digging of an electricity supply trench in the field south of St Margaret's Church near the old road (NHER 6894; 6895), including Ipswich Ware of the Saxon period, one rim sherd of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century type and some Stoneware Sherds dating to the late 15<sup>th</sup>-early 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Far more archaeological evidence for past activity is present father away from the residential areas, in the open fields at the northern and southern end of the parish (detailed below). Finds along the coast of Paston parish include a prehistoric flint flake loose in the cliff (NHER 41584), a Neolithic polished flint axe head (NHER 6876), a Late Bronze Age hoard of at least three palstaves and one axe (NHER 6877), two sherds from an Iron Age carinated bowl (NHER 6879) and fragmented remains relating to WWII coastal defences and more recent development (for a summary see Robertson et al. 2005:98). A junction labelled Dead man's grave on all Ordinance Survey maps since 1886, located between a minor road and the Paston Way track in the far south of Paston parish, has also been investigated (NHER 6911), and while no trace of a burial monument or grave were found it is possible that the name comes from the ancient practice of burying suicides, witches and unclaimed bodies at such locations. Many undated field and ditch systems are also known





from the landscape around Paston (e.g. NHER 16016), attesting to the long history of farming activity in this area.

The following gives a summary of activity at Paston by period, drawing together the available finds and historic evidence to date.

#### 7.1 Prehistoric activity

Evidence for Palaeolithic activity closest to Paston village is a handaxe and some flakes found at the base of the cliff at nearby Bacton (NHER 6897). Aside from this, the evidence for prehistoric activity around Paston is largely concerned with the Neolithic, including polished flint axe heads (NHER 6888, 6891), chipped axe heads (NHER 6888 and 6890), and other Mesolithic of Neolithic axe heads (NHER 6887) all found in the southern end of the parish. A prehistoric flint flake was also found on the coast (NHER 41584). Activity continued into the Bronze Age, represented by the crop mark of a ring ditch located near Dear Man's Grave junction, interpreted as the remains of a possible burial mound (NHER 39008). Other finds from the Bronze Age include a Late Bronze Age hoard of at least three palstaves and one axe located near the coast (NHER 6877), and two copper alloy axe heads discovered by metal detectorists (NHER 40669, 40670).

#### 7.2 Roman activity

Iron Age occupation in the vicinity of Paston is suggested by two sherds from an Iron Age carinated bowl found near the coast (NHER 6879), and a possible Iron Age or Roman farmstead or enclosure complex are also visible on aerial photographs as crop marks in the southern end of the parish (NHER 39016). Finds of Romano-British pottery immediately west of the crop mark features appears consistent with a Roman date for these structures (HNER 6893). More certain evidence for Roman-era activity at Paston is given by Roman pottery found at Stow Hill (NHER 6880), a second pottery deposit just south of the gas terminal in the NE of the parish (NHER 32880), and several Iron Age/Roman coins have also been found in the area (NHER 32156, 40669 and 40677).

#### 7.3 Saxon Settlement

It is likely that Paston was first occupied as a small village sometime during the Saxon period, centred upon or around the fields to the south of St Margaret's church (Care and Earl 2009:8). Certainly by the time of the Norman invasion Paston was well-established as a small village farming community. It is likely that a chapel also existed on Stow Hill during this period, Stow Chapel meaning 'chapel of rest', located on the pilgrimage route between Bromholm priory in Bacton and Walsingham Abbey to the northwest. Finds from this period include an intact small pottery jar found at an unknown location (NHER 6892), a gold coin pendant found somewhere along the beach between Bacton and Paston (NHER 6881), some pottery fragments including those found in the field south of St Margaret's church (NHER 6892, 6894 and 6895), and some metal-detected finds including a coin, a brooch and a strap fitting (NHER 40669, 44074). No other evidence for this early phase of the village settlement is known.





# 7.4 High and Later Medieval period

Settlement at Paston continued through the medieval period, and was clearly important enough to justify a new church building; the present church dates from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century and likely replaced an earlier structure at this location. It was shortly after this that the Paston family began its rise to power, with the famous Paston Letters being composed between 1422-1509 AD. It was some time in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century that Sir William Paston diverted the main road 'Kingsway' through the town and began resettling his neighbours to scattered farmsteads, forever changing the distribution and character of the settlement at Paston. The Paston Great Tithe Barn (NHER 6896) was also built during this period in 1581, following the moving of the road. Previous archaeological evidence for medieval settlement at Paston includes pottery fragments – some of which came from the fields south of St Margaret's church (NHER 6894, 6895, 32880 and 36205), and further metal detected finds including coins (NHER 32611, 40669,40670) and buckles (NHER 32156, 32611).

#### 7.5 Post-Medieval period

Paston village seems to have developed rather slowly in the post-medieval period, remaining as a small and fairly isolated settlement. The Paston family moved in 1597 from Paston Hall to Oxnead Hall near Aylesham, presumably removing one key source of financial income for the area and possibly a contributing factor towards explaining why Paston never developed much beyond a small village. Some 17<sup>th</sup> century buildings still survive in the village from this period, including two Grade II listed 17<sup>th</sup> century cottages on Mundesley Road – Beech Cottage and Forge Cottage (NHER 46643), the three storey Green Farmhouse in Paston Green (NHER 47680) and Heath Cottage in the far south of the parish (NHER 47737).

Two important 19<sup>th</sup> century developments include the construction of the Grade II listed tarred brick Stow Mill (NHER 6882), lying just within the Paston parish boundary at Stow Hill. It was built between 1825 and 1827 on the site of the former Stow Chapel for processing flour by the then owner of Paston Hall, James Gaze, and remained in use until 1930. It has recently been restored and is now open to visitors. The second important development was the construction of the Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Railway, which served Paston from 1881 until 1964 via the 'Paston and Knapton' railway station, located 500m from Paston Green and 1.4km from Paston Hall. This will have increased the accessibility of the village, and possibly encouraged the development of small areas of new housing in the village during this period. Ordinance survey data show that new building took place in the vicinity of cluster two during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and continuing throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, particularly in Vicarage Road, Chapel Road and Bears Road. Otherwise, aside from clearing some small patches of woodland, the village and parish has remained virtually unchanged since the first ordinance survey map was compiled in 1886.

Other post-medieval structures mentioned in the Norfolk Historic Environment Records are a post medieval saw pit from a carpenter's shop located on Mundesley Road (NHER 15326), and part of a brick pit from an old brick kiln near the modern gas plant (NHER 6883). Mundesley Holiday Camp, opened in 1933, is also mentioned as the first purposebuilt holiday camp in Norfolk, and the second in Britain (NHER 34570).

Further to the summary given above, a review of archaeological finds made in the wider area immediately adjacent to Paston Parish and reported to the Norfolk Historic Environment Records service is available from: <u>http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/record-details?TNF1304</u>.





# 8 Results of the test pit excavations in Paston

The approximate locations of the 24 1m<sup>2</sup> test pits excavated on the 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May 2012 can be seen in figure 4 below. The data from each test pit is discussed in this section and set out in numerical order. Five test pits: numbers 13, 15, 18, 25 and 27 were planned and sited, but were not excavated during the test-pit digging event and are not included further in this report. This resulted in nine test pits around Paston Hall, barn and church in cluster 1, nine in cluster 2 around Mundesley Road, Chapel Road Bears Road and Vicarage Road, and four around the Cluster in Stow Hill. Two test pits were dug in the outlying southern part of the parish, while no test pits were dug around Paston Green.

Most excavations were undertaken in spits measuring 10cm in depth, but in cases when a change in the character of deposits indicated a change in context, a new spit was started before 10cm.



Figure 4: The location of the test pits in Paston 2012 (NB the test pits are not shown to scale) © Crown copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/Edina supplied service, 1: 20,000 OS Map





An assessment of the overall results, synthesizing the data from all the pits, including deductions about the historic development of Paston and the potential of the buried heritage resource of the village is presented in the following Discussion section (Section 9). Finds from each test pit are discussed in summary in this section, and listed in detail in the relevant appendices (Section 13). Photographs of sites under excavation and of all finds are included in the archive, but not included in this report for reasons of space.

#### Test Pit one (PAS/12/1)

Test pit one was excavated on a large grassy area between St Margaret's church and grave visible stones, and the hedge fronting onto Bacton Road (St Margaret's Church, Bacton Road, Paston, NR28 9TA. Approximate location TG 32335 34418).

Test pit one was excavated to a depth of c.0.5m, which uncovered a mortared brick wall running through the eastern half of the test pit. Natural was not found, but due



Natural was not found, but due Figure 5: Location map of PAS/12/1

to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled leaving the wall remains in place.

PAS/12/1 produced several medieval pottery sherds, including some Early Medieval Sandy Ware, Grimston Ware and German Stonewares.

		EMW		GRIM		GS		
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
1	2	1	5			2	23	1100-1550
1	3			1	11			1200-1300
1	5	1	1					1100-1200

Table 1: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/1

The small quantities of pottery from this test pit suggest the site had a marginal use during the medieval period, perhaps as fields or gardens, but was not used after that time. This is likely related to its function as a church lawn/garden/graveyard, and was probably kept deliberately clear once the main road moved to its present position north of the church. Finds included small quantities of tile, as well one secondary flint flake and eight pieces of burnt stone, with a single fragment of unidentifiable mammal bone.





#### Test Pit two (PAS/12/2)

Test pit two was excavated in front of Paston Hall, on the old carriageway that formerly served the property when access was achieved via the old road. It was also the southern of four pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/3, PAS/12/4 and PAS/12/5 (Paston Hall, Paston, NR28 9TA. TG 32129 34438).

Test pit two was excavated to a depth of c.0.45m, without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

A small assemblage of Victorian-era sherds was the only pottery found in PAS/12/2.



Figure 6: Location map of PAS/12/2

		VI	C	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range
2	4a	3	14	1800-1900

Table 2: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/2

The minimal pottery recovered from this test pit with no pre-Victorian sherds seems odd, as it is well known that the hall and surrounding grounds have been in use since at least the High Medieval period. Yet during excavation, two distinct layers of compacted chalk were identified, presumably relating to two phases of build-up on the carriageway; the finds from the pit also included oyster shell, roof tile, CBM, corroded iron nails and other corroded iron lumps, glass, coal and mortar. Cow, sheep/goat, rabbit and chicken bones were also found with fragments of cattle-sized bone remains as well as one secondary and one tertiary flint flake, both from context two. Taken together, it is thus possible that the carriageway was kept deliberately clean while the carriageway was in use during the Medieval and post-medieval period, up until the 19<sup>th</sup> century; after the present 19<sup>th</sup> Century Paston Hall building was built by the Mack family, however, road access to the Hall seems to have moved from the old carriageway to the present access point leading from "The Street", after which the area of the old carriageway area was used as a dumping ground for household waste.





#### Test Pit three (PAS/12/3)

Test pit three was excavated to the north of the current Paston Hall, constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in the rear garden enclosed on three sides by buildings now used as barns and garages. It was also the northwestern of four pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/2, PAS/12/4 and PAS/12/5. (Paston Hall, Paston, NR28 9TA. TG 32164 34497).

Test pit three was excavated to a depth of 0.4m without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

Two sherds of post-medieval pottery were excavated at

PAS/12/3, one of Glazed Red Earthenwares (used from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries) and one from the Victorian era.



Figure 7: Location map of PAS/12/3

		GRE		VI	С	
TP	Context	No Wt		No	Wt	Date Range
3	2	1	9	1	1	1550-1900

Table 3: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/3

As with PAS/12/2, the pottery finds are minimal for this test pit and only show evidence for activity from relatively late in the history of occupation at Paston Hall. Finds include corroded iron nails and corroded plate metal, glass, tile, CBM, coal and mortar with one secondary flint flake and one small piece of burnt stone. Additional animal bone remains consist of sheep/goat as well as fragments of cattle-, sheep- and rodent-sized animal remains through the test pit.





#### Test Pit four (PAS/12/4)

Test pit four was excavated in a walled garden to the NE of the present 19<sup>th</sup> century building named Paston Hall, near the coach house. It was also the northern of four pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/2, PAS/12/3 and PAS/12/5. (Paston Hall, Paston, NR28 9TA. TG 32184 34499).

Test pit four was excavated to a depth of 0.3m without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



Figure 9: Location map of PAS/12/4

One sherd of Early Medieval Sandy Ware and three sherds from the Victorian era were recovered from PAS/12/4.

		EMW		VIC		
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
4	1	1	3	1	4	1100-1900
4	3				18	1800-1900

Table 4: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/4

This test pit produced the only High Medieval sherd from the four test pits around Paston Hall, together suggesting very low levels of activity around the Hall during this period. This seems strange, as the hall is known to have stood at this site since at least this time. All four pits produced Victorian-era sherds, and show that disturbance around the Hall increased at this time relative to earlier periods. Finds included square metal nails, corroded iron nails, screws and other corroded metal pieces, metal objects including a hinge and possible door latch, a white china electrical fixing, glass, tile, CBM, slate, mortar, Bakelite, wood and coal. A single tertiary flint flake and two pieces of burnt stone were also recorded with two sheep-sized animal bone fragments.





#### Test Pit five (PAS/12/5)

Test pit five was excavated in a walled garden to the NE of the present 19<sup>th</sup> century building named Paston Hall, near the coach house. It was also the eastern of four pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/2, PAS/12/3 and PAS/12/4 (Paston Hall, Paston, NR28 9TA. TG 32195 34457).

Test pit five was excavated to a depth of 0.4m without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

Test pit five produced three sherds of Late Medieval Ware and a medium-sized assemblage of Victorian-era pottery.



#### Figure 10: Location map of PAS/12/5

		LMT		VI	С	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
5	1	2	19	4	21	1400-1900
5	2			5	15	1800-1900
5	3	1	4	5	17	1400-1900

Table 5: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/5

Test pit five produced the only Late Medieval pottery to come from the test pits excavated around Paston Hall, which is intriguing as the Hall was certainly in use as a residence at this time. This test pit also produced the largest assemblage of Victorian-era sherds, and suggests that this corner of the walled garden may have been used for dumping household waste during this period. Finds included corroded iron nails, glass, CBM, tile, slate, coal, slag, mortar, flint with mortar attached, and one primary and four tertiary flint flakes, as well as one piece of burnt stone. The presence of small amounts of slag indicates that low-level metal-working activities probably took place on the Paston Hall estate at some point during its history. A single rabbit bone was also identified with three sheep-sized fragments of bone from the upper half of the test pit.





#### Test Pit six (PAS/12/6)

Test pit six was excavated in a small open field beside Hall Farm, near Bacton Road and opposite St Margaret's Church (Hall Farm. Bacton Road. Paston, NR28 9TZ. TG 32279 34539).

Test pit six was excavated to a depth of 0.9m. No record was kept of whether or not natural sediments reached. were although the absence of finds from contexts below 30cm indicates that it is likely it had reached natural. The excavations were halted at 0.9m and the pit backfilled.

Test pit six produced a single Ware, a single sherd of Late



sherd of Late Saxon Thetford Figure 11: Location map of PAS/12/6

Medieval German Stoneware and three sherds of Victorian-era pot.

		TH	ET	GS		GS VIC		
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
6	2	1	4	1	3			900-1550
6	3					3	4	1800-1900

Table 6: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/6

There was very little pottery from this test-pit, but it included a sherd of late Saxon and another of late medieval, suggesting that the site had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens, in the 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, and again in the 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. There is no evidence for disturbance outside these periods until the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the pottery sherds show that activity was again resuming in this area, although this was also at a very low intensity. Finds from PAS/12/6 comprised a clay pipe fragment, a glass blob, a metal washer, tile and CBM. One primary, one secondary and three tertiary flint flakes were also recovered from contexts two and four.





#### Test Pit seven (PAS/12/7)

Test pit seven was one of two pits excavated on the rear lawn of a modern semi-detached house, standing on the site of an earlier late 19th or very early 20<sup>th</sup> century property. It was the southern of two test pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/8 (2, Hall Cottages, Bacton Road, Paston, NR28 9TZ. TG 32169 34609).

Test pit seven was excavated to a depth of 0.7m, without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery assemblage included one sherd of Romano-British pottery, while the remainder dates from the postmedieval period and comprised one sherd each of Staffordshire Slipware and English Stoneware, and a medium-sized assemblage of Victorian-era sherds.



Figure 12: Location map of PAS/12/7

		R	В	S	S	ES	SТ	V	IC	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
7	1							3	25	1800-1900
7	2							1	2	1800-1900
7	3			1	3			5	23	1650-1900
7	4					1	5	1	2	1680-1900
7	5	1	8							100-400

Table 7: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/7

Test pit seven produced the only sherd of Roman-era pottery to come from the southern half of the Paston parish (the only others in the parish come from the vicinity of Stow Hill TPs 21 and 24), and hints at localised, ephemeral activity in the area during this period. A long period then seems to have passed in which this land was not disturbed by human activity, with marginal use resuming in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. Activity then increased in the Victorian period, likely associated with the first residential property on the site. Finds comprised modern glazed tile, corroded metal lumps, CBM and coal. Six pieces of burnt stone were also recorded through the upper four contexts of the test pit with four rabbit bones and a single fragment of a sheep-sized animal.





#### Test Pit eight (PAS/12/8)

Test pit eight was one of two pits excavated towards the back of the rear lawn of a modern semi-detached house, standing on the site of an earlier late 19th or very early 20<sup>th</sup> century property. It was also the northern of two test pits excavated on the property; see also PAS/12/7 (2, Hall Cottages, Bacton Road, Paston, NR28. TG 32174 34628).

Test pit eight was excavated to a depth of 0.4m, without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery finds comprised a small assemblage of post-medieval sherds including one piece of English Stoneware and a small number of Victorian-era sherds.



Figure 13: Location map of PAS/12/8

		EST		V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
8	1			2	7	1800-1900
8	2			3	6	1800-1900
8	3	1	4			1680-1750

Table 8: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/8

Test pit eight tells a similar story to test pit seven, suggesting that this area saw marginal use during the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. Activity then increased in the Victorian period, likely associated with the building of the first residential property on the site. Finds comprised of coal with a single secondary flint flake from context two as well as seven pieces of burnt stone from the upper two contexts.





#### Test Pit nine (PAS/12/9)

Test pit nine was excavated in the rear garden of a large detached probably 19<sup>th</sup> century property located just to the east of the main cluster of housing in the village (Peacock Hall, Vicarage Road, Paston, NR28 9TB. TG 32060 34854).

Test pit eight was excavated to a depth of 0.4m, without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery finds included a single sherd of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, one sherd of Glazed Red Earthenware and a large assemblage of Victoria-era wares.



Figure 14: Location map of PAS/12/9

		EMW		GRE		VIC		
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
9	1			1	4	4	15	1550-1900
9	2	1	2			10	22	1100-1900
9	3					11	115	1800-1900.
9	4					16	122	1800-1900

Table 9: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/9

Although named Peacock Hall today, this property is actually the old vicarage at Paston, and is labelled as such on the 1886 Ordinance Survey map of the village. When it was first built, this was one of only two houses on vicarage road (the other being the coach house next door), and others were subsequently built around these throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. According to the Ordinance Survey maps, the old vicarage was also extended in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, adding a western wing to the property. Based on the pottery scatters, the wares represented by single sherds suggest ephemeral activity perhaps connected with use as fields or gardens took place during the medieval period and into the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries. The first house at the site was then constructed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, after which the area in the vicinity of the test pit was used for dumping household waste. Finds included modern plastic, corroded iron scraps, a fragment of clay pipe, two complete clear glass bottles, glass, modern glazed tile, oyster shell, CBM and coal. Three pieces of burnt stone were also recorded from the upper two contexts and two pieces of slag were also found, suggestive of metal-working activities have taken place in this area. A number of animal species were also recorded, consisting of sheep/goat, pig, chicken and house mouse as well as both cattle- and sheep-sized bone fragment remains.





#### Test Pit 10 (PAS/12/10)

Test pit 10 was excavated on the front lawn of a probably 19<sup>th</sup> century detached bungalow lying just to the east of the main residential area at Paston (The coach house, Vicarage Road, Paston, NR28 9TB. TG 32040 34820).

Test pit 10 was excavated to a depth of 0.4m without finding natural. Due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The small amount of pottery from test pit 10 is all post-medieval in date, comprising one sherd of Glazed Red Earthenware and a small assemblage of Victorian-era sherds.



Figure 15: Location map of PAS/12/10

		GF	RE	VIC		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
10	2			3	17	1800-1900
10	3	1	7	3	8	1550-1900
10	4			1	26	1800-1900

Table 10: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/10

The Ordinance Survey map of 1886 shows that the coach house and neighbouring vicarage (the present Peacock Hall) were the only two properties in vicarage road at this time, while successive maps indicate the slow addition of housing around these properties throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Similar to the test pit dug at Peacock Hall, test pit 10 suggests ephemeral activity during the early post-medieval period when the area was perhaps used as gardens or fields; based on the pottery finds the coach house was then built sometime during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with subsequent activities resulting in some dumping of household waste around the property. Finds included over 200 corroded iron nails, corroded iron bolts, a metal door latch bracket and other metal items, glass, tile, scrunched foil, slate, CBM, coal and mortar It is possible the large number of nails found here relates to dumping of unwanted construction materials used to build the house. A single pig bone was recorded with three secondary and four tertiary flint flakes were also recorded with five flint blades, all from the upper two contexts of the pit. These were found with 55 pieces of burnt stone, also from the upper three contexts.





#### Test Pit 11 (PAS/12/11)

Test pit 11 was excavated on open ground between Paston Village Hall, a detached late 19<sup>th</sup> or very early 20<sup>th</sup> century building, and the western boundary fence, opposite the toilet inspection cover (Paston Village Hall, Paston, NR28 9TB. TG 31982 34805).

Test pit 11 was excavated to a depth of 0.6m, whereupon natural sediments were found. Excavations were therefore halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery assemblage included six sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware and two sherds of Victorian-era pottery.



Figure 16: Location map of PAS/12/11

		EMW		V	C	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
11	1	1	10			1100-1200
11	2			1	1	1800-1900
11	3	1	9	1	2	1100-1900
11	4	4	28			1100-1200

Table 11: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/11

Test pit 11 produced a relatively large number of early medieval sherds, indicating that people were probably living here in the  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  centuries. The site then seems to have been abandoned until the  $19^{th}$  century. Finds included parts of a plastic doll, a round stone(?) ball, half a glass jar and other glass fragments, some corroded iron nails and other corroded scrap iron, possible part of a horse shoe and other metal pieces, part of a badge inscribed "\_\_\_\_\_ WEST RIDING", rubber, plastic, tile, CBM, possible tarmac, coal, mortar and a possible grey lava stone. One piece of slag was also found, implying that metal-working activities have previously taken place in the vicinity of the pit. Two small fragments of animal bone recovered could also only be identified as cattle- and sheep-sized animals.





#### Test Pit 12 (PAS/12/12)

Test pit 12 was excavated in the enclosed rear garden of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century semi-detached property in the main residential core of Paston (12 Chapel Road, Paston, NR28 9TD. TG 31754 34625).

Test pit 12 was excavated to a depth of 0.55m, uncovering corroded iron drainage pipes across the northern half of the test pit. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



The pottery assemblage included Figure 17: Location map of PAS/12/12 two sherds of Early Medieval

Sandy Ware, and a small number of post-medieval wares including Staffordshire Manganese Ware, English Stoneware and 15 Victorian-era sherds.

		EMW		SMW		EST		VIC		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
12	1							4	14	1800-1900
12	2							3	19	1800-1900
12	3			1	4			4	202	1680-1900
12	4	2	5					3	46	1100-1900
12	5					1	18	1	4	1680-1900

Table 12: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/12

The pottery from this test-pit indicates that the site was first used in the early medieval period, perhaps for ephemeral activities such as uses as fields or gardens. The area was then abandoned for a time, before low-level activity resumed in the 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, increasing in intensity during the Victorian period. Finds included corroded metal drinks bottle caps, corroded iron nails and many corroded metal scraps, fragments of clay pipe, glass, tile, CBM, slate, crushed foil, many pieces of coal, asbestos, mortar and plastic. The animal species identified consist of cow, sheep/goat and rabbit with also bird, cattle- and sheep-sized fragments recorded. One secondary flint flake was also recorded with four pieces of burnt stone, all from the upper three contexts of the test pit.




#### Test Pit 14 (PAS/12/14)

Test pit 14 was excavated in the front garden of a pre-20<sup>th</sup> century bungalow located in the main residential core of Paston (1, Paston Almshouses, Chapel Road, Paston, NR28 9TD. TG 31820 34714).

Test pit 14 was excavated to a depth of 0.4m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



Figure 18: Location map of PAS/12/13

#### All the pottery excavated

from PAS/12/14 dates to the post-medieval period comprises a medium-sized collection of Glazed Red Earthenwares, one sherd of Midland Blackware and a large assemblage of 43 Victorian-era sherds.

		GRE		MB		V	IC	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
14	1	4	62	1	58	16	120	1550-1900
14	2	4	149			23	91	1550-1900
14	3	2	12			4	18	1550-1900

Table 13: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/14

The test pit provides strong evidence for suggesting that the first occupation of the site occurred during the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century, and this usage clearly intensified during the Victorian period. The present building is included on the Ordinance Survey map of 1886; no records of activity and use of the almshouse was available during the writing of this report, however, to contextualise the finds further. The finds comprised a complete glass jar inscribed "2oz BOVRIL LIMITED", other glass fragments, corroded iron nails and other corroded iron scraps, tile, CBM, a possible lava stone fragment, oyster shell, coal, lino, mortar and plaster.





#### Test Pit 16 (PAS/12/16)

Test pit 14 was excavated on Paston Recreation Ground on Bears Road, opposite house number one on former agricultural land west of the main settlement cluster at Paston (approximate location TG 31690 34833).

Test pit 14 was excavated to a depth of c.0.5m. No record was kept of whether or not natural sediments were encountered, but excavation was halted at this stage and the pit backfilled.

The pottery from this test pit dates from between the 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, and includes single sherds each of Early Medieval



Sandy Ware, Hedingham Ware, **Figure 19: Location map of PAS/12/16** Glazed Red Earthenware, Midland

Blackware, Cologne Stoneware and English Stoneware.

		EM	1W	HE	Ð	GF	RE	Μ	В	W	CS	ES	SТ	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range										
16	2											1	5	1680-1750
16	3									1	4			1600-1650
16	?	1	3	1	4	1	2	1	2					1100-1600

Table 14: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/16

This test pit provides evidence for ephemeral, low-level activity in this area from between the 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Located on the edge of the main residential area at Paston and beside a former road linking Bears Road with the old railway line (which was removed after the closure of the railway), it seems likely that this area has been used primarily as agricultural land or waste land up until the area was redeveloped as a recreational area. Finds comprised a fragment of clay pipe, a corroded iron nail, a corroded iron rod and other corroded metal scraps, glass, CBM, coal, mortar, modern brick and plastic. A single fragment of bone was recorded as sheep-sized but could not be formally identified.





#### Test Pit 17 (PAS/12/17)

Test pit 17 was excavated on the front lawn of a 20<sup>th</sup> century detached house on the corner of Mundesley Road and Chapel Road (Poppy House, Paston, NR28 9TH. TG 31865 34761).

Test pit 17 was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, and the high levels of brick rubble found, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery assemblage comprised nine sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, two post-medieval wares including Glazed Red Earthenware and English Stoneware and some Victorian-era sherds.



Figure 20: Location map of PAS/12/17

		EM	1W	GF	RE	ES	ST	V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
17	2			2	6	1	9	5	25	1550-1900
17	3	2	7	2	8			4	9	1100-1900
17	5	5	64							1100-1200
17	6	2	34							1100-1200

 Table 15: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/17

Lying beside a major road junction in Paston, the pottery indicates that people were active in this area from the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries onwards, with ephemeral episodic activity continuing in the area until the present day. The number of medieval sherds is relatively large compared with other test pits in Paston, and may indicate that people were living at this site during this period. Finds comprised parts of a battery, corroded iron nails, corroded iron scraps, glass, CBM, tile, mortar, coal and plastic. A single piece of slag was also found, suggesting that metal-working activities have previously taken place in the vicinity of the pit. Five pieces of burnt stone were found from contexts two and three with a single retouched flint flake from context five as well as a single cow bone from context three.





#### Test Pit 19 (PAS/12/19)

Test pit 19 was excavated on an area covered by gravel beside the driveway in front of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century detached bungalow (Long Lodge, Mundesley Road, Paston, NR28 9TE. TG 31725 35091).

Test pit 19 was excavated to a depth of c.0.3m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

А small pottery assemblage including Early Medieval Sandy Ware and Glazed Red Earthenware Figure 21: Location map of PAS/12/19 was recovered from PAS/122/19.



		EMW		GF	RE	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
19	1	2	5			1100-1200
19	3			3	19	1550-1600

Table 16: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/19

It appears from the pottery data that this area had previously been used as a field or garden during the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries and again sometime after the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. Ordinance survey maps show that the area now occupied by Long Lodge was fenced off as fields until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the property was built, which helps explain why the evidence points towards only ephemeral activity at the site. Finds comprised a metal valve possibly from a bike, corroded iron nails and iron bolts, corroded iron scraps, fragments of clay pipe, glass, tile, CBM, coal, cockle shell, mortar and plastic. Large numbers of slag lumps were also found at the site, indicative of metal-working activities in the vicinity of the test pit. One secondary flint flake was also recorded from context two with a cow bone from context three. Other fragments of bone were also recovered but could only be identified as both cattle- and sheep-sized.





#### Test Pit 20 (PAS/12/20)

Test pit 20 was excavated in the front garden of a detached, pre-20<sup>th</sup> century building constructed mostly of flint, previously named Poplar Farm (Dayspring, Mundesley Road, Paston, NR28 9TE. TG 631718 335072).

Test pit 19 was excavated to a depth of c.0.4m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

A small assemblage of post-medieval pottery was excavated from PAS/12/20, which included some Glazed red Earthenware and some sherds dating from the Victorian era.

		GRE		V	С	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
20	1	1	2			1550-1600
20	2	1	9	2	9	1550-1900
20	3			4	9	1800-1900



Figure 22: Location map of PAS/12/20

Table 17: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/20

The pottery finds from test pit 20 suggest that people have only used this site quite rarely, which is odd because the property was one of the farmhouses built by the Pastons to facilitate moving their neighbours further away from Paston Hall, following the diversion of the road in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. Given the proximity of the test pit location to the main road connecting Paston and Mundesley, a possible explanation for the lack of finds is that the area was kept deliberately clean and tidy or used as gardens to make the front of the house look attractive, while dumping of household waste took place in a less visible location. Finds included a brown button, some modern tile, CBM, mortar, a corroded iron nail and some coal. Two tertiary flint flakes were also recorded.





#### Test Pit 21 (PAS/12/21)

Test pit 21 was excavated to the rear of a Grade II listed early 19<sup>th</sup> century original flour mill. It was also the western of two pits excavated here; see also PAS/12/22 (Stow Mill, Paston Road, NR28 9TG. TG 31615 335853).

Test pit 21 was excavated to a depth of 0.6m, upon which natural deposits of sand were reached. Excavation ceased at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



The pottery assemblage from PAS/12/21 included one of the

largest assemblages of Romano-British and late Saxon pottery to come from the Paston test pits. Also present were sherds of Early Medieval Sandy Ware, Glazed Red Earthenware and seven Victorian-era sherds.

Figure 23: Location map of PAS/12/21

		R	В	TH	ET	EN	1W	GF	RE	V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range								
21	1	1	1							1	1	100-1900
21	2	3	14	3	37	1	3			3	4	100-1900
21	3	1	3							1	4	100-1900
21	4			3	20			1	10	1	2	900-1900
21	5			1	15			1	7	1	6	900-1900

Table 18: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/21

Test pit 21 was one of two test pits in the Stow Hill area to produce Roman pottery (see PAS/12/24), both in reasonable quantities. These finds add to the Roman pottery previously discovered in the Stow Hill area, confirming Roman-era activity in this vicinity. Both test pits 21 and 24 also produced Late Saxon pottery, and this is consistent with historical evidence of a 'chapel of rest' at Stow Hill, on the pilgrim's route between Bromholm Priory in Bacton and Walsingham. After the Early medieval period there seems to have been a break in occupation, before marginal activity resumed in the post-medieval period, intensifying during the Victorian period when Stow Mill and the associated structures were built. Finds included fragments of clay pipe, corroded iron bolts, nails and unidentified lumps, glass, tile, CBM, coal, mortar and a piece of mussel shell, with pig bone and two fragments of sheep-sized animals. One piece was also identified as possible slag, indicative of metal-working in the vicinity of the site.





#### Test Pit 22 (PAS/12/22)

Test pit 22 was excavated to the rear of a Grade II listed early 19<sup>th</sup> century original flour mill. It was also the eastern of two pits excavated here; see also PAS/12/21 (Stow Mill, Mundesley Road, NR28 9TG. TG 31639 35794).

Test pit 22 was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. No mention of natural deposits is made in the test pit record booklet, but based on a description it is possible that natural sands were reached at c.0.6m. Excavation ceased at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



The pottery assemblage included Figure 24: Location map of PAS/12/22 a single sherd of Early Medieval

Sandy Ware, while the remaining pieces were post-medieval in date comprising Glazed Red Earthenware, Midland Blackware and seven Victorian-era sherds.

		EM	1W	GF	RE	Μ	В	V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
22	1			1	10					1550-1600
22	2							1	2	1800-1900
22	3							2	9	1800-1900
22	4					1	32	2	4	1580-1900
22	5	1	7					2	63	1100-1900

 Table 19: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/22

The single medieval-era sherd adds supporting evidence to that retrieved from other pits on Stow Hill for occupation in the area during this period, likely connected with Stow Chapel which once stood in the vicinity of the test pit location. This test pit then records a period of abandonment until the post-medieval period when ephemeral activity resumed, intensifying during the Victorian period when Stow Mill was built. Finds included fragments of clay pipe, corroded iron nails, plates, lumps and scraps, glass, tile, CBM, coal and mortar with a single fragment of cattle-sized animal bone. Two pieces of slag were also recovered, providing evidence of metal-working in the vicinity of the test pit site. Six pieces of burnt stone were also recorded through the upper four contexts of PAS/12/22.





#### Test Pit 23 (PAS/12/23)

23 Test pit was excavated in the enclosed rear garden of pre-20<sup>th</sup> century а detached property, accessed via dirt track from Mundesley Road (Stow Mill House, Mundesley Road, Paston, NR28 9TG. TG 31615 35783).

Test pit 23 was excavated to a depth of 0.7m without encountering natural. Excavation ceased at this level due to time constraints, and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



pit was recorded and Figure 25: Location map of PAS/12/23

The pottery assemblage from PAS/12/23 included four sherds of Glazed Red Earthenware and a very large assemblage of 159 Victorian-era sherds.

		GRE		V	ΊC	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
23	1			27	198	1800-1900
23	2			39	273	1800-1900
23	4	1	31	17	296	1550-1900
23	5			44	576	1800-1900
23	6			22	222	1800-1900
23	7	3	43	10	109	1550-1900

Table 20: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/23

This test pit produced the largest assemblage of Victorian-era pot sherds from the Paston excavations, and suggests that the test pit may have identified an area used for dumping household waste during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The few sherds of post-medieval pot can be interpreted alongside those excavated from the other test pits on Stow Hill (TPs 21, 22 and 24), together indicating low-level activity on the hill during this period. A large number of finds were made in this text pit throughout the seven excavated contexts, consistent with the interpretation of a 19<sup>th</sup> century dumping ground. These finds included some blue rope, a cutlery knife with cream plastic handle, lead window lining, a metal rod, metal toy soldier, horseshoe and other metal objects, corroded iron nails, glass, mussel shells, modern glazed tile, unglazed ancient tile, CBM, brick fragments, coal, mortar, plastic, polystyrene and the central core of a battery. The finds also included four pieces of slag, providing evidence for metal working in the vicinity of the test pit site. Mixed through all the contexts of the test pit were also 160 pieces of burnt stone and a large amount of animal bone, identified as cow, sheep/goat, pig, rabbit and chicken as well as further fragments of both cattle- and sheep-sized animal remains.





#### Test Pit 24 (PAS/12/24)

Test pit 24 was excavated in Stow Hill Meadow, in the field just to the west of Stow Mill House, near the lay-by off Mundesley Road (Stow Mill Meadow, Paston, NR28 9TG. TG 31587 35774).

Test pit 24 was excavated to a depth of 0.6m at which point natural sediments were encountered across part of the pit base, on a slope from west to east. Although the overlying cultural deposits had not been fully removed, excavations were halted at this level due to time constraints and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



Figure 26: Location map of PAS/12/24

The pottery from this test pit included a relatively large assemblage of Roman sherds and two pieces of Late Saxon Thetford Ware. The remaining pot was all post-medieval in date, and included sherds of Glazed Red Earthenwares, Midland Blackwares and a handful of Victorian-era pieces.

		R	В	TH	ET	GF	RE	Μ	IB	V	IC	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range								
24	2	2	11			2	4					100-1600
24	3							1	2	3	11	1580-1900
24	4	2	10							6	22	100-1900
24	5& 6	5	22	2	39							100-1100

 Table 21: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/24

This was the second test pit from the Stow Hill area to produce Roman pottery (see also TP 21), which together add additional evidence to pottery finds previously made in the vicinity of Stow Hill from this period (NHER 6880). Late Saxon pottery was also found at TP 21, and is likely related to activity at Stow Chapel (chapel of rest) that is known to have existed somewhere in this vicinity at this time. It then seems that there was a break in occupation at Stow Hill, resuming again with low-level disturbance in the vicinity of PAS/12/24 in the post-medieval period, possibly as fields or gardens, a use which continued into the Victorian period when the current buildings at Stow Hill were constructed and to the present day. Finds included a corroded plate of flat metal and other corroded metal scraps, a metal bolt, a fragment of clay pipe, a small piece of granite-like stone, a shotgun cartridge, glass, CBM and coal. An additional four pieces of burnt stone were also recorded.





#### Test Pit 26 (PAS/12/26)

Test pit 26 was excavated in the south of Paston parish, at the cross roads of two minor country lanes close to Barcham's Farmhouse and Heath Farm Cottage, and southeast of the junction known locally as "Dead Man's Grave" (Dead Man's Dale. Approximate location TG 30500 32486).

Test pit 27 was excavated to a depth of 0.5m without finding natural. A small sondage was then dug, possibly revealing natural substrata at a depth of

c.1.2m. Excavation was ceased at this point and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.



Figure 27: Location map of PAS/12/26

The small pottery assemblage from test pit 26 included ten small sherds from the Victorian era.

		VI	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range
26	1	10	10	1800-1900

Table 22: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/26

It appears that the test pit location has remained relatively undisturbed until the Victorian era, after which the area has been used as fields, or possibly some low-level dumping of rubbish at the meeting point of the two roads. The small collection of finds comprised small quantities of CBM and coal. Previous work conducted just to the west of the test pit at Dead Man's Grave (NHER 6911) also reported no finds from their investigations. A single secondary flint flake and four pieces of burnt stone were however also recorded.





#### Test Pit 28 (PAS/12/28)

Test pit 28 was excavated on the lawn of an enclosed rear back garden of a detached pre-20<sup>th</sup> century property situated just outside Paston parish (Stone Cottage, Hall Lane, Knapton, NR28 0SH. TG 29684 32054).

Test pit 28 was excavated to a depth of 0.4m. Natural was not found, but due to time constraints, excavations were halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

The pottery assemblage from the site comprised all sherds from the Victorian era, numbering 86 sherds in total.

		V	IC	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range
28	1	2	23	1800-1900
28	2	22	55	1800-1900
28	3	38	95	1800-1900
28	4	24	90	1800-1900



Figure 28: Location map of PAS/12/28

Table 23: The pottery excavated from PAS/12/28

The limited finds and pottery that were excavated from PAS/12/28 suggest only minimal activity at the site up to the Victorian era, after which disturbance of the area increased significantly, probably associated with the building of Stone Cottage and the dumping of household waste that followed this. Finds included a range of artefacts that can be interpreted as 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century waste, comprising a white button, fragments of clay pipe, a fragment of green stone, glass, tile, CBM, corroded pieces of iron nails and other corroded metal pieces, mortar, metal wire, coal and the central cores of two batteries. A single piece of burnt stone was also recorded with a rabbit mandible.





#### Test Pit 29 (PAS/12/29)

Test pit 29 was excavated on an area of scrubland adjacent to Paston Barn and Bacton Road, in between Paston Barn and Hall Farm (Paston Barn, Bacton Road, Paston, NR28 9TA. TG 32252 34528).

Test pit 29 was excavated to a depth of 60cm without finding natural. Due to time constraints excavation was halted at this level and the test pit was recorded and backfilled.

No pottery finds were reported from this test pit. Finds were minimal in number, and comprised Figure 29: Location map of PAS/12/29 one piece of clay pipe stem and a



grey 'tessera shaped small square stone. One secondary and two tertiary flint flakes were also recorded with six pieces of burnt stone.

During excavation of the test pit, a layer of compacted large flint cobbles was unearthed between 0.2-0.4m depth, which may indicate a former 'courtyard' or constructed surface in front of Paston Barn. This is something that could be investigated by further excavations in this area. Based on the finds from test pit 29, however, it would appear that if the area has been used for human activity it was kept clean of debris including smaller pieces of rubbish. This lack of finds is perhaps surprising, given the location of the pit close to St Margaret's church, and other Medieval and 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century buildings such as Paston Tithe Barn and the buildings associated with Hall Farm, indicating a long history of occupation activity in this vicinity.





# 9 Discussion

Given the time depth of the settlement at Paston, it is surprising how few finds and how few pre-Victorian pottery sherds were discovered from the test pits. One important factor may be that only four of the pits were excavated down to natural, three of which were in the Stow Hill area where virtually all of the Roman and Late Saxon era pottery was discovered. Many of the pits reached only 30-40cm in depth, and it is possible this could have had an important effect on the age and density of finds that were made. Furthermore, no test pits were dug in Paston Green, or in the field to the south of Paston Hall and St Margaret's church, which is where the old Saxon and Medieval village used to stand until Sir William Paston moved the village road to the north of these structures in the 15<sup>th</sup> century (Care and Earl 2009:8); previous finds have certainly been made from this field for this period, including those made during the digging of an electricity supply trench near St Margaret's church that produced Ipswich Ware of the Saxon period, one rim sherd of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century type and some Stoneware Sherds dating to the late 15<sup>th</sup>-early 16<sup>th</sup> century (NHER 6894; 6895). It is thus possible that the areas actually investigated with the test pits, especially those in the vicinity around Paston Hall and Vicarage Road/Chapel Road, are providing information about the peripheral areas of the medieval settlement rather than the core.

Considering the test pits around Paston Hall, none produced very much pottery but none were dug very deep. Only a handful of sherds in total from pre-Victorian wares, and although numbers increase in the Victorian period the overall numbers are still low. This may be an artefact of the excavation depth, or may be consistent with the interpretation that these test pits hit the edge of the medieval settlement, rather than the core areas.

Although part of the Paston parish, the settlement cluster at Stow Hill has always been something of a separate entity to the main village. It is likely that Stow Hill, consisting of a small hill that forms a regional high-point, was selected repeatedly for occupation in different time periods because of the views it afforded, and as a central location between the surrounding villages.

# 9.1 Prehistoric

The large quantity of burnt flint (or pot boilers as was their use) that were recorded from Paston were identified from 16 of the 24 pits excavated and are generally thought to have dated to the Bronze Age, particularly around the centre of the current village and at Stow Hill and supporting the finds already recorded on the HER where a lot also date to that period. The fact that these concentrations of deposits are not related to the areas of flint working that have also been identified though the test pitting, may suggest that as part of the Bronze Age settlement of the area, there were separate areas for domestic work and manufacture.

The presence of a small number of flints, including blade based pieces that date to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods, may put the origins of the settlement here back to the Neolithic, which again is supported by the number of Neolithic flint artefacts already recorded on the HER.





## 9.2 Roman

There is good evidence from previous pottery finds recorded on the HER and from the pottery found in test pits PAS/12/21 and PAS/12/24 for a probably Romano-British settlement on Stow Hill, an area of high ground overlooking the river at Mundesley, just to the north, although additional activity was also noted within the village of Paston at PAS/12/7. This area however may have been utilised as farmland or as part of a small farmstead, separated from the main area of concentration. Further archaeological work would of course be needed to confirm this.

# 9.3 Anglo-Saxon

The records from the Domesday Book give a clear indication that Paston was already a thriving village by 1086, being worth 2.5 geld in tax to the crown<sup>16</sup>. Yet the test pits produced almost no Anglo Saxon pottery, and what was found (10 sherds) was limited to the Stow Hill area, apart from PAS/12/6 by Hall Farm that was likely related to the positioning of Stow Hill Chapel here during this time. In fact, the pottery distributions suggest that the village didn't develop into the investigated areas until the High Medieval period, between 1066-1399AD.

## 9.4 Medieval

As already stated, it seems unlikely that it was only after the Norman invasion that Paston underwent a period of expansion as the village began to thrive. During the later medieval period (1400-1539 AD) however, everything changes and the pottery distributions indicate a complete abandonment of virtually the entire area covered by the test pits. Only pits at Paston Hall, St Margaret's Church and Hall Farm show any evidence for activity, indicating a contraction of the settlement away from the area's most recently developed in the High Medieval period. This is likely related to the impact of the Black Death on the village, and is the period when textual sources tell us that Clement Paston was taking advantage of the much-reduced size of local population to buy up land cheaply.

# 9.5 Post medieval and later

It is clear that all the areas presently occupied at Paston were settled for a second time during the post-medieval period. Sir William Paston had diverted the main road north of Paston Hall and St Margaret's church, shifting the focus for settlement away from the area now occupied by fields to the south of these structures. Chapel Road, Vicarage Road and Mundesley Road were now the satellite districts of a residential core centred on the junction linking the three roads by Poppy House, continuing up to a more distant residential cluster at Stow Hill.

Settlement in all these areas expanded and intensified into the Victorian era, with new housing infilling the open areas in between and around the earlier 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century properties. The coming of the railway station at nearby Knapton must have encouraged the growth of the village during this period, yet the total size of the population remained relatively low and large areas of land potentially useful for housing remained undeveloped, perhaps because people chose to settle in the nearby larger settlements of Mundesley,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> <u>http://domesdaymap.co.uk/place/TG3234/paston/</u> (Accessed October 2012)





Bacton or North Walsham instead. Paston today thus remains a relatively dispersed town of separate clusters of housing,

The faunal remains from the Paston test pits also yielded a high percentage of bone with saw marks, particularly from a type of butchers saw that became prevalent during the 18<sup>th</sup> century with also a heavy reliance of domestic breeds, with no utilisation of wild fauna.

# **10 Conclusion**

The archaeological test pit excavations that were carried out in Paston in spring 2012 were very successful in fulfilling its aim of providing members of the local community an opportunity to get involved in excavating within their own village as well as taking part in the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. The feedback from the local volunteers was very positive, new archaeological skills were gained and the community felt much more engaged in their local heritage.

The archaeological evidence from the test pitting data in Paston has also advanced the knowledge and understanding of the historic development of the village and its immediate environment potentially from the Mesolithic period onwards with evidence for flint tool production. Evidence for limited occupation during the Roman and Late Anglo Saxon periods were also recorded and the development of the present village would likely have been during the medieval period. The village was likely affected quite badly by the Black Death, which is reflected in the vast decrease of late medieval pottery found in comparison to the high medieval. The village recovered but generally stayed small, even due to the general population growth that was noted though the post medieval and later.

The results from the test pitting also contributed to the bigger picture of rural settlements over the medieval period in particular across the eastern region as well as providing new evidence about the likely extent of surviving archaeological evidence underlying the streets, gardens and the houses of Paston.





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# 13 Appendices

# 13.1 Listed buildings in Paston<sup>17</sup>

Grid Ref	EH Building ID	Name	Grade	Details
TG3228234435	224293	Church of St Margaret	Ι	<ul> <li>Parish church. C14, restored 1601, 1843 and 1869. Flint with ashlar dressings. Thatched nave and slate roofed chancel. West tower. 3 stage tower with diagonal buttresses to ringing chamber, each stage set-off. 2-light cusped Y tracery west window under hood on labels. Square cusped ringing chamber windows, that to west C19. 2-light Y tracery belfry windows below crenellated parapet. Stairs to southeast. Nave buttresses stepped and diagonal at corners. Gabled south porch with diagonal buttresses. Wave moulded round arch below trefoiled statuary niche. 2-light Perpendicular side lights. Multiply wave moulded inner south door. Arched north door. 3 arched nave windows north and south of 2 or 3 lights and cusped intersecting tracery, all restored or renewed C19. Rood stairs to south east nave. South chancel illuminated through C19 triple stepped lancet under single hood mould to west and 2-light divergent mouchette window to east. Arched priests' door. Diagonal east buttresses and 4-light cusped intersecting east window. North chancel with one 2-light Y tracery window. Eaves of chancel raised in brick on north side. Interior. Chamfered tower arch and double chamfered chancel arch. Scissor braced C14 nave roof with collars and boarded ashlaring. Octagonal late C14 font with ogee traceried stem panels.</li> <li>Late C14 wall paintings on north wall. To west St. Christopher carrying Christ, further east the morality The Three Living and The Three Dead. C15 reading desk with poppyheads and 2 traceried panels. Heavily restored screen, originally C15. 4 bays right and left of arched cusped opening. 2-light tracery dados and upper tracery panelling below top rail.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> <u>http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/england/norfolk/paston</u> (Accessed October 2012)





				Corinthian columns below pediment with drapery swags. Reclining figures upon pediment flank achievement. On tomb chest white marble reclining effigy of Katherine Paston. To west monument to Edward Paston 1632 by Nicholas Stone. Stone and black marble. Plain urn stands on square plinth within an aedicule of Tuscan columns with block entablatures. Above is segmental open pediment. Ceiling of aedicule coved and coffered. Enclosing both monuments are iron railings 1632: irontwist verticals terminating above top rail in ball and steeple finials, each finial with 4 wreathed scrolls. Square section uprights end in spiked finials above top rail. C13 sedilia in chancel with 3 arched and roll moulded openings. Trefoiled angle piscine to left. Boarded chancel roof. Painted Royal Arms to William IV 1831 over tower arch.
TG3219034538	224294	Paston Great Barn	11*	<ul> <li>Barn. Dated 1581. Coursed flint with brick and ashlar dressings. Thatched roof. East side. 2 full height double doors</li> <li>symmetrically placed flanked by slated stepped buttresses. Further stepped buttresses at intervals. Slit lights to flanks, the lower halves blocked. Gabled roof. North gable wall with 2 tiers vertical slits and further slit light at apex. Date plaque 1581.</li> <li>West side. 3 stepped buttresses and doors opposite the eastern entrances. Slit lights as before. Later flint and brick engine house built against wall with hipped thatched roof. Over south door a plaque bearing inscription : THE BILDING OF THIS BEARNE IS BI SIR W PASTON KNIGHTE (sic).</li> </ul>
				South gable with 2 tiers ventilation slits and further light in apex. Interior. Ventilation slits splayed on interior. Magnificent roof of alternating tie beam and hammerbeam trusses, all on arched braces dropping to wall posts on timber corbels. Queen struts rise to principals and are linked to collars by arched braces. Subsidiary collars above. 3 tiers butt purlins and curved windbracing below second tier. Scheduled Ancient Monument, County number 168.
TG3170135200	224295	Beech Cottage Forge Cottage	11	Pair of houses. Late C17. Coursed flint with brick dressings and thatched roof. 2 storeys. 2 C20 doors beneath segmental arches. 3-light C18 casement to left of Forge Cottage door below C20 window. Altered C18 3-light casement to right of Beech Cottage door and further C20 window at end of facade in original doorway. Upper windows all C20 in altered



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				openings. Gabled roof. Diamond flued ridge stack left of centre on square plinth, partly rebuilt. To right a C20 ridge stack. Gable heads carried on kneelers. Rear with early C19 2 storey outshuts.
TG3024831476	224296	Heath Cottage	II	Labourer's cottage. Mid C19. Brick with roof of black glazed pantiles. 2 storeys in one bay. Door in gable porch with one segmental headed casement to right. Casement to first floor. Gabled roof with rebuilt internal end stack to east. Kitchen outshut to rear under continuous roof with rebuilt stack flush with west wall.
TG3141033973	224297	The Green Farmhouse	11	Farmhouse. C17 core. Facade late C18. Flint with brick facade and slat roof. 3 storeys in 3 bays. Central panelled door below 5-vaned fanlight and semi-circular arch. Sash windows right and left with glazing bars below gauged skewback arches. 3 similar first and second floor windows, the latter of reduced size. Gabled roof with internal end stacks. East gable wall wits C17 stepped external stack. Rear of this a block of flint with brick dressings. 2 storey rear cross wing roofed with black glazed pantiles, Segmental headed casements and dentil eaves cornice.
TG3162435791	224298	Stow Hill Windmill	11	Tower mill. 1827. Tarred brick with timber faceted domed cap. 4 storeys. Door in west wide. Segmental headed C20 iron casements to cardinal points with glazing bars, 2 windows on each floor being blind. Vertically boarded petticoat below fantail gallery. 8 vaned fantail with gearing and 4 sails erected 1983. Interior. Empty first floor. Second floor with upright shaft and gearing installed 1983 (from Houghton Conquest Mill, Bedfordshire). Third floor with windshaft, brakewheel and wallower installed 1983 (also from Houghton Conquest).





# 13.2 Pottery report - Paul Blinkhorn

### All Pottery Types

**RB:** Roman Grey Ware. This was one of the most common types of Roman pottery, and was made in many different places in Britain. Many different types of vessels were made, especially cooking pots. It was most common in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD, but in some places, continued in use until the 4<sup>th</sup> century.

**THET:** Thetford ware. So-called because archaeologists first found it in Thetford, but the first place to make it was lpswich, around AD850. Potters first began to make it in Thetford sometime around AD925, and carried on until around AD1100. Many kilns are known from the town. It was made in Norwich from about AD1000, and soon after at many of the main towns in England at that time. The pots are usually grey, and the clay has lots of tiny grains of sand in it, making the surface feel a little like fine sandpaper. Most pots were simple jars, but very large storage pots over 1m high were also made, along with jugs, bowls and lamps. It is found all over East Anglia and eastern England as far north as Lincoln and as far south as London.

**EMW: Early Medieval Sandy Ware**: AD1100-1400. Hard fabric with plentiful quartz sand mixed in with the clay. Manufactured at a wide range of generally unknown sites all over eastern England. Mostly cooking pots, but bowls and occasionally jugs also known.

**HED: Hedingham Ware**: Late  $12^{th} - 14^{th}$  century. Fine orange/red glazed pottery, made at Sible Hedingham in Essex. The surfaces of the sherds have a sparkly appearance due to there being large quantities of mica, a glassy mineral, in the clay. Pots usually glazed jugs.

**GRIM: Grimston Ware.** Made at Grimston, near King's Lynn. It was made from a sandy clay similar to that used for Thetford ware, and has a similar 'sandpaper' texture. The clay is usually a dark bluish-grey colour, sometimes with a light-coloured, buff or orange inner surface. It was made between about AD1080 and 1400. All sorts of different pots were made, but the most common finds are jugs, which usually have a slightly dull green glaze on the outer surface. Between AD1300 and 1400, the potters made very ornate jugs, with painted designs in a reddish brown clay, and sometimes attached models of knights in armour or grotesque faces to the outside of the pots. It is found all over East Anglia and eastern England. A lot of Grimston ware has been found in Norway, as there is very little clay in that country, and they had to import their pottery. Nearly half the medieval pottery found in Norway was made at Grimston, and was shipped there from King's Lynn.

**LMT:** Late Medieval Ware: Hard, reddish-orange pottery with lots of sand mixed in with the clay. Made from about 1400 – 1550 in lots of different places in East Anglia. Used for everyday pottery such as jugs and large bowls, and also large pots ('cisterns') for brewing beer.

**GS:** German Stonewares. First made around AD1450, and still made today. Made at lots of places along the river Rhine in Germany, such as Cologne, Siegburg and Frechen. Very hard grey clay fabric, with the outer surface of the pot often having a mottled brown glaze. The most common vessel type was the mug, used in taverns in Britain and all over the world. Surviving records from the port of London ('port books') show that millions such pots were brought in by boat from Germany from around AD1500 onwards.

**GRE: Glazed Red Earthenwares**: Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, usually on the inner surface. Made at numerous locations all over England. Occurs





in a range of practical shapes for use in the households of the time, such as large mixing bowls, cauldrons and frying pans. It was first made around the middle of the 16th century, and in some places continued in use until the 19th century.

**MB: Midland Blackware**. AD1550 – 1700. Similar to GRE, but has a black glaze on one or both surfaces. Vessels usually tall cups, jugs and bowls.

**WCS:** Cologne Stoneware. Hard, grey pottery made in the Rhineland region of Germany from around 1600 onwards. Usually has lots of ornate moulded decoration, often with blue and purple painted details. Still made today, mainly as tourist souvenirs.

**SS: Staffordshire Slipware**. AD1640-1750. Fine cream fabric with white slip and pale yellow lead glaze, commonest decoration is dark brown trails which were sometimes brushed with a feather while wet. Chiefly made 'flat wares' such as plates and dishes, although small bowls and mugs etc. are known.

**EST: English Stoneware:** Very hard, grey fabric with white and/or brown surfaces. First made in Britain at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, usually for inn tankards, then became very common in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly for mineral water or ink bottles and beer jars.

**SMW:** Staffordshire Manganese Ware, late  $17^{th} - 18^{th}$  century. Made from a fine, buff- or red-coloured clay, with the pots usually covered with a mottled purple and brown glaze, which was coloured by the addition of powdered manganese. A wide range of different types of pots were made, but mugs and chamber pots are particularly common.

**VIC: 'Victorian'.** A wide range of different types of pottery, particularly the cups, plates and bowls with blue decoration which are still used today. First made around AD1800.





#### Results

No = number of sherds Wt = weight of sherds in grams

#### Test Pit 1

		EM	1W	GF	RIM	G	S	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
1	2	1	5			2	23	1100-1550
1	3			1	11			1200-1300
1	5	1	1					1100-1200

There was very little pottery from this test-pit, but it is all medieval, suggesting that the site had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens, throughout the medieval period, but was not used after that time.

#### Test Pit 2

		VI	С	
TP	Context	No Wt		Date Range
2	4a	3	14	1800-1900

All the pottery from this test-pit is Victorian, suggesting that people did not use the site before that time

#### Test Pit 3

		GRE VIC		С		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
3	2	1	9	1	1	1550-1900

There is very little pottery from this test-pit, and it is all post-medieval. The site appears to have been rarely used by people, and was probably fields from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

#### Test Pit 4

		EMW		VIC		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
4	1	1	3	1	4	1100-1900
4	3			2	18	1800-1900

There was very little pottery from this test-pit, but it included a sherd of medieval, suggesting that the site had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens, at that time, but was not used again until the 19<sup>th</sup> century.





Test	Pit	5
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		LN	ΛT	VI	С	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
5	1	2	19	4	21	1400-1900
5	2			5	15	1800-1900
5	3	1	4	5	17	1400-1900

There was very little pottery from this test-pit, but it included sherds of late medieval wares, suggesting that the site had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens, in the  $15^{th} - 16^{th}$  centuries, but was not used again until the  $19^{th}$  century.

		TH	ET	GS		VIC		
TΡ	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
6	2	1	4	1	3			900-1550
6	3					3	4	1800-1900

There was very little pottery from this test-pit, but it included a sherd of late Saxon and another of late medieval, suggesting that the site had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens, in the  $9^{th} - 10^{th}$  centuries, and again in the  $15^{th} - 16^{th}$  centuries, but was not used again until the  $19^{th}$  century.

Test Pit 7

		R	В	S	S	E	ST	V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
7	1							3	25	1800-1900
7	2							1	2	1800-1900
7	3			1	3			5	23	1650-1900
7	4					1	5	1	2	1680-1900
7	5	1	8							100-400

This test-pit produced a sherd of Roman pottery, showing that it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens at that time, but was then abandoned until the  $17^{th} - 18^{th}$  century, and not used intensely until the Victorian era.

Test	Pit	8
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		EST		VI	С	
TP	Context	No Wt		No	Wt	Date Range
8	1			2	7	1800-1900
8	2			3	6	1800-1900
8	3	1	4			1680-1750

All the pottery from this test-pit is 18<sup>th</sup> century or Victorian, suggesting that people did not use the site before that time.





#### Test Pit 9

		EMW		GRE		V	IC	
ΤP	Context	No Wt		No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
9	1			1	4	4	15	1550-1900
9	2	1	2			10	22	1100-1900
9	3					11	115	1800-1900.
9	4					16	122	1800-1900

Most of the pottery from this test-pit is Victorian, showing that people were living there at that time. There is also a sherd of early medieval and another of 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> century pottery, showing that it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens at those time

Test Pit 10

		GRE		VI	С	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
10	2			3	17	1800-1900
10	3	1	7	3	8	1550-1900
10	4			1	26	1800-1900

There is very little pottery from this test-pit, and it is all post-medieval. The site appears to have been rarely used by people, and was probably fields from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

#### Test Pit 11

		EMW		VI	C	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
11	1	1	10			1100-1200
11	2			1	1	1800-1900
11	3	1	9	1	2	1100-1900
11	4	4	28			1100-1200

This test-pit produced a relatively large number of early medieval sherds, indicating that people were living here in the  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  centuries. The site then seems to have been abandoned until the  $19^{th}$  century.

#### Test Pit 12

		EMW		SMW		EST		VIC		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
12	1							4	14	1800-1900
12	2							3	19	1800-1900
12	3			1	4			4	202	1680-1900
12	4	2	5					3	46	1100-1900
12	5					1	18	1	4	1680-1900

This test-pit produced two small sherds of  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  century pottery, showing that it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens at that time, but was then abandoned until the  $17^{th} - 18^{th}$  century, and not used intensely until the Victorian era.





Test	Pit 14	ŧ
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		GRE		MB		V	IC	
ΤP	Context	No Wt		No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
14	1	4	62	1	58	16	120	1550-1900
14	2	4	149			23	91	1550-1900
14	3	2	12			4	18	1550-1900

There is very little pottery from this test-pit, and it is all post-medieval, and suggests that people were living at the site from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

#### Test Pit 16

		EN	1W	HE	ED	GF	RE	Μ	В	W	CS	ES	ST	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range										
16	2											1	5	1680-1750
16	3									1	4			1600-1650
16	?	1	3	1	4	1	2	1	2					1100-1600

There is very little pottery from this test-pit, but what there is shows people were using the site from the  $12^{th} - 18^{th}$  centuries.

#### Test Pit 17

		EMW		GRE		EST		VIC		
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
17	2			2	6	1	9	5	25	1550-1900
17	3	2	7	2	8			4	9	1100-1900
17	5	5	64							1100-1200
17	6	2	34							1100-1200

This test-pit produced a relatively large number of early medieval sherds, indicating that people were living here in the  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  centuries. The site then seems to have been abandoned until the  $16^{th}$  century, after which time it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens.

#### Test Pit 19

		EMW		GRE		
ΤP	Context	No Wt		No	Wt	Date Range
19	1	2	2 5			1100-1200
19	3			3	19	1550-1600

This test-pit produced two small sherds of  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  century pottery, showing that it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens at that time, but was then abandoned until the  $16^{th} - 17^{th}$  century, and not used intensely after that time.





#### Test Pit 20

		GRE		VI	С	
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
20	1	1	2			1550-1600
20	2	1	9	2	9	1550-1900
20	3			4	9	1800-1900

There is very little pottery from this test-pit, and it is all post-medieval. The site appears to have been rarely used by people, and was probably fields from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

#### Test Pit 21

		RB		RB THET EMW		GRE		VIC				
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
21	1	1	1							1	1	100-1900
21	2	3	14	3	37	1	3			3	4	100-1900
21	3	1	3							1	4	100-1900
21	4			3	20			1	10	1	2	900-1900
21	5			1	15			1	7	1	6	900-1900

This test-pit produced relatively large assemblage of Roman and late Saxon pottery, suggesting that people were living there at those times. The site appears to have been abandoned at the beginning of the medieval period, and saw only marginal use in the post-medieval period until the Victorian era.

#### Test Pit 22

		EN	EMW GRE		Μ	В	VIC			
TP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
22	1			1	10					1550-1600
22	2							1	2	1800-1900
22	3							2	9	1800-1900
22	4					1	32	2	4	1580-1900
22	5	1	7					2	63	1100-1900

This test-pit produced sherds of  $12^{th} - 13^{th}$  century pottery, showing that it had a marginal use, perhaps as fields or gardens at that time, but was then abandoned until the  $16^{th} - 17^{th}$  century, and not used intensely after that time until the Victorian era.

		GF	RE	VIC		
ΤP	Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date Range
23	1			27	198	1800-1900
23	2			39	273	1800-1900
23	4	1	31	17	296	1550-1900
23	5			44	576	1800-1900
23	6			22	222	1800-1900
23	7	3	43	10	109	1550-1900

#### Test Pit 23





Nearly all the pottery from this site is Victorian, showing that people were living here then. There are also two sherds of  $16^{th} - 17^{th}$  century material, so the site may have been fields at that time.

#### Test Pit 24

		R	В	TH	ET	GF	RE	Μ	В	V	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range								
24	2	2	11			2	4					100-1600
24	3							1	2	3	11	1580-1900
24	4	2	10							6	22	100-1900
24	5& 6	5	22	2	39							100-1100

This test-pit produced relatively large assemblage of Roman pottery, suggesting that people were living there at that time. There are also two sherds of Late Saxon material, so it may have had a marginal use then. The site appears to have been abandoned until the beginning of the post-medieval period, and saw only marginal use until the Victorian era.

#### Test Pit 26

		VI	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range
26	1	10	10	1800-1900

All the pottery from this test-pit is Victorian, suggesting that people did not use the site before that time

#### Test Pit 28

		VI	С	
TP	Context	No	Wt	Date Range
28	1	2	23	1800-1900
28	2	22	55	1800-1900
28	3	38	95	1800-1900
28	4	24	90	1800-1900

All the pottery from this test-pit is Victorian, suggesting that people did not use the site before that time





# 13.3 Faunal Remains – *Vida Rajkovaca*

Excavation of a series of test pits resulted in the recovery of a small faunal assemblage totalling 112 assessable specimens, 49 of which were possible to assign to species level (43.7%). Recovered from a range of contexts mostly spanning ten centuries, and some even dating back to the Romano-British period, the assemblage is dominated by domestic species showing a fairly low level of species ratio variability between different phases. The material was recovered from the village centre and another two locations investigated to the north and to the south-west. As a result, three sub-sets were created in order to study the site, based on their location. These were quantified separately but will be considered collectively, in an attempt to learn more about animal use and economy practiced in medieval, post-medieval and early modern Paston.

#### Methods:

#### Identification, quantification and ageing

The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit and Grahame Clark Zooarchaeology Laboratory, University of Cambridge. Most, but not all, caprine bones are difficult to identify to species however, it was possible to identify a selective set of elements as sheep from the assemblage, using the criteria of Boessneck (1969) and Halstead (Halstead et al. 2002). Ageing of the assemblage employed both mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982, Payne 1973) and fusion of proximal and distal epiphyses (Silver 1969). Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

#### Preservation, fragmentation and taphonomy

The material was highly fragmented while showing an overall moderate to good level of surface preservation. Gnawing was noted on two specimens only implying a quick deposition of the material. Butchery marks were relatively common, recorded on 15 specimens (*c*.13% of the assemblage). The presence of three porous elements, identified as pig and sheep/ goat, indicates these domesticates were raised locally or even on site.

#### Test pits 1-20 and test pit 29

The full range of identified species is given below, and the breakdown is offered by pit and by context (Table 24 and 25). The assemblage is heavily dominated by the remains of livestock species, with three main 'food species' making up almost two-thirds of the identified species' count. Other utilised species were rabbit and chicken. The remains of house mouse are an indication of the assemblage's domestic character, a fact already highlighted by the high prevalence of domestic sources of food. This heavy reliance on sheep/ goat is also reflected in the dominant 'sheep-sized' category. A single unidentified bird specimen is a distal end of a juvenile and porous tibio-tarsus, which could be tentatively identified as goose, judging by the size and morphology.

A few contexts could be singled out: context [4] (Victorian in date) excavated within test pit 2 contained more bone than context (15 specimens) and four species were identified from this small sub-set. Similarly dated context [3] excavated from test pit 9 also generated somewhat more bone that other deposits with a total of 13 specimens. Test pit 12 produced the most bone, however, with a total of 23 assessable specimens, but not as wide species range as that noted from pits 2 and 9.

The skeletal element count showed cattle and pigs were represented by joints of relatively high meat value, whereas sheep and rabbits were identified on a wider range of elements. Although this is based on small numbers, it could be taken to suggest beef and pork were imported as dressed joints and that sheep were reared on site.





Butchery was crude and in keeping with the period. Of 15 specimens affected by butchery, all but two showed signs of sawing. Large vertebrae and pelves were treated in the same way as sheep-sized vertebrae, all being sawn or chopped down the sagittal plane – an action consistent with splitting carcasses into left and right portions.

Taxon	TP 1		TP 2		TP 3		TP 4		TP 5		TP 7				1P 9		TP 10
	[4]	[3]	[4]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[2]	[1]	[2]	[1]	[3]	[4]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[3]
Cow			3														-
Ovicaprid		1	2		1	1							1		6		
Pig																1	1
Rabbit			4	-					1	-	1	3					
Chicken			1												1		
House mouse			-		-									1	1		-
Sub- total to species or family		1	10		1	1			1		1	3	1	1	8	1	1
Cattle- sized	-		5		1	1	-								1	1	-
Sheep- sized				1	3	2	2	2	1	1				3	4		-
Rodent- sized				1			-										
Mammal n.f.i.	1																
Total	1	1	15	2	5	4	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	4	13	2	1

Table 24: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from test pits 1-10; the abbreviation n.f.i denotes that the specimen could not be further identified

Taxon		TP 11			TP 12			ТР 16	ТР 17		TP 19	TP 20
	[2]	[3]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[2]	[3]	[2]	[3]	[2]
Cow				1					1	-	1	
Ovicaprid		-			1	1				-		
Rabbit		-				1						
Sub- total to species or family		-		1	1	2	-					
Cattle- sized	1				2	3	2	-		2		
Sheep- sized		1	6	2	2	1		1		1	1	1
Bird n.f.i.				-		1				-		
Total	1	1	6	3	5	7	2	1		3	1	1

 Table 25: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from test pits 11-20; the abbreviation

 n.f.i denotes that the specimen could not be further identified





#### Test pits 21-23

Situated to the north of the village centre, these three test pits contained a small amount of animal bone. The quite good level of preservation is evident, as only one specimen was recorded with any signs of surface erosion. This is also reflected in 60% of the sub-set being identifiable to species level, with a species range as wide as that one recorded from the village centre. Butchery marks were recorded on ten specimens, a remarkable 50% of the sub-set. This is quite high and a clear indication the assemblage represents domestic waste. In keeping with other Victorian contexts from across the village, [2] excavated within test pit 23 also generated more bone than other contexts.

Toyon	TP 21	TP 22		TP	23		Total
Taxon	[2]	[4]	[2]	[4]	[5]	[7]	NISP
Cow				1	1	2	4
Ovicaprid			2				2
Sheep			1				1
Pig	1		1				2
Rabbit			1	-	-	-	1
Chicken			2				2
Sub-total to species or family	1		7	1	1	2	12
Cattle-sized		1		1			2
Sheep-sized	2		4				6
Total	3	1	11	2	1	2	20

 Table 26: Number of Identified Specimens for all species from test pits 21-23; the abbreviation n.f.i denotes that the specimen could not be further identified

#### Test pit 28

A single rabbit mandible came from context [3].

#### Concluding remarks

The most striking aspect of the assemblage is certainly the high occurrence of sawing marks (*c*.87% of all butchered bone). Saw marks are characterised by regular delineations on the surface of the cut itself; a saw will not fracture the bone and the surface will demonstrate the striations through to completion. The presence of a high proportion of sawing marks reflects the increased use of the specialist butcher's saw, which is similar in form to a hacksaw and was invented in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. A knife would be used initially to cut through soft tissue, as the saw teeth would rapidly become clogged if used for this. The saw would then be used on the actual bone. In earlier periods a cleaver would have been used, but the saw was preferable as it reduced the potential splintering of the bone. Although the butcher's saw was a commonly utilised tool by this period, in some instances it was employed even when it was not the most appropriate tool. The most likely explanation is that the saw was effectively the default tool that was most commonly held by this particular butcher, who in some instances utilised it rather than changing to better-suited tool.

The small faunal assemblage from Paston fits well with known period patterns observed locally with its heavy reliance upon domestic sources of food (e.g. Albarella and Davis 1994). The assemblage showed no evidence for the use of wild faunal resources. Animals





were an important economic asset, being used for food and secondary products (hide, wool, traction etc.) and undoubtedly live animals and excess products were part of the local trade and exchange network.





# 13.4 Lithics – *Lawrence Billington*

Of the 29 excavated test pits at Paston, 20 produced lithic material. The assemblage consists of 37 worked flints and 273 unworked burnt flints. The assemblage is quantified by context and type in the table 27 below.

The most striking aspect of the Paston assemblage is the large quantity of burnt flint, weighing nearly 1.5kg. This consists largely of relatively small fragment of thermally shattered and heat crazed flint (average weight 5.2g). Burnt flint was recovered from 16 test pits with an average of 17 pieces (88.7g) from each of these test pits. Surviving cortical surfaces suggest a secondary, gravel, source for the burnt flint although one large burnt flint from test pit 4, context 1, has a spherical shape and very battered cortex with distinctive chatter marks, traits very characteristic of cobbles of flint derived from beaches. Burnt unworked flint is chronologically diagnostic in itself and small quantities of burnt flint can be recovered from sites of any period as a result of their inadvertent incorporation into hearths etc. However, intensive and deliberate burning of flint is generally a prehistoric phenomenon and in Eastern England is a particular feature of some Bronze Age sites, where burnt flints are recovered from domestic sites and found as very dense accumulations known as burnt mounds (see e.g. Edmonds et al 1999, Healy 1996). The purpose of heating flint remains a matter of speculation although common interpretations include use in heating water for cooking, craft processing or even for prehistoric saunas or sweat lodges (see papers in Hodder and Barfield 1991).

The worked flint assemblage from Paston is small compared to the burnt flint assemblage and consists largely of unretouched flakes. Five Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic blade based pieces are present but the majority of the assemblage is made up of hard hammer struck generalised flakes of later date. Some of these at least are likely to contemporary with the activity represented by the burnt flint assemblage but it is notable that the high concentrations of burnt flint are not closely associated with substantial or coherent concentrations of worked flint. A single retouched tool, a flake struck from a multi-platform core with an area of invasive retouch to modify a cutting edge is likely to be of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.



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Test Pit No.	Context	primary flake	secondary flake	tertiary flake	blade	retouched flake	total worked	unworked burnt flint no.	unworked burnt flint weight (g)
	1						0	2	3.2
	3						0	2	31.1
1	3		1				1	1	16.6
	4						0	1	7.2
	5						0	2	12.8
_	2		1	1			2		
2	3						0		
	1						0	1	0.4
3	3		1				1		0.1
	1		•				0	2	142 1
4	3			1			1		112.1
	3			2			2		
5	2	1		1			3	1	11 /
	3	I		1			2	I	11.4
6	2		4	1	-		1		
	4	1	1	2			4		
_	1						0	4	24.6
7	3						0	1	4.5
	4						0	1	3.6
	1						0	5	24.1
8	2						0	2	5.1
	3		1				1		
0	1						0	1	0.2
9	2						0	2	1.7
	1		2	3	2		7	33	186.4
10	2		1	1	3		5	18	84.5
	3				•		0	4	16.8
	1		1				1	1	5.6
12	2						0	2	22.7
12	2						0	1	12.6
	3						0		12.0 E.C
17	2						0	2	0.0 00 E
17	3					4	0	3	00.0
10	5		4			I	1		
19	2		1				1		
20	3			2			2		
	1						0	1	6.9
22	2						0	1	1.6
	3						0	1	5.1
	4						0	3	18.5
	1						0	7	21.6
	2						0	21	84.7
22	4						0	15	114.3
23	5						0	20	68.7
	6					1	0	34	100.3
	7			İ			0	63	193.6
	2						0	1	1.2
_	3						0	2	14.1
24	4						0		
	586					1	0	1	24
	1						n	1	10 R
26	3						0	2	1/ 2
20	1		1				1	5	14.2
20	4		1			<u> </u>	1 0	4	16.0
28	<u>∠</u>						U		10.ð
-			1				1	-	01 -
29	5			2			2	5	21.7
	6						0	1	3.1
totals		2	12	17	5	1	37	273	1419.1

Table 27: All the worked flint and burnt stone from the Paston test pits





# 13.5 Other finds from Paston – Catherine Collins

Test pit 1	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	curved red tile =23g				

Table 28: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/1

Test pit 2	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 2	red CBM =44g			coal =3g	
C. 3	red flat roof tile =42g, red flat tile =13g		small corroded metal nails x2 =26g	coal x4 =5g	mortar? =9g, oyster shell x2 =59g
C. 4	red CBM = 27g, red flat tile x3 =179g			coal x3 =57g	
C. 4a	curved red tile =55g, red flat tile =63g	degraded flat glass =19g	corroded iron nails =7g, corroded iron lumps x2 =31g	coal x4 =40g	oyster shell =4g
C. 4b					oyster shell x9 =15g

Table 29: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/2

Test pit 3	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x11 =33g			coal =2g	mortar x12 =23g
C. 2	red flat tile x8 =185g, red CBM x44 =570g		corroded iron nail =2g	coal =14g	white mortar x28 =230g, yellow/grey mortar x5 =32g
C. 3	grey tile? fragments x5 =113g	degraded green bottle glass =34g	corroded iron nails x3 =31g, corroded plate of metal =35g	coal x2 =19g	

 Table 30: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/3

Test pit 4	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal-working	Stone	Other
C. 1	flat red tile =272g, red CBM x2 =56g	clear container glass =6g, clear flat glass x2= 2g	corroded iron nails x94 = 409g, corroded metal screws x5 =46g, strip of corroded metal =96g, pieces of scrap lead? x2 =32g	slate =2g, coal x6 =6g	white china electrical fixing =40g, mortar and plaster x8 =327g
C. 2	red CBM x2 =35g	clear flat glass =1g	metal hinge =132g, large metal door latch? =282g, square corroded metal nails x4 =30g, round corroded metal nails x15 =62g, metal screws x2= 7g	coal =11g, slate x2 =7g	yellow plaster and mortar x11 =356g, wood with nail through it =6g, mortar x7 =13g, unidentified black oval Bakelite? object =36g, wood fragments x2 =10g
C. 3			corroded metal scraps =2g	coal x2 =1g	

Table 31: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/4




Test pit 5	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM =1g	clear flat glass =<1g	slag =22g, corroded iron nail =9g	coal x9 =32g	mortar x4 =11g
C. 2		green bottle glass x2 =6g, clear container glass =23g, clear flat glass x4 =6g	corroded iron nails x2 =4g, slag x3 =31g, metal wire =<1g	slate =1g, coal x20 =50g	flint and mortar =16g, mortar x3 =12g
C. 3	grey tile? =20g	clear flat glass x4 =5g, clear container glass =<1g, green bottle glass =<1g	metal wire =<1g	coal x3 =19g	mortar =2g

Table 32: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/5

Test pit 6	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile =15g				
C. 2	red flat tile x2 =41g, clay pipe stem =2g, red CBM x3 =7g		metal washer =2g		
C. 3	red CBM x3 =23g, red flat tile =14g	glass blob? =2g			

 Table 33: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/6

Test pit 7	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	modern white glazed flat red tile x5 =31g				
C. 4	red CBM x13 =55g		corroded metal lumps x4 =72g	coal x13 =16g	

Table 34: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/7

Test pit 8	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 2				coal x6 =9g	

Table 35: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/8



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Test pit 9	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	yellow CBM x2 =7g, clay pipe bowl fragment =<1g	clear curved glass x5 =3g, clear flat glass =2g	corroded iron scrap =3g	coal x6 =5g	reinforced blue plastic hole from a sheet/tarpaulin =<1g
C. 2	red CBM x12 =69g	green bottle glass x2 =3g, clear container glass x8 =22g	corroded iron scraps x6 =17g, slag x2 =7g	coal x11 =35g	
C. 3	modern red glazed flat tile =20g, red CBM x3 =37g	clear container glass x11 =26g, clear glass square bottle base =82g, complete square clear glass bottle =186g, green bottle glass x2 =2g	corroded metal scraps x12 =136g, corroded iron nails -6g		oyster shell x8 =16g
C. 4	flat red tile =66g, yellow CBM x4 =50g	complete rounded clear glass bottle =192g	corroded metal scraps x15 =361g, base of a corroded metal can? =182g		oyster shell x2 =56g

Table 36: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/9

Test pit 10	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x18 =202g, yellow CBM =9g	clear flat glass x6 =16g, clear container glass x2= 29g, orange bottle glass =2g	metal door latch bracket? =41g, corroded iron nails x110 =445g, corroded iron bolts x2 =81g		
C. 2	red flat tile =62g, red CBM x40 =596g, yellow flat tile =61g	green bottle glass x2 =14g, clear flat glass x2 =1g	small screw in metal hook =7g, flat rectangular plates of metal with nails through them x2 =77g, scrunched foil x4 =15g, corroded iron nails x87 =375g		
C. 3	red flat tile x3 =97g, red CBM x35 =410g, yellow CBM x3 =115g	clear container glass x2 =4g		coal x7 =12g	yellow mortar x2 =10g
C. 4	red flat tile =40g, red CBM x7 =57g				

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Test pit 11	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile x3 =47g, red CBM x4 =22g	half a clear glass jar =203g, clear container glass x20 =264g, clear round glass jar base =107g, clear flat glass x3 =4g	corroded iron nail =2g	coal x5 =25g	mortar? =5g
C. 2	red CBM x4 =375g, modern grey/black tile =122g		curved metal bracket =174g, part of a horseshoe? =14g, slag = 48g, corroded iron nails x3 =32g, corroded iron scrap =5g	coal =12g, round stone? ball =15g	pink plastic half an arm/leg to a figure/doll =2g, tarmac? x3 =86g, part of a badge (" WEST RIDING") =3g, fragments of black thin rubber x2 =29g, red plastic =<1g
C. 3	curved red tile x2 =62g, red CBM x7 =83g	clear container glass x3 =15g	corroded iron lumps x2 =15g, corroded iron nails =14g		
C. 4			corroded iron nail =10g	grey lava stone?? =27g	

Table 38: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/11

Test pit 12	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x6 =25g	clear container glass x6 =49g, clear flat glass x2 =4g	corroded metal drinks bottle caps x2 =6g, corroded iron nails x8 =40g, squashed grey metal plant tag (with hand writing on it) =4g, crushed foil=<1g	coal x39 =60g, slate =4g	grey mortar x5 =12g, white plastic x2 =2g, concrete/mortar? =15g
C. 2		green bottle glass =4g	corroded iron scraps x2 =13g	coal x16 =36g	asbestos =4g
C. 3	red CBM =5g, red flat tile =x3 =41g, clay pipe stem =1g	small clear complete rounded glass jar =94g, clear container glass =33g	corroded iron scrap x7 =37g, corroded iron nails x2 =7g	coal x12 =13g	
C. 4	red CBM x2 =13g, yellow CBM x3 =25g	clear container glass =5g	half a thin metal curved lid? =8g, corroded iron scraps x7 =39g	coal x8 =32g	orange/brown curved plastic =1g
C. 5			corroded metal scrap =4g		

Table 39: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/12



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Test pit 14	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile =22g, red CBM x25 =242g	complete rounded small orange jar ("2oz BOVRIL LIMITED") =107g, fragment of orange Bovril jar =21g, green bottle glass =3g, clear container glass x3 =33g, clear flat glass x2 =5g	corroded iron nails x3 =14g, corroded iron scraps x4 =8g	grey lava stone fragment?? =6g, coal x38 =55g	oyster shell =31g
C. 2		green bottle glass x3 =10g, clear flat glass x2 =5g, orange bottle glass x3 =29g, clear container glass x6 =34g	corroded iron nails x2 =12g		fragments of lino? x52 =33g, oyster shell =5g, white mortar and plaster =14g, snail shell =<1g
C. 3		clear container glass x4 =20g, clear flat glass =6g, orange bottle glass =13g, green bottle glass x2 =4g	corroded iron nails x2 =34g		

#### Table 40: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/14

Test pit 16	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
Unstratified	red CBM x4 =29g	clear flat glass =1g	corroded iron scraps x2 =7g	coal =<1g	mortar x2 =7g
C. 2			metal rod =16g, slag? =42g		green plastic fragment =<1g
C. 3	clay pipe stem =3g, modern red brick =423g, red CBM x2 =10g		corroded iron nail =10g	coal x3 =6g	grey mortar =15g

Table 41: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/16

Test pit 17	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM =2g		corroded iron scraps x3 =8g		grey mortar x9 =127g
C. 2	red flat tile x2 =40g, red CBM x15 =113g, yellow CBM x3 =140g		corroded iron scraps x4 =10g	coal x39 =47g	strip of brown plastic =<1g
C. 3	red CBM x16 =56g, red flat tile =9g, yellow CBM x4 =16g	clear container glass =3g	slag =4g, thin bent strip of metal =4g, corroded iron nails x2 =42g	coal x64 =61g	
C. 5	red CBM =3g			coal x2 =4g	
C. 6					central core and outer part of battery =27g





Test pit 19	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x52 =249g	clear flat glass =1g	slag x9 =23g, corroded iron scrap =8g	coal x15 =13g	clear plastic tubing =<1g
C. 2	red CBM x56 =123g, red flat tile x3 =29g	clear flat glass =<1g	slag x33 =156g, corroded iron nails x3 =44g, corroded iron scrap =68g, metal valve (bike?) =4g	coal x29 =57g	cockle shell =<1g
C. 3	red flat tile x3 =220g, clay pipe stem x2 =8g, red CBM x35 =180g		thick corroded metal bolts x3 =178g, slag x29 =79g, corroded metal scraps x2 =27g	coal x29 =64g	white mortar x2 =44g, half a grey plastic tube/pipe =19g, yellow mortar =12g

#### Table 43: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/19

Test pit 20	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	modern red tile =29g, red CBM x7 =55g				yellow mortar =5g
C. 2	red CBM x11 =67g		corroded iron nail =6g	coal =4g	white mortar x3 =4g
C. 3	red CBM x17 =133g, red flat tile? =6g			coal x2 =3g	brown button =1g, white mortar x8 =22g

Table 44: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/20

Test pit 21	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red flat tile =35g, red CBM x10 =23g, yellow CBM =5g	clear flat glass =5g, clear container glass =<1g	corroded iron lumps x2 =14g	coal =1g	
C. 2	red CBM x10 =90g	green bottle glass x2 =3g, clear flat glass x4 =3g	corroded iron bolt =34g, corroded iron lumps x5 =124g, corroded iron nails x4 =23g, slag? =7g	coal x2 =17g	mortar x3 =6g
C. 3	red CBM x7 =70g, clay pipe stem x2 =3g	clear flat glass x3 =5g, green bottle glass x3 =8g, clear container glass x2 =5g	corroded metal scraps x2 =10g, corroded iron nails x5 =37g		mussel shell =<1g
C. 4	clay pipe stem x2 =4g	clear flat glass x2 =2g	lump of corroded metal =67g		
C. 5	red CBM x2 =8g				

Table 45: The non-pottery fi	inds excavated from	PAS/12/21
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Test pit 22	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x11 =27g, yellow CBM =151g	green bottle glass =2g, clear flat glass x2= 6g	flat plate of corroded metal x2 =69g, corroded iron nail =26g	coal x3 =26g	
C. 2	red CBM x5 =28g	clear container glass =1g, clear flat glass x2= 7g	corroded iron scraps x3 =20g	coal x24 =19g	
C. 3	red flat tile =60g, red CBM x15 =170g, clay pipe stem x3 =4g, clay pipe bowl fragment =<1g, dirty yellow CBM =3g	clear container glass =8g, clear flat glass x4 =9g	corroded iron lumps x2 =75g, slag? =5g, corroded iron nail =12g	coal x16= 32g	mortar? =3g
C. 4	red CBM x2 =45g		corroded metal lump =7g	coal x18 = 35g	mortar =3g
C. 5	red CBM x4 =348g, red flat tile =39g, clay pipe stem =2g, dirty yellow CBM =327g	clear container glass =70g	corroded iron scraps x7 =13g, slag =11g	coal x6 =6g	

Table 46: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/22



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Test pit 23	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	red CBM x3 =160g, yellow glazed tile? =47g, dark red/black glazed tile =27g, red flat tile x2 =18g, modern red brick fragment =335g	clear glass bottle stopper =21g, green bottle glass =4g, clear container glass x5 =52g, orange bottle glass =5g	thin bent metal rod =30g, slag =14g	coal x7 =32g	mussel shells x7 =42g, thin blue rope/cord = <1g, thick fragment of mortar =74g, brown plastic wrapper =<1g
C. 2	red flat tile x3 =178g, yellow/orange CBM x2 =26g, red CBM x4 =190g	clear container glass x3 =9g	large curved plate of rusty metal =263g, small horseshoe =118g, metal toy soldier? (missing head and left arm) =14g, slag x2 =82g, round rusted plate of metal =47g, metal reel =122g, metal tube =20g, aluminium? metal tube case? =18g, corroded iron nails x5 =63g	coal x3 =30g	cutlery knife with cream plastic handle =50g, clear plastic wrapper =<1g, white and blue plastic wrapper =<1g, brown plastic wrapper x2 =<1g, central core of battery =6g, mortar =5g, polystyrene =<1g
C. 4	black glazed slightly curved tile =254g, red/orange CBM x2 =54g	clear container glass x3 =15g, clear glass bottle base =75g		coal x3 =55g	blue and white marble =5g
C. 5	slightly curved black glazed red tile =139g	clear container glass x3 =32g, clear flat glass =86g	small metal hoop =1g, large curved corroded metal bolt? =273g	coal =4g	
C. 6	red flat tile x3 =84g, yellow CBM =81g, curved red tile =141g	small clear rounded glass bottle =94g, clear container glass =3g	lead window lining? =6g, small lead? rod =6g, small decorative metal fixing =11g, slag? =8g		
C. 7	red flat tile =157g, red CBM x2 =5g				white mortar =3g

Table 47: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/23

Test pit 24	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1	reddish orange CBM =10g		corroded flat plate of metal =67g		
C. 2	red CBM x2 =173g		screw in metal 'point' =7g, corroded iron scraps x5 =10g,	coal =2g	red/orange shotgun cartridge =8g
C. 3	red CBM x2 =7g	clear container glass =3g	curved metal bolt? =42g	coal x3 =5g	
C. 4	clay pipe stem =1g		corroded iron lump =33g	coal x4 =7g	
C. 5 + 6	red CBM =5g			grey 'granite' like stone =76g	

Table 48: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/24





Test pit 26	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1					
C. 3	red CBM x4 =27g			coal x3 =2g	
C. 4	red CBM =3g			coal =<1g	

Table 49: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/26

Test pit 28	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 1		clear container glass x6 =21g		green stone? =23g	
C. 2	red flat tile x2 =55g, red CBM x4 =64g, modern pink/red CBM =145g, red/orange CBM x3 =73g		corroded pieces of metal x3 =66g, corroded iron nails x4 =64g	coal x4 =3g	yellow mortar =2g
C. 3	clay pipe stem x2 =3g, red CBM x8 =90g, clay pipe bowl fragment =<1g, black glazed red flat tile =55g, yellow CBM? =4g	clear container glass x2 =7g, green bottle glass x2 =2g	metal wire =22g, corroded metal rod =34g, corroded iron nails x3 =20g, U shaped corroded metal tack =9g, corroded metal scraps x7 =40g	coal x11 =36g	white button =<1g, central battery cores x2 =3g
C. 4	clay pipe stem x2 =4g, red CBM =3g	green bottle glass =8g	metal base =18g, corroded metal scraps x2 =60g	coal x5 =8g	

Table 50: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/28

Test pit 29	Ceramic (excluding pottery)	Glass	Metal & metal- working	Stone	Other
C. 4	clay pipe stem =1g			grey 'tessera shaped' small square stone =15g	

 Table 51: The non-pottery finds excavated from PAS/12/29





### 13.6 Maps

Much of the value of test pit data from currently occupied rural settlements are derived from a holistic consideration across the entire settlement. Maps showing a range of the data from the test pit excavations in Paston in 2012 are included below. These may be read in conjunction with relevant sections of the main report. Some of these maps are available online at <a href="http://www.access.arch.cam.ac.uk/reports/norfolk/paston">http://www.access.arch.cam.ac.uk/reports/norfolk/paston</a> and these can be used, if wished, to prepare maps showing the distribution of other classes of data not depicted in this appendix.







Figure 30: The Roman pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 31: The Late Anglo-Saxon pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 32: The High Medieval pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 33: The Late Medieval pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 34: The Post Medieval pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 35: The 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery distribution map for the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 36: The distribution of burnt stone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 37: The distribution of primary flakes from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 38: The distribution of secondary flakes from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 39: The distribution of tertiary flakes from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 40: The distribution of retouched flakes from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 41: The distribution of flint blades from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 42: The presence of pig bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 43: The presence of cow bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 44: The presence of sheep/goat bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 45: The presence of chicken bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 46: The presence of rabbit bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000







Figure 47: The presence of house mouse bone from the Paston test pits. © Crown Copyright/database right 2019. An Ordnance Survey/EDINA supplied service. 1. 20,000